



JANUARY 26, 2023



# THE BEACON HILL TIMES

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

## WINTER ON THE HILL



Monday's snow makes pretty scenes around the Common.



Monday's snow also makes a mess on Beacon Hill streets and sidewalks.

## Chestnut Street resident to run Boston Marathon for Joslin Diabetes Center

By Dan Murphy

Chestnut Street resident Ian Brohm will be running in the 2023 Boston Marathon on Monday, April 17, as a member of Team Joslin to benefit the Joslin Diabetes Center.

Brohm, age 31, is participating in the footrace in person for the first time this year in support of Boston's Joslin Diabetes Center, which he describes as "a world-renowned diabetes research and care institution that has been delivering aid to those affected by diabetes for over 120 years and is an organization that has become very close to my heart." (Brohm previously ran the virtual Boston Marathon in 2021.)

Brohm's girlfriend, Kelsey, was diagnosed with Type I diabetes and has been receiving treatment at Joslin ever since then.

"Joslin has helped her and her family, and many others like them, navigate the unknown path that comes with the lifechanging diagnosis of diabetes," Brohm wrote in an email. "Each day I see firsthand how mundane tasks that many people take for granted become priorities for those living with diabetes. Every meal, exercise regimen, and many other everyday routine tasks need to be accounted for in order to keep blood sugar levels at normal levels. With the help and support that Joslin provides, people living with diabetes can live normal lives."

As a member of Team Joslin running in this year's Boston Marathon, Brohm has set a fundraising target of \$10,000 while committing to give 100 percent of the donations he receives to benefit the

(MARATHON Pg. 3)

## BHAC approves exterior plaque for Peter Faneuil House

By Dan Murphy

The Beacon Hill Architectural Commission voted unanimously to approve an application for the installation of a brass plaque at the Peter Faneuil House on Joy Street in accordance with a city requirement, albeit in a different location than was proposed, at the commission's monthly public hearing on Thursday, Jan. 19, which took place virtually.

Ken Crisafulli, vice president of real estate construction and design for the nonprofit Rogerson Communities, which developed the Peter Faneuil House at 60 Joy St. into affordable housing, said they had received a grant through the city's Community Preservation Act (CPA) for the restoration of the building. One requirement per the city for receiving a CPA grant mandates that the recipient must install a plaque in a visible location



D. MURPHY PHOTO  
The Peter Faneuil House at 60 Joy St.

on the exterior of the building at the completion of the restoration project, he said.

While Crisafulli had initially proposed installing the plaque,

which measures 7-by-10 inches and would be affixed using four screws, on the left-hand side of the main entrance to the building, one proviso of the commission's approval of the application is that the plaque would instead be installed directly below an existing lantern to the right of the door. The new location for the plaque came at the recommendation of Nick Armata, BHAC staff, who said moving it there would largely obscure it from sight, except for a short stretch of Joy Street.

Commission Chair Mark Kiefer said to require the installation of the plaque in a visible, exterior location for the receipt of city funds runs "antithetical to historic preservation."

Likewise, Commissioner Ed Fleck pointed out that this case represents "two city agencies

(PLAQUE Pg. 2)



PHOTO COURTESY OF IAN BROHM

Chestnut Street resident Ian Brohm, who is running his first in-person Boston Marathon this year as a member of Team Joslin, is seen at the footrace's Hopkinton starting line.

# Esplanade association hosts free Frost Fit Winter Series 2023

The Esplanade is known to be a favorite spot for many Bostonians looking for a free, safe space to exercise. The Esplanade Association ([esplanadeassociation.org](http://esplanadeassociation.org)) is excited to announce it will be hosting their fifth season Frost Fit Winter Series 2023 Presented by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts. This outdoor winter fitness series on the Esplanade will feature a program-packed lineup of workout classes and winter activities for people of all ages, abilities, and fitness levels to enjoy.

The Winter Fitness Series will launch on January 28th at Fiedler Field with a 3-hour event featuring two workout classes, hot chocolate and swag all free to participants! Spend an hour or two learning about this year's upcoming Frost Fit season and check out registration for classes.

From January 30 to March 4, the November Project, 261 Fearless Club New England, and Lynx Fitness Club will each hold around one class per week. While you break a sweat, you can recover with a cup of hot chocolate, and receive free swag after all the class-

es!

The Esplanade Association provides free programming to people in the greater-Boston community to engage their minds and bodies on the Esplanade. Frost Fit encourages people to venture outside and experience the beauty of the Esplanade in winter while beginning the new year with regular workouts. Frost Fit is created in partnership with Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts.

"We're proud to partner with the Esplanade Association to offer free fitness classes throughout the winter", said Jeff Bellows, Vice President of Corporate Citizenship and Public Affairs at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts. "Being active is critical for our physical and mental health. The Frost Fit Series encourages year-round wellness by making it fun to come together as a community for some fun winter fitness along the beautiful Esplanade."

Winter Activity Guide

As part of our Frost Fit Series presented by Blue Cross Blue

Shield of Massachusetts and in partnership with REI Co-op, the Esplanade Association is encouraging residents and visitors to get outside this winter on the Esplanade with our Winter Activity Guide. From Sunday, January 29th through Sunday, March 5th (weather dependent), the first 50 people to complete at least 4 activities in the guide and bring their completed guide to the Boston/Fenway REI Co-op store will receive a free skate session and skate rental to The Rink at 401 Park Ice Rink presented by REI located in Fenway. In addition, as part of the Winter Activity Guide, each participant can redeem one free Bluebikes ride courtesy of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts through March 31st!

Launch Event Details

Location: Fiedler Field on the Esplanade

Date: 1/28/23

Cost: FREE

Eventbrite Link: <https://Frost-Fit-Launch-2023.eventbrite.com>

Time(s): 10am-1pm

10am-10:45am – Morning walking session with 261

Fearless Club New England  
10:15am-10:45am

11am-12pm – Afternoon workout session with Lynx Fitness  
11:00am-12:00pm

10:30am-12:30pm – FREE hot chocolate available!

Class Schedule (links go to Eventbrite pages)

Monday Workouts with November Project

- Location: Fiedler Field

- Date/Time: Mondays, 6:30am-7:30am

- Cost: FREE

261 Fearless Club New England Tuesday Winter Walks

- Location: Hatch Memorial Shell Lawn

- Date/Time: Tuesdays, 4pm-5pm

- Cost: FREE

Saturday Workouts with Lynx

- Location: Fiedler Field

- Date/Time: Saturdays, 11am-12pm

- Cost: FREE

The Esplanade Association is a 100% privately-funded non-profit organization that works to revitalize and enhance the Charles River Esplanade, sustain its nat-

ural green space, and build community in the park by providing educational, cultural, and recreational programs for everyone. Working in collaboration with the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, the Esplanade Association is dedicated to improving the experiences of the millions of visitors who enjoy Boston's iconic riverside park.

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts ([bluecrossma.com](http://bluecrossma.com)) is a community-focused, tax-paying, not-for-profit health plan headquartered in Boston. We are committed to the relentless pursuit of quality, affordable health care with an unparalleled consumer experience. Consistent with our promise to always put our members first, we are rated among the nation's best health plans for member satisfaction and quality. Connect with us on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and LinkedIn.

For further information about Frost Fit, contact Samuel Englert, Programs and Partnerships Manager, [senglert@esplanade.org](mailto:senglert@esplanade.org).

## PLAQUE (from pg. 1)

with conflicting views," since the BHAC has had a longstanding policy against installing exterior plaques in the Beacon Hill Historic District, which runs counter to the CPA's plaque requirement. Fleck suggested that Armata and the Boston Landmarks Commission could work together with CPA staff to find a resolution.

Armata said the two city agencies had been "working behind the scenes" to resolve the matter, although he said he's not directly involved in this process. In other historic districts, including the Back Bay, the plaque applications have all been referred to staff whereas in Beacon Hill's historic district, the application are instead reviewed by the commission on a case-by-case basis, he said.

Commissioner Alice Richmond requested that the commission "communicate officially" with District 8 City Councilor Kenzie Bok and the Beacon Hill Historic District's other elected officials to seek their help in resolving this matter.

In another matter, the commission unanimously approved an application to install a new intercom system at a multi-unit apartment building at 103 Charles St. between Pinckney and Revere streets.

The applicant, Jim Bellanca, said the new intercom system is an

urgent necessity for tenants, since the building's unlocked entryway has fallen prey to stolen packages, discarded syringes, and people camping out there overnight, among other issues.

