

# 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

**BOOK YOUR  
POST IT**  
Call Your  
Advertising Rep  
(781) 485-0588



Photo by Michael Blanchard

*The Boston Pops, led by Keith Lockhart, at a previous July 4th Fireworks Spectacular on the Charles River Esplanade. Due to COVID-19, this year's celebration will be purely broadcast on TV and radio.*

## Pops to air virtual 4th of July special

By Lauren Bennett

This year, instead of gathering around the Hatch Shell, you'll have to gather around your television for the Boston Pops virtual Fourth of July spectacular. There will be no live performance or fireworks on the Esplanade this year because of COVID-19.

The three hour special, which is set to broadcast on Bloomberg Television and Radio, as well as simulcast on WHDH-TV from 8-11pm on July 4, is called

"A Boston Pops Salute to Our Heroes" and will honor those who have fought on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic and those who have lost their lives. Boston Pops conductor Keith Lockhart has expressed his sadness that the Pops won't be able to perform live, but they are looking forward to presenting this special to viewers near and far.

"All of us at the Boston Pops are pleased to have this opportunity to present A Boston Pops Salute to Our Heroes, a special

broadcast that will pay tribute to the many frontline workers who continue to do so much to keep our communities safe and running during the COVID-19 pandemic," Boston Pops conductor Keith Lockhart said in a statement.

"One of the positive things we have learned during the last few months is that even in the middle of a health crisis so many Americans are strong, resilient, helpful, and hopeful. It has been absolutely inspiring to see our

(POPS Pg. 11)

### BEACON HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY CORNER

#### Beacon Hill Civic Association Committees

Every spring, the Beacon Hill Civic Association publishes its Annual Report covering committee accomplishments during the past year. We'll be sharing the committees' reports here over the next weeks.

**Architecture Committee**  
The Beacon Hill Civic Association Architecture Committee's mission is to help maintain the architectural integrity of our National Historical Landmark District by re-viewing applications that have been submitted to the Beacon Hill Architectural Commission

(BHAC).

The BHAC holds monthly hearings for applications for Certificates of Appropriateness which are submitted for exterior construction visible from a public way and re-views architectural violations to the guidelines.

(BHCA Pg. 8)

## Adequate to Excellent

### Parents, school leaders at Eliot find their stride with online learning

By Seth Daniel

At the Eliot School, Principal Traci Walker Griffiths and her school staff had already done a Herculean effort to get some online learning together and running by the April Spring Break.

However, that was also a moment when they had a turning point in taking online learning from adequate to excellent, she said, and finished up the school year this Monday with a full online learning plan.

And parents at the Eliot K-8 – which hosts kids from North End, Charlestown and Beacon Hill – have noticed, saying their children have not had the backsliding in learning or lack of teacher time they expected.

"Our goal has always been to keep children at the center of the work," she said. "I would have never been able to tell you 13

weeks ago the highlight of the year would be our joyous June and end of year celebrations being held on Zoom. Not many parents would have told you 13 weeks ago they would be teaching reading and math and setting up asynchronous videos for their kids...When I look at where we are now – making that big shift after April vacation – it was that family feedback was heard and the wanted teachers to be part of the process."

That shift marked Phase 2 of online learning, and the Eliot was ahead of most public schools in Boston as it was the first to close down when the pandemic hit in March. Early on, some parents were worried about the slowness to roll out a full plan, and whether or not kids would be hurt by not having teacher contact.

Parent Joe DeRoeve said he

(ELIOT, Pg.2)

## Walsh names Crockett new Chief of Equity

Gives update on COVID-19 safety, equity work

By Lauren Bennett

Mayor Walsh held a press conference on Monday, where he discussed COVID-19 safety for the Fourth of July, as well as announced Karilyn Crockett as the City's first ever Chief of Equity.

"Normally heading into the fourth of July weekend, I'd be talking about grill safety and violence prevention, and those are certainly important issues, but I'm sharing those messages again this week and we're going to have a more deeper conversation in a couple of days," Walsh said.

"But this year, the safety issue is COVID-19. This is traditionally

a weekend for gathering in large groups, fir historic ceremonies and social events. This is not something we can do this year here in Boston or in Massachusetts. Our City of Boston Independence Day celebrations are going to be completely online."

Walsh said that this year, gatherings should be kept "small" and recommended that face coverings be worn, and to continue staying six feet apart from others as well as continuing to wash hands or use hand sanitizer.

He said that if a crowd is "larger than expected" to leave and go somewhere else, and as a reason

(WALSH UPDATE, Pg.2)

For the latest news in Beacon Hill that you need to know, check  
**www.beaconhilltimes.com**



# Two rescued from fire on Charles St.

By Times staff

Boston firefighters rescued two people on Wednesday, June 24, after a two-alarm blaze broke out at 98 Charles St.

According to WCVB-TV, Boston Fire received a call at around 7:30 a.m., regarding a fire at a five-story, 18-unit building. Firefighters responded to the scene and led the two people down a fire escape to the street; one of those rescued was a 27-year-old woman who was taken to Massachusetts General Hospital for smoke inhalation.

BFD officials said the building sustained extensive smoke damage and water damage in the basement because of the blaze, which they believe started in a dryer in the basement.



Scene of fire at 98 Charles Street.

## BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Claire and Jonathan Ellis, of Walnut Street, are delighted to announce the birth of their son, Charles Carroll, on Friday, May 22nd, Portland, Maine."

### ELIOT (from pg. 1)

was worried at first, but couldn't be happier with where the year has ended. He noted that not only has the school found success in the core subjects, but also they have been able to add in the electives like the EPIC program.

"I could not be happier with the Eliot and what they've been able to do in the last three months," he said. "What started out as an emergency response has turned into a fully adapted virtual student experience. I still fully believe in the structure of the school system of student and teacher interaction. It's irreplaceable, but they have unearthed an opportunity to leverage this in the future...Our family couldn't be happier with the way program from the Eliot School."

Dan Ryan, who has two children at the Eliot, was interviewed in a previous story several months ago about starting the online learning journey. He had planned to take piano lessons from his daughters and to be very involved in their education. His job at the State House, though, was much more demanding, but he said his kids adapted to the technology

well.

"Well, my piano lessons came to a screeching halt," he said. "I should have anticipated how much legislative and community work needed to be done as the shutdown prolonged. But, in terms of the school year, I think the children adapted well. They got accustomed to the remote learning and really looked forward to the Zooms with their friends. The teachers were great."

The focus now is on next year, Walker Griffiths said, and the schools – while celebrating the end of a challenging year – are also planning to work overtime through the summer planning for the fall and communicating a lot more than usual over the summer.

"That consistency over the summer is going to be important because of the way we're ending the school year," she said. "We have more questions than answers. It will be important for us to communicate things this summer. It has to be a constant connection. It has to be a summer consistent in communication with families."

## WALSH UPDATE (from pg. 1)

for leaving, he suggested saying that concern for elderly or high risk family members or neighbors is of utmost importance.

He talked about the spiking number of cases and surges in hospital capacity in some states across the country, and stressed the importance of continuing to be "diligent" so that doesn't happen in Boston.

"We continue to see a solid 14 day decrease in case numbers," said Chief of Health and Human Services Marty Martinez. "In the last 18 days, we've only had one day where we've had over 30 cases."

Last week, the positive test rate was 1.9 percent for the whole week, and the City continues to see a general cumulative rate of 17 percent, he said. Even with increases in testing capacity, the positive test rate continues to decline.

Martinez said that the City "must not lose focus on the inequalities that exist," and said that things like increased testing in "key zip codes" is a step in the right direction.

### EQUITY WORK

Walsh also talked about the

City's work on equity as it relates to COVID-19.

Walsh said that the budget approved last week expands the work of the Office of Housing Stability and investments made in affordable housing by adding \$16 million in new investment.

"We are facing profound economic uncertainty right now," Walsh said. "We need to support our residents through this crisis and beyond."

There is \$8 million in rental relief available for those who are not able to get other funding. Walsh also said he is asking the state to extend the moratorium on eviction "for as long as it takes" to protect housing security in Boston and throughout the Commonwealth.

"Housing insecurity is clearly an issue of racial equality as well as general economic disruption," Walsh said. "We have to take a deeper look inside our system" and "create equitable opportunities as we move forward here."

He said that the FY2021 budget also makes "record investments in closing opportunity gaps in Boston Public Schools and affordable housing for low income families."

Walsh then announced the new position of Chief of Equity, calling it "an extremely important appointment; an important moment right now for the City of Boston. We need somebody who can hit the ground running, someone who understands, not just knows the community, but understands the community, someone who understands City government and how City Hall works."

