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COBBLESTONES HOSTS HOLIDAY ART SHOW

Cobblestones, a Beacon Hill eatery located at 30 Charles St., is proudly hosting a Holiday Art Show that opened this past Saturday evening, Dec. 17, and showcases six of Beacon Hill's local artists.

The featured artists include Paul Donnelly, Brigid Williams, Eleanor Score, Marty Keating, Karen Lee Sobol, and Rachel Clavin.

"The synergistic energy that the artists and locals generated was intoxicating," said Jennifer Gallagher, co-owner of Cobblestones.

The exhibit will be on display through New Year's Day, and a generous portion of the proceeds will be donated to Globe Santa.



Shown (above) Cobblestones owners Jennifer Gallagher and Dave O'Donnell, with Eleanor Score. Pictured (left, left to right), are Sallie Fisher, Paul Donnelly, Eleanor Score, and Leslie Lyman. Pictured (below) Paintings by Rachel Clavin. See Page 8 for more photos.



BHAC grants two-year extension for Hancock Street roofdeck

By Dan Murphy

The Beacon Hill Architectural Commission voted unanimously to grant a two-year extension on the Certificate of Appropriateness for a proposed roofdeck at 51 Hancock St. during the commission's monthly public hearing on Thursday, Dec. 15, which was held virtually.

The commission had previously approved the rooftop application in 2015 and again December of 2020. The current two-year Certificate of Appropriateness for the roofdeck is set to expire in early 2023, said Tim Burke, the architect for the project, so the applicant was seeking additional time to complete the work.

In another matter, the commission unanimously approved the construction of a fence standing 7 feet, 3½ inches tall at 107 Chestnut St., Unit #2.

The proposed fence would replace an existing brick wall in the same location that stands 5 feet, 2 inches high.

The commission determined that the new fence, which would be made of wood to match the fences at neighboring homes, would ratify a violation for the installation of unapproved floodlights at the same address. (Visibility of the floodlights from a public way is expected to be minimal following the installation of the new fence.)

This determination came with a proviso that the applicant work with staff (Nick Armata) to find

a cover for the lights, which is acceptable and "appropriate to the area."

In another matter, the commission unanimously approved as submitted an application for 5 West Cedar St.

The proposed work here includes replacing the front-door hardware; painting the front door Hague Blue, repainting the front entry Wimborne White; repainting the windows black; moving the kitchen door light-fixture; replacing the plastic dryer vent with a copper model; and replacing the downspout conductors with new copper downspout conductors with a new design.

Other proposed work at this address includes replacing the three-tab roof shingles with slate, as well as replacing the skylight using a copper frame, divided glass, and the same dimensions.

Patrick Guthrie, a principal with Cambridge-based Design Associates Inc., told the commission there are currently no plans to install a doorbell at this address.

Meanwhile, an application for the installation of a new intercom at 103 Charles St. was removed from the agenda by staff.

Commission Chair Mark Kiefer, Vice Chair Arain Allen, and Commissioners Ed Fleck and Alice Richmond were on hand for the entirety of the hearing while Commissioners Ralph Jackson and Anette Given joined for its later portions.

BHWF HOLIDAY COCKTAILS



The Beacon Hill Women's Forum (BHWF) celebrated the festive season with Holiday Cocktails at the Hampshire House, on December 13. Shown are Gracey Wilson, Cécile Guedon, and Richelle Gewertz, BHWF Connections Co-Director. See pages 6 and 7 for more photos.

BEACON HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY CORNER

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Happy Holidays

AND A

JOYFUL NEW YEAR

The Independent Newspaper Group

Local restaurateur reflects on resiliency of restaurant industry

By Dan Murphy

Looking back on the past nearly three years, one seasoned Boston restaurateur can't help but marvel at how much the restaurant industry has rebounded since the pandemic struck.

"Looking back at what all of us had to endure, it was harrowing," said Babak Bina, whose BiNa Family Hospitality comprises Bin 26 Enoteca on Charles Street, as well as jm Curley and its steakhouse, Bogie's Place, in Downtown Crossing, and its newest addition - The Wig Shop a cocktail lounge in Downtown Crossing. "We, consumers, as well as all of us in the restaurant industry, luckily have a short-term memory. The resiliency of the U.S. market doesn't cease to amaze me."

As a restaurateur, Bina describes the fallout from the pandemic as "one of the most complex situations we've gone through in the last few decades."

In addition to simply surviving COVID, restaurateurs have faced



COURTESY OF BINA FAMILY HOSPITALITY
Babak Bina of BiNa Family Hospitality.

the challenges of getting guests to return to their establishments., maintaining their employees, navigating supply-chain issues, and "dealing ultimately with an incredible increase in prices, both

for commodities and for labor costs," according to Bina.

Bina's restaurants have been fortunate in being able to employ, train, and maintain their current staffs, he said, "but replacement, if it were to occur, continues to be a challenge for qualified individuals."

But Bina is also quick to add: "That said, we're not dealing with many things that are front and center, such as COVID itself."

Only one patron at Bin 26 in the past few months said they didn't feel comfortable dining inside on a particularly busy Saturday night.

To remedy the situation, Bin 26 staff called around and were able to find dining accommodations for the patron at another nearby, less busy restaurant not owned by Bina.

While none of Bina's restaurants are currently experiencing supply-chain shortages, and some of these establishments have rebounded to a level where they're actually exceeding some of their pre-pandemic numbers, high costs

remain a reality.

