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FRIDAY, JUNE 5, 2026

THE BEACON HILL TIMES

T H E R E A R E N O T I M E S L I K E T H E S E T I M E S

BEACON HILL GARDEN CLUB HOLDS ITS SPRING SOIREE



MARIANNE SALZA PHOTO

The Beacon Hill Garden Club, founded in 1928, held its Annual Spring Soirée on May 20 in anticipation of its 97th Hidden Gardens of Beacon Hill Annual Tour. Shown at the event are Beth Campanella, Meg Lilly, Pam Jackson, and Deb Manus. See pages 4 and 5 for more photos.

Beacon Hill Art Walk returns this Sunday

50+ artists will transform Beacon Hill into Boston's most unique art show

Special to the Times

One of Boston's most unique celebrations of the arts returns June 7, when the Beacon Hill Art Walk takes over the quiet streets

and alleys of the beautiful, cobblestoned neighborhood. The one-of-a-kind Boston tradition serves as an unofficial start to the summer for many artists in and around Boston as Beacon Hill transforms into a fantastical art gallery where walls and gardens are adorned with beautiful creations. Visitors can find the per-

fect piece to add to their home, while musicians will be roaming throughout the neighborhood in various gardens, creating an enchanting atmosphere. There is no cost to attend the Art Walk, which runs from noon to 6 p.m., rain or shine.

See ART WALK Page 5

BEACON HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY CORNER

First Friday Coffee Hour
TODAY Friday, June 5th,
8:30am, 74 Joy Street – a representative from the MBTA will join us.
Board of Directors - Mon-

day, June 8th, 7pm
Summer Evening at Otis House - Thursday, June 11th, 6-8pm SOLD OUT
Architecture Committee - Monday, June 15th, 5:30pm

via Zoom
Zoning & Licensing Committee – Wednesday, July 1st, 6pm via Zoom

See BHCA Page 9

Wu cuts ribbon on restored Copley Square Park at Neighborhood Coffee Hour

By Times staff

Mayor Michelle Wu joined elected and city officials and other stakeholders to cut the ribbon on the newly renovated Copley Square Park on Wednesday, May 27, during her annual Neighborhood Coffee Hour for the Back Bay and Beacon Hill

“Situated between the Copley Library and Trinity Church as well as the home to events such as First Night, the Boston Marathon and the Copley Farmers Market — Copley Square is a treasured part of our city,” said Mayor Wu. “The restoration of the park has enhanced the park's beloved features while creating more green space, increasing the tree canopy and accessibility for

all. I'm grateful for all the community members who shared their feedback to help shape the upgrades to better serve our residents who use the park every day.”

The comprehensive \$18.9 million renovation project, which was funded through the city's five-year Capital Plan, provide fully ADA-accessible pathways, reconstructed sidewalks, shaded seating areas, and an expanded tree canopy, all supported by pervious paving designed for long-term sustainability.

Mayor Wu noted that in addition to existing trees, an additional 30 trees have been newly planted in the park, which also

See COFFEE HOUR Page 8



The rejuvenated Copley Square Park fountain comes alive.

EDITORIAL

CONGRATULATIONS, CLASS OF 2026

High school graduation season is upon us, the time of year when communities across America celebrate the accomplishments of young people receiving their high school diplomas.

Graduation is a bittersweet occasion, marking both an ending and a beginning. For the grads, they will realize that the past four years, which they began as adolescents, are now culminating as they step into adulthood. They will be saying goodbye to their friends, teachers, and mentors who guided them through their formative high school years.

For every parent, watching a son or daughter stride across the stage as their name is called to receive their diploma will bring a flood of emotions, pride, and nostalgia. The sentiments expressed in the song, Sunrise, Sunset from Fiddler on the Roof, often come to mind:

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

Even those without a direct connection to a graduate will smile at the sight of brightly-colored balloons and other festive decorations marking graduation parties in our neighborhoods. We will recall our own high school graduations and think about the happiness and expectations that filled our hearts and minds at that stage of our lives.

Today's graduates will be tomorrow's leaders who soon will be shaping our future. We will be counting upon them to make the world a better place. Let's hope that we have supplied them with the tools they need to ensure that they can meet the challenges we are facing today and in the years ahead, both for the sake of their own generation and of those before and after.

We offer our heartfelt congratulations to the graduates and their families, wishing them sunshine and blue skies not only on their Graduation Day, but in the years ahead.

DEJA VU ALL OVER AGAIN WITH IRAN

For those of us who were around during the U.S. Embassy hostage crisis in Tehran from late 1979 to early 1981, the present situation involving the closing of the Strait of Hormuz by the Iranian government is *deja vu* all over again.

Both crises illustrate the two strengths of the Iranian regime: They excel at taking hostages and they know how to play the long game. In 1979, the Iranians seized and held 54 members of the U.S. Embassy, while today they are blocking the passage through the strait of hundreds of ships, wreaking havoc on the world economy.

Just as the administration of then-President Jimmy Carter made a series of miscalculations that underestimated the fanatical Iranian government, so too has the present U.S. administration failed to realize that the Iranians play by their own rules and on their own timetable.

The hostage crisis that undermined the Carter presidency lasted for 444 days, with the Iranians releasing the hostages only upon the swearing-in of President Ronald Reagan after Carter signed the Algiers Accords (which made a number of concessions to Iran) on his last day in office. The Iranians had simply wanted to humiliate Jimmy Carter up until the last day of his presidency.

The current conflict with Iran now is approaching 100 days with no end in sight. The disruption to the world economy and the rising rate of inflation in our country caused by the closing of the strait have served to underscore that this so-called war -- which has not accomplished any of its supposed objectives (regime change? eliminating Iran's nuclear bomb capabilities? destroying Iran's missile and drone weapons? convincing Iran to support its proxies?) -- was a fool's mission undertaken by those who failed to learn the lessons of 45 years ago.

As the oft-quoted philosopher George Santayana put it: "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it."

NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDUP

BOSTON CHILDREN'S SCHOOL SUMMER AND SCHOOL-YEAR ROLLING ADMISSIONS

The Boston Children's School is currently accepting students, ages 3-8, for both this summer and the 2026-'27 academic year. The Summer Fun Program runs from July 7 through Aug. 14, with field trips, weekly themed activities, daily trips to the pool at the Clubs at Charles River Park, and much more.

Visit website www.bostonchildrensschool.org to learn more, or call 617-367-6239 or email bostonchildrens@aol.com to discuss enrollment for the summer and/or fall.

WATERCOLOR PAINTING WORKSHOP SERIES RETURNS TO CITY PARKS

The Boston Parks and Recreation Department has announced the return of its popular ParkARTS Summer Watercolor Painting Workshop series, including stops at the Public Garden on Sunday, June 7; and the James P. Kelleher Rose Garden in the Back Bay Fens on Saturday, June 13.

All classes are held from 10 a.m. to noon, weather permitting, for these free workshops offered as part of Boston Parks' 2026 ParkARTS program, which brings arts and cultural programming to parks across the city.

Open to Boston residents ages 9 and up, the Watercolor Painting Workshops welcome artists of all skill levels to create their own green space-inspired masterpieces. Materials and instruction will be provided by a local instructor. Pre-registration

is required. For more information, visit boston.gov/watercolor-workshops.

BOSTON SYNAGOGUE'S JEWISH FAMILY OPEN HOUSE AND BBQ SET FOR JUNE 14

Come meet other Jewish parents and children and explore the vibrant Jewish culture in Downtown Boston at The Boston Synagogue's Jewish Family Open House and BBQ on Sunday, June 14, at 11 a.m. at 55 Martha Road.

Discover The Boston Synagogue's rich community while learning about its Hebrew School, family events, holiday celebrations, Music for Tots, and student-led Family Shabbats.

BEACON ENSEMBLE'S BEACON NEW MUSIC FESTIVAL VOLUME II COMING JUNE 5-7

Beacon Ensemble's Beacon New Music Festival Volume II is coming June 5 to 7.

Opening night of the festival with Mink Duo is set for Friday, June 5, at 7 p.m. at Beacon Hill Friends House, located at 6 Chestnut St. on Beacon Hill.

Night two of the festival follows with Reflections Duo on Saturday, June 6, at 7 p.m., again at Beacon Hill Friends House.

The finale performance of the festival features event host, Beacon Ensemble, on Sunday, June 7, at 7 p.m. at Church of the Covenant, located at 67 Newbury St. in the Back Bay.

Visit <https://www.beaconensemble.org/beacon-new-music-2026festival> for more infor-

mation on the festival.

FORUM FOR STATE SENATE CANDIDATES SET FOR JUNE 9 AT BERKLEE

The Boston Wards 4 and 5 Democratic Committees will sponsor a forum with the candidates running for State Senate seats for the 1st Suffolk and the Suffolk and Middlesex Districts on Tuesday, June 9 at the Berklee College of Music, which will be a double-header with candidates for the two State Senate races speaking from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. and then from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. The order will be announced prior to the event.

Confirmed candidates to date include Sen. Nick Collins, Latoya Gayle, Sen. Will Brownberger, and Daniel Lander.

