

# THE BOSTON SUN

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

SERVING BACK BAY - SOUTH END - FENWAY - KENMORE

## COPLEY MENORAH LIGHTING



PHOTO BY MIKE MEJIA

The Bushari family celebrated Chanukah with friends at Copley Square on Sunday, December 22. It is the tallest Menorah in all of New England and candles will be lit on it nightly throughout the holiday. See more photos on Page 7.

## South End artists make \$350K donation to BAA

Staff Report

Boston Arts Academy Foundation (BAA Foundation) announced it has received a \$350,000 gift from Dr. Joshua Boger, founder and former CEO of Vertex Pharmaceuticals, and his wife, Dr. Amy Boger, a retired pediatrician and fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

The Bogers' contribution supports the photography and 3D arts programs at Boston Arts Academy (BAA), Boston's only public high school for the visual and performing arts. This donation is part of the Foundation's first-ever five-year, comprehensive cam-

paign, Building Our Future, which will raise \$30 million to support expanding and sustaining arts programming and other critical services for BAA students.

The Photography and 3D Studios at the new BAA facility, currently under construction in the Fenway neighborhood, will be named for Amy and Joshua Boger and The Boger Family Foundation. Their gift will ensure that the school's emerging photographers and 3D artists have the opportunity to train and learn on state-of-the-art equipment in a facility fully designed to encourage artistic expression.

Joshua Boger, best known as a

scientist and entrepreneur, is also a longtime photographer who specializes in capturing underwater environments. Amy is a professional ceramic artist who incorporates humor into her works. A group of BAA's Visual Arts students recently visited the Bogers' South End art studio, which led to a lively discussion about the creation, and importance, of the visual arts.

"We've had the pleasure of spending time with a number of BAA students. They are inquisitive, imaginative and inspiring," said Joshua Boger. "As a photographer myself, I see the inherent value in their creative exploration."

(BAA, Pg. 3)

## Tenants Development Corp. will buy properties put on the market

By Seth Daniel

The Tenants Development Corporation (TDC) announced that it plans to purchase 186 units of affordable housing in 36 Brownstone buildings – units that it had put on the market with a broker earlier this month.

The proposed sale of the properties through the broker was a mere formality, suggested a statement from TDC. The housing developer told the Sun in a statement that they were simply purchasing back the share from a partner they've had since 2003.

"TDC has a limited partner

who invested in the property through a federal tax credit program in 2003," read the statement. "Under agreements dating to 2003, the limited partner has asked TDC to sell the property. TDC holds a contractual right to

(TDC, Pg. 4)

## Hotel Alexandra partners report agreement reached with TDC

By Seth Daniel

The owners of the Hotel Alexandra – who are looking to develop the long-unkempt property into a new hotel – reported this

week that they have reached an agreement with the Tenants Development Corporation (TDC), the owners of an abutting housing development.

Jas Bhogal of JB Ventures told

the Sun that after a great deal of negotiating, they have resolved the issues with TDC, allowing the hotel project to move forward.

(HOTEL ALEXANDRA, Pg. 10)

## Fenway Center petitions for changes in use, far less parking

By Seth Daniel

The developers of Fenway Center – a project on air rights over the Mass Turnpike – have petitioned state environmental regulators for a project change that includes getting rid of residential uses and eliminating more than 500 parking spots.

Meredith Management has issued a Notice of Project Change to state environmental regulators (known as MEPA) that makes changes to the Fenway Center Phase 2 proposal – changes they

are hoping will be minor modifications not triggering further state reviews.

One of two major changes to the Fenway Center plan includes

(FENWAY CENTER, Pg. 4)

## UPNA HOLIDAY PARTY AT MASA



PHOTO BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

Sarah and Laura Shields with Mason Mills during the Union Park Neighborhood Association holiday party this month at Masa on Tremont Street. The popular annual gathering drew many from the neighborhood, and friendly faces from other areas of the South End as well. See more photos on Page 8.

# EDITORIAL

## HAPPY HOLIDAYS

This is a wonderful time of the year, to paraphrase the song, with holiday music playing in the malls and on our car radios, resurrecting our earliest childhood memories -- even for the younger set -- of Christmases-past.

We choose just the right tree, decorate it carefully with our family-heirloom ornaments, and when we first turn on the lights, it brings a smile even to the oldest among us.

Despite the hectic rushing to and fro, everybody it seems, is in a good mood. We endure the traffic, the long lines in stores, and more, because we know that what we are doing will bring joy and happiness to others.

For those of us with young children, we get to see Christmas through their eyes, giving us a second-chance to experience the wonder and joy that we felt when we were their age.

Although all of us celebrate the holiday season in our own way, the common thread is one of peace, joy, and happiness, regardless of religious or secular beliefs. Whether it be Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, or a Seinfeldian Festivus, the spirit of the season imbues us with a sense of togetherness that transcends whatever negativity may exist both in our own lives and in the world around us.

We wish all of our readers a happy holiday season.

## ENJOY THE HOLIDAYS -- SAFELY

Christmas this year is part of what for many people will be an extra-long weekend, which means that for many of us, we will be indulging in the "Christmas spirit" early and often.

By no means do we wish to cast negative thoughts, but we would be remiss if we did not remind all of our readers to enjoy the holiday season safely. This especially means that we should be careful not to drink and drive, nor allow our friends or family members to do so.

If someone appears to be under the influence, it is incumbent upon all of us not to let that person get behind the wheel of a car. Call an Uber if you have to -- if it is within our ability to prevent a tragedy, we must take the appropriate action.



MERRY CHRISTMAS ~ PEACE ON EARTH

## GUEST OP-ED

### Celebrating community this holiday season

By Martin J. Walsh

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and Happy Kwanzaa, Boston! This is a special time of the year. It's a time to spread joy, spend time with family, and show kindness and generosity to others. While people in Boston celebrate many different traditions, we are all united by a love of community, and a commitment to building peace—in our neighborhoods, and throughout our city and the world.

The holidays bring out the best in our city. Our strength is in how we treat one another as neighbors. And when we are all working together to spread happiness and lend a helping hand to those in need, our city thrives.

Throughout December, I've been honored to help kick off the holiday season in many special Boston ways. We lit Christmas trees in every neighborhood in Boston, including the Boston Common Christmas tree with our friends from Nova Scotia (and special guest, Dolly Parton!). That same night, I joined Back Bay resi-

dents for the Commonwealth Avenue Mall lighting. As part of our annual Mayor's Enchanted Trolley Tour, we visited 16 communities to light Christmas trees, and highlight the importance of shopping local at Boston's many small neighborhood businesses.

