25 YEARS LATER - WE REMEMBER

Honoring the 2,977 lives lost, the heroes who answered the call, and the enduring resilience that unites us.

SEPT 11, 2001 — SEPT 11, 2026

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2026

THE BEACON HILL TIMES

THERE ARE NO TIMES LIKE THESE TIMES

Torie's Glory



PHOTO COURTESY ULYA AVIRAL

Tori Wojick displays her art during the annual Beacon Hill Art Walk in the neighborhood.

A journey through athleticism and artistry

By Cary Shuman

There is a former competitive figure skater living in Beacon Hill and she has returned to perform and teach in the sport she loves.

Victoria "Torie" Wojick, 36, who moved to Beacon Hill in 2014, recently performed in the American Contemporary Skating Festival at Warrior Ice Arena in Brighton. A former elite skater, Wojick will be teaching in a Learn To Skate program at the rink, which also serves as the

See TORIE Page 8

Boutique wallpaper store comes to Myrtle Street

By Dan Murphy

Robin Krawczyk, owner of These Storied Walls, first noticed the small street-level retail space at 17 Myrtle St., that is now home to her boutique wallpaper showroom, in the spring when she was changing residences on Beacon Hill.

Making the move from Revere Street to her new home on Hancock Street, Krawczyk made countless trips carting her belongings in a small wagon, and she kept passing the small, empty retail space.

The approximately 325 square-front shop, which opened July 14, is now cramped with books of wallpaper samples, while a selection of some of the more striking prints (such as one that memorably depicts monkeys sipping martinis and another featuring New Yorker magazine cover-illustration artwork) are prominently framed on the walls.

Wallcoverings in stock at These Storied Walls include everything from the very contemporary to the very traditional; children's wallpaper and wallpaper for nurseries; murals; and textured and grass-cloth options,

See WALLPAPER Page 4



PHOTO COURTESY RACHEL LEHMAN

Robin Krawczyk inside her boutique wallpaper showroom on Myrtle Street.

BEACON HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY CORNER

Beacon Hill Civic Association Annual Appeal

The Beacon Hill Civic Association works in quiet and sometimes unnoticed ways.

In addition to the many meetings and events our committees organize, we are also working every day to improve the quality of life for our neighbors on Beacon Hill. Case in point are these two Food Waste Drop Off bins installed by the City on

See BHCA Page 13

EDITORIAL

REMEMBERING 9/11

For every generation of Americans for the past near-century, there have been seminal events for which those who were of a certain age can recall "where they were" when they "heard the news."

Every member of the Greatest Generation could recall with vivid clarity the announcement by President Roosevelt of the Day of Infamy of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. A generation later, everyone knew where they were when the announcement of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy came across our TV screens. A generation after that, the Challenger space shuttle disaster riveted our nation.

And then, on September 11, 2001, every American watched with horror and disbelief as the Twin Towers of the New York World Trade Center and the Pentagon building in Washington, D.C. came under attack from a terrorist organization we barely knew existed.

In each case, long-held views about our world and our nation were shattered. Before Pearl Harbor, we had thought that the thousands of miles of oceans separating us from the warlords of Europe and Asia would keep us out of harm's way. John F. Kennedy's assassination made us realize that history could be altered by a single bullet. The Challenger disaster made us aware that despite three decades of travel in space and despite our prowess in the realm of technology, in the end, everything we do as humans is subject to failure, because that is the human condition.

As we viewed the images on our TV screens on 9/11 of the fireballs in the upper parts of the Twin Towers, and then watched with horror and disbelief as those skyscrapers crumbled, trapping thousands of our fellow Americans, we realized that America no longer was insulated from the sort of outside terrorist threats that had plagued almost every other country the world over.

Every American knew that our lives would be different from that point onward.

However, in the immediate aftermath of the 9/11 attack, it became clear that countless of our fellow Americans responded with incredible strength and bravery. Police officers and firefighters responded fearlessly without regard to the impending danger to their own safety in order to save the lives of their fellow Americans.

A total of 343 firefighters and 71 police officers perished when the towers crumbled, and hundreds more suffered lifelong illnesses because of the toxic air they inhaled while searching for survivors both that day and beyond.

There were many civilian heroes as well, most notably the "young man with the red bandana" who led occupants of the towers to safety and the passengers who thwarted the hijacking of the plane that was headed for the White House when it crashed into Pennsylvania farm fields.

The events of 9/11 deeply affected the Boston area. The two planes that struck the Twin Towers, United Airlines Flight 175 and American Airlines Flight 11, took off from Logan Airport that fateful morning, carrying a total of 147 crew and passengers who mainly were from our area, including American flight attendant Kathleen Nicosia from Winthrop and United employee Marianne MacFarlane (who was headed for a vacation) from Revere. Their names and those of all of the passengers and crew are marked on the 9/11 memorial at Logan which is located just outside of Terminal A.

It is hard to believe that 25 years have passed since 9/11, and even harder to conceive that there are millions of a younger generation of Americans who have been born since that day and who have no first-hand knowledge of that tragic event.

So let us resolve to remind ourselves, and to inform the young people we know, that this was a day not merely of great tragedy, but that it also was a day of great heroism that exemplified the best of what America stands for.

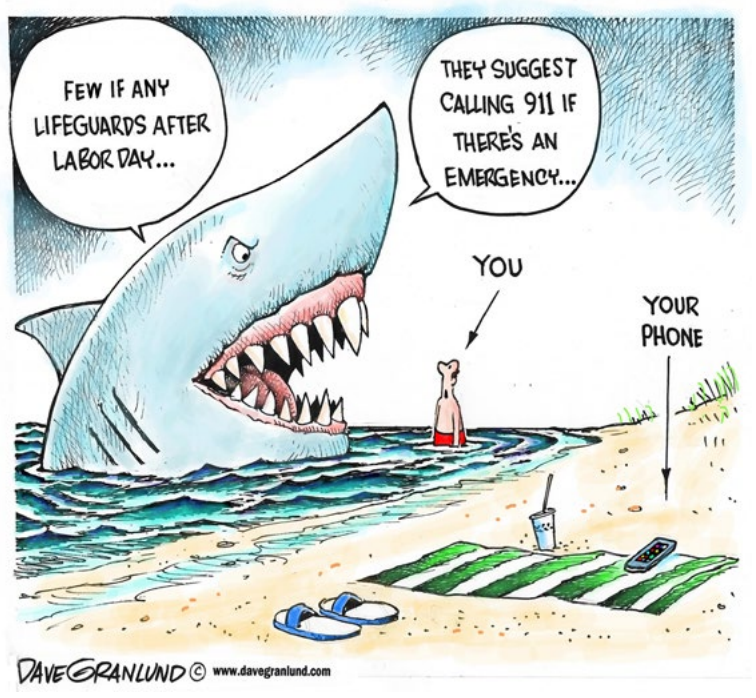
HAPPY ROSH HASHANAH

Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, will start at sundown this coming Friday (September 11) and will end at sunset on Monday (September 13). During the three days of festivities, members of the Jewish faith will gather with family and friends to engage in prayer services and share traditional foods.

Rosh Hashanah begins the Ten Days of Repentance, the high holy days for Jews worldwide, culminating in Yom Kippur.

Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, is the holiest day of the Jewish year and will be observed starting at sundown on Sunday, September 20, and ending at nightfall on Monday, September 21.

To all of our friends of the Jewish faith, we express our wishes for, "Shanah Tovah."



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Neighborhood Roundup

VIOLINIST RACHEL BARTON PINE TO PERFORM SEPT. 13 AT CALDERWOOD HALL

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum presents violinist Rachel Barton Pine in concert on Sunday, Sept. 13, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at Calderwood Hall at 25 Evans Way.

Tickets each cost $70 to $99, while students and children, age 5-17, are admitted for $25, and seniors are admitted for $63-89.

Visit https://www.gardnermuseum.org/calendar/rachel-barton-pine-20260913 to purchase tickets and for more information on this performance.

WEST END MUSEUM CELEBRATES LEONARD BERNSTEIN WITH CONCERT

The West End Museum, in partnership with Queer History Boston and Crescendo Productions, will offer 'West End Story: Community and the Music of Leonard Bernstein' - a special live musical performance celebrating the legendary Leonard Bernstein - on Friday, Sept. 18, at 7 p.m., in the Hub Community Room at North Station, located just steps away at 52 Causeway St.

The event is made possible through the generous support of BXP, along with exclusive series sponsors MA 250 and the Massachusetts LGBT Chamber of Commerce.

Ticket are available on Eventbrite or the West End Museum website at www.thewestendmuseum.org.

PARKARTS FALL WATERCOLOR PAINTING WORKSHOPS RETURN

The Boston Parks and Recreation Department has announced the return of its popular ParkARTS Fall Watercolor Painting Workshop series, taking place throughout September. The free workshops are part of Boston Parks' 2026 ParkARTS program, which brings arts and cultural programming to parks across the city.

Workshop dates include Copley Square Park at 560 Boylston St. in the Back Bay on Saturday, Sept. 19; and the Public Garden Lagoon on Saturday, Sept. 26. Both classes will be held from 10 a.m. to noon, weather permitting.

Open to Boston residents ages 9 and up, the Watercolor Painting Workshops welcome artists of all skill levels to create their own green space-inspired masterpieces. Materials and instruction will be provided by a local instructor. Pre-registration is required. For more information, visit boston.gov/watercolor-workshops.

