



THE NORTH END

REGIONAL REVIEW

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THE ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE AND FESTIVITIES

MAYOR'S OFFICE PHOTOS BY MIKE MEJIA



Residents lined the streets on Sunday, March 15 for the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Mayor Michelle Wu (photo right) marched in the parade and stopped often along the way to take some pictures with parade watchers. See Page 9 for more photos.



Wu, Parks and Recreation Department release Tree Canopy Assessment report

Special to the Regional Review

Mayor Michelle Wu and the Boston Parks and Recreation Department announced the release of the 2019-2024 Tree Canopy Assessment, a comprehensive analysis of tree canopy change across Boston. The analysis shows a net increase of 151 acres of canopy, resulting in Boston's tree canopy coverage increasing by an absolute 0.5% to 28.5% (excluding the airport) during the five-year period, driven by gains on public land such as parks and rights-of-way. This is meaningful progress versus the previous five-year period, which showed no net

change in canopy coverage.

The assessment was completed by the University of Vermont Spatial Analysis Lab and is based on a year-long analysis of high-quality, high-resolution LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) imagery captured during airplane flyovers of the City. Following the release of the 2022 Urban Forestry Plan, Boston's Urban Forestry Division continues to use regular canopy assessments to track progress, guide investments, and support equitable access to trees citywide.

"Growing our tree canopy not only improves climate resiliency – it expands access to green space

(REPORT Pg. 6)

Coletta Zapata holds hearing on drink spiking in Boston

Special to the Regional Review

Boston District 1 City Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata held a hearing to review progress and identify further opportunities to address drink spiking and drug-facilitated sexual assault. Coletta Zapata sponsored the hearing to review the City's ongoing efforts on this issue, examine updated data on suspected drink spiking incidents, and assess remaining service gaps in testing, reporting, survivor care, and prevention. The hearing also explored opportunities to align municipal strategies with pending state legislation and national best practices. The discussion was timely particularly in the midst of St. Patrick's Day celebrations.

"Public safety means ensuring people can enjoy our city without worrying that their drink could be tampered with. Boston has taken important steps to address the



City Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata

challenges of drink spiking, but the burden of prevention should never fall on victims. Our focus must be on preventing these incidents in the first place and ensuring clear pathways to care and support when they do occur," said Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata. "By bringing everyone

(HEARING Pg. 12)

NEW Health Center expert available to discuss nutrition and diabetes

Special to the Regional Review

NEW Health, a community health center that serves the North End and Charlestown in Boston, is spreading awareness of diabetes health during National Nutrition Month.

NEW Health expert Patty Goodwin MHA, BSN, RN, Director of Nursing at NEW Health, is

available to the media to discuss nutrition specifically in relation to management of diabetes. Her advice includes:

- Nutrition as a critical part of diabetes management and chronic illness care, and its impact on clinical outcomes and preventing complications. As Goodwin says, "It's not about perfection or restriction—it's about balance,

consistency, and choosing foods that help your body work better."

- Foods to Include in your Diet and WHY, including non-starchy vegetables, leafy greens lean proteins, brown rice and other healthy grains, oils and nuts, low-fat dairy, and high fiber foods

- Foods to Limit or Avoid in your Diet and WHY, including

(NEW HEALTH Pg. 11)

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EDITORIAL

MASS. SHOULD END SNAP FOR JUNK FOOD

First and foremost, we wish to express our abhorrence that federal SNAP benefits (formerly known as the Food Stamp program) have been eliminated for more than two million Americans thanks to the budget that Congress enacted last year.

America is the richest nation in the history of the earth, yet millions of our fellow citizens suffer from food insecurity on a daily basis, a state of affairs that is nothing less than shameful.

However, we think one aspect of the SNAP program everyone can agree upon is that SNAP benefits should not be used for the purchase of junk food items.

For decades, the junk food industry successfully lobbied federal officials to allow SNAP recipients to use their benefits to buy items such as soft drinks, candy, and other sugar-filled, ultra-processed foods, which are “food” only to the extent that they can be consumed.

Not only do these junk foods lack any nutritional value, but they also are incredibly harmful to human health.

It is estimated that 40 percent of all Americans meet the definition of obesity and another 30 percent are overweight. Thanks to our appetite for sugar-filled junk food products, diabetes has reached epidemic proportions throughout our society.

Even worse, these products are highly-addictive. The food industry’s scientists have designed their formulas both to stimulate the pleasure receptors in the brain and to send signals from the stomach to the brain indicating a lack of satiety.

In other words, almost no matter how much junk food you eat, your stomach never tells your brain that it is “full.”

We ourselves know the addictive nature of these products. Our mother’s grocery list always included packaged cupcakes and similar products in boxes of 12 -- and we (four boys) would attack them like locusts.

As young adults ourselves, our shopping list at the wholesale clubs for our young families included bulk cartons of candy bars. (They were “for the kids,” wink, wink).

When we lost power during Hurricane Irene in 2011, we had to throw out a bunch of food from our downstairs freezer -- which included (no exaggeration) 43 pints of premium ice cream.

In short, we ourselves were lifelong junk-food junkies. And the cumulative result of our decades of a poor diet? A triple by-pass because of clogged arteries. Even though we ran marathons and triathlons for our entire lives, we learned first-hand that you can’t outrun an unhealthy diet.

It is ironic that the “N” in SNAP stands for “Nutrition” (the full acronym is the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) when almost 25 percent of SNAP benefits reportedly are used to purchase sugary drinks, candy, and snack products. Soda is the top item bought with SNAP benefits.

Studies have shown that reducing consumption of junk food for just three weeks can reset both our palates and our mind-body connection to make healthier foods more appealing.

For too long the federal government has been subsidizing the purchase of foods that are a major contributor to chronic diseases.

We urge Massachusetts officials to take immediate advantage of a new regulation by the federal government that allows states to eliminate the use of SNAP benefits -- of which about 40% are used for children -- for the purchase of junk food products.

These addictive and unhealthy foods have no place in the diets of any American, especially our children.

LETTER to the Editor

PLEASE SUPPORT THE NORTH END MUSEUM

To the Editor,

Please consider supporting the completion and opening of the new North End Museum by June 30, in time for the 250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, the Tall Ships, and the World Cup Celebrations. See the invitation below. You can contribute in two ways. One is to attend the fundraising reception on Monday, March 23, (6:30-8:00 PM) at Umbria Restaurant on Hanover Street in the North End. The other is to send a donation to the North End Historical Society (NEHS) as soon as possible. NEHS needs to raise an additional \$80,000 by June 30.

The new North End Museum has been the dream of many North Enders because of the long term cultural and historical heritage of the North End, which was the City of Boston when it was founded in 1630. Tom Damigella, NEHS president and FONE member, has championed it tirelessly and is making it a reality. With the generous contribution of the first floor space on 3 Prince (Little Prince Street) by Frank DePasquale, it is steps away from North Square, the Paul Revere House, Hanover Street, St. Leonard’s Church Peace Garden, Paul Revere House and the Old North Church. It is on

the Freedom Trail that receives 2 million visitors annually. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts is providing appropriate generous support for the museum given the long history of the North End as the Cradle of Liberty and the oldest continuing residential community in any city in the U.S. (Many of you may remember the space on Little Prince Street as Mazza’s Pool Room!)

The museum is unique being in a small space. The large brick and mortar museums from the past are no longer viable for many reasons, e.g., cost, space, time. Fortunately, a North End based firm, Trivium Interactive, which has been around for two decades, specializes in museums and exhibits in small spaces and has been developing the technology and programs with NEHS since mid 2025. The project is exciting and the only way to start a new museum. You can see all the work they have done in dozens of institutions here, including the West End and Worcester Museums. Let your imagination run wild with the possibilities - Trivium is a master at it. NEHS needs the additional support to complete their work.

<https://www.triviuminteractive.com/our-work>.

Toni Gillardi, life long North End, real estate owner and North End maven is coordinating the fundraising event with NEHS

and Frank DePasquale.

I hope that you can support the NEHS for the Museum as you did for the iconic Noble Journey Sculpture at St. Leonard’s Church to honor immigrants from Italy and Europe. Imagine seeing stories, pictures, videos and icons of ancestors brought to life through innovative technologies designed for children and adults. Imagine attending lectures and educational sessions and having your families “see themselves” in the context of the 400+ year history of our beloved North End. If you think your children, grandchildren, great grand children, friends and others don’t understand how important the North End was to you and to the larger society, this is a great way for them to learn.

For more information, email northendhistoricalsociety@gmail.com. To donate contact NEHS at 857-302-9642

To donate, go to the website for online options or send a check to North End Historical Society
PO Box 130152
Boston

I am thrilled that this is coming to life. Please help out. I can think of no better, single and easily accessible place to learn about the culture and history of the North End, hopefully for decades to come.

Tony Cortese,
FONE member

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PUBLISHER: Debra DiGregorio
deb@reverejournal.com

PRESIDENT: Stephen Quigley
editor@beaconhilltimes.com

REPORTERS AND CONTRIBUTORS:
Stephen Quigley | Phil Orlandella | Cary Shuman

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

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NEWS, NOTES AND WHATEVER By Phil Orlandella

NEWRA Z+L COMMITTEE REFER REQUEST

A proposal to add a partial 6th floor condo (56-foot) at 109 Prince Street (56-foot) was on the North End Waterfront Residence Association's recent zoning and licensing committee public meeting agenda.

Plans also included a head house, 395 square feet of living space and a small roof deck on the lower level within the alcove of the building.

Some abutters attended the meeting and did not voice any disapproval.

The request was forwarded to the NEWRA March 12th meeting.

FRIENDS OF THE NORTH END LIBRARY SEEKS RENOVATION FUNDING

The movement by the Friends of the North Library's renovation committee have notified the Boston City Council Rep. Aaron Michlewitz, members and other residents of their intention to try to have the Boston City Council incorporate funding in the city's budget to make some renovations and obtain modern equipment for the facility built in 1965.

"Right now, we are at a pause waiting to hear from the council on our request to be placed in the city budget by the council which will hold a budget hearing this April." Committee Chairman Roy Harrington said.

In a 2013 Boston Public Library Facilities review the North End Library was identified as one of six branches that qualified for a future capital improvement.

While other libraries received funding, the North End Library did not advance to the design phase from the original list identified in 2013 according to information provided by the Friends Committee with multiple branches that were not on the list jumping ahead of the local branch.

"The library still remains a vital community resource," according to the committee.

BOSTON HARBOR DISTILLERY COMING TO GREENWAY

This spring, Boston Harbor Distillery will be the new beverage garden attraction on the Greenway.

The distillery brings new offerings in local flavors from customers to enjoy.

N.E. RESIDENTS BRIEFED ON TALL SHIPS JULY VISITS

Sail Boston 250 held a community meeting briefing in the Nazario Center updating the activities that will occur when the tall ships return this July.

In the past, this highly successful attraction drew many thousands of visitors not only to the Tall Ship's location but to the North End historical sites and the numerous Italian restaurants in the community.

