



THURSDAY, JULY 6, 2023



FREE

CHARLESTOWN

PATRIOT-BRIDGE



A crane lifts the final beam to be placed on the 100 Hood Park Drive development.



PHOTOS BY ANDY RYAN PHOTOGRAPHY

Shown in the photo above during the Topping Off ceremony are Jason Edic, Lee Kennedy, Maxine Grant, Lee Kennedy, Ty Trebbe, Lee Kennedy, Moe Hassan, Lee Kennedy, Dan Trabucco, Lee Kennedy, Alfredo Barros, Lee Kennedy, Heath Dinsmore, Lee Kennedy, Tom Leclerc, Lee Kennedy, Jeff Orason, Lee Kennedy, Chris Kaneb, Hood Park LLC, David Buchanan, Lee Kennedy and Steve Kaneb, Catamount Management Group.

BLO brings free orchestral music to the DCR Hatch Memorial Shell and Boston neighborhoods

Special to the Bridge

Boston Landmarks Orchestra (BLO), under the direction of Music Director Christopher Wilkins, brings its annual summer series of free, live orchestral concerts to the iconic DCR Hatch Memorial Shell on the Esplanade, with a special focus on concerts in Dorchester, Roxbury, Hyde

Square, and Chelsea. Rooted in the mission "we build community through great music," Landmarks Orchestra is thrilled to present a concert series of free events which showcase a diversity of music and cultures. Programming this summer celebrates an increased commitment to programming music by underrepresented composers and artists.

Music Director Christopher Wilkins says, "The 2023 season is filled with music everyone can enjoy. On the Hatch Shell series, we're thrilled to work with Grammy Award-winning drummer and composer Terri Lyne Carrington, celebrating the symphonic legacy of Black American women during

(BLO CONCERTS Pg. 11)

Hood Park holds topping-off ceremony for 100 Hood Park Drive

Special to the Bridge

Hood Park LLC, Catamount Management Corporation, Lee Kennedy Company and Trademark Partners, recently celebrated the topping off of 100 Hood Park Drive. Women and men from the building trades and greater Charlestown community were invited to sign the ceremonial beam, marking completion of vertical construction on the project. 100 Hood Park Drive will serve as an anchor for Hood Park, a 20-acre, Class A urban campus located in the heart of Boston's Charlestown neighborhood that will include 1.8M square feet

of office and laboratory space, 100,000 square feet of retail and 335 residential units upon completion.

With immediate proximity to Kendall Square, Assembly Row and several MBTA Orange Line Stations, Hood Park has quickly become Boston's next life science cluster, attracting leading life science companies such as Bluebird Bio, Mori, Solid Biosciences, Indigo, and Advent Technologies and serving as a catalyst for continued life science investment in the area. Current and future tenants and visitors of all ages enjoy access to

(HOOD PARK, Pg. 5)

Community meeting planned for Clougherty Pool project on July 11

The Boston Centers for Youth and Families, the City of Boston's Public Facilities Department and the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services will be holding a community meeting on Tuesday, July 11, to receive updates about the BCYF Clougherty Pool demolition that will start this summer and also review renderings of the interior finishes of the bathhouse and pool deck. The meeting will be held remotely at 6:00 p.m. The link to join the meeting is: [Bit.ly/BCYFCloughertyDesignMeeting3_July2023](https://bit.ly/BCYFCloughertyDesignMeeting3_July2023)

BCYF is committed to a transparent, inclusive community process as we meet to establish the design features the community would like to see in the renovated pool and bathhouse. The Clough-

erty is targeted to open summer of 2024 with temporary facilities. The bathhouse is planned to open in summer 2025. The City recently launched a Resilient Buildings Plan to ensure that moving forward we can better keep up with maintenance work and prevent prolonged closures of the facilities our families depend on.

Interpretation, translation, and disability accommodation services are available to you at no cost. If you need them, please contact Niall Murphy at Niall.Murphy@boston.gov by June 30. Two meetings regarding the pool's renovation have been held already. Find past meeting presentations, and a recording from the second meeting at [Boston.gov/BCYF-Clougherty-Pool](https://boston.gov/BCYF-Clougherty-Pool).

Wu announces new leaders within community engagement cabinet

Mayor Michelle Wu announced Nathalia Benitez-Perez of East Boston as the new Director of the Office of Civic Organizing and Anthony Nguyen as the new Director of SPARK Boston, both tasked with giving Boston residents a voice in local government. The Mayor's Office of Civic Organizing is committed to collaborative partnerships and programs that encourage proactive community engagement and service in our neighborhoods. SPARK Boston empowers 20 to 35-year-olds to play a greater role in planning for the City's future.

"Both Anthony and Nathalia are familiar faces at City Hall, and I'm excited to see them take on leadership roles that work directly with our residents," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "With his experience on the SPARK Boston Council, Anthony knows firsthand the impact Boston's young adults can make in shaping our City's future. Similarly, Nathalia's warmth and passion for making a difference in our neighborhoods will be a great



Nathalia Benitez-Perez

asset to the Office of Civic Organizing."

SPARK Boston and the Office of Civic Organizing are within the Community Engagement Cabinet, focused on eliminating silos between Boston residents and City Hall.

"I am thrilled to welcome our new directors to lead SPARK Boston and the Office of Civic Organizing," said Community



Anthony Nguyen

Engagement Cabinet Chief Brianna Millor. "Both directors will work closely with Boston residents to inspire them to become civically engaged and deepen their connections with local government, so they can shape the future in the City of Boston. Nathalia and Anthony are both prepared to lead programs in their roles in transformative ways which will greatly benefit each neighborhood in Boston."

Anthony Nguyen is a proud lifelong Dorchester resident with a passion to serve in his community. He joined SPARK Boston in 2021 and held the position of captain,

volunteering his time assisting with programming efforts. As the son of Vietnamese immigrants he understands the importance of community, cultural awareness, and advocacy for those who traditionally have lacked the opportunities to engage civically. In taking up his role as Director of Spark Boston, he strives to continue increasing engagement of Boston's millennial and Gen Z residents across the City of Boston.

"I am most excited to continue building this amazing program that has started my civic journey and hopefully can jumpstart others as well," said SPARK Boston Director Anthony Nguyen. "I look forward to reaching out to young professionals in Boston and amplifying the voices of those who lack the opportunity to be civically engaged. There are a lot of folks in our city that we are not hearing from and I can't wait to connect with those individuals to ensure their life experiences and identities are represented in SPARK Boston programming."

