

A SANCTUARY CAFÉ COMING TO CHARLES STREET



D. MURPHY PHOTO

A Sanctuary Cafe: Coffee, Books & Cats is set to open at 80 Charles St. in the coming months, according to Brittany Baker, the proprietor. The business will also be holding an Open House on site on Thursday, May 19, to coincide with the return of the Hidden Gardens of Beacon Hill Annual Tour as an in-person event, said Baker. To join Sanctuary Café's mailing list, visit asanctuarycafe.com, and check this publication in the weeks ahead for an upcoming feature story on this new business.

Mayor Wu unveils city's proposed, nearly \$4 billion operating budget for Fiscal '23

By Dan Murphy

Mayor Michelle Wu unveiled her administration's first proposed operating budget for the city – a recommended \$3.99 billion for Fiscal '23 – last Wednesday, April 13.

This represents new growth of \$216 million or 5.7 percent over Fiscal '22, according to the city, while the Fiscal '23-'27 Capital Plan, which Mayor Wu describes as a "moving target," totals \$3.6 billion of neighborhood infrastructure investments.

Mayor Wu told a small group of reporters from neighborhood newspapers on hand for a Media Roundtable on Thursday, April 14, in the Eagle Room at City Hall that the goal is to connect this money with the nearly \$350 in one-time federal funds received

through the 2021 American Rescue Plan Act, which still remain unallocated, to help Boston reach its goal of becoming a Green New Deal City.

"This is an unheard of amount of money for the city to have available, and there are many needs, but we're going to try to focus on a significant scale in a few key areas," said Mayor Wu. "We have a chance to truly accelerate and go big."

An unprecedented commitment of \$380 million is being made to housing affordability via the city's operating budget while around \$206 million of the \$350 million in unallocated AARP funds will be focused on creating affordable housing and assistance for first-generation homebuyers, as well as updating public housing units. (The AARP funds that the

city is receiving must be accounted for by 2024 and spent by 2026.)

This comes in response to what was heard during listening sessions held in neighborhoods across the city, said Mayor Wu, as well from respondents who participated in the city's online survey.

Also, about \$34 million is earmarked for economic opportunity and inclusion: to grow BIPOC-owned businesses, to further invest in Main Street business districts, to expand tuition-free community college and workforce training programs, and to create a commercial rental rebate program to support small business recovery and build wealth in Boston neighborhoods.

Another around \$31.5 million is earmarked for climate-focused

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Founders Circle Reception for BHCA planned at the Nichols House Museum

By Suzanne Besser

This year's reception for members of the Beacon Hill Civic Association's Founders Circle will take place May 4, at the Nichols House Museum, 55 Mt. Vernon Street. It is the former home of Marion Nichols, who co-founded the neighborhood association 100 years ago.

The reception is entitled '1922: Remembering the Nichols House 100 years ago' and will enable visitors in small groups to explore the highlights of the house's history and collections around the early 1920s as well as its relationship to the BHCA. Wine and hors d'oeuvres, along with small doses of history, will be served between 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 pm.

The reception is part of a series of events to be held this year to celebrate BHCA's centennial anniversary, which will culminate on September 10 with a formal catered dinner for up to 300 neighbors to be held outside on lower Mt. Vernon Street.

One hundred years ago, the Beacon Hill Civic Association – which author and resident Moying-Li Marcus called one of the oldest and most tenacious neighborhood associations in American history – was founded after the first notorious 'Battle of the Bricks'. At that time, residents objected to the city's intent to repave historic Mt.

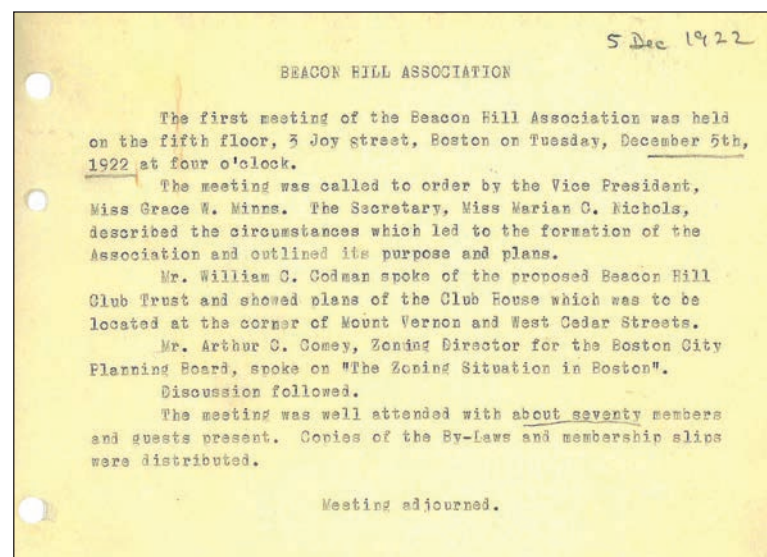
Vernon Street with shale paving blocks, deeming them too slippery for humans and horses, and arguing that the city had no right to foist upon them a street pavement they all detested.

The neighbors' wishes prevailed and, rightfully concerned that such skirmishes with the city would continue in the years to come, they decided to form a permanent neighborhood association. Its mission would be to protect Beacon Hill's residential and historic character, and to plan for the community's future. One of its leaders was Marian Nichols, a reformer and activist who was raised with her two sisters at 55 Mount Vernon Street.

Nichols invited 77 Beacon Hillers and guests to a large room on the fifth floor of 3 Joy Street and proposed the formation of such an organization. And so it was that the Battle of the Bricks led to the founding of the Beacon Hill Association in December 1922. Nichols served as its secretary until 1939. When the association was incorporated in January 1955, its name was changed to the Beacon Hill Civic Association.

In 1930, Marion's sister Rose Standish Nichols inherited the property at 55 Mt. Vernon Street and began laying the plans for its establishment as a museum. Soon

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Minutes of the Beacon Hill Association's first meeting on December 5, 1922.

EDITORIAL

EARTH DAY REPORT, 2022: THE PLANET IS DOOMED

We were around for the first Earth Day in 1970.

We clearly recall the incident a year earlier that spurred Congress and President Richard Nixon to create the Environmental Protection Agency when the Cuyahoga River, which feeds into Lake Erie in Cleveland, literally caught fire after a spark from an industrial plant on the shoreline ignited the chemicals and other pollutants that laced the river.

