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ROSLINDALE NEIGHBORS SPECIAL SECTION — PAGES 18 – 21

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# Jamaica Plain GAZETTE



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MAY 9, 2025

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## JPNC reiterates call for signage at Jamaica Pond for pedestrian safety

By GAZETTE STAFF

The Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Council (JPNC) once again took up the matter of pedestrian safety at Jamaica Pond, with members reiterating that the city and DCR need to improve signage to make it clear to bicyclists that they are not permitted on the pedestrian pathways.

The discussion took place during the presentation of the monthly report of the JPNC's Parks+ Committee at the JPNC's meeting on April 22. On hand for the session were chair Renee

Stacey Welch and fellow members Michael Reiskind, Bernie Doherty, Sarah Freeman, Caliga, Peter DeCotis, Purple Reign, Lorenzo Bartoloni, Nick Chaves, Willie Mitchell, Esther Beillard, Danielle Somer-Kieta, Gert Thorn, and David Baron.

Also in attendance were Caroline Peters, the liaison to Jamaica Plain from Mayor Wu's office, and Melissa Beltran, the Director of Constituent Services for District 6 Councilor Ben Weber.

*Continued on Page 2*

## Local theater group helps local businesses

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

What's with the posters on Centre Street?

They're hard to miss. Five by three-foot fashion photos featuring apparel from Jamaica Plain retailers as modeled by the Footlight Club's "The Prom" cast, marking a unique collaboration between J.P. businesses and America's Oldest Community Theatre.

The idea began back in the fall of 2024.

Jim Ansart, long time J.P. resident and Footlight Club friend for over 40 years had just agreed to produce the theatre's production of the musical "The Prom."

For those who might not know, "The Prom" is about Emma, a high school girl from rural Indiana who is banned from at-

tending her senior prom because she wants to take another girl as her date. When a couple of popularity challenged Broadway performers descend upon Emma's town to take her on as their personal cause, mayhem ensues.

As producer, Ansart would handle recruiting a crew, managing the budget and helping to ensure the show's financial success.

"I was walking down Centre St. thinking about costumes. I was imagining which of the characters might shop in what stores. It then occurred to me that if we could have cast members "in character" modeling clothing and accessories from these stores, we could publicize our show and support the J.P. retail communi-

*Continued on page 5*

Shown clockwise from top: The Moon Stage at Stoney Brook Station, had partner/liason of Ballet Rocks Lisa Kelleher leading some young dancers. Wake Up The Earth, sponsored in part by City Feed Supply, has always drawn many attendees to JP to celebrate and remember the needs of the Earth. Ellie and Jake try their hands at some daughter-father percussion together. A miniature golf course offered some fresh air fun for visitors to Wake Up The Earth. See more photos Pages 11 through 13.

# Call for applications: 2025–26 Writer-in-Residence at Boston Public Library

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

The Associates of the Boston Public Library is posting a call for applications for our 2025–26 Writer-in-Residence program. Now in its twenty-first year, the year-long residency provides an

emerging writer with the financial support, editorial assistance, and office space in the Boston Public Library to complete one literary work for children or young adults. The program stipend has been increased from \$50,000 (formerly

\$23,000) to \$70,000 thanks to the generosity of an anonymous investor dedicated to writers having a living wage.

In addition to the stipend, the winner will receive additional funds for editorial assistance or coaching, and an office in the

Boston Public Library's Central Branch from October 2025 to September 2026. Projects eligible for this program include fiction, non-fiction, a script, poetry works, or graphic novels intended for children or young adults. The program guidelines

and application form are available at

<https://associatesofthebostonpubliclibrary.submittable.com/submit>. Submissions are due by June 6, 2025, at 11:59 PM. The

*Continued on page 3*

## Signage

*Continued from page 1*

Nick Chaves, the Parks+ Committee's co-chair, presented his committee's report in which he informed the council members that markings on the pathways at Jamaica Pond have been re-stenciled, though he conceded that the signage is not clear enough for cyclists to inform them of where they should go. "I brought a few friends from out of town to the pond and they could not figure out the signage," said Chaves.

However, he said that signage around the pond is subject to approval by the city's Landmarks Commission. "There are a few more approvals needed before more work can get done," said Chaves.

However, Thorn, who has been the most vocal among the JPNC members in calling for

better signage that demarcates the pathways for pedestrians and bicycles in the aftermath of a friend being seriously injured by a bicyclist, said that the supposed restrictions about signage are a "myth."

"When the city wants to put up a sign, they put up any sign they want," Thorn said.

One issue that Chaves pointed out is that the demarcation between the paths for pedestrians and bicyclists is clearer on the Boston side of the pond, but for those entering from Brookline at Perkins St., the pathways are not as distinct and obvious.

Thorn noted that Perkins St. is a state road, so the process for placing additional signage should be less restrictive.

"Jamaica Pond is used by so many different people, especially the elderly," said Doherty, "and I don't want to see them forced out of the pond because of fear. There also are a lot of moms with strollers. This should be

an area that is reserved for the elderly and we need to point out to people that bikes need to be kept off the pedestrian paths. The number one issue is safety, safety, safety."

"The issue very simply is to make people stop, which a barrier would do, and make them think about where they should be going," added Thorn.

"The biggest problem stems from the entrance at Perkins," said Peters. "We really need to focus on that entrance. This has been ongoing for a year and I promise that we'll work to get progress on this."

Purple Reign gave the update for the Housing and Development Committee. She noted that the committee heard from the developers of the project at 3458 Washington St. who are seeking to construct a five-story, residential building of 36-units, with a mix of studios, 1, 2 and 3-bedroom apartments, of which eight would be affordable, with one commercial space on the first floor. There will be seven parking spaces, 36 long-term bicycle parking spots, and a place for a shared electric vehicle.

She said that questions were raised by committee members and others in attendance about the impact on the community, the height of the building, and the need for more family housing.

Reign said the committee also discussed the impacts of the renovations on the residents of the Doris Bunte Apartments in Eggleston Square.

Somer-Kieta informed the members that city officials, including Reuben Kantor, a Senior Policy Advisor in the city's Planning Department, will be meeting with the Housing & Development Committee and the Zoning Committee on May 20 at 7:00 to discuss the impacts of the eight year-old JP/ROX program and to what extent it has been achieving the goals that had been set out when it was established.

According to the city's web site, "The JP/ROX document provides recommendations and

strategies around affordable housing, jobs and businesses, guidelines for urban design, and suggestions for improvements to transportation, connections, open space, sustainability, and the public realm."

In other committee reports, Reiskind presented the report of the Outreach Committee. He reminded the members that the JPNC's biennial election is set for June 21. He noted that the election packet for prospective candidates is now available online and that nomination papers with the required signatures have to be submitted by May 17.

Reiskind also noted that volunteers are needed for the election to serve as ombudspersons and as poll workers.

Reiskind said that the committee held a discussion about the feasibility of organizing quarterly meetings of all JP community groups to "break down silos of different groups working separately when they could work together."

Reiskind also presented the report of the Public Service Committee. He said that the committee recommended approval of a request for an all-alcohol beverages license for A & G Liquor Store at 170 South St. with a closing hour of 9:00.

Reiskind noted that A&G initially had requested a closing hour of 11:00, but agreed to a 9:00 closing at the request of committee members.

Doherty pointed out that there are other liquor stores in the immediate vicinity. "How many is too many in one area?" Doherty asked. "There already are enough liquor stores and bars in this area and I'm opposed to this."

Mitchell pointed out however, that the owners were "very accommodating" to the requests from the public, as evidenced by their willingness to shorten their closing hours and their pledge not to sell nips.

"I thought they gave a very good presentation," said Purple Reign, who also voiced her approval for the owners' business

model for an on-line delivery service.

Caliga suggested that while she would prefer to see a different kind of business in that location, the environment for a bricks-and-mortar business is very difficult, as evidenced by how long that storefront had been vacant.

"These two young people (who are the owners) were very impressive," added Thorn.

The members voted 12-2 to give a favorable recommendation to the application. The owners now must go before the city's Licensing Commission to obtain their license.

Reiskind said the Public Service Committee voted to send a letter to the city's Transportation Dept. (BTD) asking for a meeting to discuss speed humps and other transportation issues at Robinwood Ave. and Asticou Rd.

"The traffic is unbelievable on those streets," said Doherty. "Asticou Rd. is a cut-through for commuters who speed along that street where there are very young children. We have traffic issues on our streets and nothing is being done about it."

