HAPPY HOLIDAYS! Eg a Happy New year

DECEMBER 19, 2019

THE BEACON HILL TIMES

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THERE ARE NO TIMES LIKE THESE TIMES

Four new BHAC members confirmed

By Dan Murphy

The City Council confirmed the appointment of four new members to the Beacon Hill Architectural Commission during a hearing of its Committee on Development, Planning and Transportation on Dec. 10 at City Hall.

The new appointees are Arian Allen and Alice Richmond, the mayoral at-large member and alternate, respectively; Matthew Blumenthal, the alternate member nominated by the Beacon Hill Civic Association; and Wen Wen, the alternate member nominated by the Boston Society of Architects.

Richmond's term lasts until May of 2023 while Wen is slated to serve with the Commission until May of 2023; Blumenthal's and Allen's terms are both set to expire in May of 2024.

"As the Chair of the Beacon Hill Architectural Commission I am very pleased to learn that soon we will welcome new commissioners representing the Mayor's office, the Boston Society of Architects and the Beacon Hill Civic Association," wrote Miguel Rosales, whose appointment with the Commission began in December of 2016, and is set to

(BHAC, Pg. 2)

SHOP LOCAL



The Beacon Hill Women's Forum (BHWF) is all about bringing neighborhood women together in the spirit of friendship. But it is also about doing as much as possible to support our Beacon Hill community which includes our local Charles Street merchants. Next week members will host our annual Wassail Holiday Celebration at the Hampshire House and rather than ask for donations many thought it better to shop at as many local shops as they could and 'lead by example'. They carved out an allowance from our annual BHWF budget and were able to purchase over 20 gifts under \$20 each from the various Charles Street merchants. At our festive party next week, they will explain that these raffle items were purchased locally and hope it will encourage our BHWF members to do the same! Pictured Senaida Bautista (left) - Pres BHWF and Lisa Macalaster Founder BHWF.

BEACON HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY CORNER

Have you tried BOS:311?

The City of Boston has an important and useful resource for all Boston residents. 311 is an easy to remember telephone number that will connect you with the City's Constituent Service Center. The center is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and 365 days

a year

311 provides access to all non-emergency City services. You can call 311 from any telephone, or you can call directly to 617-635-4500. You can also connect with 311 by downloading the mobile app, or by submitting a request or concern online

at https://www.cityofboston. gov/311/. The mobile app allows you to easily send a photo of the problem you are reporting. You can even Tweet @BOS311.

There are hundreds of topics that can be addressed by the 311 center, and these can be found

(BHCA *Pg.* 5)

Accolades

Appleton Bridge receives prestigious American Architecture Award

By Dan Murphy

The Frances Appleton Pedestrian Bridge racked up another accolade upon receiving the prestigious American Architecture Award for 2019 during a recent ceremony in Miami, Fla.

Jointly organized by The Chicago Athenaeum and The European Centre for Architecture Art Design and Urban Studies and now celebrating its 25th year, the American Architectural Awards are considered the nation's highest and most prestigious distinguished building awards program for new

and cutting-edge design in the U.S., and also promote American architecture and design domestically and abroad. The program drew a record number of applicants this year for new buildings, landscape architecture and urban planning projects submitted by some of the most venerable firms practicing in the U.S. and globally.

"The Appleton Bridge is a great example of a bridge conceived as structural art balancing architecture and engineering goals," wrote Miguel Rosales, the award-winning bridge designer and longtime

(Bridge Pg. 5)

Mayor Walsh signs affordable housing Home Rule Petition

By John Lynds

It was a huge win for District 1 City Councilor Lydia Edwards, her colleague Councilor Kim Janey and affordable housing advocates across the city.

On Monday, Mayor Martin Walsh signed Edwards and Janey's Home Rule Petition to impose a real estate transfer fee of 2 percent on the purchase price of any private real estate sale over \$2 million and dedicate all revenues to affordable housing. The 2 percent fee will be used to generate additional funding to create and preserve affordable housing in Boston. The

City Council approved the measure by a vote of 10-3.

The signing by Walsh now moves Edwards and Jayne's Home Rule Petition to the Massachusetts Legislature for approval. If approved by the state, the City would have the ability to determine the final rate for the fee, collection method and any exemptions that would exist.

"Housing is the biggest economic challenge facing the residents of Boston and people across our region," said Mayor Walsh. "That's why it's critically import-

(Housing Pg. 2)

WE'LL SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!

The Beacon Hill times will not be published on Dec. 26.

The next edition of the newspaper
will be published Thursday, Jan. 2

The Advertising Deadline for the next issue

IS FRIDAY, DEC. 27TH

The Office will be <u>CLOSED</u> <u>Dec. 25</u> and <u>Jan. 1</u> in observation of Christmas and New Years holidays.

Housing (from pg. 1)

ant that we do everything we can to support the creation of homes that are affordable, while also preserving our existing housing stock. I am proud to sign this Home Rule Petition that is a significant step forward in our work, by giving Boston the ability to impose a modest fee on the sale of private property, which will collectively do a world of good towards our efforts to make Boston a more affordable place to live."

