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THE BEACON HILL TIMES

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COURTESY OF THE VILNA SHUL

Renovations of The Vilna Shul patio get underway as the concrete surface is poured.

Vilna Shul patio plaza receives extensive makeover

By Dan Murphy

The Vilna Shul's patio plaza, along with its iron gates which date back to 1919, recently underwent an extensive, \$300,000 makeover. "The restoration of our patio plaza provides much-needed waterproofing to our patio floor, which serves the dual role as our

only outdoor space for public gathering and as the roof for the basement level of our historic building, said Dalit Ballen Horn, executive director of The Vilna Shul, Boston's Center for Jewish Culture, located at 18 Phillips St.

The Vilna Shul extends its gratitude to City of Boston Preserva-

tion Fund and the George B. Henderson Foundation for supporting the project.

"This project took a village," said Horn. "We are grateful to the City of Boston Community Preservation Act and the George B. Hen-

(MAKEOVER Pg. 8)

BEACON HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY CORNER

Mayor's Coffee Hour for Back Bay and Beacon Hill

Thanks to Mayor Michelle Wu for a successful coffee hour at the Commonwealth Avenue Mall on Tuesday morning. These annual coffee hours are a great way to see the people we rely on

in City Hall in person, to share concerns with them, and to learn more about various city departments. Thanks as well to Rep. Jay Livingstone and City Councilor Sharon Durkan for being there.

(BHCA Pg. 3)



MAYOR'S OFFICE PHOTO BY MIKE MEJIA
Mayor Michelle Wu chats with BHCA Executive Director, Patricia Tully

Savor's to close Charles Street store after Saturday, June 22

By Dan Murphy

After faithfully serving Beacon Hill for more than 30 years, Savor's Market will close its 160 Charles St. location following their last day in business this Saturday, June 22.

The Charles Street store opened to serve the business's faithful customers not long after a fire burnt down the original store on Kirkland Street in Cambridge in 1992, said Savor's spokesperson, Alisha Lumea, as it took several

(SAVENOR'S Pg. 3)



D. MURPHY PHOTOS

Savor's Market soon-to-be-shuttered location at 160 Charles St.

A sign in the store window announces the imminent closure of Savor's Market on Charles Street.



NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDUP

BEACON HILL NETWORKING GROUP'S SUMMER MIXER JUNE 26

The Beacon Hill Networking Group will hold its Summer Mixer on Wednesday, June 26, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Owl's Nest beer garden on the Charles River Esplanade (rain location: The Sevens Ale House at 77 Charles St.)

Meet group members at the event, and don't forget to bring your business card. All are welcome. For more information, visit beaconhillnetwork.org.

WALKING TOURS OF PUBLIC GARDEN RESUME

The Friends of the Public Garden is once again offering free walking tours of the Public Garden every Tuesday at 10 a.m. and Thursday at 4 p.m. Attendees should meet by the Make Way for Ducklings statue in the park.

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 WEST END MUSEUM EVENTS

The West End Museum, located at 150 Staniford Street Suite 7, presents 'Speakeasies, Bootleggers,

and Jazz: Prohibition and Boston's West End' on Sunday, June 23, from 4 to 6 p.m.

Experience the electrifying sounds and rebellious spirit of jazz that echoed through the underground clubs and speakeasies of Boston's West End during the 1920s and '30s, as cool cat jazz musicians Justin Ouellet (violin) and Justin Piper (guitar) take the stage. Boston Globe Reporter and author Emily Sweeney will be on hand to shed light on the rise of speakeasies, the influence of organized crime, and the societal impacts of Herbert Hoover's "noble experiment."

Your admission includes a "Bees Knees," one of the most popular cocktails of the era, courtesy The Tip Tap Room.

For more information and tickets, visit: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/speakeasies-bootleggers-and-jazz-prohibition-and-bostons-west-end-tickets>.

On Sunday, June 30, from 4 to 6 p.m., the museum presents an Author Talk with Adam Nimoy.

At this time, Adam Nimoy, on his new memoir, 'The Most Human: Reconciling with My Father, Leonard Nimoy,' which explores the complicated relationship Adam shared with his father, the legendary West End-raised Star Trek actor, and the lessons it taught him on fatherhood and recovery.

For more information and tickets, visit: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/author-talk-with-adam-nimoy-tickets-911017627247>.

JUNE AT THE VILNA

The Vilna Shul, located at 18 Phillips St., presents 'The Dybbuk,' performed by Arlekin Players Theater, through June 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 the June 16 matinee.

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.

(ROUNDUP Pg. 3)

Temporary changes coming in July to T's Red line

Special to Times

Temporary changes are coming next month to the MBTA's Red line service.

The outbound/northbound platform at Kendall/MIT station will be closed beginning at approximately 8:45 p.m. on Friday, July 5, and continuing all day and every day for the weekend of July 6-7.

Outbound/Northbound Red Line trains will bypass Kendall/MIT during this time.

For outbound/northbound riders disembarking at Kendall/MIT, riders should instead travel to Central station to board an inbound/southbound train back to Kendall/MIT. The fare gates will be open at Central inbound/southbound for a free transfer.

For outbound/northbound riders boarding at Kendall/MIT, riders should instead board an inbound/southbound train, disembark at Charles/MGH, and travel to the outbound/northbound platform for continued train service. Riders can move between the platforms for free at Charles/MGH without passing through fare gates.

This service change is in place to accommodate the adjacent

transit-oriented development project, which has partnered with the MBTA to rebuild and update the outbound/northbound Kendall/MIT station entrance.

As previously announced Red Line service will be suspended between Alewife and Kendall/MIT every day for 16 days from July 13-28. On weekends and on weekday evenings starting at approximately 8:30 p.m. through the end of service, the service suspension will be extended to Park Street (meaning Red Line service will be suspended between Alewife and Park Street).