Reserve your spot for the forum online at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ma-state-senate-forum-1st-suffolk-and-suffolk-middlesex-districts-tickets-1988775461943>

WECA MEETING SET FOR JUNE 11 IN WEST END NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER

The next meeting of the West End Civic Association (WECA) will be held Thursday, June 11, at 6 p.m. in the West End Neighborhood Center on Thoreau Path.

Candidates for US Representative for the 8th Congressional District have been invited to meet with West End residents. Get to know who wants to represent you in Washington, D.C.

All West End residents are welcome to attend.

See **ROUNDUP** Page 3

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Wu announces World Cup community watch parties

Special to the Times

Mayor Michelle Wu has announced that the City of Boston will host six community watch parties for residents, families, and visitors this summer. Together with the FIFA Fan Festival hosted by Boston 26, these neighborhood celebrations will bring the excitement, energy, and spirit of the World Cup directly into communities across Boston.

“Boston is proud to welcome the world this summer, and these watch parties will help bring the excitement and spirit of the World Cup directly into our communities,” said Mayor Michelle Wu. “These free, family-friendly events give residents throughout our neighborhoods the chance to celebrate the games close to home—cheering together, sharing cultures, and being



Residents are getting ready for their watch parties this summer.

part of a historic moment for our City.”

From Dorchester to East Boston, Roxbury to Charlestown, neighborhoods across the city are already buzzing with anticipation as Boston prepares to host seven FIFA World Cup matches this summer. Mayor Wu’s community watch parties are one way to help ensure that the excitement, celebration, and opportunity associated with this summer’s historic events extend into every neighborhood, giving residents the chance to celebrate the tournament in their own way.

“Soccer has always been a

way for communities to come together, celebrate culture, and build connections across neighborhoods and generations,” said City Councilor At-Large Ruthzee Louijeune. “These watch parties will create joyful, welcoming spaces where families, residents, and visitors from every background can experience the excitement of the World Cup together. In a city as diverse and vibrant as Boston, it’s important that the energy and opportunities surrounding this global event are felt not only downtown, but in every neighborhood across

See WORLD CUP Page 6

The Liberty Hotel kicks off summer Yappier Hour with 'Dog Days of Summer' party

Staff Report

Located at 215 Charles St. at the foot of Beacon Hill, The Liberty Hotel has officially kicked off the summer season by inviting guests and their four-legged friends to a “Dog Days of Summer” party on Wednesday, June 3. The event marked the seasonal return of the hotel’s popular Yappier Hour series.

The kickoff gathering brought guests and their dogs together in The Yard for a relaxed summer social experience. Attendees enjoyed several event highlights,

including:

- Refreshing dog-friendly treats
- Curated pet vendors
- A live DJ set

The Yappier Hour series remains free and open to the public. Following the kickoff, gatherings continue every Wednesday from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m., running through October, weather permitting.

The Liberty Hotel, an imaginative transformation of the historic 1851 Charles Street Jail, is located at 215 Charles Street in Boston.



Guests enjoying Yappier Hour at the Liberty.

ROUNDUP (from pg. 2)

BHBA'S SIDEWALK SALE RETURNS JUNE 12-13

The Beacon Hill Business Association invites all to its annual Summer Sidewalk Sale on Friday and Saturday, June 12–13. Local shops will offer special deals and merchandise outdoors along the neighborhood’s streets. Come support small businesses and enjoy the summer spirit.

UPCOMING SESSION SPONSORED BY MGH'S BLUM CENTER

The Blum Patient and Family Learning Center (Blum Center) at Massachusetts General Hospital is hosting a few in-person

educational and wellness sessions at the Blum Center (MGH Main Campus, White 110), including Gentle Flow Yoga on Thursday, June 25, from 3:30-4:15 p.m.

This session is free. For more information, call the Blum Center at 617-724-7352.

NICHOLS HOUSE MUSEUM OFFERING TOURS

The 1804 Nichols House Museum at 55 Mount Vernon St. was home to an early 20th-century family of artists and activists, along with their domestic staff. The house was preserved as a museum by Rose Standish Nichols, a pioneering woman landscape architect. It

is furnished with an original collection, including works by the sculptor Augustus Saint-Gaudens, as well as furniture and textiles handcrafted by Rose and her sister Margaret. Tours are offered on Thursday through Saturday at 10 and 11 a.m., and noon; on Sundays at 11 a.m., noon, and 1 p.m.

For more information, tickets, and to register, visit: nicholshousemuseum.org

Come play Mah Jongg at the West End Community Center

Whether you are a beginner or an experienced player, you are invited to join the friendly Mah Jongg group. Instructors will be available to help new players, and everyone is welcome. Come meet new people, socialize, and play the game.

The group meets on the first and third Wednesdays of each month from 1:30-3:30 p.m. at the West End Community (within the West End Neighborhood Center), 75 Blossom Court (entrance on Thoreau Path).

To sign up or for more information, email Audrey Tedeman(artedeman@gmail.com) or Sandy Connor(ssconnor46@gmail.com).

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BEACON HILL GARDEN CLUB HOLDS ITS SPRING SOIREE

Photos by Marianne Salza

The Beacon Hill Garden Club, founded in 1928, held its Annual Spring Soiree on May 20 in anticipation of its 97th Hidden Gardens of Beacon Hill Annual Tour, held the following day. Attendees enjoyed cocktails in the King's Chapel Parish House garden, and a sample of the tour.

Proceeds from the Soiree benefit the organization's education and conservation projects, urban landscape improvements, and grant program.

"The Beacon Hill Garden Club is grateful for our Soiree sponsors and for all the generous people who bought tickets to support our efforts to help the community with environmental

conservation and civic improvement," said Sandra Gilpatrick, President, Beacon Hill Garden Club. "Thank you for sharing our love for both horticulture and urban gardening."



Sponsors, Patricia Schneider and Todd Eckler, of Fiduciary Trust Company.



Miguel Rosales and John Corey.



Jasmine Miller and Eliza Bailey.



Jamie Chavez and Maria Feber.



Lisa Taffe, and her daughter, Weezy, in their 30 West Cedar Street three-tier, bluestone patio garden.



Sarah Perry, Suzanne Eliastam, Sandra Gilpatrick, President, Beacon Hill Garden Club, and Katie Fagen.



Lillian Moses, with her rosé, toasting Steph Pennell, drinking Kar Royale.



Gwendolyn and Chris Hale.



Kaitlin Wright, Irene, Mary, and Madeline Demoulas.



Attendees gathering at the King's Chapel Parish House garden to celebrate the Beacon Hill Garden Club's 97th Annual Hidden Garden Tours Soiree

BEACON HILL GARDEN CLUB HOLDS ITS SPRING SOIREE



Welcome volunteers: Ginger Lawrence, Lisa Ireland, Sandra Massey, and Kate Enroth.



Cynthia Ingols, Steven Spitz, Sally Casper, Gary Borisy, Nancy Sinsabaugh, and Lynda Shubert.



Sponsors, Bob and Laura Cousineau, or Upstairs/Downstairs, with Diane and Rob Ferree, of Ferree Group.



The garden at 2 West Cedar Street serves as an extension to the 19th century brick townhouse's kitchen.



The two-level granite and patterned brick hardscape at 3 West Cedar Street.



Kaitlin Wright, Irene, Mary, and Madeline Demoulas enjoying cocktails in the garden.

ART WALK (from pg. 1)

Created in 1990, the Beacon Hill Art Walk takes place in the nooks and crannies of Beacon Hill's North Slope as residents open up their private gardens, alleyways, and courtyards and allow artists to display and sell their artwork. It is a chance for visitors to tour the private spaces of Beacon Hill while viewing original, handmade artwork. Thousands of people attend each year. The popular event in a festive atmosphere includes volunteer musicians playing in various gardens throughout the day. Around 50 artists participate, with a variety of styles,

media, and subject matter. Visitors enjoy a unique atmosphere boasting bursts of colors against the background sound of live classical and folk music playing in various gardens throughout the day.

"After a long and snowy winter, we are all ready to welcome in the summer months with some beautiful art in a tranquil setting," said Jen Matson, a Beacon Hill Art Walk Organizer. "We can't wait to welcome everyone back in June and see what our artists have been working on all year."

Visitors hoping to get the

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

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

The Beacon Hill Art Walk will take place on Sunday, June 7, in Beacon Hill's North Slope

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USS Constitution Museum launches Boston's most revolutionary mini golf course

Special to the Times

The USS Constitution Museum has launched USS Constitution Mini Golf, a new free 9-hole course on the Charlestown Navy Yard designed to give residents and visitors a fun, accessible way to engage Boston's role in the story of American independence.

Celebrated with a ceremonial First Putt event, the new course opened with a ribbon cutting by sword before civic leaders took the first putt. The newly designed course offers a fresh summer activity on Boston Harbor while inviting players to experience the city's Revolutionary history in one of its most historic water-

front settings. Created especially for the 2026 season, the course combines play, place-based storytelling, and public access at a moment when Boston is looking ahead to America250.

Set beside the USS Constitution Museum, the course offers families, neighbors, and visitors an outdoor activity that is both entertaining and meaningful. As players move through the course, they encounter moments inspired by Boston Harbor's central role in the Revolution, from protest and conflict to a broader path toward independence.

