

# THE BOSTON SUN

SERVING BACK BAY - SOUTH END - FENWAY - KENMORE

## Remembering Bay Village's Cocoanut Grove 80 years later

By Sun Staff

On Monday, November 28, at 3 PM, the Cocoanut Grove Memorial Committee will host an 80th Anniversary Remembrance Vigil at the site of the former nightclub, Piedmont Street and Cocoanut Grove Lane in the Bay Village neighborhood. A program of guest speakers will attend and several family members of both victims and survivors plan to attend. A reception will follow at the Revere Hotel's Liberty Hall and a presentation of "Six Locked Doors," a documentary will be shown.

The Cocoanut Grove nightclub opened in October 1927, and quickly became the top club in Boston, but with Prohibition followed by the Depression, the club lost its gleam. But with the end of Prohibition, the Cocoanut Grove rebounded and again was the leading place in Boston to go to for entertainment and fun.

On Saturday afternoon, November 28, 1942, Boston College, the undefeated and number one college football team in the country, played Holy Cross College at Fenway Park.

The BC Eagles got swamped and lost, 55-12. Lots of BC fans canceled their reservations at the Cocoanut Grove, but it didn't stop people from heading to the Grove for a night of celebrating birthdays, anniversaries, wedding, and for departing soldiers to fight the War in Europe and the Pacific and this would be the last night to share a drink and a dance.

In the downstairs Melody Lounge, a sedate piano bar, a couple was getting romantic when the fellow removed a small light bulb that hung from a fake palm tree causing some darkness. A teenage busboy tried to screw the bulb back in and struck a match to see the outlet. He blow the match out, but did a spark fly into the fake palm tree fons and start the fire? To this day, fire experts are not sure of the origins of the fire that took the lives of 490 patrons that night of November 28, 1942.

### ON THE FILM

#### "SIX LOCKED DOORS"

"Six Locked Doors" is a 30 minute short documentary that

(COCOANUT GROVE FIRE Pg. 4)



The Cocoanut Grove Plaque on Piedmont St., in the Bay Village with the inscription "Phoenix out of the Ashes".

## ELLIS ASSOCIATION DECORATES THE NEIGHBORHOOD



PHOTOS BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

Members of the Gibson/Sotheby's Reality group, sponsors of the event, are happy to be part of the fun.



Imogen and Branden Frank admire the recently placed wreaths. See more photos on Page 6.



Frank Hamm sets the Little Library he designed and built in its new home. See more photos on Page 7.

## 19-story residential building proposed for Huntington Avenue raises height concerns

By Dan Murphy

A 19-story residential building proposed for Huntington Avenue would bring much-desired housing to the Fenway, although the plan has also sparked some concern regarding how its height might impact the abutting Museum of Fine Arts, among other neighboring sites.

Representatives for Sam Salter, the project proponent and owner

of the property at 409 Huntington Ave., were on hand for a Nov. 16 virtual meeting sponsored by the Boston Planning & Development Agency to outline their proposal for the approximately 223-foot-tall building, which would contain 157 one and two-bedroom dwelling units and up to 2,300 square feet of street-level retail space along Huntington Avenue. The project site is located between the MFA

and a residence hall owned by Northeastern University and adjacent to Forsyth Park. The new building would replace an existing five-story apartment building containing 57 market-rate units, which were occupied by grad students and have typically had a one-year turnover rate, according to BPDA Project Manager Mike Sinatra.

(HUNTINGTON AVENUE Pg. 3)



# EDITORIAL

## HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Thanksgiving is a uniquely American holiday, tracing its roots back 400 years to the Pilgrims and Indigenous People, long before there was even a thought of a United States of America.

Thanksgiving is the ultimate family-centered holiday. It has no religious meaning, no national-celebration connotations, and no required gift-giving. It lacks the commercialism, religiosity, solemnity, and political overtones of all of our other national observances.

It is the only day on the calendar when we have no obligation other than to spend the day with those who mean the most to us. It asks nothing more from each of us (other than for the person who is doing all the cooking!) beyond just showing up and enjoying the company of our family and friends and then having a great meal.

Thanksgiving is a national celebration that serves to remind us how blessed we are at a time when circumstances are so cruel for so many others in a world in which there are more refugees than at any time since the end of World War II thanks to Russia's aggression in Ukraine.

Even amidst this time of turbulence in our own country, we all can agree that Thanksgiving makes us aware of how much we have to be thankful for. Despite our present trials and tribulations, Americans are remarkably fortunate to be in a country such as ours.

Thanksgiving serves as a rare day for relaxation, reflection, and, inevitably (at least for some of us) a post-dinner nap while watching a football game or an early night of sleep. In a time when so many of us are connected 24/7 to some instrument of communication, it truly is a relief to have a day when we can just shut it all off.

We wish all of our readers a happy -- and restful -- Thanksgiving.

## THANK YOU, NANCY PELOSI

The announcement last week by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi that she will be stepping down from her leadership role in the Democratic caucus (although she will remain as a member of the House) marks an end to one of the most remarkable political careers in American history.

