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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2026

THE BOSTON SUN

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY

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Project proposed behind Holy Trinity Orthodox Cathedral reduced from two to one building



COURTESY OF THE CITY'S PLANNING DEPARTMENT

A rendering of the project proposed for 165 Park Drive, directly behind the Holy Trinity Orthodox Cathedral in the Fenway.

By Dan Murphy

A previously approved proposal to redevelop land directly behind the Holy Trinity Orthodox Cathedral in the Fenway into a pair of seven-story residential buildings has been scrapped in favor of a new proposal comprising a single six-story residential building, the local online news outlet, Universal Hub, first reported.

Per a Notice of Project Change (NPC) filed with the city on Sept. 11, Peter Spellios, a principal at Transom Real Estate, and John Lubitz, a principal at Harbor Run Development, LLC, are now planning a single story containing 112 units in the rear of 165 Park Drive – a slight reduction from the 117 units in the previously approved plan.

The change in plans would result in a significant reduction in the number of income-restricted units, however, bringing that number to 22 (the minimum required by the city) from the previously approved 48 units.

The new plan makes no substantive changes to the proposed building footprint, proposed landscaping or proposed parking, while retaining 42 parking spaces for the use of church parishioners and staff.

In August of 2023, the Boston Planning & Development Agency board approved the earlier redevelopment proposal.

The city's public comment period for the NPC runs through Oct. 13; comments can be submitted via the city's project page for 165 Park Drive at https://www.bostonplans.org/projects/development-projects/165-park-drive, or sent via email to Quinn Valcich, BPDA project manager, at quinn.w.valcich@boston.gov.

District D-4 sees 4-percent drop from last year

By Dan Murphy

As the third quarter of '26 was drawing to a close, District D-4 had seen a 4-percent reduction in Part One crime from last year.

According to Boston Police, 2,298 incidents of Part One crime (i.e. major categories of violent and property crime) were reported in the district, which includes the Back Bay, South End, Lower Roxbury, and the Fenway, between Jan. 1 and Sept. 20 of this year, as opposed to 2,391 incidents during the same timeframe in 2025. This year marked a more than 5-percent increase over the district's five-year average of 2,182 incidents, however.

Both this and last year have each seen one homicide, while the district's five-year average for this category was 1.4 incidents.

Rapes and attempted rapes were down 75 percent as the number fell to seven from 28 last year. The district's five-year average for this category was 22.2 incidents.

Robberies and attempted robberies saw a nearly 17-percent reduction, with the number fall-

(D-4 Crime Report, Pg. 3)

EDITORIAL

FALL ARRIVES

After last week's summer-like weather, where temperature hit the mid-80s for a couple of days, much-cooler weather arrived this past weekend, Combined with the strong winds from a developing nor'easter later this week, it is clear that fall is here.

Aside from the change in the weather, the signs of summer's end have been unmistakeable.

Our tomato plants, which provided such a bountiful harvest since the beginning of July, now only have green fruit on the vine. Whether they will ripen depends on how much sunshine and warmth we get in the next few weeks, though we know from long experience that many will never make it to maturity. On the other hand, we have a neighbor who loves green tomatoes and he'll be welcome to them.

Nearby, the basil is still doing well, providing plenty of aromatic leaves. But they too, are not growing with the same vigor as they did just a few weeks ago.

Our cucumber plants continue to sprout the yellow flowers that inspired so much hope in July -- and we had a great year for cukes as well -- but the chances of the new buds developing are slim at this time of year.

Meanwhile, our potted annuals, especially our petunias, that have brought so much joy since early June, have grown leggy and "spent." We already are replacing them with colorful chrysanthemums.

The landscape is shifting colors, too. The marsh grass, a verdant green throughout the summer, has turned to a golden yellow. Goldenrod may be an invasive weed to some, but its blossoming these past few weeks along a nearby hillside has brought a yellow sea of joy to our eyes when we drive past it.

The so-called Montauk daisies -- native to Japan, but popular along our coastal areas for their salt-spray tolerance -- are ready to burst forth with white flowers, bringing color to our gardens when everything else is fading.

There are noticeably fewer birds. We no longer have the daily spectacle of the nearby colony of common terns. As the farthest-migrating birds in the world that see more hours of daylight than any other creature, they flew off for their annual migration to South America a few weeks ago.

Terns are fearlessly and aggressively territorial. Larger birds, whether they be seagulls, crows, red-tailed hawks, or osprey, who dare to cross the terns' "airspace" near their platform always were far outmatched when confronted by two or three terns working together to chase them off.

The terns also are aerial acrobats. They regularly alight from their nesting platform in unison every five or 10 minutes and fly in a seemingly chaotic, yet clearly disciplined, formation before returning to rest for five or 10 minutes -- and then repeating the sequence.

We even miss their non-stop screeching, which by mid-summer had become a staple of our local ambience.

Other birds in our "neighborhood" have followed suit. The osprey nests atop the poles in the marshes and harbor beacons sit abandoned until next spring. There are noticeably fewer egrets. Though a few are still hanging around, they'll all be gone shortly.

Aside from the transformations of the landscape and among the animal world, the ultimate measuring stick for the changing of the seasons is the shrinking daylight.

However, even this gloomy indicator of fall's arrival has a plus side. With the sunrises and sunsets moving southward as the earth tilts on its axis, the sun once again is rising over the ocean where we live, providing spectacular sunrises. When there are some clouds above the horizon, the rising sun lights them up in vivid red and orange hues.

Further north, the trees in New England are displaying their spectacular fall foliage, a blanket of color that our region soon will inherit. It is the reason that autumn is the most popular time of year for cruise ships traversing through Boston as they make their way northward from New York City for stops in Newport and Boston, and then along the Maine coast to Montreal and Quebec.

As much as we may want to hold onto the summer, we have to let it go. Autumn has arrived and we have no choice but to embrace it.

BPHC ensures access to free flu and COVID-19 vaccines

City to host free vaccine clinics throughout the city through December

Special to the SUN

To ensure that residents are protected from serious respiratory illness, Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) is hosting free vaccine clinics offering flu and COVID-19 vaccinations throughout the city. Getting vaccinated every year for flu and COVID-19 as part of back-to-school and fall routines is an important tool to protect ourselves and our communities from serious illness.

BPHC is making it easy for residents to get vaccinated as part of their regular routines. By partnering with Boston Public Schools, Boston Centers for Youth and Families (BYCF), Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers, labor unions, Mass Port, and community organizations, BPHC will provide vaccines in the places where people live, work and play. By providing easy access to free vaccinations, BPHC is ensuring that residents who may struggle to get vaccinated can do so with fewer barriers.

"Vaccination is the safest and most effective tool we have to reduce the risk of serious illness from respiratory viral illness, like the flu," said Dr. Bisola Ojikutu, Commissioner of Public Health for the City of Boston. "By hosting free vaccine clinics where residents already spend much of their time, we are making great strides towards ensuring that vaccines are accessible to all. The evidence-based science behind vaccinations have been keeping us safe for decades, and BPHC will continue to let expert advice guide our work. This commitment allows us to protect our families and keep loved ones safe, particularly during respiratory virus season."

Flu vaccination is strongly recommended for all individuals ages 6 months and older. Young children, older adults, and individuals with underlying health conditions are particularly vulnerable to severe illness from the flu and benefit from flu vaccination. During the 2025-2026 flu season, 364 individuals in Massachusetts died from the flu, including two children in Boston. COVID-19 vaccination is recommended for children between 6 and 23 months, adults 65 and older, healthcare workers, those with medical conditions associated with higher risk of severe COVID-19 disease, and those who are immunocompromised, pregnant, or lactating. People who live in households with any of these vulnerable groups are also recommended to receive a COVID-19 vaccination. These vaccines are highly effective at preventing severe illnesses and can help prevent residents from needing to take sick days from school or work.

BPHC's vaccine clinics begin in September, as people are adjusting to back-to-school routines and before the peak of respiratory virus season. All clinics will offer free flu and COVID-19 vaccines. No appointment is

(Vaccines, Pg. 3)

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MARIE CLOUQUEUR SPEAKS TO BOSTON VILLAGE AUDIENCE



COURTESY OF THOMSON COMMUNICATIONS, LLC

Boston Village recently held the second in its 'Aging in Place, Living Your Best Life at Home' speaker series with Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Marie Clouqueur. Her presentation, titled, "Everyone Wants a Long Life. Nobody Wants To Get Old," was based on her clinical work in geriatric psychiatry as well as examples in history and literature. The speaker series will continue as Boston Village celebrates its 25th anniversary. To learn more about the series, which is free and open to the public, go to www.Bostonvillage.org. Pictured (l-r): Dr. Michael Goldberg, Boston Village board member and speaker series organizer, Marie Clouqueur, and Melissa Interess, Executive Director, Boston Village.

News in Brief

SOWA ARTISTS GUILD'S SEPTEMBER EVENTS CONCLUDE

The final SoWa Sunday of the month will be held Sept. 27 from 11 a.m.- 4 p.m.

SoWa Artists Guild events are free and open to the public and are held at 450 Harrison Ave.

