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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

DUCKLING DAY PARADE



DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN PHOTO

Friends Of The Public Garden held its annual Duckling Day Parade on Mother's Day. See pages 6 and 7 for more photos.

Newly renovated West End Museum to reopen May 23

By Dan Murphy

After being closed to the public for more than two years following a substantial flood, a newly renovated and reimagined West End Museum will formally reopen on Thursday, May 23.

"It's totally different from the old museum," said Simon Belfanti, executive director of the museum located at 150 Staniford St., Suite 7. "Almost no walls are the same – it's just a different space."

It's completely redesigned and a modern museum. It's interactive, and it contains digital elements and [aspires] to be welcoming for people across generations and also to support schools and educational programs."

On Jan. 15, 2022, a sprinkler check-valve ruptured on the fourth floor of West End Place, leading to flooding in nearly 30 units on the building's bottom four floors, as

(MUSEUM Pg. 3)

Eagerly awaited Folio bistro set to open June 25

By Dan Murphy

As the last phase of the extensive renovation and expansion of the Boston Athenaeum, its eagerly awaited street-level bistro, Folio, will open on Tuesday, June 25.

"Folio will serve as a welcoming extension of the Boston Athenaeum," said Leah Rosovsky, the Athenaeum's Stanford Calderwood Director, in a statement. "Our goal is for it to become a favorite spot for our members, a social hub for the Beacon Hill neighborhood, and a gathering place for everyone. There will be delicious food and great drinks served in a historic and beautiful environment."

Located on the ground floor

(BISTRO Pg. 3)



D. MURPHY PHOTO

The future home of Folio, the Boston Athenaeum's new cafe coming to 14A Beacon St



COURTESY OF THE WEST END MUSEUM

A guest views the Scollay Square module at the newly renovated West End Museum.

BEACON HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY CORNER

Cruise on the Valiant (A Members Only Event!)

Join us for an exclusive BHCA Members Only reception aboard the luxurious Valiant! This is an opportunity to reconnect with

your community and enjoy the stunning beauty of Boston Harbor! Step aboard the Valiant, the most opulent vessel of the Charles Riverboat Company, and experience its traditional salon area

with light bites (drinks available for purchase). With its extended bow, the yacht offers an unparalleled view of Boston Harbor. The large canopy deck will provide the

(BHCA Pg. 3)

NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDUP

VOLUNTEERS BEING SOUGHT FOR BEACON HILL ART WALK ON SUNDAY, JUNE 2

Be a part of a fun and unique event— meet your neighbors and the art community at the Beacon Hill Art Walk

You can help set up on Sunday, June 2 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.; greet visitors at the start table throughout the afternoon; share our posts on your social media platforms; invite your friends, family, and coworkers; and donate to the non-profit to support our engagement. Email info@beaconhillartwalk.org to volunteer and help make the Beacon Hill Art Walk a success.

UPCOMING WEST END BRANCH LIBRARY OFFERINGS

The West End Branch of the Boston Public Library at 151 Cambridge St. will offer Line Dance Classes for Older Adults on Saturdays through June 29 from 10 to 11 a.m.

Also, the West End Branch Library presents Alex Minasian Jazz Trio for an evening of jazz on Thursday, May 30, from 6 to 7 p.m. at 151 Cambridge St. Their musical selections will honor the legends of jazz music, including Charlie Parker and Thelonious Monk, as well as music from the Great American Songbook.

UPCOMING UPSTAIRS DOWNSTAIRS EVENTS

Upstairs Downstairs at 69 Charles St. will be featured as a ribbon garden on the Beacon Hill Garden Club's 'Hidden Gardens of Beacon Hill' tour, which takes place on Thursday, May 16. Stop by to celebrate this milestone with

Upstairs Downstairs and "some bubbles."

The shop will also hold its Memorial Day Event on Monday, May 27. This 'Sail into Summer Sale' will offer special, in-store prices.

MAY AT THE VILNA

The Vilna Shul at 18 Phillips St. will offer 'A Whiskey Tour of Israel' (Yom HaAtzmaut) on Thursday, May 16, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Join The Vilna for an Israeli whiskey tasting with Josh Mann, an expert from Jews and Booze, a company that embraces community and puts the SIMCHA (happiness) in spirits.

Enjoy pours of nine different exclusive Israeli whiskies along with a fun and interactive tour of the whiskies, with information about each pour, distillery, and master distiller. Kosher charcuterie will accompany the tasting. Participants will be entered in a raffle to win a bottle of J&B "Kings of Kiddush" straight rye whiskey.

Admission for this event is \$50 per person.

The Vilna will also offer 'Yom HaAtzmaut with Bakey' - an evening for young professionals - on Thursday, May 23, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Celebrate Israel's Independence Day and gather with the Vilna community, IPF Atid, and the Consulate General of Israel. Enjoy treats from Bakey, Israeli wines, music and more. Make new friends and strengthen your community with good food and great conversation. Yallah! Tickets are \$18 each for this event.

Also, The Vilna will present the U.S. premiere of 'The Dybbuk,' a mystical Yiddish folk tale about love, family, displacement, and the restless Jewish soul performed by

Arlekin Players Theater, from June 3-23. Previews take place from May 30 through June 2. Tickets range from \$29 to \$72 each.

The Vilna will offer 'Havurah on the Hill: Dinner and a Night at the Theater' on Friday, March 31, from 6 to 10 p.m.

Join The Vilna for a Friday night Shabbat experience for young professionals, where we bring you good food and great company on the fourth Shabbat of each month. Tickets are \$18 to \$36 each.

After a short service and Vegan BBQ Dinner from Rhythm & Wraps, you have the option to join us for the U.S. premiere of 'The Dybbuk.'

For more information on The Vilna Shul's programming, visit vlnashul.org.

WEEL'S 'MINDFULNESS FOR OLDER ADULTS' PROGRAM CONTINUES

The West End Branch Library at 151 Cambridge St. will offer 'Mindfulness for Older Adults' on Fridays from 11 a.m. to noon on Fridays.

The ongoing program includes: 'Yoga Breathing for Relaxation' on May 24; and 'Loving Kindness and Gratitude' on June 7.

Bob Linscott, MTS, Certified Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction (MBSR) Teacher and Behavioral Health Manager for the city's Age Strong Commission, will lead the program, which will help participants learn to reduce stress and anxiety; enhance their attention and memory; improve their mood and sleep; and strengthens their cognition in aging.

To register for the program, contact Wesley Fiorentino at wfiorentino@bpl.org or call the West End Branch Library at 617-523-3957.

CONVERSATION WITH BPL PRESIDENT DAVID LEONARD MAY 20 AT COPLEY BPL

Beacon Hill Village will host a Conversation with David Leonard, president of the Boston Public Library, on Monday, May 20, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the first-floor Orientation Room of the McKim Building at the Central the Copley Branch of the BPL at 700 Boylston St. (Light refreshments will be served from 5:30-6 p.m., and the speaker will begin closer to 6 p.m.)

Leonard, whose background spans academia, the non-profit sector, and more than a decade of private IT consulting, was instrumental in helping the West End and Beacon Hill add affordable housing, pairing the Boston Public Library's new, two-story West End Branch Library with 12 stories above containing 119 new apartments.

This event is free for all to attend, but attendance is capped at 51; register at https://beaconhill.helpfulvillage.com/events/490-conversations-w_david--leonard,-bpl-president/event_participations/new.

