



FEBRUARY 16, 2023



# THE BEACON HILL TIMES

T H E R E A R E N O T I M E S L I K E T H E S E T I M E S

## BHCA 50TH ANNUAL WINTER SOIRÉE



PHOTO BY MARIANNE SALZA

The Beacon Hill Civic Association (BHCA) held its 50th Annual Winter Soirée on February 11, at The Newbury Boston to raise funds for the organization's operating budget. Shown enjoying the event are Shiela Neelson, Marybeth Bisson, Peter Jones, Wayne Gaffield, Steve Bisson, and Nancy Michaels. See Pages 6 and 7 for more photos.

### BEACON HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY CORNER

Thank you to our 50th Annual Winter Soirée Sponsors and Silent Auction Donors!

Your generosity supports our work in Historic Preservation, Civic Engagement, and Community Development.

Sandra Steele & Paul Greenfield

Meghan & Brian Awe  
Caroline & Victoria of DeLuca's Market

Margaret & Joshua Leffler  
Samantha Spencer  
Wendy Woods

Betty & Russell Gaudreau  
Hilary & Christopher Gabrieli

Gina & Scott Usechek  
Kathy & Stephen Young  
The Beacon Hill Times  
The Boston Guardian  
Arthur Murray Dance Center  
Beacon Hill Books & Café  
Beacon Hill Hotel  
Bourque Family Foundation  
Canyon Ranch  
Chatham Bars Inn  
Commonwealth Shakespeare

Company  
Elin Hilderbrand  
John Hennessey  
Lyric Stage Company of Boston  
Maison Esthétique Spa

Margaret & Joshua Leffler  
Omni Boston Hotel  
Paul & Maggie Schmid  
The Lenox Hotel  
The Newbury Hotel  
The UMass Club  
The Whitney Hotel  
Toscano

### 26th ANNUAL BEACON AWARD

As part of the Diamond Jubilee Year (1922-1997), The Beacon Hill Civic Association instituted an annual Beacon Award

(BHCA Pg. 3)

## Retail alive and well on Charles Street

By Dan Murphy

While they had originally not intended to open the second location of their Gloucester-based home goods store and full-service interior design studio for another six months to a year, Jeff and Joan Grady fast-tracked the launch of J. Grady Home at 133 Charles St. to June 28, 2021, when they saw the retail renaissance underway on Charles Street for themselves and decided to capitalize on the moment. And so far, their hunch seems to be paying off.

"We've been really happy here," said Jeff. "The community (RETAIL Pg. 8)



COURTESY OF BEACON HILL BOOKS  
A look inside Beacon Hill Books at 71 Charles St.

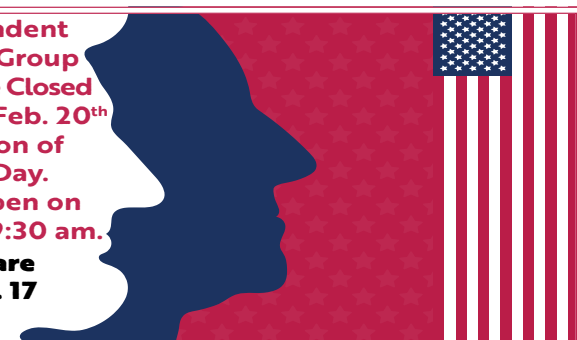


D. MURPHY PHOTO

Gabrielle Mohl, an employee of Blessing Barn Beacon Hill at 122 Charles St.

**The Independent Newspaper Group Office will be Closed on Monday, Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> in observation of President's Day. We will reopen on Tuesday at 9:30 am.**

**Deadlines are Friday, Feb. 17 at 12 p.m.**



# EBNHC introducing the Office of the Patient Advocate

By Michael Coughlin Jr.

Equity is one of the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center's (EBNHC) biggest focuses this year in all facets. With equity in mind and to improve patient service, the EBNHC is creating the Office of the Patient Advocate.

In a press release, Greg Wilmot, EBNHC's President and CEO said the office will "provide patients, a significant number of whom are immigrants and non-English speakers, with an additional access point to address and resolve any concern that may arise."

Elida Acuña-Martínez, EBNHC's Senior Director of Inter-

preter Services and the Office of the Patient Advocate, described what its creation means for over 100,000 patients that the health center serves.

"By creating this office, we send a clear message to our patients and empower them to advocate for themselves and their families. Our team is here to support them in doing just that," said Acuña-Martínez in the same press release.

The creation of this office will undoubtedly be massive in the health center's emphasis on equity in that it will serve patients that may face barriers in the healthcare realm. For example, according to statistics provided by EBNHC,

71% of its patients are below 200% of the federal poverty level, and 70% of patients are served best in a language that is not English.

Along with creating the Office of the Patient Advocate, the EBNHC has been hard at work in other areas to promote equity in its care.

The health center has created a diversified staff to better understand and serve its patients, with 50% of its 1,500 staff members being from its service area, 32% speaking Spanish, and 45% being Latinx.

EBNHC has also done tremendous work with its Interpreter

Services Department, offering interpretation in-person, over the phone, and via video. EBNHC statistics revealed that the health center provided over 205,000 interpretations to patients in its last fiscal year with these services – a figure comparable to Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH).

As a new year gets underway, it is evident that with the creation of the Office of the Patient Advocate, the EBNHC is taking significant steps to provide the best and most equitable care to its patients.

"I know that East Boston Neighborhood Health Center is not just a medical provider, but a trusted-community-based orga-

nization that provides our neighbors with hope, care, and critical resources," said Acuña-Martínez in the press release.

"We want our community to know that there are people in every corner of our organization who are here to advocate for them and help them achieve the best health care for themselves and their families," said Wilmot in the press release.

For more information about the new office, you can visit <https://www.ebnhc.org/en/visitor-patient-info/patient-experience.html>.

## NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDUP

### HILL HOUSE'S ANNUAL WINE DINNER

Hill House will be hosting its annual Wine Dinner on Thursday, March 30, at Beacon Hill Bistro at 25 Charles St. Cocktails will

be served at 6:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 7:30 p.m. Tickets and sponsorships are available at <https://interland3.donorperfect.net/weblink/weblink.aspx?name=E22709&cid=28>.

## Chief Jemison welcomes new Director of Planning Aimee Chambers

Chief of Planning Arthur Jemison today announced the hiring of Aimee Chambers, AICP as the new Director of Planning. Her professional experience includes a wide range of planning and urban design work from affordable housing development to bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure design. The planning team led by Chambers, which is currently housed at the Boston Planning & Development Agency (BPDA), will move to a new City Planning & Design Department, which was announced by Mayor Wu in her 2023 State of the City, to restore planning as a core function of City government. As the City Planning & Design Department is being formed to drive the city's planning function, the BPDA will continue to build out a strong planning team to deliver on the Mayor's vision for resilient, affordable, equitable growth.

"I'm thrilled to welcome Aimee to our leadership team, where she will serve a critical role helping us create a more resilient, affordable, and equitable future for Boston," said Chief of Planning Arthur Jemison. "Aimee's experience in other municipalities will bring new perspectives and momentum for delivering our bold vision for the city."

Chambers will be responsible for implementing the Mayor's vision for citywide land use planning strategies and action plans that shape equitable long-term growth. This vision includes a Citywide plan to rezone and enhance squares and corridors, creating the

opportunity for thousands of new housing units and neighborhood small businesses, retail, and jobs. It also includes completing neighborhood plans, bringing them to zoning, and building out the zoning team to evaluate and modernize the zoning code.

"I am very excited to be joining the team at such a pivotal point in time for planning work in Boston," said Director of Planning Aimee Chambers. "Thank you to Chief Jemison for recognizing and valuing my passion for equitable planning principles, service delivery, and zoning analysis. I look forward to serving the Wu Administration and delivering outcomes focused on resilience, affordability, and equity for the people of Boston."

As Director of Planning, Chambers will also work closely with Deputy Chief of Urban Design Diana Fernandez to ensure a seamless integration of planning and urban design policies to shape the built environment of the city. Another goal of this planning work is to make the development process more predictable for community members and developers, and to reduce the number of proposals that require relief from the Zoning Board of Appeal.

