



# THE BEACON HILL TIMES

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*The Designers; Leather Clothiers, Inc. at 106 Charles St.*

## Charles Street leather store is in it for the long haul

By Dan Murphy

Dan and Jill Pelo, who own The Designers; Leather Clothiers – a fixture of the Charles Street retail landscape for nearly four decades - owe a lot to leather, because in addition to providing them with their livelihood, it's also the reason why they met.

While they both graduated from the University of Minnesota at Minneapolis (Dan was a couple years ahead of Jill, however), the pair, who have now been together for 45 years and married 40 years, were first introduced to each other as co-workers at a Minneapolis leather store.

Just like today, Jill was handling sales then, while Dan handcrafted leather items, as well as made alterations and repairs.

Dan learned about leatherwork firsthand, when, as a recent

(THE DESIGNER Pg. 6)



*Dan Pelo at work in his basement workspace at The Designers; Leather Clothiers, Inc.*

## Proposed smoke shop scraps plans to open on Charles Street

By Dan Murphy

The owner of Bluemoon Smoke Shop won't move forward with his plans to open on Charles Street after more than 160 neighbors voiced their strong opposition to the proposed location during a virtual meeting Monday.

"I respect the opinion of the neighborhood and am not going to pursue the plan," Malik Hayat told The Beacon Hill Times Tuesday. "We're sorry for any inconvenience, or bad feelings, we have caused the neighborhood, and we respect their opinion."

Hayat, owner of Bluemoon, which has around a dozen stores throughout Greater Boston, including locations on Newbury

Street, as well as in Kenmore Square and Downtown Crossing, made his poorly received case for the proposed Charles Street store to the neighborhood during a meeting co-sponsored by State Rep. Jay Livingstone and City Councilor Kenzie Bok.

Bluemoon had signed a 10-year lease to occupy the former home of Danish Country & Modern at 138 Charles St., said Hayat, and the store there would have sold vaping and smoking accessories, as well as cigar and cigarettes, with proposed operating hours of 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., seven days a week.

In a statement, Margaret Mis-

(SMOKE SHOP Pg. 3)

## Following Walsh's departure, Janey sworn in as acting mayor

By Lauren Bennett

In a ceremony at City Hall on Wednesday afternoon, Kim Janey was sworn in as the first Black person and first woman to lead the City of Boston, a day after Mayor Marty Walsh left for Washington following his confirmation as US Labor Secretary.

Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley presided over the ceremony, which was attended by Janey's friends and family, while Chief Jus-

tice Kimberly Budd administered the oath of office. An invocation was delivered by Reverend Willie Bodrick II, Senior Pastor at the Twelfth Baptist Church.

"It is a great day, another history making day in an unprecedented week in the City of Boston," Pressley said in her remarks.

Pressley called Janey a "fierce advocate on behalf of our children and education equity," and said

(JANEY Pg. 7)



*Acting Mayor Kim Janey is sworn into office on Wednesday by Supreme Judicial Court Chief Justice Kimberly Budd, as her granddaughter holds the Bible for her.*

### BEACON HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY CORNER

#### Thank You!

The BHCA would like to thank our State Representative Jay Livingstone and City Councilor Kenzie Bok for the meeting they hosted on Monday evening in regard to the proposed smoke shop on Charles Street. We are extremely grateful to the 160+ neighbors who attended and the dozens who contacted the BHCA by phone and email to express their opposition.

#### BHCA Traffic & Parking Committee

Senator Joseph Boncore and Representative Jay Livingstone

will join us to discuss transportation policy at the State House at 5p on Tuesday March 30th via Zoom.

Both Senator Boncore and Representative Livingstone have taken an active role on proposed policies that impacts our community including many of those detailed in this recent article:

<https://commonwealthmagazine.org/transportation/boncore-bill-backs-fare-free-mbta/>

Additionally issues such as the Blue-Red Connector, proposed MBTA service cuts and bills regarding safety (HD1888 and SD 1962 below) are top of mind

for our elected officials.

An Act to reduce traffic fatalities (HD1888) is an improved version of the bill that was passed by the Senate last session. This omnibus bill would require additional mirrors, side guards, and backup cameras for certain trucks and other large vehicles, define vulnerable road users and set a safe passing distance at certain speeds, allow the default speed limit on state-owned roads to be lowered to 25 mph, and create a standardized crash report form for people walking and bik-

(BHCA Pg. 3)

# EDITORIAL

## VIOLENCE AGAINST THE AAPI COMMUNITY MUST END

Prejudice, discrimination, and violence against members of the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community has existed ever since immigrants from China began to arrive in America in the 1850s.

The first anti-immigration law in our nation's history, the Chinese Exclusion Act, specifically targeted Chinese immigrants in 1882 and was still the law of the land until 1943.

The wrongful detention of Japanese-Americans in camps during WWII has become well-known to every high school student of American history.

Locally, our newspapers through the years have reported on numerous incidents of hate in the Boston area, ranging from the graffiti and vandalism that plagued a popular Japanese restaurant in Winthrop Centre in the 1980s to the arson fires in Revere in the 1980s that culminated with the blaze in December, 1990, that drove more than 150 persons, mostly from the Revere Cambodian community, from their homes.

The tragic shooting late last week in Atlanta by 21 year-old Robert Aaron Long that targeted Asian-American employees in massage parlors is just the latest example of the growing trend of violence against Asian-Americans that was encouraged by the rhetoric of certain public figures who fed the flames of racial animosity with terms such as the "China virus" and "the kung-flu" to describe the COVID-19 pandemic.

The targeting of members of the AAPI community must stop. Hopefully, with a new administration that has rejected the divisive rhetoric of the past and a renewed determination by law enforcement to prosecute every incident of racially-motivated violence, our society can put an end to this virus of hate.



CELEBRATE PASSOVER MARCH 27-APRIL 4

GUEST OP-ED

## THE ATLANTA SHOOTINGS: A CONFLUENCE FOR A PERFECT STORM

In addition to the obvious targeting of Asian-Americans in the tragic shootings in Atlanta, there were two other factors that created a perfect storm for this sort of tragedy to take place.

The first was the easy and immediate access for the purchase of a high-capacity weapon by the 21 year-old perpetrator of the shootings, who was able to buy the gun on Tuesday morning and kill six people that afternoon.

The idea of a waiting period -- also known as a cooling-off period -- between the purchase of a gun and the delivery into the hands of the buyer has been shown to be an effective measure in saving lives. According to a recent study, states with mandatory waiting periods -- regardless of their length -- had an average of 17 percent fewer murders and 10 percent fewer suicides by guns.

The second factor was the influence of the young man's church upon his mind from an early age. This is by no means an excuse for his murderous spree, but it is to say that he clearly had been brainwashed by the extreme and confusing messages from his evangelical church about sex that led him to believe that he had an unnatural sex addiction that he could quell only by taking extreme measures.

When there are tragedies such as the shootings in Atlanta, we all want easy answers. But in reality, the truth of what drives persons to commit such heinous acts are not always easily understood, even by the perpetrators themselves.

Dr. Glenn Mollette

Kirk Dewayne Franklin is an American choir director, gospel musician, singer, songwriter, and author. He is best known for leading urban contemporary gospel choirs such as The Family, God's Property, and One Nation Crew. He is a beloved and influential figure in the gospel music world.

Instagram exploded recently with an audio of the famed gospel singer Franklin berating his 32-year-old son. The son posted the audio of the verbal exchange between he and his father. The audio was a profanity laced call that included his father the elder Franklin threatening to break his son's neck.

According to the elder Franklin there has been a 14-year rift between he and his son. Many counseling sessions and the family's attempts at trying to resolve the conflict have apparently remained unsuccessful. For many years according to reports his son has avoided family dinners, holidays and other gatherings. National television and various media outlets reported Franklin saying, "Recently, my son and I had an argument that he chose to record. I felt extremely disrespected in that conversation, and I lost

my temper. And I said words that are not appropriate. And I'm sincerely sorry to all of you. I sincerely apologize," Franklin said.

Good Morning America, The Washington Post and various other national media sources have reported this story which is a sad personal family drama. For many years this tension has been a difficult rift for this very famous family. It's unfortunate that the adult son chose to play it out on social media which has now become national news.

Many families have struggles and no one is perfect, including Kirk Franklin. He proves once again that most people have a

breaking point and it's never pretty when it happens. Most of the time it's the people who we love the most and do the most for who have a way of flipping our switch. We often can take a lot from strangers and casual acquaintances because we really don't care that much what they think or even what they say. However, when it's a child who you have invested your entire life into stomps on your heart then emotion and passion have a way of taking over. As Franklin proves, words may be said that are later regretted.

