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SEPTEMBER 19, 2024

# THE BEACON HILL TIMES

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## BHCA HOSTS DINNER UNDER THE STARS EVENT



Shown above, neighbors seat themselves at the table laid out on Mt. Vernon Street. See Pages 5-7 for more photos.

The Beacon Hill Civic Association (BHCA) held its Dinner Under The Stars on Mt. Vernon Street in a unique environment that took advantage of the ambiance of Beacon Hill.



DEREK KOUYOUJIAN PHOTOS

Ramsay and Elisabeth Fretz.



Massachusetts State Rep. Jay Livingstone with his wife Julie.

## Gardening enthusiasts at Primus take a top prize in Mayor's Garden Contest

By Dan Murphy

A returning award winner, Gardening Enthusiasts at Primus again took home the top prize in the Storefront, Organization, or Main Street District category in this year's 28th annual Mayor's Garden Contest.

"The gardeners at Primus Avenue love to be outdoors creating and caring for our beautiful garden for all the residents to enjoy," according to a statement from the Gardening Enthusiasts at Primus "Receiving the Mayor's Garden Contest's first-place award in our category two years in a row is like icing on the cake! The Mayor's Contest fosters a friendly competition among like-minded people and promotes beautification of the green spaces we have in the city. The Primus gardeners would like to dedicate this year's award to

Brian Sullivan who passed away suddenly at the beginning of July. Brian had played a huge role in the gardening efforts at Primus. He was a kind and generous friend, and we miss him dearly."

Besides Gardening Enthusiasts at Primus, which also placed first in the Storefront, Organization, or Main Street District category in last year's contest, William White of Beacon Hill earned second place in the Porch Balcony or Container Garden category in this year's contest while Sally Reyerer, also from the neighborhood, took third place in the Shade Garden category.

Reyerer had previously received the first-place prize in the Shade Garden category in the 25th annual Mayor's Garden Contest in 2021, as well as second place in

(GARDENS Pg. 12)



COURTESY OF THE CITY OF BOSTON

Gardening Enthusiasts at Primus' first-prize winning garden in the Storefront, Organization, or Main Street District category in the 28th annual Mayor's Garden Contest.

## BEACON HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY CORNER

### Thank you!

Thank you to our sponsors - Archer Roose, Charles Street Supply, Common Canine, DeLuca's Market, Harpoon, JP Licks, Paws on Charles - for make this past weekend an extraordinary community celebration. Thank also to

Hill House and the City of Boston for their collaboration, and East Meets West for an incredible dinner. And a huge shout out to all our tireless volunteers who stayed with us until the last chair was put away.

### Upcoming Meetings:

Events Committee - Tuesday, September 24th, 6pm, 74 Joy Street

### Upcoming Events:

Young Friends Social - Wednesday  
 (BHCA Pg. 3)

# EDITORIAL

## TOO MANY GUNS = TOO MANY SHOOTINGS

The spectre of yet another lone-wolf gunman attempting another assassination of Donald Trump is shocking, but not surprising.

Up until the past 50 years, assassinations of public figures in America were carried out by individuals with a political agenda -- Abraham Lincoln (John Wilkes Booth), William McKinley (by an avowed political anarchist), Huey Long (by the relative of a political rival), John F. Kennedy (by Lee Harvey Oswald, although his exact motive has never been fully figured out), Robert F. Kennedy (Sirhan Sirhan), and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. (James Earl Ray).

The exception was President James Garfield's assassin, who was suffering from mental health issues. However, the profiles of would-be assassins of public figures has changed since the 1960s. In 1972, the would-be assassin of former Alabama Governor George Wallace when he was running for president was Arthur Bremer, an individual with a long history of mental illness.

Since then, almost all of the assassins of famous figures -- Pres. Gerald's Ford would-be assassin (Lynette "Squeaky" Fromm), John Lennon's assassin (Mark David Chapman), Pres. Reagan's would-be assassin (John Hinckley Jr.), and Gabby Giffords's would-be assassin (Jared Lee Loughner) -- shared one thing in common: They were disturbed individuals with a history of mental illness.

Our federal intelligence agencies have become pretty good at detecting organized threats from those who would do harm to our nation's leaders since the assassinations of the Kennedy brothers in the 1960s.

But as both of the assassination attempts on Donald Trump have shown, the ability of law enforcement agencies to detect and prevent lone-wolf individuals, who have no motive other than to gain infamy (similar to those who commit school and other mass shootings), is not so great.

In addition, most of these shooters, though suffering from mental health issues, are not far enough along on the spectrum so as to trigger the so-called red flag laws that would prevent them from either purchasing a gun or having their guns taken away.

The sole goal of these individuals is to achieve the prediction that Andy Warhol popularized in 1968: "In the future, everyone will be world-famous for 15 minutes."

Thus, we have in our country a volatile mix of angry and disturbed individuals who have all-too-easy access to high-powered firearms, a situation that is unique among the industrial nations of the world. And as long as we have that mix of individuals with mental health issues and the availability of military-grade weapons, incidents from political assassinations to mass shootings will continue in our country's never-ending death spiral with no end in sight.

## HOW CAN A STATE POLICE TRAINEE DIE IN A BOXING RING

The death last week of 25 year-old Mass. State Police (MSP) Trainee Enrique Delgado-Garcia in a boxing ring during a "training exercise" is, in a word, unfathomable.

Mr. Delgado-Garcia was less than one month away from graduating and achieving his dream of serving as a Mass. State Trooper.

But Mr. Delgado-Garcia's life was brutally cut short when he literally was beaten to death while training at the State Police Academy. MSP officials, as usual, are remaining tight-lipped about exactly what happened -- which in itself speaks volumes about the culpability of whoever was in charge of this "training" exercise.

We hope that a complete and thorough investigation will be conducted that not only will hold those responsible fully accountable, but that also will ensure that this sort of brutal and senseless sort of "training" never will be used in the future at our State Police Academy.

## NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDUP

### CITY TO SPONSOR SEPT. 26 OUTREACH EVENT FOR THOSE IMPACTED BY EXPANSION OF BEACON HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT

The city's Office of Historic Preservation is sponsoring a public outreach event to help inform those impacted by the recent expansion of the Beacon Hill Historic District on Thursday, Sept. 26, 6 to 7:30 p.m. at City Hall, Room 801, which will take place both in-person, as well as virtually.

