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# TOP BILLING

NOVEMBER 27, 2019



# THE BEACON HILL TIMES

T H E R E A R E N O T I M E S L I K E T H E S E T I M E S

## Tree trimming spruces up Peter Faneuil House garden

By Times staff

The Beacon Hill Garden Club and the Peter Faneuil House/Joy Street Residences have formed a partnership to improve the tree canopy and gardens along Joy and South Russell streets.

Beacon Hill Garden Club members created the garden as a gift for South Russell Street and Joy Street residents in the early 1990s. Since then the club's members, with help from neighbors, have taken care of the garden, planting, pruning and maintaining it through its Civic Beautification committee, chaired now by Marjorie Greville and Miguel Rosales.

Last spring the co-chairs noticed the trees had grown substantially and were in need of pruning. They approached Margarita Rosa, the property manager for Rogerson

(TRIMMING, Pg. 5)



Photo by Marjorie Greville

Sam Currier, Nils Elander and Geoff Currier pruned 15 trees in the Peter Faneuil House garden last week.

## Community speaks out about short-term rental enforcement

By Lauren Bennett

The Boston City Council held a hearing regarding updates on the implementation of the Short-Term Rental Ordinance on November 14. Sponsored by Councilors Ed Flynn, Lydia Edwards, and Michelle Wu, the hearing provided information about the ordinance as well as allowed the city council to hear feedback from the community about how the ordinance affects them.

"I think this is a check-in hearing about how the ordinance that we passed is going," Edwards said. "This is a conversation about how to make this the most effective short term rental ordinance, that we can have in the City of Boston. We want to have updates and this is about how we're going

to work together to really bring it to fruition in the City of Boston."

Last year, the City decided to place regulations on short-term rentals in order to protect the housing stock, Edwards continued. The ordinance prevents corporate investor units from existing while still allowing homeowners to earn supplemental income by renting out units in their property. "Since then, the city has been working to implement the ordinance and resolve a legal challenge," she said. "As we recall, the ordinance passed in June of 2018, our registration requirement began in January of 2019, our legal settlement with Airbnb was in August of 2019. Notably, we allowed a one-year period for

(RENTAL, Pg. 3)

## City Council holds hearing on pedestrian safety

By Lauren Bennett

The Boston City Council held a hearing regarding pedestrian safety on Nov. 18. Sponsored by Councilor Ed Flynn, the hearing was focused on pedestrian safety and Vision Zero, which is a plan to reach zero serious or fatal crashes. The hearing also covered topics like traffic lights, crossing signals for pedestrians, and infrastructure improvements to roads such as speed humps, raised crosswalks, and pedestrian signals.

Flynn has said many times that

pedestrian safety is of top priority for him as a councilor, and that "we need to do everything we can and prioritize safety for pedestrians," especially for children, seniors, and those with disabilities.

Several members of the public as well as city officials were invited to testify at the hearing. Scott Burke, Managing Partner of Morrison Mahoney, said that his office building is right outside the crosswalk where a woman was fatally hit this past September.

(SAFETY, Pg. 8)

### BEACON HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY CORNER

#### Upcoming BHCA Events

First Monday Meet & Greet – Monday, December 2nd, 6-8pm, 75 Chestnut Street

First Friday Coffee Hour – Friday, December 6th, 8-9am, BHCA, 74 Joy Street

#### Holiday Decorating

Come with friends and neighbors to the Otis House, 141 Cambridge Street on Saturday, December 7th, from 9am – 2pm, to help assemble the garlands needed to decorate the 1,100 gas lamps on Beacon Hill. At 2pm, gather at our new meeting place between Tatte and Peet's

to help decorate Charles Street.

On Sunday, December 8th, volunteers can meet there as well to help decorate the rest of the hill. Kids are welcome! Come anytime and stay as long as you can, and dress for the weather. Join the Facebook group (Beacon Hill Holiday Decorating) for up-to-the minute information on all the activities.

#### Other Upcoming Events

Undecorating – Saturday and Sunday, January 11th and 12th  
48th Annual Beacon Hill Gala – Saturday, February 8th, 2020, at the Four Seasons Hotel Boston.

#### Join us!

If you haven't yet become a member of the BHCA, we invite you to join. Your input in quality of life issues on the Hill is important to us, and we rely on you our neighbors to bring your comments and concerns to our attention. By joining our membership, you strengthen our numbers and add credibility to our purpose as advocates for Beacon Hill. Please call our office at 617-227-1922 or email the BHCA Executive Director at patricia.tully@bhccivic.org with any questions, comments

(BHCA Pg. 12)



**The Independent Newspaper Offices will be closed Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 28<sup>th</sup> and Friday, Nov. 29<sup>th</sup>**

## Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1 BACK BAY	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
30 Comm Ave LLC 30	Degiamo, James R	30 Commonwealth Ave #2	\$2,249,000
<b>BEACON HILL</b>			
Gormley, Melissa N	Motta Janice C Est	21 Beacon St #4L	\$476,750
Hoffman, Lindsey D	KFT Boston LLC	45-1/2 Garden St #45H	\$505,000
Gulliver, John A	17 Hancock Street LLC	17 Hancock St #2	\$2,900,000
Spencer, Samantha	Montouris Vasiliki B	9 Hawthorne Pl #6A	\$575,000
R&O Irving Properties LLC	Irving&Revere Streets	46-48 Irving St	\$3,600,000
R&O Irving Properties LLC	Irving&Maple Streets LLC	52-54 Irving St	\$3,600,000
IB LLC	Mount Vernon Partners	39-41 Mount Vernon St	\$5,665,000
Xu, De B	Wu, Jeff	6 Whittier Pl #17P	\$455,000
Su, George	French, Donald D	8 Whittier Pl #12K	\$700,000
<b>SOUTH END/KENMORE/BAY VILLAGE</b>			
Eardensohn, Sara Z	Location Wise LLC	19 Cortes St #8	\$760,000
Toupin, David	Plachy, Cynthia	28 Melrose St	\$2,640,000
Dicarolo, James	Pilar T&G D Keyes RET	105 Warren Ave #2	\$505,000
Beha, Ann	Wall, Thomas C	49 Warren Ave #G1	\$612,000
Liu, Tzu-Yu	Hanley, Stephen J	4 Charlesgate E #105	\$865,000
3Li, Zong X	G&M Caldwell FT 2011	74 Fenway #22	\$420,000
Madan, Pradip	Warren, Katherine E	80-82 Fenwood Rd #616	\$640,000
Crisp, Kelley A	Giannone, Salvatore	95 Gainsborough St #302	\$604,000
Schlobohm RET	Bunnell, Bruce	363 Huntington Ave #2	\$687,059
GPT Properties T	North Washington Dev LLC	181-183 N Washington St	\$2,900,000
Smith, Denver	Stella, Michael	90-92 N Washington St #2	\$1,275,000
Cicada Heavy Industries	31 New Chardon Street	31 New Chardon St	\$11,200,000
Grandguillotte, Bruno	Hyslop, David B	120 Norway St #4	\$585,000
Card, Fatima B	Wu, Qiong	200 Saint Botolph St #3	\$839,000
Stoddard, Kathryn	Highline Union LLC	48 Union Park #2	\$3,299,000
Dicarolo, James	Pilar T&G D Keyes RET	105 Warren Ave #2	\$505,000
Beha, Ann	Wall, Thomas C	49 Warren Ave #G1	\$612,000
Macneill, Scott S	Pellegrino, Jason	1 Worcester Sq #5	\$1,100,000
Butlin, Anthony J	Stein, Garth	71 Worcester St #3	\$785,000
<b>WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN</b>			
Talieri, Peter	Wallraff, Barbara J	90 Commercial St #4B	\$1,140,000
Kelly, Michael	Sosebee, Ryan K	53 Commercial Wharf #53	\$2,250,000
Cahill, Sue	Charles Harbor Towers	85 E India Row #15D	\$1,800,000
B&D Harbor RT	HT LLC	85 E India Row #20A	\$2,940,000
B&D Harbor RT	HT LLC	85 E India Row #20B	\$2,940,000
Gossage, Arturo D	Moore Hudson Street T	5-9 Hudson St #4S	\$640,000
Chinatown Cmnty Lnd T Inc	JB Capital LLC	29 Oak St	\$1,700,000
Row House Investments Inc	Chinatown Cmnty Lnd T	29 Oak St	\$1,700,000

## ATTENTION TO DETAIL

BY PENNY CHERUBINO

### THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



*The door header in the last clue is on 105 Charles Street built circa 1840. Today's answer is a December 4, 1966 photo from Landmarks Commission Archives. It's ironic that today this is the address of the Rugg Road Paper Company and the photo shows the sidewalk in front loaded with newspapers. Perhaps this was a pick-up point for newspaper delivery people.*

*Do you have a favorite building or detail you would like featured? Send an email to Penny@BostonZest.com with your suggestion.*

### THIS WEEK'S CLUE



RENTAL (from pg. 1)

businesses to conclude existing contracts, but no investor units should now be operating.”

