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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2023



CHARLESTOWN

— PATRIOT-BRIDGE —

HOWL-O-WEEN DOG COSTUME CONTEST



It was a beautiful day at Paul Revere Park as dog fans waited to see the Howl-O-Ween parade. See Pages 5 - 8 for more photos.



Bravo was on hand to make sure everyone followed park rules.



Rory Cohen-Trojan as King George with Mary Trojan as colonial lady and Jack Trojan as a Revolutionary War soldier.

The Helm rebrands to the Independence amid BPDA filing

By Michael Coughlin Ir.

The Independence at Charlestown Navy Yard — formerly known as the Helm on Third — a polarizing project that would bring affordable housing and permanent supportive housing (PSH) to the site of the old Constitution Inn, presented updated project plans at a public meeting hosted by the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) last week.

Last week's meeting comes off the heels of the project's proponents filing a letter of intent and project notification form last month. Proponents of the project include the Planning Office For Urban Affairs, Archdiocese Of Boston and the St. Francis House, among others.

As mentioned, this project has been polarizing in that, for a while, residents have voiced concerns about aspects such as public safety, security, screening, the process

itself, and more in relation to the project.

However, Dot Joyce of Dot Joyce Consulting and Joyce Strategies says, "We believe the Independence at Charlestown Navy Yard addresses these concerns and provides housing affordability and stability in a balance that is responsible for our community."

Further, Joyce explained that the project rebranding and name change were not done without reason, mentioning that there was a feeling a name change was necessary to coincide with program changes.

These changes since a preliminary plan include reducing total units from 126 to 100 and increasing workforce affordable housing from 30 units at 50%-60% area median income (AMI) to 52 units at 30%-80% AMI.

Moreover, the updated plans

(HELM Pg. 10)

CHARLESTOWN NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL CALENDAR

CNC General Meeting, Thursday, November 9, 2023, The Charlestown Neighborhood Council will hold an in-person, public meeting on Thursday, November 9, 2023, 7-9 p.m. at the BPD Community Room, 20 Vine St., Charlestown Please bring your questions and neighborhood concerns to the meeting or email us at cnc02129@gmail. com. Check CNC02129.org for calendar and updates.

CNC Elections All eight (8) of the CNC's at-large seats are subject to this election. To participate in the

December 2, 2023 election, completed nomination papers must be hand delivered or postmarked (instructions below) by Friday, November 3, 2023. Please reach out to the Election Committee co-chairs, Mary Boucher and Jay Driscoll, at CNC02129Election@gmail.com with any election questions or contact any council member to learn more about our work.

(CNC Pg. 2)

Charlestown Historical Society hosts two upcoming events

Special to the Patriot-Bridge

History enthusiasts and curious visitors alike are invited to step back in time and explore the rich tapestry of Charlestown's past at two events this week. The City of Boston's Archaeology Program, National Park Service, Charlestown Historical Society and Charlestown Preservation Society will bring together the community on Thursday, October 26, 2023, at 6 p.m.—in the Community Room at the Bunker Hill Museum to present an overview of what has been done archaeologically in Charlestown and ask the Charlestown community want they want to know about the events and places surrounding the Battle of Bunker Hill.

Two days later, on Sunday, October 29 at 3:30 p.m., CHS will host its annual Historic Cemetery Tour at Phipps Burial Ground.

"Both events underscore the rich history that exists under our feet in Charlestown and are united in history as the Phipps Burial Ground is one of the only places in Charlestown that survived the burning of Charlestown after the Battle of Bunker Hill," said Julie Hall, president of the Charlestown Historical Society. We are honored to host Joe Bagley, the team from Boston's Commemoration Commission and the National Park Service for this event to kick off Bunker Hill 250." The Bunker Hill 250 program is a consortium of historical organizations coming together to memorialize and plan events leading up to the 250th anniversary of the Battle of Bunker Hill on June 17, 2025. Bunker Hill 250 is supported by a joint collaboration of the Charlestown Historical Society and Charlestown Preservation Society.

Thursday, October 26, 2023, 6 p.m.--Community Room at the Bunker Hill Museum

The research team from the City of Boston Archaeology Program, Boston's Commemoration Commission, and the National Park Service are looking to answer questions, track down the real stories behind legends and rumors, and uncover underrepresented stories of the people impacted by the Battle of Bunker Hill in 1775. Joe Bagley and the City Archaeology Program team, Genesis Pimentel of the Commemoration Commission, and Meg Waters Wilkes of the National Park Service will share a brief presentation about previous archaeological work around the events of June 17, 1775. There will be a discussion about the diverse histories in Charlestown, and some exciting work done using technology and new archaeology methods to uncover history at Parker's Revenge and other Revolutionary War battle sites.

The group plans to hold several conversations with stakeholders presenting an overview of what has been done archaeologically in Charlestown and ask the question: What do you want to know about the events and places surrounding the Battle of Bunker Hill?

Their goal is to develop a list of community-driven research questions that the archaeology team can design a survey/dig around to answer them, with community members assisting in the dig and the interpretation afterwards. This fall/winter would be the listening/ question development time, next

summer would be preliminary surveys, and 2025 would be the larger-scale digs on the sites with the best potential to answer questions.

Sunday, October 29, 2023–3:30 p.m.--Phipps Burial Ground, Phipps Street, Charlestown,

The annual Cemetery Tour of the Phipps Burial Ground will take place this Sunday, October 23 at 3:30 p.m. This cherished event, now in its 4th year, offers a unique opportunity to delve into the fascinating history of Charlestown, with a particular focus on the Phipps Burial Ground, the only place in Charlestown that survived the flames of the American Revolution in 1775. The Phipps Burial Ground, dating back to the early 17th century, has stood witness to centuries of history, and its tombstones bear the names of prominent figures, soldiers, and ordinary citizens who played vital roles in shaping the destiny of Charlestown and the nation. During the Annual Cemetery Tour, attendees will have the opportunity to discover the stories behind these names and gain a deeper understanding of Charlestown's pivotal role in American history. Dr. Tim Riordian, former Charlestown resident, historic archeologist, author and Charlestown Historical Society vice president will lead attendees through the labyrinthine paths of the Phipps Burial Ground, recounting tales of courage, sacrifice, and resilience from the Revolution to the present day. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased at https:// www.eventbrite.com/e/charlestown-historical-society-annual-phipps-burial-ground-tour-tickets-734000424027?aff=ebdssbdestsearch.