It's unfortunate that even the

(Op-Ed Pg. 3)

## THE BEACON HILL TIMES

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**SMOKE SHOP** (from pg. 1)

that would be an asset to the community. All inquiries about the space should be directed to Elliott Levine who can be reached at 401-663-8049 or by email at ecl@olde-forgerealty.com.”

In response to Hayat’s decision to not move forward with opening the store, Rep. Livingstone wrote, “I greatly appreciate Mr. Hayat listening to the significant community concerns and reconsidering his decision to proceed. I thank everyone who spoke up. This good result is the collective work of the community, which I’m proud to represent.”

Rep. Livingstone added the Boston Public Health Commission also confirmed that Hayat has withdrawn his application for a tobacco permit at 138 Charles St.

Rob Whitney, Chair of the Beacon Hill Civic Association, applauded Blue Moon’s decision to abandon its plans to move to Charles Street, as well as the landlord for allowing the lease to be terminated.

“The Beacon Hill Civic Association is relieved that the owner of the Blue Moon Smoke Shop and the landlord at 138 Charles Street, as a result of the extensive feedback from the Beacon Hill community, have decided to dissolve their lease agreement in this location,” Whitney wrote. “The landlord has stated that she will fill the space with a tenant that would be an asset to the community.

“The BHCA remains deeply concerned about the planned location of a smoke shop within Beacon Hill, as all shops are in very close proximity to multiple elementary schools,” Whitney continued. “Vaping and smoking among children and teenagers is a rapidly expanding crisis in the

City of Boston and nationally, and we believe that any tobacco retail space used to sell these products is unhealthy and unsafe near schools and where children regularly pass by.”

Moreover, Whitney added: “We would like to thank City Councilor Kenzie Bok and State Representative Jay Livingstone [for co-hosting the meeting], and we also applaud the over 160 neighborhood residents who participated in the meeting. The strong expression of opposition from the Beacon Hill community to this proposed smoke shop location made all the difference, and led to this happy outcome.”

Neighbors in attendance at the meeting resoundingly expressed their deep concern that the smoke shop would be in close proximity to Hill House and multiple elementary schools, including The Advent School, Park Street School, Torit Montessori School and Beacon Hill Nursery School, and located just a few doors down from J.P. Licks, an ice cream shop at 150 Charles St.

“Every day, school children walk by,” said John Dowling, who lives “almost right across the street” from the proposed smoke shop’s location, “and it’s the wrong message to present to our youngsters as they’re going from one place to another.”

As for opening a smoke shop around the corner from Mass General Hospital’s Cancer Center, that decision, Dowling said, “doesn’t make any sense at all.”

Celeste Day, who also lives across the street from the storefront, told Hayat he is “highly unwelcome in this community.”

“Your shop is predatory and making people sick,” Day said.

“You should really consider moving to another location.”

Diane Coldren of Joy Street said, “I think this is really not the use that the community is looking for at this location.”

Regarding the proposed store’s potential health implications, Coldren added, “We’ve done so much to move away from smoking, the risk of moving back would be public health disaster.”

Millicent Cutler, the owner of ouimillie, a store located at 126 Charles St. that specializes in European fashion, jewelry and décor, said she chose to open her business on Charles Street because of the street’s sense “smallness” of lack of chain stores.

“As a business owner, the pandemic has been really tough on all of us, and I don’t see how this is going to help,” Cutler said. “I think we would have an easier time filling the 17 [retail] vacancies [on Charles Street] without a smoke shop on street.”

Rep Livingstone said, “There are more vacancies on Charles Street than there have ever been and filling those vacancies with businesses that will be appreciated by the neighborhood is important.”

Councilor Bok echoed this sentiment, describing Charles Street as “such a special and an unusual street in the city” that is as much a part of the residential community as it is a part of the business community.

“Charles Street is so precious to this community,” Councilor Bok said. “We need to come together as a community who cares so much about the street to see what we actively want to pursue for vacancies.”

**BHCA** (from pg. 1)

ing. This bill in particular includes important truck safety regulations and maintains the current law requiring a person biking to use either a rear red light or reflector, instead of adding a requirement to use both a rear red light and a rear reflector; the latter has been proven to lead to racial profiling in other states.

An Act relative to automated enforcement (SD1962/HD3705 and HD2452), which the Senate came very close to passing last session, would allow municipalities to opt in to installing cameras that would issue tickets for violations for speeding, failure to stop at a red light, failure to stop at a school bus stop arm, blocking the box, and parking or driving in a dedicated bus lane. When enacted in other states, automated enforcement has reduced speeding and serious crashes. More than 400 communities in the U.S. use red light cameras and more than 130 use cameras to enforce speed laws.

Join us on March 30th to listen,

learn and inquire!

Please give to the BHCA Annual Appeal!

Our 2021 Annual Appeal letter has been sent to our neighbors and members. We depend on your generosity to continue our important work. To make a donation, please visit bhcvic.org, or call our office at 617-227-1922 with any questions, or to become a member.

Upcoming BHCA Meetings \*

Traffic & Parking Committee – Tuesday, March 30th at 5pm

Streets & Sidewalks Committee – Tuesday, April 6th, time TBA

Zoning & Licensing – Wednesday, April 7th, 7pm

Mark your calendar for these BHCA Events! \*

Young Friends Social – March 31st, 7-9pm

Beacon Hill Meet & Greet – April 5th, time/place TBA

\* Email us at info@bhcvic.org or call the office (617-227-1922) for joining instructions or additional information on any of these meetings and events.

**OP-ED** (from pg. 2)

best of people have feelings and words that can come out so ugly. Where do they come from? Ugly words often come from unresolved hurt and pain that have become toxic. Poison is deadly. We allow poison to be bottled up deep in our hearts. In verbal altercations like the Franklin’s the bucket falls deep into the well of the heart and sadly what comes up is the pain and poison of past hurts that have been unresolved. We all have to guard our hearts and what we allow to take root. None of us need any-

thing that might spring up to hurt us and others.

Let’s pray for the Franklins. Most families have had moments not scripted for the national spotlight.

*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.*

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# Mayoral candidate Michelle Wu responds to Atlanta shooting, violence against Asian Americans

By John Lynds

Here in Beacon Hill 4.2 percent of our neighbors are Asian Americans and while they make up a small minority of our overall population they contribute greatly to the fabric of the community as business owners, parents, students, and activists.

The recent trend of violence against Asian Americans has been shocking and the shooting in Atlanta that killed six Asian Americans at three spas last week has shaken us all to our core.

City Councilor Michelle Wu, who is vying to become Boston's first Asian American Mayor of Boston, responded to the recent uptick in violence towards the Asian American community across the US as well as the Atlanta shooting.

"I join our Asian American community in mourning and solidarity following the senseless shootings in the Atlanta area," said Wu in a statement. "It's heart-breaking and appalling to see the anti-Asian harassment, violence, and now mass murder that has accelerated over the past year — part of a long history of racism in America that we all must fight to end. And all too often, the most silenced members of our community — Asian American elders and women working in invisible indus-

tries — have borne the brunt of these attacks."

Wu said the unconscionable blaming of Asian American communities for the devastation from the COVID-19 pandemic has reinforced the sense of invisibility and perpetual foreigner status that so many have known their entire lives.

"Growing up as the daughter of immigrants from Taiwan, some of my most vivid childhood memories involve racist encounters with strangers," she continued. "People who knew nothing about me except for my appearance feeling empowered to pull eyes into slits or chant ching chong sounds. That constant feeling of needing to be aware, ready, on guard whenever out in public. Since before COVID-19 was spreading in the United States, Asian American communities have been on edge, reeling from the impacts."

Wu said Boston has not been immune to these incidents and in every city across the country, we must build community to protect and celebrate intersectional identities.

"We will stop Asian hate and combat racism by meeting this moment, by building a city for everyone, by transforming our systems to see and value every life," she said.

Wu also encouraged residents

to support the Asian Community Emergency Relief Fund.

"Today, we're asking for you to make a donation to support the Greater Boston area's Asian Community Emergency Relief Fund to help provide direct financial support to Asian and Asian American Boston residents who are having trouble meeting their basic needs," said Wu. "If you can, please chip in to the Asian Community Emergency Relief Fund. Your donation will go towards providing aid to those in our city's Asian American community who need it most."

The fund can be found at [https://donorbox.org/covid19-relief-fund?utm\\_campaign=mf-b&utm\\_medium=wu-email](https://donorbox.org/covid19-relief-fund?utm_campaign=mf-b&utm_medium=wu-email).