The Boston area was not much better. The mid-1960s song, Dirty Water, which is played at Fenway after a Red Sox victory, was about the famously-polluted Charles River. In addition, until the Deer Island treatment plant was built in the early 1990s, Boston Harbor was considered the most-polluted harbor in the U.S.

The Clean Water Act and the modern Clean Air Act, both of which enjoyed wide bipartisan support in Congress, came into existence in the aftermath of the creation of the EPA as the result of the environmental movement and enjoyed widespread support throughout the country.

However, terms such as global warming and climate change were not in the lexicon at that time. We thought that if we could clean-up our waterways and air by reducing the levels of pollutants, everything would be fine.

And to a large extent, the goals of cleaner air -- lead was removed from gasoline, there are far fewer coal-burning plants -- and cleaner water -- we now can swim in the Charles and Boston Harbor -- have been attained.

But fast-forwarding 50 years, we now can see that we did not anticipate the global scale that air and water pollution would achieve thanks to industrial development in Third World countries and real estate development in our country.

Nor did we know then that the buildup of greenhouse gases would lead to a warmer and more dangerous planet. Indeed, we recall reading in U.S. News and World Report a cover story in the mid-1980s that predicted that the effect of air pollution would be a colder planet. According to the article, the climate in Florida would resemble that of New England within 100 years or so because, it was theorized, smog would block out the sun's rays.

But, as is evident today in the news headlines every day, just the opposite is occurring.

The Antarctic, the coldest location on the planet, recently experienced an episode of warm weather unlike any ever observed, with temperatures over the eastern Antarctic ice sheet soaring 50 to 90 degrees above normal. The warmth has smashed records and shocked scientists.

At the globe's other pole, the Arctic is warming three times faster than the rest of the planet and atmospheric scientists are trying to better understand the processes contributing to such swiftly-rising temperatures.

In Australia, the Great Barrier Reef continues to experience unprecedented coral bleaching because of rising seawater temperatures. In Florida, the manatees are dying at unprecedented rates because they are starving, thanks to the run-off from housing and agricultural developments that is choking the seagrass, their main food source.

All in all, our planet is in far worse shape, despite many notable successes, than it was on the first Earth Day in 1970. And the sad reality is that at the rate we're going, in another 52 years things are going to be exponentially worse.

GUEST OP-ED

Living life lighter

Dr. Glenn Mollette

Carrying baggage is exhausting. When traveling we often pack more than we need. When making a trip it's always easier to travel light.

Life is a trip. The longer we live the more we seem to pack and try to carry. Our mind has so many shelves, drawers and spaces for luggage of all shapes and sizes. We have this giant closet inside our brains that we fill up throughout life.

Your mental closet is filled with memories that are good and not so good. You may have spaces filled with grief, sadness, hurts, rejection, loss, failure, disappointments, defeats and more. You also hopefully have stored up some happy times, victories, successes, celebrations, achievements, love, relationships and peace. Hopefully your mind is filled with more positive happy events.

I heard the story about a young man who loved his cat. The cat died and his mother gave him permission to bury his cat in the backyard. The mother became appalled

when she discovered her son was digging up the cat every few days to see how the cat was doing. Too often we live our lives this way. We dig up old stuff that needs to remain buried forever.

Too often the mind carries what cannot be physically buried, good or bad. We are frequently impacted by what we keep stored. One cold morning, a little boy put his backside up against an old coal stove. The hot stove burned his bottom and he knew never to do that again. What we have stored up in our minds can often serve us well. Wisdom is gained the hard way. The school of hard knocks is educational and expensive. We pay dearly throughout life to learn the hard way. Thus, what we have stored up can be very valuable to us as we face additional life challenges and opportunities.

Your past decisions, work, interests, achievements, failures and mistakes all play a part in where you are today. This could be very good. Or, it could be very bad. If you learned from your mistakes and moved forward then you may be further ahead than you ever

imagined. If you didn't learn from your mistakes and you continue to make them then frustration and sadness is haunting you.

Today is a new day. You can't change the past. You do not know the future. Live your best life now. Dispose of as much baggage as you can. Do away with old resentments and regrets. Forgive people. Forgive yourself. Don't live in the cemetery but live with hope of seeing your loved one in a better place.

Paul, the author of Philippians said it this way, "Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

Glenn Mollette is the publisher of Newburgh Press, Liberty Torch and various other publishing imprints; a national columnist -- American Issues and Common Sense opinions, analysis, stories and features appear each week in over 500 newspapers, websites and blogs across the United States.

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Brian Golden leaving BPDA as Director

Special to the Times

Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) Director Brian Golden announced that he will conclude his tenure after serving for more than eight years as the chief executive of the agency. As the BPDA's chief executive, Golden has managed the biggest building boom in Boston's history, while ushering in holistic reforms that have improved how the agency supports the residents of Boston. He focused on improving transparency, accountability, and community engagement, while furthering equitable outcomes throughout Boston's neighborhoods. As Director, Golden led an intensive operational reform effort over multiple years and rebranded the agency from the former Boston Redevelopment Authority (BRA) to the Boston Planning and Development Agency to better reflect the agency's mission.

"The Board has seen first hand the instrumental work Brian has led to support economic development and new housing opportunities that lift up our communities, while creating a more transparent, accountable BPDA that better serves the people of Boston," said BPDA Board Chair Priscilla Rojas. "On behalf of the Board, I thank Brian for his many years of service to our city and wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors."

"During my time on the Board



Brian Golden.

I have witnessed the transformative impact of Brian's leadership to create long lasting positive changes that are improving our neighborhoods by creating more opportunities for Boston residents to succeed, and stabilizing Boston's finances through increased tax revenues," said Dr. Ted Landsmark, BPDA Board Member. "I thank Brian for not only his leadership at the BPDA, but his friendship, and am grateful for his commitment to creating a stronger, more resilient Boston for generations to come."

