



THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 2024

THE BOSTON SUN

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

SERVING BACK BAY - SOUTH END - FENWAY - KENMORE

NEAA HOLDS AXE THROWING FUNDRAISER



DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN PHOTO

Guarino Vilar, longtime resident of the North End and axe throwing fan, takes a turn during the North End Athletic Association's axe throwing fundraiser. See page 8 for more photos.

Boston voters support Biden and Trump in Super Tuesday primary

By Dan Murphy

As was the case throughout the Commonwealth, President Joe Biden and former president Donald Trump topped the ballot with Boston voters during the Super Tuesday presidential primary on Tuesday, March 5.

According to the city's unofficial election results, President Biden was the top vote-getter on the Democratic side, garnering around 77 percent of the ballot (40,141 votes cast). 'No Preference' accounted for nearly 14 percent of the ballot (7,288 ballots cast), while Minnesota Congressman Dean Phillips and author Marianne Williamson

garnered more than 4 percent (2,238 votes) and nearly 3 percent of the ballot (1,492 votes), respectively.

On the Republican side, Trump garnered more than 51 percent of the ballot (9,428 votes). Former South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley, who was expected to suspend her campaign yesterday in the wake of unencouraging Super Tuesday primary outcomes nationwide, trailed Trump with nearly 45 percent of the ballot (8,195 votes). Other Republican candidates, including 'No Preference' and write-ins, accounted for the remaining less than 4 percent of the ballot.

Plans for 125-127 Comm. Ave. meet with unfavorable response at NABB committee meeting

By Dan Murphy

A plan to lease a property at 125-127 Commonwealth Ave. to house adults with unspecified personal challenges as they transition into permanent hous-

ing was met with a resoundingly unfavorable response from neighbors on hand for the monthly meeting of the Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay Licensing and Building Use Committee held virtually on

Monday, March 5.

Michael Larkin, the attorney representing the applicant, said Eliot Community Human Services, a nonprofit that has pro-

(125-127 COMM. AVE., Pg. 3)

Summer brings unique programs for local kids

By Sun staff

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

Each summer, The Advent School's campus at 99 West Cedar St. is transformed into a makerspace where children become designers, tinkerers, and builders.

The Design at Advent Summer Program offers three completely unique two-week sessions for children ages 5 through 12.

Designers begin each session by sorting through recycled materials, learning proper tool use, and engaging in the design process. Each day, the designers and faculty set out to explore the city, play games, and gather inspiration. On the last Friday of each session, the designers share their creations and prototypes with friends and family with a Design Expo.

The program also takes advantage of the Advent School's city location by making frequent field

trips to the Esplanade Playground, Boston Common, Public Garden, and other outdoor spaces.

Session One, from June 17-28, will be 'WonderstruckWearables,' which will draw inspiration from the innovative thinking of the World of Wearable Art. Participants will explore the intersection of fashion and LGBTQIA2S+ Pride, examining the industry's connection to diversity. Additionally, participants will tackle environmental issues related to fast fashion and address the impact of consumerism.

Session Two, from July 8-19,

will be 'City Remix,' where designers draw inspiration from Urban Thinkscape's interactive design approach in city settings. The focus will be on Boston, where designers will observe, play, and interact with the urban environment. This hands-on experience aims to foster reflection and inspire the redesign of urban spaces. Designers enrolled in this one-of-a-kind program will join Dave Fatula, founder of Guineafowl Adventure Company Co., and Kyle Browne, founder

(SUMMER IN THE CITY, Pg. 5)



Students in the Advent School summer program enjoying some outdoor activities.

EDITORIAL

FIRE, FIRE EVERYWHERE

The fires that have been burning out of control this past week in Texas and Oklahoma -- and which are continuing to rage as this is being written -- are yet another harbinger of what awaits us thanks to the ever-increasing rate of climate change that is affecting every corner of the earth.

The fires in Texas, which have killed two persons, destroyed 500 homes, and caused entire towns to be evacuated, come on the heels of the recent fires in Chile, which destroyed entire communities and claimed 131 lives, more than the tragic fire a few months back that occurred in Hawaii.

Fire in other parts of the globe in recent years have charred millions of acres of land and wiped out entire communities, from Australia, to California, to Canada, and the Siberian tundra.

The out-of-control wildfire fires not only have caused loss of life and brought economic devastation to communities and individuals, but they also have sent acrid smoke that enveloped large swathes of neighboring countries, as happened in the Midwest and East Coast last summer when the fires in eastern Canada raised our air quality to extremely unhealthy levels for days at a time.

But these fires are only part of the equation of climate change. Ocean temperatures reached record highs this year, threatening coral reefs and marine life across the globe. What had seemed as inconceivable -- that the world's oceans could turn into dead zones -- no longer is in the realm of science fiction. It's a reality that could occur within a few short years.

In addition, with the hot oceans providing the fuel for tropical storms, hurricanes promise to be ever-stronger and more devastating.

Air temperatures have set records month-after-month and year-after-year for the past five years, with each successive year exceeding the one before. The record warmth in the continental U.S. this winter has resulted in the least snow cover on record and has prevented the usual lakes from freezing. Glaciers are disappearing everywhere, from the polar regions, to Greenland, to the Alps in Europe.

In short, everything that is climate related is off-the-charts -- and not in a good way. If what climate scientists tell us is true -- that we are in a race against time to change our ways and that we must stop burning fossil fuels in order to save the environment as we know it -- then it is becoming increasingly clear that our feet are stuck in the mud.

PLEASE: NO PUBLIC DRINKING ON ST. PATRICK'S DAY

With the St. Patrick's Day holiday and traditional South Boston parade approaching on Sunday, March 17, we urge our public safety officials to plan for enforcing the laws which prohibit drinking in public, especially by underage drinkers.

Last year in the aftermath of the South Boston parade, we found ourselves in the unfortunate position of riding the Red Line to the South Shore. The trains were packed with highly-inebriated, rowdy, under-age drinkers who were drinking openly on the trains and then flinging their empties around the train cars, striking other passengers. The platforms resembled war zones, with large-scale fights and scores of youths who were passed out left-and-right.

We realize that everyone wants to relax and have a good time on St. Patrick's Day, but that is no excuse for our public safety officials to turn a blind eye to underage drinking and drinking in public. In addition, for those of us of Irish descent, the perception that being "Irish for a day" means drinking heavily is highly-insulting.

It is inevitable that with the high degree of public intoxication that is tacitly permitted by our public safety officials, there will be a tragedy. We urge our public officials to take steps ahead of time to stop this annual reign of dangerous mass chaos.