NICHOLS HOUSE MUSEUM TO OFFER MAY 25 TOUR FOCUSED ON ROSE NICHOLS' CAREER AS A DESIGNER.

The Nichols House Museum at 55 Mount Vernon St. will offer 'Rose Standish Nichols: Garden Architect' - a special tour focused on Rose Nichols' career as a designer. A pioneering woman landscape architect - on Saturday,

May 25, at 10 a.m.

Rose aimed for "harmonious discord" in her historically inspired gardens. She also authored three books of garden history, as well as numerous articles about landscapes and design. Explore the home Rose curated to be a museum, learn about her career, and experience her aesthetic sense.

Visit nicholshousemuseum.org for more information and to register.

WEST END MUSEUM'S BOSTON TRIVIA NIGHT RETURNS MAY 30

The West End Museum's next Boston Trivia Night takes place on Thursday, May 30, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the museum, located at 150 Staniford St. Suite 7 (on Lomasney Way).

Admission is \$10 per person; visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/boston-trivia-night-ticket> to reserve your spot.

FREE LESSONS IN AMERICAN MAHJONG OFFERED AT WEST END BRANCH LIBRARY

The Friends of the West End Library will be offering lessons in American Mahjong to new and experienced players at no cost.

The group meets on Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m., on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month in the Community Room of the West End Branch Library, 151 Cambridge St.

To sign up or for more information, email Audrey Tedeman (artedeman@gmail.com) or Julia Forbes (jmaforbes@gmail.com).

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PLEASE VISIT WWW.BEACONHILLTIMES.COM

BHCA (from pg. 1)

perfect setting for an unforgettable evening. Light bites and non-hosted bar.

Book your tickets now for this special members event by visiting <https://bhcivic.charityproud.org/EventRegistration/Index/15961>

Capacity is limited.

When: Thursday, June 6, 2024*

Dockage: Rowes Wharf Gate A (70 Rowes Wharf, in front of the Boston Harbor Hotel Rotunda)

Boarding Time: 5:45 pm (Please arrive no later than 5:30pm)

Cruise Time: 6:00-8:00 pm

*This event will be held rain or shine as the Valiant is covered and heated if need be. 21+

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 at bhcivic.org to support the work we do for you!

Upcoming BHCA Meetings & Events

Upcoming BHCA Meetings & Events

Annual Meeting of Members - Monday, May 20th, Somerset Club

Events Committee Meeting - Tuesday, May 28th, 74 Joy Street

Young Friends Social - Wednes-

day, May 29th, Roxanne's

Beacon Hill Meet & Greet - Monday, June 3rd, 6pm, 75 Chestnut

Streets & Sidewalks Committee Meeting - Tuesday, June 4th, 5:30pm, via Zoom

Zoning & Licensing Committee Meeting - Wednesday, June 5th, 6pm, via Zoom

Valiant Cruise (members only) - Thursday, June 6th

First Friday Coffee Hour - Friday, June 7th, 8:30am, 74 Joy Street

Board of Directors Meeting - Monday 10th, 7pm, via Zoom

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

BISTRO (from pg. 1)

of the Athenaeum, with a street entrance at 14A Beacon St., Folio will span 1,180 square feet, with seating for 45. The restaurant is modeled after a European bistro, where Chef de Cuisine Peter Laspia will offer European-inspired fare. The menu will be complemented by a wide selection of wines, as well as an array of craft cocktails, including the Athenaeum's signature 'Athena's Ambrosia.'

Folio is a joint venture between the Athenaeum and The Catered Affair - a longstanding Rockland-based catering company that operates other restaurants in the Map Room at the Copley Branch of the Boston Public Library; ICA (Institute of Contemporary Art) in the Seaport; and at the Harvard Art Museums.

In anticipation of Folio's launch, Ken-Barrett-Sweet, vice president of catering at The Catered Affair, said in a statement: "With the launch of Folio, we are creating a unique dining experi-

ence and journey. Our vision is to establish a vibrant hub of community enrichment where every carefully curated dish catalyzes deeper connections within our neighborhood. We believe that Folio will become a cherished gathering place, enhancing the fabric of our community."

Likewise, Alex Marconi, CEO of The Catered Affair, stated: "We are ecstatic to join the Beacon Hill community, where Folio Bistro goes beyond mere dining. In partnership with Boston Athenaeum, we hope Folio becomes a visitor and community gathering hub while enjoying thoughtfully prepared food and beverage."

Folio's hours of operation will be Tuesday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; and on Friday and Saturday; from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information on Folio and full menu details visit www.thecateredaffair.com/folio/ and follow along on Instagram.

MUSEUM (from pg. 1)

well as in the adjacent West End Museum and its office space.

More than two dozen large images, which made up about half of the museum's main permanent exhibit, 'The Last Tenement,' were damaged to some extent. But in all, only around 50 items were lost in the flood - about 40 of which the museum had duplicates of - while some other documents had already been scanned. Just two or three photos were completely destroyed due to the flood.

When the museum reopens, the erstwhile 'Last Tenement' exhibit will be completely reimagined and vastly expanded as 'Rise, Fall, Rebirth: Stories of the West End.' This new permanent exhibit tells the West End's story from when the neighborhood first comprised fields, farms, factories, and a few mansions around Bowdoin Square, though the immigrant era and the demolition that came with urban renewal, and up until the modern age (and beyond). The exhibit now covers the "full breath of the neighborhood," said Belfanti, going from 1625 to 2035, even taking it a few years into the future.

This first phase of the rebuild project has cost around \$1 million while a second phase will cost approximately \$400,000. Besides individual donors, the Boston Planning & Development Agency, Boston Properties, HYM Investment Group, Delaware North, Mass Cultural Council, the Massachusetts Office of Travel & Tourism, and Mass General Hospital have made financial contributions to the project. But the museum is still accepting donations to help push it over the finish line, said Belfanti. The second phase will include

the development of two new films - one focusing on abolitionists in the old West End (and now Beacon Hill) and another exploring the experience of displacement from the West End. An interactive map will also be developed as part of the project's second phase.

Trivium Interactive of the North End is developing the museum's interactive elements, including touchscreen and video elements, along with the interactive map, among other features, for both project phases. New York-based Chan Ascher Architecture has offered its services pro bono for the project's design.

Belfanti said "one benefit of digital media" is that the museum will now be able to constantly update and add content to existing exhibits.


"The museum is completely new and won't be repetitive for people who've seen it before," he said. "You also can come back and explore because it's multi-layered...and not something we expect you'll be able to take in in one visit."

The first event in the new museum space will be its Boston Trivia Night at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 30. Tickets cost \$10 each and can be purchased online at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/boston-trivia-night-tickets>.

The museum will also welcome the public for 'West End Stories: Scanning Party' on Monday, June 10, from 4 to 7 p.m. At this event, attendees can bring their items (i.e. 'photos, letters, records, or objects that tell the story of the neighborhood before urban renewal, just after, or up through the present day') for a scanning project to help augment the museum's already

extensive archives collection. Or instead, attendees can have the items scanned and bring the originals back home with them, along with new digitized copies, courtesy of the museum. R.S.V.P. for this free event at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/west-end-stories-scanning-party-tickets>.

For more information on the West End Museum, and to contribute to the museum's renovation costs, visit thewestendmuseum.org.



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EDITORIAL

20 YEARS OF MARRIAGE EQUALITY IN MASSACHUSETTS

It was 20 years ago this week (on May 17, 2004, to be exact), that the first marriage licenses were issued by cities and towns across Massachusetts for same-sex couples.

