



JANUARY 11, 2024

THE BEACON HILL TIMES

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THE ADVENT SCHOOL WINTER CONCERT



PHOTO BY MARIANNE SALZA

The Advent School performed its Winter Concert, "Elements: Earth, Wind, Fire, Water, Love," on December 15 at The Church of the Advent. Shown are the third and fourth grade singing, "Autumn Fires." See Pages 5-7 for more photos.

BHAC approves vast majority of 225 applications processed in '23

By Dan Murphy

The Beacon Hill Architectural Commission processed 225 applications in 2023 – up slightly from 222 applications the previous year. According to the BHAC's recently released Year in Review, 49.8 percent of applications in

2023 were approved as submitted (administrative and design) while 16.1 percent of applications were approved with provisos. Another 5.4 percent of applications in 2023 entailed the ratification of violations and subsequent approval of applications.

Additionally, 10.3 percent of

applications from last year are currently being processed and pending a decision, while another 16.1 percent of applications are classified as pending for a variety of reasons (withdrawn, urgent repair, exempt, advisory).

(BHAC Pg. 2)

Boston's Public Garden named state's most romantic destination by Travel + Leisure

By Susanne Beck

It may not have the glamour or the height of California's Griffith Observatory. Or enjoy as provocative a name as the Kissing Bridges of Parke County, Indiana. But according to the December 2023

issue of Travel + Leisure, Boston's own Public Garden ranks as one of the most romantic destinations, by state, in the country.

The magazine describes Beacon Hill's beloved urban oasis as a place to "see swans (both literal and in sculpted paddleboat form)

and plenty of scenery." Those who take the time to meander along its crisscrossing paths on 24 acres also know it as a tastefully curated landscape of various trees, bushes, and in warmer months, an explosion

(BOSTON'S PUBLIC GARDEN Pg. 2)

Wu highlights initiatives in State of the City address

By Adam Swift

The future of Franklin Park, one of Boston's open space and recreational jewels, took center stage at Mayor Michelle Wu's State of the City address at MGM Music Hall on Tuesday night.

Wu also highlighted new initiatives to house families, expand homeownership, and plan for a green and growing city during her second annual address. She outlined partnerships with employers, higher education, and cultural institutions she said will transform public schools and BPS athletics and expand opportunities for students and families from pre-K to college, including summer jobs and unprecedented access to spaces for learning and curiosity.

"Last summer, Boston scored a huge goal: landing the National Women's Soccer League's newest franchise in 2026," said Wu.

With the city's partners at Boston Unity Soccer Group, Wu said the city is excited to renovate the



MAYOR'S OFFICE PHOTO BY JOHN WILCOX
Boston Mayor Michelle Wu delivers her State of the City address at the MGM Music Hall on Tuesday night.

historic White Stadium at Franklin Park into the first sports venue in the country that will co-house a pro sports team and a public school athletics program.

"Our students will have a world-class grass field, eight-lane track, brand new locker rooms,

(STATE OF THE CITY Pg. 10)



MAYOR'S OFFICE PHOTO BY JOHN WILCOX

Members of the Boston EMS attended the State of the City address at the MGM Music Hall.

BHAC (from pg. 1)

Only 2.2 percent of applications in 2023 were either denied without prejudice (meaning the applicant could return to the commission with a modified proposal on the same application) or denied outright. Of 73 violations last year, 43 were ratified.

“If you look at the data, you see there’s only 2.2 percent of applications denied, so that’s the big message we want to get across,” said Nicholas Armata, BHAC staff, who added that the “key component” for the approval of applications is outreach to staff on the part of applicants and them using the resources available to the public.

“I pride myself on keeping the website up to date with current information and making sure I set time aside for the public to answer questions on what’s approvable,

and video doorbells are certainly approvable, provided they are installed in accordance with the district standards,” he said.

And with the BHAC seeing increasingly more applications for video doorbell systems, Armata also reminds the public that all exterior features visible from a public way or park fall under the purview of the Beacon Hill Historic District. He encourages would-be applicants to reach out to staff with any questions they might have.

“We’re always happy to lead you in the right direction on what’s approvable, and video doorbells are certainly approvable, provided they are installed in accordance with the district standards,” said Armata.

The commission also welcomed three new commissioners in 2024

– Maurice Finegold representing the Greater Boston Real Estate Board, along with two new representatives for the Beacon Hill Civic Association, Curtis Kemeny and Sandy Steele.

“All three have been critical to providing a balanced perspective on each application,” said Armata.

Finegold brings extensive experience and knowledge of history, according to Armata, while Steele is a longtime Beacon Hill resident, as well as an attorney. Another Beacon Hill resident, Kemeny has a background in real estate.

The four new businesses that opened in the Beacon Hill Historic District last year included Barnaby’s Toy Shack, Music Research Library, Vico Style, and 25 Willow Boutique.

Meanwhile, the city submitted a home-rule petition on Aug. 24

to expand the boundaries of the Beacon Hill Historic District by enlarging the area to include all of the North Slope via the addition of an approximately 40-foot-wide area running from Charles Circle to Bowdoin Street along Cambridge Street on the Beacon Hill side, which isn’t currently included in the district. Rep. Jay Livingstone subsequently filed proposed legislation (H.4076, “An Act

enhancing the Historic Beacon Hill District”), which mirrors the home-rule petition unanimously passed by the City Council and signed by Mayor Michelle Wu. This bill was the subject of a public hearing of the Joint Committee on Municipalities and Regional Government held on Oct. 17 at the State House, and its status is now described as “in process,” according to the BHAC.