N.E. HISTORIC MUSEUM MAKING PROGRESS

Progress for the completion of Boston's first North End Historic Museum at 3 Little Prince Street on the Freedom Trail seemed to be on target for completion this spring or fall.

Located a stone's throw away from Paul Revere's house and a 10-minute walk from the Paul Revere Mall and the Old North Church, the museum will be on the first floor of the building.

"Establishing a North End Historic Museum has been one of our longtime goals since our inception in 2011" said North End Historic Society President, Tom Domigella.

The site of the museum was made possible but the generosity of Frank DePasquale of Pasquale Ventures, who purchased the first-floor condo space at 3 Prince Street, providing the Society a 5-year lease management.

In addition, State Representative Aaron Michlewitz, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee arranged a substantial grant for the museum because of its cultural importance to the community.

A special fundraising event to support the museum will be held on March 23 at Umbria Restaurant, Hanover Street hosted by Frank DePasquale starting at 6pm.

The North End Historical Society is attempting to raise the final 80,000 needed to complete the project and to open June 30 in time for the 250th Anniversary of America, the Tall Ships and the World Cup ceremonies.

Donations range from \$100 to \$25,000, can be sent to: NEHS, PO Box 130152, Boston, MA

02113 or online: Northendboston.org.

COLLECTION OF CLOTHING FOR HOMELESS WOMEN STILL UNDERWAY

John Romano, Jr, Father Michael Della Penna, pastor at St. Leonard Church and Ausonia Council Knights of Columbus #1513 will once again conduct a clothing collection for the Rita A. DiMento Women's Clinic at St. Anthony's Shrine at Arch Street Church.

The collection helps the most vulnerable members of the society's homeless women by providing new items of clothing or a cash donation.

St. Joseph's Hall on Prince Street will be a collection site on Saturday, March 21st from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm followed by a 5:00 pm mass at the church where a second collection will take place.

Currently, items can be dropped off starting now at the Nazario Community Center, 30 North Bennet Street.

For pick-up call Romano at 617-750-9749.

ARTIST SELECTED FOR THE DEWEY SQUARE MURAL

It's now official, the Rose Kennedy Conservancy along with Embrace and Everyone250 have commissioned Rixey for the 2026 Dewey Square Mural following the conservancy's first-ever National Open Call for the site.

Boston-based Rixey was selected to realize Boston's most iconic artwork in honor of America's 250th Anniversary.

Rixey's proposal is entitled "The Midnight Ride."

The artist will be on-site painting the 70' x 76' Dewey Square mural wall by hand with an all-woman painting team throughout May using area-based paint.

MAYOR'S CUP STREET HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

The City of Boston Parks and Recreation Department, Mayor Michele Wu and the Boston Bruins Foundation have once again partnered to host this year's Mayor's Cup Street Hockey Tournament during the April Public School vacation week.

Starting on April 20, tournament games will all be played at the O'Sullivan Street Hockey Courts at Garvey Park, 340 Neponset Ave in Dorchester.

Teams will compete in five categories: Mites ages 6-8, Squirts ages 9-10, Pee Wee ages 11-12, Girls U8 and Girls U10.

This is a great way to have something to do during school break.

To register a team in the tournament, contact Damien Margarden at 617-961-3088.

CITY DOG LICENSING REGISTRATION UNDERWAY

The Boston Parks and Recreation Departments Animal Care and Control Division has reminded city dog owners that the annual deadline for licensing their pets is Tuesday, March 31st.

This process can be completed online, by mail or in person at the department's clinics.

Dog licenses are not just required by law; it help to quickly find and return your pet to you should it get lost.

As part of this year's licensing, Boston's most-popular dog names of 2025 have been revealed.

The top male dog's name was Charlie with 118 registered pups and the leading female name was Luna with 137 registrations.

Clinics are open on Saturdays from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm until June 6th at eight BCYF Community centers.

For info, visit: Boston.gov/animals or call 617-635-1800.

LOCKHART RECEIVES THIRD LANTERN AWARD

Boston's Pops conductor, Keith Lockhart, was recently honored with the Third Lantern Award by the Old North Church at the recent reenactment of the famous "One if by land, two if by sea" signal from the church's steeple that helped ignite the American Revolution in 1775.

The 30-year Pop's conductor was honored for his unifying leadership through music as the nation celebrates it's 250th Anniversary.

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THE SAN ROCCO SOCIETY OF BOSTON HOSTS 39TH ANNUAL FUNDRAISING DINNER



Debbie Rossetti, Mike Rossetti, Mark Banks, and Tricia Banks.



Sandra Grogan, Kathy Dwyer, John Schneiderman, and Janice Schneiderman.



Seated are Felisha Francis, Chris Francis, and Antoinetta Francis. Standing are Cara Zelandi, Nick Spiliotos, Adrienne Donovan, Carol McCarthy, and Christine LoConte.



Seate are Lynn Romboli, Jimmy Gravellese, Susan Gravellese, Peter Mirable, Debbie Mirables, Maria Silletti, and Angela Colameta. Back row are Scott Romboli, Maria Gnerre, Arthur Pelton, Peter Silletti, and Scott Colameta.

Special to the Regional Review

The San Rocco Society of Boston hosted its 39th Annual Fundraising Dinner Saturday, March 7 at Spinelli's, Peabody.

The theme of the evening was "Moulin Rouge," with several guests wearing colorful costumes.

The group enjoyed a spectacular five-course dinner and musical entertainment by DJ Carl Toto. Guests also enjoyed a complimentary photo booth and cappuccino station.

San Rocco Society President Giovanni Leone welcomed the large gathering to the dinner that benefits Make-A-Wish of Massachusetts and Rhode Island. The Society has raised more than \$130,000 for the charity that grants life-changing wishes to children with critical illnesses.

"We're very proud of our continuing support of Make-A-Wish," said Leone.

Leone, who has been president for the past decade, said the San Rocco Society was founded in 1921, having been established by immigrants in San Nicola Baronia in the province of Avellino, Italy.

Make-A-Wish parent Melissa Reid thanked the San Rocco Society of Boston for its generosity. Reid also lauded the organizing committee for a tremendous event.

The evening was a family affair for Giovanni and Joanne Leone, residents of Revere. His daughters, Nicolina Leone, Alexandra Leone, and Antonella Leone, led a fabulous job decorating the function hall that added to the festiveness of the event. His brother, Alex Leone, is the treasure of the Society. Cousin Jerry Leone is the vice president. Also helping out were family members Giana Leone, Dante Leone, Lisa Leone and Marco Leone.

Giovanni said the event will return next year with a new theme.

"My friends call me Gio," said the personable leader of The San Rocco Society.



Jenn Hallissey (right) and her husband, Keith Hallissey, at the photo booth by Jennifer Cimino Photography, which was a popular stop for guests throughout the evening.



Nick Favorito, Secretary, Alex Leone, Treasurer, Jerry Leone, Vice President, and Giovanni Leone, President of The San Rocco Society of Boston.



Splendidly attired for the evening are Lynn Ristino, Josephine Catino, Rose Balke, Roseanne D'Alleva, Lina Buttiri, and Giovanna Thomasian.



The First Family of The San Rocco Society of Boston, President Giovanni Leone, his wife, Joanne Leone, and their daughters, Alexandra Leone, Nicolina Leone, and Antonella Leone.



Sean Ayotte, Sue Ayotte, Amanda Ayotte, and Fernando Santa Cruz.

THE SAN ROCCO SOCIETY OF BOSTON HOSTS 39TH ANNUAL FUNDRAISING DINNER



Elliott Hewitt, Celeste Ribeiro Hewitt, Khrysta Crystal, and Matthew Crystal.



San Rocco Society President Giovanni Leone welcomes Make-A-Wish parents Scott and Melissa Reid to the 39th annual fundraising dinner.



Seated are Rebecca Leuchte, Elizabeth Leuchte, Amanda Brown, and Hayden Kane. Standing are Malorie Savran, Chrissy McCarthy, Linda Goggin, and Elizabeth Favorito.



Seated are Michela Santostefano, Frances Santostefano, Vincent Santostefano, Joanne Plastiak and William Plastiak. Standing are Michael Santostefano, Joanne Santostefano, Anthony Bertolino, Marcy Bertolino, Angela Prezioso, and Angelo Prezioso.



Enjoying a dance at the San Rocco Society Dinner are Debbie Leone and Ben Leone.



San Rocco Society President Giovanni Leone, his wife, Joanne Leone, and friends, posing for a photo at the Jennifer Cimino Photography booth.



Frank Lee, Meredith Lee, Mary Austin, and Jackson Lee.



Patricia Berk, Robert Lewis, and Catherine Lewis.



Guests out on the dance floor at The San Rocco Society of Boston Dinner.



Natalie Lavino, former Pope John XXIII High School football star Joseph Lavino, Alisa Lavino, and Leia Lavino.



Victoria Balke, Anthony Vaka, and Sophia Elks.



Prominent Dorchester community leader and Chelsea native John Schneiderman (back row, third from right) and friends, pictured at The San Rocco Society of Boston Dinner at Spinelli's, Peabody.

Annual “Spring into Fitness: Active Aging Week” for older adults set for March 23-27

Special to the Regional Review

Spring is almost here, and so is Fitness Week for our active agers! Each year, Boston Village (BV), formerly Beacon Hill Village, and Cindy Sullivan of 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. Four of the classes will be virtual and one will be offered in person. The dates for this year’s fitness week are March 23-27.

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 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 resilience of our older participants!”

New this year, Easy Spirit Footwear will be giving away one new pair of shoes each day to a lucky winner. For more than 35 years, Easy Spirit has led the way in innovative comfort footwear for women. Guided by the principles of comfort, style, and timeless ease, the brand creates shoes that support every step and every stage

of a woman’s life. Registered participants will be entered to win a pair of shoes each day. The drawing will be at the end of each class and participants must be present to win.

This year’s class lineup includes:
 March 23, 9:30 a.m. – 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.

March 24, 10:30 a.m. – Better Balance (Zoom): 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.

March 25, 10:30 a.m. – Total Body Workout (Zoom): 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.

March 26, 10:30 a.m. – Strength and Conditioning (Zoom): Learn the most important exercises to stay strong and independent. We will incorporate light hand 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.

March 27, 10:30 a.m. – Func-

tional Fitness Over 50 (In Person at 11 Beacon St): 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 Fitness” classes and discover new and fun ways to incorporate physical activity into your day, call the BV office at 617-723-9713 or visit the website at www.bostonhillvillage.org/events. For questions on class descriptions or more event details email cindy-sullivanfitness@gmail.com. Don’t delay, classes are filling up fast.

Boston Village has been redefining aging in downtown Boston for 25 years.

REPORT (from pg. 1)

es that enhance the quality of life of all our residents,” said Mayor Michelle Wu. “This thorough assessment highlights how we can continue to strengthen our environment. By shading our streets, reducing heat and energy stresses, investing in cleaner, cooler air, we protect our city for generations to come. We are excited to continue our work towards building a greener and healthier city for residents across every neighborhood.”