Appointed as Executive Director/Secretary in 2009 by Mayor Thomas M. Menino, and permanent Director by Mayor Martin J. Walsh in 2014, Golden is the longest serving leader in the agency's 65-year history. Over the past eight

years, he has steered more than 90 million square feet of development approvals through the BPDA's permitting process. This total reflects approximately 49 million square feet of residential development, as well as 32 million square feet of commercial, institutional, life science, hotel, retail, and industrial development. These projects represent approximately \$43 billion of investment. The approvals include approximately 46,000 new housing units, nearly 11,000 of which are designated as income-restricted and available at below market rates. These developments support over 80,000 permanent jobs, over 90,000 construction jobs, and 46,000 additional induced (indirect) jobs. Since 2019, over 20 percent of new housing units approved each year have been income-restricted; over 35 percent of units approved in 2021 were income-restricted. Boston has a higher percentage of income-restricted affordable housing than any other city in America.

Golden grew the BPDA's planning capacity, dedicating the resources and personnel necessary to complete the first general city plan since 1965, Imagine Boston 2030, which the BPDA board formally adopted in 2017. He also initiated a variety of community planning efforts in Roxbury, East Boston, Allston-Brighton, Jamaica Plain, Dorchester, South Boston, Mattapan, Newmarket, Downtown (including the Municipal Harbor Plan), and the Raymond L. Flynn Marine Park (Master Plan Update). Many of these plans seek to nurture Boston as one of the world's great life science clusters by creating a framework for increasing the number of facilities for life science uses. Since 2014, the BPDA has planned over 14

BHCA (from pg. 1)

after her death in 1960, the Nichols House Museum opened to the public and to this day welcomes virtual and in-person visitors for tours, programs, and special events. It maintains and preserves an original collection that reflects the Nichols family's cultural values and changing tastes across two generations.

The Founders Circle is the highest level of BHCA's member-

ship. It provides vital support to sustain the association's ongoing operations and the fulfillment of its mission. Its generous members contribute from \$500 to \$5000 annually.

To become a Founders Circle member and/or to attend the May 4 Reception, go to www.bhcivic.org or call the office at 617-227-1922.

BUDGET (from pg. 1)

investments, including expanding the Green Youth Jobs program, creating walking and biking infrastructure, growing and preserving the city's urban tree canopy, strengthening local food systems, and supporting electrification of the city's vehicle and school bus fleet.

Climate-resiliency measures will be also incorporated into many city projects, said Mayor Wu, such as the \$10 million allocated for Ryan Playground in Charlestown, which will incorporate design elements to combat sea-level rise.

Despite proposing an approximately 1 percent cut to the Boston Police Department's budget from just under \$400 million in Fiscal '22 to about \$396 million in Fiscal '23, Mayor Wu said there would be more officers on the street in the coming year, with two recruit classes of about 130 each, as well as the cadet program, together expected to exceed officer who are retiring or otherwise are expected to be lost to attrition.

According to a statement from the city, "Mayor Wu is committed to ensuring the City workforce reflects Boston's neighborhoods and the residents we serve, including our public safety agencies. Our administration is working to break down barriers to expand opportu-

nities for women and people of color to join our Police Department and every department in city government. The budget proposed by Mayor Wu includes an expansion of the cadet program to 90 cadets from 60 in order to promote diversity within the force. It also includes two police recruit classes that will help maintain appropriate staffing levels and diversify the City's police force as well as \$500,000 for a public safety staffing study to ensure public safety resources are allocated appropriately throughout the City's neighborhoods."

Meanwhile, Boston received AAA bond ratings from both rating agencies for the eighth year in a row last month.

"Boston is in such sound fiscal shape, and we weathered the pandemic very well," said Mayor Wu, as opposed to some other cities that are using the federal funds they receive to "fill holes" in their budget, or to hire back their furloughed employees.

With the passage of Ballot Question 1 in last Nov. 2's election, the city's operating budget now goes to the City Council, where it must garner support from two-thirds of the councilors before it can go into effect July 1.

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Area A-1 sees 11-percent spike in Part One crime from last year

By Dan Murphy

Heading into this Easter, Area A-1 had seen an 11-percent increase in Part One crime from 2021.

According to Boston Police, 489 incidents of Part One crime were reported in the district, which includes Beacon Hill, Chinatown Downtown and the North End, between Jan. 1 and April 10 of this year, as opposed to 440 during the same timeframe in 2021. But this year has still seen a nearly 9-percent drop from the five-year average of 535 Part One crime incidents, however.

(Part One Crime includes violent crimes [homicide, rape and attempted rape, robbery and attempted robbery, and aggravated assault], as well as property crimes [burglary and attempted burglary, larceny and attempted larceny, and vehicle theft and attempted vehicle theft].)

The number of homicides held steady, with two incidents both this year and last, while rapes and attempted rapes were up 60 percent as the number climbed to eight from five in 2021. (The five-year average in the district was also two homicides, while the number of rapes and attempted

rapes during that same time period was seven.)

The number of robberies and attempted robberies, meanwhile, dropped nearly 43 percent as the number fell to 20 from 35 last year. (The five-year average in this category was 38 incidents.)

Incidents of domestic aggravated assault saw a nearly 38-percent decline, with five incidents this year, compared to eight in 2021. (The five-year average in this category was also five incidents.)

Incidents of non-domestic aggravated assault were down around 24 percent as the number year fell to 41 from 54 last year

(while the five-year average was 64 incidents.)

Commercial burglaries doubled, with 22 this year as opposed to 11 in 2021. (The five-year average in this category was 18 incidents.)

In contrast, residential burglaries were down 75 percent as the number fell to four from 16 last year. (The five-year average in this category was 15 incidents.)

Incidents of larceny from a motor vehicle were down slightly as the number fell to 57 from 59 last year. (The five-year average for this category was 79 incidents.)

Other larcenies saw a 32-per-

cent spike, with 297 incidents this year as opposed to 225 in 2021. (The five-year average in this category was 317 incidents.)

Likewise, auto theft was also up 32 percent as the number climbed to 33 from 25 last year. (The five-year average in this category was 21 incidents.)

Citywide, Part One crime was up 3 percent, with 3,604 incidents this year as opposed to 3,495 in 2021. (The five-year average for Part One crime citywide was 3,987 incidents.)

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The Postal Service in Massachusetts is hosting an all-office job fair to fill immediate openings for positions in processing and delivery.

On May 27, stop by any Massachusetts Post Office to learn about open positions near you and begin the application process.

To assist potential applicants, USPS personnel will be on-site to provide detailed information about the positions and answer questions. Applications are accepted online only at www.usps.com/careers. Applicants must be 18 years of age and be able to pass drug screening and a criminal background investigation. Applicants must be available to work weekends and holidays. See the job posting for full details for duties, responsibilities, requirements and benefits information. Job postings are updated frequently, so check back often for additional opportunities.

