

THE BOSTON SUN

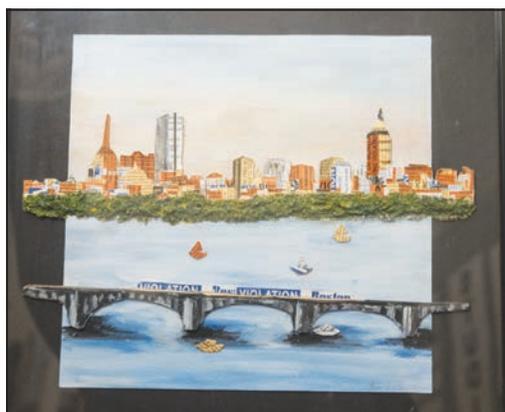
PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

SERVING BACK BAY - SOUTH END - FENWAY - KENMORE

SOWA OPEN STUDIOS



Art fans line up outside of SoWa Open Studios at 450 Harrison Ave waiting for doors to open.



Shown left, "Boston Skyline" by Ruth Rieffanaugh is a mixed media piece that incorporates actual parking tickets. Shown right, "Minding The Matter" by Ruth Rieffanaugh. See more photos on Pages 6 and 7.



BBA recognizes NABB with Heavy Lifting Award at 98th annual meeting

By Dan Murphy

At its 98th annual meeting on Monday, Nov. 15, at the Colonnade Hotel, the Back Bay Association (BBA) bestowed its Heavy Lifting Award on another long-serving neighborhood group, the Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay.

Elliott Laffer, chair of NABB's board of directors, said in accepting the award on behalf of his group that the Back Bay Association and NABB, which represent

the neighborhood's business and residential communities, respectively, both "see what a special place the Back Bay is and work to make it better."

In her opening remarks for the meeting, Meg Mainzer-Cohen, president and executive director of the Back Bay Association, extended her gratitude to David Colella, the Colonnade's vice president and managing director, and Ron Druker, owner of the

(BBA, Pg. 3)

Mel King Square dedicated in the South End Saturday

By Dan Murphy

Mel King, the 93-year-old lifelong South End resident who served as state representative for or the 9th Suffolk District from

1973 to 1982, was honored by the city on Nov. 13, with the unveiling of Melvin H. "Mel" King Square at the intersection of

(MEL KING, Pg. 5)

Wu sworn in, becoming the first female and first woman of color to serve as Mayor of Boston

By John Lynds

On Tuesday inside the Boston City Council Chambers, Michelle Wu made history and was sworn in as the first female and first woman of color to ever serve as Mayor of Boston in the city's history.

After Reverend Dr. Arlene Hall delivered the invocation and Acting Mayor Kim Janey provided brief remarks, Wu was administered the Oath of Office by Boston Municipal Court Associate Justice Judge Myong Joun with her husband, Conor Pewarski, and two boys Cass and Blaise at

her side.

Keeping with her campaign promise of rolling up her sleeves and getting to work as soon as possible the short inaugural exercises took less than a half hour.

Wu started off her inaugural

(MICHELLE WU, Pg. 4)

Rev. White-Hammond serves as keynote speaker at FOPG's Member Reception 2021

By Dan Murphy

As keynote speaker at the Friends of the Public Garden's (FOPG) Member Reception 2021, which took place virtually on Tuesday, Nov. 16, Rev. Mariama White-Hammond, the city's Chief of Environment, Energy, and Open Space, discussed the

challenges of balancing the use of the city's public green spaces, which have experienced a substantial increase in usage amid the pandemic.

Today, the city's parks are "reflecting the challenges in society," as is the case with Clifford Park, which due to its close proximity to Mass. And Cass is being

populated by a "community of people who are showing up here because they feel like they have no other place to go," said Rev. White-Hammond.

Similarly, the Boston Common and the Public Garden have become popular destinations for the homeless population, she said,

(FOPG, Pg. 8)



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CITY OF BOSTON

New signage is up at Mel King Square at Yarmouth Street and Columbus Ave.



Advertising and News Deadlines for the week of THANKSGIVING will be Friday, Nov. 19 @ 4PM

The Independent Newspaper Offices will be closed Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 25th and Friday, Nov. 26th

EDITORIAL

PROGRESSIVES? NO -- THEY ARE REGRESSIVES

There are a lot of reasons why the Democrats and President Joe Biden have plummeted in the polls and then absorbed a huge defeat across the country in the recent election.

As often is the case in politics, the party in charge gets the blame even if they arise from circumstances beyond its control.

Almost all of the issues that have been troubling Americans in the past few months are no fault of Biden and the Democrats. The ongoing pandemic, supply-chain snafus, labor shortages, inflation worries, weather-related crises, and soaring energy prices all either were inherited by Biden or are the result of unforeseen circumstances.

The Biden administration could have done better with the withdrawal from Afghanistan, but that too, was a circumstance he inherited and that spiraled out of control.

However, there is one aspect of the Biden Presidency and the Democratic control of Congress that is within their control. And that is their ability to get things done.

On August 10, a bipartisan vote of the Senate approved the \$1 trillion infrastructure bill. However, the bill sat for months in the House because of the efforts of a willful group of Democratic House members who held it hostage to their demands for the \$3.5 trillion Build Back Better legislation.

We would note that we fully have supported every aspect of the Build Back Better Plan, including the Green New Deal which we endorsed from the outset when it first was introduced by Senator Ed Markey and Rep. Alexandria Ocasio Cortez in January of 2019.

In fact, we would support an even-larger bill in order to bring America into the 21st century.

However, the reality is that there are Democratic members of Congress who do not agree with all of the proposals in the Build Back Better Plan and who have been saying so for months.

Yet the so-called Progressives in the House refused to accept this reality. Democrats promised the voters that if they were put in charge, they'd get things done -- but the intransigence of the so-called Progressives served not only to undermine the Biden administration and Democrats in general, but also sank their own cause as well.

For all of their posturing and demand-making, they have nothing -- nada -- zero -- to show for their efforts.

As we have said many times in this column, politics is the art of compromise. Or, as Kenny Rogers put it,

“You’ve got to know when to hold ‘em,
Know when to fold ‘em.”

The Progressives’ hubris served as a gift to the Republicans.

Instead of Progressing the country forward, their political gamesmanship has undermined Americans’ faith in the democratic process and Regressed us back to the era before 2020.

GUEST OP-ED

The Haiti Kidnapped Missionaries, consider the costs of such trips

By Glenn Mollette

The missionaries consisting of sixteen Americans and one Canadian kidnapped by the Haitian “400 Mawozo” gang October 16, is extremely scary. The gang has threatened to kill the humanitarian Christians if a million dollar per person ransom is not fulfilled. The group consists of men, women, children and an eight-month-old baby.

