



THE NORTH END

REGIONAL REVIEW



EMAIL: DEB@THEBOSTONSUN.COM
EDITOR@REVEREJOURNAL.COM

WWW.NORTHENDREGIONALREVIEW.COM

VALENTINE'S CELEBRATION



Nearly 50 seniors gathered for a heartwarming Valentine's celebration at the The ABCD North End/West End Neighborhood Service Center.



Beautiful flowers donated by North Street Grille.

ABCD North End/West End NSC Director Julia Power with West End ladies, proudly displaying their totes from Sanborn and Head.

The ABCD North End/West End Neighborhood Service Center (NE/WE NSC) was bursting with love and laughter on February 14, as nearly 50 seniors gathered for a heartwarming Valentine's

celebration. The event featured a delicious luncheon of roasted half chicken, potatoes, and vegetables, generously sponsored by Sarah Garabedian, owner of Loft & Vine.

The day was made even sweeter thanks to incredible community support! Robin Sidell and Dan Connolly of North Street Grille

(CELEBRATION Pg. 16)

Coletta Zapata seeks to reform the ZBA

Special to the Regional Review

Boston City Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata (District 1) proposed a home rule petition to modernize and reform the Zoning Board of Appeal (ZBA) in Boston. This legislation aims to improve

transparency, representation, and accountability within the board, ensuring a fairer and more accessible zoning appeals process for all residents. A new key provision of the proposal embeds stronger Council oversight of the independent board, requiring members

to provide justification for variances granted in deviation from hardship standards. Additionally, the proposal seeks to expand the board by adding environmental protection and civil rights exper-

(ZBA Pg. 14)

FOCCP praises North End Liaison

By Phil Orlandella

City of Boston North End Liaison Ciara D'Amico was the guest speaker at the December meeting of the Friends of Christopher Columbus Park (FOCCP) membership quarterly meeting held at the Mariners House, 11 North Square.

"We were honored to have Ciara D'Amico, our Neighborhood Services Liaison join us for our first meeting of 2025," a FOCCP member said.

For the past three years, Ciara has been the go-to person for residents in need of assistance to help solve problems in the neighborhood.

Ciara answered several questions from members about what is planned for the neighborhood.

"I hear from residents about a wide range of issues from ongoing rodent problems to street and sidewalk safety, bike lanes and much

more," Ciara said.

"I love every aspect of this job, but one thing I didn't anticipate was being on Emergency Coverage from time to time."

This means that when emergencies occur, such as fire, a gas leak, or any other incident that may displace residents, we step in as liaisons on behalf of the city to ensure those displaced are provided housing for the night, she explained.

"We work closely with the fire department and affected residents to gather the information and ensure they can return home safely when the situation permits," she noted.

D'Amico is a third generation North End resident. She attended the Eliot School and Boston Latin Academy where she received a Bachelor's of Arts Degree in Communications with a Minor in Social Work from Saint Anselm College.

Summer brings unique options for local kids

Staff Report

Even though the official start of spring doesn't arrive for another two weeks, it's already time for parents to look past the current school year and begin considering summer alternatives for their children. Boston-area kids can choose from a range of different offerings this year, but enrollment for these unique programs is limited.

Registration is now open for the Advent School's Explore Design at Advent, its vibrant STEM program for kids aged 5-12.

Design at Advent is based out of 99 West Cedar St. on Beacon Hill.

Session 1 focuses on 'Theater Engineering' and runs from June 16 to June 27. Session 2, which explores 'Urban Agriculture,' runs from July 7 through July 18. Session 3, called the 'Cardboard Carnival,' runs from July 21 through

Aug. 1.

"What makes The Advent School's summer program so special is that we utilize Greater Boston as an outdoor classroom, visiting iconic places such as The USS Constitution, City Hall, George's Island, and the Puppet Library," said Advent's Director of Enrichment Stephanie Foland. "We also invite guest presenters -- artists, landscape architects, and more -- so kids can see what it's really like to work in these fields."

Also, 'Hiking Adventures,' in partnership with Guineafowl Adventure Company, offers kids on a variety of day hikes to the mountains, hills, and waters of Massachusetts and southern New Hampshire. 'Art on the Trails,' also offered in partnership with Guineafowl, is a two-week program that runs from July 7-18.

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Summer in the City special pages 6-9

EDITORIAL

MARCH IS THE CRUELEST MONTH

According to meteorologists, “meteorological spring” arrived last week on March 1. For those who prefer to mark the seasons astronomically, spring officially will arrive in two weeks on March 20 (at 5:01 AM), marking the vernal equinox.

But regardless of one’s preference, we always have viewed March as the ultimate tease.

The poet Emily Dickinson extolled the arrival of March (“Dear March—Come in— How glad I am—”). But Emily Dickinson lived in Amherst, far from the coast, where ocean breezes off the still-frigid Atlantic -- water temps are their coldest in March -- can lower the dreaded wind-chill factor by 10 degrees even on sunny days.

For those of us who have been lifelong residents of Eastern Mass., March is the month on the calendar that we long for with great anticipation after the harsh winter season. But it always disappoints, like an object of desire that fails to live up to our expectations.

Although this past winter was chillier than the past few, our recent winters have not been too tough to take, thanks to milder-than-normal temperatures and the lack of snow, which environmental scientists tell us is the beginning of a long-term trend of warmer winters because of climate change. Those milder winters have given us all the more reason to hope that March would be even more temperate compared to the past.

But our hopes regularly have been dashed by Mother Nature.

To be sure, the weather is getting warmer and the sun brighter. The crocuses and snowdrops have been pushing through the ground, especially in the areas of our gardens that are in full sun. But the cold weather and brisk winds that are forecast for the coming week, with below-freezing temperatures every night and in the early-morning, are anything but a harbinger of the coming spring season.

One of the earliest memories of our childhood was learning the aphorism, “March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb.” Despite the onset of climate-change, that saying remains as true today as it was then.

THE REAL REASONS OUR NATURAL GAS HEATING BILLS ARE SO HIGH

Everybody is complaining about the high cost of heating our homes with natural gas this winter, but this year’s spike in our bills, which has been exacerbated by the colder-than-usual winter, has been completely predictable.

Massachusetts has had the 5th-highest natural gas prices in the U.S for many years for which there are two main reasons:

The first is that thanks to the Jones Act (which involves maritime shipping and unions and dates back to 1920), we have to import our liquefied natural gas (LNG), at far greater expense from Trinidad and other places outside the U.S., instead of from the LNG terminals along the U.S. Gulf Coast.

Second, and more significantly, we have been unable to take advantage of the abundant supply of natural gas from the nearby Marcellus Field in Pennsylvania because of environmental regulations and lawsuits that have prevented the construction of new pipelines to our area.

We are within just a few hundred miles of the largest natural gas-producing area in the country, but we are unable to access it, which has resulted in our need to import LNG via tankers from foreign sources.

So yes, we are spending more this winter to heat our homes because of the colder-than-normal weather. But our natural gas prices are greater than almost everywhere else in the country -- and will continue to be for the foreseeable future -- thanks to a combination of our nation’s antiquated maritime shipping laws and environmental lawsuits that have prevented new pipelines from coming to our region from the Marcellus field in nearby Pennsylvania.

2025 NORTH END ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION BASEBALL REGISTRATION - ONGOING

With the coldest days of the year happening, we at the N.E.A.A. are getting ready for BASEBALL! It is time for registration for the 2025 Season and we are excited. We look forward to another great season. There will be all the same programs this year with a few small changes in store with the schedule so please check them out. We will have in house baseball for programs for boys and girls ages 4 to 12 again this year. We will also have our traveling Dodgers Baseball program for boys ages 13-15 and again this year we have added the North End Execution Girls Fast Pitch Softball Program coached by Coach Chuck and Adam for girls ages 13-16. This is for the serious player who wants to learn and play some great softball and much more!

Clinic: Ages 4 Year Old Boys & Girls Saturday Mornings at 9:30am to 10:30am: Puopolo Park (Still room for more players)

T-Ball: Ages 5 Year Old Boys & Girls - Saturday Mornings at 10:30am to 11:30am: Puopolo Park (Still room for more players)

Minor League Baseball: 6 to 8 Year Boys & Girls: Mon - Thurs 5:30 to 7:15pm Puopolo Park (Still some spaces)

Major League Baseball: 9 to 12 Year Old Boys and Girls: Mon - Thurs 6:00pm to 8pm Langone Park - (Waiting List)

Minor League and Major League Baseball starts with practices on April 1st. This is pre-season. There will be pre-assigned practice days and times assigned

to each team at the beginning of the season. Each coach may add additional practice time if there is field availability. Opening day for games is Saturday, MAY 3rd when all teams will play. Games will then be played Monday - through Thursday for both age groups and run through mid June. Practices will be scheduled throughout that time period as well and listed in the schedule that will be posted in mid-March. Please note that bad weather/rainouts etc may cause the schedule to change.

Registration Fee is \$65 per player for our age 4 - 12 year old programs. Registration fee for Dodgers and Girls Softball is \$75 per player. The NEAA will never prevent a player from participating in our programs due to the inability to pay our registration fees. If you need assistance, please contact John Romano, NEAA Sports Coordinator before registering. (617) 750-9749 or jromano45@gmail.com. For all team and league related questions, please contact: Ralph J Martignetti, Mobile: +1 857-366-1213 or Email: rmartignetti@nysir.org.

To register use the new URL for the N.E.A.A. website: <https://www.neasports.org>.

NEWS BRIEFS

THE FRIENDS OF DEFILIPPO PLAYGROUND ANNOUNCE NEW BOARD

The Friends of DeFilippo Playground “The Gassy” would like to announce changes to their board. Elected in February are:

President - Robyn Reed
Vice President - Jason Aluia
Vice President and Director of Facilities and Athletics - Alan Skinner
Treasurer - Michael D’Elia
Clerk: Alexandra Salmon

The Board and members are looking forward to a year of exciting programming, artwork and community building. All interested neighbors are welcome to join the meetings held at 4:30pm on the first Wednesday of each month at the St. Antonio Club on Endicott St.

Contact infogassy@gmail.com for more information about events and to become involved in this great neighborhood group.

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REPORTERS AND CONTRIBUTORS:

Stephen Quigley and Cary Shuman

PHONE 781-485-0588 - FAX 781-485-1403

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PRESIDENT: Stephen Quigley

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Coletta Zapata announces community Budget Town Halls

Special to the Regional Review

Boston City Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata is hosting a series of Budget Town Halls across District One to engage directly with residents and gather input on budget priorities ahead of the City Council's annual budget review for fiscal year 2026-2027.

"Budget Town Halls provide a valuable opportunity to shape my advocacy efforts and ensure our district's priorities are reflected in the city's budget," said Councilor Coletta Zapata. "Last year, we

successfully secured funding for trash containerization, expanded overtime for pest control inspectors, ESOL classes for parents, the right to counsel for residents, expanded city housing vouchers, and increased youth employment opportunities. The budget process allows us to invest in essential services and address critical issues like housing affordability, education, and climate preparedness. I look forward to hearing from residents in the coming weeks!"

This marks the fourth year

the Boston City Council has the authority to reject, reduce, amend, or approve line items in the city's operating budget. In April, the Mayor's Office will submit the initial proposals for the city's operating, capital, and Boston Public Schools budgets to the Council. Budget hearings, chaired by Councilor Brian Worrell (District 4), will begin shortly thereafter and continue through June. The Council is expected to vote on the finalized budget by the end of June, with approved measures taking

effect on July 1, 2025.

Additionally, this budget cycle will feature the city's second participatory budgeting process, allowing residents to contribute ideas and recommendations. To learn more about how to get involved, visit boston.gov/departments/participatory-budgeting.