Besides putting a lock on the exterior door, Bellanca said the applicant's intention is now to move the buzzer panel to the exterior of the main entryway into the brick on the front façade. The installation would be made by drilling through the mortar to connect the electrical wiring on the other side of the door jamb, he added. (The intercom unit, which won't be illuminated, will be custom-made by the Boston Intercom Group, said Bellanca.)

While Bellanca had initially proposed installing the intercom system to the right of the front door, one proviso for the commission's approval of this application is that the applicant would work with staff to explore the option of installing the system through the wood to the left of the door. If this option isn't feasible, the applicant would then be required to return to the commission. (Installing the intercom in the door well isn't an option as the system would require multiple buzzers and therefore not fit into the well's narrow confines, said Armata.)

On an application for 83 Myrtle St., the commission unanimously

approved the proposed work, including replacing the existing front door, as well as replacing the existing doorbell with a new Ring doorbell system, which would be concealed behind a brass plate.

Brigid Williams, the project architect, said the door has been repaired (i.e. "chopped up and patched") many times and no longer closes properly due to its "unstable" door joints. She added that the new door would be an "exact copy" of the existing door, and that the existing hardware, including the door knocker, street numbers, and mail slot, would be reused wherever possible.

One proviso for the approval of this application is that the applicant must provide written documentation from a historic door specialist stating that the door, which Armata said isn't original but still "contributes to the fabric of the building," is beyond repair.

Armata described the proposed Ring doorbell system, which would have no illumination and be concealed behind a brass plate, as a "good treatment for a doorbell." (Establishing district guidelines for intercom systems was the subject of BHAC subcommittee meeting held on Dec. 12 of last year in response to the recent proliferation of applications for intercoms in the Beacon Hill Historic District.)

The commission unanimously

approved as submitted an application for 73 Pinckney St., which includes replacing an existing 32-inch metal balcony railing with a 42-inch, code-compliant, wrought-iron railing at the rear façade, visible from Grove Square; reinforcing the balcony, if required; and increasing the height of the balcony door from roughly 6 feet, 8 inches to 7 feet, 9 inches to reach the existing stone lintel.

Likewise, the commission unanimously approved an application for 7 Chestnut St., with the proposed work including replacing all the existing single-pane, non-historic windows on the front façade with double-paned windows in the existing historic pane configuration; as well as installing a new light in the main entrance, new front-door hardware, a new service-entry door and hardware, a new roofdeck, new HVAC equipment, and a new intercom system.

This application's approval came with the provisos that the service door be restored according to historic photos furnished by Armata, rather than replaced; that the HVAC equipment be installed on the roofdeck in a location not visible from a public way; and that the windows be constructed with a dark spacer bar.

The commission also heard an advisory review for Beacon House at 19 Myrtle St., with the would-

be applicant (Crisafulli again representing Rogerson Communities) soliciting feedback on a window mockup at the rear of the structure.

Crisafulli said while the applicant is only considering the replacement of the existing windows with aluminum windows on the third through eighth levels on the rear façade at this time, they would likely aim to replace the windows on each of the building's other facades in the future while "replicating the style of what's there now." He added that the existing "weathered windows are letting in cold air and affecting residents' livelihoods."

Commissioner Kiefer advised the applicant that they should attempt to "match what's there to the maximum extent possible." If this isn't an option, the applicant would then "need to demonstrate why it's not possible," he said.

Commissioner Wen Wen requested that swatches for the six paint-color options presented be placed next to an existing window to better gauge their visual impact.

On hand for the Jan. 19 hearing were Commission Chair Kiefer, Vice Chair Arian Allen, and Commissioners Fleck, Annette Given, and Wen.

## NEWS BRIEFS

### MFA PRESENTS EXHIBITION HIGHLIGHTING WARTIME IN UKRAINE

Since the start of Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, attacks have continued endlessly in different regions of the country, and ordinary citizens have been forced to pick up arms and fight back. Organized in partnership with The War-time Art Archive at the Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA) NGO in Kyiv, *Who Holds Up the Sky?* presents the work of artists who have been documenting the war—providing testimony of Russia's crimes and a glimpse into many Ukrainian citizens' lives.

Reportage photographs from Vadym Belikov capture Russian missile launches targeting Kharkiv, one of Ukraine's largest cities. War correspondent Efrem Lukatsky films missiles striking fields where farmers still reap their grain harvests, awaited by trading partners around the world. Yana Kononova documents destruction in the northern region of Kyiv in her series of abstract X-Scapes, and Kostiantyn Polishchuk's *The Night Watch* portrays his fellow soldiers on the front lines of the Ukrainian defense. Inga Levi's graphic series *Double exposure* juxtaposes news from the warfront with sketches of civilians' everyday routines.

The exhibition also highlights *Behind Blue Eyes*, a project started by Dima Zubkov and Artem Skorohodko, volunteers who distribute food and supplies to residents in liberated Ukrainian villages. The pair provided disposable cameras to children and teens in Lukashiv-



PHOTO BY KOSTIANTYN POLISHCHUK

#### The Night Watch, Ukrainian soldiers.

ka, in the Chernihiv region, asking them to document their lives for a week. Paired with interviews about the children's dreams and hopes for the future, the resulting images—of family and friends, bombed houses, flowers still blooming amid destruction, and selfies on tanks—capture the many facets of their complex reality. The title of the project, taken from a Limp Bizkit cover of a song by The Who, refers to hiding internal negative emotions, worries, and rage under a completely normal appearance and condition; the color blue signifies the sky.

Together, all of these works create a collective portrait of the wartime experience—paying tribute to those who, in the curators' words, are “holding up the sky over Ukraine.”

### NOMINATE A YOUNG CONSERVATIONIST

Do you know an outstanding

youth who is an advocate for wild-life and conservation? Nominations are now being accepted for the Young Conservationist Award, presented by Zoo New England.

As part of the celebration of Zootopia, Zoo New England's annual fundraising gala, zoo staff is excited to announce that applications are now being accepted for the Young Conservationist Award. The nominated youth should be enrolled in grades 3 through 12, have demonstrated a positive commitment to conservation at large and/or Zoo New England's mission, and have engaged in some outstanding action to support this. The award, which includes a \$2,500 scholarship to further the recipient's project and conservation work, will be presented at Zootopia on June 10 at Franklin Park Zoo. The winner and two adults will receive complimentary tickets to Zootopia to participate in the awards ceremony.

“We are honored to once again present the Young Conservationist Award to an outstanding youth who is making a difference for wildlife and the environment,” said John Linehan, President and CEO of Zoo New England. “A cornerstone of the Zoo is to protect the natural world and cultivate the next generation of environmental stewards. Our past winners have been inspiring young individuals who share this mission and we can't wait to continue this tradition.”

for the Young Conservationist Award are being accepted through Friday, April 7, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. Nomination forms are available at <https://www.zoonewengland.org/zootopia>. Please email questions to [YoungConservationistAward@zoonewengland.org](mailto:YoungConservationistAward@zoonewengland.org).

[zoonewengland.org](https://www.zoonewengland.org).

Zootopia is Zoo New England's annual fundraising gala. This year's event, to be held at Franklin Park Zoo on June 10 from 6:30 – 9:30 p.m., promises to be an unforgettable evening. The gala begins with an auction, followed by catered tasting stations and dancing. Attendees are encouraged to wear animal-inspired attire.

from Zootopia will directly benefit Zoo New England's Franklin Park Zoo and Stone Zoo and will help to further the Zoos' mission to inspire and educate the next generation of conservation stewards and leaders.

To purchase tickets or to learn about sponsorship opportunities, visit <https://www.zoonewengland.org/zootopia> or call 617-379-5190.

### MVES HOSTS FREE VIRTUAL HEALTH EVENTS

Mystic Valley Elder Services (MVES) will present two FREE virtual workshop series in January and February 2023.

“Healthy Eating for Successful Living” will be held on Tuesdays, January 31 to February 28 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Learn how to connect virtually through a Zoom platform and take this free class from the comfort of your home.

Throughout the series, you'll learn more about how nutrition, physical activity and life-

style changes can promote better health. This virtual workshop series focuses on heart- and bone-healthy nutrition strategies to help maintain or improve wellness and prevent chronic disease development or progression in older adults. Healthy Eating uses the USDA's MyPlate as a framework.

