



# THE BEACON HILL TIMES

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## 2022 MFS PRO-AM DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP



*The 2022 MFS Pro-Am Doubles Championship was hosted by The University Club on Stuart Street this past weekend. Above, Maria Elena Ubina readies for a shot while Kayley Leonard and Elani Landman look on. Right, Chris Callis (far right) takes a shot while teammate Manek Mathur (far left) and opponents Zac Alexander and Greg McArthur look on. See Pages 6 and 7 for more photos.*

## Coffee Talk at Beacon Hill Village April 4

By Suzanne Besser

Bill Wilson of Birds & Beans will talk about the environmental impact of coffee farms at Beacon Hill Village's Conversations series on Monday, April 4 at 5:30 p.m. on Zoom.

"Half of the people in the US have a cup of coffee every day but few understand the environmental impact of coffee," said Wilson, co-founder and manager of

the company launched in 2008. "Even fewer prioritize it origin and know how coffee farming affects people, farms, forests and birds all over the world."

Birds & Beans coffee comes from family farms in Latin America that provide forest-like habitat for birds. Rather than being grown on farms that have been cleared of vegetation, the coffee is planted under a canopy of trees providing the shelter, food and

homes migratory and local birds need to survive.

"Every bean in every bag helps save birds, tropical forests, family farmers and their workers, local rural economies, and the Earth we all share," said Wilson.

Birds & Beans is certified as a Bird Friendly® Coffee by the Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center, located at the Smithsonian's

(COFFEE TALK Pg. 3)

## BEACON HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY CORNER

### Neighborhood Forum

The Beacon Hill Civic Association will be holding a "Neighborhood Forum" event in person at 74 Joy Street, Beacon Hill, on April 7, 2022, beginning at 6:00 PM to discuss the City of Boston's new plan to replace all of the over one thousand existing historic gas street lamps now present in Beacon Hill with brand new LED electric light fixtures. The Neighborhood Forum will also be broadcast live over Zoom for those unable to attend in person. The BHCA believes that it is important to have a robust

and transparent discussion about the City's plan to remove all of Beacon Hill's historic gas street lamps, and how such a massive, multi-year project will affect the residents of our neighborhood.

The BHCA has invited the key City officials who are leading this replacement plan to our April 7th Neighborhood Forum, and we have asked them to come to explain to our Beacon Hill residents the City's current rationale for removing the historic gas street lights on Beacon Hill, including the City's estimate of the anticipated net reduction in

greenhouse gas ("GHG") emissions that would result from the removal of Beacon Hill's gas lamps. We have also asked them to come to respond to the many questions we have received from our Beacon Hill residents concerning the anticipated cost of removing and replacing the existing Beacon Hill gas street lights, which we estimate will range from \$12 million to \$15 million, and the anticipated multi-year disruption to our neighborhood

(BHCA Pg. 3)

## BHCA to hold forum to discuss city's plan to electrify existing gas streetlights

By Times staff

The Beacon Hill Civic Association will be holding a Neighborhood Forum to discuss the City of Boston's newly announced plan to replace all of the more than 1,000 existing historic gas street-lamps in the neighborhood with new LED electric light-pole fixtures on Thursday April 7, beginning at 6 p.m. at 74 Joy St. It will be held in person and also broadcast live over Zoom for those unable to attend.

"The BHCA believes that it is important to have a robust and transparent discussion about the City's recently announced plan to

remove all of Beacon Hill's historic gas streetlamps, and how such a massive, multi-year project will affect the residents of our neighborhood," said Rob Whitney, chair of the BHCA board of directors. "We will also be discussing possible alternatives to the wholesale and immediate removal of all of the historic gas street-lamps on Beacon Hill."

The BHCA has invited the key city officials leading this replacement initiative to the Neighborhood Forum, including Jascha Franklin-Hodge, Boston's Chief

(FORUM Pg. 4)

## The Friends' Green & White Ball returns Friday, April 29

Special to the Times

Celebrate with the Friends of the Public Garden at the annual Green & White Ball on Friday, April 29, at the Four Seasons Boston.

The Green & White Ball brings together neighbors and friends in elegant fashion to support the Boston Common, the Public Garden, and the Commonwealth Avenue Mall. In fact, this very

special event represents the single largest source of funding for the Friends' annual parks care budget. Thanks to the generous support of members throughout the year, the Friends invests nearly \$3 million annually in the care and renewal of these three historic greenspaces in the heart of downtown Boston.

This year's Co-Chairs, Tess

(GREEN & WHITE Pg. 3)



COURTESY OF THE FRIENDS OF THE PUBLIC GARDEN

Green & White Ball Co-Chairs Kate Enroth and Tess Atkinson.

# EDITORIAL

## TOXIC MASCULINITY AT THE OSCARS

When we first heard the joke by Chris Rock that was directed at Jada Pinkett-Smith at the Oscars, we didn't get it. It was not until Will Smith stepped up to smack Rock that we grabbed our laptop to do a Google search for "G.I. Jane" and "Jada Pinkett-Smith" to figure out what the incident was all about.

We've admired Chris Rock and Will Smith throughout their careers, both on and off the stage.

But the behavior exhibited by both of them at Sunday's Oscars show was inexcusable.

Chris Rock's joke (which wasn't even funny) was obnoxious, in bad taste, and hurtful. Mocking a person with a disease (Ms. Pinkett-Smith suffers from alopecia) or a disability never is appropriate in any setting.

This sort of bullying behavior is a characteristic of many men. Recall for example, when our former president mimicked with his body language a New York Times reporter who has a physical disability.

Similarly, Will Smith's subsequent assault and battery upon Rock exemplified another variation of a uniquely-male noxious attitude in which men justify the use of their fists (or guns) either to salve their bruised egos or to get what they want by brute force (e.g., Vladimir Putin).

We have read in various media that some have attempted to justify Smith's criminal behavior on the grounds that he was defending his wife's honor. However, women are more than capable of taking care of themselves. They don't need a man to do so. That attitude prevails only in societies where women are treated like second-class citizens.

In our view, both Chris Rock and Will Smith should be banned from the Oscars until further notice. Their toxic masculinity has no place anywhere in our society, but especially on a stage as big as the Oscars.

## RECALLING THE APRIL FOOL'S DAY BLIZZARD OF 1997

This Friday, April 1, will mark the 25th anniversary of the great April Fool's Day blizzard of 1997.

As often is the case when a major storm strikes, the forecasters had not predicted the extreme severity of the storm.