The Budget Town Halls will be held on the following dates:

East Boston – Thursday, March 20 at 6:00 PM, East Boston Public Library, 365 Bremen Street

Charlestown – Thursday, April

3 at 6:00 PM, Judy Evers Community Room, Boston Police Station, 20 Vine Street

North End/Wharf District – Tuesday, April 8 at 6:30 PM, Nazario Community Center, 30 N. Bennet Street

Translation services, childcare, and food will be provided at all Budget Town Hall meetings.

For more information, please contact the Office of Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata at (617) 635-3200 or email gabriela.ramirez@boston.gov.

MBTA gears up for South Boston's Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade celebration

Special to the Regional Review

The MBTA is preparing for the annual St. Patrick's Day parade and festivities in South Boston on Sunday, March 16, 2025. With nearly a million people expected to attend the parade, the MBTA is implementing several measures to accommodate the increased ridership and to remind the riding public what everyone can do to help maintain a safe and family-friendly environment. Riders are encouraged to check out the MBTA's St. Patrick's Day Guide for information on taking the T to the parade, how to pay fares, and more at mbta.com/StPatricksDay.

"The safety of our customers and employees is our top priority," said Transportation Secretary and CEO Monica Tibbits-Nutt. "We encourage everyone to celebrate the holiday responsibly and remain vigilant—if you see something, say something. We want everyone to enjoy the Saint Patrick's Day festivities while being mindful of fellow travelers and lending a helping hand to those needing directions or assistance."

"The MBTA takes great pride as we continue to improve daily service and increase service options every year so everyone can enjoy St. Patrick's Day and all the festivities," said MBTA General Manager and CEO Phillip Eng. "Public transit services are essential, allowing everyone alternative ways to safely travel and celebrate. I thank our dedicated employees who ensure that our riders get to their destinations every day. Leave the driving to us and use caution when traversing the system as we all celebrate St. Patrick's Day together."

Additional Service and Bus Route Detours

To manage anticipated peak ridership and minimize platform congestion, the MBTA will strategically position additional personnel throughout the system to manage crowding, assist with pas-

senger flow, and ensure a safe environment. The MBTA encourages all riders to be mindful while using escalators and navigating stairs during periods of heavy foot traffic. Service information is available at mbta.com/StPatricksDay.

Shuttle Bus: The MBTA will provide free shuttle bus service from South Station to South Boston between 9:30 AM and 5 PM on the day of the parade.

Red Line: The Red Line will operate rush hour service from 10 AM to 6 PM. Trains may bypass Broadway during certain times due to heavy crowds.

Bus Detours: Routes 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, and 47 will be detoured around the parade area. Buses will not stop at Broadway beginning at 9:45 AM or Andrew beginning at 10:15 AM.

Commuter Rail: Commuter Rail trains will run with additional cars to accommodate parade attendees. Additional customer service and management staff will be available at South Station to answer any questions and assist customers. More information about Commuter Rail service on the day of the parade will be available soon on mbta.com/StPatricksDay.

\$10 Weekend Passes are valid for unlimited travel on all Commuter Rail lines in all zones on Saturday and Sunday. Riders are encouraged to buy them in advance with the mTicket app.

"Our MBTA has seen so many improvements over the past year. Let's all enjoy the service, and the City, by celebrating responsibly and discouraging behavior that could damage our property or disrupt the transit system," said Chief Operating Officer Ryan Coholan. "By working together and respecting our shared public spaces, we can ensure a safe and enjoyable holiday for all."

"For the St. Patrick's Day parade, our top priority at Keolis is to get passengers to and from the festivities safely and reliably,"

said Abdellah Chajai, CEO and General Manager of Keolis Commuter Services. "We expect high ridership and encourage our riders to plan ahead and expect longer boarding lines, especially at South Station. I'd like to thank our crews for their hard work and dedication to delivering for our passengers on March 16 and every day."

Enhanced Security Measures & Safety Tips for Riders

The MBTA Transit Police Department, under the leadership of Chief Kenneth Green, will significantly increase uniformed officer presence throughout the system to deter crime and to respond swiftly to any incidents.

"We will be working closely with our law enforcement partners to ensure a secure environment for everyone who uses our public transit system," said Chief Green. "We want everyone to remember, St. Patrick's Day is a time for celebration, and it's essential to prioritize safety and responsible behavior."

The MBTA urges riders to celebrate responsibly, leave their vehicles at home, take public transportation to festivities, and follow these safety tips:

Alcohol consumption and/or unruly behavior will not be tolerated on the MBTA.

Secure personal belongings, especially in crowded areas. If wearing a backpack, remove it and hold it at your side or set it between your feet. Leave large items like coolers at home.

Let riders off the trains before you board.

Travel on the T without bikes. Bikes (including folding bikes) are not allowed on the MBTA at any time the day of the parade.

Report any suspicious activity or individuals in distress to the nearest police officer, call the Transit Police at 617-222-1212, or dial 911.

Download the MBTA See Say App to quickly and discreetly report suspicious activity to Tran-

sit Police. Using this app, riders can send Transit Police pictures, text messages, and locations of suspicious activity.

Follow the instructions of MBTA Transit Police officers and staff who are there to ensure everyone's safety.

Take care of yourself and others. Seek medical attention when necessary.

The MBTA is stressing the importance of celebrating responsibly on public transit. Vandalism

and disorderly conduct can create safety hazards, delays, and additional cleaning costs, which can divert valuable resources away from essential maintenance services and improvements that benefit all riders.

For more information, visit mbta.com/StPatricksDay or connect with the T on X @MBTA and @MBTA_CR, Facebook /TheMBTA, Instagram @theMBTA, Threads @thembta, or TikTok @thembta.

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NEWS, NOTES AND WHATEVER By Phil Orlandella

NEMPAC NEW SENIOR PROGRAMS A HUGE SUCCESS

Several new entertaining, educational and fun filled programs for local seniors were recently held in the North End neighborhood that were fully enjoyed by the participants.

The North End Music and Performing Arts Center (NEMPAC) in partnership with the Nazzaro Community Center developed several programs that were well attended with exciting things to do for the elderly.

In this fast-moving world, it's important that seniors are not forgotten or left behind.

Apparently, NEMPAC has not forgotten the local elderly providing a host of new programs for them to enjoy.

FONEL HOSTS SPEAKERS' PROGRAM

Another speaker's talk, "Italians of the North End" a history

of Grit, Perseverance and Tradition was held at the North End Library, 25 Parmenter Street.

Hosted by the Friends of North End Library (FONEL), author Patricia M. Annino brought back many memories, facts and showed pictures of a North End in the past.

NEWRA MEETING

The next North End/Waterfront Residents' Association (NEWRA) public meeting will be held on Thursday, March 13 at 6:30pm at the Nazzaro Community Center, 30 North Bennet Street. Agenda TBA.

NEWNC MEETING

The next North End/Waterfront Neighborhood Council (NEWNC) will be held on Monday, March 10 at 7pm at the Nazzaro Community Center, 30 North Bennet Street. Agenda TBA.

DINE OUT BOSTON CONTINUES THROUGH MARCH 26

It's not too late to find time to participate in one of the City's great culinary experiences, Dine Out Boston.

Celebrating its 25th edition of Winter 2025, this year 175 restaurants, including many North End eateries present an opportunity to enjoy delicious meals.

The promotion ends March 26. For listings and prices visit www.DINEOUTBOSTON.com.

UNDER THE SNOW MOON

Friends of the Armenian Heritage Park on the Greenway held an enjoyable event "Under the Snow Moon" that featured a virtual walk the Labyrinth last month.

The music was performed by Lia Sarkisyan, Berklee '28. A meet and greet was held and attendees shared wishes for the Wishing Tree.

EVENT FOR HOMELESS WOMEN AT ST. LEONARD HALL

A benefit event for the Rita A. DiMento Women's Clinic at Arch Street Church will be held on Saturday, March 22 from 8am to 4:30pm at St. Joseph Hall at St. Leonard Church, 31 Prince Street.

Church Pastor Father Michael Della Penna, John Romano Jr. with support from family and friends will conduct this special event to support the walk-in clinics for homeless women.

Many items are being collected as well as donations. Contact John Romano at 617-570-0749.

BPD LIST TOP TEN DOG NAMES

Based on 2024 registration, the Boston Park Department's Animal Care Division has put together a list of the top-ten names of male and female dogs in the city.

Males: 1. Charlie, 2. Milo, 3. Teddy, 4. Cooper, 5. Max, 6. Leo, 7. Winston, 8. Ollie, 9. Oliver 10. Toby.

Females: 1. Luna, 2. Bella, 3. Daisy, 4. Lucy, 5. Rosie, 6. Penny, 7. Lola, 8. Millie, 9. Coco, 10. Lilly.

The deadline for registration is March 31, 2025.

NEW NARRATIVE OF AMERICA'S FIGHT FOR INDEPENDENCE

A major effort to reshape the narrative of the story about America's Fight for Independence is being conducted.

Niki Stewart, Director of Old North Illuminated and Nina Zannieri, Executive Director of the Paul Revere Memorial have been in the fore front of the major transformation to reshape the narrative of the historical happening.

Reimaging of this major event will focus on the inclusion of the pivotal roles of women, people of color and other often overlooked figures.

The efforts will ensure that their

contributions are recognized in the historical fabric of the revolution.

CHILDREN'S WINTER FESTIVAL RETURNED TO COMMON

The Children's Winter Festival returned to the Boston Common hosted by the City of Boston Parks and Recreation Department.

Open to everyone, the festival featured music, dancing, giveaways, winter activities, treats and crafts that made for an enjoyable school break.

Students and their caregivers also rode on the trackless train and the alpine slide.

BOSTON HOUSING A CAMPAIGN ISSUE

Boston's housing issues are not new on the campaign trail for mayor of the city.

Challenger Josh Kraft reportedly contended Mayor Michelle Wu's current policies have stymied housing production and increased affordability issues.

The mayor reportedly claimed Kraft's proposed housing plan is a "Fake Rent Control" pitch.

When Bostonians go to the polls, they need to consider the city's housing concerns and needs as part of their voting decision.

OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS AVAILABLE

Settlement money received by the city (\$250,000) through opioid manufacturers and distributors in 2024 are available to eligible Boston families who have lost immediate family members of opioid overdoses.

Eligible families could receive up to \$5,000 in financial assistance from the settlement that covers funeral expenses, bereavement counseling and other expenses caused by the ongoing crisis.

Applicants must currently live in Boston and are only available for family members who died of opioid overdoses within the past two years.

**THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – HIGHWAY DIVISION
NOTICE OF A PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING
Project File No. 613460**

A Public Information Meeting will be held by MassDOT to discuss the Richmond Street Bridge Preservation project in the North End neighborhood of Boston, MA.

WHERE: Nazzaro Community Center
30 N. Bennet Street
Boston, MA 02113

WHEN: Wednesday, March 12, 2025 at 6 PM

PURPOSE: The purpose of this meeting is to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed Richmond Street Bridge Preservation project. All views and comments made at the meeting will be reviewed and considered to the maximum extent possible.

PROPOSAL: MassDOT is performing preservation work on the Richmond Street Bridge over State Route 1A Northbound in the North End. The project is anticipated to begin in April 2025 and will be substantially completed in July 2025. At this meeting, the project team will provide an overview of the project, including the phased constructions schedule and impacts on vehicles and pedestrians. Attendees will then have the opportunity to ask questions and offer comments.