“My Life; My Health,” a FREE virtual chronic disease self-management workshop series, will be held Monday, February 6 to March 20, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. (No class on Feb. 20.) Learn how to connect virtually through a Zoom platform and take this free class from the comfort of your home. You don't want chronic disease, pain or discomfort to limit the activities and life you enjoy.

The series is for anyone living with an ongoing medical condition, such as arthritis, asthma, chronic back pain, chronic fatigue syndrome, cancer, COPD, diabetes, fibromyalgia, heart disease, high blood pressure, Parkinson's disease, or stroke. Topics will include managing and controlling pain, beginning (or improving) an exercise program, handling stress and learning to relax, increasing energy, and eating for your health and wellbeing.

Class size is limited for both workshop series, so reserve your spot today. To register, or if you have any questions about the program, contact Donna Covelle at [dcovelle@mves.org](mailto:dcovelle@mves.org) or call 781-388-4867.

### MARATHON (from pg. 1)

Joslin Diabetes Center to fund diabetes research and provide care to those affected by the chronic condition.

“So, like diabetes, I'm not taking a backseat either,” he wrote. “I am running the 2023 Boston Marathon not only for Kelsey, but also for those around the world who are affected by diabetes in hopes

of raising research money that will help ease the day-to-day activities that can become burdensome.”

Visit Brohm's donation page at <https://www.givengain.com/ap/ian-brohm-raising-funds-for-joslin-diabetes-center-beth-israel-lahey-health-/#timeline> to support him and Team Joslin in the 2023 Boston Marathon.

## Rockland Trust launches its 19th annual scholarship program

Staff Report

Rockland Trust is pleased to announce the launch of its 19th Annual Scholarship Program, which is open to students who are enrolling in a part-time or full-time undergraduate study program for the first time at an accredited two or four-year college, university, or vocational-technical school for the entire upcoming academic year (2023-2024). This year, Rockland Trust will be awarding up to sixteen \$3,000 renewable scholarships.

Applications will be considered based on financial need, academic performance, participation in school and community activities,

and work experience. There will be a section for applicants to write a brief essay of educational goals and potential career aspirations, along with a section to provide insight for any unusual personal or family circumstances. Applicants must reside in one of the following counties to be eligible: Barnstable, Bristol, Dukes, Essex, Middlesex, Nantucket, Norfolk, Plymouth, Suffolk, or Worcester in Massachusetts or Providence County in Rhode Island.

“Rockland Trust is deeply committed to strengthening the communities in which we live and work. The scholarship program is particularly meaningful because it allows us to make an investment in

the future of those communities,” said Christopher Oddleifson, Chief Executive Officer at Rockland Trust. “Every year, we look forward to hearing the stories and goals of tomorrow's generation of leaders. We are honored to play a small role in helping each student advance their educational journey and take another step toward a purposeful future.”

Rockland Trust Scholarship applications are available online at [RocklandTrust.com/Scholarship](https://www.rocklandtrust.com/Scholarship) (Opens in a new Window). To learn more about guidelines, eligibility criteria, and access the application, please visit [RocklandTrust.com/Scholarship](https://www.rocklandtrust.com/Scholarship)

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# EDITORIAL

## THE MAURA HEALEY ERA HAS BEGUN!

Governor Maura Healey wasted little time since her inauguration a few weeks ago in setting the pace for what we're sure will be an active -- and activist -- administration with her announcement last week that she will be filing her first two pieces of legislation, one of which is a \$987 million "immediate needs" bond bill targeting housing and economic development and another for an additional \$400 million for MassWorks that will make grants available to cities and towns for infrastructure projects.

Governor Healey, who highlighted economic development as a top priority during her campaign, said she filed the "immediate needs" bill "to ensure critical housing and economic development programs across the state can continue to serve people in Massachusetts without interruption."

The \$400 million for infrastructure will continue the funding stream for MassWorks, which was established in 2010, that will ensure that this key program will create essential infrastructure improvements in communities across our state,

In our view, Governor Healey's announcement represents a burst of energy that portends a refreshing change in the atmosphere on Beacon Hill.

To be sure, her predecessor, Charlie Baker, was the most popular governor in the country during his eight-year tenure. But it was clear that after two exhausting terms in office, Baker's enthusiasm for the job had waned -- which, by the way, is to be expected, especially after three years of battling a pandemic.

But beyond that, Healey represents a true changing of the guard in politics on Beacon Hill. For all of his progressive views, Charlie Baker was a straight, male Baby Boomer who, like all of us, was a product of his age and his times. There were some things he just could not accept, such as marijuana legalization and providing driver's licenses for non-citizens, that showed that he was out-of-step with the times.

By contrast, Maura Healey is a gay, female Gen Xer -- and accordingly will bring a perspective to the job of governor that will be based on her personal experience.

(We also would note that both Baker and Healey are Harvard graduates where they both played basketball, but Healey was the captain and a star player, whereas Baker was...not so much.)

Yes, the times they are a changin' -- and we're looking forward to the Maura Healey era in Massachusetts.

## JACINDA ARDERN: A TOTAL CLASS ACT

We wish to make note of the incredibly classy announcement last week by New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern, who told her country that she will be stepping down from the post after almost six years in office.

Ms. Ardern took over the job at the age of 37, making her at the time the youngest head of state in the world.

She admitted very forthrightly that she had "nothing left in the tank," and that she was shifting her focus in life to her family (she has a four year-old daughter.)

Jacinda Ardern epitomized the term "political courage." Her tenure will be remembered for her compassionate response to a massacre in a mosque in the nation's capital, Christchurch, and for her subsequent spearheading of a ban on assault weapons in that country. She also guided New Zealand through the worst of the COVID crisis with courage, determination, and competency that saw New Zealand ultimately have one of the lowest COVID mortality rates in the world.

Ms. Ardern will be missed on the world stage. We can only hope that political leaders in our country might learn from her example.

## GUEST OP-ED

## Monterey Park, Evansville shootings, Hero Brandon Tsay, We need the news, good and bad

By Dr. Glenn Mollette

We like good news but typically the news is not good. Too often no news is good news. In reality, no news is bad news for us all.

There is lots of recent bad news. A crazed gunman entered a dance hall in Monterey Park, California killing 10 people and wounding many innocent people. A former employee walked into an Evansville, Indiana Walmart and shot an employee in the face in the store break-room. The shooter was killed by local police. A planned protest in downtown Atlanta turned violent when protestors damaged stores and burned a police car over the weekend.

We did hear astonishing good news from Monterey Park. Brandon Tsay confronted the gunman at a second location where he was about to enter and kill more people. He heroically wrestled the gun away from the killer and pointed it at him causing the gunman to leave the scene. Only God knows how many lives Tsay saved. He is a true hero.

News is always happening nationally, locally and individually to us all. We need the information whether it's good or bad. We need the national and regional news but the local news is up front and close to us.

For example, all around us we are targets of scams, thieves and prowling bad people. Americans were scammed to the tune 5.8 billion dollars in 2021. (Digital Guardian). We are never

beyond being duped. Today, daily text messages, emails, phone calls and mail come to Americans phishing for a sucker who will buy the false story they are telling. They are good at what they do.

My son was away in a foreign country when I was duped out of \$350 years ago. The caller was very professional sounding and convincing. I believed that if I did not pay the money owed by my son it would negatively impact his career. This was at the beginning of the telephone scam industry and I paid him the money. Later I realized that I had been scammed.

Years ago, a dear friend received a telephone call from someone posing as an IRS agent. The scammer told the senior adult man that he owed \$45,000 in back taxes for various reasons. The friend was about 90 years old and living on a meager retirement income. He didn't realize he was being scammed, was overwhelmed with anxiety and killed himself.

"At every level of life there is a new devil," an old friend once said. At every stage of life there are new twists, turns and curves. We are never beyond being informed, learning and developing. Young people make mistakes but so do old people. We often think we've lived long enough and know most everything, but we don't. Most of us have become more aware of this problem but crooks work at catching people off guard and are constantly developing new schemes.

Today, we have search engines and are inundated with news and information. However, we don't hear all the news nor do we know everything we need to know when we need to know. Often, we learn the hard way. This is why education is expensive. Life experience education is often the most expensive and difficult of all learning processes. Even in life education we learn but we don't always utilize the life experience very much. Too often we repeat the same mistakes hoping for a different outcome.

We can't go wrong with good information. This is why you need the publication you are reading. Your local paper and online news sources are crucial to a community's health and overall well-being. Local newspapers, blogs and online sources tell what is happening in your local town and county. Support this news source with your subscription and advertising needs. County newspapers that have been around for years continue to close. Every week I receive notification of a newspaper printing its final edition and that's not good news.