Chambers has worked across the non-profit and public sectors for 12 years as a planner and project manager and, prior to that, as a foster care case manager. She most recently served as the Director of Planning for the City of Hartford, Connecticut, where she led planning and zoning for the city.

Chambers also has experience in climate change-related disaster resiliency working for the Greater New Orleans Housing Alliance as a contractor for the State of Louisiana Office of Community Development - Disaster Recovery Unit. In each of the communities that she has served, Chambers has centered her work on the implementation of programs that engage with and advocate for residents and worked to amplify the voices of people of color and underserved populations.

Chambers is a 2019 Next City Vanguard (Newark, NJ) and was nominated in CT Magazine's 40 Under 40, Class of 2022. She graduated from Manhattan College with a degree in Sociology and Urban Studies. Her master's degree in Community Planning is from the University of Maryland-College Park.

As the City of Boston's urban planning and economic development agency, the BPDA works in partnership with the community to plan Boston's future while respecting its past. The agency's passionate and knowledgeable staff guides physical, social, and economic change in Boston's neighborhoods and its downtown to shape a more prosperous, resilient, and vibrant city for all. The BPDA also prepares residents for new opportunities through employment training, human services and job creation. Learn more at [bostonplans.org](http://bostonplans.org), and follow us on Twitter @BostonPlans.

**The Year of the Rabbit**

**Your Year Your Cost**

**2023**

**JOIN THE INDEPENDENT 2023 AD CAMPAIGN Jan. - Dec. 2023 ONE FULL YEAR of advertising for only \$2,023 per paper**

**Option 1**  
**52 WEEKS**  
 Business Card Size  
 3.37" by 2" high

**Option 2**  
**26 WEEKS**  
 2col x 3 in.  
 3.37" by 3" high  
 COLOR  
 2 ADS/MONTH

**Option 3**  
**1 AD/MONTH**  
 2col x 5 in.  
 3.37" by 5" high  
 COLOR  
 — broadsheet size —  
 3.99" by 5" high  
 — tab size —

**Option 4**  
**5 per CALENDAR YEAR**  
**3col x 10 in.**  
 5.14" by 10" high  
 COLOR  
 — broadsheet size —

**5 per CALENDAR YEAR**  
**3col x 5 in.**  
 6.0832" by 5" high  
 COLOR  
 — tab size —

THE REVERE JOURNAL | THE EVERETT INDEPENDENT  
 THE WINTHROP TRANSCRIPT | THE EAST BOSTON  
 TIMES | THE LYNN JOURNAL | THE CHELSEA RECORD  
 THE BOSTON SUN | THE CHARLESTOWN PATRIOT BRIDGE  
 BEACON HILL TIMES | NORTH END REGIONAL REVIEW  
 JAMAICA PLAIN GAZETTE | MISSION HILL GAZETTE

Choose from any 4 Options for an insightful year of news, sports, and social gatherings from your Hometown Newspapers

**2 Payments of \$1,011.50**  
 1<sup>st</sup> due Jan. 31, 2023 2<sup>nd</sup> due June 30, 2023  
 We accept all major Credit Cards

With options to change Publications on each run

**Call your Ad Rep at (781) 485-0588**  
 Or Reach them on Email! Tap on Your rep below to start sending an email!

Maureen DiBella | Sioux Gerow | Deb DiGregorio

PLEASE VISIT [WWW.BEACONHILLTIMES.COM](http://WWW.BEACONHILLTIMES.COM)

# Wu announces new PowerCorpsBOS career pathway in building operations

PowerCorpsBOS joined A Better City and Roxbury Community College (RCC) for an orientation event to receive an overview of the newest PowerCorps building operations career pathway, skills to support the transition to energy efficiency and carbon reduction in Boston buildings. This program is a partnership between PowerCorpsBOS, Roxbury Community College's Center for Smart Building Technology and A Better City (ABC). Program participants will study at RCC's Center for Smart Building Technology and receive in-service learning opportunities within large buildings coordinated by A Better City.

"Creating career pathways through skills and job training is essential to growing our green workforce, especially as we work to transition more buildings to renewable, efficient energy," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "I'm grateful to our partners for working with us and the students participating for their commitment to helping lay the foundation for a clean, green future."

PowerCorpsBos works to train residents for green jobs after program completion, while focusing on career pathways into jobs that work to mitigate climate change to protect the environment. The first PowerCorps cohort graduated in December. All of the 21 program graduates either have a new green job or are enrolled in additional training. An 'earn and learn' program, PowerCorpsBos pays members to participate in hands-on training and provides them with career readiness support, and connections to employers in the green industry. PowerCorpsBOS is a partnership that is led by the Worker Empowerment Cabinet and the Environment Department, in collaboration with Community Safety, Office of Youth Employment and Opportunity, and Boston Centers for Youth & Families. The goals of PowerCorpsBOS are

to promote workforce development for young people in growing industries while supporting environmental stewardship.

"The core mission of PowerCorpsBos is to create pathways to earn a livable wage while also helping to care for the environment," said Davo Jefferson, Executive Director of PowerCorpsBos. "We are grateful to partner with RCC and ABC to ensure PowerCorps graduates are able to move directly into careers in the green building industry."

In Boston, 70 percent of our greenhouse gas emissions come from the building sector," said Reverend Mariama White-Hammond, Chief of Environment, Energy and Open Space. "By creating a building operations career pathway through PowerCorps, these graduates are preparing for high quality careers which will support our carbon neutrality goals."

"Congratulations to PowerCorpsBOS for creating this innovative partnership with Roxbury Community College and A Better City," said Trinh Nguyen, Chief of Worker Empowerment. "Expanding opportunities for sustainable jobs at living wages is part of the City and Worker Empowerment's mission and we look forward to facilitating this new pathway."

The building operations pathway is training for jobs that reduce greenhouse gas emissions in large buildings by teaching participants skills to maintain building operations at peak efficiency. The curriculum is being offered by RCC's Center for Smart Building Technology in their state of the art lab and includes topics ranging from conducting energy audits to maintaining electrical, HVAC and plumbing systems. Participants will learn on the job with the goal of transitioning to an employee at the end of the six month training program.

A Better City has supported

this partnership by working with member businesses and institutions to establish in-service learning opportunities in Boston-based large buildings. Participating organizations include the City of Boston, Beacon Capital Partners and their building operator partner, NEWMARK, Brigham and Women's Hospital, C&W Services, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, JLL, and MassGeneral Hospital. A Better City's work has been made possible by support from the Linde Family Foundation and the Barr Foundation.

The inaugural PowerCorps cohort were trained in urban forestry. The 21 graduates assisted 87 acres of public land, removed 284 bags of invasive material, worked with 18 service project partners, planted 61 trees, underwent 16 hours of tree climbing training, earned three college credits from UMass Mount Ida in Arboriculture, talked to 68 employees in private to public industry, worked with four different City departments, pruned 32 trees, attended International Society of Arboriculture New England chapter conference, participated in 12 hours of mock interviews, and completed 16 hours of financial literacy courses. Graduates worked with Boston Housing Authority and UMass Mount Ida Campus to learn skills like tree protection, including pruning, felling, limbing, and bucking.

The City of Boston's green jobs program is inspired by the Philadelphia PowerCorpsPHL model that builds opportunities for young people by tackling pressing environmental challenges and developing the skills required to secure meaningful work. The priority of PowerCorpsBOS is to create equitable and inclusive workforce pipelines into green jobs for historically marginalized young people. Priority populations include returning citizens, court-involved

residents, youth who have experienced homelessness or housing instability, and young people who have been in foster care. In Boston, the program is designed with "earn and learn" practices to ensure that members enter and succeed in career green job pathways. Members go through specifically tailored phases, in a field of their choosing, that embed service and equity, as well as direct connections to job openings. The program also offers connections to continuing education opportunities, including through the City's Tuition Free Community College program. Not only current PowerCorps members, but also their families and alumni who are Boston residents, are eligible for TFCC.

"This partnership is not only a wonderful opportunity but essential to diversify the industry and create economic self-sufficiency for our community members," said RCC Interim President Jackie Jenkins-Scott. "RCC is proud to offer both workforce and degree programs in Smart Building Technology, ensuring Boston residents are leaders in this growing field."

