

FRIDAY, MAY 16, 2025

THE BOSTON SUN

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY

SERVING BACK BAY - SOUTH END - FENWAY - KENMORE

Open Newbury returns for another season starting Sunday, July 13

By Dan Murphy

Open Newbury will return for another season on Sunday, July 13, again transforming a mile-long stretch of that street into a car-free, pedestrian-only walkway replete with live music, games, and community tables.

Via the city initiative, eight blocks of Newbury Street between Berkeley Street and Massachusetts Avenue will be closed to vehicular traffic between 10 a.m. and 8 p.m. The Boston Transportation Department will temporarily prohibit vehicles from entering Newbury

Street from Berkeley Street to Massachusetts Avenue., and parking will be restricted on Newbury Street and adjacent streets, with enforcement beginning at 5 a.m.

Subsequent Open Newbury events, with the same hours and restrictions, are planned for Sundays, July 20 and 27; Aug. 3, 10, 17, and 24; and Sept. 7, 14, and 21. Open Newbury will then return for a special, one-day, holiday shopping event, again from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., on Sunday, Dec. 7.

(OPEN NEWBURY STREET, PG. 3)

Emerald Necklace Conservancy shares successful completion of annual Muddy River Cleanup

Special to the Sun

The Emerald Necklace Conservancy is pleased to share that close to 300 dedicated long-term and new volunteers came together on Saturday, April 26, to help rejuvenate the Emerald Necklace parks during the 2025 Muddy River Cleanup. Despite significant rainfall, over 3,600 pounds of garbage and invasive plants

were removed that morning. The Muddy River Cleanup is part of the region-wide Charles River Cleanup, held annually in partnership with the Charles River Watershed Association, the Esplanade Association, the Charles River Conservancy and the Waltham Land Trust.

“We are so grateful to all the

(MUDDY RIVE CLEANUP, PG. 6)



DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN PHOTOS



Shown to the right (top-to-bottom), the cleanup teams hit the streets of Back Bay. Rose Shkordoff cleans up the Comm. Ave. Mall at Exeter Street. Alley Rally participants socialize a little before getting to work. See more photos on Pages 4-5.

EDITORIAL

SENIOR CITIZENS SHOULD CONSIDER A MEASLES SHOT

With more than 1000 confirmed measles cases now encompassing 30 states (including Vermont and Rhode Island) from coast-to-coast and north-to-south, senior citizens who are unsure of either their vaccination or immunity status should consider getting a measles vaccine shot.

Measles is a highly-contagious disease that principally affects children. Of the 1001 cases that have been reported in the past few months, 299 (about 30%) were children under the age of five and 378 (about 38%) were between 5-19 years old. Three deaths have been reported, two school-age children in Texas and an adult in New Mexico.

A high percentage of those who have been infected during the recent outbreaks have required hospitalization, with 23% of children under five being admitted and nine percent of those between the ages of 5-19.

We would note that 96% of those who caught measles were unvaccinated.

Measles officially had been declared eradicated in the United States in 2003, but thanks to a combination of certain religious groups who don't believe in vaccines and a false narrative about the dangers of vaccines -- specifically that they cause autism in children -- which has been pushed by Robert F. Kennedy Jr. and adopted by the MAHA Mom movement, measles has re-awakened, like some science fiction monster, and now poses a growing threat to the health of everybody in this country.

As indicated by the statistic above, the greatest risk is to young children. However, senior citizens, whose immune systems are not great to begin with, also are at risk for catching the disease and suffering adverse effects.

Measles is about the most contagious disease there is. A person can catch it just by breathing the same air as an infected person. Complications, which are most common in children under 5 years and adults over age 30, include blindness, encephalitis (an infection causing brain swelling and potentially brain damage), severe diarrhoea and related dehydration, ear infections, and severe breathing problems including pneumonia.

If a woman catches measles during pregnancy, this can be dangerous for the mother and can result in her baby being born prematurely with a low birth weight.

It is nothing short of despicable that misinformation is being spread by our public health officials in Washington which has led to needless and tragic consequences for many families.

It is apparent that we no longer can count on our fellow Americans to use common sense to do the right thing nor on our public officials to provide honest and accurate information.

But sadly, that's the world we are living in today.

WAYMO MAY BE COMING!

As our regular readers know, we are huge fans of Waymo, the company owned by Google that has pioneered self-driving automobiles in many cities across the country.

We first experienced Waymo in San Francisco a year ago and were immediately hooked. Just a few rides in a Waymo and it became clear to us that autonomous-driving vehicles are the future -- and soon-to-be-present -- of automobile travel.

Waymo has since expanded to Phoenix, Austin, and Miami, with more locations on the way. So we were pleased to read in the Boston Globe on Monday that Waymo will be sending human drivers in Waymo vehicles to begin mapping Boston's streets very shortly.

With artificial intelligence growing more and more capable of doing everything at an exponential rate, navigating Boston's infamous cowpath-streets no longer will pose an insurmountable obstacle.

Waymo is coming -- and we can't wait.

NEWS IN BRIEF

WOMEN'S LUNCH PLACE TO HOLD GALA MAY 16 AT MANDARIN ORIENTAL

Women Lunch Place's annual fundraiser and networking luncheon, 'eat LUNCH give,' will take place on Friday, May 16, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Oriental Ballroom at the Mandarin Oriental hotel.

This special luncheon will include a delicious meal, an exciting raffle, and the opportunity to hear about the great work and mission of WLP from some of Boston's brightest leaders.

Visit womenslunchplace.org/elg to view tickets and sponsorship information.

MAYOR'S NEIGHBORHOOD COFFEE HOUR RETURNS

Mayor Michelle Wu will join the Office of Neighborhood Services and the Boston Parks and Recreation Department for the return of her annual Neighborhood Coffee Hours, including

an event for the South End community on Wednesday, May 21, from 10-11 a.m. at Titus Sparrow Park, located at 75 West Rutland Square; and an event for Fenway/Kenmore voters on Wednesday, June 11, from 10-11 a.m. at the Back Bay Fens - Kelleher Rose Garden, located at 73 Park Drive.