This location is accessible to people with disabilities. MassDOT provides reasonable accommodations and/or language assistance free of charge upon request (including but not limited to interpreters in American Sign Language and languages other than English, open or closed captioning for videos, assistive listening devices and alternate material formats, such as audio tapes, Braille and large print), as available. For accommodation or language assistance, please contact MassDOT's Chief Diversity and Civil Rights Officer by phone (857-368-8580), fax (857-368-0602), TTD/TTY (857-368-0603) or by email (MassDOT.CivilRights@dot.state.ma.us). Requests should be made as soon as possible prior to the meeting, and for more difficult to arrange services including sign-language, CART or language translation or interpretation, requests should be made at least ten (10) business days before the meeting.

In the event of inclement weather a cancellation announcement will be posted on the internet at <https://www.mass.gov/orgs/highway-division/events>.

**JONATHAN GULLIVER
HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATOR**

**CARRIE E. LAVALLEE
CHIEF ENGINEER**

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Accessory Dwelling Units officially allowed statewide under Affordable Homes Act

Special to the Regional Review

Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) are now permitted by-right statewide in Massachusetts thanks to the Healey-Driscoll Administration's Affordable Homes Act, signed into law by Governor Maura Healey in August 2024. Sometimes called tiny homes or in-law suites, ADUs are small, independent living spaces located on the same lot as a principal dwelling in a residential zoning district. Garages, attics, and basements can be converted into ADUs. Or an ADU can be a newly constructed detached cottage or addition onto the primary home with a separate entrance.

"We said from the beginning that we were going to make housing more affordable by creating homes for every kind of household and at every stage of life," said Governor Maura Healey. "By allowing homeowners the freedom to create an Accessory Dwelling Unit, we can provide more housing options for seniors, creating opportunities for young adults with special needs looking for more independence and developing smaller, more affordable, housing options for our state."

"This is a real solution that creates additional housing throughout our communities in small ways that can have a big impact for an individual or a family," said Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll. "The Affordable Homes Act is continuing to open up new housing at every level across the state and allowing Accessory Dwelling Units is an example of the problem-solving focus of our administration."

The undersupply of housing in Massachusetts has dramatically increased housing costs in recent

years. ADUs are part of the solution to build more homes and drive down costs for tenants and homebuyers.

As of Sunday, February 2nd, ADUs less than 900 square feet can be built by-right in single-family zoning districts statewide, and the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities estimates that 8,000 to 10,000 ADUs can be constructed over the next five years thanks to this simplification of the ADU permitting process.

"ADUs can provide supplemental rental income to homeowners, add value to single-family homes, and deliver new options for renters in a tight market," said Ed Augustus, Secretary of Housing and Livable Communities. "Previously, if a homeowner wanted to build an ADU for an aging parent, they would have had to apply for special permits and variances, which in many cases can be outright denied due to restrictive zoning bylaws. Now, ADUs are allowed by-right statewide, making it easier for residents to build in their own backyards, or onto their existing homes."

ADUs can have a profound effect for homeowners and their families. They can allow older adults to age in place and remain close to their grandkids and children. ADUs can also offer independent living for young adults with special needs.

Following a public comment period, EOHLIC has now issued final regulations intended to help cities and towns adjust their local ordinances and allow for ADUs by-right. You can visit [Mass.gov/ADU](https://www.mass.gov/ADU) to learn more specific details about the ADUs by-right policy.

Municipalities who need assistance drafting, conducting com-

munity planning, and enacting local ADU rules may apply for funding through the Community One Stop for Growth.

Residents interested in developing an ADU should contact their city or town services who will be able to give them an understanding of the local rules and how they can apply for a permit. Additionally, residents seeking to build an ADU for people with disabilities or people over 60 may be eligible for no-interest financing through the state's Home Modification Loan Program.

Statements of Support

Jen Benson, Massachusetts State Director, AARP:

"Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) are not only a vital tool in creating additional affordable housing, but they are also one of the best ways for older family members to age in place. ADUs can help create multi-generational housing opportunities while giving those generations the comfort of their own living spaces."

Maura Sullivan, CEO, The Arc of Massachusetts:

"The Arc of Massachusetts is grateful to the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities for releasing regulations that provide additional details on the Accessory Dwelling Unit provision of the Affordable Homes Act. ADUs have been a longtime policy priority of The Arc because we recognize the critical need to create more housing for people

with autism and intellectual and developmental disabilities. These individuals and their families face many challenges related to housing, including safety, gaining independence, and maintaining tenancy. ADUs provide an option for some people with disabilities to live and thrive in their community, where they often have family and natural supports. We look forward to working with individuals and families to interpret and understand these regulations."

Rachel Heller, CEO, Citizens' Housing and Planning Association:

"Today, Massachusetts takes another significant step forward on the path to a vibrant future. When we allow for a range of housing types in our neighborhoods, people have opportunities to live in homes they can afford in the communities they choose. Accessory Dwelling Units can make housing more affordable for homeowners that build them and for renters looking for housing at different price points. As communities allow for Accessory Dwelling Units, multifamily housing, and smaller homes on smaller lots, we are fostering an environment where people, our neighborhoods, and our economy can thrive."

Jesse Kanson-Benanav, Executive Director, Abundant Housing Massachusetts:

"We were proud to partner with the Healey-Driscoll administration, Secretary Augustus and

EOHLIC, and advocates in ensuring the Affordable Homes Act included a strong ADU provision that will unlock more housing production across the commonwealth. Advocates have spoken of the need for standardization and fewer barriers to building ADUs and we have finally answered the call. ADUs are a gentle tool in the Massachusetts toolbox to address our severe housing shortage. This provision allows homeowners to generate additional income or house loved ones with disabilities, aging family members, or young adults who might not otherwise be able to afford to live in the community where they were raised. Legalizing Accessory Dwelling Units by-right in every city and town is an investment in the future of the commonwealth and its residents."

Marc Draisen, Executive Director, Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC):

"As new zoning allowing Accessory Dwelling Units goes into effect this week, cities and towns across Massachusetts now have a new tool for adding infill, small-scale homes to meet a variety of multi-generational needs in this tight housing market. MAPC stands ready to assist communities in implementing thoughtful local regulations. We are eager to share our model zoning resource, created in partnership with EOHLIC, that will streamline adoption in neighborhoods across our region."

Celebrate Women's History Month on Freedom Trail Revolutionary Women Tours

Special to the Regional Review

Freedom Trail Foundation announces the return of the beloved tour experience, Revolutionary Women Tours throughout Women's History Month in March! Discover the indomitable women who took part in the American Revolution, and the generations of women that followed, inaugurating their own struggles for freedom and equality.

The Freedom Trail Revolutionary Women Tours invites people of all ages to walk the Freedom Trail and explore four centuries of revolutionary women who changed history. These 90-minute tours feature tales of the early religious rebellions of Anne Hutchinson and Mary Dyer, abolitionist movements of Sojourner Truth and Harriet Tubman, landmark achievements of Black pioneers Phillis Wheatley and Dr. Rebecca Lee Crumpler, prolific writings of Abigail Adams and Louisa May

Alcott, dynamic speeches of Margaret Sanger and

Susan B. Anthony, and more. Walk the paths these influential women treaded, while visiting the places where their voices were heard, works published, and were laid to rest.

The tours feature official Freedom Trail historic sites from the site of the Great Elm on Boston Common, where women paid the ultimate price for refusing to conform to puritanical values, to the Granary Burying Ground, where those who fought fiercely for independence are remembered alongside their revolutionary male counterparts, and the Old Corner Bookstore and Old South Meeting House, where women made change through the power of literature and the spoken word. Revolutionary Women Tours culminate at Faneuil Hall, the Cradle of Liberty, which was prominent in both the abolitionist and women's suf-

frage movements.

Revolutionary Women Tours depart from the Boston Common Visitor Information Center on Saturdays and Sundays in March at 10:45 a.m. Led by 18th-century costumed guides, Freedom Trail Foundation's walking tours are \$17 for adults, \$15 for seniors/students, and \$8 for children, and include a \$1 donation to the Freedom Trail Foundation's Preservation Fund. Tickets may be purchased at the Boston Common Visitor Information Center or online at [TheFreedomTrail.org](https://www.thefreedomtrail.org). All walking tours and specialty tours, including the Revolutionary Women Tours, are available as private tours year-round by appointment and are perfect for families, company outings, corporate activities and team building, tourist groups, and more. For additional information please visit [TheFreedomTrail.org](https://www.thefreedomtrail.org) or call (617) 357-8300.

OBITUARIES

All obituaries and death notices will be at a cost of \$195.00 per paper.

Includes photo.No word Limit.

Please send to

obits@reverejournal.com

or call 781-485-0588

2025 Summer in the City

SUMMER (from Page 1)

Kids will take day hikes in Massachusetts and Southern Hampshire and create art based on their observations.

Visit adventschool.org/summer for more information.

BC High, based at 150 Morrissey Blvd. in Boston, is offering a wide range of Summer Camps and Programs.

For boys and girls ages 5 to 10, Eagle Day Camp provides a full-day camp experience for two to eight weeks. Campers, ages 5 to 7, can take part in myriad activities, such as arts and crafts, organized sports, scavenger hunts, LEGO sets, water games, painting, and

tie-dyeing, among other offerings. Half-day option available for ages 5-7 while campers ages 8-10 can customize their schedules to suit their personal interests.

Additionally, the Adventures in Boston! program will offer a new field trip each day while the Inspir-it AI class will teach middle and high school students in separate sessions about the fundamentals of AI and how to use it responsibly.

“I believe what sets our camps and programs apart from the rest is our dedicated staff and our beautiful campus which provides a safe oasis for kids to learn, grow

and have some summer fun,” said Sara Feloney, BC High’s director of summer camps and programs and external events.

Other offerings will include Sports Camps, including soccer, baseball, basketball, football, and flag football for Grades 4–12; High School Academics, with courses including Inspir-it AI, Chemistry, Intro to Chemistry, Intro to Algebra, ACT/SAT Prep, Spanish Language and Culture, High School Writing, and The Common Application and The College Essay; Middle School Academics, with courses including Intro to Algebra, Math Fundamentals, English Fundamentals, and Study Skills; and Middle School Specialty Programs: including Inspir-it AI, Art, Coding and Robotics, Minecraft, Theatre, Roblox Mission to Mars!, Dungeons & Dragons, and The Art of Cooking.

Visit www.bchigh.edu/summer-camps or call 617-474-5181 for more information.

The Boston Children’s School Summer-Fun-Program will begin its 43rd year on July 7 and continue for six weeks, ending Aug. 15, at 8 Whittier Place in the West End.

The program, designed for children between the ages of 3 and 8, is located at Charles River Park in



Shown are some of the students who participated in the NEMPAC Summer Theater programs at the Charlestown Working Theater.

the West End. The Boston Children’s School has its own private playground, which allows children to play safely outdoors, away from the noise, congestion, and traffic. Inside, the facility is fully air conditioned.

The program is organized by age, and each group is taught and nurtured by state certified teachers with the help of teacher interns from local area colleges and universities. All activities are designed to be developmentally appropriate

for each age group.

Besides daily play activities, children can use the swimming pools on a daily basis at The Clubs at Charles River Park. The program also offers children science, music appreciation, and field trips.

Visit BostonChildrensSchool.Org for more information. Early registration is encouraged because space is limited.

If you have any questions about the BCS Summer-Fun-Program, please call Judy Langer, Program Director, at 617-367-6239 or 617-BCS-KIDS.

BCS is also registering students for 2025 academic year, and applications are available online (BostonChildrensSchool.Org).

Buckingham, Browne & Nichols School, a pre-K-12 private school in Cambridge, provides a valuable and enjoyable, ACA-accredited summer camp experience for campers from 4 years old through rising 10th grade every summer. This year’s program runs from June 16 through Aug. 8.