These missionaries have sacrificed their time and paid their own way to go to the poorest place in the Western hemisphere to try to spread God’s love and save some souls. In turn, the missionaries are experiencing a nightmare like they’ve never imagined. They’re imprisoned and being threatened with a bullet in the head.

Most of us will never get over seeing journalists being beheaded and tortured in Syria and Iraq by the barbaric Islamic extremist group called ISIL. Burning people alive and beheading others were too graphic and gruesome to ever be forgotten.

Why do journalists, missionaries and humanitarian aid workers go to such places to risk kidnapping, rape, torture and unimaginable deaths? There is always the belief that “it will not happen to me.” Some might view such a trip as a vacation.

Years ago, I traveled to a third world country on a “missionary trip” with others thinking it would be a nice break. I’ve never worked so hard in my life.

Sadly, the 17 missionaries in Haiti are undergoing a cruel experience that may end with the cost of their very lives. What are they thinking now? What is going through the minds of the little children who traveled to a world to help others and spread God’s love?

Haiti has been the site of years of humanitarian efforts. The United States and other countries have given billions of dollars to help Haiti. Sadly, hurricanes, political unrest, underdevelopment and extreme poverty have all made for a sad scenario.

How much money would the world have to give to Haiti to make life better for this nation? This is a question no one can answer because usually aid is a short-term solution. We spent a trillion dollars in Afghanistan and they aren’t any better off today.

Good missionary people went to Haiti with good hearts for helping others in the name of God’s love. They went to share a message they hoped would bring about change and better lives. They may now lose their lives.

Christians point to Jesus as the model for such missionary efforts. He came preaching and teaching in an effort to demonstrate and spread God’s love and it cost him plenty – his life, executed in public on a cross.

There are some Christians today who, like Jesus, are willing to risk their lives for the sake of others. Did these men and women literally go to Haiti

taking their children with them truly believe they could be killed? Would they purposefully do this to their children? Who convinced these people that such a trip with small children was a good idea?

My goal here is to simply say, think about such trips to places like Haiti. Afghanistan, Iraq, Northern Nigeria and numerous others countries are not vacation spots. Foreign travel may sound exotic and adventurous but consider the possible cost.

Many missionaries and Christian workers have paid the ultimate price in order to spread the gospel of Christ. Only eternity will reveal what their selfless sacrifice has meant to those whose lives they impacted.

By chance, if you decide such an international trip is not for you, don’t feel bad. Consider helping in an American inner city, Appalachia or maybe your own neighborhood. Service at home is needed across America.

Let’s pray for the safety of these missionaries and for those negotiating their release. May God help them and all who may consider such endeavors.

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

THE BOSTON SUN

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Garden Club of the Back Bay and Esplanade Association partner to plant bulbs in anticipation of next Marathon

By Dan Murphy

The Garden Club of the Back Bay joined the Esplanade Association’s horticultural team last week to plant bulbs in front of the DCR Hatch Shell in anticipation of the next Boston Marathon.

“The blue hyacinths and yellow daffodils [the Garden Club members] planted with our horticulture team last week at the Hatch Shell will bloom, we

hope, just in time for the 126th Boston Marathon on Monday, April 18, 2022,” said Michael Nichols, executive director of the Esplanade Association. “The bulbs were chosen to represent the signature colors of our partners at the Boston Athletic Association and, of course, the Marathon itself. We’re appreciative to the Garden Club of the Back Bay for all our partnership with their members and for helping us to extend this tradition another

year.”

Garden Club member, Stephanie Fletcher, wrote in email, “Our Club has had a longtime relationship with the Esplanade Association and their trees and gardens. Garden Club members have had the pleasure to contribute to the landscape any number of ways, from planting to weeding to helping count trees.”

Fletcher added that the Gar-



Conrad Armstrong, chair of the Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay License and Building Use Committee, as well as a current NABB director; Elliott Laffer, chair of NABB's board of directors; Martyn Roetter, past chair of the Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay and a current director; Kathy Young, director; and Susan Richardson, NABB vice president.



Carlos Bueno, incoming chair of the Back Bay Association, as well as the managing director of The Newbury Boston.



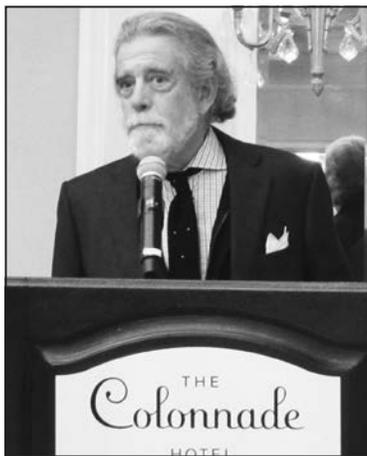
City Councilor Kenize Bok and Tom Kersbau, chairman of the Hampshire House Corporation.



Meg Mainzer-Cohen, president and executive director of the Back Bay Association, announces the winner of the organization's Heavy Lifting Award this year, as Carlos Bueno, incoming chair of the BBA, look on.

BBA (from pg. 1)

hotel, for hosting the event. She also reminisced about knowing Druker longer than anyone else in the room after first meeting him when she was at the helm of the Downtown Crossing Association, an organization she



Ron Druker, owner of the Colonnade Hotel and president of the Druker Company.

described as the "precursor" to today's BBA.

Mainzer-Cohen also welcomed Carlos Bueno, a board member and managing director of The Newbury Boston, as the Back Bay Association's incoming chair and said besides Gary Saunders of the Saunders Hotel Group, Bueno is the only other sitting board member whom she has ever personally lobbied for to become the group's chair.

Meanwhile, the meeting's keynote speaker, M. Lee Pelton, CEO and president of the Boston Foundation, was on hand for a discussion with David Leonard, president of the Boston Public Library.

The next annual meeting of the Back Bay Association is expected to take place in May, said Mainzer-Cohen, "so it won't be too long."



Carlos Bueno, incoming chair of the Back Bay Association; Meg Mainzer-Cohen, the group's president and executive director; and Elliott Laffer, chair of the Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay, accepting the BBA's Heavy Lifting Award this year on behalf of his organization

BULBS (from pg. 2)

den Club's own horticultural team "jumped at the chance" when they were asked for their help in planting yellow daffodil and blue hyacinth bulbs in front of the Hatch Shell in tribute to the Marathon. She also wrote this was the third year that bulbs were planted in front of the Hatch Shell to bloom blue and yellow, timed to coincide with the Marathon

"This isn't our only Marathon-related work that we share with the Esplanade," wrote

Fletcher. "The last four years our Club has been helping place official Marathon Daffodils along the Commonwealth Avenue Mall. After the Marathon, our Club and Esplanade staff collect the daffodils for transport and planting on the Esplanade."