According to the Home Rule Petition would authorize the City of Boston to impose a fee of up to 2 percent of the purchase price upon the transfer of property valued at over \$2 million, with 1 percent paid by the seller and one percent paid by the purchaser.

The funding generated would be dedicated to the Neighborhood Housing Trust (NHT) or appropriated through the annual budget process to support the creation and preservation of affordable housing in the City. Since it was created by statute in 1987, the NHT has expended approximately \$197 million to finance housing and supported approximately 12,887 units. The real estate transfer fee would, within a matter of two or three years, enable the NHT to dedicate more resources to housing than it has done since

Councilor Edwards, who chairs the Council's Committee on Housing and Community Development, said those who gen-

erate wealth in our communities must be part of ensuring residents can remain in the neighborhoods they love.

"Today, Boston joins a growing coalition of municipalities asking the state for the power to ensure that the housing we build truly meets our residents' needs," she said

This fall, the Walsh administration commissioned a study on the potential impact of transfer fees in the City of Boston and examine transfer fees across the country. The study found that "market actors do not appear to be fully incorporating the transaction costs.... Transfer taxes may have only muted impacts on real estate markets." It also noted that a separate study of real estate commissions, another "point of sale" fee, had minimal impacts on residential housing in the Boston or on the days a property was listed on the market.

Municipalities such as Somerville, Concord and Nantucket have advanced home rule petitions to authorize a real estate transfer fee.

"It is absolutely imperative that we enact policies that will ensure our residents will have a safe and affordable home to live in for many generations," said Councilor Janey, Vice-Chair of the Committee on Housing and Community Development. "When passed by the state legislature, this home rule petition will help curb

speculative real estate practices and stands to bring as much as \$169 million in revenue annually that can be invested in affordable housing."

According to an analysis conducted by PFM Group Consulting, real estate sales in Suffolk County have ranged from approximately \$3 billion to over \$12 billion in the last decade. The City of Boston accounts for 86 percent of the county's population and real estate activity. From 2009 through year-to-date, total private real estate sales have averaged \$8.4 billion. Based on average sales in Suffolk County, estimates show that a 1 percent fee on all private-market sales would have raised \$84 million per year over the last decade, and a two percent fee would have generated over \$168 million, a significant increase on the City's existing affordable housing investments.

"There is no question that in Boston we need to do everything we can to support the creation of homes that are affordable, while also preserving our existing housing stock," said Walsh before signing the Home Rule Petition Monday

Affordable Housing advocates,



Mayor Martin Walsh signs Councilor Lydia Edwards and Councilor Kim Janey's Home Rule Petition to impose a real estate transfer fee of two percent on the purchase price of any private real estate sale over \$2 million and dedicate all revenues to affordable housing.

like NOAH's (Neighborhood of Affordable Housing) Executive Director Phil Giffee, are elated by what they are calling a 'monumental' step in ensuring more affordable housing is built and preserved in neighborhoods like Eastie.

"This is monumental news for affordable and workforce housing for the City of Boston," said Giffee. "A big thank you to both the Mayor and to our City Councilor, Lydia Edwards, who championed this significant effort and brought a coalition together. Now we need to mobilize that coalition at the State House, where we know Rep Madaro and Senator Boncore will help lead the charge for passage. To the credit of the Mayor and Lydia, I appreciate they discussed implementation differences and worked to the middle for a workable alliance of interests. I also appreciate seeing leaders working together to solve problems that affect real people, and there are few issues as important to people and the economy as housing. NOAH's thanks for making this happen."

The Church On The Hill hosts opera and lieder

On Saturday, January 18, 2020 come to The Church On The Hill for a concert performance of opera and lieder. This concert will feature the talents of Lisa Hadley, Jade Espina, Taka Komagata, Max Rydqvist and Sierra Marcy. They will perform Samuel Barber's "A Hand Of Bridge." This work is often called a micro-opera, the total running

time is about nine minutes. "A Hand Of Bride" premiered in the US on April 6, 1960 at the Mannes College of Music. The film adaptation won 24 awards at the 2018-2019 Independent Film Festival. The other work on this program will be Johannes Brahms' "Liebeslieder Waltzes" ("Love Song Waltzes"). The concert will begin at 3:00 PM. The

concert is open to the public admission is \$5; there will be a reception with savory and sweet delights immediately following (handicap accessible). Come to 140 Bowdoin Street, Beacon Hill (across the street from the State House). For more information phone: 617-523-4575 or visit http://churchonthehillboston.org.

BHAC (from pg. 1)

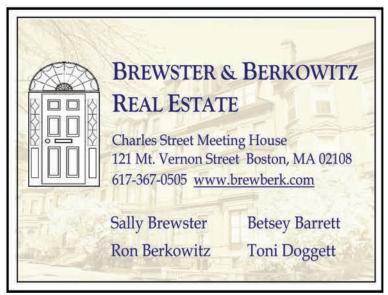
expire in May of 2021. "Serving as the Chair of the Commission has been a very rewarding experience, since I deeply care about keeping the integrity of the historic district and helping with its preservation as a National Historic Landmark."

