DIA DE MUERTOS CELEBRATION IN COPLEY SQUARE

South End Lion an intriguing mystery on Columbus Ave.

By Seth Daniel

When Paul Wright first moved to the South End in 1972, it wasn’t long before he and his young boys found a mysterious granite lion outside 511 Columbus Ave. in the South End.

The lion seemed not to have a purpose, but had obviously been guarding the entrance to the grand old home for generations. He was a formidable sidewalk predator, and Wright joked that he would often put his fingers in the mouth of the lion and feign being bit. His boys would love it, as would his grandchildren decades later.

But beyond the fun and games, Wright and others in the neighborhood wanted to know more about the curious and mysterious South End Lion.

“I came here for graduation school and we ended up spending most of our lives here,” said Wright, a Board member of the South End Historical Society. “When our boys were young we used to go out on adventures in the neighborhood. It was very odd to find that lion on the sidewalk, and especially in a residential neighborhood. The larger picture is that what you have in this kind of neighborhood is that everything has history.”

Baker Administration Wins Big

Gov. Charlie Baker and his wife, Lauren, celebrate a big win Tuesday night at the Hyatt Convention Center alongside Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito and her husband, Stephan Rodolakis.

The MBTA Fenway Portal Project has started; residents concerned about noise

By Lauren Bennett

The MBTA Fenway Portal Project is in full swing—workers are working to install flood control measures at the entrance to the Green Line subway tunnel at Fenway station.

According to the MBTA’s website, flooding at the portal near Fenway station “has been a significant issue for the MBTA since Green Line D-branch service began in 1959.” In 1996, the Muddy River overflowed and filled the Green Line subway tunnel all the way up to Arlington Station, causing nearly $70 million in damage. Service was suspended on the Green Line for nearly seven days, and it was estimated that 40 million gallons of water were pumped out of the tunnel. This project is an effort to prevent something like this from happening again.

“This important project will lead to significant improvements at the entrance to the Green Line tunnel to protect the portal during extreme flooding events,” said Joe Pesaturo, Director of Communications for the MBTA.

The project consists of the construction of flood gates and flood doors at the the portal that can be shut if there is a major storm, he said. “These will be similar to the doors installed years ago on the Red Line beneath the Fort Port Channel near South Station,” Pesaturo said, and the project will also include a “major overhaul” of the existing water pumps and the installation of a new drainage system. Pesaturo said that the construction cost is $8.1 million.

The project website says that the construction will take place over a 16-month period, most of it occurring on weekends to limit disruptions in service. “A limited amount of work will also be performed during weeknights and weekends,” the site reads.

Shuttle buses have replaced Green Line D Branch service between Reservoir and Kenmore stations on weekends beginning October 27. This will continue for eight consecutive weekends (ending on December 16) to allow work for the Fenway Portal Project, as well as the D branch’s Green Line D Branch service ends.

Weekend, after-hours work creates tension in South End

By Seth Daniel

A Kumbaya moment earlier this year between frustrated Southenders and City Hall on a policy for weekend and after-hours construction work has been spoiled for many in the neighborhood by what they say is a reversal of that perfect harmony.

City officials, however, including ISD Commissioner Buddy Christopher said nothing has changed and no precedent has been set by recent work approvals at The Smith (formerly Harrison Albany Block). He said recent approvals are only part of the special circumstances detailed in the policy.

The Smith had requested after-hours work until 10 p.m. through April last month to do concrete pours that need to go beyond the regular workday, but the community pushed back strongly. Christopher said they compromised and will pour half of a floor instead of an entire floor. He has approved the after-hours permit for them, he said, until 9 p.m. three days a week through December. At some point in December, he said they would assess the situation and see if the after-hours permits are appropriate to continue through the spring.
BE SURE TO THANK OUR VETERANS

Its was 100 years ago this Sunday, on Nov. 11, 1918, that World War I formally came to a conclusion on what is famously referred to as the 11th hour, of the 11th day, of the 11th month.

Americans observed the first anniversary of the end of the war the following year when the holiday we now know as Veteran’s Day originated as Armistice Day in 1919.

The first world war was referred to at the time as “the war to end all wars.” It was thought that never again would mankind engage in the sort of madness that resulted in the near-total destruction of Western Civilization and the loss of millions of lives for reasons that never have been entirely clear to anybody either before, during, or since.

Needless to say, history has shown us that such thinking was idealistically foolish. Just 21 years later, the world again became enmeshed in a global conflagration that made the first time around seem like a mere practice run for the mass annihilation that took place from 1939-45.

Even after that epic second world war, America has been involved in countless bloody conflicts in the 73 years since General Douglas MacArthur accepted the Japanese surrender on the Battleship Missouri. Today, we still have troops fighting -- and dying -- on frontlines around the world.

Peace at hand has been nothing but a meaningless slogan for most of the past century.

Armistice Day officially became known as Veteran’s Day in 1954 so as to include those who served in WWII and the Korean War. All of our many veterans since then also have become part of the annual observance to express our nation’s appreciation to the men and women who bravely have answered the call of duty to ensure that the freedoms we enjoy as Americans have been preserved against the many challenges we have overcome.

Although Veteran’s Day, as with all of our other national holidays, unfortunately has become commercialized, we urge our readers to take a moment, even if just quietly by ourselves, to contemplate what we owe the veterans of all of our wars and to be grateful to them for allowing us to live freely in the greatest nation on earth.

If nothing else, Veteran’s Day should remind us that freedom isn’t free and that every American owes a debt of immeasurable gratitude and thanks to those who have put their lives on the line to preserve our ideals and our way of life.

