



JUNE 22, 2023

THE BEACON HILL TIMES

BOOK YOUR POST IT
Call Your Advertising Rep
(781) 485-0588

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



PHOTOS COURTESY OF BOSTON ATHENEUM

BFD cadets tour the Boston Athenaeum's exhibits of prints, photographs, and written accounts that documented the aftermath and romanticization of the blaze that ravaged Boston's central commercial district.

Boston Fire Commissioner and Cadets visit the Boston Athenaeum Great Fire Exhibit

Special to the Times

On Wednesday June 14, the Boston Fire Commissioner and Chief of Boston Fire Department Paul F. Burke, along with other Boston Fire Officials and the members of the Inaugural Boston Fire Cadet class, visited the Boston Athenaeum to commemorate the Boston Fire of 1872, by viewing and learning about the Fire through the special exhibit, Revisiting the Ruins: The Great Boston Fire of 1872.

The firefighters were treated to the VIP status that they deserved for their service to the City with a special welcome by Leah Rosovsky, Director of the Boston

(EXHIBIT Pg. 5)



Boston Fire Department Commissioner Paul Burke (left) is presented a reprint of "The Boston Fire" oil painting by artist F. Shaw as a gift from Boston Athenaeum director, Leah Rosovsky (center); and associate curator, Christina Michelon, Ph.D. (right).

City sets virtual meeting on planned improvements to Public Garden tool house

By Dan Murphy

The city will sponsor its second virtual meeting on planned improvements to the Public Garden tool house on Wednesday, June 28, at 6 p.m.

Home to both the Public Garden's facilities and the Swan Boat operations, the 642 square-foot structure is located in the Public Garden along Charles Street, just north of the Edward Everett Hale monument.

While historic maps dating back as far as 1866 show a structure at that location, the existing tool house was built in 1946 and replaced a women's comfort station there before it, said Brett Bentson, a principal with the Boston architectural firm Utile, said last November during the first city-sponsored, virtual community

briefing on the project.

Sometime between 1946 and 1997, the layout of the tool house was changed, including the removal of restrooms, said Bentson, and in 1997, the north door to the workshop was changed from a double-leaf to the existing garage door-style rollup.

Restoration of the tool house will include replacing its worn slate roof in kind and replacing deteriorating wood elements, including windows, wood cladding, and decorative wood trim – all of which are original to the building's 1946 construction, said Bentson.

The project is a partnership between the Boston Parks and Recreation Department and the city's Maintenance Department.

Visit boston.gov/tool-house for more information.



D. MURPHY PHOTO

The Public Garden tool house.

VISIT WWW.BEACONHILLTIMES.COM

EDITORIAL

YES, WE'RE IN HOT WATER

It's a cliché that modern man is out-of-touch with the natural world (what's left of it). Whereas our long-ago ancestors had a deep sense of the change of seasons, migrations of animals, and so forth, we know nothing. Compared to their innate knowledge of the natural world, we are illiterates.

People the world over have been captivated by the recent news story about the survival of the four, Indigenous, young children in the Amazon rainforest for 40 days after their small plane crashed (and all the adults died). Their tale of survival prompted this comment by an expert: "Westerners would have been long dead," and no one disputed it.

However, there is one thing that we ourselves have noted this spring, namely, that the ocean temperature along our coast is much warmer than it typically is at this time of year.

We have belonged to a local ocean-rowing club for a few years. We launch our boats (which accommodate a crew of four with a coxswain) by lifting them off a trailer and walking them into the water.

Our season starts in early May and our ankles and feet usually become numb within minutes of stepping into the water during the first few weeks before Memorial Day.

But this season, we noticed something different, something amiss: There was no numbness in our feet. Sure, the water was cold, but not numbingly so. In fact, the water felt pleasant, especially after a long row.,

Similarly, swimming in our wetsuit (in preparation for a local triathlon in late June which we have been doing for 16 years) typically is a chilly experience at this time of year, but it has not been so this spring.

A recent report from the government agency NOAA revealed that ocean water temperatures world-wide are the warmest that EVER have been recorded. In addition, the first 10 days of June were the hottest-ever recorded on the planet for that 10-day time period (although we would never know it here!).

So for those of us who venture into the ocean in May and June, the good news is that the water has been far more pleasant than usual.

But the bad news is that our planet, both on land and sea, is warming faster and faster -- and we fear the implications for our environment will only be more and more furious.

We can't escape feeling that we're like the proverbial frog in the soon-to-be boiling pot of water. But unlike the frog, which does have the ability to jump out, we have nowhere to go.

TWO YEARS AGO THIS WEEK, RACIAL HATRED CAME TO OUR AREA

It was two years ago this coming week when an unspeakable act of violence, motivated by racial hatred, befell the nearby peaceful community of Winthrop.

The tranquility of a typical, early-summer, Saturday afternoon in that seaside community was shattered when a 28 year-old white man, a native of Wareham who had been living in Winthrop for a short time with his wife, shot two Black persons, 60 year-old Ramona Cooper, a retired Air Force veteran who only recently had moved to Winthrop, and 68 year-old David Green, a Winthrop native and retired State Trooper who was beloved in the Winthrop community, in cold blood when their paths crossed on Shirley St. near Cross St., for no other reason than the color of their skin.

Thanks to the quick response of Winthrop police and the heroism of Sgt. Nicholas Bettano, the suspect himself was shot in the street when he refused to put down his weapons (he was armed with two handguns). It is believed that the shooter, whose belongings later were found to contain white supremacist and anti-Semitic literature, was en route to the nearby local temple and synagogue with the intent of perpetrating a mass shooting incident before he was stopped by Sgt. Bettano.

To be sure, both Ramona Cooper and David Green happened to be in the wrong place at the wrong time. However, given that the shooter did not fire his weapon at white passers-by, his intent to shoot them solely because they were Black is undeniable.

Those of us who live in the Boston area like to think that we are immune from the sort of bigotry-inspired acts of violence that make the headlines in other states where gun laws are non-existent. However, the Anti-Defamation League recently reported that acts of anti-Semitism have spiked in Massachusetts in the past two years, more than doubling from 2020 to 2022. The sad fact is that no place in America is immune from the virus of prejudice.

For those of us who have called this area our home for many years, we still shudder whenever we visit Winthrop and drive down Shirley St. toward Cross St. -- the events of June 26, 2021, are just too terrible to contemplate.

However, the best way that we can honor the memories of Ramona Cooper and David Green is never to forget that tragic and horrible day and resolve to do whatever we can to end the evils of racism and all other forms of prejudice that are far too prevalent throughout our society.

GUEST OP-ED

Climate change affects everyone through water - even in Massachusetts

By Julia Blatt, Executive Director,
Massachusetts Rivers Alliance

When we think of climate change, the first images that come to mind are of hot temperatures, melting ice caps, and greenhouse gases clogging the atmosphere. A recent report by the United Nations, however, warns that most people will actually experience the impacts of climate change through their interactions with water.

The U.N. found: "The science is clear: the global climate change crisis is increasing variability in the water cycle, thus reducing the predictability of water availability and demand, affecting water quality, exacerbating water scarcity, and threatening sustainable development worldwide." That's certainly true in Massachusetts. It's not simply a matter of whether we can ski during the winter or go kayaking in the summer.

Drought in Massachusetts has become more frequent and more severe due to climate change. Scientists at the Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Geological Survey, and the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration predict that droughts in our state will become worse. The 2016 drought had severe impacts: six public water suppliers petitioned the MassDEP for water emergency declarations, the Quabbin Reservoir decreased by over 20%, and groundwater that supplies many towns' drinking water declined.

The state's economy is adversely affected. This winter highlighted the loss of snow cover for winter recreation facilities in the state. Additionally, in 2016 it is estimated that cranberry growers lost about one-third of their harvest due to the drought. Our aquatics industries also suffer, as rising water temperatures can lower oxygen levels and alter freshwater and marine ecosystems. Key ocean fisheries, such as cod and lobster south of Cape Code, are expected to decline. The

EPA warns that climate change may also pose challenges for the state's agriculture. Some farms may be harmed if more hot days and drought reduce crop yield, or if more flooding and wetter springs delay planting dates.

