

MAKING NEWS



A SWIMMABLE CHARLES

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Bostonians Take A Dip In The Charles River

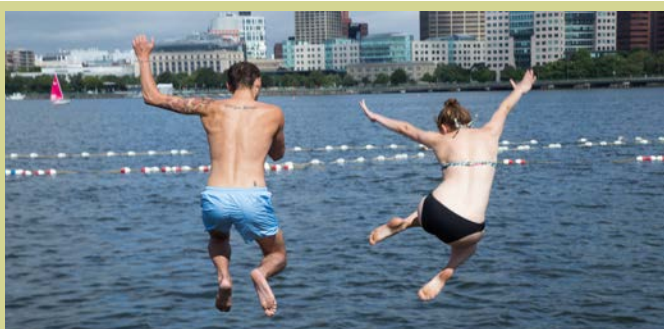
Robin Lubbock & Abby Elizabeth Conway - July 14, 2015

Around 200 swimmers headed to the Fiedler Dock on the Esplanade Tuesday to take part in the first of two sanctioned Charles River swimming events this summer.

It's the third year in a row that the Charles River Conservancy has invited people to take a dip in the river. After 40 years of cleaning up the river, von Tscharnner says swimming in the Charles is "a historic experience to enjoy what the river is for."

S.J. Port, the Charles River Conservancy's Director of Communications, says the group is pushing to establish a regular swimming area in the next two years.

State Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Matthew Beaton (right) was among those taking a dip in the Charles this July.
(Robin Lubbock/WBUR)



THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Fans of Boston's 'Dirty Water' Take the Plunge

By Jennifer Levitz - July 14, 2015

"Swim in the Charles? I was like, 'Are you kidding me?'" said Francene Lindquist, 56 year old, a kindergarten teacher from Saugus, who read about the event late Monday night and promptly signed up.

STATE HOUSE 
NEWS SERVICE

Beaton makes Charles River dive to highlight cleanup

Antonio Caban/SHNS - July 14, 2015

Looking to wash away a decades old stigma, Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Matthew Beaton front flipped into the Charles River on Tuesday afternoon reminiscent of former Gov. William Weld's plunge into the river. "It's a great day. It's nice to be able to get out here and swim in the Charles. I remember when I was a young boy you wouldn't even think twice about it, but now thanks to the great work of our state and federal partners and all of our advocacy friends we are able to now swim in this beautiful resource," said Beaton, who spoke to reporters while treading water on the side of Fiedler Dock. Beaton, who described the part of the river he jumped in as "perfectly clean," joins the ranks of other officials, like Weld and former Sen. Robert Durand (D-Marlborough), who jumped in the river August 1996 after Weld signed into law a bill protecting the state's rivers and streams from pollution.

LYNCH FAMILY SKATEPARK



Excerpt from "Proper Bostonians" by Dana Bisbee
January 14, 2015

The Charles River Conservancy celebrated the forthcoming Lynch Family Skatepark with a party on December 11 at the offices of Stantec, the company designing the recreational area under the Zakim Bridge. Carolyn and Peter Lynch and their daughter joined supporters for cocktails and an update on the design and construction. The 80 guests raised \$60,000.

Mrs. Carolyn Lynch and husband Mr. Peter Lynch at the Charles River Conservancy's event for the Lynch Family Skatepark in December 2014. Mrs. Lynch passed away October 1.
(Dana Bisbee/Improper Bostonian)



Mourning the Loss of Philanthropist Carolyn Lynch

The Conservancy and many other organizations lost a great friend and supporter with the passing of philanthropist Carolyn A. Lynch. Mrs. Lynch died Thursday, October 1, of complications following the onset of Acute Myeloid Leukemia. As President and Chief Executive Office of the Lynch Foundation, Mrs. Lynch touched many lives, including those at the Conservancy. The Conservancy's Lynch Family Skatepark is named for the Lynch Family and their enormous support over the past 15 years.



Born of the Big Dig, project finally breaks ground

Joanna Weiss – May 05, 2015

It was born of the Big Dig, so perhaps it's no surprise that it has taken so long for the Lynch Family Skatepark to break ground. But momentum built slowly and time ticked on — and construction finally started late last month. This fall's expected opening will owe itself to one tenacious advocacy group, a few big donors, a corporate sponsor (Vans), and a small but passionate constituency. It will prove that public works projects can yield unexpected spoils — and that a park doesn't have to be green to be glorious.

