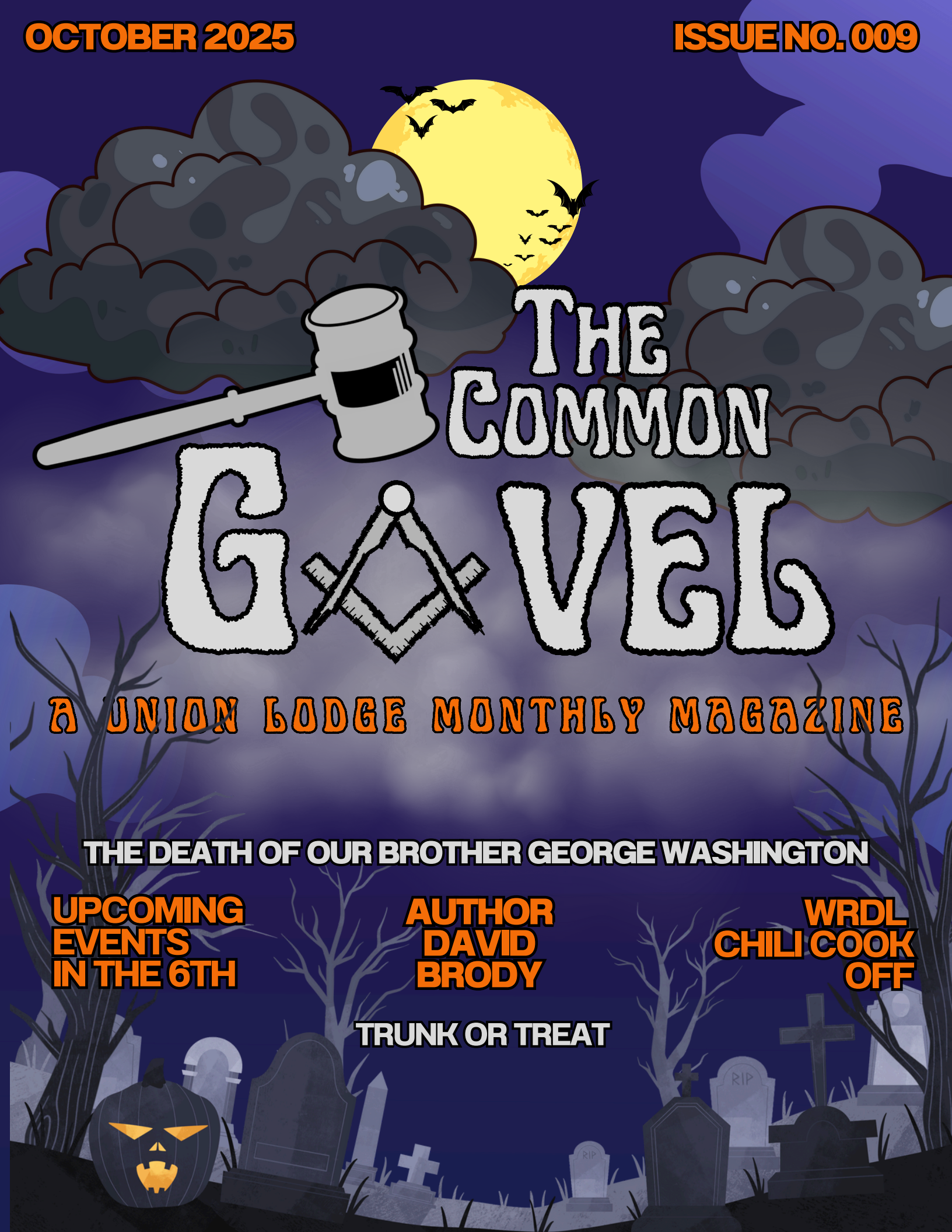


OCTOBER 2025

ISSUE NO. 009



THE COMMON GAVEL

A UNION LODGE MONTHLY MAGAZINE

THE DEATH OF OUR BROTHER GEORGE WASHINGTON

**UPCOMING
EVENTS
IN THE 6TH**

**AUTHOR
DAVID
BRODY**

**WRDL
CHILI COOK
OFF**

TRUNK OR TREAT



TABLE *of* CONTENTS



UPCOMING DISTRICT EVENTS	02
---------------------------------	-----------

TAKE DUE NOTICE

AUTHOR DAVID BRODY	03
---------------------------	-----------

PRESENTING AT OUR PAST MASTERS APPRECIATION NIGHT
11/11/2025

TRUNK OR TREAT	04
-----------------------	-----------

UNION LODGE TO SUPPORT NORWOOD PARKS AND REC

WRDL CHILI COOK OFF	05
----------------------------	-----------

A GREAT EVENT AT THE WESTWOOD MASONIC BUILDING

PAUL REVERE'S PULLED PORK CHILI RECIPE	07
---	-----------

THE WRDL 1ST PLACE RECIPE FROM WOR. ANDY KNIGHT OF UNION LODGE

THE DEATH OF GEORGE WASHINGTON	09
---------------------------------------	-----------

TEXT TAKEN FROM OUR HISTORICAL SKETCH BOOK

6TH DISTRICT BREAKFAST WITH SANTA	11
--	-----------

FALL OFFICIAL VISITS	13
-----------------------------	-----------

LODGE OF INSTRUCTION SCHEDULE	14
--------------------------------------	-----------

A LOOK AT OUR NEW WEBSITE	15
----------------------------------	-----------





UPCOMING EVENTS



OCTOBER 25TH

TRUNK OR TREAT

UNION LODGE SUPPORTS THE
COMMUNITY 10:30 AM

OCTOBER 27TH

LODGE OF INSTRUCTION

2ND DEGREE FLOOR WORK AND
RITUAL FEATURING THE UNSPOKEN
DEGREE TEAM.

7PM - SUIT, COAT, TIE - NORWOOD

NOVEMBER 5TH

WRDL OFFICIAL

WESTWOOD- TUXES REQUIRED FOR
SUITE- MEET IN ANTE ROOM AT
7:30PM

NOVEMBER 11TH

UNION LODGE COMMUNICATION

6PM LODGE OPEN 2ND DEGREE
THEN OPEN TO PUBLIC FOR DINNER
