



# THE BEACON HILL TIMES

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## HOLIDAY DECORATING



An amazing turnout of over 100 volunteers showed up last weekend to decorate the 1,100 gas lamps for the holidays. Above, Mat Sims and Benjamin Norton are on their way to Temple Street with garlands. Right, Some youngsters get themselves their own personal trees, perhaps to make no mistake in opening each others gifts. See pages 6, 8 and 9 for more photos.



## Survey suggests residents would consider change in trash and recycling collection days, with conditions

By Dan Murphy

A recent survey administered by the Beacon Hill Civic Association suggests that the majority of neighborhood residents polled would be willing to accept a change in pickup days, which the city is now considering, if it would mean a later pickup time on those days as well.

Of 79 respondents, 48 of them, or 60.2 percent, were in favor of changing the trash/recycling pickup days from the current Monday and Friday morning to Monday and Thursday mornings, with the city committing to a morning pickup time of no later than 6 a.m.; 20 respondents, or about 25.3 percent, were in favor of changing the trash/recycling pickup days from the current Monday and Friday morning

to Monday and Thursday mornings, without any commitment from the city on the morning pickup time; and 11 respondents, or nearly 14 percent, were in favor of keeping the current trash/recycling pickup times of Mondays and Fridays at 6 a.m.

Rob Whitney, chair of the Civic Association board of directors, said the group administered the study, which lasted for one week, after the city reached out to them on July 20 to ask if the neighborhood would be interested in moving one of the neighborhood's two trash and recyclables pickup days from Friday to Thursday.

(On July 1, 2019, the city changed its trash pickup times from 7 a.m. to one hour earlier at 6 a.m., which was reportedly among the

terms of the five-year, \$28 million contract that was then awarded to East Boston-based Capitol Waste Services to handle waste and recycle collection citywide.)

"The vast majority of [respondents] were in favor of [the proposed change in day], but the vast majority of them want the time change as well," said Whitney of the survey results. "We'd love to work with the city to find some way to move the pickup time later than the current 6 a.m., which would allow people to put it out on the day of [pickup] and not the day before."

Added Whitney, "If that requires moving the pickup date from Friday to Thursday, it appears residents

(TRASH Pg. 3)

## First Suffolk & Middlesex Primary set for Dec. 14

By Times Staff

On Tuesday, December 14 Beacon Hill voters will head to the polls during the First Suffolk & Middlesex Special Election Primary and cast their ballots for state senator. The election to fill the seat vacated by Joseph Boncore will take place in the Boston neighborhoods of Beacon Hill, East Boston, the North End, Beacon Hill, Chinatown, Bay Village, the South End as well as Revere, Winthrop and Cambridgeport.

### Who is on the Ballot next Tuesday

On the ballot in next Tuesday's Special Election are District 1 City Councilor Lydia Edwards and Revere School Committee member

Anthony D'Ambrosio.

Councilor Edwards, an Eastie resident, previously ran for the Senate seat after former State Senator Anthony Petrucelli left office in 2016. While unsuccessful in that race Edwards went on to run for the District One City Council seat, which includes Eastie, Charlestown, and the North End, the following year. She went on to win that race and has served on the council ever since.

D'Ambrosio, a Revere resident, got his start in politics in 2019 when he successfully ran for Revere School Committee, a citywide seat. He topped Revere's School Committee ticket in that

(ELECTION Pg. 3)

## Chestnut Street teen to perform alongside Tony Award-winner

By Dan Murphy

As one of the Boston Children's Chorus members performing in the American Repertory Theater (A.R.T) production of "WILD: A Musical Becoming" at Harvard University, Julia Sax gets to share the stage Tony Award-winner Idina Menzel – an experience which has admittedly left the 16-year-old a little starstruck.

"The whole cast is so talented, but she's such a big name so it was really cool to get the chance to work with her," said Sax, a Chestnut Street resident and sophomore at Boston Latin, of Men-

zel, who won the Tony Award for Best Actress in a Musical in 2004 for her portrayal of Elphaba, the role she originated one year earlier in the Broadway production of "Wicked," and who also provided the voice of Elsa in Disney's "Frozen."

In "WILD," a self-described "musical fable," Menzel plays the lead role of Bea, a single mother struggling to hold onto her family farm, while seeking to connect with her daughter, Sophia, a teenager with a fierce determination to save the planet, and who will

(MUSICAL Pg. 3)



COURTESY OF JULIA SAX

Julia Sax, a 16-year-old Chestnut Street resident and Boston Children's Chorus member who is performing in the American Repertory Theater (A.R.T) production of "WILD: A Musical Becoming" at Harvard University.

# EDITORIAL

## DON'T FORGET TO VOTE -- THE SPECIAL STATE SENATE PRIMARY IS TUESDAY

We wish to remind our readers that the Special State Primary election for the First Suffolk and Middlesex District Senate is set for this Tuesday, December 14.

Revere School Committee member Anthony D'Ambrosio and Boston City Councilor Lydia Edwards are running in the Democratic Primary for the Senate seat that was held by Joseph Boncore of Winthrop, who stepped down from office in order to take a job in the private sector.

Both Mr. D'Ambrosio and Ms. Edwards are young, energetic candidates who have been working hard in the run-up to the Democratic primary.

We urge all of our readers to take the time either to vote early (consult your local city or town clerk for times and dates) or on election day itself on Tuesday.

A democracy only works if we, the people, participate in the electoral process -- so please be sure to get out and vote.

## CHARLIE BAKER WILL BE MISSED

There has been a lot of speculation by the pundits as to the reasons behind Governor Charlie Baker's decision not to run for re-election in 2022, but we think it comes down simply to this: Gov. Baker is burned-out, similar to so many of his fellow Baby Boomers (including the older members of Generation X) who are retiring from both the public and private sectors amidst what is being called the Great Resignation.

In our mind's eye, we still think of Gov. Baker as the youthful man from the campaign trail in 2013, but the reality is that Gov. Baker just turned 65 years old.

He ain't a kid anymore.

And as so many other Baby Boomers are coming to realize, there is a lot more to life than work, especially when work no longer is fun.

We think it is telling that Lieut. Governor Karyn Polito -- who at 55 is a Gen Xer -- also announced that she has no plans to run for governor, which was actually more surprising than Gov. Baker's announcement. The Lieut. Gov., who is part of the Baker team that consistently has been among the most-popular governorships in the country, would have been a strong candidate to make history as the first female governor in state history.

But after eight years as an highly-active Lieut. Gov., it is clear that Polito has no desire to occupy the corner office at the State House.

But regardless of Gov. Baker's reasons for not seeking re-election, there is no disputing that Charlie Baker has been a great governor who has accomplished great things for our state, even amidst an unprecedented pandemic.

His ability to work with Democrats in the Mass. legislature, amidst an era of unprecedented political rancor at the national level, will be regarded as a shining example for future governors, regardless of party, to follow.

## GUEST OP-ED

### What about the other Ethan Crumbleys?

Dr. Glenn Mollette

We are unfortunately informed once again of another horrific, senseless school shooting. They don't stop. When will the next one be? Who will be the next shooter and who will be the next unsuspecting victims?

Once again, American kids go to school to pursue education and American life but are murdered by a classmate while walking the hallway or sitting in a class. This has to stop. Will it ever?

According to news reports, on November 30, 2021, Ethan Crumbley, a fifteen-year-old, took the lives of four schoolmates and injured seven others at Oxford High School, a Detroit, Michigan suburb.