GUEST OP-ED

Thanking veterans today, and every day

Every year on Nov. 11, we remember the armistice, signed on November 11th, 1918, that ended the First World War. One hundred years later, it can be easy to forget why we celebrate this day of all days, as the living memory of that war fades. The fact is, thousands of young men from Boston’s neighborhoods, and from all across our country, put their lives on the line to defend our allies in the Great War. Today, the legacy of that courage and sacrifice is alive all around us -- in the men and women in our neighborhoods who continue to serve our country; the families who continue to sacrifice; and veterans who continue to make Boston the great city that it is.

It is essential, this year and every year, that we acknowledge and thank those honored members of our community.

More than 22,000 veterans call Boston home. They embody a commitment to service that doesn’t disappear when they hang up their uniforms. When they come home, veterans continue to serve their community as leaders, parents, teachers, mentors, first responders, and more. Their valuable contributions make Boston a better place, and we should be thanking them each and every day for that.

It’s also important for us to remember that veterans and their families often face unique challenges. Many deal with deep wounds, both visible and invisible. Since I was elected Mayor, I have worked hard to make Boston a city where veterans truly thrive, personally and professionally, throughout their lives. I believe that we need to show our veterans that we are grateful every single day.

And one of the most important ways we do this is by showing vets that they can ask for help, and that they will receive it. It’s what we owe them in return for all they have given us. These are the values behind some of our most ambitious work in the City of Boston: from ending chronic veterans homelessness to improving access to supportive housing, healthcare, recovery services, employment programs for vets with and without PTSD; and much more.

A question I hear all the time from residents is, “How can I help?” One of the simplest, and most powerful ways that every member of the Boston community can help support our veterans is simply saying “thank you.” And that’s exactly what we do through Operation Thank a Vet.

Over the last few months, our goal has been to personally reach out to all 22,000 veterans in our city. We wanted to make sure each of them knows about all the resources that our city has made available to them. We’ve connected with thousands of vets so far, but we have thousands more to go. That’s where you come in. On Saturday, Nov. 10, we will go door to door delivering thank you packages and information about opportunities available to veterans.

By joining us as a volunteer, you can help us reach our goal.

And most importantly, you will make a meaningful difference in people’s lives—connecting those who have served their country with a community who is ready to serve them and their families.

A century ago, the events of Nov. 11, gave people hope for a more peaceful and prosperous future. This week, we’ll recognize those among us who have continued that mission and put their lives on the line in the name of those same values. In Boston, we never forget the sacrifices people made for the good of our community.

We know that our strength comes from our willingness to lift our neighbors up in good times and hard times. And we will always be grateful to our veterans, not just on November 11th, but every day.

If you are a veteran who would like to be connected to services in Boston, please reach out to Boston’s Veterans Services, https://www.boston.gov/departments/veterans-services, email veterans@boston.gov, or call 617-241-VETS (8387).

Martin J. Walsh is Mayor of Boston.

PORTAL PROJECT (from pg. 1)

Track and Signal Replacement Project and capital construction work between Beaconfield and Kenmore, according to a press release from the MBTA. There is no shuttle bus service to or from Beaconfield Station; the MBTA is urging its customers to use Reservoir Station or Dean Road on the C branch.

“We acknowledge this may cause an inconvenience to some of our customers, this work will allow our crews to advance the necessary work as part of the Green Line Transformation Project,” MBTA General Manager Luis Manuel Ramirez said in the release. “Upgrading our core infrastructure is key to delivering the kind of service improvements that our customers deserve.”

Though the project will provide improvements to the Green Line in the long run, the construction noise, particularly at night, is a serious concern for Dolores Boogdanian and other members of the Audubon Circle Neighborhood Association (ACNA) who have discussed the Fenway Portal Project at their past few meetings. The MBTA spoke at the October ACNA meeting, which Boogdanian said was appreciated by the Board and “somehow helpful,” but she said that they “offered little” that addressed the issue of noise at night, which she believes is the most significant issue related to the project.

“ACNA project personnel have assured us that all will be done to minimize this; however, the noise and other disruptions that occur when this work is being done late at night and in the early morning hours are immediate and—short of relocating—impossible for the residents living near the station to avoid or ignore,” she said.

She also said that there were several questions that were not addressed at the meeting that the MBTA said they would answer at a later date, but she said she thinks they have yet to be addressed.

ACNA also had concerns about a generator that has been running 24/7 at the site since the project began. Boogdanian said it has been “emitting noise and noxious fumes,” and she said that the MBTA has suggested that they have worked with Eversource on bringing in a new electric utility line for the project, even though it was not originally included in the project plans when the project began.

“This will require new excavation and road work on Miner Street, and the earliest it will be done is December,” Boogdanian said.

According to the Fenway Portal Project MBTA website, the work for the Day Shift from November 13-16 includes this potential Eversource road work on Miner Street, a concrete demolish removal at Pump Station, and the widening of the opening at Pump Station Wall. The Night Shift work from November 12-15 consists of fiber and communication work at Aspinwall Substation.

The MBTA requests that noise issues be directed to the 24/7 noise hotline at 508-676-3550.
Flynn talks pedestrian safety, Hempfest with Bay Village residents

**By Lauren Bennett**

The Bay Village Executive Committee held a quick meeting on November 5 to briefly provide additional updates after the annual meeting.

Progress is being made on the updating of the Bay Village Architectural District guidelines—a draft document has been presented, and they are looking for feedback.

There will be an abutter’s meeting on November 8 for the 67-69 Church St. project, which is where Italian restaurant Erbaluce is currently located. The Bay Village fall cleanup is this Saturday, November 10. Coffee and donuts will be provided for neighbors who come out to beautify the neighborhood as the cold weather draws nearer.

