

## Vote Now!!

Preliminary Boston City Council Election is Underway

There is a preliminary election for some candidates for Boston City Council, including those for District 7, which includes some parts of the South End.

*Continued on page 7*



Photo by Element5 Digital, via Pexels.

## Mayor Wu announces 2023 Mayor's Garden Contest winners



South Ender Salil Sharma wins the 'Porch Balcony or Container Garden' category. Photo provided by boston.gov.

**SUBMITTED BY CITY OF BOSTON**

Mayor Michelle Wu recently announced the winners of the 27<sup>th</sup> annual Mayor's Garden Contest with a grand prize provided by

JetBlue, prize packages donated by Mahoney's Garden Centers, and additional support from in-kind sponsor Polar Beverages.

*Continued on page 7*

### GUEST OPINION

## City Councillors Request State of Emergency

Dear Boston Public Health Commission,

We write with a sense of urgency in hopes that you take a vote at your next Board of Health meeting on September 13th to declare a State of Emergency in the area of Massachusetts Avenue and Melnea Cass Boulevard. This will give the administration more flexibility to respond to the ongoing tragedy of substance use disorder, mental illness, open use of illegal drugs, violence, criminality, and disturbance

of urban life that has gone on for far too long.

We have reached a stage where dramatic intervention is vital. We need real solutions that address underlying problems and causes. We believe that the risk exists of compounding the "Mass and Cass" problem by attempting politically expedient solutions that do not address the underlying problems. Additionally, a recent proposal to relocate clinical services and add a shelter at the corner of Massachusetts Avenue and Albany Street

would continue adding to the undue burden already shouldered by the South End and Roxbury neighborhoods.

In truth, the root causes of what has become the central problem of a concentrated handful of neighborhoods lie far outside Boston, but the intersection of Mass and Cass has borne the toll. We ask for swift and comprehensive action to begin the process of bringing relief to this area and the people suffering there.

*Continued on page 5*

### CRIME

## Officers Arrest Three Suspects After Person With A Gun Call

**FROM BPD NEWS**

At about 3:00 AM, on Monday, August 28, 2023, officers assigned to District D-4 (South End) arrested three on firearm related charges.

Officers responded to the area

of 1252 Washington Street for a report of a person with a gun. Officers were advised by Operations that male suspect pointed a firearm at a victim. Officers were provided a description of the suspect, and a vehicle fleeing the area.

Officers located the vehicle and activated their emergency lights and sirens to initiate a traffic stop in the area of Melnea Cass Boulevard and Washington Street.

*Continued on page 7*

### NEWS FROM... FRIENDS OF SOUTH END LIBRARY

**SUBMITTED BY FOSEL**

**The Scoop: Book Club**  
Tuesday, September 12  
2:00 pm

Join the South End branch's book group! Our September book topic is to bring your own book. What is your favorite book? What book can you not stop thinking about? What are you currently reading? Bring your own book and



Photo via South End Branch of the Boston Public Library, Facebook.

*Continued on page 7*

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## SOWA & South End Open Studios



Photo via SoWa Boston, Facebook.

### South End Open Studios Weekend There is only one 450 Harrison Ave.

The 37<sup>th</sup> annual South End Open Studios weekend is September 23<sup>rd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>, 11am-6pm. A big weekend and only part of the September fun at 450 Harrison Ave, Boston.

### First Friday is September 1st, so save the date:

**Friday, September 1, 2023, 5pm-9pm**

And plan to visit us Sundays, 11am-4pm (11am-6pm on Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>). There are four SoWa Sundays in September. You'll meet the artists in person. You'll be the first to see their new works. You'll love everything about this art-buying experience.

