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Wednesday, May 20, 2026

Twenty-one residents displaced by four-alarm fire on Princeton Street

Staff Report

Twenty-one residents were displaced following a four-alarm fire Sunday just after 6 p.m. that struck a multi-family home at 263 Princeton Street and spread to adjacent properties on Princeton and Saratoga Streets.

Firefighters rushed to the scene after a neighbor had called 911. Firefighters could be seen dramatically breaking through a chain-link fence to get immediate access and contain the fast-moving blaze.

Boston Fire Department spokeswoman Sharon Gallo-

See FIRE Page 5



COURTESY PHOTO

Firefighters are pictured at the scene of the fire Sunday at 263 Princeton St. in East Boston.

**WE WILL BE CLOSED
 MONDAY, MAY 25, IN OBSERVANCE
 OF MEMORIAL DAY**

TRASH DELAY
 Due to the Memorial Day Holiday on Monday May 25, 2026, Trash will be delayed by one day
 Capitol Waste Services, Inc.

Portraits of Us

A celebration of everyday heroes comes to ZUMIX on May 30

Special to the Times-Free Press

On Saturday, May 30, Portraits Us will bring together songwriters, young people, and community members from across Greater Boston for a participatory musical event honoring everyday heroes.

Created by composer and teaching artist J. Andrés Ballesteros, with Angelina Botticelli,

the project invited young musicians to reflect on the people who shape our daily lives. Over the course of the spring, Ballesteros and Botticelli led workshops with these youth from across the region to develop a collection of "portrait songs" that celebrate parents, teachers, friends, and neighbors.

See ZUMIX Page 7

From vision to Greenway

Valerie Burns to Share the Story Behind East Boston's Mary Ellen Welch Greenway

Special to the Times-Free Press

Friends of the Mary Ellen Welch Greenway will welcome Valerie Burns, formerly of the Boston Natural Areas Network (BNAN), as a special guest speaker on Thursday, May 21, 2026. The event is open to the public and will highlight the community advocacy that



Valerie Burns

See BURNS Page 2

EAST BOSTON ITALIAN HERITAGE PARADE PRESENTS

COMEDY NIGHT

AT THE HARBOR

MAY 28 • 7:00 PM • THE TALL SHIP BOSTON
 GET TICKETS NOW AT COMEDYONTHEHARBOR.EVENTBRITE.COM

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East Boston

Times-Free Press

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Forum

LET'S REMEMBER THE TRUE MEANING OF MEMORIAL DAY

Memorial Day is the most solemn of our national holidays, commemorating the Supreme Sacrifice that has been made by an estimated one million of our fellow citizens, which now includes the 15 members of our military who have died in the present conflict with Iran.

Memorial Day has its roots in what originally was known as Decoration Day after the Civil War, when the women of communities in the North decorated the graves of the soldiers who perished in that horrific and tragic conflict.

Historians agree that the most eloquent testament to the debt we owe to our brave men and women who fought to preserve our freedom was the Gettysburg Address by Abraham Lincoln, who delivered his brief but moving speech in November, 1863, on the site of that epic battle that changed the course of the Civil War just a few months beforehand.

Lincoln's words are as beautiful and as inspiring today as they were when he uttered them 163 years ago:

"Four score and seven years ago, our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

"Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battle-field of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

"But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate -- we can not consecrate -- we can not hallow -- this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us -- that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion -- that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain -- that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom -- and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

Although the Memorial Day weekend serves as the traditional start of the summer season, with the accompanying cookouts and family gatherings, we urge our readers to find the time to remember why we have a Memorial Day and to give our silent thanks to the one million of our fellow citizens whose sacrifice made this holiday weekend possible.

LETTER to the Editor

WINARC SUCCESSFUL FUNDRAISER

To the Editor,

The WINARC Board members would like to thank everyone who was involved in our successful 10th Annual Walk, Run, or Roll Fundraiser held at Deer Island on May 3rd. Generous support was given by many: the participants who traveled the 2.6 miles around

Deer Island during the light rain, sponsors and contributors who gave their financial support via donations of money, raffle items, and food for the participants. The cooperation of the MWRA staff was immense, allowing us to use their facility and managing the entrance road and parking. The student volunteers provided necessary assistance to help make the event run smoothly.

With the help of local residents, businesses, and community organizations, a substantial amount of money was raised which allows WINARC to continue to provide social and recreational activities for children and adults living in Winthrop, Revere, East Boston, and Chelsea.

Ralph Tufo
WINARC Board Member

Burns // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

helped bring the Mary Ellen Welch Greenway from vision to reality.

Beginning in the 1980s, East Boston activists—including Mary Ellen Welch—proposed a greenway to help mitigate neighborhood impacts from airport-related development and to expand access to open space. That grassroots idea ultimately grew into a signature community asset for East Boston.

In 1994, BNAN—an urban open-space nonprofit that had partnered with East Boston residents since 1982 to establish two permanent community gardens—worked with the neighborhood to develop a plan for a continuous walking and biking corridor and new parks stretching from Boston's Inner Harbor to the Department of Conservation and Recreation's Belle Isle Reservation. The long-unused freight right-of-way from the former Inner Harbor docks to the former Bremen Street switching yard and beyond became the initial alignment for what is now the Greenway, closely reflecting the original community concept.

Community members are encouraged to attend to learn more about the Greenway's history, the partnerships that made it possible, and how local advocacy shaped a lasting pub-

lic space for walking, biking, and gathering.

• Date: Thursday, May 21, 2026

• Time: 6:30–7:30 p.m.

• Location: East Boston Public Library, 365 Bremen Street, East Boston

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Printer – Concord Monitor

GreenRoots hosts free energy bill fair for East Boston and Chelsea residents

Special to the Times-Free Press

With Washington actively cutting home energy assistance programs, SNAP, Medicaid, and rental assistance, and with many immigrant families hesitant to apply for benefits they are legally entitled to and rising gas and electric costs, GreenRoots is bringing critical resources directly to the community. On Wednesday, June 3, 2026, from 5:00–8:00 PM, the Chelsea-based environmental justice organization will host a free Energy Bill Fair at Wil-

liams Middle School (180 Walnut St, Chelsea, MA), a trusted, multilingual, welcoming space where residents can apply for programs that could save their families hundreds of dollars a year.

At the Energy Bill Fair, residents can apply for discounted utility rates through Eversource and National Grid, sign up for gas assistance through Community Action Programs Inter-City Inc. (CAPIC) and Action for Boston Community Development (ABCD), and apply for rental assistance (RAFT),

SNAP, and WIC. Representatives from the Department of Transitional Assistance (DTA) and MassHealth vendors will also be on hand to help attendees access their existing benefits. The fair provides a rare opportunity for residents to access all of these resources in one place. Free home weatherstripping, window sealing, and other energy-efficiency materials will be available on a first-come, first-served basis while supplies last.

“High energy costs are a burden to so many community

members, and the process of receiving support is often complicated,” said Kiera Alventosa, Energy Democracy Organizer at GreenRoots. “This energy fair is about bringing all of the resources, information, and programs, in the preferred language, in Chelsea and East Boston, into one space. We hope many families will join us there.”

Food, language interpretation, and childcare will be provided at no cost. The event is sponsored by MassCEC, Flatiron, and GreenRoots, and

in partnership with the City of Chelsea and the Neighborhood Developers.

Event Details:

- Date: Wednesday, June 3, 2026
- Time: 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM
- Location: Williams Middle School, 180 Walnut St, Chelsea, MA
- Cost: Free and open to the public

For more information, contact Kiera at KieraA@greenrootsej.org or visit greenrootsej.org/events.

Wu announces update on Transportation Access Plan agreement for White Stadium

Special to the Times-Free Press

Mayor Michelle Wu announced that city leaders signed a Transportation Access Plan Agreement (TAPA)—a formal set of commitments by a development team that is required of all Article 80 large projects—between the City of Boston and Boston Legacy Football Club (BLFC) for White Stadium. The agreement serves as a framework that sets clear rules for how fans will travel to and from White Stadium on Boston Legacy game days and locks in BLFC’s core commitments, including fully funding the transportation plan, at no cost to taxpayers.

For the first time, there will be a formalized transportation plan to manage how fans get in and out of White Stadium on BLFC game days while protecting Franklin Park and its surrounding neighborhoods. The plan was shaped by nearly two years of community input, including dozens of public meetings and conversations, and creates a blueprint for managing all large-scale events in Franklin Park moving forward.

The City will now launch the next round of community engagement and invite residents to help shape key details, such as the boundaries of the resident parking protection zone, the number of visitor parking passes for households, and managing parking on BLFC game days for other users and events at Franklin Park. On Thursday, June 11th, the City invites all interested members of the community to a public meeting at the William J. Devine Golf Course Club House, where residents can weigh in on all of these de-

isions and more before details are finalized.

“Franklin Park and White Stadium have hosted some of Boston’s largest gatherings for decades. Now, for the first time, we have a comprehensive plan to get people there safely and efficiently while protecting the beautiful parkland and surrounding neighborhoods,” said Mayor Michelle Wu. “After nearly a hundred meetings over the course of two years, we’ve reached an agreement with Boston Legacy FC to deliver a fully-funded transportation plan that will set the standard for managing big events at Franklin Park—at no cost to taxpayers. We now look forward to hearing directly from residents to finalize key details and we encourage everyone to join an upcoming community meeting.”