Walsh said that he believes that those qualities are found in Dr. Karilyn Crockett, a lecturer of Public Policy and Urban Planning at MIT who has also worked in the City of Boston's Office of Economic Development where she created "policy framework for guiding job creation, small business development, neighborhood revitalization, and public procurement strategies" rooted in equity.

"As my home town and the entire nation struggle to fight the twin crises of the coronavirus pandemic and America's unfinished racial reconciliation, I am humbled and honored to join Mayor Walsh to imagine new possibilities for healing, recovery, justice and wealth-building for powerful communities who've been denied far too much for far too long,"

Crockett said in a recent release from the City.

The position is a "Cabinet-level position the Mayor established last week to embed equity and racial justice into all City planning, operations and work moving forward," according to the release.

"Under Dr. Crockett's leadership, the Office of Equity will be charged with leading the Administration's efforts across departments to embed equity into all city work, and actively work to dismantle racism by putting an intentional focus on supporting communities of color and marginalized groups across all departments, and building equitable governmental structures to sustain this work. The Office will support cross-department collaborative functions that advance innovative equity and opportunity policies and practices, including the strategies outlined in Imagine Boston 2030," the release states. "To do this work, the office will utilize and leverage the City's partnership and collaboration with community residents, nonprofit organizations and business leaders to promote equitable government policies and outcomes."

### FIREWORKS TASK FORCE

Mayor Walsh also announced last Friday the creation of a Task Force to "address the increase of illegal fireworks in neighborhoods across Boston ahead of the Fourth of July holiday," a release states. The Task Force will have members from the Mayor's Chief of Civic Engagement, the four At-Large City Councilors, the Boston Arson Squad, the Boston Police Department's Bureau of Community Engagement, and leaders from the community.

Reports of fireworks this year have increased across the City, and the City reported there were 7,844 calls to the Boston Police Department reporting fireworks in June 2020, compared with 139 in June 2019.

"Illegal fireworks pose significant dangers to the safety of our residents and their property, and do not belong in our communities. Massachusetts General Law (Chapter 148, Section 39) states that it is illegal for residents to use, possess or sell fireworks in Massachusetts," the release states. "It is also illegal to purchase them legally elsewhere and then transport them into the state."



# Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
<b>BACK BAY</b>			
Bialas, Jessica	Zipp, Sara	281 Beacon St #17	\$535,000
398 Beacon Street NT	Barkley Development LLC	398 Beacon St #1A	\$6,000,000
Culbert, Michael	Albano, Julianne E	400 Beacon St #211	\$840,000
Cline, Erik C	Mccarthy, Richard D	11 Dartmouth Pl #3	\$1,195,000
<b>BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE</b>			
Worhach, Michael R	Roberts, Aaron	62 Chandler St #2	\$1,035,000
Fourth Wall Equity LLC	PVD 228 Tremont St LLC	228 Tremont St	\$3,800,000
5 Star RT	Wotiz, Robert	34 Yarmouth St	\$3,520,000
Rondeau, Kim	Lee, Shiuh K	461 Beacon St #5	\$1,367,500
Chen, Corinna	Hooks, Matthew L	484 Columbus Ave #4	\$1,065,000
Agbaria, Lobna	Peerhossaini, Sina	484 Massachusetts Ave #3	\$822,000
Todd, Samuel S	Logan, Prescott H	29 Milford St #3	\$1,325,000
Lobkowicz, Richard	Maglathlin, Peter	37 Milford St #1	\$1,662,500
Mornington RT	Todd, Samuel S	303 Shawmut Ave #12	\$1,175,000
Maglathlin, Peter	Saffi, Alexander	123 W Newton St #1	\$2,575,000
Xu, Daisy	JP Property 1 LLC	3531 Washington St #401	\$705,000
<b>WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN</b>			
Krikorian, Steven H	Trojan, Brian	45-63 Atlantic Ave #5E	\$649,000
Reynolds, Gregory P	Evans, Kelly A	17 Clark St #1	\$660,000
CSLF Alamosa LLC	Malu LLC	220 Commercial St #1R	\$795,000
Mckerracher, Lisa	Auyeung, Kris L	1 Franklin St #2608	\$2,175,000
Curtis, Michael	120-7a Fulton Street LLC	120 Fulton St #7A	\$2,450,000

# Attention to Detail

By PENNY CHERUBINO

## THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The windows and decorative balcony in the last clue are on 60 Charles Street built circa 1860 in the Greek Revival style. Today it is a mixed residential/commercial property and, at street level, it is home to the shop Flat of the Hill which has been part of the Beacon Hill community for more than 20 years.

Do you have a favorite building or detail you would like featured? Send an email to [Penny@BostonZest.com](mailto:Penny@BostonZest.com) with your suggestion.

## THIS WEEK'S CLUE



Now You can be  
**UPFRONT & CENTER**

With our  
**STICKY NOTE**  
on the Front Page

Perfect for: Community Reminders,  
Schedules, Coupons, Sales,  
Announcements, Programs and more!

3-inch-by-3-inch Sticky Note  
Req. 3-week advance placement



Example Page  
Sticky Note represented  
by Black box

Four Options to Choose From

7,000 COPIES 2-COLOR	\$600	7,000 COPIES 4-COLOR	\$700	12,000 COPIES 2-COLOR	\$800
12,000 COPIES 4-COLOR	\$900	4-COLOR STICKIES CAN BE A COMBINATION OF COLORS. 2-COLOR STICKIES CAN BE MADE WITH ANY 2 COLORS			

Call or Email Your Rep Today!

781-485-0588 ext. 103:Maureen 106:Peter 101:Deb 110:Kathy 125:Sioux

Reading on a Screen?? Click on Your Rep's name to start sending them an email!



# EDITORIAL

## ENJOY A SAFE FOURTH OF JULY

It goes without saying that this will be a Fourth of July unlike any other in the history of our nation.

Americans traditionally have celebrated the Fourth both with large community gatherings and with smaller get-togethers.

The Fourth of July rekindles fond memories from our childhood of the times when we spent the holiday with our families and friends for gatherings at barbecues, at the beach, and at municipal fireworks displays in the evenings.

However, the coronavirus has changed everything. The recent attempts by states to reopen their economies, even in those states that were the most cautious and with seemingly well-designed plans, have resulted in skyrocketing rates of infection that have placed millions of Americans at risk of contracting this dreaded disease.

A story on a cable news channel earlier this week highlighted a California family in which 18 family members contracted COVID-19, with some requiring lengthy hospitalization and one, the family patriarch, dying.

There was no single gathering at which the infection could have been spread. The family thought that they had been taking the proper precautions during their interactions.

However, the disease only needed a small window of opportunity to be transmitted among three generations of this family, with tragic results.

In addition to the coronavirus, the Fourth of July in 2020 comes amidst unprecedented unrest and turmoil throughout our nation. The tragic events and subsequent protests and demonstrations have demonstrated that our nation utterly has failed to live up to the lofty ideals upon which we were founded:

“... that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.”

When Thomas Jefferson wrote those words, he literally meant “men” only, and white men in particular. His lofty language was the ultimate in political hypocrisy: It did not apply to millions of enslaved persons nor to women, who were considered not much more than their husband's property.

It is indisputable that those twin legacies have cast a shadow over the promise of America that continues today, 244 years later.

Another “traditional” aspect of the Fourth of July is that it encourages far too many among us to engage in behavior that is risky not only to ourselves, but to our loved ones and others around us.

Fireworks are illegal for everybody, and in no event should be allowed in the hands of children. It is a sad -- but inevitable -- fact that countless Americans will be maimed for life because of accidents involving fireworks this weekend.

Alcohol abuse is rampant in our country and the Fourth unfortunately provides an opportunity -- which is to say, another excuse -- for those who have alcohol abuse issues to indulge way more than they should, especially when operating a boat or automobile.

It is the responsibility of each of us to ensure that the Fourth is enjoyed safely not only by ourselves, but by those whom we care about. If someone has had too much to drink, take their keys. None of us wants to say to ourselves the next day, “If only I had not let them drive....”

In addition to those usual safety precautions, we also must ensure that however we celebrate the Fourth this year, we must do so wearing masks and observing physical distancing -- none of us wants to be the cause of another person's death because we were the vector who brought the coronavirus to a family member or loved one.

Admittedly, this is not a happy time in America. But we must make the best of it.

We wish all of our readers a happy -- and safe -- Fourth of July



GUEST OP-ED

## Communities that work together, win together

By Quint Studer

Freedom, independence, self-sufficiency: these are great and glorious concepts. We celebrate them this time of year, whether we process it that way or not, because they're so deeply engrained in our image of America. We see ourselves as a nation of rugged individualists: seizing the bull by the horns, charting our own course, walking alone into the forest with an axe slung over our shoulder.

