

THE BOSTON SUN

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

SERVING BACK BAY - SOUTH END - FENWAY - KENMORE

Familiar face returns to neighborhood with Newbury Cleaners

By Dan Murphy

Newbury Cleaners, which opened around Thanksgiving, continues the decades-long history of a retail space on Newbury Street serving as home to a dry-cleaners, where customers will now find a familiar face behind the counter.

The owner, Rosibel Rodriguez, had previously owned and operated Newbury Shoe Repair, which occupied the same, approximately 900 square-foot, below-grade retail space at 219 Newbury St. with Bush Boston

Cleaners. She purchased the shoe-repair business, previously known as Odessa Instant Shoe Repair, in 2013.

The storefront has been shared by a drycleaners and a shoe repair business for more than 30 years, ever since Bush Quality Cleaners (which has since been acquired by Bush Boston Cleaners) first took on Odessa as a tenant, she said.

But long before long buying the shoe repair business, Rodriguez was already a longtime

(CLEANERS Pg. 3)



Rosibel Rodriguez, owner of Newbury Cleaners.

D. MURPHY PHOTO

FOPG welcomes new Director of Capital Projects and Parks Care

Special to the Sun

The Friends of the Public Garden has announced Rebecca McKevitz as Director of Capital Projects and Parks Care.

In this position, Rebecca will carry out the Friends' annual parks care program to support the nonprofit's mission to care for and renew the three parks, the Boston Common, Public

Garden, and Commonwealth Avenue Mall. This strategic hire comes as the Friends advance the vision of the Boston Common Master Plan into a reality to be enjoyed by people, the park, and wildlife alike.

As an energetic landscape designer and big-picture thinker, Rebecca will play a critical role

(McKEVITZ Pg. 5)

CELEBRATING THE SEASON AT OLD SOUTH CHURCH



Members of the Helios Bass Quintet perform during the Old South Church's 'A Boston Christmas' series.



PHOTOS BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

The Back Bay Chorale perform Hallelujah from Handel's Messiah. See more photos on Page 6.

Survey completed on temporary services for South End Branch Library

By Dan Murphy

The Friends of the South End Branch Library recently completed its Temporary Services Survey for the South End library.

The survey, which ran for one month and finished on Dec. 15, was administered online via Survey Monkey and garnered 349 responses. Respondents represented all age groups, although most were between the ages of 25 and 44, or over 65 years old; three-quarters of respondents were female, compared with one-quarter of respondents who were male. The survey was publicized through the city's Office of Neighborhood Services, as well as via posters, flyers, websites, and email.

Conclusions drawn from the survey, according to Yvette Jarreau on behalf of FOSEL, are that South End residents need

consistent temporary library services, including book pickup and returns; meeting space; Story Time; WiFi in the Library Park; and computer services with WiFi.

Around 87 percent of respondents cited book pickup and returns as the most-important regular, ongoing temporary library services in the neighborhood to them, while nearly 52 percent of respondents pointed

to the need for meeting space.

The top locations for a library in the neighborhood per the survey findings are a staffed location, a modular unit at the Library Park, or a bookmobile.

Survey respondents said "ideally" they would like to see the Boston Public Library find and staff a "temporary, day-to-day"

(LIBRARY Pg. 6)

The Independent Newspaper Group office will be **closed** on **Monday, Dec. 26** in observance of the Christmas holiday..

Deadlines for next week's issue will be **Friday, Dec. 23 at noon**

EDITORIAL

MERRY CHRISTMAS

This is the most wonderful time of the year, to paraphrase the popular song, with holiday music playing in the malls and on our car radios, resurrecting our earliest childhood memories of Christmas-es-past.

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

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

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

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

We wish all of our readers a Merry Christmas and a happy holiday season.

A GREAT WORLD CUP

We don't pretend to be big soccer fans, but even we were caught up in the excitement and the drama of the World Cup, which reached its climax this past Sunday with the exciting and exhilarating victory by Argentina in a shoot-out over defending champion France.

As long-time Boston sports rooters, we know of the passion that we and our fellow local fans have for our local teams. But our enthusiasm does not even come close to that of World Cup fans for their heroes.

The raw emotion among the fans in the stands, their raucous celebrations in the streets back home, and the individual stories of fans who traveled thousands of miles (and who spent their life savings) just to be on hand were epic.

Moreover, it was a World Cup for everyone, including the U.S., which qualified for the cup for the first time in eight years and made it through the knockout round, but especially for the fans of underdog Morocco, which became the first team from Africa and the Arab world to reach the semifinals.

At a time when there is so much misery and conflict in our world, the World Cup brought nations together as no other event can.

We'll be looking forward to the 2026 Cup when it will be hosted in No. America by the U.S., Mexico, and Canada.

CLARIFICATION: In reference to the story on the Longfellow Place development proposal that ran in last week's (Dec. 15) edition of this publication, a \$12 commitment to public-realm improvements promised as part of the community benefits from the project is separate from and in addition to a \$7 million contribution from the developer for an endowment to support long-term improvements, maintenance, and operations in and around the Emerald Necklace.