Attend the Sept. 26 meeting in-person at City Hall, or virtually by visiting <https://zoom.us/j/99264943408> ( Meeting ID: 992 6494 3408).

### NHM OPEN HOUSE SET FOR SEPT. 21

The Nichols House Museum, located at 55 Mt. Vernon St., will debut a new tour on Sept. 25 at 6 p.m., 'Creation, Evolution, Preservation: The Metamorphosis of 55 Mount Vernon Street.'

This architecture-focused tour covers the entire history of the building, from its construction in 1804, through the Nichols family's residency, to the museum era. Visitors will take an in-depth look at the structure, identifying changes owners made over time and why, including exploring some areas not visited on the general tour.

For those who want to know more about the Nichols family, general museum tours are offered Tuesday through Sunday mornings. The Nichols House will also host an open house on Saturday, Sept. 21, which will feature

a focus on the Nichols family's involvement in the Women's Suffrage Movement. More information about tours and events can be found on its website, [nicholshousemuseum.org](http://nicholshousemuseum.org).

### WEST END MUSEUM'S UPCOMING EVENTS

The West End Museum, located at 150 Staniford St., Suite 7, will also host its West End Social on Wednesday, Sept. 25, from 4 to 6 p.m.

At this time, the museum is opening its doors exclusively for West End residents to enjoy an afternoon of community and connection. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet your neighbors, explore the museum, and share in the vibrant spirit of our local community. Refreshments will be served, and all are welcome to come and make new friends right in the heart of the West End.

R.S.V.P. to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/west-end-social-tickets-993748818467>.

The museum will also hold 'The Beatles in Boston: A 60th Anniversary Tribute Concert' on Sunday, Sept. 29, from 4 to 7 p.m.

Step back in time to relive a magical moment in music history as the museum celebrates The Beatles' legendary performance at Boston Garden 60 years ago.

Experience the excitement of The Beatles' original set as Studio Two, one of the most revered Beatles tribute bands, takes the stage. After the concert, get a taste of what it was like to be in the midst of Beatlemania as Studio Two brings a unique twist to the evening by recreating a 1964 Beatles press conference. This interactive segment will allow the audience

to engage directly with the band members, who will field questions in character as the Fab Four.

Visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-beatles-in-boston-a-60th-anniversary-tribute-concert-tickets> to purchase tickets or for more information.

### UPSTAIRS DOWNSTAIRS HOME'S ANNUAL ARTIST EVENT RETURNS OCT. 3

Upstairs Downstairs Home will hold its annual Artist Event on Thursday, Oct. 3, from 6 to 8 p.m., at 69 Charles St.

### WLP'S ANNUAL SPAGHETTI DINNER RETURNS OCT. 18 TO THE FAIRMONT COPLEY PLAZA

Women's Lunch Place's annual fall gala, its Spaghetti Dinner, will take place on Friday, Oct. 18, at 6 p.m. at the Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel.

WLP will celebrate its donors and partners who have invested in building a healthy community for women experiencing homelessness, hunger, and poverty.

This year's event will include a dynamic musical performance by local artist Miranda Rae, as well as speeches from Kate Walsh, Secretary of Health and Human Services, Chef/Owner Douglass Williams of MIDA Restaurants, and the Honorable Linda Dorcea-Forry, former State Senator.

To reserve a seat, sponsor the event, or learn more, visit [womenslunchplace.org/sd](http://womenslunchplace.org/sd).

(ROUNDUP Pg. 3)

*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.*

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# Beacon Hill Village to host Aging at Home Resource Fair for older adults in October

Special to the Times

Beacon Hill Village, a membership organization that supports older adults to age at home in Boston, is hosting its first annual Aging at Home Resource Fair on Wednesday October 9th, from 3:00p to 5:00p at Suffolk University in the Keches Room of Sargent Hall located at 110 Tremont St. The Fair will be free and open to the public. This Fair is made possible through the generous support of Event Co-Sponsors Always Best Care Senior Services, BAYADA Home Health Care, and My Personal Home Health Care LLC.

The Fair will include vendors and partner organizations repre-

senting the areas of home care, health & wellness, care management, home modifications, decluttering, lifelong learning, health insurance counseling, technology, and volunteer services.

“The goal of the Resource Fair is to make information and resources accessible and available to older adults in Boston who wish to remain at home as they age. Navigating the journey of aging can be overwhelming and confusing. Providing information in a single place for older adults is one way to help them anticipate the programs and services they may want or need down the road,” said Beacon Hill Village Executive Director Melissa Interest.

According to Interest, the purpose of the Aging at Home Resource Fair also aligns with the organizational goals of Sponsor agencies. “At BAYADA, we’re on a mission to help people have a safe home life with comfort, independence, and dignity. Participating in the Resource Fair fits directly into our goals as an organization, bringing resources to the communities we serve so they are prepared to age how and where they want to,” said Kirsten Kilburn, Director at BAYADA.

Laurie Gaines, Director of Care Coordination at Always Best Care Senior Services, shared “Aging at home is a wish we often hear from older adults. We are so apprecia-

tive for the opportunity to collaborate with Beacon Hill Village to help support this wish.”

“We are excited to sponsor this event because it aligns with our mission to support community well-being and to build valuable relationships,” added Shekeria Beale, Director of My Personal Home Health Care LLC.

Event Supporters include: Rogerson Communities, Friendship-Works, Prime Core Fitness, Transitions & Liquidation Services, HouseWorks, and Seniors Helping Seniors. Other participating partners: Age Strong Commission, Boston Senior Home Care/Boston Elder Info, SHINE, MIT AgeLab, Cindy Sullivan Fitness, Tech Help

Boston, and Beacon Hill Seminars.

To register for the Resource Fair, call the Beacon Hill Village office at 617-723-9713 or visit the website at [beaconhillvillage.org/events/727/](http://beaconhillvillage.org/events/727/).

Beacon Hill Village (BHV) has been redefining aging in downtown Boston for two decades. BHV is dedicated to fostering a vibrant, inclusive, and supportive community that empowers older adults to continue to live in their own homes with dignity, fulfillment, and peace of mind. Their mission is to provide information, services, social opportunities, fitness, and educational activities that serve to connect, engage, and support members across Boston.