The Boston Globe



Cambridge legislators vote to override Baker vetoes

August 9, 2015

Legislators also voted to override Baker's veto of funding for the Lynch Family Skatepark in Cambridge. The override restores \$138,000 that had been set aside to help fund the Charles River Conservancy's environmental remediation efforts at the skatepark site. "I am proud to have worked with my colleagues in the Cambridge delegation to secure this funding for the Lynch Family Skatepark," said Toomey. "The skatepark project is not just about building a great new public recreational facility. It is also contributing to the cleanup and revitalization of the Charles River Basin."

WICKED LOCAL CAMBRIDGE
WITH NEWS FROM THE CAMBRIDGE CHRONICLE & TAB



Cambridge skatepark completion slated for late fall

Sara Feijo – August 19, 2015

Construction for the long-awaited skatepark at North Point in East Cambridge is slated to be complete in late fall, according to the Charles River Conservancy. "We are more than halfway done. We're done with the majority of work in remediating the brownfield," said spokesperson SJ Port. "Most of the work going forward focuses on the skatepark construction and finishing touches. The skatepark has been designed to attract athletes of all levels, and it will serve as a venue for professional skating events."

Lynch Family Skatepark under construction.
(Courtesy of Brody Walsh for the Charles River Conservancy)



GUESTS ON THE CONSERVANCY'S PARKLANDS TV SHOW

OVER 100 SHOWS ARE AVAILABLE ON YOUTUBE



Sal DiDomenico, State Senator
September 23, 2015

"...The fact that you're there, and you were pushing to make it happen, and that you have a track record of accomplishments... The work you've put in all these years with so many different issues allowed us to go to bat for that money, and we were able to secure it." – *Senator DiDomenico, on securing brownfield funding for the Lynch Family Skatepark*



Dennis Benzan, Former Vice Mayor of Cambridge
March 25, 2015

"When I think about development, I think 'How do we improve the public realm?' I appreciate your commitment to making sure the Charles River is improved and that we continue to invest in it as a city and as a state." – *Former Cambridge Vice Mayor Dennis Benzan, on the Conservancy's continuing advocacy for the Charles River*



Cathie Zusy, Cambridgeport Neighborhood Association
November 12, 2014

It [the Conservancy Volunteers Program] has been essential to maintaining the park... I'm incredibly grateful to the Charles River Conservancy. This effort is really a community effort of professional volunteers donating their time and talents. – *Cathie Zusy, on the importance of volunteering at Magazine Beach*

Charles River Conservancy founder to receive Stratton Prize

March 02, 2015

Charles River Conservancy founder and president Renata von Tscharner has been chosen by the Friends of Switzerland to receive this year's Julius Adams Stratton Award for Intercultural Achievement. The Friends of Switzerland Inc. (FOSI) annually awards the prize to "eminent persons in the USA and Switzerland who exemplify the fruitfulness of the exchange of ideas and technologies between our two countries." "Renata's work is inspired by the urban livability concepts of her native Switzerland," said FOSI President Larry Grob. "Whether it was the vision of well-maintained public parks, river swimming or safer and uninterrupted bicycling along the shores, she translated them into reality. She has become a powerful advocate pulling in support from individuals, foundations and corporations to implement her vision."

Chronicle



Conservancy founder and President Renata von Tscharner receives FOSI's Stratton Award on May 8, 2015. (Felix Moesner/SwissNex)

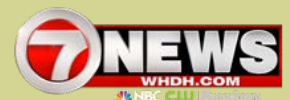


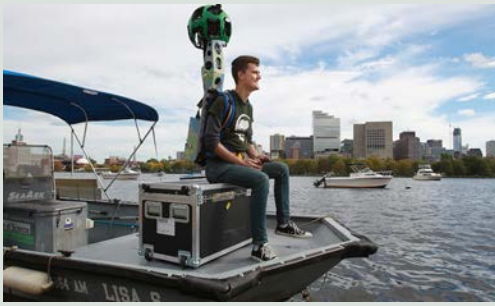
Harpoon's brewing facility. (Wendy Maeda/Boston Globe)