"Consistency" has also been a challenge for some restaurants, both in terms of being able to consistently attract patrons and in regard to being able to consistently get the products they need. (Supply-chain issues are currently not a problem for Bina's restaurants, though, he said.)

Asked whether he expects to see his prices fall in the new year, Bina relied, "That's the million-dollar question. When suppliers get used to charging what they're charging, some - not all - have a tendency to want to continue charging what they're charging."

Moreover, Bina said, "The other major factor and headwind we'll all be facing, both patrons and restaurateurs, is going to be continued increased interest rates by the feds in the coming year."

Besides restaurateurs having trouble securing loans to open new locations, Bina said, "Obviously, costs for patrons in their daily lives will be affected, and we'll have to wait and see how that will impact our businesses."

Yet Bina expects some of the challenges that restaurants face going into the new year will have greatly diminished by the end of '23.

"Being an optimist, I think we're gone through some peaks and valleys, and by the fourth quarter of 2023, we're going to be seeing some easing of the challenges and headwinds we're going to be experiencing at the beginning of the year," he said.

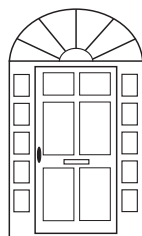
And looking ahead to the New Year, Bina is also optimistic that his loyal clientele will continue to patronize his establishments while his trusted staff will continue to ensure that they're well accommodated.

"What we continue to enjoy at all our restaurants, luckily for us, is our loyal guests, as well as our incredible staff that makes it all possible," he said. "We'll continue to enjoy finding great wines, creating great cocktails, and being creative with our menus to bring something unique and worthwhile to our patrons."

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Brockton woman, Weymouth man arraigned after gun arrests near Boston Common

Special to the Times

A woman and a man were arraigned Monday in Central Division of Boston Municipal Court on numerous firearm-related charges after being arrested on Tremont Street near Boston Common on Saturday, District Attorney Kevin Hayden announced.

Alexis Bourne, 27, of Brockton is charged with possession of a large capacity firearm, possession of ammunition without an FID card, carrying a firearm without a license, carrying a loaded firearm without a license, and drinking alcoholic beverages in public. Judge Richard J. Sinnott revoked Bourne's bail on a pending Dorchester case, and ordered \$50,000 bail on the new case with requirements that she stay away from Boston and the co-defendant during the pendency of the case.

Samuel Frederick, 18, of Weymouth is charged with possession of a large capacity firearm, possession of ammunition without an FID card, carrying a firearm without a license, carrying a loaded firearm without a license, drinking alcoholic beverages in public, and malicious destruction of property over \$1,200. Judge Sinnott ordered Frederick held in lieu of \$10,000 bail with the requirements that he

stay away from Boston and from Alexis Bourne during the pendency of the case.

Bourne and Frederick will return to court January 13 for a probable cause hearing.

Assistant District Attorney Kevin Morgan said that on Saturday December 10 at about 10:30 p.m., Boston police officers were on random patrol on Tremont Street along the Common when they saw three individuals holding a tequila bottle. As officers drove past, they saw one of the individuals, Frederick, grab the front side of his waistband while looking around. Officers got out of their vehicle and frisked Frederick. They immediately felt a firearm in his waistband. While officers were attempting to recover it, Frederick went to the ground. Officers recovered a black and tan "ghost" gun with a laser sight and an extended magazine containing 10 rounds. When placed in the cruiser Frederick began kicking the door, damaging it.

Officers then frisked Alexis Bourne and immediately felt a firearm in her waistband. Officers recovered a Glock 19 9mm with a laser sight and an extended magazine containing 28 rounds. When officers demanded her license to carry, she stated "I don't have

one."

The third individual was released from the scene.

"When taken in total these defendants had the ability to fire 38 rounds very quickly, a scenario that's frightening for any area, particularly one with so much car, tourist and nightlife traffic as downtown Tremont Street on a Saturday night," Hayden said.

All charged individuals are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

Suffolk County District Attorney Kevin Hayden's office serves the communities of Boston, Chelsea, Revere, and Winthrop, Mass. The office handles over 20,000 cases a year. More than 160 attorneys in the office practice in nine district and municipal courts, Suffolk Superior Court, the Massachusetts Appeals Court, the Supreme Judicial Court, and the Boston Juvenile Courts. The office employs some 300 people and offers a wide range of services and programs to serve anyone who comes in contact with the criminal justice system. This office is committed to educating the public about the services we provide, our commitment to crime prevention, and our dedication to keeping the residents of Suffolk County safe.



BOSTON COMMON TREE LIGHTING

PHOTO BY JON SEAMANS

Sean, Julie, and Everett Dalton, 17, of Beacon Hill – along with their 8 1/2-year-old-canine siblings Ganzy and Quito – were among the thousands of revelers at the 81st Annual Boston Common Tree Lighting on December 1. Mayor Michelle Wu and Nova Scotia Premier Tim Houston welcomed thousands of revelers to the event marking the 51st year that Nova Scotia has given a tree to the people of Boston as thanks for relief efforts following the December 6, 1917, explosion of a munitions ship in Halifax Harbor. The official holiday season kick-off in Boston included the lighting of the City of Boston's official Christmas tree, a 45-foot white spruce donated by landowner Roddy Townsend of Christmas Island, and other trees throughout Boston Common and the Public Garden.

