# CHARLESTOWN

PATRIOT-BRIDGE

#### ARTISTS' GROUP EXHIBITION



Derek Kouyoumjian photo

The latest installation opened at The Stove Factory Gallery, "United: The Art Of Bringing Us Back Together." It is a collection of work from various artists in The Stove Factory to "visually narrate their experience to reenegaging with each other, and the world." See pages 8 and 9 for more photos.

### North Washington Street Bridge project virtual public information meeting set for Oct. 18-19

Special to the Patriot-Bridge

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) is hosting two virtual public information meetings to discuss the status of the North Washington Street Bridge project and an updated project schedule. MassDOT will provide the same presentation at both meetings. Holding two meetings is an effort by MassDOT to accommodate everyone's schedules as best possible.

The first meeting will be Tuesday, October 18, from 6:30 until 8:00 p.m.

To register go to virtualmeeting. link/NWSB-Public-1

The second meeting will be Wednesday, October 19, from 6:30 until 8:00 p.m.

To register go to virtualmeeting.link/NWSB-Public-2

Both meetings will be presented in English with Mandarin interpretation. This public meeting is accessible to people with disabilities. MassDOT provides reasonable accommodations and/or language assistance free of charge upon request as available, (e.g. interpreters in American Sign Language and languages other than English, live captioning, videos, assistive listening devices and alternate material formats).

Stay up-to-date and informed by following the @MassDOT twitter account and Mass 511 for realtime updates, visiting the project website, or emailing us with any questions.

#### DiDomenico joins the GBFB panel discussion

Special to the Patriot-Bridge

In a follow up to the historic White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition and Health, Senator DiDomenico joined a panel discussion hosted by The Greater Boston Food Bank (GBFB), the largest hunger-relief organization in New England, with local leaders to discuss the

National Strategy announced by President Biden at the conference. The event provided those working to end hunger with a forum to review the key takeaways from the conference and discuss how those recommendations can be implemented here in the Commonwealth to aid the 1 in 3 residents who report experiencing food insecurity in the past year.

DiDomenico was joined by Mass. Secretary of Health and Human Services Marylou Sudders, State Representative Andy Vargas, Stop & Shop President Gordon Reid, client advocate Donnette McManus, Roxbury Community College Interim President Dr. Jackie Jenkins-Scott, RCC's

(GBFB *Pg. 7*)

# Coletta seeks denial of Article 80 waiver for Navy Yard project

By Stephen Quigley

Following last week's public meeting that was coordinated by the Charlestown Neighborhood Council (CNC) on the proposed redevelopment of the former Constitution Inn in the Navy Yard, Boston City Councilor District 1 Gabriela Coletta sent a letter to Chief Arthur Jemison of the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) seeking the denial of a request to waive Article 80 requirements by the proponent of the project located at 150 Third Avenue in the Navy Yard and to be renamed The Helm on Third.

Developers are seeking to remake the Inn into a residential facility with 126 dwelling units housing formerly homeless people into permanent housing. The project is being jointly sponsored by St. Francis House, the largest day shelter in Massachusetts, and the Planning Office, a non-prof-

it housing developer affiliated with the Catholic Archdiocese of Boston.

The overview of the potential residential facility brought up multiple issues including the waiving of Article 80 requirements and other questions on safety from the more than 200 public attendees. Concerns over the profile of the potential residents, their stability, their ancillary problems such as mental illness, the occupants' ability to adjust to a residential living environment after having been on the streets or shelters were aired. As the profile is likely to be more male than female, questions were raised as to whether any violence would occur in and around the facility. While the representatives from St. Francis House and the Planning Office who were in attendance tried to answer questions during the session and also took

(Coletta Pg. 3)

## BHHR to hold community open house October 22

Special to the Patriot-Bridge

The Charlestown's Bunker Hill Housing Redevelopment (BHHR) team will host a pre-construction community open house on Saturday, October 22 fro 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at the O'Reilly Way Court (Basketball Court at O'Reilly Way and Monument Street).

The Bunker Hill Housing Redevelopment team and elected officials will hold a community-wide open house for Charlestown residents to learn more about what to expect as the first phase of the approved project begins. Experts and translators will be on hand to address questions about design, phasing, land-scaping, sustainability, preservation, relocation, job opportunities and additional project attributes. The project will bring renewed

affordable housing to more than 2,500 current residents while also offering new market rate housing.

Spanning 26 acres, the master site plan includes the demolition of 42 buildings consisting of 1,100 BHA units and the construction of 2,699 new residential units. Approximately 50,000 square feet of retail and a 14,000 square foot community center, off-street parking, and new public open space are also planned.

The first phase of the project includes site preparation and demolition of 126 units in six buildings and the construction of 350 new units in two buildings located on the eastern half of the site.

The 8-10 year project is a public-private partnership of the Boston Housing Authority, Leggat McCall Properties, Joseph J. Corcoran Company, Charlestown Resident Alliance, and Declaration Partners.

#### EDITORIAL

#### VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR THE STATE ELECTION IS OCTOBER 29

We wish to remind all of our readers that the deadline for registering to vote for the upcoming state election is October 29.

Citizens of Massachusetts have three ways to register to vote: on-line, by mail, or in-person at your local city or town clerk's office.

To register in Massachusetts you must:

- -- be a citizen of the United States
- -- be a resident of Massachusetts
- -- be at least 16 years old (must be 18 years old to vote on Election Day)
- -- not currently be incarcerated for a felony conviction

The web site for the Secretary of State's office has the necessary forms and instructions for those wishing to register to vote on-line or by mail.

The upcoming election on November 8 has the potential for far-reaching consequences for our state.

Never before in our history have the Democrat and Republican candidates for two major offices, Governor and Secretary of State, presented such divergent choices for voters.

We urge all residents to register to vote for this important election.

#### THE END OF AN ERA IN MASS. POLITICS IS AT HAND

The decision by Gov. Charlie Baker not to seek re-election effectively has brought to an end an era in Massachusetts politics.

Although Massachusetts voters typically have split our legislature and governorship between Democrats and Republicans for much of the past 80 years -- with Democrats controlling the legislature and Republicans the governorship -- the basic differences between the two parties were fairly minimal.

Republican governors typically were seen as fiscally more conservative than their Democratic counterparts, but there was general agreement between them on social and other issues.

Most importantly, Republican governors and Democratic legislators were able to work together to achieve far-reaching goals.

For example, it was Republican Gov. John Volpe who fought for a sales tax in the early 1960s in order to support city and town governments that were unable to meet the huge increases in the costs of local education because of the influx of students during the Baby Boom era.

Gov. Volpe previously had served as the State Commissioner of Public Works and oversaw the expansion of the state highway system during the 1950s that allowed our state to expand beyond Greater Boston, most notably the Route 128 Belt that became known as America's technology highway in that era and that fueled Massachusetts' growth into the last half of the 20th century.

Forty years later, Republican Gov. Mitt Romney joined with the Democratic legislature to craft the Mass. health insurance law that became the model for Obamacare, making health insurance affordable for all residents.

In the 1990s, the weekly breakfast meetings between Republican Governors Bill Weld and Paul Cellucci with the Democratic leaders of the House and Senate were instrumental in creating an atmosphere of collegiality on Beacon Hill.

These Republican governors understood the essential role that government must play in order to move our society forward.

By no means did they agree on everything with their Democratic counterparts, but they were able to disagree without being disagreeable. Moreover, Democratic and Republican leaders shared a common vision for our state. We realize that everyone loves to complain and gripe about everything, but the bottom line is that Massachusetts ranks among the best in the nation in just about every meaningful category, from education to health care.

However, that era is over. Those who lead the Republican party today have views that are far beyond the mainstream of our state's residents, whether on social issues such as a woman's right to choose or political matters -- the GOP's candidates for Governor and Secretary of State openly have voiced their support for the idea that the outcome of the 2020 presidential election was not legitimate and are avid supporters of Donald Trump.