“Franklin Park has long needed a structured approach to managing large events, and this agreement is an important step toward achieving that. We look forward to continuing to work with the City and Boston Legacy FC to make sure the final details protect our park and our neighbors,” said Rickie Thompson, President of the Franklin Park Coalition.

The transportation framework includes the following benefits:

For Fans:

- Fans can get to games by public transit, shuttles, biking, walking, or rideshare, and they’ll make this choice when they buy tickets, helping the City plan ahead and minimize impact on the community.
- Free shuttle service will run from Forest Hills, Ruggles, and JFK/UMass stations, plus shuttles from satellite parking lots located outside of the City, all

operated and paid for by BLFC For Residents and Park Users:

- No BLFC spectator parking in Franklin Park or on neighborhood streets will be allowed on Boston Legacy game days
 - A dedicated game-day residential parking protection program for on-street parking will be in place and fully enforced—with all enforcement costs covered by BLFC
 - A parking reservation system for Franklin Park lots will ensure that zoo visitors, golfers, youth sports families, and other park users always have access to the Park on game days
- For Surrounding Neighborhoods:**
- Traffic cameras connected to the City’s Traffic Management Center will enable real-time monitoring on game days
 - A fully electric shuttle fleet for game days targeted for deployment within two years, a direct result of community feedback


• After the first 10 games of the inaugural season, a report will be submitted to the City and the White Stadium Neighborhood Advisory Council, allowing the transportation plan to be evaluated and adjusted based on what actually happens. This report will also be prepared and reviewed annually after each season with the Council.

“We are committed to being a responsible partner in this community, and that includes how our fans get to and from White Stadium. This transportation plan ensures that match days at White Stadium are not only exciting for fans, but respectful of Franklin Park and its neighbors,” said Jennifer Epstein, Controlling Owner of Boston

Legacy FC. “We’re proud to fully fund a model that prioritizes access, sustainability, and accountability from day one.”

The TAPA also includes site plans and operational exhibits, detailing shuttle drop-offs, pick-up zones, and dedicated bike parking areas, that lay the groundwork for the operational details for how to execute the game day transportation plan. Many of the decisions that matter most to residents are still ahead: Join the City and Bos-

ton Legacy Football Club on Thursday, June 11th at 6PM at the William J. Devine Golf Course Club House in Franklin Park. With a “community fair” format, the meeting will allow the City to hear feedback on the variety of key transportation plan decisions yet to be made. Additional engagement opportunities will also be announced at boston.gov/whitestadium. This announcement can also be accessed on Instagram, Bluesky, Facebook, Youtube, and TikTok.



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Largest Latino cultural center in New England opens in Boston following historic \$33m investment

Special to the Times-Free Press

La CASA: The Center for Arts, Self-determination, and Activism, a transformative new Latino arts, culture, and community center, officially opened to the public on Friday, May 15. Located at 85 West Newton Street in Boston's historic Villa Victoria, the center invited residents, staff, neighbors, donors, appointed and elected officials, and local arts, business and community leaders to recognize this historic moment in Boston's history with a ribbon cutting ceremony followed by a weekend of community programming.

At four-stories and 26,435 square feet, La CASA stands as the largest Latino cultural center in New England and becomes the premiere and permanent home for Latino arts, culture, and community empowerment in the region. Developed by Inquilinos Boricuas en Acción (IBA), a nationally recognized community development corporation, the \$33 million center—supported by public and private partners, including a \$12.5 million capital campaign—will serve as a centralized hub for IBA's programs and a cultural anchor for the region's rapidly growing Latino population.

"At IBA, our mission has always been guided by the principle that a building is more than its walls," said Dr. Vanessa Calderón-Rosado, CEO of IBA. "It is a place where pathways to building community, culture and generational prosperity are created. It is true that La CASA will be a brand new, flexible 26,000 square foot building—but perhaps most importantly, it will transform the lives of countless individuals, families and community

members."

Established in 1968, IBA has long been a leader in community development, serving more than 5,000 individuals annually through affordable housing, early education, youth development, financial empowerment, and arts programs and developing more than 1,000 housing units since its founding. La CASA represents a major expansion of that work, doubling IBA's operational space and significantly increasing its capacity to serve residents and the broader community.

"As much as La CASA marks a new era for the Latino community in Massachusetts and New England, it also marks a new era for IBA operationally," said Mayra I. Negrón-Roche, Chief Operating Officer of IBA. "We anticipate tripling our arts offerings this year and growing our operational capacity for serving our residents and local community by more than 50% in the next 5 years. La CASA will be instrumental in shaping IBA and the next chapter for the Latino community across our region."

The building features six multipurpose spaces designed for performances, exhibitions, education, and community gatherings. At its heart is the Jean and Tom Yawkey Hall, a two-story performance and event space with direct indoor-outdoor connectivity to O'Day Playground and an adjacent amphitheater. The flexible venue accommodates up to 438 guests and supports a wide range of cultural and community programming.

The visual centerpiece of the building is the large-scale entryway mural *Un Futuro en Acción / A Future in Motion* by Boston-based artist Acóma (Alvin Colón), celebrating the



La CASA members, officials, business and community leaders took part in the ribbon cutting to officially open the cultural center on May 15.

history and future of Villa Victoria's Puerto Rican community.

La CASA expands IBA's capacity to host robust arts programming and will enable the organization to host more than 35 programs in 2026 spanning visual art, performance, and community workshops in addition to IBA's annual Festival Betances and Tito Puente Latin Music Series.

The center's inaugural exhibition, *Entretelas: Antonio Martorell y sus Amigos*, features a body of work by internationally renowned Puerto Rican artist Antonio Martorell. A new iteration of the artists' 2021 exhibition by the same name, the installation features nine new and recent paintings. The series emerges from a period marked by profound upheaval, including the aftermath of Hurricane María, the global COVID-19 pandemic, and a series of earthquakes in Puerto Rico. In response, Martorell turns toward



MAYOR'S OFFICE PHOTOS BY MIKE MEJIA

The new 26,000+ square-foot cultural center in Boston's South End neighborhood marks a historic investment in arts, equity, and community development.

intimacy and connection, emphasizing friendship, family, and collective resilience. Martorell will also spend a week as Artist in Residence at La CASA leading up to the exhibition opening in which he will collaborate with members of IBA's community through

workshops. The exhibition will be open to the public from May 15 through August 1, 2026.

Architecture and Design

Designed by STUDIO ENEÉ with Annum Architects and constructed by D.F. Pray, La CASA amplifies the mission of IBA and asserts a contemporary architectural expression in the South End. The continued collaboration with the community and the City of Boston hallmarked a design process that foregrounded transparency, welcome, and a strong connection to O'Day Park.

The result is a building that is unique in its services, its urban presence, and its progressive architectural response to a historic setting. With its colorful mix of terra cotta, glass, and brick, the design reflects



A look inside the four-story Latino arts, culture, and community center.



Fire // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

way said residents “self-evacuated” from the homes upon hearing the smoke detector alarms and there were no injuries to the residents. One firefighter suffered burns to his hands and was transported to the hospital where he was treated for the injury and released.

Deputy Fire Chief Steven Shaffer told NBC Boston on the scene that the fire spread “just like in a minute or two, extend-

ed into the building on the third floor, and it eventually spread to the rear of the building next to it on the left hand side, got into that attic and it also got the siding on two buildings in the back on fire.”

Shaffer added, “There was substantial damage to the rear porches, which have been destroyed on the original building, and there’s damage to the third floor. The rest of it, it’s not minor, but they’re salvageable.”

Boston Fire Commissioner Rodney Marshall was on scene and led an outstanding effort by firefighters from all three fire stations in East Boston and firefighters from other fire companies in Boston.

The American Red Cross collaborated with the BFD to assist with temporary housing for the residents. Galloway also commended the Boston Sparks Association, a volunteer group, for their valuable assistance on the scene.

The offices of Sen. Lydia Edwards, Rep. Adrian Madaro, and City Councillor Gabriela Coletta Zapata also reached

out to the displaced residents to provide important resources.

Edwards praised the firefighters for their swift response and dedication to their profession.

“I was devastated to hear about the fire on Princeton

Street and Saratoga Street, which displaced several of our neighbors and injured one of our firefighters,” said Edwards. “I want to thank the Boston Fire Department for their swift response and dedication to keeping our community safe during

this emergency. I also want to thank the Red Cross for stepping in to support the families and residents affected. We will be sharing resources and ways to help those impacted.”

EDWARDS HONORED AS LEGISLATOR OF THE YEAR



State Sen. Lydia Edwards, D-Boston, accepts the Legislator of the Year Award from MBA Secretary, Sabrina Bonanno (photo above left) during the Massachusetts Bar Association annual dinner on Thursday, May 7, at the Westin Boston Seaport District. The association honored Edwards, who chairs the Senate Judiciary Committee, for her outstanding public service and contributions to the legal profession and the Commonwealth’s court system. She is also pictured (above right) with MBA President, Michael H. Hayden (left) and MBA COO Martin W. Healy (right).



COURTESY PHOTO

Boston firefighters work at the site of the four-alarm fire on Princeton Street.

