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Wednesday, November 6, 2024

THE VERONICA ROBLES CULTURAL CENTER PRESENTS ITS DAY OF THE DEAD CELEBRATION



DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN PHOTOS

The Veronica Robles Cultural Center presented its Day Of The Dead celebration which included a parade (shown above and below). The parade ended at Central Square where music and dancing entertained all who attended. See pages 5 and 6 for more photos.



GSNA hears plans for Maverick Street project

By Michael Coughlin Jr.

During the Gove Street Neighborhood Association's (GSNA) monthly meeting last week, attendees were presented with plans to add several units to the site of an existing garage at 265 Maverick Street.

As part of the project, adaptive reuse is proposed for the existing structure. "There is some historical or architectural significance with the building itself, so we want to do the best we can to preserve the building for purposes of reuse," said Attorney Richard Lynds, who presented the proposal.

Additionally, there are

plans to change the occupancy of the building to a multi-family residential building with 36 units, 13 parking spaces, and bike storage.

Lynds also noted that the project has been developed to comply with the zoning regulations in the East Boston Residential (EBR)-4 subdistrict, that the site is located in the Coastal Flood Resilience Overlay District (CFROD), and is subject to Article 80 review.

As the presentation continued, Lynds highlighted how the project aligns with the zoning

See GSNA Page 3

Updates about McLean Park and 636-638 Bennington St. provided

By Michael Coughlin Jr.

On Monday, the Harbor View Neighborhood Association (HVNA) held its monthly meeting, where attendees were given updates on two items that have been major topics of conversation recently: McLean Park and a project at 636-638 Bennington Street.

The first item discussed was McLean Park and the pursuit of securing Community Preservation Act (CPA) funding to restore the walls that abut Excel Academy and homes on Bennington and Saratoga Streets.

Skip Marcella, an HVNA Board Member, noted that funding has

been secured to renovate the park, but funding is still needed for the above-mentioned walls.

"The concerning part of that is if we were to do the renovation on the park, then we got the money for the walls afterward, then we would interfere with the continued use of the park while they're doing the walls, but it could also possibly damage the restoration of the park going forward," said Marcella.

Specifically, Marcella mentioned that they have applied for funding again after an unsuccessful bid last year and are seeking around \$530,000 to \$540,000.

In a post to the group's

See UPDATES Page 3

Coletta Zapata schedules hearing to address food access and explore a food hub in East Boston

Special to the Times-Free Press

Boston City Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata will hold a hearing to discuss food access and address hunger in East Boston. The hearing will take place on Tuesday, November 12 at 6:30pm in the Mario Umana Academy School. Councilor Coletta Zapata aims to bring together city officials from the Office of Food Justice and community stakeholders to identify service and operational gaps while exploring the concept of a centralized food hub or alternative models.

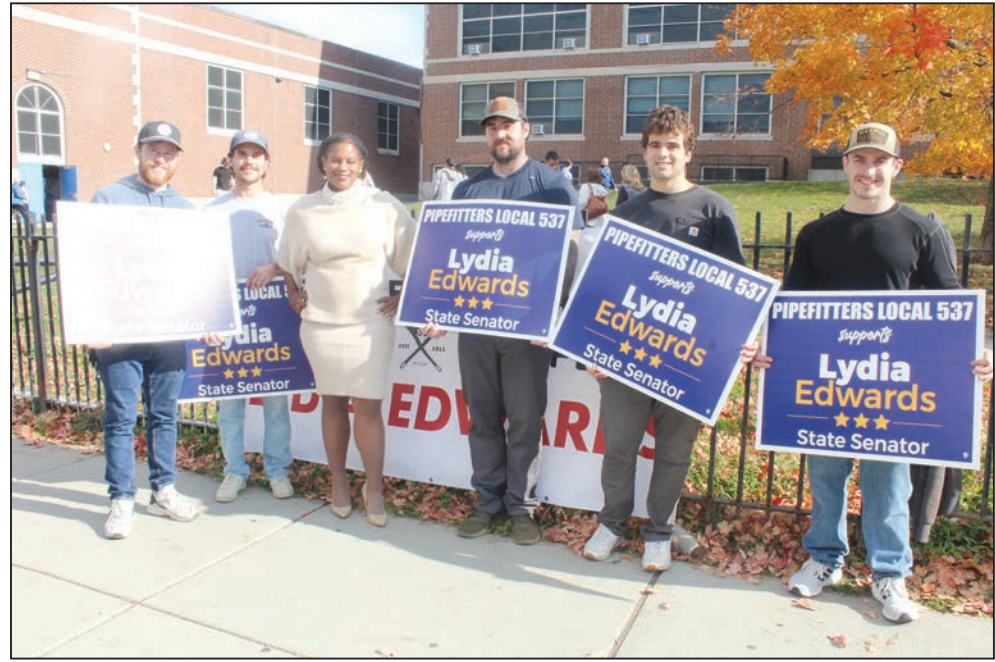
"East Boston is fortunate to have community partners who establish food pantries and distributions to ensure residents do not go hungry," said Coletta Zapata. "Boston has made transformative citywide investments to support the operations

of our food pantries and soup kitchens including expanding refrigerated storage space. I'm hopeful that this conversation will help us develop a roadmap toward creating a dedicated space in East Boston to support our food pantries in providing wholesome, nutritious foods while simultaneously providing low-cost retail opportunities. I look forward to the conversation and invite all community members to come to the hearing to share their ideas."

Boston has seen successful food hub models

See FOOD Page 3

ELECTION DAY



CARY SHUMAN PHOTO

Members of the Pipefitters Local 537 turned out to show their support for Sen. Lydia Edwards on Election Day Tuesday outside the East Boston High School polling place.

TRASH DELAY
Due to the Veterans Day Holiday
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EAST BOSTON SENIOR CENTER HOLDS HALLOWEEN PARTY

Photos by Marianne Salza

The East Boston Senior Center, operated by the City of Boston's Age Strong Commission, held a Halloween party on October 31. Local officials gathered to hand out candy to members, who were enjoying lunch and dancing in their costumes.



Blanca Rosero, as a pumpkin, Dora Gantiva, as a scarecrow, and Kenia Alcaneara, as a calavera.



Olga Pasco, Representative Adrian Madaro, and Steven Gingras, Legislative Director.



Bob Hass, District Director for Senator Lydia Edwards, Councilor Gigi Coletta, Judith Thermidor, Director, East Boston Senior Center, and Representative Adrian Madaro.