Harpoon's newest brew offers up a taste of the Charles River

Susan Tran – September 01, 2015

Harpoon Brewery plans to create a new type beer manufactured from water taken from the Charles River. Newton-based Desalitech took 400 gallons of water from the Charles River, filtered it, and made 18 kegs of Harpoon's new "Charles River Pale Ale," available at Harpoon's Boston brewery. "It's kind of a fun thing to take water people think is unsuitable and use it as a brewing ingredient that demands highest level of purity," said Harpoon President Charles Story. Using the river water will also help the river's reputation of having dirty water. "The stigma attached to that water is so powerful," said Charles River Conservancy head Renata von Tscharner.





Conservancy employee Evan Bradley sits at the front of the Charles River Cleanup Boat wearing Google's Trekker Camera. (Suzanne Kreiter/Boston Globe)

Google and its Trekker camera are making a virtual tour of the Charles

Nidhi Subbaraman – October 14, 2015

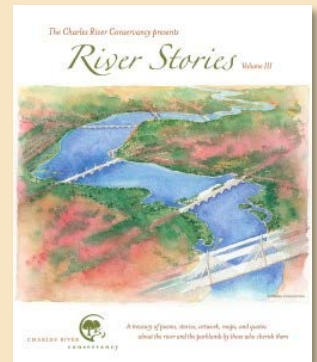
**The Boston Globe
Business**

It's official: The Charles River is going virtual. For two weeks this month, Google has loaned out its famous "Trekker" camera to the Charles River Conservancy, a nonprofit, to take a panoramic portrait of the river from the Watertown Dam to the Boston Harbor. The camera had a decidedly low-tech carrier: part-time Conservancy employee Evan Bradley, a 22-year-old graduate of Northeastern University who sat at the front of the boat through the trip, with the Trekker hoisted on his back.

The Conservancy presents River Stories III

"This new volume of River Stories captures in lovingly rendered words and illustrations the profound connection so many of us have to the Charles River -- its history and natural beauty, its many moods and secrets. From descriptions of the eminent architecture that lines the river to the heroic efforts to widen its green banks, these tales will help make real the dream of a vibrant, swimmable, accessible Charles." – Renée Loth, editor, *ArchitectureBoston* magazine

River Stories III, the Charles River Conservancy's 15th anniversary publication, is now available for purchase. Featuring stories and poetry from authors including Tom Ashbrook, David Ferry, Stephen Greenblatt, & Megan Marshall, artwork from local artists, and special maps of the Charles' bridges and boathouses, *River Stories III* is a beautiful tribute to the Charles River parklands, and the emotional connections we build with them. You can purchase your own copy of *River Stories III* at www.TheCharles.org.



River Stories III cover art by Frank Costantino

Social media from our Conservancy Volunteers



Volunteers on the Charles River parklands. (Courtesy Crossroads for Kids)

With over 2,000 followers on Facebook, 1,800 on Twitter, and mentions in posts by our CV partners, the Conservancy often makes a splash in social media.



"In partnership with The Charles River Conservancy, YES is offering a new program: Skateboarding for Good. After three weeks of community service, YES teens will earn a skateboard to use at the Lynch Family Skatepark in Cambridge when it opens this year."



"@WinterWyman: Thank you @CharlesRiverCRC for a great time yesterday! #CommunityService"



"@Crossroads4Kids: Wow! What a great cleanup day on the Charles River with @CharlesRiverCRC!"

Allston Esplanade could emerge from Pike Project

Editorial – December 16, 2014

The Boston Globe

The overhaul of Interstate 90 at the Allston interchange is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to create a beautiful new space rich in public amenities on a wedge of land between the BU Bridge and the DoubleTree Suites hotel. Bike and walking trails should be high priorities, as should the creation of a large riverfront park, which could be accomplished by shifting Soldiers Field Road as far away from the riverbank as possible. "If done right, the narrowest, nastiest, and noisiest thread of Charles River parklands could be transformed into the Allston Esplanade, the next great civic space in Boston," said Harry Mattison, a board member of the Charles River Conservancy.



A rendering of the proposed Allston Esplanade as part of the I-90 Realignment Project. (BSA)