Officials tell residents of city’s programs to address rat problem

Whether you live in East Boston, Beacon Hill, Back Bay, or Jamaica Plain, there is a common problem that all residents are facing -- and that is rats.

“It is a big issue,” Inspectoral Service Director (ISD) Director John Ulrich told the members of the Jeffries Point Neighborhood Association in East Boston last week.

Ulrich said that the 14 ISD inspectors are on the city’s streets starting at 4 a.m., ticketing residents and businesses for violations of the sanitary code, baiting sewers, and doing pest control at local parks.

However, the biggest driver of the rat explosion is food that is left unclean.

“Food over everything," is what needs to be controlled, Ulrich said. But it is not just food. Bird feeders overflowing and dog waste also needs to be picked up, not to mention trash should be stored and placed in secure barrels.

Ward 1 Councilor Gabriella Coletta noted that she and the city council have earmarked extra money in the budget for the ISD to fight this problem.

“Residents are lucky that elected officials care about people,” Ulrich said, noting that these extra funds will go a long way to combating this problem with additional staff and tools. He also mentioned that the ISD is mapping all violations of the sanitary code, baiting this problem with additional leadership and resources to plant new trees as well as proactively inspect, maintain, and prune existing trees, focusing on under-canopied and environmental justice neighborhoods. This intentional focus on Boston’s trees follows the recommendations of Boston’s newly-released Urban Forest Plan (UFP), an assessment of Boston’s urban forest with recommendations to improve the way trees are cared for and ensure the urban forest is available to the entire community.

Mayor Wu made the announcement today at the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University, a nonprofit partner that has gifted the City of Boston 10 dawn redwood trees – descended from the first such trees to grow in North America in over two million years, known as “living fossils” – to be planted in neighborhoods across Boston.

“Trees are our best green technology to fight climate change and build healthy, beautiful communities, especially as heat and storms intensify,” said Mayor Michelle Wu. “Dedicating staff and resources to our new Forestry Division will empower the City of Boston to strengthen our tree canopy citywide so every community benefits from these treasured resources. I’m especially grateful for the partnership with the Arboretum in sharing the wonder of dawn redwoods citywide as a connection to our legacy of research, discovery, and global collaboration here in Boston.”

“Boston’s trees beautify our communities, create oxygen, and mitigate the urban heat island effect while cleaning pollution from our air,” said Reverend Mariama White-Hammond, Chief of Environment, Energy and Open Space. “We know that Boston’s history of disinvestment has led to inequitable access to trees. I am thrilled that the City’s new Forestry Division will take proactive steps to correct these inequities by planting and protecting trees and creating good, green jobs.”

“Our new tree division will significantly expand the City’s capacity to plant and care for trees in every neighborhood,” said Ryan Woods, Boston Parks and Recreation Department Commissioner. “We are committed to increasing the survival rate of our new plantings and support our new Forestry Division will take proactive steps to correct these inequities by planting and protecting trees and creating good, green jobs.”

CNC CORNER

CNC General Meeting, Tuesday October 4, 2022 The Charlestown Neighborhood Council will hold an in-person, public meeting on Tuesday October 4, 2022, 7-9 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus, 545 Medford Street, Charlestown. Representatives from St. Francis House, the Planning Office for Urban Affairs for the Archdiocese of Boston, and the YMCA will discuss their plans for the Constitution Inn/YMCA building in the Navy Yard and answer questions from the CNC and the community. Please bring your questions and neighborhood concerns to the meeting or email us at cnc02129@gmail.com.
GET THE NEW COVID SHOT NOW!

We realize that after two and one-half years of dealing with COVID-19, all of us just want to be done with COVID.

But the unfortunate reality is that COVID-19 is not done with us, despite what President Biden suggested in his interview on Sunday with 60 Minutes.

The number of Americans who still are contracting -- and dying from -- COVID each and every day continues to be staggering: The daily average of new COVID cases in the U.S. is more than 60,000 and the daily average for new deaths is almost 500. More Americans are dying from COVID every week than died on 9/11.

The toll that so-called long-COVID is wreaking on our population also is enormous. By some estimates, 20 percent of those who contract COVID, even if they have mild cases, will suffer from the effects of long-COVID, including many that are physically and mentally debilitating over the long term.

However, the availability of the new COVID-19 vaccine marks a huge step forward in our ability to reduce the ravages of the COVID pandemic. The new vaccine, which became available two weeks ago for all adults, is the only type of vaccine that can protect against the most dominant Omicron strains of COVID-19 in the U.S. The new booster is bivalent, which means it provides better protection against both the original strain of COVID-19 and the Omicron variants that are currently causing most infections (BA.4 and BA.5).

In addition, preliminary research suggests that the new vaccine offers significant protection not only against serious illness and death, but also against contracting long-COVID.

Health professionals are recommending that even if you have had COVID, you should get the new vaccine as soon as a month after your illness, and for those who have received all of the previous boosters, you should get the new vaccine two months after your last shot.

Those with compromised immune systems should consult with their doctor about getting the new vaccine.

We urge all of our readers not to walk, but to run, to a health care provider to get the new vaccine ASAP.

AMERICA NEEDS IMMIGRANTS MORE THAN EVER

For the first time in the history of the world, there are more people on the planet over the age of 65 than under five.

For industrial nations such as the U.S., this is a profound change from what has been the norm for the past 75 years, when the arrival of the Baby Boomer generation marked the beginning of just the opposite trend.

But with the Baby Boomers leaving the workforce in unprecedented numbers, we’re seeing some of the effects of this new change in demographics. There simply are not enough Americans to fill jobs of all kinds -- reportedly there is just one worker for every two job openings -- and no matter how much the Fed raises interest rates, that is not going to change.

Moreover, as the majority of Baby Boomers begin to hit their 70s, the demand for service employees, ranging from healthcare professionals (doctors, nurses, home health aides) to the travel industry (flight crews, airline ground staff) is going to increase exponentially.

Whether going to a hospital emergency room or an airport these days, it’s already a nightmare, with the consequences ranging from life-and-death to inconvenience.