Asian Americans account for 6 percent of all the COVID 19 cases and 8 percent of all the deaths in Boston. While countless communities are severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Asian American community in Greater Boston is being hit harder than most. Many are immigrants who



City Councilor and Mayoral Candidate Michelle Wu.

work in food, hospitality, home care, and child care sectors that have been closed. Consequently, these workers have lost their incomes. Because of language barriers and immigration status, not everyone can access public benefits like unemployment and the new stimulus dollars. These families are in jeopardy of not having enough money to buy basic neces-

sities and pay for housing.

So far the fund has raised and distributed over \$350,000 and helped 327 families, totaling 946 individuals and 55.5 percent of the fund went to families with undocumented members, and the remaining fund helped families that were ineligible for other public benefits because of their immigrant status.

## Boston declares March 26 as 'Leonard Nimoy Day'

By Dan Murphy

Just days before being confirmed by the Senate as the nation's Labor Secretary, exiting Mayor Martin Walsh declared this Friday, March 26, "Leonard Nimoy Day" in the City of Boston in honor of the West End native who skyrocketed to international fame in the 1960s for his portrayal of the iconic character, Mr. Spock, on the classic TV series, "Star Trek," on what would've been Nimoy's 90th birthday.

Walsh wrote that Nimoy, who died at age 83 in February of 2015, "through his fictional character, Mr. Spock — half human/half Vulcan — gave the immigrant, the refugee, and the oppressed, a hero for 'the Outsider.'"

Nimoy honed his acting skills at the Elizabeth Peabody House and the West End House, as well as through a summer scholarship for acting lessons at Boston College in his teens, wrote Walsh, and he was awarded an honorary degree from Boston University in 2012.

"I encourage all Bostonians to recognize Leonard Nimoy's commitment and dedication to the Arts and the lasting impact that he has left on the community," Walsh told WBZ-TV, the local news outlet that first reported the story.

Walsh's proclamation dovetails with an effort to build a memorial to Nimoy in the West End that South End artist Tom Stock-

er began in earnest in March of 2015, one month after the actor's death.

Somewhat surprisingly, Stocker, who regularly watched the series in reruns in the '70s and even saw "Star Trek: the Motion Picture" upon its theatrical release in 1979, has never considered himself a "Trekkie." But instead Stocker's interest in Nimoy was piqued after watching "Leonard Nimoy's Boston" — a half-hour special that first aired on WGBH-TV in 2014 in which Nimoy, accompanied by his filmmaker son, Adam, returned to his native city to reminisce about growing up as the son of Jewish immigrants from Ukraine in the old West End.

Nimoy also revealed in his autobiography "I Am Not Spock," that he based the Vulcan salutation, which comprises a raised hand with the palm forward and thumb extended while the middle and ring finger ring fingers are parted, on a rabbinical blessing he saw performed during a religious service he accompanied his grandfather to as a boy at an Orthodox synagogue in the old West End.

Stocker, who has been in close contact with Leonard's daughter, Julie Nimoy, has finalized the design for the memorial, which, he said, depicts the Vulcan hand salutation crafted from stainless-metal lattice and illuminated from inside using LED lighting.

Stocker said he drew his inspiration for the design from

"Scrolls" — a 16-foot-high sculpture by Boston-area artist David Phillips" crafted from perforated stainless steel to resemble the form of a violin and illuminated from within via LED lighting that sits on the lawn across from the New England Conservatory's Jordan Hall.

Progress on the Nimoy Memorial is now moving at a swift pace, said Stocker, although the Nimoy family, which is fully on board with the project, has asked him to not yet divulge who would fund the project, as well as its possible location.

Stocker, who initially proposed "Leonard Nimoy Day" to the City of Boston, has also reached out to Montreal, Canada, the hometown of William Shatner, who played Captain James T. Kirk on "Star Trek" opposite Nimoy and remained a close friend of Nimoy's throughout his life, in regard to that city declaring March 22, which was Shatner's 90th birthday, "William Shatner Day." But so far, Stocker hasn't heard back from them.

As for the status of the memorial, Stocker said he hoped to have more information to share on this project in time for the day honoring Nimoy.

"This is sort of an appetizer for the main course," Stocker said last week of the information he has provided to date, "with meatier details coming down the line."

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# Walsh gives final farewell after Senate confirmation; Kim Janey becomes Acting Mayor

By Lauren Bennett

Mayor Martin Walsh gave his final press conference as mayor of Boston on March 22, and headed off to Washington, D.C on Tuesday morning to begin his new role as US Secretary of Labor.

The Senate voted 68 to 29 to confirm Walsh's position late Monday afternoon, after which he delivered his heartfelt final farewell to Bostonians.

Walsh reflected on his past seven years as Boston's mayor, saying that "there is no other elected or appointed position where you are so closely in touch with the people you serve. It's truly where democracy lies."

He said he has frequently been in touch with Acting Mayor Kim Janey over the past two months, and said that "together the council president and myself and our teams have worked diligently to ensure a smooth transition."

Janey tweeted on Monday evening, "Congratulations on your confirmation, Secretary Walsh. You are a proud son of Dorchester who will bring our city with you to the @USDOL. The working people of America will benefit greatly from your passion. Now, we look ahead to a new day—a new chapter—in Boston's history."

Janey made history by becoming the first Black person and first woman to lead the city.

"I am proud of what we've been able to do together over the last seven years in moving the city forward," Walsh said at the press conference. During his term, Walsh said that almost 140,000 new jobs have been created in the city, Boston is "number one in the nation for building affordable housing," major crime has been reduced, the graduation rate in Boston Public Schools has increased nine points,

and a "new system to end homelessness was created."

He added, "We tackle racial justice. We changed Boston's reputation. We still have work to do."

Walsh said he will be the "first to admit" that more work needs to be done, but he is confident that it will continue.

Also during Walsh's administration, investments were made in new parks, libraries, community centers, fire stations, streets, sidewalks, bike lanes, and more, he said.

"We did all of this while managing our city finances responsibly..." Walsh said. Over his seven years as mayor, the city had an AAA bond rating each year.

He also said that "battling a global pandemic" was "not what anyone expected," but "in some ways, it was a blessing" and helped the city come together to help each other.

"As I told the team this morning, the journey doesn't stop. The work of the city keeps going. Tomorrow morning, when there will be a new mayor in City Hall, the work needs to continue to move forward. The work will continue to be hard. But I'm confident that our public servants, our business community, and our residents will continue to rise up to the occasion," Walsh said. "Boston, Massachusetts is the greatest city in the world."

Walsh said he wanted to "thank every person who held a sign for me, made a phone call for me, put a bumper sticker on their car for me, that fought for me, that advocated for me; I want to thank all of you." He also thanked those who "criticized" him, adding "that might have been criticism you were giving, but what it was for me is 'we have to do better.'"

He also gave advice to the candidates running for mayor in the

November election.

"Enjoy the race," he said. "Have fun. Talk to everybody."

However, "I will not be playing a role in the mayor's race," Walsh said. "It is not right for me to play a role in the mayor's race, number one, and number two, the candidates that are running...I know them all personally. One worked for me, one grew up on my street, one's a legislator, we served in the same body, I served with councilors as well, so it's no place for me to be involved."

Walsh also said he will not endorse any mayoral candidate.

Walsh said that he doesn't "know if I can put a signature achievement" on his time in office, but "I'm really happy with our accomplishments in housing. We inherited a housing crisis in our city. I'm really happy with 2300 formerly homeless people living in a home today."

He said he would leave his failures "for other people to criticize."

Walsh said that "there's definitely a feeling of work undone," but "I think that your work is never done." He said he would like to have built the Long Island Bridge, "but we're not giving up on that one."

Walsh also said that he was hoping to have the investigation on Dennis White, who was appointed police commissioner after William Gross' retirement but was found to have domestic assault allegations against him, completed before leaving, but that did not happen.

He said that he is grateful that the investigation is "thorough" and he's been in touch with Acting Mayor Janey about moving forward, adding that he is "confident" that the investigation will be finished "within the next couple of weeks."

Walsh said "I'm proud of the

accomplishments that my administration has done in the city, because it's not my accomplishments, it's the people I work with's accomplishments and that's honestly how I feel."

He continued, "This has been a very very bittersweet last eight weeks. I have been very emotional in my office because I love the people I work with. They're amazing. I love being mayor of the city I grew up in. I'm honored to have been called by President Biden to serve in his cabinet.

