



APRIL 13, 2023

# THE BEACON HILL TIMES

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## RFP for proposed redevelopment of West End Branch Library published

By Dan Murphy

The city has published its Request for Proposals (RFP) for the redevelopment of the West End Branch Library.

The city is proposing the redevelopment of the site of library, which opened in the 1960s, into a mixed-use development expected to include a new ground-floor space for the library itself, along with multiple floors of primarily income-restricted, affordable housing above.

The full RFP document can be accessed at the city's project page (<https://www.boston.gov/buildinghousing/west-end-library-housing-public-assets>), as well as at the Mayor's Office of Housing (MOH) directory of active RFPs at <https://www.boston.gov/departments/housing/requests-proposals>. All applications will be due to the Mayor's Office of Housing (MOH)



D. MURPHY PHOTO

*The West End Branch Library.*

by 4 p.m. on Thursday, June 15.

Additionally, MOH, in partnership with other city staff, will be hosting a virtual Applicants Conference on Friday, April 28, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. This public meeting will offer an opportunity to field questions and receive clarifications from potential applicants regarding their respective RFPs. Anyone is welcome to attend this virtual meeting and can pre-register for it now by following links on the aforementioned project page.

"On behalf of MOH and the

City of Boston, I want to express my sincere appreciation for everyone who has joined our community process at any point along the road to this moment," Joe Backer, MOH senior development officer, wrote in an email. "The RFP that has been released represents the vision of this community for a deeply impactful new building that will deliver multiple public benefits, and the document is so much stronger as a direct result of the months of participation that so many of you gave."

## Council hearing focuses on connected issues of trash and pest control

By Dan Murphy

The City Council's Committee on City Services and Innovation Technology held a special hearing on Tuesday, April 11, at City Hall to discuss a pair of ordinances that address two prevalent and inextricably linked issues – trash contacts and procedures in the City of Boston, along with pest control city-wide.

The first ordinance (Docket #0443) that focused on trash contracts and procedures was sponsored by City Councilor Kenzie Bok, who chaired the hearing, along with Councilors Ruthzee Louijeune and Councilor Michael Flaherty. The second ordinance

(Docket #0144) calling for a hearing on pest control was sponsored by City Council President Ed Flynn and Councilors Liz Breadon and Gabriela Coletta. (A third ordinance [Docket #0611] requested the acceptance and expenditure of a \$100,000 grant for the Recycling Dividend Program, awarded by the MA Environmental Protection Division and to be administered by the Public Works Department.)

The city entered into a five-year, \$28 million contract for trash and recyclables pickup with East Boston-based Capitol Waste Services on July 1, 2019, the terms of which changed the trash pickup time to 6

(CITY COUNCIL Pg. 2)

## UPSTAIRS DOWNSTAIRS WELCOMES SPRING WITH ANNUAL EASTER EVENT



Bob and Laura Cousineau of Upstairs Downstairs Home shown holding one of their "Eggs-celent Basket of Goodies" which were handed out to customers entering the store. See more photos on page 7.

## Councilor Bok to leave office to lead BHA

By Dan Murphy

Kenzie Bok will step down from her post as District 8 City Councilor, effective April 28, to assume the reins of the Boston Housing Authority (BHA) as the city agency's incoming administrator.

Before she was elected to the council in 2019 to represent the neighborhoods of Beacon Hill, Back Bay, Fenway, Audubon Circle, Mission Hill, and the West End, Bok served as the BHA's senior advisor for policy and planning. Her achievements in this role included spearheading the BHA's efforts to "vary the subsidy amount of federal housing vouchers by ZIP code," according to an April 5 press release in which



COURTESY OF THE CITY OF BOSTON

*District 8 City Councilor Kenzie Bok, who is leaving office to become the next BHA administrator.*

same subsidy regardless of where they were applying to live in the Greater Boston area." This program continues to allow all voucher recipients greater flexibility in deciding where they want to live in the city.

Additionally, Bok helped lead the successful ballot initiative campaign to enact the Community Preservation Act (CPA) in Boston in 2016, which has since generated tens of millions of dollars for affordable housing in the City.

"I'm so excited to return to BHA to put our residents and voucher-holders at the heart of everything our City does, by pro-

Mayor Michelle Wu announced Bok's new role, whereas previously "all voucher recipients received the

(BOK Pg. 3)

# Harvard Travellers Club Hosts Worldwide Birder Noah Stryker at its Annual Meeting on May 16

The Harvard Travellers Club is pleased to conclude its 2022-2023 season with a presentation from world birder, Noah Stryker. In 2015, he set a record for a worldwide Big Year of birding, seeing 6,042 of the world's estimated 10,365 bird species at the time (58.3%), becoming the first person to record half of the world's birds in a single year. His journey spanned 41 countries and all seven continents. After dinner at the Harvard Club Back Bay, Stryker will give a presentation on this incredible adventure plus his many other travels including trips to the polar regions where he has travelled more than 50 times as well as Amazonian Ecuador, Costa Rica, Panama, the Australian Kimberley, the Farallon Islands, Hawaii, Michigan, Florida, and Maine.

Stryker is the author of many publications about birds, including *Birding Without Borders: An Obsession, A Quest, and the Biggest Year in the World*. Other publications include *Birds of the Photo Ark* (2018), *Among Penguins* (2011), *The Thing With Feathers* (2014), and *Birding Basics* (2022).

This presentation will mark the final meeting of the Harvard Travellers Club's 120th year since its founding in 1902. The club traces its roots to Harvard's eminent geographer, Professor William Morris Davis, who in association with Copley Amory, Archibald Cary Coolidge, Roland B. Dixon and Hames J. Kidder, invited Harvard colleagues to meet in an effort to promote and discuss "intelligent travel and exploration". The Club continues to accept new applicants.

While the Golden Age of geographical exploration during which the club was founded is long since passed, the spirit behind the founding of the Club remains intact. Today, members continue to commit themselves to intelligent travel and continue to be curious

about other landscapes, cultures and scientific discoveries. Definitely unchanged is members' enjoyment in learning of one another's travels.

In 1913 the club began to meet at the Harvard Club on Commonwealth Avenue – a tradition which continues to this day. The club currently meets eight times a year for cocktails, dinner, and a lecture. This season kicked off with a lecture by explorer, author, and television personality Captain Sean Meagher on sailing in the Arctic.

Other recent highlights included fascinating presentation by James Shedd and Geoffrey Clark on recreating the Greely Arctic Expedition of 1881-84, Brian Buma on the search for the southernmost tree in the world, and Tim Cope on a trip from Mongolia to Hungary on horseback. Last November the club celebrated its 900th meeting with a gala dinner of one hundred members and guests and a lecture by renowned Shackleton expert Robert K. Headland.

"Our members join together to share stories of distant places, rugged climbs, boating expeditions, foreign cultures and traditions", says Council member and North Shore resident Peter Creighton. "Member presence and participation propels this club forward and I love learning about other members' adventures".

To that end the club is welcoming potential new members and interested parties to consider attending the dinner in May to meet the membership committee. Membership in the Harvard Travellers Club is open to persons who have a background or interest in world travel.

Visit <http://www.harvardtravellersclub.org> for more information, and contact [jenniferlenoxcraig@gmail.com](mailto:jenniferlenoxcraig@gmail.com) if you are interested in attending the dinner and Stryker lecture.

## CITY COUNCIL (from pg. 1)

a.m. from 7 a.m.