Besides Rosales, other current Commission members include Joel Pierce, a Beacon Hill Civic Association nominee whose appointment began in August of 2013 and was set to expire in May of 2016; Danielle Santos, Boston Society of Architects nominee whose appointment began in August of 2013 and was set to expire in May of 2018; Paul Donnelly, nominated by the Mayor's office, whose appointment began in August of 2015 and was set to expire in May of 2019;

and Philip Vineburgh, Greater Boston Real Estate Board nominee whose appointment began in October of 2008 and was set to expire in May of 2012.

The new appointees to the Commission will be sworn at City Hall at a later date.





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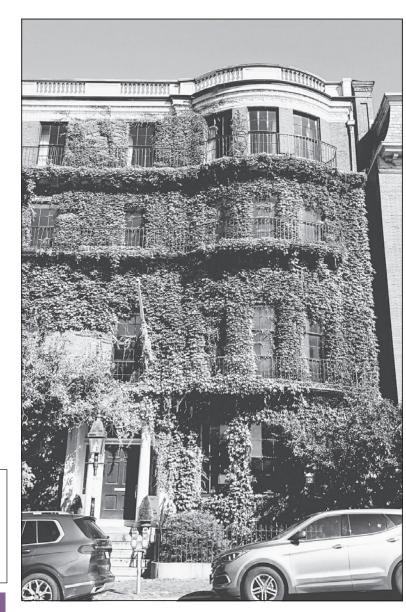
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ATTENTION TO DETAIL

By PENNY CHERUBINO

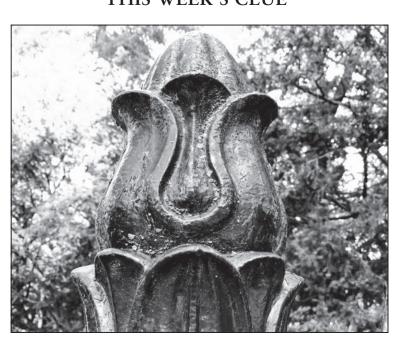
THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The ivy covered window in the last clue is on 39 Beacon Street. In his book, "Historic Walks in Old Boston," John Harris writes that in 1843 Fanny Appleton married Henry Wadsworth Longfellow in the second floor drawing room of this home. Today, you can reach the Esplanade less than half a mile away via a pedestrian bridge named in her honor.

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



EDITORIAL

GUEST OP-ED

Christmas is still special

By Dr. Glenn Mollette

Make a mental decision that Christmas is going to be great. Our world exists in the space between our ears known as our brains. We can dread or hate something or just decide it's going to be wonderful.

Faking it is not always easy. We can fool people some of the time, but we can't fool everyone all the time. The hardest person you actually have to fool is yourself. Sometimes we can fool ourselves for awhile, and it's never fun fooling ourselves for a long period of time. Sometimes it's necessary to fool ourselves briefly if we need to convince ourselves of something in order to survive.

For example, if you are going to be in a big gathering for Christmas there is probably going to be one or two obnoxious or ridiculous people in the crowd. You may already dread seeing them. Just convince yourself it is okay and that people are different and no one is perfect. Just decide to let ungratefulness, weird or negative comments roll off your back. You can override stupidity with Christmas cheer for a day. Just remember this is only for a day or two.

Also, this Christmas will not bring back any past Christmases.

There will be an empty chair or maybe several empty chairs. It may be tough and depressing when we think about how Christmas was a few years back. Christmas will never be the same for those of us missing loved ones and tears often come. Go ahead and cry but determine you won't spend all Christmas day crying. As you remember the past remember what it is about that person or Christmas you miss and hold tight to that joyful remembrance.

Keep in mind that this Christmas is still special because you are here in the world to celebrate the occasion. Whoever the people are in your life today hold them close and be merry together.

From the Old Testament the people of God were instructed by Joshua to "Hold tight to God, your God, just as you've done up to now." (Joshua 23:8) For all of us holding tight to our faith, our family, our friends and our life's values.

Glenn Mollette is the publisher of Newburgh Press, Liberty Torch and various other publishing imprints; a national columnist - American Issues and Common Sense opinions, analysis, stories and features appear each week In over 500 newspapers, websites and blogs across the United States.

HANUKKAH

THE FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS BEGINS AT SUNSET DEC. 22

HISTORIC HANDBELLS TO ENCHANT BEACON HILL



All Are Invited to Sing Christmas Carols to the Pealing of Handbells at the steps of 5 Louisburg Square. Louisburg Square, Beacon Hill, December 24 -- This Christmas Eve, the singing of Christmas carols to the pealing of English handbells will echo throughout Beacon Hill for the 95th year. The Beacon Hill Bell Ringers will delight those gathering with traditional Christmas favorites performed on the original handbells. The program begins at 8:00pm on December, 24th on the front steps of 5 Louisburg Square. All are welcome for free. The Ringers will hand out song books and to accompany the singing of "Jingle Bells," sleigh bells will be given to children. Dress warmly and bring a small light to read the songbook.