Japan has been the canary in the coal mine of this demographic shift. Its economy has been stagnant for a decade and even shrinking in comparison to other nations because of the decline in its birth rate and its aging population.

The industrialized world is facing the reality of simple arithmetic: There are fewer young people to take care of a lot more old people.

In 1970, the median age of the U.S. population was 28.1. Today it is 38.6. In other words, our population today is almost a full generation older (if you count a generation as being 15-20 years) than it has been in the past.

With the U.S. government stuck in gridlock, it is obvious that we as a nation are not going to be able to do anything to address this impending seismic shift in demographics over the long term.

America’s greatest always has stemmed from those who have immigrated from other countries. Immigrants come to America to make a better life for themselves and their families. They work hard and possess an entrepreneurial spirit. In addition, they bring a diversity that has created the wonder that is the American melting pot.

More than ever, America needs immigrants to fill the jobs and pay the taxes that will support our aging population.

We realize that a lot of people may not want to hear that -- but that is the reality.
Cambridge Health Alliance launches state-of-the-art robotic surgery program

Cambridge Health Alliance (CHA), a community health system serving Cambridge, Somerville, and Boston’s metro-north communities, launched its robotic surgery program with the da Vinci® Xi surgical robot. CHA now offers many patients the most cutting-edge technology in surgeries ranging from hernia to lung cancer. This is a significant step in CHA’s efforts to offer the finest specialty care for its patients and communities conveniently offered closer to home.

The da Vinci Xi allows highly trained surgeons to use tiny instruments mounted on robotic arms to do complex surgeries with a high degree of precision. It enables CHA to offer more minimally invasive procedures which often result in less pain and quicker recovery times.

Siva Vithiananthan, MD, CHA’s chief of surgery, has extensive experience with robotic surgery. During his time as chief of minimally invasive surgery and bariatric surgery at Miriam Hospital in Providence, R.I., he performed hundreds of cases on the da Vinci system and believes this modern technology “has the opportunity to revolutionize surgical care, not only for CHA patients, but for patients throughout the country.”

CHA is now using its da Vinci robot in general surgery and thoracic surgery, with the first procedures completed at CHA Cambridge Hospital on August 22. CHA plans to use the da Vinci robot for urology and OB/GYN surgeries in the near future.

“We know that surgery is a team sport,” said Dr. Vithiananthan. “Each robotic surgery relies on colleagues from surgery, anesthesia, nursing, sterile processing, materials management, and others to be successful. I am thrilled that we have an excellent team in place at CHA in all these areas, and I cannot wait to offer surgical options for patients seeking up to date technology and high quality care in our patient-centered tradition at CHA.”

LETTER (from pg. 2)

Jane Jacobs, in her book, “Eyes on the Street”, has it right. People want to be able to look out their windows and see their children at play, see their neighbor’s enjoying conversation, spending time with each other, viewing nature, the trees, and the good things in life.

The Boston Planning and Building Agency needs to do better planning and reading “Eyes on the Street” would be a good start. Redevelopment means better development, not repeating the failures of our past. It is time to value people and our environment over private equity profiteering.

It is time for the BPDA and the Wu administration to reflect on the sage advice and words of Sir Winston Churchill, “Those who fail to learn from history are doomed to repeat it.”

Ann Kelleher
Residents to participate in Boston Marathon® Jimmy Fund Walk

Seven residents from Charlestown will participate in the Boston Marathon® Jimmy Fund Walk presented by Hyundai on Sunday, October 2.

Stephanie Martin, Natalie Gallagher, Jack Gallagher, Juliette Steinkrauss, Stacy Rosenblum, Alex Brussard, and Kelsey Doherty, along with thousands of other walkers, will participate in the iconic annual event that will unite the community to raise funds to support all forms of adult and pediatric care and cancer research at the nation’s premier cancer center, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. The Jimmy Fund Walk has raised more than $153 million for Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in its 33-year history.

“Throughout the past 33 years, the Jimmy Fund Walk has continuously supported life-saving research and cancer care at Dana-Farber. And the pandemic didn’t stop us,” said Zack Blackburn, Director of the Jimmy Fund Walk. “Over the past two years, participants walked virtually and celebrated in their own unique ways. Now, we welcome them to walk the course in person. We are back, we are together, and we are stronger than ever.”

Participants have the flexibility to choose from four distance options: 5K Walk (3.1 miles from Dana-Farber Cancer Institute), 10K Walk (6.2 miles from Newton), Half Marathon Walk (13.1 miles from Wellesley), or Marathon Walk (26.2 miles from Hopkinton). Participants can also choose to join the event virtually by “walking their way” from wherever they are most comfortable—in their neighborhood, on a favorite hiking trail, or on a treadmill at home. Virtual programming and supporting materials are available.

Along the course, walkers are treated to 12 refueling stations as well as poster-sized photographs of patients – Jimmy Fund Walk Heroes – displayed at each mile and half-mile marker as inspiration. All four routes of the Jimmy Fund Walk end at the Copley Square Finish Line Powered by Schneider Electric with a celebration complete with food, music, and a speaking program.

To register for the Jimmy Fund Walk (#JimmyFundWalk) or to support a walker, visit www.JimmyFundWalk.org or call (866) 331-9255. Registrants can enter the promo code NEWS for $5 off the registration fee. All registered walkers will receive a bib, medal, and a Jimmy Fund Walk T-shirt.

CITY OF BOSTON MERCURY RECOVERY PROGRAM

Thermometers
Mercury Switches
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PLEASE BRING THESE PRODUCTS CONTAINING MERCURY TO:

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP OFF

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Central DPW Facility
400 Frontage Road, Boston

Boston Residents Only - Proof of Residency Required.
Find a full list of acceptable items at:
Boston.gov/hazardous-waste

Visit www.charlestownbridge.com
Wu announces next steps for municipal energy efficiency upgrades

Mayor Michelle Wu announced that the City of Boston will begin an inventory of all its exterior lighting as a part of Renew Boston Trust (RBT), a self-funding finance mechanism that uses the cost savings from efficiency projects to pay for themselves. The City of Boston plans to convert all electric lighting to efficient LED fixtures in alignment with its carbon neutrality goals. The City released a request for qualifications in July 2021 and selected the contractor Ameresco, Inc. to move forward with the audit. Ameresco will be charged with auditing exterior lighting as well as recording its location, technology, condition, and other relevant data over the next six months.

