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Mayor Michelle Wu administers the oath of office to the Boston City Council. At-large Councilors include sitting Councilors Michael Flaherty and Julia Mejia, along with new Councilors Ruthzee Louijeune and Erin Murphy. Districts 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, and 9 will be represented by sitting Councilors Lydia Edwards, Ed Flynn, Frank Baker, Ricardo Arroyo, Kenzie Bok, and Liz Breadon, respectively. Brian Worrell is a new Councilor who will represent District 4, Kendra Hicks is a new Councilor who will represent District 6, and Tania Fernandes Anderson is a new Councilor who will represent District 7. More photos on Pages 6 and 7.

Mayor Wu swears in City Council Delivers speech noting the diversity of the governing body

By John Lynds

On Monday, in one of the shortest and perhaps the coldest Boston City Council inaugurations in recent history, Boston Mayor Michelle Wu swore in returning and new members of the Council outside City Hall.

Due to the rising number of COVID cases the event was moved

outdoors for safety reasons and with a brisk chill in the air the entire inauguration was over in less than a half hour.

After swearing in the 12 members of the Council, Mayor Wu addressed the body and noted the historic significance of the day.

“This year marks 200 years since the Town of Boston official-ly became the City of Boston and

created its very first city council 200 years ago,” Mayor Wu began. “Those first 55 city councilors looked different from the body that we have just inaugurated today. One hundred years after the city council was created there still were no women and no people of color serving in the City of Boston. So as we mark this new year, it’s truly not just about the passage of time, but the progress that the city has seen, and that we will continue to rush into in this time of great consequence. I’m so excited to join my colleagues and celebrate our five new city councilors.”

At-large Councilors include sitting Councilors Michael Flaherty and Julia Mejia, along with new Councilors Ruthzee Louijeune and Erin Murphy. Districts 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, and 9 will be represented by sitting Councilors Lydia

(SWEARING IN Pg. 6)

Accomplished restaurateur ponders future of city’s dining establishments

By Dan Murphy

While Mayor Michelle Wu opting to extend the outdoor dining through the month of December undoubtedly gave the city’s restaurants a much-needed boost amid the still-ongoing pandemic, one accomplished restaurateur also sees it as a promising sign for the future of al fresco dining in the City of Boston.

“Mayor Wu’s decision to extend outdoor dining through the month of December was great,” said Babak Bina who along with his sister, Azita Bina-Seibel, owns and operates Bin 26 on Charles Street, as well as jm Curley and its steakhouse, Bogie’s Place, in Downtown Crossing. “Having spoken with some people on her administration, she appears to understand the gravity of the situation. I’ve been

(RESTAURANTS Pg. 2)



COURTESY OF BINA FAMILY HOSPITALITY Babak Bina who along with his sister, Azita Bina-Seibel, owns and operates Bin 26 on Charles Street, as well as jm Curley and its steakhouse, Bogie’s Place, in Downtown Crossing.

First Night Boston celebration

By Dan Murphy

After going virtual last year due to the pandemic, First Night Boston – the largest New Year’s Eve celebration in New England – returned as an in-person gathering to usher in 2022.

Copley Square was again center

stage for the festivities, formally run by Conventures, with 12 hours of entertainment to mark the occasion at sites around the neighborhood, including the Emancipation Proclamation Concert at Trinity

(FIRST NIGHT Pg. 5)



MAYOR’S OFFICE PHOTO BY JEREMIAH ROBINSON

First Night Boston is the largest New Year’s Eve celebration in New England. This year the celebration returned as an in-person gathering to usher in 2022.

The Beacon Hill Times

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EDITORIAL

IF COVID-19 HAS A BRAIN, IT'S MUCH SMARTER THAN US

We don't pretend to be experts in biology -- and maybe we've been watching too many science fiction movies these days -- but the ability of the COVID-19 virus to mutate (or shape-shift, in the lingo of sci-fi fans) in order to make itself both more transmissible and more evasive of vaccines makes us wonder: Does COVID-19 possess intelligence?

If COVID-19 has a brain, it clearly has a much-higher IQ -- and more common-sense -- than the large number of human beings who refuse to get vaccinated and who do not take precautions to avoid the disease.

New statistics reveal that the death rate has risen particularly sharply for middle-aged white people. COVID-19 now accounts for a much larger share of all deaths for that group than it did before vaccines were widely available. To paraphrase the motto on New Hampshire license plates, some people choose to live free -- AND die,

There always will be a certain number of humans who do stupid things every day that result in their own deaths -- and those who are unvaccinated by choice fall into that category.

But in most places, the unvaccinated thankfully represent a small minority of people.

On the other hand, the new Omicron variant is sickening even those who are vaccinated at a rate much greater than at any time since the start of the pandemic. Up until the past few weeks, vaccinated persons were told they could feel fairly confident in the immunity supposedly conferred by the vaccines.

While it may be true that vaccinations still are hugely successful in limiting the number of deaths and serious illnesses requiring hospitalization, Omicron has upended the best-laid plans of even the most-cautious and health-conscious among us as we try to return to normal life.

The onslaught of the Omicron variant has affected almost every aspect of our daily lives, from travel to schools.

So does COVID-19 have a brain? Who knows?

But what we do know is that no matter what we throw at it, COVID-19 always is one step ahead of us.

ON THE BRIGHT SIDE.....

The lengthening of the daylight hours is imperceptible at first.

The least amount of daylight occurred on December 22, clocking in at nine hours, seven minutes. But by the end of this week, January 8, we'll have nine hours and 19 minutes of daylight, an increase of 12 minutes.

That may not seem like much, but it's noticeable when we go outside to take our sunset photos and realize that the sun is setting later each and every day.

The trend toward longer days will begin to accelerate, so that on January 30, we'll have exactly 10 hours of daylight.

Public health experts tell us that the next six weeks or so will be very difficult because of the impending widespread impact of COVID-19 thanks to the Omicron variant.

But as our days get longer and we get to enjoy more daylight, at least we will have something to brighten -- literally and figuratively -- the dark days that lie ahead.

GUEST OP-ED

Developing a plan for 2022

By Glenn Mollette

Proverbs 29.18 "Where there is no vision the people perish. "Everyone needs a strategy. You may be 25 or 85 years in age. Who cares? Probably the only one who cares about your age is you. Your age either tells you that you are too young or too old. Remember, age is only a number. We have to put numbers aside and go with our hearts. If God is in it then don't worry about the number.

What do you want to do? One of the ways to know the will of God is to determine what we believe we would enjoy doing. The will of God is what we would determine to do if we just had enough sense. We will never rise above what we

do not want to do. If we want to do something our chances of success are greater.

