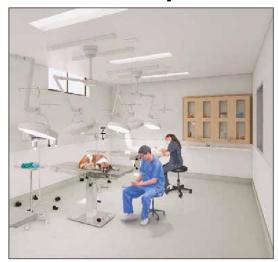
South End News

December 25, 2025 [Vol. 43, No. 33]

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for and about Boston's best neighborhood

Animal Rescue League Secures \$20.7 Million Bond for South End Expansion



Rendering of the inside of the new facility at 10 Chandler St. in Boston. Photo courtesy of the Animal Rescue League of Boston.

BY SOUTH END NEWS STAFF

The Animal Rescue League of Boston has secured a \$20,750,000 tax-exempt bond through Mass Development to build a new threestory, 30,000-square-foot facility at 10 Chandler Street in the South End, replacing its existing building on the site.

The bond, purchased by Eastern Bank, will finance construction that began in June and is expected to be completed in two phases by December 2026 and December 2027. The expansion will support 40 full-time jobs and six part-time jobs.

Continued on page 2

South End Nonprofits Among Recipients of Major Corporate Grant Programs

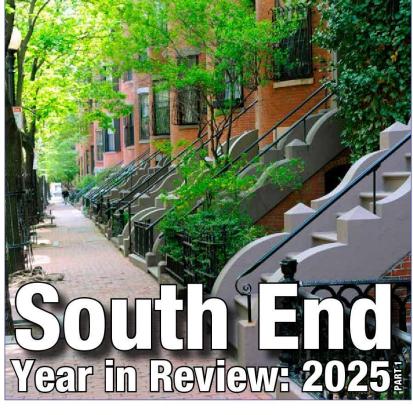
BY SOUTH END NEWS STAFF

Three South End-based organizations are among dozens of nonprofits receiving millions in corporate funding from two major Boston-based companies.

Liberty Mutual announced

\$6 million in grants through its Impact-Driven Collaboration program, which funds multi-organization partnerships addressing complex community challenges. Community Music Center of Bos-

Continued on page 2



BY SUE O'CONNELL

AND SOUTH END NEWS STAFF

Public Safety, Community Challenges, and Neighborhood Strength

The South End closed out 2025 facing one of the most challenging periods in its modern history, as long-standingpublic safetyand public health issues intensified — even as the neighborhood's cultural life, civic engagement, and community institutions continued to demonstrate resilience.

Mass. and Cass Spillover Dominates the Year

No issue shaped daily life in the South End more than the ongoing crisiscentered around Massachusetts Avenue and Melnea Cass Boulevard and its spillover into nearby residential streets.

Throughout the summer and fall, residentsreportedescalatingopen-air drug use, needles on sidewalks, public defectation, break-ins, and quality-of-life deterioration. Many longtime residents described conditions as the worst they had ever experienced.

That frustration culminated in a packed City Council public hearing in early September at the Hampton Innon Massachusetts Avenue, where hundreds of South End residents demanded immediate action. Overflow crowds were unable to enter the room as speaker after speaker described fear, exhaustion, and concern for children, seniors, and vulnerable neighbors.

Neighborhood meetings continued into the fall, with residents openly discussing whether remaining in the South End was sustainable if conditions did not improve.

City officials responded by pointing to increased police presence and enforcement, noting that arrests in the Mass. and Cass area rose sharply compared with the previous year, alongside expanded outreach and treatment efforts. Many residents, however, said the day-to-day reality on their streets suggested limited progress.

Crime and Public Safety Incidents

Several high-profile incidents in-

Continued on page 4

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ΛRI

Continued from page 1

The new facility will house an adoption center, animal shelter, Boston Veterinary Care (ARL's full-service public veterinary hospital), and the flagship location for ARL's humane education program. It will also include expanded space for animal care, dog training classes, and support services for pet owners.

"Our new facility isn't just a building; it's a symbol of our commitment to animals and the people who love them," said Dr. Edward Schettino, President and CEO of the Animal Rescue League of Boston. "The new, world-class Animal Care & Adoption Center will provide animals with the highest standards of care for generations."

Founded in 1899 as Massachusetts' first female-founded animal welfare organization, ARL helps more than 20,000 animals annually. The tax-exempt financing helped the nonprofit achieve a lower cost of capital for the project.

Written with information provide by Mass-Development.



Rendering of the new facility at 10 Chandler St. in Boston. Photo courtesy of the Animal Rescue League of Boston.

Nonprofits

Continued from page 1

ton, located on Warren Avenue, received a \$300,000 Planning Grant to develop a Nubian Square STEAM Corridor in partnership with Franklin Cummings Tech and The Clubhouse Network. More Than Words, the youth-run bookstore and social enterprise on East Berkeley Street, will receive a portion of a \$1.5 million Implementation Grant through its collaboration with Bridge Over Troubled Waters and HopeWell to expand access to Foster Youth to Independence housing vouchers and strengthen support systems for young people navigating Boston's housing challenges.