Like other visitors to the Esplanade, Fletcher added that the Garden Club members "look forward to the colorful display each year - one of the first signs of spring and a wonderful tribute to the Boston Marathon."



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ESPLANADE ASSOCIATION

The Garden Club of the Back Bay's Corinne Lidsky, Eileen McAuliffe, Stephanie Fletcher, Gudi Seward, and Janet Dracksdorf are seen at the DCR Hatch Shell.

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Early voting dates set for 1st Suffolk and Middlesex Senate Special Election

By John Lynds

This week the City of Boston's Election Department, with approval from the Boston City Council, set in-person early voting dates for the 1st Suffolk & Middlesex Senate Special Election Primary.

On Tuesday, December 14 District 1 City Councilor Lydia Edwards will square off against Revere School Committee member Joe Boncore earlier this fall.

However, Boston voters in

the senatorial district, which includes Bay Village, South End, Chinatown, Beacon Hill, East Boston, Revere, Winthrop and Cambridgeport, can begin voting Saturday, December 4 and early voting will last until Friday, December 10.

On Saturday December 4 registered voters in the senatorial district can vote at City Hall between 11 am and 7 pm, as well as neighborhood sites from 11 am to 7 pm.

Voters can again vote on Monday, December 6 from 9 am to 5 pm at City Hall and again on

Tuesday, December 7 from 9 am to 8 pm as well as at neighborhood sites from 12 pm to 8 pm.

On Wednesday, December 8 early voting will occur for the race at City Hall only from 9 am to 5 pm and again on Thursday, December 9 at City Hall from 9 am to 8 pm and at neighborhood sites from 12 pm to 8 am.

The final date of early voting for the senate race will be on Friday, December 10 from 9 am to 5 pm at City Hall.

The closest in-person early voting neighborhood site in Bay Village, Chinatown and the

South End is the Chinatown Branch Library at 2 Boylston St.

Residents in the senatorial district must register to vote before Wednesday, November 24 in order to be eligible to take part in the Special Election Primary.

Councilor Edwards, an East Boston resident, previously ran for the Senate seat after former State Senator Anthony Petrucelli left office in 2016. While unsuccessful in that race Edwards went on to run for the District One City Council seat, which includes Eastie, Charlestown, and the North End, the following year.

She went on to win that race and has served on the council ever since.

D'Ambrosio, a Yale graduate and Revere resident, got his start in politics in 2019 when he successfully ran for Revere School Committee, a citywide seat. He topped Revere's School Committee ticket in that race. He has spent his career in technology and finance.

For more information on local polling locations and important dates for the Primary visit, <https://www.boston.gov/departments/election>.

MICHELLE WU (from pg. 1)

speech with a metaphor of how City Hall was when she was first elected as an At-Large Councilor in 2013.

"Since we're here today, I must share that the Council floor wasn't always this way," she began. "When I joined the Council, this space wasn't fully accessible to everyone. The floor that some are sitting on right now, was much lower, designed as a pit three steps down — a striking feature part of what many or I would call the beautiful architecture of City Hall. Three steps prevented Bostonians in wheelchairs and with mobility challenges from coming down directly to testify on this floor and advocate for change. Those three steps were a barrier between our government and the peo-

ple we are here to serve. So we changed what this space could be, reshaped it to be accessible for everyone, and brought the floor level up three steps. When we make City Hall more accessible, we are all raised up. When we communicate in many languages, we all understand more. Most of all, when we connect the power of city government to the force of our neighborhoods and communities, we see how much is possible for our city."

Wu said she always felt city government was special.

"City government is special. We are the level closest to the people, so we must do the big and the small," said Wu. "Every streetlight, every pothole, every park and classroom, lays the foundation for greater change.

Not only is it possible for Boston to deliver basic city services and generational change — it is absolutely necessary at this moment. We'll tackle our biggest challenges by getting the small things right, and by getting City Hall out of City Hall and into our neighborhoods, block by block, street by street. After all, Boston was founded on a revolutionary promise: that things don't have to be as they always have been. That we can chart a new path for families now, and for generations to come, grounded in justice and opportunity. And we can take steps to raise us all up to that promise, together."

Wu said her administration's charge will be to reach every corner of Boston and listen to the questions and concerns of all.



Mayor Michelle Wu is administered the Oath of Office by Boston Municipal Court Associate Justice Judge Myong Joun with her husband, Conor Pearski, and two boys Cass and Blaise at her side on Tuesday.

"Our charge is to see every person and listen. To meet people where they are. To give hope and deliver on it. To find joy, in the words of the amazing Kim Janey, and spread it. Let history note not just who she was in this office, but all she got done, and all she will continue to do for our city," she said.

Wu said the first time she set foot in Boston City Hall, she felt invisible but today she sees what's possible in the building.

"I see all the public servants raising us up — frontline workers, first responders, teachers and bus drivers, building inspectors, city workers," she said. "I am

deeply honored to work alongside you and I ask everyone to join me in expressing our gratitude for your service. And I ask everyone to join us in service of our communities. Boston, our charge is clear. We need everyone to join us in the work of doing the big and the small, getting City Hall out of City Hall, and embracing the possibility of our city. The reason to make Boston for everyone is because we need everyone for Boston, right now."

"We have so much work to do, and it will take all of us to get it done. So let's get to work," she concluded.

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The City of Boston ("the City"), acting through its Boston Centers for Youth & Families/ Office of Food Access, 1 City Hall Square #500, Boston, MA 02201, hereinafter referred to as the Awarding Authority, hereby invites written quotes for the project listed above.

Quotes will be solicited from selected vendors through the City of Boston's Supplier Portal: boston.gov/departments/procurement.

All quotes for this project are subject to all applicable provisions of law and in accordance with the terms and provisions of the contract documents entitled: **Culturally Relevant Food Distribution at No Cost**

All proposals are due no later than **4:00 PM Boston time on Tuesday, November 23, 2021.**

The RFP SPECIFICATIONS AND PLANS will be available on or about **9:00 AM Boston time on November 8, 2021** and can be obtained electronically at: boston.gov/supplierportal

Marta Rivera, Interim Commissioner, Boston Centers for Youth & Families
(November 8, November 15, 2021)

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MEL KING (from pg. 1)

Yarmouth Street and Columbus Avenue.

Numerous elected officials were on hand for the occasion, including former Acting Mayor Kim Janey, who said King has been described as a "trailblazer,"

a "living legend," and a "national treasure." (King had previously endorsed Janey for Mayor).

King himself also made two high-profile but ultimately unsuccessful bids for Mayor of Boston - in 1979 and again in 1983.



