

From: Buzby, Maureen <mbuzby@cityofmelrose.org>

Sent: Sep 09, 2025 22:01:28.000000000 UTC

Subject: RE: Gratitude, Joy + Commonwealth Heroines: Would love to stay connected!

To: Barbara Best <barbarabest73@gmail.com>

Thank you so much for your response. I remember you now!!
My friend Bonny Carroll is the Tobacco Program Director for
Somerville/Cambridge/Chelsea/Everett/Revere/Winthrop.
Somerville adopted NFG this past spring. I understand from Bonny that
the Cambridge Assistant City Solicitor is looking at trying to change the
Tobacco sales regs from a city ordinance to a BOH regulation. That
would potentially smooth the way for adoption of NFG. Cambridge is
generally a leader in public health innovation. Hope to see them come on
board. That would be a huge add.
We currently have 500,000 residents in 17 communities covered by
NFG. Need to reach critical mass in order for there to be a good chance
that the Legislature would pass a State-wide bill. Fingers crossed.
Let me know if you have any interest in joining our grassroots group.
But whether or not you do I would love to meet for coffee some time to
keep up the connections to our MA Heroines Class of 2025. So many
interesting and accomplished women I would not have met except for this
powerful event. (I'm already thinking of potential candidates for my State
Senator and my State Rep to consider nominating next year.)
Let's meet in person. Melrose is not far from Cambridge. I love
Cambridge. I go there for protests!
Best,
Maureen

From: Barbara Best <barbarabest73@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 9, 2025 10:23 AM
To: Buzby, Maureen <mbuzby@cityofmelrose.org>
Subject: Gratitude, Joy + Commonwealth Heroines: Would love to stay connected!

Dear Maureen,

I am so happy that you reached out about the Commonwealth Heroine recognition and our amazing community of leaders!

I had the honor of sitting next to you at the wonderful awards ceremony.

Deeply appreciate your leadership, innovation, and tenacity in mobilizing communities to enact tobacco prevention policies.

I am so happy to be connected with you!

Hope you had a wonderful summer and wishing you peace, joy, and abundance as we move into a new season.

In gratitude,

Barbara

P.S. Sharing this picture of our amazing zinnias in our community garden this summer. I'm amazed by the growth in the flowers, planted from seed, over just a few months. Thank you for all that you do to work towards flourishing for our communities!



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Barbara Best

Executive Director, Convu – where listening happens, <https://www.convu.com/>

Doctor of Education Leadership (Ed.L.D.)

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617.716.9275 (cell), barbarabest73@gmail.com

Pronouns: she/her/hers ([*what's this?*](#))

Cultivating joy, purpose, and connection for mutual flourishing

"There exist a thousand unbreakable links between each of us and everything else, and our dignity and our chances are one. The farthest star and the mud at our feet are a family; and there is no decency or sense in honoring one thing, or a few things, and then closing the list. The pine tree, the leopard, the Platte River, and ourselves – we are at risk together, or we are on our way to a sustainable world together. We are each other's destiny."

--Mary Oliver

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