PARKARTS FALL WATERCOLOR PAINTING WORKSHOPS RETURN TO PUBLIC GARDEN

The Boston Parks and Recreation Department has announced the return of its pop-

(News in Brief, Pg. 4)

Vaccines *(from Page 1)*

needed. Insurance and identification are not required, but those with a health insurance card should bring it with them. Residents should check boston.gov/vaccine-clinics for a list of dates and locations. The website also details which vaccines will be available and for what ages. Clinics are currently being scheduled from September through December.

The dates and locations of our first month of clinics are:

Monday, September 28, from 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. at BCYF Paris Street

Thursday, October 1, from 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. at BCYF Perkins

Wednesday, October 7, from 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. at Josephine Fiorentino Community Center

Thursday, October 8, from 2:00 – 6:00 p.m. at BCYF Roslindale

Saturday, October 17, from 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at BCYF Hyde Park

BPHC has been using American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for the vaccine clinics, but the funding is coming to an end in December. As part of Boston's Live Long and Well agenda to advance health equity, BPHC's free vaccine clinics help remove systemic barriers to care by bringing essential preventative health resources directly into impacted communities, regardless of insurance status, cost, and access to primary care providers. To ensure that all Boston residents have equal access to critical resources, BPHC is exploring new, creative and cost-effective strategies to bring vaccinations to communities highly impacted by respiratory illnesses. This year, BPHC, Mass Port, and labor unions have collaborated to launch an initiative offering free, on-site vaccines to Logan Airport employees to increase healthcare accessibility and protect essential workers whose jobs require frequent interaction with large numbers of travelers, putting them at higher risk of illness. BPHC is also offering in-home vaccinations this year to improve vaccine access for older adults who may have difficulty traveling to a clinic or pharmacy.

BPHC's vaccine clinics are only one of many ways people can get vaccinated. In Massachusetts, these vaccinations are free and available to all who wish to receive them. Boston residents are also encouraged to contact their health care provider, local health center, or pharmacy to schedule appointments, receive vaccinations, or ask questions. Locate additional vaccine resources at vaccinefinder.org.

Residents who need help applying for health insurance, which is not required for these vaccinations, or finding medical care, can contact the Mayor's Health Line at (617) 534-5050. The Mayor's Health Line is a free, confidential, and multilingual service that can help families, regardless of immigration status, find routine care.

If residents have symptoms of respiratory viral illness, BPHC recommends:

- Stay home, if possible.
- Wear a mask:
- For five days after being sick.
- If you must leave the house while sick.
- If you are at high risk of severe illness.

Have COVID-19 and flu rapid test kits available at home to test if you have symptoms of COVID-19 or flu. Pharmacies are currently the best place to purchase COVID-19 and flu rapid test kits.

Seek treatment from a trusted healthcare provider if you test positive for flu or COVID-19 and are at high risk for severe disease and/or illness.

Residents should also routinely:

- Regularly disinfect and clean high-touch surfaces.
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Cover your cough.
- Increase indoor ventilation and air circulation; even cracking open a window helps increase airflow.

D-4 Crime Report *(from Page 1)*

ing to 64 from 77 last year, while the district's five-year average for this category was 80.4 incidents.

The number of domestic aggravated assaults in the district was up nearly 23 percent as the number climbed to 38 from 31 last year. The district's five-year average for this category was 37.8 incidents.

In contrast, the number of non-domestic aggravated assaults decreased more than 5 percent, with the number falling to 148 from 156 last year. The district's five-year average for this category was 149.5 incidents.

The number of commercial burglaries spiked around 19 percent as the number climbed to 50 from 42 last year. The district's five-year average for this category was 38 incidents.

The number of residential burglaries remained the same, with 43 incidents in the district both this year and last. The district's five-year average for this category was 60.2 incidents.

Incidents of larceny from a motor vehicle saw a more than 52-percent reduction as the number fell to 160 from 335 last year. The district's five-year average for this category was 297.2 incidents.

Incidents of auto theft decreased more than 26 percent, with the number falling to 89 from 121 last year. The district's five-year average for this category was 119.8 incidents.

Citywide, Part One crime was down 7 percent as the number of incidents fell to 1,541 from 1,655 last year. This year also saw a slight decrease from the city's five-year average of 1,582 Part One crime incidents.

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Eastern Bank Foundation honors Deval Patrick with 2026 Social Justice Award, and recognizes nonprofit Just A Start with inaugural Collaborative Impact Award

Special to the Sun

Eastern Bank Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Eastern Bank, honored Massachusetts' 71st Governor, Deval Patrick, with its 2026 Social Justice Award at its annual Celebration of Social Justice. The event also recognized the nonprofit Just A Start with the inaugural Nancy Huntington Stager Collaborative Impact Award, in recognition of a collaborative, integrated model they and their partners have created to advance economic and social change through housing, workforce development, and two-generation supports. Hundreds of business, philanthropic and community leaders gathered to honor these outstanding leaders and their contributions.

"Each year, the Celebration of Social Justice is an opportunity to recognize the people and organizations whose courage and persistence make our communities more just and inclusive," said Bob Rivers, Executive Chair and Chair of the Board of Directors of Eastern Bank. "Deval Patrick has devoted his career to expanding opportunity and defending civil rights. Just A Start has spent decades opening doors to housing, education and careers for families across Cambridge and

(Eastern Bank, Pg. 5)



NATHAN FONTES-FRIED PHOTO

Bob Rivers, Executive Chair and Chair of the Board of Directors of Eastern Bank; Deval Patrick, 2026 Social Justice Award Honoree; and Turahn Dorsey, President and CEO of the Eastern Bank Foundation.

News in Brief

Continued from Page 3

ular ParkARTS Fall Watercolor Painting Workshop series, taking place throughout September. The free workshops are part of Boston Parks' 2026 ParkARTS program, which brings arts and cultural programming to parks across the city.

Workshop dates include the Public Garden Lagoon on Saturday, Sept. 26., from 10 a.m. to noon, weather permitting.

Open to Boston residents ages 9 and up, the Watercolor Painting Workshops welcome artists of all skill levels to create their own green space-inspired masterpieces. Materials and instruction will be provided by a local instructor. Pre-registration is required. For more information, visit boston.gov/watercolor-workshops.

AUTHOR ANDRE HARDY IN CONVERSATION OCT. 14 AT UNION METHODIST CHURCH

The Friends of the South End Library will host Andre Hardy, in conversation with Sara DiVello, about his debut novel, 'Tear The City Down,' on Wednesday, Oct. 14, at 6:30 p.m. at Union Methodist Church, 485 Columbus Ave. (entrance to the Connection Room from West Newton Street).

Refreshments will be served, and Parkside Books will have copies of the book for sale.

You can also attend virtually; email info@friendsofsouthendlibrary.org to get a zoom link

More information on Hardy and FOSEL is available online at https://www.friendsofsouthendlibrary.org/.

WLP'S ANNUAL SPAGHETTI DINNER RETURNS OCT. 29 TO FAIRMONT COPLEY PLAZA

The Women's Lunch Place's annual Spaghetti Dinner takes place on Thursday, Oct. 29, at 6 p.m. at the Fairmont Copley Plaza hotel.

WLP Advocate Bonnie Zamparelli will be the event's featured speaker.

Visit https://womenslunchplace.org/event/sponsors?





Mayor Wu appoints Emily Knight as Economic Development Chief

Special to the Sun

Mayor Michelle today announced the appointment of Emily Knight as the City of Boston's new Economic Development Chief. Knight will begin serving in the role on October 19, 2026.

A longtime Boston resident, Knight has spent her career at the intersection of entrepreneurship, innovation, and economic development. Most recently, she has served as President and CEO of The Engine, where she shaped the organization's strategic direction and built partnerships with industry leaders, educational institutions, and public sector partners to help tech companies grow and bring breakthrough technologies to market.

Under Emily's leadership, The Engine strengthened its position as a hub for 'Tough Tech'—science and engineering focused on solving the world's most difficult and urgent challenges. The organization now supports more than 150 companies and was recently recognized by TIME as one of the country's top incubators and accelerators.



"We are deeply grateful to Interim Chief Donald Wright for guiding this team and delivering such impact through the opportunities of last summer and beyond, while laying the groundwork for even more ahead," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "Emily Knight has spent her career bringing people and institutions together to turn ambitious ideas into companies, jobs, and lasting economic growth. Emily understands what entrepreneurs and businesses need to succeed—and how to ensure that success reaches every neighborhood in our City. I'm thrilled to welcome her to our team and look forward to her leadership to grow our economy, strengthen our communities, and make Boston the best place to build a life and build a business."

Knight's appointment underscores the Wu administration's focus on strengthening Boston's economic competitiveness while expanding access to the jobs, investment, and opportunities created by Boston's thriving innovation economy.

"Boston has extraordinary talent, institutions, and ideas, and this role is an incredible opportunity to connect those strengths into economic growth that lasts," said Emily Knight, Incoming Economic Development Chief for the City of Boston. "I want to help companies start here and grow here, while making sure the jobs and industries they create are felt in every neighborhood across the City. I'm incredibly proud of what we built at The Engine, and I'm ready to bring those nine years of learning to the City I love and call home."

