May the Dragon Grant Your Every Wish

By Sampan Editors

The American Museum of Natural History tells of the Four Dragons of Ancient China: Long, Yellow, Black, and Pearl. Legend dictates that the dragons spend winter on the floor of a lake or ocean only to rise to the heavens each spring with a clap of thunder. They form clouds and water the land. Chinese scholar Sima Qian, recounting in Shiji (historical records) dating back to 109-91 B.C., traces the roots of Emperor Gauzo, the first ruler of the Han Dynasty, said to be the product of a scaly dragon and a poor farmer’s wife. Henceforth Emperors were known as Dragons, their hands the Dragon’s claws and their seats the Dragon’s throne. Dragon’s represented the union of Heaven and Earth and the promise of true harmony.

What is it about the nature of a Dragon that separates it from the other Lunar New Year animals? It’s the only one that’s mythical, the only one that’s a mythical creature that can blow fire one moment and provide protection the next. Chinese Scholar Li Shizhen (1518-1593) reflected that “The Dragon’s nature is rough and fierce, and yet he likes beautiful gems and the Stone of Darkness…” Notable Year of the Dragon babies include Abraham Lincoln, Bruce Lee, Martin Luther King, Michelle Obama, Kamala Harris, John Lennon, Melinda Gatesand, Shakira, G-dragon…

2024 will surely be a momentous year for politics (the November Presidential election), migration housing issues (at a crisis level and not getting better any time soon), and dangerous weather patterns across the coast that have more to do with climate change than many people might want to accept. The Super New Snow Moon of February 9, that ushered in the Lunar New Year, will be followed by a Super New Worm Moon (March 10) and a Super New Pink Moon Total Solar Eclipse (April 8.) That’s three major moon cycles in a little over eight weeks.

SAMPAN asked our friends, new and old, for their hopes, dreams, and wishes for the Lunar Year ahead. Their responses are edited for clarity.

“Dragon Baby”, College Student in Boston

“I’m a Dragon Baby! I am from China. First time away from home. I’ll be twenty-four this year and am going to Graduate School here in Boston. I’m learning to adapt. Maybe that’s what this year will bring. The ability to adapt. New Year is a time to be with family and friends so I miss my family very much. But I have made great new friends here and am enjoying the New Year with all of them.”

Peter Ng, BrushMagic founder, Chinese Culture scholar, and born in the Year of the Dragon

“What do I wish for in the Year of the Dragon? Here are my responses: (listed by priority): World peace, saving our planet earth, a disease free world, cancer free, ending poverty, elimination of people suffering due to illegal drugs, alcohol, smoking, gun violence, neglected mental illness, and a well-educated society.”

Clare Sheridan, Retired librarian and archivist

“I wish for the safety and well-being of Darkness…” Notable Year of the Drag-

The Final Bow: The Life and Legacy of Maestro Seiji Ozawa

By Damica Feliciano

Famed maestro Seiji Ozawa, who led the Boston Symphony Orchestra for three decades, died last Tuesday at age 88. The eccentric Japanese director will be remembered for his commitment to his craft, attention-grabbing stage presence, and his continual love for the city of Boston.

He passed away on February 6 at his home in Tokyo from heart failure, according to a spokesperson for the Seiji Ozawa International Academy Switzerland.

Ozawa was championed as one of the first in his generation to make it big not only in the West—but worldwide. He entered the global arena with an unapologetic stride marked by his unconventional methods such as opting to direct with his hands rather than a baton or wearing a tunic and beaded necklaces versus a tux. Stepping into his own was the standard from day one.

“A force of nature on and off stage, Seiji Ozawa brought the BSO to new heights of international recognition and acclaim in his almost three decades as our Music Director,” stated Andris Nelsons, current Music Director of the BSO. “He inspired audiences, fellow artists, and generations of music students through his extraordinary artistry and his adventurous and generous spirit.”

Ozawa made waves in Boston when he began his Directorship at BSO in 1973. Hiring a 38-year-old conductor from Japan was unheard of for the BSO. With predecessors like Munch, Steinberg, and Leinsdorf, Ozawa forged a new path toward a podium that had been dominated for centuries by white men. Being the first...
May the Dragon Grant Your Every Wish

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of the Palestinian people in Gaza and the West Bank. They have been terrorized for 75 years while the world stood by and continued, inferentially, to stop the carnage in Gaza. Palestinian children are killed every day by Israeli soldiers and settlers, their land is confiscated, and their homes bulldozed. Their olive trees are uprooted and their water restricted. All because Israel thinks it has a “right” to the land that their “God”; gave them. And your tax money continues to support this genocide. I have visited Israel/Palestine twice and watched armed Israeli soldiers terrorize little Palestinian children leaving school. When I was leaving from the Israeli airport, I was pulled aside and interrogated for having an old Bosnian stamp on my passport. Why? Because Bosnia is a Muslim nation. It certainly felt like a police state to me. When I contacted our State Dept. about this, they said they often get similar complaints about Israeli officials.

Boston City Councilor Ed Flynn (China-
town, South End and South Boston)

“My goal for Lunar New Year and through The Dragon, is to work for peace, and social, economic and racial justice for all. As we celebrate Lunar New Year, we need to also recognize the challenges that our residents face in Chinatown, and recommit ourselves to advocating for the preservation of Chinatown as an immigrant community. We also need to acknowledge the dramatic rise in anti-Asian racism in Great Boston and beyond since knowledge the dramatic rise in anti-Asian migrant community. We also need to ac-
hieve peace, prosperity, health, and resilience within our communities. We hope that you will bless VietAID, from our staff to our participants, with great fortune and strength to overcome any challenges that may arise. Thank you for being with us in spirit as we continue to grow!”

Ben Hires, Boston Chinatown Neighbor-
hood Center (BCNC) CEO

“I wish the Year of the Dragon brings all Asian and new immigrant families a sense of purpose, strength, and belonging here in Greater Boston. Immigrants today bring the same values that have inspired the others who have come to this country – the courage and desire to take care of their families and community, do well, and live in a better world. I hope this special year inspires all to be successful and to have a brighter future.”

George Huynh- Executive Director Viet-
namese American Initiative for Develop-
ment (VietAID)

“I don’t really know what I want in the Year of The Dragon, maybe a new life but still here in Chinatown. I hope the Lunar New Year will help me keep my bushy job and maybe get another one. There are places here that can help me learn English and find a good job. Guess that’s what I want. I can get a lot of jobs over the rest of my life, but I really want a good one now. That’s what I want from the Year of The Dragon.”

Danny, 27 yr old Chinatown Resident

“They made me feel safe and important. The Dragon is the most important fish in the Chinese calendar. They believe the dragon’s breath will bring them wealth. They believe the dragon’s breath will bring them happiness. They believe the dragon’s breath will bring them health.”

