



THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2023



FREE

CHARLESTOWN

PATRIOT-BRIDGE

HOOD PARK HOLDS FIRST ANNUAL SPRING FEST

Hood Park held its first annual Spring Fest (below) welcoming everyone to enjoy music, food, activities, and more. Right, Neighborhoods in Hood Park enjoy the music and company. See Pages 6 and 7 for more photos.



DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN PHOTO

CHARLESTOWN NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL CALENDAR

CNC Basic Services Committee Meeting, Tuesday, May 23, 7 pm

The Charlestown Neighborhood Council's Basic Services Committee will hold an in-person, public meeting on Tuesday, May 23 from 7-9 p.m. in the Meeting Room at MGH - Building 114, Charlestown Navy Yard. Agenda: Review the Proposed Relocation of Cycle Boat Boston operations from Charlestown Marina to Dry Dock 2 in the Navy Yard. Abutters and other

interested parties are encouraged to attend.

Meeting/Event Updates: Council meetings are listed and updated on the CNC calendar, cnc02129.org. Our general and committee meetings are open to the public - so residents do not need an invitation to attend and are not required to RSVP or reserve a space. However, if you would like to receive a calendar invitation for an event and email updates with important meeting updates, then just click an

event's 'Add to Calendar' button and provide your email address.

As always, please bring your neighborhood questions, concerns, and suggestions to our monthly general meeting. The next General Meeting will be Tuesday, June 6, 2023. Contact us anytime at cnc02129@gmail.com and find updates on CNC02129.org. We look forward to seeing you all soon!

BPDA holds Building 108 IAG meeting

By Michael Coughlin Jr.

On Monday, the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) hosted an Impact Advisory Group (IAG) meeting regarding the filing of a Project Notification Form (PNF) for the proposed Building 108 project at 108 3rd Avenue in the Navy Yard.

The project proponents - Power House CNY, LLC - propose building an approximately 99,600 gross square foot research and development office building containing 78,370 square feet of research and development space and 1,800

square feet of restaurant or café space with 39 below-grade parking spaces.

"This is a really interesting project for us because it has a lot of things that are new and different," said Jason Forney from Bruner/Cott Architects.

The site of the proposal was previously the home of a power plant which has since been demolished.

"It's nice to be able to - as we move forward - think about what was good about it and how it kind

(BPDA Pg. 2)

\$3.4 million awarded to community groups

Special to the Patriot-Bridge

Mayor Michelle Wu and the Mayor's Office of Workforce Development (OWD) has announced the allocation of \$3.4 million of Neighborhood Jobs Trust (NJT) funding to 26 community-based organizations across Boston's neighborhoods, including Charlestown Adult Education (CAE).

CAE proposes a job training program with comprehensive wraparound services, including ABE and ESOL classes, case management services, career exploration support, and financial literacy courses, supporting participants to obtain jobs in healthcare or con-

struction. The majority of those served will be residents of Charlestown BHA housing, English Language Learners, or court-involved youth..

This marks the largest one-time grantmaking round in the Trust's history and will serve approximately 1,500 Boston residents while allowing grantees to leverage \$10.6 million in additional funding. The recipients were celebrated at More Than Words bookstore in the South End, an NJT grantee. Funding from the NJT supports local organizations that provide low to moderate income residents with job training and support

(FUNDING Pg. 3)

Boston locals, manager share thoughts about significance of the Warren Tavern restaurant

By Owen Devlin

The Warren Tavern has been a staple in the Boston community since its inception in 1780. It attracts locals from all over Boston and travelers from near and far due to its deep-rooted history, as prominent figures like George Washington and Paul Revere visited during trips to Boston. Its unique charm, electric atmosphere, delicious food and friendly staff set it apart from other eateries in the area.

The tavern is near the Bunker Hill Monument. The monument sits on the land where the Battle of Bunker Hill occurred in 1775. Its purpose is to recognize the sacrifice that soldiers made to gain American independence from the British. General Joseph Warren was among those who fought for American freedom, according to the tavern's website.

The rumble of country music defines the atmosphere of the restaurant. The clinking of glasses, plates and silverware can be heard as people eat their meals. The voices of people engaging in different conversations often overlap one another, as the restaurant is continuously packed with people. A portrait of Washington is seen hanging on the wall to remind visitors of the impact he had on the community. Bright, natural sunlight enters from a large window overlooking the street.

Manager Kim Mahoney has been running the restaurant for 23 years and is originally from Charlestown. She started out working as a server and then became a bartender before acquiring her current position.



The Warren Tavern.

Mahoney says she enjoys working at the Warren Tavern because she is able to be back in the city she was born and raised in.

"When I was growing up, it was a blue-collar town and many parents worked week to week to make ends meet," Mahoney said. "It was an honor and a privilege to grow up here, not because we had everything, but because we didn't have anything. We made the best of what we had, built relationships and learned really great life skills to teach you how to navigate situations."

Mahoney strives to build relationships and connections with other Boston-based communities to provide job opportunities and support to young teenagers who are struggling at home.

"Over the last 23 years, we have been able to build a staff that is family; all the employees here are local. We work very hard to go out into the neighborhoods in Charlestown and hire local kids who are in high-risk situations at home or

just need a little direction in life," Mahoney said. "We pride ourselves on offering them that opportunity and teach them the skills they need to have something they can have for the rest of their life."

Some employees are hired in their teens and continue to work at the restaurant for many years afterward.

Mahoney says a large part of the tavern's mission is to ensure they give back to the community in different ways, including hosting a Toys for Tots open house. During this event, the tavern is open to the public so they can drop off toys, which are given to children. The restaurant also provides assistance to a local food pantry and support to nonprofit organizations.

"We do a lot of community work. We're full of civic engagement here at the tavern and we pride ourselves on that," Mahoney said. "There are so many things we do in the neighborhood that our kids who work for us will eagerly jump in and help."

There is no question about whether Warren Tavern employees recognize the face of Upton resident Dan Dewing, who is a former Charlestown resident, and was a frequent patron of the establishment and continues to stop in during visits to Boston. He says there are many elements of the restaurant that resonate, including the active, fast-paced environment.

"Charlestown is a very local, prideful neighborhood with a lot of people who love to come together and connect. I think the environment of the Warren Tavern is the best; whether that is for brunch with family, dinner with a

larger group or if you're just swinging by and going to the high tops and meeting up with friends after work one night," Dewing said. "I think that, overall, that ambience, on top of the great food, is a big part of it."

Dewing believes the tavern employees are familiar with the communities of Boston and Charlestown and that they have established relationships with their customers to understand how to best serve them.

"I think it's just great service; I think that the Warren has a great understanding of their clientele. Whether it be, like I said, for brunch, dinner, a couple drinks after work. They're always there to be on top of it. They know what their people want, they're on top of drink service, they're very friendly and it's just a very hospitable place," Dewing said.

Dewing believes people are fascinated by the rich history associated with the tavern and the local community.

"Knowing the history behind Boston, in general, and the Warren Tavern, it has a different level of excitement every time you're in there knowing what happened in this area, the story behind General Warren and the fact that George Washington, at one point, was in that restaurant," Dewing said.

Longtime Charlestown resident Tim Buhay, who formerly worked at the tavern part-time for two years, says he enjoyed conversing with other employees and interacting with customers.

"There were lots of laughs, fun and stories; I loved everyone down there. Between the wait staff, the

cooks and the bartenders, I loved interacting with my co-workers," Buhay said.

