

**What's Happening This Week...**

- [Yoon Appointed Chair of Housing, Hunger & Homelessness Committees](#)
- [Lunar New Year: The Year of the Dog](#)
- [Community Considers Fields Corner Mall Future](#)
- [NEWS YOU CAN USE: Mayor's Hopeline Coming Soon](#)
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- [Help Make Our Newsletter Better](#)

**Community Meetings & Events**

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**Grove Hall Community Meeting**

New Boston Pilot Middle School  
270 Columbia Road  
Grove Hall  
February 9, 2006  
6:00PM - 8:00PM  
5:30PM Reception

**Department of Neighborhood Development Community Meeting**

First Parish Church  
10 Parish Street  
Dorchester, MA  
February 8, 2006  
6:30PM  
For Addt'l Info: Christopher Rooney-617.635.0493

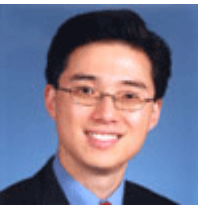
**Boston Public Schools FY 2007 Budget Hearings**

Mary E. Curley Middle School  
493 Centre Street  
Jamaica Plain, MA  
February 8, 2006  
6:00PM - 8:00PM

[BPS Budget Hearings Information](#)

**Weekly Update From Sam Yoon**

From the Office of City Councilor At-Large Sam Yoon February 8, 2006



Dear Reader,

This is the first in a series of regular updates to keep you connected with what my office is doing to serve you. The purpose of this e-mail update is to keep you informed of legislative issues at the City Council, current events, and community news.

Keep me updated too! The more I hear from you and understand the issues you care about, the better I can do my job as your At-Large City Councilor. Additionally, if you have any questions, comments or concerns about this newsletter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sam Yoon

**Yoon Appointed Chair of Housing, Hunger & Homelessness Committees**

[President Flaherty Announces Committee Assignments](#)

President Flaherty announced committee assignments last week, appointing Councilor Yoon to Chair both the Housing Committee and the Hunger & Homelessness Committee.

Additionally, Councilor Yoon will serve as Vice Chair of the Committees on Employment & Workforce Development and Public Utilities & Cable Communications. Accompanying his chair responsibilities, Councilor Yoon will serve as a member on Education, Human Rights, New Bostonians, PILOT Agreements, Whole and Youth Affairs. For more information on committee assignments, click on the link below.

[City Council Committee Assisgnments](#)

**Lunar New Year: The Year of the Dog**

農曆新年

Gung hay fat choy Sun nien fai lok  
(May you become prosperous, Happy New Year)

On January 29th, the Lunar New Year began, concluding the Year of the Rooster. New Year celebrations will continue until the full moon on February 13th, or shortly thereafter. This year, the Year of the Dog, is a "double-spring" year, which means that the year begins and ends

**Black History Month Event:  
The African-American  
Health Experience**

Vine Street Community Center  
339 Dudley Street  
Roxbury, MA  
February 25, 2006  
8:00AM-5:00PM  
Free Admission, Free Parking

**February Escape: South  
End's Winter Block Party**

USES' Harriet Tubman House  
566 Columbus Ave.  
Boston, MA  
February 9, 2006  
7:00PM - 10:00PM

**Hotel Workers Rising!**

Ritz Carlton Hotel  
Grand Ballroom  
15 Arlington St.  
Boston, Massachusetts 02205  
February 18, 2006  
11:30AM - 12:30PM  
With Speakers Senator John  
Edwards and Actor Danny  
Glover

[Unite Here!](#)

**Boston Unplugged:  
Mapping a Wireless Future**

Benjamin Franklin Institute of  
Technology  
Main Auditorium  
41 Berkeley Street  
Boston, MA 02116  
February 15, 2006  
9:00AM - 11:00AM  
To reserve seat, please call  
617.338.4390  
Click on link below for more  
info.

[The Boston Foundation](#)

during lunar springtime. The New Year is a time for celebration, dance and luck.

Councilor Yoon spent some time enjoying the New Year festivities both as guest and honoree. Last month, Councilor Yoon was recognized at the Chinese New Year Gala of Chinatown Main Streets at the Empire Garden Restaurant in Chinatown. He and his family also attended the New Year celebration at the Vietnamese Community Center in Dorchester and the New Year Dinner of the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association of New England. The celebratory events for the Lunar New Year extend well into the springtime.

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**Community Considers Fields Corner Mall Future**  
[Yoon Supports Community Concerns](#)

Residents and organizations in the Fields Corner community of Dorchester have been discussing the Fields Corner Mall, the businesses that should reside there and the overall benefit the plaza brings to the community. Much focus has been on the mall recently, primarily due to the return of Midland Foods which operated a supermarket in the mall until 2004. Many in the community who are concerned about the Midland Foods management, who have a history of sanitary and health code violations.

Councilor Yoon and staff have been working with representatives from Fields Corner Main Streets, ACORN and the Fields Corner Civic Association to address community concerns. He will be meeting with those groups together with city and local officials on February 14th.

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**NEWS YOU CAN USE: Mayor's Hopeline Coming  
Soon**

[2006 Summer Job Registration/Information](#)

On Tuesday, February 21st the Mayor's Hopeline will officially open. The Hopeline allows teenagers to pre-register for summer employment. All residents of the City of Boston between the ages of 15 and 17 are encouraged to register for a summer job with the Boston Youth Fund Hopeline between February 21st and February 23rd.

The Hopeline is the only application process and is opened for a limited time. Don't miss out! Only registered applicants are eligible to work for the Boston Youth Fund. Click on the link below to find out more information or call (617) 635-HOPE.

[How to Register](#)

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**NEWS YOU CAN USE: Housing Information**  
[Homeowner and Homebuyer Programs](#)

As newly appointed Chairperson of the City Council Housing Committee Councilor Yoon would like to inform you of city and state programs available to homeowners and homebuyers.

Each week, different programs will be highlighted for your convenience.

Please contact our office if you would like more information on any of the programs below. All books and brochures offered free of charge.

1. Leak Up To Owner Program (LUTO) - Homeowners who have experienced clogs or leaks to their lateral pipes may be eligible for a one time reimbursement from the city. For more information visit [www.bwsc.org](http://www.bwsc.org).
2. Homestead Laws- The amount of protected home equity has been increased to \$500,000 per permanent residence or \$500,000 per individual over the age of 62 (subject to certain provisions). This equity is protected from future creditors' attachments and levies. For more information visit [www.suffolkdeeds.com/homestead.asp](http://www.suffolkdeeds.com/homestead.asp).
3. Home Improvement Guide- The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has produced a guide for home improvement projects. The guide outlines homeowner and contractor responsibilities. This is a must for homeowners to protect against irresponsible contractors. For more information visit: [www.mass.gov/consumer](http://www.mass.gov/consumer).

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### Help Make Our Newsletter Better

You have received this newsletter because you supported Councilor Yoon throughout his campaign. In the future there will be an opportunity to subscribe to the Weekly Update From Sam Yoon. Watch for announcements!

If you would like to share information about an event or meeting in your community, please contact Harry Harding in our office via email or phone using the contact information below.

#### Follow up Links

- [City Of Boston](#)
- [Community Event Search](#)
- [Boston Housing Authority](#)
- [My Neighborhood/My District](#)

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web: <http://www.cityofboston.gov/citycouncil>