We recall going to bed that night of March 31 and preparing to go to work the next day, only to wake up to discover that Mother Nature had dumped more than two feet (25.4 inches was the official total at Logan Airport) of heavy, wet snow on our area, making it the fourth-largest snowstorm in Boston history, exceeded only by the 27.5 inches in the President's Day blizzard of 2003; the 27.1 inches in the famous Blizzard of '78; and the 26.3 inches in the blizzard of February, 1969.

The storm was the biggest on record in the month of April and made April 1997 Boston's snowiest April ever, nearly doubling the previous record of 13.3 inches. It also set a record for Boston's greatest 24-hour snowfall in April.

We vividly recall waking up to the wonder of that morning. "Are we still dreaming?" was our first thought when we opened our front door, only to be greeted by a huge drift of snow that had been driven by winds that reached 70-90 miles per hour in many areas.

Ironically, that winter had been fairly uneventful (there had been only 26 inches of snow in total that winter season).

Although the storm essentially paralyzed the Boston area for that entire day, it was not a particularly dangerous storm. We recall a lot of downed tree limbs that were laden with the heavy, wet snow, which in turn brought down power lines in some places. The only deaths were the result of heart attacks by persons trying to shovel the heavy snow. In addition, there was no coastal flooding.

Our overall memory of the blizzard is the picture in our mind's eye of a Winter Wonderland amidst temperatures that reached the 50s by mid-day.

It was a joyful event, an unexpected day off from work (and back then, the internet was still barely a thing, so no one worked remotely). We took our young children sledding and walked around the neighborhood with our Golden Retriever, Jake, who loved the snow.

Yes, it was a ferocious, record-breaking storm. But for us, we always will have only warm memories of the April Fool's Day Blizzard of 1997, a particular point in time when we, and our now-adult children, were 25 years younger.

## GUEST OP-ED

### Ukraine refugees are coming

Dr. Glenn Mollette

America has been good to help people and more are on the way.

Refugees from Ukraine are coming to America, up to 100,000 would be welcomed as recently announced by President Biden. The population of some communities will grow depending on where the federal government places these people.

Since the passage of the refugee act there are already over 3 million refugees in America. They are located throughout the United States with large populations in some towns and cities.

A refugee is "a person who is unable to return his or her country of origin because of a well-founded fear of persecution based on race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or membership in a particular social group." A refugee legally resides in the country of resettlement and is eligible for federally funded cash assistance for up to 8 months. Refugees are resettled in the United States by the federal government and are afforded specific refugee assistance to help

them rebuild their lives in America. This federal funding is limited in both duration and amount. It is important to note that most refugees arrive with very little in terms of possessions, beside a few bags of luggage, and if they are lucky, all of their family members.

All refugees arriving in the United States are entitled to 8 months of Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA) from the date of their U.S. arrival. The RCA amounts vary based on the size of the family: Single person (\$230/month), Family of 2 (\$363/Month), Family of 3 (\$485/month), Family of 4 (\$611/month), etc. If a family qualifies for Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), offered by the State Department of Health and Human Services, they will not receive RCA funds, but will immediately begin receiving TANF funds, which provide the same amounts of funds as outlined above for families (Refugee or American), yet unlike RCA, there is 5 year time limit to their receipt of funds which can be reviewed and extended depending on need. All TANF recipients must be participating in verified

educational courses, volunteer placements, and/or employment searches in order to access these funds. Source, Catholic Charities

The Ukrainian people appear to be hard working people. Once they make it to America I would not be surprised if some of our worker shortage will start to disappear. These people have nothing. If you still want a job you probably should take one and go to work.

At this point we have no choice but to help these people as the economy and infrastructure of the countries surrounding Ukraine cannot absorb them all.

Can you imagine if Russia and China combined to attack America? What if we had to run to Canada to survive? We would appreciate anything anybody would do to help us.

*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.*

## 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.

# THE BEACON HILL TIMES

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**GREEN & WHITE** (from pg. 1)

Atkinson and Kate Enroth, are thrilled to be welcoming guests back to an in-person event. As Kate shared, "We know everyone is so excited to get together, get dressed up, and have a wonderful party. The Green & White combines the best of all worlds, an amazing celebration that raises money to care for our three beloved parks, the

Common, Garden and Mall."

And Friends President Liz Vizza wants everyone to know, "We are so grateful to this amazing committee that works so tirelessly to gather our community on behalf of the parks."

For tickets or to learn more, visit [friendsofthepublicgarden.org/events/green-white-ball](http://friendsofthepublicgarden.org/events/green-white-ball).

**BHCA** (from pg. 1)

from the removal and replacement of the existing gas street lamps, including as well the removal of the underground gas lines, the installation of new electric power lines, and the attendant repair of the sidewalks and streets all over the entirety of Beacon Hill.

Beacon Hill residents are invited and strongly encouraged to attend this Neighborhood Forum in person or remotely, to learn more about the City's plan to remove all of the historic gas street lights from our historic neighborhood.

For more information about the Neighborhood Forum, please call 617-227-1922 or email [info@bhcivic.org](mailto:info@bhcivic.org).

**Beacon Award Nominations Requested**

The Beacon Hill Civic Association invites the community to nominate candidates for the 25th Annual Beacon Award. Instituted in 1997 by the BHCA as part of its Diamond Jubilee Year, the Beacon Award annually honors those individuals or groups deserving of particular recognition for significant and sustained contribution to the Beacon Hill community.

Nomination forms are available online at [www.bhcivic.org](http://www.bhcivic.org) or by calling BHCA at 617-227-1922. A new form should be completed for each individual nomination submitted and should be returned to the Beacon Hill Civic Association no later than Friday, April 4th. Nominations will be reviewed and a winner will be selected by a committee composed

of representatives from the BHCA and the community at large.

The 2022 Beacon Award will be presented at the BHCA 100th Annual Meeting, to be held May 16, 2022 at the Union Club of Boston.

**Thank You to our Centennial Gala Sponsors!**

We appreciate the continued support of our local businesses including Grogan & Company, The Hampshire House Corporation, Rugg Road, Paws on Charles, Kured, F.H. Perry, the Whitney Hotel, the Beacon Hill Times, and the Boston Guardian. Thank you!

There's no better time to become a Member of the BHCA!

Are you new to Beacon Hill? This is a great time to join the BHCA as we begin our Centennial year celebrations and look forward to our Annual Meeting for Members on May 16 at the Union Club. You can become a member or renew your membership at [bhcivic.org](http://bhcivic.org). If you are unsure of your membership status, please call the office at 617-227-1922 and we will assist you.

**Upcoming Meetings & Events**

Beacon Hill Meet & Greet, Monday, April 4th, 75 Chestnut

Streets & Sidewalks Committee, Tuesday, April 5th, virtual

Neighborhood Forum, Thursday, April 7th, 74 Joy Street and via Zoom

Please contact the office for more details on any of these events.