The SPARK Boston Council meets monthly to engage and learn from City departments, hosts networking and voter registration events, and also volunteers in Boston neighborhoods throughout the

year.

Nathalia, a proud resident of East Boston, has been an active part of her community, harnessing her skills and knowledge to drive positive change. Recognized for her exceptional leadership abilities, she most recently served as the East Boston Neighborhood Liaison in the Office of Neighborhood Services, acting as a bridge between residents and local government.

In her new role leading the Office of Civic Organizing, Nathalia will build on the Office's work to get residents more engaged, through the City Hall on the Go Truck program, Love Your Block community cleanups, and the inaugural civic engagement summit.

"I am looking forward to expanding our partnerships with local colleges, universities, and civic organizations. Connecting to young people and those who are a part of our city's most vulnerable communities is a high priority for me in this role," said Office of Civic Organizing Director Nathalia Benitez-Perez. "I am excited to learn from local government and community leaders to work together to make the City of Boston an outstanding place to be civically engaged."

The Friends of Charlestown's Elderly Christmas in July Party

July 12

Doo Wop road trip

August 10

If you are interested in these events,
please contact Mary 617-777-0699

Friends of the Training Field present

FREE

SUMMER CONCERTS 2023!

Family friendly concerts 3-7PM - bring a picnic & enjoy!
At The Training Field - Winthrop & Common Sts.

July 8 - Boston Pub Rockers

Sponsored by Abraham Lincoln Post #11, G.A.R., Memorial Hall

August 12 - Black Velvet Band

Sponsored by The Cooperative Bank

September 16 - Erin Og

Sponsored by State Rep. Danny Ryan



Virtual Public Meeting

PLAN: Charlestown

Wednesday, July 12

6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Zoom Link: bit.ly/PLANctownNeighborhoodNeeds

Toll Free: (833) 568 - 8864

Meeting ID: 160 662 0282



Project Description:

Please join the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) for a virtual community meeting at 6pm on July 12th, to discuss PLAN: Charlestown's neighborhood needs recommendations. PLAN: Charlestown is the neighborhood's ongoing comprehensive planning initiative. This meeting will be focused on needs such as arts and culture, open space, mobility, retail, and food security. **This is the second of two meetings about neighborhood needs.** The previous meeting focused on neighborhood services (schools, EMS, fire, police, etc) was held on June 14th, and the recording is available on the project webpage. 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

BostonPlans.org | [@BostonPlans](https://twitter.com/BostonPlans)

Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

News Briefs

PARKS DEPARTMENT SUMMER GOLF COURSE CONCERT SERIES RETURNS JULY 12

The Boston Parks and Recreation Department's live music offerings continue in 2023 with a series of Wednesday evening summer concerts on the patios at the City of Boston's two golf course clubhouses.

Enjoy local artists playing and a wide variety of musical styles at the George Wright Golf Course Clubhouse at 420 West Street in Hyde Park and the William Devine Golf Course Clubhouse at 1 Circuit Drive in Dorchester.

Held in July and August, the Golf Course Concert Series is part of the Boston Parks and Recreation Department's year-round ParkARTS program. All shows are from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Title Sponsor is Bank of America. Additional support is provided by the Emerald Necklace Conservancy.

The William Devine Golf Course Clubhouse concerts begin July 12 with folk, pop, rock, reggae, blues, and soul-influenced singer Kaliloops, continue July 26 with rising R&B singer & songwriter Amari Alexander, and wrap up August 9 with New England-based solo acoustic artist Jon Hollywood.

The George Wright Golf Course Clubhouse concerts begin July 19 with a second appearance by Jon Hollywood and continue August 2 with Western Massachusetts-based singer-songwriter Grayson Ty, August 16 with guitar, vocal, and violin trio It's a "J" Thing, and August 24 with Boston's own country singer-songwriter Maddi Ryan.

All ParkARTS performances are free of charge. For more information, please visit boston.gov/golf-concert-series.

"e" INC. SUMMER PROGRAM ENROLLMENT IS OPEN

"e" inc's. Summer Science Discovery Program (SSDP) has been a huge hit with families since its beginnings in 2010. Campers between the ages of 6-12 years old can explore the natural world with a different topic each week. Every 'camp' includes a special field trip, daily outside games and programs, and wonderful opportunities to learn about amazing science subjects across the natural world. This year's themes include insects, primates and dinosaurs. Week one is Aug. 14 to 18, week 2 August 21-25 and week 3 August 26-September 1. Camp hours are from 9am - 3:30pm.

Enrollment forms are available both online (www.einc-action.org/SSDP) or can be sent through the mail at: "e" inc., 114 16th Street, Boston, MA 02129

MAYOR'S GARDEN CONTEST DEADLINE IS JULY 12

Mayor Michelle Wu has announced the 27th annual Mayor's Garden Contest highlighting the hard work of Boston's urban gardeners. The competition provides the perfect opportunity to recognize the skills of all Boston residents who contribute to the beauty of the city's landscape.

Boston's green thumbs have

until 11:59 p.m. on Wednesday, July 12, to submit their gardens for award contention. The contest recognizes gardeners who have landscaped, planted flowers, trees, shrubs, and, in the process, helped beautify Boston's neighborhoods.

Gardeners or those nominating their favorite gardeners may find printable and online nomination forms at boston.gov/mayors-garden-contest. The preferred method of entry is to submit photos through the online application. Alternatively, contestants may request an application by emailing their name and address to gardencontest@boston.gov. Paper applications are also available in English and ten additional languages.

Judges will fan out across the city visiting finalists the week of July 24. Once the votes are tallied, first place winners will receive the coveted "Golden Trowel" award from Mayor Wu while second and third place winners will be awarded certificates.

Gardeners who have won three or more times in the last ten years will be automatically entered into the Hall of Fame. These distinguished Hall-of-Famers are not eligible to enter as contestants but are invited to return as judges.

First place winners are eligible for a drawing for a JetBlue Grand Prize consisting of roundtrip flights for two to any nonstop destination

from Boston. Terms, conditions, and blackout dates apply. In addition, Mahoney's Garden Centers will provide gardener's gift bags to the top three winners in each category, as well as gift certificates for the 2023 Hall of Fame winners.

