



CHARLESTOWN

PATRIOT-BRIDGE

BEGINNING TO LOOK A LOT LIKE...



One never knows how normal things will play out in the pandemic, and that was the case for the Warren Tavern's annual Toys for Tots drive – which nets many toys for needy kids in the Town. Some were nervous, but Charlestown was more generous than ever this year. Kim Maboney, of the Tavern, said they had the largest amount of toys ever given for the drive. Here, on Sunday, staff members at the Tavern posed with a few of the many toys that were collected before doing an online raffle drawing. See Page 7 for more photos.

New Zamboni clears path for more improvements, strong partnerships formed at local ice skating rink

By Seth Daniel

The Emmons Horrigan O'Neil Memorial ice rink – under the authority of the state Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) – took delivery of a brand new Zamboni ice resurfacer on Monday afternoon, but that only scratched the surface of what is to come at the heavily-used facility.

DCR Commissioner Jim Montgomery was on hand with State Rep. Dan Ryan, rink managers and leaders from the Charlestown Youth Hockey Association (CYHA) on Monday to celebrate the arrival of a brand new Zamboni, and to also announce a further \$2 million investment in the rink's team rooms, a new entrance and accessibility improvements.

"We're happy to manage these rinks in the City and our four dozen statewide as well," said Montgomery. "This presents the opportunity for kids to get out and participate in a sport they can play and be active and out of the house.



Celebrating the delivery of the new Zamboni and a further commitment to investing in the Emmons Horrigan O'Neil Memorial ice rink on Monday were state and local officials. The \$141,000 Zamboni arrived at the rink Monday, and DCR Commissioner Jim Montgomery made public an intent to upgrade more of the rink – including team rooms. Pictured here on Monday was Mike Frawley, board member of Charlestown Youth Hockey Association (CYHA), State Rep. Dan Ryan, DCR Commissioner Montgomery, and CYHA Board member John Sutich.

These improvements help them to be able to participate and build teamwork, positive mental health and physical health too. We're thrilled to be able to provide this

service here."

The new Zamboni adds to the \$1.2 million investment in new

(ZAMBONI Pg. 4)

Return to School

Cassellius announces some in-person learning to return in Charlestown

By Seth Daniel

Some of the most vulnerable students in Boston Public Schools (BPS) will be able to return to local schools on Dec. 14 for in-person services and learning, according to an announcement by Supt. Brenda Cassellius on Tuesday.

However, a plan to return general education students to in-person learning still has no definite time frame other than a conversation starter that is to happen in 2021.

Students returned three weeks ago to a few special-education focused schools around the city, but now 1,700 students with

complex disabilities and language needs will return to 28 schools in the district.

For Charlestown students, that will include a return to Harvard Kent Elementary School, Eliot K-8 Innovation School and Charlestown High School.

"We are working towards a plan to return additional students into additional school buildings starting as soon as we can," she said.

"After the return three weeks ago of students to our special education-focused schools we plan to return the next group of stu-

(SCHOOL Pg. 4)

Disney in Charlestown

New movie highlighting Charlestown puts neighborhood's best foot forward

By Seth Daniel

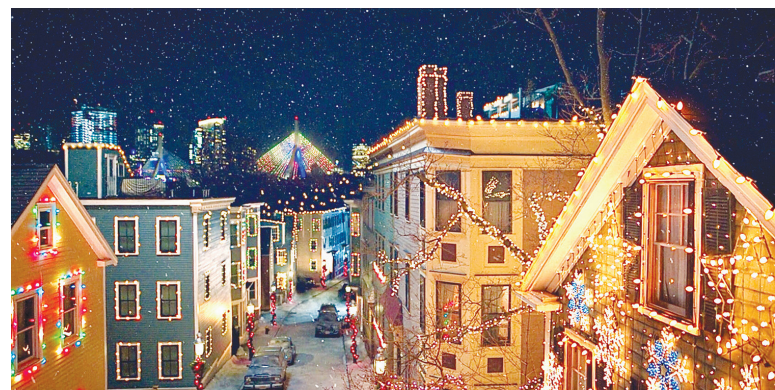
A Disney feature film shot mostly in Charlestown earlier this year premiered last weekend, and put a great face on the Town with a snowy winter landscape (which was fake as we had no snow last year) and a cameo by one local young actress as well.

'Godmothered' was filmed mostly on Pleasant Street in January and February and had other scenes throughout Boston – and one in the Edwards Middle

School as well. The film features Jillian Bell and Isla Fisher in the lead roles with a plot that centers around broken dreams and a fairy magic fix. It is directed by Shannon Maguire, who also directed 'Bridget Jones Diary' some years ago.

Many recall the Disney crew setting up earlier this year on Pleasant Street and Boyle Street with a full production crew, the stars of the show and even some

(DISNEY Pg. 6)



A snow scene from the movie 'Godmothered' shows off the Town in winter. Though it was filmed last January and February, many locally will remember that the crew had to film in the dead of night and use fake snow. The movie highlights the neighborhood in a fantastic way, and premiered on Disney Plus last weekend.

EDITORIAL

HAPPY HANUKKAH

The eight-day observance of Hanukkah, also known as the Festival of Lights, gets underway this Thursday, December 10, and will culminate next Friday, December 18.

In summary, Hanukkah commemorates the victory of the Maccabees -- a group of fierce warriors who used guerilla tactics against an occupying army -- in 166 BCE when the Maccabees liberated the Jewish people from the Greek-based rulers who essentially had outlawed the Jewish religion.

When the triumphant Maccabees captured the city of Jerusalem, they quickly entered the Holy Temple, tossing out the images of the Greek gods that had been installed there by the occupying rulers.

When the Maccabees went to light the Menorah candles in the Temple, they thought they only had one day's worth of oil. However, the lights remained lit for eight days -- hence the miracle of the Festival of Lights.

Hanukkah is a joyous occasion for Jews world-wide, marked by large gatherings of friends and families and the playing of traditional games such as the dreidel and eating traditional foods such as latkes.

Although Hanukkah celebrations this year will be much more subdued than is typical because of the COVID-19 pandemic, we wish all of our Jewish friends a happy, healthy, and meaningful Hanukkah in 2020.

THE VIRUS IS A HUNTER -- AND WE ARE ITS PREY

It now has been nine months since lockdowns went into effect in many states, including here in Massachusetts on March 16. However, despite all of our previous efforts, the COVID-19 pandemic is surging across the entire United States.

The pleas of public health and government officials can only go so far if Americans fail to heed their warnings and do not take the common-sense and easy-to-follow steps of wearing masks, maintaining physical distance, and not congregating in group settings of any kind.

With the promise of a vaccine on the horizon, this is no time to let our guard down. The virus is everywhere and no one is safe from it. Each and every one of us must assume personal responsibility for the safety of ourselves, our families, and our friends.

The coronavirus is a living organism that is stalking us wherever we go and whatever we do. We are its prey -- and it requires that we must be ever-vigilant in order to avoid becoming another victim and spreading it to others.

Selfishness and failure to follow the rules simply are not options amidst this widening pandemic.