Buhay credits the tavern's vibrant nightlife and the variety of food options as the reasons why patrons continue to stay loyal to one of the many mainstays in the neighborhood.

"The food is great; you know what you're getting with the food. And then, at night, if you're going in for drinks, you're always going to have a fun, lively atmosphere," Buhay said. "If you're in the community, you know the Warren Tavern. You know it's going to be a good time when you go. You're going to have fun; you're going to be greeted by staff that are glad you're there and other patrons that are happy you're there and want to meet you."

Buhay believes the restaurant represents a sense of longevity for those living in the neighborhood.

"I think it symbolizes stability; it's been there for almost 200 years. People know that when there's two feet of snow coming down, you go down to the tavern because people will be there having fun," Buhay said. "You know it's always going to be a good time; you know it's always going to be open. Mainly, I think it's just a great place for the community where you can gather, see your friends and meet new people."

The following feature was written by Owen Devlin, a current resident of Charlestown, a broadcast journalism major at Suffolk University in Boston. For the final project for one of his journalism courses, he wrote a story about the Warren Tavern in Charlestown.

BPDA (from pg. 1)

of occupied and kept its presence on the street, but maybe we can let go of some of the parts that didn't work so well," said Forney.

As part of this project, pedestrian access is proposed through the creation of two new plazas. The first plaza is located between Building 107 and the proposed development, which will provide connections to places like the Ropewalk.

While the other plaza is located at the corner of 9th Street and 3rd Avenue, providing a ramp to the main entrance and an area for people to sit outside.

As for other aspects of the proposal, such as resilient development, the building will be all-electric and is currently just short of LEED Gold.

"I think we have every bit of confidence where we should well get into gold. We're still undecided

whether we'll pursue actual LEED certification," said Geoffrey Lewis of Power House CNY, LLC.

Regarding transportation, Jeffrey Dirk of Vanasse & Associates, Inc. indicated that the project complies with the city's electrical vehicle (EV) readiness guidelines and bike accommodation guidelines.

25% of the proposed parking will be EV spaces, and in terms of bikes, there will be parking spots inside and outside – 86 total, and there will be an opportunity for a Blue Bike station at the site.

These aspects of the project are only the beginning, and the full details are available in the PNF located on the BPDA's website at <https://www.bostonplans.org/projects/development-projects/building-108>.

It should be noted that Lewis indicated that, as of now, there are not any tenants lined up for the

research and development part of the project or the café.

Monday's meeting differed from regular public meetings in that following the project presentation, the dialogue was mainly centered on the project's impacts and active dialogue between the proponents and the IAG, followed by comments from members of the public.

One of the main concerns brought up dealt with the potential biosafety level (BSL) of the proposed development and research space. However, Lewis indicated that this building is not being built for the highest risk level, BSL-4.

"To build a level four bio lab – you got to start designing that from the get-go. We are not doing that – this is not that at all," said Lewis.

"This will not be the needle or the infectious disease buildings that you have that are heavily controlled, heavily secured – this is not

that. This is not being designed to be that, and we have no intention of seeking tenants that will force us to design this building to be that."

On this subject, Sarah Black of the BPDA said, "Anything above a BSL-2 is certainly getting some significant scrutiny from the city side. It's something that we know that there's serious concerns about broadly in a lot of communities."

Some other aspects of the project broached in the meeting included parking which seemed split in that some of those who commented wanted more parking while others thought there was enough or there should be less.

Moreover, other topics were introduced, like adding handrails to ramps to ensure the development is accessible for the elderly and handicapped. There were also discussions about the narrow sidewalk on 3rd Avenue and what to

do about it.

While there were many suggestions and comments about the project, it seemed like there was a strong contingent of those who liked the proposal.

One IAG Member said, "I think the building looks great. I am very excited about the project – I think that you guys have done a ton of work."

While another said, "The building is beautiful ... it's just so attractive, and I'm sure Ropewalk will be ecstatic not to see that mess out in the other side of the building ... good job, fellas."

As for the next steps, a public comment period regarding the PNF will be open until Wednesday, May 31. Residents are encouraged to comment at the previously mentioned link or directly to sarah.black@boston.gov.

Coletta announces community trash initiative in District 1

Boston City Councilor Gabriela Coletta is announcing a community trash initiative in District 1 to reduce trash and litter across the neighborhood and foster community pride.

"I've heard from many residents about the accumulation of trash. Charlestown, East Boston, and the North End are extremely dense neighborhoods that make them susceptible to more debris and trash build-up. Last Summer, when

my office implemented a Summer of Service initiative, my team collected over 80 pounds of trash throughout these neighborhoods. I'm excited to launch this initiative in partnership with the City of Boston, Boston Public Schools, and the community to promote keeping our neighborhoods clean," said Councilor Gabriela Coletta. "We're tackling this perennial issue through a multi-layered strategy focusing on litter prevention (bar-

rels), civic education, and trash mitigation (hokies, clean-ups). Let's stand together against littering and illegal dumping that contribute to air, land, and ocean pollution. We'll foster community pride while leveraging city resources to ensure that our communities remain bright and beautiful for future generations."

Councilor Coletta is fighting for additional city resources, such as reviewing and reforming trash con-

tracts, additional funding for the Office of Civic Organizing's "Love Your Block," identifying high pedestrian corridors for additional trash barrels, and more staff capacity and resources for rat mitigation. She seeks to promote civic engagement by installing signs across the district promoting beautifying the streets. BPS Students across the district will create signs that residents and businesses can adopt saying "Keep our community beautiful,

don't litter!" in multiple languages.

The initiative seeks to amplify the efforts of various organizations that conduct regular community clean-ups across the district. Over the Spring and Summer, Councilor Gabriela Coletta and her team will work on joining community clean-ups across the district and collaborate with neighborhood groups to assign neighborhood captains to help with ongoing clean-ups.

FUNDING (from pg. 1)

services, enabling them to obtain higher paying jobs in diverse fields including human services, technology, hospitality, and healthcare.

"The Neighborhood Jobs Trust is a critical tool in our work to connect our residents to crucial job training and support services and ensure Boston is a city for everyone," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "I'm thrilled to support these critical community organizations that invest in our city's workforce and people and look forward to their work in strengthening our communities and economy."

"The Neighborhood Jobs Trust funding will help provide residents the opportunity for training and a pathway to a meaningful career," said Council President Ed Flynn. "Many of the community-based organizations that are funded are neighborhood anchors that provide important language training, digital literacy, workforce development, and youth programs that are essential to our immigrant and at-risk families."

"As a trustee of the Neighborhood's Job Trust and the Boston City Council Chair of the Labor, Workforce & Economic Development committee, our office is invested in creating workforce opportunities for our residents while strengthening our economy," said Councilor Julia Mejia. "I am pleased that, through this funding process, we were able to apply an equity lens in the selection of our recipients. This funding cycle gets us closer to addressing the wealth gap by uplifting community-based organizations that are seeking ways to support some of our most vulnerable communities, such as English for New Bostonians and Breaktime. I am also excited to see work focused around closing the digital equity gap and helping Boston residents strive in the 21st century through the work of Tech Goes Home."