The initial audit of the exterior lighting is being conducted as the first step in the process. Using the collected data, the City will develop energy conservation measures designed to reduce the amount of electricity and natural gas used by the City’s streetlights, traffic lights, athletic field and park lights, and school department security lighting. The work to improve the efficiency of the fixtures will be implemented in stages over several years. This stage of the Renew Boston Trust project has already been allocated $10.0 million in capital funds.

This announcement builds off the progress of the RBT building energy efficiency program, including the most recent work on Phase III. This phase of the program is the most ambitious yet, conducting lighting improvements, water conservation, building envelope improvements, and pipe insulation upgrades in nine Boston Public Schools, one police station, and one property management facility. The selected properties include the Parkman House, the C-6 Police Station, City Hall, and the JKF Elementary, London K-8, Taylor Elementary, Russell Elementary, Tynan Elementary, Murphy K-8, Ohrenberger School (3-8), Otis Elementary, and the Boston Latin Academy school.

The schools were selected based on the Opportunity Index with schools prioritized that were not already scheduled for Capital improvements over the next five years. Mayor Wu’s FY23 budget contains $65 million in City capital funds for the continuation of Phase III of the RBT program.

“We have a unique opportunity to update our municipal buildings and exterior lighting in a way that preserves Boston’s character and aligns with our broader environmental goals,” said Mayor Wu. “I am excited to work on ensuring the City is saving energy and the associated costs while bringing us closer to our net zero goals.”

“We’re thrilled to partner with the City on their forward progress to become more energy efficient through LED lighting retrofits,” said Pete Christakis, Senior Vice President, Ameresco. “This retrofit will not only reduce energy spend for the City but also result in a significant reduction of carbon emissions. We commend the City leadership for championing this project as another piece of the decarbonization puzzle.”

The initial phase of exterior lighting retrofits is expected to replace 500 conventional street lights that use conventional technology with LED technology. It is estimated that 80,000 streetlights, 14,000 are conventional. There are also 2,800 natural gas street lamps that account for 4 percent of streetlights across the city, but account for 37 percent of the emissions from all streetlights. The retrofit of these gas lamps will occur in stages, after community engagement opportunities and input.

“We know that the Renew Boston Trust mechanism works for reducing our energy expenses and our carbon emissions,” said Reverend Mariama White-Hammond, Chief of Environment, Energy and Open Space. “The first two phases of RBT have saved significant greenhouse gas emissions and nearly $1.1 million in debt service. We are particularly excited that this phase has a green jobs component with a portion of our spending supporting residents flowing into the City’s green transformation.”

“In addition to substantial energy savings, upgrading our streetlights to LED will reduce maintenance costs, increase reliability, and allow our Street Lighting Division to optimize their operations planning,” stated Chief of Streets Jascha Franklin-Hodge. “We’re excited this initiative will reduce our reliance on fossil fuels and serve as an important component of Mayor Wu’s Green New Deal.

Phase I of the program completed energy conservation measures at 14 municipal sites including community centers, libraries, parks, and police and fire stations across the city. Phase II is nearly complete and includes $20 million of energy conservation measures for 31 City-owned buildings. Renew Boston Trust uses performance contracts that ensure the City’s Capital Budget allocations are paid back by the energy savings.

This announcement exemplifies the Wu administration’s commitment to a Green New Deal and retrofitting municipal properties to align with the City’s carbon neutrality goals. Mayor Wu’s FY23 Budget includes investments that further support these objectives, including $20 million of ARPA funding towards deep energy retrofits for affordable housing, $2.5 million of ARPA funds to electrify Boston Public School buses, and $2.5 million of Capital funding for a Climate Ready Streets initiative to support green infrastructure.

Additionally, Mayor Wu recently filed legislation to give Boston the local option to set building standards eliminating the use of fossil fuels for new developments and major renovations in Boston.

**Comments**

The growth and maturation of trees across Boston, particularly in communities that need more canopy.

The Forestry Division will include a Director of Urban Forestry, which is currently accepting applications, three arborists, three 3-person maintenance crews, and a support staff. The larger workforce will complement new investments in the City’s FY23 Operating and Capital Budget, totaling about $5.9 million. Increased staffing will empower the Parks and Recreation Department to respond more quickly to tree maintenance requests submitted by residents through 311, clearing the maintenance backlog, decreasing tree mortality, and focusing resources on under-canopied neighborhoods.

The creation of the Forestry Division executes on the first recommendation of the newly-released Urban Forest Plan, a product of years-long, extensive engagement driven by a Community Advisory Board. The Urban Forest Plan outlines seven major strategies for tree canopy management citywide:

1. **Increasing canopy, progressive, and proactive urban forestry work across City departments.**

2. **Conducting proactive care and protection for existing trees across public and private land, involving a cyclical care program, and a well-defined risk management approach.**

3. **Expanding the tree canopy in line with broader citywide goals of equity, resilience, public health, and community well-being.**

4. **Creating solutions to make space for trees in Boston, as well as improving the quality of planting sites to allow trees to thrive.**

5. **Improving communication between the multiple City departments, agencies, non-governmental organizations, and citizen groups that plant and care for trees within Boston.**

6. **Improving access to neighborhood tree data to give local groups the tools to make decisions and improvements for their own communities.**

7. **Utilizing and developing local talent to grow workforce opportunities in alignment with fulfilling the goals of this urban forest plan.**

As a member of the Urban Forest Plan’s Equity Council, I was part of a group of community members who focused on creating a healthy environment for residents through equitable conservation and expansion of Boston’s tree canopy,” said Dr. Atiya Martin, Executive Director of Next Leadership Development and Board Chair for Speak for the Trees. “The UW was created with a community-inspired approach to equity that is headed in the right direction on the highway of justice. I would like to thank the Wu administration for facilitating this process and I am looking forward to their continued support to carry out the community’s recommendations.”