**COFFEE TALK** (from pg. 1)

National Zoo in Washington, D.C. The Center is dedicated to understanding, conserving and championing the grand phenomenon of bird migration.

Wilson said his company believes humanity will flourish if people are simply more friendly to each other and the natural world around them. It gives back 5% from every bag of coffee sold to its conservation partners. The coffee is available locally at Savenor's.

This virtual program is presented with support from Cambridge Trust as part of Beacon Hill Village's 'Conversations With...' series. Registration is required online in advance at [beaconhill-village.org](http://beaconhill-village.org) or by calling Beacon Hill Village at 617-723-9713. Registrants will receive a Zoom invitation in advance of the program, which is free and open to the public.

**Sandra Gilpatrick, April guest speaker at BHWF**

By Ariana Hanley

The Beacon Hill Women's Forum is excited to announce Sandra Gilpatrick as the April Forum speaker! Mark your calendar for April 12, as this is a speaker you definitely will not want to miss! Sandra Gilpatrick, a CFP® professional, Certified Divorce Financial Analyst, and Wealth Consultant, will share her successes in helping woman organize and understand their financial lives. As an investment professional with over 23 years of experience, Sandra has helped many woman feel comfortable with their financial decisions and achieve their many long term goals. Not only is Sandra a resident of Beacon Hill with her husband, George, and son, Lachlan, but she was President of the Beacon Hill Women's Forum for the 2016-2018 season and is current-



Sandra Gilpatrick.

ly the 2022 Chair of the Beacon Hill Garden Club Hidden Garden Tour. We are delighted to welcome Sandra for our April Forum at the Hampshire House!

Please register for the Forum

online at [www.beaconhillwomensforum.org](http://www.beaconhillwomensforum.org). The cocktail hour will commence at 6pm, followed by our speaker at 7pm. We look forward to seeing all of our wonderful members and neighbors in person April 12!

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 welcome 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](http://www.beaconhillwomensforum.org).

**Successful webinar on benefits, ease of city composting**

The Downtown Team of Mothers Out Front, a vibrant grassroots organization best known for its advocacy to eliminate large gas leaks and transition off of fossil fuels, recently hosted an educational webinar extolling the many benefits of residential composting in the city of Boston. The webinar was the first effort in a new campaign by Mothers Out Front to add city-wide compost pick-up services to Boston's current trash and recycling schedule. The advocacy group believes that like San Francisco, Austin Texas, and Seattle, Boston could greatly benefit by adding curbside composting to its waste management practices.

Andy Brooks, CEO and founder of Bootstrap Compost, a local compost pick-up service company, led the webinar, which had over 50 attendees. Bootstrap currently serves 65 residents on Beacon Hill and operates throughout southern New England. Brooks illustrated how composting produces healthy soil for local gardens and farms. He also dispelled the myths that composting in one's home creates bad aromas and attracts unwanted pests. His company, as others, provides their customers with a clean bucket with a tight-fitting lid. Customers collect their leftover food scraps, including vegetables, coffee grounds, egg shells, dead flowers, even meat and dairy products. The tight-sealing lid prevents any offending odor from escaping the bucket. Bootstrap collects these buckets every Tuesday morning, leaving behind a fresh container. Customers report a decrease in the amount of trash that they put outside on the sidewalk each Monday

and Friday morning. By eliminating leftover food from easily opened trash bags, the rat population is denied their biweekly "dine and dash" opportunity.

Bootstrap collects almost 28,000 pounds of organic material annually from Beacon Hill alone and regionally diverts 1.3 million pounds of organic material from Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island landfills. These amounts would greatly increase should the city provide this service to its residents. Diverting these materials from already overflowing landfills would not only reduce costs for the city, but would also reduce methane gas emissions.

Interest in this practice is growing. Councilor Kenzie Bok has ordered a hearing to discuss matters relating to recycling, composting and waste services in the City of Boston. The hearing is scheduled for March 28 at 2 p.m. Mothers Out Front plans to testify in support of citywide composting. With companies like Andy Brook's Bootstrap Compost seeing an increase in customers, Mothers Out Front believes it is time to add Boston's name to a growing list of environmentally savvy cities, diverting valuable resources away from landfills and into healthy soils for our city parks, farms and gardens.

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# The Advent School celebrates 60 years

By Marianne Salza

As the Advent School prepares for its 60th anniversary gala, “Advent at 60,” on May 6, staff, families, and alumni have been reflecting on six decades of inclusive education, and their aspirations for an impactful future.

“Our social justice mission is an education that you can’t get anywhere else in the city,” said Tori Frappoli, Associate Director of Advancement. “It’s more relevant than ever.”

The Advent School was founded in 1961 by visionaries, Dr. Mona C. Hull, and her husband, Gordon F. Hull. During a time of segregation in Boston Public Schools, Dr. Hull believed that all children should have access to quality education, with diverse classmates to combat racial injustice in local school systems.

The Hull Family attended mass at The Church of the Advent, an Episcopal parish that supported Hull’s vision of integration by becoming the first home of the Advent School. On September 14, 1961, the Advent School welcomed 17 students, grades 1-2, with Dr. Hull as the director, and Jeanne Morrison as the only teacher. The school’s population steadily increased in the 1963-1964 academic year, and opened to children in grades 1-6.

Dr. Hull was also an educator and advocate for public health and policy. The mother of five worked closely with Boston’s mayor, Kevin White, (whose children attended the Advent School) to bring health-care access to migrant farmers. Dr. Hull’s daughter, Berney Hull Graham, recently gifted her family’s piano to the Advent School, and shared a folder of newspaper clippings that her mother had collect-

ed during that time.

Dr. Hull compiled articles regarding racism in schools, and acts of aggression against people of color in Boston. There were also registration papers detailing tuition and fees, as well as a list of communicable diseases and guidance on quarantining.

“She was incredible,” beamed Erin Webb, Director of Development. “We learned much of this through documents her daughter had. We were able to see these sources, and it was amazing.”

When the school community outgrew its space at the Advent Church’s Parish House, the Board of Trustees purchased former residences, 15-17 Brimmer Street, in 1969, where the Advent School remains today. The Advent School is announcing a capital campaign to support building improvements, financial aid, and professional development.

“We are a community of learners, and everyone is always looking forward to living our mission in different ways,” said Frappoli. “If we want to continue this mission, we need funds to do that.”

Current Head of School Nicole DuFauchard is a strong supporter of Dr. Hull’s vision. The Advent School, which now serves early childhood to 6th grade students, discusses subjects regarding race and gender, climate change, and social issues.