And I think, honestly, now thinking about it, I think I just try to get every single last second out of being mayor of the City of Boston....then I can start focusing on the new gig."

Several elected officials and mayoral candidates have issued statements on the mayoral transition, including City Councilor Andrea Campbell, John Barros, and State Rep. Jon Santiago.

"Congratulations to our new Secretary of Labor, Marty Walsh. I look forward to working with Mayor Walsh in his new role to center working people as we build a strong, equitable recovery from this pandemic and for the future of the City of Boston," Andrea Campbell said in a statement. "There's so much I've been proud to work with Mayor Walsh on to address longstanding inequities in Boston, including establishing the Youth Development Fund, passing the Community Preservation Act, and most recently committing our City to historic policing reforms. I wish him the absolute best as he embarks on this new chapter.

It's with excitement and joy that I also congratulate our Council President, now Acting-Mayor Kim Janey. This is a historic moment for our City, and absolutely the beginning of a new era of female leader-



Mayor Martin Walsh gave his final press conference as mayor of Boston on March 22.

ship in Boston."

In a statement, mayoral candidate John Barros, who worked as Walsh's Chief of Economic Development for the past seven years, said "Marty Walsh is the right person at the right time to serve as United States Secretary of Labor. As millions of Americans struggle to recover from the devastating impacts of the pandemic, we now have a Secretary we can trust to advocate for the needs of working families across the nation."

Jon Santiago said in a statement, "I have been proud to call Marty Walsh our mayor and my friend during his time in office. His leadership has been marked by a commitment to public service, an empowerment of working people and for those in recovery across the City of Boston and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Throughout a global pandemic, he's guided our city with a steady hand, navigating immense challenges I look forward to working with him in the years ahead as he begins the work of advocating for working families nationwide alongside President Biden and Vice President Harris."

## BHAC approves modified design for 27 Brimmer St. with 'glass box' headhouse

By Dan Murphy

The Beacon Hill Architectural Commission voted to approve a modified application for 27 Brimmer St. via Zoom at its March 18 monthly hearing.

Peter White, the applicant's architect, returned to the commission, which voted to continue the original application at its Feb. 18 hearing, with a proposal he described as "modified and stripped down" in response to feedback that its size and visibility should be minimized.

The applicant had proposed work on the roof deck, said White, including removing and rebuilding a headhouse in a new location; replacing the floorboards and

guardrails; and installing a "new flat-glass panel, walk-on skylight." Also, the applicant, he added, has proposed installing a wood screen matching the height of the existing chimney to block AC units, as well as covering an existing sky-hatch with decking and eliminating a large existing skylight comprising six windows.

Instead of a proposed headhouse that was 7 feet, 9 inches above the roofline and 9 inches lower than what the applicant had proposed last month (but still visible from the Esplanade, as well as from the corner of Pinckney and Mount Vernon streets), the commission approved another option to provide access from the stair-

case via a sliding skylight to the roof deck, described as a "glass box," that was set back and therefore wouldn't be visible from any "significant viewshed."

Commissioner Miguel Rosales said: "The views from the Esplanade, which is a certified Landmark park, are important and should be preserved because they are within the purview of the historic commission".

White said he didn't believe this structure would require any zoning relief, but that he would have to research the matter.

Nick Armata, senior preservation planner for the city, told White if this wasn't the case, however, the application would "null

and void," and would need to be resubmitted.

The commission approved the rest of the proposed work on this application, including the replacement of the railing, since it was already visible from the Esplanade, and because the applicant provided documentation to staff that it had been approved by the Boston Landmarks Commission in 2007.

In another matter, the commission voted to approve an application for Kured, a new business coming to 83 Charles St. and specializing in the delivery of charcuterie bouquets, to install a new 21-by-36-inch wood sign, semi-gloss and painted black, with the company name in white lettering,

as well as to remove an existing non-historic awning.

On an application for 55 Chestnut St., the commission approved the installation of a galvanized-steel, bar-style snow retention system on the front façade at the roof level, with the proviso that it be fabricated in bronze for improved compatibility with the historic district.

The commission also approved an application for 32 Derne St. to install a new screened-fence trellis and planters on a common roof, with the proviso that a proposed pergola, which was visible from several locations, be removed.

No outstanding violations were discussed at this hearing.

## THE DESIGNER (from pg. 1)

college grad, a friend who owned a leather shop gave him a job there, despite the fact that Dan didn't have any pertinent prior experience.

"It was actually the school of everyday learning," Dan said of his trial-by-fire introduction to his craft. "If someone would come in and ask us for something, we accepted the challenge, and if they were happy, then we were happy."

In the 1970s, Dan and Jill opened their own store called Leather & Lace at Lake and Hennepin in uptown Minneapolis, which, Jill said, "specialized in motorcycle wear and hand-braided leather garments," such as vests, skirts and jackets, mostly made from deerskin.

Leather & Lace found a loyal clientele in the biker crowd early on when the store received a large wholesale order from Drag Specialties, a catalog company, to make motorcycle chaps, which soon became one of the store's best-selling items. Besides chaps, the store also sold leather vests and shirts, and Dan and Jill even traveled to south Dakota for the annual Sturgis Motorcycle Rally one year to peddle their wares.

### The move to Charles Street

While Dan is a Minnesota native, Jill hails from Acton, where they live today, and by the early '80s, the couple had decided, said Jill, it was "time to get back to the East Coast."

Jill came out ahead to scout out a new location for their business, while Dan stayed back in Minneapolis to run things, and she soon found the first home of The Designers at 103 Charles St. (where Vintage Taste is today).

Beginning in 1984, the Pelos ran the business out of a 400 square-foot storefront at that location, where space was so tight that Dan worked with his sewing machine from a makeshift space behind the cash registrar. He even had to cut all the leather pieces at home back then.

In 1995, The Designers moved to its current home at 106 Charles St., which at 1,200 square feet, provides three times the space as

the old location, and that doesn't even include Dan's basement workshop, where he handcrafts the leatherwork and makes all repairs and alterations.

Dan makes jackets, pants, coats, dresses, skirts, shirts and vests, among other items, from materials including lambskin, lamb suede, cowhide and shearling, and the store also sells handmade women's hats crafted by Eggcup Designs, a husband-and-wife team from Dover, Del; handmade jewelry crafted by local artists; gloves and handbags; and accessories from what Jill describes as "small boutique lines."

Dan also makes ties and other neckwear, which in addition being sold at the store, were worn by members of the wedding parties in the respective nuptials of his and Jill's two daughters - Emily, age 33, who now splits her time between Nantucket and Waterbury Vt.; and Catherine, 30, who lives in Virginia Beach.

When Catherine was married on Maryland's Tilghman Island in October of 2020, all of the groomsmen, as well as the fathers of both the bride and groom, wore Dan's suede bowties, which were later featured in the regional magazine, What's Up? Annapolis.

And for Elizabeth's October 2019 wedding in Vermont, the groomsmen all wore suede neckties made by Dan.

"We do a lot of neckties and sell a lot of them," Jill said. "Why not? It's a little niche."

Dan also crafted a leather vest Jill likened to a multi-pocketed photographer's vest, which has been donated by its owner to the Peabody Essex Museum, where it will soon be on display.

### Celebrity sightings

When Bono graced the cover of Time magazine on March 4, 2002, he was donning a leather jacket Dan customized using an American Flag lining, which the U2 frontman wore during the band's 2002 Super Bowl half-time performance.

U2 had been in Boston the previous June to play four nights at the Fleet Center when a gofer for



A look inside The Designers; Leather Clothiers, Inc. on Charles Street.

the band found The Designers and charged Dan with making the alterations to Bono's jacket. The jacket pattern was then shipped from London to Dan, who had to use American Flag tablecloths to make the lining so as not to desecrate an actual American Flag, since that carries a penalty of up to a year in prison.

The store's exterior made an on-screen cameo in "A Civil Action," a 1998 motion picture starring John Travolta and based on Jonathon Harr's book of the same name that documents a landmark '80s court case involving environmental pollution in Woburn that was linked to area leather tanneries.

A scouting agent for the film chose the Charles Street building that houses The Designers because he liked the appearance of its second-floor window, said Jill, and the fact that the filmmakers opted to feature a leather store in the movie, given its subject matter, was purely coincidental.

"They liked the look of the building," Jill said. "It just so happened we're a leather store."

While the Pelos didn't meet Travolta, who was reportedly only in town for one day to film his scenes, they did meet his co-stars Robert Duvall and William H. Macy.