Phil Chong, President & CEO, QARI/ Wabunatah

“My Year of The Dragon brings forth abundant opportunities for immi-
gency personal and professional growth. As we embark on this journey in MA, RI and NYC, may our workforce programs at Amazon, Boston College, Beth Israel Hos-
pital, Hilton, and Kam Man serve as bea-
corns of empowerment, guiding immigrants towards realizing their fullest potential. Let us harness the fiery energy of the dragon to ignite passion, perseverance, and progress in every individual we support. Together, let us foster a community where diver-
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Afro-Asian Homeless Woman in Boston

“I don’t dare ask the dragon for any-
thing honestly. I don’t know what I would have wished for, maybe happiness for ev-
everyone and peace in their lives.”

Eric Tiberi, CEO, South Cove Community Health Center

“May we unlearn dragon-sized fun that embraces joy, positivity, community spirit, good health, and unforgettable mo-
ments! Let’s continue our strong sense of community that makes our Chinatown truly special. Cheers to the Year of the Dragon – where the magic never stops!”

SAMPAN

February 16, 2024

Boston Renaissance is a Pre-K through Grade 6 charter public school open to all students in Boston. Enrollment is open to students entering K1-Grade 4, and is determined by lottery, which will be held on March 6th, 2024. To enter the lottery, please visit BostonRenaissance.org/Enroll

Boston Renaissance integrates high-quality academic instruction with excellent visual and performing arts programs, including music, dance, theater, chorus, visual arts, physical education, and technology classes. BRCCS proudly welcomes and serves all students, including those with special education and English language needs. We offer both academic standards and a well-rounded curriculum, we help students develop the confidence, character, and skills to succeed.

BRCCS does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, sex, national origin, ethnicity, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, mental or physical disability, age, ancestry, homelessness, special needs, English language proficiency or foreign language proficiency, athletic ability or prior academic achievement.

ENROLLMENT FOR SEPTEMBER 2024 IS NOW OPEN Application Deadline is February 29th

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Seiji Ozawa

Continued from Page 1

in his generation led to a cultural shift for younger generations of Asians to also join the artistry.

In a 2002 interview with NPR, Ozawa noted his unique position at the time and how the seasoned maestro hoped to see it in the future.

“Since I’m kind of a pioneer I must

do my best before I die, so people younger
than me think, ‘Oh that is possible. I think it’s possible.’” Ozawa told NPR.

Ozawa was born on Sept. 1, 1935 in Manchuria (Shenyang, China) where he spent his early childhood before moving to Beijing. He recalled his first memories of music came from his religious upbringing which quickly blossomed into a love for it when he heard Westernized hymns.

By 1941, Ozawa’s family returned to Japan and his love for classical melodies followed. Ozawa’s father was a small-town dentist who was best known for pulling a piano 25 miles so his son could learn to play. However, a rugby accident resulting in a broken finger cut his piano career short. His teacher, Noboru Toyomasu, advised him to shift gears and become a conductor.

In a 2015 interview with WBUR, Ozawa recalled his first concert when the BBC’s Symphony of Air came to Japan.

“it was a completely different sound,” Ozawa described. “So I told myself I must go out of Japan to hear this kind of sound.”

Under the guidance of Hideo Saito, a leader in the Japanese orchestra world, Ozawa went on to found the NHK Symphony Orchestra and Japan Philharmonic in 1954. Four years later, he received first prizes in both conducting and composition at the Tokyo School. With the help of his teacher, Ozawa traveled to France to expand his craft. In 1959, Ozawa won first prize in the Besançon International Competition for Young Conductors. There, he captured the attention of former BSO director Charles Munch who invited him to the Tanglewood Music Center.

As one of the most influential conductors of the 20th century, the Japanese maestro’ work reflected in his balletic conducting as well. His bold directions for sound are reflected in his brisk, sometimes lightning-fast conducting.

He conducted symphonies from memory and gave little to no specific instructions for composition. Instead, he urged his students to feel. “Let the flute start over and go out of Japan to hear this kind of sound.”

Ozawa worked on numerous history-making projects and had appearances on television, radio, and recordings. He earned a total of 44 commissions during his tenure, including the three Pellizaris for music, two Emmas and a Grammy. In 1998, Ozawa opened the 1998 Winter Olympics in Nagano, Japan where conducted Beethoven’s “Ode to Joy” with six choirs performing for five continents.

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Malden

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Cardiac arrests are a serious issue that has caused an increasing astronomical amount of deaths every year. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, About 695,000 people in the United States died from heart disease in 2021—that’s 1 in every 4 deaths. One person dies every 33 seconds in the United States from cardiovascular disease, many of them being Asian American, due to multiple things, including but not limited to, the bystander effect, lack of knowledge of CPR, and a lack of confidence in their ability to perform CPR.

Cardiac disease is the most common cause of death in the industrial world. Over 350,000 men and women per year in the US will have an out-of-hospital cardiac arrest. Their survival rate is directly related to whether or not there is someone nearby who can perform CPR. The percentage of people that know how to perform CPR varies from state to state and from city to city with Seattle being recognized as having the highest rate of CPR-certified citizens. Although still high, cardiac death rates had been slowly falling for many years but have unfortunately risen during the COVID era. Years ago the American Heart Association initiated a “war” against sudden cardiac death that is centered on mass CPR training. One of the primary (and most successful components of the program) has been championing CPR training—in high schools. This alone has contributed to a decline in cardiac deaths. Another breakthrough has been attained by a strong recommendation that portable cardiac defibrillators become available in gyms, stadiums, schools, and large buildings. It should be noted that when questioned most survivors of a cardiac arrest recall having new onset chest pain (more common in men), shortness of breath (women), or palpitations.

According to Mayo Clinic, cardiac arrest is defined as a sudden loss of heart activity due to an irregular heart rhythm. Symptoms include a loss of breathing, sudden death passing out, and unconsciousness of a person. Normally, if a person is in a hospital, emergency treatment such as cardio-pulmonary resuscitation, better known as CPR, and/or a shock to the heart with a device called an automated external defibrillator (AED). Although many people tend to survive when they go into cardiac arrest in the hospital, according to the American Heart Association, 90% of people who go into cardiac arrest do not survive, particularly within the Asian American community.

Within the Asian American community, there is a clear emphasis on non-Western medicine and methods. For example, in Chinese culture, many will use Chinese herbs and traditional medicines, as well as methods such as acupuncture, where certain parts of the body have heavy pressure put on them in order to treat illness or feelings of pain. In addition, things like making soup or drinking hot liquids are very prominent in Asian culture to help others feel better in situations like having a cold or the flu. Since there is so much emphasis on traditional medicines, oftentimes, Asian Americans will not learn many ways of treatment beyond their traditional way of teaching. Due to unfamiliarity with Western medicine, according to an analysis of nearly 279,000 out-of-hospital cardiac arrests done by the American Heart Association, Asian Americans are 8% less likely to survive hospital discharge and 15% less likely to have favorable neurological outcomes compared to white adults.

