



JANUARY 25, 2024

# THE BEACON HILL TIMES

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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



Beacon Hill Women's Forum speaker, Alyce Lee, discusses "Doing Well by Doing Good" during her January 9 presentation at The Hampshire House. See Pages 6 and 7 for more photos.

## BHWF HOSTS GUEST SPEAKER ALYCE LEE

Photos & Story by Marianne Salza

Non-profit professional, Alyce Lee, former chief-of-staff for the late Boston mayor, Tom Menino, discussed her philosophy of "Doing Well by Doing Good" during her January 9 Beacon Hill Women's Forum (BHWF) presentation at The Hampshire House.

"Really love the depth of who you are, and who you are trying to be in the world," said Lee, 64-years-old. "Even when things are hard, you can still love yourself. Your family and friends still love you."

For over 20 years, Lee has been volunteering to causes that improve quality of life for the Greater Boston community. She has donated her efforts to ArtsEmerson, Associ-

(BHWF Pg. 6)



Alyce Lee greeting a friend during the January 9 BHWF.

## BEACON HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY CORNER

### Undecorating Happens This Weekend!

Undecorating is easier than decorating! Meet the BHCA at Charles Street Supply for contractor bags and ladders from 9am-12pm this Saturday, 1/27, and at 12noon on Sunday 1/28. We'd be grateful if you could use

your own ladder or tall stepstool if you have one. Neighbors can undecorate the streets they decorated, and any other areas they can get to. Kitchen scissors or a multi-use tool can cut through the zip ties.

Wreaths, bows and removed zip ties can be placed in the black

contractor bags. Once full, the bags should be tied with a red bow around them and left on the sidewalk. DPW will recognize that these are not residential trash, but the removed holiday decorations.

(BHCA Pg. 2)

## BHAC approves three new windows on side façade of 48 Beacon Street

By Dan Murphy

The Beacon Hill Architectural Commission voted unanimously to approve as submitted an application to add three new windows on the side façade of a 12-story building at 48 Beacon St. during the commission's monthly public hearing held virtually on Thursday, Jan. 18.

Allison Curran, the applicant and a Beacon Hill resident since 2000, said the three new proposed windows would match and mimic a "stack" of existing windows "to make it look proper," adding that the facade where they would go already has windows on some planes. She said adding the new windows would improve the aesthetics of the "monolithic, block-like" side façade.

In making the motion on this application, Commission Chair Mark Kiefer noted that the building is the tallest in the Beacon Hill Historic District by a "considerable height." He also noted the unique circumstances and history surrounding the building, since the "secondary facades" were

left unpenetrated, presumably so that the adjacent lots could later be infilled with buildings. Therefore, the secondary facades were "never meant to be visible," said Chair Kiefer, who added that the proposed new window openings also wouldn't result in the loss of any significant historic fabric or architectural history. Chair Kiefer said interpretation of the Beacon Hill Historic District Architectural Guideline A 7, which mandates 'no new openings in facades shall be allowed, and no changes shall be made to existing window and door openings (unless they involve restoration of original features),' is "wide, varied, and mixed."

Additionally, Chair Kiefer commented on the building's "modernity," since it was built more recently than neighboring structures.

In another matter, the commission voted by a majority to approve the relocation of an existing, wood-paneled door to the side façade at 9 Spruce Place, with

(BHAC Pg. 8)



Petunia, a shop specializing in women's accessories and clothing located at 131 Charles St.

D. MURPHY PHOTO

## Healey-Driscoll Administration announce new opportunities for veteran-owned businesses

The Healey-Driscoll Administration last week announced that the Supplier Diversity Office (SDO), which is responsible for bringing fairness to the state's bidding and procurement process, has entered into a new partnership that will help veteran-owned businesses bid on contracts across the state.

The SDO is partnering with the National Veteran Owned Business Association (NaVOBA), an independent nonprofit that certifies businesses owned by veterans and service-disabled veterans. Both organizations will work together to increase contracting opportunities with veteran-owned businesses.

"Our Supplier Diversity Office does incredible work every day to expand opportunities for diverse and small businesses to win contracts with the state, which makes our businesses, our economy and our communities stronger," said Governor Maura Healey. "Our veterans have sacrificed so much in service to our country, and we take the responsibility of supporting them very seriously here in Massachusetts. We are proud to launch this new partnership that will lower barriers for veteran-owned

businesses to bid for contracts and do business with the state."

"This new partnership is an important step in our administration's efforts to bolster support and services for Massachusetts veterans under the leadership of Secretary Jon Santiago," said Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll. "We look forward to working with NaVOBA to cut red tape and streamline the process for veterans to do business with Massachusetts."

"This is an important step toward removing administrative burdens on veteran-owned businesses to becoming certified, opening up tremendous opportunities for these individuals who have served our country to bid on state contracts and grow their businesses here in Massachusetts," said Secretary for Administration and Finance Matthew J. Gorzkowicz. "I am proud of the work SDO has been doing to expand opportunities and look forward to continuing our efforts to help small businesses thrive."

"The SDO has been successful in helping bring fairness in the state's bidding process through our cross-certification partnerships, such as with the Greater New

England Minority Supplier Development Council, Center for Women's Enterprise, City of Boston, Disability:IN, and the National LGBTBE Chamber of Commerce," said SDO Executive Director William McAvoy. "We expect our partnership with NaVOBA to help business owners who have served their country."

"NaVOBA is thrilled to join forces with the Supplier Diversity Office in this impactful collaboration," said Matthew Pavelek, President and CEO of NaVOBA. "Our partnership exemplifies a shared commitment to advancing opportunities for veteran-owned businesses. We aim to empower veterans to thrive in the business world by streamlining the certification process. We appreciate the Executive Office of Veterans Services for their support and commend the Supplier Diversity Office for their dedication to fostering an inclusive and thriving business environment for our nation's heroes."

Under the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by the SDO and NaVOBA, the SDO will grant certifications to businesses already certified with NaVOBA. Typically, businesses need to apply

and undergo an investigation from the SDO before they receive certification. This agreement streamlines the process, making these businesses able to receive the benefits of SDO certification, such as the ability to bid on state contracts and attend SDO trainings and networking events. Certified businesses are also included in the SDO's listing of certified businesses used by prime vendors and state agencies looking for vendors.

The MOU also allows the SDO to access NaVOBA's membership database to reach out to members about becoming SDO certified.