WLP'S ANNUAL SPAGHETTI DINNER RETURNS OCT. 29 TO FAIRMONT COPLEY PLAZA

The Women's Lunch Place's annual Spaghetti Dinner takes place on Thursday, Oct. 29, at 6 p.m. at the Fairmont Copley Plaza hotel.

WLP Advocate Bonnie Zamparelli will be the event's featured speaker.

Visit https://womenslunchplace.org/event/sponsors to purchase tickets or for more information on the event.

BEACON HILL BAPTIST CHURCH MEETS EVERY SUNDAY

Beacon Hill Baptist Church, which is affiliated with Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, meets Sundays at 11 a.m., at the Beacon House, 19 Myrtle St.

The people are the ministers, while Rev. David Draper serves as pastor.

Call 617-817-3594 or email cddraper@earthlink.net for more information.

See ROUNDUP Page 7

Nichols House Museum to offer upcoming programming

Special to the Times

The Nichols House Museum at 55 Mt. Vernon St. will offer 'From Manuscript to Museum: Rose Standish Nichols' New England Baroque' on Wednesday, Sept. 23, at 6 p.m.

At this time, Morgan Sanders, the museum's 2026 Linsdell Fellow, will examine how Rose Nichols' final, unpublished manuscript, 'New England Baroque,' informed the creation of the Nichols House Museum.

This event is free, with options to attend in-person, as well as virtually.

Next, the museum will hold an Author Event with Frances McNamara on Wednesday, Sept. 30, at 6 p.m.

At this time, local author McNamara will be on hand in the Nichols House parlor to discuss her latest book, 'Unpapered Bedroom Murder in a Nutshell,' along with the real-life stories she draws upon for her Nutshell Murder Mystery series set on Beacon Hill in the 1920s. Guests can also pick up a signed copy of her new book at the event.

The museum will then welcome The Mary Eliza Project on Wednesday, Oct. 7, at 6 p.m.

Over 54,000 Boston women claimed their right to vote in 1920. Recently members of the Mary Eliza Project transcribed and annotated more than 160 volumes of handwritten voter registration records to recover the life stories of these new women voters. Members of the project will share about their work as well as about the Beacon Hill women the project uncovered.

This event has options to attend in-person, as well as virtually.

The museum will then hold its 'Brahmins and Bohemians: Arts & Crafts Edition Beacon Hill' walking tour Saturday, Oct. 17, at 10:30 a.m.

Enjoy this stroll past artists' homes and studios while exploring the Arts & Crafts movement on Beacon Hill at the turn of the 20th century. Topics for discussion will include utopian art communities, artist cooperatives, Craftsman architecture on the Hill, and more. This program is part of Handwork 2026, presented by Craft in America.

The museum will offer 'Honest, Neat & Capable: Staff Stories from 55 Mount Vernon Street' on Saturday, Nov. 7, at 10:30 a.m.

On this special museum tour, experience the Nichols House from the domestic staff's point of view. The tour highlights the life and labor of employees who worked in the home and includes areas of the building not usually on view.

Also, The Nichols House is open for guided tours Tuesday through Sunday, with expanded hours Saturdays.

For more information and tickets, visit nicholshousemuseum.org.

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WALLPAPER *(from Page 1)*

Krawczyk noted.

These Storied Walls offers a full range of price-points. In all, the shop carries around 60 different brands of wallcoverings, including Mitchell Black; Sew & Bloom (as the brand's sole retailer); Little Green; Marimekko/Scalamandre; Mind the Gap; and Seema Krish.

Krawczyk now intends to produce and sell her own brand of Beacon Hill- and Boston-themed wallpaper in the near future as well.

A 62-year-old divorced mother of three adult children, Krawczyk readily admits, however, that the idea behind These Storied Walls started as something of a lark stemming from her own personal frustration with the lack of local options for purchasing wallpaper.

She first suggested opening a wallpaper store in jest, but when Krawczyk's idea wasn't met with derision from her friends, including a few designers, she decided it might be worth pursuing in earnest.

"No one said it was a stupid idea," said Krawczyk, who admits some of her previous ideas weren't as well received by her friends.

Krawczyk, a native of Orange, Conn., who has lived throughout the Northeast, including numerous stints around Boston, had previously worked as a social worker. When she retired from that field in the spring of 2025, she assumed she wouldn't be working at all anymore, so she began focusing on how to spend the next decade of her life. She was soon occupying herself by volunteering and spending time with family, along with playing pickleball, but this routine quickly grew tiresome for her.

"I felt bored and felt like I needed more meaning and purpose in my life," she said. "I needed that sense of greater community."

In her new Hancock Street home, Krawczyk opted to decorate the powder room with a Marimekko wallpaper print of fuchsia and orange as a personal statement. (Years earlier, Krawczyk had selected a bold Marimekko geometric print wallcovering for her oldest child's bedroom.)

"I think wallpaper gives a home personality you can't get with paint," said Krawczyk, who likens wallpaper to framed art adorning a wall. "What you can do with wallpaper is create an element of surprise and whimsy."

In decorating her own homes over the year, Krawczyk found she has a keen eye for selecting the most suitable wallcovering for a particular space, and that same instinct now guides her work with clients at These Storied Walls.

"I love color and patterns," said Krawczyk, who can intuitively find the most suitable wallpaper for a room by just seeing photos of its surroundings. "It's so much fun to work with people who need a little guidance."



Robin Krawczyk, owner of These Storied Walls.



PHOTOS COURTESY RACHEL LEHMAN

A selection of wallcoverings from These Storied Walls.

Krawczyk added: "People think you need to be a designer to purchase wallpaper." (She'll still gladly work with designers, however.)

"The thing about wallpaper you need to see the colors in person, and to touch and feel it," said Krawczyk. "If you look at a color online, you don't get that same experience."

Meanwhile, Krawczyk has pledged to donate 20 percent of the shop's profits directly to Boston Healthcare for the Homeless - a nonprofit that provides healthcare services to homeless and formerly homeless individuals and families throughout Greater Boston.

"I first came to know Boston Healthcare for the Homeless as a referral resource when I was a hospital social worker," she said. "It is a place that I hold sincere admiration for the loving and respectful way they carry out their mission."

Also as a member of St. Cecilia's Parish, Krawczyk has been in attendance when Dr. Jim O'Connell, president of BHCHP and a fellow parishioner, spoke eloquently as a member of panels on social justice. She was also extremely moved by reading his memoir, 'Stories from the Shadows: Reflections of a Street Doctor.'

Krawczyk felt further compelled to give back to BHCHP upon seeing firsthand the striking disparity between the opulence in the neighborhood "with the unhoused population like a block away from [her store]."

Inspired by Krawczyk's largesse, one of the shop's featured wallpaper brands, Mitchell Black, has also agreed to donate a further percentage of its sales via These Storied Walls to BHCHP.

As for becoming a first-time business owner later in life, Krawczyk said she hopes her decision will inspire others to contemplate embarking on a new chapter at any age.

"It's never too late to try something new," she said. "I hope this will keep me young, this sense of energy and purpose."

These Storied Walls is open Wednesday through Saturday from 11a.m. to 4 p.m.; customers are invited to drop in during regular hours, or to make an appointment outside of these hours.

For more information, visit storiedwallsboston.com; email thesestoriedwalls@gmail.com; or call 617-334-5414.

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Author Jenny Jackson celebrates latest book with Sept. 17 event at Beacon Hill Books

Special to the Times

Things are always hopping at Beacon Hill Books, but the energy will amp up on Thursday, Sept.17, at 6 p.m., when New York Times-bestselling author Jenny Jackson signs copies of her latest book, 'The Shampoo Effect.'

Jenny is a publishing industry heavyweight as a vice president and executive editor at Alfred A. Knopf and the author of two bestsellers, 'The Shampoo Effect,' and before that, 'Pineapple Street.'

Jenny will be joined by her longtime friend, Alexa Stevenson, with whom she has co-created a line of table linens inspired by 'The Shampoo Effect.'

Jenny said, "'The Shampoo Effect' is about this tight-knit group of friends who spend countless hours together playing games, drinking cocktails, falling in love, and creating drama. Alexa and I wanted to design these linens to reflect the spirit of the book - the fun, the casual loveliness of family gatherings, the joy of long evenings with friends."

Melissa Fetter, founder and owner of Beacon Hill Books & Cafe added, "'The Shampoo Effect' has been flying off our shelves all summer long and it's a personal favorite."

The evening will be a convivial gathering to meet Jenny and get her to sign a book, as well as to shop for delightful linens that interior designer, Alexa Stevenson, describes as a "reflection of our friendship and the way you can infuse a party with cheer and joy through vibrant colors and patterns."

Passed bites from the cafe, wine and a signature mocktail will be available.

As Jenny Jackson said, "We invite readers to set their own tables - now it's up to them whether or not they want to fall in love and create their own drama!"



PHOTO COURTESY OF BEACON HILL BOOKS

Author Jenny Jackson (at right), with her friend and business collaborator, Alexa Stevenson.

