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OCCUPANCY DATE OF 10/30/23

FOURTEEN CONDOS
2BED 2BATH CONDOS
\$525,000 - \$625,000
157 Chestnut St.
Chelsea, MA

SCHEDULE A TOUR

Jeffrey Bowen

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2023

FREE

CHARLESTOWN

PATRIOT-BRIDGE

THE ABRAHAM LINCOLN POST 11 G.A.R. HOLDS ANNUAL VETERANS DAY DINNER



The Abraham Lincoln Post 11 G.A.R. celebrated its 10th Annual Veterans Day Dinner at the Knights Of Columbus Hall.

Above, Tim Leahy looks at the display set up by the Charlestown Veterans History Project giving a sample of their presentation at the Knights Of Columbus Hall for Veterans Day. Right, Veterans Eddie Freeman, David Powers, and Gerald Donnaruma. See Pages 6 and 7 for more photos.



City offers hearing for non-motorized street-food carts

Special to the Patriot-Bridge

Boston City Councilors Gabriella Coletta, Julia Mejia, and Brian Worrell will hold a hearing to discuss an ordinance to increase regulations, and enhance accessibility for non-motorized street-food charts virtually on Tuesday, November 28, at 2pm via Zoom.

“Street vending is one of the oldest informal types of commerce. Boston street-food vendors can be found in all neighborhoods, how-

ever the regulations to legally sell their food, beverages and goods, remains unclear and inaccessible. This ordinance seeks to create food entrepreneurship opportunities for people while streamlining the process and making it more accessible for individuals that do not have the economic means to afford a food truck nor purpose a brick and mortar establishment,” said Councilor Coletta. “I look forward to working with all stake-

holders to ensure we are breaking down barriers and providing another economic mobility tool in Boston,”

“Our office is excited to expand innovative approaches that strengthen economic prosperity,” said Councilor Mejia. “This proposal builds upon a regulation implemented in 2021, filed by our office, creating a licensing process for residential kitchens. We seek to

(FOOD CARTS Pg. 3)

Water and Sewer Commission responds to Charlestown lead-pipe issue at home

By Cary Shuman

When Charlestown resident Haley Chute noticed lead in the water at the family’s single-family home during a home test, she notified the Boston Water and Sewer Commission.

Chute’s next stop was the Charlestown Neighborhood Council meeting Nov. 9, and Boston Water and Commission officials present at that meeting

scheduled an immediate visit to the Chute home.

“They came out [Monday, Nov. 13] and found a lead pipe leading to our house from the street,” said Chute.

Chute, who is married and has three children, said the family has lived in their current home for three years. Since the recent discovery of lead in the water, Chute

(LEAD PIPE, Pg. 8)

Barbara Babin won’t seek re-election to Charlestown Neighborhood Council

By Cary Shuman

Barbara Van Duzer Babin, one of the longest-serving members of the Charlestown Neighborhood Council, announced at the Nov. 9 meeting that she will not be seeking re-election to the 21-member board.

“I’ve been a member for so long, and I just think it’s time for somebody else to come on board,” said Babin. “I’ve gotten so many phone calls from people since the meeting, that I almost weakened. But I won’t be running for re-election this time.”

Barbara began her service on the CNC as a non-profit representative for the Boys and Girls Club in 1998 and has served consecutively for 25 years. She said former Charlestown Patriot Bridge publisher James Conway and David Whelan then encouraged her to continue to serve on the board as an at-large councilor.

“James was the chair and Dave was the vice chair, and they both insisted that I run for an at-large seat,” said Barbara. “They thought I would be good at it. Through the

(CNC Pg. 8)

Due to the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday, ads for the next issue are due Monday, Nov. 20, at 10 a.m.

The Greater Boston Food Bank's Chain of Giving confronts sustained food insecurity

Special to the Patriot-Bridge

The Greater Boston Food Bank (GBFB), the largest hunger-relief organization in New England, held its 18th annual Chain of Giving event last week, a yearly tradition convening civic leaders and community members to spotlight and alleviate holiday food insecurity and kick off GBFB's Hunger Free Holidays campaign.

"Food insecurity is a challenge that we all must come together to solve. Together, we can end the root causes of food insecurity and end hunger once and for all in Massachusetts," said Governor Maura Healey. "I am grateful for the outstanding work The Greater Boston Food Bank does to assist our communities and for their partnership and commitment with our state."

As GBFB aims to provide nutritious and culturally responsive food to families in need this holiday season, Governor Maura Healey, Boston Mayor Michelle Wu and GBFB President and CEO Cath-

erine D'Amato shared remarks on the urgency of addressing food insecurity in the Bay State. Over 150 participants then passed nearly 1,000 turkeys from a delivery truck to GBFB's freezer to donate to families in need. This represents only a portion of the 27,000 turkeys and other poultry options the nonprofit expects to distribute to pantries across Eastern Massachusetts throughout the holidays.

"Hunger is not an issue that anyone or any organization can tackle alone. We are working together with The Greater Boston Food Bank to help fund and provide resources to nearly 70 food pantries across the City, feeding nearly 50,000 people every month," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "Boston is blessed to have so many incredible organizations fighting food insecurity and expanding food access across our neighborhoods."

The event's presenting sponsor was Affiliated Managers Group (AMG), and its lead sponsor was National Grid. State Representatives Brandy Fluker Oakley, Chris-

topher Worrell, James Arena-DeRosa, John Moran, Kevin Honan, Rob Consalvo and Samantha Montañó; Commissioner for the Department of Transitional Assistance Jeff McCue, MDAR Commissioner Ashley Randal, Deputy Commissioner Winton Pickoff, as well as other state and local officials joined the tradition, alongside the beloved mascots for the Red Sox, Patriots and Bruins.

The state of food insecurity in Massachusetts remains a stark reality for the 1.8 million individuals facing hunger this holiday season. GBFB's average food pantry partners report a 12 percent increase in individuals served from 2022. The USDA found national food insecurity rates increased between 30-40 percent in 2022, echoing the trends revealed in GBFB's annual study on the state of food insecurity.