The New Balance Foundation announced \$9.2 million in grants to 52 Massachusetts nonprofits as part of its 2025–2026 grant cycle supporting youth development through sport, food security, and education. Haley House, the South End-based organization providing food security and community support, was among the recipients.

Liberty Mutual's IDC program differs from traditional corporate philanthropy by investing in collaborative infrastructure rather than single programs. This year's cycle includes three \$1.5 million Implementation Grants addressing climate resilience, disability-inclusive workforce development, and foster youth housing stability, along with five \$300,000 Planning Grants and ten \$10,000 Finalist Grants across Greater Boston.

Since 1981, the New Balance Foundation has invested more than \$90 million in local nonprofits. In 2025 alone, the Foundation granted over \$17 million across 12 countries.

Written with information from Liberty Mutual and Regan Communications.





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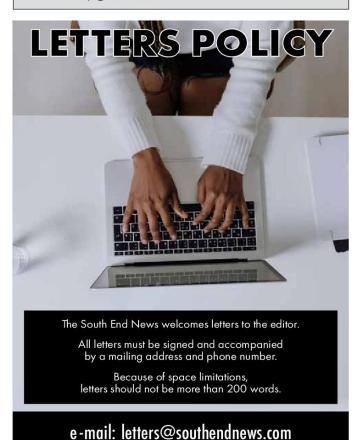
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Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary



ANNE M. LYNCH HOMES AT OLD COLONY

331 East 8th Street, South Boston, MA 02127

AFFORDABLE HOUSING OPPORTUNITY **FAMILY AND SENIOR APARTMENTS**

The final apartment building of The Homes at Old Colony will be completed in January 2026 and the Boston Housing Authority (BHA) is now accepting applications.

* Featured Apartments *

2-bedroom apartments for seniors 62+

4-bedroom apartments for families

5-bedroom apartments for families

1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 bedroom accessible apartments for families 1 & 2 bedroom accessible apartments for seniors 62+

Located adjacent to Moakley Park and with view of Boston Harbor, apartments offer state-of-the-art energy efficient appliances, individual zone thermostats, air conditioning and spacious closets. The community features bike storage, elevator accessed apartments, central laundry facilities, and access to public transportation. All residents have access to programs and activities offered at the Tierney Learning Center.

> Applicants must meet BHA Project-Based Section 8 income and other qualifications for approval.

*This building, The Homes at Old Colony, also features 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 bedroom apartments for families, 1 and 2 bedroom apartments for seniors 62+, as well as accessible apartments in all bedroom sizes for families and seniors.

FY 2025 Income Limit Category	Household Size							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Very Low (50%) Income Limits (\$)	57,900	66,200	74,450	82,700	89,350	95,950	102,550	109,200

No minimum income limit is required to apply

To apply to this community, please visit Boston.MyHousing.com

When applying, if you are a first-time applicant through the Boston Housing Authority, please select the green START HERE BUTTON. If you are a returning applicant, please select the ALREADY APPLIED OPTION.

> In the BHA application, select one of the following programs under the "Your List" section:

> > **Old Colony**

Old Colony Elderly

For assistance, you can also contact us via: Phone: 617-268-2160 Email: OldColonyBC@BeaconCommunitiesLLC.com Management Office: 20 Reverend Burke Street, Boston, MA 02127

BEACON |







Year in Review

Continued from page 1

tensified concerns during the year:

- Police raided a West Newton Street property described by prosecutors as operating likean "indoor Mass. and Cass," reinforcing fears that the crisis had moved into residential buildings.
- A series of South End home break-ins during the summer, some captured on doorbell cameras, unsettled residents and prompted renewed calls for patrols and deterrence.
- A July trafficincident involving an erratic driver left a Boston police officer injured after multiple vehicles were struck.
- A street takeover near the South End borderin October — involving fireworks, vandalism, and a police cruiser set on fire — drew statewide and national attention.

While city officials emphasized that Boston's overall violent crime rate remained near historic lows, the city recorded more homicides by mid-December than at the same point in 2024, keeping public safety at the forefront of neighborhood debate.

Public Health and Infrastructure Pressures

The City reported responding to hundreds of human-waste cleanup requests in fiscal year 2025, with the majority concentrated in the South End and nearby neighborhoods—a statistic frequently cited by residents as emblematic of the public health crisis playing out on local streets.

At the same time, infrastructure work continued across the neighborhood, including water and sewer upgrades along Mass. Ave, Harrison Avenue, Albany Street, East Newton Street, and surrounding corridors. While disruptive, many residents viewed the projects as overdue investment.

Community Strength, Culture, and Pride

Despite the strain of 2025, the South End's cultural and community life remained a source of strength.

- Boston Pride2025, held June 14 under the theme "Here to Stay," passed through the South End, with Pride flags lining Tremont Street throughout the month. LGBTQ+ bars, restaurants, and community spaces played a central role, reaffirming the neighborhood's historic place in Boston's queer community.
- Festival Betances returned in Julyat Plaza Betances, celebrating Puerto Rican and Latin American culture.
- South End Open Studios once again drew thousands of visitors in September.
- and the SoWa Winter Festival continued to anchor the neighborhood's arts economy into the winter season.