THE BOSTON SUN

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GUEST OP-ED

Light and strength for Christmas

By Dr. Glenn Mollette

When I was a child at Tomahawk Elementary School in Martin County, Kentucky there were many kids who got little to nothing for Christmas. I had classmates who I would never ask if they got anything for Christmas because I already knew the answer. Some of these kids were just glad to be in school. At school they could receive a free lunch and have access to a bathroom which they didn't have at home. This also meant they could wash their faces and their hands which was difficult at home especially in the winter months. While most of us didn't have much, what we did have seemed like a lot to those who had nothing.

This is where you need to stop and think. You stress about all you may not have but what do you have in comparison to those who have nothing? Do you have a place to sleep? Do you have a comfortable bed? Is your house or apartment warm and comfortable? Do you know you will have food to eat on Christmas day? Do you have a television to watch? Do you have a telephone? Do you have a few dollars in your pocket?

I'm very aware there are millions of Americans who are below the financial income poverty level. They have it tough. Our cities are filled with growing numbers of homeless populations. People are sleeping under bridges, overpasses and on riverbanks. Too many of these have met with unfortunate circumstances in life due to bad choices, addictions, unemployment, mental illness, and family issues. The list is never-ending. This doesn't make their lives any easier. Just because there is a reason for the problems doesn't make their burdens lighter or unnoticeable. Their reality is still harsh and painful.

Millions more immigrants are coming to America. Where will they sleep? Where will they work? Many of them will work for \$8 an hour and work hard but many of them will be homeless or stranded in homeless shelters on government dependence for a long time. Would any of us want to trade places with them? I don't think so.

Whatever darkness you are facing this Christmas is your reality. Seeing the hurts of others doesn't make your troubles go away. However, if you can be thankful for the life you have,

then maybe Christmas will take on a whole new light.

Look to the most special gift of all this Christmas – the baby in the manger. Shepherds raced to see the baby just as the angels said they would. Wise men came from the east and worshipped him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Mary and Joseph did the best they could as peasant parents of a new baby boy.

Keep the scripture of Isaiah 9:6 handy this Christmas. "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on His shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

May His peace comfort your heart and be your light and strength through this season and every day to come.

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.

NEWS IN BRIEF

BPDA BOARD APPROVES REDEVELOPMENT OF BFIT CAMPUS IN SOUTH END

At its monthly meeting on Thursday, Dec. 15, which was held virtually, the Boston Planning & Development Agency approved the proposed redevelopment of the Benjamin Franklin Institute of Technology (BFIT) campus in the South End.

Boston-based developer Related Beal is proposing a project for 41 Berkeley St. comprising three components: a 193-unit senior care facility, which would be operated by a national provider, Atria Senior Living, Inc; the adaptive reuse of the Franklin Union building into condominiums; and the renovation and expansion of 4 Appleton St. into approximately 13,950 square feet of income-restricted, age-restricted residential use, as well as

11,550 square feet of retail space, which includes 3,450 square feet of non-profit affordable community space.

BFIR intends to relocate to its new campus now under construction in Roxbury's Nubian Square.

MBTA RECEIVING MORE THAN \$66 MILLION FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO SYMPHONY STATION

The MBTA will receive \$66.6 million to make Symphony station on the E branch of the Green line fully accessible, officials announced on Monday, Dec. 19.

Improvements to the 80-year-old station will include raised platforms for easier boarding, four new elevators, accessible bathrooms, improved lighting, and new signage.

Funding for the project, which

is expected to get underway in 2024, comes via the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration, which has announced 15 grants in nine states, totaling \$686 million.

FRIDAY IS DEADLINE TO START COVERAGE THROUGH THE HEALTH CONNECTOR

The deadline for Massachusetts residents to start the New Year with health coverage is looming, with Friday, Dec. 23 being the last day to enroll with Massachusetts Health Connector, for coverage starting in January.

The Health Connector's Open Enrollment runs through Jan. 23, 2023, but the busiest deadline annually is the December date leading to January coverage. Residents who need coverage can go to MAhealthconnector.org to sign up or find local help with an

application.

"Massachusetts continues to lead the nation in coverage, with more than 97 percent of the state having health insurance, but there are still people who need access," says Louis Gutierrez, the Executive Director of the Massachusetts Health Connector. "Getting coverage through the Health Connector means having the peace of mind that comes with being able to see a doctor when needed, as well as getting access to free preventive health care and other services."

Residents can get an estimate for health plan costs in two minutes or less by visiting the Health Connector's online Get an Estimate tool. For those looking for one-on-one assistance with an application, there are 19 Navigator organizations in more than 30 locations that have trained, experienced people available to help complete an application and pick a plan. People with questions or

need assistance can also use the Health Connector's new online chat service, or call customer service at 888-MA-ENROLL if they need additional help.

The Health Connector makes health insurance and services more affordable by offering help paying for monthly subsidies, including through the ConnectorCare program that includes premiums as low as \$0, low co-pays, and no deductibles; as well as extended federal Advance Premium Tax Credits that can help pay for thousands of dollars of premiums a year.

The majority of people who apply for health coverage through the Health Connector will qualify for help lowering their health care costs. Also, new for ConnectorCare members in 2023 are \$0 co-pays for a number of important medications for chronic conditions, like diabetes, asthma, coronary artery disease and hypertension.