Mary Ellen Welch GREENWAY EAST BOSTON 2026 Summer Event Series

WEEKLY PROGRAMS JULY 9 - AUGUST 30
 Thursdays @ 10:00AM - Children’s Music Class with Little Groove
 Saturdays @ 12:30PM - Tai Chi Class with Karen Barbarisi
 Sundays @ 10:00AM - Zumba Class with Ana Maria Amigo

SPECIAL EVENTS

June 27, 10am-12pm PUP CUP SOCIAL
 Summer celebration for the dogs of eastie!
 *Dog Park

July 12, 10am BOCCE TOURNAMENT
 Fun & Casual - All skill levels welcome! Register your team at www.maryellenwelchgreenway.org
 *Bocce Courts

July 18, 10am-12pm CARTOONS & COFFEE
 Nostalgic Saturday morning cartoons complete with cereal & milk

Aug 2, 4pm-7pm PARK POETREE
 Open mic poetry & soulful sounds. Presented by Essmaa Litim, renowned spoken word artist.

Aug 22, 1pm-4pm SPORTS DAY
 All things sports... from your favorite New England pro teams to our local kid’s leagues. Lots of activities, games and fun! Don’t miss the national anthem live by Todd Agilly!

Wednesday Nights on the Greenway! 6PM-8PM

DISCO NIGHT
JUNE 24
 DJ Fly Life
 Swervalicious Rollergirls
 Floor Lords Breakdancers

Broadway Night
 Celebrates America
JULY 1
 Riverside Theater Works
 Sweet Harmony

REGGAE NIGHT
JULY 8
 Dis N’ Dat Band

SALSA NIGHT
JULY 15
 Willie Colon y El Grupo Chevre

R&B NIGHT
JULY 22
 Bre Red Bone
 Soul & Friends

BIG BAND NIGHT
JULY 29
 Kristi Scaccia Band

ROCK NIGHT
AUGUST 5
 The Gall

ACAPPELLA NIGHT
AUGUST 12
 Street Magic

MOVIE NIGHT
AUGUST 19
 PG13 - Movie TBD!

COUNTRY NIGHT
AUGUST 26
 Dan Lyons Band

www.maryellenwelchgreenway.org

[@maryellenwelchgreenway](https://www.instagram.com/maryellenwelchgreenway)

[Friends of the Mary Ellen Welch Greenway](https://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfTheMaryEllenWelchGreenway)

La CASA // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

the long-standing contributions and identity of Boston's Latino community and exemplifies IBA's commitment to sustainability and resiliency.

The building also preserves elements of the historic All Saints Lutheran Church, which once stood on the same lot as La CASA, first as a congregation deeply committed to social

justice and then as a community programming center after IBA acquired the building in 1980. La CASA's design incorporates reclaimed stained glass and terracotta tiles as a tribute to the site's legacy of community, faith, activism, and cultural expression.

"As an Architect and a proud Puerto Rican, I am honored to have been part of the vision and design of IBA's La CASA," said Natasha Espada, Founding Principal of STUDIO ENÉE. "This is a building that authentically celebrates the Latinx community in Boston's historic South End, supports our cultural heritage, and empowers future generations to embrace our roots."

Project Funding

La CASA is supported by a diverse funding model combining public support, private investments, and mission aligned partnerships, including a \$12.5 million capital campaign, which has raised \$9.9 million to date.

The campaign received major philanthropic gifts from the Yawkey Foundation, Barr Foundation, Eastern Bank Foundation, Barbara and Amos Hostetter, Klarman Family Foundation, and Aixa Beauchamp and Thomas Meléndez, in addition to federal funding

secured Senators Ed Markey and Elizabeth Warren through a congressional earmark and budgetary allocations from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts secured by Representative John Moran and Senator Nick Collins.

"This project is a testament to the strong partnerships and unyielding support we've received from Yawkey Foundation, TD Bank, Barr Foundation, Eastern Bank and others," said Aixa Beauchamp, La CASA Capital Campaign co-chair and founder of the Latino Equity Fund at The Boston Foundation. "La CASA is the embodiment of IBA's mission and gives a glimpse of what's to come as IBA continues its growth as a driving force in Boston's art scene."

"We view the foundation's investment in La CASA as more important than ever given that the Latino community is now the fastest growing population in Boston and the Commonwealth, said Alicia Verity, CEO of Yawkey Foundation. "And we are deeply honored that the Yawkeys will be a lasting part of this exciting and vital new cultural beating heart of the community."

Financing of the project was made possible due to two New Markets Tax Credit (NMTC) allocations in the amounts of

\$12 million and \$8 million from The Community Builders and TD Community Development Corporation, respectively.

"From IBA's youth development and financial empowerment programs to its resident services and diversity in the arts, we are grateful to be working with an organization that is so deeply entrenched in every aspect of its local community," said Michael Cooper, President of TD Community Bank.

La CASA: The Center for Arts, Self-determination and Activism is a Latino arts, culture, and community center located at 85 West Newton Street in the historic Villa Victoria neighborhood of Boston's South End. As Boston's premier home for Latino arts, culture, and community empowerment, La CASA serves as a vibrant hub for creative expression, cultural celebration, and community-building.

Developed by IBA - Inquilinos Boricuas en Acción, a nationally recognized affordable housing developer and community development corporation (CDC), La CASA represents a transformative expansion of IBA's legacy in affordable housing, arts, and community development. With a \$33 million investment—supported by public and private partners, including a \$12.5 million cap-

ital campaign—the center will serve as a centralized hub for IBA's programs and a cultural anchor for the region's rapidly growing Latino population. Upon opening in May 2026, La CASA will be the largest Latino cultural center in New England, serving as the premiere and permanent home for Latino arts, culture, and community empowerment. More information is available at www.ibaboston.org/la-casa.

Established in 1968, Inquilinos Boricuas en Acción (IBA) is a nonprofit, community development corporation that started in Boston's South End to address displacement of low-income families due to urban development. Today, IBA is a national model of community development that offers affordable housing and supportive programming to increase social and economic mobility, including early education, youth development, financial empowerment, resident services, and arts programs. IBA's programs serve more than 5,000 individuals from Greater Boston's diverse and vibrant communities every year. More information is available at www.ibaboston.org or Instagram, LinkedIn, Facebook, TikTok or YouTube.



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2026

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DEADLINE TO SUBMIT JUNE 1



SCAN TO SEND

BoatUS Foundation reminds boaters to prepare for season

BoatUS Foundation encourage boaters to be responsible and prioritize safety ahead of the start of boating season.

The BoatUS Foundation for Boating Safety and Clean Water, a national leader that promotes safe, clean and responsible boating recommends these safety tips for boaters:

Before You Boat ... Check your fit: Take a few minutes to ensure you have enough right-sized life jackets for everyone aboard and that they are readily available in case of an emergency. While on board, wear your life jacket and ensure you are meeting your state requirement for life jacket wear by visiting <https://www.boatus.org/life-jackets/state-requirements>.

Before You Boat ... Inspect your beacon: Confirm your emergency beacon is working

and accessible, so help can find you quickly in case something unexpected happens. **Pro Tip:** Rent a beacon for free through the BoatUS Foundation EPIRB rental program.

Before You Boat ... File a float plan: Let someone know where you're going and when you'll be back. This can be as simple as texting your trip details to a trusted friend or family member who is ready to act if you're overdue.

Before You Boat ... Attach your ECOS: If your helm is equipped with an engine cutoff switch and your boat is 26' or under, attach it to your person. This will help stop your engine immediately if you're thrown overboard.

Before You Boat ... Check the weather: Use free apps like Tide Alert (NOAA) to check weather conditions and tides

before heading out.

Before You Boat ... Make safety a priority: Treat safety as part of the trip, not as an afterthought. BoatUS Foundation offers the only free online boating safety course, currently approved in 37 states, register here and get started.

"Safe boating doesn't require complicated gear or expert skills. It requires consistency," said Ted Sensenbrenner, Director of Boating Safety at BoatUS Foundation. "Taking a few minutes before leaving the dock to follow these simple tips can make all the difference when conditions change unexpectedly."

To learn more about BoatUS Foundation's programs and courses, visit BoatUS.org.

The BoatUS Foundation for Boating Safety and Clean Water is a national leader promot-

ing safe, clean and responsible boating. Funded primarily by donations from the more than 740,000 members of Boat Owners Association of The United States (BoatUS), the nonprofit provides innovative educational outreach directly to boaters and anglers with the aim of reducing accidents and fatalities, increasing stewardship of America's waterways, and keeping boating safe for all. A range of safe and clean boating courses – including the nation's only free online boating safety course – can be found at BoatUS.org. The BoatUS Foundation for Boating Safety and Clean Water is a four-star charity, the highest rating awarded by Charity Navigator.

ZUMIX // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The capstone event, presented in collaboration with ZUMIX, begins at 11:00 AM with a Community Sing, where attendees are invited to learn and sing the songs written by Ballesteros and Botticelli in an open, welcoming environment. No prior musical experience is required. Lunch will be provided for participants, followed by a 1:00 PM performance featuring youth-created works, selections from the community sing, and a performance by ZUMIX's Streetwise ensemble. Community members unable to join for the Community Sing are welcome to join for the afternoon performance.

"This project is about recognizing the people who show up for us every day," said Ballesteros. "My song about an ESL teacher in East Boston, for example, got me to really think about how we can be intentional in building community. It has been an honor to work with Angelina and this group of talented youth as they write their own portrait songs."