Past acting Mayor Kim Janey congratulates Mel King.



Shown above, Former Mayor Ray Flynn congratulates Mel King at the Nov. 13 unveiling of Mel King Square at the intersection of Yarmouth Street and Columbus Avenue.



Shown to the right, Past acting Mayor Kim Janey, Former Mayor Ray Flynn, and City Councilor Ray Flynn.

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SOWA ARTIST GUILD HOLDS MONTHLY OPEN STUDIOS

Photos by Derek Kouyoumjian

The SoWa Artist Guild held its monthly Open Studios at 450 Harrison Ave. The members of the artists' collaborative opened

their doors to visitors to see new works created, interact with the artists to better understand their work and creative process, and support the artists by purchasing what they find.



Patrick Chassaigne in Studio #407; his oil paintings on canvas are styled in realism based on impressionism. He paints from photos as well as on site.



Paul Walcott in Studio #405a is an abstract painter and sculptor.



Works by Paul Walcott.



Violin maker Kevin Kelly in Studio #409 constructs a cello of his own design.



A violin made by Kevin Kelly using an original design based off of a standard one.

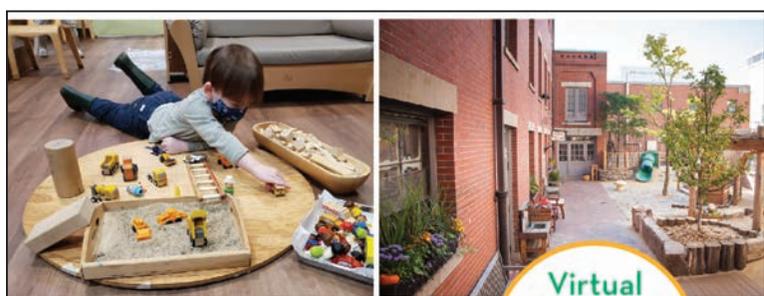
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Paper artist Sarah Schwartz in Studio #412a.



June Lin and Emily Wen check out wallpaper creations by paper artist Sarah Schwartz in Studio #412a.



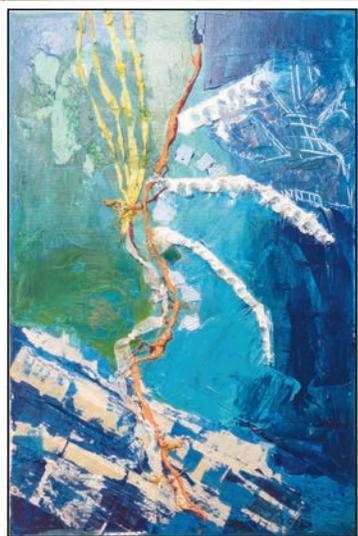
A close up of Violin maker Kevin Kelly's cello of his own design.

SOWA ARTIST GUILD HOLDS MONTHLY OPEN STUDIOS



Shown above, Mixed media artist Kathryn Graven in Studio #319.

Shown right, an acrylic painting by Kathryn Graven titled "Abstract Boston Harbor."



Visitors explore the space of Ruth Rieffanaugh in Studio #316b.



Ruth Rieffanaugh in Studio #316b is an artist who sees herself as a "maker" of things she has found interesting and reflective.

Shown left, "Winter At Copley" by Ruth Rieffanaugh.



Shown above, Jewelry artist Lauren Passenti in Studio #312.



Shown left, jewelry made by Lauren Passenti in Studio #312.



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THANKSGIVING DAY TRASH COLLECTION

There is no collection on **Thursday, November 25.**

For neighborhoods with two collections a week on Mondays and Thursdays, **Thursday is canceled.**

The next collection will be **Monday, November 29**

For more info visit: boston.gov/trash

CITY of **BOSTON**



Public Works

FOPG (from pg. 1)

“because they feel like some of the few safe places they can go.”

Rev. White-Hammond said the city’s parks have seen an increased demand while still receiving the same level of resources and thanked the city’s Maintenance Department, which she said never stopped working in its parks during the pandemic to keep them safe.

Another challenge now facing the city and its parks is “the reality of climate change” she said, including how to keep its staff working safely outdoors during what has been the hottest year on record, along with how to manage flooding and other issues that arose amid the record rain in July.

“We do have some real challenges,” said Rev. White-Hammond, “and there’s no way we can ignore these things or think we’re going to return to the conditions of past.”

Instead, the city must strive for a “21st century park system,” she said, as is the case with Moakley Park in South Boston, where preventive steps against sea-level rise were incorporated into its design.

Rev. White-Hammond also optimistically pointed to the city’s Green Jobs Initiative, which was launched a few weeks ago under the guidance of City Councilor Kenzie Bok, and according to the city, is a “partnership [that] will expand workforce development for young adults and returning citizens in fields that address environmental challenges.”

Likewise, the Urban Forest Plan – a long-term investment in the health of the city’s tree canopy – is an opportunity to plant more trees in places, she said, like Chinatown, the neighborhood with the least tree canopy, as well as the highest temperatures citywide.

Rev. White-Hammond thanked former Acting Mayor Kim Janey for giving her the opportunity to serve in her current position and expressed confidence that Mayor Michelle Wu would continue “the fight on climate issues.”

But, she said, “at the end of the day this can’t happen at City Hall alone,” so she urged everyone to work together to care for the environment.

Leslie Singleton Adam, chair of the Friends board of directors, said the group is continuing its 50th anniversary celebration – something, she said, “that’s very different than what we planned but still very exciting.”

A major highlight of their anniversary celebration was “What Do We Have in Common?” an interactive art installation on the Boston Common, which, she said, surpassed “their wildest dreams for success,” largely due



PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY OF BOSTON
Rev. Mariama White-Hammond, the city’s Chief of Environment, Energy, and Open Space, as well as keynote speaker at the Friends of the Public Garden’s Member Reception 2021.

to the 12 guides “who brought the piece to life.”

The installation, said Adam, also asked important questions involving “ownership, partnership, and the space we create for all of us.”

In the New Year, the Friends would also be returning to their office at 69 Beacon St., which, she said, would be equipped with improved air conditioning and ventilation systems.

Besides the Friends’ staff, council, and volunteers, Adam also thanked Boston Parks Commissioner Ryan Woods for his continued support and described him as a “tremendous friend to us since he took office.”

Liz Vizza, president of the Friends group, said this year also brought the reopening of Brewer Fountain, although not for a full season. The fountain is expected to open for a full season next April, she said, when she hopes to see “critical mass enjoying the space.”

The Robert Gould Shaw and the 54th Regiment Memorial also returned in March to the Boston Common after undergoing a \$ 3 million renovation, she said, and a rededication celebration originally planned for last fall will take place as a nation celebration next spring instead.