Summer@BB&N offers specialty camps (such as Chess, Outdoor Explorers, Parkour, and Codemoji); sports camps (i.e. Soccer, Basketball, Golf, Fishing, and Ultimate Games), and its Classic Camp for pre-K through Grade 10, which provides rotating activities each day, like arts and crafts, sports, theater, hands-on fun, water play, and archery. The Teen Camp also offers more time for activities, as well as off-site trips. Each camp offering has a variety of weeks to choose from and is

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

Summer Starts Here!

CO-ED - AGES 5 & UP

NEW! Eagle Day Camp for Kids
Eagle Day Camp for Juniors
Adventures in Boston
Inspir-it AI

PLUS, sports camps, theatre, academic programs, enrichment, and more!

LEARN MORE & REGISTER!
www.bchigh.edu/summer-camps

For more information:
www.frenchlibrary.org/summer-in-french/

SUMMER IN FRENCH PROGRAM

TEENS CLASSES
(ages 13+)
start on July 7

KIDS CLASSES
(ages 3-12)
start on June 23

Give your child or teen a full immersion experience of summer fun and learning!

Our program is the perfect way to improve their skills and confidence in French, thanks to our team of engaging teachers.

Registrations are open, and you can benefit from an early bird discount until March 28. Weekly enrollments focus on a theme with special activities each week.

2025 Summer in the City

grade specific.

“Summer@BB&N is unique because it combines the warmth of a close-knit community with the excitement of hands-on exploring, offering campers the opportunity to explore their passions while developing valuable skills in an environment that fosters both creativity, personal growth, and community,” said Emma O’Loughlin, Director of Summer@BB&N.

Visit <https://bbnsummer.com> for more information on the Summer@BB&N program.

This summer, **Essem Art Studio**, located at 15 Tufts., third floor, in Charlestown is offering five-day Minicamps designed for kids who love to create.

With exciting themes like Furry Friends, Deep Blue Sea, and COLOR!, young artists will dive into painting, mixed media, and design, building skills, confidence, and endless creativity along the way. Minicamp hours run from 9 a.m. to noon, with an option to extend to 2 p.m.

“We provide a boutique art camp experience in our sunny studio. We get to know each young artist while providing instruction and support so they can have a joyful and magical experience while growing as individual artists,” said Sophia Moon, the studio’s founder.

For more information, visit essemartstudio.com.

French Library, located at 53 Marlborough St. in the Back Bay, offers ‘Summer in French for Kids’ (with classes for ages 3-5; ages 6-8; and ages 9-12, respectively)’ and ‘Summer in the French for Teens.’

For Kids, participants can participate in half-day (from 9 a.m. to noon) or full-day programming (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.) The first week of five-day programming kicks off Monday June 23, with ‘Robots and Advanced Technologies.’ The 10th and final week begins Monday, Aug. 25, with a focus on ‘Magic and Fantastical World.’

Teens can choose from three options, including a one-week, half-day program with a specific theme, which is offered once in July, once at the end of July/early August, and once in August; a one week, morning-only option at the end of August, which is a perfect refresher before going back to school; or afternoon workshops.

Visit frenchlibrary.org/summer-in-french/ for more information, or email youthprograms@frenchlibrary.org with any questions.

The Newman School, located at 247 Marlborough St. in Bos-

ton’s Back Bay, offers educational programming via its renowned International Baccalaureate curriculum, including small classes, and individualized attention.

As Boston’s only day and boarding all-gender 7-12 independent

School, Newman’s student body holds passports from 40 different nations while the faculty hails from 10 countries.

Additionally Newman offers more than 25 clubs and activities, as well as a range of sports for first-time participants through D1 recruited-collegiate athletes.

Visit newmanboston.org for more information.

North End Music & Performing Arts Center (NEMPAC) will be offering programs at the Charlestown Working Theater this summer, including a range of full-week-long summer workshops for youth and teens in Charlestown, as well as one-off workshops and class sessions.

‘Act! Sing! Dance!’ - a series of week-long musical theatre workshop for ages 5-9 where students will work on a short production presented at the end of the week, including ‘101 Dalmatians,’ ‘The Jungle Book,’ and ‘Where the Wilds Things Are.’

‘Broadway Bootcamp Jr.’ for ages 10-13 is a week-long program which allows participants to learn, rehearse, and perform selec-

tions of songs, dances and scenes from some favorite musicals and plays.

‘Broadway Bootcamp’ is week-long program for ages 12 - 15, which allows participants to learn, rehearse, and perform selections of songs, dances and scenes from some favorite musicals and plays.

“NEMPAC is so excited to be expanding our summer programming into Charlestown to further engage with the many amazing families this neighborhood has,” said Shannon Fitzgerald, NEMPAC’s Charlestown outreach and engagement coordinator. “Our popular Music Theatre Production Workshops, Broadway Bootcamp, and PlayLab: Create, Produce, Perform, will now be hosted on site at the Charlestown Working Theater, with early drop off and extended day, to make our programming even more accessible to Charlestown families. With programs open to ages 5 - 15, in theatre, music, and dance, there’s something for everyone! Enrolling your student in a performing arts program will build their confidence, communication skills, creativity, and collaboration skills.”

Visit nempacboston.org for more information.

School of Fashion Design, located at 31 St. James Ave, second floor, offers two sessions of its Teen Program in Fashion Design this summer.

This program will provide an introduction to the fashion design process, from conception to sketch to garment completion, with no prior experience necessary. The curriculum, which offers a taste of SFD’s adult Certificate in Fashion Design program, is taught by the school’s expert faculty.

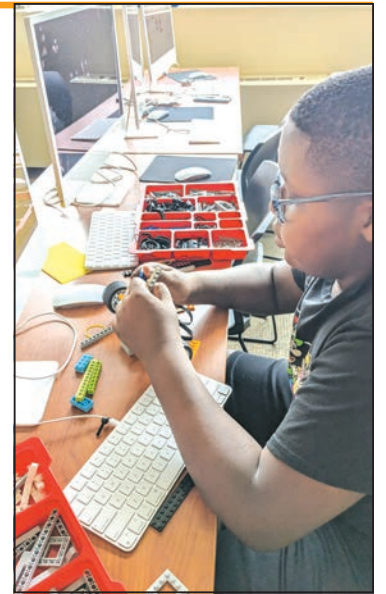
“Our high school program in fashion design is a great experience for students who want to explore fashion design as a career option, boost their college application profile, or just explore a new creative outlet,” said Executive Director Jennifer Leclerc. “Students in our program have access to the same expert faculty and tools as our adult students, and will leave SFD with a fashion mood board, a garment of their own making, and hopefully some new fashion friends.”

Projects will include creating a fashion garment from a pattern, as well as creating a mood board of inspiration and fashion-plate illustrations of an original garment collection.

Visit <https://www.schooloffashiondesign.org/pre-college-program> for more information.

Walnut Hill School for the Arts in Natick offers a range of summer programs taught by the school’s own world-class faculty and featuring special guests artists.

Programs include the String Quartet Intensive for ages 11-18;



Summer robotics at BC High.

Summer Voice Intensive for ages 12-16; a range of dance classes, including the Children’s Ballet Program for ages 4 to 7, and Boston Ballet Summer Intensive for ages 9-12; a Jazz Intensive for ages 13-17; Theater Intensive for ages 13-17; Fashion Immersion for ages 12-16; Visual Art for ages 13-17; Cameraless Photography for ages 13-17; and Game Design: Crafting Interactive Stories for ages 13-17, among other offerings. All programs include excursions into Boston to enhance the curriculum, such as visits to museums, exhibits, and concerts.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 8)



Summer@BB&N

CLASSIC CAMP

Traditional summer day camp experience with rotating activities each day like arts and crafts, sports, hands-on fun, archery, and more. Teen Camp offers off-site trips. In addition, we offer our LIT 1 and 2 programs for campers in grades 8-10



SPORTS CAMPS

We offer sports such as Crew, Soccer, Basketball, Volleyball, Fishing, Flag Football and Ultimate Games. Each camp week is dedicated to each sport with practice drills, skills, and scrimmages through the week.



SPECIALTY CAMPS

Specialty Camps are dedicated to a niche activity for a week of focused learning, play, and exploration for the inquisitive camper



ALL CAMP ACTIVITIES

Campers come together as a camp community for spirit days and all camp activities like lip sync battles, scavenger hunts, and more!



Registration for Summer is now open!
Check out our website to learn more!

bbnsummer.com





Kids 5-12 can design, explore, and build at Advent’s unique STEM camps in the heart of Boston!

Theater Engineering, Urban Agriculture, Cardboard Carnival & more

adventschool.org/summer



Best summer ever!



2025 Summer in the City

Continued from Page 7

“The true magic of our programs lies in the sense of camaraderie that develops as students learn and grow together,” said Michelle Rush, associate director of auxiliary programs and admissions. “Time and again, we hear students say, ‘Wow, there are kids like me here!’ This feeling of belonging, of finding their tribe, is what makes the Walnut Hill experience so special.”

Day and boarding options are available for some programs, with boarders getting a taste of college life residing in air-conditioned dormitories.

Visit www.walnuthillarts.org for more information.

THE ADVENT SCHOOL

Design at Advent
15 Brimmer St.
Boston, MA 02108
adventschool.org

The Advent School Design at Advent summer program offers four unique STEAM-based two-week sessions for children ages 5 through 12.

Summer 2025 Themes

Theater Engineering: 6/16 - 6/27 (There is no session on 6/19 as the school is closed during Juneteenth.)

Urban Agriculture: 7/7-7/18
Art on the Trails: 7/7-7/18
Cardboard Carnival: 7/21-8/1

Each child learns proper tool use, engages in the design process, and builds prototypes out of recycled materials. Designers explore Boston daily, play games, and gather inspiration. The designers share their creations with friends and family on the last Friday of each session at the Design Expo. Find out more at <https://www.adventschool.org/summer>.

BOSTON CHILDREN'S SCHOOL

Summer Fun Program
8 Whittier Place
Boston, Ma 02114
617-367-6239
617-BCS-KIDS

BostonChildrensSchool.org
The Boston Children's School Summer Fun Program celebrates its 43rd year of providing exceptional summertime experiences and academic enrichment to children between the ages of 3 and 8 years old. The Summer Fun Program at The Boston Children's School is conveniently located at Charles River Park, in the historic West End section of Boston. Our location is fully air-conditioned. The school has its own private playground, which allows children



Summer for aspiring teen designers at the School of fashion design.

to safely play outdoors away from the noise, congestion and traffic of the city streets. Our location also allows children to explore the cultural richness of the City of Boston through field trips to museums, theaters, libraries and historic sites. The Summer Fun program is organized by age. Each age group is supervised, taught and nurtured by certified teachers, along with teacher interns from local area colleges. All activities are designed to be developmentally appropriate for each age group. Children can use the pool areas, on a daily basis, at The Clubs at Charles River Park. The Summer Fun Program also offers children yoga, music appreciation, science, arts and crafts, and interactive sto-

rytelling. Parent involvement and participation are always a part of the program, which begins July 7, 2025 and ends Aug.15, 2025.

If you would like your child to become part of the 2025 Summer Fun Program at the Boston Children's School, please call Judy Langer,

Program Director, at 617-367-6239 or 617-BCS-KIDS, or email: BostonChildrensSchool@aol.com

We are also now taking enrollment applications for the September 2025 Academic year for: preschool, kindergarten and grades 1-3.

Applications are available on the B.C.S. website, BostonChildrensSchool.Org.