From 2019 to 2024, Boston’s citywide canopy increased by 151 acres, with increases on public lands like rights-of-way and parks. Over the last 5 years, due to increased investment and efforts on street tree planting and maintenance, Boston saw a relative change of 8.8% or 67 acres of canopy to our rights-of-way, nearly triple the amount from 2014 to 2019. Open space also saw a large

increase in canopy, with a net increase of 104 acres of cover in parks, a relative change of 3.9%.

Tree Canopy Assessment Report key findings include:

- Boston’s overall tree canopy increased with a relative change of 1.8% from 2019 to 2024, with gains on public land more than offsetting losses on private property. That’s 151 acres citywide, the equivalent of 114 football fields.

- Although the Urban Forestry Plan was adopted in 2022, priority planting zones already saw a 0.4% increase in canopy coverage since 2019.

- The largest net gains of tree canopy were seen in East Boston, Jamaica Plain, South Boston, and West Roxbury, while net losses were seen in Hyde Park and Mattapan. 116 acres of canopy were lost on the 35% of Boston’s tree canopy that exists on residential land.

- Boston is dominated by small forest patches (representing 50% of the area of canopy), and there is a large distribution of tree heights across Boston. Age diversity and breakup of the canopy support a more resilient canopy over time.

- To enhance urban resilience, Boston can improve access to trees and the benefits that they provide, as well as prioritize tree plantings in neighborhoods most susceptible to environmental risk.

The assessment highlights how land use history, natural tree growth and loss, urban forestry initiatives, and the division between public and private land ownership all influence canopy

trends across Boston. The findings underscore the importance of continued investment in public land, as well as continued engagement with community members and private landowners to protect and expand Boston’s urban forest.

The Tree Canopy Assessment supports Boston’s broader climate and equity goals and aligns with Climate Ready Boston, Imagine Boston 2030, and Resilient Boston. The findings will inform neighborhood-specific planting and maintenance strategies outlined in the Urban Forestry Plan, helping guide future investments across Boston’s neighborhoods.

“This analysis gives us the clearest picture yet of how Boston’s urban forest is changing and where our efforts are making the biggest difference,” said Cathy Baker-Eclipse, Interim Commissioner of Boston Parks and Recreation. “Since 2019, our Urban Forestry Division has expanded, increased tree planting in priority neighborhoods, and expanded proactive canopy management. Canopy gains on public land across the city reflect that work and reinforce the importance of data-driven stewardship.”

“Our tree canopy is a key tool to protect Boston from extreme weather, particularly extreme heat and flooding,” said Chief Climate Officer Brian Swett. “As climate change increases our communities’ exposure to these threats, it is critical that we continue increasing and protecting our tree canopy, particularly in our environmental justice communities.”

“Boston’s Urban Forest Plan (UFP) provides a roadmap for how the City and community members can work together to prioritize, protect, and expand Boston’s tree canopy. Regular tree canopy assessments help the City and community partners, such as Tree Eastie, track progress and identify opportunities on both public and private land,” said Bill Masterson, Executive Director of Tree Eastie. Through this collaboration, the work of Tree Eastie has evolved to include bilingual community outreach, tree planting in private yards, fruit tree maintenance, increased tree planting in public parks, and targeted maintenance for young trees. Publishing this analysis reinforces the City’s commitment to transparency and providing data-based information about the value of trees in the community.”

The City of Boston is taking action to continue expanding the tree canopy both on public and private land. On March 3, the City of Boston and Mass Audubon announced the 2026 awardees of the Boston Tree Alliance Program Tree Planting and Care Grant, awarding a total of \$519,750 to support six community-based tree planting and care projects. To expand the urban forest beyond public land, the Boston Tree Alliance program provides grants, technical support, and public education for tree planting on private property. The program specifically targets urban heat islands and areas with limited canopy, supporting the expansion of the

60% of Boston’s trees located on privately owned land. By empowering community-based organizations with forestry expertise and funding, the Alliance advances the strategies of the Urban Forest Plan to enhance equitable canopy growth across every neighborhood.

The full 2019–2024 Tree Canopy Assessment is available at boston.gov, along with an interactive map that allows users to explore canopy data broken down by neighborhood. With this updated dataset now publicly available, the Urban Forestry Division will use the analysis to drive strategic planting recommendations on a more detailed level and will also serve as a foundation for growing community engagement, empowering residents with transparent data and opportunities to help shape the future of Boston’s urban canopy on public and private land.

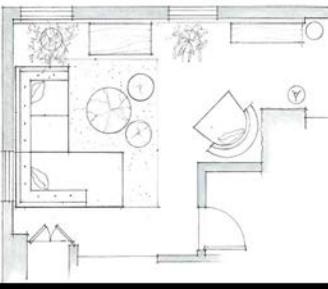
To learn more about improvements to the Urban Forestry Division, visit boston.gov/trees. Residents can request tree maintenance, report fallen limbs or branches, or request a new street tree outside their property through Boston 311. To stay up to date with news, events, and improvements in Boston parks, visit boston.gov/parks, call (617)-635-4505, join our email list, and follow our social channels at @parks.boston.gov on Bluesky and @bostonparksdept on Facebook and Instagram.



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CHRISTINE CAVATAIO, LEED AP
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livingbeingdesign@gmail.com

Revolutionary Spaces awarded \$286,000 for structural stabilization of Boston's 1713 Old State House

Special to the Regional Review

Revolutionary Spaces has been awarded \$286,000 in Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) through the Save America's Treasures grant program, funded through the Historic Preservation Fund and administered by the National Park Service. The federal funding will support critical structural stabilization at Boston's Old State House, a National Historic Landmark central to the American Revolution and a focal point of the nation's upcoming 250th anniversary.

The funding, included in the Fiscal Year 2026 appropriations legislation, was championed by U.S. Senators Edward J. Markey (D-Mass.) and Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.)

"Massachusetts is the birthplace of the American Revolution, and we must protect the historic places that shaped our founding and remind us of the importance of our democratic values," said Senator Markey. "I'm proud that Senator Warren and I worked together to secure this federal funding to help rehabilitate the Old State House and ensure this National Historic Landmark remains safe and accessible for decades to come."

The project will stabilize the

building's sub-basement mechanical room and key portions of its historic foundation, reinforcing structural components, mitigating long-term deterioration, and protecting load-bearing elements that support both the 18th-century structure and the busy public plaza above. Located along Boston's Freedom Trail, the landmark sits amid heavy pedestrian traffic, layered urban infrastructure, and colonial building materials, essential for preserving its integrity.

"Stewardship is a critical responsibility for leaders of today, and in years to come," said Senator Warren. "I am grateful for Revolutionary Spaces' faithful stewardship of our national landmarks here in Massachusetts. The Old State House has stood tall in Boston through many of our nation's toughest moments, and this funding is intended to ensure that it endures through the toughest moments to come."

Constructed in 1713, the Old State House served as the seat of government in Massachusetts and was the site of pivotal events leading to the American Revolution. Over three centuries, it has undergone successive restorations to preserve its historic fabric while accommodating modern infrastructure and public use. As a

dense urban site subject to vibration, moisture, and heavy pedestrian traffic, the building requires ongoing conservation planning and targeted capital investment.

"Preserving a building of this age and significance requires careful intervention that strengthens the structure without compromising its historic fabric," said Nat Sheidley, President and CEO of Revolutionary Spaces. "We are deeply grateful to Senators Markey and Warren for their leadership and advocacy. This funding allows us to address critical structural needs at the foundation level, protect original materials wherever possible, and ensure the landmark remains structurally sound for generations."

CDS allows members of Congress to support projects in their states that meet pressing local needs and demonstrate strong community backing. A small number of proposals are subsequently funded.

Revolutionary Spaces will continue pursuing additional public and private funding to support ongoing preservation and conservation work at the Old State House. For more information regarding this federal funding or press inquiries, contact communications@revolutionaryspaces.org,

taryn@tmlpublicrelations.com, carl_williams@warren.senate.gov or liam_horsman@markey.senate.gov.

Revolutionary Spaces stewards the historic Old South Meeting House and Old State House as landmarks, museums, and active civic spaces. Its mission is to bring people together to explore the American struggle to create and sustain a free society—using history as a powerful tool for civic engagement and public dialogue. For more information, go to RevolutionarySpaces.org or follow on social media at @RevSpaces.

Revolutionary Spaces invites the public to its April events at the Old State House and Old South Meeting House.

April 5 and 12 – Boston Family Days (Free Admission) – In partnership with Mayor Wu's Boston Family Days, free admission for Boston school-aged children and up to two guests on the first and second Sundays of the month. Register here.

April 18, 9–10 AM – Sensory-Friendly Mornings at the Old State House – Early-access hour at the Old State House with adjusted lighting and sound, limited attendance, and hands-on activities for visitors who benefit from a quieter museum experience. Register here.

April 20–24 – Free admission for Boston Marathon Runners at Old South Meeting House and Old State House. Visiting athletes are invited to explore the historic places where the movement for American independence took shape, offering a meaningful way to experience Boston's revolutionary past after the race. Just present your race bibs, ID, email, official marathon jacket, or medal.

April 21–24 | 10:30 AM–2:30 PM – Hands-On History Days During April Vacation Week (free admission for children 12 and under): Spring is in the air! Learn about the role the Old State House and Old South Meeting House played in creating new beginnings for the entire country! Family-friendly activities at both historic sites, including scavenger hunts, music, dress up, and springtime coloring. Included with general admission.

All Month – The Road to Revolution – New exhibition at the Old State House, developed with the Massachusetts Historical Society, featuring a rare 1776 printing of the Declaration of Independence. On view through January 2027.

All Month – It's our birthday! Celebrate at Old State House and Old South Meeting House. More details to come.

Wu, Mass Audubon announce recipients of the Boston Tree Alliance Program grant

Special to the Regional Review

Mayor Michelle Wu, in partnership with Mass Audubon, announced the 2026 awardees of the Boston Tree Alliance Program Tree Planting and Care Grant. A total of \$519,750 will be distributed to support six community-based tree planting and care projects.

"Boston's urban forest is a powerful tool for building healthier, more resilient neighborhoods," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "Through the Boston Tree Alliance Program, we're proud to partner with Mass Audubon and community organizations across the city to strengthen neighborhood capacity, support good green jobs, and ensure that the benefits of a healthy urban forest reach every corner of our city."

"This year marks a significant evolution for the Boston Tree Alliance Program. With the highest demand for funding we've seen yet, it's clear that our partners are thinking more expansively about community forestry," said Chris Osgood, Director of Climate Resilience. "From integrating stormwater features to removing hundreds of feet of concrete for

new tree pits, we're excited about the innovation and commitment of our communities to help grow a more resilient Boston."

The six awardees are:

- Boston Food Forest Coalition (BFFC) - \$124,850 to plant 23 fruit and shade trees and install a new timed automatic irrigation system with passive collection tanks and rain sensor in BFFC's new food forest park in Dorchester.

- Friends of Melnea Cass Boulevard - \$194,900 to plant 24 trees along Melnea Cass Boulevard.

- Tree Eastie - \$25,000 to plant 60 trees across East Boston and support community engagement about the benefits of trees and how to care for them.