[sowaartists.com](http://sowaartists.com)

[facebook.com/SoWaArtistsGuild](https://facebook.com/SoWaArtistsGuild)

[www.instagram.com/sowaartistsguild/](https://www.instagram.com/sowaartistsguild/)

### SoWa Sundays

**September 10, 17, 2023 11:00 am - 4:00 pm;  
September 24, 2023 11:00 am - 6:00 pm**

There are four wonderful SoWa Sundays in September, including September 24<sup>th</sup>, which is the second day of the 37<sup>th</sup> annual South End Open Studios weekend. Our Sunday hours are extended that weekend, 11am-6pm. All other Sundays, we're open 11am-4pm.

Be the first to see new works. Experience the rewards of buying direct from the makers. Share your experience, including the outdoor markets, with friends and loved ones.

The first Friday of every month is still and always will be First Friday Open Studios, 5pm-9pm. See you First Friday, September 1st! See you Saturday and Sunday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> for South End Open Studios, and see you every Sunday!

## SOUTH END CALENDAR

### Boston EMS Open House

**Sunday, September 10, 12 n - 3 pm**

Boston EMS will be hosting an open house with information sessions at 12:30p, 1:30p, and 2:30p. Learn about the upcoming Cadet hiring opportunity, EMT course scholarships, meet training instructors, and more.

785 Albany Street, 6th Floor, Boston

[recruiting@bostonems.org](mailto:recruiting@bostonems.org)

### Boston Centers for Youth & Families To Host Two Additional Lifeguard Hiring Events

**Monday, September 11 from 3:00 to 7:00 pm**

**Saturday, September 16 from 9:00 to 11:00 am**

Boston Centers for Youth & Families (BCYF) is hosting two additional free lifeguard hiring events on Monday, September 11 from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, September 16 from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. at the BCYF Mason Pool in Roxbury. Any Boston residents with valid lifeguard certification who are interested in working as a lifeguard at a BCYF pool are invited to attend one of the events.

The lifeguard hiring events will combine all the necessary steps to become a lifeguard for a City of Boston pool in one location. These include a swim evaluation, skill evaluation, interview, and paperwork processing. Full-time and part-time positions are available as well as Head Lifeguard positions.

BCYF lifeguard positions start at \$22/hour and all lifeguards, even those who work part-time hours, are eligible for all the benefits available to City of Boston employees, including generous health, dental and retirement benefits

as well as paid vacation. With pools located in almost every neighborhood of Boston, working at a BCYF pool is a great way to serve your community.

Interested candidates must be at least 18 years old and should bring the following: at least two references, contact information we can follow up on, a state ID or license, and American Red Cross Lifeguard Certification. Proof of Boston residency will be required later in the application process. We recommend signing up at this link: [bit.ly/BCYFLifeguardHiringEvent](https://bit.ly/BCYFLifeguardHiringEvent). However walk-ins are welcome. If you are interested and can't stop by, more information about lifeguarding at BCYF as well as the link to apply can be found at [boston.gov/BCYF-Aquatics](https://boston.gov/BCYF-Aquatics).

BCYF Mason Pool is located at 159 Norfolk Ave in Roxbury. Parking is available next to the pool or on nearby streets or it's a short walk up Proctor Street from any of the buses that serve Massachusetts Avenue.

The City of Boston is working across departments to renovate several city-owned pools following years of disinvestment. Over the last 3 months, the City has reopened the BCYF Paris Street Pool in East Boston and the BCYF Hennigan Pool in Jamaica Plain. The BCYF Paris Street Pool reopening was the result of a \$10.2 million investment. More pools will be reopened in the coming months and this hiring event is seeking lifeguards to help staff them and other BCYF pools.

Lifeguard recruitment and pool renovations are part of Mayor Wu's Swim Safe initiative, a commitment to support Boston residents' safety around water.

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**Do you have an event  
that you'd like featured  
in the South End News?**

**[email sueeoc@gmail.com](mailto:sueeoc@gmail.com)**



# Martin Richard Foundation Announces 6th Annual Mr8k Registration Opens

SUBMITTED BY  
THE MARTIN RICHARD FOUNDATION

The Martin Richard Foundation, in partnership with the Boston Bruins Foundation, New Balance, WS Development, Amazon, and DMSE Sports, a true collaboration of Boston's leading teams, today announced it will host the sixth annual MR8K. For the first time, the 5-mile race will take place in Boston's Seaport District on Sunday, October 15th. Registration is now open at <http://mr8k.org/>.