BOSTON COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

Summer Camps & Programs
Boston, MA | 617-474-5181
bchigh.edu/summer-camps

BC High has something for every child this summer. The goal of all its programs is to provide children the space to develop their independence, make new

friends, and have some summer fun. Eagle Day Camp provides boys and girls ages 5-10 with a full-day camp experience from 2 to 8 weeks. Campers ages 5-7 will enjoy a variety of activities, such as arts and crafts, organized sports, scavenger hunts, LEGO sets, water games, painting, tie-dye, and more. Half day option available for ages 5-7. Campers ages 8-10 can customize their schedule to match their interests. Lunch is available for purchase in the dining hall. Schedules will provide both outdoor and air-conditioned indoor activities.

Adventures in Boston! program will provide a new field trip each day while our Inspirit AI class will teach middle and high school students in separate sessions the fundamentals of AI and how to use it responsibly.

Additional offerings include:

Sports Camps: Soccer, baseball, basketball, football and flag football are available for grades 4-12.

High School Academics: Courses include Inspirit AI, Chemistry, Intro to Chemistry, Intro to Algebra, ACT/SAT Prep, Spanish Language and Culture, High School Writing, and The Common Application and The College Essay.

Middle School Academics: Courses include Intro to Algebra, Math Fundamentals, English Fundamentals, and Study Skills.

Middle School Specialty Programs: Programs include Inspirit AI, Art, Coding and Robotics, Minecraft, Theatre, Roblox Mission to Mars!, Dungeons & Dragons, and The Art of Cooking.

BUCKINGHAM, BROWNE & NICHOLS SCHOOL - BB&N

80 Gerrys Landing Rd,
Cambridge, MA,
bbns.org

BB&N provides a valuable and enjoyable summer camp experience for campers from 4 years old through rising 12th grade every summer. The program runs for 8



SCHOOL OF FASHION DESIGN
SUMMER HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM



MONDAYS & WEDNESDAY
9:00AM - 3:30PM

SESSION I: JULY 7 - JULY 28

SESSION II: JULY 30 - AUGUST 20

31 St. James Avenue, Boston, MA 02116 | admissions@sfdboston.org | (617) 536-9343

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SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS

SUMMER OF THE ARTS

Immersion Programs in Chamber Music, Voice, Jazz, Theater, Dance, Visual Art, Fashion, Photography, and Game Design!

12 Highland St
Natick, MA 01760
walnuthillarts.org/summer
508-650-5020

Learn More

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)



2025 Summer in the City



weeks starting June 17th through August 9th. We have a variety of programming from classic camp to speciality/sports camps, there is a little something for everyone! Classic camp is a Traditional summer day camp experience with rotating activities each day like arts and crafts, sports, hands-on fun, archery, and more. Teen Camp offers off-site trips. In addition, we offer our LIT 1 and 2 programs for campers in grades 8-10. Specialty Camps are dedicated to a niche activity for a week of focused learning, play, and exploration for the inquisitive camper. Sports Camps we offer sports such as Crew, Soccer, Basketball, Volleyball, Fishing, Flag Football and Ultimate Games. Each camp week is dedicated to each sport with practice drills, skills, and scrimmages through the week. We hope you choose Summer@BB&N, please visit our website to register.

ESSEM STUDIO

15 Tufts St 3rd Floor,
Charlestown, MA 02129
Essemartstudio.com

A Boutique Art Minicamp in the Heart of Charlestown!

Essem Art Studio invites young artists to our vibrant, sunlit studio for a five-day creative adventure. Designed for kids who love to create, our boutique Minicamps offer hands-on exploration of various mediums, processes, and art concepts through instructor-led projects.

With personalized guidance, campers will build artistic skills, boost creative confidence, and bring their ideas to life in a supportive, inspiring space. Let's make magic together!

Visit essemartstudio.com for more information.

THE NEWMAN SCHOOL

247 Marlborough St,
Boston, MA 02116
newmanboston.org

Boston's only day and boarding all-gender 7-12 independent school!

Located on Marlborough St., The Newman School offers an exceptional education through the renowned International Baccalaureate curriculum, small classes, and individualized attention. With 40 passports in the student body and faculty from ten countries, we provide a global education fostering intellectual growth, per-

sonal responsibility, and engaged dialogue. Newman offers over 25 clubs and activities and an array of sports for first-time participants through D1 recruited-collegiate athletes. At Newman, no one is anonymous, each is unique, and everyone belongs, we embrace our founding motto: "Cor ad Cor Loquitur/Heart Speaks to Heart". Visit us in action!

NORTH END MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS (NEMPAC)

Summer Programs
Charlestown Working Theater
442 Bunker Hill Street
Charlestown, MA 02129
nempacboston.org

NEMPAC Offers a wide variety of full-week-long summer workshops for youth and teens, as well as one-off workshops and class sessions! From Musical Theatre Troupe themed musical weeks, to Broadway Bootcamp, to Dance – we have it all!

MUSICAL THEATRE WORKSHOP (ages 5-9)
Act! Sing! Dance! In this week-long program, students will work on a short production presented at the end of the week

July 14 – 18: 101 Dalmatians
July 21 – 25: The Jungle Book
July 28 – August 1: Where the Wilds Things Are
BROADWAY BOOTCAMP JR (ages 10-13)

In this week-long program, tweens ages 10 – 13 will have the chance to learn, rehearse and perform selections of songs, dances and scenes from some of your favorite musicals and plays
June 30th - July 3rd
BROADWAY BOOTCAMP (ages 12-15)

In this week-long program, teens ages 12 – 15 will have the chance to learn, rehearse and perform selections of songs, dances and scenes from some of your favorite musicals and plays
August 11 - 15
Visit nempacboston.org for more information and to register

SCHOOL OF FASHION DESIGN

Teen Program in Fashion Design
31 St. James Ave, 2nd fl, Boston, MA 02116
schooloffashiondesign.org

Spend your summer in style at the School of Fashion Design! If you are interested in fashion and sewing as a hobby or considering majoring in fashion design, this is the place to be this summer! Our program provides an introduction to the fashion design process, from conception to sketch to garment completion with no prior experience necessary. The curriculum is a taste of SFD's adult Certificate in Fashion Design program and is taught by our expert faculty. Whether you're a fashionista or aspire to a career in fashion, this is the course for you!

WALNUT HILL SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS

12 Highland St.
Natick, MA 01760
walnuthillarts.org

Unlock your artistic potential this summer at Walnut Hill School for the Arts! Nestled on an idyllic campus just outside of Boston, we offer immersive one to four-week intensives designed for aspiring artists aged 12-18. With boarding and day options, students immerse themselves in intense rehearsals

and skill-building workshops, all while forging lifelong friendships with like-minded peers from around the globe. All programs include excursions into the city that enhance programming, such as visits to museums, exhibits and concerts. Under the guidance of world-class faculty, students can delve into a variety of disciplines, including chamber music, voice, jazz, theater, dance, visual art, fashion design, photography, and game design. <https://www.walnut-hillarts.org/summer> Apply Now!

FRENCH LIBRARY

Summer in French for Youths
53 Marlborough St., Boston, MA
frenchlibrary.org

The French Library offers immersive "Summer in French" programs for children and teens, providing age-appropriate language learning and cultural experiences.

Summer 2025 Programs:
Summer in French for Kids (Ages 3-5, 6-8, 9-12):
Half-day (9 a.m. to noon) or full-day (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.) options available.
Ten weeks of themed programming, starting June 23rd with "Robots and Advanced Technologies" and concluding August 25th with "Magic and Fantastical World."
Summer in French for Teens:
One-week, half-day thematic programs offered in July and August.
One-week, morning-only refresher course at the end of August.
Afternoon workshops.
Children will participate in a variety of activities to enhance their French language skills and cultural understanding.
For more information, visit frenchlibrary.org/summer-in-french/



LEARNING in the #Heart of BOSTON



DAY AND BOARDING
ALL GENDER 7-12 GRADE
INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE CURRICULUM
COLLABORATIVE STUDENT/FACULTY RELATIONSHIPS
CITY CAMPUS

NEWMANBOSTON.ORG/ADMISSIONS
admissions@newmanboston.org

At the corner of Marlborough Street and the world

THE SUMMER FUN PROGRAM
July 7 - Aug. 16, 2025

Register now! Ages 3-8



THE BOSTON CHILDREN'S SCHOOL

Celebrating 43 years of Summer Fun!!

8 Whittier Place Boston
617-367-6239
bostonchildrensschool.org



Beacon Hill Village and Cindy Sullivan Fitness team up to offer 9th Annual “Spring into Aging” free Fitness Week

Special to the Regional Review

Spring is almost here, and so is Fitness Week for our active agers! Each year, Beacon Hill Village (BHV) and Cindy Sullivan Fitness partner to offer a full week of free fitness classes in March for Boston's older adults. This year marks the 9th time this program is being offered to adults aged 50 and over in Boston. Three of the classes will be virtual and two will be offered in person. The dates for this year's fitness week are March 17-21, 2025.

Spring is a great time to jump into or strengthen your fitness routine. Exercise is a cornerstone of healthy aging, and fitting physical activity into one's day can improve life in many ways. Regular exercise can improve strength and balance, boost mood and improve memory, and help manage or lessen the impact of chronic diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, and osteoporosis.

“Running our Spring into Aging Fitness Week program for the ninth year fills me with immense excitement and pride,” said Cindy Sullivan, Certified In-Home Personal Trainer and Midlife/Senior Fitness Specialist. “It's not just about the years we've been at it, but the countless lives we've positively impacted. This program is about fostering community, promoting vitality, and celebrating the incredible resili-

ence of our senior participants!”

This year's class lineup includes:
Monday, 3/17, 9:30 AM – stretch and flow (Zoom): This NO FLOOR stretch class is designed to increase flexibility and range of movement to improve activities of daily living. There is a combo of dynamic or flow stretching, with static stretching throughout class. At the end we will add deep breathing and final relaxation exercises to promote stress reduction and relaxation. Suitable for all fitness levels.

Tuesday, 3/18, 10:30 AM – Better Balance (In Person at Beacon House): Exercises and tips on the importance of staying strong and preventing falls. Balance is the cooperation between the brain, nervous system, muscle and bones, and the class will focus on improving that connection. Suitable for all fitness levels.

Wednesday, 3/19, 10:30 AM – Total Body Workout (Zoom): Join us for our traditional weekly workout for Active Agers. This class combines a little bit of everything including low impact cardio, strength training, balance and flexibility to target the entire body. Hand weights (or alternative), a chair and 10 minutes of mat work will be included. Can be modified for many levels.

Thursday, 3/20, 10:30 AM – Strength & Conditioning (Zoom): Learn the most important exercises to stay strong and independent. We will incorporate light hand



Participants in the 2024 Spring into Aging Fitness Week.

weights (or alternatives such as canned goods), resistance bands (or towels), and body weight exercises into this fun class! Help to improve overall strength and balance and increase bone density. Can be modified for many levels.

Friday, 3/21, 10:30 AM – Functional Fitness Over 50 (In Person at the Community Room at The Hub on Causeway): This workout will improve your “activities of daily living” – functional exercises that support four fitness goals for older adults: endurance, strength,

balance, and flexibility. Can be modified for many fitness levels.

For this special week only, the class fee will be waived for all participants. Advance registration is required for all classes.

To register for one or any number of “Spring into Aging” classes and discover new and fun ways to incorporate physical activity into your day, call the BHV office at 617-723-9713 or visit the website at www.beaconhillvillage.org/ events. For questions on class descriptions or more event details

email cindysullivanfitness@gmail.com. Don't delay, classes are filling up fast.

Beacon Hill Village has been redefining aging in downtown Boston for two decades. We are a member-driven organization for Boston residents age 50 and over which provides programs and services so that members can lead vibrant, active, and healthy lives, while living in the homes and neighborhoods they love.