*Glenn Mollette is the publisher of Newburgh Press, Liberty Torch and various other publishing imprints; a national columnist - American Issues and Common Sense opinions, analysis, stories and features appear each week in over 500 newspapers, websites and blogs across the United States.*

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## THE BEACON HILL TIMES

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# Boston's COVID-19 numbers show promising trends, but risk of transmission remains

As Boston's COVID-19 metrics continue to improve following a spike in cases and hospitalizations, the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) is reminding residents that the risk for getting COVID-19 remains and that individuals need to get their bivalent booster to avoid severe infection and hospitalization. BPHC also encourages everyone to mask indoors, test before and after large indoor gatherings, and to stay home when ill.

Daily COVID-19 cases in Boston have decreased by 23% over the past week and by 42% over the last 14 days (as of 1/20/23) and new COVID-19 hospitalizations are down by 10% and 16% during the same time frames (as of 1/20/23). In another positive sign, the CDC moved Suffolk County back down to medium community risk last week, after a short period of being at high.

Data from BPHC's newly launched wastewater surveillance program show the number of COVID-19 particles in the city's wastewater decreased by 52% over the past two weeks and are now at an average of 1,856 COVID RNA copies/mL throughout Boston. Six of the 11 neighborhoods in Boston fall below this average.

"All of our metrics are currently trending in the right direction. But it is important to remain vigilant. Nationally, hundreds of people still die from COVID daily," said Dr. Bisola Ojikutu, Commissioner of Public Health and Executive Director of the Boston Public Health Commission. "I encourage

everyone to get boosted, test for COVID-19, access treatment if positive, wear masks indoors and stay home if you are sick."

Boston has also seen considerable improvement on the spread of influenza, with 79 confirmed cases from January 14-20, down significantly from the peak of 944 cases observed December 3-9. While this is another encouraging trend, it is

important to note that flu season can be bimodal and have two peaks of activity. As such, getting an annual flu vaccination remains critically important for ensuring protection during the remainder of flu season.

The Boston Public Health Commission has several free, walk-in standings sites offering COVID-19 vaccines and boosters, testing, flu vaccinations, and rapid at-home testing kits throughout the city. Services are available for everybody ages 6-months and older with no IDs or proof of insurance needed. Seventy-five dollar gift cards are available for those who get a COVID-19 vaccine or booster, while supplies last. This incentive is offered in collaboration with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

Boston City Hall – 1 City Hall Sq., Haymarket Room

· Open Mondays 7am-1pm and Wednesdays 12-5pm

Bruce C. Bolling Building – 2302 Washington St., Roxbury

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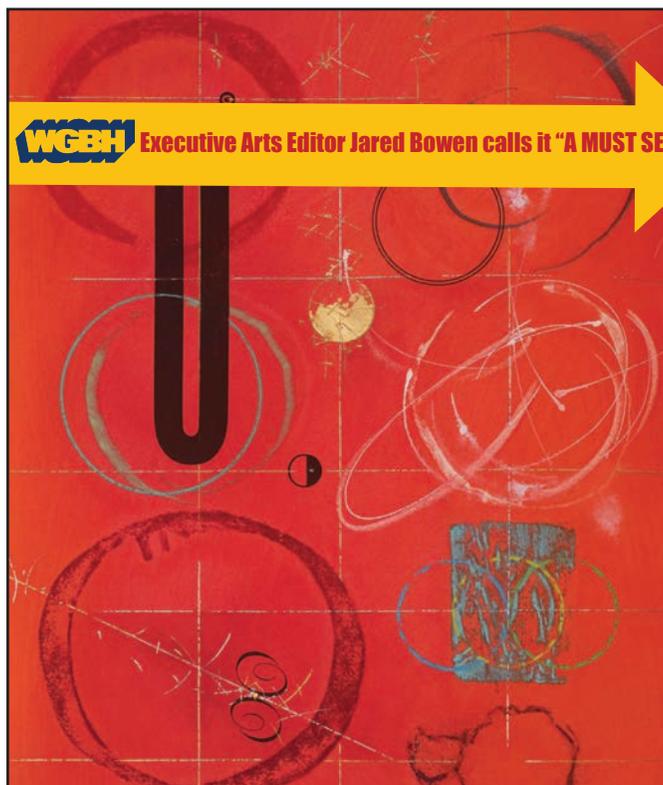
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# BPDA and BTD announce findings of Copley Connect pilot program

Special to the Times

The Boston Planning & Development Agency and Boston Transportation Department announced on Thursday, Jan. 19, the findings of the 2022 Copley Connect pilot program via the launch of a story-map that details the data collected over 10 days last June.

Following the success of the pilot, transportation planners with the BPDA and BTD intend to study permanent improvements to Dartmouth Street between the Boston Public Library and Copley Square Park that would improve the public realm between three of Boston's most popular civic spaces and formally unify Copley Square,

according to a press release from the city.

During the pilot, the space was opened to pedestrians and closed to non-emergency vehicular traffic. This new public space maintained the existing bike lane and featured café seating, food trucks, performances, dance lessons, and library programming over the course of 10 days. An emergency vehicle lane was also incorporated into the Copley Connect design for Dartmouth Street. Emergency vehicle access on Dartmouth Street will continue to be an important design consideration.

The majority of the feedback following the pilot was over-

whelmingly positive, with many visitors saying they would visit the area more frequently if it was made a permanently car-free space. BTD and BPDA staff engaged with approximately 1,000 people over the course of the event. Staff provided a survey on site and online for those who could not attend or did not get the chance to fill one out in person.

"We saw this summer how Copley Connect brought people together to build community and opened up biking and walking without substantially adding to traffic," Mayor Michelle Wu said in a press release. "The data shows that open streets can spark economic and community vibrancy when we make them safe. We will continue to work with residents and local organizations to reimagine how our streets work for us."

Added Chief of Planning Arthur Jemison: "I want to thank our partners in BTD for working with us to create such a successful pilot program. We look forward to continuing to work together to see how we can make this space on Dartmouth Street work best for Bostonians and all those visiting our great city going forward."

Chief of Streets Jascha Franklin-Hodge said in a press release: "The Copley Connect pilot showcased the creative ways that we can use the shared space of the



The BPDA and BTD intend to study permanent improvements to Dartmouth Street between the Boston Public Library (above) and Copley Square Park.

streets to benefit more people. We appreciate the partnership of the BPDA as we continue to explore the possibilities of connecting these important spaces in the City."

Transportation planners collected data before and during Copley Connect to understand how the pilot impacted walking, biking, and driving activity on City streets. An analysis of motor vehicle routes in the area found that travel times during the pilot were generally comparable to pre-pilot travel times, with minimal time added onto trips. The analysis found that lower traffic volumes made Dartmouth Street more comfortable for biking. These results have encouraged the BPDA and BTD to advance the Copley Connect Long-Term Design Strategy, which

will identify concepts for the redesign of Dartmouth Street and identify ancillary changes to nearby streets, as needed, according to the city.

There are a number of factors the City and BPDA examined during the pilot initiative including the impact on the surrounding street network and the use of the open street space. During these 10 days, staff engaged with the public about the pilot and how they think this space should be used moving forward. In addition to the ongoing community engagement throughout the duration of the pilot, the BPDA held a "Chat With a Planner" event on site, in which community members spoke with neighborhood planners about the initiative.

Besides this initiative, the Boston Parks and Recreation Department is in the process of making improvements to Copley Square Park, which borders Dartmouth Street. These improvements will protect and enhance existing trees, strengthen the connection between the Square and the Library, improve the existing fountain, provide lush green space for enjoyment and habitat, and create new opportunities for seating and gathering, as a way to reinvigorate the area as a community gathering space, according to the city.

At its last monthly meeting on Thursday, Jan. 19, the BPDA board of directors on Thursday, voted to authorize a request for proposals (RFP) to engage a consultant design firm for a one-year term to study making permanent improvements to the Dartmouth Street right of way.

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# Molasses flood murder mystery released by Boston author

Frances McNamara from Boston's West End debuted her mystery novel "Molasses Murder in a Nutshell" in the "Nutshell Murder Mystery" collection Jan. 15, 2023 as part of Level Best Book's Historia line. Set during the famous Boston molasses flood, the book introduces historical figures Frances Glessner Lee and Dr. George Magrath as fictional detectives.