## HALLOWEEN ON THE HILL (Rough and Wild) wendyfrancoalmquist

Halloween on Beacon Hill a real treat  
The ultimate masquerade meet and greet  
The neighborhood blocked for the safety of all  
Staid quiet streets now a gay costume ball  
Neighbors and strangers on this spectral night  
Hide behind masks as gas lamps burn bright  
An evening of tricks transformed by surprise:  
Is that bloody vampire my lawyer disguised?

But as it grew darker we felt some unease  
My son held my hand with a *don't let go* squeeze  
He was a dinosaur I was a witch  
He clung to his candy and I my broomstick  
Carved Pumpkins grinned beside cobwebbed doors  
Skeletons rattled a Dance Macabre score  
As we reached the park gates of Louisburg Square  
An ominous fog had thickened the air

We shrieked when a giant black cat blinked then glared  
In the shadowy moonlight he guarded his lair  
It was surreal, chilling, irrational,  
Could we be caught in sharp claws supernatural?  
Transfixed as it arched its threatening back  
The fierce feline before us seemed poised to attack?  
Would the wrought iron fence secure our defense?  
This dread made no sense but still our teeth clenched

In retreat we backed up to the steps of #10  
Where Miss Alcott once lived  
(What would she make of this modern mayhem?  
Ha! That's all this night lacked- a ghost with a pen!)  
But this stalwart Yankee showed no fear, not a bit  
I swear I heard giggles and then heard her quip:  
How she and her sisters would have joined the fray  
*Rough and wild\** no silly cat could have scared them away

At the end of this day there is no “*somewhere else\** we'd want to be  
Our Halloween on the Hill, de-frightful indeed!

\*Louisa May Alcott quoting Jo:

“I will try to be what he loves to call me “a little woman” and not be rough and wild;  
But do my duty here instead of wanting to be somewhere else”

## ROUNDUP (from pg. 2)

### MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR HENRY LEE SET FOR NOV. 1 AT KING'S CHAPEL

A memorial service for Henry Lee has been set for Friday, Nov. 1, at 11 a.m. at King's Chapel at 58 Tremont St. Lee, who helped establish the Friends of the Public Garden, died on Aug. 12 at age 99.

### LINE DANCE CLASSES AT THE WEST END BRANCH LIBRARY

The City of Boston's Age Strong Commission has once again partnered with Boston Rhythm Riders to bring line dance classes to the West End Branch of the Boston Public Library on Cambridge Street. Classes for adults 60 and over will be held every Saturday from Sept. 21 to Nov. 9 from 10

to 11 a.m.

Contact Wesley Fiorentino at [wfiorentino@bpl.org](mailto:wfiorentino@bpl.org) to register, or call 617-523-3957 for more information.

### FREE LESSONS IN AMERICAN MAHJONG OFFERED AT WEST END BRANCH LIBRARY

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

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

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

## BHCA (from pg. 1)

day, September 25th, 7pm, Hill Tavern

Halloween on the Hill - Thursday, October 31st

Garlands & Greens - Wednesday, November 13th, Hampshire House

Holiday Decorating - Wednesday, December 4th (Charles Street only) and Saturday - Sunday, December 7th & 8th

Holiday Concert - Wednesday, December 11th, Harvard Musical Association



BHCA volunteers Tina Truedson, Jim Nally, Lois Brooks, and Colleen Stadelmann having fun at the grill at HillFest!

# City outlines plan for Dartmouth Street Safety and Mobility Project at virtual meeting

By Dan Murphy

The City of Boston Streets Cabinet staff held a virtual public meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 11, to discuss the city's Dartmouth Street Safety and Mobility Project, which includes plans for a proposed bike lane on Dartmouth Street between Copley Square and the Charles River Esplanade, as well as immediate, short-term changes at the intersection of Dartmouth and Stuart streets.

The city intends to create a new two-way, separated bike lane on Dartmouth Street in concert with the repaving of Dartmouth Street between Back Street and Commonwealth Avenue. Some ramps in the project area will be rebuilt this year while others will require engineering plans and therefore be rebuilt in a future construction season, said Julia Campbell, the city's deputy chief for infrastructure and design.

There will be no reduction to

the number of general traffic lanes on Dartmouth Street as a result of the project, which, Campbell said, also offers an opportunity to change signal timing to improve safety and efficiency.

Expected construction impacts will include a temporary reduction in travel lanes, as well as possible impacts to pedestrian access.

Additionally, 'quick-build' work is set to get underway this fall at Dartmouth and Stuart streets, including adding new striping and installing flex-posts to narrow slip lanes to slow turning drivers. The crosswalk would also be reduced there to 16 inches from the current length of 30 inches.

Next year, more permanent changes will be implemented in the area of Dartmouth and Stuart streets, including repaving Stuart Street between Huntington Avenue and Dartmouth Street (not including the section on the MassDOT bridge).

The city will also then explore

the effectiveness of narrowed slip lanes and make any necessary adjustments, as well as look at adding a separated bike lane and adjusting signal timing, along with exploring the potential for slip-lane closures.

Meanwhile, National Grid intends to replace gas mains beneath Back Bay streets next year, including one on Dartmouth Street between Commonwealth Avenue and Boylston Street. After the conclusion of this work, the city will then repave Dartmouth Street between Commonwealth Avenue and Boylston Street and finish installing the bike lane. (National Grid's work won't delay the city's plans for north of Commonwealth Avenue, said Campbell.)

According to the city, the Dartmouth Street Safety and Mobility Project was informed by Go Boston 2030 - Boston's citywide transportation plan, which identified Dartmouth Street as a possible location for a bike corridor - as

well as from community feedback solicited at last year's Berkeley Street Better Bike Lane project, which also pointed to Dartmouth Street as a potential location for a bike lane.

Rep. Jay Livingstone, who was on hand for the meeting, agreed with these findings, saying, "I personally think Dartmouth Street is a much safer path for bicyclists and pedestrians"

In contrast, Tracy Campion, a real estate broker for the past 39 years, as well as a Dartmouth Street resident, voiced her strong opposition to the proposed Dartmouth Street bike lane.

Campion said she was "heartbroken by what [the city's] plans are to do to this beautiful boulevard" and added that bikes and bike infrastructure are "destroying" the Back Bay neighborhood.

"We have bike lane on other side...and I don't understand why you have to come in and do this," said Campion. "We don't need it.

I'm just totally shocked by what's happening in our city."