How to get nomination papers: • The committee co-chair has dropped off copies at the library. 2023 Fall General Me Schedule: All meetings are is son - there is no hybrid opt

• Election page on the CNC

CNC (from pg. 1)

• 2023 Election CNC Nomination Forms

2023 Fall General Meetings Schedule: All meetings are in person - there is no hybrid option at this time. Guests and presentations will be announced closer to the meeting dates. CNC Committee meetings are scheduled on an as-needed basis by the commit-

tee chairs and will be announced on CNC02129.org, Facebook, Instagram, and in the Charlestown Patriot-Bridge.

• December 5, 2023, Tuesday, 7-9 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus, 545 Medford St. Charlestown MA 02129.

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.

News Briefs

NINTH ANNUAL J. BARRY DWYER 5K TURKEY TROT IS SET FOR CHELSEA STADIUM NOV. 18

The ninth annual J. Barry Dwyer Turkey Trot is set for Saturday, November 18, at 10 AM at Chelsea Stadium.

The trot promises to be a fun event for all persons of all ages and abilities, featuring a 5K road race, a 3K walk, and a 400 meter fun run for youngsters 10-and-under. The running course is a USATF-certified 5K with chip timing provided by Yankee Timing. The course is mostly flat with a mild hill on the way out and back. The start and finish is on the track at the Chelsea Memorial Stadium at Chelsea High School.

The entry fee is \$25 until November 3 (\$30 after Nov. 3). Entrants who register before November 3 will receive a race T-shirt. There also will be prizes, food, games, and music with a post-race party at Chelsea Station.

Proceeds will benefit the J. Barry Dwyer Scholarship Fund and the Chelsea High cross country and track teams. J. Barry Dwyer was a hugely successful and popular cross country coach at Chelsea High, whose teams put together a string of Greater Boston League championships and compiled a winning streak of 35 meets over five seasons in the 1970s.

Among the athletes he coached at Chelsea High were the legendary Bobby Goss (who set the national freshman high school record in the one-mile with a time of 4:23), Eddie Richard and his brothers Jim, Bobby, and Jack, Greg Benson, Richie Bradley, Tony and Paul Roasti, and many others during that era.

For more information and to sign up on-line, go to chelseahightrack.com.

Jury convicts former Boston Center for Adult Education executive

Special to the Times

A Suffolk County jury last week found the former Executive Director of the Boston Center for Adult Education (BCAE) guilty on embezzlement and forgery charges, District Attorney Kevin Hayden announced.

Susan Brown, 70, of Marblehead, was convicted of one count of larceny over \$1,200, one count of forgery, one count of forgery of a document, and one count of falsifying entry in corporate books. Brown will be sentenced on November 9 in Suffolk Superior Court.

The evidence presented by Assistant District Attorney Jodi Greenburg of Hayden's Special Prosecutions Unit showed that Brown, who served as the nonprofit's executive director from 2009 until September 2018, filed forged tax forms and corporate documents with the IRS that resulted in the BCAE losing its tax-exempt status. Mark Mitchell, the BCAE's former comptroller, also embezzled approximately \$1.3 million from the center. He pled guilty on September 28, and was sentenced to 18 months in the House of Cor-

As a result of its losses through the embezzlement schemes, the BCAE stopped offering classes and special programing for the first time since being founded in 1933.

"It is extremely heartbreaking that an organization that has been around for so many years can no longer provide the important programs that defined it from the start. These individuals engineered illicit profits while the community suffered and had educational options ripped away from them. I applaud the Special Prosecutions Unit for their dedication to holding these defendants responsible for the harm they caused BCAE and the people it served," Hayden said.

Suffolk County District Attorney Kevin Hayden's office serves the communities of Boston, Chelsea, Revere, and Winthrop, Mass. The office handles over 20,000 cases a year. More than 160 attorneys in the office practice in nine district and municipal courts, Suffolk Superior Court, the Massachusetts Appeals Court, the Supreme Judicial Court, and the Boston Juvenile Courts. The office employs some 300 people and offers a wide range of services and programs to serve anyone who comes in contact with the criminal justice system. This office is committed to educating the public about the services we provide, our commitment to crime prevention, and our dedication to keeping the residents of Suffolk

County safe.

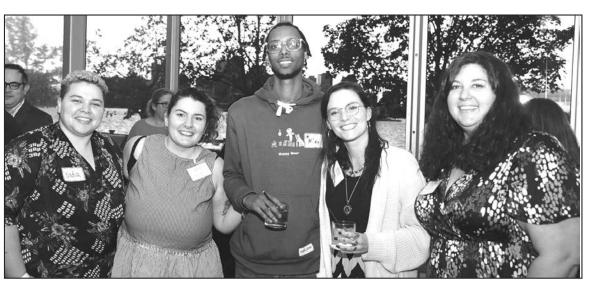
NORTH SUFFOLK COMMUNITY SERVICES 64TH ANNIVERSARY

North Suffolk Community Services (NSCS), a non-profit organization that provides behavior health, substance use disorder, and developmental disability services for all ages, held a 64th Anniversary Connection Celebration to highlight mental health in the

workplace on October 19 at the Hyatt Regency Boston Harbor. Three advocates were honored for their efforts in dismantling behavioral health stigma and creating welcoming workplace atmospheres: Rosalin Acosta, former Massachusetts Secretary of Labor and Workforce Development, and Managing Director of Ernst & Young; author and educator, Doctor Donna Hicks, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University; and Michael Weekes, outgoing President and CEO, Providers' Council.



