

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

Happy
Mother's
Day!

CHARLES RIVER CLEANUP



COURTESY OF THE ESPLANADE ASSOCIATION

Sebastian and Lizette volunteering at the Esplanade Association's 2021 Charles River Cleanup. See Page 6 for more photos.

Friends of the Public Garden celebrate 50th anniversary

By Dan Murphy

The Friends of the Public Garden celebrated its Golden Anniversary with a virtual fundraising program called "50 Years of Friends: Moments, Memories & Milestones" on Friday, April 30.

Hosted by WCVB-TV's Rhondella Richardson (who has also emceed the Friends' "Duckling Day" for more than a decade), the retrospective featured Friends president Liz Vizza, Board Chair

Leslie Adam and Friends President Emeritus Henry Lee, among others, looking back on highlights from the history of the nonprofit that works in partnership with the Boston Parks Department to renew, care and advocate for the Public Garden, the Commonwealth Avenue Mall and the Boston Common.

The Friends became one of the first advocacy group of its kind upon its inception in 1970, when a group of concerned residents, led

by Lee, first convened to address the deteriorating conditions in the Public Garden. They soon extended their stewardship to caring for the Public Garden and the Commonwealth Avenue Mall as well.

Vizza recounted some of the Friends group's most noteworthy accomplishments, including restoring the 19th-century Brewer Fountain on the Boston Common and returning it to operational

(PUBLIC GARDEN, Pg. 3)

Area schools join to support 'Spring Eternal' event

Staff Report

The Advent School and Park Street School and their students will join the upcoming neighborhood "Spring Eternal" event by participating in a contest to name the events logo, a Shopping Duck designed by Remy Stressenger, owner of the new clothing boutique REMYS at 96 Charles St.

The "Spring Eternal" event will be a celebration of Beacon Hill small businesses, and is being

developed in partnership with the Beacon Hill Business Association, The Beacon Hill Civic Association and The Beacon Hill Village. It will take place on Charles Street on Saturday, May 22, and Sunday, May 23. The idea is, after a long pandemic season, to get area residents out and about in the sun and to safely visit Charles Street stores with a chance to win many prizes.

After designing the "Spring Eternal" logo, Remy suggested that it would be fun to involve

and challenge the students of The Advent School and Park Street School to provide a name for the shopping duck logo, and to provide a black-and-white illustration for students to color in as well. All this artwork will be displayed in the windows of Charles Street Businesses prior to the main event.

"Beacon Hill is a special community with a quintessential New England Main Street feel

(SPRING ETERNAL, Pg. 4)

Beacon Hill Books moving forward with plan to open on Charles Street

By Dan Murphy

Since first embarking on her effort to open Beacon Hill Books in the fall of 2019, Melissa Fetter has weathered the fallout from COVID, coupled with a lot of bureaucratic red tape, but now, after a 16-month process, she has finally secured a construction permit to bring her the eagerly awaited general-interest bookstore and café to Charles Street.

"Twenty-six businesses have closed on Charles Street since I started this process, but I haven't given up," said Fetter, who, pre-pandemic, had planned on opening the business in the fall of 2020, but is now looking at the winter of 2022 instead.

Beacon Hill Books will occupy the four-story building at 71 Charles St. that was once home to the Hungry I restaurant. The first three levels will become retail space with floor-to-ceiling bookcases, and adult titles on the first two levels and a third floor devoted exclusively to children's books. "We're excited about the plans we're developing for the children's floor," Fetter said. The former Hungry I space would also be converted into a garden-level café.

A gut renovation of the building, which dates back to the 1850s,

"from the bare studs outward," is now underway, said Fetter, and an elevator is being installed as part of the transformation. The interiors will be designed by Cathy Kincaid Interiors in partnership with the American fabric and wall-covering company, Sister Parish Design, which has historic ties to Boston and New England.

"In contrast to many other bookstores we're all familiar with, the atmosphere and aesthetic of the space will be emphasized," said Fetter, who added that chairs and couches would be placed throughout the retail area to encourage patrons to take their time and enjoy the experience of shopping at Beacon Hill Books.

"Most bookstores are just about the books," she added. "This is about the books, of course, because it's a bookstore, but it's also about the way it's being delivered."

Beacon Hill Books has also made two initial hires - Irene MacDonald, a lawyer by profession with a background in publishing to oversee bookstore and cafe operations; and Horatio Greenough, a former librarian from London who will help manage the bookstore.

(MOVING, Pg. 3)



The Beacon Hill Books team: Horatio Greenough, Melissa Fetter and Irene MacDonald.

EDITORIAL

THE BIDEN DEAL IS LONG OVERDUE

The ambitious proposal set forth by President Joe Biden last week in his speech to a joint session of Congress has elicited the usual negative response from the usual suspects.

However, those who oppose Biden's \$2 trillion plan to invest in America and its people display a total ignorance of history, specifically, the New Deal.

Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal policies raised the wrath of Republicans who, similar to Republicans today, claimed that the New Deal would cost too much and that it was tantamount to socialism.

But the reality of what the New Deal achieved dramatically transformed American life in countless ways and launched America onto its trajectory to becoming the greatest nation on earth. Among the highlights of the New Deal were:

-- The New Deal lifted millions of Americans out of poverty, especially older Americans via Social Security;

-- The New Deal gave power to labor unions, thereby leveling the playing field with corporate America and creating the great American Middle Class;

-- The New Deal enacted necessary government regulation that reined-in the excesses of Wall St. and the banks that had brought the Great Depression; and

-- The New Deal included much-needed investment in our infrastructure, including countless projects that still stand today in communities across the country.

The obvious benefits to the nation of the New Deal encouraged policy-makers to enact other programs of investment in America over the next 40 more years under Democrats and Republicans alike, including the GI Bill (Truman), the national highway system (Eisenhower), Medicare (Johnson), and the Environmental Protection Agency (Nixon).

During this time frame, corporations paid their fair share of taxes, individual tax rates were much higher, and income-inequality was non-existent (by today's standards). America was the unquestioned leader of the world.