Less water available for agriculture affects the rest of us as well. According to the state Department of Energy and Environmental Affairs, Massachusetts farmers are irrigating crops more due to decreased precipitation, higher temperatures, and lower soil moisture. This need for more water not only increases consumer costs at local stores -- it costs farmers more to run pumps and sprinklers, and further depletes groundwater used for our water supplies.

Most people think of California and the arid West when picturing wildfires. In Massachusetts, however, fires are becoming more widespread and severe. During the 2022 drought, for example, approximately 905 wildfires were reported through August, according to the state's Department of Fire Services, burning an estimated 1,485 acres. The month of August saw 137 wildfires across the state, a nearly six-fold increase over the prior year. The resulting destruction of vegetation and tree cover exacerbates soil erosion and reduces groundwater recharge, increasing water scarcity and food insecurity.

The impact of climate change on the state's rivers is dramatic. In the summer of 2022, many rivers, including parts of the Blackstone in Central Massachusetts and the Ipswich on the North Shore, were transformed from flowing water into disconnected puddles, unfit places for fish or turtles to live and virtually impossible for canoes and kayaks to navigate. Streams flowing into the Charles and Neponset rivers were the driest on record, and other rivers dried up entirely.

The Massachusetts Rivers Alliance, comprised of 87 groups across the state protect-

(Op-Ed Pg. 4)

THE BEACON HILL TIMES

PRESIDENT/EDITOR: STEPHEN QUIGLEY

MARKETING DIRECTOR: DEBRA DIGREGORIO

(DEB@REVEREJOURNAL.COM)

ART DIRECTOR: SCOTT YATES

FOUNDING PUBLISHER: KAREN CORD TAYLOR

© 2007 INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER GROUP

PHONE: 617-523-9490

EMAIL: EDITOR@BEACONHILLTIMES.COM

WEB SITE: www.beaconhilltimes.com

ACORN

OUR MEMBERS, YOUR NEIGHBORS, THEIR EXPERIENCES ...

We love your services, thank you so much! My dad is 90 years old. For my parents to be able to drop their car off right at our front door when they visit is amazing.

Jennifer H.,
Beacon Hill

*We've been really impressed with the ease of Acorn, and how much it has made day-to-day city life stress free. We can't imagine living in the city without this fantastic service-we save so much time not walking to and from the garage, or trolling for a spot.
Bravo to the Acorn staff!*

Jim P.,
Beacon Hill

*Acorn has been a complete game-changer for our family of five and after just a few months of using it we could not imagine life without it. While we previously had to dread hurried drop-offs (strollers, car seats, pets, etc) on our busy Boston street and long walks from the garage. We now enjoy timely and stress-free pick-ups and drop-offs right at our front door. The app makes it seamless to track our car or the valets progress and we have removed a major stress point in our lives. The valets always meet us with a smile and help us load and unload the vehicle. Our family and friends also love the guest access to the service when they visit.
We recommend Acorn to anyone living in the city looking to remove the daily hassle of parking.*

Andrew & Chelsea O.,
Beacon Hill

**If your car isn't coming to you,
then you should be coming to Acorn Valet.**

www.theacornclub.com

617-546-5444

membership@theacornclub.com

MGH's LVC turns 154

Special to Times

The Massachusetts General Hospital LVC celebrated its 154th year this spring as one of the oldest hospital auxiliaries in the country, providing support in the form of grants to the MGH clinical community.

The LVC currently has 80 members who not only volunteer weekly throughout the hospital but also oversee the MGH General Stores and Flower Shops. Proceeds from these shops help fund patient and community programs, services and activities.

Jen Brontas, an LVC volunteer who lives in Beacon Hill, says, "It is a joy volunteering to do dog therapy at MGH. I feel as if I am giving back to my local community and the world at large who come to MGH for medical help."

Brontas adds that she never has to worry about where to buy a gift and loves the convenience of being able to shop online or to

quickly purchase over the phone when she's busy and is unable to visit the store in person. "Whether you're looking for clothing, chocolates or a bouquet of flowers, you can find it at the shops," she says.

Hattie Kessler, chair of the LVC, says the grants from store sales help a wide range of programs – from helping children who have lost a parent from cancer, to making sure there are books and other items in the Emergency Department to help ease anxiety for elderly patients.

"The next time you are thinking of ordering flowers, buying a special present or celebrating a special occasion with a personalized gift basket, consider shopping locally at the MGH store," says Kessler. "You'll feel great knowing your purchase supports many wonderful initiatives."

For more information, contact the MGH General Stores at mgh-generalstore.myshopify.com or call 617-726-2227.

Council President Flynn to host Virtual Veterans Town Hall June 23

Boston City Council President Ed Flynn will host a virtual Veterans Town Hall this Friday, June 23, at 3 p.m. on Zoom. The Town Hall is organized in light of the City Council's passage of the amended FY24 budget, which voted 7-5 in favor of cutting over \$31 million in public safety services, as well as a \$900,000 cut from the Office of Veterans Services.

The Veterans Town Hall will focus on listening to the needs of the Boston Veterans community and the challenges they face, walk through the array of important services and benefits the City's Office of Veterans Services provides, and explain why these are vital to the physical, mental well-being of our veterans, women veterans, and military families.

"When we send our military into harm's way, we have a duty to

look after them when they return as veterans, learn about the issues affecting them, and advocate for better care and support for them and their families," said Council President Flynn. "The current \$900,000 cut to the Office of Veterans Services will have a devastating impact on our veterans and military families. Our veterans have served our country with honor and bravery, and it is never a good time to cut services they depend on. We, as a City, must do better to ensure that our veterans and women veterans are able to continue to receive services related to disability and health care benefits, mental health resources, and PTSD support, among others."

For more information, please contact Council President Flynn's office at 617-635-3203 and Ed.Flynn@Boston.gov.

OP-ED (from pg. 2)

ing our rivers and streams, joins the United Nations in warning that "the global climate change crisis is inextricably linked to water." We in Massachusetts are also now experiencing this crisis, and this week the state's environmental secretary announced that parts of the state are now officially in drought.

"Business as usual" is no longer an option and, whether at the local, state, national, or international level, water management must be

scrutinized through a climate lens.

Julia Blatt is Executive Director of the Massachusetts Rivers Alliance." The Alliance is a statewide nonprofit organization with 87 member groups and over 1,000 individual supporting members.

For more information contact Anna Renkert, Development & Engagement Coordinator, Massachusetts Rivers Alliance at anna-renkert@massriversalliance.org

NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDUP

MEETING ON PROPOSED CHARLESBANK LANDING ON THE ESPLANADE SET FOR JUNE 22

The Esplanade Association will unveil the design plans and timeline for Charlesbank Landing on the Esplanade, which will include a year-round pavilion and visitors center, at a public meeting taking place on Thursday, June 22, from 6 to 7 p.m. at the West End Branch Library at 151 Cambridge St., as well as via Zoom.

Refreshments, on-site childcare, and translation services will be provided at the meeting. R.S.V.P. at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/charlesbank-landing-public-meeting-tickets-648370161607?aff=oddttdcreator>.

COMMUNITY BOATING SUMMER KICKOFF LAWN AND DOCK PARTY SET JUNE 24

Community Boating Inc. will hold its Summer Kickoff Lawn and Dock Party on Saturday, June 24, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Community Boating Docks on the Esplanade.

The event will feature live music, lawn games, an open bar (beer and hard seltzer), a Food Truck (food available for purchase), raffles, free Richie's slush, and more. Complimentary non-alcoholic beverages will be provided by Polar Beverages.

All guests will be entered to win an Adult Program Full Year Membership and a one-of-a-kind Sea Bag tote made with a CBI sail. Two winners will be announced at 4:30 p.m.