News in Brief

MEETING ON FUTURE OF CITY'S HISTORIC PRESERVATION EFFORTS SET FOR MARCH 12 AT CITY HALL AND VIA ZOOM

The city will offer 'A Vision for Historic Preservation in Boston' on Tuesday, March 12, from 6 to 8 p.m. at City Hall, Room 801, as well as virtually.

The meeting, sponsored by the city's Office of Historic Preservation and the Boston Landmarks Commission, will "present a framework showcasing how historic preservation can address some of Boston's pressing challenges in environmental sustainability, social equity, and affordable housing," according to the city, as well as detail "Boston's plans for events to celebrate the nation's 250th anniversary and Boston's 400th anniversary, in 2026 and 2030, respectively.

R.S.V.P. for the meeting at <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdx4C5y-q39bZAh3azF2Ia9QuTtiptsoE->



[ZuUZPsRSLz6F2SvJQ/view-form](https://www.boston.gov/ZuUZPsRSLz6F2SvJQ/view-form) or scan the QR Code.

SOWA ARTISTS GUILD TO HOLD MARCH EVENTS

SoWa Artists Guild will hold its SoWa Sundays on March 10, 17, 24, and 31, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. All events will be held at 450 Harrison Ave.

Visit <http://sowaartists.com>, <http://facebook.com/SoWaArtistsGuild>, or <https://www.instagram.com/sowaartistsguild/> for more information.

ANNUAL GARDENERS' GATHERING SET FOR MARCH 16 AT NU

The 48th annual Gardeners' Gathering takes place on Saturday, March 16, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Shillman Hall and The Egan Center at Northeastern University.

The event, which is free to attend and open to all, brings Boston-area growers of all kinds together for a day full of informative workshops, engaging exhibitors, networking, and inspiration. In honor of the 50th anniversary of Mel King's Massachusetts Gardening and Farm Act, the Gathering will focus on celebrating our invaluable legacy gardeners, taking a look back on the incredible community growing work in Boston over the last half a century.

Be sure to pre-register for the event at <https://thetrustees.org/program/gardeners-gathering/>.

MUDDY RIVER CLEANUP SET FOR APRIL 20

The Emerald Necklace Conservancy will be holding its 16th annual Muddy River Cleanup on Saturday, April 20.

The Cleanup is a part of the Annual Earth Day Charles River Cleanup, which takes place throughout the Charles River Watershed, and it builds on a national effort as part of American Rivers' National River Cleanup.

Visit <https://www.emerald-necklace.org/volunteer/muddy-river-cleanup-2024/> to register and for more information on the Emerald Necklace Conservancy's 16th annual Muddy River Cleanup.

CHARLES RIVER CLEANUP SET TO RETURN APRIL 19-20

Join the Esplanade Association for the 25th annual Charles River Cleanup - one of the largest Earth Day cleanups in the nation -- on Friday, April 19, and Saturday, April 20.

Registration is now open for individual and corporate/large groups; sign up for one or both days online at <https://esplanade.org/cleanup/>.

CORRECTION: Due to an editorial error, the headline for last week's front page story on the city's upcoming 'A Vision for Historic Preservation in Boston' meeting listed an erroneous location for the event, which takes place on Tuesday, March 12, from 6 to 8 p.m. at City Hall, Room 801, as well as virtually.

Treasurer Goldberg announces latest release of Unclaimed Property Listings

Special to the Sun

Massachusetts State Treasurer Deborah B. Goldberg has announced the latest grouping of names added to the state's list of unclaimed property owners. Over 50,000 new properties worth millions of dollars are owed to individuals and businesses throughout the Common-

wealth.

"Did you know there is \$3.4 billion in unclaimed property here in Massachusetts? 1 in 10 people in this state are owed money and one of them could be you," said Treasurer Deborah B. Goldberg. "So check the list, go online, or call our office to search for your name and begin the process today."

Unclaimed property includes forgotten savings and checking accounts, un-cashed checks, insurance policy proceeds, stocks, dividends, and the contents of unattended safe deposit boxes. Most accounts are considered abandoned and are turned over to the state after three years

(UNCLAIMED PROPERTY Pg. 4)

125-127 COMMONWEALTH AVE. (from pg. 1)

vided services to at-risk individuals with limited or no resources since 1958, has entered into an agreement for a term of three to five years to lease the Commonwealth Avenue property.

While the license would allow for 113 occupants, Larkin said no more than 75 people maximum would be living there at any given time.

The occupants would be overseen by full-time staff, said Larkin, and “handpicked” to live there for a minimum of a year as their last stop before they transition into permanent housing.

Wrap-around services would be provided on-site for occupants including basic life skills; independent living skills; and social and interpersonal skills, added Larkin.

Occupants could potentially include a “wide swath of people,” according to Larkin, including individuals suffering from TBI (Traumatic Brain Injury).

While he refused to elaborate any more on who the expected occupants might be, Larkin made assurances that none would be direct referrals from the courts or criminal justice systems.

“It’s not the Pine Street inn. It’s not Mass. and Cass, It’s not what this place is,” said Larkin, despite WBUR reporting that Eliot Community Human Services Eliot had helped place 150 people from Mass. and Cass into permanent housing last year.

Moreover, the occupants would be subject to a number of rules, including a strict no-visitors policy, said Larkin.

Larkin also agreed to take a related proposal from the same applicant to use a building at 164 Marlborough St. for similar pur-

poses off the table.

But despite Larkin’s many assurances, some neighbors were still unsettled by what was perceived as a lack of transparency surrounding who the tenants would ultimately be.

“I’m sure plenty of people would love Mr. Larkin’s [organization] in their neighborhood, but not in my backyard,” said Charles Talanian, president of C. Talanian Realty, as well as an abutter and a 45-year resident of the Back Bay.

Talanian added that he has inquired about purchasing the property in question and “doing the right thing” with it.

Another neighbor, Bruce Friedman, expressed concern that the first round of tenants in the building would be selected to “make a good impression.” But this, he said, “would provide no degree of comfort...as to who will be occupying the building in 24 months.”

Jennifer Borman, head of school for the Commonwealth School, a private high school that sits at 151 Commonwealth Ave., directly across from the site, also wanted to know more about who would be living in a property so close to their campus.

Others longtime Back Bay residents expressed concern that the property’s occupants could end up having an adverse effect on their quality of life, as well as on their property values.

Elliott Laffer, a long-serving NABB board member who chaired the meeting in the absence of regular committee chair, Conrad Armstrong, advised the applicant to carefully consider the deteriorated condition of the property, especially in

light of ADA requirements.

Laffer also predicted that the applicant would likely find themselves before the city’s Board of Appeal to address zoning issues, if the plan moves forward.

Despite the skepticism surrounding this project, Laffer pointed out that several years ago, NABB had supported the transformation of the former YW building at 140 Clarendon St. into affordable housing, with numerous units designated for the recent homeless.