Stay up to date with the Mayor's Garden Contest as well as news, events, and design and construction work in Boston parks by calling (617) 635-4505, signing up for our email list at bit.ly/Get-Parks-Emails, and following our social channels @bostonparksdept on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram.

PARKARTS NEIGHBORHOOD CONCERTS RETURN JULY 10

The Boston Parks and Recreation Department's 2023 ParkARTS Citywide Neighborhood Concert Series will offer top-notch musical entertainment in local parks from July 10 through August 9.

The ParkARTS outdoor neighborhood summer concerts are presented in City of Boston parks and made possible by presenting sponsor Bank of America with additional support from Berklee College of Music and College Hunks Hauling Junk & Moving. All shows begin at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

The following schedule is for the ParkARTS:

- Monday, July 10, Living on a Bad Name (Bon Jovi tribute), Billings Field, 369 LaGrange Street, West Roxbury
- Tuesday, July 11, JP Sax Quartet, Oak Square Common Oak Square, Brighton
- Wednesday, July 12, 6:30 p.m., Swingin' in the Fens featuring Jelani Bauman, Ramler Park, 130 Peterborough Street, Fenway (rain date July 19)
- Monday, July 17, Divas with a Twist, Fallon Field, 50 Firth Road, Roslindale
- Monday, July 24, Northeast Groove, Pinebank, 345 Jamaica-caway, Jamaica Plain
- Wednesday, July 26, Conscious Reggae, Blackstone Square, 1530 Washington Street, South End
- Monday, July 31, National Night Out with Conscious Reggae, Hunt/Almont Park, 40 Almont Street, Mattapan
- Wednesday, Aug. 2, River of Dreams (Billy Joel tribute), Dorchester Park, Adams Street, Dorchester
- Sunday, Aug. 6, 5 p.m., Jazz at the Fort featuring Tim Hall: Trust the Process, Highland Park, 58 Beech Glen Street, Roxbury
- Wednesday, Aug. 9, Be Kind, Rewind (90s tribute), Medal of Honor Park, East Broadway and N Streets, South Boston

CHARLESTOWN BEAT

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

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.

Warrant Arrest

06/22/2023 – At about 12:51 a.m., officers responded to a radio call for breaking and entering in progress on Main Street.

Before police arrived on the scene, Channel 2 dispatch advised officers that a female wearing a red coat and surgical mask carrying a backpack was standing on a chair trying to get into the front window on Main Street.

Police didn't locate any parties

on the scene or observe any signs of forced entry. Officers observed a female on Rutherford Avenue by the gas station.

The female told officers she was checking the building for anyone inside. The officers conducted a CJIS inquiry indicating the female had two active warrants out of Roxbury Court.

The suspect was transported to District A-1 to be booked.

Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
Beasley, John R	Beasley John J Est	1 N Quincy Pl	\$500,000
Monteverde, Adam	Marszalek, Robyn	2 Franklin St #3	\$1,190,000
Square One Const Inc	Yieldi LLC	5 Adams St	\$3,000,000
Genung, Nathan	Paul L Breiner RET	16 Auburn St	\$2,400,000
Taylor, Mallory	Klein, Allyson B	30 Washington St #1A	\$845,000
Wright, Nicholas	Furlow, Paul W	31 Washington St #2	\$1,485,000
Mahoney, Max R	Guglielmino, Derek	45 1st Ave #208	\$805,000
Querzoli, Stephanie M	Silva, Kerri L	46 Mystic St #1	\$750,000
Downey, Gabrielle C	Lof, Linnea D	65 Chelsea St #103	\$407,464
Ay Boston T	Sterlace, Jared	86 Bunker Hill St #3	\$865,000
Rowe, Ashley N	Heiser, Melissa J	89 Pearl St	\$1,150,000
Kelly, Christopher	Kerr, Gary	117 Baldwin St	\$2,600,000
Melrose Realty Hldg LLC	Antonellis, Matthew P	138 High St #1	\$680,000
Brown, Sarah C	Mazzeo, Andrew R	140 High St #2	\$750,000
Athanassiu Lt	John E Cotter T	197 8th St #308	\$1,455,000
Boyle, Neal P	Foti, John	292 Bunker Hill St #4	\$495,000



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EDITORIAL

WE'RE (OVER)EATING OURSELVES TO DEATH

The latest statistics reveal an incredibly negative picture of Americans: 40% are obese and another 32% are overweight. In other words, almost three quarters of Americans maintain an unhealthy weight.

Yes, the fast-food industry is hugely to blame, as epitomized by all of those melted-cheese-dripping triple-bacon-burger commercials on college football Saturdays. Americans' lifespan is declining for a myriad of reasons (alcohol, opioids, and COVID), but our epidemic of obesity surely is a contributing factor to our high rates of heart disease, diabetes, and cancer. We are eating ourselves to death.

The average American male today weighs 30 pounds more than he did 50 years ago and the average American woman today weighs the same as that man of 50 years ago. Certainly, for some people genetics plays a huge role in their weight. But our society has become obese not because of changes in our genetic makeup compared to 50 years ago, but because we eat way too much of the wrong kinds of food which have become all too easy to access.

The number of fast-food franchises has grown exponentially in the past 50 years. In addition, we have come to equate excess food consumption as a luxurious pleasure, as though it is an end in itself. If you go on a cruise ship (as we recently did), the non-stop over-abundance of food available at buffets only serves to encourage gross overeating -- and way-too-many passengers are happy to comply.

Overeating truly has become as American as apple pie (no pun intended). Bad food habits are just as bad for us as anything else (e.g. smoking, alcohol, drugs), but are less expensive and on every street corner. Moreover, these unhealthy foods are pushed on us all day, every day. TV ads for cigarettes were banned decades ago— we need to do the same for fast-food ads.

The new diabetes drugs, which have been shown to induce weight loss, hold huge promise for those who struggle to maintain a healthy lifestyle. As these drugs are tested for side effects (and no doubt will be improved-upon in the future) and come to market, perhaps this generation of Americans can win the modern-day Battle of the Bulge.

60 YEARS OF JAMES BOND

It was 60 years ago this summer that the first James Bond movie, Dr. No, starring the late Sean Connery, was released in the U.S.

That movie instantly became a touchstone of 1960s pop culture which has flourished to the present day. The iconic James Bond theme is as recognizable today as it was 60 years ago, and we recall all of the big pop songs by the biggest stars that were written just for the movie, from Shirley Bassey belting out Goldfinger to Adele's haunting performance of Skyfall.

