



THE BEACON HILL TIMES

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CREDIT: COURTESY OF LINDSAY PERRELLI

A special mailbox has been set up for the holidays outside The Happy Journey, a children's store at 73 Charles St., to collect letters to Santa.

Mailbox outside The Happy Journey collecting letters for Santa

By Dan Murphy

Getting in touch with Saint Nick doesn't require a trip to the North Pole, but instead one only must venture as far as Charles Street, where a special mailbox has been installed for the holidays outside The Happy Journey, a children's store at 73 Charles St., to collect letters to Santa during business hours.

Lindsay Perrelli, the store's proprietor, installed the mailbox in the first week of November, she said, and since then, a "handful" of correspondence to and wish lists for Santa have been dropped off at the location. "We're doing this as a fun way to help kids kick off the holiday season," she said.

Prior to opening The Happy Journey earlier this year, Perrelli worked as teacher, at which time,

she said, she set up "a little mailbox as a way to make a connection with kids in the neighborhood."

The Happy Journey is providing complimentary pre-addressed letters to Santa at the store, which is also selling for \$30 each Santa Letter Kits, which come with a guaranteed reply from Santa by Christmas if they're postdated by Dec. 6.

Beacon Hill Stroll set for Thursday

Mark your calendars for the annual Beacon Hill Stroll! Happening this Thursday night, Dec. 2, from 6-9 p.m. Charles Street will be closed to traffic & there will be live music, bell ringers, carolers, 7 p.m. tree lighting, horse-drawn carriage rides & more! Join in, have fun and check off your entire holiday shopping list! The wonderful local shops have fabulous holiday gift ideas. See you there!

Hanukkah A Cappella Concert at Vilna Shul

By Times staff

Three a cappella groups from area colleges will return to the stage for their first community concert in nearly two years, a "Community-Wide Hanukkah A Cappella Concert," on Sunday, Dec. 5, at 3 p.m. at The Vilna Shul, 18 Phillips St.

The concert will feature Manginah, Brandeis University's premier Jewish a cappella group; Shir Appeal, Tufts University's only

mixed-gender Jewish a cappella group; and Distilled Harmony, an all-gender a cappella groups from Northeastern University, as well as guest performances by local middle and high school students. The Vilna is co-sponsoring this event with many Jewish Day Schools and the University Hillels in the Greater Boston area.

The concert will be safe and accessible to all. All performers are vaccinated and will perform masked. Per the city's mask man-

date, all guests must be masked for the event as well.

This program is "by and for the Boston Jewish community and their loved ones," according to The Vilna, which college students, young professionals, and families of all ages are welcome to attend.

Tickets cost \$5 for students, \$10 for adults, and \$20 for families, and are available at <https://vilnashul.org/events/event/hanukkah-acappella-concert>.

A-1 area sees spike in Part One crime

By Dan Murphy

Leading up to Thanksgiving, Area A-1 had seen a 6-percent spike in Part One crime from last year, according to Boston Police.

Between Jan. 1 and No. 21 of this year, 1,883 incidents of Part One crime were reported in the district, which includes Beacon Hill, Chinatown Downtown and the North End, as opposed to 1,779 during the same timeframe in 2020. But this still marked a 13-year reduction from the five-year average of 2,158 incidents.

Two homicides have been reported this year, compared to none last year, with a five-year average of one incident.

Rapes and attempted rapes saw a slight uptick as the number climbed to 18 from 17 in 2020, but this was a nearly 7-percent reduction from the five-year average of 30 incidents.

Robberies and attempted robberies were up around 56 percent

as the number climbed to 173 from 111 last year, which also marked an approximately 13-percent increase from the five-year average of 153 incidents.

Similarly, domestic aggravated assaults were up nearly 71 percent, with 29 this year, compared to 17 in 2020, and this also marked a 45-percent increase from the five-year average of 20 incidents.

In contrast, non-domestic aggravated assaults were down nearly 10 percent, with 181 incidents as opposed to 200 last year, which was also an approximately 22-percent reduction from the five-year average of 232 incidents.

Commercial burglaries saw an approximately 43-percent reduction as the number dropped to 68 from 120 in 2020, and this was also around an 8-percent reduction from the five-year average of 74 incidents.

(POLICE Pg. 2)

MassDOT launches bicycle-safety pilot

Staff report

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation launched a bicycle safety pilot on the Massachusetts Avenue Bridge over the Charles River (the Harvard Bridge) last week.

This pilot is the result of a strong partnership with the Department of Conservation and Recreation, the City of Cambridge, the City of Boston, and various advocacy groups, including Institute for Transportation and Development Policy (ITDP), LivableStreets Alliance, TransitMatters, MassBike, Cambridge Bike Safety, and Walk-Boston, according to MassDOT.

The pilot will reduce the number of vehicular travel lanes to one lane in each direction and increase the available width of the bicycle lane to provide additional buffer space to separate cyclists from vehicles and trucks.

"MassDOT is thrilled to implement this bicycle safety pilot to better serve all users of the Massachusetts Avenue Bridge,"

Transportation Secretary and CEO Jamey Tesler said in a press release. "This pilot is a great example of various agencies, municipalities and advocacy groups working together to create safer and more sustainable transportation options for all modes."

Additionally, DCR Acting Commissioner, Stephanie Cooper, said in a press release: "Implementing this bicycle safety pilot will help explore a mobility solution on the Massachusetts Avenue Bridge that can help support a sustainable transportation system. DCR is pleased to collaborate with so many partners to advance this safety pilot and looks forward to understanding the important data that the Commonwealth will be able to collect in the coming months."

This separated bike lane were installed Monday using cones, arrow boards, and advance signage.

"As we work to promote

(BICYCLE Pg. 2)

POLICE (from pg. 1)

Residential burglaries were down nearly 18 percent, with 33 incidents, compared to 40 last year, which also marked an approximately 31-percent decline from the five-year average of 48 incidents.