Nancy Morrisroe, who provided an update on the Arlington St. crosswalk at the annual meeting, said that Councilor Flynn, the Boston Transportation Department, and the Public Works Department told her work would start in the spring. However, she said that she would like a walk through because she believes there are some “calming measures that we can do in the meantime, and I would like to see the crosswalk moved to the other side of Isabella before anything is installed.”

However, she said it looks as though they are going through with their design and she doesn’t know if the crosswalk will be moved. Some residents feel the crosswalk is unsafe where it is now.

“Pedestrian safety is really my top issue,” Councilor Ed Flynn said. “We need to reduce the speeds.” He said he will be holding a public hearing on November 13 regarding pedestrian safety.

Flynn said he would like to reduce the citywide speed limit from 25 mph to 20 mph, but that if is unsuccessful, he wants to see it at 20 mph at the very least in places where there are schools or large elderly developments.

He added that he thinks the transportation department is “disexual,” he wants to see it, “that they are doing a lot of work and he’s confident that they are going to get it all done.”

Another issue brought up at the meeting was the state of the Boston Common after the Boston Freedom Rally, better known as “Hempfest.” Many Bay Village residents feel that the park is unacceptable to people who do not want to participate in the rally, and trash and debris is left behind in large quantities after the three day event.

Councilor Flynn is also sponsoring a public hearing regarding this issue on November 14, along with Councilor Josh Zakim.

“I want to see the festival for one day; three days seems excessive to me,” Flynn said. “Those quality of life issues are very important to me.”

Flynn added that if anyone would like to submit testimony for the hearing, it can be sent directly to Flynn or Zakim.

**Weekend Work (from pg. 1)**

“Based on what they’re doing and what else is going on, I will allow some of these to take place,” said Christopher. “They are discretionary. They are based on my experience and the knowledge of others I talk to. At no time is it precedent setting.”

Others disagree, such as South End Forum Moderator Steve Fox and several abutters.

Fox said in his discussions with abutters, they felt that Christopher did not follow up on what was said at a contentious and packed meeting last month on the issue. The consensus from that meeting was that weekend work and after-hours work should be rare, and certainly not several times a week.

With the recent approvals for The Smith, many neighbors wondered just what it was that was agreed to last month.

“We think the decision making process allowed a commitment that no after-hours permits would be granted without community support – and there is none here – and to grant it now is a bit of a slap in the face,” said Fox. “That’s the way many in the South End tell me they feel about this. We feel it’s important to revisit this and find out if this is the way the decisions will be made going forward.”

Christopher said he is still in line with the policy set up earlier this year with the South End that would require any weekend work or after-hours work to be approved by him under emergency circumstances or extraordinary circumstances – along with community notification. In the meeting last month, where more than 100 residents attended, Christopher said as much, but he also alluded to circumstances surrounding monolithic concrete pouring, which can take longer than one work day. He said that is what has happened here at The Smith. He said in order for the concrete pours to be effective, it can take more than a regular work day. The contractor, Suffolk Construction, said in last month’s meeting that they would like to have finishers stay on the job late using three machines that operated at the sound level of a lawnmower.

That wasn’t a popular plan with the neighborhood, and remains unpopular now as well, neighbors said.

“They’ve looked at it and they know what they’re doing,” he said.

“As opposed to a weekend permit, I’ve let them work to 9 p.m. Their goal is to be out of there by 6 p.m., but concrete is unpredictable. The latest buffers will work is 9 p.m.”

Meanwhile, Christopher said Suffolk is looking at using a finishing machine that runs on propane, which would cut the noise substantially. They are also installing sound screens to help keep the noise contained.

Christopher said they would be notifying everyone one week in advance of any permits issued after-hours or on the weekend, as per the policy. He also said that many of the problems he hears about comes from illegal work.

“We put a lot of resources into this,” he said. “In the South End, there isn’t a lot of weekend work going on, but there is a lot of illegal work, and we do whatever we can to catch that and stop it.”
The evening may have been inhospitable with a Nor’easter tearing through, but the party was on at the SoWa Power Station for the South End Soccer Gala. Celebrating 10 years of providing access to the sport of soccer to city youth, ages 5-18, regardless of financial means, South End Soccer uses the sport as a tool to bring all facets of Boston together.

**Garlands & Greens**

*A Neighborhood Tradition*

Come to the Beacon Hill Civic Association’s annual holiday fundraiser to raise funds for the decoration of 1,100 gas lamps throughout Beacon Hill.

**Wednesday, November 14, 2018**

6 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Hampshire House

84 Beacon Street

Hosted by: Tom Kershaw

Enjoy two complimentary drinks (beer, wine or holiday martini)

Hors D’oeuvres

Music by local jazz musicians

Lisa Macalaster & Richard Pierce

A drawing for fabulous prizes

Tickets: $35 BHCA members – $40 Non-members

This event is sure to sell out – get your tickets in advance at [www.bhcivic.org](http://www.bhcivic.org)

Or call the BHCA at 617-227-1922

**Lamp post drawing donated by**

Monika Pauli, Pauli & Uribe Architects

**Photos by Derek Kouyoumjian**
Gov. Baker easily takes Back Bay, shunned in the South End

By Seth Daniel

Gov. Charlie Baker cruised to victory over challenger Jay Gonzalez on Tuesday night’s General Election, and nearly became the first Republican governor to win Boston in decades.

Baker and Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito won convincingly statewide with 67 percent of the vote, and in Boston he lost to Gonzalez by only one percentage point, 50.5 percent to 49.1 percent.

An interesting angle in the downtown neighborhoods was the fact that Baker had surging support in the Back Bay, but lost nearly every precinct in the South End.

