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THE BEACON HILL TIMES

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FIRST MORNING OF SPRING ON THE ESPLANADE

D. MURPHY PHOTOS



Monday, March 20 – the first day of spring – on the Charles River Esplanade.

Proposed ordinances for both Beacon Hill and Bay Village discussed at Council hearing

By Dan Murphy

The City Council's Committee on Government Operations held a hearing on Monday, March 20, in the Iannella Chamber at City Hall to discuss two proposed ordinances – one to extend the current boundaries of the Beacon Hill Historic District, which would also give the Beacon Hill Architectural Commission added enforcement capabilities; and another which would expand the purview of the Bay Village Architectural Commission in that neighborhood.

The home-rule petition for the Beacon Hill Historic District, which was recently refiled after being first filed last May, would enlarge the district to include all of the North Slope via the addition of an approximately 40-foot-wide area running from Charles Circle to Bowdoin Street along Cambridge Street on the Beacon Hill side, which currently isn't includ-

ed. (This omission apparently came in response to concerns that including the entire North Slope in the Historic District could impede the city's plans to accommodate Engine Company 4 and Ladder Company 24, which has since been constructed at 200 Cambridge St.) The docket would also give the Beacon Hill Architectural Commission the specific authority to levy fines for violations of its Enabling Act for the first time.

The ordinance for the Bay Village Historic District would extend the purview of the Bay Village Architectural Commission to review not just building facades directly facing a public way, but also everything visible from a public way, as is now the case in the Beacon Hill Historic District.

Both dockets were co-sponsored by District 8 City Councilor Kenzie Bok and Council President

(HEARING Pg. 3)

Dog stolen Monday on Beacon Hill recovered safely in Mattapan

By Dan Murphy

An 11-pound terrier mix was allegedly stolen on Monday, March 20, on Beacon Hill, only to be recovered safely in Mattapan by its owner hours later, according to published reports.

The approximately 9-year-old rescue dog obtained around five years ago from Puerto Rico, named Rose McNugget, was out for a walk when the dog walker, identified as Dominic Mariano, left her tied to a pole with two other dogs at about noon in the area of Mt. Vernon and Walnut streets.

As he was retrieving another dog from its home, Mariano reportedly watched as two men jumped out of



COURTESY PHOTO

Rose McNugget.

a blue Honda Civic and took only Rose McNugget, leaving the other two dogs untouched. The car sped off, and Rose McNugget's Apple

Airtag was found discarded on Beacon Street shortly thereafter.

In the immediate aftermath of Rose McNugget's disappearance, the desperate owner, identified as Maura Howley, pasted fliers throughout the neighborhood pleading for the dog's safe return, as well as posted about her disappearance on social media.

At about 7 p.m. that same night, Howley received a phone call from a man in Mattapan who said he had Rose McNugget safe inside his home. Howley immediately retrieved Rose McNugget, without incident and without involving police.

Boston Police are reportedly investigating the matter.

BEACON HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY CORNER

BHCA Membership Season is Here!

April is the start of Membership Season at the BHCA, and we invite you to join us or renew your membership now.

Your BHCA membership allows us to continue our efforts to preserve and protect our unique and historic neighborhood, and to answer your calls and emails to help resolve neighborhood issues. Your voice adds strength to our numbers and credibility to our purpose as advocates for Beacon Hill residents in zoning and licensing matters and any other constituent concerns at

the City level. Most importantly, you join a vibrant community of neighbors and businesses committed to helping each other for the benefit of all; neighbors who value each other's company and friendship.

You will be receiving membership reminders in the mail shortly. Join or renew today at www.bhcivic.org, or call us at 617-227-1922. We thank you for your vital support.

Upcoming BHCA Meetings
Streets & Sidewalks Committee – Tuesday, April 4th at

(BHCA Pg. 11)

Expansion of 2023 City of Boston SuccessLink Summer Youth Jobs program announced

Mayor Michelle Wu and the Office of Youth Employment and Opportunity (YEO) last week announced the expansion of the SuccessLink Summer Youth Employment program for 2023. The program is now accepting applications. Boston youth ages 14-18 can apply for in-person and hybrid summer job opportunities at nonprofits, community-based organizations, and City agencies. This year, the City made an unprecedented \$18.7M investment in youth jobs, the largest in Boston's history. This funding will support 5,000 youth jobs in partnership with local nonprofits and community organizations and 2,000 City based youth jobs, making the City the largest employer for youth summer jobs in Boston. The program's expansion is part of a larger

effort to incentivize both nonprofit and corporate employers' commitment to reach pre-COVID summer job levels.

"Ensuring that every young person across our city has access to job opportunities is critical in our work to lay a foundation for Boston's youth to grow and thrive," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "The City's youth summer jobs program is critical in empowering our youth and connecting them with opportunity. This year, we are expanding the number of youth jobs available and deepening our partnerships which will allow our young people explore careers and develop their skills. I'm grateful to all of our partners and employers for their commitment to our young people and encourage every teenager and young adult to apply for a summer

job."

"As a city, choosing to invest in young people will always be the right decision. Youth jobs are essential to giving young people a space to develop themselves into young professionals; exposure to various industries and occupations; explore where their interest can intersect with the impact they desire to have in the world; to build relationships with trusted advisors and develop skills to be prepared for future career and educational opportunities," said Rashad Cope, Deputy Chief of the Worker Empowerment Cabinet and the Office of Youth Employment & Opportunity. "We know how critical it is to ensure every young person has access to job opportunities, and collectively we are committed to this, alongside our incredible partners and employers who make these employment experiences possible for Boston youth."

Led by the Office of Youth Employment and Opportunity, SuccessLink is designed to not only recruit and hire youth, but also to ensure that their employment experience is engaging, meaningful, and advances their professional and personal development. Last fall, Mayor Wu established the Worker Empowerment Cabinet to advance the wellbeing of Boston workers, led by Chief Trinh Nguyen. Expanding economic opportunities for youth through access to quality jobs, skills training, and career pipelines is a key priority of the cabinet. The Office of Youth Employment and Opportunity, formerly the Department of Youth Engagement and Employment (DYEE), was moved to the Worker Empowerment Cabinet to lead this work.

"Getting a summer job can be life-changing for young people in terms of gaining work readiness skills, identifying career interests, obtaining a mentor, and in many instances, getting that first, memorable paycheck," said Trinh Nguyen, Chief of Worker Empowerment. "The City of Boston is grateful to the many community partners coming together to provide these opportunities for our young people. We look forward to working with all of them to help build for the future."

Each year, YEO partners with a wide range of nonprofit organizations, City agencies, and lead youth employment providers, including Action for Boston Community Development, the Boston Private Industry Council, Artists for Humanity, John Hancock MLK Scholars, and the Boys and

Girls Club of Boston to create youth summer jobs. Youth have the opportunity to get connected to various industries that provide inspiration for long-term careers such as the arts, health care, STEM, sports and recreation, education, and public administration.

"SuccessLink is the foundation for the entire Mayor's Summer Jobs Program. It is the one source for summer youth employment that is open to all Boston teenagers, regardless of neighborhood or high school," said Neil Sullivan, Executive Director of the Boston Private Industry Council. "The young people who connect with private sector opportunities through the PIC often credit their prior SuccessLink job as preparing them for a summer internship in healthcare, finance, life sciences, architecture, or other profession."

"ABCD is pleased to partner with the City of Boston to ensure that young people of Boston have an abundance of summer employment options," said Sharon Scott-Chandler, President & CEO of ABCD, Inc. "As a longstanding provider of access to youth employment and career development services through our SummerWorks program (and other programs), ABCD understands very well that these initiatives build a foundation to support academic achievement and future employment successes."

"Artists For Humanity is excited to grow our partnership with the City of Boston's Office of Youth Employment and Opportunity this summer by providing hundreds of teen jobs with meaningful summer learning experiences for our City's young people," said Anna Yu, Executive Director of Artists For Humanity. "With the ambitious vision of YEO, and hundreds of amazing partner organizations, Summer 2023 is on track to be the best and biggest year ever for creative teen employment in Boston! We are honored to play a part in helping to make this possible."

This year, YEO has expanded its youth jobs grantmaking efforts to provide more funding directly to nonprofit organizations to design job experiences, remove barriers to enrollment and transfer administrative responsibilities to allow for a more streamlined process. These expanded efforts will encourage greater collaboration, coalition building, and learn and earn models among higher education institutions and job providers in the youth employment space.