Incidents of larceny from a motor vehicle were down nearly 11 percent as the number dropped to 237 from 265 in 2020, and this also marked a 23-percent drop from the five-year average of 309 incidents.

In contrast, other larcenies were up around 10 percent, with 1,031 incidents, compared to 935 last year, although this was still an approximately 15-percent reduction from the five-year average of

1,216 incidents.

Auto theft was also up 50 percent, as the number climbed to 111 from 74 last year, which was also a nearly 39-percent increase from the five-year average of 80 inci-

idents. Citywide, Part One crime was down 15 percent from last year, with 2,383 incidents, compared to 2,782 in 2020, and down around 23 percent from the five-year average of 3,073 incidents.



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BICYCLE (from pg. 1)

low-carbon travel options, our City needs to move urgently to protect the safety of our commuters and residents," Mayor Michelle Wu said in a press release. "Boston is grateful to our local and state partners for helping this safety pilot come to fruition, connecting our communities and laying the groundwork for safer, more sustainable transportation infrastructure throughout the region."

Regarding the pilot, Rep. Jay Livingstone told this publication, "I'm pleased that MassDOT is conducting this pilot program to best determine how to improve bike safety on the Harvard bridge on a long-term basis. I advocated with the Boston Cyclists Union and appreciated how quickly MassDOT reacted to make this change."

The bicycle safety pilot will run through the winter months, according to MassDOT, while engineers and advocates evaluate safety and crash data, traffic volumes, bicycle volumes, and trav-

el time of the MBTA's Harvard Square-Nubian Square bus, (running bus route number 1).

"On behalf of the Boston Cyclists Union and all of the advocacy groups who requested MassDOT address safety issues on the Mass. Ave. Bridge, we are grateful for the state's prompt leadership in addressing the issues identified, as well as city leadership on both sides of the bridge who embraced the proposal," Becca Wolfson, executive director of Boston Cyclists Union, said in a press release. "This important regional route already carries thousands of daily bicycle riders who have protection on city streets on both sides of the bridge and have endured the gap in the bike network over the bridge itself."

Moreover, Wolfson added, "This commitment from Mass-

DOT is truly a win-win, and we look forward to working with the state and other stakeholders to achieve the more permanent changes in the spring."

During severe weather, the pilot may be temporarily suspended during snow and ice operations with the intent to restore the pilot as soon as possible.

For more information on traffic conditions, travelers are also encouraged to: dial 511 and select a route to hear real-time conditions; visit www.mass511.com, a website which provides real-time traffic and incident advisory information and allows users to subscribe to text and email alerts for traffic conditions;

follow MassDOT on Twitter @MassDOT to receive regular updates on road and traffic conditions;

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Beacon Hill, surrounding area's COVID cases increases

By John Lynds

With hundreds of Beacon Hill residents and residents from surrounding communities gathering with friends and family over Thanksgiving weekend, public health officials are keeping a close eye for increases in COVID-19 infections in the neighborhood.

While Beacon Hill and the surrounding area's weekly COVID positive test rate did increase last week, health experts say isolated spikes in infections may not show up until next week's report if some residents were exposed to the virus over the Holiday Weekend.

According to the weekly report released Monday by the Bos-

ton Public Health Commission (BPHC), 2,701 Beacon Hill, North End, Back Bay, West End and Downtown residents were tested and 3.5 percent were positive. This was a 35 percent increase from the 2.6 percent that tested positive between November 15 and November 22.

The citywide weekly positive test rate also increased last week. According to the BPHC 27,014 residents were tested and 4 percent were COVID positive--this was a 5.3 percent increase from the 3.8 percent reported by the BPHC on November 22.

Ninety-five additional residents have been infected with the virus between November 22 and

November 29 and the total number of cases in the area increased to 4,618 cases overall since the pandemic began.

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 percent last week and went from 86,157 cases to 87,916 confirmed cases in a week. There were five additional deaths in Boston from the virus in the past week and the total COVID deaths is now at 1,468.

First Night Boston 2022 returns

Annual celebration of New Year's Eve returns to Copley Square

Staff Report

First Night Boston, New England's largest New Year's Eve Party, returns this year to celebrate the start of 2022. After a successful online celebration last year, First Night will gather in-person throughout the Back Bay for hours of entertainment, dazzling ice sculptures, the "People's Parade", and fireworks. The completely free and family-friendly event will run from 12:00 p.m. on Friday, December 31, 2021 through 12:30 a.m. on Saturday, January 1, 2022, and will feature a wide range of local musicians, artists, and performers.

Centered in Copley Square with 12 hours of entertainment, First Night Boston showcases the best of Boston, and will have additional performances in the Boston Public Library, Copley Place, Boston Common, and surrounding churches. From organ concerts to hip-hop, country music to figure skating, a full schedule will be released in the weeks ahead, and all event details will be available at www.firstnightboston.org.

First Night, produced in partnership with the City of Boston, is

the longest-running First Night celebration in the world. Founded in 1977 and annually uniting tens of thousands of guests in the city, the event showcases Boston's beauty in a night of light, music, and ice. Among the event's leading sponsors are Mass General Brigham, Amazon, T-Mobile, CVS Health, and the Greater Boston Convention and Visitors Bureau. Interested donors are invited to visit www.firstnight.org, where donations of any amount can be easily made.

First Night Boston will adhere to all current city and state safety precautions as it relates to COVID-19, including mandatory mask wearing at indoor venues. If city and state recommendations are adjusted as the New Year draws closer, First Night Boston will similarly adjust its guidelines to comply with those set by governing bodies.

For more information on First Night Boston 2022 please visit www.FirstNightBoston.org or follow on Facebook, @FirstNight

onTwitter, @firstnightboston on Instagram, or follow the conversation using #FirstNightBoston.