“It’s been interesting to see how we’ve been taking big topics and breaking them into digestible ways [for students] to have deep thoughts and reflections,” said Webb.

The Advent School incorporates aspects of the Reggio Emilia teaching philosophy, a democratic, play-based approach in which teachers are learners with the chil-



Advent School’s 5th grade class, 1965.

dren, and curriculum is based off of students’ interests.

“One thing they are focusing on is, who decides what gets put into museums, and whose views they represent,” explained Frappoli, about the 4th grade’s ancient civilizations theme. “Having these broad conversations with a social justice lens is helpful. It’s very intertwined.”

As Frappoli and Webb reveal the capital campaign, they hope to raise awareness about the inspirational projects and conversations that Advent students engage in.

“We want to continue this 60-year legacy, grow stronger, and make this building the best place for 21st century learning,” Webb exclaimed. “We’re cozy and hands-on; but we do need to upgrade because we’ve seen the impact that technology can have when something unforeseen happens.”



An archival image of the Advent School, located at 15-17 Brimmer Street, Beacon Hill.

The Advent School gala, “Advent at 60,” will be held on Friday, May 6, 7-11 P.M., at Artists for Humanity, 100 West Second Street, South Boston. Learn

more about Advent School history, purchase tickets, or support the school through a sponsorship, by visiting [www.AdventAt60.org](http://www.AdventAt60.org).

## FORUM (from pg. 1)

of Streets, Transportation, and Sanitation, and Michael Donaghy, Street Lighting and Asset Manager for the Boston Public Works Department, who is the architect of the city’s gas street-light removal program.

The BHCA has asked them to come and explain to residents the city’s current rationale for removing the historic gas street-lights on

Beacon Hill, including the city’s estimate of the anticipated decrease in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, which would result from the removal of Beacon Hill’s gas-lamps, according to Whitney.

Said Whitney: “We have also asked the city’s representatives to come to respond to the many questions we have received from our

Beacon Hill residents concerning the anticipated cost of removing and replacing the existing Beacon Hill gas street-lights, which we estimate will range from \$12 million to \$15 million, and the anticipated multi-year disruption to our neighborhood from the removal and replacement of the existing gas street lamps, including as well the removal of the underground gas lines, the installation of new electric power lines, and the attendant repair of the sidewalks and streets all over the entirety of Beacon Hill.”

Additionally, the BHCA has asked city officials to bring their mock-up of the proposed replacement LED electric fixture to the Neighborhood Forum so attendees

can see it for themselves.

“We hope that this will be just the first of many such meetings going forward involving city officials and our Beacon Hill residents as the city seeks ways to reduce GHG emissions from its myriad of operations,” said Whitney, “and we look forward to a continued collaboration between the city and the BHCA on informing the city’s residents about these important issues.”

Moreover, Whitney added, “We’re very hopeful that the city officials will come and speak to neighborhood residents about this very large project that they would like to implement on Beacon Hill. We welcome their participation in this important discussion about

our neighborhood’s future.”

On March 14, the city unveiled a mock-up of an electrified gas street-lamp in the area of 212 Stuart St., during a public meeting sponsored by the Bay Village Historic District Commission. This fixture is the proposed standard for the new electrified street-lamps throughout Beacon Hill as well as in the rest of Bay Village and on Marlborough Street in the Back Bay.

The Bay Village Historic District Commission held another mock-up viewing on March 30 at 212 Stuart St. for those unable to attend the first meeting, including members of the Beacon Hill Civic Association board who were instead attending that group’s March 14 monthly meeting.

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# Sen. Edwards kicks off reelection campaign for 3rd Suffolk seat

By John Lynds

“I swear I’m not a serial candidate,” Senator Lydia Edwards joked Monday night at her campaign kickoff for the 3rd Suffolk State Senate seat.

Edwards, who won the special election for the vacant state senate seat back in January, needs to run for reelection during the state’s primary and general elections this November.

Edwards’s joke poked fun at the fact that she ran and won her reelection to the Boston City Council in November during Boston’s municipal elections, then ran for senate in the winter during a special election and is now running again to keep her senate seat.

“Right now my district is the 1st Suffolk & Middlesex, which includes East Boston, Beacon Hill, the North End, Chinatown, parts of the South End, Winthrop, Revere and Cambridgeport,” said Edwards. “However, this seat has been redistricted into the 3rd Suffolk and I am already up for reelection.”

Edwards explained that the redistricted seat includes all the parts of the 1st Suffolk & Middlesex except for Cambridgeport. However, Edwards will pick up all of the Back Bay.

“So Back was included and Cambridgeport was excluded during redistricting,” she explained.

Edwards, who was sworn into the senate in January, has kept her city council seat but will officially resign on April 30th.

“I’ll be your full time state senator at that time,” Edwards told guests. “It’s coming right around budget time. So what that means for us and my district is we’re looking at all sorts of ways to have an equitable recovery (from the pandemic) by looking at how we see the economy differently in each of the cities and towns.”

Edwards said this includes looking to make the Suffolk Downs project an economic center for small businesses in Eastie and Revere; creating a vibrant economic center in Revere; building more affordable housing in Boston and balancing economic development with creating strong communities; and making Winthrop’s economic business center vibrant and sustainable.

“I will also be looking at how we can make transportation better and more equitable with a Blue-Red Line connector or a better and more affordable ferry service,” said Edwards. “Hopefully, we’ll be able to really talk about what we can do creatively with



Sen. Lydia Edwards kicked off her reelection campaign Monday at Spinelli’s in East Boston. From left, Andrea Campbell, Rep. Adrian Madaro, Mayor Michelle Wu, Sen. Edwards, Rep. Jessica Giannino, City Councilor Kenzie Bok, and Rep. Jeff Turco.

American Recovery Act funds and create infrastructure for the public good.”

Edwards added that she will continue to be an advocate for environmental justice communities in the senate.

“We need to be making sure that when we think about how we build and plan for our state and cities and towns, we have a centralized definition that includes language justice, that includes racial justice, that includes health impacts,” she said. “Our future is going to be green, so we need to begin that partnership with the green future of labor. I’m excited that Eastie Farms is opening a new greenhouse in East Boston. The first thing I did was invite my friends in labor because I want them to see this new green infrastructure. We invited the plumbers, who are wondering what their future is going to be. We invited the pipefitters union because we want to show them that a thermal greenhouse in East Boston is good permanent infrastructure built through union jobs. Our future is going to change and we need the skill sets to bring about that change.”