"Public private partnerships

are a vital strategy for building a green and growing city for everyone," said Yve Torrie, Director of Climate, Energy & Resilience at A Better City. "This PowerCorpsBOS partnership is poised to enhance our City's economic health and competitiveness, while promoting equitable growth for the in-demand jobs of today and tomorrow. We are immensely grateful to the City of Boston for their vision, to RCC for their curriculum expertise, and to the participating A Better City member companies and institutions for stepping up to provide real-world training and employment opportunities."

"We are thrilled to support the City of Boston's program to build and train a workforce that will run the energy efficient buildings of the future," said Jim Tierney, JLL New England Market Director and A Better City Board Chair. "A Better City member companies are providing state-of-the-art buildings as a training opportunity for hands-on experience in building operations. These buildings showcase the latest in technology and sustainability preparing trainees for the jobs of the future."

## BHCA (from pg. 1)

to honor those people or groups deserving of particular recognition for significant and sustained contribution to the Beacon Hill community. Such a contribution may include working with children or the elderly in the neighborhood, beautifying local spaces, improving safety on the Hill, or preserving and enhancing the quality of life for residents and businesses alike. The recipient may be an individual, group, committee, business, institution, or organization, and

the community is defined as the Beacon Hill neighborhood.

Continuing tradition, we invite nominations from the entire community to help select the recipient of the 2023 Beacon Award. The 2023 Beacon Award will be presented at the BHCA Annual Meeting on May 15, 2023 at the Union Club of Boston. Contact the BHCA office for a nomination form or go to [bhcivic.org](http://bhcivic.org) to download the form.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Young Friends – Wednesday, February 22nd, 7pm at Carrie Nation

Zoning & Licensing – Wednesday, March 1st, 7pm, via Zoom

First Friday Coffee Hour – Friday, March 3rd, 8:30-9:30am at 74 Joy Street

Visit the Beacon Hill Civic Association website [www.bhcivic.org](http://www.bhcivic.org) or call the office (617-227-1922) to learn more about these events.

## Extend your Business's reach with Online Advertising!

**Clients and Customers  
are just a click away!**

**\$300<sup>00</sup> per month  
per site**





**THE  
INDEPENDENT  
NEWSPAPERS**

REVEREJOURNAL.COM • WINTHROPTRANSCRIPT.COM  
LYNNJOURNAL.COM • EVERETTINDEPENDENT.COM  
EASTIETIMES.COM • CHELSEA RECORD.COM  
CHARLESTOWNBRIDGE.COM • BEACONHILLTIMES.COM  
NORTHENDREGIONALREVIEW.COM • THEBOSTONSUN.COM  
JAMAICAPLAINGAZETTE.COM • MISSIONHILLGAZETTE.COM

**Combo Rates available!  
Buy any 3 sites, get 4<sup>th</sup> FREE**

**Call 781-485-0588 to get started!**

AD SIZE  
in pixels  
W: 160px  
H: 600px

please send  
in "png"  
format

# EDITORIAL

## THE SKY IS FALLING?

With U.S. jets shooting down numerous unidentified flying objects seemingly every day over North American air space in the past week, we're all wondering, "What the heck is going on?"

As this is being written, the only thing we know for sure is that the first object that was shot down off the coast of South Carolina was a Chinese spy balloon.

Our military reportedly has adjusted its radar to try to spot more incursions -- which explains why the last three objects were picked up, whereas previously they may have gone unnoticed -- but one thing that these incidents have taught us is that our radar detection apparatus needs a serious upgrade.

It's tempting to joke about it -- Saturday Night Live did a funny skit about the Chinese spy balloon. And for our part, as we were watching the home videos and comments made by civilians, it made us think of the episode from the old TV show "F Troop" from the 1960s (yes, we are that old) when a balloon was shot down with bows and arrows, whereas this balloon was shot down by an F-22 Raptor fighter jet.

But there are so many unanswered questions and so many theories. Were the three other objects that were shot down also spy aircraft from another country? And if so, from where? Or were they owned by a private entity that also might be doing some sort of covert surveillance? How about aliens from outer space?

We'll only know the full story when all of those aircraft are recovered and analyzed. And it wouldn't be surprising if a few more objects are shot down in the coming days.

But in the meantime, let's hope we don't become a nation of Chicken Littles.

## THE VICTIMS IN TURKEY AND SYRIA NEED OUR HELP

The ongoing tragedy because of the devastating earthquake that struck the nations of Turkey and Syria is the worst humanitarian disaster the world has seen in many years.

More than 35,000 people have died and that number is sure to rise even further in the coming days.

Natural and other disasters in our part of the world have been barely a blip compared to what the people of Turkey and Syria are dealing with. To put the earthquake in perspective, the combined death toll from the Surfside condo collapse in 2021 and Hurricane Ian in 2022 was 250. Both were terrible tragedies, but that number is less than one percent of the earthquake's death toll.

In addition, tens of thousands have been injured and millions more have been left homeless -- all told, this is a disaster of unimaginable proportions.

There are many international organizations from which to choose to assist with disaster relief efforts and we urge all of our readers who have the ability to do so to make a donation.

*The Independent Newspaper Group reserves the right to edit letters for space and clarity. We regret that we cannot publish unsigned letters. Please include your street and telephone number with your submission. The Independent Newspaper Group publishes columns, viewpoints and letters to the editor as a forum for readers to express their opinions and to encourage debate. Please note that the opinions expressed are not necessarily those of The Independent Newspaper Group. Text or attachments emailed to editor@reverejournal.com are preferred.*

## School bullying must stop, everyone must work together

Dr. Glenn Mollette

Four New Jersey teenagers have been charged in connection with the attack of a 14-year-old girl who later took her own life after video of the incident was posted on social media.

One juvenile is charged with aggravated assault, two juveniles are charged with conspiracy to commit aggravated assault and one juvenile is charged with harassment, Ocean County prosecutor Bradley D. Billhimer told CBS News in an email. (cbsnews.com)

Adriana Kuch, 14, was found dead in her Bayville home on February 3, two days after the disturbing video of the attack at Central Regional High School was posted online. The video showed girls throwing a drink at the teen, then kicking and dragging her down school hallways. They pushed Adriana into red lockers lining the school hallways and one of the girls in a pink shirt punched Kuch repeatedly. (Source CBSNews.com)

When I was an elementary child riding the school bus, we had a few fights on the bus. One young man who didn't live that far from me was constantly getting into fights on the school bus. One day he had a kid down repeatedly punching him in the face. The bus driver stopped the bus and escorted both boys off the bus while still a couple of miles from their homes. We then drove off and left them on the road. I don't recall seeing the fight continue as they now had to walk or hitchhike a ride to get home. Since the one boy was being beaten so bad, I don't think the driver made the best decision since the other kid could have finished him off on the rural road we were traveling. However, it did appear the

fight had stopped as we drove off. Most likely not having a bus audience, bleeding and having to walk home changed the scenario.

In the sixties and seventies there were bad things that happened in schools that often got swept under the rug. With no social media kids usually ended up working it out or staying away from people we didn't like. Often many of us never took our school problems home because our parents had enough problems without having to worry about our school fusses. Or, we were afraid we might get in trouble at home.

School children face challenges. There are ongoing pressures from bullies who must be corralled and disciplined, dismissed from school or in some cases put in a place where they can get rehabilitation and help for their psychotic issues. Locking a 14-year-old up in jail for years solves nothing. However, kids that bring about injury or death to another student need mental help and rehabilitation before being freed to invoke pain on someone again. Most likely if your family has lost a family member to a bully you want the offender locked up for life.

Even though my school era was not a perfect world Schoolteachers and principals had authority to paddle our butts. They had authority to discipline us, suspend us from school and could put bite

with their bark. We knew the teachers ruled and we respected them. I can remember see paddling's that I never wanted to get and received a couple myself.

No school has the ability to patrol every corner of a school facility. Bullying, fights and bad things typically occur in unsupervised spaces. Schools can't hire enough security guards or have enough monitors to patrol ever corner.

Every day in every state in America a private school is starting or the ground work is being formulated.