First Night Boston is a project of Boston Celebrations, Inc. Boston Celebrations is a 501 (C) (3) non-profit organization that hosts the annual New Year's Eve celebration in the city of Boston. The citywide celebration features family-friendly traditions such as a parade down Boylston Street; handcrafted ice sculptures; performances from local musicians and artists, and of course, the highly anticipated "Copley Countdown" to the New Year, that kicks off the much-anticipated spectacular midnight pyrotechnic show. Family friendly entertainment options will be offered at Boston Public Library, at Old South Church, Trinity Church, the First Church of Christ, Scientist, and the Copley Place Mall. All First Night Boston activities are free and open to the public. For more information and a list of events, visit www.first-nightboston.org.

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EDITORIAL

PEARL HARBOR WAS 80 YEARS AGO

It was 80 years ago this coming week that the nation of Japan launched its attack on the United States at Pearl Harbor in Hawaii on December 7, 1941.

The very next day, President Franklin D. Roosevelt convened a joint session of Congress in which he famously declared the attack as, “A day that will live in infamy,” and asked Congress for a Declaration of War against Japan.

Germany and Italy, allies of the Japanese who collectively were known as the Axis, then declared war on the U.S., setting the stage for what would become the largest conflagration in world history.

Hundreds of thousands of Americans would die in battlefronts stretching from the European continent to the jungle islands of the Pacific over the next three and one-half years before the German and Japanese war machines finally were subdued.

For more than two years prior to the attack, America had stayed out of the war that already had engulfed most of the rest of the world in the aftermath of the German invasion of Poland on September 1, 1939.

By the time of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, Hitler’s Nazis had conquered all of continental Europe and much of Africa, while the Japanese had invaded almost all of Asia, save for the U.S. outposts in the Philippines and other small islands in the Pacific.

Americans clung to the belief that our isolation, separated from the rest of the world by two oceans, would keep us out of the war. Americans had no appetite for re-engaging in another conflict just 23 years removed from the memories of World War I that still were fresh in our nation’s psyche.

But after Pearl Harbor, we no longer could keep our heads buried in the sand. Although America had re-instituted the draft some months prior to Pearl Harbor and had ramped up our military production capabilities, the suddenness of the Japanese attack still came as a shock to every American.

Americans realized that thanks to the capabilities of modern armaments such as Japanese aircraft carriers and German U-boats, even the continental United States was not insulated from attack by a foreign enemy. Citizens on the West Coast braced for a Japanese invasion in the aftermath of Pearl Harbor and curfews were instituted on the Eastern Seaboard.

Thanks to the countless number of documentaries and movies over the past 20 years that tell the stories of the brave Americans who fought in WWII, we are fortunate to have a living history of the sacrifices made by The Greatest Generation.

The lessons of Pearl Harbor are many, but chief among them is that freedom isn’t free -- and that we always must be vigilant to recognize the forces of evil that seek to destroy our way of life.

HAPPY HANUKKAH

The eight-day observance of Hanukkah, also known as the Festival of Lights, started this past Sunday evening and will culminate this coming Monday, December 6.

Hanukkah is observed for eight nights and days by lighting the candles of the Menorah, one on each day of the eight-day celebration. (The Menorah itself consists of nine candles, one of which typically stands above the rest and is used to light the other eight.)

In summary, Hanukkah commemorates the victory of the Maccabees -- a group of fierce warriors who used guerilla tactics against an occupying army -- in 166 BCE when the Maccabees liberated the Jewish people from the Greek-based rulers who essentially had outlawed the Jewish religion.

When the triumphant Maccabees captured the city of Jerusalem, they quickly entered the Holy Temple, tossing out the images of the Greek gods that had been installed there by the occupying rulers.

When the Maccabees went to light the Menorah candles in the Temple, they thought they only had one day’s worth of oil. However, the lights remained lit for eight days -- hence the miracle of the Festival of Lights.

Although Hanukkah celebrations this year will be much more subdued than is typical because of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, we want to take the opportunity to wish our friends and readers of the Jewish community a happy, healthy, and meaningful Hanukkah season.

GUEST OP-ED

Speaking the truth to power

By Anthony D’Ambrosio

As this campaign draws toward Election Day, on December 14th, I recall the instructive words of the illustrious Tip O’Neal- “all politics is local.” My efforts over the past several months have been designed to convince you, the local voter, not the insiders of state government, that I am the best person to represent the 1st Suffolk and Middlesex District in the Massachusetts State Senate.

At the outset, let me plainly state again, I am un beholden to any special interest group seeking to influence my future votes. If elected, my priority is to do the people’s work. To that end, during this campaign, I have refused and returned campaign donations from lobbyists and other groups and individuals that have donated with strings attached. The money is simply not worth it to me. I quit a high paying job in technology and finance to run for state senate, because I believe in public service, not self-service.

My love of this community and its people is anchored by decades of family presence. My immigrant background, childhood friends, and family members still reside in this District and ensure that I will never lose touch with the regular person. I have said it many times: I stand here before you today on the shoulders of my grandparents and

parents, who came to this country from an impoverished Southern Italy with literally the clothes on their backs and wilt in their pockets. Their courage and hard work are ingrained in my DNA. I will speak truth to power.

The Covid-19 pandemic has disrupted our community in virtually every way imaginable. It has laid bare all our society’s vulnerabilities and inequities, as well as the ways in which our leaders are failing in their obligations to Massachusetts residents. Like so many others, I watched loved ones be hospitalized with Covid-19. One of the most painful periods of my life was watching my father struggle to breathe while hospitalized despite supplemental oxygen and incredible medical care. Even with the progress Massachusetts has made in containing the virus, the fear and pain of losing loved ones or seeing them suffer has still not dissipated for my family and countless other families in our community.