The UW also includes neighborhood-specific strategies for tree planting, preservation, and care. Each neighborhood plan includes local information on canopy and land use trends, priority planting zones, and existing physical and environmental conditions. The new Forestry Division will use these neighborhood plans to develop specific planting and maintenance programs across Boston’s neighborhoods.

These new investments in tree canopy create an opportunity to support biodiversity by planting a variety of tree species throughout our communities. The new Forestry Division will charged with ensuring that a variety of trees are planted in strategic locations that support species diversity, while increasing resilience to climate change and urban conditions.

“This announcement also reconfirms to growing the City’s forest workforce. The new positions within the Forestry Division include opportunities for individuals who will soon graduate from PowerCorpsBOS, a City work-force development program that launched in the spring for youth aged 18 to 30 years old, funded with a grant from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Earlier this week, PowerCorpsBOS began training students in several aspects of the tree industry, including tree physiology, soil science, and how trees heal from cuts and breaks. Students will be working with Boston Housing Authority and UMass Mount Ida Campus to learn valuable skills to protect trees, including pruning, falling, limbing, and bucking.”

Tree canopy is a critical part of Boston’s city infrastructure. A thriving urban forest reduces heat levels while removing pollutants from the air. It also supports water quality and reduces the impact of flooding by intercepting large quantities of stormwater during and after rain to reduce flooding.

Dawn redwoods are among the first of its kind to grow in North America in over two million years. Thought to be extinct for millions of years, in the early 1940s, Zhan Wang and Heng Hu took samples from a stand of trees in the Hubei Province of central China and showed that Metasequoia were alive and well. Elmer Merrill, director of the Arnold Arboretum from 1936 to 1946, funded a collecting trip to China to bring seed to Boston. Since the first addition in 1948, the Arboretum has shared seeds with 600 other botanical institutions throughout the world. Dawn redwoods have been memorialized in the Arnold Arboretum’s logo since 1958, symbolizing the non-profit institution’s commitment to international conservation, education and research.

“Dawn redwoods symbolize so much about the Arnold Arboretum, including our deep love of biodiversity, particularly the trees Tha...
Details listed for return of $2.941 billion in excess tax revenue to taxpayers

Following the State Auditor's certification last week that Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22) net state tax revenues exceeded allowable revenues per Chapter 62F by $2.941 billion, the Baker-Polito Administration has announced details regarding the return of this excess revenue to taxpayers.

"Stronger-than expected state tax revenues have led to a major surplus for Fiscal Year 2022, and we are pleased to be able to return nearly $3 billion in excess revenue to the taxpayers," said Governor Charlie Baker. "With families facing continued pressure from high prices and inflation, these returns will provide some needed relief. Even with nearly $3 billion going back to taxpayers, significant state and federal resources remain, and we look forward to working with the Legislature to invest this funding into our economy, communities, and families."

"Strong economic growth throughout our Commonwealth, combined with careful management of state tax dollars, has resulted in a significant surplus this past fiscal year," said Lt. Governor Karyn Polito. "In the coming months, our administration will work diligently to distribute these funds back to taxpayers, and we look forward to working with the Legislature to invest additional surplus dollars in local economies across our state."

In accordance with the statute, the $2.941 billion will be returned to eligible taxpayers by the Department of Revenue in proportion to personal income tax liability in Massachusetts incurred by taxpayers in the immediately preceding taxable year – Tax Year 2021. Eligible taxpayers will receive a credit in the form of a refund that is approximately 13% of their Massachusetts Tax Year 2021 personal income tax liability. This percentage is a preliminary estimate and will be finalized in late October, after all 2021 tax returns are filed. To be eligible, individuals must have filed a 2021 state tax return by October 17, 2022. An individual's credit may be reduced due to refund intercepts, including for unpaid taxes, unpaid child support, and certain other debts.

Individuals eligible for a refund will receive it automatically as a check sent through the mail or directly deposited. Distribution of refunds is expected to begin in November 2022.

"While the exceptionally high tax collections we saw in FY22 are a testament to the strength and resilience of the Massachusetts economy, we are pleased to be in a position to return a substantial portion of this revenue back to taxpayers," said Administration and Finance Secretary Michael J. Heffernan. "With many feeling the strain of rising prices, these refunds will be a welcome source of relief for more than three million hardworking individuals across the state, and we look forward to executing on the delivery of the refunds in the coming months."

In total, $41.812 billion was collected in FY22, representing overall revenue growth of more than 20% above Fiscal Year 2021. After accounting for the Chapter 62F refunds and the recently filed $840 million final FY22 supplemental budget, a surplus of $1.5 billion remains available to support permanent tax relief measures and other critical investments pending in the FORWARD/Economic development bill, in combination with $2.2 billion in remaining American Rescue Plan Act funds.

Additional information about Chapter 62F taxpayer refunds, including Frequently Asked Questions and a refund estimator, is available at www.mass.gov/62frefunds. This website will be updated as additional information becomes available in the coming months. A call center will also be available to answer questions about 62F refunds beginning Tuesday, September 20, 2022 at 877-677-9727 and will be open Monday through Friday, 9am-4pm. The call center will not be able to provide exact refund amounts – however, the estimator on the FAQs page can help individuals calculate a preliminary estimate.

About Chapter 62F
Chapter 62F is a Massachusetts law enacted by voters in 1986 via a ballot question that requires the Department of Revenue to issue a credit to taxpayers if total tax revenues in a given fiscal year exceed an annual cap tied to wage and salary growth in the Commonwealth. The law requires that the Department of Revenue submit a report to the State Auditor on the net state tax revenues and the allowable state tax revenues for each fiscal year by September 1st. The State Auditor then makes the determination of whether net state tax revenues exceed allowable state tax revenues – and, if so, by what amount – on or before the third Tuesday of September.