The report found that:

- 1 in 3 MA residents continue to face food insecurity
- Alarming child-level food insecurity

- Deep-rooted disparities in food access based on race, ethnicity, geography and sexual orientation

"We know Hunger is not an emergency – it's a daily experience for too many of our neighbors across the Commonwealth," said Catherine D'Amato, GBFB President and CEO. "The pandemic may be over, but unfortunately hunger remains, and hunger should not be business as usual. With your help we have the power to end it and this holiday season we are urging the public to help us, help others."

Boston Public School Students Win Nally Award

Each year, GBFB honors outstanding young people who have championed hunger-relief in their communities with the Nally Award. Established in 2006, the award is named after Danny and Betsy Nally, who at ages 8 and 6, started their very first turkey drive for GBFB. This year's Nally Award winners are Ita Berg, Niamh Govender, and Laura Nguyen, three

exceptional Boston Latin High School students that are making a difference here in our community. Last year as sophomores, they took their love of baking cookies and turned it into a fundraiser for GBFB called "Cookies for a Cause" which raised over \$1,000.

Boston Mayor Wu presented the Nally award to the Boston Latin students alongside their teacher, Mr. Andrew Zou. In her remarks she noted these students realized that they didn't need the money that they were making as much as other people might, and so with the help of their teacher, they decided to donate it to The Greater Boston Food Bank. The students have set up their own peer-to-peer fundraising webpage to support their upcoming holiday bake sale.

To learn more about The Greater Boston Food Bank or to play a role in their annual Hunger Free Holidays campaign visit GBFB.org/holidays,

NFPA urges extra caution when preparing your feast this Thanksgiving

The National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®) urges added caution when cooking on Thanksgiving Day, by far the leading day of the year for home cooking fires. In 2021, an estimated 1,160 home cooking fires were reported to U.S. fire departments on Thanksgiving Day, reflecting a

297 percent increase over the daily average.

"Thanksgiving is a hectic holiday with multiple dishes cooking and baking at the same time, along with lots of guests, entertaining, and other distractions that can make it easy to lose sight of what's on the stove or in the oven," said

Lorraine Carli, vice president of Outreach and Advocacy at NFPA. "With all these factors at play, it's not surprising that the number of cooking fires spikes so dramatically."

Overall, cooking is the leading cause of U.S. home fires and injuries, and the second-leading cause

of home fire deaths. Unattended cooking is the leading contributing factor in cooking fires and fire deaths.

"Keeping a close eye on what's cooking and minimizing the likelihood of getting distracted are key steps people can take to ensure a festive, fire-free holiday," said Carli.


Following are additional tips and recommendations from NFPA to help cook safely on Thanksgiving:

- Never leave the kitchen while

cooking on the stovetop. Some types of cooking, especially those that involve frying or sautéing with oil, need continuous attention.

- When cooking a turkey, remain at home and check it regularly.
- Make use of timers to keep track of cooking times, particularly for foods that require longer cook times.
- Keep things that can catch fire like oven mitts, wooden utensils,

(FEAST, Pg. 3)



Virtual Public Meeting

Pier 5 Engineering Study

NOVEMBER


30

6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Zoom Link: bit.ly/Pier5Mtg

Toll Free: (833) 568 - 8864

Meeting ID: 160 890 9048



Project Description:

The Boston Planning and Development Agency welcomes you to join a virtual meeting on November 30th, 2023 at 6pm to present the findings following an engineering study on the conditions of Pier 5 in the Charlestown Navy Yard. Please register in advance through the following link: bit.ly/Pier5Mtg. If you have any questions, email Natalie Deduck at natalie.deduck@boston.gov

mail to: **Natalie Deduck**
Boston Planning & Development Agency
12 Channel Street, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201

email: natalie.deduck@boston.gov

BostonPlans.org | @BostonPlans

Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

charlestown art happenings

free ART LECTURE - november 16th, 5pm
Imagine Me and You: Dutch & Flemish Encounters with the Islamic World, 1450-1750. The 2nd in a Speaker Series with Talitha Maria G. Schepers.
Tickets and information:
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/art-lecture-tickets-744632143787?aff=oddtcreator>

annual OPEN STUDIOS - december 2&3
tour the stovefactory studios 11-5pm

SMALL WORKS sale & exhibition
a celebration of small artwork
december 2 & 3, along with open studios 11-5PM
december 9 & 10, 12-5pm



stovefactory gallery
523 medford street
visit artistsgroupofcharlestown.com
for information on upcoming and continuing events

Louijeune to be next Council President

Last week, Ruthzee Louijeune, At-Large Boston City Councilor, announced she would be leading the council as Council President for her upcoming term. This comes two days after Louijeune earned the place as top vote getter in her first bid for reelection. In a showing of incredible force, Louijeune earned more votes than any At-Large candidate has received in an off year in recent history.

“I am humbled that my colleagues believe in me to lead the Boston City Council in the next term. We have a lot of work to do when it comes to meeting the basic needs of residents and it’s clear that is what our communities want us to focus on. I look forward to strengthening relationships with my colleagues and building relationships with my colleagues joining in January.” Councilor Louijeune said in a statement. “We are a city of diverse people and diverse needs. We will not always agree, but we can come together to move this city forward and meet the pressing issues we are facing with joy, collegiality, and an unwavering work ethic on behalf of those who are often excluded. As the second

Black woman to top the ticket, and the third Black person to lead the Council, I am eager to bring my lived experience and deep love for the entire city of Boston to this role.”

“I’m proud to support our new Council President Ruthzee Louijeune as not only an amazing colleague, but an incredible friend.” Councilor Brian Worrell said in a statement “I’m honored to serve as Vice President of the Council and I look forward to working closely with her and the Council to best serve our city. The diversity of our leadership team is a great sign of the progress and potential of our city.”