Riders can find complete information at mbta.com/RedLine soon.

There will be three free and accessible shuttle bus options for Red Line riders during this time period: shuttle buses will make all stops to all stations.

Express shuttle buses will make stops between Alewife, Porter, and Kendall/MIT. A shuttle bus loop will operate from Harvard to Central to Kendall/MIT and back to Harvard.

Bus Route 77 will be fare-free within Cambridge.

Summer in the City series returns to Boston Harbor Hotel

Special to Times

The vibrant pulse of Boston's waterfront has made a return as the Boston Harbor Hotel kicks continues its 25th Annual Summer in the City series, through Aug. 29.

"We are absolutely delighted to bring back this cherished summer tradition. Each year, Summer in the City encapsulates the essence of New England's magical summer nights," Managing Director, Stephen Johnson said in a press release. "Our waterfront comes alive with music and laughter, cre-

ating an unparalleled experience for both locals and visitors."

Tuesday through Friday nights, the waterfront will be alive with music from live bands performing on a floating barge stage. The Summer in the City music lineup boasts an electric mix, featuring Blues, Soul, Country, Rat Pack, Pop, R&B, and more. The widely popular and lively karaoke nights are also making a return, providing an exciting opportunity for people to showcase their singing talents.

Boston Harbor Hotel extends a special thanks to this year's sponsors: Volvo, Saratoga Springs, MGS Group Real Estate, and Entertainment Specialists, and media partner, Boston Magazine.

Summer in the City runs through Aug. 29 on Tuesday to Friday nights, with bands performing nightly from 6 to 10 p.m. On Saturday, enjoy the harbor ambiance and drinks from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., sans live music. For more information visit <https://www.bostonharborhotel.com/culinary/summer-in-the-city>.

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2024 Boston Harborfest returns for its 42nd edition runs July 1-4

Special to the Times

The 2024 edition of Boston Harborfest – the country's largest and Boston's most expansive July Fourth celebration – runs July 1 through 4 with events stretching from Downtown Crossing to the North End and from the Boston Common to Boston Harbor. The Downtown Boston Business Improvement District (Downtown Boston BID) is a co-sponsor of Harborfest, with the City of Boston, Meet Boston and others listed here. A full press release is available here.

Harborfest kicks off in Downtown Crossing July 1 with a noon opening ceremony featuring local and international public officials, hospitality leaders and military representatives; Downtown Boston BID President Michael J. Nichols hosts.

"The rich history and culture of Boston comes alive for Harborfest," Nichols says. "Down-

town is the perfect backdrop for recalling the American Revolution, honoring our country's move to freedom, and celebrating the dynamic city and country that has emerged ever since. Residents and 4th of July visitors will love the events, the music, the art and the people-watching here and on the waterfront during Harborfest week."

This year, Harborfest deepens its ties to Boston's rich maritime history with a Navy Week collaboration including special events, demonstrations and performances. This year will mark the first Navy Week in Boston since 2012.

Harborfest coverage highlights in Downtown Crossing:

DAILY: Daily events July 1-4 comprise live entertainment from local performers and musicians from two stages in Downtown Crossing, as well as roaming musicians, historical re-enactors, and costumed characters. A beer garden pops up on the Summer Street

Plaza (Summer St. @ Washington St.) from July 1-3, 12 noon to 5 pm, in partnership with Democracy Brewing and Distraction Brewing.

JULY 1: 12 noon to 1 pm – Opening Ceremony. A ceremonial cake-cutting with public officials and other city leaders kicks off Boston Harborfest festivities. Roving re-enactors and staff from the USS Constitution engage with visitors, and the fife-and-drum group Liberty performs. Includes cutting and serving of the ceremonial cake. To honor Boston's Navy Week, the Navy Band performs prior to the ceremony. FREE. (Summer Street Plaza)

JULY 2: In addition to the evening's Boston Harborfest Fireworks, viewable at Long Wharf at 9:15 pm, and the Pre-Fireworks Concert at Christopher Columbus Park at 6 pm, today's Downtown Boston highlights include daylong free entertainment and:

2 to 4 pm – Chowderfest Chow-

der Tasting. Restaurants from around the Boston area offer up tasty samples of the celebrated New England summer staple for visitors to enjoy and pick their favorite. DJ Whysham spins tunes while visitors chow(der) down. FREE. (Washington Street at the Downtown Crossing Steps)

JULY 3: 2 to 3 pm – Macy's All American Fashion Show. Macy's Independence Day-themed fashion show highlights streetwear looks on citizen models from the neighborhood, including the best of new summer trends. FREE (Downtown Crossing Steps)

4 to 8 PM – Salute To Service Block Party. Boston Navy Week and Harborfest merge at this festive "shore leave" block party, taking over Summer Street with live musical entertainment, a DJ, and giveaways that honor sailors and the military community. FREE and open to 21+. (Summer Street Plaza)

JULY 4: City of Boston's 248th

Independence Day Celebration.

9 AM – A short parade steps off from City Hall Plaza and passes the Granary Burial Ground, where wreaths will be laid on the graves of patriots. FREE. Parade viewing all along the route.

10 AM – Parade continues to the Old State House where the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company continues its tradition of reading the Declaration of Independence from the State House balcony. FREE.

1:30 PM – "A Day of Unity: Reading Frederick Douglass." A community-led reading of Frederick Douglass's abolitionist speech, "What to the Slave Is the Fourth of July?" Embracing stirring historical and joyful contemporary elements, the event includes live music, gospel vocalists, a local DJ, and African dance performances. Event concludes with an ice cream social. FREE (Steps at Downtown Crossing)

SAVENOR'S (from pg. 1)

years to fully rehabilitate the Cambridge.