And while the city has asserted that proposed design would preserve the most street parking of any of the alternatives explored and keeps parking on one side of Dartmouth Street, some Back Bay residents in attendance lamented that the project would inevitably result in the loss of some spaces in the neighborhood.

Despite an imminent start date, Campbell responded that the city is still listening to community feedback on the project.

"It's not a done deal - that's why we're having this conversation," said Campbell.

Visit [boston.gov/dartmouth-street](https://boston.gov/dartmouth-street) to learn more about the Dartmouth Street Safety and Mobility Project, including the schedule and sign-ups for virtual office hours. Comments can also be emailed to [better-bike-lanes@boston.gov](mailto:better-bike-lanes@boston.gov).

# City announces ARPA funding to benefit first time homebuyers and small businesses

Special to the Times

Mayor Michelle Wu joined members of the Boston City Council, the Boston Housing Authority (BHA), the Mayor's Office of Housing (MOH), and the Office of Economic Opportunity and Inclusion (OEOI), to announce the allocation of a \$7 million investment of American Rescue Plan Act

(ARPA) funding to bolster Boston's neighborhoods in three ways: by (1) helping first time home buyers with down payment assistance, (2) acquiring of market-rate properties to grow affordable housing stock, and (3) supporting small businesses, including through the City's SPACE Grant Program. Mayor Wu today filed an order with the Boston City Council to

allocate the \$7 million of ARPA funding. Of the total \$558.7 million awarded to Boston since 2021, this \$7 million represents the remaining amount for the City to allocate toward eligible recovery projects. These investments in affordable housing and local business build on Mayor Wu's commitment to making Boston a home for everyone.

"This \$7 million investment prioritizes Boston's families by building generational wealth through homeownership opportunities and helping our local entrepreneurs make their small business dreams become a reality," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "In Boston, we have used ARPA funds to build innovative new programs that target key issues in our city such as housing, and we're committed to using these remaining federal dollars to continue these successful initiatives. Congrats to Keanna Rice on her new home through the BHA First Home Program, and all of our city's first time home buyers."

"When we talk about investing in people and in our neighborhoods, this is it. The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds have allowed the Mayor and the Boston City Council to make transformative investments in housing, small businesses, green energy in affordable housing, culture and the arts, and support for vulnerable populations," said Boston City Council President Ruthzee Louijeune. "This \$7 million is a continuation of that work by further investing in affordable homeownership

opportunities and supporting our small business owners. I am proud that the Council and the Mayor continue to collaborate to make sure these funds are helping us build a more prosperous and just city post-pandemic."

"As Chair of Boston City Council's Committee on COVID-19 Recovery, I'm proud of our investments in support of additional investments in housing affordability and small business," said City Councilor Sharon Durkan. "These \$7M in investments continue Boston's track record in leading the way in utilizing these once-in-a-generation resources to make transformative and sustainable investments to support the recovery and growth of our city - and because of the way we are continuing to steward these resources, Boston's recovery has made our communities more stable and vibrant."

Mayor Wu has allocated \$3 million to the BHA First Home Program, to continue serving BHA families with down payment assistance through 2026. This funding will enable an estimated additional 57 BHA families to purchase homes in Boston. Through this program, the City provides eligible BHA families with enhanced down payment assistance of \$75,000 towards the purchase of a home located in Boston and is available to all BHA residents who purchase a home in the city.

The BHA First Home Program launched in November 2022 with a \$2 million investment from the

city and has been an unprecedented success in helping BHA families become homeowners. To date it has helped over 50 BHA residents buy homes in Boston. This additional funding is critical in affording BHA tenants the opportunity to build wealth through homeownership. The demand for this program is high, and today's announcement would enable the program to continue for two more years and double the number of families becoming homebuyers in the city of Boston.

"The First Home Program is a representation of everything we hope to achieve at the Boston Housing Authority, and the Mayor's investment has allowed this program and BHA families to flourish beyond our wildest expectations," said BHA Administrator Kenzie Bok. "This program has already enabled more than 50 BHA families to achieve homeownership and self sufficiency, establishing the intergenerational wealth that can lift families out of poverty and help close Boston's racial wealth gap. We are thrilled that the Mayor and City Councilors support doubling down on this successful program to help more of our families."

"Buying a home has always been a goal for me and my family, having a home to call my own and securing generational wealth for the future. No matter your current financial status, buying a house in today's market is extremely diffi-

(ARPA Pg. 10)

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# BHCA HOSTS DINNER UNDER THE STARS EVENT

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN PHOTOS

The Beacon Hill Civic Association (BHCA) held its Dinner Under The Stars on Mt Vernon Street in a unique environment that took advantage of the ambience of Beacon Hill. The event was catered by East Meets West and enjoyed perfect weather for the dinner guests to take in the evening and each others company.



Andre Vilms and Jay Goblmann.



Beacon Hill Civic Association Executive Director Patricia Tully.



Mt. Vernon Street was filled with neighbors catching up from Summer activity and enjoying a stellar evening.



Paul and Joan Roland with Jeffrey Blum proudly live on The Flat Of The Hill.



Kathy and Elizabeth Young.



Richelle Gewertz, George and Sandra Gilpatrick, Catherine Rockett, and George Earley.



Claudia Boyan, George Gilpatrick, Michelle Lavers, and Peter Reichert.

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See Pages 6 and 7 for more photos.

# BHCA HOSTS DINNER UNDER THE STARS EVENT

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN PHOTOS



Gordon Burns and his wife Suzie Tapson with Boston City Councilor Sharon Durkan.



Bob Allison, Allison Braly, Sarah and Brett Mitchell, and Rashaun Martin.



Kym and Mark Williams connect with friend Alastair Adam (center) who they haven't seen in years.



Joan and Paul Rowland.



Jen Rowland, Sarah Reilly, and Giuliana Hartwell.



Lauren and John Hennessey (right) with Sam Hodgson and Kate Wood.



A strong quartet comprised of musicians Stephanie Oestreich, Catherine DeNitto, Alan Toda-Ambaras, and David Hobby perform Handel.

# BHCA HOSTS DINNER UNDER THE STARS EVENT

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN PHOTOS



Lori Spencer and Christie Papazian.



Steve Young and Colin Zick.



Neighbors seat themselves at the table laid out on Mt Vernon Street.



