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August 10, 2026

Plan to end protections for Haitian immigrants could be 'huge detriment'

City Council overrides mayor's veto of Bay Colony mixed-use zoning

African Food Festival returns to Waltham with authentic cuisine

Waltham Common concert draws big summer crowd

Senior Center this week: Karina Liendo returns

BY PRISCILLA ELLIOTT • COMMUNITY • AUGUST 9, 2026

Waltham's Council on Aging operates out of the William F. Stanley Senior Center at 488 Main St. The spacious, well-equipped center offers abundant programs for exercise, music, classes and socializing. Check out the center's newsletter for a full listing of events. Call 781-314-3499 with questions and to register for programs.

This Wednesday, Aug. 12, at 11:30 a.m., Like Water for Chocolate storytelling series presents "Birthday Celebrations with Grandma/Las Celebraciones de Cumpleños con la Abuela" with Karina Liendo. She will share stories inspired by her grandmother Abuela Angela, who kept the tradition of celebrating birthdays, transforming them into truly special events. La Abuela Angela mantuvo la tradición de celebrar los cumpleaños, transformándolos en eventos realmente especiales.

Karina LIendo led a group dance at the Senior Center earlier this year. Courtesy photo.

Regular favorites

Daily programs include billiards and bocce games (drop-in).

Every Tuesday from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Bridge lessons. $10 per lesson. Bridge game at 1 p.m. All are welcome.

Every Tuesday at 10 a.m. English as a second language classes given by an experienced ESL teacher. Improve your speaking, listening, reading and writing skills while learning practical English for everyday life. Free, but please register.

Every Wednesday from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Hora del Café. Spanish-speaking coffee hour.

Here is the full schedule for this week:

13. **8:30 Castle Island** **9:00 Walking Group Veterans Field** 9:30 Poker 9:30 Exercise Class 10:00 Knitting 10:45 Exercise Video 12:00 Zumba 1:00 Whist 1:00 Rummikub 1:30 Chair Volleyball	**14.** 9:00 Crochet 9:00 Tai Chi - Advanced 9:30 Bridge Lesson 10:00 Tai Chi- Beginner **10:00 ESL** 11:00 Mah Jong 11:15 Tai-Yo-Ba - ***No Class*** 11:30 Ukulele Group 1:00 Bridge Game **1:00 Scarf Art** 1:30 Chair Exercise **5:00 Country Line Dance**	**15.** **9:00 Walking Group Veterans Field** 9:00 Blood Pressure 9:00 Quilting 9:30 Exercise Class **10:30 Hora del Café** 10:45 Exercise Video 11:00 Meditation **11:00 My Grandma's Legacy** **12:00 Lunch: Stuffed Shells w/Tomato Sauce / Egg Salad Sandwich** 1:00 Bingo 1:00 Hand & Foot Game	**16.** **9:00 Walking Group Veterans Field** 9:00 Keep It Moving 9:00 Conv. Spanish 9:30 /10:45 Exercise Video 10:00 Conv. English 10:00 Painting 10:00 Mah Jong 10:15 Strength Class - ***No Class*** 11:00 Mah Jong 11:15 Tai-Yo-Ba - ***No Class*** 12:30 Cards - Spades 1:00 Cribbage/Canasta	**17.** 9:00 Ceramics ***No Teacher*** 9:30 Poker 12:30 Cards - Spades 1:00 Bridge: Instruction & Play **1:00 The Art of Living Joyfully**

The week ahead: City asked to defend timeline on Fernald golf course

BY CYD ABNET & LEA ZAHARONI • GOVERNMENT • AUGUST 9, 2026

The Conservation Commission will revisit a proposal this Thursday to build a golf course on the former Fernald State School site.

A pitch and putt golf course has been proposed for the grounds of the former Fernald State School. Canva stock image.

The golf course is part of Mayor Jeannette A. McCarthy's plans for recreational facilities on the site. The city originally planned to put in a driving range, but a project architect recently informed the commission it was pivoting instead to a smaller "pitch and putt" course that would have fewer environmental effects.

The commission's last meeting ended in a standstill when commissioners questioned why Waltham had yet to file a document outlining conservation protections on the Fernald property, which it was required to create when the city bought the property in 2014.

The commission approved the golf course plan under the condition that city officials provide a legal justification by this week's meeting for why the project is proceeding without the required conservation document.

Below is a chronological rundown of other city meetings scheduled this week, July 10 through 14.

Historical Commission

The Waltham Historical Commission is a seven-member board charged with preserving and overseeing Waltham's historic buildings and properties.

At its meeting tonight, Aug. 10, the commission will discuss proposed federal changes to historic preservation rules. The changes would affect Section 106, the review process federal agencies use to assess whether projects could harm historic properties and to consult with interested parties before moving forward. The commission will decide whether to submit a formal comment during the upcoming public input period for the changes.

It will meet at 7 p.m. over Zoom. The Zoom link will be posted on its agenda page on the city website under the Media tab. The passcode for the Zoom meeting can be found on the commission's August agenda.

Housing Authority

The Waltham Housing Authority works to provide affordable housing options for Waltham residents who face barriers to housing.

The authority will hear an update on the state-owned property at 35-45 Marguerite Ave., along with a review of modernization efforts, contract logs and change orders. The board's maintenance director will also present a vacancy report and work order report.

The meeting is scheduled for Tuesday at 4:30 p.m over Zoom. The meeting ID is 880 6971 4882. The passcode is 659243.

School Committee

The Waltham School Committee, an elected six-member committee chaired by the mayor, makes policy and oversight decisions for the Waltham Public Schools.

This week, the committee will have its last summer session before the school year begins. The agenda promises a relatively routine meeting, as the committee reviews highlights from the 2025-26 school year and addresses mostly ongoing unfinished business.

Superintendent Marisa Mendonsa indicated in June that a presentation on antiracism, diversity, equity and inclusion in Waltham's schools would be given at this week's meeting after months of preparation.

The committee will meet at 6 p.m. on Wednesday in the James J. Cannon Lecture Hall at 617 Lexington St.

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 its meeting over Zoom at 7 p.m. on 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.

Authors

CYD ABNET

Cyd Abnet is a Waltham native who recently graduated with a degree in Environmental Science from Clark University. She began her journalism career with Clark's student newspaper where she covered topics from on-campus protests to competitive chess scandals. In her free time you can find Cyd enjoying Waltham's numerous natural wonders.

LEA ZAHARONI

Lea Zaharoni is a recent graduate of Brandeis University, where she majored in American Studies and Journalism. She spent most of her time at school working as General Manager of the student radio station WBRS 100.1, which broadcasts live 24/7 on Waltham FM radio. She's also written for Brandeis' student newspaper, the Justice, as well as the Irish Independent in Dublin and Dig Boston. Lea loves exploring new places in town and returning to old favorites, and counts herself very lucky to be a part of the Waltham community.

African Food Festival returns to Waltham with authentic cuisine, culture and community

BY VIVIAN AINOMUGISHA-NAKAANA • ARTS & CULTURE • AUGUST 6, 2026

African cuisine, music, fashion and businesses will take center stage Saturday as the Africa Connect Food Festival returns to Waltham.

Hosted by ReNew Africa, the festival will run from 2 to 6 p.m. Aug. 8 at Waltham Common, 610 Main St. The free event is open to everyone and will feature authentic African vendors, performers and local entrepreneurs representing several African countries.

For organizer Sarah Kazibwe, president and founder of ReNew Africa, the festival showcases the contributions of African culture to the Waltham area.

“I offer this platform to entrepreneurs and small-business owners to bring out what they have and show it to the community,” Kazibwe said. “It’s an opportunity for the world to see that they exist.”

This year’s festival, the third annual, will feature vendors from Uganda, Nigeria and Kenya, with offerings ranging from traditional cuisine to handmade jewelry, clothing, candles, honey and other locally made products. Representatives from nonprofit organizations will also be present.

Kazibwe, a Waltham resident for more than two decades, said the annual event has grown steadily since it began three years ago.

“Every year we learn from the previous [one] how we can do the event better,” she said. “This year is going to be bigger because more people know who we are.”

She said the festival’s increased visibility has helped attract more attendees and vendors, allowing it to continue expanding each year.

Kazibwe said one of her long-term goals is to grow the festival so more African-owned businesses have an opportunity to participate.

“My dream is to have 10 to 20 vendors, maybe even 30,” she said.

Beyond showcasing food, Kazibwe said the festival serves as a platform for small businesses to gain exposure that extends beyond a single day of sales.

Africa Connect Food Festival draws crowd to Waltham Common

BY ROB KAULFUSS • AROUND TOWN • AUGUST 9, 2026

Festival attendees line up to sample food from one of the vendors at the African Food Festival. Photo by Rob Kaulfuss.

African music drifted across Waltham Common on Saturday afternoon as crowds gathered in the heat for the Africa Connect Food Festival, a free celebration of African food, music, fashion and business.

Vendors, performers and local entrepreneurs representing several African countries filled the common, drawing visitors from Waltham and well beyond. Among those braving the temperatures were a former Peace Corps volunteer who spent three years in Africa and the director of Radio Uganda, which is based in Waltham.

The event was open to everyone at no cost.

For organizer Sarah Kazibwe, president and founder of ReNew Africa, the afternoon was a chance to put African culture's contributions to the Waltham area on full display.

A vendor sets out her home-cooked specialities. Photo by Rob Kaulfuss.

This vendor offers a colorful mix of crafts and foods. Photo by Rob Kaulfuss.

A festival attendee browses some African fashions on view. Photo by Rob Kaulfuss.

Former Peace Corps volunteer (left) with Waltham Times volunteer Brad Onken (right) at the Times' map of the world with pins indicating visitors' countries of origin. Photo by Rob Kaulfuss.

