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CHELSEA RECORD

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER SINCE 1890

VOLUME 135, NO. 32THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 202535 CENTS

2025 COUNCIL ELECTION WINNERS



Hines takes District 2 council seat, incumbents sweep at-large and school committee races

Staff Report

With one exception, it was a good night for the incumbents in the municipal election on Tuesday.

The lone race that saw a challenger top the incumbent on the ballot was the District 2 city council race, where Deron Hines topped Melinda Vega by a tally of 206-147 votes.

Hines has said his campaign was focused on connecting Chelsea residents with City Hall and informing them of the decision making that impacts their daily lives through government transparency, youth mentorship, and housing protections.

In the at-large council contest, the three incumbents were returned to office for the three seats by a comfortable margin over two challengers.

Roberto Jimenez-Rivera topped the ballot with 1,146 votes, followed by Kelly Garcia with 1,081, and the dean of the council, Leo Robinson, with 1,040. Yesenia Alfaro and Nicholas Gregoretti finished out of the running with 631 and 593 votes respectively.

“I want to extend my deepest gratitude to our beloved community of Chelsea for your trust, support, and belief in me,” said Garcia. “Thank you to the more than 1,000 residents who came out, voted, and showed their love throughout this campaign. Every conversation at the doors, every wave, every word of support reminded me why I love serving this city.”

“I’m honored to continue representing you as your City Councilor-at-Large and committed to working every day to move Chelsea forward, together. ¡Muchísimas gracias Chelsea!”

In District 1, incumbent Councilor Todd Taylor defeated Christian DeJesus Franco by a margin of 253-139.

See ELECTION Page 2

DAY OF THE DEAD CELEBRATION HELD AT WINNISIMMET PARK



Sarah and Beatriz in their costumes to celebrate the Day of The Dead at Winnisimmet Park. See Page 9 for more photos.

Planning Board votes against recommendation for seafood processing zoning amendment

By Adam Swift

The debate over potential fish processing facilities in Chelsea is not over.

At a lengthy planning board meeting last week, the board voted that it would not recommend that the city council approve the zoning amendment that was initially proposed by District 7 City Councilor Manuel Teshe. The amendment would “prohibit enclosed seafood processing, seafood packing and packaging, seafood loading and seafood distribution from operation within 300 feet of a residential use.”

The amendment was introduced by Teshe following debate and neighborhood protests against a proposed food processing facility at 100 Justin Drive from Boston Provisions. A portion of the facility at the former Signature Breads plant would have included seafood processing.

Several planning board members stated that they believed there was ambiguous wording in the zoning amendment, that it was not broad enough, and could be considered spot zoning.

However, while the board voted against recommending the amendment as written, it did state that the council has the option to review, rewrite, and repropose the amendment at a

See ZONING Page 11

Chelsea receives grants through state One Stop program

By Adam Swift

Last week, the Healey-Driscoll Administration announced more than \$179 million for 314 grant awards to support local economic development projects in 190 communities across the state through the Community One Stop for Growth, an application portal overseen by the Executive Office of Economic Development (EOED) that provides a streamlined process for municipalities and organizations to apply for 13 state grant programs.

That funding included \$6.3 million for three FY26 grant awards for Chelsea, and \$200,000 for developer Pennrose for the public-private development for Phase I of the Veterans Home at Chelsea.

Those awards for the city include a \$5 million MassWorks grant for utility improvements at Park Street and Pearl Street, \$800,000 for infrastructure work at the Veterans Home, and \$500,000 for the 115 Park St., redevelopment project.

“The Community One Stop Grant program is really helpful in tying together economic development with infrastructure improvements,” said Chelsea Director of Housing and Community Development Ben Cares. “What we are doing is we are leveraging funds to improve subsurface utilities to help accommodate capacity for new development, and we are also looking to support some of the new developments that are going to bring in housing and affordable housing and active first-floor uses by leveraging these funds. It really is a one stop for the very intersectional type of work we are doing when it comes to blending economic development with long-term planning and restoring the assets of our downtown to accommodate that new growth.”

Programs in the One Stop are administered by EOED, the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities, and the quasi-public agency MassDevelopment and fund economic development projects related to planning and zoning, site preparation, building construction, infrastructure, and housing development.

“We’re proud to be a state of strong cities and towns—made stronger by programs like the Community One Stop for Growth, which give local leaders the tools they need to strengthen their economies and improve quality of life,” said Governor Maura Healey. “These grants will help communities build housing, lower costs, improve road safe-

See GRANT Page 5

Chelsea PD recognized for maintaining state accreditation

Special to the Record

The Chelsea Police Department has successfully attained accreditation by the Massachusetts Police Accreditation Commission (MPAC) during a ceremony held in Marlborough on Wednesday, Oct. 29.

The department has held this prestigious status since 2010, demonstrating a sustained commitment to excellence in law enforcement professionalism, accountability, and community service. Accreditation is considered the highest standard of professional policing in Massachusetts. The process is a rigorous, multi-year review that measures a police department’s policies, procedures, operations, and facilities against over 300 nationally recognized best-practice standards. Departments that achieve accreditation must demonstrate ongoing compliance with these standards to maintain the designation.

“Accreditation represents our continued commitment to transparency, professionalism, and building community trust,” said Police Chief Keith Houghton. “It reflects the hard work of our officers and command staff to uphold the highest standards of public safety while staying connected to the people we serve.”

The accreditation process benefits the community by ensuring that its police department operates under the most current, effective, and accountable policing practices, helping to reduce risk, improve service delivery, and strengthen public confidence, according to the chief.

A special acknowledgment is extended to Officer James Farden, the Department’s Accreditation Manager, who worked tirelessly on this endeavor to ensure that the Chelsea Police Department continues to be a leader in policing standards and policy development. His dedication and attention to detail were instrumental in achieving this milestone.

The Chelsea Police Department thanks the Massachusetts Police Accreditation Commission, the City of Chelsea, and all department members whose efforts made this achievement possible.



Police Chief Keith Houghton at the accreditation ceremony in Marlborough on Oct. 29.