The virus that has infected the politics of the rest of the country has made its way here. It would be nice to think that this change in the political climate in Massachusetts is temporary. But unlike the COVID-19 pandemic, there is no vaccine on the horizon.

#### **LETTERS** to the Editor

#### BPDA ISSUES PIER 5 UPDATE TO THE COMMUNITY

To the Editor,

The Boston Planning & Development Agency (BPDA) would like to update the community regarding Pier 5 in the Charlestown Navy Yard. We greatly appreciate every community member that has engaged in future planning efforts for this site, and we look forward to continued engagement as the BPDA pursues the next steps for Pier 5.

Originally built in the 1940's for military industrial use, public access to Pier 5 is currently prohibited due to its severe deterioration. An initial inspection in 2018 detailed the extent of deterioration at Pier 5 and laid out several potential alternatives for future site investment including full pier demolition, full pier repair, and partial pier repair. Leveraging this preliminary work, the BPDA is looking to take next steps towards identifying and moving forward with an appropriate alternative for Pier 5.

At the next BPDA Board Meeting on October 13, 2022, staff will be requesting approval for the advertisement and issuance of a Request for Proposals (RFP) to hire an engineering design consultant for Pier 5. The purpose of this RFP is to contract a qualified maritime engineering firm to perform a comprehensive assessment of Pier 5 and recommend engineering approaches, design alternatives and cost estimates for addressing the condition of the pier. A qualified respondent will also perform design services including construction administration for the repair, improvement, and/or demolition of the Pier and the production of construction documents, depending on the findings in the engineering report. This step is critical in establishing what the potential possibilities and limitations might be for the site in a transparent and comprehensive way.

Once the engineering assessment is complete, the BPDA will share the findings that will guide us in future capital planning and/ or disposition efforts at Pier 5.

We at the BPDA wanted to again thank you for your commitment to the Charlestown neighborhood. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to Natalie Deduck at Natalie. Deduck@Boston.gov.

For continued updates on Pier 5, please check the BPDA website.

The BPDA Real Estate Team

#### CONSTITUTION INN PROJECT FOR THE HOMELESS IS TOO MUCH, TOO FAST

To the Editor,

The October 6 Patriot-Bridge report on the October 4 Charlestown Neighborhood Council hearing on Constitution Inn housing project underestimated the impact this conversion of the Constitution Inn would create. It was correct in identifying a turnout of over 200 people for discussion of the project and correct for identifying the dismay of residents that, despite planning for months, this was the first public hearing. A number of project elements need precise exposure, clarification and discussion not identified. This project is unique to Charlestown and to Boston. The overwhelming response opposed the project.

The Constitution Inn Project, now termed "The Helm on Third", is portrayed as affordable housing. On the contrary, it is a housing plan for the recently homeless who have complex social, behavioral and healthcare needs requiring resources and services that far exceed what community based affordable housing would provide. These individuals would be taken from the commu-

nities where they have been living and away from personal support systems to a community where transportation, parking, access to and from their residence, shopping, food purchase and healthcare will all be a challenge. This dislocation is cruel to the residents and unfair to Charlestown. The comparison to St. Francis House on Boylston Street is disingenuous. That facility has a sophisticated Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program clinic in the building and serves as well as a shelter (see St. Francis House (stfrancishouse.org).

Rather than affordable housing, the project represents a new housing model which is unprecedented. Consider a housing facility that requires full time onsite property managers, 24/7 security, 7 days per week full time Housing Manager, two Resident Life Coordinators, 4 Housing Stabilization Case Managers and a Licensed Social Worker (see The-Helm-on-Third-FAQs.pdf (stfrancishouse.org). Addiction treatment/housing services will include "on-site case management services to support residents as well as to connect residents with community-based providers, including, but not limited to substance use treatment and supports, career training, job search assistance, mental health counseling, primary care" according to the website. The proponent's request for a waiver of Article 80 Review dated just one day after the CNC meeting extends the impression that the proponents wish to accelerate the pro-

(Letters Pg.3)

# CHARLESTOWN PATRIOT-BRIDGE

THE CHARLESTOWN PATRIOT-BRIDGE,

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#### COLETTA (from pg. 1)

the community's concerns under advisement, it is clear that more forums on this proposal will be necessary as the planning evolves. Neighborhood participants also noted that more advance notice for future open sessions on this proposal would be appreciated.

Coletta's office heard concerns from many Charlestown constituents who are against the waiver and desire for a longer timeline that includes community input. Coletta believes the residents of Charlestown deserve to have a seat at the table and equal opportunity as other neighborhoods do under Article 80 to provide feedback and have their voices heard.

"A proposal of this size far exceeds the threshold of a large project review which triggers a community engagement process that could last upwards of one to two years" said Councilor Coletta. "Large project review allows for all stakeholders, both in the City and in the community, to adequately review and provide input to various components which include: affordable housing, transportation, environmental protection, climate resilience, urban design, historic preservation, utilities, and accessibility."

Coletta said that the Article 80 process will allow more time for residents to review important details that will impact Charlestown and ultimately help define what this site will look like for future generations.

Coletta's letter is printed in full: RE: The Helm on Third, 150 Third Avenue in the Charlestown Navy Yard Request to Waive Large Project Review

Dear Chief Jemison,

I write to strongly encourage the Boston Planning and Development Agency (the "BPDA") to deny the Planning Office for Urban Affairs and Saint Francis Housing, Constitution Inn LLC (the "Proponent") request to waive Article 80 large project review for 150 Third Avenue in the Charlestown Navy Yard otherwise known as The Helm on Third. Residents of Charlestown

deserve to have a seat at the table and equal opportunity as other neighborhoods under article 80 to provide feedback and have their voices heard.

The building located at 150 Third Avenue will be renovated to include 126 units of permanently affordable housing at different levels of income, as well as community space and amenities. There will be 96 studios dedicated to formerly homeless individuals and 30 units (2 studios, 24 one-bedroom, and 4 two-bedroom) of income-restricted workforce housing. A proposal of this size far exceeds the threshold of a large project review which triggers a community engagement process that could last upwards of one to two years. Large project review allows for all stakeholders, both in the City and in the community, to adequately review and provide input to various components which include: transportation, environmental protection, climate resilience, urban design, historic preservation, utilities, and acces-

My request to deny the Article 80 Large Project Review waiver is not to diminish the serious need for affordable housing in Charlestown or to call into question the intentions of the St. Francis House or the YMCA Boston. Income-restricted units help both low and middle-income households who are struggling to find units they can afford in our City's expensive housing market. Additionally, St. Francis House has a good reputation for its existing services that provide support for residents including career training, job search assistance, mental health counseling, etc. Through the Article 80 process, we look forward to learning more about the proposed services provided as well as the critical components of the project. Residents deserve to have time to review important details that will impact Charlestown in perpetuity and ultimately help define what this site will look like for future generations.

In summary, it is my request that the BPDA deny the Article 80 Large Project Review waiver so that all stakeholders in Charlestown may be able to adequately voice their concerns, provide feedback, and have their questions answered. It is my hope that in further conversations through the Article 80 process we can achieve a modified proposal that addresses our dire affordable housing crisis while those who reside in close proximity can rest assured in the community process for this project and in the future of their neighborhood.

Tom Cunha, Chair of the CNC, said that more public meetings with the developers are planned. In the interim, Cunha urged residents to contact their local elected officials and let their views on the project be heard.

The Boston Planning and Development Agency has scheduled a virtual meeting on October 24 starting at 6 p.m.

#### **LETTERS** (from pg. 2)

cess, limit review and diminish or eliminate the public engagement and commentary such a project should demand. (see 2022-10-05\_ Additional Information\_Request to Waive Large Project Review\_ Constitution Inn 150 Third Avenue.pdf | Powered by Box).