PEARL HARBOR WAS 79 YEARS AGO

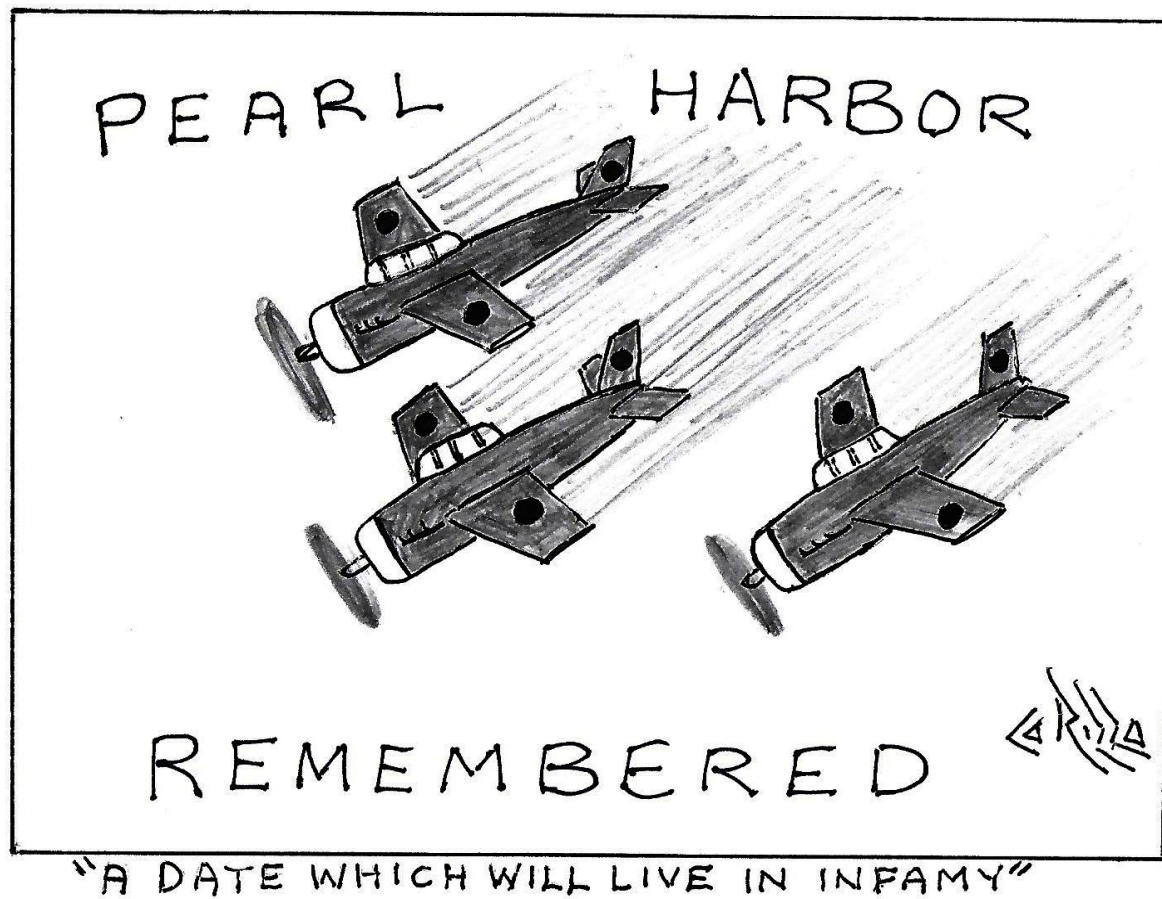
It was 79 years ago this week -- December 7 -- that the nation of Japan launched its attack on Pearl Harbor.

The very next day, President Franklin D. Roosevelt convened a joint session of Congress in which he famously declared the attack as, "A day that will live in infamy," and asked Congress for a Declaration of War.

For more than two years prior to the attack, America had stayed out of the war that already had engulfed the rest of the world. By the time of the Japanese attack, Hitler's Nazis had conquered all of continental Europe and much of Africa, while the Japanese had invaded almost all of Asia, save for the U.S. outposts in the Philippines and other small islands in the Pacific.

Americans clung to the belief that our isolation, separated from the rest of the world by two oceans, would keep us out of the war. But after Pearl Harbor, we no longer could keep our heads buried in the sand.

The lessons of Pearl Harbor are many, but chief among them is that freedom isn't free -- and that we always must be vigilant to recognize the forces of evil that seek to destroy our way of life.



GUEST OP-ED

When does Christmas begin?

Dr. Glenn Mollette

Christmas has different beginning times for most everyone.

For some it's when you put up the Christmas tree and decorations.

For others it's when you wrap some presents and put them under the tree.

While for others it's about the Christmas music. When they first start hearing Christmas songs on the radio then Christmas has begun for them.

Christmas may begin for you when your family arrives home to share in your celebration. Or your Christmas celebration may really begin when your family finally leaves.

When I was a child Christmas started for me when everything came together. The big fresh tree was hewn down from the hillside. Once it was decorated, I started watching for Santa. But it still was 't Christmas until I came up with a big package of firecrackers, cherry bombs and other noisy fireworks. I always loved putting firecrackers and cherry bombs under cans to see how far they would fly through the air.

My mother would make cookies, cakes and pies. My dad would

always buy a big box of apples and oranges. It seems like they lasted a week.

Christmas really began when family came home. When we all got together that's when it seemed Christmas really started. The excitement came by us all being together. Sharing gifts was fun and provided moments of laughter. Eating my mother's delicious meal was always a stable holiday treat we always enjoyed.

The best part was everyone being together for a couple of days. With social distancing, this may be one element of Christmas that many will not get to enjoy in 2020.

So many thousands of people have died from Covid-19 and they will be missed at the Christmas table. If this is you please cling to the hope of life beyond this world and that you will see your loved one again.

I believe throughout our planet that seeing our sick friends get well would make Christmas for all of us.

Christmas is different this year. We must enter Christmas this year with hope. You have to have hope to live. Life without hope is like a car with no fuel. A vaccine for

Covid-19 is coming. We are praying this will spare lives in 2021. We have hope that by next Christmas we can all get together and celebrate.

Keep in mind there has never been anything normal about Christmas. Mary and Joseph and the baby spent their first Christmas in a barn which was like a cave for animals. The baby was laid in a cow's trough for a bed. Christmas always has the potential of being very different.

Remember Christmas is in your heart and that's where your main celebration and hope lie. May hope and Christmas be bright and rekindled anew and afresh. May you within your spirit hear the bells on Christmas day. And, may you hear the angels sing, "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to all men on whom his favor rests."

Glenn Mollette is the publisher of Newburgh Press, Liberty Torch and various other publishing imprints; a national columnist -- American Issues and Common Sense opinions, analysis, stories and features appear each week in over 500 newspapers, websites and blogs across the United States.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

VETERANS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM APPLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE

Abraham Lincoln Post 11, GAR, is now accepting applications for their 2020 Veterans Scholarship program.

Due to the restrictions on public gatherings, we were forced to cancel our annual Veterans Dinner and Scholarship Awards ceremony. Instead of an in person drawing, we are asking any applicants to submit their names to us by January 18, 2020. The drawing will be held on January 19, 2020, at the Post.

To be eligible, the applicant must be from Charlestown and serving in the Armed Forces or be a Charlestown Veteran who served or be the child or grandchild of a Charlestown Veteran.

The applicant must be attending a tuition school.

This year, we are proud to announce the Billy Boyle Memorial Scholarship, a \$1,000 award for an applicant attending college. We will also have five \$500 awards for other schools.

To apply, please send us the following information:

- Your name
- The name of the Veteran sponsor (if not the same)
- The name of the student
- The school the student attends
- Your contact information (name, address, phone and email)

If this is your first time applying, please enclose a copy of the veterans DD214 form.

If you have any questions, please contact Joe Zuffante at 617 477 7494

Send your application to:
Abraham Lincoln Post 11, GAR
Scholarship Program
14 Green St.
Charlestown, 02129

Or you can drop off your information at the Cooperative Bank, 201 Main St., Charlestown Ma.

All applications must be received by 5pm on the 18th of December.

Abraham Lincoln Post 11
Officers

THE CHARLESTOWN LIONS CLUB IS COLLECTING COATS IN DECEMBER AND JANUARY

The Charlestown Lions Club members are collecting coats for children, babies and adults from now until the middle of January of 2021. The Charlestown Cooperative Bank has generously offered to be the collection site for the coats and they may be dropped off at the bank during regular banking hours.

All coats must be in good condition with no rips, tears, broken zippers or permanent stains and all pockets should be emptied. The coats will be delivered to Anton's Cleaners in Somerville where they will be cleaned and then distributed to those in need.

Rosemary Kverek
Coat Chairperson
Charlestown Lions Club

CLERGY VIEWPOINT

FROM THE CHARLESTOWN CLERGY ASSOCIATION

Living in hope

By Very Reverend James Ronan, VF - Pastor, St. Mary-St. Catherine of Siena Parish

Living in the Advent Time means living with hope - looking to the horizon with the expectation that Immanuel, God with us, becomes ever more present to each and all. Yet, this is a deeply personal journey for each of us, for it is about a relationship offered by Christ to me and to you. Everyone knows relationships need attention if they are to grow and flourish. Maybe we can call Advent, relationship-nurturing-time.

Throughout each of our lives, there are times of joy and times of sadness, times of success and times of failure, times of hope and times of despair. In all of the chapters of our lives, the one thing that sustains us in the hard times and amplifies the happy times is a meaningful relationship. Often the relationship is in the form of a friend, a partner, a family member or a lover.