In the Back Bay, Baker won 5-6 by a margin of 716 to 367, and 5-9 by a margin of 943 to 661.

Meanwhile, in the South End, Gonzalez won locations like Tent City 1060 to Baker’s 713. In 8-1 and 8-2 at Cathedral High, Gonzalez beat Baker by nearly 200 votes in both precincts.

During his victory party at the Hynes Convention Center in the Back Bay, he said his administration will continue to build bipartisan relationships to tackle the tough issues.

“The people of Massachusetts elected us four years ago to bring fiscal discipline, a reform-minded approach to governing, and a commitment to bipartisanship to state government,” he said. “We have done just that. Every single day. And today, the voters have spoken. They like what we are doing and they appreciate the way we work. So here’s the good news. That collaborative, purposeful and humble approach to governing is exactly what you are going to get from us and from our team for the next four years. Non-stop. Let’s rock.”

For District Attorney, Rachael Rollins won big citywide over Mike Maloney. Rollins had been a controversial candidate in submitting a “list” of crimes she would decline to prosecute during the campaign last summer. That “list” had gotten a lot of attention after the September primary victory, and she has spent most of the last month explaining the plan—which would essentially divert resources from smaller, quality-of-life crimes to investigate larger crimes like homicide, rape and aggravate assaults.

Citywide, Rollins won with 81 percent of the vote.

On Tuesday night, Rollins’ said her election reflects a widespread demand for change in a criminal justice system that for too long has not worked fairly for everyone. Rollins has promised to bring new solutions to the office that will break down wealth and racial disparities, keep communities safe and treat all people with dignity and respect.

“I am humbled by the trust the voters have placed in me to serve as Suffolk County’s next District Attorney,” said Rollins. “I am beyond grateful for the hard work of our volunteers and the support of our community over the last nine months since we launched this campaign. Voters sent a very clear signal today that our criminal justice system is not working for too many people and it’s time for a change. We will start by creating an office that adequately reflects the communities it serves and that is engaged with every neighborhood within the country. Then together we’ll make our criminal justice system better and work to strengthen relationships between communities and law enforcement.”

Question 1 on mandated nurse staffing ratios was defeated easily statewide, and also was defeated with 64 percent of the vote in the Boston. Questions 2 and 3 both passed muster statewide and in Boston.

• Locally, state elected officials were unopposed, but did get a significant vote nonetheless.


Laughter League holds benefit to continue using laughter as medicine at Boston Children’s Hospital

By Lauren Bennett

On Thursday, Nov. 1, the Laughter League Healthcare Clown team from Boston Children’s Hospital put on “Laughter League Live,” a comedy benefit to raise money to reach more children at Boston Children’s Hospital.

The Laughter League provides “professional healthcare clowns” at the children’s hospital Monday through Friday, according to Tiffany Riley, Laughter League co-founder and president.

“We see patients and their families in every scenario from outpatient clinic to intensive care unit,” Riley said. By using the healing power of lighter to “uplift their world” and empower them, the clowns make the children forget that they are sick and in the hospital.

Riley added that the clowns are brought in by medical staff to help with distraction techniques during such things as blood drawing, so the medical professionals can better focus on the task at hand.

“Kids love it, and parents love it too,” she said.

The benefit, which was held at the Virginia Wimb 1 e r l y Theatre at the Calderwood Pavilion at the Boston Center for the Arts, was an evening of comedy and circus skills, as well as variety arts meant to “inspire laughter,” Riley said. The show featured 12 of the Laughter League clowns, as well as young stars from Circus Smirkus in Vermont and some kids from Boston Children’s Hospital. Riley is a clown herself, and performed at the benefit as “Dr. Slappy.”

The Laughter League has been working for over 22 years to make the hospital a more enjoyable experience for children. Riley said that parents will often say, “I haven’t seen my kid laugh in weeks,” but after a visit with the clowns—especially for those who have to make regular visits to the hospital—many children will say, “those are my clowns.” She said there is a relationship that the children develop with the clowns, which puts them at the center of attention in “a very positive way.

“We are a regular part of the fabric [at Boston Children’s Hospital],” Riley said. “Our programs instill moments of joy when illness and disease take a back seat to simply being a kid.”

The light and dark sides joined forces this Halloween as the Egan family, of the Back Bay, made their trick-or-treating rounds clad as stormtroopers and heroes from ‘Star Wars.’

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TRADITION TRANSFORMS COLEY SQUARE

DIA DE MUERTOS CELEBRATION

Celebration of Dia de Muertos, one of the Mexican traditional celebrations, took place at Copley Square on Nov. 1 and 2. Originating with the Aztecs, the Mexican Day of the Dead is a blend of Mesoamerican and Christian rituals which living and dead family members, and friends are joined together in an atmosphere of communion and spiritual regeneration during this period of public and private rituals.

The City of Boston teamed up with Boston’s Consulate General of Mexico, with the support of Aeroméxico, Grupo OMZE, Fine Cacao and Chocolate Institute of Harvard, the Mexican Board of Tourism, the Dancing Chickens of Ventura Fabian, and Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, to create a monumental altar at Copley Square, with the participation of young artists, students and volunteers. The public was invited to send photos of their loved ones to be displayed on the altar and celebrate Dia de Muertos and keep those memories kept alive in Copley Square.

For Inquiries call Phyllis O'Leary at 617 734 3967 e-mail: orp3@comcast.net cell: 617 285 7040

O’Leary’s Antiques Auction

Sat. November 17, 2018
Masonic Lodge 1101 Highland Ave.
Rte 98/128 Exit 19B Needham, MA
Mass License #2514

Auction Preview: 8:30 a.m. - 11 a.m. Auction starts at 11:30 a.m.