The Constitution Inn housing development (The Helm on Third) is a social experiment in which the proponents hope Charlestown will participate. It is not just affordable housing. Charlestown at present with the completion of Bunker Hill Housing Redevelopment will have the highest density of affordable housing of any Boston Neighborhood. Other development under review will also add affordable housing units. The Helm on Third cannot be justified on this type of housing need. The project is wrong for Charlestown and those who would be housed. Charlestown should not be asked to participate in this experiment without adequate discussion, detail and transparency. Certainly, a waiver of Article 80 would be improper.

We who sign this letter are

residents of Constellation Wharf, Pier 7. Though property owners, abutters and community members, we have not had contact from the Constitution Inn development proponents despite their recent public and posted online attestations. We urge our elected and public officials, the BPDA, Counselor Coletta and the Charlestown Neighborhood Council to slow this process, allow further factfinding, increase community engagement, increase transparency and to recognize the unique unprecedented elements of the Constitution Inn conversion for which Charlestown is unprepared and under resourced.

Gerald Angoff Barbara Shegog Noreen Marton Teresa Chuang Bill Coady Steve Nutile Chris Capuano Clare Afdhal Craig Emrick **Elaine Wang** Kate Herman Lauren Von Fabrice

Peter Marton



#### Spela Virtual Public Workshop

#### **BHCC Parking Lots Visioning Workshop**

Thursday, October 27 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Zoom Link: bit.ly/3ChQnon Toll Free: (833) 568 - 8864 Meeting ID: 161 301 1121

#### **Project Description:**

Please join the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) and members of the PLAN: Charlestown team virtually on October 27th from 6pm to 7:30pm for a collaborative visioning session about the future of the Bunker Hill Community College parking lots, which are owned by the BPDA. This visioning session will seek feedback from the community to outline the goals for the future redevelopment of this site. PLAN: Charlestown is the neighborhood's ongoing comprehensive planning initiative led by the BPDA. For more information about PLAN Charlestown, please visit https://bit.ly/3ym5UCO or contact Jason Ruggiero at jason.ruggiero@boston.gov

mail to: Natalie Deduck

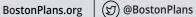
Boston Planning & Development Agency One City Hall Square, 9th Floor

Boston, MA 02201

phone: 848.200.8892

natalie.deduck@boston.gov email:

**Close of Comment Period:** 



Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

Visit www.charlestownbridge.com

Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston (BGCB) honored its Hall of Fame Class of 2022 with a special induction ceremony at the organiza-

tion's 128th Annual Meeting last Thursday night. Club leadership, Board members, staff, and guests gathered at the Westin Copley

please send

in "png"

format

Place to celebrate the five new inductees, who all made a significant impact on BGCB and their communities. The following make up the BGCB Hall of Fame Class of 2022:

- James E. Rooney: Edgerley Family South Boston Club Alumnus, President and CEO of the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce
- Helen Chin Schlichte of Charlestown: Senior Advisory Board Member of BGCB, Assistant to the Massachusetts Secretary of Administration and Finance, Co-founder of South Cove Manor Nursing and Rehabilitation Center
- Paul J. Rooney: Edgerley Family South Boston Club Alumnus, BGCB Director, Managing Partner of EBS
- Catherine T. Morris: Berkshire Partners Blue Hill Club Alumna, Director of Arts and Culture of the Boston Foundation, Founder of Boston Art and Music Soul Festival
- Robert D. Monahan: Edgerley Family South Boston Club Alumnus, BGCB Board of Trustees Member, Julie's Family



Pictured (back row from L-R) Robert D. Monahan, Paul J. Rooney, Robert Lewis Jr., and James E. Rooney. Front row (from L-R) Catherine T. Morris, and Helen Chin Schlichte.

Learning Program Director of Operations

• The BGCB Hall of Fame celebrates those that embody a tradition of positive influence and impact across the communities. The five inductees are exemplary leaders in their respective fields and have made significant impacts on the Clubs, families, communities, the Commonwealth, and

beyond.

• BGCB Nicholas President and CEO Robert Lewis Jr. sat down with the five inductees to have a fire-side conversation about their experiences with BGCB. All five claimed their experiences with the Clubs had an immense impact on their future outcomes of being Boston's leaders in the business, arts, and healthcare sectors.

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# BUNKER HILL HOUSING REDEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY-WIDE OPEN HOUSE

Please join us to ask questions and learn more about site preparation and construction, job training opportunities, and what to expect when work begins at the Bunker Hill Housing Redevelopment.

Saturday, October 22nd, 10:00AM-2:00PM – O'Reilly Way Court (Basketball Court at O'Reilly Way and Monument Street)

















chng.it/5G8HybBSQn

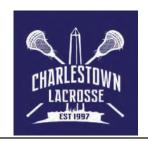
We need your help! All 2023 Charlestown youth sports programs are at RISK.

Please scan this QR code to read and sign our important petition.

Join us on Wed. Oct. 19th for the Boston Conservation Committee Review Meeting

Thank you for your support.









Charlestown Cheer



#### Boston Public Health Commission provides update on City's COVID-19 trends

The Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) provided the following updates on the latest COVID-19 trends for the City of Boston as of October 6, 2022:

- The concentration of virus in local wastewater has increased by 3.1% over the past seven days, and by 99.9% over the past 14 days (data as of October 3).
- There are now 874 RNA copies of COVID-19 per mL in the wastewater.
- New COVID-19 cases in Boston have decreased by 0.5% over the past seven days and increased by 1.1% over the past 14 days (Data as of October 3).
- These data do not include at-home testing results.
- Boston hospitals had 170 new COVID-19 related hospital admissions this week (data as of October 6).
- This rate was stable over the past 7 days increasing by 0.3%, but represents a 13.7% increase over the past 14 days.
- Suffolk county remains at medium community risk for transmission, according to the CDC.

"The elevated concentration of COVID-19 in our wastewater is very concerning." said Dr. Bisola Ojikutu, Commissioner of Public Health and Executive Director of the Boston Public Health Commission. "Combined with flu season, increases in COVID-19 related hospitalizations will

cause major strain on Boston's health care system. It's important we get ahead of this by getting boosted, obtaining a flu shot, wearing masks indoors, testing for COVID, and isolating if positive to help reduce transmission."

BPHC alerted residents about the elevated levels on September 30 and encouraged proper COVID-19 safety measures. BPHC continues to closely monitor all metrics and is working with Boston's hospitals and provider networks to ensure they are prepared for such a scenario. Improving uptake of the new bivalent COVID-19 boosters, which provide the broadest protection and immunity against the original COVID-19 strain and the omicron variant, is critical to this goal. BPHC reminds residents that staying up to date on vaccinations by getting boosted is the most effective way to reduce the risk of severe infection that can result in hospitalization.

As part of its prevention efforts, BPHC administered 783 doses of the COVID-19 vaccine during a free vaccination clinic at White Stadium in Franklin Park this past Saturday. These large-scale vaccination clinics have proved highly successful at increasing vaccine uptake and equity. A total of 1,450 COVID-19 vaccine and booster doses were administered during the events on September 17 and October 1. Of those doses, 42%,

or 609 doses, were administered to children and teens under the age of 18. BPHC will continue to provide residents with opportunities to get vaccinated against COVID-19 by bringing care directly to their communities.

Based on the latest data, BPHC recommends the following strategies to prevent COVID-19 transmission:

- Test for COVID-19 before and after attending large gatherings, especially if you know you will be around high-risk individuals, such as seniors, those who are immunocompromised, and those who are unvaccinated.
- Wear masks indoors, especially in crowded indoor settings like public transportation.
- Stay home and isolate if you are sick or test positive for COVID-19. If you test positive, be sure to contact a health care provider about oral antivirals or monoclonal antibody therapy.
- o The Massachusetts Department of Public Health is offering free telehealth services for Paxlovid, an oral antiviral that has been proven to reduce the risk of hospitalization and death from COVID-19 significantly. For more information, visit their website.
- Stay up to date on your COVID-19 vaccinations to reduce your risk of severe illness.
- o COVID-19 vaccines are now recommended for everyone ages

6-months and up.