To ensure that all youth have equitable access to these oppor-

tunities, the City will continue to support organizations that focus on proven at-risk youth populations (e.g. justice-involved youth, foster care, youth experiencing homelessness, etc.) YEO will work to ensure that disadvantaged youth get access to employment opportunities through the Massachusetts Commonwealth Corporation YouthWorks partnership. Additionally, the department will again work with the Mayor's Office for Immigrant Advancement (MOIA) to provide immigrant youth with hands-on leadership and skills training, regardless of immigration status.

"People don't realize how quickly your status can change and how much it can limit your opportunities. As a former Dreamer, I know what it's like to feel frustrated by that because I had so much to offer to the world," said Monique Tú Nguyen, Executive Director of the Mayor's Office for Immigrant Advancement. "Through opportunities like this, we can ensure that this generation of youth has opportunities that I didn't have, and the world can benefit from their full potential."

The SuccessLink webpage has been updated to make it easier for young people to navigate the application process. Youth can view job postings, see a list of required documents, and apply directly to the organizations. The Office of Youth Employment and Opportunity also offers application assistance. Youth can visit the office in person, Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at 1483 Tremont Street in Roxbury, or call 617-635-4202 to get help.

The Office of Youth Employment and Opportunity will also be hosting a Youth Job and Resource Fair at the Reggie Lewis Center on Saturday, April 22, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Youth will have the opportunity to connect with 100+ summer employers, access youth resources, receive job application assistance, and win prizes. Refreshments will be provided. Parents and/or guardians are welcome to attend with their youth.

Applying for a summer position with SuccessLink does not guarantee a job but the goal is to place as many youth as possible. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis. Youth are encouraged to get their applications in early. For more information on the 2023 SuccessLink Summer Youth Employment program, visit boston.gov/summer-jobs.

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ADVANCES IN TREATING CANCER WITH ANDREW J. WAGNER, MD, PHD

About one in three of us will develop cancer, and we all have known someone with this deadly disease. Dr. Andrew Wagner will explain how cancer develops and review the remarkable progress in understanding and treating this set of complex diseases. Cancer treatment has progressed from traditional chemotherapy and radiation to targeted therapies, including immune therapies, vaccines, and CAR-T, a form of gene therapy. Cancer care also focuses on lifestyle factors like diet and stress management to relieve symptoms and improve outcomes. After his presentation, Dr. Wagner will wel-



Dr. Andrew Wagner.

come your questions.

Dr. Andrew J. Wagner is the Medical Director of Ambulatory Oncology, Dana Farber Cancer Institute. His clinical practice and research focus on patients with bone cancers and soft tissue sarcoma. He is an Associate Professor of Medicine, at the Harvard Med-

HEARING (from pg. 1)

and District 2 Councilor Ed Flynn. Both Bok and Flynn represent respective parts of Beacon Hill while Flynn also represents Bay Village.

The Bay Village Neighborhood Association has endorsed the proposed Bay Village ordinance, said Councilor Bok, and likewise, the proposed Beacon Hill ordinance has garnered the support of the Beacon Hill Civic Association.

Council President Flynn said the proposed ordinances both intend to “make governance of these neighborhood more streamlined and less confusing” while allowing for further protection of their historic buildings and structures.

Rev. Mariama White-Hammond, the city’s Chief of Environment, Energy, and Open Space, described the proposed ordinances as “part of a larger effort to make city process clear to residents.” She also lauded Joe Cornish, the Boston Landmarks Commission’s director of design review, who was absent from the hearing, for “doing a lot of work behind the scenes.”

Nicholas Armata, senior preservation planner for the Boston Landmarks Commission and Beacon Hill Architectural Commission staff member, said the Beacon Hill Historic District was first established in 1955, making it the oldest local historic district in the Commonwealth, as well as one of the nation’s oldest historic districts on the National Register.

The district was expanded first in 1958 to include the Flat of the Hill, said Armata, and again in 1963 to include the South Slope. The Granary Burying Ground and

Park Street Church were added to the district in 1975, he said.

Expanding the Beacon Hill Historic District to Cambridge Street would help protect such historic structures in the neighborhood as the Puffer’s Building at 214-218 Cambridge St., along with the oldest commercial structures on the street, among other buildings, said Armata.

Though she described the ordinance for Bay Village as “a relatively minor change,” Councilor Bok said on Beacon Hill, her greatest concern is for the brick sidewalks in the historic district on either side of Cambridge Street, especially as the MBTA considers installing a proposed Red-Blue line connector beneath that street.

“The brick sidewalks are an important part of the visual impact of the neighborhood,” said Councilor Bok, “and there are ways to really accommodate accessibility.”

Rev. White-Hammond said from an aesthetic standpoint, she “wants things to happen on both sides of the street.”

And while Rev. White-Hammond said there are currently no plans to change the sidewalks on Cambridge Street, she added that she “wants that conversation to happen cohesively together” with the process for the redesign of Cambridge Street to accommodate the Red-Blue connector. This would allow for the “conversation to happen holistically,” she said.

Council President Flynn, who pointed to the perceived lack of community input regarding the city’s decision to temporarily close Dartmouth between St. James Avenue and Boylston Street to vehi-

ical School.

This Zoom webinar is presented by Beacon Hill Village in partnership with Boston Public Library as part of their Living Well Ending Well series. Registration required at [insert link when available] or by calling Beacon Hill Village at 617-723-9713. Registrants will receive a link the day before the event.

ALL GIRLS SPORTS AND WELLNESS FES- TIVAL RETURNS APRIL 19 AND 20

Mayor Michelle Wu, the Boston Parks and Recreation Department, and Boston Centers for Youth & Families (BCYF) invite Boston girls ages 9 to 14 to join us during the April school vaca-

tion week for the annual All Girls Sports and Wellness Festival. Due to its popularity last year, the City is hosting the festival for two days.

The free event will take place on Wednesday, April 19, and Thursday, April 20, from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the BCYF Leahy-Holloran Community Center, 1 Worrell Street, Dorchester. The All Girls Sports and Wellness Festival will feature a variety of programming including sports, games, health and wellness speakers, self-defense tactic lessons, and aquatic activities.

Participants will find a variety of fun ways to exercise mind, body, and spirit, and try out a variety of sports with expert instructors including basketball, self-defense demonstrations, fitness, rock climbing, swimming, ultimate

frisbee, and more, with additional support from local non-profits and City of Boston agencies.

Pre-registration is required at boston.gov/sports. Event check-in begins at 9:30 a.m. Participants must be Boston residents and should bring activity-appropriate clothing (including swimsuits and towels for those wanting to participate in aquatic activities). Free lunch will be provided. For more information please call (617) 961-3047 or email jennifer.misiaszek@boston.gov.

To stay up to date with news, events, and improvements in Boston parks, call (617) 635-4505, visit Boston.gov/Parks, join our email list at bit.ly/Get-Parks-Emails, and follow our social channels @bostonparksdept on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram.

ular traffic for 10 days last June for its Connect Copley pilot, said, “If we’re talking about a major renovation on Cambridge Street, residents need to be heard at the beginning [of the process].”

Rev. White-Hammond assured Council President Flynn that Cambridge Street would undergo a “full street design,” and that “the whole street has a mapped-out process that needs to be followed.”

Councilor Bok said that the Red-Blue connector has “just started to appear in the capital budget for the MBTA,” so the project is likely years away from breaking ground. “For me, that would be a major thing and would involve quite a lot of community process,” she added.

Alison Frazee, executive director of the Boston Preservation Alliance, a nonprofit dedicated to the preservation of Boston’s architectural heritage, said the group supported the two “measures to enhance and protect both of these historic neighborhoods.”

Mark Kiefer, chair of the Beacon Hill Architectural Commission, as well as former chair and president of the Beacon Hill Civic Association board of directors and a 32-year resident of the neighborhood, spoke in favor of the home-rule petition for the Beacon Hill Historic District.

“This is a change that is welcome and, I dare say, overdue,” said Kiefer “It’s fair to say that since the directive [that established the original guidelines for the Beacon Hill Historic District] was created, preservation has evolved to recognize social history, not just architectural history.”

As Kiefer noted, neither the Museum of African American History, nor The Vilna Shul, was originally included in the Beacon Hill Historic District, but both buildings have since been incorporated into its jurisdiction.

Kiefer added that the proposed ordinance for Beacon Hill would also allow the commission to better ensure the “quality of workmanship” of new developments projects, and more importantly, ensure that they “enhance” Cambridge Street.

