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East Boston
Times-Free Press

Wednesday, October 14, 2026

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PHOTOS BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

In the photo above, The parade marches on Bennington Street between Orient Heights and Day Square. Shown right, parade spectators line Bennington Street. See Pages 4-9 for more photos.

The 2026 East Boston Italian Heritage Day Parade marched from Suffolk Downs Station to Maverick Square. The parade celebrated the contributions of the Italian American community in East Boston.

Illuminated arches mark the start of a new cultural trail in East Boston

Special to the Times-Free Press

Giant steel arches lined with golden light are becoming new landmarks in East Boston, and the starting points for exploring its stories. The "Thresholds" are part of The Golden Thread, a growing cultural trail created by Project Starboard to connect the neighborhood's history, identity and future through

See ARCHES Page 14

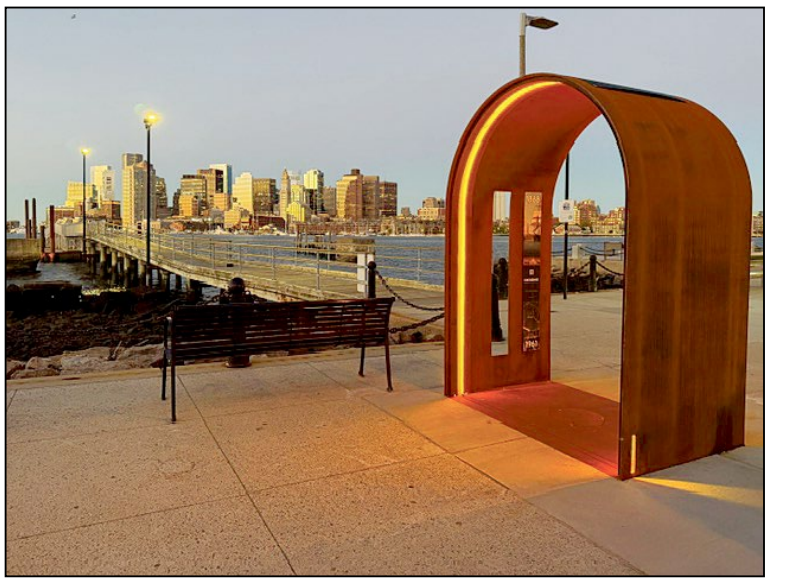


PHOTO COURTESY DAVID LANK / PROJECT STARBOARD

The illuminated Crossing Threshold overlooking Boston Harbor and the downtown skyline.



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East Boston Times-Free Press

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EDITOR: Cary Shuman ***PUBLISHER EMERITUS***: John A. Torrone



Forum

TWO MORE REASONS TO GET A FLU SHOT

'Tis the season for respiratory illnesses -- the flu, COVID, and RSV -- for which vaccinations offer the best line of defense for the vast majority of individuals.

In addition to the protections that vaccines provide for these diseases, studies have shown that there are two other significant benefits from receiving a flu shot.

A recent study has indicated that for older Americans, there is a strong correlation between flu vaccinations and a lower risk of developing Alzheimer's disease and dementia. The study revealed that the high-dose flu shot, which is specifically recommended for those over 65, can reduce the risk of developing those debilitating diseases by up to 40%.

This finding comes on top of studies that have demonstrated the benefits of an annual flu shot for our hearts and cardiovascular system.

We urge our readers to look past the political noise and misinformation surrounding vaccines. The flu, COVID, and RSV account for tens of thousands of deaths and hundreds of thousands of hospitalizations annually in the United States.

Vaccinations not only protect us directly from respiratory illnesses, but they also have additional benefits for our aging bodies. A day or two of muscle soreness is a small price to pay for the life-saving protections that these vaccines will provide.

Your opinions, please

The East Boston Times-Free Press welcomes letters to the editor. Our 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.

East Boston Branch Library News

Library Happenings:

Baby Lapsit, Mondays: 11:15 AM and Tuesdays at 10:30 AM

Join us for bounces, rhymes, stories, songs, and activities. We will have the same program on Monday and Tuesday. We ask that you choose one time to attend. For ages 0-24 months.

