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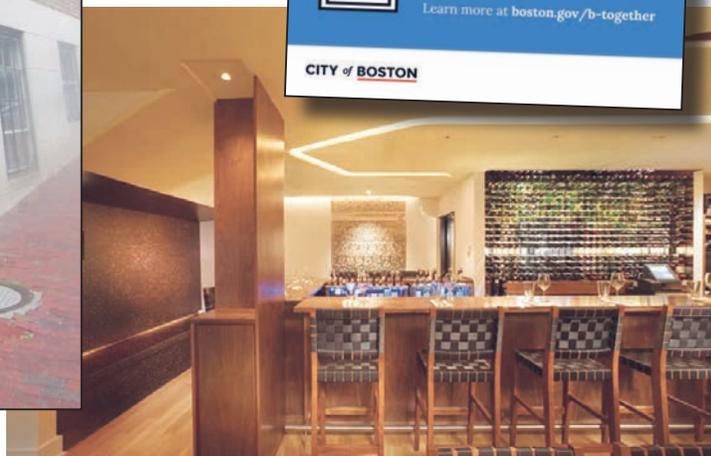
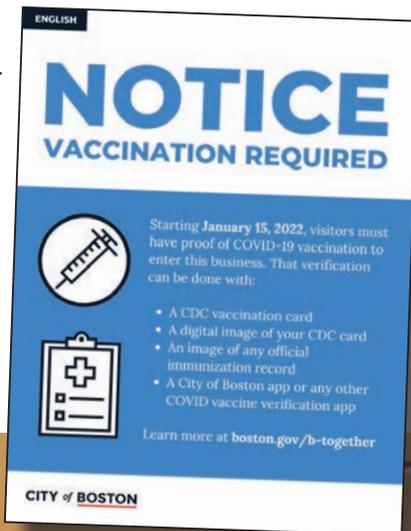
T H E R E A R E N O T I M E S L I K E T H E S E T I M E S



D. MURPHY

1928 Beacon Hill at 97 Mount Vernon St.

The city's poster informing the public of its new B Together vaccine mandate for indoor dining, fitness, and entertainment venues.



COURTESY OF BINA FAMILY HOSPITALITY

A look inside Bin 26 Enoteca at 26 Charles St.

Promoting equality

Ahead of 'The Embrace,' project partners discuss how to create new, inclusive destinations on the Common

By Dan Murphy

In anticipation of the arrival of "The Embrace" - the 22-foot bronze memorial to Martin Luther King Jr. and Coretta Scott King - on the Boston Common next Martin Luther King Jr. King Day, the leaders of two organizations partnering on the project met up for a virtual conversation to discuss how creating new destinations like this can help promote equity and inclusivity in the park.

"We wanted to create more destinations on the Boston Common," said Liz Vizza, president of the nonprofit Friends of the Public Garden, which in partnership with the Boston Parks and Recreation Department, cares for and maintains the Common, as well as the Public Garden and the Common-

wealth Avenue Mall. "We did it about a dozen years ago with the Brewer Fountain, and it really has become a popular outdoor living room."

Likewise, Vizza said during the first online "Conversations with Friends," she expects the 1965 Freedom Plaza, which will be home to "The Embrace," will also be an "incredible draw and destination for a whole new population of people that don't come to the Common so we're very excited about that."

Imari Paris Jeffries, executive director of King Boston, the nonprofit that has been working closely with the city and the Friends on "The Embrace" since the project's inception in 2017, said in addition

(THE EMBRACE Pg. 5)

Neighborhood restauranteurs react to city's new B Together vaccination mandate

By Dan Murphy

While some other Boston restaurateurs might consider Mayor Michelle Wu's new B Together mandate requiring proof of COVID-19 vaccination to enter certain indoor spaces citywide, including restaurants, to be an unnecessary inconvenience for customers and themselves, Babak Bina sees it as no more of a hassle than carding patrons who order alcoholic beverages at his estab-

lishments.

"It's nothing more than the city and state's mandate that we have to check someone's license if we suspect they're underage," said Bina, who, along with his sister, Azita Bina-Seibel, owns and operates Bin 26 Enoteca on Charles Street, as well as jm Curley and its steakhouse, Bogie's Place, in Downtown Crossing. "I don't think there's much of a difference in our view."

For their part, customers at

Bina's restaurant have also been respectful and understanding when it comes to the city's new mandate.

"We've had no issues at either location," said Bina. "People have not been resistant. They understand it is what it is, and that we are obviously just trying to comply with the city mandate."

As of Saturday, Jan. 15, patrons and staff must provide proof they have received at least one dose of

(VACCINE Pg. 6)



COURTESY OF THE FRIENDS OF THE PUBLIC GARDEN

Imari Paris Jeffries, executive director of King Boston, sat down with Liz Vizza, president of the Friends of the Public Garden, for the first virtual "Conversations with Friends."

Exploring the roots of the Boston Massacre

By Suzanne Besser

Matthew Wilding of Boston's Revolutionary Spaces will lead a virtual tour exploring the complicated history of the Boston Massacre at a program sponsored by the Beacon Hill Village on Monday, January 24, 2022.

Entitled Massacre & Memory, the tour includes visual 'stops' at familiar historic sites in the surprisingly small geography of colonial Boston and its central civic build-

ings, such as the Old State House, the Old South Meeting House, and Faneuil Hall. Wilding will look into the conversations and discourse that took place within the small community to uncover the roots of the conflict that escalated into a deadly riot leaving five people dead and a city changed.

Wilding is director of Visitor Experience & Content Development at Revolutionary Spaces, a nonprofit that connects people to the history and continuing practice

of democracy through the interwoven stories of Boston's Old State House and the Old South Meeting House. In this position, he oversees the development and implementation of educational and general visitor experiences for audiences of all ages.

Prior to arriving at Revolutionary Spaces, he served as director of the Visitor Experience & Program Development at the Edward Ken-

(EXPLORING Pg. 3)

The Beacon Hill Times

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EDITORIAL

MAYOR MICHELLE WU: GRACE UNDER PRESSURE

The job of mayor of a large American city never has been easy, but these days the challenges facing our public officials who lead our major metropolitan areas are greater than ever.

The COVID-19 pandemic has created a confluence of difficult circumstances, ranging from an epidemic of drug overdose deaths, a housing shortage that is exacerbating homelessness, exponentially-increasing firearm murder rates, school closures, public transportation issues, and unprecedented small business failures.

In addition, the political rancor that exists at the national level has spilled over to the local level in an unprecedented manner. The axiom that all politics is local, as the great Tip O'Neill famously said, no longer is true -- the political demagoguery that has poisoned our politics in Washington now has spread to every corner of the country.

Michelle Wu, the new mayor of Boston, is now at the center of a firestorm regarding her order to require Boston's city employees to get a COVID-19 vaccine. According to the Boston Globe, there is a small minority of those who oppose her order who are protesting loudly outside her house, disturbing her neighborhood, and some who are hurling racially-charged comments and threats toward Mayor Wu and her family.

So we wish to take this opportunity to express our support for the mayor and for her order requiring vaccinations for city employees. Unfortunately, she is taking on the burden of dealing with the small but vocal mob alone -- and we are grateful that she is showing the courage to do what is right for the city and its residents.

