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THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 2019

THE BOSTON SUN

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ESPLANADE ASSOC. HOLDS MARATHON FUNDRAISER



PHOTO BY KEIKO HIROMI

Runners Charlie Jacob, Stephanie Sguigna (of Beacon Hill) Matt DiSorbo, Kara Brennan (of the Back Bay), Ellen Barrett (of the North End), and Ashley Perkins (of the South End), during Esplanade Association's Marathon Team Fundraiser on Saturday night, March 9, at Bully Boy Distillery in Neumarket.

Sudden Stop: City looking to halt the 'Uber Stop' with Fenway pilot

By Seth Daniel

It's been a frustration for thousands of city dwellers since the advent to ride-sharing companies a few years ago – and that frustration would be the habit of such

Uber or Lyft drivers of suddenly stopping right in the middle of moving traffic.

Whether pedestrian, bicyclist or driver, all have had their hearts in their throats as a passenger pickup or drop-off suddenly happens

in front of them.

Now, City officials are looking to pilot a ride-share (known as Transportation Network Companies or TNCs) program in the Fenway that would have designated

(UBER STOP, Pg. 11)

Council discusses traffic: potential enforcement unit and areas

By Lauren Bennett

Speeding and congestion are huge topics of conversation across the city, so the City Council Committee on Public Safety and Criminal Justice held a hearing on March 12 to discuss the possibility of creating a traffic enforcement unit within the Boston Police Department, as well as talk about the pros and cons of traffic enforcement cameras.

Sponsor Andrea Campbell said that traffic and speeding concerns are "at the top of the list" for calls made to the councilors. "Residents

feel we need to do a lot more along various parallel tracks," Campbell said. She said that while it is important to lower the speed limits, "enforcement, structural changes to our streets, [and] willingness by people who live in the city to think about alternative modes of transportation," are all important pieces of the solution.

Councilor Mark Ciommo said he "did some limited research" about cameras across the country, and found that municipalities are "pulling back the use of cameras as an enforcement mechanism," as they may cause more crashes than they prevent. Ciommo said he

thinks that cameras should be used to inform law enforcement. "We need to make our streets safer and the best way to do that is to make sure we enforce better," he said. "I am concerned about using cameras as that enforcement."

Councilor Frank Baker added that he would rather see the city resources go into the police force, as it "sends a friendlier message" than cameras doing the traffic ticketing.

Councilor Ed Flynn believes that the number one issue in the city is pedestrian safety, and he said that "not a day goes by" where he

(CITY COUNCIL, Pg. 10)

Rep. Santiago hosts opioid epidemic town hall

By Lauren Bennett

A large crowd gathered at the McKinley South End Academy on March 7 for an opioid epidemic town hall hosted by Rep. Jon Santiago and the Mayor's Office of Recovery Services. The crowd was ready and willing to speak out on this issue that has become a topic of conversation across the city as people work towards solutions.

In addition to a large number of community members, several elected officials or their representatives were in attendance, including Mayor Marty Walsh. "There's been no bigger advocate for these issues," Santiago said of Walsh.

Walsh spoke about the invest-

ments the city has made in the area of recovery, including the creation of the Office of Recovery Service, which Walsh said helps deal with addiction "in the homes of everyone across Boston."

Walsh said that they are "working together to create pathways for recovery," and brought up the controversial issue of Safe Consumption Sites. Walsh said that he was originally against them, but after hearing things and thinking about it some more, he questioned his position. Walsh said his view on them "has completely changed," and cited Toronto and Montreal, who have used the facilities, as "thoughtful" examples. He said

(OPIOID TOWN HALL, Pg. 3)

FRENCH CULTURAL CENTER HOSTS FORMER PRES. FRANÇOIS HOLLANDE



PHOTO BY KEIKO HIROMI

François Hollande, former President of the French Republic, speaking at the French Cultural Center in the Back Bay on Sunday during a special meet and greet for Boston's French diaspora. The former president was in town to speak at the Harvard European Conference.

EDITORIAL

HANDS-FREE DRIVING MAKES SENSE

Recent statistics indicate that the single-biggest cause of motor vehicle accidents these days can be attributed generally to what is known as “distracted driving.”

According to some reports, more Americans now are killed on our roads because of distracted driving than from driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

That is why we fully support the legislation recently filed by Gov. Charles Baker that would require all use of a cell phone or other device to be strictly hands-free. It simply is not possible for anyone to keep their eyes on the road while texting, dialing, or reading from an electronic device -- and the epidemic of accidents on our roads is the best evidence of that.

We also support another aspect of Gov. Baker’s bill that calls for the non-use of a seat belt as a primary offense, thereby giving police the authority to stop a motorist and issue a civil citation solely for not wearing a seat belt. Under the present law, a person may be cited for a seat belt violation only if the operator has been pulled over for another offense (such as speeding). Massachusetts is fairly unique in this regard, but the governor’s bill will bring us into line with the majority of other states.

Another key aspect of the bill would require anyone convicted of a first offense for operating under the influence who applies for a hardship license to use an ignition interlock device for a minimum of six months, and be subject to penalties from the Registry of Motor Vehicles for attempting to drive after drinking or tampering with the device.

In our view, drinking and driving should not be allowed at all. But to the extent that we have a 0.08 threshold, imposing the requirement of an ignition interlock device for first offenders is hardly draconian -- anyone who drinks to that extent and gets behind the wheel of a car clearly has a problem.

Moreover, we are in favor of any additional measures that serve as an added deterrent to drinking and driving and thereby improve public safety.



The Boston Sun reserves the right to edit letters for space and clarity. We regret that we cannot publish unsigned letters. Please include your street and telephone number with your submission. The Boston Sun publishes columns, viewpoints and letters to the editor as a forum for readers to express their opinions and to encourage debate. Please note that the opinions expressed are not necessarily those of The Boston Sun.

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Plans revealed for the proposed Fenway Theater; community generally receptive

By Lauren Bennett

The Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) held a public meeting on March 12 to reveal the proposed plans for the Fenway Theater, which will be located at 12-28 Lansdowne St.

BPDA Project Manager Tim Czerwienski said the project is currently under the review stage in the Article 80 Large Project Review process, and provided a little bit of background about the steps it must go through before construction can start.

Dave Friedman, Senior Vice President for Legal and Governmental Affairs for the Red Sox, said that this project has a Fenway Park element (that includes improvements to a portion of the park), as well as the theater portion. He said the theater would be operated by LiveNation, not the Red Sox. “We don’t speak on behalf of LiveNation but we work closely with them,” Friedman said.

Ruth Bonsignore, the permitting and transportation consultant for the project, provided a little bit of background and context about the site. She said the site is currently the Fenway garage, as well as partly concession space and backup offices for Fenway Park. The project will demolish part of the Fenway garage, and the rest will stay and be repurposed for enchanted service and support areas. There will also be about 30,000 square feet of new fan amenity areas that will serve the Bleacher and Right Field Grandstand areas of the park.

The theater itself would be a performing arts center of approximately 86,000 square feet with a capacity of 5,400. “What we are proposing is consistent with the uses and the dimensions allowed within the site,” Bonsignore said. She said that the maximum Floor Area Ratio (FAR) for the area is 5, and they are proposing a FAR of 2.55, and the maximum allowable height is 95 feet, but they are proposing a 67 foot structure.

The project benefits include “arts and culture that will host a wide variety of performing arts, educational, and civic events,” Bonsignore said, as well as new opportunities for performing arts programming and collaborations with places like Boston Arts Academy.