All Ages Storytime: Wednesdays at 10:30 am

This weekly story time features books, songs, movement, and a craft. Groups please call ahead.

Little Groove Concert Series: Tuesdays at 4 pm

Enjoy some lively and interactive music for babies, toddlers and preschoolers!

Lego Builders: Wednesdays at 4 pm

Drop in anytime during the hour for free-building with Lego bricks . See what you can create. We will have Mega Blocks available for younger kids.

Boston Teachers Union: Homework Help: Thursdays from 4-6 pm

Visit the library and receive homework assistance from a Boston Public Schools teacher. This is a drop-in program; no registration is required to attend.

ESOL Conversation Group: Thursdays from 7-8 pm

Practice speaking English with other adult learners in an informal and friendly group setting. The group is led every Thursday by a volunteer teacher and will take place in-person. This is a drop-in program. No registration is required.

My Grandma's Legacy/El Legado de mi Abuela: Thursday, October 15th, 6:30-7:30 pm

This is the beginning of the saga, when you will learn how Abuela Angela meets the love of her life, conquers his heart with food, and leaves a legacy to her oldest granddaughter. This is a program for adults.

Space is limited and registration is required. Please call 617-569-0271 or email eastboston@bpl.org to register.

Author Talk: David Kruh: Saturday. October 24th at 2 pm

On August 15, 1945, as Bostonians celebrated the end of World War II, a well-dressed woman asked a teenage boy to watch her newborn baby. She promised to return after performing an errand but never did. Little Mister Victory: A Daughter's Search for the Woman Who Abandoned Her Father on VJ Day is the true story of a lifelong quest, by the baby's daughter, to find the woman who abandoned her fa-

See LIBRARY Page 3

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AT THE ITALIAN HERITAGE PARADE



Boston City Councilor Erin Murphy with Annmarie Lara holding a large Italian flag.

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Department

The City of Boston's Planning Department invites residents to participate in planning that will help shape the future of the City.

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BostonPlans.org | @BostonPlans Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

Library //

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

ther. Join us when author David Kruh visits to speak about this fascinating book.

Author Talk- Anthony Sammarco on The Christmas Tree Shops: Thursday, Oct. 29th at 6 pm

Don't you just love a bargain? Author Anthony Sammarco will delve into the history of the iconic Christmas Tree Shops. Presented by the Pirandello Lyceum.

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THE EAST BOSTON ITALIAN HERITAGE PARADE

PHOTOS BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

The 2026 East Boston Italian Heritage Day Parade marched from Suffolk Downs Station to Maverick Square. The parade celebrated the contributions of the Italian American community in East Boston.



Monica, Robin, and Jo have a comfy spot to watch the parade.



Lydia and Spike have conflicting reviews of the parade.



Parade spectators on Bennington Street outside Day Square.



Jeannie Faiella watches the parade with her family.



Steve Gigs is dressed as Christopher Columbus.



Longtime friends enjoy watching the parade.



BPD Officer Juan Crespo says hello to Diana Duverge's friend Bailey.



Elected officials and dignitaries cut the ceremonial ribbon at Suffolk Downs Station to commence the Parade.



THE EAST BOSTON ITALIAN HERITAGE PARADE

PHOTOS BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN



East Boston High School athletes march in the Parade.



Joshua gets a better view of the parade on the lamppost.



Aleppo Shriners Minuetemen fire a volley in Day Square.



Members of Dance Revolution with Erica dance through Day Square.



Steve D'Amato, The Wicked Snackah, with "The Boston Guido" and DJ Mike Party at Day Square.



The Roma Band.



THE EAST BOSTON ITALIAN HERITAGE PARADE

PHOTO BY PATRICK O'CONNOR



East Boston High School Headmaster Phillip R. Brangiforte and his wife leading off the parade approaching Maverick Square.





Having fun at the parade in Shriners' mini vehicles.



EBHS students marching in the parade.



Candidate for Governor Mike Minogue.

SEND US YOUR NEWS

The Times encourages residents to submit engagement, wedding and birth announcements, news releases, business and education briefs, sports stories and photos for publication. Items should be forwarded to our offices at 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151. We also encourage readers to e-mail news releases and photos to deb@reverejournal.com

THE EAST BOSTON ITALIAN HERITAGE PARADE

PHOTO BY PATRICK O'CONNOR



East Boston Army JROTC marching in the parade.



