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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

MEMORIAL DAY FLAG GARDEN RETURNS TO THE COMMON



D. MURPHY PHOTO

Volunteers again planted more than 37,000 American flags – one in honor of each of the Commonwealth's fallen veterans - at the Soldiers and Sailors Monument on the Boston Common to commemorate Memorial Day. Every year since 2010, the Massachusetts Military Heroes Fund has led the effort behind the annual Memorial Day Flag Garden.

Artist John Young to appear at Upstairs Downstairs

Special to Times

On Sunday, June 2, popular and well-known artist, John Young, will be appearing at Upstairs Downstairs at 69 Charles St. from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

His distinctive work will be on display morning and afternoon. His amazing artistry depicts natural themes of fish, flowers, beautiful coastal scenes, and much, much more. Young's artistry can be found in galleries and in pri-

vate collections throughout New England and beyond.

Young is a self-taught artist from Duxbury who currently has a studio in Fall River.

(YOUNG Pg. 3)

BEACON HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY CORNER

Election of the 2024-2025 BHCA Board of Directors
The election of the new BHCA Board took place at the annual meeting on Monday, May 20th,

at the Somerset Club. The newly elected are:
Officers
Joshua Leffler - Chair
Colin Zick - President

Tim McKeown - Treasurer
Gina Usechek - Clerk
Directors
Meghan Awe

(BHCA Pg. 3)

Reimagined West End Museum reopens to public

By Dan Murphy

A thoroughly reimagined West End Museum welcomed the public back for the first time in more than two years on Thursday, May 24.

"We're so proud to have it open, and to be able to show this space, and to be able to bring these pieces of the old neighborhood out of the archives in a way we haven't been able to before," Sebastian Belfanti, the museum's executive director, told this reporter following the ribbon-cutting for the newly renovated museum last Wednesday and one day ahead of its reopening to the public. "If you saw the museum before, you haven't seen the space now."

The museum is now undergoing a \$1.4 million, two-phased transformation, following a sprinkler check-valve rupture on the fourth floor of West End Place on Jan. 15, 2022. Besides flooding around

30 units on that building's bottom four floors, the adjacent West End Museum and its office space was also inundated with water in the incident.

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 - around 40 of which the museum had duplicates of - while some other documents had already been scanned. Just two or three photos were completely destroyed.

The erstwhile 'Last Tenement' exhibit has been completely reimagined and vastly expanded as 'Rise, Fall, Rebirth: Stories of the West End' during the \$1 million first phase of the project. This new permanent exhibit tells the West End's story from when the neigh-

(MUSEUM Pg. 12)



D. MURPHY PHOTO

Bob Potenza the West End Museum's archivist, curator, and historian (center), is seen with, left to right: Trivium Interactive's Maria Trias, Jill Domenicia, Kate LaPine, and Alex Beuscher.

NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDUP

FREE OTIS HOUSE OPEN HOUSE SET FOR SATURDAY, JUNE 1

On Saturday, June 1, 38 of Historic New England's historic properties will be open free to the public, including the Otis House Museum.

Otis House is the last surviving mansion in Bowdoin Square in Boston's West End neighborhood. Charles Bulfinch designed the house for Harrison Gray Otis, a lawyer who was instrumental in developing nearby Beacon Hill, served in Congress, and was a mayor of Boston. Learn about the family's life in the Federal era and the later history of the house, when it served as a clinic and a middle-class boarding house.

Otis House is located at the foot of Beacon Hill, next to the Old West Church on Cambridge Street. The entrance is on Lynde Street and June 1 open house hours are 1 a.m. to 5 p.m., with tours on the hour.

BEACON HILL ART WALK RETURNS SUNDAY, JUNE 2

The Beacon Hill Art Walk will take over the streets and alleys of the neighborhood on Sunday, June 2, from noon to 6 p.m., rain or shine, on the neighborhood's North Slope.

The one-of-a-kind Boston tradition turns Beacon Hill into an impromptu art gallery where walls and gardens are adorned with artwork while musicians will be roving throughout the neighborhood and performing in various garden locations. Around 50 artists usually participate in this free event, with a variety of styles, media, and subject matter.

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 streets.

VOLUNTEERS BEING SOUGHT FOR BEACON HILL ART WALK

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.

WEST END MUSEUM EVENTS

The West End Museum, located at 150 Staniford Street Suite 7, offers its Boston Trivia Night on Thursday, May 30 at 6:30 p.m. 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 www.eventbrite.com/e/west-end-stories-scanning-party-tickets.

JUNE AT THE VILNA

The Vilna Shul, located at 18 Phillips St., presents 'The Dybbuk,' performed by Arlekin Play-

ers Theater, from June 3-23, times vary. Tickets cost \$29-72 each.

Enjoy the U.S. premiere of 'The Dybbuk,' a mystical Yiddish folk tale about love, family, displacement, and the restless Jewish soul. This site-specific production resonates profoundly with the historic sanctuary of The Vilna Shul. There is a special talkback following, June 16 matinee.

On June 5 from 6:30 to 8 p.m., The Vilna presents an Author Talk with B.A. Shapiro ('Metropolis'). Tickets are \$10 each.

This event will feature Beacon Hill resident and New York Times bestselling author B.A. Shapiro in conversation with newspaper columnist and memoirist Judy Bolton-Fasman on the craft of storytelling. Books by both writers will be on sale at the event.

On June 9, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., The Vilna presents a Walking Tour of Jewish Beacon Hill and The Vilna Shul. Tickets are \$30 each.

This unique two-hour Jewish History program will include both Boston By Foot's guided Jewish Beacon Hill tour and a guided tour of The Vilna Shul.

On June 17, from 7 to 9 p.m., The Vilna presents its Summer Soiree and Creative Showcase. Tickets for this event cost \$18 each.

