



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



The Chapel Street Footbridge, Riverway lit up green as part of the 'Lights in the Necklace' series.

'Lights in the Necklace' shine through Mar. 13 on select Emerald Necklace bridges

Staff Report

The Emerald Necklace Conservancy offers visitors to the Emerald Necklace parks another wonderful reason to visit this winter with "Lights in the Necklace." From February 13 through March 13, 2021, select bridges in the

Emerald Necklace will be awash with an emerald glow – thanks to battery-powered LED lights. "Lights in the Necklace" will celebrate the power of Boston and Brookline's urban parks to bring visitors together, inspire and light the way in challenging times. Free and open to the public, enjoy the

lighting on a series of iconic Emerald Necklace bridges, daily from dusk to 9pm.

The Emerald Necklace's 1,100 acres are home to more than 30 bridges. Connecting neighbors and bridging communities is what

(EMERALD NECKLACE Pg. 3)

Walsh announces Scholarships to diversify Boston EMS

Staff report

Building on a commitment to promote diversity and inclusion among the ranks of Boston Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Mayor Martin J. Walsh and Boston EMS Chief James Hooley last Friday announced new paramedic certification scholarships for current EMS members.

Coordinated through the United Coalition of EMS Providers (UCEP), a Boston EMS affinity group dedicated to advancing equity, inclusion and diversity at all ranks, and in partnership with

both the Mayor's Office of Workforce Development (OWD) and Bunker Hill Community College (BHCC), 16 emergency medical technicians are now beginning their coursework at Bunker Hill Community College to become certified paramedics. This program is designed to expand the diversity of Boston EMS members holding a paramedic certification.

"Boston is a diverse city, and it's crucial that our public safety services in Boston, including our paramedics, reflect our neighborhoods, and our values," said

Mayor Walsh. "I'm proud that with this scholarship, we will continue to support diversity at Boston EMS, and care for all those who call Boston home."

Boston EMS paramedics staff five frontline ambulances, providing advanced life-saving care during medical emergencies across the city. Paramedics are state-certified EMTs who hold an additional certification, expanding their scope of practice to include complex procedures, such as intubations and starting an IV. Boston EMS

(BOSTON EMS Pg. 3)

Neighborhood restaurateur predicts brighter times ahead for city's dining establishments

By Dan Murphy

While the first month of 2021 brought paltry earnings for many of the city's already struggling dining establishments, one well-established neighborhood restaurateur foresees brighter times on the horizon for them.

"January certainly was bleak, but with the news of the vaccines, the election finally being over, and, most importantly, the lifting of the 9:30 curfew, along with allowing 40-percent capacity, it has been tremendously helpful," said Babak Bina, who, with his sister, Azita Bina-Seibel, owns and operates Bin 26 Enoteca on Charles Street, as well as jm Curley and its steakhouse, Bogie's Pace, in Downtown Crossing - all under the BiNA Family Hospitality umbrella. "It's sad that many restaurants in and surrounding Boston, and across the country, have gone out of business permanently. However, I feel those of us who somehow or another have hung in there will

benefit in the months and years to come."

Bina understands both the 9:30 p.m. curfew and 25-percent capacity that were temporarily imposed on restaurants in the city and across the state came as a necessary and well-advised response to the surge in COVID-19 cases following Thanksgiving, but, he said, that did nothing to lessen the blow for these dining establishments.

"It was certainly prudent by the state and city government," he said. "Nonetheless, it was still devastating."

Moreover, Bina realizes that no restaurant can ever recoup business they've lost so far to the pandemic, especially during the holiday season, which, he said, has traditionally been boon times in his industry.

"We really didn't have much of a holiday season," he said. "Holiday parties - those were nonexistent - along with gift cards, and

(BINA, Pg. 3)

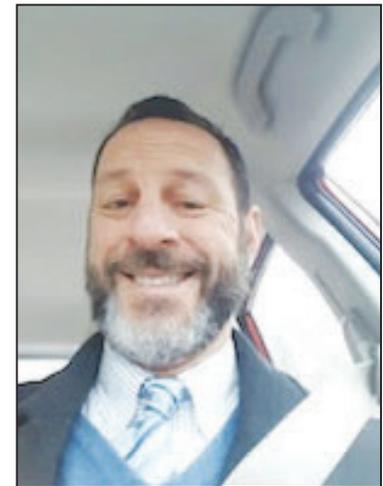
Historic New England's Metro-Boston regional site administrator feels fortunate to call Temple Street home

By Dan Murphy

While Michael Maler, Historic New England's Metro-Boston Regional Site Administrator, originally hails from the Los Angeles area, he said he felt immediately at home in Boston when he first came to the area to attend Harvard Summer School following his junior year in high school.

"I never felt like I belonged on the West Coast," said Maler, who now lives on Temple Street. "I really felt like I had an East Coast calling and was following in historical footsteps."

Maler earned an undergraduate degree in art history from Duke University in Durham, N.C., before returning to Cambridge to pursue a master's degree in museum studies from Harvard University, where he currently assists with graduate-level teaching. Before coming to Historic New England



Michael Maler, Historic New England's Metro-Boston Regional Site Administrator and a Temple Street resident.

two years ago, he had worked in community engagement at Historic Beverly and, prior to that, as

(MALER, Pg. 4)

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

EDITORIAL

USE COMMON SENSE WHEN DRIVING

Perusing through the police reports these days makes it apparent that the winter season is here -- and with it, the usual array of traffic incidents and accidents.

Although we have not had any of the big blizzard-type of winter events this season (at least so far), we now are in a period of a stormy weather pattern that is sending us small snow & ice events that in reality are even more treacherous than big storms.

The number of auto accidents seems to be inversely proportional to the size of the snowfall. It's as though motorists think, "This isn't too bad," and then proceed to drive too fast for the conditions.

In addition, we would remind our readers who have all-wheel drive vehicles that four wheels on ice are just as useless as the two wheels of a rear-drive vehicle, if you know what we mean. In other words, ice is ice is ice, regardless of what kind of vehicle you may be driving.

So during this upcoming period of stormy weather, if you do have to be out on the roads, please drive SLOWLY. There is no such thing as exercising too much caution in wintry weather

A NORTH POLE HURRICANE

Residents in Texas and along the Gulf Coast have become accustomed in recent years to a seemingly-endless onslaught of devastating hurricanes barreling up from the Gulf of Mexico.

Hurricane Harvey a few years ago dumped more rain and caused more flooding than any weather event in the region's history.

However, even with the hurricane season long-over, this part of the nation is being subjected to a weather event that has knocked out the region's power grid, leaving millions of residents without in the dark and without heat.

But instead of coming from the south, this latest force of nature has surged from the north thanks to a dip in the polar vortex from the Arctic. The result has been a cataclysmic storm that has crippled the entire region.

It's one thing to be without power amidst warm weather, but quite another to be without power when the temperatures are dipping to near-zero.

Climate change is not simply about global warming -- though it's true that the earth's average temperature has continued to climb year-after-year for the past decade.

Climate change also is about extreme weather of the sort that wreaks havoc in unexpected ways.

The Texas power grid was completely unprepared for the near-zero temperature conditions that have struck that part of the country, with the result that millions of people are facing a dire, life-threatening situation.

Climate change is arriving faster than anyone predicted -- and whatever window we have to reverse course is closing rapidly, if it already isn't too late.

Yes, the pandemic is demanding our immediate attention, but climate change needs to be addressed urgently -- because if we fail to do so, the worst is yet to come.



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

READER MAKES CASE FOR COMPOSTING

Dear Editor,

In 2005, I moved from the North End in Boston to San Francisco. I was pleasantly surprised to learn that San Francisco participated in citywide curbside composting as part of the city's waste management program. I started composting as much of my food waste and take-out containers as I could. I placed all of this waste in my green bin and wheeled it out the night before trash pick up day, along with my recycling and trash bins.

In the spring of 2019, I was ready and excited to move back to Boston and ended up in Beacon Hill. I love living here, with one exception. When I moved back, I found out that Boston still hadn't started a curbside composting program. I felt guilty throwing my food scraps into the trash and looked into alternative means to compost. I learned that the city started a composting pilot program called Project Oscar (<https://www.boston.gov/environment-and-energy/project-oscar>). Project Oscar allows you to bring your scraps to city managed com-

posting bins. However, the closest one to Beacon Hill is at City Hall Plaza. It isn't always easy to tote your waste all the way to this bin.

I decided to see if I could find a composting alternative so I wouldn't have to walk my scraps over to City Hall Plaza. Luckily, there are a few local businesses that provide curbside composting in Boston. I've tried two of them, Bootstrap Compost (<https://bootstrapcompost.com/>) and Black Earth Compost (<https://blackearthcompost.com/>). They both have similar models. Bootstrap provides a four-gallon plastic bucket to collect your food waste. They pick up this bucket every week or every other week depending on what plan you choose and give you a clean empty bucket in return. Black Earth requires you to buy a low-cost four-gallon bucket or a 13-gallon wheelie-bin from them. Blackearth picks up weekly and only requires that you line your bucket or bin with a compostable bag. The four-gallon bucket from Bootstrap fit under my kitchen sink, and the wheelie bin from Blackearth is small enough that I leave it out in my hallway.