- Four Corners Main Streets - \$50,000 to plant 40 trees in Dorchester and Roxbury and support community engagement to plant trees with residents and other local organizations.

- Longwood Collective - \$62,750 to remove concrete surfaces to implement tree pits and plant 12 new trees along privately-owned, publicly accessible areas in Longwood.

- Speak for the Trees - \$62,250 to plant 80 trees and support pub-

lic educational workshops about best practices for tree selection, planting, harvesting, and care through their NeighborWoods program.

"The real impact of the Boston Tree Alliance Program comes from the participating community partners. This award round not only supports long-standing organizations that have been advancing tree planting across the city for years, but also neighborhood-based organizations that understand how vital trees are for a healthy community," said Mass Audubon's George Durante, Senior Director of Nature in the City. "Increasing the tree canopy in Boston and collaborating to lift partners squarely aligns with Mass Audubon's goals, particularly when it comes to mobilizing to mitigate against climate change and increasing access to nature."

The Boston Tree Alliance Program provides grants and technical support to community-based organizations to plant and care for trees on privately-owned land. With over 60% of Boston's tree canopy located on land that is privately owned and controlled, this program is vital to expanding the forest beyond public parks and

sidewalks. To date, the Boston Tree Alliance Program has awarded \$292,000 in grants to plant approximately 450 trees across 120 unique parcels.

"These grants celebrate the innovative work of community partners who are helping to grow and sustain Boston's urban tree canopy. From planting on private property to creating new tree pits and integrating green infrastructure, each project demonstrates how thoughtful investment in our urban forest strengthens climate resilience and ensures long-term stewardship," said Interim Parks and Recreation Commissioner Cathy Baker-Eclipse. "Together with both public and private partners, we are planting and caring for trees that cool our neighborhoods, manage stormwater, improve air quality, and create healthier, more resilient communities for generations to come."

This grant cycle marks the third year of the Tree Planting and Care Grant and introduces new allowable costs, including depaving and green infrastructure features such as stormwater tree trenches, to expand opportunities for tree planting and longer-term care. The program is funded by grants

awarded to the City of Boston by the American Rescue Plan Act and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service's Urban and Community Forestry Program Grant.

The Boston Tree Alliance Program works to advance climate resilience and urban forestry strategies identified in the Heat Plan and Urban Forest Plan. The program is administered by Mass Audubon, in partnership with the City of Boston's Office of Climate Resilience, Department of Parks and Recreation, and Office of Green Infrastructure. The Alliance is a coalition made up of nonprofit and community-based organizations that lead tree planting and care projects, support the development of information and education materials, and inform the overall direction of the program.

Applications for the next round of funding will open in fall 2026. Prospective applicants are welcome to reach out via email to BostonTreeAlliance@massaudubon.org to brainstorm project ideas. When the next application cycle opens, office hours and information sessions will be announced. Visit boston.gov/tree-grants to learn more.

Drought conditions worsen across Massachusetts

Special to the Regional Review

Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) Secretary Rebecca Tepper declared worsened drought conditions in several regions of Massachusetts due to limited groundwater recharge this winter. The Central and Northeast Regions are now in a Level 3-Critical Drought. The Connecticut River Valley has moved to a Level 2-Significant Drought, and the Western Region is now in a Level 1-Mild Drought. Conditions slightly improved in Nantucket County, which is now at a Level 2-Significant Drought. The Southeast and Cape Cod Regions and Dukes County remain unchanged.

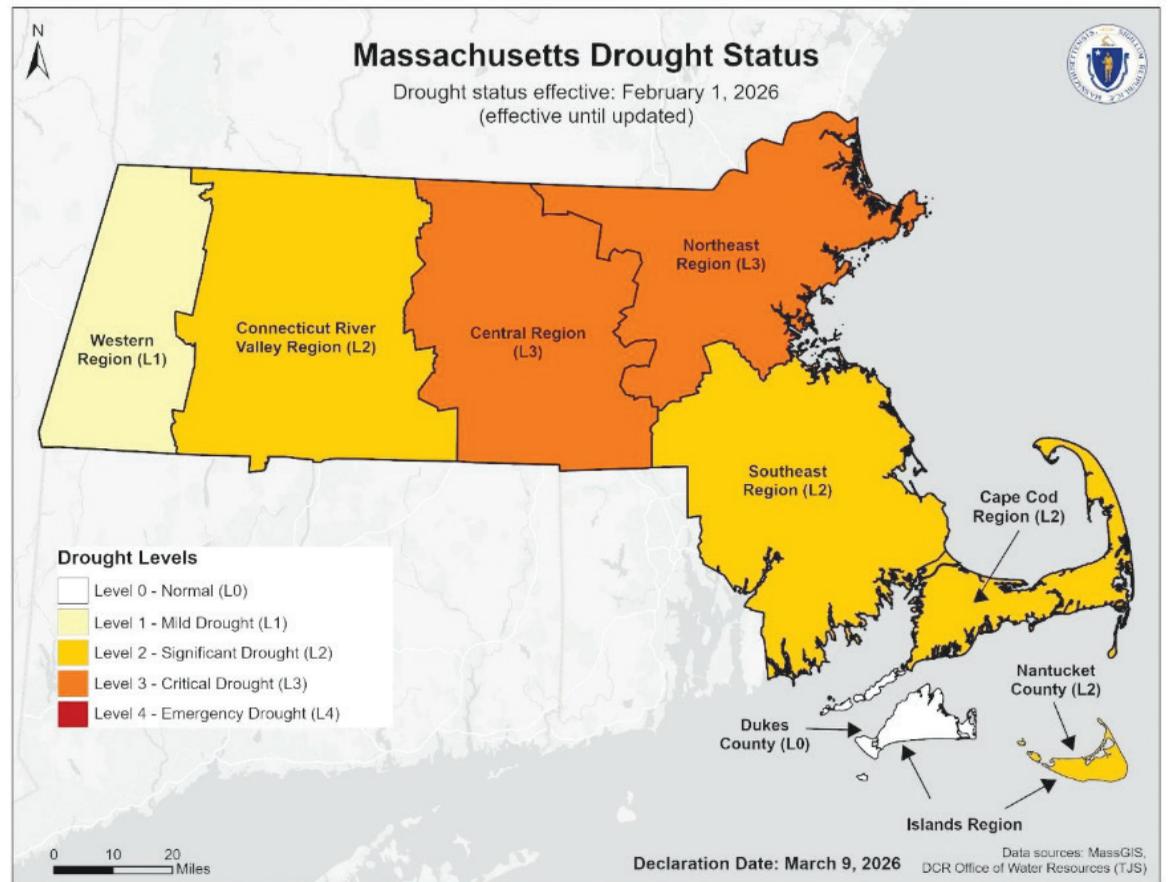
Drought is a look back at conditions over a period of time. The Drought Management Task Force (DMTF) collected and analyzed data from August 2024 through the end of February 2026.

Although Massachusetts received up to three feet of snow in February, that snowfall has not yet helped improve drought conditions. Most of that water is still locked in snow because February temperatures stayed well below freezing; the ground was also frozen. Even when it melts, the three feet of snow equals only about two and a half inches of water, which is not enough to fully recharge rivers, lakes, ponds,

and groundwater after months of below-average precipitation and overall substantial water deficits. The above-normal temperatures that Massachusetts is now experiencing and the upcoming rains will start to slowly replenish water systems and be reflected in monthly totals for the month of March.

“This drought has been building since 2024, and we’re still seeing the effects in low streamflow and lower water levels across the state,” said EEA Secretary Tepper. “Even though we had a snowy February, it won’t be enough to replenish the groundwater after such a long period of drought. That’s why it’s important for everyone to be mindful of how we use water. Small actions can help protect our water supply while conditions recover.”

As outlined in the Massachusetts Drought Management Plan, detailed monitoring of drought conditions must continue. The drought levels also require ongoing coordination among state and federal agencies to implement drought response actions such as water-use restrictions. Additionally, engagement with municipalities, including local Boards of Health (BOH), is essential. This includes providing technical outreach and assistance to water suppliers and affected municipalities. Residents are asked to report to



their local BOH if wells drying up; BOHs are asked to report here on the condition of local private wells.

Residents can report dry environmental conditions and submit photos to help monitor the situation on the Massachusetts Water Impact Reporter (here). Additionally, a FAQ is now available for questions regarding the current drought status and water conservation; and private well owners can

go here for information on how the drought may impact them.

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) will continue to assist communities in managing their water systems. The Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) water supply system is not experiencing drought conditions.

Below are recommendations for communities and individuals living and working within a Level 1-Mild Drought, Level 2-Significant Drought, and Level 3-Critical Drought, including those utilizing a private well. Residents and businesses are strongly urged to check with their local water system in case more stringent water restrictions are in place. Many systems may have other, more severe local conditions and constraints on water supply.

For Regions in Level 3 – Critical Drought

Residents and Businesses:
Minimize overall water use;
Follow state water conservation actions and any local water use restrictions;

Monitor total household water use shown on your water bill for sudden increases, which often indicate leaks. Use the MA Home Water Use Calculator tool to evaluate household water use;

Fix any toilet or faucet leaks immediately. Check for leaks in homes and businesses regularly by:

Checking water meters for constant dial movement

Using dye tabs to check for toilet leaks

Conducting regular inspections

of all pipes and fixtures, including those located in utility rooms, crawlspaces, and other hidden areas

Use dishwashers rather than handwashing dishes. Run the dishwasher only on a full load;

Aggressively reduce indoor water use by:

Taking showers and avoiding baths

Reducing shower length and consider using a shower timer

Running washing machines only on a full load

Not letting water run while brushing and shaving

Replacing old fixtures and appliances with water-efficient ones. Make sure toilets, faucets, and showerheads are WaterSense labeled

Stop all non-essential water use.