Four of Boston's most talented Jewish artists will come together to celebrate the end of a creative year: Singer/songwriter Lily Henley shares new Ladino music, Poet Deborah Leipziger offers up new work based on The Vilna Shul, Animator Alex Salzberg screens a short film created with residents of Hebrew Senior Life and Musician Yuval Gur demonstrates paintings that sing.

On June 23 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., The Vilna Shul presents 'Love Over Hate: Nurturing Relationships and Mental Health in the Face of Rising Antisemitism (for 20s/30s).'

From college campuses to the halls of Congress, from social

media to daily life, the climate of antisemitism is more heated now than many have ever experienced. Join other interfaith and Jewish-by-choice couples in the community for a brunch conversation on antisemitism now, and learn new skills to support your mental health and strengthen your relationships.

On June 27 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., The Vilna offers 'A Whiskey Tour of Israel.' Tickets are \$50 each.

This Israeli whiskey tasting with Josh Mann, an expert from Jews and Booze, will include pours of nine different exclusive Israeli whiskeys, along with a fun and interactive tour of the whiskeys, with information about each pour, distillery, and master distiller. Kosher charcuterie will accompany the tasting (vegan option available). Participants will also be entered in a raffle to win a bottle of J&B "Kings of Kiddush" straight rye whiskey.

On June 28 from 6 to 9 p.m., The Vilna presents 'Havurah on the Hill: Honorable Menschen.' Tickets are \$18 each.

This Friday night Shabbat experience for young professionals includes good food and great company on the fourth Shabbat of each month. After a short service and delicious dinner, enjoy the sweet sounds of Honorable Menschen, Boston's premiere post-college co-ed a cappella group. End your week on a high note.

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

GENTLE YOGA AT THE WEST END BRANCH LIBRARY

New yoga instructor, Marianne Zullas, will offer an introductory class on Friday, June 14, at the West End Branch of the Boston Public Library, located at 151 Cambridge Street.

Zullas will also be teaching a weekly class this fall.

Gentle yoga is designed to bring the students to the present moment by connecting with the union of breath and movement. Appropriate for all levels, participants will practice breathing techniques, a range of standing, seated and supine postures, and a healing guided meditation.

Registration is required for this event as seats are limited.

To register, or for more information, contact Wesley Fiorentino via email at wfiorentino@bpl.org.

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.

WEST END BRANCH LIBRARY'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: '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.

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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Sugar, spice & everything (n)ice from Boston Public Market

Just in time for spring, Boston Public Market announces its three newest vendors: Curio Spice Co., Parlott Chocolatier, and Oohjacquelina Jewelry. Together, these three women-owned and operated businesses contribute a spicy, sweet, and sparkling presence to Boston's preeminent collection of New England artisans and food producers under one roof. The warmer months have been an exciting time for the local marketplace, with the Boston Public Market named among the "10 Best Public Markets in America" by USA Today readers during its 2024 10 Best Readers' Choice Awards.

"We couldn't be more thrilled to welcome three new vendors to our family of local, small businesses," says Cheryl Cronin, CEO of Boston Public Market. "And there's something especially gratifying about becoming home to three women owned and operated businesses in the heart of Downtown Boston just in time for our most vibrant seasons."

CURIO SPICE CO.

To the delight of Bostonians who love to cook, Curio Spice Co. is expanding its unparalleled collection of global flavors to the Boston Public Market from its longtime flagship store in North Cambridge. Owner Claire Cheney launched Curio Spice in 2015 as a mission-driven B Corp, committed to sourcing ethical culinary ingredients from sustainable farms in New England and around the world that support women and communities. Curio Spice Co. offers an expert-guided experience that can awaken the senses while you discover Sri Lankan cinnamon, Turkish magic salt and Maine seaweed mixes alongside summer sangria spice mix, Chai teas, pickling kits and other familiar and rare spices. Neighboring vendor George Howell Coffee will offer a Rose Cardamom Latte in honor of Curio's opening, featuring spices from their shop.

Visit curiospice.com

PARLOTT CHOCOLATIER

Parlott Chocolatier owner Lu Parlott grew up in Brazil, helping

her mom make chocolates from the cocoa beans farmed by her dad. Moving to the US, Lu continued the family tradition producing artisan chocolates to sell online and at a brick-and-mortar location in Westwood. Marking its big city debut, Parlott Chocolatier at the Boston Public Market creates the finest truffles, brigadeiros, bars, barks, and assorted chocolate candies, made from the finest ingredients with passion and style.

Visit parlott.com

OOHJACQUELINA JEWELRY

Looking for a unique remembrance you will cherish forever? Oohjacquelina Jewelry is a jewelry atelier founded by Bostonian artist and musician Jacquelyn Wells. Emphasizing bridal and everyday jewelry using semi-precious stones, genuine pearls, and hypoallergenic-waterproof metals (either pure sterling silver or 14K gold fill), Oohjacquelina is known for its hand hammering, wire wrapping, thread earrings, and permanent jewelry pieces. Every item is "quality handcrafted to last" and priced for all bud-

gets, and styles, and most days she offers customizations on the spot.

Visit oohjacquelina.com

THE BOSTON PUBLIC MARKET

The Boston Public Market is an indoor, year-round marketplace featuring about 30 New England artisans and food producers housed under one roof offering fresh foods, prepared meals, crafts, and specialty items. Residents and visitors alike can find seasonal, locally sourced food from Massachusetts and New England, including fresh produce, meat and poultry, eggs, dairy, seafood, baked goods, specialty items, crafts, and prepared breakfast, lunch, and dinner options. Everything sold at the Market is produced or originates in New England, as the seasons allow.

As a nonprofit organization, the Boston Public Market is a "Market on a Mission" to nurture local entrepreneurs who have barriers to fully participating in the Market, educate their visitors on the importance of a resilient and equitable food system,

celebrate the bounty of all of New England, and cultivate a diverse community around food.