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH
OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND
FAMILY COURT

Suffolk Probate
And Family Court
24 New Chardon St.
Boston, MA 02114
(617)788-8300
CITATION ON
PETITION FOR
FORMAL
ADJUDICATION
Docket No.
SU25P0441EA
Estate of:
John Francis
Mulloy, Jr.
Also known as:
John Mulloy, John
F. Mulloy, Jr., John
Mulloy, Jr., John F.

Mulloy
Date of Death:
01/29/2025
To all interested persons:
A Petition for Formal
Adjudication of Intestacy
and Appointment of
Personal Representative
has been filed James T.
Mulloy of Lynn, MA and
George F. Carlson of
Boston, MA requesting
that the Court enter a
formal Decree and Order
and for such other relief
as requested in the
Petition.
The Petitioner requests
that: James T. Mulloy of
Lynn, MA and George F.
Carlson of Boston, MA be
appointed as Personal
Representative(s) of
said estate to serve
Without Surety on the

bond in unsupervised
administration.
IMPORTANT NO-
TICE
You have the right to
obtain a copy of the Peti-
tion from the Petitioner
or at the Court. You
have a right to object to
this proceeding. To do
so, you or your attorney
must file a written ap-
pearance and objection
at this Court before:
10:00 a.m. on the return
day of 03/28/2025.
This is NOT a hearing
date, but a deadline by
which you must file a
written appearance and
objection if you object
to this proceeding. If
you fail to file a timely
written appearance and
objection followed by an

affidavit of objections
within thirty (30) days
of the return day, action
may be taken without
further notice to you.
UNSUPERVISED
ADMINISTRATION UNDER
THE MASSACHUSETTS
UNIFORM PROBATE CODE
(MUPC)
A Personal Representa-
tive appointed under the
MUPC in an unsuper-
vised administration
is not required to file
an inventory or annual
accounts with the Court.
Persons interested in
the estate are entitled
to notice regarding the
administration directly
from the Personal
Representative and
may petition the Court
in any matter relating

to the estate, including
the distribution of
assets and expenses of
administration.
WITNESS, Hon. Brian J.
Dunn, First Justice of
this Court.
Date: February 28, 2025
Stephanie L. Everett,
Esq.
Register of Probate
03/06/25
RR

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH
OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND
FAMILY COURT
Suffolk Probate
And Family Court
24 New Chardon St.
Boston, MA 02114

(617) 788-8300
CITATION ON
PETITION FOR
FORMAL
ADJUDICATION
Docket No.
SU25P0390EA
Estate of:
Rachel M.
Jacoff
Date of Death:
01/25/2025
To all interested persons:
A Petition for Formal
Probate of will with
Appointment of Personal
Representative has
been filed by Jeanne
Vanecko of Millerton, NY
and Brian W. Monica of
Boston, MA requesting
that the Court enter a
formal Decree and Order
and for such other relief
as requested in the

Petition.
The Petitioner requests
that: Brian W. Monica of
Boston, MA and Jeanne
Vanecko of Millerton,
NY be appointed as
Personal Representa-
tive(s) of said estate to
serve Without Surety on
the bond unsupervised
administration.
IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to
obtain a copy of the Peti-
tion from the Petitioner
or at the Court. You
have a right to object to
this proceeding. To do
so, you or your attorney
must file a written ap-
pearance and objection
at this Court before:
10:00 a.m. on the return
day of 03/28/2025.
This is NOT a hearing

date, but a deadline by
which you must file a
written appearance and
objection if you object
to this proceeding. If
you fail to file a timely
written appearance and
objection followed by an
affidavit of objections
within thirty days (30)
days of the return day,
action may be taken
without further notice
to you.
UNSUPERVISED
ADMINISTRATION UNDER
THE MASSACHUSETTS
UNIFORM PROBATE CODE
(MUPC)
A Personal Representa-
tive appointed under the
MUPC in an unsuper-
vised ad ministration
is not required to file
an inventory or annual

accounts with the Court.
Persons interested in
the estate are entitled
to notice regarding the
administration directly
from the Personal
Representative and
may petition the Court
in any matter relating
to the estate, including
the distribution of
assets and expenses of
administration.
WITNESS, Hon. Brian J.
Dunn, First Justice of
this Court.
Date: February 21, 2025
Stephanie L. Everett, Esq.
Register of Probate
03/06/25
RR

BLO's 80th Anniversary production of 'Rodgers & Hammerstein's 'Carousel''

Special to the Regional Review

A traveling group of outsider artists arrives at an abandoned amusement park. They carry their own props, don their own costumes and work to evoke – the best they know how – life in a quaint New England village. A broken-down rollercoaster serves as their set, enhanced by whatever scraps they find. A rusty lever is lifted and the park's lights come on. So begins Boston Lyric Opera's 80th anniversary production of "Rodgers & Hammerstein's 'Carousel,'" directed by visionary artist and BLO Artistic Associate Anne Bogart, conducted by BLO Music Director David Angus, and running April 4-13, at the Emerson Colonial Theatre. Tickets are available now at BLO.org.

The cast comprises acclaimed opera artists including (below, l.-r.): Brandie Sutton (BLO debut) as Julie Jordan; Edward Nelson (BLO's "desert in") as Billy Bigelow; Jamie Barton (BLO debut) as Nettie Fowler; Anya Matanovič

("The Rake's Progress") as Carrie Pipperidge; Omar Najmi ("The Anonymous Lover") as Enoch Snow; Markel Reed ("Champion") as Jigger Craigin; and Boston Foundation President M. Lee Pelton (BLO debut) makes a cameo as The Starkeeper/Dr. Selton.

THE STORY

Carousel follows the story of Billy, a charming but troubled man in a close-knit seaside town, and Julie, a woman with many friends and family, who falls for him despite the risks. Their romance costs them both their jobs, and their eventual marriage struggles as Billy grows frustrated by his lack of work. When Julie reveals she's pregnant, Billy vows to provide for the family and agrees to a robbery with the scheming Jigger. When the plan fails, Billy dies. A distraught Julie seeks support from her community and works to protect her daughter. In the afterlife, Billy is offered a chance to help his now-grown daughter Louise, who

struggles on Earth with his legacy. Returning as a troubled spirit, Billy tries to guide her. Although his presence is unseen, Louise feels his love. At her graduation, even Julie senses him. With his family's future brightened, Billy finds eternal peace.

Anne Bogart's Take

Anne Bogart says when she was offered the chance to direct this CAROUSEL, her immediate response was an enthusiastic yes. "Carousel is a time capsule from 1945," she says, "carrying with it a sense of magic that transcends generations and packs a surprising emotional punch. The allure of second chances and the strength of community are powerful elements that emerge from the narrative."

Through a contemporary lens, Bogart says the show's depictions of domestic violence, cycles of poverty and crime, suicide, and toxic masculinity still resonate strongly. "The treatment of these issues in Carousel may seem outdated by modern standards, but

its artistic merits – and willingness to tackle complex human actions – make it a thought-provoking work within the classical music theater canon. Carousel offers a profound exploration of love, loss and redemption." Bogart says the idea of a traveling troupe presenting the show nods to the journey taken by Billy, to migrants who often find itinerant work in fishing communities, and to the show's long history.

"Rodgers & Hammerstein's Carousel is steeped in the grand traditions of opera, woven through with soaring melodies, sweeping orchestrations and deeply human drama," says BLO Stanford Calderwood General Director & CEO Bradley Vernatter. "Carousel is closely tied to the lineage of American opera. It thrives on rich emotional depth, complex characters and a timeless, transcendent score. Decades later, its poignancy and musical grandeur still resonate, proving that its heart beats not just with Broadway rhythm,

but also with the pulse of something even greater—it's an enduring, lyrical epic."

In addition to Bogart and Angus, the creative team for Carousel includes: choreographer Shura Baryshnikov, whose new choreography aims to honor the movement by iconic dance maker Agnes de Mille; set designer Sara Brown, costume designer Haydee Zelideth, lighting designer Brian H. Scott, and wig and makeup designer Earon Chew Nealey.

David Angus conducts a 40-piece Boston Lyric Opera Orchestra in a performance that featured full operatic voices and unamplified singing. BLO Head of Music and Chorus Director Brett Hodgdon leads a 38-member Boston Lyric Opera chorus.

The Carousel cast also includes Sarah Heltzel, Theophile Victoria, Tyler Dobies, Devon Russo, Fred C. VanNess Jr., Alexander Davis, Sabrina Lobner, Angela Yam, Abigail Curran and John Robert Sasso.

NORTH WASHINGTON STREET BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

The Construction Look-Ahead through March 15 for the North Washington Street Bridge is as follows:

Scheduled Work

- West sidewalk/deck concrete placements
- West deck waterproofing preparation
- Marine fender pile concrete fill
- Lovejoy Walkway plank installation
- FRP fascia screening installation

Work Hours

- Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Saturday from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Travel Tips

For everyone using the east

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

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

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

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

- Bruins: March 11, at 7 p.m., and March 15 at 7 p.m.
- Celtics: March 6 at 7:30 p.m.,

March 8 at 8:30 p.m., March 10 at 7:30 p.m., and March 12 at 7:30 p.m.

- Other events: March 7 at 7 p.m., March 14 at 6:30 p.m.

How can I find more information?

Stay up-to-date and informed by following @MassDOT on X, formerly known as Twitter, and Mass 511 for real-time updates,

visiting the project website, or emailing us with any questions.

You can also sign up to receive project updates via email by clicking this link.

Project website: [Mass.gov/north-washington-street-bridge-replacement](https://www.mass.gov/north-washington-street-bridge-replacement)

Project email: NorthWashingtonStreet@dot.state.ma.us

Dog licensing reminder

Special to the Times

The Boston Parks and Recreation Department's Animal Care and Control Division reminds city dog owners that the annual deadline for licensing their pets is March 31, 2025. All dogs in Boston require a new license each year. This process can be completed online, by mail, or in-person at our upcoming licensing clinics.

"Dog licenses are not just required by law, they help ensure that we can quickly return your pup to you should they get lost," said Alexis Trzcinski, Director of Animal Care and Control. "Please do your part to keep your pup safe and tagged."

Boston's most popular dog names of 2024 have been revealed as part of this year's licensing reminder. The top male dog name was once again Charlie, with 83

registered pups, and the leading female dog name was Luna, with 102 registrations with this name. At the tail end of the pack, the 25th most popular name for male dogs was Otis, with 24, and for female dogs it was Piper, with 38 registered.

The data also highlights Boston's favorite dog breeds. The Labrador Retriever continued to reign as the city's most popular breed, with 1,671 registered, followed by the Golden Retriever (749) and the Chihuahua (421). Other top breeds included the German Shepherd (371) and Miniature Poodle (351).

All dogs over six months old must be licensed annually. Owners are required to provide a copy of their dog's current rabies certificate and proof of spaying or neutering (if applicable). Licensing fees are \$15 for a neutered or

spayed pet and \$30 for an unaltered pet, with fees waived for service animals and residents aged 70 or older. Unlicensed pets are subject to a \$50 fine.

For an in-depth guide on dog licensing, including a link to license your dog online, visit Animal Care and Control's how-to article.

The City of Boston will also host a series of low cost dog licensing and pet vaccine clinics from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturdays from March 4 to June 3 at seven BCYF community centers. For details, fees, and locations please visit boston.gov/animals or call (617) 635-1800.

Follow Animal Care and Control on social media for updates and adorable adoptable pets: Instagram @bostonanimalcontrol, X @animalboston and Facebook @bostonanimal.

SEND US YOUR NEWS

The North End Regional Review encourages residents to submit birth and engagement announcements, news releases, business briefs, honor rolls, social news, sports stories, and photographs for publication. Items should be forwarded to our offices at 385 Broadway, Citizens Bank Building, Revere, MA 02151. Items can also be faxed to 781-485-1403. The Independent also encourages readers to e-mail news releases to editor@reverejournal.com. The North End Regional Review assumes no financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertisements, but will reprint that part of the advertisement in which the error occurs. Advertisers will please notify the management immediately of any errors that may occur.