BOSTON’S PUBLIC GARDEN (from pg. 1)

sion of colorful flowers and buds. Travel and Leisure claims the garden is “the perfect place for a... bike ride, or picnic” which is not true. Picnicking is fine, biking is not.

Yet for those who feel the sting of Cupid’s arrows as they wander along, marriage proposals, wedding ceremonies, and wedding pictures (the last two with special permits) are welcome. Friends of the Public Garden President, Elizabeth (Liz) Vizza says, by way of the Boston Parks Department, that 143 couples were wed in the Garden in 2023 with an unknown number more professing love and a long-term formal commitment whether on bended knee or not.

The Boston Public Garden was established in 1837 as the first public botanical garden in the U.S. A stand-alone organization, Friends

of the Public Garden (“Friends”), was formed in 1970, as deplorable conditions and insufficient funding from the City led to low expectations by residents, neglect, and vandalism. Since then, Friends has partnered with the city in caring for, enhancing, and advocating for the Garden as well as the Boston Common and the Commonwealth Avenue Mall. It remains one of the oldest public-private partnerships in the nation thanks in large part to financial support from 3,000 members from more than 131 communities across Massachusetts and 31 states.

So, when feelings of romance suddenly strike as you walk through the Garden on any given day, thank those who have been smitten enough to show their love in the form of a check.



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NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDUP

WECA MEETING SCHEDULED FOR JAN. 11 AT AMY LOWELL APARTMENTS

The West End Civic Association (WECA) will hold its next meeting in person on Thursday, Jan. 11, at 6 p.m. in the Community Room at Amy Lowell Apartments at 65 Martha Road.

Guests from the WECA Green-space Committee will give updates about plans for the Greatest Neighborhood Park and other active and future green initiatives.

Masks are encouraged.

'ART FOR A WOMAN'S SOUL' PROGRAM COMING JAN. 11 TO WEST END BRANCH LIBRARY

The Friends of the West End Public Library are sponsoring a free program, "Art for a Woman's Soul," on Thursday, Jan. 11, from 5:30-7:30 pm in the Community Room at the West End Branch Library at 151 Cambridge St.

At this time, Mikki Zeitouni will present a 10-minute meditation to release the day's stress followed by a fun gathering for women to do art and socialize.

There is seating for 20 people and registration is required.

R.S.V.P. and sign up early by emailing Mikki at mikki.zeitouni@raveis.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS SPONSORED BY WEST END MUSEUM

Join the West End Museum for an author talk with Dan Dain as he walks us through his new book, "A History of Boston" on Thursday, Jan. 25, at 6 p.m. at The Hub on Causeway Community Room at 52 Causeway St.

Learn about how certain policies have caused urban success and failure throughout Boston's history, and how the West End neighborhood has been impacted by these cycles. Dan will talk about this history and its implications for Boston's future. There will be time at the end for a Q&A session.

Tickets cost \$10 each and can be purchased at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/a-history-of-boston>.

Also, the WEM will sponsor its Boston Trivia Night on Wednesday, Jan. 31, at 6:30 p.m. at Causeway Boston at 65 Causeway St.

Put your Boston history knowledge to the test at our second trivia

night, held at Causeway Restaurant and Bar. Sign up with your friends and form a team or join one on the spot. The winning team will win a prize from the WEM.

Tickets cost \$10 each and can be purchased at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/boston-trivia-night>.

THE VILNA TO HOLD INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY EVENT ON JAN. 28

In commemoration of International Holocaust Remembrance Day, The Vilna Shul at 18 Phillips St. will offer a multi-faceted and interactive event on Sunday, Jan. 28, from 3 to 5 p.m.

The event, co-sponsored by Facing History and Ourselves and the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Boston, and presented in partnership with Boston's 3G and the American Association of Jewish Holocaust Survivors, will open with a gallery talk by Boston-area photographer and montage artist, Leslie Starobinsky, along with a viewing of her photo exhibit, 'Looming in the Shadows of Lodz.' The event will also feature a screening of 'Who Will Write Our History?' – filmmaker Roberta Grossman's documentary about the Oyneg Shabes Archive.

Following the screening, conversations will center on such questions as Why is it important who tells your story?; What are the consequences of someone else telling your story?; In what ways can we be sensitive to the idea that as we consume news today, the identity of the storyteller will shape our perception of the story and the people involved?; How does this relate to your own experiences consuming and/or producing media?; Whose story do I tell, and how do I tell it?; What story about my community and culture should I preserve for future generations?; How is storytelling a form of resistance?; and What tools can we use to tell our stories?

Participants will then have the opportunity to share what they have created with another participant whose story is different from their own. In this way, the program intends to build community, create connections between participants of varied backgrounds, and engage attendees in dynamic experiences linking history to their own stories and legacies.

Tickets for the event cost \$18 each. Visit <https://vilnashul.org/>

events/event/ihrd to purchase tickets or for more information.

SECOND BACK STREET NEIGHBORHOOD PROJECT MEETING TO BE HELD VIRTUALLY ON FEB. 1

The Esplanade Association will hold its second Back Street Neighborhood Project Meeting to discuss ongoing safety projects at Esplanade entrances on Back Street. The meeting will take place via Zoom on Thursday, Feb. 1, at 6 p.m.

During this gathering, EA representatives will review progress made to-date, hear neighborhood feedback, and discuss proposed plans for additional safety improvements. Your presence and insights will greatly contribute to the success of the meeting, and the project.