Nancy Pelosi first was elected to the House in 1987 in a special election after raising five children as a stay-at-home mom (which in itself is a remarkable feat!).

She soon rose to a leadership role among her Democratic colleagues for a simple reason: Nancy Pelosi was a lot smarter -- and more politically-savvy -- than any of them.

Her tenure as the first woman Speaker of the House in 2007 was groundbreaking and has paved the way for women to be accepted in the very upper-echelons of our government.

More than any other person, she was responsible for ensuring that the Affordable Care Act -- also known as Obamacare -- passed the House in 2010, a measure that has provided affordable health insurance for millions of Americans.

Despite being the object of what can only be described as hatred by her political opponents, Nancy Pelosi persevered with a determination that far outshone her political rivals and that made her the most successful and consequential Speaker of the House since the departure of Tip O'Neil in 1987.

Compared to both her Republican and Democratic counterparts of the recent past (think of lummoxes like Dennis Hastert, John Boehner, Jim Wright, and soon-to-be Speaker Kevin McCarthy), Nancy Pelosi has been a giant in American politics.

The vitriol engendered by her political opponents finally struck Pelosi personally when her husband of almost 60 years, Paul Pelosi, was attacked by a hammer-wielding assailant who broke into their home three weeks ago.

However, as she has throughout her entire life, Nancy Pelosi continues to move forward.

Despite all of her remarkable political accomplishments, the one moment that always will stand out for us is when she was caught on film in a bunker while the Trump-inspired rioters were rampaging through the Capitol on January 6

"I hope he (Trump) comes," the 80 year-old grandmother told her staff. "I want to punch him out.... I've been waiting for this...I'm gonna punch him out, and I'm gonna go to jail, and I'm gonna be happy."

That epitomizes Nancy Pelosi -- a tough and dedicated public servant who has devoted almost half of her 82 years in exemplary service to our country.

STAR TRIBUNE  
SACK



## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### MOTORISTS ARE ILLEGALLY PASSING STOPPED SCHOOL BUSES AT EPIDEMIC LEVELS

Dear Editor,  
41.8 million violations throughout a 180-day school year, in fact.

According to the 2022 survey conducted by the National Association of State Directors of Pupil Transportation Services, America's motoring public are illegally passing school buses at "epidemic levels."

Four Massachusetts children were struck by motorists who failed to stop for the bus in 2014, 2021 & 2022. Violations are increasing at an alarmingly rapid rate and motorists are not only endangering the lives of children, they are getting away with it.

It's the law to stop for a school bus on both sides of the road when the red lights are flashing. When the yellow lights flash, drivers need to slow down and prepare to stop.

This is one of the first rules of the road we learn in driving school. Children are taught and should be able to expect that cars will stop for them so they can safely get on or off the bus and also cross the street.

This is my child's first year taking the bus. I had no idea motorists were ignoring this law until I saw it for myself. I did some research and realized that unless you are driving a school bus, or actively involved in combating the problem, people have no idea how bad the situation is.

I also discovered there are multiple bills "concerning the safety of school children embarking and disembarking school buses" that can be found on MAlegislature.gov and that for 11 years, the Massachusetts State Legislature has failed to pass a bill that will authorize the use of a camera system to capture live video imaging of vehicles illegally passing the school bus and would therefore enforce

the law by issuing a citation in the mail.

Red flashing lights and the extended stop sign indicate the school bus has stopped to let students on or off.

I've been researching this "bus stop-arm camera" program and learned that technology companies can provide the cameras and implement the program with no up-front cost to the state. Some are also finding that this type of video monitoring not only enforces the law but also reduces the number of repeat offenses by 98%. (STREETS BLOG 9/13/22).

"At least 24 states have school bus stop-arm camera laws," says the National Conference of State Legislatures.

(LETTER Pg. 5)

# THE BOSTON SUN

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# Virtual Public Meeting

## Longwood Place (305 Brookline Avenue)

**Wednesday, December 7**

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

**Zoom Link:** [bit.ly/3Xd9Wl5](https://bit.ly/3Xd9Wl5)

**Toll Free:** (833) 568 - 8864

**Meeting ID:** 161 279 5078

**Project Proponent:**

Skanska USA Commercial Development Inc

**Project Description:**

The proposed Longwood Place PDA Development Plan consists of the redevelopment of the approximately 5.8 acre site located at 305 Brookline Avenue in the Longwood neighborhood of Boston with a phased mixed-use development consisting of approximately 1.7 million gross square feet of residential, office/laboratory, retail, restaurant, commercial, community space, and parking.

For more information visit: <https://www.bostonplans.org/projects/development-projects/longwood-place>

mail to: **Sarah Black**

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Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary



## GUEST OP-ED

# Have Thanksgiving every day

By Dr. Glenn Mollette

Thanksgiving always comes and goes too fast. We often think, “We need more time to focus on the Thanksgiving holiday.” For many, it seems that Thanksgiv-

ing gets sandwiched between Halloween and Christmas.

By late September, many of the stores and television commercials are focusing on Christmas.