There are many benefits to curb-

side composting. It diverts food scraps from entering landfills and it turns your organic waste into a great fertilizer for plants--you can even request some to be returned to you from Bootstrap and Black Earth. Another benefit that doesn't come as quickly to mind is, that it would reduce the number of rats that we have in the neighborhood. I have noticed on trash collection days lots of avocado peels, lemon rinds and other food waste on the sidewalk on my block. I am certain it is because rats get into my neighbors' trash bags and eat the food that's in there. Because the compost bins are made out of hard plastic, even if they are put out the night before, it makes it all but impossible for a rat to chew through them. If enough people start composting, there will be a lot less food for the rats to eat in the garbage bags that are out on our sidewalks.

Composting really is beneficial. If not for the environment, then for the decrease in rats in our beautiful neighborhood. Please consider it. Also consider writing into the city to encourage Boston to start a citywide curbside composting program. I did!

Christine Kromer

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

City's Community Choice Electricity program underway

Special to Times

Community Choice Electricity (CCE) - a milestone program announced by Mayor Martin Walsh in December as an important part of the City's climate action strategy for achieving carbon-neutrality - launched Feb. 1, and, according to the City, here's what you need to know about it:

- CCE allows the City to buy electricity on behalf of residents and businesses. By combining its buying power, the City will be able to provide affordable and renewable electricity to those who participate in the program.

- CCE is flexible — you can opt-in or opt-out at any time, and there's no contract or fees. Bostonians on Eversource Basic Service were notified of automatic enrollment, with the option to "opt-out." It also tells you your options, lets you easily opt-out, stay on your existing plan, or "opt-up" to 100-percent renewable electricity. Anyone with an electric account in Boston can opt-in or opt-out of

the program at any time, and can switch up their product choices depending on what's best for them.

- CCE gives you a choice over the type of electricity that powers your life.

"Boston is a diverse city," Chris Cook, the City's Chief of the Environment, Energy, and Open Space Cabinet wrote in email, "and we know one product does not meet the needs of all residents. Due to our ability to create our own products, Boston has been able to provide two options with more renewable energy."

Webinars are available in multiple languages at <https://tinyurl.com/commchoiceelecwebinars>.

The City is also hosting virtual office hours on the program twice a week; visit https://www.boston.gov/news/community-choice-electricity-holding-virtual-office-hours?utm_source=Innovation+and+Technology&utm_campaign=Community+Choice+Electricity+%28January+2021%29&utm_medium=email for more informa-



Staff report

On Feb. 11, the Boston Public Library announced that its branches will now offer morning hours for BPL To Go services. Starting on February 12, branches will be open on Fridays from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m., giving patrons more flexibility when picking up and dropping off books, CDs, and DVDs. The new hours will be:

BRANCH LOCATIONS:

- Monday – Thursday: 2PM-6PM
 - NEW: Friday: 10 AM-1PM
- CENTRAL LIBRARY:**
- Monday – Thursday: 10AM-6PM
 - Friday & Saturday:

BOSTON EMS (from pg. 1)

members promoted to the rank of paramedic earn approximately 36 percent more than an EMT.

"I am very proud of what UCEP was able to accomplish in just five short months, securing Mayoral support and funding, as well as coordinating directly with Bunker Hill Community College; increasing the diversity of our paramedics will result in a direct benefit inpatient care," said Boston EMS Chief of Department, Jim Hooley.

The professional development and advancement of Boston EMS members have been ongoing department priorities. Boston EMS has worked with multiple paramedic training programs and colleges to reduce barriers for all interested personnel to advance their education.

Boston EMS has maintained a longstanding commitment to hiring candidates that reflect the racial, ethnic and linguistic diver-

BPL announces morning hours for BPL-To-Go

10AM-4PM

BPL To Go allows library card and e-card holders to "order" books, DVDs, and CDs by placing holds via: bpl.org; the BPL To Go app; or by phone at 617-536-5400. Patrons can safely pick up their items and return them using designated bins. Once returned, items are quarantined for 96 hours before returning to the shelves. All patrons are required to wear face coverings and maintain physical distancing at all times. Patrons are notified when their items are ready for pickup, and items remain on the hold shelf for 14 days.

All Branch locations currently offering BPL To Go services; the

Brighton, Charlestown, Chinatown, Codman Square, Connolly, East Boston, Egleston Square, Fields Corner, Grove Hall, Honan-Allston, Jamaica Plain, Lower Mills, Mattapan, North End, Parker Hill, Roxbury, South Boston, South End, Uphams Corner, West End and West Roxbury Branches.

BPL To Go hours at the Central Library in Copley Square remain unaffected.

The library has adjusted BPL To Go hours in an effort to remove barriers to access for patrons who may not be able to visit their branches in the afternoons.

For more information on BPL To Go services visit bpl.org/takeout.

BiNA (from pg. 1)

the second thing that has carried us through January in the past is New Year's Eve, which give us hibernation money, and we didn't have any of those. That's why many restaurateurs decided to shut down after New Year's Eve for possible reopening in the spring."

But even in the face of diminished revenues, BiNA Family Hospitality's restaurants have remained open to accommodate their loyal clientele.

"We made a conscious decision to keep Bin 26 and jm Curley and Bogie's Pace open after meeting internally between ownership and management staff," Bina said. "We felt strongly that we want to live by the motto of being there for our guests when they want to come and dine out."

One promising sign for the future, he added, is that "many restaurants have hit the ground looking for available space to rent."



Babak Bina, co-founder and co-owner of BiNA Family Hospitality.

Bina said, "Just on Beacon Hill, we have a few happenings related to restaurant concepts that will become public knowledge very soon."

EMERALD NECKLACE (from pg. 1)

the Necklace was designed to do nearly 150 years ago by famed landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted. This winter, the Emerald Necklace and its shared green spaces continue to be some of the primary places of community connection. Not only will the emerald-uplit bridges offer fantastic picture taking moments, it will bring some fun and light to people as they explore the Emerald Necklace while commuting, crossing the parks on daily errands, or taking a stroll or run through the parks in the evening. "Our winters are already long, and this winter especially we need light, hope and safe opportunities and destinations

to continue to enjoy the outdoors with limited daylight," said Emerald Necklace Conservancy President Karen Mauney-Brodek. "We hope this limited-time installation will do just that – give folks an excuse and a reason for an enjoyable outing after hours." Information about each bridge's history and significance in the Emerald Necklace will be available on the Conservancy's website.

Website:

www.emeraldnecklace.org/necklancelights

Illuminated bridges – subject to change - check website for the most up-to-date details:

- Boylston Street Bridge in the

Fens

- Liff Park Bridges in the Fens
- Chapel Street Bridge in Riverway
- Bridle Footbridge in Riverway
- Longwood Avenue Bridge in Riverway
- Leverett Pond Footbridge in Olmsted Park
- Ellicott Arch in Franklin Park

Share your #NecklaceLights moment by using the hashtag on social media:

www.instagram.com/emeraldnecklaceconservancy

www.facebook.com/theemeraldnecklaceconservancy

www.twitter.com/EmNecklaceBos

ADVERTISE IN THE TIMES
CALL 781-485-0588

Baker among three governors honored for commitment to mental health

Special to the Times

During the challenging times of a global pandemic, where screening data from Mental Health America (MHA) consistently shows extreme rates of depression, anxiety, isolation, and loneliness, the organization is recognizing three leaders for stepping up with critical resources to support their communities' mental health needs.

New Jersey's Gov. Phil Murphy, Pennsylvania's Gov. Tom Wolf, and Massachusetts' Gov. Charlie Baker were recently honored with MHA's national B4Stage4 Leadership Award,

which recognizes excellence in mental health. This prestigious award signifies a commitment to treating behavioral health conditions before they've hit Stage 4 – a crisis. The award also recognizes ongoing support of the behavioral health community.

"We are honored to recognize leaders making a difference on the front lines of mental health. Half of Americans are struggling with mental health this year, and the need for leaders who will advocate for mental health resources has never been greater," said Paul Gionfriddo, president and CEO of MHA. "Governors Baker, Mur-

phy, and Wolf have shown a deep commitment to raising awareness about mental health needs and they are prioritizing policy changes to create systemic reforms."

Gov. Charles Baker has been a supporter of MHA affiliate Massachusetts Association for Mental Health during his six years in office.

"It's an honor to be a recipient of MHA's B4Stage4 Governor's Award this year," said Gov. Baker. "Our administration is proud to treat behavioral health with the urgency it requires, increasing state spending by more than \$400 million and expanding

access to care through innovations like telehealth. We remain committed to doing all we can to prioritize behavioral health, reduce stigma and get people the help they need."

