



Keeps our community ticking!

March 9, 2026

Health & Lifestyle

Community



Dancing through Parkinson's: Senior Center to offer classes in Spanish

BY STEVE MILMORE • HEALTH & LIFESTYLE • MARCH 8, 2026
 A new, specialized Spanish-language dance class is being offered by Jewish Family & Children's Service at the Waltham Stanley Senior Center starting this Thursday, March 12. The Spanish-language Parkinson's Dance [...]



Watertown

Watertown Savings Bank opens voting for annual nonprofit awards

BY NEWSROOM • COMMUNITY • MARCH 5, 2026
 Watertown Savings Bank has opened voting for its 27th annual Customer Choice Awards, giving local residents a chance to help direct \$100,000 to nonprofits serving communities including Waltham. Community members [...]

The Waltham Times is Waltham's local news publication, currently available online only. This printed compendium of articles is produced by volunteers for readers who prefer hardcopy. We aim to have an official printed edition of The Waltham Times in the future, dependent of raising sufficient revenue through donations, grants and advertising to cover the cost of printing.



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A jazzy triumph – Waltham Philharmonic “All-American” concert thrills audience

June Kinoshita

March 9, 2026

*Pianist Victor Cayres.
Photo by David Greenfield.*

One of the perks of living in Waltham is that residents have easy access to excellent arts and culture without the high prices and long lines that art lovers must contend with in central Boston. To be sure, Boston’s cultural institutions are world-class and absolutely worth seeing. But Waltham’s offerings are commendable, accessible and intimate, which make them special in their own right.



The Waltham Philharmonic Orchestra, for example, performed Sunday, March 8, to a sold-out crowd that enjoyed an engaging program of music by modern American composers. The concert culminated in George Gershwin’s immensely popular “Rhapsody in Blue,” but the other works, by Howard Hanson, Morton Gould and James Johnson, are less known. Heard together, the pieces formed an acoustic collage of classical, jazz and popular influences that shaped mid-20th century American culture.

The orchestra, a mix of amateur, semi-professional and professional local musicians, played with verve and commitment under Music Director Michael Korn’s baton. The players brought the drama, urgency, grandeur and delicacy the music demanded as they skillfully navigated complex syncopations and intricate jazzy dissonances. The brass and wind players rose to the challenge of the many solo passages, including the iconic clarinet opening of “Rhapsody in Blue.”

[Victor Cayres](#) tackled the piano solo in “Rhapsody in Blue” with virtuosity and infectious joy, ending the concert on an ecstatic high note. The audience responded with a standing ovation, and Cayres returned for an encore: Gershwin’s bluesy “Prelude No. 1.”

In a world where the arts are often dominated by big names and big ticket prices, the WPO offers the chance to experience local artists who perform for the pure joy of sharing excellent music with friends and neighbors seated just an arm’s length away. That’s something to treasure.



*A sold-out audience attended the Waltham Philharmonic Orchestra concert on March 8, 2026.
Photo by David Greenfield.*

The week ahead: City Council proposes new position to expand Waltham businesses

Artie Kronenfeld

March 9, 2026

At its meeting this week, City Council will discuss whether to hire a city business manager to help grow the city's existing businesses, attract new ones and work on long-term commercial planning in Waltham.

The proposal states that Waltham's commercial businesses have been facing aftereffects of the COVID-19 pandemic, increasing expenses and bureaucratic hurdles. It states that these factors have also affected the city's significant commercial tax base, which makes up the majority of the city's taxes but which Board of Assessors Chair Frank Craig said in November was [changing due to commercial barriers and rapidly expanding residential development](#).

The resolution is sponsored by five councilors: Ward 3 Councilor Bill Hanley, Ward 8 Councilor Cathyann Harris, Ward 9 Councilor Robert G. Logan, Councilor-at-Large Tim King, and Councilor-at-Large Randall J. LeBlanc.

The idea of hiring a city business manager to assist businesses and take on organizational planning has come up before in citywide discussions, including as a way to help businesses adapt to proposals for larger changes in the city, such as [closing Moody Street to car traffic](#).

Historical Commission

The Waltham Historical Commission is a seven-member board charged with preserving and overseeing Waltham's historic buildings and properties. This week the commission will discuss two proposed projects: construction at 20 Williams St. and an expansion to the Waltham Watch Factory Apartments at 231 Crescent St. It will meet at 7 p.m. over Zoom. The passcode for the Zoom meeting can be found [on the commission's page](#) within the city site.

City Council

In other business, City Council will receive a slate of requests from Mayor Jeannette A. McCarthy, most of which it will likely refer to its subcommittees next week. These requests include a proposal for a private company to run the Paine Estate; an executive session to discuss real estate matters; and donations of historical city memorabilia.

They also include some financial matters, including the acceptance of a donation to the Paine estate, a state grant to the Council on Aging, a request for \$217,157 for improvements to the Veterans Athletic Complex softball field and a school department request for \$174,541 to pay for [out-of-district tuition costs](#) for special education programs.

The council will also receive a number of requests for renewals of lodging house licenses around the city that it will likely refer to its subcommittee meetings next week. City Council will meet on Monday at 7 p.m.

Housing Authority

The Waltham Housing Authority works to provide affordable housing options for Waltham residents who face barriers to housing. This week, it plans to discuss its finances, ongoing contracts, maintenance topics and corrected budget at its monthly meeting. The meeting is scheduled for Tuesday at 4:30 p.m. over Zoom and in person at 110 Pond St.

Biosafety Committee

The Waltham Biosafety Committee is a five-person board, including the director of public health and the chair of the Board of Health, in charge of reviewing permits for using or experimenting with recombinant DNA technology, as well as reviewing any regulations on the topic. This week,

the committee will hear a presentation from the company Miltenyi Biologic. The committee will meet in the auditorium of the Clark Government Center at 5 p.m. on Tuesday.

Municipal Affordable Housing Trust

The Municipal Affordable Housing Trust is a board charged by city ordinance to oversee the city's affordable housing trust fund.

This week, members of the board will hear updates on plans for affordable housing around the city at Cardinal Cottage on the estate of the former Fernald State School, the former Elks Lodge, and other locations. Its next meeting is scheduled for 5 p.m. on Tuesday in the basement conference room of City Hall.

Library Board of Trustees

The Board of Library Trustees is a five-person board appointed by the mayor and charged with establishing policies for the Waltham Public Library. It is holding its regular monthly meeting at 2 p.m. this Thursday, Mar. 12, in person at the Trustees Room of the Waltham Public Library.

Conservation Commission

The Conservation Commission is a volunteer board charged with overseeing environmental planning in Waltham. The commission reviews certain types of construction on or around wetlands to ensure they comply with the Wetlands Protection Act and the Department of Environmental Protection stormwater standards.

It will hold a meeting over Zoom at 7 p.m. Thursday. An agenda and link for the meeting will be provided on the [commission's page](#) on the city website at least 48 hours in advance.

Zoning Board of Appeals

The ZBA is a five-person board charged with reviewing new and existing buildings that might violate the city's [zoning code](#).

The board has the power to grant project-specific variances to the code, overrule judgments made by the building inspector and grant specific types of special permits, including the comprehensive residential permits outlined by the state's Chapter 40B statute.

This week it will hold a special meeting to discuss a proposed Chapter 40B development [at 455 Totten Pond Road](#). The development permit has been under discussion since [March of last year](#), and the board expects to make a final decision soon; in February, Assistant City Solicitor Michelle Learned warned that Waltham was willing to reject the application and potentially go to court if the developer did not provide sufficient mitigation for the impacts of the development.

The board will hold its meeting at 7 p.m. on Thursday at the Arthur Clark Government Center.

Disability Services Commission

The Disability Services Commission is a seven-person board that works to make Waltham more accessible for residents with disabilities. It advocates and distributes funds for projects related to physical accessibility, signage, interpretation services and Americans with Disabilities Act compliance.

This week, the commission may meet over Zoom on Friday at 8:30 a.m., although it has not decided on a final meeting date as of publication. An agenda, meeting date, and zoom link should be uploaded on [its page on the city website by Wednesday](#), and participants can request further meeting information from DSC Chairperson Mark Johnson at markj@walhouse.org.

Community marks 10 years since Dougie Usseglio's passing with memorial skate

Waltham News Team

March 9, 2026

Goalie #21, George Tedford, poised to block a shot.

Friends, family and members of the Waltham hockey community gathered Friday afternoon at Veterans Memorial Rink for the “3.21 Skate Tournament,” part of the annual [“Let’s Have A Day”](#) event honoring the memory of local hockey player Dougie Usseglio.

The exhibition tournament featured two teams, one in red jerseys and one in black jerseys, competing in a spirited and emotional game that ended 8–3. While the play was competitive, the atmosphere remained upbeat, filled with laughter, applause and support from the large crowd of family members, friends and former teammates packing the stands.

Players paused for a moment of silence at 4:34 p.m. — the time, family members said, they received the call 10 years ago of his passing.

Makayla and Matt Batis (#3), friends of Dougie's from Franklin Pierce.

Usseglio, a former Waltham High School hockey player, died in 2016 at age 22 after [suffering a fall while attending Franklin Pierce University](#) in Rindge, New Hampshire. Family and friends have honored his memory through community events and initiatives supporting local youth hockey.

Throughout the afternoon, the rink was filled not only with hockey but with moments of reflection and connection. Players embraced, families watched from the boards with young children, and teammates proudly raised a Waltham jersey bearing the number 21 in Usseglio's honor.

Team 3, in black jerseys, was made up of Franklin Pierce teammates and friends with a few Waltham players added.

Team 21, in red, were WHS hockey alums. Billy Zeoli was the referee.



Breezers Ball organizers hustle to prepare for Saturday's extravaganza

June Kinoshita

March 9, 2026

David Nauss gets ready to sample the Breezerita.

As the date approached for the March 14 Breezers Ball, bartender Marina Schiering at Sweet Basil's restaurant was fine-tuning a signature cocktail for what the organizers promise will be "Waltham's best party." In went Espolon Blanco tequila, simple syrup, lime juice, jalapeno and Combier Le Bleu curacao, which provided a tropical aquamarine hue to go with the teal color scheme for the ball. She gave the cocktail shaker a good thrash and decanted the liquid into old-fashioned glasses that had been rimmed with coarse salt and crushed Aleppo peppers.

Waltham, meet the Breezerita. The members of the committee took sips of the libation and pronounced it delicious. "An insouciance of heat," declared David Nauss. The other committee members raised their glasses in assent while interjecting their own judgements. "Refreshing." "Not too sweet." "OMG, the salt and pepper flakes ... to die for!" It's a tough job, organizing a party.

The cocktail tasting was a well-deserved reward for months of planning. In addition to the theme color, the committee chose a tagline, "Bloom where you're planted." They invited the Waltham Garden Club to provide grand floral arrangements, booked a jazz band, and arranged for Ramble Market to gussy up the jazz lounge from their inventory of unique period furniture. They plastered the town with posters inviting one and all to attend Waltham's premier social event.

Waltham's own DJ Jen Williams, who breezed in from Costa Rica some years ago, will power the dance floor with her potent mix of sounds. Williams taught free Zumba classes on the common last summer, building up a fervent fanbase of dancers who love her joyful spirit. People lucky enough to snag tickets can look forward to her vibrant energy next Saturday.