The ballpark enhancements are consistent with the Red Sox’s investment in preservation and enhancement of the ballpark, and respects and compliments architectural and historical aspects of the neighborhood, the presentation stated.

Bonsignore said they are also proposing an enhanced streetscape,

providing wide, accessible sidewalks, improved lighting, street bollards, and improved bus stop with shelters. There will also be facility and street level way-finding advice that is consistent with the transportation department’s Complete Streets guidelines. Bonsignore said that this project will create 200 construction jobs, 80 full-time jobs, and 450 part time jobs once the theater is open.

Chuck Izzo, an architect for the project, talked more about the Fenway Park improvements, saying that the creation of the two-level addition that will sit on top of the garage will house bathrooms on one level, and a function area on the top level. This area “opens the ballpark up for a whole new group of people and uses,” Izzo said. The media trucks that are currently parked on the site will be relocated to 189 Ipswich St., he added.

He said that the theater is a four-story structure with three seating tiers, and there will be lobbies that serve every seating level in an effort to minimize the number of people waiting outside the venue.

Bonsignore talked about the efforts the team is making towards climate resiliency. She said they are committed to the city’s Green Building and Climate Change Resiliency policies, and future increases in precipitation are being taken into account for the stormwater management infrastructure.

She also said that a full transportation impact assessment was included in the Expanded Project Notification Form, which can be found on the BPDA website. She said that transportation counts were completed for conditions with and without a game at Fenway Park, and transportation surveys were done in the Fall of 2018 to get a feel for the travel characteristics for patrons going to Fenway Park and the House of Blues.

Bonsignore said the project is being designed for people, not vehicles, and 105 parking spaces are going to be removed from the garage. “Transit use or remote parking will be promoted for patrons,” she said, and streetscape and pedestrian/bicycle access improvements are being proposed. She added that the proponent is working with the city to develop a management plan for ride sharing services.

She said there will be no noise out onto the street from the venue, which is an indoor venue. “We are anticipating that there will be an active construction management process to manage the construction impacts,” Bonsignore said.

The sidewalk will be widened along Ipswich Street to provide

better access for pedestrians, and there is also a proposal to shift the current bus stop down and add a pickup/dropoff area for accessibility purposes. She said that the scale of the building is “not expected to cast shadow or glare on other historic properties,” and the materials used for the building will be in line with other buildings in the neighborhood.

After the presentation, the public was given time to ask questions or provide comments. Several people brought up the fact that they are concerned about emergency vehicles being able to get through the area.

“It is a congested area,” responded BPD D-4 Captain Steven Sweeney. He said that during game days and concerts, he currently tries to have the on-duty dedicated traffic car circle the park giving tickets, using air horns, sirens, etc. to move cars along. He said he has not heard about any tragedies or delayed responses for emergency vehicles.

Dan Wilson of Save Fenway Park said he was concerned about the removal of the six rows of bleachers, as he thinks it will be “very noticeable” and “will change that experience.” He said he would also like to see some views from inside the ballpark, as those were not presented at the meeting.

Izzo said that it is “not a significant change to the profile of the bleachers,” and the purpose of doing it is to be able to provide amenities to those fans. He said there are interior views that can be made available, but there are some model views in the PNF document that can be viewed on the BPDA website.

Teri Malo of the Fenway Studios said she has a “mixed mind” on the project. She said that the traffic issue is a big deal, as her husband was stuck in an ambulance to Beth Israel in the current traffic conditions, so she would like to see “some kind of emergency access that’s maintained straight through this area.”

She also said that she feels the project should be expanded so it “encompasses more of the arts.” She said she’d like to see a two-dimensional artistic gallery space for things like paintings and prints, and with all of the indoor waiting space that has been proposed, she feels that it is the “ideal condition for viewing artwork.” She suggested a collaboration with Fenway Studios, as well as local arts schools to provide “even more of an arts space.”

“The theater is a real asset to the arts community in the Fenway,” said Boston Arts Academy (BAA)

(FENWAY THEATER Pg. 5)

Water-main ruptures on Comm Ave.

By Sun staff

A 144-year-old, cast-iron water-main ruptured at around 8:30 p.m. Monday on Commonwealth Avenue between Dartmouth and Exeter streets, flooding the area, closing it to traffic for much of the following day and forcing the evacuation of six nearby buildings, according to published reports.

Boston Water and Sewer Commission officials said water flowed from a 2-foot section of a 16-foot main, which dates back, to 1875 and underwent repairs in 1996, for approximately 90 minutes before crews could shut it off. Afterwards, workers isolated the broken section of the water-main and repaired the pipe before restoring service to the 13 buildings on the inbound side of Comm. Ave. on the same block, officials said.

The cause of the water-main break remains under investigation, BWSC official said.

COUNCILOR ZAKIM CALLS FOR A HEARING REGARDING SANDWICH BOARDS ON PUBLIC WALKWAYS

Boston City Councilor Josh Zakim has filed a hearing order to review the current rules for Free Standing Signs (also known as sandwich boards) on city sidewalks. “Ensuring unimpeded access to our public sidewalks is an important issue of equity and safety for the City of Boston, while sandwich boards may be appropriate in many business districts there are some areas where they create significant obstacles to access.” Last year the pilot program was extended for an additional year to allow for continued discussion of these rules with community stakeholders.

CONVERSATIONS WITH CAREGIVERS: AN EDUCATION SERIES

The Dementia Caregiver Sup-

port Program of the MGH Division of Palliative Care and Geriatric Medicine is sponsoring its next seminar called “Conversations with Caregivers: An Education Series” on Tuesday, March 19, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at Mass. General in the O’Keefe Auditorium. These seminars are for caregivers and people with dementia and focus on topics related to Dementia. The guest speaker will be Ann M. Hollis, OTR/L, DriveWise occupational therapist in the Cognitive Neurology Unit at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, and her talk will focus on driving safety as it relates to individuals with dementia. Seating is limited, so call 617-724-0406 to R.S.V.P. Light refreshments will be served, and parking vouchers will be available. There is no charge for this event.

BACK BAY HAPPENINGS

•Commonwealth Avenue Mall Lighting: Dark stretches of Com-

monwealth Avenue Mall will stay bright year round, thanks to the launch of a plan to design and install permanent lighting of the statues on each block of the Mall. The first project will be the Morison statue in the Spring of 2019, followed by the Garrison and Collins statues. We are currently raising funds for the Commonwealth Avenue Mall Statue Lighting. If you’d like to help, you can donate online at friendsofthepublicgarden.org or by sending a check in the mail. For more information, email Margaret Pokorny at mpok384@gmail.com, or call 617-723-8144.

•Friends of the Public Garden Annual Meeting: Save the date for our 49th Annual Meeting on Thursday, March 28, featuring a presentation by Chris Cook, Chief of Environment, Energy, and Open Space. The meeting will be at 5:30 p.m. at the Omni-Parker House, 60 School St. R.S.V.P. at friendsofthepublicgarden.org.

SOUTH END DATES

•Boston Center for Youth and Families has brought back its free, Family Gym time to the Blackstone Community Center. The program is a weekly activity for children ages 3-8. It runs on Saturdays from 10-11:30 a.m. This session of Family Gym will run through April 13. In the fall the program will expand to additional BCYF community centers. For updated information or program cancellations follow @BCYFCenters.