Admittedly, not all of the Bond movies were that great, nor were all of Sean Connery's successors equal to Connery. And to be sure, as with just anything from that pop-culture era, some of it is cringe-worthy by today's standards.

But James Bond films always were fun and entertaining, and proved to be a wonderful escape, whether in an air-conditioned movie theatre in the summertime or a cozy theatre at winter holiday-time, creating warm memories that have lasted a lifetime.

THE CHARLESTOWN PATRIOT-BRIDGE,

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LETTER to the Editor

GUIDANCE ON PREVENTING OPIOID OVERDOSE

Dear Editor,

We are now amid the worst drug overdose crisis in our nation's history, with an estimated 109,680 lives lost across the country in 2022. In Massachusetts six people die each day from overdose, and our community of Charlestown has been tragically impacted by this crisis for over two decades. Overdose deaths have been increasing due to the presence of a very strong opioid, fentanyl, in the illicit drug supply.

However, no one should die from an overdose, and we as a community can learn about proven tools to prevent and reverse overdoses and to treat addiction.

How can we recognize and prevent overdoses?

The signs of opioid overdose include slowed or stopped breathing, unresponsiveness, pinpoint pupils, and blue lips or skin due to low oxygen levels. Death from overdose is often because of a prolonged period of not breathing, which eventually causes the heart to stop.

If you witness an overdose, or see someone you worry may have experienced an overdose, the first thing to do is see if the person responds to your voice or touch. If the person is not responding to you, follow the below steps ("C-A-R-E"):

1. Call 911 immediately
2. Administer naloxone, if you have it (see below).
3. Rescue breathing: plug their nose shut, tilt their head back and open their mouth. If there is nothing in their mouth or throat, blow one strong breath every 5 seconds into their mouth, making sure you see their chest rise.
4. Emergency services will arrive, wait with the person until then.

What is naloxone (also known as Narcan)?

If someone is showing signs of an overdose, we can use a medication called naloxone to reverse the effects of the opioids (including strong drugs, like fentanyl) to help them breathe again. Naloxone is a medication that is delivered as a nasal spray. Everyone should carry naloxone, which is available by request at any pharmacy including CVS Charlestown under a state-

wide standing prescription or is available by direct prescription from your physician.

Does naloxone work for all overdoses?

Naloxone can reverse overdoses due to many powerful opioids (ie, there is no such thing as a naloxone-resistant opioid drug). However, many overdoses involve multiple drugs, so naloxone alone may not work to reverse someone's overdose if other drugs are involved. For this reason, when you suspect an overdose it is critical that you call 911 for help in addition to administering naloxone.

What is xylazine, and why are we worried about it?

Xylazine is a powerful drug, used in veterinary settings to put animals to sleep. It has been in the illicit drug supply in Philadelphia since 2006, but more recently has appeared in Massachusetts. With the addition of xylazine, people are at risk of injury and trauma due to heavy sedation, as well as serious skin wounds. Most drugs that contain xylazine also contain fentanyl, so it is important to use naloxone even if you suspect a xylazine overdose.

What resources do we have in the community?

If you are worried about your or a loved one's substance use, it is important to know that treatment for substance use disorders is available and is effective. Here is a list of nearby resources:

Resources based at Mass General Brigham:

1. Any person, regardless of insurance or where they get their medical care, is welcome to walk into any of our four Mass General Brigham Bridge Clinics, which offer walk-in, drop-in, outpatient substance use disorder treatment and other services. These are located at MGH, the Brigham, Salem hospital, and in Haverhill. The MGH Bridge Clinic (617-643-8281) is located on the first floor of the Cox building on the MGH Main Campus and is open Monday through Friday, 9 to 5.

2. The MGH Addiction Recovery Management Service (ARMS) specializes in supporting teenagers and young adults between the ages of 14 and 26 and their parents as they deal with their substance use and related problems. Phone: 617-643-4699

3. To find treatment resources, you can also call one of our neighborhood's two Community Health Centers, MGH Charlestown (617-724-8135) or NEW Health Charlestown (857-238-1100).

Resources from the Charlestown Coalition:

1. We honor and support the Charlestown Coalition and their Call to Action to prevent overdose, which includes a series of overdose prevention workshops across the neighborhood taking place throughout the Summer. Please see Navigation Assistance through Drug & Alcohol Recovery – Charlestown Coalition for more details and to sign up for their overdose prevention information email list.

2. The Charlestown Coalition's Trauma Response Team serves as a support in the community and connecting people to treatment concerning issues around loss, community violence and substance use disorder. If you would like to make a self or community member referral, please contact: 617- 726-0058 (9AM to 5PM) or 617-643-0449 (5PM to 9PM)

Support Groups:

1. The Sun Will Rise Foundation provides online and in person support regarding substance use disorder. The in person meetings in Charlestown are facilitated by Shannon Lundin-White and Michael "Smokey" Cain, two of the Coalition's Trauma Response Team members. These meetings occur on the third Wednesday of each month from 6-7pm at St. John's Church, 27 Devens Street. For more groups, please visit: <http://www.thesunwillrise.org/new-page> or contact Shannon at 617-320-9058.

2. COASA (Children of Alcohol and Substance Abuse) Support Group. This virtual family support group is held on Thursdays at 5:30pm for individuals who have a family member or loved one with an alcohol or substance use disorder. Contact Facilitator Maureen McGlame at 617-726-9216 or mmcglame@rfkcommunity.org.

3. The Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance (DBSA Boston) has a drop-in peer facilitated support group for individuals with mood disorders as well as their family and friends. This group meets in person every Thursday from 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm at the

Hood Park (from pg. 1)

the campus’ pedestrian friendly local retail vendors, which include Landry’s Bicycles, Tradesman Coffee Shop and Lounge, The Handle Bar, Element Hair Salon and Spa, and Boston Veterinary Clinic. Hood Park’s vibrant on-site amenity base includes over an acre of publicly accessible green space and frequent on-site community events including a beer garden held in partnership with Aeronaut Brewing every Thursday during summer months and an inaugural Spring Fest held May 13th that saw over 500 people from the Charlestown community in attendance.