From 2015-2019, his administration invested \$1.9 billion in behavioral health across the spectrum of care. In 2019, Gov. Baker introduced comprehensive health care legislation, which included promoting access to behavioral health and reducing its costs to consumers. During the pandemic, he launched a new crisis counseling assistance program, MassSupport, in English and Spanish. This month, Gov.

Baker also signed comprehensive health care legislation that requires coverage of telehealth services for behavioral health care.

The honored governors accepted their awards as part of MHA's virtual Regional Policy Council Meeting. The council, launched in 2009, meets regularly to form a nationwide movement for a robust mental health system that promotes prevention and early intervention initiatives, access to integrated community-based treatments and supports that are recovery-focused and that encompass community inclusion.

State awards \$64 million in grants to 1,312 additional businesses for COVID relief

Staff report

The Baker-Polito Administration announced nearly \$64 million in awards to 1,312 additional businesses in the seventh round of COVID relief grants administered by the Massachusetts Growth Capital Corporation (MGCC). Each business meets sector and demographic priorities set for the two grant programs.

With the addition of this round of grant awards, the Administration has awarded approximately \$514 million in direct financial support to 11,212 businesses across the Commonwealth.

"As part of our ongoing commitment to supporting the Massachusetts business community, I'm pleased we are able to provide relief to another 1,312 hard hit businesses," said Gov. Charlie Baker. "With this round of awards, our efforts to deliver vital assistance to foster our economic recovery have now reached more than 11,000 businesses across the Commonwealth for a total of over a half billion dollars in direct

financial support."

Among the sectors that received the highest total number of grants this round are: restaurants, bars, caterers, or food trucks (426); personal services businesses (173); and independent retailers (114).

In addition, grants for this round were awarded to 596 minority-owned, and 489 women-owned, businesses; 356 recipients are located in Gateway Cities, and 352 businesses have not received any prior aid.

Acknowledging the importance of restaurants and independent retailers to communities across Massachusetts, business owners of multiple locations that met demographic and sector priorities are receiving awards to support up to two additional locations.

"Thanks to the team at MGCC, these grants create a key opportunity to sustain our small businesses by the thousands in every corner of Massachusetts," said Housing and Economic Development Secretary Mike Kennealy. "Recognizing how critical a component our

small businesses are to the Commonwealth's economy, providing direct support has proven to be essential to our strategy for economic recovery."

Following the previous

announcement of grant awards on Feb. 4, MGCC began a process of engaging directly with applicants that met sector and demographic priorities but were missing documents necessary to be considered

for an award. MGCC is continuing to work with business owners in targeted sectors and demographic groups over a two-week period to allow for applicants to submit necessary documents.

MALER (from pg. 1)

site interpreter for the Paul Revere House.

"I was always drawn to the historic house part of the museum world, for the same reasons I was drawn to Beacon Hill," Maler said, "because it provides an intimate, immersive experience and a very hands on-experience – it's very palpable."

In his current role, Maler is responsible for all of Historic New England's Metro Boston sites, including the Otis House on Cambridge Street, as well as the Lyman Estate in Waltham, the Eustis Estate in Milton, and the Gropius House in Lincoln, among others.

"We're constantly looking to evolve and grow, and to reach a broader and more-diverse audience," he said. "My role is really to engage as wide and diverse an audience as I can."

Besides helping to roll out the

members of the Beacon Hill community and reach out to other museums, volunteer organizations, and religious organizations" among its greatest assets.

"For me collaborating is really the heart of what we do – listening to the community, being part of the community," he said, "and being an asset and resource for the community."

The Otis House now serves as his base of operations, which has quite literally put Maler in the heart of Beacon Hill's rich history.

"There's a great for connection between Beacon Hill and the Otis House," he said. "What's great is how much of the story of Beacon Hill the Otis House is able to tell."

Maler added, "The property is 18th-century mansion, but it's also connected to 19th-century rowhouses so it really connects the Otis House to really everything around it – Beacon Hill and the West End –and it's great to look out the window at the Otis House and see the history of Beacon Hill and the changes that have occurred there over the last 200 years."

Susanna Crampton, Public Relations Officer for Historic New England, wrote, "Michael has the wonderful ability to take the stories at Otis House and connect them to the stories of the surrounding area. He views the rich history of the Otis House as a launching pad to get everyone to enjoy our area's unique history and is always open to ideas to engage new audiences."

Besides his work with Historic New England, Maler also currently serves as a trustee for Historic Beverly and is an active member of the New England Museum Association, The American Association for State and Local History, and the Downtown Boston House Museum Alliance.

Moreover, Maler counts himself as a proud resident of Beacon Hill, where he has lived for the last two years.

"Even in the early days when I was at Harvard program, I drawn to Beacon Hill," he said. "The streets are narrower, and the neighborhood has a very Old World feel to it."

And the tightknit sense of community he has discovered on Beacon Hill, Maler said, is just one more reason he's happy to call the neighborhood home.

"One thing I've learned from living in Beacon Hill is how much of a neighborhood it really is, and I think that will help to form my future thinking about what Otis House can be for the community," he said. "Even on Temple Street part of Beacon Hill there's a community. Coming from the land of suburbia in California, it's such a nice feeling to have that immediate community."

Celebrating the holidays on Beacon Hill, as opposed to in Maler's native Southern California, he said, has also been a revelation to him.

"It's a far cry from Christmas lights on palm trees," he said.

VISIT WWW.BEACONHILLTIMES.COM

SERVICE DIRECTORY

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 & HEATING
 Meeting all your
 mechanical needs

 24/7
 emergency
 service
 M9304
 617-723-3296

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

Exit renumbering operations completed on nine statewide corridors

Staff report

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) has announced that construction and sign replacement operations to convert former sequential exit numbers to new milepost-based numbers is continuing across the Commonwealth.

The renumbering operations, which are required per a Federal Highway Administration mandate, began in the fall 2020 and are anticipated to be completed by summer 2021.

The Federal Highway Administration's 2009 Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices mandated that all states establish a mile-based exit numbering system. The conversion to a mile-based exit numbering system is being implemented on a route-by-route basis, and started in Western Massachusetts and moving eastward. For individual routes, exit numbering conversion has taken place from east to west or north to south.

Exit renumbering conversion operations have been completed on Interstate 90, and some northeast and southeast corridors as follows:

- Interstate 90 between Boston and West Stockbridge.
- Interstate 295 between North

Attleboro and Attleboro.

- State Route 24 between Randolph and Fall River.
- Route 140 between Taunton and New Bedford.
- Interstate 195 between Wareham and Seekonk.
- State Route 25 between Wareham and Bourne.
- State Route 3 between Braintree and Bourne.
- US Route 6 between Orleans and Bourne.
- US Route 3 between Tyngsborough and Burlington.

The anticipated start dates and locations for statewide renumbering on the remaining corridors are as follows:

- State Route 128 renumbering operations began on Wednesday, Feb. 10, and take place from Gloucester to Peabody.
- Interstate 95 renumbering operations will begin on Sunday, Feb. 21. The work will be broken up into the four segments that follow: between the New Hampshire border and Route 120; Between the Route 1 Interchange and Route 20; Between the I-90 Interchange and Westwood/Canton; Between Neponset Street and the Rhode Island border.
- Interstate 84 renumbering operations will begin on Sunday,

Feb. 28, and will take place from the I-90 interchange in Sturbridge to the Connecticut border.

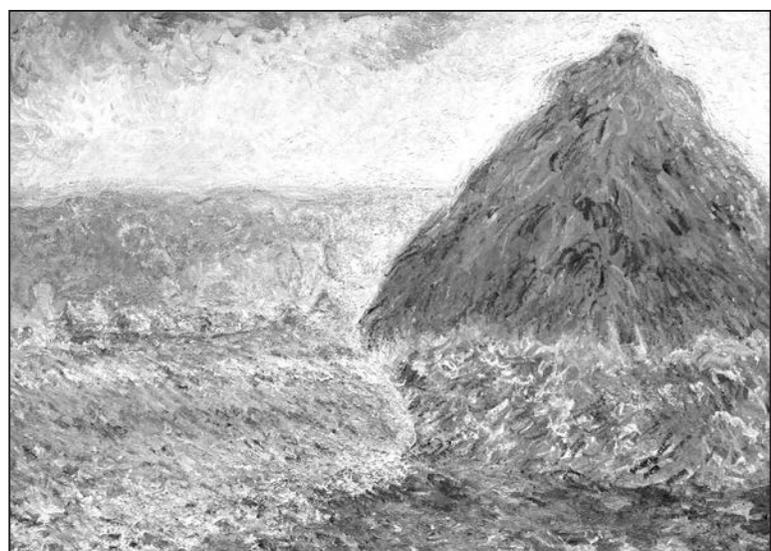
- Interstate 93 renumbering operations will begin after the I-95 corridor is completed, and based on their locations along the existing mile markers, existing exits 1 (Canton) through exit 12 (Boston/Neponset) will not be renumbered. Exit renumbering will begin at existing exit 13 (Boston/Dorchester) and continue to existing exit 48 (Methuen).