Moreover, Kiefer spoke in favor of including the sidewalks in the ordinance and also applauded Councilor Bok and Council President Flynn’s recommendation that would allow the commission added means of enforcement.

Meghan Awe, current chair of the Beacon Hill Civic Association, spoke in support of the home-rule petition, which, she said, would extend the Beacon Hill Historic District to Cambridge Street “to finally [incorporate] all of the North Slope and make the neighborhood whole within the Beacon Hill Historic District.”

Rob Whitney, past chair of the Beacon Hill Civic Association board and a 35-year resident of the neighborhood, also spoke in favor of the proposed ordinance for the Beacon Hill Historic District and described it as “a great opportunity for the City Council to extend its natural boundary, which is Cambridge Street.”

Furthermore, Whitney described the Beacon Hill Architectural Commission’s process as “the perfect venue if any issues arise with the Red-Blue connec-

tor.”

Rev. White-Hammond pointed out that no one with disabilities had spoken at the hearing, and from speaking to members of this community, she has learned that “their characterization...differs from what has been represented here.”

Councilor Bok, who said she “remains in favor of brick sidewalks in this neck of the woods,” pointed to in front of a few properties of Joy Street, where wire-cut brick had been used for the sidewalks in an effort to balance aesthetics and accessibility.

“There is a way to harmonize these two things,” she said.

Regarding the sidewalks on Cambridge Street, Councilor Bok said it ultimately comes down to the resources available. But she added that with the proposed Red-Blue connector, there’s an opportunity to tap state and federal funding for the redesign of Cambridge Street.

In conclusion, Councilor Bok said: “This 40 feet [now omitted from the Beacon Hill Historic District] really bothers me. It just looks goofy if you look at the map. It doesn’t really reflect the reality of what any observer would say is Beacon Hill.”

City Councilor Felix Arroyo, who chairs the Committee on Government Operations, said he would explore implementing both proposed ordinances in partnership with their lead sponsors, Councilor Bok and Council President Flynn.

EDITORIAL

THE ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE: THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE UGLY

For those of us of Irish descent, whose great-grandparents came to this country at the turn of the 20th century with not much more than the clothes on their backs, whose grandfathers served in WWI, and whose fathers and uncles fought in WWII, it has been with a mixture of pride and some degree of bemusement to see St. Patrick's Day become widely-observed by Americans of all ethnicities all across the country over the past 20 years.

The contributions of Irish immigrants to America's greatness, similar to those of other ethnic groups, have been ignored for decades, so to the extent that St. Patrick's Day has served to highlight both the plight and pluck of our Irish forebears has been extremely gratifying.

It was not all that long ago when John F. Kennedy became the first Irish-Catholic President, though his candidacy was seriously debated in political circles because of the widely-held belief that he would be taking his orders from the Pope. Kennedy felt compelled during the primary campaign, when it was clear that he was the front-runner for the Democratic nomination, to give a long speech about "the Catholic question," which he concluded by stating, "So I hope we can see the beginning of the end of references to me as 'the Catholic candidate' for President."

Though St. Patrick's Day has been a major celebratory holiday for generations of Irish-Americans in enclaves such as New York City, Boston, and Chicago, it only has become a major event across the country, from east to west and north to south, fairly recently.

But unfortunately, the recognition of the achievements of Irish-Americans also has been accompanied by the sort of revelry that has fed into the worst stereotype of Irish-Americans -- and of course, we're referring to the heavy-consumption of alcohol that has become part and parcel of St. Patrick's Day celebrations everywhere.

That brings us to the St. Patrick's Day parade in South Boston this past Sunday. While it was nice to see the parade return in full force for the first time in a few years because of the pandemic, the degree of public intoxication by those along the parade route was both frightening and disgusting.

Here's an excerpt from the Boston Globe story about the parade:

"In the days leading up to the parade, authorities warned people not to use it as an excuse for public drinking. Liquor stores, bars, and restaurants were required to close early Sunday in South Boston. Despite the warnings, many people were drinking along the route and on the subway Sunday....Some walked the South Boston streets carrying borgs — the nickname given to a 'blackout rage gallon,' a concoction of hard booze, water, and electrolytes, mixed together in a gallon jug. Left behind along the parade route were broken bottles, empty borgs..."

We had the misfortune to be traveling on the Red Line southbound at 4:00, soon after the parade had wrapped up. Every car was packed with young people, almost all under the age of 20, who were heavily-inebriated -- and we're not talking about just a few bad apples. The entire train was filled with underage-drinkers from Quincy, Weymouth, Abington and other So. Shore communities, who were openly imbibing beer and hard-seltzer drinks, throwing their empties around the cars and striking other passengers, even as others among their group were falling into other passengers and vomiting along the route.

By the time the train pulled into No. Quincy station, the Red Line essentially had shut down because of the unruly, drunken youths who were running amuck in the trains and on the platforms. MBTA police had been visible on the platforms during the ride, but they were pulling a Sgt. Schultz (from Hogan's Heroes) -- they feigned obliviousness to the chaos around them.

With the brawls and melees leaving us sitting at No. Quincy for more than 15 minutes, and escalating, we decided to get off the train and meet our ride (who had been having her own bad experience with drunken youths at Braintree Station, who were pounding on cars as they rambled through the parking garage) on Hancock St.

The image that came to mind was from the "Last of Us," the HBO hit series in which humans are infected by a rapidly spreading pandemic in which a mutated fungus morphs people into zombie-like creatures -- except in this case, the "infection" was caused by heavy-alcohol intake.

So to the politicians and civic leaders who extolled the "success" of this year's St. Patrick's Day parade, we suggest that next year they get on the Red Line as we did after the parade and see if they still feel the same way about turning a blind eye to the heavy drinking in public along the parade route.

Yes, it was a great day to be Irish, but it also was a sobering (no pun intended) reminder that permitting public intoxication, especially by young people, should never be tolerated even -- and especially -- on St. Patrick's Day.

GUEST OP-ED

Love cares enough to try

By Dr. Glenn Mollette

Honesty is not always the easiest path but it's usually the most loving path.

Let's say you have a loved one or friend who is diabetic but they eat crazy stuff every day from pizza to cookies to soda pop without regard for personal health. Is it best for you to treat them to treats containing white flour and sugar every chance you can or to have a talk with them? Of course, you run the risk of hurting feelings or making the person angry but chances are they are going to die sooner than they should. It's best to try to save the person's life by being honest. You don't have to cut the person's head off with a verbal assault or face slapping rhetoric.

Love doesn't attack people. You shouldn't get preachy because this runs most people away. Simply preface your remarks by saying, "I'm your friend. I care about you and your life. I want you to live a long time. However, if you don't stop eating what you eat all the time you are probably going to shorten your life." This could pertain to any negative activity or addiction.

Having serious conversations with people is not easy. We are all busy. We aren't close enough to most people to be this direct. Plus, we really have to care a lot about someone to be lovingly honest. We run the risk of the friend-

ship becoming strained or even totally severed. The bottom line is do you care enough to be honest? Plus, don't ever start making life recommendations to someone unless you truly love the person and are willing to help the individual work through the issues.

It's easier to let people continue on their negative path to self destruction. Fast food and unhealthy food items are unfortunately much more affordable. It's not cheap to eat healthy. It's not cheap to be sick either. Medical bills can pile up quickly. Trips to the doctor are expensive. Diabetic medications are expensive. Kidney issues result in death for many Americans every year. Funerals are expensive. Giving up a good friend or family member is life changing.

Disease happens to us all in some way. These bodies are very vulnerable to cancer, diabetes and so on.

Chances are you may have tried. Most likely you have talked your head off to someone you love but they continue in their negative behavior. It seems many people under 50 can't fathom sickness or death. The consequences of their behavior seem remote or even impossible. Thus they continue on their way.

Of course we all have to look in the mirror. We all wrestle with our private and public demons. Most of us know we aren't perfect and

if we take a serious inventory of our lives and habits we realize we all come away short of perfection, this is especially true of me. I have lots of personal work to do and it's all I can do to try to do my own daily diagnosis and repair work. This is why we don't take the time to try to help others; we have enough problems of our own.

Therefore, this is why you have to really care a lot about someone to take the time to try to help the person.

If you had the gift of premonition and could keep someone from being killed in an accident you wouldn't hesitate to speak with them about it. So, why, if you can help someone address personal issues/addictions that might be deadly, wouldn't you try? Unfortunately, addictions and mental illnesses are issues that people seem to be afraid to address. If someone you love was inside a burning building, most of us would risk our own lives to rush in and save them.

Why is it so hard to risk hurt feelings to save a life?