The Chestnuts: Community and Conversation for women over 50

Story & Photos by Marianne Salza

Committing oneself to pause and savor a cup of coffee is a practice of self-care. Cobblestones owner, Jennifer Gallagher, starts each day with the intention of adhering to this morning ritual: drinking coffee prepared hot with oat milk and sugar, and served in a white cup and saucer for charm. Inevitably, Gallagher becomes distracted by tasks after her first sip; but arranging a breakfast spread of fresh parfaits and quiche is one expression of love that she is always devoted to.

On February 11, Gallagher invited The Chestnuts Group – a non-profit, social organization for Boston women over 50 -- to her Beacon Hill eatery to share a meal with new friends. The ladies have bonded over the past three years since Gallagher opened her café, where The Chestnuts often meet for their Community Coffees, a morning or early afternoon event held once or twice a month at a local coffee shop. Members individually purchase their own coffee or tea, and The Chestnuts Group provides pastries.

"I love the activities that they do in the city, together. I was always curious about them. I was

very happy to be accepted into membership," said Gallagher, who begrudgingly admitted that she met the age requirement to qualify. "It's a fun, low-key group of women who are out for good, clean fun. It's special."

The Back Bay resident revealed that she has not developed friends like The Chestnuts since college, and that the club is a unique opportunity in an urban setting. As society continues to evolve, Gallagher considers The Chestnuts Group as a remarkable, safe space.

"It's a wonderful addition in our world," expressed Gallagher.

Nellie King, who became a Chestnut this past fall, regularly attends Community Coffees. Formerly from San Diego, California, King joined in hopes of making more friends to enjoy life and experience Boston with.

"A lot of people later in life move to the city, and when they do that, all of the friends that they had get left behind. I think women – especially at our age – are looking for new connections. They've raised their kids and are ready to start a new phase," explained King, a Back Bay resident. "It's great. Everybody is super friendly. It's easy to talk to people."

Also new to Massachusetts is Donna Hellman, who has been a Chestnut for three years. A friend of hers from back home in New York, moved to Boston, and suggested she join the community. Now the Back Bay resident enjoys participating in the wide range of activities, from cultural tours to canasta.

"A lot of our members are people who have raised their children in the suburbs and have moved back to Boston," noted Hellman. It's a nice, eclectic group of women. We're interested in friendship and bonding."

Hellman describes The Chestnuts as a group of like-minded women who are enthusiastic, interested, and engaged, which is precisely what she was in search of and found.

On February 14, Hellman organized the second meeting of a new Chestnut event, a Documentary Film Group, which began in January with a discussion about Martha Stewart. Each month, members can screen a documentary that is chosen by consensus, and viewed at their leisure before the meeting. The Documentary Film Group then gathers for a thoughtful exchange about the movie.

"The conversation develops organically," said Hellman, who facilitated the conversation held at the Capitol One Café. "We're really excited because one is on human rights, and one is on medical care. These are both relevant topics today."

The ladies viewed two works by documentary filmmaker and new Chestnuts member, Lorie Conway.



Ladies gathering for breakfast during The Chestnuts Group Community Coffees at Cobblestones on February 11.

"Forgotten: Ellis Island," which has a companion book, expands on the immigration hospital located on Ellis Island, New York. The massive 22-building facility was constructed during a time when there were no antibiotics created to fight the exotic diseases infecting those arriving to the immigration station.

"It's about the lost chapter in immigration history," said Conway. "Ellis Island was the largest port of entry for European immigration during the turn of the 20th century. Many of them were sick. The saying was, 'If you weren't sick when you got on the steamship, and you landed in New York Harbor three weeks later, you might be sick.'"

Conway is one of the 40% of Americans today who can trace their lineage to the immigrants who entered the United States through Ellis Island. She finds it impressive that only 1% of the 12 million immigrants were deported from Ellis Island for medical reasons.

"These doctors and nurses on Ellis Island were faced with thousands of patients. They knew they could get sick themselves; and yet, they were there day after day, taking care of these patients with compassion," Conway emphasized. "In spite of nativism, which we are experiencing today, there was a prevailing attitude that the immigrants were good for us. The

(CHESTNUTS Pg. 13)

LUNCH AND DINNER

ANTONIO'S

CUCINA ITALIANA

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Sun: Closed

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Closed on Sundays for private functions

617-367-3310

288 Cambridge St, Boston 02114

Uber Eats DOORDASH GRUBHUB



Karen Fiorile, Maura Harty, Kristen Pluntze, Tina Truedson, Jennifer Gallagher, Nellie King, Judy Newton, Cynthia Kelly, Paige Lescure, and Lisa Purcell.

Coletta Zapata honors BGCB's Robert Lewis Jr.

Special to the Patriot-Bridge

Boston City Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata (District 1) proudly honored Robert Lewis Jr., President and CEO of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston, during the Boston City Council's Black History Month celebration. This year's event recognized Black Legacy Leaders and Black Future Leaders, highlighting individuals whose contributions, resilience, and impact continue to shape communities across the city.

"It is an incredible honor to celebrate a true leader, a visionary, and a champion for racial equity—Robert Lewis Jr. His impact on the City of Boston is immeasurable, and his dedication to uplifting city

kids and fostering change has left an indelible mark on our city's history," said Councilor Coletta Zapata.

Robert Lewis Jr.'s journey is one of resilience, service, and an unwavering commitment to justice. Growing up in East Boston, he witnessed firsthand the painful realities of racial division during the era of busing in the 1970s. At just 13 years old, he lived through the turmoil that reshaped Boston's neighborhoods—firebombings, school violence, and a fractured community. Rather than allowing that trauma to define him, he transformed his experiences into a lifelong mission: to create a Boston where every young person—regardless of race or back-

ground—has the opportunity to thrive.

His leadership at The BASE redefined the way we think about youth, using sports as a pathway to higher education and meaningful careers. Now, as the President and CEO of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston, he is transforming the lives of countless children by ensuring they have access to education, healthcare, and workforce readiness—all essential elements of a brighter future.

Through his work at The Boston Foundation, City Year, the Boston Centers for Youth & Families, and numerous national initiatives, Robert has been a driving force for equity and justice. His leadership has not only changed systems

but changed lives. He continues to challenge us all, asking the hard questions: Are we any better today than we were 50 years ago? And he reminds us that the fight for justice is far from over.

"Robert, your courage, your conviction, and your tireless advocacy inspire us all," Councilor Coletta Zapata continued. "Boston is a better city because of you, and we are forever grateful for your leadership. Today, we honor you—not just for what you have done, but for the future you continue to fight for. Thank you for never giving up on Boston and for always believing in the power of young people to change the world."



Gabriela Coletta Zapata (right) with Robert Lewis Jr.

CHESTNUTS (from Page 12)

debate continues: do we take them in or do we not? I think we're a better nation with immigrants."

The second documentary illustrates the life and work of Beatrice Mtetwa, a civil rights lawyer in Zimbabwe, a country of desperate starvation and conditions.

"In a country where courage can get you killed, the dramatic series, 'Beatrice,' tells the story

about one of the bravest women in the world," Conway exclaimed. "This is a story that is near and dear to my heart. Nothing has

changed in Zimbabwe. The system is dysfunctional and remains a corrupt country. A huge diaspora has left the country; and only those without the means to leave remain there if they're not the ruling elite."

Conway believes that the documentaries about Ellis Island and Beatrice Mtetwa are relevant topics today.

"Being a filmmaker of these kinds of stories elevates their voices because they're strong and passionate about what they do," said Conway, who enjoyed sharing her experiences with fellow Chestnuts.



Eleni Kinney and Anna Protopapas, Documentary Film Group members.



Galentine's Day friends, Rachel Healey and Cheryl Lynch, on February 14.



The Chesnuts Group member and documentary filmmaker, Lorie Conway, describing her projects: "Forgotten: Ellis Island," and "Beatrice"



Community Coffees organizer, Paige Lescure, Tina Truedson, and Judy Newton.



Cynthia Kelly enjoying conversation and coffee during The Chesnuts Group Community Coffees at Cobblestones on February 11.



The Chesnuts Group Documentary Film Group gathering at the Capitol One Café on February 14.

**TO PLACE YOUR AD CALL
781-485-0588**

Wu shares preparations for climate emergencies in Boston

Special to the Regional Review

Mayor Michelle Wu, Emergency Preparedness Chief Adrian Jordan, Chief Climate Officer Brian Swett, Chief of Operations Dion Irish, and public safety officials shared Boston's preparations for extreme weather events, including efforts to lower risks with long-term climate resilience plans and ongoing efforts to update the City's emergency response. As a coastal city, Boston faces the increasing climate risk of extreme heat, rising coastal flooding, and intense stormwater. The city's cross-departmental approach has shifted the emphasis from planning to implementation, focusing on empowering residents, supporting communities at greatest risk of flooding and other emergency events, and lowering the risk citywide through resilience efforts.

"Climate risks require an all of government approach, and here in Boston we've been working on short and long term initiatives to better respond in emergency situations and protect our residents in the generations to come," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "Emergency weather events in other parts of the country have highlighted the need for us to share our progress and remind residents to take precautions now such as signing up for AlertBoston and familiarizing themselves with our coastal flood map. I'm grateful to our City departments and external partners for all of their work behind the scenes to keep our communities safe."

"Emergency preparedness is a shared responsibility. At the City of Boston, we are committed to

providing the plans, resources, and communication necessary to keep our community safe," said Chief of Emergency Preparedness Adrian Jordan. "However, the more our residents are informed, engaged, and prepared, the stronger our response will be in the face of any emergency. I encourage all residents to sign up for AlertBoston, consider joining our CERT program, and most importantly, create an emergency plan for themselves and their families."

"As climate risks intensify, our approach must be both proactive to our current risks and adaptive to our changing climate. Boston is not only strengthening its emergency response capabilities but also making longer term infrastructure investments to protect our neighborhoods from rising seas, extreme storms, and dangerous heat," said Brian Swett, Chief Climate Officer. "I'm grateful for Mayor Wu's leadership, the dedication of our city teams, and the engagement of residents and business owners in making Boston a national leader in climate resilience and emergency preparedness."

The City has been working to develop and implement climate resilience projects to address coastal flooding, stormwater management, and extreme heat. Today, Mayor Wu announced the Inspectional Services Department (ISD) brought on a Floodplain Administrator who is working to improve floodplain management practices. These efforts can increase access to lower cost flood insurance through FEMA's Community Rating System Program, which hiring a Floodplain

Administrator is a key first step towards qualifying for. Landlords and housing property managers will also see on this year's rental registration forms the opportunity to identify if their buildings include basement units. Residents of these units are at a higher risk in the event of flooding, and the City is prioritizing knowing where they are to proactively provide support.

"Boston is taking actionable steps to prepare our City's built environment for future climate emergencies, following through on previous planning work. Hiring the new Floodplain Administrator is an example of how we're enacting Boston's Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan," shared Dion Irish, Chief of Operations. "We're focused on making both our public safety facilities more resilient and on ensuring the buildings where our communities gather together can weather storms and continue to serve residents during and after major climate events."

Mayor Wu joined city officials for the press briefing at the District A-7 police station in East Boston, which the Mayor opened in 2023. The new building design incorporates resiliency features, including stormwater chambers under the parking lot and stormwater planters that capture stormwater that falls on site, and a cool, white roof to help with extreme heat mitigation.