The Council Presidency is determined by the thirteen member body to identify the individual that will lead the body. The Council President holds responsibility to make key decisions on committee assignments, lead council proceedings, and set a culture for the body as a whole. Louijeune has proven her aptitude for this position by leading complex council processes such as redistricting, and remaining a cool head in times of unrest.

“Ruthzee is the steady and

competent leader ready to take the gavel as Council president,” Councilor Gigi Coletta said in a statement. “She’s demonstrated the decisiveness to lead this body through difficult and complex situations. I’m confident in her abilities, intelligence, and more importantly her heart.”

First elected to the Boston City Council in 2021, Louijeune brings seven years’ experience working on political and advocacy campaigns, fighting for working people and Black and Brown communities on issues of housing, education access, and voting rights. Most recently, Louijeune started her own legal and advocacy business, The Opening PLLC. Previously, Louijeune served as Senior Counsel for U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren’s presidential campaign. Prior to that, she was a lawyer at Perkins Coie LLP.

The daughter of Haitian immigrants, fluent in Haitian Creole, French, and conversant in Spanish, Louijeune is the first Haitian-American to hold elected office in Boston city government. You can find more information about her campaign at: www.ruthzeeforboston.com.

FOOD CARTS (from pg. 1)

broaden the ways for conducting business in Boston, empowering and supporting more individuals to launch their own enterprises. Street vending is already a presence in the City of Boston, and we look forward to formally recognizing and regulating it within the City code while providing clear and transparent guidelines.”

“I look forward to working on this ordinance that will streamline the food cart licensing process. As a small business owner, I know red tape can be a major barrier, especially for those who might speak languages other than English. Along with Councilor Coletta, I want to ensure the process for food cart entrepreneurs is simple, fair and accessible as we continue to remove roadblocks for businesses throughout the city.” said Councilor Worrell.

The ordinance would amend the City of Boston Municipal Code, Chapter 17, Section 17-22, Permitting and Regulation of Non-Motorized Street Food Carts, and apply to non-motorized, street food cart operations engaged in the business of cooking, preparing, and distributing food or beverage. Additionally, permit fee charges are decreased to increase financial accessibility. The regulations establish clear, streamlined application and approval processes,

along with time limits for approvals to establish predictability in business planning. It also outlines clear guidelines for operations, permit fees, and enforcement.

This new language also proposes the establishment of a Non-Motorized Street Food Carts Committee within the City of Boston consisting of the Public Works Department, the Inspectional Services Department, the Boston Transportation Department, the Office of Economic Opportunities and Inclusion, and the Boston Fire Department for the purpose of reviewing applications for permits, establishing pre-approved vending zones, and establishing rules and regulations as appropriate.

The Committee on Government Operations will hold a virtual hearing on November 28, 2023 at 2:00 PM re: Docket #1384 - An ordinance establishing street food enterprises in the City of Boston Municipal Code by inserting Chapter 17, Section 22, Permitting and Regulation of non-motorized street food carts. Members of the public are encouraged to provide written or oral comments.

** To view the hearing online please visit: <https://www.boston.gov/departments/city-council/watch-boston-city-council-tv> or via broadcast on Xfinity 8/RCN 82/Fios 964.

FEAST (from pg. 2)

food wrappers, and towels at least three feet away from the cooking area.

- Avoid long sleeves and hanging fabrics that can come in contact with a heat source.

- Always cook with a lid beside your pan. If a small grease fire starts, smother the flames by sliding the lid over the pan, then turn off the burner. Do not remove the cover because the fire could start again. Let the pan cool for a long time.

- For an oven fire, turn off the heat and keep the door closed. Only open the door once you’re confident the fire is completely out, standing to the side as you do. If you have any doubts or concerns, contact the fire department for assistance.

- Keep children and pets at least three feet away from the stove and areas where hot food or drink is prepared or carried. Hot foods and liquids should be placed away from table and counter edges.

In addition, NFPA strongly discourages the use of turkey fryers that use cooking oil, which can cause devastating burns. For a safe alternative, NFPA recommends

purchasing a fried turkey from a grocery store or restaurant or buying a fryer that does not use oil.

For this release and other announcements about NFPA initiatives, research and resources, please visit the NFPA press room.

Founded in 1896, NFPA® is a global, self-funded, nonprofit organization devoted to eliminating death, injury, property and economic loss due to fire, electrical and related hazards. The asso-

ciation delivers information and knowledge through more than 300 consensus codes and standards, research, training, education, outreach and advocacy; and by partnering with others who share an interest in furthering the NFPA mission.

For more information, visit www.nfpa.org. All NFPA codes and standards can be viewed online for free at www.nfpa.org/freeaccess.

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



@CNC02129



@CNCboston

CHARLESTOWN NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL CALENDAR

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.

How to get nomination papers:

- The committee co-chair has dropped off copies at the library.
- Election page on the CNC website.
- 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 committee 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.

TO ADVERTISE PLEASE CALL
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PLEASE RECYCLE

EDITORIAL

REMEMBERING PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY

The assassination of President John F. Kennedy 60 years ago this week seared an indelible imprint into the memory of every American who was alive at that time. Just as the Japanese sneak attack on Pearl Harbor on December 5, 1941, had been to an older generation and the terrorist attacks on the twin towers on 9/11 of 2001 has been for today's younger generations, every American can recall where they were and the shock they felt when they first heard the news that President Kennedy had been shot while on his motorcade in Dallas, Texas in the early afternoon of November 22, 1963.

We were in our fourth grade classroom at Our Lady of Grace School in Chelsea-Everett when the principal interrupted class to make the mind-numbing announcement and release everybody from school immediately. Though we were only nine years old at the time, we knew instantly that something had changed, both in our own lives and for the country, and that the world never would be the same again.