My favorite part of the holiday season is giving back to the community. Knowing that we can make a child's day with a gift, or make a hectic season a little easier for parents, is a great feeling. I was excited to take part in many traditions of giving—from ringing the Salvation Army's bell in Downtown Crossing, to hosting AT&T's Holiday Phone-A-Thon which helps Bostonians call their friends and family abroad, to helping out at the United States Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots donation warehouse. I also had fun reading holiday stories to children and joining the Boston Police Department and hundreds of kids during their annual Shop With A Cop event. All of these experiences have certainly made my holiday season brighter, and I hope it helped make others' as well.

I encourage all Bostonians to find ways to get involved in their community and give back. Volunteering for a cause you believe in, or making a donation is a great way to make the holidays extra special. And if you have extra time, help out at a shelter or food bank near where you live. This time of the year can be especially tough for families struggling to make ends meet, and for residents who are experiencing homelessness. During these long and cold winter months, it's important that we look out for one another and make sure people know their community cares about them. Together, we can show what it means to be a city of neighbors helping neighbors.

This holiday season, I'm especially grateful and honored to serve as Mayor of the greatest city on earth. I'm looking forward to all the great things we'll continue to accomplish together in 2020. I hope you have a safe, happy, and healthy holiday season, and I wish you the best in the New Year.

*Martin J. Walsh is the Mayor of Boston.*

## GUEST OP-ED

### Count our blessings for freedom of the press

By Melissa Martin, Ph.D.

We go about our daily lives in the United States of America. We read newspapers in the U.S. and via internet we have access to myriad newspapers around the world. But how often do we stop and consider press freedom? How often do we count our blessings when we peruse social media news outlets? How often do we show gratitude to journalists and people that bring us the news?

USA. The First Amendment, which protects freedom of the press, was adopted on Dec. 15, 1791, as part of the Bill of Rights.

UN. May 3 was proclaimed World Press Freedom Day the UN General Assembly in 1993.

According to 2017 report from Freedom House, a U.S. based nonprofit, only 13 percent of the world's population experiences a

free press.

North Korea is identified as one of the most oppressive countries for silencing journalists and information via "harassment, arrest, torture or killing" according to a 2019 NPR article and Reporters Without Borders.

Read the following excerpt from Lee Kwang Baek, president of a press freedom newspaper in North Korea.

"Daily NK's mission is to remain your trusted source of news generated from within North Korea, providing timely and accurate information about one of the most repressive regimes in human history. The North Korean regime continues to violate the rights of the North Korean people, while threatening the international community with nuclear weapons and ballistic missiles...Daily NK directly supports a robust network of

dedicated citizen journalists inside the country, who risk their lives on a daily basis to share news from the ground. In turn, we broadcast these reports back to the people of North Korea and the entire world. In doing so, we hope to advance the cause of freedom and give the oppressed people of North Korea the voice they deserve." [www.dailynk.com](http://www.dailynk.com).

Press Freedom in the U.S.

"When journalists are obstructed, so is the public's right to be informed and hold power to account. The United States has some of the strongest legal free speech protections in the world, and serves as a beacon for press freedom in a world where journalists are routinely censored, attacked, or imprisoned for their work. But the U.S. record is imper-

(Op-Ed, Pg. 3)

# THE BOSTON SUN

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# First Night Boston welcomes Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston to its 2020 Non-Profit Partner Program

First Night Boston, New England's largest New Year's Eve celebration, today announced the addition of its 2020 Non-Profit Partner Program, Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston. In addition to hours of free entertainment, light shows, ice sculptures, and other family-friendly programming, 2020 event-goers will have the opportunity to support the great

work of Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston with a text-to-give campaign. This collaboration will celebrate the amazing work that happens every day across Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston's 11 locations throughout Boston and Chelsea as well as its YouthConnect program in partnership with the Boston Police Department. It is the second year of the First Night

Non-Profit Partner Program, which adds an element of philanthropy and altruism to Boston's New Year's Eve celebrations. We are very pleased to team up with First Night Boston in this meaningful way for New Year's Eve," said Josh Kraft, Nicholas President and CEO of Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston. "We are steadfastly committed to the young people of

Boston and Chelsea and we can't think of a better way to kick off our next decade of work than by showcasing it as part of Boston's biggest celebration. We're excited to join in on the countdown and see Boston light up." More than 400,000 guests are expected to visit Copley Square and the surrounding area on December 31. Now in its 44th year, First Night

Boston showcases the city's beauty in a night of light, music, and ice. First Night Boston is free to all and supported in part by donations from the people and businesses of the surrounding community. Parties interested in supporting First Night programming can do so at [www.firstnightboston.org](http://www.firstnightboston.org).

## BAA (from pg. 1)

tions and believe the visual arts can have a positive impact in their development, not only as artists and scholars, but also as citizens. My wife and I want future generations of BAA students to have every opportunity to pursue their own artistic passions. BAA has a proud tradition of developing and inspiring young artists, and we hope our gift serves as a catalyst for other donors to support this unique institution."

"We are deeply grateful to Drs. Joshua and Amy Boger for this major gift, which is particularly meaningful since they share our students' artistic passion," said BAA Foundation President Denella Clark. "Like so many other donors who have joined our campaign, the Bogers recognize the limitless potential of the BAA students, and the need to ensure they have access to the resources to harness their talents and perfect their



*Dr. Joshua Boger, who is also a photographer based in the South End, shows students from Boston Arts Academy through his studio this month.*

## OP-ED (from pg. 2)

fect, and journalists and advocates must tirelessly defend the First Amendment in courts, in legislatures, and in the media. Constant vigilance and an honest accounting of the country's track record on press freedom are essential." [www.freedom.press](http://www.freedom.press).

Threats to Press Freedom in U.S.

What is the U.S. Press Freedom Tracker? "The U.S. Press Freedom Tracker aims to comprehensively document press freedom violations in the United States committed by national, state, and local author-

ities, as well as by private individuals. These include: journalist arrests, assaults, border stops, camera and equipment seizures, surveillance orders, subpoenas, and more." [www.pressfreedom-tracker.us](http://www.pressfreedom-tracker.us).