SOMETHING ELSE TO WORRY ABOUT

We were driving on the Expressway the other day and we heard on the radio that the Florida orange crop will be at its lowest output since the 1940s. "What? The 1940s!?" we thought to ourselves.

The point of the news report was that orange juice prices will be higher this coming winter because of the low crop output. But what the report didn't explain was why the crop will be so low.

We assumed that there must have been a frost or some other weather-related event, or perhaps there was a supply chain or labor shortage issue, as the cause for the shortfall.

But when we looked into it, we discovered that the Florida orange crop has been declining steadily for the past 20 years or so.

And the reason for the decline is something far more insidious than the weather or COVID. According to Inside Climate News, a respected environmental news web-site, the culprit is an invasive insect: "The Asian citrus psyllid fills its stomach by feeding on the leaves and stems of citrus trees. The tiny brown insects infect the trees with bacteria that cause citrus greening, a disease that makes the fruits inedible. Natives to Asia, the citrus psyllids were first found in the United States in Florida in 1998."

Invasive species have been causing all kinds of damage in our country and around the world for many years. The zebra mussel (which came from Russia) and the Asian carp have wreaked costly damage in the past few decades. However, their impact is largely unseen by the American public.

But the Asian citrus psyllid's damage strikes home for all of us. Oranges and other citrus fruits are a staple food item in every American household.

So now, amidst our winter of discontent, there is one more thing to add to the list -- the Asian citrus psyllid.

Beacon Hill, surrounding area's weekly COVID positive test rate slows a bit

By John Lynds

The COVID 19 winter surge may be slowing down a bit in Beacon Hill and the surrounding area. With over 2 out of every 10 residents tested for the virus last week still turning out to be positive, the weekly positive test rate here did not increase dramatically last week and the citywide test rate declined for the first time in weeks. Deaths from the virus, which were rising at an alarming rate, have decreased dramatically last week.

According to the weekly report released Monday by the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC), 3,511 Beacon Hill, North End, Back Bay, West End and Downtown residents were tested and 23.8 percent were positive.

This was only an 8 percent increase from the 22 percent that tested positive between January 3 and January 10. The weekly positive test rate spiked 46 percent two weeks ago and is up 58 percent in the area overall since January 3.

Eight hundred thirty six additional residents have been infected with the virus between January 3 and January 10 and the total number of cases in the area increased to 7,255 cases overall since the pandemic began.

The citywide weekly positive test rate also decreased last week. According to the BPHC 47,102 residents were tested and 31.6 percent were COVID positive--this was a 1 percent decrease from the 31.9 percent that reportedly tested positive for the week ending on

January 10. The weekly positive test rate has increased 74 percent in Boston since January 3.

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 6 percent last week and went from 133,501 cases to 141,491 confirmed cases in a week. There were 19 additional deaths in Boston from the virus in the past week and the total COVID deaths is now at 1,554. Deaths, which were up 257 percent two weeks ago, decreased 24 percent last week.

The Massachusetts Gaming Commission releases December 2021 Gross Gaming Revenue

The Massachusetts Gaming Commission reported today that the month of December 2021 at Plainridge Park Casino (PPC), MGM Springfield and Encore Boston Harbor generated approximately \$96 million in Gross Gaming Revenue (GGR).

PPC, a category 2 slots facility, is taxed on 49% of GGR. Of that total taxed amount, 82% is paid to Local Aid and 18% is allotted to the Race Horse Development Fund. MGM Springfield and Encore Boston Harbor, category 1 resort-casinos, are taxed on 25% of GGR; those monies are allocated to several specific state funds as determined by the gaming statute.

To date, the Commonwealth has collected approximately \$971 million in total taxes and assessments from PPC, MGM and Encore since the respective openings of each gaming facility.

View comprehensive revenue reports for each gaming licensee here. MGC issues monthly revenue reports on the 15th of each month or next business day.

DECEMBER 2021		GROSS GAMING REVENUE		TAXES
MGM SPRINGFIELD SUBJECT TO 25% TAXES	TABLE	\$5,533,835.05		
	SLOTS	\$16,666,986.72		
	TOTAL	\$22,200,821.77		\$5,550,205.44
ENCORE BOSTON HARBOR SUBJECT TO 25% TAXES	TABLE	\$30,624,241.04		
	SLOTS	\$31,794,238.74		
	TOTAL	\$62,418,479.78		\$15,604,619.95
PLAINRIDGE PARK CASINO SUBJECT TO 49% TAXES	SLOTS	\$11,048,794.64		
	TOTAL	\$11,048,794.64		\$5,413,909.37
	TOTAL TAXES			\$26,568,734.76

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Senator-elect Lydia Edwards to be sworn in as senator Thursday

By John Lynds

First Suffolk & Middlesex Senator-elect Lydia Edwards will be sworn into the state senate Thursday during a ceremony at the State House.

To mark the occasion Edwards and her team are hosting a watch party at Democracy Brewing, located at 35 Temple Pl, Boston on Thursday, January 20.

Due to COVID protocols the in-person swearing in at the State House will have extremely limited attendance but Edwards supporters can attend the watch party at Democracy Brewing or live stream the swearing in on Facebook at <https://facebook.com/events/s/senator-edwards-inauguration-w/941179203428206/>.

The swearing in ceremony will

be at noon Thursday with doors opening at Democracy Brewing at 11:30 am.

“I couldn’t be more excited to get to work, and luckily, I will be getting started soon,” said Edwards. “On Thursday I will be sworn in as a State Senator at the State House. I couldn’t have done this without you, so let’s celebrate this momentous day together. We will be live-streaming the inauguration and having a watch party to celebrate. I will arrive at Democracy Brewing after the inauguration and join the festivities.”

To RSVP to the watch party email Emma@LydiaEdwards.org.

Edwards also announced this week she’s seeking residents to advise her on constituent and public policy issues impacting the Sen-

ate district as part of her Community Transition Committee.

Residents can apply for the committee by emailing info@lydiaedwards.org. Residents in the district are asked to send their name, city, and the topics they are interested in discussing with Edwards and she will respond with a series of dates and times to discuss each topic.

Edwards said the transition committee will meet with her to discuss specific topics. The committee will cover issues including housing, transportation, addiction and recovery, Massport, seniors, education/youth services, public safety, and environmental justice. The meetings will be organized by topic and will meet regularly during 2022, providing residents

opportunity for input on budgetary and legislative matters as the state continues to respond to the pandemic.

“The wisdom and lived experience of district residents is invaluable and key to our communities’ success,” said Edwards. “Some of the best policies I have ever worked on came from everyday people such as the Domestic Worker Bill of Rights, benefits from Suffolk Downs and the charter amendment for Boston. I believe so much of my job is amplifying the good hard work and ideas of the people I serve.”

Edwards was officially elected to the Senate on Tuesday, January 11 during the state General Election. Edwards previously edged out Revere School Committee

member Anthony D’Ambrosio during the December 14 state Democratic Primary to fill the seat left vacant in the fall by Joe Boncore.

Edwards will represent Wards and Precincts in Beacon Hill, Bay Village, Chinatown, Eastie, the North End, the South End, Revere Winthrop, and Cambridgeport.