This summer, the Friends also partnered with Boston Children’s Chorus on “We Sing Boston” – a series of interactive live-music experiences at outdoor public spaces in and around Boston that culminated in a citywide singing event on Sept. 25 at Brewer Fountain on the Boston Common.

And beginning with the statues of Samuel Eliot Morison and Mayor Patrick Andrew Collins Statue, the Friends is also now undertaking a program to light up all the statues along the Commonwealth Avenue Mall, she added.

The Friends also hopes the annual meeting in the spring will return as in-person event, said Vizza.

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Acting Mayor Kim Janey delivers farewell address

By Lauren Bennett

A farewell event for Acting Mayor Kim Janey was held at Hibernian Hall in Roxbury on November 10, where she delivered a farewell address and reflected on her service to the City of Boston as its first woman and first Black mayor.

WCVB's Karen Ward Holmes hosted, and performances were given by singers Nia Ashleigh, Danny Rivera, and Dana Whiteside, who sang the National Anthem. Rev. Willie Bodrick delivered the invocation.

In her address, Janey spoke about how the city worked together during the pandemic and rolled out vaccines in every community, as well as enacted mask mandates and ensured homeowners, renters, and business owners were provided with resources.

"To protect the most vulnerable of our residents, particularly people within the immigrant community, we supported asylum-seekers and invested in work-readiness opportunities for Dreamers," Janey said in her prepared remarks.

She also spoke of the JOY Agenda, which she said was created "as a strategy to heal from trauma" and brought things like public art and dance parties to neighborhoods.

She talked about Boston's observance of Juneteenth as a holiday for the first time, as well as declaring Indigenous Peoples' Day in the city.

"While ensuring stability in a time of crisis was a top priority,

I also led Boston towards the more equitable and just city we all deserve," Janey said.

The Boston Home Center's first-time homebuyer program was expanded, as was down payment assistance.

"Crime is down and at its lowest in five years," Janey said, and "we must continue to address trauma, which is often the root cause of violence."

Janey also spoke of green jobs and equitable transportation, notably her pilot for free bus service on the route 28 bus which travels through Mattapan, Dorchester, and Roxbury. The Supplier Diversity Program also now includes LGBTQ+ owned businesses.

"We also approached the dual opioid and homelessness crises with a public health lens," she said. "In our first week, we connected close to 70 people to housing, shelter, and residential treatment, and no arrests were made as part of this work."

Janey thanked her team and other city employees for their work during her time as the City's Acting Mayor. She also thanked Rep. Ayanna Pressley, Rep. Stephen Lynch, Sen. Elizabeth Warren, Sen. Markey, Gov. Charlie Baker, and state legislators.

"I also want to thank the legislative arm of the City," Janey said, adding that the Building Emissions and Reduction Disclosure Ordinance, the Black Men and Boys Commission, and the Surveillance Oversight and Information Sharing Ordinance we all

created in partnership with the City Council.

"I want to thank the Boston City Council, I am proud to have served with you," she said, also thanking new City Councilors-elect Erin Murphy, Ruthzee Louijeune, Brian Worrell, Kendra Hicks, and Tania Anderson.

Janey also expressed her pride in knowing that Michelle Wu will be the next person to lead the City.

"I know she will lift up those who have been left out of power," Janey said. "She will build upon my equity and justice work and she won't be afraid to tackle long standing problems. I am proud to pass the baton to you."

Lastly, Janey noted Boston's "museums, green spaces and beaches, and world-renowned hospitals and universities, and, of course, our iconic championship-winning sports teams. But what I love most about Boston is her people, from the small business owners to the seniors from our veterans to our teachers; from our restaurant workers to our public servants; to ordinary people who do extraordinary things every single day that often go unrecognized. Our city is better because of you."

She thanked her family as well, and closed with "It has been my greatest honor serving my city as its 55th Mayor. Thank you, Boston. You will forever be in my heart."

The program also included a pre-recorded video of Janey's accomplishments as Acting Mayor in education, transporta-

tion, public health and equitable vaccine administration, housing stability, equitable pandemic recovery, green jobs, public safe-

ty and police reform, and more.

The full video recording of the event is available on the Boston City TV YouTube page.

Michelle Wu holds first press conference as Boston Mayor

By Lauren Bennett

Mayor Michelle Wu hit the ground running on November 17 with her first press conference since being sworn in as Boston's first elected woman mayor and mayor of color on November 16.

"I'm excited to start our first full day in the office," Wu told reporters. She said she took the Orange Line to City Hall, where she spoke with residents about their "thoughts and hopes and challenges already."

Wu said that she had plans to speak with Governor Charlie Baker as well as to meet internally with staff.

She then answered questions from reporters on topics ranging from the school committee to Mass and Cass to parting gifts from Acting Mayor Kim Janey.

When asked about the school committee, Wu said "this is a very direct and personal issue for me." She said that "larger conversations" need to be had when it comes to Boston Public Schools (BPS), and the community needs to be more involved.

Wu said she has already spoken with BPS Superintendent Brenda Cassellius and the chair of the Boston School committee "about moving toward more community listening sessions out in the neighborhoods," as well as "push for multilingual outreach. There are still very pressing issues related to pandemic recovery that I want to make sure our school leaders and district leaders have a firm grasp on," she said.

"The crises at Mass. Ave. and Melnea Cass Blvd. are top of mind for residents across Boston as well as departments across City Hall and City government."

She spoke of the lawsuit by the ACLU of Massachusetts against the city for its plan to remove individuals from the Mass/Cass area. Wu said that the city's goal is to use a "public health and housing first lens."

She said that "we're in court today," and are "pausing removals pending the outcome of that legal process."

Wu was also asked about the recent announcement that temporary housing for up to 30 people will be established at the Shattuck site in Jamaica Plain. She said that as temperatures continue to drop, "it is life or death" for residents who do not have homes. She said that the plan is to "move quickly for short term solutions," and she plans on speaking with Governor Baker about this issue as well.

Additionally, Wu said that she is "grateful to Mayor Walsh for his leadership," and will "certainly be seeking his advice along with Mayor Flynn. I hope and anticipate that he and Mayor Flynn and everyone will be part of our official larger inauguration."

On taking the T, Wu said that it's the fastest way for her to get from her home in Roslindale to City Hall at rush hour.

She said that on Wednesday morning, it was a quick, easy ride with no delays, but it was "quite full already," adding that "we are seeing that there is a huge, huge demand as our businesses are opening back up."

Lastly, Wu spoke about gifts that Acting Mayor Kim Janey left for her as the mayoral baton was transferred. She said that Janey left her a letter reminding her that it's important to "be out in the community and connect with residents to really see what's possible in our city."