Knight joined The Engine in 2017 and served in several leadership roles before becoming President and CEO. Prior to that, she managed general operations, strategy, and product development at Workbar coworking spaces. Knight holds a Bachelor of Science from Cornell University's School of Hotel Administration, and is a resident of Roslindale.

Eastern Bank *(from Page 4)*

Greater Boston. Both show us that lasting change is built together, and we could not be prouder to celebrate them this year."

2026 Social Justice Honoree: Deval Patrick

Deval Patrick served as the first African American governor of Massachusetts from 2006 to 2015, dedicating his time in office to social equity, education, and economic development. Patrick led the expansion of affordable health care coverage to over 98% of state residents and championed public school funding. As Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights under President Bill Clinton, Patrick tackled enforcement of fair housing, employment discrimination, and hate crime laws, and coordinated a federal investigation into the arsons of predominantly Black churches.

The former governor now serves as a Senior Partner at Vistria Group. He is a Hauser Leader at Harvard's Center for Public Leadership, and previously served as the David R. Gergen Professor of the Practice of Public Leadership at the Harvard Kennedy School, where he was co-director of the Center for Public Leadership from 2022 to 2024. He is the founder and a former Managing Partner of Bain Capital Double Impact, a Rockefeller Fellow, a Crown Fellow of the Aspen Institute, and the author of two books.

"Deval Patrick's career-long dedication to civil rights leadership speaks for itself – leading by example as Governor of Massachusetts, fighting for voting rights, prosecuting hate crimes, advocating for same-sex marriage equality, and carrying forward his long-standing dedication to impact through his work across multiple sectors. We are proud to honor his extraordinary commitment and achievements and continue to follow his lead," said Turahn Dorsey, President and CEO of the Eastern Bank Foundation.

Nancy Huntington Stager Collaborative Impact Award Honoree: Just A Start and the Rindge Commons Partners

Recognizing that collective action, collaborations, and coalitions of partners across sectors working together to create innovative solutions are essential to strengthening communities, the award in its inaugural year was presented to Just A Start, a Cambridge-based nonprofit that expands opportunity and economic mobility for individuals and families in Cambridge, MA and Greater Boston's Metro North region. The award is named after former Eastern Bank Foundation leader Nancy Huntington Stager, who during her 25 years leading the Foundation, redefined its focus, transforming it from a model of charitable giving to one of advancing economic inclusion and mobility through collaborative approaches across the communities Eastern serves.

Housing instability, limited access to workforce opportunities, and a lack of affordable early childhood education are interconnected barriers to economic mobility. Just A Start convened a cross-sector coalition to address them together, resulting in the Rindge Commons Economic Mobility Hub: a 70,000-square-foot mixed-use development that integrates affordable housing, workforce training, and early childhood education under one roof.

"We're thrilled to announce the Collaborative Impact Award to honor the kind of partnership and cooperation that creates lasting social and systemic change in the communities we serve," said Turahn Dorsey, President and CEO of the Eastern Bank Foundation. "There is no more fitting first recipient than Just A Start and its partners. At the center of their work is colocation: the idea that housing, education, and workforce training are most effective when delivered together, in response to the full scope of a family's needs. By combining all of the elements they have, these partners created a model none of them could have alone. Forging cross-sector partnerships to drive systemic change is exactly the effort and impact this award celebrates."



Wu announces new partnership with UMASS Boston that gives students hands-on training to deliver public health education to high school students

Special to the Sun

Mayor Michelle Wu, Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC), and University of Massachusetts Boston has announced a groundbreaking partnership that will provide college students with hands-on training and experience in urban public health. The students will then deliver public health education in high schools across the city.

The partnership between UMass Boston's Urban Public Health department and BPHC will offer internships this fall to the first class of seniors in the three-year-old degree program. It deepens the partnership between the city and its only public research university and further strengthens Boston's longstanding commitment to ensuring all residents can live healthy, fulfilling lives.

"Boston thrives when our young people have opportunities to learn, lead, and directly shape the future of their communities," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "By bringing together UMass Boston, Boston Public Health Commission, and our Boston schools, we are giving our young people the chance to connect with public health leaders, gain meaningful hands-on experience and share trusted information with their peers and communities. We are excited to build on this partnership and create a healthier, more connected Boston for years to come."

"Our students know that public health begins close to home, and we are pleased to create this opportunity through our expanding partnership with the City of Boston to give our students hands-on experience improving health and fighting disease in their backyard and around the world," said Marcelo Suárez-Orozco, Chancellor of the University of Massachusetts Boston. "UMass Boston is proud to deepen our work with Mayor Wu and the entire City to further her short- and long-term goals to improve life expectancy and eliminate racial and ethnic health disparities."



This announcement builds on the Boston Public Health Commission's continued work to unite public health leadership and academia through Boston SPHERE (Strengthening Public Health-Academic Partnerships in Education, Research, and Equity), a coalition of colleges, universities, research centers, and academic medical centers working together to bridge the gap between research and on-the-ground outcomes. BPHC has long been invested in growing a diverse and culturally responsive workforce through its Boston Area Health Education Center (a partner of the statewide MassAHEC Network at the University of Massachusetts Medical School). BPHC also has a commitment to promoting adolescent health, providing evidence-based health education and other services through the Health Resource Center program and other adolescent-focused initiatives.

"This partnership with UMass Boston is an excellent example of how universities and public health organizations can come together in a shared commitment to improving the well-being of our communities," said Dr. Bisola Ojikutu, Commissioner of Public Health for the City of Boston. "I'm grateful for UMB's partnership with us as part of SPHERE, BPHC staff who are supporting this program, and the UMB students who will be a great support in our efforts to deliver health education to Boston high school students through peer-led, evidence-based programming and mentorship."

UMass Boston launched the Urban Public Health department in 2022. It currently serves 65 students entering their second, third, and fourth years and will expand to over 100 students this Fall semester when the incoming cohort of first-year students arrives. The department prepares students for jobs in the public health field, with a focus on improving the health of diverse urban populations. Students seeking a Bachelor's degree study environmental health, epidemiology, data science, biostatistics, health care systems, urbanization, and health communications, with a focus on problem-solving while working with internationally renowned professors who challenge their assumptions about the social and cultural forces shaping modern community health.

"Our students, particularly our seniors working in internships and their capstone, long for this kind of hands-on experiential learning and there could be no better place to do that than with the Public Health Commission and in Boston schools," said Patricia Janulewicz, Chair of the Urban Public Health Department.

UMass Boston students applied to the year-long program last spring and were selected by BPHC. This fall semester, the seniors will receive training in adolescent health, health education, facilitation, community engagement, and public health practice from BPHC staff and experts. In the spring semester, under BPHC supervision, the UMass students will then deliver evidencebased, culturally responsive health education to Boston high school students during the school day. The three participating high schools are Roxbury Prep, Boston Prep, and Academy of the Pacific Rim.

"My experience in the Urban Public Health program at UMass Boston has given me the knowledge, tools, and confidence to see myself as someone who can make a meaningful difference in public health," said Nayerie Rosario-Johnson, Public Health student, UMB UPH Department. "I am incredibly grateful for the opportunity to work with the Boston Public Health Commission for my senior capstone through a program that aligns with my values and developing career. I look forward to learning more while having an impact on the health and well-being of youth in Boston."

"The Urban Public program at UMass Boston has opened both doors of knowledge and opportunity for me. Throughout the last three years, I have learned that public health is more than just an individual's choices, but rather how the systems and conditions they operate under dictate their wellbeing," said Balsam Mafhoum, Public Health student, UMB UPH Department. "As I begin my senior year, I look forward to serving as a health education intern with the Boston Public Health Commission, utilizing my knowledge of the social determinants of health and the importance of equitable access to help the younger generation make informed decisions about their bodies and lives."

"Working with the Urban Public Health faculty at UMass Boston has been very inspirational for me through learning about the spread of diseases and how to study them," said Jason Song, Public Health student, UMB UPH Department. "I find this useful because it allows us to apply knowledge gained in the program to current real-world scenarios, which is something that I aspire to do in my career. During my senior year, I am looking forward to learning from public health professionals at the BPHC in an environment where I can learn directly from their experience so that I can continue to grow as a public health professional."

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum brings dynamic season of music to Boston's Calderwood Hall

Special to the Sun

The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum will continue its Fall 2026 Weekend Concert Series with three performances in October. This ten-concert autumn season curated by Abrams Curator of Music George Steel is held on select Sundays at 1:30 pm and runs from September 13 through November 22, 2026. In addition, the Gardner Museum will present its first Thursday Night Music concert of the season on October 29, 2026 at 7 pm. With no intermissions, open seating, and a relaxed atmosphere, these bold, single-set performances offer immersive and adventurous listening experiences. All concerts take place in the Museum's extraordinary Calderwood Hall—a 300-seat "sonic cube" with three levels of balconies designed so that 80% of seats are front row, creating a uniquely intimate and intense acoustic environment.