In 2017, Edwards won the election to the Boston City Council. As a councilor, she wrote and advanced legislation to protect low-income renters and elder homeowners, combat discrimination, divest from fossil fuels, and protect civil liberties. She also partnered with state leaders to introduce legislation and passed a new state law prohibiting the naming of minors in eviction proceedings.

FEMA awards more than \$14.6 million to Massachusetts for covid ppe expenses

The Federal Emergency Management Agency will be granting more than \$14.6 million to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to reimburse the costs of purchasing personal protective equipment (PPE) for use during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 and 2021.

The \$14,659,688 in Public Assistance grants will go to the Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) to reimburse it for purchasing nitrile gloves, hand sanitizer, alcohol wipes, N95 disposable respirators, disposable face masks, non-surgical isolation gowns, medical goggles and hand sanitizing wipes for healthcare workers, patients with confirmed or sus-

pected COVID-19 infection, and first responders.

In total, EOHHS received and managed the distribution of emergency materials and equipment on behalf of over 250 state agencies, group homes, congregate facilities, and essential healthcare facilities, including hospitals and nursing homes.

“FEMA is pleased to be able to assist Massachusetts with these costs,” said FEMA Region I Acting Regional Administrator Paul Ford. “Providing resources for our partners on the front lines of the pandemic fight is critical to their success, and our success as a nation.”

FEMA’s Public Assistance pro-

gram is an essential source of funding for states and communities recovering from a federally declared disaster or emergency.

So far, FEMA has provided almost \$835 million in Public Assistance grants to Massachusetts to reimburse the commonwealth for pandemic-related expenses.

Additional information about FEMA’s Public Assistance program is available at <https://www.fema.gov/publicassistance-local-state-tribal-and-non-profit>. To learn more about the COVID-19 response in Massachusetts, please visit <https://www.fema.gov/disaster/4496>.

EXPLORING (from pg. 1)

nedy Institute for the US Senate. He studied history at Suffolk University and UMass-Boston and has also held director-level positions at the Freedom Trail Foundation, Cambridge Historical Tours, and Peabody Essex Museum.

This virtual program, which begins at 5:30 pm, is presented with support from Cambridge Trust as part of Beacon Hill Village’s ‘Conversations With...’ series. Registration is required online in advance at beaconhillvillage.org or by

calling Beacon Hill Village at 617-723-9713. Registrants will receive a Zoom invitation in advance of the program, which is free and open to the public.

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Esplanade Association's Frost Fit winter fitness series set to return to the park on Jan. 30

By Dan Murphy

The Esplanade Association's Frost Fit winter fitness series, presented by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts, returns on Sunday, Jan. 30, to the Esplanade.

Frost Fit Kickoff with REI Co-op and Lynx Fitness Club takes place from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the DCR Hatch Shell, and from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., the REI Co-op will be stationed in the park between the Hatch Memorial Shell and Esplanade Playspace, where, in honor of National Hot Chocolate, free hot chocolate will be offered to the first 200 visitors.

Those in attendance will be able to pick up a printed version of the EA's Esplanade Winter Activity Guide, and after completing at least four items from the guide's checklist by March 6, they can redeem an REI mug and hot chocolate from March 3 to 7 at REI's

Cambridge store. The online Winter Activity Guide will also go live Jan. 30 on the EA website at esplanade.org.

"The Activity Guide is an option we're trying out this year for the first time with family friendly activities that can also be done as self-guided options, including snow-person building, bicycling, and many others," said Samuel Englert, the Esplanade Association's programs and partnerships manager.

At 10 a.m. on Jan. 30, Lynx Fitness Club will make their 2022 Frost Fit debut at 10 a.m. at the Hatch Shell, where a Lynx Fitness Club instructor will lead class attendees through a 45-minute, high-intensity interval training class incorporating bodyweight strength training and cardio bursts set to fun and upbeat music.

Other Lynx Fitness Club Winter Workouts will also place in the

park at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 5, 12, and 26, and on March 10. (There are no Frost Fit classes or activities scheduled over Presidents Day Weekend.)

Register for Lynx's Workout Class at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/frost-fit-presented-by-bcb-sma-lynx-fitness-club-winter-workouts-tickets-237800265997>.

Another ongoing Frost Fit activity, November Project Winter Workouts, take place on Mondays, Feb. 7, 14, and 28, and March 7 at 6:30 a.m. at the Arthur Fiedler Memorial. These 45-minute workouts, which will include a combination of body-weight strength exercises and cardio activity, are interactive and open to individuals from all fitness levels and backgrounds. Register for November Project Winter Workouts at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/frost-fit-presented-by-bcb-sma-november-project-winter-workouts-tickets-239424805037>.

outs-tickets-239424805037.

Additionally, the 261 Fearless Winter Walks are scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 1 at 10 a.m. and Tuesday March 1, at 4 p.m. at the DCR Hatch Memorial Shell. Certified coaches from 261 – a global nonprofit that promotes the empowerment of women via running – will lead these 45-minute walks, which will include various speeds of walking to elevate the heart rate for optimal fitness. Both walks are open to all women-identifying individuals. Register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/frost-fit-presented-by-bcb-sma-261-fearless-winter-walks-tickets-239478535747>.

The Frost Fit series will also include Winter Walks on the Esplanade on Tuesdays, Feb. 8 at 11 a.m., and on Feb. 15 and 22 at 1p.m., with meeting locations to vary by week. For these three free, guided winter walks

along the Esplanade, EA staff will join participants, who are welcome to go different distances at their own pace and on their own time. These walks are open to people of all ages and abilities. Register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/frost-fit-presented-by-bcb-sma-esplanade-winter-walks-tickets-239539638507>.

"We're really excited to be partnering again with support from Blue Cross Blue Shield, who have been instrumental in our continued success of the Frost Fit programs over the years," said Englert. "Their partnership and support have allowed us to continue offering fitness programs during the winter months, and to give park visitors something to look forward to."

Visit <https://esplanade.org/fitness/> at the Esplanade Association's website for addition information on Frost Fit.

DA Kevin Hayden fills out executive team

District Attorney Kevin R. Hayden has announced the appointment of two seasoned attorneys and dedicated public servants to his executive team. Padraic P. Lydon will be Hayden's Chief of Staff and Erika P. Reis will be General Counsel for the Office.

"A commitment to public service is central to this Office and Padraic Lydon and Erika Reis each hold that same commitment. I'm grateful to have them join the incredible team and talented group of professionals that is already in place. Together, we are working to build safer communities and a more equitable criminal legal system," DA Hayden said. "Transitions are always a challenge, but these challenges have not disrupted the important work of this office. We continue to provide trauma-informed services to those impacted by crime, to engage with the community and to ensure that those who inflict harm through criminal acts are held accountable."

Lydon and Reis are both residents of Suffolk County.

Lydon served as an assistant district attorney in the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office from 1996 to 1999, with assignments in the Central Division of the Boston Municipal Court, supervising attorney of the East Boston Division of the Boston Municipal Court and in the Office's Juvenile Unit. He went on

to serve as senior legal analyst for Avista Energy Corporation and as a litigation attorney at the firm Branca, Powell & Joyce, P.C. He has worked for the City of Boston Retirement Board since 2012, first as Operations Officer before being named General Counsel in 2014.