The Chapter 62F process has been triggered before, in 1987.
Visitors meandered on self-guided tours of six restored and renovated historical buildings during the Charlestown Preservation Society’s House Tour on September 17. From a Colonial revival Fire Station on Winthrop Street, built in 1853, to an 1868 Italianate row house on Auburn Street, attendees learned about the significance of the residences, and the major efforts taken to protect them.

“For those new to the neighborhood, I hope this tour serves as a helpful introduction to the culturally rich and architecturally diverse neighborhood,” welcomed President Amanda Zettel, in the House Tour map. “For those of you who have lived here for some time, I hope you enjoy gaining another view into this very special place we call home.”

One-year-old, Rowan Orin, sitting in a firetruck at Engine 30 Fire Station at 34 Winthrop Street, built in 1853.

Stacy and Megan Barrow, owners of 9 Mount Vernon Street, a Greek revival home built in 1847, with their children, Josh and Ava.

Raffi Berberian, a Monument Avenue resident for 43 years, with friends, Patsy Ostrander, of Brookline, and Susan Brennan, of New Jersey, standing outside 4 Monument Square, a mansard/Italianate home built in 1861.

Lisa Anderson and Liz Ehinger sitting in the breakfast nook at 9 Mount Vernon Street.
INDEPENDENT'S

Guide to Schools
IN AND AROUND BOSTON

PRE-SCHOOL

The Advent School
15 Brimmer St.
Boston, MA 02108
617-742-0520 x 15
adventschool.org/
upcoming-events

The Advent School is a Reggio Emilia-inspired elementary school for children from age four through Sixth Grade. In a diverse academic community founded on the principles of social justice and dedicated to respect and inclusion, Advent students learn to be critical thinkers, confident scholars, and compassionate citizens of the world.

Grades: Age 4 (pre-Kindergarten) - Sixth Grade
Tuition: $33,750
Hours: 8:10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Application deadline: January 15
Financial aid: Need-based

Boston Children’s School
8 Whittier Place
Boston, MA 02114
617-367-6239
BostonChildrensSchool.org

Established in 1965, the Boston Children’s School has been bringing the joy of learning to children between the ages of 2.9 and 7 years of age for over 57 years. Located in the historic West End section of Boston, at Charles River Park, the Boston Children’s School attracts students from the Greater Boston area and children from around the world.

The BCS curriculum is both cognitively and developmentally age appropriate. Children learn and play in small groups, in individual, intimate classroom settings, allowing the classroom teachers to know each child and their individual learning style. In addition to daily classroom activities, the Boston Children’s School offers sign language and music as part of its curriculum. All children have daily access to the on-site playground. The Boston Children’s School also offers a “Summer-Fun-Program” to children between the ages of 3 and 8 years old.

Detailed information about the Boston Children’s School, its academic year and summer programs, are available on the BCS website at www.BostonChildrensSchool.org or feel free to call BCS Director Judy Langer, at 617-367-6239 with any questions that you may have about the school.

Academic Year - September through June. Ages - 2.9 through 7 years old
Hours - 8:45 a.m. through 5 p.m., half day programs are available.
Early arrival at 8:15 a.m. and late stay until 5:30 p.m. also available.
Application Deadline: January 15

Brookline Schools Staff
Children’s Center
162 Goddard Avenue,
Brookline, MA 02445
Office: 617-651-2279
bssccatgoddard@gmail.com

BSSC is an early childhood program bordering Lars Anderson Park that serves toddlers and preschoolers. Its professional teaching staff emphasize learning in nature, learning through play, and developing strong social/emotional skills.

For more information: staffchildrenscenter.org or bssc-atgoddard@gmail.com

Charlestown Nursery School
124 Main Street
Charlestown, MA
617-242-5169
charleston
nurseryschool.com
admissions@charlestownnurseryschool.org

Charlestown Nursery School (CNS) is an innovative program for children 20 months-5 years old that draws on the best research from Reggio Emilia, Montessori and other thoughtful approaches. Our curriculum is built around a series of explorations that grow out of the children’s own interests and integrates individualized development — combining the power of the child’s boundless curiosity with an expertly guided investigative approach that immerses the children in the process and joys of real discovery, with the goal of nurturing self-motivated, life-long learners. CNS has been recognized by educators from around the world and has been highlighted in many studies of high-quality early childhood. CNS is known for the teacher-researchers and experts.

The city’s resources — including parks, museums, libraries and historic attractions — are considered part of the school’s “campus,” and our frequent visits foster the child’s feeling of being at home in the wider world. In the last years, we have taken even more of our learning outside. See more on Instagram.

Ages: 2 - 5 years.
Tuition variable by program.
Early admission begins Nov. 15 and is first come first serve. Applications on the website

Park Street School
One Park Street
Boston, MA 02108
617-523-7577 www.
parkstreetschool.org


Consider the best education for children Toddler - Grade 6 in bright and sunny facilities in Beacon Hill! While our location is ideal, it’s our remarkable students, faculty and families working together, forming close relationships that creates a
vibrant and nurturing community where children thrive.

Grounded in Core Knowledge philosophy, children build strong foundations of knowledge in the early years - an approach foundational to developing critical thinking skills necessary for lifelong learning. Learning here is active! Creativity, imagination, and social development are fostered through lessons, learning centers and play. Whether collecting leaves, discovering animals’ habitats in Ponds and Meadows, or bicycling to town, children are “out of the chair” - making connections in and out of the classroom and between subjects. The learning is authentic and sets us apart. As a Christian school, we're committed to guiding students in the formation of character and an understanding of God's love for them. Connecting the mind and the heart - classroom learning and character education - is what makes Park Street School special.

Ages: 2-5 years Tuition: $11,500-$23,600; $2,100-$8,750 additional for afternoon programs
Financial Assistance: Available for Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 6, with limited availability for Pre-kindergarten

Hours: 8:30 a.m.-noon for morning programs, Creative Afternoons noon-3:00 p.m. for ages 2.9 and up. Two, three, four and five-day programs available. Application deadline: Jan. 3 for priority enrollment and support. Lessons are planned thematically, with ample opportunities for exploration and guided instruction. Physical development is enhanced through daily trips to our on-site playground.

Parent involvement is an integral element of the Park Street experience, and the communication between teachers, parents, and children ensures a strong community.