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

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Lauren Lepanto named new librarian at the West End Branch Library

Story & Photo by Marianne Salza

Lauren Lapanto is happy to have returned to the West End Branch Library on February 13 in a new role as lead librarian. She is excited to see familiar faces welcoming her back, and hopes more people will visit the library to take advantage of the opportunities that the West End Branch provides.

“I know many of the patrons, but I want more to come in. We want to get the word out that we’re here,” announced Lepanto. “If people have an interest in anything, we can help them. I told my staff the other day, we want to say ‘yes’ to people.”

Lepanto served as a children’s librarian at the West End Branch before becoming the branch librarian in the South End. Now as the branch librarian for the West End, Lepanto’s goal is to continue offering more activities to residents and connect with other local organizations.

“The Boston Public Library is a department of the city. We want to help the city with all its services, and help constituents come in contact with city government,” Lepanto explained about her mission to offer more neighborhood services.

The West End Branch provides community support groups, English as a Second Language courses, and also hosts ABCD (Action for Boston Community Development) weekly food pantries.

There are arts and crafts and Children’s Story Time for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers.

The community can listen to



Lauren Lepanto, Librarian, West End Branch Library, Boston Public Library.

lectures, join Movie Mondays at West End to view recent cinema releases, partake in book clubs and discussions, and learn American Mahjong with Friends of the West End Library.

“I do an online film discussion called Kanopy Club. It’s an online streaming service. There are a lot of great films,” Lepanto described. “People stream a film at home. Then we have an online meeting on Zoom and discuss the film. It’s awesome.”

Lepanto grew up in New Jersey. She attended college in Connecticut, where she majored in art history and English, and interned at a local newspaper in Hartford. Lepanto assisted at an art auction house in New York before relocating to Boston in 1982.

When Lepanto first moved to Boston, she worked at the Pine

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Street Inn, in the South End, while earning her master’s degree in Library and Informational Science at Simmons University.

Lepanto is a mother of 29-year-old twin sons, and grandmother of 10-year-old Eva and 2-year-old Lorenzo. The Red Sox fan’s favorite literary genre to read is fiction; but she also enjoys indulging in non-fiction about topics such as food policies.

“I read a lot and like to cook. I bake sourdough bread,” shared Lepanto, a Dorchester resident.

“I practice yoga. It’s important to my life. I love music and go out to hear rock and roll and alternative at smaller clubs and bars.”

Starting April 22, the West End Branch will be presenting a Gentle Flow Yoga program on Saturdays, 10-11am.

“I’m looking to do more. We have a lot of families and care givers coming with little kids. Beacon Hill and West End neighbors come in. A lot of hospital workers and people working in government buildings visit during their lunch

hours,” revealed Lepanto. “I’m trying to see what community needs we have. The library wants to connect them with books, ideas, interests, and services.”

Visit the West End Branch Library, 151 Cambridge Street, Boston, Monday – Wednesday 10am-6pm, Thursdays 12-8pm, Fridays 9am-5pm, and Saturdays 9am-2pm. Learn about upcoming events, resources, and programming by visiting www.BPL.org, calling (617) 523-3957, or emailing WestEnd@BPL.org.

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BHAC votes to continue determination on unapproved EV charging port

By Dan Murphy

Following a lengthy discussion on the matter among commissioners that failed to reach a clear consensus, the Beacon Hill Architectural Commission voted unanimously during its monthly public meeting held virtually on Thursday, March 16, to continue its determination by one month on a violation for the unapproved installation of an EV (Electric Vehicle) charging port cover at 6 Louisburg Square.

The charging port is already mounted in the sidewalk and has a patinated bronze cover for its opening, which measures 12 inches by 12 inches and is flush with the sidewalk, sitting atop a 10-by-10 inch internal box, said Sandra Jahnes, a partner and studio director at Ruhl/Jahnes, who appeared at the meeting alongside William Ruhl, her fellow partner and creative director at the Watertown architectural firm.

The cover installed is similar in style to those used in the neighborhood for sewer or water access, said Jahnes, and its "installation was inspired by a coal shoot, which are very present along Louisburg Square."

The same applicant had appeared before the commission in early 2021 for a charging port that used the same materials but had a smaller cover, said Jahnes, who chalked up the original measurements to an erroneous oversight, since the charging head itself inside the internal box measures 8 inches long by 1.5 inches wide.

"Without the dimensions, a liberty was taken," she said, calling it a "misinterpretation of the Certificate of Design Approval."

(The existing charging head is only for a Tesla, said Jahnes, but the applicant is now considering another electric vehicle, which would likely require a longer charging head.)

The existing installation allows



The unapproved EV charging port at 6 Louisburg Square.

for the chord to feed through the top of the cover when it's closed to reduce tripping hazards, which, Jahnes said, likely wouldn't be feasible with a smaller port cover.

Jahnes requested that the commission ratify the existing installation at the homeowner's request.

Although Commissioner Alice Richmond commended the applicant for making the existing cover flush with the sidewalk, which has allowed for more bricks to be installed in the sidewalk, she expressed concern with the applicant's decision to install something inconsistent with what had originally been approved without bringing the changes to the attention of the commission beforehand.

"I have no problem with the aesthetics, but why didn't you come back to commission?" asked Commissioner Richmond. "If we simply ratify something that ignores the original directive, I think we set a bad precedent for the rest of the community."

While Commissioner Ed Fleck pointed out that "parking spots are generally on private ways, which should mitigate some concerns," Arian Allen, vice chair of the commission, countered that the real issue at hand was that the applicant had ignored the commission's feedback and instructions.

Vice Chair Allen said the applicant had apparently subscribed to the old adage: "It's better to ask for permission, than beg for forgiveness."

Commission Chair Mark Kiefer asked why the cover couldn't be made smaller, like "an extant version of a smaller installation for the exact same purpose," which was previously approved by commission and has since been installed at 11 Louisburg Square.

"The commission has to deal with new technologies and has to deal with them as they develop over time [as they are] often necessary for modern living or safety, or both," said Chair Kiefer, adding that the commission tries to accommodate new technologies in a manner consistent with its guidelines. "We know that there are going to be more of these, but it's quite early on in the process."

Although no guidelines are in place yet in the neighborhood's historic district regarding EV ports, Chair Kiefer recommended that the commission move as quickly as possible to develop a



D. MURPHY PHOTOS

6 Louisburg Square.

"de facto standard."

Likewise, Commissioner Annette Given urged the applicant to "explore every avenue because it's going to set a precedent, and we need to know what we're getting into going forward."

In making the motion to continue the application, Chair Kiefer recommended giving the applicant at least one month to "determine their needs," as well as to explore whether these needs could be feasibly accommodated using a smaller design.

Once the commission approves a design, it still must be signed off on by Louisburg Square's neighborhood association, however, advised Nicholas Armata, BHAC staff.

In another matter, the commission voted unanimously to remedy a violation for the installation of an unapproved ButterflyMX intercom system at the front entrance of 87 Beacon St., and to approve the work as submitted to remedy the existing condition.

Don Mills, the project architect, said this work would include filling in as much wood paneling around the intercom unit as possible, as well as restoring the look of the wood panel and covering the illuminated box.

The encasement for the unit would have a "beaded edge" to match the beaded edge of the molding, said Mills, while the unit would have a hinged cover with the address inscribed and a stain lacquered finish. The cover would also feature stained brass hardware and protrude around 2 inches, with a folded edge, he added.

Meanwhile, an application for 1 Chestnut St. to install a placard commemorating the property as the former residence of both Coretta Scott King and Henry Kissinger was scheduled for the meeting but withdrawn by the applicant.

On hand for the meeting were Commission Chair Kiefer, Vice Chair Allen, and Commissioners Fleck, Given, Richmond, and Wen Wen.

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Wu announces strategies to enhance energy efficiency

Mayor Michelle Wu visited the Brian Honan Apartments in Allston-Brighton to announce the City's intention to adopt a new, green building code that will strengthen energy efficiency requirements for new construction in Boston.

To achieve this, Mayor Wu will file an ordinance with the Boston City Council to adopt the State Department of Energy Resources' Municipal Opt-in Specialized Stretch Energy Code, a transformative green update that will further reduce climate-polluting emissions in buildings in municipalities that have adopted the code across the state. Additionally, Mayor Wu announced the new Large Building Green Energy Retrofits Program administered by the Mayor's Office of Housing, a grant program supported by \$10 million of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to be used to foster energy performance improvements for affordable housing developments.

