

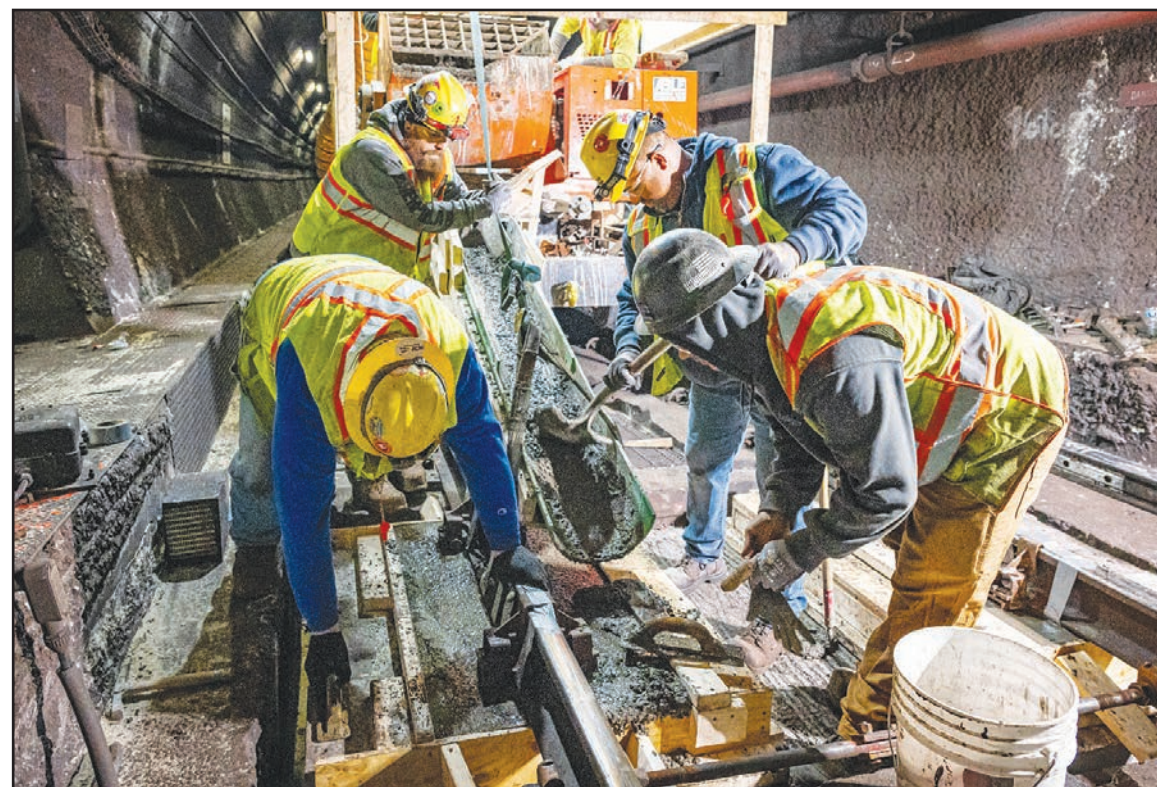


FEBRUARY 22, 2024

# 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



Crews performed infrastructure improvement work along the Red Line. Complimentary photos by the MBTA Customer and Employee Experience Department.

## MBTA completes critical track-work on Red Line

By Times staff

The MBTA announced last week the successful and on-time completion of critical track work on the Red Line, including the removal of eight safety-related speed restrictions.

Crews accomplished this work due to unencumbered access to track areas while Red Line service was suspended between Alewife and Harvard stations for 10 days from Feb. 5-14. In the evenings

beginning at approximately 8:45 p.m. during the same period from Feb. 5-14, the Red Line service suspension was extended to Park Street (meaning evening service was suspended between Alewife and Park Street).

“We are committed to rebuilding our infrastructure, and the amount of work we were able to accomplish, improving service and reducing travel time along the Red Line is another major step in the

right direction,” MBTA General Manager and CEO Phillip Eng said in a press release. “While we successfully completed work and eliminated the speed restrictions, we continually look for lessons learned to minimize impacts as we move forward and accomplish even more work during future outages. I thank our riders and the communities we serve for their patience and support. Thank you

(MBTA Pg. 3)

## BEACON HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY CORNER

### Did You Know?

The Beacon Hill Civic Association is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to community building, civic engagement, and historic preservation on Beacon Hill. Your membership donations allow us to continue our

efforts to preserve and protect our historic neighborhood. As a member, your voice adds strength to our numbers and credibility to our purpose as advocates for Beacon Hill residents and businesses. Join, renew, or donate today to support the work we do for you.

### Street sweeping is approaching!

The Street Cleaning Program on Beacon Hill kicks off March 1 and will run until December 31. Along with street sweeping come tow trucks for those unfortunate

(BHCA Pg. 10)

## BHAC approves signage for Charles Street shop

By Dan Murphy

The Beacon Hill Architectural Commission unanimously approved an application for signage for a hummus shop proposed for Charles Street during the commission's monthly hearing held virtually on Thursday, Feb. 15.

Colin Daly, the applicant and founder of Just Hummus, said his business, The Hummus Shop, which operates a foodtruck, is now poised to open its first brick-and-mortar location at 37A Charles St. in the retail space above Anton's Cleaners at 37 A Charles St.

Per The Hummus Shop's rental agreement, the business would

be splitting half the width of the existing board sign on the building's façade with the drycleaners. The sign was initially proposed to have black lettering on a blue background, with an illustration of a golden chickpea in place of the letter 'o' in "Shop" in its business logo, said Daly.

The applicant also proposed the installation of a hanging sign, using the same proposed blue-and-black color scheme but with the company name instead inside an illustration of a chickpea.

The motion on this application, which was made by Commissioner

(BHAC Pg. 8)



D. MURPHY PHOTO

The proposed future home of The Hummus Shop at 37A Charles St.

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# EDITORIAL

## HOUSE DEMOCRATIC LEADERS ARE TO BLAME FOR UKRAINE'S PREDICAMENT

When a small gang of extreme Republicans undertook the ouster of former House Speaker Kevin McCarthy last year, we wrote at the time that the refusal of Democrats to aid in keeping McCarthy in his seat was foolhardy. Despite the contempt that Democrats felt about McCarthy, we noted that he was better than any likely replacement from the GOP. McCarthy had negotiated a debt ceiling increase and a budget with President Biden, and he was a staunch supporter of Ukraine.

As we wrote at the time, "The devil you know is better than the devil you don't." However, the Democrats took the bait and sided with the small band of extremists to oust McCarthy. Instead of being the adults in the room, the new Democratic House leadership decided instead to sit back smugly and watch the spectacle, no doubt figuring that the GOP's self-destruction would be advantageous politically.

But it is obvious now that the Democrats severely miscalculated. McCarthy has come and gone and Mike Johnson, an evangelical right-winger, is the new House Speaker. The chaos surrounding McCarthy's final days is long-forgotten and the new reality is that Johnson represents an even more-extreme form of Republicanism than before. Most significantly, Johnson has refused to take up the bill that was passed by a bipartisan majority in the Senate to provide additional military aid to Ukraine.

For Americans who have been alarmed by Vladimir Putin's assault on freedom, this has been a very depressing week. First came word that Putin's main political adversary, Alexei Navalny, had died in a Siberian gulag under still-unknown circumstances. A few days later, the Ukrainian army had to abandon its position in a key city because of a lack of ammunition thanks to the failure of the U.S. to deliver military assistance.

But what is most-depressing is that it is becoming increasingly clear that Putin has outfoxed American leaders in the White House and in the Congress. To use a common metaphor, Putin has been playing three-dimensional chess and our petty and ineffectual leaders, especially the Democrats, have been playing checkers.

Putin understands American politics better than our own leaders, especially the Democrats, who obviously are clueless. The Democrats thought they were scoring political points when they abetted in McCarthy's downfall, but in reality, they fell into a trap, with the result that they have become nothing more than the useful idiots of the 21st century.

## DEMOCRATIC LEADERS NEED TO TELL BIDEN TO STEP ASIDE

It has become increasingly obvious that President Joe Biden is spiraling faster-and-faster downhill, both physically and mentally.

He can barely string together two sentences -- not even from a teleprompter -- and if he answers questions off-the-cuff (which he seldomly does because he has held fewer press conferences than any president in modern history, and when he has held press conferences, he answers questions that have been pre-submitted on index cards), he invariably will commit a major gaffe.

His advisors tell us that in meetings, he's as sharp as ever. But if that's true, then (as Jon Stewart suggested) why not show us a video of one of those meetings so we all can see him in action, so to speak?

Let's be clear where we stand: Joe Biden has been a great president and his administration has accomplished more legislation that will benefit Americans than any since Lyndon Johnson's in the 1960s.

But as much as Biden deserves credit for his landmark achievements, the only thing that matters is the future. No politician deserves re-election based solely on what they've done in the past. Our elected public officials are public servants -- not the other way around -- and candidates have to be judged based on what they can do if re-elected.

The view of a majority of voters, including Democrats, is that Joe Biden is a stumbling and bumbling old man. His rapid descent into old-age before our eyes is evidence of the truth of the maxim, "Time and tide wait for no man."