Lucille Vieira, Judy Lyons, Cornelia Goldsmith, and Lyn Lento.



Sydney Shadovitz, Michael Langone, and Judith Thermidor, Director, East Boston Senior Center.



Husband and wife: Betty Castellanos and Gilmer Cuevas.



Senior Center members dancing to "Gloria."



Representative Adrian Madaro handing out candy to East Boston Senior Center members on Halloween.



Adelina, as the Devil, with Bob Haas, District Director for Senator Lydia Edwards.



Incognito, Luz Medina, Olga Pasco, Betty Castellanos, Ligia Arcila, and Grace Camou.



Councilor Gigi Coletta wishing East Boston Senior Centers a happy Halloween.



Dora Gantiva, Elizabeth Silva, Representative Adrian Madaro, Gilmer Cuevas, JoAnn Troisi, Grace Camou, Zaida Adames, and Olga Pasco.



Maria Storms, Ocabet Echavarrigo, Judit Diaz, Rosa Quiroz, and Alberta Bridgeman.

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Luz Medina as a butterfly, JoAnn Troisi as a slice of pizza, Ava Luisa as a witch, Blanca Rosero as a pumpkin, Dora Gantiva as a scarecrow, Kenia Alcaneara as a calavera, and Incognito.



Lindy D'Addario, as "Captain Robbe" and her "Ratte Mate."

ELECTION DAY



CARY SHUMAN PHOTO

District 1 City Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata, Sen. Lydia Edwards, and Rep. Adrian Madaro are pictured on Election Day Tuesday outside the East Boston High School polling place.

Over \$4.5 million in Complete Streets Funding Program awards announced

Special to the Times-Free Press

The Healey-Driscoll Administration is awarding over \$4.5 million to 11 communities as part of the Fiscal Year 2025 Round 1 of grants for the Complete Streets Funding Program.

These grant awards will be used by recipient municipalities to fund local multimodal infrastructure projects that improve travel for pedestrians, public transit users, bicyclists and people using other forms of transportation.

A Complete Street enables safe, convenient, and comfortable travel for users of all ages and abilities regardless of their mode of transportation. Administered by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT), the Complete Streets Funding Program aims to teach communities about Complete Streets and encourage the integration of Complete Streets into regular local planning practices. Of the 11 projects selected, 8 will benefit Environmental Justice communities.

“We are excited to announce over \$4.5 million for 11 cities and towns as part of the first round of funding of the Fiscal Year 2025 Complete Streets Funding Program,” said Transportation Secretary and CEO Monica Tibbits-Nutt. “These grant awards will assist municipalities with the implementation of Complete Streets projects, which will greatly improve safety, connectivity, and access for all roadway users. We look forward to working together with local leaders as they begin planning and implementing their projects.”

“Our Complete Streets program has been a valuable funding source for our cities and towns, with hundreds of projects receiving grants in the past eight years,” said Highway Administrator Jonathan Gulliver. “We’re ready to support our municipal partners as they make these key improvements to roadway safety and multimodal access.”

The MassDOT Complete Streets Funding Program was launched in 2016 and provides technical assistance and construction funding to eligible municipalities to plan and implement Complete Streets. Prior to this round, the Complete Streets Funding Program has awarded 278 construction project grants across the Commonwealth, totaling over \$100 million.

This round of funding provides funding to the following communities:

- Concord received \$500,000 to widen and pave an existing stone dust sidewalk on Magnolia Street, the construction of a new sidewalk on Walden Street to Brister’s Hill Road and construct a pedestrian/bike path from Walden Street to the Alcott Elementary School. The project will also include ADA compliant ramps, crosswalks, and signage.
- Everett received \$500,000 to reconstruct a 12-foot-wide sidewalk

on the western and eastern sides of Broadway between Maple Avenue and Timothy Avenue. The project will also include ADA-compliant curb ramps and high-visibility crosswalks. In addition, the project will reconstruct a new bus stop at the Lexington Street intersection and include new five-foot-wide bike lanes on both sides of Broadway, the installation of a bus-only lane, and new bike racks.

- Medfield received \$500,000 for the construction of new five-foot-wide sidewalks on Dale Street, Adams Street, and Winter Street. The project will also include new pedestrian ramps, detectable warning panels, crosswalks, and new signage to help improve pedestrian accessibility, mobility, and safety.

- Melrose received \$450,803 for the construction of new five-foot-wide asphalt sidewalks on one side of Swains Pond Avenue from the intersection with Penney/Dexter Road to the intersection with Beech Street. The project includes ADA curb ramps, crosswalks, narrowed travel lanes, new trees, and will close a current sidewalk gap.

- Newton received \$500,000 for the construction of a 6.5-wide asphalt sidewalk on the northern side of Nahanton Street from Wells Avenue to Dedham Street. This project will help increase access to the Wells Avenue complex. The project also includes ADA-compliant pedestrian curb ramps, high-visibility crosswalks, audible pedestrian signals, and pedestrian push buttons.

- North Attleborough received \$500,000 for the construction of new five-foot-wide sidewalks on both sides of Landry Avenue between the J.W. Martin Elementary School and Route 152. The project includes new narrowed road lanes to allow bicycle safety, ADA-compliant curb ramps, tactile warning panels, a high-visibility crosswalk, and Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacons.

- Oxford received \$60,225 to connect two sidewalks on Monument Drive and Charlton Street with a new five-foot-wide sidewalk on Monument Street from Corbin Road to Charlton Street. This project will improve the safety of pedestrians in this corridor.

- Rockland received \$500,000 for the construc-

tion of new five-foot-wide sidewalks on the northern side of North Avenue from Union Street to the town limit. The project includes ADA-compliant curb ramps, detectable warning panels, signage, narrowed road lanes, crosswalk improvements, and the installation of Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacons.

- Wareham received \$500,000 for multiple projects. The grant will construct new ADA-compliant ramps and detectable warning panels at various locations on Main Street from Trinity Christian Church to Sandwich Road and on Onset Avenue from Union Avenue/South Boulevard to East Boulevard. The project includes modifying curbs and the addition of Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacons. The next project will create the “Walters Alley Pedestrian Zone” between Main Street and Merchant Way and finally, the grant will provide Speed Feedback signs at various locations.

- West Stockbridge received \$112,612 for pedestrian improvements at the Swamp Road/Main Street intersection. The project includes the relocation of a crosswalk, the installation of ADA-compliant curb ramps, and improvement at the intersection for drivers by building permanent bollards to better direct turns. The project will also improve the walkability at the Depot Street Municipal Parking Lot by building a pedestrian zone and a new sidewalk segment while also relocating a crosswalk to better connect visitors parking in the lot to the town sidewalk.