Freedom Trail hosts after dark experiences

Special to the Times

Discover the Freedom Trail in a new light – after dark – on the official Freedom Trail Lantern Tours. Freedom Trail Foundation announces the return of the unique Lantern Tours, offering visitors and residents the opportunity to experience the sinister history and mystery of the Freedom Trail by lantern-light! The annual Lantern Tours will be offered on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays at 6 p.m. from September 17 until October 30, and Wednesday, October 28. Official Freedom Trail historic sites' evening Crypt Tours at King's Chapel and Old North Church also return this fall.

Duels, the grave of a ruthless pirate, punishments of convicted witches and more: all real and explored on the Freedom Trail Lantern Tours. Investigate the ghoulish side of Boston's iconic red-lined-path and hear historic tales too dark and macabre for daytime. Join Freedom Trail Players, darkly garbed with lanterns, and bring true accounts of appalling crimes, spies and assassins, to life on these 90-minute walking tours.

Lantern Tours start from the Boston Common Visitor Information Center plaza and illuminate the Granary and King's Chapel burying grounds as the final resting places of convicted pirates and others connected to Boston's less-illustrious past. Locations such as the Boston Massacre Site and the former site of the Old Gaol (Old Jail), adjacent to the Old State House and home to many of old Boston's most infamous criminals, are also featured along the way on the Freedom Trail.

"The Freedom Trail Lantern Tours and sites' Crypt Tours are a great way to experience the darker side of our history," says Suzanne Taylor, Executive Director, Freedom Trail Foundation. "These nighttime tours give visitors and residents the opportunity to learn about Boston's true, yet lesser-known, ghoulish history as people celebrate the spooky Halloween season."

Led by 18th-century costumed guides, Freedom Trail Foundation walking tours are $17 for adults, $15 for seniors/students, and $8 for children 12 and under. Purchase of a ticket includes a $1 donation to the Freedom Trail Foundation's Preservation Fund, which helps support preservation projects at official Freedom Trail historic sites. Tickets may be purchased at the Boston Common Visitor Information Center (8:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.) or online at TheFreedomTrail.org. Lantern Tours may also be scheduled as a private group tour year-round. For more information about the Lantern and Crypt Tours, please contact the Freedom Trail Foundation at 617-357-8300 or visit TheFreedomTrail.org.

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Healey invests $4.2 million to grow offshore wind workforce and research

Special to the Times

Governor Healey and the Mass Clean Energy Center (MassCEC) announced $4.2 million in funding to 20 projects that will prepare workers for offshore wind and maritime careers, and support research on fisheries, wildlife, and the marine environment. The funding is awarded through two MassCEC programs: $1.7 million through the Offshore Wind Works program and $2.4 million through the Offshore Wind Science, Research and Analysis program. These awards are part of Massachusetts' continued investment in the people, infrastructure, and science needed to support the state's offshore wind industry.

"Offshore wind means good jobs, more clean energy and real economic opportunity for Massachusetts," said Governor Maura Healey. "We're investing in the workers who will build this industry and the research needed to develop it responsibly and protect our fisheries, wildlife and marine environment."

"Massachusetts has everything it takes to lead in offshore wind: world-class ports, skilled workers and coastal communities with deep maritime experience," said Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll. "These grants will help more residents prepare for good-paying careers and make sure we're ready for the next generation of projects."

"The clean energy transition doesn't happen without the people doing the work," said Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Rebecca Tepper. "We need skilled workers to build offshore wind and researchers who can help us better understand our ocean, fisheries, and wildlife. Investing in both is how we grow clean energy responsibly and make sure Massachusetts continues to lead."

"These two efforts work in tandem: one grows the talent pipeline for offshore wind projects, the other expands the knowledge base the industry needs for the long haul," said Ben Downing, Mass Clean Energy Center CEO. "Investing in both is how Massachusetts prepares the way for future accelerated offshore wind deployment."

Through Offshore Wind Works, $1.7 million will support eight projects in building a Massachusetts workforce that is capable of planning, deploying, operating, maintaining, and manufacturing components for offshore wind projects. Many of the skills and credentials developed through these projects are transferable across clean energy, maritime, construction, and other port-based industries—strengthening workforce resilience beyond offshore wind alone. Since launching in 2018, Offshore Wind Works has awarded $22 million to 35 grantees, leveraging more than $11 million in additional cost-sharing.

"Massachusetts' clean energy future depends on having a skilled workforce ready to build it," said State Senator Jake Oliveira, Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Labor and Workforce Development (D-Ludlow). "These investments will create pathways into good-paying careers, strengthen partnerships with organized labor, higher education, and workforce training programs, and give workers skills that can serve them across industries. By investing in our workforce alongside research and responsible development, we are positioning Massachusetts workers to benefit from the economic opportunities created by the clean energy transition."

"The clean energy transition is also a workforce opportunity, and the Commonwealth must make sure our workers are positioned to lead it," said State Representative Paul McMurtry, House Chair of the Labor and Workforce Development Committee (D-Dedham). "From union trades and maritime workers to students and people exploring new careers, these investments are creating pathways into skilled jobs while building a workforce that can grow with the industry. That means more opportunity for Massachusetts workers and a stronger, more resilient economy for the future."

This year's awards will fund projects across three focus areas: Workforce Training & Upskilling; Training Equipment & Infrastructure; and Career Exploration & Education. The projects are expected to leverage an estimated $892,241 in additional cost-sharing and in-kind contributions from grantees and their partners.

The 2026 Offshore Wind Works awardees are:

Massachusetts Maritime Academy: $260,000 for Workforce Training & Upskilling

Funding will be used to establish the equipment, certifications, and instructional capacity needed to deliver Helicopter Underwater Escape Training.

Partners: RelyOn USA

TITAN Structural Group LLC: $500,000 for Workforce Training & Upskilling and Training Equipment & Infrastructure

Funding will be used to equip trades workers with offshore wind safety and technical certifications.

Partners: Ironworkers; IBEW; IUPAT union affiliates

UMass Dartmouth: $250,000 for Career Exploration & Education

Funding will be used to add 30 paid internship opportunities to the offshore wind internship program.

UMass Boston: $249,243 for Career Exploration & Education

Funding will be used to develop and deliver ten learning modules covering offshore wind topics ranging from engineering and aquaculture to ports and supporting infrastructure.

Partners: Academic Center for Reliability and Resilience of Offshore Wind (ARROW)

STEAM the Streets: $209,330 for Career Exploration & Education

Funding will be used to launch a statewide campaign to increase public understanding of offshore wind and clean energy careers.

Partners: Environmental League of Massachusetts; Boston Public Schools; New Bedford Public Schools; MassHire South Shore; MassHire Greater New Bedford

UMass Amherst: $141,427 for Career Exploration & Education

Funding will be used to expand the Career Access Scholarship Program, enhance workforce training with a focus on transferable skills, and foster new partnerships between Massachusetts and Nova Scotia.

Partners: MANSA Consulting; Salem Alliance for the Environment; Spirit Advisory

MANSA Consulting, Inc: $100,000 for Career Exploration & Education

Funding will be used to expand the WindWorks campaign to increase awareness of offshore wind career opportunities and connect participants to introductory offshore wind training.

Partners: Bristol Community College; IWNL Energy

Trustees of Tufts University: $40,000 for Career Exploration & Education

Funding will be used to publish findings on offshore wind workers' experiences, safety culture, and working conditions, while highlighting industry best practices through a case study.

Through the Offshore Wind Science, Research and Analysis program, $2.5 million will support 12 projects in advancing research that informs the responsible development and operation of offshore wind in Southern New England and the Gulf of Maine. Each project has a direct connection to a Massachusetts-based business or research institution, a Massachusetts-based intern, or both. Collectively, these awards will create at least seven paid internships for students attending Massachusetts universities, giving early-career researchers hands-on experience in offshore wind science.

This year's awards will address five topic areas: Fisheries; Habitat & Wildlife; Regional Transmission Planning; Regional Monitoring; and Science Communication.

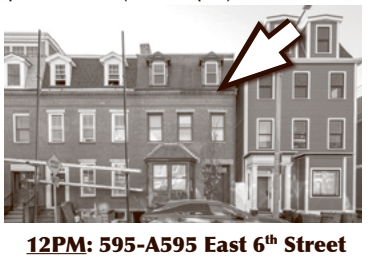
The 2026 Offshore Wind Science, Research and Analysis awardees are:

New England Aquarium: $246,075 for Fisheries research

Funding will be used to research how offshore wind development is affecting recreational and for-hire fishing activity in Southern New England.

See OFFSHORE Page 15

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Jury acquits Suffolk County Sheriff Steven Tompkins of extortion charges

Special to the Times

A federal jury acquitted Suffolk County Sheriff Steven W. Tompkins of extortion charges Wednesday, September 2, following a trial in the John Joseph Moakley United States Courthouse in Boston.

Tompkins had been charged with two counts of extortion related to an investment in a cannabis company.

Tompkins was appointed Sheriff of Suffolk County in 2013. He won a special election in 2014 and two general elections for six-year terms in 2016 and 2022. His current term ends on January 3, 2029.

During his 13 years in office, Tompkins has always been highly visible at events throughout the county that includes Boston, Revere, Winthrop, and Chelsea. He was known for being greeted warmly by fellow officials and residents and often delivered remarks at ceremonies and public events that displayed his witiness and vibrant personality.

State and city officials spoke about the jury's unanimous decision and wished Tompkins well as he prepares to return to his position as Sheriff of Suffolk County.