The Boston Public Market is a civic, community-building space for farmers, fishers, food entrepreneurs, neighbors, customers, and partners who come together around the common culture of food. The Market creates opportunities for small businesses to thrive, and nourishes the community with experiences, conversation, and education about public health and the impact of buying local food. Year-round festivals, workshops, cooking classes, and tours create an engaging, educational experience and a vibrant environment for everyone.

The Boston Public Market, located at 100 Hanover Street, Boston, MA 02108, is open Monday and Tuesday 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM, Wednesday through Saturday 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM, and Sunday 10:00 AM to 6:00PM.

YOUNG (from pg. 1)

"Believe it or not, it was in the first grade that I fell in love with art," said Young. "I loved drawing houses, trees, and apples, and even surprised myself at the realism of these images I was able to render at such an early age and the pride and joy I felt in doing so. I could have never dreamed from my early beginnings that so many have found peace and pleasure in my work and honored that some have included my work in their private collections of fine art."

Many devotees of Young's work will remember when his gallery was at 100 Charles St. for five years between 2003 and 2008.

In 2011, Upstairs Downstairs owner Laura Cousineau incorporated John's work into her wider collection of local artists and has proudly and successfully displayed his work ever since.

"Our long association with John has been a pure joy," said Cousineau. "His work has always been a perfect complement and fits into our mission to provide the very best in antique and vintage furniture, home goods, unique collectibles, and local art. We, along with John, hope to see you on Sunday, June 2, so you can see for yourself his amazing work on full display including his popular mini's."

For more information, contact Laura Cousineau by phone at

617-367-1950; via email llaupraupstairsdownstairs@gmail.com; or on Instagram at

Instagram: @UpstairsDownstairsAntiques.



COURTESY PHOTO

Artist John Young, who will be on hand at Upstairs Downstairs at 69 Charles St. on Sunday, June 2, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

BHCA (from pg. 1)

Melanie Bertani
Beth Campanella
Tom Clemens
Tim Cook
Hilary Bacon Gabrieli
Russell Gaudreau
Katherine Judge
Andrew Kirk
Renee Knilians
Michelle Lavers
Patrick Lee
Rajan Nanda
Ali Ringenburg
Suzie Tapson
Holland Ward
Eve Waterfall

Upcoming BHCA Meetings:

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

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

Board of Directors - Monday, June 10th, 7pm, 74 Joy Street

Upcoming BHCA Events:

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

Valiant Cruise (members only) Thursday, June 6th, 5:30-8pm

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

Summer Evening at Otis House - Thursday, June 27th, 6-8pm

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.

A Reminder about Public Trash Bins

Please remember all public trash bins are for small trash or recycling small items (newspapers or other recyclables), and that it is illegal (\$1,000 fine) to dispose of household trash in any public trash bin. Let's all work together to keep our streets and sidewalks clean and free of trash and litter by using these trash bins appropriately.

WESTPORT POINT FAMILY VACATION

Beautiful Carriage house available July 9 to July 23.
6 bedrooms, 3 baths. Kitchen/dining/living room.

Huge gameroom.

Water views from upstairs living room.

\$4200 per week.

To learn more or to reserve please email:
margaretjs@mindspring.com

EDITORIAL

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2024

A high school graduation is a singular event in the life of every community, where almost everybody knows one of the graduates or their families. All of us share in the happiness and sense of achievement of our young people who will be receiving their diplomas. And for all of us, a high school graduation brings back our own fond memories from our long-gone youth.

For the graduates themselves, their high school graduation marks both an end and a beginning. They no longer are children, either in the eyes of the law or in reality. They are full-fledged adults who will be leaving the sheltered harbor of their families and communities and setting sail on a journey that none of them will be able to anticipate, but which will be full of surprises, bringing both stormy seas and smooth sailing.

Yes, graduation is a bittersweet time, both for the grads and their family members.

For the parents who will be watching their sons and daughters step to the podium when their name is called, no doubt they will be thinking of how fast time has gone by since they first brought their child by the hand to preschool and kindergarten.

Such moments bring to mind the sentiments expressed in the lyrics of the song, Sunrise, Sunset, from the musical Fiddler on the Roof:

Is this the little girl I carried
Is this the little boy at play?
I don't remember growing older
When did they?
When did she get to be a beauty
When did he grow to be so tall?
Wasn't it yesterday when they were small?

We congratulate the Class of 2024 for all of the accomplishments that have earned them the right to step onto that podium to receive their diplomas. We know we join with all of the members of our community in wishing them blue skies and sunny days, both on their Graduation Day and in the years ahead.

DRIVERLESS CARS: WE CAN'T WAIT!

We recently returned from a trip to San Francisco to visit our daughter and got the chance to ride in the driverless taxis from Waymo, the company owned by Google, which has been operating in San Francisco and Phoenix for the past few years.

At first we were skeptical of taking a ride in the cars, which have received some bad press, but Kate (who has been using the service for a number of months) assured us it was perfectly fine.

The vehicles, which are electric Jaguar SUVs, make you feel as if you are riding with a luxury limo service. They are clean, quiet, and have leather seats. They also play soft, relaxing music, though you have the option to choose different genres.

Most importantly, the Waymos obey the speed limits, always signal when changing lanes, never rush through a yellow light, let alone a red light, and yield to pedestrians in crosswalks. In other words, the Waymos are far safer than human-operated vehicles.

The experience made us realize that driverless vehicles, guided by AI, will be commonplace in the not-too-distant future -- a future that will make our roads far safer than the carnage that exists today in which more than 40,000 Americans are killed and countless tens of thousands more are severely injured every year thanks to human operators who either are texting-and-driving, under the influence, engaged in road rage, falling asleep at the wheel, inexperienced, too old, blinded by the sun, disobeying the traffic laws, or are just bad drivers.

Driverless cars also will have a huge positive financial impact on our society. Auto insurance rates will go down precipitously (especially for young drivers), car repairs caused by accidents will be minimal, health care costs will decline enormously because of the decrease in auto-related injuries, and senior citizens will retain their independence.