Ten years from now almost every city and even small community in America will have a private or faith-based school. Some of these will only be elementary schools but many have or will develop junior and senior highs. Such schools are not free of their own issues but parents across America are desperate for safe places for their kids. Parents want a place where there is zero tolerance of bullies and an administration who means business about protecting the children. They want an environment where their children can be mentored, taught and prepared better for life, college or to move into adult jobs.

Parents don't want a school who they feel is working against

(Op-Ed Pg. 5)

## THE BEACON HILL TIMES

PRESIDENT/EDITOR: STEPHEN QUIGLEY

MARKETING DIRECTOR: DEBRA DIGREGORIO  
(DEB@REVEREJOURNAL.COM)

ART DIRECTOR: SCOTT YATES

FOUNDING PUBLISHER: KAREN CORD TAYLOR

© 2007 INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER GROUP

PHONE: 781-485-0588

EMAIL: EDITOR@BEACONHILLTIMES.COM

WEB SITE: www.beaconhilltimes.com

ADVERTISE IN  
THE TIMES.  
CALL  
781-485-0588

# Bullets over Boston: A journey through the city's underworld

By Times staff

Gangsters have played a shady role in shaping Boston's history as Boston Globe reporter Emily Sweeney will explore during an event sponsored by West End Museum on Thursday, Feb. 23, at 6:30 p.m. at The HUB50 Community Room, 52 Causeway St., Boston.

In her presentation, Sweeney will discuss her latest book, "Gangland Boston: A Tour Through the Deadly Streets of Organized Crime." She will reveal the real-life locations of criminal hangouts and share stories about the mobsters and racketeers who ruled Boston's underworld, including those with West End ties like Doc Sagansky.

"Sagansky grew up in the West End and worked as a newsboy in the neighborhood," Sweeney said in a press release. "After graduating from dental school, he

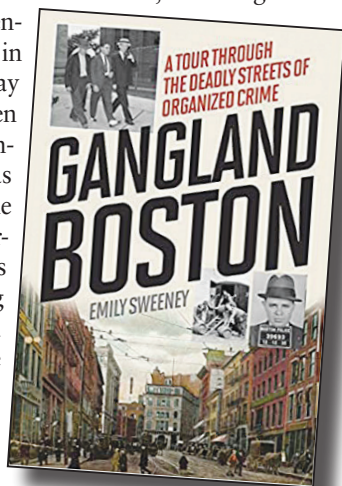
opened a dental practice in nearby Scollay Square. When it came to gambling, Doc was a legend — he made a fortune from his bookmaking business and later became one of the oldest people to go to federal prison when he refused to cooperate with authorities."

Other mobsters with West End ties that Sweeney will touch on include Michael "Mickey the Wiseguy" Rocco, Angelo "Sonny" Mercurio, and William J. "Skinny" Kazonis.

Sweeney, who authored another book on the same subject in 2012 called "Boston Organized Crime," will draw upon her years of research and an extensive col-



PHOTOS COURTESY OF EMILY SWEENEY  
Emily Sweeney, a Boston Globe reporter and author of "Gangland Boston: A Tour Through the Deadly Streets Of Organized Crime."



Emily Sweeney's book, "Gangland Boston: A Tour Through the Deadly Streets Of Organized Crime."

lection of photographs to shed light on how gang violence unfolded during Prohibition, how the Italian mafia rose to power, and how the Gustin Gang came to be.

"This is a fascinating chapter of the West End's history and we're happy to have Emily tell us these stories in person," said West End Museum Executive Director Sebastian Belfanti in a press release.

Tickets cost \$8 each. To learn more, or to reserve a seat, visit <https://thewestendmuseum.org/programs/>.

## Your Neighbor and Real Estate Expert

Trust and accountability are the foundation of Wendy's career as a top-selling agent. Her in-depth knowledge of the market and extensive network provide Wendy's clients with a competitive advantage, and exceptional results.

Wendy Oleksiak  
Vice President | REALTOR®  
781.267.0400  
WendyO@GibsonSIR.com

Gibson | Sotheby's  
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

Each office is independently owned and operated.

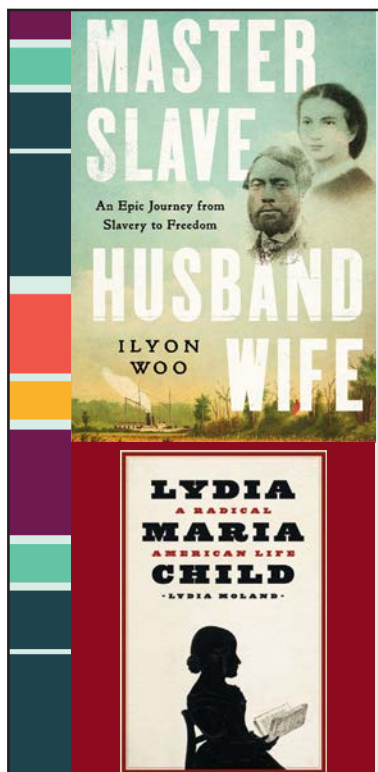


### OP-ED (from pg. 4)

them or hiding things from them. Life is like this. The world is like a jungle most days. There are bullies in the workplaces, neighborhoods and mean people can be found all over. This is why we have the right to call 911. We can file charges against people with the police. We should have the right to carry a firearm and defend ourselves. We have to work to help each other and protect each other.

Teachers, administrators, parents and students must work together for safety and security. Children and teachers must feel safe with an environment free from bullying, hazing or intimidation. Kids should not have to wake up every day fearful of going to school. Neither should the school staff and parents. The issue of bullying and school safety requires school boards, all

staff, parents and students to work together. It's not a task for a few to accomplish but a job for us all. 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.



## Conversations are at the core of who we are.



The Boston Athenaeum's new Salon Series features brilliant speakers discussing topics crucial to our society. Join us for an upcoming conversation:

- February 27: *Master Slave, Husband Wife*, with Ilyon Woo
- March 20: *Lydia Maria Child: A Radical American Life*, with Lydia Moland

Tickets are free for members and \$10 for visitors. Learn more and register at [Bostonathenaeum.org](http://Bostonathenaeum.org)

BOSTON ATHENÆUM

Enter the red doors at 10½ Beacon Street  
(617) 720-7604 | [bostonathenaeum.org](http://bostonathenaeum.org)

Member supported • Everyone is invited to join.

To place a  
memoriam  
please call  
781-485-0588

# BHCA HOLDS 50TH ANNUAL WINTER SOIRÉE

PHOTOS BY MARIANNE SALZA

The Beacon Hill Civic Association (BHCA) held its 50th Annual Winter Soirée on February 11, at The Newbury Boston to raise funds for the organization’s operating budget. One hundred and fifty guests enjoyed a silent auction, dinner, and dancing to the US Top 40 songs performed by Sugarbabies, Inc.

“We’re celebrating the centennial,” said Meghan Awe, BHCA board chair. “It’s exciting being with everybody in person.”



Bob and Laura Cousineau, and Michelle and David Powers.



Phil and Judy Tedeschi, and Herbie and Nathalie SaPomon.



Amanda and Elliott Levine.



Jean Zick, Wendy Woods, Susan Osborn, and Colin Zick.

Gibson | Sotheby's  
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

## View Our 2022 Market Insights Report



PLEASE CONTACT US FOR A  
COMPLIMENTARY HOME VALUATION



Rebecca Davis Tulman & Leslie Singleton Adam  
RDT: 617.510.5050 | LSA: 617.901.3664  
BeckyAndLeslie@GibsonSIR.com

66 Beacon Street, 2nd Floor, Beacon Hill  
Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated.

NICHOLS HOUSE MUSEUM

55 Mount Vernon Street, Boston



Tour the historic Beacon Hill townhouse for 20% off through February with promo code: Feb20

Reserve your ticket & find upcoming events...