Today however, thanks to the shortsighted policies of the past 40 years (beginning with Reagan and abetted by Democrats) that have been highlighted by corporate welfare, excessive military spending, ever-increasing wealth and income inequality, and underinvestment in our people and our infrastructure, America has become the equivalent of a Third World country in many respects.

In short, America has gone from first to worst.

President Joe Biden's speech laid out a path to restore America to our former greatness.

To those who say that we cannot afford the Biden Deal, our response is simple: We can't afford not to.

THE BEACON HILL TIMES

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LETTER to the Editor

SONGS FOR THE OPEN ROAD: A CONCERT TO DRIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM

To the Editor,

Before heading out on that summer road trip – maybe visiting long missed family and friends – take a moment to laugh about, sing about, and appreciate our ability to travel on Massachusetts roadways. Did you know that in Massachusetts driving is restricted not only by age and ability to drive, but by immigration status as well? Not so in 16 states, Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia, which have all removed immigration status as a barrier to driver's licenses.

The Work and Family Mobility Act, currently before the state leg-

islature, would make Massachusetts #17 while making the roads here safer for us all.

Join us, on May 13, from 7:30-9 PM, for a free, online concert with hummable, humorous songs about driving performed by award-winning musicians: Cosy Sheridan, Greg Greenway, and Rosi and Brian Amador (of Sol y Canto). Hear a brief update on the bill from Natalicia Tracy, co-chair of Driving Families Forward.

This past year, especially, many of us have depended heavily on health care workers, food deliverers, and other essential workers who need to drive – many of whom are immigrants. While registering for this free concert, you can express your appreciation with a donation to the Massachusetts Immigrant Collaborative's Emer-

gency Immigrant Relief Fund.

Every passenger, driver, cyclist, and pedestrian is safer when those behind the wheel are licensed and insured. For immigrants without licenses, a broken taillight, another driver's mistake, or racial profiling can be a disaster that often leads to family separation, detention, and even deportation. Yes, a fender-bender can get you deported in Massachusetts! And so, the Jamaica Plain Progressives Immigrant Rights Action Group invites you to this event to show your support for a law that makes sense for us all. We hope you will be inspired to help us drive passage of the Work and Family Mobility Act forward.

You can register here: <https://tinyurl.com/3zm6h7d2>.

Jamaica Plain Progressives

**SONGS FOR THE OPEN ROAD:
A CONCERT TO DRIVE
IMMIGRATION REFORM**

**MAY 13
7:30-9:00PM**

IMMIGRANT RIGHTS ACTION GROUP (IRAG)
JPP

SEND US YOUR NEWS

The Times encourages residents to submit engagement, wedding and birth announcements, news releases, business and education briefs, sports stories and photos for publication. Items should be forwarded to our offices at 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151. Items can also be faxed to 781-485-1403. We also encourage readers to e-mail news releases and photos to deb@reverejournal.com.

MOVING (from pg. 1)

Of the new opportunity, McDonald said, "Having lived in Beacon Hill as a law school student, I'm thrilled to return to the neighborhood to help create an independent bookstore that will serve the community for many years to come."

Negotiation are also now underway with an award-winning local chef for the café, said Fetter, who would introduce a new menu for breakfast, lunch, afternoon tea and light suppers.

Additionally, Beacon Hill Books is now beginning to develop its programming calendar, which Fetter describes as "an ambitious

schedule of guest authors and experts in a wide range of topics of interest to our clients (adults and children alike)."

"We're really looking to our neighbors and [future] clientele to help us shape our program and curate our collection of books," Fetter said. "It's a known fact that independent bookstores succeed in neighborhoods that are invested in their success...and the only way for independent bookstores to survive is if neighbors really want them to be there and go out of their way to support them."

But in the end, Fetter has faith that the neighborhood will rally

behind Beacon Hill Books and choose to patronize a local independent bookstore in their own neighborhood over big online booksellers like Amazon.

"We want to make the experience of being in the store so compelling that one chooses to purchase their books at Beacon Hill Books rather than ordering them online," Fetter said.

Melissa Fetter asks anyone with questions or suggestions for Beacon Hill Books to email them to her at info@bhbooks.com and follow the business on Twitter @beaconhillbookstore.

PUBLIC GARDEN (from pg. 1)

use in partnership with the city about a decade ago, as well as the ongoing restoration of the Robert Gould Shaw and the 54th Regiment Memorial on the Common now underway through a partnership between the Friends and the city, the National Park Service and the Museum of African American History.

Aptly, the Friends first major fundraising effort in 1981, added Vizza, raised \$200,000 for the restoration of the Shaw 54th Memorial.

Last year, the group also entered into a Memorandum of Agreement with the Boston Parks Department, said Vizza, that strengthens and formalizes their partnership and shared commitment to the three parks for the next 50 years.

Besides 1,700 trees, the Friends also cares for the 42 pieces of public art in all three parks, said Adam, including the iconic "Make Way for Ducklings" sculpture in the Public Garden, and the long-dormant George Robert White Memorial, locally known as "The Angel," on the Public Garden, which the group has helped bring back to life.

An important goal for the Friends group now is to make the three parks feel "inclusive and welcoming to all," said Vizza, through programming like the annual "Making History on the Common" - an interactive field trip