The only way we can fix the “fast Thanksgiving” holiday is

to make Thanksgiving celebration every day. We shouldn’t wait until Thanksgiving to give thanks but give thanks every day.

A thankful heart is a healthier heart. Living in an attitude of Thanksgiving celebrates the gift

of life and every opportunity to live life.

Many of us have dreaded the shorter days. Dark by 6 o’clock and soon by 5 or even 4:30 in some areas. I used to always dread that but my attitude has

changed. I’m just happy to be alive to experience the changing seasons. Take advantage of these cooler, shorter days to get some rest. Longer days will be back

(Op-Ed Pg. 5)

## COCOANUT GROVE FIRE (from pg. 1)

chronologically tells the story of the events leading up to the fire at the nigh club. It features interviews with some of the eight remaining survivors as they re-tell the harrowing experience.

Later it goes into the lessons learned and how fire and safety codes have forever been changed from this single worst club fire in America.

Former Bay Village resident, Zachary Graves-Miller worked on this documentary for over four years

“That’s when it really sparked my interest,” said Graves-Miller. “It was only afterwards I thought this was a story. I saw it as an opportunity to show light on a tragedy in a city of Boston that has not been recognized...and I thought it as a way to tell the real story of the Cocoanut Grove.”

Graves-Miller got to work interviewing the survivors willing to talk on camera and made numerous trips to the Boston

Public Library searching through old microfilm looking for headlines in old newspapers and searching for photographs of the event.

He said after 75 years a lot of myths and rumors tend to spread, and he wants to make sure his documentary is based off of facts and the experiences the few survivors have.

Graves-Miller said he really wants to use the film as a platform to be used as a teaching tool to prevent other large disasters like this happening again.

“As history tends to repeat itself, it’s important to remember the past and from your mistakes,” said Graves-Miller.

But unfortunately, these types of mistakes are still happening today. He pointed to the Station nightclub fire that happened in Warwick, Rhode Island that killed 100 people and injured over 200 in 2003 and the Colectiv nightclub fire in Romania that

killed 64 in 2015.

“This one fire changed the course of history and how fire prevention is dealt with,” said Graves-Miller.

He said it is responsible for the exit signs, the auxiliary doors next to revolving ones, and how doors have to swing out, and so much more that most people don’t even notice.

“In my mind the story should not only be remembered but should be told because some of these mistakes are still happening,” said Graves-Miller.

The film is an independently funded project. Graves-Miller hopes to get enough funding to do a feature-length documentary. To make a contribution and to learn more visit [www.sixlockeddoors.com](http://www.sixlockeddoors.com).

As a child growing up in the neighborhood he saw the plaque memorializing the fire on Piedmont St. that for decades sat in front of an empty parking lot.

The plaque was installed at the 50th Anniversary and was dedicated by Mayor Ray Flynn.

After some controversy between the survivors and the Bay Village Neighborhood Association in the summer of 2016, the plaque was moved from its original location at 17 Piedmont St., the site of the revolving door where 40 people perished, to be adjacent to the Revere Hotel parking lot.

The move came after residents showed a concern about visitors congregating in front of the new luxury condominiums that now occupy the site of the empty lot.

“Since the plaque got moved it made me think it was more relevant than ever to do this documentary,” said Graves-Miller.

But, his interest to tell the story through film stemmed from his experience at the 71st Anniversary celebrations that featured speakers from some of the survivors.

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“In my mind the story should not only be remembered but should be told because some of these mistakes are still happening,” said Graves-Miller.



## Virtual Public Meeting

# Fenway Zoning Public Meeting

**Monday, December 5**

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

**Zoom Link:** [bit.ly/3FyFRS0](https://bit.ly/3FyFRS0)

**Toll Free:** (833) 568 - 8864

**Meeting ID:** 160 626 1558

### Project Description:

Join the BPDA team for a virtual public meeting to learn more about planning and zoning in Fenway. We will include basic information about how zoning works to regulate development and a more detailed analysis of existing zoning in the West Fenway district. We also seek to gather input on the neighborhood's zoning and a number of future planning considerations, which will be studied and discussed over the next few months.

Meet the members of the Boston Planning & Development Agency's planning team, share your ideas, and learn about the planning process and how you can get involved.

*The information at this meeting is crucial to you as a Boston resident, and stakeholder. Language Access services are available at no cost to you. If you require these services, please contact ([cyrus.miceli@boston.gov](mailto:cyrus.miceli@boston.gov)) no later than: 11/30/22*

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# Copley Square Tree Lighting set for November 28

Special to the Sun

The Boston Parks and Recreation Department will host the annual Copley Square Tree Lighting starting at 5 p.m. on Monday, November 28, presented in partnership with the Friends of Copley Square, Boston Properties, Encore Global, and the Fairmont Copley Plaza.

This free event is sponsored by H.P. Hood LLC and Dunkin' with additional support from Drake's Cakes. The celebration will feature appearances by Santa Claus and Rudolph along

with musical performances by vocalist Ackeem Hill, the Boston Children's Chorus, the Boston Pops Esplanade Brass Ensemble, and Daniela Gomez Munguia of Berklee College of Music. After the event attendees are invited to enjoy cookies and pictures with Santa in the Fairmont Copley Plaza.