Reis began her career as an assistant district attorney in the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office from 2007 to 2011. She went on to serve as deputy general counsel for the Massachusetts Office of the Inspector General before joining the City of Boston's Law Department as assistant corporation counsel in 2012. She briefly left the position to serve as in-house counsel for Eversource Energy before returning to public service as the City of Boston Law Department's senior assistant corporation counsel – a position she has held since 2017. She has been an active volunteer throughout her career, serving as a domestic violence advocate for SafeLink since 2008.

"One week ago, I had the honor of being appointed as the top law enforcement official in Suffolk County, allowing me to return home to the office where I launched my career. Today, I am excited that two exceptional attorneys will also be coming home to this office. Both possess a depth of leadership experience, legal acumen and a desire to serve our

communities. They join a team of more than 260 exceptional attorneys, victim witness advocates, civilian investigators and support staff dedicated to the safety and wellbeing of the communities we serve," DA Hayden said.

In announcing the appointments to employees, DA Hayden extended his deep appreciation to General Counsel Donna Patalano and Chief of Staff Amanda Teo, who will remain with the office through January 28th to ensure a smooth transition. Both previously served as assistant district attorneys in SCDAO's Appeals Unit and have dedicated their careers to public service. They decided to pursue other opportunities rather than stay with the Office in different capacities.

DA Hayden earlier this week named attorney Kevin R. Mullen as his First Assistant DA, a position that was vacant when he was appointed.

"In bringing together this exceptional leadership team, I hope to show the Suffolk County community that there will be no disruption in the services available through the office I lead. We will continue to provide the highest level of service to those impacted by crime and trauma, to work with our partners in law enforcement and the community and to create a more equitable criminal legal system," DA Hayden said.

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BLACK INK CLOSES ON CHARLES STREET



D. MURPHY

A fixture at 101 Charles St. since 1994, Black Ink closed at the end of '21, but the business is still alive and well online at www.blackinkboston.com.

THE EMBRACE (from pg. 1)

to the Dr. and Mrs. King, 65 other yet-to-be-identified Greater Bostonian individuals or organization active in the civil rights movement between 1950 and 1970, either living or deceased, would be honored by perhaps having their names emblazoned on or around the plaza grounds.

“We want to put as much into this space to make it feel special,” said Paris Jeffries, who added they also don’t want to transform the Common into a “sculpture garden.”

The imagery of “The Embrace” by artist Hank Willis Thomas and MASS Design Group, which depicts several clasped arms, is particularly poignant amid the pandemic, said Paris Jeffries, at a time when people couldn’t physically be with or hug their loved ones.

For Vizza, “The Embrace” is a roadmap for how to connect the Common with Nubian Square in Roxbury at a time when both the Friends group and the park are struggling to reflect Boston’s diversity, as well as an expression of the new partnerships being forged between organizations citywide, as is the case with the Friends and King Boston.

But Paris Jeffries said he believes “The Embrace” is part of a larger dialogue on whether existing memorials accurately reflect the mores of contemporary society, or whether they instead belong in a museum or somewhere else “not in the public sphere.”

To illustrate his point, Paris Jeffries pointed out that Abraham Lincoln has more monuments dedicated to him than anyone else

in the country, but there are more monuments to Robert E. Lee in the U.S. than there are to Harriet Tubman.

“It’s the idea of acknowledging and lifting up other folks in this country to tell story of our city and really our nation and redefining what monuments and memorials mean for public spaces,” he said. “We can do the good and we can create the spaces, but we also need to tell a message that resonates outside the city. People come here to get their idea of America reinforced through the Freedom Trail and the sites they can see in the park. We need to do another job reinforcing their experience around equity.”

One voice Vizza would like to see better represented on the Common are Native Americans, since the park was originally owned by the Massachusetts tribe before it was taken away from them by settlers.

“The Boston Common has an enormous amount of artifacts from the Native Americans who lived on the land so what can we do to honor and bring people’s awareness to their history,” Vizza told this reporter.

Paris Jeffries said their “charge” for the next decade leading up to the 400th anniversary of the founding of Boston in 2030 should be “to tell story of a different America – a real story with a bright future.”

With this in mind, Vizza said the Friends is now in the process of helping to convene, a new “Monument and Memory Task Force,” which would include myriad voices, including the city’s,

to “find ways we can lift up the untold stories using a variety of innovative approaches.”

Vizza told this reporter, “First, we need to critically examine the monuments in the park, then choose a couple of key examples and have the Task Force look at their impact on the community, and look at this through a broader perspective than we would have two or three years ago.”

Vizza said “a lot of creative work has been done to bring awareness this issue in other cities,” including Chicago, Philadelphia, and Cambridge – all places that have convened groups to look at the role of monuments in their respective public squares.

“It’s not only about what we have in the parks; it’s about which voices are heard and which are not,” said Vizza.

The Common also “shows the things not working in society,” said Vizza, as a place frequented by people struggling with homelessness and addiction. “These places belong to them as well,” she said.

The Master Plan for the Common, which the Boston Parks and Recreation Department is now developing in collaboration with the Friends and design consultants, Weston & Sampson, aims to ensure that “The Embrace” and the surrounding plaza are “integrated with the rest of the park in terms of topography and paths,” said Vizza.

One new amenity proposed for the park in the Master Plan are basketball courts.

“It will be a powerful opportunity, a powerful magnet, to say

that kids from other parts of the city who play basketball are welcome in the park,” Vizza told this reporter.

Meanwhile, “What Do We Have in Common?” – last fall’s temporary art installation to mark the Friends of the Public Garden’s 50th anniversary – was well received by visitors to the Common and opened up new possibilities for the park.

Vizza believes the exhibit was so powerful because as opposed

to permanent public art, which loses its impact as people see it and grow accustomed to seeing it over time, temporary art can be more impactful due to its unfamiliarity.

“We learned that temporary art can be a vehicle for sparking, dialogue, curiosity, and enhanced awareness,” said Vizza.

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VACCINE (from pg. 1)

the COVID-19 vaccine to enter restaurants, as well as fitness and entrainment venues, throughout the city. Subsequent phases of the B Together mandate include: a requirement for people ages 12 and up must show proof of full vaccination (two doses for the Moderna and Pfizer vaccines) by Tuesday, Feb. 15; a requirement for children ages 5-11 to show proof of one dose of vaccination by Tuesday, March 1; and a requirement for children ages 5-11 to show proof of both doses of vaccination by Sunday, May 1. For proof of vaccination, individuals can either provide a CDC vaccination card; a digital image of their CDC card; an image of any official immunization record; or the city's B Together app or any other COVID vaccine verification app.

Like Bina, Kristin Jenkins, owner 1928 Beacon Hill, the recently opened restaurant and bar

at 97 Mount Vernon St., said the B Together roll-out has gone without a hitch so far for them as well.

"It's been very smooth for us so far, thankfully," Jenkins wrote in email. "We check at the door. Everyone has been willing, prepared and happy to show proof of vaccination. We have not had any issues."

Jenkins added all employees at 1928 Beacon Hill have been fully vaccinated, and that the restaurant will "continue to take all safety measures moving forward."