Construction start dates and locations on the following remaining corridors will be announced as they are finalized: State Route 146, Interstate 190, State Route 2, Interstate 495, Interstate 395 and Interstate 295.

During a transition period for motorists, "Old Exit" signs are being installed at each converted exit for a minimum of two years.

Work typically is completed during the overnight off-peak hours, with minimal impacts to traffic. In addition, the contractors conducting the sign replacement operations are required to complete the full interchange before moving along to the next exit.

All work is weather dependent and construction dates may be adjusted accordingly.



Grainstack (Sunset), 1891, Claude Monet. Oil on canvas.

MFA Boston extends 'Monet and Boston: Lasting Impression'

Staff report

The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (MFA), has announced that "Monet and Boston: Lasting Impression" has been extended through March 28.

The popular exhibition, which offers a once-in-a-generation chance to see all 35 of the Museum's oil paintings by Claude Monet (1840-1926), has sold out its entire run to date. March tickets went on sale Feb. 16 at noon for MFA members, and February 17 at 10 a.m. for nonmembers.

Monet found extraordinary beauty in settings both mundane and majestic, and he shared that vision—that enthusiasm for the

here and now—in paintings that changed the course of art. Perhaps no other artist has captured Boston's imagination as enduringly as the beloved Impressionist master. On view together for the first time in a generation, the MFA's 35 Monet paintings are joined by select loans from private collections and works from the MFA's broader holdings, including 19th-century Japanese woodblock prints and European paintings that Monet admired and emulated. The exhibition charts the development of Monet's incomparable vision and revolutionary technique, while also reflecting on Boston's enduring commitment to the painter and his art.

As disasters continue during pandemic Red Cross needs volunteers

Staff report

Home fires continue to keep Red Cross volunteers responding to disaster across Massachusetts, including three fires in the past 48 hours that displaced nearly 100 people.

Fires in Boxborough, Mattapan, Revere and Lowell each displaced more than 30 people in multi-unit buildings. Red Cross volunteers are responding to these fires virtually; with contact information from local fire departments, they assist residents through phone calls and video conferencing to help them on the road to recovery after life altering home fires.

The need for volunteers is constant. Red Cross volunteers help people recover from disasters, assist at local blood drives, provide mental health counselling to people recovering from disasters, assist members of the military along with their families, and provide training to people learning first aid and basic life support.

"Volunteers represent more than 90 percent of the Red Cross workforce and make our humanitarian mission possible," said Ryan Avery, senior disaster program manager for Massachusetts. "During the coronavirus pandemic, families continue to depend on

local Red Cross volunteers every day. This year please consider volunteering with the Red Cross to support your neighbors in need and help us ensure no one faces life's emergencies alone."

Those interested in becoming a volunteer can visit redcross.org/volunteer. There they can find local opportunities to help people in need right here in Massachusetts. A Red Cross volunteer recruiter will speak with people over the phone to find something not only interesting but fulfilling.

BEACON HILL BEAT

From Boston Police Area A-1

COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICE: 617-343-4627
DRUG UNIT: 617-343-4879 • EMERGENCIES: 911

Larceny - Shoplifting

02/11/21 - A Charles Street pharmacy reported a male suspect in a wheelchair stole three bottles of mouthwash at about

11:45 p.m. The store clerk stated the suspect stuffed the bottles into his jacket and fled the store. Video footage of the incident has been made available to police.



BREWSTER & BERKOWITZ
REAL ESTATE

Charles Street Meeting House
121 Mt. Vernon Street Boston, MA 02108
617-367-0505 www.brewberk.com

Sally Brewster	Betsey Barrett
Ron Berkowitz	Toni Doggett

Sea Sales

Fine Estate Liquidation
Manchester-by-the-Sea

seasales.net
978 290 2336

PLEASE VISIT

WWW.BEACONHILLTIMES.COM

MBTA announces names of new stations for Green Line B Branch Station project

The MBTA announced last week that the new stations constructed during the upcoming B Branch Station Consolidation project would be called Babcock Street Station and Amory Street Station.

This station modernization project will consolidate four B Branch stops (BU West with St. Paul Street and Pleasant Street with Babcock Street) into two fully accessible, brand new stations. With longer platforms and protection from the roadway, the consolidated stations will improve safety and save time for riders traveling on Commonwealth Ave.

“This station consolidation project will streamline trips for riders and provide safer, fully accessible platforms,” said MBTA General Manager Steve Poflak. “With safety as our first priority, the new sta-

B Branch Station Consolidation | Project Map

Babcock Street Station will be consolidated with Pleasant Street Station, and St Paul Street Station will be consolidated with BU West Station

Existing Babcock St Station, Existing Pleasant St Station, Existing St. Paul St Station, Existing BU West Station

New "A" Station Babcock St Station, New "B" Station Amory St Station

- Longer, 225-foot platforms for new Type 10 Supercar
- Accessible boarding at both stations
- 2 accessible exits at both ends of the stations
- Security, reliability and communications upgrades

tions will include fencing between the platform and the roadway. We designed these new stations to align with other recent investments in the Commonwealth Ave. corridor to

improve safety for riders, pedestrians, bicyclists, and vehicles.”

Project work will also occur overnight between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m. on weekdays and 24/7 over the weekends during 12 months of construction.

To accomplish this work, service will be shut down between Babcock Street and Kenmore Stations on most weeknights and weekends as of Feb. 15. Shuttle buses will replace train service with shuttle stops located at Bus Route 57 stops.

The current Pleasant Street Station will be decommissioned as of the end of service on Feb. 26. The new Babcock Street Station will

ultimately serve riders in this location when the new station opens at the end of construction. During construction of the new, consolidated station, riders will be directed to either St. Paul Street or Babcock Street on weekdays when Green Line trolleys are operating. Pedestrian paths of travel will be clearly marked through the work zone.

Occasional overnight and weekend lane closures will be required to safely carry out construction activities. Minor detours for vehicles may occasionally be needed overnight. However, local access will be maintained and advance warning signs will be posted.

Skin issues won't wait six months.

NEITHER SHOULD YOU.

ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS in Our New Wayland Office

- Some Same-Day Appointments Available
- Urgent Appointments Available
- Most Insurances Accepted
- Medical & Cosmetic Dermatology

We welcome, Weston native, Byron Ho, MD, Board Certified Dermatologist, to our New Wayland location.



APDerm ADULT & PEDIATRIC DERMATOLOGY

CALL (508) 462-9866 TODAY to schedule your visit or visit APDERM.COM 17-19 Elissa Avenue, Wayland, MA 01778

BUY • CONSIGN • ENJOY

BOSTON CONSIGNMENT

FURNISHINGS FROM THE FINEST HOMES

Bostonconsigns.com

978-969-1115
info@bostonconsigns.com



The Archer

BEACON HILL RESIDENCES

Now open and available for immediate occupancy.

The Archer Residences is a boutique, full-service condominium in Beacon Hill with 24-hour white-glove services and impeccably designed indoor and outdoor spaces for health, wellness, and socializing. One- to four-bedroom residences starting at \$1.5M.

SCHEDULE A PRIVATE SHOWING TODAY.

The Archer Residences

45 Temple Street, Beacon Hill
sales@thearcherresidences.com
617.315.2451
thearcherresidences.com



COMPASS DEVELOPMENT MARKETING GROUP

LICENSED AS COMPASS. COMPASS IS A LICENSED REAL ESTATE BROKER AND ABIDES BY EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY LAWS.

Weekly positive test rate declines for fourth week

By John Lynds

The cumulative COVID-19 positive test rate in Beacon Hill and the surrounding neighborhoods increased slightly while the weekly positive test rate decreased for a fourth week in a row.

According to the latest data released by the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) last Friday, overall since the pandemic started 43,525 Beacon Hill, Back Bay, North End, West End and Downtown residents have been tested for COVID-19 and the data shows that 5.9 percent of those tested were COVID positive--this was 3.5 increase from the 5.7 percent reported by the BPHC two weeks ago.

Last week 3,097 residents were tested and 2.4 percent were positive--a 20 percent decrease from the 3 reported two Fridays ago.

Citywide, 29,297 residents were tested and 4.8 percent were COVID positive--a 17 percent decrease from the 5.8 percent testing positive two weeks ago.

At his press briefing last week Mayor Martin Walsh reminded residents that Governor Charlie Baker would increase the statewide capacity restrictions from 25 percent to 40 percent for the businesses that are allowed to be open in Phase 3 Step 1. The Mayor said that the City of Boston is aligning with the State on these capacity restrictions. The City and the State are now currently in Phase 3, Step 1 of reopening. The limit on gatherings remains at 25 people outdoors, and 10 people indoors. This applies to both public and private spaces.

The Mayor encouraged residents and business owners to visit Mass.gov/reopening for a more detailed list, as well as industry-specific guidance.