A third-generation family business, Savenor's got its start in 1939 as a small Cambridge grocery store before growing into a gourmet butcher and produce shop to meet the area's demands, with offerings including prime meats, imported patés, wild game, fresh seafood, and specialty foods. The original location was once frequented by the Rockefellers, Kennedys, and Schlesingers, as well as by the nation's first celebrity chef, Julia Child, a longtime customer who sourced all of the meats from the store for her popular 'French Chef' series throughout its 10-season run on PBS. Jack Savenor, the store's founder, even made several guest appearances on the series as Child's butcher and was frequently mentioned on air by Child.

The closure of the Charles Street store comes in response to a changing marketplace following the pandemic as more Savenor's customers became accustomed to shopping online.

"We're streamlining and focusing...in response to how people want to shop now," she said. "A lot of people only go to the store periodically to check out what's new and do their day-to-day shopping online."

Lumea added: "We'll still have the Cambridge store open, and we're working on creating a more robust online shopping experience to meet customers where they are."

The main footprint of the Cambridge store is about three times as large as the Charles Street store, added Lumea, and that doesn't include Cambridge's back-of-store operations, such as the cutting rooms, corporate offices, or the wholesale operation.

Meanwhile, Savenor's expresses its thanks to the Beacon Hill community for warmly welcoming them to the neighborhood and for continually and faithfully patronizing the business for more than 30 years, said Lumea. She added that Savenor's has greatly enjoyed operating on Beacon Hill, and the business hope that customers from the neighborhood will continue shopping with them online or at their Cambridge location.

In May, Savenor's was acquired by Wulf's Fish, a wholesale and online seafood company which got its start as a Brookline fish market that dates back to 1926, The Boston Globe reported.

Savenor's Market is located at 92 Kirkland St. in Cambridge, or visit them online at savenorsmarket.com.

BHCA (from pg. 1)

BHCA Committee Work 2023-2024

Joint Charles Street Committee
The Joint Charles Street Committee is a collaboration between the Beacon Hill Civic Association (BHCA) and the Beacon Hill Business Association (BHBA). The Committee works on all matters related to Charles Street including the streetscape, trash and recycling removal, zoning, safety, traffic in all forms, and parking. The Committee collaborates with other BHCA committees as well as the City and the Commonwealth. The Committee encourages active participation from residents and business owners.

ROUNDUP (from pg. 2)

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).

2023-2024 Achievements

1. Organized monthly volunteer-based cleanings of Charles Street
2. Continued to engage with stakeholders and the City to formulate concepts for multimodal improvements to Charles Street
3. Worked with local law enforcement to identify opportunities to improve public safety on Charles Street
4. Communicated with residents and business owners regarding all matters related to Charles Street

Diana Coldren (Resident, Charles River Square)

Ali Ringenburg (Owner, Sloane Merrill Gallery and BHCA Director)
Co-Chairs

BHCA Annual Appeal

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 donations to the Annual Appeal allow us to continue our efforts to preserve and enhance our historic neighborhood. Support our 2024 Annual Appeal with your donation today at bhcciv.org.

BEACON HILL BEAT

From Boston Police Area A-1

COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICE: 617-343-4627
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Larceny

06/05/24 – At around 8:45 p.m., a victim walked into Area A-1 headquarters to report that his bicycle had been stolen earlier that day from the corner of Myrtle and Revere streets. The victim stated the bike was locked, but the lock had been snapped off and left on the sidewalk. Area Detectives were scheduled to further investigate this matter.

PLEASE VISIT WWW.BEACONHILLTIMES.COM

EDITORIAL

IT'S HEATING UP

A heat wave officially comprises three straight days of 90+ temperatures and forecasters are telling us that we could have four 90+ days with little relief at night. Our readers may be surprised to learn that more than 1200 Americans die every year from extreme heat, making heat the deadliest kind of extreme weather. By contrast, flooding, though more sensational when viewed on our TV screens, kills fewer than 100 Americans each year. In addition, it is widely believed that those 1200 deaths are a significant undercount because persons with health issues who succumb to heat may not have been deemed to have died from heat.

Although senior citizens and those with underlying health conditions are the most susceptible to the dangers of excessive heat, even young and healthy individuals can succumb to heat stroke if they do not take it easy. With our region plunging from typically cool, spring weather right into the heat, those who work outside (or who work out on a daily basis) have not had time to adjust, both mentally and physically, to the onset of the extreme heat.

However, we are not the only ones facing extreme heat these days. Extreme heat is a world-wide phenomenon thanks to the effects of climate change. Heat records have been set in recent days across the globe, from Greece to India to the Philippines. Every month for the past 12 months has set a world record for that month (in other words, May was the hottest-ever May, April the hottest-ever April, etc.) and June is on track to make it 13 months in a row (which means that this June will break last June's record for the hottest-ever June).

The National Weather Service is providing a new way to gauge the risk from extreme heat. In collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, it has launched a tool called HeatRisk which allows users to search a map of the United States to figure out their level of threat, ranging between one (little to no risk) and four (extreme risk).

For those of us lucky enough to live near the coastline, a dip in the ocean will offer a respite from the heat wave. But those of us who have sampled the ocean in the past few weeks have noticed another ominous sign of climate change -- the water temperature already has been far above normal. Instead of the extremity-chilling temps that are typical for May and early June, the water temp at the beaches around Boston Harbor actually has been pleasant. So the good news is that it's been warm enough to go for a swim -- but the bad news is that the record high ocean temps are a threat to all marine life and a major contributor to rising sea levels.

Finally, the combination of the hot atmosphere and the hot ocean increases the chances of extreme weather events such as hurricanes and inundating rainfall, which is occurring in southern Florida right now.

We urge all of our readers not to underestimate the effects of extreme heat and to take it easy over the next few days.

BANNER NO. 18!

The Celtics' convincing victory in Game 5 on Monday that clinched the Celts' 18th NBA championship was great fun for fans old and young alike.