When people think of the cultural changes that took place in the 1960s, they think of President Kennedy as emblematic of those changes. But the reality is that the '60s of our popular culture really did not take place until after his assassination. America on November 22, 1963, still was very much as it had been for the previous decade during the Eisenhower years and through the three years of Kennedy's presidency: We were at peace (though engaged in a Cold War) and we were prosperous, but the evolving rights of minorities, women, and gays still were very much under the national radar screen in a culture dominated by white males. It still would be a few years before the multitude of societal changes that would shape our personal lives and America -- and the world -- into what we know it today.

The assassination of President Kennedy was the first of four major political assassinations over the course of the next four and one-half years -- Malcolm X in 1965, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in 1968, and culminating with that of Robert F. Kennedy, President Kennedy's brother, in early June, 1968.

But in November, 1963, that wave of assassinations, as well as the violent and incendiary protests and riots that were to engulf our inner cities and college campuses from the mid-'60s through the mid-'70s, were not even remotely imaginable. In particular, the war in Vietnam, the catalyst for much of the nation's decade of turmoil, still was a clandestine operation with only a few hundred American advisers in the field on behalf of the government of South Vietnam.

Was it just a coincidence that America, and indeed the world, underwent a transformation in the immediate aftermath of the Kennedy assassination? Or would all of these things have happened regardless of whether President Kennedy had been shot? Would Kennedy have escalated the war in Vietnam? And if not, might the violence that accompanied so many of the changes that occurred in the decade after his death have been averted if President Kennedy had been re-elected to a second term?

These and many other "what ifs" are questions that historians have been pondering in the decades since his death and will continue to do so.

But for those of us who lived through the Kennedy assassination, such issues were far from our minds in its immediate aftermath. Instead, we recall the shock, and then the deep sadness and despair, that was felt universally by all of us as we watched our black and white TV sets and grieved for his young widow and their two small children. John F. Kennedy's assassination made us all realize the fragility of life and how everything we hold dear can change in an instant, both for ourselves and our loved ones, regardless of our station in life.

So as we think about the events of 60 years ago this week and contemplate how the assassination of John F. Kennedy profoundly affected the future direction not only of America and the world, but also each one of us -- let us remember too, the effect that his loss had on his own family, who sacrificed so much on that terrible day in Dallas.

President Kennedy was only 46 years old when he was assassinated. His death brings to mind two phrases from literature, applicable both to Kennedy and the promise of America in that era.

The first is from the ancient Greeks, attributed to the historian Herodotus: "Those whom the gods love, die young."

The second is the final paragraph from Gray's Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard:

Yet ah! Why should they know their fate?

Since sorrow never comes too late,

And happiness too swiftly flies.

Thought would destroy their paradise.

No more; where ignorance is bliss,

'Tis folly to be wise.



Then-U.S. Senator John F. Kennedy and his wife Jacqueline hosted the leaders of the Massachusetts Democratic party at the Kennedy compound in Hyannis in 1956. Seated (left to right) are: State Representative James O'Dea from Lowell, who was the House Majority Whip; State Senator John E. Powers from South Boston, who was the Democratic floor leader and the future Senate President in 1959; and Jacqueline Kennedy. Standing (l-r) are Senator Albert Preville from Lawrence; Senator Maurice Donahue from Holyoke (who himself was elected Senate President in 1964 after Powers left the Senate); Senator John Gibney of Worcester, Mass. House Speaker Michael Skerry from Medford; John F. Kennedy; Senator Andrew P. Quigley, who represented Chelsea, Revere, Winthrop, and part of Everett; to Quigley's left is Senator Elizabeth Stanton from Fitchburg; and behind Stanton is Senator Jim Hennigan from Jamaica Plain.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

COLETTA COMMENTS ON ARTICLE 80 PROCESS

To the Editor,

Dear Chief Jemison, I write to comment on the ongoing Article 80 process for the Constitution Inn (referred to in this email as the "Project") proposed in the Charlestown Navy Yard. I am formally requesting that the community has the opportunity to engage in a full development review process, including but not limited to, the creation of an Impact Advisory Group (IAG), a scoping determination session, and all other applicable processes defined in the City of Boston Zoning Code under Article 80.

The Planning Office for Urban Affairs, Inc. and St. Francis House (collectively referred to in this email as the "Proponent") have been generally responsive to requests to amend their proposal. I am pleased with the updated inclusion of larger units for families, units for women and veterans, and mixed-income housing at 30%-80% AMI which is reflective of

average income levels of existing Charlestown residents. Despite this, I continue to question the extent that the BPDA is willing to include those residents in the development process.

On October 5, 2022, the Proponent submitted a request to waive the typical development review process conducted and controlled by the Boston Planning and Development Agency

(BPDA). Some members of the community pushed back and requested to engage in a comprehensive development review for the Project under Article 80 of the zoning code. In response, I advocated for the development review waiver to be withdrawn which the Proponent ultimately did on October 21, 2022.

On Friday, November 10,

(LETTERS, Pg. 10)

THE CHARLESTOWN PATRIOT-BRIDGE,

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CHARLESTOWN MOTHERS ASSOCIATION HOST ANNUAL GALA FUNDRAISER

The Charlestown Mothers Association (CMA) hosted its annual gala fundraiser on Friday, November 3, at Big Night Live, raising more than \$75,000 for community-based initiatives. Nearly 300 people attended the masquerade-themed event which included both a silent and live auction. All the funds raised will go directly into CMA programming, including the Spring Egg Hunt, Touch-a-Truck, meet-ups for expecting and new moms, social events for families new to Charlestown, and Moms and Dads Night Out. Additionally, in the past year, at the request of members, the CMA expanded its lineup of activities to include safe and inclusive events for middle-school-aged kids.

Charlestown resident and Mix 104.1 morning radio host Karson Tager served as auctioneer. In addition to funds raised through the auctions, more than 30 sponsors from the greater community pledged financial support to the CMA for the upcoming year, including gold-level sponsors: New England Development, the Law Offices of Timothy M. Rus-

sell, LLC., The Flatley Company, Hood, and Luke Auen – Compass.