The tradition began in 1924 with Margaret Nichols Shurcliff, who was raised at 55 Mount Vernon St., which is currently home to the Nichols House Museum. On Christmas Eve of that year, Margaret and her children, including her youngest daughter, nine-year-old Alice, rang Christmas carols in front of their home, then, joined by a joyful gathering of neighbors, strolled the streets of Beacon Hill ringing carols. This celebration grew in such popularity that Margaret's family has continued for many years, passing bell ringing down to new generations. Some of her grandchildren still observe the Christmas Eve ringing on Louisburg Square, the perennial home of this tradition on Beacon Hill.

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BHCA (from pg. 1)

on the 311 website. Some of the issues you can report to 311 include potholes, sidewalk problems, streets or sidewalks that need to be cleaned, how to get rid of a big item like furniture or appliances, broken street signs, broken traffic signals and broken gas lamps. The service will confirm your submittal and they will send you an email when the problem has been resolved.

We recommend that our neighbors use this service whenever they have a question or concern to which the City can respond.

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@bhcivic. org with any questions, comments or concerns, or to become a member.

Upcoming BHCA Events

First Friday Coffee Hour – Friday, February 7th, 8-9am, BHCA, 74 Joy Street

Undecorating Days – Saturday and Sunday, January 11th and 12th

48th Annual Beacon Hill Gala
– Saturday, February 8th, Four
Seasons Hotel Boston

Visit the Beacon Hill Civic Association website www.bhcivic. org or call the office (617-227-1922) for more information on any of these events.

THANKS TO OUR FRIENDS AT TORIT MONTESSORI



Left and below, students at Torit Montessori carefully measured and cut the 2200 wires we needed to attach the garlands to the gas lamps. The BHCA thanks you!





Bridge (from pg. 1)

Beacon Hill resident who designed the \$12.5 Appleton Bridge as a major component of the \$300 million-plus rehabilitation of the iconic Longfellow Bridge. "As the bridge designer, I am very pleased to receive this important award rarely given to a bridge project in the US. I hope that the Frances Appleton Bridge will help inspire other communities to strive for excellence in bridge design."

Named for "Fanny" Appleton, the wife of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, one of the most widely known and best-loved American poets of his lifetime, as a lasting testament to their courtship during the 1840s when he crossed the Charles River from Cambridge to Beacon Hill each day to visit her, the 230-foot-long, steel-arch span that links Beacon Hill/Charles Circle to the Charles River Esplanade opened last year. (The bridge has the distinction of being the only fully ADA-accessible pedestrian bridge connecting to the riverfront.)

The Appleton Bridge was also recognized this year with the Arthur G. Hayden Medal, an international award recognizing bridge innovation and design.



John Corey photo

Bridge designer Miguel Rosales (second from left) is seen with other officials and dignitaries at last year's ribbon cutting for the Frances Appleton Pedestrian Bridge.

Mammograms Save Lives.

All women over 40 should have a mammogram once a year. Breast cancer found early offers the best chance to be cured. Free or low cost mammograms are available.

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www.cancer.org 1.800.ACS.2345



\$2.5 MILLION RAISED FOR MASS GENERAL CANCER CENTER

Tuesday, December 3, despite the snowy conditions, around 275 guests gathered at the Museum of Fine Arts for the Massachusetts General Hospital Cancer Center's second annual CenterStage gala, which featured an exciting performance by singer/songwriter Natasha Bedingfield.

Co-chaired by Eileen & Jack Connors, Jr. and Jessica & Sam Slater, the special evening raised \$2.5 million for cancer research, paving the way for more discoveries and cutting-edge work for which the hospital is known.

Throughout the evening, which was designed by Rafanelli Events, guests tried their luck at an interactive game of chance - the Revolutions for Change Game. Giant gameboard pieces rotated to reveal a largescale painting by Jonathan Zuker, whose work is displayed in the Cancer Center as part of the Center's Illuminations Program. The program uses paintings, photography, mixed-media and sculpture to help relieve the anxiety that can come with a cancer diagnosis.

Co-chair Jack Connors, Jr. kicked off the speaking program and introduced Daniel A. Haber. MD, PhD, Director, Mass General Cancer Center, who spoke to the development of personalized cancer medicine, early-detection technologies and innovative supportive care programs.

"This evening, you will have



Mimi Efstathiou, Arghavan Shahidi Batal MD, Natasha Bedingfield, Christine Olsen MD.

the opportunity to learn about two teams of physician-scientists who identified urgent needs in their patient populations and drove hospital-wide collaborations to address them," Haber said. "As a cancer center embedded within a world-class general hospital, we are uniquely positioned to confront these complex cases, while partnering with our patients in the development of new and more effective treatments."

David P. Ryan, MD, Clinical Director, Mass General Cancer Center, and Chief, Division of Hematology/Oncology, introduced the CenterStage spotlight video, which shared the advances that are being made, as well

as the challenges that occur, in Severe Immunotherapy. After the video, the director of the Mass General Cancer Center Severe Immunotherapy Complications Program, Kerry L. Reynolds, MD, shared a poignant story of a patient that touched everyone in the room.

At the conclusion of the evening, Natasha Bedingfield's energetic acoustic performance included her hits such as "These Words," "Unwritten," and "Pocketful of Sunshine," as well as a passionate cover of Prince's "Purple Rain."