Yes, it's a romantic notion. But it's not an accurate one. America is a nation of small, tight-knit communities and always has been. The more we cooperate, share, defer to others, and work together, the more successful we are. Today, as citizens, businesses, and civic leaders seek to come back from a public health and economic crisis, that spirit of community is more important than ever. It holds the key to our survival.

I've spent much of my career traveling from one American community to another. Some are bustling larger cities. Others are quiet small towns. What they all have in common is the burning desire to revitalize themselves: to become more vibrant, prosperous, livable, and loveable than they are right now. And as I've worked with

these diverse groups of Americans, I've seen a theme emerge: Those communities that work together, win together.

When citizens and leaders come together, put their self-interest on the back burner and work as a team, things get done. When they don't, nothing gets done.

The more you think about the myth of the self-reliant early American, the less likely it seems. Our ancestors must have huddled together in small groups and worked to protect each other from a harsh and unforgiving environment. They must have joined forces, shared what they had, and leaned on each other when times were tough.

And on the larger stage, our nation's founders had to work

together in a similar fashion to bring America into being. They were working toward independence as a new nation, but they had to rely on interdependence to get there. And as leaders of communities of all shapes and sizes and demographics and political persuasions, we can all learn a lot from them.

Here are four big “history lessons” we should all heed as we seek to reopen, recover, rebuild, and continue making our way on journey toward vibrancy:

Set aside your self-interest and create something that works for everyone. Lots of different professions, industries, and interests were present at the birth of

(Op-Ed Pg. 5)

### THE BEACON HILL TIMES

PRESIDENT/EDITOR: STEPHEN QUIGLEY

MARKETING DIRECTOR: DEBRA DIGREGORIO  
(DEB@REVEREJOURNAL.COM)

ART DIRECTOR: SCOTT YATES

FOUNDING PUBLISHER: KAREN CORD TAYLOR

© 2007 INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER GROUP

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

EMAIL: EDITOR@BEACONHILLTIMES.COM

WEB SITE: www.beaconhilltimes.com



# Esplanade Association’s capital project manager is at home either in the park or on the job

By Dan Murphy

Before Alison McRae even applied for her current position as capital projects manager of the Esplanade Association, she was already smitten with the park.

“I had already had fallen in love with the park before I even saw the job description,” said McRae, who assumed the role last July. “The Esplanade Association is an incredible place to work. This really is my dream job.”

After relocating to Boston from Washington, D.C., in May of 2019, McRae was working remotely for National Public Radio and spent her free time exploring a city that was new to her, which inevitably drew her to the Charles River Esplanade.

McRae had come to work at NPR in its D.C. headquarters as the ’16 Presidential election was underway, and she would go on to help develop the NPR website and the infrastructure behind its mobile apps with a team of co-workers during her time there.

This position proved to be a rewarding and challenging opportunity for her, but she felt it was also missing the connection to greenspace that her previous job offered her, and which she missed so much.

After earning a bachelor’s degree from the University of Virginia, McRae landed her first post-college job with KABOOM!, a self-described “national nonprofit that works to end playspace inequity,” and in her role there as assistant project manager, she worked with communities across



Alison McRae, capital project manager for the Esplanade Association

the country to build playgrounds specific to their needs.

“It was very fast-paced, and I was working on several projects at once, which really helped me hone my skills as a project manager in the year and a half I was there,” she said.

But the aspect of the job she liked the most was “advocating for outdoor spaces and ensuring community access to them,” as McRae describes it.

“It was a big transition going from playgrounds to digital software projects,” she said, “but I knew the whole time that I wanted to get back into parks.”

Upon settling into her current role at EA, McRae found herself inundated with reading material, including numerous reports and studies on subjects such as Pathway Safety and Tree Management, which she made her way through to get up to speed on the organization’s many projects.

“There really was a wealth of information to read through to

prepare to implement these projects,” she said.

One project McRae now finds herself at the helm of is the rehabilitation of the Stoneman Playground on the Esplanade.

“It was built in 2001, and is one of the first projects that the Esplanade Association built in partnership with the [Department of Conservation and Recreation],” she said. “Being almost 20 years old, it needed some TLC, so the project was to make it more accessible to children of all ages and abilities.”

The updated playground, which will feature musical instruments bike racks, a ramp and new granite pavers, is expected to open to the public later this summer.

“The Stoneman Playground project is in execution right now,” McRae said, “and I’m, really excited to see it come to fruition and be implemented.”

Michael Nichols, EA executive director, said McRae has excelled in her role with the nonprofit.

“She has been a fantastic contribution to the team since she joined,” Nichols said. “The result of her work has become quickly apparent to folks, and she is currently leading the Stoneman Playground renovation effort, which will invest \$250,000 in upgrades to the popular playground.”

As for McRae, she couldn’t be more enthusiastic about EA and her role within the organization.

“I’m really excited about the work and am passionate to be here,” she said. “It has really helped me feel like a part of the community to work in a park that’s so visible and so important in Boston’s history.”

## North Washington Street Bridge Replacement Construction Look-Ahead: thru July 11

### VIRTUAL MEETINGS FOR TRAFFIC SHIFTING ONTO TEMPORARY BRIDGE

•Traffic will begin shifting onto the temporary North Washington Street Bridge starting on July 17.

•There are three virtual meetings and one is available:

•Thursday, July 2nd, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. Registration Link: [virtualmeeting.link/NWSB-Public-3](https://virtualmeeting.link/NWSB-Public-3)

### TRAVEL IMPACTS

•N. WASHINGTON STREET INBOUND: Off-peak daytime lane reductions across the bridge and additional lane reductions at Keany Square will continue. One lane across the bridge and all turn movements will be available from 10 a.m.–2 p.m. on weekdays.

•N. WASHINGTON STREET OUTBOUND: Off-peak daytime lane reductions will continue across the bridge to City Square. One lane across the bridge and all turn movements will be available from 7:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. on weekdays.

### DESCRIPTION OF SCHEDULED WORK

•Construction of the temporary pedestrian/vehicle bridge including installation of the temporary fender system, assembling, drainage work, de-leading, excavation and chipping of the median, building of and welding of bridge spans, supports, and columns.

### WORK HOURS

•Daytime (6 a.m.– 3 p.m.) for general work.

•During the daytime in continuous two shifts (6 a.m. – 1 a.m.) crews will work to install the temporary bridge fender system in the Charles River. The two shifts will continue for about a month.

### WORK THAT HAS BEEN COMPLETED

•Installation of the temporary pedestrian/vehicle bridge, drainage work, and installation of the fender system.

### TRAVEL TIPS

PEDESTRIANS AND CYCLISTS: The bridge’s eastern sidewalk is open and available to all pedestrians and cyclists with crossings at both Keany and City Squares. Please be advised that the DCR-controlled Charlestown locks can provide another alternate route but may close without warning and beyond control of this project. During Tudor Wharf walkway closures, pedestrian access will be provided via the Water Street underpass and guidance signage will be provided.

All users should take care to pay attention to all signage and police details 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 contractor is coordinating with the TD Garden and local police to provide awareness and manage traffic impacts during events. For your awareness, there will be no events at the TD Garden during this look ahead schedule.

## OpEd (from pg. 4)

America. Cabinet makers weren’t fixated only on the wood industry, nor silver smiths on the silver trade. Everyone was fired up to contribute to something bigger than themselves. They bought into the overarching mission, and weren’t bogged down by endless debate over the short-term costs of their plan.

In other words, don’t be overly concerned with your own wellbeing. Setting aside your own short-term best interests may accomplish far more for everyone in the long run. Because a rising tide lifts all boats, this includes you.

Don’t let ideological differences stop you from achieving something tangible. Despite bitter disputes and differences of opinion, a group of people with little in com-

mon other than their shared determination that change was needed were able to get mobilized and get something done. While there was much to be decided about the way things would function in the new nation, they all recognized that there wouldn’t even BE a new nation if they didn’t set aside their disagreements and move the ball down the court.

It’s important to know what matters. Don’t let petty disputes about how things should get done sabotage the greater task at hand.

Don’t be constantly trying to steal the spotlight from each other. It’s okay to let someone else be “the one in charge.” No one complained that John Hancock’s signature was bigger than theirs, or that so-and-so got to sign

the Declaration before they did. (Okay, it’s possible, but we can see by the document that resides in the National Archives that it got done anyway!) The founders kept their focus on the ambitious mission/vision of standing up to one of the most powerful authorities in the world: the King of England.