Tickets cost \$40 (plus a \$2.99 fee) each while admission for children ages 10-17 is \$15 (with a \$1.74 fee) each. Visit <https://www.community-boating.org/events/summer-kickoff-lawn-and-dock-party/> to purchase tickets and for more information on the event.

HIDDEN SPACES OF THE NICHOLS HOUSE TOUR, JUNE 24

The Nichols House Museum presents its Hidden Spaces of the Nichols House Tour on

Saturday, June 24, from 1 to 2 p.m. at 55 Mt. Vernon St.

What did it take to make the house run in the Victorian era? How do staff manage its preservation today? Peek into rooms and spaces not usually on view, take the back stairs, and explore over 200 years of this old house's secrets.

This tour lasts approximately one hour, and visitors will take three flights of stairs.

Admission is \$20 per person general admission and free for museum members. Visit <https://fareharbor.com/embeds/book/nicholshousemuseum/items/320988/calendar/2023/06/?flow=376571&full-items=yes&back=https://www.nicholshousemuseum.org/visit/&a=yes> to register.

BRAHMINS AND BOHEMIANS BEACON HILL WALKING TOUR SET FOR JULY 19

The Nichols House Museum presents its Brahmins and Bohemians Beacon Hill Walking Tour on Wednesday, July 19, kicking off at 5:30 p.m. at the museum at 55 Mount Vernon St.

Beacon Hill at the turn of the 20th century was inhabited by artists and activists, plumbers and politicians, recent immigrants and longtime residents. This diverse mix made the neighborhood a fascinating place to call home. On this walking tour we'll share stories of unconventional women, LGBTQ+ communities, and the moment when the Hill was the most avant-garde spot in the city.

This tour, which will last approximately 90 minutes, will be on the sidewalks of Beacon Hill. Expect to encounter hilly terrain and uneven pavement.

Admission for the tour is \$20 per Nichols House Museum mem-

ber, or \$25 for non-members. Space is limited.

Visit <https://www.nicholshousemuseum.org/events/brahmins-and-bohemians/> to reserve your spot and for more information on the event.

ESPLANADE ASSOCIATION'S SUMMER DOCK PARTY RETURNS JULY 20

The Esplanade Association will hold its 12th annual Summer Dock Party on Thursday, July 20, from 6:30 to 10 p.m. at Community Boating Inc. and at Eliot Memorial Garden on the Esplanade.

Approximately 400 guests will enjoy a sunset dinner and drinks, as well as dancing to a live DJ at Community Boating, Inc. The funds raised at this year's event will support the Esplanade Association's work to revitalize, enhance, program, and maintain the park, while providing the community with free summer programming. This year's event co-chairs are Lilly Beck, Matt Ostrow, and Harris Rosenheim.

Tickets cost \$129 each until July 10 (after that, they go up in price); this price includes dinner, open bar, and a door prize ticket. Visit [https://one.bidpal.net/dockparty/ticketing\(details:ticketing-summary\)](https://one.bidpal.net/dockparty/ticketing(details:ticketing-summary)) to purchase tickets.

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., on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month 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).

SEND US YOUR NEWS

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

deb@reverejournal.com.

Sharon Durkan earns Sen. Ed Markey's endorsement for District 8 City Council

By the Durkin campaign

Sharon Durkan, a dedicated community activist, former political staffer for Mayor Wu and former Ward 5 Democratic Committee Chair, earned the endorsement of Sen. Ed Markey in her campaign for the Boston City Council District 8 seat for the special municipal election on Tuesday, July 25. The seat is currently vacant after former Councilor Kenzie Bok resigned to become the Boston Housing Authority Administrator.

"Sharon Durkan is both a leader and a neighbor, doing the grassroots work on the ground for years and bringing diverse voices to the

table," Sen. Markey said in a press release. "Whether she is collecting signatures on the corner or negotiating at the boardroom table, she is dedicated to engaging all stakeholders in the decisions that directly affect their lives and livelihoods. That's who we need in the Boston City Council. I proudly endorse Sharon Durkan, and I look forward to working in partnership with Sharon to ensure District 8 continues to have what it needs to thrive."

Sen. Markey's endorsement stands as evidence of Durkan's momentum and ability to launch into action, serving District 8 residents with partners at the municipi-

pal, state, and federal levels on day one.

"I am deeply honored to earn Senator Markey's endorsement, and I am grateful for his support," Durkan said in the press release. "With 35 days to go until our election day, Senator Markey's endorsement captures the momentum we are feeling on the ground. He is a national champion and fierce progressive leader for climate justice, gun safety, privacy, and much more. I am eager to partner with Senator Markey towards a green future for the City of Boston."

Durkan, an accomplished community organizer, has been actively

involved in advancing bold leadership across the state. She has worked tirelessly to transform our City's leadership and win important progressive victories. Her experience as the former Ward 5 Democratic Committee Chair has equipped her with a deep understanding of the unique challenges faced by residents in District 8. In 2020, Durkan worked as Sen. Markey's Massachusetts Finance Director.

To see the full slate of endorsers, visit sharondurkan.com/endorsements. To learn more about Sharon Durkan and her campaign, visit sharondurkan.com or connect with her on Twitter, or Instagram.



COURTESY PHOTO

Sen. Ed Markey and District 8 City Council hopeful Sharon Durkan.

EXHIBIT (from pg. 1)

Athenaeum and a private tour of the exhibit with a talk on the history of the Fire and the curation of the special exhibit by Christina Michelin, Associate Curator at the Athenaeum and Exhibit Coordinator for the fire exhibit. Michelin was well positioned to curate the exhibit as the daughter of a retired firefighter from Chicago, whose own Great Fire just two years prior to Boston's served as a warning that the same tragedy could happen here.

The event stage was set for the Cadets by an address by Commissioner Burke who highlighted that the Great Fire, while devastating, managed to be curtailed by yeoman's efforts of the Boston firefighters, assisted by fire teams from most of New England. In fact, the team from Portsmouth, NH was credited with containing the fire just short of Old South Meeting House. Burke pointed out that more manpower was required at the Fire as there was coincidental-

ly an equine epidemic at the same time. Horsepower was so limited, manpower was required to pull the fire trucks. Burke's focus was the importance of the strict fire codes in place in Boston today, because of lessons learned from the Great Boston Fire, as well as the Great Molasses Disaster of 1919 and the Coconut Grove Nightclub Fire of 1942. Director Rosovsky presented Burke with a framed reproduction of one of the exhibit art works, which Burke commented he would proudly hang in his office.

The Exhibit tour focused on three key areas: how the national, even global, news of the Fire was publicized in 1872, the romanticization of the fire ruins, as well as the artifacts retrieved from the fire. Photographs taken during the fire were important, not because they were published directly, but because they were copied into pen and ink drawings. At the time, newspaper technology could not

reproduce photos, so drawings were required. As history has proven, tragic ruins do get romanticized in art, as with art displaying Pompei, so was the Great Fire. The Exhibit also has a few artifacts from the Fire, primarily retail and industrial items. At the time the Fire raged, in what is now primarily the Financial District and Downtown Crossing, it was home to industrial, warehouse, and retail structures, with few residences. While the Fire did not reach the Athenaeum itself, the library did lose a storage facility, but it was insured.

Revisiting the Ruins: the Great Boston Fire of 1872 is on exhibit through July 29, 2023, open to the public, with tickets available online at www.bostonathenaeum.org. The exhibit displays very local and worth viewing scenes of an important chapter in our city's history.



Associate Curator, Christina Michelin, Ph.D. points out the fire location on a wall map.



DAVE POUTRE
FINE FRAMING

Tuesday-Saturday 10am-6pm
82 Charles Street
Boston, MA 02114

617.723.7263

dave@davepoutrefineframing.com
www.davepoutrefineframing.com



Visit us.
Join us.
See what's happening.

A unique combination of
library, museum and cultural center
in a magnificent landmark building.

And we are right in your backyard.



Enter the red doors at 10½ Beacon Street
(617) 720-7604 | bostonathenaeum.org

Member supported - Everyone is invited to join.