The hearing was used to try and obtain answers to questions such as addressing loopholes in the ordinance, the existence of a reporting mechanism for illegal short-term units, and how the city address corporate entities who want variances to operate short-term rentals, among other things.

City Councilor Josh Zakim said that he'd like to thank the civic associations “who have really led the charge, particularly in some of our downtown neighborhoods that felt a lot of the brunt of the short-term rentals.”

Many residents across the city are fed up with the number of short term rentals that have seemed to pop up in recent years. John Bookston of the Fenway Civic Association said that he brought up to the mayor in 2014 the fact that “airbnb rentals were not longer home sharing,” but rather “an invasive species taking over monthly rental units in the downtown area,” he said.

Elliott Laffer of the Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay (NABB) said that “the important thing to remember, I think, is when people talk about Airbnb and what causes great concern” is that they are acting as hotels “in places where hotels aren't supposed to be.” Laffer agreed with Bookston by saying that that short-term rental units affect the residential housing stock, as well as “who's wandering around our block.” He also noted that there is often no staff onsite to take care of the needs of the guests. He thanked the Council for the work they've done on this issue, and urged that it now be enforced.

Dave Goggins, former Vice President of The North End/Waterfront Residents' Association, agreed that there should be an importance placed on enforcement when it comes to this issue. “It's important that we identify who the biggest offenders are,” he said. “[Inspectional Services Department (ISD)] is relying on the public to identify where these violations are taking place,” and he was happy to know that the 311 app will have a designated spot for reporting illegal units this coming December, when short term rental units must be registered with the city, and over 1,500 apartments are expected to go back on the market after this takes effect.

However, the council also learned that several short-term

rental operators are negatively impacted by this ordinance and are not happy about the rules being out into place. One such operator, who did not want to divulge the name of her company, told the council that she believes they “completely missed the mark” with the ordinance. While she said she agrees that de facto hotels and master leases are not the way to go, “you hurt a lot of people,” she told the council.

She said she believes the council “could have met us a quarter of the way,” as she believes this ordinance helps “big hotel unions,” who were “told to lobby against short-term rentals.” She believes that operators should be allowed to have a “small percentage” of the building be short-term rental, for example, if there are 10 units in the building, one should be allowed to be a short-term rental unit. This, she believes, would help people that own buildings earn more revenue.

“You didn't hear from any of us on the other end,” she said, because “we were too scared to talk and meet.” She said that when she called ISD the other day, nobody could answer her questions. “It's extremely sad because you could have come up with something that didn't hurt everybody the way you did,” she said. She said her company operated about 70 short-term units in total—both inside and outside the city—and never more than two units in any building. Due to the new ordinance, she said they are now down to 30 compliant units.

“We need to continue hearing from everyone on this,” Councilor Wu said. “It's difficult to make decisions that involve tradeoffs,” but she said that it is “valuable” to hear from people whose lives have been affected due to the ordinance.

Another Airbnb host said that her employees are “scared because they depend on this income.” She also said that this business is not easy, and short-term rentals are helpful in the medical industry for people who need to come into the city and stay for a short while near a hospital. “I wish you guys could listen to the little guys,” she said. “Otherwise it's just going to hurt the city and all these people are going to lost their jobs and people aren't going to feel welcomed.”

Dion Irish, Inspectional Services Department Commissioner, said that he's “happy to report that we're in full enforcement mode.” He said that they are staffed and have a “great team” in place to handle the enforcement of this

ordinance. “I do want to just note that we have folks who have been deeply rooted in this market so consistent enforcement is going to be required in order to get full compliance.”

Irish said that since the September 1 sunset period, enforcement efforts have been launched. Prior to that, warning notices were issued, but that has now turned into the issuance of over 370 fines which Irish said amounts to about \$75,000 for 190 properties. About 612 approvals have been made so far, but only 537 registrations have been issued. He said the reason for the discrepancy is that some operators have not made their payment yet.

“We've had some folks who have responded by discontinuing their offering on short-term rental platforms,” Irish said, and “about a dozen operators who have requested hearings.” Additionally, he said that attorneys are in conversation with large operators in the city who have been renting out units in multiple buildings across the city.

“We are currently taking complaints,” and have been for some time now, Irish added. He said he encourages people to call 311 or sent ISD an email with any complaints regarding the short-term rental ordinance.

After hearing many facets of the issue, Edwards said that “this is a unique conversation where... when we passed this law, it was a heated conversation, it was controversial at the time, but currently it is the law so the debate about whether we like it or not is one conversation. The other one, which is what the point of this conversation was, is to check in on how it will actually work...”

She said that she wants to make sure that people are aware the as of Dec. 1, unregistered units will be removed and that “every possible avenue” is used to make sure operators know about this deadline.

Edwards also said that she believes it's “important to address the argument about the business model and there should have been a carveout.” She said that Airbnb was meant as a source of addition-

al income for homeowners who needed help paying their mortgage, not as a small business entity where employees traveled around the city cleaning up different units and preparing them for the next guests. “It did become that, and as a result for many people, they feel very hurt financially by this kind of regulation,” Edwards said. “But the goal for myself and for many of my colleagues was to bring it back to the original goal of side income...”

She said that Airbnb and other short term rentals were not intended to support a business model that she does not feel “has been thoroughly vetted by the community,” but she said she does believe that warrants a separate conversation to see what that type of small

business model might look like in Boston, and how it could be regulated. “It may not be in this ordinance,” she said, but that does not mean it cannot ever exist.

This ordinance passed by the city was not meant to target these small business owners, Edwards continued, “because of the abuse of other large entities and downright attacks on my colleagues from Airbnb, there was a response that was necessary from the City of Boston,” she said. She said she looks forward to working with everyone involved with this issue, and though the law is in place, the city will continue to check in with the community about how it is working. “I have felt that we've grown and will will grow and do better,” she said. “This conversa-

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# EDITORIAL

## HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Thanksgiving is a uniquely American holiday, tracing its roots back almost 400 years to the Pilgrims, long before there was even a thought of a United States of America.

Thanksgiving is the ultimate family-centered holiday. It has no religious meaning, no national-celebration connotations, and no required gift-giving. It lacks the commercialism, religiosity, solemnity, and political overtones of all of our other national observances.

It's a day for schoolboy football, family gatherings, and not much else to do other than enjoy a great dinner with those whom we love and care about.

It is the only day on the calendar when we have no obligation other than to spend the day with those who mean the most to us. It asks nothing more from each of us (other than for the person who is doing all the cooking!) beyond just showing up and enjoying the company of our family and friends and then having a great meal.

Even in this time of divisiveness in our country, we all can agree that Thanksgiving makes us aware of what we have to be thankful for. Despite our present trials and tribulations, Americans are remarkably fortunate to be where we are. Thanksgiving is a national celebration that serves to remind us how blessed we are at a time when circumstances are so cruel for so many others in a world in which there are more refugees than at any time since the end of World War II.