The Neighborhood Jobs Trust is a public charitable trust replen-

ished by linkage fees from developers of large-scale commercial projects in Boston. Since its inception, the NJT has received over \$55 million in Linkage funds to support Boston's education and workforce development efforts, with \$2.8 million disbursed in fiscal year 2022. Changes to the linkage policy were approved in March of 2023. The changes include lowering the threshold and exemption from 100,000 square feet to 50,000 square feet, increasing the total linkage fee for lab uses over two years to \$30.78 per square foot for lab space and to \$23.09 for other commercial uses, up from \$15.39. Sixteen percent of the fees will support job training and job preparedness programs, while the remaining 84 percent will support the creation and preservation of affordable housing. The increase in the fees will be phased in over two years beginning in January 2024.

"I am excited about the City's increased investment in the innovative programs our community based organizations provide," said Chief of Worker Empowerment Trinh Nguyen. "These programs enrich Boston's talent pool by connecting residents to job and skills training and support services that will enable them to obtain high paying jobs in high growth industries and growing markets."

"In 2022, the BPDA Board approved new development projected to generate approximately \$7.5 million in linkage fees to support job training," said City of Boston Chief of Planning Arthur Jemison. "We're proud to continue to support the Neighborhood Jobs Trust through the work we do at the Boston Planning & Development Agency. I am hopeful that there will be even more funding to go towards high-paying, quality jobs for Bostonians, in the years to come."

The Neighborhood Jobs Trust award recipients were selected through a public Request for Pro-

posals (RFP) process released by the Office of Workforce Development in October 2022. This year's grantees will provide programs that focus on careers in high growth industries and growing markets including clean energy and technology. Additionally, the programs are designed to serve individuals with barriers to employment and incorporate supportive wrap-around services.

"Mothers for Justice and Equality (MJE) is proud to partner with Mayor Wu's Office of Workforce Development on creating jobs for individuals who are dealing with chronic unemployment as a result of generational traumatic experiences," said Monalisa Smith, Founder, President, and CEO of Mothers for Justice and Equality. "The support MJE was given from the Neighborhood Job Trust

will allow us to triple the number of women served. Thank you, Mayor Wu for sharing our vision for quality human services to people of color living in underserved communities with high rates of mental health, incarceration and unemployment. Together, I believe we will make all the difference."

"English for New Bostonians is thankful for NJT support -- this is a win for Boston's immigrant communities and a win for the city's economic prosperity," said Claudia Green, Executive Director for English for New Bostonians. "With today's tight labor market, there's not a moment to waste. Funds will support online and in-person English classes, career coaching, job skills training, and connections with employers and entrepreneurship opportunities that promote immigrants' eco-

nomics mobility."

"Access to high-quality digital devices, reliable internet service, and relevant digital skills training are all critical to helping Boston residents find and keep good jobs," said Dan Noyes, CEO of Tech Goes Home. "This funding from the Neighborhood Jobs Trust will make it possible for more than 100 new learners to participate in Tech Goes Home's proven, workforce-focused programming, where they will gain critical tools and knowledge that will expand opportunity for them, their families, and our communities. We are grateful to the City of Boston and the Office of Workforce Development for their support and partnership in our ongoing work to advance digital equity."



Virtual Public Meeting

PLAN: Charlestown

May 24, 2023

6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Zoom Link: bit.ly/UDandPreservation

Toll Free: (833) 568 - 8864

Meeting ID: 161 208 8682



Project Description:

Please join the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) for a virtual community meeting at 6pm on May 24th, to discuss PLAN: Charlestown's urban design guidelines and preservation recommendations. PLAN: Charlestown is the neighborhood's ongoing comprehensive planning initiative, considering how to plan for new development, open space, and mobility, among many other issues. This meeting will be focused on both standards to govern new development in the neighborhood, as well as ways to enhance the residential fabric of Charlestown's core. We hope you will come to share your thoughts and ask questions!

mail to: **Jason Ruggiero**
Boston Planning & Development Agency
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201
phone: 617.918.4383
email: jason.ruggiero@boston.gov

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Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

EDITORIAL

COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS WORKED

During the first days of the COVID-19 pandemic in the spring of 2020 when bodies of the dead in our major cities were being stacked into freezer trucks and hospital ships were sailing into the harbors of New York and Los Angeles, forecasts by some experts that the virus could claim more than one million lives in the United States seemed to be in the nature of a doomsday prediction.

Yet here we are, more than three years later, and deaths attributed to COVID-19 now exceed 1.1 million Americans, and are still increasing by about 1000 per week.

What brought the pandemic's toll to mind was a recent map that showed the death rate per population for every county throughout the United States.

We had expected that the map would have indicated that the highest death rates would be in the major cities along the coasts.

But after more than three years of the virus hitting our shores, we were surprised to see that the places with the highest death rates, by a substantial margin, were not along the coasts or in the major cities that suffered so terribly in those first few months, but rather throughout the South and the country's heartland.

The places where there were strong mask mandates, adherence to social distancing, extended business and school closures, and vaccine uptake -- New England, the mid-Atlantic, and the West Coast -- have significantly outperformed states where there was opposition, both at the grass roots level and by government officials, to all of the measures that appear to have proven effective at reducing the spread of the virus.

The top 11 states for deaths per million of population are Arizona, West Virginia, Mississippi, New Mexico, Arkansas, Tennessee, Alabama, Michigan, Florida, Oklahoma, and Louisiana.

We realize that a lot of research still needs to be done in order to figure out whether other factors were involved in the significantly higher death toll in the south and midwest, such as age of the population, obesity, and lack of access to quality health care, all of which are determinative of the outcome from a COVID-19 infection.

But the reason we are pointing out these statistics is that there are "revisionists" who are trying to rewrite the history of the COVID-19 pandemic for what are obvious political reasons. Governors of some of these southern and midwestern states who are suggesting that they handled the crisis better than their counterparts on the coasts simply are ignoring the facts -- namely, that their states had far-higher death rates than the states that had stronger public health mandates.

To be sure, everyone has a right to live their lives as they see fit, but in a public health emergency, sometimes our personal choices have to give way to what is necessary to fight a threat -- and public officials need to be honest with their constituents, rather than pandering to a vocal minority.

For our part, it was heartening to see that we live in a part of the country where COVID-19 was taken seriously and where the sacrifices made by ourselves and others at the height of the pandemic appear to have made a real difference.

Or to put it another way, and to paraphrase the slogan on New Hampshire's license plate, we're glad we do not live in a place where people want to Live Free AND Die.

WILDFIRE SMOKE IS A SIGN OF THE TIMES

The eerie glow, especially at sunrise and sunset, being caused by the haze from the smoke of the wildfires in Western Canada over the past week or so is yet another sign that there is no escaping the effects of climate change.

The record heat wave for this time of year that has hit the Pacific Northwest is helping to spread these wildfires, which have been burning out of control for more than a week. Fortunately, the resulting smoke that has drifted thousands of miles on the jet stream to our part of the continent reportedly is high enough in the atmosphere that it does not pose a threat to our health at this time.

On the other hand, the smoke-induced haze, if prolonged, could have a profound effect on agricultural production and ultimately could pose a health hazard, especially for those of us who have lung issues such as asthma.

Climate change is happening everywhere all at once, from the impacts of tornado season in our South (which has become the new Tornado Alley) to the huge cyclone that intensified rapidly within just days in the Bay of Bengal to become the strongest-ever cyclone and that devastated Myanmar.

Climate change is not a future event. It's happening now -- and it is only getting worse.