Details and credits

The 10th Annual Breezers Ball is on Saturday, March 14, 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. at the Charles River Museum of Industry & Innovation. Tickets are available [here](#). The \$60 cost includes two drink tickets, all you can eat of Waltham's finest (see restaurants below) and as much dancing and friend-making as you can squeeze into four hours.

Like a fine cocktail, a party is only as great as its ingredients — the volunteers and supporters who make it happen.



Dancing through Parkinson's: Senior Center to offer classes in Spanish

Steve Milmore

March 9, 2026

Parkinson's Dance Class. Courtesy of Jewish Family & Children's Service.

A new, specialized Spanish-language dance class is being offered by [Jewish Family & Children's Service](#) at the Waltham Stanley Senior Center starting this Thursday, March 12.

The Spanish-language Parkinson's Dance Class is designed to help individuals with Parkinson's improve mobility, balance and coordination, which are common challenges with the disease.

Instructor Rafael Rivera trained with the founders of the Dance for PD program, a collaborative initiative with the Brooklyn Parkinson Group and the Mark Morris Dance Group, founded by famed choreographer Mark Morris.

The class uses adapted movements that can be done sitting or standing, allowing participants with different mobility levels to participate safely. No dance experience is required.

Energizing and inspiring music is used to guide participants as they learn practical movement methods that address balance, coordination and confidence.

Classes will be taught primarily in Spanish, but all are welcome.

The program is free and offered by the [APDA Massachusetts Chapter](#) in conjunction with Jewish Family & Children's Service and Waltham Connections for Healthy Aging.

The class will take place once a month on Thursdays, 10-11:30 a.m., at the Waltham Senior Center, 488 Main St. Space is limited. Call 781-314-3499 to register.



Waltham class helps older adults avoid internet scams

Elizabeth Mehler

March 9, 2026

Scammers use AI-generated voices to fool people that their family member is in trouble and needs quick money. They target "the weakest moments" when people are most vulnerable.

And they use schemes such as phishing and spoofing to trick their victims into disclosing sensitive personal or financial information.

Those were some of the lessons at a recent presentation at the Waltham Senior Center titled "Money Smart for Older Adults."

The class is aimed at arming senior citizens with the tools they need to protect themselves from people who attempt to steal their money.



“Elderly adults are ... easy prey for these types of scams,” said Jorge Martinez, who co-taught the class on Feb. 18.

Northern Bank employees Martinez, a commercial loan specialist, and Sara Amzough, a commercial lending closer, have been teaching anti-scam courses in Waltham and several neighboring towns as part of the bank’s effort to warn against internet scams that “dupe” older people into giving out their personal financial information.

Online internet scams targeting adults ages 60 or older in the United States have skyrocketed over the past several years. Fraud losses reported by older adults have grown from about \$600 million in 2020 to \$2.4 billion in 2024, according to [the most recent data by the Federal Trade Commission](#).

In 2025, the Waltham Police Department received 296 reports of scams or fraud, officials said. A department official said police do not have data on the breakdown of types of scams or the age of the people reporting them.

Martinez said phishing scams are when senders are searching for individuals’ private account information so they can commit fraud or identity theft. He said spoofing happens when a scammer disguises an email to look familiar to the people being scammed.

Red flags for possible scams

Linda Luke, a Brighton resident who attended the class, said she appreciated the information.

“There’s so much new stuff coming out, and a lot of elderly [people] might not know it because they don’t go out that much. They don’t communicate too much with other people,” Luke said. “So it’s good to have a class like this with different examples.”

During their presentation, Martinez and Amzoug provided examples of common internet scams, including messages that appear to be from organizations the individual may do business with, such as banks or insurance companies.

She and Martinez also provided tips on how senior citizens can avoid computer or internet scams, including being cautious about opening attachments or downloading files from emails, using trusted security software, making strong passwords and not being reliant on caller ID to authenticate phone calls.

Martinez advised attendees to pay attention to messages with spelling errors or messages with hyperlinks in a font size larger than the rest of the text, as those often indicate a scam. They also urged participants to report scams to the local police.

Additionally, Martinez said banks should not be requesting personal information to be verified by email. Instead, he said users should call their bank directly if they receive any messages related to their finances.

“We work for banks, so we usually would never ask you to verify your information because we have your information,” he told the attendees.

Both he and Amzough recommend that seniors delete any suspicious emails or messages from unfamiliar sources and download security software that scans their computer.

Seniors at the event pledged to remain vigilant.

“I’ve heard the same spiel a million times, but sometimes it penetrates a little further into the brain,” said Carol Dargie, an 81-year-old Waltham resident who attended the class.

“So maybe [I’ll] think twice before I’m one of these [stories],”

Plympton Elementary School wins state recognition

Waltham News Team

March 9, 2026



Celebrating the recognition to the Plympton School are from left: DESE Commissioner Pedro Martinez, School Committee member James Zanghi, State Rep. Thomas M. Stanley, Mayor Jeannette A. McCarthy, Plympton school principal Adrienne Norris, Superintendent Marisa Mendonsa and Secretary of Education Patrick Tutwiler.

Plympton Elementary School has been named a 2025 [School of Recognition](#) by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. The award was presented during a ceremony in January at the State House honoring schools that have made significant progress toward annual accountability goals, particularly in English language arts and mathematics.

State Rep. Thomas M. Stanley joined Secretary of Education Patrick Tutwiler, DESE Commissioner Pedro Martinez, Plympton Principal Adrienne Norris, Superintendent Marisa Mendonsa, Mayor Jeannette McCarthy, and School Committee Member James Zanghi in celebrating the achievement.

Schools recognized by DESE have demonstrated measurable improvement in student outcomes and progress toward educational equity statewide.

Get involved and make a difference: volunteer opportunities in Waltham

Betty Barrer

March 9, 2026



Throughout the year, Waltham residents have countless ways to turn generosity into action. From food pantries to gift drives and from farm work to clothing exchanges, local nonprofits are calling on volunteers to help strengthen the city's heart. Whether you have an hour a week or a day to spare, the chance to make a difference lies just around the corner.

[Charles River Museum of Industry and Innovation](#) seeks seasonal and year-round volunteers to help share our region's proud industrial history with the community. Volunteers can be tour guides or STEM educators for school groups. We also welcome volunteers with specific knowledge about vintage machinery or textile history; or who have historical research and writing backgrounds. Contact Director of Education Steve Guerriero; info@charlesrivermuseum.org; 781-893-5410.

[Community Day Center of Waltham](#), at 16 and 20 Felton St., provides day shelter and support services to adults who are experiencing homelessness. Help out in TheShop@20 Felton: Sort donations and provide a warm service experience to guests selecting seasonal, donated clothing and shoes. Also, at the Drop-in Space, distribute donated mail and travel-size essential items (hygiene items, hand warmers, hand sanitizer, etc.) to guests. Support is needed Monday, Wednesday and Friday 12:30 to 2 p.m. Volunteers are asked to commit for at least one day a week, for three months or longer. Contact: Chloe-Rose, Executive Director, director@communitydaycenter.org; 781-392-6311.

[Healthy Waltham](#) promotes collaborative approaches to improving the health and wellness of underserved and low-income populations. Help with ongoing food pantries. Shifts are generally two to four hours; the next ones are Mar. 12 and 26. Contact: Maria DiMaggio, Maria@healthy-waltham.org.

[Jewish Family & Children's Service](#) hosts the Family Table Food Pantry on Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays at 1430 Main St. Volunteers are needed to pack and deliver groceries on Sundays, support clients at Marketplace distribution on Tuesdays, and prepack clients' bags on Thursdays. Contact: Lisa Katz, lkatz@jfcsboston.org; 781-693-1231.

[REACH Beyond Domestic Violence](#) empowers individuals, families, and communities to overcome domestic violence. Year-round, enroll in [direct volunteer service](#) or internships. Before the holidays, host a Holiday Gift Drive to collect items for families and individuals rebuilding their lives after experiencing domestic violence. Also, organize a fundraising event, such as a school or community collection, to support the Holiday Gift Program. Contact: mcastaneda@reachma.org; 781-891-0724.

Waltham Clothing Exchange is a thrift shop and longtime project of First Parish, 50 Church St. Become a seasonal volunteer in spring and fall. Tasks include pricing, tag writing and tagging, sorting, hanging, display assistants, assisting consignors and customers, etc.; three hours minimum on Tuesdays between 9:30 and 5. Contact: Joel Weddig, Director; jands1971@gmail.com; 339-215-9559.

Waltham Fields Community Farm at 240 Beaver St. cultivates sustainable and equitable relationships between people, their food supply, and the land from which it grows. Help bring in the harvest and put the farm to bed for the season. Be prepared to work outdoors the whole time. Learn about their [volunteer opportunities](#). Contact: Marla Rhodes at volunteer@communityfarms.org; 781-899-2403.

Waltham Community Foundation distributes grants to nonprofits that benefit the citizens of Waltham. Become a board member, attending two evening meetings per year, meeting twice per year in the evenings, to manage an endowment and decide how to donate investment income. Contact: James M. Baron, jbaron@lawbaron.com; 781-209-1166.

The **Waltham Council on Aging** seeks year-round volunteer drivers for its Meals on Wheels food delivery program, run from the Stanley Senior Center, 488 Main St. Volunteers start around 10:30 a.m.; routes usually take about an hour or so. Some volunteers have one route one day a week; others choose to volunteer more often. Contact: 781-314-3300.

The **Waltham Museum**, 25 Lexington St., preserves local history and provides multidisciplinary cultural and educational programs for diverse audiences. Volunteer roles include docenting, accessioning, digitizing slides, researching and working on the Museum’s website and social media. Hours are Sundays, 1:30 to 4 p.m., and some weekdays; some volunteering can occur remotely. Contact: info@walthammuseum.org, 781-893-9020.


The Waltham Times produces an independent, nonprofit news publication serving everyone in Waltham. It is currently seeking a volunteer board member with development and fundraising experience. Volunteers with backgrounds in journalism and AP Style will be considered for reporting, writing and copy–editing. The Times also welcomes volunteers for posting stories (WordPress), help with legal matters, bookkeeping and accounting, marketing, multilingual community outreach, business strategy, advertising sales and event planning.

Please help the Waltham Times keep this list up to date. Send your nonprofit organization’s requests for volunteers by email to NonprofitNews@walthamtimes.org.

Waltham home sales, March 1–7, 2026

Waltham News Team

March 8, 2026

	Sale Date	Address	Sale Price	BR/Baths	Size
	03/02/2026	18 Cross St. Unit 1	685,000	4/2	2775

College intern unearths hidden gems in Charles River Museum's archives

Andrew Law

March 6, 2026

Gabriel Hurdle checks in with Joe Niebdala at the Charles River Museum of Industry & Innovation. Photo by David Greenfield.

Last November the Charles River Museum of Industry & Innovation hosted a [lecture about the Great Boston Fire](#) of 1872. The event gave the intern Gabriel Hurdle, a college sophomore at Quinsigamond Community College, the opportunity to dig through the museum's extensive archives and curate a display of firefighting equipment and photographs.

Among the exhibit's highlights was a panoramic, 4-foot-wide black-and-white photograph of Waltham Fire Department staff and its newly motorized trucks. Event attendee Tisha Shaughnessy Sullivan, whose father and two uncles served as Waltham firefighters, was particularly moved.