However, despite Biden's low poll numbers, no Democratic leader has had the courage to come forward to tell Biden that he should step aside. In our view, the Democrats' failure to acknowledge the reality that the whole world can see eventually will be shown to represent a serious miscalculation that threatens not only the future of democracy in this country, but throughout the entire free world.

If Biden were to step aside (as LBJ did in March of 1968) it would energize the Democrats and the country. Yes, it might be a bit messy, but the end result would be a younger and more vigorous candidate, such as Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo, for example, with a vice-presidential candidate such as Maryland Governor Wes Moore (or vice-versa) in whom the American public would feel proud and confident in tackling the challenges facing the world today.

## GUEST OP-ED

## Public trees to be protected here as of March 28

By Sandra Storey

Permission of the Parks and Recreation Department, through a Tree Warden, will soon be required for anyone—including city officials themselves—to have healthy trees removed from City of Boston property. Getting that permission will require a well-publicized public hearing.

An ordinance spelling out those and other new processes for City of Boston tree removal on its own properties—such as parks, school grounds, libraries and public housing—was passed unanimously by the Boston City Council on Dec. 13 and signed into law by Mayor Michelle Wu at the end of January. The public tree protection ordinance (TPO) will go into effect on March 28.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has long had a law regarding preserving "public shade trees" that is referenced and treated in the new Boston ordinance as a separate category of public trees from those on City property.

The original draft TPO, that also regulated removing trees on private property, was first submitted and discussed by the Boston City Council in 2021. All Council members signed on to co-sponsor it within a short time.

But the provisions that covered removal of private trees—which make up about 60 percent of the tree canopy here and represent the greatest losses of trees, according to the Parks Department—were dropped about a year ago.

At a government operations committee hearing of the council it was decided to bifurcate the first ordinance to deal with regulating public trees first, to be followed by developing the potentially more controversial rules for private tree removal later.

"Later" should be coming soon.

Jamaica Plain has a 44 percent tree canopy, the largest of any Boston neighborhood. About eight acres of canopy were lost here between 2014 and 2019, according to City assessments.

Now that the public tree part of the TPO has passed into law, it's time for Boston to revisit the most significant part of tree protection regulation—creating prior review of possible removal of trees on private land.

The original 2021 draft ordinance was similar to regulations on the books in quite a few cities and towns around the country, including Austin, Tex., Atlanta, Palo Alto (updated from original from 1951), Portland, Ore. and Seattle. Friends of Urban Forests lists about 50 cities and states that have official tree protections around the country on its website. <https://friends.urbanforests.org/tree-ordinances-in-other-states/>

Massachusetts cities that have TPOs governing private tree removal include Cambridge, Canton, Newton, Somerville, Salem and Wellesley.

An extensive Urban Forest Plan (UFP), developed by the City of Boston with lots of community and expert participation over more than a year, and released in September, 2022, calls for regulations protecting trees as a critical action item within the first five years.

Since then, the Urban Forestry Division of the Parks Department expanded its workforce to care for thousands of trees and secured a grant of \$11.4 million from the U.S. Forest Ser-

vices Urban and Community Forestry Program, according to a press release from the City.

In an online poll of the UFP's equity centered Community Advisory Board (CAB) in March 2022, 85 percent of the 35 voting CAB members said they believe "the existing tree protection regulations need to be strengthened;" 54 percent said regulation of private tree removal should happen in "all instances;" 38 percent said "just during land development or construction projects." Three percent were unsure.

No one said that "tree removal on private property shouldn't be regulated at all."

Trees make incredible contributions to the well-being of cities and their residents, as the UFP says. They reduce storm water run-off, air pollution, the heat island effect, rates of respiratory ailments and energy usage. They provide wildlife habitat and give off oxygen while taking in harmful carbon dioxide. They are visually pleasing and provide shade and privacy.

Former local District 6 City Councilor Matt O'Malley cited a study that showed the average tree gives \$293 worth of benefits a year to its community at a City Council hearing in 2018.

Boston's tree canopy covers about 27 percent of the city, according to a Tree Canopy Assessment put out by the City in 2020 that analyzed tree cover changes in the City from 2014-2019. That isn't high.

Findings from the same City of Boston Tree Canopy Assessment of 2020 show that Jamaica Plain saw a net loss of about eight acres of canopy coverage, most of which came from "residential, mixed use and public open space," according to the Parks Department in 2021 and quoted by the Gazette.

During Mayor Marty Walsh's administration, the goal of 35 percent tree coverage in Boston by 2030 was set. That will be difficult to achieve just by planting new trees. Preserving mature trees, which bring more benefits than young ones, is important, especially in Boston's environmental equity neighborhoods.

Key to thinking and planning for Boston's urban forest is the fact that lower income neighborhoods with significant populations of people of color are being negatively impacted by a lack of trees. Chinatown, Dorchester, East Boston, Mattapan, and Roxbury residents suffer from related health issues.

"It's no coincidence that many of the communities disproportionately impacted by poor

(TREES Pg. 9)

## THE BEACON HILL TIMES

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**MBTA** (from pg. 1)

also to the MBTA team working side by side with contractor crews to deliver the results we promised.”

The work completed included the installation of 2,500 feet of rail; the successful removal and replacement of dozens of signal bonds; the reinstallation of approximately 3,500 feet of signal cable; the installation of one switch and additional rail work; the realignment of the third rail and other rail work at the Alewife crossover; tunnel inspections along the southbound track between Harvard and Central stations, making repairs as needed; repairs to ceiling areas throughout Davis station; hands-on inspections of Alewife, Porter, and Davis stations; signal modernization work at Alewife, Davis, Porter, and Harvard stations; the installation of a new standpipe at Kendall/MIT station; and security camera improvements at Alewife, Porter, and Davis stations.



Infrastructure improvements were accomplished along the Red Line.

Of the recently completed track work, Rep. Jay Livingstone said, “I’m pleased at the continued progress made by the Healey Administration to address long time concerns. I look forward to the removal of all slow zones this year.”

## Flynn files hearing order to discuss the community process for transportation planning

In recent years, there have been major transportation planning and street redesign projects in various neighborhoods across the city, including State Street in the Financial District and Wharf District area, both Berkeley Street and Copley Connect in Back Bay neighborhood, Tremont Street in the South End, and Summer Street Bus Pilot in the South Boston Waterfront, among others.

During this time, Councilor Ed Flynn heard from many constituents, businesses and neighborhood associations, who expressed concerns about a lack of community process, engagement and communication for these street redesigns. These residents and civic groups conveyed the feeling that they were bypassed and that their everyday experience and knowledge of the streets were not taken seriously. They shared frustrations that they only learned about the planned changes after the outcome of the redesign had already been determined, or before public input was heard.

Many residents have also relayed concerns about the increase in usage of mopeds, electric scooters,

and other devices on our streets - many of which do not require licenses and whose operators do not adhere to the rules of the road. Residents, especially families with children, our seniors, and persons with disabilities have shared that they would also like to weigh in during a thorough community process on pedestrian safety, rules of the road, and common courtesy when it comes to these forms of transportation.

“It is important that those who live and pay taxes in a community - our constituents and local businesses - have a say in what takes place there, including the ability to provide feedback at an in-person community meeting when it comes to transportation planning,” said Councilor Flynn. “The institutional knowledge, lived experience, and input of our residents, civic organizations, and businesses should be taken into account before any decisions are implemented. It is critical that we continue to value the community process and feedback we receive when it comes to pedestrian safety and transportation planning.”

# The Harvard Musical Association names Goff as Executive Director

The Harvard Musical Association, located at 57A Chestnut Street on Beacon Hill, announced today the appointment of Janet Goff as the first Executive Director in the Boston organization’s 186-year history. She will begin April 1.

“We are so happy to have Janet join us in this important leadership position,” said HMA Board President Deborah Hanley. “Her deep knowledge and love of music, as well as her career in nonprofit administration and fundraising, will make an important contribution to the life of our association.”

Janet’s career has spanned the worlds of music, museums, and the performing arts, most notably an eleven-year tenure creating special events at New England Conservatory. At NEC she produced 60 – 70 events per year, an experience which will serve her well in her responsibilities managing the HMA’s schedule of 20 annual concerts, recitals, and other events occurring at the organization’s Beacon Hill quarters.

“There is a sense of community that runs through the Boston music world,” said Janet, “And I look forward to fostering that at HMA.” She noted the organization’s historic influence in the City’s cultural life and its role in connecting people who share a love of chamber music. “I am a classical music connoisseur myself and am so grateful for this opportunity to share the joy with fellow music lovers at the HMA.”

The Executive Director role represents a new direction for the HMA in which the organization’s administration and its facility management will be split between two people, responsibilities which were held previously by Resident Steward Jim McDonald, who served in that position for 34 years. “Jim is retiring this summer, so the time was right to reorganize the HMA to help serve its members better. The Board of HMA and membership want to thank Jim and his wife Joni, who has assisted him all these years, for their loyal service. They have become familiar faces in our neighborhood and will be greatly missed” said Hanley. A new Resident Steward will be hired later this spring.

Janet’s hire culminates a nationwide search conducted begun last fall by search consultant Dan Yaeger, who donated his time to the organization. In addition to Deb Hanley, the HMA Search Committee included Program Committee Chair Sally Rubin, Past President Tony Schemmer, Finance Commit-



Janet Goff.

tee Chair Thatcher Gearhart, and Board member Theresa Stone.