Walsh said that the improvement the city has seen in its numbers is encouraging, and means the measures the city has taken are making a difference.

"It does not, however, mean that anyone should let their guards

down," said Walsh. "Instead, everyone must do their part to keep the numbers going down so that certain activities can stay open, safely."

The Mayor said that throughout this crisis, Boston has taken a cautious approach.

"We only move forward if the public health data says that it's safe to do so, and the City has been enforcing safety protocols," said Walsh. "Most restaurants in Boston have been doing a great job, and I thank them for that, but that the City is also taking swift action when establishments do not meet safety protocols. The Inspectional Services Department continues to work with Boston Police, Boston Fire, the Licensing Board, and Boston Public Health Commission on enforcement. They are in constant contact with our business owners to make sure they understand the regulations. They're providing restaurants with the tools they need to get up to code. These departments work together to investigate

and address violations."

If residents have concerns about a property, they can call 3-1-1 or the BPD's party line at 617-343-5500.

The Licensing Board has instituted a weekly standing emergency hearing on Mondays to address any violations that come up over the weekend. Those hearings have resulted in immediate closures, when necessary.

City agencies responded to about 2,500 complaints in 2020. Most were dealt with immediately, and all of them were dealt with within 24 hours.

For example the City recently got a call from a patron who had dined at a restaurant that was not adhering to capacity restrictions. That same night, BPD conducted an inspection and confirmed that there was a violation. By Monday morning, that Licensee went before the Licensing Board, and had their license suspended.

"Nobody wants to shut restaurants down," said Walsh. "We're doing everything we can to help local businesses with grants, helping them procure PPE, and loosening restrictions for things like outdoor dining. But the health and safety of our residents always comes first. We will continue to take swift action whenever there's a violation. Again,

I thank the vast majority of restaurants for doing a great job under difficult circumstances."

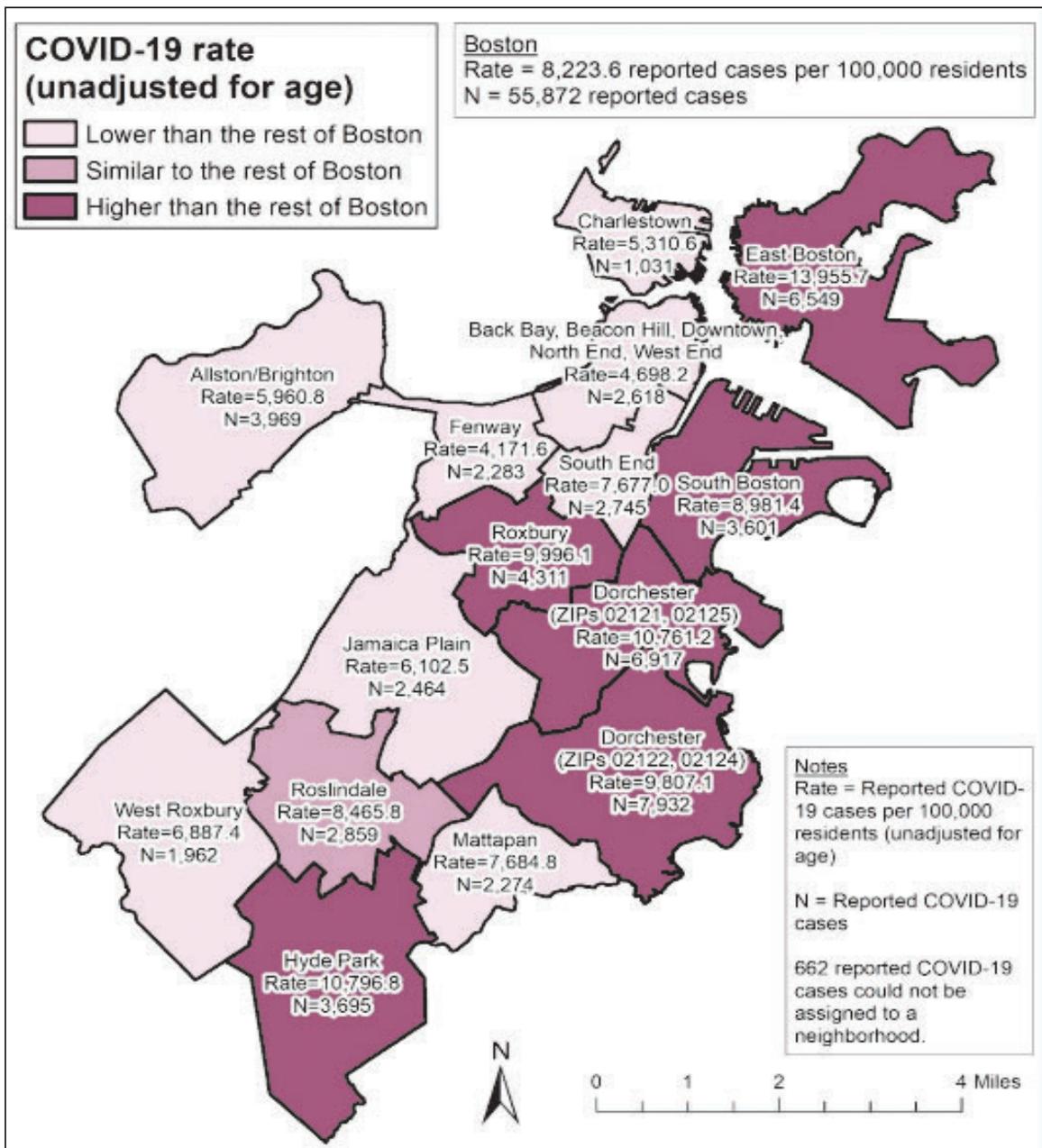
The infection rate in Beacon Hill and surrounding neighborhoods increased 4.3 percent in one week according to the latest city statistics.

The BPHC data released last Friday showed Beacon Hill, Back Bay, North End, West End and Downtown had an infection rate of 469.8 cases per 10,000 residents, up 6 percent from 450.6 cases per 10,000 residents.

An additional 107 residents became infected with the virus last week and the total number of cases in the area increased from 2,511 cases to 2,618 cases as of last Friday.

The statistics released by the BPHC as part of its weekly COVID19 report breaks down the number of cases and infection rates in each neighborhood. It also breaks down the number of cases by age, gender and race.

Citywide positive cases of coronavirus increased 2.6 percent percent last week and went from 55,236 cases to 56,711 confirmed cases in a week. Thirty-eight additional Boston residents died from the virus last week and there are now 1,232 total deaths in the city from COVID.



STICK TO IT!

Share your message in our paper with a **STICKY NOTE**

OPEN HOUSE? STICK IT!
FUNDRAISER? STICK IT!
NEED-TO-KNOW INFO? STICK IT!

Keep your name in the eyes of our thousands of readers!

Sticky size: 3 in. x 3 in.
Shown sized to scale above covers approx. 2 columns
Copy for a Sticky due 3 weeks prior to run date

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!
DEB@THEBOSTONSUN.COM
781-485-0588

On Friday the BPHC released its weekly COVID-19 stats by neighborhood that tracks infection rates and COVID testing results in Boston neighborhoods.

Two firms announced for Boston's first Urban Forest Plan

Staff report

Martin J. Walsh and Boston Parks and Recreation Commissioner Ryan Woods on Friday announced two consultants have been selected to develop Boston's Urban Forest Plan.

Boston landscape architecture firm Stoss Landscape Urbanism and forestry consultant Urban Canopy Works have been selected to co-lead the effort to develop the City of Boston's first Urban Forest Plan. Stoss was awarded the contract with Urban Canopy Works as a subconsultant. The 20-year plan will set citywide goals for canopy protection, be responsive to climate change and development, and enhance the quality of life for all Bostonians. The Urban Forest Plan will be a collaborative effort that includes a community advisory group, interdepartmental working group and community outreach. Recognizing that environmental injustice exists in

Boston, the planning process will embed support for communities that have been disproportionately impacted by environmental stressors. Planning will touch upon a wide variety of topics, such as ecology, design, policy, practices and funding.

"Trees are an important part of making Boston's communities resilient. This plan is the first of its kind in Boston, and it will expand and protect one of our most precious natural resources, while prioritizing the needs of our residents," said Mayor Walsh. "Developing an urban forest plan is important to ensure our tree canopy in Boston is equitable, responsive to climate change and ensures quality of life for all Bostonians. This collaborative project with Stoss Landscape Urbanism and Urban Canopy Works will prioritize community input to ensure that residents in our neighborhoods have a central voice in this process."

Said Woods, "It's no coincidence that many of the communities disproportionately impacted by poor air quality and the urban 'heat island' effect, also have inadequate tree cover. We're excited to collaborate with these partners to find opportunities for growing tree canopy in the places that need it most."