What is stopping you? Consider your life and where you want to be and determine the blockades. Sometimes the greatest blockade is the decision to move forward. Until we make that decision we aren't going anywhere. Once we know then we can assemble what is required to reach our destination.

Learn from the past and put it behind you. Past failures often eliminate us from life participation. We remember when we failed. A life that is fearful usually accomplishes far less than the life that has faith and confidence. Fear freezes us in our tracks.

Who are you today? Who you are and the direction you are going is far more important than where you have been. You can't change the past but you can steer your life in a new direction.

Develop a life action plan. Why not plan a strategy for the next six months and even the next year? You and God can determine where you will be. Start today!

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.

RESTAURANTS (from pg. 1)

told she's been in communication with the Governor on extending outdoor dining hopefully beyond the expiration that will occur in the spring, which would be a life-saver as we are still clearly in the middle of a pandemic and not out of the woods yet."

Even so, this additional month of outdoor dining didn't necessarily translate into much more business for many restaurants, said Bina, including his own.

"Obviously, Boston and New England weather has historically not been that kind," he said. "But we had a very mild December, and with heaters ready, we had the occasional diner outside. It garnered attention and gave people a choice to dine inside or out, but revenue-wise, it wasn't earth shattering."

Bina also knows from personal experience that getting vaccinated doesn't completely ensure you won't get infected, since about a dozen employees at Bin 26 on Charles Street and just as many more at jm Curley, tested positive for COVID after Christmas, and this came despite the fact that all his employees had been vaccinated.

As has historically been the case, Bin 26 and jm Curley were both closed on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, and when employees returned to work this time, Bina had 150 rapid test kits on hand to administer to them.

"There were people who had already reported positive, or had

symptoms, and a couple who tested positive during testing were sent home," said Bina. "We obviously followed CDC recommendations in them quarantining, and in fact, we had them tested before returning to work. Regardless, they continue to wear masks at all times, and we also have air purifiers functioning [at our restaurants]."

Bina was also put further at ease upon learning that all of the employees had contracted COVID from interacting with family and friends, rather than from working at either of his restaurants.

"The good news is that in all cases, except one, they have been able to bounce back quickly, with no symptoms showing after a couple of days," he said. "No one ended up in the hospital, thank goodness."

And as someone who has worked countless hours working at Bin 26 and jm Curley since the pandemic struck while still remaining COVID-free, Bina believes that restaurants inherently continue to be safe places, especially if one takes the proper safety precautions.

"Personally, I have been near people who have tested positive, and I was wearing a mask, and I have continued to not test positive," said Bina. "I attribute that to wearing a N95 mask any time I'm in a highly populated area."

Supply shortages and rising costs, meanwhile, continue to stymie restaurants around Boston and beyond.

"We're seeing a 25-30 percent increase in prices across the board," said Bina. "It's not just one vendor, it's not two vendors -- it's everyone across the board. I'm sure in some cases, it's supply-chain issues, but frankly, it's also labor costs and shortages."

Added Bina, "We're addressing that currently, and we feel that the biggest impact and relief will be the ability to have outdoor dining in the spring."

If not, Bina said he fears "it would certainly kill restaurants, and you'll definitely see increases in menu prices at your favorite restaurants."

And like everyone else, Bina is holding out hope that the worst days of the pandemic have already passed.

"Our hope is that this is the beginning of the end of this pandemic," he said, "and that with the new variants seeming to be more like a flu than being so deadly, at least for those who are vaccinated, we will get to the other side sooner than later."

Likewise, Bina believes that his restaurants are now in a better position than they were at the onset of either of the two previous years.

"We're extremely hopeful about this year, much more than the previous two years, possibly because we assume we have experienced the worst," said Bina, "and most importantly, we're confident that our loyal staff and patrons will carry us through this."

THE BEACON HILL TIMES

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BEACON HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY CORNER

Happy 2022 to our members and Beacon Hill neighbors!

Please note the following:

1. Undecorating happens this weekend!

We will be undecorating this Saturday and Sunday, January 8th and 9th. We would ask that you undecorate the poles you decorated if possible, or the poles near your home. If you have access to a ladder, please let us know. We'd like to use this opportunity to remove all of the out-of-date permits off of the poles, as well as old tape and tie wraps. We have clippers in the BHCA office that you are welcome to borrow to do this.

In years past, we have loaded 8-10 garlands, bows and all, into black contractor bags, which we can also provide at the BHCA office. Once those bags are full, tie up the bag and attach one of the red bows to the top. This will let the city trash collectors know that they are the garlands we have taken down and not personal trash left out at the wrong time and place.

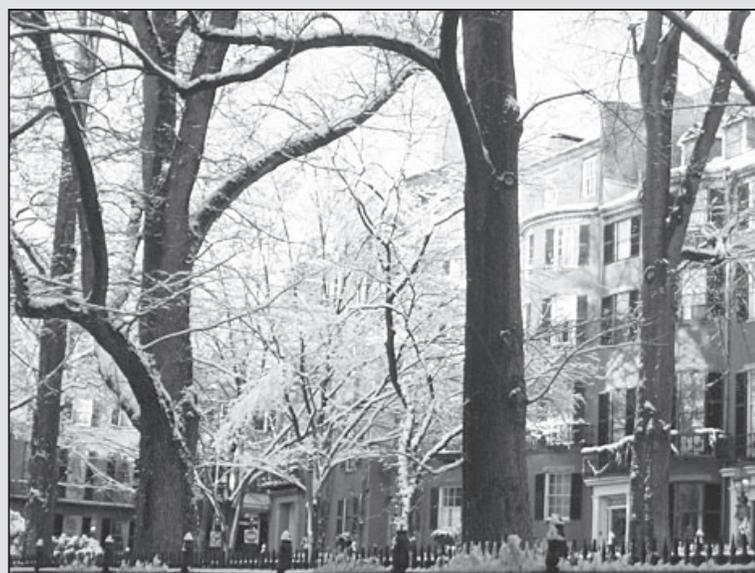
Please contact the office if you have any questions.

2. Join us!

If you haven't yet become a member of the BHCA, we invite you to join. If you have called our office for assistance with an issue, you will know that we are a valuable resource for our neighbors. Your input in quality of life issues on the Hill is important to us, and we rely on you to bring your comments and concerns to our attention. By joining our membership, you strengthen our numbers and add credibility to our purpose as advocates for Beacon Hill. Most importantly, you join a community of residents and businesses who want to preserve this special neighborhood. Please visit bhcivic.org or call the office to become a member.