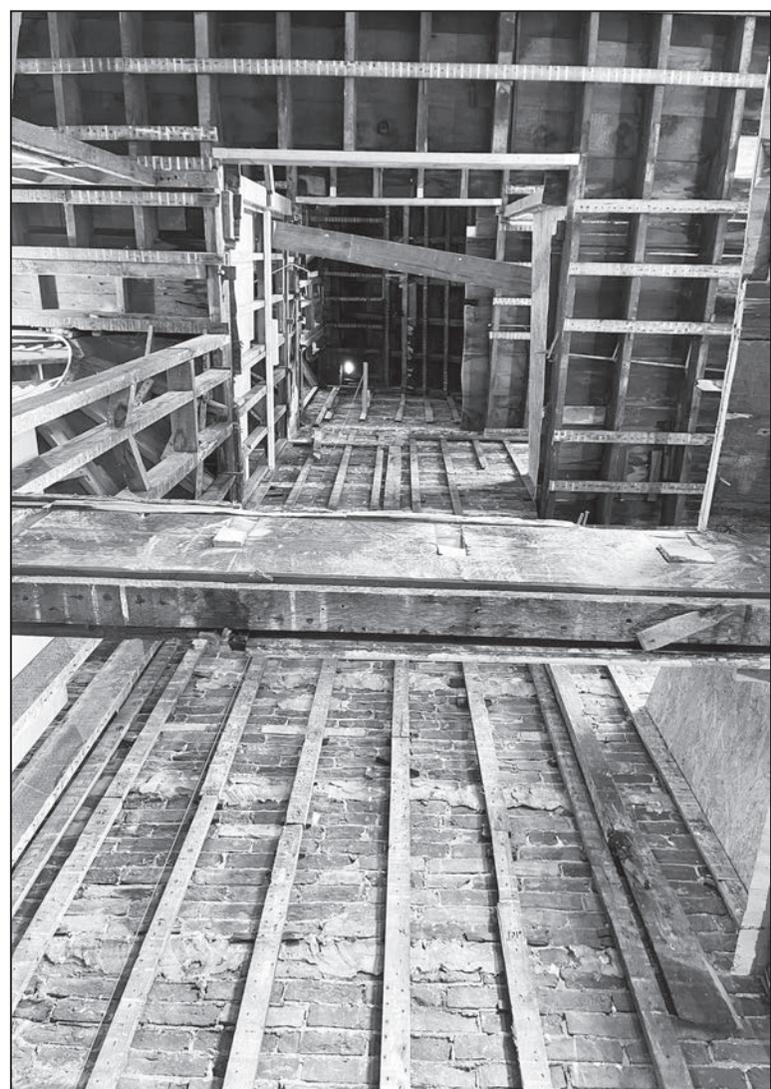
that teaches local students about the history of the park - along with ongoing programming being sponsored in conjunction with the Shaw 54th Memorial restoration.

The group is also now working with the city on the nearly completed Boston Common Master Plan, which, said Vizza, aims to optimally balance the park's use and maintenance.

The Friends, meanwhile, is marking its milestone anniversary with what Vizza describes as "three transformative projects," including activating the Arlington Street entrance to the Public Garden by making the fountains depicting children on either side of the entry operational for the first time in decades, as well as adding new benches and plantings to the site; illuminating all the statues along the Commonwealth Avenue Mall; and bringing a temporary, interactive art exhibit called "What Do We Have in Common?" to the Boston Common this fall.

Secretary of Labor Martin J. Walsh (who, along with Lorrie Higgins served as event co-chairs) offered opening remarks and congratulated the Friends on their many accomplishments to date at the onset of the virtual event.

While "50 Years of Friends: Moments, Memories & Milestones" proved to be lucrative for the group, the Friends is still accepting donations in support of the three city parks. Visit <https://friendsofthepublicgarden.org/50th/> for more information.



A look inside Beacon Hill Books, which will soon be outfitted with an elevator.

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LOCAL STUDENTS EARN ACADEMIC HONORS

DUKHAN EARNS PROFESSIONAL HOSPITALITY CHDT CERTIFICATION

Faisal Dukhan, a Lasell University student from Beacon Hill, recently earned the designation of Certified Hospitality Department Trainer (CHDT).

The CHDT is a professional

certification that recognizes hospitality professionals for their knowledge and skills in training employees within any vertical of the hospitality industry. According to Professor Siddharth Mobar, "This prestigious credential and certification provides formal recognition, as well as the added responsibility of showing others how to do the job right."

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Beacon Hill COVID update listed

By John Lynds

Last week Beacon Hill's weekly COVID-19 positive test rate decreased for a second week in a row after posting a 5.8 percent increase towards the end of April.

According to the latest data released by the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) last Friday, 1,835 residents were tested and 3 percent were positive--this was a 3.2 percent decrease from the 3.1 percent reported by the BPHC two Fridays ago.

Overall since the pandemic started 50,401 Beacon Hill, Back Bay, North End, West End and Downtown residents have been tested for COVID-19 and the data shows that 6.9 percent of those

tested were COVID positive. This was a 1.5 percent increase from the 6.8 percent reported by the BPHC two weeks ago.

Citywide, the weekly positive test rate decreased once again.

According to the BPHC 19,498 residents were tested and 3.5 percent were COVID positive--this was a 2.8 percent decrease from the 4.6 percent positive test rate reported by the BPHC two weeks ago.

The BPHC data released last Friday showed Beacon Hill, Back Bay, North End, West End and Downtown had an infection rate of 621.1 cases per 10,000 residents, up 1.3 percent from the 613.3 cases per 10,000 residents reported two weeks ago.

An additional 43 residents became infected with the virus last week and the total number of cases in the area increased from 3,418 cases to 3,461 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 1 percent last week and went from 68,795 cases to 69,501 confirmed cases in a week. Six additional Boston residents died from the virus last week and there are now 1,370 total deaths in the city from COVID.

SPRING ETERNAL (from pg. 1)

along Charles Street," said Remy Stressenger. "This neighborhood is where I raised my children and where I am so proud to have opened my store, REMY. The small businesses that line Charles Street, and a few adjacent streets, represent people's dreams and hard work."

Small businesses need support from their community to survive, and while the 'Spring Eternal' event is a great way to get everyone out and shopping along Charles Street, I hope the message continues so that we always have the 'Mom and Pop' shops that make not only our community but our country strong."

Nicole DuFauchard of The Advent School and Tracy Bradley of Park Street School readily agreed that joining in the neighborhood event would be fun for their students.

"The COVID-19 pandemic has changed the landscape of our city," said Nicole DuFauchard, Head of School at The Advent School. "The Advent School is embedded in the Beacon Hill community and has been for close to 60 years. As a school, participating in the 'Spring Eternal' Beacon Hill Spring Stroll shows our students the importance of investing in local businesses. We teach all students that being an advocate for their communities is one way they can make lasting, positive change in the world. Any show of support - big or small - is one way to effect change."