Many of our local businesses struggle or have closed while the behemoths of industry like Amazon are allowed to get richer and our gas and produce prices skyrocket. Many of our small businesses – the backbone of the American dream—are being pushed toward bankruptcy. Our educational system is also a mess. Many of our children have been

left behind with some of the lowest testing scores in decades and little prospect of making up the deficiencies in the short term as Beacon Hill insiders squabble over the disbursement of federal relief dollars. Our nursing and elder homes are still a catastrophe in waiting. Their haphazard oversight is nothing short of shameful.

These situations are unacceptable. We cannot turn our heads and simply ignore the obvious problems before us. While the old ways of Beacon Hill and insider politics are still prevalent, we need new, modern ways of examining our problems and planning for the future.

We are at a pivotal moment in our country and District’s history where we can not only recover to pre-pandemic norms, but also rebuild in a way that prepares our residents— especially our children—for the challenges and promises of the 21st century. I am running for State Senate to help ensure that our District continues to provide future generations the same opportunities that my family received nearly 50 years ago when they arrived in Boston.

I ask for your vote.

Anthony A. D’Ambrosio, graduate of Yale and Cambridge Universities and Candidate for State Senate

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

from two to one lane because of double parking is nerve wracking, especially if there is a large truck behind me.

I also heard that the bike lane around the Public Garden, at the

intersection of Charles and Beacon is to be reconfigured, this would be the time to get the bike lane on Charles Street installed.

Joan Doucette

READER MAKES THE CASE FOR INSTALLING BIKE LANE ON CHARLES

Dear Editor:

As a local bike rider living on Beacon Hill, I hope the good news of two dedicated bike lanes on Mass Avenue Bridge might encourage the Powers to be to install a bike lane on Charles Street.

Perhaps this might stop the dangerous habit of local residents who double park on both sides of the street, putting the travel lane down to one lane. It doesn’t help that the police guarding the construction site have no interest in the illegal double parking and congestion.

For me as a daily bike rider, continually having to swap lanes

THE BEACON HILL TIMES

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Artsemerson production of White Rabbit Red Rabbit set to start December 7

ArtsEmerson, Boston's leading presenter of contemporary world theater and film and the professional presenting and producing organization of Emerson College, is thrilled to bring Iranian playwright Nassim Soleimanpour's original play, *White Rabbit Red Rabbit* to audiences as a virtual theatre offering from December 7 through 12. This contemporary piece features a different actor each night who reads the play for the first time in front of a live virtual audience. From there the actor gives their interpretation of the words of Soleimanpour – resulting in a theatrical experience that can never be replicated.

Soleimanpour wrote *White Rabbit Red Rabbit* in 2010 while he was forbidden from leaving his home country because of his refusal to participate in military service. The play dissects power

in a wild, truly original structure, pairing the experience of isolation with daring, unexpected comedy. A new actor will open the script in front of a live virtual audience for the first and last time during the play's run at ArtsEmerson; in total, six actors will perform the piece as part of this engagement.

"We all changed in the many months of navigating a global pandemic, and *White Rabbit Red Rabbit* is no exception," says playwright Nassim Soleimanpour. "Rabbit is a tough play. I say tough because the original play was written under certain circumstances and it was written to overcome my travel restrictions. So it was natural for this particular play to be adapted during the lockdowns."

To support Soleimanpour's desire to reimagine his hit play as a virtual theatre experience, ArtsEmerson offered a virtual res-

idency, providing technical collaboration, and in February of this year, two workshop presentations were given to audience comprised of members of ArtsEmerson's long-running Play Reading Book Club, with post-performance Q&As that allowed audiences to connect with Soleimanpour and discuss the experience of the virtual presentation.

"Nassim has been a celebrated artist here at Emerson College and ArtsEmerson for quite some time, and we are very excited to be presenting his widely admired *White Rabbit Red Rabbit*," says David Howse, Executive Director at ArtsEmerson. "This work is utterly original, and it's a piece about contemporary Iran and Nassim's generation – we can assure our audiences they won't ever see something quite like this."

Since its joint premiere in 2011



PHOTO BY NIMA SOLEIMANPOUR
Nassim Soleimanpour.

in Edinburgh and Summerworks festival, *White Rabbit Red Rabbit* has been translated into more than 25 different languages and been performed over 2000 times by some of the biggest names in theatre and film including actors John Hurt, Whoopi Goldberg, Nathan Lane, Stephen Rea, Sinead Cusack, Marcus Brigstocke, Dominic West and Laura Linney.

Tickets for *White Rabbit Red Rabbit* may be purchased 24/7 at ArtsEmerson.org, or by calling 617-824-8400 (Tue-Sat from 12:00PM ET - 6:00PM ET). For walk-up service, the Paramount Center Box Office (559 Washington Street, Boston) is open Thu-Sat from Noon - 6:00 PM ET. Tickets may also be purchased as part of an ArtsEmerson Season Package, featuring discounts up to 40% off. Groups of 10+ attending a performance save up to 30%. Thanks to generous support from Rockland Trust, a limited number of \$10

Mobile Rush tickets will be available at 10:00 AM ET each performance day on a first-come, first-served basis, exclusively through the TodayTix mobile app. For more information, please click on "General Public" when you visit ArtsEmerson's Offers web page.

Performance Schedule:
 Tuesday, December 07, 2021 7:30pm (Press Performance)
 Wednesday, December 08, 2021 7:30pm
 Thursday, December 09, 2021 7:30pm
 Friday, December 10, 2021 8:00pm
 Saturday, December 11, 2021 8:00pm
 Sunday, December 12, 2021 2:00pm

Content Warning:
 Recommended for audiences 14+, ArtsEmerson understands that certain types of content could trigger past traumatic experiences for some viewers. Please be aware that this production contains scenes discussing suicide.