When we try to make it about ourselves, we can get off track and let our self-absorption derail the project or initiative. Keep the greater goal in mind and stay focused on that.

Don’t wait on the government to “fix it.” Instead, join together and take bold action at the local level. The changes desired by American colonists weren’t coming from Great Britain. And so, in the summer of 1776 delegates

from each of the Thirteen Colonies took it upon themselves to challenge British authorities and make change happen—their way.

Citizen-powered change is the most powerful change. If it’s to be, it’s up to you and me, not government agencies. (Local governments tend not to have the budget to drive fundamental change, and due to election cycles, officials come and go. Many won’t be around to see long term projects through.)

Yes, early communities needed each other and that drove a lot of their interactions. We went through a period of time where we started to believe we didn’t need each other and that clearly isn’t true. We now realize that working together is the only way we can

make our cities and towns thrive.

No one is saying America’s founders were perfect. They were far from it, as we are. But one thing they got right was the knowledge that they needed to work together for a common cause. Teamwork is a powerful force. We couldn’t have built a nation without it, and we can’t build a better community without it either.

*Quint Studer is the author of Building a Vibrant Community: How Citizen-Powered Change Is Reshaping America and founder of Pensacola’s Studer Community Institute. For more information, visit [www.vibrantcommunityblueprint.com](http://www.vibrantcommunityblueprint.com) and [www.studeri.org](http://www.studeri.org).*



# Markey showing grassroots reach

Staff report

The Ed Markey for U.S. Senate campaign demonstrated its grassroots power and statewide reach over the past weekend as it hosted an evening of virtual house parties with over 300 supporters and volunteers, joining from 35 different Zoom locations organized by supporters, for supporters, including in Dorchester, Somerville, Cambridge, Tufts University, Harvard University, and Northeastern University.

Senator Markey spoke to the virtual grassroots group as Suffolk County District Attorney Rachel Rollins, State Representative Nika Elugardo, and State Representative Tricia Farley Bouvier—all of whom have endorsed the Senator—also made appearances throughout the event. The house party also featured live music from Wheatus lead singer, and progressive activist, Brendan Brown.

“This is another example of our grassroots organizing success,” said Campaign Manager John Walsh. “Our campaign is based on relational organizing -- friend-to-friend and neighbor-to-neighbor engagement. During this challenging time, we continue to organize in new and innovative ways, and our house parties are part of the enthusiasm and dedication of our supporters. And while we can’t yet have house parties in the traditional sense, we can still come together.”

The Markey Campaign’s grassroots organizing has adapted to the public health crisis through social media, livestreams on the work Senator Markey is undertaking to combat the coronavirus pandemic, benefit concert, and digital outreach.

After winning 70 percent of the support at local city and town caucuses earlier this year—a significant grassroots achievement—the Markey campaign then turned in over 27,000 nomination signatures to the Secretary of State’s Office.

The campaign’s digital team has also designed a breakthrough grassroots tool allowing anyone interested in becoming involved with the Markey Campaign to create and distribute their own supporter page at: [support.edmarkey.com](http://support.edmarkey.com). After launching the tool earlier this spring, hundreds of supporter pages identifying thousands of supporters have been created.

## BLOOMS ON CHARLES RIVER



CREDIT: D. Murphy

*Cyanobacteria blooms were highly visible Sunday in the Storrow Lagoon on the Charles River Esplanade. The seasonal condition prompted the Department of Public Health to post signs around the park to inform the public that the water is unsafe for both people and pets.*

## Bill authorizing long-term lease of Lee Pool Complex filed

By Dan Murphy

Sen. Sal DiDomenico and Rep. Livingstone have filed a bill authorizing the long-term lease of the long-neglected, former Lee Pool Complex on the Charles River Esplanade.

The legislation would allow the designated lessee to enter into a 30-year agreement (with options for up to two 10-year extensions) with the Esplanade Association, the nonprofit that manages the park in partnership with the Department of Conservation and Recreation.

“Representative Livingstone and I filed this legislation to help secure the future of the Lee Pool—a vital complex for both our shared West End community and the entire city as a whole,” Sen. DiDomenico said in a statement. “The Esplanade has long been a bright spot for the city of Boston and the Lee Pool was once an important place of gather-

ing for families. We hope that this partnership between DCR and the Esplanade Association will ensure that these facilities can once again be used by our community, and ultimately be upgraded and well-maintained for the use of our residents and community groups alike in the decades to come. It has been a pleasure working with the Esplanade Association on this project and legislation. I’m confident in their commitment to creating an exciting and welcoming space for all.”

The bill allows the lessee to design, build and operate one or more facilities on the site, including opportunities for a new maintenance and operations center with public bathrooms; a programmable indoor/outdoor roofdeck and event space; and a café. Any river-edge pedestrian pathway reconstructions or improvements that the lessee makes as part of the project

would be maintained by DCR as part of the agreement.

“I look forward to realizing the return of Lee Pool to active, public use,” Rep. Livingstone wrote. “The bill is an important step in that process. I’m pleased with the outpouring of support

from community organizations supporting this project.”

Lee Pool, which sits south of the State Police barracks on the river’s Lower Basin, opened in 1951, and has been closed to the public since the ‘90s.



**BREWSTER & BERKOWITZ**  
**REAL ESTATE**

Charles Street Meeting House  
121 Mt. Vernon Street Boston, MA 02108  
617-367-0505 [www.brewberk.com](http://www.brewberk.com)

Sally Brewster

Ron Berkowitz

Betsey Barrett

Toni Doggett



# Nichols House Museum launches new, improved website

By Dan Murphy

While the Nichols House Museum remains closed to the public due to the pandemic, its new, improved website offers guests the best possible alternative to visiting in person.

“The work-from-home period allowed me to push the website out and really just immerse myself in it, and complete the pages I had left to do,” said Laura Cunningham, the museum’s curator of collections and education, who spearheaded the project.

The Nichols House Museum had an online presence

before this, but the new site takes it to the cutting edge, and Cunningham credits this in no small part to Joe Nguyen, who volunteered countless hours developing it.

“He was so wonderful and generous with his time, and he did it all pro bono,” Cunningham said of Nguyen.

Linda Marshall, the museum’s executive director, wrote: “The project has been many years in the making, and we’re so excited to be able to launch the new website during this time when the Museum is temporarily closed due to COVID-19.

The website presents a fresh, more contemporary face to the public and will be used as a launchpad for future programs, exhibitions, and sharing research, etc. Website developer, Joe Nguyen, has been volunteering his time over the past [three to four] years to develop the new site for the Museum.”

In designing the new site, Cunningham said she had to “rethink” old content by “refreshing the language,” as well as develop new content.

Cunningham said the new website is “great for current members already tapped in” and “just more for us to offer them,”

but it’s geared specifically towards those who have yet to set foot inside the museum.

Embarking on the project, Cunningham said the design team tried to think about the site from the perspective of someone who had never been to the museum before and what would draw them in enough to want to visit.

“We wanted to make the site’s appearance and language more friendly and welcoming, since it’s so many people’s first impression of the museum,” she said. “There is so much more on the site to engage with, and hopefully that will encourage people to

visit the museum on-site as well”

And for those who won’t be able to visit the museum in person when it reopens, the new website offers them the next best thing.

“For people who won’t be able to come to the museum because of geography or accessibility and mobility issues, it’s a way for them to visit remotely,” Cunningham said.

To view the Nichols House Museum’s new, revamped website for yourself, visit [nichols-housemuseum.org](http://nichols-housemuseum.org).

# Panel discussion explores voters’ rights amid the current pandemic

By Dan Murphy

A panel of experts on voters’ rights gathered Wednesday, June 24, for a virtual discussion on how to ensure a free and fair election amid the pandemic.

Sophia Hall, supervisory attorney for Lawyers for Civil Rights; Brenda Wright, senior advisor for Legal Strategies; Genevieve Nadeau, counsel for the nonpartisan nonprofit Protect Democracy; and Quentin Palfrey, former lieutenant gubernatorial candidate and chair of the Voter Protection Corps, were the panelists, and Rob Whiney, a member of Sulloway & Hollis, P.L.L.C., president of the ACS Boston Lawyer Chapter and a Beacon Hill resident, moderated the discussion.

“COVID-19 offer us an opportunity as a Commonwealth,” Hall said. “Anything that gets us to modernize voter systems and to include the disenfranchised is a good thing.”

Massachusetts has made strides in modernizing the state’s voting system and making it more accessible by passing early voting in 2014, Hall said, and by passing automatic voter registration four years later. (The latter automatically registers eligible voters whenever they contact the Registry of Motor Vehicles or MassHealth, although it hasn’t been implemented yet.)