Volunteers Rob Kaulfuss, David Jackson and Rachel Berger setting up The Waltham Times' information table. Photo by Rob Kaulfuss

Author

ROB KAULFUSS

Rob Kaulfuss serves on the board of directors and serves in technology integration and volunteer coordination. A Waltham resident for 30 years, Rob has recently retired from Middlesex Community College after 41 years of service. In addition to teaching and career counseling, he held numerous leadership roles that included the chairing of several departments and the college's curriculum committee for over two decades. He has produced newsletters for higher education and community organizations and founded the college's first website. His interdisciplinary passions were reflected in the many talks he gave on the technology, economics, and politics of the clean energy transition.

Long-awaited roadwork updates out of City Council

BY ARTIE KRONENFELD • GOVERNMENT • AUGUST 4, 2026

An assortment of roadwork projects around the city, some of them nearly a decade in the making, saw forward progress at the City Council's special summer session on Monday.

Councilors approved a National Grid project to replace gas mains along South Street, which had brought up concerns about traffic and neighborhood disruption when first proposed over a year and a half ago.

National Grid truck.

Ward 9 Councilor Robert G. Logan added a list of conditions for the utility, requiring National Grid to receive approval from the Traffic Commission, submit a rodent mitigation plan to the city and wait until the end of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority's planned Felton Street utilities project that's scheduled for May 2027.

Councilors also approved $3.7 million in city utilities work by the city's Engineering Department, which has been updating municipal water mains every summer. Out of that funding, nearly $1.6 million comes from older engineering projects that came in under budget.

City Engineer Robert Winn said his department will work this summer to replace water mains on Bolton, Caughey, Clinton, Cutter, Day, Graymore and Mount Pleasant streets and patch any resulting holes.

He said the Public Works Department is in charge of repaving those streets and will get to that work in a timely manner.

That in and of itself is big news for residents of Mount Pleasant Street, whose private way repaving petition has been in front of the City Council for years. The city has been working to advance petitions to repave Mount Pleasant and five other private ways — Buxton Lane, Marion Street, Kenmore Road/Kenmore Terrace, Milner Street and Blossom Street — since some of them were submitted in 2017. The City Council on Monday voted to accept cost estimates and payment allocations compiled by the Law Department for the street repaving plans.

Beaver Street safety improvements get green light

The council also this week voted to use eminent domain laws to take land and create permanent easements — a right to use and traverse a parcel of land — from the owners of two lots on the private way Pelham Road.

This is part of a redesign of the intersection of Warren Street and Pelham Road, which, according to Councilor-at-Large Randall J. LeBlanc, has also been in the works since 2017. The city will use the easements to place traffic signals, install additional wiring and paint crosswalks.

The council additionally approved $32,000 in extra design funding for a project to create a safer railroad crossing across Beaver Street.

Traffic Engineer J. Michael Garvin said the intersection is the only at-grade railroad crossing in the city where trains do not stop and can present a significant danger to commuters. Over the last few years the department has been working with Nitsch Engineering to redesign the intersection with additional safety measures, including improved pedestrian crossings and a new type of railroad gate. This additional funding will cover signal updates added after a joint review with the MBTA.

Author

ARTIE KRONENFELD

Artie Kronenfeld is a Waltham-based reporter who enjoys writing about policy and administration that affect people's everyday lives. Previously hailing from Toronto, they're a former editor-in-chief of the University of Toronto's flagship student paper The Varsity. You can find them during off-work hours playing niche RPGs, wandering through Haymarket and making extra spreadsheets that nobody asked for.

Comments (1)

TONY MANGINI • AUGUST 6, 2026 AT 10:42 AM

what happened to rose hill way? the worst private way in the city.

Reply

City Council overrides mayor's veto of Bay Colony mixed-use zoning

BY CHARLIE JOHNSON & ARTIE KRONENFELD • GOVERNMENT • AUGUST 4, 2026

A crowd of residents erupted in applause late Monday night after the Waltham City Council voted to override a veto from Mayor Jeannette A. McCarthy, preserving its June decision to allow more mixed-use development at a partially vacant office lot known as the Bay Colony.

The rezoning is part of a broader effort to create three overlay districts: Residential Commercial Industrial Limited Overlay District 1, located west of Winter Street at Bay Colony, which it divided further into three subdistricts; RCI 2, on Jones Road off Main Street; and RCI 3, the former Polaroid campus at 1265 Main Street.

Ward 8 Councilor Cathyann Harris addresses the council about the override. Photo by Artie Kronenfeld.

The road to a veto

On July 1 McCarthy vetoed the portion of the zoning amendments covering the Bay Colony. In her statement of objections, McCarthy questioned why the Bay Colony should receive the same zoning benefits as the more transit-accessible RCI 2 and RCI 3.

The veto came after months of work on the proposals by both city leaders and the developers that own the land.

The City Council hired CommunityScale LLC to review Waltham's zoning ordinances. In April the city solicitor asked the consultant to conduct a peer review of the proposed RCI overlay districts.

The real estate companies that own the three lots, BXP Inc. and 1265 Main Street LLC, have agreed to build no more than 2000 housing units across the three properties, and requested lower parking

minimums because of the districts' shared-use design. Still, the review estimated that the three districts could accommodate 5,990 residential units and more than 14 million square feet of commercial floor area, which would require 36,296 parking spaces at maximum buildout.

McCarthy also raised concerns about car access to the Bay Colony properties and the effect development could have on nearby neighborhoods.

She did not attend Monday's City Council meeting.

Arguments from the council

The City Council spent close to a year refining the zoning plan through three public hearings, a neighborhood meeting and dozens of Ordinances and Rules Committee meetings. City Council President Robert G. Logan also noted that the council had unanimously voted to approve the zoning plan in June.

"Waltham has been an industrial community for a long time," Logan said. "If you look, there's an eagle and a beaver on top of City Hall. The symbols of freedom and industry. We've always reinvented ourselves, but we're at a crossroads right now."

He pointed to neighboring communities such as Watertown and Burlington, which he said have revitalized growth by allowing more mixed-use development. Waltham's vacant commercial lots, he argued, limit the city's commercial tax base and reduce revenue, shifting more of the tax burden onto residential property owners.

City councilors in their deliberations on Monday night addressed some of McCarthy's concerns about the plan for the Bay Colony, including traffic and zoning density.

Ward 8 Councilor Cathyann Harris emphasized that the City Council would be able to address many of the mayor's concerns when BXP and 1265 Main Street LLC come back in for special permits to build any new housing.

She also noted economic and community benefits tied to the rezoning project, including nearby traffic improvements funded by the state and BXP. "These are game changers for the city," Harris said.

City Council Vice President Randy LeBlanc cast the lone vote against overriding the veto, saying he was disappointed that the council had not to date worked more closely with the mayor to address her concerns. He said his vote was not a criticism of the Ordinances and Rules Committee's work, an opposition to housing or an effort to align himself with the mayor.

Tom Benavides, founder and policymaker of housing advocacy group Waltham Inclusive Neighborhoods, said he is thankful for the work that the City Council contributed over the past eight months to ensure that the RCI zoning districts be approved.

Benavides called the mayor's veto "reckless."

"By vetoing after the fact, she was in effect putting all this infrastructure money at risk, including the housing investment in our tax base," he said.

Benavides said Waltham is in a housing affordability crisis as with the rest of the region and the RCI plan will help mitigate this issue.

“More housing is essential, so that not only our existing residents are not priced out through displacement and price pressures, but also so that new residents who come here to work and be educated, or just retire, live close to family can afford to live here,” Benavides said.

Authors

CHARLIE JOHNSON

Charlie Johnson is a freelance reporter covering stories across the Greater Boston area. A graduate of Boston University’s journalism program, he wrote for The Daily Free Press in the Campus News and City News sections and reported for Brookline.News through BU’s pilot Newsroom program. Most recently, he covered local government, business, housing and community news for Fig City News in Newton.

ARTIE KRONENFELD

Artie Kronenfeld is a Waltham-based reporter who enjoys writing about policy and administration that affect people’s everyday lives. Previously hailing from Toronto, they’re a former editor-in-chief of the University of Toronto’s flagship student paper The Varsity. You can find them during off-work hours playing niche RPGs, wandering through Haymarket and making extra spreadsheets that nobody asked for.

Comments (2)

BOB • AUGUST 7, 2026 AT 4:39 AM

The mayor is right. What are the long term costs for the city? Police, fire, schools, trash. The taxes they are adding up do not cover it. The math doesn’t add up but yet we have councilors saying this is great. One here celebrating traffic improvements. What a joke! Where has the city made improvements that actually work? The problem is we have to many people living in a city that the infrastructure can’t handle. The streets can only handle so many cars. What about new fire stations or new police cars that are going to be needed for almost 6 thousand new homes? How many homes do we need for this so called crisis? It is talking points that have no real numbers. It’s called supply and demand. The city isn’t made to have 8-10 new apartments. The police and fire are still at the size they were in the 60s. Traffic is at an all time high. Stop over developing. We need councilors who actually have the best in mind for the residents and not the developers. Who’s getting kick backs

Reply

BRAD ONKEN • AUGUST 5, 2026 AT 10:46 AM

This was a major moment for Waltham, and I’m really grateful to the councilors who stepped up and voted to override the veto. The Council showed real foresight here. By approving this overlay, they’re taking on three massive challenges all at once: fixing our bottlenecked West Side roadways with developer-funded infrastructure, doing our part to address the regional housing crisis, and stabilizing our commercial tax base so residents don’t keep getting hit with 5% tax increases every year. Repositioning those half-empty office parks along 128 just makes sense. Thank you to the Council for keeping their eyes on the big picture and looking out for Waltham’s future.

Reply

City Council in brief: Packed meeting addresses union agreements, new government building and more

BY ARTIE KRONENFELD & CHARLIE JOHNSON • GOVERNMENT • AUGUST 4, 2026

Waltham City Hall on the evening of August 3, 2026. Photo by The Waltham Times.

Waltham City Hall on the evening of August 3, 2026. Photo by The Waltham Times.