Ticket Information:
 Tickets for *White Rabbit Red Rabbit* may be purchased 24/7 at ArtsEmerson.org. Phone orders and group sales are available by calling the ArtsEmerson Box Office at 617-824-8400 (open Tue-Sat from 12:00PM ET - 6:00PM ET). The Paramount Center Box Office (559 Washington Street, Boston) is open for walk-up service Thu-Sat from 12:00PM ET - 6:00 PM ET. Tickets may also be purchased as part of an ArtsEmerson Season Package, featuring discounts up to 40% off. Groups of 10+ attending a performance save 30%.
 Tickets cost \$35 (subject to change)

December Women's Forum to be Annual Wassail Party Winter Wonderglam

By Ariana Hanley

Happy Holidays, Beacon Hill! Mark your calendars and join the Beacon Hill Women's Forum for our annual Wassail Party Winter Wonderglam on December 21 at the Hampshire House! Time to pull out your diamonds and glitter to toast the upcoming New Year. The evening will be filled with customary cocktails, nibbles and lots of dancing. Please be sure to register online at [womensforum.org and purchase a Guest Pass if you wish to bring a friend or spouse. Each pass includes entry to the event, one complimentary drink, and heavy hors d'oeuvres.](http://www.beaconhill-</p>
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We look forward to celebrating the holiday season and toasting to a wonderful New Year!

The Beacon Hill Women's Forum is a nonprofit organization established to help bring women in and around Beacon Hill together to form a close community of

support and inspiration. We welcome a speaker, always a woman with a unique, formidable story to tell, to our monthly Forums which meet on the second Tuesday of the month from 6pm to 8pm at The Hampshire House (6pm cocktail/social hour, followed by the program starting at 7pm sharp). Visit The Beacon Hill Women's Forum website to learn more about our membership options. www.beaconhillwomensforum.org

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"Anthony is an exceptionally thoughtful leader who has the rare capability of envisioning a better future and the work ethic to bring it about. With an unending commitment to service and a depth of innate skills, there is no limit to the positive impact Anthony will continue to make on this world." — Dr. Peter Salovey - President, Yale University

A Community Health Educator

Anthony has worked directly with children and school administrators on developing new strategies to overcome the many psychological and physical challenges that children face today. He also has taught public school classes on disability and mental health issues related to social media and academic performance.

A Non-Profit Leader

Anthony has served as the leader of Dwight Hall, a 3,500-person non-profit organization. Their mission is "To nurture and inspire students as leaders of social change and to advance justice and service". The programs they worked on strive to form a more just society that meets the needs of the community in a fair and dignified way.

A Member of the Revere School Committee

As an elected member of the Revere School Committee, Anthony led the creation of a district wide Equity Advisory Board that brought together parents, teachers, students, and other community stakeholders to develop creative solutions to address educational inequities. He also advocated for the implementation of a district wide mental health audit with enhanced services for students.



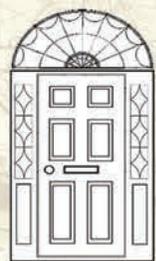
"I have known Anthony for many years. He previously worked for me as a policy aide. Anthony's understanding of complex social issues dealing with poverty, health disparities and education was always impressive. I relied often upon his wise and nuanced perspective in reaching decisions. The Commonwealth will be well served with him in a leadership capacity." — Tom Ambrosino, Chelsea City Manager and Former Mayor of Revere



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When Good Things Maybe Aren't Anymore: Medication, Polypharmacy and Aging at series

On Tuesday, December 14 from 2:00-3:30 pm, Christine Ritchie, MD, MSPH and Esteban Franco-Garcia, MD will be speaking about aging and medications.

As we age, we tend to accu-

mulate prescription and over-the-counter medications. Have you ever wondered, "too many?", "too much?", "wrong mix?", "better options"? The answers to these questions change along with



Dr. Christine Ritchie.



Dr. Esteban Franco-Garcia.

our metabolism, other chronic conditions we may develop and the mix of drugs we take. Drs. Ritchie and Franco-Garcia will walk us through the ever-changing, age-related landscape of risks and benefits from multiple medications, including drugs elders should avoid taking if possible. Next time you see your doctor, you will be ready for an informed discussion of what meds make the most sense for you.

Christine Ritchie, MD, MSPH is the Director of the Center of Aging and Serious Illness Research at Massachusetts General's Mongan Institute where she leads a team of researchers focused on improving the well-being of older adults and enhancing the lived experience of those with advanced illnesses. Dr. Ritchie is a board-certified geriatrician and palliative care physician.

Esteban Franco-Garcia, MD specializes in geriatric medicine and internal medicine at Senior Health, Massachusetts General Hospital. Dr. Franco-Garcia directs the MGH Orthogeriatrics Program and is the Program Director for the MGH Geriatric Fellowship Program.

This virtual program is part of Beacon Hill Village's Living Well Ending Well series offered in partnership with the Boston Public Library. In order to receive the Zoom link, registration is required [online](#) or by calling Beacon Hill Village at 617-723-9713. Links will go out a day or two before the event. Free and open to the public.

Handel and Haydn Society receives \$10 million donation to Honor Harry Christophers

Donation helps establish the Harry Christophers Fund for Artistic Excellence

Staff Report

The Handel and Haydn Society has just received a transformative gift of \$10 million in honor of Artistic Director Harry Christophers. The money was donated outright and anonymously and will help create the Harry Christophers Fund for Artistic Excellence. H+H announced the donation before Friday's performance of Handel's Messiah at Boston's Symphony Hall. At the same time, H+H also named Christophers as Conductor Laureate; the title will take effect after Christophers concludes his tenure as Artistic Director, in May 2022. H+H also announced he would be honored at a gala celebration at Symphony Hall on May 9, 2022. Christophers is in his 13th and final season as Artistic Director.

The \$10 million donation is the largest single gift in H+H history and will have a lasting effect on America's oldest performing arts organization. While the donor asked to remain anonymous, they said in a statement, "Harry has fulfilled the mission of the Handel and Haydn Society. I wish to ensure that the next artistic director propels the magic, joy, and learning Harry Christophers created to new levels. I want the new artistic director and H+H to ensure it is the best in the US if not the world as to what it does, transforming lives with unsurpassed excellence."