3. Contractor Parking

We have heard from many



A view of Louisburg Square in the snow

neighbors about their continuing concerns about contractors working on the Hill inappropriately taking up many resident parking spaces for long periods of time. We are working with the city to tackle this ongoing and long-standing problem.

Now that the renewal of parking permits by the BHCA office has become an online process only, we are dealing with parking spaces abuses by contractors on a case-by-case basis and are visiting problem areas to speak with the owners or their contractors directly and in person, and working with the city on enforcement as well. As always, we depend on you to inform us of any abuse you are seeing so that we can address it. Thank you for helping us bridge the gap between owners who need to get work done and residents who are entitled to on street parking.

4. BOS:311

311 is an easy to remember telephone number that will connect you with the City's Constituent Service Center. The center is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and 365 days a year. It is the best way to report an issue that the City

should resolve.

311 provides access to all non-emergency City services. You can call 311 from any telephone, or you can call directly to 617-635-4500. You can also connect with 311 by downloading the mobile app, or by submitting a request or concern online at <https://www.cityofboston.gov/311/>. The mobile app allows you to easily send a photo of the problem you are reporting. You can even Tweet @BOS311.

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

5. Upcoming BHCA Events:

January Board of Directors Meeting – Monday, January 10, 2022, by Zoom

Members of the public are welcome to attend our board meetings. If you are interested in attending this month's Zoom meeting, please email us at info@bhcivic.org, with your contact information.

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

First Suffolk & Middlesex General Election set for Tuesday, January 11

By John Lynds

On Tuesday, January 11 Beacon Hill voters are reminded to head to the polls during the First Suffolk & Middlesex Special Election General Election and cast their ballots for state senator.

District 1 City Councilor Lydia Edwards, who won the state primary against Revere's Anthony D'Ambrosio on December 14, will be alone on the ballot as there is no Republican challenger.

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, Chinatown, Bay Village, the South End as well as Revere, Winthrop and Cambridgeport.

Where to Vote in Beacon Hill

The following are the polling locations 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,

January 11. 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.

Please note, voting will be traditional, in-person on Election Day and by excused Absentee Ballot only. Voters had until Wednesday, January 5, at 5 p.m. to apply for an Absentee Ballot.

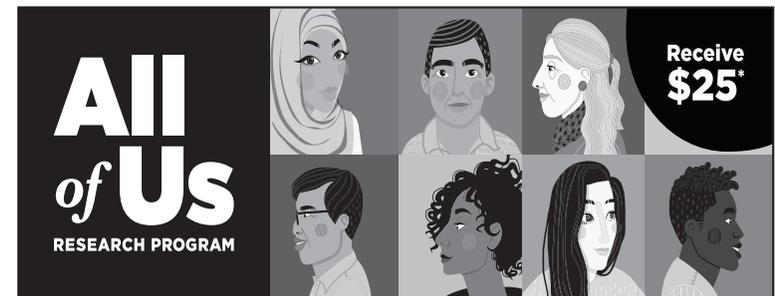
Ward 5, Precinct 3, State House - 24 Beacon St. Vote in Hearing Room B1 in the basement. Voter entrance on Bowdoin Street through Ashburton Park, Door # 16.

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.



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JoinAllOfUs.org/NewEngland
(617) 768-8300

*All participants will receive \$25 after completion of their visit. To complete the visit, participants must create an account, give consent, agree to share their electronic health records, answer health surveys, and have their measurements taken (height, weight, blood pressure, etc.), and give blood and urine samples, if asked.

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BOSTON MEDICAL

RMV extending use of state-owned vehicles

The Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) is announcing the agency will continue with the use of Commonwealth-owned vehicles for Class D road testing services through April 30, 2022 and has delayed the return to the use of private passenger vehicles for road tests.

Due to the pandemic and health and safety protocols, since June of 2020, the RMV has deployed a fleet of Commonwealth-owned vehicles for road tests which are cleaned and sanitized on a regular basis. Plans to return to private

vehicles have been delayed and existing protocols will remain in place:

- All occupants of a vehicle used in a road test, including the applicant, sponsor and examiner will continue to be required to wear a face covering.
- Windows will be open for ventilation.
- All vehicles will be cleaned prior to each test beginning.

Applicants with scheduled Class D road tests appointments in the new year will receive an email from the RMV notifying them of

the use of state vehicles. Applicants are given time to become familiar with the state vehicle they will be using in Class D testing. Applicants for a Class M, or Motorcycle license, will continue to supply their own motorcycle for testing. Road test applicants scheduled for testing through a driving school should confirm they have access to their school's vehicle.

The RMV has launched a new webpage to help applicants locate all information related to their road test, Mass.Gov/RoadTest.

City Council welcomes five new members at first meeting of the year

By Lauren Bennett

The Boston City Council held its first meeting of the year on Monday, with five new council members who had been sworn in just two hours earlier.

The Council welcomed new District 4 Councilor Brian Worrell, At-Large Councilor Ruthzee Louijeune, District 6 Councilor Kendra Hicks, District 7 Councilor Tania Fernandes Anderson, and At-Large Councilor Erin Murphy, who filled Michelle Wu's vacancy on the council after she was elected mayor. Departing City Councilors include: Andrea Campbell, Matt O'Malley, Annissa Essaibi-George, Kim Janey, and Michelle Wu, who now serves as Boston's mayor.

Per City Council General Rules, the eldest member of the City Council presides over the meeting if neither the president nor the president pro tempore are present. Therefore, Councilor Liz Breadon presided over the beginning of the meeting until Ed Flynn was elected the new council president. Also in attendance in the Christopher A. Iannella Chamber were Mayor Michelle Wu and Rep. Aaron Michlewitz.

"This is what democracy looks like," Breadon said. "It took a huge effort to get us here today."

This Council welcomed its first Haitian-American member, Ruth-

zee Louijeune, as well as the first woman of color to serve as the District 6 councilor, Kendra Hicks. The City Council also welcomed Brian Worrell, the first Black man on the council since 2017, and the first Cape Verdean immigrant and first Muslim councilor, Tania Fernandes Anderson.

The Council then unanimously voted to elect Ed Flynn as the new council president, and he took over the rest of the meeting.

"Thank you to my colleagues for placing their trust in me as your incoming City Council president," Flynn said. "I am honored to be elected by my colleagues as president of the Council. I'm humbled by the trust you have placed in me."

He also said he was "honored" to have five new council members this term. "We're so fortunate to have such well-experienced and educated incoming colleagues," Flynn said.

Councilor Louijeune who lives in Hyde Park, is a "lawyer and advocate working for working people," Flynn said. Councilor Murphy, he said, is "an educator with decades of experience in the classroom."