NICHOLSHOUSEMUSEUM.ORG



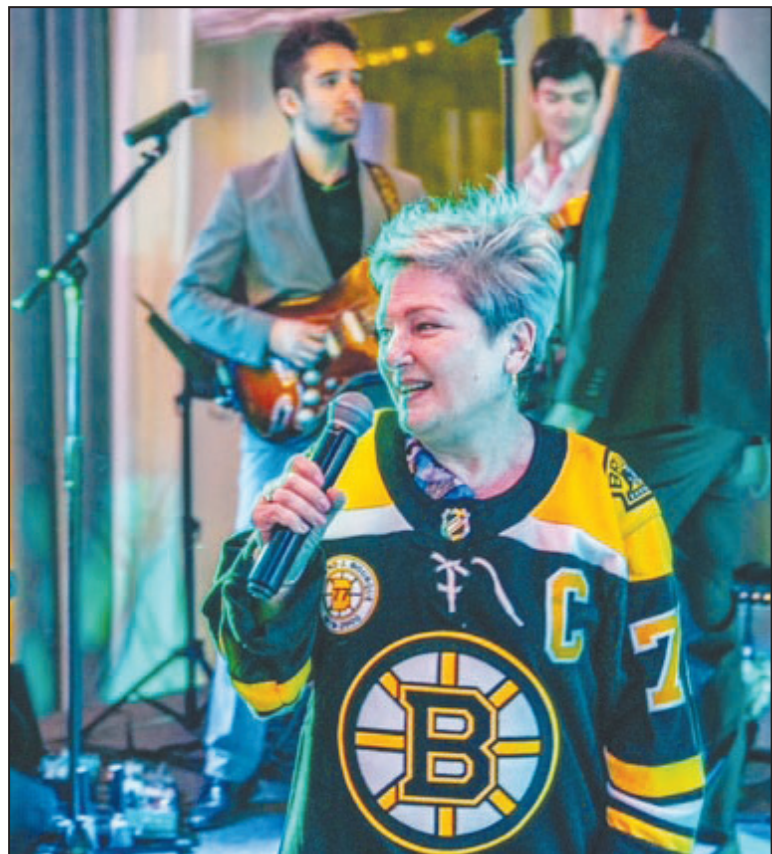
DAVE POUTRÉ  
FINE FRAMING

Tuesday-Saturday 10am-6pm  
82 Charles Street  
Boston, MA 02114  
617.723.7263  
dave@davepoutrefineframing.com  
www.davepoutrefineframing.com

PLEASE VISIT [WWW.BEACONHILLTIMES.COM](http://WWW.BEACONHILLTIMES.COM)

# BHCA HOLDS 50TH ANNUAL WINTER SOIRÉE

PHOTOS BY MARIANNE SALZA



Patricia Tully, BHCA executive director, wearing a Bruin's jersey auction item.



Alessandra DeSouza and Kevin Smit.



Stephanie and Bill Miller, and Karen Fabbri.



Patricia Arroyo.



Sugarbabies, Inc.: Lyle Shaw, Nathan Zini, Sarah Barnhill, Juan Botero, Zach Schrage, and Ori Menache.

**THINK OF IT AS AN OWNER'S MANUAL FOR YOUR MONEY.**



The free *Consumer Action Handbook*. It's in print and online at [ConsumerAction.gov](http://ConsumerAction.gov). Order your free copy online at [ConsumerAction.gov](http://ConsumerAction.gov) or write to Handbook, Pueblo, CO 81009.

**À LA CARTE MASSAGE**

MASSAGE • REFLEXOLOGY

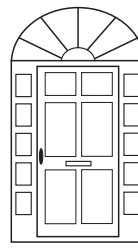


SPORTS MASSAGE    LICENSED MASSAGE THERAPIST  
SWEDISH  
DEEP TISSUE    **BOOK TODAY**  
HOTSTONE    **857-919-4278**  
THAI MASSAGE  
PRENATAL

ALACARTEMESSAGE.COM

ADVERTISE  
IN THE TIMES.  
CALL  
781-485-0588

**BREWSTER & BERKOWITZ  
REAL ESTATE**



Sally Brewster  
Betsey Barrett

Ron Berkowitz  
Mary Dunlavey

121 Mt. Vernon Street • Boston, Massachusetts 02108  
www.brewberk.com

Sales    **617.367.0505**    Rentals

*Feature of the Month!*

**Mid Century  
Artwork**

**New & Old  
Art, Antiques &  
Home Decor**

*We Buy Antiques*



**UPSTAIRS  
DOWNSTAIRS  
HOME**

69 CHARLES ST., BOSTON MA, 02114  
617-367-1950  
LAURAUPSTAIRSDOWNSTAIRS@GMAIL.COM  
UPSTAIRSDOWNSTAIRSANTIQUES

## RETAIL (from pg. 1)

has been so great and supportive, and we've gotten to know not only the residents of Beacon Hill, but the other store owners as well."

The clientele at J. Grady Home on Charles Street is a mix between neighborhood residents and visitors to Boston, Jeff said, so the store has expanded its inventory in an effort to accommodate its customers across the board.

"Since we've opened, we've expanded our offerings to get a feel for what works," he said, adding that the Charles Street store has frequently catered to tourists who stop in to pick up a "nice gift" during their travels.

And just as the Gradys predicted, Charles Street has turned out to be the ideal location for the expansion of their business.

"The store and the location complement each other well," said Jeff, "which is what we thought would happen."

In contrast, when high-end home goods retailer and a longtime fixture on Newbury Street, Matsu, reopened at 76 Charles St. in May of 2021 after a nearly seven-year respite, the business's husband-and-wife owners, Masayuki and Dava Muramatsu, were unsure of the reception awaiting them, especially in the midst of the pandemic.

Their apprehensions and doubts were soon put to rest, however, when the return of Matsu was met with success beyond their hopes and expectations.

"To open in the middle of the pandemic, we were wondering if we'd do okay, or if it would turn out to be stupid," said Masayuki. "But Charles Street has turned out to be an excellent street for us."

The Charles Street store, which spans about 400 square feet, is less than half of the size of its former, approximately 1,000 square-foot home on Newbury Street.

While the smaller location was chosen due to an abundance of caution by the Muramatsus, it has resulted in not only decreased overhead, but it's also conducive to a more personal shopping experience for patrons.

Likewise, when Greta Belsole opened her East Coast Ivy Boutique at 88 Charles St. in July of 2021, the Pennsylvania native wasn't sure of the response the shop that specializes in women's clothing, accessories and jewelry would receive. But she too said business has exceeded even her wildest expectations so far.

"Honestly, I wasn't sure everyone would shop with me, but I've met so many amazing friends, locals, and people who shop with me that live on the other side of the country," she said. "Almost all the credit goes to the people who shop with me because they could go



COURTESY OF LINDSAY PERRELLI

The Happy Journey at 73 Charles St is seen ahead of Valentine's Day.

somewhere else and to my employees, like Jules Mucher, who holds down the fort when I'm away."

The storefront spans about 350 square feet, with an additional 200 square feet in the basement, but Belsole already feels like the business is already outgrowing the space. She has no plans to leave Charles Street, however.

"I can't leave the location because it's so charming," she said. "Everyone shops small, and there's a different vibe [on Charles Street.]"

Lindsay Perrelli opened The Happy Journey, her children's shop that specializes in toys, books, and educational games, two years ago at 73 Charles St. But she said this wasn't meant to capitalize on the robust state of retail on Charles Street, but instead because she's a "Beacon Hill resident who has always called Charles Street home, and it was always a dream of mine to own a shop there."

Like other new businesses on Charles Street, The Happy Journey has turned out to be a success story.

"Business has been wonderful," wrote Perrelli. "Being in my second year of owning the shop, it's so much fun to re-order items that I have seen customers love during different seasons/holidays (i.e. summer, Halloween, etc.), and also bring into the shop so many wonderful and new products that I find from overseas, particularly in France and the UK. We had a bustling Christmas season, and I loved seeing customers from seasons past come back to holiday shop."

The Blessing Barn - a Mendon-based nonprofit thrift and antique shop that supports crisis-care programs via its charity, Compassion New England -

opened its second location at 122 Charles St. in September of 2021.

Gabrielle Mohl, an employee at the Charles Street store since January of 2022, said during her "limited time" working there, business has been brisk, especially during warmer weather.

The store's patrons have been extremely generous, she said, especially towards the Blessing Barn Beacon Hill's Room in the City, which provides short-term housing accommodations for patients (and their support individuals) who require medical care away from home.

"The more people we talk to and hear about what we're doing, even more people show up [to patronize us]," said Mohl.