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Paws on Charles partners with Boston's Making Fetch Happen to offer fear free, science-based dog training

Paws on Charles, a leading Boston-based boutique pet supply store, announced today a new partnership with dog training service provider, Making Fetch Happen. Making Fetch Happen focuses on taking a fear and force free approach to training, which utilizes the latest in science-based methods. Making Fetch Happen makes training both effective and fun for people and dogs. The organization's goal is to provide dogs with the behaviors and skills they need to live more harmoniously with their humans in the home, while also providing their owners with the knowledge they need to address problem behaviors that pop up in the future.

"We're very excited to be partnering with Making Fetch Happen," said Geraldine O'Hagan, owners of Paws on Charles.

"Since opening, we're constantly being asked which dog trainers we would recommend, so we really felt there was a great need for this within our community for these types of services."

The classes offered will include basic obedience and puppy socialization to start. At-home behavioral consulting with Making Fetch Happen's Dog Behaviorist, Shelley Harrison, will also be available to local residents. Shelley is a certified KPA-CTP dog trainer with a Masters of Science in Applied Behavior Analysis from Northeastern University. She is also certified through the IAABC. Shelley has vast experience in training a variety of types of dogs, and has worked at the MSPCA, Boston Animal Control, and is currently the head behaviorist at Yankee Golden Retriever Rescue.

"We are thrilled to be partnering with Geraldine and her team," said Shelley. "Geraldine has done a really amazing job of bringing the dog community of Beacon Hill together and providing them with the highest quality products and services available. In alignment with this dedication to superior quality, Making Fetch Happen is thrilled to be able to expand Paws On Charles' offerings into training realm."

To celebrate this new partnership, Paws on Charles will be throwing a party on Saturday, April 30, noon-4p.m., where guests will get a chance to meet the trainers and talk about any issues they are having with their dogs. There will be giveaways available for both dogs and humans, along with a raffle.



COURTESY PHOTO

Paws on Charles at 123 Charles St.

NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDUP

CELEBRATE EARTH DAY AT THE WEST END BRANCH LIBRARY

Celebrate Earth Day on Friday, April 22, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the West End Branch of the Boston Public Library, located at 151 Cambridge St.

This is a collaboration of the Boston Public Library and the Friends of the West End Branch featuring free giving away little plants, seed-starting kits and books about nature for all ages, as well as grab-bags of nature crafts for children.

Special events for children (indoors, masks optional) include:

Story Time with a nature theme at 11:45 a.m.; and the Reptiles Rock Show by Reptile Rainforest from 12:30 to 1:15 p.m. - free registration is required, and space is limited (<https://bpl.bibliocommons.com/events/6241b10bbc1e-da36004229e4>).

Drop off your unwanted clothes, linens, and shoes and learn about Zero Waste Initiatives happening in the city, courtesy of Helpsy. For more information, go to <https://bpl.bibliocommons.com/events/624f42199b-89292800c0fc0e>.

If you would like to volunteer for the event, contact Jean Lawrence at jean.lawr@yahoo.com.

ARTIST PARTY FOR PAUL DONNELLY AT UPSTAIRS DOWNSTAIRS HOME

Upstairs Downstairs Home at

69 Charles St. will host an Artist Party featuring Paul Donnelly on Saturday, April 23, from 5 to 7 p.m.

DUCKLING DAY RETURNS ON MOTHER'S DAY, MAY 8

For the first time, the Friends of the Public Garden will celebrate Duckling Day on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 8. please join us for Duckling Day! For the first time in two

Led by the Harvard University Marching Band, the Duckling Day parade will begin in the Boston Common at the Parkman Bandstand and end in the Public Garden near the famous Make Way for Ducklings sculptures.

Prior to the parade will be Playtime on the Common, a vibrant array of family entertainment from 10 a.m. to noon. All activities are included with event admission including: Interactive Circus Games with Esh Circus Arts; Jenny the Juggler; Peter O'Malley, magician; Jump, climb, and play with Knucklebones; Meet the giant Duck; visit with the Harvard University Band; Make Way for Ducklings reading station; and a goody bag for every kid - full of Duckling Day-themed items.

The registration fee is \$35 per family group in advance (before May 6) and \$40 per family the day of the event.

Visit <https://friendsofthepublicgarden.org/2022/02/24/may-8-2022-duckling-day/> for tickets or more information.

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Christopher Lydon hosts the WBUR program Open Source, and has for decades been a presence on Boston public radio and television. He has been a reporter for The New York Times, the host of The Ten O'Clock News on WGBH TV, and the co-founder and host of The Connection on WBUR.



Rev. Emmett G. Price III is the Dean of Africana Studies at Berklee College of Music and the founding pastor of Community of Love Christian Fellowship in Allston. He hosts on the WGBH weekly radio segment and podcast "All Rev'd Up," and joins us to discuss the future of faith in America's Black communities.

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SANDRA GILPATRICK GUEST SPEAKER AT BEACON HILL WOMEN'S FORUM MEETING

PHOTOS BY MARIANNE SALZA

By Marianne Salza

Former Beacon Hill Women's Forum (BHWF) president, Sandra Gilpatrick, presented "Doing It My Way: Creating a Women Focused Business in a Male Dominated Industry," during the BHWF April 12 meeting at the Hampshire House. Gilpatrick has been an investment professional for over 23 years, focusing on holistic wealth management and planning for women. Her mission is to guide women in organizing and understanding their finances to achieve their personal goals.



Christina Scully, enjoying cocktail hour.



Nick Santaniello, Mimi Sun, Meredith Braunstein, Julie Madjar, Ellen White, Julie Morse, and Cindy Sullivan.



Melanie Bertani and Mimi Sun.



Christina Scully, Kelly Rottenbucher, Mary Beth Kelley, and Mimi Sun

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SANDRA GILPATRICK GUEST SPEAKER AT BEACON HILL WOMEN'S FORUM MEETING



Lorie Conway and Shelley Ophir.



Jackie Knapp, Michelle Burian, Jesse Staley, Meredith Braunstein, and Barbara Oroszko.



Coleen Stadelmann and Mandy Pallais.



Guest speaker, Sandra Gilpatrick, and Wendy Oleksiak, Co-President.