Thanksgiving serves as a rare day for relaxation, reflection, and inevitably -- at least for some of us -- a post-dinner nap or early night of sleep. In a time when so many of us are connected 24/7 to some instrument of communication, it truly is a relief to have a day when we can just shut it all off.

We wish all of our readers a happy -- and restful -- Thanksgiving.

## ENJOY THE HOLIDAY SAFELY

We would be remiss if we did not remind our readers to enjoy the holiday weekend, but to do so safely.

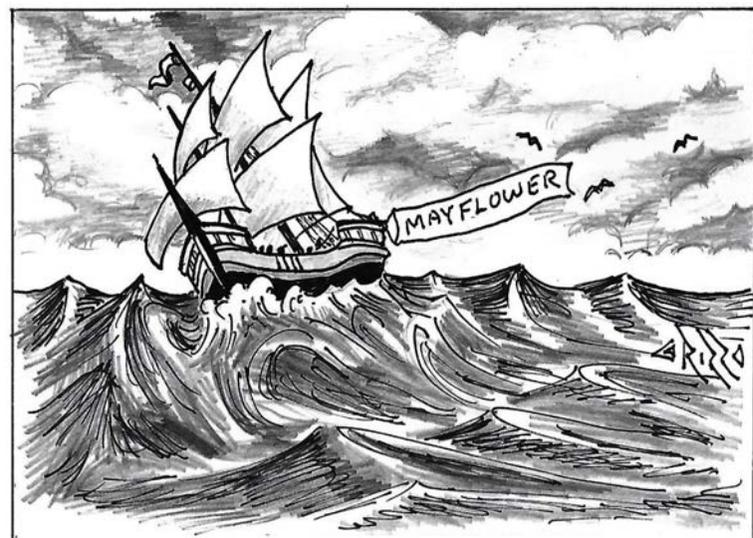
And specifically, we really mean only one thing: Do not drink & drive, nor allow friends & family members to do so.

The vast majority of Americans will have wonderful family get-togethers that will create memories that will last a lifetime.

However, for some, the stresses of the holiday season often express themselves in drinking too much, which in turn can lead to tragedies. Alcohol abuse by a family member by far is the biggest problem faced by many families, whether it is a son or daughter, mother or father, or brother or sister.

Intoxicated driving rates as one of the leading causes of accidental death in our society. More than 10,000 Americans die -- and tens of thousands more are seriously injured -- in auto accidents caused by impaired drivers every year.

All of us have a role not only in ensuring that we ourselves do not become one of those statistics, but also in preventing a friend or family member from becoming one.



WHEN THANKING THOSE WHO CROSSED THE SEAS,  
GO EASY ON YOUR CALORIES

HAPPY THANKSGIVING DAY.. NOV. 28, 2019

## GUEST OP-ED

### The Spirit of Giving in Boston

By Mayor Martin J. Walsh

Happy Thanksgiving, Boston! This is a special time to show gratitude for all the things and people that make our lives full. It's a time for surrounding ourselves with loved ones (and watching football, of course). This uniquely American tradition brings together people, families, and communities, and deepens our connections to one another as fellow Bostonians and people.

It's also a time to come together as a City to give back to those in need. Thanksgiving and the holidays can be difficult times for people and families who struggle to make ends meet. They may not have a permanent place to call home, or be able to put food on the table. So as we celebrate in our own ways, we must also remember to look out for one another—and show what it means to be a City of neighbors helping neighbors.

This Thanksgiving, I'm excited to continue my tradition of volunteering with local shelters. It's heartwarming to see so many individuals, food banks, and shelters open their doors to people and families, so that everyone can take part in a Thanksgiving celebration. To the compassionate volunteers who lend a hand on this holiday, your help is greatly appreciated. A hot meal, a place to escape the cold, and a gesture of kindness go a long way in providing comfort to someone in need. And you should take pride in knowing you're part of a city-wide effort to reach out to and support Bostonians experiencing homelessness.

I also want to thank our many dedicated city partners who connect people to shelters and vital services. They are out on our streets, every day, making sure people know where they can find assistance if they need it. And as a City, we are always working toward our ultimate goal of getting people on the path to supportive and permanent housing. So far, we've housed nearly 2,000 chronically homeless individuals, including 1,000 veterans. We've ended chronic veteran homelessness, and we're on our way to ending all chronic homelessness in Boston. We've got more work to do, but we're making progress



Mayor Martin Walsh, Police Commissioner William Gross and District 2 Councilor Ed Flynn prepare Thanksgiving turkeys.

every day.

Our work is more than about getting people into housing. It's about building a strong and resilient City, where all of our residents can succeed. It's about our fundamental belief that every single person in our City deserves a chance to build a better life for themselves and their families—and to follow their dreams. And it's about the day to day actions we can take to make even one person's day a little brighter.

I continue to be inspired by Bostonians who, every single day, who set an example on how to give back to their communities. I want to thank everyone who helps make Boston a stronger,

more vibrant, and connected city. The spirit of giving is especially alive during the holidays, and that makes me incredibly proud to be Mayor of this great city.

I hope you all enjoy Thanksgiving, however you celebrate. And if you have a chance, take time to volunteer at a food bank or homeless shelter, especially as we head into the cold winter months. Our city is at our strongest when we look out for one another as neighbors, friends, and fellow Bostonians. Let's keep the spirit of giving going every day, in our communities and in our hearts.

*Martin Walsh is the Mayor of Boston.*

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## THE BEACON HILL TIMES

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# Braving the cold in support of Women's Lunch Place

By Dan Murphy

While Wednesday, Nov. 13, might have set a record for the coldest temperature on that date in Boston's history, the elements couldn't deter an ample crowd from turning out to support the Women's Lunch Place at a fundraiser for the Newbury Street shelter.

Co-sponsored by the Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay, the inaugural "Homeward Bound" event featured harvest tastings, wine, craft beers and a holiday silent auction in support of the nonprofit Women's Lunch Place, which since 1982, according to its website, has "offer[ed] a safe

day sanctuary, nutritious meals and critical support for women experiencing homelessness or poverty."

Sheila Dillon, chief of housing for the city's Department of Neighborhood Development, said, "It's really important that the community continues to support Boston's overall effort that no woman or man should remain homeless, and we're so thankful to NABB tonight for supporting this very important and talented organization."

Vicki Smith, who co-chairs the NABB Homelessness Task Force with Kathy Young, said, "This is a wonderful event, and NABB and the Women's Lunch Place are delighted to work together with so



Vicki Smith, co-chair of the Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay Homelessness Task Force, and Liz Vizza, executive director of the Friends of the Public Garden.



Pictured, left to right, are Jennifer Hanlon Wigon, executive director of Women's Lunch Place; District 8 city council-elect Kenzie Bok; Nancy Armstrong, director of operations for Women's Lunch Place; and Kathy Young, co-chair of the Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay Homelessness Task Force.

many volunteers."

The Task Force is comprised of "12 members who plan public education programs...and advocate for public policies that really work [to combat homelessness]," Kathy Young said.

"In response to neighbors' concerns, we're seeking to alleviate the impact of homelessness on housed and un-housed people," Kathy Young said.

Jennifer Hanlon Wigon, executive director of Women's Lunch Place, said, "This event grew put

of NABB's homelessness initiative and working with them. We hope this is the first of many fundraising and networking events to understand the work we do behind doors, and to help us collaborate on the issues we're all facing together.

"Besides providing homeless women with one meal each day, the Women's Lunch Place also provides wrap-around services help them get stable housing, food, healthcare, job training," Wigon added.

While Steve Young, a member of NABB and Kathy's husband, was in attendance at last week's fundraising event, it wasn't his first visit to the Newbury Street shelter, as he had previously volunteered there with other employees of Holland & Knight's Boston law office.

"The Women's Lunch Place is an oasis in the desert for homeless women, and having this event for homeless women on what might set the record for the coldest record on this date is fortuitous," Steve Young said.