As Boston looks ahead to America250, the course provides a timely and accessible way to



It's a blockade. USS Constitution Mini Golf course tells the story of Boston's role in the Revolution.

celebrate the city's role in the course of independence while offering a free activity in one of its most historic and scenic settings. USS Constitution Mini Golf is made possible with the generous support of the Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism.

"At its heart, this is about access," said Jeff Draeger, President & CEO of the USS Constitution Museum. "We wanted to create something free, fun, and engaging for the public, while also connecting people to this extraordinary place and to Boston's role in the story of American independence. It is a summer experience that reflects the

Museum's mission in a fresh and engaging way."

"USS Constitution Mini Golf is a creative and welcoming way to bring Massachusetts history to life during this celebratory year," said Kate Fox, Executive Director at the Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism. "Experiences like this help visitors and residents connect with Boston Harbor and the stories that shaped America, while highlighting the history, culture, and sense of discovery that make destinations across Massachusetts so special and engaging for all ages."

See MINI GOLF Page 7

WORLD CUP (from pg. 3)

our city."

The City is able to host various watch parties after receiving official approval from FOX on our FIFA World Cup 2026 Public Viewing Event applications. The selected matches reflect communities with strong cultural ties and large diasporas across Boston, including Cabo Verdean, Haitian, Colombian, Brazilian and Portuguese communities.

Each watch party will feature a large viewing screen, live music, family-friendly activities, face painting, food vendors, and community programming for residents and visitors of all ages to enjoy. The events will also provide opportunities to support Boston's small businesses and local vendors throughout the tournament.

"As a community leader in Boston, I am deeply excited and

proud to see the City of Boston creating spaces for communities to come together and celebrate the World Cup through public watch parties," said Ruth Georges, Haitian community leader. "For Haitians across Boston, Haiti's return to the world stage for the first time since 1974 is an emotional and historic moment that represents resilience, culture, pride, and the enduring spirit of the Haitian people. This is bigger than soccer — it is about visibility, unity, and creating opportunities for Haitian families, youth, and communities across the diaspora to celebrate our heritage alongside the American and Caribbean communities that make Boston so vibrant and diverse. To witness Haiti's historic return in a city like Boston makes this moment even more meaningful,

powerful, and unforgettable. To our community and supporters, Grenadye alaso!"

"It's exciting to see the City of Boston creating opportunities for communities with connections to World Cup teams to come together, celebrate their cultures, and strengthen community ties," said Miguel Vargas, President of Bajucol, an East Boston-based Colombian folkloric dance troupe. "Events like these not only bring people together through soccer, but also create meaningful opportunities to support local businesses and highlight the diversity that makes neighborhoods like East Boston so special."

"Soccer has a unique ability to bring people together across cultures, languages, and neighborhoods, and these community watch parties are a beautiful reflection of that spirit," said Caroline K. Foscatto, President and Founder of Soccer Unity Project. "We are incredibly grateful to the Mayor for the City's longstanding partnership with Soccer Unity Project on the Boston Unity Cup, one of Boston's most ethnically diverse events, uniting communities through the global game. We also thank the City of Boston for stepping up during this once-in-a-lifetime moment to use soccer as a vehicle for residents to celebrate together and build unity with their friends, families, and neighbors by sharing the joy and energy of the World Cup throughout the

city - especially in the communities that so love football (soccer) but may not always have access to the game. These events will help ensure that every neighborhood feels connected to this historic moment for Boston and for the game of soccer."

Below is a list of free, family-friendly watch parties the City is hosting:

Watch Party #1 - Spain vs. Cabo Verde - Monday, June 15 | 1:00 PM ET; Town Field, Dorchester

Watch Party #2 - Brazil vs. Haiti - Friday, June 19 | 9:00 PM ET; Parkman Bandstand, Boston Common

Watch Party #3 - Colombia vs. Portugal - Saturday, June 27 | 7:30 PM ET; East Boston Memorial Stadium

Watch Party #4 - FIFA World Cup Semi Final - Tuesday, July 14 | 3:00 PM ET; Location to be announced at a later date

Watch Party #5 - FIFA World Cup Semi Final - Wednesday, July 15 | 3:00 PM ET; Location to be announced at a later date

Watch Party #6 - FIFA World Cup Final - Sunday, July 19 | 3:00 PM ET; Location to be announced at a later date

In addition to the community watch parties the City is encour-

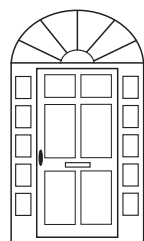
aging residents to celebrate this historic summer in ways that reflect the unique character of their own neighborhoods and communities. Earlier this spring, the City launched both the Summer Block Party Grant Program and the Office of Cultural Affairs Mini Grant Program to support community-led celebrations, cultural events, and neighborhood gatherings connected to the summer's major events. The City also received financial support from the Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism for the watch parties. These programs are designed to help ensure residents across Boston can celebrate in ways that are meaningful, accessible, and reflective of their communities.

The City of Boston continues to partner with The Boston Host Committee (Boston 26) for the FIFA World Cup 2026™ to ensure residents, families, and visitors are connected to exciting events and programming throughout the upcoming tournament. For more details on the FIFA Fan Festival™, please visit the official FIFA World Cup 2026™ website or the Boston 26 website.

Residents and visitors are encouraged to support local businesses during the tournament and explore the City's Neighborhood Business Guide and summer programming at boston.gov/summer.

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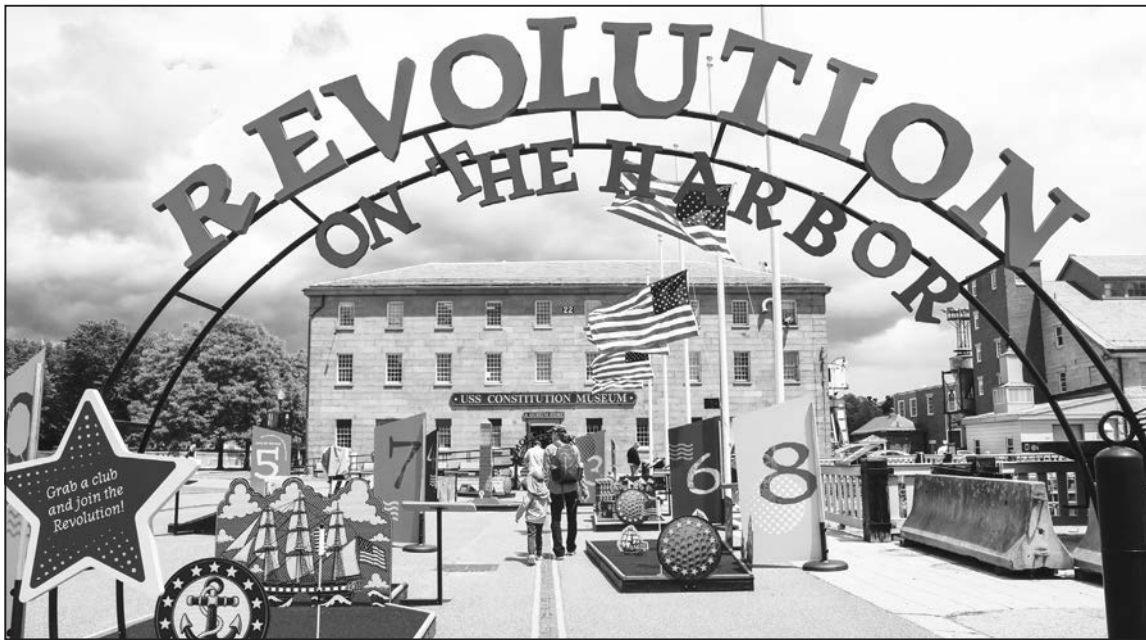
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PHOTOS BY GREG M. COOPER / USS CONSTITUTION MUSEUM

USS Constitution Mini Golf Course themed "Revolution on the Harbor" at Charlestown Navy Yard, May 28.

MINI GOLF (from pg. 6)

The launch event brought together civic and community leaders, including Representative Daniel Ryan, Senator Sal DiDomenico, Boston City Councilor Ed Flynn, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism Kate Fox, and CAPT (sel) Crystal L. Schaefer, Commanding Officer of USS Constitution.

"I want to thank the USS Constitution Museum for creating this exciting and inclusive new program for families in our neighborhood and throughout the region. Mini golf is fun for people of all ages and will bring even more people together to see the Museum's award-winning exhibitions and programs," said Senator Sal DiDomenico.

Representative Daniel Ryan added, "This is a fun and excit-

ing way to kick-off the summer season. Families can enjoy their time together putting around while learning some of our illustrious Naval History here at the USS Constitution Museum. I thank Commander Schaefer for taking time out of her duties to help us get the season underway."

Their presence underscored the broad community support for a new free, public activity that combines fun with learning and offers a fresh way to connect residents and visitors to Boston's historic role in the Revolution.

USS Constitution Mini Golf is made possible with the generous support of the Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism, whose partnership has helped make this accessible public experience available for a third year,

with an entirely new course debuting for 2026.

The course is now open to the public in the Charlestown Navy Yard, inviting all to grab a putter and join the Revolution.