Register for the meeting via zoom at <https://bit.ly/BackStMeeting>.

To learn more about the project, visit esplanade.org/crosswalks; and to learn about other pathway safety initiatives, visit esplanade.org/pathways.

NICHOLS HOUSE MUSEUM VIRTUAL PROGRAM TO EXPLORE MADELINE YALE WYNNE'S 'GARDEN OF HEARTS' CHEST

The Nichols House Museum will examine Madeline Yale Wynne's recently rediscovered 'Garden of Hearts' chest in the context of the Arts and Crafts Movement, which came to prominence in Deerfield, Mass., during the early 20th century, during a virtual program on Tuesday, Feb. 6, at 6 p.m.

Daniel Sousa, the assistant curator of Historic Deerfield, will be on hand for a discussion on Wynne (1847-1918), who has been called the "leading intellectual light of the Deerfield Arts and Crafts Movement," as well as the 'Garden of Hearts' bride's chest she created in 1903.

Adorned with paint, decorative carving, hammered-copper panels, wrought-iron hinges, and semi-precious stones, the chest was inspired by 18th-century Connecticut Valley chests and can now be found in Historic Deerfield's collection. Its front lid depicts a landscape with three inverted heart-shaped trees along a winding river. The chest

has been called "a tour-de-force of Arts and Crafts design" that showcases Wynne's talents as a painter, metalsmith, and woodworker, and it's widely considered her greatest artistic accomplishment.

The cost to attend is \$10 per person general admission and \$5 per person for museum members. Visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/garden-of-hearts-madeline-yale-wynne>, to register for the event. The program will be recorded, and guests will receive limited access to the recording for a limited time after the event.

UPSTAIRS DOWNSTAIRS TO HOLD IN-STORE 13TH ANNIVERSARY ON SATURDAY, FEB. 10

Upstairs Downstairs Home will

be celebrating its 13th anniversary during an in-store event at 69 Charles St. on Saturday, Feb. 10, from 4 to 6 p.m.

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).

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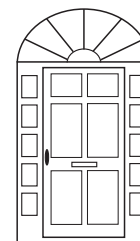
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Larceny

01/08/24 - An individual walked into Area A-1 headquarters to report that his cell phone was stolen earlier that day out of the West End Branch Library on Cambridge Street. The victim stat-

ed that he left his phone on a table and got up to get a drink of water, but when he returned, the phone was gone. Area A-1 detectives were expected to further investigate this matter.

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EDITORIAL

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. NEVER GAVE UP

For those of a certain age, it is hard to imagine that 2024 will mark 56 years since the assassination of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in Memphis while he was standing on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel on April 4, 1968. Recalling how we felt when he first heard the news of Dr. King’s murder still brings chills and a deep sense of sadness that never has subsided.

For those who are too young to have been alive in that era of American history, there are a few things that everyone should know about Dr. King that should provide inspiration to all of us.

First, Dr. King was fearless. He knew from the inception of his rise to prominence of the Civil Rights movement that he would become a target for those who opposed change. Yet, even though he often told others that he believed his death would be imminent, he did not relent in his fight to continue his work in the civil rights movement.

Second, Dr. King stood for the rights of all Americans, not merely those of color. He was in Memphis working with striking sanitation workers, whose pay and working conditions he was seeking to help improve. He was an outspoken critic of the Vietnam War because he knew it to be an unjust war, not only for poor Americans who could not get a college deferment for the draft, but also for the people of Vietnam, whose homeland was being bombed into oblivion at great profit for the American military-industrial complex.

If Dr. King were alive in the present era, there is no doubt that he would have been in the forefront of the Black Lives Matter movement that has highlighted the ongoing racism and economic inequality that oppresses Americans of all races today.

Dr. King’s words ring as true today as they did two generations ago; his “I Have A Dream” and “I’ve Been to the Mountaintop” speeches are among the most powerful not only in American history, but in all of Western civilization.

All of us should learn from the example set by Dr. King that in each of us is the power to change the world -- that each of us has the capacity to inspire others, whether through our words or deeds, whether on a small or large scale, to make the world a better place.

Many of our fellow citizens have followed the path set by Dr. King and many more will do so in the years ahead. So as we celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day this Monday, let us recall not only his memory and the many things that he accomplished, but let us also resolve never to give in to the forces of intolerance, prejudice, and hate that continue to plague our country and the world today.

REPLACE BELICHICK? GOOD LUCK WITH THAT!

As we are writing this at the beginning of the week, there is rampant speculation that the Patriots are going to fire Bill Belichick, who undeniably is the greatest football coach of all time.

Yes, he had a great quarterback in Tom Brady, but Belichick’s genius was in taking players such as Brady (who, after all, was the 200th pick in the draft) and turning them into pros who could fill a niche (Teddy Bruschi, Julian Edelman, and Kevin Faulk being prime examples) on his teams. Belichick’s Patriots were a classic case of the sum of the whole being greater than the sum of the parts in much the same way that Red Auerbach, another coaching genius, did for the Celtics.

Belichick’s attention to detail was unparalleled, which explains why he routinely could allow great players to leave -- think Lawyer Milloy, Ty Law, Richard Seymour, Vince Wilfork, etc. -- and still be able to turn unheralded replacements into top-notch players.

To be sure, Bill Belichick wasn’t perfect -- we still have never heard a logical explanation for why he did not play Malcolm Butler in that Super Bowl with Philly -- but when you look around at all of the so-called “new wave” of football coaches, there is a lot of mediocrity, and even the best are not in his league. (The only current coach who comes close to Belichick is an old school guy, Andy Reid of Kansas City.)