The Mayor Neighborhood Coffee Hours, presented in partnership with Dunkin' and Star Market, offers Boston residents the opportunity to speak directly with Mayor Wu and staff from city departments about city services and resident concerns. Leadership and staff from the Community Engagement Cabinet will attend each Coffee Hour, and attendees will have the opportunity to meet their neighborhood liaisons, who will deliver remarks focused on city improvements in each neighborhood.

In the event of rain, the Mayor's Neighborhood Coffee Hour for the Beacon Hill and Back Bay communities will take place on Thursday, May 15, from 10-11

a.m. in the Central Branch of the Boston Public Library, located at 700 Boylston St.; the event for the South End community will take place on Wednesday, May 21, from 10-11 a.m. at Union Combined Parish, located at 485 Columbus Ave.; and the event for Fenway/Kenmore voters on Wednesday, June 11, from 10-11 a.m. at the Fenway Community Center, located at 1282 Boylston St., #123.

Visit boston.gov/coffee-hours for more information and a complete schedule of Mayor's Neighborhood Coffee Hours.

FENWAY PORCHFEST SET TO RETURN SATURDAY, JUNE 21

The sixth annual Fenway Porchfest is set to return from noon to 4 p.m., and will again transform open spaces throughout the neighborhood into impromptu concert stages for a range of genre-spanning performances.

Visit linktr.ee/fenwayporchfest for more information.

State Seal, Flag, and Motto Advisory Comm. calls for public submissions to reimagine state emblems

Special to the Sun

The Massachusetts Seal, Flag, and Motto Advisory Commission today launched an open call to artists, historians, educators, students, and members of the public to participate in the effort to redesign the state's seal, flag, and motto.

Established by the Legislature in 2024, the Commission is tasked with developing and recommending new symbols to represent the state through a state-wide public process. Those who wish to submit ideas may do so by June 18, 2025.

"This is an exciting moment for Massachusetts. As we open the call for public submissions, we are inviting everyone across the Commonwealth to help

reimagine the symbols that tell our story," said Education Secretary Dr. Patrick Tutwiler. "Our seal, flag, and motto should reflect not just our history, but the vibrant, diverse community we are today -- and the future we are building together. I can't wait to see the creativity, ideas, and sense of belonging that people across Massachusetts will bring

to this process."

"We invite everyone, including artists, designers, culture bearers, and community members, to contribute ideas that reflect who we are and who we strive to be," said Kate Fox, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism and

(STATE EMBLEMS, PG. 3)

The Independent Newspaper Group reserves the right to edit letters for space and clarity. The Independent Newspaper Group publishes columns, viewpoints and letters to the editor as a forum for readers to express their opinions and to encourage debate. Please note that the opinions expressed are not necessarily those of The Independent Newspaper Group. Text or attachments emailed to deb@thebostonsun.com are preferred.



Saltie Girl at 279 Newbury St. was among the restaurants to transform street space into temporary patio space for Open Newbury last year

D. MURPHY PHOTOS

OPEN NEWBURY STREET (from Page 1)

“I’m excited to announce the lineup for our fourth annual summer of Open Streets. When we see streets shut down to car traffic, community gets to take over, small businesses have tables out in the street, kids are running back and forth, music, dancing, food, it’s the best of what our public spaces look like,” Mayor Michelle Wu said in a press release. “Open Streets is all about creating opportunities for neighbors to spend time together and show off everything that makes your neighborhood special, to deepen relationships on your block and across communities.”

Meg Mainzer-Cohen, president and executive director of the Back Bay Association, added: “The Back Bay Association welcomes the return of Open Newbury and appreciates the opportunity it brings for businesses to appeal to, and engage with visitors in unique ways. The restaurants, retailers, and service businesses along



Grace, an employee at Sniffs of Adventure, a shop specializing in soy wax-based candles at 254 Newbury St., is seen at an Open Newbury event last July.

the iconic street, and the entire Back Bay area, benefit from the exposure that Open Newbury provides and through the draw of new visitors, especially those who may not otherwise shop or dine in the neighborhood.”

Open Newbury Street was launched by the city as a one-day pilot in 2016, and building on the success of that initial event, the program was expanded to three Sundays for the 2017,

2018, and 2019 seasons. Following a one-year hiatus due to the pandemic, the program returned for three Sundays in 2021. The 2022 season spanned six consecutive Sundays in August and September. The 2023 season was expanded to 16 consecutive Sundays, while last year’s season comprised 10 consecutive Sundays between June 30 and Sept. 1, 2024, as well as a pair of Open Newbury holiday strolls held on the first two Sundays of last December.

Visit <https://www.boston.gov/departments/transportation/open-newbury-street> to learn more about the city’s Open Newbury program.

STATE EMBLEMS (from Page 2)

Co-Chair of the Advisory Commission. “It’s an opportunity to ensure that every community sees itself in our story.”

The Advisory Commission is seeking potential design elements that might include nature-based symbols native to Massachusetts, such as the right whale, a critically endangered species for which Bay State waters serve as a vital habitat, the eastern white pine or elm tree, and cranberries. Other potential design elements may include the geographic shape of Massachusetts and coastline imagery that reflects the state’s historical connection to the Atlantic Ocean and maritime industries. These examples are not intended to limit potential submissions. The Commission encourages and welcomes a broad range of designs that

capture the full creativity of our citizens.

What to Submit

- Design sketches or ideas for a new seal
- Design sketches or ideas for a new flag
- Motto proposals

How to Submit

A public submission portal is available on the Advisory Commission’s website. Individuals and organizations can submit written ideas, visual sketches, or full design concepts until June 18, 2025. Following the gathering of submissions, the Advisory Commission will select three final options for each category and hold public hearings to solicit feedback and input on the state emblems.