This program will significantly reduce the energy consumption and carbon footprint of Boston's existing affordable housing. Together, these efforts will further the City's work to increase energy efficiency, reduce greenhouse gas emissions from buildings, transition away from fossil fuels, and support the City's carbon neutrality goals.

"Building a Green New Deal city means improving on our existing infrastructure as well as investing in future resilient development," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "This new green building code will help ensure that we set the foundation for healthy, resilient growth throughout our neighborhoods."

"Our focus is taking decisive action now to support our climate, advance justice and bolster livability throughout the City of Boston for all of our residents. To advance Boston's Green New Deal, we are tackling building decarbonization from all different angles, using all of the tools at our disposal," said Green New Deal Director Oliver Sellers-Garcia. "By both adapting existing buildings and setting new energy standards for new buildings, we are taking an all of government approach to reducing emissions in more buildings to ensure our climate's health and our city's quality of life."

Municipal Opt-in Specialized Stretch Energy Code

The Specialized Stretch Code was created along with an updated Stretch Energy Code in December 2022. The stretch energy code applies to nearly 300 Green Communities in Massachusetts, includ-



Mayor Michelle Wu.

ing Boston, and sets energy efficiency requirements for new construction and major renovations. The new, updated Stretch Energy code requires energy conservation measures to reduce heating and cooling demand. It creates a strong standard to ensure buildings are more resilient to power outages while enabling efficiency, electrification, and affordability.

In Boston, 70 percent of greenhouse gas emissions come from the building sector. The impacts of these emissions contribute to global climate change and local air pollution that disproportionately impacts low-income residents and communities of color in Boston. The updated energy code will deliver the long-term benefits of improved air quality, lower energy costs, reduced carbon emissions, and enhanced thermal comfort to residents. Research shows there is little-to-no cost increase for building efficient and fossil fuel-free multifamily housing.

"The adoption of the state's Specialized Stretch Energy Code is an important part of Boston's work to decarbonize our buildings and reduce our carbon footprint," said Reverend Mariama White-Hammond, Chief of Environment, Energy and Open Space. "I'm grateful to be a part of a Green New Deal City where we prioritize affordable housing in our decarbonization work."

The specialized code expands upon the current policy by requiring mixed-fuel buildings, or those using fossil fuels, to add wiring for future conversion to electrification and to install solar. The specialized code will result in most new buildings adhering to a highly efficient, all-electric standard. The specialized code includes three pathways to comply, including:

- **Zero Energy:** All stretch code efficiency requirements are to be met, and on-site renewable energy

generation is equal to or greater than the building's annual energy use. Any fossil fuel use must be pre-wired for electrification.

- **All-Electric:** This pathway requires all stretch code efficiency requirements to be met and for the property to utilize no fossil fuels, except for backup generators, on-site vehicles, or outdoor equipment fueling.

- **Mixed-fuel:** Gas or fossil fuels are allowed if all stretch code efficiency requirements are met and the building is pre-wired for electrification. On-site solar must also be added to the property where feasible. New homes over 4,000 sq. ft. cannot use this option.

- **If approved by the City Council** all multifamily housing over 12,000 sq. ft. must achieve Passive House certification in addition to meeting one of the above pathways beginning in January 2024.

"Requiring new construction and major renovations to maximize energy efficiency will get us closer to electrifying affordably and make our buildings more resilient," said Councilor Kendra Lara, Chair of the Committee on Environmental Justice, Resiliency, and Parks. "This is a critical step in meeting our decarbonization goals and protecting our most vulnerable communities from the impacts of climate change."

The specialized code is a critical foundation for other City building decarbonization policies by requiring new construction and buildings undergoing major renovations to be as efficient as possible. The City is already leading by example in its construction initiatives, adopting a fossil fuel-free standard for new municipal buildings and holding City-funded affordable housing developments to a zero emissions standard. The City is also continuing community engagement around regulations development for the Building Emissions Reduction and Disclosure Ordinance (BERDO), which requires existing mid- to large-sized buildings to reduce their emissions gradually to net-zero by 2050.

Additionally, last summer Mayor Wu filed legislation to give Boston the local option to set building standards eliminating the use of fossil fuels for new developments and major renovations in Boston with the goal of participating in a 10-municipality pilot program administered by the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources.

Affordable housing green retrofits

While adopting the new greener specialized code creates a strong

baseline for new buildings to be energy efficient, the City of Boston is also being intentional about supporting existing properties to bolster energy efficiency through retrofits. To support this work, Mayor Wu announced the Mayor's Office of Housing's new Large Building Green Energy Retrofits Program that will provide up to \$50,000 per unit for deep energy retrofits for income-restricted buildings with 15 or more units in Boston. In coordination with the launch of this program, the Mayor's Office of Housing is also offering up to \$10,000 in technical assistance grants to support building owners in learning about their building's energy use, and laying out a roadmap to achieving a deep energy retrofit of their building and BERDO compliance. More information about technical assistance grants can be found here.

Residential buildings are responsible for approximately 50 percent of greenhouse gas emissions from buildings in Boston, and improving their energy efficiency can help to reduce these emissions and mitigate climate change. Energy-efficient buildings help to lower energy costs for tenants and affordable housing operators, improve indoor air quality, and create more comfortable and healthy living environments for Boston residents.

"The new Large Building Green Energy Retrofits Program is a comprehensive effort to improve the energy efficiency and environmental sustainability of existing affordable housing in the City of Boston," said Chief of Housing, Sheila Dillon. "By investing in green energy retrofits in income-restricted housing, we are creating a more sustainable and resilient city. The changes this program will fund will reduce greenhouse gas emissions, contribute to a cleaner, healthier city and will advance Boston's goal of achieving net-zero

emissions by 2050."

There are a variety of green energy retrofits possible for income-restricted housing developments in Boston, accounting for the building's age, condition, and usage. Standard retrofitting measures include:

- Installing energy-efficient lighting and appliances

- Upgrading insulation and weatherization to prevent heat loss

- Replacing outdated heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems with more efficient models

- Installing solar panels or other renewable energy sources

- Upgrading windows and doors to be more energy-efficient

"We cannot have a green Boston without greening our existing large buildings, and we especially need healthy, energy-efficient housing for our affordable housing residents," said Councilor Kenzie Bok, Chair of the Committee on Boston's Covid-19 Recovery. "I am proud that the Council and the Mayor were able to dedicate this \$10 million in federal recovery funds to improving energy performance in affordable housing specifically. With these funds, we will put our low-income residents at the front of the green revolution and create a blueprint for affordable green retrofits that we then hope to use as a model citywide."

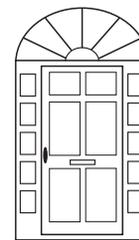
"I am delighted that a much needed infusion of cash will protect the infrastructure and reduce energy consumption in the Brian Honan Apartments," said Councilor Liz Breadon. "Residents in my district and throughout Boston are calling for improved air quality and innovative solutions to climate change. My thanks to the Wu administration and my Council colleagues who persistently advocate for healthy affordable housing in our city."

(ENERGY Pg. 8)

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Boston artist donates her art to Boston Public Schools

Boston artist Maria Termini announces that she is donating over 300 of her signed limited edition silk screen prints to the Boston Public Schools. These prints have been created during her many years of actively working as an artist-printmaker. She is offering portfolios of fifteen prints to schools in Roslindale, Roxbury, Mattapan, Hyde Park, West Roxbury and Jamaica Plain. Silk screening, also known as serigraphy, is a stencil printmaking process used by famous artists such as Corita Kent and Andy Warhol that produces art with brilliant colors. The complex process of creating a silk screen print uses frames stretched tightly with silk and requires stencils on the silk for each color along with very precise printing of the colors.

Maria Termini's work inspires joy in the viewer. Her hope is that her art can bring beauty and



Maria Termini.

meaning to the students, teachers and staff in the Boston Public Schools as it is displayed in offices, hallways, cafeterias and classrooms.

Maria Termini has enjoyed the process of creating art in many media which include printmaking, collage, watercolor, mosaic, weaving and fabric appliqué. Maria

Termini is the designer of the Josiah Quincy School porcelain enamel mural in Chinatown and other public art projects. She has had over forty-three one person shows of her artwork and shown in many juried exhibits. She is the author of the book, *Silk Screening*, which was published by Prentice-Hall. Her work is in the Fogg Museum, the Boston Public Library, many non-profit organizations and in private collections throughout the world. She continues to be inspired by reverence and amazement at the ever-unfolding beauty of creation.