“As part of our mission, all CMA programming is free, but we rely on community support to continue to serve the families of Charlestown and various needs that we’re asked to meet throughout the year,” said Marcie Miller, president, Charlestown Mothers Association. “The gala and sponsorship period are our one-and-only means of fundraising, and time and time again, the community steps up to help us raise the incredibly important money we need to make our mission even more impactful. We are so grateful.”

The CMA is a volunteer-run, 501(c)(3) non-profit organization serving over 1600 families in Charlestown. It is run exclusively by unpaid volunteers dedicated to strengthening Charlestown’s community bonds by supporting its families. The CMA offers a spectrum of programming designed to support expectant parents, postpartum moms, and children of all ages through enriching and educational events, experiences and forums.

As part of its active role in the community, the CMA also partners with many other local organizations and non-profits, supporting various initiatives financially and through collaboration and a shared vision to make Charlestown a safe, nurturing and vibrant neighborhood in which to raise children.



Gold Sponsor Luke Auen enjoying the photo booth with his wife Anna.

PHOTOS BY KIMBERLY MAROON



City Counselor Gigi Colletta with CMA Board Members Kelly Welsch, Aileen Gorman and Sophia Moon.



Nicole Dorman, Charlotte Maon, Raphael Defeiere and Jen Connelly enjoying the gala.



CMA Gala Committee: Bri Marshall, Kari Cavanagh, Marcie Miller, Lindsay Cadigan, Elizabeth Fisher, Erica Haydock and Kendall Miller.



Guests in masquerade.

The Parish Families of St. Mary – St. Catherine of Siena & St. Francis de Sales

Harvest on Vine

Emergency Food Pantry

THANKSGIVING WEEK SCHEDULE

Tuesday Nov. 21

11:30 set up 1PM distribution

THE ABRAHAM LINCOLN POST 11 G.A.R. HOLDS ANNUAL VETERANS DAY DINNER

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN PHOTOS

The Abraham Lincoln Post 11 G.A.R. celebrated its 10th Annual Veterans Day Dinner at the Knights Of Columbus Hall. It was a night of remembrance for the men and women who put their lives on the line to protect our nation. Along with the Dinner was the drawing for recipients of the Abraham Lincoln Post 11 G.A.R. Scholarship Fund.



President of the Abraham Lincoln Post 11 G.A.R. Joe Zuffante.



Boston City Councilor Gabriela "Gigi" Coletta.



Veteran Sandy Wilcox with Judy Evers and Jean Tochtermann.



USS Constitution Commander Billie Farrell (center) with Executive Officer Rob Dreitz and Command Senior Chief Nick Albanese.



BFD Captain Steve Flynn with Firefighters Pat Langan, Mike Chisholm, and Mike Johnson.



Boston City Councilor Gabriela "Gigi" Coletta and Massachusetts State Rep Dan Ryan (right) with Jamie McLaughlin, his sons Matthew and Michael, wife Toni, and mother Kathy. Jamie McLaughlin received a Citation from the Boston City Council for his military and firefighting service to the community.



TCB employee Mylene Duggan and her father Walt with fellow TCB employee Tom Coots and his wife Diane.

THE ABRAHAM LINCOLN POST 11 G.A.R. HOLDS ANNUAL VETERANS DAY DINNER

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN PHOTOS



Vietnam Veteran Joe Donovan with his wife Eleanor have celebrated 46 years together. He did 3 tours in Vietnam from 1967-69.



Boston City Councilor Gabriela "Gigi" Coletta presents a Citation from the City Council to Jamie McLaughlin for his military and firefighter service to the community.



Air Force Veterans Dexter Bishop and Kevin Tucker who are both descendants of Civil War Veterans.



Billy Lahey, Maria Lahey, and Stan Leonard pull winners of the Abraham Lincoln Post 11 G.A.R. Scholarship fund. There were 2 recipients of \$1000 and 12 recipients of \$500.



Theresa and Joanne Doherty, Peggy Sindoris, Peggy Lynch, and Christine Wolff.



Board of Directors Abraham Lincoln Post 11 G.A.R.



Ned O'Keefe and Christine Boyle-O'Keefe with Dodie and Dodie Boyle.



Boston City Councilor Gabriela "Gigi" Coletta talks with Judy Evers and Jean Tochtermann.



Stan Leonard speaks with attendees of the Veterans Day Dinner.

CNC (from pg. 1)

years, I was re-elected sometimes unopposed and sometimes with competition.”

Babin said she has enjoyed her work on the council. “I love the Council. I was so impressed with what we’ve tried to accomplish. It [CNC] is a great sounding board for the Charlestown community, because residents can come to the meetings and speak up in a comfortable environment. The Council loves to hear the voices of the community.”

CNC Chair Tom Cunha commended Babin’s service on the Council.

“Barbara was a great councilor,” said Cunha. “She was a very active councilor. We will miss her guidance.”

Babin received her degree in science at Bates College and did her graduate work in medical sciences at Yale University. The mother of three children (who all live in California), Babin worked as the developer of the corporate services department for a Massachusetts firm.

“I moved to Charlestown in 1992 and fell in love with the community,” said Babin. “I’ve lived in so many places, but there’s no place like Charlestown. It’s family oriented. It has wholesome values and ideals - people taking care of each other and being involved.”

Babin’s last meeting as a CNC at-large member will be Tuesday, Dec. 5.



Ryan Shea (left), director of construction for the Boston Water and Sewer Commission, and Jeremiah Waite, project engineer, update the Charlestown Neighborhood Council on ongoing water, sewer, and drain replacement projects at its Nov. 9 meeting.



Charlestown Neighborhood Council at-large member Barbara Van Duzer Babin (right) is pictured with Vice Chair Nancy Johnsen (left) and Chairman Tom Cunha at the Nov. 9 meeting. Babin is stepping down after 25 years of service on the board.



Nike John, founder and CEO of The Heritage Club, a recreational cannabis dispensary in Charlestown, gave an update on the store at the Nov. 9 meeting of the Charlestown Neighborhood Council.