Peter Schindler, Director, Adult Community Clinical Services, Charlotte Nuñez, Board of Directors, Raluca Honciuc, Assistant Program Director, ACCS Washington Ave., Virginia Todd, Board Member, Damien Cabezas, President & CEO, NSCS, and Judi Lemoine, Chief of Operations.



Nadia Moumine, Polly Gomes, Executive Assistant, Mike Asfwawa, Katie Berlin, Director of Communications & Marketing, and Allison Gamble, AVP of Advancement.



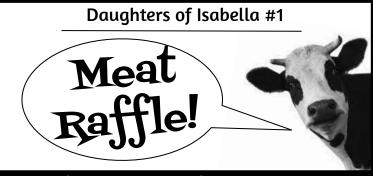
Emily Porto, Senior Manager, Child Youth and Family Services, Kim Joyce, Senior Vice President and CFO, Judi Lemoine, Chief of Operations, Kim Hanton, Chief of Staff, Department of Conservation and Recreation, and sponsors, Jim Cassetta, and Michael McShane, Cleary Insurance.



Honoree Michael Weekes with his mother, Doris Weekes, sister, Wanda Weekes-Davis, wife, Rod Weekes, sister, Yvonne Weekes-Sturges, and daughter, Reyiel Weekes.



Damien Cabezas, President & CEO, North Suffolk Community Services, Dr. Donna Hicks, recipient of the Humanitarian Award, Rosalin Acosta, recipient of the Public Service Award, and Michael Weekes, recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award, and Dr. Deb Wayne, Board Chair.



Sunday, November 5 12-4PM

Knights of Columbus 545 Medford Street

A TURKEY in every meat package! Consolation prizes Basket of Scratch Tickets 50/50 Raffle Refreshments - Cash Bar

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EDITORIAL

WE MUST CONFRONT THE NEW AXIS OF EVIL

When former President George W. Bush coined the term "Axis of Evil" to refer to the nations of Iran, No. Korea, and Iraq in his 2002 State of the Union speech, his comments were largely derided. Even in the aftermath of the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center just a few months previously, Bush's juvenile comments were seen as jingoistic hyperbole about three countries that posed no real threat to the United States.

At the time of Bush's speech, Russia was a vastly-diminished power. China was viewed as an emerging economic powerhouse with no military ambitions. As for Iran, it was causing problems on a small scale in its realm of influence, but it was al-Quaeda and Osama bin Laden who had planned the 9/11 attacks.

But times have changed. Twenty years later, there has been a substantial realignment in the world order. Russia has re-emerged from the ashes of the former Soviet Union to pose a military threat in Eastern Europe (though Vladimir Putin's army has been shown to be a paper tiger). China has expanded its military presence and capabilities dramatically under Xi Xinping. The Iranians under Ayatollah Ali Khamenei have undertaken the development of a nuclear weapon and are the sponsors of various terrorist groups, including Hamas, Hezbollah, and the Houthis (who are in Yemen), who are causing chaos throughout the Middle East.

What all three of these nations have in common is that they are run by unyielding tyrants: Putin, Xi, and Khamenei are brutal rulers who essentially have become dictators for life. There is not even a pretense of democracy in their countries and dissent of any kind is met with arrests, beatings, torture, sham trials, long jail sentences, and even death -- and that's just for expressing an opinion critical of their government's policies.

Ukraine and Israel presently are bearing the brunt of the assaults by these dictatorial regimes, with Taiwan poised to be next in line.

Understandably, Americans do not want to become involved in these conflicts, especially after we only just ended our own long war in Afghanistan. But the simple reality is that freedom isn't free and this unholy trinity have been supporting each other, financially, militarily, and in other ways, to undermine America and our allies.

Fortunately, President Joe Biden and the vast majority of members of Congress, Republicans and Democrats, recognize that we must do whatever we can to thwart this new Axis of Evil. The inconvenient truth is that only America can lead the free world against the forces of oppression. Burying our head in the sand is not an option.

THE DOMINOES ARE FALLING TOWARD TRUMP

With the crisis in the Middle East and the dysfunction among Congressional Republicans garnering all of the headlines these days, the many trials and tribulations of former President Donald Trump have been relegated in recent weeks to what we in the newspaper business refer to as "below the fold" news stories.

But the recent plea bargain agreements with the Fulton County District Attorney of two of Trump's lawyers, Sidney Powell and Kenneth Chesebro, who helped him concoct various schemes to steal the election in Georgia, portend the inevitable march in the case against Trump himself for his role in masterminding the attempted swindle which was highlighted by that now-infamous phone call with the Georgia Secretary of State that captured Trump's own words in an audio recording.

Trump will try to delay his own trial for as long as possible. But as his co-conspirators realize that jeopardizing their careers -- not to mention facing the prospect of a lengthy sentence in a Georgia state prison -- are not worth it for a man who does not have their backs, they one-by-one will decide to come clean and tell the truth.

And as they do so, Donald Trump himself will move closer-and-closer to being held accountable for his efforts to undermine our democracy.

Letters to the Editor



A HUGE THANK YOU

To the Editor,

A huge thank you to the many Charlestown contributors who donated gently used clothing and shoes (photo above) to the Charlestown Catholic Collaborative's St. Vincent de Paul "Bundle Sunday" fundraiser. Special recognition goes to the fourth grade CCD class who intentionally joined their efforts to this project. Because of everyone's generosity, our local St Vincent de Paul Council, will be able to assist more and more Charlestown neighbors who reach out to us for help of all binds

With gratitude,

Peter LeCam, President

IN HER OWN WORDS......

To the Editor,

"The stakes are too high to preserve the status quo." "Instead of delivering resources to address our most urgent challenges, Boston's development process is making it worse." "In most major cities, comprehensive master planning is an ongoing process."