"It was amazing. I've never seen anything like it," said Shaughnessy Sullivan. "This was of great interest because of my family history."

"It explains where her dad and uncles worked," recounted Hurdle. "It shows what her dad did as a tillerman ... the truck needed an extra person to turn it."

The experience underscores a key priority for the museum: making its diverse archives accessible to the public through educational events, new exhibits and, down the road, an online collection. To realize this vision, Hurdle and an expanding team of interns and volunteers are cataloguing the museum's vast collection, currently stored in rows of boxes and cabinets deep inside it.

"Researchers and the public deserve access, and we need ways to efficiently process it," explained Steve Guerriero, director of education at the Charles River Museum. "It's not just the work Gabriel's doing. It's teaching and mentoring new volunteers. That's also a force multiplier."

Intern Gabriel Hurdle searches through archived documents at the Charles River Museum of Industry & Innovation. Photo by David Greenfield.

Origins of an extensive collection

The museum's collection includes artifacts from founder Michael Folsom — a "voracious collector," according to Guerriero — and donations from local industry leaders such as W.H. Nichols & Co. (now Nichols Portland Inc.), Raytheon and more recently Waltham-based Teradyne.

"In the 1980s the museum got a couple major donations, and one of the most important was from W.H. Nichols & Co.," said Guerriero. "A lot came from W.H. Nichols because of their work with government and business interests, and he was a Waltham history aficionado."

"They worked with all the big names, including the Wright Brothers Company and Boeing," said Hurdle. "W.H. Nichols photographed everything ... who was working the line, the day and night crew. W.H. Nichols constantly took photos of people working."

Other parts of the collection came from seizing opportunities that presented themselves, such as when the Waltham Watch Co. contacted the museum out of the blue.



“[The museum] got a call, ‘Hey, we’re throwing out a bunch into dumpsters, run over and grab as much as you can,’” Hurdle said.

In the early days the museum’s collections outpaced its ability to catalog them. The museum is now developing a more detailed inventory thanks to Hurdle and others.

“We know we have certain segments of collections,” explained Guerriero. “We have a sense of where our boxes came from, but not document by document.”

‘Constantly in discovery mode’

Since Hurdle started his internship about a year ago, new discoveries emerge frequently. In a recent museum visit Hurdle highlighted recent finds from the archives, including

An early 20th century blueprint of an airfoil developed by Helen Holcombe, the first female engineer at Boeing. Hurdle said this type of blueprint reflects “the shape of the wing to maximize the drag and lift.” “I reached out to Boeing about it, and they said, ‘Keep that safe,’” recounted Hurdle. “Boeing didn’t have a lot of stuff of hers.”

Letters from Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, commander in chief of the U.S. Pacific Fleet during World War II, to the Waltham Watch Co., thanking the company for returning his repaired watch. He said the watch looked “as new as it was when it was given to me at Pearl Harbor some 21 years ago.” His letters also discussed the challenges of maintaining the watch during the war: “Its most severe trial came on June 30, 1942, when I was dumped into the cold water of San Francisco Bay as the result of a plane crash.”

“We are constantly in discovery mode, it’s a lot of fun,” said Guerriero. “You don’t know what we’ll pull out of a box.”

In addition to Hurdle’s discoveries, a museum volunteer found letters between famed inventor Nicola Tesla and Waltham Watch Co. about a novel speedometer design.

For Hurdle, what’s often most impactful are the stories told in photographs, such as people partying in massive boathouse ballrooms, individuals racing canoes with others cheering along the Charles River, or workers posing by their machines on the factory floor.

“Even though it’s industrial, we center on the people,” Hurdle said.

Personal connections to Waltham history

Shaughnessy Sullivan is part of her family’s sixth generation born and raised in Waltham, and the family now includes eight generations who have lived in the city. She appreciates the range of local museums Waltham offers, including the Charles River Museum of Industry & Innovation, Waltham Historical Society and Gore Place.

“I’m a Waltham girl, it’s great to have all this stuff,” said Shaughnessy Sullivan. “You might find out things about your family and where you were born and raised. It’s wonderful to find out what came before you.”

Shaughnessy Sullivan recounted that after seeing Charles River Museum’s firefighting collection, “I posted on Facebook, let everyone know. I told my uncle and within a week, he donated.”

As a result of her family’s donations, now known as the Shaughnessy Family Internship, Hurdle transitioned from a volunteer to a paid employee.

“Gabriel is doing a wonderful job,” beamed Shaughnessy Sullivan. “To make a donation for him to continue his work, I’m so happy about that.”

“You can spend hours going through [the archives],” said Hurdle. “If it’s a good story, it’ll last, and there’s a lot of good stories here.”

Impassioned testimony saves high school's acclaimed show choir program

Lea Zaharoni

March 6, 2026

Gabriella Fox, a Waltham High School student and member of the Music Unlimited show choir, speaks during public comment as students, parents, and community members attend the Waltham School Committee meeting Wednesday night. Photo by Joseph Sharkey.



Members of Waltham High School's prestigious Music Unlimited program came out in droves to the [School Committee's March 4 meeting](#), where they advocated against a new proposed program of studies which would alter the description of the advanced class.

After a lengthy public input section, the committee voted to send the proposed changes back to Assistant Superintendent Shannon Conley for additional review, with the specific amendment that the description of Music Unlimited remain unchanged.

The program of studies, which includes numerous course removals, additions and name changes, was developed at the school level by department heads and principal-in-residence John Barnes. Conley reviewed and presented the program of studies, with the goal of alignment with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's standards.

The most contentious proposed change was the altered description of Music Unlimited, which would make after-school practices optional. Accompanying the change would be the addition of Music Odyssey, an introductory show choir course with no outside time commitment.

Conley emphasized that the motivation for the change was equitable access to all components of the course. "The proposed change separated the credit-bearing honors course from an optional competitive after-school curricular component to address multiple issues. These issues include equity and access, as using mandatory rehearsals for credit excludes students without transportation." She also mentioned that students involved in other extracurricular events or with family obligations are unable to participate in the required after-school rehearsals.

"The revision also aims for clarity and compliance, ensuring that this course description aligns with DESE student learning time frameworks. [It does this by] clearly distinguishing the instructional component from the extra curricular participation," she stated.

Ariana Raad, a member of Waltham High School's Music Unlimited show choir, speaks before a packed room during public comment at the Waltham School Committee meeting Wednesday night. Photo by Joseph Sharkey.

More than a club

During much of the 90-minute public input section, Music Unlimited students and alumni defended the integrity of the course. Students argued that the competitive and immersive nature of the course was essential to their success, and that making after-school rehearsals optional would strip MU of its legacy and ability to affect students' lives.

Students who testified were Anabel Rutledge, Lilian Ebert, Owen White, Charlotte McCrary, Anya Hersh, Derek Dowcett, Ashley Dowcett, Anthony Pullano, Alice Svinolobova, Jacob Katz, Gabrielle Fox, Sierra Nicholas, Sierra Longstaff, Morgan Brennan, Raffi Sarkissian, Sofia Laviano and Ariana Raad.

“I can confidently say that without being in Music Unlimited, with its specific structure and the current way the program is run, I would not have been able to find the academic or social success that I have,” said Charlotte McCrary, a senior and student leader within MU. “If we are preaching to create well-rounded students, this is a detrimental change to our school that will block individuals from growing as people and achieving their goal.”

Another student, Owen White, took issue with the new program of studies labeling MU as a club, rather than a credited course with an extracurricular component. “Calling it a competitive club is throwing away everything that our directors have done for the program. They have built it from nothing. We have won more awards and recognition than the majority of the sports teams in Waltham High School,” the student said. “No sports team has ever had to worry about their sport going away, so why should any of us have to?”

One alum of the program spoke about a recent reunion of Music Unlimited members, arguing that MU allowed them to mature and develop substantially as people. “People don’t return three decades later for something trivial; they return for something that shaped them as people,” he said.

Councilors and students both said the Music Odyssey and Music Express courses, which do not require after-school sessions, addressed the equity issue by providing a beginner and intermediate level of both instruction and involvement.

Committee member Elizabeth AlJammal expressed concerns about making changes to the Music Unlimited course. “I worry that in trying to be more equitable, we’re actually taking away their opportunities,” she said.

She went on, “I’m not exactly sure what equity issues you’re trying to fix, especially since this new Music Odyssey course [is being proposed].”

Mayor Jeannette A. McCarthy echoed her sentiment: “If it’s not broke, I don’t think we should have to fix it.”

The School Committee also made several amendments to the proposed program of studies apart from the stipulation about keeping MU’s description, such as keeping civics and screenwriting classes as offerings — both of which were on the chopping block. However, in accordance with DESE’s guidelines for Massachusetts school governance, these are only informal suggestions. Next, the administration will review the committee’s feedback, and present it once more for the approval of the superintendent.

As the committee voted to amend the program of studies so as not to alter MU’s description, show choir students in the audience could be seen celebrating with hugs and fist-bumps. WHS freshman Gabby Fox, who spoke before the committee, shared with The Waltham Times after the meeting, “I spoke out about this new schedule change because I really value my dedication and work to this show choir and the people who work just as hard as me. It’s more than just a club — it’s community, determination and a place where students find a sense of belonging.”



Superintendent pauses schedule change following community feedback

Lea Zaharoni

March 6, 2026

Superintendent Marisa Mendonsa listens during discussion at the Waltham School Committee meeting Wednesday night. Photo by Joseph Sharkey.

After [an outpouring of critical input](#) from the students, families and alumni of Waltham High School on the proposed [seven-period schedule](#), Superintendent Marisa Mendonsa has paused the schedule change process.



Mendonsa said that after reviewing feedback, including hundreds of emails from students and families, she concluded that the current eight-period schedule was better suited to Waltham High students.

“This will provide a more robust and rigorous academic program, providing more time with teachers, while also providing a strong electives program for our students to explore their interests,” she said at the School Committee’s March 5 meeting.

The decision came as a relief for the packed auditorium of students and families who had come to speak out against the proposed schedule change.

The schedule came under scrutiny after performance reviews of WHS in comparison to two Waltham middle schools, Kennedy and McDevitt. WHS is in the [ninth percentile for accountability](#), which is a metric for public school performance used by the state’s Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. There are only 30 high schools out of 360 in Massachusetts with an accountability rating under 10%. After data analyses, WPS officials concluded that a regression was occurring specifically at the high school level, because the district’s middle school accountability ratings are much higher.

Mendonsa said the district had concerns about the high school schedule.

“The current high school schedule offers a significant reduction in the time and frequency of core subject learning,” she said of the differences between middle and high school schedules.

Concerns about this reduction prompted a months-long review of the high school schedule, which resulted in the proposed seven-period schedule. School officials said the seven-period schedule would prioritize core subject instruction time over elective choices.

Moving forward, Waltham High School will participate in the Accelerated Achievement Initiative [run](#) by DESE, which is prioritizing 292 of the 1,500 schools in the commonwealth. WHS was selected because it has both a low accountability rating and also has achieved “less-than-expected” progress toward achievement targets.

The initiative will provide targeted support over multiple years to WHS and ensure that it meets district and state expectations.

As part of the initiative, district executives will attend a two-day retreat this spring as well as develop and submit a School Improvement Plan to DESE.