Designed by Cambridge-based design firm SMAA, 100 Hood Park Drive’s existing 7-story mixed use building was completed in 2020 and is comprised of 61,139 SF of lab on the second floor, a 900-space garage with 50

EV chargers, and approximately 40,000 SF of ground level retail. Today’s topping off celebrates the tower addition of 100 Hood Park Drive, which will add 5 stories of office and laboratory space totaling 186,000 RSF with floor plates averaging 37,000 RSF-capable of providing a 60/40 lab split. Once complete, the building will be 13 stories and total over 287,000 RSF of lab, office and retail.

“Strategically situated just north of Downtown Boston and east of Kendall Square, 100 Hood Park Drive is the perfect home for a life science company looking to join Hood Park’s diverse ecosystem of innovative companies, academic institutions, and curated retail,” said Chris Kaneb, Manager of Hood Park LLC. “We are grateful for the hard work of the individuals at every stage of the

development process-from design to construction, who have made our vision for the Hood Park neighborhood come to life.”

Hood Park is a dynamic, mixed-use urban campus in the heart of Boston’s vibrant and historic Charlestown neighborhood. Originally home to the New England dairy company H.P. Hood and Sons, the 20-acre site has been completely reimaged as an innovation district and community destination for residents, employees and visitors to live, work, play and gather. Hood Park includes first-class lab and office space, a dynamic mix of activated retail, luxury apartment living and publicly-accessible open spaces including Hood Green, a one-acre lawn and focal point of the development. Pedestrian friendly and transit oriented, Hood Park



COURTESY SMAA

A rendering of what the 100 Hood Park Drive will look like upon completion.

is conveniently located steps away from the MBTA Orange Line and Interstate 93, and is quickly accessible from Boston, Cambridge, and Somerville. For more information, including development updates and the latest events and activations at Hood Park, visit hoodpark.com or follow us on Instagram @HoodParkCharlestown.

LETTER (from pg. 4)

Erich Lindemann Mental Health Center. Email: info@dbstaboston.org, Phone: 617-855-2795.

4. NAMI Connection is a free, peer-led support group for people who are concerned about their mental health. Groups are led by NAMI-trained facilitators who’ve been there. NAMI Connection groups allow you to talk about your experiences in a safe and confidential setting. The groups encourage empathy, productive discussion, and a sense of community. namimass.org/nami-connection-recovery-support-groups

Hotlines:

1. The Massachusetts Substance Use Helpline is available at 800-327-5050.

2. Family Support Hotline. This hotline provides real team crisis support for those struggling with behavioral health symptoms. Clinicians will help to assess the situation and make recommendations for interventions, including but not limited to: mobile crisis evaluations, connection to inpatient and outpatient services and follow up visits. Call: 888-309-1989

Wildflower Alliance peer support line is answered by a trained peer supporter who has their own first-hand experience with psychiatric diagnosis, trauma, addiction, and/or other challenges. This line does not collect personal information, perform assessment, or call crisis or the police. Call: 888-407-4515, By phone every day: M-TH 7pm-9pm, FR-SUN

Sarah Wakeman, MD, Ryan O’Brien, Recovery Coach, Shraddha Damaraju, MD, MPH, and Jim Morrill, MD

2023 CITY OF BOSTON UPDATED YARD WASTE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

Due to the state’s closure of the Sumner Tunnel, yard waste will be collected on **Saturdays only during July and August** in all Boston neighborhoods. The regular collection schedule will resume in September. To learn more please visit boston.gov/yard-waste

JULY						
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OCTOBER						
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

NOVEMBER						
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30						

DECEMBER						
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

- Leaf and yard waste curbside collection
- Household hazardous waste drop-off
- Yard Waste drop off
416 American Legion Highway
Boston, MA 02131 | 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

NOTE:
When regular collection resumes in September, yard waste is collected the same day as regular household recycling. If you have two recycling collections per week, collection is on your first recycling day of the week.

- Place leaves and yard waste in large paper bags or open barrels labeled “yard waste”
- Branches should be no more than 3 feet long, 1 inch thick, and tied with a string.
- Please no plastic bags or dirt.

CHRISTMAS TREES
We collect Christmas trees curbside from January 1 - 12, 2024

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP-OFF DATES AND LOCATIONS
August 12 | West Roxbury | 315 Gardner St. W. Roxbury DPW | 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.
September 23 | Lower Roxbury Central DPW Facility 400 Frontage Road. | 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.



SENIOR CENTER RENAMED THE BEVERLY GIBBONS COMMUNITY CENTER

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN PHOTOS

The Golden Age Senior Center in Charlestown will now be named for its former director as the Beverly Gibbons Community Center For Older Adults. She worked hard as an advocate for the seniors of Charlestown. Her dedication and memory will live on serving the people of Charlestown, who she dearly loved.



Mary Rizzo knew Beverly Gibbons for over 30 years. Some briefly about her friend and what the Center meant to her.



Boston City Councilor Michael Flaherty speaks "I love Been Gibbons, I miss Bev Gibbons..."



Suffolk County Sheriff Steven Tompkins speaks, gesturing to the bingo board at the Center.



Boston City Councilor Gabriela "Gigi" Coletta speaks.



Boston Mayor Michelle Wu speaks.



Former Boston City Councilor Sal LaMattina, who worked with Beverly Gibbons, recounts her determination and dedication to the elderly of Charlestown.



Massachusetts State Rep. Dan Ryan speaks noting that Beverly was a "tenacious worker, making sure everyone got what they needed."



Boston City Councilor Erin Murphy speaks.



Beverly Gibbons' daughter Michele Gibbons with Helena Reilly and Pat Noonan.



Golden Age Center Director Meaghan Murray gets the dedication underway.



Members of the family of Beverly Gibbons pose with Boston Mayor Michelle Wu, Massachusetts State Rep. Dan Ryan, City Councilors Gabriela "Gigi" Coletta, Erin Murphy, Michael Flaherty, and former City Councilor Sal LaMattina.

SENIOR CENTER RENAMED THE BEVERLY GIBBONS COMMUNITY CENTER

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN PHOTOS



Faith and Patrick Langan, Beverly Gibbons was their aunt.



Beverly Gibbons' nephew Pat Sullivan and husband Donny.



Boston Mayor Michelle Wu is greeted by Rita Forrester from Allston who have the Mayor a scarf she made for her.



Boston Mayor Michelle Wu meets with seniors at the Beverly Gibbons Center.



Boston Mayor Michelle Wu is greeted by Massachusetts State Rep. Dan Ryan and Boston City Councilor Erin Murphy.