Hosted at ZUMIX, the event emphasizes community participation, storytelling, and intergenerational collaboration. All events are free of charge, with registration required at jaballesteros.com/portraits. Donations in support of the artists and ZUMIX are accepted.

This project is supported by a Neighborhood Activation Grant from the Mayor's Office

of Arts and Culture, with in-kind support from ZUMIX.

Details at a Glance

Portraits of Us: Celebrating Everyday Heroes through Song
Saturday, May 30, 2026 | 11:00am (Community Sing) & 1:00pm (Performance)

ZUMIX (260 Sumner St, East Boston, MA 02128)

Free registration available here

J. Andrés Ballesteros is a composer, educator, and administrator based in Boston whose work blends classical music with a diverse array of genres and issues of social justice. Andrés often collaborates with youth and community members to write music that touches on themes of immigration, climate justice, and more. He taught at Boston Arts Academy and has continued to uplift youth creativity through workshops and projects at Juilliard Extension, Harvard University, and more. Andrés has been a leader on issues of representation, inclusion, and community engagement in classical music, working with and advising dozens of organizations, including the Boston Symphony Orchestra. A graduate of Harvard University and the Gabriela Ortiz Composing Studio, he has been named a Boston Latino 30 Under 30 honoree, spoken at the League of American Orchestras National Conference, and been profiled in Ana Francisca Vega's book *Corazón de Mex-*

icanos Como Yo, highlighting 50 Mexican Americans who broke boundaries. Learn more at jaballesteros.com.

Angelina Botticelli is a creative from East Boston, Massachusetts. From a very young age, she has been an active community member, musician, and motivated student leader through her involvement with Boston-based organizations such as ZUMIX, Boston Arts Academy, and Berklee College of Music's City Music Program. Currently a Music Business and Entrepreneurship major at Berklee College of Music, she's focused on using creativity and innovation to make a positive social change. On a daily basis, you can find Angelina working on projects ranging from wardrobe styling a friend's show, writing a business plan, composing a new song, or really anything having to do with living a healthy and sustainable lifestyle, including eating lots of yummy plant-based foods! Angelina will be compensated as a songwriter and workshop leader.

The Portraits Fellows

Emma Adeniji, 20, of Stoughton

Shea William Kelly of East Boston, 14. 8th grade at Boston Latin School (attending Boston Arts Academy next year)

Eden Lovelace, 21, of Malden

Katie Quintero, 17, of Revere

Ark Salmonsens, 20, of Malden

Josue Mateo Toloza Acevedo, 15, of Chelsea. 10th grade at Chelsea High School.

Hudson Urasaki, 16, of East Boston. Boston Latin School.

ZUMIX is an East Boston-based nonprofit organization dedicated to building our community through music and creative technology. We believe music is the most powerful means of developing adolescent self-identity. Our award-winning music and creative technology programming is designed to equip youth with the tools necessary to reach their full potential, while creating a safe space for youth to explore who they are and who

they want to be. Through community events, ZUMIX also provides access to top-quality arts experiences for a low-income, historically underserved neighborhood. ZUMIX would be compensated depending on services provided, but will likely involve individuals providing advice.

Streetwise, led by Steve Chandy, is a ZUMIX songwriting program where students learn to write, record, and perform. Through songwriting we learn to weave the self into the fabric of culture and community. Tapping into our internal flow, taking ownership of our stories, establishing form and connecting ourselves to a legacy of creatives.

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ANNUAL STRIKE OUT CANCER BASEBALL TOURNAMENT HOSTED BY THE EAST BOSTON HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL PROGRAM

Last Saturday morning the EBHS Baseball team honored their seniors before the start of the Annual Strike Out Cancer Tournament. EBHS Jets hosted the Revere High School Patriots, the Saugus High Sachems, and the Malden High Golden Tornadoes.

Revere took the opening game from the host East Boston High, and Saugus defeated Malden. In the Championship round the Sachems of Saugus beat the RHS Patriots. The Jets lost to Malden in the tournament consolation game.



Head Coach Jeff Arinella with the Jet Captains, Brian Minoz, Cam Testa, and Donovan Harris.



On the mound, Gio Shire, Alexandria Brangiforte and Carrie Brangiforte, and Ewil Cepeea.

Award winning taste.

Boston Water and Sewer Commission has won the 2025 New England Water Works Association AWWA/NE Chapter Tap Water Taste Contest!



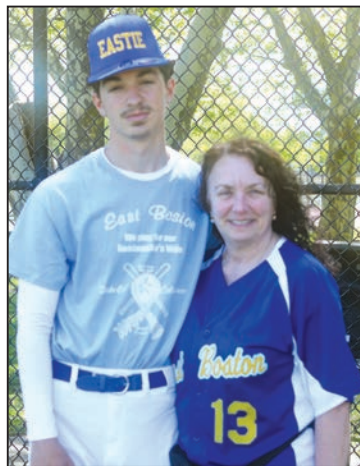
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EBHS senior Roman Cinelli, with his mother, Coreen Cinelli.



Senior Dennis Antrim with his family, Grandfather Robert Morani, and parents Lisa and Michael Antrim.

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ANNUAL STRIKE OUT CANCER BASEBALL TOURNAMENT HOSTED BY THE EAST BOSTON HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL PROGRAM



East Boston legendary coach David Arinella is shown with his son, and Head Coach of the Jets, Jeff Arinella.



Head Coach Jeff Arinella with the 2026 East Boston High School Varsity Jets Baseball Team.



Ready for the opening game last Saturday morning, Head Coaches for the Jets Jeff Arinella and for the Patriots Sebastian Salvo.



The ceremonial first pitch was thrown by Alexandria Brangi-forte.

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Suffolk University and Bunker Hill Community College announce joint admissions and transfer partnership agreement

Special to the Times-Free Press

Suffolk University and Bunker Hill Community College (BHCC) have announced a Joint Admission and Transfer Partnership Program that will benefit students wishing to complete four-year university degrees.

The Suffolk-BHCC partnership builds upon the long-standing commitment of both schools to expand access to higher education, serve the Greater Boston community, and improve outcomes for transfer students. It expands pathways to a Suffolk four-year degree while streamlining the process for qualifying students, who will be admitted to both institutions. Coursework completed at Bunker Hill will count toward a Suffolk degree and enrollees are encouraged to make use of support and services from both institutions, including:

- Access to special advising, fee waivers, and scholarship opportunities
- A Career Summer Stipend (\$3,500 for a non-paid summer



Suffolk University President Marisa Kelly (left) and Bunker Hill Community College President Pam Eddinger.

internship or research opportunity)

- A dedicated Suffolk transfer admissions team member to facilitate a smooth transition

- Access to Suffolk resources, including campus Wi-Fi and on-campus student events.

- Qualified and accepted BHCC students who complete transferable community college coursework will receive guaranteed Suffolk admission

Suffolk President Marisa J.

Kelly said the program was an exciting opportunity for both institutions to elevate professional and economic mobility opportunities for students across the region.

“Suffolk University’s mission is centered on the transformative power of education, and we have always been firmly committed to eliminating roadblocks that stand in the way of educational opportunity,” she said. “Suffolk is proud

to collaborate with Bunker Hill Community College on a program that removes barriers for their graduates from advancing their education and brings them into our vital and diverse downtown campus. We are excited to make a difference in the lives of the next generation of students, while strengthening the city that is our home.”

Bunker Hill Community College President Pam Y. Eddinger says that by streamlining transfer pathways and strengthening student support, this agreement helps ensure that more students can pursue their educational aspirations with confidence and clarity.

“This partnership reflects our shared belief that higher education should be accessible, connected, and transformative,” she said. “By creating a stronger transfer pathway to Suffolk University, we are opening doors for students to continue their educational journeys and contribute their talents to Boston’s future and beyond.”

Suffolk University, located in historic downtown Boston, provides students with expe-

riential and transformational learning opportunities that begin in the center of Boston, reach across the globe, and lead to extraordinary outcomes for graduates. The University is driven by the power of education, inclusion, and engagement to change lives and positively impact communities. Suffolk University offers a wide range of undergraduate and graduate programs in its College of Arts & Sciences, Sawyer Business School, and Law School.

With more than 50 years of academic excellence, Bunker Hill Community College is one of Massachusetts’ largest community colleges, serving approximately 16,000 students annually. With campuses in Charlestown and Chelsea, BHCC offers a broad range of educational opportunities throughout Greater Boston. BHCC fosters a welcoming and supportive learning environment for students by offering associate degrees and certificates, early college and dual enrollment, community education, corporate training, and industry-specific programs.

SoundThinking expresses gratitude to law enforcement during National Police Week

SoundThinking, Inc., a leading public safety technology company that provides the ShotSpotter acoustic gunshot detection system utilized by Boston and numerous surrounding cities, joined the nation in honoring the courage, dedication, and sacrifice of law enforcement officers during National Police Week, which was observed May 10–16, 2026. This annual observance provides an opportunity

for Americans to remember fallen heroes and express appreciation to those who continue to serve with integrity.

Among the many communities that deploy ShotSpotter technology are Boston, Revere, and Chelsea.

National Police Week serves as a solemn reminder of the risks law enforcement officers face in the line of duty each day. According to the National Law

Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, 111 officers lost their lives in the line of duty in 2025. Each loss represents a life of service cut short and a family forever changed. More than 24,000 names are now engraved on the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C., each a testament to a life of service and sacrifice.