This program is supported in part by a grant from the Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture and the City of Boston. For more information or to secure a portfolio for your school, please contact: Maria Termini, 617 553 2762, mariatermini2013@gmail.com, or www.mariatermini.com.

Project Bread's The Walk for Hunger May 7

One of Massachusetts' most iconic events is back! Project Bread's The Walk for Hunger, the Commonwealth's largest and oldest day of community action against hunger, is seeking walkers for a new 3-mile route. Back in-person for the first time since 2019, the one-day fundraising event is set for Sunday, May 7 at the Boston Common, featuring plenty of family-friendly activities

along the 3-mile loop. The Walk for Hunger is a fundraiser that supports Project Bread's work to raise awareness for food insecurity and increase food access for people of all ages in Massachusetts. In its 55th year, Project Bread invites you to help us raise more than \$1 million to support food assistance resources and sustainable policy solutions to end hunger. Likeminded anti-hunger

organizations can enroll in our co-fundraising program, The Commonwealth, forming teams to raise money to support their own work, while also furthering the statewide effort. To register for the event and create a personal or team fundraising page for the Walk for Hunger or to make a donation, visit projectbread.org/walk or call (617) 723-5000.



Walkers in the Walk for Hunger.

ENERGY (from pg. 7)

"Allston Brighton CDC is pleased to be an early recipient of the Large Building Green Energy Retrofits Program to help us preserve and enhance the Brian J. Honan Apartments in Allston. Our team has committed to pursuing green technologies at our properties to not only reduce the environmental impact of development but to create healthy and safe housing for our residents," said John Woods, Executive Director of the Allston Brighton Community Development Corporation. "We would like to thank Mayor Wu and The City Of Boston for making these new and important resources available, which will ensure that deeply affordable housing can provide high-quality homes to residents for generations to come."

"This announcement marks an important step in demonstrating Boston's climate leadership. We need to get Boston's buildings off of fossil fuels to meet our climate goals and mitigate the extreme impacts of climate pollution that disproportionately impact environmental justice communities. Electric buildings are cost effective to construct, reduce energy costs when paired with efficiency measures, and provide cleaner indoor and outdoor air, improving public health and community resilience,"

said Michele Brooks, Boston Lead Organizer with the Massachusetts Sierra Club. "As we move to electrify our buildings, it's necessary that we provide resources to support affordable housing developments in making these efficiency upgrades. We are pleased to celebrate the city in the announcement of \$10 million dedicated towards green energy retrofits."

The Large Building Green Energy Retrofits Program is part of a larger \$20 million initiative to embed deep energy retrofits in Boston's existing building stock. Over the coming months, the City will be building upon this work with a retrofit program for smaller residential buildings as well as a program specific to retrofitting the Boston Housing Authority. The adoption of the specialized code, in conjunction with retrofitting affordable housing to ensure maximized efficiency, supports a Green New Deal approach to achieve Boston's environmental and economic justice goals. By ensuring new and existing buildings are built as efficiently as possible, the City of Boston will be able to mitigate emissions from the building sector, bolstering housing affordability, and supporting the City's goals to be carbon neutral by 2050.

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USS Constitution to begin summer visitation hours

USS Constitution is scheduled to shift their hours of free public visitation for the Summer season starting Wednesday, March 15.

During Summer hours of operation, Constitution will be open to the public Tuesday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

All guests, age 18 and older, are required to show a valid state or federal photo I.D. or a passport to board the ship.

While aboard, guests may walk the ship at their own pace and ask questions to the ship's active-duty Navy Sailors.

In addition to answering guests' questions, Sailors give presentations on the ship's history every 30 minutes.

USS Constitution, is the world's oldest commissioned

warship afloat, and played a crucial role in the Barbary Wars and the War of 1812, actively defending sea lanes from 1797 to 1855.

The active-duty Sailors stationed aboard USS Constitution provide free tours and offer public visitation as they support the ship's mission of promoting the Navy's history and maritime heritage and raising awareness of the importance of a sustained naval presence.

USS Constitution was undefeated in battle and destroyed or captured 33 opponents.

The ship earned the nickname of Old Ironsides during the war of 1812 when British cannonballs were seen bouncing off the ship's wooden hull.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

North Washington Street Bridge construction look-ahead through April 1

MassDot official have released the following overview for construction on the Construction of the North Washington St. Bridge.

Scheduled Work

- Installation of bridge deck formwork
- Installation of sidewalk steel and formwork
- Installation of electrical utility conduits on bridge structure
- Installation of gas and water utilities on bridge structure

Work Hours

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

Contraflow Pilot

- The MassDOT-implemented contraflow pilot will continue to be in effect during evening peak traffic (3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.), Monday through Friday.
- Police details, lane markings, temporary barriers, traffic cones, signage, and other tools will be used to control traffic during set up

and operation of the contraflow.

Travel Tips

For everyone using the temporary bridge, please help share the space: walk to the right, walk bikes, and be mindful of people coming from both directions, if walking in a large group.

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

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

The contractor is coordinating

with the TD Garden and local police to provide awareness and manage traffic impacts during events. For your awareness, the following TD Garden events are scheduled during this look-ahead period:

- BRUINS: March 25 at 1:00 p.m., March 28 at 7:00 p.m., and March 30 at 7:00 p.m.
- CELTICS: March 24 at 7:00 p.m., March 26 at 6:00 p.m., and March 31 at 7:30 p.m.
- ALL OTHER EVENTS: March 24 at 7:00 p.m., March 26 at 6:00 p.m., and March 31 at 7:30 p.m.

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

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Meet Boston to host Regional Career Fair April 11

Meet Boston, the official destination marketing and sales organization for the Greater Boston area, will host a second annual Regional Career Fair on April 11, 2023, at The Hyatt Regency Hotel in Boston. The fair will connect over 200 students and job seekers with nearly 70 top hospitality employers in the region, providing a valuable opportunity to explore exciting career options and connect with industry leaders.

As part of their post-pandemic recovery efforts, Meet Boston is committed to supporting the regional hospitality industry through initiatives like this career fair. Hotel occupancy numbers, which plummeted to 25% in Boston and Cambridge in 2020, reached 68% in 2022 and are projected to exceed 74% in 2023. According to US Department of LaborJobs Reports for January and February, the US economy has gained over 800,000 jobs thus far in 2023 and nearly a third of them are in leisure and hospitality sector.

"As the hospitality industry continues to rebound, Meet Boston is thrilled to bring together members of our community to support its workforce and propel its growth," said Martha J. Sher-

idan, President & CEO of Meet Boston. "With new nonstop routes from Boston Logan International Airport to South America, Canada, Europe and Asia, we will see a surge in international visitation this summer as well. This is the perfect time for job seekers and employers to connect and explore the exciting career options available in this industry."

The April 11 event will be the second career fair that Meet Boston hosts in collaboration with Tourism Diversity Matters (TDM). TDM is Meet Boston's strategic partner in pursuing and advancing diversity and inclusion goals for the travel and hospitality sector in Boston and beyond. Last year, the two organizations joined forces to present a Town Hall and Career Fair, while also launching an Apprenticeship Program that will diversify the travel and hospitality industry through robust workforce development initiatives that emphasize the importance of diversity, equity, and inclusion in this industry.

"We're proud once again to collaborate with Tourism Diversity Matters on this important event," said Hilina D. Ajakaiye, Executive Vice President, Meet Boston. "We believe that our continued partner-

ship will have a substantial impact on how we strategically think about diversity, equity, and inclusion in the tourism sector."

Meet Boston's Regional Career Fair will showcase a diverse range of career options within the hospitality industry, with confirmed employers spanning hotels, restaurants, universities, attractions, event management companies, and more. The festivities begin with an invite-only reception the night before, bringing together diverse hospitality workers. Then on Tuesday morning, job seekers will have the opportunity to hear from notable speakers during the Business Leadership Workshop, which both Governor Maura Tracy Healey and Mayor Michelle Wu have been invited to attend.

Attendees will also have the opportunity to:

- Participate in professional development workshops
- Get a free headshots
- Network with industry professionals
- Schedule on-site job interviews and more

The career fair is free and open to the public. For more information and to register, please visit, meetboston.com/career-fair.