LEAD PIPE (from pg. 1)

has brought her three children to a physician for blood tests.

“We’re waiting for results of the bloodwork,” said Chute. “They had been drinking the water from the sink. We’ve been getting bottled water since the home test. I think the more important thing is that the pipe is getting fixed, and the City paid attention, but it took a little bit to get their attention.”

The Chute family home is on Winthrop Street, where there is an ongoing construction project.

Tom Bagley, director of communications at Boston Water and Sewer Commission, said BWS workers confirmed that “a section of the pipe leading to the home was comprised of lead.”

“They are still doing construction work on Winthrop Street,” said Bagley. “They will be finish-

ing the work in the next few days, so we’re going to take the bypass out and re-lay that section of pipe before the holiday [Thanksgiving] or right after the holiday. We’re going to replace the lead part of the pipe with copper pipe. This is definitely one of our main priorities.”

Bagley’s professionalism in the matter should not be underestimated. Bagley was “all-in” once he learned of the situation and spoke with clarity and concern at the CNC meeting. Representing the Boston Water and Sewer Commission (that has the immense task of managing the largest and oldest water and sewer system in New England that affects more than one million people daily), Bagley assured the CNC board that the matter would be addressed

promptly. He personally sought out Mrs. Chute at the back of the meeting room to discuss and remedy the situation.

The prompt response from Boston Water and Sewer is also being hailed as a triumph for the Charlestown Neighborhood Council (CNC), the long-time community sounding board chaired by Tom Cunha.

“I had not gotten great reception from Boston Water and Sewer when I had called them about it, but clearly being at the Neighborhood Council meeting was helpful because they [Boston Water and Sewer] came out the following Monday and found the lead pipe,” said Chute. “Hopefully, the problem will be fixed, and we can move on.”

(Information from the Boston Water and Sewer Commission website was used in this story).

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Brahms Symphony No. 4 highlights North Shore Philharmonic “Fall” concert

Special to the Regional Review

The North Shore Philharmonic Orchestra will honor the memory of one of its most beloved and long-standing members, clarinetist Murray Burnstine, when Music Director Robert Lehmann conducts the NSPO in its Fall concert to begin the 2023-2024 season on Sunday, November 19, 3:00 p.m. at Swampscott High School.

The “Murray Burnstine Memorial Concert” program includes Johannes Brahms brilliant Fourth Symphony and music of French composers Gabriel Faure and Cecile Chaminade, with flutist Lisa Hennessy as guest soloist in Chaminade’s “Concertino for Flute.”

Burnstine, who played clarinet with the NSPO for nearly 30 years, died in June at the age of 94. “Murray was self-deprecating and easy going, with a dry sense of humor, yet fiercely dedicated to his music,” said Music Director Lehmann. “He was an experienced, veteran player in many genres, always up for something challenging and new and he loved making music with his col-

leagues.”

Lehmann touted the concert program. “French and German music have aesthetically been at opposite ends of the musical spectrum in terms of concept French compositional style,” he said. “Faure’s Masques et Bergamasques epitomizes this sensibility in that it pays homage to France’s rich musical and literary heritage. Brahms, on the other hand, was expected to represent tZe traditional Teutonic

world of rich, heavy and ‘learned’ compositional elements.” Lehmann noted, though, that Brahms “...slyly pays homage to the same “Classical” elements while pushing the limits of what could be accomplished in developing a whole 45 minute symphony from one strand of musical DNA.”

Soloist Lisa Hennessy Lisa Hennessy has been principal flutist of the Portland Symphony Orchestra since 2000. She is also principal flut-



Flutist Lisa Hennessy.



Music Director Robert Lehmann.

ist with the Boston Ballet Orchestra, Boston Philharmonic Orchestra and the Boston Landmarks Orchestra, and performs regularly with Boston Lyric Opera, Boston Pops, Rhode Island Philharmonic, among others. She will play the demanding flute concertino by Cecile Chaminade, one of the composer’s most famous works. According to an article in Musicbywoman.org, legend has it that Chaminade wrote the piece for an ex-lover that played the flute, intending to make it so difficult that he would mess up in performance and embarrass himself.

This year marks the North Shore Philharmonic Orchestra’s 75th concert season. Staffed largely by volunteer players, the NSPO is committed to providing access to quality music at an affordable price to communities north of Boston. The Orchestra strives to develop train and provide opportunities for young and amateur musicians, while providing a large range of programs covering the full range of symphonic and pops repertoire for a diverse public. For full concert information, visit www.nspo.org or contact info@nspo.org.

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the Petition.
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11/16/23
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NEWS FROM THE CHARLESTOWN CATHOLIC COLLABORATIVE

As we enter the busy, happy days of November and December, please keep in mind the many happenings here in the Charlestown Catholic Collaborative!

A reminder that Daily Mass is offered at St. Catherine’s Chapel at St. Mary’s Church
Monday through Friday at 8 am and Saturdays and holidays at 9 am.
Weekend schedule
Saturday
4pm St. Mary’s
4 pm St. Francis
Sunday
8 am St. Mary’
9:30 am St. Francis
11 am St. Mary’s
6 pm St. Mary’s

Join us on Saturday, Dec. 2, at Bishop Lawton Hall at St. Francis for a Christmas Open House.
More details to come!

The second evening of our Advent Mission takes place on Wednesday, Dec. 6, at 6:30 pm at St. Mary’s Church- on Joy

Chanukah begins Dec. 7, season of light, season of cheer, season of peace, may it last throughout the year!

Friday, Dec. 8 is the Solemnity

of the Immaculate Conception of Mary- it is a holy day of obligation.
Masses will be offered at 9 am at St. Francis and 6 pm at St. Mary’s.

The annual collection for retired religious will take place on the weekend of Dec. 9-10.
Thank you for your generosity.