Other 2022 holiday celebrations hosted by the Boston Parks and Recreation Department include the 20th annual holiday lighting of the trellis at Christopher Columbus Park in the North End on November 21,

the lighting of the ship in Martin's Park at the Children's Wharf Harborwalk on November 26, and the Boston Common Tree Lighting followed by the lighting of the trees on Commonwealth Avenue Mall on December 1.

The arrival of Boston's official 2022 Christmas tree from Nova Scotia will be celebrated on Boston Common at approximately 11 a.m. on November 22. The 45-foot white spruce was donated by landowner Roddy Townsend of Christmas Island, along with his children Angela, Carmen, and Andrew.



PHOTO COURTESY CITY OF BOSTON

The tree at Copley Square is lit up during a past tree lighting event.

Visit [bit.ly/CopleyTree22](https://bit.ly/CopleyTree22) or call (617) 635-4505 for more information. To stay up to date with news, park improvements, and events, sign up for our email list at [bit.ly/Get-Parks-Emails](https://bit.ly/Get-Parks-Emails) and follow our social channels @bostonparksdept on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram.

## Op-Ed (from pg. 4)

soon and you can mow grass, work or walk until 9:00 or later every evening. Go with the flow and enjoy the differences.

I miss the Thanksgivings when my mom and dad were alive and mother cooked. If everyone got together, we could have 20 people in the house. This was a tiring time for my mother. Be sure to always praise the person carrying the cooking load.

Time passes quickly. Every day we should embrace the day. When you see someone, talk to someone, share a meal with someone then by all means embrace and savor the moment. Give thanks for all occasions that you have to spend time with others whether family or friends.

Thanksgiving is not the same for many of us because there are empty seats at the table. We miss moms and dads who have left us

for a better place. We miss wives, husbands, children, and siblings who have left this life too early. This makes us sad and dampens our spirits. Yet, look around and see the people who may not be here next year. There are no guarantees. Be kind, be loving. Say good words to them. Lift them up. It will make you feel better to give thanks for people and to anoint them.

Jesus was anointed by Mary the sister of Martha before his arrest and crucifixion. Some criticized her for doing it but Jesus said she has prepared me for the burial. Let her alone he said she has done a good work. After Mary finished anointing Jesus' feet the house was filled with the smell of the ointment. When you love and are kind to people it always brings a better fragrance and atmosphere into the house.

A part of this is showing Thanksgiving for them and toward them. Mary ended up with that ointment on her hands and in her hair. When you do good stuff for people to honor them a lot of that good stuff comes back to you.

Have Thanksgiving every day. Give thanks, express thanks and live in a spirit of being thankful. Your attitude will make your day better and encourage others around you.

*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.*

## LETTER (from pg. 2)

Technology exists, our lawmakers are aware of the problem, they can amend existing laws to work around any obstacle and yet they continue to kick this can down the road.

I've heard privacy is a concern. Since when does the privacy of someone endangering children's lives outweigh protecting them?

I've been told that it takes a long time to pass a bill. While the clock is ticking, kids are getting hit by cars and drivers are getting worse. How many kids need to get hurt or killed before anything is done?

Why isn't there a massive "Stop for the bus" or "Don't hit

a kid" awareness campaign from the state? Is "minding the plows" more important than our children? Bus companies welcome the technology. Mark Healey, owner of Healey Bus Company says, "Keeping the kids safe is our number one priority. Every day we talk to our drivers about safety, we provide safety education classes regularly and we are doing everything that we are supposed to be doing to keep the children safe, but we need the public to do their part too."

This mom is doing her part. I am making some noise and talking to anyone who will listen. I also started an online petition urging the MA Legislature

to pass the School Bus Stop-Arm Camera bill into law.

This is a no-brainer folks - put the cameras on the outside of the buses, issue citations and reduce the number of repeat violations - all with no upfront costs to the state and taxpayers - to save kid's lives.

To support this initiative, please visit <https://www.change.org/stopschoolbuspassing>

To voice your support, call the leader in your district and urge them to pass the School Bus Stop-Arm Camera law. Their information can be found on <https://malegislature.gov/Legislators/Leadership>

Maria Scheri Peabody, MA

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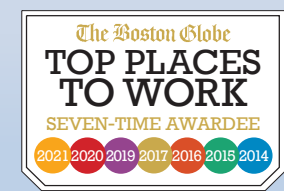


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Photos by Derek Kouyoumjian

A large group of approximately 25 volunteers, including men, women, and children, are posing for a group photo on a brick-paved area in front of a large, multi-story red brick building. The volunteers are dressed in winter clothing, such as coats, hats, and scarves. Some are holding bags of trash, brooms, and a large evergreen tree. A sign in the background reads "The Neighborhood Association" and "Wednesday". A dog is also visible in the foreground on the right.



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*David Santulli.*



# ELLIS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION INAUGURATES LITTLE LIBRARY

Photos by Derek Kouyoumjian

The Ellis South End Neighborhood Association also inaugurated its second Little Library at the corner of Clarendon and Warren streets. The Library features children's books that promote diversity.