Councilor Worrell is a "small business owner with deep roots in his community," Councilor Hicks is "an artist, a community organizer, an activist; and we know that

she'll continue her advocacy for her district here at City Hall," and Councilor Fernandes Anderson is a "strong advocate for our children and families," Flynn said.

"Each of you have demonstrated your dedication to public service to earn this job, and I am confident—and I know our colleagues are confident—that you will make a difference for the people of Boston, and we look forward to working with you on many issues impacting now just your district, but also the City."

Flynn then talked about the Council's focus heading into this term, saying that civic groups and constituents have asked him about it.

"During my time at the Council, this body has kept public health, housing affordability and stability, equity, social, and economic justice at the forefront of every discussion we have when it comes to our role in government, and I know that will continue," Flynn said. "It is critical that we continue to always be mindful of issues impacting our seniors, persons with disabilities, working families, veterans, communities of color, and our immigrant neighbors as well. As councilors, our job is not always in the news, but the important work we do in city government and our neighborhoods is critical."

Flynn also talked about the spike in COVID-19 cases in recent weeks as the Omicron variant continues to spread. He urged the importance of heeding "the guidance of our scientists and public health professionals, and to stress to our neighbors the importance of vaccines, boosters, face coverings to limit the spread of the virus or its impact when we have breakthrough cases."

He continued, "Boston is a city with great spirit, history, and pride. Our communities deserve to have a city government that listens and works with them."

The Council also addressed two late file matters filed under the provisions of Section 17F of the City Charter, which is essentially an information request. Both matters were filed by Councilor Frank Baker, and the first requests information relating to the recently announced mandate around COVID vaccinations in the City for City employees, and the second requests information relating to the Best Western Roundhouse Hotel, which is currently vacant and has been proposed to be used for services and housing for unhoused people. The mayor is required to respond to the requests within one week.

"Sorry this is unorthodox filing this, but we're in a period here now where we won't have any hearings;

we don't have any committees," Baker said at Wednesday's Council meeting. "Both of these things are looking to be implemented in the month of January, so that's why we have the 17Fs."

With regards to the first matter, Baker said he is "not taking a position" on the COVID vaccination mandates announced by Mayor Wu, but he said he is seeking "clarification" on certain points, including "what jurisdiction" the city has on mandating private businesses to comply with the mandate, as well as "hundreds of people can potentially lose their jobs...every department's going to be affected by this," he said. He also said he wants to know if people will be allowed to return to work if they do comply with the mandate.

For the Roundhouse Hotel matter, "I couldn't be any more different from what the pathway that this administration is taking right here," Baker said. He said he wants to know who will hold the lease, and what monetary "commitment" will be required from the city, as well as other things like the level of security and whether or not drugs will be "used" on site.

The Council voted to suspend the rules and passed both matters.

The next City Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 26 at noon.

Baker-Polito administration announces release of the 2021 Massachusetts Ocean Management Plan

The Baker-Polito Administration announced the release of the final 2021 Massachusetts Ocean Management Plan. Authorized by the Oceans Act of 2008, the ocean plan protects critical marine habitat and important water-dependent uses, and sets standards for ocean-based development. Under the Oceans Act, the ocean plan is required to be reviewed at least every five years, and the 2021 ocean plan now supersedes all pre-

vious plans.

"The newly released 2021 Massachusetts Ocean Management Plan provides important updates to the Commonwealth's framework for balancing ocean uses and resource protection," said Governor Charlie Baker. "This update and amendment effort ensures the ocean plan continues to incorporate the best science and evolving policy perspectives for sound ocean resource management."

"Ocean resources are of critical importance to our economy and way of life in Massachusetts," said Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito. "The 2021 ocean plan showcases our Administration's commitment to proactively and constructively manage evolving ocean uses to meet the needs of our citizens and communities."

The original Massachusetts Ocean Management Plan, released in 2009 in response to the Oceans Act of 2008, established protections for critical marine habitat and important water-dependent uses in the Massachusetts Ocean Management Planning Area and set siting and performance standards for specific ocean-based development. The Oceans Act requires the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) to review the ocean plan at least once every five years — a process led by the Office of Coastal Zone Management (CZM) and supported by input from the Ocean Advisory Commission, Ocean Science Advisory Council, technical work groups and a significant public engagement process. The final 2021 ocean plan contains revised maps of special, sensitive,

or unique resources and water-dependent uses, a current assessment of the status and trends in ocean conditions and a Science Framework to ensure progress on key ocean management priorities over the next five years.

"Through the release of the 2021 ocean plan, the Baker-Polito Administration affirms its dedication to the responsible stewardship of ocean resources, which are critical to the state's prosperity and to the protection of state ocean waters," said Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Kathleen Theoharides. "The 2021 ocean plan would not have been possible without the dedication of many individuals and organizations, and I would like to personally thank all of these contributors for their commitment to ensuring the ocean plan meets the needs of the Commonwealth's citizens, today and into the future."

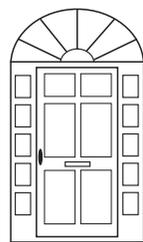
"The Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management is committed to balancing the impacts of human activity with the protection of coastal and marine resources," said CZM Director Lisa Berry Engler. "We at CZM are proud to play a leading role in ensuring

the ocean plan remains an evolving document, revised periodically to adapt as better information and science is developed, policy goals evolve and experience in applying the management and administrative framework is gained."

The review and update for the ocean plan was initiated in 2019. The process was led by CZM on behalf of EEA and supported by the Ocean Advisory Commission, Ocean Science Advisory Council, technical work groups, stakeholder groups and public participation. In December 2020, the Review of the 2015 Massachusetts Ocean Management Plan was completed and published, launching the development of the 2021 ocean plan through continued expert and public input. Then on September 22, 2021, CZM issued the Draft 2021 Massachusetts Ocean Management Plan for public review, including four hearings and a 60-day public comment period, leading to today's release of the final 2021 ocean plan. To download Volumes 1 and 2, see the 2021 Massachusetts Ocean Management Plan web page.

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Rentals

FIRST NIGHT *(from pg. 1)*

Church, described as a “celebration of liberty and freedom” presented by the Handel and Haydn Society in partnership with the Museum of African American History; and a cultural dance and music performance by Greater Boston Chinese Cultural Association (GBCCA) in Copley Square, among myriad activities.

Along with the traditional ice sculptures in Copley Square, other family-friendly First Night highlights included the Puppet Showplace Theater outside the Copley Place Mall, and the Opening Ceremony and Celebrate Boston Procession, which made its way from Copley Square to the Boston Common, replete with puppets, motor vehicles, and woodwind instruments.