"Robinwood is a very narrow street with no sidewalks," added Thorn, "and people routinely drive the wrong way and park illegally."

The JPNC unanimously approved sending the letter to the BTD.

Caroline Peters, the liaison to JP from the mayor's office, spoke about the issue of speed humps, noting that speed humps are among the most-requested items by citizens and neighborhood groups throughout the city. She also noted that Robinwood Ave. and adjacent streets already are scheduled for the installation of speed humps.

Resikind concluded his report by noting that the Public Service Comm. has sent a list to the city's DPW of streets and sidewalks in the JP business district that are in need of restriping and other improvements.

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# Wu announces applications open for 2025-2026 Spark Boston Council

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

Mayor Michelle Wu announced that applications for the 2025-2026 SPARK Boston Council are now open. SPARK Boston is a volunteer leadership and civic engagement council for Boston residents ages 20 to 35. This council is responsible for leading the City's initiatives aimed at engaging Boston's young adults. Applications are due by June 30, 2025.

"The SPARK Boston Council is vital to our ability to understand the needs of Boston's young adult community," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "I am excited to announce that applications for the 2025-2026 council are now open and I encourage our emerging civic leaders to apply to see the impact of their voices heard in the community."

Under the direction of the SPARK Boston Director Aidan McDonough, the 2025-2026 Council will create programming and advise Boston's leaders to help the city grow as an inviting, connected, culturally rich, and sustainable home for everyone. Throughout the SPARK Boston Council term, participants

hear from key members of the Mayor's administration, leaders within City Hall, and community organizations about topics like climate resilience, education, housing, nightlife, and civic innovation.

"After what has been a fun and exciting year of programming to engage Boston's 20-35 year old residents, it only creates further momentum to recruit a collaborative and motivated SPARK Council for our 2025-2026 cohort," said SPARK Boston Director Aidan McDonough. "SPARK Boston creates space for young civic leaders to become better engaged at the local level and feel able to advocate for what they hope to see out of our city. SPARK Boston is also an opportunity to build a network and foster connections with young civic leaders across Boston."

Past council members have come from diverse cultural and professional backgrounds including public service, media, higher education, and scientific research. The SPARK Council meets on the first Monday of each month. Council members are encouraged to attend one community meeting and one SPARK

event or subcommittee meeting a month. Applicants must live in Boston, and be willing to commit 15 hours monthly to the SPARK Boston program. SPARK Boston and its previous iteration ONEin3 have now been serving young adults and the City of Boston for over 18 years.

"Every year, our SPARK Boston Council gets stronger thanks to the amazing involvement of community leaders in Boston. Whether it's volunteering at our annual Civic Summit or discussing ways to improve personal credit, SPARK is all about making our neighborhoods better places to live," said Chief of Community Engagement Brianna Millor. "This year, we want council members from every corner of our city to join us! If you're a young adult looking to make a positive impact in your community, we'd love for you to apply to be a part of the 2025-2026 SPARK Boston Council!"

The 2025-2026 SPARK Council will be continuing their work through the end of their term in August, and have already taken

*Continued on Page 5*

## ARCHBISHOP HENNING VISITS ST. THOMAS AQUINAS



PATRICK OCONNOR PHOTOS

Archbishop Henning made his first visit to St. Thomas Aquinas Church on Sunday, May 4, celebrating the 10 a.m. Mass and welcoming four new students who will prepare for the priesthood at Redemptorist Mater Seminary in Brookline.



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### Writer

*Continued from page 2*

winner will be selected via a blind judging process. To learn more about the program visit [www.writer-in-residence.org](http://www.writer-in-residence.org).

The Associates' Writer-in-Residence program has made a profound difference in the lives of emerging authors, helping to launch the careers of a number of acclaimed children's and young adult writers. To date, alumni have published or have forthcoming more than eighty

books.

"Not only did I apply to the Writer-in-Residence program with the opening pages of this novel, it was because of this prestigious residency that I garnered the attention of my literary agent, completed a draft of the novel, and sold it as part of a two-book deal! I feel so grateful for the support I received from the Associates of the Boston Public Library," said 2023-24 recipient Rhonda DeChambeau, whose novel, written during her residency, is set to be published on June 10, 2025.

The Associates is an inde-

pendent non-profit that raises funds to preserve, digitize, and promote the Boston Public Library's Special Collections and its historic, literary, and artistic treasures. Since its inception in 1972, the Associates has been the driving force and sponsor behind many programs, including the Pierce Performance Series, the Hundred-Year Book Debate, and Literary Lights. For more information, please visit [www.AssociatesBPL.org](http://www.AssociatesBPL.org) or connect with us on Instagram, Bluesky, Facebook, LinkedIn, and YouTube.

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5	1	600-610	\$1,551	\$46,530	50%	-	-
8	2	840-902	\$1,861	\$55,830	50%	-	1
2	3	1117-1120	\$2,150	\$64,500	50%	1	-
7	0	435-440	\$1,737	\$52,110	60%	2	-
9	1	600-610	\$1,861	\$55,830	60%	1	-
33	2	840-902	\$2,233	\$66,990	60%	3	1
3	3	1117-1120	\$2,580	\$77,400	60%	1	-
6	0	435	\$1,950	\$58,500	80%	-	-
8	1	610	\$2,250	\$67,500	80%	-	-
9	2	902	\$2,699	\$80,970	80%	-	-
1	3	1117	\$3,225	\$96,750	80%	-	-
15	0	440	\$2,210	\$66,300	100%	-	1
10	1	600	\$2,420	\$72,600	100%	-	-
5	2	840	\$2,922	\$87,660	100%	1	-

\*Minimum Incomes are set by owner + based on # of bedrooms + Area Median Income (AMI). Minimum incomes do not apply to households with housing assistance (Section 8, MRVP, VASH, AHVP) or for the units in this development that include a project-based voucher.

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Household size	50% AMI	60% AMI	80% AMI	100% AMI
1	\$57,900	\$69,480	\$91,400	\$104,250
2	\$66,200	\$79,440	\$104,500	\$119,150
3	\$74,450	\$89,340	\$117,500	\$134,050
4	\$82,700	\$99,240	\$130,600	\$148,900
5	\$89,350	\$107,220	\$141,050	\$160,850
6	\$95,950	\$115,140	\$151,550	\$172,750

**Applications are available during the application period for 60 days, from April 29, 2025 - June 29, 2025**

To fill out an application online, please visit <https://bit.ly/BOSHousingLottery> and select **“RENTAL: 2 and 6 Lamartine”**

To download a multilingual printable application please visit <https://bit.ly/LamartinePDFApps>

To have a hard copy of the application mailed to your mailing address, please call **857-241-2363 TTY: 711** or email [lamartine@tcbin.org](mailto:lamartine@tcbin.org).

**Applications are available in person on the following days, dates, and times in the following place(s)**

Day	Date	Time	Location
Monday - Friday (non-holidays) DATES/LOCATION (LOCATION MUST BE ACCESSIBLE)			
Wednesday	May 7, 2025	3PM - 7PM	Amory Street Apartments, 125 Amory St. Boston, MA 02119



## Prom

*Continued from page 1*

ty,” said Ansart

Ansart then sent an email to Matthew McKee Photography. Matt McKee has been the Footlight Club’s resident photographer for years, in addition to operating his own Corporate Photography Business. Matt was intrigued. “Jim came up with this awesome idea to partner up with the local business community for some cross promotion for the show,” said Matthew McKee.

“That really resonated with me since the idea of prom, the event, is one of those coming of age, mythic milestones in American culture. I wanted to make sure that they really popped. We kept the color scheme from the show’s branding and worked with the actors to bring the show’s excitement and energy to the images,” said McKee.

The stores, as well as the cast, were quickly on board to be part of the shoot.

Dee Dee, one of our Broadway Stars went to Susanna. Emma and the other high school girls chose their outfits at On Centre.

Brittany went to Goodwill. Trent and Angie’s costumes came from there as well. George’s Shoes provided footwear, hats were from Salmagundi and corsages came from Sweet Pea and Sage. Even American Dry Cleaning into one of the photos!

Businesses that didn’t contribute to the photos were happy to display the results. Before long, big beautiful “Prom” posters were popping up in store windows everywhere, a testament to our generous and fun-loving community. Everybody is going to “The Prom,” are you?

“The Prom” runs at The Footlight Club, 7A Eliot St. through May 17. [www.footlight.org](http://www.footlight.org).



IMAGES BY MATTHEW MCKEE PHOTOGRAPHY

Shown are some of the posters that are on Centre Street.