CLEANERS (from pg. 1)

fixture at the Newbury Street location. She began working for Bush Quality Cleaners in 1996 and stayed there until she moved to North Carolina in 2006.

When she returned to Boston in 2011, Rodriguez went back to work at the drycleaners on Newbury Street. She stayed at the job for around two years until she bought the shoe-repair business two years later. (For the first six months she owned Newbury Shoe Repair, she worked both there and at the drycleaners.)

Bush Boston Cleaners, along with Newbury Shoe Repair, closed on Oct. 31 as the drycleaners transitioned to offering only home delivery.

Rodriguez, who had built up a loyal clientele with her shoe-repair business, saw this as an opportunity, but she also knew she wouldn't be able to pay the rent with the income from her existing business alone.

As a result, Newbury Cleaners now provides dry-cleaning; shirt laundry; wash, dry, and fold; tailoring; and leather care, in addition to a full line of shoe-repair services, including heels (protector soles, red bottom), full soles (rubber and leather), and sneaker cleaning and conditioning. (The business doesn't currently offer any delivery services, however.)

And like Newbury Shoe Repair before it, Newbury

Cleaners also offers belt sizing and handbag repairs, as well as on-site key duplication.

"In a way, we've grown with our customers," said Rodriguez.

Rodriguez's nephew, Jhony Urbina, has returned to help out with shoe repairs, and her daughter,

Stephani Villalobos, will also be coming in to lend a hand on a part-time business.

Today, Rodriguez is pleased to not only welcome back her returning customers, but also to meet some new ones.

"No one is too big or too

small," said Rodriguez. "We're just here to help."

Newbury Cleaners is located at 219 Newbury St. in the Back Bay. The hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 857-303-6683 for more information.



Virtual Public Meeting

P12C Community Visioning Meeting

January 4, 2023

6:00 - 7:30 PM

Zoom Link: bostonplans.org/P12C

Toll Free: (833) 568 - 8864

Meeting ID: 160 576 0636



Project Description:

波士顿规划与发展局 (BPDA) 将于 2023 年 1 月 4 日晚 6:00 举办虚拟社区会议, 欢迎您参加。会上将讨论波士顿唐人街附近 P12C 地块 (290 Tremont St) 的重建工程。唐人街居民协会将以其每月例会的形式主办 BPDA 的本次会议, 并向公众开放。本次会议的目的是提出有关本地未来开发的潜在想法, 以征求社区反馈。请在此网站查找活动的详情和 Zoom 会议信息: bostonplans.org/P12C 如果您有任何问题或疑虑, 请联系 Natalie Deduck, 电子邮件为: Natalie.Deduck@boston.gov。我们希望在会议上见到您! 请在 2023 年 1 月 4 日下午 6 点参加波士顿规划与发展局 (BPDA) 的远程社区会议, 讨论波士顿唐人街附近 P12C 地块 (290 Tremont St) 的重建问题。唐人街居民协会将在他们的每月例会上邀请 BPDA, 该会议完全对公众开放。会议的目的是提出有关该场地未来发展的潜在想法, 让社区提供反馈。有关本活动和 zoom 的详情请见: bostonplans.org/P12C 如果您有任何疑问或顾虑, 请与 Natalie Deduck 联络: Natalie.Deduck@boston.gov。我们欢迎您参加!

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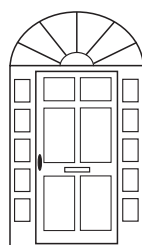
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Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

Wu announces partnership with NEC, looks to expand musical education for Boston students

Special to the Sun

Mayor Michelle Wu announced on Monday, Dec. 19, a partnership with New England Conservatory (NEC) to substantially increase access to high-quality music education for children, according to a press release.

The initiative, funded by a \$14.5 million grant secured by NEC, is a significant expansion of resources to provide young people music education that is instrumental to their academic growth, especially students who don't typically have access to arts opportunities. The Mayor made the announcement alongside Boston Public Schools Superintendent Mary Skipper at the Ellis Early Learning Center in the South End. "Performing arts are a crucial pillar of growth for our young people, an outlet for individual expression and community building," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "I'm so grateful to NEC for providing both the funds and the professional expertise to help Boston's young people explore new talents. This program will deliver music instruction and instruments to our students that will make a difference in their lives long after their school days end."

"New England Conservatory's commitment will change lives across the City," said Boston Public Schools Superintendent Mary Skipper. "We're incredibly grateful to Mayor Wu, NEC and our entire village for helping our youngest students experience the joy of music education." "This extraordinary generosity will

change music education for the better in this City," said Boston School Committee Chairperson Jeri Robinson. "This partnership with the City will fuel students' musical dreams and give them the opportunity to follow their passion, wherever it might lead them."

"Music education is transformational for children, and supports their holistic learning—enhancing cognitive skills, activating creativity, and fostering connection, engagement, and confidence. Increasing equitable access to music education for students in the City of Boston will create new learning opportunities that we are excited to offer," said NEC President Andrea Kalyn. "We look forward to providing music education to Boston students from their earliest-years through graduation and beyond."