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TRASH NOTICE

Trash will be delayed by one day due to Veterans Day observed on November 11, 2025

Helicopter makes emergency landing on Marginal Street

Special to the Record

The Chelsea Fire Department responded to an incident involving an emergency landing of a helicopter on Marginal Street in Chelsea on the afternoon of Tuesday, Oct. 28.

The helicopter, operated by NBC Boston, experienced mechanical problems while flying over the city, forcing the pilot to make an emergency landing around 2:30 p.m. The aircraft landed without incident and there were no reported injuries.

The pilot, who stated that at one point he thought he would have to land in the area of Essex Street and Shawmut Street, was able to maneuver the helicopter to a vacant lot on Marginal Street.

“The pilot did an amazing

See HELICOPTER Page 5



A news helicopter had to make an emergency landing in Chelsea on Oct. 28.

For the latest news in Chelsea that you need to know, check chelsearecord.com

SCENES FROM ELECTION DAY 2025 IN CHELSEA

CARY SHUMAN PHOTOS



Supporters of City Council candidates Christian De Jesus Franco and Yesenia Alfaro hold campaign signs near the polling place at the Sagamore Avenue fire station on Election Day in Chelsea.



District 1 Councilor Todd Taylor holds his campaign sign outside the polling place at the Sagamore Avenue fire station on Election Day.



Councilor-at-Large Kelly Garcia is pictured on Sagamore Avenue where she greeted voters heading into the polling place.



Paul Smith holding a campaign sign supporting Councilor-at-Large Leo Robinson and Kevin O'Regan holding campaign signs supporting his brother, District 1 School Committeeman Shawn O'Regan, and District 1 Councilor Todd Taylor.



The outstanding Election Day crew, pictured inside the polling place at the Sagamore Avenue fire station, including Firefighter Kevin DeJesus (back row, left) and Police Capt. David Rizzuto (back row, right).

Election // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

In District 4, incumbent Councilor Tanairi Garcia topped Marnie MacAlpine, 177-137.

In the closest contest of the night in District 8, unofficial results showed incumbent Councilor Calvin T.

Brown, who is not a stranger to close council races, defeating Marceza Kotoni, 251-245.

District 3 Councilor Norieliz DeJesus, District 5 Councilor Lisa Santagate, District 6 Councilor

Giovanni Recupero, and District 7 Councilor Manuel Teshe all ran unopposed and were returned to office.

There were two contested school committee races, with the incumbents winning in both.

In District 1, Shawn O'Regan defeated Hugo Perdomo by a margin of 189-171. In District 3, Jonathan Gomez-Pereira defeated Katherine Palencia, 137-83.

Incumbent candidates

who ran unopposed for school committee and were reelected included Katherine Cabral, Sarah Neville, Mayra Balderas, Claryangeliz Covas Caraballo, Ana Hernandez, and Lucia Henriquez. In District 8, Jacob

Small ran unopposed and won the seat currently held by Alfaro, who ran for an at-large council seat.

Catholic Charities Boston Launches Holiday Giving Drive with M&T Bank to Support Food for Families

M&T Bank is joining Catholic Charities Boston (CCAB) in providing Hope for the Holidays to those in need. M&T Bank is collecting non-perishable food items at all Greater Boston branch locations beginning next week through the end of November. The donations will benefit Catholic Charities Boston's food pantries, which served 69,441 people across Eastern Massachusetts this past year.

This holiday season, the need for donations is dire as policy changes, funding cuts, and high grocery costs further strain struggling

households. One in three Massachusetts families faces food insecurity. One in six Massachusetts families rely on SNAP benefits to feed their families. Catholic Charities Boston operates four food pantries in Dorchester, Brockton, Lynn and Lowell, distributing approximately 2.4 million meals annually. The agency is a key provider of meals to those in need at Thanksgiving and other holidays, assists families with applying for SNAP benefits, and provides assistance for those struggling with high food costs.

"We are distributing bags

of groceries at our pantries faster than we can pack them, and for many families, one bag of food per week is simply not enough," said Kelley Tuthill, President and CEO of Catholic Charities Boston. "Many of the clients we serve tell us they don't know how they would feed their families if they did not have our food pantries as a resource. We are incredibly grateful to M&T Bank for their support in helping us ensure that our most vulnerable community members don't go hungry."

"M&T Bank is proud to support Catholic Charities Boston in its Hope for the

Holidays food drive – an initiative that helps stock local food pantries and ensures families across Massachusetts have nourishing meals during this critical time. As more families face food insecurity, we believe no child or parent should have to worry about their next meal," said Jeff Carpenter, M&T Bank's Interim Regional President in Massachusetts.

"Our commitment to community runs deep. Through collaborations like this, we strive to break down barriers and meet essential needs—bringing comfort, stability, and hope to the communities

we serve."

Donations can be brought to M&T branches and placed in designated cardboard boxes. The most urgent items needed are canned protein (tuna, chicken), canned vegetables, grains (pasta, mac & cheese, etc.) and canned soup. Items will be distributed at Catholic Charities Boston's pantries in Eastern Massachusetts. On Giving Tuesday, Dec. 2, M&T employee volunteers will stock shelves at the Catholic Charities Lynn Food Pantry. Last year, the M&T Charitable Foundation, the philanthropic arm of M&T Bank,

presented Catholic Charities Boston with a \$20,000 grant to fight food insecurity.

For more information visit: <https://www.ccab.org>

For over a century, Catholic Charities Boston has served vulnerable individuals and families of all faiths and backgrounds. One of the most comprehensive non-profit providers of social services in Massachusetts, we offer programs across more than 20 locations throughout Greater Boston, with 450 employees serving thousands of individuals and families annually within the four core areas of Basic Needs.

The Salvation Army Massachusetts Division calls for Red Kettle volunteers and donations

Special to the Record

With the holiday season approaching, The Salvation

Army Massachusetts Division is kicking off its annual Red Kettle Campaign

across the Commonwealth, and volunteers are urgently needed in nearly every region.

As more families across Massachusetts face economic hardship, inflation and housing costs heading into the holidays, the need for The Salvation Army's services continues to grow. The organization serves as a critical safety net, providing Christmas gifts and food, offering emergency assistance with bills, and providing shelter to those without a home. All Red Kettle proceeds support The Salvation Army's work with individuals and families right in the communities where donations are collected. On average, volunteer bell ringers raise enough money to provide nearly 250 meals to children and families in their

respective towns. The theme of this year's campaign is "Give With JOY."