## North Washington Street Bridge (Charlestown Bridge) Construction Look-Ahead:

### TRAVEL IMPACTS

•N. Washington Street Inbound: Off-peak daytime lane reductions will continue across the bridge to Keany Square. One of two lanes and all turn movements will be available from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. on weekdays and overnight on 11/26.

•N. Washington Street Outbound: Off-peak daytime lane reductions will continue across the bridge to City Square. One of two lanes open and all turn movements will be available from 7 a.m.-2 p.m. on weekdays and Saturdays.

pedestrian and vehicle bridge and utility bridge including installation of bridge spans and supports, welding, and excavation at the north and south ends of the bridge.

•Utility work by Eversource and National Grid includes running cables underground and over the temporary utility bridge.

### WORK HOURS

•No work will occur on Thursday, November 28 in observance of the Thanksgiving Day holiday.

### TRAVEL TIPS

Pedestrians and Cyclists: The bridge's eastern sidewalk is open and available to all pedestrians and cyclists with crossings at

both Keany and City Squares. Please be advised that the DCR-controlled Charlestown locks can provide another alternate route, but may close without warning and beyond control of this project. During Tudor Wharf walkway closures, pedestrian access will be provided via the Water Street underpass and guidance signage will be provided.

The contractor is coordinating with the TD Garden and local police to provide awareness and manage traffic impacts during events. For your awareness, during this look-ahead period, the following days include events scheduled at the TD Garden:

- Bruins: 11/29 at 7 p.m.
- Celtics: 11/27 at 7:30 p.m.

### TRIMMING (from pg. 1)

Communities, which owns the properties, to create a partnership to prune 15 trees. Rogerson and the garden club agreed to split the cost of the pruning evenly.

Currier Landscaping Company finished the work last week. Pruning is important to the health of trees. Removing dead, dying or diseased branches prevents the spread of decay. Trees benefit from increased sun exposure and air circulation promoting the growth of new, healthy leaves and branches. Pruning allows adjacent and understory plants to get more sunlight. In addition, pruning reduces the chances of diseased or weak limbs falling and causing accidents. Finally the shape and appearance of the tree can be substantially improved with proper pruning.

"As one of the Beacon Hill Garden Club Co-Chair for Civic Planting we are very pleased to be able to help improve the tree canopy at the Peter Faneuil Gardens,"

Rosales said. "Tree pruning is a vital task to ensure the health and well being of trees in Beacon Hill. We encourage other groups and neighbors to prune their private trees on a regular basis. The City of Boston Parks Department can also accept requests via 3-1-1 for the pruning of trees on sidewalks and parks."

The Beacon Hill Garden Club strongly recommends periodically pruning trees in the neighborhood, whether along the street or in a private courtyard. The best time to prune is in late fall or early winter as branches and leaves have stopped growing, and there is less danger of insects and bacteria attacking the tree's wounds as many of these pests are dormant during cold weather.

The Peter Faneuil House gardens are open to the public. They are located at 60 Joy St. with a second entrance on the South Russell Street side.

# Team Esplanade members to run Boston Marathon in support of park

By Times staff

With its riverfront pathways and footbridges, the Charles River Esplanade provides the ideal training ground for those preparing to run in the 124th Boston Marathon on Monday, April 20 of next year, and for the second consecutive year, 15 members of Team Esplanade will have the opportunity to give back to the park via the Esplanade Association, which has been named an Official Charity for the event.

Through the Official Charity Program, the Boston Athletic Association supports select non-profit organizations that strengthen the local community by providing them with a significant fundraising opportunity. In 2019, participants running the 123rd Boston Marathon on behalf of the members of the Official Charity Program raised \$20.3 million.

“We are pleased to have the Esplanade Association as a member of the 2020 Boston Marathon Official Charity Program,” Tom Grilk, Chief Executive Officer of the Boston Athletic Association, said in a press release. “We value the Esplanade Association’s work to strengthen our local community through programming, and their commitment to promoting healthy lifestyles throughout the park – particularly by creating a vibrant and beautiful setting for runners to enjoy all year long.”

Members of Team Esplanade 2020 include Travis Barfield; Kara Brennan, who also ran with Team Esplanade last year; David Breau; Marshall Caldera, athletic director for the Esplanade Association’s partners at Hill House; Jeanne “Mei-Mei” Chow; Alexander Hernandez; Junil Kwun; Brian McManus, who serves on the board of Hill House’s partners

at Community Boating; Maggie Moore; Mimi Murphy; Bryan Natale, who serves on the board of the Charles River Watershed Association; and his wife, Carolina Sáve-Natale, an Esplanade Association board member; Alvaro Razuk; Christine Rhea; Noah Schlesinger, a member of the Esplanade Association Friends Council; and Lisa Taffe.

“We are honored to once again be selected as an Official Charity by the Boston Athletic Association,” Michael Nichols, executive director of the Esplanade Association, said in a press release. “Every day of the year, thousands log their miles amidst the Esplanade’s gorgeous gardens, towering trees, and engaging events. This is an incredible way for the local running community to give back to the park.”

The Esplanade Association’s work is critical to improving the biological diversity and beauty

of the natural environment on the Esplanade, utilizing the best practices in land care to improve soil health, manage invasive plant species, expand native plantings and care for Boston’s urban tree canopy. Every year, they also bring thousands of children, students and families to the park for free exercise classes, day camps

and educational events. One hundred percent of all money raised goes directly to support these causes and to make sure the park stays a welcoming place for its millions of visitors each year.

To contribute to Team Esplanade, visit <https://charity.gofundme.com/o/en/campaign/esplanade-association>.



Members of 2019 Team Esplanade.



Photos by Sebastian Gonzalez Quintero

Ashley Perkins of Team Esplanade on the course of the Boston Marathon.



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# Cranberries: Authentically American treat on the Turkey table since 1621

By Seth Daniel

It's the only red thing on the table at Thanksgiving, but the superfruit that is authentically American has a lot more going for it than its bright red color on Thanksgiving.

Cranberries are a great resource for New England, and are the largest cash crop in Massachusetts. Though Wisconsin grows the most cranberries in the country by number, the superfruit is vitally important to this state's agricultural industry. With cranberry sauce being such a vital part of the Thanksgiving table, that means the season is vitally important to the cranberry industry here – an industry that booms in the fall months mostly on the South Shore and towards Cape Cod.

Ocean Spray officials, who are based in Carver on the South Shore, said Thanksgiving accounts for 37 percent of annual cranberry sales – basically between September and November.

There are any number of things that the cranberry can provide for the Thanksgiving table. Obviously, the cranberry sauce is the most common, but Ocean Spray officials said other popular Thanksgiving uses are brussels sprouts with cranberries, cranberries in salads, cranberry cocktails, and cranberry sweet potato casserole.

The oddest cranberry recipe, they said: "Cranberry turkey chili leftovers."

Aside from the common or the bizarre, cranberries were known to have many other uses in the past – particularly among Native Americans in New England.

"Cranberries are native to North America, including the Northeast, and are one of only three cultivated fruits that are indigenous to this continent," said an Ocean Spray spokesperson. "They are authentically American, and the superfruit has been used for many purposes throughout history. Native Americans used cranberries for food, medicine, dyes for clothes and blankets, to cure meat, and to draw poison from arrow wounds, as early as 1550. For this reason, legend has it that cranberries were included in the first Thanksgiving meal, which was in 1621."

Another reason they are most popular on Thanksgiving is



Photos courtesy Ocean Spray

*Cranberry farmers harvesting a fresh crop of the berries on the South Shore earlier this fall, just in time for Thanksgiving. The popular superfruit is one of only three cultivated fruits native to North America, and was used heavily by the Native Americans of the northeast. That is one reason that cranberries were believed to be on the first Thanksgiving table, and why they remain there to this day.*

because of their harvest season, which falls from mid-September to mid-November. Ocean Spray farmers harvest billions of cranberries during that period in bogs where they grow. The bogs are soft, marshy ground with acidic peat soil – and are most commonly found near wetlands. Cranberries grow on long, running vines, and don't grow underwater as many tend to think.