AND AUTHOR DAVID S. BRODY'S
PRESENTATION

NOVEMBER 18TH

RABBONI LODGE OFFICIAL

WESTWOOD - TUXES REQUIRED
FOR SUITE- MEET IN ANTE ROOM AT
7:30PM

NOVEMBER 24TH

LODGE OF INSTRUCTION

3RD DEGREE FLOOR WORK AND
RITUAL FEATURING THE UNSPOKEN
DEGREE TEAM.

7PM - SUIT, COAT, TIE - NORWOOD

DECEMBER 9TH

UNION LODGE OFFICIAL

NORWOOD - TUXES REQUIRED FOR
SUITE- MEET IN ANTE ROOM AT
7:30PM

DECEMBER 13TH

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA 8-11AM

WESTWOOD MASONIC BUILDING

UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE 6TH





UNION LODGE

NOVEMBER COMMUNICATION

PAST MASTERS APPRECIATION NIGHT W/ GUEST SPEAKER

WE INVITE YOU AND YOUR LOVED ONES TO JOIN US
AS WE HONOR OUR PAST MASTERS, VETERANS, AND
WELCOME AUTHOR DAVID BRODY BACK TO
NORWOOD FOR AN INFORMATIVE DISCUSSION THAT
ALL WILL ENJOY!

NOVEMBER

11

**LODGE OPEN 6:00PM- SHORT BUSINESS MEETING
DINNER 6:30PM (RSVP NEEDED)**

SPEAKER TO FOLLOW DINNER (OPEN TO THE PUBLIC)

**COALITION TO FOLLOW IN THE DINING HALL, BOOKS WILL BE
AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE BEFORE AND AFTER THE DISCUSSION**

PLEASE RSVP BY OCTOBER 31ST
TO RSVP PLEASE CONTACT WOR. TIM LEPHEW
TLEPHEW@GMAIL.COM OR 781-636-8790

FEATURING GUEST SPEAKER AUTHOR DAVID BRODY **EXPLORATION OF AMERICA BEFORE COLUMBUS**

NUMEROUS ARTIFACTS AND SITES AROUND NEW ENGLAND OFFER EVIDENCE OF EXPLORATION OF NORTH AMERICA BEFORE COLUMBUS. SPECIFICALLY, THE ARTIFACTS SEEM TO CONFIRM THE LEGEND OF A GROUP OF SCOTTISH EXPLORERS, WITH TIES TO THE OUTLAWED KNIGHTS TEMPLAR, ISLAND-HOPPING THEIR WAY ACROSS THE NORTH ATLANTIC IN THE LATE 1300S. WHO WERE THEY, AND WHY DID THEY COME? WELL, THAT'S WHERE THE FUN BEGINS.