Boston City Councilor Sharon Durkan and Deputy Director of Neighborhoods Chris Breen with Nancy Street and Joan Rowland



Greg and Katie McCullough.



John Greene and Sheri Broumand with Katie Gorman and Bob Marks.

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BOSTON ATHENÆUM

**FREE!**

# Calling All Curious! Community Day Open House

September 21  
10 am – 3 pm

[bostonathenaeum.org/events](http://bostonathenaeum.org/events)

# Torit Montessori students meet with Governor, Mayor

Special to Times

Torit Montessori School students met with Gov. Maura Healey and Mayor Michelle Wu as part of their studies of civics and government.

Project based learning and the use of Boston as a classroom are hallmarks of Torit's rigorous elementary program. The students, in Grade 3-6, walked from the school, located at 300 Cambridge St. in Beacon Hill, to Copley Square and the Boston Public Library where they attended broadcasts of WGBH's "Ask the Governor" and "Ask the Mayor" segments.

As the school plans for an innovative middle school expansion, this type of learning will define the program.

David Liebmann, the head of school, was hired in 2023 to bring his deep background in hands-on learning and place-based education to Torit, which had already established the value of learning by doing in its early years. As an independent school with a rigorous curriculum and an academic program leading to acceptances at the Boston exam schools and leading area private and public schools,

Torit students are challenged to stretch themselves as they learn and practice new skills.

"That includes learning not what to think, but how to think," said Liebmann. "The skills of listening, assessing information, and asking questions are fundamental to academic success."

The students were recognized by the WGBH hosts for their diligent notetaking. Gov. Healey took the time to look through each student's journal and offer her feedback, remarking: They're impressive. They're taking notes! It's as good as any briefing I get."

The governor thanked them for coming and for learning about what their government should be doing for them. Likewise, Mayor Wu generously took their questions as they gathered after her broadcast.

"I was honored to meet the governor and the mayor," said Joanna, a fourth grader. "We talked about the issues they discussed during the broadcast and our class's focus on learning more about how Boston and the state are governed." Torit students regularly engage with leaders and initiatives in the city.

Recent projects have included

detailed studies of food systems and cultural celebrations important to local communities. Because Torit students study Arabic, Mandarin, and Spanish (all students take all three languages), they can practice their speaking skills with native speakers in real-life settings.

"As we prepare a targeted expansion of the school," Liebmann added, "this type of experiential learning is core to our model. It's school as we all imagine it could be, with learning that is meaningful and real for Torit students."

Torit Montessori School is an infant through sixth-grade independent school on Beacon Hill. Our mission is to educate bright and capable students in the spirit of Dr. Maria Montessori's groundbreaking methods, allowing students to explore materials, ideas, and applications at their own pace, with guidance, direction, and encouragement from teachers.

To learn more about Torit, visit our website at [www.toritschool.org](http://www.toritschool.org).



PHOTOS COURTESY OF TORIT MONTESSORI SCHOOL

Students from Torit Montessori School meet with Gov. Maura Healey at the Boston Public Library on Sept. 6.



Students from Torit Montessori School meet with Mayor Michelle Wu at the Boston Public Library on Sept. 10.

## Welcome Back Neighbors

Grab your coffee, your glasses, and your Beacon Hill Times...

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Please join us in our welcoming back residents new and old to the neighborhood! Share your products, offers, specials, or just say hello!





## CITY PAWS

# Real vs fake service dogs

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

As responsible dog guardians, we're concerned when we see fake service dogs. We can only imagine how people with a legitimate need to be accompanied by a highly-trained service dog must feel.

We turned to NEADS World Class Service Dogs for more information. Last year, in preparation for testimony before the Massachusetts Legislature, they reported on survey results of more than 1,300 Service Dog clients from Assistance Dogs International (ADI) accredited organizations.

Sadly, "92.6% of respondents encountered fake, questionable, or uncontrolled service dogs in their time as a service dog user." Meanwhile, "78.8% of respondents had experienced an uncontrolled dog snap at, bitten, vocalize at or interfere with their service dog." Then, "66.0% reported feeling that fraudulent service dogs had negatively impacted their independence and quality of life." Finally, "50.0% encountered fraudulent service dogs in grocery stores and airports."

### Real Service Dogs

Real Service Dogs are "impeccably trained." This description is used by one ADI-accredited organization after another. Not only is the dog trained, but the handler has also had extensive training. This preparation can take up to two years and cost thousands of dollars.

Service dogs are not pets and don't act like pets. They are working and pay attention to the task at hand. They don't sniff the ground or interact with people or other animals. They are sometimes

allowed to relax, play, or say hello, but only after a specific direction.

Many legitimate service dogs do not wear a special harness or identification that you will recognize. Some wear identification from their ADI-accredited organization, like NEADS, or a special harness as a guide dog for blind people or a dog trained to pull a wheelchair or to assist their person with stability. Very few are off-leash, carried, or in a stroller.

### Fake Service Dogs

Less than one percent of people with disabilities have a service dog. Yet, if you search for service dog identification, harnesses, and tags on any major online retail site, you'll find thousands of items for those who want to pass their pet off as a service dog.

You can easily spot a fake service dog. It is a fake if the dog is off-leash, on an extendable leash, wearing a choke collar, pulling or tugging the handler, or interacting with you or other dogs.

If the dog does not stay right by the handler, growls, barks, is easily distracted, marks territory, looks frightened, or, in short, does not have a calm, all-about-the-job demeanor, it is most likely a fake.

### Misunderstandings

Emotional support dogs are not service dogs and are not entitled to the same accommodations as service dogs and their handlers.

One paid service dog registry site advertises, "Get Lifetime Registration For Your Pet."

That registration does not make your pet a service dog. There are also classes and schools to self-train a service dog. While this is

legal and possible, you should ensure that your dog is trained to the same standards as dogs from ADI-accredited organizations, or people will spot the difference and believe you have a fake service dog.

### An Exception to Every Rule

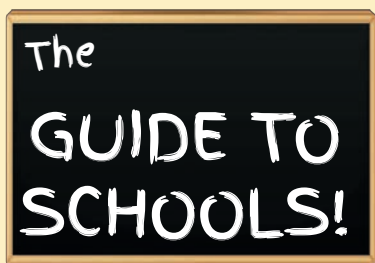
Some service dogs are trained to get help in an emergency. If a recognizable service dog approaches you and wants your attention, follow it. The dog will take you to its person. Once there, allow the dog to do what it is trained to do, direct your questions to the person if possible, and call 911 if necessary.