Immediate Steps for Communities/Municipalities:

Provide timely information on the drought and on water conservation tips to local residents and businesses taking advantage of the state’s library of outreach materials;

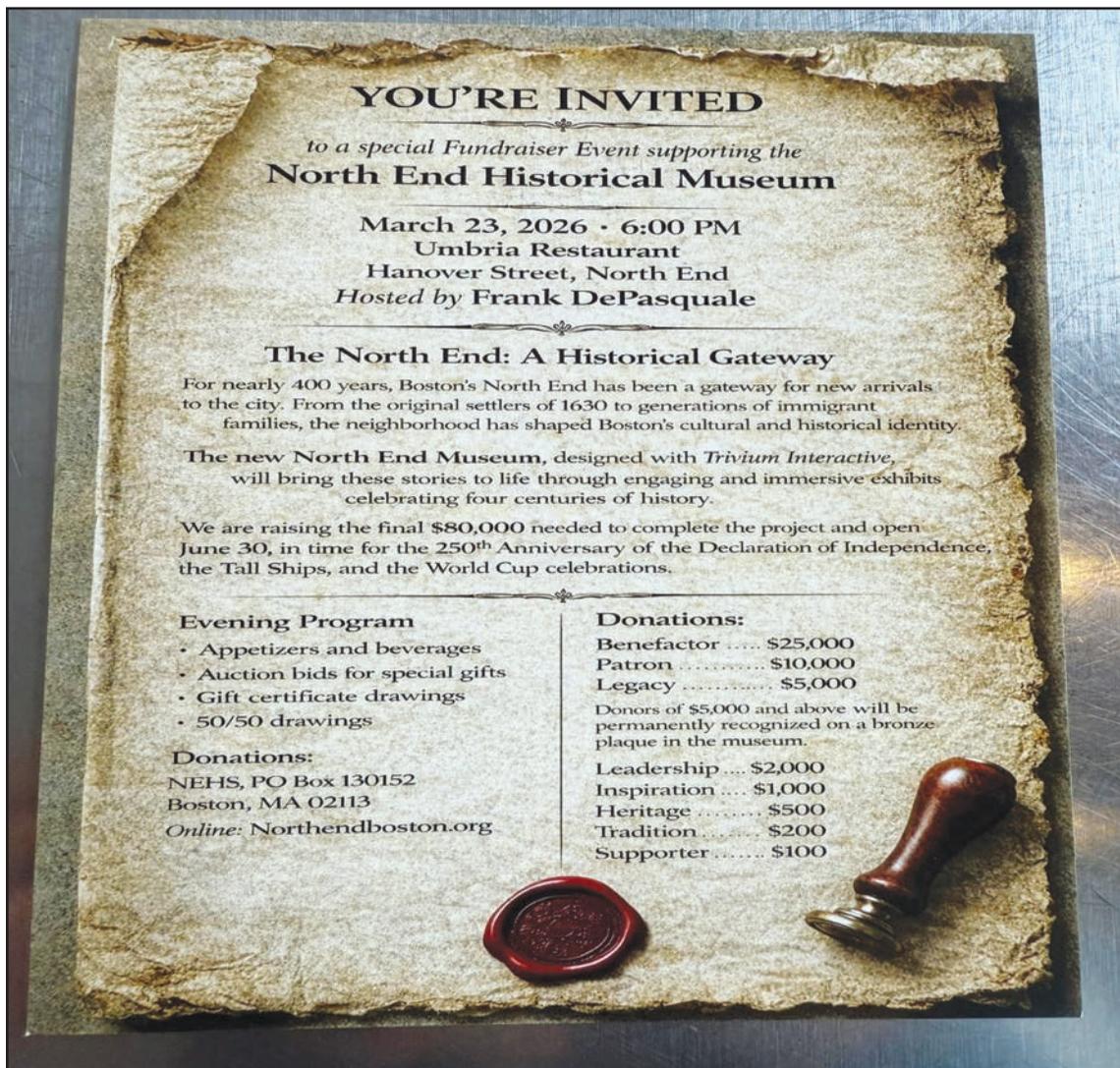
Enforce water use restrictions with increasingly stringent penalties;

Strongly discourage or prohibit washing of hard surfaces (sidewalks, patios, driveways, siding); personal vehicle or boat washing; and,

Establish or enhance water-use reduction targets for all water users, identify top water users and conduct targeted outreach to help curb their use.

Short- and Medium-Term Steps for Communities/Municipalities:

Establish a year-round water conservation program that



SCENES FROM THE ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE AND FESTIVITIES

MAYOR'S OFFICE PHOTOS BY MIKE MEJIA



For over 100 years, Boston has celebrated St. Patrick's Day with a parade through the streets of South Boston. Up to a million people attend the parade every year. This year, the parade started at Andrew Square on Sunday, March 15.



Wu, Boston 250, commemorate the 250th anniversary of Henry Knox's "Noble Train of Artillery"

Special to the Regional Review

Mayor Michelle Wu joined city and state officials and community leaders to honor the 250th anniversary of Henry Knox and honor his significant contributions to Boston and the nation. Knox was an esteemed Revolutionary War general whose leadership and strength continues to reflect in Boston's communities today. This event, part of the City's Boston 250 initiative, also illustrated the City's commitment to honoring the rich and diverse history across Boston neighborhoods.

"Henry Knox's journey through Roxbury shows us that ingenuity, determination, and community can change the course of history," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "We're celebrating not only revolutionary history, but also the everyday revolutionaries whose stories weren't



The event began with a procession of cannons, Clydesdale horses, reenactors, and community partners through the historic neighborhood of Roxbury.

always told, and whose leadership and defense of Boston continue to shape our city. The Historic Mark-

ers Program puts these stories right where they belong—front and center, where our history happened."

"The Henry Knox Trail was a bold and unlikely mission, one powered by strategy, determination, and the collaboration of everyday people along the way. That is why it is especially meaningful to gather in Roxbury, at the final stop of the trail, in the city where the arrival of those cannons ultimately helped force the British evacuation of Boston," said Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll. "This moment reminds us that the story of the American Revolution was not just written by famous names, but by communities, neighbors, and ordinary people who believed in a shared future. As Massachusetts continues to celebrate our role in the founding of our nation, we honor the people who risked life and limb for the chance at self-governance, and sparked the Revolution that would change the world."

The event began with a procession of cannons, Clydesdale horses, reenactors, and community partners through the historic neighborhood of Roxbury, where Henry Knox once led a similar train of 59 cannons on his historic effort to vanquish the British from Boston. Arriving at First Church Roxbury, the event continued with a commemoration ceremony featuring remarks from Mayor Wu and Lieutenant Governor Driscoll and local historians such as Dr. Noelle Trent (Museum of African American History), Dart Adams (Everyone250), Jonathan Lane (Revolution250), Ray Shepard, and Bob Allison (Suffolk University) contextualized the moment. The program uplifted Knox's legacy as well as stories of Black revolutionaries that helped turn the tide of the war, such as Abel Benson and Salem Poor. The celebra-

tion ended with the City's first-ever Boston Beacon, an immersive spectacle celebrating the past, present, and future of Roxbury's revolutionary culture through 3D-mapped light projections, live music, spoken word, and multimedia artwork co-curated by Boston artists, storytellers, and historians.

Mayor Wu also announced the creation of Tour 250, the City's program of commemorative markers ensuring Boston residents and communities are part of the City's ongoing storytelling. Mayor Wu also announced the Historic Markers Community Grants Program, supported by a \$650,000 allocation from the Browne Fund. This program will facilitate the installation of a new series of commemorative markers across the city, intended to tell a more complete story of Boston and uplift the rich cultural heritage of Boston's neighborhoods. An initial \$300,000 grants program is open for community organizations throughout the city to research and engage their communities on potential sites and themes for future markers.

The remainder of the funding has been directed to the Office of Historic Preservation for the design, fabrication, and installation of an initial set of 25+ markers by July, and through a broader citywide application, which will open in Fall 2026.

"Historic markers help us see the city more clearly," said Kathy Kottaridis, Director of the Office of Historic Preservation. "They bring forward the diverse people, places, and events that shaped Boston and ensure that the stories visible in our public landscape reflect the full richness of our communities. By marking these histories where they happened, we give residents and visitors perspective and a place in the long, evolving story of our continually changing city."

This commemoration builds on the City's ongoing efforts with state and local partners to shape a new, more inclusive experience of Boston's revolutionary past and present for residents, families and tourists. In February, Mayor Wu announced a partnership between Boston 250 and Everyone250, a coalition of more than 100 partners across Boston's arts and cultural landscape, to place 25 new markers throughout Boston, marking the semiquincentennial and highlighting underrepresented stories of Boston's history, accompanied by an interactive digital map and guide. In Boston, Everyone250 has already unveiled

markers at King's Chapel, Union Church, Twelfth Baptist Church and most recently United South End Settlements on February 27. Additional Everyone250 unveilings are planned throughout the spring and summer.

With America's 250th anniversary as the catalyzing event, these events and announcements mark the beginning of a broader, long-term citywide effort to reimagine the way Boston tells and memorializes stories and history in the city. This effort is also a part of a commemorative initiative led by Boston 250 in preparation for Boston's upcoming 400th anniversary with a goal to create up to 400 permanent historic markers throughout the City of Boston, highlighting the diverse people and experiences that have shaped the city over the centuries.

"This is an amazing opportunity to both recognize the remarkable efforts of Henry Knox in bringing 60 tons of heavy artillery to relieve the Siege of Boston and also to highlight the history of the community of Roxbury and its Revolutionary spirit," said Jonathan Lane, Executive Director of Revolution 250.

"This is a great day for Roxbury and the City of Boston to have the reenactment of the Henry Knox Trail – bringing those cannons from Fort Ticonderoga, through the swamps, over the mountains, and having Roxbury fortified and then onto South Boston, where they actually forced the British out of Boston," said Thomas Plant, Member of Roxbury Collaborative and Director at Boston Public Health Commission. "This is such a wonderful day that we come together as a community, as a state, to celebrate the Henry Knox Trail that led to the independence of the United States."

Boston 250 is a yearlong commemoration of Boston's role in the American Revolution and the legacy of activism and innovation that is woven throughout the history of the city and its people. As the world comes to Boston for the Summer of 2026, Boston 250 is working with state and local partners to shape a new, more inclusive experience of Boston's revolutionary past and present for residents and tourists.

Boston 250 is made possible in part by private sector partners, including Meet Boston, State Street, The Boston Foundation, John Hancock, Eastern Bank, Liberty Mutual, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts, and PNC Bank.

North End Regional Review 2026 Publishing Calendar

Tel. 781-485-0588 • 385 Broadway, Revere MA 02151 • NorthEndRegionalReview.com

JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH							
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LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT

Suffolk Probate and Family Court

24 New Chardon Street Boston MA, 02114

(617) 788-8300

CITATION GIVING

NOTICE OF PETITION

FOR APPOINTMENT

OF GUARDIAN FOR

INCAPACITATED

PERSON PURSUANT

TO G.L. c.190B,ss5-304

Docket No.SU26P0387GD

In the matter of:Frederick

Leedham

Of: Boston, MA

RESPONDENT

Alleged Incapacitated Person

To the named Respondent and

all other interested persons,

a petition has been filed by

Massachusetts General Hospi-

tal of Boston, MA in the above

captioned matter alleging that

Frederick Leedham is in need

of a Guardian and requesting that (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate.

The petition is on file with this court.

You have the right to object to this proceeding.

If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M.

on the return date of 04/02/2026. This day is NOT

a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file

the written appearance if you object to the petition.

If you fail to file the written appearance by the return

date, action may be taken in this matter without further

notice to you.

In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both.

The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot

afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. Janine D Rivers, First Justice of this Court.

Date: March 09, 2026

Stephanie L. Everett, Esq. Register of Probate

3/19/26 RR

NEW HEALTH (from Page 1)

sugary beverages, highly processed carbohydrates, white bread, chips, candy, other sweetened foods, and large portions of any food

To speak with NEW Health Director of Nursing Patty Goodwin about nutrition tips for diabetes management, please contact us at the phone or email above.