For more information, visit usscm.org/events/minigolf/

The USS Constitution Museum serves as the memory and educational voice of USS Constitution, America's Ship of State, also known as "Old Ironsides." Through award-winning exhibitions and programs, the Museum engages more than 300,000 visitors annually with the people, stories, and ideals that have shaped our nation. Located in the Charlestown Navy Yard, the Museum is a non-profit organization that relies on the generosity of members and donors. Learn more at usscm.org/



USS Constitution Museum President & CEO Jeff Draeger and Kate Fox, Executive Director of Massachusetts Office of Travel & Tourism (center) cut the ribbon on the new USS Constitution Mini Golf Course. Joining them are special guests, flanked by members of the 1812 Marines, (l-r) Phil Carr, Bunker Hill Associates; Senator Sal DiDomenico; John Caldwell, Bunker Hill Associates; Suzanne Taylor, Executive Director of the Freedom Trail; Representative Daniel Ryan; Sheila Green, Massachusetts Office of Travel & Tourism; and Boston City Councilor Ed Flynn.

BPHC encourages Mpox vaccinations in light of uptick in cases nationally and in Boston

Special to the Times

Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) and partners at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health are monitoring an uptick in mpox cases in Boston and are encouraging at-risk individuals to get vaccinated. There is no widespread public health threat from mpox at this time, but at-risk residents, including gay and bisexual men and other men who have sex with men are encouraged to protect themselves and their communities by getting vaccinated. The mpox vaccine is two doses given 28 days apart. It is extremely effective in preventing severe illness from mpox and is the best tool to stop the spread of disease. For more information about mpox and how to protect yourself and others, visit boston.gov/mpox.

This year, BPHC and the Mayor's Office of LGBTQIA2S+ Advancement (MOLA) are partnering together to offer mpox vaccinations at the Pride flag raising at City Hall on June 1, 2026 on the 3rd Floor Mezzanine from 1:00-4:00pm. Additional clinics will be hosted with City partners throughout the summer; dates will be available at boston.gov/vaccine as they are scheduled.

Mpox vaccinations are also currently available at Mass General Hospital, Boston Medical Center, and Fenway Health. Recently, numerous pharmacies in Boston have also begun administering mpox vaccine. A full list of vaccination locations is available [here](http://boston.gov/vaccine).

"Boston's diverse LGBTQIA2S+ community is part of what makes our city great, and as we prepare to celebrate Pride month, I'm proud that we are offering services to keep everyone safe and healthy. The best way individuals can protect themselves from mpox is by getting vaccinated and avoiding physical and sexual contact with anyone who has a new rash or sores," said Dr. Bisola Ojikutu, Commissioner of Public Health for the City of Boston. "While we are monitoring cases in Boston, residents should rest assured that there is no widespread public health threat at

this time."

"At the Mayor's Office of LGBTQIA2S+ Advancement, we are proud to partner with the Boston Public Health Commission to ensure our communities have access to accurate information and affirming care," said Jullianne Lee, Executive Director. "Offering mpox vaccinations at our Pride Kick Off celebration on June 1st at City Hall Plaza is about meeting people where they are and making it easier to take care of ourselves and each other. We encourage our community to consider getting vaccinated and to stay informed so we can keep our communities healthy, safe, and connected."

"As we celebrate Pride, our time of visibility, resilience, and joy, getting vaccinated against mpox is one more way we show up for each other," said Dr. Will Giordano-Perez, Fenway's Chief Medical Officer. "Taking this step means we protect the health of our chosen family and keep Pride a safe celebration for all."

The Mpox vaccine is safe and proven to be most effective two weeks after the second dose is administered. The vaccine is 80% effective at preventing illness and highly effective in lessening symptoms. Residents who have already received both doses do not need a booster. If someone believes they have Mpox, they should seek medical attention immediately and avoid contact with others and pets. Symptoms include:

- Painful, itchy rash that presents as pimples, blisters, or scabs
- Fever
- Headache
- Muscle aches
- Exhaustion
- Swollen lymph nodes

Regardless of vaccination status, individuals with mpox symptoms should abstain from sexual activity and see a doctor. mpox spreads through close, direct contact with an infected person's skin lesions, scabs, or body fluids. It can also spread through extensive contact with surfaces or materials such as clothing or bed linens. Mpox does not spread through incidental contact like brushing up against someone on a crowded train car, or shopping in the same store.



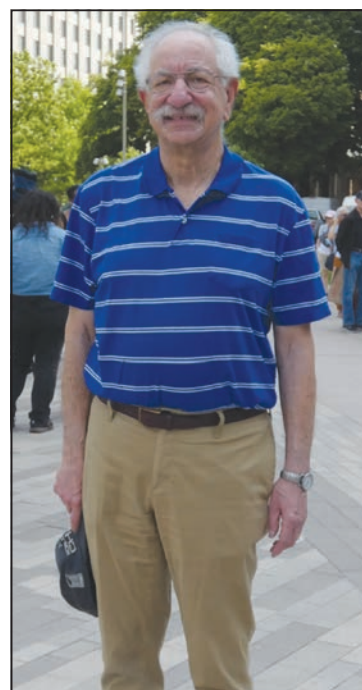
Pictured, left to right, are Sabrina Indorato, who works with Boston 311 via Northeastern University's co-op program; Jack Churchill-Valencia, also with Boston 311 via Northeastern's co-op program; Shivon Arroyo, of the city's Office of Constituent Services; Tracy Ramos, an Office of Constituent Services representative; and Terron Worrell, deputy director of Boston 311.

COFFEE HOUR (from pg. 1)

now offers three times as much seating as before the restoration.

The Raised Grove and redesigned plaza now offer inviting, event-ready spaces with improved sightlines to the Boston Public Library and Trinity Church. With enhanced access to Dartmouth Street and improved utilities, the park is better equipped to host major events, from First Night and the Boston Marathon to the Copley Square Farmers Market.

"Our parks are a key tool in making Boston more resilient to climate change," said Brian Swett, Chief Climate Officer. "These upgrades, made in partnership with our community partners, will help manage stormwater flooding in Back Bay and provide shade on Boston's hottest days. I am thrilled to see how the reconstruction makes this space more welcoming for our residents and visitors alike.



D. MURPHY PHOTOS

Elliott Laffer, a longtime Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay (NABB) board member and Back Bay resident.

The redesign of Copley Square Park reflects years of public input and a clear mandate to create a space that serves everyday users, as well as major events.

Beginning in 2020, the Boston Parks and Recreation Department led a comprehensive engagement process including three public meetings, a widely shared park-user survey, and ongoing collaboration with a steering committee that included the Friends of Copley Square, the Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay, ArtsBoston, and the Back Bay Business Improvement District.

"We are so thrilled that Copley Square's transformation is complete, bringing new opportunities, rejuvenated gathering space and future events to the Back Bay," said Meg Mainzer-Cohen, president and executive director of the Back Bay Association.



Samantha Courage, Mayor Michelle Wu's neighborhood liaison for Back Bay and Beacon Hill (as well as for Mission Hill and Fenway-Kenmore).



Mayor Michelle Wu.



Mayor Michelle Wu joins other elected officials and stakeholders on May 27 to cut the ribbon on the restored Copley Square Park.

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District 8 City Councilor Sharon Durkan.



Rep. Jay Livingstone.



Rep. John Moran, whose district now includes Copley Square Park due to redistricting.

FROM HEARTBREAK TO HOPE A morning blessing for the Esplanade's newest swan family

By Phoebe Wing Swan

For anyone who loves the wildlife that graces our local waters, the memory of our 2022 swan family carries a deep, lingering ache. As a photographer, I spent hours capturing their tragically short journey. My camera lens didn't just document their lives; it bound my heart to them. When their story ended in heartbreak, it left a wound that made me deeply hesitant to open my heart to the river's swans again.

So, when a friend messaged me with the news—"There is a nest, and hatch day has started"—my immediate, visceral reaction wasn't excitement. It was tears. The shadow of past grief loomed large. I wasn't sure I was ready to face the vulnerability of a new hatch day.

But this morning, I summoned the courage to walk down to the Charles River Esplanade, right by the Dartmouth Street overpass. I went to meet the new swan couple and their four beautiful, freshly hatched cygnets.

In the Jewish tradition, there is a beautiful practice of reciting a blessing upon witnessing an exceptionally magnificent wonder of nature or a beautiful animal. It is a way of pausing,



A swan watches over her four cygnets in their nest along the Charles River lagoon, near the Dartmouth Street footbridge.

recognizing a moment of pure creation, and offering gratitude. That was my mission: to bless this new family and wish them a safe, long life on our waters.

Standing quietly behind the reeds, watching the parents



First swim lessons in the lagoon

tenderly guard their soft, grey chicks, the anxiety melted away. In its place came pure joy. Witnessing these tiny new lives step into the world filled my heart, starting a process of repair. This morning wasn't about forgetting the past—it was about honoring the memory of the family we lost by welcoming, protecting, and celebrating the fragile, beautiful new generation before us.

If you walk down to the Esplanade to welcome them, please remember how vulnerable this new family is. I ask our community to be mindful and deeply respectful—keep a safe distance, keep dogs on leashes, and ensure we do not stress the parents or their babies. Let's work together to give them the peaceful envi-

ronment they deserve.