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



While this may look like a service dog, the extendible leash attached to a metal collar indicates that it is fake.

The Beacon Hill Times - beaconhilltimes.com  
 The North End Regional Review - northendregionalreview.com  
 The Boston Sun - thebostonsun.com  
 The Charlestown Patriot-Bridge - charlestownbridge.com



Our annual Guide to Schools is a resource for parents running in 4 Boston newspapers on September 26  
**In the hands of over 75,000 weekly readers**  
**Promote your school or Open Houses with us.**

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### ADVERTISING IN THE GUIDE:

**LISTINGS** *Free Listings with every Ad!*  
 A brief text descriptive and contact information \$75 per listing, {not included with ads}  
 We have sections for Schools, DayCare, After School Programs, kids related retailers.

**DISPLAY ADVERTISING** - all ads run in color in all 4 papers.  
 \$60 per column inch -(2x5 and under) ads that run in the guide can run at this rate through October.

**COMMON AD SIZES**  
 2 col (3.9") X 3" - \$300  
 2 col (3.9") X 5" - \$550  
 Quarter Page = 2 col x 8" (3.9" wide) \$800  
 Half page = 5 col x 6.5" (10.25" wide) \$1,500.00 Full page = 5 col x 13" \$2,500.00

Prior sections are available if you would like to see samples.  
 Please call or email with questions. Deadline September 20, 2024

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## NEWS BRIEFS

### MASSPORT TO HOST EMERGENCY EXERCISE AT LOGAN AIRPORT

The Massachusetts Port Authority (Massport), alongside several mutual aid partners, will hold an emergency response exercise on Friday, September 20th at Boston Logan International Airport (BOS). It will take place from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. For the surrounding communities, please be aware that there will be emer-

gency vehicles from various agencies in the vicinity.

This exercise is required every three years by the FAA to test the coordination, communication and response in the event of a major incident at BOS. A number of mutual aid partners will be taking part in the exercise alongside Massport Fire Rescue, including the Boston Fire Department, Boston EMS, Massachusetts State Police and the U.S Coast Guard.

The airport will remain open throughout the exercise.

VISIT WWW.BEACONHILLTIMES.COM

Published by the Independent Newspaper Group

## Beacon Hill Times Drop-Off Locations

Antonio's	288 Cambridge St.
Simmon's Liquors	210 Cambridge St.
Jobi Liquors	170 Cambridge St.
7-Eleven	122 Cambridge St.
West End Library	151 Cambridge St.
Charles St. Liquors	143 Charles St.
U.S. Post Office	136 Charles St.
Gary Drug	53 Charles St.
Bank of America	39 Charles St.
Charles St. Supply	54 Charles St.
Cobblestones	30 Charles St.
DeLuca's	11 Charles St.
Cheers	84 Beacon St.
Beacon Hill Market	61 Anderson [corner of Myrtle St.]
Beacon Capitol Market	30 Myrtle St.
City Convenience	23 Beacon St.
Capital Coffee House	122 Bowdoin St.

### Apartment Building locations:

8 Whittier Place	1 Emerson Place
6 Whittier Place	5 Emerson Place
150 Stanford St.	45 Temple St.
1 Longfellow	10 Bowdoin St.
4 Longfellow	144 Bowdoin St.
5 Longfellow	130 Bowdoin St.
2 Hawthorne Place	45 Myrtle St.
9 Hawthorne Place	19 Myrtle St.
4 Emerson Place	65 Martha Rd.

To place a memoriam  
please call 781-485-0588

## CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

The Construction Look-Ahead through September 28, for the North Washington Street Bridge is as follows:

### Scheduled Work

- Tub girder steel installation
- Architectural trellis welding, painting, and electrical install
- City Square median construction

- Steel touch-up painting
- Marine fender 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:

• BRUINS: September 22, at 5 p.m. and September 24 at 7 p.m.

• EVENTS: September 20 at 7:45 p.m., September 21 at 7:45 p.m., September 23 at 8 p.m., September 25 at 7 p.m., September 26 at 7 p.m., September 27 at 7 p.m., and September 28 at 7:30 p.m.

How can I find more information?

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

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

Project website:

Mass.gov/north-washington-street-bridge-replacement

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

## ARPA (from pg. 4)

cult and costly, but this program gave me leverage," said BHA First Home Program participant Keana Rice. "As I stand in my new home, I am filled with a sense of accomplishment and gratitude. I look forward to creating lasting memories in this space, building equity for my future, and establishing roots."

An additional \$3 million of this ARPA funding will go to further address the City's need to prevent displacement and increase affordable housing opportunities through MOH's Acquisition Opportunity Program. This program supports the acquisition of market-rate buildings by responsible, mission-oriented developers to stabilize tenancies and create long-term income restricted housing for low- and moderate-income renters. This new funding allocation will leverage approximately \$9 million of private financing to support the acquisition of additional apartments buildings and stabilize the tenancies of households at risk of displacement.

The Acquisition Opportunity Program (AOP) provides funding to nonprofit and for-profit organizations to acquire occupied, rental properties that are typically renting at below market rates. The residents of these properties are at

risk of displacement if the property is sold and the units are then converted to condominiums or they are maintained as rental properties and the rent is increased. The City's AOP has helped hundreds of properties remain affordable in almost every neighborhood of the City; from Chinatown to Mattapan, preventing displacement and promoting neighborhood stability.

"The City's Acquisition Opportunity Program allows organizations to acquire occupied residential buildings removing them from the speculative market. These acquisitions provide tenant stability and increase the City's inventory of income restricted homes," said Chief of Housing Sheila A. Dillon. "The additional investment of ARPA funds will allow us to continue and expand the work of protecting and preserving affordable housing in the City, allowing residents to live and thrive in their communities."

Small businesses, especially those industries most impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, will receive \$1 million of this ARPA investment. The funding will support the City's SPACE Grant Program, providing grants to business owners seeking to occupy vacant storefronts. The City will soon announce the third and

final round of the SPACE Grant program. In the first two rounds, the City helped 61 small businesses either open their first brick and mortar location or expand using \$7.5 million in funding.