The first October concert features Franz Schubert's monumental "Death and the Maiden" quartet, anchoring the Ivalas Quartet's program on Sunday, October 4. The Ivalas pairs Schubert with two American works: an early piece in George Walker's "American" style (Walker died only a few years ago at age 96) and An Elegy: A Cry from the Grave, a moving miniature by Carlos Simon, whose Requiem for the Enslaved had its Boston premiere at the Gardner Museum in 2022. Hailed by The Strad for playing with "tremendous heart and beauty," the Ivalas Quartet has been changing the face of classical music since its inception in 2017 with a mission to enrich the classical music world by spotlighting past and present BIPOC composers alongside the standard repertory.

In conjunction with the Museum's exhibition, ACRONYM presents Esther in the Age of Rembrandt on Sunday, October 18, offering rare performances of three Esther cantatas written during Rembrandt's time. The program includes a work by the remarkable French composer Élisabeth Jacquet de La Guerre, alongside music by Flemish composer Leonora Duarte, Jewish Mantuan composer Salamone Rossi, Giacomo Carissimi, Johann Heinrich Schmelzer, and Marc-Antoine Charpentier. ACRONYM will perform with a roster of vocal soloists as special guests: Amanda Forsythe and Teresa Wakim, sopranos; Kim Leeds, alto; Aaron Sheehan, tenor; and Jesse Blumberg, baritone.

The Gardner Museum's annual John Lowell Gardner Chrysanthemum Installation inspires Celebrating Chrysanthemums on Sunday, October 25, an exploration of the flower as artistic muse hosted by the Gardner's Stanley P. Kozak Director of Horticulture Erika Rumbley and Abrams Curator of Music George Steel, who will also read related poems, letters, and horticultural texts. An all-star cast—mezzo-soprano Kara Dugan, pianist Peter Dugan, violinists Katherine Winterstein, Gabriela Díaz, and Mina Lavcheva, violist Cara Pogossian, cellist Jia Kim, flutist Emi Ferguson, and accordionist Cory Pesaturo—performs music by Jules Massenet, Léo Delibes, Giacomo Puccini, Scott Joplin, Dora Pejačević, Nikolai Harito, William Penn, Zbigniew Maciejowski, Ernesto Lecuona, Tōru Takemitsu, Xiaogang Ye, and Juantio Becenti.

In addition to the Weekend Concert Series, the Gardner Museum will present an installment of its bold new Thursday Night Music series on October 29, 2026, featuring the kinetic ensemble Alarm Will Sound conducted by Alan Pierson performing Georg Friedrich Haas's masterpiece in vain, a 70-minute work for 24 players, much of which is played in complete darkness. Haas wrote in vain in 2000 in response to the rise of far-right parties in his native Austria in 1999. The piece is described as a "modern masterpiece" by Alex Ross in his influential book The Rest is Noise. Alarm Will Sound is a 20-member band committed to innovative performances and recordings of today's music. They have established a reputation for performing demanding music with energetic skill in the world's leading concert halls. Their performances have been described as "equal parts exuberance, nonchalance, and virtuosity" by The Financial Times.

George Steel's music programming for the Museum continues founder and legendary arts patron Isabella Stewart Gardner's vision of bringing together musicians and audiences for inspiring gatherings. Dating to 1927, the Gardner's Weekend Concert Series is the longest-running museum music program in the country. Much like Isabella Stewart Gardner did in her time, Steel champions unknown repertoire and embraces new works, creates connections and builds community among musicians, and supports them by presenting them in new endeavors and collaborations. His programming also frequently draws on the history of the Gardner Museum, featuring instruments from the Museum's collection and music by composers who were associated with its founder. In honoring Isabella Stewart Gardner's musical legacy, Music at the Gardner remains strongly committed to broadening the repertoire of music presented to include previously overlooked and marginalized composers as well as performers of all backgrounds.

Fall 2026 At-a-Glance Concert Schedule

- September 27: Chamber Music Celebration

This annual concert celebrates the life and legacy of Scott Nickrenz, first Abrams Curator of Music at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum.

- October 4: Ivalas Quartet
- October 18: ACRONYM: Esther in the Age of Rembrandt
- October 25: Celebrating Chrysanthemums
- This performance is made possible by the Anne Hawley Fund for Programs.
- October 29: Georg Friedrich Haas's in vain performed by

(ISG Performances, Pg. 8)



Clockwise from top left: Teresa Wakim, Ivalas Quartet, Amanda Forsythe, Aaron Sheehan, Jesse Blumberg, ACRONYM, and Kim Leeds.

Grace & Nick's
Dog walking - In home Dog Sitting
Fully insured/Certified Canine Coach
Free Meet + Greets & References Available

Grace Begin
Nicholas Seaver
207-357-6178
Providing Extra TLC for your BFF!

Fresh & Local

Pantry Treats

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

For us, a stockpile of pantry treats began with our introduction to the Freshé line of tuna and salmon meals, which combined legumes, vegetables, fish, and a promise of high quality and sustainability. Each tin provides a complete, high-protein meal that is as easy to enjoy as opening the can.

The founders of Freshé expanded their offerings with lines of "Henry and Lisa" tinned and frozen fish. We expanded our stock of pantry treats with offerings from Patagonia Provisions, Costco, Trader Joe's, Row 34, and Fishwife. We eat our main meal at midday and often enjoy a bowl of rice topped with a selection from our high-protein tins.

Vegetables Too!

In addition to our fishy treats, we have upped our vegetable game with premium tinned and bottled veggies and legumes from Dan Barber's Row 34 canned selections, Trader Joe's canned legumes, Jovial Beans, and others. These products all have simple ingredients, great nutrition, and long use-by dates.

Higher Quality/Higher Cost

Many of our choices have a higher price tag than the other offerings on the shelf. However, they also have fewer ingredients, higher standards, higher-quality ingredients, and trusted sources and manufacturers.

In some cases, like canned trout, we stock both Fishwife for eating out of the can or over rice, and Trader Joe's for making trout pâté or adding to a salad. Both are excellent products, but Trader Joe's is lower cost, still high quality, and works well as a recipe ingredient.

The Fishwife contains smoked trout, olive oil, garlic, and salt. The Trader Joe's version has smoked trout, canola oil, and salt, plus possible additional ingredients that may matter for someone with allergies. We use it to make a trout pâté for an appetizer, and we keep it on hand.

We also watch for sales on many of our tinned pantry items. We stock up on Fishwife, Row 34, Jovial Beans, and Patagonia when they are on sale online or in the supermarket. So we save when we can. However, we strongly believe that these products are worth the cost. The quality is outstanding, and when we turn to our tinned-treat shelf for a quick supper, we know we are having a special meal, so we slow down and enjoy it.



Here is our current selection of pantry treats that we will use to make special or speedy meals.

Simple to Serve

We have to admit that since Ed loves to eat at the kitchen sink, he will sometimes pop open a can and eat it as is, without leaving the kitchen. Penny is happiest with tinned fish over brown rice. (And, by the way, that brown rice is the frozen packets from Trader Joe's cooked for three minutes in the microwave.)

For a fuller meal, you can combine some of the offerings into a salad or a combined plate. A good tin of smoked salmon pairs well with Jovial Cannellini Beans and some Row 34, Badger Flame Beets. We also find our stash a great way to enhance a meal of leftovers. Often, protein is the missing element that balances a meal. Tinned protein gives you plenty of options.

Beyond feeding us at home, our tins can also be added to picnics, roofdeck suppers, or as a cool item to introduce to friends at a potluck. We discovered Trader Joe's tinned trout when a neighbor brought a trout pâté to a roof deck gathering.

When you consider the cost of dining out or takeout when you're tired, our pantry options boost all our budgets: food, energy, and time.

Do you have a question or topic for Fresh & Local? Email Penny@BostonZest.com with your suggestion.

ISG Performances *(from Page 7)*

Alarm Will Sound, conducted by Alan Pierson – Thursday Night Music

- November 1: Eleanor Alberga with Green Room Ensemble
- November 8: Poiesis Quartet
- November 15: Lysander Piano Trio
- November 22: Jean Rondeau, harpsichord

This concert is made possible by the generous support of David Scudder in memory of his wife, Marie Louise Scudder.

All concerts take place on Sundays at 1:30 pm in Calderwood Hall at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum (25 Evans Way, Boston, MA), except for the October 29 Thursday Night Music concert which starts at 7 pm.

Ticketing Information

Tickets ($25-$99) are available at gardnermuseum.org/about/music or by calling the Box Office at 617 278 5156. All concert tickets include Museum admission.

The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum invites you to escape the ordinary in a magical setting where art and community come together to inspire new ways of envisioning our world. Embodying the fearless legacy of its founder, the Museum offers a singular invitation to explore the past through a contemporary lens, creating meaningful encounters with art and joyful connections for all. Modeled after a Venetian palazzo, unforgettable galleries surround a luminous Courtyard and are home to masters such as Rembrandt, Raphael, Titian, Michelangelo, Whistler, and Sargent. The Renzo Piano Wing provides a platform for contemporary artists, musicians, and scholars and serves as an innovative venue where creativity is celebrated in all of its forms.