The Designers also made custom clothing for cast members of "Spenser: For Hire," a Boston-based ABC crime drama that aired from 1985-88 and starred Robert Urich as the titular private eye.

While Dan never saw Urich don the custom leather jacket he made for him on the air, Hawk, a recurring associate of Spenser's played by Avery Brooks, regularly wore his custom Designers-made leather pants on the TV series.

"He was just the kindest, most gentle man I've met in a long time," Jill said in recalling Brooks. "He was just very gracious."

### Giving back and looking forward

At the onset of COVID, one of Jill's friends alerted her to the dire need for PPE, and since The Designers already had plenty of fabric, Dan and Jill began making masks for free distribution.

Beacon Hill residents

soon heard about the Pelos' effort and began dropping off their own fabric donations at the store.

To date, The Designers has given away an estimated 2,500 masks, said Jill, including 100 masks to Beacon Hill Village, as well as to The Arc of Massachusetts, a nonprofit serving people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

"We tried to find niche areas that weren't getting masks," Jill said.

The neighborhood, meanwhile, can rest assured that The Designers is looking forward to continuing its long run on Charles Street.

"We've thoroughly enjoyed our time on Charles Street and on Beacon Hill, and we're looking forward to continuing to work with the neighborhood and visitors, and also to build up our website."

For more on The Designers; Leather Clothiers, Inc., visit [www.designerleatherclothes.com](http://www.designerleatherclothes.com); follow them on Instagram; email [info@designerleatherclothes.com](mailto:info@designerleatherclothes.com); call 617-720-3967; or stop by 106 Charles St.

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# CITY'S OUTDOOR DINING PROGRAM RETURNS TO CHARLES STREET

On Tuesday, March 23 – one day after the City of Boston kicked off its seasonal outdoor

dining program that, for the second year in row, has transformed city sidewalks into tem-

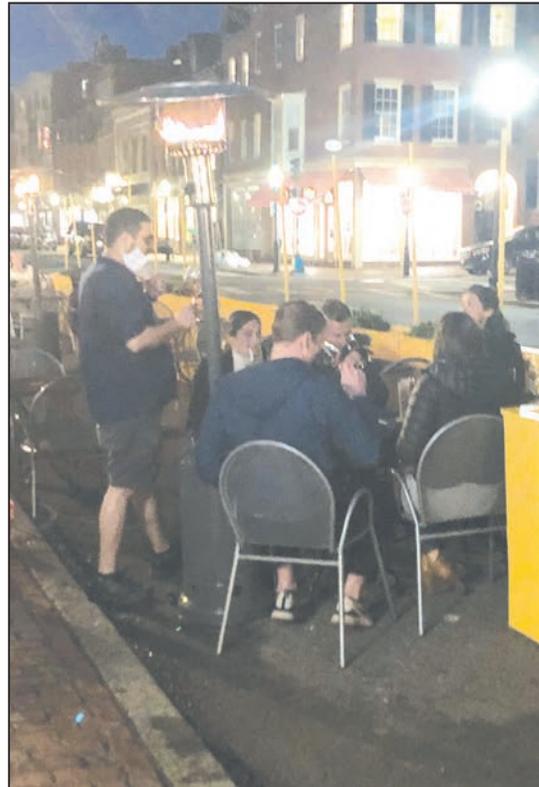
porary patio space for restaurants – Charles Street was again abuzz with activity.



Bin 26 Enoteca (above and below right) accommodating outdoor patrons.



Diners enjoying the patio space at The Paramount.



## JANEY (from pg. 1)

that “this is a proud day for the City of Boston and all Bostonians.”

Janey was the first woman and first Black person to become the District 7 City Councilor, eventually becoming the City Council president. According to City Councilor Matt O’Malley’s office, O’Malley has now become City Council President Pro Tempore as he was previously the vice president.

“She will lead with clear eyes, a fully heart, and a steady hand as we begin with the reconstruction of our city that this city and our country ache for,” Pressley said of Janey.

“Today is a new day,” Janey said in her speech. “I stand before you as the first woman and first Black mayor of Boston, the city that I love. I come to this day with life experience that is different from the men who came before me.”

Janey thanked her her family for their support over the years.

“As a girl growing up in Boston I was nurtured by a family who believed in me and surrounded by good neighbors who knew my name,” she said.

She spoke of her experience being bussed to her school in the 1970s as a pre-teen during the effort to desegregate Boston Public Schools.

“I had rocks and racial slurs thrown at my bus, for simply attending school while Black,” she said.

She said that she has always been an active supporter of quality public education for all students, especially as a young mother herself who wanted the best public education for her daughter. “This issue is personal to me,” she said.

“As I assume the responsibilities of mayor of Boston, I promise to give you bold, courageous leadership,” she said, adding that she will be “starting with an unrelenting focus to address the impacts of COVID-19.”

Janey said that she will “fight” to ensure that vaccines are accessible for all, “especially in communities hardest hit” by the virus, as well as work to

expand testing across the city.

Additionally, “our recovery must include working together on behalf of our children,” she said, by reopening schools in a safe way and ensuring that teachers get vaccinated.

She said she has plans to invest in summer opportunities for students and partner with the superintendent and other groups to “help our children recover academically and emotionally.”

Janey said that the pandemic has only made existing inequalities and gaps “worse,” and that action needs to be taken.

Janey mentioned the disparity study that was recently published, saying that it “showed the enormous inequality in our city contracts.” She said that “as mayor, I will take action to solve this problem with new creative solutions to boost city contracts with minority business enterprises and new strategies to hold ourselves accountable.”

She also spoke about racial justice in the city and the work she plans on doing on that front.

“Dismantling systemic racism also includes reforming how we police our city. As mayor, I will continue to be an advocate and lead the implementation of these reforms. Together, working with our police department, I am determined to bring safety, healing and justice to all of our neighborhoods.”

Janey said that there is “more work to do,” and “that work starts now.” She thanked her transition team and the city staff for their work so far.

“To the people of Boston, I say you have a stake in our city’s future,” Janey said. “You are the essential part of this recovery. Let’s not be afraid to tackle the longer-term challenges that we face together. From racial justice to environmental justice; from affordable housing to our transit system. From our public schools, to public safety. We cannot go back. Our only option is to go better.”

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Acting Mayor Kim Janey

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# Mayoral Candidate Annissa Essaibi George meets with Downtown business owners

By John Lynds

Last Thursday, At-Large City Councilor and Boston Mayoral Candidate Annissa Essaibi George made a campaign stop Downtown and met with businesses owners struggling throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

Restaurants have been hit particularly hard by the pandemic and were forced to recalibrate their entire business model in order to survive. Some decided to pack it in for the winter and reopen when the warmer weather returns to New England and the infection rates decline.

As part of her "Get Boston Back to Business Tour", Essaibi George visited Cafe Bonjour, One Gig and Sam LaGrassa's Downtown to discuss with local owners and staff about the resources and support needed to recover, rebuild and thrive post-pandemic.

"The businesses in Downtown

have been hit hard by this pandemic and they face unique challenges as they look to reopen and recover," said Essaibi George. "It's critical to hear directly from these business owners and staff about their experiences and perspectives, so that their voices are reflected in our plans to get Boston back to business."

Essaibi George said since launching the tour two weeks ago she's heard directly from small businesses about the real challenges they've faced before and during this crisis.

"Of course we're talking about recovery, but we're taking it a step further and really getting at the root issue of redesigning our economy to work for everyone," said Essaibi George. "I look forward to continuing these important conversations with small businesses and employees in every single neighborhood of Boston."

As a former Boston Main Streets Director for Fields Corner and a small business owner herself, Essaibi George previously visited small businesses in East Boston, Dorchester, Roslindale, West Roxbury, Chinatown, South End, Jamaica Plain, Allston and Brighton.

Before entering the political arena, Essaibi George taught Economics, Business Management and Health & Human Services to juniors and seniors at East Boston High School and served as the school's assistant softball coach for 14 years.

In 2015 Essaibi George decided to run for Boston City Council and was part of a wave of change that ushered in a new era on the council. That year Essaibi George and Andrea Campbell ousted two incumbent councilors and doubled the number of women on council with their victories.



As part of her "Get Boston Back to Business Tour", Essaibi George visited Cafe Bonjour (above), One Gig (below) and Sam LaGrassa's (bottom photo) to discuss with local owners and staff about the resources and support needed to recover, rebuild and thrive post-pandemic.