- Weymouth received \$444,685 for intersection improvements at Pleasant Street and Ralph Talbot Street. The project will first reduce the corner radius which will help halve the length of the current pedestrian crossing. Also, the project will construct seven-foot-wide sidewalks to better connect to the current sidewalk network and include curb extensions and new lighting.

Municipalities may apply for up to \$500,000 in construction project funding in one application. Examples of project elements that can be implemented through the program include sidewalks, multimodal paths, bicycle lanes, improved street lighting, and pedestrian signalization at crosswalks or intersections.

GSNA // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

regulations in the EBR-4 subdistrict.

While some of the aspects of the project, such as the setbacks and lot coverage, do not comply with the zoning, Lynds explained that they are pre-existing conditions.

He later explained what these pre-existing non-conformities mean and how they relate to the project, citing Article 53-30, which deals with pre-existing buildings.

“It does say, as a general rule, we can alter, enlarge, or extend a building, provided that, unless as set forth in subsection two, the enlargement doesn’t increase any dimensional non-conformities and otherwise conforms to the requirements of the article,” said Lynds.

“In essence, if you have an existing footprint of a building that’s non-conforming, you can go up vertically as tall as the zoning would allow, and you don’t have to respect any of the setbacks because they recognize that it’s a pre-existing condition.”

Regarding the height of the building, it is being billed as a four-story coastal flood-resilient

design. However, when looking at the building plans, it appears to be five stories.

In the EBR-4 subdistrict, the maximum height allowed is four stories and 50 feet. However, since this building is in the CFROD, Lynds said the height is measured from the design floor elevation rather than grade.

“As a result, we are allowed to have some height bonuses, which allow us to start our first level a bit above the sidewalk, as well as the overall height of the building to be a little higher than what the zoning allows,” said Lynds.

As for other information related to the project, Lynds said a layout is not finalized, but there are plans for a mix of one-bedroom and two-bedroom units with the potential for some three-bedroom units.

There are also plans for units to have decks for outdoor space, a common roof deck, private roof decks for some of the upper-level units, and improvements in front of the building that coincide with the city’s complete streets initiative.

Following the presenta-

tion, attendees made comments and asked questions. One attendee had wondered if there would be an abutters meeting for the project.

However, Lynds noted that since the proposal is an Article 80 project, a public meeting held by the Planning Department will replace an abutters meeting.

Another attendee wondered if there would be retail on the ground floor. Lynds indicated there was no proposed retail space because of where a transformer has to be placed, the building’s main lobby, and where parking has to be accessed.

Affordability was also discussed. Lynds explained that if they are required to provide affordable units, the amount would be between 13% and 20% of the total units.

After more comments were made and more questions were asked, the discussion and meeting ended. Since this was the first presentation of the project to the GSNA, no vote was held. The next GSNA meeting is scheduled for November 25.

Updates // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Facebook page last week, Barbara Gambale-Puopolo noted that in addition to a group letter that was available to sign during the meeting, two other letters from City Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata and State Representative Adrian Madaro will accompany the funding application.

To close the meeting, the HVNA briefly discussed the next steps for a proposed project at 636-638 Bennington Street, which would bring a restaurant to the property.

The proposal has been presented at multiple abutters meetings and has drawn the ire of residents who say that the restaurant would not be a good

fit for the area due to several concerns relating to its proposed closing time, proximity to an area with many children, and much more.

During the HVNA meeting last month, Marcella noted that he had not been given an indication of whether the proponents would come before the group to present. However, on Monday, he said there is a plan for the proposal to be presented at next month’s meeting.

Marcella emphasized that the usual HVNA voting protocols will remain, and a vote will not be held at next month’s meeting. However, if the proponents decide to come back for a second presentation,

a vote would happen at that meeting.

While Marcella indicated there has been some support for the proposal, he emphasized, “The sentiment I hear from most people is that they don’t think that this particular planned project should be allowed to go forward in this residential section here.”

For more information about the HVNA, visit its website at <https://harborvieweastboston.com/> or Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/harborviewna>. The next HVNA meeting is scheduled for December 2.

Food // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

in other areas, such as the Dorchester Co-Op and through private partnerships in Roxbury. At the hearing, Coletta Zapata hopes to gain insights into how these models have been developed and explore ways to replicate them in East Boston, which has experienced a significant rise in food insecurity since the pandemic. Currently, East Boston residents face challenges in accessing affordable, healthy, and sustainable food given limited retail options. Neighborhood groups and nonprofits have established food

pantries and weekly food distributions to support residents with limited resources, though operational challenges remain.

Members of the administration invited to participate include representatives from the Office of Food Justice and Grow-Boston: Office of Urban Agriculture.

This docket was referred to the Committee on City Services and Innovation Technology chaired by Councilor Enrique Pepen (District 5). Community members are encouraged to testify. There will be Spanish translation

available.

For additional information, including how to testify, please contact the Office of Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata by phone at (617) 635-3200 or by email at gabriela.ramirez@boston.gov.

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GIVE THANKS TO OUR VETERANS

This Monday, November 11, we will celebrate the 106th observance of Veterans Day in the United States, a day of solemnity and reverence to honor those who have served in our nation's military.

Veteran's Day initially was known as Armistice Day when it was enacted in 1919 to commemorate the first anniversary of the end of World War I, which occurred on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918.

World War I was marked by trench warfare in which neither the German-allied nations (Germany, Austria-Hungary, and the Ottoman Empire) nor the alliance among England, France, Russia, and the United States, accomplished anything. Historians to this day cannot even pinpoint a rational reason for why the war began.

The trench lines did not meaningfully shift for the entire four-year period of the war. In the meantime, the European continent was ravaged, with 10 million soldiers and another 10 million civilians losing their lives.

More significantly, the "war to end all wars" only set the stage for an even bloodier world-wide conflagration 20 years later with WWII. Indeed, the roots of today's conflict in the Middle East can be traced to the shift in control of that part of the world after WWI from the Ottoman Empire (Turkey) to England, which eventually led to the so-called British Mandate for Palestine after the end of WWII.

In the aftermath of the Korean War in 1954, Armistice Day officially became known as Veterans Day to include the veterans of all of our wars.