Like flower bulbs, they are a perennial crop and grow on vines that are hundreds of years old.

"When cranberries are ready for harvest, the bogs are flooded with water," said the Ocean Spray spokesperson. "Farmers then use water reels, nicknamed 'eggbeaters,' to churn the water and loosen the cranberries from the vine. Each berry has a tiny pocket of air that allows it to float to the surface of the water. From there, they're corralled together to be harvested and become delicious food and drinks for family tables worldwide."

Ocean Spray officials said cranberries weren't always called "cranberries." For Eastern Native Americans, they were called "sasamanesh." Cape Cod Pequots and South Jersey Leni-Lenape tribes called them "ibimi," or bitter berry. And the Algonquins of modern-day Wisconsin dubbed the superfruit "atoqua."

It was the German and Dutch settlers who started calling the cranberry a "crane berry" because of the flower's resemblance to the head and bill of a crane. Interestingly, that name stuck, and



*Cranberries being taken out of a bog during harvest this year.*

gave us the modern cranberry terminology.

More recently, cranberries have become not only an annual Thanksgiving staple, but also a popular staple of the health food gurus. Cranberries are actually very nutritional and are considered a superfruit in the same vein as the once-maligned pomegranate. They are rich in antioxidants, polyphenols, prebiotic fibers, vitamins, and minerals. Among the cranberry's many benefits include raising good cholesterol, improving blood pressure, maintaining cardiovascular health, and even protecting the body against inflammation that may lead to certain cancers. The strong antioxidant capacity of cranberries is also associated with the prevention of some diseases and improved digestion.

So, whether its sauce out of a can, or an hours-long boil of fresh berries, this Thanksgiving, make sure to break bread with a little red on the table.

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**SAFETY** (from pg. 1)

Burke said that last February, he and several others emailed the city warning them that there were issues with the light sequence at the intersection.

This past June, he said additional reports were filed to 311, and that “the death of Diane [Ly] was absolutely preventable if anybody listened to us...we have local knowledge that I think is important.”

Gilbert Ho, a longtime Chinatown community activist, also said that he is “very concerned” about the safety of pedestrians, as there are many senior citizens and families with young children who cross the street in Chinatown. He said he has mentioned to Councilor Flynn that traffic lights should be delayed green for cars turning and pedestrians crossing, as “people and cars are fighting to get across.” Additionally, he said the city should “further look into slowing down the right or left turn arrow for pedestrian crossing.”

Ho said that another issue is with cars turning right on red. He said he recognizes that cars are allowed to do this in some places, but “I see a lot of cars not really yielding for pedestrians when they are making the right turn,” he said. “It’s very dangerous for

pedestrians.” Brendan Kearney of WalkBoston said that crashes, fatalities, and injuries can be prevented through fixing signal timing, among other things. “that design is to influence [driver] behavior,” he said. Kearney referenced page 140 of the GoBoston 2030 plan, which he said contains “great recommendations” that he believes the city should be putting into practice. “The city has already done the research on this,” he said.

Chief of Streets Chris Osgood highlighted some of the work that his team is doing, including a focus on maintenance and education, major roads and corridors, the Neighborhood Slow Streets Program, and the bike network across the city.

Osgood said the citywide efforts in legislation, education, and maintenance include a bill that is “likely to succeed this week in pushing forward a distracted driving bill to be signed at the state house,” as well as lowering the default speed limit in the city of Boston. The City is also focused on ensuring that safe driver behaviors are practiced by all drivers.

As far as maintenance goes, Osgood said that the city has doubled its investment in things like pavement markings and has

restriped about 2,600 crosswalks over the past couple fiscal years. Additionally, the city is working on engineering changes with a focus on major corridors, which will lead to safer driving. According to Osgood, there are “dozens of projects on the move on these key corridors.”

The Neighborhood Slow Streets program, which is focused on contiguous blocks, is prioritized for streets with “high numbers of vulnerable road users,” Osgood said, as well as areas where there are “key links” in the transportation network, such as bus routes and MBTA train stations. Areas where there are high percentages of crashes are also considered for the Slow Streets Program. The city is also focused on redesigning streets for 20 miles per hour, as was discussed in a previous Council hearing about lowering the city speed limit.

Bike lanes are another focus, and the city is making it a priority goal to have roughly four times as many people commuting to work by bike by 2030, and there are several more miles of protected bike lane to come, with eight miles already in place throughout the city.

The city has also installed about 85 speed feedback signs across the city, Osgood said, and is focused on improving crosswalks by doing things like daylighting intersections.

City Councilor Matt O’Malley inquired about things like raised crosswalks, photo enforcement,

and feedback regarding the Slow Streets program with the only complaint being that certain neighborhoods did not receive Slow Streets benefits.

Osgood said that city engineers do support raised crosswalks in areas where they make sense, but they don’t work in every situation. By state law, photo enforcement is not allowed, though there are bills out there pushing for things like stop arm cameras mounted to stop signs on school buses.

Osgood added that they are trying to “find the right mix of staff and capital” for the Slow Streets program, and taking a look at it for the upcoming fiscal year’s budget to see how the program might be able to be broadened. “It’s a prioritization,” Osgood said of the program. “We are looking at where do you have seniors, youth, persons with disabilities...those are places we look at first.”

City Councilor Kim Janey said that there should be a citywide plan in place to make these improvements, because right now, “we have neighborhoods fighting over Slow Streets initiatives.”

Osgood said that the city will take 311 requests for problem areas, and recommended describing the situation through 311 to be reviewed by the city. City Councilor Michelle Wu said she hopes that “even one person flagging something as unsafe” will warrant the city checking it out, as she’s concerned that the city waits for several complaints about the same issue to come in before they

address it. Another community member mentioned that crosswalk times should be extended, as many crosswalks do not allow enough time for elderly or people with disabilities to get across the street. Additionally, he said that bikers who blow through crosswalks are dangerous, as well as bikers who go the wrong way down a one-way street. He said he would like to see bike rules enforced, as he does not believe they currently are.

Community activist Alison Pultinas said the design issue with the conflict between turning vehicles and pedestrians is an important one. “The issue of cars that have the right to turn on red or cars that have a green light and are allowed to turn while pedestrians have a walk signal is very complicated and deserves a lot of analysis,” she said. “There has to be a criteria looking at the speed on these corridors and that has to be one of the determining factors whether it’s going to be an all-way stop.” She added that she hopes the public can be more involved when discussing these intersections.

As this conversation continues to move forward, “we have a lot of work to do,” O’Malley said, adding that he believes it’s a good thing to see that everyone wants safer roads for pedestrians, cars, and bikers.

Councilor Flynn said that pedestrian safety is probably the issue he works the most on within his district, and is glad to see that residents want to be active and involved, and “have some great ideas for how we can improve pedestrian safety.”



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## FRESH AND LOCAL

# Cookable cookbooks and resources

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

There are aspirational cookbooks that inspire you to adopt new ingredients and ways of adding flavor to your everyday meals. However, you seldom make the complex recipes they offer.

Then there are readable cookbooks that food lovers (cooks or not) read for pleasure. We own the audiobook version of Samin Nosrat's "Salt Fat Acid Heat" to enjoy on long drives, because there is so much to learn from the narrative of the book.

### Cookable Cookbooks

Finally, there are cookbooks that help you put delicious food on the table on a weeknight or make a big pot of something simple but unforgettable for a special occasion. Those are the ones we'll recommend for gift giving or treating yourself.

The inspiration for this column was Alison Roman's "Dining In: Highly Cookable Recipes." She writes, "I've been calling these recipes 'highly cookable,' meaning they're easy to shop for, simple to execute, and a joy to eat. They prove that casual doesn't have to

mean boring and simple doesn't have to be uninspired and that more steps or ingredients don't always translate to a better plate of food."

Nigella Lawson is famous for her cookable recipes. In her new book, "At My Table: A Celebration of Home Cooking," she proudly proclaims herself a home cook and admits she lacks the skills, technical expertise, or desire to produce fancy food. She says, "Life is complicated; cooking doesn't have to be."