The Harvard Musical Association is a private charitable orga-

nization founded by Harvard College graduates in 1837 for the purposes of advancing musical culture and literacy, both at Harvard and in the city of Boston. Since then, the HMA has marked numerous achievements: creation of the country’s first professional public chamber music series, construction of the city’s first major music venue, the Boston Music Hall, establishment of an internationally-renowned music library, the creation of the Apollo Club, the oldest men’s choral group in the country founded in 1871, as well as the formation of the Harvard Musical Association Orchestra which ultimately gave rise to the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

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# Wu awards \$4.7 million in funding to develop Boston's Life Sciences Workforce

Mayor Michelle Wu recently announced the recipients of \$4.7 million in funding to train and place Boston residents into life sciences careers, the latest stage of the City's Life Sciences Workforce Initiative. Mayor Wu was joined by Dr. Reshma Kewalramani, M.D., CEO and President of Vertex Pharmaceuticals, and other life sciences industry leaders and training partners.

"Boston is the home for big ideas that can change the world. As Mayor, my goal is to help ensure that Boston remains the best place in the world to start and grow a life sciences company—to create life-saving innovations and great jobs for our residents," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "Through our Life Sciences Workforce Initiative, we're partnering with industry, training providers, and higher education to connect employers with the talented workforce that lives in our neighborhoods."

The initiative aims to leverage Greater Boston's position as the global leader in life sciences to develop more inclusive training and career pathways for Boston residents, particularly workers of color and those without four-year degrees, with a goal of hiring 1,000 Boston residents into the sector by the end of 2025. Mayor Wu announced the launch of a new collaboration between the Massachusetts Biotechnology Council (MassBio), the state's life sciences trade association, and the Boston-based national job training organization YearUp, to further develop inclusive hiring and talent acquisition among Greater Boston companies, and outlined grant funding that will collectively bring 410 Boston residents into the industry.

Mayor Wu and Dr. Kewalramani were joined at the press conference by MassBio President and CEO Kendalle Burlin O'Connell, Gerald Chertavian, Founder and Senior Advisor of Year Up, Jeanne



Mayor Michelle Wu.

LeClair, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center, Pam Eddinger, President of Bunker Hill Community College, and Gretchen Cook-Anderson, Executive Director of LabCentral Ignite, and Josiah Wade-Green, a student in Bioversity and the Mass College of Pharmaceutical Health Sciences' first Biotech Career Foundations 8-week certificate training program. The grants are funded by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), the Neighborhood Jobs Trust (NJT), and the City of Boston's FY24 operating budget.

"We're excited to host Mayor Wu and workforce training partners at Vertex to connect the life sciences industry to the hotbed of talent we have in Boston," said Reshma Kewalramani, M.D., CEO and President at Vertex. "The Life Sciences Workforce Initiative reflects our shared commitment to cultivate local talent and ensure the City's growing life sciences industry will continue to thrive."

"As someone born and raised in Boston, it's thrilling to see Mayor Wu investing significant resources to make sure people like me have the opportunity to pursue professional careers in the life sciences," said Josiah Wade-Green, a student

with Bioversity and Mass College of Pharmaceutical Health Sciences (MCPHS). "Even though I only have a high school degree, Bioversity has created a career pathway for me and I can't wait to start the next chapter in my life."

The seven awardees of training grants are Bioversity and MCPHS, Bunker Hill Community College and Mass General Brigham, Just-A-Start, Quincy College and Bio-processing Group, Franklin Cummings Institute of Technology, and Roxbury Community College and the NuSq Life Sciences Training Center, and Massachusetts Biotechnology Education Foundation (MassBioEd).

Each awardee applied for funds to secure internship and hiring commitments from life sciences companies, train for specific in-demand industry positions, and support residents without four-year degrees who are underrepresented in the industry today.

Bunker Hill Community College is excited to build on our long experience collaborating with Mass General Brigham and Project HOPE to expand the workforce pipeline into fields connecting life sciences and healthcare," said Pam Eddinger, President of Bunker Hill Community College. "This grant will give Boston residents the opportunity to train as part of BHCC's Medical Laboratory Science Pathway for entry-level jobs in high-demand fields, offering family-sustaining wages and career growth. Jobs in areas like phlebotomy, medical laboratory assistant, and technician roles are the foundation of our region's life sciences economy, and a skilled, inclusive workforce is critical to equity and shared prosperity."

This funding round also establishes a workforce intermediary, developed through a joint application by Year Up and MassBio, which will be designing and launching an inclusive network of employers, training and education

organizations, community organizations, and influential Boston stakeholders. The intermediary will improve employment outcomes for underrepresented talent in the life sciences sector in Greater Boston by simplifying and coordinating the process for life sciences talent and employers to reach each other.

"Life sciences is an important, growing sector in Boston and in Massachusetts, and we want to ensure individuals currently underrepresented in the industry are empowered to be successful in these careers," said Ellen McClain, Year Up CEO and President. "With this investment from the City of Boston, Year Up is excited to partner with MassBio, training and education organizations, and life sciences companies to build more on-ramps into this field for Boston residents."

"There remains a strong demand for workers in the life sciences at all levels in the Boston area, and employers have committed to bringing new and diverse individuals into their workforces," said Kendalle Burlin O'Connell, MassBio CEO and President. "Launching Bioversity in Dorchester with the support of the City of Boston, MCPHS, and so many others has created a new pathway for residents to be trained to enter a life sciences career without anything more than a high school diploma. Now, our new partnership with YearUp will enable unprecedented collaboration across the ecosystem to facilitate the hiring of diverse talent."

"There is an immense need for entry- and mid-level workers in life science careers that is only growing as innovation continues to accelerate," said Jeanne LeClair, Director of the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center. "The City of Boston's initiative fits in perfectly with efforts the state is also making to recruit new faces to these highly rewarding and vitally necessary careers,

via our Pathmaker program and the Commonwealth's MassTalent initiative."

This funding round follows an announcement last year that the City was funding The American City Coalition (TACC), LabCentral Ignite, and the Massachusetts Biotechnology Education Foundation (MassBioEd) to increase community awareness of the life sciences industry and its career opportunities in Boston neighborhoods. The awareness efforts will engage 1,600 individuals in intensive career awareness programming and reach thousands more through a robust media and community engagement strategy, all unlocking the potential for many more job placement opportunities for residents.

"At LabCentral Ignite, we're honored to be part of this amazing collective action led by Mayor Wu's administration to prepare and employ new generations of Bostonians from communities historically disconnected from the life sciences and the groundbreaking health innovations, career advancement, and wealth creation the field enables," said Gretchen Cook Anderson, Executive Director of LabCentral Ignite. "We're moving fast and intentionally, together, to demystify the industry, share the faces and stories of people in the industry who reflect our Black, Brown and other underrepresented communities, and put people on the right educational and training pathways to join this life-saving field. This is an historic era for inclusive focus on biotech workforce development that also stands to, in turn, advance health equity."

The City's Life Sciences Workforce Initiative was developed with support from the Bloomberg Harvard City Leadership Initiative, which advances research and develops new curriculum and teaching tools to help city leaders solve real-world problems.

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# NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDUP

## BPDA TO SPONSOR VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETING ON FEB. 27 ON PROPOSED 222 FRIEND ST. PROJECT

The Boston Planning & Development Agency will sponsor a virtual public meeting to discuss an 11-story life science building proposed for 222 Friend St. in the West End on Tuesday, Feb. 27, from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Woburn-based KS Partners is proposing the replacement of the existing, three-story commercial building and 32-space surface parking lot with a new building comprising approximately 160,195 square feet (gross floor area) and measuring approximately 170 feet to the top of its highest occupied floor, with a mechanical penthouse occupying less than 30 percent of the roof area.

While no on-site parking will be provided due to the site's convenient access to a variety of public-transit options, the project does include plans for a fully enclosed loading area on its ground level. The project will also incorporate numerous public-realm enhancements, including the elimination of approximately 109 feet of curb-cuts on Portland and Friend streets; a reduction in paved area; the widening of adjacent sidewalks; the addition of urban landscape elements; and the creation of new ground-floor retail spaces on Portland Street and at the corner of Friend Street and Valenti Way.

Register for the Feb. 6 online meeting at <http://www.bostonplans.org/news-calendar/calendar/2024/02/06/222-friend-street-impact-advisory-group-meeting>.

## LECTURE ON URBAN DEVELOPMENT SPONSORED BY WEST END MUSEUM FEB. 29

The West End Museum will offer 'The West End: 400 Years of Urban Development' - a talk on the history of urban development in Boston's West End - on Thursday, Feb. 29, at 6 p.m., both in-person at the Hub on Causeway Community Room at 52 Causeway St. (located along the alleyway next to Hub50House, across from the Tip O'Neill Building). Visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-west-end-400-years-of-urban-development-in-person-tickets> to purchase tickets for the in-person event, or <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-west-end-400-years-of-urban-development-virtual-tickets> to purchase tickets for the virtual event.