MAKING HISTORY ON THE COMMON RETURNS

MICHAEL DWYER PHOTOS

A steady drizzle couldn't dampen the enthusiasm of over 800 Boston Public School children from Grades 3-5 for the Friends of the Public Garden's 14th annual Making History on The Common event on Monday, June 5.

For the first time, the children engaged with, and learned about The Embrace.

This experiential field trip teaches the kids about the history of the Common including the

Native American traditions shared by members of the Massachusetts Tribe at Ponkapoag, participating in Colonial games and punishments, contra dancing, marching with the Massachusetts 54th Regiment, and more.

"It is great to see kids experiencing our rich history in tangible ways," said Friends President Elizabeth Vizza. "Making History on the Common works because it's simple yet profound."



Shown are scenes of the Boston Public School children at the annual Making History on The Common event.



Thank you to our loyal customers for your continued support!

We buy antiques and offer 2 floors of art, antiques, home decor, and gifts!

VISIT US TODAY

**UPSTAIRS
DOWNSTAIRS
HOME**

69 Charles St., Boston MA 617.367.1950
UpstairsDownstairsBoston.com

**BREWSTER & BERKOWITZ
REAL ESTATE**

Sally Brewster
Betsey Barrett

Ron Berkowitz
Mary Dunlavy

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

Sales **617.367.0505** Rentals

**Boston
Antiques
& Lampshades**

Custom Paper & fabric shades
Affordable Silk shades
Fine Antiques & Jewelry

119 Charles St.
617-367-9000
**BostonAntiques
@yahoo.com**

Looking to purchase
one item to entire estates.



PLEASE VISIT WWW.BEACONHILLTIMES.COM

Wu cuts ribbon on City of Boston's new exhibit, "Slavery in Boston"

PHOTOS COURTESY MAYOR'S OFFICE PHOTO BY JOHN WILCOX

Mayor Michelle Wu last week cut the ribbon on the City of Boston's new exhibit, "Slavery in Boston." This exhibit – located in Faneuil Hall – provides an opportunity to discuss Boston's role in enslavement and shares the stories of the enslaved and freed people in Boston through research and archaeological artifacts found under Faneuil Hall. The development of the exhibit was led by the City of Boston's Archaeology Department within the Office of Historic Preservation. Mayor Wu was joined by Chief of Environment, Energy and Open Space Rev. Mariama White-Hammond; Elizabeth Solomon, Massachusetts Tribe; City of Boston Archaeologist Joe Bagley; Former State Representative Byron Rushing; members of the City's Reparations Task Force; and community partners. This exhibit is one part of the City of Boston's work to deliberately confront Boston's history of slavery, to take accountability, and educate residents and visitors of slavery's multilayered and painful past, which still has impacts today.

"This exhibit lays a crucial foundation for Boston to address our legacy of enslavement and support the healing process for our descendant communities," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "I am also grateful to have Murray Miller join the City of Boston and bring his decades worth of expertise to help foster an intersectional approach to historic preservation that helps uplift all of our communities, particularly those who have had their histories suppressed."

The "Slavery in Boston" exhibit was funded by a Community Preservation Act grant in addition to support from Humanities Collections and Reference Resources (HCRR) administered by the National Endowment for the Humanities. Throughout the exhibit's development and curation process, the Archaeology team gathered community feedback from over 200 residents through community meetings and a digital survey to garner suggestions and feedback. The project is co-curated by the City Archaeologist Joe Bagley, Historian Dr. Jared Ross Hardesty, and Kyera Singleton, the Executive Director of the Royal House and Slave Quarters, supported by a Community Advisory Board of nine community leaders and experts on Boston's history. This robust community engagement process tailored the refinement and cultural competency of this exhibit to ensure it included content that the community wanted to uplift and learn.

"As we continue our work to

combat racial and economic inequity, it is essential to address our past in ways that create space to process grief, uplift resilience, and repair the harm," said Reverend Mariama White-Hammond, Chief of Environment, Energy and Open Space. "Today and every day moving forward, we must lift up the unheralded layers of Boston's history and memorialize the enslaved people who contributed to the building of our city."

"Everything you see in this exhibit is a direct response to the ideas and requests we heard from the community," said Joe Bagley, Archaeologist for the City of Boston. "I'd like to express my heartfelt gratitude for all of the community members who participated in this process and helped to turn the idea of this exhibit into a reality."

The first step in the exhibit development included the digitization of over 42,000 artifacts found during archaeological surveys at Faneuil Hall in 1991 and 2010 through the project contractor, AECOM. The City of Boston has made these digital artifacts accessible online through a searchable online catalog with artifact photos and details. Several of these artifacts that can tell the story of enslavement in Boston are featured in the exhibit.

Key highlights of the "Slavery in Boston" exhibit include text from the Massachusetts Body of Liberties, the 1641 document that legalized slavery, making Massachusetts the first English colony in North America to make slavery legal. Legalized enslavement in Boston would continue for nearly 150 years. Additionally, the exhibit discusses the enslavement of Tribal communities and features 16 stories of enslaved people in Boston, which focuses on their efforts to resist enslavement while being catalysts for change. Faneuil Hall was built with funds from Peter Faneuil, who profited from the sale of enslaved people. The "Slavery in Boston" exhibit lists over 1,300 enslaved people in Boston with a link to a digital list.

"Boston has not one, but three founding histories," said former State Representative Byron Rushing, Community Advisory Board Member and Director of the Museum of African American History. "The histories of the indigenous peoples who arrived here tens of thousands of years ago, the imperial Puritans who attacked and invaded these lands, and the Africans whom the Europeans stole and brought here as property, chattel, to supply and supplement the labor for the Europeans to exploit the vast resources of



Mayor Michelle Wu cuts the ribbon to open the "Slavery in Boston" exhibit.



Byron Rushing, former 9th Suffolk District state rep.



Mayor Michelle Wu.



Rev. Mariama White-Hammond, the city's Chief of Environment, Energy, and Open Space.

these lands. What is both unique and exciting about this exhibit is that the stories of all three are told factually and honestly."

In addition to the ribbon cutting of the new exhibit, Mayor Wu also announced Murray Miller as the first-ever Director of the Office of Historic Preservation which was created last summer. Murray joins the City of Boston with over three decades of experience in historic preservation with a recent focus on uplifting marginalized histories to share a more holistic and intersectional story. In Miller's work, he has developed a reflective, responsive and forward-thinking vision for historic preservation that supports economic development, environmental sustainability, and affordable housing objectives through an equity lens.

The Office of Historic Preservation works to ensure that Boston's history is inclusive, honest and elevates every community to have the tools and resources to research,

preserve, acknowledge, and celebrate their history. The office includes the Boston Landmarks Commission, the City Archaeology Program and the Commemoration Commission.

"I am thrilled to join the City of Boston and support the ongoing efforts to preserve and uplift Boston's history through an intersectional lens," said Murray Miller, Director of the Office of Historic Preservation. "I am grateful to Mayor Wu and Chief White-Hammond for their support and I look forward to working with the Boston community to elevate its rich and multifaceted history."

Last year, Mayor Wu and the Boston City Council designated Highland Park as Boston's new-

est Architectural Conservation District. Additionally, the Boston Landmarks Commission designated seven local landmarks, the most in a single year since 1983. Any ten registered Boston voters can petition the Boston Landmarks Commission to designate a historic neighborhood, building, landscape or object as a protected Boston Landmark or District. Local historic districts carry the ability to regulate change in historic neighborhoods, unlike National Register districts, which advocate for their protection. Individuals can learn more about designating a landmark in Boston by emailing BLC@boston.gov.

BPL receives \$1 million to expand LGBTQ+ resources, collections, and programming

The Boston Public Library (BPL) is proud to announce that it has received a \$1,000,000 bequest from the late Howard Cooper to dramatically expand its LGBTQ+ resources, collections, and programming.

Cooper, who resided in San Francisco, CA as an adult, grew up in Dorchester and attended Boston Public Schools. He visited the Central Library in Copley Square regularly as a teenager in the 1950s. Cooper named the Boston Public Library Fund as a beneficiary in his estate plans and passed away at the age of 82 in 2022.