- o Booster doses are available for everyone ages 5 and older.
- o Second boosters are recommended for individuals ages 50 and older, as well as those who are 12 or older and moderately to severely immunocompromised.
- Gather outside and choose outdoor activities as often as possible.
- o Open windows and doors to ensure good indoor ventilation.

Vaccine and booster trends:

- 78.7% of Boston residents are now fully vaccinated.
- 47.0% of Boston children ages 5-11 are fully vaccinated.
- 12.3% of Boston children ages 6-months to 4-years old are fully vaccinated.

For more information, or to find a vaccination clinic in your community, please visit boston. gov/COVID19-vaccine.

News Briefs

#### EDWARDS MCCARTHY PLAYGROUND RE-OPENING

The official re-opening of Edwards McCarthy Playground in Charlestown will take place on Monday, October 17, at 10:30am at the Edwards McCarthy Playground, 10 Eden Street.

#### THROUGH OUR EYES PHOTO EXHIBIT

Christ Church Charlestown invites residents to attend the opening reception for the Through Our Eyes Project photo exhibit! In the fourth year of this event, Charlestown residents were invited to photograph the faces that mean the most to them in their community. The top 25 photos will be featured in the exhibit, along with a display of all submissions. Come and find yourself, your friends, and your neighbors in the photos!

Opening Reception is Thursday, October 20 from 6:00-8:00 p.m at Christ Church Charlestown (10 Green St). There will be light refreshments. Open hours will also be available at the following times:

Friday, Oct. 21, 6-8 pm Saturday Oct. 22, 1-4 pm Sunday Oct. 23, 3-5 pm

#### MONUMENT SQUARE 37TH ANNUAL HALLOWEEN PARADE

Monday, Oct. 31, 5:00 PM
We are planning our 37th
Annual Monument Square
Halloween Parade and Trick &
Treat, Charlestown's neighborhood tradition! We hope you join
u in this wonderful event for chil-

Organizers and volunteers are pleased to announce that the traditional Monument Square Halloween Parade with the Tony Barrie Marching Band, Eddie Sheer & the Love Dogs Band, DJ Ryan Murphy and lots of fun displays

dren and for our community.

#### Y and Trick-or-Treat is 5:00 Monday, October 31, 2022, starting at the Monument Steps. Our Monument Square Wizard will recite his Trick

or Treat poem.

Our priority is to celebrate an inclusive, community-based Halloween Parade and Trick or Treating that is safe, fun and memorable for residents of all ages.

Support Harvest on Vine Food Pantry at The Bunker Hill Monument and please bring canned food, cereal, etc and financial donations to support neighbor experiencing food insecurity. Together, we endeavor to be good neighbors; be safe; and celebrate our town as a great place to live.

We are supported by the National Park Service, The City of Boston, Charlestown Mothers Association, Bunker Hill Mall/ NE Development, Massport, Frank Celeste, Coray Thibaul de Maisieres, Diversified Auto, Cambridge Savings Bank, Charlestown Dogs, Whole Foods, e inc, Christ Church, Friends of the Charlestown Navy Yard, Michelle & James Duane, Jen & Paul Hughes, Christ Church, JoAnn Grigoli & Dave Harvey, Paul Revere, Mother Goose, Ed Katz, Larry Rinaldi, Arthur Colpack, The Bubble Guy, Logan House, Tom Fortier & Duncan Donahue, Tom Mosel, Molly Nolan, Jay Farraher and many community groups and businesses, creative and hardworking volunteers, generous neighbors and the very best trick or treaters!.

Please assist us in making Halloween 2022 a safe and memorable holiday.

Please make donations payable to

"Charlestown Halloween" Cambridge Savings Bank One Thompson Square Charlestown, MA 02129

The Monument Square Halloween Parade is the largest community-wide, inclusive, public event, welcoming trick or treaters, young and old, with fun for all neighbors.

#### Bunker Hill Community College LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Intent to Submit a Project Proposal to the Asset Management Board and to hold a Public Hearing for a long-term lease and redevelopment of the Charlestown campus located at 250 Rutherford Avenue in the City of Boston.

Bunker Hill Community College (the "College") hereby gives notice under 810 CMR 2.05 that it intends to: (i) submit a Project Proposal to the Asset Management Board (the "Board"); and (ii) hold a public hearing on the proposed project which has been granted Preliminary Project Approval by the Board. The proposed project is for a long-term lease of a portion of the college property in connection with the redevelopment of the College's Charlestown campus located at 250 Rutherford Avenue and will include

private development and new college buildings. The lessee would be selected via a competitive process and would be charged with securing all necessary approvals, permits, and financing. The value of the project is to be determined by appraisal and bidding.

The public is invited to visit the project website at https://www.bhcc.edu/visionproject. The draft Project Proposal is available on the project website. Copies of the draft Project Proposal will also be available via email: visionproject@bhcc.

- -l. .

The public hearing will be held at the Charlestown campus of the College on Thursday October 20th at 5:30 p.m. in Room C-202 of C Building; public comments will be accepted.

The deadline for receipt of written comments as provided on the project website is October 24th at 5:00 p.m. All updates and changes will be posted on the Project Website.

Contact: Brendan Hughes brendan.hughes@bhcc.edu

#### GBFB (from pg. 1)

Director of Project Access Lisa Carter, and GBFB President and CEO Catherine D'Amato.

"As a longtime advocate of expanding access to nutritious foods, I was honored to join The Greater Boston Food Bank's event and be a part of this important discussion on food access and nutrition insecurity," said Senator DiDomenico, Assistant Majority Leader of the Massachusetts Senate. "We have made big strides addressing these issues in Massachusetts but there is still a long way to go until hunger is eliminated and nutritious foods are accessible to all. The White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition and Health and the federal government's expanded support are great steps toward addressing food and nutrition insecurity in Massachusetts and across the United States."

"This was the first White House Conference on hunger to be held since I joined The Greater Boston Food Bank 27 years ago, not to mention the first in 50 years," said Catherine D'Amato. "After all this time, it was deeply rewarding to see the issue of hunger elevated to the national spotlight. We applaud the Biden Administration and the bipartisan coalition that made the conference possible. We look forward to continuing to engage with others in the hunger, nutrition, and health community around the resulting national hunger strategy in support of our mission, to end hunger here."

The underpinning theme and goal of the conference was to elevate the voices of individuals with lived food insecurity experience. In valuing the importance of continued engagement with neighbors most directly impacted, Donnette McManus, a client advocate at GBFB's partner agency Catholic Charities in Brockton, was invited to be one of the leading voices on the panel.

"Food is part of the cycle that fuels everything we do," said Donnette McManus. "The Greater Boston Food Bank, its partners, and the front-line food pantry workers and volunteers give my family the fuel we need to not only consume nutritious foods, but also the desire to serve so that our legacy will be an example of breaking the chain of food insecurities in our community and beyond."

The power of collaboration was also a theme during the conversation, and it was repeatedly stated that government cannot do it all – they will need bi-partisan and private partnerships to achieve their goals.