“We are honored to stand alongside the law enforcement professionals who serve and protect our communities every day,” said Ralph Clark, president and CEO of SoundThinking. “National Police Week is a time to honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice and recognize the dedication of those who continue to serve. As a company, we remain committed to supporting that mission and standing behind officers, their families, and the communities they protect with technologies and services to enhance their safety and community safety overall.”

SoundThinking supports those who serve not only during

National Police Week, but year-round—through sustained engagement with the communities, organizations, and leaders who shape public safety.

SoundThinking deepened its commitment to officer wellness by partnering with First Responders’ Bridge, a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting active and retired first responders and their families as they navigate the lasting impact of trauma. Through a hosted webinar, SoundThinking helped raise awareness of the organization’s confidential, peer-supported retreats – programs designed to reduce stigma, strengthen relationships, and promote the mental health of first responders.

The company also partners with numerous organizations and initiatives that support law enforcement and the communities they serve.

For SoundThinking team members who have served in or alongside the law enforcement community, National Police Week carries a personal signifi-

cance.

“May is a powerful month in law enforcement. During National Police Week, we come together to honor officers who made the ultimate sacrifice,” said Cindy Guerra, director of Customer Success at SoundThinking, who previously served as both a Chicago Police Lieutenant and Chief of Police at Northeastern Illinois University. “For me, this isn’t just a moment on the calendar – it’s personal. After nearly three decades in law enforcement, the mission of supporting officers and the communities they serve continues to drive the work I do today. I’m proud to continue that mission from a different seat, with the same commitment to officer safety and public safety.”

SoundThinking invites all Americans to reflect on the sacrifices made by law enforcement officers, to support the families of the fallen, and to show appreciation for those who continue to serve.

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Healey and Boston Pops Announce star-studded 2026 July 4 fireworks spectacular

Governor Maura Healey and the Boston Pops announced the lineup and programming for the 2026 Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular, the signature July 4 event of the “MA250” initiative commemorating the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution.

Led by legendary conductor Keith Lockhart, this year’s free concert on the Charles River Esplanade will feature Grammy-winning country music superstar Lainey Wilson, Grammy-winning artist Chance the Rapper, and New Orleans music icon Trombone Shorty, each making their first appearance at the Fireworks Spectacular. Additional guest artists and the event host will be announced in the coming weeks.

As the signature MA250 event, this year’s Fireworks Spectacular is expected to welcome hundreds of thousands of attendees to Boston and millions of viewers nationwide for one of the country’s largest Independence Day celebrations. The program will celebrate Massachusetts’ central role in

the American Revolution while showcasing the creativity, culture and community that continue to define the state today.

This year’s event will include a revolutionary-themed drone show during the performance of the “1812 Overture”, a fireworks display choreographed to live music performed by the Pops, and the world premieres of two new works by contemporary American composers commissioned in honor of America 250. The concert will also feature performances by the Boston Children’s Chorus, Boston Crusaders Drum and Bugle Corps, Middlesex County Volunteers Fifes and Drums, Tanglewood Festival Chorus and the U.S.S. Constitution Color Guard.

“Massachusetts is where the American Revolution began, and this July 4, we’re proud to welcome people from across the state and country to celebrate 250 years of our nation’s history right here in Boston,” said Governor Maura Healey. “From the incredible lineup of artists including the Bos-

ton Pops and fireworks over the Charles River, this year’s Spectacular will honor our past while celebrating the energy, creativity and diversity that define Massachusetts today. We’re excited to share this special moment with millions of people here in Boston and watching around the world.”

“This year’s Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular will be an unforgettable celebration for our residents and visitors from around the world, honoring Boston’s revolutionary history, the courage of our communities, and the traditions that bring us together,” said Mayor Michelle Wu. “Boston’s July 4th festivities are a cherished opportunity for friends and family to come together in celebration. We are proud to host this iconic event and to provide a memorable experience for all.”

“Back in 1976, Boston celebrated America’s Bicentennial with Arthur Fiedler and the Boston Pops on the Esplanade, establishing Boston as the place to celebrate Independence Day,” said Keith Lockhart.

“Fifty years later, I’m thrilled to welcome Lainey Wilson, Chance the Rapper, and Trombone Shorty to the Hatch Shell as we celebrate America 250 with patriotic favorites, world premiere compositions, and what promises to be our biggest fireworks display yet.”

“For generations, the Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular has brought people together through music and celebration,” said Chad Smith. “We are honored to partner with Governor Healey and the MA250 initiative to make this year’s event a centerpiece of the nation’s America 250 celebration.”

The event will conclude with a fireworks display over the Charles River beginning at approximately 9:15 p.m.

The entire July 4 concert and fireworks display will be broadcast locally in Boston on WHDH-TV Channel 7 and streamed on the CNN app and CNN.com (7:00-9:30 p.m. ET). Portions of the event including the fireworks also will be carried live on an international CNN broadcast of July 4/Amer-

ica 250 celebrations.

Public access to the Oval lawn in front of the Hatch Shell will open at 12 p.m. on July 4. Throughout the afternoon, the Esplanade will feature family-friendly activities, concessions, and public programming connected to the MA250 celebration.

Lead sponsors for the event include Eastern Bank, MA250, Takeda Pharmaceuticals, Sanofi, Vertex Pharmaceuticals, and Dunkin’, alongside dozens of additional public and private partners supporting the celebration.

Since 1929, the Boston Pops has performed its free Independence Day concert on the Esplanade, continuing a beloved Boston tradition first established by conductor Arthur Fiedler and carried on today by Keith Lockhart. The Fireworks Spectacular has become one of the nation’s most iconic July 4 celebrations, drawing audiences from across Massachusetts and around the world.

North Shore Music Theatre kicks off the 2026 musical season with ‘On Your Feet!’ June 3

This June, Bill Hanney’s award-winning North Shore Music Theatre (NSMT) will bring the heat to the stage as they kick off the 2026 Musical Season with *On Your Feet!* the incredible true story of Emilio and Gloria Estefan. The international hit musical begins performances on Wednesday, June 3, 2026 and will play through Sunday, June 14, 2026. *On Your Feet!* is sponsored by North Shore Counseling Center

“*On Your Feet!* has captivated audiences around the globe for the past decade, earning its place as one of the most beloved jukebox musicals of recent memory. We’re thrilled to bring together all the right elements to honor the careers of Emilio and Gloria Estefan,” said NSMT owner and producer Bill Hanney. “Under the dynamic direction and choreography of Marcos Santana, we’ve assembled an exceptional cast, featuring recent Boston Conservatory graduate Isabel Leoni playing Gloria Estefan and Marcello Audino as Emilio Estefan. The incredible cast of 23 will bring this vibrant true story to life. Whether you’re a long-time fan of the Estefans or dis-

covering them for the first time, this production promises to be a high-energy unforgettable night out at the theatre.”

Get ready to feel the rhythm in *On Your Feet!*, the electrifying musical that tells the inspiring true story of Emilio and Gloria Estefan, two trailblazing artists who defied the odds with their talent, determination, and unwavering belief in each other. From their humble beginnings in Cuba to achieving international superstardom, their story is a testament to the power of perseverance and the universal language of music. Bursting with heart, passion, and the infectious pulse of Latin rhythms that reshaped pop forever, this high-energy hit features chart-toppers like “Conga,” “Get On Your Feet,” and “Rhythm Is Gonna Get You.” *On Your Feet!* is a vibrant celebration of love, family, heritage, and the music that broke barriers around the world.

The cast of *On Your Feet!* will be led by Isabel Leoni (Gloria Estefan) and Marcello Audino (Emilio Estefan) along with Karmine Alers (Gloria Fajardo), Henry Gainza (José Fajardo), and Sydia Cedeño-Genat

(Consuelo Garcia). The production will feature Olivia A. Cruz (Rebecca Fajardo), Kendall Rivera (Young Gloria), Sebastian D. Harvey (Young Emilio/Nayib), and Jason Cohen (Phil).

Rounding out the 23-member cast will be Camila Aldet, Marissa Barragán, Alexander Blanco (Marquito), Stella Casas Ciniglio, Marlon Feliz, Juliana Fuentes Peña, Sabrina Gomez, Juan Camilo Laverde, Alejandra Matos, Luis Obed (Warren), Jose Ozuna, Joseph Rivera, Ralphie Rivera de Jesús (Kiki), and Michael Anthony Sylvester (Kenny).

The creative team for *On Your Feet!* includes Marcos Santana (Director/Choreographer), Jose Delgado (Music Director), Jack Mehler (Scenic & Lighting Design), Emilio Sosa (Costume Design), Alex Berg (Sound Design), Pamela Hersch (Projections Design), Charles LaPointe (Wig & Hair Design), Rebecca Glick (Costume Coordinator), James Hansen (Production Stage Manager), Natalie Caruncho (Assistant Choreographer), Robert L. Rucinski (Assistant Music Director), Maria Papadopoulos (Assistant Stage Manager), and

Elizabeth Yvette Ramirez (Assistant Stage Manager).

On Your Feet! is produced for North Shore Music Theatre by Bill Hanney (Owner/Producer), Kevin P. Hill (Producing Artistic Director), and Matthew Chappell (Associate Producer/Casting Director). *On Your Feet!* is presented through special arrangement with Theatrical Rights Worldwide.

