

THE BEACON HILL TIMES

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Temporary signage tells story of Shaw and the 54th Regiment

By Dan Murphy

The Robert Gould Shaw and the 54th Regiment Memorial is now off site as it undergoes a \$2.8 million facelift, but the story of the first Northern black volunteer infantry unit enlisted to fight in the Civil continues to reach new audiences in its absence via 900 feet of interpretative signage that now lines the fencing along the project site on the Boston Common.

"We have these monuments in the parks, but no one knows what they are, and that goes for the Shaw 54th," said Liz Vizza, executive director of the Friends of the Public Garden, who describes the installation that will remain in place until the project's completion later this year as "an exhibit without walls." "It's a really important story, especially in this moment," she added.

The nonprofit Friends group has partnered with the City of Bos-

ton, the National Park Service and the Museum of African American History to restore the bas-relief memorial that sits inside the Common on the corner of Beacon and Park streets, and was created by American sculptor Augustus Saint-Gaudens and installed in 1897. The interpretive signage that now cordons the project site tells the story from the signing of the Emancipation Project, to the inception of the 54th Regiment, until the present restoration of the monument, and incorporates quotes from abolitionists such as Frederick Douglass and Harriet Tubman; a map that shows the site along the Nation Park Service's "Boston's Trails of Freedom" and the Black Heritage Trail; and a full-scale image of how the restored memorial will appear upon its unveiling later this year.

"People who lead tours and want to experience the memorial can see it," Vizza said of the image. "With the high resolution way it

(SHAW Pg. 6)

Otis House Museum receives grant to create 'virtual visitor experience'

By Times staff

The Otis House Museum will soon boast a "virtual visitor experience," thanks to a grant from National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) CARES Act.

"This project will significantly advance our commitment to sharing our historic sites and resources," Vin Cipolla, president and CEO of Historic New England, which owns and operates the Otis House Museum, said in a statement. "This is one way we can use digital technology to be there for our communities."

Historic New England received a \$300,000 federal grant to add new 360-degree interior photography to provide access to spaces not on public view such as attics, outbuildings, and other rooms.

Besides the Otis House Museum, the project will benefit four other Historic New England properties - Casey Farm in Saunderson, R. I.; Sarah Orne Jewett House in South Berwick, Maine; Rundlet-May House in Portsmouth, N.H.; and Roseland Cottage in Woodstock, Conn., as well as a Vermont project that will use material from "More than a Market: Finding Community in Burlington," part of Historic New England's Everyone's History series, to "explore the role of food markets for immigrants in Burlington neighborhoods and will include contemporary and archival photographs, a tour of a present-day market, oral histories, and an overview of local immigration history," according to a press release from Historic New England.



The Paramount is now offering outdoor dining on Charles Street.

Neighborhood restaurants struggling as Commonwealth starts reopenings

By Dan Murphy

Bin 26 Enoteca began offering indoor dining again when the second step of Phase 2 of Gov. Charlie Baker's plan to reopen the Commonwealth went into effect on Monday, June 22, but that doesn't mean business is again booming.

"There are glimpses of hope; I can't say it's anything close to light at the end of tunnel, but some nights you get hopeful," said Babak Bina, who along with his sister, Azita Bina-Seibel, owns and operate the Charles Street

restaurant, as well as Jim Curley in Downtown Crossing. "At the moment, though, more nights are disappointing."

While there isn't a strict cap on occupancy for the state's restaurants, tables, both inside and out, must be set at least six feet apart from each other, which in the case of Bin 26 means that its regular 66-person, indoor capacity has been reduced to 30 while Jim Curley's capacity has been reduced to 50 from its usual 100 people.

Bina said his restaurants already had a "rigorous" sanitation proto-

col in place before the pandemic struck, but one difference now is that employees have their temperatures taken using a touch-less thermometer several times per shift and customers are also asked to have their temperatures taken upon arrival.

"We meet and exceed the requirements set forth by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the City of Boston," he added.

Bin 26 has always offered take out (and now also offers delivery), but unlike other restaurants, Bina

(STRUGGLE Pg. 2)

BEACON HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY CORNER

Beacon Hill Civic Association Committees

Every spring, the Beacon Hill Civic Association publishes its Annual Report covering committee accomplishments during the past year. We'll be sharing the committees' reports here over the next weeks.

Zoning & Licensing Committee
The Zoning and Licensing Com-

mittee ("ZLC") meets on the first Wednesday of each month (at 7:00 p.m. at 74 Joy Street) to hear from applicants seeking either zoning relief (variances or conditional use permits) from the Zoning Board of Appeal ("ZBA") or new/modified common victual ("CV") or alcoholic beverage licenses from the Boston Licensing Board ("Licensing Board"). The ZLC provides a

forum for community input into such applications. Applicants for zoning relief are asked to appear at a ZLC meeting where they are given the opportunity to describe their projects and rationales for the requested relief. Local restaurants, innkeepers, and merchants are similarly invited to present their licensing requests. The ZLC

(BHCA Pg. 6)

For the latest news in Beacon Hill that you need to know, check
www.beaconhilltimes.com

Phase Three underway, Boston will join on July 13

By Lauren Bennett

Step One of Phase Three of the Massachusetts Reopening Plan began on July 6 everywhere in the state except for Boston, which will enter Phase Three on July 13.

Governor Charlie Baker made the announcement during a press conference on July 2, where he also announced that the state's positive test rate was still at 1.8 percent, a 94 percent decrease from mid-April.

"As a whole, we've been encouraged by the significant progress we've made in these metrics," Baker said. "The success is due in no small part to the vigilance and dedication that has been shown by the people of MA. But we should not and cannot slow down or step back now." He urged residents to continue wearing face coverings, washing their hands, social distancing, and staying home when feeling sick.

"We need to maintain vigilance if we wish to continue to move forward," Baker said.

The first step of Phase Three allows for the reopening of gyms, fitness centers, museums, cultural and historical sites, and movie theaters and outdoor performance venues, with protocols and guidelines.

"Fitness centers and health clubs, including those offering weight training, cross training, yoga, and spin classes will be allowed to reopen under sector-specific protocols just like we've done for other industry sectors," said Lt. Governor Karyn Polito.

"Going to the gym may not look the same way it did before the pandemic, but we hope that these new protocols will allow more residents to return to exercise and fitness and get back into those routines that they were accustomed to."

Secretary of Housing and

Economic Development Mike Kennealy added that occupancy of gyms and fitness centers will be required to be kept under 40 percent, equipment must be sanitized between each use, and face coverings will be required.

"For general indoor and outdoor events such as weddings and parties, this means keeping bars and dance floors closed, keeping guests in groups not larger than 6 people, and limiting occupancy," he said.

Visible signage, a preference for timed entry ticketing, and limiting occupancy on buses, trolleys, and duck boats to 50 percent, will be required for museums and guided tours.

"Updates to all guidance will happen periodically in Phase Three," Kennealy said, "and as we've always said, data, and not dates, will dictate our progress."

Lt. Gov. Polito also thanked the Commonwealth's boards of health who helped businesses across the

state comply with the sector-specific guidelines as well as enforced the "governor's provisions."

"Phase Three contains some bigger players that will certainly draw more people into indoor settings with respect to various activities like movie theaters and museums," Baker said. "Medical evidence continues to say that COVID has a much higher risk of spreading indoors in enclosed spaces than it does in outdoor spaces. This phase will last significantly longer than other phases so that we can closely monitor the impact to our public health data that comes with this move to Phase Three."

Phase Three also allows for professional sports teams to resume games without spectators, but they must also follow "league-wide rules," Baker said.