•The Blackstone/Franklin Neighborhood Association will resume meeting on March 26 at 7 p.m. in the D-4 Police Station. The meeting will include an update from the state on the move of the Shattuck Hospital to West Newton Street, as well as changes being considered at Franklin Square regarding a needle kiosk station, increased lighting and a book collection bin for More Than

(NEWS BRIEFS Pg. 8)

OPIOID TOWN HALL (from pg. 1)

that in those situations, people were not taking the needles out of the facilities, nor were they overdosing.

One of the roadblocks for bringing Safe Consumption Facilities to Boston is that they are illegal in the United States. “A lot more work of education has to happen,” Walsh said. “The issue tonight at hand is about what we are doing about the addiction that’s happening in the City of Boston right now. How do we save lives?”

The town hall consisted of presentations from three speakers, followed by public testimony. Santiago spoke first, telling the crowd, “If you’re here, my guess is that this is affecting your quality of life. I hear you, and I see where you’re coming from.”

As an emergency room doctor, Santiago sees and treats people affected by the opioid crisis every single day. He also said he sees the needles on the ground on his walk to work, just like many other concerned citizens.

“Massachusetts has been a leader when it comes to advancing opioid legislation,” Santiago said. He gave a brief presentation of some of the legislation that the state has passed since 2016, including that opiate prescriptions must not exceed seven days, and there must be “rigorous training” for practitioners who prescribe them.

Santiago spoke about the prison system and its effects on people dealing with addiction. He said that when someone enters the system, they often go through withdrawal

and begin to lose tolerance. When they leave prison, they go back to the same areas, use again, and die. Santiago said that people are 60 to 100 times more likely to die from overdose after release from jail.

Santiago said he wants to increase access to Medication Assisted Treatment (such as Suboxone) so that people can get it from their primary care physicians. He said this was especially important for the more “vulnerable populations” such as people in prison.

As far as Safe Consumption Sites go, Santiago said he believes in the science behind them, but he “think [s] there is some lower hanging fruit we can get to before this.”

Next up was Marty Martinez, Chief of Health and Human Services, and Jen Tracey, Director of the Office of Recovery Services. Martinez said that the national opioid epidemic is more deadly than gun violence, car crashes, or the AIDS epidemic. He said there is an increase in people of color being impacted—state data shows that people of color have higher rates of overdose, while the number of white overdoses has briefly gone down. He said that while the face of the epidemic may be changing, it is still a serious epidemic.

Tracey talked about some of the work that the city has done to address this problem. She said there are over 80 licensed treatment programs in Boston for substance abuse disorders, and that 10-20 people are placed in treatment per day. With the detox beds that have been added over the past few years,

it has become easier to get people into treatment, she added.

Tracey said that people were having difficulty accessing care and didn’t know where to go for help, so she talked about the launch of 311 for Recovery Services, which was created to help people access care. They also increased the number of Street Outreach Workers, as well as expanded the hours at PAATHS, the city’s access-to-care program.

She said that there have been cross-department efforts to make infrastructure improvements, including increased lighting and security cameras. As has been reiterated at numerous public safety meetings, Tracey said that people should call 911 for emergencies and 311 for trash and syringes.

She said that EMS and BPD launched initiatives to help the high number of people struggling with substance use, homelessness, and mental health issues across the city.

Martinez said that they are working to rebuild the Long Island Bridge to “create a recovery campus to expand essential recovery resources, fill in gaps, and serve as a national model for a long-term recovery campus.” He said that the bridge construction is scheduled to take three years to complete and is “several years away.”

The third speaker was Michael Botticelli, Executive Director of the Grayken Center for Addiction at Boston Medical Center. As a person in recovery himself, Botticelli is dedicated to helping people get the help they need. “Stigma is one of the major drivers for this epidemic,” he said. He said that the

thought process in the past was that “these are bad people doing bad things,” and the issue has been underfunded for years. He said that only 14 to 20 percent of people who have addiction actually get care for the disorder. “We have to acknowledge the fact that we need more of everything,” Botticelli said.

Boston Medical Center has “a very robust primary care clinic that integrates treatment in everything we do,” he said, adding that society has a responsibility to keep people alive in order to get them care. He said that BMC has also invested in a community housing development, as “this is an all hands on deck issue.”

The public was then allowed to testify. Several people spoke about the fact that services need to be spread out across the city so they are not concentrated in a single area. Another person mentioned that there is a “severe shortage” of recovery programs, and suggested that jails provided a path for recovery instead of branding people as criminals.

Others were concerned with the fact that this meeting was held in a “safe zone,” and not at Orchard Gardens K-8 school, where the issues are much more prevalent. People said they do not see the “collaboration and cooperation” that city officials and others have spoken about.

Santiago said that this is one of many meetings, and “we will be over there, I promise you.”

A teacher at Orchard Gardens testified, saying that she walks to school everyday and sees or teach-

es someone affected by the opioid crisis. “My sixth-graders have been affected by it with mental health,” she said, adding that many of her students have to walk to school. “I know what I see and it’s not okay and it’s not okay for students to see it. My students have seen blood coming out of people’s arms. All of them are affected in many ways, but one is just getting to school.”

A student at Orchard Gardens said she was afraid to walk outside. “All I see are people addicted to drugs,” she said, and wanted to know what could be done to make walking in her neighborhood safer. “When we drive by the Methadone Mile she asks to lock the doors,” her mother said. “She is scared to even walk in her neighborhood.”

Others said that people from plans like Dorchester, Mattapan, and Roxbury are being left out of the conversation. “We don’t see these services in the black neighborhoods,” someone said. “When it does come, it’s in the form of a police cruiser. These kids are not getting resources at Orchard Gardens.”

There was not enough time to get to questions after public testimony, so people were asked to submit questions via text. These questions will be placed in a document with answers that will be circulated to meeting attendees.

“There are communities that have not been heard,” Santiago said. “We’ll be the first to tell you that we can do better. This is the first of many more to come. Your voices are being heard.”

Matti Kniva Spencer's latest show uses photography to bring people together

By Lauren Bennett

For Matti Kniva Spencer, it all started with a Kodak Brownie camera. As a way of calming him down, Kniva Spencer's mother got him the camera when he was 10 years old and sent him out to take photos. He learned that he really enjoyed photography, and moved on from his little Brownie to a Polaroid and then to a digital camera. But in this day and age where technology is in everyone's pockets, Kniva Spencer, a writer, photographer, and humanitarian, now mainly relies on his cell phone for photos.

Fifteen years ago, Kniva Spencer's first photography show was on display at the Peterborough Senior Center and profiled the lives of seniors. "As much as I love seniors, I wanted to include different ages," he said. "The reason I continued is because each show got more and more successful."

Kniva Spencer's latest show, "Faces in Massachusetts," is now on display at the Fenway Community Center (FCC). All of his shows have been shot in black and white as an homage to his first camera. This latest show was



Matti Kniva Spencer's photography show, "Faces in Massachusetts," features the stories and photos of 25 local people. The show is on display at the Fenway Community Center.

shot completely on his Android cell phone. It is also his sixth show, and it focuses on 25 people ranging in age from 15 to 90. "I like to include very diverse people [in my shows]," Kniva Spencer said. "When people come, they can see themselves. Each show is like a rainbow." The show features photos of the 25 people, with bios underneath them written by Kniva Spencer, but they are from the first-person perspective as if the person had written their own story.

"Behind every face is a story," Kniva Spencer said of his reason

for doing the shows. "We don't get to know our neighbors," he said, but once that initial contact is made, you can find out so much about a person. "We live in a fast world; people don't have time to get to know each other," he said. There is "less talk that goes on, and communication is so important," he said.