An unusually large crowd packed the City Council chambers at Monday's special summer meeting, waiting to hear if councilors would override Mayor Jeannette A. McCarthy's veto of a zoning change that would allow housing in a western Waltham office park.

Many attendees stayed well past midnight for the final ruling on the council floor, where councilors finally voted 12-1 to override McCarthy's veto.

The rest of the night, however, was very busy, as councilors addressed issues surrounding roadwork, employee pay raises and more over the course of nearly six hours.

City pay raises

Councilors funded pay raises from a newly negotiated three-year agreement with the Teamsters' union, which covers some city employees who do physically labor-intensive jobs, including staff in the Public Works, Wires and Recreation departments as well as the Waltham Public Library.

The Teamsters' contract had expired in 2025. Similar to recent contracts with the managers' and mechanics' unions, the new Teamsters' agreement includes a 0.5% raise to union members' salaries for 2026 and an additional 2.5% raise for 2027. The city also agreed to pay for training and implemented new guidelines around days off.

Councilors also voted to increase pay at the same rates for nonunion workers, which include department heads, administrative staff and staff who can't enroll in unions because they handle confidential city data, such as some Law Department and Accounting Department employees. The council also ratified promotions and raises it accepted as a part of the June city budget.

The city still has to negotiate new contracts with its public safety unions: two Police Department unions, a Fire Department union and a dispatchers' union. The city's School Department still must address contracts for five of its employees' unions. Only the teachers in the Waltham Educators Association currently have a contract, which they achieved in February. Negotiations for the remaining unions' contracts are ongoing, entering their 13th month.

City center expansion

After a long discussion held in executive session and closed to the public, the council's Committee of the Whole emerged to approve the purchase of 600 Main St., located directly across from City Hall. Mayor Jeannette A. McCarthy first floated the acquisition in May, proposing to buy the building and its adjoining parking lot for $8.6 million to house additional city offices.

Councilors agreed to let the current occupant, BrightBridge Credit Union, remain in the building for the next three years.

Additionally, the City Council

- Allowed the owner of a lot at 20 Gale St. to break open the street for utilities work as part of plans to replace the property's current house with two single-family homes.
- Allowed the owner of a lot at 181–185 Felton St. to withdraw a petition to include all of the lot in the Riverfront Overlay District, which currently overlaps with half of it.
- Appointed Debra Catalanotti to the Council on Aging and Diane Lane to the Board of Cemetery Commissioners.
- Approved $11,809.14 to purchase geolocation tools for the Engineering Department to update its geographical records.
- Denied a request for expansion of mixed-use zoning on Jones Road to a neighboring lot owned by Ferris Development Group LLC. Councilor-at-Large Emma Tzioumis voted against the denial, and Councilor-at-large Colleen Bradley-MacArthur voted "present."
- Discussed renaming the former high school at 617 Lexington St. and other buildings in the school district.
- Heard a proposal for a fast food permit for Cava, a Mediterranean food chain that plans to move into a newly redeveloped building at 96 Tower Road alongside salad chain Sweetgreen. The council will revisit the petition at its Oct. 13 meeting.
- Preliminarily approved nearly $1.7 million to update final portions of the city's 911 radio system that Fire Chief Andrew Mullin said was reaching end-of-life. The council also approved a $1,000 donation to the Fire Department from AI biotechnology company Revvity for fire suppression training and prevention.
- Voted to award Doug Waybright, president of the Waltham Chamber of Commerce, the Kevin M. Ritcey Public Service award for 2026. Although Ward 4 Councilor John McLaughlin originally nominated Stacy Tully for the award, he amended his vote to give Waybright a unanimous nomination.

Comments (2)

JULIE CHAMBERLIN • AUGUST 5, 2026 AT 11:40 AM

"blah, blah, blah…we're getting a Sweetgreen!…blah, blah, blah." (-;

Reply

LISA FRUITT • AUGUST 5, 2026 AT 8:13 AM

Was there any decision on the hotel on Moody? This has dragged on way too long!

Reply

City Council declines to name school facility for John Daddona, honors Robert Eagle with arts wing instead

BY LEA ZAHARONI • NEWS • AUGUST 4, 2026

The City Council took up two separate renaming requests for the educational facility at 617 Lexington St. at its Aug. 3 meeting.

Currently, 617 Lexington St. houses the Valor School, the Dual Language School, and the school district's central office. Plans are underway to use the campus for a myriad of other purposes, including a public preschool and a community center.

The council's Licenses and Franchises Committee declined one request from Mayor Jeannette A. McCarthy to name the whole campus for the late superintendent John Daddona, and approved a request from Ward 7 Councilor Paul S. Katz to name its west wing for longtime educator Robert "Bob" Eagle.

McCarthy had originally requested that Northeast Elementary School be renamed in honor of Daddona. After outcry from the Northeast community at a School Committee public hearing, the mayor revised her request and asked that Daddona's name be given to 617 Lexington St., as proposed by a resident during the initial public hearing about renaming Northeast.

Councilor-at-Large Emma Tzioumis paid close attention to the Northeast community's reaction, and thought Daddona's name shouldn't be on the elementary school or 617 Lexington St. She said the former high school is a "building in flux," referring to changes made since Waltham High School moved to its new location, and it is not a good time to spend money on signage that might change in the near future.

Eventually, the Licenses and Franchises Committee voted to place the request to rename Northeast on file and closed out the dispute. The request to rename 617 Lexington St. was denied. Tzioumis suggested the city look for a different, more inclusive way to recognize Daddona and other educators going forward, rather than naming buildings.

A different approach for a different name

However, the Licenses and Franchises Committee did approve a separate request from Katz to rename the west wing of 617 Lexington St. after Bob Eagle, a 92-year-old retired educator for Waltham Public Schools.

The west wing houses the Reagle Theatre, a dance studio and art classrooms. The renaming will not affect the Dual Language School or the Valor School, whose campuses are in different parts of the building.

Katz described Eagle as the driving force behind the Reagle Theatre's high-quality performances since its earliest days in 1969. Eagle was also a nearly 50-year teacher in Waltham.

The request does not rename the theatre or the whole building. Instead, it designates the broader west section of the facility as an arts complex named for Eagle.

For now, Daddona's name will not be honored with any school building. However, the councilors asked the School Committee to draft a new proposal for a possible tribute to the late educator.

Correction posted Aug. 7, 1:30 p.m.: The article incorrectly stated that the renaming requests were discussed by the Ordinances and Rules Committee. They were actually discussed by the Licenses and Franchises Committee.

Author

LEA ZAHARONI

Lea Zaharoni is a recent graduate of Brandeis University, where she majored in American Studies and Journalism. She spent most of her time at school working as General Manager of the student radio station WBRS 100.1, which broadcasts live 24/7 on Waltham FM radio. She's also written for Brandeis' student newspaper, the Justice, as well as the Irish Independent in Dublin and Dig Boston. Lea loves exploring new places in town and returning to old favorites, and counts herself very lucky to be a part of the Waltham community.

Elections 2026: David Solet

BY CYD ABNET • ELECTIONS • AUGUST 6, 2026

Cambridge resident David Solet is challenging Marian Ryan for the office of Middlesex District Attorney in the Sept. 1 primary.

David Solet, a former prosecutor in the Middlesex District Attorney's Office, is challenging Marian Ryan for the DA position.

Solet, who had worked with and for Ryan during his 24 years as a prosecutor, is Ryan's only challenger in the Democratic primary race.

Solet resigned from the DA's office last September to run for the Middlesex DA position and launched his campaign in Dec. 2025. Solet said he's committed to seeking justice for all residents of Middlesex County, a motto displayed prominently on his campaign website.

From Harvard Law to Prosecutor of the Year

Solet, a Cambridge native, earned a bachelor's degree from Princeton University and a law degree from Harvard Law School in 2001. That same year, Solet started in the Middlesex DA's Office as a prosecutor for domestic violence and organized crime cases.

Solet left that role from 2015 to 2019 to serve as Gov. Charlie Baker's chief legal counsel for public safety. He returned to the Middlesex DA's Office in 2019 and served as the chair of the Conviction Integrity Committee. He was voted 2025

Prosecutor of the Year by the Middlesex DA's Office.

Additionally, Solet served as chief of the Middlesex County Cold Case Homicide Unit from 2019 to 2025, during which time he and his team solved more than a dozen cases.

Solet is also a major in the Judge Advocate General's Corps of the U.S. Army Reserve, serving as a defense attorney for soldiers and a special victims counsel for sexual assault victims.

Disagreements with the current DA

Solet is running against Ryan because he believes she hasn't done enough to protect the people of Massachusetts. He listed examples he said illustrate his claim.

To start, he pointed to an interaction he had with Ryan during the 2019 election, saying he encouraged her to prioritize fixing a legal loophole that makes it harder for prosecutors to hold suspects in jail on grounds of dangerousness.

"She said to me, 'I don't want that responsibility, because if I had it and we didn't use it right, people could blame us,'" Solet recounted.

Solet helped draft a bill to close that loophole but it did not pass. He said the bill's failure has impacted public safety, citing a 2024 incident in which a 13-year-old girl was abducted and killed by her abuser while out on bail. Solet believes the crime could have been prevented if the man had been imprisoned on grounds of dangerousness during his pretrial proceedings, but it was not legally possible. When asked about the case later, Solet said Ryan stated that the law did not allow them to detain the man.

"Which is true," Solet said, "but it was something that we had known for five years at that point. And [Ryan] specifically decided not to try to fix it. And even after that girl was killed, she has not lifted a finger to reform the law."

Pushing for a change in direction

If elected, Solet promises to speak out for what he believes is right even if there may be political repercussions for him, something he says Ryan does not do.

Solet supports the elimination of the statute of limitations on sexual assault cases where DNA evidence is present. A bill passed on July 24 by Gov. Maura Healey lifted the statute of limitations for prosecuting sexual assault cases if there is conclusive DNA evidence pointing to a suspect. While Ryan has publicly supported this starting in Dec. 2025, Solet says this hasn't always been the case.