Wu announces two-day hockey fan festival

Mayor Michelle Wu announced the National Hockey League (NHL®) will hold NHL Winter Classic Plaza™, a two-day free, non-ticketed fan festival on December 30th and December 31st on the newly reopened City Hall Plaza. City Hall Plaza will host interactive hockey-themed activities, including appearances by Boston Bruins alumni. NHL Winter Classic Plaza™ builds up to the 2023 Discover NHL Winter Classic®, an outdoor regular season hockey game that this year will be at Fenway Park on January 2nd, 2023.

"We're excited to host Bruins fans and Boston families for one of the first big events on City Hall Plaza since we reopened the space," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "Especially during the colder months we need spaces to bring people together. I encourage everyone to come out to build community and get ready to cheer on the Bruins."

City Hall Plaza will treat hockey fans to many interactions and experiences, including autograph sessions featuring current and former Boston Bruins greats, family-friendly hockey interactives, giveaways, food, and an appearance by the oldest trophy in sports – the Stanley Cup®. NHL Winter Classic Plaza™ will run Friday, December 30 from 2:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., and Saturday, December 31 from 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. A full list of activities that are free and open to the public can be found here.

"An event of this nature and size is exactly what we designed the renovated City Hall Plaza for," said Chief of Operations Dion Irish. "This is a great opportunity for Boston families to see the new features of the Plaza while building excitement for the 2023 Discover NHL Winter Classic®. I want to thank the NHL for their partnership in hosting this family-friendly event."

The 2023 Discover NHL Winter Classic® outdoor game will feature the Boston Bruins facing off against the Pittsburgh Penguins at Fenway Park on Monday, January 2, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.

The hockey fan festival builds on Mayor Wu's vision to reimagine how the City can use public spaces to foster community and a family-friendly environment. In November, Mayor Wu reopened City Hall Plaza as a transformed civic space for all residents, with universal accessibility, new communal spaces, increased environmental sustainability, and critical infrastructure improvements. Phase 1 of the City Hall Plaza reopening includes the planting of 250 new trees, 3,000 new shrubs, and over 10,000 new perennials and grasses. The renovation also includes an increase in green infrastructure through permeable surfaces that will soak up stormwater.

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EDITORIAL

MERRY CHRISTMAS

This is the most wonderful time of the year, to paraphrase the popular song, with holiday music playing in the malls and on our car radios, resurrecting our earliest childhood memories of Christmases-past.

We choose just the right tree, decorate it carefully with our family-heirloom ornaments, and when we first turn on the lights, it brings a smile to the faces of even the oldest among us.

Despite the hectic rushing to and fro, everybody, it seems, is in a good mood. We endure the traffic and the long lines in stores because we know that what we are doing will bring joy and happiness to others.

For those of us with young children, we get to see Christmas through their eyes, giving us a second-chance to experience the wonder and joy that we felt when we were their age.

Although all of us celebrate the holiday season in our own way, the common thread is one of peace, joy, and happiness, regardless of religious or secular beliefs. Whether it be Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, or a Seinfeldian Festivus, the spirit of the season imbues us with a sense of togetherness that transcends whatever negativity may exist both in our own lives and in the world around us.

We wish all of our readers a Merry Christmas and a happy holiday season.

A GREAT WORLD CUP

We don't pretend to be big soccer fans, but even we were caught up in the excitement and the drama of the World Cup, which reached its climax this past Sunday with the exciting and exhilarating victory by Argentina in a shoot-out over defending champion France.

As long-time Boston sports rooters, we know of the passion that we and our fellow local fans have for our local teams. But our enthusiasm does not even come close to that of World Cup fans for their heroes.

The raw emotion among the fans in the stands, their raucous celebrations in the streets back home, and the individual stories of fans who traveled thousands of miles (and who spent their life savings) just to be on hand were epic.

Moreover, it was a World Cup for everyone, including the U.S., which qualified for the cup for the first time in eight years and made it through the knockout round, but especially for the fans of underdog Morocco, which became the first team from Africa and the Arab world to reach the semifinals.

At a time when there is so much misery and conflict in our world, the World Cup brought nations together as no other event can.

We'll be looking forward to the 2026 Cup when it will be hosted in No. America by the U.S., Mexico, and Canada.

THE BEACON HILL TIMES

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GUEST OP-ED

Light and strength for Christmas

By Dr. Glenn Mollette

When I was a child at Tomahawk Elementary School in Martin County, Kentucky there were many kids who got little to nothing for Christmas. I had classmates who I would never ask if they got anything for Christmas because I already knew the answer. Some of these kids were just glad to be in school. At school they could receive a free lunch and have access to a bathroom which they didn't have at home. This also meant they could wash their faces and their hands which was difficult at home especially in the winter months. While most of us didn't have much, what we did have seemed like a lot to those who had nothing.

This is where you need to stop and think. You stress about all you may not have but what do you have in comparison to those who have nothing? Do you have a place to sleep? Do you have a comfortable bed? Is your house or apartment warm and comfortable? Do you know you will have food to eat on Christmas day? Do you have a television to watch? Do you have a telephone? Do you

have a few dollars in your pocket?

I'm very aware there are millions of Americans who are below the financial income poverty level. They have it tough. Our cities are filled with growing numbers of homeless populations. People are sleeping under bridges, overpasses and on riverbanks. Too many of these have met with unfortunate circumstances in life due to bad choices, addictions, unemployment, mental illness, and family issues. The list is never-ending. This doesn't make their lives any easier. Just because there is a reason for the problems doesn't make their burdens lighter or unnoticeable. Their reality is still harsh and painful.