To recognize and celebrate Howard's gift to the Library, family and friends will gather in the Central Library on June 23. The Library will unveil a plaque, installed in the Boylston Street Building lobby, to publicly recog-



Courtesy photo

The Boston Public Library receives \$1,000,000 to expand its LGBTQ+ presence.

nize Cooper's contribution to creating a safe and welcoming space for individuals of all identities.

"With his generous gift, How-

ard Cooper's legacy reflects the essential founding principle of the Boston Public Library—free to all—and further positions the BPL

as a cornerstone of democracy," says BPL President David Leonard. "In these times of increasing challenges to books and information, this gift sends a powerful message that LGBTQ+ individuals and their stories play an essential role in our society and that the BPL will always be an inclusive space that proudly reflects and celebrates the LGBTQ+ community for generations to come."

The bequest provides immediate-use funding for the Library to expand its current LGBTQ+ circulating collection, hire a researcher to review the Library's historic collections for LGBTQ+ materials, and hire an intern to work specifically on LGBTQ+ community history as part of the Boston Community History Project.

Most significantly, the bequest establishes The Howard Co-

per LGBTQ+ Endowment Fund to provide a long-term funding stream for initiatives and programs, including:

- Annual publication of We Are Pride booklist
- Interactive programming for youth
- Resources for teens, building upon the gender and sexual orientation resources already in place

Boston Public Library Fund Executive Director Paula Sakey added, "We are incredibly grateful to Howard for his insight, compassion, and generosity in naming the Boston Public Library Fund in his estate plans. By establishing an endowment fund, Howard's gift will have a significant impact in safeguarding and expanding public access to the BPL's LGBTQ+ materials and programs far into the future."

Senate resoundingly approves bill for progressive tax relief and assistance

The Massachusetts Senate approved on Thursday a \$590 million Tax Relief bill which delivers support to low- and middle-income earners and chips away at the headwinds that threaten Massachusetts' competitiveness. Focusing on providing relief to residents across Massachusetts while upholding fiscal responsibility, the Senate's tax relief package will provide relief to renters, seniors, and parents struggling with high early education costs while also increasing much-needed hous-

ing production. With the recent passage of the FY24 budget last month, the Commonwealth is now poised to secure and strengthen its economic foundation to weather future uncertainty.

"As I have said from the outset, tax relief should go to the workers, families, and elderly residents of the Commonwealth who need it most," stated Senate President Karen E. Spilka (D-Ashland). "Massachusetts doesn't need just any tax relief; we need permanent, progressive, smart, and sustain-

able tax relief. Too many families have been caught between the rising costs of healthcare, housing, education, and basic goods. While we advance reforms to lower these costs and shore up our social services, meaningful tax relief is another tool in our kit to encourage people to live and raise their families in Massachusetts. I want to thank each of my Senate colleagues who contributed to this proposal, especially Senator Rodrigues and Senator Moran for their leadership in developing this strong package."

"While there has been calls for the Senate to act more swiftly on tax relief, my colleagues and I took a deliberative and practical approach to tax relief, centering our proposal on what we saw as major areas of concern to individuals and working families of the Commonwealth. Namely, providing critical housing assistance to the demographic that is most affected by housing instability and unaffordability; the 25-40 age group who are being priced out of the Commonwealth at an alarming rate. We need this group to remain in Massachusetts, put down roots, and buy a home of their own," said Senator Michael J. Rodrigues, Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means (D-Westport). "Consistent with the views of the Senate membership, our Senate tax package is forward-looking, fiscally sustainable, comprehensive, and progressive. It puts money back into the pockets of our residents, providing permanent tax cuts for low-income workers, families, renters, seniors, persons with disabilities, while focusing on the largest issue that is undercutting

our Commonwealth's overall competitiveness – which is the affordability and availability of housing. Thank you to my colleagues in the Senate, especially my colleagues on the Committee, whose advocacy, collaboration, and dedication helped to inform and shape this comprehensive tax relief proposal. A sincere thanks to the Ways and Means staff, whose seamless transition from the budget to this tax relief bill was truly remarkable. Lastly, a very warm and genuine thank you to Senate President Spilka for her determined and compassionate leadership as we work together to rebuild our economy and bolster our state's long-term economic health."

"Working families aren't leaving the Commonwealth because of taxes on day-traders," said Senator Susan Moran, Chair of the Joint Committee on Revenue (D-Falmouth). "They are leaving because they can't find housing they can afford. This package aimed at growing housing will also grow our workforce and the Commonwealth's competitiveness."

"We gave the Choice to municipalities to reward the good behavior of landlords who make rent affordable. This is just one more tool in the toolbox to get people housed," said Senator Edwards, Chair of the Joint Committee on Housing (D-East Boston).

This package includes a variety of initiatives as tax relief for the residents of Massachusetts. The bill:

- increases the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), which provides critical support to working families, from 30% to 40% of the federal credit

merges existing credits into a new and enhanced Child and Dependent Tax Credit (CDTC), increases the amount of the credit from \$180 to \$310 per child/dependent, and eliminates the current cap of two children/dependents

- increases statewide cap for the Housing Development Incentive Program (HDIP) from \$10 million to \$57 million on a one-time basis and then to \$30 million annually

- increases the cap on the rental deduction from \$3,000 to \$4,000

- raises annual authorization of the Low Income Housing Tax Credit, which directly supports the production of affordable housing units across the Commonwealth, from \$40 million to \$60 million

- doubles the maximum senior circuit breaker credit, which supports elderly residents who struggle with high housing costs, from \$1,200 to \$2,400

- excludes homes valued at under \$2 million from the Estate Tax and eliminates the "cliff effect" by allowing a uniform credit of \$99,600 for all estates

- triples the maximum credit under the Title V Tax Credit, which supports families who must replace failed septic systems, from \$6,000 to \$18,000, and lifts the amount claimable to \$4,000 per year

- increases the statewide cap for the Dairy Tax credit from \$6 million to \$8 million

- expands eligible occupations for the Apprenticeship Tax Credit

- doubles the credit for lead paint abatement to \$3,000 for full abatement and \$1,000 for partial

(TAX RELIEF Pg. 9)

WE NEED YOU

TO BECOME A LIFEGUARD

Part-time, Full-time and Seasonal positions available

STARTING RATE \$22/HOUR

UP TO \$1000 SIGNING BONUS

FREE LIFEGUARD TRAINING



**Boston Centers
for Youth &
Families**
Michelle Wu, Mayor



BHAC green-lights previously approved Park Street School infill addition

By Dan Murphy

The Beacon Hill Architectural unanimously green-lit the Park Street School's previously approved application to build a three-story infill addition in its courtyard on Brimmer Street during the commission's monthly public hearing on Thursday, June 15, which took place virtually.

Don Mills, the project architect, said the new addition would sit atop the second-floor roof of the building at 67 Brimmer St., with each now floor spanning about 325 square feet. The first story of the new addition would be home to the admissions department, he said, while the two floors above would accommodate "break-out space" for language labs and other classroom activities. Only the upper story of the addition would be partially visible from Beaver Place.

A sloping roof that was removed during the 2004 rehabilitation of the building to create room for an elevator and mechanicals and subsequently replaced with a parapet will be restored, said Mills. An original window bay now covered by the elevator shaft will "essentially" become a window again, complemented by a new double-hung window with true divided-light, which would be replicated to match another window original to the building, he added.

Mills said the commission previously approved the school's application for the infill in 2018, but the project couldn't move forward then and the approval subsequently lapsed due to a lawsuit filed by an abutter. (The lawsuit was ultimately settled in late November or early December of last year, he said.)

In another matter, the commission voted unanimously to dismiss a violation for the installation of an unapproved Electric Vehicle (EV) charger port cover at 6 Louis-



Park Street School on Brimmer Street.

D. MURPHY PHOTO

burg Square.