"This breathtaking gift will have a profound and lasting impact on the organization," said Rob Shapiro, Chair of the H+H Board of Governors. "This gift allows H+H and the new artistic director to take what Harry has started and build on it, bringing H+H to new and broader audiences and expanding our repertoire as we continue to explore the vast baroque and classical catalog."

Christophers was appointed Artistic Director at H+H in 2009,

the 13th artistic director in the organization's history. During his tenure, the organization has been transformed. H+H has grown to be regarded as one of the finest Baroque and Classical ensembles in the nation. Christophers led the organization through its 2015 Bicentennial. He has hired more than 60% of the current roster of musicians, whom he has led in 15 commercial recordings, the most of any H+H artistic director. There has been an increase in touring, sharing the H+H magic with audiences at Tanglewood and in New York City.

The Harry Christophers Fund for Artistic Excellence will support Christophers's farewell season and extend his legacy in perpetuity. The Fund will support conductor and soloist fees, orchestra and chorus compensation, audio and video recording and distribution, and touring.

"The title of Conductor Laureate and the Fund are just two ways of saying thanks to a leader who has given more than we could have ever asked for in his tenure as Artistic Director," said David Snead, President and CEO of the Handel and Haydn Society. "Through the Fund, Harry's impact on H+H will be felt for decades to come."

Donors can support the Harry Christophers Fund for Artistic Excellence at handelandhaydn.org/harry-christophers-fund-for-artistic-excellence/.

H+H's 2021-22 Season Performances include:

Bach — Christmas
December 4 — First Church in Cambridge
December 3 + 5 — Sold out

Beethoven Symphony No. 7 —
January 7 + 9 — Symphony Hall

Haydn + Mozart — January 28
+ 30 — Symphony Hall

Bach + Vivaldi Gloria — April
1 + 3 — Symphony Hall

Haydn The Creation — April
29 + May 1 — Symphony Hall

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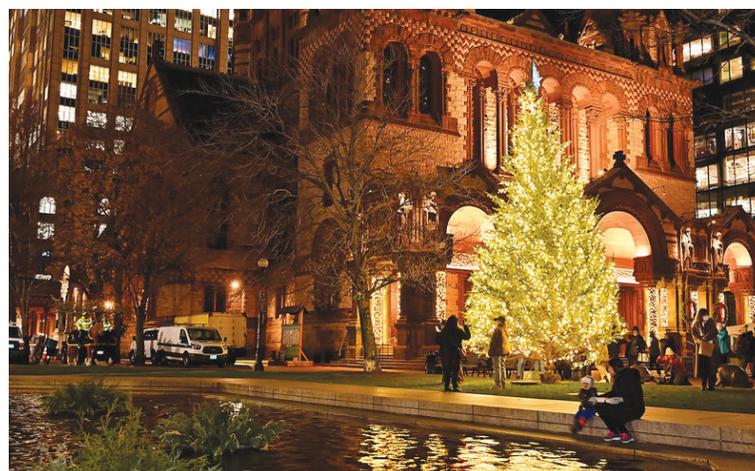


To purchase tickets: nicholshousemuseum.org/programs
or call 617-227-6993.

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Mayor Michelle Wu and the Boston Parks Department help light a holiday tree at Copley Square as Rep. Jay Livingstone (back left) and Rev. Mariama White-Hammond, the city's Chief of Environment, Energy, and Open Space (front right), look on.



A lit holiday-tree in Copley Square.



Mayor Michelle Wu greets a young reveler during Monday's tree-lighting in Copley Square.



Rep. Jay Livingstone and Mayor Michelle Wu are seen Monday at the tree-lighting in Copley Square.

OFFICIALS LIGHT COPLEY SQUARE TREE

Mayor's Office Photos by Isabel Leon

Mayor Michelle Wu joined the Boston Park Department on Monday, Nov. 29, for the return of a beloved holiday tradition – the city's annual tree-lighting in Copley Square.

The well-attended free event included appearances by Santa Claus, Frosty the Snowman, and Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer along with musical performances by vocalist Aceem Hill, the Boston Children's Chorus, the Boston Pops Esplanade Brass Ensemble, and Berklee College of Music's own Esperanza Delgado.

Additional support for the event was provided by AT&T Mobility and H.P. Hood, LLC. Light refreshments provided by H.P. Hood, LLC. Event production partners include Boston Properties, Encore Global, and Fairmont Copley Plaza.

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WEST END MUSEUM HONORS THREE INDIVIDUALS AT HERITAGE NIGHT

CREDIT: Courtesy of West End Museum

The West End Museum hosted its annual Heritage Night recently, honoring three people who made a deep and meaningful impact on the neighborhood over the decades. Learn more about The WEM at www.thewestendmuseum.org.



At The West End Museum Heritage Night, Jim Campano, Bob Campanell and Joe McDonald (left to right) reminisce about life in the old neighborhood and the long journey to establish The WEM.



State Rep. Jay Livingstone and City Councilor Kenzie Bok are honored at The West End Museum Heritage Night for their dedication to the neighborhood.



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Vikie Zerendow listens as The West End Museum honors her deceased husband, Donald Zerendow. She is standing with her two daughters, Alexis Hambrick and Jessie Younker, and Jim Campano.

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ON THE SENATE CAMPAIGN TRAIL

Wu, Bok, and Livingstone endorse Edwards

Special to The Times

Sometimes a single election can make a huge impact. On Tuesday, December 14th, there will be a special election for the State Senator who represents Beacon Hill. For someone who will take bold action on the interlocking regional issues of climate change, housing affordability, and transportation access, and for someone who will be the best partner to our Boston neighborhoods at the State House, we—Mayor Michelle Wu, Rep. Jay Livingstone, and Councilor Kenzie Bok—urge you to vote for Lydia Edwards.