The partnership will start by expanding offerings for Pre-K through early elementary school students and increasing scholarships to NEC Prep by 150 percent. The pilot program to increase access to early music education will begin in the Ellis Early Learning and ABCD Head Start program. The new pilot will include: new courses through NEC Prep that establish a strong foundation in music for young learners; financial aid to remove barriers for students across the City; access to instruments that students can use at no-cost or borrow rent-free; and NEC Prep faculty and staff support to foster the program, including a new early childhood director and professional training for faculty



SAMUEL WILLIAMS, NINE ACRE PHOTO

Pictured, left to right, are Boston Public Schools Superintendent Mary Skipper, ABCD President/CEO Sharon Scott-Chandler, Mayor Michelle Wu, New England Conservatory President Andrea Kalyn, Boston School Committee Chairperson Jeri Robinson, Ellis Early Learning Center CEO Lauren Cook, and Ellis students.

working with students Boston Public Schools has expanded music education specifically with the addition of the MassCore graduation requirement.

This gift will create more access and opportunity for students across the City. These expanded NEC Prep scholarships will be offered starting for Fall 2023, and interested students and families can sign up for more information at www.necmusic.edu/prep/resources.

"Ellis Early Learning Center is thrilled and deeply grateful to be part of this exciting program with the City of Boston and the New England Conservatory," said Lauren Cook, CEO of Ellis Early Learning Center. "This extraordinary music partnership will bring high-quality, developmentally appropriate, consistent music programming to our City's youngest learners."

"Studies show that consistent exposure to music through learning to play a musical instrument or taking voice lessons strengthens critical academic and social-emotional skills in all children, including preschoolers," said ABCD President and CEO Sharon Scott-Chandler. "We are delighted that the New England Conservatory of Music will bring its expertise and its humanity to ABCD Head Start, a very special early education program that offers comprehensive services to Boston's under-resourced children and families."

NEC has extensive experience developing high-quality musical

programming for musically interested students. NEC Preparatory School (NEC Prep) provides more than 1,600 students across New England, from beginners to advanced young musicians, with lessons, classes, and ensembles every week. It is one of the largest preparatory programs of its kind in the nation.

This work adds another dimension to NEC's relationship with the City of Boston and builds upon the successful NEC Community Performances and Partnerships (CPP) Program, one of the premier programs in the nation for engaging conservatory students with their community through meaningful partnership activities and high-quality training. CPP interacts with close to 21,000 people through over 600 events annually across ages, neighborhoods, ethnicities, and financial status in Boston and

beyond. This announcement builds on Mayor Wu's commitment to supporting early education and investing in Boston's youngest residents.

In November, Mayor Wu announced the recipients of grants totaling \$7,000,000 in ARPA funding, designed to address early childhood workforce challenges as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Also in November, Mayor Wu announced another allocation of APRA funds to support child care centers providing early childhood programming to essential workers working non-traditional hours, support child care workers by providing them immediate compensation relief, and provide training and technical assistance to child care centers. Recipients of this assistance included ABCD and Ellis Early Learning Center.

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YOUNG FRIENDS SUPPORT PARKS AT ANNUAL WINTER PARTY



Photos courtesy Hurley Event Photography

Over 125 Young Friends and the young at heart came out to celebrate and support the parks this past Friday (Dec. 9) at the fourth Annual Winter Party.

Attendees were dressed to dazzle, and conversation definitely sparkled all night, highlighted by the annual raffle with the traditional "arm's length" ticket sales. People enjoyed the music and the food, merriment and mingling,



all to raise funds for the Common, Garden and Mall.



McKEVITZ (from pg. 1)

in the Friends' tree, shrub, turf, and soils programs; sculpture conservation; capital projects; and special projects. Rebecca will also work closely with the City of Boston and other external partners on key initiatives,

including the advancement of the recently launched Boston Common Master Plan that aims at prioritizing accessibility, resiliency, and inclusivity while also honoring the park's history and operational needs.

"Rebecca's addition to our capital projects and parks care teams comes at a critical time for the organization, the three parks, and the people they serve," Liz Vizza, President of the Friends of the Public Garden, said in a press release. "From a unified vision for the Boston Common to evolve to meet the needs of Boston's residents and visitors to the continued care and renewal of the Commonwealth Avenue Mall and the Public Garden, Rebecca's expertise will be critical in achieving that. We're thrilled to have her on board and welcome a new Friend."

Rebecca attended Ball State University, where she received a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture. From overseeing and managing capital projects to advancing all aspects of public space design while engaging with physical, economic, and social factors impacting the urban envi-

ronment, Rebecca has supported several institutions in carrying out their mission. Most recently, Rebecca served as a public space planner for the City of Somerville. Prior to that, as a capital projects manager for the Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Greenway Conservancy, Rebecca oversaw procurement for and management of capital repair projects.

"Supporting organizations that improve Boston aesthetically, economically, socially, and infrastructurally has been at the core of my work throughout my career," Rebecca McKevitt said in a press release. "I am delighted to join the Friends of the Public Garden at this critical moment for the three parks and excited to help drive the new vision for the Boston Common. It's a privilege to connect people with parks and parks with people while uplifting the horticultural and structural elements that make these parks unique, historically rich, and accessible for all."

To learn more about the Friends of the Public Garden and their parks care program visit www.friendsofthepublicgarden.org.