The cover will measure 12-by-12 inches and have a hinged top, allowing it to be closed during charging to reduce tripping hazards, said Sandra Jahnes of Ruhl/Jahnes Architects.

It will be fabricated out of bronze and "pre-patinaed," added Jahnes, as well as emblazoned with the letters 'EV' in similar font as gas and water meter plates found in the Beacon Hill Historic District; the letters would be separated by a lightning-bolt icon to alert passersby of the electric nature of the charger port.

The commission's determination on this application came with a proviso that the applicant must also garner the approval of Proprietors of Louisburg Square before the project commences.

In another matter, the commission denied without prejudice an application for a blade sign for Vico Style, a vintage women's

clothing boutique at 125 Charles St., as it would have violated district guidelines that mandate only one blade sign per address. (KM Hudson, a lingerie store located at 125 Charles St., just above Vico Style, already has an existing blade sign at this address.)

Cecilia Hermawan, the business proprietor, had previously submitted an application for a blade sign, which was denied without prejudice at the commission's May 18 public hearing. But rather than returning to the commission with an application for wall board sign directly above the windows of her basement-level storefront as she indicated she would at last month's hearing, Hermawan instead came back this month with another application for a blade sign, albeit in a different location on the same building. She cited several examples of buildings on Charles Street with more than one blade sign as the precedent for her application,

but as Chair Mark Kiefer pointed out, many of these signs were grandfathered in, or had unique circumstances surrounding them, as was the case with the Charles Street Meeting House – a large building that is home to a number of retail and office tenants.

Commissioner Alice Richmond cast the sole vote against denying the application while expressing support for Commissioner Ed Fleck's suggestion that the applicant should explore the possibility of hanging a new blade sign directly below KM Hudson's existing blade sign, without creating a new bracket. (Hermawan said she had yet talked to the owner of KM Hudson about this possibility.)

On an application for 19 Brimmer St., which was previously approved at last September's public hearing, the commission unanimously approved the installation of a new sliding glass door on the existing headhouse. The applicant said the installation of the sliding door was the "last element" that needed approval as part of a thorough renovation of the headhouse, which Commissioner Maurice Finegold described as an "elegant improvement."

In another matter, the commission voted 6-1 (with Commissioner Finegold casting the only dissenting vote) to approve as submitted an application for 34.5 Beacon St., which would allow for the installation of three bollards along the Joy Street sidewalk.

Jennifer Campbell, speaking on behalf of the applicant, said the proposed bollards are intended to discourage Amazon trucks and Uber drivers from driving on a concrete section of that sidewalk. Cones had been set up there as a deterrent to drivers, she said, since 'No Parking' signs previously posted on the sidewalk had failed to remedy the ongoing problem.

Damage to this portion of the sidewalk, which the applicant has repeatedly repaired to no avail,

said Campbell, has also led to leaking in a boiler room for 34.5 Beacon St., since that building's basement extends beneath the sidewalk. Cars could also potentially fall through the concrete as a result of the damage, she said.

This determination came with a proviso that the applicant would also need to secure necessary approvals from the Public Improvement Commission and any other applicable city agencies. Campbell also said that the applicant has already agreed to maintain the bollards after their installation.

On an application for 86 Chestnut St., the commission unanimously approved the proposed installation of new, solid-brass address numbers; this determination came with a proviso that the number be reduced in size to fit in the center of the upper portion of the door, rather than to the left of the mail slot, as was originally proposed.

Likewise, the commission unanimously approved as submitted an application for 77 Myrtle St. to repaint the front door to change its color from Hunter Green to Sherman Williams Royal Blue; the motion for this application was amended to include the in-kind painting of the oriel and any other proposed in-kind painting at this address.

Meanwhile, an application to ratify the installation of an unapproved video doorbell at 3 Charles River Square was scheduled for the hearing but withdrawn by the applicant; it will instead be heard by the commission at the July 20 hearing.

Commission Chair Kiefer, Vice Chair Arian Allen and Commissioners Finegold, Fleck, and Annette Given were on hand for the entire hearing, while Commissioners Curtis Kemeny and Richmond were also both on hand for most of the meeting.

TAX RELIEF (from pg. 8)

abatement

- expands the types of alcoholic drinks which qualify for a lower tax rate as part of the cider tax

Notably, this legislation ensures that student loan payment assistance offered by employers will not be treated as taxable compensation. The bill also adds regional transit fares and bike commuter expenses to the allowable commuter expenses eligible for favorable tax status.

To encourage affordable hous-

ing, the bill gives municipalities the option of adopting a local property tax exemption for real estate that is rented to a person below a certain area-dependent income level.

Additionally, the bill also directs the following studies:

- A study by the Executive Office of Administration and Finance on the feasibility of making advance quarterly payments of the Child and Dependent Tax Credit

- A study by the Department of Revenue on the efficacy of an additional, elective entity-level tax of up to 4 percent on a portion of qualified taxable income in the Commonwealth, coupled with a refundable credit, for eligible pass-through entities

As different versions of this legislation have passed the Senate and the House of Representatives, a conference committee will now be appointed to resolve differences between the two bills.

TRAFFIC ADVISORY

CORPORATE CHALLENGE ROAD RACE JUNE 22

There will be a road race tomorrow, June 22, that may impact vehicle and pedestrian traffic around Beacon Hill.

The Corporate Challenge Road Race will be on Thursday, June 22.

The Street Closure start at 6:45 p.m. and the race starts at 7:15 p.m.

The start and finish lines are on Charles St. between the Public

Garden and the Boston Common. The race starts near the exit of the Boston Common Garage, turns left onto Beacon, left onto Arlington, and then right onto Comm Ave. westbound. Runners proceed under the Mass Ave underpass, and into Kenmore Square. Runners then turn around after the MBTA bus station and continue on Comm Ave eastbound, proceed under the Mass Ave underpass, turn right onto Arlington, left onto Boylston, and finish on Charles Street.