Solet and his team solved a 1980 rape case with DNA evidence but couldn't prosecute due to the statute of limitations. Solet said he had asked Ryan to support the elimination of the statute for cases with DNA evidence but said Ryan didn't because, quoting her as saying "not everyone would agree."

"The day after my campaign website went up, [Ryan] called a press conference to announce that she was calling for the reform of the statute of limitations. When she spoke out in December, it seems to me that the only thing that changed was the political dynamics. Left to her own devices, she would have buried this issue," Solet said.

When asked for a response to Solet's account of events and Ryan's comments, Ryan's campaign spokesperson Scott Ferson said, "Leadership is not about quibbling over who gets credit; it's about recognizing those who deserve it. The undisputed facts are that the idea for legislation creating a DNA exception to the statute of limitations did not originate in the Middlesex district attorney's office. District Attorney Ryan was proud to play a minor role in helping advance this worthy legislation towards its recent passage."

Ferson did not address the specific allegations Solet made regarding Ryan.

Solet, who lives Cambridge, has spent the past few months campaigning full-time. More than 28 public safety unions and associations, including the Waltham Superior Officers Association and the Waltham Police Patrol Union, have endorsed

Solet.

The Middlesex District Attorney primary will take place along with other primary races on Sept. 1 from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. at precinct locations around the city. Residents can use an online tool on the Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts website to find their polling location. Early voting for the primary takes place Aug. 22 through 28, though Waltham has not yet announced early voting locations.

Author

CYD ABNET

Cyd Abnet is a Waltham native who recently graduated with a degree in Environmental Science from Clark University. She began her journalism career with Clark's student newspaper where she covered topics from on-campus protests to competitive chess scandals. In her free time you can find Cyd enjoying Waltham's numerous natural wonders.

Comments (1)

JOHN S. ALLEN • AUGUST 7, 2026 AT 3:35 PM

I'm for Solet. Marian Ryan's issues go far beyond the ones mentioned in the article.
Ryan's Web site includes a report on a fatal crash whose conclusions are based on tampered evidence. My examination of this case:
https://cyclistvision.substack.com/publish/post/202761891
And in another crash, the report is completely absent and the DA's office made up its own story, shifting the blame:
https://cyclistvision.substack.com/p/bernard-lavins-crash-october-5-2016

Reply

2026 Election Profile: State Rep. John Lawn

BY CYD ABNET • ELECTIONS • AUGUST 4, 2026

From left to right, Rep. Thomas M. Stanley, Councilor-at-large Carlos A. Vidal and Rep. John J. Lawn. Photo by Isabella Lapriore.

Democrat John J. Lawn, state representative for the Massachusetts 10th Middlesex District since 2011, is running for reelection in September's primary. The 10th Middlesex District represents portions of Newton, Waltham and Watertown.

Lawn said he's seeking another term because he feels there is much left to do. "I love this job, I love the ability to help people. That's why I do it," he said.

Lawn grew up in Watertown and received a bachelor's degree in political science and sociology from Merrimack College. He has five children and two dogs and lives with his wife in Watertown. Before his time in the Massachusetts Statehouse, Lawn was a real estate business owner and Watertown city councilor. He said his time as a city councilor set the foundation for his career as a state representative.

"It really gives you the tools to understand challenges at a local level," Lawn said in a July interview with The Waltham Times.

Lawn has run uncontested in his last five general elections, winning around 98% of the vote each time. This year he's facing a primary challenge from Newton City Councilor Alison Leary, who also ran against him in 2020. In that election Lawn received 52.7% of votes, and Leary received 47.2%. This year's winner will be on the Nov. 3 general election ballot. There is no Republican challenger.

Lawn has received many endorsements for the 2026 primary. He was endorsed by Gov. Maura Healey on Aug. 3. He has also received endorsements from U.S. Sen. Ed Markey, Waltham Mayor Jeannette A. McCarthy and Waltham city councilors Sean Durkee, Carlos Vidal, Tom Stanley, Randy LeBlanc, Cathyann Harris, Paul Brasco, Joey LaCava, Robert Logan, Tim King and Anthony LaFauci.

Lawn's advocacy on healthcare

Lawn serves as chairperson of the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing, a state committee that deals with funding of healthcare programs and healthcare policy. He believes that keeping his position as state representative is important to the mission of the committee.

"We right now are challenged with the Trump administration's cuts to our healthcare system, so I work daily to provide the best possible healthcare access we can. It's something I've been working on for six years," said Lawn.

While he sees himself as an important component, Lawn said he recognizes that such work is a group effort.

"Nothing gets done here alone. You need to work with others, you need to have relationships. No legislation gets passed by yourself," Lawn said. "I really focus a lot of my time on building relationships with my colleagues and understanding their challenges."

John J. Lawn speaks on health care worker safety. Courtesy of the office of Rep. John J. Lawn.

Lawn recently sponsored legislation to provide funding for graduate-level studies in primary care as well as fund studies to figure out how to support primary care statewide. Additionally, Lawn and the committee as a whole are exploring the possibility of a single-payer healthcare system.

The committee under Lawn's direction has allocated money to organizations in Waltham such as Waltham Community Farm's VegRx program and Healthy Waltham. Lawn said he is working closely with the Waltham City Council and Mayor Jeannette A. McCarthy to make the city's South Side more pedestrian friendly through improvements to sidewalks and crosswalks.

Recent legislation that Lawn has been involved in includes a bill for establishing a commission on aging disabled adults, a bill to provide diaper changing stations in all public buildings and a bill to protect vulnerable adults from financial exploitation. None of these bills has been signed into law yet.

Lawn had an 81% roll call attendance record in the 2025 legislative session, missing 22 out of 116 roll call votes. Out of the 159 Massachusetts representatives, he was among the two who had the highest number of missed recorded roll call votes. Lawn said that the missed votes are due to a planned vacation that was not properly communicated to the Statehouse.

Personal testimony on abuse

In a May 2026 op-ed in The Boston Globe, Lawn shared his story as a survivor of child sexual abuse and voiced his support to end the state's statute of limitations on the crime. "Trauma does not operate on a legal timeline," Lawn wrote in the article. "It can take years to recognize what happened, decades to speak it aloud and a lifetime to fully understand the harm."

Lawn helped pass legislation in 2014 that extended the statute of limitations of child sexual abuse crimes, and state lawmakers are studying a bill that he put forth seeking to eliminate the statute of limitations for civil child sexual abuse suits.

Additionally, Healey on July 24 signed a bill sponsored by Lawn that closes a loophole that allowed adults in positions of authority to claim that 16- and 17-year-olds consented to sexual acts.

July 2025 arrest

Lawn was arrested on July 16, 2025, after colliding with a parked truck and running two stop signs while operating under the influence of alcohol. Although he initially pleaded not guilty, Lawn ultimately pleaded guilty to the OUI charge as well as a charge of leaving the scene of a crash that caused property damage. He lost his license for 45 days and received a year of probation.

When asked about the incident in this interview, Lawn said he stood by the original statements he made to the media at the time. "I don't really think it's something that needs to be reported on again," he added.

The Massachusetts 10th Middlesex District representative primary will take place along with other primary races on Sept. 1 from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. at precinct locations around Waltham. Residents can use an online tool on the Secretary of the Commonwealth website to find their polling location. Early voting for the primary takes place Aug. 22-28, though Waltham has not announced locations for early voting yet.

Author

CYD ABNET

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Girl Scout Gold Award Project adds biodiverse beauty to Prospect Hill

BY CYD ABNET • NEWS • AUGUST 4, 2026

In response to the loss of native plants and pollinators worldwide, a Waltham Girl Scout installed a native plant garden at the Prospect Hill overlook as part of her Gold Award project.

A Gold Award is the highest achievement for a Girl Scout. To receive the award, a Girl Scout must independently complete an 80-hour project positively impacting their community.

Alaina Ferree, the architect of the native plant garden project, is a 2026 Waltham High School graduate and member of Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts. She will attend the University of California, Berkeley this fall to study earth and planetary science.

Alaina Ferree

While the project was planned independently, its execution was very much a community effort. Working with volunteers, Waltham Park Ranger Adam Green and Waltham Public Library, Ferree completed a multi-stage program to install the garden and educate the community.

A passion for conservation

The idea for the native plant garden came from Ferree's own passion for the environment and conservation.

"My project is about supporting biodiversity at a local level," Ferree said. "A native flower garden is a good way to do that."

Ferree spent time with Barbara Passero, owner of GirlMeadowscaping for Biodiversity, to learn about the installation, components and upkeep of native gardens. Passero donated the plants for the project and helped install the garden.

Amending the dry soil on the summit was the biggest hurdle to installing the garden. With an army of volunteers, Ferree was able to put in place both new soil and all of the plants. Some of the native plants included in the garden are butterfly milkweed, goldenrod, Joe Pye weed, wild aster and purple love grass.

In the first few months, Ferree and her friends brought water for the garden, but haven't watered the garden since.

"The benefit of native plants is that they come back every year but don't need maintenance," Ferree shared.

Ferree notes that, with climate change bringing higher temperatures earlier in the year, the garden's plant blooming cycle might not align with the pollinator life cycle. Despite this challenge, the garden still persists.

Library programs and long-lasting impact

While the lack of native plants and pollinators is a current issue, Ferree realized that generational awareness is needed to fully address the problem in the long term. To educate the next generation, she designed a program for children and their parents on the library's front lawn to learn about pollinators and native plants. The program included planting a butterfly milkweed plant to take home, coloring pages featuring native flowers from craft supplies.

“It was interesting because the planting at Prospect Hill was an older audience, but with the kids, it was more about fun and trying to put topics on their radar,” Ferree said.

After completing her project, Ferree thought, “‘That’s so exciting, I made this impact, and now the project is over.’” However, her perspective changed when she attended the Gold Award Ceremony at the Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts headquarters on Beaver Street.

Learning about other girls’ projects made her realize the longevity of her impact and that making change could be a part of her life, not just through the project, but in life going forward.