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Xie, Lu C	Hoffmann, Michael J	105 Beacon St #10	\$1,085,000
Pashley, Christopher	Carlozzi, Mary E	125 Beacon St #8	\$810,000
Murray, Joanne P	Bashian, Christopher	322 Beacon St #5	\$775,000
CDZ RT	Oliveira, Alexandre	75 Clarendon St #606	\$1,250,000
Reddy, Avinash	Zakim, Joshua	177 Commonwealth Ave #2&4	\$890,000
321 Dartmouth NT	Ryan, Patrick	321 Dartmouth St #4	\$4,600,000
Spicker, Hermann	David J Witham RET	298 Marlborough St #4	\$1,275,000
Lucas, Sky M	Stephen Mele 2015 T	201 Newbury St #204	\$1,675,000
Herzallah, Khader	Naji, Firas	110 Stuart St #26F	\$1,100,000
Fitzpatrick, Matthew	Miller, Andrew	311 Commonwealth Ave #50	\$1,595,000
Jundy, Natali A	Poulos, Georgia	360 Newbury St #505	\$1,550,000

### BEACON HILL

Krempus, Robert	Geiger, Ross	75 Charles St #5B	\$640,000
Somer, Rachel	4 Beacon H LLC	4 Joy St #3	\$5,800,000
Driscoll, Kenneth J	33 Mt Vernon Street LLC	33 Mount Vernon St #1	\$2,475,000
Hui, James M	Ibrahim, Nasrien E	11 Revere St #2	\$645,000
45 Temple Street PH1 RT	JDMD Owner LLC	45 Temple St #PH1	\$8,750,000
Francisco, Jose M	Rhein, Peter V	6 Whittier Pl #2J	\$530,000

### BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE

Kapelson, Cassandra A	Nguyen, Stephanie	285 Columbus Ave #201	\$481,000
Lamb Stratton T	Casper, Cheryl P	505 Tremont St #606	\$935,000
Dowlati, Soroor	2451 Washington LLC	2451 Washington St #206	\$439,000
Perry, Brian J	2451 Washington LLC	2451 Washington St #401	\$585,000
60 Charlesgate W 4A LLC	Kasdon-Sidell, Louisa	5-7 Bay State Rd #4A	\$850,000
60 Charlesgate W 4A LLC	Kasdon-Sidell, Louisa	60 Charlesgate W #4A	\$850,000
Tannoury, Margaret M	Kazakevich, Elaine	33 E Springfield St #1A	\$430,000
Huang, Hui	Coku, Lindita	58 E Springfield St #2	\$585,000
Sharma, Manu	Zlotoff, Benjamin D	405 Marlborough St #21	\$1,750,000
Lee, Daniel S	Orvieto RT	11 Park Dr #11	\$310,000
Sung, Tsung Y	Zhou, Jingyl	11 Park Dr #17	\$649,000
Sung, Tsungyuan	Curry, Michael T	125 Park Dr #22	\$523,000
Sung, Tsung Y	Marder, Kathleen S	125 Park Dr #39	\$529,000
Giblin, Brendon	Donnelly, John	296 Shawmut Ave #2	\$2,730,000
Bennett, Melissa	Giblin, Brendon P	296 Shawmut Ave #2	\$2,675,000
Thomson, Cheryl	Stone, Patrick S	81 Waltham St #6	\$980,000
Michay, Magdi	Allied Residences LLC	88 Wareham St #301	\$636,500
Cho, Albert	Allied Residences LLC	88 Wareham St #501	\$695,000
Petrova, Rositsa D	Johnson, Constance M	1721 Washington St #503	\$640,000
Howard, Kyle S	Ellis, Lauren M	88 Worcester St #6	\$1,000,000

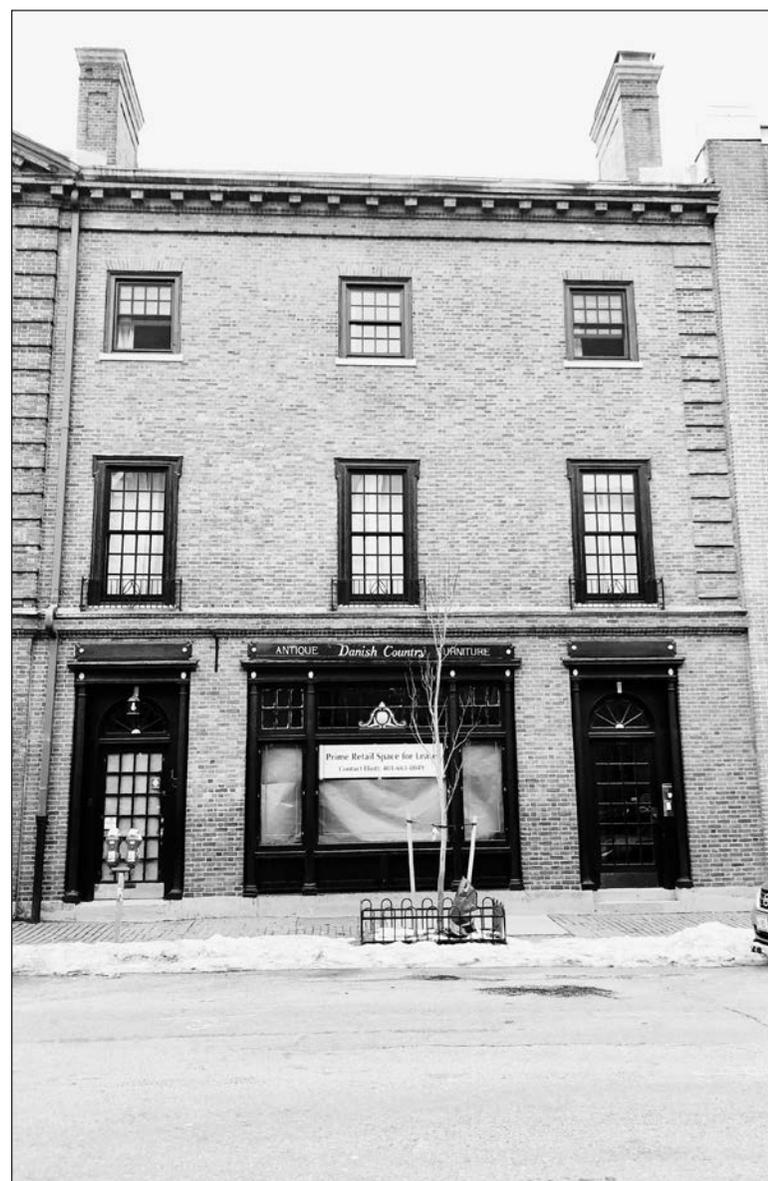
### WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN

Davis, Gary S	Carol A Hodges RET	2 Avery St #24B	\$1,245,000
King, Robert B	Kalton T	2-1/2 Battery Wharf #4308	\$2,000,000
Hotermans, Christophe	Trujillo, Daniel	65 E India Row #6E	\$797,000
Tan, Lily	Nguyen, Trucdao T	1 Nassau St #1208	\$434,007
Howley, Michael	L A Lopiccio 2017 T	20 Rows Wharf #506	\$1,900,000

## Attention to Detail

BY PENNY CHERUBINO

THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The window flourish in the last clue is on 138 Charles Street the home of "Danish Country & Modern" for 37 years before it closed last December 31st. It will be missed by everyone who enjoyed stopping to see what was in the window or exploring for new furniture items in the showroom.

Do you have a favorite building or detail you would like featured? Send an email to [Penny@BostonZest.com](mailto:Penny@BostonZest.com) with your suggestion.

THIS WEEK'S CLUE



# Beacon Hill COVID update posted

By John Lynds

Last week Beacon Hill's cumulative COVID-19 positive test rate and the weekly positive test rate both increased.

According to the latest data released by the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) last Friday, overall since the pandemic started 47,517 Beacon Hill, Back Bay, North End, West End and Downtown residents have been tested for COVID-19 and the data shows that 6.4 percent of those tested were COVID positive. This was a 3.2 percent increase from the 6.2 percent reported by the BPHC two weeks ago.

Last week, 2,554 residents were tested and 2.9 percent were positive--this was a 45 percentage decrease from the 2 percent reported by the BPHC two Fridays ago.

Citywide, 27,067 residents were tested and 3.6 percent were COVID positive--this was a 5.5 decrease from the 3.6 percent positive test rate reported by the BPHC two weeks ago.

In his last press briefing Friday before heading to Washington DC to serve as U.S. Secretary of Labor, former Mayor Martin Walsh said ICU occupancy has continued to go down and the case numbers have stayed below the city's thresholds of concern for about a month now.

"We are ready to move forward

in our reopening," he said. Acting Mayor Kim Janey will now take over the reigns and oversee Boston's reopening process.