In 2019 the Martin Richard Foundation established the MR8K as its signature annual fundraising event, giving more people an opportunity to run for Team MR8. This year the MR8K marks its 6th-year milestone they will hold a unique running and social experience in Boston's Seaport. This 8K run through Seaport allows participants to come together on a special course starting at Martin's Park with a proud finish at Cisco Brewers. Additionally, there will be kid-specific age-qualifying races ensuring every member of the family can be a part of Boston's team and compete for Boston youth and community causes. The MR8K will also offer a virtual option for runners to join across the globe who want to be a part of Boston's team. All funds raised will benefit the Martin Richard Foundation's work to support community organizations that advance its values of inclusion, kindness, justice and peace.

"We are excited to be running this race in the Seaport this year. While this is a new location for the MR8K, we are no strangers to the Seaport. We have long-standing partnerships down here and are looking forward to being able to kick off this special race at Martin's Park," said Bill Richard, co-founder



Photo via Martin Richard Foundation, Facebook

of the Martin Richard Foundation. "When we started the MR8K, we wanted a race that was accessible to more people and had an experience that celebrated the pride we feel for our city of Boston. We feel this race does that and we are excited to do that in a new neighborhood."

Produced by DMSE Sports, Inc., the

5-mile course will start at Martin's Park and end at Cisco Brewers Seaport for a post-race celebration. Last year's event raised over \$100,000 for local youth and community causes with over 1,100 registered runners. Registration is \$50. The event is open to runners, walkers and para-athletes of all abilities, as well as families with small children.

## BACK TO SCHOOL

### MassReconnect, Massachusetts Free Community College Program Begins

BY SOUTH END NEWS STAFF

In August, Massachusetts Governor Maura Healey (D) announced the launch of MassReconnect, a program for students over age 25 who have lived in the state for at least a year, and who don't already have a college degree.

State officials expect as many as 8,000 students could enroll through MassReconnect in the spring and fall semesters.

Healy said in a news release that MassReconnect "will bolster the role of community colleges as economic drivers in our state and help us better meet the needs of businesses to

find qualified, well-trained workers. We can also make progress in breaking cycles of intergenerational poverty by helping residents complete their higher education credentials, so they can attain good jobs and build a career path."

The program is open to residents who have accumulated some college credits, but not enough for a degree. MassReconnect also covers costs like books and class-related fees. State officials plan to expand the program to more residents in the coming years.

## BACK TO SCHOOL

### Scholarship Fund Seeks Applicants

SUBMITTED BY  
THE BARBARA J. DEVANEY  
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Barbara J. DeVane Memorial Scholarship Fund has launched a \$90,000 fund and is seeking applicants.

Eligibility: Any female-identifying high

school, undergraduate, graduate, or trade school student who's a single mother, widow, immigrant, woman of color, first-generation college student, or survivor of abuse may apply for this scholarship. Students pursuing careers in the medical field, trades or STEM are strongly preferred.

Amount: \$90,000 (\$10,000 for 5 winners; \$5,000 for 7 winners)

Winners: 12

Application Deadline: Sep 21, 2023

Scholarship link:

[bold.org/scholarships/barbara-j-devaney-memorial-scholarship-fund/](https://bold.org/scholarships/barbara-j-devaney-memorial-scholarship-fund/)



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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](mailto:letters@southendnews.com)



## Guest Opinion

Continued from page 1

The "Mass and Cass" situation is worsening, not improving. Data maintained by the City of Boston reflects a 57 percent increase from June 2023 to July 2023 in the number of people who received substance use treatment. In January of 2022, there were 76 BPD incident reports; for the week of August 13, 2023, there were 170 such reports. Outside health care providers have pulled out of the area over safety concerns to their employees. Businesses are suffering, youth activity programs have been jeopardized, and our first responders are subject to dangerous conditions that exceed what should reasonably be expected of people already performing difficult jobs. Long ago, this exceeded the quality of life threshold and has become an outright Public Health Emergency.