COURTESY OF THE FRIENDS OF THE PUBLIC GARDEN

Rebecca McKevitt, the newly named Director of Capital Projects and Parks Care for the Friends of the Public Garden.

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DELUCA'S MARKET

HOLIDAY HOURS

12/24 - 9AM-6PM
CHRISTMAS EVE

12/25 - 9AM - 5PM
CHRISTMAS DAY

12/26 - 8:30AM-8:30PM
BOXING DAY

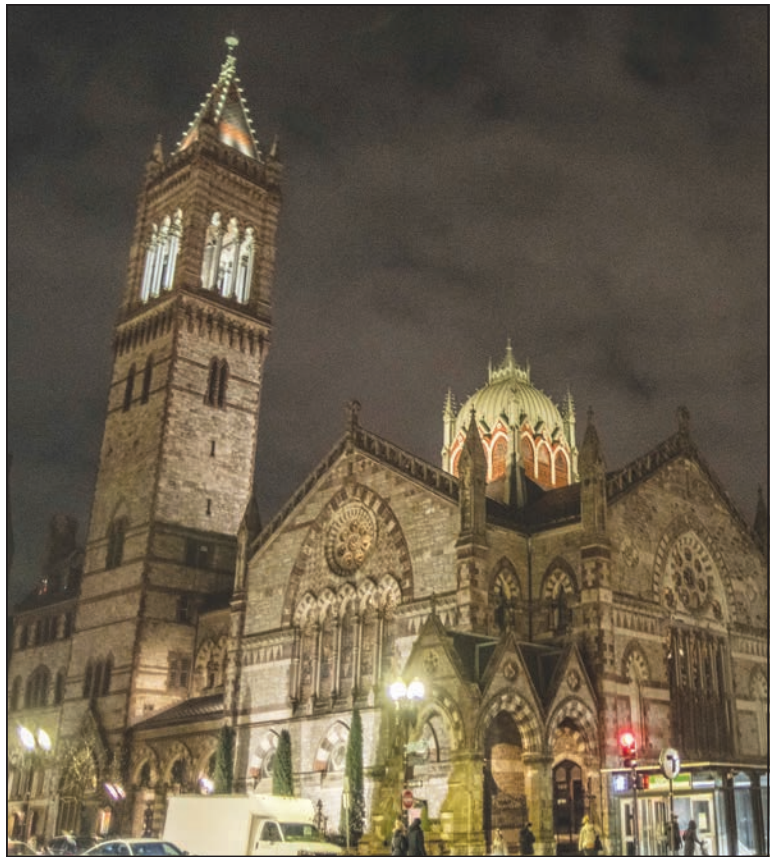
11 CHARLES ST

‘A BOSTON CHRISTMAS’ SERIES AT OLD SOUTH CHURCH

Photos by Derek Kouyoumjian

A Boston Christmas was a series of two performances by the Back Bay Chorale of Christmas carols and music at Boston's

historic Old South Church on the weekend before Christmas. It was a spectacular venue to house the force of sound coming from talented voices in unison.



The Old South Church in Copley Square.



The Back Bay Chorale performed in front of a full house at Old South Church on Saturday, Dec. 17.



Conductor Jonathan Mott.



Chorister Joseph Reid, who had just rolled in from visiting family in Scotland with fellow chorister Jayson Madara.



Vocal soloist Nicole Werther sings “Glory Glory Glory To The Newborn King.”



Vocal solist Maya Bloom sings “O Holy Night.”



The Old South Church was a respectful venue that provided acoustic and environmental qualities to attending a concert of Christmas carols.

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CANDLELIGHT CAROLS AT TRINITY CHURCH



Parishioners join in singing "The First Noel."



The Trinity Church Choir sings O Come All Ye Faithful.



The Trinity Church Choir provided a serene presence to the sons of Christmas celebration.



Erin Matthews breaks out with a vocal accent to Have You Seen The Baby Jesus



The Trinity Church Choir sings Have You Seen The Baby Jesus by Rosephayne Powell.

Photos by Derek Kouyoumjian

Candlelight Carols is a tradition in Boston since 1909 held at Trinity Church. Carols sung by the church's choir were interwoven with Scripture readings providing a unique experience of ceremony and celebration.



Trinity Church in Copley Square



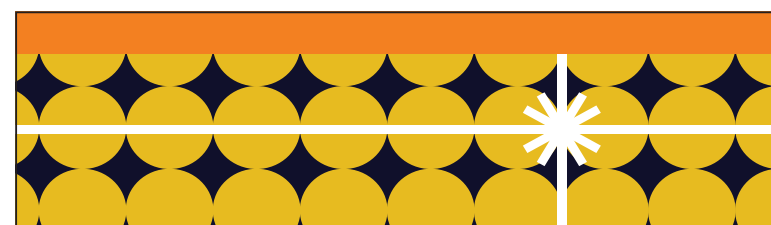
Choir members sing "The First Noel."



Choir men's sing in the candlelight ambience of historic Trinity Church.



Conductor Colin Lynch leads the Choir in O Little Town Of Bethlehem.