Baker also announced the revision of guidance on gatherings. "As I've said and will continue to say, COVID's not going anywhere

this summer," he said.

Indoor gatherings will now be limited to eight people per 1,000 square feet, but no more than 25 people are permitted in a "single enclosed indoor space," Baker said.

If an outdoor gathering is in an enclosed space, capacity is limited to 25 percent of the maximum permitted occupancy of the venue. No more than 100 people in a "single enclosed outdoor space" are permitted.

"This includes community events, civic events, sporting events, concerts, conventions and more," according to the State. "This order does not apply to outdoor, unenclosed gatherings if proper social distancing measures or possible," nor does it "supersede previously issued sector guidance." This order took effect on July 6 everywhere in the state except for the City of Boston, where it will take effect on July 13.

Encore Boston Harbor announces July 12 re-opening date

By Seth Daniel

Encore Boston Harbor announced July 2 that, pending approval of the Massachusetts Gaming Commission (MGC), it plans to re-open its casino resort on Sunday, July 12, at 9 a.m., as part of the State's Phase 3 Re-opening Plan.

The casino this week has been busy welcoming back some employees and re-training them on how to safely conduct their jobs. Not all employees will return on

July 12 to work, and Encore had announced earlier that approximately 3,000 workers would be furloughed. After the July 12 re-opening announcement, Encore eased off that prediction and said in time sooner than expected they could begin to phase many of those workers back into their jobs. However, there would still be areas of the resort that would not be able to open until Phase 4 or beyond, and the status of those workers is still unknown to all.

In addition to implementing the extensive measures of its Health

and Safety Plan released in April, Encore Boston Harbor supports and will adhere to the directives aimed at reducing the risk to public health set forth by the MGC. Those measures were passed in a 5-0 vote almost two weeks ago. Every effort has been made to preserve Encore's luxury experience and provide guests with the peace of mind needed to enjoy a fun and relaxing return.

Several thoughtful new measures in social distancing, touchless technologies and cleaning protocols have been incorporated

through the resort in a clear and transparent effort to protect the wellbeing of guests. Most notable among the enhancements are:

- Non-invasive thermal temperature scans at all guest and employee entrances (no guest or employee with a temperature of 100.4 or more will be allowed in the resort);

- Mandatory face coverings for all employees and guests, with complimentary face coverings available for guests;

- Enhanced cleaning and disinfecting of guest areas throughout

the day;

- Multiple hand sanitizer stations and disinfecting wipes available throughout the resort; and

- Appropriate and comfortable physical distancing in all gaming and dining areas.

Encore Boston Harbor's Health and Safety Plan was created in consultation with leading public health professionals in addition to MGC requirements and recommendations from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

STRUGGLE (from pg. 1)

said it's still doing the same level of takeout business now as it did before the pandemic struck, which he described as "barely a blip on the screen."

"I don't think people perceive Bin 26 has a place to get takeout, so it's not going to pay the bills," he said. "We're now hoping the dine-in [option] will get us back on track to what the new normalcy will be."

Bina said Bin 26 received an application from the city that would allow it to convert two parking spaces outside the restaurant into outdoor dining space, but Bina said this wouldn't necessarily solve his problems.

"We have been contemplating outdoor seating, and are still evaluating the cost versus benefit," he said. "We really have at best 60 more days with New England's

temperamental weather, and we would have to buy normal outdoor furniture; therefore, it may not be beneficial for us."

Bina said jm curley is now offering outdoor dining for up to eight people after he brought tables and chairs from inside and purchased bolts, planters, soil and other supplies from Home Depot. He did the work himself, and in all, it cost around \$1,500.

While this isn't an option for Bin 26, since its handmade, walnut tables cost around \$1,000 each, so he would have to buy outdoor furniture, Bina said he would still consider offering outdoor dining on Charles Street. But this now hinges on the success of The Paramount and Figs, both of which began offering outdoor dining last week.

"Beacon Hill is different than

Downtown Crossing as far as what it would take to open outdoor seating," he said. "We're concerned with people not wanting to be in the middle of street, which is essentially where they are... next to cars flowing by. If we had gotten one traffic lane shut down, it would be a different story. We would have likely gone for that because it would be more conducive and welcoming."

Also, Bin 26 would have to take on additional employees to implement outdoor dining.

"We would have to bring on additional staff for the potential of more business and if that doesn't happen, we still have the additional cost of [paying them]," he said. "It's the expense up front, which we can't pay at the moment."

Bina added that he is also hesitant to bring outdoor dining to

Charles Street because many of the neighborhood's residents leave town during the summer while the tourist industry that Bin 26 typically thrives during this time of year is now nearly non-existent.

"We continue to be so appreciative of our neighbors who are around and are patronizing us - some nights are keeping us busy enough to feel like there's still hope," Bina said. "The only way we'll survive is for people to trust that we'll take care of them and keep them safe."

At The Paramount, which converted two parking spaces into outdoor dining space to accommodate four tables last week, dinner-time has been bustling.

"It's funny because for breakfast and lunch, everyone wants to sit inside, but no one wants to sit inside at dinnertime," said Diego

Osorno, the restaurant's manager. "Even before we had the patio, no one was sitting inside for dinner."

Osorno estimates The Paramount has spent \$500 to create outdoor seating to date, but that figure is deceptively low since the restaurant was able to borrow some furniture instead of buying it, which otherwise would have cost upwards of \$2,000.

But even with this additional boost in business, Orsono said The Paramount is still struggling so he encourages customers to order pick-up directly by calling 617-720-1152 to save themselves and the restaurant the cost of paying third-party delivery fees.

"It would be nice to get the extra money to make sure the restaurant stays open," he said.

Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
BACK BAY			
Christopher D Macduff LT	Crellin, Jon	76 Marlborough St #3	\$1,225,000
293 Commonwealth 5D LLC	Zimmerman, Rennell	293-295 Commonwealth Ave #5D	\$590,000
Katherine Grace Welch T	Dossayeva, Saiyiya	360 Newbury St #411	\$2,000,000
203 Saint Botolph 3 LLC	Kotlikoff, Laurence J	203 Saint Botolph St #3	\$1,310,000
BEACON HILL			
EB BH Holdings LLC	Drummey, Charles F	123 Charles St #1	\$1,300,000
Wang, Hsiumei	Ombuh Hancock LLC	34 Hancock St #5A	\$1,170,000
41-43 RT	Curran, Kathryn E	41-43 Phillips St #11	\$2,695,000
Cheng, Chi-Wo J	Moore, Larry V	41-43 Phillips St #8	\$1,750,000
Ahmadi, Atosa	Jbrandt LT	6 Whittier Pl #12A	\$599,000
J Brandt LT	Passacantilli FT	6 Whittier Pl #6R	\$600,000
BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE			
Moin, Roya	1 Charles 12H T	1 Charles St S #12H	\$1,810,000
Reilly, Matthew	Richards, Kristen M	37 Bay State Rd #6	\$865,000
Yang, Xin	Brackley, Daniel A	4 Charlesgate E #503	\$788,000
Bartucca, Michael A	Ayers, Wayne M	3 Durham St #4	\$1,200,000
Spera, Thomas R	Johansson, Peter A	9 Hanson St #4	\$1,860,000
Culiuc, Elena	Talbot, Leslie A	535 Harrison Ave #A205	\$1,150,000
Fowler, Anne	Waterfall, David W	12 Keswick St #2	\$749,000
Davis, Ann M	Dragoon, John K	14 Milford St #2	\$1,995,000
Whitney, Brittney A	Costantini, Julie	53 Rutland St #3	\$1,495,000
19 South Russell LLC	19 South Russell T	19 S Russell St	\$2,700,000
Davis, Ann M	Dragoon, John K	1313 Washington St #U49	\$200,000
WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN			
Portas, Josep B	Festa, John R	65 Broad St #4	\$624,500
Ding, Lin	Mckerracher, Lisa	1 Franklin St #1011	\$1,030,000