## Spark Boston

*Continued from page 3*

part in several opportunities including attending Mayor Wu’s State of the City, volunteering during the Mayor’s Office of Civic Organizing’s Civic Summit, and organizing thousands of toys for Toys for Tots. The 2024-2025 council has continued legacy and signature programming such as: Neighborhood Socials, which are events designed to bring City staff and local leaders into spaces young people already patronize; cultural mixers; and Chief Chats, fireside discussions with cabinet leadership.

“SPARK Boston has encouraged me to embrace new experiences. As a council member, I have participated in various engagements, from assisting Bostonians with mailing their voter registration forms to collaborating with the community to host a panel discussion on period poverty and menstrual innovation,” said Sayyida Jean-Charles, current SPARK Boston Council Member. “If you are looking to get more involved in Boston, it doesn’t matter whether you are new to the city or were born and raised here, because as a council member, you will become more civically engaged, expand your

network, and most importantly, connect with community members, advocates, and leaders. All you have to do is submit your application!”

“Membership on the SPARK Council is a phenomenal experience for Boston’s young citizens who want to better connect with and help support the City and the neighborhoods they love. In my own experience, SPARK provided me with an in-depth look at how the City is running smoothly day-to-day, month-to-month, and year-to-year, and highlighted the multitude of opportunities for civic engagement with every facet of City governance,” said John Ferraro, current SPARK Boston Council Member. “Because of my time on SPARK, I’ve been able to develop a better sense of how to identify key quality-of-life issues in my neighborhood, build coalitions to address them, and encourage others to do the same. What I’ll treasure most of all, however, are the instantaneous friendships made with other members of the SPARK Council; it was an absolute privilege to be able to a part of a community of people who have so much love for the City of Boston and are dedicated with every fiber of their being to ensuring that Boston lives up to its mission as a City for everyone.”

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# HALF HALF HALF HALF HALF MARATHON FUNDRAISER AT JAMAICA POND



PHOTOS BY SYDNEY CIARD

826 Boston held its ninth Half Half Half Half Marathon fundraiser at Jamaica Pond on Thursday, April 17, 2025. The race is 0.826 miles long—Boston's "greatest shortest race"—and raises awareness and funds for the free writing, tutoring, and publishing programs that the organization offers to more than 3,000 Boston students each school year. 826 Boston's tutoring center is in Egleston Square and has six Writers' Rooms in Boston Public Schools in Jamaica Plain, Roxbury, Dorchester, and Hyde Park.



Starting at the Jamaica Pond boathouse, the mini-marathon goes up to the sugar bowl, and returns to the boathouse. This year, more than 160 runners took part, including State Representative Sam Montañó (who was the marathon's Grand Marshall) and City Councilor Benjamin Weber.



The fundraiser raised more than \$29,000 to date, helping just in time as 826 Boston announced that they were withdrawing an application for a federal grant. Donations are accepted for the marathon at [826boston.org](http://826boston.org).



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## CENTRE SOUTH MAIN STREETS SECOND ANNUAL PUB CRAWL



Jenn Batore, wife of Drawdown Brewing owner Liz Nicol, greets Pub Crawl visitors. Drawdown Brewing is a women owned and operated sports bar that brews its own beer. They've been supportive of the LGBTQ community as well as a neighborhood hub for all.



Allison Rogers and Maggie Belfi watch some sports while enjoying the beer brewed on-site at Drawdown Brewing.

PHOTOS BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

Centre South Main Streets held its 2nd annual Pub Crawl offering participants a fun way to explore some of the unique establishments offering food and drink in JP and beyond. The

tour began at Jeanie Johnston on South Street, continued to Drawdown Brewing in Egleston Square, then to Midnight Morning in Roslindale Village, where pub crawlers would board another bus bringing them to Antonio's Bacari in Hyde Park.



Aria Chalfin, Kate Blankinship, Stefania Culma, and Maria Fernanda Rojas help keep Midnight Morning the happening destination to visit in Roslindale Village.



Pub Crawl participants get off in Roslindale Village to visit Midnight Morning or go on the other bus to Hyde Park.



Beth Czerny and Ben Clarendon enjoy some of the unique beers at Drawdown Brewing.



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### Virtual Public Meeting

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**19**

6:00 PM  
-  
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Meeting ID: 160 389 5360



**DESCRIPTION:** This is a Public Meeting for the proposed 3430+3440 Washington Street project located in the Jamaica Plain neighborhood of Boston. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss updates to the project. The meeting will include a presentation followed by questions and comments from the public.

La información de esta reunión es fundamental para usted como residente de Boston y parte interesada. Dispone de servicios de idiomas de forma gratuita. Si los requiere, comuníquese con ([ebony.darosa@boston.gov](mailto:ebony.darosa@boston.gov)) antes de la siguiente fecha: 5/12/2025

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Denise and Kelsea Kolbet with Michelle VanderWoude.



Enjoying a front window nook at Midnight Morning are Jane and Steve Craycroft with Alex and Chucky England.

# CENTRE SOUTH MAIN STREETS SECOND ANNUAL PUB CRAWL



Juliana, Javier, Gloria, Maria, Keith, Ash, and Penny enjoy their time visiting Drawdown Brewing.



Drawdown Brewing bartender Ali Smith offers a sample size of one of their beers.



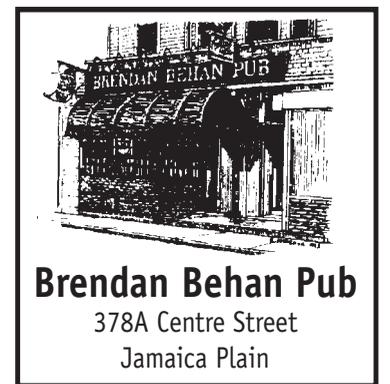
Emily and Bella are Jeanie Johnston regulars.



Pub Crawl participants order drinks at Midnight Morning.



The Pub Crawl bus was filled with people eager to explore some of the pubs in Jamaica Plain and beyond.



**Brendan Behan Pub**  
378A Centre Street  
Jamaica Plain

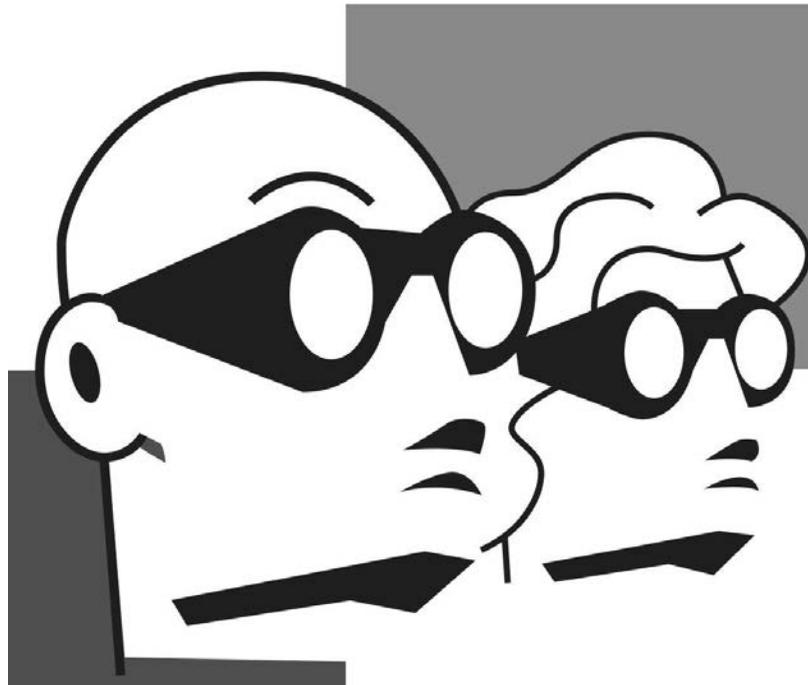


Pub Crawl participants step inside Jeanie Johnston on South Street.



Vipul, Adithya, and Ritz are ready to get their Pub Crawl underway at Jeanie Johnston.

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## REGAN LEAGUE OPENING DAY AT MOUNT PLEASANT HOME



It's a tradition for the Regan League Opening Day parade to stop at the Bynner St. corner and sing to the residents. Shown above are Timmy Regan and Pete Regan. The league is named after their father.