Will you stand up and defend press freedom in your hometown, state, and country? Will you stand up and defend press freedom for all countries on our planet?

This holiday season let us remember the journalists killed in the line of duty, both home and abroad and those falsely impris-

oned.

Let us stop and count our blessings for press freedom in the United States of America.

"Oil may run out, liquidity may dry up, but as long as ink flows freely, the next chapter of Life will continue to be written." -Alex Morritt

*Melissa Martin, Ph.D., is an author, columnist, educator, and therapist. Contact her at [melissam-columnist@gmail.com](mailto:melissam-columnist@gmail.com).*



*Boston Arts Academy students touring the Bogers' South End studio.*

crafts. This generous gift is a critical step toward ensuring that the persistent opportunity gap within the arts community is permanently closed."

Founded in 1998 as the city's only public high school for the visual and performing arts, Boston Arts Academy (BAA) has distinguished itself among urban public high schools as a leader in innovative and effective student-centered education. Consistently recognized locally and nationally for its achievements, BAA exemplifies the power of an arts-rich education, and many BAA graduates have found success in college through the arts. In fact, for the past five years, at least 97 percent

of BAA's diverse graduates have been accepted to college; most are first-generation college students. BAA's dynamic program prepares graduates to be critical thinkers, effective communicators, collaborators and creators. Students come from all 23 Boston neighborhoods to receive the formal arts training and academic instruction to become Boston's next generation of artists and cultural leaders.

In October 2018, the BAA community broke ground on a new \$125 million facility at its Fenway location, which will expand from 121,000 square feet to 153,500 square feet upon its completion in September 2021. Among many highlights, it will include new and much-needed enhanced theatres, a career center, academic classrooms, dance studios, music practice rooms and fashion technology studios and workspace.

When BAA opens its new school building, the number of students enrolled will increase from 470 to 500, and eventually continue to grow.

Construction of the new BAA school building will not change BPS's funding formula, which supports BAA's academic offerings. Through the five-year, comprehensive *Building Our Future* campaign, the BAA Foundation is raising \$30 million to augment BAA's school budget and ensure long-term sustainability. The campaign includes raising \$10 million to bring the BAA Foundation endowment to \$13.5 million, and to secure \$15.5 million in operating reserves. In less than one year, BAA Foundation has raised \$7 million from generous donors like Drs. Amy and Joshua Boger towards the \$30 million goal.

## HOLIDAY PUBLICATION SCHEDULE:

The Newspaper will be published on Tuesday, Dec. 31  
The New Years Advertising Deadline IS FRIDAY, DEC. 27<sup>TH</sup>

The Office will be **CLOSED** Wednesday, Dec. 25 and Jan. 1 in observation of Christmas and New Years holidays.

# News Briefs

## BACK BAY HAPPENINGS

•Boston Common Master Plan Open House

Join the Friends, the City of Boston, and Weston & Sampson for the Second Boston Common Master Plan Open House at the Josiah Quincy School Auditorium in Chinatown, 152 Arlington St., 02111 on Wednesday, Jan. 15. The Open House format will include a slideshow presentation, question and answer period, and an opportunity for active participation within small breakout groups. Your continued participation is crucial in planning the brightest future for Boston Common.

Thanks to generous community support, new permanent lighting has been installed at the Samuel Eliot Morison statue. A rousing celebration was held with over 40 neighbors, Parks Commissioner Ryan Woods, Rep. Jay Livingstone, and City Councilor-elect Kenzie Bok to turn on the lights on Dec. 3. To learn more about the Commonwealth Avenue Mall Statue Lighting and Landscape Improvements project, and to donate to help light the next six statues, visit the Friends of the Public Garden website.

• SAVE THE DATE for a new winter event on Boston Common! To celebrate our 50th Anniversary, on Sunday, Feb. 9, the Friends of the Public Garden will be sponsor-

ing Skating with Friends; free skating for all on the Frog Pond! Stay tuned fo more updates.

## SOUTH END MEETING

•The next Sound End Forum Opiate Working Group meeting on Dec. 17 takes place on Tuesday, Jan. 21, at 4 p.m. in the Hampton Inn and Suites, Mass/Cass.

## FENWAY TIMES

•Construction begins on Van Ness Lot

Work has started on the parking lot on the corner of Van Ness and Ipswich Streets behind CVS as part of the overall Fenway Music Hall and bleacher improvement

projects project. This will be a new designated area for TV trucks and other storage related to Fenway Park that was previously located on the site of the future MGM Music Hall at Fenway. This part of the project mostly involves leveling and resealing.

•Select Red Sox 2020 Tickets on Sale Now

Red Sox 2020 “Sox Pax” and single-game tickets for select April, May, and September games are on sale as of today. Tickets are available online at redsox.com and by phone at (877) RED-SOX9. “Sox Pax” are packs of three or four games with a variety of date and seat options, including Inter-league games, summer weekend

games, and matchups against the Yankees and Cardinals. You can view these purchase options here. There will be a limit of three Sox Pax (up to four tickets each) per person, and 12 single-game tickets per transaction.

## 2020 Fenway

### Concerts Announced To Date

June 21, 2020: James Taylor with Brandi Carlile and Shawn Colvin

June 24, 2020: Maroon 5 with Leon bridges and Meghan Trainor

Aug. 25, 2020: Motley Crue & Def Leppard with Poison and Joan Jett & the Blackhearts

Aug. 27, 2020: Green Day with Fall Out Boy and Weezer

Aug. 28, 2020: Billy Joel

## WHERE IS THE SUN?

BELOW ARE THE LOCATIONS THAT YOU CAN PICK UP YOUR  
THE BOSTON SUN

### Back Bay Area

Ritz Carlton  
Sarni Cleaners  
Boston Public Library  
Citizen's Bank  
Teriyaki House  
Little Stevie's Pizza  
Pad Thai  
Crazy Dough  
Tasty Burger  
Cask and Flagon  
Back Bay Bicycles  
Sheraton Hotel  
Hilton Boston  
Copley Square Hotel  
The Greenhouse Apts  
b. good  
Bangkok City Restaurant  
Tomodachi Sushi  
City Hair/Thai Body  
Snappy Sushi  
Starbucks  
Lauren's Nails  
Ben & Jerry's  
Hempest  
Fairfield Realty  
Bush Cleaners  
Back Bay Ace Hardware  
Deluca's Market  
Boloco  
Newbury Guest House  
Town Nail Salon