Larkin agreed to Laffer’s request that he return for another public meeting sponsored by NABB, which could take place either in person or virtually, to discuss the proposal in greater detail, and to directly address the concerns of neighbors.

In another matter, future plans for the building at 761-793 Boylston St., which was previously home to Crate & Barrel, were discussed.

Tavistock Development Company purchased the building along, with its two restaurant tenants – Abe & Louie’s at 793 Boylston St. and Atlantic Fish Company at 761 Boylston St., respectively, – from the late restaurant mogul, Charles F. Sarkis, in 2011, said Chad Tinetti, vice president of the Orlando, Fla.-based real estate firm.

An empty retail space located in the basement and on the first floor between Abe & Louie’s and Atlantic Fish is now poised to become home to First Watch, a national chain of restaurants serving made-to order breakfast, brunch, and lunch (but not dinner) dishes, said Tinetti. He added that Tavistock expects First Watch would complement the two existing restaurants by providing a more affordable menu and by offering breakfast, unlike the other two establishments.

The new restaurant would operate a patio on private property in the “deep plaza” along Boylston Street, said Tinetti, while a second entrance would also be created for increased access.

Meanwhile, Swingers, a UK-based chain offering ‘elevated’ miniature golf, is poised to take over another approximately 20,000 square feet on the more than half of the building’s second floor and its entire third floor, said Jason Enany, senior vice president of sales for the company’s U.S. Division. (Laffer ques-



125-127 Commonwealth Ave.

tioned the stated square footage, however, as he thinks the space is significantly smaller.)

Although Swingers would be permitted for a maximum of 720 occupants, between 350 and 400 patrons are expected during peak hours on its three nine-hole golf courses, said Enany, who previously appeared before the committee in December of 2022 to discuss Swingers’ since-abandoned plans to open at 31 St. James Ave.

The projected weekday clientele would be largely corporate, as well as workers from the leisure and hospitality industries, said Enany, with more families expected during the early part of the day on weekends.

Swingers would likely partner with local restaurants to provide comfort food, including burgers, pizza, and Mexican fare, said Enany, which would be prepared on site in the second-floor kitchen and brought to patrons by wait staff.

In addition to abundant seating, multiple bar spaces would also be located throughout the venue, offering beer, wine and liquor.

Tinetti said the applicant would return to the LBU Com-

mittee once they have secured a liquor license for the current location. He added that Swingers had previously secured a liquor license for the once-proposed St. James Avenue location.

Swingers on Boylston Street could be either a sole company venture or a joint venture, which could also involve Tavistock, said Tinetti.

A tentative future phase for the Boylston Street building would include a proposed five-story addition comprising two floors of office and fitness space below nine residential units on three stories, said Tinetti, but no date has been set yet for this next step in the building’s redevelopment.

Laffer told both applicants he would inform them of NABB’s position on their respective applications by Friday of next week (March 15), after the group’s Executive Committee is scheduled to meet.

The committee was also slated to hear from representatives for Teazzi Tea Shop-Newbury, a new bubble-tea shop proposed for 232 Newbury St. But that matter ultimately wasn’t heard by the committee due to the applicant’s failure to appear as scheduled at the virtual meeting.



D. MURPHY PHOTOS

The building at 761-793 Boylston St.

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Joint Committee on Ways and Means to hold budget hearing in Gloucester

The Joint Committee on Ways and Means will hold a hearing on Governor Maura Healey’s FY2025 budget proposal, covering the topics of economic development, housing, and labor.

UNCLAIMED PROPERTY (from pg. 1)

of inactivity. Last year, Treasury processed over 145,000 claims and returned \$185 million in property to its rightful owners. This newly released list includes only individuals and businesses with unclaimed property over \$100. Treasurer Goldberg urges all citizens to check the comprehensive list for all amounts at www.findmassmoney.gov or call our live call center at 1-888-344-MASS (6277). The full list of the new individuals and businesses added to the unclaimed property list will be published in the Boston Globe on March 3rd and in the Boston Herald on March 10th. In addition, the list of names will be published in over 30 regional and local papers in following weeks. The Treasury releases an updated list of unclaimed property assets every six months as the new accounts are turned over to the Commonwealth. There is no time limit for a person to claim this property and, in many cases, claimants will receive interest.

State Representative Ann-Margaret Ferrante (D-Gloucester) and State Senator Lydia Edwards (D-Boston) will co-chair the hearing. The hearing will be open to the public for viewing; testimony is by invitation only.

"The state budget is the most important piece of legislation that is passed annually because it funds almost all aspects of the Commonwealth’s functions and programs. Although those testifying will include Constitutional officers such as the Attorney General, Secretariats of Economic Development, Labor and Workforce, Housing and Livable Communities and agencies, this hearing gives the public the opportunity to view the budget process," said Rep. Ann-Margaret Ferrante (D-Gloucester). "I’m pleased that

my constituents, the residents of Cape Ann, will have the ability to see the budget process up close and personal, especially as we hear testimony on how and where the Commonwealth intends to spend its resources."

"As co-chair of this critical hearing on the FY2025 state budget, I'm honored to provide a platform for public engagement in our budgetary process. This hearing isn't just about numbers; it's about the future we're collectively shaping. By opening the doors to transparency and accountability, we empower our constituents to actively participate in decisions that impact their lives," said Senator Lydia Edwards (D-Boston).

WHAT: Joint Committee on Ways and Means hearing on the

FY2025 state budget

WHEN: Friday, March 8th at 10:30am

WHERE: Gloucester City Hall – Kyrouz Auditorium, 9 Dale Avenue, Gloucester, Massachusetts

WHO: Joint Committee on Ways and Means, Office of the Attorney General, Executive Office of Economic Development, Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation, Dept. of Business Development, Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities, Dept. of Housing and Community Development, Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development, Board of Library Commissioners, Mass. Cultural Council, Commission on the Status of Women, Cannabis Control Commission

RESEARCH STUDY: Testosterone treatment in men with back pain who use opioids for pain control

You are invited to participate in a clinical research study at the Brigham and Women’s Hospital. Investigators are evaluating the effect of testosterone treatment on back pain in men who use opioids for pain control. Your participation may help men with chronic back pain and low testosterone.

Participation includes:

- 6 to 8 study visits
 - Financial compensation of up to \$935
 - Free parking / meal vouchers for visits that require fasting
- You may be eligible to participate in this study:

 - If you are a man aged 18 or older
 - If you have history of back pain
 - If you are receiving opioid to treat your pain

For more information, please call: 617-278-0722
or Email: lchammas@bwh.harvard.edu

Charlestown resident brings unique approach to interior design

By Dan Murphy

For S. Christine Cavataio, every project that her interior design firm, Living Being Design, takes on is a team effort, which allows her to focus on the finer points.