During the Zoom portion of Edwards’s kickoff she was joined by Assistant Speaker of the US House, Congresswoman Katherine Clark of Revere.

“I just wanted a chance to

come by and talk about Senator Edwards,” said Clark. “First of

all, I just moved into her district so I am thrilled not only that she’s in the State Senate, but then she’s my state senator. Lydia is so effective and such the right person for this time. She looks at issues you find partnership, and uses equity as her headline. And that’s exactly what we need to tackle these huge issues in front of us whether it’s transportation, addressing climate change, making sure health-care is accessible and housing is for all. Lydia is so passionate and informed and really uses that base for finding great partners, keeping her community involved and using her integrity and her incredible voice to move us forward. She’s really going to help us in the communities she serves, and in the Commonwealth as a whole, and will meet this time of historic challenge with historic progress.”

Clark added that her and Edwards are beginning to have some of their first events together as state senator and congresswoman.

“Lydia’s voice, whether it is out celebrating an investment in a new station to connect Revere to the Commuter Rail or the host of other projects that are coming that are about making sure that we are meeting this moment,” said Clark. “This is our moment to keep working, making sure that people are able to thrive and that every single person can see themselves in the economy and see a place for their family to grow and succeed.”

“That is what Livia does so naturally so I am just thrilled to be part of her delegation and thrilled to have her voice in the state senate for the communities that she serves.”

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# 2022 MFS PRO-AM DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP



Sisters and teammates Elani and Lume Landman (in white) with opposing teammates Kayley Leonard and Maria Elena Ubina.



Lume Landman (far right) hits the ball while her sister Elani and their opponent Maria Elena Ubina look on.

The 2022 MFS Pro-Am Doubles Championship was hosted by The University Club on Stuart Street this past weekend. Sunday saw the Finals for Women's Doubles with South African sisters Lume and Elani Landman facing Americans Maria Elena Ubina and Kayley Leonard (women's winners 3-1) and for the Men's Doubles Manek Mathur and Chris Callis (men's winners 3-1) from the USA faced Zac Alexander from Australia and Greg McArthur from Scotland.

Title Sponsor of the event was MFS Investment Management, and Associate Sponsors were Windham Capital Management, Massachusetts Squash and Allegiant Global Partners. The Tour-

namment Committee is Len Bernheimer, Greg Collins, Will Hearty, John Nimick, Thomas Poor, Fer-

nanda Rocha-Maturi, Errin Siagel, Chris Spahr, Ben Thorndike, and Sandy Tierney.



Elani Landman eyes up a shot while opponent Kayley Leonard looks on.



American squash legend Lenny Bernheimer addresses the audience and thanks the two Women's Final teams, Elani Landman and Lume Landman with Maria Elena Ubina and Kayley Leonard, for their perseverance in their match.

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# 2022 MFS PRO-AM DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP



Greg McArthur (far right) strikes at the ball while teammate Zac Alexander (2nd from right) and opponents Manek Mathur and Chris Callis look on.



Manek Mathur (far right) goes after the ball while teammate Chris Callis (2nd from right) and opponents Zac Alexander and Greg McArthur look on.



Manek Mathur (second from left) goes after the ball while teammate Chris Callis (second from right) and opponents Zac Alexander and Greg McArthur look on.



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# Cafeteria owner hopes to repeat success in same Newbury Street restaurant space

By Dan Murphy

Cafeteria closed during the height of the pandemic in October of 2020, ending a successful 13-year run in a space at the corner of Gloucester and Newbury streets that had previously been home to a succession of ill-fated restaurants, and now its owner is looking to repeat his luck at the same location when his newest restaurant, Eva, opens there in early- to mid-April.

"Before Cafeteria was here, it was always changing hands, with different restaurants and different concepts," said George Aboujaoude, owner of the erstwhile

Back Bay restaurant, as well as Committee in the Seaport, among other dining establishments.

In fact, turnover at 279A Newbury St. was previously so frequent that many had likened the success of Cafeteria in a space where so many other restaurants had failed to the Red Sox "reversing the curse" in 2004 when the team ended its 86-year slump with a World Series victory.

"Once Cafeteria really established itself, the press and the media knew it here to stay and going to become part of the Back Bay and part of Newbury Street,"



COURTESY OF TIFFANY BARQAWI DESIGN

Renderings showing a look inside Eva restaurant, which is slated to open in April in the former Cafeteria space at the corner of Gloucester and Newbury streets.

said Aboujaoude.

When Cafeteria eventually closed during the pandemic, this provided Aboujaoude enough down time to not only rethink the restaurant and come with the new concept for Eva, which he describes as having more a Mediterranean flair than its predecessor, but also to completely gut and overhaul the space itself.

Eva's menu will highlight "modern American cuisine," according to Aboujaoude, as opposed to Cafeteria's "upscale American comfort food." Along with traditional appetizers, and salads, Eva's signature dishes will include the grilled octopus; braised short-rib gnocchi; tuna tartare, prepared with soy-and-citrus-dressed tuna, avocado and spicy mayo served with wonton crisps.

"Everything is first locally sourced," said Aboujaoude.

Eva will also be introducing a new spin on Cafeteria's renowned burger, with locally sourced, grass-fed ground beef served on a brioche bun.

As for libations, Eva will also feature an "extensive craft beer program" with nine breweries represented from Boston, Massachusetts, and throughout New England.

The front of the house will be in the hands of Nick Antonucci, Eva's

General Manager, who worked for 10 years at Back Bay Social, before becoming the assistant general manager at Committee and then going on to open Trillium Brewing Company as its bar manager.

Davis Norton, who previously worked with Antonucci at Trillium, will be Eva's Assistant General Manager.

The restaurant's design, credited to Newton's Tiffany Barqawi Design, is accentuated in a palette of blues, greens, and natural wood tones.

"We wanted more exposed wood and a rustic look," said Aboujaoude.

In all, 90 can be accommodated on Eva's two floors, with seating for 45 customers on each level.

Downstairs, which is adorned with hand-woven raffia chandeliers and a unique leaf-like wall covering, is home to a 12-seat bar, while the remaining 33 seats are split among two- and four-seat tables.

The bar upstairs has 13 seats, with the other 32 seats dispersed between two- and four seat tables.

While the layout of both floors remains the same as before, the overall capacity inside has been increased by a total of about eight seats, since a "few seats were added to each floor," said Aboujaoude.

For outdoor dining, Eva's 91-seat patio is believed to be the biggest in the Back Bay.

Eva, meanwhile, takes its name from the Aboujaoude's children and also means "full of life," which is how Aboujaoude often described the atmosphere when Cafeteria occupied the space.