Attention to Detail

By PENNY CHERUBINO

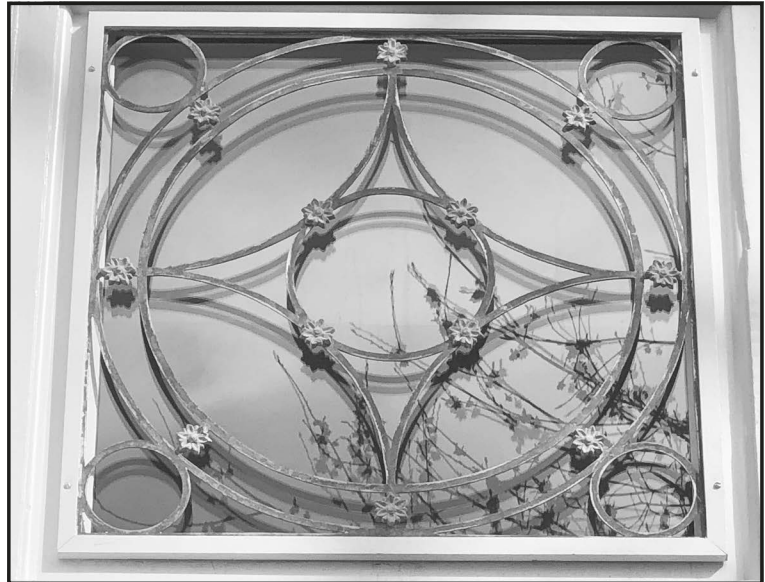
THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The gate in the last clue is outside the Liberty Hotel originally designed by Gridley James Fox Bryant as a jail for Suffolk County. The Archello website said of the Charles Street Jail, “Constructed in 1851, the building is considered to be the best example of Boston’s ‘Granite School of Architecture.’” The 1954 photo in today’s answer shows that gate when it was a security door in the wall that surrounded the jail. (Photo used under a Creative Commons License)

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



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EDITORIAL

THE STOCK MARKET DOES NOT REPRESENT THE U.S. ECONOMY

We don't pretend to be experts either in the stock market or the economy in general.

However, as Bob Dylan put it, "You don't need a weatherman to know which way the wind blows," and similarly, the average American doesn't need a Ph.D. in economics to understand that the recent record height of the stock market indices -- the S&P 500, the Dow Jones 30 Industrials, and the Nasdaq -- does not reflect the health of the U.S. economy.

Increasing economic inequality -- what has become known as the disconnect between Wall St. and Main St. -- has been the broad trend of American life for the past 40 years.

Ever since Ronald Reagan (aided and abetted by the Democrats, by the way) deregulated the banking and other industries, gutted the labor unions, reduced tax rates for the rich, and abrogated the antitrust laws, America's immense wealth has become concentrated in the hands of the very few to an extent never before seen in the modern world.

Consider that the top 1% of American households now control more than half of the equity in U.S. public and private companies, according to data from the Federal Reserve. In relative terms, the top 1% now has more wealth than the entire middle class and as much wealth as 90% of all Americans.

The ratio of the salary of a CEO vs. the salary of the typical worker of a publicly-traded company in 1965 was about 20-1. That ratio today is about 350-1.

This is only part of the story, however. The real reason for the increase in the disparity between the top 1% and everyone else is that middle-class jobs in America have disappeared at an alarming rate to the benefit of the top 1%.

According to a Brookings Institution report, the two most highly-valued companies in the country in 1962 -- AT&T and General Motors -- employed nearly 1.2 million people combined.

Last year, the two largest companies in the S&P 500 -- Microsoft and Apple -- employed just 280,000 persons. Apple puts together almost all of its products in China, using third-party manufacturing companies that operate the modern-day equivalent of sweatshops.

Further, consider that the wealthiest top 10 percent of Americans own about 84 percent of U.S. stocks, with the top 1 percent owning 40 percent.

So put those two trends together -- fewer middle class jobs and stock ownership of American companies concentrated in the hands of a few -- and the result simply is this: Income that formerly went to the American middle-class has shifted to countries with low-wage workers, with the wealthy netting the difference.

There also is another factor at play. The health of the U.S. stock market not only does not represent the U.S. economy, it also does not even represent the stock market itself.

The five largest listed companies -- Microsoft, Apple, Amazon, Alphabet (Google), and Facebook -- have continued to climb this year. Through the end of April, these companies were up roughly 10 percent, while the 495 other companies in the S&P were down 13 percent. These highly valued firms -- Microsoft, Amazon and Apple are each worth more than \$1 trillion -- now account for about one-fifth of the market value of the entire index, the highest level in 30 years.

The coronavirus pandemic is exacerbating the trend of the past 40 years: The rich are getting richer, while everybody else is getting poorer and deeper into debt.

Without government policies -- higher tax rates on the wealthy, vigorous antitrust enforcement, and support of labor unions -- that will bring back into alignment the economic forces that created the great American middle-class of the 1950s and 60s, America is destined to become an oligarchy, otherwise known as a banana republic, with grave consequences for our democracy.

A phrase attributed to Louis Brandeis succinctly put it this way, "We must make our choice. We may have democracy, or we may have wealth concentrated in the hands of a few, but we can't have both."



GUEST OP-ED

Take down the boards

By David Beardsley

It's past time for the boards to come off shop windows on Charles Street. It's been a solid month since they went up. It has also been a solid month since events made them seem even the least bit necessary, if they ever were necessary.

The truth is, most of the vandalism associated with that first night of protests in Boston happened across the Common, and on the other side of the Public Garden. Close by, yes but not here. Some windows were broken at Santander Bank. Some graffiti was sprayed along Beacon Street. But, that's it.

If we're being honest and objective, the protests calling for racial justice and an end to police brutality have been peaceful and positive

and inspiring. This overwhelmingly white, overwhelmingly privileged neighborhood has not been inconvenienced or threatened. Not in the least.

So why are boards still covering some of the shop windows along Charles Street? It smacks of fear. They should come down.

Individuals have a right to protect their property. I am not disputing that. However, it's been a solid month. Any threat, if there ever was a threat, is past. What are we protecting now, except maybe our privilege and our power—the rewards we never earned from an inhumane, racist status quo? That's all those boards say now. So, take them down.

When I watched the television images of that early protest, my

heart sank. The anger is so justified, I thought. So justified, and yet so likely to give the privileged and powerful in our society permission to ignore, yet again, calls for justice—calls for policy change that might finally promote equity and opportunity for all Americans, not just rich, white Americans.

When I watched the boards going up over the next couple of days, I understood. People have a right to protect their property. I was heartened to see some shop owners post messages on those boards of solidarity with the protesters and support for the goals of the protest. I was more heartened, as protests became universally peaceful, to see the boards start to come down. Those that didn't come down began to stand out—for all the wrong reasons.

White Americans can't hide any longer from the sins and crimes this country has committed against people with black and brown skin—sins and crimes that have benefitted us for generations, for centuries. So, take the boards down. Let the light and the truth in. Show Bostonians of color, your fellow Bostonians, that fear and prejudice won't win. Not this time. Take the boards down.

David Beardsley lives on Mt. Vernon Street.