In addition, some of the traditional methods focus more on less severe things like the flu or getting a cold. So when more severe things like cardiac arrest come up, it is very difficult for them to have the proper training to deal with situations such as that. In times of cardiac arrest. It is important to call local police, and then start CPR. According to the American Red Cross, after placing the hands centered on the ground, one should give 30 chest compressions with two hands centered on the chest, the body position being where the shoulders are directly over the hands, elbows locked in depth and the heart rate is around 100 to 120 per minute. After the compressions, it is important to allow the chest to return to normal position after each compression followed by 2 breaths where the body continues to be flat where the nose should have an open airway and a pass-neutral position using the head-tilt chin-lift technique. Additionally, they should pinch the nose shut, take a normal breath, and make a complete seal of the victim’s mouth with your mouth. It is also important to ensure that each breath lasts about 1 second and makes the chest rise; allow air to exit before giving the next breath. It is important to continue this cycle until there is either a response or the arrival of professionals.

Since many Asian Americans are not knowledgeable about CPR, many will fall victim to the “bystander effect”, where during times of cardiac arrest, they will stand by and not attempt to help the victim. They believe that they are underqualified, despite knowing the general gist of how CPR should look like.

Sampan asked MA residents about their knowledge of cardiac arrest and CPR. Liang Wu, a 45-year-old Chinese Boston immigrant told Sampan, “I have seen CPR done on things like TV shows; however, I have never seen anyone go into cardiac arrest, nor have I had the training or confidence to do CPR if someone does go into cardiac arrest.” Like many other minority Asian Americans, Wu believes that she cannot perform any sort of CPR because she is not CPR-certified. Although it is preferable to be CPR certified in order to do CPR, when someone is in cardiac arrest, it is essential that someone helps to revive the person going into cardiac arrest. Even being exposed to things like seeing people do it in TV shows or described in movies is enough to at least attempt to do CPR after calling professionals for help. Oftentimes, the professionals might not be able to get there to resuscitate the person on time, and even trying to imitate the CPR procedures seen on the internet has the possibility to be enabled to help with CPR. This leads to much lower rates of survival within the Asian American population, killing 20% more Asian Americans compared to their white counterparts.

The bystander rate among Asian Americans is incredibly high, causing there to be a considerable amount of deaths due to cardiac arrest. However, there are many cases of being able to combat this issue. The American Heart Association is trying to spread the word about CPR to Asian Americans by going to local hospitals. For people interested in getting CPR certified, the American Red Cross has a lot of potential training opportunities for people to get CPR certified. At the Red Cross, there is specific Boston training that can easily adapt to one’s schedule. Classes can be taken entirely in person, or with the blended Simulation Learning experience that is a combo of online coursework with a hands-on skills session on their website https://www.redcross.org/take-a-class. They are both comprehensive courses that allow basic CPR training that not only lasts 2 years but gives an important foundation for people to help in case of an emergency. In addition, Boston-specific websites such as CPR Boston https://cprboston.org/, or call 617-298-0699 to schedule a quick and affordable training.

Deeb N. Salem, MD offered: Cardiac disease is the most common cause of death in the industrial world. Over 350,000 men and women per year in the US will have an out of hospital cardiac arrest. Their survival rate is directly related to whether or not there is someone nearby that can perform CPR. The percentage of people that know how to perform CPR varies from state to state and from city to city with Seattle being recognized as having the highest rate of CPR certified citizens. Although still high, cardiac death rates had been slowly falling for many years but have unfortunately risen during the COVID era. Years ago the American Heart Association initiated a “war” against sudden cardiac death that is centered on mass CPR training. One of the primary (and most successful components of the program) has been championing CPR training in local high schools. This alone has contributed to a decline in cardiac deaths. Another breakthrough has been attained by a strong recommendation that portable cardiac defibrillators become available in gyms, stadiums, schools and large buildings. It should be noted that when questioned most survivors of a cardiac arrest recall having new onset chest pain (more common in men), or shortness of breath (women) or palpitations.

John McNamara, a recent heart attack survivor advised: I recommend all employers to train their employees in CPR. Further, it would be a great practice for employers to purchase a defibrillator and train the employees as well. Lastly, if you even suspect that you are having a heart attack, seek medical attention immediately. Time equals tissue... the sooner the doctors can address the issues, the less damage to your heart.
Anti-Asian Bias Sometimes Is Disguised in 'Microaggressions'

By Zoe Liu

As the Asian American population -- the nation’s fastest-growing racial group -- gains a larger and larger presence, it still faces persistent discrimination, according to several surveys and reports.

But the form of that discrimination doesn’t always appear in traditionally noticeable ways -- sometimes it’s clear acts of hate, while other times it’s workplace bullying, and other times, subtle “microaggressions” or “acculturation.”

Small Acts, Big Influences

One particularly disturbing form of discrimination has become known as the microaggression. These small acts “are the everyday, subtle, intentional -- and oftentimes unintentional -- interactions or behaviors that communicate some sort of bias toward historically marginalized groups,” according to Professor Kevin Nadal at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. This is becoming more common to a population once called the “invisible” population -- an other covert form of discrimination.

These microaggressions are so common in day-to-day interactions of Asian Americans -- who now make up about 21 million people -- that they often become overlooked and unacknowledged, according to experts. Professor Geraldine Sue at Columbia University has said that this contemporary form of racism is many times more problematic, damaging, and inジュurious to persons of color than overt racist acts.

Experts have said they believe this treatment can affect people of color by limiting their means to earn a living, harm self-esteem, and damage their psychological well-being.

Many Asian Americans Feel the Harms

A large Pew Survey involving more than 7,000 adults of Asian descent found that 57% say discrimination is a major problem; 68% of Asian adults living in the U.S. submitted that people were constantly mispronouncing their names in daily interactions with strangers.

An Asian American woman in her twenties explained to Sampan that when first moving to the U.S., people would make fun of her name, mispronounce it, or not even bother to acknowledge her. She was tired of having to pronounce her name over and over again for people to understand or be able to say it, until eventually, she changed her name into an “English” one and even shortened it to two syllables. Yet, at coffee shops, or conversations with strangers, people would still mispronounce or misspelled it. Similar to many other Asian American experiences, she open up about her struggle of wanting to be true to herself and her identity, while feeling the need to please society to belong and make it easier for everyone else.

