

Boston Seniority

Commission on Affairs of the Elderly, Boston Mayor Martin J. Walsh



June 2018
Issue 6
Vol. 42

Free Publication



Mayor's Letter
p. 4



Book Picks
p. 6



Events Calendar
p. 10

CONTENTS

4
MAYOR'S SPOTLIGHT

6
BOOK PICKS
Read Kathy's recommendations!

8
ALZHEIMER'S INFOGRAPHIC
Here are some fast facts.

10
EVENTS + ACTIVITIES
Check out our June calendar!

12
ONLINE SAFETY
It's Internet Safety Month.

13
LEGAL RESOURCES
Learn about legal assistance.

14-17
PRIDE MONTH
Celebrating Boston LGBTQ Pride

18
MEET THE TEAM
Learn about our Area Agency on Aging

20
ELDERLY COMMISSION INFO
How we can help you.

24
THE BUZZ
Find out what the buzz is all about.

26
SEEN AROUND TOWN
See if we saw you! A photo series from social outings around town.

On the Cover:

Our cover stars are married Brighton residents Dennis DeMello, 79 and Joseph "Joe" Carcerano, 75. They first met at a movie theater lounge 56 years ago. Dennis went back 3 weeks later to find Joe and they have been inseparable ever since.



When asked about their experience living in Boston, Joe said "A lot of behind closed doors, going to gay bars, and having them raided. Now there's great opportunity. We have the freedom not to be afraid anymore. We overcame hate." Dennis goes on to say, "Joe and myself, our generation we paved the way for the kids of today." Go to **p. 14** for more stories.



Boston Seniority

Published by the City of Boston's Commission on Affairs of the Elderly

Martin J. Walsh
Mayor

Emily K. Shea
Commissioner

Cassandra Baptista
*Director of Communications
Editor and Photographer*

Martha Rios
Editor and Photographer

City Hall Plaza-Room 271
Boston, MA 02201

Printed by Bradford & Bigelow
Boston Seniority font by Scott Simpson

Boston Seniority is supported in part by The Executive Office of Elder Affairs.

Although all material accepted is expected to conform to professional standards, acceptance does not imply endorsement by the City of Boston.

Stay Connected with the Commission on Affairs of the Elderly:



Main number: (617) 635-4366



Website: www.boston.gov/elderly



Facebook: @BostonElderlyCommission



Twitter: @AgingInBos

Do you have a story to share? We want to hear from you!

Email us at Bostonseniority@boston.gov

From the Mayor's Desk

Celebrating Boston Pride

This month, we celebrate Boston Pride's 48th year. It is a week that has grown to become the largest pride event in New England. As Mayor of Boston, I've seen the powerful and positive impact these events have on both individuals and our communities.

Boston Pride is an organization that stands with all communities and people who are struggling for basic rights, acceptance, visibility, safety, acknowledgement, and equitability.

This year's inspiring theme, "Rainbow Resistance," is meant to highlight the continued struggle and fight by all who identify as belonging to the very diverse LGBTQ community.

For older Bostonians who identify as LGBTQ, Pride is for you and because of you. The work you started continues today, and communities are better because of your advocacy and your voices. On pages 14-17, read about some of these powerful stories and experiences in our city.

I remain committed to creating a supporting network and true equality for all our residents in our neighborhoods. As we are all One Boston, we all have Boston Pride.

Sincerely,

-Mayor Martin J Walsh

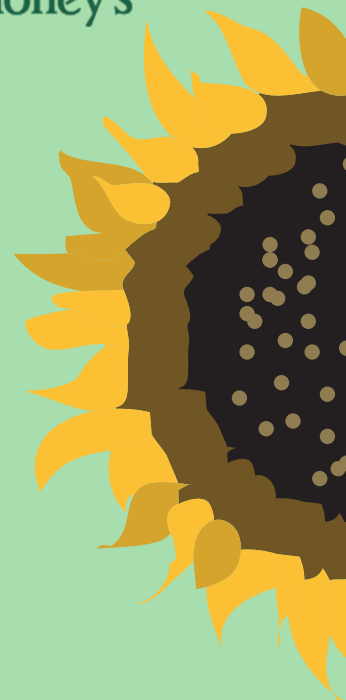


A citywide celebration of urban gardening

MAYOR WALSH'S 2018 GARDEN CONTEST



sponsored by



Important Dates

Entry Deadline – Wednesday, July 11 - 11:59 p.m.
Finalist Notification – Thursday, July 19
Judges Visit Gardens – Week of July 23
Awards Ceremony – Mid August

ELIGIBILITY

- BOSTON RESIDENTS ONLY
- CLUB OR ORGANIZATION GARDENS
- BUSINESSES
- AMATEUR GARDENER'S ONLY

GENERAL INFORMATION

Photographs or images submitted to the Boston Parks & Recreation Department become City of Boston property and may be used for press or marketing purposes. Gardeners may only enter one category per year. For more information, please call (617) 961-3047.