Schedule change proposal due next year

Changes to the WHS schedule are still on the table, with the schedule committee now charged with creating a new proposed schedule for the School Committee review next school year.

Residents who spoke during the public input section at Wednesday’s School Committee meeting asked for better communication and more transparency when the new schedule is brought to the feedback stage next year.

Others questioned the decision to change the schedule at all. “As a result of [poor performance], WHS is under scrutiny by the state, accountable to them for making improvements. This seems reasonable. I wonder, is changing the schedule again just a quick fix to placate the state? This is absolutely two steps forward, three steps back,” said retired WPS teacher Linda Hanley.

Mendonsa emphasized that despite the pause, the schedule would be changing to accommodate longer class periods in pursuit of a project-based learning philosophy. “We cannot effectively implement project-based learning with shorter blocks of [class] time. I currently believe that PBL should be our north star, and the schedule will assist us in getting there.”

Zoning board meets privately to discuss ongoing lawsuit

Artie Kronenfeld

March 6, 2026

Bret Francis, attorney for the private home petitioner, addresses the ZBA. Photo by Artie Kronenfeld.

The Zoning Board of Appeals met in executive session this week with legal counsel to discuss [an ongoing case](#) opened against the board earlier this winter.

The case centers on the board’s [decision to uphold](#) a series of cease-and-desist letters from Building Inspector Brian Bower, which classified nine houses that property owner David Schwartz rented to groups of students as “lodging houses,” defined in the city’s zoning code as “rooms... rented to four or more persons not within the second degree of kindred to the owner.”



188 Ash Street property. Image from GradBnB website.

In January, the city’s and Schwartz’s legal teams agreed to abide by a consent order which would allow the buildings’ current tenants to continue living at the properties until their leases expire. If the Land Court has not yet ruled on the case at that point, the order would then require the units to be rented out following the city’s interpretation of its own guidelines until the court makes its decision.



In February, in order to comply with a request from the court, Schwartz’s team agreed for procedural reasons to withdraw a part of its complaint challenging the validity of the ordinance.

The case is set to complete discovery by the end of May.

Additionally, the ZBA:

- Granted a homeowner on Pelham Road permission to create a garage extension requiring an existing side setback variance and a greater-than-permitted lot coverage, to create a single-story physically accessible living space for a family member with a disability. The applicant’s father said they decided to apply for variances through the ZBA instead of seeking a reasonable accommodation for disability, in order to avoid a longer process that might involve going to the City Council.
- Granted an extension of time for the construction of a lab space project at 460 Totten Pond Road to which the ZBA granted a variance in 2022.

Recreation Department spring and summer programs announced, registration to open mid-March

Cyd Abnet

March 6, 2026

[Registration](#) for spring and summer recreation programs is set to open at noon on March 17, the Parks-Recreation Board announced during its brief Wednesday night meeting.

A [brochure](#) containing program information was released on March 3 and is available in both English and Spanish on the department's website. Registration for programs can be completed online or via a mail-in form.



[Applications](#) for various summer staff positions at the Recreation Department are available online and need to be submitted on paper to the city's Human Resource Department.

Additionally, the board announced that the Prospect Hill Access Road will open April 1 and artificial turf fields will open March 29. Both of these opening dates are weather dependent.

In other business, the board

- Re-elected Jerry Walker as board chairperson and John Graceffa as vice chairperson.
- Approved a 2026-2027 board meeting schedule. The board will meet on the second Wednesday of each month with some exceptions made for holidays and school vacation weeks.
- Discussed progress on security improvements at the 200 Trapelo Road property. The city's IT Department is working alongside the city's Wires Department to complete these improvements. Walker shared that the improvements wouldn't be discussed in detail for security purposes.

Mrs. Wilberforce duo welcomes March with music at Gore Place

Maureen King, Guest Writer

March 4, 2026

It was more lamb than lion escorting March into Gore Place on Sunday afternoon as sunlight streamed through the carriage house's tall twelve-over-twelve windows for a concert that felt like spring's first breath.

From a small platform stage in the barnlike room, musician Sean Smith strummed his tenor banjo and declared, "It's time to come out of confinement." The full house, fortified with English tea and ginger biscuits, responded with applause for the lively folk duo known as Mrs. Wilberforce, named for the character in the Alec Guinness film "The Ladykillers."



Framed by golden light, fiddler Kyra Davies, dressed in a handkerchief-hemmed gown the color of claret, played with a touch as smooth as Irish butter. Her bow moved like liquid velvet through jigs and reels that carried the audience from Cape Breton to Ireland and the windswept Shetland Islands. When she switched to viola, her tones turned poignant, filled with aching, lonely moans along the A and E strings.

The affable pair's set included playful detours "down a coal mine" and "atop a blanket at Woodstock," where Smith traded his bouzouki for a soulful rendition of Stephen Stills' "Four and Twenty," leaving the roomful of toe-tappers quietly spellbound.

Watertown Savings Bank opens voting for annual nonprofit awards

Waltham News Team

March 6, 2026

2025 Customers Choice Awards Winners

Watertown Savings Bank has opened voting for its 27th annual Customer Choice Awards, giving local residents a chance to help direct \$100,000 to nonprofits serving communities including Waltham.

Community members may vote for their favorite eligible 501(c)(3) organization through April 5, via [the bank's website](#). Each person may vote once. Votes cast by Watertown Savings Bank customers will be counted twice; noncustomer votes will be counted once.

The top vote-getter will receive \$15,000, with the remaining funds distributed among other high-ranking organizations.

The Customer Choice program has been a significant source of support for Waltham nonprofits in recent years. At the 26th annual awards last April, St. Mary's After School Program in Waltham earned the second-place prize of

\$10,000, while The Cat Connection received \$7,500. Eleven additional Waltham-based nonprofits, including The Waltham Times, also received awards, bringing Watertown Savings Bank's total Customer Choice giving over the life of the program to more than \$1.2 million.

This year's awards night presentation is scheduled for Tuesday, May 5, 2026, at the Sons of Italy Hall in Watertown, where representatives of the winning organizations will be recognized. Winners will be notified after voting closes and results are tallied.

Bank officials encourage residents to spread the word among family, friends, neighbors, colleagues and community organizations and to share Customer Choice information on their websites and social media channels. Local groups, including Waltham charities, are already mobilizing online campaigns to encourage their supporters to vote.

26th Customer Choice Awards Winners!



Watertown
Savings Bank

Waltham adds local edge to ‘Hacks,’ a sharp comedy of mentorship and reinvention

Alec Schoeck

March 6, 2026

In the first season of “Hacks,” the acclaimed series on HBO Max, the brash, young comedian Ava Daniels and her beleaguered agent, Jimmy LuSaque Jr., discover they both hail from Massachusetts, cementing their outsider status among the sharks of Hollywood and Las Vegas. Ava then doubles down, confessing she grew up as a “queer progressive” in — believe it or not — Waltham.

If you are from the Watch City and don’t already love the show, that alone is reason enough to check it out. “Hacks” has been a hit with critics and audiences. It has won 12 Emmys, three Golden Globes and a Screen Actors Guild award.

The series is a razor-sharp dark comedy centering on the thorny, ever-evolving relationship between Deborah Vance, played by Jean Smart, a legendary Las Vegas stand-up comedian whose career has plateaued, and Ava Daniels, played by Hannah Einbinder, a brash, young comedy writer whose career has imploded after posting a controversial tweet.

Waltham residents may wonder how the show’s writers picked our city as Ava’s hometown. It turns out there is an authentic connection. The show’s creators — Jen Statsky, Lucia Anniello and Paul W. Downs — brainstormed the idea for the show on a road trip from Massachusetts to Maine, according to [a 2024 Boston Globe article](#). “Statsky picked up the couple at Anniello’s aunt’s house in Waltham and the trio spent the trip spitballing about a seasoned entertainer who hadn’t gotten the same due as her male counterparts,” the reporter wrote.

When it came time to concoct an origin story for the Ava character, the choice was obvious. Although not filmed here, the show includes scenes set in Waltham. In Season 1 Episode 10, Ava returns home to mourn the death of her father, Dennis. Deborah surprises Ava by suddenly appearing and livening up the eulogy with humor, helping the family and friends reminisce about Dennis.

The decision to include Ava’s Waltham home sets up a contrast between the glitz and glam of the entertainment industry and her modest roots. In a show about reinvention, Ava’s origins remind viewers that even the most ambitious dreamers carry their hometowns with them, influencing their humor, insecurities and tenacity. “Hacks” succeeds because it humanizes its characters without softening their edges. Ava’s Waltham roots contribute to that authenticity: her journey from canceled writer to vital creative force feels earned.

Production on Season 5 is already underway. The four previous seasons are available on HBO Max.



Thermo Fisher launches new test to personalize transplant drug dosing

Waltham News Team

March 4, 2026

For organ transplant patients, finding the right dose of anti-rejection medication can mean the difference between recovery and serious complications. Thermo Fisher Scientific, based in Waltham, has introduced a new genetic test designed to make that process faster and more precise.

The company's TacroType Pharmacogenetic Test helps doctors tailor doses of tacrolimus, a drug that prevents the body from rejecting a transplanted organ. Tacrolimus is one of the most widely used immunosuppressants, but it can be tricky to manage. Each patient processes the drug differently, largely because of genetic differences.

If a dose is too low, the immune system may attack the new organ. Too high, and patients risk kidney injury, infection or other side effects. "In transplant medicine, we often see significant variability in how patients respond to tacrolimus," said Keith Melancon, director of the George Washington Transplant Institute in Washington, D.C. He is an advisor to Thermo Fisher. "Having pharmacogenetic information upfront can help inform initial dosing decisions, reduce the need for repeated adjustments and support more consistent immunosuppressive management when patients are most vulnerable."

The TacroType test uses a simple cheek swab to identify a patient's CYP3A5 gene type, which helps determine how quickly their body breaks down tacrolimus. With that information, clinicians can make more informed dosing decisions even before surgery, complementing ongoing therapeutic drug monitoring.

"When patients receive a transplant, every day matters," said Tina Liedtky, president of Thermo Fisher's transplant diagnostics business. "The TacroType test gives clinicians valuable information from the start and supports more effective, personalized care for patients during a critical period."

Thermo Fisher says the TacroType test reflects a growing shift toward "pharmacogenetics"—an emerging field that uses DNA information to predict how a person will respond to medications. Such tools aim to move health care away from one-size-fits-all dosing and toward more precise, data-driven medicine.

More details about the TacroType test are available at thermofisher.com/tacrotype.



School district running under budget at midyear

Lea Zaharoni

March 4, 2026

*Chad Mazza presenting to the Finance Committee on March 2, 2026.
Photo by Artie Kronenfeld.*

The City Council's Finance Committee held a midyear review of the school district's \$123 million budget this week. At the district's midyear point of January 31, they were reportedly at 47% expenditure of their overall budget.

Superintendent Marisa Mendonsa, Mayor Jeanette A. McCarthy and Assistant Superintendent of Finance & Operations Chad Mazza presented their financial update on the school district, which serves approximately 5,700 students.



The superintendent and Mazza brought forward a request for a \$564,581 appropriation to fund the collective bargaining agreement between the School Department and the Waltham Educators Association immediately before the review.

Outlining some of the district's foremost financial concerns, Mazza pointed to increasing utilities bills and rising salary costs due to increased medical and family leave for faculty and staff. He noted that the district must pay both employees on leave and their replacements.