Tracy Bradley, Head of School at the Park Street School added, "Park Street School is thrilled to support Beacon Hill's local businesses and is excited for 'Spring Eternal.' It's been such a tough

year for so many. We are grateful for the opportunity to support our local restaurants particularly through this event. As you have supported us through these years, it is our privilege to champion you, our local businesses! Thanks to Remy Stressenger's fun 'Shopping Duck' logo, our students are excitedly anticipating in 'Spring Eternal' by coloring their own 'Shopping Ducks' and brainstorming creative names for them. And, we look forward to participating as

families in the 'Spring Eternal,' all-day, street-wide event on Charles Street on May 22. We hope to see many of you there."

One winning name for the shopping duck logo will be selected from each school. Stressenger will then select the final name that will emblazon the chest of the duck. Each winner from each school will be awarded a Morgan Silver Dollar from the 1800s. Already the submissions from students are pouring in. Good luck to all.

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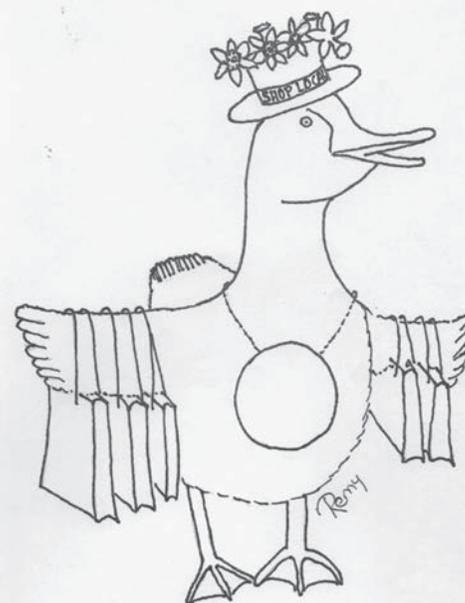
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VOLUNTEERS PITCH IN FOR CHARLES RIVER CLEANUP

A group organized by the Esplanade Association joined seven other groups of volunteers, along with individual volunteers, to clean up the park during the 2021 Charles River Cleanup on the Esplanade as part of the 22nd annual Charles River Cleanup on

Saturday, April 24. All together, they filled nearly 110 trash bags full of waste left along on the Esplanade between the Community Boating, Inc. docks and the Boston University Bridge.



COURTESY OF THE ESPLANADE ASSOCIATION Allie Nicodemo.



COURTESY OF THE ESPLANADE ASSOCIATION Kyle Moschen and Sofia Kotler.



SEBASTIAN GONZALEZ QUINTERO

Individual volunteers for the Charles River Cleanup.



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COURTESY OF THE ESPLANADE ASSOCIATION

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Jetblue volunteers for the Charles River Cleanup.

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CAMBRIDGE STREET GETS A SPRING CLEANING, THANKS TO VOLUNTEER EFFORTS

A group of volunteers joined the Cambridge Street Committee on Saturday, May 1, for the 2021 Love Your Block Spring Cleanup.

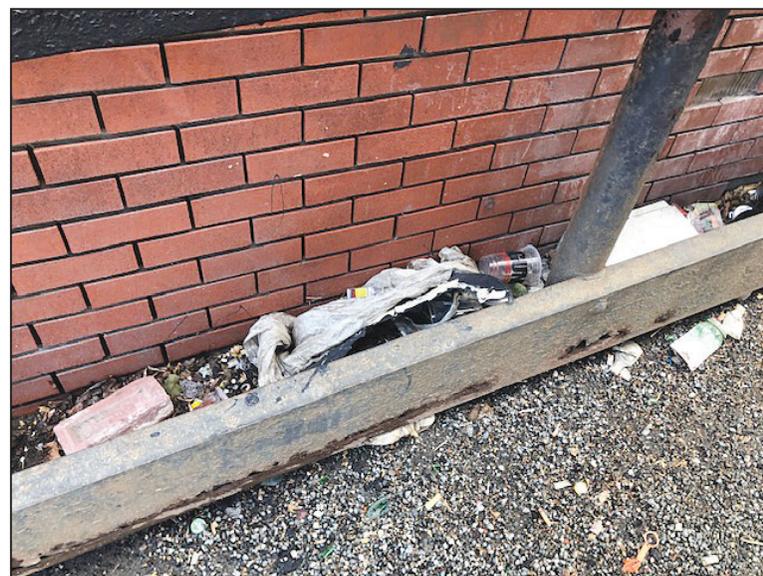
In all, they collected and disposed of 61 empty "nip" bottles along Cambridge Street.



A volunteer pitching in.



Sandra Gilpatrick with broom in hand.



A trash "hotspot" between Sushi Cafe and 7-Eleven is seen before (above) and after (below) the cleanup.



Pictured, left to right, are M.J. Kennedy, Rachel Thurlow and Kathy Judge.



Linda Jordan Dow with her blower.

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Erin Murphy for Boston City Council At-Large



Happy Mother's Day!

Here's to all the moms who guided their families through a very tough year. This is YOUR day!

I am a mom, a public school teacher, and a community advocate. I will work hard every day for academic success in our schools, safer neighborhoods, and a healthier Boston for ALL.

I ask for one of your four votes in September.

ERINFORBOSTON.COM

UPSTAIRS DOWNSTAIRS HOSTS DERBY DAY CELEBRATION

Laura Cousineau, owner of Upstairs Downstairs, hosted an exciting and unique Run for the Roses Kentucky Derby Day, on Sunday, May 2, full of fun, games and prizes. In a near perfect day outside, dozens of customers

streamed inside to enjoy a Day at the Races.

There were winners aplenty that crossed the finish line successfully and then were escorted to the winners circle alongside a bevy of roses in a silver bowl and

then the donning of the ceremonial Derby Hats, the presentation of the winners cup and the purse of a Kennedy Half Dollar or a lobster lollipop, and finally a picture taken to commemorate their day.