# WHERE TO FIND THE GAZETTE?

**Post Office**  
Centre St

**JP Licks**  
659 Centre St

**On Centre**  
676 Centre St

**JP Realty**  
7 Harris St

**Cooperative Bank**  
Washington St

**JP Seafood**  
730 Centre St

**The Real Deal**  
732 Centre St

**Gibson/Sotheby's Realty**  
713 Centre St

**Happy Market**  
128 South St

**Tikki Masala**  
3706 Washington St

**Blanchards**  
741 Centre St

**Dunkin'**  
755 Centre St

**Bank of America**  
677 Centre St

**Eastern Bank**  
687 Centre St

**CVS**  
704 Centre St

**Ace Hardware**  
656 Centre St

**Citizens Bank**  
696 Centre St

**True Value**  
698 Centre St

**City Feed and Supply**  
672 Centre St

**East Boston Bank**  
687 Centre St

**CVS**  
407 Centre St

**Whole Food**  
Centre St

**MSPCA**  
350 S Huntington St

**Stop & Shop**  
301 Centre St

**Bank Of America**  
677 Centre St

**Dunkin'**  
Centre St

**Latino Restaurant**  
304 Centre St

**Freddy Market**  
302 Centre St

**Kappy's Pizza**  
304 Centre St

**Square Market**  
331 Centre St

**Rizzo's Pizza**  
347 Centre St

**Martial Academy**  
363 Centre St

**Tropical Market**  
371 Centre St

**CVS**  
Centre St

**Laundromat**  
270 Centre St

**Camillo Liquor**  
280 Centre St

**Check Cash**  
282 Centre St

**JP Laundry Center**  
410 Centre St

**Zesto's Pizza & Grill**  
460 Centre St

**Ideal Caffe & Pizza**  
484 Centre St

**Clean Getaway Laundry**  
546 Centre St

**The Forbes Building**  
545 Centre St

**Gentle Dental**  
612 Centre St

**JP Health Centre**  
640 Centre St

**Same Old Place**  
662 Centre St

**Smoke Shop**  
566 Centre St

**The Purple Cactus**  
674 Centre St

**Unlimited Realty**  
633 Centre St

**Polkadog Bakery**  
42 South St

**Flore's Bakery**  
55 South St

**Italian Pizza**  
172 South St

**Evergreen Café**  
154 Green St

**Metro Mark Apt**  
3615 Washington St

**Metro Mark Apt**  
3611 Washington St

**Rosmore Landry**  
Washington St

**JP Kitchen**  
3510 Washington St

**Braddock Café**  
3484 Washington St

**Bmc Market**  
3390 Washington St

**Santia's Bakery**  
3381 Washington St

**Ruggiores Market**  
3345 Washington St

**Brookside Community Health Center**  
3297 Washington St

**JP Apts**  
3200 Washington St

**Papi's Market**  
3145 Washington St

**YMCA**  
3134 Washington St

**10 Store**  
3122 Washington St

**Chancy Liquor**  
Washington St

**Praviana**  
3093 Washington St

**Egleston Pizza**  
3080 Washington St

**Santander Bank**  
Columbus & Washington

**Landromax**  
Washington & Columbus

**Walgreens**  
Columbus Av

**Academy Market**  
1580 Columbus

**Goddar House**  
201 Huntington St

**MT Pleasant Home**  
301 Huntington St

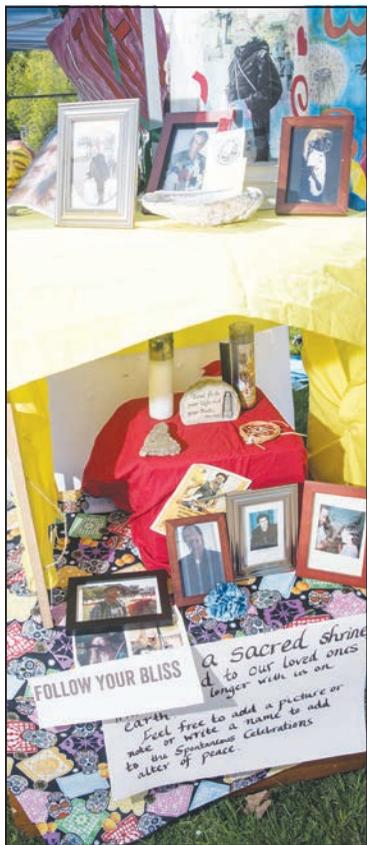
## WAKE UP THE EARTH FESTIVAL IN JAMAICA PLAIN

PHOTOS BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

Wake Up The Earth is a festival organized by Spontaneous Celebrations that's been going strong since 1979. The festival

started as a celebration of the abandonment of the Inner Belt highway project that already leveled significant parts of the Jamaica Plain and Roxbury

neighborhoods. Music, activities, unique vendors, and more drew many visitors to the Southwest Corridor and celebrate our home, the planet Earth.



A shrine was made to help remember the many people who have contributed to Wake Up The Earth who have passed away over the many years since the festival's beginning.



At the Extinction Rebellion table, the climate action group brings attention to 6th mass extinction of bees and other animals essential to the ecosystem. They also were giving away Seed Bombs that will grow wildflowers wherever planted.



Cecilia Villero is a "Mer-Made For Pleasure."



Sa'nai is making some beats on a barrel drum.

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## WAKE UP THE EARTH FESTIVAL IN JAMAICA PLAIN



Felicity Bell is excited for her tomato plant acquisition.



Jamie and Jenn Cohen are proud of the veggie haul they're bringing to their garden from The Neighborhood Farm stand.



On the Sun Stage Thamanai Jeremie and Pellaiah Auset of the band Phoenix sing funk and R&B classics.



Shannon and Shilpa enjoy the beautiful Spring day at Wake Up The Earth.



Meredith Davis as Lady Liberty finds a fan in young Hayden Hugenberger.



Pat channels his inner-Buddy Rich at the Junk Percussion corner.



Boston Mayor Michelle Wu, her daughter Mira, candidates for Boston City Councilor At-Large Alexandra Valdez and Marvin Mathelier, and organizers of Eagle Up The Earth.



At the Skate Stage local band Circus Batalion plays songs from their debut album released a couple of months ago.



Children play with a May Pole outside of Stoney Brook Station.

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## WAKE UP THE EARTH FESTIVAL IN JAMAICA PLAIN



Drummers from a wide range of ages and technical abilities jam their rhythmic dreams at Junk Percussion.



Gio, Cheryl, Paul, Freyja, Sassa, and Caleb are long time neighbors and friends in JP.



The Junk Percussion corner brought percussionists young and old to work together in the communal beat laboratory.



The Sing Positive Choir perform.



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## LOCAL STUDENTS IN THE NEWS

### LASELL UNIVERSITY STUDENTS NAMED TO DEAN'S LIST

The following local students were named to Lasell University's Fall 2024 Dean's List:

James Macchi of Jamaica Plain

Leslie Aponte of Boston

Huda Hussein of Jamaica Plain

To be named to the Dean's List, Lasell students must complete at least 12 credits as a full-time student and achieve a semester GPA of 3.5 or higher.

Olivia Hall named to the Dean's List at Bates College

Olivia Hall of Boston, Mass., was named to the dean's list at Bates College for the fall semester ending in December 2024. This is a distinction earned by students whose grade point average is 3.92 or higher.

Hall is majoring in Mathematics and Hispanic Studies and minoring in History at Bates.

Located in Lewiston, Maine, Bates is internationally recognized as a leading liberal arts college, attracting 2,000 students from across the U.S. and around the world. Since 1855, Bates has been dedicated to educating the whole person through creative and rigorous scholarship in a collaborative residential community. Committed to opportunity and excellence, Bates has always admitted students without regard to gender, race, religion, or national origin. Cultivating intellectual discovery and informed civic action, Bates prepares leaders sustained by a love of learning and zeal for responsible stewardship of the wider world.

### CURRY COLLEGE DEAN'S LIST

Curry College congratulates over 800 students who were named to the Fall 2024 Dean's List.

Isabel Belash of Jamaica Plain

Athena Brenzel of Jamaica Plain

Nicole Mertiri of Jamaica Plain

Curry College, founded in Boston in 1879, is a private, co-educational, liberal arts-based institution located on 131 acres in Milton, Massachusetts. The College extends its educational programs to a continuing education branch campus in Plymouth. The College offers 24 undergraduate majors in specialized and liberal arts programs, as well as graduate degrees in accounting, business, education, criminal justice, and nursing to a combined enrollment of nearly 2,500 students. The student body consists of 1,700 traditional students and nearly 800 continuing education and graduate students. The College offers a wide array of co-curricular activities ranging from 16 NCAA Division III athletic teams to an outstanding theatre and fine arts program. Visit us on the web at [www.curry.edu](http://www.curry.edu).