JUDGING CRITERIA

- General Appeal
- Plant Material
- Garden Hardware
- Natural or Formal
- Use of Color
- Furnishings/Art
- Neatness
- Variety/Quality
- Sustainable Features and Methods

Please fill out the form completely and submit photos of the nominated garden

Please mail this form with photos to:

Mayor Walsh's Garden Contest
Boston Parks & Recreation Department
1010 Massachusetts Avenue, 3rd Floor
Boston, Massachusetts 02118

or apply online:

boston.gov/mayors-garden-contest

Categories (Check only **ONE** category)

- Porch, Balcony, or Container Garden
- Shade Garden
- Small Yard Garden (250 sq. ft. or less)
- Medium Yard Garden (250 to 500 sq. ft.)
- Large Yard Garden (larger than 500 sq. ft.)
- Community Garden (individual plot)
- Vegetable or Herb Garden
- Senior Garden Category (65+)
- Storefront, Organization, or Main Street District Garden

Gardener's Name _____

Organization _____

Address _____

Neighborhood _____ Zip _____

Daytime Phone _____

Evening Phone _____

Email Address _____

Garden Address if different than above:



GREENOVATE
BOSTON

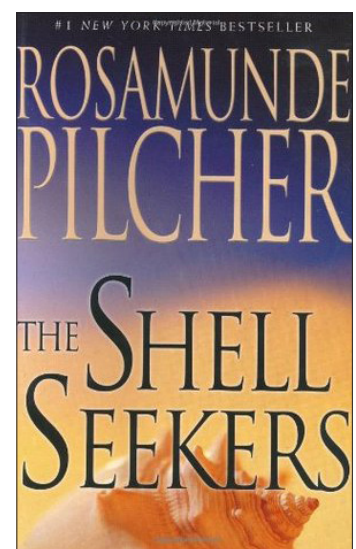
► Book Recommendations

Kathy's Picks: 6 Books Worth Reading...

By Kathleen O'Connor

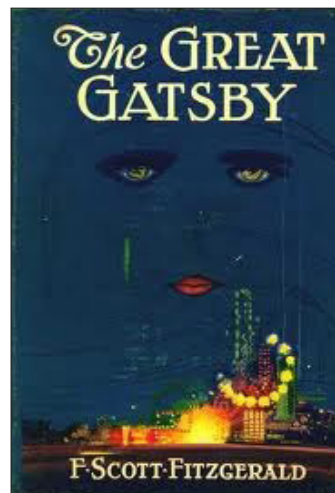
Pick up a read from this list and settle into a chaise lounge/hammock/easy chair. Season with a soundtrack of ocean or lakefront and serve immediately. Enjoy!

What's your idea of a good summer read? Short and sweet? Hitting rewind and going back to less complicated days? A new book that you haven't had time for? You'll find one or two of each in our June picks. No book reports required – except for family and friends.



The Shell Seekers, Rosamund Pilcher
Pilcher's characters are rich, complicated, and subtle. She draws the imperfections and dysfunctions of family in a way that riles you, worries you, or brings tears,

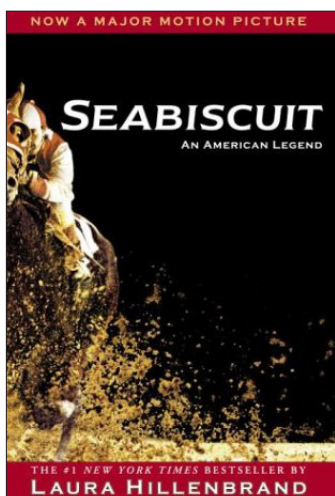
just as if you were there. Now, imagine a mother dealing with her children's insistence that she sell a valuable and cherished painting. Caution: must enjoy lush detail.



The Great Gatsby, F. Scott Fitzgerald

Mr. Fitzgerald nailed reality TV before his time. Ah, the Jazz Age - self-absorbed decadence, excess, and memories of the past holding you hostage. If you

haven't read this since high school, check in again on Jay Gatsby and debutante Daisy Buchanan.