The Massachusetts Seal, Flag, and Motto Advisory Commission is tasked with recommending new designs for Massachusetts’ official seal, flag, and motto.

For more information, updates, and to submit your ideas, visit <https://www.mass.gov/orgs/massachusetts-seal-flag-and-motto-advisory-commission>, or scan the QR code.



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[Boston.gov/hazardous-waste](https://boston.gov/hazardous-waste)

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Antonia Turilli and Bianca Vaquerano of Kiehl’s at 112 Newbury St., are seen at the Open Newbury event held last July 9.

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSCOCIATION OF THE BACK BAY HOLDS ANNUAL ALLEY RALLY



Ellen Rooney with members of her Trinity Place team Elena and Gabi.

Derek Kouyoumjian Photos

The Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay (NABB) held its annual Alley Rally event to help cleanup and maintain the streets and alleyways. Neighbors from across Back Bay assembled to utilize cleanup tools provided by the City of Boston to canvas the community and help clean it up together.



Chloe is excited to help her human Michelle Belle clean up.



Anne Swanson, Chair for Graffiti NABbers, advises teams on reporting graffiti or anything they're not going to be able to clean up on their own.



Ben Wineburg and Jacqueline Royce.



Boston City Hall Liason for Back Bay Maccon Bonner with City Councilor Sharon Durkan. City Hall provided the tools needed for the cleanup and sent a crew to dispose of the trash collected.



Carsten helped his mom Anastasia with cleanup efforts and now gets some playtime.



Evan and Daphne Taylor.



Michelle Belle is ready to get to work with her trusty cleanup assistant Chloe..



John Tietjen from Delta Tau Delta MIT treats himself to the swing at the Clarendon Street Playground.



Kristin Carlson-Vinjamuri helped clean the neighborhood she's lived in for nearly four years with her trusty grabber.



Members of the Delta Tau Delta fraternity from MIT were ready to chip in.

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION OF THE BACK BAY HOLDS ANNUAL ALLEY RALLY



Members of the Alpha Phi sorority from MIT/ Eileen Sadote, Claire Underwood, and Ali Gibbs.



Mike O'Callaghan.



Members of the Phi Kappa Sigma fraternity from MIT/ Elija Johnson, Fabian Brus, and Xavier Banosa.



NABB Chair Martyn Roetter offers remarks.



Participants assemble at the Crendon Steet Playground to register, be assigned, and enjoy some refreshments before getting to work.



Stoian, Hannah, and Lily Nedelchev make a family team to help clean-up their neighborhood.



Participants for the 2025 Alley Rally.



Beth and Mark Kates with Shyam Gopaladesikan and Martyn Roetter.



NABB Block Captain chair Ali Foley helps get the morning crew organized for duty.



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Register now for the 2025 Boston Neighborhood Basketball League season

Special to the Sun

The Boston Parks and Recreation Department is now accepting team registrations for the 2025 season of the Boston Neighborhood Basketball League (BNBL), the oldest neighborhood basketball league in the United States.

Established in 1969, BNBL has been a cornerstone of summer youth sports in Boston for over five decades, offering a fun, safe, and competitive environment for players ages 6 through 18. The league provides an opportunity for youth across the city to build skills, form friendships, and compete for the cham-

pionship title in three age-based divisions for both boys and girls:

- 18 and Under
- 15 and Under
- 13 and Under
- 11 and Under

Teams compete weekly from July 7 through August 22, culminating in an exciting championship series in August. Coach-

es must pre-register their teams during the month of May to secure a spot in the league. Registration is now available online at boston.gov/parks-sports. For questions, contact Charlie Conners at charlie.conners@boston.gov or Roger Roberts at roger.roberts@boston.gov.

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 @bostonparksdept on X, Facebook, Instagram, and @parks.boston.gov on Bluesky.

Boston's Kelly Russell honored with Project Bread's Patrick Hughes Award for Social Justice at 57th Annual Walk for Hunger

Special to the Sun

On May 4, Kelly Russell, of Boston, was honored as one of Project Bread's inaugural Council of Experts with Lived Experience at the 57th annual Walk for Hunger with the 2025 Patrick Hughes Award for Social Justice. At the event, Project Bread recognized the meaningful work of the Council in addressing the root causes of hunger and bravely sharing their personal experiences to advocate for sustainable solutions for stateside food security.

The nonprofit's most prestigious award was created to honor the legacy of Patrick

Hughes, whose deep-seated passion for social justice and entrepreneurial spirit led him to found Project Bread's Walk for Hunger in 1969. His activism and advocacy were anchored in optimism and stemmed from his belief in the inherent worth and dignity of every human being.

"I am honored to receive the Patrick Hughes Award for Social Justice along with my fellow Council members," says Russell. "Sharing your lived experience with strangers can be a very daunting task. I'll admit, in the beginning it was hard. This award is proof that vulnerability is a strength, not a weakness. It is also evidence that including

voices with lived experience is a powerful tool in the fight for equity. I am incredibly proud of the work done by myself and my entire cohort and it is so empowering to be recognized for our contributions. I look forward to continuing to represent Project Bread and supporting the new council during my time as a Council Ambassador."

Launched in 2023, the Council of Experts integrates the lived experiences of individuals and families facing food insecurity into Project Bread's decision-making, programming, and policy initiatives. The eight Council of Experts members, including Russell, of the 2023-2024 cohort contributed to projects like improving evaluation tools with the research team, refining communications for The Walk for Hunger, increasing awareness of nutrition programs like Summer Eats, and lending their expertise to the development and launch of the statewide Make Hunger History coalition. Their involvement enhanced outreach, resource sharing, policy strategy, and program development, ensuring that the needs of the community are met in a sustainable way.