Upstairs Downstairs, hosted an exciting and unique Run for the Roses Kentucky Derby Day, on Sunday, May 2.



Customers enjoyed a Day at the Races.



Derby hats and roses were the fashion of the day.

Appeals Court denies appeal in Exam School case

Staff Report

A federal appeals court has denied a request by a group of parents to halt the implementation of the Boston Exam Schools admissions plan for the 2021-22 school year. As a result, admissions decisions were released to prospective students on April 28, indicated law firm Brown Rudnick.

The School Committee developed an admissions plan for the 2021-22 school year in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, which prevented the administration of the entrance test that had been used in previous years. The School Committee landed on a plan that allocates seats based on a combination of GPA and the number of school-age children living in each of Boston's 29 ZIP codes. One of the School Committee's objectives in approving the one-year plan was to improve racial, socioeconomic, and geographic diversity in the schools and to raise the quality of education for students throughout the city of Boston.

The Boston Parent Coalition for Academic Excellence Corporation, which consists of a group of parents of students from high-income ZIP codes expected to lose seats under the plan, first challenged the plan in the federal District Court for the District of Massachusetts, arguing that it improperly favored Black and Latinx students to the detriment of white and

Asian-American students, violating the 14th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. U.S. District Judge William Young ruled in favor of the School Committee, finding that the plan "does not have the effect of subjecting students to discrimination because of their race. Geographic and socioeconomic diversity are appropriate educational goals in their own right, regardless of race." The ruling sided with an amicus brief filed in support of the School Committee by international law firm Brown Rudnick LLP, Massachusetts Law Reform Institute (MLRI), LatinoJustice PRLDEF (LatinoJustice), and the Children's Law Center of Massachusetts (CLCM).

The parent group immediately appealed that decision to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit and requested an emergency injunction to prevent the School Committee from issuing admissions decisions pursuant to the plan until the conclusion of the appeal. The appellate court denied the parent group's emergency request. The panel of three judges that issued the opinion found that the parent group was unlikely to succeed on the merits of their appeal and that delaying the School Committee's release of decisions "would unsettle . . . the plans of thousands of families awaiting those decisions." The panel further stated, "[t]he public interest is best served by permitting defendants to final-

ize and communicate admissions decisions based on the plan, not by entering plaintiff's proposed injunction and throwing the Exam School admissions process into chaos."

"The First Circuit's opinion is another strong rebuke of the Boston Parent Coalition's challenge and affirms the legitimacy of the School Committee's desire to provide equal access to high quality education for Boston students from all backgrounds and parts of the city," said Brian Alosco, Brown Rudnick Associate in the Litigation & Arbitration Practice Group, who led the team of attorneys on a pro bono basis serving as co-counsel on the amicus brief. "This ruling will also finally allow Boston families to have some clarity as to where their children will be attending school in the fall," Alosco said.

The amicus brief filed by Brown Rudnick, MLRI, LatinoJustice, and CLCM at the district court, and joined by 23 prominent national and local organizations (listed as amici curiae below), noted that while the School Committee properly considered the past and present racial and socioeconomic discrimination that historically has created racially segregated neighborhoods across the City, today Boston is very diverse within and across its ZIP codes, and the admissions plan did not use ZIP codes as a proxy for race.

LUNCH AND DINNER

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NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDUP

VIRTUAL DUCKLING DAY RETURNS FOR 2021 MOTHER'S DAY CELEBRATION

For its second year, the annual Mother's Day parade typically held in Boston's Public Garden will be happening online. The 2021 Virtual Duckling Day, hosted by the Friends of the Public Garden on Sunday, May 9 at noon, will feature an enhanced interactive program, celebrity readers, and online activities for the whole family to enjoy.

Inspired by the tenacity of Mrs. Mallard from the famous Make Way For Ducklings, the official children's book of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, everyone is invited to join the Friends for its signature virtual reading beginning at noon, broadcast on the nonprofit's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Friendsofthepublicgarden>. The Friends has assembled an all-star cast to share this timeless story, including: First Lady Lauren Baker; Sen. Elizabeth Warren; Jeff Kinney, author of the "Diary of a Wimpy Kid" series; and WCVB's Rhondella Richardson.

Following the reading, the program will continue with engaging and delightful entertainment for

the entire family. Karen K and the Jitterbugs will perform their hit song "Get Down" with some special Duckling Day-themed words, and Bonaparte the Magician will perform some Duckling magic. More videos and activities, including a parks-themed coloring book, are available at <https://friendsofthepublicgarden.org/2021/04/13/may-09-2021-virtual-duckling-day/>.

Send in photos of you, your family, or any ducklings enjoying Duckling Day. Please submit your photos to <https://spaces.hightail.com/uplink/fogp> with your name and the year (guessing is allowed) and it'll be included in the Friends' social media celebration.

ONLINE PROGRAM EXPLORES 'RIVAL JEWISH DYNASTIES THAT HELPED CREATE MODERN CHINA'

The Vilna Shul, in partnership with the Falmouth Jewish Congregation, the Worcester JCC and Jewish Book Council, presents an online program called "Jonathan Reed Kaufman The Last Kings of Shanghai: The Rival Jewish Dynasties That Helped Create

Modern China" on Thursday, May 6, at 2 p.m.

Admission is free; visit <https://vilnashul.org/events/event/jonathan-reed-kaufman-the-last-kings-of-shanghai-the-rival-jewish-dynasties-that-helped-create-modern-china> to register for the virtual event.

NICHOLS HOUSE MUSEUM'S ANNUAL MEETING

The Nichols House Museum will hold its annual meeting via Zoom on Tuesday, May 11, from 5 to 6:30 p.m.

Join the museum for a review of its 2020 - 2021 highlights from an extraordinary year, followed by a final report on the Museum's Collections Conservation Project. Paul Kreitler, Project Engineer, Landmark Facilities Group, will present a visual tour of the Museum's new climate control system at this time.