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CITY of BOSTON

BOSTON COMMON TREE LIGHTING



PHOTO BY JON SEAMANS

Brighton and Fenway residents Grace Sullivan, Lucy Brown, and Amanda Mosher await the start of the 81st Annual Boston Common Tree Lighting on December 1. Mayor Michelle Wu and Nova Scotia Premier Tim Houston welcomed thousands of revelers to the event marking the 51st year that Nova Scotia has given a tree to the people of Boston as thanks for relief efforts following the December 6, 1917, explosion of a munitions ship in Halifax Harbor. The official holiday season kick-off in Boston included the lighting of the City of Boston's official Christmas tree, a 45-foot white spruce donated by landowner Roddy Townsend of Christmas Island, and other trees throughout Boston Common and the Public Garden.

DELUCA'S MARKET

HOLIDAY

HOURS

12/30 - 9AM-9PM
NEW YEAR'S EVE

1/1 - 9AM-5PM
NEW YEAR'S DAY

BEACON HILL & BACK BAY

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE
Notice of Self Storage Sale
Please take notice Prime
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the description of the contents
are household goods and
furnishings. Joseph Stowers
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unit #3044; Will Whitson unit
#3155; Mustafa Mussa unit
#3304; Michael J Cimmino

unit #4032; Kenneth Fluker
unit #4191. All property is
being stored at the above
self-storage facility. This sale
may be withdrawn at any time
without notice. Certain terms
and conditions apply. See
manager for details.
12/22/22, 12/29/22
BS

The Garden Club of the Back Bay welcomes back 'Wreath Week' in 2022

Special to the Sun

Volunteers from the Garden Club of the Back Bay successfully completed their 2022 Wreath Week after a two-year hiatus.

The joyful event served as a welcoming activity for new members and a reunion for members who traveled from New York, Connecticut, Cape Cod and New Hampshire to help with the fundraiser that has been a wonderful Garden Club tradition.

The event was co-chaired by Francine Crawford, Margaret Pokorny and Catherine Bordon.

Proceeds from the sale of the wreaths support the Club's efforts to care for the street trees of the Back Bay.



Co-Chair Catherine Bordon with members Linda Zukowski and Fran Duffly.

Those interested in being on the club's mailing list for 2023 can reach out to the club at info@gardenclubbackbay.org.



Members Katie Denitto, Kelly Pieper, Laurie Thomas, Jackie Blombach, Wendy Oleksiak, Kim Buttolph and Elizabeth Angelino



Members Gudi Seward and Stephanie Fletcher.



Many of the wreaths made by the Garden Club of the Back Bay

LIBRARY (from pg. 1)

location in the South End.

Either a modular unit or a bookmobile could be located on the grounds of the South End Branch Library to deliver services, including book pickup and returns, Story Time, and computer services with WiFi, respondents said. The bookmobile would have an added advan-

tage over a modular unit, however, since a bookmobile could be used at other branch locations as needed.

"FOSEL encourages BPL and the City to expand temporary services to all Library Branches when they experience closures," Jarreau wrote. "This will increase the value of our Public

Library to the citizens of the City as well as more fully support the Library's mission."

The South End Branch Library will be closed for the foreseeable future, following a major flood there in late April.

In the meantime, the BPL has committed to offering temporary library services and programming in the community.

Wu announces reappointments to Boston School Committee

Special to the Sun

Mayor Michelle Wu last week announced the reappointment of Jeri Robinson, currently the Chairperson, and Quoc Tran to four-year terms on the Boston School Committee. The Boston School Committee is the governing body of Boston Public Schools.

"I'm proud to reappoint Chairperson Jeri Robinson and Quoc Tran back to the Boston School Committee, to continue the groundwork we've started to enhance the learning experience and school infrastructure for our children and families," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "Both Jeri and Quoc are champions for all our students and school staff, and they're committed to digging in and making the systemic changes our communities need. I want to thank them both for their leadership and look forward to continuing our work together."

"I'm honored to continue my life's work of preparing children for a bright future," said School Committee Chairperson Jeri Robinson. "Boston Public Schools has entered a new era, and I'm excited as ever to work alongside my fellow Committee members and BPS administration to deliver the world-class education students, staff and families deserve."

"The experience I gained as a Boston Public Schools parent and teacher helped me serve effectively in my first term," said Boston School Committee member Quoc Tran. "I'm grateful for the opportunity to carry on building a system that will nurture the next generation of City leaders and workers alike."

"Jeri Robinson's steady and reliable work as chairperson, and Quoc Tran's well-rounded perspective have made them trusted and valuable partners since I returned to Boston Public Schools," said Boston Public

Schools Superintendent Mary Skipper. "I'm thrilled they'll remain in place as we continue to improve facilities, foundations, and outcomes for students and families across the City."

Both Robinson and Tran's terms were set to expire in January of 2023.

The School Committee is responsible for:

- Defining the vision, mission, and goals of the Boston Public Schools;
- Establishing and monitoring the annual operating budget;
- Hiring, managing, and evaluating the Superintendent; and
- Setting and reviewing district policies and practices to support student achievement.

The School Committee meets approximately twice per month during the school year to adopt, review and modify policies and practices that support teaching, learning and improved student achievement. With the exception of executive sessions, Committee

meetings are open to the public, feature public comment periods, and are broadcast on Boston City TV.