Pavement Coffee  
Back Bay Hair Design  
Bauer Wines & Spirits  
Newbury Comics  
Trident Booksellers  
Converse

### Beacon Hill Area

Sarni Cleaners  
Boston City Hall

### Fenway Park Area

Upper Crust  
Fenway Community Center  
Back Bay Laundromat  
Hidyan Café  
Blick Art Supply  
Canestaro's  
El Pelón Taqueria  
Jersey Street Liquors  
College Pizza  
Guitar Center  
The Verb Hotel  
Red Mango  
Supreme Pizza  
Fenway Studios  
Fenway Health  
Fenway Community  
Development Corporation

### Kenmore Square Area

Hotel Buckminster  
Cornwall's  
Blue Moon Smoke Shop  
The Lower Depths Tap Room  
India Quality  
Peterborough Senior Center  
Hotel Commonwealth  
7 Eleven  
Bank of America  
East Boston Savings Bank

### South End Area

Berkeley Perk Café  
Club Café  
South End Library Branch  
South End Food Emporium  
The Wine Emporium  
Food Basket  
Giorgiana's  
Charlie's Sandwich Shoppe  
Brownstone Restaurant  
Cleary's  
City Convenience  
Tent City  
East Boston Savings Bank  
Whole Foods Market  
Bostonian Market  
Boston Medical Center

Symphony Plaza East  
Victoria's Diner  
Liquor Land  
Blackstone Community Center  
Rome Pizza  
Metropolis  
Starbucks  
Sarni Cleaners  
South End House of  
Pizza & Grill  
Mings Supermarket  
Dunkin Donuts  
Foodies Urban Market  
South End Community Health  
Center  
Mike's City Diner  
Post Office

### Symphony Area

Huntington Wines  
Boston House of Pizza  
Cappy's II  
Boston Shawarma  
Huntington YMCA  
Marino Center - NEU  
Curry Center - NEU  
Fern Exotic Flowers  
Ruby's Nail Salon  
Whole Foods Market  
Symphony Apartments

Chinatown  
East Boston Savings Bank

## TDC (from pg. 1)

purchase the property. In order to exercise that right, a broker must advertise the property and receive and review any and all offers to purchase before TDC can exercise its right to purchase.”

The historic townhomes are 100 percent affordable and protected by the state affordable housing preservation law. That law requires TDC to notify residents, the state and the City when a property like that is put up for sale. That notice has gone out and includes a statement of TDC's intention to purchase the properties.

“TDC has a plan in place to assure that the property continues to be owned by TDC and remain affordable,” read the statement, which pointed out TDC has owned the properties for more than 50 years.

TDC said during the process there will be no change to the management of the property and no change to residents' affordable rents. No resident will be required to move because of the process, they indicated.

“Again, TDC has the right to acquire the units and plans to exercise that right,” read the statement. “TDC remains committed to its mission of providing and protecting affordable housing for the residents and South End and Lower Roxbury community.”

The properties were listed with St. James Real Estate Advisors this month, with a deadline for offers in late January. The listing indicated that property tours were available for potential buyers and there was no asking price listed for the sale.

## FENWAY CENTER (from pg. 1)

adding additional office/research/lab and life sciences space with active ground floor uses. That new configuration comes in place of the previously-approved residential uses in the buildings.

A second major change includes eliminating 500 of the 1,290 parking spaces attached to the project. By doing that, it would reduce the threshold trigger of 1,000 new spaces. Any project adding 1,000

or more spaces has to go through an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) process to review parking and transportation. With the reduction of parking, there would now be 790 spaces and that would eliminate the need for a state review on that matter.

The only threshold for an EIR that the project would now exceed is for new discharge to the sewer system and stormwater systems.

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## YOUNG FRIENDS OF THE PUBLIC GARDEN SECOND ANNUAL WINTER PARTY



Caroline Barry, Kelly Furlong, Kristine Miklos, Rich Hornblower, Courtney Barry, Joe Grasso, and Meredith Braunstein.

Photos courtesy Hurley Event Photography

The Young Friends of the Public Garden Second Annual Winter Party was a huge success, with approximately 150 people supporting the Friends' work on the Common, the Garden and the Mall. Seasonal music and a view of the lights on Boston Common added to the festivities on the fifth-floor at 8 Park St. The raffle winners were thrilled with their prizes thanks to the generosity of Eliot Hotel, Celtics tickets from Rich Hornblower and Amy Morris, Boston Chops, Uwillla Warrior, Winston Flowers, Shoes.com and Moo Restaurant! Board chair Leslie Adam welcomed the crowd and announced the upcoming celebration of the Friends 50th Anniversary in 2020. Young Friends co-chairs Anne Mostue, Rich Hornblower and Meg McClafferty and the Planning Committee made sure fun was had by all!



Shown above: Leslie Adam, Meg McClafferty, and President Liz Vizza.  
Shown left: George Gilpatrick, Sandra Gilpatrick, Mary Beth Kelley, and Julie Madjar.



A healthy crowd attended the The Young Friends of the Public Garden Winter Party.



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Sally Brewster

Ron Berkowitz

Betsey Barrett

Toni Doggett

ELLIS SOUTH END NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION JAZZY WINE MIXER

Photos by Derek Kouyoumjian

The Ellis South End Neighborhood Association's Jazzy Wine Mixer was a "pre-game" event before the Berklee Concert Jazz Orchestra performance. Along

with sampling an excellent selection of wines, attendees got to meet Greg Hopkins, the conductor and professor, and his students who would perform shortly after. These students wrote some of the pieces performed and explained their inspirations to the group.



Yoko Suzuki from Yokohama and Bastien Rieser professor Greg Hopkins. Yoko Suzuki, from Yokohama, composed a piece she titled "Hmmmm.....". Bastien Rieser, from Munich, composed a piece he titled "The Joy Of What Is Yet To Come."



Elliott Williams and Grace Gregor.



Julie Roth and Susan Thomas.



Wine committee members Elizabeth Shearer and Bill Gregor with Ali Farquhar and Gordon Holmes (Wine Committee).



Chris and Elizabeth Shearer with Monte Darbouze.



Betsy Hall, Barbara Huffman, and Jen Girvin.



Bastien Rieser from Munich "The Joy Of What Is Yet To Come."



Vic Sloan and Sue Rees.



Professor Greg Hopkins conducts the jazz orchestra.