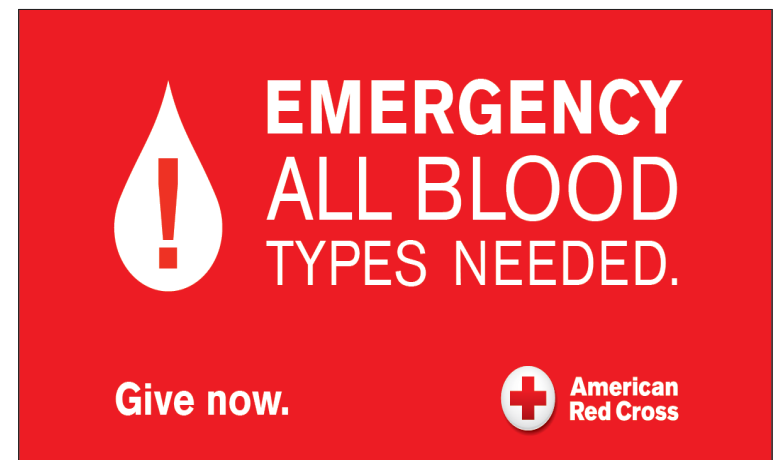
The mystery of the Incarnation, the enfleshment of God as a human person can best be understood as God befriending humankind. Yet

friendship is not even an adequate word to describe the birth of Jesus Christ in that stable in Bethlehem 2,000 years ago. Christmas celebrates God's radical act of love for all people.

However, relationships of any significance are always mutual. In this relationship, God makes the first move in the person of Jesus. The ministry of Jesus continues as men and women through the ages are invited into this relationship with the God/Man. Through

the sacraments, beginning with Baptism, the relationship offered holds the promise of not only friendship, but more of intimacy.


In this Covid blanketed December, the struggles every one of us face can be daunting. The friendship offered in Christ is more than enough to sustain us. Not just to keep us afloat, but also to give us hope. For God is with us - Immanuel is the fundamental truth of Christmas and always.



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State outlines initial steps for COVID-19 Vaccine distribution

Staff Report

On Wednesday, Gov. Charlie Baker announced allocation and distribution plans for the first round of COVID-19 vaccine shipments to Massachusetts set to begin around December 15 – with the first round of doses going straight to front-line hospital workers and the second wave going to workers and residents of long-term care facilities.

The general public is expected to get its first access to the vaccine in April.

The state's first shipment of 59,475 doses of the Pfizer vaccine was ordered from the federal government this past Friday and will be delivered directly to 21 hospitals across eight counties, as well as to the Department of Public

Health Immunization lab.

Doses will then be redistributed for access to 74 hospitals across all 14 counties for front line medical workers. The next 40,000 doses of Pfizer vaccine will be allocated to the Federal Pharmacy Program to begin vaccinating staff and residents of skilled nursing facilities, rest homes and assisted living residences.

Vaccine is being prioritized for these groups to maximize life preservation and to support the health care system. Based on information at this time, Massachusetts is expecting 300,000 first doses of the vaccine to be delivered by the end of December. The first vaccines, manufactured by Moderna and Pfizer, will require two doses administered 3-4 weeks apart.

While all delivery dates and quantities are subject to change

due to ongoing federal approval and allocation, the Administration plans to receive and distribute over 2 million doses to priority population groups by the end of March.

In collaboration with the COVID-19 Vaccine Advisory Group, the Administration designated groups of medical workers, first responders and residents most at risk for serious illness to receive the vaccine before the general population. Communities of color and at-risk populations are prioritized throughout the process to maximize life preservation and to prevent serious complications from COVID related illnesses.

Anticipated Vaccination Phases and Timeline:

PHASE ONE (December 2020-February 2021):

- Clinical and non-clinical healthcare workers doing direct

and COVID-facing care

- Long term care facilities, rest homes and assisted living facilities
- Police, Fire and Emergency Medical Services

- Congregate care settings (including shelters and corrections)

- Home-based healthcare workers

- Healthcare workers doing non-COVID facing care

PHASE TWO (February 2021-April 2021):

- Individuals with 2+ comorbidities (high risk for COVID-19 complications)

- Early education, K-12, transit, grocery, utility, food and agriculture, sanitation, public works and public health workers

- Adults 65+

- Individuals with one comorbidity

PHASE THREE (April 2021-):

- Vaccine available to general public

While both Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are pending FDA emergency use authorization, Massachusetts will not distribute the COVID-19 vaccine until it receives this authorization. Vaccines go through extensive testing, more than any pharmaceuticals, including extensive testing in clinical trials. The FDA, which approves the vaccine, and the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), which will make its recommendation for use, must ensure any vaccine is both safe and effective for the public before approval and distribution.

SCHOOL (from pg. 1)

dents on Monday, December 14," she continued. "This will include students with complex disabilities and language needs who were identified as having high priority for in-person learning. We are communicating directly with those families in collaboration with their school leaders to outline next steps."

She said the return is based on families who selected hybrid learning for their students and on

each building's ability to welcome students and staff back to in-person learning."

For students that are returning, some of the older buildings without good HVAC systems will have free-standing air purification systems in place. Cassellius said the main measure for ventilation is Air Changes per Hour (ACH). Classrooms should see three or more ACH's to prevent the spread of COVID-19, according

to guidance from Harvard's T.H. Chan School of Public Health. Correspondingly, BPS is also updating filters in their buildings with HVAC systems and adding purifiers as well.

BPS has 400 air units right now in storage, and they are expecting 5,000 to be shipped in through a partnership with the state.

"BPS hired an independent contractor to test the air quality of the buildings where students are

currently learning and will continue testing air in all buildings with students and staff in hybrid learning via our Environmental Services Team in collaboration with the Boston Public Health Commission," she said.

BPS reported nine new cases last week, bringing the total since the return to school buildings in October to 48 cases. There are no schools with five or more cases reported, so the report is in the

aggregate. It is also noted that while there are four school buildings with in-person learning in progress now, many teachers and other staff continue to report to their buildings to share the day's lessons with students who are learning remotely. Any positive cases reported are not necessarily related to the buildings where in-person learning is taking place.

ZAMBONI (from pg. 1)

refrigeration equipment at the rink in 2018. The \$2 million renovations of the team rooms, the new main entrance facing the Peter Looney Park and accessibility upgrades is now just beyond the conceptual design phase, said the DCR. Designs on that project are expected to be complete in late 2021, and construction is expected to begin in the spring of 2022 and conclude in time for the start of the skating/hockey season in the fall of 2022. None of the work is expected to impact operations of the rink.

Before all of that, however, the conceptual design will move to the 25 percent design phase in the next few months. Once that milestone is reached, the DCR said it would be out to hold virtual public meetings to present designs to the public and gather input from butters and stakeholders.

CYHA leaders said the Zamboni

and the announced plans were a further strengthening of their relationship with the DCR and its great management and ownership of the Charlestown rink.

"The DCR really puts the community first in the way they handle the Charlestown Rink," said John Sutich, board member. "That's been obvious by how many renovations they've done in the last five years to make it a lot nicer facility. In doing so, they've always invited CYHA and other groups to participate in the conversation first. CYHA is able to do what it does for Charlestown and surrounding city families because of the DCR. We're serving more families than ever now."

Frawley added that the DCR is a great partner because their management allows for affordable rates for non-profits like CYHA and other local groups.

"It's much different than what

other rinks do," he said. "When they go for-profit, other teams that can pay ore will get the ice time. This is a community space and DCR puts the community first."

State Rep. Dan Ryan was on hand Monday to celebrate the new investments and said it builds on other investments over the last few years.

"I want to thank the DCR and Commissioner Montgomery for their continued investments in the Charlestown rink," he said. "This Zamboni will go a long way in ensuring that our kids continue to have a great surface to skate on."

CYHA leaders said they also wanted to thank Rep. Ryan for his advocacy in the State House, and also State Sen. Sal DiDomenico – both of whom have had the DCR rink high on their list of priorities.

Sutich said CYHA is serving around 300 kids now, which is almost double from a few years



The new Zamboni Model 552AC ice resurfacer took its first trip around the Charlestown rink on Monday.

back before renovations to the rink began. This year, there are four girls teams, 12 boys/co-ed

teams, a micro hockey program and a Learn to Skate program.



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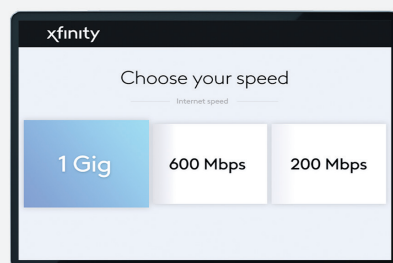
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NEWS BRIEFS

MAYOR WALSH APPOINTS AISHA MILLER AS CHIEF OF CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Long-time Chief of Civic Engagement Jerome Smith has left his position with the City, and has taken a job with Amazon.

Now, Mayor Martin J. Walsh announced the appointment of Aisha Miller as the Chief of Civic Engagement for the City of Boston, effective Monday, December 7. The Civic Engagement Cabinet is composed of the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services, the Mayor's Office of Public Service and Community Outreach, Boston 311, and SPARK Boston and is dedicated to the efficient and effective delivery of City services, as well as creating opportunities for Boston residents to participate with local government. Miller was the Assistant Commissioner of Constituent Services for the Boston Inspectional Service Department (ISD).