Join us for a Christmas Concert with the Spectrum Singers on Sunday, Dec. 10, at 3 pm at St. Mary’s Church

The third evening of our Advent Mission on Wednesday, Dec. 13, at 6:30 pm at St. Francis will be a Prayer Service for Peace, with the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

We will be announcing times to clean and decorate our beautiful churches to meet our King.
Christmas Eve Masses
4 pm St. Mary’s
5:30 pm St. Francis de Sales

Christmas Morning Masses
8 am St. Mary’s
9:30 am St. Francis de Sales
11 am St. Mary’s

The Christmas Collection is taken up for the Clergy Trust for the retired priests of the Archdiocese of Boston. Your generosity is deeply appreciated.

Please note that New Year’s Day, the Solemnity of the Mother of God, is not a holy day of obligation this year.
Please join us for Mass at 9 am at St. Catherine’s Chapel!

O little town of Bethlehem. the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

May the Hope of our world, our King and Savior, rest in the hearts of all people, especially in the Gaza Strip and the Ukraine.

Please encourage someone you love to join you for Mass especially during this happy and holy time.

If you haven’t yet, please register at either parish and consider giving online through our website drop us a note or give us a call- we’ll be happy to help you.

May this very special time remind us of God’s mercy and love through the birth of our Lord and Savior.

-If we can be of any help, please call us at 617-242-4664 or go to charlestowncatholic.org

Wishing your family, friends and all you love a blessed and joyous Advent, Christmas, and New Year,

Fr. John Sheridan, pastor, Sr. Nancy Citro, SNDdeN, pastoral associate, and the staff of our Collaborative.

CHARLESTOWN GYM HOCKEY

Weekly Standings

Week of 11/11/2023

	W	L	T
Massport’s Finest	6	1	2
A-1 Convenience	4	3	2
Halligan Club	2	4	2
Duce 2	1	5	3

Players of the week for 11/11/2023

A-1 Convenience -Ben Marinaro, Andrew Flaherty
Duce 2 -Tucker Hampton, McKenzie Buckley
Halligan Club -Billy Nugent, Landon Moralez
Massport’s Finest - Emmett Forbes, Miles Caramana

LETTERS (from pg. 4)

my staff and I were informed that the project will forgo the standard subsequent steps of Article 80 including the creation of an Impact Advisory Group (IAG), a Draft Project Impact Report (DPIR), and a Final Project Impact Report (FPIR). I am requesting that the BPDA require a full scoping determination process which provides additional analysis of transportation and parking, environmental protection, urban design, historic resources, infrastructure systems, etc. and is available for public comment. Furthermore, oversight of an IAG reflective of all impacted populations, including those who are formerly homeless, should be selected to negotiate community benefits and help define a successful outcome on the parcel.

I am fully aware of the housing insecurity challenges we face, not only as a City, but as a Common-

wealth. The type of housing proposed for this site would provide stability and safe haven for some of our most vulnerable populations which include women, children, and veterans. In Boston, approximately 6,000 children are experiencing homelessness on any given day. Additionally, our housing system continues to be overwhelmed with incoming migrant families exacerbating pressure on an already limited supply. We can, and should, achieve the right balance of addressing our dire affordable housing crisis while also ensuring a process that centers community input for neighborhood development.

I look forward to your response and am hopeful that we can work together to have a final outcome that addresses the needs of the City while centering the voices of those who are impacted the most.

Sincerely,

Gabriela Coletta
Boston City Councilor
District One

THE NUMBERS SPEAK LOUD AND CLEAR

To the Editor,

On October 19, the BPDA hosted the one and (so far) only public virtual meeting via Zoom, during which time the St. Francis House and the POUA presented their newly filed Project Notification Form (PNF) for the proposed conversion of the Constitution Inn. This was the BPDA's first public meeting. The neighborhood was given just 30 days to comment on the PNF, and this public comment period closed a mere 11 days after the virtual meeting.

The neighborhood comments are available on the BPDA's website. These comments reveal overwhelming opposition to the Permanent Supportive Housing component of the proposal. Of the 271 comments, 193 expressed opposition. Nearly all of the comments in opposition came from Navy Yard and Charlestown-proper residents, underlining their deep involvement and concerns. In stark contrast, support for the project, totaling only 78 comments, included submissions from outside the immediate community (Dorchester, West Roxbury, Cambridge, Boston-proper) and several organizations without a presence in Charlestown, diminishing the

weight of any support.

The nature of the public comments is revealing. Those opposed have provided detailed, highly considered submissions outlining concerns regarding: 1) safety for current and proposed residents; 2) a viable security plan for within the project and for the entire neighborhood; 3) sufficiency of the support services; 4) failure to mandate so-called wrap-around services for the PSH tenants; 5) lack of a drug-free requirement; 6) financial models, and the likelihood that the 4:1 ratio can be sustained long term; 7) lack of transportation, medical care and other amenities; 8) impact on local resources such as police/fire/EMTs; and other important issues. These are specific, actionable concerns that demand serious consideration. In contrast, nearly half of the comments in support were submitted via form emails or short, pre-printed forms, suggesting little engagement with the specifics of the project.

The lack of transparency of the BPDA's process must be called out, specifically the apparent omission of comments from the public record. I am aware of three individuals who posted comments to the BPDA website during the 30-day comment period, yet their comments are not included. This raises a serious concern: how many other voices still need to be heard? If even a single comment is overlooked, the integrity of the process is compromised. This lack of transparency is alarming and needs to be addressed to ensure a

fair and open dialogue.

Given the ongoing nature of this debate, the substantial change in the use of the Constitution Inn, the complexities involving the BPDA's property ownership and the YMCA's lease, and the significant community concerns, it is imperative that the BPDA reopen the comment period and schedule additional "in-person" public meetings (not virtual Zoom hearings). Such steps are crucial to ensure that all voices in Charlestown are heard and their legitimate concerns are addressed transparently and effectively. It is essential to respect the intricacies of the situation and the community's deeply vested interests.