### SNHU ANNOUNCES DEAN'S LIST

It is with great pleasure that Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) congratulates the following students on being named to the Fall 2024 Dean's List. The fall terms run from September to December.

Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum

grade-point average of 3.500 to 3.699 for the reporting term are named to the Dean's List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits over each 16-week term or paired 8-week terms grouped in fall, winter/spring, and summer.

Daina Estime of Jamaica Plain

Shawnte Lymon of Jamaica Plain

Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) is a private, nonprofit, accredited institution with a 92-year history of educating traditional-aged students and working adults. Now serving more than 200,000 learners worldwide, SNHU offers approximately 200 undergraduate, graduate, and certificate programs, available online and on its 300-acre campus in Manchester, NH. Recognized as one of the "Most Innovative" regional universities by U.S. News & World Report and one of the fastest-growing universities in the country, SNHU is committed to expanding access to high quality, affordable pathways that meet the needs of each learner.

### UMASS AMHERST ANNOUNCES DEAN'S LIST

The following students were named to the Fall 2024 Dean's List at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

Students are appointed to the Dean's List at the end of a semester in which they have completed a minimum of 12 graded credits and have earned a grade point average of 3.500 or better.

- Alejandro Arias
- Flora Day
- Yannik Dzialas

- Odin Edlund- Slarsky
- Lucas Finzi
- Silvia Guarnotta
- Adina Habib
- Riley Kasper
- Daniel Kefalas
- Kirsten Kirleis
- Joshua Rand
- Danielle Schneider
- Maximillian Steinbok

Local Students named to Emmanuel College's Fall 2024 Dean's List

In recognition of their outstanding academic achievement, Emmanuel College has named more than 1,000 students to the Dean's List for the Fall 2024 semester. To earn a spot on the Dean's List, Emmanuel students must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 or higher for a 16-credit semester.

The following local students were named to the Dean's List:

Razan Mohamed of Jamaica Plain Mohamed is a Double Major; Liberal Studies; Elementary Education major.

Shayla Stinson of Jamaica Plain . Stinson is a Studio Art - Art Therapy major.

Grace Martin of Jamaica Plain. Martin is a Graphic Design major.

With more than 80 majors and areas of study, Emmanuel College combines outstanding classroom instruction and real-world experience to prepare students for lives of professional achievement, lifelong learning, and purpose. Voted the #1 college location in America by Niche.com in 2023 and 2024, Emmanuel offers access to world class medical, cultural, and business organizations, all with a tight-knit 17-acre campus and 13:1 student-to-faculty ratio.

### DEAN'S LIST HONORS ANNOUNCED AT TUFTS UNIVERSITY

Tufts University recently announced the dean's list for the fall 2024 semester. Dean's list honors at Tufts University require a semester grade point average of 3.4 or greater.

- Norah Gallagher, Class of 2025, of Jamaica Plain
- Urvi Gipstein, Class of 2025, of Jamaica Plain
- Zelda Mayer, Class of 2025, of Jamaica Plain
- Luke Randolph, Class of 2026, of Jamaica Plain
- Bergen Kane, Class of 2026, of Jamaica Plain
- Zach Myers, Class of 2027, of Jamaica Plain
- Niall Reynolds, Class of 2027, of Jamaica Plain
- Charlotte Parsons, Class of 2026, of Jamaica Plain
- Henry Tweedy, Class of 2028, of Jamaica Plain
- Wendy Ruan, Class of 2028, of Jamaica Plain

Tufts University, located on campuses in Boston, Medford/Somerville and Grafton, Massachusetts, and in Talloires, France, is recognized among the premier research universities in the United States. Tufts enjoys a global reputation for academic excellence and for the preparation of students as leaders in a wide range of professions. A growing number of innovative teaching and research initiatives span all Tufts campuses, and collaboration among the faculty and students in the undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs across the university's schools is widely encouraged.

## Labouré College of Healthcare named an Opportunity College in the Carnegie Classifications

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

Labouré College of Healthcare has been designated as an Opportunity College and University by the Carnegie Foundation and the American Council on Education (ACE), recognizing Labouré as an institution that can serve as a model for studying how campuses can foster student success.

The Opportunity Colleges and Universities designation is part of a newly developed Student Access and Earnings Clas-

sification published this month by the Carnegie Foundation and the American Council on Education. This new classification examines the extent to which institutions foster opportunities for student success by measuring whether institutions are enrolling students reflective of the communities they serve and how the earnings of those students compare to peers in their area.

In 2025, 479 institutions have been identified as Opportunity Colleges and Universities, which is about 16% of all U.S. colleges

and universities that are in the Student Access and Earnings Classification.

"A degree from Labouré prepares students for a career that is both personally and financially rewarding. On average, our graduates are able to double their household earnings while filling critical gaps in our local healthcare workforce. We are proud to be recognized by the Carnegie Foundation for providing this opportunity," said Labouré President Lily S. Hsu, Ed.D.

The college provides the largest pipeline of associate-degree nurses to the Massachusetts workforce – nurses who are local adults, rooted in their Greater Boston communities. Labouré nursing students are 90% women, 69% people of color, most of whom are raising families (35% as single parents). A nursing or healthcare degree leads to financial independence, empowerment, and more options for themselves and their children.

The methodology for the new Student Access and Earnings

Classification uses multidimensional groupings of the 2025 Institutional Classification to evaluate student access and earnings between similar colleges and universities.

More information about 2025 Student Earnings and Access Classifications, including the methodology, can be found online at: [carnegieclassifications.acenet.edu/carnegie-classification/classification-methodology/2025-student-access-and-earnings-classification/](http://carnegieclassifications.acenet.edu/carnegie-classification/classification-methodology/2025-student-access-and-earnings-classification/).

## NEW INSTALLATIONS AT ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CHURCH



*PATRICK OCONNOR PHOTOS*  
A new cross has been installed at the entrance to St. Thomas Aquinas Church and inside, a statue depicting St. Joseph teaching the child Jesus to walk greets parishioners as they enter the church.

# Wu announces applications open for 2025-2026 Spark Boston Council

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

Mayor Michelle Wu announced that applications for the 2025-2026 SPARK Boston Council are now open. SPARK Boston is a volunteer leadership and civic engagement council for Boston residents ages 20 to 35. This council is responsible for leading the City's initiatives aimed at engaging Boston's young adults. Applications are due by June 30, 2025.

"The SPARK Boston Council is vital to our ability to understand the needs of Boston's young adult community," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "I am excited to announce that applications for the 2025-2026 council are now open and I encourage our emerging civic leaders to apply to see the impact of their voices heard in the community."

Under the direction of the SPARK Boston Director Aidan McDonough, the 2025-2026 Council will create programming and advise Boston's leaders to help the city grow as an inviting, connected, culturally rich, and sustainable home for everyone. Throughout the SPARK Boston Council term, participants hear from key members of the Mayor's administration, leaders within City Hall, and community organizations about topics like climate resilience, education, housing, nightlife, and civic innovation.

"After what has been a fun and exciting year of programming to engage Boston's 20-35 year old residents, it only creates further momentum to recruit a collaborative and motivated SPARK Council for our 2025-2026 cohort," said SPARK Boston Director Aidan McDonough. "SPARK Boston creates space for young civic leaders to become better engaged at the local level and feel able to advocate for what they hope to see out of our city. SPARK Boston is also an opportunity to build a network and foster connections with young civic leaders across Boston."

Past council members have come from diverse cultural and professional backgrounds including public service, media, higher education, and scientific research. The SPARK Council meets on the first Monday of each month. Council members are encouraged to attend one

community meeting and one SPARK event or subcommittee meeting a month. Applicants must live in Boston, and be willing to commit 15 hours monthly to the SPARK Boston program. SPARK Boston and its previous iteration ONEin3 have now been serving young adults and the City of Boston for over 18 years.

"Every year, our SPARK Boston Council gets stronger thanks to the amazing involvement of community leaders in Boston. Whether it's volunteering at our annual Civic Summit or discussing ways to improve personal credit, SPARK is all about making our neighborhoods better places to live," said Chief of Community Engagement Brianna Millor. "This year, we want council members from every corner of our city to join us! If you're a young adult looking to make a positive impact in your community, we'd love for you to apply to be a part of the 2025-2026 SPARK Boston Council!"

