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Malden observes solemn Memorial Day Ceremonies



Mayor Gary Christenson is shown addressing the attendees during Monday's annual Memorial Day ceremonies at Forest Dale Cemetery. (Courtesy photo)

Special to The Advocate

Despite the rain, Mayor Gary Christenson and Fire Commissioner Emery Haskell welcomed elected officials and the Malden community on Memorial

Day at Forest Dale Cemetery to honor the men and women who gave the ultimate sacrifice for our Nation's freedom. Commissioner Haskell, Retired U.S. Commander Naval Surface Forces Atlantic, who is also a

Bronze Star Recipient for meritorious achievement in Operation Iraqi Freedom, emceed the ceremony. The Boy Scouts led all in the Pledge of Allegiance, and

CEREMONIES | SEE PAGE 3

Spring is a time of rejuvenation at the Malden Public Library



Workers are shown repairing the atrium recently.

Special to The Advocate

The Malden Public Library (MPL) Board of Trustees is undertaking several restoration projects this spring to preserve

the historic Converse Memorial Building. All expenses related to the Library's maintenance, upkeep and restoration projects

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MOA Comedy Night raises \$11K+ for recovery support services!

Special to The Advocate

Laughter, hope and community filled the room on May 14, 2026, evening as Malden Overcoming Addiction (MOA) hosted its annual Comedy Night fundraiser — raising more than \$11,000 to support recovery coach services, sober home scholarship assistance and other recovery initiatives throughout the community. The event brought together residents, advocates, families, community leaders and supporters for an evening centered on healing, resilience and second chance



Malden Overcoming Addiction (MOA) President Paul Hammersley (left) and Mayor Gary Christenson are shown during MOA's annual Comedy Night fundraiser. (Courtesy photo)

es. Guests heard powerful stories from speakers Marty, Vanessa and Michelle, who shared personal experiences of recovery, redemption and hope. The speakers emphasized the importance of connection, compassion and continued support for individuals and families impacted by substance use disorder. They also highlighted the ongoing work of The Bridge Recovery Center and the MOA parent support group in helping them and others navigate recovery.

The evening opened with Mayor Gary Christenson thanking MOA for its continued efforts

to reduce stigma, raise awareness and help prevent overdose fatalities throughout the city. The mayor reaffirmed the city's commitment to supporting recovery initiatives and community partnerships.

MOA President Paul Hammersley shared part of his own personal recovery journey and offered heartfelt thanks to Mayor Christenson for believing in him, recognizing his potential and giving him an opportunity during a pivotal time in his life. He thanked everyone in atten-

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LIBRARY (FROM PAGE 1)

are funded through the trust established by local businessman and philanthropist, Elsie Converse more than a century ago, plus generous donations from individuals, families and corporations. Since MPL is housed in a historic building — a true treasure in Malden — certain annual repairs are necessary to maintain its elegance and integrity. The Library Director and Board of Trustees develop a long-term, strategic plan that outlines items that need restoration, repair or replacement, and prioritize accordingly.

"Turn sure you can imagine the necessary constant upkeep and maintenance on the building and utilities for a structure like the Library. There are always the surprise and unexpected maintenance items that come up and need to be addressed. These can be very expensive," explained the Trustee/Vice President and Chair of the Building and Grounds Committee, Greg Lundy. "Repairing and sometimes having to re-



Scaffolding is shown around the historic Malden Public Library exterior.

place items, such as HVAC and AC systems, leaky roofs, elevators, etc., keeps our constant attention."

He continued, "The Trustees are able to combine donated funds along with trust funds to maintain the building, and also take on projects to benefit the community" which he said include the recently restored Olmsted Garden in front of the library, three smaller study rooms and public bathrooms.

This spring the Library is:

- Replacing leaking skylights
- Upgrading the Children's Room with fresh paint and replacing broken ceiling tiles
- Refreshing or replacing carpets, especially in heavy traffic areas
- Reflooring the offices by removing the linoleum from the 1920s to showcase the beautiful wood floor that famed architect H.H. Richardson installed in the space
- Preserving or replacing vintage basement windows

- Restoring walls, including plaster work, masonry and repainting
- Replacing the front doors on Park Street

The total cost for these projects is expected to top \$200,000, all of which will be paid by the Library without using taxpayer funds. The Trustees — nine local Malden residents who donate their time, energy and expertise — oversee the trust, ensuring responsible stewardship. "Each year, we prioritize a few big projects, and request dona-

tions to fund them. Since our wonderful donors, such as the Adelaide Beed Raynd Foundation, supplement the trust, it makes the money go farther so we can get more done. The Library has built and cultivated strong relationships with people in the city, who generously donate to the Library via projects like these," explained Library Director Dora St. Martin.

For more information about MPL, visit <https://maldenpubliclibrary.org>.



**LEGAL NOTICE -
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MALDEN PLANNING BOARD

and

MALDEN CITY COUNCIL ORDINANCE COMMITTEE

PUBLIC HEARING

The Malden Planning Board and Malden City Council Rules & Ordinance Committee will jointly hold a public hearing in the Herbert L. Jackson Council Chamber, Malden City Hall, 215 Pleasant Street, Malden, MA at 7:00 P.M. Wednesday, June 19, 2024, in accordance with Section 12.32.050 of Title 12 of the Code of the City of Malden (MCC), regarding the petition for zoning amendments, as proposed in City Council Paper #276/2024, to amend the following sections of Title 12, MCC as follows:

Sen. Lewis announces