"Partnerships like the one between the Supplier Diversity Office and NaVOBA ensure veteran-owned businesses play a pivotal role in our economy. This collaboration marks a significant step in fostering their success," said Secretary of Veterans Services Jon Santiago. "The Executive Office of Veterans Services strongly supports initiatives streamlining certification for veteran-owned businesses in state contracts, and we commend the Supplier Diversity Office and NaVOBA for their dedication to empowering our veterans."

"NaVOBA is thrilled to join

forces with the Supplier Diversity Office in this impactful collaboration. Our partnership exemplifies a shared commitment to advancing opportunities for veteran-owned businesses. We aim to empower veterans to thrive in the business world by streamlining the certification process. We appreciate the Executive Office of Veterans Services for their support and commend the Supplier Diversity Office for their dedication to fostering an inclusive and thriving business environment for our nation's heroes."

The announcement marks the SDO's latest effort to aid veteran-owned businesses. Recently, the Commonwealth's Municipal Construction Affirmative Marketing Program (MCAMP), part of the SDO, released new guidelines mandating that certain construction projects must allocate at least three percent of its funding to Veteran-owned Business Enterprises (VBEs) and/or Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Business Enterprises (SDVOBEs). This is a first for the Massachusetts construction industry.

## Suffolk DA Hayden credits cooperation between police, community for record-low 2023 homicides

Suffolk District Attorney Kevin Hayden credited cooperation and participation by residents of Boston's neighborhoods and the "professional and tireless" work by Boston police for the historically low number of homicides in the city in 2023 and the high arrest and prosecution rate of suspects.

There were 37 recorded homicides in Boston in 2023, with two of the deaths having occurred in 2022 but not ruled homicides by the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner until 2023. Arrests were

made in 24 of the cases, resulting in a 67.5 percent case arrest rate.

"This is a heartening story of increased cooperation and participation by members of our community and top-notch work by Boston police officers and homicide detectives, all combining to provide a slice of positive news in relation to this most terrible of crimes. No one is taking any victory laps here, especially when serious crime still disproportionately affects our communities of color, but it's important to point out promising trends," Hayden said. "When our communities reach an 'enough is enough' consensus, positive change is possible and I think that's an important part of what we're seeing here."

Hayden also praised the Massachusetts State Police contingent assigned to his office for making arrests in each of the three homicides that occurred in other Suffolk County communities in 2023.

Hayden credited Mayor Michelle Wu's Office of Neighborhood Services with increasing communication and cooperation with members of the public. He also said that technology, such as video surveillance and digital forensics including cell phones and social media traffic, has given investigators added tools to help solve homicides and other cases.

"One thing I've learned over my career is that reductions in any type of crime come as a result of numerous factors, some of them human and some of them scientific or technological, all contributing to a certain outcome. The continuing goal is to identify what is working, stay with it, and recognize further unmet needs," Hayden said.

Hayden's office secured convictions in 12 of the 13 homicide cases that went to trial in 2023 for a 92.3 percent conviction rate. The office also secured 19 pleas in homicide

cases.

Hayden pointed out that Boston's homicide rate in 2023 compared favorably with numerous other cities with similar population size, including Washington D.C. (678,972 pop., 274 homicides), Baltimore (569,931 pop., 259 homicides), Detroit (620,376 pop., 252 homicides), San Francisco (808,437 pop., 53 homicides), and Memphis (621,056 pop., 397 homicides).

Hayden also praised police and the community for the 20-percent reduction in 2023 shooting incidents in Boston, from 180 in 2022 to 144 last year. Hayden's office assigns a prosecutor to every case of fatal or non-fatal shooting in Boston to work with detectives on identifying suspects and to help spot any patterns that could develop information on past shootings and help prevent future shootings.

### BHCA (from pg. 1)

Please take this opportunity to remove all wires, zip ties, and tape that is left over on the lampposts, and thank you!

**Get your tickets to the 51st Beacon Hill Gala!**

The Beacon Hill Supper Club Gala will be held on February 3rd at the Four Seasons Hotel Boston. It promises to be a wonderful evening about this special neighborhood.

Buy your tickets by January 26th at [www.bhcivic.org](http://www.bhcivic.org) or call the BHCA office.

**Upcoming BHCA Meetings and Events**

Undecorating – Saturday and Sunday, January 27 & 28

Beacon Hill Gala 2024 – Saturday, February 3rd, 6:30pm, the Four Seasons Hotel Boston Zoning & Licensing Committee

– Wednesday, February 7th; 6pm via Zoom

First Friday Coffee Hours will resume in March.

Contact the BHCA at [info@bhcivic.org](mailto:info@bhcivic.org) for details on any of these activities or to sign up as a volunteer.

**Join the BHCA!**

We invite you to join our growing membership of friends - young and old - who are contributing to make life better on the Hill. Your membership allows us to continue our efforts to preserve our unique and historic neighborhood, and your voice adds strength and credibility to our mission as advocates for Beacon Hill residents. Join or renew your membership today at [bhcivic.org](http://bhcivic.org) or by calling us at 617-227-1922!

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## NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDUP

### 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-with-daniel-dain-tickets>.

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-tickets>.

### FREE SKATING WITH FRIENDS RETURNS JAN. 28 TO THE FROG POND

Skating with Friends, sponsored by the Friends of the Public Garden, returns on Sunday, Jan. 28, to the Frog Pond in the Boston Common. This free event includes free skate rentals and hot cocoa. Skating sessions begin at 10 a.m.; noon; and 2, 4, and 6 p.m., with space limited to 225 skaters per 90-minute session. Friends and neighbors are encouraged to arrive 30 minutes prior to each session to secure their free tickets.

### 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 rep-

resentatives 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](https://esplanade.org/crosswalks); and to learn about other pathway safety initiatives, visit [esplanade.org/pathways](https://esplanade.org/pathways).

### UPCOMING EVENTS SPONSORED BY THE NICHOLS HOUSE MUSEUM

The Nichols House Museum will hold a Community Open House at 55 Mt. Vernon St. on Tuesday, Jan. 30, from 4 to 6 p.m., in commemoration of Rose Nichols' birthday.

Stop by the Nichols House to enjoy a piece of birthday cake, meet the staff, and explore the museum. Guests will enjoy family-friendly activities and opportunities for a behind-the-scenes peek as well.

Also, 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-made-line-yale-wynne-deerfields-arts-crafts-movement-tickets-761897665427?aff=oddtcreator> 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.