Seabiscuit: An American Legend, Laura Hillenbrand

Little was expected of this crooked-legged racehorse. Despite his detractors, the horse with heart transfixed a nation in the gloom of the Depression,

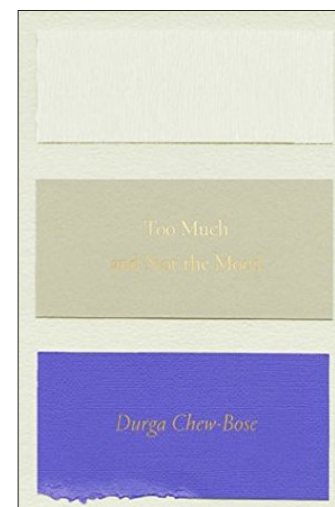
Seabiscuit was one of the most captivating and admired attractions in sports history. In 1938, he received more news coverage than FDR, Hitler, or Mussolini. This is a classic tale of an underdog: of his success - a surprise to the racing establishment which had written him off - and of the three men who changed Seabiscuit's fortune.



The Little Prince, Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

The most translated book in the French language, *The Little Prince* tells the story of a boy who leaves the

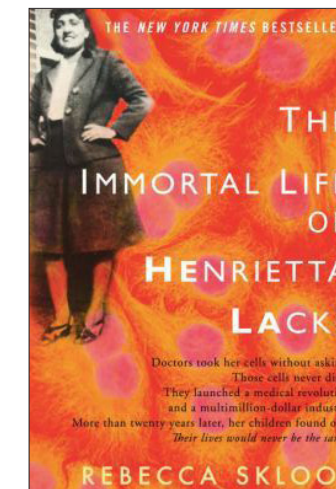
safety of his own planet to travel the universe, learning the vagaries of adult behavior through his extraordinary encounters. It is a clever tale of wisdom and truth. If you're up for an experiment, read this to an 8+ year-old child, and listen to how the story speaks differently to the two of you.



Too Much and Not the Mood, Durga Chew-Bose

Too Much and Not the Mood was Virginia Woolf's last entry in *A Writer's Diary*, her rejection of pressure to let

others' voices dampen her own. This work is Chew-Bose's own refusal to tamper with her raw thoughts, and instead tap into the inner voice that often isn't allowed to speak. From this place, she looks at art, her experience as a woman of color and of other people, and even renders a heartbeat into syllables and thought.



The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks, Rebecca Skloot

Henrietta Lacks was diagnosed with cervical cancer. The attending doctor, without her permission, sent samples of her tissue

to a scientist who was trying to establish a continuously reproducing (immortal) human cell line for use in cancer research. Fifty years later, Lacks' tissue had yielded an estimated 50 million metric tons of HeLa cells, many used in major medical discoveries. This biography of Lacks and her offspring - all reared in poverty - raises questions about bioethics, who should benefit from scientific research and how it should be conducted.

Visit your local library to check out these books and many more at www.bpl.org

► Infographic

Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month

An estimated 5.7 million Americans of all ages are living with Alzheimer's dementia in 2018. This number includes an estimated 5.5 million people age 65 and older and approximately 200,000 individuals under age 65 who have younger-onset Alzheimer's.

- One in 10 people age 65 and older (10 percent) has Alzheimer's dementia.
- Almost two-thirds of Americans with Alzheimer's are women.
- Older African-Americans are about twice as likely to have Alzheimer's or other dementias as older whites.
- Hispanics are about one and one-half times as likely to have Alzheimer's or other dementias as older whites.

**Every
65
Seconds**

someone in the United States develops Alzheimer's Disease.

Did you know about The Longest Day?

On June 21, the longest day of the year, thousands of people from around the world will raise funds and awareness in honor of those facing Alzheimer's.

Early Signs and Symptoms of Alzheimer's:



Memory loss that disrupts daily life.



Confusion with time or place.



Misplacing things and losing the ability to retrace steps.



Challenges in planning or solving problems.



Trouble understanding visual images and spatial relationships.



Decreased or poor judgement.



Difficulty completing familiar tasks at home, at work or at leisure.



New problems with words in speaking or writing.



Withdrawal from work or social activities. Changes in mood and personality.

Information and resources on Alzheimer's:

Boston Alzheimer's Initiative
617-635-4366

Alzheimer's Association MA/NH
24/7 Helpline: 1-800-272-3900
www.alz.org/manh

*source: www.alz.org

June Happenings: Ways to Fill Your Calendar

** Please note not all events are free and are subject to change*



Boston Pride Festival
Time: 11:00 am - 6:00 pm
Location: City Hall Plaza
1 City Hall Sq. 02201
Contact Info: Boston Pride,
617-262-9405



Boston Crusaders Concert
Time: 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm
Location: Norman B. Leventhal
Park, 50 Federal St. 02110
Contact Info: Norman B.
Leventhal Park, 617-423-1500



Bunker Hill Day Parade
Time: 12:30 pm - 2:30 pm
Location: Downtown
Charlestown, 1 Vine St. 02129
Contact Info: Arthur Hurley,
617-242-2724



**Castle Island and Fort
Independence Tours**
Time: 12:00 pm - 3:30 pm
Location: 2010 Day Blvd.,
South Boston
Contact Info: DCR's Castle
Island, 617-727-5290