Not only do Asian Americans experience violent hate crimes that were exacerbated by the pandemic, but Pew’s latest study emphasizes that they also face stereotyping and daily acts of discrimination that increase their difficulty of living a normal life. Asians were directly discriminated against, with 40% of them reporting that they received poorer service from other people at restaurants or stores, 39% of people acted as if they did not speak English, and 37% experienced someone telling them they should go back to their home country.

A total of 78% of the Asian adults in the Pew study say they’ve been treated as a foreigner in some way, even if they were born in the U.S.

Recently, more light has been shone on research studies on how Asian American women specifically experience intersectional oppression in academics and professional workplaces. The stereotypes of Asian American women are “passive, sexually compliant, and exotic” conflict with dominant American views of work ethic and leadership, thus excluding them from promotion and leadership opportunities. This racial bias perceived as a lack of competence compared with White women in workplaces is further magnified by the discrimination of Asian American accents.

In a survey conducted by Behavioural Therapy New York, where authors, colleagues, and other Asian American women academics reported incidents of racism, many reported that they felt discrimination through the idea of speaking with a non-Asian accent being equated with a lack of intelligence.

“Asian Accent”

Another persistent type of discrimination that has grown more recognized recently is “accentism” -- the discriminatory or unfair behavior centered on someone’s accent or language use. A 20-year-old English as a Second Language teacher at Boston’s Asian American Civic Association acknowledges that “accentism is definitely a real thing that can be a professional barrier to people. I work with people here who have very strong accents, and some people use that as a sign that they are limited in their ability. And that just simply isn’t true.”

“It is really hard for me to work on my accent. I should work harder, but accents are a beautiful thing.” one female employee told Sampan. “If people here in the West and East have different accents, why can’t we have our own accents? What’s wrong with being different?”

But “I often think that if I spoke perfect English, people would treat me differently. Things or incidents that have happened maybe wouldn’t have happened if I looked or talked differently.”
By Harmony Witte

I watched the first season of Expats on Amazon Prime and was sorely disappointed by the quality of the six-episode offering. Directed by Lulu Wang (Posthumous 2021), The Farewell (2019) the show is based on a 2016 novel called The Ex-patriates by Janice Y.K. Lee, which received mostly positive reviews. The story follows the lives of a group of expatriates living in Hong Kong and chronicles their interactions with each other, and how they navigate the unfamiliar world around them as a tragedy befalls some of them.

Expats starts amidst the action and introduces the audience to the characters a year after a tragedy that connects them all has taken place. Starting at this point was a poor choice as the non-linear structure only served to confuse and frustrate the viewer. With only hints as to the event that has happened and how these people are connected, the first episode doesn’t coalesce until the very end. In the first episode, there is a budding scene with Nicole Kidman (Big Little Lies) as Margaret Woo and Sarayu Blue (Blockers) as Hilary Starr, dancing barefoot in an empty noodle shop to a disco song, oblivious to the annoyed workers in the back of the shop. Their devil-may-care attitude clashed with the nature of their conversation about the tragedy and didn’t so much to endear the audience to these characters.

The second episode was an improvement of sorts, finally revealing the nature of the tragedy they have experienced. This episode rounds out some of the characters and their motivations. The show would have been arguably better if it started at this point instead of a year into the future.

Expats does an interesting job of exploring the relationship the wealthy expats have with their staff. The audience watches the significant glances Margaret and her husband Clarke (Brian Tee) give each other when their Nanny, Essie (Ruby Ruiz), comes into the room as they are complaining about her service. Margaret is concerned that Essie is too familiar with the children and is taking liberties. Essie goes to pains to show the audience that Margaret is kind to service people, unlike many of her peers. Hilary and her husband, David (Jack Huston) have a driver, Sam, who knows all the family secrets that are revealed through awkward conversations as he drives the couple to and from their destinations. Their housekeeper, Parie (Amelyn Pardenilla) is so involved that she helps hide some of David’s secrets. She is ever present in their apartment, vacuuming while Hilary sits back and reads the paper. It results in an exploration of class and position that is not often seen in television and while it barely scratched the surface of the topic, it was refreshing to see. Margaret keeps saying that Essie is family, and the strength of that bond is tested to its limits by the tragedy.

Casting Nicole Kidman in the lead for this show was a mistake, one that is difficult to overlook. Kidman does not convincingly pull off Margaret as a nuanced, grief-stricken character. She succeeded with this in films like The Others (Connor James) was obvious and poorly done. The transitions between the episodes were sometimes jarring making it seem as if this show was not meant to be binge watched at all once as is so common these days. Some characters are brought into later episodes with no introduction and no hint as to how they are connected to the broader story.

The city of Hong Kong is lovingly captured with lingering shots of winding mountain roads that give glimpses of the city skyline, panoramas through the bus windows, to repeated shots of the Night Market, to shots of the back of the shop. Hong Kong truly feels like one of the characters in the show.

I would have preferred to have seen Expats developed with a different first episode and a different actress playing the lead. As it is, it felt little compulsion to continue watching the next episode after each one I finished. The direction was often off-putting, and Kidman’s acting was insufficient to get across the level of Margaret’s grief, which so much of the plot relies upon. The show’s portrayal of horrific tragedy is so mismatched from the day-to-day dramas of the other characters that the viewer experiences a sort of emotional whiplash going from one scene and one episode to the next. This is not a show I will be watching again, nor does it find me hoping for a second season.

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Electronic proposals for the following project will be received through the internet using Project Bid Manager. Project Bid Manager can be accessed at www.bids.com. The deadline for submission is Tuesday, March 7th, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. Please submit all proposals at https://form.jotform.com/SEBHousing/TheLodgeMarlborough.

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Applicants are encouraged to apply for the lottery as soon as possible. Successful lottery applications are subject to the availability of affordable units.

Applications will be accepted online or by calling (646) 558-8656. Applications must be completed and submitted by the deadline.

 Lottery: April 23, 2024 at 6:00pm via Zoom

Applications postmarked by the deadline must be received no later than 5 business days from the deadline.

For Lottery Information and Applications, or for reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, go to www.sebhousing.com or call (617) 782-6900x1 and leave a message or postal mail SEB Housing, 275 Hillsdale, Suite 220, Marlborough, MA 01752.

You CAN COMPLETE AND SUBMIT A LOTTERY APPLICATION ONLINE HERE:

https://form.jotform.com/SEBHousing/TheLodgeMarlborough

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Expats’: A Disappointing Exploration of Grief

By Harmony Witte

If you were a fan of Cold Mountain but fails to capture that palpable. The cost of the project is $30,000,000.