Recently, we have seen States of Emergency declared to address the Covid-19 pandemic and the surge in immigrants overwhelming the Commonwealth's capacity. What is unfolding at Mass and Cass, and surrounding neighborhoods, is similar in its multifaceted complexity, and no less dire in its threat to human life and well-being. Our neighbor city Somerville is considering a similar State of Emergency, and Boston's problem is not only far more acute, it is now nearing a decade long.

We know there is no magical solution at Mass and Cass, that the humanitarian crisis was not created overnight and will not be cured that way. Underlying societal ills such as mental health and addiction lie outside of your control, and we pledge to do our part in continuing to do our best in addressing those. But we believe that the human cost is too great to delay significant, concrete action any further.

Thank you for your attention to the urgency of this matter. If we can be of any assistance, please contact us at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

Erin J. Murphy  
Boston City Councilor  
At Large

Frank Baker  
Boston City Councilor  
District 3

President Ed Flynn  
Boston City Councilor  
District 2

Michael Flaherty  
Boston City Councilor  
At Large

# SERVICE GUIDE

## Letters Policy

The South End News welcomes letters to the editor.

All letters must be signed and accompanied by a mailing address and phone number.

Because of space limitations, letters should not be more than 200 words.

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## Garden

Continued from page 1

The Mayor's Garden Contest recognizes gardeners who have landscaped, planted flowers, trees, shrubs, and, in the process, helped beautify Boston's neighborhoods.

First place winners received the coveted "Golden Trowel" award from Mayor Wu in a ceremony held August 21 in the Boston Public Garden while second and third place winners were awarded certificates.

Gardeners who have won three or more times in the last ten years were automatically entered into the Hall of Fame. These distinguished Hall-of-Famers are no longer eligible to enter as contestants but are invited to return as judges.

First place winners were also entered into a drawing for a JetBlue Grand Prize consisting of roundtrip flights for two to any nonstop destination from Boston. In addition, Mahoney's Garden Centers provided gardener's gift certificates to the top three winners in each category, as well as gift certificates for the 2023 Hall of Fame winners and judges.

### This year's winners:

#### Age Strong Garden

1. Jennifer Park - Roslindale
2. Junia Yearwood - Dorchester
3. Sheryl L. White - Roslindale

#### Shade Yard Garden

1. Alan White & Dale Belcher - Roslindale
2. Barbara Burleigh - Roslindale
3. Tess Cunard - Fenway-Kenmore

#### Vegetable or Herb Garden

1. Jun Odajima - West Roxbury
2. Osarumese Okoh - Roxbury
3. Sunny Ha - Brighton

#### Small Yard Garden

1. Julia Fairclough - Roslindale
2. Blair Campbell - Dorchester
3. John Carroll - Jamaica Plain

#### Medium Yard Garden

1. Sandra Jordan and Robert Monahan - Jamaica Plain
2. Jessica von Ammon - Roxbury
3. Matthew Delisle - Charlestown

#### Large Yard Garden

1. Rick Malkasian - Fenway-Kenmore
2. Kevin McKenna - Roslindale
3. Joe Fallon & Whit Hendon - Dorchester

#### Storefront, Organization, or Main Street District Garden

1. Gardening Enthusiasts at Primus - Beacon Hill
2. Hancock Garden Club (under the leadership of Anne Sheetz and Gillian Gattie) - Beacon Hill
3. Comfort Kitchen (Chitz Regmi) - Dorchester

#### Porch Balcony or Container Garden Category

1. Salil Sharma - South End
2. Alex & Stephanie Tsalagas - South End
3. Kolea Zimmerman - Charlestown

#### Community Garden

1. Joe and Dolores Fazio - Fenway-Kenmore Victory Gardens
2. Kristen L. Corman - Fenway-Kenmore Victory Gardens
3. Laura Poulin & Brian Harty - Fenway-Kenmore Victory Gardens

#### 2023 Hall of Fame Inductees

- Linda Sklar  
Steven Davy and Dionna Di Piero  
John Ruiz  
Dave Connolly

## Crime

Continued from page 1

Officers made contact with all three occupants of the vehicle, and requested them to exit the vehicle. Officers conducted a pat frisk of the vehicle and located a firearm from inside. The firearm was later determined to

be a Smith and Wesson CTGE with six rounds in the chamber.