East Boston Army JROTC marching in the parade.



EBHS students marching in the parade.



EBHS students marching in the parade.

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THE EAST BOSTON ITALIAN HERITAGE PARADE

PHOTOS BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN



Tasha Cannata-Naso, Sheri Murray, and Joni DiNush.



Brennan and Delaney Marson



Ed and Lacey Jones.



Parade Grand Marshal Phil Brangiforte and his wife, Carrie.



Thistle And Shamrock played bagpipes for the parade.



Eleanor Capagna and Nancy O'Brien.



Boston Mayor Michelle Wu with her daughter, Mira, Massachusetts State Rep. Adrian Madaro with his son, Matteo, State Senator Lydia Edwards, City Councilors Erin Murphy and Gabriela Coletta Zapata with her husband, Sebastian, and their son, Joaquin, and Massachusetts State Rep. Jeff Turco.



2026 Miss Italia Victoria Fabbo rides with Joe Moccia in his 2002 Ford Thunderbird.



Isabella Scapicchio with Jonathan, Charlotte, and James Ciampa.



Mia Aguirre greets General Rich Reale of the National Lancers and his horse.

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Paid for by the Madaro Committee

THE EAST BOSTON ITALIAN HERITAGE PARADE

PHOTOS BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN



East Boston High JR ROTC Air Force Cadets.



Joel DeLeon and Nicolette Brangiforte ride on the Grand Marshal's float.



Honorary Grand Marshal George Gambale, his brother, Alfonse, and daughter, Marilyn, with friends Marylou and Kenny McDonough all Jefferies Point originals.



Boston City Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata with her husband, Sebastian, are greeted by East Boston residents eager to see their son, Joaquin.



Colonel Mike Fink (center) with Michael McConnell and Carl Olsen.



Parade spectators line Bennington Street at Orient Heights.



RAKE IN THE GOOD TIMES!

Prospect House Assisted Living and Memory Care residents enjoy enriching daily life in a supportive and vibrant community! Select affordable 1BR & Studio apartment homes financed under the federal Low Income Housing Tax Credit program are available now.

Residents who qualify pay a reduced monthly rental rate on housing: monthly rent for a studio is $1800 and for a one-bedroom is $1929. Meals, personal care, services, and activities are optional at additional cost.*

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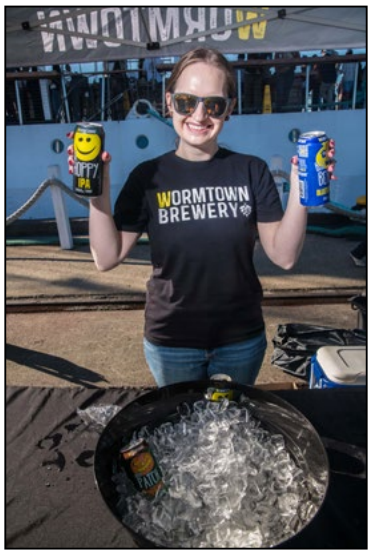
SAM ADAMS HOLDS OCTOBERFEST AT THE TALL SHIP

PHOTOS BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

Sam Adams held an Octoberfest at The Tall Ship. They and other breweries offered tastings of their beverages as guests enjoyed music, food, activities, and early Fall fun.



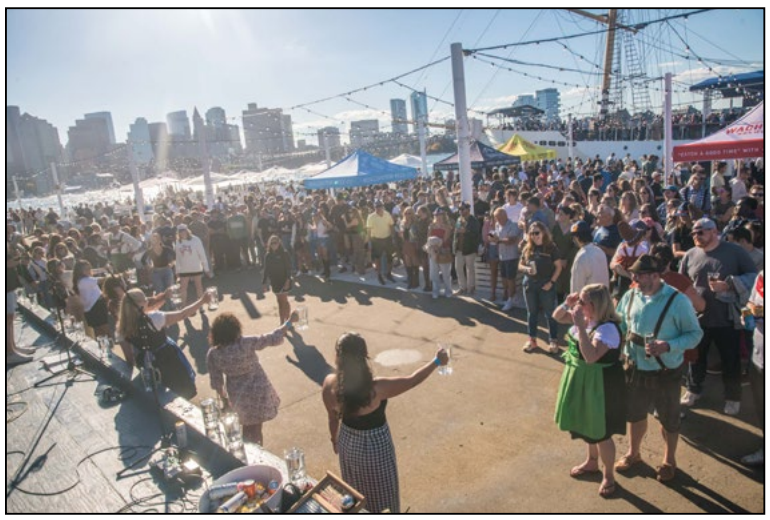
Men in lederhosen are judged by audience applause for the fashion contest.