"I am so grateful for the jury's service," said Sen. Lydia Edwards. "Sheriff Tompkins has been acquitted and can now move on. He wants nothing more than to get back to serving the people of Suffolk County."

State Rep. Jeffrey Rosario Turco of Winthrop said, "I am pleased that a jury has unanimously acquitted Sheriff Tompkins. Upon hearing the news, I immediately recalled the words of former Labor Secretary Ray Donovan, also acquitted, when he asked, 'What office do I go to get my reputation back?' Steve Tompkins has been a champion of criminal justice reform, and I look forward to him continuing to serve the people of Suffolk County."

Chelsea Councilor-at-Large Leo Robinson, a longtime friend and supporter of Tompkins, said, "I'm glad that the jury acquitted Sheriff Tompkins and that he will be returning to his position of leadership in Suffolk County. The sheriff has been a friend of mine for many years, and I think he's done a great job overall."



Suffolk County Sheriff Steven W. Tompkins

ROUNDUP *(from Page 3)*

NICHOLS HOUSE MUSEUM OFFERING TOURS

The 1804 Nichols House Museum at 55 Mount Vernon St. was home to an early 20th-century family of artists and activists, along with their domestic staff. The house was preserved as a museum by Rose Standish Nichols, a pioneering woman landscape architect. It is furnished with an original collection, including works by the sculptor Augustus Saint-Gaudens, as well as furniture and textiles handcrafted by Rose and her sister Margaret. Tours are offered on Thursday through Saturday at 10 and 11 a.m., and noon; on Sundays at 11 a.m., noon, and 1 p.m.

For more information, tickets, and to register, visit: nicholshousemuseum.org

COME PLAY MAH JONGG AT THE WEST END COMMUNITY CENTER

Whether you are a beginner or an experienced player, you are invited to join the friendly Mah Jongg group. Instructors will be available to help new players, and everyone is welcome. Come meet new people, socialize, and play the game.

The group meets on the first and third Wednesdays of each month from 1:30-3:30 p.m. at the West End Community (within the West End Neighborhood Center), 75 Blossom Court (entrance on Thoreau Path).

For more information, email Audrey Tedeman(artedeman@gmail.com) or Sandy Connor(ssconnor46@gmail.com).

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Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

TORIE *(from Page 1)*

practice facility for the Boston Bruins.

Wojick continues to support figure skaters. She attended the Aug. 26 U.S. Figure Skating X Fashion: Styling 2027 exhibition at View Boston located at the top of the Prudential Center.

Wojick, an outstanding artist and choreographer, greeted two-time U.S. Olympian Olympic gold medalist Alisa Liu, former Olympian Johnny Weir, and well-known skate dress designer Lisa McKinnon at the event. Wojick displayed her own stylishness with a multi-colored crystal-beaded dress, that flawlessly combined skating and evening attire – drawing much praise from attendees for her fashion choice.

Connecticut roots and an entrance into the world of figure skating

Wojick grew up in the small, shoreline town of Killingworth, Connecticut.

"We only have one traffic light," said Torie, smiling. "It was a great place to grow up. But I always knew I wanted to move out of state to Boston."



CARY SHUMAN PHOTO

Torie Wojick (left) greets aspiring fashion designer Isabella Castro of Boston at a U.S. Figure Skating exhibition at View Boston in the Prudential Center.

She put on her first pair of skates at the age of four. Her parents also encouraged her to take part in other sports such as horseback riding and gymnastics.

"I began figure skating lessons when I was 10 in a learn-to-skate program at Wesleyan University's ice arena - which was a little late in the game, but before that I was a dancer and did every type of dance under the sun – ballet, tap, jazz, hip hop," recalled Wojick. "I competed in a lot of freestyle and synchronized skating events."

Coached by national, world, and Olympic champions, Wojick qualified for the national synchronized skating championships in 2006 before transitioning to ice dance events.

At one point in her figure skating career, Wojick had a skating coach, personal trainer, a choreographer, a ballet coach, a costume designer, and a jumping coach.

"But I began to feel really burnt out from the sport," related Wojick. "It wasn't because of anyone else. I just put so pressure on myself. There were too many societal pressures back then about what a skater should look like and how old a skater should be. At the age of 17, I felt like I was over the hill. Now as an adult, I have a very different perspective on figure skating. I do it because I love it."

A decision to attend grad school at Emerson

Torie attended Haddam-Killingworth High School which has its own television studio. Upon graduation, she matriculated at Central Connecticut State University where she majored in Media Production.

"In high school I was introduced to Final Cut Pro (video editing software created by Apple) and I was really intimidated by it at first, "recalled Torie. "I was afraid I might delete something. It wasn't until I got to Central Connecticut that I really fell in love with video editing and I wanted to do more of it. But we didn't have a lot of classes in it, so I ended up taking broadcast journalism courses, so I could edit together news packages. But it wasn't what I wanted to do."

In her junior year, Wojick turned her focus to applying to graduate school. She took on some freelance editing projects and began teaching in "Learn To Skate" programs.

She eventually enrolled in graduate school at Emerson College in Boston, where she had previously audited two classes. Emerson ranks No. 5 on the Hollywood Reporter's list of best U.S. film schools.

"Emerson was the only school I applied to," said Wojick. "I knew they had a really robust post-production setup, and that was just what I wanted to do. I worked really hard throughout 2013. I took on internships where I was able to connect with industry professionals."

Upon receiving her graduate degree in Film and Media Art, she worked in the media industry for four years as a post-production coordinator at post-studios in Boston.

"I really liked the work and being able to work with clients and also see how some of the editors were doing their job, and that gave me a solid foundation for my field," said Wojick.

Wojick became a part-time instructor at Emerson College, where "I was able to bring what I learned from the industry into classroom."

This semester, she is taking a break to focus on skating, freelance film projects, and her art, "but I'm looking into teaching post-production workshops at Emerson."

She will also be teaching in the Learn-To-Skate program at Warrior Ice Arena in Brighton.

"I really love that I can find time to skate, but I can also have time to teach, to do freelance projects, and to make art – it's nice that I have some control over my schedule and be able to do things that I love," said Wojick.

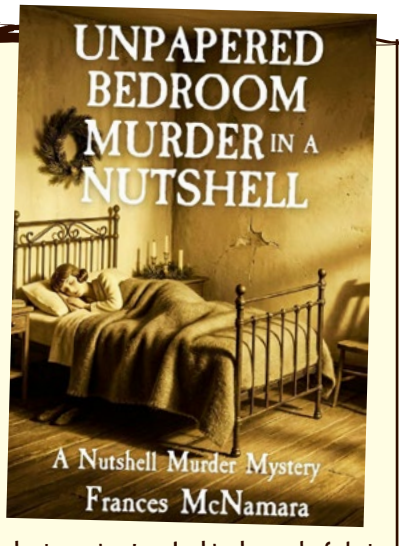
A return to skating

After a 12-year hiatus from performing in figure skating shows, Wojick returned to live performances in 2021, connecting with Kate McSwain, co-CEO of American Ice Theatre, who encouraged Wojick to perform in the aforementioned American Contemporary Skating Festival.

"I choreographed and skated in a routine called "Glitter on the Dance Floor," in the the festival," she said. "I took bits

See SKATING Page 9

NEW!!
BOOK 4 in the Nutshell Murder Mystery series featuring "Mother of Forensic Science" Frances Glessner Lee



A woman is found dead in a rundown rooming house in Boston's South End. But she's wife of a wealthy banker with a mansion in the Back Bay. Frances Glessner Lee fears this time medical examiner Jake Magrath won't let her join the investigation. Is this the end of their partnership? It's December 1924 and there's a movement to free accused anarchists Sacco and Vanzetti. Does the death have to do with demonstrations? Or is it merely a tawdry love triangle that led to her death?

Author Frances McNamara grew up in Boston, where her father served as Police Commissioner. She is the author of the Nutshell Murder Mystery series and the Emily Cabot Mysteries. She is retired from University of Chicago Library and lives in Boston's West End.

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Boston Arts Festival returns for 23rd year with more than 50 local artists

Special to the Times

The Boston Arts Festival is back with more than 50 artists who will be taking over Christopher Columbus Waterfront Park from September 12 + 13, 2026. The annual celebration of all things art was first launched in 2003. Over the years, it has grown to become Boston's biggest art celebration of the summer, giving dozens of local artists and musicians a platform. The family-friendly event runs from 11:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. each day and is free. Blankets, chairs, and picnics are encouraged; dogs are enthusiastically welcomed, and the event is rain or shine.

Affectionately dubbed "ähts", this annual event was founded in 2003 by Mayor Thomas M. Menino and the City of Boston's Office of Arts, Tourism and Special Events with the mission of promoting the Open Studios events hosted by Boston neighborhoods throughout the Fall.

"Over the years this festival has taken on special meaning for all of us. It is more than just an art show; it is a celebration of the city and the incredible creative people that call it home," said Jen Matson, Boston Arts Festival Organizer. "It is incredible to be able to sit back and take it all in as families and art lovers fill the park, enjoy great live music and experience the wonder that is Boston in the summertime."

The 2026 festival will feature two full days of music from some of the best local bands and solo artists from Greater Boston. This year's lineup includes Fly By Brass Band, Nicolena Cronin, Ivan Korn, Ava Valianti, In Lieu of Flowers, Tyler Casavant, Shira Laucharoen, Ty Fleischut, blindspot, Katie Dobbins, and Nick Zaino.