For those of us who cherish our "Havlicek Stole the Ball" album and who recall watching the Bill Russell-led Celts clinch their 1969 NBA title in Game 7 at Los Angeles in dramatic fashion (we had to stay up late on a school night because the game was played on the West Coast), the chance to surpass the hated-Lakers for the most NBA titles was one of the most-satisfying aspects of the 2024 title.

In addition, this edition of the Celtics laid to rest whether they had that special quality that separates champions from the rest of the pack. After the disappointment of being knocked out in the first round last year, and the collapse against Golden State in the finals two years ago, even the most-ardent Celtic fans had to wonder whether JT, JB, & Co. had what it takes to be the best -- and they answered that question in commanding fashion.

Still, when we consider that this was the Celtics' first title in 16 years and only the second in almost 40 years, it makes us realize how special these championship moments are in the world of sports today. By contrast, the Celtics won 16 NBA titles over a 30-year span from 1957 to 1986. That's more than half of the NBA crowns spanning two generations of Boston sports fans.

But those days when Bill, Dave, and Larry ruled the NBA are long gone. The NBA is big business now -- the extended playoffs literally are a second season -- and attracts the best players from all over the world. The post-game commentators noted that there are more excellent teams who will be shooting to knock off the Celtics than at any time in the history of the NBA. As good as this talented young group may be, we cannot expect that they can create the sort of dynasties that marked the Celtics' teams of the '50s, '60s, '70s, and '80s.

So let's savor the moment -- and get ready for a joyous victory parade!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FINALLY BEING HELD ACCOUNTABLE

To the editor,

Donald Trump was found guilty by a jury of everyday Americans on 34 felony counts. He is finally being held accountable for one of his many illegal schemes to gain and hold onto power. His conviction is a reminder that no one—including a former president—is above the law. And it's another reminder that Trump still poses a major threat to our democracy.

When he was President, Trump attacked our fundamental freedoms, from our freedom to vote in 2020 when he attempted to overturn the will of the people, to appointing three extreme Supreme Court justices

that overturned Roe v. Wade and abortion rights for millions of Americans.

The New York trial may be over, but Donald Trump still faces three additional indictments and 54 criminal charges for a litany of crimes, including federal charges for his efforts to incite violence and overturn the will of voters after he knew he'd lost the 2020 election. And on top of all that, he's STILL running for president.

Our fundamental freedoms are on the line. Don't let a convicted fraudster hold the highest office in our land. It's up to us to stand up and defeat Trump at the ballot box this November.

Sincerely,

Donna Sessions

BC High School holds commencement ceremony

Recently, Boston College High School welcomed 249 young men into its alumni network, including Lachlan Hartshorn of Beacon Hill, during the school's 160th commencement ceremony. The Class of 2024 included one student from Beacon

Hill, four students from Charlestown, four students from East Boston, four students from Everett, one student from Jamaica Plain, four students from Revere, and six students from Winthrop.

The Independent Newspaper Group reserves the right to edit letters for space and clarity. We regret that we cannot publish unsigned letters. Please include your street and telephone number with your submission. The Independent Newspaper Group publishes columns, viewpoints and letters to the editor as a forum for readers to express their opinions and to encourage debate. Please note that the opinions expressed are not necessarily those of The Independent Newspaper Group. Text or attachments emailed to editor@reverejournal.com are preferred.

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PRESIDENT/EDITOR: STEPHEN QUIGLEY

MARKETING DIRECTOR: DEBRA DIGREGORIO

(DEB@REVEREJOURNAL.COM)

ART DIRECTOR: SCOTT YATES

FOUNDING PUBLISHER: KAREN CORD TAYLOR

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PHONE: 617-523-9490 - FAX: 781-485-1403

EMAIL: EDITOR@BEACONHILLTIMES.COM

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MAYOR WU BRINGS NEIGHBORHOOD COFFEE HOUR TO COMM AVE MALL

Mayor Michelle Wu, in partnership with the Boston Parks and Recreation Department, brought her annual Neighborhood Coffee Hour Series on Tuesday, June 18, to the Commonwealth Avenue Mall, where she met with her constituents from Beacon Hill and the Back Bay.



MAYOR'S OFFICE PHOTO BY MIKE MEJIA

Liz Vizza, president of the Friends of the Public Garden; Leslie Singleton Adam, chair of the Friends of the Public Garden board; and Mayor Michelle Wu.



D. MURPHY PHOTO

Pictured, left to right, are City Councilor at-Large Henry Santana; Rep. Jay Livingstone; District 8 City Councilor Sharon Durkan; and Colin Zick, president of the Beacon Hill Civic Association board.



MAYOR'S OFFICE PHOTO BY MIKE MEJIA

Pictured, left to right, are Ryan Woods, commissioner of the Boston Parks and Recreation Department; Leslie Singleton Adam, chair of the Friends of the Public Garden board; Mayor Michelle Wu; and Liz Vizza, president of the Friends of the Public Garden.



MAYOR'S OFFICE PHOTO BY MIKE MEJIA

Mayor Michelle Wu addresses the crowd.



MAYOR'S OFFICE PHOTO BY MIKE MEJIA

Maccon Bonner, the city's liaison to Beacon Hill and the Back Bay, as well as Fenway-Kenmore and Mission Hill.

THE ADVENT SCHOOL HOLDS CLASS OF 2024 GRADUATION

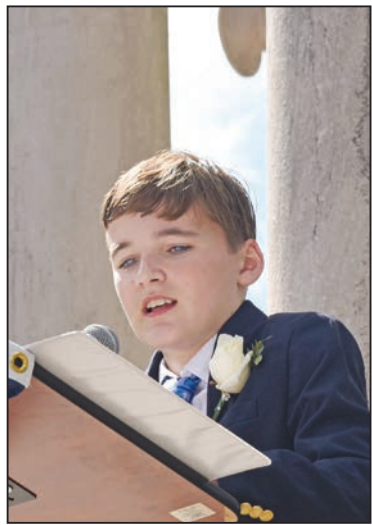
By Marianne Salza

The Advent School held its commencement exercises in the Boston Common for the first time during the Class of 2024's graduation on June 12, at the Parkman Bandstand. Head of School Nicole A. DuFauchard felt that it was an especially fitting location because it is where The Advent friends play, learn, meditate, and free butterflies.