Ages: 2-5 years Tuition: $12,700 - $26,800

hours: Day Program 8:30am-1pm
Afternoons noon-3:00 p.m. for ages 2.10 - mid-threes 3, 4, and 5 day scheduling options;

Maples late 3s-early fours, 3, 4, and 5 day scheduling options;

Oaks 4 turning five during the school year, 5-day option only.

Early Arrival 7:30 - 8:00 am, separate fees apply
Enrichment & Extended Day 1-3:30 pm, separate fees apply

Late Day 1-5:30 pm Application deadline for the 2023-2024 school year is January 13th.

Financial aid: Need-based

Admissions Open House: Sunday, October 30th 9 am – 1 pm children are welcome!
that there isn't just ONE approach to learning. That's why we have a hybrid philosophy.

We have found that children learn best through imaginative play, as exploration and peer interaction lay the foundation for a successful student. However, The Treehouse also believes that a child must have direct instruction in literacy and mathematics for his or her academic future.

Incorporating our philosophy is at the roots of this treehouse, yet we NEVER lose sight of our #1 goal: Always have fun!

Our community is a huge part of our curriculum and we embrace the close-knit neighborhood of Charlestown by taking monthly field trips to local businesses!

ELEMENTARY - MIDDLE

The Advent School
15 Brimmer St.
Boston, MA 02108
617-742-0520 x 15
adventsschool.org/upcoming-events

The Advent School is a Reggio Emilia-inspired elementary school for children from age four through Sixth Grade. In a diverse academic community founded on the principles of social justice and dedicated to respect and inclusion, Advent students learn to be critical thinkers, confident scholars, and compassionate citizens of the world.

Grades: Age 4 (pre-Kindergarten) to Sixth Grade
Tuition: $33,750
Application deadline: January
Financial aid: Need-based aid is available.

Boston Children's School
8 Whittier Place
Boston, MA 02114
617-367-6239
BostonChildrensSchool.org

Established in 1965, the Boston Children's School has been bringing the joy of learning to children between the ages of 2.9 and 7 years of age for over 57 years. Located in the historic West End section of Boston, at Charles River Park, the Boston Children's School attracts students from the greater Boston area and children from around the world.

The BCS curriculum is both cognitively and developmentally age appropriate. Children learn and play in small groups, in individual, intimate classroom settings, allowing the classroom teachers to know each child and their individual learning style. In addition to daily classroom activities, the Boston Children's School offers sign language and music as part of its curriculum. All children have daily access to the on-site playground.

The Boston Children’s School offers a “Summer-Fun-Program” to children between the ages of 3 and 8 years old.

Detailed information about the Boston Children's School, its academic year and summer programs, are available on the BCS website at www.BostonChildrensSchool.org or feel free to call BCS Director Judy Langer, at 617-367-6239 with any questions that you may have about the school.

ACADEMIC YEAR - September through June.

Early arrival at 8:15 a.m. and late stay until 5:30 p.m. also available.

Application Deadline: January

Milton Academy
170 Centre Street
Milton, MA 02186
617-898-2509
Milton.edu

K - 12th grade

Milton Academy cultivates in its students a passion for learning and a respect for others. Embracing diversity and the pursuit of excellence, we create a community in which individuals develop competence, confidence, and character. Our active learning environment, in and out of the classroom, develops creative and critical thinkers, unafraid to express their ideas, prepared to seek meaningful lifetime success, and to live by our motto, “Dare to be true.”

Milton’s Lower and Middle School students enjoy the best of both worlds. They learn and grow in developmentally appropriate groups and spend their time in comfortable and manageable spaces. At the same time, students in our Lower and Middle Schools enjoy the resources of the larger K-12 community. Students become leaders in their classrooms and divisions, and form meaningful and long-lasting relationships with peers and faculty.

Families with Milton’s Upper School help Lower and Middle School students reach high and prepare for the next step.

During the six-year span from Kindergarten to Grade 5, children engage in a purposeful, challenging, and joyful academic and co-curricular program. Our students are young mathematicians, authors, activists, and more. Our classrooms are much more than classrooms: they are workshops, communities, and studios. Our faculty are experts in connecting research-based approaches with the individual learners in their classes. We take children’s work seriously, including one of its most important forms: play.

In our Middle School, classes of 10-15 bright, curious, and motivated students allow for personalized attention, and individualized learning opportunities. Classes are often taught in the Harkness style to encourage open discussion. Detailed comments, rather than grades, describe students’ intellectual and personal growth. Absent the typical labels or grades, Middle School students take intellectual risks in the classroom and learn from one another.

Milton is committed to Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice and hosts identity and affinity groups, curricular programming related to racial literacy and social justice, and empowers students to disrupt norms and build a more inclusive and just community. 48% of students in the K-8 division identify as BIPOC.

Milton Academy runs bus routes from Brookline, Newton/ Wellesley, Dover, Boston and Cambridge. Open houses for the Lower and Middle School will be held October 29 and November 5, respectively; both events will run from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m.

To register, please visit our website at admission@milton.edu.

The Newman School
247 Marlborough Street
Boston MA 02116
617-267-4530
Newmanboston.org

Founded in 1945, The Newman School, an independent day school offering the International Baccalaureate Diploma in Boston's beautiful Back Bay neighborhood, prepares young women and men in grades 7 through 12 from Greater Boston and around the world for success in university studies and in life. With a school culture that is uniquely welcoming and supportive, The Newman School provides students from broadly diverse backgrounds an opportunity to pursue serious studies in the company of like-minded peers and instructors. Studies are organized around the principles of the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme, and students have the option of pursuing the entire IB Diploma or those portions of it that meet their needs and aspirations.

Newman’s IB graduates have matriculated at such schools as Columbia, Oberlin, the University of Virginia, Duke, and the University of Michigan. Guided by Cardinal Newman’s motto, “Cor ad Cor loquitur” - “Heart speaks to Heart,” the school believes that students are able to achieve their potential when pursuing their studies in an environment of mutual respect, integrity, seriousness of purpose, and civic responsibility. A vibrant program of activities and sports provides students with opportunities for personal growth beyond the classroom.