Crumbley has once again reminded us of the horrific outcomes of mental illness and the importance of parents, teachers, churches and communities working together to protect each other.

According to news reports, the Oxford school was alerted to Crumbley's disturbing social media posts, drawings depicting violence, and other actions that had called for his parents to come to the school for a serious talk about their child. Reports of the parents buying a semi-automatic weapon for their son's Christmas present and taking him to a shooting range for practice is revealing their denial of, as well their failure to address, their son's problems.

My dad gave me some shotgun lessons when I was growing up. I was turned loose in the hills of Appalachia to hunt for squirrels at the age of 12 with a hunting license. Parents teaching their children to shoot a weapon and hunt are as old as our nation. However, parents should never provide their children access to guns when there are obvious warnings of mental illness.

Past school shooters have talked about being bullied by classmates or not fitting into any of the school social groups. Rejection, being bullied, failure to make the school team or feeling outright mistreated makes anyone feel bad, dejected and disappointed. Such feelings should be a push to any of us to look at ourselves to see how we either must adjust, change, work harder, problem solve as to what is happening or even find a different school or community in which to live. Hurting others never resolves anything and only increases our pain, darkness and sentences the rest of our lives to prison or regret of how we handled our feelings.

School can be a difficult life learning ground. What we face in the local school often is only preparing us for what we may face at the office, the factory, the workplace and the neighborhood. Throughout life we know everyone is not going to like us, accept us, applaud us or even try to get along with us. There are always people who don't like us.

However, there are people who will affirm, support, and befriend us. Sometimes it just takes a while to find those communities, houses of faith, social groups, and others with whom we can emotionally connect.

The Ethan Crumbleys of the world are sad, scary and wreak destruction. They need help now. His life and many other lives are forever destroyed. Apparently, his parents were living in some sort of disconnected denial of what their son was really about to do to himself, them and many others.

Schools and work places must have all authority to protect themselves quickly. Oxford school officials were alarmed by some of his actions. They were trying to work with the parents. Looking back, he should have been escorted out of the school and barred from its grounds until a professional counselor had given written permission for his return. I know, hindsight is always 20/20.

Sadly, for those who are now dead, it's too late. Maybe the other Ethan Crumbleys can be stopped today, right now, before it's too late.

*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.*

## Community-based nonprofits to receive grants

By Dan Murphy

Through the Beacon Hill Community Fund -- now in its third year -- the Beacon Hill Civic Association will award annual grants to 10 deserving community-based nonprofit organizations in this current cycle.

These grants include \$3,000 to the West End Museum to aid in making its in-person programming digitally accessible; \$2,500 to the Friday Night Supper Program to help with its weekly homeless dinner service program; \$5,000 to Tunefoolery Music, Inc., to fund its ongoing work at the Lindemann Mental Health

Center for homeless individuals; \$5,000 to Old West Church, United Methodist Church to support the OWC Food Forest to provide meals to food and housing insecure neighbors; - \$5,000 to Common Cathedral (Ecclesia Ministries, Inc.) to purchase food for the Boston Warm day center; ) - \$3,000 to Action for Boston Community Development (ABCD) to support meal delivery to low-income North End and West End neighbors; ) -\$1,000 to Art Resource Collaborative for Kids (ARCK) to support arts integration programs to under-resourced Boston Public School youth; -\$2,000 to Chris-

topher's Haven to fund the Loft, a place for cancer patients and their families in the West End; and \$1,000 to Rogerson Communities to fund a pandemic time capsule project reflecting on the effects of Covid-19 on elderly neighbors living there.

Rob Whitney, chair of the BHCA board of directors, said the group received around 30 applications for grants, of which ultimately 10 were selected.

"We're thrilled to be able to offer a good amount of funds this year to applicants," he said, "and we hope to be able to continue doing so in the coming years."

# THE BEACON HILL TIMES

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**ELECTION** (from pg. 1)

an impressive showing with more than 5,000 votes during his first run for political office.

**Where to Vote in Beacon Hill**

The following are the polling locations in Beacon Hill broken down in order of Precincts. All Beacon Hill polling locations will be open between 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 14. Ballots will be available in English, Spanish, Chinese and Vietnamese. Language assistance will be available on Election Day by translators at polling locations or by contacting the Election Department's translation phone bank.

Ward 5, Precinct 3, State House - 24 Beacon St. Vote in Hearing Room B1 in the basement. Voter entrance on Bowdoin Street through Ashburton Park, Door # 16.

Ward 5, Precinct 4, West End Library - 151 Cambridge St. Vote in the community room.

Ward 5, Precinct 5, Hill House Community Center - 127 Mount Vernon St. Vote in the community room inside fire doors.

**In-Person Early Voting**

In-person early voting for the December 14 Primary began in Boston on Saturday, December 4. Voters will still be able to vote early in-person for the senate race at City Hall on Thursday, Decem-

ber 9 from 9 a.m. - 8 p.m. and Friday, December 10: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Note that Friday is the last day of in-person early voting.

**Vote by Mail Ballots Drop Boxes**

The City of Boston has also installed ballot drop boxes for voters to drop off completed vote by mail ballots.

The Ballot Drop Box location closest to Beacon Hill would be on the first and third floor entrances of Boston City Hall. All drop boxes are monitored under 24 hour video surveillance. Drop boxes will also be available at each early voting location during the scheduled voting hours.

Applications for vote by mail ballots have been mailed out to every registered voter in Boston. Voters are asked to fill out the application, including their signature, as applications received without a signature will not be accepted.

Vote by mail applications can be returned by U.S. mail with the prepaid postcard or in-person at the Boston Election Department, City Hall, Room 241.

If a registered Boston voter did not receive or lost their application, they can request a new ballot application by completing the form available on the City's vote-by-mail website. The form can be

sent to the City of Boston's Election Department, via mail, email, fax, or in-person. The Boston Election Department is located at Boston City Hall, City Hall Square, Room 241, Boston, MA 02201. Fax: 617-635-4483, Tel: 617-635-VOTE (8683). Email: [absenteevoter@boston.gov](mailto:absenteevoter@boston.gov)

**Vote By Mail**

The Election Department sent out vote by mail ballots to those who requested one. Once a voter receives their ballot package, they should follow the enclosed instructions. It is important to sign the yellow ballot affidavit envelope. Unsigned ballot affidavit envelopes will cause a ballot to be rejected. To return ballots by U.S. mail, make sure to apply sufficient postage. While ballot package weight can vary, two First Class stamps is generally sufficient.

To be counted, ballots must be received by the Boston Election Department or in a ballot drop box by the close of polls on Election Day, Tuesday, December 14 at 8 p.m.

**Tracking Your Ballot**

Boston voters can track their ballot request through the state's website. For more information on how to participate in the Special Election, please visit [boston.gov/election](http://boston.gov/election).

**TRASH** (from pg. 1)

would support the day change if the city would also change the pickup time to later in the morning."

The Civic Association supports the later pickup time, said Whitney, which it believes would "reduce rodents, increase cleanliness on Beacon Hill, and make it a better neighborhood."

Moreover, the Civic Association for years has been encouraging residents to leave their trash out in the morning, as opposed to on the night before, because of rodents and garbage blowing in the street, among other issues.