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS SPONSORED BY THE VILNA SHUL

The Vilna Shul, located at 18 Phillips St., will offer 'Havurah on the Hill: Pickle Making and a Deli Dinner' on Friday, Feb. 23, from 6 to 9 p.m. This ongoing event is an experience for young professionals, with good food and great company held on the fourth Shabbat of each month. It includes a short and spirited service, a deli dinner, and all the fixings for DIY pickles. Tickets are \$18 each.

On Thursday, Feb. 29, from noon to 1 p.m., The Vilna will sponsor "Israel Beyond the Headlines: Medical Clowning as Trauma Therapy" - a free, virtual conversation with Rotem Goldenberg, a medical clown in the Dream Doctors Project in Israel.

Clowns of the Dream Doctors Project are dedicated to crisis intervention during times of emergency. In this talk, Rotem will shed light on the unique experience of being a Medical Clown in Israel and describe the clowns' work with evacuees during the regional war in recent months.

Upcoming ongoing programming sponsored by The Vilna include 'Israel Through the Filmmaker's Lens,' with Dr. Shayna Weiss, on Wednesdays, Feb. 28 through March 27, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at 18 Phillips St.

This course will explore questions about Israeli life and identity in a global context. Dr. Shayna Weiss will examine contemporary Israeli film and what these movies teach about Israel today, covering timely topics including the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, Mizrahi-Ashkenazi relations, ultra-Orthodoxy, Holocaust memory, and more.

The cost of admission is \$120 per person for all five sessions, including dinner, along with an approximately \$30 materials fee (for film viewing, paid directly to screening platforms [e.g. Netflix]).

The Vilna also presents 'Climate Change and Tikkun Olam: A Poetry Journey,' with Professor Deborah Leipziger on Wednesdays, Feb. 28 through March 13 and on April 3, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at 18 Phillips St.

This course will look at climate change through a Jewish lens, like what does Jewish tradition teach us about how to cope and respond to this environmental and humanitarian challenge?; and how can poetry and creative endeavors help build resilience while cultivating hope, empathy, and action? Professor Leipziger is a sustainability

expert who is also a poet and co-founder of the New England Jewish Poetry Festival.

The cost of admission is \$120 per person for all five sessions, including dinner.

Visit <https://vilnashul.org/events/upcoming> for more information for more information on The Vilna's upcoming programming.

## BOSTON WARD 5 DEMS COMMITTEE TO HOST CAUCUS ON SATURDAY, MARCH 2

The Boston Ward 5 Democratic Committee will host the 2024 Boston Ward 5 Democratic Caucus to elect delegates and alternates for the 2024 Massachusetts Democratic Convention on Saturday, March 2, at 10 a.m. at the Old South Church, 645 Boylston St., in Copley Square. Participants may sign in beginning at 9 a.m.

This event is open to the public. However, only those persons who reside in Ward 5 and have previously registered to vote as Democrats, or are 16 years of age by Thursday Feb. 15, and have pre-registered to vote as Democrats, will be eligible to vote and be elected as delegates, or alternates, during the Caucus.

Ward 5 includes Beacon Hill, Back Bay, Bay Village, the Fenway, and parts of Chinatown and the South End. For more information, and to check your voter registration status (and whether you live in Ward 5), go to [www.bostonward5dems.org](http://www.bostonward5dems.org).

## CHARLES RIVER CLEANUP SET TO RETURN APRIL 19-20

Join the Esplanade Association for the 25th annual Charles River Cleanup - one of the largest Earth Day cleanups in the nation - on

Friday, April 19, and Saturday, April 20.

Registration is now open for individual and corporate/large groups; sign up for one or both days online at <https://esplanade.org/cleanup/>.

## 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)).

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# Virtual Book discussion with authors Kendrick and Kendrick set for Feb. 28

Join the Charlestown Preservation Society and the friends of the Charlestown Branch Library for a Virtual Book Discussion with authors Stephen Kendrick and Paul Kendrick to discuss their book *Nine Days: The Race to Save Martin Luther King's Life and Win the 1960 Election* on Wednesday, Feb. 28.

*Nine Days* documents a young Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s perilous first imprisonment and how it clarified his path to changing a nation as well as the story of three Kennedy campaign civil rights advisors who went rogue to free King. This interracial trio risked the razor-close 1960 election against Nixon to get King out of prison and shift the Black vote, changing our political parties forever.

The authors will also discuss their earlier work *Sarah's Long Walk: The Free Blacks of Boston and How Their Struggle for Equality Changed America* and its ties to 112 High Street in Charlestown.

The event will take place on Wednesday, February 28, from 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

A Virtual Book Discussion with authors Stephen Kendrick and Paul Kendrick. The link to register for the talk is : <https://bit.ly/KendrickTalk>



Authors Stephen Kendrick and Paul Kendrick.

*Nine Days: The Race to Save Martin Luther King Jr.'s Life and Win the 1960 Election*, was published January 2021, and is being hailed by critics. The book documents the story of young Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s perilous first imprisonment and how it clarified his path to changing a nation. It is also the story of how an overlooked, interracial team of civil rights advisors on the John Kennedy campaign risked the razor-close election against Nixon to get King out of prison and swing the Black vote, changing our political parties forever.

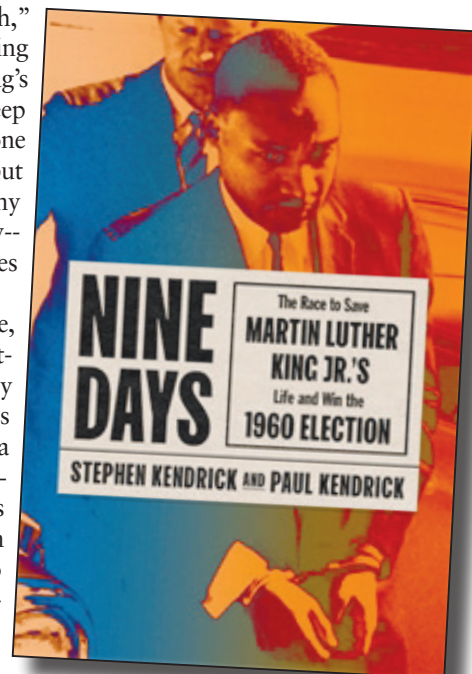
A New York Times Book Review Editors' Choice "10 New Books We Recommend This Week," the Times wrote, "No brief review can do full justice to the Kendricks' masterly and often riveting account of King's ordeal and the 1960 'October Surprise' that may have altered the course of modern political history. Suffice it to say that any reader who navigates the many twists and turns and surprises in this complex tale will come away recognizing the power of historical contingency."

Oprah Magazine named *Nine Days* a "Best Books of February

2021 to Fall in Love With," calling it, "brilliant, gripping work of reportage...King's transcendent ability to keep his eyes on the prize is one theme of this work, but the authors also find many other heroes in this story--more evidence that it takes a village."

Chicago Tribune wrote, "Enlightening and captivating...fascinating if largely overlooked chapter...this book tackles not only a story that resonates loudly in our current times as a thoughtful examination of the tricky relationship between race and politics...exciting reading...impeccable research...a narrative flair worthy of a great political thriller. They have given us a story that excites as it informs...magnificent, an important trip back to a time that helps explain, for better and for worse, how we got to where we are now."

Through extensive research and interviews with those who were there, *Nine Days* fully tells these dramatic historical events for the first time. The Kendricks recently spoke to CBS News about the book, its characters, and its message on the moral leadership we need



today. Paul was also recently interviewed on MSNBC's *Way Too Early* with Kasie Hunt.

Father and son co-authors Stephen and Paul Kendrick have previously published *Douglass and Lincoln: How a Revolutionary Black Leader and a Reluctant Liberator Struggled to End Slavery and Save the Union* and *Sarah's Long Walk: The Free Blacks of Boston and How Their Struggle for Equality Changed America*.

## Chestnuts Friends Over Fifty starting year off strong

Special to Times

The Chestnuts Friends Over Fifty, a Boston nonprofit social group for women over the age of 50, is having another big and active year.

The Chestnuts brought in almost 40 new members in the fall, with all new members invited to attend a series of three coffees during the year. These coffees provide a fast track for meeting people and making new friends.

With 170 members and about

12 member-initiated and -led activities per month, there are many opportunities for developing connections.

Over the holidays the Chestnuts had a Party with a Purpose and raised \$3,700 for The Globe Santa Fund. At the end of February the Chestnuts will have a similar purpose-driven gathering with donations to benefit The Women's Lunch Place.

The Chestnuts also recently held two Wine Tasting events. These events are usually led by a

board member and Beacon Hill resident Beth Sanders. Wine Tastings are plus one events, so many Chestnuts bring a spouse or a friend. They are lively events with lots of learning about viticulture and oenology..

A newly ventured activity for the Chestnuts is a Travel Group led by members Melanie Bertani and Lyndsay Duggan. The first meeting was held in January at a member's home on Chestnut Street in Beacon Hill and the lively discussion that took place focused on travel to Vietnam and Cambodia. In March Chestnuts will armchair travel to Australia and New Zealand.

New members from the community are welcome to apply for membership to The Chestnuts between Sept. 1-15. Information about the Chestnuts, FOF is available at [Chestnut-friends.square-space.com](https://Chestnut-friends.square-space.com).