Janey also left bins of activities for her two young sons, Blaise and Cass, as well as a print with the silhouettes of Kamala Harris and Ruby Bridges that she had signed with a message.

Overall, Wu said that she is ready to get to work and continue "coming into this building that I love." She said that she will ensure that city spaces are "family friendly," as well as make sure that work done at City Hall is brought to residents in their neighborhoods, and "embrace the possibility of Boston and our city government to reach beyond how things always have been done."

NEWS BRIEFS

VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT TO HELP PLANT BULBS THIS SATURDAY AT PETERS PARK

Friends of Peters Park to plant the Daffodil Bulbs on Saturday, Nov. 20, from 9 to 11 a.m. at the park.

Tools from the city will be provided, but volunteers are encouraged to bring their own trowel, shovel, and gloves.

The bulbs need to be planted 8 inches deep so that the squirrels don't dig them out and eat them. During the morning, participants will take part in a general clean-up of the park as well.

This is in conjunction with the city's Love Your Block event.

ONLINE FORUM ON INCREASING AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN BOSTON

Join the Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay (NABB) Homelessness Task Force and the Boston Public Library for "Increasing Housing Affordability in Boston: Why it Matters to Us All," a citywide Zoom forum, on Tuesday, Nov. 30, from 6 to 8 p.m.

Panelists are scheduled to include Thomas N. O'Brien, for-

mer director of the Boston Redevelopment Authority, former chair of the Greater Boston Real Estate Board, and CEO of HYM Investment Group, LLC; Kenzie Bok, Boston City Councilor, District 8; Symone Crawford, Incoming Executive Director (January 2022), Massachusetts Affordable

Housing Alliance (MAHA); and Sheila Dillon, City of Boston Director of Housing and Neighborhood Development.

Register for the online event at <https://bpl.bibliocommons.com/events/618a98bc3c3b882f-002c9ac7>.

BBAC approves Tesla charging station on rear facade at 402 Marlborough St.

By Lauren Bennett

The Back Bay Architectural Commission (BBAC) on November 10 approved a homeowner's request to install a Tesla charging station on the back facade of his building.

Evan Friedler, who lives at 402 Marlborough St., said that he is buying a Tesla and would like to install a charging station on the rear facade with "direct proximity" to his parking space. He proposed that it be mounted fairly low to the ground, and "we hope that the low mounting...will

make it as visually unobtrusive as possible."

Friedler said that the charging station only comes in a white acrylic color, and some Commissioners had suggestions for what could be done about that to make it blend in with the historic district. He added that a number of Back Bay residents are expected to purchase electric cars, which means they will have to go through similar approval for their charging stations.

Commissioner John Christian-sen said that the applicant could ask Tesla if the station could be

made in other colors, especially if other Back Bay residents are going to be purchasing the cars in the near future.

Commissioner Robert Weintraub said he did not believe that is a realistic expectation and "it's a matter for a different time."

He continued, "I don't think he has a choice. He's got to buy what they are providing if it only comes in one color. It is what it is. We can probably approach Tesla and advocate for our needs and wants but that is certainly not going to happen...anytime soon."

Friedler was also asked if the charging station could be painted

or a box be put over it to help camouflage it.

Friedler responded by saying that the manufacturer's instructions state not to cover or restrict the station in any way, but he said that he "can get a second opinion of course."

Commissioner Genia Demetriades said that "you can probably achieve the same with plantings," and Friedler said that a planting would be something he would agree to.

"The neighborhood association is very much in favor of electric chargers, however, we

are concerned about the visual impact," said Sue Prindle of the Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay. "Any of the solutions suggested would work on this one," she said, adding that she "would hope" that Landmarks staff has the final word on whatever is chosen to help hide the charging station.

The Commission voted to approve the application "with the proviso that the charging station be covered with a bush or some kind of plant that will shield it from the public way," according to Weintraub.

BVHDC hears second advisory review for rooftop addition at 95-97 Broadway

By Lauren Bennett

The Bay Village Historic District Commission (BVHDC) on November 9 heard a second advisory review for the proposed rooftop addition at 95-97 Broadway.

Last month, the design team was asked to return with renderings of the addition from different perspectives as well as different options for the windows.

Meichi Peng of Meichi Peng Design Studio explained that the proposed addition would be set back, and spoke about the existing windows on the building.

"Currently, there's really no

rhythm," Peng said. She presented several different options for the windows on the addition, as well as showed the addition from different angles as requested by the Commission. The original window proposal was for square windows, but more rectangular ones were proposed this time.

The proposed addition will be clad in metal paneling in graphite gray and matte black colors, as well as an aluminum cladded window system. The proposed deck will be made of a slate gray composite material with powder coated steel railings, Peng said.

After proposing several options

for the windows, Peng said she liked the fourth option for windows the best, as she said they relate to the existing building, "but a little bit larger in scale; proportion."

Commissioner Anne Kilguss said that there isn't "a straight line down to the ground on Winchester," but on the Broadway side that is more evident with the windows and the way they line up with the ones on the existing building.

Peng said that the design team wanted to adjust the scale but "we also respect the material" and are aware of the setback with the addition.

Commissioner Tom Hotaling said that it is a "great leap forward here" to switch to a more rectangular window versus the originally proposed square ones.

Peng was asked why she prefers the fourth option over the second one, and she said that while the two are similar, it doesn't quite have the proportions the fourth one has. "It feels to me like it's going to be a mistake," she said.

"This is a new floor on a historic building," Hotaling said, and "from a preservation standpoint," it's "often recommended not to mimic what happens elsewhere."

Commissioner Ruth Knopf said she liked the fourth option as well,

as it "looks lighter" and "doesn't feel like it's weighing down what's there."

Joe Cornish, Director of Design Review for the Boston Landmarks Commission, said that "I do agree with option four. It's important for the addition to be respectful of the base but to read as an addition. I think you've accomplished it with option four."

Cornish told the applicant that once a zoning variance is granted, an application for a design review from the BVHDC can be filed, which would lead to a vote on the final design for the addition.

Virtual program examines lives of Boston's domestic help in late 19th to early 20th centuries

By Dan Murphy

An upcoming virtual program

will examine the lives of domestic staff in Boston during the late 19th to early 20th centuries, including

help employed by the Nichols and Gibson families.

The Nichols House Museum

welcomes Gibson House Museum curator, Meghan Gelardi Holmes, on Tuesday, Nov. 30, at 6:30 p.m. for "The World of Domestic Workers in 19th Century Boston," which examines the lives of the mostly young, immigrant Irish women who built a rich, interconnected community centered in the back alleys of the Back Bay. This talk will not only look at the work and their leisure time of the domestic staff, but also how the experience of immigration shaped their lives.