"Each act of generosity, large or small, helps The Salvation Army make the season brighter for families across Massachusetts," said Major Elijah Kahn, General Secretary of The Salvation Army Massachusetts Division. "Our volunteers and donors embody the spirit of the holidays and make it possible for us to bring joy where it's needed most."

The first local Red Kettle campaigns of 2025 kick off across the state in November. Areas with upcoming campaign launches that are in need of volunteers and support include: the Merrimack Valley, Cape Cod and Southeastern Massachusetts (Hyanis, Fall River, and New Bedford), the North Shore

(Newburyport, Salem, and Lynn), MetroWest, Mass Bay/Boston, the Route 2 area (Athol, Greenfield, and Fitchburg), as well as Western (Springfield and Pittsfield) and Central Massachusetts (Milford and Worcester).

The Salvation Army Massachusetts Division is working to raise more than \$2.3 million through this year's Red Kettle Campaign to support critical year-round social services. Donations can be made in person at a Red Kettle or virtually.

To volunteer at a Red Kettle or donate online, visit salvationarmyma.org/redkettle.

The Salvation Army helps more than 28 million people in nearly every zip code in America overcome poverty, addiction, and eco-

nomic hardships through a range of social services. By providing food for the hungry, emergency relief for disaster survivors, rehabilitation for those suffering from substance abuse, and clothing and shelter for people in need, The Salvation Army is doing the most good at our more than 7,400 centers of operation around the country. In 2024, Forbes ranked The Salvation Army 6th in its list of America's Top 100 Charities. And in 2021, The Chronicle of Philanthropy ranked The Salvation Army 2nd on its list of "America's Favorite Charities." For more information about supporting The Salvation Army or your local service centers, visit salvationarmyma.org. Follow us on X @SalvationArmyMA and #DoingTheMostGood.

CHELSEA EATS FOOD DRIVE

Help feed ~10,000 Chelsea residents at risk of losing SNAP benefits this November!

Donate non-perishable items at Chelsea City Hall:
Canned vegetables, canned protein, canned soup/stews, canned fruit, pasta/grains, boxed milk, tomato sauce, nut butter, granola bars, applesauce.

Drop-off Location:
City Hall basement (enter parking lot from City Hall Ave, go downstairs, follow signs to donation bins)

Hours:
Mon, Wed, Thu: 8 AM–4 PM
Tue: 8 AM–7 PM
Fri: 8 AM–12 PM

Contact: (617) 466-4209 | www.chelsea.gov/food

CHELSEA COMPETES IN THE GREATER BOSTON LEAGUE CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP

Chelsea runners competed with nearly 100 runners in the Greater Boston League Cross Country championship held Wednesday, October 29 at MacDonald Park in Medford.



The boys set out at the start of the 5k race.



The girl's field leaves the starting line.



Sebastian Molina Regil in a full sprint toward the finish line.



Zakaria Moubtassim gives his all as he races toward the finish line.



Xavier Guzman (1) keeps pace with a pair of Medford runners.



Jeffriso Mercado (6) along the course.



Rocio Perez Mauricio (9) makes her way along the course.



Aly Perez (8) keeps the pace.



Bryan Amaya (5, left) and Carlos Perez Acosta (2, center) lead a pack of runners along the route.



Hazel Hatleburg (7) keep pace with a pack of runners.

CHS BOYS SOCCER DEFEATS DANVERS IN STATE TOURNEY

The Chelsea High boys soccer team, the champion of the Greater Boston League, earned a hard-fought 2-1 victory over Danvers this past Monday evening at Chelsea Stadium in the preliminary round of the MIAA Division 2 State Soccer Tournament.

The Red Devils had entered the tourney as the 27th seed in D-2 with a record of 12-4-2. The visiting Falcons from the Northeastern Conference (NEC) were seeded 38th with a record of 8-7-3.

Coach Mick Milutinovic's squad was scheduled to travel to #6 seed Masconomet Regional (16-2), another NEC opponent, yesterday (Wednesday) in a Round of 32 contest.

CHS GIRLS SOCCER WINS SEASON FINALE; FALLS IN TOURNEY

The Chelsea High girls soccer team concluded its regular season with a 1-0 victory over O'Bryant High of Boston last Wednesday.

The lone goal of the contest came early in the eighth minute on a quick counter-attack, when Edlyn Hernandez Enriquez sent a perfect pass to Yajaira Jovel, who sprinted past a defender, dribbled around the goal-keeper, and finished with a composed left-footed shot into the open net.

From that point on, the Lady Red Devils maintained control with a solid defensive effort and continued creating scoring chances. Neither team was able to find the back of the net again, and Chelsea held

strong to secure the win.

"The goal marked Yahira's 13th of the season, an impressive accomplishment that highlights her consistency and leadership," said CHS head coach Randy Grajal.

The Lady Red Devils then turned their focus

to the MIAA Division 2 State Tournament knockout round, which took place Monday evening at Danvers. Chelsea entered the tourney as the #41 seed in D-2 with a 9-6-3 record. The host Lady Falcons were the #24 seed with a 10-6-2 mark.

However, Chelsea's post-season Journey to the Tourney ended on the Lady Falcons' home field by a score of 6-0.

"The team was ready, confident, and motivated to keep their momentum going as they continued their postseason journey," said

Grajal. "But Danvers was an excellent team."

CHS CROSS COUNTRY FINISHES 5TH IN GBL

The Chelsea High boys

See ROUNDUP Page 5

CHS Roundup

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GIVE THANKS TO
OUR VETERANS

This coming Tuesday, November 11, our nation will celebrate the 107th observance of Veterans Day, a day of solemnity and reverence that honors those who have served in our nation’s military.

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

World War I was marked by trench warfare in which neither side (the German-allied nations of Germany, Austria-Hungary, and the Ottoman Empire vs. the alliance among Great Britain, France, Russia, and the United States) accomplished anything. Historians to this day cannot even pinpoint a rational reason for why the war began.