While some of the newly arrived businesses on Charles Street have admittedly sought to benefit from the recent retail resurgence there, the eagerly awaited Beacon Hill Books, which opened at 71 Charles St. on Sept. 30 of last year, arrived after a lengthy process.

The undertaking began in January of 2019 when owner, Melissa Fetter, moved back to Beacon Hill from Dallas, Texas, and immediately identified the need for a bookstore in the neighborhood.

"I was so surprised to find no bookstore and decided to do something about it," she said.

Fetter started searching for a location for the bookstore the following month and closed on the building at 71 Charles St. in September of 2019.

"Renovating a decaying building in a historic district in the City of Boston was doing something challenging under the best of circumstances," said Fetter.



D. MURPHY PHOTO

J. Grady Home at 133 Charles St.



COURTESY OF GRETA BELSOLE

Greta Belsole, owner of East Coast Ivy Boutique at 88 Charles St.



D. MURPHY PHOTO

Matsu at 76 Charles St.

we're back strong."

Beacon Hill Books has also drawn new patrons to Charles Street who might not have otherwise visited the neighborhood.

Around the holidays, Fetter even received letters of gratitude from the owners of two Charles Street businesses - REMY Creations and Gus & Ruby - thanking her for the positive effect that Beacon Hill Books has had on Charles Street's retail landscape.

"Because of our social media presence, we're bringing in hundreds of people from outside the neighborhood," said Fetter. "And bookstores in and of themselves are known to be a draw to a neighborhood."

But for retailers on Charles Street to continue to thrive, Fetter said camaraderie among the street's business owners is now essential.

"It's important that all retailers on Charles Street really work together to be sure that we improve the commercial district and keep customers coming back," said Fetter. "We all need to pull together to make the neighborhood in general a worthy destination."

Then, the pandemic struck, and it became an even more arduous process as she waited for the myriad city agencies she was seeking approvals from to transition to a virtual model.

But despite the initial challenges, Beacon Hill Books has gone on to great success. Since opening, it sold 39,000 books in just four months, which, she said, was the sales number that experts had predicted for an entire year.

"The volume of business has exceeded our expectations, which has been great fun," said Fetter, adding that the trend shows no sign of slowing down anytime soon either, since as recently as Saturday, Feb. 11, there was a line out the door.

Still, Fetter chalks up her good fortune in part to the favorable retail climate on Charles Street.

"When you consider that over 21 businesses on Charles Street closed during the pandemic, and we're now back strong with very few vacancies, there's definitely a positive momentum," she said. "It took a while, but I really do believe



# Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern Massachusetts celebrate youth mentoring

On Feb. 4, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern Massachusetts (BBBSEM) celebrated youth mentoring at the agency's 24th annual Big Night at the House of Blues in Boston. Guests danced the night away to music by Michael Franti, supergroup Ezra Ray Hart, and Boston's own French Lick. Held in-person for the first time in two years, the nonprofit's largest fundraiser also featured Daphne Lopes, proud guardian of Little Aren and community activist as she was honored with the James J. Pallotta Award. The event raised more than \$1.5 million to support the organization's year-round community, site-based and campus-based programs.

Mark O'Donnell, President and CEO of Big Brother Big Sisters of Eastern Massachusetts, exceeded the event and spoke about the importance of mentoring, now more than ever, as the need from youth and families has never been higher.

"Children are still feeling the effects from COVID," says O'Donnell, a former two-time Big Brother. "Post-pandemic children benefit from a caring adult mentor who can help build social skills and self-confidence. We need more male identifying volunteers, as well as volunteers that speak different languages, to help create positive relationships between matches."

Lopes, a Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern Massachusetts Constituent Advisory Board member, proud guardian of Little Brother Aren, and community activist,



Shown (left to right) are BBBSEM Board Chair Rosemary Sheehan, Big Brother Ryan Hathaway, Guardian and James J. Pallotta Award recipient Daphne Lopes, BBBSEM President and CEO Mark O'Donnell, and auctioneer John Terrio.

shared her passion and gratitude for BBBSEM programming as she accepted the James J. Pallotta Award. In addition to thanking the village around her, including other guardians in the program, she shared a self-written poem.

Big Night is the nonprofit's largest annual fundraiser. Since its inception in 1998, Big Night has raised more than \$42 million,

supporting one-to-one friendships between young people and adult mentors.

"I've seen firsthand the impact that mentoring makes in a child's life," says O'Donnell. "We rely heavily on the revenue that comes from special events like Big Night to continue running our programs. We need the public's support and partnership as we continue serving

as many youth and families as possible."

Now more than ever, youth need additional academic, social and emotional support. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern Massachusetts partners with families to provide children with one-to-one relationships with caring adult mentors who help them reach their fullest potential. In its 74th

year, BBBSEM aims to serve nearly 4,000 youth.

The nonprofit is already looking forward to next year's 25th anniversary Big Night to be held at the MGM Music Hall on Feb. 23, 2024.

For more information, to become a volunteer or to register your children, visit: [www.emassbig.org](http://www.emassbig.org).

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern Massachusetts is an innovative, energetic organization that is making a real difference in the lives of nearly 4,000 youth annually by providing them with an invested, caring adult mentor in long-term, professionally supported relationships. With research and proven outcomes at its core, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern Massachusetts is working to defend the potential of children facing adversity and ensure every child has the support from caring adults that they need for healthy development and success in life. The organization's vision is to inspire, engage and transform communities in Eastern Massachusetts by helping youth achieve their full potential, contributing to healthier families, better schools, more confident futures and stronger communities. Throughout its 74 years, the largest Big Brothers Big Sisters affiliate in New England has created and served more than 20,000 matches. For more information about the agency and its mission, visit [www.emassbig.org](http://www.emassbig.org).

# Boston's most popular dog names released

The Boston Parks and Recreation Department's Animal Care and Control Division reminds city dog owners that the annual deadline for licensing their pets is March 31. All dogs in Boston require a new license each year.

"We take this time each year to remind pet owners not only that licensing your pet is the law, but a license is your pet's ID and provides their best chance to be returned home if they become lost," noted Animal Care and Control Director Alexis Trzcinski. "If your dog ever gets out, the chances of being reunited are greatly increased with a license."

In preparation for the 2023 licensing deadline, the Animal Care and Control Division released licensing data from the previous year to reveal the most popular dog names of 2022.

The most popular male dog name in 2022 was once again Charlie with 81 registered in Boston, while Bentley brought up the back of the pack with 23 males

with that name. The top female name registered was also the same this year, Luna, with 114 registered while 25th place went to Piper with 27 licensed.

The data also provides the 25 most popular dog breeds registered in Boston. In 2022 the top ten breeds were Labrador Retriever with 1,694 registered, Golden Retriever (727), Chihuahua (480), German Shepherd (392), Miniature Poodle (331), Pit Bull (321), Yorkshire Terrier (314), Shih Tzu (312), Beagle (311), and Australian Shepherd (296).

All dog owners need to license their dogs by Friday, March 31, 2023. Dogs must be licensed if they are older than six months. Owners must provide a copy of their dog's current rabies certificate. For spayed and neutered pets, owners must submit proof of spaying or neutering if they have not done so previously.

Licensing fees are \$15 for a neutered male or spayed female or \$30 for an intact male or female.

The dog licensing fee is waived for service animals and residents age 70 and older. Owners must also pay any outstanding Animal Care and Control fines. The fine for an unlicensed dog is \$50. Please call (617) 635-5348 or email [animalcontrol@boston.gov](mailto:animalcontrol@boston.gov) with any questions about the licensing process or to update your information in the database.

For an in-depth guide on dog licensing, including a link to license your dog online, visit Animal Care and Control's how-to article.

The City of Boston will also host a series of dog licensing and pet vaccine clinics from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturdays from March 4 to June 3 at seven BCYF community centers. For details, fees, and locations please visit [boston.gov/animals](http://boston.gov/animals) or call (617) 635-1800.

Animal Care & Control posts photos of adoptable pets on their social media accounts at [instagram.com/bostonanimalcontrol](https://www.instagram.com/bostonanimalcontrol), [twitter.com/animalboston](https://twitter.com/animalboston) and [facebook.com/bostonanimal](https://www.facebook.com/bostonanimal).