Some cookable books fit into the readable category because each recipe comes with a story or highly personalized notes. Penny once read Rachel Roddy's "My Kitchen in Rome" twice in one snowy weekend. With its Italian sensibility of buying great ingredients and doing as little as possible to them, this is a book for home cooks.

### Cookable Chefs

Some highly trained chefs can translate their knowledge and skills into recipes that work for home cooks.

Carla Lalli Music in her book, "Where Cooking Begins: Uncomplicated Recipes to Make

You a Great Cook" goes beyond recipes. She steps back and explains the connection between cooking and shopping. She also teaches six basic cooking techniques that expand your skills to cook in new ways.

The chef who surprised us with one of his books was Thomas Keller whose book, "Ad Hoc at Home" is a tad more ambitious. However, it stresses relaxed cooking and simple approaches.

Jamie Oliver is another chef who understands home cooks. His book, "5 Ingredients: Quick & Easy Food." is also a television series. The book and the show are worth your time. He makes use of flavorful pantry items like: hoisin sauce, harissa, roasted peppers, and mustard to take a dish from ordinary to memorable.

### Other Formats

A friend introduced us to the Bon Appetit test kitchen videos this year and we highly recommend the series. These are available on YouTube and [www.bonappetit.com](http://www.bonappetit.com). Members of the test kitchen staff take you through recipes step-by-step.

Newer cooks will enjoy and learn from the Bon Appetite sec-



We love this shaved fennel and radish salad from "Salt Fat Acid Heat" as a quick, easy, refreshing side dish anytime of the year.

tion called "Basically." It has recipes, tips, and videos perfect for those just building their cooking skills.

Finally, we've told all our food-loving friends that watching the four episodes of "Salt Fat Acid Heat" on Netflix is worth the price of admission. After years of writing about food, we learned

and have used much of Samin Nosrat's wisdom. What's more she makes us smile, laugh, and feel good about cooking and food.

*Do you have a question or topic for Fresh & Local? Send an email to [Penny@BostonZest.com](mailto:Penny@BostonZest.com) with your suggestion.*

## Walsh to light Common Christmas Tree

Mayor Martin J. Walsh and guests from the Province of Nova Scotia will celebrate the 78th Annual Tree Lighting on Boston Common on Thursday, December 5, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The celebration is presented by the Boston Parks and Recreation Department, title sponsor The Province of Nova Scotia, signature sponsor Encore Boston Harbor, Jumbotron sponsor Geico Local Office, presenting sponsors Exelon and the Coca-Cola Company, and media sponsors WCVB Channel 5, Magic 106.7 FM, and the Boston Globe. The holiday lights throughout both parks will light up in sequence shortly before 8 p.m. when Mayor Walsh is joined onstage by members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Santa Claus, Rudolph, and Frosty. The show will close with a pyrotechnic display by Atlas PyroVision.

The holiday decorations throughout Boston Common and the Public Garden include the City of Boston's official 2019

Christmas tree, a 45-foot white spruce tree donated by Desmond Waithe and Corina Saunders of Chance Harbour, Pictou County, Nova Scotia.

WCVB Channel 5's Anthony Everett and Shayna Seymour will once again host Channel 5's live broadcast of the event beginning at 7 p.m. featuring multi-platinum singer-songwriter and Lexington native Matt Nathanson,

award-winning Nova Scotian alt-pop stars Neon Dreams, Nova Scotian R&B singer-songwriter Zamani, performances by cast members from the new musical "Dolly Parton's Smoky Mountain Christmas Carol" and "Irving Berlin's White Christmas: The Musical," as well as Dorchester's Holy Tabernacle Church Choir.

The lighting of the trees on the Common is made possible through the generosity of the Lynch Foundation, the Massachusetts Convention Center Authority, the Herb Chambers Companies, and contributions from other

individuals and institutions. The annual holiday display includes the official Christmas tree from Nova Scotia and trees throughout Boston Common. Refreshments and additional support will be provided by promotional sponsors Dunkin', Capital One, Xfinity, H.P. Hood LLC, Power Crunch Bars, Drake's Cakes, perfectly free fruit bites, and Nature's Path Foods.

This is the 48th year that Nova Scotia has given a tree to the people of Boston as thanks for relief efforts following the December 6, 1917, explosion of a munitions ship in Halifax Harbor. Within 24 hours of the disaster a train loaded with supplies and emergency personnel was making its way from Boston to Nova Scotia. For more information please call (617) 635-4505 or go to [www.boston.gov/parks](http://www.boston.gov/parks). For Boston Common parking information go to [www.massconvention.com/bcg.html](http://www.massconvention.com/bcg.html).

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# NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDUP

## King's Chapel's Tuesday Recitals

King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., presents its Tuesday Recitals. Admission is by suggested donation of \$5 per person; the donations are given to the performing musicians. Programs begin at 12:15 p.m. and last approximately 35 minutes; for more information, call 617-227-2155.

Programming includes Hiroaki Honshuku and Yuka Kido's Love to Brasil Project Annual A-No-Ne Christmas on Dec. 3; Pioneer Singers of Lynnfield, with Steven Bloom, director, performing holiday favorites on Dec. 10; and Emily Bieber-Harris (soprano), Jennifer Webb (alto), Andy Troska (tenor) Heinrich Christensen (organ) performing Handel's "The Half-Hour Messiah" on Dec. 17.

## Lighting Mr. Morison

Join the Friends of the Public Garden for a special ceremony to turn on the recently installed permanent lighting at the Samuel Eliot Morison statue on the Commonwealth Avenue Mall. Thanks to contributions from many neighbors, the Friends has installed lighting and made improvements to the landscape surrounding the statue. The ceremony will be held at the Morison, in the Exeter to Fairfield block of the Mall at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 3.

For more information call 617-723-8144 or email [info@friendsofthepublicgarden.org](mailto:info@friendsofthepublicgarden.org).

## Hill House's Photos with Santa

Hill House, Inc. located at 127 Mount Vernon St., welcomes the big man in red to Beacon Hill on Thursday, Dec. 5, from 3:30-5:30 p.m.

Bring your wish list, and get ready for an afternoon of merriment before the Beacon Hill Business Association's Holiday Stroll. Infinity Portrait Design will be on hand to take photos of your family. Register online today for your time slot at <https://bit.ly/2WUtSku> Walk-ins will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis, but participants are encouraged to sign up electronically first.

## Handel's 'Messiah' comes to Church on the Hill

In 1818 the "Messiah" had its first full performance in Boston. Also, in that year, the Boston Society of the New Jerusalem/Church on the Hill was

founded.

Come join Church on the Hill, located at 140 Bowdoin St., in celebration of its 201st year on Beacon Hill on Saturday, Dec. 7, at 2 p.m.

The special guest conductor will be Dr. Jamie Kirsch, leading the vocal soloists and orchestral musicians in a sing-along performance of Handel's magnificent music, including "Part I" and the "Hallelujah Chorus." Join in the singing or be part of the audience; bring your copy of the musical score or purchase one at the door.

Tickets cost \$19 each, and the entire box office and donations will go to support underprivileged young musicians. This venue is handicap accessible. For more information, call 617-523-4575 or visit <http://churchonthehillboston.org>. You may also purchase tickets online at [www.brownpaper-tickets.com/event/4423515](http://www.brownpaper-tickets.com/event/4423515).

## Holiday exhibition at Hidden Art Gallery

The Hidden Art Gallery at 25 Myrtle St. presents a Small Artworks Holiday Exhibition on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 7 and 8, from noon to 5 p.m.

Visit [thehiddenartgallery.com](http://thehiddenartgallery.com) for more information.

## Hill House 2020 Flag Football League registration open

Hill House, Inc. located at 127 Mount Vernon St., will open registration for its 2020 Boston NFL Flag Football League is now open. Register until Dec. 30 to receive the early bird rate of \$125/per person. This league sees over 150 children from across the city participate and is open to children in Grades K-7. All players will receive a reversible NFL-team-branded jersey and an NFL Flag belt. The season will be nine weeks long, and teams will have a chance to practice, as well as play games at Clemente Field in Boston. Don't wait to register to receive the discount. Registration will be open for individuals and teams. The fall league starts Sept. 8, 2020.