There are many ways that each of us can honor our veterans, including attending parades and ceremonies in our communities, visiting veterans memorials and cemeteries, volunteering with veterans organizations, donating to veterans causes, flying the U.S. flag, thanking a veteran for their service, or simply taking a moment to reflect on the great sacrifice made by so many who have put their lives on the line to ensure that all of us can enjoy the freedoms that we hold as Americans today.

If nothing else, Veterans Day should remind us that freedom isn't free and that maintaining our freedom since our nation's founding has required the personal sacrifice of millions of our fellow Americans.

IS DROUGHT OUR NEXT CLIMATE CRISIS?

To paraphrase Bob Dylan, we don't need a weatherman to tell us that our parched lawns and gardens are an indication that there has been a lack of rain in the past month.

But even we were surprised to learn that almost the entire country is experiencing some degree of drought conditions, making this the most widespread state of drought in U.S. history.

In New York City, which had its driest October since record-keeping began in 1869, officials are telling residents "to conserve every drop of water possible."

Climate change, which has been bringing record-high temperatures across the country every month this year -- especially this past summer -- is seen as a key driver of drought conditions.

High temperatures dry out both the atmosphere and the ground, which not only results in less rainfall, but also creates ideal conditions for wildfires, which have been sparking all across Massachusetts in the past few weeks. According to state officials, there are about 15 wildfires in a typical October, but this year there were more than 200 (which brought us that acrid smell of smoke that enveloped our area earlier this week until the direction of the wind changed).

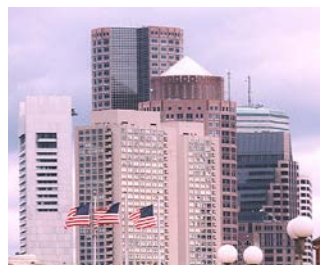
As with everything weather and climate-related these days, our wonderful fall weather has been yet another example of good news/bad news.

Unfortunately, given that the world's efforts to reduce carbon emissions are failing badly, the bad news of the future promises to become even worse.

Your opinions, please

The Times welcomes letters to the editor. Our mailing address is 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151. Letters may also be e-mailed to editor@eastietimes.com.

Letters must be signed. We reserve the right to edit for length and content.



Forum



GUEST OP-ED

Older adults can save money during the annual Medicare open enrollment now through December 7

By Mayor Michelle Wu

With fall in full swing, I'm excited to share some important information that could help you save money on your health insurance premiums and prescription drug payments during the annual Medicare Open Enrollment period from now through December 7.

Now is a great time to meet with one of our certified SHINE (Serving the Health Insurance Needs of Everyone) counselors to go over your current health needs and find the coverage that's right for you. Our health is constantly changing; reassessing your needs and your plan each year is the best way to ensure that you get

the right coverage at the most affordable price.

For our Age Strong Commission, making Boston a home for everyone means ensuring that our older residents have access to the care and services they deserve—at the lowest possible cost.

So, to help you navigate the Open Enrollment process, Boston's Age Strong

Commission will be hosting in-person events through December 6th. To see the schedule and location of these events, visit boston.gov/medicare.

Or, if you'd like to set up an appointment with a member of our Age Strong team at City Hall, call 617-635-4366.

Wishing you a wonderful fall.

Boston's Age Strong Commission to host free Medicare open enrollment events across Boston

Boston's Age Strong Commission, the city agency serving its nearly 120,000 residents aged 60+, will host 15 free in-person events to assist older adults enroll in Medicare and make changes to their current Medicare health insurance and prescription drug coverage plans. These events are open to the public, and

will be hosted in 11 neighborhoods across Boston. Make advance appointments by calling 617-635-4366.

Those not able to attend the events may schedule an appointment with Age Strong certified SHINE (Serving the Health Insurance Needs of Everyone) counselors through December 7.

Older adults are urged to assess their health insurance and prescription drug coverage each year, as health needs and health plans change. SHINE counselors will help residents get the best coverage for the lowest cost. In addition, Age Strong will screen older adults for other cost-saving benefits including Medicare

Savings Program (MSP), fuel assistance, and food resources (SNAP).

Tuesday, October 22
East Boston Senior Center
7 Bayswater St., East Boston

To see a full list of in-person events, and information in other languages, visit boston.gov/medicare.

The East Boston Times-Free Press reserves the right to edit letters for space, accuracy and clarity. We regret that we cannot publish unsigned letters. Please include your street and telephone number with your submission. The East Boston Times-Free Press publishes columns, viewpoints and letters to the editor as a forum for readers to express their opinions and to encourage debate. Please note that the opinions expressed are not necessarily those of The East Boston Times-Free Press. Text or attachments emailed to editor@eastietimes.com are preferred.

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THE VERONICA ROBLES CULTURAL CENTER PRESENTS ITS DAY OF THE DEAD CELEBRATION

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN PHOTOS

The Veronica Robles Cultural Center presented its Day Of The Dead celebration with an exhibit at the ICA Watershed that continued with a parade from the exhibit to Central Square culminating with

a festival of music and dance. Dia de Muertos is a Mexican holiday that celebrates the memory of loved ones who've passed away. They return to us in spirit as we remember them.



Members of Grooversity twin sisters Lucie and Julie Cholley sing You Are My Sunshine.



Alberto Fierro, Consul General of Mexico in Boston offers remarks.



Jennifer Fernandez marches as La Catrina, the icon of the Day Of The Dead.



Veronica Robles bursts out of the ICA Watershed to help lead the parade that runs from the ICA Watershed in Jefferies Point to Central Square in East Boston.



The parade makes its way up Meridian Street to Central Square.



Ingrid Palacios, Multicultural Community Outreach Program Manager with New England Donor Services organization.



Chelsey Bencks shows her daughter Clarathe Day Of The Dead altars on display.



Ianna Garcia with her niece Abby Beaulieu.



Performers from the Veronica Robles Cultural Center: Ruby Elena Giron, Eliana Valenzuela, and Iris Guzman De Leon.



Katarina and Marci show off the headdresses they made at a workshop at the ICA Watershed.



Young Ashley checks out the parade from the sunroof of her dad's car.



Veronica Robles (right) with Yamileth Paz.



Performers from the Veronica Robles Cultural Center.



Members of the international Afro-Brazilian drumming troupe Grooversity chapter in Massachusetts perform in the parade.



The Hot Tamale Brass Band provided music to march in a parade to.



Performers from the Veronica Robles Cultural Center are ready to march in the parade that runs from the ICA Watershed in Jefferies Point to Central Square in East Boston.



