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The Unity in Community mural, seen on Nov. 4 and painted by artist Nandita Singh, is located on the wall for Fall River Pawnbrokers and El Mariachi restaurant on Main St., across the from the Taunton Green. The mural faces Weir St. and the Seeley Lot. DANIEL SCHEMER/TAUNTON DAILY GAZETTE

Taunton's latest mural brightens up downtown

Daniel Schemer
The Taunton Daily Gazette
USA TODAY NETWORK

TAUNTON — If you've visited the Taunton Green lately, it would be hard to miss the flowery 80-foot wall mural on the corner of Main and Weir streets adjacent to the Seeley Lot outdoor dining area.

Artist Nandita Singh of Hingham said the flowers and butterflies in the mural, titled "Unity in Community," represent a garden, where everything that grows has different shapes, colors, and personalities, yet all live in harmony.

"It's this idea of different people, with their personalities, all coming together. It's a representation of all the people of Taunton" in this mural, said Singh, standing beside her creation.

The art is part of the city's mural program, a public art installation initiative the mayor and Office of Economic and Community Development (OECD) began in late 2023 to beautify neighborhoods and promote the city's culture.

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Old Colony History Museum unveils upgrades

Beth McDermott
The Taunton Daily Gazette
USA TODAY NETWORK

The Old Colony History Museum in Taunton has completed a $650,000 outdoor renovation that nearly doubles its parking capacity and adds new educational spaces, gardens and accessibility improvements.

The project includes redesigned landscaping, new walkways, lighting and a stormwater management system, according to a community announcement.

The improvements also create opportunities for outdoor learning while addressing flooding problems that developed after construction of a neighboring property behind the museum.

New parking, gardens and outdoor classroom

One of the biggest changes is the reconfiguration of the museum's parking areas.

The former front parking lot has been converted into green space, while parking behind and alongside the building increases capacity from 11 spaces to approximately 22, including 13 newly created spaces.

The project also provides additional accessible parking and new fencing around the museum's entire perimeter.

Visitors will find redesigned landscaping featuring native plants, a rain garden and new walkways and lighting.

The museum also installed a stormwater management system designed to address recurring flooding that began after development behind the property.

The landscaping emphasizes

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Trump's tariffs taking toll on cheese trade

Michael Collins
USA TODAY

GREENSBORO, VT – On Mateo Kehler's family farm, at the end of a dirt road about an hour from the Canadian border, the cheesemaking starts before darkness lifts over the pastures and pines of northern Vermont.

A truck with fresh milk from cows that graze in nearby fields rumbles toward Jasper Hill Farm's big blue barn, painted with a mural of a starry nighttime sky and a blue-cheese moon. An American flag stretches over the entrance.

Two hours to the north, in a small, leafy, French-speaking village, Jean Morin steps into the former Catholic church he bought for 1 Canadian dollar and turned into part of his cheese factory. The pungent smell of aging cheese fills a temperature-controlled room as Morin surveys shelves holding hundreds of wheels of the fromage he produces at the old rectory next door.

Kehler's and Morin's cheesemaking businesses sit on opposite sides of the United States-Canada border. But both are feeling the same pain of the tariff war between the United States and Canada.

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Due to the tariff war between the United States and Canada, Jean Morin, founder of the Fromagerie du Presbytere in Quebec, has halted sales across the border. JASPER COLT/USA TODAY



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