"Molasses Murder in a Nutshell" is set in January 1919. A tank bursts in Boston's North End, flooding the neighborhood with molasses. When a woman is found murdered in the wreckage, Frances Glessner Lee asks her old friend, medical examiner Dr. George Magrath to help exonerate a young serviceman. Frustrated by her lack of education and skills, she wants to clear the young man's name and find the killer. Will creation of a miniature crime scene lead to the truth? It's the best she can do.

"The purpose of a forensic investigation is said to be 'convict the guilty, clear the innocent, and find the truth in a nutshell.'"

This is the first in a series of fic-

tional stories roughly based on the "Nutshell Studies of Unexplained Death." Over twenty miniature crime scenes were used from the 1940's to the present to train police detectives. Set in the 1920's these stories imagine Frances Glessner Lee working with Suffolk County Medical Examiner, Dr. George Magrath to learn about "legal medicine" as forensic science was known at the time. Working with Magrath provided the foundation for the miniatures for which Frances Glessner Lee has become known as the Mother of Forensic Science.

McNamara grew up in Boston where her father served as Police Commissioner for ten years. A retired librarian, she is author of 9 books in "The Emily Cabot Mysteries" about a social activist in Chicago during the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Praise for Frances McNamara's previous novels:

"...The real-life characters mingle seamlessly with the fictional ones to capture the myriad contradictions of Chicago, from the dirty politicians and gangsters who run

the city to the idealists, intellectuals, and revolutionaries who are committed to social change. This timely novel informs as much as it entertains." Publishers Weekly starred review for book 9 or the series.

"McNamara packs in fascinating and edifying period details while never losing sight of the riveting mystery plot. Historical fiction fans won't want to miss this one." PW starred review for book 8 of Emily Cabot Mysteries series.

"McNamara's suspenseful third Emily Cabot mystery...convincingly recreates a pivotal moment in American labor history...Laurie King and Rhys Bowen fans will be delighted." Publishers Weekly

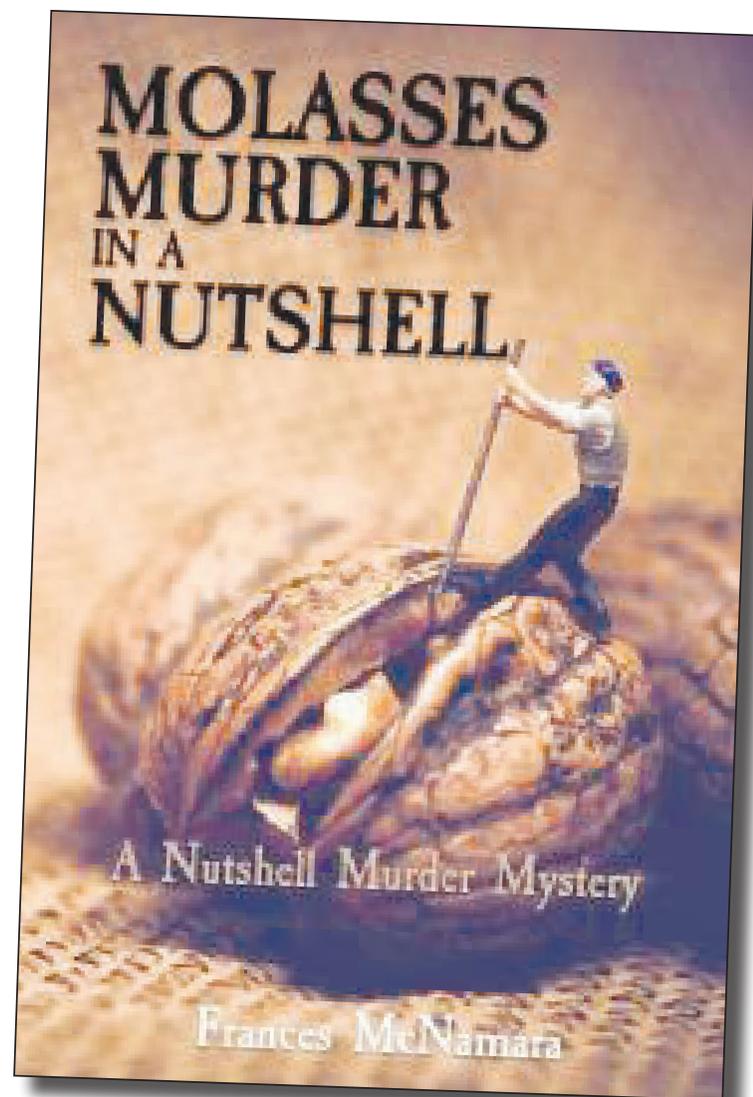
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# The Lyric Stage Company of Boston presents The Great Leap by Lauren Yee

The Great Leap by Lauren Yee and directed by Michael Hisamoto brings compelling storytelling, humor, and the power of second chances together to tell the story of one promising basketball player's incredible journey to China to play the game he loves but winds up destined for something far greater.

It's 1989 San Francisco and Manford Lum, a gifted, fast-talking teenager, dominates the high school basketball courts. Facing an uncertain future, he convinces Saul, a cynical and crusty coach, to let him travel to Beijing for a "friendship" game in China. Waiting there is a Chinese national coach with unfinished business, both with Saul and with Manford. On the eve of historic demonstrations, all three men are challenged to define their pasts and their futures.

Performances begin Friday, February 24 and run through Sunday, March 19. Press Performance is Sunday, February 26 at 3pm. Email [heather\\_darrow@lyricstage.com](mailto:heather_darrow@lyricstage.com) for tickets.

Director Michael Hisamoto says, "I can't wait to share Lau-

ren's story with you. The Great Leap is, on its surface, a play about basketball. But underneath that, it's a play about taking chances, raising your voice, and fighting for what you want. It's about aiming for the seemingly impossible, taking a shot, and risking it all.

Featuring Barlow Adamson\*, Jihan Haddad\*, Gary Thomas Ng\*, and Tyler Simahk\*.

Scenic Design is by Baron Pugh\*\*, Costume Design by Seth Bodie, Lighting Design by Michael Clark Wonson, and Sound Design by Elizabeth Cahill.

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# Two new museum exhibits celebrate contrasting elements of maritime life

The USS Constitution Museum, in partnership with the USS Constitution Model Shipwright Guild and the Seafarer's Trust, proudly presents the 43rd annual exhibit, Masters of Miniature: Ship Model Show, and the new companion photography show "Life At Sea 2022". The exhibits, opening on Saturday, January 28, showcase the intricate and spectacular handcrafted models from local modelers alongside photography documented by seafarers worldwide, shining a light on the human side of the experiences and challenges this essential workforce faces.

Ship modeling is an art as old as shipbuilding itself and one for which USS Constitution has been a favored subject. Model shipbuilding provides a glimpse into vessels' remarkable history and intentional design. The process reveals much about the original shipbuilder's design, engineering, form, and functional considerations as they built a ship to accomplish a specific purpose. This year's Model Show showcase over 70 exquisite, handcrafted models of all types created by USS Constitution Model Shipwright Guild members across New England. From ninth-century ships to pleasure craft of today and everything in between, the show



PHOTO BY ARVY VERDER, ITF SEAFARERS' TRUST LIFE AT SEA PHOTO COMPETITION

Arvy Verder's "PATINTERO" is part of the "Life at Sea 2022" photo competition by the ITF Seafarers' Trust on display at the USS Constitution Museum. The image captures crew on a vessel at anchor in China playing a traditional Filipino children's game known as "block and catch" or "block the runner."

includes vessels of many kinds made by skilled Modelers representing Master Craftsmen and a new generation of modelers. They will be available daily to answer questions and demonstrate the craft of model building. Attendees can vote for their favorite model.

This year, the Museum also features a companion exhibit, ITF Seafarers' Trust LIFE AT SEA 2022, to convey the human side of maritime life. Featuring submissions to the ITF Seafarers' Trust photography competition, the

images were taken by seafarers at work, communicating their unique perceptions and experiences while forging lives connected to ships and the sea. In contrast to the perfectly and intricately designed ship models, the emotionally charged imagery conveys the challenges and incredible passion of people who work in various ways connected with the sea. Robert Kiihne, Director of Exhibits at the USS Constitution Museum, explains, "These personal, moving images shine a light on the experiences of

people who are often invisible to us; the seafaring men and women from around the world that make trade possible. By presenting their reality alongside the work of highly skilled Model shipwrights, we hope to explore the engineering beauty of ships throughout history and the realities their human crews face daily."