“It inspired me to keep going, and I can continue to do those types of things in the future,” Ferree said.

Those interested can visit the garden at the summit of Prospect Hill. There is no signage, intentionally, to keep the area as natural as possible.

Comments (2)

LIZ • AUGUST 5, 2026 AT 1:03 PM

As a Girl Scout Gold Award recipient and a hiker who is interested in gardening and native plants, I love this! Congratulations to Alaina for a job well done, and I look forward to seeing this garden next time I’m at Prospect Hill.

Reply

NANDITA • AUGUST 5, 2026 AT 8:36 AM

This is awesome! Prospect Hill is such a gem, and seeing it made even more vibrant with native planting is fantastic. Thank you for using your Gold Award project to make a real, lasting impact right here in Waltham!
see

Reply

Waltham's Jack Perry among winners of Rhode Island broadcasting scholarships

BY NEWSROOM • EDUCATION • AUGUST 4, 2026

A Waltham resident is one of three students awarded a family scholarship this year by the Rhode Island Broadcasters Association, the trade group announced.

Jack Perry

Jack Perry, a recent Boston University graduate and the son of WFD deputy chief Scott Perry and Heather Gersten Perry of Waltham, received one of the association's $2,000 RIBA Family Scholarships. He returns to Boston University in the fall to pursue a doctorate in physical therapy.

Perry graduated from Waltham High School in 2022 and was a star goalie on the Hawks hockey team for all four years. He earned a spot on BU's Division 1 team last year and played on BU's championship roller hockey team this year, which won the 2025-2026 NCRHA Division 1 National Championship in April.

"The person who has influenced me most is my mother, Heather Gersten Perry," Perry wrote in his scholarship application essay. "Through her work in radio broadcasting, she introduced me to the power of communication and human connection at an early age."

Perry grew up around a microphone. His mother co-hosts the "Heather and Matty" morning show on Lite 105, the Providence adult contemporary station WWLI-FM, where she has worked for more than two decades and also serves as assistant program director.

Perry has appeared on the air with her many times, beginning when he was 4 years old. He also entertained Lite Rock 105 listeners as an 8-year-old reporter with his popular "Jack's Playback" segments, in which he enthusiastically reenacted New England Patriots games, complete with play-by-play commentary.

Jack Perry as an 8-year-old Patriots radio reporter. Courtesy photo.

“Even to this day, that confidence he developed helps as he’s becoming a physical therapist – being able to talk to his patients and listen to them,” Gersten Perry said.

Gersten Perry has been on WWLI-FM since 2003 and will be inducted into the Rhode Island Radio Hall of Fame next month.

“We’re incredibly proud of Jack, and it means a lot to see his hard work recognized,” said Gersten Perry. “What makes me proudest is that he genuinely cares about other people.”

The family scholarships are open to employees of member stations of the Rhode Island Broadcasters Association and to their children. Applicants are judged on academic record, work and extracurricular activities, a letter of recommendation, a narrative essay and the care and attention to detail shown in the application itself.

The association awards five $2,000 scholarships each year. Winners are selected by a panel of broadcasters and broadcast association executives, and awards are announced in the summer.

The Rhode Island Broadcasters Association represents television and radio stations across southern New England.

Trainer Courtney Bourne champions fitness, athletics and student-athletes at WHS

BY JOSIE PROSKOCZILO • EDUCATION • AUGUST 4, 2026

Courtney Bourne, the head athletic trainer and physical fitness instructor at Waltham High School, has developed countless opportunities for students to become physically smarter, faster, and stronger.

Courtney Bourne demonstrates exercises for female athletes at Waltham High School. Courtesy photo.

Bourne started her career in athletics at WHS. She was a three-season athlete, playing soccer, basketball and lacrosse. Her competitive nature and love for fitness grew in the high school's weight room. "Athletic training and personal training fall hand in hand," said Bourne. Instructors and mentors from WHS helped teach Bourne the fundamentals of lifting and conditioning that continued to inspire her love of athletic and fitness training.

After an injury playing soccer, she learned about athletic training. It combined her love of both anatomy and sports.

After graduating high school in 2008, Bourne attended the University of New Hampshire, where she earned her undergraduate degree. She completed a master's degree at Southern New Hampshire University.

Returning to Waltham, Bourne has become a central part of athletics at WHS, where she's a mentor and instructor for student athletes.

Bourne frequently appears on the sidelines of games to provide emergency support and cheer on the Hawks. She aims to keep workouts enjoyable and competitive to keep athletes motivated. "They are a fun and light way to keep athletes motivated and in shape," she said. She emphasizes exercises that help

reduce the risk of injury. She stresses the importance of these movements, often telling students, “If you don’t move well, you don’t play well.”

During this summer and last, Bourne created a competitive showdown for female athletes, after noticing a lack of structured fitness for the girls’ sports teams at the school. “I saw the need and stepped up,” she said.

In Bourne’s Hawks Summer Showdown, female athletes compete as teams and individuals to gain the most points earned by working out. Workouts can include runs, self-guided training, games and practices or programs offered by Bourne. The showdown encourages accountability while also keeping fitness interesting and fun. Bourne caps the number of workouts athletes are allowed to do to earn points to reduce the risk of injury and allow bodies to recover, while promoting well-being and enjoyment for athletes.

The reception from female athletes has been huge. More than 160 female students participated in the first two years of the showdown.

Chloe Mancini is a rising sophomore who played soccer, basketball and softball during her first year at WHS. She participated in the showdown for the past two years. Mancini praised the program, saying, “This program has taught me accountability as an athlete and has also motivated me to push myself. Thanks to Courtney’s support, I entered my first high school soccer season feeling prepared.”

Bourne is now looking to expand the showdown to male athletes.

Bourne has also earned praise from colleagues.

Taylor Scafidi, the WHS field hockey coach, said Bourne “created opportunities for female athletes to feel comfortable in a weight room setting, which as a coach and former athlete, we know is a crucial aspect to being successful in your sport.”

Scafidi added, “I don’t know what we would do without Courtney as both an athletic trainer and an advocate for our female athletes. She deserves a lot of credit for the success of many girls.”

BIOGRAPHY:

Josephine Proskoczilo is a volunteer writer for The Waltham Times. She is a student at WHS heading into her senior year. She can be found playing softball, buzzing during a quizbowl match or singing in a rock band.

Author

JOSIE PROSKOCZILO

Josephine Proskoczilo is a volunteer writer for The Waltham Times. She is a student at WHS heading into her senior year. She can be found playing softball, buzzing during a quizbowl match or singing in a rock band.

Waltham Common concert draws big summer crowd

BY COLLEEN CROTTY BRENNAN • ARTS & CULTURE • AUGUST 5, 2026

The Watch City Cadillacs serenade the crowd from the bandstand on Waltham Common. Photo by Tim Lok.

One of the larger crowds of the summer filled Waltham Common on Aug. 2 for a performance by the Watch City Cadillacs, the popular local band known for doo-wop-style rock 'n' roll hits of the 1950s and '60s.

The concert also served as an occasion to honor Patti Strom, who received a shout-out for 15 years of volunteer service to the Waltham Arts Council.

Among the concertgoers were Julie and her canine companion, Jasmine, and Jeff and Abby, who took in the music over a picnic supper on the lawn.

Author

COLLEEN CROTTY BRENNAN

Retired educator and Waltham resident since 2021, Colleen is happy to be part of a team bringing news and information to the people of Waltham to strengthen and enliven the civic and cultural life in our city.

A great alternative to pinot grigio

BY LISA FRUITT AND GARY MARKOWITZ • NEWS • AUGUST 6, 2026

Try the Marramiero Pecorino d'Abruzzo at Pizzeria Enzina

When you hear the word "Pecorino," you likely think of Pecorino Romano, that tangy hard cheese perfect for grating over fettuccini carbonara. But when you hear about a delicious Pecorino d'Abruzzo, we hope you'll think of the zingy white wine from the Abruzzo region that is perfect for pairing with classic Italian cuisine—and a better match than pinot grigio. We discovered Pecorino d'Abruzzo a few years ago and were delighted to find it on the menu at Pizzeria Enzina, one of Waltham's top Italian restaurants.

If you've never tasted Pecorino d'Abruzzo, you're not alone. The grape languished in obscurity for much of the 20th century until some producers revived it in the 1980s. Ranging in color from the palest yellow to deep gold, Pecorino d'Abruzzo wines are typically dry and aromatic, with lots of citrus and limestone on the nose and peaches and pears on the palate.

Enzina serves the 2021 Marramiero Pecorino d'Abruzzo at a very reasonable $14 a glass. Crisp and bone dry, the wine balances its citrus and stone fruit flavors with a tiny hint of cream on the long finish. It stood up beautifully to the spaghetti with garlic confit and paired well with the tagliatelle bolognese. Enzina's house-made pastas are every bit as good as their celebrated pizza, especially the bolognese, which is VinoDuo's benchmark for a great Italian restaurant.

Experimenting with a new wine can be daunting. But if pinot grigio is your go-to for an Italian white, we heartily recommend taking a chance on Pecorino d'Abruzzo. Its bright flavors and refreshing minerality are the ideal complement to your next Italian meal.

Waltham donors step up to help students prepare for school

BY BETTY BARRER • COMMUNITY • AUGUST 6, 2026

A volunteer from the Waltham Police Department and Captain Marsha Barter help Emily, a local student, choose a new notebook at The Salvation Army's "Tools for School" school supply giveaway, Aug. 11, 2025. (The Salvation Army/Heather MacFarlane).

A shiny new school year is about to begin, with Waltham public schools opening Sept. 2. However, back-to-school means new expenses. According to the National Retail Federation, families will spend an average of $570 per school-aged child on clothing, shoes and school supplies this year, driving many to worry about how inflation and tighter wallets might hinder their ability to buy them.

But in Waltham, families in need are not unseen. Waltham nonprofits and businesses are busy setting up programs to help families get school supplies and clothes.