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CITY PAWS

# Companion animals are living longer

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

Healthcare improvements, better diet, exercise, and cutting-edge scientific research have extended the lifespan of humans. Similar movements in the veterinary field are allowing our companion animals to live longer, healthier lives. This is excellent news for all of us who consider the much-loved furry members of our household to be family.

### Nature vs Nurture

Since most are bred, housed, fed, and cared for by humans, domestic dogs live longer than their Canidae family of mammals like wolves, coyotes, foxes, jackals, and dingoes. For decades, how we care for our companion animals has improved with more routine veterinary care, dental care, better grooming, better compliance with vaccination recommendations, higher quality food, greater acceptance of neutering, and a change in how we treat our animals.

### Breed, Face Shape, and Size Matter

A recent Companion Animal Psychology article summarized a British Study's findings. Zazie Todd, Ph.D., reported, "The study of over 150 breeds and cross-breeds shows that size matters, as little dogs live longer—and so do those with a medium head shape rather than a flat face."

Most of us understand that larger breeds, like Great Danes,

Mastiffs, and Saint Bernards, have shorter lives. The Schipperke, Shiba Inu, Papillon, Border Terrier, Italian Greyhound, and Miniature Dachshund were among the small breeds noted to have longer lives.

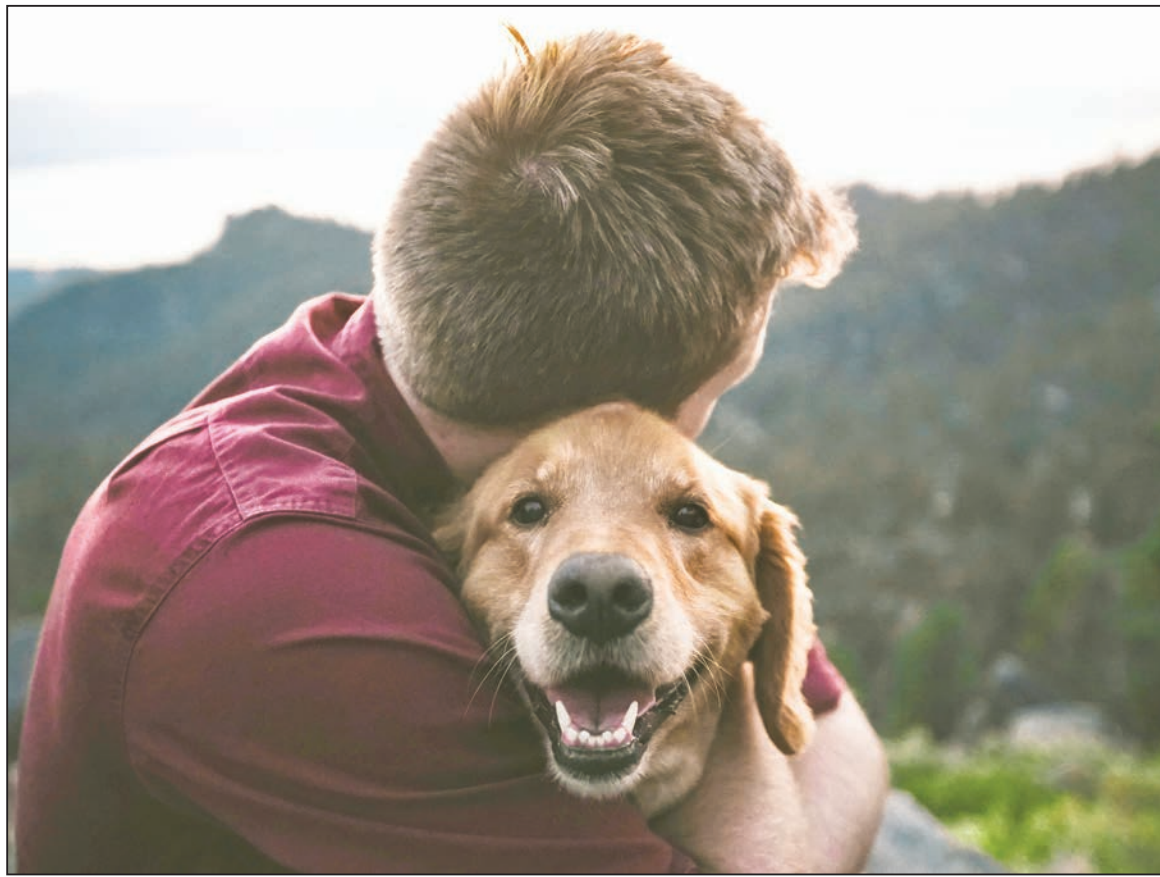
Face shape is also a factor. Brachycephalic or flat-faced dogs, from the French Bulldog to its larger cousin, the English Bulldog, have shorter lifespans regardless of size. These breeds may struggle to breathe if they develop Brachycephalic Obstructive Airway Syndrome. Dogs with medium-shaped faces lived slightly longer than those with long faces.

### More Support May Be Needed

Knowing that the dog or cat we bring into our life may live longer than in the past, we may need to think a bit more about planning for a support system to care for that pet if it outlives us.

This is a common concern of people with a large bird like a Parrot who could live 50 years or more. We looked at discussions in bird forums to learn how these guardians addressed this issue. One answer is to become part of a local bird club or Aviculture Society. Another was to prearrange for care with a rescue organization or humane society.

We've been part of West Highland Terrier rescue organizations for many years and developed friendships with others who know the breed's strengths and weaknesses. Through routine com-



Reports of companion animals living longer is excellent news for all of us who consider the much-loved furry members of our household to be family. (Photo by Eric Ward)

munication, they even know a bit about our Poppy in particular.

In Massachusetts, you can establish a trust that you can fund to care for an animal if and when you are unable to do so.

### Mutually Beneficial

Some of the things dog guardians do for their furry companions are mutually beneficial. We know that more exercise, socialization,

fun, and stress relief can extend the lives of all species. Our companion animals provide us with many opportunities to relax and enjoy life.

In the case of dogs and humans, we'll let the American Heart Association have the final word on the topic. They reported, "As dog lovers have long suspected, owning a canine companion can be good for

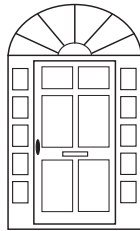
you." Two studies in one of their scientific publications suggested, "... your four-legged friend may help you do better after a heart attack or stroke and may help you live a longer, healthier life."

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

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# Healey-Driscoll administration announces \$5M in grants awards to local Fire Departments

The Healey-Driscoll Administration announced \$5 million in awards to 321 Massachusetts fire departments through the state's Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant program. The City of Boston received \$37,293.99.

"Every single day, firefighters across Massachusetts put themselves in harm's way to protect their communities," said Governor Maura Healey. "They deserve our thanks and our support. The Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant program is just one way we can express our appreciation for that selfless dedication."

"From structure fires and water rescues to hazardous materials and building collapses, firefighters never know what life-threatening

risks the next call will bring," said Lt. Governor Kim Driscoll. "These grants will support the purchase of fundamental tools and specialty equipment to help them do a dangerous job more safely."

Fire departments across Massachusetts were invited to apply to the Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant program, which provides reimbursement on purchases of 135 different types of eligible equipment. Eligible items include hoses and nozzles, turnout gear, ballistic protective equipment, gear washers and dryers, thermal imaging cameras, hand tools and extrication equipment, communications resources, hazardous gas meters, and more. In many cases, the purchase of this equip-

ment will help departments attain compliance with Occupational Safety & Health Administration or National Fire Protection Association safety standards. This is the fourth year that funding has been awarded through the program.

"For the second year in a row, many fire departments are using this program to provide their personnel with ballistic vests and helmets so they can make life-saving rescues in active shooter situations," said Secretary of Public Safety and Security Terrence Reidy. "As we confront this growing threat and other emerging hazards, we are proud of the way Massachusetts fire departments have risen to every challenge."

"While smoke and flames are

the most obvious threats to firefighters' safety, occupational cancer is the leading cause of death in the fire service," said Deputy Secretary Susan Terrey. "We now know that wearing the right type of protective gear and cleaning it properly can reduce that risk. This program will give many firefighters access to tools that will help protect them from the number one threat to their health and well-being."

"The Firefighter Safety Equipment Grants are an investment in the health and safety of Massachusetts firefighters," said State Fire Marshal Jon Davine. "The flexibility of the program is especially valuable because it allows each department to make purchases

based on their specific needs and resources. It has become a vital part of the way the Massachusetts fire service prepares for the constantly evolving threats in the world around us."

"Firefighters who have the proper protective gear and contemporary rescue tools are much better able to protect themselves and the residents they serve," said Hyannis Fire Chief Peter Burke, President of the Fire Chiefs' Association of Massachusetts. "These grant awards will have immeasurable impacts on public safety in Massachusetts for years to come."

## BHAC (from pg. 1)

Alice Richmond and also reflected the recommendations made by staff (Nicholas Armata), approved the application as submitted, with the provisos that the board sign instead use a black-and-gold color scheme to match the colors on the drycleaners' existing signage there (the proposed blue-and-black color scheme was deemed acceptable for the proposed hanging sign, however); that all signage be made of wood, rather than the submitted HDU (High Density Urethane) material; and that for the blade sign, the existing bracket be used, and that new hardware be painted to match the existing bracket.