THE BEACON HILL TIMES

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Kennedy raises over \$1.9 million in two months

Staff Report

During the second fundraising quarter of 2020, Kennedy for Massachusetts announced more than \$1.9 million raised - over \$1 million of that in June alone - despite temporarily suspending campaign fundraising operations due to COVID-19. Joe Kennedy heads into the final quarter before the U.S. Senate primary race with \$4.7 million cash on hand.

Due to COVID-19, Kennedy temporarily suspended all political operations, including fundraising, in mid-March. He did not resume digital fundraising or virtual fundraising events until the last days of April. During the campaign suspension, Kennedy used his email list to raise over \$100,000 for organizations and workers on the frontlines of COVID response. Additionally, Kennedy raised over \$15,000 in grassroots donations for Black-led racial justice organizations in the wake of George Floyd's murder.

"These strong fundraising numbers reflect the energy for Joe and the momentum behind our efforts to bring Massachusetts stronger leadership to the United States Senate," said Campaign Manager Nick Clemons. "When Joe decided to pause all fundraising in the wake of COVID-19 and to help raise money for the hardest hit families, communities, and front-line workers, we fully expected to take a financial hit this quarter. The extraordinary outpouring of support since we resumed fundraising in May indicates the growing excitement around Joe and this campaign. We are proud of the effort this quarter, humbled by the support, and ready for the next two months."

Kennedy was grateful for the support of many high-profile colleagues and supporters who helped raise money on his behalf, including: Rep. John Lewis, Rep. Katie Porter, Rep. Adam Schiff, Rep. David Cicilline, Rep. Annie Kuster, Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney, Senator Kyrsten Sinema, Beto O'Rourke, Jim Obergefell, and Jason Collins.

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Walsh discusses fireworks, violence, COVID-19 updates

By Lauren Bennett

Prior to the Fourth of July holiday, Mayor Walsh, along with Boston Police Commissioner William Gross and Boston Fire Commissioner John Dempsey, spoke at a press conference on July 2 about the dangers of fireworks and reminded residents that they are illegal in Massachusetts.

Fireworks have been a big issue over the past couple of months, with residents across the city reporting increased instances that sometimes continue into the early morning.

Walsh said that fireworks "continue to be a major safety and quality of life concern," and they are triggering and cause trauma to veterans, survivors of violence, seniors, and families with young children and/or pets.

He thanked "those in our communities that are mobilizing for solutions" and "creating inclusive responses."

Walsh also recently created a task force consisting of community leaders, the Mayor's Chief of Civic Engagement, the four At-Large City Councilors, the Boston Arson Squad, and the police department's Bureau of Community Engagement.

"Fireworks are dangerous in our community," Walsh said. "I want to be clear: fireworks are illegal in Massachusetts without a special permit." He reminded residents that if they cross the border to buy fireworks in New Hampshire (where they are legal) and bring them back to Massachusetts, that is not legal.

He also called companies who are selling fireworks to Massachusetts residents "completely irresponsible" and said that they are "taking advantage of people."

The Boston Police Department has confiscated "large amounts of fireworks" in the city, and police departments across the state have done the same,

"Think about who you are impacting," Walsh said. "Think about the consequences of your actions."

Commissioner John Dempsey told several stories illustrating the dangers of fireworks, including a recent porch fire at a three family home, a four alarm fire where two three family homes were destroyed. He said that "20 people lost their homes that night. So you can see, we've got a problem here."

He said that people have lost their eyesight, their fingers, and have gotten seriously burned.

"Last week, a person was struck by a firework and they're still in the hospital today," he said last

Thursday. He warned residents that they will be prosecuted and fireworks will be confiscated.

On July 7, Walsh said at a press conference that despite the warnings, there were "a lot of fireworks in Boston this weekend." He also said that several fires occurred over the weekend but had not officially been confirmed to be a result of fireworks.

Violence has also been a bigger issue in the city over the past week, and according to Walsh, there has also been a "national uptick" in violence in major cities in the US.

"There were several acts of violence," said Boston Police Commissioner William Gross. He said there have been "seven acts of homicide within seven days," including five shootings and two stabbings.

"The community really did help us," he added. "I can't thank the community enough for stepping forward." Aside from the homicides, there were several other shootings as well.

One of the homicides was a 15 year old boy who was shot in Roxbury on July 2.

"The life of a 15 year old boy should not be taken at such an early age," Gross said.

He focused on the efforts of the community working together with the police and the Boston Neighborhood Trauma Team, saying that "this is the type of teamwork we need going forward."

Walsh said that "violence will never be accepted as normal in Boston," adding that "we're going to continue working at the root cause, keeping youth and adults engaged as much as possible." He cited summer jobs and learning opportunities for youth as well as second chance programs and limited summer camps as some of the efforts the City is making to engage people. He said applications are still open for summer jobs.

COVID-19 AND OTHER UPDATES

Walsh said last Thursday that meals for Boston's youth will be offered at 97 sites this summer, and all residents ages 18 or younger are eligible for the meals.

"The Boston Resiliency Fund is a big part of the work," he said. So far, \$32.3 million has been raised for the fund, and \$20.1 million has been distributed to 347 non-profits and more than 225,000 families in Boston, according to the City of Boston website.

Walsh also announced on Thursday a second round of applications for the Childcare Entrepreneur Fund, which, according to a press release, will "provide cash

grants and business skills workshops to 25 family childcare entrepreneurs in Boston this summer and 25 more in the fall.

The pilot program ended this past May, when the first round of 22 childcare professionals graduated.

On July 7, Walsh said that Boston will be waiting until July 13 to begin Phase Three of the state's reopening plan because the City has "unique needs" with regards to density, workforce, and cultural sectors, and wanted extra time to develop additional guidance and support.

Walsh also said the extra tie is being used to "continue addressing the racial and ethnic inequalities that we're seeing here."

Walsh said that the City is facing three crises right now: the health crisis with COVID-19, the economic impacts of the virus, as well as the "ongoing impacts of

systemic racism."

He said the City's relief and resiliency funds "have been a part of a broader strategy, including supporting COVID testing at community health centers across the city, helping families pay rent, helping small businesses recover and reopen, providing food and care to seniors, and more.

"These funds are emergency responses to a life-threatening situation and they have absolutely saved lives," Walsh said.

Walsh also announced new support for restaurants, which includes portable mobility ramps that restaurants can request to help make outdoor dining more accessible for everyone. The City has given more than 300 restaurants a license to provide on-street dining so far, and is also working to make sure paths on sidewalks are not obstructed to anyone.

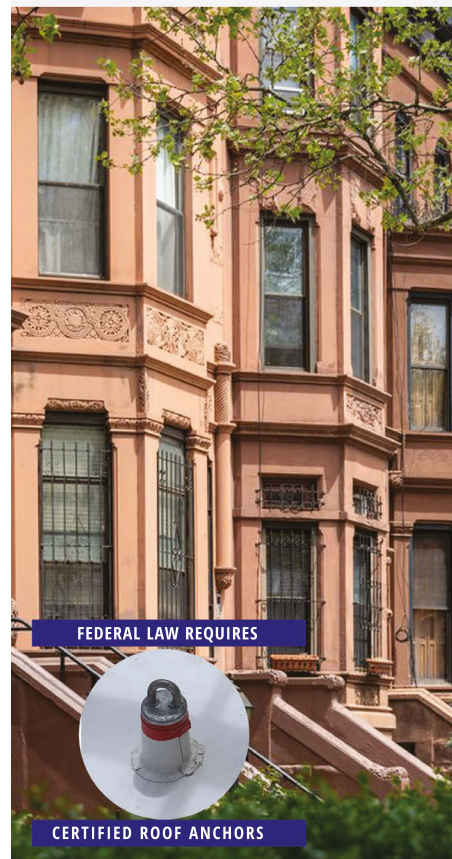
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SHAW (from pg. 1)

was produced, it's the best possible photo expression of the monument...and the information is out there, too, so tours, school groups and passersby can still learn the story of 54th Regiment while the statue is being restored."