"When we had all three levels going, it was just alive," said Aboujaoude, a South End native whose father, Elias, was the owner of the Cedars of Lebanon Restaurant in that neighborhood for more than 20 years.

"We're hoping to make this for Newbury Street what my Dad's restaurant was for Shawmut Ave, and to make it the neighborhood restaurant that Cafeteria ended up becoming," he added.

Above all else, Aboujaoude, hopes Eva will become what he describes as "a neighborhood-first restaurant," and one that's in it for the long haul.

"My hope is to have another 10 to 15 years of success, and to really capture some of my old customers who used to be my neighbors when I was living on Comm. Ave," said

For more about Eva, visit [eva-boston.com](http://eva-boston.com) (which is still under construction), or follow the restaurant at [EVA\\_Boston](https://www.instagram.com/EVA_Boston) on Instagram.

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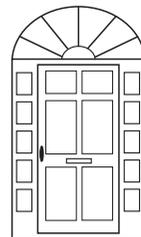
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280-406 Comm Ave LLC	Burns RT	280 Commonwealth Ave #406	\$725,000
Alber, Daniel	67 Saint Botolph LLC	67 Saint Botolph St #3	\$1,739,000
Fontes, Silvestre A	Quillopo, Alejandro A	387 Marlborough St #2	\$420,000
<b>BEACON HILL</b>			
Dichiara, Jacqueline M	Heller, Lynda	9 Hawthorne Pl #12G	\$410,000
Tassini, James	Goodman, Reuben	34 Myrtle St #1	\$915,000
Sand, Christopher	F M Scricco 2009 Res T	97 Pinckney St	\$6,125,000
Ravicz, Tanyo	Second South Russell NT	12 S Russell St	\$2,470,000
Tedeschi, Judith	A T Truesdale 2005 RET	3 Spruce St #5	\$2,799,000
Devor, Christopher	Higgins, James D	1-R Strong Pl	\$1,762,887
Curran, Gregory	SSH Willow LLC	9 Willow St #61	\$970,000
<b>BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE</b>			
Balloun 2nd, James S	Albright, Charles F	130 Appleton St #1E	\$765,000
Stone, Hilary M	Vedovatto, Marcelo	108 Chandler St #3	\$2,400,000
Finney, Emily P	Mcnamara, Kelley M	38 Dwight St #4	\$720,000
Scriz Holdings LLC	Craven, Vanessa	485-495 Harrison Ave #409	\$1,315,000
Wagner, Kasey A	Macniel, Cynthia C	127 Pembroke St #2	\$710,500
Crisler, John G	411 Shawmut Avenue RT	411 Shawmut Ave #4	\$825,000
Viswanathan, Arvind	Keller, Travis A	517 Shawmut Ave #1	\$2,000,000
Kirti, Shruti	Dev Vardhan RET	32 Traveler St #313	\$192,797
Wachholz, James	Allied Residences LLC	88 Wareham St #504	\$999,900
<b>WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN</b>			
Demidov, Alexander A	Harrist, Terence J	2 Avery St #26F	\$985,000
Jiang, Xuwel	Henderer, James F	80 Broad St #305	\$605,000
Mcgee, Kara L	357 Com St Unit 616 RT	357 Commercial St #616	\$754,000
Malinowska, Izabela A	Uhler, Caroline	1 Franklin St #2111	\$1,370,000
Uhler, Caroline	Arcari, Giuseppe A	1 Franklin St #3201	\$2,300,000
TN Properties 2 LLC	Crik 11G LLC	151 Tremont St #11G	\$650,000

# Attention to Detail

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY PENNY CHERUBINO

## THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The eagle door knocker in the last clue is on 113 Pinckney Street built circa 1835. The eagle became our national symbol in 1782. In an article for The Met, Amy Liebster wrote, "All over the new nation, the bald eagle was incorporated into designs for furniture, architecture, textiles, metalwork, and porcelain." On your next walk, see how many eagles you can find.

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

## THIS WEEK'S CLUE



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# Wu launches the 2022 Summer Youth Jobs application

Mayor Michelle Wu announced that the 2022 Boston SuccessLink Summer Youth Jobs program has been expanded and is now accepting applications. As part of Mayor Wu's commitment to youth development, the program has been expanded to include 6,000 job opportunities which is 1,000 more jobs than last year. Boston youth ages 14 to 18 (14-year-olds must turn 15 by September 1, 2022) can now apply for a summer job. Youth will have the opportunity to get connected to thousands of summer jobs that aim to promote skill building and networking through the City of Boston's Department of Youth Engagement and Employment's (DYEE) SuccessLink Employment Program. The Department will grant up to \$3.8 million to local nonprofits for summer 2022.

"Boston's youth summer jobs program is critical in empowering our youth and expanding opportunities for them to develop job skills and confidence in the workplace as a foundation for their future," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "I'm grateful to all of our programs and organizations and encourage every teenager and young adult in Boston to apply."

"Despite the ever changing landscape of COVID-19, the youth jobs ecosystem in Boston managed to remain flexible in how we deliver youth jobs opportunities, skill development, and career exploration – and most impor-

tantly our youth participants and employment partners adapted to navigate the changes with us," said Rashad Cope, Director of the Department of Youth Engagement & Employment. "We are excited to continue the work alongside so many incredible youth leaders and champions to drive forward a summer of learning, fun, and growth through summer jobs."

Every year, the City of Boston invests over \$10 million into organizations located in neighborhoods across the city to give youth early exposure to various career paths and industry areas. There will continue to be hybrid, virtual, and in-person experiences in a wide variety of fields like the arts, community/social assistance, government & advocacy, food services, health care, public administration, STEM, sports & recreation, child-care, education, and more. The City of Boston will also continue the Learn and Earn Postsecondary program, which will be managed by the Mayor's Office of Workforce Development (OWD). The City will continue to support organizations that offer virtual job opportunities this summer and focus on efforts to provide jobs to vulnerable youth populations through the Massachusetts Commonwealth Corporation YouthWorks partnership. This partnership helps ensure disadvantaged youth, vulnerable youth, and youth with identified risk barriers have access to employment opportunities.

Last summer, DYEE introduced a grant funding component as part of the SuccessLink Youth Employment Program, providing youth wages for grantees. Partner organizations were responsible for managing the recruitment, hiring, and payroll processes with the goal of increasing the quality of workforce development opportunities for the young people of Boston. DYEE awarded \$2.2 million for nearly 1,200 youth positions.