Top 25 female dog names of 2022

Based on City of Boston 2022 Licensing Data

- 1 Luna
- 2 Bella
- 3 Daisy
- 4 Lucy
- 5 Lola
- 6 Penny
- 7 Rosie
- 8 Stella
- 9 Bailey
- 10 Sadie
- 11 Molly
- 12 Ruby
- 13 Chloe
- 14 Coco
- 15 Maggie
- 16 Lily
- 17 Millie
- 18 Sophie
- 19 Olive
- 20 Winnie
- 21 Pepper
- 22 Lulu
- 23 Willow
- 24 Ellie
- 25 Piper

Top 25 male dog names of 2022

Based on City of Boston 2022 Licensing Data

- 1 Charlie
- 2 Cooper
- 3 Teddy
- 4 Max
- 5 Finn
- 6 Oliver
- 7 Milo
- 8 Winston
- 9 Rocky
- 10 Ollie
- 11 Louie
- 12 Toby
- 13 Gus
- 14 Henry
- 15 Buddy
- 16 Tucker
- 17 Archie
- 18 Leo
- 19 Jack
- 20 Bear
- 21 Bruno
- 22 Ziggy
- 23 Jackson
- 24 Duke
- 25 Bentley

# National Grid offers savings initiative

National Grid is proud to serve a diverse community of Massachusetts residents and provide bill help solutions during challenging economic times. Through the company's Winter Customer Savings Initiative, nearly 60,000 customers have enrolled in the company's discount program, which provides eligible customers with 25-32 percent savings on their utility bills. An additional 12,000 customers have signed up for bill management programs since the program was launched in September 2022.

Spanish and Chinese speaking customers can now find the resources they need in their favored language through the Winter Customer Saving Initiative web page at [ngrid.com/heretohelp](http://ngrid.com/heretohelp).

National Grid remains com-

mitted to providing customers a variety of energy-saving tips and billing options to help offset the increases in this winter's energy prices. Customers in need of billing assistance or additional support can visit [ngrid.com/heretohelp](http://ngrid.com/heretohelp) to learn more.

National Grid se enorgullece de prestar servicio a una comunidad diversa de residentes de Massachusetts y brindar soluciones de ayuda con las facturas durante tiempos difíciles a nivel económico. A través de la iniciativa de ahorro para clientes durante el invierno de la empresa, casi 60 000 clientes se han inscrito en el programa de descuento de la empresa, que ofrece a los clientes elegibles un ahorro del 25 al 32 % en sus facturas de servicios públicos. Otros 12 000 clientes se han inscrito en

programas de gestión de facturas desde que el programa se puso en marcha en septiembre de 2022.

Los clientes que hablan español y chino ahora pueden encontrar los recursos que necesitan en su idioma favorito a través de la página web de la iniciativa de ahorro para clientes durante el invierno en [ngrid.com/heretohelp](http://ngrid.com/heretohelp).

National Grid mantiene su compromiso de proporcionar a los clientes una variedad de consejos para ahorrar energía y opciones de facturación para ayudar a compensar los aumentos en los precios de la energía de este invierno. Los clientes que necesitan asistencia con la facturación o ayuda adicional pueden visitar [ngrid.com/heretohelp](http://ngrid.com/heretohelp) para obtener más información.

## Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
Zhang, Qiong	Rios, Gloria P	267 Beacon St #1	\$1,300,000
Cheng, Yuxing	Fpg Lagrange Owner One L	47-55 Lagrange St #9H	\$830,000
Kuppusamy, Karthikeyan	Columbus Condo LLC	565 Columbus Ave #2	\$1,085,000
Lee, Peter	Kopasz, Krisztian	139 E Berkeley St #601	\$1,125,000
Shabu And Ramen LLC	Double M Rt	102 South St #1	\$965,000

## SERVICE DIRECTORY

**BEACON HILL PLUMBING AND HEATING**  
Meeting all your mechanical needs



**24/7 emergency service**  
M9304

**617-723-3296**

**JOHN J. RECCA PAINTING**  
Interior/Exterior Commercial/Residential

Fully Insured  
Quality Work  
Reasonable Rates  
Free Estimates

[reccapainting@hotmail.com](mailto:reccapainting@hotmail.com)  
**781-241-2454**

**Geek For Hire**  
Computer consultant available for home or business.

**SERVICES INCLUDE:**

- PC support & networking of all types with focus on secure Internet access (wired & wireless),
- broadband router & firewall technology,
- virus detection/prevention,
- spam control & data security/recovery.

**617-241-9664**  
**617-515-2933**

ADVERTISE IN  
THE TIMES.

CALL  
**781-485-0588**

A SHORT STORY ABOUT GROWING UP WITH AN UNFAIR ADVANTAGE.

### POLIO.

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

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

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



[aaos.org/75years](http://aaos.org/75years)

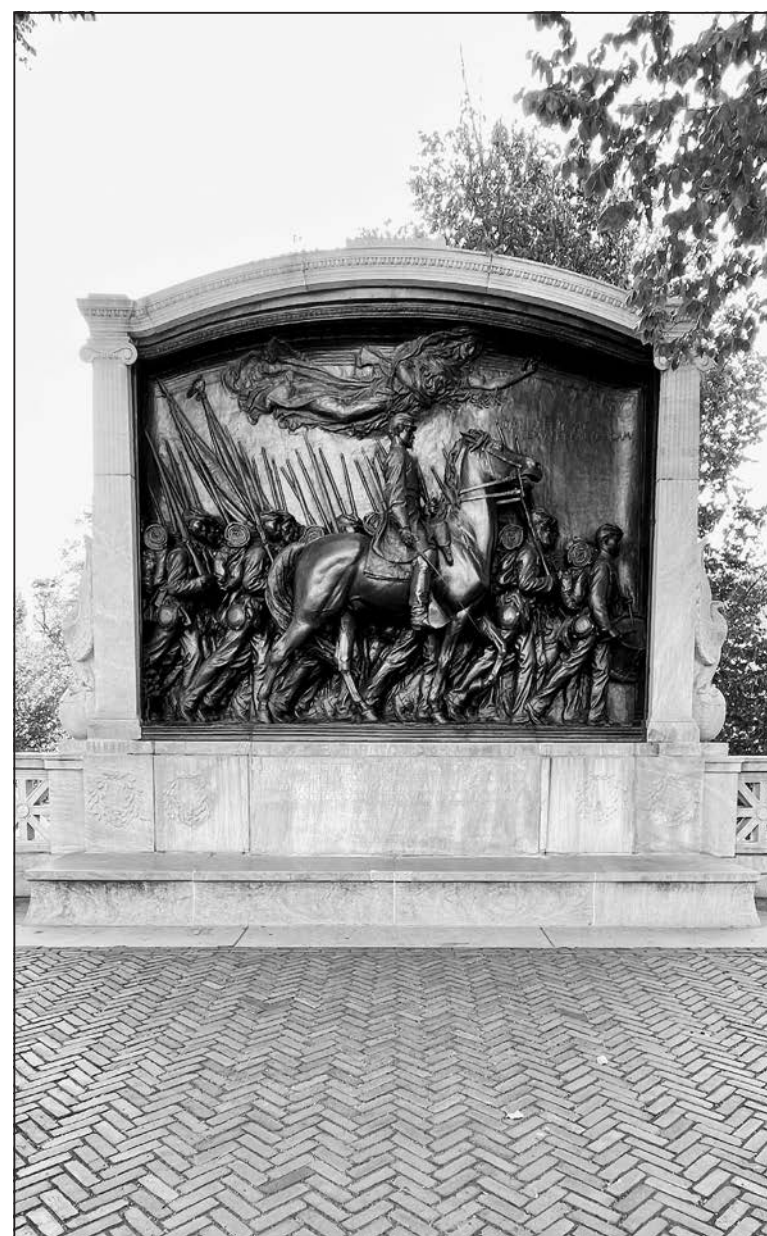


**AAOS**  
CELEBRATING HUMAN HEALING  
[orthoinfo.org](http://orthoinfo.org)

# Attention to Detail

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY PENNY CHERUBINO

## THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The drum in the last clue is on the Shaw Memorial on the Boston Common across from the Statehouse. The restoration of both the sculpture and the structure supporting it was completed last year. In addition, The National Park Service's "Faces of the 54th" project includes an online database of the men depicted on the memorial.