### UPCOMING EVENTS SPONSORED BY WEST END MUSEUM

The West End Museum presents 'Unveiling the MGH Archives' on Wednesday, Feb. 7, at 6 p.m. at The Hub on Causeway Community Room at 52 Causeway St.

Step into the captivating world of medical history with Lucy Ross, Archivist of the Massachusetts General Hospital. Ross will guide us through the history of the MGH Archives, housed in the historic Resident Physician's House. Delving into the archives, which hold the official records of the hospital dating back to its beginnings, participants will explore the ghastly and charming quirks of medical history. Materials held in the archives span from the Ether Collection, to 19th-century surgical case records, to an 1849 ticket to a chemistry lecture by Dr. John Webster (of the infamous Parkman-Webster murder case). There will be time at the end for an archival show-and-tell, and to answer any questions.

Tickets cost \$10 each and can be purchased at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/unveiling-the-mgh-archives-tickets>.

Also, the West End Museum presents 'African American History in the West End: Resistance and Redlining' on Saturday, Feb. 17, at 11 a.m. at The Hub on Causeway Community Room at 52 Causeway St.

Join the West End Museum and the Afrimerican Academy for a walking tour and lecture on African American history in the West End neighborhood. The program will move chronologically, beginning with a brief walking tour to discuss the 19th-century history of Joy Street (previously Belknap Street), where local Black Americans congregated to form the first populous West Boston (renamed from New Fields) community. Here, the community built the old-

est standing Black church in the United States, founded a school, and developed a successful elite, including William Cooper Nell and Lewis Hayden. They, and many others, were instrumental in founding the Abolitionist movement. After the tour, Marlon Solomon, Founder and Senior Project Engineer of the Afrimerican Academy, will delve into the poignant history of Boston's redlining and the consequential urban renewal projects.

Visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/african-american-history-in-the-west-end-resistance-redlining-tickets> to purchase tickets and for more information.

### WECA TO MEET THURSDAY, FEB. 8, AT AMY LOWELL APARTMENTS

The West End Civic Association (WECA) will hold its next meeting in person on Thursday, Feb. 8, at 6 p.m. in the Community Room at Amy Lowell Apartments at 65 Martha Road.

Guests from the City's Office to Residential Conversion Program will present an overview of this pilot program for downtown office buildings, and they will leave plenty of time for Q&A from the audience.

Masks are encouraged.

### 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](mailto:artedeman@gmail.com)) or Julia Forbes ([jmaforbes@gmail.com](mailto:jmaforbes@gmail.com)).

# EDITORIAL

## HOW ARE THOSE NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS GOING?

All of us, consciously or subconsciously, make some sort of New Year's resolution in the hope of improving our lives and those of our loved ones.

Without a doubt, the most common New Year's resolution is weight loss, which is not surprising, considering that 72 percent of all Americans -- an astounding number -- are either overweight or obese. Excess weight has been linked to just about every disease imaginable --- cancer, diabetes, and heart disease being among the most prominent. During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, excess weight greatly increased the risk of death or serious complications from COVID-19 across all age groups.

We strongly condemn discrimination of any form against those who are overweight. Maintaining a healthy body weight is difficult for just about everyone (almost three-quarters of us, apparently) in our hurry-hurry world where the convenience of fast-food makes it all-too-easy to indulge in an unhealthy diet on a regular basis.

In addition, we are deluged with advertisements from the fast-food industry, who give us those full-screen shots of triple-bacon-cheeseburgers-with-fries-and a soft drink -- a truly deadly combination that hits all of the "bad food" buttons for high calories, saturated fat, salt, and added sugar.

It is not a coincidence that the average American male today weighs 30 pounds more than the average American male did in 1960 and the average American female today weighs the same as that male in 1960 (and no, it's not because we're all taller than our grandparents) when you consider that in 1960, there were 248 locations of a certain fast-food franchise across America, but today there are 13,340 of them. (And that's just one fast-food company!)

However, we do not subscribe to the belief that being overweight is the result of a "disease" that somehow uniquely affects Americans, regardless of race, ethnicity, or gender, compared to the rest of the world. (We rank as the most-overweight people among every industrialized nation.) To be sure, there are some individuals who genetically are pre-disposed to having an unhealthy body weight. But wherever American-style food is imported into countries across the globe, health issues that previously did not exist in those countries become epidemic.

There is no question that bad food can be addicting, whether it's those triple-cheeseburgers, infinite varieties of snack foods, etc., etc., etc. in a society where bad food is cheap, available everywhere, and pushed on us by Madison Avenue -- and where we associate overeating as a form of reward.

Our present overweight society increasingly makes the 2008 Disney sci-fi movie "Wall-E," in which the humans of the future are grossly overweight, look prescient -- except that the distant future already is here. The Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health recently estimated that, based upon current trends, by 2030 86 percent of Americans will range from overweight to obese.

With the odds stacked against us to make our weight-loss New Year's resolutions stick -- which is why so few of us are successful -- it would appear that our only hope is for those new weight loss drugs to become readily-available and covered by insurance for all Americans. Societal weight-loss would be the best thing we could do to improve our collective health, both physically and emotionally. The drugs may be expensive, but if that's what it will take for Americans to shed our excess pounds, the upfront costs of those drugs will save us billions of dollars in health-care costs down the road.

# House unanimously passes bill to prevent abuse and exploitation

The Massachusetts House of Representatives last week passed legislation that combines several separate legislative initiatives into one bill that will help to prevent abuse and exploitation, while also enhancing protections for survivors. The legislation addresses teen sexting and image-based sexual assault, commonly referred to as "revenge porn;" expands the definition of abuse to include coercive control for the purposes of obtaining a restraining order; and extends the statute of limitations for certain domestic violence offenses from six years to 15 years.

"This legislation modernizes our criminal laws by ensuring that those who share explicit images of others without their consent face punishment, while also educating minors on the dangers of sharing explicit images of themselves rather than imposing some of the criminal justice system's most severe consequences," said House Speaker Ronald J. Mariano (D-Quincy). "I'm also incredibly proud of this legislation's bolstered protections for survivors, including the added consideration of nonphysical forms of abuse for those seeking restraining orders from their abusers. I want to thank Chairman Day and the Judiciary Committee, along with each bill sponsor and all my colleagues in the House for prioritizing this vital legislation."

"The House has heard the urgent call of survivors to enhance protections and ensure that our laws keep up with technology. But the House doesn't just listen, we act," said Representative Michael S. Day (D-Stoneham), House Chair of the Joint Committee on the Judiciary. "It's critical that these reforms pass into law quickly so that victims of coercive control, adolescent sexting and revenge porn aren't left without relief."