The 2025-2026 SPARK Council will be continuing their work through the end of their term in August, and have already taken part in several opportunities including attending Mayor Wu's State of the City, volunteering during the Mayor's Office of Civic Organizing's Civic Summit, and organizing thousands of toys for Toys for Tots. The 2024-2025 council has continued legacy and signature programming such as: Neighborhood Socials, which are events designed to bring City staff and local leaders into spaces young people already patronize; cultural mixers; and Chief Chats, fireside discussions with

cabinet leadership.

"SPARK Boston has encouraged me to embrace new experiences. As a council member, I have participated in various engagements, from assisting Bostonians with mailing their voter registration forms to collaborating with the community to host a panel discussion on period poverty and menstrual innovation," said Sayyida Jean-Charles, current SPARK Boston Council Member. "If you are looking to get more involved in Boston, it doesn't matter whether you are new to the city or were born and raised here, because as a council member, you will become more civically engaged, expand your network, and most importantly, connect with community members, advocates, and leaders. All you have to do is submit your application!"

"Membership on the SPARK Council is a phenomenal experience for Boston's young citizens who want to better connect with and help support the City and the neighborhoods they love. In my own experience, SPARK provided me with an in-depth look at how the City is running smoothly day-to-day, month-to-month, and year-to-year, and highlighted the multitude of opportunities for civic engagement with every facet of City governance," said John Ferraro, current SPARK Boston Council Member. "Because of my time on SPARK, I've been able to develop a better sense of how to identify key quality-of-life issues in my neighborhood, build coalitions to address them, and encourage others to do the same."



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# Boston to host Community Read-a-thon of the autobiography of Malcolm X on Malcolm X's Centennial

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

In commemoration of the 100th anniversary of Malcolm X's birth, the city of Boston will host a unique two-day community read-a-thon of his influential autobiography. Nearly two hundred volunteers are set to participate in this first-ever marathon reading of the book in its entirety, taking place on Saturday, May 17, 2025, from 12 to 8 p.m., and Sunday, May 18, 2025, from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Bruce C. Bolling Municipal Building, located at 2300 Washington St.

The event invites the public

to experience Malcolm X's powerful narrative through a collective voice. Following each day's reading, a community dinner will be held, fostering connection and reflection. For those unable to attend in person, the entire read-a-thon will be live-streamed online.

Admission to the event is free and open to all. Attendees are welcome to listen for any portion of the two-day program, and participation as a reader is not required to attend.

Organizers explain that Malcolm X's unwavering challenge to racial violence, his rejection

of economic inequality, and his advocacy for the voiceless have made him an enduring figure for those committed to social justice and human rights. This group reading of his autobiography, which has inspired millions since its 1965 publication, aims to unite individual aspirations for a better future into a collective call for change.

Individuals interested in contributing as readers in this significant event can sign up through the official event website: <https://malcolmxreadathon-boston.com/>.

The Malcolm X Read-a-thon

is the vision of Rosalyn Elder, an architect, former bookstore owner, and entrepreneur associated with africanamericanheritagemassachusetts.com. A dedicated organizing committee of local artists, writers, organizers, and entrepreneurs, including Elder, Dosha Beard, Danny Harris, Carolyn Ingles, Parmie Polk, Mark Schafer, and Talia Whyte, is committed to ensuring the legacy of Malcolm X remains vibrant in Boston and beyond.

For further information, including media inquiries, the organizing committee can be reached at [email address re-

moved]. Additional details and updates are available on the event website: <https://malcolmx-readathonboston.com/>.



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# Orange Line service suspended between North Station and Oak Grove tonight and every day through May 18

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

The MBTA is today reminding riders that Orange Line service will be suspended between North Station and Oak Grove beginning at approximately 8:30 PM on Friday, May 9, and continuing every day for the following nine days, May 10 – 18.

Riders can find complete information at [mbta.com/Planned-Work](http://mbta.com/Planned-Work). More information on these service changes and alternate travel options:

- Free and accessible shuttle buses will make all stops between North Station and Oak Grove.

- Riders using shuttle buses should budget ample extra travel time. For example, a rider

traveling to Downtown Crossing from Oak Grove should budget an additional 45 – 60 minutes of travel time in addition to their regular commute.

- Express shuttle buses will also serve Oak Grove, Malden

Center, and North Station.

- Accessible van service will be available on weekdays during this service change, directly serving all Orange Line stations between Oak Grove and North Station. Please see onsite per-

sonnel to request the accessible van.

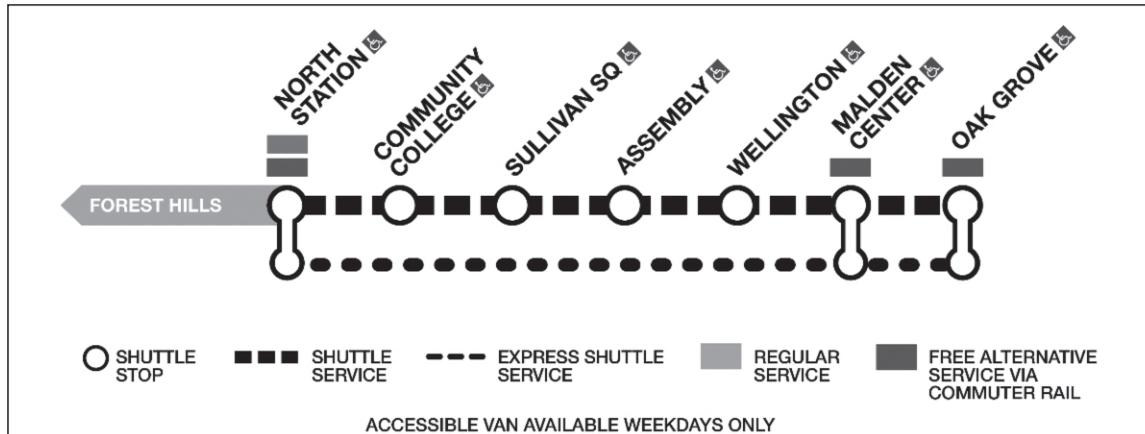
- Riders are strongly encouraged to consider the Haverhill Commuter Rail Line for fare-free service to and from Oak Grove, Malden Center, and North Sta-

tion. Regular fares should be purchased beyond Oak Grove.

- Travel time between Oak Grove and North Station on the Haverhill Line is approximately 20 minutes.

The service change is in place to support MassDOT's Maf-fa Way/Mystic Avenue Bridge Superstructure Replacements project, which will replace the two deteriorated bridge superstructures and improve bicycle, pedestrian, and transit facilities.

More information is also available through in-station signage and public announcements. Transit Ambassadors and MBTA staff will be available on-site to



*Continued on Page 2*

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# Roslindale Neighbors

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## What's Happening in Roslindale

### CIVIC SUMMIT 2025: BE THE CHANGE

Mayor Michelle Wu announced the Civic Summit 2025, a full day event focused on uniting neighbors, civic leaders, and non-profit advocates. The Civic Summit, first hosted by the Mayor's Office of Civic Organizing in 2024, will return on Saturday, June 7 at Boston University Questrom School of Business.

The theme for this year's Summit is "Be the Change," which reflects the City's continued focus on community-driven progress and making Boston a home for everyone.

### MAYOR MICHELLE WU'S NEIGHBORHOOD COFFEE HOURS

June 5 | 10:00-11:00 a.m.  
Adams Park, 4225 Washington Street

Coffee Hours are back for the 2025 season! Join us at our Neighborhood Coffee Hour with Mayor Michelle Wu. Mayor Wu's Neighborhood Coffee Hours are a unique opportunity to speak

directly with the Mayor and staff from City departments about open space and their neighborhoods.

Rain location: BCYF Roslindale Community Center

### STAY ACTIVE THIS SPRING WITH THE ABC FOREVER YOUNG PROGRAM FOR OLDER ADULTS

This free program, hosted by Boston Parks and Recreation in partnership with Boston Centers for Youth and Family (BCYF), offers engaging outdoor activities designed to promote active lifestyles, social connections and community spirit.

The program will take place once a week on Wednesdays from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. from April through June at City parks. Each month brings a new activity, providing participants with opportunities to try something different in a welcoming environment

### CITY OF BOSTON ANNOUNCES ANTI-DISPLACEMENT ACTION PLAN

This month, the City of Boston released its draft Anti-Displacement Action Plan to confront residential, commercial and cultural displacement city-wide. The goals of this initiative are to:

- Stabilize residents, including renters and homeowners, so they can anchor and flourish here, while creating space to welcome new neighbors
- Stabilize neighborhood commercial and creative enterprises, enabling their diversity and vibrancy

The Action Plan reflects the priorities, concerns and aspirations of our constituents outlined in two reports completed as part of a Discovery Phase. We want to hear from you. Complete our survey or email your feedback on the draft Action Plan during the 45-day comment period.