Dennis Roache, assistant superintendent of waste reduction for Boston Public Works and a panelist at the hearing, said the current contract will end on June 30, 2024, with the new one to start on July 1 of next year, which is expected to go out to bid this October or November.

The new contract would reconsider groupings of neighborhoods designed to make the job easier to bid on for trash contractors, said Roache, who added that some of these grouping date back 10 to 15 years "so it might be time to revisit them."

Said Roache: "The way we look at contracts and how they're written is a big step forward on how they're managed. If we write better contracts, we can get better service, and that's the goal."

But with tight streets in Boston, which provide little room for trash containers, the city has typically only been able to attract two or three bidders for each trash contract.

"It's been tough attracting quality trash contractors to our city," said Roache, who added that the city is also now making preparations ahead of hiring a new trash fellow.

Meanwhile, the city launched its compost program, which was also its first pilot in containerization, with 10,000 participants on July 1 of last year, said Roche, and the program is expected to add 10,000 more participants each July for the next three years. (There are currently between 6,000 and 7,000 city residents on the wait list for the program as well, he said.)

The program has already proven to be an unmitigated success, said Roache, resulting in the composting of 500 tons of materials in just its first six months.

And as the program hits a higher density, it will undoubtedly save the city money by reducing both the trash and recyclables stream, added Roache, who said while rates constantly fluctuate, it now costs \$92 per ton to dispose of trash and between \$100 and \$115 per ton for recyclables.

John Ulrich, assistant commissioner of environmental services for the Inspectional Services Department and another panelist, said "integrated pest management" is the most effective way to address the prevalence of rodents in the city. He added that finding ways to reduce and containerize trash helps to diminish the food source available to rodents.

Using dry ice has been successful in reducing rodent infestations

in the Boston Common and other parts of the city over the past few months, said Ulrich, and while most rodents travel no more than 300 feet from their burrows, it still remains difficult to gauge the actual number of them in the city.

Councilor Bok described trash and rodents as "the Number One quality of life issue" in her District 8, especially since a number of its neighborhoods don't have containerization.

The problem is further exasperated, she said, by the city allowing residents to leave their trash out overnight after 5 p.m.

"We need to just not have trash out. Period," said Councilor Bok, who added that things got even worse during the pandemic. "It's just offering rats a buffet overnight."

Councilor Bok suggested that "a tailored approach for each neighborhood" should be taken into account when the city negotiates its next trash contract, and that future opportunities for containerization should be explored in some neighborhoods.

Council President Flynn said illegal dumping of trash was another persistent problem, especially in his constituency of Chinatown, as well as other downtown neighborhoods.

David Stein of Tremont Street echoed Councilor Braedon, who referred to trash on city streets as a "perennial problem" and advocated for a citywide ban on single-ply trash bags, which he described as "troughs for rats."

Stein asked about the metrics for measuring progress on tackling the city's rodents problem and also suggested soliciting new ideas for combatting the problem from the trash collectors themselves.

Karen Clark, a Back Bay resident, also pointed to people disposing of trash in the alleys near Fairfield Street using inappropriate containers, including open boxes and paper bags.

"The problem is trash begets trash," she said, "so we just have people dumping trash everywhere."

Clark suggested that the city take steps to educate residents on proper trash disposal, such as posting signs on the corners of alleyways asking people to not leave their trash there, and to instead dispose of waste in a proper nearby trash receptacle.

Meghan Awe, chair of the Beacon Hill Civic Association board of directors, said with people leaving trash out at 5 p.m. for a scheduled 6 a.m. pickup the next day, it often sits out overnight on the sidewalk,

which besides adversely affecting accessibility and the general cleanliness of the neighborhood, also provides a food source for rodents.

Additionally, Beacon Hill, one of the city's densest neighborhoods, especially on the North Slope, is grouped together for trash collection with other dense neighborhoods, including Charlestown, Roxbury, and the North End, she said.

"We really look forward to collaborating with the city to find better collection zones, and to make sure [trash collection] happens during daylight hours," said Awe. "The Beacon Hill Civic Association steadfastly supports same-day pickup [starting at no later than 9 a.m.] so there is no trash out on the sidewalks overnight."

Rob Whitney, a resident of Beacon Hill since 1985 and former chair and president of the BHCA board, also called for changing the pickup time to 9 a.m. in his written testimony to the city.

"I would propose putting into the next garbage hauling contract, the requirement that garbage collection on Beacon Hill and other City neighborhoods could not begin until 9 a.m. on garbage pickup days," Whitney wrote in part. "I would also propose that city residents not be allowed to put out their garbage the night before pickup day, and instead be limited to putting out their garbage only during daylight hours just prior to the 9 a.m. pickup time. This is the only way that our City neighborhoods like Beacon Hill will even have a fighting chance in their epic battle against the rats."

Likewise, Elliott Laffer, chair of the Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay board of directors, described the 6 a.m. trash pickup time as "really an intrusion for people who don't have to be up for work."

Diana Coldren, who has lived "all over Beacon Hill over the past two decades," also said she would like to see a new trash contract that commits to a pickup time of no later than 9 a.m.

(Coldren started an online petition at <https://www.change.org/p/stop-the-rat-buffet-in-beacon-hill> requesting that the city adopt an 8 a.m. trash pickup time on Beacon Hill, which as of publication time had garnered 269 signatures towards its goal of 500 signatures.)

Moreover, Coldren requested that trash on Charles Street be pickup first in the neighborhood and also reiterated a suggestion that Boston follow New York City's lead by allowing trash to be left out earlier in closed containers.

*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](mailto:editor@reverejournal.com) are preferred.*

## NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDUP

### WECA MEETING SET FOR APRIL 13 AT AMY LOWELL APARTMENTS

The West End Civic Association (WECA) will hold its next meeting in person on Thursday, April 13, at 6 p.m. in the Community Room at Amy Lowell Apartments at 65 Martha Road.

Speakers will include Rep. Jay Livingstone and representatives from ABCD (Action for Boston Community Development).

Masks are encouraged.

### WEST END BRANCH LIBRARY BOOK SALE SET FOR SATURDAY, APRIL 15

The Friends of the West End Library is sponsoring a Book Sale on Saturday, April 15, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the West End Branch Library at 151 Cambridge St.

Bags will be supplied, and patrons can fill them with books – one bag for \$5, or two bags for \$8.

Books and DVDs for all ages available will be available for sale.

### 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).

### UPCOMING CONCERTS AT THE VILNA SHUL

Join The Vilna Shul for “Falling Out of Time: A Conversation” - an exclusive opportunity to hear from composer Osvaldo Golijov and lead musicians Yoni Rechter and Nora Fischer, with a sneak peek of their upcoming performance - on Sunday, April 23, from 3 to 5 p.m. at 18 Phillips St. This concert is presented in partnership with the BSO and Celebrity Series of Bos-

ton.

Tickets are \$18 each and can be purchased at <https://vlnashul.org/events/event/falling-out-of-time-a-conversation>.

Also, The Vilna presents the fifth annual “Voices of Humanity” concert - an interfaith performance featuring extraordinary local choral groups with national recognition - on Sunday, May 7, from 3 to 5 p.m. at 18 Phillips St. This concert is co-sponsored by the Old North Church.

Tickets are \$25 each general (NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDUP Pg. 3)

### BOK (from pg. 1)

viding safe high-quality housing for every family and by ensuring the best access to jobs, services, and all the opportunities Boston has to offer,” Bok said in a press release. “To truly have a City for all, we have to boldly invest at the local, state, and federal levels in the BHA housing that continues to anchor so many of our communities. I was lucky to learn from my predecessors in this role, Kate Bennett and Bill McGonagle, that residents come first at BHA, and I’m looking forward to working with Kate over the coming transition to continue that essential focus.”