The marriage licenses were precipitated by the decision by the state's Supreme Judicial Court in November in the Goodridge case, which declared that same sex couples were entitled to the same legal protections and rights as heterosexual couples.

It's hard to imagine, with 20/20 hindsight, that marriage equality ever was an issue. There is not -- and never has been -- a justification for not allowing two adults to marry the person of their choosing in order to enjoy the legal status and privileges that marriage conveys.

But back in 2004, in the immediate aftermath of the Goodridge decision, there were many members of our state legislature, both Democrats and Republicans, who were talking of holding a Constitutional Convention in order to amend the state constitution to allow same-sex couples to have only so-called civil unions, not full marriage.

Massachusetts was an outlier in 2004 and fortunately the effort to call for a Constitutional Convention failed. Soon thereafter, other states allowed same-sex marriages and then in 2015, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in a 5-4 decision in the Obergefell v Hodges cases that all states must issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples.

However, public opinion was way ahead of the courts. Modern Family, the hit TV comedy show that started in 2007, included a gay couple among its characters. Today, polls consistently show that more than 70 percent of Americans across all party lines support same-sex marriage.

To be sure, there still is much to be done to assure equal protection of all rights for our fellow Americans of the LGTBQIA+ community. But it is worth noting the events of 20 years ago to acknowledge the momentous changes that have taken place in the course of one generation.

PLASTIC, PLASTIC EVERYWHERE

In the classic 1967 movie, the Graduate, Dustin Hoffman's character, Benjamin Braddock, a recent college graduate, is taken aside by a family friend at his graduation party, who says to him, "Ben, I just have one word of advice for you. Are you listening? 'Plastics'. There's a great future in plastics. Think about it. Will you think about it?"

"Yes sir," Benjamin replies meekly.

In 1967, plastics were nowhere near as ubiquitous as they are in 2024. But the advice given to Benjamin was prescient -- today, plastics, which are petroleum-based, are used for just about everything in our daily lives.

The problem is, plastics also are in everything, including our bodies. According to scientists, microplastics are flowing through every one of our organs and tissues, and the same is true for just about every animal on earth.

In addition, very little of the plastic that we generate is recyclable. We may think of ourselves as being virtuous when we dutifully recycle all of our plastic items every week, but a recent survey revealed that only about six percent of plastic items are recycled and that much of what is labeled as "recyclable" really is not recyclable at all. Those hard-plastic containers that hold our laundry detergent, for example, can be recycled only at a very few facilities across the country, which means that almost all of them end up in landfills, where they eventually disintegrate and make their way into the food chain and our water -- and into our bodies.

Almost 60 years after the Graduate, we are drowning -- literally -- in a sea of plastics, and with the demand for plastics ever-increasing, the problem is only going to get worse. It is estimated that by 2050, the demand for plastics will triple and the amount of plastic in the world's oceans actually will outweigh the fish.

Yes, as foretold in 1967, the future was indeed, "Plastics."

But that future -- today's present -- turned out to be a grim one.

Beacon Hill Art Walk returns Sunday, June 2

Special to the Times

One of Boston's most unique celebrations of the arts returns June 2, as the Beacon Hill Art Walk takes over the quiet streets and alleys of the beautiful cobblestoned neighborhood. The one-of-a-kind Boston tradition turns Beacon Hill into a fantastical art gallery where walls and gardens are adorned with beautiful creations. Visitors can find the perfect piece to add to their home while musicians will be roving throughout the neighborhood providing an enchanting atmosphere in various garden locations. There is no cost to attend the Art Walk which runs from noon to 6:00 PM rain or shine.

Created in 1990, the Beacon Hill Art Walk takes place in the nooks and crannies of Beacon Hill's

North Slope as residents open up their private gardens, alleyways, and courtyards and allow artists to display and sell their artwork. It is a chance for visitors to tour the private spaces of Beacon Hill while viewing original, handmade artwork. Thousands of people attend each year. It is a free popular event in the neighborhood, with a festive atmosphere and volunteer musicians playing in various gardens throughout the day. Around 50 artists usually participate, with a variety of styles, media, and subject matter. Visitors enjoy a unique atmosphere boasting bursts of colors at the background sound of live classical and folk music playing in various gardens throughout the day.

"We are excited to welcome so many new artists this year, who will join our talented list of local

favorites that make this event so special year after year," said Jen Matson, a Beacon Hill Art Walk Organizer.

Visitors hoping to get the most out of the art walk are encouraged to start at either 135 Charles St. or the corner of Cambridge and West Cedar St.

The Beacon Hill Art Walk is made possible thanks to the work of dozens of dedicated volunteers. It is a fun and engaging way to give back to the thriving Boston Arts Community that helps make this such a special place to live. Anyone interested in volunteering can apply at beaconhillartwalk.com.

The Beacon Hill Art Walk will take place Sunday, June 2 in Beacon Hill's North Slope

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Construction look-ahead for the North Washington Street Bridge through May 25 is as follows:

Scheduled Work

- Temporary foam abutment removal at Paul Revere Park
- Cofferdam dredging and drilled shaft installation
- Architectural trellis welding and painting
- Pier lighting installation
- Main bridge west sidewalk formwork and rebar installation

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: May 19, at TBA
- OTHER EVENTS: N/A

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

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

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Wu announces Aidan McDonough as the new spark Boston Director

Special to the Times

Mayor Michelle Wu announced Aidan McDonough as the new SPARK Boston Director. SPARK Boston empowers 20 to 35-year-olds to play a greater role in planning for the City's future. Its office is within the Community Engagement Cabinet, focused on eliminating silos between Boston residents and City Hall. McDonough will be filling a vacancy to lead the SPARK Boston Council.

"SPARK Boston is a unique way for young leaders in our city to have their voices heard in Boston's future," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "Aidan's experience in community organizing makes him a great fit for this passionate, innovative group and I look forward to work-



Aidan McDonough, the new SPARK Boston Director.

ing with him and the rest of SPARK Boston on issues most important to millennials and Gen Z."

Aidan McDonough graduated from the University of Pittsburgh

with his bachelor's degree in communications. He moved to Boston in 2010 to pursue his career in public service. When he moved to Boston, he knew right away that he wanted to make Boston his home. After being active in the Brighton community and for local and state campaigns, it became clear to him that he had a passion for civic involvement and helping others to find and build their own community in Boston. McDonough served on the SPARK Boston Council in 2018-2019. He was formerly the Executive Director of Brighton Main Streets.

"Aidan's passion for empowering young adults and enthusiasm to deepen his work in public service makes him a great addition to the Community Engagement Cab-

net," said Community Engagement Cabinet Chief Brianna Millor. "The SPARK Boston Council is an integral part of Boston's local government. I am excited to witness Aidan working closely with the SPARK Boston Council empowering them to continue to be change-makers in our city."

SPARK Boston is housed in the Mayor's Community Engagement Cabinet, and is responsible for advising Mayor Wu on issues affecting millennial and Gen Z populations and working with City departments and community stakeholders to create innovative solutions. The council meets monthly with City Hall leaders and creates free programming for their peers including voter resources, events highlighting the City's

ongoing initiatives, and professional and social networking opportunities across Boston's many neighborhoods.