"As a representative of one of Boston's most vulnerable coastal communities, I know firsthand that climate change isn't a distant threat—it's a present reality," said Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata. "Our neighborhoods are already seeing the effects of rising

seas, extreme storms, and dangerous heat. I commend the administration for moving from planning to action, ensuring that residents, businesses, and infrastructure are better prepared for climate emergencies. From floodplain management to emergency response, these efforts will help protect our most at-risk communities and create a more resilient city."

Other recent efforts to better respond to potential coastal flooding events include the Boston Fire Department's new high water rescue vehicles, hosting the nation's first Deployables Day training exercise last fall, and upgrading the City's flood forecasting and tracking system. The City has also been working to lower the risk of flooding events in the long-term by implementing the Coastal Flood Resilience Overlay District (CFROD), a national-leading standard to embed coastal resilience into our Zoning code; redesigning parks and green spaces for resiliency such as McConnell Park in Dorchester and Ryan Playground in Charlestown; and allocating the highest amount of Capital funding in Boston's history to coastal resilience projects. A new stormwater grant and credit program launched by the Boston Water and Sewer Commission and new green infrastructure standards are now in place to update the City's aging water and sewer system and its capacity during heavy rain.

Similarly for extreme heat events, the City launched the Urban Forestry Division to bring shade to the hottest neighborhood streets. For instance, 1,912 new street trees were planted in 2024. Additionally, the City of

Boston launched the Boston Tree Alliance while planting over 160 trees on private properties, and has installed the nation's largest implementation of green roofs on bus shelters. New misting towers and tents are put in place at key sites, including nine Boston Public Library locations and three community centers, during heat emergencies to keep residents cool where they are.

"The Healey-Driscoll Administration is fortunate to have a strong group of emergency management partners at the local and state level addressing the increasing complexity and frequency of crisis events caused by climate change," said Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency Director Dawn Brantley. "Through collaboration, training, and planning, Boston is increasing community-level resilience and reducing long-term vulnerability, especially within disadvantaged communities that are often disproportionately impacted by disasters."

In the wake of large-scale evacuations and severe weather emergencies around the country, residents are encouraged to educate themselves on their evacuation routes. The Office of Emergency Management is launching an update to the existing evacuation route signs around the City to better reflect current traffic flow and at-risk areas. This will also include a shift to more online education materials in addition to the physical signage.

Residents are encouraged to sign up for Alert Boston, a free service available in the City's 11 most-spoken languages.

ZBA (from pg. 1)

tise as well as representation from both a homeowner and a renter.

"The Zoning Board of Appeal (ZBA) plays a critical role in shaping the character and development of our communities, influencing how our neighborhoods evolve. By enacting these reforms, we are creating necessary Council oversight of a zoning appeal process that ensures all Boston residents have a voice in shaping their communities and zoning decisions reflect the diverse needs and interests of the people who call Boston home," said Councilor Coletta Zapata.

Coletta Zapata's home rule petition comes following concerns

with the limited oversight of zoning variances and discretionary approvals with no formal mechanism to assess compliance with hardship standards. Additionally, the home rule petition comes following the approval of variances for projects that disregard PLAN: East Boston, a zoning plan developed over five years in collaboration with the community to shape the neighborhood's future and establish a sustainable, predictable framework for development. In 2021, the Council approved a similar docket sponsored by then Councilor Edwards.

The legislation includes reforms enacting changes to the current

board composition, expanding the ZBA to nine members and nine alternates, all of which must be Boston residents, diversifying the expertise of board members, and limiting them to two terms of three years each. The appointments will come from nominations by various organizations with expertise in environmental protection, urban planning, real estate, architecture, construction, and labor unions. Additionally, two members and two alternates will be chosen by the mayor from residential neighborhood organizations, ensuring representation from different city council districts and including both a homeowner

and a renter.

It enacts conflict of interests protections, preventing participation in cases involving personal financial interests while improving public notification and access by requiring electronic and mailed notice of hearings at least 20 days in advance and establishing an electronic database for public review of past ZBA decisions. Additionally, it mandates reports on zoning variances by neighborhood and zoning district and requires the ZBA to testify before the City Council. The home rule petition also establishes a variance review panel to review variance approvals to ensure compliance

with zoning laws and issue findings on equity in variance approvals across Boston neighborhoods. Lastly, it ensures neutral guidance is available at all ZBA meetings and provides public legal support for navigating zoning processes.

A hearing for the Home Rule Petition will be scheduled in the upcoming months and posted on the Councilor's social media.

For additional information please contact the Office of Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata by phone at (617) 635-3200 or by email at gabriela.ramirez@boston.gov.

Boston Forging & Welding owner at home on the job

By Dan Murphy

Chip Giovanni, the third-generation owner of Boston Forging & Welding, has early childhood memories of accompanying his father to work, and even then, he said he felt right at home there.

"It never felt like work or a chore," said Chip, who as the eldest of three siblings always diverged from his younger brother and younger sister in that unlike them, he always wanted to join the family business.

His paternal grandfather, Joseph Giovanni, started Boston Forging & Welding, around 70 years ago, setting up its operations on the Fish Pier in South Boston. For more 40 years, the business served exclusively the fishing fleet. But the company relocated to East Boston in 1998, amid new regulations on the fishing industry, which meant less work for them.

Chip's father, Ronald Giovanni, went to Valley Forge Military Academy before graduating from Northeastern University around 1970. He then went to work full time at Boston Forging & Welding before assuming the reins of the company when his father retired circa 1980.

Throughout high school and

college, Chip worked for the business during summer and school vacations. He started working there full-time in 1989 upon earning a bachelor's degree in industrial engineering from Clarkson University in Potsdam, N.Y.

Subsequently, Chip completed his AutoCAD training at Wentworth Institute of Technology. He has also earned a construction supervisor license, and is a licensed fire escape installer/inspector per the City of Boston.

When his father died in 2000, Chip assumed the company's reins. Sales have since tripled, making it a profitable business again after previously being in the red for a number of years.

"Everyone, family members, tell me their proud of me, and that my father would be proud of me," said Chip.

Boston Forging and Welding Corp. today has the experience and credentials to respond to a wide range of commercial, marine or residential concerns, from fabrication to repair to fire escape inspections, and the company is fully insured/bonded.

Past customers have included U.S. Coast Guard-approved jobs, Mass Turnpike-approved jobs,



COURTESY PHOTO

Chip Giovanni, the third-generation owner of Boston Forging & Welding.

City of Boston-approved jobs, and Boston Redevelopment Authority jobs, and for Logan International Airport, and the company has also done work for the World Trade Center, Prudential Center, Au Bon Pain, and various property management companies.

The vast majority of the compa-

ny's residential work is in Boston and Cambridge, with the Back Bay and South End accounting for the bulk of that, Chip said.

And of the approximately 20 welding companies now operating in the City of Boston, Boston Forging & Welding has distinguished itself with a stellar track record over the years, including not having a single customer complaint against them.

Chip points to this as perhaps the truest testament to Boston Forging & Welding's unwavering reputation for quality work.

Boston Forging & Welding is located at 336 Border St. in East Boston. For more information, call Chip Giovanni at 617-567-2300 or email him at chippaggio@comcast.net, or visit the company's website at bostonforgingandwelding.com.

REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR PROJECT BREAD'S 57TH WALK FOR HUNGER



JON SACHS PHOTOGRAPHY

The Walk for Hunger, Project Bread's flagship community fundraiser, is seeking walkers to mobilize their neighbors and join the celebration. The one-day event is set for Sunday, May 4 on the Boston Common, and will feature family-friendly activities, food and entertainment along the 3-mile loop. In its 57th year, Project Bread invites you to help raise more than \$1 million to support the leading statewide food security organization's approach to ensure food access for all children and families in Massachusetts. Likeminded anti-hunger organizations can enroll in the nonprofit's co-fundraising program, The Commonwealth, forming teams to raise money to support their own work, while also furthering Project Bread's statewide effort. Ready to walk? To register for the event and create a personal or team fundraising page for the Walk for Hunger or to make a donation, visit projectbread.org/walk or email walk@projectbread.org.

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PLEASE RECYCLE

CELEBRATION *(from Page 1)*

filled the room with vibrant bouquets, while the generous team at Sanborn Head & Associates provided cozy winter totes. Residents of Strada 234 stepped up with a fantastic Valentine's drive, donating chocolates and Dunkin' Donuts gift cards—some of which were raffled off, adding extra excitement to the festivities!

The tables were beautifully

adorned with handcrafted centerpieces made by the talented Girl Scouts of Cadette Troop 89169, adding to an afternoon filled with joy. The site was also honored to welcome representatives from the offices of Mayor Michelle Wu, Senator Lydia Edwards, State Representative Aaron Michlewitz, Representative Jay Livingstone, and City Councilor Gabri-

ela "Gigi" Coletta Zapata, who stopped by with sweet treats and warm conversations with their constituents.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who made this celebration so special. From the delicious food to the thoughtful gifts, it was truly a day of love, laughter, and community spirit. Happy Valentine's Day from all of us at the NE/WE NSC.



ABCD North End/West End NSC Director Julia Power with staff from the offices of Mayor Michelle Wu, Senator Lydia Edwards, Representative Aaron Michlewitz, and Representative Jay Livingstone.

Coletta Zapata holds hearing on road safety ordinance

Special to the Regional Review

Boston City Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata (District 1) recently held a hearing as Chair of the Government Operations Committee to review a road safety ordinance that would require food delivery apps to obtain a permit to operate in Boston and create regulations to address safety concerns.

"With the increasing presence of third-party food delivery platforms in Boston, it is essential to implement accountability measures that protect residents and improve safety on our streets. The proposed ordinance ensures that Boston implements these measures clearly and effectively. This is an iterative process, and I appreciate the collaboration of all involved in producing legislation that prioritizes safety with efficient and effective regulations. I look forward to continuing the conversation," said Councilor Coletta Zapata.

During the hearing, Councilors heard from an administration panel including Jascha Franklin-Hodge, Chief of Streets for the Streets Cabinet, Nicholas Gove, Deputy Chief of Transportation, and Dan Humphreys, Deputy Superintendent of Field Services at the Boston Police Department. The panel shared that the unregulated growth of delivery services has exacerbated parking shortages, congestion, and reckless driving, frustrating residents and public officials. They emphasized that the proposed Ordinance would allow the City of Boston to implement common-sense regulations

focused on registration, insurance, and data sharing.

Under this Ordinance, large delivery platforms would be required to register with the City and obtain a permit to operate, a standard practice for all businesses impacting Boston's streets. Additionally, the Ordinance provides requirements for insurance and data sharing. The insurance requirements would ensure that anyone injured in a crash involving a delivery driver has recourse, regardless of the type of vehicle used. Additionally, data-sharing provisions would give the city critical tools to address safety and congestion challenges more effectively.

Councilors emphasized the need for comprehensive regulations to address concerns regarding traffic congestion, safety risks and accountability for delivery companies. They discussed potential amendments to the ordinance, including adding a fee to help cover enforcement costs, establishing a process for registration renewal and revocation, incorporating privacy protection language, and identifying specific public safety requirements.

A working session to review the current language in the ordinance will be scheduled in the upcoming weeks. A recording of the hearing can be found at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=gRawfJ-ddVI. For additional information please contact the Office of Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata by phone at (617) 635-3200 or by email at gabriela.ramirez@boston.gov.

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BUDGET TOWN HALLS

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EAST BOSTON


Thursday, March 20 at 6PM
East Boston Public Library
365 Bremen Street

CHARLESTOWN

Thursday, April 3 at 6PM
Judy Evers Community Room, Boston Police Station
20 Vine Street

NORTH END & WHARF DISTRICT

Tuesday, April 8 at 6:30PM
Nazzaro Community Center
30 N Bennet St



Translation, kids activities, & food will be provided. Please email gabriela.ramirez@boston.gov for any questions