To see more photos and follow the journey of our local wildlife, visit my blog, River Echoes, on Blogspot

Phoebe Wing Swan is a Boston-based photographer, multi-disciplinary collage artist, and nature chronicler behind the blog River Echoes. Known creatively as an "Attitude Architect," her signature philosophy is: "Where photography meets art, art becomes fashion."

Emerging from a creative hiatus, her work has been featured by the West End Museum, including her 2024 canvas-collaged installation, "What The West End Means to Me," and her recent mixed-media exhibition, "Trees on Thoreau," which debuted the metal print "Night & Day on Thoreau" alongside a digital music composition: Trees Rise Up featured on her YouTube channel. Her wearable fine art line can be explored through the Phoebe Wing Swan Atelier on Le Galeriste.

BHCA (from pg. 1)

Save the Date for these
BHCA Events:

Dinner Under the Stars – Saturday, September 26th

BHCA Fall HillFest – Sunday, September 27th

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



Shown left to right Liz Roache, Emma Roache, Faith Chandler, and Caroline Mitchell enjoying a beautiful night in Boston Harbor during the Beacon Hill Civic Association's Valiant Cruise.

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Open Newbury makes its return Sunday, July 10

By Times staff

The city's Open Newbury program will return Sunday, July 10, for another season, again transforming an eight-block stretch from Berkeley Street to Massachusetts Avenue into a vehicle-free pedestrian walkway replete with food, shopping, and outdoor dining.

Additional Open Newbury dates will include Sunday, July 19; Sunday, July 26; Sunday, Aug. 2; Sunday, Aug. 9; Sunday, Aug. 23; Sunday, Sept. 6; Sunday, Sept. 13; Sunday, Sept. 20; and Sunday, Oct. 11, along with a yet-to-be-announced Holiday Stroll date in December with seasonal activities.

The first two open Newbury events will shut down the road but not include the event's regular programming. Residents will still be able to access local businesses in the area. In the event of severe weather, Open Newbury will be cancelled by Friday evening and not rescheduled.

During Open Newbury, which the city first piloted in 2016, Newbury Street will be car-free and open to pedestrians only from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. The route will be the same as previous years, with Newbury Street closed to cars from Berkeley Street to Massachusetts Avenue. Parking will be restricted on Newbury Street and adjacent streets, with enforcement beginning at 5 a.m. Signs will be posted informing drivers of the change.

"Every year, Newbury Street comes alive as neighbors, shoppers, and visitors enjoy one of

our most iconic streets," Mayor Michelle Wu said in a press release. "I'm excited to bring back this beloved tradition of opening Newbury Street for strolling for every generation in our community, while creating new opportunities for local businesses to connect with the community and welcome new customers. Thank you to all the local businesses and neighbors whose feedback has helped shape this program."

This year's Open Newbury Street dates were selected with consideration to various major events happening this year, including but not limited to Student Move-In Weekend in August and various cultural parades and holidays, according to the city.

"I'm thrilled that Open Newbury is returning this year! Our city will be full of energy this summer, and Open Newbury gives residents and visitors a unique way to experience one of Boston's most iconic streets, home to more than 400 businesses. I hear how much residents look forward to Open Newbury days where they can stroll and support small businesses. Open Newbury transforms the street into a space designed for pedestrians, bringing people together and creating opportunities for community. I look forward to seeing everyone on Newbury Street this summer!" added District 8 City Councilor Sharon Durkan.

For more on the city's summer programming and additional events, visit boston.gov/summer.



PHOTO COURTESY MIKE SPENCER

Officials join at the UnCommon Corner area on Tremont Street on May 16 for the official ribbon cutting.

Emerson College's UnCommon Corner 2026 season officially kicks-off on Boston Common

Special to the Times

Emerson's UnCommon Corner presented by PNC Bank has officially kicked off its 2026 season on Boston Common. The outdoor venue and beer garden is a partnership between Emerson College, the Office of Mayor Michelle Wu and the Boston Parks and Recreation Depart-

ment offering food, drinks and free public entertainment at the corner of Tremont and Boylston Streets.

"Emerson College is proud to welcome the Boston community back to the UnCommon Corner for another season of live entertainment, connection, and creativity on Boston Common," said Emerson President Jay Ber-

nhardt. "This partnership showcases what Emerson and the City of Boston can accomplish together, creating a shared public space where arts and culture thrive for everyone to enjoy."

The venue includes the UnCommon Stage, the Harpoon Beer Garden and a menu by El

See UNCOMMON CORNER Page 11

Serial offender with history of Beacon Hill break-ins held on new charges

Special to the Times

A recently released Boston man with a history of Beacon Hill-area break-ins is being held without bail after being charged Tuesday, May 26, with yet another break-in in that neighborhood, Suffolk District Attorney Kevin Hayden announced May 28.

James Schaff, 59, was charged in Central BMC with breaking and entering during the nighttime, larceny from a building, and common and notorious thief. Judge Paul Treseler set \$1,000 bail on the new charges and ordered Schaff, who is currently on probation, held pending a violation hearing on June 25.

Schaff was released from the Suffolk House of Correction on May 11 after serving a six-month sentence for two 2023 break-ins in Beacon Hill. Schaff has a 24-page criminal record dating back to 1998. Schaff is on

probation until February 2027.

At about 2:15 a.m. on May 20, Boston police responded to a commercial alarm at 105 Charles St. on Beacon Hill. Simultaneously, there was a commercial alarm at 75 Charles St.

Upon arrival at both addresses, officers observed a broken pane of glass and the doors unlocked.

Shortly after, police received another call for a commercial alarm at 107 Charles St. Officers canvassed Charles Street and found broken glass panes at 109 Charles St., and 63A Charles St.

The owner of 105 Charles St. provided police with the store's surveillance footage which showed an unknown male, later identified as Schaff, punch out a glass door pane, enter, head straight to the cash register and take \$152 in cash.

Officers identified Schaff from still images and incident descriptions that were disseminated department wide.

"This man wasted no time returning to the conduct that has become a quality-of-life detriment to the residents and merchants in and around Beacon Hill. Luckily for everyone, officers were just as quick to identify and apprehend him," Hayden said.

Hayden's office, the Boston Police department, regional retailer groups and small business owners in 2024 launched the Safe Shopping Initiative, an effort to increase consumer safety and help store managers strategize responses to shoplifting and retail larcenies. The initiative formed amid increasing national and local frustrations around retail crime, along with concerns over the closure of several pharmacies serving minority communities in Boston.

All charged individuals are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

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June at The West End Museum

Special to the Times

The West End Museum is kicking off its summer programming with a bang, hosting six different events that include an author talk and discussion panel highlighting the legacies of Urban Renewal in and outside of Boston; a Scotland V. Morocco World Cup Watch Party at The Pennyweight Hotel; and a Free Pride Party at Dorchester Brewing.

On June 4 at 6 p.m., Professor and Author Andrea L. Smith will be discussing her work, 'Rebuilding Shattered Worlds: Urban Renewal, Displacement,

and Community Voices,' which is centered around the urban renewal and displacement of Easton, Pa.'s "Syrian Town." She will then be joined by author Charlie Garguilo and South End artist and Reclaiming History member Jared Katsaine for a discussion about how these themes manifest in Boston and beyond.

On June 11 at 6 p.m., join the museum for 'Don't Talk About Joe Mac,' a true crime author talk featuring Springs Toledo. Get familiar with Boston's underworld and the man behind so much of it.

On June 17 at 6 p.m., celebrate Pride and learn about the

LGBTQIA+ history of the neighborhood at the Queer History West End Exhibition Opening. This exhibition was made in partnership with Queer History Boston and is exclusively sponsored by Massachusetts 250th and Massachusetts LGBT Chamber of Commerce.

On June 19 at 5 p.m., The West End Museum's Scotland Versus Morocco Watch Party will take place at The Pennyweight Hotel. This event is hosted by founder of Boston Sports Tours, Kathryn Harris. Enjoy delicious food and drink while taking part in Boston's World Cup festivities. The bar opens at

5 p.m., the game starts at 6 p.m., and Kathryn Harris will be filling commercial breaks with local sports trivia and other fun facts!

On June 20 at 11 a.m., former West End Museum curator Duane Lucia's Bulfinch Triangle Walking Tour is back by popular demand. Enjoy the beautiful June weather and learn all about the curious and storied streets of The Bulfinch Triangle during this 1.5 hour event. The tour begins at The West End Museum.

On June 26 at 6:30 p.m., WEM is partnering with Dorchester Brewing to throw Queer History West End Pride Party. This free party celebrates

Boston's Queer past and present as part of the museum's special exhibition, 'Queer History West End.' Support a fantastic local brewery, learn about local Queer history, and have tons of fun. WEM extends its thanks to generous host, Dorchester Brewing, exhibition collaborator Queer History Boston, and exclusive sponsors Massachusetts 250th and Massachusetts LGBT Chamber of Commerce.

More information and links to purchase tickets can be found online at: www.westendmuseum.org/programs

Wu, Brighton Marine announce \$1 million partnership to support Boston veterans

Special to the Times

Mayor Michelle Wu and Rosye Cloud, CEO of Brighton Marine, have announced a new \$1 million public-private partnership to support Boston veterans and other communities. As part of this initiative, the City will launch a veterans grant program to provide direct financial support to neighborhood nonprofit organizations. Through this program, veterans will gain access to expanded wraparound services including housing, transportation, health and wellness, and legal assistance.