The latest Little Library addition to the South End.



Julie Arnheiter brings books to stock the Library.



Ella Meyer and Darst King hold the inauguration ribbon for Frank Hamm to cut.

# FRIENDS OF CHILDE HASSAM PARK CLEAN THE AREA

Photos by Derek Kouyoumjian

Friends Of Childe Hassam Park participated in Love Your Block, Mayor Wu's Fall cleanup initiative, by cleaning up the beloved park dedicated to Childe Hassam.



The Friends Of Childe Hassam Park.



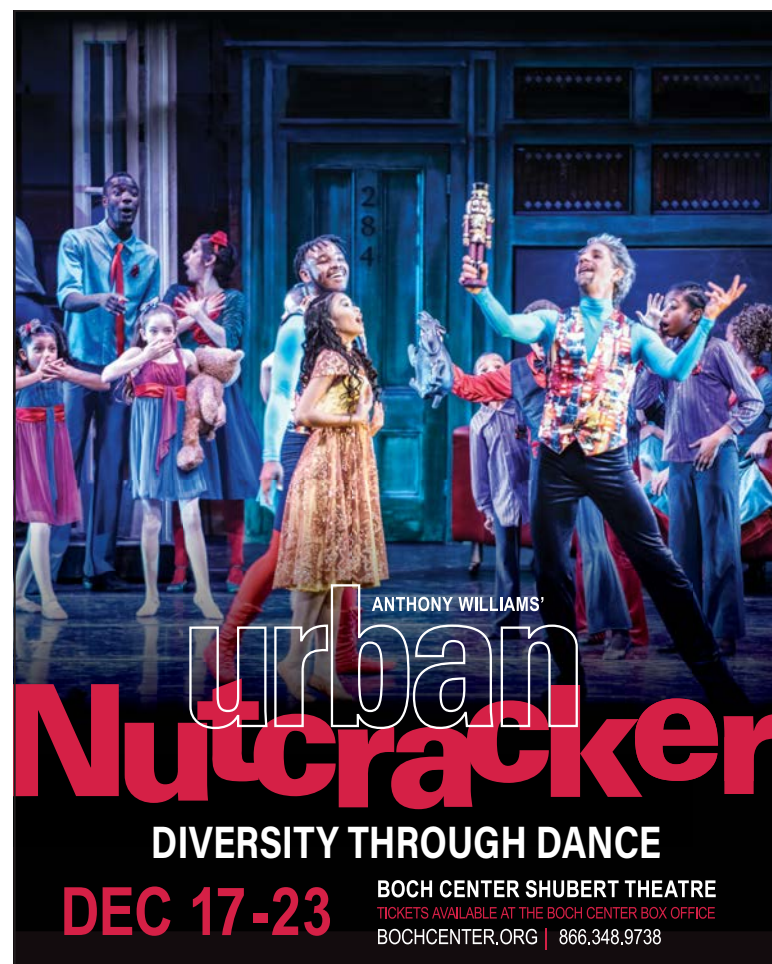
Kimberly Crucioli City Hall Liason for the South End was in hand to help with supplies.



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Frank Hamm brings the Little Library he designed and built to be placed in its new home.



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BAY VILLAGE CLEANUP

Photos by Derek Kouyoumjian

The Bay Village Neighborhood Association organized their community's response to Mayor Wu's Fall cleanup initiative, Love Your Block. Neighborhood Services provided the tools, sweepers, and space needed through parking closures. Neighbors young and old joined together to sweep, rake, and clean the sidewalks, streets, and gutters of leaves and debris



Blake Hammond offers her family team some donut fortification for the work they will take on.



Celaney Koponen enjoys chipping in to keep Bay Village scenic and clean.



Bay Village Neighborhood Association City Service Committee Co-Chairs Brian Boisvert and Ian Johnson (far right) with Jennifer and Jack Howell.



Chris Goddu rakes.



Joe Hawley joins in to clear the sidewalks of debris.



Kristina Lindsey (right) has her kids Bodhi and Crew on hand to help her get the streets clean.



George Klauber rakes fallen leaves.



Leslie Colburn and Reed Whitman work together to consolidate the leaves for the street sweepers.



Luke Grillo forms a pile of leaves for the street sweepers' arrival.



Maya Crowley may be small in size but big in sweeping energy.

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Reed and Charlie Whitman pick out some rakes to take on the fallen leaves.

The City Of Boston had street sweepers on hand to finish off the piles of leaves and debris.



# BPL Fund announces special opportunity to dedicate lamp in Bates Hall

Special to the Sun

The Boston Public Library Fund (BPLF) is offering a chance for individuals to honor a family member or friend by dedicating one of the institution's iconic reading lamps in Bates Hall. A tax-deductible gift to support the Library gives participants a brass plaque that is engraved with a personal message and installed on a selected lamp.