LETTER to the Editor

SPRING FLING IS TO SPOTLIGHT ALL OUR AWARDEES

To the Editor,

Friends of the Charlestown Navy Yard have been made aware that some folks plan to protest FCNY's Spring Fling on May 23. Apparently, this protest is because of our selection of Mayor Wu as a community service awardee, the central issue being dissatisfaction with the St. Francis House proposal to convert the Constitution Inn into housing for, among others, formerly homeless individuals. FCNY has held this event for over twenty years as a way to bring the community together, socialize, and have the opportunity to recognize individuals for their contributions to the community. Also receiving awards this year are Sarah Coughlin, the former director of the Charlestown Coalition, and Courageous Sailing for their efforts to make our community a better place. We will also be awarding scholarships to deserving Charlestown youths, one in the name of Senator Lydia Edwards. Along the same lines, Mayor Wu is an award recipient for her efforts to deliver bold, systemic change and make Boston an inclusive city for all residents, as well as building a resilient future for Boston. FCNY proudly stands by that decision. This event is, and has been for over twenty years, a night to put aside differences, bring the community together in celebration, and an opportunity to know each other a little better by the time we leave. We are confident that there will be several other opportunities for the community

to participate in public discourse about The Helm. We only ask that our neighbors be respectful and recognize that Spring Fling is to spotlight all our awardees, the scholarship recipients, and the community for one evening. In that spirit, we hope to see you all there!

Unfortunately, the Mayor has a conflict and will not be able to attend the event.

Michael Parker
Lois Siegelman

BUILDING, BUILDING AND MORE BUILDING

To the Editor,

As we look around our one square mile here in Charlestown, we are witnessing buildings currently being built, and many, many more being planned, thanks to Plan Charlestown.

The 2016 census in Charlestown showed 16,000 residents. The 2020 census grew to over 20,000 residents. The near future according to the numerous proposals will top 32,000 residents plus.

The average number of residents in Greater Boston is 14,000 residents per square mile.

Coupled with the office, biotech, labs, industry, retail, and hotels being planned, Charlestown will surely be over the top with people, traffic, less tree and green canopies, more heat islands, more air pollution, and a lessened quality of life for its residents.

As I write this, the number of proposed buildings / towers surrounding Charlestown will be more than 30 structures and counting. The height and number of floors range from 2 sto-

ries to more than 26 stories. As you might imagine, Charlestown will be forever changed, and our beloved historical district swallowed up by concrete and bricks.

Affordable housing is non-existent in the Seaport District. Now, trying to make up make for past mistakes, Charlestown seems to be the designated community with ambitious plans for more affordable housing. I am not against affordable housing and advocate for 20% or more but it is disingenuous that the developers are proposing more affordable housing at the expense of the Charlestown community.

The Boston Planning and Development Agency in their esteemed wisdom neglected to build affordable housing units and concentrated on luxury and market rate buildings in the Boston area. Now advocating for more affordable housing in their plans, this is nothing more than a simple ploy by the developers to garner support for their proposals.

Why am I writing this? This past week, the BPDA is seeking proposals for the Bunker Hill parking lots for yet, more buildings etc. And of course, their proposals will allow for more affordable housing which is a major selling point to the BPDA. The BPDA and their very short-sightedness is now a cause and major concern for more affordable housing in the Boston area. If they had done due diligence the past decade, we might now have an ample supply of affordable housing.

Sadly, the mayor didn't listen to the 3,800, Charlestown

(LETTER Pg. 5)

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CITY PAWS

Dog friendly or not

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

In a report by Forbes Advisor, Boston recently received the dubious distinction of being the 5th least pet-friendly city in the country. Sadly, we agreed with this shameful distinction, so we set off to learn more about what makes a place dog-friendly. As we did, things began to change in Boston.

On May 4th, Universal Hub reported that Boston Mayor Michelle Wu had opened the door to allowing dogs in beer gardens and outdoor seating areas. Universal Hub's Adam Gaffin explained, "Restaurants that want to let human/dog combos enjoy nice days dining and drinking outdoors can now apply for a 'Dog Friendly Space' permit from ISD."

Provincetown was one of the first places where we enjoyed knowing we were not breaking the law by having our dog sit on a restaurant patio with us. The rules outlined by the city are very similar to the sensible ones Provincetown has had in place for years.

What Else Makes a Place

Pet-Friendly?

Several factors pushed Boston to its 5th least pet-friendly city rating. One metric used to rate cities was the cost of veterinary care. This area has a very high cost of living, including all aspects of pet care. The rating also included access to veterinary care. With the number of new veterinary resources opening in recent months, that should improve.

Housing available to families with pets is a significant issue in Massachusetts. Last year Newsweek reported that while 46.3% of rental properties will allow cats, only 25% allow small dogs, and only 12% will rent to families with big dogs.

The survey also considered the number of dog parks per 100,000 people and the number of pet businesses. While our state has a fantastic array of parks and green spaces, a high percentage of those places prohibit dogs.

Other surveys on this topic included factors like an area's walkability, the number of dog-friendly restaurants with

outside seating, dog-friendly shopping centers, the number of pet-friendly visitor accommodations, and even the number of days of precipitation per year.

Advocate for Change

There are things we can do to change the pet-friendly status of our local area. First and foremost, we must be responsible pet guardians who make good neighbors, great tenants, and positive examples in public.

See that your pet is licensed, vaccinated, trained, leashed when required, and under your control. If you disagree with a rule, work to change it rather than disobey it. Think beyond yourself and your dog when you advocate. Consider those people with dogs who are not as well-behaved and friendly as yours. Think about people who are afraid of dogs or have little or no positive canine experience.

Tell local officials you prioritize time with your dog over other forms of recreation. Penny once took a Boston City Councilor on a dog walk with her. She handed him the bag she had used to pick



In pet-friendly Provincetown, it's easy to find rental properties to share with our dog Poppy.

up after our dog and asked him to find a place to dispose of it. He quickly learned why she kept asking for more trash receptacles.

Ask for the changes you would like in local and state regulations: allowing dogs in outdoor seating areas of restaurants, opening more parks and green spaces to dogs, and setting aside sites at beaches,

in state parks, and on hiking trails for people with dogs. As we've seen in Boston, advocates can and do bring about change!

Do you have a question or topic for City Paws? Send an email to Penny@BostonZest.com with your request.

LETTERS (from pg. 4)

petition signees, as well as the 270 online signers in their ask for a Master Sign when presented with the signatures in January of 2022. We collected the signatures, brought them to the mayor and have never heard a word about the efforts that many worked on. The mayor, simply, didn't find it necessary to acknowledge the receipt of the petition, and thus there was no input or conversation regarding the pressing need for a Master Plan.

We are left with Plan Charlestown steamrolling one development after another, disregarding any "planning" for our community.

If no one speaks up now against the Bunker Hill Parking lots for a park, green space, more trees, and as a recreation destination for the 32,000 residents and counting in our one square mile, that to me, is more than sad, that is a poor outcome for the future residents of Charlestown.

We all need to let our voices be heard and advocate for a pause in the building bonanza now taking place before Charlestown becomes a future forever heat island.

Just as the climate is getting hotter and hotter and more prone to severe flooding, rising sea levels, and Charlestown having been built on filled wetlands, these factors portend a "perfect storm"

brewing and could likely be the demise of this one square mile.

Ann Kelleher

COME TOGETHER AND DEMONSTRATE OUR UNITY AND RESOLVE

To the Editor,

We invite the residents of Charlestown to a peaceful protest of the 'Friends' of the Charlestown Navy Yard, Spring Fling, on May 23 at 6-8 pm at Pier 3 and Drydock 2 in the Navy Yard when the Friends of the Charlestown Navy Yard (FCNY) plans to honor Mayor Wu. As concerned members of Charlestown, we believe it is our duty to voice our discontent and demand change.