Projected costs not necessarily covered by the budget included "extraordinary maintenance," as Mazza put it, referencing that the boilers in several school facilities were nearing or slightly past their lifespan. He emphasized, however, "anything that deals with safety, anything student facing, we fix immediately" whether or not the resources are properly outlined in the budget.

Legal fees drew questions from councilors, who asked whether costs decline in years when the district is not engaged in contract negotiations. Mazza did not indicate a clear reduction, suggesting that legal fees are a consistent part of the district's spending, although they do rise slightly during negotiation years.

In terms of successes, the officials highlighted strong participation in the [universal free breakfast and lunch programs](#) in Waltham's K-12 schools. "All the students here eat and are happy about it," Mazza said, contrasting current participation with his past experience in the Somerville school district.

City Council in brief: Councilors set in motion changes to pet care businesses, affordable housing ordinances

Artie Kronenfeld

March 4, 2026

The City Council's Ordinances and Rules Committee approved a new draft ordinance allowing some pet-related businesses [to operate by right](#) in Waltham. At the moment, dog grooming businesses, shelters and kennels require a special permit before they can operate. The committee asked the City Clerk's office to schedule a joint public hearing with the Board of Survey and Planning for the public to weigh in on the proposed change.

It also approved preliminary language to change the city's affordable housing regulations. Housing advocates in the city have [frequently argued](#) that Waltham's affordability requirements can hold up new housing construction — sentiments Ward 9 Councilor Robert G. Logan echoed at the Mar. 2 meeting. “The existing ordinance is really a roadblock to housing in the city, and we need housing in the city,” he said.

Logan brought up [resident feedback](#) he'd received since the legislation was [originally discussed in committee](#). He said he agreed with constituent requests to reduce parking requirements for affordable housing and to stop allowing projects to contribute to the city's affordable housing trust fund instead of building housing themselves, but said such issues would be better tackled in the city's broader ongoing review of [its zoning code as a whole](#).

He proposed adding a clause into the draft ordinance that would require the council to review the affordability requirements at least once every five years, which the committee adopted. Committee members voted to send this change to the clerk's office for a future public hearing.

The Ordinances and Rules Committee also heard updates on a request for regulation on surveillance technology use in Waltham, but took no action on the matter. City Solicitor Katherine Laughman presented the committee with a report about factors it should consider when drafting such legislation, recommending councilors adopt a nonbinding resolution with guidelines on surveillance technology instead of a formal city ordinance regulating its use.

Additionally, the City Council:

- Requested IT Director Donald Aucoin attend the Mar. 16 Committee of the Whole meeting to discuss city departments' progress on [updating their websites](#).
- Approved \$5,999 to purchase a copy machine for the Wires Department and \$8,521.93 to purchase a copy/scanner machine for the Engineering Department. (Finance)
- Approved \$9,500 to purchase a Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon to be installed at the crosswalk between Trapelo and Porter roads. (Finance)
- Approved a \$564,581 appropriation to fund the collective bargaining agreement between the School Department and the Waltham Educators Association. The funds will cover salaries for an additional school day next year, six additional professional development hours, and raises for teachers over a period of three years. (Finance)
- Reviewed Waltham Public Schools' spending for the year at the halfway point of its FY2026 budget cycle, which began last September. (Finance)
- Did not decide whether to renew a used car sales licence for JJJ Auto Retailers at 196 High St. At the request of Councilor-at-Large Emma Tzioumis, who said the business had failed to keep its sidewalks clear during recent snows, the committee asked its owners to first present councilors with a snow removal plan. (Licenses and Franchises)
- Agreed to grant a license to Charles River Canoe & Kayak to create a temporary dock on the Charles River this summer. (Licenses and Franchises)
- Heard an update from Laughman about proposed legislation to grant handicap-accessible elevators and lifts the [same zoning exemptions as ramps](#). Laughman said such devices would already have the same zoning protections as ramps by existing legal precedent. She added that homeowners should not require any new variances from the Zoning Board of Appeals to install them, but that homeowners with existing variances also do not need to visit the ZBA to remove them. (Ordinances and Rules)
- Requested a list of property tax abatements and contributions from new developments to the city's traffic mitigation fund since 2023 as a part of the committee's examination of proposed zoning changes for [three prospective new developments](#) in west Waltham. (Ordinances and Rules)
- Requested site renderings and ideas for improving the nearby Embassy Park from the owners of a [proposed new hotel at 220 Moody St.](#) (Ordinances and Rules)

Spreading kindness at work one card at a time

Steve Milmore

March 4, 2026

Waltham resident and HR exec Jamie Graceffa founded Kind Cards.

What makes a positive employee experience?

That was the question human resource executive and Waltham native Jamie Graceffa had to answer when he was put in charge of culture and inclusion at his company in 2020.

Based on his personal experience and some investigation, it became clear: how we're treated by the people we work for, and the people we work with, makes all the difference. In other words, kindness counts.

"There's too much time and money being spent on programs today and not enough on behavior," Graceffa said. "Kindness is a skill, and some people are better at it than others, but it can be taught."

The problem is that a culture of kindness is not on a profit and loss statement. There's no real line item on treating people with respect and compassion, but there should be as it's one of the most silent influences of the success of a business, according to Graceffa.

With that in mind, he looked around for a tool that could help him teach, coach and remind people what kindness at work is and what it could look like — and found nothing. So he created his own.

"It came to me to write a deck of cards," Graceffa said. "We're a TikTok society and want quick information. I thought this would work since you can take them with you, write on them and have them right at hand."

Kind Cards is a set of 54 cards designed to enhance and promote kindness skills. Each card outlines a unique act of kindness, along with its benefits, practical tips, and suggested scripts. On the back of each card are reflection questions, with space for people to write down and record their experiences.

The result is a low-tech, personal and literally hands-on approach to spreading positivity that can be used in team activities, training, meetings and one-on-one check-ins.

The idea caught on. Kind Cards have been adopted by HR leaders in companies across Massachusetts. More than 800 boxes have been sold since they became available in August 2024.

"Kindness and other behaviors that serve an organization should be present and threaded throughout all talent management and culture initiatives," according to Graceffa. "Reward employees who model kindness. Offer help to those who don't. That's where the cards come in."

Graceffa is a long-time resident of Waltham. He is an HR leader with nearly 30 years of experience in organizational development and currently serves as vice president of talent development and employee experience at Quanterix in Billerica.

Kind Cards are available on his [website](#) and also via [Amazon](#).



Play ball! EMASS Senior Softball League opens player registration

Steve Milmore

March 4, 2026

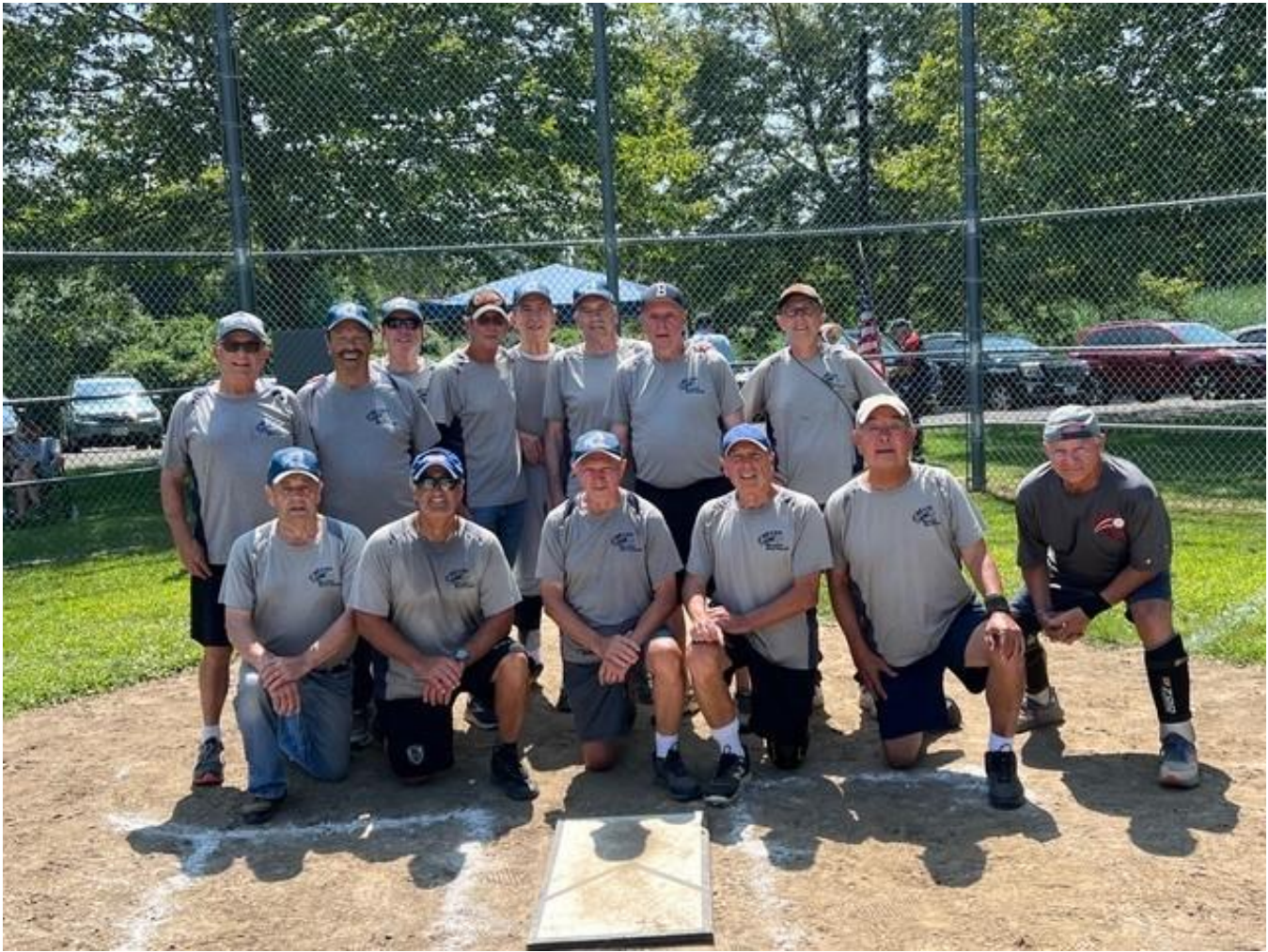


Photo courtesy of Beth Bryant.

The 2026 Eastern Massachusetts Senior Softball League registration is now open for men and women softball players ages 50 and older. EMASS attracts players from towns across eastern Massachusetts, including Waltham, with games played primarily in Wayland, Medfield, Ashland and Framingham. The season runs from late April through early October.

“We are a group of folks who recognize how lucky we are to be able to play a game we love at our current age and at a level that matches our abilities,” said EMASS Commissioner Steve Bober.

EMASS has six divisions that accommodate a range of skill levels. Two play doubleheaders on Saturday mornings, and four play on weekday mornings. Other divisions allow players whose talents may have diminished over time to enjoy playing with similarly skilled friends.

Review the [EMASS Division Offerings](#) to see division descriptions. There is a \$35 yearly associate membership fee for all members. Each division enrollment fee is \$160.

Interested players can register [here](#) for the upcoming 2026 season. Players can sign up for a division with others of similar abilities.