Election Day registration, Hall added, is now the “third tool” necessary to modernize the state’s voting system.

The pandemic has essentially “fast-tracked this conversation,” Hall said, and a bill went before

the House and Senate in the last two months to make voting more accessible, which includes expanding early voting; allowing absentee (mail-in) voting in Massachusetts for the first time; and extending deadlines for voter registration.

Getting people to register to vote is crucial because they are historically the ones who turn up to the polls in the highest numbers, but Wright said, “Less attention is paid to keeping people registered once they’re on the rolls.”

Wright said “voter purge” is to blame for this, and one reason it occurs is that systems used to cross-reference voters to ensure they aren’t registered in more than one state, according to one study, “made errors almost 99 percent of the time.”

Besides expanding absentee and early voting options, Nadeau said, “In-person voting needs to remain an option and be as safe as possible during the pandemic.”

With the anticipated changes to the voting system will likely come new complications (e.g. absentee ballots being delayed in the mail), so Nadeau said election results might not be available in the usual timely manner people have grown accustomed to receiving them. “We might not have results as quickly as we’re used to, and we want to make sure voters understand that,” she added.

Getting the results in an expeditious manner is the least of Palfrey’s concerns when it comes to the election, however.

“I’m going to take a more alarmed and alarmist tone on why this is a profound threat to future of democracy,” Palfrey said. “We have a President who won’t concede. I think he’s already laying the

groundwork for that.

Among the factors that Palfrey said threaten to turn the election into a “perfect storm” are the “undemocratic disparities between people of color and that young people face when registering to vote,” which he described as “the baseline for an apartheid voting system.”

Palfrey added that President Trump has “weaponized laws about voter fraud,” and that he believes misinformation disseminated to minority populations and “micro-targeting” them could also influence the election.

While Palfrey said he “feels sternly” that absentee voting is crucial to the election, he also underscored the importance of keeping the polls open, since an estimated 116 million voters cast their ballots in person in the ’16 Presidential election.

Those most likely to vote in person are from vulnerable populations, such as blacks, Native Americans and the homeless, Palfrey said, and they are also the ones who have faced the biggest obstacles in registering.

“We need to push back against notion that consolidating polling locations is an acceptable solution,” Palfrey said, “and we need a massive effort to recruit and train poll workers.”

The Commonwealth still has a long way to go, Palfrey added, when it comes to ensuring voters’ rights.

“Massachusetts has not been a leader, we can do much, much better,” he said. “We need to demand better election laws in Massachusetts, including Election Day registration.”



*“We’ll Take Your Building’s Exterior From Landmark Approval to Curb Appeal”*

Carpentry & Painting  
Masonry Restoration  
Roofing & Roof Decks  
Sealants & Coatings  
Sheet Metal  
Skylights & Windows

**STRICT COVID-19 PROTOCOLS IN PLACE TO PROTECT OUR CLIENTS & WORKERS.**



**888-DRY-NEST**

[www.eaglerestoration.com](http://www.eaglerestoration.com)

Fully Insured and Licensed CS# 77808 HIC#138620

Please Recycle



# SJC issues order for slowly opening courthouses starting July 13

Staff report

The Supreme Judicial Court on Wednesday, June 24, issued an updated order regarding the operation of Massachusetts state courts and courthouses during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The order will go into effect July 1, 2020.

Under the new order, courthouses will physically reopen to the public for limited purposes, including some in-person proceedings, on July 13, but courts will continue to conduct most business virtually. The number of in-person proceedings will further expand during a second phase beginning on August 10, 2020. In advance of each phase, the Trial Court departments will identify the new matters they will be addressing in person on the court system's COVID-19 webpage.

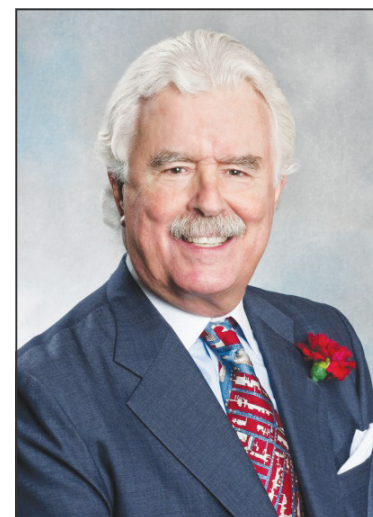
Until July 13, clerks', registers', and recorder's offices will continue to conduct business virtually, except in certain emergency situations. Beginning on July 13, all of these offices will physically reopen to the public, while still endeavoring to conduct business virtually as much as possible.

When courthouses reopen

on July 13, entry will be limited to persons attending in-person proceedings, persons conducting business with a clerk's, register's, or recorder's office, persons meeting with probation, and persons conducting business at other open offices in the courthouses. Persons seeking to enter will be screened to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Beginning on July 13, cell phones will be permitted in all courthouses, subject to compliance with certain rules set forth in a new Trial Court policy (Trial Court Emergency Administrative Order 20-10). The new policy will be posted on the court system's COVID-19 webpage and at the entrance to each courthouse.

Jury trials in both criminal and civil cases in state courts continue to be postponed to a date no earlier than September 8, 2020. Starting July 13, judges may begin to schedule civil and criminal bench trials. No new grand jury can be empaneled prior to September 8, unless the Supreme Judicial Court so orders. Existing grand juries are extended until the date of that new empanelment or the date of the October 2020 empanelment in the relevant judicial district, whichever occurs first.



Left to right: BHCA Directors Charlotte Thibodeau and James Ewing, and Frank McGuire, co-chairs of the BHCA Architecture Committee

## BHCA (from pg. 1)

Ahead of each BHAC meeting, the committee reviews the applications and provides neighborhood input to the Commission.

The BHAC has significantly updated its active commissioners, 5 members and 3 alternates that are all current with two vacancies.

Because the BHAC now has the agendas, submitted plans and accompanying documentation for its monthly hearings available online (<https://www.boston.gov/historicdistrict/historic-beacon-hill-district>), the committee's monthly reviews and meetings have become more interactive. The committee is able to review each application online and then visit each property in advance of their monthly meetings to examine the specifics of the application and its potential impact on the Historic District. The Architectural Commission meets the third Thursday of each month, and the committee typically meets the Monday prior to the hearing. Our meetings are open to all residents, and we welcome potential new committee members. During its meetings the committee then reviews the online submitted applications and materials, discusses the issues presented, prepares comments and submits them to the BHAC. One or two committee members attend the BHAC hearing at City Hall to monitor the hearing and offer our comments. This year the committee has continued to be actively involved in reviewing the applications of residents for alterations to the facades of their buildings especially their facades that are visible from a public way.

Of note, during the COVID pandemic our committee has started

to use ZOOM for our meetings as has the city gone virtual with their monthly meetings.

Additionally, some of the bigger and more involved projects we worked on were: finalizing the BHHB renovation plans to a point where work could be started, the controversial 28 Pinckney Street garage conversion, the repainting of 9 Willow Street, preliminary renovation plans at 71 Charles St (the former Hungry I), which was resolved with a subcommittee with members of commission, senior landmarks preservation staff and a member of our committee, and the proposed and ultimately denied addition at 85 Pinckney.

We have continued to work throughout the neighborhood to integrate the necessary 5G and similar technology and communications infrastructure within the context of an historic district, and we have attempted to assist them to find locations that are minimally obtrusive, both in visual impact and in proximity to residential units.

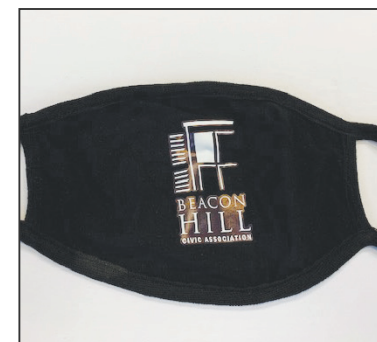
We have continued to monitor the sidewalk/access ramp projects throughout the Hill. The negotiated agreement under which the work is proceeding is as follows:

1. Installation of cast iron tactile pads in place of the plastic pads proposed. While bright when new, they will soften and ultimately blend better with the brick.
2. Use of wire cut brick to achieve smoother slopes and transitions to the pads in place of the large concrete aprons originally proposed.
3. Minimal concrete frame/settling bed around the pads.
4. Raising the street paving level

to meet the new slopes. Note that the generator for the ramp project initially was the ADA requirement attached to Federal funds for re-paving the streets on the Hill, which are in deplorable condition, and now can and will happen.