On Monday the state moved to Phase 4 Step 1 of the statewide reopening plan. This means that more activities and industries will be allowed to be open, and capacity limits for event venues and public settings will be expanded.

Boston, we will move into a modified Phase 4 Step 1, consistent with the cautious approach the city has taken throughout the pandemic.

Starting on March 22, the State will allow indoor and outdoor stadiums, arenas, and ballparks to open with a strict 12 percent capacity limit in place, after they submit a plan to the Department of Public Health. The City of Boston will align with this step.

"But, moving forward, we will only allow these venues to go above 12 percent capacity if the State allows it and if Boston's positivity rate stays under 2.75 percent, for two consecutive weeks, as calculated by the City," said Walsh. "We are also requiring these venues to submit their safety plan to the City's Licensing Board."

On March 22, the State will expand gathering limits for event venues and public settings to 100 people indoors and 150 people outdoors. The City of Boston will

also increase gathering limits for event venues and public settings, but they will not be as high as the State's limits. Boston will allow up to 60 people indoors and 100 people outdoors.

Under the State's guidance, outdoor gathering limits at private residences will remain at a maximum of 25 people, and limits for indoor house gatherings will remain at 10 people. The same goes for the City of Boston.

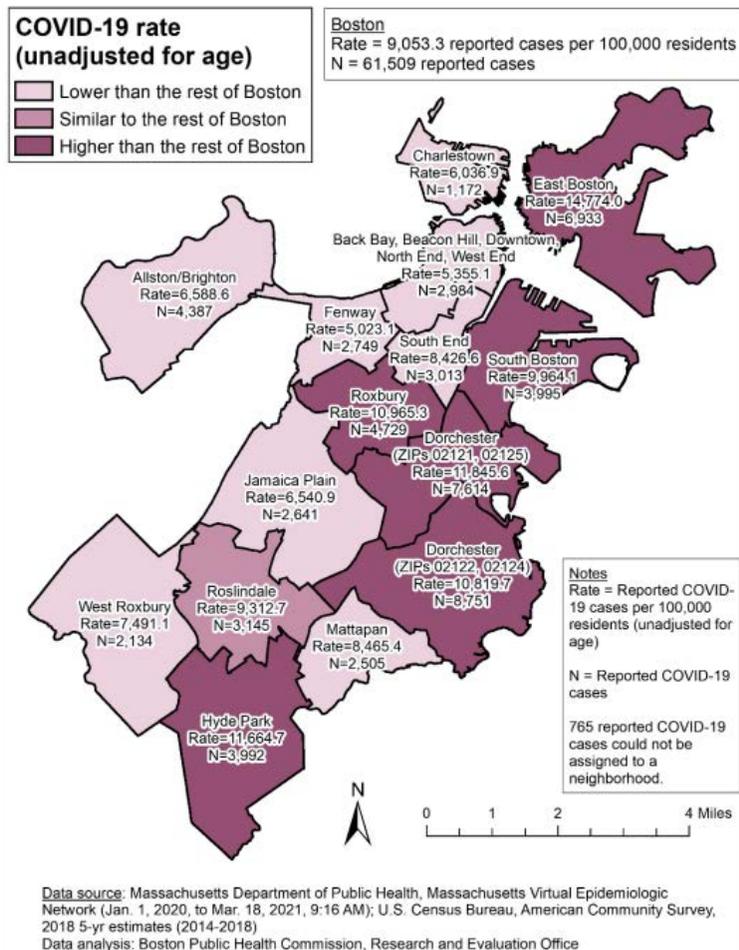
Live musical performances will be allowed at restaurants in Boston. This includes all live entertainment except singing. Singing is still not allowed indoors because of the risk of spreading respiratory droplets.

All of this information will be posted in detail at Boston.gov/coronavirus.

The BPHC data released last Friday showed Beacon Hill, Back Bay, North End, West End and Downtown had an infection rate of 535.5 cases per 10,000 residents, up 3 percent from 520 cases per 10,000 residents reported two weeks ago.

An additional 86 residents became infected with the virus last week and the total number of cases in the area increased from 2,898 cases to 2,984 cases as of last Friday.

The statistics released by the BPHC as part of its weekly



On Friday the BPHC released its weekly COVID-19 stats by neighborhood that tracks infection rates and COVID testing results in Boston neighborhoods.

COVID19 report breaks down the number of cases and infection rates in each neighborhood. It also breaks down the number of cases by age, gender and race.

Citywide positive cases of coronavirus increased 2 percent

percent last week and went from 61,025 cases to 62,294 confirmed cases in a week. Sixteen additional Boston residents died from the virus last week and there are now 1,329 total deaths in the city from COVID.

# Boston students, parents call for substantial state funding as schools reopen

By John Lynds

With the promised funding from the landmark education bill that was signed into law before the COVID pandemic hit is still up in the air, Boston students and parents last Tuesday called for the state to fully fund the Student Opportunity Act Funding (SOA).

During a virtual press conference hosted by the Massachusetts Education Justice Alliance on Tuesday students, parents, and

school committee members from cities across Massachusetts discussed their school funding needs, their perspectives on in-person school reopening this spring, and their aspirations for education this summer and during the upcoming school year.

Boston Public School parents Rafaela Polanco and Suleika Soto testified at the virtual press conference and shared their thoughts.

At the press conference, which

was held over Zoom, Polanco and Soto joined students, parents, and school committee members from Revere, Chelsea, Lawrence, Lowell and Randolph to discuss safety measures, social/emotional and educational supports, and other resources they're looking for from their public schools as well as the need for substantial state funding to support those needs.

"I'm a parent of two Boston Public School students and a parent organizer for the Boston Education Alliance" said Soto. "We as parents, students, teachers and community members have asked to be heard about fair and high quality education. Low income communities have been disproportionately affected by COVID so we need fully funded schools that are fair and just in our budget--one where every student has access to what they need, including safe

school buildings. Black and brown families continue to be disproportionately affected by COVID and a fully and equitable funded state budget can put us on the right track."

The SOA overhauled the state's education funding formula to ensure equity for all students, especially those in low-income areas.

Because the state has not updated its education funding formula since 1993 to reflect districts' real health insurance and special education costs, the amount of aid being provided to cover those costs had been too small for decades.

In January 2020 Governor Charlie Baker signed S. 2412, An Act Relative to Educational Opportunity for Students, or the SOA, which would have boosted investment in public schools by \$1.5 billion annually when fully phased in over the next seven

years. However, when COVID hit in March 2019 budget shortfalls pushed SOA spending to the way-side. Boston Public Schools were expected to receive millions in SOA funding.

The state legislature's Ways and Means Committee met last Tuesday to begin reviewing the Governor's proposed FY22 budget.

At the press conference students and parents plan to keep pushing for a true commitment to fully fund public school and call for putting the state's commitment to public education funding back on track.

One demand by the group Tuesday is that the state delivers at least two of the seven years of promised funding increases under the SOA in the next state budget.

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## CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

# North Washington Street Bridge construction look-ahead through April 3

This is a brief overview of construction operations and impacts for the North Washington Street Bridge Replacement Project. MassDOT will provide additional notices as needed for high-impact work and changes to traffic configurations beyond those described below.

### DESCRIPTION OF SCHEDULED WORK

- Building the piers:
- \*Pier 2: sealing and dewatering cofferdam.
- \*Pier 3: prepare wood formwork to pour concrete footing.
- \*Pier 4: ongoing concrete pours for V arms (the tops of the piers).
- \*Pier 5 (closest to Charlestown): concrete pours for pier column, followed by V arms. Install-

ing, moving, and maintaining silt curtains in the water

### WORK HOURS

- Most work will be done during the daytime (6:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.)

### WORK THAT HAS BEEN COMPLETED

- Prior to 3/21/21, completed work includes:
  - \*Concrete pours: Footing pads for Piers 4 and 5 and Pier column for Pier 4.
  - \*Installation of all cofferdams (1 – 5).
  - \*Drilled shaft installation in all cofferdams.
  - \*Drilled shaft installation for pier 1.
  - \*North and south abutment.

Demolition of all existing piers (as of 3/7)

### TRAVEL TIPS

The Westerly sidewalk, Lovejoy Wharf stairs, near Converse are open to the public with the opening of the temporary bridge, the adjacent section of the Harborwalk passing under the bridge remains closed.

The Tudor Wharf Walkway (under the bridge next to the water in Paul Revere Park) will be intermittently closed for safety during construction operations, with access provided via the Water Street underpass.

For more information and project background, visit the project website.