Register at https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Y5eG-JelSq-vuFhECja6EA.

READ THE ROOM BOOK CLUB TO DISCUSS LOUISA MAY ALCOTT

The Nichols House Museum's Read The Room Book Club will discuss "Work" (1873) by Louisa May Alcott on Wednesday, May 12, from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

This semi-autobiographical story explores the changing experiences and expectations of women's work within the 19th-century backdrop of the Civil War, industrialization, Transcendentalism and the women's rights movement.

The Book Club's discussion will focus on Alcott's life in parallel to this story, including her residences on Beacon Hill (around the corner from the Nichols House) and comparisons to members of the Gibson and Nichols households, as well as touch on the filming of Greta Gerwig's 2019 "Little Women" at the Gibson House.

Register for the online event at <https://www.eventbrite.com/event/read-the-room-book-club-work-by-louisa-may-alcott-tickets-150818246435>.

ONLINE PROGRAM ON LITHUANIAN, ISRAELI, AMERICAN AND JEWISH CULINARY HISTORIES

The Vilna Shul, in partnership with Lithuanian Culture Institute, General Consulate of Lithuania in

New York and Embassy of Lithuania in Israel, presents a free online program called "Lithuanian, Israeli, American, Jewish: Which Food Are You?" on Sunday, May 23, at noon.

To register, visit <https://vilnashul.org/events/event/lithuanian-israeli-american-jewish-which-food-are-you>.

THE HOUSE MUSEUM ALLIANCE OF HOSTS VIRTUAL DISCUSSION

The House Museum Alliance of Downtown Boston will host a virtual discussion on "The Evolution of Preservation: from Elitism to Equity" on Thursday, May 27, from 6 to 7 p.m.

At this time, Alison Frazee, assistant director of the Boston Preservation Alliance, will consider how historic sites continue to change their practices to be more inclusive, accessible, and intentional so that they can tell the story of everyone's history through preservation.

Visit <https://fareharbor.com/embeds/book/thegibsonhouse/items/301563/calendar/2021/05/?flow=468779&full-items=yes> to register for the online event.

HILL HOUSE 2021 SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION NOW 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.hillhouseboston.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.

IMAGINE VAN GOGH COMING DEC. 21 TO SOWA POWER STATION

"Imagine Van Gogh," more than 200 of the Dutch artist's paintings, is making its debut in Boston on Dec. 21 at the SoWa Power Station.

The exhibition is a contactless experience spanning over 24,000 square feet, with a limited number of guests allowed in on a timed-entry basis, and it will adhere to all safety guidelines established by the Commonwealth.

Tickets start at \$33.99 (plus service charges and fees) and are on sale now. For more information, visit www.imagine-vangogh.com.

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On Earth Day, Wu calls for end of dirty diesel polluting school-bus fleet

Full electrification by 2030

By Seth Daniel

On Earth Day, City Councilor At-Large and Candidate for Mayor Michelle Wu joined advocates, including David Meshoulam, Co-Founder and Executive Director of Speak for the Trees, at the South End's Melnea Cass bus yard to call for the City of Boston to electrify its school bus fleet by 2030.

The BPS transportation fleet consumes nearly 60 percent of all the diesel fuel consumed by the City government. The move is part of Wu's Green New Deal for Boston Public Schools, which is part of her larger education vision to upgrade facilities and ensure every school is a modern, healthy and inspiring place to learn.

Roughly 24,000 Boston students are transported to and from school on 3,100 bus trips every day, and about half of these buses still run on diesel fuel. Pollution on diesel buses has been measured at five to 10 times higher than in other nearby areas, causing outsize impacts on childrens' learning, development and health. Not only do pollutants from diesel fuel cause asthma and other respiratory dis-

eases, heart disease, and cancer but there is also evidence to suggest the diesel directly impacts childrens' English and math scores. Boston's Black, Latinx and AAPI residents are disproportionately exposed to particulate matter pollution from cars, trucks, and buses.

"We need to immediately move away from dirty diesel fuels that pollute our neighborhoods and move toward clean air for our children, our communities and our bus drivers," Wu said at a press conference at the Melnea Cass Bus Yard in the South End on April 22. "Boston needs to commit to a full electrification of our school bus fleet by 2030 as part of a comprehensive plan to ensure our kids come to school happy, healthy and ready to learn, and as part of the fight for environmental justice. As Mayor, I will take every possible step to protect the health of our residents and seize on opportunities in the green economy. That starts with our children, from clean, sustainable school transportation to rebuilding Boston Public Schools facilities into healthy, energy-efficient, inspiring places to learn for our students and educators."

In Massachusetts, the Town of Beverly has already begun the process of transitioning to an electric



David Meshoulam, of Speak for the Trees, said diesel bus yards often cause issues with trees and the environment due to excessive idling and the pollution that causes.

fleet. Wu added that the Biden infrastructure plan includes incentives and grants for municipalities like Boston to electrify school buses and build a network of EV chargers with strong labor and installation standards.

Wu said making the change was something the City government could do – getting federal help – and be the leader of change



On Earth Day, Councilor and Mayoral Candidate Michelle Wu called for the entire Boston Public School yellow bus fleet to be electrified by 2030. She said it is a way the City can lead, and it's something that right now has federal dollars that can help pay for it.

for other transportation networks, including the MBTA – which transports all school children in Boston in 6th grade and above.

"We have the power and ability to make these changes," she said.

Meshoulam said it is especially important for the environment and for the trees around bus depots all over the City because many times diesel buses at such yard idle

extensive, which is illegal. At the Melnea Cass Yard, he said, Conservation Law Foundation not long ago reached a settlement with the bus company for excessive idling. With an electrified fleet, he said, that will not be an issue.

"People around the City understand the important role trees play in the environment, the economy and social habitats," he said.

Miguel Rosales steps down from Beacon Hill Architectural Commission

By Dan Murphy

Miguel Rosales stepped down from the Beacon Hill Architectural Commission, effective May 1, after spending the past five years as the appointed representative for Historic New England.