"The Advent is rooted in the city, in the center of Boston, imbedded into the fabric of history. Advent was founded to be an example of what is possible," said DuFauchard, Goldstein Family Chair. "We are one community valuing individuals representing 40 neighborhoods. Together, we've embodied our motto: learn with passion, act with courage, change the world. Each of us contributed our unique talents and perspectives to create a vibrant community."

DuFauchard recognized the graduates for exemplifying resilience, spreading kindness, and being compassionate champions of social justice.

The ceremony included a parade through the park, remarks by sixth graders, and musical performances by lower elementary classes. An award was also presented to Mary Beth Woods, who has served as a crossing guard at the corner of Mount Vernon and Brimmer Streets for nearly 20 years.



Sixth grader, Hunter Holland, remarking that Advent taught him that anything is possible if you believe in yourself.



Sixth grader, Jemin Seo, commenting on the importance of accepting and embracing change.



First graders singing, "I'm Sorry," by Susan Salidor.



Hunter, Jemin, Daria, and Alex carrying The Advent School banner as they parade through Boston Common, along Beacon Street, to their commencement exercises.

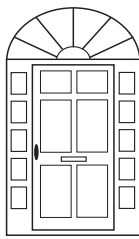


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Nicole A. DuFauchard, Head of School, welcoming family, friends, and alumni.

THE ADVENT SCHOOL HOLDS CLASS OF 2024 GRADUATION

PHOTOS BY MARIANNE SALZA



Eleanor, Yvonne, and Alexandra.



Vivienne and Emma.



Kiri and Alex.



The Advent School celebrating the Class of 2024's commencement at the Parkman Bandstand in Boston Common on June 12.

Summer Celebration
ON BREWER PLAZA

RING IN THE FRIENDS' 12TH SEASON OF PROGRAMMING AT BREWER FOUNTAIN PLAZA WITH FREE FOOD, LIVE MUSIC, AND LOTS OF FUN!

TUESDAY, JUNE 25
12:00 - 2:00 P.M.
BREWER FOUNTAIN PLAZA
BOSTON COMMON

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BON ME

SUMMER IN YOUR PARKS

For a full schedule of performances and more ways you can enjoy Summer In Your Parks, visit our website at friendsofthepublicgarden.org/summer

FRIENDS OF THE PUBLIC GARDEN

City of Boston Parks and Recreation

JUNETEENTH TRASH & RECYCLING COLLECTION SCHEDULE

Delayed pick-up service begins on Wednesday 6/19.

Neighborhoods on a Regular Pick-Up Schedule:

- Back Bay
- Bay Village
- Beacon Hill
- Charlestown
- Chinatown
- Downtown Boston
- Fenway-Kenmore
- Mission Hill
- Wharf District
- North End
- Roxbury
- South End
- West End

Neighborhoods on a Delayed Pick-Up Schedule:

- Allston
- Brighton
- Dorchester
- East Boston
- Hyde Park
- Jamaica Plain
- Mattapan
- Roslindale
- South Boston
- West Roxbury

Please note that all neighborhoods will run on a regular collection schedule on Monday & Tuesday.

MAKEOVER (from pg. 1)

person Foundation for their generous support and collaboration.”

Meanwhile, The Vilna Shul welcomes the public to come enjoy the newly renovated patio space.

“We cannot wait to once again welcome people to our patio

plaza,” said Horn.

The Vilna Shul is a cultural center located in a historic synagogue building in Downtown Boston. Its “mission is to spark excitement and curiosity about Jewish culture and [the] American immigrant

story through vibrant and meaningful experiences,” according to the organization.

Register online for The Vilna’s upcoming programming at <https://vlnashul.org/events/upcoming>.

House passes bill to prevent opioid-related overdose deaths

Special to the Times

The Massachusetts House of Representatives passed a wide-ranging opioid bill which covers the licensure of recovery coaches, makes opioid overdose reversal drugs more accessible, protects harm reduction providers, and removes barriers that new mothers in recovery face at the time they give birth.

“As families across Massachusetts know all too well, the impact of opioid addiction can be utterly devastating for the individual and for their loved ones, which is why a continued focus on combating substance use is a critical responsibility that we have as elected officials,” said House Speaker Ronald J. Mariano (D-Quincy). “I want to thank Chairman Michlewitz and Chairman Madaro for their tireless work on this legislation, as well as all my colleagues in the House for recognizing the need for reforms that will help those dealing with addiction on their journey to recovery.”

“This legislation will help the Commonwealth to address the opioid epidemic by expanding treatment options and by making it easier for those in need to seek assistance,” said Representative Aaron Michlewitz (D-Boston), Chair of the House Committee on Ways & Means. “By making treatment options more accessible and by removing barriers for thousands of people seeking help, we can help people rebuild their lives and stay on the road to recovery. I want to thank Speaker Mariano for his commitment and dedication to this issue, as well as Chairman Madaro, and all my House colleagues for their work and dedication to addressing substance use disorder.”

“The bill passed today builds on the commitment of the House to support individuals and communities across the Commonwealth who are dealing with the effects of the opioid crisis,” said Representative Adrian C. Madaro (D-East Boston), House Chair of the Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery. “By ensuring greater access to overdose reversal drugs, protecting harm reduction workers, removing barriers to mothers in recovery, and licensing recovery coaches, we are empowering health care providers, community members, and individuals to save lives. Thank you to Speaker Mariano for your lead-

ership and guidance on this issue, and to Chair Michlewitz for your partnership in passing this critical legislation.”