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Spooner Ter LLC	Fs 1515 Nt	2 Commonwealth Ave #14F	\$8,320,746
11 Marlborough LLC	124 TLLC	9 Marlborough St	\$12,000,000
11 Marlborough LLC	124 TLLC	11 Marlborough St	\$12,000,000
Marlborough 135- P Hldg	Sackler, David	133 Marlborough St #12	\$805,000
Turner, Emily	Chiu, Nicholas	466 Commonwealth Ave #307	\$409,000
Halilovic, Enida	Curley, James	14 Hereford St #4	\$640,000
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Lee, Gabriel Q	Albany Holdings LLC	21 Beacon St #8G	\$645,000
Nguyen, Andrew P	Jdmd Owner LLC	45 Temple St #206	\$2,500,000
Serengeti LLC	Twenty Two West Cedar Nt	22 W Cedar St	\$7,950,000
Chang, Baolin	Ayad, Widad	6 Whittier Pl #4J6	\$410,000
BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE			
Kennedy, Linda M	Moss, John W	33 Appleton St #3	\$635,000
Soforiz LLC	Birmingham, Nesson A	13 Cazenove St	\$4,800,000
Harmstone, Elizabeth	Tepper, Richard	116 Chandler St #1	\$2,100,000
Kljat, Angelina	Sanfilippo, Kathryn	8 Garrison St #604	\$455,000
210 Trinity Place Rt	Keller, Kate	1 Huntington Ave #210	\$525,000
Sherwood, Robert	Watt, Thomas J	505 Tremont St #702	\$2,695,000
Webber, Melissa	Warren 154 LLC	154 Warren Ave #1	\$2,400,000
Goldstein, Aaron	Mary Oliverson RET	529 Columbus Ave #4	\$725,000
Howe, David	Cohen, Bernard E	9 Concord Sq #4	\$1,620,000
Kerstein, Jason S	Campbell, Robert B	12 Durham St #3	\$989,000
Varney, Andrew B	Oosterhuis, Jana	58 Rutland St #1	\$2,240,500
Roberts, Thomas G	Wei, Gu-Yeon	32 Traveler St #304	\$1,350,000
P & Beth Mckeeon 2006 Ft	Geraghty, Brian F	148 W Newton St #2	\$2,350,000
WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN			
Stinky Piglets RET	Alan K Himmer 2010 T	3 Avery St #501	\$795,000
Abdelnour, Sahem	Boston Global Fortune LL	1 Franklin St #3809	\$1,350,000
Bmy South LLC	G & R Rt	106 South St #B	\$1,151,000

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Attention to Detail

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY PENNY CHERUBINO

THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The windows in the last clue are on 288 Cambridge Street, the home of Antonio's Cucina Italiana. In 2014 this newspaper published a story about the restaurant's 20th anniversary. In it, the owner Steven Colarusso said of his plan for the future, "We're just going to keep doing the same things we have been, which has been successful so far."

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



NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDUP

EMILY SWEENEY'S GANGLAND BOSTON PRESENTATION RESCHEDULED TO MARCH 23

Originally scheduled for Feb. 23, Boston Globe reporter Emily Sweeney will explore Boston's history of organized crime during a presentation sponsored by West End Museum on Thursday, March 23, at 6:30 p.m. at The HUB50 Community Room, 52 Causeway St.

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.

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

FREE LESSONS IN AMERICAN MAHJONG OFFERED AT WEST END BRANCH LIBRARY

The Friends of the West End Library will be offering lessons in American Mahjong to new and experienced players at no cost.

The group meets on Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m., once every two weeks in the Community Room of the West End Branch Library, 151 Cambridge St.

To sign up or for more information, email Audrey Tedeman (artedeman@gmail.com) or Julia Forbes (jmaforbes@gmail.com).

COUNCILOR BOK'S OFFICE HOURS

City Councilor Kenzie Bok will be holding office hours on Tuesday, March 28, at Cobblestones at 30 Charles St. on Beacon Hill.

Councilor Bok will also be

holding virtual office hours on Wednesday, March 29.

To sign up, visit <https://calendly.com/councilor-kenziebok/office-hours-bok?month=2023-03> or call the councilor's office at 617-635-4225 to place your request.

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&id=28>.

GIBSON HOUSE MUSEUM'S ANNUAL BENEFIT SET FOR APRIL 11 AT ST. BOTOLPH CLUB

The Gibson House Museum will host its annual benefit,

"À la Belle Époque," on Tuesday, April 11, from 6 to 9 p.m. at the St. Botolph Club at 199 Commonwealth Ave.

The evening includes drinks, a light supper, a raffle, and entertainment provided by a French music trio. Join the Gibson House Museum in honoring the French Library for culturally inspiring the community and for its dedication to preserving Boston's architectural history with a recent historically sensitive renovation of its 1867 brownstone headquarters. All proceeds will support the preservation and operation of the Gibson House Museum.

This year's benefit features some select raffle items, including private tours; tickets to the theater, symphony, and ballet; a French Library family membership; French-language classes; restaurant gift certificates; an "instant French wine cellar"; designer jewelry; and vintage treasures. You do not need to be present to win.

Tickets are \$150 and may be

purchased at <https://www.thegibsonhouse.org/museum-benefit>, or by sending a check with the names of your guests to the Gibson House Museum, 137 Beacon St., Boston, MA 02116.

Visit <https://www.thegibsonhouse.org/museum-benefit> for more information on the event.

DUCKLING DAY EVENT SET TO RETURN MOTHER'S DAY, SUNDAY, MAY 14

The Friends of the Public Garden will again partner with the Boston Parks Department for the annual Duckling Day event on Sunday, May 14, from 10 a.m. to noon.

Every year, hundreds of participating children, dressed as their favorite characters from Robert McCloskey's classic children's book, "Make Way for Ducklings," join the parade led by the Harvard Marching Band. The parade route begins on the Boston Common at the Parkman Bandstand and ends in the Public Garden near the Make Way for Ducklings sculpture.

Playtime on the Common will take place ahead of the parade and include Interactive Circus Games with Esh Circus Arts; Jenny the Juggler; Peter O'Malley, magician; Jump, climb, and play with Knucklebones; a chance to meet the giant Duck; a visit with the Harvard University Band; a "Make Way for Ducklings" reading station; and a goody bag for every kid filled with Duckling Day-themed items.

The registration fee is \$35 per family in advance (before May 12) and \$40 per family the day of the event. Each child who registers will receive a special goody bag. Register at <https://friendsofthepublicgarden.org/2022/12/01/ducklingday2023/>.

For more information on Duckling Day, visit <https://friendsofthepublicgarden.org/events/duckling-day/>.

Suffolk County remains at low COVID-19 community levels

The Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC), is encouraging residents to be mindful of the risk of COVID-19 and other respiratory viruses. While Suffolk County is still at low COVID-19 community risk level according to the CDC, gathering in large groups, particularly indoors, increases the risk of transmission.

"We are in a much better place than we were a year ago, but when you gather in large groups indoors there is always an increased risk of transmitting and acquiring respiratory infections, including COVID-19," said Dr. Bisola Ojikutu, Commissioner of Public Health and Executive Director of the Boston Public Health Commission. "My advice to everybody is to stay home if you are sick and get boosted if you have not done so yet."

New COVID-19 cases have decreased 10% over past 7 days and by 34% over past 14 days. New COVID-19 related hospitalizations have stabilized over the past week (1% increase) but have decreased by 34% over the past two weeks. The latest data from Boston's wastewater surveillance program show a citywide average of 479 RNA copies/mL, representing a 46% decrease over the past 14 days. Nine of the 11 neighborhoods surveyed are below this average.

Residents should also make sure they are up to date on their COVID-19 vaccinations, and those interested in receiving the \$75 gift card incentive for a vaccine or booster should do as soon as possible. The Massachusetts Department of Public Health is ending this incentive program after March 31, meaning BPHC will no longer give out the \$75 gift cards at its standing clinics.

BPHC also recommends residents at high risk for severe infection wear a mask indoors to increase their protection against respiratory viruses. Additionally, testing for COVID-19 prior to gathering and staying home if you are sick or if you test positive are recommended. Free rapid test kits are available at BPHC standing sites listed below.

COVID-19 testing, vaccines, and boosters are free and widely available at BPHC's five standing sites.

Boston City Hall – 1 City Hall Sq., Boston.

Open Mondays 7 a.m.-1 p.m. and Wednesdays 12-5 p.m.

Bruce C. Bolling Building – 2300 Washington St., Nubian Square.

Open Tuesdays – Saturdays 12-8 p.m.

For more information on testing and vaccination sites around Boston, visit boston.gov/covid19.

BHCA (from pg. 1)

5:30pm via Zoom

Zoning & Licensing Committee Meeting - Wednesday, April 5th, 7pm via Zoom

Board of Directors Meeting - Monday, April 10th, 7pm via Zoom.