*Continued on page 19*



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# Roslindale Neighbors

## Happenings

*Continued from page 1*

### FIT TO FUNCTION CERTIFIED AS AN AGE-FRIENDLY BUSINESSES

Fit to Function, a fitness studio located on Belgrade Ave, became Roslindale's newest age-friendly business, as determined by the City's Age Strong Commission. They join Centre Cuts Salon, the Roslindale Fish Market, Rozzie Bound Co-op Bookstore, the Cooperative Bank and the Roslindale BPL branch on the list of Rozzie establishments with this designation. If you have an idea for a business that might be a good candidate for age-friendly certification, please reach out!

### INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PLAY!

June 11 | 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. | Boston City Hall | 1 City Hall Square  
Join the City of Boston and

friends to celebrate and experience the power of play on June 11, the first International Day of Play!

This family-friendly event is free and open to the public. Guests will be able to celebrate and experience the power of play! The day will be filled with sports, biking, board games, bubbles, ping pong, arts and crafts, dance and music and many more fun and powerful play opportunities.

### 2025 OCEAN AWARENESS CONTEST

Submissions are OPEN for the 14th annual Bow Seat Ocean Awareness Contest – Connections to Nature, Looking Inside, Going Outside. The 2025 Contest encourages students to explore the natural world and their place in it through the lenses of generational knowledge, human health, urban environments, re-

siliency, and more.

Submit works of visual art, creative writing, poetry, spoken word, music, dance, film, and multimedia for a chance to win cash awards of up to \$1,000 and to join the world's largest envi-

ronmental youth community for the creative arts! The Contest is free to enter and open to students worldwide, ages 11-18.

Submit by June 9, 2025.

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## Roslindale Neighbors

# Green T Coffee Shop looking to secure an all-alcohol license

BY MICHAEL COUGHLIN JR.

Last week, an abutters meeting was held regarding a proposal from Green T Coffee Shop, located at 873 South Street in Roslindale, to obtain an all-alcohol license and extend its hours.

Braden Armstrong, the owner of Green T Coffee Shop, shared his vision regarding the license request and emphasized that the establishment would not become a bar.

“My vision is to offer people a place to have draft beer and wine in a quiet atmosphere on a Saturday afternoon coming back from Fallon Field,” he said.

“Pop in, have an IPA or an ale, and just enjoy the scene.”

He reiterated that the coffee shop would not turn into a bar and that there are no plans for live music or televisions. “The whole purpose is to give people a nice quiet place to have a pint, [converse] with their person and just enjoy the evening,” said Armstrong.

As for why Armstrong is pursuing an all-alcohol license instead of a beer and wine license, he indicated that he wants to have the option to offer hot toddies in the winter, Irish coffee, and potentially have adult game nights and scotch tastings.

“I don’t have any plans to

bring in any bottles aside from possibly a bottle of whiskey for Irish coffees, hot toddies, that sort of thing,” he said.

He also provided preliminary plans for an appetizer-based menu that may include fried pickle chips and charcuterie boards.

Armstrong also responded to potential noise concerns he heard from neighbors and noted that there would not be any noise from the coffee shop itself or things like music; the only noise would be from patrons inside.

“I can’t imagine it would be any louder than a busy Saturday afternoon, which you really can’t hear outside the building anyway.”

Regarding the proposed increase in hours, Armstrong explained that the establishment is currently open from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. daily. The newly proposed hours are to retain those aforementioned hours, Sunday through Wednesday, and be open from 6:00 a.m. to as late as 11:00 p.m., Thursday through Saturday.

However, it should be noted that even though the application for these changes requests an 11:00 p.m. closing hour, Armstrong indicated that he would like to stay open until 10:00 p.m. and requested 11:00 p.m. since

it’s easier to close earlier than to request a later closing time.

Following the presentation, those in attendance offered comments and asked questions.

One resident supported the idea and asked a couple of questions. The first question pertained to the requested license, and Armstrong explained that it is a non-transferable license that stays with the business and would return to the city if the business were sold.

The same resident also wondered when alcohol would begin being served, and Armstrong was unsure of what was allowed but said he could not picture it being sold before 1:00 p.m.

An abutter on Walter Street shared some concerns, mainly about potential parking increases. Specifically, the abutter noted that patrons already block their driveway routinely.

Armstrong noted that he

spoke with the city and got 20-minute parking for his customers to help alleviate the issues. He also did not foresee an increase in parking at the site due to the sale of alcohol.

Another abutter on Hewlett Street seemed concerned about the proposed hours, saying he preferred having them earlier but acknowledged that it might not be an issue.

The abutter also seemed to like the idea of starting with the 10:00 p.m. closure and adjusting it if there are issues.

“My plan is to close at 10:00 p.m. and just give that hour for time for people to finish their drinks and leave, but no serving or no letting anybody else in after 10:00 p.m.,” said Armstrong.

“Again, that can go to 9:00 p.m., 8:00 p.m., I really don’t want to turn that into a bar.” He also mentioned that the drinks would be priced appropriately

and that the offerings would not be something that would attract a college crowd, such as pitchers of beer.

As the discussion continued, other residents voiced their support for the proposal. Additionally, another abutter on Walter Street, who indicated they supported the establishment, had concerns about noise and potential congregation on the corner.

Ultimately, Armstrong said he appreciated the input from attendees as the meeting wrapped up. As for the next steps in this process, Jeremie Bembury, a city community engagement specialist who ran the meeting, indicated that this proposal will go before the local civic group and the licensing board after that.

To comment or ask questions about the proposal, email Bembury at [jeremie.bembury2@boston.gov](mailto:jeremie.bembury2@boston.gov).

## SCENES FROM CENTRE SOUTH MAIN STREETS PUB CRAWL IN ROSLINDALE



Pub Crawl participants go on the bus at Roslindale Village to head to Jeanie Johnston.

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The Gazette welcomes letters to the editor. Word limit: 500.  
Deadline: Friday at 5 p.m. one week before publication. Letters may be emailed to [letters@JamaicaPlainGazette.com](mailto:letters@JamaicaPlainGazette.com). Please include address and telephone number for verification purposes. Anonymous letters will not be published. More information: 617-524-7662

# Roslindale Neighbors

## SCENES FROM CENTRE SOUTH MAIN STREETS PUB CRAWL IN ROSLINDALE



Centre South Main Streets Board member Kate Raisz and President Michael Reiskind.



Peter and Melissa McManus enjoy some beer and a quick game of chess together at Midnight Morning.



Liz and Kaitie were heading to visit Antonio's Bacari in Hyde Park from Midnight Morning.



Midnight Morning bartender Roberto Reyes kept the good times flowing.

## Orange Line

Continued from page 17

offer information and assistance during these service changes. Riders are encouraged to subscribe to T-Alerts or to follow the MBTA on X @MBTA for up-to-date service information.

For more information, please visit [mbta.com/PlannedWork](http://mbta.com/PlannedWork) or connect with the T on X @MBTA, 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, Bus Network Redesign, and Rail Vision, the MBTA aims to connect communities and improve riders' daily experiences and trips. For questions or as-

sistance, riders are encouraged to contact the MBTA Customer Center at 617-222-3200. Members of the press are encouraged to contact [mediarelations@mbta.com](mailto:mediarelations@mbta.com).

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## EDITORIAL

# The U.S. today: From brain gain to brain drain

The founders of the greatest American companies (at least as measured by their stock-market caps) are Bill Gates of Microsoft, Jensen Huang of Nvidia, Elon Musk of Tesla and Space X, Mark Zuckerberg of Meta (Facebook), the late Steve Jobs of Apple, Sergey Brin of Alphabet (Google) and Jeff Bezos of Amazon.

All seven share one of two things in common: Six went to top U.S. universities (Harvard for Gates and Zuckerberg; Stanford for Huang and Brin; Princeton for Bezos; and Pennsylvania for Musk) and five either themselves are immigrants (Musk, Huang, and Brin) or they are first-generation immigrants (Jobs's father was a Syrian immigrant and Bezos's adoptive father was a Cuban immigrant).