"What I loved about the Boston Area Health Education Center is how they exposed students to different medical careers, beyond just the familiar clinical careers," said Andrianna Leon, SuccessLink Youth Jobs participant at Boston Public Health Commission - Boston Area Health Education Center. "With endless supportive staff and a dedication to diversity in the health field, BAHEC helped me discover my love for public health. I'm forever grateful to them for helping me find my passion, and providing the resources and confidence to pursue it as a future health professional."

DYEE is again collaborating with the Mayor's Office for Immigrant Advancement (MOIA) through the Dreamers Fellowship, which provides stipended leadership training and hands-on experience to immigrant youth, regardless of immigration status. Led by the Caribbean Youth Club, this fellowship helps ensure all youth have the same opportunities for

personal and professional development.

"We have been a SuccessLink partner for over 15 years and were really excited about the implementation of a new grant process," said Kasey Boston, the Director of Youth Programs at St. Stephen's Youth Programs. "The grant process allowed us to make connections early on with our teen staff and coach them through our own internal onboarding process. The implementation of this grant process allowed us to successfully employ over 80 youth last summer. We look forward to continuing to partner with YEE as a grant partner again this summer."

There are two ways for youth to get connected to a SuccessLink youth job:

- SuccessLink Direct Partner jobs - where youth will be hired by the City of Boston through the SuccessLink portal to work across various organizations, and;
- SuccessLink Grant Partner jobs - where youth will be hired directly through the grant partners organization website and application process.

The DYEE youth jobs webpage is designed to help young people navigate the application, onboarding and hiring processes. The website also ensures that youth and families have access to the resources they need to navigate the employment process for both SuccessLink Direct Partners and SuccessLink Grant Partners effectively.

The SuccessLink Youth Employment Program is largely funded by the City of Boston and is designed not only to recruit and hire youth, but also to ensure that their employment experience is engaging, meaningful, and a building block for their professional development and personal success. DYEE partners with a host of nonprofit organizations, city and quasi-city agencies, as well as other key youth employment providers across the city, including Action for Boston Community Development, the Boston Private Industry Council, John Hancock's MLK Scholars, and Youth Options Unlimited and the Mayor's Office of Workforce Development, to provide meaningful employment opportunities to a collective 8,000 youth between the ages of 14-21. Each of these agencies expand the summer job opportunities available to youth across Boston.

Registering for a summer position with SuccessLink does not guarantee a job. Applicants are welcome to register online at Youth Summer Jobs or visit Department of Youth Engagement & Employment at 1483 Tremont Street, Roxbury, or call 617-635-4202 for registration assistance.

For more information on the Department of Youth Engagements summer employment program, visit [youth.boston.gov](http://youth.boston.gov). There you can also find out more about DYEE's employment program and additional youth resources.

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at (770) 667-2040 x 405 during normal business hours. Comments must be received within 30 days of the date of this notice. X2534/ADK 3/31/22 BH

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To all interested persons:  
A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Timothy A. Smith of Hampton, NH requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Timothy A. Smith of Hampton, NH 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 04/26/2022. 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 days (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: March 28, 2022  
Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

# Beacon Hill, surrounding area's weekly COVID positive test rate increases

By John Lynds

With the city's COVID-19 state of emergency set to be lifted Friday, Beacon Hill and the surrounding area's weekly COVID positive test rate increased last week. With indoor mask mandates and proof of vaccination measures already lifted weeks ago it seems Boston as a whole is heading in the right direction with the weekly positive test rate still comfortably under the 5 percent threshold.

Last week, 981 Beacon Hill, Back Bay, North End, Downtown and West End residents were tested for the virus and 4.7 percent were positive--this was a 34 percent

increase from the 3.5 percent that tested positive as reported by the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) on March 21.

Forty six additional residents contracted the virus between March 21 and March 28 and there are now 9,360 confirmed cases in the neighborhood since the start of the pandemic.

According to the BPHC 12,286 residents were tested citywide last week and 3 percent were COVID positive--this was a 30 percent increase from the 2.3 percent that reportedly tested positive for the week ending on March 21.

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 0.6 percent last week and went from 167,241 cases to 168,260 confirmed since the start of the pandemic.

There were five additional deaths in Boston from the virus in the past week and the total number of COVID deaths is now at 1,439. Deaths increased 67 percent in Boston last week with two more deaths compared to the three deaths reported by the BPHC two weeks ago.

## NEWS BRIEFS

### CITY HOLDS FIRST BOSTON REC FEST AT FRANKLIN PARK APRIL 19

Mayor Michelle Wu and the Boston Parks and Recreation Department present the first annual Boston Rec Fest (Recreation Festival) during the April school vacation week at the Playstead in Franklin Park on Tuesday, April 19, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

This free event for kids 18 and under will feature a variety of sporting activities for young Boston residents. Fun inflatables will provide skills challenges in the All-In-One Sports Arena, Full Court Press basketball game, QB Blitz football throw, Field Goal Challenge, Slap Shot Hockey, Soccer Shoot Out, All Star Challenge obstacle course. Baseball fans can engage with the Speed Pitch radar gun, Batting Cage, and Extreme Batting attraction that lets kids swing for the fences.

Hands-on clinics hosted by sports professionals in archery, baseball, and softball will be offered along with a Boston Bruins Foundation street hockey clinic and giveaway, USA Pickleball Association clinic, and USTA tennis clinic. The event will also include an appearance by Red Sox mascot Wally the Green Monster.

The festival location is at the Playstead on Pierpont Road near the rear entrance of Franklin Park Zoo. By MBTA, take the Orange Line to Forest Hills and the #16 bus to the zoo. By car, the park can be reached from Blue Hill Avenue, Seaver Street, or Circuit Drive. Ample free parking. Fully handicapped accessible.

For more information and to stay up to date with news, events, and improvements in Boston parks, call (617) 635-4505, visit [Boston.gov/Parks](http://Boston.gov/Parks), join our email list at [bit.ly/Get-Parks-Emails](mailto:bit.ly/Get-Parks-Emails), and follow our social channels @ [bostonparksdept](https://twitter.com/bostonparksdept) on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram.

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### ALL GIRLS SPORTS AND WELLNESS FESTIVAL RETURNS APRIL 20

Mayor Michelle Wu, the Boston Parks and Recreation Department, and Boston Centers for Youth & Families (BCYF) invite Boston girls ages 9 to 14 to join us during the April school vacation week for the All Girls Sports and Wellness Festival.

The free event will take place on Wednesday, April 20, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the BCYF Leahy-Holloran Community Center, 1 Worrell Street, Dorchester. The All Girls Sports and Wellness Festival will feature a variety of sports, games, health and wellness speakers, self-defense tactics, and aquatic activities.