Millions more immigrants are coming to America. Where will they sleep? Where will they work? Many of them will work for \$8 an hour and work hard but many of them will be homeless or stranded in homeless shelters on government dependence for a long time. Would any of us want to trade places with them? I don't think so.

Whatever darkness you are facing this Christmas is your reality. Seeing the hurts of others doesn't make your troubles go away. However, if you can be thankful

for the life you have, then maybe Christmas will take on a whole new light.

Look to the most special gift of all this Christmas – the baby in the manger. Shepherds raced to see the baby just as the angels said they would. Wise men came from the east and worshipped him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Mary and Joseph did the best they could as peasant parents of a new baby boy.

Keep the scripture of Isaiah 9:6 handy this Christmas. "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on His shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

May His peace comfort your heart and be your light and strength through this season and every day to come.

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.

Friends of the Public Garden welcomes new Director of Capital Projects and Parks Care

Special to Times

The Friends of the Public Garden has announced Rebecca McKeivitz as Director of Capital Projects and Parks Care.

In this position, Rebecca will carry out the Friends' annual parks care program to support the nonprofit's mission to care for and renew the three parks, the Boston Common, Public Garden, and Commonwealth Avenue Mall. This strategic hire comes as the Friends advance the vision of the Boston Common Master Plan into a reality to be enjoyed by people, the park, and wildlife alike.

As an energetic landscape designer and big-picture thinker, Rebecca will play a critical role in the Friends' tree, shrub, turf, and soils programs; sculpture conservation; capital projects; and special projects. Rebecca will also work closely with the City of Boston and other external partners on key initiatives, including the advancement of the recently launched Boston Common Master Plan that aims at prioritizing accessibility, resiliency, and inclusivity while also honoring the park's history and operational needs.

"Rebecca's addition to our capital projects and parks care teams comes at a critical time for the organization, the three parks, and the people they serve," Liz Vizza, President of the Friends of the Public Garden, said in a press release. "From a unified vision for the Boston Common to evolve to meet the needs of Boston's residents and visitors to the continued care and renewal of the Commonwealth Avenue Mall and the Public Garden, Rebecca's expertise will be critical in achieving that. We're thrilled to have her on board and welcome a new Friend."

Rebecca attended Ball State University, where she received a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture. From overseeing and managing capital projects to advancing all aspects of public space design while engaging with physical, economic, and social factors impacting the urban environment, Rebecca has supported several institutions in carrying out their mission. Most recently, Rebecca served as a public space planner for the City of Somerville. Prior to that, as a capital projects manager for the Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Greenway Conservancy, Rebecca oversaw procurement for



COURTESY OF THE FRIENDS OF THE PUBLIC GARDEN

Rebecca McKeivitz, the newly named Director of Capital Projects and Parks Care for the Friends of the Public Garden.

and management of capital repair projects.

"Supporting organizations that improve Boston aesthetically, economically, socially, and infra-structurally has been at the core of my work throughout my career," Rebecca McKeivitt said in a press release. "I am delighted to join the

(McKEVITZ Pg. 12)

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BEACON HILL WOMEN'S FORUM HOLIDAY COCKTAILS

Photos & Story by Marianne Salza

The Beacon Hill Women's Forum (BHWF) celebrated the festive season with Holiday Cocktails at the Hampshire House, on December 13. Members and their loved ones gathered in the warmth of the fireplace adorned with silver reindeer and a glittering wreath interlaced with white ribbon. Friends enjoyed sweet and bubbly specialty drinks such as the Gingerbread Martini and the Apple Cider Champagne Cocktail.



Ed and Cindy Sullivan, BHWF Co-Programs Director.



Janine Jay, BHWF Treasurer, and JT Hintzen.



Michelle Burian, BHWF Secretary, with past presidents, Amy Tsurumi and Sandra Gilpatrick, and her husband, George Gilpatrick.



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Jackie Knapp, BHWF Vice President, and Jason Simituk.



Matt Henrix and Kristen Morse.

BEACON HILL WOMEN'S FORUM HOLIDAY COCKTAILS



David Gertner, Mimi Sun, Meredith Braunstein, Dov Derin, and Amy Tannenbaum.



Courtney Jones, Madison Ballou, Mia Parsons, and Richelle Gewertz.



Mia Parsons and Richelle Gewertz, BHWF Connections Co-Director.



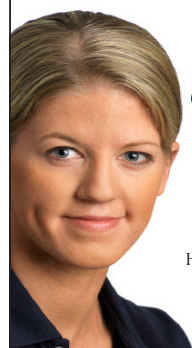
Jayne Damesek, BHWF Public Relations, Regina Fuentes, Jack Pierce, and Jackie McBride.

A SHORT STORY ABOUT A MOTORCYCLE. AND A SUDDEN TURN.

When she was a young college student, Elisabeth Marra had a serious motorcycle accident that ultimately changed her life. Two years after the crash, her painful open fractures had failed to heal. Then she heard about a new and complex surgery pioneered by a surgeon who used a patient's own stem cells to concentrate the healing process. This time, her surgery and subsequent therapy were successful.

Elisabeth's experience caused her to redirect her own career aspirations. Inspired by the medical professionals who helped her reclaim her active lifestyle, she changed her major to study physical therapy—a profession where her own experience could help other patients prevail through difficult recoveries.