Currently, minors who possess, purchase, or share explicit photos of themselves or other minors are charged with violating Massachusetts child pornography laws and are required to register as sex offenders. The legislation passed today instead authorizes commit-

ment to the Department of Youth Services (DYS), but also allows minors to be diverted to an educational program in lieu of criminal punishment. A district attorney, however, is allowed to petition the court to bring criminal charges in extreme cases.

The educational diversion program, to be created by the Attorney General in consultation with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), DHS, and the District Attorneys Association, would provide teenagers with information about the legal and nonlegal consequences of sexting, which would be made available to school districts. DESE should also encourage districts to implement media literacy programs in their schools as a prevention measure.

"This legislation represents a coordinated effort and a holistic approach to address an increasingly prevalent behavior and provides mechanisms to protect individuals victimized by those who threaten, intimidate, and harass the subjects of these images," said State Representative Jeffrey N. Roy (D-Franklin), a lead sponsor of the bill. "The sexting provisions provide law enforcement officers with a middle ground that will allow them to educate kids about the consequences of their actions without ruining their lives. It will have a tremendous impact on people who have become entangled in the web and transmittal of images that can cause traumatic and lifetime harm through a diversion program that will educate them about the legal and personal consequences of this behavior."

In addition to teen sexting, the bill addresses the nonconsensual distribution of explicit images by adults by establishing a penalty in the existing criminal harassment statute, including up to two and a half years of prison time and/or a monetary fine of up to \$10,000. The bill increases the upper limit

of the fine for criminal harassment from \$1,000 to \$5,000. Under this bill, a victim may also petition the court for a harassment prevention order against a person who has violated this statute.

The bill passed today also adds coercive control to the definition of abuse. Coercive control is a nonphysical form of abuse which includes a pattern of behavior, or a single act intended to threaten, intimidate, harass, isolate, control, coerce or compel compliance of a family or household member that causes the family or household member to fear physical harm or to have a reduced sense of physical safety or autonomy. Examples of coercive control include threatening to share explicit images, regulating or monitoring a family or household member's communications and access to services, and isolating a family or household member from friends or relatives.

"Protecting victims is the driving force behind these efforts and I am pleased we are giving prosecutors more tools to deal with these disturbing and dangerous situations. Thank you to Speaker Mariano, Chair Michlewitz, Chair Day, and the advocacy groups who recognize how important it is that we further protect victims by updating our criminal laws," said Representative Richard M. Haggerty (D-Woburn), a lead sponsor of the bill. "By defining coercive control as abuse and closing revenge porn consent loopholes, this law protects against the severe emotional harm too often inflicted through non-physical tactics, sending a clear message that revenge porn, coercive control, and criminal harassment have no place in Massachusetts."

"Far too often, our legal system has failed victims of domestic violence who are subjected to the unseen tortures of psychological and emotional abuse," Representative Meghan Kilcoyne (D-Clinton), a lead sponsor of the bill. "I am so

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## THE BEACON HILL TIMES

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## BOSTON WARD 5 DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE MEMBERS TO PORTSMOUTH, N.H., FOR A STANDOUT FOR PRESIDENT BIDEN

Members of the Boston Ward 5 Democratic Committee traveled on Sunday morning, Jan. 21, up to Portsmouth, N.H., for a standout for President Biden.

Pat Amend, Mary Garippo, and Rob Whitney had a great time representing the 'Biden Nation' and holding their new Biden

signs and waving their new Biden flag, all in support of the Boston Ward 5 Democratic Committee's endorsement of President Joe Biden's reelection bid. Jay Bowie, president of the New Hampshire Young Democrats, as well as by Larry Drake, one of the leaders of the New Hampshire 'Write In Joe

Biden' campaign, also stopped by the standout.

The Write In Joe Biden campaign urged voters to vote for President Biden in New Hampshire's primary election on Tuesday, Jan. 23, by writing in Joe Biden's name on the Democratic Party primary ballot in New Hampshire.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ROB WHITNEY

Mary Garippo, Pat Amend, and Rob Whitney.

## National Grid reminds customers to use energy programs

As winter weather and colder temperatures persist, National Grid is reminding Massachusetts customers to take advantage of energy programs that can help them manage their energy bills.

The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), commonly referred to as Fuel Assistance, provides eligible households with help in paying a portion of winter heating bills. Enrollment for LIHEAP is free and open through April 30, 2024, and covers energy usage from November 1, 2023, to April 30, 2024.

LIHEAP is open to both homeowners and renters, including households whose cost of heat is included in rent, and eligibility is based on household size and the gross annual income of every household member 18 or older. Household income cannot exceed 60% of estimated state median income. The program provides assistance through a fixed benefit amount for the cost of the primary source of heat, which includes, but is not limited to: electricity, oil, natural gas, propane, kerosene, wood and coal.

"National Grid recognizes that energy bills can be a real challenge for many customers - especially in these colder winter months," said Helen Burt, Chief Customer Officer at National Grid. "The LIHEAP program can provide much needed assistance for customers who are struggling to keep up with their energy costs. We also encourage customers to look at options in our Customer Savings Initiative, to consider a payment program, or see if they are eligible for rate discounts."

To apply for LIHEAP:

- Apply online at <https://www.toapply.org/MassLIHEAP>

- Visit and apply at an agency in your area.

For more information concerning LIHEAP:

- Visit <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/learn-about-low-income-home-energy-assistance-program-liheap>.

- Customers may also call the Cold Relief Heatline at (800) 632-8175.

National Grid recognizes winter bills can pose challenges for customers. National Grid's Customer Savings Initiative is designed to help customers reduce their energy use and lower energy costs, manage their energy bills and payments, and help them secure available energy assistance.

Along with LIHEAP, National Grid has several programs dedicated to helping income-qualified families and customers needing special assistance meet their energy needs. Programs include but are not limited to:

- Discount Rates where qualifying income-eligible customers may receive a discounted rate on electric and gas service, as well as no-cost energy efficiency upgrades.

- The Massachusetts Good Neighbor Energy Fund is available to any Massachusetts residents who, because of temporary financial difficulty, cannot meet a month's energy expense and is not eligible for state or federal energy assistance.

Several bill help options and

payment plans are available for customers in need of assistance. Customers may enroll in programs such as the Budget Billing Plan, which spreads monthly payments out more evenly throughout the year to offset periods of high energy usage.