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

More significantly, the “war to end all wars” only set the stage for an even bloodier world-wide conflagration 21 years later with the onset of WWII on September 1, 1939.

Even the roots of today’s conflict in the Middle East can be traced to the shift in control of that part of the world in the aftermath of WWI from the Ottoman Empire (Turkey) to England, which eventually led to the so-called British Mandate for Palestine after WWII.

In the aftermath of the Korean War in 1954, Armistice Day officially became known as Veterans Day to recognize all of our nation’s veterans.

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

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

Your opinions, please

The Chelsea Record welcomes letters to the editor. Our address is 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151. Letters may also be e-mailed to editor@chelsearecord.com. Letters must be signed. We reserve the right to edit for length and content.

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Forum

Chelsea Public Schools expands PK-12
mental health and social-emotional supports

Special to the Record

Through new partnerships that will provide individualized school-based therapy for students, Chelsea Public Schools (CPS) continues to demonstrate its deep commitment to the whole-child approach, ensuring that every student (PK-12) has access to high-quality social, emotional, and mental health supports.

New partnerships that will serve CPS students beginning this school year include services provided by Northeast Health Services (NEHS) and The Home for Little Wanderers. Both partners will provide critical social and emotional services to students in CPS. NEHS will serve students at the Morris H. Seigal Clark Avenue Middle School, bringing licensed clinicians into the school building to provide on-site counseling and therapy services for students requiring individualized mental health support. The Home for Little Wanderers will extend access to high-quality and school-based therapeutic services for students with more intensive social-emotional needs at Chelsea High School.

These partnerships complement existing collaborations with Pariva Health & LEGO Foundation, South Bay/Mentor, MindEaze, Roca, Healthy Chelsea, Berklee Center for Music Therapy, and Chelsea HUB, ensuring a seamless network of care across the district.

“In Chelsea, we believe that every student deserves to be seen, heard, and supported,” said Superintendent Dr. Almudena G. Abeyta. “These partnerships reflect our unwavering commitment to knowing each student by name, strength, and story - - and to surrounding them with the care they need to succeed both in school and in life.

“Our students’ well-being is foundational to their learning,” said CPS Director of Social Work, SEL, and Specialized Student Supports Brenda Ortiz McGrath. “From Pre-K through high school, Chelsea Public Schools has built a system where every student receives the right level of care—universal, targeted, or intensive—when they need it most. These partnerships and programs ensure equitable access to compassionate, high-quality mental-health supports across our entire district.”

These additional partnerships build upon a comprehensive amount of SEL and mental health services available to Chelsea students. CPS coordinates services through a Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) framework. The district’s robust offering of services meets the needs of the three tiers of the MTSS Framework: Tier 1 (Universal Supports), Tier 2 (Targeted Supports) and Tier 3 (Intensive Supports):

- Universal Supports (Tier 1) promote resilience, regulation and belonging for all students. Tier 1 initiatives include TRAILS to Wellness, WhyTry, the Alongside App, Panorama SEL Surveys, PBIS and Restorative Practices. Universal mental-health screenings (Grades 3–12) and staff Safety-Care de-escalation training further ensure proactive prevention and early intervention.
- Targeted Supports (Tier 2) include Group-based interventions like Bounce Back (3–5), CBITS (6–12), and Newcomer/Acculturation Groups (K–12) address trauma, social skills, and cultural adjustment. Partnerships such as MGH’s IDECIDE and Pariva Health & LEGO Foundation provide restorative and play-based supports for neurodivergent learners.
- Intensive Supports (Tier 3) are available to provide individualized services. These include school-based clinical counseling, trauma-focused cognitive behavioral therapy (TF-CBT), crisis intervention and safety planning, and 24/7 telehealth access through Cartwheel Care and the Alongside App. The Gaggie ReachOut Hotline offers direct after-hours crisis support.

This framework and allotment of services is informed by the district’s SEL infrastructure that includes 11 SEL Lead Administrators, 11 SEL Leads, and 44 SEL Team members who meet monthly for professional learning and coordination. This collaborative structure ensures consistent, data-informed implementation and ongoing responsiveness to school and community needs.

In order to truly know students by name, strength and story, Chelsea Public Schools is committed to making sure that students have access to a wide variety of support systems that meet every need. From our youngest learners walking the halls of the Early Learning Center to our high school students preparing to graduate, CPS is dedicated to ensuring that students’ social-emotional wellness and mental health is prioritized and supported.



Chelsea Public Schools students have access to a variety of mental health and social emotional learning (SEL) resources at school. Wright Science & Technology Academy students are pictured here using the Alongside App, an example of a Tier 1 support universally available to CPS students.



CPS students wearing Chelsea Cares t-shirts and volunteering at the school district’s Youth Mental Health Day, an annual celebration of mental health and wellness each May. The “Chelsea Cares” campaign has resulted in increased access to mental health resources for CPS students.



The school district has named community members “Mental Health Champions” who embody the meaning of the Chelsea Cares campaign. Pictured her from left to right: Jay Velez, Brenda Ortiz McGrath and Rebecca Lowenhaupt

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stephen.quigley@reverejournal.com

Advertising
and Marketing

Director of Marketing
Debra DiGregorio
deb@reverejournal.com

**Assistant Marketing
Directors**
Maureen DiBella

Advertising
Ellen Bertino

**Editorial
Reporters,
Regular Contributors**
Cary Shuman
(Cary@lynnjournal.com)

Copy Editing, Layout
Scott Yates

Business Accounts
Executive
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Printer
Concord Monitor

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City officials announces food drive to support residents impacted by SNAP disruption

Special to the Record

In response to the potential disruption of SNAP benefits for nearly 10,000 Chelsea residents right before the holiday season, the City of Chelsea will run a month-long “Chelsea Eats Food Drive” at City Hall from November 3 to November 28 to help residents who are at risk of going hungry. The City is asking the community, including residents and businesses, to support their neighbors by donating non-perishable items, such as:

- Canned Vegetables (beans, corn, chickpeas, etc.)
- Canned Protein (tuna, chicken, sardines, etc.)
- Canned Soup and Stews (chicken noodle, beef stew,

- minestrone, etc.)
- Canned Fruit
- Grains and Starches (rice, pasta, oats, etc.)
- Boxed Milk
- Tomato Sauce
- Nut butter (peanut butter, sun butter, etc.)
- Cereal
- Granola Bars
- Apple Sauce

Food donations can be dropped off in the basement of City Hall during business hours. To access the drop off area, enter City Hall from the City’s parking lot from City Hall Ave, proceed downstairs to the basement, and follow signs to the donation bins.