Ladies enjoying cocktail hour during the April 12 BHWF at the Hampshire House.



Lisa Purcell, Membership Director, Cindy Sullivan, Programs Director, Sandra Gilpatrick, guest speaker, and Amy Tsurumi, Co-President.

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Upcoming concert will harken back to earlier time at Otis House

By Dan Murphy

A solo fortepiano concert taking place in the parlor of Otis House on Saturday, April 30, will harken back to the spirit of the early 19th century when music often filled the room during the frequent social gatherings hosted there by Harrison Gray Otis and his wife, Sally Foster Otis.

“The Otises were largely into entraining, so filling the house again with music is the right thing to do,” said Michael Maler, Historic New England’s Metro-Boston regional site administrator. “I know the Otises would be happy with this.”

Maler said the upcoming concert at Otis House builds on his personal legacy of helping to stage music performances in historic places. Most often, these events have taken place in the Lyman Estate’s ballroom in Waltham, which has a capacity of around 80 guests, said Maler, due to the need to accommodate larger crowds.

“I’ve always wanted to do something really special in the Otis House, and when Daniel [Adam Maltz] contacted me about coming to play in Boston, I thought it was the perfect opportunity to use that space,” said Maler.

Fortepianist Daniel Adam



COURTESY PHOTO

Fortepianist Daniel Adam Maltz will perform an intimate concert on Saturday, April 30, in the parlor of Otis House.

Maltz, who is based in Vienna and studied Historical Performance at the Royal Academy of Music in London and at Vienna’s University for Music and Performing Arts, performs on historic Viennese fortepianos.

Maltz describes the fortepiano as “a period instrument, a special instrument to combine the historic music with the historic place,” and it will be his instrument of choice for his upcoming Otis House performance, which will include W.A. Mozart’s Sonata in B-flat

Major, K. 570; Rondo in A Minor, K. 511; and Sonata in F Major, K. 533/494, as well as Joseph Haydn’s Sonata in A Major, Hob. XVI:30, and Sonata in F Major, K. 533/494.

For Mozart and Haydn, who composed all of these pieces on fortepiano, it was “the instrument that they knew and were inspired by,” said Maltz, as well as “the sound they heard in their ears.”

Added Maltz, “Everything from technique to the way one plays the instrument, to the sound it produces and the quality of the

sound, the fortepiano was built to do different things than modern pianos.”

Performing in the parlor of the Otis House also recalls a time before concert halls, said Maltz, when most often “solo piano music was heard in the salons of the upper class, like at the Otis House.”

Otis House is one of about 30 dates on Maltz’s ongoing cross-country tour, which started in February in San Diego and made its last stop in Philadelphia on Wednesday, April 13.

“Part of the tour was partnering with historic houses and historic house museums to present historic music in historic spaces,” said Maltz, “and New England is prime for the picking.”

Of connecting with Otis House, Maltz said, “It was a great thing that our interests aligned so naturally.”

Additionally, Maltz has never performed in Boston before, which, he said, makes his upcoming performance at Otis House even more exciting for him.

(Maltz will also be performing on Thursday, April 28, at 7 p.m. at the Lyman Estate’s ballroom in Waltham; visit <https://my.historicnewengland.org/13871/lym-fortepiano> to purchase tickets and for

more information.)

For Maler, this upcoming performance is exciting for several reasons, including the time period it will evoke, especially since young woman in particular during this period learned to play the piano as part of their educational training, and because the concert takes place in the parlor of Otis House, which he describes as “a great example of the Federal-period style of architecture with its rich textiles and wallpaper, and its Greek and Roman motifs.”

Moreover, Maltz’s upcoming performance is also on point for Historic New England as an organization, according to Maler.

“Historic New England is a great supporter and believer in the power of the arts, and the ability to activate its spaces for music,” said Maler.

Fortepianist Daniel Adam Maltz will perform in concert on Saturday, April 30, at 2 p.m. at Otis House, 141 Cambridge St. Admission is \$50 for the general public and \$45 for Historic New England members. Seating will be limited to 20 guests. Visit <https://my.historicnewengland.org/13912/hgo-fortepiano> to purchase tickets, or call the Otis House at 617-994-5959 for more information.





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Baker-Polito Administration announces unemployment overpayment relief plans

The Baker-Polito Administration announced plans to provide expanded relief to unemployment claimants with overpayment obligations. The announcement follows a decision by the U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) to approve in part the Commonwealth's request to provide certain Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) claimants with relief from overpayments that resulted from a mid-program change in Federal rules. Massachusetts had requested that USDOL provide relief for all claimants with overpayments related to a new employment substantiation requirement created midway through the program. However, USDOL only granted relief for certain weeks of overpaid benefits.

While USDOL did not grant Massachusetts' request for complete relief, the Administration today is announcing several options to provide substantially expanded relief for claimants with non-fraudulent overpayments, including a simplified "one-click" option for people to easily request and receive a State-issued waiver. Together, the USDOL waiver and the additional state actions announced today will allow for the resolution of up to \$1.6 billion in overpayments, or up to 71% of outstanding overpayments. Of these totals, \$1.3 billion represents overpayments in emergency Federal programs paid for entirely with Federal dollars.

DUA will contact claimants in the coming days with information about this relief.

Relief Provided by USDOL (\$349 Million)

Background: The Federal government launched the PUA program in March 2020 to support workers not covered by the traditional UI system who lost work due to the pandemic. Massachusetts was one of the first states to implement the PUA program. In early 2021, after tens of thousands of claimants had been qualified and were receiving benefits, the federal rules changed to require that claimants provide documented substantiation of prior employment or be ruled retroactively

ineligible for benefits. After completing the technical changes needed to implement the employment substantiation requirement, Massachusetts sent notice to claimants on March 23, 2021 informing them of the new requirement. While the Federal employment substantiation requirement was meant to address problems with fraud that had developed in the PUA program, one unintended result was that legitimate claimants were determined to be overpaid if they failed to respond or to provide sufficient documentation. In response, Massachusetts requested in February that USDOL allow the Commonwealth to issue a blanket waiver for overpayments resulting from the change in Federal rules. Massachusetts was the first state to request such a blanket waiver from the Federal government.