NEW Health also continues its monthly complimentary produce distributions of a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables to Charlestown and North End patients; patients are referred via their primary care providers. Produce distributions take place monthly at the Charlestown site and by delivery in the North End. During March, in honor of National Nutrition Month, an additional produce distribution has been scheduled for March 16 at 11 a.m. at both the North End and Charlestown health centers. The regular monthly North End distribution will take place at 9 a.m. on March 20 (delivered door-to-door) and the regular Charlestown distribution at the health center at 15 Tufts Street will be on

March 27 at 10 a.m.

Media are welcome to attend either of these distributions with advance coordination.

NEW Health's Food Access Program, serving both its North End and Charlestown sites, was established in 2016. NEW Health is Charlestown's first full-service health center and is committed to improving the quality of health and life for its over 5,000 patients in the neighborhood. The health center continues to increase their food insecurity efforts to help families in need with the help of the community.

As a federally qualified health center and an affiliate of Massachusetts General Hospital and Boston Medical Center, North End Waterfront Health (NEW Health) extends its world-renowned healthcare services to people who live and work in and around Boston's North End, Waterfront and Charlestown neighborhoods. NEW Health is committed to improving the quality of health and life for those it serves by providing high quali-

ty health care that is consumer oriented, culturally appropriate, neighborhood-based, affordable, and produces positive outcomes. NEW Health is a 2023 Health Center Quality Leader (HCQL), the only Massachusetts health center to receive a Gold badge from the Health Resources and Services Administration, among the top 10% of health centers nationwide.

NEW Health has been serving the North End of Boston and the surrounding community since 1971. In addition to primary care services for all patients, many specialty services are also offered including dental, vision, behavioral health, obstetrics, gynecology, laboratory services and x-ray services. NEW Health is a private, non-profit corporation that is governed by a community-based Board of Directors and licensed by the Department of Public Health. More information at www.newhealthcenter.org, on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

DROUGHT (from Page 8)

includes public education and communication, taking advantage of the state's library of outreach materials;

Implement or establish drought surcharge or seasonal water rates;

Prepare to activate emergency inter-connections for water supply; and,

Develop or refine your local drought management plan using guidance outlined in the state Drought Management Plan.

For Regions in Level 2 – Significant Drought

Residents and Businesses: Minimize overall water use; Follow local water use restrictions;

Fix indoor leaks, such as from toilets, faucets, and showers, which result in more than 60 percent of indoor use; and,

For larger buildings and businesses, conduct water audits to identify areas of leaks and potential water conservation opportunities.

Immediate Steps for Communities/Municipalities:

Limit or prohibit washing of hard surfaces (sidewalks, patios, driveways, siding); personal vehicle or boat washing; and,

Establish water-use reduction targets for all water users, identify top water users and conduct targeted outreach to help curb their use.

Short- and Medium-Term Steps

for Communities/Municipalities:

Establish a year-round water conservation program that includes public education and communication, taking advantage of the state's library of outreach materials;

Provide timely information to local residents and businesses;

Implement or establish drought surcharge or seasonal water rates;

Check emergency inter-connections for water supply; and,

Develop or refine your local drought management plan using guidance outlined in the state Drought Management Plan.

For Regions in Level 1 – Mild Drought

Residents and Businesses: Minimize overall water use; and,

For larger buildings and businesses, conduct water audits to identify areas of leaks and potential water conservation opportunities.

Communities/Municipalities: Establish a year-round water conservation program that includes public education and communication, taking advantage of the state's library of outreach materials;

Provide timely drought and water conservation information to residents and businesses;

Check emergency inter-connections for water supply; and,

Develop a local drought management plan (learn more here).

State agencies will continue to closely monitor and assess conditions across the state, coordinate any needed dissemination of information to the public, and help federal, state, and local agencies prepare additional responses that may be needed in the future. The DMTF will meet again on April 7, 2026, at 9:30 AM. For further information on water conservation and what residents can do, visit the EEA's drought and water conservation pages.

Do you need to run a Legal Notice? Send it to legals@eastietimes.com or call the office at 781-485-0588

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Option 3
1 AD/MONTH
 2col x 5 in.
 3.56" by 5" high
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 — broadsheet size —
 3.95" by 5" high
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Sculpture of right whale tail lights up in WINTERACTIVE public art experience

Special to the Regional Review

The New England Aquarium is hosting “Whale Tales,” a 96-inch-tall public art installation of a North Atlantic right whale’s tail on the outdoor plaza in front of the Aquarium as part of the Downtown Boston Alliance’s popular public art experience WINTERACTIVE.

The piece, created by LeMonde Studio in collaboration with the Aquarium, lights up and provides whale vocalizations as visitors wind a crank. The sounds from the sculpture are from actual North Atlantic right whales that the researchers in the Aquarium’s Anderson Cabot Center for Ocean Life recorded while studying the critically endangered species in the field. “Whale Tales” is one of more than 15 installations throughout Downtown Boston that are free and open 24/7 to the public through March 29, designed to encourage people to get outside this winter.

“Participating in WINTERACTIVE is very meaningful to us

this year as we host a work of art featuring one of the most iconic and critically endangered whale species, the North Atlantic right whale, which the New England Aquarium has been researching and advocating for more than 40 years,” said the Aquarium’s Director of Community Engagement Luz Arregoces. Last year, the Aquarium hosted “Nature’s Solace,” an installation that symbolized the balance between the spirit and nature.

“We enjoy taking part in this winter event to inspire people to be outdoors and stay busy during Boston’s colder months,” Arregoces said. “It is part of our mission year-round to raise the visibility and accessibility of Boston’s waterfront from our Central Wharf location while inspiring people to be ocean advocates.”

WINTERACTIVE was inspired by the festive winter events in Quebec, Canada and was named “Best Public Art Exhibition” in Boston by both Boston Magazine and Time Out Boston in 2024. Boston Design Week also honored



PHOTO COURTESY VANESSA KAHN/NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM

“Whale Tales” by LeMonde Studio is located on the New England Aquarium’s front plaza through March 29 as part of the Downtown Boston Alliance’s free WINTERACTIVE experience. The public is invited to visit it 24/7.

the Downtown Boston Alliance, which brought the event to the city last year. More than 800,000 visited WINTERACTIVE last year.

“For the second year in a

row, we’re proud to partner with the New England Aquarium to host an original artwork,” said Michael J. Nichols, President of the Downtown Boston Alliance. “The goal of WINTERACTIVE is to get people out and exploring Boston in the depths of winter, and we’re yet again thrilled at the prospect of those enjoying this interactive sculpture at the Aquarium that brings to life the majesty

of the ocean and reminds us of the incredible marine life in New England waters.”

WINTERACTIVE is just one way that organizations and businesses are looking to give an economic and cultural boost to Boston in the heart of winter.

For more information about WINTERACTIVE, visit winteractive.org.

HEARING (from pg. 1)

to the table from restaurants and bars to hospitals and community organizations we can strengthen prevention, provide businesses with the tools to protect patrons, and improve the support systems available to survivors. I look forward to continuing this important conversation.”

During the hearing, Councilors heard from representatives of the Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention Initiative at the Boston Public Health Commission, Boston Police Department, the Boston Licensing Board, and the Office of Nightlife Economy. Boston Police officials highlighted their ongoing work the past three years in addressing drink spiking incidents, sharing they’ve taken steps to combat the issue through training, tracking, public awareness, and partnerships. They also stressed the need for collaboration among government agencies, community advocates, and local colleges to improve awareness and ensure individuals know what steps to take if an incident occurs.

Representatives from the Boston Licensing Board and the Office of Nightlife Economy emphasized that their top priority is ensuring members of the public can enjoy Boston’s nightlife safely. The Licensing Board works to reinforce clear expectations for license holders, encouraging them to remain vigilant for suspicious behavior and to actively maintain safe environments within their

establishments. The Board also shared that it provides reporting materials and training to help businesses respond appropriately when concerns arise. The Office of Nightlife Economy noted that it has distributed more than 33,000 drink covers to establishments and community members as a preventative measure.

Councilors cautioned that with several major events scheduled across Boston over the next year, concerns about public safety, particularly the potential for increased risks, have emerged. Boston Police officials stated that the department has been actively preparing for the anticipated rise in activity. They emphasized that their focus will remain on maintaining strong public safety protections, pursuing grants to strengthen protective services, and ensuring the department is fully prepared to respond effectively during these events.

Survivors testified and shared their personal experiences of having their drinks drugged while in Boston, describing the lasting impact of these incidents and the challenges of coping with those memories. They also emphasized the need for the City to take stronger action to prevent similar experiences from happening to others.

Since joining the Boston City Council, Coletta Zapata has led conversations focused on addressing drink spiking in the City of Boston and making meaningful progress to combat contaminat-

ed drinks. Her work has included partnering with the Boston Police Department to improve internal reporting systems and strengthen resources to prevent predatory behavior. She also led a successful partnership with the Office of Nightlife to distribute drink covers and help prevent drink spiking, and secured a commitment from the Massachusetts Restaurant Association to train servers to identify perpetrators and support potential victims. Most recently, Councilor Coletta Zapata testified at the State House in support of Senator Paul Feeny’s Bill S.1537, which would ensure accessible, reliable drug testing in hospitals and ERs across the Commonwealth.

“We must center our survivors in our conversations about—and our responses to—drink spiking, drug-facilitated sexual assault, and all forms of sexual violence. We best honor survivors when we prevent and respond to these forms of violence with urgency, and Boston’s efforts must reflect the gravity of these trespasses,” said Councilor At-Large Henry Santana, Chair of the Public Safety and Criminal Justice Committee.

A recording of the hearing can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F-V2u0jlcRY>. This docket will remain in the Public Safety and Criminal Justice Committee.

Mayor's Cup Middle School Basketball Tournament to take place during April School vacation

Mayor Michelle Wu and the Boston Parks and Recreation Department are excited to announce the first-ever Mayor's Cup Middle School Basketball Tournament in partnership with Beantown Slam and Match Charter School during the April Boston Public Schools vacation week.

The Mayor's Cup Middle School Basketball Tournament is a competitive and community-focused event designed to provide young athletes with a positive and energetic playing experience. The tournament will bring together middle school teams from across Boston to compete in an organized, sportsmanship-driven environment that emphasizes skill development, teamwork, and character both on and off the court.

Games will be held Monday, April 21, through Thursday, April 24, from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. each day at Match Community Day Charter School, located at 110 Poydras Street in Hyde Park.

There will be a boys and girls division and all athletes must

currently be in middle school. Pre-registration is required. Coaches interested in registering a team should visit boston.gov/parks-sports or contact Roger Roberts at roger.roberts@boston.gov for additional information and registration details.

The Mayor's Cup Middle School Basketball Tournament expands the City's youth sports offerings and complements long-standing programs like the Boston Neighborhood Basketball League (BNBL), the nation's oldest neighborhood basketball league. Held during April School Vacation, this tournament gives middle school athletes the chance to compete for the Mayor's Cup trophy and ultimate bragging rights.

To stay up to date with news, events, and improvements in Boston parks, visit boston.gov/parks, call (617)-635-4505, join our email list, and follow our social channels at [@parks.boston.gov](https://twitter.com/parks.boston.gov) on Bluesky and [@bostonparksdept](https://www.facebook.com/bostonparksdept) on Facebook and Instagram.