We tell Elisabeth Marra's story here to illustrate two of the most profound messages we know. Don't give up, and remember to give back. If reading it inspires just one more person to achieve something special, then its telling here has been well worth while.



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COBBLESTONES HOSTS HOLIDAY ART SHOW

PHOTOS COURTESY OF COBBLESTONES

Cobblestones, a Beacon Hill eatery located at 30 Charles St., is proudly hosting a Holiday Art Show that opened this past Saturday evening, Dec. 17, and showcases six of Beacon Hill's local artists.



Karen Lee Sobol and Justyna Jaskiewicz.



Peter Butterfield and Cobblestones co-owner Jennifer Gallagher.



Stephen and Eleanor Score, with David Fisher.

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Cobblestones owner Jennifer Gallagher (center) is seen with "Postal Angels."

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Buon Natale
Joyeux Noel
Feliz Navidad
Froh Weihnachten
Feliz Natal
Merii Kurisumasu

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Real Estate Transfers

NEWS BRIEFS

BUYER 1 BACK BAY

Yee, Alan H
Underwood, Patricia
302 Beacon Street NT
302 Beacon Street NT
BJ N Cnty Medical Dental
Commonwealth 115 LLC
Zide, Erin
Yideben Realty LLC
Yee-Li, Elysia W
Bartram, Allyson

SELLER 1

Caraballo, Roxana M
Oconnor, Susan M
William R Vanarsdale LT
Reed Robin E Est
Amin, Seema
Atchinson, Robert
Zaaroni, Hector
Wang, Xin
Lucas FT
Suzanne L Bandanza FT

ADDRESS

169 Beacon St #B4
271 Beacon St #1
302 Beacon St #GDN
302 Beacon St #PH
56 Clarendon St #1
115 Commonwealth Ave
636-638 Beacon St #502
857 Beacon St #52
4 Charlesgate E #701
333 Commonwealth Ave #3

PRICE

\$640,000
\$518,000
\$6,225,000
\$3,200,000
\$1,075,000
\$19,800,000
\$530,000
\$537,500
\$1,150,000
\$1,820,000

BEACON HILL

Burns, Brett A
Walsh, Mark
Parkinson, Andrew R
Yurrita, John
J L Blotnick T 2006
Skomorowski, Christopher R

Brickman, Jason S
29-31 Brimmer LLC
Chen, Diana M
Jacobs, Robert
Scott, Kenneth R
JDMD Owner LLC

94 Beacon St #4
31 Brimmer St #4
18 Hancock St #3
36 Myrtle St #1
145 Pinckney St #712
45 Temple St #403

\$2,900,000
\$2,100,000
\$1,690,000
\$595,000
\$645,000
\$3,700,000

BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE

Marciano, Christopher J
Nanda, Abita S
Flaherty, Colin
81 Gibson RT
Doig, Anne L
Andres Realty LLC
Zeng, Kevin
Li, Jack M
Colon, Giselle
Mei, Xuehua
Lou, Xinhua
Washington, Philip
Bai, Sha
Picarillo, David P
Rothman, Richard
Hunt, Oliver B
Wilson, Jody
Mullen, Brooke
AFC Watches LLC

Steven M Mennen RET
39 Appleton Street LLC
Mobilio, Julie
Hanratty, Teresa A
Thrasher, Monica B
Eidemiller, Elise C
FPG Lagrange Owner One
FPG Lagrange Owner One
FPG Lagrange Owner One
FPG Lagrange Owner One
FPG Lagrange Owner One
FPG Lagrange Owner One
FPG Lagrange Owner One
FPG Lagrange Owner One
Mittleman, Robert S
Ablon, Brooke W
Rubens, James I
Ellms, Alette E
Browne, Kristen A
KKH Boston LLC

21 Appleton St #1
39 Appleton St
76 Appleton St #3
81 Appleton St #3
150 Appleton St #3E
1 Charles St S #10H
47-55 Lagrange St #2A
47-55 Lagrange St #5A
47-55 Lagrange St #8D
55 Lagrange St #1004
55 Lagrange St #4F
55 Lagrange St #503
55 Lagrange St #709
29 Hanson St #1
14 Milford St #1
47 Milford St #1
673 Tremont St #3
90 Wareham St #404
333 Washington St #855B

\$1,165,000
\$3,900,000
\$856,000
\$1,935,000
\$1,300,000
\$2,075,000
\$164,800
\$164,800
\$314,000
\$314,000
\$615,000
\$795,000
\$800,000
\$1,330,000
\$3,125,000
\$1,950,000
\$699,000
\$349,209
\$662,000

WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN

Howard Property Group LLC
Dugan, John
Minh-Vo, Jenny N
Dooley, Allyson
Larosa, Charles
Mills, Nicole
Peal, Jill K
Mt Unit 5503 Nominee RET
Rosenberg, Daniell E
Lai, Jesse D

Paula Morse 2019 RET
Annette Smith 2012 RT
Swift, Parker
Larosa, Charles
357-5 Commercial Foti RT
Dawson, Meagan
John B Shea 2014 RET
Mit RE Foundation Inc
Tse, Tai H
Coughlin, Lisa M

2-1/2 Battery Wharf #4405
80 Broad St #601
34 Clark St #2
326-328 Commercial St #31
357 Commercial St #5
480 Commercial St #3B
44 Commercial Wharf #44
1 Franklin St #5503
88 Kingston St #4D
210-216 Lincoln St #302

\$1,360,000
\$970,000
\$700,000
\$353,000
\$540,000
\$593,000
\$980,000
\$4,600,000
\$642,500
\$967,000

POSTAL SERVICE READY FOR THE HOLIDAYS

At the Postal Service, we know the holidays are a hectic time of year. To make shipping convenient for customers, the Postal Service is extending hours at Post Offices across the nation.