In short, we have seen the future of cars without human operators -- and we can't wait!

Boston Lyric Opera's free outdoor 'Street Stage' series returns

Boston Lyric Opera's (BLO) popular mobile performance venue Street Stage returns for free live performances to locations throughout Boston this summer. Sponsored by HarborOne Bank and the Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture, Street Stage brings opera and popular music performances to neighborhoods from Charlestown to South Boston; the series kicks off June 1 on the Rose Kennedy Greenway.

Conceived and created as a way to bring music to the public during COVID shutdowns, the 26-foot-long Street Stage vehicle is a semi-trailer engineered to open on three sides and offer a 270-degree view of performers. Audiences are encouraged to bring blankets or lawn chairs to the open-air performances.

"There's no more exhilarating experience than hearing beautiful music on a gorgeous warm summer day," says BLO Artistic Director Nina Yoshida Nelsen. "The artists performing this summer season are some of the most accomplished performers in Greater Boston. Different programs and activities are planned at each site, so multiple visits are encouraged!"

Nelsen says support from HarborOne Bank and the Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture is crucial to make the series available for free across the city. "It's quite

fitting that three of our concerts are in places where the Harbor figures prominently."

Details on the performance listings below, and information on BLO's other summer events is available at blo.org/events.

Street Stage Season Opener at Rose Kennedy Greenway

Date/Time: June 1, 2024 @ 3:00 PM (Rain Date: June 2)

Location: Rowes Wharf Plaza, Atlantic @ High Street, Boston

Details: The season opener at Rose Kennedy Greenway will feature a selection of beloved arias and popular opera repertoire, including exclusive previews of BLO's 2024/25 Season. Attendees can also enjoy free Greenway Carousel passes available at the BLO information table.

Street Stage Returns to the South End's Villa Victoria

Date/Time: June 13, 2024 @ 4:30 PM

Location: Plaza Betances, IBA's Villa Victoria, 100 W. Dedham Street, South End

Details: Street Stage makes its anticipated return to Villa Victoria. This family-friendly program will highlight Spanish-language arias, and poetry by local residents and youth program participants, all to celebrate the cultural heritage of the community.

Street Stage Debut at Charlestown Navy Yard

Date/Time: August 3, 2024 @

3:30 PM and 4:30 PM

Location: Charlestown Navy Yard, 23 2nd Ave., Charlestown, Boston

Details: For the first time, Street Stage visits the historic Charlestown Navy Yard. In partnership with the National Parks of Boston, this event will feature operatic arias and music inspired by the sea, set against the backdrop of the Boston Harbor. Performances will take place on the lawn of the 1805 Commandant's House, with alternating musical sets at 3:30 PM and 4:30 PM. The program will also include meet-the-artist interviews and family-friendly educational content.

An Evening Concert at South Boston's Moakley Park

Date/Time: August 7, 2024, 5:30-7:30 PM

Location: Moakley Park Picnic Area, 450 Old Colony Ave., South Boston

Details: Street Stage brings a multicultural music program to historic Moakley Park for the first time. The event, perfect for a family-friendly evening, will feature food, games, and kid-centered art activities provided by Boston Harbor Now. Picnic tables and chairs will be available on a first-come basis, with attendees encouraged to bring their own seating. Registration is recommended at blo.org/events.

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Boston places 14th on annual Trust for Public Land ParkScore Index, boosted by strong scores for park access

Special to the Times

Trust for Public Land announced Boston was rated the nation's 14th best big-city park system by the 2024 ParkScore® index, dipping slightly below last year's 10th place finish. Atop the ParkScore rankings, Washington, DC, retained the ParkScore title, outpacing Minneapolis (2nd), Saint Paul (3rd) and Irvine, California (4th). The ParkScore index evaluates park systems in the 100 largest U.S. cities.

Boston ranked highly on all ParkScore rating factors. According to Trust for Public Land, 100 percent of Boston residents live within a 10-minute walk of a park. Among all 100 ParkScore cities, only San Francisco matches Boston's park access marks. The city also scored highly for park amenities, leading the nation for splashpads and spraygrounds at parks. Boston provides 12.6 of the popular summertime amenity per 100,000 residents, far above the national ParkScore average of 1.5.

Boston invests an impressive \$175 per resident in its park system, comfortably above the national ParkScore average of \$124. However, per capita investment declined slightly compared to last year's \$176, contributing to the park system's dip in the rankings. Boston's ParkScore was also limited by below-average marks for park size. The median Boston park measures only 1.4 acres, below the national ParkScore average of 5.4.

Accompanying the annual ratings list, Trust for Public Land published new research reporting that residents of cities with high ParkScore rankings are, on average, more socially connected and engaged with their neighbors than are residents of cities with lower-ranking park systems.

The research report, *The Power of Parks to Strengthen Community*, found that residents of cities ranking in the top quarter of the ParkScore index are 60 percent more likely to volunteer than are residents of lower-ranking cities. Residents of higher-ranking cities are also 26 percent more likely to form friendships with people in different socio-economic groups. A strong body of research indicates that relationships crossing income divides increase economic mobility and reduce inequality. Social connections also lead to better physical and mental health.

The *Power of Parks to Strengthen Community* details many strat-

egies used by civic leaders to facilitate social connection at parks. Some common tactics include hosting movie nights and other gatherings at public recreation centers, sponsoring arts and fitness classes, and supporting voter registration drives. The research is based on nearly 900 examples shared with Trust for Public Land by city park leaders.

"Park leaders are stepping up to promote community connection and address the national epidemic of loneliness and social isolation," says Diane Regas, President and CEO of Trust for Public Land. "By mixing tried and true strategies like fitness classes and sports leagues with innovative ideas like intergenerational storytime, where senior volunteers share their favorite books with children, cities are finding creative ways to bring people together and strengthen community bonds. We're impressed by what we've seen this year, and we will continue working with cities throughout the United States to support park access for all."