Law Department suggests non-binding resolution to address concerns over surveillance technology

Artie Kronenfeld

March 4, 2026

Flock camera at Hammond and Main.

The City Council's Ordinances and Rules Committee has decided to delay making moves on Waltham's use of surveillance technology. At its meeting this week, City Solicitor Katherine Laughman reported on what regulation of that technology might look like and how it might affect city departments.

The committee at its Dec. 1 meeting asked the Law Department to draft legislation regulating the use of surveillance technology in response to [public outcry about the Waltham Police Department's use of Flock Safety's](#) automatic licence plate reader cameras.

At the time, Ward 9 Councilor Robert G. Logan laid out specifics of what he'd like to see in the regulation, including requirements for departments to compile regular reports on their use of surveillance technology and obtain City Council approval for any new technology regulated under the ordinance. These requirements bear some similarity to those of neighboring cities such as [Somerville](#), which Laughman identified as having one of the "most comprehensive" policies in the region.

Laughman told committee members she would recommend the city avoid creating an ordinance regulating surveillance technology and instead consider a non-binding resolution to address the "significant concern from many constituents" about the WPD's Flock cameras. She said this could allow the council to avoid imposing on city departments "some of the constraints that come from a fully-enforceable ordinance."

Laughman added that the committee could also make recommendations to the WPD on the department's own policy on surveillance technology use, which it [adopted in November](#).

She said any legislation around surveillance technology would have to carefully define its own scope, since many technologies that city departments use — including traffic cameras, public health data collection tools, building security systems and web safety controls in schools — technically have the capability to record or analyze personally identifiable information and might therefore be bound by a surveillance technology ordinance.

Any new legislation more restrictive than state law, Laughman said, would require Waltham police officers to comply with additional local laws in order to submit any evidence they gathered from surveillance technology in criminal prosecution cases.

"We also potentially expose ourselves to civil litigation... [when] we impose a higher restriction on ourselves. It provides more opportunities for people to challenge the manner in which we use technology in the city," she added.



Laughman said that the City Council might exceed its own legal power if it required city departments to get its approval for purchases.

Still, such policies currently exist in some other cities' surveillance technology ordinances. Laughman summarized the policies of a number of nearby cities and towns including Boston, Brookline, Cambridge, Somerville, Northampton and Worcester. She said their policies broadly fall into two categories: those focus on banning facial recognition technology and those that cover surveillance more broadly.

The former category, she said, would be less likely to create incidental administrative burdens for Waltham's city departments. Laughman said no neighboring municipalities' policies had yet been challenged in court, so she did not know whether they would hold up on appeal.

If Waltham wanted to adopt an ordinance regulating surveillance technology, it would need to avoid any explicit conflict with Massachusetts state law. Laughman recommended councilors stay updated on data privacy bills currently going through the state House and Senate, including [Massachusetts House Bill 4640 on facial recognition technology](#), to avoid any potential conflict.

At Logan's request, the committee tabled the matter so members could have more time to examine the Law Department's findings.

Public health report: One citation in public school, university food service inspections

Artie Kronenfeld

March 4, 2026

The city's Health Department inspected seven of Waltham's public schools in late January and early February.

One school, the Henry Whittemore Elementary School, received a critical public health violation for a handwash station that was operating incorrectly.

The other six schools — Douglas MacArthur Elementary School, Fitzgerald Elementary School, John F Kennedy Middle School, Northeast Elementary School, Thomas R Plympton Elementary School and Waltham High School — passed on their first inspections.

The food service for a private school, Lumen Academy, also passed its first inspection.

Out of all the restaurants the department inspected during the same period, it noted that 11 were associated with the Brandeis or Bentley campuses. All of those restaurants passed their first inspections with the exception of the 921 Café at Bentley University.

In total, the department cited one out of 14 local restaurants and six out of 33 retail stores for health violations during its inspections in late January and early February.

The restaurants and retail stores cited during this window have since addressed all of their violations, according to the department.



Continued on next page...

Health complaints

Additionally, the Health Department acted on five new housing complaints reported to the department between Jan. 20 and Feb. 24.

The department resolved one complaint it received on Jan. 21 of mice in an apartment. It also received two complaints of mice and insects and two complaints related to insufficient heating or insulation that it deemed were supported by evidence, which it is still in the process of resolving.

During that period, the department also resolved all outstanding housing, trash and rodent complaints it had received [earlier in January](#).

Retail and restaurants

Below is a summary of the violations at each of the five retail establishments and restaurants where inspectors found violations between Jan. 20 and Feb. 24. Violations that inspectors designated as critical are marked with an asterisk.

Veronica's, 1074 Main St., on Jan. 21

Inspectors identified the following instance of noncompliance with Waltham's safety regulations: The store stocked outdated crackers and cookies that it needed to dispose of.

The owners were given five days to address this issue, which was corrected by the time of publication.

Easy Convenience, Beer & Wine, 26 Elm St., on Jan. 22

Inspectors identified the following instance of noncompliance with Waltham's safety regulations: The bathroom required cleaning.

The owners were given five days to address this issue, which was corrected by the time of publication.

Family Dollar, 309 Moody St., on Jan. 22

Inspectors identified the following instances of noncompliance with Waltham's safety regulations:

- Dumpsters were not closed at all times.
- The store stocked outdated deli meats and cereal that it needed to dispose of.

The owners were given five days to address these issues, which were corrected by the time of publication.

7-Eleven, 131 Lexington St., on Jan. 23

Inspectors identified the following instance of noncompliance with Waltham's safety regulations: The store did not display all required tobacco signage.

The owners were given five days to address this issue, which was corrected by the time of publication.

Tikal Market, 35-37 Lexington St., on Jan. 23

Inspectors identified the following instance of noncompliance with Waltham's safety regulations: The store stocked moldy bread that it needed to dispose of.

The owners were given five days to address this issue, which was corrected by the time of publication.

Continued on next page...

Ocean State Job Lot, 90 River St., on Jan. 27

Inspectors identified the following instances of noncompliance with Waltham’s safety regulations:

- The store needed to remove birdseed and dog food from an area that had been affected by a mouse infestation.
- The department required an updated pest control report from the store.

The owners were given five days to address these issues, which were corrected by the time of publication.

921 Café at Bentley University, 125 Forest St., on Feb. 10

Inspectors identified the following instances of noncompliance with Waltham’s safety regulations:

- The floors behind the café’s fryolators required cleaning.
- An air vent in the dishwashing room required cleaning.

The school was given five days to address these issues, which were corrected by the time of publication.

Henry Whittemore Elementary School, 30 Parmenter Road, on Feb. 12

Inspectors identified the following instances of noncompliance with Waltham’s safety regulations:

- Hot water in handwash sinks was set at lower than required temperatures. *
- Dumpsters were not closed at all times.

The school was given 24 hours to address these issues, which were corrected by the time of publication.

About Health Department inspections

The city’s Health Department conducts regular inspections of housing and food establishments to ensure compliance with the city’s safety codes. Twice a year it inspects each of the city’s restaurants, schools, lodging houses, nursing homes and any other businesses that serve food or are regulated by specific Waltham health codes to make sure they comply with the city’s safety regulations. Its inspectors also investigate complaints about pests, trash management on private properties and other environmental hazards.

It’s common for establishments to have minor violations during inspections, and when a business is found to be unsatisfactory, the department sets a deadline for the owners to correct any violations — usually five days from the date of inspection. Health Department Inspector Ivan Colon told The Waltham Times that restaurants and other businesses generally resolve all of their violations by the deadline.

Colon said if the Health Department finds a violation at a restaurant or other food establishment that causes immediate and severe health concerns, or finds three or more violations the department counts as “critical,” it will close the business until it determines the business is safe for patrons.

All information was obtained from public records requests to the Waltham Health Department.

Waltham Philharmonic celebrates America's 250th with "All American" concert

Waltham News Team

March 4, 2026

Pianist Victor Cayres.

The Waltham Philharmonic Orchestra will mark the nation's 250th birthday with its "All American" concert on Sunday, March 8, at 3 p.m. at Government Center, 119 School Street. Under the baton of music director Michael Korn, the program showcases the vitality and diversity of American symphonic music through works by George Gershwin, Morton Gould, Howard Hanson and James P. Johnson.

The program opens with Morton Gould's Symphonette No. 2 ("American"), a sparkling work that brims with jazzy rhythms. Howard Hanson's Symphony No. 5, Op. 43 ("Sinfonia Sacra"), offers a contrasting tone. The single-movement, roughly 15-minute work was inspired by the Christian story of the resurrection and blends neo-romanticism with Gregorian chant influences.

Following the intermission, the orchestra will perform "Harlem Symphony" by James P. Johnson, composed in 1932 as a musical journey through Harlem.

The concert concludes with Gershwin's iconic "Rhapsody in Blue," featuring Brazilian-born pianist [Victor Cayres](#) as soloist. Cayres, a Boston-based performer and visiting lecturer at Boston University's School of Music, has been praised for his expressive playing and dynamic stage presence. He has performed with orchestras in Brazil, in Europe and across the United States, earning acclaim for his interpretations of both classical and contemporary repertoire.

Now in its 41st season, the [Waltham Philharmonic Orchestra](#) draws musicians from Waltham and surrounding communities. The ensemble's mission is to make live orchestral music accessible to all, offering affordable performances to the community. Korn has led the orchestra since 2009. He won the 2016 American Prize in Orchestral Programming – Community Orchestra Division for his creative program selections for the WPO. Tickets for the concert are [available online](#) and at the door. General admission is \$25 plus a processing fee. Children 5–17 accompanied by an adult are free.



Guy Cleary, 1954–2026, Ret. Waltham Police Officer

Milestones

March 6, 2026

Guy J. Cleary, a retired Waltham Police Officer and a man defined by his steadfast commitment to his community, passed away on Saturday, Feb. 28, 2026, at his residence in Waltham. He was 71 years old.

Born on Oct. 30, 1954, in Nashua, New Hampshire, Guy was the son of the late Joseph and Theresa Cleary. Guy was raised and educated in Waltham, the city that became the cornerstone of his life's work and legacy. Guy attended Waltham Vocational High School, after which time he enlisted in the U.S. Army. During his enlistment, he served honorably, spending most of his time stationed in Germany.

Upon his honorable discharge and return to Waltham, Guy began a multi-faceted career within the city. He initially owned and operated a taxicab, navigating the streets he would later protect, and subsequently worked the night watch as a security officer for Raytheon.

In 1979, Guy was appointed as a Patrolman with the Waltham Police Department. For the next 23 years, he served the City of Waltham with distinction and integrity. Guy was known among his peers as a reliable and professional officer, and he was well-regarded by the residents he encountered on his daily patrols. His retirement in 2002 marked the end of a long and decorated career, but his spirit of entrepreneurship continued. He went on to own and operate "GJC Pest Control," allowing him to remain active and deeply engaged with the local community he loved.

Guy was a devoted Catholic and a faithful parishioner of Saint Mary's Church. He was also a proud veteran and a longtime member of the Joseph F. Hill American Legion Post #156. Outside of his professional and civic duties, Guy was an avid reader and a student of history, with a particular expertise in the American Civil War. He took great pride in participating in historical reenactments, viewing them as a way to preserve and share the lessons of the past.