"Bates Hall is a beloved Boston treasure," said Paula Sakey, the Fund's executive director. "Thousands have studied under the glow of the green-shaded reading lamps, and this new opportunity invites individuals to honor their loved ones in a space that is dedicated to exploring knowledge and advancing

education."

Jean Gibran, a resident of Boston's South End for 55 years, recently named a lamp in honor of the life and work of her late husband, Kahlil George Gibran, and husband's cousin, the renowned poet Gibran Kahlil Gibran.

"My love of art and research was nourished and encouraged here," she said. "It feels natural for me to give back to an institution that has given my family so much for many generations."

Bates Hall is a Boston landmark located in the Central Library's McKim Building. The hall's signature green lamps have been in use since the building's opening in 1895 and are featured prominently in photographs of the storied library. Patrons and

scholars regularly visit the hall to research, study, and read while admiring the artwork and historic pieces that line the walls of the room.

To learn more about this opportunity, visit [bplfund.org/illuminatingbates](http://bplfund.org/illuminatingbates).

The mission of the Fund is to provide financial support to the Boston Public Library, ensuring that it remains viable, engaging, accessible, and free to all. The Fund fulfills this mission by working in partnership with the Library, donors, and other funders in supporting BPL programs and special initiatives. Support from the Fund supplements, but does not supplant, other BPL resources, including City of Boston funding.



*The lamp up for dedication in Bates Hall.*

## Tremont Street Construction Update

Construction on the Tremont Street Design Project started this past spring. The contractor started building changes to improve safety and accessibility at every crosswalk along and across Tremont Street between Massachusetts Avenue and Arlington Street. We appreciate your patience with temporary inconveniences as this work continues.

Officials expect construction to pause for the winter in mid-November. Before pausing for the winter, work crews will be:

- Completing crosswalks and ramps
- Finishing the bus stops
- Installing temporary pavement markings to guide drivers, bicyclists, and pedestrians

Our contractor will resume work in mid-April 2023 with anticipated completion by the end of 2023. We will send updates as construction advances.

**What to expect on Tremont Street**  
Officials started planning a

safer Tremont Street with you in early 2018 following two fatal pedestrian crashes on the corridor. We hope you are as excited as we are to see these changes take shape. Here is what you can expect when work is completed:

- Safer pedestrian crossings at every intersection along Tremont Street. Unsignalized intersections will have one lane in either direction. Busier intersections with signals will have more lanes to help keep traffic moving.
- Raised crosswalks at all

unsignalized intersections parallel to Tremont Street. You'll be able to walk in a direct path along Tremont Street. You will no longer have to cross large puddles after rain or snow. They will be fully accessible.

- Optimized traffic signals to keep all travelers moving safely. Pedestrian signals will come on

automatically. Some signals will include a pedestrian head start.

- New, accessible bus stops with boarding islands
- Parking-protected bike lanes along most of the corridor
- Maximized curb space for deliveries, pickup and drop-off activities, and parking



*A rendering of the redesigned Tremont Street.*

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# Mayor Wu kicks off Vicinity Energy's Electrification Plans

Special to the Sun

Vicinity Energy, a decarbonization leader with the nation's largest portfolio of district energy systems, serving over 70 million square feet of building space across Boston and Cambridge, has officially kicked off its electrification plans with the deconstruction of a steam turbine at the Kendall Green Energy Cogeneration Facility. Vicinity will install an electric boiler in its place, marking a critical step in the company's Clean Energy Future commitment to reaching net zero carbon emissions across all its operations by 2050.

Boston's Mayor Michelle Wu commemorated the day at Vicinity's Kendall facility. Marking a crucial step toward a clean energy future for Boston and Cambridge, the deconstruction aligns with the Mayor's latest move to file a home rule petition to ban the use of fossil fuels for new buildings in Boston.

"It is remarkable to be able to say that Vicinity is the first energy company in the country to electrify its operations. That is a huge deal and one that will have ramifications for generations to come. For every gigantic natural gas boiler that's going to be decommissioned, for every new building that will use eSteamTM, those are jobs created right here for our residents and our com-

munities," said Boston mayor Michelle Wu. "It is clear that the work of ensuring our planet remains livable is going to require all of us: every level of government, business, and community. We're very grateful that Vicinity's carbon-free eSteam product will power the leading industries we're already known for here in Greater Boston such as life sciences, healthcare, commercial real estate, and many more."

"With the installation of this electric boiler, we are enabling a seamless conversion to carbon-free eSteam for our customers, including innovative commercial building owners and developers like IQHQ," said Bill DiCrocce, president and chief executive officer of Vicinity Energy. "This is game-changing for our communities and a prime example of what happens when government, the business community, and the energy sector work together and embrace the region's Green New Deal."

The electric boiler will enter service in 2024. At that time, the company will procure electricity from renewable, carbon-free energy sources such as wind, solar, and hydro to generate eSteamTM, the first-ever carbon-free renewable energy product. IQHQ will be Vicinity's first customer to power the rapid decarbonization of its buildings in Boston's Fenway neighborhood: 109 Brookline and Fen-



Mayor Michelle Wu take a sledgehammer to an oil tank.

way Center Phase 2 with carbon-free eSteamTM.