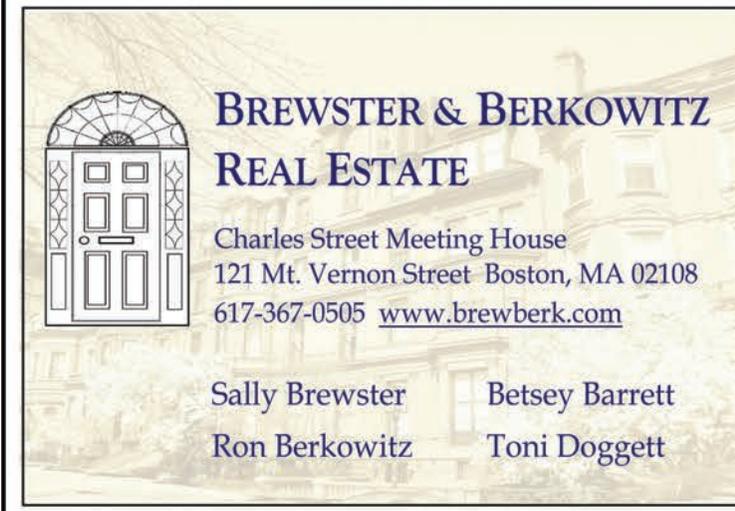
"Most people put out their trash the night before when the pickup time is at 6 a.m., but when it was at 7 a.m., the Civic Association

worked long and hard to get people to do it the morning of, and we had a lot of luck with compliance," said Whitney.

Whitney is now optimistic that the Civic Association can work with the city and neighbors to settle on trash and recycling pickup times that are mutually beneficial for all parties involved.

"We're anxious to work with the new administration to see if we can affect change in pickup time to benefit the community," he said.

The city, meanwhile, is currently evaluating the results of the Civic Association's survey to assess how potential changes to their curbside collection schedule would affect the overall citywide operational plan.



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**MUSICAL** (from pg. 1)

be portrayed by YDE, an actress whose previous credits include "The Haunted Hathaways" and "School of Rock."

"Boston Children's Chorus is thrilled to be part of the ART's production of 'WILD' for more reasons than I can count," said BCC Executive Director Andrés Holder in a press release. "The opportunity to showcase the incredible talent of BCC singers alongside one of the premiere Broadway performers of our time is reason enough to be excited. But to be participating in a show that highlights the power of advocacy and the impact of the next generation directly connects to BCC's season-long theme of climate justice. We're proud to partner with ART to draw attention to the voices of young people who are speaking up to combat the climate crisis."

Preview of "WILD," which were open to the public, began on Sunday, Dec. 5, in anticipation of the official opening-night performance on Thursday, Dec. 9. "WILD" then runs through Jan. 2, although Menzel will only be performing through Dec. 23. And

as a member of one of two ensemble groups, Sax will be on hand for 11 performances between Dec. 14 and 29.

Now in her sixth year with BCC, Sax joined the group at around the age of 10 or 11. She appeared a couple of years ago in a BCC production called "I am a Dreamer who No Longer Dreams" at the Paramount Theatre, which she described as a "large-scale production" despite the absence of any big names.

"WILD," meanwhile, takes on the theme of climate justice as the BCC is gearing up for the second season of Opus Nuovo, a project that commissions new work from composers of color revolving around a theme that resonates with BCC's youth singers. And this year's theme, "Now Is the Time," features music focusing on the climate emergency, while climate justice is the central theme of all BCC's 2021-22 programming.

"[Combating climate change] is something that's very important to me," said Sax, who added that she often encourages her parents to cut down on their consump-

tion, especially when it comes to purchasing items that they'll likely later return.

But Sax also said she doesn't want the play's somewhat grave subject matter to discourage any potential audience members for taking in "WILD."

"Yes, it's about the climate crisis, and we hope that [the audience] gets the message, but it's also just a really incredible show," she said. "And having seen it multiple times in run-throughs and rehearsals, I can say it's really amazing, and I think it's going to do really well."

And Sax is also not alone in predicting a glowing public response to "WILD."

Her father, Laurence Sax, accompanied Julia to the first preview show on Sunday, and while he is typically no fan of musicals, he turned to Julia after hearing one of the numbers, "Take Us with You" performed by two teenage cast members, and said, "It's going to be a hit."

Tickets for "WILD" are now available at <http://www.american-repertorytheater.org/wild>.



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# Norman Herr remembered at Cushing Park tree-lighting

By Dan Murphy

The Friends of Richard Cardinal Cushing Memorial Park sponsored its 25th annual tree-lighting while also remembering the event's founder, the late Norman Herr, on Saturday, Dec. 4, in the park located at the corner of Cambridge and Bowdoin Streets.

The tradition began when Herr, a community activist in the West End, as well as in the North End who died at age 76 in June of this year, organized the first tree lighting in December of 1995 in the park.

This year's interfaith event drew 10 participants from the West End, St. Joseph Parish, and Suffolk University communities, including Bryan Glasscock, a friend of Herr's for about 30 years.

Glasscock got to know him when he was working for the city's Environmental Department and Herr would regularly visit his office to voice his concerns regarding potential air and noise pollution.

"He'd come to my office nearly

every week with a new problem, and we'd try to fix it," said Glasscock, who added he was "appreciative [of Herr] as a community activist."

And when Herr first told him of his plans for the first tree-lighting at Cushing Park, Glasscock said he eagerly hopped on board and is now "happy to carry on the tradition."

Jim Nelson, retired athletic director from Suffolk University, got to know Herr around 20 years ago when they served together on the Community Impact Community for the redevelopment of Charles River Plaza. The two quickly became "good friends," said Nelson, who soon became involved with Herr's tree-lighting efforts as well.

Martha Maguire, a longtime fixture of the West End community, has been involved with the annual tree-lighting efforts for around the past 10 years and said she had made a promise to Herr that she would continue helping out with the annual tree-lighting "for as long as I'm here."



PHOTOS BY D. MURPHY

Jim Nelson, retired athletic director from Suffolk University, leading the group at Saturday's tree-lighting at Richard Cardinal Cushing Park.

Likewise, Gil Boule, who has been involved in the tree-lighting for "at least 15 years," said Herr has planned the event "in a way that things would continue even in the case that he didn't."

Before the pandemic, the tree-lighting celebration also included a gathering at One Bowdoin Square, which drew local children and included a visit from Santa Claus, as well as Christmas carols and musical performances. (While the tree, which was donated by the city, was lit for the holidays last year, there was no gathering for the occasion due to the ongoing pandemic.)

In the new year, a plaque will be installed in Herr's honor beside the tree in the New Year, which would be emblazoned with his name and the dates of his birth and death (Oct. 18, 1934 – June 6, 2021) while acknowledging his role as a "community activist," said Fr. Joe White of St. Joseph Parish, who was also on hand for the event.



The tree decorated for the holidays in Richard Cardinal Cushing Park.