Customers can visit [ngrid.com/heretohelp](http://ngrid.com/heretohelp) to learn more.

National Grid (NYSE: NGG) is an electricity, natural gas, and clean energy delivery company serving more than 20 million people through our networks in New York and Massachusetts. National Grid is focused on building a smarter, stronger, cleaner energy future — transforming our networks with more reliable and resilient energy solutions to meet state climate goals and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

For more information, please visit our website, follow us on X (formerly Twitter), watch us on YouTube, like us on Facebook and find us on Instagram.

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**BHWF** (from pg. 1)

ates of the Boston Public Library, New England Foundation for the Arts, and the Pine Street Inn.

Lee has served as trustee and chair on the Committee for Student and Academic Affairs at the University of Massachusetts, and was a founding trustee of Boston Medical Center, where she spent 17 years volunteering.

The most important lesson that Lee has learned is that when she articulates why she believes her actions are just, people will listen.

“Doing the right thing always pays off,” declared Lee, who attributes her principles to her father’s influence.

Lee was raised in a working class family. Her mother constructed tires and airplane parts. Her father was a head of maintenance for the United States Postal Service, ultimately becoming a city councilor. As a young girl, Lee participated in her father’s campaigns -- answering questions and engaging in conversations with constituents.

“I grew up realizing that I had something to say, and people had things they wanted to say to me. When you grow up like that, it is natural as breathing,” Lee described. “That was something

I didn’t realize was an incredible gift. For my dad, that came from the spirit of my grandmother.”

Lee inherited her family’s outspoken honesty and ambition. Following a lynching in the family, her paternal grandmother’s loved ones fled from South Carolina to Springfield, Massachusetts, where they reestablished their lives.

“Strangely, that’s the beginning of my story. The entire time that I was growing up, the Civil Rights Movement was going on,” remembered Lee. “My dad, in particular, felt like he had to prepare me and my siblings to understand that we had a contribution to make to the world.”

Lee was the first African American girl to graduate from Groton School, a private boarding school in Massachusetts. There, she personally experienced racism from a math teacher; but her father encouraged her to always see and speak the truth.

“There isn’t anybody in this room who is on the exact same wavelength,” acknowledged Lee. “The only way that we can get on the same page is to be honest about where we are.”

While studying at Wellesley College, Lee met her husband,

Patrick, at her economic development internship. The two bonded over shared ideals of supporting the disadvantaged, and raised four daughters together in Boston.

Lee gained financial analysis skills during her time as a loan officer at the First National Bank of Boston; but the work that made her feel like she was making a difference in the world was when she served as the executive director of the Codman Square Neighborhood Development Corporation. There, she directed the construction of 600 units of low income family housing in Dorchester.

Her efforts with Codman Square led to her work directing the operations of Mayor Menino’s office, including chairing his cabinet.

“As cantankerous as he could be, he was a fun and loving guy. We got along famously to the bitter end. We often had differences of opinion; but it never interfered in our relationship,” explained Lee, whose husband and long-time friends affectionately refer to her as “Al.” “He was a good man. He made things happen. He had a big, soft heart in a rough exterior.”



*Alyce Lee, non-profit professional and former chief-of-staff to the late Mayor Tom Menino.*



*Melanie Bertani and Tricia Herring.*



*Christy Milner, Membership, and Beverly Bansil at the welcome desk.*



*Beacon Hill Women’s Forum members enjoying a presentation by Alyce Lee on January 9.*

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# BHWF HOSTS GUEST SPEAKER ALYCE LEE

PHOTOS BY MARIANNE SALZA



Harriet, Diane Rooney, Karen Cosgrove, Marguerite Smit, Eva Lichtenberger, and Today Baker.



Lisa Macalaster, Co-President, asking BHWF members how they would like to contribute to the organization.



Today Baker, Tricia Stone, Co-President, Lorie Conway, Program Co-Director, and Alyce Lee, guest speaker.

Join your neighbors for an evening of lively conversation, dining & dancing.

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## BILL (from pg. 4)

grateful that with this piece of legislation, we will be giving our law enforcement and judiciary the necessary tools to ensure those subjected to both physical and emotional abuse are protected. I am thankful to the Speaker and Chairman Day for their leadership. "With this bill, we can make sure victims of coercive abuse will no longer suffer in silence."

The legislation passed today also extends the statute of limitations for assault and battery on a family or household member or against

someone with an active protective order from six years to 15 years. This change brings the Massachusetts statute of limitations for these domestic violence offenses in line with the statute of limitations for rape, assault with intent to commit rape and sex trafficking.

"Massachusetts can and should be granting restraining orders for coercive control, but we know that for so many survivors, their emotional and psychological trauma is not given the same seriousness as physical violence. And the reality

of that barrier can be deadly," said Representative Natalie M. Higgins (D-Leominster), a lead sponsor of the bill. "I am incredibly grateful to the Speaker and my House colleagues for taking a critical step forward in protecting our neighbors by codifying coercive control in the Mass General Laws and extending the statute of limitations so that survivors of domestic violence can build more safety and supports to come forward and report domestic abuse to law enforcement."

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## BHAC (from pg. 2)

Chair Kiefer and Commissioners Maurice Finegold, Ed Fleck, Annette Given, and Ralph Jackson supporting the motion. Vice Chair Arian Allen voted against the motion, while Commissioner Alice Richmond recused herself on this application.

Nick Landry, founding principal of Boston-based DRT (design/resource/team), outlined the proposal to relocate the existing door, now on the corner of the Spruce Place façade, to between Spruce Place and Spruce Place – a small, private way.

Landry said that he, together with Tony King, DRT director of operations, own the property at 9 Spruce Court, and that due to a legal agreement put in place two years ago between the previous property owner and the Spruce Place Association, the current property owner is required to relocate the door before the end of the month. (Chair Kiefer advised Landry that the BHAC can't be required to adjudicate a matter based on a third-party agreement.)

Once the door has been relocated, the building's address would then be changed from Spruce Place to Spruce Court, said Landry, who added that they also planned to create a new granite landing for the relocated door.

This determination came with provisos that a light fixture now located the Spruce Place façade be

affixed above the proposed new door in a manner that obscures it from sight from a public way, or that is approved by staff (Nicholas Armata); that the new landing be made of granite; and that details of the landing and a railing be submitted to staff prior to the commencement of construction.

The commission also voted by a majority to approve an application for a new hanging sign for Petunia, a shop specializing in women's accessories and clothing located at 131 Charles St.