"The inaugural Council of Experts embodies the same entrepreneurial spirit of Patrick Hughes," says Erin McAleer, CEO of Project Bread. "They are community leaders who share Project Bread's passion for food justice. Kelly is an inspiration to us all, deeply committed to ensuring that everyone in Massachusetts can access and afford



PHOTO COURTESY OF KELLY RUSSELL

Kelly Russell pictured during the 57th annual Walk for Hunger.

food with dignity."

Immediately after The Walk, Council of Experts members flew down to Washington, D.C. where they joined an expert panel and met with members of Massachusetts' federal delegation alongside Project Bread's policy and engagement teams during the National Anti-Hunger Policy Conference. This moment underscored Massachusetts' national leadership in food justice, with Project Bread modeling what it means to work in authentic partnership with people whose lived experience is their expertise. In a time when civic voices—particularly in policymaking and government affairs—are being silenced or sidelined, this is more than symbolic. It's transformative. These Council members aren't just part of the conversation—they've

brought the realities of hunger to national platforms, including Capitol Hill, where they advocated for change as part of the Food Research & Action Center's annual conference. Their presence and power are a critical reminder that effective, equitable solutions must be informed by those who know the issue most intimately.

Fundraising for the Walk for Hunger will continue through the summer, already surpassing this year's goal of \$1 million. Visit www.projectbread.org/walk to donate or start a personal fundraiser to support this ongoing mission.

People experiencing food insecurity should call Project Bread's FoodSource Hotline (1-800-645-8333), which provides confidential, free assistance getting connected to a variety of food resources in 180 languages and for the hearing impaired. Counselors can pre-screen families and help them to apply for SNAP. Learn more at projectbread.org/get-help.

Project Bread is the leading statewide food security organization in Massachusetts. Beginning in 1969 with the first Walk for Hunger, the nonprofit focuses on driving systemic change to ensure people of all ages have reliable access to healthy food. Project Bread works collaboratively across sectors to create innovative solutions to end hunger and improve lives across the Commonwealth. For more information, visit: www.projectbread.org.

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The Sun encourages residents to submit engagement, wedding and birth announcements, news releases, business and education briefs, sports stories and photos for publication. Items should be forwarded to our offices at 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151.

We also encourage readers to e-mail news releases and photos to deb@thebostonsun.com.

MUDDY RIVER CLEANUP (from Page 1)

volunteers who turned out in the pounding rain to remove trash from the banks and surrounding the Muddy River, the central waterway of the Emerald Neck-lace,” shared Karen Mauney-Brodek, President of the Emerald Necklace Conservancy. “This annual cleanup is a cornerstone event in our ongoing mission to restore and improve the Emerald Necklace parks for all, and its continued success is proof that these parks matter to so many people. The Emerald Necklace is vital to our community in so many ways, and the Conservan-cy is committed to caring for it with tree care, advocacy, visitor amenities and events like this.”

The Muddy River Cleanup is one of many initiatives the Emerald Necklace Conservan-cy undertakes to care for the parks—alongside monthly “Sec-ond Saturdays” stewardship events, weekly “Tuesdays with Roses” volunteer activations in the Kelleher Rose Garden, edu-cational programming for all ages, a public visitor center and a robust tree care program includ-ing pruning, planting and water-ing. For more information on

ways individuals and groups can volunteer and help maintain the health and improving the ecosys-tem of the Muddy River, please visit www.emeraldnecklace.org/volunteer.

The Emerald Necklace Con-servancy is a community-sup-ported non-profit founded in 1998 to steward and champion the Emerald Necklace, Boston’s largest park system of seven dis-tinct parks designed by Frederick Law Olmsted to connect over a dozen neighborhoods with 1,100 acres of meadows, woodlands, waterways, paths and parkways. Working with civic and neigh-borhood partners, the Conservancy strengthens parks, people and policy by advocating for the Emerald Necklace and advanc-ing access, maintenance and res-toration, park stewardship and education through volunteer and youth programs and inclusive public programming. The parks serve as a healing respite from the city, a valuable commuting connector and a community con-venor for more than one million residents and tourists each year. www.emeraldnecklace.org.



PHOTOS COURTESY EMERALD NECKLACE CONSERVANCY



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FRIENDS OF HAYES PARK MAY DAY CELEBRATION



Zach, Ruby, and her cookie.



Tulips bloom in magnificent splendor at Hayes Park.

Derek Kouyoumjian Photos

Friends Of Hayes Park held its annual May Day celebration to welcome Spring and bring neighbors together to enjoy their park. Music, activities, and much fun were had by residents young and old

Shown right, Wayne Potash Shows off his hat.



The rain held off making it a perfect Spring day to enjoy the park.

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FRIENDS OF HAYES PARK MAY DAY CELEBRATION



Candidate for the District 7 seat on the Boston City Council Samuel Hurtado (center) with Jan Geddes and Clare Hayes.



Fiona and James Thorton with friend Milo Popkins.



Wayne Potash and his band perform family friendly music to get the party going.



Cece and Sam are dancing to the classic rock song about Boston- Dirty Water.



Poppy and Levi check out the multitude of bloomed tulips.



Remy and Esme.



Wayne Potash and Melissa Scher.

Sal’s Pizza to award one lucky Boston student the chance to throw the first pitch at Fenway Park

Sal’s Pizza, the official pizza of the Boston Red Sox and Boston Public Schools, announced today the launch of its annual Sal’s Pizza Red Sox First Pitch Contest. Now through midnight on Wednesday, June 11th, parents, guardians, and teachers can nominate a Boston Public Schools student in grades 3rd through 6th who demonstrates leadership, exemplary academic achievement, and serves as a positive role model at school, in the community, and with family and friends. The selected student will have the opportunity to throw

the first pitch at Fenway Park on July 8th. "I’ve always been a huge supporter of education and our public school system, and I am very proud to award a deserving Boston student a chance to make their Fenway dreams come true by throwing out the first pitch," said Sal Lupoli, President and CEO of Sal’s Pizza. "Serving our pizza to Red Sox fans at the legendary and historic Fenway Park has been a thrill, and I couldn’t think of a better way to commemorate that than by showing our continued commitment to

students and the importance of learning. Throwing out the first pitch is a celebration of how hard work and determination pay off." The nomination should highlight teamwork, inclusion, and giving back to the community or family in any way they can. The winning student will be announced on Tuesday, June 17th, and will be shared on Sal’s Pizza’s website and on Sal’s Pizza’s social channels. The winner will be awarded with the following:

The Sal’s Pizza Red Sox First

- Pitch Grand Prize package:
- Four premium seats to the Boston Red Sox vs. Colorado Rockies at Fenway Park on Tuesday, July 8th
 - A chance to throw out the ceremonial First Pitch before the game
 - Transportation to and from Fenway Park
 - A Sal’s Pizza Red Sox jersey

- A \$50 gift card to Sal’s Pizza in Boston on Tremont Street or Brookline Ave
- Eligible Boston students must:
- Be nominated by a parent, guardian or teacher
 - Be in grades 3rd-6th for the 2024-2025 school year, and currently enrolled in the Boston Public School System

(SAL’S PIZZA, Pg. 12)

2025
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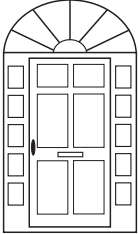
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Elected leaders, healthcare providers, and neighbors demand action on World Asthma Day

Special to the Sun

A large crowd, including families with young children, gathered at Maverick Landing in East Boston on World Asthma Day to rally in support of legislation addressing the dangerous levels of toxic air pollution in Environmental Justice communities. Elected leaders, including State Representative Adrian Madaro and Boston City Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata, as well as pediatricians, advocates, neighbors, and youth leaders spoke out demanding passage of two bills to increase air monitoring in pollution hot spots and create enforceable pollution reduction targets in those communities:

An Act to ensure cleaner air for communities overburdened by outdoor air pollution (S.1584/H.2639) and

An Act to improve indoor air quality for highly-impacted communities (S.1546/H.2427). Additionally, local healthcare organizations and advocacy groups shared immediate steps neighbors can take to protect their families' health including DIY air filters and information sessions on how to properly use inhalers.

"Asthma is a growing public health crisis, made worse by air

pollution that disproportionately affects our most vulnerable residents. I'm excited to join community members and advocates at the World Asthma Day Rally for Clean Air to raise awareness about air pollution and how we can protect our health together. I remain committed to advancing policies that promote better air quality and a healthier environment for all." -City Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata (District 1).



Volunteers with Mother's Out Front East Boston demonstrate how to build a DIY air filter.

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"As a parent in East Boston, which houses the highest rates of childhood asthma in Greater Boston, hosting the Clean Air Rally on World Asthma Day in our community was incredibly meaningful. We want to finally see legislation passed to protect our kids from the effects of our reliance on fossil fuels, especially as none passed during the last legislative cycle. We need to keep the fight going." -Sonja Tengblad, Mothers Out Front East Boston.

"Families in overburdened neighborhoods have asked for clean air legislation again and again and then watched as bills languish. And now Trump has cut \$1 million in grants intended to address the asthma crisis in Western Mass. We're rallying today because we need the legislature to act with urgency to pass S.1584/H.2639 and S.1546/H.2427. No child should struggle to breathe because of their zip code." -Emma Weis, Clean Water Action.

"Every day we see children struggling to breathe after smoggy days, temperature swings, or exposure to allergens, dust, and smoke. We see them miss school because of uncontrolled asthma, despite doing everything right. We see families forced to move or make impossible decisions just to protect their children's lungs," said Dr. Shalini Shah, a pediatrician and environmental

(WORLD ASTHMA DAY, Pg. 11)



Residents of East Boston, Chelsea, Roxbury and Malden clap for a youth advocate speaker.



State Representative Adrian Madaro addresses constituents at the Environmental Justice Table's 2025 World Asthma Day Rally.



Boston City Councilor Coletta Zapata addresses attendees.

DCR ramps up lifeguard recruitment ahead of the 2025 Summer season

Special to the Sun

The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) announced a renewed push to recruit lifeguards, swim instructors, and other roles across Massachusetts ahead of the summer season. Certified lifeguard applicants who commit to working at an agency beach or pool through Labor Day can still earn up to \$750 in bonuses, in addition to competitive hourly wages ranging from \$22 to \$27 depending on position and associated certifications.

"DCR's beaches and pools welcome thousands of families and residents each summer, and hiring qualified lifeguards is crucial to ensuring a safe and fun experience for all," said

DCR Commissioner Brian Arrigo. "Our lifeguards spend their summers outside, made good money, and may even get to save some lives. If you are a strong summer, who is looking for a summer job, I encourage you to reach out to us and apply today."

DCR's Bureau of Pool and Waterfront Safety is still actively recruiting lifeguards, head lifeguards, pool and waterfront supervisors, and water safety

instructors to staff agency-managed pools in Somerville, Boston, Chelsea, Lawrence, Malden, Cambridge, Everett and Watertown, as well as Revere Beach. Lifeguards who stay through Sunday, August 17, 2025 – the end of the pool season will receive a \$250 retention bonus. Additionally, those who work through Labor Day, Monday September 1, 2025, marking the end of the beach season, will receive an extra

\$500 bonus.

To apply for a lifeguard position, candidates must be at least 16 years old by their date of hire, complete lifeguard training, and be certified in first aid and CPR. DCR is offering a free lifeguard training class June 6-8 in Lynn. As first

responders, lifeguards play a crucial role in ensuring the safety of visitors at state-managed beaches and pools.

DCR will open its 81 designated swimming areas across Massachusetts

Memorial Day Weekend (May 24-26, 2025), and the season will run through

Labor Day (September 1, 2025). DCR's 24 pools across the state open June 21 and the agency's two wading pools open June 14.