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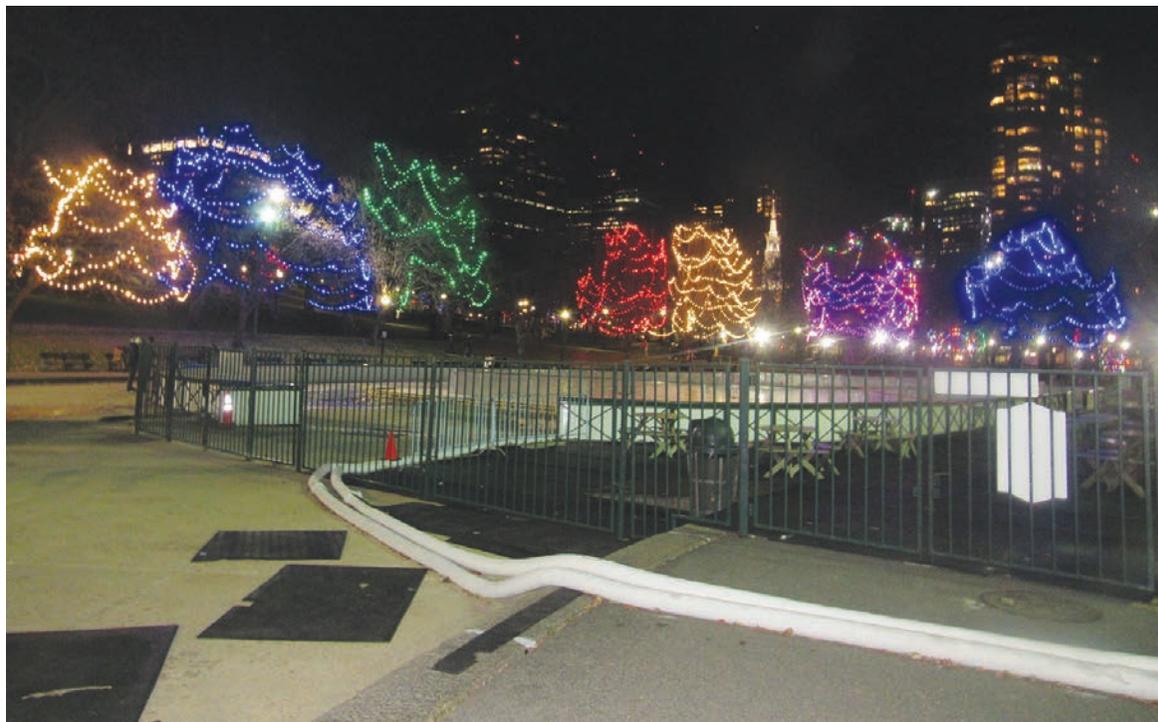
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# CITY PARKS SHINING BRIGHTLY FOR THE HOLIDAYS



D. MURPHY PHOTOS

The Christmas tree on the Common.

The Boston Common (photos left and below).



A SHORT STORY ABOUT GROWING UP WITH AN UNFAIR ADVANTAGE.

POLIO.

As one of the last American children to contract polio, Jeffrey Galpin grew up in a world of iron lungs and body casts, alone with his imagination. His story would be dramatic enough if it was just about his battle with this dreaded disease.

But Jeffrey Galpin did more than survive polio. He went on to a list of achievements in medical research—including being the principal investigator in applying the first gene therapy for HIV/AIDS.

Dr. Galpin actually credits his own incurable condition for giving him the focus that made him so passionate in his research. His story leaves us with two of the most contagious messages we know. Don't give up, and remember to give back. If Dr. Galpin's story inspires just one more person to make a difference, then its telling here has been well worth while.



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# BEACON HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION SPONSORS HOLIDAY DECORATING



Elliot Isen and Joseph Sizemore look decorated themselves but it's the city streets that will get the garland.

The Beacon Hill Civic Association thanks all who turned out for the annual Holiday Decorating!

An amazing turnout of over 100 volunteers showed up last weekend to decorate the 1,100 gas lamps for the holidays. A great weekend was had by all!



Neighbors Katherine Blanco, Marisa Bardbi, Natalie Crook, and Mary Kate Morani stock up on garland materials.



Nano and Caroline (right) Eliopoulos with Paris Geraniotis are ready to spread some Holiday cheer.



Joe Govern fizes some garland to a lamppost on River Street.



Michael McCord has his supply of garland and ribbon to put up.

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# Wu announces new COVID-19 advisory committee

Mayor Michelle Wu announced her COVID-19 Advisory Committee, a group of doctors, public health professionals and multidisciplinary leaders who will assist in decision-making around tackling new variants and working to end the pandemic in Boston. The Committee will be chaired by Dr. Bisola Ojikutu, Executive Director of the Boston Public Health Commission, who was elevated to a cabinet-level role under Mayor Wu. These leaders have backgrounds ranging from Medical Director at a large public hospital to restaurateur.

The full list is as follows:

- Chair, Dr. Bisola Ojikutu
- Dr. Sabrina A. Assoumou, MD, Louis W. Sullivan Professor of Medicine, Boston University School of Medicine
- Dr. Kizzmekia Corbett, Assistant Professor of Immunology and Infectious Diseases, Harvard School of Public Health
- Louis Elisa, President of the Garrison-Trotter Neighborhood Association, member of the Black Boston COVID-19 Coalition
- Paola García, Community Relations Manager, Tufts Health Plan
- Yvonne Garcia, Chief of Staff, State Street
- Temple Gill, Director of Public Affairs and Strategic Partnerships, Huntington Theater Company
- Nia Grace, co-founder, Boston Black Hospitality Coalition, owner of The Underground Cafe + Lounge and Darryl's Corner Bar & Kitchen
- Dr. Julia Koehler, MD, Boston Children's Hospital, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Harvard Medical School
- Amy Latimer, President, TD Garden
- Brian Moy, restaurateur and owner of Sh j and Ruckus
- Dinanyili Paulino, Chief Operations Officer, La Colaborativa
- Dr. Cassandra Pierre, MD, MPH, MSc, Medical Director, Public Health Programs, Boston Medical Center
- Jake Sullivan, Vice President for Government and Community Affairs, Boston University
- Tony Tjan, Chairman and CoFounder, Miniluxe
- Reverend Liz Walker, Senior Pastor, Roxbury Presbyterian Church
- Dr. Sandro Galea, MD, MPH, DrPH, Robert A. Knox Professor at Boston University School of Public Health.
- Dr. Joseph Betancourt, MD, MPH, Senior Vice President, Equity and Community Health at Massachusetts General Hospital.

"I'm grateful to these leaders for their willingness to serve the public in this pivotal moment. We have both a responsibility and an opportunity to take on our biggest public health challenges, and take every action possible to protect our residents and end this pandemic. I look forward to working with and receiving the wisdom of this dedicated group," said Mayor Michelle Wu.

"Boston is taking an aggressive, public health approach that will keep city residents safe, our children in school, and our local businesses open. The diverse makeup of this committee is yet another example of Mayor Wu's commitment to ending the pandemic and addressing the significant health care inequities in our city. COVID-19 cases are surging here and across the country, making it a critically important time to get vaccines and boosters to as many people as possible, especially in communities where vaccine and booster rates are troublingly low. I am confident that Mayor Wu's leadership and the insights of the Advisory Committee put us in a very strong position to end the COVID-19 pandemic in Boston," said Dr. Bisola Ojikutu, Executive Director of the Boston Public Health Commission and Chair of the COVID-19 Advisory Committee.