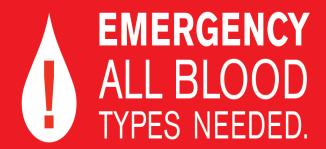
Senator DiDomenico has been a longtime ally of The Greater Boston Food Bank, successfully working with the organization, along with other community organizations to secure anti-hunger funding. Some of his legislative achievements secured this year include universal free school meals throughout Massachusetts, increased funding



Sen. Sal DiDomenico (fourth from left) along with other participants of the Greater Boston Food Bank event

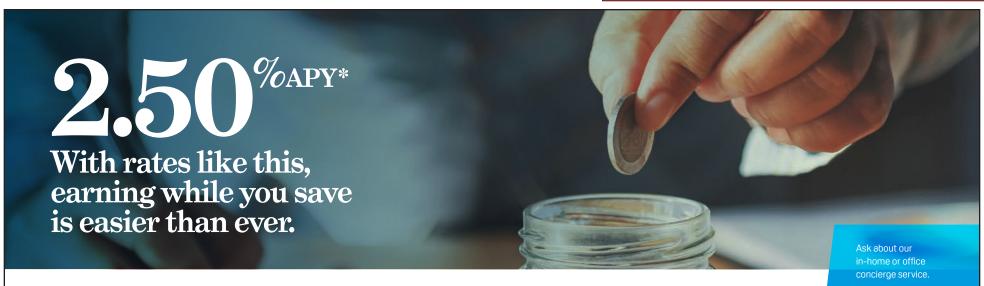
for the Massachusetts Emergency Food Assistance Program, creating a common application to increase access to SNAP benefits, and increased cash assistance for families living in poverty. DiDomenico will continue to work with all these partners to advance legislation until food and nutrition insecurity are eliminated in Massachusetts.

Those in need of food assistance are encouraged to visit GBFB.org/need food, where they can find a list of resources and search for a food program by zip code.



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#### ARTISTS' GROUP OF CHARLESTOWN NEW EXHIBITION AT STOVEFACTORY GALLERY

Artists' Group of Charlestown heads into Fall 2022 with new Exhibition, "United: The Art of Bringing Us Back To Each Other" at the StoveFactory Gallery.

On October 7, the StoveFactory Gallery continues with their mission to provide high-quality cultural programming to the local community with the opening of their Fall 2022 Exhibition: United: The Art of Bringing Us Back To Each Other. According to the Gallery Chair, Julie Alailima and AGC President Dara Pannebaker, "United is the Artist's opportunity to visually narrate their experience of reengaging with each other, and the world, after living in a time of separation and distancing." This Exhibition will include almost 50

pieces of artwork from various media, created by more than 20 Artists.

United also included a very special Guest Juror, Nancy Kueny. As longtime AGC supporter, an active member of the Charlestown community, and accomplished artists in her own right, Nancy aided in the difficult task of reviewing all of the art submissions, and helped ensure that the pieces in the exhibition fit in the theme of the show and were high quality.

United opens on Friday, October 7th from 5:00 - 8:00 PM (with reception). It will continue to run the following three Saturdays and Sundays from 12:00 - 5:00 PM, through October 23rd.

About the StoveFactory Gallery

and Artists' Group of Charlestown:

The StoveFactory Gallery is a 950-square foot space in a renovated 19th century factory building with exposed beam ceilings, white walls, and windows at 523 Medford Street, Charlestown.

The Artists' Group of Charlestown (AGC), a non-profit organization, was founded in 1996. With grants, generous donors, and dedicated member volunteers, the AGC exists to fulfill its mission: to showcase artists' works and to promote high-quality cultural programming for the local community. The StoveFactory Gallery and Studios are the home of the Artists' Group of Charlestown, where almost all of their programming is held.



Artists Tina Busa and Michael Dean with Mary Kay Donovan (center) of MK Real Estate Associates stand by Busa's sculpture work Coming Together Trivet and Hand-Built Terricotta.



The Stove Factory Gallery was filled with visors looking to check out the art on display.



Balancing Act by Shiela Berenson.



Family by Shiela Berenson.



The Stove Factory at 523 Medford Street, Charlestown.

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#### Friends of the Charlestown Branch of the Boston Public Library presents

#### **Book talk with Stephanie Schorow**



Author of The Great Boston Fire: The Inferno That Nearly Incinerated the City

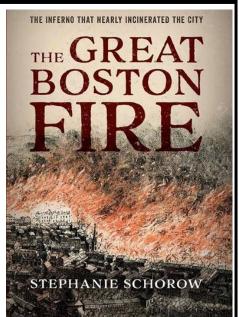
"I will also speak about the Charlestown firefighters who died in the fire."

(Stephanie Schorow)

#### Thursday, October 27, 6:30 pm Charlestown Branch Library - 179 Main St.

Free and open to all with book signing For more information call 617-242-1248, or email: friendsofcharlestownlib@gmail.com

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#### **STANDINGS 10/18/22** Bryan's Pals Duce 2 Halligan Club 2 A-1 Convenience

#### Players of the week for 10/18/2022

A-1 Convenience - Benjamin Brown, Noah Martinez Bryan's Pals - George Golden, Declan Melendez Duce 2 - Robert Doucette, Jacob Miller Halligan Club - Colin Smith, Gavin Smith.

We are looking for players 5 to 10 years old. Anyone interested should call Debbie Lent at 617-241-0434

#### ARTISTS' GROUP OF CHARLESTOWN NEW EXHIBITION AT STOVEFACTORY GALLERY



Derek Kouyoumjian photos

Artist Jan Shapiro stands by her painting Up On The Roof.



Danica Mari looks at Where We Are and Come Home by Jaime Gibbons and Windy Tree by Jan Shapiro.



Artist Caity Sprague with Christian Kader look over Tina Busa's sculpture Coming Together Trivet.



Sioux Gerow with her work: Poolside Chit Chat.



Deanna Nagle with artist Stephen Beccia and his work: Wacky Weekenders.



Marla Mollenkamp and Christopher Spaziani take in Autumn by Bob Walsfelt.



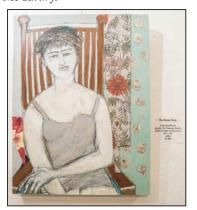
Titi Alailima looks at Lots To Celebrate by Patricia McCarthy.



Nancy Gentis looks at Letterpile For Belonging.



Dara Pannebaker with her work.



The Dinner Party by Karla Quattrocchi.

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Thursday, November 10 KofC 6:30



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For more information about placing an ad in the Program book with a dedication to your loved one or just to honor our vets, please contact Diane Grant 617-549-9786 or dianegrant2@gmail.com. Both businesses and residents welcome to place an ad.

Full explanation of rules for submission for the scholarship can be found at www.MemHallVeteransDinner.org along with all forms you will need. You can also email ablpost11@gmail. com and we can send you the forms for application. If you have any questions, please call Joe Zuffante at 617-477-7494

#### FRESH AND LOCAL

#### Do you hate anchovies?

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

We use anchovies to add depth of flavor, umami, and salinity to our food. We understand that many people think they don't like anchovies. Read on and consider that you may already be enjoying the benefits of this pantry staple without knowing it.

Anchovies have been prepared and used for thousands of years worldwide. Salting and pickling fish was an early form of food preservation. Today, they are available dry-salted, brined, and as a paste in tubes.

#### Quality Is Key

Taste tests by the food experts at Serious Eats and America's Test Kitchen made it clear that there is a vast difference between the best and the worst quality anchovies. If your experience with these little fish has been at the bottom of the quality scale, you have a good reason for not liking them. The tasters say those versions are not good examples of their kind, and simply trying a better quality product might change your mind. The

taste testers on Serious Eats concluded, "Straight to the Point. Our favorite anchovies are the jarred Ortiz Anchovies. They're tender and have a mild, clean flavor."

In deciding what form of anchovies to use, we'll follow the guidance offered by Kenji Alt-Lopes who writes "As someone who cooks with anchovies on a very regular basis, to me the answer is pretty clear: I'll stick with the oil-packed filets, but also keep a jar of the salted whole anchovies on-hand for when I really want that anchovy flavor to come forward. The paste can stay on the shelf."

#### Hidden Anchovies

We bet you've enjoyed anchovies without knowing it. You are already eating anchovies in dishes like puttanesca, caesar salad, caponata, tapenade, and condiments like Worcestershire and fish sauces.