In 2023, there were 2,125 confirmed and estimated opioid-related overdose deaths, according to the latest data published by the Department of Public Health (DPH). In 2023, there were 232 fewer confirmed and estimated deaths than 2022.

Recovery coaches

Recovery coaches help people with substance use needs become and stay engaged in their recovery process. The bill passed today establishes recovery coach licensure and oversight within DPH, and mandates that all health plans cover recovery coach services without cost-sharing or prior authorization. The bill also directs the Bureau of Substance Addiction Services (BSAS) to study and report on barriers to certification, credentialing, and other employment and practice requirements for recovery coaches, and requires them to create a peer support program for recovery coaches consisting of mentorship, technical assistance on billing and employment practices, and resources.

“This marks a pivotal moment for our community and for those battling substance use disorders,” said Representative Jim O’Day (D-West Boylston), Fourth Division Chair and lead sponsor of the bill. “With the passage of H. 4743, we are taking significant steps to enhance treatment options, expand coverage, and, crucially, to recognize the indispensable role of recovery coaches. This legislation builds on our historical commitment to reducing stigma and providing comprehensive support for individuals in recovery. By embracing harm reduction strategies, patient education, and compassionate care, we are advancing public health and offering renewed hope to those affected by substance use disorders. Together, we are forging a path towards a healthier, more supportive future for all. Let us stand proud of this achievement and continue to champion the cause of recovery.”

Opioid overdose reversal drugs

The bill passed today mandates that all health plans cover opioid overdose reversal drugs, such as naloxone, without cost-sharing or prior authorization. It also

(BILL Pg. 10)



Members of The Vilna Shul’s board of directors and staff gather for a celebratory photo at the organization’s quarterly board meeting in early June.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE VILNA SHUL

The Vilna Shul patio is seen before the renovation job, with its surface deteriorated and iron gates in need of repair.

The Vilna Shul, Boston's Center for Jewish Culture presents 'The Dybbuk'

PHOTOS BY IRINA DANILOVA AND SARA STACKHOUSE

By Marianne Salza

Ancient Yiddish folktale, "The Dybbuk," a mystical story about tragic love, is premiering in the United States and performed in English for the first time at The Vilna Shul, Boston's Center for Jewish Culture, located at 18 Phillips Street, Beacon Hill.

"This is an old, Polish play, written by a Ukrainian playwright in Russian. It toured all over Europe," said Sara Stackhouse, producer. "It's a folktale about two lovers not allowed to marry. He dies; but they stay in a relationship. She can hear him. Her family is trying to get her to marry in real life. The two of them are trapped, hanging between two worlds. Our feeling is that a lot of immigrants are living between two worlds. We are in a time of war and displacement."

Stackhouse hopes that "The Dybbuk" will bring people together and develop a better understanding of Jewish culture. She believes that the story of young lovers not at peace, and feelings of restlessness are prevalent today; especially following the October 7th Hamas attacks on Israel.

"This is a story of love; so it's timeless. It's also a story of the Jewish culture, which lives on generation after generation in different forms," descried Stackhouse. "It's also about restless souls; and I think there is a lot of thinking by immigrants – and Jews everywhere

– 'Where do we go next? Where is our home?'"

"The Dybbuk" features the Arlekin Players Theatre, an internationally-touring company of immigrant actors from the former Soviet Union, with guest, Boston artists Deb Martin, as Frade, and Robert Walsh, as Sender. The production stars Andrey Burkovskiy, as Khonen, and Yana Gladkikh, as Leah. The famed Russian actors are refugees who fled to the United States during the wake of the war in Gaza and Ukraine.

"They're both astonishing," expressed Stackhouse.

"The Dybbuk" is an adaptation written by Roy Chen, and based on the original play by S. Ansky. It has been reimaged further by Ukrainian-born director, Igor Golyak, and dramaturge, Doctor Rachel Merrill Moss, who contemporized "The Dybbuk" to create a unique version specifically for Arlekin Players Theatre to perform at The Vilna Shul, one of the oldest, Jewish temples in the country.

"I think the walls will contribute to the history of the characters and the story. I think the most important thing about any play is being authentic; and being in the oldest synagogues in Boston will help. You will see rituals and why this sacred place was important for Jews," said Arlekin board chair, Rimma Gluzman, who portrays a dead soul. "I think it's a beautiful love story. Even though it's a



Yana Gladkikh, as Leah.

Jewish 'Romeo and Juliet,' there is hope. I think it's as important today as it was 100 years ago. Our voices matter. Theatre is where people come together and heal."

Born and raised in Vilnius, it is particularly special for Gluzman – now a Boston resident -- to be a cast member in this production of "The Dybbuk." She hopes that spending time in the temple will help audiences connect with the Jewish people.

"A lot of the Beacon Hill area was Jewish. The culture shaped this whole slope. Vilna Shul, founded in 1919, was a practicing synagogue for Jewish immigrants

for a long time," noted Stackhouse. "Now a group has come to renovate it and it's Boston's Center for Jewish Culture. They do high holidays here and special events. This building is still living here; and the story of all the ancient souls coming together in contemporary times, making it visible, is incredible."

This is the first time that a full theatrical production will be performed in the sanctuary of The Vilna Shul, a building registered through the Council of American Jewish Museums. "The Dybbuk" is set in a synagogue, a home, and the mikveh ritual bath during the

1920s.

"I think Golyak and his company have spent a lot of artistic time exploring and excavating the question of what it means to be a Jewish immigrant. There is a lot that's beautiful in it," shared Stackhouse, who hopes that viewers will deepen their empathy for immigrants now living in Boston. "We want people to have a shared experience where they're moved by something, understand something, and see something differently."