## Business networking on the Hill

The Beacon Hill Network is sponsoring an open business-networking event at 75 Chestnut on Wednesday, Jan. 22, from 6 to 8 p.m. These events are open to anyone who would like to do business networking in our local community.

## BSNJ Community Children's Chorus

The Boston Society of The New Jerusalem (BSNJ) Community Children's Chorus is a comprehensive musical training program for children in the third through seventh grades.

Your child will be participating in a program that promotes: the love of music, expressive singing, teamwork-cooperative learning, building new friendships, self-assessment and the fun of being in an outstanding program.

The group meets at 140 Bowdoin St. on Saturday mornings. Tuition is free for any child with a Greater Boston-area address. All levels of singing ability are welcome. To register, contact Carlton Doctor at 617-523-4575 or visit [www.churchonthehillboston.org](http://www.churchonthehillboston.org) (click on "music.")

BSNJ/The Church On The Hill sponsors this initiative, but we are not promoting any religious ideology.

## MGH seeking volunteers

The Massachusetts General Hospital Volunteer Department is seeking volunteers to help families connect with loved ones after surgery. Candidates must have the ability to walk extensively, and to push a person in a wheelchair. Shifts are available weekdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and 2 to 6 p.m.

Contact Kim Northrup at 617-724-1826 for more information.

## 'Coloring for Adults' at the West End Branch Library

The West End Branch of the Boston Public Library, located at 151 Cambridge St., presents "Color Your World: Coloring for Adults" on Fridays from 2 to 4 p.m.

At this time, the library will supply coloring pages, colored pencils, markers and crayons, or bring your own supplies if you prefer. Feel free to drop in between these hours.

Call 617-523-3957 for more information.

## Spanish/English Language Exchange

The West End Branch of the Boston Public Library, located at 151 Cambridge St., presents the Spanish/English Language Exchange/Intercambio de Idiomas en Inglés y Español on Mondays from 3 to 5 p.m.

At this time, English speakers can practice Spanish and Spanish speakers can practice English in

this fun, informal conversation class.

Call 617-523-3957 for more information.

## BSNJ Community Children's Chorus

The Boston Society of The New Jerusalem (BSNJ) Community Children's Chorus is a comprehensive musical training program for children in Grades 3 to 7.

Your child will be participating in a program that promotes: the love of music, expressive singing, teamwork-cooperative learning, building new friendships, self-assessment and the fun of being in a well organized program.

The rehearsals take place at 140 Bowdoin St. on Tuesday afternoons. Tuition is free for any child with a Boston address. All levels of singing ability are welcome. To sign up, please contact Mr. Doctor at 617-523-4575 or visit [www.churchonthehillboston.org](http://www.churchonthehillboston.org) (click on "music").

The Church on the Hill sponsors this initiative but we are not promoting any religious ideology.

## ESL conversation group resumes meeting at West End Branch Library

The West End Branch of the Boston Public Library, located at 151 Cambridge St., welcomes the English as a Second Language (ESL) conversation group every Tuesday from noon to 1:30 p.m. Come and practice your English language skills with other newcomers and a facilitator.

## West End Playgroup meets Tuesday mornings

The West End Community Center, located at 1 Congress St., welcomes the West End Playgroup on Tuesdays from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. through the fall and winter.

This is a free drop-in time to let kids play and adults chat with one another. Small toy donations are welcome.

## Get homework help at the West End Branch Library

The West End Branch of the Boston Public Library, located at 151 Cambridge St., offers homework help every Thursday from 4 to 6 p.m.

Get help from a Boston Public Schools teacher. No appointment necessary; simply drop in with your homework.

Call 617-523-3957 for more information.

## Compassionate Friends group reaches out to bereaved parents, families

The Boston Chapter of The Compassionate Friends (TCF) meets at Trinity Church on the first Tuesday of each month from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

TCF is a national self-help, mutual-assistance organization offering friendship, understanding and hope to bereaved parents and their families. Call

617-539-6424 or e-mail [tcfoboston@gmail.com](mailto:tcfoboston@gmail.com) for more information.

## West End Food Pantry seeking donations

The West End Food Pantry needs help to continue serving its more than 120 clients per month. They welcome donations to replenish the supply of food that they give out to hungry residents in the neighborhood.

The pantry is located in the West End Branch of the Boston Public Library and is staffed by volunteers from ABCD's North End/West End Neighborhood Service Center. Non-perishable (canned and boxed) items are being sought, including rice, pasta, canned tuna, canned chicken, chili, beans, vegetables, cereal, soups, cup of noodles, etc.

Donations can be left at the library, 151 Cambridge St., on Monday through Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursday from noon to 8 p.m. and Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## Volunteers needed for hot meal program

The North End/West End Neighborhood Service Center (NE/WE NSC), located at 1 Michelangelo St., serves a hot, fresh, home-cooked lunch to seniors in the neighborhood Mondays and Fridays, and is looking for two volunteers to help with shopping, food preparation, cooking, serving and clean-up. The non-profit providing services and programs to low-income residents of the North End, West End and Beacon Hill is looking for volunteers who can assist with the whole meal from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on a Monday and/or Friday, but can make arrangements to fit your schedule.

Contact Maria Stella Gulla, director, at 617-523-8125, ext. 201, via e-mail at [mariastella.gulla@bostonabcd.org](mailto:mariastella.gulla@bostonabcd.org) for more information.

(CONTINUED ON Next Page)

# CALENDAR

THE DEADLINE FOR LISTING EVENTS IS THE TUESDAY BEFORE PUBLICATION. CALL 617-523-9490 OR FAX 617-523-8668 OR EMAIL EDITOR@BEACONHILLTIMES.COM

## TUESDAY, DEC. 3

**CONCERT**, Hiroaki Honshuku and Yuka Kido's Love to Brasil Project Annual A-No-Ne Christmas, King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., 12:15 p.m., suggested donation: \$5, call 617-227-2155 for more information

**CEREMONY** for recently installed permanent lighting at the Samuel Eliot Morison statue, Commonwealth Avenue Mall, 6 p.m., call 617-723-8144 or email info@friendsofthepublicgarden.org for more information

## THURSDAY, DEC. 5

**CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY**, Photos with Santa, Hill House, Inc. 127 Mount Vernon St., 3:30-5:30 p.m., visit <https://bit.ly/2WUtSku> to register

## SATURDAY-SUNDAY, DEC. 7-8

**EXHIBIT**, Small Artworks Holiday Exhibition, Hidden Art Gallery, 25 Myrtle St., noon-5 p.m., visit [thehiddenartgallery.com](http://thehiddenartgallery.com) for more information

## SATURDAY, DEC. 8

**CONCERT** featuring works from Handel's "Messiah," Church on the Hill, 140 Bowdoin St., tickets: \$19 each, call 617-523-4575 or visit <http://churchonthehillboston.org> for more information, visit <https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/4423515> to purchase tickets

## TUESDAY, DEC. 10

**CONCERT**, Pioneer Singers of Lynnfield performing holiday favorites, King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., 12:15 p.m., suggested donation: \$5, call 617-227-2155 for more information

## TUESDAY, DEC. 17

**CONCERT**, Emily Bieber-Harris (soprano), Jennifer Webb (alto), Andy Troska (tenor) Heinrich Christensen (organ) performing Handel's "The Half-Hour Messiah," King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., 12:15 p.m., suggested donation: \$5, call 617-227-2155 for more information

## WEDNESDAY, JAN. 22, 2020

**EVENT**, Beacon Hill Network open business networking event, 75 Chestnut, 6-8 p.m.

## NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDUP

### Blackstone's of Beacon Hill to host acclaimed photographer Bill Brett for book signing of 'Game Changers'

The Beacon Hill Holiday Stroll just got better.