At 10 o’clock (10:00 a.m.) on February 16, 2024

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https://form.jotform.com/SEBHousing/TheLodgeMarlborough
The Massachusetts Commonwealth finds itself at a crossroads. An influx of migrants, primarily originating from Central and South America, has strained resources and are igniting a complex and multifaceted challenge to shelter them. Current shelters are overflowing, budgets are being stretched to support emergency housing, and Boston communities are split between compassion and concern. Massachusetts is currently facing a large-scale humanitarian crisis and needs to find a solution that prioritizes both the well-being of migrants as well as its community.

This surge of migrants is not a random phenomenon. Political instability, rising tensions, and economic turmoil have ravaged their home countries. These factors have forced families to travel north to find safety, opportunity, and a better life for their children.

According to the Pew Research Center, criminal gangs and drug cartels have fueled violence and insecurity in Central America, causing most of the migration we see from that region. In El Salvador, for example, the homicide rate in 2022 stood at a shocking 19.5 per 100,000 inhabitants. This is almost four times higher than the national average, according to the World Bank in 2023. Countries such as Honduras and Guatemala face similar realities, leaving their residents with no choice but to flee.

Economic concerns further exacerbate the situation in this region. The International Monetary Fund predicts a slowdown in economic growth for Central America in 2024, with El Salvador projected to see a 1.2% decrease in growth outlook. Slow growth, combined with rising food and fuel prices, forces individuals living in these countries to seek better opportunities in the United States.

The U.S., despite similar recent struggles, is still a beacon of hope for residents of struggling nations. Our perception of stability, easier access to healthcare and education, and higher earning potential draw migrants from countries where these benefits are no longer available.

The recent influx of migrants has placed an immense strain on Massachusetts' resources. Emergency shelters, originally designed for temporary housing, now accommodate families for months. They are beyond capacity and have long waitlists to accept any new migrants. The Boston Herald reports that a newly opened shelter in Roxbury is already nearing capacity, forcing officials to search for additional sites.

The strain on the Commonwealth's resources extends beyond the need for shelter space. State budgets are not large enough to continue providing essential services such as healthcare, education, and legal aid to arriving migrants. WGBH reports that Governor Maura Healey estimates that the emergency housing program alone will cost the state almost 1 billion dollars by the end of the 2024 fiscal year.

Along with a financial burden, communities wrestle with new problems that have arisen due to this influx of migrants. They are unsure of how to integrate newcomers, address cultural differences, and ensure that resources are distributed equitably. While many residents have expressed their compassion for these displaced individuals and offered their support, others bring up concerns about increased competition for jobs and housing.

Addressing this complex crisis requires a multifaceted approach that looks beyond temporary fixes and band-aid solutions. There is a strong need for federal support to solve this growing problem. A comprehensive immigration reform plan, as advocated by Senators Elizabeth Warren and Ed Markey, could address the root causes of migration and create a more humane system, according to WGBH. Furthermore, direct financial assistance from the federal government would alleviate much of the financial burden on Massachusetts, allowing the state to look for more sustainable solutions.

Finding a replacement for emergency shelters is also of utmost importance. They cannot be a long-term solution, and the state needs to invest in affordable housing options for migrants. This includes both transitional and permanent supportive housing. Collaborating with community organizations and private developers will play a vital role in expanding the housing options for migrants, and helping to meet their needs.

Without engaging the community, it will be impossible to move forward in solving this crisis. Open and transparent communication with Boston and Massachusetts communities is crucial to address concerns and build trust within the government. Community forums, town halls, and collaborative decision-making processes are essential for helping residents understand the issues at stake and encourage them to participate in creating solutions.

However, while providing immediate relief to migrants is our priority, we cannot forget to address the root causes behind the mass migration from Central and South America. Supporting international developmental initiatives, advocating for human rights, and helping establish better governmental procedures in those regions are crucial to putting a stop to mass migration to the U.S.

We cannot ignore the growing tension between Massachusetts residents and the migrants that have inhabited our state. To combat this, we must raise awareness about the complexities of the migrant crisis and light back against harmful stereotypes. Educational campaigns in schools and communities can foster empathy and understanding in our communities, and create a welcoming and inclusive environment for newcomers.

The migrant crisis in Massachusetts presents a formidable challenge that demands our urgent attention. Overflowing shelters, stretched budgets, and community division have forced this issue to the forefront of our state, but also the nation. We must find a compassionate and comprehensive approach to address the needs of both migrants and residents. While immediate relief measures are needed for sheltering and supporting these individuals, a long-term strategy must also be put in place to address the underlying issues causing their migration as well.

The Economic Development and Industrial Corporation of Boston (“EDIC”) d/b/a Boston Planning & Development Agency (“BPDA”) INVITATION FOR BID 12 Channel Street Platform & Canopy Repairs Dolores Fazzo; 617-918-6209; Dolores.Fazzo@boston.gov The Economic Development and Industrial Corporation of Boston (“EDIC”) d/b/a Boston Planning & Development Agency (“BPDA”), by its Chief Procurement Officer is pleased to issue this Invitation for Bid entitled “12 Channel Street Platform and Canopy Repairs” (the “IFB”). The IFB is issued in accordance with M.G.L. c. 149, §§ 44A – 44J, as may be amended. This IFB including requirements for this project will be available to download on the BPDA Procurement Portal free-of-charge in digital print form to all interested respondents on February 26, 2024 at 9:00 AM at www.bostonplans.org/work-with-us/procurement. All responses to this IFB must be returned no later than 12:00 noon on April 30, 2024 to: Teresa Polhemus, Clerk, Economic Development and Industrial Corporation c/o Real Estate Administration, One City Hall Square, Room 900/A/Reception, Boston MA 02210. Tim Mathis, Interim Chief Procurement Officer

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New Study Shows Significant Contributions by Migrants to U.S. Economy

By Sabrina Yeung

In an era where migration is often viewed through a lens of skepticism and controversy, emerging research is rapidly transforming the narrative, revealing the substantial economic contributions of migrants to global economies. The critical roles migrants play in enriching and diversifying economies around the world is starting to debunk myths surrounding their integration in modern society.

The Massachusetts Budget and Policy Center's report from February 7, 2024, sets a compelling precedent for the discussion on migrants' economic contributions. It meticulously outlines how immigrants are not just filling gaps in the workforce but are essential drivers of innovation and productivity enhancement across various sectors. The significance of this contribution becomes especially apparent in industries grappling with labor shortages and in sectors that are foundational to technological advancement and, consequently, economic growth.

Similarly, the ACLU's insights into immigrants and the economy serve to dismantle prevalent myths that migrants drain economic resources. Instead, it posits immigrants and the economy serve to diversify the demographic landscape, which is vital for economic resilience. A pivotal aspect of the discussion centers on the economic benefits of extending permanent legal status to unauthorized immigrants, as detailed by the White House Council of Economic Advisers in September 2021. Legal status is shown to significantly boost migrants' economic contributions by improving employment opportunities, increasing earnings potential, and thus enhancing overall tax revenues.