The round, metal sign, measuring 24-by-24 inches, would have painted lettering and use an existing bracket, according to the applicant.

The motion for this application, put forward by Chair Kiefer, came with provisos that the applicant submit drawings detailing the dimensions, materials, and colors proposed for the sign; that lettering be painted on, rather than applied, to the sign; and that the sign be hung from an existing bracket using chains, which are black in color.

Commissioner Richmond, who cast the sole dissenting vote on the motion for this application, said she doesn't think it's fair to applicants to not notify them of the commission's typical request for drawings ahead of time. "We owe it to the applicants to tell them exactly what they're expected to

do, and I don't think we have," she said.

On a violation for 53 Grove St., the commission voted unanimously to ratify the unapproved windows at the basement level, and to approve the installation of new windows in their place.

This determination came with provisos that the new windows be six-over-three and made of wood, and that they have Low-e glass and true divided-light, as well as muntins measuring no more than 7/8 inches. Further provisos mandate that a dark spacer-bar is used in the configuration of the double-pane glass; that the final color for the new windows match those above it on the building facade; and that the security gates be reinstalled with existing brackets and hardware and in the mortar joints, rather than in the brick. The applicant is also required to submit shop drawing to staff prior to the commencement of construction.

The commission also voted unanimously to approve an application for 88 Chestnut St., with proposed work including changing the color of the door and installing a new light fixture.

The door is currently painted a red-orange shade, with a black surround, according to the applicant, who proposed painting the door black and the surrounding transom and sidelights white for contrast.

Chair Kiefer advised the applicant against painting the door black, adding that this stretch of Chestnut Street is a "wonderful, eclectic block," with a wide palette of paint colors on the buildings. "It's a shame to lose these pops of color," he said.

The motion on this application, put forward by Chair Kiefer, came with provisos that the final color for the door and surrounds, including paint chips, be submitted



D. MURPHY PHOTO

The 12-story building at 48 Beacon St., which is said to be the tallest building in the Beacon Hill Historic District.

to staff in advance for approval; that the new light fixture be located in the recessed door-entryway and attached to the existing electrical connections on the ceiling; and that the light fixture be an appropriately sized pendant or surface-mounted light fixture to be submitted to staff for final approval.

An application for 36 Beacon St. to repair the coal-chute cover

and surrounding sidewalk was listed on the agenda but ultimately not heard by the commission due to the applicant's failure to appear at the hearing. (As a direct abutter, Chair Kiefer had recused himself on this application.)

Moreover, an application for 76 Revere St. to change the color of the back door from black to Codman Claret was withdrawn by the applicant.



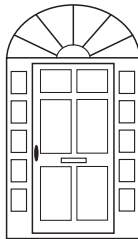
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# Biden-Harris Administration announces \$2.5 million grant for more electric vehicle charging network

The Biden-Harris Administration last week announced a \$2.5 million grant to the Town of Deerfield, Massachusetts to fund two publicly accessible EV charging sites. The award is one of 47 projects in 22 states and Puerto Rico selected to receive a total of \$623 million in funding to help build out an electric vehicle (EV) charging network under the U.S. Department of Transportation's Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) Discretionary Grant Program. This means EV drivers in Massachusetts and across the country can charge their electric vehicles where they live, work, and shop.

The grants are a critical part of the Biden Administration's goal of building out a convenient, affordable, reliable and made-in-America national network of EV chargers, including at least 500,000 publicly available chargers by 2030 ensuring that EV's are made in America with American workers.

Under President Biden's leadership, EV sales have more than quadrupled, the number of publicly available charging ports has grown by nearly 70 percent, and more than 4 million EV's are now on the road. Spurred by the President's historic investments, private companies have announced more than \$155 billion in the EV and battery supply chain under the Biden-Harris Administration. EV's are critical to our rapid and equitable transition to clean transportation systems, producing zero tailpipe emissions, reducing air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions – major contributors to climate change and key contributors to respiratory ailments.

"America led the arrival of the automotive era, and now we have a chance to lead the world in the EV revolution—securing jobs, savings, and benefits for Americans in the process," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg. "This funding will help ensure that EV chargers are accessible, reliable, and convenient for American drivers, while creating jobs in charger manufacturing, installation, and maintenance for American workers."

The grants being announced are made possible by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law's \$2.5 billion Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) Discretionary Grant Program, a competitive funding program, that includes construction of approximately 7,500 EV charging ports. The CFI program complements the \$5 billion National Electric Vehicle (NEVI)

Formula Program to build the "backbone" of high-speed EV chargers along our nation's highways. Thanks to the NEVI program, new charging stations in Ohio and New York have opened, and states like Pennsylvania and Maine have broken ground.

"Every community across the nation deserves access to convenient and reliable clean transportation," said U.S. Secretary of Energy Jennifer M. Granholm. "The Biden-Harris Administration is bringing an accessible, made-in-America charging network into thousands of communities while cutting the carbon pollution that is driving the climate crisis."

In Massachusetts, the \$2.5 million grant will be used to fund two public access EV charging sites at the Leary Public Parking Lot and Town Hall Public Parking Lot. The sites are centrally located to the surrounding rural towns and will serve several disadvantaged communities.

"From my time working at the local level, I know that finding electric vehicle charging in a community is different from finding charging along highways," said U.S. Transportation Deputy Secretary Polly Trottenberg. "USDOT is proud to make an investment that will provide Americans with convenient, straightforward charging options in their communities."

"The Federal Highway Administration is pleased to announce this grant in Massachusetts that will bring EV charging to people and communities all across the nation," said Federal Highway Administrator Shailen Bhatt. "These investments through the CFI Program will grow our national EV charging network, support President Biden's goals of achieving net-zero emissions for

the nation by 2050 and promote opportunity for all Americans to enjoy the benefits of EV charging."

As part of today's announcements, the Federal Highway Administration is awarding \$311 million in funding to 36 "community" projects, including two Indian Tribes in Alaska and Arizona. These projects invest in EV charging and hydrogen fueling infrastructure in urban and rural communities, including at convenient and high-use locations like schools, parks, libraries, multi-family housing, and more.

Another \$312 million in funding will go to 11 "corridor" recipients whose projects are located along roadways designated as Alternative Fuel Corridors (AFCs). These projects will fill gaps in the core national charging and alternative-fueling network.

The CFI Program advances President Biden's Justice40 Initiative, which set a goal that 40% of the overall benefits of certain federal investments flow to disadvantaged communities that are marginalized by underinvestment and overburdened by pollution. More than 70% of the CFI funding announced today will support project sites in disadvantaged communities.