The Patriots need to rebuild and if there’s anyone who knows how to do that, it is Bill Belichick (although even he will have a hard time unless the Pats can draft a quarterback who can compete with Ryan Allen, Mahomes, Tua, Joe Burrow, Lamar Jackson, Justin Herbert, and C.J. Stroud).

Our prediction is this: If Belichick goes, whoever is his replacement will last about three years -- and the Pats and their fans will realize that there was only one Bill Belichick, the G.O.A.T.

Susan Abell bids farewell to Friends of the Public Garden

By Dan Murphy

After spending the past eight years promoting and spreading public awareness of the Friends of the Public Garden as its director of communications and outreach, Susan Abell retired from the role at the end of December.

Prior to joining the organization in the spring of 2016, Abell had worked for the Boston Harbor Alliance (the forerunner of the present-day Boston Harbor Now), so she was generally aware of parks friends groups, she said, although she was then admittedly unfamiliar with the Friends of the Public Garden itself.

“It was familiar, yet unfamiliar, ground,” said Abell, who added that as a Boston-area resident, she was already well acquainted with the three parks that fall under the umbrella of the Friends of the Public Garden -- the Boston Common, the Public Garden, and the Commonwealth Avenue Mall.

Among the first challenges Abell tackled upon joining the Friends staff was helping to bring the organization into the modern age, including entirely revamping the website.

“When I arrived, one of the things I wanted to do, and one of the things that the Friends wanted me to do, was overhaul the website because it hadn’t been addressed in a number of years and was desperately in need of an update,” said Abell. “There were a lot of technical decisions that needed to be made that are critical to how people use [the website].”

While Abell was able to successfully fulfill her goal of overhauling the Friends’ website, she added, “It probably needs to be updated again.”

At a retirement party for Abell hosted by Leslie Singleton Adam, board chair, on Dec. 20 at Gibson Sotheby’s, Liz Vizza, president of the Friends of the Public Garden, credited Abell for enthusiastically taking on existing programming and working with consultant Karin Turner to make signature events, like Making History on the Common and Duckling Day, “bigger, better, and much more fun” than they ever were before.

Of this work, Abell said, “It’s really been a great partnership working with Karin and the Friends staff to make these events fun because it’s a lot of hard work and planning.”



COURTESY OF FRIENDS OF
THE PUBLIC GARDEN

Susan Abell, who recently stepped down from her longtime role as director of communications and outreach for the Friends of the Public Garden.

As for promoting the work of the Friends, Vizza credited Abell for getting the group’s name in the parks, especially through new signage.

In particular, the ‘Friends at Work’ signs, with the approval of the Boston Parks Department, have popped up around ongoing projects in the three parks over the past few years to inform visitors that ongoing work and maintenance projects there can be credited to the Friends. “Otherwise, they’d have no way of knowing,” said Abell.

Abell also helped develop and grow the Friends’ tour program, which Vizza called “such a successful asset for the public, including the neighbors who have learned so much about the Garden in their midst.”

Together with two volunteers -- Sidney Kenyon and Sherley Smith -- Abell created the ‘Untold Stories of the Public Garden’ tour program, which Abell said was based on a “wonderful idea from Sidney and Sherley to educate the public about the history, horticulture and sculpture in the Public Garden.”

Abell was charged with finding volunteer tour guides; train-

ing and educating them on the history of the Public Garden; and then designing the tours.

“We sort of created it out of nothing,” said Abell. “Some modifications have been made along the way, but it’s basically the same program that exists today.”

Additionally, Abell helped nurture the Young Friends into a “committed cohort of supportive stakeholders” who will help bring the three parks into the next generation, said Vizza. Abell also mentored two staff members -- Beth Jordan and then her successor, Jan Trouselek, who now serves as the Friends’ communications, outreach, and design associate -- during her time with the organization. (Abell credits Trouselek for taking the reins of the Friends’ social media presence and allowing it to expand significantly.)

In expressing gratitude to Abell at her retirement party, Vizza said, “Most importantly -- I have appreciated, and will miss, your straight talk, your honest assessment of what might work and what might be a disaster. Your humor, your smarts, and your ability to roll with the punches -- as working in this crazy world of caring for public greenspaces requires of us.”

Of Abell and her contributions to the Friends group, Adam said, “Sometimes when I think about the Friends, I think about the images you see and the work we do, and so much of what comes to people’s minds is the brand Susan was so important in developing. She really helped develop the brand...through the Young Friends, the docent tours, and our programming, like ‘Making History on the Common’ and ‘Duckling Day’ -- all things that Susan had an important role in.”

Adam credits Abell’s work with the Young Friends and staff members, like Trouselek, for set-

(ABELL Pg. 9)

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THE ADVENT SCHOOL WINTER CONCERT

Photos by Marianne Salza

The Advent School performed its Winter Concert, “Elements: Earth, Wind, Fire, Water, Love,” on December 15 at The Church of the Advent. Students celebrated the

brightness of the seasons through song, poetry readings, and a sword dance. They described letting one’s spirit be free, compared friendship to gold, and expressed the importance of harmony.



Emma and Ava singing, “Corner of the Sky.” See pages 6 and 7 for more photos.



Vivienne and Kiri, Class of 2024, reciting the poem, “Water, Water Everywhere.”



Kindergarteners, Sia and Josie, singing, “Put Your Hand in My Hand.”