Whole anchovy lovers will find those on the french tart pissaladiere and salad nicoise. They may also be the reason you love specific restaurant preparations.

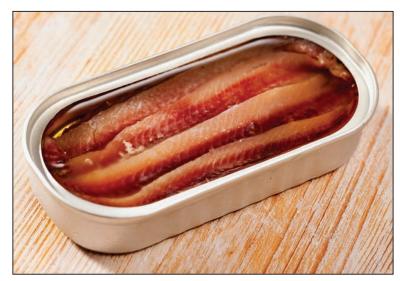
In the 2022 taste test on Serious Eats, Niki Achitoff-Gray wrote, "Talk to almost any chef or experienced home cook, and they'll tell you that anchovies are one of the industry's favorite not-so-secret secret weapons. Because they're a concentrated source of glutamic and inosinic acid—two molecules responsible for triggering our sensation of savoriness—they're irreplaceable for adding depth of flavor and a meaty backbone to, well, pretty much anything."

Recipe developers often say that anchovies are optional. But when you leave out anchovies, you won't enjoy the same result as the author.

#### **Cooking with Anchovies**

A recipe may tell you to rinse dry-salted anchovies for half an hour or give the brined ones a quick rinse. That's a guideline. Your anchovies may need a longer rinse or none at all. We suggest you taste along the way when using this high-sodium ingredient.

Anchovies disappear in a dish



Experience with anchovies at the bottom of the quality scale is a good reason for not liking them. Trying a better quality product might change your mind. (Photo: iStockphoto.com)

like Ed's favorite pasta puttanesca. One of the first steps is to warm olive oil in the pan and add garlic, anchovies and hot pepper flakes, then stir until the anchovies melt into a paste and become part of the oil.

#### Allergy Alert!

The possibility of an allergic reaction is our final thought on anchovies. If you have a seafood allergy, discuss that every time you are about to eat food prepared by someone else. Since anchovies are a secret ingredient beloved by so many chefs and great cooks (and are present in many traditional food preparations), you should always assume there might be anchovies in what you are about

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

# **Bunker Hill Community College to Hold Public Meeting** on the College's Vision for the Future Campus

October 20 meeting is open to all, with more information available at bhcc.edu/visionproject

Bunker Hill Community College (BHCC) will hold a public meeting on the Vision Project for the Future Campus, on Thursday, October 20, at 5:30pm in Room C-202 on the BHCC campus. Members of the public are invited to attend, learn more about the College's Vision and offer comments.

As BHCC prepares to celebrate the College's 50th anniversary in 2023, the College is now planning for the next 50 years. The school's new student success center is currently underway—it is the College's first building in a decade. However, the College's other facilities, many of which were constructed in the mid-1970s, are beyond their useful life and have a significant crticial repair backlog. The College is asking the state's Asset Management Board for permission to explore a public-private partnership with

a qualified developer, who would create a campus master plan and deliver a new, fully-constructed and modern facility for the College, as well as College and community open space, with minimal to no state funding.

At the October 20 meeting, the College is seeking public comment on its proposal to the Asset Management Board, which is available publicly at bhcc.edu/visionproject. Should the proposal be approved, the College plans on holding additional meetings with the community and interested stakeholders.

In the coming months, the College plans on visiting Charlestown community groups for information sessions on the The Vision. If you are part of

a Charlestown community group and would like members of the College's leadership and project team to attend one of your meetings to discuss planning for the BHCC campus, please contact Brendan Hughes, Director of Public Relations, at brendan.hughes@bhcc.edu.



#### Bunker Hill Community College

imagine the possibilities

#### The Vision Project for the Future Campus Public Meeting

Thursday, October 20, 2022 5:30pm On the BHCC Campus, Room C-202 bhcc.edu/visionproject Daily and hourly visitor parking is available in Lots 1 and 2, south of the Gilmore Bridge (enter via Rutherford Avenue southbound), payable to ABM parking through the ParkMobile app on your mobile device. Follow signs to main plaza entrance.

#### Boston announces preparations ahead of the 2022 State Election

The City of Boston's Election Department today announced its preparations ahead of the State Election taking place on Tuesday, November 8, 2022, including two weeks of early voting and ballot drop box locations.

The City previously announced the addition of 20 new voting precincts, following the Boston Election Precinct Adjustment Plan completed in October 2021, which aimed to increase voting accessibility by distributing voters equitably across precincts. The number of voting precincts has now increased from 255 to 275. As a result, the City of Boston is advising voters that they may experience a change in their precinct and polling location. Voters can find their polling location here.

The Elections Department has been conducting outreach to ensure that residents are aware of any change to their polling location ahead of the election. Voters can also check their registration status via the Secretary of the Commonwealth's website to find their election day polling location.

#### **In-Person Early Voting**

Voters registered in Boston can vote during the early voting period starting Saturday, October 22 and lasting through Friday, November 4, 2022 at any of the early voting sites. Hours and locations for in-person early voting can be found here.

The Boston Red Sox have partnered with the City to make Fenway Park available as an early voting location on Saturday, October 28 and Sunday, October 29 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Voters may access the ballpark using the Gate A entrance located on Jersey Street. Voters will cast their ballots in the Third Base Concourse and will have an opportunity to view the field before exiting onto Lansdowne Street.

All early voting sites are equipped with electronic poll books for voter check in. Early voting locations are well-staffed with poll workers and interpreters, and fully accessible to voters with ton City Hall, Room 241), or by

#### Accessible Voting

Massachusetts has implemented an Accessible Electronic Voting System. Boston voters may now request, receive, complete, and return their ballot electronically using a secure web portal. More information about voting for persons with disabilities is available here. Boston residents may also make requests through the Boston Election Department. The deadline to make a request is 5 p.m. on Tuesday, November 1, 2022.

#### Vote By Mail

Applications for vote-by-mail ballots have been mailed out to every voter in Boston. To be eligible to vote by mail in the State Election, vote-by-mail applications must reach the Boston Election Department by Tuesday, November 1, at 5:00 p.m. Vote-by-mail applications can be returned by U.S. mail using the prepaid postcard, in person at the Boston Election Department (located at Bosemailing absenteevoter@boston.

If a voter did not receive a voteby-mail application or misplaced the application, they should apply directly on the Massachusetts online portal.

Voters should follow the instructions enclosed with their ballot package. Voters must sign the yellow ballot affidavit envelope. Unsigned ballot affidavit envelopes will cause a ballot to be rejected.

#### **Ballot Drop Boxes**

Voters are able to drop their mail-in ballot at any of the 21 ballot drop boxes the Elections Department has placed around the City, including at both the first and third floor entrances of Boston City Hall. All drop boxes are monitored under 24 hour video surveillance. Drop boxes will also be available at each early voting location during the scheduled voting hours. To find a ballot drop box location, visit here. Voters can track their ballot through the state's website.

Voters may drop their ballots into a drop box until 8 p.m. on November 8, 2022. Ballots that are returned by U.S. mail and are postmarked by November 8, 2022 must be received by the Election Department by November 12.

#### Voting on Election Day

Polling locations for the State Election will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 8, 2022. Ballots will be available in English, Spanish, Chinese, and Vietnamese. Language assistance will be available on Election Day by interpreters at polling locations or by contacting the Election Department's interpreters phone bank. Those interested in volunteering can apply to be a poll worker here.

For more information on how to participate in this year's elections, please visit boston.gov/elec-

#### Fire Prevention Week celebrates 100th anniversary October 9-15

Fire Prevention Week will mark its 100th anniversary that will run through October 15 with a theme that reflects a major challenge in modern fire safety: "Fire won't wait. Plan your escape."

"Modern residential fires burn much faster than they did in past decades," said State Fire Marshal Peter J. Ostroskey. "Changes in building construction, manufacturing, and furnishing mean you could have less than three minutes to escape a fire at home today, compared to 15 minutes or more in the 1970s. That's why it's so important to have working smoke alarms and a practiced escape plan that includes two ways out."