The Masters of Miniature and LIFE AT SEA 2022 exhibits will run from January 28 through February 25, 2023. Both exhibits are open to all visitors during regular Museum hours, from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. daily. Admission is by suggested donation.

The Boston Marine Society sponsors Masters of Miniature.

The USS Constitution Model Shipwright Guild encourages the art of constructing model ships and supports research in nautical history through its monthly meetings, workshops, educational activities, and exhibits. Guild members maintain a working model shop at the USS Constitution Museum, with an extensive library of modeling books and plans. For more information about model building: <https://www.uscmsg.org>

The ITF Seafarers Trust is a UK charity established in 1981, which

funds programs that advance the well-being of maritime workers, seafarers, and their families. They are funded by the Trust's own capital funds, and by the investment income of the Welfare Fund at the International Transport Workers Federation, a global federation of transport workers' unions representing nearly 20 million members. For more information, visit <https://www.seafarerstrust.org/>.

The USS Constitution Museum serves as the memory and educational voice of USS Constitution by offering award-winning exhibits where all ages can have fun while learning and exploring history together. The Museum's mission is to engage visitors in the story of Constitution to spark excitement about maritime heritage, naval service, and the American experience. The Museum is open seven days a week with a pay-what-you-wish admission policy, and the Virtual Museum is open 24/7. The USS Constitution Museum is a 2022 winner in USA Today's 10Best Readers' Choice in the "Best History Museum" category and Boston Parents Paper's Family Favorites in the "Historic Sites & Tours" and "Museums & Attractions" categories. For more information, visit [uscsm.org](http://uscsm.org).

## John Borders named Director of Tourism, Sports and Entertainment

Staff Report

Mayor Michelle Wu announced that John Borders IV will serve as the new Director of Tourism, Sports and Entertainment for the City of Boston, a critical department within the Economic Opportunity and Inclusion Cabinet.

Borders IV most recently served as Principal of VTH & Madison, a consulting firm based in Boston, where he concentrated on implementing strategies focused on the

growth and expansion of businesses owned by people of color like startups and celebrity boutique brands. Prior to his work at VTH & Madison, he served as an Account Executive at Everfi, a mission-driven company that addresses education inequities through data-driven software, and as Senior Manager of Community Engagement at the Boston Celtics.

"Boston is a city for everyone, with something special for every resident and every visitor to experience across our neighborhoods,"

said Mayor Michelle Wu. "As Boston continues to grow and welcome people from around the globe, we look to center and highlight the vibrancy of our communities even more. I'm grateful to John for his commitment to serving our city and look forward to his leadership in ensuring that Boston is a welcoming and inclusive place for all."

"As Boston emerges from the pandemic, it is an exciting opportunity to bring residents and visitors together," said Segun Idowu, Chief of Economic Opportunity and Inclusion. "With a vision of revitalizing our communities and turning our neighborhoods into destinations, I know that John, as a son of Boston, will enhance our standing on the local and global stage."

In this role leading the Mayor's Office of Tourism, Sports and Entertainment, Borders IV will help to advance the department's new vision of creating a more welcoming City by proactively attracting the meetings, events, conventions, and festivals that amplify Boston's rich cultural diversity and bring people together. This will be done through the planning, devel-

opment, and implementation of special community-driven events and celebrations, and deeper collaboration with agencies like Meet Boston, the Massachusetts Convention Center Authority, and the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce. Additionally, Borders IV will oversee the process of film and TV production in the City, ensuring a broader understanding of the City's diversity is highlighted and that all neighborhoods are cast in a positive light.

"What an opportunity to join the Administration in this role at such a critical time in the history of our city," said John Borders IV, Director of Tourism, Sports, and Entertainment. "As the narrative of Boston continues to shift we get to shape the next chapter of what that means locally, domestically, and internationally. I am excited to leverage Boston's greatest resource - its people - to enhance the great work already being done by so many and to amplify what's to come. The possibilities are endless and the best of Boston's communities will be showcased like never before."

A son of the City, John Borders IV is a graduate of Morehouse College and proudly hails from



John Matthew Borders IV, new Director of Tourism, Sports and Entertainment.

Dorchester, MA. With a career focused on leveraging brands for impact, his skill sets have shown forth through focused work in the areas of corporate social responsibility, community engagement, relationship management, and business development. Some of the organizations Borders IV has worked with include Goalsetter, Everfi, CUME, Morning Star Baptist Church, the Boston Celtics, as well as the Patrick administration for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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# BPDA holds Inclusionary Development Policy forum

By Adam Swift

A proposed change to Boston's inclusionary development policy needs to offer more opportunity for truly affordable housing units in the city, according to housing advocates who spoke during a Boston Planning and Development Agency online forum on Saturday, Jan. 21.

BPDA and city officials laid out the background of inclusionary development and the proposed zoning proposal, as well as the path it needs to take for final approval, during the forum.

Mayor Michelle Wu announced proposed changes to the IDP policy on December 15, 2022.

The Mayor's proposed changes to IDP include: Lowering the threshold from 10 to seven units, and, for rental projects, increasing the proportion of the project that is income-restricted from 13% to 20% of the project, while also deepening affordability requirements. In addition, 17% of the project will be income restricted at an average of 60% of Area Median Income, and an additional 3% of the project will be offered at market rents and reserved for people with housing vouchers.

"Up until now, the only way we got inclusionary development units was because a project needed some kind of zoning relief and was 10 or more units," said Tim Davis, a deputy director in the mayor's housing office. "With this new power that was given to us in 2021, we can now put inclusionary housing into the zoning code, and this process is part of the legislatively required process to include a feasibility study, housing conditions study and to put that in and then go forward with zoning."

The current policy applied to projects with 10 or more units that require zoning relief. In 2015, the city created three zones for inclusionary development.

"Looking at the proposed inclusionary zoning, developments that do not need zoning relief and are built as right will still have to support income-restricted housing," said Davis. "The proposal is to drop the trigger from 10 units to seven units."

Under the new policy, rather than requiring a set number of inclusionary units, requirements will be calculated in square footage to allow for more flexibility and the production of family sized units, Davis said.

"For example, if we would have required 15 units under the old policy, but a lot of them were studios and one bedrooms, we might get 14 units instead of 15 units because we are also getting two-bedroom units as part of the package," Davis said.

The biggest change in the housing zones would see Charlestown moving from Zone B to Zone A, and East Boston moving from Zone B to Zone C when it comes to some of the specifics of the inclusionary development plan.

"For home ownership in zones A and B, we would be looking at getting 10 percent of the square footage at 80 percent of area median income, and an additional 10 percent at 100 percent of area median income for a total of 20 percent of square footage for and average AMI of 90 percent," said Davis. "Under Zone C, we get 6.5 percent square footage of 80 percent and 6.5 percent at 100 percent of area median income for a total of 13 percent of square footage of average area income. The reason why we have differentiated for Zone C is that we are finding through our usability analysis that even at 13 percent, condo projects in the outer neighborhoods are not actually currently feasible."

Bryan Glasscock, the deputy director of regulatory planning and zoning for the BPDA, highlighted the next steps in the process for the inclusionary development changes.

"As with any potential change to the zoning code, there is a fair amount of public process that's required," said Glasscock. "We've scheduled ... two citywide public meetings to present the work that has been done and what our proposed response is to take to the zoning commission."

After gathering feedback from the public meetings, the final proposed zoning amendment would go to the BPDA board to recommend the zoning change.

"Unlike ordinary zoning, this particular proposal would also then go to the Boston City Council for a vote," Glasscock said. If it passes at the council level, it would then go forward for a public hearing before the Boston Zoning Commission for approval, and eventually be signed by the mayor and become part of the zoning code.

During the public question and answer period on Saturday, Sasha

Goodfriend read a statement on behalf of the Coalition for a Truly Affordable Boston (CTAB), an organization made up of over 20 housing justice organizations that have been advocating for a stronger inclusionary development policy since 2017.

The points addressed in the CTAB statement were echoed by a number of the speakers who followed Goodfriend.

Goodfriend CTAB recently worked with several councilors to introduce a resolution that called for Mayor Wu to do an executive order to strengthen IDP and specifically decrease the income limit for rental units from 70 percent AMI to an average of 40 percent AMI, and decrease the limit of ownership units from 80 to 100 percent AMI to 50 to 100 percent AMI.