"I enjoy getting into the details," said Cavataio, who added that she also appreciates working as a member of a team alongside electricians, plumbers, and general contractors during interior buildouts.

Cavataio, who received a bachelor's in fine art in Interior Design from Syracuse University and a master's in Education from Cambridge College, is certified by the National Council for Interior Design Qualification (NCIDQ), Certified Cruelty Free (CFF), as well as a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Accredited Professional (LEED AP).

For more than two decades, Cavataio held full-time faculty positions in two undergraduate Interior Design degree programs. She has also taught and served as an outside critic at three other nationally accredited ID programs in and around Boston, including a stint last month at Suffolk University.

"I'm still involved in academia," she said. "I enjoy working with students."

In addition to environmental

stewardship and biophilic design, Cavataio's areas of academic research include generating concepts and using drawing to support creative thinking in the design process. She presented her findings at two annual Interior Design Educators Council international conferences, and she's also the author and illustrator of a textbook, 'Manual Drafting for Interiors.'

In 2018, Cavataio launched Living Being Design from her Charlestown home, she said, "as a resource for those wishing to incorporate environmental stewardship into interior design projects."

Cavataio said she has shifted to primarily residential projects, with "the focus on home design

(INTERIOR DESIGN Pg. 8)



COURTESY OF S. CHRISTINE CAVATAIO

For this bathroom, S. Christine Cavataio of Living Being Design used reclaimed New England materials for an edited historic aesthetic that allows the plumbing fixtures and wall art to become the focus.

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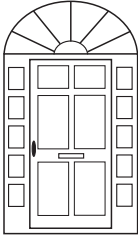
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2024 Summer in the City



SUMMER IN THE CITY (from pg. 1)

of KBCreative, for the first week (July 8-12). They'll travel to different habitats across northeastern Massachusetts and southern New Hampshire, exploring the natural world, and creating art focused on their surroundings. Visit <https://www.adventschool.org/news/get-outside> for more information.

Session Three, from July 22 through Aug. 2, will be 'Medieval to Modern, Design through the Ages,' which explores the evolution of architecture, transportation, and fashion throughout history. The goal is to adapt these elements for a future world, envisioning improved designs for the modern world. The session invites designers to reflect on the origins of buildings, vehicles, and clothing while envisioning their potential transformations in the future.

Programming runs from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., with extended day options also available.

Visit <https://www.adventschool.org/summer.to> register and for more information on the Advent School's summer programming.

Buckingham, Browne & Nichols School, a pre-K-12 private school in Cambridge, provides a valuable and enjoyable, ACA-accredited summer camp experience for campers from 4 years old through rising 12th grade every summer. This year's program runs from June 17 through Aug. 9.

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

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

Boston Ballet School, located at 19 Clarendon St. in the Back Bay, offers a creative and enriching summer program in a fun, lively, and supportive environment.

Expert faculty members will lead students, ages 3-16, in a

comprehensive dance experience ranging from classical ballet technique to other movement enrichments that spark creativity and imagination. Besides its Boston location, BBS also has another state-of-the-art studio in Newton.

For more information, visit <https://www.bostonballet.org/education-artical/summer-camps/>.

The Boston Children's School Summer-Fun-Program will begin its 42nd year on July 8 and continue for six weeks, ending Aug. 16, at 8 Whittier Place in the West End.

The program, designed for children between the ages of 3 and 8, is located at Charles River Park in the West End. The Boston Children's School has its own private playground, which allows children to play safely outdoors, away from the noise, congestion, and traffic. Inside, the facility is fully air conditioned.

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

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

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

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

"e" inc., the environmental science learning center located 114 16th St., Suite 1030, in Charlestown, is again offering its Summer Science Discovery Program (SSDP), with three camp sessions.

The first week will focus on 'Earth - Air - Water - and - Fire' via Earth (Geology), Air (Harnessing Wind), Water (the Ocean), and Fire (Volcanos and Lightning). The second week focusing on 'Sustainable Transportation' will explore various modes of transportation, including why mass transit is essential to preserving the environment. The third week will focus on 'Backyard Habitats' by showcasing the wide range of micro-or-

ganisms and eco-systems. Each week of SSDP will include a field trip on Wednesdays.

For more information on "e" inc., visit einc-action.org.

Essem Art Studio, located at 15 Tufts St., third floor in Charlestown, offers your children a magical summer art experience during its Essem Art Studio's Summer Minicamp sessions.

Fun themes for the sessions include Sweet Treats, Famous Artists, and Pop Art, among others, while ESSEM Studio will also offer pottery programs this summer, which will take advantage of the facility's new kiln.

Visit <https://essemartstudio.com/studio-programs/> for more information.

Little Tykes Summer Camp, located inside the Nazzaro Center at 30 North Bennet St. in Boston, offers a fun day camp for kids ages 6-12, with sessions offered from July 1 through Aug. 16.

Campers will enjoy a variety of activities, such as Weekly swimming lessons and free swim at the Mirabella Pool; fishing lessons weekly at Langone Park; and sports programs, including martial arts, daily at the center

and local parks. Other offerings include weekly STEM programs at the center; daily arts and crafts; and weekly creative programming with North End Music and Performing Arts Center, such as percussion, dance, dramatics, music production, and more. The camp also offers weekly field trips to various sites, including Davis Farm Land, among other points of interest. Each weekly session costs \$250 per camper.

For more information on Little Tykes Summer Camp, call 617-470-5922 or visit nazzarocenter-council@gmail.com.

School of Fashion Design, located at 31 St. James Ave, second floor, in the Back Bay, is offering its Teen Program in Fashion Design.

If you are interested in fashion and sewing as a hobby or considering majoring in fashion design, this program provides an introduction to the fashion design process, from conception to sketch to garment completion with no prior experience necessary. The curriculum offers a taste of SFD's adult Certificate in Fashion Design program taught by expert faculty.

Visit schooloffashiondesign.org for more information.

org for more information.

For those who need a little more academic attention during the summer, Dr. Katrina Tamvakologos (a.k.a. 'Dr. T'), an experienced teacher with a passion for education, and her Unlock Your Potential offer personalized tutoring for K-12 students at their Beacon Hill offices.

In addition to assisting students in the fundamentals of writing, such as composition, essay writing, and reading comprehension, in one-on-one or small-group tutoring.

Reading intervention tutoring is also available to children who may be experiencing some difficulty reading while tutoring focusing on developing their will teach students how to remember instructions, plan Executive Functioning Skills. Unlock Your Potential offers older students assistance with college applications as well.

For more information, visit www.uypptutoring.com, or contact Dr. Katrina Tamvakologos at 617-784-6753, or via email at Katrina@uypptutoring.com.