Kniva Spencer talked about a woman in the show who uses a wheelchair and does not have use of her arms or legs. She spoke about the fact that people should not be afraid to come up to her and talk to her. He has also featured trans-

gender people, little people, and immigrants in his shows. He said the subjects could be anyone from a woman who works in a laundromat who no one really knows to a city councilor to a homeless person. "It opens up a discussion about who we are," he said. "We may look different, but we feel the same way other people do. It's about acceptance."

Kniva Spencer's subjects are people he meets and people he reads about in the newspaper, but a lot of them are people he's known, he said.

An opening reception for "Faces in Massachusetts" was held at the FCC on March 9—Kniva Spencer said "the place was smoking." More than half of the 25 participants came and shared their story, including a 90-year-old woman who walks with two canes. She told her story about how she was an alcoholic, became sober, and is now a deacon at a church.

"It was very touching, very moving," Kniva Spencer said. "I cried, some of us cried." He said that there were a lot of faces from former shows in the audience who came to show their support for the latest show.

Kniva Spencer said he spent six months interviewing these 25 people, and "just to see the camaraderie

and the love in this room was worth everything to me," he said. "That's my life as a photographer and a writer." He said it's "too late at a wake or a funeral" to honor someone's story, so his shows are about giving people credit while they're still alive.

His father is part of the Iroquois tribe, and he fondly remembers sitting in the circle as a child with members of his father's family for hours as they told stories and smoked a pipe. He said this is a large part of why he believes so strongly in telling people's stories. "I feel like I become closer to each person after I interview them," he said.

Kniva Spencer grew up in Maine, and became a preschool teacher and then did human service work. Photography has always just been a hobby for him, but he has developed a real interest in it and has even lead sessions to help people learn about photography. He lived in the Fenway for 35 years, but now resides in the South End.

"We need more shows like this. We need to bring people together," Kniva Spencer said. "We've come a long way since that little Brownie."

Faces in Massachusetts is on display at the Fenway Community Center until April 26.

CSTO HOLD TENTH ANNUAL CHINESE NEW YEAR AND BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION

Photos by Derek Kouyoumjian

The Castle Square Tenants Organization (CSTO) held its 10th annual Black History and Chinese New Year Celebration at the close of those events. Community leaders such as State Rep. Aaron

Michlewitz and City Councilor Ed Flynn, who presented a proclamation from the City commending the celebration, were in attendance. Highlights included music, performance, poetry, food, and more. It was an event that brought the Castle Square community together.



Mimi Marie, Faadumo Mohamed, Yasmin Ali, and Suzanna Mei are having a festive time.



The Castle Square Fan Dance Troup performs a Chinese movement dance.



Lion dancers from Woo Ching White Crane Kung Fu in Chinatown perform.



Chinese calligraphy posters made by Castle Square elders.



Kandia Bleach Jr. reads a poem about Michael Jordan. His youth group Shawmut recited poems about a black person who is a hero to them.

Representatives unveil plans for Bay Village dispensary

By Dan Murphy

Representatives for a medical cannabis dispensary currently operating on Milk Street outlined their plans to move to the current location of Mooncusser Fish House in Bay Village while adding recreational, adult-use marijuana to the menu during a city-sponsored meeting Thursday, March 7, at the Boston Park Plaza.

Bob Mayerson, CEO and one of the founders of Patriot Care at 21 Milk St. and its parent company Columbia Care, which operates in 14 states nationwide, as well as Malta, said the proposed location of the dispensary is 304 Stuart St. at the intersection of Columbus Avenue, and the dispensary would occupy 7,200 square feet on four floors, including the basement, but initially only the first and third floors would accommodate customers.

The hours of operation would need to be negotiated with the mayor's office if the application is approved, Mayerson said, but the Milk Street location is currently open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., and on weekends from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. "That would probably be about right, but again, that's a discussion that has to take place with the city," he added.

The dispensary is expecting around 600 adult-use transactions a day at the new location, although Mayerson said that figure is somewhat inflated, since many around

50 adult-use dispensaries would be operating by Patriot Care's expected opening date in November or December.

"We're pretty focused on moving people along at an average of one every six minutes and even less time for recreational customers," Mayerson said.

According to a traffic study commissioned by Patriot Care, peak demand at the new location would be during the afternoon, with 40 percent of customers expected to drive to the facility, occupying an average of 43 parking spaces an hour during these times.

Mayerson said Patriot Care spent nine months scouting the proposed location, which it chose largely due to its proximity to the Orange and Green MBTA stations, as well as three bus lines.

But despite Mayerson's assurances that Patriot Care's new facility would only have a 2.5 percent impact on traffic in the area, Meg Mainzer-Cohen, president and executive director of the Back Bay Association, expressed concern about pedestrian safety during peak hours.

"This is a dramatically different neighborhood...and much more porous than where you are on Milk Street," Mainzer-Cohen said. "It's like comparing bicyclists to cars."

Bill Koster, a resident of One Charles, said Patriot Care's efficient customer service as promised could actually exasperate traffic problems in the neighborhood.

"With the high turnover in



The proposed future location of Patriot Care and current home of Mooncusser Fish House at 304 Stuart St.

terms of the product you're selling and the time [customers] are going to be in the store, there's going to be a temptation to say, 'Let me just run into the store,' and double-park," Koster said.

George Agganis, vice president of security and safety for Colum-

bia Care, said the new Patriot Care would boast a state-of-the-art security system to protect both the interior and exterior of the facility, with "analytic surveillance" that uses security cameras to monitor the site premises in real time.

Patriot Care presently has cameras at three intersections near the Milk Street facility, and intends to employ similar security measures at the proposed Bay Village location, which Agganis said "would also be a great tool for Boston Police to have."

Besides having a Boston Police officer on paid detail outside the establishment, Patriot Care plans to conduct "bi-monthly patrols" to assist police efforts in canvassing the area and post a security guard outside to enforce restrictions, such as no loitering, no littering and no double-parking, in addition to checking would-be customers for proper identification (only either a Massachusetts-issued medical

marijuana card or state ID will be accepted), Agganis said.

Once customers' ages are verified, they will be directed to separate queues for medical and recreational use. All patrons will then have their identification screened again by a security guard inside their respective sale areas, as well as by a cashier upon receiving their product and exiting the facility.

The product itself would be delivered from the cultivation center in Lowell to a side door on Stuart Street and immediately deposited into an on-site vault.

Moreover, Patriot Care representatives pointed to their impeccable track record with the police and mayor's office since opening as the city's first medical marijuana dispensary two and a half years ago.

"One of the great things we hear about Milk Street is that people don't know we exist there, and I take that as a compliment," Agganis said.

Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1 BACK BAY

James, Benjamin C
Sridhar, Krishnakumar
Hoffman, Spencer
Johnson, Robin
Lehman, Matthew

BEACON HILL

Foster, Jonathan

SOUTH END/KENMORE/BAY VILLAGE

Rudicus, W John
Walden Investments LLC
Clarendon 2019 T
Fisher, Douglas
Conte, Samuel J
Goyal, Jaya
Cheng, Liyang S
Salthouse Properties Inc
Fisher, Douglas
23 Upton Street LLC
McLoughlin, Peter
Weaver, Brittney
Boston Redevelopment Auth
Boston Redevelopment Auth

WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN

Willette, Brain
Mahoney, Kevin
Gribbel, Douglas C
Tall, Caroline
Fidelity Real Estate Co

SELLER 1

Hier, Jennifer
Soder, Stephanie
Orfao, David
Bracken, Richard
Sachdeo, Amit

Craig, John W

Liana Tedesco RET
MPS Realty Holdings T
Kofol 2014 FT
Hadley, Christopher
Borochin, Eugene J
Marilyn A Mccarthy RET
Mistral RT
Jaxson Enterprises LLC
Hadley, Christopher
Richard A Campana RET
Gibran, Jean E
John A Shaw T
Russell, Margaret
Russell, Margaret

Mahoney, Kevin
Bleimes, Lindsey
Sathkumara, Sarath
Harmel, Sharri A
Buffalo-Water 1 LLC

ADDRESS

103 Beacon St #1
250 Commonwealth Ave #12
476 Beacon St #2
311 Commonwealth Ave #40
464 Commonwealth Ave #15

61 Revere St #3

51 Appleton St
400 Stuart St #17H
400 Stuart St #24C
505 Tremont St #506
26 Yarmouth St #1
58 E Springfield St #1
74 Fenway #53
24 Hanson St #2
505 Tremont St #506
23 Upton St
160 W Canton St
200 W Springfield St #1
1180-1200 Washington St #117
1180-1200 Washington St #119

109-119 Beach St #1A
109-119 Beach St #2G
80 Broad St #401
1 Franklin St #3702
7 Water St

PRICE

\$777,450
\$1,049,000
\$2,725,000
\$1,355,000
\$775,000

\$1,275,000

\$2,600,000
\$1,122,000
\$1,770,000
\$946,000
\$1,370,000
\$575,000
\$565,000
\$2,185,000
\$946,000
\$3,950,000
\$3,895,000
\$1,638,000
\$912,500
\$912,500

\$550,000
\$590,000
\$1,200,000
\$2,550,000
\$21,755,000

FENWAY THEATER (from pg. 2)

Headmaster Anne Clark. She said the theater will provide BAA students with professional opportunities in sound engineering, lighting design, etc.

Some people were concerned with the proposed roof terrace and the noise level it may create, as well as the noise from the HVAC units.

Izzo said that the rooftop terrace is just another place for people to gather prior to concerts instead of on the street. He said it is also intended as a place to go during intermission, but it will not be a public restaurant, nor will it be open at other times. It may be open for a portion of the time post-concert, but that is up to LiveNation to decide. He said there will be screens and acoustical controls for the HVAC units as well.

Pam Beale, owner of Cornwall's in Kenmore Square, said that she thinks the proposal is "great" and that the Red Sox have come up with a project that "completes the vision" that they had back when the area was re-zoned for enter-

tainment.

The owner of Fenway Johnnie's said the theater is a "welcome addition to the neighborhood," and appreciates the widening of the sidewalks. "I'm looking forward to it," he said.

There were lots of comments about traffic and congestion in the surrounding area as well. Czerwienski said they are "very interested" in how people are going to get to and from this venue via public transit, bikes, on foot, etc.

The public comment period ends on March 25. Comments can be submitted on the project page on the BPDA website, or sent to Tim Czerwienski at tim.czerwienski@boston.gov.

The IAG will continue to work on mitigation, he said, and he appreciated the "really great ideas about traffic and arts community that we got tonight," Czerwienski said. "Our review of these comments and questions help to inform how we handle the next phase of the review."

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COMPASS

SPECIAL RECEPTION FOR FORMER PRESIDENT FRANÇOIS HOLLANDE IN BACK BAY

Photos by Keiko Hiromi

Former president of the French Republic, François Hollande, visited the French Cultural Center in Back Bay for a special reception to meet with Boston's French diaspora. The meet-and-greet with President Hollande was made possible by a partnership between Back Bay's French Cultural Center, the Franco American Chamber of Commerce and the Consulat Général de France in Boston. More than 60 guests, including students from Harvard Business, Law and Political School - as well as Northeastern University, were in the audience to meet with the French President.

President Hollande was in town for the Harvard European Conference, where he was a featured speaker.



Steven Galante, chairman of the Board, welcomes former President of the French Republic, François Hollande.



Ludivine Wolczik, Latifa Bentiri (front), Adrien Argentero (back), Barbara Bouquegneau, executive director of French Cultural Center, François Hollande, former President of the French Republic, Patrick Bian, president of French American Chamber of Commerce and Steven Galante, chairman of the Board.



Francois Hollande, former President of the French Republic, with Patrick Bian, president of French American Chamber of Commerce.



France Crespin takes a selfie with François Hollande during the reception.



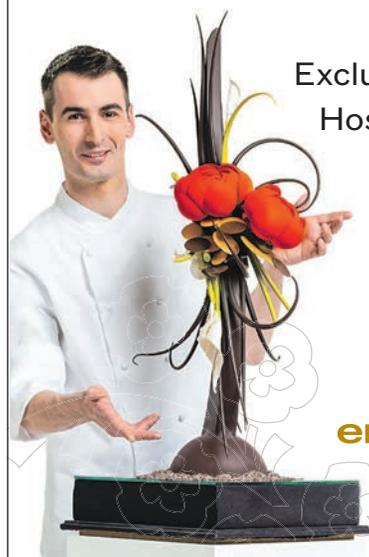
AU REVOIR: François Hollande, former President of the French Republic, reaches out to shake the hand of Sun photographer Keiko Hiromi as he leaves the French Cultural Center Sunday.

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BOSTON
MEDICAL

SPECIAL RECEPTION FOR FORMER PRESIDENT FRANÇOIS HOLLANDE IN BACK BAY



Francois Hollande with graduate students of Harvard University.



Francois Hollande viewing the artwork by Back Bay artist Marguerite Wibaux (seen next to President Hollande).



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LOOKING BACK AT BOSTON

COURTESY OF THE SOUTH END
HISTORICAL SOCIETY



504 Mass Ave. This week's featured image is of 504 Mass Ave. in 1896, at the corner of Tremont Street. Charles and Elizabeth Wood lived here with their daughter, Mary. Charles Wood was a real estate and insurance dealer and also owned and operated the Hotel Vendome on Commonwealth Avenue. This is now the location of Jugos Supremo. The South End Historical Society was formed in the 1966 and continues to advocate for the preservation and history in the neighborhood. The organization is located on Chester Square and holds many treasures of the South End's distant and near past.

Neighbors learn of plans to replace Clemente Field turf and track

By Dan Murphy

The neighborhood was apprised of Emmanuel College's plans to replace the artificial turf and track at Roberto Clemente Field in the Back Bay Fens during a public meeting Monday at the school's administrative building.

John M. Perry, senior project manager for Gale Associates, a Bedford, N.H.-based engineering consulting firm, said that athletic facilities like Clemente Field are under warranty for eight years and typically have a lifespan of between seven and 11 years.

"This one is going on 10 years," Perry said. "It has served the school, the community and the city really well."

Perry said existing conditions of the playing surface would be studied using the Gmax test, which examines "the maximum acceleration experienced during an impact to the normal rate of acceleration due to gravity."

The turf now consists of sand and crumb rubber set atop a "shock pad," and Perry said the design team is now considering reusing the infill elements or instead opting for Envirofill (coated sand) or

Brockfill (engineered wood).

Brendan McWilliams, Emmanuel's director of athletics and recreation, said besides serving as the home field for the college's men's and women's lacrosse, men's and women's soccer and training for men's and women's track and field, Clemente Field accommodates Boston Latin football in the fall, high school softball in the spring, ROTC training and myriad other public recreational activities.