These were then Councilor Wu's words after releasing a report Fixing Boston's Broken Development Process, in 2019. "Why and How to Abolish the Boston Planning and Development Agency which argues that we must return assets to the City oversight, end urban renewal, empower a planning department to create a Master Plan for updated zoning, and clear consistent rules."

Mayor Wu was inaugurated in January of 2021. Shortly after, we in Charlestown hand delivered a petition to Mayor Wu with 4000 signatures asking for a Master Plan

We didn't expect a complete silence with no acknowledgment of our concerns. Today, 2023, we still have not heard from Mayor Wu and why she did a complete turn around regarding her extensive diatribes on realigning the RPDA

We were given Plan Charlestown with 108 acres being excluded from any thoughtful and necessary planning as we are only one square mile, in a critical flood zone and climate change lapping at our door. Charlestown will find itself in crisis mode as these 108 acres are being developed, with no planning and at a rapid speed which is a challenge for any logical comprehension by the residents.

The Charlestown Preservation Society, The Charlestown Neighborhood Council, Charlestown Civic Association, Bunker Hill Monument Association, our elected officials, 4000 petition signers, over 350 communications and counting are all against Plan Charlestown. Who is for Plan

Charlestown?

We have been abandoned, Mayor Wu betrayed us, The BPDA ignores us. The Zoning Commission zoned us out.

"We stand now where two roads diverge. But unlike the roads in Robert Frost's poem, they are not equally fair. The road we have long been traveling is deceptively easy, a smooth superhighway on which we progress with great speed, but at its end lies disaster. The other fork of the road -the one less traveled by - offers our last, our only chance to reach a destination that assures the preservation of the earth." In her own words, Rachel Carson, "The Silent Spring".

Mayor Wu's silence is deafening. Rachel Carson's words written in the 60's matter, are not

We in Charlestown will take the road less traveled and we will not remain silent.

Please attend the hearing on Friday, October 27 at 10 am City Council Hearing. Oppose Plan

(LETTERS, Pg. 10)

CHARLESTOWN PATRIOT-BRIDGE

THE CHARLESTOWN PATRIOT-BRIDGE,

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HOWL-O-WEEN DOG COSTUME CONTEST

Howl-O-Ween is a dog costume contest held by Charlestown Dogs at the Park Revere Park. Dogs and their humans get to show off their "Howl-O-Ween" creativity.



Daisy has a special delivery.



Another winning team was Emma, Ken, Christina, and Petey Nee portraying the Disney classic 101 Dalmatians.



Bill, portraying Pepe LePeau and June, his "country girl" with their human Savanah Homans.



Air Bud Louis walks past the judges with her humans Mike and Emily Chamberlain.



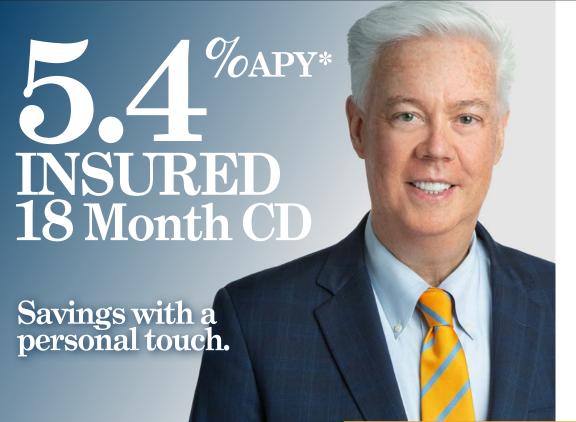
Ashley Riordan with Chip.



At the Smoochie Poochies table BBQ Dave offers brisket chili served in Fritos bags.



Chris Phaneuf is off the the races with Penny.



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DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN PHOTOS





Ponticello aka Ponti went as a Picnic In The Park complete with canoli



One of the winners was Eddie Reardon and Sydney portraying the classic Mattel toy combo of Barbie and Ken.



Personal trainer Sam Amado is promoting CPR training.



Pippa Nava with Albie at the Smoochie Poochies table.



Butter with Nick McKeeney walk past the judges to show off their UFO-inspired costume.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN POST 11 G.A.R. 10th ANNUAL VETERANS DINNER & **SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS**

Thursday, 11/9/23 @ Charlestown KofC 6:30 ****

The evening is FREE for Veterans (plus 1) and a \$20 suggested donation for extra guests. Seating is limited so please RSVP promptly. RSVP to 1-857-452-1763 or email ablpost11@gmail.com.

For more information about placing an ad in the Program book with a dedication to your loved ones contact Diane Grant 617-549-9786 or dianegrant2@gmail.com. Full

explanation of rules for submission for the scholarship can be found at www. AbrahamLincolnPost11.org along with all forms you will need. You can also email ablpost11@gmail.com and we can send you the forms for application. If you have any questions, please call Joe Zuffante at 617-477-7494

YOU'RE INVITED TO THE 38TH ANNUAL MONUMENT SQUARE HALLOWEEN PARADE & TRICK OR TREAT OCTOBER 31st 2023, TUESDAY GATHER AT THE TOP OF MONUMENT AVE AT THE MASSACHUSETTS GATE Great Entertainment, Displays, Costumes The Monument Square Wizard's Annual Poem Glow-in-the-dark necklaces & Festive decorations donated by The Charlestown Mothers Association 5:30 PM THE TONY BARRIE BAND HALLOWEEN PARADE & TRICK OR TREAT

THE LOVE DOGS BAND at Monument Square



Liz and Jared Pinsky with their favorite Cookie.

PLEASE RECYCLE

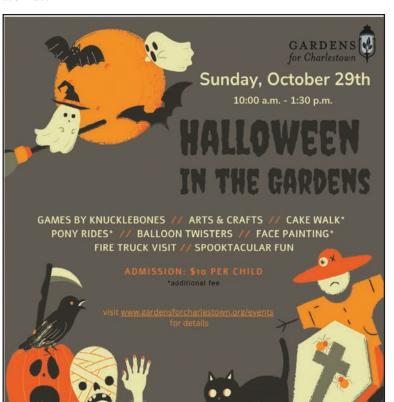
HOWL-O-WEEN DOG COSTUME CONTEST



Judges for the costume contest were Rich McCarthy, Amanda Mitchell, and Mayor Of Charlestown Meghan Collins.