Robinson, now retired, served as Vice President of Early Childhood Initiatives at the Boston Children's Museum. She brings more than 40 years of experience in teaching and consulting in the fields of early childhood and museum education. She is the developer of the PlaySpace exhibit—one of the earliest prototypes for early learning family spaces in children's and other museums—founder of the Boston Cultural Collaborative for Early Learning, and co-founder of both Families First Parenting programs and "Countdown to Kindergarten." For many years, she has provided training and consultation to schools, early child programs, museums, and other organizations.

Ms. Robinson is a proud graduate of Girls Latin School. She received her B.S., M.S. Ed. and an honorary Doctorate in Education from Wheelock College, and serves on numerous boards dealing with family, community, multicultural, and early childhood education issues. In recognition of her work, Ms. Robinson has received awards such as the Wheelock Centennial Award, the Boston Parents Paper Family Advocate Award, the Women

Who Care Award, and the Lucy Wheelock Award, was a 2004 participant in the Schott Fellowship in Early Care and Education. In 2005, she was named to the American Association of Museums, Centennial Honor Roll, in recognition of her contributions to the museum field in the past century and in 2010, was the recipient of the Abigail Elliot Award, given by BAEYC.

Tran is the parent of four BPS graduates. Prior to his retirement as secretariat deputy director of the Office of Diversity and Civil Rights at the Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services, he developed and implemented diversity and inclusion strategies for over 22,000 employees, and created diversity and affirmative action plans to retain a diverse workforce. Prior to this role, he was the executive director of the Vietnamese American Civic Association (VACA), where he managed all operations of the organization related to serving the social and public assistance needs of Vietnamese refugees and immigrants. Mr. Tran was a BPS high school teacher for six years. He holds a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering, a master's degree in education from Northeastern University, and a doctoral degree in law from Suffolk University.

Wu joined City officials to discuss winter preparations currently underway

Special to the Sun

Mayor Michelle Wu joined City officials at the Public Works yard on Frontage Road to discuss winter preparations currently underway in the City of Boston, and resources to offset rising utility costs available to residents, including older adults and individuals experiencing homelessness. This year, three minority-owned businesses (MBEs) and or women-owned businesses (WBEs) were awarded contracts for the clearing, plowing, and salting of staircases and footpaths across the City.

"From the tools to clear snow from our City streets, to resources to help residents save on their electric bills - Boston stands ready for winter weather," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "This year we're also proud that several of our snow removal contracts are also investing directly in our local communities. I encourage residents to get ready, check our snow clearing regulations, and check in on neighbors."

The Public Works Department (PWD) currently has 40,000 tons of salt on-hand to treat City streets. Along with 170 pieces of

in-house snow clearing equipment, the PWD has the capability to place over 800 additional pieces on the roads during larger storms. As part of their neighborhood plowing operations during winter storms and to ensure the safety of riders following events, PWD allocates pieces of equipment to clear snow from Boston's dedicated bike lanes.

This year three companies owned by women or people of color were awarded snow removal contracts, with two of those contracts being part of the City of Boston's Sheltered Market Program to advance equity in procurement with direct outreach support from the Department of Supplier and Workforce Diversity. To assist the Public Works Department during snow and ice control operations, bids were issued to clear, plow, and treat staircases and footpaths across the City of Boston before, during, and after inclement weather events.

These one-year contracts were divided into five separate zones and awarded to Casablanca Services Inc. (two zones), NS Contracting (two zones), and A & M Home Services (one zone). Both

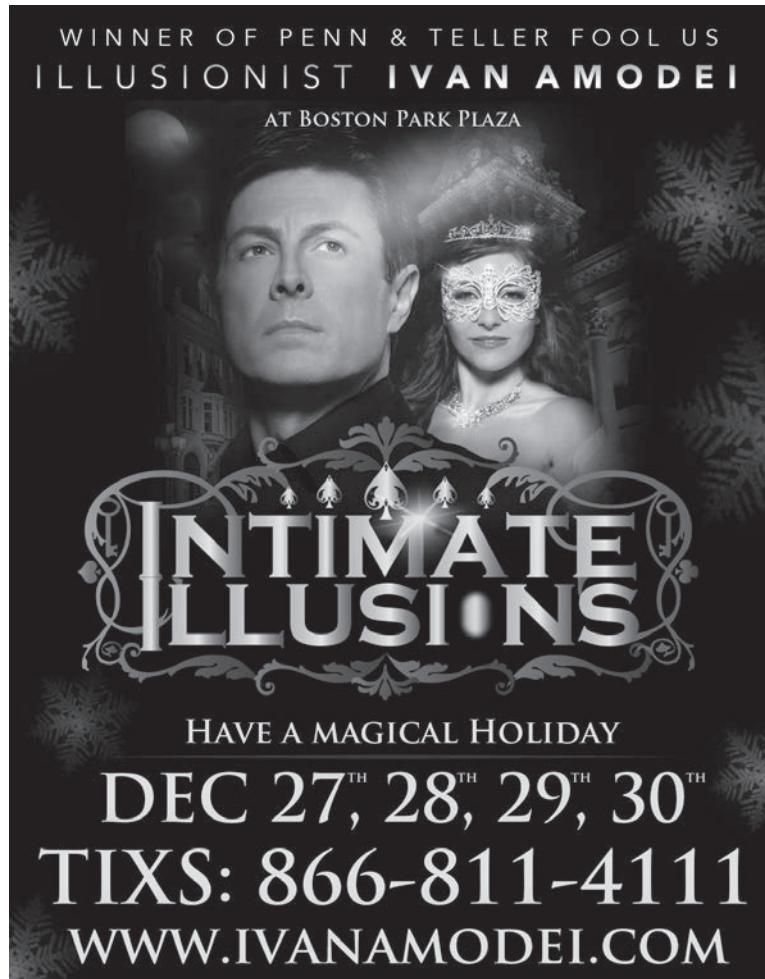
Casablanca Services and A & M Home Services are owned by people of color, while NS Contracting is both minority and women-owned. A & M is based in Dorchester and NS Contracting in Roxbury.