Neighborhood Coffee Hour
Time: 9:30 am - 10:30 am
Location: Fenway Victory
Gardens, 20 Park Drive,
Fenway
Contact Info: Parks and
Recreation, 617-635-4505



Neighborhood Coffee Hour
Time: 9:30 am - 10:30 am
Location: Ronan Park
92 Mt. Ida Road, Dorchester
Contact Info: Parks and
Recreation, 617-635-4505



Free Summer Yoga
Time: 6:00 pm
Location: Boston Common
by the Frog Pond Carousel,
Beacon Hill
Contact Info: 617-534-2355



Neighborhood Coffee Hour
Time: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm
Location: Elliot Norton Park
295 Tremont St., Bay Village/
Chinatown
Contact Info: Parks and
Recreation, 617-635-4505

June Neighborhood Coffee Hours Listed Below!



Neighborhood Coffee Hour
Time: 9:30 am - 10:30 am
Location: Brighton Common
30 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton
Contact Info: Parks and
Recreation, 617-635-4505



Donna Summer Roller Disco Party
Time: 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm
Location: City Hall Plaza
1 City Hall Sq. 02201
Contact Info: Tourism, Sports, and
Entertainment, 617-635-3911



Neighborhood Coffee Hour
Time: 9:30 am - 10:30 am
Location: Almont Park
40 Almont St., Mattapan
Contact Info: Parks and Recreation,
617-635-4505



Neighborhood Coffee Hour
Time: 9:30 am - 10:30 am
Location: Christopher Columbus
Park, 110 Atlantic Ave., North End
Contact Info: Parks and Recreation,
617-635-4505



Dorothy Curran Wednesday Night Concert Series

We have another great season of outdoor music to entertain music fans of all ages, including:

- Strictly Sinatra by Michael Dutra
- Disco Night with Stardust
- a tribute to the great Stevie Wonder with Natural Wonder, and
- the smooth R&B stylings of Harold Melvin's Blue Notes.

Now celebrating 45 years as Boston's longest-running free outdoor concert series, these performances bring four summer nights of great entertainment to this unique venue located in the heart of Boston. All shows begin at 7 p.m.

Interested in attending? Give us a call at 617-635-4366.



► Online Safety

It's National Internet Safety Month

By *Marin Sklan*

For many of us, social media has become a huge part of everyday communication. These platforms allow us to share images, stay in touch with friends and family, watch live events, and remind us of important dates and birthdays. Of course, this process also requires you to offer up your personal information. Here are a few ways to ensure that you are sharing safely:

Passwords are your first line of defense!

1. Make sure that you are using a unique password for each of your accounts. That means a different password for Facebook, Twitter, email, etc. This ensures that if a cybercriminal gets access to one of your passwords, they can not use it to hack all of your accounts.
2. When coming up with a password, do not use the names of your pets, family members, or street address. These names are often featured in the images and writing you share online, making them easier to guess.
3. Have a password that combines: lower and upper case letters, and at least one number and special symbol (! @ # \$, etc.)

4. Don't "save your password." Many computer browsers will ask if you'd like to "save your password" when logging into a specific site. Although this makes signing in easier, if your computer is hacked, your passwords will be accessible.

5. Change your passwords on a regular basis. Switching things up every few months only strengthens your cybersecurity posture.

6. In the event of a data breach or cybersecurity incident, change your passwords immediately, and monitor your accounts for unusual activity.

7. Remember not to overshare. Never share your passwords, or provide too much personal information over social media.

This includes your:

- Financial or credit card information
- Social Security, or license, numbers
- Phone number
- Personal or mailing address

Did you know that 3 of the most commonly hacked passwords are:

- 123456
- Password
- Qwerty

► Legal Resources

Legal Assistance in Boston

By *Greater Boston Legal Services*

The Greater Boston area is brimming with attorneys, law students, and court staff that continuously strive to provide vital services to the community. These dedicated civil servants are offering legal services to Greater Boston residents through Court Service Centers. For many Greater Boston residents, these services provide the necessary help for people in need or legal information assistance in filling out complex court forms. Towards this end, the Massachusetts Court System and the Volunteer Lawyers Project ("VLP") have created a network of assistance for those in need of civil legal assistance.

The Massachusetts Court System is offering walk-in Court Service Centers across the state. These Court Service Centers help people navigate the court system and are available to all court users. The Court Service Centers provide one-on-one help filling out court forms and providing information about court rules and procedures. They also provide instructions for court documents and contact information for community or legal resources. All of these services are free, but sometimes there are other costs associated with some individual cases.