City Hall Business Hours:

- Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday: 8 a.m.–

4 p.m.

- Tuesday: 8 a.m.–7 p.m.
- Friday: 8 a.m.–12 p.m.

For those looking to go the extra mile, they can donate complete food kits containing one or more of every item from the provided list.

Approximately 1 in 4 Chelsea residents—including children, elderly, and disabled residents—may not receive SNAP benefits scheduled for November 1 due to the ongoing federal government shutdown.

Chelsea residents whose SNAP benefits may be disrupted can visit www.chelseama.gov/food for a complete list of local food resources and instructions on what to do during this crisis.

Chelsea announces Annual Santa Parade, Holiday Market & Tree Lighting celebration

Special to the Record

The City of Chelsea invites residents and visitors to celebrate the start of the holiday season on Saturday, December 6, with a full day of festive activities that include Chelsea’s Annual Santa Parade, Holiday Market, and Tree Lighting ceremony.

Santa Parade, 2-4 p.m.: The celebration begins at 2 p.m. with Santa traveling across Chelsea on a fire truck, spreading holiday cheer throughout the community. Starting at the Central Fire Station (500 Broadway), the parade will wind through neighborhoods across the city before

arriving at Chelsea Square at 4 p.m. The complete parade route is available at www.chelseama.gov/annual-events.

Holiday Marketplace, 3-6 p.m., Chelsea Square: Chelsea Square will transform into a festive marketplace featuring local food vendors, holiday shopping, and family activities. Children can meet Santa, go on pony rides, jump in a bouncy house, enjoy face painting, and watch a screening of The Polar Express. Guests can also warm up with hot cocoa and cookies while listening to carolers perform.

Tree Lighting Ceremony, 4:30 p.m., Chelsea

Square: The celebration continues with the lighting of Chelsea’s holiday tree at 4:30 p.m. The community is invited to gather together for this momentous occasion.

The parade will be livestreamed from atop the fire truck. To follow the parade route as Santa travels through Chelsea, visit the City of Chelsea’s Facebook page between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. on December 6: <https://www.facebook.com/CityOfChelsea>

All events are free and open to the public. Questions about the festivities can be directed to Chelsea 311 at 617-466-4209.

DiDomenico pushes his legislation to expand childcare access

Special to the Record

Senator DiDomenico recently spoke at a State House advocacy day for his bill, S.341, An Act expanding access to family, friend and neighbor-provided childcare. There is a high demand for childcare in our state, but many parents face a limited supply of childcare centers and educators. Family, Friend and Neighbor (FFN) childcare providers fill a major role in childcare services for many families across the state. However, less than 1% of state childcare subsidy funding goes to these FFN providers and the parents and children that rely on them.

The Senator’s legislation would address this issue by increasing state financial support to FFN childcare providers so that the most vulnerable families can access these key services and



Senator Sal DiDomenico speaking to advocates for his childcare bill at the State House.

the providers can get paid more livable wages.

“Every family in our state will need childcare at some point and this bill presents a rare win-win-win solution which would increase access to childcare for parents, raise wages for providers currently paid far too little, and reduce the strain on our state’s childcare facilities,” said Senator DiDomenico. “I want to thank Community Labor United and all the advocates, parents, and childcare providers who came to the State House to advocate for this critical proposal. I will not stop fighting for this legislation until it is passed into law.”

Grant // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

these projects into lasting results for communities across Massachusetts.”

Housing and Livable Communities Secretary Ed Augustus said the awards help communities maximize housing opportunities.

“From downtown revitalization to new infrastructure that supports housing, we’re partnering with local communities and giving leaders the tools they need to bring more homes online and make those homes more affordable,” Augustus said.

Through this round of the One Stop, EOED received 713 applications from 453 organizations with projects in 245 communities across the state. Of the 314 applications awarded, 37 percent are located in a rural or small town, 28 percent are located in a Gateway City, 40 percent are located in a Housing Choice Community, and 53 percent are located in an MBTA Community. Twenty-one communities are receiving a grant through the One Stop for the first time.

EOED estimates the One Stop awards will help create more than 20,000 new units of housing, including 5,000 new affordable units, 11,000 new permanent jobs, and more than 8.8 million square feet of new commercial development.

“Each year, the Community One Stop for Growth supports transformative projects that drive local and regional economic growth,” said Economic Development Secretary Eric Paley. “We’re grateful to the hundreds of municipal leaders, developers, and community partners who applied this year, and we look forward to working together to turn

these projects into lasting results for communities across Massachusetts.”

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Helicopter // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

job in avoiding our densely packed neighborhoods. This could have been disastrous if he had not reached the vacant lot,” said Chelsea Fire Chief John Quatieri.

The Chelsea Fire Department and Police Department remained on scene until the helicopter’s rotor was removed and the aircraft was loaded onto a flatbed truck at midnight.

The cause of the mechanical issue is under investigation by the Massachusetts State Police and National Transportation Safety Board.

Roundup // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

cross country team finished in fifth place in last Wednesday’s Greater Boston League Meet held at Torbert Macdonald Park in Medford.

Xavier Guzman was the top finisher for the Red Devils, coming across the line in 16th place with a personal record (PR) time of 19:06 over the 5K course.

“This was Xavy’s first season of cross country,”

said CHS head coach Cesar Hernandez. “He was able to continuously improve and had his best race so far at the most important meet.”

Zak Moubtassim, another newcomer to the cross country program placed 24th overall, followed by Sebastian Molina right behind him, who also had a PR on the day. Carlos Perez finished 28th and Bryan Amaya was Chelsea’s fifth

runner in 32nd place.