Ellen with Wormtown Brewery from Worcester.



Ladies at Octoberfest participate in the Stein Hoisting contest to see who could hold theirs the longest.



The grounds at The Tall Ship were filled with Octoberfest revelry.



Paul Gately with Atlantic Beverage and Rob Deters from TruNorth.



Abby and Sofia enjoy some White Claw beverages.



Men at Octoberfest partake in the Stein Hoisting contest.



Matthew and Catherine load up on Octoberfest cuisine.



Jason McGorty on accordion for Kier Byrnes & The Kettle Burners.

SAM ADAMS HOLDS OCTOBERFEST AT THE TALL SHIP

PHOTOS BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN



Joe Refermat and Grace Bauer look good in their alpine hats.



Band Kier Byrnes & The Kettle Burners performed Octoberfest music.



Jeremy Cameron and Julia Max represented Larson's Liquors from Vermont.



Hope Larson won the Stein Hoisting contest and celebrated with her friends.



It was a perfect early Fall day for the Octoberfest.



Daphne Yee-Deconty and Satya Sethi-White with Ankit Sethi partake in the lederhosen fashion contest.



Men at Octoberfest partake in the Stein Hoisting contest.



Kelsey Assad, Owen Guilbeault, and Bridget Mitchell at the Cisco Brewers table.



Diva represents Sunboy spiked coconut water.

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EAST BOSTON GIRLS IN VOLLEYBALL ACTION AGAINST NEW MISSION

The Jets came up on the short end of a 3-0 score, losing to New Mission in Boston City League volleyball action on Thursday, October 1 at East Boston High School.

BOB MARRA PHOTOS



Valeria Usuga Varela (12) stretches to make a block at the net.



Jalysse Urbaez hits a return as teammates Valeria Usuga Varela (12) and Emily Garcia Ortiz (6) look on.



Jordyn Copeland dives to keep a ball alive as teammate Valeria Usuga Varela moves in to help.



Mayana Dutra Kerr reaches to make a fingertip return.

EAST BOSTON GIRLS IN VOLLEYBALL ACTION AGAINST NEW MISSION

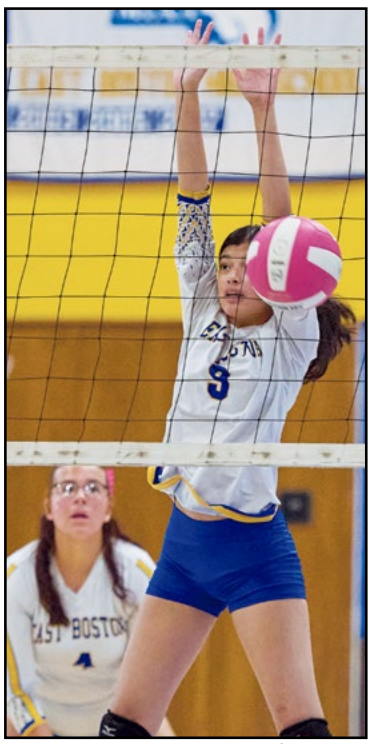
BOB MARRA PHOTOS



Emily Garcia Ortiz makes a return volley.



Salome Garzon Sanchez leaps above the crowd as she returns a shot at the net.



Karen Cruz Rodriguez defends the net.



Jordynn Copeland is in control at the net.



Ashley Soto dives to the floor to keep a ball in play.

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Arches // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

public art, multilingual storytelling and shared experiences.