"As an alumnus of SPARK Boston, I am looking forward to getting back into the program and giving council members the opportunity to expand their knowledge of Boston," said SPARK Boston Director Aidan McDonough. "I plan on taking the lessons learned from my time on the council and continue providing opportunities for council members to be engaged in what is happening in local government. I hope to help council members have access to cabinet chiefs and program directors so that their ideas of how Boston can continue to grow can be heard by decision makers within City Hall."

House passes bill to increase the Commonwealth's competitiveness for federal funds

Special to the Times

The Massachusetts House of Representatives passed a bill that will enable the Commonwealth to leverage the interest earned by the Stabilization Fund, which currently stands at a historically high balance of \$8.2 billion, to bolster our ability to compete for federal funds and pay down debt obligations, such as pensions and other post-employment benefits. With the passage of this bill, Massachusetts will be able to more aggressively compete for federal funding made available through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Inflation Reduction Act, and the CHIPS and Science Act.

"Ensuring that the Commonwealth is able to aggressively compete for the federal funding being made available to states is critical, especially given the challenging revenue conditions that we are facing here in Massachusetts this fiscal year," said House Speaker Ronald J. Mariano (D-Quincy). "The projects and investments that will be funded throughout the U.S. because of Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Inflation Reduction Act, and the CHIPS and Science Act will transform this country and create a significant number of jobs in the process. It's vital that Massachusetts does everything that it can to share in that prosperity. I want to thank Chairman Michlewitz and Chairman Lewis for their work on this issue, as well as all my colleagues in the House for recognizing the importance of this legislation."

"This legislation leverages the Commonwealth's robust resources and the wise investments the legislature has made into the Rainy Day fund to make Massachusetts more competitive," said Representative

Adrian C. Madaro (D-East Boston). "This legislation will allow us to access more federal funding from numerous programs to benefit communities across Massachusetts, creating jobs, and paying down debt to put us in a stronger economic and financial position."

"Giving the Commonwealth a competitive edge when it comes to competing for Federal dollars is paramount. By building off the interest earned from the historic high balance of the Rainy Day Fund we will be better positioned to compete for Federal matching grant to improve our infrastructure and other critical needs," said House Committee on Ways and Means Chair Representative Aaron Michlewitz (D-Boston). "I want to thank Speaker Mariano and Chair Lewis for their hard work and determination on this issue and I look forward to seeing this bill over the finish line in the weeks ahead."

"This legislation expands our Commonwealth's competitive edge as we compete for federal funds and pay down our debt obligations. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Act, CHIPS Act, and Inflation Reduction Act, all contain time-sensitive opportunities for our Commonwealth and our local communities, opportunities that require us to have matching resources available," said Representative Jack Patrick Lewis (D-Framingham), Chair of the House Committee on Federal Stimulus and Census Oversight. "The passage of this bill today ensures that we can properly compete for all available federal funds. I am grateful to Speaker Ron Mariano and Ways and Means Chair Aaron Michlewitz, along with the House Committee on Federal Stimulus and Census Oversight, for their support of this

legislation."

The legislation passed today establishes the Commonwealth Federal Matching and Debt Reduction Fund to be administered by the Executive Office for Administration and Finance (A&F). The fund will consist of the interest earned on the Stabilization Fund in each fiscal year, any money appropriated to the fund, and interest earned on the fund. The Comptroller will transfer interest from the Stabilization Fund to the newly established Commonwealth Federal Matching and Debt Reduction fund each

quarter, but as a safeguard, no transfer will occur if the balance has decreased over the preceding year, or if it no longer exceeds 10 percent of budgeted revenues.

A&F may expend the funds to pay down the Commonwealth's debt or pension obligations, OPEB, capital leases, general or special obligation contract liabilities, or transfer any amount back to the Stabilization Fund. A&F may expend up to \$750 million from the fund to provide matching funds for federal programs through December 1, 2026:

- Up to \$50 million may be used for matching funds for federal programs in the form of grants, loans, and other financial assistance to cities, towns, tribes, and regional organizations.

- Up to \$12 million may be used to provide grants to support municipal, tribal, and regional organizations in planning efforts.

Having passed the House of Representatives 152-0, An Act to provide for competitiveness and infrastructure investment in Massachusetts now returns to the Senate for further consideration.

City of Boston kicks off free summer fitness series

Special to the Times

The Boston Parks and Recreation Department and the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) are pleased to announce the 2024 Boston Parks Summer Fitness Series sponsored by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts. The series offers free weekly classes both virtually and in 17 City of Boston parks through August 31, 2024.

The 2024 Boston Parks Summer Fitness Series is being launched with a kick-off event on The Boston Common on Thursday, May 16, at 5:30 p.m., featuring free ZUMBA® from Z-Spot and Yoga plus fun giveaways.

The series offers a wide range of classes, including Yoga, Gentle Yoga, Chair Yoga, HIIT, ZUMBA®, Family ZUMBA®, Kick It By Eliza®, Afrobeats Dance, Walking Group, Strength Training and Conditioning, and Salsa Dance. The program is tailored to the interests of residents and participants, including age-friendly classes for families,

older adults, and those new to fitness classes. For more information and a link to the full schedule, visit boston.gov/fitness.

"Cultivating vibrant communities through accessible, engaging programming is at the heart of our mission at the Boston Parks and Recreation Department," noted Commissioner Ryan Woods. "By activating public parks with initiatives like the Summer Fitness Series, we're not only providing opportunities for physical activity but also fostering social connections and enhancing the overall well-being of Boston residents."

"The Summer Fitness Series provides a free opportunity for residents to be active in our City's parks while bringing our communities together to connect socially," said Dr. Bisola Ojikutu, Commissioner of Public Health and Executive Director of the Boston Public Health Commission. "Being active is one of the best ways to prevent many chronic diseases as well as improve mental health. The series is available in most neighborhoods and online and is a continuation of

the work being done to improve the health and well-being of all residents."

Series partners echoed the focus on community engagement and holistic health. "The Boston Park Fitness series showcases the vibrant neighborhoods and cultures of Boston, and what better way to experience that than through community fitness?" said Jeff Bellows, vice president of corporate citizenship and public affairs at Blue Cross. "The program has something for everyone, including in-person and virtual classes for people of all abilities. We're proud to partner with the City of Boston to support the physical and mental health of our community."

To stay up to date with news, events, and improvements in Boston parks—including weather-related cancellations for outdoor fitness classes—call (617) 635-4505, visit [Boston.gov/Parks](https://boston.gov/Parks), join our email list at bit.ly/Get-Parks-Emails, and follow our social channels @bostonparksdept on X, Facebook, and Instagram.

FRIENDS OF THE PUBLIC GARDEN HOLD ANNUAL DUCKLING DAY PARADE

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN PHOTOS

Friends Of The Public Garden held its annual Duckling Day Parade on Mother's Day. The event is a celebration of the classic children's book *Make Way For Ducklings* by Robert McClosky. It begins as a family friendly festival at The Gazebo in Boston Common

as. Music, dancing, activities, and more greeted fans of the Mallard Family as many arrived dressed as ducklings. A parade then matches from the Common to the Public Garden where in the book the Mallard family take up residence. A fun day for all!



The gentle giant Duckling mascot generated a lot of attention.



The Duckling Parade kicks off from Boston Common.



Laura Lott with her duckling Theodora.




Dancers from the City Ballet Of Boston, run by Tony Williams perform for a duckling audience.



Framing Freedom: The Harriet Hayden Albums

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FRIENDS OF THE PUBLIC GARDEN HOLD ANNUAL DUCKLING DAY PARADE

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN PHOTOS



The Duckling Parade makes its way to the Public Garden.