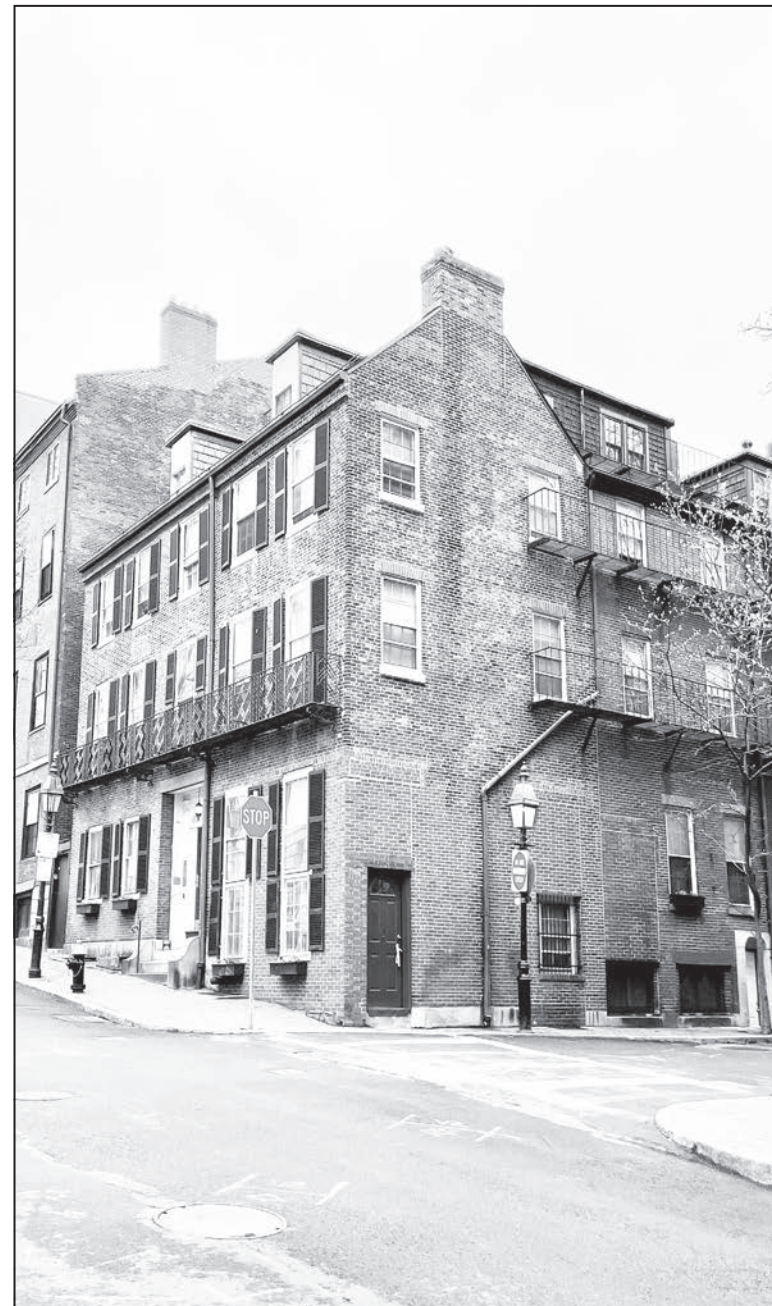
Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
BACK BAY			
McCroskery, Peter	Pamela A Lees RET	122 Beacon St #7	\$2,000,000
Moraco, Robert F	Cairde LLC	280 Beacon St #51	\$1,850,000
Lamba, Kirti K	Johnson, Erik	6 Clarendon St #201	\$1,262,500
Anderson, Rafe	Sizer Sandra Est	278 Clarendon St #6	\$950,000
Siddiqui, Arshad	Comm Back Back Inv Prop	280 Commonwealth Ave #108	\$1,400,000
23 Dartmouth Place LLC	Pollak, Richard A	23 Dartmouth Pl	\$2,499,000
Reed, Michael C	Chen, Abigail E	83 Dartmouth St #2	\$1,475,000
Marlborough Group LLC	179 Marlborough St LLC	179 Marlborough St #2	\$2,710,000
Wang Song Rt	362-2d Comm Ave LLC	366 Commonwealth Ave #2D	\$625,000
BEACON HILL			
Christina L Good RET	Pellow, James P	37 Beacon St #6	\$870,000
Zeff, Julianne R	Jessica K Uphoff RET	2 Hawthorne Pl #60	\$570,000
Novak, Gregory	Weston Enterprises LLC	11 Irving St #5	\$470,000
D&I Rt	16 Irving St LLC	16 Irving St	\$2,864,000
Wallace, Bradford S	Ehrlich, Alexander S	29 Pinckney St #1	\$2,100,000
Wallace, Bradford S	Ehrlich, Alexander S	29 Pinckney St #2	\$2,100,000
Brown, James	Naranbhai, Vivek	80 Revere St #9	\$790,000
Rioux, Mirei	Starlight Holdings LLC	6 Whittier Pl #16K	\$425,000
Averbach, Abigail R	Kane Patricia A Est	6 Whittier Pl #4G	\$334,000
BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE			
Harmel, Sharri	Reilly, Gretchen A	300 Boylston St #907	\$2,425,000
Weissman, Paul A	Leora Mayer T	1 Charles St S #8B	\$2,040,000
Boardman, Linda T	Deanne E Batra Lt	325 Columbus Ave #6	\$970,000
Desantis, Robert	Dao, Quoc T	26 Isabella St #1	\$642,000
Lye, Carolyn T	Rumpelstin, Evelyn W	47 Saint Botolph St #304	\$1,428,000
Kucinkas, Lauren	Steffensen, Carrie L	181 Warren Ave #4	\$915,000
Trustees Of Boston Univ	165 5bay State LLC	165 Bay State Rd	\$5,530,000
Joshi, Shawn	Culhane, Jennifer	478 Beacon St #B2	\$650,000
Ko, Colby S	Ledoux, Elizabeth K	483 Beacon St #83	\$525,000
Boardman, Linda T	Deanne E Batra Lt	325 Columbus Ave #6	\$970,000
Janet M Marrinan T	Tim Vontz T	28 Dwight St #4	\$985,000
Nacca, Jason	34 Dwight Rt	34 Dwight St #1	\$2,900,000
Zahr, Eyad A	Tibbitt, Serenella M	111 Gainsborough St #7	\$785,000
Grove St Prop Boston LLC	35 Grove Street LLC	35 Grove St	\$6,700,000
Pathare, Upamanyu S	Yessenow, Sara L	700 Harrison Ave #413	\$730,000
Emily A Schwartz Gst Irt	Tomich, Theodore	395 Marlborough St #1	\$629,000
Tang, Helen	Barbara Morrison 2017 Ft	183-185A Massachusetts Ave #804	\$1,180,000
Hoffman Jr, David F	Sundaresh, Harish	424 Massachusetts Ave #PH1	\$1,749,500
Jay T Backstrom RET	Lpj Investments Inc	360 Newbury St #809	\$2,400,000
Taylor, Alexander J	Wise, John D	11 Park Dr #31	\$559,000
Johnas, Alex	Nayan Property Ltd	45 Province St #6N	\$1,600,000
Tremont Holdings T	Keswick, Christy	64 Queensberry St #101	\$435,000
183 Ponderous Ore LLC	No Mestaykh LLC	183 Saint Botolph St	\$3,400,000
Death Star Control LLC	Moody, Amy	12 Stoneholm St #322	\$575,000
Barrie, Sarah R	Miller, Patrick E	655-659 Tremont St #1	\$675,000
Hyun, Yeseul	Smith, Richardson K	682 Tremont St #4	\$1,150,000
Sahani, Jitin	Salamack, Samantha A	11 Union Park #6	\$930,000

Attention to Detail

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY PENNY CHERUBINO

THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The wrought iron balcony in the last clue is on 59 Hancock Street, built circa 1810. This address is on the Boston Women's Heritage Trail. They wrote, "Salome Merritt (1843-1900) was a physician, suffragist and lecturer who also played an important role in the civic life of Boston."

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

*He has excited domestic insurrections
destruction of all ages, sexes and conditions.
jury. A Prince whose character is thus
We have warned them from time to time of all
We have appealed to their native justice and
connections and correspondence. They too
ld them as we hold the rest of mankind. One
Congress. Assembled, appealing to the Supreme*

TRUST. EXPERTISE... AND HUNDREDS
OF MILLIONS IN BEACON HILL SALES.

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

Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated.

Gibson

Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

Wu announces applications are now open for block party grants

Special to the Times-Free Press
 Mayor Michelle Wu and the City of Boston's Community Engagement Cabinet announced applications are now open for block party grants to purchase food, party supplies, lawn games, and other items for summer block parties to make it easier and more affordable for neighborhoods to hold community gatherings. Residents and community groups who apply for the mini-grants can receive up to \$750 for their gathering. Applicants should fill out this form with their contact information, date of the block party, and requested use of funds. Additionally, the City will again be offering block party kits this summer for community members to borrow and use at their gatherings. Today's announcement builds on Mayor Michelle Wu's commitment to fostering a fun, safe, and family-friendly summer in Boston. "Boston is a City of neighborhoods, and summer block parties give our residents a chance to get to know one another and enjoy the beauty of our communities," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "This year we're trying to make it easier than ever to host a party by removing financial barriers. I encourage anyone interested to apply and help make this summer a safe, enjoyable season in Boston."

"This grant program is such an exciting opportunity for community members to get financial assistance for the wonderful work they do each summer to create fun

events to connect with their neighbors," said Community Engagement Cabinet Chief Brianna Millor. "I want to encourage as many residents to apply for this funding opportunity to help them create joyful parties in their neighborhood."

Residents must apply at least four weeks prior to their proposed event. To be eligible, all block parties seeking funding must be free and open to the public. Grant applications will be approved on a rolling basis through August 2023 to support block parties all summer.

Residents must also apply for a block party permit before submitting their grant application, as this can take 15 business days to approve. The Office of Civic Organizing will provide permitting support for interested residents.