"Since 2016, it has been a privilege to serve on the Beacon Hill Architectural Commission as both chair and member representing Historic New England," said Rosales. "I am deeply passionate about the preservation of the Beacon Hill Historic District and con-

fidant that the neighborhood has benefited from my devoted public service and civic leadership."

His decision to step down from the commission at this time, said Rosales, boils to two main reasons: first, his regular term was already set to expire so he didn't believe it was appropriate to stay on in a "holdover position" when he could instead relinquish the position to better allow Historic New England to fill it in as timely a manner as possible. Additionally, Rosales divides his time between Boston and Florida and also plans

to become a Palm Beach, Fla., resident in the near future.

In gratitude to Rosales for the five years he devoted to serving Historic New England on the commission, Vin Cippola, president of Historic New England, wrote: "Historic New England is enormously grateful to Miguel Rosales for his long service on the Beacon Hill Architectural Commission. Miguel was nominated to the commission by Historic New England in 2016 and has provided significant time, energy, passion, and exceptional expertise to the Beacon Hill community in his role as commission member and chairman.

"His commitment and dedication to Boston's distinctive architectural character are reflected both in his generous volunteer work on the commission, as well as through his professional work

in bridge design and restoration, including the Leonard P. Zakim Bunker Hill Bridge and the Longfellow Bridge," added Cippola.

While Rosales will soon not meet the BHAC residency requirement as a resident of Boston, which undoubtedly closes a chapter for him, Beacon Hill and his time with the Architectural Commission will always remain close to his heart.

"Beacon Hill is a unique neighborhood with very important and irreplaceable historic resources," Rosales said. "It has been an honor to collaborate with my fellow commissioners and the city staff in its preservation. Beacon Hill is the oldest historic district in the Commonwealth and its establishment in 1955 created important protections against overdevelopment and inappropriate architecture. Then and now it continues to serve as a model for the other historic dis-



IAN MACLELLAN

Miguel Rosales, who stepped down from the Beacon Hill Architectural Commission on May 1.

tricts subsequently created in Boston and beyond."

BEACON HILL BEAT

From Boston Police Area A-1

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

Larceny

4/19/21 - Officers responded to a radio call for a verbal disturbance amongst neighbors on Melrose Street. Parties were advised to stay away from one another, and to contact their landlord to settle their differences.

Fight

4/19/21 - Officers took a larceny report for a stolen bicycle, which was secured on the street overnight and missing when the victim went to retrieve it in the morning. Area A-1 detectives are investigating the matter.

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| Blitz, Peggy S | D C Cataldo 2017 T | 242 Beacon St #9 | \$3,249,000 |
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| 447 Beacon Street 1 RT | Hartnett, John W | 447 Beacon St #1 | \$1,525,575 |
| Barbieri, Nicole A | Michael S Forrow NT | 403 Marlborough St #14 | \$833,000 |
| BEACON HILL | | | |
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| Poe, Jennifer | Narorian, Jeffrey R | 45 Garden St #1 | \$559,000 |
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| Solaris 2 LLC | Silva, Rafael | 36 Myrtle St #3 | \$664,500 |
| Lammert, Warren B | Goldie, Kenneth S | 6 W Hill Pl | \$5,589,000 |
| BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE | | | |
| Farooqui, Hasan R | Farooqui, Mohammed | 1 Charles St S #503 | \$1,130,000 |
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| Mehra, Tarun K | Oconnor, Mark P | 548 Tremont St #4 | \$705,000 |
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| Franco, Melissa | Farquharson, David | 511 Columbus Ave #5 | \$1,035,000 |
| O'Neill, Claudia | Reynolds, Suzanne | 31 Concord Sq #2 | \$1,410,000 |
| Page, Brittany T | Smith, James R | 35 E Springfield St #D | \$295,895 |
| Kenney, Leonora M | Petracca, Timothy J | 103 Gainsborough St #102 | \$749,000 |
| Elias, Darine | Munick, Dana E | 103 Gainsborough St #103 | \$845,000 |
| Caron, Martha L | Ruth J Wales NT | 76-110R Gainsborough St #58 | \$95,000 |
| SAF Boston LLC | Ruth J Wales NT | 95 Gainsborough St #202 | \$510,000 |
| SAF Boston LLC | Lewis, Michael D | 96 Gainsborough St #203W | \$615,000 |
| Scillieri, Joseph J | Payne, Martha M | 700 Harrison Ave #504 | \$1,075,000 |
| Metrakos, James G | 761 Harrison Church LLC | 761 Harrison Ave #207 | \$1,300,000 |
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| Al-Adeeb, Zena | 761 Harrison Church LLC | 771 Harrison Ave #62 | \$635,000 |
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| Barros, Jolivia S | 46 Wareham Street LLC | 46 Wareham St #5E | \$186,400 |
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WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN

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|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|
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| 137 South Street LLC | Kelleher Family RE LLC | 137 South St #2 | \$685,000 |
| Matuszewski, Susan C | Robert B King Ma RET | 15 Union Wharf #15 | \$2,995,000 |

Attention to Detail

BY PENNY CHERUBINO

THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The tower in the last clue is on the State Police Barracks at 250 Leverett Circle. Today's answer is from a 1912 photo. This building was one of two original lock gatehouses built in 1908 and designed by architect Guy Lowell.

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



CITY PAWS

OOPS! Bath time

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

Late spring is still mud season when those who walk dogs have to clean paws and sometimes bellies after each outing. Next, we head into outdoor adventure season, when you may find yourself bathing a dog who went for a saltwater swim, rolled in goose poop, or had a misadventure with a skunk.

Saltwater or Pond Water

We learned the hard way that saltwater in quantity can make a small dog sick when our Maggie ingested enough of the stuff to have a GI upset. If your dog has been in saltwater, they might be sickened by salt. A quick rinse will remove the salt from the fur and the sand that clings to a wet coat. Some dogs may need a full bath, especially if they have a history of skin problems.

If your dog's swim was in freshwater, you should be alert for the potential symptoms of Giardia or Leptospirosis. Check with a local veterinarian to find out if these are widespread in your area.