"Thanks to the leadership of the Biden Harris Administration and our delegation in Congress, Mayor Wu and our team have been able to invest millions of dollars in Boston's small businesses, helping to build wealth and establish vibrancy across all of our neighborhoods," said Segun Idowu, Chief of Economic Opportunity and Inclusion. "Our team is grateful to Mayor Wu and the City Council for further investments in this transformative program, which has created new jobs and given dreams the space to grow."

The SPACE Grant Program has been a key part of the city's downtown recovery and support for local entrepreneurs throughout Boston's neighborhoods. Businesses in the program have created nearly 600 new jobs, and a quarter of the grantees are now open and operating in the city, with the rest signing leases or in lease negotiations. This funding will help continue the success of this program, with an emphasis on filling vacant storefronts in Downtown Boston.

## SEND US YOUR NEWS

The Times encourages residents to submit engagement, wedding and birth announcements, news releases, business and education briefs, sports stories and photos for publication. Items should be forwarded to our offices at 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151.

We also encourage readers to e-mail news releases and photos to [deb@reverejournal.com](mailto:deb@reverejournal.com).

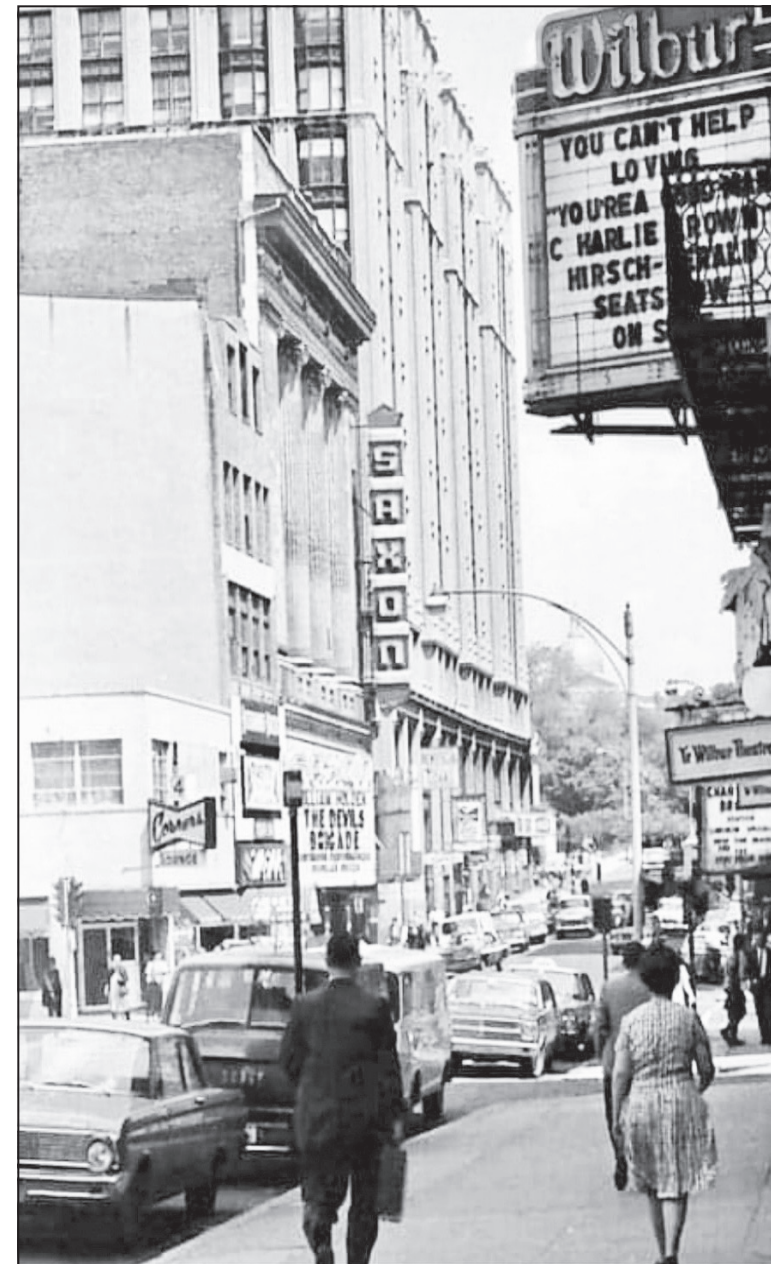
# Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
<b>BACK BAY</b>			
Santamaria, Joseph	Stephen A Bell RET	265-275 Dartmouth St #4L	\$712,000
192 Marlborough Rt	Lamburke Marlborough St	192 Marlborough St #2	\$5,500,000
Enoch, Steven W	Yetman, Mark	224 Marlborough St #1	\$1,940,000
Mazara, Fior	Montfort, Nicholas A	511 Beacon St #8	\$365,000
Shea, Richard	Jafry Ft	306 Commonwealth Ave #3	\$1,150,000
Hamel, Kenneth G	Snickenberger 3rd, W A	340 Commonwealth Ave #1	\$2,930,000
Gammons, Richard	Smith-Ryvicker, Bonnie J	351 Marlborough St #4	\$1,325,000
Fortin, Liam	Brodney, Rina	406 Marlborough St #3	\$1,312,500
Hassanzadeh, Elmira	Guna-Kasem, Prim	416 Marlborough St #701	\$1,323,000
<b>BEACON HILL</b>			
Pulverenti, Luke A	Rekstad, Natalie A	121 Beacon St #5	\$1,562,500
Dandrea, Daren M	Unit 5r 21 Beacon St LLC	21 Beacon St #5R	\$620,000
Huang, Isabella	Chamovitz, Samuel E	47 Hancock St #2	\$2,800,000
Jjml Rt	Suzuki Rt	145 Pinckney St #602	\$1,800,000
Jjml Rt	Suzuki Rt	145 Pinckney St #604	\$1,800,000
<b>BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE</b>			
Stoep, Neda V	Ramseyer, Logan V	66 Appleton St #2	\$635,000
Shinde, Chetan	Bianka li LLC	70 Chandler St	\$3,575,000
Arguello, Isabel	Hinkle, Timothy J	9 Columbus Sq #2	\$3,532,500
Huang, Xinyi	Eardensohn, Sara Z	19 Cortes St #8	\$725,000
Riley, Charles A	Soden, Marcia M	42 Gray St	\$2,575,000
Davidson, Thomas A	Mcs Rt	400 Stuart St #16A	\$1,650,000
Fang, Yi J	Suydam, Lisa	400 Stuart St #15C	\$2,100,000
Jan Leschly 2011 Irt	Gormley, Mark	430 Stuart St #27B	\$2,800,000
Raffles 31a LLC	Ts Residences Hld LLC	430 Stuart St #31A	\$5,400,000
Kristen L Arakelian RET	Martin, Brian	533 Columbus Ave #533	\$425,000
Maghzi, Amir H	Rodriguez, Ricardo	566 Columbus Ave #105	\$1,225,000
Baig, Mariam	Flaschenriem, David W	82-84 E Brookline St #4	\$536,671
Kanwal, Amrit	Quinn South End LLC	370 Harrison Ave #1114	\$719,000
Mayer, Donald J	Quinn South End LLC	370 Harrison Ave #1014	\$699,000
Barrett, Jeffrey J	Bettano Richard J Est	111 Jersey St #15-11	\$370,000
Cieri Group LLC	Cieri Jr, Frank A	100 Lovejoy Wharf #7L	\$705,000
Saylor, Elizabeth	Cieri Group LLC	100 Lovejoy Wharf #7L	\$689,000
Beebee, Sandhya	Alok And Neena Ft	16 Miner St #505	\$969,000
Vines, Scott	Leonard W Rozamus Jr RET	131 Park Dr #G2	\$680,000
Gasparakis, Harris E	Kenneth J Lima T	69 Park Dr #7	\$370,000
Vader, Brehana	Qi Zhou T	122 Riverway #9	\$430,000
Curley, Jaclyn E	Div Shawmut LLC	100 Shawmut Ave #1212	\$920,000
12 Stoneholm Unit Ph LLC	Pan, Ziheng	12 Stoneholm St #PH	\$1,175,000
Kasparian, David M	Nicosia, Diana H	168 W Canton St	\$4,485,000
Adams Newton Nt	Belsky, Alan	42 W Newton St #B2	\$795,000
Pucci, Chiara	Palmisano, Samuel L	98 Waltham St #3	\$2,620,000
Darlene E Ojerholm T	Curtis, James W	46 Wareham St #4E	\$1,385,000
Yuzlek, Murat	Mouradian, Harout	333 Washington St #705	\$103,000
<b>WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN</b>			
Pomponio, Alice L	Cheryl Lea Mohr RET	28-32 Atlantic Ave #440	\$3,700,000
Szeniawski Ft	Berry Ft	33 Commercial Wharf #36	\$1,400,000
Liu, Wei	Fincham Christophert Est	85 E India Row #16D	\$605,000
Sezer, Ahmet	Yu, Liwei	1 Franklin St #2006	\$1,153,000
Pawlowski Aucoin RET	Augustine, Charles W	199 State St #301	\$1,200,000
Bommart, Gilles	580 Wa Street 7c Rt	580 Washington St #7C	\$1,640,000