The ParkScore index reported significant increases in park investment for 2023. Across all ParkScore cities, average park spending per resident increased to \$124, up from last year's \$108 and reaching a ParkScore-era high. ParkScore reports investment per resident as a three-year moving average, so totals for 2023 are based on 2021-2023 city budgets. Trust for Public Land attributes the increased investment to heightened awareness among policymakers and local residents about the many ways parks serve as vital community infrastructure, especially during emergencies like the COVID-19 pandemic. Local governments are also taking advantage of federal stimulus funding to launch major park projects. Previous research found that virtually every city included in the ParkScore index leveraged parks as testing centers, personal protective equipment distribution hubs, or emergency food service centers at the height of the pandemic.

PARKSCORE RANKINGS FOR 2024

Washington, DC, was rated the best big-city park system in the United States for the fourth consecutive year. The city scored well on all ParkScore rating factors. Twenty-four percent of land in the District of Columbia is reserved for parks, among the highest in the United States. The District also outperformed on ParkScore's

park access and park equity metrics. Residents of Washington, DC, neighborhoods where most residents identify as Black, Latino, Indigenous and Native American, or Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have access to about the same amount of park space as residents of neighborhoods where most of the population identifies as white.

By contrast, among all ParkScore cities, neighborhoods where most residents identify as people of color have access to an average of 45 percent less park space than residents of predominately white neighborhoods. Similarly, ParkScore city residents in low-income neighborhoods have access to 45 percent less park space than residents in high-income neighborhoods, on average.

Irvine continues to climb the ParkScore index rankings, finishing fourth for the second consecutive year and matching its all-time high. Irvine ranked eighth in 2022. Irvine's surge is driven by significant increases in park investment, as the city continues progress toward creating its planned "Great Park" on the site of the former El Toro Marine Corps Air Station.

Other major ParkScore movers this year include Gilbert, Arizona (+33 to sixty-seventh); Arlington, TX (+27 to forty-seventh); Richmond, VA (+17 to twenty-second) and Nashville, TN, (+15 to seventy-eighth).

Boise defended its title as the best park system for dogs, with a nation-leading 7.6 dog parks per 100,000 residents, outscoring Portland, Oregon, and Henderson, Nevada. St. Paul received top marks for basketball hoops, Las Vegas scored best for playgrounds, and Boston earned top marks for splashpads and other water features.

PARKSCORE METHODOLOGY AND RANKINGS

The annual ParkScore® index ranks park systems in the 100 most populous U.S. cities and is widely considered the gold standard for park evaluation. ParkScore rankings are based equally on five factors:

- Park access measures the percentage of residents living within a 10-minute walk of a park.
- Park equity compares per capita park space and 10-minute-walk park access in communities of color vs. white communities and in low-income neighborhoods versus

high-income neighborhoods. Park systems score higher if disparities are minimal or non-existent.

- Park acreage is based on a city's median park size and the percentage of city area dedicated to parks.

- Park investment measures park spending per resident.

- Park amenities assesses the availability of six popular park features: basketball hoops; off-leash dog parks; playgrounds; splashpads and other water-play structures; recreation and senior centers, and restrooms.

The ParkScore index uses advanced GIS (Geographic Information Systems) and spatial analysis to evaluate park accessibility. Instead of measuring distance to a local park, the rating system's GIS technology considers the location of park entrances and physical obstacles to access. For example, if residents are separated from a nearby park by a major highway, the ParkScore index does not count the park as accessible to those residents, unless there is a bridge, underpass, or easy access

point across the highway.

Municipal leaders use ParkScore information to guide park improvement efforts, studying park access on a block-by-block basis and pinpointing the areas where new parks are needed most. The ParkScore website, www.tpl.org/parkscore, is free and available to the public, empowering residents to hold their elected leaders accountable for achieving equitable access to quality parks for all.

Trust for Public Land (TPL) is a national nonprofit that works to connect everyone to the benefits and joys of the outdoors. As a leader in equitable access to the outdoors, TPL works with communities to create parks and protect public land where they are needed most. Since 1972, TPL has protected more than 4 million acres of public land, created more than 5,420 parks, trails, schoolyards, and iconic outdoor places, raised \$94 billion in public funding for parks and public lands, and connected nearly 9.7 million people to the outdoors. To learn more, visit tpl.org.

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BEACON HILL GARDEN CLUB – SEVENTH ANNUAL SPRING SOIRÉE

The Beacon Hill Garden Club, founded in 1928, held its Seventh Annual Spring Soirée on May 15 in the King’s Chapel Parish House

Garden. Guests enjoyed cocktails and a preview of the oases featured in the following day’s 95th Hidden Gardens of Beacon Hill Annual

Tour. Proceeds from the Soirée benefit educational programs, environmental conservation, and improvements to Beacon Hill’s

urban landscape.

“Every member of the Garden Club is thrilled that you are here to support us,” said outgoing pres-

ident, Katie Fagan, while thanking sponsors and volunteers. “This is a huge gathering and a beautiful night.”

PHOTOS BY MARIANNE SALZA



Lindy Roethlisberger and Tom Kershaw, owner of the Hampshire House.



Helen Glaenzer and Betsy Ridge.



Katie Fagan, President, Beacon Hill Garden Club, thanking supporters and volunteers.



Robert Stevenson and Georgina Winthrop.



Debra Flaherty, Anita Gajdeck, Mary Ann Foley, from Sara Campbell, and Barbara Wrenn.



John and Jeannie Blasberg.



Alexis Percival and Nicolette Schreier.



Beacon Hill Garden Club guests enjoying the Seventh Annual Spring Soirée on May 15 at the King’s Chapel Parish House Garden

BEACON HILL GARDEN CLUB – SEVENTH ANNUAL SPRING SOIRÉE



Mary Ann Foley, Councilor Sharon Durkan, Laura Cousineau, owner of Upstairs/Downstairs Home, Allison Ryder, and David Jones.