Nurse uses AED as Park N Boston staff clear path for rescuers after electrical blast injures worker

Special to the Regional Review

A 25-year-old electrical worker was injured on February 28, after coming into contact with a live power line while working on elevated electrical equipment behind Park N Boston on Railroad Street in Revere.

The worker, became suspended in his safety harness before co-workers safely lowered him to the ground.

According to Park N Boston employee Daniel Souza, once the worker was on the ground, a Park N Boston customer, Kristina Lee - a nurse visiting from Canada — jumped a barbed-wire fence using an accumulated snow pile to reach the victim. Lee immediately began providing life-saving aid and used an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) while waiting for first responders to arrive. She remained with the victim, helping to keep him calm until the arrival of police, fire and EMS personnel.

At the same time, Park N Boston employees moved with urgency to support first responders' access to the scene. Staff members and customers began shoveling heavy snow and relocating vehicles to create a clear pathway to the rear of the building, ensuring ambulances and emergency crews could reach the injured worker without delay.

Once on scene, first responders proceeded to the back of the property, Park n Boston, near the railroad tracks, where officers saw the male victim on the ground, but they were initially unable to reach him. The Revere Fire Department had to cut through a secured chain-link fence topped with barbed wire and additional concertina wire in order for emergency personnel to be able to get to the injured worker.

"We're incredibly grateful for the customer who stepped in to help and proud of our team for responding quickly and doing what needed to be done to get



Park N Boston employee Daniel Souza.

first responders to the scene," said Matthew Philbin, owner of Park N Boston. He also recognized the swift response of the Revere Police and Fire departments, as well as the behind-the-scenes coordination that helped ensure crews could reach the victim as quickly as possible.

Tara Philbin, Director of Operations, gave special credit to Souza for helping manage the scene.

"I'd like to give special credit to our employee Daniel Souza for making quick decisions and directing and organizing staff and customers while we waited for first responders to arrive," she said. "In

moments like that, having someone take charge calmly and clearly makes a tremendous difference."

The injured worker was transported to Massachusetts General Hospital and was listed in stable condition Saturday.

Park N Boston, a family-owned and operated airport parking company serving travelers to and from Boston Logan International Airport, said the incident was a reminder of how quickly everyday moments can turn into emergencies — and how strangers can come together, rise to extraordinary circumstances, and ordinary people can become heroes.



Visiting nurse from Canada Kristina Lee (left) with Tara Philbin, Director of Operations of Park N Boston.

MAYOR'S CUP BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

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City reminds residents deadline to license your dog is March 31

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, 2026. 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 pet safe and tagged."

Boston's most popular dog names of 2025 have been revealed as part of this year's licensing reminder. The top dog name was

Charlie, with 118 registered pups, and the leading female dog name was Luna, with 137 registrations with this name. At the tail end of the pack, the 25th most popular name for dogs was Poppy, with 49 registered.

The data also highlights Boston's favorite dog breeds. The Labrador Retriever reigned as the city's most popular breed, with 1,961 registered, followed by the Golden Retriever (970) and the Miniature Poodle (543). Other top breeds included the Chihuahua (490) and the German Shepherd (480).

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 7 to June 6 at eight BCYF community centers. For details, fees, and locations, please visit boston.gov/animals or call (617) 635-1800.

Top 10 popular dog breeds:

1. Labrador Retriever (1,961)
2. Golden Lab Retriever (970)
3. Miniature Poodle (543)
4. Chihuahua (490)
5. German Shepard (480)
6. Australian Shepherd (398)
7. Yorkshire Terrier (392)
8. Shih Tzu (388)
9. Beagle (338)
10. Cavalier Spaniel & French Bulldog (311)

Follow Animal Care and Control on social media for updates and adorable adoptable pets: Instagram @ [bostonanimalcontrol](https://www.instagram.com/bostonanimalcontrol), X @ [animalboston](https://twitter.com/animalboston) and Facebook @ [bostonanimal](https://www.facebook.com/bostonanimal).

Top Ten Dog Names



Healey demands transparency from ICE on arrests in Massachusetts

Special to the Regional Review

Governor Maura Healey last week sent a letter to U.S. Department of Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem and Acting U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Director Todd Lyons demanding full transparency and accountability about ICE arrests and detention practices in Massachusetts.

Governor Healey is demanding that ICE provide, in one week, complete and accurate information on every person arrested in Massachusetts since January 2025, including the identity of each individual, the legal basis for each arrest, case status, detention location, court jurisdiction, and upcoming hearing dates.

In the letter, Governor Healey challenges ICE's repeated claims that it is targeting the "worst of the worst," citing the agency's own public data showing that the majority of individuals arrested in Massachusetts have no criminal history.

"Many of those taken into custody are long-standing members of our communities—parents, caregivers, and workers whose sudden detention leaves their fam-

ilies in crisis," Governor Healey wrote. "This has had far-reaching consequences for their children, families, our communities, and the state of Massachusetts."

According to ICE's own public statements, a May 2025 surge operation known as "Operation Patriot" resulted in 1,461 arrests in Massachusetts, yet 46 percent of those detained had no criminal charges or convictions. A second surge operation in September 2025, "Operation Patriot 2.0," resulted in 1,406 arrests, with approximately 57 percent of those detained having no criminal background. ICE has released limited public information about only a small fraction of those individuals.

The letter also describes specific cases that have been reported to the administration, including an 18-year-old high school honors student with no criminal record arrested while driving to volleyball practice; a mother of a quadriplegic child detained while going to work despite having an asylum application pending; a father with no known criminal history arrested at his worksite and transferred out of state away from his young children; a young man with no criminal record arrested outside

of a local grocery store as a "collateral" arrest while standing near another individual ICE was targeting; and a father who lived in the United States for more than 20 years and was detained and transferred out of state, leaving behind two U.S. citizen children. Governor Healey notes that her administration has been unable to independently verify the full details of these cases because ICE has not provided information to state or local officials.

ICE's actions have undermined public safety and community trust, resulting in children not attending school, workers not going to work, patients missing health care appointments, and residents not coming forward as victims or witnesses.

Governor Healey has filed legislation to keep ICE out of sensitive locations including courthouses, schools, child care programs, hospitals, and places of worship to strengthen protections for families

and to ensure that federal immigration enforcement does not interfere with access to education, health care, and public safety services. She also signed an executive order directing state agencies to require judicial warrants for entry into non-public areas of state facilities, limiting the use of state resources for civil immigration enforcement, and restricting participation in federal 287(g) agreements absent a clear public safety need.

FitzGerald chairs hearing on order to discuss the regulation of Kratom in the City of Boston

Special to the Regional Review

Councilor John FitzGerald chaired a public hearing to discuss the regulation of Kratom in the City of Boston, a hearing order co-sponsored by himself and Councilor Ed Flynn. Synthetic Kratom is an often overlooked and unregulated substance and widely accessible to our communities that can be harmful and often fatal. Our hope is to bring awareness and regulation to residents throughout the City.

"The idea to file this hearing order came from direct concerns from residents. Recently, a lot of people have become more concerned with the availability of synthetic Kratom in local smoke shops, and its ambiguous regulatory status," said Boston City Councilor John FitzGerald.

"Many residents stated their frustration with the current lack of regulations and wish that our city would take a lead on regulating these substances."

"I believe that Boston can become a national leader in Kratom regulations. I look specifically to the work that our council did to end the sale and manufacturing of synthetic cannabinoids through CBC 16-59 in 2015, in guiding how these regulations would take place."

"Through the hearing, we had an essential initial discussion with city officials, doctors, recovery experts and those who have lost loved ones due to the use of Kratom. I hope to build on the opinions and comments shared today to inform our next steps in further

legislation," stated Councilor FitzGerald.

"As a former probation officer, I'm concerned about the impact that the sale of kratom has on public safety and public health," said Councilor Flynn. "I look forward to continuing to work with Councilor FitzGerald to address residents' concerns, and to strengthen regulation and enforcement. Products like kratom should be banned in the City of Boston."

Next steps in this process is to bring the proper departments in for a working session to craft language for an ordinance with the hope to ultimately ban the product. Information on further legislation and public hearing can be found on the John FitzGerald social media pages on Instagram and Facebook.

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Boston Licensing Board approves new liquor license applications

Special to the Regional Review

The City of Boston Licensing Board approved new liquor licenses across Boston. The approved applicants are located in Allston, Chinatown, East Boston, Jamaica Plain, Roslindale, the South End, and West Roxbury. Additionally, the Boston Licensing Board approved applications from beer and wine licensees upgrading to non-transferable all alcoholic beverages licenses. The Licensing Board will send all the applications to the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission for investigation and final approval.

After Mayor Wu and the Boston City Council filed a successful Home Rule Petition, Governor Maura Healey signed legislation on September 11, 2024, bringing 225 new liquor licenses to Boston. This new batch is the single largest addition to Boston's liquor license quota since the end of Prohibition. With this influx, the City has the ability to support diverse local entrepreneurs and boost economic growth. Specifically, the legislation created:

- 195 zip code-restricted licenses (both all alcohol and beer and wine) in Charlestown, Dorchester, East Boston, Hyde Park, Jamai-

ca Plain, Mattapan, Roslindale, Roxbury, South End, and West Roxbury, to be granted to the City over three calendar years

- 15 all alcohol licenses for community spaces, including non-profits, small theaters, and outdoor spaces

- 12 transferable all alcohol licenses

- 3 all alcohol neighborhood restricted licenses in Oak Square, Brighton

In early 2025, the Licensing Board approved 37 new liquor licenses. During the summer, the Licensing Board approved 21 neighborhood restricted licenses and three community space licenses. In late 2025, the Board approved four neighborhood restricted licenses and three transferable all alcohol licenses. The list of applications approved today is as follows:

South End

- Agosto and Baby Sister, All Alcohol

- Bey, All Alcohol

- Nan Xiang Express, All Alcohol

- Perch, Beer and Wine

East Boston

- 355 Bennington Holdings, All Alcohol

- Italian Express, All Alcohol

- Pomona Cafe III, All Alcohol

Jamaica Plain

- Behan Caffè, All Alcohol

- Ethiopian Cafe, All Alcohol

- Third Cliff Bakery, Beer and Wine

- Ula Cafe, Beer and Wine

Roslindale

- Safari African Restaurant, All Alcohol

West Roxbury

- Maria's Kitchen, Beer and Wine

In addition to the licenses approved under the 2024 legislation, the Licensing Board also approved restricted licenses originally created in 2006. These licenses are limited to specific geographic areas including Main Streets Districts, Urban Renewal areas, and Municipal Harbor Plan areas and cannot be sold. If a business closes or no longer needs the license, it returns to the Boston Licensing Board. The 2006 restricted licenses awarded are:

Allston

- Holdfast Specialty Seafood Rolls, Beer and Wine

- Tofu Story, All Alcohol

Chinatown

- Hunan Gourmet, Beer and Wine

- Liuyishou Hotpot, Beer and Wine

- Shoyu Boston, Beer and Wine

As part of the Fiscal Year 2026 Massachusetts State Budget, the State Legislature gave municipalities across Massachusetts the opportunity to opt into legislation that allows licensees permitted to sell only wines and malt beverages to trade in their license for a non-transferable all alcoholic beverages license. Mayor Michelle Wu introduced this legislation to the City Council and on September 20, the City Council approved the adoption of this legislation. On October 21, the Boston Licensing Board held an informational hearing to receive public feedback from licensees and opened a public comment period, which closed on December 3. On January 8, the Board voted on the final regulations. The guidelines include eliminating the need for a community process for anyone who has already completed the process in the past two years. The applicants approved today include:

Brighton

- Spring Shabu-Shabu

Downtown

- Silver Dove Afternoon Tea

North End

- Ben Cotto

- Pizzeria Regina

- Rocco's Cucina and Bar

Theater District

- Viva Karaoke & Studios

"Each of these approvals represents a business that identified a need in its neighborhood," said Kathleen Joyce, Chair of the Boston Licensing Board. "We are pleased to approve all of the applications today and continue expanding opportunities for restaurants and small businesses across Boston. We encourage other prospective applicants to begin the process, as additional licenses remain available in 2026."