(There will be no First Friday Coffee hour in April)

Other upcoming BHCA Events

First Friday Coffee Hour – Friday, May 5th

BHCA Annual Meeting – May 15th

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

OBITUARIES

All obituaries and death notices will be at a cost of \$150.00 per paper. Includes photo. No word Limit. Please send to obits@reverejournal.com or call 781-485-0588

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CITY PAWS

Special needs animals

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

There are animals with life-long special needs and some who, with their families, have to adapt due to injury, illness, or aging. Thankfully, there are ways to support these animals and many devices to help them live safer and more rewarding lives.

Vision

One of the sweetest stories we've heard over the years was about a senior dog who gradually lost his vision. One day the guardians noticed their younger pup blocking the older one from a stairway.

As time went by, they would see the two coming up and down the stairs, moving in unison, with the senior member of the pair safely positioned between himself and a wall by the youngster. The family never taught the dogs any of this behavior. However, they did reward both dogs as it progressed.

Stairway gates are one adaptive device recommended for blind animals. A halo harness for blind dogs protects their heads by bumping

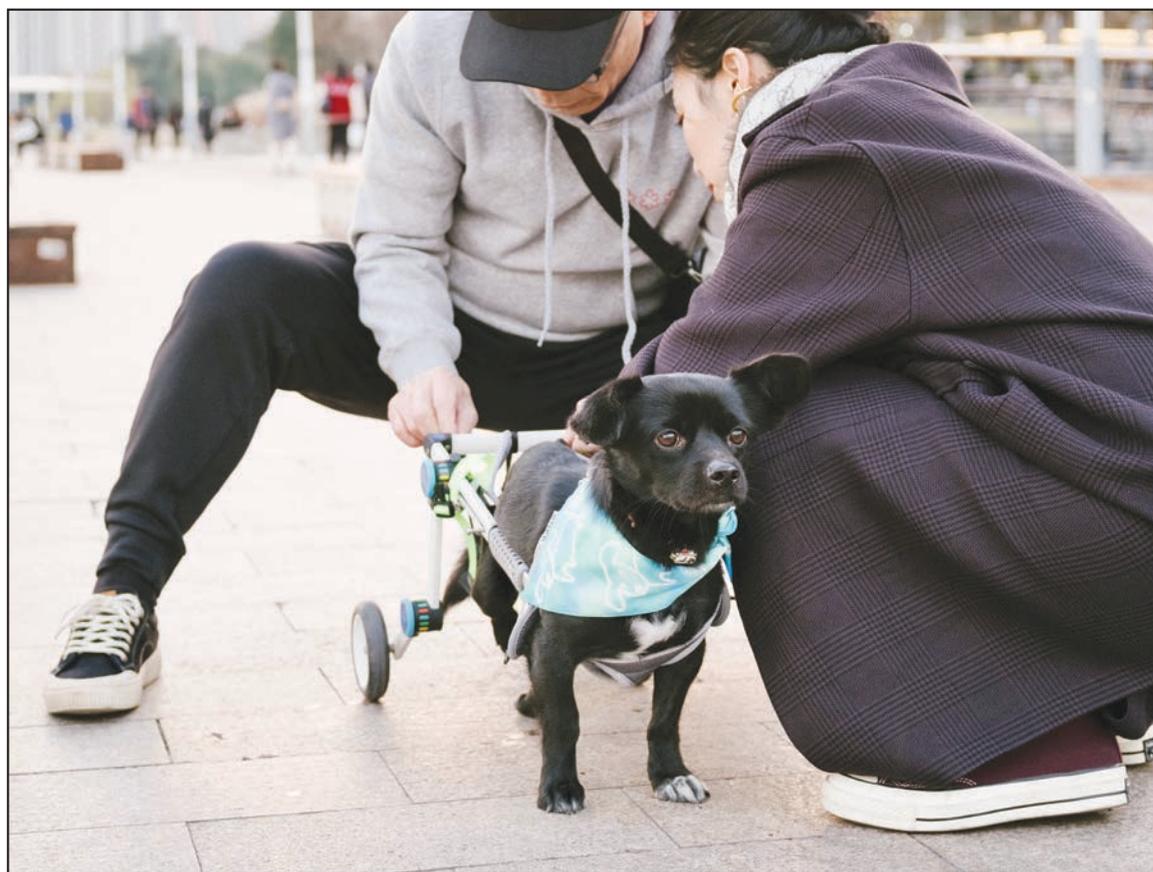
into things before the dog does. Scented toys allow a blind animal to find and play with a toy.

Hearing

As our Maggie Mae lost her hearing in old age, we were happy we had taught her to respond to hand signals. Now research is testing the ability of dogs to learn both American Sign Language and "K9Sign" language. This communication can be used when a dog or a family member is deaf. Best Friends Animal Sanctuary is one place using this training.

You can test the dog's range of deafness to see if you can use their remaining hearing. Dogs start with far better hearing than we do. A dog may not hear your voice but may pick up the sound of a dog whistle beyond the range of human hearing. You can also shake a can of pennies or squeak a toy.

If that fails, turn to other strong canine senses. Vibration is a great tool. As you approach, you can make your footsteps heavier, setting off vibrations the dog can feel.



Canine wheelchairs are available for dogs and cats of all sizes, from tiny to giant.

If the dog is on a dog bed or sofa, gently tap the cushion. There are "vibration only" communication and training collars. Be sure the device you choose does not have an electric shock option.

Arouse that finely tuned nose with an odoriferous treat like dried mussels, salmon jerky, or smelly cheese.

Mobility

In the Boston area, we're fortunate to have an excellent source for custom dog mobility carts—Eddie's Wheels in Shelburne, MA. We've been following the amazing work

of Ed Grinnell since we met our first of his canine customers more than 15 years ago. Penny admits to visiting the website www.eddieswheels.com for the joy of reading his success stories.

Pet strollers are another option. They are perfect for keeping an older dog in the social game. This is the solution if your pooch loves to be out and about with you but can't walk to a favorite spot. A stroller lets you provide just enough exercise and a ride for the rest of the way.

Your veterinarian, groomer, or local pet supply store can be

a resource for the latest assistive harnesses and support devices you can use as needed. More and more of these products come to the market each year.

You and your special needs animal may enjoy better quality time together if you explore and use the many options available to a specific situation.

Do you have a question or topic for City Paws? Send an email to Penny@BostonZest.com with your request.

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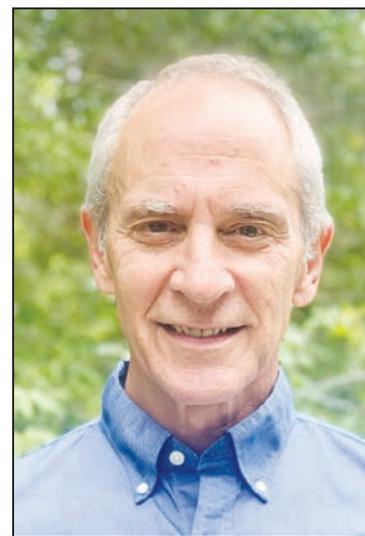
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Inflammation: Friend, foe or double-agent

By Robert H. Shmerling, MD

What's all the buzz? Join Dr. Shmerling – retired clinician, educator and researcher – for a reality check. He will provide a broad overview of inflammation: what it is, how it can help or hurt and why we are hearing so much about it on March 28. Dr. Shmerling will then discuss the relationship between chronic inflammation and chronic disease, providing examples where the relationship is clear and others where it's less certain. Finally, he will review measures most likely to calm chronic, harmful inflammation and discuss how future research may clarify novel ways to address it.

Dr. Robert H. Shmerling mixed clinical care, teaching and research throughout his distinguished career. He served as Clinical Chief



Dr. Robert H. Shmerling.

of Rheumatology and Rheumatology Fellowship Program Director at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center for many years until retiring from clinical practice in

2020. His research interests have centered on diagnostic studies in patients with musculoskeletal symptoms, rheumatic and autoimmune diseases. He has had extensive teaching responsibilities within BIDMC and Harvard Medical School including supervising residents and fellows in the rheumatology practice. Currently, he is a Senior Faculty Editor at Harvard Health Publishing, the consumer health education division of Harvard Medical School.

This Zoom webinar is presented by Beacon Hill Village in partnership with the Boston Public Library as part of its Living Well Ending Well series. Registration required online <https://beaconhillvillage.org/> or by calling 617-723-9713. Registrants will receive a link the day before the event.