Paul McCaffrey of the Boston Parks and Recreation Department, which has partnered with Emman-

uel on Clemente Field for the past 10 years, called the facility a \$1.9 million gift to the city from the college, which is also responsible for replacing the turf as part of the agreement.

"The field has lasted so long because of Emmanuel's regular maintenance of it," McCaffrey said.

The project is expected to get underway this summer after the applicant secures permits from the Boston Conservation and Landmarks commissions, officials said.



An aerial view of Roberto Clemente Field in the Back Bay Fens.

NEWS BRIEFS (from pg. 3)

Words. Member David Stone will also update on developments in the cannabis proposals for the neighborhood.

- The East Berkeley Neighborhood Association (EBNA) will meet on Tuesday, March 19, at the AC Hotel, 225 Albany St. The meeting will feature a priority discussion with Councilor Ed Flynn, an update on Peters Park construction, and volunteer opportunities in the neighborhood.

- The South End Forum Opiate Working Group has released its meeting schedule for Winter/Spring 2019. The group will meet at 4 p.m. in the Crosstown Hilton on March 19, April 23, and May 21.

- The South End Forum will have its quarterly meeting on Tuesday, March 26, 6 p.m. at the AC Hotel, 225 Albany St. Other meetings will be May 7 and June 11.

- Tuesday, March 19: The Boston Ward 4 Democratic Committee will be meeting at 6 p.m. at the South End Library for a Q&A session with State Sen. Sonia Chang-Diaz and State Reps. Jay Livingstone, Aaron Michlewitz, and Chynah Tyler, followed by

a panel discussion with transit experts Chris Dempsey for Transportation for Massachusetts, Stacy Thompson of Livable Streets Alliance, and Lee Matsueda of Alternatives for Community & Environment. Email any questions to ward4dems@gmail.com.

- The Grayken Center at BMC will hold naloxone training sessions on March 14th (11 a.m. to 2 p.m.) and May 8 (11 a.m. to 2 p.m.) in the Menino Lobby of Boston Medical Center. Attendees will learn how to respond to an opioid overdose and fill out a request for naloxone.

FENWAY TIMES

- The Peterborough Senior Center holds bingo at 12:30 and a Tech Café at 11 a.m. every Wednesday. Come play bingo and meet new people, or can get help with your phone or tablet/computer.

- The 44th Annual Gardeners Gathering - On Saturday, March 23 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Northeastern University Shillman Hall & The Egan Center, Join local and regional gardeners at this annual event hosted by The Trustees of the Reservations--all free and

open to the public! *Over two dozen gardening, urban homesteading, and community organizing workshops**Keynote address & presentation of the Community Garden Awards by Mayor Walsh**Special guest speaker Aziz Dehkan, Executive Director of New York City Community Garden Coalition**Exhibitors' gallery: Boston-area agriculture, gardening, and environmental organizations*A detailed itinerary will be available at a later date.

SOUTH END AUTHORS BOOK FEST

On Thursday, April 4, from 4-8 p.m., the South End Authors Book Festival committee will be holding its 4th annual event.

The event will be held at Tent City, 130 Dartmouth St., in the Harry Dow Community Room - across the street from the Back Bay Transit Station.

This event is held every year, so that local authors can present their writings to the General Public for sale. Through the years the itiner-

(NEWS BRIEFS Pg. 11)

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ESPLANADE ASSOCIATION 2019 BOSTON MARATHON TEAM FUNDRAISER AT BULLY BOY DISTILLERS

Photos by Keiko Hiromi

The Esplanade Association's 2019 Boston Marathon Team hosted a fundraiser at Bully Boy Distillers in Boston's

Newmarket on March 9. This year's runners include Stephanie Sguigna of Beacon Hill, Ashley Perkins of South End, Kara Brennan of Back Bay and Ellen Barrett of the North End - among 15 Team Esplanade members. The runners

will run the 2019 Boston Marathon in support of the Esplanade Association whose mission includes maintaining and improving Boston's iconic riverside park, a beloved training route for thousands of Marathon runners.



Meghan Mulroy, Charlie Tagerini, John Nasca, Sarah Matthews and Charlie Jacob (runner).



Conor Brennan, Christina Hennessy, David Hennessey, Kara Brennan (Back Bay runner), Dan Woodhouse, Catherine Brennan and Mimi DiSipio.



Abby Fisher, Michael Nichols, Kelsey Pranik of Esplanade Association and Michal Pranik.



Dylan Armajani, Stephanie Sguigna (Beacon Hill runner), Kira Armajani, Leslie Armajani and Zack Tapp.



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CITY COUNCIL (from pg. 1)

does not hear from his constituents about this issue.

Boston Police Department (BPD) Superintendent Kevin McGoldrick said that a large part of the current issue is that the motorcycle unit “is not as robust and focused on traffic as it used to be.”

Councilor Matt O’Malley asked if there were any statistics issued on texting, jaywalking, or “blocking the box.”

“I’ve never seen a jaywalking ticket in my 29 years” in the police department, McGoldrick said. The official fine is \$1, but “I think we would need to do significant public education and outreach” in order to actually enforce it, he said. “It would take people by surprise and culture shift for pedestrians in this city.”

“We do cite for texting,” he added, but did not have the statistics with him at the hearing.

Another large issue with enforcement is that there is no real analysis of the data collected by the police department, and this is something they would need to have in order to have better enforcement.

Councilor Ciommo asked if the cameras currently in place in some areas have the ability to monitor violations. Boston Transportation Department (BTD) Commissioner Gina Fiandaca said that “we don’t monitor violations or record

license plates of vehicles that are not stopping at red lights.” She said that they do, however, have the ability to monitor traffic conditions and are able to alert BPD and ask them for support at certain intersections.

Councilor Lydia Edwards said that there is a “lot of blocking the box, a lot of congestion in my district,” particularly in Charlestown and East Boston. “We need police details, we need that kind of enforcement,” she said. She wanted to know if BPD was getting any sort of mitigation money to put more officers in places like that.

McGoldrick said that the “challenge is we’re still taking those officers from somewhere. Very rarely do we have extra officers working.” A quick solution to creating a more robust traffic unit, he said, is to expand the motorcycle unit, because when traffic is really bad, the motorcycles are able to get there much more easily than cars. He said this also does not require the hiring of more sergeants or other “supervisory responsibilities,” which would be required when creating an entire new unit. “If we were to do a standalone traffic unit, we’d probably be looking at six sergeants, lieutenants, I would assume, and a significant number of officers to fully staff that where we could otherwise just

add a dozen people to the motorcycle unit and have a pretty similar effect...,” McGoldrick said.

Matt O’Malley spoke about the recent crash and fatality in West Roxbury. He said that since the incident in February, there has been a car stationed at the intersection where it happened, and “the number of citations for motorists not stopping in crosswalks has doubled.”

He said that other places have used cameras to help stop speeding “to make sure we have safer streets for pedestrians, cyclists, and others. Surely we can balance that with safer streets,” he said.

On the second panel was Brendan Kearney, Communications Director for WalkBoston. He said that over the last four years, there has been an average of 738 pedestrian crashes in the City of Boston. “I thought it was very interesting you were saying earlier today that you either hear that traffic’s not moving fast enough or traffic’s moving way too fast,” he said of a comment previously made by O’Malley. “And that’s a perfect summation of the issues that the transportation department is trying to deal with right now.” Kearney also provided several other statistics on accidents that have affected pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists.