Likewise, City Councilor Kenzie Bok was impressed by how smoothly things were going on Saturday night when she stopped by 1928 Beacon Hill, as well as Antonio's Cucina Italiano at 288 Cambridge St.

"This weekend I went out to two Beacon Hill restaurants, Antonio's and 1928," wrote Councilor Bok.

"Both checked vaccination cards quickly and efficiently. It didn't disrupt the dining experience, and as we ate just a stone's throw from Mass General Hospital, it felt like a small step we could take collectively to make sure that there are enough hospital beds for everyone who needs one."

For Steven Colarusso, owner of Antonio's, however, the city's new mandate comes at a time when his restaurant is already fighting to survive.

"It's been our two worst weeks in 27 years," he said Tuesday morning. "I've never seen anything like it."

Colarusso added, "Everything was good until the end of November, but even December was off, and the last two weeks have been brutal. No one's doing business. It's going to be crazy this winter if cases keep up like this."

In the past two weeks, Antonio's has had some days where staff outnumbered customers.

"And when you have more staff



COURTESY OF ANTONIO'S CUCINA ITALIANO

Antonio's Cucina Italiano at 288 Cambridge St.

than customers how are you going to survive?" asked Colarusso. "I feel bad for the staff, but we're working with less people now so hopefully they can make a couple of bucks."

While Colarusso said it's still too early to tell how much of an impact the B Together mandate would have on his business, especially since Monday was a holiday, he expressed concern that diners would seek other less-restrictive options outside the city.

"It was dead before this happened," Colarusso said of the city's new mandate. "This is just going to cause us to lose a little more business, and if other towns aren't [requiring proof of vaccination to enter their restaurants], people will just eat there."

Colarusso also views B Together

er as something of a step backwards from the mandates imposed on restaurants at the beginning of the pandemic.

During the earlier protocol for restaurants amid the virus, customers had their temperatures taken upon arrival, and their tables were then spaced at least six feet apart when dining. But Colarusso said, "Now, we can't even let them in without a card."

But despite recent setbacks, Colarusso is still holding out hope that most of his would-be patrons are now staying away from Antonio's as they're recovering from having the virus.

"I think everyone's out sick, and it's just taking them a couple of weeks to recuperate, but we'll know soon enough," he said.



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BPDA approves 12-story life science for east parcel of Government Center Garage site

By Dan Murphy

The Boston Planning & Development Agency board gave its unanimous approval on Thursday, Jan. 13, to a revised plan for the Government Center Garage redevelopment project to build a 12-story life science building, instead of the previously proposed three buildings, on the site's east parcel.

HYM Investment Group, the lead developer on the Bulfinch Crossing project, abandoned its plans to build three buildings containing hotel, office and retail uses, which were previously approved by the BPDA, said O'Brien, opting instead for a life-sciences building.

Thomas O'Brien, managing director of HYM Investment Group, said during a virtual meeting sponsored by the BPDA on Sept. 23 of last year, the change

came in response to the MBTA's stipulation that nothing be built over the tunnel, which serves the Orange and Green lines and runs directly beneath the site.

The new building would be pulled back to the western portion of the project site, said O'Brien, to create a spacious public plaza linking to the abutting the Rose F. Kennedy Greenway, as well as to provide new connections to North Station and Congress Street. Besides the new public plaza, the site would also be home to a new MBTA bus station, which would serve the 111 bus route – the T's most heavily traveled bus route and one that connects Revere, Everett, Chelsea, and Charlestown to Haymarket.

"There's a lot going on in this parcel," O'Brien said last September in describing a place where he



COURTESY OF THE HYM INVESTMENT GROUP.

A rendering of the 12-story life science building planned for the east parcel of the Bulfinch Crossing project.

envisioned people rushing to get buses and trains, residents making their way home to the West End and the North End, and shoppers attracted to the area by new retail. "We want the parcel to be an important meeting place for people," he added.

In response to the BPDA's approval of the developer's latest plan, Rob Whitney, chair of the Beacon Hill Civic Association board, wrote, "The Beacon Hill

Civic Association previously provided substantive comments on the proposed design of the new building at the East Parcel Bulfinch Crossing of the Government Center site, and we were pleased to see that some of our suggested changes were incorporated into the final design of the building that was recently approved by the BPDA Board. We look forward to continuing to work with the building's developers, as well as with other

interested neighborhood groups, including the West End Civic Association, as construction of the new building moves forward to ensure that any ongoing concerns of the neighborhoods are addressed."

Besides the proposed life science building, the Bulfinch Crossing project also comprises two already completed buildings - One Congress, a 43-story office tower; and The Sudbury, a 45-story residential tower.

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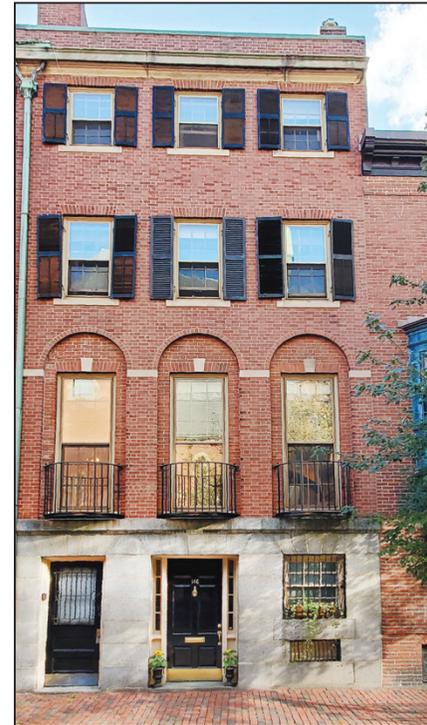
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Baker-Polito administration files \$5 billion general government bond bill

The Baker-Polito Administration filed legislation seeking \$4.991 billion in capital funds to support core improvements that will enable the Commonwealth to continue delivering critical state services to the people of Massachusetts.

The proposal, titled An Act Financing the General Governmental Infrastructure of the Commonwealth, includes \$4.15 billion to maintain, repair, and modernize assets that serve those most in need across the Commonwealth, help educate the future workforce, deliver on key environmental objectives, and keep the Commonwealth's communities and workers safe. It also includes \$841 million to continue existing, successful grant programs that support Massachusetts communities, to

improve cybersecurity and other technology infrastructure, and to acquire critical public safety equipment.

"This bill supports essential capital investments that will deliver long-lasting benefits to Massachusetts residents for years to come, with a focus on safety, resiliency and opportunity," said Governor Charlie Baker. "We look forward to working with our colleagues in the Legislature to make these important investments, which will pave the way for the continued efficient delivery of government services and economic growth."

"The proposed investments in this bill continue our Administration's work to improve a wide range of critical infrastructure and foster growth and development across Massachusetts," said Lieu-

tenant Governor Karyn Polito. "These funds will ensure the continuity of proven programs and enable impactful future economic, health and safety initiatives that will benefit the Commonwealth's communities, businesses and residents."