Brighton Marine will also host an Office of Veterans Services satellite office on their nine acre campus in Brighton, MA. The office will offer services to veterans and their families to ease

access to and streamline navigation of eligible services.

"In the birthplace of America, we hold ourselves to the highest standards for serving those who have made our freedom and quality of life possible," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "At a time when many veterans and their families are facing uncertainty, Boston is taking every possible step to get them the support they need, when they need it. This partnership with Brighton Marine will take our shared work to the next level, setting a standard for all sectors coming together to care for our veterans and military families."

This initiative reflects a continued, close collaboration between the Mayor's Office and Brighton Marine, focused on ensuring veterans and military-connected

families continue to receive consistent support worthy of their service.

"Brighton Marine will always stand with the City of Boston in supporting our veterans and their loved ones," said Rosye Cloud, CEO of Brighton Marine. "Our mission is to deliver healthcare, housing, and hope to those who have given so much to our nation. This initiative recognizes the critical contributions of nonprofits to the veteran community in our region."

The City of Boston's Veterans' Services will help design and launch the grants program. These funds will advance efforts to eliminate veteran homelessness, address food insecurity, and support economic stability

See PARTNERSHIP Page 12

UNCOMMON CORNER (from pg. 10)

Jefe's Taqueria, bringing free live performances, local businesses, and vibrant energy to the country's oldest public park.

"We're thrilled to welcome back the UnCommon Corner performance venue and beer garden to one of Boston's most beloved public spaces," said Brian Swett, Chief of Environment, Energy and Open Space for the City of Boston. "For a fourth summer, the City is proud to partner with Emerson College as well as Harpoon Brewery and El Jefe's to activate this corner of Boston Common, creating a vibrant gathering space that

brings energy, entertainment, and community to Downtown Boston throughout the season."

The 5,000 square foot performance space features entertainment and dynamic programming ranging from live music performances and WERS 88.9 FM broadcasts to family-friendly activities, children's programming, and summer Salsa nights.

"The UnCommon Corner brings a steady stream of arts, culture, and community programming to one of the most visible parts of Boston," said Jon Bernstein, PNC regional president for New England. "It

is designed to be for everyone, including families, which aligns with PNC's long-standing philanthropic focus on early childhood. As Boston approaches its 250th anniversary, we are proud to support spaces that help keep the city active and welcoming."

The UnCommon Corner is open to all ages seven days a week, weather permitting. Entertainment and performance details, operating hours, and menus can be found via the Emerson College UnCommon Corner website.

BEACON HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION 2026 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. We are here for you to answer your questions and respond to your concerns. Your donations to the Annual Appeal ensure that we can continue this work to preserve and enhance our historic neighborhood.

Please respond to our 2026 Annual Appeal by donating at bhcciv.org, or by check to 74 Joy Street, Boston MA 02114, or by clicking on this QR code. Thank you!



Contractor Parking

The Beacon Hill Civic Association has an agreement with the Boston Transportation Department that all renewals of contractor parking applications are

looked at by the BHCA before BTD will renew them. While the BHCA is the only neighborhood group in Boston that has this consideration, the power it gives us is limited. We can contact the contractor when a neighbor complains that they are beyond their allotted parking spots (2), or that they are working out of hours (7am - 4pm).

But the city does not have limits as to how long a project can take or limits as to how many projects can happen on one street. Please reach out to Councilor Sharon Durkan's office with comments on these important issues at lily.sweeterman@boston.gov.

A Reminder about Public Trash Bins

Please remember all public trash bins are for small trash (coffee cups) or recycling small items (newspapers or other recyclables), and that it is illegal (\$1,000 fine) to dispose of household trash in any public trash bin. How is this enforced? City employees can find the name and address of the offender in the trash and will mail them a violation ticket. Let's all work together to keep our streets and sidewalks clean and free of trash and litter by using these trash bins appropriately.

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

MBTA celebrates special summer events with collectible CharlieCards

Special to the Times

The MBTA has announced the availability of special edition collectible CharlieCards featuring iconic Boston landmarks to celebrate an exciting summer of events taking place in Boston and the surrounding

Commonwealth this year. “The MBTA is excited to welcome thousands of visitors to the Commonwealth for this summer’s MA250, SailBoston, and World Cup special events,” said Interim Secretary of Transportation and MBTA General Manag-

er and CEO Phillip Eng. “These special edition CharlieCards – featuring photos of iconic Boston landmarks like the Boston Public Library, the USS Constitution, and our own South Station – are another way we’re sharing in the celebrations with the rest of the

region. Designed by our Customer Experience Design Lead in collaboration with our Fares team, the collectible cards are a fun way for both riders and visitors to explore the city, discover new destinations, and commemorate their travels. We hope they

add a little extra enjoyment to every journey while showcasing the many experiences that make Boston and Massachusetts such a remarkable place to visit and explore.”

See CHARLIECARDS Page 15



PARTNERSHIP (from pg. 11)

Services and as a veteran myself, I am proud of this partnership with Brighton Marine and grateful for their unwavering commitment to the veteran community, local servicemembers, and their families,” said Robert Santiago, Commissioner of City’s Veterans’ Services Department. “Together, we are investing directly into the organizations and support systems that continue to uplift and care for the veterans of Boston every single day.

“Boston’s veterans and their families have done so much for the residents of our City and we all owe them our gratitude,” said House Majority Leader Michael Moran (D-Brighton). “I want to thank Mayor Wu and Rosye for their unwavering commitment to the veterans community, particularly in Allston Brighton and I applaud their partnership to continue important services even during these challenging fiscal times.”

“I’m incredibly grateful to Brighton Marine for stepping up and partnering with the City to fund our veterans community in these challenging times,” said City Council President Liz Breadon. “As the City Councilor representing Allston-Brighton, I know that Brighton Marine has always been there for those who serve and their families. I also want to thank Mayor Wu, Commissioner Robert Santiago, and my Council colleagues, particularly Councilor Flynn, for their work in this effort. Those who serve our country are owed a debt of gratitude and support; with this funding Boston will continue to repay our veterans for the sacrifices they’ve made.”

ans and military families,” said City Councilor Ed Flynn, U.S. Navy (Retired). “Our Veterans Services Department provides critical assistance on housing, employment and social services for all veterans and military families - including women veterans and veterans of color. Especially in difficult economic times, we must always keep our promise and ensure earned benefits remain in place. It’s about respect for veterans and military families.”

Center community,” said Emily K. Shea, Age Strong Commissioner. “At a time when our beloved community space will undergo much needed renovations, Brighton Marine stepped up to ensure that Allston/Brighton’s older adults won’t lose access to vital resources. This collaboration represents the very best of this neighborhood, one that honors older adults by ensuring they always have safe, welcoming, and vibrant spaces to connect and access the programs and services they need.”

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“Restoring funding for vets in next year’s budget was a major priority for the City Council,” said City Councilor Benjamin Weber, Chair of the Committee on Ways and Means. “I am grateful for the strong advocacy of my colleagues and the hard work of the Mayor in finding a way to help our vets in need.”

As the City’s Veronica B. Smith Senior Center undergoes a 18 month renovation, Brighton Marine has worked closely with Age Strong to transfer over the center’s programming for older adults to their space during construction. Age Strong will continue to partner with Brighton Marine to provide outreach, health services, and housing support to older adults and veterans in the Allston-Brighton neighborhood.

The partnership showcases the growing role private and nonprofit social enterprises can play as civic partners, working alongside government to respond quickly, responsibly, and collaboratively to emerging community needs. Last week, Mayor Wu also announced a partnership with Dana Farber Cancer Institute to support cancer screenings for firefighters. These efforts reflect the City’s commitment to meeting the needs of our communities and leveraging partnerships to help supplement community-based programming.

“Boston was built on the service and sacrifice of our veter-

“We are incredibly grateful to Brighton Marine for their generosity in opening their doors to the Veronica B. Smith Senior



Mayor Wu, alongside CEO of Brighton Marine, Rosye Cloud and officials at the announcement last Friday.

Boston Beaches rank as some of the cleanest urban beaches in the country

Special to the Sun

For the first time in its testing history, Save the Harbor/Save the Bay has reported that every metropolitan beach from Nahant to Nantasket scored above 80% in its annual Water Quality Report Card. This is a historic achievement that reflects Save the Harbor's 40 years of persistent advocacy, public investment in water infrastructure, and rigorous testing.

The Water Quality Report Card uses data collected by the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) to assess water quality at public beaches from Nahant to Nantasket, including Lynn, Nahant, Revere, Winthrop, East Boston, South Boston, Dorchester, Quincy, and Hull (see table below). Water samples are tested for the number of colony forming units of enterococci bacteria; this is the standard unit used to determine safe swimming conditions, according to the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

South Boston's beaches continue to lead the way. City Point maintained a perfect 100% water quality rating for another consecutive year. M Street Beach and Carson Beach posted a 94% and 95% rating respectively, continuing the region's tradition of excellence. In addition, Nan-

tasket Beach also scored very well last year, up from 92% in 2024 to 100% in 2025.