Select Postal facilities in the Massachusetts / Rhode Island District are extending their hours and will provide full retail services, including stamp sales and package acceptance. Customers may click this link 2022 USPS Post Office Holiday Closings & Hours | USPS for the USPS holiday service schedule. Enter a ZIP Code to search for a Post Office near you to see the available services and holiday hours.

The Postal Service is focused on

delivering for our nation this holiday season.

The MA / RI District serves ZIP Codes 010 through 029.

CHRISTMAS EVE BELLRINGING

All are welcomed to join in the Beacon Hill tradition of caroling to the peeling of historic handbells.

Christmas Eve Bellringing
Saturday, December 24th
8PM

8 Louisburg Square

This marks the 98th year since the joyous tradition was established by

Margaret Nichols Shurcliff and her children in 1924.

Dress warmly!

Carol books will be handed out a few minutes early.

NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDUP

TWENTY-TWO NEW WINTER AND SPRING COURSES OFFERED BY BEACON HILL SEMINARS

Beacon Hill Seminars is offering 22 new courses this winter and spring on a range of topics including local interest courses like "Banned in Boston: How Censor-

ship Reveals the Psyche of a City."

Roughly half of the courses meet online and half meet in-person for four to six weeks in historic venues in and around the Back Bay and Beacon Hill. The deadline for winter and spring course registration is Friday, Jan. 13.

Visit <https://beaconhillseminars.org/> and email Info@BeaconHill-Seminars.org to learn more.

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Wu announces the SPACE Grant program to help small businesses

Mayor Michelle Wu announced the launch of the SPACE Grant program in partnership with the Office of Economic Opportunity & Inclusion (OEOI). The program will identify creative ways to bring people back to major commercial districts, revitalize the economy as we emerge from the pandemic, and close the racial wealth gap. Through this program, up to 50 local entrepreneurs will receive substantial grant funding to help them open new storefront businesses in vacant commercial spaces across Boston, with particular emphasis on major commercial hubs like Copley, Downtown, Fenway, and Seaport to increase the diversity of storefront businesses in these neighborhoods.

The SPACE (Supporting Pandemic Affected Community Enterprises) Grant program will provide grants of up to \$200,000 over a three-year period to subsidize rents, upfront capital costs, and necessary infrastructure to help local, small, diverse businesses seeking to fill vacant storefronts. The City plans to collaborate with MassDevelopment, Massachusetts Growth Capital Corporation, Downtown Boston BID, Main

Streets, local commercial banks and CDFIs, and property owners to ensure that participating small business owners have access to additional financial resources and assistance to open and thrive in their new locations. The City expects the first cohort will include approximately 10-15 businesses.

"The SPACE grant program is critical to bolstering our local economy and will help local, small, diverse businesses open new locations across our neighborhoods," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "This grant program addresses commercial vacancies by connecting entrepreneurs with crucial support and the chance to grow. I'm thrilled to launch this program and grateful to our Economic Opportunity & Inclusion Cabinet and all of our partners for their critical work to ensure that Boston's thriving, inclusive and equitable for all."

OEOI has received preliminary interest from a range of entrepreneurs through a recent survey and the Boston Main Streets. This initiative will prioritize helping Boston small businesses that were most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, which includes, but is not limited to:

- Arts, creative economy, and entertainment;
- Childcare;
- Fitness, recreation, wellness;
- Food service and production;
- Laundry services;
- Repair and maintenance;
- Restaurants; and
- Retail

The SPACE Grant program is funded by a \$9 million investment from the federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to aid in Boston's local economic recovery, and will support both entrepreneurs looking to open their first brick and mortar storefront business, as well as current small businesses in the City of Boston looking to expand to new locations within the city.

Grantees will be matched with technical assistance providers that are part of OEOI's Small Business Technical Assistance Program to set them up for success. In addition, grantees will benefit from workshops and one-on-one coaching to guide them through the operational steps of opening a new storefront location. These skills will include lease negotiation and other legal support, financial, marketing, or other areas of expertise. To assist interested entrepreneurs, OEOI will hold a virtual workshop in mid-January 2023 focused on how to write a business plan for entrepreneurs. For more information, sign up for the City's small business e-newsletter.

"The SPACE Grant program is a direct response to the immense

need for innovative ways to fill storefront vacancies and bring vitality to our neighborhoods that we heard from business owners on the ground, whether through our weekly Main Streets walks, surveys, or our one-on-one engagement," said Segun Idowu, Chief of Economic Opportunity and Inclusion. "I am grateful to our team and our partners who built this program, and am happy to launch an effort that will bring about a more robust economy and greater diversity to our city."

Businesses can apply to the SPACE Grant program online at boston.gov/space-grant. Applications are available in multiple languages.