Is Cheryl Gray driving the 93 Bus with Bailey or is it the other way around?.





Contestant Peach meets Maya Mitchell, daughter of judge Amanda Mitchell.



 ${\it Maple with angels Jerry Ciejek \ and \ Ava \ Giarolo.}$

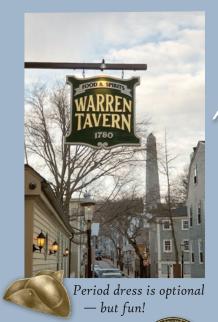


Rhody as Taylor Swift being the cheerleader of Travis Kelce and her human Will Gould.



Quincy Kayton with Lola.

All are Welcome to Join in Celebrating the



Pick up your Membership Anniversary Pin



founded in 1823

Meet at the Warren Tavern for light refreshments

free drink ticket

Tuesday, November 7th 5:00 - 7:00pm

with Special Guest: John Toto
of the Joseph Warren-Soley Masonic Lodge
and view their newly restored
1613 Joseph Warren Bible

HOWL-O-WEEN DOG COSTUME CONTEST

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN PHOTOS



Vendor Stefan Kane with Heads Up Screenprinting.



Mario Brothers is obviously the favorite video game for Brendan Bergantino, Jay Driscoll, and Mondo.



Boston City Councilor Erin Murphy met with one of the contestants Frank in his Pup-Kin Patch.





Swifty Taylor Swift Fan Amanda Harold is delighted to meet Rhody.jpg



The free Consumer Action Handbook. It's in print and online at ConsumerAction.gov. Order your free copy online at ConsumerAction.gov or write to Handbook, Pueblo, CO 81009.





November 2nd 6:00-8:00pm 10 Green St. Charlestown, MA 02129

Additional Reception Dates

Friday Nov 3 6:00–8:00pm Saturday Nov 4 1:00–4:00pm Sunday Nov 5 3:00–5:00pm Friday Nov 10 6:00pm–8:00pm

Saturday Nov 11 1:00-4:00pm Sunday Nov 12 3:00-5:00pm



State Health officials announce fifth human case of West Nile virus

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) announced the fifth human case of West Nile virus (WNV) in a Massachusetts resident this year. The individual is a male in his 70s who was likely exposed in Hampden County.

The risk of human infection with WNV is moderate in the Greater Boston area (Middlesex, Norfolk and Suffolk counties), and in parts of Berkshire, Bristol, Hampden, Hampshire, Plymouth, and Worcester counties. No risk level changes are associated with this recent case.

"Although mosquito activity is decreasing with the cooler weather, some risk from mosquito-borne disease will continue until the first hard frost," said Dr. Catherine M. Brown, State Epidemiologist. "People should continue to take steps to protect themselves from mosquito bites anytime they are outdoors."

In 2022, there were eight human cases of WNV infection identified in Massachusetts. WNV is usual-

ly transmitted to humans through the bite of an infected mosquito. While WNV can infect people of all ages, people over the age of 50 are at higher risk for severe disease. Most people infected with WNV will have no symptoms. When present, WNV symptoms tend to include fever and flu-like illness. In rare cases, more severe illness can occur.

People have an important role to play in protecting themselves and their loved ones from illnesses caused by mosquitoes.

Avoid Mosquito Bites

Apply Insect Repellent when Outdoors. Use a repellent with an EPA-registered ingredient (DEET (N,N-diethyl-m-toluamide), permethrin, picaridin (KBR 3023), oil of lemon eucalyptus [p-Menthane-3,8-diol (PMD)] or IR3535) according to the instructions on the product label. DEET products should not be used on infants under two months of age and should be used in concentrations of 30 percent or less on older children. Oil of lemon eucalyptus

should not be used on children under three years of age.

Be Aware of Peak Mosquito Hours. The hours from dusk to dawn are peak biting times for many mosquitoes. Consider rescheduling outdoor activities that occur during evening or early morning in areas of high risk.

Clothing Can Help Reduce Mosquito Bites. Wearing longsleeves, long pants and socks when outdoors will help keep mosquitoes away from your skin.

Mosquito-Proof Your Home

Drain Standing Water. Mosquitoes lay their eggs in standing water. Limit the number of places around your home for mosquitoes to breed by draining or discarding items that hold water. Check rain gutters and drains. Empty unused flowerpots and wading pools and change the water in birdbaths frequently.

Install or Repair Screens. Keep mosquitoes outside by having tightly fitting screens on all windows and doors.

Protect Your Animals

Animal owners should reduce potential mosquito breeding sites on their property by eliminating standing water from containers such as buckets, tires, and wading pools – especially after heavy rains. Water troughs provide excellent mosquito breeding habitats and should be flushed out at least once a week to reduce mosquitoes near paddock areas. Horse owners should keep horses in indoor stalls at night to reduce their risk of exposure to mosquitoes. Owners should also speak with their veterinarian about mosquito repellents approved for use in animals and

vaccinations to prevent WNV and EEE. If an animal is suspected of having WNV or EEE, owners are required to report to the Department of Agricultural Resources, Division of Animal Health by calling 617-626-1795, and to the Department of Public Health by calling 617-983-6800.

More information, including all WNV and EEE positive results, can be found on the Arbovirus Surveillance Information web page at Mosquito-borne Diseases I Mass.gov, which is updated daily, or by calling the DPH Division of Epidemiology at 617-983-6800.