For Photos Please Visit: www.olearyantiquesauctions.com

Celebrate Dia de Muertos at the monumental altar created by the City of Boston and Boston’s Consulate General of Mexico.
CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF PROTECTING THE NEIGHBORHOOD

IBA 50TH ANNIVERSARY GALA

Director of PR for Goya Foods, Rafael Toro (center) and his wife Meiling with their friend, Raquel Ortiz.

Samira Bustillo; Phylis Barajas, Founder and CEO of Conexión; and Vanessa Calderón-Rosado, CEO of IBA.

Mayor Martin Walsh and Bob Rivers, CEO of Eastern Bank.

Director of Edward M. Kennedy Institute Dr. Mary Grant raises a toast to IBA’s 50 years of enriching the Puerto Rican community.

IBA, Inquilinos Boricuas en Acción (Puerto Rican Tenants In Action), began 50 years ago as the Puerto Rican community in the South End teamed up with other groups to oppose the Innerbelt I-95 Project, which had already leveled a number of Boston neighborhoods and looked to demolish the South End and many others.

Their victory over “urban renewal” began their journey in protecting and enriching the neighborhood.

Achievements such as the creation of Villa Victoria, the Jorge Hernandez Cultural Center, Escuelita Agueybana, and many other projects have helped make the South End the neighborhood it is.

The Gala saw Boston Mayor Martin Walsh, U.S. Congressional candidate Ayanna Pressley, and other luminaries in attendance, culinary offerings presented by a wide range of Latino restaurants, and 50 members of the Latino community were named and honored for their contributions.

Director of PR for Goya Foods, Rafael Toro (center) and his wife Meiling with their friend, Raquel Ortiz.

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Jose Durante, executive chef and owner of North End culinary treasure Taranta, poses proudly by his octopus dish.

IBA board member Maria Vasallo takes a selfie with Boston Mayor Martin Walsh.

Alex Gray, with Mike and Divina Masso and Director of Policy for Massport Jose Masso III.

Erika Dilday, Julio and Sheila Ricardo (second from left and far right), and Jorge Quiroga, MC for the Gala and renowned WCVB reporter.

Tim Crellin, vicar at St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church in the South End, shows off his bowtie he wore to celebrate the Puerto Rican community.


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Director of PR for Goya Foods, Rafael Toro (center) and his wife Meiling with their friend, Raquel Ortiz.

Samira Bustillo; Phylis Barajas, Founder and CEO of Conexión; and Vanessa Calderón-Rosado, CEO of IBA.

Mayor Martin Walsh and Bob Rivers, CEO of Eastern Bank.

Director of Edward M. Kennedy Institute Dr. Mary Grant raises a toast to IBA’s 50 years of enriching the Puerto Rican community.

IBA, Inquilinos Boricuas en Acción (Puerto Rican Tenants In Action), began 50 years ago as the Puerto Rican community in the South End teamed up with other groups to oppose the Innerbelt I-95 Project, which had already leveled a number of Boston neighborhoods and looked to demolish the South End and many others.

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SOUTH END FORUM CANCELED
South End Forum Moderator Steve Fox alerted the Sun this week that he has been forced to cancel the South End Forum quarterly meeting on Nov. 13. He said due to extenuating circumstances, they were not able to meet at the AC Hotel Ink Block, and he was not able to secure another location on short notice.

The meeting was to include a presentation by Congresswoman-elect Ayanna Pressley and a panel discussion with several City Councilors. He said the meeting likely won’t be rescheduled.

However, the Forum is planning to have an issue-specific meeting within the next few months on weekend/after-hours work.

SOUTH END/BAY VILLAGE FALL CLEAN UP
The Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Services will host the Annual Fall Clean Up in partnership with Love Your Block, Public Works and the Boston Parks Dept. on Saturday, November 10. Please keep in mind that this falls on Veterans Day weekend. Please send an email to faisah.shari@bos-ton.gov to register for the clean up. You will need to specify:
- Where your clean up site is;
- Please note if the site includes an official City of Boston park;
- How many volunteers;
- Trash pick up location.
The annual clean up runs 8-11 a.m. for Bay Village and 9 a.m. - noon for South End. Tools can only be picked up by a registered participant.

BACK BAY HAPPENINGS
- Save the Date! The Fausa Christmas Luncheon will take place on Tues., Dec. 11, at noon in The College Club, 44 Commonwealth Ave. It is hosted by Nancy Thorsley.
- The NABB Development and Transportation Committee meets on Nov. 12 at 5 p.m. at the Learning Project, 107 Marlborough St. All NABB Members are welcome, but should R.S.V.P. to dtnabb@nab-bonline.com.
- The next NABB Green Committee meeting is on Nov. 14 at 5:30 pm at the Learning Project, 107 Marlborough St. For more information, please contact Michael McCord at green@nab-bonline.com.

SOUTH END DATES
- South End Historical Society, Chester Square. Suggested donation is $15, and Historical Society outgoing director Lauren Prescott will be presenting her history book on the South End. Please e-mail Bob Barney for more information, Robert.L.barney@gmail.com.
- Eight Streets Neighborhood Association will have its regular meeting on Tuesday Nov. 13, at 7 p.m. in Project Place on Washington Street. The agenda includes ISD representatives coming to talk about rodent control.
- The East Berkeley Neighborhood Association will host its regular meeting on Tuesday Nov. 13, at 7 p.m. in Project Place.
- Ellis South End Neighborhood Association will have its Fall Clean-Up on Nov. 10 from 9 a.m. to noon. Stop by the Boston Center for the Arts Plaza to pick up rakes, brooms, shovels and bags to help spruce up the neighborhood.
- The IAG for the Exchange South End project will re-convene on Nov. 14 at 6 p.m. in the former Flower Exchange building, 540 Albany St., to discuss next steps in implementation of the public benefits. This is a new process in the South End for distributing and discussing how to mitigate developments.