Grandmother Rhomayne Humphrey keeps jet ducklings Quentin McNeil, Hensis Love, and Bobby Hall Jr in order.



Duckling fans pay homage to the beloved story and characters by visiting the sculpture in the Public Garden.



WCVB Channel 5 award winning journalist Rhondella Richardson gets into the Duckling spirit as MC as she officiated the Duckling Parade activities.



Jenny The Juggler wows the crowd with some native bubble magic.



The Harvard University Marching Band provided the perfect music to accommodate a Duckling Parade.

THE TWILIGHT GARDEN PARTY
TUESDAY, JUNE 4TH, 2024

60TH ANNIVERSARY

CELEBRATING
**THE GARDEN CLUB OF THE BACK BAY'S
 60TH ANNIVERSARY**

THE TWILIGHT GARDEN PARTY
TUESDAY, JUNE 4TH, 2024
6:00 PM TO 8:30 PM

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BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

CO-CHAIRS
MAUREEN O'HARA AND MAURA HARTY

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info@gardenclubbackbay.org

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'EAT LUNCH GIVE' FUNDRAISER RAISES \$350,000 FOR WOMEN'S LUNCH PLACE

PHOTOS COURTESY OF WOMEN'S LUNCH PLACE

On Friday, May 10, supporters of Women's Lunch Place joined together for the annual 'eat LUNCH give' fundraiser. Thanks to the incredible support from the WLP community, over \$350,000 was raised to aid vulnerable women facing hunger, homelessness, and poverty.

Held at the Mandarin Oriental, Boston, the event featured a fire-side chat between Jennifer Hanlon Wigon, Executive Director of WLP, and M. Lee Pelton, President & CEO of the Boston Foundation. The conversation was moderated by GBH's Paris Alston.

Hanlon Wigon and Pelton addressed the pressing issues of the

housing crisis in Boston, including the shortage of affordable units and the critical need for safe, gender-specific housing for women. The conversation was followed by a moving video featuring testimonials from WLP guests.

WLP extends its deepest appreciation to everyone who took part in this event, including volunteers, donors, sponsors, and attendees. Their involvement will be instrumental in amplifying the voices of women within WLP's organization and beyond.

For more information on Women's Lunch Place, visit womenslunchplace.org.



MFS staff.



Seen are Clemia Brittenum, Glenn Quirion, Wanda Young, and Mika Winder.



Pictured, left to right, are: Lee Pelton, Sen. Lydia Edwards, and Jennifer Hanlon Wigon.



Mary Cornille and Kate Chandler.

Trustees announces the 29th Annual South End Garden Tour will be held on June 15

The Trustees are pleased to announce that the 29th Annual South End Garden Tour will take place this year on Saturday, June 15, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Each year the South End Garden Tour features gardens in a different section of the country's largest district of surviving row houses and this year's tour is centered on gardens and green spaces in and around the area bordered by Tremont Street and the Southwest Corridor Park between Dartmouth Street and Massachusetts Avenue. The self-guided tour features a mix of public and private spaces including private back yards, front gardens, community gardens, and neighborhood pocket parks. For more details about the tour, volunteering, or supporting the event with the purchase of an advertisement in the tour booklet visit www.thetrustees.org/SEGT.

For more details on Trustees' gardens, please visit thetrustees.org/communitygardens.

Musicians from the Community Music Center will be providing music in the gardens during the tour.

Proceeds from the tour support community gardening in Boston, including the 16 original gardens and pocket parks from the South End Lower Roxbury Open Space Land Trust. These gardens provide critical green space, a place for neighbors to come together in community, and an opportunity to grow and share fresh healthy food.

Advance tickets are \$24 for Trustees members, \$30 for non-members, and are available online at thetrustees.org/SEGT. On the day of the tour, ticket prices are \$28 for Trustees members and \$35 for nonmembers. Information about volunteering or purchasing

an advertisement in the booklet can also be found on the South End Garden Tour webpage as well.

Founded by landscape architect Charles Eliot in 1891, The Trustees has, for more than 130 years, been a catalyst for important ideas, endeavors, and progress in Massachusetts. As a steward of distinctive and dynamic places of both historic and cultural value, The Trustees is the one of the oldest preservation and conservation organization, and its landscapes and landmarks continue to inspire discussion, innovation, and action today as they did in the past. We are a nonprofit, supported by members, friends and donors and our more than 120 sites are destinations for residents, members, and visitors alike, welcoming millions of guests annually. www.thetrustees.org.



Pictured are Sheila Corkhill, Leslie Tillotson, Mariann Youniss, Laurie Ohlms, and Shari O'Leary.

Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
BACK BAY			
Hbh Rt	Beinkampen, Karl N	132-134 Beacon St #101	\$5,400,000
Nguyen, Hoang H	Rosenberg, Arlene M	180 Beacon St #1G	\$1,920,000
Stark, Leslie	Dulac, Jessica	303 Berkeley St #5	\$3,850,000
P A Lospinuso Adult T	Unit 101 Two Clarendon S	2 Clarendon St #101	\$1,051,500
Field, Andrew S	Lunn, William	2 Clarendon St #302	\$750,000
David J & D J Lovely RET	Bobbili Ft	2 Clarendon St #404	\$675,000
Mccadden, Kevin G	Bellisario, Nicholas	46 Commonwealth Ave #10	\$950,000
Ohare, Thomas	Reed, Michael	132 Commonwealth Ave #6	\$830,000
Yu, Guofu	Qq Enterprise LLC	265-275 Dartmouth St #1D	\$655,000
9 Marlborough LLC	11 Marlborough LLC	9 Marlborough St	\$20,000,000
9 Marlborough LLC	11 Marlborough LLC	11 Marlborough St	\$20,000,000
Ramanan, Kavita	Read, Suzanne L	249 Marlborough St #5	\$3,588,000
Sanford, Jeb C	Dittrich, Dylan R	414 Beacon St #1	\$750,000
Shi, Jacky K	K&h Nt	483 Beacon St #24	\$465,000
Gould, Barbara J	Lucci, Raymond	405 Commonwealth Ave #6	\$820,000
69-14 Park Drive Rt	Grappo, Michael J	464 Commonwealth Ave #86	\$444,400
Davis, Meagan K	Olivieri Jr, Charles A	30 E Springfield St #4	\$855,000
Thomas, Michael S	Leffue, Hillary	512 Massachusetts Ave #2	\$740,000
BEACON HILL			
44 Garden 2 LLC	Gokce, Taner H	44 Garden St #2	\$750,000
Bisenbruaun, Park H	Dearborn, Suzanne B	2 Hawthorne Pl #2A	\$455,000
132 Myrtle LLC	Barmonde, Charles	132 Myrtle St #4	\$835,000
Chen, Xiaohui	Ryan, John L	19 Revere St #4	\$644,000
Darren Joseph Langis RET	Wolfberg, Adam J	89 Revere St	\$3,260,000
Manzolini, Kevin	Div Shawmut LLC	100 Shawmut Ave #1004	\$1,700,000
Hayman, Thomas	Div Shawmut LLC	100 Shawmut Ave #1205	\$1,900,000
Schmidt, Victor T	Lynch, Adam	451 Shawmut Ave #1	\$1,285,000
Whitter Homes LLC	Fennessy Gail L Est	8 Whittier Pl #20F	\$380,000
BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE			
Alirent LLC	Spiller, Howard L	44 Chandler St #1	\$1,200,000
Doore, Michael	P & L Wu Ft	505 Tremont St #207	\$1,295,000
Donovan Ft	Galvin, Karen	74 Warren Ave #74	\$925,000
Alirent LLC	Spiller, Howard L	44 Chandler St #1	\$1,200,000
Arbh402 LLC	Jdmd Owner LLC	45 Temple St #402	\$4,800,000
Lynch, Nicolas	Karageorgos, George C	90 Wareham St #314	\$635,000
WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN			
Pillay, Nashin	Fleischman Arthur Est	121 Beach St #203	\$920,000
Raquel M Rodrigues 2013 T	Boulevard Broad St LLC	110 Broad St #304	\$2,352,500
Cohen, Louis	Doyle, John	39 Commercial Wharf #3	\$1,650,000
Rodriguez, Ignacio	Offensend, David G	1 Franklin St #4204	\$3,625,000
Abrass, Louay	Joan F Loren Residence T	1 Franklin St #5203	\$4,300,000
9g Unit LLC	Newton, Jeffrey T	300 Pier 4 Blvd #PHG	\$8,500,000
Kumph, Justin A	Bannick, William B	10 Rows Wharf #1003	\$1,970,000
Postler, Sean	Powers, Ryan L	210 South St #8-5	\$740,000
Lopdom Ma Corp	Ir Boston Ma LLC	177 State St #1A	\$3,286,800