# MENORAH LIGHTING IN COPLEY SQUARE

Photos by Mike Meija

Family and friends gathered on Sunday, Dec. 22, for the lighting of the tallest Menorah in all of New England at Copley Square. The celebration of Chanukah featured live music, doughnuts, Menorah kits, and dreidels for all.



*Shown above: Tim Rebbeck, Rachael Weytan, dog Noah, Jason Shemnitz, and Jill Stopfer. Shown below: Frances and Josh Benjamin, holding his daughter, Sonia, on his shoulders, and Saragair Benjamin, who visited her family for the Chanukah celebration.*



*Dani, Nicole, and Diane Bauke.*



*Nancy and David Berkowitz.*



*Ana and Bernard DeCunha with their children Miya, 4, and Gerard, 14.*



*Councilor-Elect Kenzie Bok and Rep. Jay Livingstone.*



*Amir Aaron singing Hanukkah songs.*



*Rep. Jay Livingstone and Councilor-Elect Kenzie Bok light the center flame of the Menorah in Copley Square.*

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UNION PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION HOLIDAY PARTY



Photos by Derek Kouyoumjian

The Union Park Neighborhood Association held its annual holiday party at Masa on Tremont Street this month. Fantastic Latino food was served along with a heaping portion of community and holiday cheer.

*Shown right: Todd and Susan (right) Goldberg with Nancy Waywood.*  
*Shown left: Peter Crane and Christine Parker.*



*Tim Wallace, Frank Mancini (third from left), and John Cunningham (far right) with Larry, Beth, and Stephan Mezias.*



*Union Park President John Schleer, Communications Director Svetla Tzenova, and Abigail Cohen, chair of the Friends of Union Park.*



*Drew, Aiden, Aliza, and Linda Wilkins.*



*Dan Ellis with Don and Agnes Woodlock.*



*Andy Klein and Beverly Sky.*



*Lee Silverstone and Bill Gregor.*



*Shown to the left: Union Park Activities Committee Chair Sue Ann Fox (second from left) and her husband, Jamie Fox, with Mayoral Liaison Faiza Sharif and Eight Streets Neighborhood Association President Michael Almond.*



*Andrew Grainger, John Shade, and Jane Sollogud.*

# Mayor Walsh signs Local Wetland Ordinance

Staff Report

Mayor Martin J. Walsh on Dec. 23 signed the City of Boston Local Wetland Ordinance, an ordinance unanimously approved by the Boston City Council last week with the goal of taking another step to protect Boston against the impacts of climate change, and promote climate resiliency throughout the City. The Local Wetlands Ordinance gives the City greater authority to protect its wetlands, which are crucial to controlling flooding and protecting Boston's neighborhoods and green space. The ordinance directs the Boston Conservation Commission to consider future climate impacts like rising sea levels in applications for new developments, construction, or special events. This ordinance is stricter than statewide standards, and will help Boston protect its natural areas for years to come.

"This ordinance gives us greater power to protect our wetlands in the face of a changing climate," said Mayor Walsh. "We're using natural green space to protect our neighborhoods from storms, floods and heat waves. Climate change is the defining challenge of our time, and this ordinance shows what we can accomplish when we work together, securing a strong, resilient future for Boston. This work has been a priority for my Administration, and I'm proud to sign this important ordinance with our partners today."

Previously, the Conservation Commission followed only the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act, which requires that any work proposed in a wetland resource area or within 100 feet of those areas be reviewed and issued a permit by the Conservation Commission. Under the new ordinance, standards will be stricter than state law. The City ordinance will now protect isolated vegetated wetlands, vernal pools and vernal pool habitat. The ordinance establishes a Waterfront Area which will serve as a buffer zone and allow for the implementation of the Mayor's Resilient Boston Harbor Plan, as well as allow for the

creation of Flood Resilience Zones expected to be aligned with the Boston Planning and Development Agency's flood overlay district.

"As a coastal city, Boston is extremely vulnerable to the threat of climate change with rising sea levels," said City Councilor Matt O'Malley and Chairman of the Environment, Sustainability and Parks Committee. "Policies such as this one ensure that we are protecting our current natural resource areas and local wetlands, while reducing impacts of global climate change."

"This ordinance is a big step toward regulating development to match the scale and urgency of our climate vulnerability," said Boston City Councilor At-Large Michelle Wu. "Boston should be taking every possible action to fight climate change, and I'm proud to have worked with community leaders to advance progress for climate justice."

"Boston is viewed nationally and internationally as a leader in addressing the effects of climate change and the new local wetlands ordinance is an important tool in protecting and enhancing the City's valuable wetlands resource areas, which serve as important protections against sea level rise," said Michael Parker, Chair of the Conversation Commission. "The City is already seeing the effects of climate change and the ordinance will advance the goals of Climate Ready Boston by defending against sea level rise and strengthening floodplain protections. The Conservation Commission is eager to integrate the new ordinance into this important work."

The major changes under the ordinance include giving the Conservation Commission authority to fully protect wetland resources including isolated vegetated wetlands, vernal pools and vernal pool habitat. These habitats are of critical importance because they provide many critical ecological services including the storage and filtration of stormwater, oxygen production, housing native plants and providing wildlife habitat.

The ordinance also allows the

Commission to develop standards for projects in the floodplain to ensure future residents are protected from flooding, expressly directs the Commission to consider climate change, sea level rise, and climate resiliency in reviewing applications, and develop performance standards to ensure the City is adequately protected from those effects.

Flood Resilience Zones are a new, additional layer of protection that will be established through the Ordinance. These Zones will protect residents who could become subject to the impacts of climate change. This additional protection will require projects within the Flood Resilience Zone to go through Conservation Commission review, preparing homes and businesses for future flooding events. The Flood Resilience Zones will be further defined within the regulations and adopted by the Commission. They are expected to be aligned with the Boston Planning & Development Agency and the 2070 Climate Ready Boston maps.

"This ordinance will continue to support Resilient Boston Harbor, the Mayor's vision for enhancing the waterfront and our city's natural spaces while protecting our neighborhoods," said Chris Cook, Chief of Environment, Energy, and Open Space. "Wetlands are a critically important component of this because they store and filter groundwater while acting as a buffer against storms and floods. With this ordinance, we are that much

closer to achieving a connected and protective waterfront."