All three suspects were placed under arrest and charged with; Unlawful Possession of a Firearm, Unlawful Possession of Ammunition, and Armed Robbery. The suspects are expected to be arraigned in Boston Municipal Court.

## Vote

Continued from page 1

## Important Dates

### Early voting NOW through Sept. 8.

Visit the [www.boston.gov/departments/election](http://www.boston.gov/departments/election) or [www.sec.state.ma.us](http://www.sec.state.ma.us) for mail-in ballots and voting locations.

**Sept. 12 Preliminary election day.** Polls open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. to cast their votes in races for Districts 3, 5, 6, and 7 (the only races that require a preliminary election).

**Oct. 28:** The deadline to register to vote in the general election is 5 p.m.

**Oct. 31:** The deadline to request your vote-by-mail ballot for the general election is 5 p.m.

**Nov. 7:** General election day. Polls open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. to cast their votes for district and at-large city councilors.

District 7  
Tania Fernandes Anderson  
(Incumbent)  
Althea Garrison  
Jerome King  
Roy Owens  
Padma Scott

## FOSEL

Continued from page 1

let's talk about it.

We will meet at FoMu Ice Cream, 655 Tremont St., at 2:00pm for an hour-long book discussion. Purchases are encouraged but not required.

To register, please email [southend@bpl.org](mailto:southend@bpl.org)

## Library Card & Book Pop-Up Event

**Thursday, September 14**  
**10:00 am - 1:00 pm**

To celebrate Library Card Sign-up Month, come out to the South End Library Park and sign up for a library card, replace your lost card, or update your information. During your visit, please take some free books!

South End Library Park 685 Tremont St.



## LEGAL NOTICES

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF CONSERVATOR OR OTHER PROTECTIVE ORDER PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304 & §5-405		Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court		CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304		Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court		CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION		Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court	
In the matter of: Yvonne Comerford Of: Boston, MA		RESPONDENT (Person to be Protected/Minor)		In the matter of: Yvonne Comerford Of: Boston, MA		RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitated Person		Estate of: Barbara M Davis Date of Death: 01/29/2017		Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street PO Box 9667 Boston, MA 02114 (617)788-8300	
Suffolk Probate and Family Court, 24 New Chardon Street, PO Box 9667, Boston, MA 02114		To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Boston Medical Center of Boston, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Yvonne Comerford is in need of a Conservator or other protective order and requesting that Jennifer Ryan of Quincy, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve Without Surety on the bond. The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is disabled, that a protective order or appointment of a Conservator is necessary, and that the proposed conservator is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court.		To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Boston Medical Center of Boston, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Yvonne Comerford is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Jennifer Ryan of Quincy, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve on the bond.		Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street PO Box 9667 Boston, MA 02114		A Petition for Late and Limited Formal Testacy and/or Appointment has been filed by Stephen J Walsh of Scituate MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.			
You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 09/22/2023. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.		The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.		You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 09/22/2023. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.		The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.		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 09/22/2023.		This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you.	
IMPORTANT NOTICE The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.		IMPORTANT NOTICE The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.		IMPORTANT NOTICE The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.		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. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: February 04, 2023		WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: February 04, 2023	
WITNESS, Hon. Joan P. Armstrong, First Justice of this Court. Date: August 25, 2023		Vincent Procopio, Register of Probate		WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: August 25, 2023		Vincent Procopio, Register of Probate					

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