"Providing basic supplies like notebooks and pencils may seem small," noted Capt. Marsha Barter of the Salvation Army of Waltham, "but for the families we serve, they're powerful tools that help children thrive in school."

Here's a round-up of what Walthamites are doing.

Upcoming Events

On Aug. 10, the Salvation Army is hosting its annual Tools for School: Backpack and School Supply Giveaway for families from Waltham, Watertown and Newton from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The event, occurring at 33 Myrtle St. and sponsored by the Lions Club, will also provide snacks, activities and other giveaways, as well as long-term wraparound resources for

families. For the event, the Salvation Army fills 800 backpacks with school supplies. Adults need to accompany their children and show ID and the children's birth certificates.

On Aug. 25, from 12 to 2 p.m., at the Whittemore School, Global Thrift will provide 100 backpacks filled with school supplies for Whittemore families. Global Thrift is also offering Whittemore families additional supplies, new clothing, books and toys. It's the second year for the used goods store to help local students.

On Aug. 27, Village Bank is holding its second annual back-to-school event at Embassy Park, behind 220 Moody St., from 2 to 6 p.m. The bank will distribute about 200 to 250 backpacks. The event also features free kids' haircuts from MOBAR Cuts, face painting, music from DJ Shaw, an ice cream truck and free refreshments.

Healthy Waltham will be giving away backpacks and other school supplies at its biweekly food distribution at 25 School St., either Aug. 27 or Sept. 10; check its social media channels for details. Preregistration is encouraged.

How other groups are helping

Potter Place Clubhouse is collecting backpacks and other school supplies for underprivileged Waltham children through the end of August. The Clubhouse offers a daytime meeting space for people over age 18 with formal mental health diagnoses, with the goal of "recovery through work." The collection is the first in a revived effort to have regular drives, according to community coordinator Gianni Storti, reflecting Potter Place's commitment to give back to the community while fostering meaningful service or work opportunities for Clubhouse members.

The recipient of the Clubhouse donations, the Waltham Partnership for Youth, has run similar programs for four years, distributing backpacks and other school supplies throughout the Waltham public schools. In addition, supplies are available through WPY's Welcome Center, which serves immigrant families new to the district.

Another local source of help is the nonprofit Cradles to Crayons Boston, which supplies 70,000 backpacks annually to more than 130 nonprofits and school districts across the state.

This past spring, the Boston Heroes Club at Chapel Hill–Chauncy Hall School in Waltham raised almost $4,000 — four times more than expected — for backpacks for indigent students. The club organized a week of fundraising and community events at the school, according to club founder and president Benjamin Mulderry. Funds were donated to Youth Villages' Backpack Heroes Campaign, which distributed the supplies to needy kids at risk of foster care throughout New England.

How Waltham Times readers can help

Potter Place Clubhouse is collecting backpacks and new school supplies (notebooks, binders, pens, pencils, crayons, colored pencils, erasers and pencil sharpeners) at 15 Vernon St., weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., through the end of August. Call 781-894-5302 for more information.

Healthy Waltham is accepting donations of new backpacks and other new school supplies such as pencil cases, crayons, and spiral notebooks for its event. Email info@healthy-waltham.org to arrange drop-off.

Cradles to Crayons accepts new and like-new clothing and shoes for children of all ages, as well as new school supplies and hygiene items year-round.

For more information about Boston Heroes Club and its partner organization, Boston Independent Schools and Camps (BISC) Initiative, visit the website.

Author

BETTY BARRER

Betty Barrer retired as a senior editor after almost two decades at the Massachusetts Medical Society, focusing on the NEJM Journal Watch newsletter series. Previously, she was a freelance editor and writer, which included a stint at the Massachusetts Municipal Association. A Waltham resident since 2010, she enjoys the city's lively and diverse community.

Man with multiple warrants arrested on Pond Street

BY CYD ABNET • PUBLIC SAFETY • AUGUST 6, 2026

A homeless man from Waltham with four outstanding warrants was arrested on two new charges and arraigned this week at Waltham District Court.

On July 27, two plainclothes Waltham Police officers arrived at an address in Waltham where Matthew A. Marujo, 26, was rumored to be staying. According to the police report, Marujo had outstanding warrants issued by Somerville District Court, Cambridge District Court and Brookline District Court.

An officer wearing a National Grid safety vest and a hard hat knocked on the residence's door and stated that he was there to "check on something from yesterday." Although the apartment's occupants didn't come outside, the undercover officer and a second officer spotted Marujo and another resident behind the building.

When he saw the police officers, Marujo fled on a bicycle despite repeated commands to stop. According to the police report, Marujo was eventually apprehended by a uniformed officer on Pond Street.

Marujo pleaded not guilty on July 28 to charges of resisting arrest and disorderly conduct. Judge Ellen M. Caulo released Marujo on personal recognizance. He will face a hearing to review the status of his case on Aug. 25.

Additional court activity

Waltham District Court. Photo by Isabella Lapriore.

Michael R. Owens, 34, of Waltham, was indicted on June 23 for charges of trafficking cocaine in an amount of over 200 grams and conspiracy to violate drug law. The charges stem from a Suburban Middlesex County Drug Task Force operation in April. The charges were dismissed with a nolle prosequi motion, meaning the state decided not to pursue them. A nolle prosequi motion allows the state to refile the charges within the statute of limitations of the crime.

Additionally, Owens pleaded guilty to a charge of disturbing the peace stemming from an event in Waltham in March. Based on data available in MassCourts, it is unclear what penalty Owens will face for this charge.

Anticious Quaheem McGhee, 26, of Malden, pleaded not guilty on July 30 to a charge of assault and battery on a family or household member and a charge of intimidation of a witness, juror or police or court official. The police report is currently impounded, so there is no further information on the case. McGhee was released on personal recognizance by Judge Sarah Kennedy and will face a pretrial hearing on Sept. 15.

Edson L. Ngoran, 30, of Cambridge, pleaded not guilty on July 30 to one count of trafficking cocaine in 36 grams or more but less than 100 grams, one count of trafficking cocaine in 18 grams or more but less than 36 grams and one count of possession to distribute cocaine. The charges are in connection with an investigation in Waltham conducted by the Suburban Middlesex County Drug Task Force. Ngoran is being held at Middlesex Jail in lieu of posting bail by order of Kennedy. He will face a probable cause hearing for his case on Aug. 25.

Luis Suchite Garcia, 38, of Waltham, pleaded not guilty on Aug. 3 to three counts of assault and battery on a family or household member, one count of strangulation or suffocation and one count of threatening to commit a crime. The charges stem from an alleged incident at a residence in Waltham. Suchite Garcia was released on personal recognizance by Caulo and will face a probable cause hearing on Aug. 10.

Francia I. Aybar Sanchez, 34, of Waltham, pleaded not guilty on Aug. 3 to one charge of assault and battery on a family or household member and one charge of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon. The charges relate to an event that occurred at a residence in Waltham. Caulo released Aybar Sanchez on personal recognizance. A pretrial hearing for this case will take place on Sept. 29.

Author

CYD ABNET

Cyd Abnet is a Waltham native who recently graduated with a degree in Environmental Science from Clark University. She began her journalism career with Clark's student newspaper where she covered topics from on-campus protests to competitive chess scandals. In her free time you can find Cyd enjoying Waltham's numerous natural wonders.

Plan to end protections for Haitian immigrants could be ‘huge detriment’ in Waltham, says business leader

BY DAVID E. GUMPERT • BUSINESS • AUGUST 6, 2026

Molyna Richards, Executive Director of the Waltham Chamber of Commerce.

The Trump administration’s plan to end temporary protected status, or TPS, for Haitians living in the United States could have a significant impact on Waltham businesses and the level of services they provide.

Molyna Richards, executive director of the Waltham Chamber of Commerce, told the Waltham Times that the effects probably won’t be visible for at least a few weeks, but the city should brace itself for the noticeable changes.

“By next month I think it will be a huge detriment,” she said.

Haitians are prominent in service occupations, including home healthcare, hotels, home delivery and elder care.

Around 155,000 Haitians in the United States were afforded Temporary Protected Status between 2010 and 2021 because of natural disasters and political instability in their home country. President Trump has moved to rescind TPS for Haitians. The U.S. Supreme Court earlier this year ruled that Trump could end TPS without judicial review. The administration officially ended the status July 27, although ongoing court appeals could delay its implementation further.

Richards predicts two levels of effects from the ending of TPS.

First is the effect on Waltham’s Haitian population, some of whom could be deported back to Haiti and some of whom could experience discrimination from employers who don’t want to risk the uncertainty of employing individuals who could be under extra scrutiny from immigration authorities. “There may be a fear that if you keep a Haitian worker, your business could be exposed to ICE scrutiny,” Richards said.

The second is the impact of losing Haitian workers in key service areas — healthcare, senior living, hotels, and janitorial and cleaning services, an impact that could be felt by customers and employers.

Richards said it’s difficult to assess how impactful the end of TPS will be in Waltham due to the absence of data on how many Haitians reside and are employed in the city.

Even before the ending of TPS for Haitians, fear among Waltham immigrants was running high, Richards said.

“I have had several [Chamber of Commerce] members tell me about employees who went back to their home countries and were not allowed back in” to the United States.

She said some members have also told her that Guatemalan employees were detained by U.S. officials when they tried to return to the United States after visits to their home countries.

Richards said she plans to work with the Massachusetts Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development to develop information and training for employers on how to handle immigration issues and protect employee rights.

Suspected breakfast thief turns out to be a paying hotel guest

BY CYD ABNET • PUBLIC SAFETY • AUGUST 9, 2026

A man whom staff suspected was a breakfast thief at a Waltham hotel turned out to be a paying guest.

On Aug. 5 at 6:35 a.m., police responded to the Residence Inn on Second Avenue. The caller, a hotel worker, was concerned that a patron at the hotel's free breakfast was not a guest. The caller said the man wouldn't identify himself when asked if he was a guest, which furthered suspicion.