The bill filed today makes authorization available through Fiscal Year 2028 that would support \$2.4 billion in existing maintenance and resiliency projects through the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM). DCAMM maintains nearly 1,700 major buildings covering 60.8 million gross square feet of property across the Commonwealth, including higher education buildings, health and human services facilities, public safety facilities, and trial courts. It also leads decarbonization and resiliency efforts in accordance with Executive Order 594, Leading by Example: Decarbonizing and Minimizing Environmental Impacts of State Government, which was issued by Governor Baker in April of 2021 and directs efforts to reduce gas emissions in Massachusetts facilities. The bond bill proposes \$400 million in energy efficiency initiatives at facilities statewide.

An additional \$1.8 million in DCAMM authorization is proposed to meet new facilities' needs and mitigate future risks. This includes an increased focus on incorporating lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic related to the physical space and layout of facilities.

The bill also proposes \$185 million in authorization for the Executive Office of Technology Services and Services (EOTSS) to support a variety of cybersecurity, IT infrastructure, and application modernizations initiatives. This includes projects that would modernize the Unemployment Insurance (UI) Online system and build out an integrated eligibility and enrollment system to streamline the benefits application process across multiple state agencies. \$50 million is proposed to improve virtual and physical security infrastructure at the Trial Courts facilities, including intrusion detection and video monitoring. Further public safety investments include \$60 million for equipment for fire services, corrections, and communications towers, and \$100 million for the replacement of approximately 300 Massachusetts State

Police vehicles per year, half of which will be hybrid vehicles.

"This \$5 billion bond bill reflects the Baker-Polito Administration's dual commitment to supporting the Commonwealth's assets and making sustainable, fiscally responsible capital investments," said Secretary of Administration and Finance Michael J. Heffernan. "The projects proposed are key to maintaining core government operations and will keep the state moving forward, and we are looking forward to working with the Legislature to pass this bill into law."

The bill seeks to support Massachusetts' communities by authorizing \$496 million for established and successful grant and community programs that have a track record of providing valuable resources for workforce development, economic development, housing, and more to communities across the state. This includes the Workforce Skills Capital Grants Program, the Community Compact IT Grants Program, the Cultural Facilities Fund, the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, the Housing Stabilization Fund and the Housing Choice Capital Grants Program.

In June 2021, the Baker-Polito Administration finalized its Capital Investment Plan for Fiscal Years 2022-2026, and the authorizations in this bond bill would support investments and initiatives in the upcoming annual update to the Capital Investment Plan, which will include capital spending for Fiscal Years 2023-2027.

Highlights of the bond bill include:

- \$185 million for various cybersecurity and IT infrastructure initiatives, including:
 - \$100 million for cybersecurity investments and to support existing large business applications modernization projects
 - \$50 million for virtual and physical security infrastructure at the Trial Courts facilities, such as intrusion detection, duress, physical screening, access control, video monitoring, and communications
 - \$35 million to upgrade Lottery gaming systems, decommission end-of-life equipment, and address cybersecurity vulnerabilities
 - \$160 million for public safety investments, including:
 - \$100 million for the replacement of approximately 300+ vehicles per year, half of which will be hybrid

- 60 million for public safety equipment for fire services, corrections, state police & parole vehicles, and communications towers

• \$100 million to continue support for the Workforce Skills capital grants program, which provides grants to high schools, community colleges, training programs, and non-profit organizations to purchase equipment that will help expand access to career technical education programs

• \$100 million for municipal grants to support a broad range of local infrastructure improvements and projects

• \$64 million to support the Massachusetts State Revolving Fund (SRF) – specifically, for the Commonwealth's matching funds required to secure federal dollars for the Fund, which helps cities and towns in improve water supply infrastructure and drinking water safety

• \$60 million for the Housing Stabilization Fund, which provides funding for municipalities, non-profit, for-profit developers and local housing authorities in support of affordable rental housing production and rehabilitation

• \$51 million for the continuation of the Food Security program, which improves food security for the people of the Commonwealth through grants aimed at enhancing access to and production of local food for the next two years at current funding level

• \$50 million for the Cultural Facilities Fund to continue providing grants for planning, acquisition, rehabilitation and construction of cultural facilities administered through Massachusetts Cultural Council and Mass-Development

• \$30 million for the Community Compact IT competitive grant program aimed at driving innovation at the local level and available to any municipality that is part of Community Compact Cabinet Initiative

• \$25 million for Housing Choice grants to municipalities that receive a Housing Choice designation through high housing production and/or demonstration of best practices

• \$16 million for MassVentures START grants, which help businesses commercialize ideas that have been backed with federal Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) funding.

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Baker-Polito administration launches first-in-the-nation Commission on Clean Heat

The Baker-Polito Administration announced that the members of Massachusetts' first-in-the-nation Commission on Clean Heat were sworn in, helping to advance the Commonwealth's ambitious goals to reduce Greenhouse Gas emissions in the buildings sector. The Commission, which was created via Executive Order 596, held its first meeting on Wednesday, January 12, 2022, and over the next year will advise the Administration as it works to achieve Net Zero emissions by 2050. The Commission membership, representing a wide range of backgrounds and expertise including affordable housing, energy efficient building design and construction, health care and real estate, will identify policies and strategies and recommend a framework to achieve emissions reductions that is well-balanced, affordable, and equitable.

"This Commission brings together a diverse, experienced and thoughtful group of experts and stakeholders to help our Administration develop the policies and strategies we will need to meet the challenges associated with decarbonizing the buildings sector in Massachusetts," said Governor Charlie Baker. "The membership of the Commission on Clean Heat represents a variety of important perspectives that will be critical in the development of balanced, forward-thinking approaches to decarbonization that prioritize innovation, affordability, and equity as we make this transition."

"We thank the new members of the Commission on Clean Heat for their willingness to take on this important work on behalf of the Commonwealth," said Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito. "As the Commission on Clean Heat begins this vital work, our Administration will also ensure ample opportunities for members of the public to fully participate and contribute in the process as we work to reduce emissions from heating fuels in a way that is both effective and affordable."

Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) Secretary Kathleen Theoharides has appointed EEA Undersecretary of Energy and Climate Solutions Judy Chang to serve as her designee and chair of the Commission, and its membership reflects a diversity of perspectives and backgrounds from outside stakeholders, including representatives from the fields of affordable housing, energy efficient building design and construction, healthcare, heating system design and technology, real estate, and heating fuel distribution.

"The Commission on Clean Heat will bring together stakeholders to take on our most pressing emissions reduction challenges in the building sector through a collaborative, inclusive approach," said Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Kathleen Theoharides. "Gathering these voices and perspectives from technical experts, the affordable housing community, business leaders, environmental organizations, and major industries in the Commonwealth, will enable our continued, nation-leading pursuit of the equitable, creative strategies we need to meet our ambitious climate targets."

"This groundbreaking Commission begins its work with a membership that represents the diversity of voices required to identify recommendations to achieve the Commonwealth's emission reduction, housing, and economic development goals," said Housing and Economic Development Secretary Mike Kennealy. "We are grateful to the Commission members for investing the time necessary to do this important work and I look forward to the group's recommendations."