First cohort application deadline: February 17, 2023

Grantees chosen: April 2023
Eligibility:

Applicants must meet the following criteria to be considered for a SPACE Grant:

- Business must be incorporated in a Qualified Census Tract OR one of the prioritized business industries mentioned above.
- Business must have fewer than twenty-five (25) employees (not including the business owner).
- Business owners must provide proof of a Boston business address (e.g., a signed lease, business permit / license / title, utility bill in which the business is named directly, or other home office documentation).
- Business and business owners

must be in good-standing with the City of Boston.

• Business must provide a copy of its up to date Business Certificate.

"The Wu Administration's SPACE Grant Program is a gamechanger for Downtown Boston and our neighborhoods. Providing direct financial and technical assistance to those looking to activate our vacant retail spaces will reduce existing barriers that limit equitable access to these storefronts. This program will open economic opportunities downtown to a wider array of entrepreneurs, make our streets livelier and safer, and support wealth-building for small business owners from a diversity of backgrounds. The Downtown Boston BID and our members are prepared to fully support this effort and to help new businesses thrive and become long-term fixtures Downtown," said Michael Nichols, President of the Downtown Boston BID.

"As a Main Streets director, I am very excited for the SPACE Grant Program. This is a progressive push forward that meets the basic needs of our small businesses, while filling the vacancies that can plague our neighborhoods," said Ginger Brown, Executive Director of JP/Centre South Main Streets.

The COVID-19 pandemic has negatively impacted Downtown and its businesses, and the Wu Administration remains committed to its Downtown Revitalization plan, announced in April 2022 to address decreased foot traffic and consumer spending. As Boston aims to encourage people back to its commercial centers, the City is moving forward bold initiatives to increase consumer confidence and support small businesses. While Boston aims to activate spaces in all of our neighborhoods, the City is also seeking to ensure its Downtown core is flourishing.

To learn more, please visit: <https://www.boston.gov/space-grant>

The vision of the Economic Opportunity and Inclusion Cabinet is of a resilient, equitable, sustainable, and vibrant city that centers people and creates opportunities to build generational wealth. The Cabinet consists of five City departments, including the Office of Consumer Affairs and Licensing, the Office of Economic Opportunity and Inclusion, the Office of Small Business, the Office of Supplier and Workforce Diversity, and the Office of Tourism, Sports, and Entertainment.

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BPHC issues flu advisory to providers

The Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) issued an advisory to Boston health care providers alerting them about concerning levels of flu activity during the early stage of flu season, as well as the slow uptake of flu vaccinations and COVID-19 boosters.

BPHC is urging providers to apply the CDC's Health Advisory Network (HAN) recommendations to address increased respiratory virus activity and to mitigate severe strain on the healthcare system. The recommendations call for COVID-19 and flu vaccination to prevent the spread of both illnesses; diagnostic testing to guide treatment and clinical man-

agement; treatment protocols for confirmed and suspected cases of COVID-19 and flu; and proactive messaging that supports public health outcomes to raise awareness about the current flu season.

"The best way to avoid getting sick with the flu and to reduce your risk of severe infection is getting your annual flu shot. Now that the holidays are here, taking this important, yet simple step is vital for protecting yourself and others when celebrating with friends and family," said Dr. Bisola Ojikutu, Commissioner of Public Health and Executive Director of the Boston Public Health Commission. "Everybody 6-months and older

should get their flu vaccination as soon as possible."

The Boston Public Health Commission has set up several standing sites in communities throughout the city to make it quick and convenient for residents to get their annual flu shots, COVID-19 vaccines and boosters, and COVID-19 testing.

All services are free for individuals ages 6-months and older, with no appointments or IDs required:

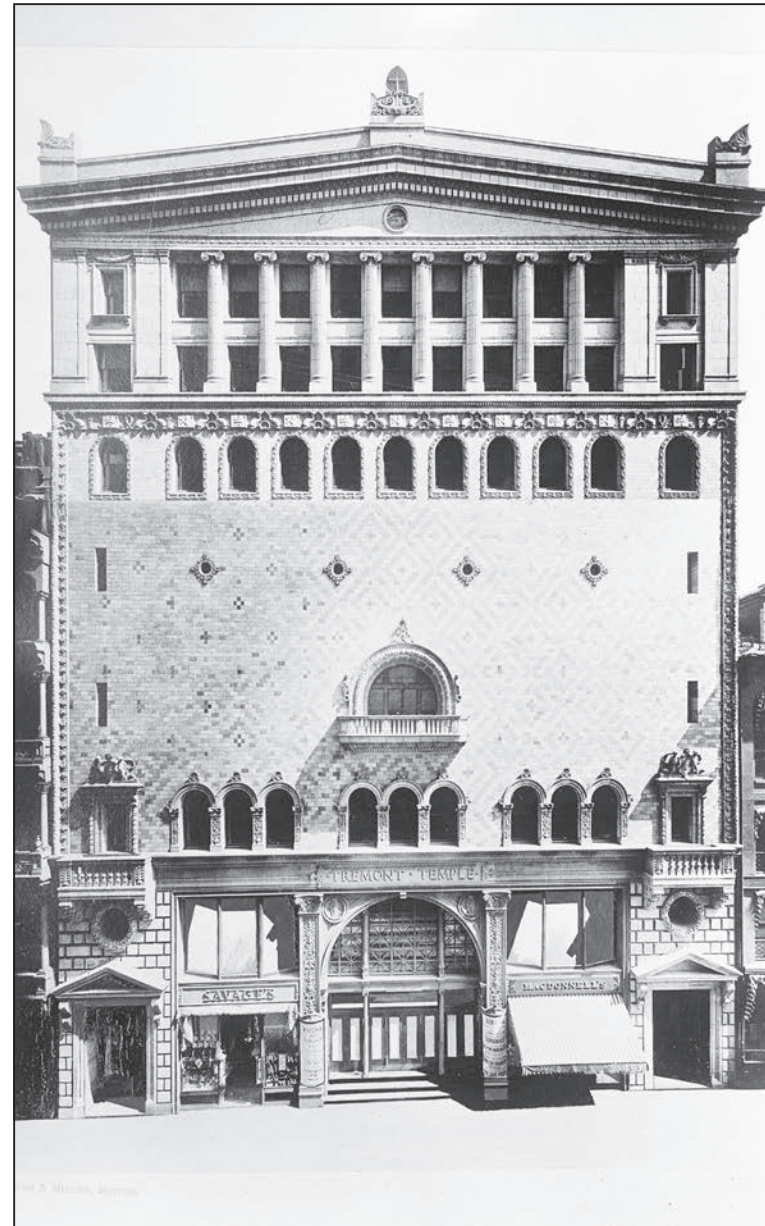
Boston City Hall, Haymarket Room 240 (2nd floor), 1 City Hall Sq., Boston.