Visit www.ArlekinPlayers.com to purchase tickets for "The Dybbuk," now playing through June 23.



Andrey Burkovskiy, as 'The Dybbuk,' and Yana Gladkikh, as Leah.



Arlekin company members as dead souls.

OBITUARIES

Mark E. Alexander

Owner of Alexander Management serving
Beacon Hill for 25 Years

Mark E. Alexander of Milton, 70, died peacefully, Monday, June 10, 2024 in the comfort of his home, surrounded by his loving family.

Mark was born in Staten Island, N.Y., to the late Alvin B. and Adeline S. (Webster) Alexander. Raised and educated in New Jersey, he was a graduate of Somerville High School, Class of 1971. He also graduated from Boston University where he received a Bachelor's degree in Philosophy and Psychology. He lived in Milton for twenty-five years, previously living in Cambridge and Boston.

He was the owner of Alexander Management, which was a property management company serving the Beacon Hill section of Boston, for twenty-five years.

He was an avid gardener. Mark belonged to the Milton Community Garden at Cunningham Park for many years and grew the world's best tomatoes. He was also an avid fan of the Boston Celtics and a Civil War history buff.

The beloved husband for thirty-six years of Melinda A. (Shrum) Alexander, he was the devoted father of Emma Mai and her husband, Trung of Milton and Charlotte White and her husband, Mitchell of Quincy; loving grandfather of his three kings - Fred-



erick, George, and Henry; dear brother of Margaret Alexander and her husband, Matt Redmond of Pennsylvania, Alvin Alexander, Jr., and the late Fred Alexander and dear brother-in-law of Candace S. Cullum and her husband, Stephen of Peekskill, N.Y. Mark is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

At the request of the family, memorial services will be celebrated at a later date.

For those who wish, donations in Mark's memory may be made to the Southwest Community Food Center, 18 Copeland Street, Quincy, MA 02169.

Arrangements were under the direction of the Sweeney Brothers Home for Funerals, 1 Independence Avenue, Quincy. You are invited to visit www.thesweeneybrothers.com or call 617-472-6344.

Boston Public Health Commission promotes LGBTQ+ health and wellness during pride month

June is Pride Month, and the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) launched a new campaign to reduce the impact of HIV and other sexually transmitted infections, particularly within the LGBTQ+ community. The campaign, led by BPHC's Infectious Disease Bureau and in partnership with Boston Pride for the People, can be found in MBTA stations, buses, and various digital platforms, including social media and dating apps. The campaign's website, safeissexyboston.com, also has information on medical providers and additional resources. The goal of the campaign is to normalize conversations about sexually transmitted infections (STIs), encourage people to get tested and treated, and reduce STIs in Boston.

"It is important to have these conversations and to stay educated in order to ensure the safety of ourselves and our loved ones," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "Our goal as a City is to provide equitable access to educational resources and healthcare services to all residents."

"The rates of sexually transmitted infections, including gon-

orrhoea, Chlamydia, syphilis, and HIV in Boston are among the highest in the state," said Dr. Bisola Ojikutu, the Commissioner of Public Health and Executive Director of the Boston Public Health Commission. "This campaign is designed to decrease stigma and increase testing for everyone who is sexually active, including some members of the LGBTQ+ community who are disproportionately impacted."

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that everyone between the ages of 13 and 64 get tested for HIV at least once in their lifetime. People with certain risk factors should get tested at least once a year. Those who have multiple or anonymous partners should be tested more frequently. Testing-specific questions, such as how to get tested, who should get tested, and symptoms, should be discussed in detail with a medical provider. Find one near you at safeissexyboston.com.

"While HIV and STIs are not exclusive to the LGBTQ+ community, members of this community are disproportionately impacted because of heightened stigma and significantly less societal sup-

ports," said Tegan Evans, Interim Bureau Director of the Infectious Disease Bureau of the Boston Public Health Commission. "We are proud to partner with Boston Pride for the People on this campaign so that one day groups such as the LGBTQ+ community will no longer be marginalized or impacted."

According to State data, the number of persons living with HIV infection in Massachusetts increased by 13% between 2012 to 2021. Compared to neighboring cities, Boston had the highest number of new HIV infection diagnosis from 2019-2021. Fewer than half of respondents said they received education on how to prevent HIV transmission and were taught how to talk to partners about using condoms.

In addition to this campaign, BPHC will be participating in the Pride Parade on June 8 and giving out free sexual health education materials. BPHC is also encouraging people to participate in national HIV testing day on June 27 by scheduling an appointment with a trusted provider. Find more Pride events at boston.gov/pride.

BILL (from pg. 8)

requires substance use disorder treatment facilities to educate on and dispense at least two doses of opioid overdose reversal drugs to an individual upon discharge, as well as requires hospitals to educate on and prescribe or dispense at least two doses of opioid overdose reversal drugs to an individual with a history of opioid use or opioid use disorder upon discharge.

It also requires pharmacies in areas with high incidence of overdose to maintain a continuous supply of opioid overdose reversal drugs and to report to DPH if they are unable to maintain compliance with this provision due to insufficient stock or supply.

Patient education

In an effort to prevent opioid misuse, the bill requires prescribers to be educated on pain treatment, including appropriate non-opioid alternatives to pain treatment. It also requires pharmacists to provide printed educational materials issued by DPH on non-opioid alternatives for the treatment of pain to patients prior to dispensing an opioid.

Harm reduction

The bill protects public health

and their agents who provide drug-checking services, such as needle exchange programs, to reduce the risk of accidental overdose from civil liability or professional disciplinary action from a board of registration, as well as from being criminally charged or prosecuted for possession of drug paraphernalia, unlawful possession of controlled substances, and conspiracy to violate the Controlled Substances Act (the CSA).