The Commission on Clean Heat is comprised of the following members:

- William Akley
President of Gas Business, Ever-source
- Lauren Baumann
Vice President, New Ecology
- Kenan Bigby

- Managing Director of Development, Trinity Financial
- Harry Brett
UA Representative in New England, Plumbers and Gas Fitters UA Local 12

- Alexander "Zan" Bross
Manager, Design & Construction, MassHousing
- Andrew Brown
Assistant Project Manager, The HYM Investment Group
- Emerson Clauss III
President, Home Builders and Remodelers Association of Massachusetts (HBRAMA)

- Rebecca Davis
Chief Operating Officer, Massachusetts Competitive Partnership
- Eric Dubin
Senior Director, Utilities and Performance Construction, Mitsubishi Electric Trane HVAC

- Mike Duclos
Founder and Member of Board of Directors, Passive House New England
- Madeline Fraser Cook
Director, Government Investments and Technical Assistance, Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)

- Eugenia Gibbons
Independent Consultant
- Dharik Mallapragada
Research Scientist, Massachusetts Institute of Technology Energy Initiative

- Cameron Peterson
Director of Clean Energy, Metropolitan Area Planning Council
- Robert Rio
Senior Vice President of Government Affairs and Counsel, Associated Industries of Massachusetts (AIM)

- Kimberly Robinson
Executive Director, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission
- Dorothy Savarese
President and CEO, Cape Cod Five

- Tamara Small
CEO, NAIOP Massachusetts
- Charles Uglietto
President, Cubby Oil & Energy
- Dennis Villanueva
Senior Manager, Energy and Sustainability, Mass General

- Brigham
Jollette Westbrook
Director and Senior Attorney, Energy Markets and Regulation, Environmental Defense Fund (EDF)

The Commission on Clean Heat will meet regularly to work on developing policy recommendations, which are due to Governor Baker by Wednesday, November 30, 2022. The policies developed by the Commission will seek to sustainably reduce the use of heating fuels and minimize emissions from the building sector while ensuring costs and opportunities arising from such reductions are distributed equitably. The Commission on Clean Heat will also hold public stakeholder meetings throughout the year, with the first to be scheduled in March, 2022. Dates and times for the public stakeholder meetings, as well as additional opportunities for public input, will be announced on the Commission on Clean Heat webpage.

"Climate leadership over the next decade will require a fundamental transition in how we heat and cool our homes and buildings," said Department of Energy Resources Commissioner Patrick Woodcock. "While we move forward with accelerating the aggressive deployment of energy efficiency and heat pumps this first-in-the-nation commission on clean heat will identify the next generation of cost-effective and equitable policies that yield deep building sector decarbonization across the Commonwealth."

In March 2021, Governor Baker signed nation-leading climate legislation that commits the Commonwealth to reducing emissions below 1990 levels by 50% by 2030, 75% by 2040, and to achieve Net Zero emissions by 2050. The Commission on Clean Heat's recommendations will aid the state in its efforts to meet these emissions targets. For more information on the Commission members, please visit the Commission on Clean Heat's webpage.

The Executive Order signed by Governor Baker in September, 2021 also establishes an Interagency Building Decarbonization Task Force to support the work of the Commission. The Task Force will consist of subject-matter experts from across the Executive Branch, including the Department of Energy Resources and the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development.

In October 2021, the Energy Efficiency Advisory Council unanimously voted to approve the 2022-2024 statewide Three-Year Energy Efficiency Plan. The plan represents a transformational shift of the Mass Save programs to better align with the Commonwealth's ambitious climate requirements and focus on increasing participation in environmental justice communities across the state. In July, EEA Secretary Theoharides set ambitious greenhouse gas reduction goals for the 2022-2024 Mass Save Plan. In aggregate, the investments made through the electric and gas plans in 2022-2024 will need to deliver 845,000 tons of emissions reduction towards our 2030 GHG limit. It is anticipated that Mass Save will achieve the GHG emission reduction goals by increasing the number of buildings retrofitted and weatherized each year, making significant investment in electrification of existing buildings to transition customers away from fossil fuels, reducing support for fossil-fuel heating incentives, phasing out LED light-bulb incentives, increasing equitable program investments in environmental justice communities and low-moderate income households, and increasing workforce development investments to expand diversity in the workforce. It's estimated that this plan will provide an \$13 billion in benefits to the Commonwealth. This plan was submitted to the DPU on November 1, 2021 and can be approved by the Department as early as January 31, 2022.

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29 Comm Ave 7 RT	20 Hexagon LLC	29 Commonwealth Ave #7	\$10,400,000
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29 Comm Holdings LLC	29 Hexagon LLC	29 Commonwealth Ave #PH	\$21,750,000
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28 Dartmouth 1 LLC	Crown Reach RT	28 Dartmouth St #1	\$450,000
Edward, Hult	Marlborough 126 LLC	126 Marlborough St	\$11,000,000
Regal Holdings LLC	3 Jays T Inc	114 Newbury St	\$2,641,202
3 Jays T Inc	Regal Holdings LLC	128-130 Newbury St	\$2,641,202

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Sobel, Vered	Grossman, Gene M	4 Charlesgate E #102	\$707,500
Santiago, Jonathan	Macneeley FT	3 Claremont St	\$2,375,000
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Columbus Condo LLC	Mag Hldg Co LLC	563 Columbus Ave #3	\$1,980,000
Columbus Condo LLC	565-567 Columbus RT	565 Columbus Ave #1	\$3,960,000
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Lozano, Aldo	Song, Meiyun	108 Peterborough St #7F	\$695,000
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Badolato, Stephen	Porto Azzurra T	22-22A Hanover Ave	\$1,300,000
RFM KTB CSQ Propco LLC	RFM Block On Congress 1	40 Water St	\$342,000,000

Attention to Detail

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY PENNY CHERUBINO

THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The lovely façade detail in the last clue is on the longtime home of Filene's Department Store on Washington Street in Downtown Crossing. The building was completed in 1912 and was designed by architect Daniel Burnham. Today's historic photo shows what the building looked like back then.

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



Baker-Polito administration launches tool to access COVID-19 digital vaccine card

The Baker-Polito Administration today announced a tool that gives residents a new way to access their COVID-19 digital vaccine card and vaccination history. The new tool, called My Vax Records, allows people who received their vaccination in Massachusetts to access their own vaccination history and generate a COVID-19 digital vaccine card, which would contain similar vaccination information to a paper CDC card. The COVID-19 digital vaccine cards produced by the system utilize the SMART Health Card platform and generate a QR code that can

be used to verify vaccination. The Administration is not requiring residents to show proof of vaccination to enter any venue, but this tool will help residents who would like to access and produce a digital copy of their record.

Access the new tool at MyVax-Records.Mass.Gov.

How It Works: The new tool is easy to use: a person enters their name, date of birth, and mobile phone number or email associated with their vaccine record. After creating a 4-digit PIN, the user receives a link to their vaccine record that will open upon re-en-

try of the PIN.

The electronic record shows the same information as a paper CDC vaccine card: name, date of birth, date of vaccinations, and vaccine manufacturer. It also includes a QR code that makes these same details readable by a QR scanner, including smartphone apps. Once the SMART Health Card is received, users are able to save the QR code to their phone, such as the Apple Wallet, screenshot the information and save it to their phone's photos, or print out a copy for a paper record. The system follows national standards for security and privacy.