Councilor Lydia Edwards represents East Boston, the North End, and Charlestown on the City Council, where she has been a remarkable colleague to Michelle and Kenzie. She has authored and led passage of a series of important pieces of legislation: reforming the Zoning Board of Appeals to make it more transparent, embedding the federal obligation to affirmatively further fair housing in our zoning code, expanding a property tax reduction for low-income homeowners, and most recently taking steps to divest the City of Boston from fossil fuel stocks. At Suffolk Downs in East Boston, she successfully fought for better environmental protections, higher labor standards, and more housing affordability. Mayor Wu has endorsed her because we urgently need her as a legislative partner at the State House.

But Lydia is also a fierce advocate for the day-to-day needs of

our residents. Every budget season, she comes to Kenzie with a long list of specific projects from all the corners of her district that need Public Works repairs, an additional trash can, or the consistent attention of a street-sweeper. Given the number of state roads and state parks like the Esplanade in our district, we need that kind of block-by-block care from our State Senator as well, to partner with Jay when we're asking state agencies to take action.

Local business leaders like Tom Kershaw have also credited Lydia for the speed and effectiveness with which she recently got a proposed Tourism Destination Marketing District passed through City Council, enabling the hotels in our area to band together and more effectively encourage tourism to downtown Boston. At the height of the pandemic, Lydia also launched the city pilot program called High Roads Kitchens to both bail out local restaurants and raise worker pay. She will be an advocate for local business and industry workers at the State House throughout this economic recovery.

Lydia is the only candidate in this race with the experience, thoughtfulness, and tenacity to get complex legislation through at the State House to tackle our most urgent issues.

When Jay met her a decade ago as opposing counsel, she impressed him with her effective advocacy for her client. She impressed even more with her advocacy leading the push for the Domestic Work-

ers Bill of Rights. Lydia and a coalition of domestic workers managed to get that bill introduced and passed in a single term—an impressive feat at the State House!

Lydia identified with the domestic workers because her mom, an Air Force veteran, also worked multiple jobs for low wages as a single mother of twin girls. Again and again throughout her career, Lydia has jumped into the fray on behalf of the most vulnerable—even learning any useful language along the way, from Portuguese to Spanish to American Sign Language. She has the heart, and the mind, and the determination that we need in our next State Senator.

As Beacon Hill's city and state representatives, we're proud to join with a large number of local residents supporting Lydia, like Naomi Aberly, John Achatz & Mary Farrell, Gretchen Bennett, Suzanne & John Besser, Bob Binney & Janet Veasey, Gordon Burnes & Suzie Tapson, Ania Camargo, Sharon Durkan, Muriel Finegold, Amos & Barbara Hostetter, Dan & Karen Cord Taylor, and many more. We all agree how important it is that Beacon Hill get out and vote in this election, whether by mail or at an early vote site or in-person on December 14. Early voting will be available at City Hall, the BCYF Quincy in Chinatown, and the Paris Street Community Center in East Boston on Saturday, December 4 from 11AM-7PM, on Tuesday December 7 from 12PM to 8PM, and on Thursday, December 9 from 12PM to 8PM. You



Kenzie Bok, Lydia Edwards, and Jay Livingstone at Beacon Hill's Garlands & Greens fundraiser last month.

can also vote early at City Hall during the week of December 5th through 10th.

Please join us in supporting Lydia Edwards for State Senate!

Mayor Michelle Wu endorsing Lydia Edwards for State Senate at Belle Isle Marsh, a fragile East Boston salt marsh in need of environmental protection.



The Lydia Edwards Team for State Senate had a great showing for its Beacon Hill canvass last weekend launched by Rep. Jay Livingstone and Rep. Tami Gouveia.

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WEST END MUSEUM HONOREES NIGHT

By Marianne Salza

The West End Museum (WEM) held its Third Annual Heritage Night on November 12 to recognize three individuals who have deeply impacted the neighborhood: State Representative Jay Livingstone, City Councilor Kenzie Bok, and the late, Donald Zerendow, a healthcare attorney.

Livingstone and Bok have been supporting the preservation of the West End neighborhood and its history as Mass General Hospital plans the demolition of several buildings; and have helped the museum acquire an endowment to hire staff members.

Born and raised in the West End, Zerendow, was an early founder of the museum, and advocated for the development of affordable housing for former West End residents who were displaced by Urban Renewal in the 1950s.

“We’ve worked hard to bridge the gap between the new and old West Enders by focusing on the positive history that we share. The board is diverse and representational,” said Duane Lucia, WEM President. “There is a lot of



Bill and Jessie Younker, daughter of honoree, Donald Zerendow.



Jane Wilson, WEM board member, Joseph McDonald, lifelong West End resident, and Representative Jay Livingstone.



Sebastian Belfanti, Museum Director, Councilor Kenzie Bok, and Jane Wilson, WEM board member.

work to do looking to the future. We have schools in the West End. There is also climate change and affordable housing.”

Attend the next WEM event, City on a Hill: Urban Idealism in America from the Puritans to the Present, with Harvard professor and author, Alex Krieger, on Thursday, November 18, 6:30pm, at 150 Staniford Street, Unit 7, Boston.



WEM board members: Bill Kuttner, Charlestown resident, and Chad Kindregan, West End resident



Councilor Kenzie Bok greeting WEM board member, Jane Wilson, with a hug.



Vickie Zerendow, wife of honoree, Donald Zerendow, with Jimmy Campano, WEM founder and past president.



Duane Lucia, WEM President, and Representative Jay Livingstone



Martha Maguire, of the West End Community Center.



Visitors exploring the West End Museum.