To provide a consistent charging experience for users that ensures a convenient, affordable, and reliable national charging network, EV chargers constructed with CFI funds must adhere to the same minimum standards established for NEVI-funded chargers. FHWA is working closely with the Joint Office of Energy and Transportation, which provides technical assistance on planning and implementation of a national network of electric vehicle chargers and zero-emission fueling infrastructure.

## 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](mailto:obits@reverejournal.com) or call 781-485-0588

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### Larceny

01/17/24 – At around 11:30 p.m., a victim on Chestnut Street reported that he ordered food via DoorDash, but when the driver (suspect) delivered the food, he stole the victim's Amazon package from his front step. The victim informed the officer that the incident was captured on his Ring camera. Area detectives were scheduled to further investigate this matter.

she parked it on Jan. 15 and when she discovered the vehicle missing on Jan. 17. The victim said she might have left her car unlocked, and that the suspect had ransacked the car, stealing her credit cards. The credit cards were then used at various stores for multiple purchases. Area detectives were scheduled to investigate this matter further.

\*\*\*Boston Police reminds residents to ease be extra vigilant; lock your vehicles and don't leave valuable inside your vehicles.\*\*\*

### Larceny

11/17/24 - A caller reported that her motor vehicle was broken into between the time

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## NEWS BRIEFS

### BWSC OFFERS TIPS TO PREVENT FROZEN PIPES AS SUSTAINED COLD SPELL SETS IN

With the recent cold spell and more nighttime temperatures well below freezing to come this winter season, Boston Water and Sewer Commission (BWSC) is reminding people that there are proactive steps they can take to prevent interior pipes from freezing.

- Check for open windows, air vents, and wind drafts near water pipes

- Seal leaks in the basement foundation where cold air may enter; fill holes with insulation as a tiny opening can cause an exposed pipe to freeze

- Allow a slow trickle of water to flow through faucets connected to water pipes that run through unheated spaces (the constant drip minimizes any ice buildup in the pipe, which helps to prevent pipes from bursting)

- Keep sink cabinet doors open during cold spells to allow warm air to circulate around the pipes

- Insulate pipes in unheated spaces like garages, basements, and crawl spaces; inexpensive insulation can be bought at hardware and home supply stores

- Locate the water shut off valve and know how to shut off water; if a pipe bursts, shutting off the water promptly can help minimize the damage (shut off valve is usually located by the meter)

- If your pipes freeze, use a hair dryer to thaw the lines safely; thawing will not be fast, but it will be safe: Never use an open flame to thaw pipes

If there is no water coming through any of your taps, there may be a problem in your street or yard. If so, call BWSC's 24-hour Emergency Assistance line at 617-989-7900.

### ATTENTION: VENDED MEALS COMPANIES

Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston is soliciting invitations for bid for vended meals to their Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) program site(s). The Vendor would provide meal services according to United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) regulations and guidelines as well as Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Office for Food and Nutrition Programs policies and guidelines.

Vendors and/or their representatives may submit bids to:

Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston  
Attn: Gabrielle Witham  
200 High St. Fl. 3  
Boston, MA 02141

A bid packet will be available by email at [gwitham@bgcb.org](mailto:gwitham@bgcb.org) to all potential bidders.

Potential bidders should email questions to Gabrielle Witham at [gwitham@bgcb.org](mailto:gwitham@bgcb.org) by February 2, 2024. The institution will email its response to these questions by February 9, 2024. All questions will be answered in writing only and sent to everyone by February 9, 2024.

All bids must be submitted no later than 5:00pm on February 16, 2024.

All bids are subject to review by the Massachusetts Department of

Elementary and Secondary Education, Office for Food and Nutrition Programs, 75 Pleasant Street, Malden, MA 02148.

The public bid opening will be at 11:00am on February 20, 2024 at 200 High St. Fl. 3, 02110. This institution is an equal opportunity provider. About Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston Boys & Girls Club of Boston holds a prominent position as the leading and most impactful youth organization in Greater Boston. It serves to catalyze far-reaching opportunities and create more equitable futures for 6 to 18-year-olds across eight clubs and YouthConnect in Boston and Chelsea. Since 1893, BGCB has focused on making the city thrive and has played an essential role for young people eager to explore their passions, find their purpose, and prepare for a life of success and impact. In partnership with the public sector, private enterprise, related non-profits, donors and volunteers, BGCB is aligned behind investing in the region's urban talent pipeline and making a generational impact that expands beyond the walls of its buildings and deep into the communities it serves. Helping urban youth to navigate a fast-paced global climate steeped in change, the organization is recognized for fueling the future of the city and the Commonwealth through its innovative "readiness" programs centered on three outcome areas: Academic Success, Wellness and Workforce Readiness. It is an affiliate of the Atlanta-based Boys & Girls Clubs of America, with over 5,000 Clubs nationwide serving over 3.6 million young people.

## OBITUARIES

### Elizabeth Thomson

Former Editor at the Beacon Hill Times



Elizabeth W. Thomson, 86, died on January 11 after a long struggle with Alzheimer's disease.

Born in Englewood N.J., Elizabeth "Didi" Whitson attended the Dwight Englewood School and later Oberlin College, where she studied English and the organ, and was active in campus productions of Gilbert and Sullivan operas, a passion which she continued during summers on Cape Cod, building sets and designing posters for the College Light Opera Company.

After leaving Oberlin, she moved to New York to take a job with Cambridge University Press. In 1968 her employer sent her to a microbiology conference in Detroit, it was there she would meet Peter Thomson. She and Peter Married in May of 1969 and she moved into his home on Beacon Hill in Boston, where she lived for the next 50 years.

In Boston, Elizabeth continued her work in publishing field, first as an editor for Prindle, Weber & Schmidt, and later as a freelance editor. She was meticulous and attentive to detail and her editing talents were sought after for math and science textbooks of all kinds.

After the birth of her son, James in 1977, she reduced her hours but continued to work, even bringing James into the office during the first year of his life, unusual for the time. She delighted in raising James and during his childhood also branched out into other pursuits, including teaching piano to Beacon Hill children, working as a publications editor and designer at Shady Hill School, and later serving for many years as an editor at the Beacon Hill Times.