🍊 Trunk or Treat 2025

Hosted by the Norwood Recreation Department

Date & Time

Saturday, October 25, 2025

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

(1.5 hours)

AllEvents

Location

Norwood Municipal Parking Lot

206 Central St, Norwood, MA 02062

AllEvents

What to Know

- **Admission:** \$1 or canned goods (to benefit the Norwood Food Pantry) AllEvents
- Children age 10 and under: Come in costume and trick-or-treat from trunk to trunk
- Bring a **bag or bucket** for candy
- A fun community tradition—don't miss it!

WE WILL AGAIN BE
SUPPORTING
THE NORWOOD
RECREATION
DEPARTMENT FOR THE
2025 TRUNK OR TREAT
EVENT

WE WILL BE MEETING AT 9:30
AM AT NORWOOD MASONIC
BUILDING

WE WILL BE USING
MOTORCYCLES INSTEAD OF
A CAR AS WE DID LAST YEAR!

IF INTERESTED IN ATTENDING
PLEASE CONTACT
ANDY KNIGHT
508-656-4961



WRDL CHILI COOK OFF



The Westwood Masonic Building buzzed with excitement on Sunday, October 12th, 2025, as chefs from across the District showcased their culinary skills at the chili cook-off, hosted by the West-Roxbury Dorchester Lodge. The aroma of freshly made, piping hot chili filled the air as the judges prepared to embark on their flavorful journey, armed with scorecards and eager palates. The competition was intense, with just a single point dividing the top contenders. I was thrilled to clinch first place with my “Paul Revere’s” Pulled Pork Chili, a dish that evidently resonated with the judges. Bro. Paul Matthews secured second place with a spicy venison chili, while Bro. Steve Quattrucci earned third, impressing not only with his chili but also his contributions to the event's success. Meanwhile, Bro. Evan Weisenfeld, Brother Dennis Graeff, Bro. Bill Stockwell, and Josephine Matthews, wife of Wor. Bob Matthews, all presented commendable entries, making the event a delightful celebration of culinary creativity and community spirit.





Paul Revere's Pulled Pork Chili



Ingredients

- (3 LB) PORK TENDERLOIN
- (2) 14.5 OZ CANS FIRE ROASTED TOMATOES
& CHILES
- (1) 11 OZ CAN WHITE SHOEPEG CORN
- (1) 15.5 OZ CAN BLACK BEANS
- (1) 15.5 OZ CAN WHITE BEANS
- (1) LARGE RED BELL PEPPER
- (1) JALEPEN0 - FRESH
- (1) LARGE RED ONION
- 3 FRESH CLOVES OF GARLIC
- WHITE CHICKEN CHILI SPICE PACKET
- LOW SODIUM CHILI SPICE PACKET
- (1 TSP) LIQUID SMOKE
- (1) 6OZ CAN OF TOMATO PASTE
- (1) 8OZ CAN OF TOMATO SAUCE
- (1) 14.5 OZ CAN CHICKEN BROTH
- ½ BOTTLE BARBECUE SAUCE
- (2) 6 OZ CANS OF PINEAPPLE JUICE
- ¼ CUP PINEAPPLE SALSA



Paul Revere's Pulled Pork Chili



Recipe

BEGIN BY PLACING A 3-POUND PORK TENDERLOIN IN A CROCK POT. ADD ONE LARGE DICED RED BELL PEPPER, ONE LARGE DICED RED ONION, A 14.5 OZ CAN OF CHICKEN BROTH, AND THREE FINELY CHOPPED LARGE GARLIC CLOVES. INCLUDE ONE SLICED FRESH JALAPEÑO, A 6 OZ CAN OF PINEAPPLE JUICE, AND ONE PACKET OF WHITE CHICKEN CHILI SEASONING.

COOK ON LOW HEAT UNTIL THE PORK IS TENDER AND SHREDDABLE.

ONCE THE PORK IS READY, SHRED IT AND RETURN IT TO THE CROCK POT.

ADD TWO CANS OF FIRE-ROASTED TOMATOES WITH CHILI PEPPERS, ONE CAN OF WHITE SHOEPEG CORN, AND ONE CAN EACH OF DRAINED AND RINSED BLACK AND WHITE BEANS. STIR IN ONE TEASPOON OF LIQUID SMOKE, ONE PACKET OF LOW-SODIUM CHILI SEASONING, A 6 OZ CAN OF TOMATO PASTE, AND AN 8 OZ CAN OF TOMATO SAUCE (I USED LOW SODIUM). MIX IN 1/2 BOTTLE OF BARBECUE SAUCE, SUCH AS SWEET VIDALIA ONION SWEET BABY RAY'S, TO TASTE, BEING CAREFUL NOT TO OVERDO IT.