Attention to Detail

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY PENNY CHERUBINO

THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The two orbs in the last clue are on the clock's base, which stands in front of the Jewelers Exchange Building at 333 Washington Street. This building has been home to small, family-owned businesses specializing in jewelry and watch design, appraisal, sales, and repair for more than a century.

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

THIS WEEK'S CLUE



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

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OBITUARIES

Charles Joseph McCarthy

Beacon Hill Resident



Charles Joseph McCarthy, a long-time church member, died on April 5 at the Brockton VA Medical Center. He was 84 years old.

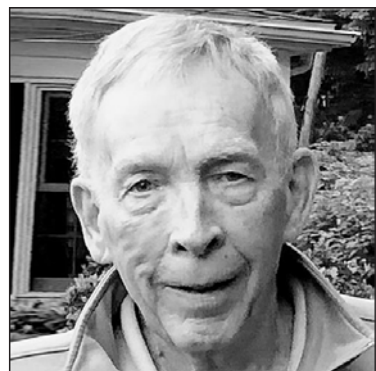
Charlie was known to close friends as the "patriarch of Beacon Hill." He moved into the River House, 145 Pinkney Street, in 1965, and is fondly remembered there by many residents.

Charlie loved the neighborhood events, particularly the Christmas Stroll along Charles Street. He rarely missed a gallery, restaurant, cafe, or shop opening, and happily held court in each setting.

Sunday after Sunday, for over 25 years, Charlie trudged up the brick Beacon Street sidewalk to the Church on the Hill. He typically arrived by 10 a.m. for coffee and conversation. By 10:50 a.m., he was in his seat near the back of the sanctuary. He stayed for lunch. Charlie served on several church committees through the years. With his good friend, Stanley Goldstein, Charlie did the Sunday dishes for a number of years. He and Stanley also ushered and greeted. We will remember his presence and his service.

Charlie was raised in the village of Waban in Newton. He was baptized and took First Communion in the Catholic Church. He went to elementary school at St. Bernard's in Newton and began high school at St. Mary's in Waltham. He graduated from St. Sebastian's in Newton where he played football as a left-handed quarterback.

Charlie served in the Army Signal Corps and then went to Boston College where he graduated in 1964. He worked for Xerox, had a career in real estate, and later worked as an extra in the film industry. He was married in the 1970's to Carol Paul, a school



teacher. They later divorced.

Perhaps Charlie's happiest days were spent in the summer in Harwich and Harwich Port on Cape Cod, often with his dear friend of long standing, Faith Rubin. He loved seafood, especially mussels and clams, particularly at the Snow Inn. Charlie enjoyed his fellowship with his numerous Cape friends.

In Boston, Charlie favored the No Name Restaurant and any Irish political reception he could find, including with Ted Kennedy and Tom O'Neill. He never missed the Boston Seafood Festival. He was a regular at Harvard Commencements. He knew more about the Harvard football team than most Harvard graduates.

No one knew all the facets of his life save Charlie. Beacon Hill and Cape Cod will keep his memory, if not in totality. His memorial service was held in our sanctuary on May 3 at 11 a.m. His ashes were be interred in Massachusetts National Cemetery in Bourne on May 8 at 1:45 p.m.

A woman known only as Daisy lived in the Back Bay for years. She owned a nice automobile and Charlie had a driver's license. They could be seen, Charlie at the wheel, Daisy in the rear, predating the film. Add it up, it was a life, Charlie McCarthy's. May he rest in peace.

Wu to attend climate summit at the Vatican to showcase Boston's leadership on climate action to global audience

Special to the Times

Mayor Michelle Wu today shared the events she will participate in while attending a climate summit at the Vatican, hosted by Pope Francis, "From Climate Crisis to Climate Resilience." Mayor Wu will give remarks for a discussion called "Governance, Energy," as part of Vatican Summit Session VII - Best Practice in Governance and co-chair a discussion called Session XI - Financing Resiliency. As a participant at the summit, Mayor Wu will showcase Boston as a champion on climate action, while learning from other global leaders about best practices. A key part of Boston's Green New Deal is ensuring that the City's work supports the climate, livability and opportunity of Boston's neighborhoods for residents, taking action to address environmental protection while also enhancing public health, housing affordability, better public transit options, and access to green jobs.

While in Italy, she will also meet with the Mayor of Rome and visit towns with ties to Boston's heritage and that of her own family. The Mayor will visit Sulmona, a town with strong ties through immigration to Boston's North End; and attend a commemorative event in Coreno Ausonio, where her children will see the hometown that

their great great-grandparents emigrated from. Two students from Boston Public Schools' BCLA-McCormack will also be attending the Vatican summit. They will be two of eight young people from around the world to participate in Session XII - Voices of the Youth.

"As the climate crisis takes on growing urgency across the globe, communities must come together to take collective action for a safer, brighter future," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "Boston is proof of what's possible for cities tackling the climate crisis while creating green jobs and healthier communities. I'm honored to represent Boston at this important convening led by Pope Francis, and look forward to shining a spotlight on our community's work and also bringing home solutions from innovative cities around the world."

Mayor Wu is champion of climate action for Boston. The City's leadership has delivered results through growing its PowerCorps green jobs program and Boston's Community Choice Electricity program, transitioning to electric school buses and vehicles, decarbonizing existing buildings and adopting green building standards for new construction, launching networked geothermal energy in public housing, enhancing Boston's green spaces and building green infrastructure to protect

against flooding, bolstering electric vehicle infrastructure, and aggressively fighting for federal funding. Mayor Wu has set an ambitious agenda.

Mayor Wu's commitment to climate action advances sustainability, resilience, and environmental justice. Last month, Mayor Wu shared her FY25 Budget which included groundbreaking investments in climate action and adaptation. These investments range from new personnel investments, such as a park administrator and six new maintenance staff to maintain Franklin Park, to transformative Capital investments, such as a new \$75 million City fund that leverages State and Federal climate resilience grants. Under Mayor Wu's leadership, the City will enhance climate resilience across Boston to prepare for climate change while supporting the lives of Boston residents.