## CITY PAWS

### Breed specific

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

Many people have joined the dog community over the past year. Some have adopted shelter dogs with mixed breeding or one of the many new crosses of well-known dog breeds.

In addition to learning about training, routine veterinary care, and what makes their particular dog happy, people should also educate themselves about breed-specific needs and health concerns.

It may come as a surprise to some that their GoldenDoodle is subject to both the Poodle and the Golden Retriever's genetic health issues. Embrace Pet Insurance Company lists some of the concerns for this cross in their breed guide as including, "... hip dysplasia, a skin disease called sebaceous adenitis, a heart condition called subvalvular aortic stenosis, Addison's disease, and eye diseases such as progressive retinal atrophy, cataracts and glaucoma."

There are also health issues caused by a physical feature common to several breeds like brachycephalic dogs with short heads like the Boston Terrier, English Bulldog, or Pekingese. These dogs may have difficulty breathing and decreased capacity for thermoregulation. Being overweight is especially dangerous for them.

This doesn't mean you should panic when you research a list of your particular breed or cross's health concerns. It just means you should be aware of the symptoms and watchful to catch any problem early. Your veterinary team should be willing to discuss your breed or mix's known health concerns and tell you what you should know and symptoms to report to them.

### Grooming

Another area with specific needs by breed is grooming. Dogs with wrinkly faces like the French Bulldog, Shar-Pei, or Pug will need a bit of extra facial care between grooming visits. Wrinkles can hold bacteria that can lead to allergic dermatitis and it is far easier to prevent it than to treat it. Your groomer or veterinarian can show you how to clean those wrinkles.

Shedding is another area with breed differences. Our Westie does shed, but not as much as a Labrador Retriever or German Shepherd. Those short hair breeds top the list of dogs who shed the most. You'll often see people with shedding tools working on their dog's coat outdoors, especially in the spring. That saves a lot of clean-up at home and even helps our local bird population. We love to see birds swoop down and grab a clump of dog hair for their nest.

### Exercise and Training

Your dog may have a genetic need for more exercise to keep an athletic body healthy or extra training for a keen mind that needs work to keep from being destructive. High-energy herding dogs like Australian Shepherds may start herding bicycles or become difficult to handle if they don't get the exercise their bodies and minds need.

One common mistake is not to spend time training toy breeds like Chihuahuas or Jack Russell Terriers or mixes with those bloodlines. What is cute in a puppy may turn into a nasty habit in time. Extra effort is needed to stop barking and biting. Small dogs may become defensive and try to intimidate other dogs and people with their bark. They may also have been allowed to think that a little nip is okay with people. It's not! That nip may turn into a bite in time.

Take the time while your relationship is new to learn more about your pal's specific genetic pros and cons. It will help ensure a long and happy life together.

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

## LOCAL STUDENTS

### EARN ACADEMIC HONORS

### CORTEZ NAMED TO THE TROY UNIVERSITY CHANCELLOR'S LIST

Jessica Cortez of Beacon Hill, has been named to the Chancellor's List at Troy University for Term 3 of the 2020-2021 academic year.

The Chancellor's List honors full-time undergraduate students who are registered for at least 12 semester hours and who earn a grade point average of 4.0.

Term 3 includes students at TROY's campuses in Dothan, Phenix City and Montgomery, Ala., along with students outside

of Alabama and online.

About Troy University  
Troy University is a public, historic, international university with 22,500 students and 154,000 alumni. Students choose TROY for its quality academic programs, reasonable costs and availability of financial aid, outstanding faculty, and flexible in-class and online class offerings. Students on the Troy, Ala. campus enjoy a traditional college experience, while adult students are the centers of attention at campuses in Dothan, Montgomery and Phenix City, Ala., as well as at locations around the world and online.

## LEGAL NOTICES

### LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF A GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT

TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304

Docket No.

SU21P0370GD

In the matter of:

Everett Goss

RESPONDENT

Alleged Incapacitated

Person

Of: Boston, MA

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Massachusetts Dept. of Mental Health of Westborough, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Everett Goss is

in need of a Guardian and requesting that (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve Without Surety on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 04/08/2021. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without

further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: February 25, 2021 Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

03/25/21 BH



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Sally Brewster	Betsey Barrett
Ron Berkowitz	Toni Doggett

# BHV elects four new directors

By Suzanne Besser

The Beacon Hill Village (BHV) board of directors elected four new members at a meeting held earlier this year. They are Davida Carvin, Tom Kwei, Jean Sipe and Jane Tyler, each of whom resides in a different community served by the member-driven, non-profit organization for residents age 50 and over.

Carvin, who lives in Boston's Waterfront, formerly spent 19 years as a marketing research analyst for Polaroid Corporation. She joined BHV ten years ago, during which time she has been active in many of its activities, includ-

ing co-hosting The New Yorker Discussion Hour and serving as a BHV ambassador.

Cambridge resident Kwei was born in Japanese-occupied Shanghai, China and came to the United States in 1952 to finish high school. Formerly with IBM, he co-founded a memory technology company, serving as its president until retiring in 1995. Throughout his career and retirement, he has been active in many institutions including BHV which he joined in 2017. Before the pandemic, he made house calls to fix Mac technical problems, conducted technical help sessions at the BHV office, and regularly participated

in Zoom events.

A West End resident, Sipes is a retired bench scientist and peer review administrator with a 50-year span at either the National Institutes of Health or Boston University School of Medicine. She continues to serve as a part-time peer review consultant to federal agencies. She joined BHV in 2017 and also serves on several of its committees.

After living in Brookline for 17 years, Tyler recently returned to Beacon Hill where she had previously served on the boards of the Beacon Hill Civic Association, Hill House and the Beacon Hill Garden Club. Most recently she has been active on the Board of the Nantucket Atheneum. Her professional background is in Public Health Nursing and later in Marketing Research.

"We look forward to working with the extraordinarily talented new board members," said President Allan Hodges. BHV provide activities, programs, services



Davida Carvin



Tom Kwei



Jean Sipe



Jane Tyler

and opportunities for community engagement as well as access to needed assistance so that its members may lead active, independent

and healthy lives and successfully navigate the transitions of growing older.

## Don't miss our annual Summer in the City Guide

featuring Safe Summer Camps & Great Safe Activities!



### RUNNING APRIL 15

Beacon Hill | Back Bay | Fenway | Kenmore  
South End | North End | Charlestown



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**DEADLINE: FRIDAY, APRIL 9<sup>TH</sup>**

**Deb DiGregorio**

deb@thebostonsun.com

781-485-0588 x101

**Sioux**

Gerow

charlestownads@hotmail.com

## Ruthzee Louijeune launches campaign, raises over \$50,000 in first 24 hours

Ruthzee Louijeune launched her campaign for Boston City Council At-Large on Tuesday, and in the first 24 hours raised over \$50,000 from over 300 individuals. In 24 hours, Louijeune's campaign has raised more year-to-date than any candidate for Boston City Council At-Large.

"I'm thrilled by the initial outpouring of support," said Ruthzee Louijeune. "In the first 24 hours of our campaign, we raised over \$50,000 and had over 300 donors step forward to offer their support. Our campaign will be built

on grassroots support, and I'm thankful for the strong start, and the outpouring of support our campaign is seeing."

Ruthzee, 34, is the daughter of Haitian immigrants, born and raised in Mattapan and Hyde Park. Ruthzee served as Senior Counsel for U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren's presidential campaign. A trained attorney and advocate, Ruthzee graduated from Columbia University, Harvard Kennedy School, and Harvard Law School. She is also a proud graduate of Boston Public Schools: Charles

H. Taylor Elementary School, the John W. McCormack Middle School, and Boston Latin School. She resides in Hyde Park, and is fluent in French, Haitian Creole and speaks conversational Spanish.

Ruthzee would be the first Haitian-American City Councilor. In 2019, the Boston City Council elected its first majority-female city council in Boston's history. You can find more information about her campaign at: [www.ruthzeeforboston.com](http://www.ruthzeeforboston.com).

King's Chapel *Physically Closed, Spiritually Open*

# HOLY WEEK

<i>Palm Sunday</i>	<i>Maundy Thursday</i>	<i>Good Friday</i>	<i>Easter Sunday</i>
<b>March 28</b>	<b>April 1</b>	<b>April 2</b>	<b>April 4</b>
11:00 AM, Live on Zoom	Premieres at 6:00 PM on YouTube	Premieres at 6:00 PM on YouTube	Available all day on YouTube

[www.kings-chapel.org](http://www.kings-chapel.org)