“We were really proud of the results,” said Hernandez. “The boys may not have beaten any of the teams we lost to during the dual meets, but we were much closer to them. We are excited for next season as we are returning our top 4 runners, and are hoping for a healthy season from Carlos Perez, whose current PR would have placed him 12th overall in this meet.”

On the girls’ side, Hazel Hatleberg was the highest-placing Chelsea athlete, finishing in 12th overall, running a time of 23:33. “This was a strong race for Hazel to finish out the GBL meet,” said Hernandez.

Teammate Aly Perez ran her strongest race ever, improving her PR by over 20 seconds, finishing in 24:18 to nab 19th place.

CHS FOOTBALL TEAM DEFEATS MINUTEMAN, TRAVELS TO H-W TONIGHT

The Chelsea High football team earned its third victory of the season with a 7-0 triumph over Minuteman Regional last Friday evening under the lights at Chelsea Stadium.

The Red Devils are scheduled to travel to Hamilton-Wenham this evening (Thursday) to take on the Generals. The opening kick-off is set for 5:30.

OBITUARIES

Philip Garber Of Abington, formerly of Chelsea

It is with profound sadness that the family of Philip Garber, 82, of Abington, MA announces his passing on October 28, 2025. Philip was the son of the late Joseph Garber and the late Lillian Sussman Garber of Chelsea.

A graduate of Chelsea High School, Class of 1961, he attended Northeastern University and was a retiree of Solo/Sweetheart Paper Company. Phil was also a dedicated life-long fan of Boston sports teams.

Philip leaves his daughter, Kara Garber, of Abington, with whom he made his home, her mother, Eliane, his brother Jason Garber of Brookline, and his sister-in-law Cynthia Garber of Peabody. He was also the brother of the late Aaron Garber of Peabody and the late Edward Garber of Chelsea. He will be greatly missed by his large and loving extended



family of Garber, MacDonald, Doherty, Bazile, Desir, Fils-Aime and Saint-Martin nieces and nephews.

A Celebration of Life is planned for the near future.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in his memory may be made to: Jennifer Stevens Manager, Gift Processing & Data Analysis For: Autism Insurance and Behavioral Health Resource Center, UMass Chan Medical School Office of Advancement, 55 Lake Ave North, S1-117 Worcester, MA 01655

To place a memorial in the Chelsea Record please call 781-485-0588

OBITUARIES

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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

December

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CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HOLDS \$10,000 POT-O-GOLD DINNER

The Chelsea Chamber of Commerce held its \$10,000 Pot-O-Gold Dinner Oct. 29 at Anthony's, Malden.

Several guests were attired in Halloween costumes for the annual fundraiser.

The grand prize of \$10,000 was split three ways, with Bob Alconada winning \$3,333 and Joe McNamee of Eastern Minerals holding two winning tickets totaling \$6,666.

City Manager Fidel

Maltez brought the official greetings of the City of Chelsea.

City Councillors Leo Robinson, Todd Taylor, Lisa Santagate, and Melinda Vega also attended the dinner.

Thank you to Dinner Co-Chair Co-Chair Renee Caso, Sue Gallant, Dinner Co-Chair and Executive Director Jennifer Hassell, and the planning committee for a truly outstanding event.



Seated are Dinner Co-Chair Sue Gallant and Past President Joseph Vinard. Standing are Madelyn Garcia, owner of Madelyn Garcia Real Estate, Executive Director Jennifer Hassell, and President Beth McDougal of McDougal Architects.



Dressed as the Statue of Liberty, Marnie MacAlpine, pictured with Chelsea City Manager Fidel Maltez.



Eluz Torrez of Cowlen Hotels, Renee Caso, owner of Dunkin' stores on Everett Avenue, Hailey Guzman of Cowlen Hotels, and Jennifer Hassell, Executive Director of the Chelsea Chamber of Commerce.



Best Costume award recipients, Dennis Cataldo (Richard Gere) and his friend, Renee Hieb (Julia Roberts) of the "Pretty Woman" movie.



Virginia Todd, Chair of North Suffolk Community Services, and Dr. Deborah Wayne.



Attired as vampires, Christian Calvo and Xavier Calvo.



In costume, City Councilor Lisa Santagate, Marnie MacAlpine, Beth Novak, and Matt Frank.



Seated are community leader Juan Gallego, and Lisa Gillis and Gina Centrella of the Jordan Boys and Girls Club. Standing are City Manager Fidel Maltez, and Patrick Shea and Rachel Shea, representing For Kids Only Afterschool.



Chelsea Police Capt. David Rizzuto and Metro Credit Union Vice President Saritin Rizzuto.



City leaders, Councillors Lisa Santagate, Todd Taylor, Leo Robinson, and Melinda Vega, and City Manager Fidel Maltez.



Flamenco dancers, Dinner Co-Chair Sue Gallant, with her mother, Beverly Gallant, and her sister, Beverly Gallant.



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Allan Rohan Crite (American, 1910–2007), School's Out (detail), 1936, Oil on canvas. Smithsonian American Art Museum, Transfer from General Services Administration. Courtesy of the Allan Rohan Crite Research Institute and Library

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HOLDS \$10,000 POT-O-GOLD DINNER

CARY SHUMAN PHOTOS



Representing the Chelsea Yacht Club, Commodore Tom Pappa and Lynette Samanski.



Tom Pappa, Michael Falzone Jr., Michael Falzone Sr., D. Bruce Mauch, and Steven Waxman.



Pastor Keila Velez, Saritin Rizzuto, Jennifer Hassell, HarborCOV CFO Claudia Carias and Program Director Jazmine Perez Pimental.



Chamber of Commerce President-Elect Arthur Arsenault (center) welcomes Peter Zaksheski and his wife, Donna Zaksheski, to the Pot-O-Gold Dinner.



Best Costume Award winners, representing Margolis Pharmacy, Roman Gold, Sarah Gold, Katherine Koch, and Tim Doune.



Councilor-at-Large Leo Robinson greets Rosaivette Baez, Nancy Baez, and Ana Baez of Bella Isla Express.



Police Capt. David Rizzuto, Officer Sammy Mojica, Capt. Brian Dunn, Lt. William Brizuela, and Chief Keith Houghton.



Pastor Keila Velez, Supt. of Schools Dr. Almi Abeyta, and City Manager Fidel Maltez.