Forbes' Stuart Anderson, in a February 2023 article, emphasizes how immigrants endow economies with dynamism and foster employment growth. By introducing diverse skills and an entrepreneurial mindset, migrants contribute to creating a more competitive and innovative business environment.

The narrative around refugees often centers on humanitarian obligations, yet the economic dimensions of their integration remain underexplored. The White House Council of Economic Advisers' report sheds light on refugees' substantial economic contributions to the U.S. economy. Far from being mere beneficiaries of social support, refugees actively participate in the labor market, engage in entrepreneurship, and contribute to consumer spending, which in turn fuels economic growth and diversity. Their resilience and determination often lead to the creation of new businesses, generating employment and fostering innovation within communities.

George W. Bush Presidential Center's analysis on immigration benefits brings a regional perspective, highlighting the specific economic advantages of immigration within the North American context. It argues convincingly that the economic benefits of immigration substantially outweigh the costs. This regional analysis underscores the necessity for collaborative immigration policies that recognize and leverage the economic potential of migrants, suggesting that a cohesive approach can maximize benefits across borders.

The Cato Institute's testimony on how immigration fuels economic growth encapsulates the broader economic argument for embracing migrants. Immigration, it argues, are key to unlocking the economic potential of host countries. By fostering innovation, entrepreneurship, and cultural diversity, immigrants contribute to creating more robust and resilient economies. This perspective calls for policies that not only recognize the economic contributions migrants make but also actively facilitate their integration and participation in the economy.

Given the overwhelming evidence of migrants' positive impact on economic growth, innovation, and demographic vitality, the case for inclusive immigration policies has never been stronger. Extend- ing legal status, ensuring access to education and employment opportunities, and fostering an environment that values the contributions of migrants are crucial steps toward realizing the full economic potential of immigration.

The comprehensive analysis of recent research and reports highlights a clear conclusion: migrants are a vital force for economic growth, innovation, and societal advancement. Their contributions extend far beyond filling labor market gaps; they are instrumental in driving technological advancement, enhancing productivity, and contributing to the cultural and social fabric of host countries.

As global economies navigate the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century, the integration of migrants stands as a testament to the benefits of diversity and inclusion. By embracing the economic potential of migrants, countries can foster a more dynamic, innovative, and prosperous future.

This narrative, supported by data and research from various reputable sources, challenges outdated perceptions of migration and calls for a reevaluation of immigration policies. In doing so, it not only highlights the indispensable contributions of migrants to the economy but also underscores the importance of policy reforms that recognize migrants as key contributors for the benefit of all.
Job Corner

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- Position: Parking Cashier TNEMC Part Time, Evening shift
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  - Position: Dietary Aide, Full Time, Boston
  - Ability to operate simple mechanical devices such as coffee urn, dish machine, slicer, trash compactor.
  - Ability to use a knife for slicing, cutting, dicing.
  - Ability to read, speak basic English, and follow instructions
  - Position: Public Safety Officer I, Full Time, Melrose
  - High school diploma or equivalent
  - Valid state issued driver’s license.
  - Experience in military, security, or police.
  - Website: tuftsmedicalcenter.org
  - Contact: Steven Vanaria, svanaria@bostoncenterless.com
  - Apply at www.bostoncenterless.com

Boston Medical Center-Boston, MA
- Position: Patient Access Representative II, Full Time, Roslindale Clinic
  - HS/GED plus 3+ years relevant experience.
  - Associates plus 1 year relevant experience
  - Experience with medical billing or similar setting preferred.
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  - Apply at www.jobs.bmc.org
  - Contact: Caroline Caffer, 617-414-7066, caroline.caffer@bmc.org

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  - Contact: Steven Vanaria, svanaria@bostoncenterless.com

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  - Position: Part-time Cafeteria Attendant, 7-HOURS-Winthrop Elementary-7:00-2:00, FNS
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  - Position: Shipping & Receiving Worker, Full Time
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  - Valid Massachusetts drivers license with good record
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  - 5+ years of work experience, in warehouse
  - Website: https://www.bostonpublicschools.org/
  - Contact Info: Recruitment@bostonpublicschools.org

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
- Position: Outreach Specialist, Full Time
  - Knowledge of the laws, rules, regulations, policies, procedures, specifications, standards and guidelines governing assigned unit activities
  - Knowledge of the laws, rules and regulations governing the government benefit programs, especially transitional assistance programs.
  - Excellent written and oral communication skills.
  - Proficiency in using Microsoft Word and PowerPoint to produce highly formatted documentation.
  - Salary: 64,758.96 - 93,602.26 Yearly
  - Position: Assistant Secretary, Community Programs, Full Time
  - Shift day
  - Applicants must have at least (A) seven (7) years of full-time or, equivalent part-time, professional, administrative, supervisory, or managerial experience in business administration, business management, public administration, public management, clinical administration or clinical management of which (B) at least four (4) years must have been in a managerial capacity.
  - Salary: 85,000.00 - 130,000.00 Yearly
  - Website: https://www.mass.gov/

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- Position: Join the climate Corps., summer program, 24 hours per week
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  - To Apply, visit: www.eastiefarm.com/climatecorps

Museum of Science
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  - Seven (7) years of experience maintaining building mechanical systems, and plumbing systems, chilled water systems, steam heating systems and other related equipment in an educational, institutional, industrial or similar setting.
  - Ability to design, write specifications, provide drawings and analytical calculations for projects.
  - Salary $98,000 - $103,000 / year
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ABCD-Boston, MA
- Position: Food Access Support Specialist
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  - Must possess a valid driver’s license.
  - Position: Case Manager, Full Time East Boston
  - Minimum of high school diploma or equivalent, with up to one year of experience in case management, job development or general office support required.
  - Demonstrated proficiency in Microsoft Word and Excel required
  - Bilingual skills as needed.
  - Website: https://careers.bostonabcd.org/
  - Contact: Lavette Sealls, lavette.sealls@bostonabcd.org

The Boston Foundation
- Position: Project Manager, Full Time, Hybrid Schedule
  - Subject to change: Bachelor degree or equivalent experience required; and 3 – 4 years of work experience managing projects with a diverse range of stakeholders.
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  - Salary: $55,000 to $62,000 per year
  - To Apply, visit: https://www.tbfb.org/who-we-are/careers