Elizabeth was a staunch believer in education and supporter of educational institutions. She was actively involved at the schools her son, James attended and later served on the board of trustees at Commonwealth School and the North Bennet Street School. Her early contributions helped start The Farm School in Western Massachusetts, and she was a strong supporter of her alma mater, where, inspired by her own college experience in a summer term at the Puntney School in Vermont, she initiated a fund to help students pur-

suage alternative off-campus educational experiences, called "The Adventure Fund."

Elizabeth was also deeply involved in Boston's Kings Chapel, where she served as Junior Warden and chaired the music committee and was an integral part of organizing the King's Chapel concert series, which features and supports the musicians of the King's Chapel. She also continued her study of the organ there, and would occasionally play for children's services.

She was a lover of food and of cooking, and will be remembered for the many holiday feasts that she created for family and friends at her home on Beacon Hill and at the family "farm" in Western Massachusetts, another place that she loved and supported generously. Among her proudest achievements was the work she and Peter did to convert an old apple barn into a beautiful family residence, and to preserve over 250 acres of forests and fields under permanent conservation restrictions.

Later in life Elizabeth took up painting, which became one of her great joys, and in the last years before her illness delighted in spending time with her granddaughter Eleanor, born in 2009.

Elizabeth is survived by her husband, Peter, son, James (and wife Danièle), step-children: Peter (and wife Edith) and Sandy (and husband Richard), granddaughter Eleanor, sister Jean and brother Jim (and wife Deborah).

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be offered to Oberlin College for "The Adventure Fund," P.O. BOX 72110, Cleveland, OH 44192.

To send a message of condolence, please visit [www.carrfuneral.com](http://www.carrfuneral.com).

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# CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Construction look-ahead for the North Washington Street Bridge through February 3.

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

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

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

period:

- **CELTICS:** January, 27 at 7 p.m., January, 29 at 7:30 p.m., January, 30 at 7:30 p.m., and February, 1 at 7:30 p.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](http://Mass.gov/north-washington-street-bridge-replacement)

Project email: [NorthWashingtonStreet@dot.state.ma.us](mailto:NorthWashingtonStreet@dot.state.ma.us)

# Attention to Detail

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY PENNY CHERUBINO

## THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The Liberty Tree plaque on the last clue is above the Chinatown MBTA station at Washington and Boylston Streets. Today's answer comes from a time when this area was an adult entertainment district known as the Combat Zone.

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

## Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
<b>BACK BAY</b>			
Clifford, Timothy	Linda J Lerner RET	324-332 Beacon St #82	\$1,532,500
<b>BEACON HILL</b>			
Meaders, Phyllis P	Leitch Cathey S Est	31 Bowdoin St #CH	\$1,468,000
Luma LLC	73 Charles St 1a LLC	73 Charles St #1A	\$800,000
<b>BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE</b>			
Huang, Dan-Ching	Fpg Lagrange Owner One L	55 Lagrange St #805	\$615,000
Mary Grlis T	Guadagno, Norman	485-495 Harrison Ave #3509	\$1,400,000
Gallego, Joseph D	Fine, Daniel E	255 Shawmut Ave #1	\$1,775,000
Quinn, Thomas J	B&v Rt	12 Stoneholm St #319	\$425,000
Li, Lihong	Mahoney, Lawrence J	1721 Washington St #508	\$850,000
<b>WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN</b>			
Bowers, Christopher	Margaret M Hoskins RET	80 Broad St #PH1404	\$1,200,000
Jones, Scott S	Mcaf Winthrop LLC	240 Devonshire St #4601	\$4,915,000
Stanford, Thomas	Mcaf Winthrop LLC	240 Devonshire St #5903	\$3,050,000
Sachs, Jordan K	Linda M Sabo RET	300 Pier 4 Blvd #4J	\$2,700,000
Qiao, Rengui	Yuan, Ting	74 Tyler St #B	\$378,000

## THIS WEEK'S CLUE



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## CITY PAWS

### Companion animal timeline

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

Human lives have many timelines. We often refer to a particular one: the timeline of the dogs who have been part of our family and friendships. A memory of a time or place often includes the dog or dogs who were part of that moment.

Recently, we remembered a special time with a particular friend and realized he was one of the people who knew all our dogs. This thought resulted in us listing the people who shared this distinction and naming the companion animals each had in their lives.

#### May I Pet Your Dog?

Living in an area with so many college students and young adults means we often sense the longing for a canine connection that comes with the question, “May I pet your dog?”

Sometimes, that exchange is followed by a history of their lives with pets. They might tell us, “My family had a Westie when I was

young?” Or, “I really miss my dog. He lives with my parents.” We’ve even had offers to walk our dogs from dog-lonely people.

We always suggest volunteer and paid jobs that will bring them in contact with animals. These opportunities range from volunteering at an animal shelter to working for a grooming or pet supply shop or a dog walking service. We understand the need for fur to stroke and an animal to curl next to you on a sofa or a bench. We share that need and are happy to let our pup play surrogate for a few minutes.

We also appreciate and are aware of what it takes to accept the responsibility of a companion animal at a point in your life when you may not be able to meet the financial, time, or housing requirements that would make it possible.

#### Sharing Companions

We’ve always been advocates of dog-sharing, not only for a quick pat on a walk but also in a much



Living near so many young adults means we often sense the longing for a canine connection that comes with the question, “May I pet your dog?” (Photo by Alison Pang)

more meaningful way. We chose a West Highland White Terrier for our first dog because we shared a home with a lovely older friend. Our research told us that Westies were seldom one-person dogs. We wanted a dog who would happily spend time with all three of us. Our Sassy fit the bill, and as a former school teacher, our tenant was a great help with her training.

Recently, we spotted neighbors with a new dog. We knew they had been reluctant to return to full-time dog care after losing their long-time companion. This dog, they told us, was their Grandpup!

They had a win-win situation: they could enjoy walking with a dog again and seeing their dog community while helping their daughter have more free time in her busy life.

While dogs are the most accessible animals to share with others, we have known a lovely Ragdoll cat that belonged to a good friend, a guinea pig who lived with a family member, and a stunning parrot who lived on our floor.

Companion animals are more than part of your timeline. They can be a lifeline connecting you with people and requiring you

to exercise. The National Institutes of Health writes, “Interacting with animals has been shown to decrease levels of cortisol (a stress-related hormone) and lower blood pressure. Other studies have found that animals can reduce loneliness, increase feelings of social support, and boost your mood.” That makes sharing a pet a kindness to someone else. Having one is a kindness to yourself.

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

# Calling All Curious

Attend an event.  
Visit for a day.  
Join for the year.

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BostonAthenaeum.org/Membership



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