Performers from the Veronica Robles Cultural Center.



Dance troupe San Simón New England brings the flair of Bolivian music and dance to the celebration.

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THE VERONICA ROBLES CULTURAL CENTER PRESENTS ITS DAY OF THE DEAD CELEBRATION

DEREK KOUYOUJIAN PHOTOS



The Hot Tamale Brass Band marches through Maverick Square.



Boston City Councilor Gabriela "Gigi" Coletta Zapata with staff member Sebastian Parra.



Beau the dog is a bit confused as Ricardo Matthias jumps behind the wheel of a Ford 1931 model A, courtesy of its owner John Riders.



Antonella Perez gets hungry looking at Maria and Sandra Antonia enjoying their pandequesos, a Columbian pastry.



Members of the international Afro-Brazilian drumming troupe Grooversity chapter in Massachusetts perform in the parade.



Kiara gets made up with rhinestones by Sofie.



Food was abundant for the crowd of spectators for the Day Of The Dead festival.



Several large walking puppets contributed to the Day Of The Dead parade from the ICA Watershed to Central Square.



The parade makes its way up Meridian Street to Central Square.



Participants of the Day Of The Dead celebrations from the Veronica Robles Cultural Center pose for a picture.



Yamileth Paz in attire from Guatemala.

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Thanksgiving Day Dinner

NOVEMBER 28

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EAST BOSTON HIGH VOLLEYBALL IN 3-1 WIN OVER CATHEDRAL

PHOTOS BY BOB MARRA

It was Treats for Halloween last Thursday as East Boston won its matchup with Cathedral, 3-1, in the preliminary round of the MIAA Division 4 volleyball championship playoffs, but the Jets ran out of magic Saturday in Swansea, losing 3-0 to Joseph Case High School. The tournament loss capped a very successful season for the Jets, who finished 12-6 to earn a spot in the championship post-season.



Jordyn Vazquez (15) stretches and gets a finger on the ball at the net.



Kelren Fernandes Dias (5) dives to reach a loose ball as Alexandra Brangiforte (4), Devani Taylor (2), and Jenna DaSilva (10) move in.



Devani Taylor (2), Jenna DaSilva (10) and Kelren Fernandes Dias (5) make sure this volley will be returned.



Jordynn Copeland (21) has this return under control.



Samantha Martinez Mendoza (9) drops to the floor to make the play.



Alexandra Brangiforte (4) goes low to keep a ball in play.



Jenna DaSilva (10) leaps above the crowd and makes a play at the net.



Mareyli Figueroa (19) focuses on the ball as she makes a return volley.

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EAST BOSTON YMCA HOLDS 5K FUNDRAISER

COURTESY PHOTOS

The East Boston YMCA hosted its annual "East BOOston" 5K on October 27, bringing over 200 participants together for a spirited Halloween-themed run to support community wellness. Thanks to the generous sponsorship of Signature Aviation, this year's event successfully raised over \$28,000 to benefit the YMCA's youth and family programs.

"We're incredibly grateful to Signature Aviation and the community for their continued support," said Joe Gaeta, Executive Director of the East Boston YMCA. "Their partnership was instrumental in helping us achieve our fundraising goals, which will support essential programs for our community's children and families."

The family-friendly event featured a festive, scenic route through East Boston, with participants in Halloween costumes adding to the fun..

For more information about the East Boston YMCA's programs and upcoming events, visit www.ymcaboston.org/eastboston.



Scenes from the East Boston YMCA annual "East BOOston" 5K on October 27.



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WATER MAIN FLUSHING NOTICE

Boston Water and Sewer Commission will commence Water Main Flushing in the East Boston area starting:

November 12th, 2024, through November 20th, 2024

The boundaries for the areas being flushed are Suffolk Downs to the north, Logan Airport to the south, Belle Isle Marsh/Inlet to the east and Chelsea Street to the west.



The purpose of the Water Main Flushing Program is to improve drinking water quality for residents and businesses.

Water Main flushing will take place between the hours of **10:00 P.M. and 6:00 A.M.**

The flushing process may cause discolored water and a reduction in pressure. The discoloration of the water will be temporary and is not harmful. If the condition persists, please contact BWSC's 24 Hour Service at (617) 989-7000.

BWSC appreciates your patience as we work to improve the quality of drinking water that we provide to the residents and businesses of Boston.

If you have any questions, contact BWSC's Night Operations Manager at (617) 989-7000 or visit our website @ www.bwsc.org.

OBITUARIES

Rev. Corey Bassett-Tirrell

Beloved associate parish priest and cherished member of the East Boston community

Rev. Corey Bassett-Tirrell passed away peacefully on October 31, 2024 at the age of 44. Born on September 16, 1980 in Hyannis and raised in East Boston, Corey was the son of Gary Tirrell and the late Donna Bassett-Our, and the grandson of the late Ralph "Bud" Myrick Bassett Jr., Helena Mae (Bennett) Bassett, Donald Francis Tirrell and Lillian Irene Picariello Tirrell.

Corey was a devoted brother to Jamie Bassett of Chatham and a treasured nephew to Desnee Bassett of Dennis, Susan Willow Bassett of Maine, Ralph Bassett of Chatham, Henry Tirrell and his late wife Sharon of East Boston, and Lynne Tirrell Barbarisi of East Boston. He is also survived by many loving nieces, nephews, cousins and friends, including his close friends from the Demers-Harris family of East Boston.

A passionate servant of the Catholic faith, Corey dedicated his life to the church, serving as an associate parish priest in various parishes throughout the Archdiocese of Boston.

His kindness and compassion extended beyond the pulpit; he worked at Rapino Funeral Home in East Boston for many



years, assisted in church choir, and took a deep interest in the Catholic practices he cherished. A former member of youth ministry, Corey was always there to lend an ear or a shoulder, greeting everyone with a smile that could light up any room.

Corey will be deeply missed by all who had the privilege of knowing him. Services will be held at his beloved St. Adelaide's Parish on Lowell Street in West Peabody. Family and friends are invited to visit today, Wednesday, November 6th, from 2 to 7 p.m. A Funeral Mass will take place on Thursday, November 7th, at 11 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary in Weston, MA.

Corey's spirit and love for others will forever be remembered in the hearts of those he touched.

For more information please visit www.ruggieromh.com.

Noreen Prader

Of Las Vegas, formerly of East Boston and Winthrop

Noreen (Miles) Prader of Las Vegas, formerly of Winthrop and East Boston, passed away on September 22, 2024.