The greatest danger in fresh or brackish water comes from blue-green algae. The AKC warns, "... If you see suspicious-looking algae in the water, keep your dog out ..." This substance is a bacteria known as cyanobacteria and can be fatal to dogs. If you suspect your dog has made contact with it, go straight to a veterinarian.

Skunked!

The Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife points

out that April to June is the season when a female skunk will dig out a den and give birth. It also warns evening dog walkers that, "Skunks are not true hibernators. When nighttime temperatures are above 30°F, skunks become active for periods of time." These experts also write, "Skunks, like many other wild animals, can thrive in suburban and urban areas."

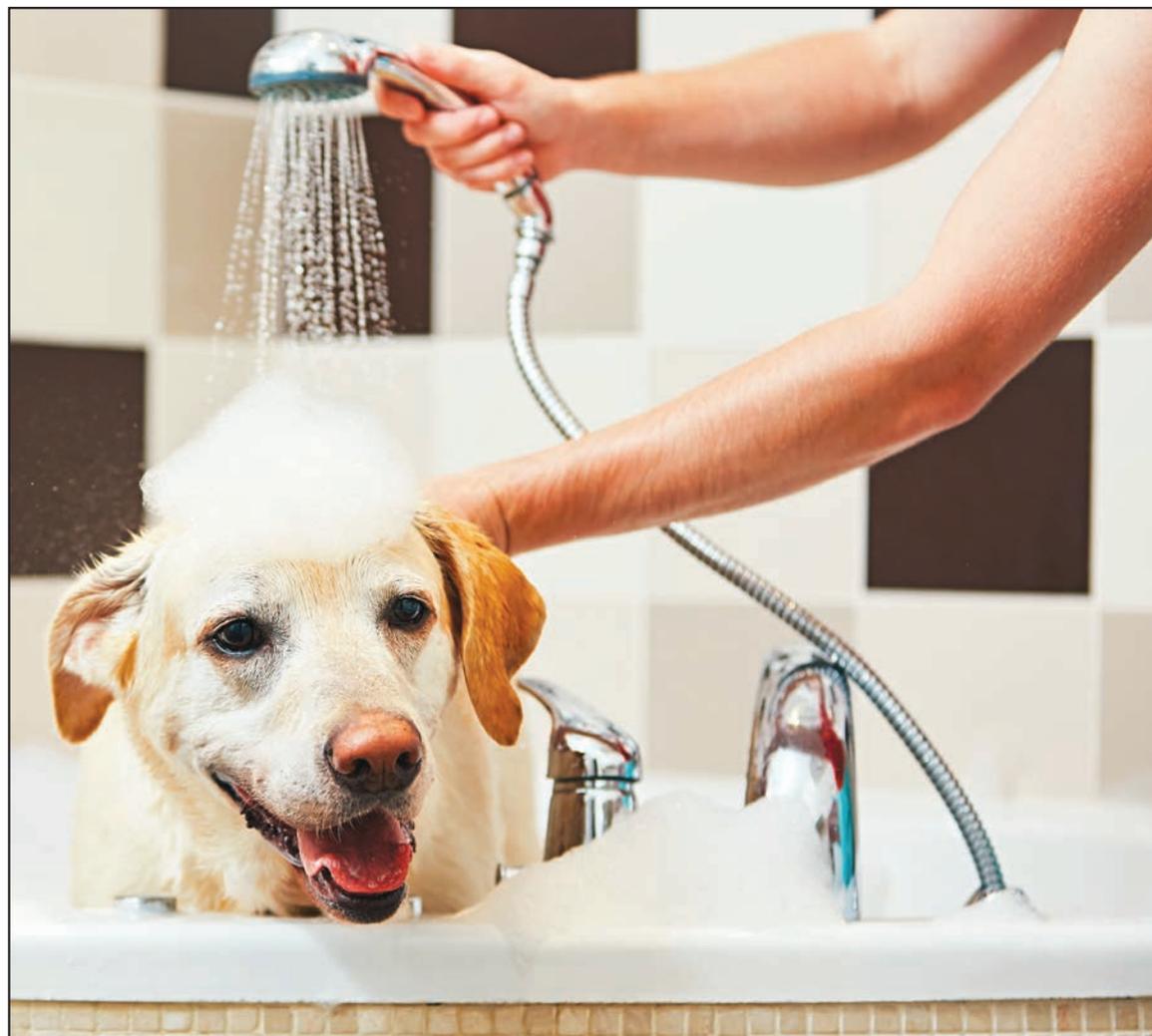
Preparation is the key to dealing with a skunked dog and treatments may need to be repeated. The AKC outlines the traditional method of mixing up ¼ cup of baking soda, 1-2 teaspoons of mild dishwashing detergent, and a fresh, unopened quart of 3% hydrogen peroxide solution. You should use this mixture immediately by applying it to a dry coat. The AKC says, "Work the foaming mixture well into the coat. Leave on for five minutes. Rinse with warm water. Follow with dog shampoo if desired."

They also recommend using a commercial product like Nature's Miracle Skunk Odor Remover. In either case, you need to have the products on hand ready for use, whether you are at home or on vacation, so add what you need to your shopping list!

Bathing Tips

We've addressed the topic of routine bathing before. Here are a few of the key reminders that we covered:

- Choose a safe bath location, be it a sink, tub, or shower.
- In an enclosed outside space, an oversized tub or a kiddie pool



Dogs react better to lukewarm water and gentle water pressure.

might work.

- Have more towels ready than you think you'll need.
- Expect to get very wet yourself.
- Only use shampoo designed for dogs.
- Begin by gently saturating the dog's coat completely.

- Rub gently with the pads of your fingers.
- Work on one section at a time in a sensible sequence.
- Start with the dirtiest parts and work toward the head.
- When you think you've rinsed the dog thoroughly, do it one more time.

- Dry your dog's coat, rubbing it with towel-after-towel. Wet spots near the skin can lead to hot spots, dermatitis, and itchy skin.

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

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