COUNCILOR EDWARDS' FAIR HOUSING AMENDMENT TO BE VOTED AT COUNCIL

On Wednesday, Boston City Council was expected to pass Councilor Lydia Edwards' fair housing zoning amendment.

The amendment will be the first example in the country of zoning requiring an equity lens in urban planning and development review.

"This is a historic moment for Boston and the country. I want to thank the advocates, the activists, the generations of people who have been displaced and took to the streets knowing we could be and do better," said Councilor Edwards. "With this amendment Boston is setting a standard for cities throughout the country to follow. For too long, zoning has played a role in causing a lot of harm. Wednesday's vote is a bold and historic step towards zoning playing a role in healing."

In 2017, the Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Community Advisory Committee was established to examine the city's efforts to further fair housing opportunities. On June 6, 2020 the committee held a town hall during which it released its report after three years of research.

One of the group's recommendations was codifying equity into the zoning code.

"This is a momentous day for the City of Boston to begin to

reconcile one of the central civil rights challenges of our time: fair housing," said Lincoln Larmond, a member of the committee and a member of the Boston Tenant Coalition. "With the inequities and disparities COVID-19 has exposed coupled with history and recent studies regarding discrimination and evictions in Boston the need for this amendment could not be more timely. The passing of this amendment, which would be the first in the nation to include fair housing in a zoning ordinance, is a testament to Councilor Edwards' leadership and vision."

Councilor Edwards first introduced such an amendment in April 2019. The amendment is expected to be voted on by the BPDA Board of Directors at their December meeting and by the Zoning Commission in January.

WARREN PRESCOTT STUDENTS PLACE IN MWRA POSTER CONTEST

The Warren Prescott School in Charlestown had four students win or place honorable mention in the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) annual system-wide poster and poem contest – with second grader Luca Guadagno Kaluski taking first place in his division.

The annual contest focused on the subject of 'Don't Flush That,' developing a poster to encourage people not to flush excluded items down the toilet – as they damage and clog pipes and disrupt the infrastructure.

Kaluski's take on it was a mixed-media poster with two toilets – one with the proper items flushed that felt great. The second didn't feel so good and had things flushed down it like underwear, a purse, fish and even a strawberry Starburst.

Other winners from the W-P included:

- Austin Ortiz, grade 2, Honorable Mention.
- Annabel MacLetchie, grade 3, Third Place
- Lincoln Collier, grade 5, Honorable Mention Poetry

The winning posters and writing entries for the MWRA's 2019/2020 Contest are being displayed at the Metropolitan Waterworks Museum (located at 2450 Beacon St., Boston, MA 02467) from October 14, 2020 – January 14, 2021. Check out www.waterworksmuseum.org for museum hours.

Gaslight replacement program to focus only on Beacon Hill for now

The City is in the process of exploring how to convert colonial gas lights into electrified colonial fixtures, and while that program could come to Charlestown eventually, right now it's focus is on Beacon Hill and downtown Boston.

The City put \$400,000 into a program at the Public Works Department that explored how to convert gas lighting – which is very prevalent in many parts of Charlestown's historic areas – into an electric light fixture that still maintained the historic context.

Public Works officials said they are looking to do a pilot of

their concept on Temple Street in Beacon Hill – which was a request of neighbors. Many swear by the gas lights, but others have sworn off of them due to leaks in the piping that kills off landscaping and trees.

"The City of Boston allocated \$400,000 for a design build study to gauge the feasibility of converting gas colonial fixtures to electrified colonial fixtures," said a spokesman from Public Works. "The Public Works Street Lighting Division is currently in the exploratory phase to locate ideal locations that would maintain the character of the existing

lights while also reducing overall maintenance costs and improving the carbon footprint. The City will continue to explore possible neighborhoods that could benefit from this conversion, which includes Temple Street on Beacon Hill after neighbors signed a petition expressing their strong interest in converting the existing gas fixtures."

There have been no public plans shared as of yet to include Charlestown in the program, but along with the South End, Beacon Hill and Bay Village, it is one of the few that still maintain gas lighting fixtures.

DISNEY (from pg. 1)

fake snow. The crew had filmed in the cold months as they expected to have snow in Boston, but last year was a little snow-less, so many in the Town marveled at the crew's ability to create a fun, but fake, snow scene.

Having a cameo in the film is Charlestown's Meara Gross, who plays the part of a neighborhood child and can be seen riding her bike on the hills of Pleasant Street in the movie.

Her mother, Fiona Mahoney Gross, said her daughter had a great time on set filming with the stars and participating in a professional production – especially it being set in her hometown.

"Meara had a great time on set, made new friends, learned about shooting at night and riding her bike in (fake) snow and she loved that this movie highlighted her hometown," said Fiona.

At one point, the directors even asked her if she were comfortable riding her bike on the hills in Charlestown.

"She just told them she had grown up riding her bike on these

hills so it was no big deal for her," laughed her mother.

Meara Gross, 11, is also now appearing in a Lifetime holiday movie that was filmed in Worcester earlier this year. In that movie, 'Christmas on Ice,' she has a larger part and actually gets to skate in the film.

Meara has participated in shows at the Charlestown Working Theatre, and plays Charlestown Youth Soccer and swims at the Boys & Girls Club too. She attends the Eliot K-8 School in the North End.

"Our family just really loved that Charlestown and this neighborhood was the star of the show," said Fiona.



Local Charlestown actress Meara Gross had a cameo role in 'Godmothered,' riding her bike up and down the street. She is also in a Lifetime movie now called, 'Christmas on Ice.' She attends the Eliot K-8 School.

Jolly Old Saint Nick won't be making any appearances for photos this year
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THE WARREN TAVERN'S ANNUAL TOYS FOR TOTS DRIVE

The Warren Tavern's annual Toys for Tots drive took place all last week, and culminated on Sunday, Dec. 6, with an online raffle and drawing. The typical Christmas even draws hundreds throughout the day, and always follows the Enchanted Trolley Christmas Tree lighting in Thompson Square. There was no lighting this year, and the party was pared down in person, but had a lively presence online. All through the week, there were "celebrity" videos from those that usually visit or donate to the in-person event.

Despite the changes, there was no let-down in donations to needy children in the Town. Kim Mahoney of the Tavern said they had more toys donated this year than ever before.

"The spirit of kindness and giving is alive and well in Charlestown



Brynn Richardson flashed a Christmas pose.

this year," said Mahoney.

All toys collected (more than 30 bags) will go to Charlestown children.



Celebrating after donating to the toy drive were Teighan Richardson, Farren Richardson, Brynn Richardson, Molly Carr, Sam Madden, and Jared Richardson.



Lynda Stillman, Maureen Collier, Kiley Stillman, Emma Moloney, Ashlyn Stillman and standing, Kim Mahoney.



Teighan Richardson enjoys a candy cane.

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HOLDING ONTO A GEM?

Kennedy Center honors partners in funding for roof repairs

By Seth Daniel

The Kennedy Center celebrated the completion of their historic roof replacement project this week, a project that received state funding and City Community Preservation Act (CPA) funding as well.

The Kennedy Center school, formerly the Old Kent School, was designed by Edmund Wheelwright, who also designed the Longfellow Bridge. The original slate roof was more than 100 years old. A complete roof renovation would have been completely beyond the means of a non-profit school serving low-income families, said Director Thara Fuller.

So, funding from the state Health and Human Services budget and from the CPA were critical. City and state leaders who supported funding for the roof project included Senator Sal DiDomenico,



Lynne Spencer of Spencer, Sullivan and Vogt; Ward Hamilton, owner of Olde Mohawk; Kennedy Center Director Thara Fuller, Doug Manley and Shawn Willet – both of Spencer, Sullivan and Vogt.



Michael Parker and Sallie Zimmerman of the Community Preservation Committee, with Kennedy Center Director Thara Fuller.

State Rep. Dan Ryan, Councilor Lydia Edwards and Mayor Martin Walsh.

“They recognized that the

Kennedy Center School is not only historic but also a living and active institution providing critical services to young children and

their families through Head Start, Universal Pre-K, and subsidized childcare programs for working parents,” said Fuller.

On Tuesday morning, in a

short ceremony, the Kennedy Center staff thanked those who played a role in the project, includ-

(KENNEDY Pg. 9)



Director Thara Fuller with Councilor Lydia Edwards and State Rep. Dan Ryan.



Workers from Olde Mohawk Construction gathered for a ‘Thank You’ from Kennedy Center Director Thara Fuller and the organization.