The international conference is organized by the Pontifical Academy of Sciences and the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences under the leadership of UMass Boston Chancellor Marcelo Suárez-Orozco and Ram Ramanathan, Distinguished Research Professor at UC San Diego and climate solutions scholar at Cornell University. Pope Francis will preside over the summit.

RMV reminds residents they will need a REAL ID or current passport to board a plane starting in May 2025

The Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) is reminding residents that beginning May 7, 2025, anyone traveling by plane domestically or entering certain federal building areas will need a Registry-issued REAL ID-compliant driver's license or ID, or a valid passport. To help ensure compliance, a countdown clock is now live at Mass.Gov/RMV.

The Registry is encouraging everyone seeking a REAL ID compliant license or identification card to go online at Mass.Gov/ID to learn what documents are needed for a required in-person appointment.

"The countdown is on for REAL ID federal enforcement and the Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles, and its partner AAA Northeast, have successfully been issuing REAL ID credentials and are prepared for interested residents prior to the May 2025 deadline," said Registrar of Motor Vehicles Colleen Ogilvie. "We want Massachusetts residents to know they can upgrade to the

REAL ID driver's license or identification card during their normal renewal process for the same cost as a renewal. For the customers who wish to do this, we highly recommend you schedule your appointment at least three weeks before your birthday so that you can receive your credential in the mail ahead of your expiration."

The RMV has posted helpful information on REAL ID requirements that customers can use to prepare for their in-person visits, including convenient document checklists to help pre-stage REAL ID applications, at Mass.Gov/ID. Documents required for this transaction include two proofs of Massachusetts residency, proof of a full Social Security Number (SSN), and proof of lawful presence. Customers who have had a name change since the issuance of a birth certificate, passport or other document, will need to show the reason for the name change by presenting documentation like a marriage certificate, divorce decree or court document. These required

documents must be original or certified versions. The RMV recommends customers gather these documents well in advance of appointments to ensure they have the information required by federal law.

Currently, Massachusetts is at 54 percent REAL ID adoption with almost 3 million credentials being REAL ID-compliant. Customers are eligible to renew up to one year in advance of the expiration date printed on their license or ID, and up to two years after the expiration date.

Prior to May 7, 2025, customers will not need a federally compliant REAL ID for the purposes of boarding domestic flights or entering certain federal buildings.

The fee for renewing a non-commercial standard or REAL ID driver's license is \$50. The fee for renewing a Mass ID is \$25. The fee for upgrading to a standard or REAL ID card is \$25. Customers with a less than five-year stay in

(REAL ID Pg. 12)

OBITUARIES

All obituaries and death notices will be at a cost of \$150.00 per paper.

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Wu announces three new neighborhood liaisons

Special to the Times

Mayor Michelle Wu announced new staff in the Office of Neighborhood Services, including Anthony Nguyen as the Mid-Dorchester Liaison, Josh McCorkle as the Roslindale Liaison, and Maccon Bonner as the Mission Hill, Fenway-Kenmore, Beacon Hill, and Back Bay Liaison. The Office of Neighborhood Services is integral in connecting residents to City services and resources, facilitating resident input in all aspects of local government, ensuring the appropriate City departments respond to constituent service requests, attending neighborhood meetings, and responding to emergencies such as fires to help displaced residents.

“Our neighborhood liaisons are our residents’ direct connection to City Hall and its services,” said Mayor Michelle Wu. “Anthony’s passion to serve from growing up in Dorchester and working at SPARK ensures that our residents will be heard and supported with compassion. Maccon knows City Hall and has shown his dedication to delivering for constituents. Josh’s background in communications and education will empower residents to continue to stay connected to City resources. I am excited for these three liaisons to become familiar faces in their



Maccon Bonner

neighborhoods.”

Anthony Nguyen is a proud lifelong Dorchester resident with a passion to serve the Mid-Dorchester community. Prior to joining the Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Services, Nguyen was the Director of SPARK Boston. He joined SPARK Boston in 2021 and held the position of captain, volunteering his time assisting with programming efforts. As the son of Vietnamese immigrants he understands the importance of community, cultural awareness, and advocacy for those who traditionally have lacked the opportunities to engage civically.

In taking up his role as the Mid-Dorchester liaison supporting Uphams Corner, Bowdoin/Gene-



Josh McCorkle

va, Four Corners, and Codman Square areas, Nguyen is excited to deepen his service in the neighborhood he calls home. Since Dorchester is the largest neighborhood in the city, there are two liaisons who provide constituent services for the neighborhood. The areas Dorchester Liaison Ross Cochran serves includes Dorchester Bay, Savin Hill, Ashmont, and Lower Mills.

“I look forward to working closely with residents to continue improving our neighborhood and address constituent concerns,” said Mid-Dorchester Liaison Anthony Nguyen. “I am excited to meet community leaders who have dedicated so much time to their neighborhood as well as the next



Anthony Nguyen

generation of civic leaders. It is truly an honor to have the opportunity to serve the city I was born and raised in.”

Maccon Bonner was born in Boston and raised in Brentwood, New Hampshire. Bonner returned to Boston to attend Suffolk University in 2020. He interned for the Boston City Council District 8 office. He has a passion for connecting with constituents and bringing City Hall out of City Hall by making government accessible for all. Bonner is a resident of Mission Hill.

“Becoming a neighborhood liaison is a new chapter in my life,” said Mission Hill, Fenway-Kenmore, Beacon Hill, and Back Bay Liaison Maccon Bonner. “I can’t wait to help continue to cultivate an environment where our neighbors, businesses, and institutions work in tandem with the great people in City Hall to address concerns and meet the needs of the community.”

Josh McCorkle is an experienced education, marketing, and communications professional. A Brookline native, he has a bachelor’s degree in English from Boston University and a master’s degree in

elementary special education from Lesley University. Before joining the Office of Neighborhood Services, McCorkle worked as a teacher, university administrator, operations professional, and editor.

“As the Roslindale liaison, plan to make community members feel that they have a clear line of communication with City Hall so that they can feel confident that their government is working for them,” said Roslindale Liaison Josh McCorkle.

“Anthony, Josh, and Maccon are compassionate leaders who are a great addition to the Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Services,” said Office of Neighborhood Services Executive Director Beata Coloyan. “I encourage community members to attend liaisons’ weekly Coffee Hours every Friday in neighborhoods to get connected to resources, personally meet their respective liaison, and receive guidance on how to navigate City services.”

The City of Boston’s Parks and Recreation Department is currently hosting Mayor Wu’s Neighborhood Coffee Hours. This spring event series is a unique opportunity to speak directly with the Mayor, neighborhood liaisons, and staff from City departments about open space and their neighborhoods.

The Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Services (ONS) encourages, facilitates, and maximizes citizen input and participation through service requests, neighborhood meetings, mailings, and emergency responses. To report non-emergency issues to the City, residents are encouraged to connect with BOS:311 by dialing 3-1-1 or downloading the free BOS:311 app on iOS or Android platforms.

Wu announces launch of Wake Up the Night Grant

Special to the Times

Mayor Michelle Wu and the Office of Nightlife Economy today announced the launch of the City’s Wake Up the Night Grant, which will award individuals and organizations up to \$10,000 to host nighttime activations. The application is now open and the deadline to apply is May 28.

The Wake Up the Night Grant Pilot Program will use up to \$250,000 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to revitalize Boston’s nightlife economy and foster safe, inclusive social spaces. All activations will take place in July through December 2024 and be free and open to the public.