Fifth grade students performing a sword dance.

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THE ADVENT SCHOOL WINTER CONCERT

PHOTOS BY MARIANNE SALZA



Max, Tagg, and Eleanor singing, “Autumn Fires.”



Second graders, Tara and Sabine, singing, “My Shadow.”



Second grade singing, “My Shadow.”



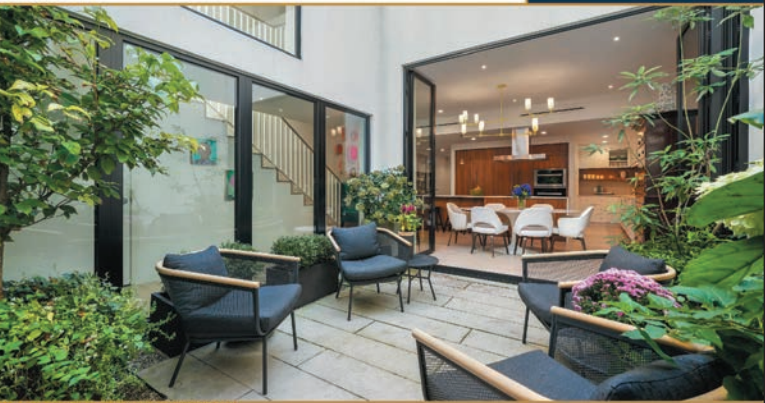
First grade singing, “The Water is Wide.”

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THE ADVENT SCHOOL WINTER CONCERT

PHOTOS BY MARIANNE SALZA



Eleanor and Yvonne, Class of 2024, reciting the poem, "Light & Shadow"



Emma, Alexandra, and Vivienne singing the finale song, "Get Together"



Alexandra and Jemin, Class of 2024, reciting the poem, "A Golden Chain"



Alex and Daria, Class of 2024, reciting the poem, "The Plough of Time"



Emma and Ava singing, "Corner of the Sky"

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BA

CHEERS TO ARTÚ AND THE FRATTAROLI FAMILY FOR A CELEBRATION OF LA BEFANA

A celebration of La Befana, generously sponsored by Artú and the Frattaroli family, marked not only the end of the long and festive holiday season in Italy, but also at the ABCD North End/West End Neighborhood Service Center (NE/WE NSC). The Feast of the Epiphany is celebrated January 6 with a national holiday in Italy, and the tradition of La Befana is a large part of Italian Christmas celebrations. Epiphany honors the 12th day of Christmas when

the three Wise Men arrived at the crèche bearing gifts for the Christ Child. According to the Italian legend, La Befana, a witch riding a broom, refused to join the Wise Men on their journey to see the baby Jesus. When she regrets her decision, she sets out to bring gifts to the Child but never finds him. Instead, she leaves gifts for other children. Italian children leave out their shoes or put up stockings for the Befana to fill on January 5th, Epiphany Eve. Naughty children

receive coal.

There was no coal at the NE/WE NSC, but rather a delicious lunch consisting of misto salad, rotisserie chicken, roasted carrots and potatoes, and penne puttanesca. It was a warm, cozy day and a wonderful way to kick off 2024. Thank you again, Artú and the Frattaroli family, for the food and love that you bestowed upon the seniors in the neighborhood!



L-R Colleen Holden of Artú, General Manager Gianni Frattaroli, Artú, and ABCD NE/WE NSC Acting Director Julia Power.



Ben Tayag, District Director, Office of State Senator Lydia Edwards speaks with North End seniors.



The tables were full with ABCD North End/West End Neighborhood Service Center for the celebration.



Joe Creason, Legislative Aide, Office of Representative Jay Livingstone, greets a West End constituent.



Joe Creason, Legislative Aide, Office of Representative Jay Livingstone, visits with some West End seniors.

CITY PAWS

A dog for all seasons

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

Some dogs enjoy our changeable New England weather. They are adaptable and happy to go out and explore as long as they are with you. Others are happier basking in the warm sun on a beach or frolicking in the snow in winter.

Did you ever consider that your relationship with weather conditions should influence your choice of dog? If you hate the cold, ice, and snow, a high-energy dog who needs a lot of exercise any time of the year might be difficult. On the other hand, if you love the summer and want to take long dog walks on sunny days, a flat-faced dog like a Bulldog might have breathing problems trying to keep up with you.

Origins Make a Difference

The seasonality of a dog depends, in part, on genetics and breeding. A dog's body, tail, coat, and personality depend on the work humans refined the breed to perform. Among the best examples of this are sled dogs. A clue to the weather adaptation of the Alaskan Malamute and Siberian Husky is in their name and their work. They originated in cold places to pull sleds.

The American Kennel Club (AKC) points out the necessary qualities of a sled dog. "One of the most important is good feet. Long-distance races are tough on a dog's body, and the feet bear the brunt of the work." AKC continues, "A healthy appetite and a thick coat are also important. Picky eaters might not take in the

necessary calories on the trail, which reduces their performance ability. A healthy coat with a thick undercoat helps keep a dog warm and protected from the elements and preserves those essential calories."

However, while genes are one factor, within breeds, you'll find dogs who adapt to seasons in far different ways. Our first Westie, Sassy, loved basking in the sun. Number two, Maggie Mae, adapted to any season as long as she could be outside socializing, whereas Poppy loves playing in the snow.