Guy was the beloved husband of the late Patricia (Monaghan) Cleary, with whom he shared many wonderful years. He was the devoted father of five children: Shannon A. Saleh and Colleen E. Cleary, both of Florida; Patrick J. Cleary of Burlington; Kevin Cleary of Brighton; and Somerville Police Officer Michael J. Cleary of Billerica.

He was the proud and cherished grandfather of McKenzie, Sophia, Adam, Noah, Colin, Ella, Kevin Jr. and Vera. Guy found immense joy in his grandchildren and cherished every moment spent in their company. Guy is also survived by his dear siblings, Gail Pickell of Merrimack, Cathy Kalayjian of Leominster, Kim Cleary of Burlington and

Jay Cleary of Waltham; and his sister-in-law, Carol Cormier, and her husband Ronald of Hudson, MA. He was predeceased by his siblings Johnny Jamer, Karen Jamer, and Joyce Casella.

Family and friends gathered and celebrated Guy's life on March 6 followed by a mass of Christian burial at Saint Mary's Church. Burial, with Waltham Police Department and U.S. Army Honors will followed at Mount Feake Cemetery in Waltham.



Joseph Mulone, 1936–2026

Milestones

March 6, 2026

Joseph A. Mulone, of Waltham, died Wednesday, March 4, 2026 as his home. He was 89. He was the husband of Charlotte A. (Morganti) Mulone.

Family and friends will honored Joe’s life by gathering for an afternoon wake on Sunday, March 8 in The Joyce Funeral Home and again at on Monday morning before leaving in procession to Our Lady Comforter of the Afflicted Church, 880 Trapelo Road, Waltham where his funeral mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Burial will follow in Mount Feake Cemetery, Waltham.



Sr. Jhorna Gomes, 1968–2026, Marist Missionary Sister known for her ‘caring heart and joyful spirit’

Milestones

March 4, 2026

Sr. Jhorna Gomes, “Sr. Jacinta Jhorna Gomes SMSM,” of Waltham, passed away on Saturday Feb. 28, 2026, in the comfort and care of the staff at the Care Dimensions Hospice Home in Lincoln, after a long and courageous battle with cancer. She was 57.

Born on Aug. 19, 1968, in Tuital, Bangladesh, Jhorna was the beloved daughter of the late Thomas Gomes and Philomena Gomes, both of whom were born and died in Bangladesh. She grew up in a deeply faithful family where daily morning and evening prayer was a cherished tradition.

When her father passed away, Jhorna made the selfless decision to leave high school in order to help support her mother and three sisters. She was hired at a clinic opened in Tuital by the Marist Missionary Sisters. Recognizing her intelligence, dedication and potential, the Sisters encouraged her to complete her high school education. During this time, Jhorna discerned her vocation and felt called to become a Marist Missionary Sister.

She began her religious formation in Bangladesh and later traveled to New Zealand for her novitiate. On May 22, 1998, she professed her vows as a Marist Missionary Sister, committing her life to service, faith and mission.

In 2000, Sr. Jhorna was missioned to the U.S., where she pursued further studies while working as a Certified Nursing Assistant at Belmont Manor. Her compassion and dedication to those in her care earned her the Volunteer of the Year Award in 2001.

In Sept. 2005, she was missioned to Jamaica, West Indies. Her vibrant spirit, warmth and outgoing energy quickly endeared her to the people, and she to them. In 2014, she was assigned to Seaford



Town in rural Jamaica, where she became deeply involved in the life of the Church and community. She could often be found accompanying the youth, serving in the clinic and walking the roads to visit families in their homes. Her presence brought comfort, encouragement and hope to many.

In 2019, Sr. Jhorna returned to the U.S. after being diagnosed with stage IV lung cancer. She began treatment at the renowned Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, where what began as a medical journey soon became a new and profound mission. Although doctors initially gave her only six months to live, Sr. Jhorna lived for seven more years. Through numerous trial drug therapies, she not only extended her own life but also contributed to research that would help others. Her fellow cancer patients became her extended community—remembered always in her thoughts and prayers. Even in suffering, she radiated faith, courage and trust in God.

Sr. Jhorna was known for her generosity, caring heart and joyful spirit. She was deeply loved by all who knew her. Her unwavering trust in God and tender devotion to Mary sustained her throughout her life and especially during her illness.

She is survived by her two sisters in Bangladesh and one sister in North Carolina; her devoted and loving community of Marist Missionary Sisters; and countless friends and communities whose lives she touched across Bangladesh, the U.S. and Jamaica.

Relatives and friends attended a “Mass of the Resurrection” in celebration of Sister Jhorna’s life at the Marist Missionary Sisters Residence, Waltham on March 4. Interment will followed in the Marist Missionary Sisters Lot at Saint Patrick’s Cemetery in Watertown, followed by a memorial luncheon.

Carla Munsat, 1938-2026, icon in the New England artist community

Milestones

March 9, 2026

Carla Anne Munsat (Hoffman) of Waltham passed away peacefully on Feb. 14, 2026, at home surrounded by her family after a short illness. She was 88.

Munsat was a vibrant, [creative artist](#); co-founder of Art New England magazine; a lifelong scholar and a woman whose generosity, humor and grace touched those who knew her, according to family and friends.

“Carla was very influenced by color, movement and nature. She was very adventuresome in her work, and she was in her life as well,” said long-time friend and fellow artist Marilyn Levin. “People were attracted to her because of her talent, warmth and positivity.”

Born in 1938 in Los Angeles, Munsat grew up with her sister Beth and her parents Ruth and Joe Hoffman, whose passion for politics and film shaped her curiosity about the world. She studied fine arts at UCLA with acclaimed artist [Richard Diebenkorn](#) before heading to New York City to study acting where she met her husband, Ted Munsat.

Soon after meeting, they married and moved back to Los Angeles where she acted, painted and taught art.



In the mid 1970s, after settling in Newton and then later in Waltham, she recognized the need to raise the visibility for the vibrant local arts community. Munsat co-founded Art New England magazine with fellow artist Stephanie Adelman. Two years later, they started the Art New England Summer Workshops at Bennington College, which continue to this day under Massachusetts College of Art and Design. Munsat served as co-founder, co-publisher and editor-in-chief of the magazine for more than two decades.

“When Carla started Art New England it was a significant moment for the Boston area. It was a much-needed publication that covered gallery shows and features on local artists. It was very much appreciated by the whole art community,” Levin said.

Carla Munsat and Stephanie Adelman, 1980.

Munsat stayed active in the art world, and showed her recent paintings in [an exhibit in June 2025](#) at the Bromfield Gallery in Boston.

“Carla was a wonderful, sparkly woman full of beauty on the inside and it just radiated out of her,” said Jennifer Day, a fellow member of the Bromfield Gallery. “Over the last few months, we talked on the phone often about how she was feeling. I’m forever grateful she shared that time with me.”

Munsat and her husband moved to Cronin’s Landing in Waltham 14 years ago. Her art studio was at Lincoln Studios on Moody Street and she walked almost every day along the Charles River. She was engaged in the community from the start, her family said.

“My mom had a wonderful spirit. I think what encapsulates it is that three years ago, at 84, my mom went riding on horseback for the first time in maybe 30 years because she was with family and the opportunity presented itself. It was almost effortless for her to decide to do it. She was the most energetic and enthusiastic person I’d ever met,” her daughter Amy said.

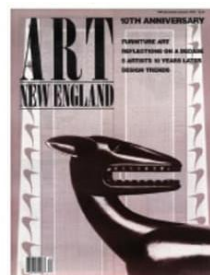
Munsat is survived by her children Amy (Harry) and Peter (Lisa); grandchildren Lucy, Jesse, Alex, Jake, Hallie, Lila (Zach) and great-grandson Louie; her sister Beth (Koonan); numerous nieces, nephews, in-laws, cousins and dear friends.

Carla Munsat is predeceased by her husband and fellow adventurer Ted.

In her honor, a donation can be made to the [ACLU Foundation](#) or to [Artists for Humanity, Boston](#).



1979



1989/90



1998



1999

Ana Marrero Torres, 1937–2026, was known for her ‘strong will, tireless work ethic and joyful spirit’

Milestones

March 9, 2026

Ana Marrero Torres, of Waltham, passed away peacefully surrounded by her loving family at Newton-Wellesley Hospital on Tuesday, March 3, 2026. She was 88.

Born in Villalba, Puerto Rico, on Sept. 11, 1937, Ana was the cherished daughter of the late Pablo Marrero Noguera and Faustina Torres Colon.

A woman of immeasurable faith, Ana was known for her strong will, tireless work ethic and joyful spirit. A true workaholic, she dedicated over three decades of her career as a machinist at Standard Thomson. Ana took great pride in her work and was respected for her dedication and perseverance.

Despite her hardworking nature, Ana truly came alive when surrounded by the people she loved. She enjoyed family gatherings and was an amazing cook, especially known for her delicious chicken, rice and beans. With an adventurous spirit and a vibrant personality, Ana was often the life of the party. She loved spending time at the casino, playing bingo, listening to music and dancing—but above all being with her family was what brought her the greatest happiness.

Ana was predeceased by her beloved husband, Valentin Santiago Rivera.

She leaves her loving and devoted children, Hilda Bonilla of Waltham; Aurea Santiago of Waltham; José Santiago of Milford, MA; Enrique Santiago of Orocovic, Puerto Rico; Eusebio Santiago of Milford, MA; Carmen Alicea of Marlborough, MA; and numerous cherished grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren. She is also survived by her seven sisters and three brothers, as well as many nieces, nephews, extended family members and dear friends who will forever treasure the love and memories they shared with her.

Family and friends are respectfully invited to gather and remember the love and friendship Ana shared during visiting hours on Tuesday, March 10 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Mary Catherine Chapel of Brasco & Sons Memorial Chapels, 773 Moody Street, Waltham.

A funeral service celebrating Ana’s life will be held the following day, Wednesday, March 11 at 10 a.m., from the Mary Catherine Chapel. Interment will follow at Mt. Feake Cemetery in Waltham.



Margaret Lucchese, 1936–2026, lifelong Waltham resident

Milestones

March 9, 2026

Margaret B. “Peggy” (Bartleman) Lucchese, a lifelong resident of Waltham, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, March 3, 2026, in the comfort and care of the staff at Care Dimensions Hospice House in Lincoln. She was 89.

Born on Oct. 28, 1936 in Waltham, Peggy was the daughter of the late Louis Bartleman and Mary E. (Hilley) Bartleman. She was raised and educated in Waltham and remained a proud lifelong resident of the city, where she later raised her own family and built a life centered around love, family and community.

Peggy attended Saint Charles High School and began a career dedicated to caring for others. She worked as a Nurse’s Aide at Metropolitan State Hospital in Waltham and later at Waltham Hospital in the Labor and Delivery Department. She eventually retired from Prospect Hill Nursing Home, devoting her time fully to raising and caring for her family.

Peggy’s greatest joy in life was being a wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Her family was always first and foremost in her life, and everything revolved around them. She was known as an amazing cook who loved gathering family and friends around her table. Peggy also enjoyed traveling, especially the cherished trips she made to Cape Breton Island in Nova Scotia to visit her daughter and spend time with family there.

Peggy was predeceased by her beloved husband, Rosario J. Lucchese in 1996; her loving son, Richard Davis; her cherished grandson Nicholas Davis; and her dear siblings, Judith Brown and Richard Bartleman.