The current data send a clear message to our city residents: get vaccinated, get boosted, get tested if you have symptoms, and continue to take precautions, such as wearing masks when indoors and while traveling, washing your hands, and limiting the size of holiday gatherings. There are currently 88,990 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Boston. Emergency department visits have increased by 6 percent over the past week, positive tests are up 15 percent over the last two weeks, and hospitalizations have increased by 28

percent during the last two weeks. New positive tests are up to 191.6 per day in the last week, above BPHC's goal of 67.9 positive tests per week. Community based testing is also down by 23 percent in the last week. Getting tested continues to be very important, especially during the holiday season. There is reason for optimism however, as the number of booster doses administered increased by at

least 15 percent over a one week period (82,173 to 94,274) and the proportion of fully vaccinated individuals has increased to 67.1 percent.

Racial disparities in vaccination and particularly booster rates in Boston remain a serious area of concern. Black residents account for only 13.4 percent of the boosters administered and Latinx residents account for just 9.4 per-

cent. Similarly, over white children account for over 57 percent of vaccinations for children ages 5-11, as compared to 10.2 percent for Latinx children and 7.8 percent for Black children. Both Mayor Wu and the Boston Public Health Commission have made reducing these disparities a major priority in the City's efforts to end the pandemic.

## LEGAL NOTICES

### LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT Suffolk Probate And Family Court 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 (617)788-8300 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION Docket No. SU21P2540EA

Estate of: Carolyn Livingstone Date of Death: 09/10/2020

To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Philip J. Davis of Boston, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Philip J. Davis of Boston, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration. IMPORTANT NOTICE You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at

the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 01/14/2022. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC) A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.

Date: December 03, 2021 Felix D. Arroyo Register of Probate 12/09/21 BH

### LEGAL NOTICE

ExteNet Systems, Inc. is proposing to construct a 24-foot tall overall height replacement light pole telecommunications structure at 44-58 Savin Hill Avenue, Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts (N42° 18' 48.2", W71° 03' 25.3"). ExteNet Systems, Inc. invites comments from any interested party on the impact the proposed undertaking may have on any districts, sites, buildings, structures, or objects significant in American history, archaeology, engineering, or culture that are listed or determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Comments may be sent to Environmental Corporation of America, ATTN: Annamarie Howell, 1375 Union Hill Industrial Court, Suite A, Alpharetta, GA 30004 or via email to publicnotice@eca-usa.com. Ms. Howell can be reached at (770) 667-2040 x 405 during normal business hours. Comments must be received within 30 days

of the date of this notice. X2312/ENH 12/9/21 BH

### LEGAL NOTICE

ExteNet Systems, Inc. is proposing to construct a 24-foot tall overall height replacement light pole telecommunications structure at 72-76 Prince Street, Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts (N42° 21' 54.6", W71° 03' 19.9"). ExteNet Systems, Inc. invites comments from any interested party on the impact the proposed undertaking may have on any districts, sites, buildings, structures, or objects significant in American history, archaeology, engineering, or culture that are listed or determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Comments may be sent to Environmental Corporation of America, ATTN: Annamarie Howell, 1375 Union Hill Industrial Court, Suite A, Alpharetta, GA 30004 or via email to publicnotice@eca-usa.com. Ms. Howell can be reached at (770) 667-2040 x 405 during normal business hours. Comments must be received within 30 days of the date of this notice. X2311/ENH

### LEGAL NOTICE

ExteNet Systems, Inc. is proposing to construct a 24-foot tall overall height small cell telecommunications structure at 4280-A4280 Washington Street, Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts (N42° 17' 5.5", W71° 07' 46.8"). ExteNet Systems, Inc. invites comments from any interested party on the impact the proposed undertaking may have on any districts, sites, buildings, structures, or objects significant in American history, archaeology, engineering, or culture that are listed or determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Comments may be sent to Environmental Corporation of America, ATTN: Annamarie Howell, 1375 Union Hill Industrial Court, Suite A, Alpharetta, GA 30004 or via email to publicnotice@eca-usa.com. Ms. Howell can be reached at (770) 667-2040 x 405 during normal business hours. Comments must be received within 30 days of the date of this notice. X2313 DLS

12/9/21 BH

12/9/21 BH

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# BEACON HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION SPONSORS HOLIDAY DECORATING



Elliot Isen hangs some garland up on River Street.



Janelle Berry poses by a decorated lamp post on River Street.



BHCA Executive Director Patricia Tully (far left) shows volunteers how to best work the garlands around the light posts.

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and Marius Gallitano**

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Many visitors came to the Hill House for their Christmas Tree fundraiser.



BHCA Executive Director Patricia Tully (5th from right) with volunteers.

# BEACON HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION SPONSORS HOLIDAY DECORATING



Volunteers Chris Young and Bill Moran are cutting trees sold for Hill House.



Craig Cochran takes a picture of his daughter Lola and Coco by a row of Christmas Trees.



Jennie, Patrick, and Matthew Young make their way home from the Hill House with an impressive Christmas Tree haul.



BHCA Executive Director Patricia Tully is pleased at the turnout of volunteers and support for decorating Beacon Hill for the Holidays.

## From our home to yours, we wish you a happy holiday season!

As your neighbors in Beacon Hill with over 25 years of local, downtown Boston real estate experience, we see ourselves as stewards of an incredibly special community. Our affiliation with Boston's leading brokerage, paired with the worldwide reach of Sotheby's International Realty, gives our clients access to qualified buyers and distinctive properties anywhere. **We are your local experts, globally connected and poised to guide you on your journey, no matter where you are or where you want to be.**

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Judy Luke returns home with a wreath acquired from Hill House.



Joe Govern fizes some garland to a lampost on River Street.



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### Open Houses

November 1 at 6:00 PM (In Person)  
December 9 at 9:00 AM (Virtual)

"Talk to Us Tuesdays" (Virtual)  
October - December at 10:30 AM



Register at [www.parkstreetschool.org](http://www.parkstreetschool.org)

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## BEACON HILL ARCHITECTURAL COMMISSION

The Beacon Hill Architectural Commission will hold a ZOOM public hearing on Dec. 16, at 5 p.m.

Subject of the hearing will be applications for Certificates of Design Approval on the agenda below, reviews of architectural violations, and such businesses as may come before the commission, in accordance with Chapter 616 of the Acts of 1955 of the Massachusetts General Law as amended. Applications are available for review during business hours at the office of the

Environment Department. Applicants or their representatives are required to attend, unless indicated otherwise below. Sign language interpreters are available upon request.

Attention: This hearing will only be held virtually and NOT in person. You can participate in this hearing by going to: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83402186776> or calling 1 (929) 205-6099 and entering meeting id # 834 0218 6776. You can also submit written comments or questions to [BeaconHillAC@boston.gov](mailto:BeaconHillAC@boston.gov).