The Mass General Cancer Center is determined to fundamentally shift how cancer is prevented, diagnosed and treated. The Cancer



Stuart Levine, Harriet Levine, Jay Loeffler MD, Nancy Tarbell MD.



Center's vision: to diagnose cancers at their earliest stage, when they can be more successfully treated and even cured; to further develop more powerful therapies to give patients more options no matter the stage of their cancer; to decrease the burden of cancer on families and society; and to save more lives. Visitmassgeneral.org/ cancer for more.

Kerry Reynolds MD.



Co-Chairs Eileen and Jack

Cathy Minehan and Daniel Haber



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David Ryan MD, Marianne Leone, Chris Cooper, Carol Ryan.

\$2.5 MILLION RAISED FOR MASS GENERAL CANCER CENTER



Ellen Cohen, Daniel Haber MD, Sarah Irving, Sandra Irving, Arthur Irving, Lori Slavin, Peter Slavin MD.

Right, Cheryl Lillemoe, Kathy Verni, Ralph Verni, Keith Lillemoe MD.

> Right, Belinda Termeer, Lori

and Peter

Slavin MD.





Left, Bryan Reynolds, Chad Carlberg, Kerry Reynolds MD, Kristina Harter MD.





BREAKFAST ESSENTIALS

Farm Eggs w/ Toast & Bacon | Omelet* Waffles w/ Banana Flambé | Eggs Benedict* Avocado Toast* | Egg Bowl w/Smashed Avocado Smoked Bacon Spiced Aioli | Scampo Bacon Cheeseburger w/ Sweet Pepper Relish & Fries

*Select dishes available with or without Lobster, Salmon, Bacon

You can view our menu in full at scampoboston.com/menu

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10% OFF **Sunday Brunch to our Beacon Hill Times readers with this Ad.

Expires 4/30/2020

YOUNG FRIENDS OF THE PUBLIC GARDEN'S ANNUAL WINTER PARTY

The Young Friends of the Public Garden Second Annual Winter Party, held on Dec. 8 at the Union Club, was a huge suc-

Board Chair, Leslie Adam welcomed the 150 young and "young-at-heart" guests and thanked them all for gathering together to support the Common, Garden and Mall. Adam also invited everyone to join with the Friends in 2020 to celebrate the organization's 50thanniversary. Seasonal music and a view of the lights on Boston Common added to the festivities on the 5th floor at 8 Park Street. The raffle winners were thrilled with their prizes thanks to the generosity of our donors the Eliot Hotel, Hornblower and Amy Morris, Boston Chops, Uwilla Warrior,

Celtics tickets donated by Rich Winston Flowers, Shoes.com and Mooo Restaurant.



Leslie Adam, Meg McClafferty and Liz Vizza.



George Gilpatrick, Sandra Gilpatrick, Mary Beth Kelley and Julie



Caroline Barry, Kelly Furlong, Kristine Miklos, Rich Hornblower, Courtney Barry, Joe Grasso and Meredith



Revelers enjoying the Young Friends of the Public Garden's Second Annual Winter Party at the Union Club.



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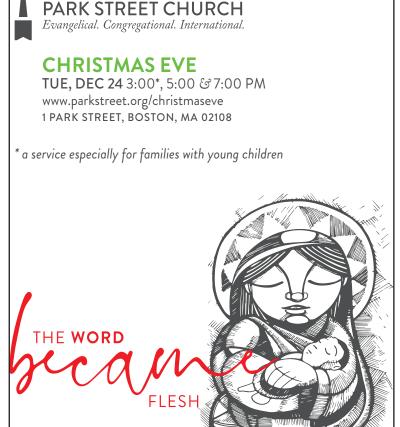
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allofus@partners.org or allofus@bmc.org



BOSTON





William Hague and Aoife Gaughan enjoying the event.

For Advertising Rates, Call 781-485-0588

Neighborhood Roundup

Coming to the Hidden Gallery

The Hidden Gallery at 25 Myrtle St. presents Fresh Paint New Arrivals Shop for Art on Saturdays, Dec. 14 and 21, from noon to 5 p.m.; and Fresh Paint New Arrivals Last Minute Shopping on Monday, Dec. 23, from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

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 NFLteam-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.

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 Jan Brandts Buys: Christmas Quintet, with Tim Marcia (flute), on Jan. 7; Christine Vitale (violin), Jennifer Lucht (cello) and Heinrich Christensen performing works by Bach and Rheinberger on Jan. 14; Carson Coooman on the C.B. Fisk organ performing works by Ferrari, Sawa and Aberg on Jan. 21; and singer-songwriter/guitarist Brooke Campbell on Jan. 28.

'Con of the Art' film series at West End **Branch Library**

The Friends of the West End Branch Library presents "The Con of the Art: Documentary Film Series," which focuses on forgeries and the art world at the library located at 151 Cambridge St.

"Who Screenings include #\$&% Is Jackson Pollock?" (2003, 74 minutes, Rated PG-13) on Wednesday, Jan.