Bok, who will be charged with providing housing for around 9 percent of the city’s residents, or 62,000 Boston residents, in her new role, added: “Public housing is a public good, and all of Boston benefits when our public housing communities are strong.”

Besides her previous work with the BHA, and with the City Council, Bok has held community leadership roles in various local organizations, including the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization (GBIO) and the Massachusetts Affordable Housing Alliance (MAHA). After graduating from Harvard College, she earned an M.Phil and a Ph.D. in History from the University of Cambridge in England as a Marshall Scholar, and formerly taught courses at Harvard on housing justice.

Reflecting on her time with the City Council, Bok wrote in part in an April 5 email to her constituents: “If I could freeze this opportunity in amber and come back to it after two, four, or six more years as your District 8 city councilor, I would. We have so much exciting work underway together, which I would love to continue. But this is a rare moment of alignment, in that we have a Mayor, a Gover-

nor, and a President who all support the mission of public housing and voucher subsidies to ensure that our communities have places for everyone to live, regardless of income. To rebuild America’s social safety net, beginning at the BHA, will require city, state, and federal support. So I cannot freeze the frame; I feel a strong call to this work, and I have accepted the Mayor’s offer.”

Mayor Wu said in a press release: “The Boston Housing Authority has been a lifeline for generations of Boston families, and in this moment of housing crisis, the BHA must be a model for housing as health, safety, opportunity, and community. Kenzie brings a deep commitment to our BHA communities along with an expansive vision of how public housing should anchor our neighborhoods and city—I’m thrilled for her leadership and look forward to building on the strong foundation set under Kate’s stewardship by the entire BHA team.”

Bok will replace outgoing BHA Administrator Kate Bennett, who was appointed to the role in 2020, and will begin a transition period next month before Bennett steps down from the role later this summer.

“I am delighted that Councilor Bok will become the next Administrator at the BHA,” said Bennett in a press release. “She is the right person to take BHA to the next level. She is passionate about the Authority and its mission, she knows our staff and residents, and she is a brilliant housing advocate.”

Meanwhile, City Council President Ed Flynn said while Bok will be sorely missed by him and his fellow councilors, he’s also confident that she will prove to be an “incredible” leader of the BHA.

“Councilor Bok is an excellent colleague, whose intellect, knowledge, and passion for service have made her an invaluable asset to the City Council. I know that Councilor Bok will make an incredible Administrator for Boston Public Housing, and her experience and expertise will allow her to not only manage and preserve our public housing stock, but also continue to improve the lives of public housing

residents. I look forward to working with her in her new capacity and continue to advocate for our public housing tenants and communities.”

Likewise, Rep. Jay Livingstone, who has worked closely with Bok on many issues and initiatives during their respective times in office, wrote: “Kenzie Bok has had a huge, positive impact on the district and the city regarding

addressing food and housing insecurity, the improvement to the provision of city services, and many other issues. She has been a great partner. I’ll miss working with her as a councilor but look forward to working with her in her new role, where I expect to see tremendous strides made.”

A special election to fill the District 8 city council seat is expected to be announced in the near future.

## HELP WANTED

### Sara Campbell Ltd – Sales Associate

#### Physical Store

Sara Campbell Limited is a thirty-five-year-old company specializing in women’s apparel, with a primary focus on dresses. We are committed to making our apparel in the USA, with our headquarters in Boston. In 2008, we went from being a private label manufacturer for major retailers to beginning a chain of specialty boutiques where we carry our own branded label. We currently have 23 brick and mortar boutiques with plans for expansion. We are a small, privately owned company and pride ourselves on connecting with our communities while supporting Made in USA labor and job creation.

#### POSITION OVERVIEW

Store associates are responsible for building, guiding, and growing sales and profitability while ensuring a one-of-a-kind shopping experience for customers.

#### Customer Service and Sales

- Welcome every customer and create an environment that is customer focused
- Develop and maintain successful relationships with customers
- Maintain a thorough knowledge of our merchandise and demonstrate product expertise during the selling process
- Give honest advice to our customers
- Ensure prompt follow-up on problems, questions, and special orders
- Comprehensive knowledge of the Retail Standards Manual

#### Events

- Participate and take an active role in store events and trunk shows

- Ensure that floor is well stocked with merchandise
- Participate in maintaining the cleanliness and general maintenance of the store, stock rooms and common areas – making sure they appear clean, inviting, and fresh
- Accurately check merchandise in, transfers merchandise out, and keeps detailed records of movement of merchandise
- Supporting the Brand
- Understand and represent our brand in a polished and professional manner
- Additional
- Maintain a positive and professional attitude at all times
- Must adhere to Company policies
- Must be a team player

#### Prerequisites

- College degree preferred
- Computer skills to include operation of retail POS systems
- Organized, energetic, responsible, honest
- Excellent communicator
- Customer focus
- Willingness to work flexible schedule including weekends and holidays
- Must be fit to lift, carry or otherwise move objects weighing up to 20 pounds when merchandising the sales floor and use of ladders or stairs
- Must be available to work some evening shifts, on physical inventory days, weekends and holidays

# EDITORIAL

## THE MARATHON BOMBING, 10 YEARS LATER

This week marks the 10th anniversary of the tragic Boston Marathon bombing which occurred on April 15, 2013, when two brothers set off a pair of bombs near the finish line of the marathon, killing three persons (Krystle Marie Campbell, a 29-year-old restaurant manager from Medford; Lü Lingzi, a 23-year-old Chinese national and Boston University statistics graduate student; and 8-year-old Martin William Richard from Dorchester) and injuring 281 persons, of whom 16 lost limbs.

In addition, during the manhunt for the bombers in the ensuing days, the brothers shot and killed 27 year-old Sean Allen Collier, an MIT police officer, who crossed their path, and shot two Boston police officers, one of whom, Dennis Simmonds, died on April 10, 2014, from head injuries he received during the shootout in Watertown.

One of the brothers was killed during the shootout and the other eventually was captured, tried, convicted, and sentenced to death, and now is imprisoned in a federal Supermax facility.

For those of us who are lifelong Boston-area residents, the horror of that afternoon, as well as the three-day manhunt for the suspects, will remain etched in our memories forever as no other local event ever has.

We will never forget the tremendous performance of the medical and emergency crews on the scene and at our area hospitals, who miraculously saved the lives of scores of victims who otherwise might have died from their wounds.

Ten years later, the memory of that day gives all of us pause to reflect, both to remember the innocent victims and to honor those whose heroic actions saved lives.

## CLARENCE THOMAS: SUPREME HYPOCRITE

"I prefer the RV parks. I prefer the Walmart parking lots to the beaches and things like that. There's something normal to me about it." -- Judge Clarence Thomas in a recent interview.

The revelation this past week that Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas and his wife have been accepting luxury vacations from a Texas billionaire for the past 25 years, including a recent vacation that is estimated to have had a price tag of \$500,000 (that's not a typo -- there are no added zeros), is absolutely sickening.

For his part, this billionaire said he never discussed any cases with Thomas and reportedly never had any specific cases pertaining to him in front of the court.

However, among the other guests on these vacation junkets were top executives of major U.S. corporations, so it certainly is conceivable that some of these companies may have had matters that came before the Supreme Court during the 25 years that Thomas has been receiving these extraordinary gifts from the Texas billionaire.