Jordan Boys and Girls Club Teen Director John Montes, City Council candidate Deron Hines, and Jordan Boys and Girls Club Executive Director Gina Centrella.



Kelly School Principal Lisa Lineweaver, City Manager's Office Executive Assistant Grace Agosto, and City Councilor Lisa Santagate.



Perennial Best Costume Award winners, Arthur Arsenault and Sheila Arsenault.



Katrina Mojica, Krystina Sunsins, City Councilor Melinda Vega, Police Capt. David Rizzuto, City Manager Fidel Maltez, HarborCOV Chief Executive Officer, Kourou Pich, Metro Credit Union Vice President Saritin Rizzuto, and Kelly School Principal Lisa Lineweaver.



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CHELSEA PUBLIC LIBRARY HOLDS ANNUAL CHELSEA READS FAMILY LITERACY FESTIVAL

Photos by Marianne Salza

Chelsea Public Library held its 20th Annual Chelsea Reads family literacy festival on November 1, featuring story times with guest readers. Every child received a free bag of age-appropriate books, and enjoyed coloring and dress up activities. There were opportunities to learn about local resources and an appearance by Elephant and Piggie, from the collection of picture books by Mo Willems.

“We’re celebrating everything books and reading, and our community in general. It’s been wonderful,” described Emma Heuchert about her first Chelsea



Margo Johnson and Guadalupe Panameno, Founders of Chelsea Reads.

Reads event as the Children’s Librarian, a position that she began in May. “We have local high schoolers volunteering. I’m having a blast and enjoy being here.”



Acting Chelsea Fire Department Captain Omar Frometa reading “Fire Truck Vs. Dragon,” by Chris Barton with Robi Neville, and Marilis and Gary Ajxup Lopez.



Camila, 4, coloring and “Elephant and Piggie” picture with her mother, Samira Duran.



Chelsea Reads attendees learning about Bilingual Learning Lab, with Julia, Haley, and Anna, from Boston University.



Tyler White, a Berklee saxophonist, with Claire Crean, author of “Jazzcat,” and Amanda Arsenault, with her family, Max, Toni May, and Nova Corona.



Zee Escalante with her daughters, Zaylee, 7, and Nolani, 4.



GreenRoots Comunicades Enraizadas: Yelena Hernandez, Emma Padilla, Naroa Love Washington, and Monica Elias-Orellana.



Rolando and his daughter, Rhea Nuñez, 3.



City Manager Fidel Maltez reading “The Day the Crayons Quit,” by Drew Daywalt.



Firefighters John Alejandro, Acting Fire Captain Omar Frometa, Sladja Vukovic, as Elphaba, Jordana Mather, as Mary Poppins, Firefighter Thiago Nascimento, and City Manager Fidel Maltez.



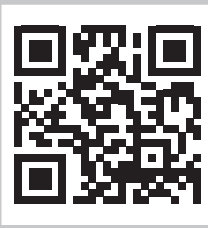
Families enjoying a reading of “The Day the Crayons Quit,” with City Manager Fidel Maltez during the November 1 Chelsea Reads literacy day.



Adrianna Martin, 5, enjoying a reading of “The Day the Crayons Quit.”

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DAY OF THE DEAD CELEBRATION HELD AT WINNISIMMET PARK

Day of The Dead was celebrated in Downtown Chelsea at Winnisimmet Park. Music, dance performances, costumes, face

makeup, food, and more contributed the celebration of life through respecting death and connecting with beloved people lost.



Dancers from the Veronica Robles Cultural Center preform traditional Mexican dances.



Olga and Laura Bravo.



Dancers from the Veronica Robles Cultural Center preform a traditional dance from Chiapas Mexico.



Mario, Paula, Tom, Christina, and Abigail were happy to "Discover Chelsea" and make new friends.



Yesenia Ruiz was another rendering of La Calavera Catrina.



Grooversity performs at the event.



Camila Millan talked about her experience in 7 years of dancing with the Veronica Robles Cultural Center.



Dancers from the Veronica Robles Cultural Center preform traditional Mexican dances.



Veronica Robles with her mother Annie Tarno.



Julie and Lucie Cholley sang with the band Grooversity.



Camila and Valentina Millan with their mom Fabiola Alcerreca.



Dancers from the Veronica Robles Cultural Center preform a traditional Mexican dance that celebrates its independence from Spain.



Jennifer Fernandez portrayed La Calavera Catrina, or "The Dapper Skull."



Vladimir with Milena Rosaro from Mi Salvador Mexicano Restaurant in Chelsea.



Dancers from the Cultura Latina Dance Academy preform traditional Mexican dances.



Dancers from the Cultura Latina Dance Academy in Lynn perform.



Cousins Stephanie and Katherine enjoy the celebration.



Edgar, Joan, and Johanna Calaveras from Calaveras Tattoo Studio.



Dancers from the Veronica Robles Cultural Center preform a traditional dance from Chiapas Mexico.



Veronica Robles.



Chelsea’s Veterans Day closures and ceremony

Special to the Record

In observance of Veterans Day, all Chelsea municipal buildings, apart from public safety buildings, will be closed on Tuesday, November 11, 2025.

Trash and recycling will not be collected on the holiday, resulting in a one-day delay in collection for the remainder of the week. Enforcement of the Residential Parking Program will also be suspended on November 11 at 12 a.m. and will resume on Wednesday, November 12, at 12 a.m. During this time, parking restrictions for street sweeping will not be enforced.

Chelsea veterans and their families are invited to Chelsea’s Veterans Day ceremony and lunch hosted by the Chelsea Veteran Services Department and Chelsea Public Schools on Tuesday, November 11, 2025, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Clark Avenue Middle School (8 Clark Ave., Chelsea, MA).

During the ceremony, veterans and their families can connect with local veterans and hear from speakers including Juan Valdez, a Marine Corps Veteran and Purple Heart recipient, who toured in Iraq and Afghanistan. Valdez currently works

for the Wounded Warrior Project, the nation’s leading veterans service organization dedicated to supporting the mental, physical, emotional, and financial well-being of post-9/11 veterans, service members, and their families.