DESIGN YOUR SUMMER

STEM program for kids ages 5-12

3 unique sessions in June, July & August

Learn from industry experts

Build, tinker & explore!

Learn More

adventschool.org/summer



2024 Summer in the City



THE ADVENT SCHOOL 15 BRIMMER ST. BOSTON, MA 02108 adventschool.org

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

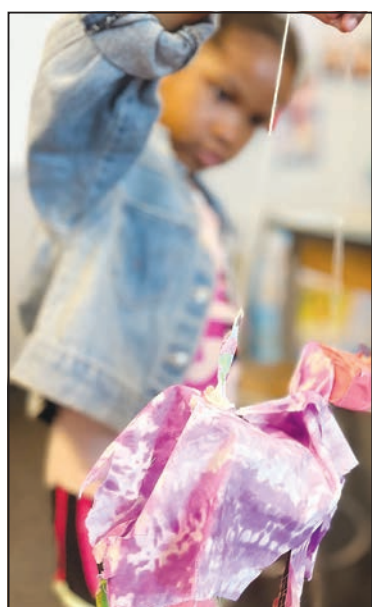
Summer 2024 Themes

Wonderstruck Wearables:
6/17 - 6/28 (There is no session on 6/19 as the school is closed during Juneteenth.)

City Remix: 7/8-7/19

Medieval to Modern: Design Through the Ages: 7/22-8/2

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



An Advent School student shows off her arts and crafts during the summer program.

enrich your summer at Boston Ballet School! In a fun, lively, and supportive environment, BBS expert faculty lead students ages 3-16* through a comprehensive dance experience ranging from classical ballet technique to other movement enrichments that spark creativity and imagination. Students will have a fun, enriching experience, foster personal growth, further their training and create lifelong memories with faculty and friends. Boston

BOSTON BALLET SCHOOL

19 CLARENDON ST.
BOSTON, MA 02116
bostonballet.org/school

Inspire your creativity and



SCHOOL OF FASHION DESIGN Summer High School Workshop

Come Design with us!



SESSION 1: July 8 - July 29
SESSION 2: July 31 - August 21
MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS, 9:00AM - 3:30PM

31 St. James Avenue, Boston, MA 02116

admissions@sfdoboston.org

Ballet School has 2 state-of-the-art studios in Boston and Newton.

For more information please visit: <https://www.bostonballet.org/education-artical/summer-camps/>

BOSTON CHILDREN'S SCHOOL

8 WHITTIER PLACE
BOSTON, MA 02114

617-367-6239

617-BCS-KIDS

Bostonchildrensschool.org

Summer Fun Program

The Boston Children's School Summer Fun Program celebrates its 42st year of providing exceptional summertime experiences and academic enrichment to children between the ages of 3 and 8 years old. The Summer Fun Program at The Boston Children's School is conveniently located at Charles River Park, in the historic West End section of Boston. Our location is fully air-conditioned. The school has its own private playground, which allows children to safely play outdoors away from the noise, congestion and traffic of the city streets. Our location also allows children to explore the cultural richness of the City of Boston through field trips to museums, theaters, libraries and historic sites. The Summer Fun program is organized by age. Each age group is supervised, taught and nurtured by certified teachers, along with teacher interns from local area colleges. All activities are designed to be developmentally appropriate for each age group. Children can use the pool areas, on a daily basis, at The Clubs at Charles River Park. The Summer Fun Program also offers children yoga, music appreciation, science, arts and crafts, and interactive storytelling. Parent involvement and participation are always a part of the program, which begins July 8, 2024 and ends Aug.16, 2024.

If you would like your child to become part of the 2024 Summer Fun Program at the Boston Children's School, please call Judy Langer,

Program Director, at 617-367-6239 or 617-BCS-KIDS

We are also now taking enrollment applications for the 2024-25 School year for: pre-school, kindergarten and grades 1-3.

BUCKINGHAM, BROWNE & NICHOLS SCHOOL - BB&N

80 GERRYS LANDING RD,
CAMBRIDGE, MA,
bbns.org

BB&N provides a valuable and enjoyable summer camp experience for campers from 4 years old through rising 12th grade every summer. The program runs for 8 weeks starting June 17th through August 9th. We have a variety of programming from classic camp to speciality/sports camps, there is a little something for everyone! Classic camp is a Traditional summer day camp experience with rotating activities each day like arts

and crafts, sports, hands-on fun, archery, and more. Teen Camp offers off-site trips. In addition, we offer our LIT 1 and 2 programs for campers in grades 8-10. Specialty Camps are dedicated to a niche activity for a week of focused learning, play, and exploration for the inquisitive camper. Sports Camps we offer sports such as Crew, Soccer, Basketball, Volleyball, Fishing, Flag Football and Ultimate Games. Each camp week is dedicated to each sport with practice drills, skills, and scrimmages through the week. We hope you choose Summer@BB&N, please visit our website to register.

(CONTINUED ON Pg. 7)



Summer Fun at the Boston Children's School includes lots of outdoor fun.



Summer@BB&N

CLASSIC CAMP

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



SPECIALTY CAMPS

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

SPORTS CAMPS

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



ALL CAMP ACTIVITIES

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



Registration for Summer 2024 is now open!
Check out our website to learn more!

bbnssummer.com





"E" INC.
114 16TH STREET
CHARLESTOWN
einc-action.org

The Summer Science Discovery Program

Week One: Earth - Air - Water - and - Fire!

The first of "E" INC.'s 3 camp sessions, through Earth (Geology), Air (Harnessing Wind), Water (the Ocean) and Fire (Volcanos and Lightning)! Days are filled with exploration, discovery, and hands-on activities that delve into the wonders of nature's fundamental forces, allowing campers to gain an understanding of 4 of the major powers at play in our global ecosystem.

Week Two: Sustainable Transportation!

An action-packed exploration of the many modes of travel that shape our world as we discover the exciting possibilities of new and interesting forms of travel.

From the sleek efficiency of trains to the soaring majesty of planes, kids will jump headfirst into the fascinating world of travel, and get hands-on with engaging activities that will inspire creativity and curiosity. With a focus on the future of transportation and its impact on the environment,

we'll explore the importance of public transportation and its role in creating sustainable communities. From reducing traffic congestion to curbing emissions, discover why buses, trains, and other forms of mass transit are essential for preserving our planet's health.

Week Three: Backyard Habitats

This week is all about the world that exists in your own backyard where life thrives in surprising ways! Uncover the secrets of the many micro-organisms and diverse ecosystems that flourish right outside our doorstep. From towering trees to tiny insects, campers will learn how many components play a crucial role in sustaining our wonderful environments. Despite being an urban space, Boston is teeming with life, and this themed week will showcase the incredible diversity of creatures that call our city HOME!