However, the focus on whether any one of these wealthy and influential persons had any specific matters before the Supreme Court misses the point entirely, which is this: Thomas is hobnobbing with, and accepting gifts of immense value from, individuals who have a great deal of general interest in cases that come before the Supreme Court.

For example, the infamous Citizens United case in 2010 (in which the court held that the free speech clause of the First Amendment prohibits the government from restricting independent expenditures for political campaigns by corporations, thereby striking down a federal law that had placed a limit on donations by corporations) was brought by billionaires -- and who have been influencing U.S. elections ever since with what is known as "dark money" (because its source is unknown). Thomas -- surprise! -- voted with the majority in a 5-4 decision.

But beyond what, in our opinion, constitutes an obvious conflict of interest by Thomas, this is just another example of the hypocrisy that has marked Thomas's tenure ever since he was appointed to the Supreme Court more than 30 years ago.

Thomas rates as the most unqualified person ever to sit on the court. He never tried a case in a courtroom and had no substantive legal experience prior to being appointed to a seat on the federal Appeals Court. (He was incapable of having been named as a federal district court judge because he would have been clueless as to how to conduct a trial.)

He often speaks and writes of his humble beginnings growing up poor on a farm in Georgia, but he never acknowledges that it was thanks to de facto affirmative action programs at Holy Cross and Yale Law School that gave him the opportunity to rise to the highest court in the land. Nor does he acknowledge that it essentially was affirmative action by President George H.W. Bush that elevated him to his judicial posts, because Thomas by any objective measure was unqualified to be a judge.

But here's the irony of Thomas's personal affirmative action story: He is among the leaders of the Supreme Court faction that no doubt soon will be striking down affirmative action programs that have existed for decades in universities across the country.

Thomas's stance on affirmative action is the height of hypocrisy -- he benefited from programs that afforded him opportunities, but he is pulling up the proverbial ladder so that others cannot follow him -- that goes way beyond taking expensive vacations in the face of his laughably stated preference for "Walmart parking lots."

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### ATTENTION HOSPITAL CEO'S: PLEASE 'SHARE THE WEALTH' TO SUPPORT BEDSIDE NURSES...

Dear Editor,

Nurses have been long overdue for better salaries and the accommodation of on-site call rooms. Hospitals generate billions of dollars in revenue annually. Hospital CEO's receive salaries that range from \$1 to \$7 million annually. Is sitting in an executive suite of a hospital behind a mahogany desk, floors away from the frenetic patient care taking place 24/7 really worth a salary of \$1 to \$7 million dollars per year? How much would a safe on-site overnight suite for nurses including beds and shower facilities cost? Could those million-dollar CEO salaries instead go toward significantly increasing bedside nursing salaries? Could hospital CEO's find it in them to "share the wealth" to improve the working conditions and life of the bedside nurse?

Nurses are leaving bedside nursing in hospitals at alarming rates. Bedside nursing work is stressful both physically and mentally. Staffing and scheduling challenges plague the nursing profession.

Hospitals need to make improvements to the poor work environment that often leads to nursing burnout and turnover. Due to continual understaffing, nurses feel like they are constantly on call, even if they are not. In order to attract more nurses to working in hospital settings, hospital environments are going to have to become more attractive for nurses. This means incentives such as increase in salaries and providing on-site nurse call rooms. If hospitals want to recruit and retain the nursing workforce needed to provide optimal patient care, they must offer nurses more than a pat on the back and the occasional 10 boxes of pizza lunches.

Many nurses travel to large Boston hospitals from Cape Cod, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, Maine, Vermont and they sometimes work double and triple shifts. Nurses often resign from their positions at hospitals for a variety of reasons

such as understaffing, stressful conditions and lousy pay scales. However, many nurses resign due to costly parking fees and commuting long hours for their 12 hour shifts. Many younger new nurses have mounds of student loan debt and are unable to afford hotels for overnite stays due to a long commute. They instead, sometimes sleep overnight in their cars in order to make the next early morning 12 hour grueling shift.

Hospitals have always provided residents and MD's overnight on call rooms within the hospital, rightly so, given their busy schedules and overnight on call duties. However, nurses are not provided with safe, overnight on-call rooms within hospitals. If anything proved there is a need for this it was the COVID pandemic. In order to recruit, retain and accommodate nurses for unexpected double and triple shifts, they should be generously compensated and be provided with safe, on-site overnite nursing call rooms within the hospital at no cost.

Nurses are the lifeblood of any hospital. MD's and nurses work hand and hand and hospitals cannot function effectively without both. Therefore, hospital CEO's should be making efforts to support the bedside nurse with what they need and deserve to perform their jobs well. Providing a significant increase in salary and on call overnight accommodations would help in the short term and long term to recruit and retain highly skilled nurses. Nurses do not need more pizza or "Cookie Appreciation Days" in appreciation for their work. Bedside nurses need and deserve to be paid well for the backbreaking, exhausting, physical, mental and emotional work they perform on a daily basis. So hospital CEO's, how about "sharing the wealth" to support bedside nurses?

*Mary Beth Muckian, BSN, RN is a graduate of Boston College and Regis College. She has been a nurse for 17 years and currently works as a Utilization Review Manager. She has worked over her nursing career in the areas of bedside nursing, Nursing Research and Occupational Health Nursing.*

## THE BEACON HILL TIMES

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# Ward 5 Democratic Chair Sharon Durkan announces bid for District 8 City Council seat

By Dan Murphy

Sharon Durkan, chair of the Boston Ward 5 Democratic Committee and a longtime political organizer in the city, as well as a resident of Beacon Hill, has announced her candidacy for the District 8 City Council seat.

Raised by working-class parents in rural north Georgia, Durkan is a first-generation college graduate, earning a B.A. from Smith College. She first got involved with Democratic organizing as President of the Smith College Democrats and Vice President of the College Democrats of Massachusetts.

Durkan began working for then-City Councilor Michelle Wu upon relocating to Boston in 2015. She has since worked with Sen. Ed Markey, among many others, to organize communities across the state.

In 2019, Durkan was named chair of the Boston Ward 5 Democratic Committee.

“As chair of the Boston Ward 5 Democratic Committee, I have found my true passion in serving as a community advocate and organizer, working to address critical community challenges and elect leaders dedicated to the issues that matter most,” Durkan wrote in an email. “In this role, I helped elect our first woman of color Mayor and our first woman Governor and our first woman Lieutenant Governor duo, keep our Democratic leadership in the Senate, and elect the first Black woman for the Third-Suffolk district to state Senate. It has been energizing to be a small part of the infrastructure of what makes it possible for transformational leadership in our city, and I look forward to what we can accomplish if I am elected to City Council.

Durkan added: “I understand the needs of my District 8 neighbors because I face many of them myself. I have listened to so many of my neighbors and fellow community members on the issues that matter most to them, and know that affordable housing, quality transit and safe streets, access to health care,



COURTESY OF SHARON DURKAN

*Sharon Durkan, candidate for District 8 City Councilor, as well as chair of the Boston Ward 5 Democratic Committee.*

and climate resiliency are essential for strong, vibrant communities. As Ward 5 Chair, I have a proven track record of advocating for the needs of my community. I look forward to continuing to solve pressing challenges as a City Councilor.”

With current District 8 City Councilor Kenzie Bok poised to step down from her seat at the end of the month to lead the Boston Housing Authority, Durkan believes the time is right now for her to step up from behind the scenes as someone who has long encouraged women to assume leadership roles in local politics, and to assume a role as an elected official herself.