A fireworks display over the Boston Common, sponsored by The Mugar Foundation and The City of Boston, kicked off at 7 p.m. on the Boston Common in anticipation of the midnight fireworks over the Boston Harbor, sponsored by The Friends of Christopher Columbus Park.

The First Night Copley Countdown in Copley Square in Copley Square also welcomed the new year with a Pyrotechnics and Light Show above the Fairmont Copley hotel, as well as live music on the Copley stage.

And in a true sign of the times, the Boston Public Health Commission in partnership with the Whittier Street Health Center also made COVID vaccines, boosters, and rapid test freely available to revelers at pop-up clinics located in Copley Square and in the Copley Branch of the Boston Public Library. In all, more than 400 vaccines were administered at the two clinics, according to a representative from Mayor Michelle Wu’s office, while 1,400 rapid test kits were distributed by the Whittier Street Health Center.



Mayor Michelle Wu joined revelers in ringing in the New Year during the annual First Night celebration in Boston.



Scenes from First Night Boston 2022.

“I’m overjoyed to bring back the beloved tradition of First Night and to offer Bostonians a chance to get vaccinated or boosted as we ring in 2022,” said Mayor Michelle Wu prior to the event in a press release. “We’ve shifted the celebration outdoors to put public health and safety at the forefront as we welcome the New Year. I’m grateful to all our city departments and partners working hard for all Bostonians and visitors to stay safe and healthy, and get vaccinated this holiday season.”



Scenes from First Night Boston 2022.



Mayor Michelle Wu joined revelers in ringing in the New Year during the annual First Night celebration in Boston.



Scenes from First Night Boston 2022.



Scenes from First Night Boston 2022.

PHOTOS COURTESY MAYOR'S OFFICE PHOTO BY JEREMIAH ROBINSON

SWEARING IN *(from pg. 1)*

Edwards, Ed Flynn, Frank Baker, Ricardo Arroyo, Kenzie Bok, and Liz Breadon, respectively. Brian Worrell is a new Councilor who will represent District 4, Kendra Hicks is a new Councilor who will represent District 6, and Tania Fernandes Anderson is a new Councilor who will represent District 7.

Wu said the incoming Councilors sworn in during Monday's historic ceremony represent many key milestones.

"Tania Fernandes Anderson is

the first African and first Muslim City Councilor who brings experience and service and creativity that shines through with every action and statement she makes," said Wu. "Kendra Hicks is the first woman of color to represent District 6 and she is an activist, organizer, artist and inspiration and I'm so excited to work alongside her. Ruthzee Louijeune is the first Haitian-American City Councilor and someone whose love of Boston has been clear from the

very earliest days growing up in the city, who gave tours celebrating the beauty of Boston and has now brought her experience in law to serve her community. Erin Murphy, a BPS teacher, single mother, and advocate for those struggling with addiction and substance abuse is already starting to fight for you and Brian Worrell, a small business owner and the first Black man to serve on the Council since 2017 who is already a great partner."

Wu added that she knows the deep responsibility that constituents placed upon her and the Council and knows first hand the power of the Boston City Council to make sure the city is moving forward on the issues.

"So as our new colleagues join alongside our returning colleagues, those who have been proud and honored to serve along-

side for many, many years, I know the progress that we will continue to see in the city," she said. "At this moment our constituents and our community expect us to move with urgency to open doors for everyone and to deliver results. We're ready to partner in every way."

Wu then addressed the surging Omnicron variant of the COVID-19 virus that is spreading like wildfire across the city with nearly 2 out of every 10 people tested last week in the city were found to be positive.

"We are all here at an inauguration that looks very different from the one we expected even a couple of weeks ago," said Wu. "Sitting here outside in the cold we must let this be a reminder of what so many in our city have to live with every single day. Our residents who have been standing

outside in the cold for hours waiting for a test to make sure they can keep their family safe. We must do better. Our residents who are living unhoused in tents at Mass and Cass and across the city, we're taking action and we must do better. And for so many residents who have been outside in the cold because of systems that have not seen and valued every single one of our community members we are going to do better and I look forward to the collaboration with the City Council to make that happen. With this new year, let us find warmth in each other even as we face stiff headwinds. We will make progress and make sure that we are always holding the light of our Boston residents in front of us and build that community that we need and we deserve in 2022."



The National Anthem is performed by Danielle Conchita.



Bishop Nicolas Homicil delivers the invocation.

LUNCH AND DINNER

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Mayor Michelle Wu prior to heading outside for the ceremony.

BOSTON CITY COUNCIL INAUGURATIONS



At Large City Councilors Ruthzee Louijeune and Julia Mejia.



The Sergeant at Arms leads Mayor Michelle Wu and the members of the Boston City Council to the Inauguration Ceremony Monday outside City Hall.



Mayor Michelle Wu is interviewed by the media following the Inauguration Ceremony.

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Beacon Hill Women's Forum welcomes Shayne Gilbert

By Ariana Hanley

Happy New Year, Beacon Hill! The Beacon Hill Women's Forum will welcome Shayne Gilbert on January 11, as our monthly speaker. An entrepreneur, CEO of Silverweave and future Forward Events, Author of 90 Days to Launch, Founder of Girl Hackathon and Campseekers, and Executive Director of the Canadian Entrepreneur, Shayne thrives in creating connection and building community. This is a speaker you will not want to miss! Be sure to register online at www.beaconhillwomensforum.org but HURRY as the first 20 registrants will receive a surprise care package from Shayne!!

Please note, given the current COVID situation, our January Forum will be held virtually via Zoom. A Zoom link will be provided upon Registration to the event.

The Beacon Hill Women's Forum is a nonprofit organization established to help bring women in and around Beacon Hill together to form a close community of support and inspiration. We wel-



Beacon Hill Women's Forum January guest Shayne Gilbert.

come a speaker, always a woman with a unique, formidable story to tell, to our monthly Forums which meet on the second Tuesday of the month from 6pm to 8pm at The Hampshire House (6pm cocktail/

social hour, followed by the program starting at 7pm sharp). Visit The Beacon Hill Women's Forum website to learn more about our membership options. www.beaconhillwomensforum.org.

Beacon Hill, surrounding area's weekly COVID positive test rate at 15 percent

By John Lynds

The COVID 19 virus is spreading like wildfire across Beacon Hill with 1.5 out of every 10 residents tested for the virus last week turning out to be positive and a certain degree of panic has set in as children returned to school Tuesday.

A local community health center tested over 2,700 residents over a four day period and lines at testing sites across the city have reached epic proportions.