"It is gratifying to once again see so many of our spectacular urban beaches consistently testing at safe bacteria levels," said Save the Harbor/Save the Bay's Executive Director, Chris Mancini. "The region-wide scores above 80% are a testament to what sustained investment and scientific rigor can achieve. As we mark our 40th anniversary this year, we are as committed as ever to ensuring anyone can confidently get into or out on the water without worrying about bacteria and other pollution."

Several beaches' water quality ratings made remarkable comebacks. Nahant Beach rebounded to a 95% rating after four years of hovering around 80%. Meanwhile, Savin Hill Beach, Dorchester jumped to 100% after its dramatic drop to 68% last year.

"We're proud that Massachusetts continues to have some of the cleanest urban beaches in the country," said DCR Commissioner Nicole LaChapelle. "These results reflect decades of collaboration and stewardship focused on protecting and improving our public waterfronts, and we're grateful for our partnership with Save the Harbor/Save the Bay in helping make that possible. It

makes a real difference in how people experience our beaches and waterfronts. Clean water is essential, and access to it for recreation is a matter of equity. We remain committed to ensuring these coastal spaces stay resilient, accessible, and welcoming for generations to come."

Meanwhile, Kings Beach in Lynn had the largest jump in its rating, receiving a 90% water quality rating. This is a significant jump over the six-year average of 69% and 2023's record low of 55%. The pilot UV treatment program is one factor that contributed to the beach's water quality improvement. Other factors include the dry summer weather and the improvement to the sewage pipes over the years.

"The Water Quality Report Card by Save the Harbor/Save the Bay remains one of our most valuable tools for evaluating water quality trends and identifying where additional investment and attention are needed for the communities that rely on these beaches," said Adrian Madaro, Co-Chair of the MBC. "It's encouraging to see the continued progress at beaches across the region, while maintaining a strong focus on the beaches that still need additional attention and investment."

Currently the beaches use a posting and flagging system to

alert the public to high bacteria levels. Unfortunately, the best technology available takes 24 hours to return results, meaning by the time the posting goes up, the information is already out of date. Save the Harbor recommends people get familiar with their beach's individual characteristics by using the Department of Public Health's interactive beach water quality dashboard and to not swim 24 hours after a heavy rain fall event (0.3inches/hr).

Save the Harbor/Save the Bay thanks Dr. Judy Pederson, former Chair of their Beaches Science Advisory Committee, Bruce Berman, former Director of Strategy & Communications at Save the Harbor/Save the Bay, and Kelly Coughlin of Cornell University for their guidance in developing the methodology used in this report.

Additionally, Save the Harbor commends Senate President Karen Spilka and House Speaker Ron Mariano, Metropolitan Beaches Commission Co-Chairs Senator Brendan Crighton of Lynn and Rep. Adrian Madaro of East Boston, and each of the legislative and community members of the Commission for their commitment to clean water and the region's public beaches from Nahant to Nantasket.

Finally, Save the Harbor

also thanks the Healey-Driscoll Administration, the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, The Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, the Massachusetts Department of Conservation & Recreation, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

This work is supported by Barr Foundation, Bay State Cruise Company, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts, BXP (Boston Properties), The Coca-Cola Company, Department of Conservation and Recreation, JetBlue, Liberty Mutual Insurance, Massachusetts Bay Lines, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, National Grid, and New England Revolution, the Richard M. Saltonstall Charitable Foundation, along with over 100 additional corporate, foundation and individual donors.



2025 Water Quality Report Card

Beach	Six-year avg. water quality rating (2020-2025)	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Pleasure Bay	100%	97%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
City Point	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Nantasket	97%	100%	92%	98%	94%	100%	98%
M Street	95%	94%	94%	100%	94%	94%	94%
Carson	95%	93%	91%	91%	100%	92%	100%
Revere	94%	95%	86%	89%	98%	94%	100%
Constitution	92%	93%	86%	88%	97%	91%	98%
Winthrop	91%	89%	80%	82%	94%	100%	100%
Short	90%	84%	83%	94%	94%	89%	94%
Wollaston	87%	91%	88%	88%	88%	82%	85%
Nahant	85%	95%	78%	80%	81%	77%	96%
Malibu	85%	91%	83%	76%	95%	73%	91%
Savin Hill	84%	100%	68%	80%	94%	70%	89%
Tenean	77%	84%	71%	73%	89%	63%	79%
King's	71%	90%	66%	55%	74%	68%	70%
All Beaches (avg.)	89%	93%	84%	85%	93%	86%	93%

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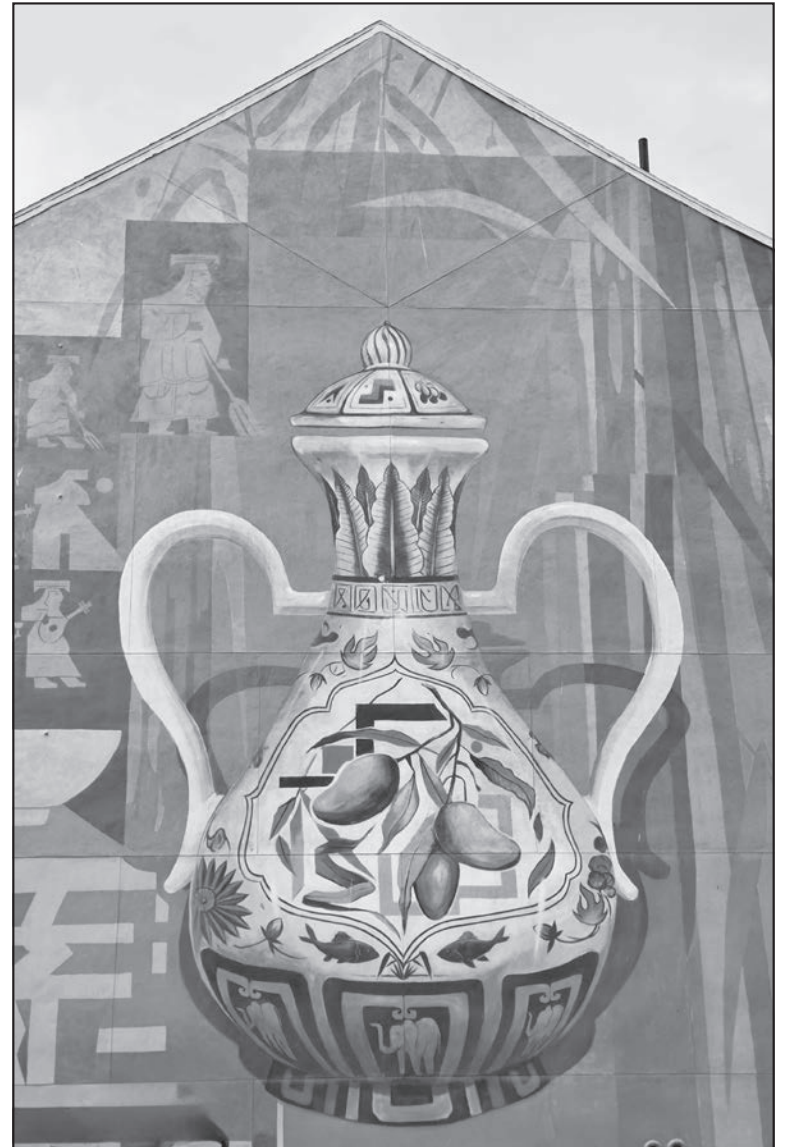
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Real Estate Transfers

Attention to Detail

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY PENNY CHERUBINO

THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The blue leaves in the last clue are on artist Bryan Beyung's mural "Tale of an Ancient Vase," located in the parking lot between Tyler Street and Harrison Avenue. This mural is a tribute to Emperor Shun, a legendary figure of virtue in ancient Chinese history.