Tucker and Hale Smith, Miguel Rosales, and John Corey.



Janine Walsh and outgoing vice president/incoming president, Sandra Gilpatrick.



Wendy Oleksiak and Cheryl Lynch.



Friends, sponsors, and Beacon Hill Garden Club members gathering at the King's Chapel Parish House Garden on May 15 in celebration of the Seventh Annual Spring Soirée



Four Amor, from the New England Conservatory, performing classical music



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BHWF HOLDS ANNIVERSARY PARTY & CHARLES STREET FASHION BAZAAR

Photos & Story by Marianne Salza

Beacon Hill Women's Forum (BHWF) members raised a toast to a decade of friendship while exploring the most popular accessories and frocks for the summer during the May 14 Anniversary Party & Charles Street Fashion Bazaar at the Hampshire House.

"This organization has exceeded my expectations in many ways," said Lisa Macalaster, Founder/Co-President. "I never imaged we'd have such a diverse lineup of offerings that foster friendships. Over the years, the Connections events expanded beyond our initial offerings such as 'feast with friends,' 'backyard adventures,' and 'book group,' to include 'laughs and libations,' a cocktail hour gathering each month, and 'Sunday Funday,' a weekend brunch. It's a very social group. Never a dull moment."

The Beacon Hill Women's Forum recently changed the layout during forum cocktail hours from lecture seating to round tables that can accommodate eight friends; and Macalaster feels that the new arrangement encourages more intimate conversations.

"One of the key factors to achieving true happiness is having a sense of community; and that is exactly what the Beacon Hill Women's Forum provides," beamed Macalaster. "In addition to our monthly speaker series, we have book groups, dinner groups, holiday parties, fashion shows, and so much more. These activities foster friendships and a sense of being connected to the neighborhood. It feels good to belong."

Macalaster recognized Tom Kershaw, owner of the Hampshire House, for his generosity during BHWF monthly gatherings.

"I'm pleased to have had the Beacon Hill Women's Forum with us for the past 10, outstanding years," said Kershaw, who gifted Macalaster with a framed photo-

graphed of the two of them.

Macalaster presented white roses to the current, incoming, and past board of directors -- who she described as a "dynamic group of women" -- as well as the professional staff who have maintained and beautified the website with photographs and announcements.

"I think the commitment from board members over the years, and the continually inspiring speakers have contributed to the successful run of the Beacon Hill Women's Forum," said Tricia Stone, Co-President. "Beacon Hill is a vibrant community, and our members support this organization year after year."

Stone also expressed her appreciation for Macalaster and the incredible impact that she has made.

"Lisa's energy, true love of community, and her gift of connecting and bringing people together is unbelievable," exclaimed Stone, who is equally impressed by the engaging and fascinating BHWF members. "Women of all ages and backgrounds come together to connect, celebrate, and learn from women in the community. Everyone I've met is so interesting. All of this make me grateful to be a part of the Beacon Hill community."

Stone is delighted about the upcoming season, starting in September 2024. Guest speakers include a physician transforming healthcare, a New York Times best-selling author, and a dermatologist renowned for her involvement in the creation of laser treatments.

New members, like Grace Lee -- who was accompanied by two of her friends -- were eager to mingle at the Fashion Bazaar and introduce themselves to the community.

"I'm so grateful to have a local organization, like the Women's Forum, to gather together. I work from home, so this is a chance for me to go out and meet peo-

ple in the area," shared Lee, who enjoyed the colorful fabrics of the spring and summer seasons.

Following acknowledgements, ladies browsed the displays provided by local boutiques and jewelers: ArtelFacto Boston, J. McLaughlin, Phoebe Jon, Sara Campbell, and Soodee.

"Our accessories are our best sellers," revealed Lauren Reece, Sara Campbell. "Our big things for spring are lilac linens, and also patterns. We have a lot of florals."

Reece -- who is most excited about flowy, subtle, and fun dresses of the season -- arranged a table featuring Sara Campbell's popular handbags, jewelry, and ponchos.

Soodee stylist and sales associate, Angie "The Mermaid," described the boutique's styles that are inspired by luxurious designs -- but without the high-end prices. Large prints and patterns, such as flowers and butterflies, have been summer favorites amongst custom-

ers; and comfortable, high-quality, knit dresses are versatile for work, dinners, and weddings.

"Today we are showing some of our stunning and unique pieces. Soodee aims to bring a classic and feminine look to the girls of the city. It's an international vibe," said Angie. "The word for this summer is 'whimsical.' We're bringing fantasy and drama, like a more casual Met Gala."



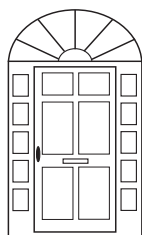
Beacon Hill Women's Forum members enjoying the Anniversary Party & Charles Street Fashion Bazaar on May 14 at the Hampshire House.



Hampshire House Owner Tom Kershaw presenting Lisa Macalaster, BHWF Founder/Co-President, with a framed photograph in honor of their friendship.

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BHWF HOLDS ANNIVERSARY PARTY & CHARLES STREET FASHION BAZAAR



New member, Grace Lee, with Ying Cao and Jennifer Gatchel.



Beacon Hill Women's Forum 2023-2024 board members: Lisa Macalaster, Co-President, Richelle Gewertz, Connections Co-Director; Tricia Stone, Co-President, Janine Jay, Finance Advisor; Christy Milner, Membership Director; Lorie Conway, Programs Co-Director; Perla Fernández Saint Amand, Secretary; and Marianne Salza, Beacon Hill Times Correspondent (photo by Susan R. Symonds for MainframePhotographics.com)



Laurie Graham and Diane Jensen



Karissa Korman and Benjamin Hawley, of Phoebe Jon.



Shay, Assistant Manager, J. McLaughlin, showing a Zani mini-cross-body bag



Tricia Stone and Lisa Macalaster, Co-Presidents.