MIT
- Position: Associate Director, Alumni Class Connections, Full Time, Hybrid
  - Bachelor’s degree five years experience, preferably in alumni relations, educational programming, or volunteer management in a nonprofit or university.
  - Two years’ experience supervising staff, setting goals, and managing performance and budgets; experience setting and implementing strategy, goals, and priorities under tight deadlines; excellent interpersonal, organizational, presentation, and written and oral communication skills.
  - Position: Director of Events, Full Time, Hybrid
  - Bachelor’s degree; five years’ experience, preferably leading an event production team
  - Experience with Zoom, Event, G Suite (e.g., Docs, Sheets), collaboration tools (e.g., Workfront, Slack), and Dropbox; familiarity with MIT; experience in higher education; knowledge of international cultures; and ability to speak a second language.
  - To Apply, visit: https://careers.peoplesclick.com/careers/scp/client_mit/external/jobDetails/startJobApp.html

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Governor Healey’s FY25 Budget Proposal Tightens Belts and Adjusts Priorities
By Tony Li

Analyzing the viability of a state budget will always fall into partisan zones. What’s good for one group will invariably be criticized by another. Writing in a January 26th, 2024 post on Masslive.com, John L. Micek put it succinctly while reflecting on the sometimes desperate measures we all take to adjust our priorities based on available funds:

“They’re all short-term fixes that get you where you need to be. And they solve the immediate problem. But it’s not exactly the way you want to keep covering expenses over the long haul.”

Sampan spoke to Massachusetts residents about their concerns over Governor Healey’s budget proposal. One of the most striking aspects of Healey’s budget proposal is the substantial cuts earmarked for MCI Concord and Head Start. The decision to cut $16 million from MCI Concord questions some from facts about the administration’s approach to corrections and rehabilitation. With concerns growing in the community about the need for effective rehabilitation programs, slashing funds for MCI Concord could have far-reaching consequences on inmate well-being and public safety. Similarly, the $2.5 million cut to Head Start raises alarms about the accessibility of early childhood education for low-income families. Head Start programs play a crucial role in providing disadvantaged children with essential educational and social support, and any reduction in funding threatens to widen existing disparities in education.

Leaders in the corrections system express apprehension over the potential consequences of reduced funding for MCI Concord. They emphasize the importance of rehabilitation programs to reduce recidivism rates and promote successful reintegration into society. Similarly, advocates for early childhood education decry the cuts to Head Start, citing research underscoring the long-term benefits of investing in rehabilitation programs to reduce recidivism and increase productivity, elevating overall prosperity.

Investing in education not only benefits individuals but also augments societal welfare by fostering human capital development. Access to quality education at lower costs, coupled with free meals, is poised to incentivize higher enrollment rates in both primary and higher education. Over the long run, this translates to a more skilled workforce and increased productivity, elevating overall prosperity. Further, Sampan interviewed a Springfield resident who had this to say about the future of the immigrants or subsidizing the Roxbury Recreation Center into a migrant housing option, noting the importance of providing shelter and support for those in need.

As communities grapple with the impact of delays every day trying to get to work on time, the question of what holds greater weight comes into play. Governor Maura Healey’s FY25 budget proposal is poised to incentivize higher enrollment rates in both primary and higher education, making it financially viable in the long term.

Additional funding for Head Start programs will be available to download on the BPDA Procurement Portal at bostonplans.org/work-with-us/procurement-portal. All responses to this IFB must be returned no later than 12:00 (noon) on Monday, March 21, 2024.

Applications are available for on-line access at www.theneighborhoodjobs.org. You may email your proposal to a Central Avenue, Chelsea, MA 02150. Alternatively, applicants can request paper forms to be sent to them via mail or email. The application period is from January 17th, 2024 through April 22nd, 2024. Deadline for Completion of Application is extended by 4 pm, April 22nd, 2024.

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The Bristol Development Authority ("BDA") of a boston Planning & Development Agency ("BPDA")

INVITATION FOR BIDS
Chelsea Street Historic Fence Rehabilitation

Riley Moran, Interim Chief Procurement Officer

Boston Redevelopment Authority ("BRA")

d/b/a Boston Planning & Development Agency ("BPDA")

INVITATION FOR BIDS
Chelsea Street Historic Fence Rehabilitation

Riley Moran, Interim Chief Procurement Officer

The Boston Redevelopment Authority ("BRA") of a boston Planning & Development Agency ("BPDA"), by its Chief Procurement Officer ("CPO"), is pleased to issue this Invitation for Bid ("IFB") to perform repair services for the "Chelsea Street Historic Fence Rehabilitation".

This IFB package will be available to download on the BPDA Procurement Portal free-of-charge in digital print form to all interested respondents on February 19, 2024, 9:00 A.M. at bostonplans.org/work-with-us/procurement-portal. All responses to this IFB must be returned no later than 12:00 (noon) on Monday, March 21, 2024, to: Teresa Polhemus, Secretary, Boston Planning & Development Agency, One City Hall Square, Room 900A/Receptionist, Boston, MA 02201-1007. Tim Mathis, Interim Chief Procurement Officer

Sampan spoke to Massachusetts residents about their concerns over Governor Healey’s budget proposal. One of the most striking aspects of Healey’s budget proposal is the substantial cuts earmarked for MCI Concord and Head Start. The decision to cut $16 million from MCI Concord could have far-reaching consequences on inmate well-being and public safety. Similarly, the $2.5 million cut to Head Start raises alarms about the accessibility of early childhood education for low-income families. Head Start programs play a crucial role in providing disadvantaged children with essential educational and social support, and any reduction in funding threatens to widen existing disparities in education.

Leaders in the corrections system express apprehension over the potential consequences of reduced funding for MCI Concord. They emphasize the importance of rehabilitation programs to reduce recidivism rates and promote successful reintegration into society. Similarly, advocates for early childhood education decry the cuts to Head Start, citing research underscoring the long-term benefits of investing in rehabilitation programs to reduce recidivism and increase productivity, elevating overall prosperity. Further, Sampan interviewed a Springfield resident who had this to say about the future of the immigrants or subsidizing the Roxbury Recreation Center into a migrant housing option, noting the importance of providing shelter and support for those in need.

As communities grapple with the impact of delays every day trying to get to work on time, the question of what holds greater weight comes into play. Governor Maura Healey’s FY25 budget proposal is poised to incentivize higher enrollment rates in both primary and higher education, making it financially viable in the long term.

Additionally, the budget’s treatment of the migrant crisis underscores the complexity of addressing this immense humanitarian challenge with limited financial commitments. Sampan has heard growing complaints in communities being “forced to help”; that the proposed budget cuts will exacerbate the sense of unfairness. “As communities grapple with the impact of migration on their resources and infrastructure, it becomes critical that we have an open and transparent discussion with the politicians. It’s not happening in Roxbury,” said a Roxbury parent.

Current calls for fairness by local communities regarding the migrant crisis highlight the need for comprehensive and compassionate solutions. Recent efforts to provide shelter and assistance to migrant families have led to tensions within local communities. The backlash arising from Governor Healey’s decision to transform Roxbury Recreation Center into a migrant shelter was strong. “It’s a shame we can’t find those funds for the homeless issue. And taking away the rec center which for many youths in the area is the most stable safe space they have, seems like a terrible idea,” one local resident commented. A student and former member of the Rec Center simply stated, “Why Roxbury, of all places?”