Danny Gibbons, Beverly's son, listens as people remember and share stories about his mother.



Boston City Councilor Michael Flaherty, Massachusetts State Rep Dan Ryan, police officers of BPD A1 Station, and seniors.



The Center was a packed house.



Students from the Warren-Prescott School sing "Shake The Papaya Down."

AGE STRONG HOLDS LUNCHEON AT K OF C HALL FOR PRIDE WEEK



Kennedy Center President Eileen Ward meets with seniors.

Derek Kouyoumjian photos

The Age Strong Commission is a City Hall organization dedicated to providing enriching activities, connections and resources to the elderly in Boston. A luncheon was held at the Knights Of Columbus Hall in Charlestown to help celebrate Charlestown Pride Week and the city's aged residents.



Mayor Michelle Wu peaks with residents attending the luncheon.



MC Alan Labella got the crowd dancing to YMCA.



MC Alan Labella got the crowd dancing to YMCA, including Massachusetts State Rep. Dan Ryan (3rd from left).



Age Strong Commissioner Emily Shea pulls raffle tickets.

SEND US YOUR NEWS

The Patriot-Bridge encourages residents to submit engagement, wedding and birth announcements, news releases, business and education briefs, sports stories and photos for publication. Items should be forwarded to our offices at 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151.

We also encourage readers to e-mail news releases and photos to deb@reverejournal.com.

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AGE STRONG HOLDS LUNCHEON AT K OF C HALL FOR PRIDE WEEK



Maureen Collier meets with seniors.



Loretta Woods and Boston Police Sgt Paul Chevrette.



Boston City Hall Liaison To Charlestown Sean Breen, BPD A1 CSO Chrissy Vraibel, Massachusetts State Rep Dan Ryan, and Elaine Donovan



Candidate for Boston City Councilor At-Large Henry Santana with members of the Charlestown Residents Alliance.



Organizers of the festivities included Age Strong, Bunker Hill Associates, and BPD A1 Station.



Maureen Collier, Massachusetts State Rep Dan Ryan, All Care Visiting Nurse Liason Caren Downey, and Bunker Hill Associates President Jimmy Lister.



Massachusetts State Rep Dan Ryan, BPD A1 CSO Chrissy Vraibel, Golden Age Center Director Meaghan Murray, Bunker Hill Associates President Jimmy Lister, Secretary Kim Mahoney, Vice President Nolan Carrier, and Maureen Collier.

MOH Income Restricted Rental Opportunity
Dudley Crossing
375-397 Dudley Street, 204-210 Hampden Street, 2-4 Dunmore Street
Roxbury, MA 02119

33 Restricted Rental Units

# of Units	# of bedrooms	Estimated Square Feet	Rent	Maximum Income Limit	# built out for mobility impairments	# built out for Deaf/hard of hearing
*1	1 BR	627	30% of HH Income	30% AMI	-	-
*5	2 BR	664	30% of HH Income	30% AMI	-	-
4	2 BR	782	30% of HH Income	50% AMI	-	-
5	2 BR	813	\$2,004	60% AMI	1	-
3	2 BR	810	\$2,160	80% AMI	-	-
*3	3 BR	875	30% of HH Income	30% AMI	-	-
1	3 BR	1057	30% of HH Income	50% AMI	-	1
4	3 BR	934	\$2,315	60% AMI	-	-
2	3 BR	869	\$2,670	80% AMI	-	-
*1	4 BR	1,050	30% of HH Income	30% AMI	-	-
2	4 BR	1,085	30% of HH Income	50% AMI	-	-
2	4 BR	1,174	\$2,583	60% AMI	-	-

***(1) One Bedroom, (2) Two Bedrooms, (1) Three Bedroom, (1) Four Bedroom** Homeless Set-aside units will be filled through direct referral from HomeStart. For more information please contact us at the email address or phone number below. For direct referrals, please visit <https://www.homestart.org/bostonhsa>.

Minimum Incomes (set by owner + based on # of bedrooms + Area Median Income (AMI))					Maximum Incomes (set by HUD/MOH + based on household size + Area Median Income (AMI))				
# of bedrooms	30% AMI	50% AMI	60% AMI	80% AMI	Household size	30% AMI	50% AMI	60% AMI	80% AMI
1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1	\$31,150	\$51,950	\$62,340	\$82,950
2	N/A	N/A	\$57,300	\$74,057	2	\$35,600	\$59,400	\$71,280	\$94,800
3	N/A	N/A	\$65,888	\$91,542	3	\$40,050	\$66,800	\$80,160	\$106,650
					4	\$44,500	\$74,200	\$89,040	\$118,450
4	N/A	N/A	\$73,200	N/A	5	\$48,100	\$80,150	\$96,180	\$127,950
					6	\$51,650	\$86,100	\$103,320	\$137,450

Minimum incomes do not apply to households with housing assistance (Section 8, MRVP, VASH) or for the units in this development that include a project-based voucher.

Applications are available during the application period for 42 days, from **June 12, 2023 to July 23, 2023**

Applications are available in person on the following days, dates, and times in the following place(s)			
Day	Date	Time	Location
Weekdays	6/12/23 to 7/21/23	9:00 am to noon	233 Blue Hill Avenue, Roxbury, MA 02119
Weekdays	6/12/23 to 7/21/23	1:00pm to 4:00pm	233 Blue Hill Avenue, Roxbury, MA 02119
Thursday	6/22/23	6:00pm to 8:00pm	215 Blue Hill Avenue, Roxbury, MA 02119
Saturday	6/24/23	10:00am to 2:00pm	233 Blue Hill Avenue, Roxbury, MA 02119
Tuesday	6/27/23	6:00pm to 8:00pm	233 Blue Hill Avenue, Roxbury, MA 02119
Thursday	6/15/23	6:00pm to 8:00pm	484 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02116

To request an online application or to have one sent by email visit <https://bit.ly/DudleyCrossingAppRequest>

We will be holding informational meetings on **June 27, 2023 at 6:00pm** at **Thomas I. Atkins 215 Blue Hill Avenue, Roxbury, MA 02119** . Join virtually, too, through the following link: <https://us05web.zoom.us/j/83020707335?pwd=aDBSY0U5RDJoeVcvMXBpaXdKSTFOdz09>

We will be holding informational meetings on **June 15, 2023 at 6:00pm** at **Castle Square 484 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02116**. Join virtually, too, through the following link: <https://us05web.zoom.us/j/82670889506?pwd=dklvN1hQT3N3REIHYm5YdFVlVlB0U09>

DEADLINE: Applications must be submitted online or postmarked no later than **Sunday July 23, 2023**
Mailed to **233 Blue Hill Avenue, Roxbury, MA 02119**

- Selection by Lottery.
- Asset & Use Restrictions apply.
- Preferences Apply.