Nancy Michaels, Shiela Neilson, Barbara Oroszko, Lynne Freedman, and Marybeth Bisson



Lauren Reece and Janie Chapin, of Sara Campbell, with past BHWF board member, Debbie Smith.



Former BHWF board members: Susan Korthals, Dr. Brittany Seymour, Debbie Smith, Jackie McBride, Sandra Gilpatrick, Alison Quartermain Gersten, and Patricia Tully.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Construction look-ahead for the North Washington Street Bridge through June 8 is as follows:

Scheduled Work

- South abutment concrete placements
- Drilled shaft installation
- Architectural trellis painting and lighting
- Steel touch-up painting
- Main bridge west sidewalk formwork and rebar installation
- Warehouse span barrier formwork and rebar installation
- Marine fender pile 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: June 2 at 8 p.m.
- OTHER EVENTS: June 7 at 7 p.m.

How can I find more information?

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

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

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

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

ParkARTS Summer Watercolor Painting Workshops return

Special to the Times

Budding artists ages nine and up are invited to join the Boston Parks and Recreation Department for its popular Summer series of ParkARTS Watercolor Painting Workshops during the month of June at six Boston locations. The series of free workshops is just one of the many offerings of the 2024 ParkARTS program. The Title Sponsor is Bank of America.

The workshops welcome artists of all skill levels to create their own water-inspired masterpieces. Materials and instruction by local artists are provided. This series is open to Boston residents. Registration is required. For more information, please visit boston.gov/watercolor-workshops.

Classes are held from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., weather permitting. Dates and locations for the workshops are as follows:

Saturday, June 1
LoPresti Park

33 Sumner Street, East Boston

Sunday, June 2
Christopher Columbus Park
110 Atlantic Avenue, North End
Saturday, June 8
Langone Park
529-543 Commercial Street, North End

Sunday, June 9
Boston Public Garden (Lagoon)
4 Charles Street, Downtown

Saturday, June 15
Chandler Pond
98 Lake Shore Road, Brighton

For general information, please visit [Boston.gov/parks](https://boston.gov/parks). Stay updated with news, events, and design and construction work in Boston parks by signing up for our email list at bit.ly/Get-Parks-Emails and following our social channels @bostonparksdept on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram.

BUSINESS OPERATIONS RESEARCH ANALYST

RxSense Holdings LLC seeks Business Operations Research Analyst.

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- 4) Retrieve & manipulate data, inc data wrangling/data curation/gap analysis/impact analysis using SQL & Python;
- 5) Build statistical algorithms & data models to ID & analyze complex data patterns/solve business questions/predict future trends;
- 6) Work w/ developm't team to design informative data visualizations;
- 7) Communicate data insights to business stakeholders to ID problems & advise in making informed business decisions;
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- 2) Descriptive statistical methods incl but not limited to measures of dispersion, measures of position & inferential statistical methods inc but not limited to predictive methods & hypothesis testing;
- 3) Creating & presenting data visualizations to show business performance indicators to evaluate opportunities & risks;
- 4) data retrieval & manipulation inc data profiling/data lineage/data assurance/data disposal/data imputation & gap analysis using SQL & Python. Send resumes to HR Manager Taneisha Hylton, thylton@rxsense.com.

BEACON HILL BEAT

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Larceny

Wednesday, May 22 – At approximately 3 p.m., police responded to a reported larceny at 138 Charles St.

The store manager informed officers that a woman with a very distinct Irish accent entered the store on May 21 and stole an expensive jacket and a dress. The store manager provided video surveillance to the officers. The store manager also provided the officers descriptions of the other two females who accompanied the suspect in the larceny. Area detectives were further investigating this matter.

Breaking and Entering

Saturday, May 25 – At around 10:30 p.m., police responded to Beacon Street for a reported breaking and entering.

Upon arrival, officers spoke with the victims, who stated they left their apartment for approximately 18 minutes to walk their dog, and when they returned, they could hear someone inside their residence. The victims stated that the suspect fled upon their arrival, and they observed a car speed off shortly afterwards. The entire apartment had been ransacked and multiple valuable items were stolen, the victims said. Area detectives were further investigating this matter.

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Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
BACK BAY			
Bridge, Matthew S	Keverian, Kristine A	281 Beacon St #11	\$1,300,000
Price, George D	Griswold, Paula R	329 Beacon St #1	\$780,000
Oconnor, Lawrence	Donegan, John H	50 Commonwealth Ave #603	\$1,055,000
BEACON HILL			
Kebir, Nadjim	Hu, Oiaomu	31 Irving St #1	\$360,000
Yao, Boman	Lawson, Janet	63 Mount Vernon St #4	\$3,800,000
RET Heidi D Mckeon	20 Myrtle Street Rt	20 Myrtle St	\$475,000
BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE			
Schmidt, Christine V	Dunn, Margaret	17 Cazenove St #204	\$657,000
Morrison, David F	Gannon, Jacqueline	96 Chandler St #3	\$1,800,000
Lho, Esther	Hawkes Ft	124 Chandler St #D	\$732,000
Cody, Matthew A	Odonnell, Leah K	53 Clarendon St #2	\$1,290,000
Tuncer, Izim	Fpg Lagrange Owner One L	55 Lagrange St #1007	\$880,000
Zhu, Andrew	Fpg Lagrange Owner One L	55 Lagrange St #1510	\$705,000
Satpute, Priyanka	Osullivan, David H	6 Yarmouth St #1	\$802,000
Scope Properties LLC	Harris, Katelyn	37 E Springfield St #1	\$775,000
Greene, Stephanie M	Gray, Michael	20 Gloucester St #1F	\$1,210,000
Mrazek, James C	Dougherty, James P	Greenwich Park #2	\$2,070,000
474 Mass Ave 2 LLC	Marcotte, Andrew	474 Massachusetts Ave #2	\$760,000
Kanaga, Wiliam	Succar, Tony	11 Saint George St #12C	\$365,709
Kanaga, William	Succar, Tony	11 Saint George St #12C	\$365,709
Swietlik, Albert	Erskine, Rachel	12 Stoneholm St #320	\$685,000
Dolce, Jeffrey	Herman, Nicholas	30 Union Park St #202	\$1,685,000
Loo, Linda	Rincon LLC	80 W Concord St #4	\$480,000
Pitluck, Lauren	Canant, Lindsay	17 Worcester St #1	\$840,000
WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN			
Bonadio, Karen	Tessicini, David	8 Battery St #14	\$595,000
Kemble Declaration Of T	Jmp 2016 T	300 Pier 4 Blvd #4H	\$3,100,000