For many residents, these events underscored what makes the South End worth fighting for — a neighborhood defined not only by its challenges, but by its people, creativity, and deep sense of place.

Look for Part Two: elections, restaurants, development, and the recognitions that shaped the South End in 2025 in the Jan. 8, 2026 edition of South End News or online now at mysouthend.com



Boston Pride 2025. Photo by Sage Orville (www.sageorville.com).



Festival Betances 2025. Photo by Falcón Fontánez Foto.



Festival Betances 2025. Photo by Falcón Fontánez Foto.



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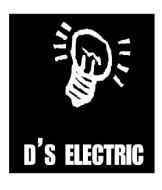


LETTERS POLICY

To be considered for publication, letters must be no longer than 500 words; refrain from extreme personal attacks; be signed and include an address and daytime telephone number. Writers should refrain from making incorrect statements since they may be barred from future issues. Deadline is noon Tuesday for Thursday's paper. To send us letters: Mail to PO BOX E14, Boston, MA 02127; E-mail: letters@southendnews.com

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LEGAL NOTICES

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

nmonwealth of Massachus The Trial Court Probate and Family Court

Docket No. SU25P2663EA

Estate of: Kathleen Martin-Zamora Date of Death: 03/31/2024

To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Annointment of Personal Renre has been filed by Jason Field of Newburyport, 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: Jason Field of Newburyport, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without

Suffolk Probate and **Family Court** 24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114 (617)788-8300

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 Courbefore: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 12/30/2025.

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 affidavi 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 Resonal Representative appointed under the MIPP Ci in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Resons 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 Stephanie L. Everett, Esg. Register of Probate Date: November 25, 2025

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Probate and Family Court Docket No. SU25P2780EA

Estate of: Madelyn M D'Onofrio Date of Death: 03/01/2003

To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Janet M Schweitzer representative as been new by Janet in Schweitzer of Reading, 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: Janet M Schweitzer of Reading, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

Suffolk Probate and **Family Court** 24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114 (617)788-8300

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 01/15/2026.

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 afficient of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

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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. Stephanie L. Everett, Esq, Register of Probate Date: December 11, 2025

CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Docket No. SU23P0148EA

Estate of: Margaret Millicent Hendrickson

Also known as: Margaret Hendrickson Date of Death: 11/18/2022

A Petition for Order of Complete Settlement has been filed by: Sara Spooner, Esq of Auburn, MA requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account, a determination of heirs at law and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.

Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114 (617)788-8300

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

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 Ob-jections within thirty (30) days of the return, action may be taken without

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

Date: December 16, 2025 Stephanie L. Everett, Esq, Register of Probate

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court

In the Estate of: Patrick Michael Hickey Date of Death: July 17, 2025 To all persons interested in the above

captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Peter J. Hickey of Lincoln RI. Peter J. Hickey of Lincoln RI, has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the

Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114 (617) 788-8300

Docket No.

SU25P2501FA

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating o restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informa procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the

CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Probate and Family Court Docket No. SU20P1768PM

Estate of: Andre Orama

A Petition for Order of Complete Settlement has been filed by: Public Guardian Services, LLC of Braintree, MA requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account. As the Permanent Conservator and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.

Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114 (617)788-8300

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 our attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on 01/08/2026.

This is NOT a hearing date but a deadline by which you must file a 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, action may be taken without

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

Date: December 08, 2025 Stephanie L. Everett, Esq, Register of Probate

CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF **COMPLETE SETTLEMENT**

wealth of Massachusetts Probate and Family Court Docket No. SU20P1768PM

Estate of: Andre Orama

A Petition for Order of Complete Settlement has been filed by: Public Guardian Services, LLC of Braintree, MA requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account. As Temporary Conservator and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition

Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114 (617)788-8300

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

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 fait to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Ob-jections within thirty (30) days of the return, action may be taken without

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

Date: December 08, 2025 Stephanie L. Everett, Esq, Register of Probate

INFORMAL PROBATE **PUBLICATION NOTICE**

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court

In the Estate of: John Sellers Yates, JR. Also Known as: John S. Yates, JR. Date of Death: 04/29/2025

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Ellen E Sheets of Boston MA, a will has been admitted to informal probate. Ellen E Sheets of Boston MA, has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114 (617) 788-8300

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding he administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court

Estate of: Rudolph Smith Date of Death: 05/25/2025

To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment sonal Representative has been filed by Betty Resident Replacement of the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Betty Smith of Boston, MA be appointed as Personal entative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

Docket No. SU25P2762EA Suffolk Probate and Family Court

24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114 (617)788-8300

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 01/20/2026.

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 affidavi of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

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WITNESS, Hon. Janine D Rivers, First Justice of this Court Stephanie L. Everett, Esq., Register of Probate Date: December 09, 2025





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