For more information, language assistance, or reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities please call **617-442-8472** or email lnash@winnco.com.



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BLO CONCERTS (from pg. 1)

the NAACP's national convention. With the Landmarks Orchestra's Artist-in-Residence Fabiola Méndez, we continue our fruitful partnership with the Hyde Square Task Force. Other highlights include the premiere of a co-commissioned work by Brian Raphael Nabors on our annual "Green" Concert; George Gershwin's *An American in Paris*; Rodrigo's *Concierto de Aranjuez* for guitar and orchestra; and Violin Concerto in G composed by Joseph Bologne, subject of the new film, *Chevalier*. Most importantly, performing in Boston's neighborhoods brings our mission front and center, celebrating Boston's diverse culture and history through live orchestral performances."

2023 Summer Concerts and Events

ASL interpreters will be present at many performances; see the website for current details.

GREEN CONCERT

Wednesday, July 19, 2023, 7p.m. ET | Hatch Shell

July 19th at the Hatch Shell is the annual "Green Concert" with works celebrating nature, including "Appalachian Spring" and a new piece from Brian Nabors, "Upon Daybreak", co-commissioned by Landmarks Orchestra.

BLO, Christopher Wilkins, conductor

Ludwig van Beethoven *The Creatures of Prometheus: Overture Op. 43*

Lili Boulanger *On a Spring Morning*

Aaron Copland *Appalachian Spring*

Ethel Smyth *On the Cliffs of Cornwall*

Brian Raphael Nabors *Upon*

Daybreak (Landmarks Orchestra co-commission)

Franz Liszt *Les Préludes*

SEEN/UNSEEN:

Wednesday, July 26, 2023, 7p.m. ET | Hatch Shell

The Symphonic Legacy of Black American Women

Featuring Terri Lyne Carrington, guest artist and co-curator

Coinciding with the NAACP's conference in Boston, the July 26 concert at the Hatch Shell brings a special focus to celebrating the symphonic legacy of Black American women and their compositions. GRAMMY® award-winning drummer, producer and educator, Terri Lyne Carrington joins Landmarks as a guest curator and performer.

BLO, Christopher Wilkins, conductor

Louise Toppin, soprano
Shirley Graham Tom-Tom:

Overture and Excerpts, orchestrated David Kempers

Florence Price *Dances in the Canebrakes*, orchestrated William Grant Still

Undine Smith Moore *Three Love Songs from Scenes from the Life of a Martyr, To the Memory of Martin Luther King Jr.*

Mary Lou Williams *Zodiac Suite* (excerpts)

Nkeiru Okoye *Voices Shouting Out*

Valerie Coleman *Umoja: Anthem of Unity*

Courtney Bryan *Footsteps of a Queen*

Terri Lyne Carrington *Seen/Unseen*

COMMUNITY DAY IN CHELSEA

Saturday, July 29, 2023, 1 - 4p.m. | PORT Park 99 Marginal

St, Chelsea

Join Landmarks Orchestra for a day of family fun! We're hosting a Community Day in Chelsea at PORT Park on July 29th. Hosted by José Massó, this will be a family-friendly event featuring music, entertainment, family-friendly activities and more.

AMERICAN VIRTUOSO: AN AMERICAN IN PARIS & DVOŘÁK CELLO CONCERTO

Wednesday, Aug. 2, 2023, 7pm ET | Hatch Shell

On August 2, at the Hatch Shell, this concert features American gems such as George Gershwin's *An American in Paris* and three dance episodes from Leonard Bernstein's *On the Town*, along with a special prelude concert with Four Strings Academy.

BLO, Christopher Wilkins, conductor

Tommy Mesa, cello

Prelude: Coleridge-Taylor *Perkinson Sinfonietta: Allegro furioso* (3rd movement)

Four Strings Academy

Leonard Bernstein *On the Town: Three Dance Episodes*

George Chadwick *Symphony No. 2: Allegretto scherzando*

George Gershwin *An American in Paris*, critical edition edited Mark Clague

Antonín Dvořák *Cello Concerto in B Minor, op. 104*, Tommy Mesa, cello

MOZART AND MORE

Thursday, Aug. 10, venue & time

TBA; Friday, Aug. 11, venue & time

TBA; Saturday, Aug. 12, 7p.m. ET | Hatch Shell

Two neighborhood concerts will take place on August 10 and August 11. Both concerts will feature the same program of the

August 12 Hatch Shell concert.

These concerts pair Mozart and Joseph Bologne, subject of the new film, *Chevalier*, and features composers who have overcome challenges in their lives. Featuring a special piece from Artist-in-Residence, Fabiola Méndez and her collaboration with students from Hyde Square Task Force, alongside violinist Mariana Green-Hill, and guitarist Zaira Meneses. Hosted by José Massó.

BLO, Christopher Wilkins, conductor

José Massó, host
Fabiola Méndez, cuatro and vocalist

Mariana Green-Hill, violin
Zaira Meneses, guitar

Young Musicians and Dancers of the Hyde Square Task Force

Samuel Coleridge-Taylor *Puerto Rican Overture*

Fanny Mendelssohn *Overture in C Major*

Joseph Boulogne *Violin Concerto in G*

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart *Symphony No. 35 "Haffner"*

Roberto Sierra "Guaracha" from *Serenata for Chamber Orchestra*

Fabiola Méndez and students from Hyde Square Task Force

Joaquín Rodrigo *Concierto de Aranjuez*

DANCE NIGHT: BEETHOVEN TO GOTTSCHALK

Wednesday, Aug. 23, 2023,

7pm ET | Hatch Shell

The final performance at the Hatch Shell on August 23 is Landmarks Annual "Dance Night" featuring Beethoven's *Symphony No. 7* and Tchaikovsky's *The Sleeping Beauty*, along with performances from Jean Appolon Expressions Sayat Nova Dance Company, and Principal Dancer of Boston Ballet, Chyrstyn Mariah Fentroy.