Music at the Gardner is supported by the Nora McNeely Hurley Foundation. The Museum thanks its generous concert donors: The Coogan Concert in memory of Peter Weston Coogan; Fitzpatrick Family Concert; James Lawrence Memorial Concert; Scott Nickrenz Concert; Alford P. Rudnick Memorial Concert; David Scudder in memory of his wife, Marie Louise Scudder; Wendy Shattuck Young Artist Concert; and Willona Sinclair Memorial Concert. The piano is dedicated as the Alex d'Arbeloff Steinway. The harpsichord was generously donated by Dr. Robert Barstow in memory of Marion Huse, and its care is endowed in memory of Dr. Barstow by The Barstow Fund. Music at the Gardner is also supported in part by Barbara and Amos Hostetter, Joseph Mari, Sallie and Jim McGregor, Nicie and Jay Panetta, and The Aaron Copland Fund for Music, Inc.

MBTA announces infrastructure work for October, Green, Blue lines, Commuter rail impacted

Special to the Sun

The MBTA has announced major construction work will continue in October to upgrade and enhance the subway and Commuter Rail system while also supporting several MassDOT projects. With the goal of improving reliability and the accessibility of the T for all riders, MBTA crews will perform work in support of Blue Line infrastructure revitalization, accessibility upgrades on the Green Line, critical Green Line central tunnel signal upgrades, and Commuter Rail improvements. The MBTA will also support MassDOT work on Route 24 in Taunton and as part of the West Roxbury Parkway Bridge Replacement project. More information on each project is below.

In order to accomplish these system upgrades, service changes will take place in October on the Blue, Green, New Bedford/Fall River, Framingham/Worcester, and Needham lines.

Riders can find more information on service changes through in-station signage, in-station public announcements, and at mbta.com/PlannedWork. Transit Ambassadors and MBTA staff will be available on-site to offer information and assistance during these service changes. Riders are encouraged to subscribe to T-Alerts or to follow the MBTA on X @MBTA, @MBTA_CR, and @MBTA_CR_Alerts for up-to-date service information.

On the Blue Line:

During one weekend in October, the MBTA's Maintenance of Way team will complete important switch work at Wonderland, including the replacement of switch timbers, switch points and stock rails, and all other maintenance needs. Following this work, all end track areas at Wonderland will be fully tamped, improving operations at the end of the line and ultimately improving reliability for Blue Line riders.

To accomplish this work, the following service change will take place:

•All Blue Line trains will operate on a single track between Revere Beach and Wonderland during the weekend of October 3 – 4.

•Riders will need to board all trains at Wonderland on the outbound platform.

•Blue Line train service will operate between Bowdoin and Wonderland, though every other train will terminate at either Wonderland or Orient Heights.

•Trains will operate approximately every 14 minutes between Orient Heights and Wonderland.

•Trains will operate at their normal weekend frequency between Bowdoin and Orient Heights.

On the Green Line:

As previously announced, Symphony Station remains closed to advance major accessibility upgrades at the station. Located in one of Boston's busiest cultural and historical neighborhoods, the 85-year-old Symphony Station is being upgraded into a safer, fully accessible station featuring four new elevators and many other station enhancements.

In October, work will continue as part of the Green Line C Branch Accessibility Improvements project. Several street-level C Branch stops along Beacon Street in the Town of Brookline include platforms at an inaccessible height with significant barriers for riders with disabilities or those using wheeled mobility devices. The MBTA is advancing critical accessibility improvements at seven above-ground stations on the C Branch, which will provide a faster and more comfortable boarding experience for all riders.

The MBTA will also continue work on critical signal upgrades within the central Green Line tunnel. At over 100 years old, the MBTA's Green Line signal system is being replaced with upgraded, modern technology. When the project is complete, the new signal system will provide the MBTA Operations team with improved train detection, better management of train congestion within the tunnel, and more consistent train spacing, which provides the foundation for improved service frequency. These operational improvements mean more reliable service for riders with fewer unplanned disruptions and emergency repairs caused by the older, aging signal system. Compatible with the upcoming fleet of new Type 10 Green Line cars, these signal upgrades also help prepare the MBTA for future generations of riders.

To accomplish this work, the following service changes will take place:

•Symphony Station is closed to riders until spring 2029. During this time, Green Line E branch trains will bypass the station (meaning trolleys will operate through the station in both directions, but will not stop).

•Riders who typically board or disembark at Symphony can instead board or disembark at Northeastern University or Prudential, which are 0.3 miles away (or about a five-minute walk) from Symphony.

•Riders are encouraged to instead consider travelling on the Orange Line at Massachusetts Avenue, which is 0.1 miles (or about a three-minute walk) from Symphony.

•Riders may also use the Route 39, which operates parallel to the E branch in both directions along Huntington Avenue.

•Green Line C branch service will bypass the following street-level stops during the following dates:

•Green Line trains in both directions will not stop at Brandon Hall through October 4.

•Trains will bypass the stop in the inbound and outbound directions during this time period. Riders can instead board or disembark one stop away at either Fairbanks Street or Summit Avenue, which are 0.1-0.2 miles away (or a 4- to 5-minute walk).

•Green Line trains will not stop at Dean Road in the inbound direction through October 9.

•Trains will bypass the stop in the inbound direction during this time period. Riders can instead board or disembark one stop away at either Englewood Avenue or Tappan Street, which are 0.2 miles away (or about a 4- to 5-minute walk).

•Green Line trains will not stop at Hawes Street in the outbound direction for 20 days, October 19 – November 7.

•Trains will bypass the stop in the outbound direction during this time period. Riders can instead board or disembark one stop away at either Saint Mary's Stret or Kent Street, which are 0.2-0.3 miles away (or about a 4- to 6-minute walk).

•Green Line trains will not stop at Saint Paul Street in the outbound direction for 20 days, October 19 – November 7.

•Trains will bypass the stop in the outbound direction during this time period. Riders can instead board or disembark one stop away at either Saint Mary's Stret or Kent Street, which are 0.2 miles away (or about a 4- to 6-minute walk).

•Green Line service will be suspended between Government Center and Babcock Street on the B branch, Government Center and Kenmore on the C branch, North Station and Kenmore on the D branch, and Heath Street and North Station on the E Branch during the following dates:

•As previously announced, for nine consecutive days, September 26 – October 4

•During the weekend of October 31 – November 1

•Riders using shuttle bus service should budget ample extra travel time. For example, a rider travelling to Park Street from Boston College should budget at least an additional 25 minutes of travel in additional to their regular commute.

•B Branch: Free and accessible shuttle buses will operate between Babcock Street and Back Bay.

•Riders can connect to the Orange Line at Back Bay for continued service through downtown toward North Station.

•There will be free fares at Kenmore with the fare gates open. Fares will also be free at all surface-level stops west of Kenmore.

•Route 57 bus service will be fare-free during this service change.

•C Branch: Free and accessible shuttle buses will operate between Kenmore and Back Bay.

•Riders can connect to the Orange Line at Back Bay for continued service through downtown toward North Station.

•There will be free fares at Kenmore with the fare gates open. Fares will also be free at all surface-level stops west of Kenmore.

•D Branch: Free and accessible shuttle buses will operate between Kenmore and Back Bay.

•Riders can connect to the Orange Line at Back Bay for continued service through downtown toward North Station.

•There will be free fares at Kenmore and Riverside with the fare gates open. Fares will also be free at all surface-level stops west of Kenmore.