"The ordinance provides a critical foundation for protecting and mimicking natural systems as we develop coastal protection around the city and absorb the precipitation from increasingly intense storms," said Kathy Abbott, President and CEO of Boston Harbor Now. "These consistent and forward looking regulations assure that our wetlands and wildlands are our first line of defense against climate change and continue to help keep our citizens safe."

This ordinance builds on Mayor Walsh's work to create a climate-ready, resilient Boston. In 2018 the City launched Resilient Boston Harbor, which shows how a network of accessible open spaces and climate-ready buildings and infrastructure will increase resilience to major flooding events, while also increasing access and open space area along the waterfront. Like all the City's current planning, it prepares the City for 40 inches of sea-level rise. Furthering the Mayor's vision are a series of detailed neighborhood plans for coastal resilience. Coastal resilience plans are complete for parts of East Boston and Charlestown, for South Boston, and are underway for Downtown, the North End, and Dorchester.

Earlier this month, Mayor Walsh signed an executive order requiring all new municipal buildings to target a Zero Net Carbon standard. Under

the executive order, new municipal building construction must aim to be low-energy and fossil fuel-free, while meeting its annual energy needs from a mix of on- and off-site renewable energy assets. This action accelerates the City's leadership in climate action, keeping Boston on track to meet the goals outlined in the 2019 Climate Action Plan, as well as the Paris Agreement.

In addition, earlier this year, Mayor Walsh released the Zero Waste Boston plan, which will divert at least 80 percent of the City's waste from landfills and municipal solid waste combustors by 2035. The City has begun implementing strategies, including expanding education and outreach campaigns around recycling in partnership with institutions like the New England Aquarium, and is currently developing curbside composting and textile recycling programs for residents.

In his FY2020 budget, Mayor Walsh nearly tripled the City's investment in Greenovate Boston to expand outreach to Boston residents and support community-level climate action. Since the investment, Greenovate launched a climate action guide for Boston residents to reduce their carbon footprint at home, at work, in school and in the city. Beginning this month, the City will host a series of trainings and dialogues throughout the community on climate change.



## Community Meeting

### Roxbury Strategic Master Plan Oversight Committee

Friday, January 6  
6:00 PM - 7:45 PM

**Bolling Building**  
2300 Washington Street, 6th Floor  
Roxbury, MA 02119

#### Event Description

On behalf of the Roxbury Strategic Master Plan Oversight Committee (RSMPOC), the January 6 RSMPOC Meeting is being postponed to February 3, 2020. On February 3rd, the BPDA will be providing a debrief on the P3 Development Process.

For more information on the upcoming meeting, including the draft agenda and all materials from previous RSMPOC meetings, please visit [bit.ly/theRSMPOC](http://bit.ly/theRSMPOC).

#### Contact:

Muge Undemir  
Boston Planning & Development Agency  
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor Boston, MA 02201  
617.918.4488 | [mugzy.undemir@boston.gov](mailto:mugzy.undemir@boston.gov)

[bostonplans.org](http://bostonplans.org) | @bostonplans

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# FIRST NIGHT HIGHLIGHTS

Boston’s First Night celebration will take place on Dec. 31 in and around the Back Bay and Boston Common. The celebration begins with performances at 11:45 a.m., with the family friendly fireworks at 7 p.m. Below are a few highlights of the evening. The full schedule can be found at [firstnight-boston.org](http://firstnight-boston.org).

- 1 p.m. – Emancipation Proclamation Concert with Handel and Haydn Society, Trinity Church, 206 Clarendon St. - Handel and Haydn Society and the Museum of African American History partner to present the eighth annual Emancipation Proclamation Concert, a joyous celebration of liberty and freedom. Join H+H musicians, conductor Scott Allen Jarrett, and National Poetry Slam Champion Regie Gibson to commemorate Boston’s historic central role in the abolition movement, to celebrate the spirit of progress for human rights, and to recognize the role of music in creating an alliance and belonging.
- 3 p.m. – The King of Instruments, Old South Church (645 Boylston St.) - Experience the “Sensurround” magnificence of Old South Church’s mighty 1921 E. M. Skinner pipe organ — affectionately dubbed the “Copley Philharmonic Organ.” In repertoire designed to showcase its myriad colors, Minister of Music Mitchell Crawford offers a diverse program the whole family is sure to enjoy. Free and open to the public.
- 4 p.m. – First Night Organ Concert, First Church of Christ, Scientist (Mother Church Extension), 210 Mass Ave. - Join us on New Year’s Eve for a concert featuring accomplished organists: Stephen Loher – Assistant Organist, The

- First Church of Christ, Scientist; George Sargeant – Associate Minister of Music, Old South Church; Douglas Major – Concert Organist, former organist at The National Cathedral, Washington, D.C. These organists will be playing an Aeolian-Skinner Organ, which is one of the largest in the world. The organ has over 13,000 pipes that range from the size of a pencil to 32 feet in length. It is played from the four-manual console located in front of the platform. The Church hosts regular organ concerts every other month.
- 5:30 p.m. – Boston Skating Spectacular, Frog Pond, Boston Common - Please join the Skating Club of Boston and the City of Boston to ring in the New Year at First Night Boston with a free ice show. The show will feature local Boston skaters and a very special guest star. This event is sure to please the whole family.
  - 7 p.m. – Family Friendly Fireworks, Boston Common - Enjoy a fantastic Fireworks Display over Boston Common, brought to you by The Mugar Foundation. The display is expected to last about 20 minutes.
  - 8 p.m. – Pipes and Pops, Old South Church, 645 Boylston St. - The best of Boston’s brass and percussion artists join Minister of Music Mitchell Crawford in a supersonic program, presenting fun and engaging arrangements of popular classics, as well as a seasonal sing of “Auld Lang Syne.” Free and open to the public.
  - Midnight – Fireworks over the Harbor - Boston Harbor Now, is proud to host New Year’s Eve Midnight Harbor Fireworks for 2020. Ring in the new year with a brilliant display from a barge

centered between Long Wharf and Fan Pier. Ideal viewing locations are from Christopher Columbus Park in the North End, Fan Pier in the Seaport District, and from the

East Boston Harborwalk. The display is expected to last 30 minutes.

- Midnight – Countdown in Copley - First Night culminates with the highly anticipated Mid-

night Pyrotechnics and Light Show, with a multi-sensory display of live music in Copley Square. Gather in front of the Copley Library.