Vizza added, "It's a great moment to teach the public about the importance of the artwork, and as the monument comes back, more people will be educated and informed around the story."

On May 28, 1863, the 1,007 black soldiers and 37 white soldiers of the 54th gathered on the Common before marching down Beacon Street past well-wishers, including Douglass. That evening, the 54th boarded a steamship to South Carolina, and six days later, they landed in Hilton Head, S.C., where Tubman, who escaped slavery to become the most celebrated "conductor" of the Underground Railroad, served them breakfast.

The 54th went on to fight in the Battle of Grimball's Landing on July 16, 1863 in Charleston, S.C., as well as the fateful Second Battle of Fort Wagner on July 18, 1863.

When the 54th and other Union regiments waged a frontal assault against Fort Wagner, they found themselves overwhelmingly outnumbered by Confederate soldiers. Shaw was fatally shot in the chest as he made his way over the fortress wall while 20 more of the 600 charging soldiers from the 54th were also killed, another 125 injured and 102 more reported

missing (and presumed dead).

"The regiment began recruiting Black men from Canada, all along the east seaboard, and into the Caribbean," Vizza said, "and if they got captured in the South, they would be killed or enslaved, so it was a big risk."

Ryan Woods, commissioner of the Boston Park Department, agreed that the signage is a valuable educational tool to tell the story of the 54th during the monument's brief absence, and went on to call it "by far one of the greatest pieces of public art in the nation."

"It's a great moment to teach the public about the importance of the artwork and as the monument comes back, more people will be educated and informed around the story," Woods said.

Likewise, Leon Wilson, president and CEO of the Museum of African American History, wrote: "The interpretive signage was created with images from the Museum's archives to share the individual faces of the 54th Regiment, just as Saint-Gaudins did with the sculpture's bronze. The imagery provides layers of context on the freemen and former slaves, their devotion to country, and commitment to freedom. We wanted to create something meaningful for our neighbors and the City of Boston. I believe we accomplished that, and then some. We are so proud to tell this story in this powerful and public way."



A full-scale, high-resolution image of the soon-to-be-restored Robert Gould Shaw and the 54th Regiment Memorial that now adorns fencing around its Boston Common project site.



Interpretative signage (above and below) that temporarily surrounds the site of the Robert Gould Shaw and the 54th Regiment Memorial on the Boston Common.

**BHCA** (from pg. 1)

notifies abutters in advance and encourages both abutters and any other interested neighbors to attend and contribute to ZLC discussions. The ZLC takes into consideration all community input, including concerns from affected neighbors, as well as the BHCA's overall desire to protect and improve the quality of life for Beacon Hill residents. It also considers the BHCA's commitment

to maintaining active streetscapes and supporting neighborhood-oriented retail and service businesses on Charles and Cambridge Streets which are designated by the Zoning Code as 'Local Business' districts. After meeting with applicants, the ZLC makes recommendations to the BHCA's Board of Directors to either oppose or not oppose each application. The BHCA Board then

conveys its positions to the ZBA or the Licensing Board so that community views are considered in the City's zoning and licensing decisions.

From June 2019 through April 2020, the ZLC reviewed a total 8 proposals, consisting of 4 residential and 4 commercial proposals. Some of the proposals required more than one type of zoning relief or licensing approval. This was a much less active year than last year when the total number of proposals was more than double that.

During 2019 – 2020, the most frequently requested residential relief was for excessive Floor Area Ratio ("FAR") (3 requests) and/or for insufficient rear or side yard setback (3 requests). On the commercial side there were 2 requests for transfer of liquor licenses, 1 request for a conditional-use permit on Cambridge Street, and 1 proposal that involved a combination of excess FAR, insufficient rear yard setback, and Forbidden Use.

Upcoming BHCA meetings:
Architecture Committee: Monday, July 13th, 5pm
Board of Directors: Monday,



BHCA Directors and co-chairs of the Zoning and Licensing Committee, Katherine Judge and Tom Clemens.



July 13th, 7pm

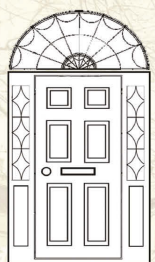
Email the BHCA office at info@bhcivic.org for details on these virtual meetings.

BHCA Masks. Our BHCA masks shown here are available to members and neighbors for a donation of \$10 each. Email info@bhcivic.org for details.

Join us! If you haven't yet become a member of the BHCA, we invite you to join online at www.bhcivic.org/become-a-member.

Your input in quality of life

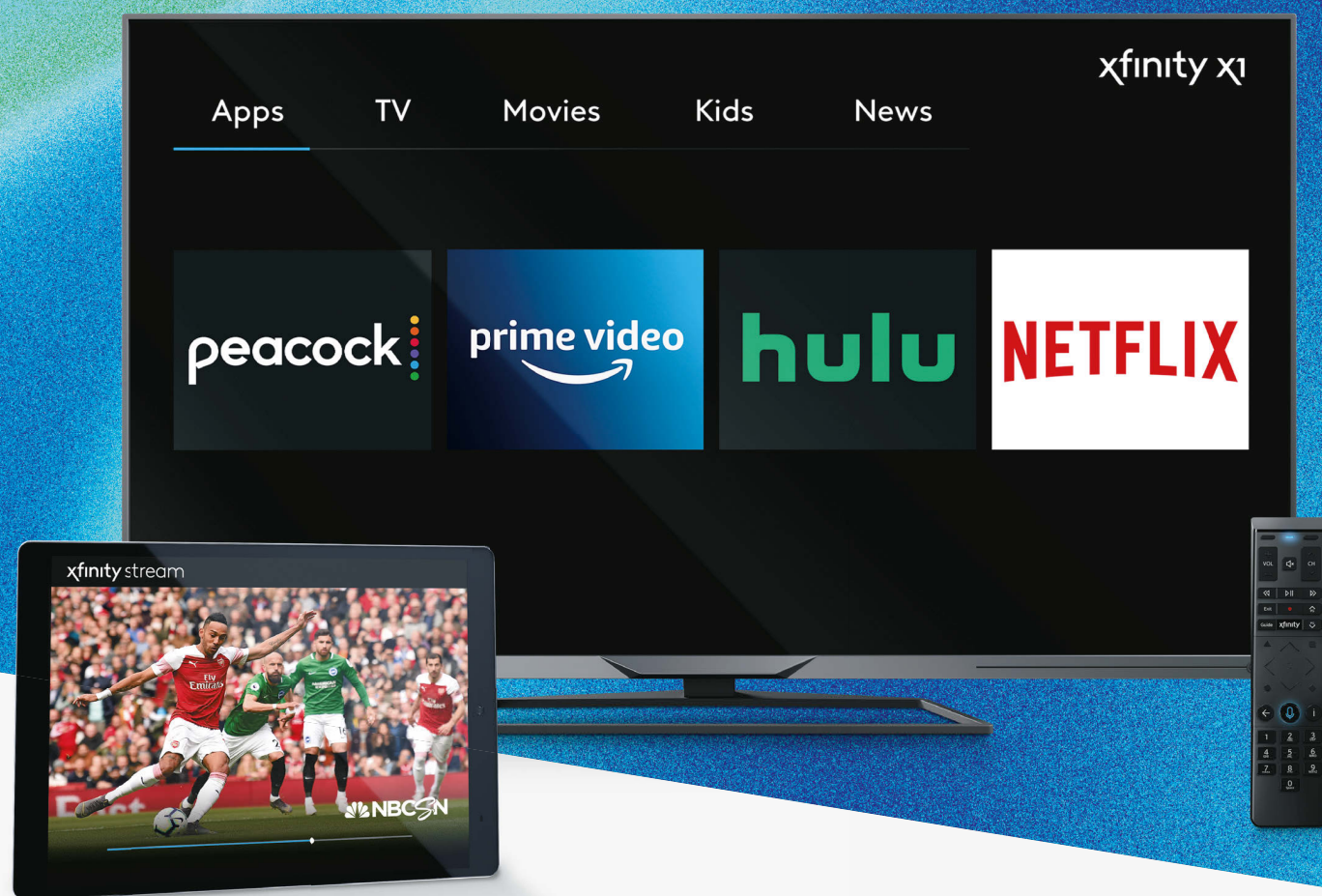
issues on the Hill is important to us, and we rely on you our neighbors to bring your comments and concerns to our attention. By joining our membership, you strengthen our numbers and add credibility to our purpose as advocates for Beacon Hill. Please call our office at 617-227-1922 or email the BHCA Executive Director at patricia.tully@bhcivic.org with any questions, comments or concerns, or to learn more about how you can get involved in your community.