Potential applicants—both for new licenses and those interested in upgrading beer and wine licenses—are encouraged to start the process as soon as possible.

Learn more about applying for a liquor license on the Licensing Board website.

Boston Pride For The People announces date of 2026 Pride Parade and festival

Boston Pride For The People (BP4TP), the volunteer-led organization behind the largest Pride celebration in New England, announced the 2026 Pride Parade will take place Saturday, June 6, 2026 accompanied by a festival on Boston Common. This year's celebrations will take place one week earlier than usual to accommodate World Cup activities in Boston the following weekend.

"As the nation marks its 250th Birthday, this year's Pride parade and festival takes on special significance for the LGBTQIA+ community as we take stock of the incredible progress we have made while also acknowledging the long road ahead of us," Adrianna Boulton, President of Boston Pride For The People. "This June will be full of excitement in Boston and we are thrilled to kick things off, one week earlier than usual, as we host the largest pride event in New England for the fourth consecutive year."

Boston Pride for the People will kick off its celebrations on June 6th with a parade that begins in Copley Square and makes its way through the South End and Back Bay, culminating at Boston Common where an all ages concert and festival will take place.

"This year, as America cele-

brates its 250th anniversary, we are reminded of Boston's unique place in our nation's history and of the ongoing efforts that help us continue to be a welcoming space for all," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "The City of Boston has long celebrated love, resilience, and belonging, exemplified by impactful figures like Boston's very own Rita Hester, who played a significant role in igniting the modern movement. Her legacy truly embodies the American spirit and continues to inspire generations to come. As we prepare to welcome visitors from around the world to our city this summer, we are proud to highlight what makes Boston truly special—a city that stands strongly with the LGBTQIA+ community and celebrates the visible acts of inclusion, unity, and joy."

It is estimated more than 1 million people attended the Pride Parade and Festivals in June of 2025, BP4TP's third year as organizers. An estimated 15,000 people marched from Copley Square to Boston Common in the parade.

"As we continue to grow Boston Pride for the People, we are more encouraged than ever before by the support, interest, and excitement for what we are building together," said Gary Daffin, Boston Pride for the People Parade

Co-Chair. "Our parade and festival will be inclusive, welcoming, and safe for all LGBTQIA+ people and our allies. In the midst of so much darkness nationally, we can be a bright light for those who are searching for community and acceptance."

BP4TP invites the community to submit ideas for this year's theme, which can be found here. Individuals and organizations interested in sponsoring this year's celebration can contact sponsor@bp4tp.org. Sponsorships help cover the costs of producing the events and allows BP4TP to reduce registration costs for smaller organizations. BP4TP encourages anyone interested in volunteering to sign up at <https://bostonprideforthepeople.org>.

Boston Pride For The People (BP4TP) is a volunteer and community-run non-profit group working to empower, celebrate, commemorate, and educate in partnership with Boston's LGBTQ+ communities. In 2023, BP4TP hosted and managed Boston's first Pride parade and festivals in more than three years, bringing New England's largest Pride parade back to its home in Boston. For more information visit: <https://bostonprideforthepeople.org>.

Help us to help those in need

We will be having our 2nd Annual Drive to "Help those in need during lent" Event on Saturday March 21, 8am to 4:30pm at St. Joseph's Hall at St. Leonard's Church – Prince Street.

Please join St. Leonard's Parish, Fr. Michael Dellapenna, "JR" Romano Family & Ausonia Council Knights of Columbus #1513 to support The Rita A. DiMento Women's Clinic at Arch St. Church

We will be Collecting items for the most vulnerable members of our society: Homeless Women.

Items we will be collecting: All items must be new:

Women's sweatpants, leggings, sports bras, women's underwear (XS-XL), women's comfortable

walking shoes, Women's long or short sleeve shirts and tops – plain pullover, Women's zip-up sweat-shirts, rain jackets. Backpacks and Fanny packs, \$10 gift cards to Dunkins, CVS or McDonald's, (gift cards used to incentivize goals and/or medical tests, & allows use of a restroom)

We will also be collecting Spare Change - Cash, Venmo or Checks made out to St. Anthony's Shrine.

Join Fr. Michael and all our helpers at the 5pm Mass following this act of love. The Second Collection will be dedicated to this mission!!

For more info or item pick up: Call JR – (617) 750-9749

Coming up at the West End Museum

The West End Museum will be offering a walking tours on Sunday, March 22, at 11 a.m.

In celebration of Women's History Month, this Women of the West End Walking Tour will illuminate the rich history of women in the neighborhood.

And on Thursday, March 26, Boston-themed Trivia is back by popular demand at The Pen-

nyweight Hotel. Flex your local knowledge, enjoy great food, tasty drinks, and have lots of fun. Sign up with a team or join one on the spot. The winning team will receive a prize from the museum.

More information and links to purchase tickets can be found online at: www.westendmuseum.org/programs

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OVER 200 PEOPLE PLUNGE INTO FREEZING WATERS OF CONSTITUTION BEACH FOR ANNUAL SAVE THE HARBOR/SAVE THE BAY AND JETBLUE SHAMROCK SPLASH

Special to the Regional Review

Over 200 brave souls plunged into the icy waters of Constitution Beach in East Boston for the 16th Annual JetBlue Shamrock Splash hosted by Save the Harbor/Save the Bay. Attendees jumped into the freezing water wearing bathing suits and aquatic themed costumes as part of the event's costume contest.

The JetBlue Shamrock Splash raises funds for Save the Harbor's Better Beaches Grant Program. The program, in partnership with the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), awards small grants to individuals and organizations who host free events in the summer on DCR's public beaches from Nahant to Nantas-

ket.

"Even in March the chilly waters at the Constitution Beach still pack a punch!" Rep. Adrian Madaro of East Boston and Co-Chair of the Metropolitan Beaches Commission (MBC) said. "Congratulations to the many participants who braved the freezing waters to support Save the Harbor's work connecting our communities to the beaches, no matter what season. In a few months the waters will be warmer, and our beaches will be better off thanks to your contributions."

"This year marks 20 years of tireless advocacy by the MBC for our metropolitan beaches," MBC Co-Chair Sen. Brendan Crighton said, "And the Shamrock Splash and Better Beaches Program have

played an important role in this work to ensure that our public beaches are welcoming and accessible for all our residents."

Save the Harbor Executive Director Chris Mancini said, "After spending the past four decades ensuring Boston Harbor's cleanliness and safety, we are looking forward to another summer connecting our community to the harbor, its islands, and the region's public beaches. Last summer, the Better Beaches Grant Program supported nearly 200 events that brought people of color, Queer people, people with disabilities, and people who don't primarily speak English to the beaches."

"I've been participating in the splash for the past 14 years." Donnie Todd, JetBlue Airport Standards and Programs Manager, and a board member of Save the Harbor said, "I'm always proud to show up and support the organization's programs that help keep our beaches clean and vibrant, especially in one of our most beloved focus cities, Boston."

Pete Sacco from Revere and Joe Skahan from Lynn won the costume contest for their costumes as Rose from Titanic and Slash from Guns N' Roses respectively. They won free roundtrip JetBlue tickets to any destination within the airline's network.

Other JetBlue ticket winners included top individual fundraiser Dave Nardella of South Boston who raised \$7,066; Maya Smith of Dorchester who had the largest team with 22 members; the PB Penguins who was the top fundraising team, raising \$1,250; and Agnes Recato from Bike to the Sea who raised \$765 and won the final JetBlue flight in the raffle.

The Splash met its \$50,000 goal. Each community raised the following amounts for their summer beach programming:

- East Boston \$10,075
- Lynn & Nahant \$6,110
- South Boston \$5,895
- Wollaston \$5,457
- Nantasket \$5,144
- Dorchester \$5,137
- Revere \$5,093
- Winthrop \$5,000

After the splash, participants partied into the afternoon and warmed up with a hot bowl of clam chowder from The Daily Catch and warm empanadas and



PHOTO BY KATY ROGERS

Participants of the Shamrock Splash or "splashers" run into the freezing waters of Constitution Beach, East Boston.



PHOTO BY MIKE MUROWCHICK

Dozens of people gathered for Boston's best winter beach party at Constitution Beach, East Boston. Food and beverages provided by the Daily Catch, Bono, Samuel Adams, Dogfish Head, Vitamin Water, TopoChico, and Downeast Ciders. Music was provided by Rilla Force and lawn games were brought by Stonewall Sports Boston.

rice and beans from Bono. Refreshing beverages were provided by Downeast Ciders, Sam Adams, Dogfish Head, Topo Chico and VitaminWater. Stonewall Sports Boston set up lawn games for people to enjoy and a lively DJ set by Rilla Force kept people moving despite the cold.

The JetBlue Shamrock Splash and Better Beaches Grant Program is supported by sponsors and partners including the Department of Conservation and Recreation and the Healey/Driscoll administration; JetBlue, FMC Ice Sports, Calamari Fisheries, NamaStay Sober, Stonewall Sports, the Coca-Cola Company, Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, and Massport. Save the Harbor's free summer programs are additionally supported by the Liberty Mutual Foundation, Blue Cross Blue Shield of MA, National Grid, Bay State Cruise Company,

Mass Bay Lines, and Eastern Salt.

Save the Harbor/Save the Bay is the region's leading voice for clean water and continued public investment in Boston Harbor, the region's public beaches, and the Boston Harbor Islands. Since 1986, our mission has been to restore and protect Boston Harbor, Massachusetts Bay, and the marine environment, and share them with the public for everyone to enjoy.

Save the Harbor is committed to making Boston Harbor, the Islands, our beaches, and our programs inclusive, equitable, diverse, and accessible to everyone and anyone. We provide free programs, events and create opportunities for people to experience Boston Harbor and our spectacular urban natural resources first-hand, with an emphasis on breaking down barriers of race, language, income and ability.

umbria

Italian steakhouse

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ROOF DECK

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