This is nothing new. America always has relied upon its immigrants and its universities to lead the way for American supremacy. This was especially true during WWII when the U.S. developed the atomic bomb thanks to a team of scientists (most of whom were foreign-born and working at the University of Chicago) that was led by physicist Robert Oppenheimer. Oppenheimer would have made the above list for two reasons: He was both Harvard-educated and the son of a German immigrant.

According to the Nobel Prize website, since 1901, there have been 148 prize recipients who were foreign-born individuals who either had immigrated permanently to the United States or were at a U.S. institution of higher learning at the time they received the award. These 148 individuals account for 16 percent of all Nobel Laureates.

Yet it is precisely these two great pillars of America's historic economic and technological strength -- our world-renowned universities and our immigrants -- that are on the verge of being destroyed. By attacking the former, we are discouraging the latter from coming to America.

The smartest and hardest-working individuals from across the globe -- who always have viewed America as the foremost country in the world where they could develop their ideas at the world's greatest scientific research institutions -- are either leaving or not coming because the welcome mat has been pulled from our doorstep.

Nations in Europe and Asia, whose leaders are mystified by our sudden ignorance and xenophobia, are rushing to fill the vacuum by offering grants and opportunities to world-class scientists that previously had been monopolized by the United States.

We are entering the equivalent of the Dark Ages -- and for the first time ever in our history, the United States is now facing the prospect of a brain drain, as opposed to being the beneficiary of a brain gain.

## Will we have flu and COVID vaccines this fall?

The actions reportedly being taken by Secretary of Health Robert F. Kennedy Jr. to impede the development of the flu and COVID vaccines for this coming year call into question whether these life-saving vaccines will be available for Americans this fall.

Annual flu and COVID shots are the best protection for all Americans from these two diseases, especially for senior citizens and those with compromised immune systems. Approximately 40,000 Americans die each year from the flu, of whom about 80% are over the age of 65. It is estimated that the annual vaccines prevent about seven million illnesses, three million doctor visits, 100,000 hospital stays, and 7,000 deaths. A substantial percentage of those who die from the flu are unvaccinated.

As for COVID-19, there were 76,446 deaths in the U.S. from COVID-19 in 2023, the vast majority among the elderly, the oldest of whom are 97 times more likely to die from a COVID-19 infection than a person under the age of 20. In addition, the lingering effects of COVID-19, known as long COVID, impact tens of thousands more Americans.

The flu vaccine is forward-looking. Scientists examine the data of the various strains floating around the world and then make a guess as to which ones will be most-prevalent in the coming winter season, and a vaccine is developed to target those strains.

However, the COVID vaccine looks only at the present, with the vaccines aiming to target the most prevalent variants at the time the vaccines are being developed. COVID always is mutating, so it is impossible to know what variant will come next. However, even though the COVID vaccines are outdated to some extent by the time most people receive them, the vaccine still offers substantial protection against the disease.

However, whether these life-saving vaccines, which must go through an approval process before the FDA, will be ready in time for the fall flu and COVID season is an open question given the gamesmanship being displayed by RFK Jr., who reportedly is creating new barriers in the approval process.

These vaccines literally are a matter of life and death for America's ever-aging population, but it would seem that those in charge these days could care less -- and that we are all just one big experiment for their dangerous and off-the-wall "theories."

## LETTER

# Thank you for the memories and the support!

Dear Editor,

May 3rd was City Feed and Supply's 25th anniversary!

We opened our Boylston Street store 25 years ago on the day of Wake Up The Earth Festival in 2000.

To celebrate our 25th anniversary we had a jazz duo play in the outdoor seating area from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. 2 sets of jazz standards; Lenka Molcanyiova

*Continued on Page 23*



Lenka Molcanyiova playing saxophone and Nadav Brenner playing bass.

The opinions expressed on these pages are not necessarily those of this newspaper.

## Jamaica Plain GAZETTE

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# Boston joins national lawsuit to save homelessness prevention funding

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

Mayor Michelle Wu announced that the City of Boston joined a lawsuit with cities and counties from across the United States to challenge the Trump Administration's move to cancel \$3.6 billion in grants for housing and homelessness prevention.

The suit challenges the move by the Trump Administration to withhold nearly \$48 million in previously-awarded funding for Boston to fight homelessness. The Administration's actions threaten billions in funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Continuum of Care (CoC) program, the single largest source of federal funding Boston and other cities use to address homelessness.

"The Trump Administration is threatening to hold up nearly \$48 million for Boston to tackle homelessness unless our City complies with unconstitutional Executive Orders," said Mayor

Michelle Wu. "We are joining other cities and counties across the country to protect critical funding to prevent homelessness and house families in need. Boston will not back down on making our city a home for everyone."

The Continuum of Care program supports individuals experiencing homelessness and formerly homeless Boston residents with finding stable housing connected to health care, counseling, and other supportive services. Each year, the City of Boston works with local nonprofit organizations to assist more than 2,000 households experiencing homelessness—individuals, families, young adults, and veterans. These services are part of Boston's broader "housing first" strategy, which focuses on helping people move into stable housing as quickly as possible with supports to help them stay housed. The actions by the Trump Administration threaten

these resources and the housing that the City and its partners are able to provide.

The new requirements from the federal government would force Boston and other cities to make legal promises that conflict with local laws, values, and long-standing efforts to support residents and connect them with stable housing. These include conditions related to immigration enforcement, health care, DEI, and how cities support transgender and gender-diverse individuals. If Boston agreed to these terms and was later found to be out of compliance based on this federal administration's unfounded and unsupported interpretation of the laws, the City could be forced to pay back all the grant money—up to three times the original amount—leaving thousands of residents without housing support and putting the City in an unnecessary position financially.

Each year, the Continuum of Care program funds services in Boston such as permanent supportive housing for people with disabilities, rapid re-housing for those exiting homelessness, and transitional housing for survivors of domestic violence and others in crisis. More than 18 nonprofit organizations receive this funding annually to do their work, including Metro Housing | Boston, Pine Street Inn, HomeStart, and Casa Myrna. These groups also employ more than 125 people with this support.

"Our nonprofit partners work every day to make sure our most vulnerable residents have the housing and the support services that they need to stabilize their lives," said Sheila Dillon, Chief of Housing. "The Continuum of Care federal funding is too

important to be compromised by the federal administration's unrelated policy agenda."

"We cannot allow the federal government to abdicate our collective responsibility to provide housing for our homeless and neediest residents, including veterans and those struggling with mental health issues. Boston will continue to fight for critical funding to care for our residents and will protect their basic rights," said Council President Ruthzee Louijeune.

Boston joins seven other jurisdictions in filing this lawsuit in the federal Western District of Washington, including King County, WA; the City of New York, NY; the City of Columbus, OH; the City and County of San Francisco, CA and Pierce County and Snohomish County, WA.

## Letter

*Continued from page 22*

playing saxophone and Nadav Brenner playing bass. We are a proud sponsor of Spontaneous Celebration's Wake Up the Earth festival for the last 25 years! WUTE is always a great neighborhood celebration.

Thanks to all our friends, cus-

tomers and neighbors who have supported the store over the last 25 years!

It is a privilege to serve and be part of the Jamaica Plain neighborhood.

**Kristine & David  
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Shown at right: a jazz duo performs outside of City Feed Supplu on opening day.



Kristine Cortese and David Warner Circa 2000.

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## LEGAL NOTICES

### LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT Suffolk Probate And Family Court 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 (617)788-8300 CITATION ON PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME Docket No. SU25C0259CA In the matter of: Tamara P. Pitts

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Tamara P. Pitts of Jamaica Plain, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: Tamara P. Wilcher-Pitts  
**IMPORTANT NOTICE** Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition

by filing an appearance at:Suffolk Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m.on the return date of 05/22/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: April 29, 2025 Stephanie L. Everett, Register of Probate 5/09/25 JP

### LEGAL NOTICE

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION TO EXPAND THE POWERS OF A GUARDIAN

Docket No. SU18P0010GD Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston MA, 02114 In the Interests of: Diana Slaton Rideaux of: Jamaica Plain, MA RESPONDENT Incapacitated Person/Protected Person To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by DMH c/o Office of General Counsel of Westborough, MA in the above captioned matter requesting that the court: Expand the powers of a Guardian of the Respondent. The petition asks the court to make a determination

that the powers of the Guardian and/or Conservator should be expanded, modified, or limited since the time of the appointment. The original petition is on file with the 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 AM on the return date of 05/15/2025. 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. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: April 17, 2025 Stephanie Everett Register of Probate 5/9/25 JP

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