FCNY honors Mayor Wu even though Mayor Wu has consistently shown a disregard for the needs and well-being of the Charlestown community. We cannot stand idly by while our voices continue to be unheard or ignored. Many in our community feel the FCNY plan to honor Mayor Wu is misplaced, when Mayor Wu ignores Charlestown Community's opposition to the conversion of the Constitution Inn into housing for the formerly homeless at the 'Helm'. The St. Francis House and the Planning Office of the Archdiocese, over strong Charlestown Community

opposition, plan to house people in crisis in our community without a coherent plan for needed services which people in crisis need to succeed.

The City Departments (including Mayor's Office of Housing) have not budgeted in FY24 for the additional City services required for the 'Helm' or the more than 11,000 new residents, the BPDA projects under consideration will add to Charlestown (without the Austin Street parking lots). How can FCNY honor Mayor Wu who forces overdevelopment into Charlestown without a new or repaired Rutherford Ave, an additional ambulance, an independent police station and additional EMS and Fire Department staffing. This reckless rush to overdevelopment puts all Charlestown residents at risk. We ask our "friends" to help us; not to ignore our urgent concerns!

This protest is an opportunity for us to come together and demonstrate our unity and resolve. Together we can make a difference and create the change our community deserves.

Come to the protest for our Voices be heard on May 23 at 5:45 p.m. just say no to more development and Helm no.

Rosemary Macero
Nancy Mara-Aldrich
Melissa Doherty Brennan

Harvest on Vine Emergency Food Pantry

Memorial Day Calendar

Friday, May 26 - 3pm - Set up before holiday
Tuesday May 30 - 2pm - Distribution

Director-Tom MacDonald 617-990-7314

THE WARREN-PRESCOTT SCHOOL'S ANNUAL
SPRING Fling
MAY 21 @ 5PM
TRADESMAN CHARLESTOWN

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Reitz Realty Group
Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital
Boston
Tracy Shea and Martha Toti -
Coldwell Banker

HOOD PARK HOLDS FIRST ANNUAL SPRING FEST

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN PHOTOS



Deewendre Shrestha with sons Nolan and Noah.

Hood Park held its first annual Spring Fest. The event was a fun-filled day with a variety of local vendors and onsite retailers, including Tradesman, Landry's Bicycles, The Handle Bar Cycling Studio and introducing Boston Veterinary Clinic. The event featured live music, and delicious food and beverages, additionally, there was plenty of free activities for the whole family to enjoy, including face painting, a petting zoo, yard games, balloon designing, and more.



It was a great day at Hood Park for a Spring Fest.



Vanessa Properzi enjoys some time with a ring toss game.



Kelso with his human Greysen Hansen.



Grant and Monica Kimball are ready to see what's going on.



It was a great day at Hood Park for a Spring Fest.



Jenna and Teddy Switchenko.

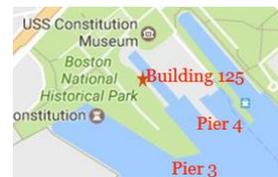


FRIENDS OF THE CHARLESTOWN NAVY YARD

www.friendscny.org



LOCATION: DC Beane Building 125, on Pier 3



SPONSOR:



2023 Spring Fling

Friends of the Charlestown Navy Yard

Tuesday, May 23
6-8PM

2023 Honorees

- ◆ Mayor Michelle Wu
- ◆ Sarah Coughlin
- ◆ Courageous Sailing
- ◆ Lydia Edwards Scholarship Recipient

The Friends of Charlestown Navy Yard welcome the public to celebrate community leaders, meet elected officials, and socialize with neighbors

- ◆ Light Refreshments
- ◆ Door Prizes

Join FCNY

www.friendscny.org/member

HOOD PARK HOLDS FIRST ANNUAL SPRING FEST

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN PHOTOS



Jessina and Eliana Riano.



Owen and Steve Shorey enjoy a round of cornhole, a Charlestown tradition.



Dr. Brian Bourquin and Chrisanna Green of Boston Veterinary Comic meet new friends and clients.



Beauty Balogun and Den Samuel with their special friends Rebecca and Ilonn.



Vivienne Svevar enjoys some Italian ice with her mom Ashley.



Providing music was Chad Hollister (center) with Jeff "Reimo" Poremski and Rudy Dauth.



John and Abigail Switchenko.



Bianca and Giovanni Rosa take their cat Boo for a stroll through the Spring Fest.



Lynn Julien relaxes with her favorite Instagram star, Dr. Smallz MD.

CITY OF BOSTON HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DAY

Saturday, May 20, 2023

8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

400 Frontage Road, Boston MA

- Proof of Boston residency required.
- We will not accept any waste from businesses.
- Household Alkaline batteries are not hazardous waste per MassDEP guidelines and are not accepted.
- We accept electronics, clothing, tires, and more! Find the list of accepted items and battery guide at boston.gov/hazardous-waste

CITY of **BOSTON**



Public Works

OLD CHARLESTOWN SCHOOLBOYS ASSOCIATION PRESENTS 17 SCHOLARSHIPS

COURTESY PHOTOS

Special to the Patriot-Bridge

The Old Charlestown Schoolboys Association, including members of its Scholarship Committee, held its annual Scholarship Banquet on Monday night, May 15, at the Father Daniel Mahoney Knights of Columbus Hall.

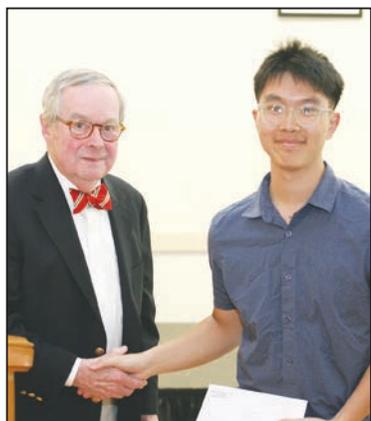
President Jim O'Brien and Treasurer Ronan FitzPatrick noted that there were 17 scholarships presented this year for a total of \$18,000 in educational funding for Charlestown young men. The Scholarship Banquet precedes the annual Schoolboys Gala, with the 110th gathering of the Old Charlestown Schoolboys taking place this Sunday, May 21, at the Knights Hall.

On Monday, President O'Brien noted that he, and members Moe Gillen and Martin Fabiano participated in the Scholarship Committee work this year and found a great round of worthy students pursuing high school and college education.

"I think it is fitting that the Charlestown Schoolboys is the oldest organization in the oldest neighborhood in Boston," he said. "We are proud of all of these students and the accomplishments they've achieved so far."

There were 15 scholarships

(SCHOLARSHIPS Pg. 9)



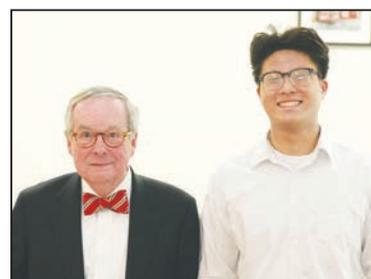
The Ralph Brown Scholarship was presented to Northeastern University's Stephen Wu by President Jim O'Brien.



President Jim O'Brien and Treasurer Ronan FitzPatrick presented the Florian Association Scholarship to Noel Gallagher, a student at Merrimack College.



Honoree Will Killoran (center) with Dan and Andrea Killoran. Will Killoran accepted the Mark Bavis Scholarship.