8, at 3 p.m.; "My Kid Could Paint That" (2007, 73 minutes, Rated PG-13) on Wednesday, Jan. 15, at 3 p.m.; "Exit Through the Gift Shop" (2010, 85 minutes, Rated R) on Wednesday, Jan. 22, at 3 p.m.; and "Beltracchi: The Art of Forgery" (2014, 93 minutes, unrated) on Wednesday, Jan. 29, at 3 p.m.

Call 617-523-3957 for more information.

'Reading and Playtime' at the West End **Branch Library**

The West End Branch of the Boston Public Library at 151 Cambridge St. presents "Reading and Playtime" on Saturday, Jan. 11, at 11 a.m.

Remember that time when your child did something amazing and you said, "I have to remember that"? Well... that is what "Alma's Matters" is all about. Come meet Dr. Ido Weinberg, the author of "Alma's Matters". Dr. Ido will read from the book and let guests peep into behind the scenes of some of the stories. Children and their parents/caregivers will also be able to enjoy playtime and arts and crafts with Alma and her friends. The activity is ideal for families with children ages 2-5 and for anyone who has ever been a toddler themselves

Call 617-523-3957 for more information.

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 (click on "music.")

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

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

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

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

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 (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 tcfofboston@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 noo-

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 for more information.

(CONTINUED ON Page 10)

HILL BEAT BEACON

From Boston Police Area A-I

COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICE: 617-343-4627 DRUG UNIT: 617-343-4879 • EMERGENCIES: 911

Larceny from a Building

a mattress he had delivered was between 3:30 and 4:15 p.m.

stolen from the entranceway of 12/06/19 - A victim reported his Joy Street building some time

CITY PAWS

Stress and calm are contagious

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

In recent years, more scientific research has been conducted on the bond and emotional interdependence of dogs and their guardians. We now have scientific data on the emotional and psychosocial benefits people with disabilities gain from their highly trained and reliable service dogs. We also know, through studies, that longterm stress hormone levels of test subjects and their companion animals tend to match. We can all benefit if we recognize and work with these findings to improve our canine relationships.

Matching Stress Levels

Last June, a team of researchers at Linköping University in Sweden analyzed the hair cortisol concentrations (HCC) of a group of people and their border collies or Shetland sheepdogs over a period of several months.

The researchers reported, "Our results show that long-term stress hormone levels were synchronized between dogs and humans, two different species sharing everyday life. This could not be explained by either physical activity or by the amount of training. Since the personality of the owners was significantly related to the HCC of their dogs, we suggest that it is the dogs that mirror the stress levels of their owners rather than the owners responding to the stress in their dogs."

Knowing that your own stress level can raise or lower your dog's stress level is important. Think about situations that you know will stress your dog like thunderstorms, visits to the vet, an offleash or out of control dog coming at you. If you do your best to keep calm, you could both benefit.

Calming Tools for Both of You

Think of the things you can do to calm yourself and then figure ways to involve your dog with the process. This can be as simple as playing calming music. If aromatherapy works for you, we now know it can help calm your dog by calming you.

Stroking and gentle massage is a great way to relax together. You could find online videos demonstrating Tellington T-Touch Therapy. While we have used this

to calm and bond with dogs, it is also a very relaxing activity for the masseuse.

Psychosocial Benefits of Service Dogs

Purdue University College of Veterinary Medicine research released in January reported, "Findings suggest that service dogs may have measurable effects on specific aspects of psychosocial health for individuals with physical disabilities or chronic conditions. Implications for rehabilitation health care providers should recognize that in addition to the functional benefits service dogs are trained to provide, they can also provide their handlers with psychosocial benefits from their assistance and companionship."

While on the topic of service dogs, we would like to remind our readers of important, pending state legislation. House Bill H.2277, "An Act relative to the misrepresentation of a service animal" would make it a crime to pretend your companion animal is a service dog.

As originally proposed, this bill says, "A person who violates this section commits a civil infraction,



Photo courtesy Pontus Wellgraf Via Unsplasl

Special places you and your dog both enjoy can help destress both of you.

punishable by 30 hours of community service for an organization that serves individuals with disabilities, or for another entity or organization at the discretion of the court, to be completed in not more than 6 months and/or pay a fine no more than \$500."

Along with one of our favorite organizations, NEADS World Class Service Dogs, we will keep

following the fate of this bill on behalf of all those who actually need the assistance of a dog and deserve to be granted the allowances given to real service dogs.

Do you have a question or topic for City Paws. Send an email to Penny@BostonZest.com with your request.

Neighborhood Roundup

Beacon Hill Seminars' Spring Kickoff

Beacon Hill Seminars' Spring Kickoff takes place on Wednesday, Jan. 8, at 3:30 p.m. at Church of the Advent, 30 Brimmer St., Mosely Hall. For more information, email info@beaconhillseminars.

Introduction to laptops, eReaders and iPads at the West End Branch Library

The West End Branch of the Boston Public Library, 151 Cambridge St., offers an introduction to laptops, eReaders and iPads by appointment only. Get the most out of your eReader or Laptop. Receive tips and guidance during these one-on-one sessions. Call Branch Librarian, Helen Bender at617-523-3957 or e-mail hbender@bpl.org to set up an appointment.