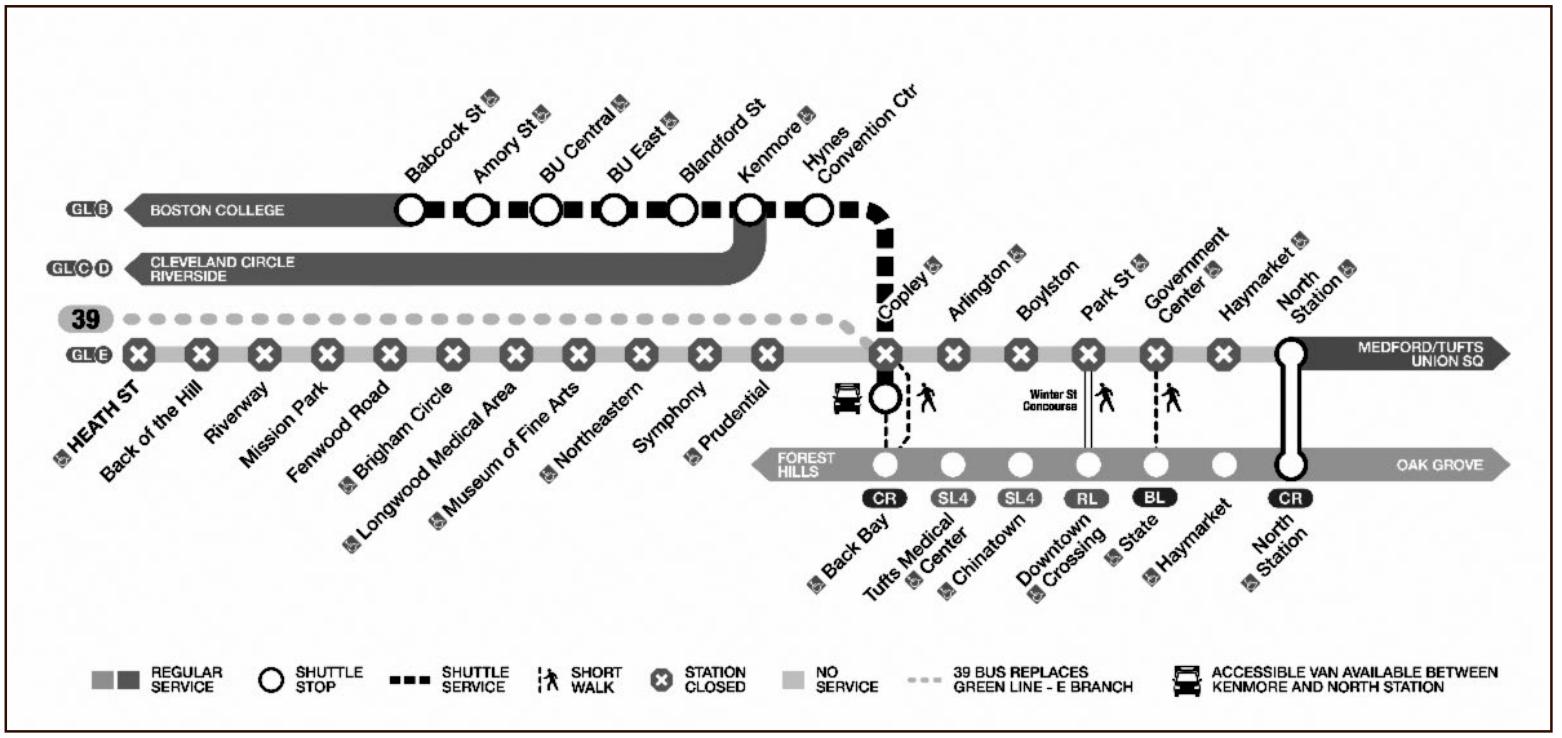
(MBTA, Pg. 10)

MBTA *(from Page 9)*

•E Branch: Route 39 will replace Green Line E Branch service between Heath Street and Back Bay. Extra buses will be added to the 39 to accommodate additional capacity. The route will be fare-free during this service change.

•The Framingham/Worcester Commuter Rail Line will be free between South Station and Lansdowne during these service changes. Passengers should note that regular fares are in place beyond Lansdowne.

•All shuttle buses are accessible to riders with disabilities. Accessible van service will be available for Green Line stops between Kenmore & North Station. See station personnel for assistance.



On the Franklin/Foxboro Commuter Rail Line

•As previously announced, the MBTA and Keolis will accomplish critical track revitalization improvements beginning September 21 through the end of October, replacing hundreds of railroad ties along the Franklin/Foxboro line, resulting in reliability improvements and fewer disruptions related to older infrastructure.

• Work will also take place in October to support the South Station Signal and Track Improvements Project. The MBTA is in the process of upgrading the Tower One track and signal system and the Cove track system to improve the reliability of service at South Station. This work will also support future growth of the MBTA and Amtrak.

•In order to accomplish this work, the following service change will take place:

•Franklin/Foxboro Trains 1732, 1748, 1725, and 1739 will be replaced with free and accessible shuttle bus service between Foxboro and Walpole beginning September 21 through the end of October.

•Other Franklin/Foxboro Line trains will have adjusted departure times.

•Additional midday trains will be replaced with free and accessible shuttle bus service in late October to accommodate this work.

•A new schedule will be shared soon when plans are finalized at MBTA.com/CR.

• All Franklin/Foxboro Line trains will replaced with free and accessible shuttle buses between Foxboro and Walpole on October 16, 19, 23, and 26.

On the New Bedford/Fall River Commuter Rail Line:

•During one weekend in October, MassDOT will perform work on Route 24 Taunton bridges, which crosses over Middleborough Secondary rail line.

•To accomplish this work, the following service change will take place:

•New Bedford/Fall River service will be replaced with shuttle bus service between New Bedford/Fall River and Middleborough during the weekend of October 3 – 4.

• There will be two shuttle routes available during this closure.

• Free and accessible shuttle buses will operate between Fall River and Middleborough making all stops.

• Free and accessible shuttle buses will operate between New Bedford Middleborough.

• There will be no shuttle bus stop at East Taunton.

• On the Framingham/Worcester Commuter Rail Line:

• In October, the MBTA will perform critical work on the Framingham/Worcester Line as part of Worcester Line track and signal improvements. The MBTA continues to invest in its Commuter Rail infrastructure to help keep service safe, reliable, and efficient.

To accomplish this work, the following service suspension will take place:

• Framingham/Worcester Line service will be suspended between Framingham and South Station during the weekend of October 17 – 18.

•Free and accessible shuttle bus service will replace train service between Framingham and South Station. There will be four shuttle routes available during this closure.

•Shuttle Bus Route 1 will operate between Framingham, West Natick, Natick Center, Wellesley Square, Wellesley Hills, and South Station.

•Shuttle Bus Route 2 will operate between Wellesley Hills, Riverside for connections to the Green Line D branch, Auburndale, West Newton, Newtonville, Boston Landing, and South Station.

•Shuttle Bus Route 3 will operate between Framingham, West Natick, Natick Center, Wellesley Square, Wellesley Hills, and Back Bay.

•Shuttle Bus Route 4 will operate between Wellesley Hills, Riverside for connections to the Green Line D branch, Auburndale, West Newton, Newtonville, Boston Landing, and Back Bay.

•There will be no shuttle bus stops at Wellesley Farms and Lansdowne.

•Passengers who typically board at Wellesley Farms should instead travel to Wellesley Hills for alternate shuttle bus services.

•The Commuter Rail between Worcester and Framingham will be fare-free during this service change.

On the Needham Commuter Rail Line:

• MassDOT will perform work in October as part of the West Roxbury Parkway Bridge Replacement project, which will replace the bridge that carries the West Roxbury Parkway over the Needham Line.

• To accomplish this work, the following service change will take place:

• Needham Line service will be suspended between Needham Heights and South Station beginning at approximately 11 PM through the end of service on October 16 and continuing through the weekend of October 17 – 18.

•There will be no shuttle bus service alternatives for this service change.

•Passengers may use Bus Routes 35, 36, and 37 between West Roxbury and Forest Hills for connections to Orange Line subway service between Forest Hills and Back Bay.

•Passengers may use Bus Route 59 between Needham Junction and Newton Highlands. Additional buses will operate on the 59 later into the evenings during these weekend dates to mimic the span of time Needham Line train service operates.

•There will be no service at Hersey.

•Riders using Bus Routes 35, 36, 37, or 59 should budget extra travel time. For example, a rider traveling to South Station from West Roxbury should budget at least 35 minutes of travel in addition to their regular trip time.

Wu announces up to $35M in low-cost financing to accelerate housing construction

Special to the Sun



The Housing Accelerator Fund will provide developers low-cost construction loans and equity investment to close financing gaps, advance stalled projects and build more homes for Boston residents sooner

BOSTON - Monday, September 21, 2026 - Mayor Michelle Wu today announced that the City's Housing Accelerator Fund will competitively award up to $35 million in low-cost construction loans or equity investments to housing developments in Boston that are ready to begin construction and include an affordable component.

This announcement builds on the Mayor's recent proposal of targeted tax abatements for four previously approved market-rate housing developments. Together, those projects could help jumpstart construction of approximately 1,400 homes, including 180 income-restricted, and support an estimated 1,582 jobs across Boston. These efforts are part of the City's broader effort to accelerate housing production and help projects advance more quickly into the construction.

"We're taking an all-of-the-above strategy to build the housing Boston needs," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "With this model, we expect our public investment to help leverage hundreds of millions of dollars in private capital to move construction projects forward. We thank the many banking and development partners who have helped us shape this new opportunity."

The Housing Accelerator Fund will help unlock stalled developments by filling a critical gap in the construction financing market. Private construction loans typically cover only 60 to 75 percent of a project's cost, leaving developers to secure additional, often expensive financing before they can break ground. The Fund will supplement private loans with below-market fixed-rate financing and low fees, reducing the overall cost of building new housing. Because the Fund provides capital during construction rather than after completion, it can be utilized on a faster timeline. Repaid principal, along with fees and earned interest, will revolve back into the Housing Accelerator Fund, allowing the City and BHA to make further investments in housing production.

Through a Request for Proposals (RFP) issued by the Boston Housing Authority (BHA), the Housing Accelerator Fund will provide up to $20 million per project in subordinate construction financing, meaning debt or equity that is repaid after a project's primary construction lender. Developments must contain at least 100 housing units, must have obtained all applicable Boston Planning & Development Agency and Zoning Board of Appeal approvals, and must be able to start construction by September 30, 2027.