I. Violations  
5:00 VIO # 21.068 BH 29  
Pinckney Street

Applicant: Alex Ehrlich  
Proposed Work: Ratification of unapproved window replacement

II. Design Review Hearing  
5:10 APP # 22.0663 BH 83  
Mount Vernon Street

Applicant: Marc Beaulieu  
Proposed Work: New viewing platform

5:25 APP # 22.0661 BH 77  
Chestnut Street

Applicant: Eduardo Serrate  
Proposed Work: Install new door handle, house number, pendant light, and intercom/keypad

5:40 APP # 22.0660 BH 28  
Pinckney Street

Applicant: Sander A. Rikleen  
Proposed Work: Alter garage door opening previously approved by the Commission

5:55 APP # 22.0658 BH 71  
Charles Street

Applicant: Monika Pauli  
Proposed Work: Replace the existing front door with an exact replica in mahogany with glass panels on top

6:10 APP # 22.0656 BH 38  
Pinckney Street

Applicant: Monika Pauli  
Proposed Work: Replace existing picket fence roof deck rail with wrought iron metal rail, replace lattice screen

6:25 APP # 22.0650 BH 20  
Pinckney Street

Applicant: Clemens Reinshagen  
Proposed Work: Replace existing picket fence roof deck rail with wrought iron metal rail, replace lattice screen

6:40 APP # 22.0642 BH 73  
Myrtle Street:

Applicant: Gerald Sprague  
Proposed Work: Remove and rebuilt deck

6:55 APP # 22.0637 BH 44  
Phillips Street:

Applicant: Maria Correa  
Proposed Work: Add addition and roof deck at roof level

7:10 APP # 22.0576 BH 131  
Charles Street:

Applicant: Carolyn Thayer  
Proposed Work: New Sign

7:25 APP # 22.0688 BH 11  
Irving Street

Applicant: Roy Harriman  
Proposed Work: Relocate intercom to ratify the existing, unapproved buzzer

7:40 APP # 22.0683 BH 14  
Beacon Street

Applicant: Richard Thuma

Proposed Work: New rooftop equipment, ratification of stand-pipe violation

7:55 APP # 22.0686 BH 8  
Spruce Court

Applicant: Frank McGuire

Proposed Work: Replace all historic windows visible from a public street, restore iron work elements including cowbell doorbell, safety grates, remove exterior egress access, repair stucco on exterior.

8:10 APP # 22.0554 BH 160  
Mount Vernon Street

Applicant: Elliott Olson  
Proposed Work: new light fixture

III. Administrative Review/Approval: In order to expedite the review process, the commission has delegated the approval of certain work items, such as those involving ordinary maintenance and repair, restoration or replacement, or which otherwise have a minimal impact on a building's appearance, to commission staff pending ratification at its monthly public hearing. Having been identified as meeting these eligibility criteria and all applicable guidelines, the following applications will be approved at this hearing:

Applicants whose projects are listed under this heading Need Not Appear at the hearing. Following the hearing, you will be issued a Determination Sheet to present at the Inspectional Services Department (1010 Massachusetts Avenue) as proof of project approval when applying for permits. ISD personnel will send an electronic copy of your building-permit application to the commission staff for review. (To avoid potential confusion, the text of your building-permit application should be consistent with the project descrip-

tion given below.)

Commission staff will accordingly authorize the execution of the work, attaching any applicable provisos, reflecting the relevant guidelines and precedents.

Please Note That Following Issuance Of The Determination Sheet No Further Correspondence Will Be Issued For The Applications Listed Below.

The electronic building-permit application as annotated by commission staff will constitute your Certificate of Appropriateness; this will be valid for two years from the date of the approval letter.

The applicant is required to notify the commission of any project changes; failure to do so may affect the status of the approval.

If you have any questions not addressed by the above information, please contact staff at 617.635.3850 or [BeaconHillAC@boston.gov](mailto:BeaconHillAC@boston.gov) Thank you.

APP # 22.0555 BH 35 Beacon Street: Install tree guard in the design that the

Commission approves  
APP # 22.0545 BH 41 Beacon Street: Replace a non-historic, 6 over 6, wood dormer window with a 6 over 6, true divided light, wood window

APP # 22.0515 BH 49 Beacon Street: Replace mansard roof trim on the left of the roof in kind

APP # 22.0565 BH 54A Cedar Street: Repoint brick at entrance of courtyard.

Mortar type and tooling to match historic

APP # 22.0636 BH 77 Chestnut Street: Install new groundwater recharge well access cover

APP # 22.0649 BH 10 Hancock Street: Seal and repaint window trim on exterior to match existing; color is Navajo White

APP # 22.0492 BH 17 Hancock Street: Repaint front steps in kind BM 70 Light Gray

APP # 22.0577 BH 21 Hancock Street: Spot repoint front and rear of property

Mortar type and tooling to match historic specifications

APP # 22.0620 BH 36 Hancock Street: At level seven, replace two, 2 over 2, wood (non-historic) windows and two, 1 over 1, (non-historic) wood windows, true divided light with same pane configuration and window material

APP # 22.0659 BH 74 JOY STREET: Repair brickwork at Civic Association entry point as the result of a violation. Harvest brick from a location on the façade that is not within the purview of the Commission

APP # 22.0556 BH 81 Phillips Street: At front façade, level 1, replace two non-original, 6/6, wood windows with 6 over 6, wood windows, true divided light, At front façade, level one, replace one, non-historic, 4 over 4, wood window with a 4 over 4, wood, true divided light window

APP # 22.0593 BH 25 Temple Street: Repair cornice in kind

APP # 22.0604 BH 135 Myrtle Street: Restore all front façade windows

APP # 22.0598 BH 7 Walnut Street: Fire escape repair; replace damage and rusted Square Bolts, secure, hand scrape and paint black

IV. Ratification Of 10/21/2021 & 11/18/2021 Public Hearing Minutes

V. Staff Updates

VI. Projected Adjournment: 9:30 Pm

## ST. LEONARD CHURCH OF PORT MAURICE HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

The St. Leonard Church of Port Maurice on 320 Hanover Street, posts the following holiday events:  
Second Week of advent

\*December 10 - 7:30 pm Christmas Concert: Testimony of Light  
NOTE: A suggested donation of \$25.00

December 11- 6:30 pm -Advent Night of Recollection: An Awakening of Hope with the Holy Family-Fr. Michael MacGinnis

Confessions- 6:00pm -7:30pm  
Third Week of advent, Dec 12 - Dec 18, 2021

December 12, 2021 5:00pm A

Christmas Concert: "In dulci júbilo: A Baroque Christmas" featuring vocal and instrumental Christmas music from the 17th and 18th centuries. Music by Vivaldi, Scarlatti, Praetorius, and others. Free admission with a suggested donation.

December 14- 5:00pm Advent with Mary: Mass, Rosary and meeting with Ivan

December 18-11:00am All are welcome, Christmas Liturgy: Sponsored by The Italian School Di San Leonardo celebrated by Father Giadio DeBlasio, a native

Italian Priest from Boston College.  
December 18- 3:00pm

In the Peace Garden the Saint Leonard Choral Society (President Mrs. Laurie Warlock) presents a Christmas Carol Concert with Music Director Dr Dan Drzymalski.

Fourth Week of advent, Dec 19 - Dec 24, 2021

December 20, 21, 22 7:00 pm Fr. Rick Martignetti

The Gift of Jesus: A Christmas Mission

December 21- 5:00pm Advent with Mary: Mass, Rosary and

meeting with Ivan

Christmas and New Year Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve Friday, December 24, 2021

4:00 Confession  
5:00pm- Mass

December 24, 2021 Midnight Mass

Christmas Day Saturday, December 25, 2021

December 25, 2021 MASS  
9:00am

10:30am Italian  
12:00pm

New Years Eve December 31,

2021

12:05pm - Mass

5:00pm Mass St. Stephens Church (This year only)

December 31, 2021 New Years Eve

For further information

on any of these events, please

go to our St Leonard website

<https://saintleonardchurchboston.org/>

ADVERTISE IN THE TIMES. CALL 781-485-0588

# 'TIS THE SEASON AT UPSTAIRS DOWNSTAIRS HOME

Upstairs Downstairs Home at 69 Charles St. was in full swing on Thursday, Dec. 2, during the annual Beacon Hill Holiday Stroll.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MARY JO RUFO



A look outside the store.