Becca Wolfson, Executive Direc-

tor of the Boston Cyclists Union and representing the Vision Zero Coalition, said that the Cyclists Union’s goal “is to make it safe and comfortable for anyone to be able to bike safely within the City of Boston and the region.” She said that it would be a “much better use of the city’s resources” if streets were changed to be self-enforcing of lower speeds, and for the focus to be on the most dangerous streets and behaviors “with respect to enforcement.”

“We know that police officers can’t be on every corner,” she said, and “change can’t be done overnight,” but she believes that analyzing BPD data “in conjunction with BTD can inform where design needs the most change and enforcement can be utilized.”

Stacy Thompson, Director of Livable Streets Alliance and a member of the Vision Zero Coalition, spoke about automated enforcement. “Given the number of crashes in Boston, we cannot ask our police to be superheroes,” she said. “What we would say affirmatively is that when deployed properly, automated enforcement, specifically speed cameras and red light cameras, have been shown to effectively reduce unsafe driving behavior, the number of crashes, and the severity of crashes.”

Emiliano Falcon, Civil Liberties

and Technology Policy Councilor at the ACLU of Massachusetts, said that the ACLU has concerns about the potential traffic enforcement unit and the use of automated enforcement, such as the legal authorization for the surveillance, the disparate impact on racial justice, and ongoing oversight of transparency and accountability.

Steve Jonas, a “daily pedestrian,” said that he is concerned about the life safety issues associated with traffic in Boston. He read an excerpt from an email that he sent to Mayor Walsh in November to which he said he received “zero response.”

“As a daily pedestrian in our fine city, I have witnessed the rampant increase in the incidence of vehicles running red lights and doing so at high speeds,” Jonas read. “My message is that enforcement of traffic violations has become almost nonexistent; there are no consequences to disregarding the traffic safety laws. As a result, more motorists are doing just that at the peril of pedestrians, bikers, and other motorists.” He said that he is a fan of traffic enforcement cameras to assist with these issues.

This conversation is going to be continued by the City Council as they discuss ways to mitigate issues of traffic across the city.

For the Record

From the March 12 Zoning Board hearing, City Hall:

- 161 West Brookline St., South End. Applicant: Alpine Advisory Services

Purpose: Amendment. Install new staircase to crawl space in basement. Excavate approximately 3’ to create mechanical room and storage. Sprinkler tanks will be installed here per plan. Pour new slab. Install new sliding door at rear of top floor with guardrail.

- 71-73 Gainsborough St., Fenway. Applicant: Peter Vanko

Purpose: Within existing volume, create garden level unit to change the occupancy from a 9-unit building to a 10-unit building.

- 120 Brookline Ave., Fenway. Applicant: Fenway Enterprises 120 Brookline Avenue LLC

Purpose: Change of occupancy for the lowest level of a three story building from Office use to Cannabis Establishment use.

- 52 Hereford St., Back Bay. Applicant: My Lam

Purpose: Change occupancy from 1 retail, 1 frozen yogurt shop w/take out & outdoor seating, 7 offices, hair salon w/massage to Cafe with take out & outdoor seating, 1 retail, 7 offices, hair salon w/massage. Work includes replacing floors and countertop. All safety systems to remain. Work to be done at 305 Newbury St.

- 85 Newbury St., Back Bay. Applicant: Thinking Cup Newbury LLC

Purpose: Expand existing restaurant “Thinking Cup” into adjacent building 91 Newbury St. by creating an opening in the fire/party wall and installing a fire shutter.

- 163 Newbury St., Back Bay. Applicant: Blue Bottle Coffee, Inc

Purpose: Change occupancy to include second restaurant. Tenant fit-out on first floor. Add rear trash enclosure. Six seat front outdoor patio seating per companion “use of premise” application.

From the March 13 License Board meeting, City Hall:

•Black & Yellow Boston, LLC; D/B/A: Which Wich Superior Sandwiches, 324 NEWBURY St., Back Bay. Has applied for a Common Victualler License to be exercised on the above - One room on the first floor, kitchen in rear. Manager: Brek Peterson. Hours of Operation: 10:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.

•CAFE JAFFA, INC. D/B/A: CAFE JAFFA, 48 GLOUCESTER St., Back Bay. Holder of a Common Victualler 7 Day Wines & Malt Beverages License has petitioned to transfer the license from the above - To: Mitsos, LLC d/b/a Krasi (at the same location). Demetri Tsolakis, Manager. Midnight Closing Hour. Lastly, has petitioned to change the category of the license. From: Common Victualler 7 Day Wines and Malt Beverages License To: Common Victualler 7 Day Wines, Malt Beverages and Liqueurs License.

From the March 14 Non-Hearing Common Victualler hearing, 10 a.m., City Hall:

•The Parish Café Inc., d/b/a Parish Café 361 Boylston St., Back Bay, has applied for a one day amendment to use outdoor seating (patio) on Saturday March 16, and Sunday March 17, between the hours of 11:30 a.m. – Midnight for St. Patrick’s Day.

From the March 14 Public Improvement Commission hearing, 10 a.m., City Hall:

- Columbus Avenue, Clarendon Park; Boston Proper – Grant of Location – On a petition by Crown Castle Fiber

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS HEARING:

A March 18 hearing at 11:30 a.m. on an ordinance protecting local wetlands and promoting climate change adaptation in the City of Boston. The Chair of the Committee is Councilor Michael Flaherty. The Sponsors of the docket are Councilor Michelle Wu and Councilor Matt O’Malley.

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION HEARING

A March 18 order at 2 p.m. for a hearing to discuss the need for more civics education in our Boston Public Schools beyond the current minimal half-year requirement.

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS HEARING:

A March 19 hearing at 2 p.m. regarding a petition for a special law re: An Act Authorizing the City of Boston to Establish an Investor and Commercial Properties Transfer Fee. The Chair of the Committee is Councilor Flaherty. The Sponsors of the Docket are Councilors Edwards and Janey.

From the March 20 License Board hearing, 10 a.m., City Hall:

THE METROPOLITAN CLUB, INC.; D/B/A: MET PRIME, 279 DARTMOUTH St., Back Bay. Holder of a Common Victualler 7 Day All Alcoholic Beverages License has petitioned to amend the description of the licensed business -From: Bar and dining room entrance and exit 1st floor; 281 Dartmouth Street. Kitchen and office 1st floor; 277 Dartmouth St. 2 Dining rooms 1st floor; 279 Dartmouth Street; Storage and exit in basement; 147 Newbury Street; Dining room bar and 2 exits basement level 281 Dartmouth Street. Basement kitchen storage and exit; 147 Newbury Street; Outdoor patio.

To: Occupying the first floor, basement level, and outdoor patio, consisting of 8,375 sq. ft. in total. 277 Dartmouth Street: first floor includes main dining room with seating for eighty two (82); basement level includes main bar dining and bar area with seating for sixty eight (68). 279 Dartmouth Street; first floor includes one private dining room with seating for twelve (12), library bar and dining area with seating for twenty four (24); basement level includes storage, server stations, and bathrooms. 281 Dartmouth Street: first floor includes Saltie Girl bar and dining area with seating for thirty-one (31); basement level includes kitchen and storage. 147 Newbury Street; outdoor annual (weather permitting) patio on private property same hours as restaurant seating for forty two (42). Secondly, has petitioned to change the d/b/a of the licensed business - From: Met Prime To: Met Prime & Saltie Girl.