USDOL's Decision: In its notice to Massachusetts partially approving its request, USDOL noted that the Commonwealth provided proper notice for claimants to fulfill the employment substantiation requirement. Given that, USDOL said it would only allow a blanket waiver for overpayments occurring prior to the Commonwealth's notice of the rule change. The waiver therefore covers only overpayments made for the period running from the week ending January 2, 2021 through the week ending March 20, 2021. USDOL indicated that it believes that the Commonwealth provided sufficient opportunity for claimants to meet the requirement once the notice was issued and that it would not approve a blanket waiver for overpayments after the week ending March 20, 2021.

The practical effect of USDOL's decision is that most claimants with employment substantiation overpayments will receive par-

tial relief because some weeks of overpayments will be waived. However, very few claimants will receive complete relief, as Massachusetts had requested. The blanket waiver approved by USDOL covers approximately \$349 million and provides partial relief to 53,487 claimants with outstanding overpayments. This translates to about 41% of total dollars associated with outstanding PUA employment substantiation overpayments. Approximately 84% of claimants with outstanding PUA employment substantiation overpayments will receive at least some relief from the Federal blanket waiver.

In March 2020, Massachusetts paused overpayment collection activities for both Federal and State unemployment programs. This means that the vast majority of PUA employment substantiation overpayment dollars have not been repaid and there are currently no financial consequences for claimants who have been overpaid. In response to the new blanket waiver, the Department of Unemployment Assistance (DUA) will return any previously-repaid funds to claimants. DUA will communicate directly with claimants about this process, and no action is required by the claimant.

Further Relief from Massachusetts

Because Massachusetts advocated for complete relief for these claimants, it has also prepared new solutions to provide additional relief, with the goal of making it as easy as possible for claimants to be relieved of non-fraudulent overpayment obligations, in both the PUA and UI programs:

Simplified "One-Click" State-Issued Waivers (\$782 Million): DUA will soon file emergency regulations to expand cri-

teria for State-issued overpayment waivers for both PUA and UI overpayments to address those claims not resolved by the partial Federal blanket waiver. This will broaden the universe of people who qualify for a State-issued waiver, to provide relief for remaining PUA employment substantiation overpayments and overpayments in other categories across both State and Federal programs.

DUA is also working on operational changes to the waiver process that will make it significantly easier and faster to grant relief. DUA will pre-qualify eligible claimants for an overpayment waiver and provide an easy "one-click" option to be granted a waiver. DUA will contact eligible claimants directly about this opportunity via email and letters. A telephone option will also be available for claimants. Claimants should look out for a communication from DUA beginning next week regarding this new relief.

The Administration will be filing for funding soon to offset the impact of State-issued UI waivers on the UI Trust Fund.

Resolving Identity Verification Claims (\$475 Million): Overpayments with ID verification issues exist in both Federal and State UI programs. A significant portion of these overpayments are uncollectible, as they are likely connected to a nationwide fraud scheme involving stolen identities. Claimants nominally connected to these overpayments likely did not actually receive benefits because their identities were stolen and used by criminal actors to obtain benefits illegally. To resolve, DUA will set aside overpayments involving fraudulent claims for eventual write off as provided by statute. The Administration will file for funding soon to offset the impacts of this approach on the UI Trust Fund, to ensure employers are not adversely impacted by this approach.

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Breaking and Entering

04/11/22 – Around 9 p.m., officers responded to Temple Street for a reported breaking and entering.

When police arrived on scene, the caller stated that earlier in the night, she was walking her dog and could hear someone harassing her from a window up above in a residence. The caller stated she could not tell where it was coming from.

She stated that a few hours

later when she was home, she heard the same voice yelling from outside of her unit, but this time, the individual was outside of her gate in her backyard, attempting to get in. The caller stated the victim fled when she called 9-1-1.

The officers patrolled the area in search of suspicious individuals to no avail.

There had been no further incident as of publication.

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CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

North Washington Street Bridge construction look-ahead to April 30

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

HOLIDAY

- No work will take place on-site Monday, April 28th in observance of Patriots' Day.

SCHEDULED WORK

- North abutment (Charlestown side near Chelsea Street) – barrier slab repair, rebar installation, and excavation

- Drainage installation
- Utility work on Charles River Avenue

- Forming and pouring concrete elements at City Square
- Pothole repair

WORK HOURS

- Most work will be done during the daytime (6:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.)

MARINE IMPACTS

- Routine closures of the north and south channels continue. Only one channel will be closed at a time.

- Work hours are during the

day (6:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.)

- Vessels may continue to transit through the work site through the open channel.

- While traveling through the open channel, pay close attention to signage and the multiple boats, barges, cranes, and other work vessels on site.

Use VHF-FM Channel 13 to contact work- and push-boats. If access to the commercial lock is required and work barges are in the channel, 24-hour notice to J.F. White is required to clear access to the lock. The on-scene Superintendent for the J.F. White Contracting Company is Patrick Wilson and can be contacted at (617) 680-7537.

TRAVEL TIPS & WEATHER

The project will continue to monitor and reapply anti-skid coating whenever the coating needs to be refreshed. Our team will also continue to inspect the walkway regularly. Additionally, the contractor will remain proactive in preparing for imminent weather conditions when forecasted.

For everyone using the temporary bridge, please help share the space: walk to the right, walk

bikes, and be mindful of people coming from both directions, if walking in a large group.

Driver should take care to pay attention to all signage and move carefully through the work zone. Police details, lane markings, temporary barriers, traffic cones, signage, and other tools will be used to control traffic and create safe work zones.

The Tudor Wharf Walkway (under the bridge next to the water in Paul Revere Park) will be intermittently closed for safety during construction operations, with access provided via the Water Street underpass. The Boston Harborwalk under the bridge and eastern/harborside bridge sidewalk remain closed until rebuilt.

For your awareness, the following events are scheduled during this look-ahead period:

- BOSTON MARATHON: 4/18

- BRUINS: 4/23 at 3:00 p.m., 4/26 at 7:00 p.m., and 4/28 at 7:00 p.m.

- CELTICS: 4/17 at 3:30 p.m., 4/20 at 7:00 p.m., 4/27 TBA

- EVENTS: 4/19 AT 3:00 P.M.

Massachusetts RMV announces road test applicants will need own vehicles

The Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) is informing Class D learner's permit holders applying for a Massachusetts issued driver's license that all applicants will be required to supply their own vehicle for road testing beginning on Monday, May 2, 2022.