## HOTEL ALEXANDRA (from pg. 1)

“We reached an agreement with the Tenants’ Development Corporation that would ensure our plans to redevelop the Alexandra Hotel,” he said. “We have come to a resolution on this matter to avoid any potential delay to this project that will bring a 156-room boutique hotel to Roxbury and the

South End, creating jobs and economic activity. We look forward to restoration and architectural reincarnation of this Boston Landmark.”

TDC had filed a placeholder lawsuit against the Boston Zoning Board of Appeals for their approval of the Hotel Alexandra project

back in October. That lawsuit was filed while both parties tried to work out an agreement on mitigation for the hotel project. The mitigation payment and concessions were to go to tenants in an adjacent building that TDC owns and manages.

## Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1 BACK BAY	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
Zakim, Joshua	Mclaughlin, Robert F	257 Commonwealth Ave #2	\$975,000
Palandjian, Marie-Louise	89 Beacon Street LLC	89 Beacon St #1	\$4,522,946
Sanborn RET	Feingold, Amy	133 Saint Botolph St #7	\$640,000
BEACON HILL			
Dunn, Christopher N	Linda Baron Davis RET	57 Mount Vernon St #2	\$3,000,000
Dunn, Christopher N	Linda Baron Davis RET	57 Mount Vernon St #6	\$3,000,000
Kinsella, Joseph	Patel RT	34 W Cedar St	\$4,000,000
Jones, Jeffrey	Besser, James E	3 W Hill Pl #3	\$6,300,000
SOUTH END/KENMORE/ BAY VILLAGE			
Appleton Berkeley Propco	Appleton 6A Owner LLC	6-A Appleton St	\$5,800,000
Wang, Jing	Swan, Elijah B	857 Beacon St #23	\$510,000
Silva, Richard	Norris, Morgan	380 Columbus Ave #3	\$885,000
Dimeo, Bradford S	Foley, Mark	413-415 Commonwealth Ave #2	\$2,585,000
Mirazimi, Mohammad	Bracha Horovitz RET	1 Huntington Ave #302	\$1,195,000
Date Palm Real Estate Ltd	Kanser, Heather L	416 Marlborough St #A	\$1,279,000
Phan, Mumi	Rogers, Andrew J	424 Massachusetts Ave #201	\$1,040,000
Rogers, Andrew J	Raffaele, Gerardo	424 Massachusetts Ave #201	\$100,000
Bruce, Jacob J	Bachofer, Sarah E	101 Pembroke St #1	\$680,000
Cox, Gerard L	Nabar, Neil	25 Savoy St #160	\$1,800,000
Cox, Gerard L	Nabar, Neil	290 Shawmut Ave #2	\$1,800,000
Later, Jessica	Maco, Mary K	656 Tremont St #3	\$531,375
Lesner, William J	Levine, Richard L	1180-1200 Washington St #418	\$2,754,000
Lesner, William J	Levine, Richard L	1180-1200 Washington St #420	\$2,754,000
WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN			
Hudson, Steven K	Xu, Jingwen	1 Avery St #10G	\$1,235,000
Heaven Gardens RT	Dimatteo, David	1 Avery St #18F	\$1,165,000
Realty Associates Fund 12	Bop 15 Broad LLC	15-19 Broad St	\$46,100,000

## LEGAL NOTICE

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
Notice of Self Storage Sale  
Please take notice Prime Storage - Boston Southampton St. located at 100 Southampton St., Boston, MA 02118 intends to hold an auction to sell the goods stored by the following tenants at the storage facility. The sale will occur as an online auction via [www.storage-treasures.com](http://www.storage-treasures.com) on 1/13/2020 at 12:00 PM. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings. Donna McDonald unit #3147; Cartare McQueen unit #3190; William Burgio unit #3305; Lester

Calvin unit #3323; David Flecha unit #4047; Karen Stokes unit #4079; Torah Keyes unit #4154. All property is being stored at the above self-storage facility. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. See manager for details.

12/26/19, 1/2/20  
BS

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
Notice of Self Storage Sale  
Please take notice Prime Storage - Boston Traveler St. located at 33 Traveler St., Boston, MA 02118 intends

to hold an auction to sell the goods stored by the following tenants at the storage facility. The sale will occur as an online auction via [www.storage-treasures.com](http://www.storage-treasures.com) on 1/13/2020 at 12:00 PM. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings. Michael Williams unit #244; Berceste Dindar unit #454. All property is being stored at the above self-storage facility. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. See manager for details.

12/26/19, 1/2/20  
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# ZBA denies roof deck for Beacon Street fraternity house

By Lauren Bennett

The Zoning Board of Appeal (ZBA) on Dec. 17 denied without prejudice the construction of a roof deck on the top of a one-story garage at the back of 416 Beacon St., which operates as an MIT fraternity house. The proposal was before the ZBA because it is within the Groundwater Conservation Overlay District (GCOD), and is an extension of a nonconforming use in the area. There is currently another roof deck on the property.

Edrick vanBeuzekom of EvB Design said that the fraternity house has been in that location since the early 1950s, and they are planning on doing “major renovations” that include making accessibility upgrades, as well as moving social rooms to the basement level and adding insulation to help with noise complaints.

He also proposed a roof deck on top of a one story garage at the rear of the building which would “provide an access alternative to an existing rood deck which is on top of the house,” vanBeuzekom said. He added that this proposal had been previously approved by the Massachusetts Architectural Access Board.

The project does not call for any increase in capacity for the building, it will actually be reduced from 60 to 39 beds, according to the proponents.

A retired engineer representing the owners of 416 Beacon St. said that this project is “motivated by the fact that our back wall is cracked and we had to do work on it,” he said. “In the process of that, we’re making a major renovation to the building to make ourselves more compatible from a neighbor point of view” and make it ADA compliant.

He said that historical character of the building would be maintained with this proposal as well, as alternatives to the accessible

deck included either constructing an indoor elevator to the existing roof deck with a headhouse, or constructing an exterior elevator that would limit accessibility into the house. Neither of these were viable options, the proponent said, so the accessible deck was the only choice.

“Both MIT and our organization have established a set of rules for the use of the roof deck for both the existing and the new,” the representative said. The rules include no music from 11 p.m. to 7 a.m., no audio/visual equipment allowed on the deck, and no more than four people are allowed on the deck after dark.

“We’ve had these procedures in place for our current roof deck since 2012,” he said, adding that the rules were developed along with the neighbors. “Since 2012, we’ve had no complaints about noise associated with them and so we think these rules are such that they will mitigate noise,” he said. The roof deck will face Storrow Drive, which he said also already has 50 to 70 decibels of ambient noise.