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PEARL HARBOR REMEMBERED DURING CEREMONY IN CHARLESTOWN

Courtesy Photos

It was a busy week in the Navy Yard for the USS Constitution and the USS Cassin Young with sailors decorating Old Ironsides with holiday decorations, and then also being on the Cassin Young Dec. 7 to commemorate the anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. On Dec. 7, they commemorated the 79th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor, recognizing a tragic day in the nation's and U.S. Navy's history. Guest speaker was Michael Creasey, National Park Service of Boston Superintendent, and Religious Program Specialist Chief Select Jesse Jiepper.



Ship Commander John Benda, NPS of Boston Supt. Michael Creasey and Constitution Museum Director Ann Grimes Rand pose before the wreath to commemorate Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7. The ceremony was held on the USS Cassin Young.

KENNEDY (from pg. 8)

ing elected officials, CPA members, architects and construction crews.

“The Community Preservation Committee receives many compelling applications for CPA funds, but what set the Kennedy Center apart in last year’s funding round was not only its strong historic preservation plan, but its provision of important, much needed social services in the building to be preserved,” said Michael Parker, a CPA member who lives in Charlestown. “Charlestown is truly fortunate to have the Kennedy Center and its dedicated staff in our community.”

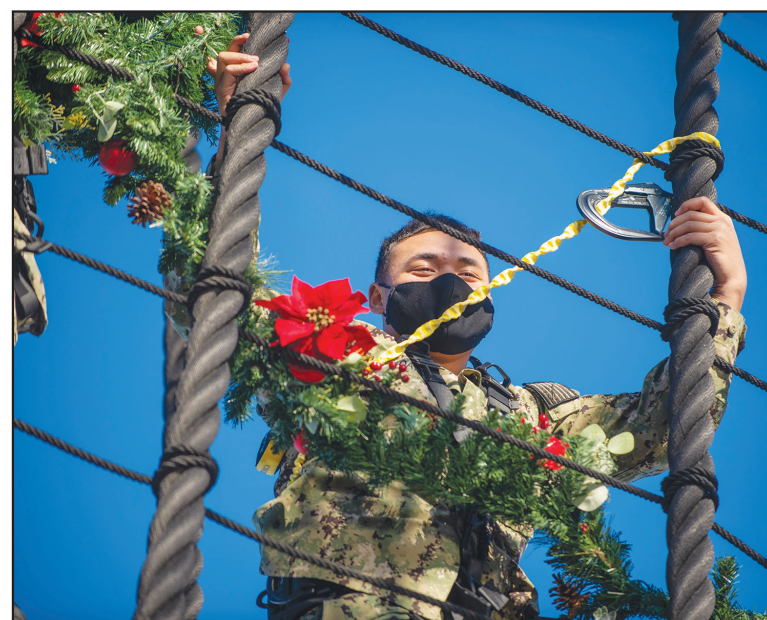
State Rep. Dan Ryan said congratulations were in order for lining up the funding and getting very highly-skilled work completed.

“Congratulations to the Kennedy Center on completion of the roof project,” he said. “This revitalization retains a bit of Charlestown history while continuing to house current programming needs. This collaborative effort is an example of exactly how the Community Preservation Act should work. I thank our City partners, Mayor Walsh and Councilor Lydia Edwards, the local CPA board and staff for administering this program, and Senator DiDomenico for his continued partnership in securing State funds for Charlestown.”

The roof on the Kennedy Center had been in place for more than a century and had outlived its useful life.



The memorial wreath is tossed overboard into the ocean.



Here, one of the sailors on the USS Constitution decorates the historic ship this week for the holidays.

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Long-vacant store now features neighborhood home décor boutique

By Seth Daniel

Bunker Hill Relics had become a relic to most everyone passing by on that key business corridor of Main Street, but the long-vacant storefront has now found the perfect complement to the businesses on the block.

Charlestown's Donna Garlough opened Monroe Home & Style in the space last Friday, and has been doing great business just in time for the holidays this week.

"I've been amazed at how many people are surprised and pleasantly surprised by the store," she said. "The first thing they say is 'Thank You' - thank you for filling out the block, for fixing up Main Street and happy we're bringing something different to the Town. People are depressed right now. Stores are closing everywhere and people are excited to see something new and fresh open up."

That's especially true for the Relics space that has been empty

for many years when the owner of that antiques store passed on and the heirs took time to find just the right business to complement what is already there.

A home décor store is the perfect fit, Garlough said, and brings something to the area that isn't there now. It was a risk to open in the middle of a pandemic, but she said she saw a need for it and it's something she's been working on for several years.

"My reasons were multi-faceted," she said. "I started this business plan a long time before COVID-19. I wasn't about to let it sway me. I'm here for the long haul. I'm living in Charlestown and not going anywhere. I've also noticed there is an enthusiasm for this kind of business right now because people are stuck at home. They want things for the home and they're making small changes and waiting to do larger projects when things open up more."

So far that's panned out in a

big way. Often, she'll find people waiting outside the store before it opens, and she sold out of a lot of things in the first week and has re-stocked for holiday shopping. She said glassware is a hot item, as is bar-ware shakers and cocktail glasses. There is also interest in kitchen items in her one-of-a-kind, in-store kitchenette showroom and also for candles, throws and DIY design books.

Garlough said she has had a varied career in retail and home décor, starting as a writer at Boston Magazine covering lifestyle and home décor for the publication. From there, she spent seven years at Wayfair in e-commerce. However, e-commerce wasn't her calling, she said.

"I did get to know the home décor retail space, but e-commerce was not where I wanted to be," she said. "I have always enjoyed neighborhood retail and I love my neighborhood."

Garlough is married to David Garlough, and has two children at the Warren Prescott, Sarah, 9, and Jonah, 7. She is also involved in the Charlestown Mothers Association (CMA) and said she has really gotten to know so many neighbors and friends since opening the store. The store is closed on Mondays, but has the following hours through the week: Tuesday 10-6; Wednesday 10-6; Thursday 11-7; Friday 11-7; Saturday 10-5; and Sunday 11-4.



Photo by Lauren Thompson of Mockingbird

Charlestown's Donna Garlough has opened Monroe Home & Style in the long-vacant Bunker Hill Relics space on Main Street, and has had a tremendous response over her first week.

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Historic Houses of the Month

The Thompson Triangle

By Nancy Hayford Kueny

Charlestown has been blessed with an amazing number of late 18th century and early 19th century homes that were built during the reconstruction of Charlestown following the Battle of Bunker Hill. By the late 1960s the population of the town had dwindled from 40,000 to 12,000. In the 1970s it was not uncommon to see houses, especially frame houses, unpainted and boarded up. Enter the Boston Redevelopment Authority. The BRA initially embraced the renewal of Charlestown, but with the philosophy that many of these historic but derelict buildings should be torn down and replaced with new housing. Thankfully, there was a group of citizens who realized that these buildings were an important part of the historic fabric of Charlestown. Dick and Virginia Creaser as well as others such as Sam Donnell, Laurette Murdock, Betty Smith and Doug Adams to name just a few, founded the Charlestown Preservation Society with the intention of supporting the preservation of Charlestown's historic homes.

Strictly by accident in the late 1960s, James Rivers Adams was driving around Boston looking for a fixer upper. He took a wrong turn and ended up in Charlestown. Like many, he was impressed by the historic buildings. Jim's initial project was a brick town house on Harvard Street which he bought for \$12,000. Next, Jim turned his attention to the neighborhood which became known as the Thompson Triangle, an enclave of late Georgian/Early Federal period homes bordered by Thompson Square, Main Street, Pleasant Street and Warren Street. At the time these homes were built, the no longer extant Elias Crafts House covered in a previous article, would have stood at the apex of the triangle approximately where the park in front of the Charlestown Five Cents Savings Bank is now. Collaborating with the Preservation Society, Adams took on the project d/b/a the Charlestown Development Corporation. It was a visionary idea but initially the Boston Redevelopment Authority balked at the proposal. Eventually Adams, CPS and others prevailed and the rejuvenation of the Thompson Triangle began.

One of the buildings is of course the Warren Tavern named after

General Joseph Warren. It was built in 1780 by a baker named Eliaphet Newell, a friend of Paul Revere. It is one of the oldest taverns in Boston and functioned as a tavern for 38 years, closing upon the death of Newell. Through the years the tavern was used for many purposes including as a grocery store, a Greek bakery, and in the 1960s as a warehouse by the infamous Cornelius 'Connie' McCarthy, who opened a furniture and appliance store at 73-83 Main Street in 1958. Although condemned and in the shadow of the elevated train that still screeched along Main Street when Adams acquired the tavern, the post and beam construction was largely intact and Adams was able to create his vision of what it might have looked like in 1780. The walls were rough plastered, the massive timbers remained exposed, replacement wide pine flooring was installed, and pierced-tin lanterns hung about creating a 19th century atmosphere. In 1972 the Warren Tavern was back in business.