Due to the pandemic and health and safety protocols, since June of 2020, the RMV deployed a fleet of Commonwealth-owned vehicles for road tests which were cleaned and sanitized on a regular basis. The use of these Commonwealth-owned vehicles will end on April 29, 2022. Applicants for a Class M, or Motorcycle license, supply their own motorcycle for testing. Applicants scheduled for testing through a driving school should confirm they have access to the school's vehicle for their road test.

Applicants must bring a physical copy of their learner's permit, a printed and completed copy of the Road Test Application and be accompanied by a qualified sponsor. A sponsor is a person who is a licensed driver over the age of 21 with at least one year of experience driving. Should it be required,

the sponsor will be responsible for operating the vehicle if at any point the road test examiner determines the applicant cannot continue testing.

Private passenger vehicles used for a Class D road test must meet the following requirements, (including vehicles with an ignition interlock device, and vehicles with adaptive equipment for a competency test):

- Be in good working condition and be able to pass a safety check.

- Have a valid registration and current inspection sticker.

- Contain adequate seating accommodations next to the operator for the use of the examiner and have a rear seat for the sponsor.

- Be designed to let the examiner make an emergency stop using the parking brake. If not, the vehicle cannot be used for the road test.

Any vehicle with a center console that does not have a parking brake as part of the console cannot be used.

Any vehicle that does not allow the examiner unobstructed access to the parking brake cannot be used.

Customers are advised that if the road test examiner identifies any of the following conditions, the road test will not go forward and rescheduling will be the responsibility of the applicant:

- Road test examiner identifies the applicant and/or sponsor is displaying signs of impairment.

- Road test examiner identifies an odor of cannabis or alcohol emanating from the applicant and/or sponsor; including from their clothing or from inside the vehicle to be used for the road test.

- Road test examiner observes present minor children, including babies in car seats, or animals, other than service animals, which cannot be unsupervised at the Service Center during the test.

The RMV has a new webpage to help applicants locate all information related to their road test, Mass.Gov/RoadTest. The page includes information on what to expect, videos to help prepare for the road test, links to checklists and applications to increase an applicant's chance of passing their exam.

NEWS BRIEFS

TIFFANY WINDOWS TOURS RETURN TO ARLINGTON STREET CHURCH MAY 4

Tours of one of Boston's most beautiful art treasures will re-open to the public this May 4. Sixteen Tiffany opalescent stained-glass windows — the largest Tiffany window collection of its kind in any one church — grace the sanctuary at Arlington Street Church (ASC), corner of Arlington and Boylston Streets in Boston.

Self-guided tours with a smartphone (which guests must provide) are offered Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 11am to 3pm. Sunday tours are from 1:30pm to 3pm. Tours cost \$5 per person, and children under 12 are admitted free.

Completed in 1861, the church's first Tiffany window was installed in 1899 and the last one 30 years later in 1929. The entire collection was recently fully restored by the country's preeminent restorer of Tiffany glass. New lighting also was installed to enhance the vibrant colors and faceted layers of the glass and to showcase the collection to passersby and neighbors after dark.

According to Gaby Whitehouse, Tiffany Center volunteer and member of the congregation since 1967, funds raised from the tours will be used to maintain the Tiffany collection as well as for maintenance on the building housing the windows.

Joyce Kamau, church administrator, said Arlington Street Church is the first public building in the Back Bay, as well as a very important building in the history of Boston.

"We look forward to welcoming visitors again and hope to have a pleasant and safe resurrection of our wonderful tour program," adds Kamau.

For more information about "The Art of Tiffany Stained Glass" tours, visit www.asctiffany.org. To volunteer as a tour guide, contact

Joyce Kamau at jkamau@ascboston.org or call 617-536-7050.

CITY'S OPEN SPACE PLAN SURVEY NOW ONLINE

How well is Boston's park system working for you? What improvements do we need to make over the next seven years?

To make sure the City of Boston's park system reflects the needs of all residents, the Boston Parks and Recreation Department has released an online survey questionnaire as part of its update to Boston's Open Space and Recreation Plan. The survey is available in eleven languages at boston.gov/open-space. The survey link will be available until the end of May, 2022.

Mayor Michelle Wu understands the importance of residents' feedback when evaluating open space, the built environment, and balanced development. The public's responses to this five-minute survey will help the City of Boston improve the way parks are programmed, permitted, maintained, and designed. Park users and open space advocates are encouraged to share the survey with friends and neighbors to help gather input from residents throughout the city.

The Open Space and Recreation Plan considers all public open space regardless of ownership, including natural areas, urban wilds, community gardens, cemeteries, greenways, trails, parkways, and harbor islands, as well as the traditional parks, playgrounds, and squares. It examines service delivery, park access, distribution of facilities, and demographics to understand whether the open space system is serving people equitably.

Survey input will help us understand where we need to invest our resources in the years to come. Additional information about the Open Space and Recreation Plan update can be found at boston.gov/open-space. Comments or questions can be directed to: open-spaceplan22@boston.gov.

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Hui, Poh K	Linda S Morgan 1998 T	122 Beacon St #6	\$1,450,000
Linnman, Nils C	Macleod, Marjorie C	167 Beacon St #10	\$562,500
Heaton Jr, George R	Birger, Barbara	180 Beacon St #5E	\$1,400,000
267 Beacon Street 2nd LLC	Jamieson, Qun W	267 Beacon St #2	\$2,500,000
Santo, Andrew	Budin, Itay	82 Berkeley St #4	\$550,000
Dat Residential RT	Stephen P Kelliher RET	220 Boylston St #1210	\$2,600,000
Strachan, Brian S	29 Hexagon LLC	29 Commonwealth Ave #4	\$9,240,000
Dallaire, Donald	Mccroskery, Peter	160 Commonwealth Ave #403	\$1,200,000
Jain, Aditi	Elliott, Grant	160 Commonwealth Ave #417	\$740,000
Combs, Lee A	Marlboro 4 RT	29 Marlborough St #4	\$650,000
M G Hughes T Qualified T	Beer, Marc D	360 Marlborough St #3	\$2,335,000