"While [past programs on life at the Nichols House] commonly looked at life through the lens of the employers, this one instead will examine what life was like for domestic help back then away from work," said Barbara Callahan, public engagement manager for the Nichols House Museum.

Besides "church and other public spheres" domestic workers in the late 19th to early-20th centuries often get to know each other in the Back Bay's back alleys, said Callahan, while evidence suggests that marriages between domestic help who first met in these back alleys weren't an uncommon occurrence

at the time.

This upcoming virtual program, said Callahan, also complements "Hidden Spaces of the Nichols House Museum" tours on Sundays, Nov. 28 and Dec. 19, at 2 p.m. at 55 Mt. Vernon St., which will offer a glimpse into the domestic work that went into keeping the house operational during the Victorian era, as well as how staff today manages its preservation.

The tours last around one hour and include visits to room and spaces in the museum not ordinarily open to the public. (Tour-goers will have to walk up three flights of stairs, and masks are required.)

As an incentive, the Nichols House Museum is offering a special discount on admission for those attending both "The World of Domestic Workers in 19th Century Boston" and the "Hidden Spaces" tour, said Callahan with admission for the latter event reduced from \$17 for non-members to \$10.

Admission for "The World of Domestic Workers in 19th Century Boston" is \$5 for Nichols House

(DOMESTIC STAFF, Pg. 11)



Virtual Community Meeting

Visioning Grove Hall

Wednesday, December 8
6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Zoom Link: bit.ly/3DnrcjC
Toll Free: (833) 568 - 8864
Meeting ID: 160 833 0033

Project Description:

Join the BPDA for a community meeting about three vacant sites owned by the BPDA: 20R Dacia St.; 27-29 Fernboro St., and 626 Warren St., in the Grove Hall neighborhood. We will seek the community's ideas, wants, and needs for the future of these sites. Interpretation and translation will be provided in Spanish and Haitian Creole.

Únase a la BPDA para una reunión comunitaria sobre tres sitios vacantes propiedad de la BPDA: 20R Dacia St.; 27-29 Fernboro St. y 626 Warren St., en el vecindario de Grove Hall. Buscaremos las ideas, deseos y necesidades de la comunidad para el futuro de estos sitios. Se proporcionará interpretación y traducción en español y criollo haitiano.

Vin jwenn nou nan BPDA a pou yon reyinyon kominotè sou twa sit vid BPDA a posede: 20R Dacia St.; 27-29 Fernboro St., ak 626 Warren St., nan katye Grove Hall la. Nou pral chèche lidè, dezi, ak bezwen kominote a pou lavni sit sa yo. Ap gen entèpretasyon ak tradiksyon an panyòl ak kreyòl ayisyen.

mail to: **Jonathan Short**
Boston Planning & Development Agency
22 Drydock Ave. Second Floor
Boston, MA 02210
phone: 617.918.6234
email: jonathan.short@boston.gov

Close of Comment Period:
12/22/2021

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Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

Real Estate Transfers

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Bancroft Dixwell LLC	Dix Well Park UE LLC	189 Boylston St	\$6,900,000
Steiner, Christine	Kelley, Gail R	14 Clarendon St #302	\$1,330,000
Trillium Rental Prop LLC	Nina C De W Ingraog RET	171 Marlborough St #1	\$1,300,000
Jeremiah Smith T2020	Previte, Jeffrey C	400 Stuart St #28D	\$2,650,000
E I Angelino 2013 RET	Dukach, Semyon	392 Marlborough St #3	\$3,750,000
BEACON HILL			
USA Hancock Prop LLC	Selmasson Holdings LLC	12 Hancock St	\$4,300,000
USA Beacon Properties LLC	Selmasson Holdings LLC	64-64A Revere St	\$5,700,000
Ogara, Holly	Eggan, Kevin C	6 Strong Pl	\$2,937,000
BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE			
Chandonnet, Jason R	448 Park Drive Condo LLC	448 Park Dr #9	\$735,000
Breuer, Matthew D	Gorman, James W	114 W Concord St #1	\$2,150,000
WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN			
Paley, Rachel M	Bryant, James O	65 E India Row #37G	\$2,250,000
Paley, Rachel M	Bryant, James O	65 E India Row #37H	\$2,250,000
Mellios, Pia	Sarkisian Lindo M Est	130-132 Fulton St #8	\$692,000

Copley Square tree lighting Nov. 29

Staff Report

The City of Boston, the Boston Parks and Recreation Department, and the Friends of Copley Square welcome the holidays with the annual Copley Square Tree Lighting on Monday, November 29, starting at 5 p.m.

This free event will feature appearances by Santa Claus, Frosty the Snowman, and Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer along with musical performances by vocalist Ackeem Hill, the Boston Children's Chorus, the Boston Pops Esplanade Brass

Ensemble, and Berklee College of Music's own Esperanza Delgado.

Additional support provided by AT&T Mobility and H.P. Hood, LLC. Light refreshments provided by H.P. Hood, LLC. Event production partners include Boston Properties, Encore Global, and Fairmont Copley Plaza.

Other 2021 holiday celebrations hosted by the Boston Parks and Recreation Department include the lighting of the trellis at Christopher Columbus Park on the Boston Harbor waterfront November 22, the lighting of the

ship in Martin's Park at the Children's Wharf Harborwalk on November 27, and the Boston Common Tree Lighting followed by the lighting of the trees on the Commonwealth Avenue Mall on December 2. The arrival of Boston's official 2021 Christmas tree, a 48-foot white spruce tree donated by L'Arche Cape Breton of Orangedale, Nova Scotia, will be celebrated on Boston Common at approximately 11 a.m. on November 17.

Visit bit.ly/LightsOnBos or call 617-635-4505 for more information.

DOMESTIC STAFF (from pg. 10)

Museum members and \$7-\$15 general admission for non-members. Purchase tickets at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-world-of-domestic-workers-in-19th-century-boston-tickets-208050613987>.

For more information on the Nichols House Museum, visit nicholshousemuseum.org.