Police located the man, who showed officers he was a hotel guest. The staff was satisfied with the outcome, and the police left.

A summary of additional police activity from Aug. 1 to Aug. 4 is as follows:

On Aug. 1 at 2:47 a.m., police responded to reports of a suspicious incident at Hilton Garden Inn on Totten Pond Road. A hotel guest reported that someone tried to open her room door, but the security latch inside prevented them from entering. Investigating officers learned that another guest had locked himself out of his room and tried a couple of doors down the hallway to see if they would open.

On Aug. 1 at 4:17 p.m., a woman arrived at the Waltham police station on Lexington Street while on the phone with a scammer. She reportedly had made a legitimate purchase and was trying to make a second purchase of the same item. She had called a phone number to make the order but was instead told to download specific software and purchase gift cards for payment. She realized she was being scammed and went to the police before she lost any money.

On Aug. 1 at 4:21 a.m., police responded to an apartment building on Willow Street. A man had entered the wrong apartment in the middle of the night looking for someone. The residents of the apartment escorted the man out before police arrived. Officers were unable to make contact with the person the man was trying to locate.

On Aug. 2 at 12:43 p.m., police responded to reports of vandalism on Winter Street. A woman visiting a friend had parked in a numbered parking spot at an apartment complex because the guest parking was full. When she went back to her car, she found that two of her tires had been slashed. Police are investigating.

On Aug. 3 at 9:09 a.m., police responded to reports of a collision between a bike and a motor vehicle near the Farwell Street bridge. It was raining heavily, and the driver of the car reportedly didn't see the e-bike and its rider making a turn. The car struck the wheel of the bike. The rider had minor injuries but refused treatment and hospital transportation.

On Aug. 4 at 12:17 p.m., police responded to reports of a suspicious incident on Main Street. A property manager was advised by tenants that someone had attached a camera to the building but didn't know who did it. The property manager wanted it documented.

On Aug. 4 at 11:36 p.m., police responded to reports of a suspicious incident on Bolton Street. The caller reported that he saw men fighting and then, when they were leaving the area, witnessed their pickup truck hit a parked car. Officers checked camera footage, identified the group and cited the operator of the vehicle for the collision.

All information was obtained from spokespeople with the Waltham Police department, the publicly available police blotter and police reports available at Waltham District Court.

Cat mom and son seek a loving home

BY THE CAT CONNECTION • COMMUNITY • AUGUST 4, 2026

Meet a beautiful orange-and-white mother-and-son duo: Amal and Flash.

A devoted mama, 3-year-old Amal showers her 2-year-old son, Flash, with lots of affection. He adores her right back. They are both absolute sweethearts — gentle, loving, and easygoing.

Whether they're lounging side by side, sharing a sunny windowsill, or greeting you at the door, their calm, loving nature makes them a joy to be around. Together, they have a peaceful, comforting presence that's sure to fill your home with warmth.

This gorgeous pair is looking for a forever home where they can stay together and bring double the purrs, cuddles, and joy.

If you have a peaceful home, a gentle touch, and room in your heart for two beautiful souls, Amal and Flash are ready to meet you!

If you are interested in adopting, please fill out our online adoption application.

Federal rule change could weaken protections for Waltham's historic properties.

BY LEA ZAHARONI • GOVERNMENT • AUGUST 9, 2026

A federal advisory board last month voted to support regulatory changes that could weaken protections for historic properties. It's a proposed new system of historic preservation that, if finalized, would not require local input on federally connected projects.

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation logo.

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation voted 16-5 on July 24 to advance a rewrite of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. The rule change is now under review by the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs.

Section 106 requires federal agencies to consider the impact of projects involving federal funds, permits or licenses on historic properties. In Massachusetts, a parallel state law applies the same rule to state-funded projects.

"This really does affect local commissions, local properties," said Jordan Tannenbaum, a former Advisory Council vice chairman who also served on the Waltham Historical Commission in the 1980s. "That's why it's so important for folks to be aware of this."

Under current rules, agencies must consult with local and state preservation officials to advance such projects. The rewrite would also endanger a requirement that agencies consult Native American tribes on projects that could affect tribal cultural sites.

In Waltham, the Historical Commission is regularly told about qualifying projects and can raise concerns if it believes a historic site is at risk.

The commission has recently handled several such cases, including a proposed cell antenna in the steeple of New Light Church. New Light Church occupies a structure built in 1870 and added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1989.

Other examples of Section 106 projects under review include the proposed demolition of an old house and barn near Beaver Street, once owned by the University of Massachusetts, and an ongoing exterior renovation of the Waltham Post Office at 776 Main St.

Because these projects involve the federal government, the historic sites get an extra layer of protection.

Now, the extra layer is at risk.

Mort Isaacson, chair of the Waltham Historical Commission, said he is skeptical that removing local input would save money or time, as Advisory Council Vice Chairman Travis Voyles, appointed by President Donald Trump, implied.

"It's not a bloated bureaucracy, from what I see," Isaacson said, pointing out that the commission is a volunteer board supported by a single part-time staff member. "Right now, it seems like the system is working. It prevents some harm to our historic resources."

That makes the proposed changes more frustrating, said Tannenbaum, noting that he opposes removing the federal government's obligation to invite local input into the process.

“What they’ve done is a travesty… they basically eviscerate the protections for historic and cultural properties,” he added.

Tannenbaum argued that the underlying law, the 1966 National Historic Preservation Act, requires public involvement in the review process and that the proposed rewrite conflicts with that requirement.

“The statute says the public has to be involved in this process,” said Tannenbaum, a lawyer who spent 10 years on the Advisory Council. “Now these regulations say the federal agencies can determine whether or not they want to involve the public. It’s a direct violation.”

The Waltham Post Office is on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places. Photo taken in 2010. Wikipedia.

Like Isaacson, he disputed that the rule change is needed to cut costs or delays, pointing to existing tools that streamline the process while keeping public input. He said consultation between local, state and federal officials has led to compromises that saved historic buildings and saved developers money.

The rule has not yet been finalized. Once published in the Federal Register, it will be open for public comment for 30 days. Consulting firms tracking the process expect publication before the end of 2026.

Advocacy groups contend that the public comment period is a real opportunity to change or stop the rule, noting that a proposed rule can be withdrawn or substantially revised before it’s finalized, but a final rule is hard to reverse. “That’s why we’re encouraging everyone to write to their [representatives, write to their senators, write to the Park Service, [write] wherever you can,” Tannenbaum said.

The Waltham Historical Commission is expected to discuss the proposal at its next meeting on Aug. 10. Any formal comment from the commission would require a vote of its members.

Author

LEA ZAHARONI

Lea Zaharoni is a recent graduate of Brandeis University, where she majored in American Studies and Journalism. She spent most of her time at school working as General Manager of the student radio station WBRS 100.1, which broadcasts live 24/7 on Waltham FM radio. She’s also written for Brandeis’ student newspaper, the Justice, as well as the Irish Independent in Dublin and Dig Boston. Lea loves exploring new places in town and returning to old favorites, and counts herself very lucky to be a part of the Waltham community.

Towns surrounding the Quabbin Reservoir protect the water for 2.7 million people in Eastern Mass

BY MATTEO PANGALLO • GOVERNMENT • AUGUST 9, 2026

They're getting financially starved in the process.

FROM THE COMMONWEALTH BEACON, ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED ON AUGUST 2, 2026

For nearly a century, residents in the towns around the Quabbin Reservoir have faithfully upheld one of our Commonwealth's most profound collective commitments: safeguarding clean, reliable water for Eastern Massachusetts. Although residents of those towns are, ironically, not given access to the water they protect and provide to some 2.7 million fellow Massachusetts residents, they have done this responsibly and at tremendous cost. Now, that cost has become unsustainable.

Take the town of Shutesbury, a Massachusetts community of 1,800 people on the western shore of Quabbin. One of every three acres in the town is held by the Commonwealth to protect the reservoir. That land is permanently blocked from development, permanently removed from the town's tax base—and permanently vital to the survival of Boston and the other Eastern Massachusetts communities the reservoir serves. Yet the financial arrangement that compensates Shutesbury for this sacrifice treats the land as almost worthless, and costs Shutesbury residents over $3 million every year.

Shutesbury's fiscal year 2026 town budget was $7.8 million. Like many towns, it depends on ever-increasing residential property taxes to pay that cost. Unlike many towns, it cannot slow those tax increases through development.

Shutesbury lacks a commercial or industrial tax base and the capacity to build substantial amounts of new housing because it has no public water supply (even with Quabbin literally in the town) and because most land suitable for such development is within the one-third of town taken by the Commonwealth for the reservoir. The result for all the Quabbin towns is a budget crisis that has become an existential threat, with schools facing closure, roads and bridges left unrepaired, and fire, police, and safety departments understaffed.

In towns where the Commonwealth takes land off local tax rolls, it provides payments in lieu of taxes – or PILOTs. In FY26, Shutesbury received a PILOT of $299,392 for the 4,979 acres of the town held by the Commonwealth. That's 4 percent of the town's FY26 budget revenue in exchange for 30 percent of its land and comes to just $60.13 per acre.

Statewide, by contrast, the average PILOT is about $130 per acre.

Every Quabbin town suffers this disparity. Pelham, for example, gives up 35 percent of its land for the reservoir and gets $56.59 per acre. Hardwick gives up 20 percent and gets $26.24 per acre. New Salem gives up 91 percent for just $21.21 per acre.

Shutesbury's Quabbin land has the potential to generate tax revenue of $510 per acre. That means its PILOT of $60.13 per acre is just 11.8 percent of the land's actual tax value. In FY26 alone, then, Shutesbury was forced to forgo revenue of up to $3.1 million because of Quabbin. In FY26, the 12 Quabbin watershed towns altogether gave up a total of $54.5 million in potential tax revenue because of Quabbin and received PILOTs of just $3.2 million, or 6 percent of that land's tax value—a loss of $51.3 million.