The commission also voted

unanimously to approve an application for 33 Bowdoin St., with proposed work including installing a new walkway made of granite pavers to reach the door threshold at the side entrance; this determination came with proviso that the pavers be made of brick, rather than of the proposed granite; that granite 'frame the full outer perimeter with brick inserts'; and that the proposed work be approved by staff.

In another matter, the commission voted unanimously to approve an application to relocate the lower exterior stair to create more room at the entry of 20 Louisburg Square; this came

with provisos that the stair be aligned to match the 'final riser' (as opposed to aligning with the conditions next door at 18 Louisburg Square, as the applicant had initially proposed); and that the work be remanded to staff for final approval.

The commission also approved as submitted an application for 43A Joy St. to install a small vent cover on existing soffit as part of the installation of first-floor powder room.

Likewise, the commission voted unanimously to approve an application for 68 Beacon St. to replace an existing window with a grill to ventilate the kitchen, bathroom, and laundry facilities as part of an ongoing sixth-floor renovation; this determination came with a proviso mandating that the louvre be rendered to mimic the existing one on the eighth floor of the building's Charles Street façade.

On an application for 36 Beacon St., which included the proposed replacement of the missing glass lights ('prisms') in a coal-chute cover on the ground with a polycarbonate option, the commission voted unanimously to continue the application for further study and asked that the applicant provide samples of proposed materials when they return.

An application for 83 Mount Vernon St., with proposed work including repainting the front door and surround, also appeared on hearing agenda, but the matter ultimately wasn't heard due to the applicant's failure to appear.

During an advisory hearing, the commission heard preliminary plans for a roofdeck at the Union Club of Boston, located at 8 Park St., as well as associated renovations, including a small extension to the stairs in the headhouse, as



D. MURPHY PHOTO

The Union Club of Boston at 8 Park St.

well as the creation of a second egress.

For the proposed roofdeck, would be used to accommodate events at the club, the railing would stand 54 inches above the existing roof membrane, said Tim Burke, the project architect. A mockup had been installed at the project site (which was temporarily taken down during the nor'easter), he said.

The project would require a zoning variance, added Burke, and if the city's Zoning Board of Appeal was receptive to the proposal, the applicant would work to make the roofdeck minimally visible from the Common.

Commissioner Maurice Finegold said he had visited the site, and that the mockup was highly visible

from the Boston Common. "I just think you need to pull it back in my point of view," he said, since the applicant had expressed "flexibility" in regard to the length of the roofdeck.

Staff (Armata) advised the applicant that if the roofdeck were moved back to sit between two existing chimneys, the proposal would likely be "a little more digestible."

(Commissioner Ed Fleck recused himself from this matter.)

On hand for the hearing were Vice Chair Arian Allen and Commissioners Finegold, Fleck, Richmond, Annette Given, Ralph Jackson, and Sandy Steele. Chair Mark Kiefer and Commissioner Curtis Kenemy were both absent at this time.

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## TREES (from pg. 2)

air quality and the urban “heat island” effect also have inadequate tree cover.” Parks Commissioner Ryan Woods said when the Urban Forest Plan, which has “equity” for those neighborhoods as a primary goal, was originally announced.

District 5 City Councilor Ricardo Arroyo, who drafted the original TPO in 2021, said at a Council hearing where Woods was present that equity was a major goal of both the UFP and the TPO.

At the moment, the brakes seem to be on regulating removal of private trees in those environmental equity neighborhoods and all of Boston, actually for some good, practical reasons.

But drafting and passing an ordinance regarding private tree removal should be put on the fast track in six months to a year. Every day those regulations are not in place, the environmental advantages they will bring to our neighborhoods and city are postponed.

Meanwhile, there is a lot of work to be done in coming months to prepare for drafting and passing the new private tree ordinance.

JP’s new District 6 City Councilor Ben Weber and David Meshoulam, co-founder and executive director of Speak for the Trees, said in separate interviews earlier this month they are happy to have the public tree ordinance on the books. Both said they want to monitor the implementation of that ordinance before moving on to regulating removal of privately owned trees, specifically paying attention to enforcement of the new rules and processes.

A Parks Department spokesperson pointed out another two reasons to not rush into creating the next TPO. City Chief of Environment, Energy and Open Spaces Mariama White-Hammond, who was a key person in leading the Parks Department’s UFP process and acting as a resource on the TPOs, will be leaving her position in April. Her replacement will need to be brought up to speed on tree protection activities here, along with myriad other subjects.

The Parks spokesperson also pointed out that the public tree ordinance that goes into effect next month calls for creation of an Urban Forest Advisory Committee (UFAC) of at least seven members. She said that group that will be convened this summer can be a valuable source of input.

With the UFAC, which can possibly help shape and guide the ordinance governing private trees, and a new chief of environment in place, additional input from City agencies relating to private property, including the Planning and Inspectional Services Depart-

ments, will be sought, along with residential property owners, neighborhood associations, institutional property owners and advocates for various causes, according to the Parks Department spokesperson.

Public education needs to be done during coming months to make sure the private PTO is considered with a maximum of knowledge and a minimum of fear and interference on the part of the entire, interested Boston community.

The Parks Department working with tree advocacy and environmental groups in Boston can play an important role in gathering and sharing information necessary to make good decisions about developing private tree protections that work for everyone when the time comes.

Discussions about a private TPO will go better if all participants have already:

1. Familiarized themselves with some tree protections already in place in a city or cities around the country.

Boston is not alone. Urban tree protections are not some wild experiment cooked up by local tree-huggers. As individuals and organizations, the community can learn a lot from the tree ordinances and experiences of other cities. There’s no need to invent this private TPO wheel from scratch. We can look at existing regulations while crafting our own.

Councilor Arroyo asked his staff to contact some of those cities for information, especially about any pitfalls they had encountered, as he drafted the original ordinance. Although specifics and lingo can be different, and provisions in some cities are scattered throughout various parts of their laws, successful TPOs have a lot of basics in common.

Most tree protections go easy on small homeowners. Most make dealing with DDI (“Dead, Diseased, Imminent Hazard,” according to Austin) trees easy, too. Developers, attorneys, architects, landscapers and builders often treat the rules as just another part of a building code they already have to follow. Quite a few, I’ve heard, are into protecting trees and the environment as the ordinances say.

My brother and his wife own a single-family house in a newish development in Austin, which has had tree protection regulations since 1984. I asked him last week, objectively speaking, what his experience with those regulations there has been. He said he and his wife have had to have four trees on their property cut down over the years because they were diseased

or leaning way over. No special permits were necessary because they were smallish trees and were not healthy.

On the other hand, he said, he is very happy that builders of a nearby housing development preserved lots of mature trees along the shared fence and planted other new trees throughout the development to keep with the City’s regulations. He said he likes knowing that the environment of all of Austin, not just his neighborhood, is better because of tree protection rules.

People who have friends or relatives in other cities with TPOs might want to ask them about their experiences.

2. Read the City of Boston’s Urban Forest Plan and its appendices. <https://www.boston.gov/departments/parks-and-recreation/urban-forest-plan>

3. Read the provisions regarding trees on public and private land in the original ordinance submitted to the Boston City Council in 2021. <https://www.boston.gov/sites/default/files/file/2021/08/0858.PDF>

and of the one regarding trees on public land that just passed with a link to it here: <https://www.boston.gov/news/mayor-wu-signs-public-tree-protection-ordinance-advancing-urban-forest-plan>. They give a good idea of how private tree provisions might go.

4. Think in terms of the widely different types of private ownership of trees that will need to be considered when tailoring an ordinance suitable to each of them: institutional, commercial, small homeowner, large residential property owner or entity, new developments of various sizes, etc.

5. Think in terms of what trees should be protected based on his-

tory, size, age, etc.

6. Everyone interested in the topic of tree protections should be open, not only to taking in information, but also to holding transparent, sometimes public dialogues with others when discussing protections and any concerns.

7. After the private TPO passes, outreach about it should be done to everyone in the city in various ways, including in brochures like the ones the City puts out now every winter regarding dealing with snow and low temperatures. It’s not too late to educate the entire community about the public TPO either.

District 9 City Councilor Liz Breadon—a co-sponsor of the urban tree protection ordinance as well as the original one, along with former Councilors Arroyo and local District 6 Councilor Kendra Lara—said at the Dec. 13 Council meeting that she was “delighted” that the “critically important” public TPO had passed.

“This is one phase,” Breadon pointed out. “I am committed to continue to work for public and private tree protections.”

Isabella Gambill is Assistant Director of Climate, Energy, & Resilience at A Better City (ABC), an organization that “represents a multi-sector group of nearly 130 business leaders united around a common goal: to enhance the Greater Boston region’s economic health, competitiveness, equitable growth, sustainability, and quality of life for all communities,” according to its website.

ABC has not taken a position on either the new urban tree protection ordinance or an upcoming private tree ordinance.

One thing is clear right now. Boston needs a private TPO. We need to prepare to draft and pass it

after some prior practical actions, community education and monitoring of enforcement of the existing public TPO.

“No one will be surprised to hear that I am very supportive of a tree ordinance,” local environment and open space advocate Sarah Freeman of the Arborway Coalition, said during her City Council testimony when the first TPO, with urban and private trees included, was introduced in 2021.

“The best time to enact it was 20 years ago,” she said. “The second-best time is now.”