Ticket prices for *On Your Feet!* start at \$85 - \$105. Performances are June 3 - June 14, 2026, Tue - Thurs at 7:30 pm, Fri & Sat at 8 pm, matinees Wed, Sat and Sun at 2 pm. Group discounts are available for purchases of 10 or more tickets. Kids 4 - 18 save 50% at all performances. \$25 Student Rush tickets are available. For tickets and information call 978-232-7200, visit www.nsmat.org, or visit the box office in person at 54 Dunham Rd., Beverly, MA.

The 2026 mainstage season will continue with Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat (July 8 - 19), Rock of Ages (August 12 - 23), Come From Away (September 16 - 27), Yeston & Kopit’s Phantom (October 21 - November

1), and will conclude with the annual production of *A Christmas Carol* (December 3 - 23). Children’s Shows will include Disney’s High School Musical Jr. and Disney’s High School Musical Jr. 2 (July 23 & 24) and Rodgers & Hammerstein’s *Cinderella Youth Edition* (August 21).

Since opening in 1955, NSMT has become one of the most attended theatres in New England, with approximately 250,000 patrons annually. With a national and regional reputation for artistic achievement, NSMT has received numerous industry awards including Elliot Norton Awards, IRNE Awards, the Rosetta Le Noire Award from Actors’ Equity, and the Moss Hart Award. NSMT produced the World Premiere of ‘*Memphis*’ in 2003, the show went on to win four 2010 Tony Awards including Best Musical. Under the ownership of Bill Hanney since 2010, NSMT annually produce a musical subscription series and an annual production of ‘*A Christmas Carol*’ along with a concert series, children’s programming and year-round education classes for children and adults.

Massport to attempt Guinness World Records title for world's largest soccer ball

Special to the Times-Free Press

The Massachusetts Port Authority (Massport) will showcase the organization's attempt at the Guinness World Records title for World's Largest Soccer Ball at Piers Park II in East Boston this June, creating a one-of-a-kind waterfront display that can be seen from multiple points along Boston Harbor. The installation is part of ongoing efforts to build momentum and community engagement throughout the city during the FIFA World Cup games at Boston Stadium in Foxborough this June and July.

Standing 45 feet, the soccer ball will attempt to officially break the current Guinness World Records mark of 38 feet, 11.8 inches, making it the largest soccer ball ever displayed. The last record was set in Doha, Qatar in 2013. The installation will remain at Piers Park II for a full week, giving residents and visitors from across the region the opportunity to experience the display while exploring East Boston's waterfront.

"We're proud to welcome the world to Boston as Massachusetts prepares to host the

FIFA World Cup matches and showcase the unique attractions and welcoming communities that make our state such a special place to visit," said Rich Davey, Massport CEO. "Bringing this iconic display to East Boston gives people the opportunity to come together, enjoy the neighborhood's vibrant waterfront and skyline views, and share in the excitement of the FIFA World Cup."

In addition to the weeklong display, Massport will host a community celebration at Piers Park II on Saturday, June 13, from noon to 4 p.m., featuring family activities, games, and entertainment. World Cup matches will not be televised.

The soccer ball showcase and community event are presented by Massport in partnership with HNTB and other sponsors.

"HNTB is thrilled to partner with Massport on this one-of-a-kind attempt to create the world's largest soccer ball in the lead-up to the FIFA World Cup," said Paul Godfrey, HNTB Vice President and Massachusetts Office Leader. "Together, we're not only celebrating the global spirit



A rendering of Piers Park II in East Boston with Massport's display of their attempt to break the Guinness World Records title for world's largest soccer ball.

of the game, but also creating an unforgettable community moment—kicking off World Cup excitement while setting a world record at the same time."

Events Timeline
Guinness World Records
World's Largest Soccer Ball
Attempt Display

Piers Park II, East Boston
Weeklong public display
June 12–18
Piers Park II Community
Day
Marginal St, East Boston
Saturday, June 13
Noon – 4 p.m.
Going Above and Beyond.

The Massachusetts Port Authority (Massport) owns and operates Boston Logan International Airport, public terminals in the Port of Boston, Hanscom Field, and Worcester Regional Airport.

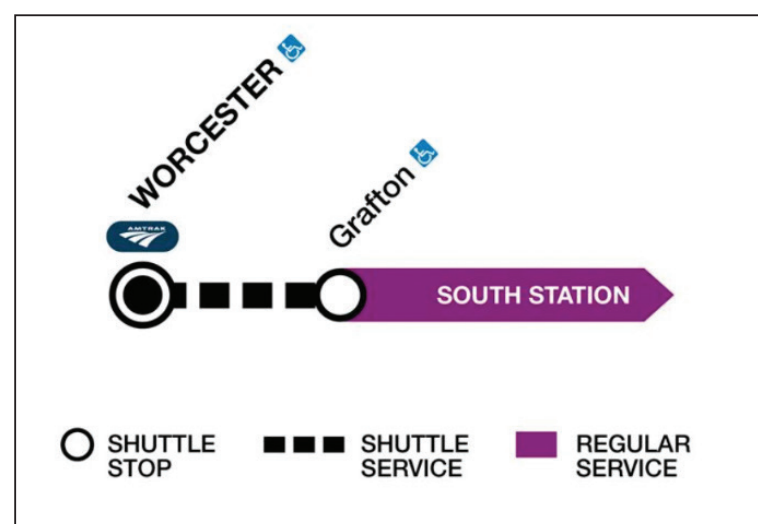
MBTA announces June service changes

The MBTA today announced service changes in June on the Green, Blue, Framingham/Worcester, and Lowell lines. There are also some Commuter Rail service changes related to World Cup matchdays.

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

On the Green Line:

As previously announced, the MBTA will continue to perform work as part of the Green Line C Branch Accessibility Improvements project at Englewood Avenue and Tappan Street, and will continue the



installation of critical Green Line Train Protection System (GLTPS) infrastructure on the E branch in June. When complete, GLTPS will combine vehicle and wayside equipment to avoid train-on-train collisions, incorporate speed enforcement, and more.

As previously announced, Symphony Station will also close for approximately three years beginning June 6 to advance major accessibility upgrades at the station. Located in

one of Boston's busiest cultural and historical neighborhoods, the 85-year-old Symphony Station is ready to be upgraded into a safer, fully accessible station featuring four new elevators and many other station enhancements.

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

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

Outbound Green Line trains will not stop at Englewood Avenue, May 18 – July 10.

Trains will bypass the stop during this time period. Riders can instead board or disembark one stop away at either Cleveland Circle or Dean Road, which are 0.2 miles away (or a 4- to 5-minute walk).

Outbound Green Line trains will not stop at Tappan Street, May 18 – July 10.

Trains will bypass the stop during this time period. Riders can instead board or disembark one stop away at either Washington Square or Dean Road, which are 0.2 miles away (or a 3- to 4-minute walk).

Inbound Green Line trains will not stop at Tappan Street, May 18 – June 12.

Trains will bypass the stop during this time period. Riders can instead board or disembark one stop away at either Washington Square or Dean Road, which are 0.2 miles away (or a 3- to 4-minute walk).

Green Line service will be suspended between Government Center and Heath Street on the E branch for seven consecutive days, May 30 – June 5.

Riders can instead utilize parallel Route 39 bus service, which will be enhanced with additional service.

Riders using the Route 39 should budget ample extra travel time. For example, a rider travelling to Government Center from Heath Street should budget at least an additional 10 minutes of travel in addition to their regular commute.

Symphony Station will be closed to riders for 35 months beginning June 6. During this time, Green Line E branch trains will bypass the station (meaning trolleys will operate through the station in both directions, but will not stop).

Riders who typically board or disembark at Symphony can instead board or disembark at Northeastern University or

Project Bread's 58th Walk for Hunger raises \$1 million as food insecurity reaches crisis levels

On Sunday, May 3, nearly 4,000 participants gathered on Boston Common and joined virtually from across the country and around the world for Project Bread's 58th Annual Walk for Hunger, the nation's oldest continually running pledge walk. Walkers representing 216 towns across Massachusetts, along with participants from 23 U.S. states and five countries, united to take action for the 40% of Massachusetts households experiencing food insecurity. Donations are still coming in but the event is well on its way to hitting the goal of raising \$1 million in support of statewide efforts to end hunger in the Commonwealth.

"The Walk for Hunger has always been about the strength of community coming together to make a tangible difference—and this year, the urgency has never been greater," says Erin McAleer, President & CEO of Project Bread. "Seeing thousands of people from every corner of the state show up, not just to walk, but to say, loudly and clearly, that hunger is unacceptable. Today we showed what this community can do when we work together, but we're not done yet. The need is greater than ever, and all of us

have a part to play in meeting this moment for our neighbors struggling across the Commonwealth."

This year's Walk comes at a critical inflection point for food security in Massachusetts. Forty percent of state households are experiencing food insecurity, amid historic cuts to SNAP over the last year that are forcing more families to make impossible choices between food and other basic needs. Against that backdrop, The Walk served as both a fundraiser and a rallying cry, drawing first-time participants alongside advocates who have walked for decades.