DCR's lifeguard recruitment is a year-round effort. The agency collaborates with partner state agencies, state and local elected officials, municipalities, and educational institutions across the state to spread the word about this opportunity for good-paying summer employment. This spring, DCR ran lifeguard recruitment advertisements in MBTA stations as well as on electronic messaging boards on roads across the state. DCR also ran recruitment radio PSAs on stations across the state including Spanish and Haitian

Creole-speaking radio stations.

Most of DCR's pool and waterfront positions are seasonal, with a 40-hour work week, including weekends and holidays. Limited part-time lifeguard and instructor positions (up to 20 hours per week) may also be available.

Areas where lifeguards are needed include:

- Artesani Pool in Brighton;
- Latta Pool in Somerville;
- Geisler and Higgins Pools in Lawrence;
- Revere Beach;
- Vietnam Veterans Memorial Pool in Chelsea;
- Allied Veterans Memorial Pool in Everett;

- Holland Memorial Pool in Malden;
- McCreahan Memorial Pool in Cambridge;
- Dealtry Memorial Pool in Watertown;

To apply to be a DCR lifeguard at one of the above loca-

tions visit mass.gov/lifeguards.

For more information on the free lifeguard training course on June 6-8 contact Eric Hammermeister-Kahn, Director of Pool and Waterfront Safety Training, at Eric.Hammermeister-Kahn@mass.gov.

ATHENAEUM BECOMES 'SPEAK EASY' FOR MEMBERS EVENT



DAVE GREEN PHOTOGRAPHY

The Boston Athenaeum hosted a 'speak easy'-themed event for its members, transforming the fifth-floor reading room into a soirée of swinging tunes, dazzling dress, and spirited company.

The Athenaeum's "Behind The Red Doors" event offered members an unforgettable journey back in time to the Jazz Age, complete with live music, bubbling libations, and a secret password to enter.

Founded in 1807, the Boston Athenaeum is a unique combination of library, museum and cultural center. Members, visitors and the community enjoy a year-round calendar of cultural programs.

To learn more, visit bostonathenaeum.org.

WORLD ASTHMA DAY (from pg. 8)

health expert at Boston Children's Hospital. "Our children deserve homes that don't make them sick, schools that are safe, and communities that are prepared to protect their health in a changing climate. Let's make sure that every child in Massachusetts—no matter their zip code or background—can grow up breathing healthy air."

"Here in Boston, and across the Commonwealth, we see air pollution suffocating our residents. Whether from planes, trains, cars, or buildings, air pollution harms our health. Sometimes, it even sends our residents to the emergency room, which costs all of us money. Air pollution in schools makes it harder for our children to learn. It has never been more critical to invest in the life-saving air pollution measurement and reduction our families need. It's why we rally on World Asthma Justice Day year after year."

-Hessann Farooqi, Boston Climate Action Network



Doctors with Greater Boston Physicians for Social Responsibility instruct attendees on proper inhaler technique.

"On World Asthma Day, we gather to demonstrate our commitment to clean air and healthier communities. Asthma is a daily challenge for too many, and ACE is committed to empow-

ering residents to protect their health while demanding policy changes to ensure safe, breathable for all." -Tristan Thomas, Alternatives for Community and Environment.

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Attention to Detail

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY PENNY CHERUBINO

THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The chimney pots in the last clue are located on 53 Marlborough Street, currently home to the French Library. It was formerly the home of Sculptor Katharine Lane Weems. She gifted the building to the organization in 1962.

You'll find the next clue in the Fenway/Symphony neighborhood.

Do you have a favorite building or detail you would like featured? Email Penny@BostonZest.com with your suggestion.

THIS WEEK'S CLUE



Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
BACK BAY			
Robbins, Seth	Norman A Cohen Legacy T	324-332 Beacon St #111	\$1,900,000
Sanborn, Linda	Setyawati Arlene Est	100 Belvidere St #7E	\$1,437,500
Tetelman, Chen	Pinto, Catherine	184 Commonwealth Ave #42	\$1,185,000
Keenan, Siobhan M	Machain, Amy	257 Marlborough St #2	\$566,125
BEACON HILL			
Toner, Grace L	Linden Ljs LLC	1 Garden St #10	\$1,047,510
Rapaport, Franck	Wu Ft	2 Hawthorne Pl #11E	\$710,000
Carruthers, Katherine	54 Revere St Nt	54 Revere St	\$2,275,000
BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE			
Aranda, Antonio P	Kotsakis Bessie Est	11 Boylston St	\$1,390,000
Rahadwa, Candana R	Mark R Pardes T	8 Garrison St #212	\$422,000
Inversiones 5hb Boston So	Mangum, Charles	400 Stuart St #25E	\$4,850,000
iu, Jennifer	Reynolds, Amanda	196 Boylston St #3	\$975,000
Chung, Chia-Shan	Hwang, Jaeho	80-82 Fenwood Rd #710	\$650,000
Choi, Jee Y	Hanson, Matthew	52 Fisher Ave #401	\$1,055,000
Colleen Gottlieb T	95 Gainsborough St 308 L	45 Gainsborough St #308	\$940,000
Hogan Ft	577 Chester Sq LLC	577 Massachusetts Ave #1	\$1,200,000
Mirmazaheri, Shaida	Firestone, William	23 Milford St #2	\$1,695,000
Klinger, Kristian K	Correnti, Richard C	121-127 Portland St #507	\$835,000
Kljat, Angelina	Grover, Scott B	35 Queensberry St #22	\$460,000
WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN			
Bgb Relty T	Barakat, Faisal	1 Avery St #19C	\$1,570,000
Triad Alpha Partners LLC	Broad 115 Equity Partner	109-113 Broad St	\$8,900,000
Triad Alpha Partners LLC	Broad 115 Equity Partner	115-119 Broad St	\$8,900,000
99 High St Owner LLC	99 High St LLC	99 High St	\$227,000,000
Arindam Mitra RET	Nicecondo LLC	580 Washington St #702	\$1,565,000

SAL'S PIZZA (from Page 9)

- Demonstrate leadership, academic achievement, and positivity
- Be available to attend the Boston Red Sox game on Tuesday, July 8th with a parent or guardian over 18 years old

To nominate a student or to learn more, visit <https://www.sals.com/firstpitch>. No purchase necessary to enter.