This system provides an optional way that residents can access their vaccination information and a COVID-19 digital vaccine card.

This will provide residents with another tool to provide proof of COVID-19 vaccination, should it be requested by businesses, local governments, or other entities.

The system leverages the Massachusetts Immunization Information System (MIIS), the official database used by health care providers across the state to record vaccination information. The system relies on hundreds of providers inputting demographic and health information. Some users may not be able to immediately find their record, or may find an incomplete record. Residents whose record cannot be found or is incomplete can either contact their health care provider or contact the MIIS team to update their records. Learn more about the tool and view fre-

quently-asked-questions at www.mass.gov/myvaxrecord.

Massachusetts has worked with VCI,™ a voluntary coalition of public and private organizations which developed the open-source SMART Health Card Framework in use by other states. The VCI coalition is dedicated to improving privacy and security of patient information, making medical records portable and reducing healthcare fraud.

My Vax Records is just one way residents can obtain their COVID vaccination record. Pharmacies that administered the COVID vaccine and many health care providers also are making SMART Health Cards available, or are providing additional options. Learn more.

BEACON HILL BEAT

From Boston Police Area A-1

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

Verbal Dispute

01/7/22 - At around 9:30 p.m., officers responded to West Cedar Street for a verbal dispute.

Upon arrival, police spoke with both individuals involved in the conflict, both of whom live in the same building. The two parties have had multiple arguments in the past, and their differences are mainly over climate-control issues (e.g. the thermostat temperature; leaving doors open). During this call, there was no physical altercation between the parties, and they were advised to contact their landlord in attempt to resolve the

matter.

Medical

01/8/21 - At approximately 11:30 p.m., police responded to the area of Mt. Vernon Street for a person overdosing.

When the officers arrived on scene, they observed an unresponsive individual in an alleyway that leads out to Joy Street. The officers administered Narcan and performed CPR, which ultimately allowed the individual to regain consciousness. Boston EMS responded to further evaluate the man.

LEGALS

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
 Suffolk Probate and Family Court
 24 New Chardon St.
 Boston, MA 02114
 (617)788-8300
 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
 Docket No. SU21P1580EA
 Estate of: Joseph Michael Zuromskis
 Also Known as: J. Michael Zuromskis
 Date of Death 03/19/2021
 To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Christine

Zuromskis of Boston, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Christine Zuromskis of Boston, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.
IMPORTANT NOTICE
 You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 02/24/2022. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within

thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.
UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
 A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.
 WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.
 Date: January 13, 2022
 Felix D. Arroyo
 Register of Probate

1/20/22
 BH

NEWS BRIEFS

BHV PRESENTS CONVERSATIONS WITH IMARI PARIS JEFFRIES OF KING BOSTON

Save Wednesday, February 2, at 5:30 p.m. for a zoom presentation by the executive director of the organization that is behind the creation of "The Embrace," the 22-foot sculpture honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Coretta Scott King to be installed on Boston Common on Martin Luther King Day in 2023.

Imari Paris Jeffries will discuss his vision for King Boston, the influence of the Black Lives Matter movement, and what is like to lead a new nonprofit during a pandemic. He will also explain how this memorial came about and inform participants of the other work King Boston is engaged in. For example, this affiliate of the Boston Foundation is developing a 25,000 square foot research-oriented Center for Economic Justice in Roxbury, as well as Embrace Ideas, a weeklong festival that will

engage Bostonians in anti-racist discourse through the arts and humanities.

This virtual program is free and open to the public. It is presented with support from Cambridge Trust as part of Beacon Hill Village's Conversations With... series. Registration is required online in advance at BeaconHillVillage.org or by calling Beacon Hill Village at 617-723-9713. Registrants will receive the Zoom invitation information in advance of the program.

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To place a memorial
 please call 781-485-0588

FRESH AND LOCAL

The reality of expensive food

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

We're all concerned about the rising cost of food. Right now is a perfect time to remember that the most expensive food we buy is the food we throw away. Our household has been on the food waste elimination bandwagon for years. And, we're happy to share our tips for more intelligent shopping, storage, and using leftovers.

Sarah Showfety's article, "Always Label Your Leftovers, And Other Ways to Stop Your Family From Wasting Them" for the website Lifehacker gave good advice on the topic. We were happy to see that we had already adopted some good habits. However, Sarah taught us a few new tricks.

Label Everything

A roll of blue painter's tape sits next to our refrigerator. Following the lead of friends in the restaurant industry, we use blue tape labels on food containers as we put them into our refrigerator or freezer. We even add a blue tag to packaged food with tiny best by dates.

We always store ready-to-use and home-prepared food and left-

overs in the same space. Those are always in view when one of us opens the refrigerator door.

Sarah suggested a designated day to eat leftovers. If your style is to do a major shopping weekly or cooking session on weekends, this could work for you. Living in a small city space, we shop often and buy what we need for a couple of days. We use leftovers instead of cooking every day.

Second Acts!

The great cookbook editor Judith Jones referred to her leftovers as "second acts." We agree. And, while we'll use leftover soups, casseroles, curries, as they are, for a second meal,

we'll also turn excess proteins, last chance veggies, extra grains, legumes, and beans into new soups, casseroles, and curries.

Sandwiches & Salads

Many of us enjoy sandwiches and salads to finish up leftovers. Non-cooks and family members who make nothing else may occasionally prepare a sandwich or salad for themselves. Have you ever thought of readying leftovers

to use in sandwiches?

The cook in the group will have to do a bit of preparation and perhaps add an item or two to the routine shopping list to assist the non-cooks. Penny might find a slightly old carrot, scallion, and wedge of cabbage in the crisper and turn those into a slaw that we can use to top a sandwich. She'll slice leftover chicken into slices just right to pile onto bread or toss into a salad.

Buy Less and Cook Less

Think about the food you are wasting. Did you buy more than you needed? Did you make too much of a meal that is consistently not used up as a leftover? Is it something hidden from sight and spoiled before you found it?

For example, we were wasting cheese because we bought too much. Now we'll ask for a quarter-pound or hold up one small finger to tell the cheesemonger how much cheese we want.

Reality Check!

The National Resources Defense Council (NRDC) reports, "In the United States alone, 40 percent of food gets tossed every year—and



The slaw in this ham sandwich was once a tiny wedge of cabbage, a carrot, and some scallions found lingering in our crisper drawer.

that amounts to \$162 billion in waste annually.

To help resolve both the economic and environmental issues around this waste, the NRDC established a "Save The Food" campaign. At www.savethefood.com, you can find resources to estimate how much food you will

need to serve guests, tips on meal preparation, storage smarts, recipes to use leftover food, and all the facts about the reality of what food waste is costing you.

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

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Given the high demand for homes and continued low interest rates, there is no question that the past year has offered many opportunities for sellers. Looking ahead, we predict the market will remain strong but may become slightly more buyer-friendly, creating great opportunities for sellers and buyers alike.

If you are thinking about selling or buying, please contact us today for a complimentary market analysis and to learn how our combined 25 years of downtown Boston real estate expertise can help you achieve your goals this year.



Leslie Singleton Adam & Rebecca Davis Tulman

Leslie: 617.901.3664 | Rebecca: 617.510.5050

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