## BHCA Masks

Our BHCA masks shown here are available to members and neighbors for a donation of \$10 each. E-mail [info@bhcivic.org](mailto:info@bhcivic.org) for details.



Join us!

If you haven't yet become a member of the BHCA, we invite you to join online at [www.bhcivic.org/become-a-member](http://www.bhcivic.org/become-a-member).

Your input in quality of life issues on the Hill is important to us, and we rely on you our neighbors to bring your comments and concerns to our attention. By joining our membership, you strengthen our numbers and add credibility to our purpose as advocates for Beacon Hill. Please call our office at 617-227-1922 or email the BHCA Executive Director at [patricia.tully@bhcivic.org](mailto:patricia.tully@bhcivic.org) with any questions, comments or concerns, or to learn more about how you can get involved in your community.

# DON'T MISS OUT

You've always wanted your ad on our Front Page...Here's Your Opportunity.

Revere Journal(6400)  
Winthrop Sun Transcript(4000)  
East Boston Times Free Press(7000)  
Chelsea Record(2900)  
Everett Independent(7500)  
Lynn Journal(5000)  
Beacon Hill Times(8700)  
The Boston Sun(14000)  
Regional Review(3500)  
Charlestown Patriot Bridge(7300)  
Jamaica Plain Gazette(16400)  
Mission Hill Gazette(7000)

**THE BEACON HILL TIMES**  
City Council hold first virtual meeting regarding coronavirus  
Rosales Partners receives Bulfinch Award for work  
Walsh undertakes COVID-19 educational campaign  
FIRST COME FIRST SERVE  
Schedule Your Spots for 2019! \$250.00 per run.  
Savings of \$800

Your Ad Here!

8 week minimum per calendar year

## FRONT PAGE

## Post-It-Note Advertising

We design, typeset, and affix your ad on our front page.

**ALL FOR ONE LOW PRICE**

Sound Interesting? Call 781-485-0588

ADVERTISE IN THE BEACON HILL TIMES PLEASE CALL 781-485-0588



CITY PAWS

# Summer dog reminders

by Penny & Ed Cherubino

On recent walks, we've noticed lots of new dogs with people training them to be canine good citizens. Some of these animal guardians could be old pros but others may be new to the responsibilities that come with wandering around Massachusetts with dogs in hot, humid summer weather.

## Water for All

The easiest way to be sure there is water for everyone in your walking pack is to carry a collapsible water dish to give your dog a drink along the way. This lets you offer water from a public drinking fountain, a restroom, or your water bottle.

These dishes come with a carabiner that clips to your leash. We carry a small one for our Westie but have shared this with big dogs who have had no problem lapping up their drink. People with larger dogs don't necessarily need a giant dish, just refills!

Every time we talk about this

topic, we pass on the brilliant idea a stranger shared with us. When we offered her dog a drink, she pulled out a pick-up bag, spread it over her cupped hand, and had us add some water.

## Don't Leave Your Dog in a Car

A stop for a quick errand could result in a dog in trouble. Or, you could find your car window broken by a first responder or good Samaritan trying to save your pup.

The MSPCA has the information you need if you should discover a dog in trouble in a hot car. "An Act Preventing Animal Suffering and Death" took effect on November 17, 2016. This Massachusetts law, "Enables animal control officers, firefighters, and law enforcement to remove animals kept in vehicles in a manner reasonably expected to threaten the health of the animal due to extreme heat or cold." It also, "... allows individuals to remove an animal when in immediate danger in a vehicle and no other options exist."

## Symptoms and First Aid

The experts at the MSPCA list the signs that you can use to determine if a dog or cat is in danger from heat as: heavy panting, rapid breathing, staggering, and weakness. They remind us that, "A heat-stricken animal can die in minutes, but proper care may save its life."

Here are the steps they outline for first aid, "Immediately bring the animal to a shady spot.

Cool the animal by dousing them completely with water or placing them in cool water.

Take the distressed pet to a veterinarian as soon as possible. Treatment for dehydration and other serious problems will be necessary."

## Prevention Is Best

Dogs are not as efficient as humans at displacing heat. An okay temperature for you may be dangerous for a dog. You also have to consider the animal's age, medical conditions, and even breed. For example, dogs with flat faces can be in more danger from heat than other breeds.

Consider taking your longest walks in the coolest parts of the day with quick trips outside when temperatures are at their highest. Check the temperature of roads by holding the back of your hand on the pavement for seven seconds. If it is too hot for you, it could



As you spend time training new puppies (like this one) and older rescued dogs to be good canine citizens, don't forget their special needs in hot weather.

## LEGAL

### LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and  
Family Court  
CITATION GIVING

NOTICE OF  
PETITION FOR  
APPOINTMENT OF  
GUARDIAN FOR  
INCAPACITATED  
PERSON PURSUANT  
TO G.L. C. 190B,  
§5-304  
Docket No.  
SU20P0600GD

Suffolk Probate and  
Family Court  
24 New Chardon Street  
PO Box 9667  
Boston, MA 02114  
(617) 788-8300  
In the matter of:  
Xiomara Ruiz

Of: Boston, MA  
To the named Respondent  
and all other interested persons,  
a petition has been filed  
by Mass. General Hospital of  
Boston, MA in the above captioned  
matter alleging that

Xiomara Ruiz is in need of a  
Guardian and requesting that  
Brian J. McLaughlin, Esq. of  
Boston, MA (or some other  
suitable person) be appointed  
as Guardian to serve 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 A.M. on the  
return date of 07/22/2020.  
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 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. Brian J.  
Dunn, First Justice of this  
Court.

Date: June 25, 2020  
Felix D. Arroyo  
Register of Probate  
7/2/2020  
BH

burn your dog's paws. Summer is a  
great time to share outside activities  
with your dog. It only takes a  
bit of knowledge and preparation  
to be sure you are doing it in a  
way that is safe and enjoyable for

the dog as well.

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

## SERVICE DIRECTORY

### Geek For Hire

Computer consultant available for  
home or business.

#### SERVICES INCLUDE:

- PC support & networking of all types with focus on secure Internet access (wired & wireless),
- broadband router & firewall technology,
- virus detection/prevention,
- spam control & data security/recovery.



617-241-9664  
617-515-2933

### JOHN J. RECCA PAINTING

Interior/Exterior  
Commercial/Residential

Fully Insured

Quality Work

Reasonable Rates

Free Estimates

reccapainting@hotmail.com

781-241-2454

BEACON HILL  
PLUMBING AND HEATING  
Meeting all your  
mechanical needs



24/7  
emergency  
service

617-723-3296

### Old Window & Door Restoration

Sach • cord  
copperchain • etc  
Lock repair

Call  
Rez at  
(617) 947  
3710

or email at  
Rezayazdi252@gmail.com

Please Recycle

For Advertising  
Rates,

Call 781-485-0588



# IF YOU MISSED US AT YOUR FRONT DOOR EVERY THURSDAY PLEASE GO TO WWW.BEACONHILLTIMES.COM

**JUNE 18, 2020**

## THE BEACON HILL TIMES

THERE ARE NO TIMES LIKE THESE TIMES

**HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!**

### Charles Street retail stores start Phase 2 reopening

By Dan Murphy

Since Phase 2 of Gov. Charlie Baker's plan for reopening the Commonwealth took effect Monday, June 8, Jennifer Hill has enthusiastically welcomed back guests to her longstanding Charles Street gift store, Blackstone's of Beacon Hill, even if they just come in to browse.

"I know we're in business to make money, but this is the fun part," Hill said. "It's so nice to see the happy faces of people who just want to walk around the store, and even if they don't buy anything, that's okay."

Like other retail stores in the Commonwealth, Blackstone's can only operate at 40 percent occupancy per state guidelines, and with its 500 square-foot storefront, this means the store can only accommodate a total of five people, which sometimes includes two employees, at any given time.

Blackstone's has also installed a contactless credit-card terminal and provides gloves and masks to customers as needed, along with hand sanitizer at the counter.

"Some people are still getting used to the routine, but on the whole everyone has been accommodating," Hill said Friday. "Overall, people have been very courteous and ask if it's okay to enter. They are just so thrilled to be back in a store."

Unlike some other retail businesses, Blackstone's was in a unique situation, since it was allowed to reopen May 8 as part of Phase 1 for curbside and door-side service. Hill said this helped make the transition to Phase 2 virtually "seamless," since the store already had the safety protocol outlined by the Center for Disease Control and the state in place. And so far during Phase 2 (STORES Pg. 6)

### Allan Hodges to lead BHV

By Suzanne Besser

Allan A. Hodges, who has been active in community and professional groups throughout Boston and Newport, RI, was named president of Beacon Hill Village at its annual meeting held this week on Zoom. A resident of the Downtown neighborhood, he succeeds Douglas Fitzsimmons who for two years was at the helm of the nonprofit organization, a community of older adults whose mission is to live well and age well.