The same is still true of the part of that ordinance that remains to be enacted three years later.

Putting a lot of time between the public TPO taking effect next month and developing a draft ordinance to add the majority of trees (private ones) to those we are safeguarding is slightly dangerous.

People quickly forget. And it’s tempting to want to ignore policies that could be controversial and a little complicated. The thought of private tree protections makes many people happy, but it makes a few people, especially those not familiar with what they typically entail and the benefits they bring, nervous, especially at first.

We can’t let the beginning of public tree protection in Boston mark the end of caring for more numerous, more threatened privately owned trees. That would be a real shame.

And for a city that takes pride in its concern for science, greenspace and the environment, failing to pass a good private TPO would be downright shameful.

*Sandee Storey is guest columnist*

## CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Construction look-ahead for the North Washington Street Bridge through March 2 is as follows:

### Scheduled Work

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

### Work Hours

- Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Saturday from 6 a.m. to 2 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: February 27 at 7:30 p.m. and March 1 at 7:30 p.m.

- OTHER EVENTS: February 27 at 11 a.m., 3 p.m., and 7 p.m.; February 27 at 11 a.m., 3 p.m., and 7 p.m.; February 27 at 11 a.m., 3 p.m., and 7 p.m.; February 27 at 12 p.m. and 4 p.m.; 2/28 at 7 p.m.; and March 2 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.

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

BHCA (from pg. 1)

few who forget to check the posted street signs for the sweeping schedule and parking restrictions on the street they park.

The City of Boston makes it easy not to forget. Check out https://www.boston.gov/departments/public-works/street-sweeping-city to find everything you need to know about the program, including when the streets are cleaned on Beacon Hill and how to sign up for Tow Alerts.

Other options available to residents include downloading the entire street cleaning schedule from the city's website or calling 311 to find out when the street on which they are parked will be swept, and to report a street that needs to be cleaned.

The city also sends alerts for Street Occupancy permits. To receive alerts the day before a temporary no-parking zone goes into effect for moving trucks, contractor equipment, dumpsters, movie filming, etc., residents should visit



The Street Cleaning Program on Beacon Hill kicks off March 1.

boston.gov/streetoccupancy and enter their street name to begin the sign up process.

Upcoming BHCA Meetings Zoning & Licensing Committee - Wednesday, March 6th, 6:00pm via Zoom

Other upcoming BHCA Events Monday, March 4th: Beacon Hill Meet & Greet, 6-8pm at 75 Chestnut

Friday, March 8th: First Friday Coffee Hour; 8:30-9:30am, 74 Joy Street. Invited Speaker - Nicholas Armata AICP, Senior Preservation Planner for the City of Boston Landmarks Commission

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

LOCAL STUDENTS EARN ACADEMIC HONORS

LOCAL STUDENTS WHO MADE THE UMASS AMHERST DEAN'S LIST

The following Boston students were named to the dean's list at the University of Massachusetts Amherst for the fall 2023 semester.

In order to qualify, an undergraduate student must receive a 3.5 grade-point average or better on a four-point scale.

Steven Roger Arbo

- Carter William Beard
Jackie Chang
Lola Rose DeSanto
Julia Farber
Schuyler Nicholas Figueroa
Maya Marie Kawakami
Richard Joseph Petruccelli Jr
Larissa Ana Portalski
Sylvia Catharina Goslinga Pos-
ever
John Gregory Wall
Wilson Zheng

Boston's top ten dog names of 2023 unleashed Boston dog licensing deadline is March 31

Table with 2 columns: Female, Male. Names include Luna, Bella, Daisy, Lucy, Rosie, Charlie, Teddy, Max, Milo, Cooper.

Table with 2 columns: Female, Male. Names include Penny, Lola, Stella, Millie, Winnie, Leo, Finn, Winston, Oliver, Ollie.

Special to the Times

The Boston Parks and Recreation Department's Animal Care and Control Division reminds city dog owners that the annual deadline for licensing their pets is March 31.

"Licensing your pet is not only a legal requirement, but it also serves as their identification," said Alexis Trzcinski, the Director of Animal Care and Control.

All dog owners must license their dogs by Thursday, March 31, 2024. Dogs must be licensed if they are older than six months.

Licensing fees are \$15 for a neutered male or spayed female or \$30 for an intact male or female. The

dog licensing fee is waived for service animals and residents age 70 and older. Owners must also pay any outstanding Animal Care and Control fines.

In preparation for the 2024 licensing deadline, the Animal Care and Control Division analyzed licensing data from the previous year to reveal the most popular dog names of 2023.

For an in-depth guide on dog licensing, including a link to license your dog online, visit Animal Care and Control's how-to article on boston.gov/departments/animal-care-and-control.

Please call (617) 635-5348 or email animalcontrol@boston.gov with any questions about the licensing process or to update your information in the database.

The City of Boston will also host a series of dog licensing and pet vaccine clinics from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturdays from March 2 to June 15 at seven BCYF community centers.

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT

Suffolk Division TRUST CITATION Docket No. SU24P0133PO In the matter Of: 24 Irving Street Realty Trust Revocable Trust To all interested persons: A Petition has been filed by: Vivian S. Lee of Boston, MA requesting to Appointment a Successor Trustee to serve without sureties on the bond and also requests Bin Ging Lee passed on May 15th, 1995 and his estate was probated

with the. Norfolk Probate and Family Court under docket N095P1873E1. At that time, the family did not realize that he was a sole Trustee of the above mentioned Trust agreement with no ability under the Trust for a Successor Trustee to be appointed. Petitioner is the surviving spouse, and requests that she be appointed Trustee so that she may convey. You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on 03/07/2024. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which

you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: February 02, 2024 Stephanie L. Everett, Esq. Register of Probate 02/21/24, 02/22/24 R, BH

LEGAL NOTICE Commonwealth Of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court

Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING Docket No. SU24D0112DR Kenya Cannon Brasnell, Plaintiff vs. Quindell Brasnell, Defendant To the Defendant: The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable. Breakdown. The Complaint is on file at the Court. An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action

which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411. You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon: Kenya Cannon Brasnell 150. Stopfield St. Boston, MA 02114, your answer, if any, on or before 03/29/2024. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: February 5, 2024 Stephanie L. Everett Register of Probate 02/22/24 BH

SEND US YOUR NEWS

The Times encourages residents to submit engagement, wedding and birth announcements, news releases, business and education briefs, sports stories and photos for publication. Items should e-mail news releases and photos to deb@thebostonsun.com.

The City of Boston reminds you: The legal drinking age is 21.



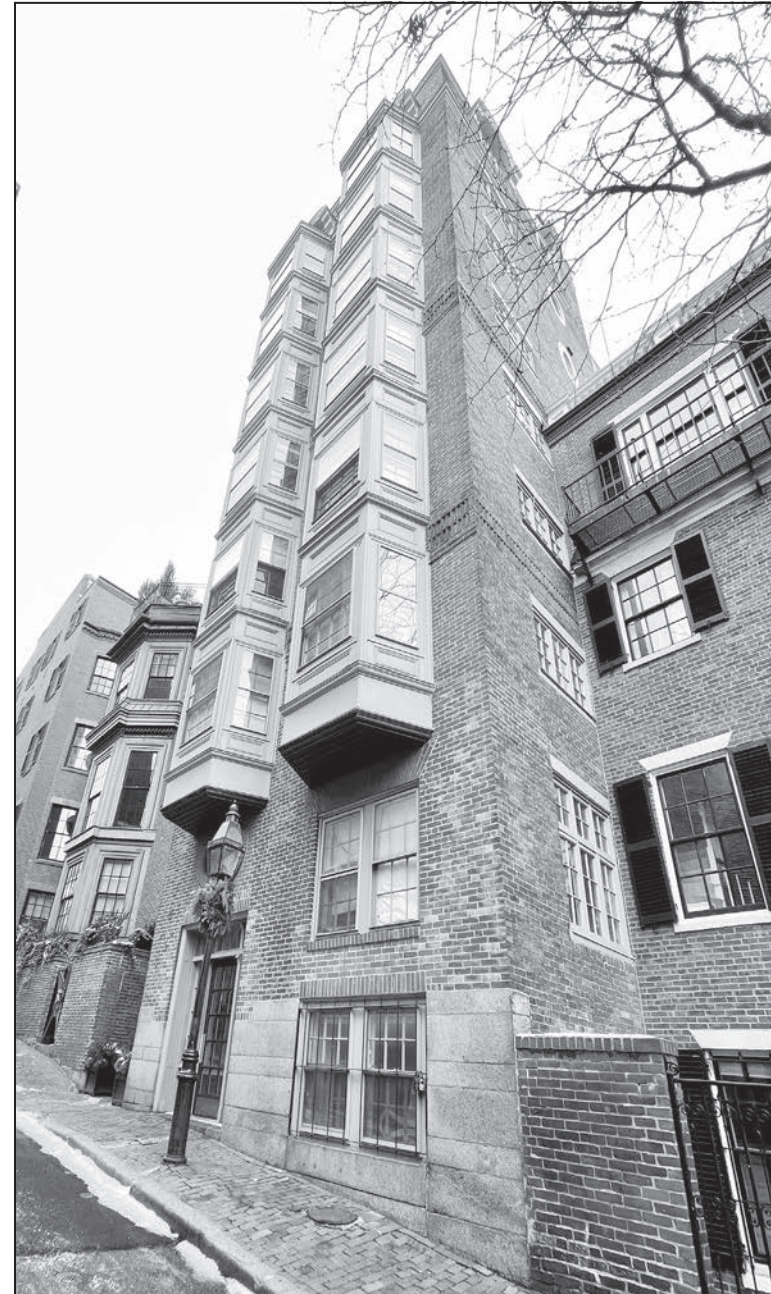
Thanks for not providing alcohol to teens.