#### **Smoke Alarms**

"Over 60% of Massachusetts fire deaths last year took place in the overnight hours," said State Fire Marshal Ostroskey. "Smoke alarms are your first line of defense, so be sure they're on every level of your home and working properly. When you hear that alarm, everyone at home should know it's time to get out, stay out, and call 9-1-

Smoke alarms should have a manufacturing date printed on the back. Alarms older than 10 years old should be replaced with new alarms that have a sealed, long-life battery. When choosing an alarm, select one from a well-known national brand that's listed by an independent lab such as UL or Intertek/ETL. Test alarms monthly to be sure they're working proper-

#### Home Escape Planning

"No matter how big or small your household is, every home needs an escape plan," State Fire Marshal Ostroskey said. "Consider any special needs you or your loved ones might have, including young children, older adults, and people with disabilities."

When creating your escape plan, look for two ways out of every room – and remember that one of them may be a window. Keep those escape routes clear of furniture, clutter, and other obstructions. If you have security fittings on doors or windows, be sure they can be removed or disengaged quickly from inside.

Pick a family meeting place out front a safe distance away from the house. The meeting place should be permanent, like a tree, mailbox, or light pole, and located where firefighters can easily find you.

Once you've planned your escape route, practice it at least twice a year. Try it during the day

and at night so everyone is familiar with it - even if they're tired or groggy. Remember that you may have to "get low and go" in the event of smoke.

100 Years of

#### Fire Prevention Week

Prevention Week Fire observed annually in the week that contains Oct. 9 – the date on which Great Chicago Fire of 1871 caused most devastation. The National

Fire Protection Association has sponsored and promoted Fire Prevention Week annually since 1922, making it the longest-running public health observance on record.







#### MassDOT and the City of Boston Invite you to

North Washington Street Bridge Replacement Project **Virtual Public Information Meetings** 

> Tuesday, October 18, 2022 | 6:30-8:00 p.m. virtualmeeting.link/NWSB-Public-1

Wednesday, October 19, 2022 | 6:30-8:00 p.m.

virtualmeeting.link/NWSB-Public-2

MassDOT is hosting two virtual public information meetings to discuss the status of the North Washington Street Bridge project and an updated project schedule. MassDOT will provide the same presentation at both meetings. Holding two meetings is an effort by MassDOT to accommodate everyone's schedules as best possible.

All residents, abutters, local business owners, and interested persons are all invited to attend. There will be an overview of the construction status followed by a question-andanswer period.

Visit mass.gov/north-washington-street-bridge-replacement for more information.

#### Women construction workers make 'herstory' at first-ever Women Build Boston conference

Special to the Patriot-Bridge

Women in the building trades came together for the first-ever Women Build Boston conference on Saturday, October 8, highlighting Boston's leadership in making the construction industry more inclusive and diverse. The conference, dedicated to celebrating and uplifting women's role in building trades unions, convened over 700 women across the trades. The event was attended by women of all skill levels who work in the building trades across New England, as well as allies.

"This is the labor movement at its best and what happens when a group of determined workers fights for their rights," said U.S. Secretary of Labor Martin J. Walsh. "[The women of Women Build Boston] have grown into a powerful force in this industry. You are united and ready to smash down the doors for the next generation of women. And I'm here to tell you—the Biden-Harris administration has your back because you're leading the way."

The conference, organized by the Greater Boston Building Trades Unions, took place at Encore Boston Harbor — a landmark site for the advancement of women in the building trades. Under a project labor agreement, the greatest tool for promoting equity in the construction industry, nearly 500 tradeswomen were part of Encore's construction crew, the largest number of women workers on any construction project in U.S. history.

"As the proud daughter of a



US Secretary of Labor Marty Walsh with the large assemblage at the Women Build Boston Conference at Encore Boston Harbor.



#### UNITED

The Art of Bringing Us
Back to Each Other

With Guest Juror Nancy Kueny

October 7 - 23, 2022

Reception Friday, Oct 7, 5:00 - 8:00 Sat - Sun | 12:00 - 5:00 Oct 8 + 9 | Oct 15 + 16 | Oct 22 + 23

#factory

523 Medford Street Charlestown, MA ArtistsGroupofCharlestown.com

Chrissy Lynch, Massachusetts AFL-CIO.

union school nurse – a single mom who raised all five of us on her own – I am forever in awe of the strength and resilience of women in labor," said Maura Healey,



Darlene Lambos of the Greater Boston Labor Council.

Attorney General of Massachusetts and the Democratic nominee for Governor of Massachusetts. "We've worked closely together to diversify the trades and bring more

**Emergency** 



Shamaiah Turner of Sheet Metal Workers Local 17.



Attorney General Maura Healey.

women into these high-paying, rewarding, and in-demand fields. As Governor, I want to build on this work to create and expand career paths for women in the trades and meet the urgent infrastructure needs of our state."

"Today, we came together to build up our labor movement," said Jenaya Nelson, a 25-year member of Laborers Local 223. "What started as a small group of us has grown into a sisterhood of solidarity for thousands of Boston tradeswomen. It's time to double down on our progress and bring thousands more women into our

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OCTOBER 31st 2022

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# FUNDRAISER at Brewer's Fork Sunday, October 23, 12:00 - 2:00PM.

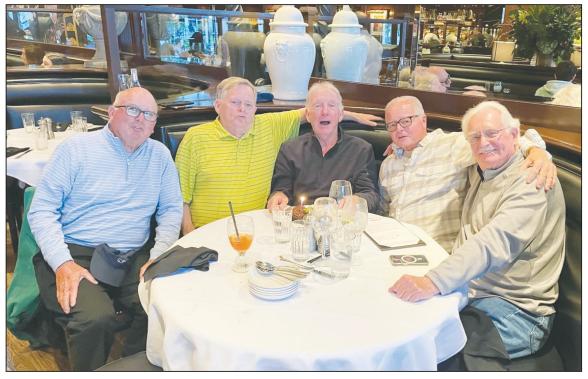
Sunday, October 23, 12:00 - 2:00PM. \$50 per person. Please contact Tom MacDonald

PANTRY SCHEDULE for end of October Monday, Oct. 24th 3:00 pm - Set-up Tuesday, Oct. 25th 2:00 pm - Distribution

Tom MacDonald 617-990-7314
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

(Conference Pg. 15)

#### HAPPY 80TH BIRTHDAY, BOBBY



Bobby Kerrigan, former long time proprietor of Kerrigan's Flower Shop seen (in middle) celebrating his 80th Party at Abe & Louie's Restaurant with life long friends (l. to r.) Bobby O'Leary Michael Tibbetts, Bobby Depauw and Joe Foley.

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#### OPENING OF EDWARDS MCCARTHY PLAYGROUND

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\*\*\*Variable rate account. Valid for personal accounts only. One-time Bump-Up option during the original term of this account to exchange this interest rate for a new interest rate. This option is only available for our 24-month, or 60-month Certificate of Deposit published rates. The new interest rate will be the same we offer on new time deposits for the new term chosen. This exchange will be at no cost to you. If you make an exchange, the maturity date of this account will be reset to correspond to the term of the new rate you selected. You may exercise this exchange option once during the first term, but not during any renewal term. If you do not exercise the one-time bump-up option - each renewal term will be 12-months. The interest rate and APY will be the same we offer on a new 12 month time deposit on the maturity date, minimum balance (if any) and other features of the 12 month time deposit.

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#### CHARLESTOWN BEAT

COMMUNITY ROOM: The 2nd floor Community Room at 20 Vine St. is available to neighborhood

Please call Christine Vraibel at 617-343-4627 or email christine.vraibel@pd.boston.gov to reserve. POLICE RELATED INFO: Contact the District A-1 Community Service Office at 617-343-4627.