The loving daughter of the late Alfred Miles and Carol (Graham) Bunagan and the former wife of Richard Prader, she was the devoted mother of Tiffani Bordonaro and her husband, Robert, Richard Prader and his fiancé, Kirsten Hampton and Christopher Prader and his wife, Ashley; dear sister of Alan Miles and his husband, Drew Glick, Craig Miles, Darren Miles and his wife, Cynthia; adored grandmother of Brianna and Alana Bordonaro and Christopher, Aria Prader and the late Francesca Bordonaro and cherished aunt of Kaiden and Max Miles, Joelle Quigley and Jelena Mack.

A memorial mass celebrating Noreen's life will take place on Saturday, November 23rd at 10 a.m. at St. Michael the Archangel Parish (formerly St. John the Evangelist Church) in Winthrop.

Noreen loved her family and spending time with them. After moving to Las Vegas, she always made sure to take trips



back home to Boston to see them, these trips were always memorable and she held them close to her heart.

Her love for her family extended to her two dogs - Buster and Buddy. She loved and cared for them like they were another set of children. They will both miss her terribly. She had a passion for cooking and food. She was known for her sophisticated palate. She was a true "foodie" at heart.

She was a dedicated employee for over 15 years at Republic Services where she was very grateful for the constant support and encouragement of her Manager Elaine Ramos.

She will be missed by many. May she rest in peace. To leave an online condolence visit www.ruggieromh.com.

Susan J. Lincourt

Devoted mother, grandmother and great grandmother who never took credit for her selfless good deeds

Family and friends attended Visiting Hours on Monday, November 4th in the Vertuccio Smith & Vazza, Beechwood Home for Funerals, 262 Beach St., Revere for Susan J. (Murray) Lincourt who passed away peacefully on October 29th, surrounded by her family, following a hard fought battle with bladder cancer. She was 72 years of age. A Funeral Service was conducted in the Funeral Home on Tuesday, November 6th followed by interment in Blue Hill Cemetery, Braintree.

Susan was born in Newport, Rhode Island and moved to Dorchester at a very young age. She moved with her children to East Boston in 1973, where she remained as a longtime East Boston resident.

Susan attended UMASS Boston as an adult and graduated cum laude in 1982, earning her bachelor's degree. She double majored in sociology and economics. She worked for many years as a payroll administrator at Tuft's, until her declining health forced her into an early retirement.

Susan was a devoted mother, grandmother and great grandmother. Her family was her priority and the most important thing to her was making memories. She enjoyed family trips, camping, Bingo and reading.

Susan also had a watchful eye for a bargain. She had the ability to find a deal wherever she went. Being most frugal and practical, and with all of her coupons and sales, Susan had the store giving her money back.

She was also known as an equal opportunist who would help anyone in need, whoever they were,



often times without the person even knowing and never taking credit for her selfless good deeds.

She was the devoted life partner and companion of Bob Colleran of West Roxbury; loving mother of Sandy Dighton and her husband, Chris of Salisbury, Jack Lincourt and his wife, Michelle of Methuen and Peter "Jimmy" Skins Colleran and

his wife, Vanessa of Oxford; cherished grandmother of Jimmy, Melyssa, John, Kelsey, Ryanna, Jacob, Cammie, Joseph, Jared, Jasyne, Desiree, Jordan, Jack,

Samuel, Logan and Julian and adored great grandmother of Brody, Leo, Noell and Elliot; dear sister of David Murray and his wife, Lola, Mary Murray and Joyce Rezendes and her husband, Kenny.

In lieu of flowers, remembrances may be made to The Home for Little Wanderers, c/o Development Department, 72 E. Dedham Street, Boston, MA 02118 or by visiting www.thehome.org

To send online condolences, please visit www.vertucciosmithvazza.com

Funeral arrangements entrusted to the care and direction of the Vertuccio Smith & Vazza, Beechwood Home for Funerals, Revere.

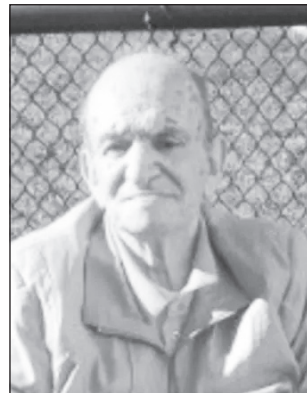
Gerald D'Amore

Former East Boston resident

Gerald J. D'Amore of Ashland, formerly of East Boston, passed away on October 28, 2024.

He was the loving son of the late Samuel H. and Elvira (Rossi) D'Amore, dear brother of David D'Amore of Winthrop and is also survived by his loving extended family.

Family and friends honored Gerald's life by gathering at the Ruggiero Family Memorial Home, East Boston on Thursday, October 31st from 10 a.m. to 12 noon followed by a prayer service at 12 noon.



Services concluded with Gerald being laid to rest at Holy Cross Cemetery in Malden. To leave an online condolence, visit www.ruggieromh.com.

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East Boston actor stars in upcoming production of 'The Thanksgiving Play'

East Boston actor, Ohad Ashkenazi, stars in Moonbox Productions' upcoming production of the wickedly funny satirical comedy by Native American Playwright, Larissa FastHorse, The Thanksgiving Play. Directed by Tara Moses (Seminole Nation of Oklahoma/Mvskoke), The Thanksgiving Play opens on November 21st and runs through December 15th at Arrow Street Arts in Cambridge. Tickets are \$45 with Pay-What-You-Wish options available for each performance, while supplies last. Tickets available at <https://bit.ly/MBXThanksgiving>.

Isn't it time we rethink Thanksgiving? That's the question on the table when four politically correct performers get together to create a new take on the traditional holiday pageant. Good intentions turn into outright tension as the group struggles to re-envision history, all with-

out ruffling any feathers. Rambunctious, wild, and fearless, The Thanksgiving Play serves up history and humor with a steaming side dish of uniquely American hypocrisy. Are you ready to eat your words?

"This isn't your traditional 'Thanksgiving play'. No hand turkeys, no buckle hats, and absolutely no headdress- es, but the Thanksgiving play our community needs now", said Director Tara Moses. "Cast with Native and actors of color and delivering a stark political message through satirical comedy, this production is about disruption, confronting the greater Boston area's colonial history, and inspiring a decolonial future," said Moses.

The cast of The Thanksgiving play includes Marisa Diamond - Maya Q'eqchi (Alicia), Jasmine Goodspeed - Nipmuc (Logan), Ohad Ashkenazi (Caden), and Johnny Gor-

don (Jaxton).