Charlestown Neighborhood Council

2023 Election - At-Large seats

The CNC will hold elections for all eight (8) at-large council seats on December 2, 2023. Election information, nomination papers, and important deadlines can be found on our website:



www.CNC02129.org

(c) @CNC02129



October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), breast cancer is one of the most common cancers among women in the United States. Each year in the U.S., about 240,000 cases of breast cancer are diagnosed in women and about 2,100 in men. Although deaths from breast cancer have declined over time, breast cancer is still the second leading cause of cancer death among women overall. In addition, breast cancer is the leading cause of cancer death among Hispanic women and Black women die from breast cancer at a higher rate than white women. About 1 in every 100 breast cancer

The month of October is recognized as Breast Cancer Awareness Month, a health observance that reminds us to be aware of the symptoms and risk factors for breast cancer as well as steps we can take to improve our health and possibly help lower the risk of getting breast cancer or finding it early when it may be easier to treat. Mammograms, x-rays of the breast, are especially important because they may detect breast cancer when there are no apparent symptoms. When symptoms of breast cancer develop they may

diagnoses are found in men in the

- New lump in breast or underarm (armpit)
 - Changes in size or shape of

breast

- Thickening or swelling in parts of the breast
- Pulling in of the nipple or pain in the nipple area
 - Pain in any area of the breast
- Nipple discharge other than breast milk, including blood
- Irritation or dimpling of breast skin
- Redness or flakiness in nipple are or breast

Screening recommendations vary between experts including age to start screening and frequency of screening, but for women at average risk for breast cancer the United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) recommends biennial screening mammography from age 50 to 74 years. The decision to start screenings for women who are 40 to 49 years of age should be an individual one. Women with certain risk factors for breast cancer may need to start screening at an earlier age and may need more frequent screening.

Although breast cancer screening cannot prevent breast cancer, it can help find breast cancer early, when it is easier to treat. It is a good idea to talk with a doctor about potential benefits and risk factors that come with various types of screenings.

There are two types of mammograms: a standard two-dimensional (2-D) image where each breast is compressed from two different angles (top to bottom and side to side), and a three-dimensional (3-D) image, also known as breast tomosynthesis, where each breast is compressed from two different angles as with a 2-D mammogram but in which the machine takes several low-dose x-rays, moving in an arc direction around the breast. While 3-D mammograms are increasing in popularity, it may not be available in all areas.

The CDC provides several steps to prepare for a mammogram, such as avoiding deodorants, perfume, or powders under the arm or breasts on exam day. Some of these products can show up as white spots on the x-rays.

Find a Health Center is a helpful tool for finding local mammography centers. Check to see that the imaging facility you choose is certified and accepts your insurance. Many organizations offer free mammograms and breast screenings.

The health and medical professionals at UnitedHealthcare advise talking with your doctor to discuss health history, any symptoms you may be experiencing, or preventive screenings. Let Breast Cancer Awareness Month be a reminder to follow the suggestions here for your health and wellbeing.

Dr. Ana Stankovic, chief medical officer, UnitedHealthcare of New England

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LETTERS (from pg. 4)

Charlestown. Send your own words to ccc.gata@boston.gov
Thank you,

Ann Kelleher

CARDINAL PUBLISHES LETTER TO THE ARCHDIOCESE OF BOSTON ON MAJOR HUMANITARIAN AND SOCIETAL CRISIS

To the Editor,

Cardinal Seán O'Malley has written to pastors and the parishes of the Archdiocese regarding a growing humanitarian and societal crisis that is building in the Commonwealth and Archdiocese of Boston. The issue involves the fate of immigrants arriving daily in Massachusetts, and in need of basic shelter and compassionate care.

The Cardinal highlights the immediate challenges and growing crisis and offers guidance to parishes how they can assist in meeting essential needs of a rising immigrant population. The following is the text of the letter:

I write to you today to speak about a major humanitarian and societal crisis that is building in the State of Massachusetts and within our Archdiocese. Please take the time to review this letter with your parish staff and prepare your parishioners to be ready and willing to assist. The challenge is the fate of immigrants arriving daily in Massachusetts, and in need of basic shelter and compassionate care and welcome.

First, allow me to give a brief explanation of the crisis that we are currently facing, but which is sure to become much larger. Next, I will outline what we have done and what we are doing. Finally, I will ask for specific help, so that we can act now before the need becomes overwhelming.

I. The Situation: Presently there are 7000 families being cared for in state sponsored shelters (approximately 20,000 individuals); by October 31st the expectation is that 7500 families will be with us.

Gov. Healey and Lt. Gov. Driscoll have been deeply committed and determined to care for a rising immigration population, but they have also been honest in saying that the Commonwealth faces a mounting crisis beyond its capacity to respond effectively.

II. What we have done: The Archdiocese, through Catholic Charities, St. Mary's Center for Women and Children and the Archdiocesan Planning Office for Urban Affairs has worked closely with the Healey-Driscoll Adminis-

agencies even as the flow of immigrants has increased geometrically in the last few months. All three of those agencies have expanded capacity to address both the short and long-term needs for housing and supportive services. Over these past months, we have offered the State the use of 8 of our buildings, which we hope it will be able to authorize and use. In addition, some of our parishes have already received new shelters and people into their communities as the Commonwealth has greatly expanded its shelter capacity. The Archdiocese has offered assistance to those parishes, and we will continue to offer help to any parishes and communities we are not yet aware of needing assistance. As noted above, our three Archdiocesan affiliated agencies are deeply engaged in this crisis. Our relationship with the Healey-Driscoll administration has been constant and consistent. Recently, we have

from warmer climates.

III. How can each and every parish help: The challenge is a local one in the sense that only some of the neighborhoods and

partnered with our very effective

Saint Vincent de Paul Society to

plan for how we can prepare for

the cold weather coming; most of

the recently arrived families are

parish communities will deal with shelters in their areas; however, the challenge is for all of us as an Archdiocese. The Saint Vincent de Paul Society has the appropriate storage and ability to collect and distribute items directly to those in need. Therefore, my request is that you work with them in your parishes/collaboratives for a drive this November prior to the cold weather.