The budget proposal regarding the T was an emotional topic for everyone we spoke with. “What’s more important? Housing the immigrants or subsidizing the T?” one Dorchester resident mused. “For me, I am torn but I am getting pretty sick of delays every day trying to get to work on time.” The question what holds greater importance—providing shelter and support for immigrants seeking refuge in our communities or ensuring affordable and efficient public transit for all—weighed heavily on the minds of many individuals we interviewed and many, in the end, said they couldn’t answer that question. A university student said, “Too little is being invested into the T, but it is a sticky situation since the governor has to get extra funding by cutting it from one place to fund grants or by increasing taxes which makes it hard.” A high school student stated, “I don’t think anything will change no matter what Healey does.”

Amidst the pressing concerns surrounding recent displacement of the homeless population, many Massachusetts residents are agitated by concurrent fiscal challenges. With revenue shortfalls exceeding $1 billion in the current fiscal year, coupled with a proposed $375 million cut to address this fiscal deficit, skepticism and apprehension loom large across the state. MassHealth takes the biggest hit in Healey’s budget with an estimated slash of around $294 million. One significant change is in the PCA (Personal Care Attendant) Program for disabled patients living alone at home. This budget is pursuing flat-line spending and controlling costs through restrictions on eligibility and a cap on hours authorized for meal preparation. “Altering eligibility criteria for individuals receiving less than 10 hours of services per week could leave many vulnerable individuals without the support they desperately need,” a Mass General intern has observed. “I need my PCA in a way a working parent needs reliable childcare,” explained a PCA patient to this reporter.

Sampan also spoke with a Springfield resident who had this to say about the future. “Governor Maura Healey’s FY25 budget proposal demonstrates a commitment to fostering an environment where all residents can thrive. With a focus on infrastructure, education, and social services, it sets a promising path for not only specific parts of Massachusetts. An impassioned mom of an MCI Concord resident told us that Healey didn’t care one bit about people. She is afraid of what the governor will do to her son and she wants the chance to start again. “My son needs the rehabilitative services at MCI Concord. He may not speak, and all he needs is counseling and education to start again. If the governor pulls everything out, he will fall after his release and be homeless.”

Rehabilitative programs for my son is the best investment for our society to get him to start working again and giving back to society.
Events Calendar

- 2/18 Chinese New Year Lion Dance Parade
  Celebrate the Year of the Dragon in Boston's Chinatown with the annual Chinese New Year Lion Dance Parade. The parade begins at Chinatown Park, Saturdays, 10am - 4pm on February 18, 2024. https://www.boston.gov/calendar/2024-chinese-new-year-lion-dance-parade

- Chinese American Heritage Foundation
  4th Lunar New Year Rolling (car) Parade
  Dates: Noon, March 4, 2024
  Description: Opening ceremony will be at Boston Chinatown Gate. With more than 15 cars and motorcycles, special Parade Marshall and Miss Chinese Boston, local elected officials, lion dances celebration and more.
  https://www.caahf.us/

- Voices
  Date and Time: Saturday, March 2nd, 2024
  (6-8 pm & Sunday, March 3rd, 2024 (4-6 pm)
  Venue: Academy of Creative Arts, 21 A Stree, Burlington, MA

- Boston Parks Winter Fitness Series
  Dates: January 7 - April 6
  Class Offerings: Zumba, Yoga, Kick Boxing, Cardio, Strength, Tai Chi, and more
  Class Format: 4 in-person classes weekly at local community centers, 7 virtual classes weekly.
  Cost: FREE
  https://www.boston.gov/fitness

- BPS (Boston Public School) Sundays Admission Free
  Dates: First and Second Sundays from February to August 2024
  BPS Sundays Admission is a partnership between the City of Boston, Boston Public Schools, and six cultural institutions to provide BPS students with free access to enriching cultural experiences.
  Eligibility: Boston Public Schools students and up to three family members.
  Admission: FREE

- Harvard's Hasty Pudding Theatricals: HEIST, HEIST, BABY!
  Presented By: The Hasty Pudding Theatricals
  Dates: February 4, 2024 - March 3, 2024
  Venue: Farkas Hall, 12 Holyoke St, Cambridge, MA 02138
  Admission: $35 for weekdays, $45 for weekends
  Celebrating its 175th show, the Hasty Pudding Theatricals invites you to a spectacular whodunit featuring a dramatic art heist, presented in their signature style.

- Snowport Winter Village
  Dates: November 10, 2023 - February 25, 2024
  Hours: Monday to Thursday: 4:00 pm - 9:00 pm, Friday: 4:00 pm - 10:00 pm, Saturday: 11:00 am - 10:00 pm, Sunday: 11:00 am - 8:00 pm
  Location: Seaport Common
  Features: Holiday market with over 120 small businesses, iceless curling, Christmas tree market, rooftop igloos, outdoor fun & games.
  Admission: Free (Activity costs may vary)
  www.bostonsnowport.com

- Commerford Kid's Fun Fair and Traveling Zoo
  Dates: Saturday, February 17, 2024 - Monday, February 19, 2024
  Hours: Saturday: 10:00 am - 7:00 pm, Sunday: 10:00 am - 6:00 pm, Monday (Wilmington MA Show Only): 10:00 am - 6:00 pm
  Features: Indoor event, family-friendly; Animal and kiddie rides; Games, petting zoo, souvenirs
  Ticket Prices for Rides: 12 tickets for $21 ($3 savings), 24 tickets for $42 ($6 savings), 36 tickets for $63 ($9 savings)
  Note: Animal rides cost 4 tickets, kiddie rides cost 2 tickets.
  Admission: Free with museum admission
  https://commerfordzoo.com

- Children's Winter Festival
  Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2024
  Time: 11:00 am - 2:00 pm
  Location: Boston Common Parade Ground, corner of Beacon and Charles Street
  Hosted By: Mayor Michelle Wu and the Boston Parks and Recreation Department
  Features: Music, giveaways, winter activities, treats, and crafts
  Admission: FREE
  www.boston.gov/calendar/2024-childrens-winter-festival

-珠江新年舞龙游行
  2月18日，波士顿第一“社区齐聚”将在波士顿第一“社区齐聚”为背景，与Get Connected、中国文化委员会、Raymond Hammond、Linda Champion、Viva Pham等组织和波士顿第一社区的其他机构合作，举办了一项丰富的历史和多元文化社区的活动，讲述了在团结和进步的前沿。此次活动中在波士顿市的社区居民共同创造更多的合作和社区建设的机会。