It also protects individuals who seek drug-checking services on substances intended only for personal use from being criminally charged or prosecuted for possession of drug paraphernalia, unlawful possession of controlled substances, and conspiracy to violate the CSA while on the premises of a public health or harm reduction organization providing said services.

Ensuring

non-discriminatory treatment

The bill clarifies DPH's authority to enforce anti-discrimination protections for people with substance use disorder who are on public health insurance. It also prohibits life insurance companies from limiting or refusing coverage

to individuals solely because they obtained an opioid overdose reversal drug for themselves or others. It also prohibits discrimination on the basis of lawful possession and use of a medication for the treatment of an opioid-related substance use disorder, such as methadone or buprenorphine.

Pregnant people on medications for addiction treatment

The bill passed today removes "physical dependence upon an addictive drug at birth" from the conditions necessitating a child abuse and neglect report, thereby exempting pregnant people taking medications prescribed by their doctor from automatic investigation by the Department of Children and Families (DCF). It requires DCF, in consultation with DPH, the Office of the Child Advocate (OCA), and stakeholders, to promulgate regulations on the care, treatment, and reporting of substance-exposed newborns (SENs).

Having passed the House of Representatives 153-0, the bill now goes to the Senate for its consideration.

OBITUARIES

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

Includes photo.No word Limit.

Please send to

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or call 781-485-0588

FRESH AND LOCAL

Budget balancers

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

As with so many things that impact our physical health and mental well-being, feeding yourself and your household is a question of balance. The chief cook and supply sergeant has to fit shopping and preparing meals into their daily schedule.

A healthy approach to this work is to consider all the budgets impacted by the tasks and decide which is most important to balance on a given day. Yes, this balance is more than dollars and cents. We also have time budgets, energy budgets, and even what we call a happiness budget.

There are days when our energy levels are low, and cooking seems daunting. In such instances, ordering take-out can be a flexible solution that fits our overall budget balancing. Dining out might not align with our time or spending budget, but it can be a valid option to consider, adding to our happiness budget.

On the other hand, Penny finds

cooking meditative and relaxing. She enjoys the creativity of adapting recipes, practicing her knife skills, and presenting a nice meal. It is a happy choice if she has the time to enjoy making food.

Tips for Time Balance

You may already have some tricks for achieving the right amount of time for food preparation on a busy week. For example, you may have a weekend tradition of cooking a larger meal to have leftovers for the week ahead. You can also do extra food prep on days off and fill your freezer with items like stocks, sauces, or meal starters to give you a head start on busy days.

A quick stop to shop on the way home to switch your dinner plans could save time if you grab just what you need to make a meal. In addition, you can stock your freezer and pantry with healthy, minimally processed meals you can microwave when everything is running late.

Tips for Energy Balance

Flexibility is the key to balancing your energy budget. Yes, there may be days when you know that your physical activity or stress levels will drain your energy bank. Then, you can pick up a favorite takeout that will boost your happiness while saving time and energy.

However, you may often feel exhausted because you didn't get enough sleep, or unexpected stress and anxiety have taken their toll, so you must be kind to yourself and change your meal plan.

Happiness Counts, too!

We love dining out and try to schedule at least one meal a week at a favorite restaurant.

With our food writing experience, we can splurge on this treat by making budget-friendly meals at home. We love soups, curries, stir-fries, and salads, which are inexpensive and often make great leftovers.

Balancing your various budgets is very much a matter of trade-offs; you are the only one who can decide what is worth it and what isn't. You may wish you could dine out every night. Doing that can cause stress over money worries or health issues since we all know that too much restaurant food can harm our health.

Try to use the old 80/20 rule as you make these budget decisions. Most of the time, you should do what is best for each of these budgets 80% of the time and give yourself a break 20% of the time. It is all a matter of balancing good sense with the moment's most essential needs.

Do you have a question or topic for Fresh & Local? Email Penny@BostonZest.com with your suggestion.

Attention to Detail

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY PENNY CHERUBINO

THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The ornamental plaque in the last clue is on the façade of the Empire Garden restaurant at 690 Washington Street. Architect Arthur H. Vinal designed this building. It was constructed in 1903 as the third version of the Globe Theater. Today's answer is a photo of the property from 1904.

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

THIS WEEK'S CLUE



Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1 SELLER 1 ADDRESS PRICE

No Real Estate Transfers Available This Week

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This quick and healthy pantry meal used frozen brown rice and peas, a pouch of coconut chickpea curry, and sous-vided chicken thighs from Trader Joe's.



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OUR MEMBERS, YOUR NEIGHBORS, THEIR EXPERIENCES ...

Moving one's family from the suburbs into the city there are certain conveniences you do consider. I was grateful that parking for my family and guests was not one of them. I have been using Acorn for over a year and I can honestly say the efficiency and professionalism of the staff is what makes this service reliable and valuable as a homeowner. My car arrives heated, and I love the tracking system, so I know when my car is close to arriving. The most I ever waited was 15 minutes but that is because I arrived without giving them prior notice. Usually, you give them your ETA or what time you want to leave, and they are at your door spot on. Holidays were a breeze and allowed family and guests to be excited about coming into the city without any stress of parking. My husband was parking himself in the garage nearby but made the switch to Acorn because of their efficiency and value.

Chris & Tony S.

Back Bay

"Have enjoyed the service to date and recommend to anybody thinking about it. Prompt service, very personable and trustworthy group not to mention accommodating when in a pickle."

Stuart C.

Beacon Hill

Acorn has made living in the city with 2 dogs much easier than I expected. Without a deeded parking spot, I worried about having to get our belongings to and from the apartment while holding dog leashes. Now, the car comes to me. Communication is very easy via text. The valets are incredibly pleasant and keep me informed about when to expect them. Acorn removes the stress of having a car in the city.

Tracey W.
Beacon Hill

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

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

Libby M.,
Back Bay

www.theacornclub.com

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