Accordingly, I am asking parishes to consider the following:

1. If you do not have a St. Vin-

cent de Paul bin in your parish, I

urge you to please contact their vendor directly, CMRK. which delivers their bins to parishes. Simply call (508) 351-9000 and ask for Patrick to schedule a delivery.

2. Announce this invitation and the reason for it to your parishioners and invite them to donate winter coats, boots, socks which

will be picked up on November 18 just prior to Thanksgiving.
3. The St. Vincent de Paul Society will pick up the clothing, store it at its facility in Stoughton. and then distribution will be made to those in shelters throughout the Archdiocese.

4 In addition to winter clothing, other resources which can be donated at the same time and in the same bins include the following items: diapers. toothbrushes (adult

and child size). toothpaste, soap, deodorant, mouthwash, combs, lotion. shampoo. washcloth, and Kleenex tissues.

5. Beyond these immediate

actions, there may arise a time when all shelters are filled to capacity and weather conditions require immediate assistance for families in the New England winter. If this occurs offering short-term critical care and shelter in the biblical sense of "welcoming the stranger" will be the appropriate response from the Archdiocese as a whole. If you have buildings for this short-term

purpose, please contact Fr. Bryan

Hehir's office at (617) 746-5738 or

I stress that this is a crisis but

(617) 746-5733.

is only going to expand. I offer this invitation in the spirit of Pope Francis who has asked us as Catholics to watch the "peripheries" of society where suffering is located. In our time, migrants and refugees are among the most vulnerable individuals and families in the United States. It is my hope and desire that as a Church we respond

generously and effectively.

With the assurance of my prayers and gratitude for your service to the Church,

Devotedly yours in Christ,

Cardinal Sean O'Malley

Helm // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

eliminated recovery housing options and reduced the number of PSH units from 96 to 48 — 32 units for women and 16 for veterans. Also, there has been an increase in the amount of two-bedroom units offered from four to

The updated project has also increased its staffing levels. Joyce says the increased staffing creates "the only supportive housing property with this level of staff-to-individual ratio."

Finally, security management has been boosted with Kroll Security, which has its New England operation headed by former Superintendent-in-Chief of the Boston Police Department Daniel Linskey. Kroll will be working in tandem with Ware Security Consultants on this project.

In speaking about security with the project, Linskey said, "We're not concerned as much with the ability to secure our building and our tenants. Our concern is, in addition to that, making sure that we're going outside the four walls of our facility to ensure safety and

security in the community."

It should be noted that the changes presented at last week's

meeting and outlined above represent modifications from a preliminary plan. However, back in April, the proponents presented updated plans to the community at an in-person public meeting.

If you would also like to see how the proposal has changed since April, you can view a story from the Patriot-Bridge covering the aforementioned in-person meeting at https://charlestownbridge.com/2023/04/20/debate-about-the-helm-on-third-rages-on/.

As for who might be living at the Independence, if it were approved, 52 of the units would be for people earning between \$30,000 and \$83,000 or less a year.

The remaining 48 units — the PSH units — will only be available to women and veterans who would be screened through the city's coordinated entry system or the Veterans Administration.

As part of the project's programming, individuals in these units can receive services like personal counseling and other supports designed for each person's unique needs.

Concerning the PSH aspect of the project, there will be 11 fulltime staffers employed, including professional service providers, case workers, clinical social workers, and more.

Further, wellness staff will be on-site 24/7 and a 24/7 "secure and managed property with private security as concierge-style, in the lobby and also around the site," according to Joyce.

Joyce also added that there will be full-time dedicated property management support from Maloney Properties, who will "maintain the site to the strictest standards."

Later in the presentation, Joyce spoke about "proven models of success" in Boston, similar to what is being proposed in Charlestown.

For example, Joyce pointed to the YMCA on Huntington Avenue as a model but with the caveat that it has a lower threshold of entry into housing than what is being proposed in Charlestown.

Another example used was the Union on Boylston Street, which has the same model being proposed. However, a difference Joyce noted is that the Independence is not across from a homeless shelter.

Finally, she pointed to Upton Street in the South End, saying, "Their neighbors on that block would never know there are supportive housing residents living

right next door."

"There has been some talk about permanent supportive housing and whether it works. The planning office has seen the results first hand, and it's working where it's done well with the right staff and oversight," said Joyce.

The proponents later showed a video from Jim O'Connell, President of Boston Health Care for the Homeless, who believed the proposal "has all of the supports" he thought were critical in helping people "live normal lives" after being on the street.

After Phil Renzi of The Architectural Team went through floor plans, it was time for the public to make their voices heard.

During the question and answer portion of the meeting, the reviews were mixed. While some folks were impressed with the changes made and voiced their support, others had several questions and expressed their vehement opposition.

To get an idea of the public testimony, some folks were happy that the project would help those unhoused or suffering from mental health or addiction problems, and some were not worried about their

safety

However, other folks, especially those close to the project, voiced fear for their safety and questioned drug use at and around the site. Other questions were also raised, such as the likelihood of the project working and what would happen if it failed, and many wanted a chance to talk about the proposal in an in-person setting.

It should be noted that in terms of opposition to the project, it has reached a point where a website focused on the project — https://charlestownvoice.com/ — outlines folk's opposition. Moreover, a petition at https://www.change.org/p/helm-no has over 800 signatures opposing the project.

If you would like to view the recording of this meeting and the slideshow, you can visit https://www.bostonplans.org/projects/development-projects/constitution-inn.

The comment period for the project is open until October 30, and written comments can be sent in through the website above or directly via email to Sarah.Black@boston.gov.

Miscellaneous

MFA organizes Piet Mondrian exhibition drawn from gift from Maria and Conrad Janis

This fall, the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (MFA), presents an exhibition of works by Piet Mondrian (1872-1944), celebrating a transformational gift that elevates the MFA to one of the leading institutions outside of the Netherlands for the study and display of the artist's early work. On view from November 11, 2023 through April 28, 2024, Mondrian: Foundations is the first monographic exhibition of Mondrian's work at the MFA, presenting 11 paintings and 17 works on paper that span his entire career, with an emphasis on his early years, when he worked in a lesser known realistic style.