With both patrons and employees of indoor venues—including indoor dining, fitness, and entertainment establishments—required to show proof of vaccination beginning on January 15 the latest surge shows no sign of slowing.

According to the weekly report released Monday by the Bos-

ton Public Health Commission (BPHC), 3,278 Beacon Hill, North End, Back Bay, West End and Downtown residents were tested and 15.1 percent were positive. This was a 56 percent increase from the 9.7 percent that tested positive between December 20 and December 27. The weekly positive test rate is up 143.5 percent in the area since December 20.

The citywide weekly positive test rate also neared 20 percent last week. According to the BPHC 36,788 residents were tested and 18.2 percent were COVID positive—this was a 94 percent increase from the 9.4 percent that reportedly tested positive for the week ending on December 27. The weekly positive test rate has increased 172 percent in Boston since December

20.

Four hundred ninety five additional residents have been infected with the virus between December 27 and January 3 and the total number of cases in the area increased to 5,698 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 14.2 percent last week and went from 102,162 cases to 108,336 confirmed cases in a week. There were 19 additional deaths in Boston from the virus in the past week and the total COVID deaths is now at 1,522.

NEWS IN BRIEF

PRESSLEY TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley (MA-07) issued the following statement after receiving a positive COVID-19 test result.

"After experiencing COVID-like symptoms, this morning I received a positive, breakthrough COVID-19 test result. Thankfully, my symptoms are relatively mild, and I am grateful to be fully vaccinated and boosted. I am currently isolating and following all health protocols in order to mitigate further spread and keep my loved ones and community safe.

"Vaccines save lives. With this unprecedented pandemic continuing to rage, I am deeply grateful for the scientists, researchers, and frontline healthcare workers who have worked tirelessly to develop vaccines that are safe and effective, and ensure that our communities are protected. I encourage everyone to do their part by getting vaccinated, boosted and masking up. I wish everyone a safe and happy new year and look forward to continuing to fight for the robust relief our communities in the Massachusetts 7th need and deserve."

TRIAL COURT ANNOUNCES CHANGES TO COURT OPERATIONS

In response to the current situation in the Commonwealth with respect to COVID-19, the Trial Court today issued an order that outlines changes to court operations. Massachusetts trial courts will remain physically open to the public to conduct business and will operate in accordance with protocols that enhance the health and safety of court users and personnel.

The order and related operational guidance issued to the Trial Court today include the following:

- Remote court operations shall be used wherever possible. Courts may continue to hold in-person proceedings in matters where a virtual proceeding is not practicable or would be inconsistent with the protection of constitutional rights.

- Trial Court departments shall reduce the number of staff working in person to no more than

50% of the total number of staff at a time and should separate their staff into not less than two teams that will alternate their time working in-person and remotely as deemed necessary by the department head. Security, Facilities and ELMO shall be exempt from the 50% reduction based upon job function.

The Trial Court also issued additional health screening protocols and updated information on masking in courthouses. Beginning on Monday, January 3, 2022, the Trial Court will re-introduce the use of screening questions to determine if anyone entering a courthouse, including court staff and the public, has a temperature, is feeling unwell, or has received a positive COVID-19 test, has been exposed to COVID-19, or has symptoms.

The Trial Court mask requirement will remain in effect. Employees, court users and other individuals who work in or visit a courthouse must wear masks that completely cover the nose and mouth and fit snugly against the sides of the face with no gaps. The use of gaiters, bandanas, or face shields will not be allowed as a substitution for a mask. Court Officers will enforce the requirement to properly wear a mask for court visitors. The Trial Court will provide a mask to those who do not have an acceptable mask when entering a courthouse once the Trial Court Security Department has a sufficient quantity for distribution.

SJC PAUSING ALL JURY TRIALS

Supreme Judicial Court issues new order pausing in response to the current situation in the Commonwealth with respect to COVID-19, the Supreme Judicial Court (SJC) issued an order pausing all jury trials in Massachusetts state courthouses until January 31, 2022. All courts otherwise will remain open for in-person business, with a continued emphasis on conducting matters remotely whenever possible.

Today's order partially amends the existing order regarding court operations during the pandemic, which was issued by the SJC on July 1, 2021 and became effective July 12, 2021.

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FRESH AND LOCAL

Choosing and evaluating cookbooks

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

A cookbook addiction can become a hoarding situation depending on how you approach welcoming new cookbooks into your home. We have an extensive physical cookbook collection in part because we are food writers. To keep our collection under control, we have a system for choosing which books to buy and those we can borrow as needed.

Try Before You Buy

The public library system is your best friend for auditioning cookbooks. These days you often have the option of borrowing either the print edition or the ebook. When a reliable source promotes a cookbook, we open a library site and borrow or put a hold on the ones we want to consider owning.

A second way new cookbooks come to us is through a circle of sharing we have with fellow food writers and food-loving friends. When someone is ready to give away a cookbook, they offer it to someone in the circle. The rules for accepting a book are keeping it, giving it to someone else, or donating it to a library. You can set up your own circle with a few friends, a book club, or any existing social group.

One significant advantage of shopping for cookbooks in your local bookstore is that you can leaf through various books on a topic

or by an author before you buy. You can also take advantage of the video interviews with authors that some independent bookstores have available. One of our favorites for cookbooks is the Book Larder channel on YouTube.

While you have YouTube open, search the author's name of any cookbook you'd like to learn more about. This type of search for "Mina Stone" brought a new favorite cookbook, "Lemon, Love and Olive Oil," into our lives. Mina impressed us with her food philosophy and wonderful food stories in one interview after another. We plan to work our way through this book, recipe-by-recipe, as a winter food project.

Do I Need A Copy?

Once you have your hands on a book, your next task is to evaluate its worth to you. Penny curates our collection. She begins by leafing through the book, page-by-page, with a pad of sticky note tabs at hand. If a recipe or page of information interests her, she tabs it. Most ebook readers also offer you a way to mark a page so that you can return to it as needed. The number of tabs is a simple way to see if this is a book you might want to add to your collection.

Next, you need to spend some time evaluating the recipes. Experienced cooks can often look at a recipe and see flaws. Others may have to try out a recipe or two to



Our most-used cookbooks have many pages marked for favorite recipes. To evaluate a library cookbook, we add sticky notes to pages of interest as one test of that book's value.

see if the instructions are reliable and if this author shares your taste. Today you can't depend on authors and publishers to have done extensive recipe testing unless you are reading a book from a group like America's Test Kitchen.

If you decide you like the book and will enjoy having it around,

you should think about books in your collection that duplicate what it offers. Which one is best? Should you give the older one away or decide not to purchase the new one?