FENWAY TIMES
- Upcoming Fenway Park Events: Saturday, Nov. 10, 2018 and Sunday, Nov. 11, 2018—Spartan Race, 10,000 expected, times TBA
- Saturday, Nov. 17, 2018—“The Game” Harvard v. Yale, 35,000 expected, noon -3:30 p.m.
- “MY FAVORITE THINGS” JOHN COLTRANE MEMORIAL CONCERT
The Friends of John Coltrane Memorial Concert, Inc. (FJCMC), in collaboration with Northeastern University’s Office of Student Affairs and the College of Social Sciences & Humanities, presents “My Favorite Things” celebrating the holiday spirit Coltrane-styled, bestowing musical good will to all people. The concert will take place on Saturday, Dec. 15 at 7:30 p.m. at the Blackman Auditorium at Northeastern University. This year’s holiday concert will also honor two master JCMC alumni, Bill Pierce and Stan Strickland, both of whom have made indelible musical contributions to Boston and well beyond. “My Favorite Things” is a tribute to these two musicians, planned as an evening of joyous celebration, as well as reflection.This 41st John Coltrane Memorial Concert features a 14-piece JCMC Ensemble under the musical direction of Dr. Carl Atkins, who has created a performance repertoire that will re-animate Coltrane’s compositions, legacy, and philosophy. The concert includes the evening’s theme “My Favorite Things,” along with such masterpieces as “Greensleeves” (arranged

(NEWS BRIEFS Pg. 11)
HONORING 35 YEARS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

THE WOMEN’S LUNCH PLACE SPAGHETTI DINNER

The Women’s Lunch Place in the Back Bay held a spaghetti dinner at Fairmont Copley Plaza on Oct. 19. This year will be a celebration of the 35th anniversary of the shelter. This year’s spaghetti dinner honored Anne and David Bromer for their 21 years of support to Women’s Lunch Place. As many as 445 guests attended the celebration.

Photos by Keiko Heromi

Chef Sherry Hughes of Women’s Lunch Place (R) with Chef Jody Adams during the Women’s Lunch Place Spaghetti Dinner at Fairmont Copley Plaza.

Pat Peterson (chef hat) serving her table with spaghetti.

Sara Bachman (dinner co-chair), Kay Calvert (board chair), Boston Mayor Martin Walsh, Eileen Hsu Balzer (dinner co-chair), Elizabeth Keeley (executive director) and Anne Bromer (honoree).

Honoree Anne Bromer (C) receiving recognition on stage from Eileen Hsu Balzer (L) and Sara Bachman (R).

Jim Manzi, Kay Calvert, (board chair), Sara Bachman (dinner co-chair) and Jeb Bachman during the Women’s Lunch Place Spaghetti Dinner.

Eddie Downes and Eileen Reilly pose for a photo at the Spaghetti Dinner.
Boston Medical buys Crosstown Center at Mass/Cass

By Seth Daniel

Boston Medical Center (BMC) has purchased the Crosstown Center from Maryland developer and the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) for $12 million to support its move from the 88 East Newton St. building.

The hospital bought the building from Multi-employer Property Trust of Bethesda, Maryland. The company is a financial entity, open-end private equity real estate fund, BMC purchased the ground rights from the BPDA. BMC has been consolidating its campus for the past few years, and it is also getting ready to evacuate the 88 E. Newton building so that the state can take possession for the Shattuck Hospital move.

That transaction is expected any day between BMC and the state.

In the meantime, BMC has needed to move operations from 88 E. Newton, and found a home at Crosstown Center.

“As an original and longtime tenant of the Crosstown Center, it made financial sense for Boston Medical Center to purchase the building this October from MEPT Crosstown Center Office LLC given that the window for lease renewals is upcoming in a couple of years,” said a statement from BMC. “BMC will continue to use Crosstown for clinical and administrative office space. Specific services in Crosstown will be determined as part of our Institutional Master Plan, taking into account how to best serve the needs of our community, patients and staff.”

BMC has been moving its staff and operations out of 88 E. Newton for the past month in preparation for the sale to the state.

Fenway Studios to celebrate 10 years of food donations at Open Studios

By Seth Daniel

When the artists of the Fenway Studios come together for their annual Open Studios this weekend, they will not only be displaying their latest works, but they'll be celebrating 10 years of helping the less fortunate with a food drive that coincides with the event.

Artists at the building have a unique setup and wonderful art created in one of the only buildings ever built specifically for the creation of art. But beyond all that wonderful piece of fact, the artists and the Friends of Fenway Studios have taken to helping others as they invite the public into their studios.

Lynda McNally, president of the Friends said about 10 years ago she had the idea to begin collecting food for the Greater Boston Food Bank at the same time as Open Studios. It was an idea that has gained great momentum in 10 years and has helped provide pounds and pounds of food for the needy.

“The artists here decided they wanted to do something for the community and for people less fortunate,” said Peter Williams, an artist who has been at Fenway Studios 43 years. “So, we decided to coordinate a food drive during open studios and assist the community. It was very good for us to know that some child or person would go to bed with a little more than they are used to.”

Added McNally, “They look forward to promoting and helping with these projects. It is a very sincere feeling because this is their neighborhood and community. They want to do whatever they can to fill voids that are here.”