“As a volunteer trainer for Emerge Massachusetts, a group that trains women considering a run for office, I always posed the question, ‘If not you, then who?’” wrote Durkan. “It is a pivotal time for the City of Boston. The decisions that our leaders make today will determine the success of future generations – we must tackle the issues that are keeping residents

from thriving in our city.”

Within the first 24 hours of her candidacy, Durkan said she had already raised \$25,000 for her campaign and garnered some notable supporters.

“Sharon cares about all of our greenspace and knows how important they are to every city neighborhood,” said Beacon Hill resident and avid horticulture expert, Janet Veasey. “She will protect and advocate for the environment on the Boston City Council if elected.”

Brian Poe, the restaurateur behind two Beacon Hill establishments, The Tip Tap Room and the Crane River Cheese Club, as well as the Parish Café in the Back Bay, is also firmly in Durkan’s corner.

“I’ve known Sharon’s family since I was a baby,” said Poe. “Having seen for generations what they bring to the communities they are involved in, I’m optimistic and supportive of her advocacy for independent businesses, and her support for the needs of our local communities.”

To learn more about Durkan’s campaign for District 8 City Councilor, visit [sharondurkan.com](http://sharondurkan.com), or you can donate any amount to her campaign via ActBlue at <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/durkan-email-april>.



Nancy Schön’s “Make Way for Ducklings” sculpture in the Public Garden was seen donning its Sunday best for Easter.

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A turkey making its way along Chestnut Street.

## Big Day Boston to host city-wide birding event

On May 6, all bird lovers will get a chance to see how many different species of birds that they can spot. The event is billed as a friendly birding competition to see who can spot the highest number of species in a single day in the core of Boston.

Registration will be conducted at Copp's Hill Terrace starting at 9:30 a.m. with birding start-

ing at 10 a.m. The neighborhoods where one can see birds will be Beacon Hill, Charlestown, Chinatown, Downtown, the Leather District, the North End, and the West End, including the Common and the Public Garden.

The winner will be announced at 4:30 p.m. at Copp's Hill Terrace. For more information visit [BigDayBoston.com](http://BigDayBoston.com)

## Mayor Wu to open Swan Boats on April 15

Staff Report

Mayor Michelle Wu, the Boston Parks and Recreation Department, and the Paget family will host the first ride of the season on the popular Boston Swan Boats as they open at the Boston Public Garden lagoon on Saturday, April 15, at 11 a.m.

2023 marks the 146th season for the Swan Boats, a beloved tourist attraction and iconic symbol of Boston and the Public Garden. The oldest and smallest boat in the fleet just celebrated its

113th season, while the newest was launched in 1993. The swan on the boats is made from either copper or fiberglass, depending on the age of the boat, and encloses a paddle mechanism that is used to propel the boat through the water.

Launched in 1877 by Irish immigrant and shipbuilder Robert Paget, the Swan Boats continue to be owned and operated by the Paget family. Mr. Paget designed the Swan Boats after attending the opera *Lohengrin* in New York City. At the end of the opera, the hero crosses a river in a boat

drawn by a swan.

Fully loaded, each Swan Boat weighs three tons and is powered by the driver using a foot-propelled paddle wheel. The Swan Boats are built on oak-framed pontoons sheathed in copper, just as they were initially constructed in 1877. After being stored in a safe place for the winter, the boats will return to the Public Garden Lagoon in the spring, with Mayor Wu celebrating the first ride of the season.

For more information, visit [boston.gov/swan-boats](http://boston.gov/swan-boats).

## The Art of the Brick®

### LAST CHANCE TO EXPERIENCE The world's most popular display of LEGO art exhibition extends its run one additional week

Special to the Times

A captivating exhibition featuring intriguing works of art by renowned contemporary artist Nathan Sawaya—has announced that it will extend its final week in Boston, with tickets now on sale through Sunday, April 30—this will be the last chance to experience the exhibition as it must close. THE ART OF THE BRICK displays over 90 works of art made exclusively from one of the most recognizable toys in the world—the LEGO® brick. Tickets prices start at \$28 and last chance tickets are available at [www.artofthebrickexhibit.com](http://www.artofthebrickexhibit.com).

Centrally located in the Back Bay area of Boston, the newly renovated Newbury Street location introduces visitors to a reimagined museum-like experience, with breathtaking contemporary art at every turn. The collection features original pieces as well as re-imagined versions of some of the world's most famous art masterpieces made exclusively from LEGO bricks like Da Vinci's *Mona Lisa* and Van Gogh's *Starry Night* and as well as a gallery showcasing an innovative, multimedia collection of LEGO brick infused photography that Sawaya produced in collaboration with award-winning photographer Dean West.

THE ART OF THE BRICK also includes fan favorite, *Yellow*, a sculpture of a man ripping his chest open with thousands of yellow LEGO bricks cascading from the cavity. In addition, visitors will be able to walk beside a 20-foot-long T-Rex dinosaur skel-

eton made out of bricks and come face-to-face with a giant LEGO skull.

THE ART OF THE BRICK is the first major exhibition to use LEGO bricks as the sole art medium. Sawaya transforms LEGO bricks into tremendous and thought-provoking sculptures, elevating the toy to the realm of art. Sawaya's ability to transform this common toy into something meaningful, his devotion to spatial perfection and the way he conceptualizes action, enables him to elevate what almost every child has played with into the status of contemporary art.

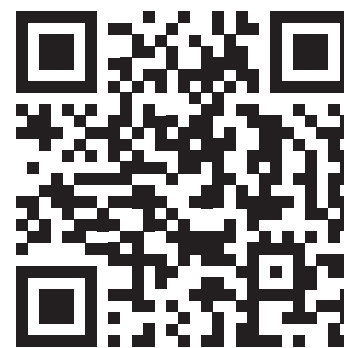
proclaimed "...the playfulness is contagious."

Follow THE ART OF THE BRICK exhibit (@artofthebrickexhibit) on Facebook and Instagram, and at the hashtag #BostonBricks

Former NYC corporate lawyer turned contemporary artist, Nathan Sawaya is the first artist ever to take the LEGO brick into the art world as a medium. Sawaya has earned a top position in the world of contemporary art and has created a new dimension by merging Pop Art and Surrealism in awe-inspiring and groundbreaking ways. Sawaya's touring exhibition – THE ART OF THE BRICK® – has entertained and inspired millions of art lovers and enthusiasts around the world. CNN heralded, THE ART OF THE BRICK is one of the top ten "must-see exhibits in the world!" Sawaya is an author, speaker and one of the most popular, award-winning contemporary artists of our time. For more information visit [www.brickartist.com](http://www.brickartist.com).

Running Subway is a New York-based entertainment production company that has produced a multitude of successful exhibitions and theatrical productions including *King Tut*, *The World of DaVinci*, *The Dead Sea Scrolls*, *Harry Potter*, and *The Art of the Brick*. Running Subway is also responsible for the highly successful, Broadway and touring production of *How the Grinch Stole Christmas! The Musical* as well as

*Judy Garland In Concert* and *Sinatra* at the London Palladium. For more information about Running Subway, please visit <https://www.runningsubway.com/>.



Scan this QR code to buy tickets on your phone.