President Jim O'Brien presents the Palledos/William Powers Scholarship to Raymond Zeng.



Peter Velsmid, a student at Boston College, accepts the Firefighter Patrick Kelly Scholarship from Scholarship Committeeman Moe Gillen and President Jim O'Brien.



This year's new scholarship is the John 'Jack' Whelan Scholarship. Blake Carl Reidy of Boston College High School accepted the award from Schoolboys Treasurer Ronan FitzPatrick and President Jim O'Brien.



President Jim O'Brien presents the Bertha F. Brown Scholarship to Eoin Donovan, who attends Bridgewater State.



The \$1,500 James Cushman Scholarship went to Joseph Flanagan, who attends UMass-Amherst, presented by Scholarship Committeeman Moe Gillen and President Jim O'Brien.



Treasurer Ronan FitzPatrick and President Jim O'Brien present the Edward Mahan Scholarship to John Flanagan, who attends Louisiana State University.



Edward Pistorino of Connecticut College accepts the Robert 'Gugga' Flynn Scholarship from President Jim O'Brien.



The \$1,500 Father Robert Smith Scholarship went to Declan Leahy, presented by Scholarship Committeeman Moe Gillen.



John DeSimone (center) with his mother, Pam, and father, John, was on hand to receive the Francis and John McGee Scholarship. DeSimone attends Merrimack College.



Aiden Boucher, of St. Anselm's College, accepted the Father Daniel Mahoney Scholarship from Scholarship Committeeman Moe Gillen and President Jim O'Brien.



Derek Corcoran of Boston Latin School accepts the John Boyle O'Reilly Scholarship from President Jim O'Brien.

Wu announces debut of digital pop-up library at bus stops

Special to the Patriot-Bridge

Mayor Michelle Wu announced that riders at 20 bus stops across Boston are now able to access free digital content this spring and summer provided by a Boston Public Library (BPL) pilot program called “Browse, Borrow, Board.” While waiting for the bus, riders can use a QR code to browse and borrow audiobooks, eBooks, e-newspapers, and e-magazines for all ages before enjoying their reading materials on the go. Library cards are not required to use this service and readers don’t need to download an app, as the City’s primary goal with this pilot is to introduce riders to the Library’s offerings, making resources through the BPL more accessible and convenient for families.

“Our investment in our city’s public transit riders has taken a variety of forms, from eliminating fares for three crucial bus routes to expanding the bus lane network,” said Mayor Michelle Wu. “This pilot program builds on our efforts to make public transportation more enjoyable, while also connecting our residents to the resources the Boston Public Library already offers. Thank you to the BPL and the MBTA for their

continued partnership.”

“We share in the value that knowledge and transportation could both be ‘Free to All.’ This opportunity connects public library and public transit offerings around learning and movement in our city, allowing us to better serve our residents,” said President of the Boston Public Library David Leonard.

“The MBTA continues to seek out innovative ways to improve our riders’ experience on the T, and we’re proud to partner with the BPL and the City on this exciting initiative that expands the digital reach of the Library’s offerings to our riders,” said MBTA General Manager and CEO Phillip Eng.

From now through the end of August, blue slip-proof decals are on sidewalks at 20 bus stops and MBTA-owned busways throughout the city, including at eight stops serving the fare-free bus routes. The decals, installed this week, have a QR code for riders to scan, bringing them to the digital pop-up library website. For a full list of digital pop-up library locations, visit this map.

“The ‘Browse, Borrow, Board’ initiative is a wonderful customer amenity which will bring books to where people are, giving many

MBTA riders a free and convenient way to take books out,” said Transportation Secretary and CEO Gina Fiandaca. “We are grateful to officials with the City of Boston and the Boston Public Library for working with the MBTA to identify locations where people will benefit by the pilot, especially those residents who travel in environmental justice communities.”

“Browse, Borrow, Board came about as a result of a survey one of our summer fellows conducted with public transit riders last year,” said Maddie Webster, Program Manager in the Mayor’s Office of New Urban Mechanics. “Bus riders in particular indicated that access to the BPL’s digital offerings would be ‘very likely’ to bring delight to their commutes, and we are so pleased to see the pilot come together to serve them this summer.”

This announcement, made in partnership with the MBTA, builds on Mayor Wu’s commitment to making Boston the best city in the country to raise a family. During this pilot initiative, patrons will find offerings in English and Spanish primarily. In the pilot program, the Library has focused on items that are easy to browse for riders on the go, including poetry, short

stories, and short audiobooks, as well as a selection of best sellers, and titles for children and teens. The newspaper and magazine content includes 7,000 titles from over 125 countries.

Patrons may check out up to

five titles at a time for two-week durations. After two weeks, patrons can scan the QR code again to re-register and checkout new materials. The BPL will be adding new offerings to the site throughout the summer.



The signs like the one on the ground at Ashmont Station, will be at 20 bus stops around Boston to access free digital content.

SCHOLARSHIPS (from pg. 8)

worth \$1,000 and two worth \$1,500.

This year, there was one new scholarship, the John ‘Jack’ Whelan Scholarship that was awarded to Boston College High student Blake Carlo Reidy.

The other scholarships were as follows: The Jonathan Greatorex Scholarship to Cristian Ruiz Santana of Charlestown High School; the Palledos/William Powers Scholarship to Raymond Zeng; the Ralph Brown Scholarship to Stephen C. Wu (Northeastern); the Bertha F. Brown Scholarship to Eoin Donovan (Bridgewater State); the Francis and John McGee Scholarship to John DeSimone (Merrimack College); the Robert, Ralph James Thomas Smith Scholarship to William Moody (Muhlenberg College); the Firefighter Patrick Kelly Scholarship to Peter Velsmid (Boston College); the Mark Bavis Scholarship to William Killoran (Bowdoin College); the John Boyle O’Reilly Scholarship to Derek Corcoran (Boston Latin School); the Edward Mahan Scholarship to John Flanagan (Louisiana State); the Majestic Knights Scholarship to Daniel Bethlendy; the James Cushman Scholarship to Joseph

Flanagan (UMass Amherst); the Father Robert Smith Scholarship to Declan Leahy (Suffolk University); the Florian Association Scholarship to Noel Gallagher (Merrimack College); the Robert ‘Gugga’ Flynn Scholarship to Edward Pistorino of Connecticut College;

and the Father Daniel Mahoney Scholarship to Aiden Boucher (St. Anselm’s College).

Scholarship winners and new applicants are invited back to apply for next year’s round of awards. College seniors, however, are precluded from applying.

CHARLESTOWN

Coffee Hours

EDWARDS-MCCARTHY PLAYGROUND

WITH
Mayor Michelle Wu
 and Sean Breen
 your Charlestown Liaison

Wednesday, May 31
9:30 AM - 10:30 AM
 Edwards-McCarthy Playground, 10
 Eden Street, Charlestown, MA 02129

City of Boston Parks and Recreation | **DUNKIN'** | **star** | Neighborhood Services

Battle Of Bunker Hill Parade Committee Donations 2023

Teamsters Local 25	\$500.00
Amanda Annis	50.00
Halligan Club	5000.00
Jim Considine (Past Chief Marshal)	100.00

Donations may be made to:
Bunker Hill Parade Committee,
P.O. Box 290741,
Charlestown, MA 02129

Wu announces new program to support tree canopy growth

Mayor Michelle Wu joined Mass Audubon at the Boston Nature Center to announce a new City program to expand tree planting and maintenance on private land. The City has selected Mass Audubon to design and operate a program to support tree canopy growth on private property in Boston. Mass Audubon will serve as the convener of the Tree Alliance, which will include a larger group of non-profits who will collaborate on an annual plan for tree planting, maintenance, and public education activities for participating groups such as community centers, houses of worship, and non-profit organizations. The Tree Alliance will bolster Boston's tree canopy to enhance livability and public health throughout Boston's neighborhoods, with a particular focus on Environmental Justice communities. This program follows the recommendations of Boston's first Urban Forest Plan (UFP), an assessment of Boston's urban forest with suggestions to improve the way trees are cared for and ensure the urban forest is available to the entire community.