"Our director, Tara Moses', incisive vision for this piece combines the hilarity and satire of The Thanksgiving Play with powerful elements that revitalize the compelling political message of this play," said Sharman Altshuler, Producer and Artistic Director for Moonbox Productions. "Each show will also include a post-show community conversation to deepen our understanding of the play and its message. We are so excited to share this experience with our audiences and look forward to some deeply meaningful conversation," said Altshuler.

The creative and design team includes Sharman Altshuler (Producer), Tara Moses - Seminole Nation of Oklahoma/Mvskoke (Director), Dillon Chitto - Mississippi Choctaw, Laguna & Isleta Pueblo decent (Assistant Director), Liz Diamond (Stage

Manager), Kailey Bennett - Cherokee Nation Citizen (Dramaturg), Baron Pugh (Scenic Designer), Aubrey Dube (Sound Designer), Jonah Bobilin (Lighting Designer), Andrew Reynolds (Props Designer), Kailey Bennett (Assistant Props Designer), Jessie Marasco (Production Manager), and Sean Watkins (Assistant Production Manager).

With each show, Moonbox Productions partners with a local non-profit, to raise awareness for their cause, create connections for them within the community and increase the reach and impact of their work. For the production of The Thanksgiving Play Moonbox will be partnering with North American Indian Center of Boston (NAICOB).

NAICOB is the oldest urban Indian Center in Massachusetts whose mission is to empower the Native American community with the goal

of improving the quality of life of Indigenous People. NAICOB was originally established in 1969 as the Boston Indian Council when it served as the hub of social and civil rights activities for the American Indian/Alaska Native and First Nations urban Indian Community in Boston. The center was reorganized as the North American Indian Center of Boston in 1991. Since then, they have provided comprehensive cultural, wellness, educational, and professional services to Native People in the Commonwealth. For more information about NAICOB and its programs, please visit [Home\(naicob.org\)](http://Home(naicob.org))

For more information regarding Moonbox Productions upcoming production of The Thanksgiving Play go to www.moonboxproductions.org.

Moonbox Productions was founded in 2011 by Producer/Artistic Director Sharman Altshuler.

Based in Harvard Square in Cambridge, Massachusetts, Moonbox is dedicated to supporting local arts and local artists, and to connecting communities to the non-profit organizations that serve them. To fulfill their artistic mission, Moonbox taps the deep well of talent within their own communities to bring top quality theatrical experiences to stages throughout the Greater Boston area. To fulfill their social mission, they partner with a local non-profit organization for each show, giving them visibility on their website and in their promotional materials, as well as giving them access to their audiences in order to raise awareness of their cause, create connections within the community, and increase the reach and impact of their work.

The Broadway National Tour of 'The Addams Family' comes to Boston

A comical feast that embraces the wackiness in every family, the magnificently macabre hit musical THE ADDAMS FAMILY comes to the Boch Center Wang Theatre in Boston for five performances only from March 21 - 24, 2025.

Tickets for THE ADDAMS FAMILY are on sale on Thursday, October 31, 2024 at 10:00AM ET and start at \$35. Tickets can be

purchased online HERE. Groups of 10 or more can purchase tickets by filling out this form.

Wednesday Addams, the ultimate princess of darkness, has grown up and fallen in love with a sweet, smart young man from a respectable family. A man her parents have never met. And if that weren't upsetting enough, she confides in her father

and begs him not to tell her mother. Now, Gomez Addams must do something he's never done before - keep a secret from his beloved wife, Morticia. Everything will change for the whole family on the fateful night they host a dinner for Wednesday's "normal" boyfriend and his parents.

On the heels of Wednesday, the 3rd most-watched

show on Netflix of all time, Big League Productions, Inc. presents THE ADDAMS FAMILY, a devilishly delightful musical comedy based on the creepy, kooky characters by legendary cartoonist Charles Addams.

BIG LEAGUE PRODUCTIONS (Producer) is celebrating its 31st season of producing and general managing Broadway tours of shows and attractions throughout the world. For more information, visit

www.BigLeagueProductions.org.

The Boch Center is one of the nation's leading nonprofits performing arts institutions and a guardian of the historic Wang and Shubert Theatres. As New England's largest cultural venue, the Boch Center is home to theater, classical and popular music, dance, comedy, opera, Broadway musicals, family entertainment, and more.

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the Boch Center also offers a diverse mix of educational, cultural and community outreach initiatives, including the City Spotlights Teen Leadership Program and the Folk Americana Roots Hall of Fame; collaborates with artists and local nonprofit arts organizations; preserves historic venues; and acts as a champion for Greater Boston's arts and cultural community. Learn more at bochcenter.org.

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CITY PAWS

Corgi fun facts!

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

If you've ever followed a Corgi down a sidewalk and enjoyed the sight of their adorable gait, you'll understand why so many people adore this breed. Following one such experience, we began a quest to learn more about these dogs.

by the length of the tail and the shape of the ears. The Cardigan's ears are rounder and have a longer "foxlike" tail, and the Pembroke has pointed ears and a short tail close to the body. Cardigans are the slightly larger and heavier of the two.

Working Life

Both Corgis are herding dogs and excellent all-around farm dogs. Their short legs allow them to nip at the heels of cattle while avoiding kicks. They are also excellent guard dogs and have been used for vermin control. Some farmers joke that these little dogs can do any job they can reach with their short legs. Their intelligence makes them capable of learning to master many jobs, but they also require proper training.

Today, in this country, most Corgis are companion animals. They master this role with proper training that makes the most of their affectionate, loyal, and social nature.

Genetics

The word "Corgi" means "dwarf dog" in Welsh. The National In-

stitutes of Health has reported, "Disproportional dwarfism, or chondrodysplasia, affects more than a dozen domestic dog breeds, including the dachshund, corgi, Pekingese and basset hound. It's caused by calcification of growth plates, which curtails long bone development and results in short legs with a curved appearance." In Corgis, this is a dominant gene.

Some Pembroke Corgis carry a natural bobtail trait, the T locus, which results in a short tail. This was an advantage in their herding role.

Personality

Charming is a great word to describe either Corgi. They were extremely popular dogs in the Provincetown community for years, and we had the pleasure of meeting many of them. Today, we see more and more of these in the Boston area.