Participants will find a variety of fun ways to exercise mind, body, and spirit and try out a variety of sports with expert instructors including basketball, dance fitness, rock climbing, swimming, soccer, and more, with additional support from local non-profits and City of Boston agencies.

Event check-in begins at 9:30 a.m. Pre-registration is required at [boston.gov/sports](http://boston.gov/sports). Participants must be Boston residents and should bring activity-appropriate clothing (including swimsuits and towels for those wishing to enjoy the pool). Free lunch will be provided.

For more information and to stay up to date with news, events, and improvements in Boston parks, call (617) 635-4505, visit [Boston.gov/Parks](http://Boston.gov/Parks), join our email list at [bit.ly/Get-Parks-Emails](mailto:bit.ly/Get-Parks-Emails), and follow our social channels @ [bostonparksdept](https://twitter.com/bostonparksdept) on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram.

# Eduardo Moreno Mendez named new Chief of Staff for Sen. Lydia Edwards

By John Lynds

Growing up in El Salvador Eduardo Moreno Mendez never imagined he'd one day be working in the office of some high-profile elected official like U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren.

Mendez, who has lived in Eastie since coming to America at 16, has become a shining example of where determination can get you if you work hard and apply yourself to the task at hand.

It was announced this week that Mendez was appointed by Sen. Lydia Edwards to serve as her Chief of Staff.

"Eduardo is from El Salvador and is a long time East Boston resident," said Edwards. "Eduardo represents the values and the hard work that many immigrants bring to our country and to our city."

After arriving in the US, Mendez enrolled in East Boston High School and graduated in 2012.

After graduating EBHS Mendez attended Bunker Hill Community College for four years before transferring to UMass Boston where he received his degree in 2019.

While in college Mendez interned in Sen. Warren's office and then for former State Sen. Joseph Boncore.

After he graduated college he served in the Secretary of Housing and Economic Development Jay Ash's office doing research



Sen. Lydia Edwards new Chief of Staff Eduardo Moreno Mendez.

on several issues that affect economic development in the Commonwealth before landing a job as a legislative aide for Sen. Sonia Chang-Diaz.

Mendez said he got to know Edwards while interning for Sen. Boncore.

"I obviously knew who she was being my City Councilor," said Mendez. "But my mentor at the time, Juan Jaramillo, formally introduced us while he was Boncore's legislative director."

So when Edwards was elected to replace Bonore, Mendez was on the very short list of candidates to serve as her Chief of Staff.

"This is a great opportunity, because I will get to serve my community as well as the opportunity to be more impactful on the legislative agenda that Sen. Edwards is creating," said Mendez. "It's very exciting."

Mendez said he's also excited to get to work on housing justice, social justice, environmental justice issues in the district as well as working to help the immigrant community thrive.

"With Sen. Edwards being the Chair of Small Business and Community Development the office will have a bigger impact on small business owners and immigrant business owners impacted by the pandemic," said Mendez. "Many owners are still desperate and need our help because they are the mom and pop businesses that have been in our communities for so many years."

In the end, Mendez said he wants to use his role as Chief of Staff as an example of hard work and determination.

"I want to prove to all young people, whether they are from the US or are immigrants, that hard work, passion and dedication will get you far in life," he said. "I want to just show people that if I can do it they can do it as well."

Mendez recently became a U.S. Citizen and speaks four languages, English, Spanish, Italian, and French.

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# Boston restaurants still facing uncertainty concerning future of outdoor dining

By Dan Murphy

Even as Mayor Michelle Wu and North End restaurants appear to be moving closer to reaching a compromise on the future of outdoor dining in that neighborhood, the status of outdoor patios for other restaurants throughout the city remains undetermined amid changing state and city regulations, according to one well-established Boston restaurateur.

“It’s unfortunate that state still hasn’t approved outdoor dining,” 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. “We hope that they can come to an agreement and authorize our cities and towns to have outdoor dining back, which residents in most Boston neighborhoods are in support of.”

On top of this, approximately three weeks ago, Boston restaurants learned that the city’s application process for outdoor dining was being “fine-tuned,” said Bina, and that restaurants would have to “resubmit more details regarding the setup and infrastructure for outdoor dining.”

“What was filed before is null and void. There is an all-new application process, and general-



COURTESY OF BINA FAMILY HOSPITALITY  
*Babak Bina, co-founder and co-owner of BiNA Family Hospitality, which owns and operates Bin 26 on Charles Street, as well as jm Curley and its steakhouse, Bogie’s Place, in Downtown Crossing.*

ly, they’ve fine-tuned issues they might have identified, like drainage or safety,” said Bina. “Now, we have to spend additional funds to apply. We hope [our applications] can be approved, and that we can open quickly.”

Additionally, some restaurants have already spent significant sums on barriers to separate diners and the street, which are no longer

acceptable per the city, and they are now required to use certified concrete barriers or water-weighted barriers that can withstand a heavy impact instead.

Bina personally spent \$4,000 on his street barriers, which are no longer permitted, while he knows of other restaurateurs who spent between \$7,000 and \$10,000 on barriers that are now useless in the eyes of the city.

Another problem Bina and other restaurant owners continue to face is the ongoing supply-chain issue, which, since the onset of the pandemic, has had adverse effects in nearly every industry.

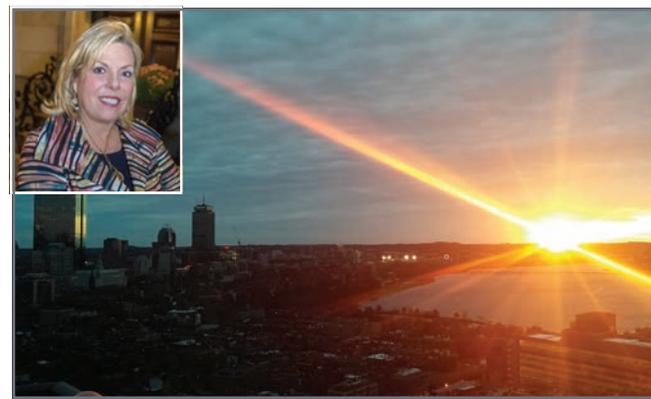
“I don’t think in 2022 we’ll see a drop in our costs,” said Bina. “Our costs continue to rise, but we’re seeing no relief from suppliers, and that has continued. Although the business has had glimpses of making an excellent comeback, that’s the biggest challenge for us across the board.”

Looking ahead, Bina and other restaurateurs like him are hoping to see some more consistency in terms of policies around outdoor dining, as well as some more stability when it comes to the supply chain.

“We’re hoping this year we can come up with a long-term agreement for outdoor dining, as well as a possible decrease in our costs by the end of the year,” he said.

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