She is survived by her devoted and loving children, Russell Davis of Leominster, Rhonda Norman of Dorchester, Susan MacMillan and her husband Stephen of Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia, Ann Richard and her husband David of Waltham, and Rosario J. “Joe” Lucchese and his companion Maura Campbell. She also leaves behind her cherished grandchildren, Samantha Davis, Julia Davis, Laura Davis, Robert Davis, Stephanie Davis, Katelyn Norman, Shaun Norman, Jillian MacDonald, Evan MacMillan, Fallon MacMillan, Matthew Richard, Morgan Richard, Meghan Hopkins, Anthony Lucchese and Dante Lucchese; and her adoring great-grandchildren, Cole, Cade, Cora, Damon, Ariel, Madison, Patrick, Brianna, Aliyah, Aime, Luke, and Finn Angus.

Peggy is also survived by her dear siblings, Mary Cavanaugh of Waltham and Louis Bartleman and his wife Lim of Waltham, as well as her sister-in-law, Janet Lucchese of Medway, and many loving nieces, nephews, extended family members and close friends.

Family and friends gathered and celebrated Peggy’s life on Sunday, March 8.



Calendar

March 11-21

WED
11

Mar 11. @ 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Ranked Choice Waltham launch meeting

First Parish Church 50 Church St, Waltham, MA

Waltham deserves elections where winners earn broad support, and every voter can cast their vote in line with their values without "wasting" it. This launch event is the start of [...]

Free

WED
11

Mar 11. @ 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Mill Talk: Chelsea Clock Company—146 Years of Boston Clockmaking

Charles River Museum of Industry & Innovation 154 Moody Street, Waltham, United States

The clockmaking tradition carried out by Chelsea Clock Company traces its roots back to the founding of the Harvard Clock Company in 1880 by Joseph Eastman. This talk will trace [...]

Free

THU
12

Mar 12. @ 12:00 am

Dance class for older adults with Parkinson's

Stanley Senior Center 488 Main Street, Waltham, MA, United States

The Jewish Family and Children's Service, in connection with Hora del Cafe, is offering a bi-lingual cycle of dance classes for those with Parkinson's disease or similar symptoms. Discover how dance can help older adults who have challenges with movement, balance and coordination, all while having fun! Our instructor, Rafael Rivera, is especially trained to [...]

THU
12

Mar 12. @ 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Fiber arts night

Waltham Public Library 735 Main St, Waltham, MA, United States

Join us for a fun night of community and crafting. Bring your fiber arts projects—any project, from knitting to embroidery, crochet to cross-stitch, weaving and beyond. In the lecture hall.

Free

THU
12

March 12 @ 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Waltham Partnership for Youth's 11th annual Trivia for a Cause

American Legion Nonantum Post 440 295 California St, Newton, MA

Join us for Waltham Partnership for Youth's 11th annual Trivia for a Cause. Enjoy a competitive night out with your friends and colleagues, while supporting vital youth programming in Waltham. [...]

THU
12

Mar 12. @ 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm ☞

Conservation Commission meeting

Zoom

The Conservation Commission typically meets twice each month on Thursdays at 7 p.m. Meetings are usually held remotely via Zoom and are open to the public. Visit the commission's web [...]

THU
12

Mar 12. @ 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm

2nd Shift Concert: Ward Hayden & Greg Hall

Charles River Museum of Industry & Innovation 154 Moody Street, Waltham, United States

Two-fifths of the multi-award-winning band Ward Hayden and the Outliers prove that it's not the numbers that count, but the music. Ward Hayden has fronted his band The Outliers for [...]

\$25

SAT
14

March 14 @ 6:30 pm - 10:30 pm

Breezers Ball Pre-Spring Fling

Charles River Museum of Industry & Innovation 154 Moody Street, Waltham, United States

The 10th Anniversary Breezers Ball—a special "Thank You" to Waltham—will be a wonderful party to celebrate and thank Waltham for being such a great place to live and to work. [...]

\$60

SAT
14

Mar 14. @ 11:00 am - 12:30 pm

Waltham Forward neighborhood walk-a-thon kickoff

Connors Memorial Swimming Pool 330 River St., Waltham, MA

Waltham's next regular municipal Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 2, 2027. So, from March 2026 to October 2027, Massachusetts Forward Party candidate Sean Diamond invites you to walk with him [...]

Free

SAT
14

Mar 14. @ 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Friends Beyond Boston: Brewery social

Mighty Squirrel—Waltham 411 Waverley Oaks Road, Waltham, MA

Join us for a relaxed afternoon at Mighty Squirrel in Waltham where we can chat, grab drinks and bites, and maybe play some board games if that's your thing. This [...]

Free

SAT
14

Mar 14. @ 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Tea Tasting

Gore Place 52 Gore Street

Explore the world in a cup of tea. Tea can be sweet, rich, buttery, and citrusy. It can wake you up and calm you down. Tea has a history that [...]

\$40

SAT
14

Mar 14. @ 3:30 pm - 6:00 pm

Waltham Open Mic

Christ Church 750 Main St, Waltham

Come join us for an afternoon of entertainment at our matinee open mic! Singers/songwriters, storytellers and poets are welcome. There is no cover charge but we will pass the hat [...]

Free

SAT
14

Mar 14. @ 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Healing Spices: An Ayurvedic spice and tea workshop

Waltham Fields Community Farm 240 Beaver St, Waltham, MA, United States

Gather at Waltham Fields Community Farm in the crisp March air for a sensory and educational journey into the world of Ayurvedic spices and healing spice teas with Ayurvedic practitioner [...]

\$60

SAT
14

Mar 14. @ 6:00 pm - 11:00 pm

Third Annual Badass St. Patrick's Day Party Fundraiser

American Legion Post 440 295 California Street, Newton, MA

The Waltham Badass Warriors are joining together to host the 3rd Annual Badass Fundraiser to raise money for families while they go through cancer treatment. We need your help to [...]

\$30

SUN
15

Mar 15. @ 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm


Music in the Mansion: Harp concert

Gore Place 52 Gore Street

Join us in the withdrawing room of the mansion for a special harp concert by internationally acclaimed harpist Lily Neill. Entitled "The Story of the Harp," Neill's performance will explore the music of one of the world's best loved instruments. Every corner of the world seems to have its version of the harp, and the [...]

\$35

MON
16


Mar 16. @ 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm  [Watch City Ukers at the Waltham Museum](#)

Watch City Ukers Every Month at the Waltham Museum

The Waltham Museum 25 Lexington Street, Waltham, MA

Hosted by Marisa and Malissa every third Monday at the Waltham Museum, the Watch City Ukers #207 provide a relaxed atmosphere where any level is welcome. We are thrilled to [...]

MON
16

Mar 16. @ 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm 

Waltham City Council committee meetings

The Licenses and Franchises Committee meets at 7:00 p.m. The Veterans Services Committee, the Public Works and Public Safety Committee, the Economic and Community Development Committee, and the Long Term Debt and Capital Planning Committee meet upon the call of the Chairperson of each committee. The remaining committees meet in the following order, beginning at [...]

Free

WED
18

March 18 @ 10:00 am - 11:00 am

Managing mental health symptoms in a neurological population

Waltham YMCA 725 Lexington St, Waltham, MA

This talk will discuss the overlap between neurologic disorders and mental health conditions such as depression and anxiety. It will explore common presentations of these mental health symptoms in neurological [...]

Free

WED
18

Mar 18. @ 11:00 am - 12:00 pm


Low back pain and posture

Newton YMCA 276 Church St, Newton, MA

In this workshop a physical therapist will educate on the components of good posture for a healthy lower back. They will discuss the causes and types of low back pain [...]

Free

WED
18

Mar 18. @ 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm 

Board of Health meeting

The Board of Health meets monthly, year-round. Meetings are typically held on the third Wednesday of each month at 5 p.m. Contact the Health Department to confirm each meeting and for additional information.

WED
18

Mar 18. @ 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Mill Talk: From electronic waste to opportunity

Charles River Museum of Industry & Innovation 154 Moody Street, Waltham, United States

How refurbished technology can close the digital divide. In this conversation, Dylan Zajac will explore where old electronics really end up, the environmental and social costs of e-waste, and how [...]

Free


WED
18

Mar 18. @ 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm  [School Committee meeting](#)

School Committee meeting

The School Committee typically meets twice per month (once each in July and August) on Wednesday evenings. Check the School Committee web site to confirm meeting dates and times. Unless specifically noted, all regular meetings of the Waltham School Committee begin at 7 p.m. and are held in the Cannon Lecture Hall at 617 Lexington [...]

THU
19

Mar 19. @ 10:00 am - 11:00 am 

Traffic Commission meeting

The Waltham Traffic Commission meets monthly, September to June. Meetings are typically held on the third Thursday of each month, at 10 a.m., with changes to accommodate special meetings and holidays. Meetings are held at City Hall, 610 Main Street, on the second floor, in the council chamber. Members of the public are invited to [...]

THU
19

Mar 19. @ 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Art and meditation workshop: Intuitive watercolors

Waltham Public Library 735 Main St, Waltham, MA, United States

Join Faith Johnson, internationally exhibiting artist and healing arts practitioner of Full Circle Healing Arts, for a relaxing meditation followed by quiet reflective journaling and intuitive watercolor painting (with local [...])

Free

THU
19

Mar 19. @ 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm 

Minutemen Toastmasters of Waltham

Meadow Green Rehabilitation & Nursing Center 45 Woburn St. off Trapelo Rd., Waltham

Gain confidence as a public speaker. Our club, within Toastmasters International, works on improving communication and leadership skills in a supportive environment. We meet twice a month, first and third [...]

FRI
20

Mar 20. @ 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm


Spring equinox walk at Prospect Hill Park

Craft Food Halls 200 5th Avenue, Waltham, MA

Celebrate the new season with a walk at Prospect Hill Park before going to our fundraiser at Craft Food Hall. We'll follow the alternate route we took on New Year's Day, which has mostly gradual elevation changes on trails through Waltham's oldest park. Meet at Craft Food Hall, 200 5th Ave. Visit or call 781-893-3355 [...]

Free

FRI
20

Mar 20. @ 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm 

Gently-used book sale

Gore Place 52 Gore Street

Book lovers can buy gently-used books at bargain prices (\$2 for paperbacks, \$5 for most hardcovers) during the sale. The event will be held in the Carriage House at Gore Place. You can donate books too! We can accept donated books from March 1 through March 13. To arrange a drop-off time, please email events@goreplace.org. [...]

Free

SAT
21

Mar 21. @ 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Family Shabbat

Join Temple Beth Israel's growing family community on Saturday, March 21, 11:00 a.m., for family Shabbat with interactive songs, prayers, playtime, and a fun scavenger hunt to search for bread before Passover! Snacks provided as well as a kiddish light lunch with the community. Free and open to all. RSVP for location by March 16 [...]

SAT
21

Mar 21. @ 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Gently-used book sale

Gore Place 52 Gore Street

Book lovers can buy gently-used books at bargain prices (\$2 for paperbacks, \$5 for most hardcovers) during the sale. The event will be held in the Carriage House at Gore Place. You can donate books too! We can accept donated books from March 1 through March 13. To arrange a drop-off time, please email events@goreplace.org. [...]

Free