#### Burglary - Residential

10/07/2022 - At about 9:25 p.m., officers assigned to District A-1 responded to a ShotSpotter activation for multiple rounds fired on Walford Way.

When first-responders arrived, they quickly noted that multiple vehicles were in the shooting area with extensive ballistic damage. Witnesses say that five males with black ski masks were seen fleeing on foot away from the scene. Police began scanning the area, but they had not yet been found. Detectives from District A-1 are actively reviewing the facts and circumstances surrounding this incident.

Fraud - False Pretense/Scheme

10/08/2022 - At approximately 1:35 p.m., an officer, while working the A-15 base, took a walk-in fraud report from a victim.

The victim reported his father, who has recently passed, is a victim of fraud. The suspect(s) hacked into his father's Xfinity account and had all incoming calls from his home phone redirected to a cell phone.

The City of Boston Credit Union informed the victim that an individual called requesting to gain access to his father's online accounts. The victim received an email from his father's TIAA retirement account, saying that the contact information on the account was changed. Area A-1 Detectives will conduct a follow-up investigation into this inci-

#### **Burglary - Commercial**

10/09/2022 – At around 4 a.m., police responded to a radio call for a commercial alarm at 19 Austin St. (CorePower Yoga).

On arrival, officers observed the front-door glass had been smashed. Officers entered the building to clear it and ensure that no suspects were still present. No suspects were located, but officers did find the cash register to be intact and not damaged, along with several computers on the desk.

Area A-1 Detectives will respond to the scene to conduct the follow-up investigation.

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#### Wu announces results of digital equity assessment and shares next steps

Mayor Michelle Wu shared the results of a comprehensive digital equity assessment which will inform the development of a plan to build a more connected Boston, expand digital services, and ensure all residents thrive with improved access to digital technologies. This digital equity plan will drive Boston's work to connect every family to digital services and opportunity.

At the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, 32,000 Boston households did not have broadband access. The pandemic reinforced the importance of high speed internet, necessary for conferencing systems and other bandwidth intensive services (currently measured on a federal level as 25 megabits for download and 3 megabits for upload). This digital divide reinforces inequalities across Boston as access to broadband is critical for residents to study or work remotely, access telehealth and government services, and stay connected with their communities.

"Digital access to education, opportunity, healthcare, and government services enable our communities to thrive," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "We must work to improve our understanding of the gaps that some of our neighbors experience, and bridge those gaps."

"Having access to the internet and the knowledge of how to use digital resources are crucial for our residents, immigrant neighbors, Boston Housing Authority residents, and communities of color to engage in everyday life, and it is important that we ensure internet access and digital equity for everyone," said City Council President Ed Flynn. "I want to thank Mayor Wu and her Administration for their work in advancing digital equity. I'm committed to working with everyone on bridging the Digital Divide."

"I'm proud that the Boston

City Council proactively funded this study and also recently dedicated \$2 million in American Rescue Plan funds to programs to improve digital equity across all our communities," said Councilor Kenzie Bok, chair of the Committee on City Services and Innovation Technology. "Access to the internet is not an optional amenity that should be rationed by ability to pay: it is an essential utility for work, school, and civic participation for every Bostonian."

The digital equity assessment, Analysis of Broadband Availability, Digital Equity Programs, and Fiber Build Costs, prepared for the City by CTC Technology and Energy (CTC) identified that in the past decade Boston residents have gained increased access to different internet service providers. This increase in options has led to higher quality and lower costs given the same level of connectivity. The assessment also notes that affordability, quality of service, skills and attitudes continue to present gaps for some communities, especially households that already require housing support or face other barriers. This assessment has informed the City's current initiatives in the short term and will guide the City's Department of Innovation and Technology (DoIT) next steps to improve data around existing digital gaps and needs. An executive summary of the report is available

Based on the findings of the assessment, the City will create a digital equity plan to identify digital needs and opportunities of Boston's communities, as well as grow existing programs and evaluate their impact Citywide. The plan will provide a crucial framework to remove barriers around digital access and help give all Boston residents the opportunity to thrive. The City will engage residents, service providers, and other key part-

ners to develop the plan, which will guide the City's digital equity work across departments and be shared with the state as it develops its digital equity plan.

"At the beginning of the pandemic about 32,000 households did not have broadband access. Today 30,000 households in Boston have been enrolled in new federal broadband benefits available through the Affordable Connectivity Program," said Chief Information Officer Santiago Garces. "Since May of this year our team has worked to enroll almost 10,000 households through close partnership with service providers and community organizations. We have more work ahead, especially as we work to make digital access more resilient to changing circumstances as we saw during the pandemic."

The City intends to select a partner to develop a digital equity survey that will be used as a key mechanism moving forward to more consistently engage Boston residents around their digital access. The survey aims to identify areas of need in specific communities and serve as a foundation for the City to work collaboratively to address gaps with those groups. The survey will be designed and delivered throughout the next year.

The Department of Information Technology (DoIT) is focused on engaging residents around access to digital tools and connectivity, expanding existing programming, and launching new initiatives to boldly address digital gaps.

In February, Mayor Wu and Senator Ed Markey announced an investment of over \$12 million to bring digital equity and inclusion to nearly 23,000 Boston public housing residents, library users, and school-age families through the Long Term Lending program. The program bridges the digital divide by providing free access to

6,200 Chromebook laptops and 3,000 Wi-Fi routers, supported through funding from the federal Emergency Connectivity Fund. The Boston Public Library, Boston Housing Authority, and over 20 community partners have distributed over 7,000 of these devices to Boston residents. BPL patrons can request a Chromebook at www. bpl.org/long-term-lending/.

The Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) is a federal program providing \$14.2 billion to expand broadband affordability. ACP provides eligible households with a subsidy for broadband service (\$30/month) and up to \$100 in a one-time discount for a digital device. The program was funded by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Acts (IIJA) in 2021, with the strong support of Senator Markey. Over 30,000 Boston households have signed up for broadband service and devices through ACP, including 10,000 that have been enrolled since May 2022 through close partnership with service providers and community organizations.

"The COVID-19 pandemic has cast a spotlight on inequities, and particularly on the digital divide that's impacting our young learners. The Emergency Connectivity Fund delivered a long-overdue

investment for Boston families and their students so that all of the Commonwealth's kids have the opportunity to learn online and offline," said Senator Ed Markey. "Across the country, millions of broadband connections have been made to students who once lacked access to a reliable internet connection at home. As this funding begins to run dry, we must fight to preserve these hard-earned gains by finding a permanent solution to the Homework Gap and keeping Boston's students and their educators connected."

Additionally, DoIT and CTC will launch two broadband speed tests. The free Speed Survey will gauge the upload and download speeds of Boston households. This survey is available on the City website here. The long-term Speed Test will continuously sample every neighborhood's speed using a device that will be plugged into the routers of volunteer residents. Over the next several months. CTC will partner with the City and volunteers to monitor and collect data on the quality of broadband in every neighborhood and report those findings publicly. These tests will inform the City's advocacy for consistent and reliable broadband quality and availability.

#### CONFERENCE (from pg. 12)

ranks."

"Whenever I look at construction sites, I see women stepping up and paving the way for Boston's future. I'm honored to be part of the surge in women's participation and leadership in building trades unions," said Renee Dozier, Business Agent of IBEW Local 103. "We're creating not just a better Boston, but a better future for women workers."

The day kicked off with a tribute to four Massachusetts women trailblazers in the building trades: Susan Eisenberg of IBEW Local 103, Deb Gilcoine of Painters and Allied Tradesmen District Council 35, Maura Russell of Plumbers and Gasfitters Local 12, and Gayann Wilkinson of Iron Workers Local 7. Attendees also participated in breakout sessions that helped them build financial literacy, develop their leadership skills, know their worker rights, and protect their mental health.

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