Adams also restored the imposing Federal mansion at 119 Main Street built around 1794. The house was built by Timothy Thompson Sr. (1750-1834) a descendant of James Thompson (1593-1682), who arrived in Charlestown from Lincolnshire, England in 1630 as part of John Winthrop's group. James eventually removed to Woburn which at that time was part of Charlestown.

In April 1775, James' great-grandson Timothy was living in Charlestown with his wife Mary Frothingham. Following the Battles of Lexington and Concord, the official beginning of the Revolution, the British attempted to take control of Boston which eventually led to the Battle of Bunker Hill. Tensions were rising and Charlestown was deemed to be unsafe for women and children. Mary left for Woburn taking only a few possessions. She would never see her home again. Several

months later Timothy, a sergeant in the militia, fought at the Battle of Bunker Hill after which the town was burned to the ground.

A few years later, like many, Timothy and Mary returned to Charlestown to rebuild their life. Timothy built a small house and carpentry shop at the corner of Thompson Street and Main Street, and it was here on February 24, 1777 that Timothy Jr. was born. It is believed that he was the first child born in Charlestown following the battle. Eventually Timothy's estate extended from Main Street to Back Street, now Warren Street. He moved his carpentry shop to Warren Street and built the mansion at 119 Main Street which he lived in until his death at age 84. The house has also been referred to as the Benjamin Thompson House, Benjamin being another son. In 1892, the historian Timothy Thompson Sawyer (1817-1905), another Thomson descendant, lived at 119 Main Street. Sawyer was a businessman, a bank director and a politician. He is also known to many lovers of Charlestown history as the author of *Old Charlestown* (1902) a compilation of anecdotal articles he had written for *The Charlestown Enterprise*.

The Thompson House is an important example of a late Georgian, early Federal home. It is a clapboarded three story, five-bay center hall plan structure with a low hipped roof. Significant features include quoins at the corners and a handsome pedimented entry door. Another splendid feature is the Palladian window on the rear wall. Like most Federals there are fireplaces in every room.

Thompson Street, a charming cobbled lane, remains although it is no longer a through street. In 1805 Timothy Thomson Sr. built the double Federal homes located at 88 Warren Street and 6 Pleasant Street respectively. 88 Warren, initially 9 Thompson Street, remains while 6 Pleasant Street was torn down or burned, probably in



Condemned Warren Tavern and 119 Main St with Elevated Tracks

the early 1900s. Adams built a reproduction Federal in its place in 1973. Two other noteworthy properties, also part of the Thompson Triangle and the subject of a future article, are the brick Federal commercial/residential buildings located at 121 and 127 Main Street. These buildings are known as the Armstrong House and the Round Corner House.

Nearby was another Thompson estate on the site of what is now the Five Cents Cent Savings Bank. Next door across Church Street, the circa 1840 double Greek Revivals at 107-109 Warren Street were also Thompson properties.

The Thompson Triangle provides us with a fairly intact look

at a neighborhood that was an important part of the early reconstruction of Charlestown following the battle. The name given to Thompson Square was due to the fact that several generations of the family of that name were for a long period, residents of that vicinity.

Sources: *The Immortal Tavern* by Jim Adams, *Old Charlestown* by Timothy Sawyer, *A Century of Town Life* by James F. Hunnewell, *MACRIS, History of the Town* by Richard and Virginia Creaser, *The Old House Journal*, *Ancestry.com*, *Charlestown: Footsteps Through History* by Ruth Sigler, *Battlefields.org*

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Charlestown's positive test rate increases dramatically post-Thanksgiving holiday

By John Lynds

As feared the post-Thanksgiving COVID-19 surge is here and numbers are once again spiking in Charlestown.

Charlestown experienced a 39 percent drop in the positive test rate during Thanksgiving week but that number has increased a whopping 257.5 percent the week following the holiday.

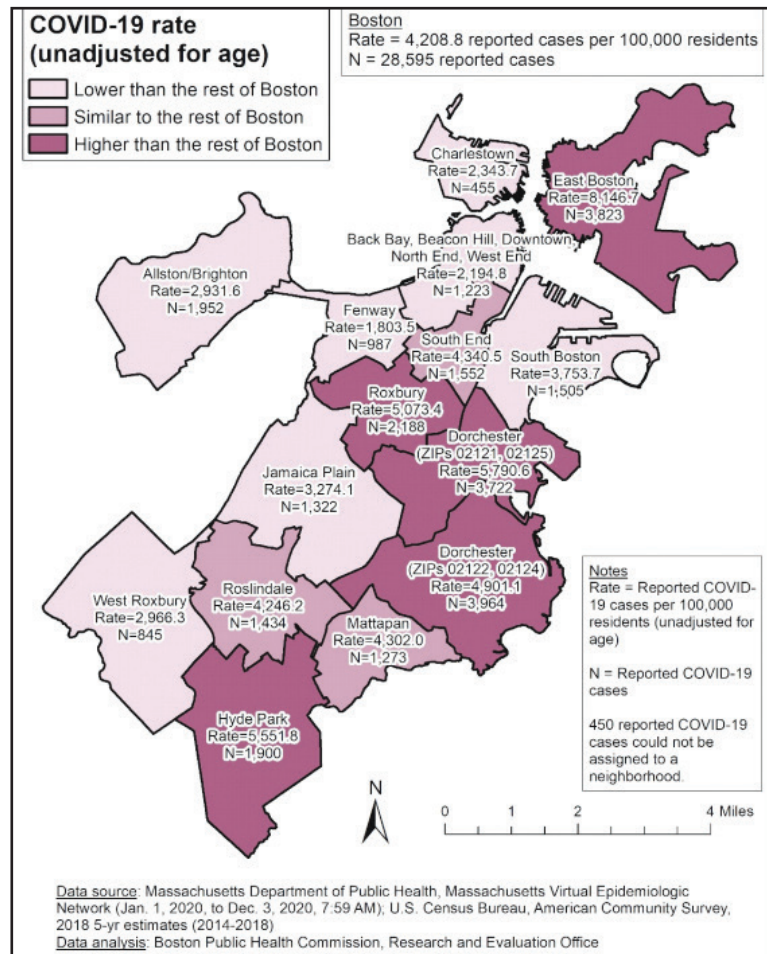
Of the 10,018 Charlestown residents tested for the virus 14.3 percent were found to be positive by last Friday. This was a dramatic increase of 257.5 percent from the 4 percent that tested positive two Fridays ago.

The citywide positive test rate also exploded and the average was 11.9 percent--a 138 percent increase from the 5 percent that tested positive two weeks ago.

The data shows that overall since the pandemic began 4.8 percent of Charlestown residents tested were found to be COVID positive.

At his daily press conference last Thursday Mayor Martin Walsh said there is a sharp increase in viral activity and there's an urgent need for vigilance: The Mayor said that after a couple of weeks of declining numbers Boston is now seeing, in the wake of Thanksgiving, a significant uptick in COVID activity.

"On Wednesday and Thursday, we recorded a combined 960 new cases in Boston, and Wednesday's number for Massachusetts was the highest since the pandemic began," said Walsh. "In addition, we are seeing more patients admitted to Boston hospitals due to



On Friday the BPHC released its weekly COVID-19 stats by neighborhood that tracks infection rates and COVID testing results in Boston neighborhoods.

COVID-19. Since Friday (Nov. 27), we've seen an increase of about 70 patients. We're going to be monitoring the data, working closely with our hospitals and health care leaders, and bringing relief and resources where they are needed."

Walsh said in the meantime, Bostonians must double-down on their personal precautions.

"Wear a face covering that covers your nose and your mouth when you are outside your house," said Walsh. "Wash your hands frequently and use hand sanitizer. Clean and disinfect your surroundings, especially at work. If you are an employer, make sure your workers have what they need to be safe, and allow as many people to work from home as possible."

The Mayor asked seniors, in particular, to take extra care and continue to stay at home as much as possible.

The Mayor repeated his request that everyone get tested, especially if you have reason to think you've been exposed to COVID-19, or if you spent Thanksgiving with a group larger than your immediate household.

"Currently, we have over 30 testing sites in Boston," said Walsh. "You can find them listed and mapped at boston.gov/coronavirus, or you can call 311. The City will continue to invest in free mobile sites and bring them to neighborhoods where COVID activity is higher. Our mobile sites are free and open to anyone, regardless of whether you have COVID symptoms or not."

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GREAT HOLIDAY GIFTS

Dedicated bus lane to start on Mystic/Tobin Bridge this Monday

By Seth Daniel

The heavily-used 111 bus route will become the most prioritized route in the MBTA system starting on Monday when a 1.1 mile dedicated bus lane from Chelsea to Charlestown begins on the Mystic/Tobin Bridge – a pilot program brought on quickly after the threat of a lawsuit by the Conservation Law Foundation (CLF).