Having completed a 50-year career in urban planning and environmental impact analysis in both the public and private sectors, Hodges is well-suited for his new role. In addition to serving his first term on the BHV board, he is a member of the Boston Common Committee of the Friends of the Public Garden and the Leadership Team of the Downtown Boston Residents Association.

He welcomes the opportunity to serve on BHV's board because he believes its basic central idea is solid and much needed in the

Photo courtesy of Beacon Hill Village

**Allan Hodges named president of Beacon Hill Village.**

downtown communities it serves. "I think the future of the Beacon Hill Village is bright," he said. "It is a sensible and easier alternative for active older adults than moving into continuing care communities unless, of course, they need (BHV Pg. 5)

### Vilna Shul welcomes new director of development

By Dan Murphy

When Christen Hazel first read the posting for The Vilna Shul's director of development position, she almost felt as though the job description had been written specifically with her in mind.

"I had a desire to join an organization dedicated to preserving history and building a welcoming community steeped in Jewish traditions," said Hazel, whose first full day in the role is Monday, June 22. "So, this is like my dream job, to be honest."

A West End resident, Hazel comes to her new position after serving as director of development

Christen Hazel, The Vilna Shul's new director of development.

(HAZEL, Pg. 5)

### BEACON HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY CORNER

Beacon Hill Civic Association Committees

Every spring, the Beacon Hill Civic Association publishes its Annual Report covering committee accomplishments during the past year. We'll be sharing the committees' reports here over the next weeks.

Planning & Oversight Committee

The Planning & Oversight ("Planning") Committee serves as an umbrella committee to initiate, monitor and oversee the BHCA's efforts on long-range issues that affect our neighborhood. The Planning Committee also tracks the BHCA's involvement with the various committees and groups in the City of Boston, in order to strengthen the organization's voice in governmental and community development.

(BHCA Pg. 12)

Watchdog Lina standing guard in front of Linens on the Hill.

Jennifer Hill, owner, and Tanisha Gray, store manager, of Blackstone's of Beacon Hill.

For the latest news in Beacon Hill that you need to know, check [www.beaconhilltimes.com](http://www.beaconhilltimes.com)

## FOR ALL THE LATEST NEWS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD



# NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDUP

## BHV celebrates America's Independence

Join Beacon Hill Village members to celebrate the Fourth of July via Zoom on Saturday, July 4, at 6 p.m.

Come enjoy a reading of the Declaration of Independence, music from the Boston Pops, and video footage of fireworks on the Esplanade.

All BHV members and their guests welcome. Registration is required.. All registrants will receive a Zoom invitation on July 2.

To register, visit the Beacon Hill Village website. If you have questions about registration, email [info@beaconhillvillage.org](mailto:info@beaconhillvillage.org).

## NHM to host 'Fashion in Portraiture' virtual program

As part of its Eye of the

Beholder Series, the Nichols House Museum presents a virtual program called "Fashion in Portraiture" on Tuesday, July 7, from 6 to 7 p.m.

This virtual program will discuss three portraits in the Nichols House Museum collection focusing on the sitter's dress and examine comparable costume items from the collection of the [National Society of the Colonial Dames of America](#). This virtual program will be led by Laura Cunningham, Curator of Collections and Education at the Nichols House Museum, and Elizabeth Weisblatt, Resident Dress Historian with the NSCDA and Visitor Services Representative at the Nichols House Museum. They will discuss the propagandistic nature of fashion in portraiture and examine real examples of historic dress for comparison.

Register through Eventbrite at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/virtual-lecture-fashion-in-portraiture-tickets-111187562994>.

com/e/virtual-lecture-fashion-in-portraiture-tickets-111187562994. Attendees will be provided with a link to the lecture stream the week of the event. Admittance is free, but there is a suggested donation of between \$5 and \$10.

Visit <http://www.nicholshousemuseum.org/events/fashion-in-portraiture/> for more information.

## Sing-ups for Back-to-School Giveaway now underway

The Salvation Army is teaming up with Garden Neighborhood Charities—the philanthropic arm of the TD Garden—and the City of Boston to host its Ninth Annual Back-to-School Giveaway, with sign-ups now underway.

Registration is first-come-first-served and based on financial need. To be eligible, appli-

cants must live in Boston/Suffolk County.

This year's registration takes place through Aug. 18 by phone at 617-322-3875 and via email at [MASBack2School@use.salvationarmy.org](mailto:MASBack2School@use.salvationarmy.org) due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Receive a backpack filled with school supplies and hygiene products; distribution takes place on Aug. 18, 19 and 20.

## Hill House running free virtual family events

Hill House, Inc. located at 127 Mount Vernon St., has launched a series of free family events at 5 p.m. on Wednesdays and Fridays.

On Wednesday, Family Fun events will include how to make your own Playdough, a Kitchen Fridge Art show and more. On Fridays, get your athletic juices flowing with live dance parties, camp sing-alongs and more.

These events are free, and registration links available at [www.hillhouseboston.org](http://www.hillhouseboston.org). To register or to learn more about Hill House virtual events, contact Meredith at [madamczyk@hillhouseboston.org](mailto:madamczyk@hillhouseboston.org).

## Enrollment open for Beacon Hill/Back Bay Girl Scout Troop 65321

Girl Scout Troop 65321, covering the Beacon Hill and Back Bay neighborhoods, is accepting enrollment for new scouts entering Kindergarten and first grade (fall 2020). Meetings are held on Monday nights, approximately once or twice a month, at the Advent Church on Beacon Hill. To enroll your daughter or for information on enrollment for other grades, e-mail Jill Hauff at [jill.hauff@gmail.com](mailto:jill.hauff@gmail.com).

## POPS (from pg. 1)

frontline workers show such extraordinary dedication to the well-being of others, with their amazing acts of sacrifice, generosity, support, and kindness, as well as the incredible skill and know-how they bring to every situation. We also think it is essential to address one of the most crucial/fundamental themes of our times—the truth that we must do better as a people to confront racism and achieve a just and equal society for everyone throughout our country. These messages of honor, unity, diversity, equality, and fellowship will resound throughout the 2020 Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular broadcast by way of inspiring retrospective performances by our most popular artists of the last few years, side by side with brand new content developed over the last two months." As previously reported by the Boston Sun, the special will highlight memorable moments from previous Boston Pops Fireworks Spectaculars, such as performances by Melissa Etheridge, Andy Grammer, Queen Latifah, and others, along with an appearance by the first youth poet laureate of the United States, Amanda Gorman, according to a release from the Boston Symphony Orchestra (BSO).

The program will also feature new content, including a performance by singer Renese King and Keith Lockhart on the piano, as well as a video performance by the

Boston Pops of their recent "viral hit" Summon the Heroes, which will feature an introduction by the song's composer, John Williams. Other new content includes a virtual performance by the Boston Pops Viola Section of "Over the Rainbow," a performance of Leroy Anderson's Bugler's Holiday by the BSO Trumpet Section, and a video message from General James C. McConville, Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army.

"Look for surprises throughout the evening; special messages from musical and community figures, and a tribute to our nation's first responders that we're going to put together," Lockhart said in a recent announcement.

Also included in the special are Boston Pops traditions such as the patriotic sing-along, a performance of John Philip Sousa's The Stars and Stripes Forever, a performance of Tchaikovsky's "1812" Overture, the US Army Field Band and Soldiers Chorus, and a fireworks display from past years to round out the program. Brian Stokes Mitchell will open the program with "America the Beautiful."

According to the BSO release, Boston Pops conductor Keith Lockhart will also "put a special focus on intrinsic messages of the Independence Day holiday and fundamental themes of our times around achieving a just and equal society for everyone."

The show will be hosted by Keith Lockhart and Kim Carrigan, Joe Shortleeve, and Janet Wu of Bloomberg Media.