**Each week of SSDP has a field trip on Wednesday of that week.

ESSEM STUDIO
15 TUFTS ST 3RD FLOOR,
CHARLESTOWN, MA 02129
Essemartstudio.com

Give your child the magical summer art experience at one or all of Essem Art Studio's Summer

Minicamp sessions with fun themes like Sweet Treats, Famous Artists, and Pop Art, your little artist will have a chance to explore colors and art processes in a fun and engaging way. With the addition of our kiln, we will also be offering pottery programs this summer!

Visit essemartstudio.com/studio-programs/ to learn more.

LITTLE TYKES
SUMMER CAMP
NAZZARO CENTER
30 NORTH BENNET ST.
BOSTON, MA. 02113

Sessions offered from July 1 to August 16 \$250 per session

A fun day camp for ages 6 - 12. Children will participate in a variety of activities: Weekly swimming lessons and free swim at the Mirabella Pool, Fishing lessons weekly at Langone Park, sports programs (including martial arts) daily at the center and local parks, Stem programs weekly at the center, and arts and crafts (working with clay, leather, plaster and other artistic mediums) daily. Creative programming weekly with North End Music and Performing Arts Center including: Percussion, Dance, Dramatics, Music Production, and more. There will also be weekly field trips to various sites such as Davis Farm Land, Mini Golf and Arcades, Theaters and Movies, Discovery Museum, Historic Sites and other places of interest.

Contact: 617-470-5922 or nazzarocentercouncil@gmail.com

SCHOOL OF FASHION
DESIGN TEEN PROGRAM
IN FASHION DESIGN
31 ST. JAMES AVE, 2ND FL, BOSTON, MA 02116
schooloffashiondesign.org

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

UNLOCK YOUR
POTENTIAL - TUTORING
KATRINA TAMVAKOLOGOS
KTAMVAKOLOGOS@
GMAIL.COM

www.uyptutoring.com/

When it comes to education, there is no one-size-fits-all approach. Every student is different and requires varying approaches to learning. While some kids manage to be more self-directed, others may be struggling and need a little extra help to succeed.

That's where tutoring comes in. Tutoring provides students

with the guidance and personal attention they need to succeed in school.

As educators know, tutoring ranks among the most wide spread, versatile, and potentially transformative instruments within a student's educational toolkit.

Unlock Your Potential offers individualized tutoring plans, 1-on-1 tutoring, or small group tutoring. Our tutoring is offered both in-person in our Beacon Hill office and remotely.

We're here now to be part of your academic support team, you don't have to wait for Summer!

Contact us for a free consult.

The Summer Fun program

The Boston Children's School

July 8 - August 16, 2024

Ages 3 to 8 years

Eight Whittier Place
 617-367-6239 617-BCS-KIDS
BostonChildrensSchool.Org

Accepting applications for the 2024-25 School Year: Pre-school, Kindergarten & Grades 1-3

UNLOCK YOUR POTENTIAL

Academic Success Is Right Around the Corner

When it comes to education, there is no one-size-fits-all approach. Every student is different and requires varying approaches to learning. Tutoring provides students with the guidance and personal attention they need to succeed in school. Contact Dr. Katrina Tamvakologos for a consultation about how we can support your student's success.



617-784-6753 | Katrina@uyptutoring.com

NAZZARO CENTER
 30 NORTH BENNET ST.
 BOSTON, MA. 02113

LITTLE TYKES SUMMER CAMP

FUN & CREATIVE OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES FOR BOYS & GIRLS 6-12 YEARS OLD

JULY 1ST THROUGH AUGUST 16TH

50% Deposit Due at Registration

Per Week \$250

Activities

- ✓ Sports
- ✓ Fishing
- ✓ Arts & Crafts
- ✓ Swimming
- ✓ Field trips

Nazzaro Community Center
 Returning Campers Registration: March 5th, 6th, and 7th 5pm-7pm
 New Registrations: March 12th, 13th, 14th 5pm-7pm

More Information 1-617-470-5922 or nazzarocentercouncil@gmail.com

THE NORTH END ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION HOLDS AXE THROWING FUNDRAISER

Derek Kouyoumjian Photos

The North End Athletic Association has a fundraising event at the Axe Throwing Club Boston. The new sports venture, celebrating 3 months since open-

ing donated food, beer, and wine along with Boston Bottles who donated cans of beer. Neighbors and friends came to celebrate and support the North End institution that helps provide activities for neighborhood youth.



John Romano of the North End Athletic Association is happy to try out axe throwing.



Axe Throwing Club Boston head instructor and general manager Brendan Hogan clinks axes with Catherine Martin.



Meredith Schroder and Dhiren Thakkar.



Alfredo Vilar and Barb Peterlin.



Catherine Martin and Patricia Romano.



Guarino Vilar, longtime resident of the North End and axe throwing fan, admires his bullseye throw. See Page 11 for more photos.



Axe Throwing Club Boston head instructor and general manager Brendan Hogan (center) helps Doug and Barb Peterlin with their axe throwing.

Beacon Hill Village and Cindy Sullivan Fitness team up to offer 7th Annual “Spring into Action” Senior Fitness Week

Special to the Sun

Spring is almost here, and so is Senior Fitness Week, “Spring Into Action!” Each year, Beacon Hill Village (BHV) and Cindy Sullivan of Cindy Sullivan Fitness partner to offer a full week of Senior Fitness classes from

Monday, March 11th – Friday, March 15th. This year marks the 7th time this program is being offered to adults aged 50 and over in Boston. This year the full week of programs is being offered free of charge to all participants. Four of the classes will

be virtual and one will be offered in person.

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 Senior Fitness

Week program for the seventh 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

(SENIOR FITNESS Pg. 9)

INTERIOR DESIGN (from pg. 4)

creating opportunity to more closely examine the impact of interior design decisions on ecological footprint and alignment with occupants’ ethics.”

She added, “It’s an underlying thought process. Some clients don’t even know about [sustainability], and they might want to ask about a product being green-er.”

And while Cavataio will go so far as to source the most sustainable wood for a project, she also said she wouldn’t “reject” a potential client for not being overly concerned with the environment either, since the clients’ tastes and needs are what ultimately shapes her projects.

“I look at the clients’ demands and wishes,” she said. “If it

doesn’t work for them, then it’s a problem.”

One misconception surrounding the interior design business that Cavataio hopes to dispel is that the services are exorbitantly expensive. But in reality, she charges hourly rates, which allows her to take on less extensive jobs for clients with smaller budgets.

Most recently, Cavataio said

the “overwhelming majority” of her work has entailed designing kitchens and bathrooms.