A review of the public comments confirms that there has been no substantial support for this project since the very beginning. Opposition to the PSH portion of the proposal has been consistent and sustained. Ignoring the concerns raised by nearly three-quarters of those who commented during the brief 30-day window does little to foster trust in the process.

Connie Gutierrez
Navy Yard Resident

THANKS SO MUCH

To the Editor,

Thank you to the organizers, participants and supporters of the Mark & Michelle Gorman Memorial annual cornhole tournament in September. My family and I appreciate the scholarship money as it will help with my high school tuition.

Again, thanks so much to the organizers, friends and family and all those who participated in the cornhole tournament. The tournament honored some wonderful townies including Mark, Michelle and Ruthie Gorman, Mimi Wrenn and Jimmy Hingston.

We are lucky to live in such a great community.

Thanks again,

Owen McHale

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News Briefs

Boston's Official Tree Arrives November 21

The annual gift of an ever-green Christmas tree from Nova Scotia is scheduled to arrive by police escort at Boston Common at approximately 11 a.m. on Tuesday, November 21.

This is the 52nd year that a tree has been donated and commemorates 106 years of friendship with Nova Scotia. This recognizes the people of Boston who provided emergency assistance when Halifax, Nova Scotia was devastated by a maritime munitions explosion in the harbor in 1917. The first Tree for Boston was donated in 1971 by Joseph Slauenwhite from Lunenburg County.

Boston's official 2023 tree is a 40-year-old, 45-foot-tall white spruce donated by Bette Gourley of Stewiacke, N.S., and her family.

Boston Parks Commissioner Ryan Woods, Santa Claus, and local school children will greet the tree at its final destination near the Boston Visitors Center at 139 Tremont Street. The tree will be lit at approximately 7:55 p.m. on Thursday, November 30, as the City of Boston's Official Tree Lighting is celebrated on Boston Common from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The ceremony will be broadcast live on WCVB Channel 5 starting at 7 p.m.

The annual Tree Lighting on Boston Common is co-sponsored by the Boston Parks and Recreation Department and title sponsor, The Province of Nova Scotia. Amazon serves as the presenting sponsor, Meet Boston is the signature sponsor, Bank of America, JetBlue, Constellation, and the Downtown Boston Business Improvement District are the Community Sponsors, and media

sponsors are WCVB Channel 5 and the Boston Globe.

Celebrate the Holidays on Boston's Historic Freedom Trail

The Freedom Trail Foundation invites revelers to celebrate this holiday season on the annual Historic Holiday Strolls. The festive atmosphere of the city, set against the unique backdrop of Boston's historic sites and centuries of history, makes these merry 90-minute tours a perfect way to celebrate the holidays. Walk the Freedom Trail and discover how Boston's holiday traditions evolved on the Strolls offered Fridays and Saturdays at 3:30 p.m. from November 18 through December 30.

Led by 19th-century Dickensian costumed guides departing from the Visitor Information Center on Boston Common, the Strolls are complete with a tour of holiday lights and Christmas trees along the Freedom Trail while learning about 19th-century holiday traditions. Following the Stroll, guests receive discounts off museum store purchases at Freedom Trail sites, including the Old South Meeting House, Old State House, Paul Revere House, and Old North Church's Heritage and Gift Shops (valid with any Historic Holiday Stroll receipt from November through December).

"The Freedom Trail helps usher in the holiday season with the annual Historic Holiday Strolls, which gives tour participants a glimpse into the unique holiday traditions practiced throughout history," said Suzanne Segura Taylor, Freedom Trail Foundation Executive Director. "The Strolls

are one of many offerings to experience Boston's historic sites and the Trail year-round."

Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for children for public tours. The Strolls may also be scheduled as private group tours pending availability. The Freedom Trail Foundation continues to offer daily public Official Freedom Trail Tours® throughout November and December and during the winter months. All Freedom Trail tours are available as private family or group tours by reservation. For more information and to purchase tickets for the Historic Holiday Strolls and Freedom Trail Tours, please visit TheFreedomTrail.org, and for group tour reservations, please call 617.357.8300.

Thanksgiving Meal Delivery

Every year Bob Sweeney, Arthur Hurley and Charlestown friends use the American Legion Hall for their annual Thanksgiving meal delivery and dinner preparation. The volunteers cook the whole Thanksgiving meal with all the fixins' and dessert.

One by one, they package and deliver to homebound seniors in Charlestown as well as veterans.

Meaghan Murray helps organize the list of seniors in the neighborhood, and Bob Sweeney does the rest!

All donations can be dropped off the Beverly, Gibbons, Community Center at 382 Main St.

Donations (checks) can be made out to Robert Sweeney.

People who are looking to volunteer on Thanksgiving Day morning to help deliver meals, can reach out to Meaghan Murray directly at the Beverly Gibbons community center at 617-635-5175.

Construction Update

The Construction Look-Ahead for the North Washington St. Project through November 25 is posted.

Work Hours

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

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

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

Travel Tips

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

Drivers should take care to pay attention to all signage and move carefully through the work zone. Police details, lane markings, tem-

porary barriers, traffic cones, signage, and other tools will be used to control traffic and create safe work zones.

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

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

Bruins: November 18, at 7:00 p.m. and November 24, at 1:00 p.m.

Celtics: November 22, at 7:30 p.m.

Other Events: November 19, at 8:00 p.m.

• Revere • Everett • Winthrop • Lynn • East Boston • Chelsea • Charlestown

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Demers, Matthew	Davie, James D	27 Parker St #2	\$755,000
Meadows, Ryan	Mcdonough, Judith B	28 Mount Vernon St	\$2,400,000
Canniff, John	4019 LLC	42 8th St #4109	\$610,000
Ding, Xiaoyuan	Puopolo, Daniel M	42 8th St #2103	\$820,000
Mead, Lukas	Patel, Elizabeth M	45 1st Ave #107	\$735,000
Oconnor, George	Gjm 74 High Street LLC	74 High St #R	\$2,486,000

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