The bus lane will also be accompanied by transit priority improvements on either side of the Bridge.

The MBTA and Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) Highway Division announced the 1.1 mile dedicated bus lane for southbound travel on the Tobin Bridge will open for use by public transportation buses on Monday, December 14. This 12-month southbound bus lane pilot, along with additional transit priority initiatives and improvements on Broadway in Chelsea and North Washington Street Charlestown/North End, makes the MBTA's Route 111 bus route one of the most prioritized bus routes in the MBTA system.

"We are piloting the idea of a preferential lane for the MBTA's 111 route and the lane's success will be evaluated after collecting data on bus travel times, crowding, and ridership, along with how safe the dedicated lane is for all travelers," said Transportation Secretary and CEO Stephanie Pollack. "We've been pleased at how receptive in general that community members have been during the pandemic to rethinking how public space is used, and we believe this is an opportune time to try a dedicated lane for buses traveling southbound over the Tobin Bridge and toward City Square Tunnel."

State Rep. Dan Ryan has been following the study of the lane, and was pleased to see it come sooner rather than later.

COVID (from pg. 12)

The infection rate in Charlestown increased 9.3 percent in one week according to the latest city statistics.

The BPHC data released last Friday showed Charlestown had an infection rate of 234.3 cases per 10,000 residents, up from 214.2 cases per 10,000 residents.

Nineteen additional residents became infected with the virus last week bringing the total to 435 confirmed cases.

The statistics released by

"I wholeheartedly support the pilot initiative by the MBTA regarding the Tobin Bridge bus lanes and for continuing to prioritize the 111 as one of the most critical routes in the system," he said. "I also want to acknowledge our municipal partners on both ends of the Tobin for prioritizing public transit and creating dedicated bus lanes throughout this part of the system. We are starting to transform how we look at our streets and how they work for people. This pilot program is a big step."

The study of such a lane began last summer by DOT and the regional planning consortium, but it was hastened by the threat of a lawsuit by Conservation Law Foundation (CLF). That lawsuit was centered on restoring the HOV land on I-93 southbound, which was taken away as part of mitigation for the Mystic/Tobin Bridge repair project. As part of the settlement though, CFL was able to get the bus lane put into place immediately.

"Now is the time to improve transit options and avoid the gridlock that plagued our region before the pandemic," said Staci Rubin, Senior Attorney at CLF. "Reinstating the HOV lane and committing to pilot bus lanes on both I-93 and the Tobin Bridge will drastically improve commute times and protect the health of overburdened communities like Chelsea and Somerville. By law, Massachusetts must prioritize bus riders and carpoolers on I-93 to address climate change, pollution, and congestion, and this settlement will hold our leaders accountable."

Supporting public health and COVID-19 recovery, the MBTA's Rapid Response Bus Lane program has identified corridors like the areas where Route 111 operates as these routes have seen some of the highest rates of bus rider-

ship since March and experience above-average chronic delay. As of November 2020, Route 111's current ridership is about 73 percent of its pre-COVID levels for the same time period, ranking Route 111 among one of the highest ridership routes in the MBTA bus system (third highest).

Extending 1.1 miles, the dedicated all-day bus lane exclusive to Bus Route 111 begins after the Everett Avenue on-ramp merge in Chelsea and extends across the Tobin Bridge, ending just before the City Square Tunnel in Charlestown. Dedicated bus lanes can reduce crowding on buses and also limit the amount of time

riders spend in close proximity to others while on the bus. In some cases, bus lanes can improve service frequency to further mitigate crowded conditions.

This dedicated lane on the Tobin Bridge joins other recent transit priority initiatives directly benefitting Route 111, including:



riders spend in close proximity to others while on the bus. In some cases, bus lanes can improve service frequency to further mitigate crowded conditions.

This dedicated lane on the Tobin Bridge joins other recent transit priority initiatives directly benefitting Route 111, including:

- A bus-bicycle lane on North Washington from Causeway Street to Valenti Way implemented in September 2019 that provides bus priority from the North Washington Street Bridge to Haymarket Station,
- Advancing plans to include an outbound bus lane on North Washington Street through the

Rapid Response Bus Lane program and the City of Boston's Healthy Streets initiative, and

• An inbound bus lane included in the final design of MassDOT's project to reconstruct the North Washington Street Bridge between Charlestown and the North End, which is anticipated to be complete in 2023.

The pilot will be in place for one year with the bus lane's performance analyzed for metrics that include travel time, operations, crowding, and ridership. Roadway and vehicle data analysis will also take place with roadway operations being monitored for vehicle volumes, travel time, and safety.



Virtual Community Workshop

PLAN: Charlestown

Climate Resilience & Open Space Workshop

Wednesday, December 16
6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Zoom Link: bit.ly/33xjuDU
Toll Free: (833) 568 - 8864
Meeting ID: 161 392 5067

Event Description

Dear Neighbor,

Please join us for the next PLAN: Charlestown public meeting. Building on discussions at previous PLAN: Charlestown community events, the initiative will host a workshop on December 16th (6:00-7:30 pm) on the topics of climate resilience and open space. Staff from the BPDA and the City of Boston Environment Department will present on past and upcoming phases of Climate Ready Charlestown. Additionally, BPDA and Boston Parks and Recreation staff will expand on October's Parcel Priority Plan exercise with a discussion of Charlestown's current parks, and planning for future open space.

To view all PLAN: Charlestown project materials, please visit: <http://bostonplans.org/plancharlestown>

Contact:

Jason Ruggiero
Boston Planning & Development Agency
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor Boston, MA 02201
617.918.4383 | jason.ruggiero@boston.gov

Visit www.charlestownbridge.com

bostonplans.org | [@bostonplans](https://twitter.com/bostonplans)

Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

Townie Santa to return with meals to the elderly on Dec. 19

By Seth Daniel

The Townie Santa program will continue on this year after being fully revived in 2019 by the Bunker Hill Associates, with the operation and delivery taking place on Dec. 19.

Townie Santa is a collaboration between the Associates and the City's AgeStrong Commission that seeks to identify elderly shut-ins and deliver them a box of supplies and a hot meal for the holidays. This year, that will take place on Dec. 19 and will run out of the Knights of Columbus Hall this year.

"Townie Santa is keeping alive the long-time tradition here and adds Christmas cheer to the elderly residents who are shut-ins... The elderly are sometimes easily forgotten and one thing great about Charlestown is the elderly are not forgotten here. They are a top priority for the Associates and this mayor has always made the

seniors a priority since day one."

Mary Beth Kelly of AgeStrong said she and Meaghan Murray, of Golden Age Center, as well as Paul Sullivan of Ferrin Street and other partners like the Kennedy Center, have identified the numbers of shut-ins this year, and that number is already at 150. Added to that is the fact that many, she said, are not able to leave the house at all due to the pandemic.

"It's been very hard on them," she said. "They can't go anywhere at all. We did this for Christmas last year and we did it for Thanksgiving this year. We'll keep it going for Christmas this year."

The Townie Santa operation has roots that go way back to the Scalli family, and then was picked up by the Conway family and the Bunker Hill Associates. It had been on hiatus a little while, but got revived last Christmas.

Mahoney said it was fortunate in many ways they got that organization back in action as it was

critical for their grocery delivery effort during the COVID-19 surge last spring – a program supported by the Boston Resiliency Fund and generous private donors to deliver groceries to the elderly.

The operations will run out of the Knights on Dec. 19, but Kelly and Mahoney said to pay close attention to the social media page for details about volunteering to drive and deliver. They are still seeking volunteers to drive delivery routes in the Town that day, and noted that anyone identified for a delivery will have prior knowledge of that. The operation due to COVID will include simply getting a call in the Knights' parking lot, having the deliveries placed in the car, and then dropping them at the designated address and knocking. There is no contact with those receiving the deliveries.

To get involved, contact bunkerhillassociates@gmail.com or call Meaghan Murray at the Golden Age: (617) 635-5175.

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PLEASE RECYCLE

For the Record

SCHOOLS INFO

•Staples Cards Deadline Extended to December 31

Staples is partnering with BPS to help families purchase school supplies for the new school year. BPS schools are coordinating distribution of \$50 store cards that be used at Boston-area Staples retail stores. If you haven't received your card, please contact your school. Cards must be redeemed by December 31.

•All students must get the influenza vaccine by Dec. 31 by state edict. Most vaccinations are completely covered by health insurance. Vouchers for free flu vaccines are available for uninsured or underinsured adults. Call 617-534-5050.

•SUPER SITES FOR BPS MEALS

Beginning October 26, BPS Super Sites open for Mondays through Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. BPS families can pick up free breakfasts and lunches. Some locations also provide free toiletries and free groceries on select days.