Adaptations Can Help

We can help a dog adapt to our seasonal conditions. In winter, if you have a short-haired dog who needs a lot of exercise, like a greyhound, you must protect her from the cold and wet. Friends with a former racing dog use a layered coat system for winter walks. It has a thin layer for cool days, a thicker layer with a snood to keep her ears and neck warm on cold days, and a rain jacket that fits over either or both for wet days.

Aside from adaptive clothing, you can vary the time of your exercise walks. Take that husky out anytime in winter but in the coolest hours in summer.

Age and Health

Other adaptations are for age and health. You may have specific exercise directions from your veterinarian for a dog with a specific medical condition. Ask about this on your next vet visit, especially if you and your dog have moved



AKC says for a sleddog, "A healthy coat with a thick undercoat helps keep a dog warm and protected from the elements and preserves those essential calories." (Photo: Getty Images.)

here from an area with very different weather.

Carriers and strollers can make longer walks possible for dogs with injuries, health conditions, and as they age. Years ago, friends with an aging Airedale bought her a little red wagon to transport her to a favorite park. Recently, we spotted a gentleman pushing his Bulldog in a low-to-ground stroller. It enabled the big boy to step in and out by himself, a perfect adaptation for both the dog and the guardian.

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

ABELL (from pg. 4)

ting up the organization for future success.

Also, Adam pointed out that Ryan Woods, commissioner of the Boston Parks and Recreation Department, was on hand for Abell's retirement party, underscoring the ongoing "hard work and partnership" between the city and the Friends of the Public Garden.

Likewise, Woods wrote in an email: "The Boston Parks Department has been partnering with the Friends of the Public Garden for 54 years. For the past eight years, it has been great to work with Susan Abell. Since Susan arrived, the Friends have reimagined their website, improved their communications, strengthened their social media platforms, enhanced their

programming, and made sure everyone felt welcome in the Common, Garden and Comm. Ave.

Mall. I wish her the best in her retirement, and I am sure we will see her volunteering in the parks."

OBITUARIES

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

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BEACON HILL ARCHITECTURAL COMMISSION

The Beacon Hill Architectural Commission will hold its monthly public hearing on Thursday, January 18, 2024, 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 or calling 1-929-205-6099 and entering meeting id # 974 8195 3696. You can also submit written comments or questions to BeaconHillAC@boston.gov.

The public can offer testimony. Discussion Topics Violation Review APP # 24.0489 BH 53 Grove Street

Proposed Work: Ratification of

unapproved windows at basement level.

Design Review

APP # 24.0494 BH 76 Revere Street

Proposed Work: Change color of door from black to Codman Claret.

APP # 24.0620 BH 131 Charles Street

Proposed Work: New store sign.

APP # 24.0606 BH 88 Chestnut Street

Proposed Work: Change color of door from orange to black. Install new light fixture.

APP # 24.0512 BH 48 Beacon Street

Proposed Work: Add new window at side facade.

APP # 24.0554 BH 36 Beacon Street

Proposed Work: Repair coal chute cover and surrounding sidewalk.

APP # 24.0577 BH 9 Spruce Place

Proposed Work: Relocate existing door to side facade.

Administrative Review

APP # 24.0602 BH 81 BEACON STREET: At penthouse level, replace 18 total windows. Front elevation: seven total 6 over 6 wood, true divided lights. Rear elevation: three total 6 over

6 and eight total 4 over 4 wood, true divided lights. The existing aluminum storm windows to be removed upon installation. The new sash would be fabricated with mortise and tenon construction. New sash will be true divided lite and double hung. Exterior will be oil based glazing & painted in kind to the existing color to match the building. The new sash will be using clear glass. The Muntin Design would be a 3/16" exterior or wood stem and a 3/4" interior muntin profile at the interior. The existing windows have extensive rot & many are non-operational. No masonry, wood sills or brick moldings would be removed. The

copper flashing at the rear elevation is to remain.

APP # 24.0593 BH 13-15 Pinckney Street: Replace existing skylight with a copper replacement at the recommendation of the Commission during the 11-2023 hearing.

APP # 24.0568 BH 7 Smith Court: Replace existing video doorbell (violation) with doorbell that meets the standards of the district.

Ratification of December 21, 2023 Public Hearing Minutes Staff Updates

STATE OF THE CITY (from pg. 1)

and conditioning and study spaces to call home," said Wu. "We'll also create a new booster fund for BPS athletics to cover expenses for uniforms, extra equipment, and dedicated transportation."

Wu noted that the plans for a revitalized Franklin Park extend beyond bringing a professional soccer team to a renovated White Stadium.

"For my family and many others, there is no more magical place in the city, with its historic stone bridges; wooded trails; and beloved community spaces," said Wu. "But our biggest park has suffered from decades of disinvestment."

This year, the mayor said the city will act on recommendations of the Franklin Park Coalition and community members to begin restoring Franklin Park to its full-est potential.

The city will hire a park administrator and six new maintenance staff, bringing dedicated park staffing to its highest level in over 50 years, Wu said. In addition, she said the city will begin the community process to reimagine and invest in a home of the Elma Lewis Playhouse.

"Every young person deserves to grow up in a city with wide open spaces that coax our legs into running – that remind us to breathe deep and look up at the sky," said Wu.

Rickie Thompson, the President of the Franklin Park Coalition, said her organization is thrilled to celebrate the mayor's significant new investments in Franklin Park.

"The Coalition has been advocating for renovations and additional staffing for a significant time," said Thompson. "We're very grateful that Mayor Wu is responsive to these requests and will work to update this critical

resource that has been neglected for too long."