While both breeds are intelligent and great farm



This Pembroke Welsh Corgi exhibits the breed's charming smile, sparkling eyes, and can-do attitude.

or family dogs, there are some personality differences. Pembrokes are more outgoing, and Cardigans are more laid-back and may be reserved with strangers. Both can be barkers since those upright ears hear everything; however, Cardigans are more likely to need some training with this issue.

Corgi Butts

Online there is an obsession with Corgi butts. Reddit has a Corgibutt subreddit with thousands of members. Online retailers supply fans with mugs, pillows, bottle openers, socks, pants, and even neon signs. Click-bait headlines declare, "15 Corgi Butts That Might Break The Internet."

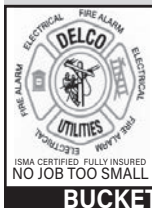
With their smiling fac-

es and winning personalities, it's possible to forget that these are intelligent, hard-working dogs capable of fulfilling many roles successfully, all the while loving being part of a family and enjoying time with their people.

Do you have a question or topic for City Paws? Email Penny@BostonZest.com with your request.

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2x5 AD ANYTIME NOV. 20 - DEC. 24
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November							December						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
							25	26	27	28	29		
28	29	30	31	1	2	3	9	10	11	12	13	6	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	16	17	18	19	20	21	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	23	24	25	26	27	28	
25	26	27	28	29	30		30	31	1	2	3	4	

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BOSTON VETERANS PARADE

Boston is honoring the service and sacrifices of all who have served and those who continue to serve. The

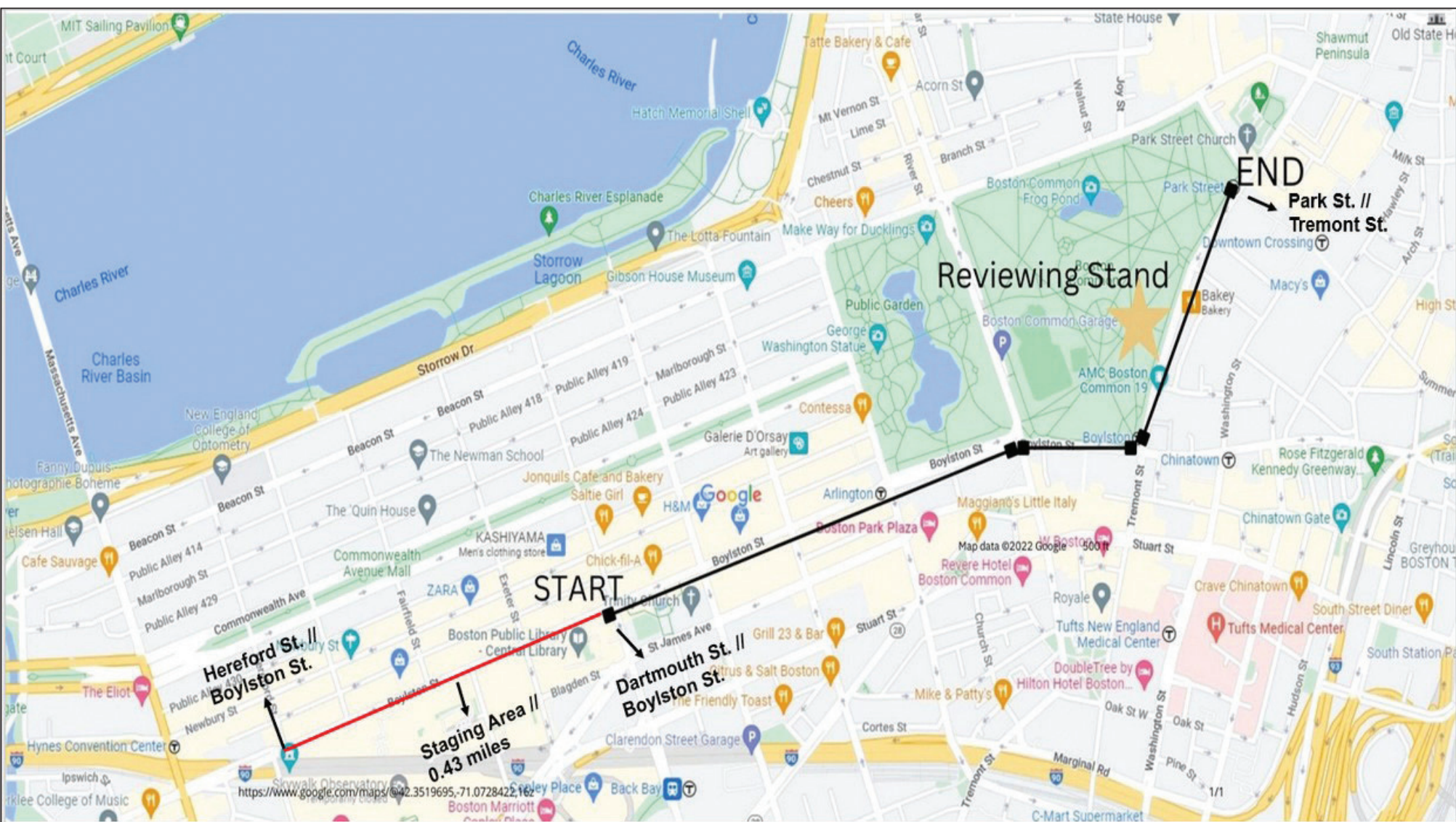
parade starts at 12-3pm on Saturday, November 9. The Parade will begin at Boston Public Library

located on Boylston Street and marching to the corner of Park and Tremont St and end at 1 City Hall Plaza.

This is a new and exciting parade designed to honor the service and sacrifice of veterans and their families,

as well as a thank you to all who continue to serve. We are seeking veteran, military, and civic organi-

zations as well as musical groups to headline this all-star salute to service. See parade route below.



EAST BOSTON SENIOR CENTER

★ ★ ★

VETERAN'S BANQUET

HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

TUESDAY NOV 12, 2024 MARTES 12 NOVIEMBRE 2024

11:30 AM - 1PM 11:30 AM - 1PM

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VETERANS DAY

11.11.24

11 AM CEREMONY
MAVERICK SQ EAST BOSTON
Lunch to follow at ITAM
60 Paris St

REMEMBER TO THANK A VETERAN TODAY

ADRIAN MADARO
State Representative

Today we remember and honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice

Lydia Edwards
STATE SENATOR

We thank and appreciate our veterans
We can Never forget
from the staff of
Channel Fish
370 East Eagle St., Boston MA

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

VETERANS DAY

Honoring All Who Served