Since opening day 2022, Sal's Pizza has been the exclusive pizza

served at Fenway Park. This includes all concession stands as well as the State Street Pavilion. Pizza is made on site and served hot and fresh. Cheese and pepperoni slices and full pizzas are available.

Sal's Pizza has been a family owned and operated business since 1990. Sal Lupoli opened his first pizza store in Salem, NH and now has more than 130 locations. Sal's Pizza is

known for using only the finest and freshest ingredients, as well as being home to the 19-inch, three-pound pizza. Sal's Pizza is also the Official Pizza of the New England Patriots and can be found at the TD Garden, Wentworth, MassArt, Suffolk University and UMass Boston. For more information, visit www.sals.com and follow on social media at @salspizzaofficial and <https://www.facebook.com/SalsPizzaOfficial>.

DUCKLING DAY PARADE RETURNS FOR MOTHER’S DAY

Photos courtesy of Mayor’s Office



A beloved Mother’s Day tradition, the Friends of the Public Garden’s Duckling Day Parade returned to the Boston Common on Sunday, May 11.

Duckling Day is a family-friendly celebration held each year on Boston Common, featuring activity booths, lawn games, magic, and live music all at Parkman Bandstand. This year’s Duckling Day activities included Jump, hula-hoop, and run with Knucklebones; Jenny the Juggler; Bonaparte the Strolling Magician; live dance performances by students from Woo Ching White Crane School and City Boston Ballet Make Way for Ducklings Dancers from Tony Williams’ ‘Urban Nutcracker’; and a ‘Make Way for Ducklings’ reading station, where the children’s classic is read aloud, accompanied by a creative movement activity from City Boston Ballet; and a visit from a live marching band, among others.

The event ended with a parade retracing Mrs. Mallard’s steps to the Make Way for Ducklings sculpture in the Public Garden.

For more than 30 years, this parade has been a celebration of family, community, and joy, stemming from the iconic children’s book, ‘Make Way for Ducklings’ by Robert McCloskey.



Mayors and managers from 17 communities commit to new climate goals at Boston Museum of Science

Special to the Sun

Mayors and managers from 17 municipalities, including Boston Mayor Michelle Wu, gathered at the Museum of Science Monday to commit to new regional climate goals, guiding the next five to ten years of shared action while meeting the challenges of the current moment. The Metro Mayors Coalition invited legislative leaders, heads of regional authorities, and state officials to join them in committing to the vital tasks of climate preparedness and building a more resilient and sustainable region. The Coalition formally signed the new commitment together, which envisions a net zero region by 2050 and outlines actions to partner with the state to achieve 50 percent emissions reductions by 2030.

Senator Ed Markey, Secretary of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs Rebecca Tepper, Department of Public Utilities Commissioner Staci Rubin, and other speakers, panelists, and guests marked the pivotal moment for investing in climate action while celebrating the Coalition's successes of the past 10 years.

"The climate crisis is immense, but I am confident Massachusetts will meet the



Newton Mayor Ruthanne Fuller, Revere Mayor Patrick Keefe, Boston Mayor Michelle Wu, Sen. Edward J. Markey, Medford Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn, and Somerville Mayor Katjana Ballantyne.

urgency of this moment," said Senator Edward J. Markey. "As the Trump administration seeks to gut federal funding and programs for climate action, I applaud our municipal, state, and community leaders for rededicating themselves to the common cause of a just, livable future for all. I am proud of this close partnership here in Massachusetts—across communities and at all levels of gov-

ernment—and I will continue fighting for the federal support and resources we need to build a resilient, sustainable region for our residents."

"Our communities are leading the charge to build more clean energy, improve the efficiency of our homes, and prepare for flooding, heat waves, and wildfires," said Secretary Tepper. "These efforts spring from the ground up. No one understands the impacts or the opportunities that come with clean energy better than our mayors. The Healey-Driscoll Administration is grateful for the partnership we have with cities and towns."

The Coalition will work to secure state and federal funding to upgrade and safeguard critical infrastructure including the Amelia Earhart and Charles River Dams, which impacts safety across our region. This includes finding solutions for recently cut BRIC funding for the Island End River Resilience Project in Chelsea and Everett, which when built, will protect regionally important infrastructure including the food distribution hub for New England, MBTA community rail stations, and major highways.

The Coalition's commitment calls for advocating for an energy grid that is prepared to support electrification and clean energy goals, while also sharing the regional burden and respect-

ing the legacy of environmental injustice.

Because existing buildings contribute the largest source of emissions in the region the Coalition urges the Commonwealth to create a large building emissions standard that meets our climate targets and accompany incentives and funding to support retrofits. All residents deserve homes that are prepared for the changing climate, and the Coalition remains committed to the Metro Mayors Housing Task Force's 2018 goal of building 185,000 new homes in the region by 2030.

"The hard work of achieving our ambitious climate goals can only be realized if we work together and share a vision of resiliency and sustainability for our region," said Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn, co-chair of the Metro Mayors Coalition. "That's why it's so important that as municipal leaders, we come together and recommit our policy goals of becoming a net zero region by 2050 and reducing our emissions by 50 percent by 2030. Thank you to the Metropolitan Area Planning Council for coordinating this important effort and to my colleagues for their promise of a greener future."

"I am grateful for the Metropolitan Area Planning Council bringing this group of mayors and city managers together to

recommit to shared climate goals," said Cambridge City Manager Yi-An Huang and co-chair of the Metro Mayors Coalition. "Our collaboration is critical for our success. In Cambridge, we know that regional action is where we can have the most impact and we want to work across our municipal boundaries to most effectively address the climate crisis."