Laura Cousineau, owner of Upstairs Downstairs Home.



Many residents were out during the Beacon Hill Holiday Stroll.



Wishing to go in.

## SEND US YOUR NEWS

The Times encourages residents to submit engagement, wedding and birth announcements, news releases, business and education briefs, sports stories and photos for publication. Items should be forwarded to our offices at 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151. Items can also be faxed to 781-485-1403. We also encourage readers to e-mail news releases and photos to [deb@reverejournal.com](mailto:deb@reverejournal.com).

**Upstairs Downstairs Home**  
 69 Charles Street, Boston MA 02114  
 617-367-1950

7 ROOMS FILLED WITH NEW AND OLD ART, ANTIQUES AND HOME DECOR

Please join local artist John Young for his holiday display on **Saturday, December 11th from 5-7 pm at 69 Charles St.** We will be featuring artwork, ornaments and holiday gifts!  
 Email [lauraupstairs@gmail.com](mailto:lauraupstairs@gmail.com) to sell antiques and silver

[@UpstairsDownstairsAntiques](https://www.instagram.com/UpstairsDownstairsAntiques)



NICHOLS HOUSE MUSEUM  
Beacon Hill  
Holiday Wreath Tour  
Sunday, December 12, 2021  
12:00 Noon – 4:00pm

An outdoor self-guided tour of festively decorated Beacon Hill homes.



To purchase tickets: [nicholshousemuseum.org/programs](http://nicholshousemuseum.org/programs) or call 617-227-6993.

# BEACON HILL HOLIDAY STROLL

By Marianne Salza

Charles Street was closed to traffic on December 2 for the Beacon Hill Holiday Stroll and tree lighting. - With its shops lined with festively decorated store fronts, neighbors and visitors snacked on chocolates and cookies as they shopped for antiques, clothing, and home décor. Cheerful crowds holding cups of marshmallow-topped hot cocoa gathered to listen to carolers and jazz musicians perform on the sidewalks.

“This is one of the most magical nights in Beacon Hill,” said Melanie Bertani, Beacon Hill resident. “This Holiday Stroll represents the joy and sense of community here. It’s something we all look forward to.”



*Vivien Shao, West End resident, and Flynn, shopping for a new Christmas collar.*



*Karen Fabbri, Brianne Guanaga, Marley MacPherson, Kara Weymouth, and Rebecca Hall, of Crush.*

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*Beacon Hill residents, Monica Diez and Pedro Mejia, owners of My Zone Blue dog treats, sold at Paws on Charles.*



*Anna Sergeychick, Anne Madden, Millicent Cutler, and Olivia, of Quimillie.*



*Carla Wabnon speaking with Annie Madden, Store Manager, at Quimillie.*

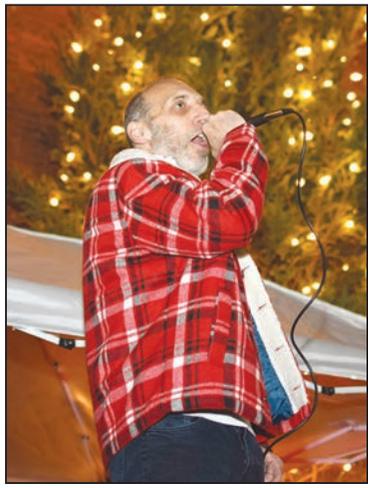
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*Beacon Hill Jazz, Jesse Mattison, Lisa Macalaster, Colescott Rubin, and Chris DiBona, performing Christmas music at The Paramount.*

# BEACON HILL HOLIDAY STROLL



John Martin, bartender at The Sevens Ale House, singing "Frosty the Snowman."



Eve Waterfall, Patrick Hickox, Jennifer Hill, owner of Blackstones, and Brigid Williams.



Jamie Brotsky, Boston resident, shopping at Crush.



Brianna and Barbara Mahoney, and Lisa and Lauren Lanzillo, Back Bay/South End residents.



Eric Jeffords and Sam Northridge in J. Grady Home Interiors.



Jennifer Dzialo, Peter Reichert, Melanie Bertani, Amanda Berger, and Scott Buckley, Beacon Hill residents.

**Vote Election Day Tuesday**  
**December 14<sup>th</sup>**

**ANTHONY D'AMBROSIO**  
 Candidate for State Senate

*"I have been blessed with a world-class education and entrusted with analyzing major financial decisions in both the public and private sector. From my experiences managing the Revere Public Schools budget of over \$100 million, to evaluating multi-billion dollar deals in the technology industry, I will bring a fresh, new perspective to the State Senate and help prepare our Commonwealth for the 21st Century."*

**Experience**

**Public Sector**

- Revere School Committee**  
Led the effort for enhanced mental health services for students; led the creation of a district wide Equity Advisory Board
- Dwight Hall Coordinator and Community Health Educator**  
Managed a 3,500-person nonprofit organization that provided community based services ranging from early childhood education to homeless relief

**Private Sector**

- Financial Analyst, Technology Industry**  
Advised on technology sector and growth strategies for some of the world's most innovative technology companies

**Education**

- University of Cambridge (U.K.), Master's Degree
- Yale University (Conn.), Bachelor's Degree

**Contact Information**

facebook.com/DambrosioForSenate  
 @AntDambrosioMA  
 www.votedambrosio.com

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Questions? Call 877-745-1930.