Jennifer Epstein, the controlling partner of Boston Unity Soccer, applauded Wu's vision and the partnership to revitalize White Stadium.

"The transformation of the stadium into a world-class sports facility presents an incredible opportunity for BPS student-athletes, the communities around the park, and our soccer club," said Epstein. "We are building our team for Boston and the diverse communities represented here, and we thank the City for its leadership. Working together with the City and members of the community, we look forward to delivering a reimagined White Stadium that enhances our city and contributes positively to the vibrancy and activation of beloved Franklin Park."

Throughout Wu's address, there was a focus on housing, education, and the future for young people in the city.

"Time and again, we have proven the future is ours to shape," said Wu. "And day by day, we're following through on Boston's promise to be a green and growing City for everyone. As a mom—and a BPS parent—I know that to truly be the best City for every family, we have to give our young people the world: in the classroom, in community, in every corner of our City."

Wu announced that the City will eliminate barriers to building accessory dwelling units (ADUs) this year by changing zoning to make these small homes as-of-right citywide. The ADU program allows owner occupants to create smaller, independent units inside their homes or in their yards.

The mayor also announced plans to identify locations for near-

ly 3,000 new, modern, energy-efficient public housing units that will be built over the next decade, which she said will be the first new net public housing units built in Boston in more than 40 years.

"From Chinatown to West Roxbury, public housing makes it possible for so many of our seniors, and veterans, and residents with disabilities to stay in our city, and for so many of our young people to grow up here – including two of our newest city councilors," said Wu.

Across the city, Wu said too many families are getting displaced when their apartment buildings are scooped up by private investors.

"We're launching a fund to make these buildings permanently affordable – doubling down on our success last year keeping 114 families in their homes in East Boston," said Wu. "This year, we will deploy the fund to protect 400 more families citywide."

For students, Wu said several new partnerships with higher education institutions will ensure that BPS high school students have access to early college and career pathways.

Bunker Hill Community Community College (BHCC) will broaden its partnership with Charlestown High School by offering every student the opportunity to take college courses either through dual enrollment or early college pathways in business, technology, and health.

In September, BHCC and Charlestown High School will launch the City's second Year 13 program, which provides a full year of free college courses to Charlestown graduates. Roxbury Community College will partner with Boston International Newcomers Academy (BINCA), the Margarita



MAYOR'S OFFICE PHOTO BY JOHN WILCOX

Boston City Councilor Gabriela Coletta, along with other officials, attended the Mayor's State of the City address at the MGM Music Hall on Tuesday night.

Muñiz Academy, and English High School to launch the first early college incubator designed specifically for multilingual students.

Mass General Brigham will deepen its partnership with the Edward M. Kennedy Academy for Health Careers to ensure Boston's healthcare professions reflect the community, Wu said.

Wu also announced that Boston Public Schools has signed an agreement with UMass Boston and Chancellor Marcelo Suárez-Orozco to transform the BCLA-McCormack High School into the district's first University-Assisted Community Hub School.

The mayor also introduced a new program to help students and their families continue their education outside the walls of the school and some of the city's most famous institutions.

Starting in February 2024, on the first and second Sundays of each month, every BPS student and up to three family members will get free admission to the Boston Children's Museum, the Franklin Park Zoo, the Institute of Contemporary Art, the Museum of Fine Arts, the Museum of Science, and the

New England Aquarium. Families will show a BPS school ID or an electronic pass to gain admission.

The mayor also hit upon the city's continuing commitment to being a green city.

"Last year, I promised to ban fossil fuels in new city buildings, and we did: Already, two new community centers and two libraries in progress will be fossil fuel free," said Wu. "And this year, we will introduce zero net carbon zoning to make Boston the greenest city in the country."

In her speech, Wu also highlighted several public safety issues.

The mayor said the city is collaborating on a public health-led approach at Mass & Cass that has removed encampments and helped hundreds of people find housing and begin a path to recovery; and partnering on a community-driven safety plan that has achieved the lowest levels of gun violence on record. Wu also noted that a new police contract sets a national precedent for community policing, including discipline reform, detail reform, and investing in officer education.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

The Construction Look-Ahead for the North Washington St. project between January 20 is posted.

Scheduled Work

- Removal of temporary vehicle bridge and pile supports
- Demolition of old bridge structure

Work Hours

- Most work will be done during weekday daytime hours (6:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.).

Travel Tips

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

Drivers should take care to pay attention to all signage and move carefully through the work zone. Police details, lane markings, temporary barriers, traffic cones, sig-

nage, and other tools will be used to control traffic and create safe work zones.

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

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

- BRUINS: January 15 at 1 p.m., January 18 at 7 p.m., and January 20 at 7 p.m.

- CELTICS: January 10 at 7 p.m., January 13 at 7 p.m., January 17 at 7:30 p.m., and 1/19 at 7:30 p.m.

- OTHER EVENTS: January 12 at 8 p.m., and January 14 at 8 a.m.
- How can I find more information?

Stay up-to-date and informed by following @MassDOT on X, formerly known as Twitter, and Mass 511 for real-time updates, visiting the project website, or emailing us with any questions.

You can also sign up to receive project updates via email by clicking this link.