During a visit to Williams’ studio, he showed a painting of a female physician that was being restored so that it could be placed in a local hospital. The woman was Susan Dimock, who has a health center in Roxbury named for her. Dimock, he said, was renowned but didn’t get a lot of credit because she was a woman. Unfortunately, she died in a shipwreck, he said, when she was 30.

Ironically, Williams said the painting had been restored at Fenway Studios previously before his time.

“A gentleman from Marshfield found it and recognized the importance,” he said. “He wanted it restored and it is being given to a hospital. There was a restoration company in the Fenway Studios before I was born that restored this same painting. It was right underneath my studio. Now it has come back again for me to restore it.”

Painter Ed Stitt has been in Fenway Studios since 1989, and he said he has enjoyed the food drive.

“Although it’s hard for me to make a buck as an artist, there are people who don’t have a place or a meal,” he said. “What better idea than giving food? People may not open their wallets, but a can of food they will give. We get quite a lot of support. You know you’re making a difference.”

Stitt said they average around 200 pounds of food each year, and this year they have teamed up with the Lansdowne Pub down the street to provide a free appetizer coupon with a dinner purchase.

“We always want to be generous, and especially in our neighborhood and if we can turn it into a great partnership — like with Open Studios — we’re happy to do that,” said Jeremy Garside of Lansdowne.

added General Manager Ben Hamilton, “We work with the Fenway Alliance and the Victory Gardens too. We’ve been here 10 years and if you’re going to be here, you need to be part of the community. There’s definitely a culture here and we want to participate in that. There is no better way than to assist with the food drive.”

The Fenway Studios building will hold its annual Open Studios on Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 10 and 11 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Ipswich Street.

Open Studios provides a rare opportunity to meet and talk with artists as well as to see the inside of this National Historic Landmark. Fenway Studios is the oldest purpose-built structure in the country designed solely as artist studios.

For the Record

From the Nov. 8 Common Victualler hearing, 10 a.m., City Hall:

• The following has applied for a new Common Victualler License at a previously licensed location.
  • Pokeman, Inc. dba Poke Bar & Kitchen, 311 Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA 02132. Described as one room on first floor with kitchen; 17 seats. To be managed by Rong Gao, between the hours of 7 a.m. – Midnight.

Counsel Committee on Housing and Community Development, Nov. 8, 3 p.m.: Order for a hearing regarding speculation in the Boston housing market. The Chair of the Committee is Councillor Lydia Edwards and the Sponsor is also Councillor Lydia Edwards.

Committee on Planning, Development and Transportation, Nov. 13, 10 a.m.: A hearing regarding speed limits and pedestrian safety. Called for by Councillor Ed Flynn.

From the Nov. 13 Licensed Premise Violation Hearing, 10 a.m., City Hall:


• Bop Productions, LLC, doing business as: Bebop, 1116 Boylston St., Fenway. Date: 09/14/2018. Overcrowding on 1st floor, capacity of 52, mechanical count 67. Expired ISD certificate.

From the Entertainment Application Hearing, Nov. 14, 11:30 a.m., City Hall:

Dilllon’s, 951 BOYLSTON St., Back Bay.

APPLICANT: NEIL GLYNN

City Council Committee on Environment, Sustainability and Parks, Nov. 14, at noon. Hearing to examine the Boston Freedom Rally. Sponsored by Councillors Ed Flynn and Josh Zakim.

From the Nov. 14 Back Bay Architectural Commission, 4:30 p.m., City Hall:

VIOLATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

• 102 Beacon Street: Unapproved rooftop antenna.

• 271 Beacon Street: Unapproved rooftop deck.

• 271 Beacon Street: Update on re-built roof deck inconsistent with 2016 approval.

• 294 Marlborough Street: Unapproved removal of tree at rear yard.

• 272 Marlborough St.:

• 276-278 Newbury St.:

• 82 Marlborough St.: (Continued from 9/12/2018 Public Hearing)

REQUEST: TO MAINTAIN AND OPERATE THE CATEGORIES OF LIVE ENTERTAINMENT WHICH CONSISTS OF TWO (2) INSTRUMENTALISTS, TWO (2) VOCALISTS, AND DISC JOCKEY.

APPLICANT: NEIL GLYNN

At rear elevation remove Alianthus tree.

APPLICANT: NEIL GLYNN

“0/0/18” PREMISE PROVIDING DISC JOCKEY ENTERTAINMENT FOR PATRONS ON FIRST FLOOR. ENTERTAINMENT LICENSE REQUIRES DISC JOCKEY TO PERFORM ONLY IN BASEMENT OR SECOND FLOOR.

At rear elevation remove Alianthus tree.

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Fenway Studios since 1989. He said he and his fellow artists are ready to celebrate Open Studios this weekend, and are particularly excited to also celebrate 10 years of collecting food donations for the Greater Boston Food Bank as part of the event.

Friends of Fenway Studios since 1989. He said he and his fellow artists are ready to celebrate Open Studios this weekend, and are particularly excited to also celebrate 10 years of collecting food donations for the Greater Boston Food Bank as part of the event.
Compassionate Organics announces Partnership with Green Thumb Industries

Compassionate Organics announced last week a strategic partnership with Green Thumb Industries Inc. (GTI), allowing Compassionate Organics’ local founder, Geoffrey Reilinger, to move forward to operationalize a Boston-based medical marijuana dispensary on historic Newbury Street.

Compassionate Organics is also pursuing a location in the 600th block of Tremont Street in the South End, but is not yet permitted for that location. Compassionate has said it expects to be up and running on Newbury Street by December.