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By Seth Daniel

As people begin to travel regionally – mostly in cars or trains due to the continued risk of air travel – many states are requiring that Massachusetts residents either quarantine at their destination for 14 days (which likely isn't happening on a vacation from quarantine), or bring proof they have received a negative COVID-19 test result within 72 hours of arriving. That is exactly the case for Maine.

"We feel really strongly about it and feel it's a great solution," said Heather Johnson, commissioner of the Maine Dept. of Economic and Community Development. "When you think about tourism in Maine, you grow from 1.3 million people to 22 million in the summer months. That's a very large swing in population. This is one of the

“We’re planning to go to Maine on July 11 and rent a house there for two weeks,” he said. “My plan is for us to be tested at the South End Community Health Center site in advance and then head up that way. We’ll get the test on

Right now, in such uncertain times, they are trying to adjust to COVID-19 restrictions, new sanitary procedures and other ways of doing business. Maine issued its executive order last week allowing Massachusetts residents to come up and visit. With proof of a

"We just don't want the back and forth of opening up and closing down," she said. "We're looking forward to serving them. We are anxious to see them and hope they come and hope they feel safe here. We will do everything we can to protect them."

Volunteers certified by the Internal Revenue Service will provide free tax help for lower-income taxpayers, as well as senior citizens, with both federal and state tax returns. The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program is for taxpayers with an annual income of \$56,000 or less, those with disabilities, as well as taxpayers with limited or no English language proficiency. The Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) program provides free tax help to taxpayers who are 60 and older. TCE sites are often operated in partnership with AARP Tax-Aide. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, only some in-person services are

Massachusetts taxpayers can find more information, including forms, instructions, and helpful tips on DOR's website. To avoid penalties, returns for Massachusetts taxpayers must be filed electronically or postmarked by midnight July 15.

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FRESH AND LOCAL

Al fresco

by Penny & Ed Cherubino

This will be the summer of al fresco dining. We all understand that we are safer from any remaining virus outside than in a confined space. Pack up a cooler, blanket, hand sanitizer, and prepare for al fresco fun. For us, this will mean extending our food pickup orders from trusted places close to our home to longtime favorites close to outdoor recreation spots.

Beach Fare & Clam Shacks

One of our first al fresco adventures will be to one of the waterfront seafood shacks scattered around the Greater Boston area for our annual fried seafood splurge. Belle Isle Seafood in Winthrop and Kelly's Roast Beef on Revere Beach are nearby choices.

Street Food Picnics

We're fans of many menu items that would have been street food in their countries of origin. As picnic fare, these tidbits have the advantage of being easy to eat with your carefully sanitized hands. And, since many of the places where we order these are small local businesses, we'll enjoy them more by supporting restaurants and bakeries we care about.

From your favorite Indian restaurant, you can order samosas, pakoras, and stuffed bread. Vietnamese and Thai restaurants offer fresh rolls, dumplings, crispy rolls, chicken or beef satay skewers, curry puffs, fried calamari or chicken wings. A sushi

shop can prepare a lovely platter of bite-size seafood for you to tuck into your cooler and take to a scenic spot.

For a picnic on the HarborWalk or Greenway, we would suggest a visit to the food trucks that returned in June. Or a stop at one of the bakeries in Chinatown like Great Taste to gather dim sum items to go. We love scallion pancakes, curry beef buns, pork roast buns, scallion/bacon buns, and even an occasional hot dog bun. Add a few custard tarts and you have a full meal.

Stuffed Stuff

Another of our summer take-out favorites is an array of great food from Galleria Umberto in the North End. We confirmed that they have continued their annual tradition of closing for the month of July so we'll put this treat on our August calendar. Our order will include a slice of pizza, panzerotti, arancini, and a calzone.

In East Boston, you can find meat and veg stuffed into a crust at KO Pies at the Boston Harbor Shipyard. This is also a great neighborhood to explore for empanadas, pupusas, arepas, and other delicious Latin specialties in bakeries, bodegas, and restaurants.

Sandwiches

Ordered or homemade, big and sliced to share, individual choices or a just-for-fun array of three-bite tea sandwiches are all great choices for eating outdoors. Here again, you can support local, family businesses by ordering from them instead of national chains. What's



This large, airy patio is at Alcove Boston on Lovejoy Wharf. It has water and Zakim Bridge views.

more, you can enjoy some of the best, like the great deli selections at Sam LaGrassa's for a lunch on the Common or support small local chains with purchases from a Flour, Tatte, or Bon Me location.

Patios and Sidewalk Dining

Sitting at the bar has always

been our preferred restaurant dining spot, but our return to the new normal dining-in will be dining-out at one of the patio or sidewalk tables outside a small local restaurant we know and trust. These are the places where the owners and staff know and care about their customers. They are

also the places that we could miss most if they don't survive.

Do you have a question or topic for Fresh & Local? Send an email to Penny@BostonZest.com with your suggestion.

Ferry service to Spectacle Island is now running

Staff Report

The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, National Park Service, Boston Harbor Now, and Boston Harbor Cruises announced that a public ferry service to Spectacle Island, one of the 34 islands and peninsulas in Boston Harbor Islands National and State Park, began for the season.

Public ferry service to other islands remains closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Spectacle Island boasts some of the most magnificent vistas of the Boston skyline and is only a 20-minute ferry ride away from downtown Boston. With ferry services beginning for the summer season from Long Wharf, the island will be open and accessible to visitors. Safety measures including enhanced cleaning protocols on island and onboard the public ferry vessels have been instituted. Reduced ferry capacity, revised boarding procedures, touchless

ticketing and instructional signage supporting physical distancing – will be in place in compliance with Governor Baker's reopening plan. Facial coverings will be required while onboard the ferry and visitors are strongly encouraged to continue to wear their facial coverings while exploring the Island.

Although the visitor center will remain closed, restrooms, hiking trails, the swimming beach, moorings, and the marina will be available for public use. Physical distancing and COVID-19 guidelines will remain in place while on the island and onboard the ferries.

"With physical distancing extending throughout the summer, public outdoor spaces like Spectacle Island are critical to the mental and physical health of our communities, and to keeping people feeling connected to each other and to nature," said Kathy Abbott, President and CEO of Boston Harbor Now. "We look forward to a fantastic summer for visitors of all ages to safely experience and enjoy Boston Harbor

and its islands."