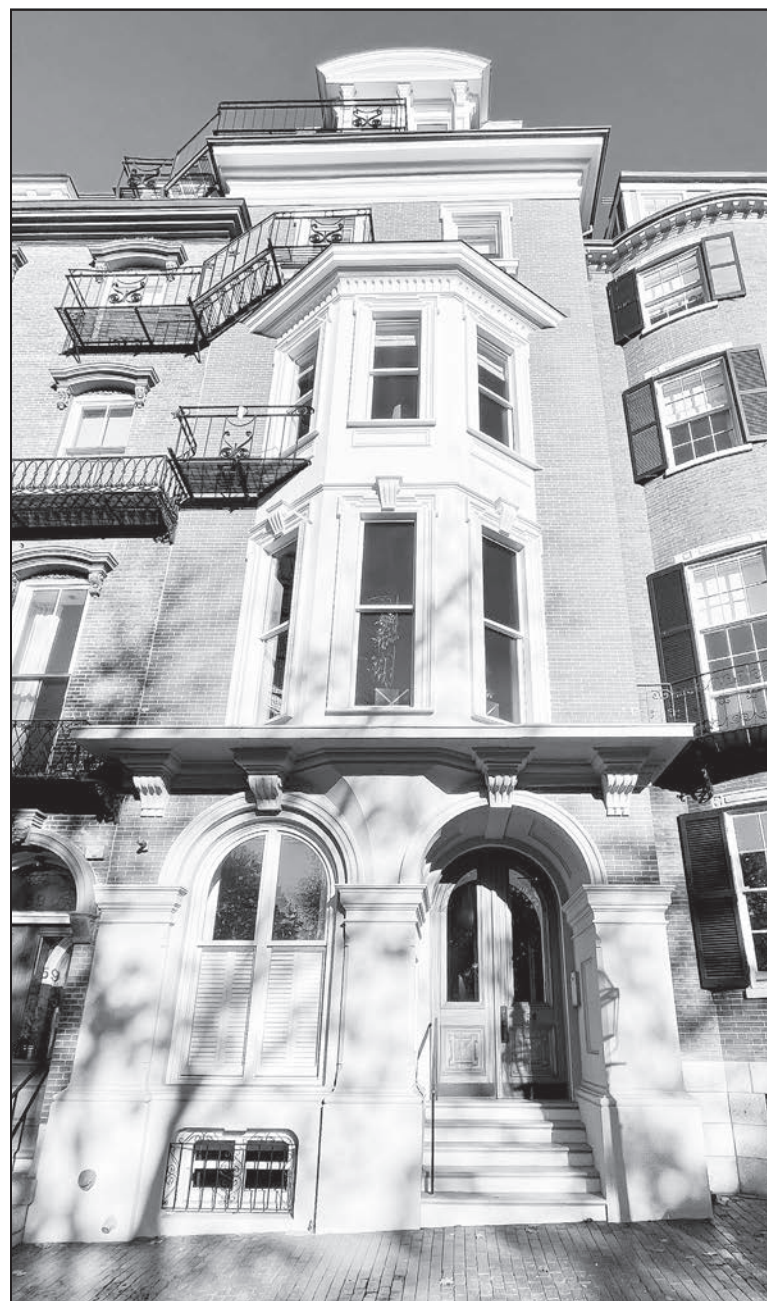
Project website: [Mass.gov/north-washington-street-bridge-replacement](https://www.mass.gov/north-washington-street-bridge-replacement)

Project email: NorthWashingtonStreet@dot.state.ma.us

Attention to Detail

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY PENNY CHERUBINO

THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The arched window in the last clue is on 58 Beacon Street. In his book "Beacon Hill" Allen Chamberlain dates this property to 1806 and attributes the design to Housewright and architect Asher Benjamin.

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

Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
BACK BAY			
Goodridge, Garrett	Doherty, Paul S	204 Beacon St #B	\$920,080
Powell, Robin	Damara, Michael	140 Chandler St #2	\$652,000
492 Beacon St Unit 56 LLC	Robin Rae Blank RET	492 Beacon St #56	\$2,450,000
BEACON HILL			
Growdon, Whitfield B	Ridgeway Rt	30 Hancock St #M	\$1,470,000
BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE			
Feng, Chi-Yen	Ckg Columbus LLC	566 Columbus Ave #403	\$1,550,000
1st Page LLC	Burke, John D	652 Massachusetts Ave #PH	\$1,365,000
River House 615 Nt	Heuser, Renate	145 Pinckney St #615	\$535,000
Blumenthal, Jack	Div Shawmut LLC	100 Shawmut Ave #806	\$1,676,000
45 Kenmere LLC	Trubetskoy Regina Est	121 Tremont St #B4	\$370,000
Weaver, Karen E	Clarkeson, James D	4 Worcester Sq #3	\$905,000
Humbert, Michael	Fugazzotto, Paul A	17 Worcester St #9	\$1,550,000
WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN			
Manickas, Krista	Carleton, Joseph	45-63 Atlantic Ave #10D	\$850,000
Douglas, Priscilla H	Piscitelli, Matthew J	45-63 Atlantic Ave #6C	\$1,659,000
Estia Properties LLC	Costello, Lee C	85 E India Row #22C	\$1,042,000
1818 Associates LLC	Kdfranklin U00 LLC	1 Franklin St #4500	\$11,150,000
Cohen, Andrew F	Rmaj Boston LLC	1 Franklin St #PH1D	\$3,687,000



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"Acorn Valet parking service is a game changer for living in Back Bay. The service is efficient and reliable, and the employees are professional and personable. The cost is reasonable compared to owning a space. My car is parked in a garage, out of the elements, which is perfect for street cleaning, weather emergencies and when I travel.

Now that I have Acorn, I am no longer interested buying or renting alley parking."

Libby M.,
Back Bay

"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

"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

"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

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