The project team will also work closely with a community advisory group and an interdepartmental working group with input from residents, community organizations, businesses, and institutions. Kicking off in spring of 2021, the planning process will take approximately one year to complete. The community advisory group will be formed in late spring of this year. The public will have an opportunity to weigh in on the plan in early fall, after the assessment and scoping phases.

One of the project tasks, along with scoping the project and assessing the existing state of the

canopy, will be to develop a plan for engaging the community. The outreach plan will prioritize populations that have been disproportionately exposed to environmental stressors; be sensitive to differences in cultures, economic realities, and built environments across Boston; incorporate City of Boston Language and Communications Access guidelines; consider equity and accessibility in both in-person and online engagement strategies; and retain flexibility to adapt engagement strategies in response to changing public health recommendations.

Joining Stoss Landscape Urbanism and Urban Canopy Works, the plan will be developed with contributions from American Forests, Nitsch Engineering, PlanITGeo, local experts, and the public. Dr. Neenah-Estrella Luna of Northeastern University will support the effort to make environmental justice the foundation of the project.

The final plan document will highlight policy tools to control canopy loss on private property, as well as guidelines for protecting and expanding canopy on public property, like streets and parks. Over the past five years, tree removals on residential, pri-

vate, and institutional property have been the main contributors to canopy loss. The finalized plan will provide recommendations for canopy protection and expansion through proposed changes to the development review process, as well as new policies and ordinances, including draft language and methods of enforcement aimed at protecting and expanding the tree canopy.

The Urban Forest Plan is a critical piece of the vision for the City's tree canopy goals laid out in Imagine Boston 2030 and Climate Ready Boston.

In addition to the \$500,000 budgeted for the Urban Forest Plan, historic investments in Boston's tree canopy this year will also support the hiring of a new arborist and the added capacity for up to 1,000 additional tree plants, doubling the total capacity to 2,000 trees planted per year. The Tree Canopy Assessment, released in September, supports efforts to increase access to trees and their benefits in "under-treed" neighborhoods, as a part of the City's commitment to environmental justice. For more information about Boston's Urban Forest Plan, please email parks@boston.gov.

Online Advertising is Available

Showcase Your Business, Open House, or More with an online ad!

Clients and Customers are just a click away!

— \$300⁰⁰ per month per site —

THE
INDEPENDENT
NEWSPAPERS

REVEREJOURNAL.COM • WINTHROPTRANSCRIPT.COM

LYNNJOURNAL.COM • EVERETTINDEPENDENT.COM

EASTIETIMES.COM • CHELSEARECORD.COM

CHARLESTOWNBRIDGE.COM • BEACONHILLTIMES.COM

NORTHENDREGIONALREVIEW.COM • THEBOSTONSUN.COM

JAMAICAPLAINGAZETTE.COM • MISSIONHILLGAZETTE.COM

Combo Rates available!
Buy any 3 sites, get 4th FREE

Call the office to get started!
781-485-0588

AD SIZE

in pixels

W: 160px

H: 600px

in inches

W: 2.2222"

H: 8.3333"

please send
in "png"
format

Staff report

Pressley's provision to support families experiencing homelessness included in House American Rescue Plan

Last week, the House Financial Services Committee included in the House American Rescue Plan Act a measure championed by Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley, in partnership with several colleagues, that would invest nearly \$5 billion in additional funding to support vulnerable families and individuals experiencing homelessness.

"Housing is a critical determinant of health, economic opportunity and social mobility," said Congresswoman Pressley. "With this pandemic continuing to rage and the threat of homelessness

looming large for families across the Massachusetts 7th and nationwide, our relief efforts must continue to prioritize keeping families safely housed."

Experts estimate that \$5 billion in additional resources is critical to help communities across the country provide safe and secure shelter for those experiencing homelessness. This provision is responsive to the needs of community and advocates and will provide cities and states the flexibility needed to make long term investments to combat the homelessness crisis like the conversion of hotels and motels into non-congregate shelters.



**EMERGENCY
ALL BLOOD
TYPES NEEDED.**

Give now.



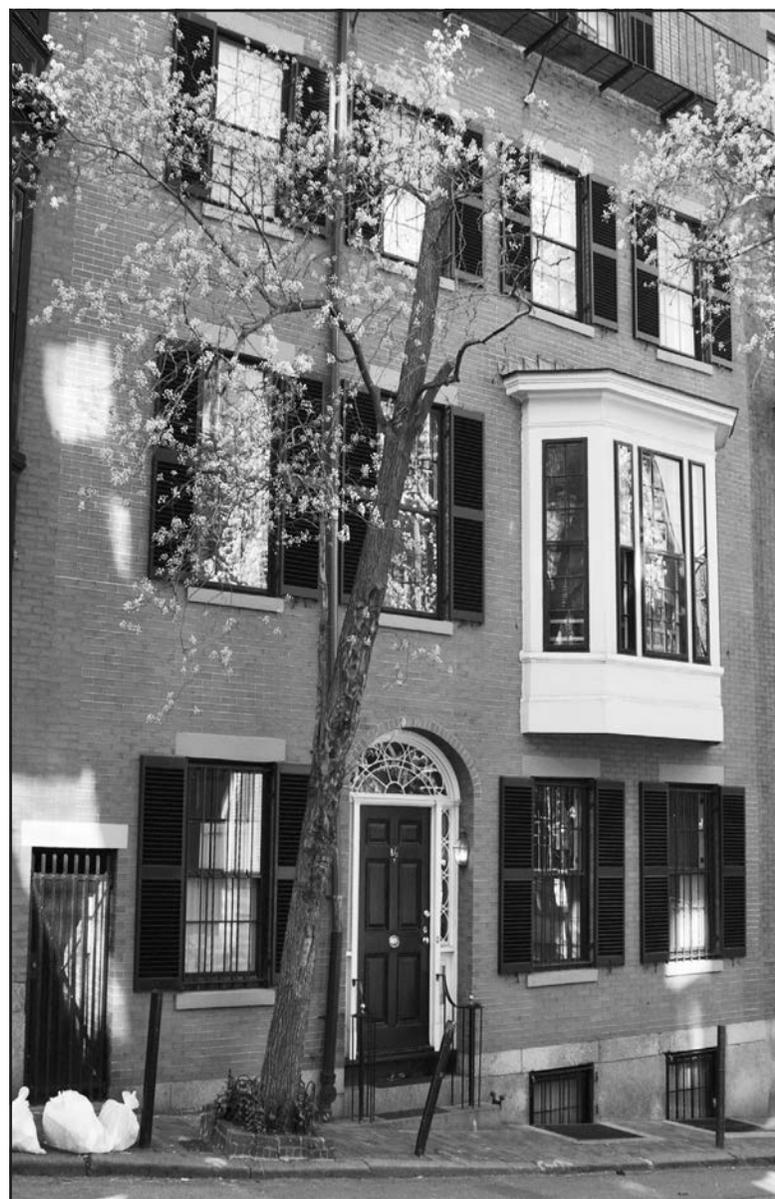
Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
BACK BAY			
Coleman, Kenda	Biebuyck, Jean Marie	157 Beacon St #2	\$1,500,000
Cepboston LLC	Lazarus, Harvey E	232 Beacon St #8	\$1,800,000
Parrish Grandchildrens T	Callahan, Mary V	247 Beacon St #1	\$555,000
Lu, Jingyu	Jarmolowsky, Michael A	78 Berkeley St #4	\$615,000
Felton-Facey, Patricia	Pacific Premier Bank	278 Clarendon St #1	\$660,000
Galden, Namgyal	Murphy, Harold B	34 Fairfield St #2	\$810,000
Irish Eyes RT	90 Marlborough Street NT	90 Marlborough St #6	\$6,950,000
Clarke, Wayne	Hagan, Winifred M	362 Commonwealth Ave #2H	\$630,000
Atanasov, George K	Hartlaub, Stephen A	8 Gloucester St #BF	\$595,000
BEACON HILL			
Anderson, Cynthia L	Lotane, Nancy	21 S Russell St	\$2,350,000
Sun, Ruoqing	August North Realty LLC	123 Saint Botolph St #3	\$416,000
Pluntze, James W	Jean Macdonald T	74 Mount Vernon St #1	\$1,200,000
D&E Mcgregor RET	John Boghos T	2 Phillips St #1	\$845,000
Madden, Christopher	Hadrian LLC	34-36 Grove St #4	\$430,000
BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE			
Jin, Yifei	50 Symphony LLC	50 Symphony Rd #201	\$1,075,000
Wang, Xiaodong	50 Symphony LLC	50 Symphony Rd #203	\$1,275,000
Fu, Lin	50 Symphony LLC	50 Symphony Rd #204	\$1,290,000
Ray, Sukanya	50 Symphony LLC	50 Symphony Rd #401	\$1,199,000
Berner, Joerg	Conlin, Anne D	668 Tremont St #2	\$991,000
Portman, Frank	Crimson Tiger T	204 W Brookline St #4	\$865,000
Shea, Brendan K	Fuchs, Christine	37 W Newton St #2	\$950,000
Wachholz, James	Allied Residences LLC	88 Wareham St #505	\$764,000
Anglin, Jenna P	Mcbride, Shane	65 Worcester St #1	\$687,500
Yeku, Oladapo	Tremblay, Frederic	121-127 Portland St #407	\$715,000
Liu, Dingjiang	Mufti, Rizwan M	31 Massachusetts Ave #4-2	\$722,500
Law, Glenn	Daley, James	514 Massachusetts Ave #1	\$604,000
Pimentel, Angela	Nicholson, Harvey P	4 Douglas Park #4	\$336,324
Guo, Dong	Friedman, Alan J	905 Beacon St #3	\$780,000
Synh LLC	Eagle 913 Boylston LLC	911-913 Boylston St	\$6,000,000
Chope, Teresa	Cincotta, Jason F	8 Byron St	\$3,875,000
Rosendahl, Bruce J	Egy, Brian	234 Causeway St #708	\$1,050,000
Faneuff, Jeffery J	Eisner, Ronald E	325 Columbus Ave #5	\$675,000
Gjeci, Enki	Chammas, Allison R	12 Isabella St #7	\$445,000
Faneuff, Jeffery J	Eisner, Ronald E	325 Columbus Ave #5	\$675,000
Segev, Yoav	Jeanel, Merlene	130 Appleton St #2C	\$1,040,000
WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN			
Dobbin, William P	Bromark, Raymond J	2 Battery Wharf #4509	\$1,450,000
Truong, Loc V	Roser Sachiko T Est	300 Commercial St #513	\$675,000
Vitiello, Paul M	Chu, Louis	376 Commercial St #3A	\$821,000
Ballard, Alessandro D	Dennis B Derosa T	99 Fulton St #3-1	\$700,000
Bondy, Anna E	Ming, Betty	1 Nassau St #1608	\$428,033