The Boston Arts Festival will take place from 11 A.M. - 6 P.M., September 12 and 13, 2026, at Christopher Columbus Park. The event is free. More information can be found at TheBostonArtsFestival.com.

SKATING *(from Page 8)*

and pieces from almost every program that I had ever done. I really loved having that creative freedom, and I'm so grateful to Kate for allowing me to have that opportunity. I had so much fun performing again. I realized that skating can be for people of any age and you can start at any age. There is no expiration date."

Enjoying the Beacon Hill community

Wojick said she has become a proud resident of the Beacon Hill neighborhood.

"What I love so much about Beacon Hill is the community here," said Wojick. "Everyone is always looking out for each other. I often go to the Beacon Hill Athletic Club, and that's also where I started working again. I love the space and I love getting to know my neighbors. I love our Halloweens and the Holiday Strolls. Beacon Hill is a tight-knit community."

Wojick is a self-taught artist from a family of artists. "My grandmother, who was also an artist, taught me a little about water color, which was her medium, but I realized it wasn't for me. I preferred drawing with graphite and charcoal," said Wojick.

Wojick said she didn't become familiar with the Beacon Hill Art Walk until 2018.

"When I first saw the Art Walk, I was just so inspired," said Wojick. "I was wandering around at the Walk and took this picture of a typewriter that was on a table. The years went by and the pandemic happened, and then I got re-inspired and I attended the Walk and thought to myself, 'Why am I not a part of this event, too? I love making art and I live in Beacon Hill. I should put my work out there and see what happens.'"

"In 2025, I sent in my application to the Art Walk and I was accepted. While I was at the event, I began drawing the typewriter at my table. I finally got to put in on display this year, and a woman approached and said to me, 'I had that exact typewriter in high school,' so that was the first piece of artwork that I sold." In that moment of selling her drawing of a typewriter, Wojick "felt like I had come full circle."

As for her current endeavors, Wojick plans to continue performing. "When I was a kid, my parents (Frank and Debbie Wojick) were (and still are) amazing and so supportive. They've always said, 'We just want you to be happy.'"

Thirty years after first lacing up her skates, Wojick is back on the ice, doing what makes her happy and finding happiness in Beacon Hill."

(You can see her "Glitter on the Dance Floor" performance on YouTube and find her next year at the Beacon Hill Art Walk).

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AG Campbell releases annual Labor Day report spotlighting actions to protect workers

Special to the Times

Massachusetts Attorney General Andrea Joy Campbell released the Attorney General's Office (AGO)'s annual Labor Day Report, spotlighting the AGO's dedicated efforts to protect the rights of Massachusetts workers and ensure access to fair pay, benefits, and safe working conditions for all.

"While decisions by the federal government create new uncertainty for workers and families, my office continues to do what it's always done: protect working people," said AG Campbell. "I am proud to release this year's Labor Day Report, which highlights the efforts of my office's Fair Labor Division to ensure that workers are paid for every hour they work and receive the minimum wage and overtime they have earned."

FY2026 By the Numbers

In Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26), between July 1, 2025 and June 30, 2026, the AGO's Fair Labor Division (FLD) took 1,292 enforcement actions against 1,183 employers for violating various protections, helping more than 16,410 workers and assessing nearly $12.7 million in restitution for unpaid wages and penalties.

The construction industry faced the highest rate of enforcement actions (20%), followed by restaurants/hotels (19.5%), healthcare (8%), landscaping/snow removal (6.3%), and cleaning/janitorial (5.6%). Failure to Make Timely Payments was the most common type of violation (474 citations).

Fighting Exploitation in the Construction Industry

In FY26, FLD assessed more than $2.5 million in restitution and penalties related to investigations in the construction industry, entitling over 1,300 employees to restitution payments.

One such enforcement action involved a complaint against Master Millwork – a West Wareham company that specializes in the manufacturing and installation of custom cabinets and millwork – alleging that the company was not paying workers properly. FLD's investigation revealed that the company failed to properly pay overtime and misclassified workers as independent contractors. As a result of the investigation, Master Millwork agreed to pay more than $280,000 in restitution and penalties.

In addition to enforcement, FLD continues to utilize a dedicated, multilingual investigative team to conduct unannounced compliance visits to active construction sites throughout the Commonwealth with the goal of ensuring a continuous and supportive presence in the field. This field team visited 37 construction sites in FY26, successfully engaging over 160 employers and nearly 400 workers to provide direct guidance on state wage and hour laws.

Following a visit by FLD's Construction Field Team to a construction worksite, FLD conducted a full investigation and issued five citations totaling more than $218,000 to Donizetti's Tile Services, Inc. for failure to pay overtime, failure to furnish pay slips, misclassifying employees as independent contractors, failure to permit employees to earn and use sick time, and failure to keep true and accurate payroll records.

Combatting Independent Contractor Misclassification

Addressing worker misclassification remains one of the AGO's highest enforcement priorities. Misclassification occurs when companies improperly classify workers as independent contractors, as opposed to employees. Misclassification by non-compliant employers strips workers of their rights as employees and denies basic workplace rights, including guaranteed minimum wage, overtime pay, timely compensation, accrued sick leave, employer retaliation protections, and essential benefits. In FY26, FLD took action against nearly 60 employers who misclassified approximately 1,500 workers, totaling more than $2.1 million in restitution and penalties.

As part of the ongoing efforts to address worker misclassification, FLD reached a settlement with online grocery-delivery company Weee! to resolve allegations that the company violated Massachusetts independent contractor and earned sick time laws. As part of the settlement, Weee! paid more than $865,000 in citations, including restitution for over 160 impacted workers and penalties.

In another matter, FLD issued citations totaling nearly $420,000 against Beverly-based cleaning/janitorial company Advanced Maintenance Solutions, Inc. regarding allegations that the company failed to pay overtime, failed to comply with the state's earned sick time law, and misclassified employees as independent contractors.

Protecting and Empowering Restaurant Workers

In FY26, FLD issued nearly 400 citations and assessed almost $2.5 million in restitution and penalties involving the restaurant and hospitality sectors. This enforcement effort impacted over 3,400 workers in these industries, particularly workers who rely on customers' tips to earn at least the minimum wage.

One such enforcement action involved Carrie Nation and The Dubliner, two restaurants located in Boston's Beacon Hill neighborhood. After receiving a complaint that the businesses failed to remit the total proceeds of service charges to service employees, FLD investigated and ultimately cited the employers for tips violations. As a result of the citations, the employers paid a total of $422,000 in restitution and penalties.

Community Engagement and Education

FLD, along with the AGO's Community Engagement Division, recently marked the 10-year anniversary of the Wage Theft Clinic, which helps connect workers who have wage issues and need free legal advice to community legal aid partners and private attorneys. Throughout the clinic's run, workers and their advocates have reported $2.4 million in recovered wages, however the actual figure is likely much higher.

During FY26, the AGO hosted or participated in 98 worker- and employer-focused community engagement events, and performed 141 worksite visits. These efforts showcase the AGO's commitment to not just enforcement, but to providing resources and education to help protect the rights of workers and ensure employers' compliance with state laws.

The AGO's Fair Labor Division and Relevant Resources

The AGO's Fair Labor Division consists of attorneys, investigators, intake and support staff. The Division enforces state laws regulating the payment of wages, including minimum wage, overtime, prevailing wage, child labor, earned sick leave, and labor trafficking. It also protects employees from exploitation and wage theft through strong partnerships and community education.

In accordance with state and federal law, the AGO works to serve and protect all workers, without regard to immigration status, does not ask about workers' immigration status, and does not voluntarily provide workers' personal information to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

Workers in Massachusetts who believe their workplace rights have been violated are encouraged to file a complaint with the AGO's Fair Labor Division at mass.gov/ago/fld. For more information about the state's employment laws, workers may call the AGO's Fair Labor Hotline at (617) 727-3465 or visit mass.gov/ago/fair-labor for information available in multiple languages.



Healey issues PROTECT Act guidance for health care providers, employers, law enforcement and state agencies

Special to the Times

Governor Maura Healey today released new guidance and resources to implement the PROTECT Act, providing state government actors, health care providers, law enforcement agencies, and employers with clear direction as additional protections for residents under the law take effect.

The new guidance addresses protections for nonpublic areas of state property and in health care facilities, limits state and local law enforcement participation in civil immigration enforcement, and a new state law requirement for employers to notify workers in writing if ICE is going to inspect employee records.

"We passed the PROTECT Act to keep people safe from the dangerous tactics we are seeing from ICE here in Massachusetts and across the country," said Governor Maura Healey. "This guidance makes clear what officials across state government, health care providers, law enforcement agencies, and employers need to know and do if they come across ICE. The PROTECT Act is about keeping our communities safe, protecting people's rights and preserving the trust that allows people to seek care, report crimes and access the services they rely on."

"The PROTECT Act gives communities across Massachusetts important protections, and this guidance helps turn those protections into practice," said Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll. "Our employers, health care providers, law enforcement officers and state employees are on the front lines serving people every day. We want to make sure they have the clarity and support they need to do their jobs, keep people safe and continue providing the services that families and communities depend on."