Remember, you can often borrow a book again from the library. Finally, if you only want one or

two recipes from the book, check if that particular recipe has been published online by the author. You also can make a copy of a recipe for your own use.

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

The 47th Annual Boston SciFi Film Festival and Marathon festival dates

The Boston SciFi Film Festival and Marathon (Boston SciFi), the longest-running genre festival in the U.S., returns as a hybrid event for its 47th year (SF47). SF47 will take place February 16 – 21, 2022 in person at the Somerville Theatre and virtually streaming. The festival received submissions from 30 countries and will announce its schedule of events in January 2022.

Born at the legendary Orson Welles Cinema just outside of Harvard Square in Cambridge MA, Boston SciFi aims to celebrate science fiction storytelling. Over the course of 6 days, SF47 will present over 70 shorts, 30 curated and submitted features, 10 workshops and panels, as well as some exciting in person events.

"Last year Boston SciFi, like many events, went virtual", says Boston SciFi Festival Director Garen Daly. "While it is not the same as being 'live', virtuality has unique properties, one being that it expands our reach and brings the world into people's homes. For us, our virtual platform is just another venue, just another theatre. This year we will be able to bring many of the festival's films from 30 countries to anyone's home. It could be the charming and lovely animated Chilean film Elulu that took nearly a decade for one artist to make by hand. Or it could be the powerful story of a woman whose auditory senses are Out of Sync with the rest of the world. Science fiction is no longer about bug eyed monsters and people in funny costumes. It is

about tackling real world issues within the confines of fiction that just happens to be science fiction. As we look around at what is happening in the world now, and we look at the films being curated and submitted for our 47th iteration, we recognize our motto's resonance - The Future is Now."

Confirmed films to play at this year's fest include Bertrand Mandico's After Blue (Dirty Paradise), documentary film Alien on Stage, Gabriel Alfonso Verdugo Soto's animated film Elulu and David Burke's documentary on Dr. Kennedy, The Father of the Cyborgs. SF47 will announce a complete festival lineup in January 2022.

This year, the festival will be putting on its first-ever Costume Ball, hosted by longtime Boston

SciFi partner the Somerville Theatre at their legendary Crystal Ballroom on Wednesday, February 16.

The Ball will be emceed by Boston-based drag entertainer and Miss Gay Massachusetts 2018, Qya Cristal.

SF47 will soon be announcing a spectacular Creature Double Feature to take place on Saturday, February 19, which will screen some classic monster movies for audiences at the Somerville Theatre. Boston SciFi will also continue its tradition of the closing Marathon from noon to noon on February 20-21, 2022.

A complete list of SF47 events, screenings, and tickets will be available soon.

Festival all-access passes are now on sale for \$180 as well as

Marathon passes for \$75, both of which can be purchased.

About Boston SciFi Film Festival & Marathon (Boston SciFi) Boston SciFi aka the Boston Science Fiction Film Festival is an award-winning, beloved cinematic event held at the historic Somerville Theatre (1914), in one of the coolest cities in the world, Boston. It starts with a regular festival of submitted and curated films and ends with the biggest binge view ever - a 24 hour, 13 film, nonstop, eyeball straining Marathon. It all began at the legendary Orson Welles Cinema right next to Harvard University. As America's longest-running genre fest, Film Freeway has named Boston SciFi as one of the Top 100 Best Reviewed Festivals.

PLEASE VISIT WWW.BEACONHILLTIMES.COM

Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
BACK BAY			
Cameron, Molly	Libert, Michael	11 Exeter St #5	\$1,900,000
Nina Marill IRT	Scircco, Nicholas W	465 Beacon St #1	\$905,000
Civale Carlin FT	Oldoni, Karen	293-295 Commonwealth Ave #4A	\$635,000
Gorman, Michael	Raucci, Kimberly	416 Marlborough St #202	\$735,000
Hanley, Gabriella	Burns, Emily	360 Newbury St #406	\$285,463
Meru MA LLC	Lu, Mark	425 Newbury St #C118	\$160,000
Klotz, David	Harris, Isaac H	133 Saint Botolph St #1	\$709,000

BEACON HILL

Kaneb, Christopher	Mitchell, Jeffrey S	70 Brimmer St #227	\$465,000
Greatest Boston Bar Co	Canal Street Realty LLC	162-166 Canal St	\$9,032,909
Sun, Ying	Agostinelli, Donald C	8 Whittier Pl #22E	\$640,000

BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE

Shapiro, Marc J	Wang, Andrew C	115 Chandler St #1	\$1,305,000
Mahoney, Brian B	Nelson, Brandon C	8 Yarmouth St #4	\$1,300,000
Berklee College Of Music	12 Hemenway LLC	12 Hemenway St	\$18,000,000
Wilmington RT	Tamilio-Awed, Kathleen	15 Park Dr #26	\$1,200,000
Wilmington RT	Tamilio-Awed, Kathleen	15 Park Dr #33	\$1,200,000
Wilmington RT	Tamilio-Awed, Kathleen	15 Park Dr #34	\$1,200,000
Larosa, Gregory	Nityanand, Samir R	104 Pembroke St #2	\$728,000
Toms, Krista	Gorman, William J	122 Pembroke St	\$4,000,000
Wu, Ziniu	Lenz, Gunther	121-127 Portland St #508	\$1,088,000
FPV Equity Partners LLC	MGE Hldg Co Inc	139 Portland St	\$8,850,000
Kennedy, Ryan	Klitus, Matthew C	14 Rutland Sq	\$4,800,000
Mai, Xuhong	Abruzese, Anthony B	143 W Brookline St #502	\$626,888
Caprio, Joseph A	Singh, Navdeep	126 W Newton St #2	\$2,460,000
Thi-Nguyen, Kim A	1950 Wa Street LLC	1948-1950 Washington St #2B	\$398,170
Facella RT	Wiese, Rutger	26 Wellington St #2	\$849,400

WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN

Singh, Sunita	Reed, Michael T	85 E India Row #16F	\$1,650,000
Chen, Charles W	Fay D E Fong T	1 Nassau St #2007	\$875,000
Savita Thomke 2008 RET	K Reuther RET 2021	300 Pier 4 Blvd #3A	\$2,010,000
Guan, De W	Macy Jonathan Est	170 Tremont St #406	\$545,000
FPV Equity Partners LLC	MGE Hldg Co Inc	208-210 Friend St	\$8,850,000
FPV Equity Partners LLC	MGE Hldg Co Inc	212-218 Friend St	\$8,850,000
FPV Equity Partners LLC	MGE Hldg Co Inc	220 Friend St	\$8,850,000

Attention to Detail

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY PENNY CHERUBINO

THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The façade pattern in the last clue is on the Blackstone Apartments at 33 Blossom Street. A promotional brochure states, "The 11 story building was constructed in 1978 and sits adjacent to Massachusetts General Hospital. The hospital provides an on-site wellness and health services program for Blackstone residents."