# Real Estate Transfers

# Attention to Detail

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY PENNY CHERUBINO

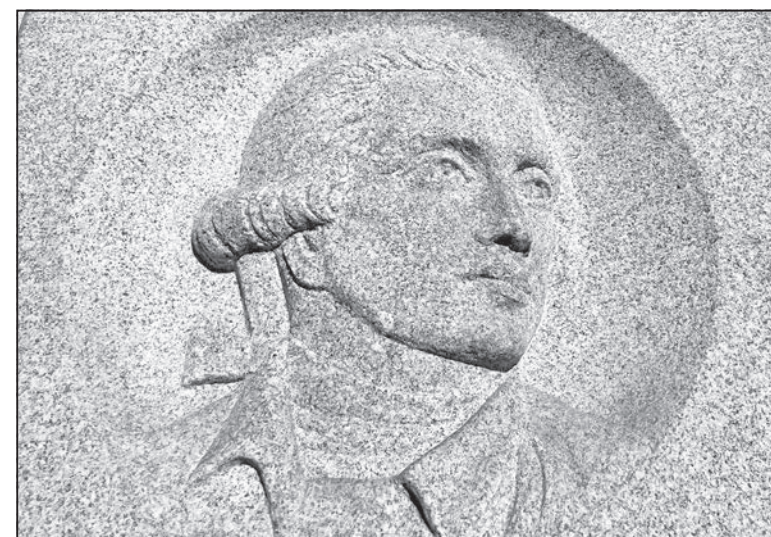
## THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The ocular window in the last clue is on 9 Willow Street. According to the Boston Literary District website, the poets Sylvia Plath and Ted Hughes moved from England and lived in this building for a year in 1957. After a period of travel, they relocated back to England.

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

## THIS WEEK'S CLUE




BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
<b>BACK BAY</b>			
Ganjei, Allen	Norman A Cohen Legacy T	324-332 Beacon St #86	\$1,650,000
Moonan, Jeremiah J	End, Hon-Ming	148 Commonwealth Ave #201	\$2,477,500
Kingsley Montessori Schoo	Exete Theatre Corp	26 Exeter St #1	\$22,403,000
Newbury Ama Ventures LLC	Exete Theatre Corp	26 Exeter St #2	\$14,500,000
Kingsley Montessori Schoo	Exete Theatre Corp	26 Exeter St #3	\$3,647,000
Agem Management LLC	Orika 121 Inc	121 Newbury St	\$9,700,000
Larsen, Victor C	Klaa Int	110 Stuart St #16B	\$2,050,000

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
<b>BEACON HILL</b>			
Rlj W Beacon Hill LLC	Charles River Plaza Co	5 Blossom St	
\$125,000,000			
Parekh, Asha	Ashton, Paul	9 Hawthorne Pl #17E	\$970,000
65 Mt Vernon St Suite 3 L	Mcgarrah, Douglas M	65 Mount Vernon St #3	\$850,000
Walker, David	Crea, Chris	54 Myrtle St #2	\$550,000
Anderson, R R	Judith Ryan Gunsalus RET	116 Myrtle St #A	\$1,866,000
Chouraqui, Fabrice	Zang, Jonathan M	41-43 Phillips St #2	\$1,594,300

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
<b>BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE</b>			
Xie, Xiaojun	Daniel Anthony Strollo L	9 Appleton St #405	\$680,000
Funk, Theresa C	Barozie, George	12 Claremont Park #5	\$1,060,000
Curley, Emily	Westcott, Anne E	38 Dwight St #6	\$886,000
Stevens, Scott	Gallo, Ryan J	178 W Brookline St #3	\$1,830,000
Lewis N Rosenberg Lt	46 Wareham St LLC	46 Wareham St #5F	\$2,250,000
Chakra Studios LLC	Amanatidis, Kostas	333 Washington St #604A	\$200,000
Rubin, Zachary D	Hope, Henry	57 Worcester St #5	\$840,000

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
<b>WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN</b>			
Lewis Wharf 125 126 LLC	Volpe Rt	28 Atlantic Ave #126	\$1,075,000
Lewis Wharf 125 126 LLC	Volpe Rt	28-32 Atlantic Ave #125	\$1,075,000
McEwen, Ruth A	Hudson, Steven K	1 Avery St #10G	\$1,100,000
Hajjar, Christopher T	Schreiber, Stuart L	2 Avery St #PH1F	\$2,400,000
Kang, Kyonghoon	Mcaf Winthrop LLC	240 Devonshire St #5403	\$2,925,000
Byrnes, Deborah	Sweeney, Frank	85 E India Row #30C	\$1,499,000
Ir Boston Ma LLC	177 Realty Co Llp	177 State St	\$2,325,000
Richard M Sands T	Miller, Kara E	580 Washington St #208	\$1,735,000



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# 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

# Bunker Hill Community College opens Student Success Center

Special to the Times

Bunker Hill Community College (BHCC) held a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the College's Student Success Center on Monday, officially opening the first new building in more than a decade at the state's largest community college.

The 56,000-square-foot Student Success Center is home to the College Library & Learning Commons, academic advising and coaching, and wrap-around student services that help support BHCC's students, many of whom are students of color and first-generation college students. The State's Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM) and BOND Building and Construction led the building's planning, engineering, and construction. NBBJ is the project architect.

"Today is the culmination of the work of so many and of 50 years of the Community College movement right here on this campus," said BHCC President Pam Eddinger. "In these hallways, we can see the ambitions and potential of our students."

President Eddinger, Secretary of Education Patrick Tutwiler, Commissioner of Higher Education Noe Ortega, Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM) Commissioner Adam Baacke, State Senator Sal DiDomenico, and State Representative Dan Ryan spoke to College community members at the ceremony.

"Today, we are celebrating a new space that will benefit BHCC's student community now and for years to come, improving their experience and maximizing the resources available to them," Secretary Tutwiler told an audience of more than 100 BHCC faculty, students, and guests. I want



BHCC President Pam Eddinger.

to share a strong congratulations to the BHCC leadership team and the entire student community for nurturing this project forward."

"It is our genuine pleasure to deliver the space that your students deserve," said DCAMM Commissioner Baacke. "Your students, faculty, and staff have been creating transformative experiences for 50 years, and they've been doing that despite the facilities. Now, they'll be doing it with the facilities that help make their jobs easier and not harder."

State Senator Sal DiDomenico reflected on the new building coming online in the middle of the College's 50th Anniversary, saying, "50 years in the making is a special thing for any institution. But the mission of this school is to give people a second chance, it is turning their lives around, it is the first step in the next step of their lives... This is the mosaic of the Commonwealth coming together at this school, and now we have a facility that matches the dedication, excellence, and prestige of being a graduate of this institution."

State Representative Dan Ryan spoke both as a legislator and a graduate of BHCC: "I think of where we are now as a community, as a nation, as a commonwealth and I think of the impact that this



Secretary of Education Patrick Tutwiler, BHCC President Pam Eddinger, Commissioner of DCAMM Adam Baacke, Commissioner of Higher Education Noe Ortega, State Representative Dan Ryan, and State Senator Sal DiDomenico cut the ribbon to officially open the new Student Success Center.



State Representative Dan Ryan.



State Senator Sal DiDomenico



Secretary of Education Patrick Tutwiler.

building, the students, the teachers, the faculty, President Eddinger and all the presidents before her have had... People didn't envision it then, but the Commonwealth did... and that's why businesses are coming from around the world to headquarter themselves within walking distance from here."

All but one of the College's current buildings were constructed almost 50 years ago and designed to accommodate around 5000 students. However, the campus has housed more than three times that number in recent years, and the aging buildings have accumulated a backlog of deferred maintenance.

The Student Success Center also represents the Commonwealth's commitment to climate-resilient infrastructure. Based on Passive House principles, the building's exterior enhances the college's visual engagement with the community. The building is designed to be Net Zero Energy-ready, integrating a geothermal well field on

campus. It is engineered in anticipation of a future photovoltaic array. Additionally, the building uses a highly insulated, high-performing envelope. It anticipates projected sea-level change and the rise in base flood elevation by shifting all critical building systems, including the emergency generator, to the roof level.

Bunker Hill Community College is the largest community college in Massachusetts, enrolling approximately 16,000 students annually. BHCC has campuses in Charlestown and Chelsea, and a number of other locations throughout the Greater Boston area. BHCC is one of the most diverse institutions of higher education in Massachusetts. Sixty-five percent of the students are people of color and more than half of BHCC's students are women. The College also enrolls nearly 600 international students who come from 94 countries and speak more than 75 languages.



Commissioner of Higher Education Noe Ortega



Commissioner of DCAMM Adam Baacke



The new Student Success Center building.