Yoga for seniors at the West End Branch Library

The West End Branch of the Boston Public Library, 151 Cambridge St., presents yoga for seniors every Tuesday from 2:45 to 3:30 p.m. Classes are led by Tatiana Nekrasova, a certified yoga instructor.

Volunteer at Spaulding Rehab

Stay active, meet new people and be connected with your community by volunteering at Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital. Staff members will match your skills and interests to a volunteer opportunity. The hospital is currently recruiting volunteers, ages 18 and up, for two- to three-houra-week shifts for a minimum of six to 12 months commitment. Visit www.spauldingnetwork.org for more information.

After-work tai chi group at the West End Branch Library

The West End Branch of the Boston Public Library, 151 Cambridge St., welcomes afterwork tai chi group every Thursday from 5 to 6 p.m. Come and try this low impact energy exercise with yang-style tai chi instructor Arthur Soo-Hoo.

Be a friend to elderly in need

FriendshipWorks seeks caring people to offer help and support to isolated elders in the Boston area. Volunteers are needed to provide companionship and assist elders with tasks such as reading, organizing, or going for a walk - lend an hour each week and gain a friend and a new perspective. Volunteers also needed to escort elders to and from medical appointments. No car is needed and hours are flexible. For more information or to apply online, visit www.fw4elders.org or call 617-482-1510.

Local residents needed to drive cancer patients to and from treatment

The American Cancer Society is in great need of Road to Recovery volunteers to drive local cancer patients to and from their chemotherapy and/or radiation treatments. An integral part of treating cancer successfully is making sure cancer patients receive their treatments, but many find making transportation arrangements is a challenge. The American Cancer

Society provided more than 19,000 rides to cancer patients in New England last year, but needs new volunteer drivers to keep up with the demand for transportation.

Make a difference in the fight against cancer by becoming a volunteer driver for the American Cancer Society's Road to Recovery. Drivers use their own vehicle to drive patients to and from their treatments. The schedule for volunteers is flexible, and treatment appointments take place weekdays, primarily during business hours. If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a volunteer driver for Road to Recovery, contact your American Cancer Society at 800-227-2345 or visit www.cancer.org.

Join the Downtown Boston Rotary Club

The Downtown Boston Rotary Club, the first new Rotary Club in Boston in 100 years, holds meetings at the UMass Club in the Financial District on the first and third Tuesdays of each month from 6 to 7:15 p.m. For more information, visit www.dbrotary.org or call 617-535-1950.

SERVICE DIRECTORY





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, JAN. 7

CONCERT, Jan Brandts Buys: Christmas Quintet, King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., 12:15 p.m., suggested donation: \$5, call 617-227-2155 for more information

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 8

FILM, Who the #\$&% Is Jackson Pollock?" (2003, 74 minutes, Rated PG-13), West End Branch of the Boston Public Library, 151 Cambridge St., 3 p.m., call 617-523-3957 for more information

EVENT, Beacon Hill Seminars' Spring Kickoff, Church of the Advent, 30 Brimmer St., Mosely Hall, 3:30 p.m., email info@beaconhillseminars for more information

TUESDAY, JAN. 14

CONCERT, Christine Vitale (violin), Jennifer Lucht (cello) and Heinrich Christensen performing works by Bach and Rheinberger, King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., 12:15 p.m., suggested donation: \$5, call 617-227-2155 for more information

TUESDAY, JAN. 11

ACTIVITY, "Reading and Playtime," West End Branch of the Boston Public Library, 151 Cambridge St., 11 a.m., call 617-523-3957 for more information

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 15

FILM, "My Kid Could Paint That" (2007, 73 minutes, Rated PG-13), West End Branch of the Boston Public Library, 151 Cambridge St., 3 p.m., call 617-523-3957 for more information

TUESDAY, JAN. 21

CONCERT, Carson Coooman on the C.B. Fisk organ performing works by Ferrari, Sawa and Aberg, King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., 12:15 p.m., suggested donation: \$5, call 617-227-2155 for more information

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 22

FILM, "Exit Through the Gift Shop" (2010, 85 minutes, Rated R), West End Branch of the Boston Public Library, I51 Cambridge St., 3 p.m., call 617-523-3957 for more information

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

TUESDAY, JAN. 28

CONCERT, singer-songwriter/guitarist Brooke Campbell, King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., 12:15 p.m., suggested donation: \$5, call 617-227-2155 for more information

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 29

FILM, "Beltracchi: The Art of Forgery" (2014, 93 minutes, unrated), West End Branch of the Boston Public Library, 151 Cambridge St., 3 p.m., call 617-523-3957 for more information