Performances from previous Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular Programs are as follows in order of appearance, as provided by the BSO:

- Broadway legend Brian Stokes Mitchell sings "America the Beautiful" and "Wheels of a Dream"

- Amanda Mena, America's Got Talent semifinalist from Lynn, MA, sings Pink's What About US and the national anthem with the U.S. Navy Sea Chanters

- American folk-rock singer-songwriter Melissa Etheridge performs her mega-hit "I Wanna Come Over"

- Amanda Gorman, first-ever Youth Poet Laureate of the United States, performs a new take on the "Battle Hymn of the Republic" entitled "Believer's Hymn for the Republic"

- Broadway star Leslie Odom, Jr., sings "Sarah" from The Civil War, and "Without You" from Rent

- Grammy Award-winning artist Rhiannon Giddens, lead singer, violinist, banjo player, and a founding member of the acclaimed country, blues, and old-time music band the Carolina Chocolate Drops, performs her hits "Pretty Little Girl" and "She's Got You"

- Rita Moreno, iconic singer/actor/dancer and winner

of the Academy Award for best supporting actress for the 1961 film version of West Side Story, narrates excerpts from Ellis Island: The Dream of America

- Great American folk singer-songwriter, Arlo Guthrie and The Texas Tenors sing "This Land Is Your Land"

- The incomparable Queen Latifah, American rapper, singer, songwriter, actress, and producer sings "Mercy, Mercy, Mercy"

- Multi-platinum Singer/Songwriter Andy Grammer performs his hit "Give Love"

- The U.S. Army Field Band and Soldiers' Chorus join the Pops for "The Stars and Stripes Forever."

Additionally, the Boston Pops is asking fans to participate in the Great American Picnic Sweepstakes.

"Between now and July 6, the Boston Pops wants to spotlight the many ways people around the country plan for and celebrate the Fourth," the BSO said in a release. "Contest participants can snap a photo or film a video of their celebration and post them on Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter. By tagging #GreatAmericanPicnic@thebostonpops participants will be automatically entered into a sweepstakes for a chance to win great prizes," such as "prime seating" for the 2021 Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular, with airfare and hotel accommodations for four guests, the release states.

Up to ten winners can also be the recipient of a "Be a Star!" video, where participants can play "kitchen spoons, shake maracas, snap fingers, or play air guitar and we'll edit it together with footage of the Pops to create a video keepsake," according to the release. A third prize includes a Coca-Cola branded Yeti cooler with a variety of products.

For more details and sweepstakes rules, visit [bso.org](http://bso.org).

The BSO and Boston Pops are also seeking donations, "as these challenging times of COVID-19 force the cancellation of live performances by the Boston Pops (its 2020 spring season) and Boston Symphony Orchestra (part of its 2020-21 Symphony Hall season and the entire live performance season at Tanglewood)..." the release states. Visit [www.bostonpops.org/donatetoday](http://www.bostonpops.org/donatetoday) to make a donation.

For a complete list of how to watch the broadcast, visit [bostonpopsjuly4th.org](http://bostonpopsjuly4th.org).

"We hope everyone throughout the country will gather around their televisions or radios, or watch the show on their phones or tablets," Lockhart said, "and join us as we show our appreciation for the heroes of our times and celebrate the intrinsic messages of Independence Day that unite us all in this great and beautifully diverse country."



# Boston Preservation Alliance shows its appreciation for the neighborhood

By Dan Murphy

The Boston Preservation Alliance is showing its appreciation for Beacon Hill by not only recognizing neighborhood resident Carl R. Nold with this year's Codman Award for Lifetime Achievement, but also by bestowing one of its 2020 Preservation Achievement Awards upon The Whitney Hotel Boston.

Nold stepped down this spring after serving for 17 years as the sixth leader of Historic New England, the nation's oldest and



Photo by Matthew Dickey (Boston Preservation)

Carl R. Nold, recipient of the Boston Preservation Alliance's 2020 Codman Award for Lifetime Achievement.

largest regional heritage organization. During his tenure as president and CEO of the nonprofit, which was rebranded Historic New England from the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities in 2004, its historic site attendance grew substantially and its membership was increased by 50 percent while the number of school children it served each year nearly tripled.

Nold oversaw the acquisition of four historic sites and increased the number of privately owned historic properties protected through the Historic New England Preservation Easement Program from 64 to 113. Historic New England also acquired its Collections Center and Regional Office in Haverhill, Mass., to advance the care of the its object and archival collections in 2006 and launched its online collections access portal, which made its collections accessible globally, four years later, according to the organization.

Nold also served for four years on the board of directors of the American Association of Museums (AAM), then as its vice chairman (2007), chairman (2008-2010) and immediate past chairman.

"I am truly honored to be recognized by the Boston Preservation Alliance because it is made up of dozens of preservation groups from all around the city," Nold wrote of receiving the award, which recognizes outstanding and career-long contributions to preservation in Boston, and was named for John Codman, who established the city's first historic district in Beacon Hill in 1955. "To be recognized by these dedicated preservationists for leadership toward our mutual vision of preserving our built heritage reflects my belief that preservation could not succeed in Boston without community collaboration and support, so this is truly a meaningful honor for me. I will add that I appreciate that The Beacon Hill Times has reported on and been a much-needed voice for preservation throughout my [17] years at Historic New England."

According to a statement from the organization: "The Alliance recognizes Carl not just for [17] years leading Historic New England—a tenure marked by building a skilled professional team that has greatly enhanced the strength and engagement of that storied New England organization. We also award Carl for his leadership and counsel in the thoughtful evolution of the public history field and preservation movement. His positive influence in New England is only surpassed by his impact nationally and internationally, including as past chairman of US-ICOM, the International Council of Museums."

The Preservation Alliance also recognizes The Whitney Hotel Boston with one of this year's nine Preservation Achievement Awards, which "are presented to projects that demonstrate excellence and commitment to preserving Boston's distinctive architectural heritage," according to a statement from the organization.

The 65-room, luxury boutique hotel, which was developed by Boston-based Related Beal and is operated by Hersh Hospitality Management (HHM) of Harrisburg, Pa., opened at the location of the former John Jeffries House on Charles Street last July. It's named for Henry Melville Whitney, a local industrialist who once owned the site and died at age 83 in 1923 in Brookline.

David J. Hacin, the project's architect, was honored not only that the hotel is receiving such a coveted award, but also that his design now graces the neighborhood.

"I've always thought that the



The Whitney Hotel Boston, one of the recipients of the Boston Preservation Alliance's 2020 Preservation Achievement Awards

Beacon Hill Historic District is one of America's great cultural and architectural treasures," Hacin wrote. "It was a privilege to be able to build a new building in the District and this honor from the BPA is a humbling acknowledgment of our efforts to mark our own era appropriately and with respect for all that came before."

Greg Galer, executive director of the Boston Preservation Alliance, lauded the hotel's design as both forward looking, as well as respectful of the neighborhood and its past.

"Striking a balance between the extremes of bold contemporary design and blatant historicism is tricky, and particularly challenging in the iconic Beacon Hill Landmark District," Galer said in a statement. "The Whitney Hotel is both richly modern and elegantly contextual. The Whitney approaches its historic setting with a reserved confidence and high style, revealing layers of thoughtful detail as the eye lingers."

The Preservation Alliance will honor each of the nine projects at a virtual event held on Thursday, Oct. 15.

## LOCAL STUDENTS EARN ACADEMIC HONORS

### HILL RESIDENTS RECEIVE DEGREES

Late this spring, Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) celebrated the Class of 2020 with a socially distanced commencement season in place of its traditional 152nd Commencement exercises.

Michael Aquino was awarded a bachelor of science degree in biology and biotechnology.

Meagan Donoghue was awarded a master of business administration degree.

Since the Class of 2020 was unable to receive diplomas in person this year, they instead received personal commencement packages, mailed to their home, that included their diplomas, commencement regalia, and other items to celebrate their successes, as well as a congratulatory video message from President Laurie Leshin. In

total, WPI awarded 1,043 bachelor's degrees, 674 master's degrees, and 54 doctoral degrees.

In her video message, Leshin made the traditional Commencement walk to the WPI's iconic Earle Bridge, which students walk over during New Student Orientation and then again when they graduate. She then stopped, turned, and told graduates, "You should be here. But make no mistake: Today is still your day. You've walked this bridge together once, and you will walk it again. I can't wait to see you do just that. Until then, it's my honor to wait for you."

WPI plans to hold in-person undergraduate and graduate Commencement ceremonies in the future, at a date to be announced.

About Worcester Polytechnic Institute

## GARY DRUG

For over 75 years, Gary Drug has been serving the residents of Beacon Hill, the West End and the Back Bay.

Stay Home, Stay Safe

CALL US

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD PHARMACY

NEIGHBORHOOD  
DELIVERY SERVICE  
MONDAY THRU FRIDAY

*Delivering Your Medication  
And Other Essential Items*

Store Hours: Mon - Fri 8am-8pm  
Sat & Sun 8am-6pm

Copy & Fax Service • Neighborhood Delivery Service

We accept most prescription drug plans  
Let Gary Drug Be Your Neighborhood Pharmacy  
59 Charles Street • Phone 617-227-0023 • Fax 617-227-2879