The new East Boston nonprofit will introduce the trail and its broader vision at ONWARD!, its first annual celebration, on Saturday, October 24, from 5 to 8 p.m. at The Tall Ship in East Boston. Massport CEO Rich Davey will attend.

The trail begins with the Threshold Series: five sculptural exhibits exploring arrival, crossing, making, adaptation and neighbors. The installations, which include walk-through steel arches, are being installed in phases at the Golden Stairs, Lewis Mall, Border Street, Central Square and the Mary Ellen Welch Greenway.

"We are building a civic institution out of the neighborhood itself," said David Lank, founder of Project Starboard. "East Boston's stories belong to everyone. The Golden Thread makes those stories part of everyday life and invites people to weave what comes next."

Each Threshold pairs a physical landmark with multilingual digital storytelling accessed through QR codes. At the Golden Stairs, the Arrival Threshold explores immigration and East Boston's role as a gateway for newcomers. At Central Square, the Adaptation Threshold connects the neighborhood's changing shoreline with questions of coastal resilience.

"We designed the Thresholds to be restrained in form, yet rich in light and texture," said Tim Zeitler, an architect at Zephyr Architects and an East Boston resident. "The portals center people squarely in the present moment while anchoring key moments across East Boston's living timeline."

The Golden Thread is Starboard's first major undertaking, with additional installations, walking tours and cultural programming to be developed with community partners.

"I was glad to support the Golden Thread through an earmark in this year's state budget. Just months later, this project is already paying off, building neighborhood pride tracing the arc of our community's history," said State Representative Adrian Madaro. "I'm excited to see more efforts to celebrate East Boston and the legacy of the successive communities that built our neighborhood and our nation."

ONWARD! will recognize the Massachusetts Port Authority, the City of Boston and East Boston Community Development Corporation as site hosts helping bring the first five Thresholds to life.

"Massport strives to be a good neighbor and strong partner to the East Boston community," said Rich Davey, Massport CEO. "We're proud to be a part of The Golden Thread and to help tell the stories of the people, history and culture that makes this neighborhood so special."

Project partners include Meridian Insights, Zephyr Architects and Empire Builders, working alongside academics, engineers, artists and community organizations.

"As a fourth-generation East Bostonian, I care deeply about our history, the stories that shaped this neighborhood and the people shaping it now," said Jay Ruggiero of Meridian Insights, Project Starboard's public affairs partner. "I want The Golden Thread to reflect that, with room for longstanding roots, new arrivals and a future we build together." Ruggiero previously helped lead planning and rezoning for PLAN: East Boston and PLAN: Charlestown at the Boston Planning Department, formerly the BPDA.

Starboard's longer-term aspirations include a harbor museum and innovation center bringing together port heritage, coastal resilience research and public learning in East Boston. The Golden Thread is the first public step toward that vision.

The October 24 celebration will include optional guided Golden Thread previews led by The Boston History Company during the opening hour, followed by a waterfront gathering and recognition program. Tickets are $75.

Starboard is seeking founding sponsors and long-term philanthropic partners to help create and steward major Golden Thread sites and expand public programming. Tickets, sponsorship information and ways to get involved are available at starboard.boston. Explore The Golden Thread at thread.boston.

Project Starboard is the public brand name of Starboard Institute, Inc., a 501(c)(3) nonprofit based in East Boston. Through public installations, connected trails and shared experiences, it makes the neighborhood's past, present and future visible and strengthens connections between people, place and Boston Harbor.

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Docket No.SU26P1961GD
In the matter of:Jose Baez
Of: Boston, MA
RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitated Person

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Department of Mental Health of Westborough, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Jose Baez is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Alicia Baez of Lynn, MA (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 disabled, that a protective order or appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court. 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 A.M. on the return date of 10/29/2026. 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: October 5, 2026
Stephanie L. Everett, Esq.
Register of Probate
10/14/26
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THE INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER GROUP

Fresh and Local

Takeout orders that work

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

Many of the foods we love at our favorite restaurants when we dine there, we'd never order for takeout. In some cases, we have two menus in mind: items we always order in person and items we order to go. For example, at our favorite pub, we enjoy fish and chips in person but pick up their shepherd's pie or chicken pie for takeout. Their great chef delivers a perfectly fried, non-greasy, crispy order of any fried food every time. We also know from experience that certain menu items, like the pies, reheat well.