# Attention to Detail

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY PENNY CHERUBINO

## THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The façade detail in the last clue is on the Wilbur Theatre, which opened in 1914 and was renovated in 2008. Today's answer is from a 1968 photo of this mainstay of the Boston Theater District.

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

## THIS WEEK'S CLUE



TRUST. EXPERTISE... AND HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS IN BEACON HILL SALES.  
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Shown is 1928 Manager Jordan Mccusker (left) and actor John Krasinski.

## JOHN KRASINSKI AND PEARL JAM'S EDDIE VEDDER DINE AT 1928 IN BEACON HILL

Actor John Krasinski was in Boston over the weekend and caught dinner with Pearl Jam lead singer Eddie Vedder at 1928 Restaurant in Boston's Beacon Hill neighborhood on Saturday night.

Eddie drank margaritas and John drank Moscow mules. Eddie had the filet, John had the burger. According to the 1928 staff and guests, "They were the kindest people I've ever met and they couldn't have been more polite and thankful."

On the way out, they did get recognized and took a few photos with guests and Eddie spoke with some fans at the bar and gave them his guitar pick. John posed for a photo outside of 1928 with a group of college girls and said, "Always happy to pose with people from Boston."

Pearl Jam played Fenway Park last Tuesday night (and Sunday) and John Krasinski came out on stage playing the tambourine. That is about as Boston as Boston gets.

COURTESY PHOTO

## GARDENS (from pg. 1)

the same category last year.

"The contest brings together people and organizations from many different neighborhoods, all to celebrate the joy and beauty of gardening," Reyerer wrote in an email. "It's great to be honored with a win, but it's more fun just to be in the garden."

As a three-time contest winner, Reyerer will enter the Gardeners Hall of Fame and serve as judge in next year's contest. She won't be allowed to be a contestant in any future Mayor's Garden Contests, however, due to contest restrictions.

First-place winners received the coveted "Golden Trowel" award from Mayor Wu while second and third place winners were awarded certificates. Gardeners who have won three or more times in the last ten years were automatically entered into the Hall of Fame. These distinguished Hall-of-Famers are no longer eligible to enter as contestants but are invited to return as judges.

Also, first-place winners were entered into a drawing for a Jet-Blue Grand Prize consisting of roundtrip flights for two to any nonstop destination from Boston. (Terms, conditions, and blackout dates apply.) Mahoney's Garden Centers provided gardener's gift bags to the top three winners in each category, as well as gift certificates for the 2024 Hall of Fame inductees. Winners also received prizes from Spartan Coffee and

refreshments were provided with support from Polar Beverages.

"These gardeners bring joy and beauty to our porches, balconies, and storefronts across every neighborhood," Mayor Michelle Wu told contest winners during an awards ceremony on Aug. 13 in the Public Garden. "I want to congratulate all of our winners and offer a special congratulations to everyone being inducted into the Hall of Fame this year. It is a joy to celebrate Boston's greenest thumbs!"



MAYOR'S OFFICE PHOTO BY MIKE MEJIA  
Mayor Michelle Wu congratulates winners on hand for the awards ceremony for the 28th annual Mayor's Garden Contest on Aug. 13 in the Public Garden.

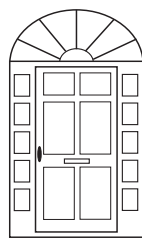


COURTESY OF SALLY REYERER

A look inside Sally Reyerer's garden (above and left) - a three-time award winner in the Shade Garden category.

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