FINALLY, ADD 1/4 TO 1/2 CUP OF PINEAPPLE SALSA FOR AN ADDED TROPICAL TWIST. AND ANOTHER 6 OZ CAN OF PINEAPPLE JUICE. IF MIXTURE IS VERY LIQUIDY YOU MAY WANT TO REMOVE SOME LIQUID BEFORE ADDING.

LET THE MIXTURE SIMMER TO ALLOW THE FLAVORS TO MELD TOGETHER. COOK UNTIL COMPLETELY WARM.

The Death of George Washington

TEXT TAKEN FROM THE HISTORICAL SKETCH OF UNION LODGE 1796-1926



At the first regular meeting in 1800, after the work had been done, some very interesting ceremonies were performed, which the Secretary describes as follows:

"Our Reverend Brother, Thaddeus M. Harris, by request of the Lodge, delivered an address to the members, commemorative of the death of our most illustrious brother, the late President of the United States of America, Lieut.-Gen. George Washington, wherein was displayed his character as a Mason, a Christian, a statesman and a soldier; after which a hymn composed for the occasion was sung, accompanied by sepulchral light."

No doubt the occasion was a very solemn and impressive one, and would have been so without the "sepulchral light," — whatever that may have been, for the Blue Lodge repositories of wisdom afford no explanation of the phenomenon; though the attentive student of Royal Arch Masonry may suspect the nature of the illumination. The Brethren immediately raised a committee to wait on Brother Harris, and request a copy of his hymn and address, and also of the sermon delivered the Sunday but one before the meeting of the Lodge. The Lodge published the address and hymn, but it appears that the author objected to the publication of the discourse in this connection, as it had no relation to Masonry. Union Lodge was in the corporate limits of the town which contained Dorchester Heights, where Washington had caused the works to be erected which compelled the British to evacuate Boston. These impressive ceremonies on the death of the "Father of his country" were performed in the Lodge within twenty-four years after that important event of our revolutionary history; and it is probable that some who had served in the army under Washington were members of the Lodge, and were present on this occasion.



The history of Dorchester gives the names of the citizens of the town who served in the Revolutionary War, and among them quite a number are identical with those which appear on the Lodge books. The dates and the concurrent circumstances, together with the fact that Masons have always been patriotic citizens, render it more than probable that several of our ancient Brethren in Dorchester were soldiers in the Continental army in "the days that tried men's souls." The history mentioned informs us that James Davenport, then the Senior Warden of the Lodge, was presented with a sword by General Lafayette; and our Senior Past Master has heard the second James Davenport speak of the sword as in possession of his father. Possibly some who listened to the address of Rev. Brother Harris, and who gazed with awe and wonder on the "sepulchral light" during the reading of the hymn, had served under the immediate command of Washington. So great was the interest on this occasion, that the Secretary reports as present every member of the Lodge; and probably this was the only instance in eighty years when all were in attendance. At the next meeting the Brethren considerably voted ten dollars to the Grand Lodge, "to assist in defraying the expense which will be incurred for the funeral honors in memory of our deceased Brother, George Washington."



Breakfast with Santa

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13TH 2025

8:00AM-11:00AM

WESTWOOD MASONIC BUILDING

655 HIGH ST. WESTWOOD, MA



\$10
For adults

**TAKE PHOTOS AND EAT
BREAKFAST WITH
SANTA CLAUS**



**Presented by the
6th Masonic District**



FALL OFFICIAL VISIT SCHEDULE

~~CELESTIAL LODGE~~

~~-9/17/25~~

~~LAFAYETTE LODGE~~

~~CANCELLED~~

~~-9/23/25~~

~~PROSPECT LODGE~~

~~-10/6/25~~

~~ORIENT LODGE~~

~~-10/13/25~~

WEST-ROXBURY-DORCHESTER LODGE

-11/05/25

RABBONI LODGE

-11/18/25

UNION LODGE

-12/09/25

AS A REMINDER, TUXEDOS MUST BE WORN TO JOIN THE SUITE.
ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED BY OFFICERS

LODGE OF INSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

~~SEPTEMBER 29 - FIRST DEGREE~~

~~NORWOOD 7PM~~

OCTOBER 27 - SECOND DEGREE

NORWOOD 7PM

UNSPOKEN DEGREE TEAM

NOVEMBER 24 - THIRD DEGREE

NORWOOD 7PM

UNSPOKEN DEGREE TEAM

MORE TBA

AS A REMINDER, SUIT COAT AND TIE MUST BE WORN TO LOI...