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

THIS WEEK'S CLUE



BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
BACK BAY			
Gulinger, Ann Marie Commonwealth 4D LLC	Hunter, Travis 130 Comm Ave LLC	127 Beacon St #32 130 Commonwealth Ave	\$699,900 \$21,000,000
Richardson, Ross 305 Hexagon LLC	137 Marlborough St Rt Commonwealth 170 Nt	137 Marlborough St #6 160 Commonwealth Ave #3B	\$3,900,000 \$3,200,000
305 Hexagon LLC	Commonwealth 170 Nt	160 Commonwealth Ave #4	\$3,200,000
305 Hexagon LLC	Commonwealth 170 Nt	160 Commonwealth Ave #4A	\$3,200,000
305 Hexagon LLC	Commonwealth 170 Nt	160 Commonwealth Ave #U5	\$3,200,000
305 Hexagon LLC	Commonwealth 170 Nt	160 Commonwealth Ave #U7	\$3,200,000
Murphy, Anne P	Stone Jr, Ellery W	17 Follen St #3F	\$605,000
Murphy, James G	Richard L Schmalensee Lt	172 Beacon St #4	\$4,625,000
Owens, Matthew P	Norton, Charles A	25-A Eliot St	\$2,150,000
Moore/Southcote Ft	Susan N Porcello Ret	285 Beacon St #C	\$2,270,000
Kaufman, Michaila R	Herzog, Mary I	33 Boylston St #1	\$845,000
Savchuk, Nikolay	Kabbani, Jad Al	350 Columbus Ave #6	\$1,920,000
Kenneth A Himmel 2021 T	Vilami, Tomas	40 Stuart St #23E	\$3,850,000
Fls Business Center LLC	Wmt Raffles 1606 LLC	430 Stuart St #1606	\$985,000
Shore, Jason	50 Comm Ave Unit 204 Nt	50 Commonwealth Ave #204	\$1,675,000
Roon Ft	Pham, Phong T	75 Burbank St #203	\$407,500
Isaac, Paul	Adriano Varano Lt	841 Parker St #207	\$700,000

BEACON HILL

Team Huskies Corp	Hanley Ft	121 Charles St #4	\$680,000
Nerbonne, Jeanne M	1395-1405 Wa St LLC	1395 Washington St #Ph601	\$1,100,000
Chapdelaine, Susan	1395-1405 Wa St LLC	1395-1405 Washington St #201	\$699,000
Pohas, Stephen	1395-1405 Wa St LLC	1395-1405 Washington St #205	\$820,000
Yung, Yi Dan	1395-1405 Wa St LLC	1395-1405 Washington St #406	\$1,195,000
Gordon, Michele	1395-1405 Wa St LLC	1395-1405 Washington St #501	\$1,090,000
1145 N Wa Realty LLC	Am Project 145 Nws LLC	145-147 N Washington St	\$5,000,000
15 River St Holdings LLC	Wilcox 3rd, Harry W	15 River St #507	\$775,000
1145 N Wa Realty LLC	Am Project 145 Nws LLC	153-155 N Washington St	\$5,000,000
Alacron, Enrique Gil	Bonnell Marjorie H Est	2 Hawthorne Pl 2-8C	\$492,500
Dff Chestnut LLC	Steven Nancy Est	32 Chestnut St #1	\$3,300,000
Dff Chestnut LLC	Germann Richard W Est	32 Chestnut St #2	\$2,900,000
Lyman, Amy	Khanna, Arjun	37 Grove St #2	\$790,000
Walsh, Patricia	516 Tremont Nt	512-518 Tremont St #4	\$4,900,000
F George Davitt Irt	Beddingfield Ft	6 Walnut St #3	\$1,825,000
Marlis Three Kkc	Sgg Mount Veruon LLC	71 Mount Vernon St #1	\$670,000
Maher, Kathleen	Edward J Ford Ft	8 Whittier Pl 22D-8	\$585,000

DOWNTOWN/WATERFRONT

Wing Yue Millennium LLC	Chang, Hwa-Ping	1 Franklin St #2801	\$2,228,000
Kelly, Jill	Barbara S Butwinick Ft	100 Pond St #9	\$700,000
Savytska, Margaryta	Robert B King Ma Ret	2-1/2 Battery Wharf #4308	\$2,050,000
Bletzer, Curt F	Jane I Olszewsko Ret	300 Commercial St #507	\$1,320,000
Arsov, Miodrag	Hill, Alma M	357 Commercial St #220	\$825,000
Liliance K Yacoub Ret	Quinn South End LLC	370-380 Harrison Ave #Ph2e	\$2,999,000
Ldk Phillu Properties	Gray, Charles	386 Commercial St #4A	\$550,000
Du, Xia	Assareh, Amin	70 Lincoln St #L611	\$675,000
Capital Lending LLC	76 S St LLC	76 South St #76	\$1,430,408
Mcclary, Stephen	Gruenglas, Jeffrey	90 Commercial St #1A	\$699,000

BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE

Mccormick 3rd, John	Jessica Ashley Young Irt	150 Chandler St #9	\$775,000
Marini-Rapoport, Orlee	Su, Mel-Fat Emma	188 Brookline Ave #26G	\$1,890,000
Thomas Powderly Lt	Tripur, Patricia	35 Fay St E-101	\$1,175,000
Simmons, Susan	Watson, Jennifer A	64 E Brookline St #4	\$1,100,000

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BLO celebrates 25 years of free orchestral music in Boston neighborhoods

Special to the Times

Boston Landmarks Orchestra, under the direction of Music Director Christopher Wilkins, announces its 25th anniversary season of free summer concerts, bringing live orchestral music to some of the city's most beloved outdoor and neighborhood spac-

es from June 20 to August 12, 2026. The concerts and events celebrate community and the joy of music-making with a lineup of performances at the DCR Hatch Memorial Shell on the Esplanade and throughout Boston's neighborhoods.

Highlights include the Orchestra's fourth annual Juneteenth

Celebration on June 20, featuring a collaboration with young musicians from the Sphinx Performance Academy and music by Florence Price, Jessie Montgomery, Michael Abels, and Tchaikovsky; "Best of Boston" opens the Hatch Shell series on

See BLO Page 16



Music Director Christopher Wilkins.



A scene from last years concert on the Hatch Shell

MICHAEL DWYER PHOTO

CHARLIECARDS (from pg. 12)

The MBTA's Customer Experience team in partnership with the MBTA Fare Revenue Department created this series of three commemorative cards highlighting major local landmarks and events that make Boston and Massachusetts special—and all

easily accessible by the MBTA.

Cards are available now within fare vending machines at Park Street, Downtown Crossing, and Forest Hills with additional cards deployed at over a dozen more stations throughout the subway system this week.

For more information, visit mbta.com or connect with the T on X @MBTA and @MBTA_CR, Facebook /TheMBTA, Instagram @theMBTA, Threads @thembta, or TikTok @thembta.

LEGAL NOTICES - legals@beaconhilltimes.com

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston MA, 02114 CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, Section 5-304 Docket No. SU26P0988GD In the matter of: Cordea Hayes of Boston, MA RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitated Person To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a

petition has been filed by Mass Dept. of Mental Health of Westborough, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Cordea Hayes is in need of a Guardian and requesting that (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve Without Surety on the bond. The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority. You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so,

you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 AM on the return date of 06/16/2026. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date. IMPORTANT NOTICE The outcome of this proceeding

may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense. WITNESS, Hon. Janine D Rivers, First Justice of this Court. Date: May 19, 2026 Stephanie L Everett, Esq Register of Probate

6/5 BHT

Beacon Hill Times Pick-Up Locations

- Antonio's288 Cambridge St.
- Simmon's Liquors210 Cambridge St.
- Jobi Liquors.....170 Cambridge St.
- 7-Eleven.....122 Cambridge St.
- West End Library.....151 Cambridge St.
- U.S. Post Office..... 136 Charles St.
- Gary Drug53 Charles St.
- Bank of America.....39 Charles St.
- Charles St. Supply.....54 Charles St.
- Cobblestones30 Charles St.
- DeLuca's11 Charles St.
- Beacon Hill WineCharles St.
- UPSCharles St.
- Remax 119Charles St.
- Cheers..... 84 Beacon St.
- Emerson Place 10 Blossom St.
- Beacon Hill Market 61 Anderson
- Beacon Capitol Market30 Myrtle St.
- City Convenience..... 23 Beacon St.
- Capital Coffee House 122 Bowdoin St.
- Richdale Food Beacon & Bowdoin St.
- River House..... 145 Pinckney St.
- West End Place 150 Stanford St.

Apartment Building locations:

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



BLO (from pg. 15)

July 22, celebrating the city's musical spirit with gospel and orchestral favorites in partnership with Everyone250, Embrace Boston, and Reverence Gospel Ensemble of Berklee College of Music; performances of Max Richter's reimagining of Vivaldi's *The Four Seasons* paired with Mozart's *Symphony No. 40* from July 29-August 1; Verdi's monumental *Requiem* on August 5 in partnership with Cantata Singers and our own One City Choir; and the 25th Anniversary Concert on August 12 featuring Saint-Saëns' "Organ Symphony" and Respighi's *Fountains of Rome*.

New this year, Boston Landmarks Orchestra has launched the Music Circle, a year-round community for people who love great music and believe it should be free and accessible to every-

one. It's a welcoming way to stay connected beyond the concerts through behind-the-scenes stories, learning opportunities, and special experiences with the musicians.

Everyone is welcome at Landmarks Orchestra concerts. On the Esplanade, audiences are encouraged to bring a picnic—and even dogs are invited. Join us to celebrate another summer of music-making under the stars!

Music Director Christopher Wilkins says, "For 25 years, Boston Landmarks Orchestra has brought people together through the shared experience of live music. Whether someone is hearing a symphony orchestra for the first time or returning year after year with family and friends, these concerts create a sense of joy, connection, and belonging that feel uniquely Boston. This

25th anniversary season celebrates both extraordinary music and the community that has made this orchestra possible."

Board Chair Emmett G. Price III adds, "Boston Landmarks Orchestra reflects the very best of what public arts can achieve:

excellence, accessibility, and community. As we celebrate 25 years of free concerts, we also celebrate the audiences, partners, musicians, and supporters who believe that great music should be available to everyone. This season honors our history while

looking ahead to an even more vibrant future."

A full concert schedule, program notes, and accessibility details may be found at landmarksorchestra.org.



MICHAEL DWYER PHOTOS

Scenes from last year's concert on the Hatch Shell.



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KATE KEERY

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