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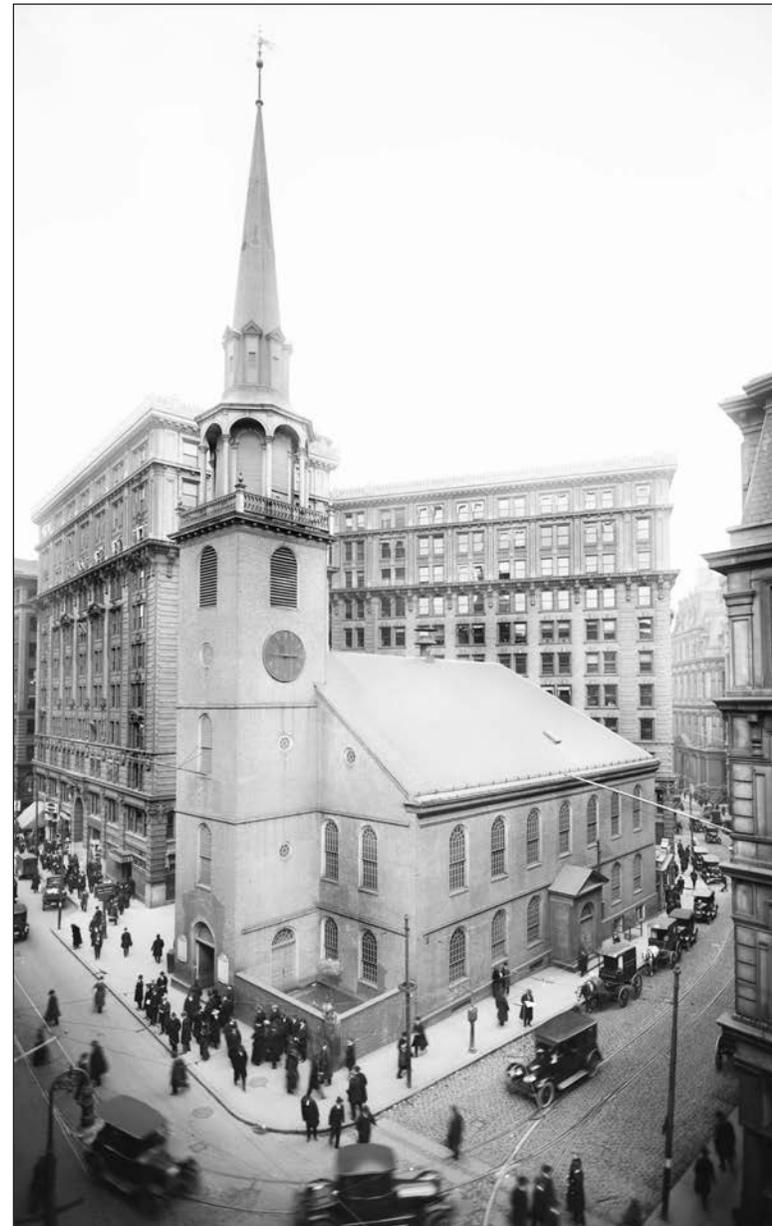
# Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
<b>BACK BAY</b>			
No Real Estate Transfers available at this time			
<b>BEACON HILL</b>			
Cai, Jason C	Rutstein, Dale	2 Goodwin Pl #3	\$524,900
Laundgren, Alexandra	Loomes, David L	112 Pinckney St #14	\$776,000
Page, Stephen W	Broberg, Hayden	40 S Russell St #1	\$1,385,000
<b>BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE</b>			
Miner, Randall	Mcinerney, Michelle	39 Warren Ave #2	\$700,000
Kamyab, Talla	Yang, Bifeng	1091 Boylston St #21	\$492,500
Mullaney, Kelsey	Morse, Matthew	510 Columbus Ave #2	\$1,190,000
Joohee-Kim, Katie	Lee, Justine T	32 Traveler St #211	\$620,000
Location Wise LLC	Angelo, Dana	1313 Washington St #416	\$745,000
<b>WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN</b>			
5-7 Battery Street CC LLC	Coppola, Pasquale	5 Battery St #1	\$3,150,000
5-7 Battery Street CC LLC	Coppola, Pasquale	5 Battery St #2	\$3,150,000
5-7 Battery Street CC LLC	Coppola, Pasquale	5 Battery St #3	\$3,150,000
5-7 Battery Street CC LLC	Coppola, Pasquale	5 Battery St #4	\$3,150,000
5-7 Battery Street CC LLC	Coppola, Pasquale	5 Battery St #5	\$3,150,000
5-7 Battery Street CC LLC	Coppola, Pasquale	5 Battery St #6	\$3,150,000
Mastrangelo, Erica	Bibikow, Walter	76 Batterymarch St #4	\$950,000
Moukaddem, Mashbour	Burke, Ronald J	85 E India Row #17A	\$604,000
Yilu, Chia	Dahia RE Hldg LLC	1 Franklin St #1105	\$1,550,000

# Attention to Detail

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY PENNY CHERUBINO

THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The clock in the last clue is on the Old South Meeting House which served a Puritan congregation in 1729. Today's answer is a photo from June 30, 1920, by photographer Leon H. Abdalian. Last May, Boston Magazine published a walking tour of the public clocks in this area which is available on their website.

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

## Beacon Hill, surrounding area's COVID cases decrease

By John Lynds

Just as expected and like health officials warned, the city's weekly COVID positive test rate exploded last week with the majority of new cases most likely traced back to the Thanksgiving Holiday where many gathered indoors maskless with friends and family.

However, Beacon Hill and the surrounding area's weekly positive test rate decreased slightly but around 700 people less got tested than the week of Thanksgiving.

According to the weekly report released Monday by the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC), 1,955 Beacon Hill, North End, Back Bay, West End and Downtown residents were tested and 3.1 percent were positive. This was a 11 percent decrease from the 3.5 percent that tested positive between November 22 and November 29 but over 2,700 resi-

dents were tested during that time.

The citywide weekly positive test rate increased dramatically last week. According to the BPHC 21,26 residents were tested and 5.2 percent were COVID positive--this was a 30 percent increase from the 4 percent reported by the BPHC on November 29.

In response to the latest uptick in cases as well as hospitalizations across the city, Mayor Michelle Wu announced Monday that Boston health officials will distribute 20,000 free rapid antigen home tests and free masks to neighborhoods with the highest rates of COVID-19. Wu also appointed a 17-member advisory board to help city health officials combat the latest rise in COVID cases.

"We're now entering year three of this public health emergency with new variants continuing to emerge and it is clear that we need leadership from every sector to

help us take on this public health crisis with immediate steps," said Wu at a press conference at City Hall.

Sixty-one additional residents have been infected with the virus between November 29 and December 6 and the total number of cases in the area increased to 4,679 cases overall since the pandemic began.

The statistics released by the BPHC as part of its weekly 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 2.9 percent last week and went from 87,674 cases to 90,193 confirmed cases in a week. There were six additional deaths in Boston from the virus in the past week and the total COVID deaths is now at 1,473.

## THIS WEEK'S CLUE



# Beacon Hill cycling community shows up for small businesses

Special to the Times

At last week's Beacon Hill Holiday Stroll, the cycling community of Beacon Hill made a strong turn out in support of the local businesses on Charles Street. This community was excited to connect with some of their favorite businesses on Charles Street.

The Beacon Hill cycling community delivered handwritten holiday cards to various local businesses on Charles Street, including Gus & Ruby Letterpress, J Grady Home, Beacon Hill Chocolates, Charles Street Supply, and Sloane Merrill Gallery. The cycling community loves these businesses and all the ways they contribute to the neighborhood.

Zach Gold, a Beacon Hill resident and cyclist, said, "[The Holiday Stroll] reinforced how important the shops and restaurants along Charles Street are as pillars of our community as well as how accessible they can be when pedestrians and cyclists are given priority on the street. Not only is a protected two-way bike lane on Charles Street a smart move for the environment and the overall transportation infrastructure in Boston, but it will also make the street safer and more accessible while driving more patrons to local businesses."



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ALEX SHAMES

Michelle and John Adams. Michelle is an MGH nurse who commutes via bike on Charles Street daily.

John and Michelle Adams said, "We really enjoyed the stroll last night. It was nice to see people strolling and biking to all the great shops with no traffic to worry about! And the businesses were busy!"

Michelle is a nurse at MGH who commutes via bike. Michelle would like a two-way protected bike lane installed on Charles Street so that pedestrians can feel more protected from bikes on Charles Street and so she can more

easily stop at her favorite businesses on the way to and from work, including Bin 26 Enoteca.

The Beacon Hill cycling community is urging the Beacon Hill Civic Association to add an agenda item to an upcoming meeting for residents to discuss the possibility of a bike lane on Charles Street. Adding a bike lane on Charles Street would make the street safer, greener, and more economically robust for everyone. Bike lanes reduce conflicts between people



Allison Carter, manager of Gus & Ruby Letterpress, with two cyclists.

walking and biking, by giving cyclists a specific space to ride.

Beacon Hill residents can join the 100+ of their neighbors who

have signed a petition, written by a Beacon Hill resident, in support of a Charles St bike lane by going to [bostoncyclistsunion.org/Charles](http://bostoncyclistsunion.org/Charles).



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