Mayor Wu made the announcement during a microforest planting event at the Boston Nature Center, a 67-acre wildlife refuge owned by the Massachusetts Audubon Society in Mattapan. The microforest will transform an unused parking area with a high-density planting to mitigate the urban heat island effect, support biodiversity, and buffer against flooding and erosion. Mass Audubon staff and volunteers, as well as a team of PowerCorpsBOS members, the City's youth green jobs program, will plant 200 native trees and shrubs and an additional 180 perennial plants at the Boston Nature Center.

"Increasing the number of trees in Boston will enhance our

neighborhoods' livability, health and resilience benefiting both our climate and our residents," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "I'm grateful to our partners at Mass Audubon and Speak for the Trees for their support in bringing and maintaining trees on private land to complement the city's efforts to have a robust density of trees on our streets, in our parks and across our city-owned properties."

Boston's urban forest includes all of the trees within City boundaries, a portion of which is located on public land, particularly on sidewalks and in public parks. Over 60% of the tree canopy in Boston is privately owned and controlled. The efforts through the City's new Urban Forestry Division are designed to support trees on public land. In order to make an impact on the whole urban forest, the City's efforts on public land must be matched by work on private land, requiring collaboration with landowners and other stakeholders. The Tree Alliance partnership will oversee the development and administration of a tree planting and maintenance program for trees on privately-owned land. Mass Audubon is charged with distributing resources to the program participants while developing a long-term tree planting and maintenance program. This collaboration will help to support growth of the urban forest in partnership with landowners and provide public education opportunities to build awareness around tree care and other topics.

"Having a healthy urban tree canopy is critically important to our environment and quality of life, as trees not only beautify our surroundings, but they also provide many environmental benefits," said City Council President Ed Flynn. "I applaud the work that the City of Boston and the Tree

Alliance will be doing to expand and protect our urban canopies, and I look forward to working with them."

"I applaud the Administration for their deep commitment to growing and maintaining our City's tree canopy," said Councilor Kendra Lara, Chair of the Committee on Environmental Justice, Resiliency, and Parks. "The unified private, nonprofit, and government efforts show that all sectors are critical partners in our efforts toward a more resilient Boston."

"Trees play a vital role in our communities and are necessary in combating the impacts of climate change," said Councilor Ricardo Arroyo. "I applaud Mayor Michelle Wu for her leadership and all the stakeholders whose participation in the Tree Alliance will ensure Boston is a leader in access to, and protection of, trees."

In 2022, the City released the Urban Forest Plan (UFP), to equitably chart the growth of Boston's urban forest and the Heat Plan to address the impacts of extreme heat driven by climate change. Together, these plans provide an approach to build a safe, healthy, and resilient city for all residents. Maintaining and planting trees in alignment with the UFP is one strategy to support the long-term health and safety of residents, particularly in Boston's Environmental Justice neighborhoods. The data produced by the Heat Plan and the UFP provide a foundation for where tree planting and maintenance efforts are needed to equitably expand tree canopy and address the long-term impacts of extreme heat. To grow a strong urban forest, partnership and coordination across the public agencies, community groups, and private organizations who steward urban trees is critical.

"Boston's history of disinvestment and redlining has led to inequitable access to trees," said Reverend Mariama White-Hammond, Chief of Environment, Energy and Open Space. "Trees are a crucial component of Boston's work to adapt to and mitigate the effects of climate change. I am thrilled that the Tree Alliance will support our goals of creating healthy, resilient and beautiful communities."

Last September, Mayor Wu launched a new Urban Forestry Division within the Boston Parks and Recreation Department (BPRD) to expand Boston's ability to maintain existing and plant new trees. The Forestry Division has since hired a Director of Urban Forestry, three new Arborists, an Administrative Assistant, and is still in the process of hiring new field labor crews. The City of Boston's tree related workforce has expanded from five to 16 positions.

The concept for a tree planting and maintenance program was inspired by similar programs in other cities, namely L'Alliance Forêt Urbaine in Montreal. In this model, the municipality developed an official contractual relationship with one organization, which serves as the central convener for the L'Alliance and Fiscal Agent to distribute public funding for planting and maintenance projects. Together, the Alliance created a governance structure to allow organizations of all capacities to participate in decision-making and access public funding resources for projects. The L'Alliance works together to create and coordinate tree planting and maintenance efforts. Public funds, issued as grants, are provided to collaborating partners within the L'Alliance for projects, working in coordination with private property owners. The Tree Alliance in Boston will

have a strong focus on the needs of Boston's communities that are most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

"We applaud Mayor Wu's Tree Alliance initiative to enhance Boston's tree canopy so that City residents—particularly those living in environmental justice communities—can experience more of the health and climate benefits trees provide," said David O'Neill, President of Mass Audubon. "Mass Audubon is honored to support the alliance of non-profits that will work collaboratively with private landowners willing to plant trees on their properties to provide more equitable access to nature, improve human health and wildlife diversity, and battle climate change."

Organizations that are interested in participating in Boston's Tree Alliance should contact BostonTreeAlliance@massaudubon.org for more information. Additionally, Mass Audubon will be hosting an informational kick-off meeting in late summer/early fall. Mass Audubon will be hiring an Alliance Coordinator to support programming and implementation. To learn more about this position, visit massaudubon.org/jobs/community-engagement-coordinator-boston.

The Tree Alliance is a key strategy to expand and preserve Boston's tree canopy. Boston's Healthy Places Initiative focused on increasing open space, cooling our neighborhoods, and protecting Bostonians from the impacts of climate change. Healthy Places is a collaboration of three City plans including the Urban Forest Plan, Heat Resilience Solutions for Boston, and the seven year update to the City's Open Space and Recreation Plan.

Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
Brennan, Alexander C	Hunter Wildhorn Rt	6-8 Bartlett St #3	\$749,000
Molstad, Michael P	Toboni, Paul	28 Elm St #2	\$1,300,000
Kokkalis, George	Brewer, August	48-50 Russell St #3A	\$710,000
Vincett, Kathryn K	Brady, Tara M	76 Pearl St #2	\$1,325,000



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Scholarship Awards Presentation Dinner

Please join us for dinner, drinks, and dancing while we congratulate this year's scholarship winners

Saturday, June 3, 2023 7:00 p.m.

(Doors open at 6:30 p.m.) Knights of Columbus Hall – Charlestown
\$25 per person; \$250 reserved table of 10

Please email or visit our website for ticket information:

www.ryanmorriseyscholarship.com

email: ryanmorriseyscholarship@gmail.com

Visit www.charlestownbridge.com

CHARLESTOWN BEAT

Animal Incident

05/7/23 – At about 2:09 a.m., police responded to a radio call for a disturbance at 49 Polk St.

Upon arrival, officers approached a group of people outside 73 Polk St. The group explained that the trouble started with a dog-on-dog attack. The disruption was most likely caused by the group attempting to split the dogs.