Governor Healey signed the PROTECT Act on August 5, establishing some of the strongest protections in the nation against abuses by federal immigration authorities. The law limits civil arrests in courthouses, schools, child care programs, nursing homes and nonpublic areas of health care facilities; restricts the use of state property for civil law enforcement; strictly limits state and local participation in civil immigration enforcement; strengthens protections for workers and families; and creates a state civil rights remedy for constitutional violations.

The guidance released today includes:

State Property

Governor Healey and the Executive Office for Administration and Finance (A&F) issued statewide guidelines limiting civil law enforcement activity in nonpublic areas of state property.

Under the guidelines, civil law enforcement activities, including civil arrests, are prohibited in designated nonpublic areas of state buildings and other property, unless they are required by state or federal law or to administer a state or federally supported program, authorized by a valid judicial warrant or judicial order, or necessary to address a specific and immediate health or safety threat.

The Act applies broadly to any property owned, leased, occupied, controlled by or used for business by the Commonwealth, except courthouses. The guidelines instruct state agencies and other Commonwealth offices to review their property portfolio and designate areas as "nonpublic," with the goal of preserving access to essential public service and the ability to conduct business with the state, without fear or intimidation.

"We, as an administration, take the health and safety of residents of Massachusetts seriously," said Administration and Finance Secretary Matthew J. Gorzkowicz. "No one should be afraid to access state buildings or the government services to which they are entitled. These guidelines will ensure people feel safe and protected by their state government."

Health Care Facilities

The Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS), Department of Public Health (DPH), Department of Mental Health (DMH), Department of Developmental Services (DDS) and MassHealth developed guidance and a model policy to help health care providers implement new protections for nonpublic areas of their service sites. The law requires covered providers to establish policies for interactions with law enforcement engaged in civil law enforcement, including federal immigration enforcement, within 30 days of today.

"No one should have to weigh their health and safety against the fear of immigration enforcement," said Health and Human Services Secretary Kiame Mahaniah, MD, MBA. "The PROTECT Act will help residents maintain access to services they need, and ensure that places where people go for care will remain a trusted resource."

The requirements apply to a broad range of providers, including hospitals, community health centers, clinics, mobile clinics, nursing and rest homes, emergency medical services, adult day health centers, substance use disorder treatment programs, certain physician and advanced practice nursing practices, providers serving people with intellectual or developmental disabilities, and certain MassHealth day habilitation providers.

Under the Act, certain covered providers must designate a point of contact for interactions with civil law enforcement, identify nonpublic areas where people receive care or discuss protected health information, or that are otherwise not open to the public, and establish procedures so staff, volunteers, and administrators know how to respond to requests from civil law enforcement. Civil arrests are not allowed in those designated nonpublic areas without a judicial warrant, except as otherwise required by law or to administer a state or federally supported program. Covered providers required to adopt a policy under the Act must do so by October 4. Today's release of guidance and a model policy by the Healey-Driscoll Administrations is designed to assist in those efforts.

Law Enforcement and Civil Immigration Enforcement

The Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS), Municipal Police Training Committee (MPTC) and Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association (MCOPA) developed new roll call training materials to help police officers, dispatchers, records staff and other law enforcement personnel understand the PROTECT Act's requirements and how they apply to day-to-day public safety work.

Beginning today, the law limits when state and local law enforcement may inquire about, record, share or act on a person's immigration or citizenship status. It also restricts the use of state and local personnel, facilities, equipment and other public resources to conduct or participate in federal civil immigration enforcement and prohibits holding someone past the time they are otherwise eligible for release based solely on an immigration detainer.

The guidance makes equally clear what the PROTECT Act does not change. Massachusetts law enforcement can continue investigating and enforcing criminal laws, making lawful arrests with a judicial warrant, conducting booking procedures, keeping the peace, responding to emergencies and working with federal, state and local partners on criminal investigations.

If a crime or breach of the peace occurs during a federal civil immigration operation, officers may respond to address the public safety issue while remaining separate from the civil immigration enforcement activity itself.

Notice to Employees of I-9 Inspections

The Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development (LWD), Office for Refugees and Immigrants (ORI) and Attorney General's Office issued guidance to help Massachusetts employers comply with a new state law requirement to notify employees of upcoming inspections of I-9 employment eligibility records by ICE.

Under the PROTECT Act, Massachusetts employers must provide employees with written notice within 48 hours of receiving a Notice of Inspection from ICE for I-9 forms or other employment records, except where otherwise required by federal law.

The Administration is also providing employers with a sample notice that can be used or modified to comply with the law. Notice must be provided individually to employees and should be provided in the employee's primary language; posting a notice at the workplace alone does not satisfy the requirement.

"This guidance gives employers clear steps to follow while ensuring workers receive timely and accurate information," said Secretary of Labor and Workforce Development Lauren Jones. "By making sure employers and employees are informed, we are strengthening workplace protections and helping employers across the state understand and meet their responsibilities under the PROTECT Act."

Today's guidance builds on guidance released by Governor

See PROTECT ACT Page 12

City of Boston releases request for proposals for new Street Furniture Program

Special to the Patriot-Bridge

The City of Boston announced a Request for Proposals (RFP) procurement process to identify a business partner to upgrade and expand its network of bus shelters, wayfinding kiosks, and other street furniture elements in the City's rights-of-way. These amenities serve transit riders, active transportation users and pedestrians. The City's vision for its new Street Furniture Program is to influence how people travel and improve public spaces through functional, well-designed amenities that also attract advertisers interest. The program will be self-sustaining through advertising revenue.

Street furniture has seen a resurgence in popularity since the pandemic, with programs worldwide increasing transit accessibility; offering relief from climate impacts, including reduce exposure to extreme heat; and fostering neighborhood identity while encouraging economic activity through advertising on program elements.

"Every street block in our City has the potential to be more accessible and welcoming for everyone. With input from urban design partners, we developed an RFP that connects essential street amenities with public art to make street infrastructure more comfortable, inviting and accessible," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "We look forward to selecting a partner who can help bring this vision to life, creating streets that are safer, easier to navigate and more inviting for residents and visitors alike."

Boston's original Street Furniture Program, launched in 2001, was one of the first of its kind in North America. A pioneer in both design and delivery, the City entered into a public-private partnership that deployed hundreds of amenities throughout Boston. The program resulted in more than 360 bus shelters, six self-cleaning public toilets, and dozens of City information panels, all maintained through revenue generated by advertising sales.

Over the 25 years since the original program began, street furniture has evolved significantly, incorporating digital and other technologies that deliver real-time information to transit riders and the public. Cities around the world use digital displays to provide emergency messaging and public information to residents and visitors.

Advertising space on street furniture has also risen significantly in value, according to the Outdoor Advertising Association of America (OAAA), the trade organization for the out-of-home (OOH) advertising industry. OAAA recently reported that OOH advertising generated $2.12 billion in the first quarter of 2026, with street furniture advertising revenues increasing by 11.5% year over year—the second-highest revenue growth among major OOH formats. According to OAAA, more than $137 million was spent on OOH advertising in the Boston market in 2025.

The City released the new RFP on September 7, 2026, through the City's Procurement Department webpage.

Interested and qualified parties must register through the Supplier Portal to access the RFP. The City will hold a virtual question-and-answer session regarding the RFP on September 16, 2026, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Meeting information will be posted on the City's Procurement Department webpage.

Responses to the RFP are due on November 4, 2026.

Further information about the Street Furniture Program is available at https://www.boston.gov/departments/property-management/coordinated-street-furniture

For information about this RFP, please contact pmdbidinfo@boston.gov.

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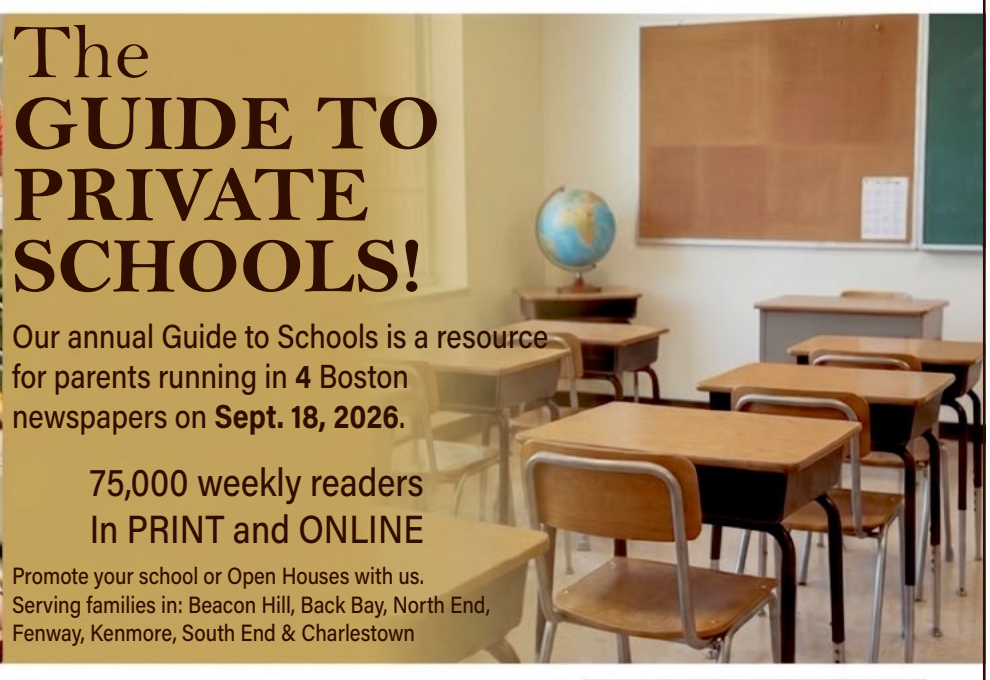


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Published by the THE INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER GROUP

PROTECT Act *(from Page 11)*

Healey last month to help K-12 schools and child care programs implement the PROTECT Act. Those resources provided model policies and procedures for responding to civil law enforcement, reviewing requests for access, protecting confidential information and communicating with students and families.