Attention to Detail

BY PENNY CHERUBINO

THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The window in the last clue is on 86 Pinckney Street built circa 1840 and referred to as the John J. Smith House. The National Parks Service wrote that Smith was a, "... barber, abolitionist, and state legislator." And, that he, "... became the first African American appointed to serve on the Boston Common Council where he successfully worked to have the first African American appointed to the Boston police force."

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

THIS WEEK'S CLUE



BPDA Board approves plan to increase commercial linkage fees

Staff report

The Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) Board of Directors has voted to increase Linkage fees collected by large scale commercial developments over 100,000 square feet in Boston to support the creation of affordable housing and workforce development. The approval seeks to increase the current rate by 42 percent, or \$15.39 per square foot, of which \$13.00 will be dedicated to affordable housing and \$2.39 will be dedicated to workforce training. The proposal was introduced by Mayor Martin J. Walsh earlier this week, and will now be brought to the Boston Zoning Commission for a vote.

"It is critical that we are leveraging Boston's development market to maximize funding for affordable housing and workforce training, while balancing the economic reality of COVID-19," said Mayor Walsh. "By increasing Linkage requirements we will substantially increase revenue streams to fund the affordable housing and

workforce training programs that will help our residents recover and thrive in a post-COVID economy."

Boston's Linkage program was created in 1986 to leverage funding for affordable housing and workforce training through payments by large-scale commercial real estate development. The proposed increase follows the passage of legislation last month, originally introduced by Mayor Walsh as a Home Rule Petition, to give Boston more flexibility in adjusting Linkage fees. Previously, the BPDA was only allowed to adjust Linkage every three years based on inflation. The new law allows Boston to adjust the required payment and program guidelines, allowing Linkage to be more closely aligned with the market and fund affordable housing and workforce development programs.

The new rate was determined based on several years of feasibility assessments, conversations with developers and advocates, and the current economic climate. The \$15.39 per square foot marks a 42 percent increase from the current

Linkage rate of \$10.81 per square foot, of which \$9.03 is dedicated to affordable housing and \$1.78 is dedicated to workforce development.

"We've had candid, constructive conversations with developers spanning more than a year, and we're convinced that the economics of real estate development in Boston, even in this difficult period, can handle this increase," said BPDA Director Brian Golden. "We estimate that this increase could potentially generate tens of millions of dollars in additional Linkage funding annually. That means more affordable housing and a lot more job training programs for Boston's most vulnerable residents. We believe we are prudently ensuring that development in the City continues to address the needs of Bostonians."

The funds collected through Linkage are administered by the Neighborhood Housing Trust through the Department of Neighborhood Development (DND) and the Neighborhood Jobs Trust through the Mayor's Office of

Workforce Development. Since 2014, the Linkage program has generated over \$80 million to support affordable housing and job training from new development. Linkage provides industry-recognized job training to over 2,000 Boston residents annually. Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Neighborhood Jobs Trust has dedicated \$2.4 million to emergency supports for workforce and education programs, as well as specialized job training for workers preparing to enter the IT/tech and healthcare industries. Since its inception in 1986, Linkage has generated more than \$200 million for affordable housing and workforce training.

In 2020 alone, new development approved by BPDA is expected to generate over \$43.2 million in Linkage fees to support affordable housing, and over \$8.5 million in Linkage fees to support job training programs. This proposed increase will allow the BPDA and City of Boston to further leverage development to increase these funding streams.

Following tonight's approval, the increase must be approved by the Boston Zoning Commission and signed by the Mayor prior to becoming effective. The BPDA and DND are committed to future reviews of Linkage fees following Boston's economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Councilor Andrea Campbell releases statement calling on State to rescind new accompanying policy for vaccinations

Staff report

Councilor and mayoral candidate Andrea Campbell released the following statement last week in response to the new State policy allowing vaccinations for people who accompany older residents to vaccine appointments, and reports that younger people are offering to pay seniors to take them to appointments to take advantage of this new policy.

"While it may have been well-meaning, it took less than 24 hours for this new state policy to be abused," she said. "It's the wrong approach when those who need it most — seniors, essential workers, teachers, Black and Brown residents in communities where infection rates are highest — are still waiting for their chance to be vaccinated."

"We know the health disparities — Black people, especially Black men, often don't make it to 75," she continued. "The State should rescind this policy or limit it to Massachusetts residents 65 and older accompanying, and immediately open up appointments to these other individuals."

NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDUP

HILL HOUSE SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION OPEN!

Hill House, Inc. located at 127 Mount Vernon S., has officially opened up Summer Camp registration for 2021 campers.

Now in its 22nd year, Hill

House Camps (Kiddie Kamp for 3-5 year olds and Day Camp for 5- to 12-year-olds) feature: weekly Day Camp field trips; Kiddie Kamp onsite adventures; expanded enrichment opportunities; sailing, theatre, sports and film camp options; weekly themes; extended day options for Day Campers; and

expanded LIT program for 13- to 15-year-olds.

Visit Hill House's Summer Camp website (www.hillhouse-boston.org/Camps.htm) to learn more about all the fun. For more information on registering, contact Chelsea Evered at 617-227-5838 or cevered@hillhouseboston.org.

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT Suffolk Probate And Family Court 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 (617)788-8300 NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME Docket No. SU20C0362CA In the matter of: Mary Catherine Vorlicek

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Mary Catherine Vorlicek of Boston, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: Katie Quinn Vorlicek Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Suffolk

Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 03/11/2021. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: January 27, 2021 Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

2/18/21
BH

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF

A GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304 Docket No. SU21P0214GD

In the matter of: Maritza G. Flores Orrellana RESPONDENT

Alleged Incapacitated Person

Of: Chelsea, MA To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Massachusetts G Hospital of Boston, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Maritza G. Flores Orrellana is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Santos B. Abrego of Chelsea, 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 03/05/2021. 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. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: February 01, 2021 Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

2/18/21
BH

THINK OF IT AS AN OWNER'S MANUAL FOR YOUR MONEY.



The free Consumer Action Handbook. It's in print and online at ConsumerAction.gov. For your free copy, order online at ConsumerAction.gov, write to Handbook, Pueblo, CO 81009; or call toll-free 1 (888) 8 PUEBLO.

WASTE MANAGEMENT HIRING EVENT!

Diesel Mechanic Technicians

\$2,500

Sign-On Bonus

Requirements:

Must be 18 Years or Older

Some Technical

Schooling or Auto/Diesel Experience required

Thursday, Feb. 25, 2021

10:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Woburn, MA

Contactless (By Telephone)

Apply today to schedule/confirm your phone interview - MUST PRE-APPLY!