Open Mondays from 7am-1pm and Wednesdays from 12-5pm.

Attention to Detail

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY PENNY CHERUBINO

THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The façade in the last clue is on 88 Tremont Street. Here, on December 2, 1867, Charles Dickens performed his first public reading of "A Christmas Carol" in the United States at the Tremont Temple. Today's answer is an early photo of the building from "Frank Cousins Collection of Glass Plate" at the Peabody Essex Museum.

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



Christmas at King's Chapel

Christmas Eve Services
 5:00 PM Family Service
 8:00 PM Candlelit Service with Lessons and Carols
Christmas Day Service
 December 25 at 11:00 AM

58 Tremont St. | www.kings-chapel.org

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FRESH AND LOCAL

Holiday comfort food

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

What special comforting foods do you plan to include in this year's holiday celebrations? Food and feasting are part of the Christmas, Hanukkah, Winter Solstice, and Kwanzaa year-end celebrations. When you reflect on past seasons, it may be friends and family gathered around food traditions that you remember most clearly.

Penny always craves the French pork pie or tourtière her Aunt Sophie included in holiday meals. Ed often talks about the lasagna his grandmother made in addition to the turkey, ham, and numerous side dishes on their holiday table.

Many Italian families begin their December celebration with a traditional Feast of the Seven Fishes on Christmas eve. Your holiday table may only be complete

with mulled cider, roasted chestnuts, plum pudding, or even the much-maligned fruitcake.

Holiday Baking

Even those who seldom bake often have one or two holiday specialties that they create this time of year. There are cultural traditions like Swedish gingerbread, Swiss Zimtsterne, German lebkuchen, French bûche de Noël, British mincemeat and plum pudding, and all-American toll house cookies.

Even those who don't bake can buy a wide assortment of holiday baked goods. We always enjoy a selection of panettones. Penny is one of those hold-outs who still loves a good fruitcake! Yes, there are excellent fruitcakes available by mail order. This year's selection came from the Vermont Country Store.

Making New Traditions

As we grow and our taste evolves, we may decide that some traditional foodways and holiday happenings don't fit our current tastes or lifestyles. It is perfectly okay to make your own. We have substituted a pile of lobsters or Dungeness crabs for the feast of the seven fishes.

This year we'll combine Penny's love of lobster with Ed's passion for pasta and give the cook a night off. We'll order the Lobster Spaghetti as take-out from Little Whale on Newbury Street to enjoy on Christmas Eve.

After all, celebrations are a perfect time to be a bit extrava-



This year, we plan to order the Lobster Spaghetti from Little Whale on Newbury Street to enjoy on Christmas Eve.

gant. It's also time to buy treats we'd typically avoid. Eggnog and whipped cream show up in the refrigerator with a plan to get back on track in the new year.

New Year's Eve

The new year is one holiday everyone can enjoy. We prefer a quiet New Year's Eve celebration with particular food favorites and a great bottle of sparkling wine to being out and about with a big crowd.

Most years, that is an evening of appetizers, great cheese, and charcuterie. It's the perfect food to sit and enjoy over a long evening as we savor a great wine. Shopping for our celebration is half the fun. We visit our favorite area food and wine shops and wish them success in the new year.

While you enjoy your once-a-year holiday traditions, consider spreading the pleasure over the year by treating yourself to some of your favorite aspects of this sea-

son throughout the months ahead.

For example, on New Year's Eve 2007, we made a Sparkling Resolution that we have faithfully kept. We resolved to drink more sparkling wine and toast the first of every month with a glass of bubbles. We might give thanks for something nice that happened in the past month or raise a glass to an event or goal for the upcoming weeks. If you don't drink wine, you can enjoy a glass of any special beverage. The point is to treat yourself to small celebrations of food and drink that lift your spirits.

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

McKEVITZ (from pg. 5)

Friends of the Public Garden at this critical moment for the three parks and excited to help drive the new vision for the Boston Common. It's a privilege to connect people with parks and parks with people while uplifting the horticultural and structural elements that make these parks unique, historically rich, and accessible for all."

To learn more about the Friends of the Public Garden and their parks care program visit www.friendsofthepublicgarden.org.

DELUCA'S MARKET

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NEW YEAR'S EVE

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