The free event, which is open to the public, aims to honor and thank those who have sacrificed to serve our nation.

Francisco Toro, Director of Veterans of Affairs for the City, hopes that by partnering with WWP, they may help WWP provide veterans and families with mental health care, physical

wellness, long-term rehab, financial stability, and community connection. These services give warriors the support they need to heal and thrive.

“We’re proud to partner with the Wounded Warrior Project – an organization that delivers real support to Chelsea Veterans, from job help to social programs,” said Toro. “The best way to honor our veterans is to serve them well. As George Washington said, how we treat today’s veterans will shape how tomorrow’s service members choose to serve. WWP helps us make this possible.”

The Chelsea community is invited to attend the ceremonies, which will take place from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Speakers will include

- Jason E. Moore, B.A., M.Div., BCC, chaplain and retired Major for the U.S. Army;
- Fidel Maltez, Chelsea City Manager;
- Norieliz De Jesus, Chelsea City Council President;
- Leo Robinson, Chelsea City Councilor-at-Large;
- Francisco Toro, Chelsea’s Director of Veterans Services;

- Judith Garcia, Massachusetts Representative
- Sal DiDomenico, Massachusetts Senator;
- Dr. Almudena Abeyta, Superintendent of Chelsea Public Schools.

For more information, please visit www.chelseama.gov or contact Chelsea Veterans Services at (617) 466-4250 or Veterans Services Director Francisco Toro at ftoro@chelseama.gov.

For questions about the City’s ceremony, closures, or trash and recycling delay, community members can contact Chelsea 311 at 617-466-4209.

What is Veterans Day?

Veterans Day gives Americans the opportunity to celebrate the bravery and sacrifice of all U.S. veterans. However, most Americans confuse this holiday with Memorial Day, reports the Department of Veterans Affairs.

What’s more, some Americans don’t know why we commemorate our Veterans on Nov.11. It’s imperative that all Americans know the history of Veterans Day so that we can honor our former service members properly.

History of Veterans Day

Veterans Day, formerly

known as Armistice Day, was originally set as a U.S. legal holiday to honor the end of World War I, which officially took place on November 11, 1918. In legislation that was passed in 1938, November 11 was “dedicated to the cause of world peace and to be hereafter celebrated and known as ‘Armistice Day.’” As such, this new legal holiday honored World War I veterans.

In 1954, after having been through both World War II and the Korean War, the 83rd U.S. Congress -- at the urging of

the veterans service organizations -- amended the Act of 1938 by striking out the word “Armistice” and inserting the word “Veterans.” With the approval of this legislation on June 1, 1954, Nov. 11 became a day to honor American veterans of all wars.

In 1968, the Uniforms Holiday Bill ensured three-day weekends for federal employees by celebrating four national holidays on Mondays: Washington’s Birthday, Memorial Day, Veterans Day, and Columbus Day. Under this bill, Veterans Day was moved

to the fourth Monday of October. Many states did not agree with this decision and continued to celebrate the holiday on its original date. The first Veterans Day under the new law was observed with much confusion on Oct. 25, 1971.

Finally on September 20, 1975, President Gerald R. Ford signed a law which returned the annual observance of Veterans Day to its original date of Nov. 11, beginning in 1978. Since then, the Veterans Day holiday has been observed on Nov. 11.

Celebrating the Veterans Day Holiday

If the Nov. 11 holiday falls on a non-workday -- Saturday or Sunday -- the holiday is observed by the federal government on Monday (if the holiday falls on Sunday) or Friday (if the holiday falls on Saturday). Federal government closings are established by the U.S. Office of Personnel Management. State and local government closings are determined locally, and non-government businesses can close or remain open as they see fit, regardless of federal, state or local government operation determinations.

United States Senate Resolution 143, which was passed on Aug. 4, 2001, designated the week of Nov. 11 through Nov. 17, 2001, as “National Veterans Awareness Week.” The resolution calls for educational efforts directed at elementary and secondary school students concerning the contributions and sacrifices of veterans.

Freedom Trail commemorates the 250th anniversary of Paul Revere’s historic ride

Boston continues to commemorate the 250th anniversary of Paul Revere’s Ride, a momentous event in American history that alerted colonists to British plans and ignited the Revolutionary War. In honor of this milestone, on Thursday, November 13 at 7 pm, “A Revolutionary Concert: Paul Revere. The Man, the Myth, and the Legacy” will be hosted by the Paul Re-

vere Memorial Association at Boston’s historic Converse Hall. Sponsored by the Freedom Trail® Foundation, the special engaging and immersive free program will feature Massachusetts Poet Laureate Regie Gibson and Paul Revere.

From loyalist anthems of Tories, to the fiery songs of Revolutionaries, and original 19th-century compositions written to further

Revere’s legacy, the event brings 18th- and 19th-century America to life through the music of the times. The evening will include performances by some of Boston’s finest musicians. Blending rich narration, historical images, and live music, it will offer a fresh, moving, and insightful take on one of the Revolution’s most misunderstood heroes. Far more than just a mes-

senger on horseback, Paul Revere was a devoted family man, savvy businessman, and respected civil servant. All are invited to this powerful journey through sound and story, which will separate fact from folklore while painting a vivid portrait of one of America’s most iconic patriots.

Historic Converse Hall is located at 88 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02108.

Event goers may register to attend for FREE via Eventbrite: <https://bit.ly/48jRUw9>

One of the 16 official Freedom Trail historic sites, the Paul Revere House, located in Boston’s historic North End, was home to patriot and silversmith Paul Revere from 1770 to 1800. Revere left from the house in 1775 to begin the ride that Henry Wadsworth

Longfellow immortalized in the poem, “Paul Revere’s Ride.” Built c. 1680, the Revere House is the oldest building in downtown Boston. Opened as a museum in 1908, the house now offers self-guided tours that serve over 250,000 visitors a year.

For more information about the 250th anniversary concert event, please visit www.paulreverehouse.org or call (617) 523-2338.



Honoring All Veterans on Veterans Day

We thank you for your service and sacrifices. We are forever grateful!



Honoring our Veterans this Nov. 11

State Senator
Sal DiDomenico



HAPPY VETERANS DAY

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