"A major piece of effective community engagement and collaboration is providing our neighbors with financial tools to bring our communities together," said Gabriela Coletta, District 1 Boston City Councilor. "Thank you to Mayor Wu for securing these Block Party grants, which ensure our neighborhoods maintain their vibrancy and that resources are brought out of City Hall and into our streets."

Additionally, this year the City is again distributing block party kits for residents to borrow games and supplies for neighborhood events. New this year, residents can pick up a block party kit at

their local BCYF community center. There are two different types of block party kits, with supplies including chalk, sports balls, jump ropes, hula hoops, water balloons, bubbles, a splash tower, and more. The block party kits were first launched as a pilot program last year with a partnership between the Mayor's Office of New Urban Mechanics (MONUM) and Office of Civic Organizing (OCO).

"The new block party grants build off of our work last year to encourage residents to come together and build community block by block," said Amy Mahler, MONUM Applied Policy Fellow. "Thanks to the enthusiastic feedback we heard regarding our block party kit pilot program last season, we brought it back this summer while making it easier for residents to pick up the kits at their neighborhood BCYF community center."

"Block parties really bring out the best of the city and are more important than ever as new neighbors move into our communities," said Brian Gannon, who hosted a block party last year in his neighborhood of East Boston. "These events can bridge the gap between older residents, longtime residents and families and newcomers. A tight knit community that looks out for each other is essential for a rich vibrant community and dancing in the streets together, playing games, street chalk art and sharing food really brings us together."

Agencies partner to host Elder Abuse Investigations Training session

In recognition of Elder Abuse Awareness Day, the Municipal Police Training Committee (MPTC) last week partnered with the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office, the Belmont Police Department, and Springwell, a community-based service provider, to deliver a comprehensive Elder Abuse Investigations Training at the MPTC Lynnfield Academy. Recognizing the complexity of addressing this often-silent problem, state and local experts developed this training to equip 46 Massachusetts law enforcement officers with the necessary knowledge, tools, and strategies to effectively identify, investigate and

respond appropriately to cases of elder abuse.

"Our Administration remains committed to safeguarding the rights and well-being of our most vulnerable residents," Governor Maura Healey said. "By leveraging the collective expertise of both state and community service agencies, trainings like this contribute to strengthening a safer environment for seniors and facilitating a swift, victim-centered response when needed."

"Elder Abuse can affect anyone, including those who are healthy, ailing, or living with a disability," Lieutenant Governor Kimberley Driscoll said. "Together,

we ensure the safety, dignity and wellbeing of our neighbors and loved ones by raising awareness and providing officers with tools to address predatory behaviors."

This Elder Abuse Investigations Training provides awareness about services for older adults and resources for officers, including law enforcement best practices around investigating abuse, neglect, and exploitation. The training also included an in-depth panel discussion on relevant topics related to elder abuse, fostering a greater understanding of the challenges faced by both victims and investigators. The National Coun-

(ABUSE Pg. 12)

OBITUARIES

Francoise Rougny Woodard

July 1, 1928 - June 7, 2023

The family of Francoise Rougny Woodard of Boston, Massachusetts is saddened to announce her death on June 7, 2023 at the age of 94 years.

She will be lovingly remembered by her daughters: Lise Woodard, Kimberley Woodard, Kathryn Woodard, Chris Wolfman; sons-in-law John Reilly and Martin Finucane; grandchildren: Jack, Katie, Chris, Marc, Lise, James, Garrett, Hannah and Tracey; great-grandchildren: Pierce, Celia, John, Patrick, Fia, Theo, Phoebe, Miles and Eva as well as relatives and friends.

Francoise was pre-deceased by her husband of 48 years, Sel-

wyn Clark Woodard. Francoise was passionate about gardening and antiques and was an antique dealer for many years. She graduated from Friends Academy in New York and Hood College in Maryland. She worked for the government before staying home to raise four children primarily in Washington, DC and at several overseas postings. Francoise settled in Boston after Clark's retirement from government service. She cherished her membership in the Beacon Hill Circle for Charity and her many friends there and in her neighborhood.

No memorial service is scheduled at this time.

**To place a memoriam
 please call 781-485-0588**

SERVICE DIRECTORY

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



**24/7
 emergency
 service**

617-723-3296

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

Fully Insured
 Quality Work
 Reasonable Rates
 Free Estimates
 reccapainting@hotmail.com
781-241-2454

20 Years on Beacon Hill

Blue Sky
 Window Cleaning & more

Luis Ramos
 617-212-6141
 lramos932@icloud.com
 References - Insured



**Robert Salvato
 Electrician**

Lic. & Insured since 1985 | #E-31471
 (978) 767-0464
 robin_madden5@aol.com

ADVERTISE IN
 THE TIMES.
 CALL
 781-485-0588

Geek For Hire
 Computer consultant available for
 home or business.

SERVICES INCLUDE:

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



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

OVER 150 PARTICIPANTS IN BOSTON FROGMAN SWIM

The fifth annual Boston Frogman Swim fundraiser took place in Boston Harbor and raised over \$215,000 for the Navy SEAL Foundation, a nonprofit organization that provides support for active, reserve, and veteran SEALs, SWCCs, support personnel, and their families.

The 5K swim, which left from the Piers Park Sailing Center in East Boston, featured nearly 100 swimmers. The group was comprised of former SEALs, special operations veterans, military family members, and supporters, including Gold Star family members of current Navy SEALs. The swimmers were

joined by more than 60 kayakers. 100-year-old Navy Veteran and Boston native Frank Bellotti, who also served as the Lieutenant Governor of Massachusetts from 1963 to 1965, was in attendance for this year's swim.

PHOTOS COURTESY PATRICK QUINN-PAQUET



Above, Boston Frogman Swim participants lining up for start of swim benefiting the Navy SEAL Foundation.



Right, participants celebrate at the start of the Boston Frogman Swim.

ABUSE *(from pg. 11)*

cil on Aging (NCOA) estimates that 10% of Americans aged 60+ have experienced some form of elder abuse totaling at least \$36.5 billion of annual financial abuse loss. One study also estimates that only one in 24 cases of abuse are reported to authorities.

"Yesterday's elder abuse program responds to the growing number of dangerous, predatory behaviors targeting seniors in our communities," Secretary of Public Safety and Security Terrence Reidy said. "Advanced law enforcement training and strong community partnerships are instrumental to enhancing investigations, working effectively with older victims and holding perpetrators accountable. I commend the participating officers as well as our partners at Springwell and the Attorney General's Office for their dedication to the important work of protecting vulnerable residents."

"We are thrilled to collaborate with both state and community partners to deliver critical training to officers across the Commonwealth." MPTC Executive Director Robert Ferullo (Ret. Police Chief) said. "By equipping law enforcement with the latest knowledge, skills and community resources necessary to respond and combat elder abuse, we can make a profound impact on the lives of our most vulnerable community members."

"Elder abuse is a problem that

not only impacts the health, safety, and dignity of elders, but all of us," Attorney General Andrea Joy Campbell said. "We owe our seniors more than just our respect. With partnerships and trainings like these, we have an opportunity to share best practices and take action to address the mistreatment, abuse, exploitation, and neglect seniors face."

"Springwell's Protective Services Program is there to respond whenever a report of elder abuse is made, and we are committed to the goal of alleviating the risk to the elder and supporting their safety, health, and independence. Our team is on the ground, working directly with the older adult, and often their family, as well as our partner organizations, to achieve the best possible outcome. We bring understanding to complex situations, working to respect the elder's decisions and meet them where they are at, and that often gets us to the goal of safety." Springwell Protective Services Program Manager Elisa Espinal said.

"The best way to combat Elder Abuse is through a unified effort." Belmont Police Department Lieutenant Kristin Daley said.

In addition to elder abuse, MPTC provides specialized training in a variety of topics to equip officers with a as well as tools to respond swiftly and professionally.

Introducing The Aerie

46 Cedar Lane Way
3-Suite Townhouse



Collin Bray

#1 C21 Agent in Massachusetts

Collin.Bray@C21.com

CollinBray.com

617.512.1095