Around 1920, Mondrian began to paint some of the most famous and recognizable artworks of the last century. These abstract paintings, characterized by white backgrounds, spare black lines and blocks of primary color, have become ubiquitous in today's popular culture and are regarded as the heart of Mondrian's achievement. But the path to these works—Mondrian's artistic roots in Holland in the late 19th century and subsequent evolution of his work—are far less known. His early paintings capture the characteristic Dutch landscape, filled with canals and windmills, fields and farmhouses, flowers and trees. When seen side by side with Mondrian's later, non-representational paintings, they reveal an artist who constantly reinvented himself as he absorbed new influences on his journey toward abstraction.

A majority of the works in Mondrian: Foundations are drawn from a gift to the MFA from Maria and Conrad Janis by and through the Janis Living Trust. In addition to 34 paintings, drawings and watercolors by Mondrian—24 of which are on view in the exhibition—the gift included more than 200 works that significantly reshape the Museum's holdings of early and mid-20th century art from Europe and the U.S. Highlights include a group of five sculptures by Jean Arp that enable the MFA to show the full chronological range of his work; works on paper by Fernand Léger, Alberto Giacometti, Paul Klee, Pablo Picasso and Franz Kline; the Museum's first work by Anna Mary Moses ("Grandma Moses"); and a group of seven works by the self-taught artist Morris Hirshfield.

The late Conrad Janis (1928-2022) was a jazz trombonist and actor who starred in film and television during Hollywood's "Golden Age" in the 1950s and 1960s. He inherited a major art collection from his father, renowned art dealer and writer Sidney Janis. In 2009, he gifted Composition with Blue, Yellow and Red—an important 1927 work by Mondrian that exemplifies his trademark style of pure geometries-to the MFA, making it the first painting by the artist to enter the Museum's collection.

Composition with Blue, Yellow

and Red is the most recent work by Mondrian on view in the exhibi-Large Ponds in the Hague Forest Rose Marie and Eijk van Otterloo, longtime supporters of the Museum who are among the founders of the Center for Netherlandish Art, an innovative research center Dutch and Flemish art. A landmark gift of 113 paintings from the 17th Otterloos and Susan and Matthew Weatherbie, elevated the MFA's holdings to one of the premier collections of Dutch art in the world. The addition of modern works by complements the MFA's holdings 19th- and 20th-century works on

"Mondrian: Foundations" is supported by the Benjamin A. Trustman and Julia M. Trustman

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tion, which also features his earliest known painting, made when he was just 15 years old. This work, The (1887), is on loan to the MFA from for the study and appreciation of century, made in 2017 by the Van Mondrian from the Janis collection of 17th-century Dutch art, as well as its excellent collection of Dutch

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HELPING THE CHILDREN



Charlestown residents Justin and Andrea Rosen at Mass General for Children's Storybook Ball, which raised over \$1.9 million for important research initiatives and vital patient care programs at MGfC. The 24th annual gala brought nearly 500 people together at the Omni Hotel Boston at the Seaport to celebrate the hospital's outstanding work in the field of Adolescent Health, showcasing the expertise of MGfC primary care physicians, specialists and other caregivers that provide exceptional care day-in and day-out for adolescent and young adult patients. (Photo by Matt West)

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As Halloween creeps closer, NFPA reminds the public to celebrate with fire safety in mind

As Halloween creeps closer, the National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®) is reminding the public that fire safety hazards often lurk among spooky decorations and festivities. With these potential risks in mind, the association encourages everyone to take simple precautions that can help ensure a festively fun, safe holiday.

"From decorating with jack-olanterns and other seasonal items to costume parties and trick-ortreating, many hallmarks of Halloween can present potential fire hazards," said Lorraine Carli, vice president of Outreach and Advocacy at NFPA. "Fortunately, the vast majority of these risks can be prevented with a little added awareness and caution."

According to NFPA data, candles accounted for an annual average of 7,400 home fires, resulting in 90 deaths, 670 injuries and \$291 million in direct property damage between 2015 and 2019. In addition, an annual average of 790 home structure fires began with decorations, causing one civilian fire death, 26 civilian fire injuries, and \$13 million in direct property damage; more than two of every five (44 percent) of these fires occurred when decorations were placed too close to a heat source, such as a candle or hot equipment.

NFPA offers these tips and guidelines for enjoying a boo-tiful and fire-safe Halloween:

• Decorations: Many common decorations like cornstalks, crepe paper, and dried flowers are very flammable. Keep these and similar decorations far away from any open flames or heat sources, like candles, heaters, and light bulbs.

- Candles: Using candles as decoration can be risky if not done correctly. Keep them in a well-attended area out of the path of potential trick-or-treaters. Remind children of the dangers of open flames, and make sure they are always supervised when candles are lit. Always extinguish candles before leaving an area.
- Jack-o-lanterns: Glow sticks or electric candles are the safest choice when it comes to lighting up your jack-o-lantern, but if you choose to use a real candle, do so with extreme caution. Light a candle inside a jack-o-lantern using long fireplace matches or a utility lighter and keep it away from other decorations.
- Costumes: Avoid fabric that billows or trails behind you, as these can easily ignite. If you are making your own costume, avoid loosely woven fabrics like linen and cotton, which can be very flammable.
- Visibility: Give children flashlights or glowsticks for lighting, these can even be incorporated into the costume. If your child has a mask, ensure the eye holes are large enough for them to see clearly.
- Smoke Alarms: This is a great time to make sure your smoke alarms are in working order.
- Exits: Exits are NOT an appropriate place for decorations. When decorating, ensure that nothing is blocking escape routes, including doors and windows.

Visit the NFPA Halloween safety page for more resources of how to stay safe. For more Halloween fire safety for kids and families, visit www.sparkyschoolhouse.org and www.sparky.org.

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