Since the adoption of the first regional climate commitment in 2015, the Metro Mayors Coalition, which represents 1.6 million residents, has been a leader in planning and implementing climate solutions at the local and regional level. Convened in the wake of Superstorm Sandy, it was broadly recognized that if the storm had hit the region during high tide, Metro Boston would have experienced extreme impacts. A catastrophic extreme weather event, exacerbated by climate change, could happen here, and we need to better prepare and coordinate as a region.

"In challenging times, I'm confident that cities and towns will respond with urgency and rely on each other," said MAPC Deputy Executive Director Lizzy Weyant. "The Metro Mayors Coalition continues to lead the way on these issues and the strength of these partnerships can serve as a model for all of the communities in our region and our Commonwealth. It is more important than ever to create local solutions to address climate change, and these communities have the will and the commitment to make important and lasting changes."

The Coalition's accomplishments include: the establishment of an inter-governmental Climate Taskforce to build municipal capacity, coordination, and collaboration; the adoption of a "Net-Zero by 2050" goal – the first in the nation – and implementation of hundreds of policies and actions to reduce Greenhouse Gas emissions in our region; the promotion of critical regional infrastructure that must be upgraded to withstand the impacts of climate change; and the development of a first-of-its kind regional extreme heat preparedness and adaptation plan. More details on the Coalition's community-level projects can be found at mapc.org/our-work-expertise-climate-mmc.

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75 CHESTNUT CELEBRATES FIVE YEARS OF OUTDOOR DINING

By Dan Murphy

A longstanding restaurant, 75 Chestnut, just next door in Beacon Hill, held an intimate ‘patio party’ on Thursday, May 1, to mark the fifth anniversary of its outdoor dining program’s launch, as well as the opening of its patio for the season.

“On a good night, there’s nothing better than dining on our outdoor patio,” said Tom Kershaw, chairman of the Hampshire House Corporation, which besides 75 Chestnut, comprises 75 on Liberty Wharf and Hampshire House itself, including the Cheers bar.

The outdoor dining programming allows the many visitors to Beacon Hill a glimpse of the food offerings at 75 Chestnut, said Kershaw, and continues to also be a popular attraction for the restaurant’s many loyal diners from the neighborhood.

In acknowledgment of the five-year milestone for 75 Chestnut’s outdoor dining program,

City Councilor Ed Flynn presented the restaurant with an official resolution from the City Council.

“This is a milestone that began as an innovative response to the COVID-19 pandemic and has grown into a valued community tradition in Beacon Hill,” the resolution reads in part. “We thank you for bringing residents and the neighborhood together through outdoor dining, and commend the 75 Chestnut team for your professionalism in running such a classy and respectful establishment. Thank you for enhancing neighborhood life, innovating during difficult times, creating connection, and most of all, for your tireless hospitality.”

Markus Ripperger, president, CEO, and corporate chef of the Hampshire House Hospitality Group, said of 75 Chestnut and its staff under the leadership of Amie Arestani, general manager: “We’re not just part of the community. We are the community.”



COURTESY OF MOMENT MARKETING CO. BOSTON

Tom Kershaw, chairman of the Hampshire House Corporation, is seen surrounded by 75 Chestnut staff as he cuts the ribbon on the restaurant’s outdoor patio, ushering in another season of open-air dining.

Massachusetts officials on hand at the launch of eviction record-sealing law

Special to the Sun

On Monday, May 5, State Senator Lydia Edwards was joined by Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll, Attorney General Andrea Campbell, State Senate President Karen Spilka, housing justice advocates and legal experts for a press conference to mark the historic first day Massachusetts tenants can begin the process of sealing past eviction records under a new law passed last year and signed by Governor Maura Healey.

The law, which goes into effect this month, allows renters to petition the court to seal eviction records after a designated waiting period—ranging from as little as one year for certain no-fault cases to four years for nonpayment evictions. Senator Edwards, a longtime advocate for housing stability and former senate chair of the Joint Committee on Housing, championed the measure alongside colleagues, grassroots organizations, and housing justice advocates.

“As someone who has both



Attendees were City of Boston Chief of Housing, Sheila Dillon, Lieut. Gov. Driscoll, AG Andrea Campbell, Senate President Karen Spilka, Deputy Secretary from EOHLC Jennifer Maddox, Greg Vasil - CEO of Greater Boston Real Estate Board, and MLRI attorneys as Sen. Edwards (center) holds a sample form that tenants need to submit online to request their eviction sealing sealed.

organized alongside tenants and fought for housing justice in the State House, I know how life-changing this moment is. Eviction record sealing isn’t just a policy—it’s about restoring dignity, opening doors, and recognizing that one tough chapter shouldn’t define a person’s future. I’m proud that Massachusetts is making housing more equitable and allowing residents in the State to have a second chance,” said Senator Lydia Edwards

In addition to the press conference held at the State House, State Senators from across Massachusetts marked the occasion by assisting constituents in their own districts with officially filing petitions under the new eviction

sealing law. These efforts reflect a unified commitment across the Commonwealth to advancing housing justice and providing residents with a meaningful second chance. Commenting on the bill Attorney General Andrea Campbell said, “An eviction record, even one that has been dismissed or was brought in retaliation for a tenant exercising their rights, can have devastating impacts especially on Black women and other women of color. I’m pleased to see Massachusetts take this historic step to create a pathway to seal eviction records which will open the door to stable housing for so many and allow our residents opportunities to build wealth. I am extremely grateful to Senator Lydia Edwards and Representative Mike Moran for their leadership and unwavering advocacy on this issue, and to the leadership of Senate President Spilka and Speaker Mariano for their commitment in ensuring this proposed legislation became law.”

**SEND US
YOUR NEWS**

The Boston Sun encourages residents to submit engagement, wedding and birth announcements, news releases, business and education briefs, sports stories and photos for publication. Items should be e-mailed to deb@thebostonsun.com.

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