Park Street School - Elementary
67 Brimmer Street
Boston, MA 02108
617-523-7577
www.parkstreetschool.org


Consider the best education for children Toddler - Grade 6 in bright
GUIDE TO SCHOOLS

and sunny facilities in Beacon Hill! While our location is ideal, it’s our remarkable students, faculty and families working together, forming close relationships that creates a vibrant community where children thrive.

Grounded in Core Knowledge philosophy, children build strong foundations of knowledge in the early years - an approach foundational to developing critical think- ing and academic excellence. We utilize innovative programs to educate the young learners through Gr 8, we provide a Catholic education - is what makes Park Street School special.

Grades: Kindergarten-Grade 6
Tuition: $32,300-$34,500; $1,500-$6,000 additional for afternoon programs. Financial Assistance: Available for Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 6, with limited availability for Preschool.

St. John School
9 Moon Street
Boston, MA 02113
617-227-3143
www.sjsne.com

Nestled in the heart of Boston’s historic North End, St. John School has educated children since 1895. Welcoming students in PreK-3 through Gr 8, we provide a Catholic education that focuses on Faith and academic excellence. We utilize standards-based curriculum and innovative programs to educate the whole child. Our dedicated teachers and small class sizes ensure that each student’s unique progress is celebrated. Students enjoy a rigorous academic curriculum enriched by integrated STEM programing, Italian language instruction, our own in-house hydroponic garden and much more. After school care is available 2:30pm-6:00pm for $400 per month. An extensive summer camp is also available. Boston residents may be eligible for free bus transportation. Rolling admissions available across all grades. Please contact Mrs. Becca Griffin, our Director of Development and Enrollment to set up a tour bgriffin@sjsne.com 617-227-3143. School hours: drop off starts 7:30am, class starts 8:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Tuition 2022-23: $7,990, PreK-$7,250, K-$6,900 and Gr 1-8 $6,600.

HIGH SCHOOL
BC High
Boston College High School
150 Morrissey Blvd.
Boston, MA 02125
617-436-3900
Bchigh.edu

Imagine a place where students are challenged to grow as much as they are supported and cared for. Imagine a school where one of the oldest, most influential educational systems in the world is paired with top-tier facilities and innovative opportunities.

Boston College High School is that place. The BC High experience transcends a traditional education to be truly transformative – where young men in grades 7-12 learn, lead, and serve with purpose. In our Jesuit, Catholic tradition, they tackle the most challenging questions, strive to make a difference in the lives of others, and build depth of character rooted in spiritual and emotional growth.

For nearly 160 years, BC High has shaped leaders who are as comfortable in board rooms as they are in ministry, as passionate advocating for the environment as they are racial and social justice and prepared to bring their skills to bear in the City of Boston and on any continent in the world.

Register and join us for Open House on November 6 at bchigh.edu to learn more about BC High and our exciting new offerings – from an innovative House System and our exciting new offerings – to our new $49 million-dollar wellness center set to break ground this winter.

Milton Academy
170 Centre Street
Milton, MA 02186
617-898-2509
Milton.edu

K - 12th grade

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Motor Vehicle - Involving Pedestrian
09/04/2022 - At about 02:45 a.m., police responded to a radio call for a motor vehicle accident involving a pedestrian struck at 32 Cambridge St.

Upon arrival, the officer was met by the victim, who stated she was leaving from the aforementioned address when she was struck by a motor vehicle that proceeded to leave the scene. The victim further said she had the walk symbol to cross on Cambridge Street heading towards the Sullivan Square T station.

The victim was walking with a limp but declined medical attention at this time. The officer informed the victim that a report would be filed and advised her to proceed to the ferry dock.

This is a brief overview of construction operations and impacts for the North Washington Street Bridge Replacement Project. MassDOT will provide additional notices as needed for high-impact work and changes to traffic configurations beyond those described below.

Scheduled Work
• Temporary Bridge asphalt repair will occur from Monday through Friday, September 23 - Work Hours
  • Most work will be done during weekday daytime hours (6:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.)

Travel Tips
For everyone using the temporary bridge, please help share the space: walk to the right, share bikes, and be mindful of people coming from both directions, if walking in a large group.

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

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

The contractor is coordinating with the TD Garden and local police to provide awareness and manage traffic impacts during events. For your awareness, the following TD Garden events are scheduled during this look-ahead period:
• CONCERT: September 23 at 7:00 p.m., 9/24 at 7:00 p.m., 9/28 at 7:00 p.m., and 9/30 at 8:00 p.m.
• BRUINS: September 27 at 7:00 p.m.

How can I find more information?
Stay up-to-date and informed by following the @MassDOT twitter account and Mass 511 for real-time updates, visiting the project website, or emailing us with any questions.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE
North Washington Street Bridge construction look-ahead to October 1

Real Estate Transfers

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<tr>
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John F. Kennedy Family Service Center to host Continuing Our Legacy Gala Sept. 30

The John F. Kennedy Family Service Center, (www.kennedy-center.org), a nonprofit organization with the mission to improve the lives of individuals and families in need, is honoring change makers and community heroes that share its commitment to serving Charlestown. Honorees include Senator Sal DiDomenico, Senator Lydia Edwards, Representative Dan Ryan, and John Drew, former President and CEO of ABCD Boston. In recognition of their dedication, both students and many contributors to the Center, and the Commonwealth, the Board of Directors is hosting the “Continuing Our Legacy Gala” on Friday, September 30, 2022, at 7:00 PM at the Bunker Hill Knights of Columbus (545 Medford St. Charlestown).

This in-person event will feature a dynamic program, live music, dinner, and dancing. The gala will also raise much-needed funds to further our mission of reducing poverty, educating young children, and supporting seniors’ ability to live independently in the community. For nearly six decades, the Kennedy Center has consistently and successfully educated and stabilized the lives of thousands of Charlestown residents. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the Center provided critical services and distributed over $200,000 of direct relief back into the community!