Attention to Detail

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY PENNY CHERUBINO

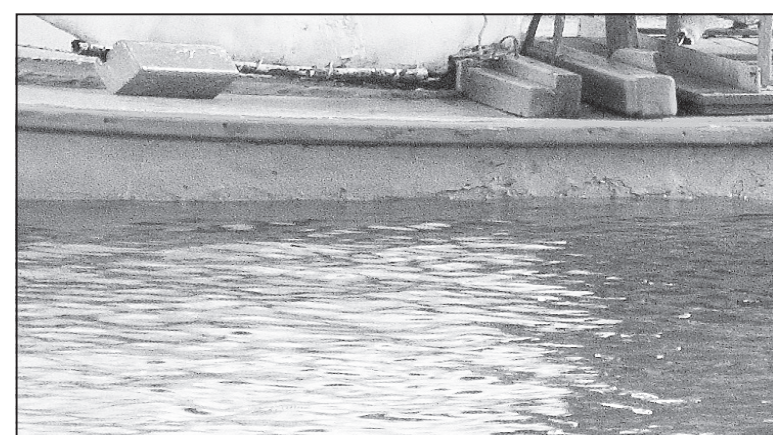
THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The dates in the last clue are on a plaque on the State House wall referring to John Hancock's Beacon Street home. Today's answer is a photo from circa 1860 of Hancock Manor. Built around 1730, it was inherited by John Hancock, the signer of the Declaration of Independence and later Governor of Massachusetts in the 1770s.

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

THIS WEEK'S CLUE



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MUSEUM (from pg. 1)

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).

But Belfanti added that he's proud to be involved with a museum that tells the story of not only the West End neighborhood but also of the city itself.

The newly designed space is laid out in a such way that makes it easy for visitors to move easily through the exhibits as they trace the evolution of the neighborhood.

On display now, Belfanti said are "little things" from the old neighborhood, including "very personal items," such as naturalization documents and archives from the West End House, along with arts and crafts that children made in school. "They show you what a neighborhood it was," he added.

The new exhibit was also designed specifically for the space of this museum space, said Belfanti, as opposed to old exhibit, which

was designed for a different space before moving to the West End Museum.

("The Last Tenement" exhibit was originally installed in 1992 at the Old State House by the Bostonian Society through a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. It was relocated to the West End Museum in 2006.)

The \$400,000 second phase of the museum's renovation 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 this second phase.

Asked about the reimagined museum welcoming the public back again after such a lengthy closure, Duane Lucia, a longtime West End Museum board member, quoted Bob Potenza the museum's full-time archivist, curator, and historian, who said, "It's been a long road."

Lucia has watched the museum evolve from he described as

originally not much more than a "collection of sandwich boards"; through to the reinstallation of the original 'Last Tenement' exhibit and the rotating exhibits, which he helped curate for about 11 years; through to today following its extensive renovation.

From the very beginning, though, Lucia said he expected the museum would grow into what it has become today. "I always knew that every time a new director came in, there was going to be a transformation," he added.

Lucia said the work that Belfanti and Potenza have done to reimagine the museum and tell the history of the neighborhood is "just another chapter in the West End saga."

In described the old West End, Lucia called it a "working-class community," where some residents strove to reach the middle class while others were just content to live in a neighborhood "where people got along and helped each other."

"Things weren't presented to them on a silver platter," he said. "They had to work for things."

Of the old West End, Lucia added: "It created a lot of great institutions like the West End House, the Elizabeth Peabody House, or some of the schools that were here, churches that were here, or the community group as well. It takes community to do that."

Lucia said he now wants to see the West End Museum become an institution that will still be around in another 100 years, like the West End House.

"This chapter still isn't done so we're working on strategic planning to make sure this particular location and what we're going to be doing here sustains itself into



Rep. Jay Livingstone and Joe McDonald, past president of the West End Museum board (2017-20).



Sebastian Belfanti, executive director of the West End Museum, is seen alongside a banner for Our Lady of Ostrabrama - the Polish Catholic Church on Chambers Street founded in 1920 and demolished in 1958 due to the Boston Redevelopment Authority's urban renewal plan.



D. MURPHY PHOTOS

A row of seats from the old Boston Garden, which opened in 1928 and closed in 1995.

the future and for future generations," said Lucia. "We want the story to perpetuate itself, and who knows - there's a story unfolding right now in the West End. There's a community that's developing. We're now going to have a community center location. We're now going to have a neighborhood center that has a permanent home for the West End Civic Association, so that's a big part of the story as well."

Lucia also acknowledges that he now has his eye set on the Last Tenement building at 42 Lomasney Way, located directly across from the museum, when it comes to expansion. He points to the success of the Tenement Museum in New York City, which could serve as a model for Boston's own tene-

ment museum.

"It would be an incredible acquisition," said Lucia.

While he believes further expansion of the museum is inevitable, Lucia cautions that it has to be done in a "fiscally responsible way."

"This chapter still isn't done so we're working on strategic planning to make sure this particular location and what we're going to be doing here sustains itself into the future and for future generations," he said.

The West End Museum is located at 150 Staniford St., Suite 7. For more information on the museum, and to contribute to its ongoing renovation costs, visit thewestendmuseum.org.

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