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

THIS WEEK'S CLUE



Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund reconciliation report released

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts today released a report from KPMG, LLP summarizing the findings of a reconciliation project that examined the finances of the Unemployment Insurance (UI) Trust Fund. The Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development commissioned KPMG to conduct this independent assessment to determine the impact of federal pandemic relief programs and other effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the financial status of the Commonwealth's unemployment system and the UI Trust Fund balance for the period from the beginning of the pandemic in March, 2020 through November 30, 2021.

The report outlines the steps KPMG took to evaluate the bal-

ance of the UI Trust Fund and provides an overview of the current status of the fund, including the effects of several outstanding financial obligations on the Trust Fund. These obligations include the necessary repayment of federal advances that ensured the Fund's solvency in 2020 and currently outstanding employer credits resulting from a mid-2021 downward adjustment in UI rates. The report also identifies the need for a one-time transfer of approximately \$300 million from funds currently held in the UI system to the federal government to reconcile state and federal accounts now that emergency programs implemented under federal authority in 2020 and 2021 have come to a close.

As of November 30, 2021 the unadjusted UI Trust Fund balance was reported at \$2.94 billion. The KPMG analysis concludes that this reported balance needs to be assessed in light of outstanding federal loan obligations, outstanding employer credits, and a future additional reimbursement due to the federal government. When these adjustments are factored in, the KPMG analysis concludes that UI Trust Fund had a \$115 million structural deficit at the time of the reporting period. The details of these adjustments are as follows:

- Outstanding Federal Loans: Massachusetts owes \$2.3 billion in outstanding loan obligations, due in November 2022, to the federal government to repay necessary borrowing during the pandemic.
- Outstanding Employer Credits: The reported UI Trust Fund balance includes \$415 million in employer credits that were the result of the mid-year reduction in 2021 employer UI rates. Net 2022 Employer contributions will be reduced by application of these 2021 Employer credits.
- Future Federal Adjustment: The Commonwealth anticipates it will need to make a future one-time transfer of approximately \$300 million to the federal government to reconcile automated bank returns of benefits issued from various state and federally funded UI programs. EOLWD is currently awaiting guidance from USDOL regarding administrative procedures to process this reconciliation.

This report does not include the effects of legislation recently signed by Governor Baker that will invest \$500 million to stabilize the UI Trust Fund. The report's assessment of the UI system's current financial position underscores the importance of this investment given the unprecedented impact of the pandemic on the unemployment system and the need to ensure continued solvency to be able to pay claims in the future.

The comprehensive accounting of the UI Trust Fund balance and financial position will also inform the Commonwealth's efforts to issue bonds that will support the repayment of the federal advances that were authorized in 2020 and begin to restore the UI Trust Fund to a more solvent level.

LEGALS

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
NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME
Docket No. SU21C0576CA
In the matter of: Ezekiel Isaiah Miller Bonnete
A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Ezekiel Isaiah Miller of Boston, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: Ezekiel Isaiah Prophet Bonnete

IMPORTANT NOTICE Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Suffolk Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 1/27/2022. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.
WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.
Date: January, 04, 2022
Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

1/6/22
BH

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. SU21P2644EA

Estate of: Robert C. Volante
Also Known as: Robert Clement Volante
Date of Death 09/15/2021
To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Kathleen M. Conley 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 Kathleen M. Conley 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 1/28/2022. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a 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 31, 2021
Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

1/6/22
BH

Minimum wage increase started Jan. 1

Attorney General Maura Healey is reminding employees and employers that the state's minimum wage increased to \$14.25 per hour beginning Jan. 1, 2022.

The AG's Office has also made available its wage and hour poster that employers are required to display in both English and any other language that is spoken by five percent or more of the employer's workforce and for which a translated notice in that language is available from the AG's Office. The poster is available in seven languages and in formats that employers, workers, members of the public, and organizations can easily access, free of charge.

"Our Fair Labor Division remains committed to protecting the rights of workers and ensuring they are being paid the wages they are legally entitled to, especially as we continue to work our way through the COVID-19 pandemic," said AG Healey. "We are issuing this notice and providing multilingual resources so that employees and employers are aware of the upcoming minimum wage increase in Massachusetts and worker rights under our wage and hour laws."

In June 2018, Massachusetts enacted a law that set the minimum wage to increase each year until it reaches \$15.00 in 2023. Tipped employees will also get a raise on Jan.1, 2022, and must be paid a minimum of \$6.15 per hour provided that their tips bring them up to at least \$14.25 per hour. If the total hourly rate for the employee including tips does not equal \$14.25 at the end

of the shift, the employer must make up the difference.

Free copies of the AG's Wage and Hour poster are available in English, Chinese, Haitian Creole, Khmer, Portuguese, Spanish, and Vietnamese on the AG's Fair Labor Division website to download and print. To request a paper copy, please visit www.mass.gov/ago/fldposter or call (617) 727-3465.

The Attorney General's Fair Labor Division enforces laws that protect workers, including minimum wage, timely payment of

wages, overtime, earned sick time, child labor, Sunday and holiday premium pay, and the public construction bid and prevailing wage laws. During the Fiscal Year 2021, the Division assessed more than \$8.1 million in restitution and penalties against employers on behalf of working people in Massachusetts.

Workers who believe that their rights have been violated in the workplace can file a complaint at www.mass.gov/ago/fld, or call the office's Fair Labor Hotline at (617) 727-3465.

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UPSTAIRS DOWNSTAIRS SKIS INTO THE NEW YEAR



COURTESY OF MARK DUFFIELD

Upstairs Downstairs wasted no time in ringing in the new year with new and unique items like their famous Maine shot skis - cross country skis, 7 feet long and adorned with amazing folk art, shot glasses, and candles - with no shortage of customers wanting to pose with it. Pictured, left to right, are Anne Marie, Josh, Dan, Ashley, Julie, Stephen, and Sarah.

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Questions or assistance, contact Erin at 508-591-0230 or erin@RooflessSolar.com

Boston.RooflessSolar.com

PLEASE RECYCLE

COMPASS



The Archer Residences #605, Beacon Hill

1+ BD 2 BA 1,428 SF \$2,250,000



28 Temple Street #1, Beacon Hill

3 BD 2F 1H BA 1,491 SF 1 DEEDED PARKING \$1,649,000



REIG + LOSORDO

Jillian Reig and Steve Losordo
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