"Today, we are excited to be celebrating the installation of the electric boiler," said Jenny Whitson, director of sustainability & ESG at IQHQ. "By Vicinity taking this step to offer developers like us the opportunity to source electric steam generated by renewable energy, we are able to achieve our climate goals and carbon emission reduction targets for our projects."

Over the years, Vicinity has evolved as new, cleaner fuel sources have become commercially available. The company's predecessors burned coal to generate steam before migrating to oil, natural gas, and combined heat and power (CHP). Because district energy systems are agnostic to fuel type, they can quickly implement these new, more sustainable technologies and fuel sources. Electrification is the

next crucial step to decarbonize Boston and Cambridge at scale and ensure both municipalities meet their new energy standards and emission mandates.

The Kendall Green Energy Cogeneration Facility simultaneously produces thermal energy and electricity in one efficient process to serve approximately 75% of Vicinity's customers throughout the region. When the electric boilers begin service, all of these facilities will have access to carbon-free, renewable energy at once.

"Here in Kendall Square, a place known for global innovation, we are proud of Vicinity's contribution to urban decarbonization with eSteam," said Beth O'Neill Maloney, executive director at the Kendall Square Association. "Vicinity's electrification plans will help contribute to the decarbonization of Cambridge and Boston without

building-level changes. Vicinity is a global sustainability leader, charting a new path forward for district energy."

Vicinity is on track to fully electrify its steam generation in Boston-Cambridge and introduce other technological advancements into its operations, including industrial-scale heat pumps and molten salt thermal energy storage. The company's other locations across the country will undergo similar electrification processes in the coming years.

Click here to read more about eSteamTM, district energy systems, and Vicinity's commitment to innovation and the environment.

Vicinity Energy is a clean energy company that owns and operates the nation's most extensive portfolio of district energy systems. Vicinity produces and distributes reliable, clean steam, hot water, and chilled water to over 230 million square feet of building space nationwide. Vicinity is committed to achieving net zero carbon across its portfolio by 2050. Vicinity continuously invests in its infrastructure and the latest technologies to accelerate the decarbonization of commercial and institutional buildings in city centers. To learn more, visit [www.vicinityenergy.us](http://www.vicinityenergy.us) or follow us on LinkedIn, Twitter, Instagram, or Facebook.

## Boston Public Health Comm. encourages precautions ahead of Thanksgiving

Staff Report

The Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) today advised residents to stay vigilant to protect themselves from COVID-19 and other respiratory illnesses such as flu and RSV when celebrating Thanksgiving, as gathering indoors and travel increases the likelihood of transmission.

Levels of COVID-19 virus in local wastewater are now at 404 RNA copies per mL, which is a 3.3% increase over the past 7

days and a 17.5% increase over the past 14 days. (Data through November 18). In addition, the 7-day total of new COVID-19 hospital admissions has increased by 44.1% over the past seven days and have held stable, increasing by 21.6%, over the last two weeks. (Data as of November 17). Boston's hospitals are straining to meet the influx of flu and RSV pediatric patients, and an increase in COVID-19 cases could put even more pressure on our health care system, which is why BPHC urges residents to take appropri-

ate precautions.

"As many people travel and spend time with family, we can reduce the risk of transmission of respiratory illnesses, like COVID-19, flu, and RSV," said Dr. Bisola Ojikutu, Commissioner of Public Health and Executive Director of the Boston Public Health Commission. "Staying up to date with COVID-19 vaccinations, getting a flu shot, wearing a well-fitted mask while traveling and testing for COVID-19 before gathering are important ways to protect yourself and your family and friends during this holiday

season."

BPHC encourages residents to test for COVID-19 before gathering, stay home if you are sick or test positive for COVID-19, wear masks indoors and while traveling for added protection, keep windows open to promote proper air filtration, and spend as much time outdoors as possible.

Proper hygiene practices like washing hands often, regularly disinfecting shared surfaces, and covering your mouth when coughing and sneezing are also effective for reducing the spread of COVID-19, RSV, and the flu.

If you plan on getting a PCR test, make sure to do so by Tuesday, November 22, to ensure you can get your results back in time.

COVID-19 vaccines, boosters and testing, as well as flu shots, are widely available throughout Boston. BPHC offers free, walk-in COVID-19 and flu services at multiple locations in the city. If you or anyone in your family tests positive for COVID-19 or flu, ask your doctor about getting treatment. Treatments for COVID-19 and flu are available for adults and children and can save lives.