“I’m thrilled to partner with GTI, a leader in the cannabis industry and a proven community partner that is committed to serving the patients of Boston with the very best products and care,” said Reilinger. “We have been impressed with GTI’s presence in Massachusetts including their service and product offerings at their Amerherst dispensary and cultivation facility in Holyoke – they have proven to be excellent, community-minded neighbors.”

GTI is comprised of a diverse team of world-class entrepreneurs, philanthropists, accomplished professionals and business people driven by the dual commitment to the patients and communities they serve. With proven experience operating successful businesses, GTI has long-term expertise in adhering to sustainable business practices, and a deep understanding of the law with regard to the regulatory process surrounding medical cannabis. The company’s Chief Medical Officer Jack McGuire, MD, has deep Massachusetts roots, having attended Harvard University for undergraduate studies where he also held a medical faculty position, and trained at Beth Israel hospital.

He also previously held a professorship at the University of Massachusetts.

“It will be a privilege to partner with Geoffrey and his team to serve the Boston community,” said GTI Founder and CEO Ben Kovler. “Everyone deserves the right to wellness and we are driven by the opportunity to offer relief for those who need it most.”

This transaction is subject to customary regulatory approvals.

Green Thumb Industries Inc. is a national cannabis consumer packaged goods company. As a vertically integrated company, GTI manufactures and sells a well-rounded portfolio of brands including flower, concentrates, edibles, and topicals. The company also owns and operates a rapidly growing national chain of retail cannabis stores. Headquartered in Chicago, GTI has eight manufacturing facilities and licenses for 60 retail locations across eight highly regulated U.S. markets.

News Briefs (from pg. 8)

by Leonard Brown and Emmett Price, “Blue” (featuring Stan Strickland and arranged by Akins), “Like Sonny” by Coltrane (featuring Bill Pierce), among other compositions composed or performed by “Trane. Tickets in advance: premium reserved $35, general reserved $30, general reserved (student & senior) $25. [A $3/tix service charge applies to all purchases; additional $5/tix on day of concert for walk-up sales.]

- ETCHED IN GLASS: THE LEGACY OF STEVE ROSS

FUNDRAISER SCREENING AT FENWAY COMMUNITY CENTER

The Fenway Community Center will be holding a screen of Etched in Glass: The Legacy of Steve Ross on Thursday, November 8, followed by a Rogers Lyons, Steve Bickerton, and Mike Ross. Doors open at 6:30; film starts at 7:00. Tickets can be purchased by following the link on the Fenway Community Center's website. Copies of Steve Ross' book, 'From Broken Glass: My Story of Finding Hope in Hitler's Death Camp to Inspire a new Generation,' will be available for sale at the event.

BENEFIT CONCERT HELD AT BERKLEE FOR VICTIMS OF HEMENWAY FIRE

A benefit for the victims of the October 27 fire on Hemenway St. raised money, supplies, and spirits. Berklee student clubs collaborated on a benefit concert for the victims of the fire that displaced more than 180 Berklee and Boston Conservatory at Berklee students.

A Hemenway Benefit Concert took place Sunday, November 4, in the student cafeteria at 160 Massachusetts Avenue. The line-up included performers and bands who were directly impacted by the fire. Among performers was the Radio Disney Band performing “Determinate.” More than 200 supporters attended the event and donated clothes, electronic chargers, and school supplies. Cash and online donations totaled more than $450, with additional funding coming through a student emergency fund. Items will be dispersed among Berklee students impacted by the fire. Student clubs organizing the event included Caf Shows, The Berklee Groove, Student Government Association, Black Student Union, the A&R Club, the Asian Americans in Music and Entertainment, Student Government Association, and Student Leadership Council for Songwriting.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

Mayor Martin J. Walsh announced that applications are being accepted by the Citizens Nominating Panel, for two open positions on the Boston School Committee, opening in January 2019. The deadline to submit applications is Nov. 13.

The Boston School Committee is the governing body of the Boston Public Schools.

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POTSHOT

On Tuesday, Oct. 30, at about 12:05 p.m., police responded to a radio call for an armed robbery at 776 Tremont St.

Officers couldn’t locate the victim upon arriving at the scene, but soon found him at 65 West Newton St.

The victim, who was described as behaving "vague" and "distant," told police that he encountered two unknown male suspects somewhere in the 500 block of Massachusetts Avenue and asked them if they knew where to procure some marijuana.

The suspects said they could accommodate the victim and then led him inside an unknown building. At this time, the first suspect instead brandished a large black handgun and demanded the victim’s belongings. The victim duly handed over his wallet containing $60 cash and his Massachusetts state ID, as well as a faux gold chain. The suspects then ordered the victim to exit via the rear of the building before they fled in an unknown direction.

Police searched the area for the suspects to no avail.

ROAD RAGE

On Wednesday, Oct. 31, at around 4:30 p.m., a victim called Berkley headquarters to report that a Lyft driver allegedly assaulted her outside of the Sheraton Hotel at 39 Dalton St.

The victim said she and her boyfriend, who were guests at the Sheraton, were walking to their car when a grey Toyota with a Lyft sign displayed in the window attempted to exit the garage. At this time, the unknown male driver jumped out of his vehicle, ordered the female victim not to touch it and grabbed the ground. The driver then got back in his car and drove away.

A witness on the scene who witnessed the incident approached the female victim not to touch it and pushed her to the ground. The suspect struck the victim on the left side of the head and took her phone. The female suspects then all fled in an unknown direction.

Paramedics responded to the scene, but the victim declined medical attention at that time.
SOUTH END, BOSTON

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390 COMM AVE #812
2 Beds | 2.5 Baths | 1,226 SQFT
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50 COMM AVE #302
2 Beds | 2 Baths | 1,216 SQFT
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