"There are some changes in this proposal that CTAB is very excited about, including requiring a percentage of building square footage to be affordable, using an average AMI to allow units to reach lower AMIs, and increasing the payout units," said Goodfriend. "But importantly, the average of 60 percent AMI must be lowered to an average of 40 percent AMI, we believe, specifically to close the racial housing gap. In the city of Boston, most Black, Latinx, and Asian renters have household incomes of less than \$31,000 to \$37,000, and this IDP proposal keeps most units at 60 to 100 percent AMI, which is about \$84,000 to \$140,000 for a family of four."

Goodfriend said CTAB does support the mayor's proposal to mandate 3 percent of units for mobile voucher holders because it believes it will make units more accessible to lower income households.

"However, this proposal to increase the set aside percentage from 13 to 17 percent must be increased, and vouchers can be used on top of that higher number," she said. "We also believe Zone C must have the same affordability requirements for ownership as the rest of the city and shouldn't stay at 13 percent."

Lastly, Goodfriend said the proposal should ensure that the IDP units are made permanently affordable and not converted back to market-rate units.

Several other Boston residents also spoke to advocate for more accessible affordable units for disabled renters.

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## Attention to Detail

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY PENNY CHERUBINO

THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The lion's head in the last clue is over the doorway on 45 Phillips Street, built circa 1899. Lions have been used as a symbol of protection, strength, and greatness across many human cultures for more than 15,000 years.

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

THIS WEEK'S CLUE



## Kick off the New Year with an updated COVID-19 booster and \$75 gift card

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) has extended its \$75 gift card offer through March 31 for Massachusetts residents who get a COVID-19 vaccination or booster at participating "Get Boosted" vaccination clinics in Chelsea, Everett and Revere. The clinics offer first and second doses of the vaccine as well as the updated bivalent COVID-19 booster, which is approved for everyone ages six months and older.

Staying up to date on vaccines, including boosters, is the most effective way to prevent serious illness from COVID-19. Commonwealth residents who get vaccinated or boosted against COVID-19 at any of the designated clinics can receive a \$75 gift card to a local retailer for each dose administered, while supplies last.

DPH is working with local partners to make the COVID shots accessible to as many people as possible.

- In Chelsea, clinics are currently scheduled at the Senior Center, 10 Riley Way, every Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Feb. 26;

- In Everett, clinics are currently scheduled on Tuesdays and Saturdays at Eliot Family Resource Center (times vary), and on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Pope John High School through March;

- In Revere, clinics are currently scheduled at Women Encouraging Empowerment, 50 Walnut Ave., on Tuesdays Jan. 24 and Jan. 31 from 3 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

To find a clinic offering the \$75 gift card near you, go to [Mass.gov/GetBoosted](https://Mass.gov/GetBoosted). No ID or proof of health insurance is required.

In October 2022, DPH launched the Get Boosted campaign as part of its Vaccine Equity Initiative to increase vaccination rates, with a focus on boosters. Massachusetts is a national leader in COVID-19 vaccination;

according to the CDC, 93% of the state's population age 6 months and older has received at least one dose, compared with 81% nationally. Some 64% of fully vaccinated individuals in Massachusetts have had a booster.

"We'd like to see as many people vaccinated as possible, so we are offering these community-based COVID vaccination clinics – including a \$75 gift card incentive at select locations – to make it easier for people to protect themselves and those around them," said Massachusetts Public Health Commissioner Margret Cooke. "These boosters provide the best protection against the Omicron subvariants, which are currently the most prevalent strains of COVID-19 in Massachusetts. The vaccine and boosters are proven to be safe and effective for adults and children. If you've been thinking about getting the vaccine, now is the time."

## NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDUP

Gibson House Museum to offer virtual program on 'Sargent's Women'

Gibson House Museum will offer a virtual program called "Sargent's Women: Four Lives Behind the Canvas" on Tuesday, Feb. 7, from 7 to 8 p.m.

In this illustrated virtual lecture, author Donna M. Lucey will explore the extraordinary experiences of four women painted by the iconic, high society Gilded Age portraitist John Singer Sargent. Each woman inhabited a rarefied world of large fortunes and strict

conventions yet managed to do something unexpected to upend society's rules. Basing her research on original letters, and diaries, Lucey uncovered stories of forbidden love, family conflict, ambition, desire, and triumph.

Admission is \$12 for non-members of the museum and \$10 for members. Register at <https://www.thegibsonhouse.org/events>.

**Upcoming Hill House happenings**

Hill House will be hosting a free Valentine's Day Party, featuring

games, crafts, and a singalong, on Wednesday, Feb. 8, from 3:30 to 5 p.m. at the Firehouse at 127 Mt. Vernon St.

Also, Hill House will be hosting its annual Wine Dinner on Thursday, March 30, at Beacon Hill Bistro at 25 Charles St. Cocktails will be served at 6:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 7:30 p.m. Tickets and sponsorships are available at <https://interland3.donorperfect.net/weblink/weblink.aspx?name=E22709&cid=28>.

## OBITUARIES

### Paul Donnelly

Founding member of the Roger Williams University School of Architecture

In the early 1970s, Paul J. Donnelly was an architecture student at the Boston Architectural Center and lived in Cambridge. The day he got off the T at Charles Circle and walked down Charles Street, he fell in love with Beacon Hill and decided it would be his home. He moved into a loft on Charles Street and maintained a residence on Beacon Hill for the rest of his life.

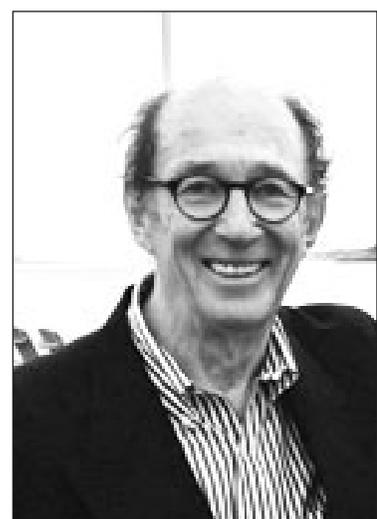
Paul John Donnelly, 78, died January 17, 2023 after a long battle with squamous cell carcinoma.

Born in Boston, he was the son of the late Lawrence P. Donnelly and Louise Donnelly. Paul grew up in the close-knit community of Dorchester Lower Mills and maintained many life-long childhood friendships. He went to Cathedral High School in the South End and received his bachelor's degree in structural engineering from Northeastern University, a master's degree in engineering mechanics from Columbia University and a bachelor of architecture degree from the Boston Architectural Center.

An extraordinary teacher of architecture and a founding member of the Roger Williams University School of Architecture, Paul was devoted to his students. As an educator, he held the Rebecca & John Voyles Chair in Architecture at Washington University in St. Louis for 17 years. His research interests included membrane technology, air structure, robotics, technology transfer, technology integration, and enclosures and environments. His designs have been published and exhibited in the United States, Europe, and Japan, and he received numerous awards for innovation in architectural teaching and technology integration. Paul's teaching and professional projects have been published in leading journals, including Architectural Record, Architecture and Progressive Architecture.

The American Institute of Architects elected him to Fellowship in 2002. Paul most recently served as the Assistant Director for Design for the City of Boston's Public Facilities Department and served on the Beacon Hill Architectural Commission.

Paul was also an artist and maintained a studio in the South End. Reflecting the influence of his architectural studies, his paintings were abstract at the outset, and over time they continued to advance his focus on the interconnectedness of form, material sci-



ence, and abstraction.

Paul was a gentleman with a kind and caring soul. He loved the city of Boston, its landscape and its proximity to the ocean; he enjoyed taking a dip in the water at the L Street Bathhouse and going for a daily walk. He was also exceedingly proud of his dual citizenship with Ireland. Paul had a purist's approach to architecture and art that extended to his desire for plain vanilla ice cream and a classic gin martini.

Paul is survived by his wife, Adelaide (Eshbach), and his beloved siblings, Louise Lydon of Milton and Brian Donnelly of Dennis and by his many nieces and nephews, in-laws, close friends, neighbors, and former colleagues and students. He was predeceased by his brother Lawrence P. Donnelly, Jr., of Milton.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on April 8, 2023, at the MIT Chapel in Cambridge.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorial contributions be made to the Boston Architectural College or The Graduate School of Architecture and Urban Design at Washington University in St. Louis. Please indicate that gifts are for the Paul Donnelly memorial.