The Boston Court Service Center is located at the Edward W. Brooke Courthouse 24 New Chardon St. 2nd floor, Boston, MA 02114 and the clinic runs Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

In addition to the Massachusetts Court System services, the Volunteer Lawyers Project is offering a Guardianship Clinic and a Family Law Clinic in the Brooke Courthouse. The VLP is an organization dedicated to offering free civil legal assistance to low-income residents of the Greater Boston area. The VLP Guardianship Clinic helps low-income petitioners for guardianship complete and file the guardianship petitions. They also help low-income guardians complete their care plans and annual reports. The VLP Family Law Clinic helps low-income residents with a variety of family law topics: divorce, custody, paternity contempt and modification actions. Both VLP clinics operate on Tuesdays 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. at the Court Service Center on the 2nd floor of the Brooke Courthouse.

For more information contact Greater Boston Legal Services at 617-371-1234.



Pride Month

In recognition of Pride month, we want to honor all Boston seniors—those within the LGBTQ community and allies—who have paved the path we march proudly on today. Pride is not without struggle. It is in spite of it. Boston is a thriving, diverse community that we all call home. That's because, here, we support and lift up each other's voices and identities.

In Boston, love is love.

-Your Editors



Danny's Story

A jet engine mechanic in Vietnam. An actor in New York. A sushi chef in St. Thomas. These are just some of the hats worn by 69-year-old Dorchester resident Danny Harris in his life. He remembers the exact moment he found his confidence: when he was working as both a stylist and makeup artist at the same photoshoot. He says, "I realized that if I wanted to, I could do it all." And Danny definitely has. He has had more than 50 gigs, lived in 14 places, had brushes with celebrity, doing it all and doing it well.

"When I was younger, me being black and being gay wasn't something I broadcasted. I didn't hide it, but I also wasn't standing on a soapbox to tell the world. I didn't feel like society was ready. In retrospect, I realized I wasn't equipped to defend myself. Now I am. I am fierce. I have experience. I can handle anything that comes to me."

Lois and Sheri's Story

"When Lois sat down to play the piano when we first met, I thought, 'We will spend our lives together,'" Sheri says. 54 years later and married, former South Enders Sheri Barden, 84, and Lois Johnson, 86, sit side-by-side reflecting on their relationship and the milestones of their trailblazing advocacy work. Lois and Sheri were co-presidents of the Boston chapter of Daughters of Bilitis, the first organization for lesbian rights, and stars of the acclaimed documentary *Gen Silent*.



"There's more work to be done," Lois said. "Pride is an opportunity for the younger ones to meet with elder people who have broken down a lot of barriers. Now it's normal to think you will get married. But good God, in the 1950s, it was enough for us to think that we'd survive and not be ostracized or lose our jobs and reputations if anyone discovered we were in love with someone of the same sex. We want young people to understand they have the ball in their hands, and they have to run with it. Never become complacent because prejudice is ever with us."

POINTS OF PRIDE IN BOSTON...

▶ 1970

Boston Pride was founded.

▶ June 1971

Boston's first official Pride March was held on June 26, 1971.

▶ 1973

Boston's "Gay Community News" went national, becoming the "Paper of Record" for the LGBTQ community.

▶ 2004

MA became the first U.S. state to grant marriage licenses to same-sex couples.

▶ 2015

Historical gender neutral bathrooms installed in Boston City Hall.

▶ June 2018

Boston Seniority magazine features Pride Month as the main spread.



Caroline's Story

Jamaica Plain resident, Caroline Cutler, 71, lives by a simple, powerful mantra: "live life to the fullest." She explains it was only later in life--in her 50s--that she came out to her Pastor. "I have my faith," she says. "I thank the Lord for keeping me functioning and able to do things I love, like reading poetry and prose. I'd be lost without reading."

Caroline went to her first Pride Parade just a couple of years ago and was moved by the emotional experience.

"Pride is about laughter and having a good time, and there's a deeper meaning, too: It's a way for people to show they care," Caroline says. "It brings happy tears to my eyes, that all of these people show up for us, to honor us. I just want to thank people for showing their support. It can take a lot of gumption to come out. But I am not afraid or ashamed. What is the point in me being closeted? I am proud"

Bob and Wilbur's Story

"We've been together 47 years, 4 months and 22 days." Wilbur Kingston-Parrott, 70, says smiling, "I think the 47 years has defined us, I hope we can do another 47." Wilbur has been living in Boston since 1970 and says he has always been out. Bob Kingston-Parrott, 79, grew up here and came out when he was 25. They now live in the Back Bay. Both have never been into the bar scene but love to cook and entertain. Wilbur jokes, "I cook, he does 'heat and eat'."



Wilbur is currently taking lifelong learning classes. "I like going to school. He never complained about the money I spent or the time." Bob mentions he's happy when Wilbur is happy. This year instead of marching in the Boston Pride parade they will be on the sidelines enjoying the view. What wisdom does Bob have for his younger self? He says, "Get educated and get a husband!"