BEACON HILL

Somerset Ventures LLC	A Smoki Bacon 1994 RET	94 Beacon St #1	\$2,500,000
Love, Malcolm G	Blanchard, Karen	25 Chestnut St #3	\$1,500,000
Nagle, Brian P	Mark A Abramson 2009 T	20 Joy St #4	\$720,000
Long, Gwendolen D	A&Jennifer Harris LT	28 Temple St #5	\$1,600,000
Shaw, Sen	Garfein, Evan S	1721 Washington St #204	\$754,000
Mar-Issa Property LLC	Kevin&J Redmond T	8 Whittier Pl #21A	\$532,000

BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE

Wallace, Mark	148 Chandler St Unit 3	148 Chandler St #3	\$900,000
Abu-Eid, Nasser	Andrew C Goresch RET	1 Charles St S #1205	\$1,180,000
Columbus Realty 431 LLC	431 Columbus Avenue LLC	431 Columbus Ave #1	\$1,700,000
Schweizer, Eric	Frazier, Sarah	15 Gray St #1	\$910,000
Spencer, Bradford A	David, Kassia	400 Stuart St #20A	\$3,400,000
R R&M Beth Charlebois	Lynne Palmer T 1995	400 Stuart St #23A	\$3,460,000
Xiao, Eric	Feldman, Adam	505 Tremont St #203	\$2,380,000
Asai, George	Dufault, Rebecca	483 Beacon St #67	\$575,000
Rafferty, Tim	Courage, Martin	7 Concord Sq #1	\$1,262,500
Alshawabkeh, Akram N	Patch, Teresa M	69 Park Dr #5	\$437,000
Wang, Yanzhi	Guzovsky, Lee J	131 Park Dr #30	\$545,000
Lombardo, Kimberly	121 Portland LLC	121 Portland St #602	\$840,000
Fishman, Julie B	Fragomeni, Frank	62 Queensberry St #408	\$435,000
Mahurkar, Piyush	116 Riverway Assoc 99 LL	116 Riverway #99	\$535,000
Tufts College	Museum Of Fine Arts	160 Saint Alphonsus St	\$10,000,000
Hennawy, Emad	Trehan, Varsha	151 Tremont St #8T	\$629,759
Dufault, Rebecca L	All-A-Taut-O RT	11 Union Park #5	\$1,150,000
Donahue, Richard J	Kennedy, Devin	76 W Cedar St #5F	\$1,065,000
153 West Newton St T	Dubreuil, Jean P	153 W Newton St	\$3,180,000
Sands, Dustin	Cleason, Craig A	27 Wareham St #205	\$1,030,000
Day, Jonathan D	46 Wareham Street LLC	46 Wareham St #5A	\$3,125,000
Kanwal, Amrit	Allied Residences LLC	88 Wareham St #202	\$1,099,000
Brown, James	Jackson Jr, Michael	1682 Washington St #9	\$1,250,000
Dionne, Paul	Mcmahon, Brian	156 Worcester St #4	\$1,500,000

WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN

Sinnott, Robert	John Tippet RET	134 Beach St #7	\$1,565,000
Shepherd, Kelcy	Quinn, Barbara	80 Broad St #602	\$1,100,000
Adam, Zeinab A	Insolia, Santo A	80 Broad St #PH1101	\$1,430,000
Mozzone, Lydia	Visser, Lisa E	376 Commercial St #41	\$1,025,000
Johnston, Hollie Y	Lambert, Thomas F	85 E India Row #39E	\$815,000
EML Capital LLC	Capital Fund T	1 Franklin St #3905	\$2,550,000
Gonzalez 3rd, David	Row Houses LLC	29 Oak St #2	\$167,700
Stillwater FT	Liu, Xiao	99 Summer St #210	\$682,000
Fisher, Joseph A	Ferrara, John	580 Washington St #1202	\$2,035,000
Harik, Mario	Choueiry, Maya	580 Washington St #PH8	\$4,200,000

Attention to Detail

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY PENNY CHERUBINO

THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The windows in the last clue are on 71 Joy Street, formerly 14 Belknap Street. This year the City of Boston Archaeology Program began cataloging, digitizing, and sharing on social media some of the items discovered during the 2006 exploration of a brick-lined privy in the rear of this property. Go to www.boston.gov/departments/archaeology for links.

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



Catsachusetts Cat Con returns to Boston for feline competition

Competing for ribbons, titles, and points, the cats of The International Cat Association will close out their 2021-22 season at Boston's International Cat Con, hosted by the Catsachusetts Cat Club on April 29th – May 1st in East Boston, Massachusetts. Show address is Porrazzo Memorial Rink, 199 Coleridge St., East Boston, MA 02128.

Watch the competition for the "Best of the Best." This fun, family-friendly event helps people of every age learn about responsible cat ownership and the incredible world of show cats! Includes breeds such as naked Sphynx, luxurious Persians, sleek Siamese, New England's own Maine Coons, purring Ragdolls, and exotic looking spotted Bengals, and much more.

Household pets (aka non-pedigreed cats) will also be in the show-hall. Judged in a special category, rescue cats compete to become a Supreme Grand Master. Any cat can be a show cat!

Meet (and take a picture with) Amazing Amelia, also known as Floyd from the Netflix series "Gabby's Dollhouse."

Joining the show will be the TICA Therapy Cats. Therapy cats provide affection and comfort to people in retirement homes, nursing homes, hospices, schools, and other human service care facilities. Not only do they provide comfort, they can also lower blood pressure, help people feel safe and relieve loneliness and depression.

Featured at 12:30 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, will be the Parade of Breeds - an education-

al showcase giving cat lovers the chance to learn about show cats (both pedigreed and household pet), take photos, and chat with one of our judges.

On Saturday afternoon, learn what it takes to be a Cat Judge. Taught by former TICA President, Fate Mays, topics addressed can be anything related to procedures, techniques, standards and rules of judging. A unique opportunity to ask all the questions about the behind-the-scenes education of a TICA Judge.

Visitors who decide to welcome a cat into their lives are encouraged to chat with local rescue partners to discuss post-event adoption opportunities. Quality cat food donations are welcome, benefiting No Kill Shelters.

Shop with local vendors for all your pet needs - cat toys, cat trees, cat beds, grooming supplies and much more.

Tickets for the show are avail-



HELMI FLICK PHOTO

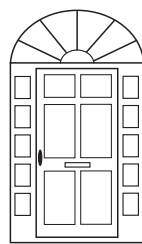
An entry from a previous competition.

able on Eventbrite or at the door. keep updated as additional events Visit the Catsachusetts website to are added.

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