BLO, Christopher Wilkins, conductor

Hector Berlioz *Roman Carnival*
Ludwig van Beethoven *Symphony No. 7 in A major, op. 92*

Tchaikovsky, *Aurora's Wedding* from *Sleeping Beauty*, danced by Chyrstyn Mariah Fentroy

Toto Bissainthe Dey

Kareem Roustom *Armenian Dances*, Jean Appolon Expressions

Hershy Kay *Cakewalk: Concert Suite Sayat Nova*

Boston Landmarks Orchestra was founded in 2001 by conductor and community advocate Charles Ansbacher. The orchestra is comprised of many of the area's finest professional musicians. In its earliest years, the orchestra performed in such historically important settings as Fenway Park, the USS CONSTITUTION pier, Jamaica Pond, Franklin Park, Copley Square, Boston Common, and other landmark locations. Since 2007, its principal home has been at the DCR's Hatch Memorial Shell. For more history visit landmarksorchestra.org.

Harvest on Vine Emergency Food Pantry

JULY schedule

Friday, July 7th - 3:00pm - Set-up

Saturday, July 8th - 10:0am - Distribution

Thur. 7/20 - 1pm - Mishawum

Fri. 7/21 - 3pm - Set-up Tue. 7/25 - 6pm - Distribution

Director-Tom MacDonald 617-990-7314

CARD OF THANKS

Perhaps you sent a lovely card,

Or sat quietly in a chair.

Perhaps you sent a floral piece,

If so, we saw it there.

Perhaps you said the kindest words,

That any friend could say.

Perhaps you were not there at all,

Just thought of us that day.

Whatever you did to console our hearts,

We thank you so much -

Whatever the part.

THE FAMILY OF JAMES "JIMMY" GARVEY



PHOTO BY MICHAEL DWYER

A scene from a previous Boston Landmarks Orchestra concert at the Hatch Shell.

Gov. Healey funds the implementation of Sen. DiDomenico's law to provide resources to expand access to safety net programs

Special to the Bridge

Last week, the Healey Administration announced \$40 million in federal and state funding to implement the law that Senator Sal DiDomenico championed for years, and the legislature passed in 2022 that would streamline access to core safety net programs. Legislation passed in August of

2022, Chapter 174 of the Acts of 2022, directed the Administration to create a Common Application for SNAP, MassHealth, cash assistance, childcare and housing subsidies, fuel assistance, and other needs-tested benefits and today this funding infusion will ensure the state can reach this goal.

The funding included in the

Governor's 5-year Capital Investment Plan represents a significant step towards making basic benefit programs more efficient and effective, closing participation gaps, maximizing federal revenue for needy families, and ensuring more residents connect to the programs they need. The announcement comes as part of the Administration's broader efforts to improve quality of service across government programs, including enhancing transparency, accessibility, and cybersecurity.

"The allocation today by the Healey Administration of \$18 Million will move the implementation of the Common Application forward in Massachusetts and help thousands of low-income individuals across the Commonwealth meet their basic needs," said Senator Sal DiDomenico, Senate lead sponsor of the Common Application legislation and Assistant Majority Leader. "After many years of work on this issue we are thrilled to partner with the Administration and advocates to make the Common Application a reality and look forward to building on this momentum of equitably expanding access to public benefits."

For many years, Massachusetts had separate application processes for MassHealth and SNAP, as well as many other safety-net programs, that all asked for the same basic information. For many low-income families, these burdensome and duplicative application processes were a significant barrier to access the benefits for which they were entitled. For example, the separate application process for MassHealth and SNAP resulted in the "SNAP

Gap" – with approximately 700,000 MassHealth recipients who are likely income-eligible for SNAP, but not receiving them. The MA Legislature included language in the FY20 and FY21 budgets requiring the Administration to allow MassHealth applicants to apply for SNAP at the same time, which has produced significant results in boosting SNAP enrollment. The Common Application initiative weaves in other basic benefits and creates a "no wrong door" portal for low-income families, while allowing state agencies to more efficiently process benefits using common eligibility information and proofs.

Massachusetts Law Reform Institute (MLRI) and the Massachusetts chapter of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW-MA) led a coalition urging the adoption of a Common Application. De-siloing government programs and closing gaps were core goals of legislation and subsequent budget language filed by State Senator Sal DiDomenico and State Representative Jay Livingstone, An Act to Streamline Access to Critical Public Health and Safety-net Programs through Common Applications (S.761/H.1290). More than 70 State Senators and Representatives supported this legislation, demonstrating widespread bipartisan and bicameral support.

"Bureaucratic obstacles should never stand in the way of Massachusetts households being able to access the benefits they are eligible for to meet their basic everyday needs," said Georgia Katsoulomitis, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Law Reform Institute (MLRI).

"Passing the Common Application legislation was an important step in the process toward solving this issue, and today's allocation of funds to get it implemented is a welcome affirmation from the Healey Administration that they are committed to improving the lives of the Commonwealth's most vulnerable residents."

"Social workers understand how important it is to address the root causes of poverty and food insecurity through public policy. The infusion of this essential funding will finally allow the state to provide streamlined access to essential, life-saving benefits, which will improve economic mobility and, in turn, overall health and mental health outcomes for kids and families across our Commonwealth," said Rebekah Gewirtz, executive director of the National Association of Social Workers, Massachusetts Chapter. "We are grateful the Administration took this bold action to finally begin to realize the Common Application and we look forward to working with the Administration on implementation."

Patricia Baker, MLRI Sr. Policy Advocate and Chair of the statewide SNAP Coalition, added, "We are thrilled that Governor Healey and her Administration are actively removing access barriers and finally investing resources to make the Common Application a reality for Massachusetts families, older adults, and persons with disabilities who need to be connected to these key benefits. MLRI and the anti-poverty advocacy community look forward to working with the Healey Administration on robust implementation. We are deeply grateful to Chairman Jay Livingstone and Assistant Majority Leader Sal DiDomenico along with the Massachusetts Legislature for their unwavering efforts in closing the SNAP Gap and mandating the state create a Common Application. Massachusetts has the smarts and IT to get this done."

The Common App Coalition is a coalition of more than 150 organizations across Massachusetts committed to reducing hunger and alleviating poverty and is led by the National Association of Social Workers – Massachusetts Chapter (NASW-MA) and the Massachusetts Law Reform Institute (MLRI). The Coalition has been advocating for a Common Application and looks forward to continuing to work on the implementation of this initiative with the Healey Administration.

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