► Area Agency on Aging (AAA)

Meet the Team!

Did you know that the Elderly Commission is also an Area Agency on Aging?

We use Older Americans Act funds to support the city's older adults by working closely with community agencies who serve every neighborhood of Boston.

These agencies provide a range of programs and services including fun fitness programs, healthy meals, access to legal assistance, and support for caregivers.



Alison Freeman, LCSW
Director of Area Agency on Aging

"Older adults are such an integral part of this city; they contribute in so many ways to the betterment and wholeness of our communities and, without them, our communities would be seriously lacking. This is why the work that the Elderly Commission does is so important. It impacts all of us, each of our communities, and the City of Boston, as a whole. What we do for older adults, we do for everyone. I am so grateful to be a part of a team that works, every day, to enhance our city, and each of the individuals and communities that make it up."



Tara Hatala, RD
Director of Nutrition Advocacy and Planning

"I enjoy many aspects of my job from partnering with colleagues on food access and nutrition issues of seniors to providing direct education to individuals. My current aim is to make the program more efficient while increasing the number of culturally appropriate offerings."



Luis Ottonelli
Program Monitor

"As Program Monitor, I assist our grantees with their objectives and goals, to improve the lives of all seniors living in the City of Boston. I work very closely with grantees and support their efforts to provide great services to seniors. Being part of the Elderly Commission has fulfilled many of my goals. I enjoy meeting older adults, listening to their stories, and learning from their life experience."



► Active Aging

Our First Senior Civic Academy Cohort Graduates

Mayor Martin J. Walsh and the Commission on Affairs of the Elderly announced that the first Senior Civic Academy cohort graduated. The graduating class was comprised of 25 engaged, diverse and enthusiastic students over the age of 50 from across Boston's neighborhoods. The 28-hour curriculum included aging policy, advocacy training and meetings with local, state, and federal administrators and elected officials.

"Older adults are the foundation of our city, and it's important that we empower all residents to become effective advocates for themselves and their communities," said Mayor Martin J. Walsh. "This Senior Civic Academy gives older Bostonians the tools, contacts, and resources to make their voices heard."

With support from AARP, Tufts Health Plan Foundation, and UMass Boston,

the Senior Civic Academy was formed in response to community feedback and included in the City's Age-Friendly Action Plan. Students heard from over 40 speakers over the course of four days, through presentations, panel discussions, and workshops.

"I am on fire from these discussions," said Joyce Durst, 72, from Mattapan, who asked questions about solar energy and the tiny home movement. "This Senior Civic Academy is a good idea; we needed this opportunity. I'm proud of our city-- we have it going on in Boston! We may all live in different neighborhoods, but we all just want to feel comfortable and good about where we live. Listening to us and helping us now benefits everyone."

For more information or to learn about other Age-Friendly projects, call 617-635-4366.

Here's How We Can Help

We are focused on setting the City's direction for successful aging. We recently launched Boston's Age-Friendly Action Plan, which will serve as a guide in ensuring policies, programs, services and structures are in place to enable older adults to age well. The Commission is also dedicated to improving older Bostonians' lives by providing direct services and connecting you to important benefits and programs.

Did you know?

It is Hunger Awareness Month. Contact us if you need help getting connected to food resources.



Housing:

The Elderly Commission works to ensure that older adults are able to find and maintain housing. We can:

- Assist with housing search, application, and court advocacy.
- Connect older adults with other City and community agencies that can provide resources for home repair and other challenging situations like hoarding.
- Provide mediation and court advocacy



Access to Information and Benefits:

Community Advocates connect seniors to a comprehensive array of resources, benefits, and information. We can:

- Assist with applications for public benefits like SNAP and LIHEAP.
- Ease the process of applying for, and receiving, Medicare benefits.
- Assist older adults access several tax relief exemptions and programs like the Elderly Exemption 41C, Senior Circuit Breaker Tax Credit and more
- Assist older adults with navigating systems including the aging network and city services.



Transportation:

We are committed to helping people continue to lead independent lives by connecting them to transportation resources. We offer:

- Free wheelchair-accessible shuttles that provide door-to-door service for non-emergency doctor's appointments. Call (617)-635-3000 for more information.
- Taxi Coupons at discounted rates.
- Senior Charlie Card application assistance.

Volunteer Opportunities:

We operate 4 volunteer programs in impact driven work across the city:

- *RSVP* matches seniors with valuable volunteer opportunities in Boston.
- The *Senior Companion Program* matches seniors with homebound persons who need assistance.
- *Senior Greeters* volunteer their time to greet guests of City Hall.
- *Senior Property Tax Work-Off Program*: Qualified senior homeowners get the opportunity to work-off up to \$1,500 on their property tax bill by volunteering for a City agency.