Officers observed a small tan dog curled up on the sidewalk with blood on its fur. The dog's owner stated she let the dog off its leash to relieve itself.

While outside, the other dog, a pit bull, was let off its leash at 49 Polk St. The owner of the pit bull said it attacked the smaller dog.

After providing information about the incident, the owner of the bit bull inquired about Animal Control and stated she would be looking for someone to take the dog after the incident.

Larceny – Theft - Bicycle

05/14/2023 – At approximately 9:45 p.m., an officer assigned to the front desk of District A-15 took a walk-in report for a larceny, the theft of a bicycle at Menino Park.

The victim stated that she was at Menino Park with her child and her cousin around 8 p.m., when they rented two of the city's Blue-bikes and rode them around the park. The victim stated when it was time to return the bicycles, she was approached by two teenage males, approximately 15-16 years old, who asked if they could ride the bikes.

The victim stated that she thought they wanted to ride the bikes around the park and then put them back in the docking station. The suspects took the bikes and rode off, up 16th Street towards Chelsea Street.

Bluebikes said it needed a police report to document the theft for the company's purposes.

Construction Look-Ahead for the North Washington St Bridge Project through May 27 is as follows:

This is a brief overview of construction operations and impacts for the North Washington Street Bridge Replacement Project. MassDOT will provide additional notices as needed for high-impact work and changes to traffic configurations beyond those described below.

Scheduled Work

- Installation of concrete deck placements
- Installation of bridge deck formwork
- Installation of electrical utility conduits on bridge structure
- Installation of gas and water utilities on bridge structure

Work Hours

- Most work will be done during weekday daytime hours (6:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.)

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

North Washington Street Bridge construction look-ahead through May 27

Contraflow Pilot

• The MassDOT-implemented contraflow pilot will continue to be in effect during evening peak traffic (3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.), Monday through Friday.

• Police details, lane markings, temporary barriers, traffic cones, signage, and other tools will be used to control traffic during set up and operation of the contraflow.

Travel Tips

For everyone using the temporary bridge, please help share the space: walk to the right, walk bikes, and be mindful of people coming from both directions, if walking in a large group.

Drivers should take care to pay attention to all signage and move carefully through the work zone. Police details, lane markings, temporary barriers, traffic cones, signage, and other tools will be used to control traffic and create safe work zones.

The Tudor Wharf Walkway (under the bridge next to the water in Paul Revere Park) will be intermittently closed for safety during construction operations, with access provided via the Water Street underpass. The Boston Harborwalk under the bridge and eastern/harborside bridge sidewalk remain closed until rebuilt.

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

How can I find more information?

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

LOCAL STUDENT EARNS ACADEMIC HONORS

TURNER INDUCTED INTO THE HONOR SOCIETY OF PHI KAPPA PHI

Amanda Turner of Charlestown was recently initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society. Turner was initiated at Washburn University.

Turner is among approximately 25,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

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FHAP AGENCIES & OTHER STATE/ LOCAL REFERRAL AGENCIES

BOSTON FAIR HOUSING COMMISSION
One City Hall Plaza, Suite 966
Boston, MA 02108-1058
617-635-4808

CAMBRIDGE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
51 Innis Street
Cambridge, MA 02139-1732
617-549-4396

CONNECTICUT COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS & OPPORTUNITIES
21 Grand Street, 4th Floor
Hartford, CT 06106-1501
860-541-3400

MAINE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
51 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
207-624-6250

MASSACHUSETTS COMMISSION AGAINST DISCRIMINATION
One Ashburton Place, Room 601
Boston, MA 02108-1599
617-994-9000

RHODE ISLAND COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
180 Westminster Street, 17th Floor
Providence, RI 02903-3768
401-222-2661/62

VERMONT HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
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Navy Yard Garden and Art Inc. announces Night Sky project

The Edward Ingersoll Browne Trust Fund has given a \$54,000 award to the Navy Yard Garden and Art, Inc. (NYGA) in support of an ornamental lighting installation titled Navy Yard Night Sky, which is displayed in the amphitheater at Shipyard Park, Charlestown's largest public park. A second gift came from the Norma Ricci Trust.

At the heart of the amphitheater, the permanent exhibit consists of four large panels of programmable mesh lighting installed between the roof beams on the second floor of the amphitheater, which is adjacent to the park's beloved water fountain.

Two artists were commissioned for the inaugural year of the piece: Zach Lieberman, who teaches at the MIT Media Lab and Sohaila Mosbeh, an interdisciplinary experience artist. Navy Yard Garden & Art will commission several artists over the life of the installation.

Sohaila Mosbeh's piece "The Myth of Nut" is currently running nightly from dusk to dawn.

Mosbeh states, "The light installation is heavily inspired by the natural elements located at the site, such as the specular waterfront during the day as well as the soft glow of the night's sky. I was so struck by how the Charlestown Navy Yard is heavily reminiscent of the Mediterranean port city of Alexandria, Egypt, a city full of historical artifacts from ancient Egypt to ancient Greece. Combin-



Artist Sohaila Mosbeh.

ing these site similarities together is the inspiration behind picking the Egyptian goddess of the sky and heavens, Nut (pronounced 'newt') as the central figure of the piece.

When viewing Navy Yard Night Sky, look out for Nut, who is represented by an oval that expands and contracts and shape shifts while she dances. You will also see twinkling lights which represent the real location of the stars in space: based directly on information Mosbeh collected from Nasa's open data portal. The abstracted motion of swirling colors illustrates an arched bend of the milky way.

Jules Pieri, NYGA board member, stated that "Living in the city, residents have very little exposure to the stars. We know they are there—but we just can't see them. The Navy Yard Night Sky Installa-

tion is meant to be our own little celestial phenomenon."

Ms. Pieri remarked that all of the lighting points downward so there is no light pollution and the art can be programmed to adjust to the changing patterns of the sun. It is illuminated after sunset and turn off at sunrise.

With over four years of planning, the piece also brought some interesting global breakthroughs to Boston. To begin, the Navy Yard Night Sky piece is the first such installation of its kind on the East Coast of the US. The mesh lighting sculpture was initially suggested by Ted Farnham of Boston Lighting Supply, who knew of this new lighting technology and saw the site as a perfect application. It was then manufactured by its creator, Carl Stahl GmbH in Germany. In a surprising twist of logistics, after the piece was specified and produced, global supply chain challenges came into play. The NYGA board had to navigate many pandemic-related challenges to get the four panels delivered to Boston. This included the closure of the Suez Canal and New York Port Authority overload, requiring a diversion of the shipment through the Port of Savannah.

When the four giant wooden crates finally arrived in the Navy Yard, Richard Mulligan, the BPDA's Senior Project Manager for Real Estate Operations commented, "Those things are huge! This is going to be a serious logistical operation."



NYGA Board Member Jules Pieri with Navy Yard Night Sky.

The ambitious public art project was fully supported by the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) and installed by Gone Green Electric. Once the mesh pan-

els were installed and functioning, a Boston based lighting consultant firm Available Light worked with the two artists to program both pieces. Photos:



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Elisabeth's experience caused her to redirect her own career aspirations. Inspired by the medical professionals who helped her reclaim her active lifestyle, she changed her major to study physical therapy—a profession where her own experience could help other patients prevail through difficult recoveries.

We tell Elisabeth Marra's story here to illustrate two of the most profound messages we know. Don't give up, and remember to give back. If reading it inspires just one more person to achieve something special, then its telling here has been well worth while.

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