“I love doing kitchens and bathrooms because of the complexity of service,” she said. “They need water and power, and have to be highly functional to be successful.”

Although Cavataio works in both old and new structures,

most of her past projects were in Boston so she said she most often finds herself “working with old structures and renewing old buildings.”

“In itself, preservation is a sustainable practice,” she said.

For more information on Living Being Design, visit livingbeingdesign.com, or call S. Christine Cavataio at 617-510-8659.

Back Bay Architectural Commission to meet March 13

The commission will hold its next public hearing virtually on Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 5pm.

This hearing will be held virtually and not in person. To participate, please go to our Zoom meeting link or call 301-715-8592 and enter meeting ID 931 9698 1611 #. You can also email comments through email at backbayac@boston.gov

Public testimony begins at 5 p.m.

The agenda is as follows:

Design Review

24.0584 BB 42 Newbury Street: Alter existing storefront and install signage.

24.0756 BB 299-301 Newbury Street: At front façade remove a portion of fencing at dig out area at 301 Newbury Street; and at rear elevation replace existing fire escape with redesigned fire escape.

24.0760 BB 310 Beacon Street: At rear garage repair and repoint

masonry, replace and install new light fixtures, replace rubber membrane roof and wood deck boards in-kind; refinish existing railings and install season shade structure.

Administrative Review/Approval

24.0776 BB 142 Beacon Street: At front façade repair masonry and wood window trim.

22.0525 BB 464 Beacon Street: Extend approval of application 22.0525 BB to expire on 3-23-2025. The proposed work includes: at front façade replacing front garden curb with a new cast stone curb and a new wrought iron fence; at the roof extending the existing penthouse forward to align with adjacent properties with a deck at the front facade similar to adjacent properties, cladding both the new extension and the exposed existing penthouse in standing seam copper; and at the rear

elevation enlarging the existing garage, introducing two new doors where windows are currently at the rear elevation, and constructing a roof deck on top of the garage with a raised walkway connecting the main building to the deck above the garage structure.

24.0749 BB 303 Berkeley Street: Repair masonry and brick paving, replace deteriorated copper elements in-kind, repaint wood elements, and repair slate roof.

24.0720 BB 23 Commonwealth Avenue: At rear elevation replace deteriorated wood elements at existing deck in-kind.

24.0712 BB 68 Commonwealth Avenue: At front façade replace existing intercom.

24.0732 BB 151 Commonwealth Avenue: At front façade repaint existing fire balconies.

23.0899 BB 285 Commonwealth Avenue: Extend approval of application 23.0899 BB to expire on 5-17-2025. The

Proposed work includes: at roof replacing deck, re-cladding the existing headhouse, and installing lighting, built-in furniture and planters.

24.0757 BB 305 Commonwealth Avenue: At front façade repoint and repair masonry, replace deteriorated copper elements in-kind, and repaint fencing and grates.

24.0543 BB 377 Commonwealth Avenue: At rear elevation twelve one-over-one windows with wood one-over-one wood windows.

24.0714 BB 282 Marlborough Street: At side elevation repair existing fire escape.

24.0724 BB 435 Marlborough Street: At roof replace black rubber membrane roof in-kind.

24.0725 BB 2 Newbury Street: At front façade and side elevation install new signage at first-story retail space.

24.0706 BB 110 Newbury Street: At front façade install new signage at first-story retail space.

24.0753 BB 115 Newbury Street: At side elevation rebuild existing brick retaining wall.

24.0759 BB 118 Newbury Street: At front façade install new signage at first-story retail space.

24.0443 BB 350 Newbury Street: At front façade replacement of non-historic balustrade.

Ratification of 2-14-2024 Public Hearing Minutes

Staff Updates

Projected Adjournment - 6:15pm

SENIOR FITNESS (from pg. 8)

it, but the countless lives we've positively impacted. This program isn't just about exercise; it's about fostering community, promoting vitality, and celebrating the incredible resilience of our senior participants!"

Fitness participant Nancy Serventi looks forward to Fitness Week each year. "Believe it or not, BHV Fitness Week is fun! It gives you a good sense of how you are progressing, and what needs extra attention. The classes are also an opportunity to socialize with friends, which is important as we age," said Serventi.

This year's class lineup includes:

MONDAY, 3/11, 9:30 AM – STRETCH AND FLOW (Zoom): This NO FLOOR stretch class is designed to increase flexibility and range of movement to improve activities for daily living. There is a combo of dynamic or flow stretching, with static stretching throughout class. At the end we will add deep breathing and final relaxation exercises to promote stress reduction and relaxation. Suitable for all fitness levels.

TUESDAY, 3/12, 11 AM – TOTAL BODY WORKOUT (Zoom): Join us for our traditional weekly workout for Active Agers. This class combines a

little bit of everything including low impact cardio, strength training, balance, and flexibility to target the entire body. Hand weights (or alternative), a resistance band, and a chair will be needed. 10 minutes of mat work will be included. Can be modified for many levels.

WEDNESDAY, 3/13, 11 AM – BALANCE TRAINING (Zoom): Exercises and tips on the importance of staying strong and preventing falls. Balance is the cooperation between the brain, nervous system, muscles, and bones; and the class will focus on improving that connection. Suitable for all fitness levels.

THURSDAY, 3/14, 11 AM – STRENGTH & 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.

FRIDAY, 3/15, 11 AM – FUNCTIONAL FITNESS: RUTH BADER GINSBURG

INSPIRED WORKOUT (In Person at Suffolk University): Created as a tribute to the late, great RBG, sample some of the exercises she did with her trainer on a weekly basis. The workout will improve your "activities of daily living" and includes functional exercises that support four fitness goals for seniors: endurance, strength, balance, and flexibility. Bring a mat or towel. Can be modified for many 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 Action" classes and discover new and fun ways to incorporate physical activity into your day, call the BHV office at 617-723-9713 or visit the website at www.beaconhillvillage.org. For questions on class descriptions or more event details email cindysullivanfitness@gmail.com. Don't delay, classes are filling up fast.

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

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ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE KITCHEN WALL THERE'S A WHOLE OTHER STORY.

Thirst
BY RONÁN NOONE
DIRECTED BY COURTNEY O'CONNOR

Aimee Doherty, Michael Kaye, Kate Fitzgerald | Photo: Nile Hawver

SAVE 20% ON TICKETS! USE CODE: BBS20

Healey announces “Massachusetts Maple Month” in support of local commerce

Special to the Sun

To celebrate a new agricultural season in Massachusetts, Governor Maura Healey is declaring March as Massachusetts Maple Month. Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR) Commissioner Ashley Randle joined state and local officials and representatives from the Massachusetts Maple Producers Association today at Severance Maple Products in Northfield to raise awareness of the state’s maple sugar industry and to encourage residents to visit their local sugar house and purchase locally made maple products.