*Edwards Middle School – 28 Walker St.

*Harvard/Kent Elementary – 50 Bunker Hill St.

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT HEARING: A Dec. 10, 10 a.m., hearing regarding automobile insurance rates in Boston. This matter was sponsored by Councilor Andrea J. Campbell, and was referred to the Committee on January 29, 2020.

From Dec. 17 Boston Water & Sewer Commission meeting, 6 p.m., online via Zoom:

•Rate setting meeting 2021: The proposed change in water and sewer rates represents a combined revenue increase of 8.90% based on the current fiscal 2021 rate structure and consumption. Consumption Water Rate Sewer Rate Per 1,000 Per 1,000 Per 1,000 Per 1,000 (Cu. Ft/Day) Cubic Feet Gallons Cubic Feet Gallons First 19 \$59.59 \$7.967 \$81.16 \$10.850; Next 20

\$63.64 \$8.508 \$88.29 \$11.804; Next 50 \$69.40 \$9.279 \$95.27 \$12.737; Next 260 \$73.97 \$9.890 \$100.60 \$13.449; Next 950 \$77.86 \$10.409 \$106.72 \$14.268; Over 1299 \$81.05 \$10.836 \$110.79 \$14.812.

From the Dec. 16 Committee on Flammable Storage Licenses and Garages hearing, 10 a.m., online:

•15 Terminal St. A 45 vehicle parking garage 900 gallons of gas in the tanks of vehicles. Intercontinental Real Estate Corp: 553 gallons of fuel and 270 gallons of fuel for generators.

• R E P O R T I N G WORKPLACE SAFETY CONCERNS

Workers in any size organization have options if they feel they are being pressured into an unsafe situation. Attorney General Maura Healey has created resources for workers to report safety concerns during reopening. They include an online form at the Attorney General's web-

site and a dedicated Fair Labor hotline at 617-727-3465. People can also find those resources by calling 311.

•HOW TO REPORT A PROBLEM PROPERTY

Since taking office in 2014, Mayor Walsh has made fixing quality of life issues a priority in his administration. From investing in Public Works to making sure community policing is a staple in every neighborhood, we are making sure every neighborhood is clean, safe and a great place to live and work in. Unfortunately some properties in Boston need more help than others, and that's why we are here. If you know of a property that fits one of the following criteria: multiple calls to 911, one that's blighted or just a general concern, we encourage you to reach out to your neighborhood liaison.

BPDA: Climate Resiliency and Open Space Workshop meeting. Dec. 16, 6 p.m. The meeting will be hosted virtually on Zoom. The is the next installment of

the PLAN: Charlestown process and will address the topics of planning for climate resiliency and open space. Staff from the BPDA and City Environmental Department will present on the topics and on Climate Ready Charlestown.

From the Dec. 10 Community Preservation Commission meeting, noon, online:

The Community Preservation Committee will be reviewing priorities for the FY21 application round, continue their discussions regarding the affordable housing applications received for the 2021 round and will take a preliminary vote on the FY21 affordable

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON CITY AND NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES HEARING: Order for a Dec. 14, 5 p.m., hearing to discuss issues relating to water and sewer infrastructure. This matter was sponsored by Councilor Ed Flynn, and referred to the Committee on August 19, 2020.

NEIGHBORHOOD ROUND UP

FRIENDS OF THE CHARLESTOWN NAVY YARD 2021 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Joining the Friends of the Charlestown Navy Yard is a great way to get involved in the community and to stay informed on important issues and current events. Become a member in 2021 and join the Navy Yard community of over 200 individual and 50 business members. 2020 has been the most challenging year for FCNY since its founding in 2004, but they have stepped up to meet the challenge. FCNY has donated to local non-profit organizations addressing food insecurity, supported local businesses with the purchase of gift certificates, and sponsored virtual presentations on the impacts of Covid19 and the proposed MBTA service cuts.

Membership available at Individual, Family, Supporter, Patron, Benefactor or Corporate levels. Contributions are tax deductible. For more information visit: www.friendscny.org or email: info@friendscny.org FCNY is an independent, non-profit civic organization dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for residents, businesses and visitors to the Navy Yard while preserving its historic character.

“E” INC EMPORIUM - TAKE OUT ON FRIDAYS

“e” inc. EMPORIUM has fantastic holiday merchandise that includes many great new purveyors and a slew of hands-on activities, games, kits, etc. Order online by midnight Thursday for “Take Out” on Fridays.

At the “e”Inc website you can also learn about their Secret Santa program that lets community friends share their largesse by adding a toy to their order for younger neighbors in need.

All the funds “e” inc. collects at the Emporium are used for its mission to teach children and youth the science driving the planet and the skills to make a difference. “e” inc. students have been helping the planet for over 15-years. Click on the Science Emporium on the “e” inc. home page: www.einc-action.org and you’re there!

FREE VIRTUAL ART STUDIO TRIAL

Essem Art Studio launches a virtual art studio with monthly subscriptions to continue sparking joy and cultivating creative power in little artists (age 2-10) and families with young children. The virtual art studio provides engaging virtual art labs and resources for parents and families who are

looking for ways to introduce more art and creative practices at home. Every week, new art labs and creative prompts are added to the growing online catalog. You can enjoy a free 7 day trial of the virtual art program now. Visit essemartstudio.com for more information!

LEARN TO SKATE!

Charlestown’s Learn-to-Skate program runs to mid-March. The program is on Saturdays from 12:25pm to 1:15pm. It is open for children ages 3 and up. On ice instruction will be staffed by Charlestown Youth Hockey volunteers. For more information and to sign-up, visit the Charlestown Youth Hockey website at WWW.CYHA.COM and click on the Learn-to-Skate tab.

HARVEST ON VINE FOOD PANTRY APPEAL

The Food Pantry has had a great need at this time as it has been very busy serving many more residents in town and providing more frequent distributions. Donations of all non-perishable foods are greatly appreciated. Donations drops are: Food Pantry, 49 Vine St. (Hayes Square), The Cooperative Bank - 201 Main

St. or the Parish Center - 46 Winthrop St. (by the Training Field). Or

donate by sending checks to: Harvest on Vine, Parish Center, 46 Winthrop St., Charlestown, MA

02129. They are also looking for volunteers to assist with distribution. For more information, call Tom MacDonald 617-990-7314.

THE ANCHOR IS OPEN!

The Anchor has everything you need to keep toasty on these cool, Boston nights (not to mention an amazing view of the city skyline!). They have heat lamps, hand warmers and even Anchor blue fleece blankets! The Anchor has more than beer and wine, too. Hot beverages including coffee (with caramel, vanilla and hazelnut flavor shots), tea (peppermint, lemon and green), hot chocolate, hot cider, and mulled sangria. They also have added savory soups -

broccoli cheddar or garden tomato - to their menu to warm you up! Visit theanchorboston.com for all of their upcoming events.

CHARLESTOWN BRANCH LIBRARY OPEN FOR PICKUPS

Although the library is closed to the public, it is open for scheduled contactless pickups and returns of library materials Mondays-Thursdays from 2-6 pm and Fridays from 1-4 pm. Notification emails will have a link to schedule pickup. For notifications received by phone or for help scheduling a pickup, call the branch at 617-242-1248. Masks are required. There is a returns bin at the entrance available when the library is open. For further assistance email: Adults Librarian Kathy Kire at kkire@bpl.org, Children’s Librarian Eileen Whittle at ewhittle@bpl.org, or Branch Librarian Maureen Marx at mmarx@bpl.org, or call 617-242-1248.

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Keating, Matthew	Radomski, Brian	5 Albion Pl #5A	\$1,325,000
Bruno, Alyssa	Crowley, Jameson	32 Auburn St #1	\$859,000
Masucci, Matthew R	Sheehan, Stephen M	232 Bunker Hill St #1	\$929,500
StAndre, Marc	Wolanski, Brandon	10 Cedar St	\$2,089,000
Bulman, William J	Howard FT	65 Chelsea St #407	\$940,000
24 Lyndeboro LLC	W J Stella FT 2009	24 Lyndeboro St	\$525,000
Fay, Nancy A	Sylex Holdings LLC	114 Main St #4	\$700,000
Short, Christopher K	Keating, Matthew	399 Main St #1	\$880,000
Smith, Alicia C	Cronin Gertrude E Est	50 Monument Sq #1	\$710,000
Bradshaw, Paul	Arthur Russell Smith	36 Mystic St #1	\$734,500
Sultenfuss, Margo	Bruno, Luke	39 Pearl St #2	\$615,000
Obrien, Kevin P	Warren St Unit D206	1 Warren St #206	\$1,125,000



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