Seen by more than 10 million people world-wide, THE ART OF THE BRICK has inspired creativity and wonder in fans of all ages in over 100 cities in 24 countries across 6 continents. CNN rated THE ART OF THE BRICK as one of the global "top ten must-see exhibitions," PBS NewsHour hailed the artist, "Nathan Sawaya the Leonardo Da Vinci of LEGO Art," and The New York Times

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# UPSTAIRS DOWNSTAIRS USHERS IN SPRING

Special to Times

For the fourth consecutive year, Laura Cousineau, owner of Upstairs Downstairs Home, and her crew celebrated the holiday season with its always popular “Eggs-celent Basket of Goodies Give-Aways.”

Upon entering the store scores of customers were greeted heartily and presented a colorful basket full of special eggs. Each egg contained candy, vintage coins, and a discount coupon. Easter bonnets and bunny ears were available for photo opportunities.

The store was bedecked with colorful spring flower arrangements making the perfect atmosphere to welcome spring and celebrate the holiday season.

“Each year we welcome the advent of spring, and we take every opportunity with great gratitude and thanks to provide fun events for our family, friends and customers. What a wonderful day we had,” said Cousineau.



Drew and Isable.



Mark Duffield and Virginia Scherr-Thoss.



Ari Cousineau, store mascot and master of ceremonies.



Left to right are: Jordan, Rosie, and Michelle.



Seen, left to right, are: Drew, Blase, Alex, and Jacquai.



Dalton, Joanna, Sara, and Brett are seen left to right in back, with Emilia in front.



Left to right are: Little Nora, Mike Jr., and Rose and Mike Carney.



Collen and her daughter, Juliette.

# American Mahjong lessons and games at West End Library

Story & Photos by Marianne Salza

Plastic mahjong tiles clicked against each other as players shuf-

fled a pile before building their 38-piece walls in the community room of the West End Branch Library on April 5. Friends,

Audrey Tedeman and Julia Forbes have been offering American mahjong lessons and games twice a month since September 2022.

“I like the social aspect, and the challenge of seeing if you can get the tiles in order,” shared novice, Karen Grethen.

It takes a while to learn the rules and tiles. It’s a great game.”

Tedeman and Forbes are West End residents, on the library board, and members of a book club together. Players describe the ladies as patient and generous with their time.

The American mahjong group is sponsored by Friends of the West End Library. Tiles and racks are provided. Experienced and new players are welcome to join at no cost. The group meets on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month, from 1:30-3:30pm, at the West End Library, 151 Cambridge Street, Boston. Tedeman and Forbes encourage those interested to email them at [artedeman@gmail.com](mailto:artedeman@gmail.com) or [jmaforbes@gmail.com](mailto:jmaforbes@gmail.com).

“I like meeting new people. I’m new to the community,” said West End resident, Charlotte Gross, who moved to Boston from Florida. “I thought this was the best way to start making friends and play the game I love.”

“The group we have is amazing. They’re playing on their own. They have fun,” beamed Tedeman. “They wanted to find a game, and they found each other.”

Players of all experience levels not only assemble suits of bams, dragons, and flowers, but utilize their organizational skills and think flexibly while forming friendships.

“A sense of community was our goal,” Forbes revealed. “I enjoy getting to know new people. We have women come from the West End and Beacon Hill.”

American mahjong is a variation of the Chinese game. Four players receive colorful racks to line their tiles on. The first person to compile a sequence of 14 tiles wins the match.

Tedeman and Forbes laughed that despite the group gathering in the library, the competition can become boisterous; especially when a player is triumphant.

Tedeman noted that many people played American mahjong online during the Covid-19 pandemic; but she enjoys the fun of sitting around a table with others.

“I prefer in-person, talking to people. It’s more challenging. The computer does a lot for you,” said Tedeman, a retired teacher and healthcare worker. “My family used to play a long time ago. I recruited Julia, and other friends, and started our own little gang. We had a great turn out. It was amazing.”

Forbes was born in Hong Kong; and although she has only played American mahjong for three years, she had always been intrigued by the beauty of the tile sets.

“The game is getting more popular. For example, Julia Roberts, and other celebrities play the game,” noted Forbes, a retired occupational therapist, who also worked in the computer software industry for decades. “I wanted to learn to challenge my brain and make me think.



Audrey Tedeman and Susan Shepard organizing mahjong tiles.

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# Chief Jemison welcomes new Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Luis Frias

Staff Report

Chief of Planning Arthur Jemison announced the hiring of Luis R. Frias II as the new Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) for the Boston Planning & Development Agency (BPDA). Frias will serve as a member of the Agency's senior leadership team and be charged with the development and oversight of the Agency's equity and diversity priorities. In this capacity, he will work to establish collaborative partnerships with internal and external stakeholders and foster a more diverse, inclusive, equitable, welcoming, and supportive agency. "I'm happy to welcome Luis to the Agency, and look forward to the important and positive impact he will have on helping us plan a more equitable Boston," said Chief of Planning Arthur Jemison. "I am excited to work with him to ensure that diversity, equity, and inclusion are priorities in all of the BPDA's work, and to ensure we are building a City that best serves our residents."

"I'm pleased to join the BPDA and to help advance its mission to create and guide inclusive and equitable growth in our city," said Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Luis Frias. "In my short

time here, I've already witnessed the passion, dedication, and brilliance of this team. I'm deeply honored to be in this role, as we work together to shape Boston's future."

Frias has spent the last decade working in higher education. He joins the Agency from Northeastern University, where he served as the Program Manager for Engineering PLUS, a National Science Foundation grant focused on creating networked communities and inclusive infrastructure across the nation to achieve the transformative, systemic, and sustainable change needed to increase undergraduate and graduate degree attainment for BIPOC and women engineering students. He also served as the Associate Director for Diversity Programs for Northeastern's College of Engineering, where he focused on both College and University level DEI initiatives.

While working at Northeastern, he also received the Black Heritage Award, given to Northeastern staff and administrators in recognition of their years of dedicated service to Northeastern, to students, and to the John D. O'Bryant African American Institute. A Worcester native, he graduated from Anna Maria College in Paxton, Massachusetts in 2013 with a major in Legal Studies. He also received



*Luis R. Frias II, new Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for the Boston Planning & Development Agency.*

a Master's from Northeastern in Applied Educational Psychology in 2020.

The work of the Director of DEI will build on efforts already underway to support equity by creating affordable housing, jobs, resilient infrastructure, and open space in every neighborhood. Additional efforts underway include leveraging funding from large real estate development to support workforce development and training, equitable procurement policies, requiring diversity criteria for developing publicly-owned land, and the BPDA's DEI in Development Policy, announced in 2022, to promote diversity within large private development projects in the City of Boston.

# Wu and B.A.A. announce inaugural Fastest Bostonian Award Medal for 2023

Staff Report

Mayor Michelle Wu and the Boston Athletic Association (B.A.A.) today announced an award for the Fastest Bostonian, which will be given to the Boston man and woman with the quickest finish times in the 2023 Boston Marathon on Monday, April 17. This is also the first year the Boston Marathon has a category for non-binary runners, and one Boston resident is making history running in this category. The City and the B.A.A. will recognize this athlete as the first Bostonian to participate in the race registered as non-binary. This is the first time there will be any awards specifically for Boston residents. Mayor Wu and the B.A.A. will celebrate these three runners at a reception in the days following the 127th Boston Marathon.

"The Boston Marathon, the world's greatest race, brings tens of thousands of runners from all over the world to our City," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "Thanks to the B.A.A.'s partnership, we're excited to start a new tradition at the 127th Boston Marathon to highlight the fastest runners from Boston and an athlete breaking barriers, as we celebrate the world-class excellence and diversity of our local running community."