Acclaimed photographer Bill Brett will be at Blackstone's of Beacon Hill on Thursday, Dec. 5, from 6 to 7:30pm signing his newest book "Boston: Game Changers."

Brett's sixth book "Game Changers" is about the people in Boston who are doing great things, making a difference, and leading the city into the future. Featuring a mix of black-and-white and color photographs, his portraits include quiet volunteers and those doing cutting-edge medical research.

"Bill has become a regular at Blackstone's having signed copies of each his previous books with us," said Jennifer Hill, owner of Blackstone's. "We love being able connect our local community with people like Bill, as well as Elin Hilderbrand, who just did a sold out book signing with us at the Hampshire House on Nov. 25."

Brett said, "I love what I do and I love this city. I feel that I have a front row seat in history - even as I preserve that history for Boston through my photos."

### Beacon Hill Holiday House Tour December 8 12 - 4 pm

For over twenty years the Nichols House Museum has organized and hosted the Beacon Hill Holiday House Tour. This event offers the public a rare opportunity to experience a select group of remarkable private residences. Each year, the tour

showcases outstanding examples of historic preservation, as well as creative modern interpretation and adaptation in a broad range of architectural and interior design styles.

Traditional Eggnog Party December 12, 6 - 8 p.m.

Join us for a cup of cheer and delicious hors d'oeuvres with friends and neighbors of the Nichols House. We will be serving Rose Nichol's favorite eggnog, and the event will feature a performance by the Back Bay Ringers Quartet.

For tickets visit [www.nicholshousemuseum.org](http://www.nicholshousemuseum.org) or call 617-227-6993.

### LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, s 5-304 Docket No. SU19P2574GD In the matter of: Aisha Ruiz

### RESPONDENT

Alleged Incapacitated Person Of: Boston, MA To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Department of Mental Health (Boston of Westborough, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Aisha Ruiz is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Department of Mental Health (Boston of Westborough, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve Without Surety on the bond.

## LEGALS

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority. You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 12/25/2019. This date is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which

you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date. IMPORTANT NOTICE The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's

right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: November 13, 2019 Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate 11/27/19 BH

## BEACON HILL BEAT

### From Boston Police Area A-1

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### Drinking in Public

11/16/19 - A male suspect will be summonsed to court for drinking alcohol in public. The suspect

was found lying on the sidewalk drinking alcohol at the intersection of Charles Street South and Stuart Street at around 8:49 p.m.

## WANTED - STORAGE SPACE

Local maintenance and remodeling contractor looking for storage space in Beacon Hill (basement, rear area). Will NOT be using as a workshop, or making excessive noise.

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# Leonard Lee, Sr. named to Boston Parks Commission

Leonard M. Lee, Sr. was sworn in as the newest member of the Boston Parks and Recreation Commission at the Commission's Oct. 28 public meeting at Boston Parks and Recreation Department headquarters at 1010 Massachusetts Avenue in Roxbury. Named to the Commission as an at-large appointee by Mayor Martin J. Walsh, Lee brings a lifetime of hands-on experience in social services and event planning to his new role.

The Boston Parks and Recreation Commission is a seven-person review body appointed by the Mayor that oversees the Parks and Recreation Department and has authority over the parks, playgrounds, athletic fields,



Leonard M. Lee, Sr.

islands, urban wilds, and cemeteries in its inventory. Created by the approval of Chapter 185 of the Acts of 1875, the authority of the Commission is set forth in the Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 45 and in Municipal Code Section 7.4.

In his current position with the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, Lee acts as general manager for the Melnea Cass Recreation Complex in Roxbury with responsibility for the total operation of Melnea Cass Recreation Complex, Roxbury Heritage State Park, and Dillaway Thomas House. As part of his role, Lee organizes exhibits and concerts and hosts lectures and educational programs.

Lee has decades of experience in public health, most recently as director of the Division of Violence and Injury Prevention at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health overseeing a \$30 million budget and managing four units: Sexual and Domestic

Violence Prevention; Child and Youth Violence Prevention; Suicide Prevention; and Injury Prevention and Control. Prior to taking on the senior managerial role at the Department of Public Health, Lee served as the Unit Manager of Child and Youth Violence Prevention managing the Shaken Baby Syndrome, Youth Violence Prevention, and Safe Spaces for LGBTQ Youth programs.

Lee's commitment to human services includes serving the State of Connecticut as former Deputy Commissioner of Public Health. In this capacity he oversaw Injury and Violence Prevention as well as several other departments and a \$100 million budget. Lee was also an Executive Director at a

number of nonprofits throughout the Boston area, including the Roxbury YMCA, ABCD, Inc., Dorchester Neighborhood Service Center, Odwin Learning Center, and the Wang Theater.

Lee, a resident of Dorchester, joins current Boston Parks and Recreation Commission members Elisa Birdseye, Anne Connolly, William Epperson, David Queeley, Boston Parks and Recreation Commissioner Ryan Woods, and Boston's Chief of Environment, Energy, and Open Space Christopher Cook. His appointment began July 22 and ends July 7, 2023.

## Beacon Hill's Church of the Advent Celebrates 175 Years

Boston Mayor Marty Walsh has proclaimed Sunday, Dec. 1, 2019, Church of the Advent Day. On that day, the Church of the Advent, corner of Brimmer and Mount Vernon Streets, will mark its 175th anniversary with a full day of activities. The parish, an Episcopal Church in the Anglo-Catholic tradition, will offer Mass at 9 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. The Right Reverend Alan M. Gates, Bishop of the Diocese of Massachusetts, will celebrate and preach at both services. After the 9 o'clock service, members of the Church School and their families will have the opportunity to make traditional Advent wreaths with greenery and candles.

At 11:15 a.m., the renowned Choir of the Church of the Advent will present the Palestrina Mass setting, "Tu es Petrus," as well as

works by Purcell and Bruckner. A gala reception follows this service, and the Advent Guild of Bellringers will ring a quarter peal from the church's tower.

At 4:30 p.m., David Baskeyfield will present an organ recital, and at 5 p.m. the Advent Choir returns for A Service of Lessons and Carols for Advent Sunday, with works by Palestrina, Paul Manz, Howard Skempton, Tchaikovsky, Martin Peerson, Gabriel Jackson, Praetorius, Grieg, John McCabe, and Benjamin Britten. The evening will be capped by a festive reception. A close connection with the community The Church of the Advent is a founding member of FriendshipWorks (formerly Interfaith Match-up Volunteers, established 1884), offering services to elder members of the greater

Boston area. The Parish House provides classroom and meeting space to the Park Street School, and hosts Beacon Hill Seminars. The Beacon Hill Garden Club holds meetings at the Advent; the parish garden is part of the annual Beacon Hill Garden tour.

The Advent's bells ring out every New Year's Eve as part of the First Night celebrations, and every Fourth of July, a high point of the Boston Pops offering of the familiar 1812 Overture. A Lasting Commitment to Mission From its

humble beginnings gathering in an "upper room" of a building on Merrimack Street in the North End to the historic 1883 Gothic Revival style building designed by Boston architect and Advent parishioner John Hubbard Sturgis, the Advent has always striven to witness to "the beauty of holiness and the holiness of beauty," acquiring a worldwide reputation as a "shrine church" of Anglo-Catholicism in the United States. From its early revolutionary idea of free pews for all, to helping rebuild distant

storm-ravaged communities, raising money and awareness for the hungry among us, and nearly four decades of weekly dinners served to the homeless and needy of our community, the Church of the Advent been a steady and supportive presence to the residents of Beacon Hill and far beyond, serving those in need "in a manner free from unnecessary expense and all ungracious circumstances" -- words as true today as they were in 1844 when written by the Parish's founders.

### BHCA (from pg. 1)

or concerns, or to become a member.

Visit the Beacon Hill Civic Association website [www.bhcivic.org](http://www.bhcivic.org)

org or call the office (617-227-1922) for more information on any of these events.



The Beacon Hill Civic Association wishes our members, friends and neighbors a Happy Thanksgiving!

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