"If we can invest to get homes built in these difficult times, then recoup our public investment to produce even more housing in the future, that is a huge win for Boston residents at every income

(Housing Construction, Pg. 14)

Third annual 'Beacon Hill Design Day' is set for October 1

By The Boston Sun Staff

Beacon Hill Books & Cafe and the Boston Athenaeum have announced the seven acclaimed designers headlining 2026 Beacon Hill Design Day, a one-day event celebrating craftsmanship, elevated style, and the timeless principles that define extraordinary spaces.

Hosted at the Boston Athenaeum's historic building at 10½ Beacon St. on Thursday, Oct. 1, Beacon Hill Design Day will feature a series of thoughtful conversations with iconic tastemakers influencing the modern world of design. All of the speakers are authors of recent books detailing their careers in luxury placemaking, artistic influence, or approach to craftsmanship.

Speakers include: Elizabeth Lawrence, Partner at luxury interior design firm Williams Lawrence (williamslawrence.com) and co-author of 'Decoration' (2026); Cathy Kincaid, Founder of luxury interiors Cathy Kincaid Interiors Ltd. (cathy-kincaid.com) and author of 'Memorable Rooms' (2026); Tom Kligerman, New York-based architect at Kligerman Architecture & Design (kligermanad.com) and author of 'Summer By The Sea' (2026); Scott J. Sottile, Partner at architectural firm Ferguson & Shamamian Architects (ferguson-shamamian.com) and co-author of 'Collaborations: Architecture, Interiors, Landscapes' (2026); Marshall Watson, Founder of luxury interior design firm Marshall Watson & Reid Deane Ganes (marshallwatsoninteriors.com) and author of Defining Elegance (2026); Genevieve Wheeler Brown, founder of fine art auction advisory firm Genevieve Wheeler Brown Decorative Art Advisory (genevievewheeler.com) and author of 'Beyond Blue and White' (2025); Marissa Geoffroy, Creative Director at luxury craftware designer Sherle Wagner International (sherlewagner.com) and author of 'The Art of the Bath' (2026).

The program includes presentations by the authors accompanied by a seated luncheon, offering moments of meaningful exchange among those who appreciate the art of creating beautiful spaces, and providing attendees with insights into the process, philosophies, and craftsmanship of some of the nation's leading designers.

Tickets are $325 and offered on a limited basis; proceeds benefit the Boston Athenaeum's programming. Interested attendees can purchase tickets at bostonathenaeum.org/events. Attendees will have the opportunity to purchase books previewed during the presentations, offering a deeper look into each speaker's portfolio and creative vision.



Attention to Detail

Photos and Text By Penny Cherubino

THIS WEEK'S ANSWER

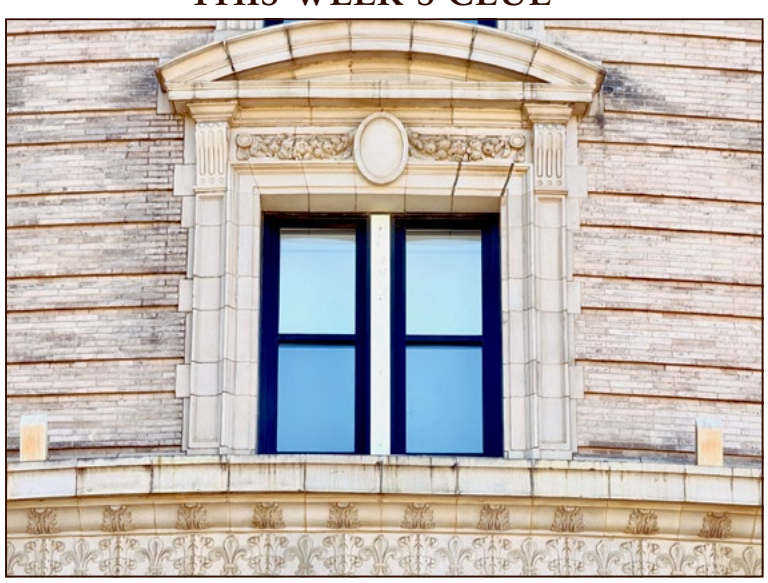


The detail in the last clue is at 131 Dartmouth Street. It was designed by David Bois of the architectural firm Arrowstreet and built in 2002. The building won a Boston Preservation Alliance award for "Notable New Construction in Harmony with Boston's Built Environment" in 2003.

You'll find the next clue in the Back Bay

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			
176 Commonwealth LLC	Mvd 176 Comm LLC	176 Commonwealth Ave	$8,300,000
Malcom M Donley Ret	Wales, Gregory	215 Commonwealth Ave #5	$2,800,000
240 Comm Avenue Unit 2 Rt	240 Comm Avenue LLC	240 Commonwealth Ave #2	$5,750,000
Fu, Weitang	Cirace, E Richard	316 Beacon St #4	$5,684,000
Fu, Weitang	Cirace, E Richard	316 Beacon St #B-2	$5,684,000
Cohen, Steven	Ross, Michelle	328 Dartmouth St #7	$500,000
Pea9326 LLC	50 Commonwealth Ave Rt	50 Commonwealth Ave #505	$1,000,000
Rashid, Asma	Malvin Carl Teich Ret	70 Montgomery St	$400,000
Pandji, Josephine	Antosia, Robert E	74 Commonwealth Ave #5	$1,085,000
Metri, Julia	Pavlina, Peter	85 Dartmouth St #2	$865,000
Megerdichian, Haig	Silva, Christopher	9 Appleton St #208	$590,000
Bear, Thomas W	Woodman, Christine	96 Appleton St #1	$1,363,000
BEACON HILL			
Collins, Leah	Depoto Mary Elizabeth Es	145 Pinckney St #335	$825,000
Kelly, Deena	Hammond, Lisa M	234 Causeway St #909	$1,900,000
Mason, Richard E	Ghazi, Nooshin	3 Goodwin Pl #B	$299,000
Serio, Stephen Nicholas	Reece, Schuyler	4 Strong Pl	$3,325,000
Gavin C Trebilcock Lt	Oliver T	49 Revere St #4	$735,000
46 Beacon Street Rt	Sailor 46 LLC	46 Beacon St #4	$9,000,000
DOWNTOWN/WATERFRONT			
Martinez, Anna K	King, Matthew J	120 Commercial St #4-4	$732,500
Mary, Wong-Sommer	Park, Insup	2 Avery St #21B	$1,299,000
Berkowitz, Joshua Lev	Mcaf Winthrop Res LLC	240 Devonshire St #4211	$1,550,000
Ferrarelli, James Daniel	Mcaf Winthrop Res LLC	240 Devonshire St #4602	$4,600,000
Charles Wayne Clark Ft	Mcaf Winthrop Res LLC	240 Devonshire St #5011	$2,150,000
Masiello, Stephen John	Amin, Mohamed	3 Avery St #604	$965,000
Mcgarrah, Lisa L	Dana Durrell Wiehl Ret	3 Avery St #906	$1,300,000
Lee, Darin	South Sta Res Invest LLC	682 Atlantic Ave #3807	$3,400,000
Schwarz, Jorge A	Schuman, Alexandra L	80 Broad St #808	$1,250,000
Pickard, Gregory L	Wilcox, Gordon	80 Broad St #P	$1,365,000
Mahase Holdings LLC	Rogado, Alice Z	85 E India Row #35E	$725,000
Crea, Joseph Anthony	Esparo Joint Ft	99 Fulton St #2-5	$679,000
BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE			
Rana, Kaushal	Fulchino, Matthew	135 W Concord St #1	$2,175,000
Odonnell, Ellen	Lewis, Laurence	203 W Springfield St #2	$1,775,000
Spencer, Joyce K	Silk Alvin J Est	221 Columbus Ave #504	$1,850,000
Spencer, Joyce K	Silk Alvin J Est	221 Columbus Ave #504	$1,850,000
Courtney, Maria	Tooreseenin, Abdullah Am	35 Fay St #E401	$647,000
Bichel, Daryl John	Singh, Satish K	3531 Washington St #417	$767,500
Sergienko, Alexander	Reiser, Margaret M	4 Charlesgate E #603	$775,000
Cb Prop Hldg De Series LLC	Fulkerson, Judith T	416 Commonwealth Ave #312	$738,000
Cb Prop Hldg De Series LLC	Emiroglu, Mehmet H	416 Commonwealth Ave #314	$680,000
416 Edgewater Prop LLC	Sindi, Faeqau A A	416 Commonwealth Ave #611	$1,200,000
Heisel Hldg Company LLC	Db Rt	451 Park Dr #2B	$517,500
Alcs Properties LLC	466 Common 301 LLC	466 Commonwealth Ave #301	$865,000
Solamuthu, Marthes	520 Shawmut LLC	520 Shawmut Ave #1	$545,000
Stephen L Coulombe Irt	Shuman, Jacob	53 Rutland St #3	$1,852,000

Boston Harbor City Cruises sets sail into fall with seasonal experiences on Boston Harbor

Special to the Sun

Summer may be winding down, but the season on Boston Harbor is far from over. Boston Harbor City Cruises (BHCC) is welcoming fall with a lineup of experiences that give locals and visitors new reasons to get out on the water, from crisp-weather whale watching and an easy ride to the heart of Salem's fall festivities to sightseeing and year-round brunch, lunch and dinner cruises showcasing Boston's iconic skyline.