### LEGAL NOTICE

<b>LEGAL NOTICE</b> INVITATION TO BID NATIONAL CENTER OF AFRO-AMERICAN ARTISTS MUSEUM EXTERIOR RESTORATION The National Center of Afro-American	Artists, the Awarding Authority, requests bids for selective exterior masonry repairs at their museum at Abbottsford Mansion, 300 Walnut Avenue, Roxbury, Massachusetts, which is listed in the State &	National Registers of Historic Places. The project is being partially funded with a grant from the Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund through the Massachusetts Historical Commission.	All work must be performed in accordance with the documents prepared by and available from the Spencer Preservation Group, 41 Valley Road, Nahant Massachusetts, Massachusetts 02129	(617-227-2675) and meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties. State law prohibits discrimination. Awarding of this contract is subject to Affirmative Action	and Equal Opportunity guidelines. Bid documents are available by email beginning November 18, 2022 and requests should be addressed to Doug Manley, <a href="mailto:doug@spencerpreservationgroup.com">doug@spencerpreservationgroup.com</a>	Bids shall be evaluated on the basis of price, previous experience with similar types of construction projects, ability to perform the work in a timely manner, and references. All bids must be delivered	to the architect's office at the above address no later than 12:00 noon on December 16, 2022 to be eligible for consideration. A pre-bid conference will be held at Abbottsford Mansion, 300 Walnut	Avenue, Roxbury at 10:00 AM on November 20, 2022.  11/22/22 BS
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# Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1 BACK BAY	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
Tallas, Peter	Boyd 3rd, Frederick C	177 Beacon St #1	\$2,365,000
3939 SGG LLC	Catherine RT	393 Beacon St	\$8,000,000
3939 SGG LLC	Catherine RT	395 Beacon St	\$8,000,000
50 Comm Ave Unit 602 LLC	Joullian, Edward	50 Commonwealth Ave #602	\$2,100,000
KMG 912 Beacon Street LLC	912 Beacon Street LLC	912-912A Beacon St	\$3,175,000
Shahbo, Khaled	Odonoghue, Michelle L	338 Commonwealth Ave #5	\$2,100,000
Gildea, Sam C	Gildea, James	466 Commonwealth Ave #707	\$360,00
<b>BEACON HILL</b>			
Pierce, Lisa P	Hessler, Elizabeth	1-3 Chestnut St #4B	\$1,126,300
Ghosh, Partha S	Chung S Adams RET	2 Hawthorne Pl #5K	\$370,000
Quinn, Thomas J	Maple, Corey D	61 Phillips St #1	\$495,000
<b>BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE</b>			
Heritage 905 RT	Glauber, Barbara	300 Boylston St #905	\$4,350,000
Yang, Frank S	FPG Lagrange Owner 1	55 Lagrange St #306	\$595,000
Khandelwal, Yogesh	FPG Lagrange Owner 1	55 Lagrange St #508	\$739,000
Moskowitz-Rogoff, Janie S	F A Ingari Jr 2015 T	400 Stuart St #17G	\$1,032,500
230 NT	230 Tremont Street RT	230-230A Tremont St	\$2,140,000
Livingston, Mark	Dinan, Jody G	8 Yarmouth St #2	\$1,065,000
Pickmann, Julissa I	Lattari, Michael	33 Bay State Rd #5	\$770,000
10 Concord3 LLC	Mclaughlin, Abraham	10 Concord Sq #3	\$1,500,000
Wittleb, Kimberly	Gong, Yi	100 Lovejoy Wharf #5L	\$668,000
Wang, Dakuo	Fried, Matthew E	470 Massachusetts Ave #1	\$1,150,000
Murphy, Gordon T	Sanders, Rachel J	291 Shawmut Ave #2	\$908,000
Sierra, Michael	White, John D	37 W Newton St #1	\$740,000
Rand, Tyler P	Hayden, Marcia C	16 Worcester Sq #5	\$1,200,000
<b>WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN</b>			
Barkley Development LLC	70 Hundred Corp	2 Avery St #PH3C	\$4,585,000
Cushman, Gibson S	Bagheri, Behrouz	85 E India Row #18D	\$600,000
Kao, Robin	Sawyer, Joseph P	210-216 Lincoln St #401	\$1,038,000
Ordorica-Wiener, Pablo	Mary M Tse RET	580 Washington St #1007	\$1,300,000

## Virtual Flower Arranging Workshop to benefit the Hurley K-8 School

Staff Report

Looking for a fun holiday activity you can do from home with friends and family? Please

consider a virtual flower arranging workshop to benefit the Hurley K-8 School! Each ticket includes fresh flowers, floral foam and a wooden vase deliv-

ered to your door one to two days before the event. Throughout the virtual workshop, floral artists from Alice's Table will guide you step-by-step to create a sparkling centerpiece, just in time for the holidays! Last day to register is November 23, 2022.

The Holiday Flower Arranging Workshop to Benefit the Hurley K-8 School will be held on Wednesday, December 14, at 7:00 pm

The cost per ticket is \$125/ ticket

Virtual. Supplies and weblink will be shared 1-2 days before the event

Registration: <https://www.biddingforgood.com/auction/event/event.action?auction-Id=341700523>



# ATTENTION TO DETAIL

BY PENNY CHERUBINO

## THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The lion head door knocker in the last clue is on 383 Commonwealth Avenue, built circa 1885. This is one of many lions adorning buildings around Boston. You can add interest to a stroll by making it a “lion hunt” and taking photos of the lions you find as details of neighborhood buildings.

The next clue will be found in the Fenway.

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

## THIS WEEK'S CLUE







# SIGNET RESIDENCES



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