Michael Creasey, General Superintendent for National Parks of Boston, agreed, "As we navigate the impacts of COVID-19 on our daily lives, I am mindful of what a gift it is to live so close to the water's edge where we have access to such an incredible system of island and peninsular parks. Whether exploring peninsular parks on the south shore like Worlds End and Webb Memorial State Park, or taking the ferry from Long Wharf to Spectacle Island for 360 degree views of Boston Harbor, it's outdoor, open air places like these and the experiences they offer that enliven our communities and contribute to our vitality and resilience."

Ferry service to Spectacle Island is provided by Boston Harbor Cruises. For more information on ferry schedules, pricing, and amenities, visit<https://www.bostonharborislands.org/> or <https://www.bostonharborcruises.com/harbor-islands/>

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Larceny - Shoplifting

07/03/20 – A Charles Street pharmacy reports an unknown male suspect stole several items from the store and fled on foot at around 4:25 p.m.

Auto Theft

07/05/20 – A victim reported he parked his 1996 Honda Accord on Charles Street at approximately 6:20 p.m., but when he returned at about 11:30 p.m., he discovered the vehicle had been stolen.

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Photo by Michael Blanchard

The Boston Pops, led by Keith Lockhart, at a previous July 4th Fireworks Spectacular on the Charles River Esplanade. Due to COVID-19, this year's celebration will be purely broadcast on TV and radio.

Adequate to Excellent

Parents, school leaders at Eliot find their stride with online learning

By Seth Daniel

At the Eliot School, Principal Traci Walker Griffiths and her school staff had already done a Herculean effort to get some online learning together and running by the April Spring Break. However, that was also a moment when they had a turning point in taking online learning from adequate to excellent, she said, and finished up the school year this Monday with a full online learning plan.

And parents at the Eliot K-8 – which hosts kids from North End, Charlestown and Beacon Hill – have noticed, saying their children have not had the backsliding in learning or lack of teacher time they expected.

“Our goal has always been to keep children at the center of the work,” she said. “I would have never been able to tell you 13 weeks ago the highlight of the year would be our joyous June and end of year celebrations being held on Zoom. Not many parents would have told you 13 weeks ago they would be teaching reading and math and setting up asynchronous videos for their kids...When I look at where we are now – making that big shift after April vacation – it was that family feedback was heard and the wanted teachers to be part of the process.”

That shift marked Phase 2 of online learning, and the Eliot was ahead of most public schools in Boston as it was the first to close down when the pandemic hit in March. Early on, some parents were worried about the slowness to roll out a full plan, and whether or not kids would be hurt by not having teacher contact.

Parent Joe DeRoeve said he

(ELIOT, Pg.2)

Pops to air virtual 4th of July special

By Lauren Bennett

This year, instead of gathering around the Hatch Shell, you'll have to gather around your television for the Boston Pops virtual Fourth of July spectacular. There will be no live performance or fireworks on the Esplanade this year because of COVID-19.

The three hour special, which is set to broadcast on Bloomberg Television and Radio, as well as simulcast on WHDH-TV from 8-11pm on July 4, is called

“A Boston Pops Salute to Our Heroes” and will honor those who have fought on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic and those who have lost their lives. Boston Pops conductor Keith Lockhart has expressed his sadness that the Pops won't be able to perform live, but they are looking forward to presenting this special to viewers near and far.

“All of us at the Boston Pops are pleased to have this opportunity to present A Boston Pops Salute to Our Heroes, a special broadcast that will pay tribute to the many frontline workers who continue to do so much to keep our communities safe and running during the COVID-19 pandemic,” Boston Pops conductor Keith Lockhart said in a statement.

“One of the positive things we have learned during the last few months is that even in the middle of a health crisis so many Americans are strong, resilient, helpful, and hopeful. It has been absolutely inspiring to see our

(POPS Pg. 11)

Walsh names Crockett new Chief of Equity

Gives update on COVID-19 safety, equity work

By Lauren Bennett

Mayor Walsh held a press conference on Monday, where he discussed COVID-19 safety for the Fourth of July, as well as announced Karlyn Crockett as the City's first ever Chief of Equity.

“Normally heading into the fourth of July weekend, I'd be talking about grill safety and violence prevention, and those are certainly important issues, but I'm sharing those messages again this week and we're going to have a more deeper conversation in a couple of days,” Walsh said.

“But this year, the safety issue is COVID-19. This is traditionally a weekend for gathering in large groups, for historic ceremonies and social events. This is not something we can do this year here in Boston or in Massachusetts. Our City of Boston Independence Day celebrations are going to be completely online.”

Walsh said that this year, gatherings should be kept “small” and recommended that face coverings be worn, and to continue staying six feet apart from others as well as continuing to wash hands or use hand sanitizer.

He said that if a crowd is “larger than expected” to leave and go somewhere else, and as a reason

(WALSH UPDATE, Pg.2)

BEACON HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY CORNER

Beacon Hill Civic Association Committees

Every spring, the Beacon Hill Civic Association publishes its Annual Report covering committee accomplishments during the past year. We'll be sharing the committees' reports here over the next weeks.

Architecture Committee

The Beacon Hill Civic Association Architecture Committee's mission is to help maintain the architectural integrity of our National Historical Landmark District by reviewing applications that have been submitted to the Beacon Hill Architectural Commission

BHAC.

The BHAC holds monthly hearings for applications for Certificates of Appropriateness which are submitted for exterior construction visible from a public way and re-view architectural violations to the guidelines.

(BHCA Pg. 8)

For the latest news in Beacon Hill that you need to know, check
www.beaconhilltimes.com

FOR ALL THE LATEST NEWS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDUP

SIGN-UPS FOR BACK-TO-SCHOOL GIVEAWAY

The Salvation Army is teaming up with Garden Neighborhood Charities—the philanthropic arm of the TD Garden—and the City of Boston to host its Ninth Annual Back-to-School Giveaway, with sign-ups now underway. Registration is first-come-first-served and based on financial need. To be eligible, appli-

cants must live in Boston/Suffolk County.

This year's registration takes place through Aug. 18 by phone at 617-322-3875 and via email at MASBack2School@use.salvationarmy.org due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Receive a backpack filled with school supplies and hygiene products; distribution takes place on Aug. 18, 19 and 20.

ENROLLMENT OPEN FOR BEACON HILL/ BACK BAY GIRL SCOUT TROOP 65321

Girl Scout Troop 65321, covering the Beacon Hill and Back Bay neighborhoods, is accepting enrollment for new scouts entering Kindergarten and first grade (fall 2020). Meetings are held on Monday nights, approximately once or twice a month, at the Advent Church on Beacon

Hill. To enroll your daughter or for information on enrollment for other grades, e-mail Jill Hauff at jill.hauff@gmail.com.

HILL HOUSE RUNNING FREE VIRTUAL FAMILY EVENTS

Hill House, Inc. located at 127 Mount Vernon St., has launched a series of free family events at 5 p.m. on Wednesdays and Fridays.

On Wednesday, Family Fun events will include how to make your own Playdough, a Kitchen Fridge Art show and more. On Fridays, get your athletic juices flowing with live dance parties, camp sing-alongs and more.

These events are free, and registration links available at www.hillhouseboston.org. To register or to learn more about Hill House virtual events, contact Meredith at madamczyk@hillhouseboston.org.

Baker, MBTA and Community Partners highlight food security partnership with the RIDE

Governor Charles Baker and Lt. Governor Karyn Polito last week joined MBTA General Manager Steve Poftak and officials from the City of Boston, Greater Boston YMCA and Greater Boston Food Bank to highlight an innovative partnership to help provide Boston's most vulnerable residents with access to food by utilizing RIDE paratransit service.