The rules are enforced by the alumni house corporation through a combinations of fines and loss of use privileges, and the neighbors are able to contact to the alumni association anytime they have complaints.

The proposed deck would also include a gas grill, which would have a hard piped gas system. Currently, there is a grill in the front yard of the building, but the proponents hope that by moving it to the back, it will alleviate any issues that may have been caused by people gathering in front of the property.

Several neighbors were in support of the project, saying that they believe the brothers of the fraternity are good neighbors and they have worked alongside the neighbors in solving issues. A few said they were happy to see that the social rooms would be moved

to the basement with more insulation, as that will help with some of the noise concerns that other neighbors have had.

Howard Purcell, President and CEO of New England College of Optometry, which is an abutter to the west of 416 Beacon, said that “we have been communicated with, there has been engagement at every level, and I’ve been incredibly impressed...”

Neighbor Douglas Reeves also supported the project. “As a neighbor, I appreciate retaining the structural integrity and the architectural integrity of the property while still making essential renovations to keep it in good shape,” he said. He added that he appreciated the addition of ADA compliance as well.

The Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Services also went on the record in support, and said that the proponents have met with the neighbors, including the direct abutters, in a community process and the Mayor’s Office believes that having an ADA compliant design is good, as well as moving outdoor activities to the rear.

Not all neighbors are pleased with this idea, however. Elliott Laffer of the Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay said he was very against the construction of the roof deck.

“Normally when I come here, I speak in non-opposition to projects because we try very hard to reach agreements with people,” he said. “Sometimes there are issues of principle that we think that we can’t reach an agreement upon and this is one of those times.”

“We’re not speaking in opposition to the brothers at the fraternity,” he continued. “I think that they’ve generally been very good neighbors and they’re good people.”

He said that when it comes to the deck, though, “there are thousands of us who live in the Back Bay without decks and that hasn’t been a tremendous detriment to

our ability to live there.”

He said the expansion of the deck would be a bad thing, because educational buildings are no longer allowed in the Back Bay, and “as far as we know, none of the other fraternities have roof decks so that doesn’t seem to be a detriment.”

“We’re asking you to not allow the expansion of this deck that wouldn’t have been allowed any other way,” Laffer continued. “We are very opposed to the addition of this deck.”

Sue Prindle, Chair of NABB’s Architectural Committee, said that the committee had met with the proponents in September as well as a couple of times since, hoping to work something out for the deck. “At this point, we are supportive of their general renovation but not of the deck as such,” she said.

“I think that despite everyone’s good intentions, there will be an adverse effect to the abutters,” Prindle added. She also said that there is a “precedent issue” with the allowance of an extension of a nonconforming use for the other educational buildings in the neighborhood.

“There are probably 50 grandfathered educational buildings in the Back Bay who are watching with interest to see if the board will allow an expansion of a nonconforming use,” she said.

Jason Post, a neighbor next door at 414 Beacon St., said that “while the fraternity members are all pretty nice, every Friday and Saturday night I can hear the music in my bedroom, in our living room, I’d say once every month and a half, my wife or I have to text them asking them to turn down their music.” He said the brothers are “good” about cooperating with these requests, but he doesn’t think he should even have to ask in the first place.

He added that he does not have a problem with the roof deck if four people are on it, but he

doesn’t believe that only four people would be on it at one time after dark.

The representative to the owners of 416 Beacon St. said that the gas for the grill would be turned off after 9 p.m. and the design for the social rooms that was proposed would alleviate noise from inside the house.

“When you see students spilling over to the sidewalk, it does change the quality of life for the residents,” said ZBA Chair Christine Araujo. She wondered how the activity is really monitored.

The ZBA wanted to know if there were any other security measures besides cameras on the property. They were told that a third party company is hired for functions at the house which checks occupancy. “The reason we’re doing all these renovations is to clean up some of these things that people had issues with previously,” the team said.

After hearing from everyone and weighing the options, the ZBA ultimately decided to deny the deck without prejudice. The team is allowed to come back within a year with a different proposal; Araujo suggested they might explore a smaller deck.

“You heard our concerns,” Araujo said, “and you can come back within a year and figure something out.”

The ZBA did approve the construction of a rear deck off of the kitchen in Unit 3 of 48 Union Park in the South End. The deck was not controversial, as it matches other decks in the South End and abutters did not have concerns.

Also approved was a proposal at 135 Myrtle St. to install a roof deck that would be accessed from an existing head-house. Faiza Sharif of the Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Services called it a “modest proposal,” and there were no issues with it as the head-house is existing.

## For the Record

**From the Dec. 30 Design Selection Committee meeting, 10:30 a.m., 26 Court St. Rm. 10A:**

•Miranda-Creamer/South End Fitness Center Repairs

The Designer Selection Committee for the above referenced project will meet to discuss an appropriate designer.

**From the Jan. 2 Tree Removal Hearing, 1010 Mass Ave., 3rd Floor, 10 a.m.:**

Request to remove eight public shade trees in the South End

The request is for the removal of eight oak trees measuring between 4 and 5 inches dbh (diameter at breast height) due to construction of a multi-use 34-story high-rise at 252-258 Huntington Avenue in the Symphony area of the South End.

Public testimony will be taken at the hearing, or may be provided prior to the hearing in writing to the Tree Warden, Boston Parks and Recreation Department, 1010 Massachusetts Avenue, 3rd floor, Roxbury, MA 02118 or by emailing parks@boston.gov with “South End Tree Hearing” in the subject line.

A final decision regarding the request will be made within two weeks of the hearing.

**From the Jan. 2 Tree Removal Hearing, 1010 Mass Ave., 3rd Floor, 10:40 a.m.:**

The request is for the removal of four zelkova trees measuring 3 inches dbh (diameter at breast height) and two zelkova trees measuring 4 inches dbh at Ipswich and Lansdowne Streets in the Fenway due to the Fenway Theater project at 175 Ipswich Street.

Public testimony will be taken at the hearing, or may be provided prior to the hearing in writing to the Tree Warden, Boston Parks and Recreation Department, 1010 Massachusetts Avenue, 3rd floor, Roxbury, MA 02118 or by emailing parks@boston.gov with “Fenway Tree Hearing” in the subject line.

A final decision regarding the request will be made within two weeks of the hearing.



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