"The City of Boston is known

world-wide for its heritage in athletics, and for welcoming runners each Patriots' Day," said Jack Fleming, President and CEO of the B.A.A. "We also are home to the most dedicated marathoners, and the Fastest Bostonian Award will recognize the achievement in the Boston Marathon. Together with Mayor Michelle Wu, we look forward to once again celebrating all finishers from Boston and beyond on race day."

The Boston Marathon is the world's oldest annual marathon, traditionally held on Patriots' Day. This year, the Boston woman and man with the quickest time crossing the Finish Line will receive a commemorative glass bowl engraved with the phrase "Fastest Bostonian." The first Boston runner registered in the non-binary category will also receive a personalized award.

"What an exciting opportunity we have to add this recognition to an already amazing tradition that is the Boston Marathon," said John Borders, Director of Tourism Sports, and Entertainment. "We have the chance to highlight the best of what Boston has to offer in front of the world by celebrating our residents, our neighborhoods, and now crowning the fastest Bostonians and those making history in the process."

## BEACON HILL ARCHITECTURAL COMMISSION

The Beacon Hill Architectural Commission will hold its monthly public hearing on Thursday, April 20, at 5 p.m.

Attention: This hearing will only be held virtually and NOT in person. You can participate in this hearing by going to our online meeting link or calling 1-929-205-6099 and entering meeting id # 917 4418 4060. You can also submit written comments or questions to BeaconHillAC@boston.gov.

The public can offer testimony. Discussion Topics

1. Violations APP #23.0589 BH & APP #23.0708 BH 1 Pinckney Street

Proposed Work: Ratification of unapproved window replacements, unapproved door hardware, unapproved ring doorbell.

APP #23.0753 BH 38 Lime Street

Proposed Work: Ratification of unapproved ring doorbell.

APP #23.0714 BH 101 Chestnut Street

Proposed Work: Ratification of unapproved intercom system.

2. Design Review APP # 23.0756 BH 7 Primus Avenue

Proposed Work: Replace Roof deck.

APP # 23.0808 BH 103 Myrtle Street

Proposed Work: Replace guardrail and selective repairs to wood privacy screen.

APP # 23.0835 BH 58 Beacon Street

Proposed Work: Install new intercom in location of existing intercom (See Additional Items Under Administrative Review).

APP # 23.0838 BH 44 Phillips Street

Proposed Work: New street address number.

APP # 23.0712 BH 24 Joy Street

Proposed Work: Install store-

front signage.

APP # 23.0732 BH 161 Mount Vernon Street (Adjacent)

Proposed Work: Install cell antenna on replacement light pole.

APP # 23.0758 BH 5 Louisburg Square

Proposed Work: Replace all windows, remove storm windows, replace brick mould in kind.

APP # 23.0815 BH 40 Joy Street

Proposed Work: Install new security gates on first floor windows.

3. Advisory Review APP # 23.0830 BH 18 Phillips Street (Vilna Shul)

Proposed Work: Review potential changes to plaza.

4. Administrative Review/ Approval APP # 23.0524 BH 48 Beacon Street Unit 3: In unit 3,

replace 1 over 1, wood, non-historic windows with 1 over 1, wood, windows.

APP # 23.0835 BH 58 Beacon Street: Repaint existing stone at first floor level and trim in kind (Rockport Grey HC 105), apply epoxy coating to stairs. (See Additional Items Under Design Review).

APP # 23.0836 BH 19 Brimmer Street (#3): At level three (4th floor) replace three, non-historic, double hung, wood, 6 over 6 windows, with three, double hung, wood, 6 over 6, true divided light windows.

APP # 23.0687 BH 78 Charles Street: Repoint horizontal masonry cracks above the second and third floor windows. New mortar to match existing mortar in color and aggregate. Scrape, prime and paint rear ground floor door at 78 Charles Street (aka 71 River Street). New paint, Ben Moore HC-190, Semi Gloss.

APP # 23.0713 BH 76 Chestnut Street: At front facade, dormer

level, replace one, 8 over 8, double hung, wood, non-historic window with one, 8 over 8, wood, double hung, window. Remove faulty storm window.

APP # 23.0827 BH 83 Phillips Street: Repair glazing on three windows at ground level, two on 1st level and three windows on second level and repaint in current color. No new material except for the glazing compound will be used.

APP # 23.0825 BH 21 South Russell Street (Adjacent): Install two tree guards; style #1 in pre-approved designs.

APP # 23.0816 BH 38 South Russell Street: Repoint and/or repair poor conditions areas in the façade from where the water is actively infiltrating into the Unit #5.

5. Ratification Of March 16, 2023 Public Hearing Minutes

6. Staff Updates

## Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
<b>BACK BAY</b>			
<b>BEACON HILL</b>			
Rogalski, Caroline	Johnson, Karen F	5 Grove St #8	\$680,000
Ma, Jingli	Kane, Patrick M	2 Hawthorne Pl #50	\$519,000
Frontado, Lisa	Bachovchin, William W	11 Joy St #4	\$1,075,000
Poznar, Matthew J	Young, Christopher	79 Myrtle St #4	\$1,600,000
<b>BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE</b>			
Jiang, Xinrong	Fpg Lagrange Owner One L	47-55 Lagrange St #PH22D	\$5,368,000
Ahmad, Talal A	Div Shawmut LLC	100 Shawmut Ave #1104	\$1,862,000
Frascotti, Katherine M	Packard, Stephanie J	32 Traveler St #608	\$795,000
<b>WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN</b>			
Sterling Atlantic LLC	Palakurthi, Anokh	100 Lovejoy Wharf #5E	\$1,159,000
Hill Of Grace Rt	Caplan, William	3 Avery St #305	\$760,000
Mathew, Paul G	Bruce D Thibodeau T	99-105 Broad St #6E	\$729,000
Han, Huabing	Gong, Yi	1 Franklin St #1411	\$1,032,000
Brown, Devon N	Winkler, John	210 South St #4-2	\$950,000
Joseph Mills 2007 T	Skladzien, Joseph C	151 Tremont St #9H	\$785,000

## Attention to Detail

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY PENNY CHERUBINO

THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The windows in the last clue are on the Parker House Hotel, where the "Saturday Club" held a monthly gathering of writers, scientists, philosophers, historians, and other notable thinkers beginning in 1855. A successor to this group called School Street Session was meeting up to 2020.

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

THIS WEEK'S CLUE



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## LOCAL STUDENTS EARN ACADEMIC HONORS

### WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS ANNOUNCES DEAN'S LIST

The following students have been named to the Dean's List at Washington University in St. Louis:

Vivien Keravuori of the Back

Bay is enrolled in the university's College of Arts & Sciences. To qualify for the Dean's List in the College of Arts & Sciences, students must earn a semester grade point average of 3.6 or above and be enrolled in at least 14 graded units.

Shreya Patel of Beacon Hill is enrolled in the university's McKelvey School of Engineering. To

qualify for the Dean's List in the McKelvey School of Engineering, students must earn a semester grade point average of 3.6 or above and be enrolled in at least 12 graded units.

Washington University in St. Louis is counted among the world's leaders in teaching, research, patient care and service to society.

The university draws students to St. Louis from more than 100 countries and all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico and the Northern Mariana Islands. The total student body is more than 15,000 undergraduate, graduate and professional students.

The approximately 4,300 faculty teach in eight schools: Arts &

Sciences, Brown School, Olin Business School, Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts, McKelvey School of Engineering, School of Law, School of Medicine and University College. The university has been affiliated with 26 Nobel laureates, many of whom did a significant portion of their award-winning work at the university.

## NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDUP *(from pg. 3)*

admission, or \$18 each for students, and can be purchased at <https://vlnashul.org/events/event/voices-of-humanity2>.

Visit <https://vlnashul.org/events/upcoming> to learn about more upcoming programming at The Vilna.

### PROJECT BREAD'S WALK FOR HUNGER RETURNS MAY 7 TO THE BOSTON COMMON

After going virtual for the past three years due to the pandemic, Project Bread's annual Walk for Hunger returns on Sunday, May 7, from 9-11 a.m., as a three-mile walk around Boston Common, with proceeds benefitting the fight against food insecurity in the Commonwealth.

The fundraising event, which dates back to 1969 and traditionally takes place on the first Sunday in May, has set a target of \$1 million this year.

Visit [http://support.projectbread.org/site/TR?fr\\_id=1490](http://support.projectbread.org/site/TR?fr_id=1490) to register and for more information on the event.

### WOMEN'S LUNCH PLACE ANNUAL FUNDRAISER SET FOR MAY 12 AT PARK PLAZA HOTEL

Women's Lunch Place will cele-

brate our 12th annual eat LUNCH give fundraiser at the Grand Ballroom, Park Plaza Hotel, 50 Park Plaza, on Friday, May 12, at 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

At this dynamic networking event, business professionals from Greater Boston will gather to celebrate 40 years of Women's Lunch Place and the leaders who share its vision, give back to their community and make an indelible impact on the women that the organization serves.

This special luncheon includes a meal, raffle, and the opportunity to hear about the great work and mission of WLP from some of Boston's brightest women leaders.

Visit <https://womenslunchplace.org/eat-lunch-give?> to reserve your seat for the event.

### DUCKLING DAY EVENT SET TO RETURN MOTHER'S DAY

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/>.

### MOZART AND HAYDN AT KING'S CHAPEL ON SUNDAY, MAY 21

Crescendo Productions presents the music of Haydn and Mozart brought to life by renowned Viennese fortepianist Daniel Adam Maltz on Sunday, May 21, at 5 p.m. at King's Chapel at 58 Tremont St.

Maltz is in demand worldwide with 50 tour dates per year and hosts Classical Cake, the podcast about Viennese classical music and culture. He specializes in Wiener Klassik (Viennese Classicism), especially the works of Haydn, Mozart, and Beethoven, and performs on Viennese fortepianos typical of their time. He studied historical performance at the Royal Academy of Music in London and the Universität für Musik und darstellende Kunst in Vienna.

The program will include Sonata in B Major, Hob. XVI:25 by Joseph Haydn; Sonata in F Major, K. 332 by Wolfgang Amadeus

Mozart; Sonata in F Major, Hob. XVI:23 by Haydn; and Sonata in C Major, K. 330 by Mozart.

The price of admission for the event is discretionary, but there are suggested donations for guests of \$10, \$15, and \$25, respectively. Visit [https://www.eventbrite.com/e/mozart-and-haydn-at-kings-chapel-tickets-](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/mozart-and-haydn-at-kings-chapel-tickets-607624580477?aff=ebdssbdest-search)

607624580477?aff=ebdssbdest-search to reserve your spot at the event.

For more information on other upcoming events presented by Crescendo Productions, visit <https://www.crescendoproductions-arts.com>.

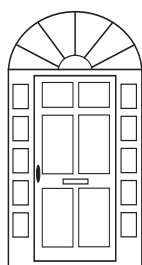
## Don't Forget Pick Up After Your Pet!

Pet waste discarded on the street or in catch basins carries harmful bacteria straight into the waterways we rely on for recreation. Always remember to "Scoop the Poop" and dispose of pet waste in the trash. Proper disposal of pet waste protects the environment and our waterways from contamination.



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## FRESH AND LOCAL

### Lessons from Jamie Oliver

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

We have Jamie Oliver to thank for many of our favorite meals. Penny recently studied his cookbook, “One: Simple one pan wonders.” It prompted us to start a list of what Jamie calls “clever tips, tricks, and techniques” that we’ve learned from his books and videos. This healthy food advocate and educator pares away roadblocks that keep busy people from cook-

ing. He knows that clean-up discourages home cooks. His website describes this book as “...his ultimate homage to making your life simpler. Every recipe is cooked in just one pan, so is perfect for getting good food on the table fast.”

#### Use Less

Watch a few of Jamie’s videos; you’ll see less equipment, ingredients, knife work, and measuring. He calls it “maximum flavor with

## Travel the World in Eight Nights!

The Harvard Travellers Club was founded in 1902 to promote “intelligent travel.” Today we meet and hear compelling stories from explorers, scientists and inquisitive minds eight times a year at the Harvard Club in Back Bay to continue this exciting tradition. For membership information, contact Bruce Chafee at [brucechafee@mac.com](mailto:brucechafee@mac.com) or visit [harvardtravellersclub.org](http://harvardtravellersclub.org)



Polar explorers from the early 1900s



Jamie’s “50/50 Bolognese” is made with ground meat and lentils and is great for batch cooking. We enjoyed these “Sloppy Joes” made with a frozen portion.

minimum effort.” You’ll see him washing his hands often because he uses his hands for many jobs that you might do with a utensil. For example, he tears peppers, mushrooms, and greens and mixes dough and salads with his clean hands.

A cutting board takes the place of extra bowls and platters. Of course, it is used for cutting ingredients that require a knife. He also uses it to mix dough, dress and toss salads, and serve meals like tarts, pies, pizza, and even salads. The board makes a few trips to the sink for a wash between jobs, but that step becomes part of your workflow once you discover how much cleanup this technique saves.

He simplifies what he calls his “hero ingredients” to “...olive oil for cooking, extra virgin olive oil for dressing and finishing dishes, red wine vinegar as a good all-rounder when it comes to acidity and balancing marinades, sauces, and dressings, and, of course, sea salt and black pepper for seasoning.”

#### Use More

On the other side of this equation, he uses more high-quality pantry staples like canned tomatoes and beans, coconut milk, frozen vegetables, premade fresh pasta sheets, pie and pizza dough, frozen phyllo, and puff pastry.

He uses “flavor bombs” such as

chutneys, curry pastes, black bean and teriyaki sauces, miso, and pesto instead of the many ingredients each contains. He’ll add sausage, bacon, smoked salmon, and jarred tuna as proteins and flavor boosters.

#### Swap It Up and Make a Batch

Jamie uses two types of swaps in his recipes. He encourages you to make the recipe your own by changing the ingredients to what you have on hand, what you prefer, or what suits a particular diet. For example, he loves chilies and spicy food. However, he tells you to leave the chili out if you don’t like heat. He also explains how to minimize the heat by removing the seeds and membranes or putting the chili in whole.

You’ll also hear how to use swaps to make your meals healthier and to add more vegetables and fruit to your diet. You’ll see him use whole grains, sneak veggies into something like a fish pie or create a vegetarian version of a popular dish.

Jamie will always tell you when a dish freezes well. Penny made a big batch of his “50/50 Bolognese” with ground meat and lentils to serve with pasta. She froze half, and we enjoyed it in “Sloppy Joes” later in the month. We have another batch saved to top with mashed potatoes for a healthier cottage pie. Both suggestions for other uses were part of Jamie’s recipe!

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

## on view

April 7, 2023 – July 29, 2023  
in the Norma Jean Calderwood Gallery



# Revisiting the Ruins

## The Great Boston Fire of 1872

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