“We are immensely proud of what we have accomplished thus far, but there is still so much more to be done. The Continuing Our Legacy Gala is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate our legacy of service and look forward to a bright future”, said Crystal Galvin, Director of Community Services. “We are grateful for the support of our honorees, as well as our Board of Directors and staff who remain deeply committed to making a difference in the daily lives of individuals and families in need in Charlestown.”

Individual tickets are $100. A limited number of sponsorship opportunities are still available. Companies or individuals interested in participating in the event can learn more, purchase tickets, or make a donation by calling (617) 241-8866 x.1352 or by visiting www.kennedycenter.org/legacy for more details.

About the John F. Kennedy Family Service Center, Inc. (Kennedy Center): The Kennedy Center is a 501 (c) (3) multi-service nonprofit organization dedicated to increasing the availability, accessibility, and effectiveness of services for children, families, and seniors. For over fifty-six years, the Kennedy Center has established a reputation for the delivery of high-quality human service programming for residents of Charlestown, MA. For more information, visit www.kennedy-center.org.

October is Bullying Prevention Month

We have all heard the stories of bullied teens taking their own lives. Suicide is the 2nd leading cause of death for youth ages 10-18 and in many cases bullying can be a catalyst. Studies have shown that bullying aggravates depression and increases suicide risk for both the victim and the perpetrator. When kids who are at risk for suicide because of depression or other mental health issues are bullied, the results can be disastrous.

According to a Washington State Healthy Youth Survey, nearly 25% of tenth graders who reported being bullied also reported having made a suicide attempt in the past twelve months. An article by JAMA pediatrics reported that cyberbullying cause kids to consider suicide more than traditional bullying.

Cyberbullying happens via technology and can be just as devastating as in-person bullying and can lead a victim to low self-esteem, a feeling of loneliness, and a drop in school grades. Parents can help prevent cyberbullying by talking about it, limiting data access, knowing your child’s passwords, and enforcing internet rules. New research done by The Journal of Child and Family Studies identifies that certain positive parenting practices have a strong effect on both school bullying and cyberbullying. Those are a surplus of warmth, autonomy/support, and structure.

If your child has been the victim of bullying and you have noticed a change in his or her mental health as a result, get help now. The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, 1-800-273-TALK (8255) or 988, is a free resource, available 24 hours a day. Or you can text “Jason” to 741741 where trained counselors can offer you support.

The Jason Foundation is another valuable resource. JFI is dedicated to the awareness and prevention of youth suicide through educational programs that equip youth, parents, educators, and the community with the tools and resources to identify and assist at-risk youth. Visit www.jasonfoundation.com to learn more about youth suicide, the warning signs, and how you can make a difference.

Extend your Business’s reach with Online Advertising!

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Call 781-485-0588 to get started!
GARDENS FOR CHARLESTOWN OPENS DISCOVERY TRAIL

Gardens For Charlestown inaugurated its Discovery Trail, an activity map that sets young visitors to the Gardens on a path of exploration to the many secrets within. Placards are set up along a path organized by a map and various forms of flora and fauna are revealed and explained. The program was funded by donations from Bunker Hill Associates, Charlestown Mothers Association, as well as the Gardens Of Charlestown.

Josh and Ava Barrows show off the painted butterflies they made at the arts and crafts table.

Nicolino Santamaria shows off his Discovery Trail map that led him around the Gardens to make discoveries about the flora and fauna that reside there.

Friends Aural Thibeault-Thompson and Ruth Ness make some good stuff at the arts and crafts table.

One of the featured elements of the Gardens were the bees who are hard workers pollinating the many plants who need their services.


Ebba Petersen with friends Amelia and Ebbie Thompson make a stop at the Dragonfly/Roses marker on their Discovery Trail.

Friends of the Charlestown Branch of the Boston Public Library presents

Book talk with Fr. Charles R. Gallagher, S.J.
Author of Nazis of Copley Square, The Forgotten Story Of The Christian Front
"...a great, but deeply unsettling, revelation." (Boston Globe)

Thursday, Sept. 22, 6:30 pm
Charlestown Branch Library - 179 Main St.
Free and open to all with book signing
For more information call 617-242-1248, or email: friendsofcharlestownlib@gmail.com

Follow us! www.facebook.com/FriendsCharlestownBranchLibrary

TO ADVERTISE PLEASE CALL
781-485-0588
GARDENS FOR CHARLESTOWN OPENS DISCOVERY TRAIL

Liz and Sienna Reddick enjoy making the rounds on the Discovery Tour.

Organizers of the event: Jane Panteleev, Chris Schiavone, Amy Kennedy-Slesar, Jenna Aronson, Sofia Moon, and Jody Petersen.

One of the featured elements of the Gardens were the bees who are hard workers pollinating the many plants who need their services.

One of the Discovery Trail markers informed visitors of facts about the pear tree that grows there.

Aycan and Necati Dumlupinar read up on the marker offering information on the hydrangeas growing in the Gardens.

Megan Barrow proudly holds the work of her kids Ava and Josh.

A butterfly lands on a flower, helping the pollination process.

Bunker Hill Knights of Columbus Fundraiser

MUSIC BINGO

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23
7pm

At the Knights of Columbus Hall
545 Medford Street
Contact Steve Herrick for tables
617-905-6970
SAVINGS AND A BANK YOU CAN COUNT ON—

3.00% APY

23 MONTH CD SPECIAL
ADDITIONAL CD SPECIALS AVAILABLE

CAMBRIDGESAVINGS.COM/COUNT-ON

1Annual Percentage Yield (APY) is accurate as of 8/25/2022. Rate is subject to change without notice. A minimum of $10,000 not currently on deposit with CSB is required. Available for CD renewals with an additional minimum deposit of $10,000 not currently on deposit with CSB. $10 minimum daily balance required to earn APY. After the account has been opened or renewed, no additional deposits are permitted. The APY assumes interest remains on deposit until maturity. Substantial penalties for early withdrawal may be imposed. Withdrawals and penalties may reduce earnings. You must live or work in Massachusetts. Offer may be withdrawn at any time.

SAV-0053I Rev. 9/22