Earlier this year, Governor Healey also signed Executive Order 650 to protect access to essential state services and issued statewide guidance to schools, child care providers, colleges and universities, health care facilities and places of worship on interacting with federal immigration enforcement.

The Healey-Driscoll Administration will continue working with state agencies, employers, health care providers, law enforcement and communities across Massachusetts to fully implement the PROTECT Act and ensure its protections are carried out effectively statewide.

Fresh and Local

Many farmers' markets are still open

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

If you're someone who thinks that September brings an end to the fresh, local, healthy ingredients you've been purchasing at a local farmers' market, you are wrong. While some markets run for a short time, many others continue into November.

Halley Stillman from Still Life Farm and Stillman's Farm recently told us why this is a great time of year for regular visits to area farmers' markets. She said, "This is the best time of year to shop. You have all the stuff from the summer, and we are going into all the best stuff of the fall. The seasons will converge in this month." (Below you'll find a list of the markets that remain open.)

Longer Seasons and More Crop Diversity

Today's farmers' markets have expanded beyond produce. You can purchase local seafood, meat, bakery products, flowers, eggs, grown and foraged mushrooms, and prepared food.

Every year we notice new offerings at the markets we attend. Once okra was a rare sight; now we have had it much longer. A wide variety of berries keep farm stands filled with healthy options for snacking and cooking.

Some family farms have expanded their scope with each generation. For example, today you'll find Stillman's Farm offering items from the original farmstead, plus Halley and Curtis Stillman's Still Life Farm fruit and berries, and Kate's Stillman Quality Meats.

Greenhouses and hoophouses have allowed regional farmers to extend their growing seasons, offering earlier and later crops that once had very short seasons.

What About Prices?

Recent produce recalls and distrust of the government's ability to ensure food safety have expanded the market for our farmers. We've noticed longer lines and people surprised by the offerings at local markets. And when we suggest that people concerned about these issues shop at farmers' markets, they complain about the prices.

Yes, food is expensive! It's expensive at the supermarket and when dining out. However, food waste is even more expensive. The food you purchase at a farmers' market is fresher, will last longer, has more nutrition, and you can usually buy exactly the amount you need.

Farmers face higher prices for all the elements that go into growing the food you want. These farmers drive large trucks long distances from their rural farms to city markets. They face higher fuel and energy costs to run farm equipment and heat greenhouses.

Farms are labor-intensive, and with many potential workers prevented from entering or forced to leave this country, they must pay workers a competitive wage. Additional workers are needed to staff farmers' markets, and they pay fees for market space.

The list goes on and on: seeds, equipment, taxes, interest payments on loans and mortgages, equipment purchase and repair, water, insurance, and all the other costs any business requires.

We're fortunate they are willing to keep providing the safety of a local food source and deliver it to markets near our homes.

Here's that list of markets. (Exact locations, dates, times, and other details are available at www.massfarmersmarkets.org.)

Open into late September: Assembly Row, Kendall Square, Revere Beach and Winthrop. Open into late October: Boston Fish Pier, Charlestown, Chelsea, Mission Hill, South End Greater Neighborhood, SOWA, and Union Square.

Open into Thanksgiving Week: Central Square - Cambridge, Copley Square, and Davis Square

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



Halley Stillman says, "This is the best time of year to shop. You have all the stuff from the summer, and we are going into all the best stuff of the fall."

BHCA *(from Page 1)*

Cambridge Street in front of the Fire Department parking lot. The BHCA worked with the City's Office of Neighborhood Services to make this project a reality. Since their installation last year, these bins have gathered 20,055 lbs (over 10 tons!) of food waste waste! That is 10 tons less food waste on the sidewalks. The more we compost, the less food we lay out for rodents.

Please donate to the BHCA's 2026 Annual Appeal at bhcivic.org to support our work for the community!

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Meet & Greet - There will be no Meet & Greet in September

BHCA Board of Directors - Tuesday, September 15th, 7pm at 74 Joy Street

Dinner Under the Stars - Saturday, September 26th, 6-9pm, on the flat of Mt. Vernon Street (ticketed event)

Fall HillFest - Sunday, September 27th, 12-4pm, on the flat of Mt. Vernon Street (free event open to all)

First Friday Coffee Hour - Friday, October 2nd, 8:30-9:30am, at 74 Joy Street. Invited guest - Mary Ann Ponti, Director of Outreach and Community Engagement, St. Anthony Shrine



Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
BACK BAY			
Noymer-Colon Ft	Dawson Jr, John E	11 Exeter St #2E	$860,000
Han, Shixin	Riad Rt	133 Marlborough St #7	$925,000
157 Newbury Unit 3 Rt	Macdougall, Michael M	157-159 Newbury St #3	$3,175,000
Marcus, Hannah Grace	Friedman, Joel	165 Beacon St #2	$471,000
Key 2 Boston Rentals LLC	Alibrandi, Mark W	247 Beacon St #2	$750,000
Bilsky, Pauline	Jiang & Miao Ft	360 Newbury St #508	$1,500,000
Ayer, Emily Little	Oystercatche T	40 Commonwealth Ave #J	$2,331,000
BEACON HILL			
10 Byron St Rt	Hounsell, Bruce K	10 Byron St	$6,500,000
Peabody, Corey	Murray, Alison	112 Pinckney St #4	$639,000
Kroeger, Christophe	Schofield, Kate	20 Joy St #2	$640,000
Bradi, Ryan	Khouri, Roger	40 Joy St #9	$1,915,000
Malone, Wendi R	Donahue, Richard	76 W Cedar St #5F	$1,240,000
Boston Yinou Service Inc	West End Partners LLC	9 Hawthorne Pl #115N	$300,000
DOWNTOWN/WATERFRONT			
Odeh & Company LLC	Dannyrealtor LLC	339 Washington St #103A	$1,200,000
Mehta, Akanksha	Roin, Benjamin	65 E India Row #30A	$2,575,000
Mehta, Akanksha	Roin, Benjamin	65 E India Row #30B	$2,575,000
Avon St Inv & Dev LLC	71 Avon St Investment LL	71 Avon St	$3,100,000
Marandola, Joyce S	Mickens, James W	100 Lovejoy Wharf #11K	$1,200,000
Joshi, Priya	Chen, Shixiong	131 Beverly St #5H	$860,000
133 N Wa Realty LLC	Jumping Jack Party Time	133 N Washington St	$1,625,000
BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE			
Attardo, Peter	19 Bay State Rd Rt	19 Bay State Rd #4	$1,400,000
Weise, Brittany	Mathurin John Est	202 W Springfield St #4	$700,000
Carlson, Peter	Paige, Laura W	40 Traveler St #712	$672,750
Maffei, Lucia	Tamara Kahn 2016 Ret	511 Massachusetts Ave #2	$1,190,000
Sheketoff, Rachel	Grayson, Noah M	536 Massachusetts Ave #4	$905,000
May, Susan	Zide, Erin	636-638 Beacon St #502	$485,000
Patel, Atul	Booker, Matthew A	668 Massachusetts Ave #4	$670,000
Mcgoldrick, Emlly N	Leonard Ret	73 Rutland St #2	$650,000
Patricia W Cliff Ret	Lu, Juye	88 Wareham St #605	$680,000
Hoang, Mei	Girma Belay Ret	419 S Huntington Ave	$1,250,000
Pb Nt	Trinity Stuart 35G LLC	430 Stuart St #35B	$14,250,000

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Defining the Client Experience for Luxury Real Estate in Boston