Alzheimer's and Caregiver Support:

Know that you are not alone; We are here to support you. We:

- Host Memory Cafes, which are places where individuals experiencing memory loss and their caretakers can meet in a safe, social environment.
- Provide referrals and offer workshops, training, and support groups for those who are supporting an elderly loved one.



Outreach and Engagement:

The Commission organizes dozens of events and programs throughout the year. From large city-wide celebratory events to smaller neighborhood focused gatherings, we engage with older residents on many levels.



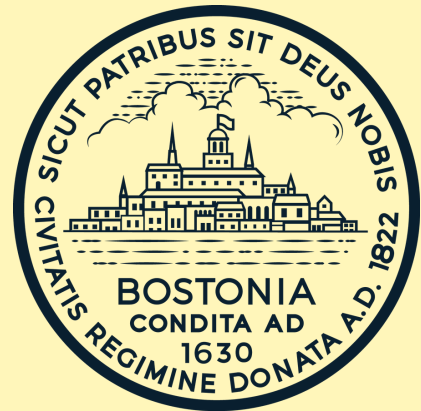
Call us for more information at 617-635-4366!

► Commission Advertisements

SAVE MONEY ON YOUR PROPERTY TAX!

SAVE UP TO \$1,500 ON YOUR PROPERTY TAX BILL

The **Senior Citizen Property Tax Work-Off Program** offers qualified senior homeowners the opportunity to earn up to \$1,500 per fiscal year off their property tax bill for volunteer work performed. Available positions are located at government offices for the City of Boston such as Boston City Hall, Boston Public Schools, Boston Centers for Youth and Families, and other municipal offices in Boston. For more information contact:



* Applications are due by July 2, 2018

THE CITY OF BOSTON'S COMMISSION ON AFFAIRS OF THE ELDERLY
617-635-4366 OR
WWW.BOSTON.GOV/ELDERLY

Did you know that there are a number of tax exemptions that seniors in Boston are entitled to? An exemption is a release from the City of Boston from having to pay taxes on all or part of a parcel of real property. As well as others! Want to learn more?

AS A BOSTON HOMEOWNER, YOU MAY BE ENTITLED TO:

- A residential exemption
- An Elderly exemption
- A Veteran's exemption

To find out what exemptions you may be entitled to contact:

CITY OF BOSTON'S TAXPAYER REFERRAL & ASSISTANCE CENTER
617-635-4287 OR
WWW.CITYOFBOSTON.GOV/ASSESSING/TRAC.ASP

► Advertisement



The Answer to Clear and Easy Phone Conversations

If you have difficulty using a standard telephone, MassRelay has the solution you've been looking for. Whether you are deaf, hard of hearing, deaf-blind or have difficulty speaking, there is a free and confidential relay service that will fit your need.

Captioned Telephone (CapTel®) lets you speak to friends and family over the phone and listen to their responses, while reading word-for-word captions on an easy-to-read screen.

Text Telephone (TTY) lets you type your side of the conversation and read the other person's responses.

Speech-to-Speech (STS) features a specially trained Operator who will revoice your words as needed for improved clarity while you speak and listen through the phone.

Hearing Carry Over (HCO) lets you listen to your phone conversation and type your responses for an Operator to voice to the other person.

Voice Carry Over (VCO) lets you speak to friends and family and read their responses on the phone's screen.

Deaf-Blind Service (DBS) allows you to type your messages and read the other person's responses on a braille display.

Spanish Relay features a Spanish-speaking Operator trained to relay your conversation in any call type.

CapTel® is a registered trademark of Ultratec, Inc.



To learn more about MassRelay, visit Mass.gov/MassRelay or call us: 800.720.3480 (TTY) | 800.720.3479 (Voice)

► The Buzz

Our 5 Greenovate Give-Away Winners!

1. Emma Previato, 65, Fenway
2. Nancy Jeanne Martin, 70, Beacon Hill
3. Robert Frank, 75, South End
4. Donna Red, 70, Grove Hall
5. Diane Mahoney, 70, Charlestown

"I buy local anything I can, when I can afford it. It is hard for me to get distances, but I visit all possible farmers' markets to get groceries there. I try to buy healthy and of course the less far the products travel, the better!" - *Emma Previato, 65, Fenway*

Seniority Spotlight

This year at the "I Remember Mama" Mother's Day Brunch, Commissioner Emily K. Shea of the Commission on Affairs of the Elderly, was awarded the Susan Wornick and Myrna Billian Community Leadership Award.

Commissioner Shea received the award for her efforts in making Boston an accessible and age-friendly city for all.