And while the actual tax value of this land has increased exponentially over the past five years, the amount of the Quabbin PILOTs has not. Between FY21 and FY26, the total budget for the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority has increased $128.3 million (16.2 percent) while the amount set aside from that budget for PILOTs to the 12 Quabbin towns has increased just $111,597 (3.6 percent). The portion of the MWRA budget set aside for Quabbin PILOTs has in fact gone down over those five years, from 0.39 percent in FY21 to 0.35 percent in FY26.

The state's PILOT system treats Quabbin land as nearly worthless. In reality, Quabbin land is the most valuable land in Massachusetts, because without it, more than 2.7 million people in 53 communities throughout Eastern Massachusetts — 40 percent of the state's population — would have no water.

If Shutesbury's Quabbin land were developed to the same density as the rest of town, it would generate enough tax revenue to pay 37 percent of the town budget. Assuming a proportional increase in service costs if the Quabbin land were developed to the same density as the rest of the town currently, that means every Shutesbury homeowner pays roughly 32 percent more in property taxes because of the reservoir.

The average Shutesbury homeowner paid approximately $2,100 more in property taxes last year than they would have if the Quabbin did not exist. For comparison, the average single-family Boston water bill in FY26 was $1,300. Like all the Quabbin towns, Shutesbury is, through those higher property taxes, subsidizing the true cost of the water used by its eastern neighbors.

Like their neighbors to the east, Quabbin watershed residents pay a price for Quabbin water; unlike their neighbors to the east, Quabbin watershed residents do not get to drink that water—even as household and public wells go dry or are contaminated by PFAS, as fire departments run out of water to fight fires, as school playgrounds and athletic fields are closed for the year due to a lack of irrigation water, and as water bans are put into place across the region. The engine and lifeblood of Eastern Massachusetts's economic life, and actual life, is Quabbin water, but that water flows east at the literal expense of those who provide and protect it.

When the Quabbin host communities, their legislators, citizens, and supporters talk about Quabbin equity, they are talking about the state's obligation to make those communities whole. They are talking about the moral imperative the Commonwealth has to bring Quabbin towns' finances in line with comparable communities across the state by offsetting a fair portion of the cost burden imposed on them by the presence of the reservoir.

This would mean helping them achieve solvency, stability, and the ability to maintain schools, roads, emergency services, and other basic services—including the very conservation, emergency, and land use regulation services that keep Quabbin safe, guarding the groundwater, aquifer, and ecological context that supplies Eastern Massachusetts with clean water every single day.

Nobody expects the state to compensate the Quabbin communities for 100 percent of the tax value of the land the Commonwealth has taken from those towns—there is a public-good value in that land's use for water supply, carbon sequestration, conservation, and recreation. But, based on the tremendous revenues the Quabbin generates annually and the essential role Quabbin water plays in the life of Eastern Massachusetts, it is clear that 6 percent of the land's tax value is far too low a payment.

In the 1930s, when the Swift River Valley was flooded to make Quabbin, the people of Enfield, Greenwich, Prescott, Dana, and other smaller villages surrendered homes, farms, businesses, and communities for the good of the Commonwealth. Those towns no longer exist, but 88 years later, the towns surrounding Quabbin continue to sacrifice for the reservoir and everyone it serves. It is time for the Commonwealth to recognize and remedy that sacrifice.

The Massachusetts residents of the Quabbin communities are not asking for charity. They are asking for equity. Because while Boston drinks their water, they drown in the ever-increasing tax burden that stems directly from an inequitable PILOT system.

In 1927, *The New York Times* reported on the plan to dismantle the four Quabbin towns, observing, "Greater Boston by no means is indifferent to the tragedy which the need of the city inflicts upon these innocent bystanders."

Those who live in the remaining Quabbin towns hope that their neighbors in Greater Boston, including the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, Gov. Healey, and the state legislators from the 53 communities who depend on Quabbin water, remain "by no means indifferent" to their continuing suffering.

Matteo Pangallo is the land use clerk for the Town of Shutesbury and chair of the town's Community Preservation Committee.

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Author

MATTEO PANGALLO

Matteo Pangallo is the land use clerk for the Town of Shutesbury and chair of the town's Community Preservation Committee.

Frederick J. Williams, 1957–2026

BY NEWSROOM • OBITUARY • AUGUST 3, 2026

Frederick Jackson (Jack) Williams of Fitchburg, MA, passed away peacefully on July 26th, 2026, with family by his side. He was born August 29, 1957, the son of the late Frederick Jackson Williams and Ann Sammarco Williams.

His formative years were shared with his brothers in Needham, MA, the late Barry M Williams, and Niantic, CT, Glenn Williams, Arthur Williams, and Guy Williams, as well as time spent with his cousins with whom he was very close. He is survived by his partner, Barbara Donohue of Marlborough, MA, his brothers, Glenn Williams (children Mitchell, Emma & Bella), Arthur Williams (children Michelle, Gaelin, Sabrina, Krystyana) and Guy Williams (Renee, Thomas, Sue, Sam) and cousins Nicholas McGowan, Sharon Grant, Kerry McGowan, Brian McGowan, Sean McGowan, Carmine Sammarco, Cynthia Adams, Tina LeBlanc, Deborah Turner, Laura Wilder Williams, Marie Williams, Anne Williams.

He enjoyed traveling with Barbara, the ocean, and spending time with family on the Cape. Jack was an easygoing, gentle person with a great sense of humor and mischief. He will be sorely missed by all whose lives he touched.

The family would like to thank the staff and family of The Highlands for the exceptional care and compassion he received while there.

Waltham home sales, July 27–31, 2026

BY NEWSROOM • HOME SALES • AUGUST 4, 2026

	Sale Date	Address	Sale Price	BR/Baths	Size
	7/27/2026	49 Lakeview Ave	$800,000	3/1.75	1123 sf
	7/27/2026	65-67 Brown St	$900,000	5/4	3335 sf
	7/28/2026	17&19 Robbins St Unit 3-1	$505,000	1/1	760 sf
	7/28/2026	38 Greenwood Ln	$1,128,000	3/1.75	1920 sf
	7/29/2026	42 Lawrence St	$925,000	3/1.5	1447 sf
	7/29/2026	25 Wellington St Unit 1	$605,000	3/2	1226 sf

	7/29/2026	103 Cushing St Unit 4	$602,000	3/1	1280 sf
	7/29/2026	234 Temple Rd	$500,000	3/1	1014 sf
	7/29/2026	32 Bishops Forest Dr Unit 32	$825,000	2/3	2217 sf
	7/29/2026	34 Copeland St	$750,000	3/1	1329 sf
	7/30/2026	59 Wellington St Unit 59-1	$750,000	3/2	2985
	7/30/2026	14 Kenmore Rd	$600,000	0/1	1188 sf

	7/31/2026	39 Emerson Rd Unit 108	$820,000	0/0	1111 sf
	7/31/2026	204 Clocktower Dr Unit 311	$800,000	2/2	1325 sf
	7/31/2026	68 Adams St	$1,064,000	2/2.5	2536 sf
	7/31/2026	167 Winter St	$790,000	4/2	1727 sf
	7/28/2026	61 Canterbury Rd Lot 52	$930,000	3/1.75	2058 sf

Events Calendar

August 9-September 5

For the latest and complete listings, see WalthamTimes.org/events.

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
9 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm Second Sunday open house tours at the Golden Ball Tavern Museum 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm Rock Voices Newton – Community rock choir summer concert 4:00 pm - 9:00 pm It's Possible Conference dinner	**10** 10:00 am - 11:00 am Babywearing tour of Gore Place 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm Historical Commission meeting	**11** 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm Puppet playtime at Gore Place 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm Waltham Fields Community Farm: Mobile Outreach Market (Mercado de Verduras) 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm Concert on the Common: Tom Bruhl Trio	**12** 11:00 am - 12:00 pm Stories for adults: 'Birthday celebrations with Grandma' 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm Rose Conservatory children's drum performance 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm Yoga at the Rose + 2 More	**13** 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm The Annual Corn Roast at Gore Place 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm Come meet Waltham Rotary 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm Live music at the Old Schwamb Mill: Tino D'Agostino Trio + 1 More	**14** 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm Teen library lock-in party 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm Watch City Dance Party 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm The World of Robert Roberts tour at Gore Place	**15** 9:30 am - 2:00 pm Waltham Farmers' Market 12:00 pm - 4:30 pm 5th Annual Moody Street Car Show 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm Water pistol fight for folks under forty
16	**17** 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm Watch City Ukers: Groovy at the Gazebo	**18** 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm Waltham Fields Community Farm: Mobile Outreach Market (Mercado de Verduras) 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm Summer Supper on the Farm 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm Concert on the Common: Billy and the Jets	**19** 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm Waltham Rotary Club lunch meeting 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm Board of Health meeting	**20** 3:00 pm - 1:00 am Noche Mexicana fundraiser for Waltham's environment 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm Minutemen Toastmasters of Waltham	**21**	**22** 9:30 am - 2:00 pm Waltham Farmers' Market 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm 'Clear the Shelters' open house at The Cat Connection
23 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm 'Clear the Shelters' open house at The Cat Connection	**24**	**25** 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm Waltham Fields Community Farm: Mobile Outreach Market (Mercado de Verduras) 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm Concert on the Common: American Legion Band	**26** 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm License Commission meeting	**27** 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm Fighting for the American Dream: An evening with author and Waltham native Charles Whalen	**28**	**29** 9:30 am - 2:00 pm Waltham Farmers' Market
30	**31**	**1** 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm Waltham Fields Community Farm: Mobile Outreach Market (Mercado de Verduras)	**2** 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm Waltham Rotary Club lunch meeting 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm Board of Survey and Planning meeting 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm School Committee meeting	**3** 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm Minutemen Toastmasters of Waltham	**4**	**5** 9:30 am - 2:00 pm Waltham Farmers' Market

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