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

## THIS WEEK'S CLUE



## FRESH AND LOCAL

# Steam it!

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

If all you're steaming is vegetables, you are missing out on a world of easy cooking. Just think of all those Dim Sum carts filled with bamboo steamer baskets of dumplings, fish balls, buns, and cakes.

New England cooking includes many steamed favorites. We love clam shack "steamers," the local name for soft-shelled clams steamed in salt water, wine, or beer. Steaming is our preferred way to cook lobsters or crabs. Traditional Boston brown bread is steamed in a coffee can. This makes sense when you realize that many colonial homes did not have an oven.

Steaming is a great way to cook fish at home. Classic Asian recipes for scallion ginger fish and French fine dining Paupiette de Sole are both steamed. Delicate fish can be steamed off the burner in just the residual steam in the pan. This helps prevent overcooking.

### Double Duty

Melissa Clark recently published her recipe for One Pot Salmon and Rice in the New York Times. She started by steaming a pot of coconut rice with a bit of green curry paste added for zest. When the rice was about half cooked, she added the fish. She

wrote, "...since salmon's so easy-going, draping the filets right on top of the rice to steam struck me as the simplest way to go, with the fewest dishes to wash afterward."

Clark is right about clean-up. Not only will you use fewer pots and pans when you steam things but this wet cooking method also makes those things you use easier to clean. Another trick used by those who do a lot of steaming is to protect the steamer with parchment paper with holes to let steam move about. You can make your own or buy these pre-made to fit popular steamer sizes.

### Equipment

You can spend money and take up space with specialized steaming appliances. However, there's a good chance that your kitchen will have something that can be used to steam food. A soup pot with a folding steamer basket will work fine for many items. Other food can be steamed on a heat-resistant dinner plate.

Most companies that sell pans offer a multi-pot with a couple of baskets that let you steam more than one item at a time. These come in various materials and price points from aluminum to stainless steel. Some cooks use their rice cookers as steamers. Instant Pots have steamer settings.



Steamed dumplings are always a treat! (photo by Rasmus Gundorff Sæderup)

Simple multi-level bamboo steamers let you cook different food on each level, and you can remove each item from the stack when it is cooked to your desired doneness.

If you have a wok, you could use it for steaming. Although wok guru, Grace Young warns that this might ruin the seasoning patina. She suggests a second wok just for steaming and boiling.

### Steaming Tips

Never underestimate the danger of burns with steam. Use protection for your hands when you touch the pan or steamer. Always lift covers away from your face, so the cover protects you from the steam.

Make certain any plate or bowl you use in a steamer is heat resistant. To encourage good steam circulation, put an upside-down saucer under your food dish to lift it from the bottom of the

cooking pot.

Make sure the water does not boil away. You can open the steaming vessel to check the water level. While this is most important when steaming a whole chicken or large pudding, it can also happen with shorter cooking times.

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

# Boston's COVID-19 metrics continue to trend downward

The Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) shared the following updates on the city's COVID-19 metrics:

COVID-19 particles in Boston's wastewater decreased by 47% over the past 14 days and are now at an average of 1,014 RNA copies/mL (data as of Jan. 29).

Seven out of the 11 neighborhood's tested are below the city-wide average.

The XBB variant accounted for 83% of all viral particles sampled.

New COVID-19 cases per day increased by 1.4% over the past seven days, which is considered a stable trend, but have decreased by 16% over the past 14 days (data as of Feb. 5).

Boston hospitals had 179 new COVID-19 related hospital admissions through February 6. This trend decreased by 8% over the

past seven days and by 15% over the past 14 days.

BPHC also announced it will continue to offer free COVID-19 vaccines at sites throughout the city at least through the end of 2023. The decision comes after the Biden administration announced its plans to end the national public health emergency for COVID-19 on May 11, which will end federal funding for state and local COVID-19 responses. Free vaccinations have been a major part of BPHC's effort to control the spread of COVID-19, save lives, and remove barriers to care that led to major racial disparities in COVID-19 cases and mortality.

"Offering free COVID-19 vaccines has been an indispensable part of our pandemic response in Boston and will become even more important as the national public

health emergency ends," said Dr. Bisola Ojikutu, Executive Director of the Boston Public Health Commission and Commissioner of Public Health. "Equity-focused, public health polices like this are why we have been able to significantly reduce pandemic related racial and ethnic health disparities in Boston."

New data from BPHC show the city has made substantial progress over the past two years in narrowing the racial inequities in COVID-19 mortality rates. At the outset of the pandemic, Black and Latinx residents in Boston saw higher case and mortality rates due to COVID-19. In 2020, Black residents had an age-adjusted mortality rate of 171.2 per 100,000 residents, the highest among any ethnicity. Latinx residents had the second highest annual mortality rate

in 2020 of 141 per 100,000 residents. These rates have decreased by more than 60% for both in 2022. COVID-19 mortality rates among Black individuals in Boston are now down to 58.9 per 100,000 residents and 53.6 per 100,000 for Latinx residents. Though inequities have narrowed, age-adjusted mortality rates are still significantly higher among Black and Latinx Bostonians than white Bostonians (22% and 12% higher, respectively) due to COVID-19.

Much more work remains to close these gaps and ensure greater health equity in Boston, namely increasing COVID-19 vaccination and booster uptake, which remains the most effective to prevent severe COVID-19 infection that can result in hospitalization and death.

Suffolk County remains at

medium risk for community transmission according to the CDC. As such, BPHC reminds residents to take proper precautions to reduce their risk of contracting COVID-19.

Test for COVID-19 before and after gathering indoors.

Contact a health care provider about treatment options if you test positive.

Stay home if you're sick.

Wear a mask indoors and on public transportation.

Stay up to date on your COVID-19 vaccinations and boosters.

If you have not received a COVID-19 booster since September 2022, you are due to receive the bivalent, omicron-specific booster.

Get your annual flu vaccination.

Wash hands and disinfect shared surfaces regularly.

# DOYLE

*We Invite You to Auction!*



David Webb, Carved Coral,  
Diamond and Cabochon  
Emerald Dolphin Brooch.  
Est \$10,000-15,000.  
AUCTION April 27.

## Jewelry Consignment Day Wednesday, March 1

Doyle achieves record-breaking prices in the global auction market!  
Discover our full range of personalized auction and appraisal services.

### INFORMATION & APPOINTMENTS

Kathryn M. Craig & Chris Barber  
Boston@Doyle.com  
617-999-8254

DOYLE AUCTIONEERS & APPRAISERS 236 CLARENDON STREET BOSTON, MA 02116 DOYLE.COM  
NEW YORK BEVERLY HILLS CHARLESTON CHICAGO PALM BEACH WASHINGTON DC  
CONNECTICUT NEW JERSEY NORTH CAROLINA PENNSYLVANIA

### SEND US YOUR NEWS

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

## BFO'S CHAMBER SERIES COMES TO THE ATHENAEUM



PHOTOS COURTESY LOVELY VALENTINE

On Thursday, Feb. 8, audiences were graced with the post-pandemic return of the Boston Festival Orchestra's beloved Chamber Series, performed in the intimate setting of the Boston Athenaeum's Henry Long Room. It was the first of three chamber music concerts, designed to present the Athenaeum's exhibitions through the lens of chamber music. The performance's pieces ranged from selections of J.S. Bach's Sonata for Violin & Keyboard No. 3 in E Major to Philip Glass's Violin Sonata's 2nd mvt, while projections of the artists' books from the Athenaeum's current gallery exhibition Materialia Luminal Luminous Books displayed on the wall behind the musicians. The next two concerts will be on April 8, at 3 p.m., and June 22, at 6 p.m. The concerts are free, but registration is required at [bostonathenaeum.org](https://www.bforchestra.org/chamber-series). For program details, visit <https://www.bforchestra.org/chamber-series>.

**Want Neighborhood News  
delivered right to your hands?**



**Subscribe to The Beacon Hill Time's  
Newsletter and never miss a thing!**

Visit [thebeaconhilltimes.com](https://thebeaconhilltimes.com) or scan the QR Code