"Our administration is committed to addressing food security concerns created by the COVID-19 pandemic, and this partnership between the MBTA, City of Boston, YMCA and Greater Boston Food Bank is an innovative way we can support our most vulnerable residents during these unprecedented times," said Baker. "We are glad this initiative is making a difference, and appreciate the work of so many partners to make it happen."

MBTA General Manager Steve Poftak added, "I want to express my sincere gratitude to the operators of our RIDE vehicles who have stepped up to help our most vulnerable neighbors access food. This partnership with the Greater Boston Food Bank, the City of Boston and the YMCA has been a tremendous success, resulting in the delivery of tens of thousands of bags of groceries to citizens in need."

"We acknowledge the strong leadership of Governor Baker during the pandemic and relish this opportunity to partner with the MBTA, Mayor Walsh and City of Boston officials to deliver food to our most vulnerable children, families and seniors. It is a blessing to coalesce our organizational skills, infrastructures and 'people power' in the spirit of serving others," said James Morton, President and CEO of the YMCA of Greater Boston. "We thank the MBTA and City of Boston for allowing the YMCA of Greater Boston to participate in this important partnership, as we are universally committed to mitigating hunger for all Bostonians during this crisis and beyond. We appreciate the recognition of our work from our partners, Governor Baker and Mayor Walsh."

As ridership on the MBTA's RIDE service has significantly declined during the COVID-19 pandemic, available RIDE vehicles are currently being utilized to pick up and deliver food items and school meals to residents. Collaborating with GBFB and the YMCA, RIDE drivers arrive at the YMCA location on Huntington Avenue daily to pick up an assortment of grocery bags and shelf stable school meals. Groceries are delivered by RIDE vehicles



Gov. Charlie Baker and Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito tour the YMCA of Greater Boston headquarters last week.

to designated homes, the amount based on the size of the household and whether or not the family is enrolled in the Boston Public

School partnership.

As of the end of June, the RIDE has completed over 8,000 deliveries, totaling more than 12,000

grocery bags and nearly 60,000 school meals to over 1,200 Boston Public School children.

Unemployment claims rise for public administration, education

Staff Report

From June 21 to June 27, Massachusetts had 29,072 individuals file an initial claim for regular Unemployment Insurance (UI), a small decrease of 469 over the previous week, the third consecutive week of decline, but there were big movements for municipal workers and those in education as budget cuts played out statewide.

However, as the school systems closed for the summer, over-the-week increases in filings were seen in public administration and education. With layoffs and budget cuts in most school districts and in most municipal governments, claims increased tremendously in both sectors.

Public Administration claims

were up 47 percent statewide, while Education was up almost seven percent statewide.

Increases in initial claims filed were, also, posted in other sectors with the highest in manufacturing, at 22 percent.

From March 15 to June 27, a total of 1,057,496 have filed for regular UI. For the second week in a row, continued UI claims at 548,441 were down 9,828 or 1.8 percent over the previous week.

The Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) initial claims filed for the week ending June 27, at 14,154, were just slightly more than the previous week. Since April 20, some 638,245 claimants have filed an initial claim for the PUA.

The Pandemic Emergency

Unemployment Compensation (PEUC), which provided up to 13 weeks of extended benefits was implemented on May 21. For the week ending June 20, some 4,503 PEUC initial claims were filed bringing the total of PEUC filings to 59,144 since implementation.

Since March, the customer service staff at the [Department of Unemployment Assistance \(DUA\)](#) has grown from around 50 employees to nearly 2,000. The remote customer service operation is now making over 35,000 individual contacts per day and DUA continues to host unemployment town halls – which have been held in English, Spanish, and Portuguese – and have been attended by more than 350,000 constituents.

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North Washington Street Bridge marks another major milestone

By Dan Murphy

The new North Washington Street/Charlestown Bridge will mark another major milestone in construction later this month when traffic moves to a temporary bridge to allow for the demolition of the more than 100-year-old existing structure.

According to the Massachusetts Department of Transportation, the new \$180 million new bridge will replace the century-old truss bridge that connects Charlestown to the North End over Boston Harbor and include two 12-foot-wide sidewalks, with an additional two 7-foot lanes serving as dedicated cycle-tracks. Nearly 40 percent of its width will accommodate pedestrians and bicyclists, making it the

city's first truly multi-modal bridge and one of the most innovative bridges in that regard nationwide. Offering spans up to 200 feet, the new bridge will also feature curved overlooks and open space at its center navigation span with seating, a shade structure and landscaping, which will allow visitors to enjoy views of both the harbor and city.

The new bridge is the brainchild of Miguel Rosales, a longtime Beacon Hill resident and president and founder of the Boston architectural firm Rosales + Partners who also designed the adjacent Leonard P. Zakim Bunker Hill Memorial Bridge; the design of the new bridge's elegant piers and overall architecture is inspired by the iconic, cable-stayed Zakim Bridge,



CREDIT: Courtesy of Rosales + Partners

A rendering of the new North Washington Street/Charlestown Bridge.

according to Rosales.

"As bridge designer for the new North Washington Street/Charlestown bridge, I am very pleased that the project is reaching this milestone," Rosales wrote. "The new iconic bridge for the City of Boston will visually complement

the Zakim Bridge in which I was also involved as designer. The new harbor crossing will substantially improve pedestrian, bicycle and bus access into the city from the north. It will also create an impressive destination along the historic Freedom Trail. I am look-

ing forward to its completion."

The new bridge is slated to open in 2023, which also marks the 20th anniversary of the opening of the Zakim Bridge.

To view an animated 3-D video on the new bridge, visit <https://youtu.be/i5PFRfHlQr0>.

JRI Health wins nearly \$1 million federal grant

JRI Health will receive nearly \$1 million from the federal government to support its work to help Suffolk County youth who are at risk of substance abuse and HIV/AIDS.

The federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration will grant JRI Health nearly \$200,000 a year for five years for the JRI Positive Pathways Project.

The Project will work with

racial and ethnic minority youth, ages 13 to 29, with a focus on LGBTQ youth, as well as those who inject drugs, have HIV, and are experiencing housing instability, mental illness, and/or sexual exploitation.

The assistance will range from environmental strategies, such as online awareness and educational campaigns, to one-on-one interventions addressing HIV and substance use disorder and care.

JRI Health, a division of Justice Resource Institute (JRI), is dedicated to improving the health and well-being of underserved individuals and communities living with and at risk for HIV and hepatitis C. They offer a continuum of services to mitigate the social and health determinants while incorporating state-of-the-art best practices and standards of care.

JRI is a social justice organization that works in partnership with individuals, families, communities, and government to pursue the social justice inherent in opening doors to opportunity and independence.

For more information about the JRI Positive Pathways Project, contact Mio Tamanaha, mtamanaha@jri.org.

JRI is a social justice network of organizations that help underserved individuals, families, and communities with compassion and dignity. JRI provides foster care, help for children who have suffered trauma as a result of abuse and neglect, shelter for homeless families, assistance for people with disabilities, education and residential services for youth in crisis, and a range of other services.



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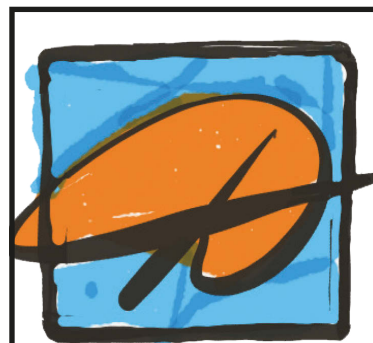
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