In a recent visit to Severance Maple Products included a tour of their operations and retail store, along with a reading of a Governor’s Proclamation and ceremonial tapping of a maple tree to commemorate the official start of the sugaring season.

Owners Milt and Robin Severance have been sugaring since 1976. Their first year yielded a couple of gallons of maple syrup, but today, they produce a couple thousand gallons annually. All of their products are produced locally in Northfield at their sugarhouse kitchen, with availability online, in local stores, and at craft and agricultural fairs in the area.

Massachusetts is one of the top maple-producing states in the country, home to over 300 maple producers that produce more than 70,000 gallons per year. The sector employs over a thousand people, contributing over \$15 million to the local economy. Maple sugaring profits allow many Massachusetts farms to stay in business year-round by diversifying their offerings, serving as a supplemental source of income to their other crops.

“We are tapping into this

maple month with more support and appreciation for our sugarmakers than ever. The maple industry is not only economically, culturally, and historically important for the region but also plays a vital role in our environmental and climate resilience efforts,” said Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Rebecca Tepper. “The industry maintains and preserves more than 15,000 acres of land and is working to modernize equipment and install renewable energy sources. We are proud to see this the sector transition to one of the state’s most energy efficient and sustainable in agriculture.”

Since 2018, MDAR has awarded over half a million dollars in Climate Smart Agriculture Program Grants to maple producers throughout the state. These grants have been used to offset the costs of installing updated, environmentally friendly equipment, including high-efficiency evaporators, heat recovery and reverse osmosis equipment, and photovoltaic solar arrays, lowering carbon footprints and environmental impacts.

“Our farming community had an enormously challenging year in 2023, so it’s with great optimism that we usher in a new growing season and celebrate our maple producers with the first agricultural crop of the year,” said MDAR Commissioner Ashley Randle. “While the maple sugaring season may be brief in

Massachusetts, our maple producers work hard year-round to bring us this naturally sweet and nutritionally dense crop that is versatile and universally enjoyed by all. We’re proud to support them, and I can’t wait to enjoy a pancake breakfast topped with fresh maple syrup at a local sugarhouse this month.”

All month long, maple sugarhouses around the state will open their doors to host visitors with fun, family-friendly interactive activities, as well as serving stacks of pancakes, waffles, and French toast covered in local maple syrup. Maple sugaring is one of the few agritourism activities available during the early months of the year. Over 60,000 visitors spend more than \$2 million during the sugaring season. Farms, restaurants, bed and breakfasts, country inns, and other tourist businesses share in this income, which primarily flows into small towns and farm communities.

“Sugarhouses and local farms across Massachusetts provide memorable and immersive experiences for visitors of all ages,” said Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism Executive Director Kate Fox. “We encourage visitors and residents alike to check out Massachusetts sugarhouses during Maple Month, where they can experience a behind-the-scenes tour, sample delicious treats, and purchase local maple syrup and maple

products from these unique small businesses.”

“I’m so thankful to kick off maple season here in the Second Franklin District,” said Representative Susannah Whipps (I – Athol). “This brief sweet period of time is a sign that spring is coming and a reminder of the importance of this industry to our economy, tourism and food system.”

“I am delighted to join Governor Healey, EEA Secretary Tepper, MDAR Commissioner Randle, the MA Maple Producers Association, and many others in celebrating March as Massachusetts Maple Month,” said Senator Jo Comerford (D-Northampton). “I am tremendously proud to represent many outstanding maple producers who are living and working in the Hampshire, Franklin, Worcester district.”

“We expect a great maple syrup harvest this spring as many sugarmakers across the state are off to an early start,” said Massachusetts Maple Producers Association Coordinator Missy Leab. “As the sweet steam rises from our local sugarhouses this spring, we encourage everyone to take the opportunity and visit one or more of the 300+ Massachusetts maple producers where you can talk with a sugarmaker, ask all your maple questions, and see, smell, and taste spring! Watch the fascinating process of

(MAPLE MONTH Pg. 11)

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THE LYNN

JAMAICA PLAIN GAZETTE



COURTESY PHOTO

MDAR Commissioner Ashley Randle with state and local officials alongside Milt and Robin Severance (far right), owners of Severance Maple Products in Northfield.

Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
BACK BAY Champlin, Thomas Oliver-Vanderlee, Lesley	24v Marlborough U5 T Schmoll, Laura J	24 Marlborough St #5 390 Commonwealth Ave #206	\$1,500,000 \$1,049,000
BEACON HILL Carpenter, David M	6 Whittier Place Rlty LL	6 Whittier Pl #16D	\$575,000
BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE John Raguin RET 2012 Chisholm, Christopher Causeway Street Rt Obrien, Shaun D Renaissance Invs At 32 Dw Oliver-Vanderlee, Lesley	Kinsel, Patrick A Hedison, Bruce Putnam 234 Associates LL Putnam 234 Associates LL Loo, Eugenia Schmoll, Laura J	31 Holyoke St 5 Saint Charles St 234 Causeway St #1002 234 Causeway St #722 32 Dwight St 425 Newbury St #F45	\$4,800,000 \$2,949,000 \$899,000 \$760,000 \$3,080,000 \$1,049,000
WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN Xie, Jin Sullivan, Daniel W	Mcaf Winthrop LLC 108 Union Wharf LLC	240 Devonshire St #3911 108 Union Wharf #108	\$1,495,000 \$1,650,000

MAPLE MONTH (from pg. 11)

turning fresh maple sap into pure maple syrup. Don't forget to bring home a jug of Massachusetts sweetest crop: pure maple syrup!"

Maple syrup has been produced and consumed for centuries in North America. Its initial availability during the tail end of the winter season signals the start of the agricultural awakening in

Massachusetts and is a sure sign that spring is around the corner. Tree tapping in Massachusetts can start as early as late January and continue through April, though March is officially Maple Month. Most importantly, the temperatures must be below freezing at night and above freezing during the days for the tree sap to flow. Furthermore, weath-

er, soil, and genetics of the tree can affect maple syrup flavor.

Please visit the Massachusetts Maple Producers Association (MMPA) to learn more about the maple sugaring process. For a complete listing of maple sugar houses in the Commonwealth, visit the MassGrown website.

Attention to Detail

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY PENNY CHERUBINO

THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The detail curve in the last clue is part of "Tony's Bench" in front of 266 St. Botolph Street. It is one of three music-themed sculptures by David Phillips on the New England Conservatory campus. This artwork was funded by teacher and artist Tony Lopes. The bench honors his memory.

You'll find the next clue in the South End. Do you have a favorite building or detail you would like featured? Send an email to Penny@BostonZest.com with your suggestion.

THIS WEEK'S CLUE



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