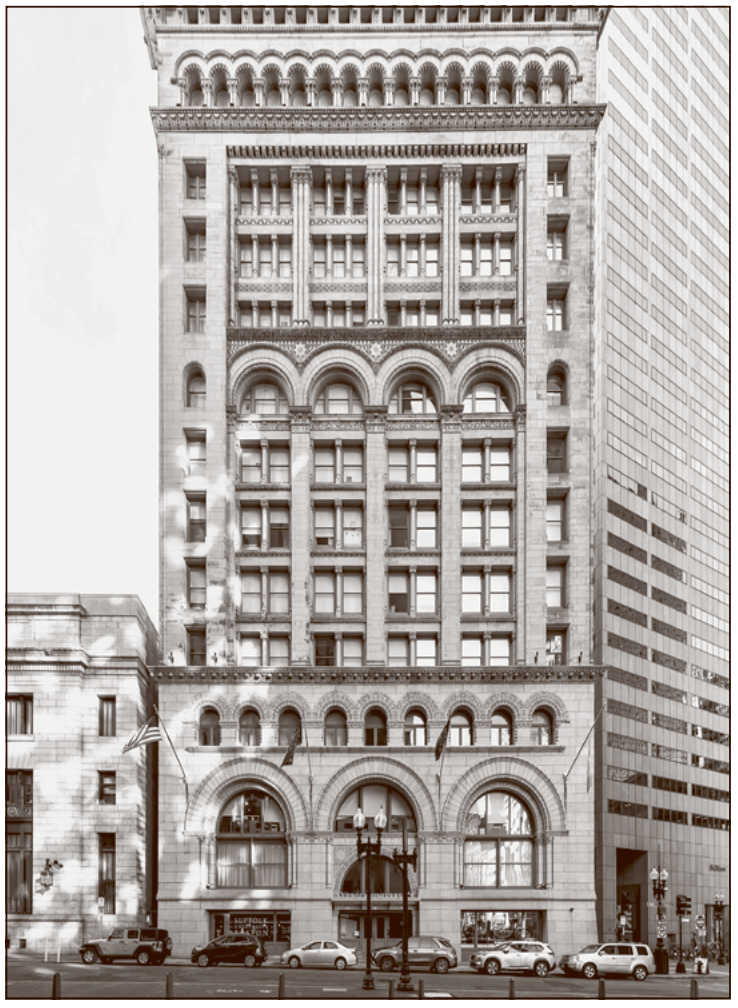
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Gibson Sotheby's INTERNATIONAL REALTY

Attention to Detail

Photos and Text By Penny Cherubino

THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The doorway in the last clue is on the Ames Building at 1 Court Street, built in 1889. The National Register for Historic Places noted that "The Ames Building was Boston's first skyscraper and represents one solution to the increasing demand for office space which was produced by the heightened business activity of Boston in the last decades of the 1800's."

Do you have a favorite building or detail you would like featured? Email Penny@BostonZest.com with your suggestion.

THIS WEEK'S CLUE



OFFSHORE *(from Page 6)*

Partners: Pelagic Strategies

UMass Dartmouth

$280,501 for Fisheries and Habitat research

Funding will be used to continue a study focused on understanding offshore wind impacts on cod spawning grounds in Southern New England.

$199,589 for Regional Monitoring

Funding will be used to create a regional data-collection strategy to guide future monitoring and inform responsible offshore wind development in the Gulf of Maine.

Partners: Regional Wildlife Science Collaborative & Northeast Regional Ocean Council (separate $30,000 award to support this project)

Center for Coastal Studies: $284,642 for Habitat & Wildlife research

Funding will be used to evaluate the ability of ocean circulation models to predict zooplankton aggregations to inform methods for understanding potential offshore wind effects on North Atlantic right whale prey.

Partners: Integral Consulting

atdepth MRV Inc.: $252,000 for Habitat & Wildlife research

Funding will be used to create a digital twin model of the Gulf of Maine to study potential effects of floating offshore wind turbines on ocean processes and North Atlantic right whale prey.

Tufts University: $269,910 for Habitat & Wildlife research

Funding will be used to develop an implementation framework for incorporating nature-inclusive design into offshore wind projects.

Partners: Outer Harbor Consulting; Responsible Offshore Science Alliance; Nomadic Foundry

JASCO: $246,746 for Habitat & Wildlife research

Funding will be used to examine existing offshore wind wildlife protection measures using quantitative modeling to assess risk reduction and implementation costs.

Ocean Tech Services, LLC: $77,414 for Habitat & Wildlife research

Funding will be used to install a Motus radio telemetry receiving station at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute's Air-Sea Interaction Tower, re-establishing important offshore detection capability for migratory birds and bats.

Power Advisory LLC: $186,995 for Regional Transmission

Funding will be used to build on existing offshore wind energy transmission studies to investigate interregional transmission scenarios for New England, New York, and Atlantic Canada.

Partners: Johns Hopkins University; UMass Amherst

Responsible Offshore Science Alliance: $149,997 for Science Communication

Funding will be used to communicate results of existing offshore wind fisheries research to Massachusetts fishing communities and the general public.

Partners: Fat Moon Creative

Biodiversity Research Institute: $149,206 for Science Communication

Funding will be used to translate and communicate offshore wind science and research into accessible, stakeholder-informed materials for Massachusetts and beyond.

Partners: Consensus Building Institute

CBN Media, LLC: $125,000 for Science Communication

Funding will be used to increase public understanding of marine life interactions with offshore wind infrastructure in Southern New England.

For more information on Offshore Wind Works and Offshore Wind Science, Research and Analysis, visit masscec.com/our-focus/offshore-wind.

LEGAL NOTICES - legals@beaconhilltimes.com

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617)788-8300
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Docket No. SU25P2044EA
Estate of: David Tapia
Date of Death:07/20/2024
To all interested persons:

A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Joan A Gittens-Tapia of Boston, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that Joan A Gittens-Tapia of Boston, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 10/07/2026.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Janine D Rivers, First Justice of this Court.

Date: September 03, 2026

Stephanie L. Everett, Esq.
Register of Probate

9/11
BH

Beacon Hill Times
Pick-Up Locations

Antonio's .....288 Cambridge St.
Simmon's Liquors .....210 Cambridge St.
Jobi Liquors.....170 Cambridge St.
7-Eleven.....122 Cambridge St.
West End Library.....151 Cambridge St.
U.S. Post Office..... 136 Charles St.
Gary Drug ..... 53 Charles St.
Bank of America..... 39 Charles St.
Charles St. Supply..... 54 Charles St.
Cobblestones ..... 30 Charles St.
DeLuca's..... 11 Charles St.
Beacon Hill Wine .....Charles St.
UPS .....Charles St.
Remax 119 .....Charles St.
Cheers.....84 Beacon St.
Emerson Place ..... 10 Blossom St.
Beacon Hill Market..... 61 Anderson
Beacon Capitol Market .....30 Myrtle St.
City Convenience..... 23 Beacon St.
Capital Coffee House .....122 Bowdoin St.
Richdale Food ..... Beacon & Bowdoin St.
River House..... 145 Pinckney St.
West End Place .....150 Stanford St.

Apartment Building locations:

8 Whittier Place
6 Whittier Place
150 Stanford St.
1 Longfellow
4 Longfellow
5 Longfellow
2 Hawthorne Place
3 Hawthorne Place
9 Hawthorne Place
Emerson Place
4 Emerson Place
1 Emerson Place
0 Emerson Place
45 Temple St.
10 Bowdoin St.
122 Bowdoin St.
144 Bowdoin St.
130 Bowdoin St.
45 Myrtle St.
19 Myrtle St.
65 Martha Rd.



PHOTOS COURTESY ZOO NEW ENGLAND

The kori bustard chick.

Kori bustard chick hatches at Franklin Park Zoo

Special to the Times

Throughout the day, the dedicated team at Franklin Park Zoo takes turns visiting a small fluffy, striped kori bustard to make sure the month-old chick is getting enough exercise and reaching important developmental milestones.

Hatched on August 1, the female kori bustard chick is being raised by the Animal Care team to ensure it has the best opportunity to thrive. This is a significant hatch for this species, and marks the first successful hatch at Franklin Park Zoo since 2003.

The chick has been eating well and is continuing to gain weight daily, growing from 83 grams when it hatched to now more than 300 grams. There is a steady rotation of care team members who are ensuring that the chick receives enough exercise, which is critical to healthy development.

"Exercise for long-legged birds like cranes, storks and kori bustards is essential for proper development of their legs, muscles and behavior. In the wild, the chicks follow their parents all over grasslands and plains, and through the exercise schedule we have established, we are emulating that here," said Bill Robles, Area Curator at Zoo New England.

Zoo New England's Franklin Park Zoo is committed to the conservation of kori bustards, and this hatch was the result of a recommended breeding. Franklin Park Zoo is home to Onyx, a male kori bustard, and females M'Guu and Kibibi. When this chick is old enough it will move to another institution accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums.

Native to southern and eastern Africa, kori bustards live in open grasslands and the lightly wooded areas of the savannah. This species is one of the heaviest flying birds in the world, and adults can weigh more than 40 pounds. While these birds are classified as near threatened, they do face threats in the wild from human encroachment on their habitats.

BU AWARDS $24.1M IN SCHOLARSHIPS TO 89 BOSTON PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Boston University recognized 89 Boston public high school graduates who will receive $24.1 million in scholarships over the next four years for their BU undergraduate education. Of the 89 students honored, 30 were recipients of the Thomas M. Menino Scholars program and 59 were recognized as Community Leader Scholars.

The Thomas M. Menino Scholars program is a prestigious four-year, full-tuition scholarship awarded to high school seniors graduating from Boston public high schools.

Community Leader Scholars receive Boston University grants to fully fund their financial need without loans. Recipients receive a mentor to assist them in a successful transition to BU.

For additional information about the scholarships, see BU Today.

https://www.bu.edu/articles/2026/menino-scholars-and-community-leaders-scholars/



PHOTO BY MICHAEL D. SPENCER FOR BOSTON UNIVERSITY

Boston University President Melissa Gilliam (front row, third from the right) welcomed Thomas M. Menino Scholars alongside Mary Skipper, Boston Public Schools superintendent (front row, far left), at BU's Questrom School of Business.



Boston University President Melissa Gilliam (front row, second from the left) welcomed Community Leader Scholars at BU's Questrom School of Business.