“Boston is a city of neighborhoods, and we are working to revitalize our nighttime economy and create opportunities for residents to enjoy safe, joyful spaces throughout the warmer months and into the fall,” said Mayor Michelle Wu. “This year we’re trying to make it easier than ever

to foster fun programming that showcases the beauty of our communities and support residents and businesses in their efforts to make this summer a safe, enjoyable one for all in Boston.”

All funded events will align with one the following categories:

- Accessible Programming: Social events specifically curated for persons with diverse abilities (physical, cognitive, or emotional)
- Cultural Expression: Activations showcasing the many cultural interests and expressions of Bostonians.
- Intergenerational: Activations promoting multi-generational social interaction.
- Spirit-Free Programming: Activations mindfully omitting the consumption and presence of alcohol.
- Weekday Activations: Events promoting social interaction Monday through Thursday, specifically in the Downtown and surrounding neighborhoods.
- Youth Programming: Activa-

tions aimed to serve persons 20 years old and younger.

“There is a pressing demand for more innovative, inclusive, and accessible nighttime activities,” said Corean Reynolds, Director of Nightlife Economy for the City of Boston. “Through the Wake Up the Night Grant Pilot Program, we are excited to directly invest in people and organizations that are reimagining Boston’s nightlife.”

The Grant is open to individuals, nonprofit organizations, or businesses working in partnership with community partners. Applicants must be Boston residents or demonstrate that their project is led by partners who are Boston residents.

The Wake Up the Night Grant is an Office of Nightlife Economy initiative. The Office, launched in March 2023, works to create a more robust and equitable nightlife economy to enhance the overall quality of life for residents of Boston. For more information about the Office of Nightlife Economy, visit boston.gov/nightlife.

BEACON HILL BEAT

From Boston Police Area A-1

COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICE: 617-343-4627
DRUG UNIT: 617-343-4879 • EMERGENCIES: 911

Stolen Motor Vehicle

05/11/24 - An individual reported his motor vehicle had been stolen at around 2:30 a.m. at Somerset and Cambridge streets. The victim reviewed a surveillance video

showing the suspect steal the vehicle and flee towards Ashburton Place, with no headlights on. Area A-1 detectives are further investigating this matter.

Hill author's latest novel named to longlist for '24 Massachusetts Book Awards

Special to Times

Beacon Hill author Julie Carrick Dalton's novel 'The Last Beekeeper' has been named to the longlist for the 2024 Massachusetts Book Awards.

"The Massachusetts Book Awards recognize significant works of fiction, nonfiction, poetry, translated literature, and children's/young adult literature written, illustrated, or translated by current Commonwealth residents, according to the Massachusetts Center for the Book website.

'The Last Beekeeper' is a near-future story about a beekeeper and his daughter as the world's pollinator population collapses, launching the world into agricul-



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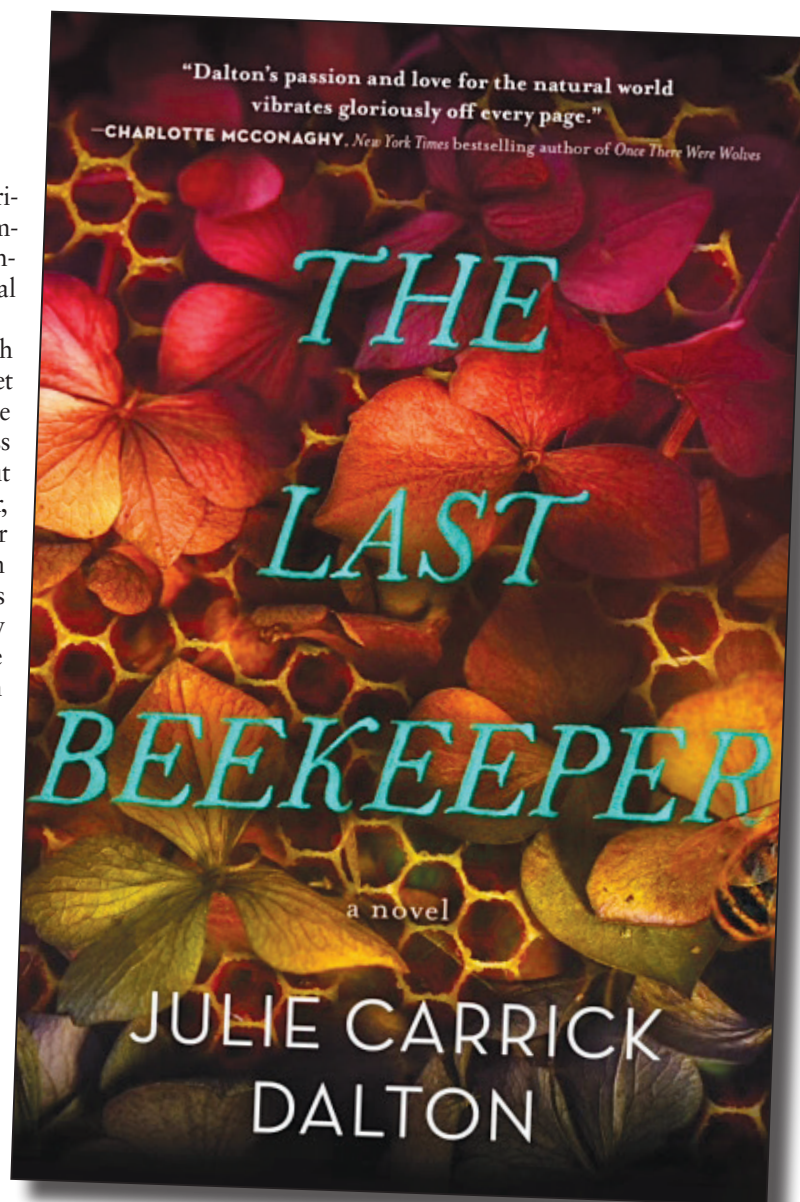
Beacon Hill author Julie Carrick Dalton.

tural, economic, and political crises. It's a story about found family, redemption, and unquenchable hope in the face of global crisis.

"All my novels deal with fractured relationships set against the backdrop of climate change," Dalton said in a press release. "I don't write about disasters. I explore quieter, slow-burning elements of our climate crisis. I'm interested in writing about our connections to the land we live on, and how our interactions with nature impact our relationships with other people and our communities. Although my novels take on dark subjects, I always leave room for hope."

Dalton is on the faculty of Drexel University's MFA in Creative Writing program, and beginning in September, she will be teaching a course called Climate Fiction: The Intersection of Writing, Climate Science, and Activism at Tufts University. A journalist and former organic farmer and beekeeper, she is a frequent speaker on the topic of Fiction in the Age of Climate Crisis at universities, museums, and conferences nationally and international-ly.

Dalton is also the author of the novel 'Waiting for the Night Song,' a CNN, USA Today, Newsweek, and Parade Most Anticipated



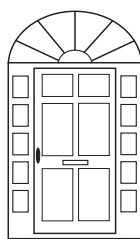
Novel, and an Amazon Best Book of the Month. Her third novel, 'The Forest Becomes Her,' again published by Tor/Forge Macmillan, will be released in 2025. Her fourth book is slated for publication in 2027.

When she isn't writing or working in her garden, you can probably find Dalton walking her dogs in Boston Common and Public Garden or lingering in Beacon Hill Books.

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