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BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE			
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Lin, Cheng-Pin	Capodilupo, John	188 Brookline Ave #24E	\$2,028,000
Ha, Seung K	Mcquaid, Adam	234 Causeway St #1210	\$1,005,000
Safizadeh, Pegah	Guy, Mary	496 Columbus Ave #3	\$847,000
Immobiliare Santa Costanz	Klein, Keith	31 Concord Sq #4	\$980,000
Niovi-Jones, Kristina	Bowler, Patrick J	17 Durham St #3	\$1,700,000
Robert H Rosen 2019 RET	Groos, Julia V	41 E Concord St #4	\$1,195,000
Tresvalles, Monette	Zhou, Jingyi	70 Fenway #33	\$582,500
Doherty, Mark J	Edasery, James P	700 Harrison Ave #401	\$750,000
Moreland, Clarence H	Margaret A Mcintosh LT	1 Primus Ave #1-8	\$1,420,000
Paterson, Larry	Mcnichol, Thomas J	59 Rutland St #3	\$1,900,000
Nelson, Elizabeth C	Healey, Joseph	168 W Brookline St #1	\$2,920,000
Crovella, Benjamin	Thorbeck, Jane	137 W Canton St	\$3,980,000
David R Selkovits RET	Jan C Hurwitz T	1313 Washington St #421	\$2,175,000
Gordon, Mark	Chan, Nancy	121-123 Beach St #702	\$1,350,000
Varyani, Natasha	Hillman, Heidi	151 Tremont St #12P	\$1,390,000
Habib, Ghofran	Serrenho, Ana C	170 Tremont St #401	\$540,000
Zhang, Zhiqiang	Zhu, Dabin	580 Washington St #1507	\$1,245,000
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Attention to Detail

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY PENNY CHERUBINO

THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The door panels in the last clue are on 20 Hancock Street built in 1806. In an article for the Society of Architectural Historians, Keith N. Morgan wrote, "Senator Charles Sumner, an abolitionist and champion of the rights of the freed slaves, lived here in an unfashionable section of Beacon Hill, not far from the Hill's black neighborhood."

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



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CITY PAWS

Veterinary professionals need your help

by Penny & Ed Cherubino

All of us who have animals owe an abundance of thanks to the professionals who help us keep our companions healthy and stand ready to serve us in times of need. These front-line emergency responders have had a challenging time during the pandemic. Not only should we thank everyone who helps care for our animals, but we should also do our part in making their jobs easier.

Emergency Services

To deal with Angell Animal Medical Center's Emergency Services demand, the organization decided to temporarily close their Angell West Emergency/Critical Care service in Waltham to all but inpatients. This allowed them to better staff the Boston location.

We have a nationwide crisis in animal emergency care. Dr. Mark Will, president of the New York State Veterinary Medical Society, told NPR's Morning Edition, "...the COVID-19 pandemic fueled a perfect storm of circumstances: A labor shortage, staff turnover, and temporary limits on non-essential care that created a backlog of appointments."

"Emergency medicine is probably hit the hardest," Will said. "He

blames that, in part, on the fact that emergency vets are expected to work nights, weekends, and holidays and it's become harder to find people who want to do that."

As a result, Angell's Boston facility has had to divert emergency patients to other hospitals from time to time. They've asked that you call before arriving at the ER. They've set up a page on the MSPCA website with alternative Veterinary Emergency resources. We suggest you figure out where these options are located and think about how you would get to another facility if you had to do that.

Primary Routine Care

Most veterinary clinics are happy to provide routine care under conditions that feel safe for the animal's guardians. We waited in a Zipcar and communicated by phone with the Angell Animal Medical Center team last June. Many veterinarians will still allow you the choice of remote or masked-in-person care.

With the number of animals added to families during the past twenty months, everyone who provides services for animals is extraordinarily busy. Given that, it is far better for you to choose a team as your primary care group

and schedule routine care as recommended for your animal.

Consider using an in-home visit veterinary service for some of your needs. These are especially good for animals who dislike going to the veterinarian's office. Under the current circumstances, we like having more than one option for our Poppy's health care.

Doing Your Part

It's easy to put off routine care and minor issues. However, consider how much more time it could take to let something go rather than a call to ask for advice or schedule an appointment to have your vet take a look.

Postponing care can turn a minor concern into a significant issue for your pet. It will also take more of your time and money to resolve and put a more significant strain on your overworked veterinary team. Sometimes an itchy ear just needs to be cleaned by a vet tech. A full-blown ear infection may require weeks of medications and a few follow-up visits.

Finally, you should try to be a great partner with your team of professionals. Give them the information they need, follow the instructions they give you, and be patient with them and grateful for the vital work they do in these



Please thank those who help care for our animals and do your part to make their jobs easier.

stressful times.

Do you have a question or topic for City Paws? Send an email to

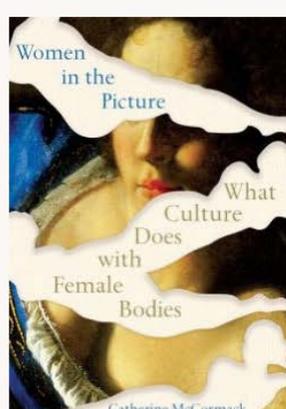
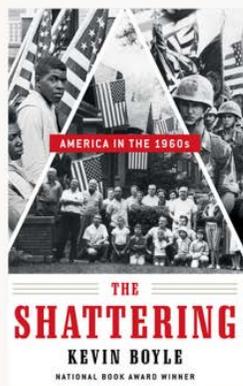
Penny@BostonZest.com with your request.

COMMON TREE LIGHTING ON THURSDAY

Mayor Michelle Wu, the Boston Parks and Recreation Department, and title sponsor Province of Nova Scotia will host the 80th Annual Boston Common Tree Lighting on Thursday, December 2, with a holiday celebration beginning at 6 p.m. Grammy

Award winner Darlene Love headlines the event.

This is the 50th year that Nova Scotia has given a Christmas tree to the people of Boston as thanks for relief efforts following the December 6, 1917, explosion of a munitions ship in Halifax Harbor.



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