During the Opening Ceremony on the Boston Common Main Stage, Project Bread CEO Erin McAleer presented the prestigious Patrick Hughes Award for Social Justice to Jean McMurray, recently retired CEO of the Worcester County Food Bank. McMurray was honored for more than 30 years of advocacy and partnership advancing systemic solutions to hunger across Massachusetts and her ongoing work as advisor to the Make Hunger History Coalition.

The Walk featured a family-friendly, fully accessible 3-mile loop on Boston Common, with live entertainment,



PHOTO BY DAVID LEIFER, VOLUNTEER PHOTOGRAPHER FOR THE WALK FOR HUNGER

Erin McAleer, Project Bread President and CEO cuts the starting line ribbon for The 58th Walk for Hunger on Sunday, May 3, 2026. Thousands of people from Massachusetts and beyond hit the pavement at Boston Common, raising critical funds to support Project Bread's year-round anti-hunger work across Massachusetts.

local food vendors, a cooking demonstration, and inclusive programming with ASL interpretation. Walkers were cheered on by family and friends throughout the festive route, which highlighted ways to get involved in the fight to end hunger.

Now in its eighth consecutive year, the Commonwealth Program welcomed 68 community-based organizations that fundraised as part of a joint initiative, retaining 60 per-

cent of all funds they raised to support their own anti-hunger work while contributing to The Walk's statewide goal.

Funds raised through The Walk support Project Bread's year-round work to connect families to food when there's nothing left at home, make sure kids have enough to eat, and guides everyday people through moments of crisis. Funds also support long-term solutions to ending hunger permanently.

Fundraising for The Walk

for Hunger continues. Visit www.projectbread.org/walk to donate or start a personal fundraiser.

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

FRESH AND LOCAL

Learning cooking techniques

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

Many people learned the skills they need to become competent and efficient home cooks from family members. Others used media to learn when they became responsible for feeding themselves and others.

Penny learned some basics from aunts and uncles. Still, her real training began in 1976 with the publication of *La Technique: An Illustrated Guide to the Fundamental Techniques of Cooking* by Jacques Pépin. We still have our well-used copy of the paperback edition of that book.

Wikipedia traced the beginning of the Jacques Pépin we know today. "In 1976, Pépin authored his cookbook *La Technique*, followed by *La Méthode* in 1979. The use of

thousands of photographs, illustrating the techniques and methods required to achieve certain culinary results, provided a window into the art of cooking. The books are credited by chef Tom Colicchio and others as helping them to learn the craft of cooking."

Inside the Book

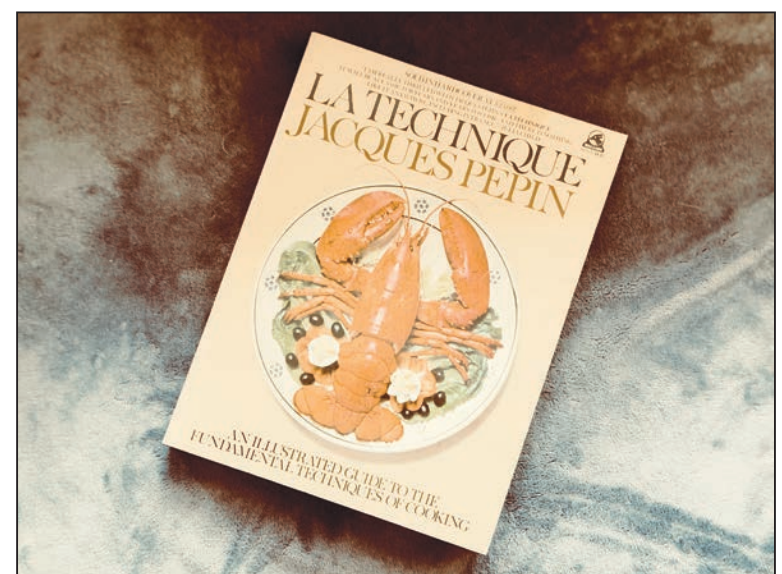
There are forty-seven techniques covered in our copy of the book. They range from how to hold a knife to how to make stuffed eggs. In between are many of the chef's signature knife skills: olive rabbits, fluted mushrooms, and tomato roses. These are fun, and if you've watched his videos, you know that while these grab your attention, he offers so much more.

One of the first and long-lasting techniques Penny learned

from this book is cooking "en papillote." Once you learn how to turn a sheet of parchment paper into a sealed container for a few vegetables, herbs, and a piece of protein, like salmon, you have a quick, healthy, and easy meal skill.

We both still cut citrus fruit a la Jacques! We celebrate when we succeed in removing the peel in one long strip. We enjoy the perfectly segmented fruit that results from his instructions. While we never indulge in creating orange baskets, we can produce perfect crosscuts of orange when we want them.

Sole Meunière could be a daunting task for a home cook, but the old black-and-white photos of the chef's hands as he removes the side bones, flours the fillet, cooks, debones, dresses with butter, and serves



If you look up the value of our 1976 paperback edition of *La Technique* by Jacques Pépin on Amazon, you might be shocked!

the fish make it seem doable.

If you have an angler in your household, you can present them with the section on trout, where they will learn how to clean and bone the fish. Once prepped, the next techniques are for three ways to prepare the fish.

More Ways to Learn from Jacques Pépin

To this day, Penny has almost daily check-ins with this mentor via YouTube, where videos reinforce the techniques

MBTA // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

Prudential, which are 0.3 miles away (or about a five-minute walk) from Symphony.

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

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

On the Blue Line:

During weekends in June, the MBTA will perform critical switch work near Wonderland.

To accomplish this work, the following service change will take place during the weekends of June 6 – 7, June 20 – 21, and June 27 – 28:

All Blue Line train service between Wonderland and Revere Beach will operate on the outbound track approximately every 14 minutes.

At Wonderland, riders will board and alight on the outbound platform.

No fares will be collected at Wonderland.

At Revere Beach, riders will board at the normal platform locations.

Blue Line service will continue beyond Revere Beach and operate normally to Bowdoin.

The Blue Line will operate additional service between Orient Heights and Bowdoin with service on that section of the line approximately every 7 minutes.

Riders are encouraged to fol-

low directions via signage and from onsite station personnel. Train predictions via countdown clocks will not be available between Wonderland and Revere Beach.

Riders will experience longer wait times and should allow extra travel time.

Riders should note that shuttle buses will not be offered as an alternative during this service change (because trains will be operating).

On the Framingham/Worcester Commuter Rail Line:

Keolis will perform switch and signal replacement work on the Framingham/Worcester Line during one weekend in June. This signal upgrade project supports train service to both sides of the new center platform at Worcester Union Station as well as the future expansion of Regional Rail service. When complete, the project will include a retaining wall and signals bridge over a half mile of five active tracks, the construction of three new and upgraded signals houses, and the removal of two existing signals houses and signaling infrastructure.

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

Framingham/Worcester Line service will be suspended between Worcester and Grafton during the weekend of June 6 – 7.

Free and accessible shuttle buses will replace service be-

tween Worcester and Grafton.

Riders using shuttle bus service should budget ample extra travel time. For example, a rider travelling to Grafton from Worcester should budget up to 20 minutes using the shuttle bus.

A dedicated diversion schedule will be available on MBTA.com/CR.

On the Lowell Commuter Rail Line:

The MBTA will perform work to repair the stairs at Lowell Station on the Lowell Line in June.

Lowell Line service will be suspended between Lowell and North Billerica during the following dates:

Beginning at approximately 10 PM through the end of service each day, June 8 – 12, June 15 – 19, and June 22 – 26.

During the weekends of June 20 – 21 and June 27 – 28.

Free and accessible shuttle buses will replace service between Lowell and North Billerica during these times.

Riders using shuttle bus service should budget ample extra travel time. For example, a rider travelling to North Billerica from Lowell should budget up to 10 minutes using the shuttle.

A dedicated diversion schedule will be available on MBTA.com/CR.

Service Changes during World Cup Matchdays:

From June 8 through July 12, passengers are reminded that trains will run less frequently on most Commuter Rail lines.

Most peak-hour service, 6 – 10 AM and 3:30 – 7 PM, will be maintained. On World Cup matchdays, additional changes will be in effect on all Commuter Rail lines in and out of South Station.

Information is available at MBTA.com/WorldCupChanges. Notable changes include:

Fairmount Line: On matchdays, no service to Readville.

Fall River/New Bedford Line: June 8 – July 12, connecting trains to/from East Taunton will not operate. Only direct trains between South Station and Fall River or New Bedford will run.

Franklin/Foxboro Line: On matchdays, no Commuter Rail service to Foxboro or between Readville and Windsor Gardens. Shuttle buses between Forge Park/495 and Walpole connect riders to Providence Line at Canton Junction.

Needham Line: June 13 and 14, no weekend train service. Local buses connect to Orange and Green lines.

Stoughton Line: On weekday matchdays, shuttle buses replace train service between Canton Junction and Stoughton.

The MBTA previously announced service changes in May. More information is available here.

For more information, visit MBTA.com/PlannedWork or connect with the T on X @ MBTA and @MBTA_CR, Facebook /TheMBTA, Instagram @theMBTA, Threads @thembta, or TikTok @thembta.

The Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) opened America's first subway tunnel in 1897, pioneering public transportation in the United States. Today, the MBTA is one of the largest public transit systems in the country, operating an extensive network of subway, bus, Commuter Rail, ferry, and paratransit services across 176 cities and towns. The MBTA is undergoing a transformative period, focusing on cultivating a culture of safety and excellence, modernizing infrastructure, and improving reliability and accessibility. Current priorities include accelerating critical infrastructure repairs, expanding accessibility, and reducing emissions. The MBTA is committed to providing dependable, frequent, and accessible service that riders can rely on while supporting the region's economic vitality. Through initiatives like the unprecedented Track Improvement Program, the Better Bus Program, and the Rail Modernization Plan, the MBTA aims to connect communities and improve riders' daily experiences and trips. For questions or assistance, riders are encouraged to contact the MBTA Customer Center at 617-222-3200. Members of the press are encouraged to contact mediarelations@mbta.com. For the latest updates on MBTA services, projects, and initiatives, visit MBTA.com or follow @MBTA on social media.

Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
Greene, Ashanti N	Bushweiler, Kayla	152 Saratoga St	\$725,000
Trichilo Development LLC	Pagliuca Rt	217 Maverick St	\$1,100,000
Dohrmann, Noah	Manidis, Tatiana	45 Lewis St #303	\$680,000
Harrison, Ryan	Nakajima, Eric T	45 Lewis St #403	\$633,000
Alisiyevich, Maryia	Sorrentino, Dion Joseph	69 Lubec St #201	\$765,000
Jin, Jiaya	Trichilo Development LLC	74 Horace St #1	\$670,000
Gierschick, Brandon	Trichilo Development LLC	74 Horace St #2	\$865,000

Cooking // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

from the book within practical recipes aimed at home cooks.

The public television station KQED in San Francisco still presents episodes of his television series *Today's Gourmet*.

Chef Pépin also partnered with Julia Child in the WGBH series *Cooking In Concert*, *More Cooking in Concert*, and *Julia & Jacques Cooking at Home*. It was always educational to listen to these two masters debate the fine details of a recipe or technique.

Penny has also benefited from the Culinary Certificate Program and Master's degrees in Gastronomy, which the chef

helped to establish at Boston University. Since 1989, she has taken advantage of the public offering of in-person lectures and classes offered as part of this curriculum.

One thing we have learned, in addition to techniques, is that time spent with a food educator like Jacques Pépin has made us better food consumers, less wasteful, and helped put delicious food on our table.

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



37 MAVERICK SQUARE ■ EAST BOSTON ■ 617/561-4495

LEGAL NOTICE

Submit notices to legals@eastietimes.com

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston MA, 02114
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF
PETITION
FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN
FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON
PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, Section
5-304
Docket No. SU26P0888GD
In the matter of:
Keith Andrade of: East Boston, MA
RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitat-
ed Person
To the named Respondent and
all other interested persons, a peti-
tion has been filed by Mass Dept.
of Mental Health of Westborough,
MA in the above captioned matter
alleging that Keith Andrade is in
need of a Guardian and request-
ing that (or some other suitable
person) be appointed as Guardian
to serve on the bond.
The petition asks the court to
determine that the Respondent is
incapacitated, that the appoint-
ment of a Guardian is necessary,

and that the proposed Guardian is
appropriate. The petition is on file
with this court and may contain
a request for certain specific
authority.
You have the right to object to
this proceeding. If you wish to do
so, you or your attorney must file
a written appearance at this court
on or before 10:00 AM on the
return date of 06/04/2026. This
day is NOT a hearing date, but a
deadline date by which you have
to file the written appearance if
you object to the petition. If you
fail to file the written appearance
by the return date, action may
be taken in this matter without
further notice to you. In addition
to filing the written appearance,
you or your attorney must file
a written affidavit stating the
specific facts and grounds of your
objection within 30 days after the
return date.
IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding
may limit or completely take away
the above-named person's right
to make decisions about personal
affairs or financial affairs or both.
The above-named person has the

right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone
may make this request on behalf
of the above-named person. If
the above-named person cannot
afford a lawyer, one may be
appointed at State expense.
WITNESS, Hon. Janine D Rivers,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: May 07, 2026
Stephanie L. Everett, Esq.
Register of Probate

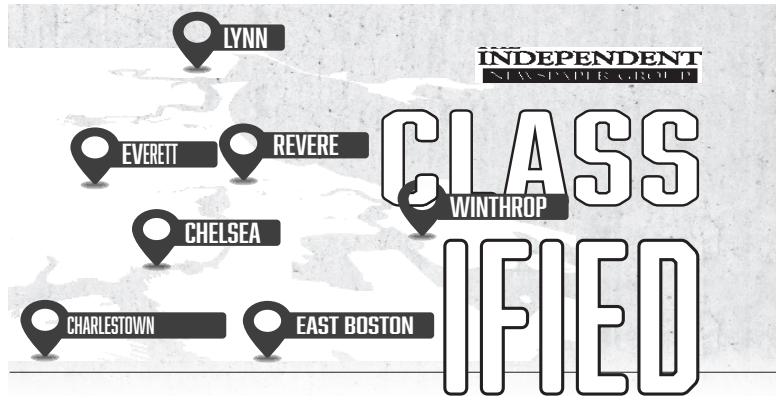
5/20/26
EB

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
Worcester Probate and Family
Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLI-
CATION
Docket No. W025D1247DR
Alejandra A Estevez Villegas
vs.
Sergio Y Chacon Mejia
To the Defendant:
The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint

5/20/26
EB

for Divorce requesting that the
Court grant a divorce for Irretriev-
able Breakdown.
The Complaint is on file at the
Court.
An Automatic Restraining Order
has been entered in this matter
preventing you from taking any
action which would negatively
impact the current financial status
of either party.
SEE Supplemental Probate Court
Rule 411.
You are hereby summoned and
required to serve upon: Alejandra
A Estevez Villegas 37 Duxbury
Road Worcester, MA 01605 your
answer, if any, on or before
06/16/2026.
If you fail to do so, the court
will proceed to the hearing and
adjudication of this action.
You are also required to file a copy
of your answer, if any, in the office
of the Register of this Court.
WITNESS, Hon. Kathryn M. Bailey,
First Judge of this Court.
Date: March 12, 2026
Stephance K Fattman



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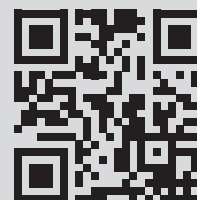
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East Boston to hold Memorial Day Ceremonies Monday, May 25

East Boston will hold its Memorial Day Ceremonies on Monday, May 25 at 11 a.m. in Central Square.

Memorial Day is a federal holiday that honors U.S. military personnel who died while serving in the Armed Forces.

There will be a speaking program and memorial observance followed by a march to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial on Liverpool Street.

Sen. Lydia Edwards, Rep. Adrian Madaro, and District 1 Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata will be among the dignitaries in attendance.

Edwards, a Captain and JAG Officer in the Massachusetts National Guard, will host her annual Memorial Day Brunch on Friday, May 22 at 10 a.m. at the Beachmont V.F.W. Post.

Other memorial Day Events around the area

Visit the Fallen Heroes Memorial in the Seaport

At the northern edge of Seaport Common, surrounded by the ever-changing light of the waterfront, stands a powerful tribute to those who made the ultimate sacrifice for a grateful nation. The first of its kind in the country, the memorial honors the Commonwealth's brave servicemen and women who lost their lives fighting for our freedoms since September 11, 2001. Over 4000 flags have been planted to commemorate Memorial Day.

The rededication for the Massachusetts Fallen Heroes Memorial is scheduled to take place on Friday, May 22, 2026 in the area of 85 Northern Avenue. The ceremony will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and will require the closing of Northern Avenue from Fan Pier Boulevard to Harbor Shore Drive. Northern Avenue is expected to be closed from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Free Admission to ICA + ICA Watershed

The ICA Watershed—a seasonal space in East Boston dedicated to large-scale artist projects—will reopen for the season with Lucy Raven: Rounds. This is a ma-

ior new exhibition by Lucy Raven (b. 1977 in Tucson, Arizona) includes the United States premieres of Hardpan, a large-scale kinetic sculpture co-commissioned with Barbican Centre, London, and Murderers Bar (2025) a new moving image installation and the final installment of Raven's series The Drumfire. The Watershed opens on May 21st. On Memorial Day, admission of the ICA including the Watershed is free! Get the details here.


Memorial Day Flag Garden

The City of Boston's flag garden is on display through Monday at Boston Common. Each of the 37,000+ American flags planted at the Soldiers and Sailors Monument represents every brave Massachusetts service member who gave his or her life defending our country since the Revolutionary War.

Senator Lydia Edwards Veterans Event

State Senator Lydia Edwards hosts a free Annual Memorial Day Brunch for veterans and military families on Friday, May 22, from 10:00 am to 12:30 pm. It takes place at the Beachmont VFW Post 6712 (150 Bennington St., nearby in Revere).

A nation that does not honor its heroes will not long endure. We remember and honor our fallen heroes this Memorial Day.



**STATE REPRESENTATIVE
ADRIAN MADARO
& FAMILY**

Our debt to the heroic men and valiant women in the service of our country can never be repaid. They have earned our undying gratitude.



**LYDIA EDWARDS
STATE SENATOR**

This Memorial Day, let us pledge to never forget the sacrifices made by our brave service members.

from the staff of
Channel Fish
370 East Eagle St., Boston MA