From the March 20 St. Botolph Architectural District meeting, 5:30 p.m., City Hall:

DESIGN REVIEW

- 12 Cumberland St. #1 Proposed Work: At facades facing public ways, replace all windows.

•131 St. Botolph Proposed Work: At front façade, replace fence, landscaping. Enlarge two garden level windows.

- 27 Cumberland Proposed Work: Construct a roof deck. At rear façade; construct 1st floor deck and stairs

NEWS BRIEFS (from pg. 8)

ary has been pretty much the same, authors introducing themselves and their books to the attendees. Guests intermingling with each other discussing the books being presented. All enjoying good conversation centered around a bit

of light refreshments and drink. Also, sometime during the evening, a short presentation by a guest speaker. All and all everyone, authors and guests always end up having a good time.

The Festival Committee would

like, this year, to offer a special invitation to all the would be young adult/teenage writers in the community to come to the festival to discuss their writings, the authors' writings, or just writing in general.

UBER STOP (from pg. 1)

pick-up and drop-off locations on Boylston Street – and those drivers who stop suddenly will be disciplined as well.

“This will be looking to establish a pick-up and drop-off zone for TNCs in the Fenway area,” said Boston Transportation Department (BTD) Director Gina Fiandaca. “We’re working with Uber and Lyft so they can direct their customers to locations where they can rendezvous with the driver so there is predictability on the roads.”

The pilot will run for one year and there will be signage and enforcement along with it. Private passenger cars will also be able to access the pick-up and drop-off zone.

Vineet Gupta, director of planning at the BTD, said they hope to roll out the new zone this month. It would be located on four metered parking spots on Boylston Street near Kilmarnock Street. The spots would convert to a TNC zone at 5 p.m.

Fiandaca said they have relied on the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) report last year that found there were 100,000 TNC trips in Boston every single day. As part of the business model for those TNC companies, they assure that drivers will go to exactly where the customer is and will drop off the customer exactly where they want. That often results in stoppages in the middle of a travel lane as customers jump in, or hop out, of a TNC.

“We’ve all seen them just stop in a travel lane or double-park,” she said. “Drivers have to go around them and cyclists too. Sometimes

they choose places that aren’t the best location to pull over and have customers get in or get out of a vehicle. This is an opportunity to identify locations where there is a lot of TNC trips and provide a place for them to drop off and pick up and not cruise the roads.”

She also said the Fenway area was chosen because there are a lot of trips there, and also because many people take TNCs to the Red Sox games.

“The Fenway area is a key location and we know a lot of people are taking TNCs to Kenmore and Fenway Park,” she said. “We had a similar program with Uber during the Boston Marathon last year.”

The announcement of the new TNC zone in Fenway was one of several made by Mayor Martin Walsh at the Greater Boston Municipal Research Bureau meeting on March 7.

“We’re working hard for our hard-working city - and doing things differently in Boston,” said Mayor Walsh. “It’s our work that defines our vision for Boston, and from transportation, to the environment, to education, we’ll continue to take on the tough challenges, and create a stronger Boston with more opportunities for the next generation to come.”

Fiandaca and Gupta said they would closely monitor the zone during the pilot year to see if it is helping the problem, and whether it helps to change the behavior of TNC drivers and passengers.

•Among the other new initiatives announced last week was an effort to lower of the speed limit from 25 mph to 20 mph. Mayor Walsh championed the idea, and

it’s one that Councilor Ed Flynn has suggested for quite some time.

“I’d like to thank Mayor Walsh for his progressive leadership on this issue,” said Flynn. “Councilor (Frank) Baker and I wanted to open up a dialogue with public safety advocates to ensure we’re doing all we can to try to save lives and realize Vision Zero. We know that infrastructure changes, like speed humps and raised crosswalks, are necessary for traffic calming; however, a combination of these physical changes to our built environment, enforcement, and a lower speed limit within our neighborhoods will improve safety for pedestrians, motorists, and cyclists.”

Flynn said data from the city’s website and the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety indicated that the chances of a serious or fatal crash at 30 mph are 50 percent, while at 20 mph the chances significantly drop to 18 percent. We thank Mayor Walsh and his staff for their strong leadership on Vision Zero and efforts to make Boston safer for all.”

Fiandaca and Gupta said they would initially concentrate on implementing the lower speed limit in areas like school zones, adjacent to elderly housing and near community centers. However, an overall change will require City Council approval and State House approval.

“The objective would be to have the speed limit down to 20 mph on our residential streets in the city,” said Fiandaca.

D-4 POLICE NEWS

MONEY GRABBER

On Tuesday, March 5, at around 9:25 p.m., police responded to a radio call for an armed robbery in progress at Tremont Market at 748 Tremont St.

Upon arrival, officers spoke to the victim, who said he was working at the market when he observed a male suspect with a long, black winter jacket, a grey winter hat and a grey scarf covering his face peering into the store from outside on the Worcester Street side. The suspect then walked inside the market, approached the counter and stated to the victim, “Give me that money.”

The victim said the suspect brandished a black gun and removed \$200 from the cash tray before fleeing on Worcester Street towards the rear alley behind 748 Tremont St.

Detectives were subsequently able to view a surveillance video of the incident and recognized the suspect from a separate armed robbery with a gun the same day between 3:40-3:45 a.m. at 55 Berkeley St., at which time the suspect briefly lifted his mask and revealed his face.

A GPS check of the suspect also indicated he was in the vicinity of 55 Berkeley St. at the time of the incident, and that he removed the bracelet about 30 minutes before the alleged robbery.

The detectives also established that the suspect fled the scene in a blue Ford Explorer with a distinct snow pattern on its roof. (The night before, Boston had received around 10 inches of snow.) The vehicle was then spotted on camera traveling on Columbus Avenue around Dartmouth Street at approximately 3:50 a.m. Cameras then tracked the vehicle to the Boston Housing Authority building at 70 St. Botolph St., where the suspect and a female companion were observed getting into the elevator.

On March 7 at about noon, the cashier at the Tremont Market notified police that the suspect in

the robbery two days ago had been in the store about 15 minutes earlier and was observed stealing merchandise. Officers arrived at the scene and searched the vicinity for the suspect to no avail.

The next day, the suspect was arrested on an unrelated arrant and transported to District 4 headquarters for booking. He was also positively identified as the suspect in the March 7 robbery at this time.

Detectives then went to 70 Botolph St., where they interviewed the female seen with the suspect in the elevator. She confirmed she was with then individual with the suspect in the video, and that clothing the suspect was observed wearing in video footage of the robbery looked similar to clothes she has seen him in.

Based on these facts, detectives believed they had probable cause to charge the suspect with armed robbery with a gun (while masked), assault and battery and assault by means of a dangerous weapon to wit: gun.

A complaint will be sought in Boston Municipal Court.

IN THE DARK

A victim reported to Boston Police that a suspect had turned off the power to his apartment and entered the building at 271 Dartmouth St. without permission on Wednesday, March 6, at about 3 a.m.

The victim told police that the suspect had gained entry to the building after another resident walked inside and was then observed looking through delivery packages. Afterwards, the suspect went up to the sixth floor, where the victim was staying, and shut off the power to the victim’s unit.

With the help of building security, the victim was able to locate the suspect, who when confronted, offered the victim money to not involve the police.

The victim said he refused the suspect’s money and insisted that security bar him from entering the building.

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