Best for Takeout

As we reviewed a list of the most popular takeout foods, some were obvious, and others made us question if the person ordering was oblivious to food quality. We understand why pizza tops the list. We've all learned how to reheat pizza in a toaster oven or air fryer, and some of us even eat it cold for breakfast.

We love picking up a pizza to take home, and we often order more than we plan to eat when dining at our favorite places. What's more, we love several pizza styles and try to give various places all a bit of our business.

Asian cuisines also offer many options for stewed, stir-fried, or braised dishes that reheat well. We opt for Mexican plates vs. tacos but understand that others will include those plus burritos and quesadillas.

We love Indian food and have a wonderful restaurant nearby where we can pick up many favorite meals. Salonki, the Boston chain, has some tasty takeout options.

Finally, we add many soups, salads, and sandwiches to our takeout list. We always order dressing on the side for salads and tend to choose the ones that are meals rather than sides.

Not For Takeout

The first category on this list is fried foods. While there are exceptions (we're talking about you, Korean Fried chicken wings), most fried foods suffer from the restaurant kitchen to your plate at home unless you live within a quick walk and pick it up yourself.

We don't understand the popularity of burgers and fries for takeout unless you are going to pick it up and eat it on your way home. If it's a fast-food burger and fries, it might be okay by you. If it's a quality burger, we feel it's best eaten within sight of the chef.

Delicate food, like many seafood dishes, is better enjoyed straight from the kitchen. While some pasta dishes, especially casseroles like lasagna, work, others will go from al dente to soggy.



Chinese food might be the first cuisine you think of for takeout. It's a good bet, but you have many other choices.

Guidelines

As you review a menu, think about what that food will look like after 45 minutes. Now think about the items you've ordered in the past and enjoyed not only as today's meal but also as leftovers. To save time in our week, we often order enough items to last a couple of days.

Be specific with your order. If you like spice, order the three-hot-pepper option. If you don't, or the restaurant is new to you, order mild and ask for some hot sauce or peppers on the side. If you don't like some of the sides or additions, ask for them to be left out.

Finally, when a restaurant tells us our food will be ready in 25 minutes, we show up early. You improve the quality of your order if you wait for the food instead of the food waiting for you.

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



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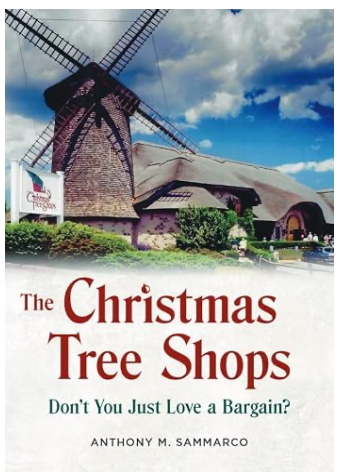
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Pirandello Lyceum to Host Author Anthony M. Sammarco for an Evening Celebrating "The Christmas Tree Shops"

The Pirandello Lyceum will present an evening with acclaimed author Anthony M. Sammarco on Thursday, October 29, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at the East Boston Branch Library. Sammarco will discuss his book, *"The Christmas Tree Shops,"* which chronicles the history and enduring appeal of the beloved New England retailer.



The Christmas Tree Shops was more than a retail icon—it was a destination. Its stores offered a wide assortment of seasonal decorations, home décor, housewares, food, giftware, and unexpected finds that kept bargain hunters returning.

Founded in 1970 in Yarmouth Port, Massachusetts, the store was "like walking into a closet full of surprise treasures." Customers never knew what they might discover, and word-of-mouth enthusiasm helped make the shops a distinctive Cape Cod attraction and a cherished part of New England shopping culture.

During the program, Sammarco will share the story behind the company and reflect on why generations of shoppers found it difficult to resist its bargains and one-of-a-kind assortment.

Event Details

Date and time: Thursday, October 29, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

Location: East Boston Branch Library, 365 Bremen Street, East Boston, Massachusetts