

From: The Waltham Times info@walthamtimes.org
Subject: June, here's the week's news
Date: December 9, 2024 at 9:01 AM
To: junekino@walthamnewsalliance.org



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DECEMBER 9, 2024



Good morning, Waltham!

This past weekend, our neighbors were out in force at the Waltham Fields Community Farm, helping with the final harvest and stocking up on locally grown, organic produce. Photographer David Rosen captured the spirit of the day in [these luminous photos](#). This week, our stories range widely, from a feature about legendary Bentley basketball coach Barbara Stevens to stories about how our public safety departments are serving the community. If you've wondered about the long-stalled plan for the former Construction Site

land, we have an update. We have some fun ideas for local holiday shopping. If you are seeking to give back, we've listed some opportunities to volunteer and donate to local nonprofits.

Esta semana también comenzaremos a publicar traducciones al español de artículos seleccionados. (This week we will start posting Spanish-language translations of selected articles as well.)

Thank you so much for reading our newsletter. We are passionate about delivering the news every week to you. As a reader-supported non-profit, we exist thanks to your generosity. [Please consider making a year-end gift](#) so we can continue to serve you and celebrate this city that we love.

Photo: Waltham Fields Community Farm by David Rosen.

City government



[Conservation Commission issues continuance for proposed hotel on Moody Street.](#) The 210 Moody St. site, located on the east side of Moody Street next to the Charles River, is home to a long-vacant retail space that once held The Construction Site store and other businesses.



[Commercial properties make up nearly half Waltham's total tax levy.](#) 38 commercial properties account for 47.7% of the \$244 million total tax levy in Waltham. Topping that list is BXP (formerly called Boston Properties), which is the largest publicly traded developer of workplaces in the United States.





[Progress made on plans for new public safety facility.](#) New facilities for the Police, Fire and Consolidated Public Works (CPW) departments will be built on their current lots at 155 to 175 Lexington St.



[Propuestas para reconfigurar la calle Moody reciben opiniones mixtas en reunión pública.](#) Residentes y dueños de negocios se expresaron tanto a favor como en contra de las propuestas para reconfigurar la calle Moody durante una reunión pública.

Community



[Legendary coach Barbara Stevens' legacy lives on at Bentley University.](#) When a historic college head coach decides to retire from the position, the aftermath can be difficult for both sides to cope with.

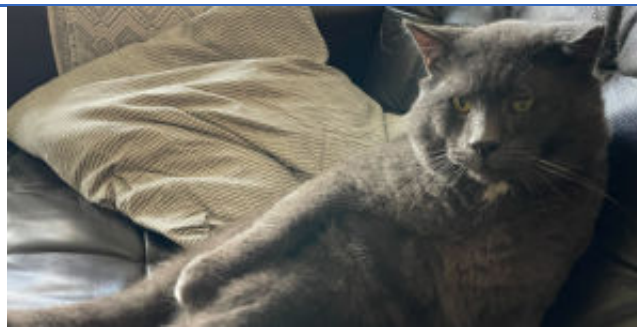


[Growing season ends at Waltham Fields.](#)

Enjoy beautiful photos of families sorting through vibrant vegetables under the slanting rays of the winter afternoon soon. The nonprofit community farm is piloting a [winter share program](#) featuring root vegetables and greens.



[Opportunities to support Waltham's nonprofits during the holidays.](#) Waltham nonprofits need volunteers and donations to help feed neighbors in need, care for the unhoused, bring holiday joy to children, and much more.



[Luvie needs a home.](#) Found outside by a trapper, Luvie was brought to The Cat Connection in dire need of care. He was terrified and in pain due to severe dental issues. Now that he has been nursed back to health, he needs a forever home.



[Holiday shopping ideas at local shops and organizations.](#) Here are a few ideas from our editors for holiday gift shopping that support local businesses and organizations. Did we miss one of your favorites? Please share them in comments!

Public safety





[Mental health professionals hired at Police Department.](#) The clinicians were hired as a part of a jail diversion program to offer alternatives to arrest for individuals struggling with mental health issues and other hardships.



[Fire Department, Bentley University highlight fire hazards, benefit of sprinklers.](#) The demonstration showed how a dry tree burns like a forest fire in the home and that sprinklers can contain a fire in its early stages – giving residents time to escape while firefighters respond.

Schools



[Waltham cheer team takes third place at state championship.](#) With 13 consecutive Dual County League titles, head coach Kerrie Blanchard has established a culture of excellence in the program.



[School news in brief: Douglas MacArthur School receives donation for new mural, department updates.](#) The IT department is providing each student from first to 12th grade with a district-owned Chromebook and is developing guidelines for students and teachers on the use of artificial intelligence.



[Superintendent agrees to research plumbing program at high school.](#) Although School Committee members Zanghi, Frassica and Debbie Coleman voted in favor of the motion, the motion did not pass. However, Mendonsa agreed to look into the matter.

Events calendar

December 10 @ 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm. Music Residency With Kett Lee, Waltham Public Library

December 10 @ 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm. Community Outreach Meeting – Proposed Brandeis Residence Hall, City of Waltham Government Center

December 11 @ 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm. Mill Talk: Walking Through Walls: Virtual Design and Business Innovation, Charles River Museum of Industry and Innovation

December 12 @ 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm. Charles Dickens classic A Christmas Carol presented by J.T. Turner, Charles River Museum of Industry and Innovation

December 14 @ 10:00 am - 3:00 pm. Free STEAM Activity Expo for Kids, Newton North High School

December 14 @ 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm. Latinos en Accion de Waltham's Toys and Candy charity, Santuario en Waltham

December 14 @ 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm. Info Session – MBTA Communities Act, Waltham Public Library

December 15 @ 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm. Jane Austen Holiday Tea, Gore Place

Have a story idea?

Send news announcements and press releases to our [news department](#).

Send event announcements to our [calendar department](#).

Are there stories we should investigate further? Use our [tipline](#).

Delivering news, building community

Spread the word!

Share our newsletters with your circle.

Volunteer

[Download the volunteer interest form \(pdf\)](#). Specific skills we are seeking:

CRM, marketing & social media

Nonprofit financial accounting & tax filing

Journalism; writing, editing, proof-reading

CMS (WordPress) & web hosting

Help with events & outreach

Seed change

We invite you to invest in local journalism for Waltham. Every contribution, no matter the size, helps us continue reporting on the events, challenges, and triumphs that matter most to our neighbors. Please help us keep Waltham connected, engaged, and informed. Your donation is tax-deductible within the guidelines of U.S. law.

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