COMPASS



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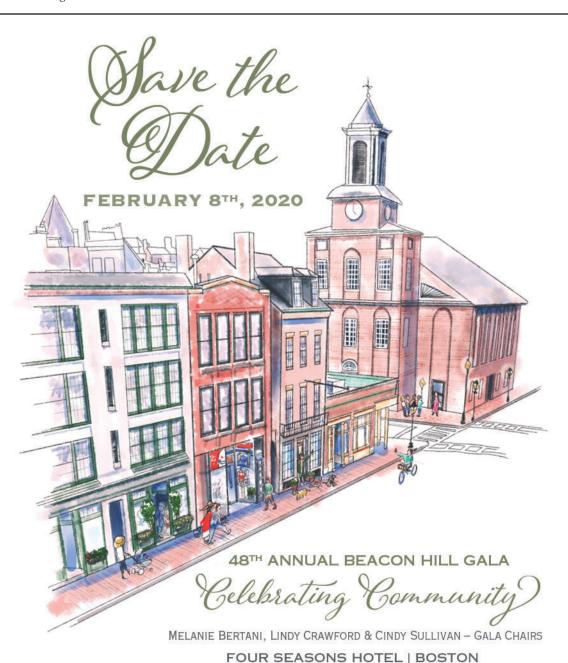
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BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY'S MANGINAH PERFORMING AT THE VILNA SHUL



On Thursday, December 5, the Vilna Shul, Boston's center for Jewish culture, hosted a 'Chanukah A Cappella Concert' to get into the holiday spirit. Five a cappella groups performed for an audience of excited families and local community members. Pictured on stage is Brandeis University's Manginah who performed alongside Honorable Menschen, Northeastern University's Distilled Harmony, Simmon University's Simmon Sirens and Boston University's Kol Echad. The century-old Vilna Shul recently reopened following a year-long renovation. This milestone will advance the Vilna Shul's mission to serve as a cross-cultural bridge for programming, an educational resource and a living museum. The Vilna Shul's 2020 programming schedule is available at vilnashul.org.



AROUND THE CITY

CRY IT OUT

Multi-award winning Artistic Director Danielle Fauteux Jacques directs Apollinaire Theatre Company's production of Molly Smith Metzler's play, "Cry It Out," December 20-January 19: Friday, Saturday, 8 p.m.; January 12,19, 3 p.m., Chelsea Theatre Works, 189 Winnisimmet St., Chelsea. Post-show reception with actors. 617-887-2336, apollinairetheatre.com.

BOSTON CAMERATA

Boston Camerata performs La Estrella: A Hispanic Christmas, Dec. 20, 8 p.m., at All Saints Church –Ashmont, 209 Ashmont St., Dorchester; Dec. 21, 8 p.m.; First Parish Church of Newbury, 20 High St., Newbury; and Dec. 22, 4 p.m., at the Firist Parish in Cambridge, 1446 Mass. Ave., Cambridge. \$26-\$63, students, \$10. Bostoncamerata.org/performances/boston-series/.

CALAMARI SISTERS

The Calamari sisters bring back their holiday music, fun, and dance, in their "Christmas Carol" special, through Sunday, January 5, at the Regent Theatre, 7 Medford St., Arlington, \$30-\$60. 781-646-4849, RegentTheatre.com.

THE NUTCRACKER

North Atlantic Dance Theatre presents "The Nutcracker, December 20, at 5 pm., Dec. 21. 12,5 p.m., and Dec, 22, at 12 noon, at The Cabot Theatre, 286 Cabot St., Beverly.

Dar Williams performs Dec, 27 at 8 p.m., followed by Grateful Ball, featuring Tony Markelis of Trey Anastasio Band and Zach Nugent, formerly of Jerry Garcia Band, Dec.29, at 7:30 p.m. thecabot.org, 978-927-3100, Ticketmaster.

MICHAEL W. SMITH

The multi-Platinum, Grammy award-winning artist-author returns performing his special holiday touring concert, featuring special guest Marc Martel, Friday, December 20, at 7:30 p.m. 50 East Merrimack St., Lowell. \$34-\$104.lowellauditorium.com, 800-657-8774.

KOWLOON KOMEDY

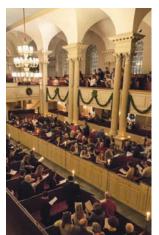
Corey Rodrigues headlines December 20,21, at 8:30 p.m., followed by Paul D'Angelo, Dec. 27,28, at 8:30 p.m., Each show is \$20. New Year's Eve, usher in the new year at the Kowloon Restaurant at its party featuring Wild Fire Band in the Luau Room, Doors open at 7 p.m.; champagne toast, party favors, dinner buffet 7-9 p.m. Wild Fire Band performs 9 p.m.-1 a.m. 948 Broadway, Route 1N, Saugus. 781-233-0077.

ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

The Boston Community Lighting for Chanukah Festival of Lights is held Wednesday, December 18, 4:30-10 p.m., at the Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston. The community candle lighting is at 6:30 p.m. free. Jartsboston.org.

Christmas

★ King's Chapel



CHRISTMAS SERVICES

CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY SERVICE 5 PM

We welcome all to a special nativity service. Any child can participate without rehearsal.

CHRISTMAS EVE LESSONS AND CAROLS 10:30 PM

Traditional service with full choir and candlelight

CHRISTMAS DAY
HOLY COMMUNION 10 AM

King's Chapel 58 Tremont Street



Little Chapel

www.kings-chapel.org -