Here's a throwback *Boston Seniority* magazine from August 1990.



Around The World!

Boston Seniority magazine was spotted at the Mayan city of Tulum in Mexico. Cassandra Baptista, one of the *Seniority* Editors and Communications Director at the Elderly Commission, is seen holding her favorite read!



Last month's answer:
Photo shows tents that were erected in the yard of Boston City Hospital for soldiers who were coming back from the front of the Spanish American War.

Can you guess?

From the Boston City Archives:
Can you guess where this is?

Hint: The photo was taken in 1912.

SENIORITY QUOTABLES

Listen and hear the advice of
your grandparents.

-REV. DR. BILL LOESCH

► Seen Around Town



©Isabel Leon



©Isabel Leon



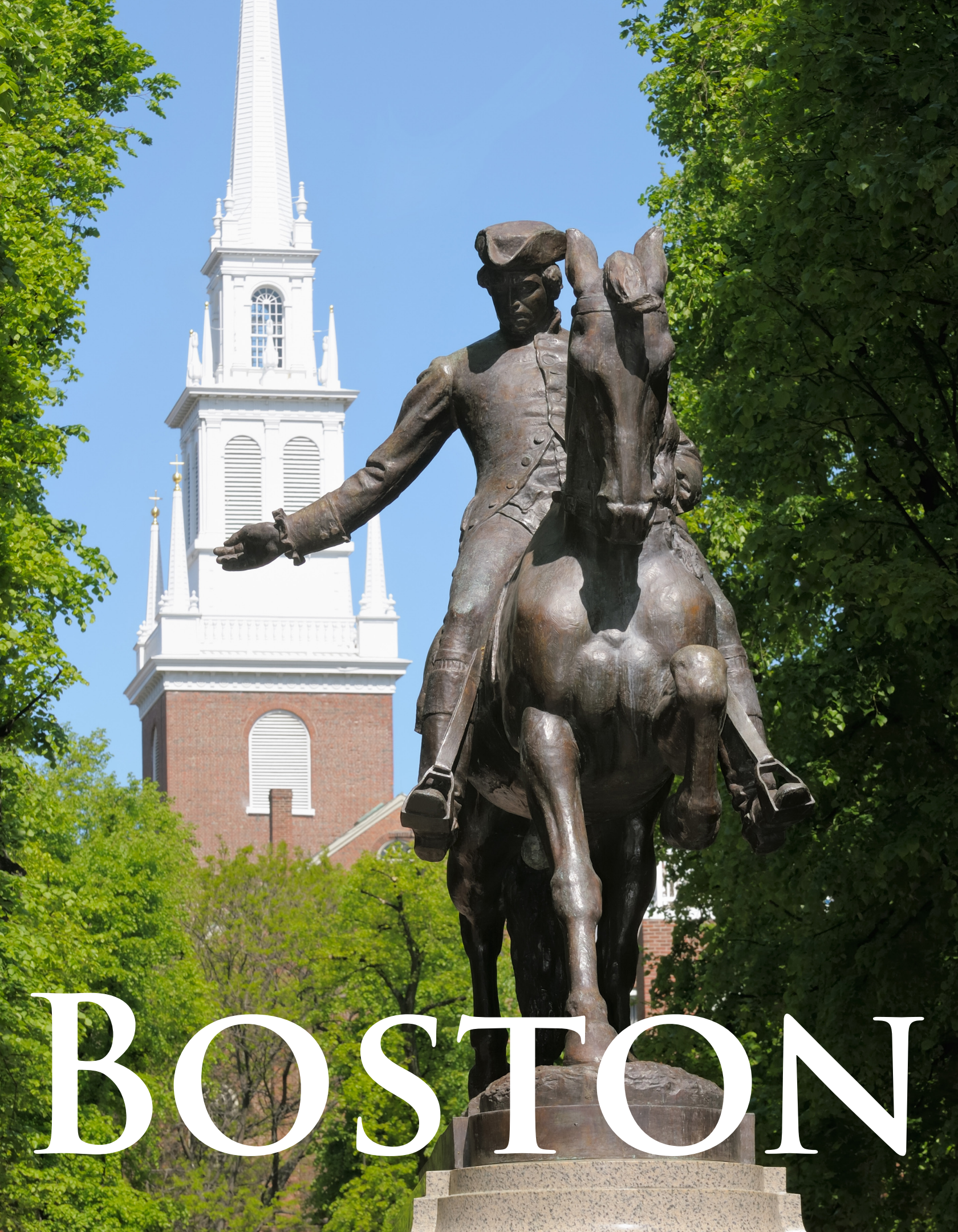
"Thank you for making us feel important," said Dorothy, one of our first graduates from the Senior Civic Academy.



©Isabel Leon



©Isabel Leon



BOSTON