Adding even more reason to savor the season, City Cruises is offering 30% off select dining cruises with promo code FALL30 for bookings made through October 4. Eligible cruises sail through December 13, 2026, giving guests an opportunity to plan everything from fall date nights and family outings to celebrations with friends as the holiday season approaches.

"Fall is one of our favorite times to experience Boston Harbor," said Bob Lawler, General Manager and Regional Vice President of Boston Harbor City Cruises. "There's something special about seeing the city and coastline as the seasons change, whether you're heading to Salem, spotting whales offshore or simply enjoying brunch or dinner with the Boston skyline around you. And as we move toward the holidays, there are even more reasons to come aboard and celebrate together."



PHOTOS COURTESY BOSTON HARBOR CITY CRUISES

For one of New England's quintessential fall day trips, the Salem Ferry offers a convenient way to trade traffic and parking for a scenic ride on the water, bringing passengers directly to Salem for its busiest and most spirited season. Those looking to experience New England wildlife can head offshore on Whale Watch Cruises in partnership with the New England Aquarium, continuing through November 1, while BHCC's sightseeing experiences offer another way to take in Boston's maritime history and autumn scenery from the harbor.

On the dining side, the Spirit of Boston and Odyssey continue cruising throughout the fall and winter with brunch, lunch and dinner experiences, combining seasonal outings with sweeping skyline views, onboard dining and entertainment. Both vessels also offer private spaces on larger decks, fully private decks and private boats for holiday parties, year-end celebrations as well as festive social gatherings, weddings and other special occasions. Take 15% off your group event package when booking by October 30, for dates through January 30, 2027.



Shown are passengers enjoying their time cruising through the harbor.



And while fall is just getting underway, holiday celebrations are already on the horizon. Boston Harbor City Cruises will once again welcome guests aboard for festive seasonal experiences spanning Thanksgiving, December holiday celebrations and New Year's Eve, including Thanksgiving dining, family-friendly opportunities such as Lunch with Santa, Christmas Eve experiences and New Year's Eve celebrations on Boston Harbor. A full holiday lineup will be announced later this fall, with holiday group and private event bookings also available now.

For tickets, schedules and additional information, visit https://www.cityexperiences.com/boston/city-cruises/



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Susan M Mullins T	Raj, Shreya	1 Charles St S #601	$799,000
Chen, Jialin	Lisa Beth Hogan T	1 Dalton St #4705	$3,200,000
Lili Banani 2007 T	Matilda Rt	1 Huntington Ave #904	$1,500,000
1148 Boylsiton LLC	Gropper Jerome Est	1148 Boylston St	$1,675,000
Miller, Frank	Karner, Paul Edward	159 Saint Botolph St #1	$1,050,000
Kancharla, Nagarjunam V	Betsy Joan Feldman Ret	238 S Huntington Ave #238-5	$450,000
Knowles, Hannah C	Dewitt, Charlotte J	249 W Newton St #8	$960,000
Zurilla, Mario M	Laird, Elena L	61 Dartmouth St #2	$2,850,000

Housing Construction *(from Page 11)*

level," said Kenzie Bok, Administrator and CEO of the Boston Housing Authority. "The Boston Housing Authority is proud to partner with the City to offer this innovative tool to get Boston building the homes we so urgently need."

This approach is the latest step in the City's broader effort to accelerate housing production by moving approved projects into construction despite high interest rates, rising construction costs, and other economic headwinds affecting development nationwide.

"The Housing Accelerator Fund will launch many housing projects that have been struggling to break ground due to federal, state, and other large financial grants on pause," said City Councilor Enrique Pepén, Chair of Housing & Community Development. "This award will be the activation to see the vacant lots or properties that have been promised to be homes for our families come to fruition."

"What the City is offering is exactly what many projects need to solve their financing puzzle, especially as interest rates rise," said Maurice Coleman, Managing Director at Bank of America. "We commend Mayor Wu for continuing to think creatively about how to get housing built in Boston."

"A revolving fund aimed at last-mile financing is a smart and fiscally sustainable way to get new homes built faster in this environment," said Colin Higgins, Executive Director of the National Housing Crisis Task Force. "We are glad to see the Boston Housing Authority and Mayor Wu lead with proven strategies outlined in our State and Local Housing Action Plan, showing how more and more states, cities, and their partners are taking the lead in driving innovation to solve our nation's housing crisis."

The complete RFP is available on BHA's website. Responses are due by 2:00 PM on October 23, 2026. Inquiries related to the RFP from potential bidders should be directed to bids@bostonhousing.org by 2:00 PM on September 28, 2026.

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ABCD WEST END NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICE CENTER CELEBRATES LABOR DAY



Cookies generously donated by Representative Jay Livingstone.

Courtesy Photos

The ABCD West End Neighborhood Service Center celebrated Labor Day in true neighborhood style, with a delicious homemade meal, friendly faces, and special visitors!

Guests gathered to enjoy a scratch-made lunch of cheeseburgers, crispy tater tots, and salad while catching up with friends and neighbors. Representative Jay Livingstone helped sweeten the celebration by sending over cookies for everyone to enjoy, and his Legislative Aide, Sarah Bakal, joined the party and spent time chatting with constituents.

City Councilor Sharon Durkan stopped by to say hello, visit with lunch guests, and share in the festivities.

Good food, great company, and a few lovely surprises made for a wonderful afternoon and a cheerful way to celebrate Labor Day together in the West End!



A view of the crowd.



City Councilor Sharon Durkan speaking with a constituent.



Behind the scenes in the kitchen.

City of Boston Free Fall Fitness Series in full swing

Special to the Sun

This fall, residents can enjoy a variety of healthy activities in the parks, including Walking Group, Yoga, Tai Chi, ZUMBA®, Dance Hall Bootcamp, and more. Classes are designed for all skill levels and ages, with options that are family-friendly, age-friendly, and welcoming to those who may be new to fitness.

"Our parks are places where Bostonians of all ages and backgrounds can move, connect, and thrive year-round alongside some of the city's best fitness experts," said Commissioner Diana Fernandez Bibeau. "We're grateful for our partnership with the Boston Public Health Commission and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts, which helps bring free, accessible fitness programming and opportunities for community connection directly into our neighborhoods this fall. Join Boston's own Brandy K. Cruthird for a brisk walk in Franklin Park, or get your heart pumping with Dancehall Bootcamp led by Miciyiaah Renrick."

"The Fall Fitness Series is a wonderful opportunity for residents of all ages to enjoy Boston's beautiful parks, while participating in free and accessible activities that can improve their health and well-being," said Dr. Bisola Ojikutu, Commissioner of Public Health for the City of Boston. "Resources like these free classes help reduce the risk of chronic disease, which is one of the goals of Live Long and Well, our citywide population health equity agenda. By improving access to safe spaces where everyone can engage in physical activity, we are ensuring that Boston is a city where all residents can thrive."

"The Boston Parks Fitness series celebrates our city's diverse neighborhoods by connecting communities through fitness," said Jeff Bellows, vice president of corporate citizenship and public affairs at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts. "We're proud to partner with the City of Boston to offer inclusive classes for all ages and fitness levels — helping residents improve their physical and mental well-being in our beautiful parks."

For more information and to pre-register for classes please visit boston.gov/fitness.

Through this citywide initiative, the Parks Department and BPHC aim to reduce barriers to active living and provide more opportunities for Boston residents to stay healthy and active throughout the fall. Building on the success of the 2026 Parks Summer Fitness Series, the fall series offers the opportunity for residents to stay active during shorter daylight hours while enjoying safe, accessible outdoor options. All classes are free and open to the public.

For up to date information, including weather-related cancellations for outdoor fitness classes, visit boston.gov/fitness.

The Boston Parks and Recreation Department (BPRD) stewards over 2,200 acres of public open space across 288 properties, including the Boston Common, the Public Garden, and the Olmsted-designed Emerald Necklace park system. Our parks feature walking trails, playgrounds, courts, natural areas, and historic sites, as well as 29 urban wilds, four high school athletic fields, two public golf courses, and more than 40,000 street trees. BPRD offers free cultural and recreational programming for people of all ages, helping to create welcoming, active, and connected communities. Learn more at boston.gov/parks and sign up for updates at bit.ly/Get-Parks-Emails. Follow our social channels @bostonparksdept on X, Facebook, Instagram, and @parks.boston.gov on Bluesky.

Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) is the country's oldest health department. We envision a thriving Boston where all residents live healthy and fulfilling lives. To accomplish this, BPHC works in partnership with communities to protect and promote the health and well-being of all Boston residents, especially those impacted by racism and systemic inequities. Learn more about our work at boston.gov/bphc.

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