Boston Architecture College  
320 Newbury Street  
Boston, MA 02115

Online donations may be made at: <https://the-bac.edu/giving/make-a-gift>

The Graduate School of Architecture & Urban Design  
Washington University in St. Louis

University Advancement  
MSC 1202-414-3100  
7425 Forsyth Boulevard  
St. Louis, MO 63105

Online donations may be made at: <https://giving.wustl.edu/Paul-Donnelly>

## CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

### North Washington Street Bridge construction look-ahead through February 4

This is a brief overview of construction operations and impacts for the North Washington Street Bridge Replacement Project. MassDOT will provide additional notices as needed for high-impact work and changes to traffic configurations beyond those described below.

#### Contraflow Pilot

The MassDOT-implemented pilot contraflow traffic setup on the temporary bridge will continue to be in effect during evening peak traffic (3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.), Monday through Friday for 6 months.

The temporary bridge's current roadway set up provides 1 northbound lane and 2 southbound lanes. As part of the contra-flow pilot, during evening peak traffic there will be 2 northbound lanes and 1 southbound lane.

Traffic monitoring will be in place to determine if the contra-flow traffic setup is effective in improving traffic flow.

The contraflow will not be in place during holidays or inclement weather.

Police details, lane markings, temporary barriers, traffic cones, signage, and other tools will be used to control traffic during set up and operation of the contra-

flow.

#### Scheduled Work

Weld repairs wrap up

Installation of bridge deck formwork at North Abutment

Installation of utility conduits on bridge structure

Installation of steel support and bolting

Installation of marine wooden fender

Installation of sidewalk steel and formwork

#### Work Hours

Most work will be done during weekday daytime hours (6:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.)

#### Travel Tips

For everyone using the temporary bridge, please help share the space: walk to the right, walk bikes, and be mindful of people coming from both directions, if walking in a large group.

Drivers should take care to pay attention to all signage and move carefully through the work zone. Police details, lane markings, temporary barriers, traffic cones, signage, and other tools will be used to control traffic and create safe work zones.

The Tudor Wharf Walkway (under the bridge next to the water in Paul Revere Park) will be intermittently closed for safety

during construction operations, with access provided via the Water Street underpass. The Boston Harborwalk under the bridge and eastern/harborside bridge sidewalk remain closed until rebuilt.

The contractor is coordinating with the TD Garden and local police to provide awareness and manage traffic impacts during events. For your awareness, the following TD Garden events are scheduled during this look-ahead period:

BRUINS: 1/22 at 7:00 p.m.

CELTICS: 1/26 at 7:30 p.m., 1/28 at 8:30 p.m., 2/1 at 7:30 p.m., 2/3 at 7:30 p.m.

ALL OTHER EVENTS: 1/26 at 7:00 p.m., 2/4 7:00 p.m.

How can I find more information?

Stay up-to-date and informed by following the @MassDOT twitter account and Mass 511 for real-time updates, visiting the project website, or emailing us with any questions.

You can also sign up to receive project updates via email by clicking this link.

Project website: [Mass.gov/north-washington-street-bridge-replacement](http://Mass.gov/north-washington-street-bridge-replacement)

Project email: [NorthWashingtonStreet@dot.state.ma.us](mailto:NorthWashingtonStreet@dot.state.ma.us)

## LEGAL NOTICE

### LEGAL NOTICE

ExteNet Systems, Inc. proposes to construct five pole telecommunications structures, that would range between 22 to 30 feet tall, within Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts. The proposed poles would be located near 1018-990 Dorchester Avenue (42° 18' 59.3"N; 71° 3' 23.8"W), 2A Victo-

ria Street (42° 18' 55.6"N; 71° 3' 24.9"W), 61-63 Lawrence Avenue (42° 18' 42.4"N; 71° 4' 36.2"W), 72 Cheney Street (42° 18' 35.8"N; 71° 5' 11.0"W), and 201-229 Harvard Avenue (42° 20' 59.2"N; 71° 7' 49.7"W). ExteNet Systems, Inc. invites comments from any interested party on the impact the proposed undertaking may have

on any districts, sites, buildings, structures, or objects significant in American history, archaeology, engineering, or culture that are listed or determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Comments may be sent to Environmental Corporation of America, ATTN: Annamarie Howell, 1375 Union Hill Industrial Court,

Suite A, Alpharetta, GA 30004 or via email to [publicnotice@eca-usa.com](mailto:publicnotice@eca-usa.com). Ms. Howell can be reached at (770) 667-2040 x 405 during normal business hours. Comments must be received within 30 days of the date of this notice. 22-004573 / 22-004574 / 22-004575 KEB  
1/26/23  
BH

# Wu announces agenda for new state legislative session

Special to the Times

Building upon a successful 2022 legislative year, Mayor Michelle Wu today announced the City of Boston's 2023-2024

state legislative agenda with priority bills focused on improving the lives of Boston's residents. These proposals would amend state laws that impact the City's housing, transportation, early education,

climate, and planning and development policies.

"These legislative proposals would address very urgent issues in the lives of our residents," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "We are

excited to partner with our colleagues on Beacon Hill to ensure Boston and the Commonwealth move forward on these shared priorities."

## Real estate transfer fee and senior tax relief home rule petition

The City of Boston will re-file its home rule petition to allow the City to levy a fee of up to 2% on real estate transactions above \$2 million. The proposal would also increase a tax credit for Boston senior homeowners. The fee would generate nearly \$100 million annually to create and preserve affordable housing in Boston and reduce property taxes for qualified low-income senior homeowners. This proposal has been filed as HD.3016.

## Boston seat on MBTA Board of Directors

Boston residents, Boston Public Schools (BPS) students, and commuters throughout the City make up the core of the MBTA's ridership. The City will again pursue legislation to add a Boston seat on the MBTA's Board of Directors. The proposal will build on support garnered last session when former Governor Baker, Senate, and House leadership supported the proposal to add a Boston seat to the Board. This proposal has been filed as HD.451 and SD.563.

## MBTA Commuter Rail fare equity

This proposal would make all single ride fares from commuter rail stations in Boston the same price as a single trip on the T, currently \$2.40, significantly expanding access to stations in Roslindale, Hyde Park, Readville, and West Roxbury, which are currently priced at \$6.50 or \$7.00 per ride. Increased commuter rail ridership during the Orange Line shutdown demonstrated that residents can be incentivized to ride the commuter rail and help ease some regional congestion. This proposal has been filed as HD.1303 and SD.1242.

## Consumer protection

At a time of rising energy costs, this legislation would ban predatory competitive electric supply companies that trap unsuspecting residents into high electric bills. Extensive investigations by the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office have documented the ways that Massachusetts residents, particularly low-income residents and people of color, are targeted by

these companies. The City of Boston's municipal aggregation program, Boston Community Choice Electricity (BCCE), offers rates that are half the price of Basic Service. This proposal has been filed as HD.3214 and SD.648.

## Early Education

Currently, families who become unhoused must go through a lengthy process to receive state vouchers for childcare, cutting off families from care when they need it most. This legislation would close the gap so that unhoused families would immediately receive childcare vouchers. Last year, the City was grateful to receive \$1 million from the federal government through the support of Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley to support families in this time of need. This legislation would also automatically qualify unhoused children ages 0-3 for early intervention services for one year after becoming unhoused. This proposal has been filed as HD.3061.

## Rent Stabilization

Boston plans to file a home rule petition this year that will protect families from rent gouging and displacement as Boston continues to grow. This proposal builds on Mayor Wu's ongoing initiatives to address housing affordability in Boston. To date, that includes signing an Executive Order designed to speed up affordable housing production, signing an Executive Order relative to affirmatively furthering fair housing, hiring the City's first Chief of Planning, announcing an action plan to best utilize the City-owned land described in the Public Land for Public Good: Citywide Land Audit, and launching Welcome Home Boston, a historic investment in affordable homeownership in Boston.

## Urban Renewal

Given the upcoming expiration of a dozen urban renewal plan areas across Boston, the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) and the Wu administration will seek to amend the decades-old state law that governs Urban Renewal in Boston to remove and modernize antiquated structures which would allow Boston to better meet the needs of current and future Boston residents. The City will be filing a home rule petition with the Boston City Council soon.

# DOYLE

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Seaman Schepps Earclips

UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS & CONSIGNMENT DAY

## Fine Jewelry Exhibition

February 1 - 2, 10am - 5pm

## Consignment Day

January 31, 10am - 4pm

By appointment only

### LOCATION

236 Clarendon Street, Boston

### CONTACT

Kathryn Craig & Chris Barber

617-999-8254

Boston@Doyle.com

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