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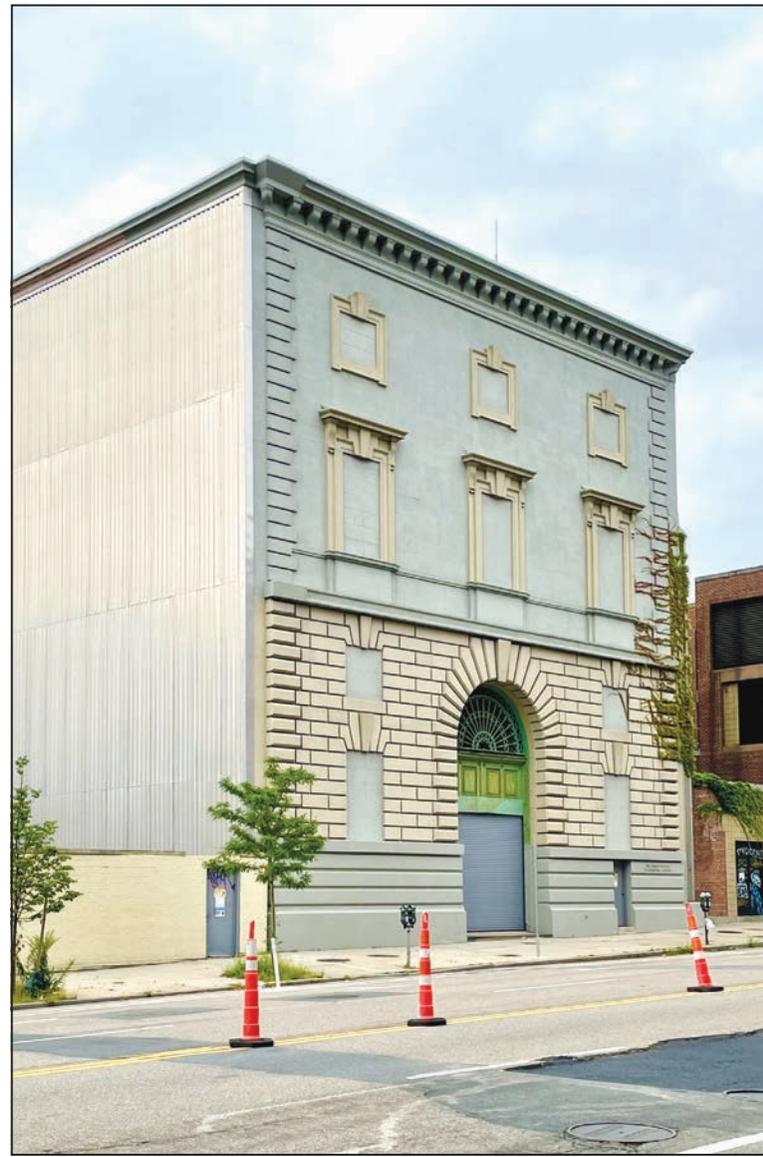
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ATTENTION TO DETAIL

BY PENNY CHERUBINO

THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The fan window grill in the last clue is on 693 Beacon Street. This building still bears the name of the Edison Electric Illuminating Company established by Thomas Edison in 1880 for the commercial use of electricity. Look for the company's initials EEICo or "B.E.Co" (for Boston Edison Company) on manhole covers throughout the city.

You'll find the next clue in the South End. Do you have a favorite building or detail you would like featured?

Send an email to Penny@BostonZest.com with your suggestion.

THIS WEEK'S CLUE

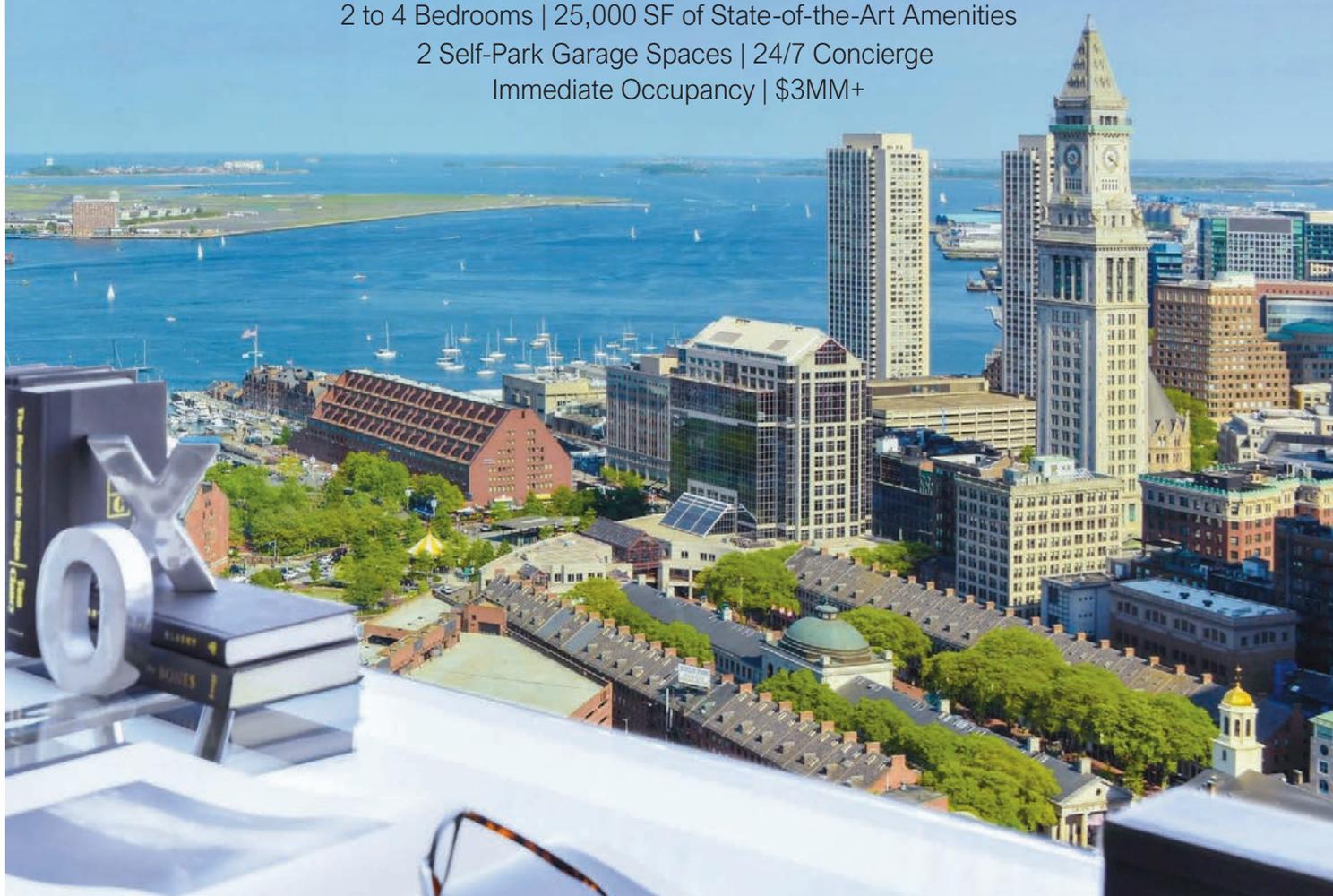




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