Competitive Pay, Great Benefits, Home Every Night

1-877-220-5627

careers.wm.com

Equal Opportunity Employer Minority/Female/Disability/Veteran

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

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

JANUARY 28, 2021
THE BEACON HILL TIMES
THERE ARE NO TIMES LIKE THESE TIMES

BHAC approves application to rebuild West Cedar roofdeck
By Dan Murphy
During its most recent monthly public hearing, which was held virtually on Jan. 21, the Beacon Hill Architectural Commission approved an application to rebuild a roofdeck at 64 West Cedar St., with the proviso that an existing mockup remain in place and be remanded to staff for final approval.
The commission also approved an application to demolish and rebuild the elevator headhouse designed by Cambridge architect Graham Gund at 4-5 Byron St. This determination came with provisos that the new headhouse be built with a flat roof (instead of a sloped one), which would lower its height from 14 feet to 10 feet, 6 inches, and that the structure is wrapped in copper with no items painted except the door. The commission also requested that the applicant minimize the height of the new headhouse as much as possible.
In another matter, the commission denied an application to install new shutters on a Greek Revival-style brownstone at 69 Hancock St., since there was no proof of any shutters previously at that location, and said if the applicant can find any evidence to the contrary, they should submit shop drawings to staff.
On an application to replace a skylight in kind and build a new shed dormer on the rear façade of
(BHAC, Pg. 3)

New zip code quota would mean half as many seats available in 02114
By Dan Murphy
The new zip code quota adopted by the Boston School Committee for the 2021 incoming classes at Boston Latin School, Boston Latin Academy and John D. O'Bryant School of Math and Science would mean a 50-percent decrease in seats available for students living in 02114, according to a study commissioned by the Boston Parents Coalition for Academic Excellence, a fledgling nonprofit organization recently formed by a group of concerned parents.
Under this new allocation, a total of 10 students in the zip code that covers the North Slope of Beacon Hill and the West End would be invited to attend the city's three exam schools (six of whom would be admitted to Boston Latin) as incoming students, down from a total of 19 students the previous academic year, while only one Boston Latin seat would be allocated for 02108 - the zip code covering South Slope and Flat of Beacon Hill and part of Back Bay - for the next academic year.
The Boston School Committee voted on Oct. 8 to adopt the zip code quota proposed by the Boston Public Schools' Exam School Admissions Criteria Working Group, which was convened after the entrance exams to the city's three exam schools were postponed due to the coronavirus.
"I respect health and safety - that's important," said Bruce McKinnon, a spokesperson for the newly formed coalition. "But I firmly believe the answer isn't a zip code quota."
For the past 30 years until the pandemic struck, admission to the three exam schools was weighed equally between the student's exam results and their GPA, but under the new guidelines, 20 percent of all students citywide (approximately 175) with the highest GPAs would be admitted to the three schools, McKinnon said, while the remaining 80 percent of all seats (approximately
(Zip Codes, Pg. 3)

One-time Hill resident training to compete in Olympics
By Dan Murphy
A one-time Beacon Hill resident, Miles Silverman is now in Austria training in Alpine snowboard racing, with the goal of competing in the sport as a U.S. Olympian.
Silverman, now 23, began skiing as a 1-year-old and took up snowboarding at age 6. He was living with his parents on Cedar Lane Way at the time, and his father would make the four-hour drive from Boston to Sugarloaf Mountain in Maine nearly every winter weekend, weather permitting.
Silverman's family relocated to Brunswick, Maine, when he was around 7, but each summer until he was 10, his parents would return for the summers to live on Cedar Lane Way.
Silverman's father took him as an 8-year-old to Torin, Italy, to see Seth Wescott, a family friend, who snowboarded in the 2006 Olympics - a trip that Silverman now credits for his decision to pursue the sport competitively.
When he was 10, Silverman decided to abandon skiing entirely to focus solely on snowboarding.
(SILVERMAN Pg. 3)

BEACON HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY CORNER
Our latest edition of the Neighborhood Guide was mailed to all members and businesses recently. In addition to being a Beacon Hill business directory, the Guide is packed with useful information for Beacon Hill residents. If you'd like to receive a copy, please contact our office at 617-227-1922.
Join a BHCA Committee!
The Beacon Hill Civic Association has various committees that focus on a targeted range of issues and initiatives aligning with the BHCA's mission of Community Building, Civic Engagement, and Historic Preservation. Committee chairs are board members who volunteer their time and share their expertise to implement plans that relate to the goals of the organization for the good of our neighborhood. The BHCA encourages interested neighbors to become members of the BHCA and to join any of our Committees that match your interests.
BHCA's Zoning & Licensing Committee
The Beacon Hill Civic Association seeks to preserve and enhance Beacon Hill as an eco-
(BHCA Pg. 6)

BEACON HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY CORNER
Our latest edition of the Neighborhood Guide was mailed to all members and businesses recently. In addition to being a Beacon Hill business directory, the Guide is packed with useful information for Beacon Hill residents. If you'd like to receive a copy, please contact our office at 617-227-1922.
Join a BHCA Committee!
The Beacon Hill Civic Association has various committees that focus on a targeted range of issues and initiatives aligning with the BHCA's mission of Community Building, Civic Engagement, and Historic Preservation. Committee chairs are board members who volunteer their time and share their expertise to implement plans that relate to the goals of the organization for the good of our neighborhood. The BHCA encourages interested neighbors to become members of the BHCA and to join any of our Committees that match your interests.
BHCA's Zoning & Licensing Committee
The Beacon Hill Civic Association seeks to preserve and enhance Beacon Hill as an eco-
(BHCA Pg. 6)

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

FOR ALL THE LATEST NEWS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

FRESH & LOCAL

Variations on Ragoût Theme

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

Even those of us who love to cook and do a lot of it in normal times grow weary when we have to cook every day. Recently we enjoyed four different dishes from one cooking session that created a mushroom, onion, leek, and beef ragoût.

First, you should know that the New Food Lover's Companion defines a ragoût as, "Ragoût [ra-GOO] A derivative of the French verb ragoûter, meaning 'to stimulate the appetite,' ragoût is a thick, rich, well-seasoned stew of meat, poultry or fish and some-

times vegetables."

Many cooks today would call this simply a ragu using the Italian term for a rich meat sauce that has a bit of tomato added. In our case, there are far more fungi and vegetables than meat in our dish so the French term is more accurate. But, as cooking terms evolve, we give you permission to use whatever term you like for a rich base mixture like this one – even if it contains no meat.

Mushrooms Delivered!

One of our favorite places to shop back when a friend would take us shopping was Russo's in Watertown. Since most of their business was wholesale delivery of produce to restaurants and professional kitchens, they expanded their retail operations to the public online.

They began by selling preset boxes of produce that you would order and drive up to pick up. Sort of like a CSA but with a bunch of different boxes to choose from. While they still do that, they

added home delivery for those city dwellers without cars. We quickly placed an order. That order included a very nice selection of mushrooms.

Mushroom, Onion, Leek, and Beef Ragoût

We had beef in the freezer that was ready for rotation to use it at its best. Penny sautéed onions, leeks, and garlic and set them aside. She cleaned and sliced or tore the mushrooms into bite-size pieces. She cooked the fungi in batches until they were browned and had released most of their liquid, then browned the cubed beef (also in batches.) She seasoned the dish with

Worcestershire sauce, sherry vinegar, salt, pepper, thyme, rosemary, and parsley and let it braise until its liquid had reduced to a nice gravy.

While this was a major cooking session, it ultimately produced three meals and one appetizer. Best of all, while the dish had a rich flavor and beef, most of the meal



Perhaps the most unusual of the four dishes we made from the ragoût was this mushroom and beef paté that we enjoyed on toast with a glass of wine.

featured healthier foods.

Four Dishes

The first night we had the ragoût with cauliflower and broccoli. The next afternoon, we were looking for something to have with a glass of wine. Penny pureed some of the mixture in the food processor and we had a mushroom/beef paté on toast.

For another dinner, she cooked up noodles, added some crème fraîche and we had a sort of mushroom beef Stroganoff. Finally, she put the ragoût in a pie dish, topped it with mashed potatoes and we had a cottage pie.

More Food Delivery Options
In addition to Russo's, we have a

list of other vendors who are offering home delivery of high-quality food. Friends have recommended New England Quality Food Mart and Baldor. Both were suppliers to restaurants that now deliver to homes. Stillman's from the Farmers markets is now doing drop-offs at various winter farmers market locations and some home delivery. Red's Best Seafood offers both online ordering and some pick-up locations. If you're not finding what you crave at supermarkets, give one of these options a try.

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



DAVE POUTRÉ
FINE FRAMING

Tuesday-Saturday 10am-6pm
82 Charles Street
Boston, MA 02114

617.723.7263

dave@davepoutrefineframing.com
www.davepoutrefineframing.com

The City of Boston reminds you:
The legal drinking age is 21.



**Thanks for not providing
alcohol to teens.**

Proudly sponsored by The Patrón Spirits Company.

WWW.DONTSERVETEENS.GOV

THE CITY OF BOSTON CAN HELP YOU

apply for the Senior Circuit Breaker Tax Credit program.

The Senior Circuit Breaker Tax Credit helps people 65+ get a tax break and maybe even a refund. You may qualify even if you don't usually file taxes. Learn more by calling 311 and put money back in your pocket.



B

Mayor Martin J. Walsh

#BOSCanHelp

BOS:311