The Office of Emergency Management (OEM) monitors forecasts and maintains open lines of communication with the National Weather Service. OEM also works across City departments and with external partners to ensure coordinated response plans are in place. Residents can sign up to receive AlertBoston notifications by phone, text, or email in the event a snow emergency/parking ban is declared.

As temperatures drop and utility costs are expected to rise, Mayor Wu is reminding residents, small businesses, and local organizations to opt in to Boston Community Choice Electricity (BCCCE). This City-run program gives residents three options for electricity pricing and renewable energy. Even on the most expensive 100% renewable option, the average residential customer would save over \$70 versus

(WINTER WEATHER Pg. 10)

WINNER OF PENN & TELLER FOOL US
ILLUSIONIST **IVAN AMODEI**
AT BOSTON PARK PLAZA



INTIMATE ILLUSIONS

HAVE A MAGICAL HOLIDAY
DEC 27TH, 28TH, 29TH, 30TH
TIKS: 866-811-4111
WWW.IVANAMODEI.COM

WINTER WEATHER (from pg. 9)

Eversource's upcoming/winter 2023 Basic Service rate. On the cheapest BCCE plan (20% renewable energy currently, 22% starting January 2023) the average residential consumer would save nearly \$90/month. Individuals interested in learning more should visit Boston.gov/BCCE to opt in, opt up, or opt out at any time.

Rules on clearing snow:

- Property owners must fully clear snow, sleet and ice from sidewalks and curb ramps abutting the property within three hours after the snowfall ends or three hours after sunrise if the snow ends overnight. Curb and pedestrian ramps to the street should be cleared fully and continually over the duration of the storm to ensure accessibility for individuals with disabilities. If a storm will last over an extended period of time, property owners are asked to continually check ramps abutting their property for compliance.

- Removal of snow, ice from a private property to the street or sidewalk is prohibited.

- Failure to comply with the rules can result in fines issued by PWD's Code Enforcement Division. Fines associated with improper removal of snow can be found here.

Parking during a declared snow emergency:

- If a snow emergency is declared, cars will be ticketed and towed if parked on a posted snow emergency artery.

- Space savers must be removed within 48 hours after a snow emergency has been lifted.

ed. Please note: space savers are NOT allowed in the South End and Bay Village.

- During declared snow emergencies, discounted parking is available at some parking lots and garages for Boston residents. A list of discounted parking garages can be found here.

Trash and recycling:

- During severe snowstorms, recycling and trash collection may be canceled, but this is extremely rare. Most often, severe snowstorms can cause delays in service. To view your neighborhood recycling and trash schedule, locate a textile dropbox in your neighborhood, and to find out what items you CAN and CAN'T recycle, download our free Trash Day App.

- Crews have a difficult time reaching trash barrels and recycling carts placed behind snowbanks. Please clear an area at the curb for collection or place containers next to or in front of snowbanks.

Caring for vulnerable populations:

- If you see homeless and vulnerable individuals out in the cold who appear immobile, disoriented or underdressed for the cold, please call 911.

- The Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) utilizes a city-wide network of emergency shelters, outreach providers, city agencies and first responders to assist those in need of shelter.

- Boston's emergency shelters are open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and amnesty is in place for those with nonviolent restrictions. Men can access shelter

at the 112 Southampton Street Shelter, and women should go to the Woods-Mullen Shelter at 794 Massachusetts Ave. BPHC and the City work closely with shelter providers in the city to ensure that no client is without shelter, food, resources, and a warm respite from the cold.

- From Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m.- 9:00 p.m., please call 617-534-4440 to facilitate access to shelters. Outside of these hours, guests should access shelter directly.

- During extreme cold weather, street outreach teams operate with extended hours and provide mobile outreach vans on the streets in the evening and throughout the day.

Safety tips:

- If you are able, keep catch basins and fire hydrants clear of snow and debris. This will help prevent flooding and allow for access in the event of an emergency. For a map of catch basins and fire hydrants, visit here.

- Shoveling snow requires significant exertion; please be cautious and pay attention to symptoms. Stop if you feel chest pain, shortness of breath, lightheaded, nauseous/vomiting. Call 911 if those symptoms do not resolve quickly.

- Snow piles can make navigating intersections dangerous for walkers and drivers. Please take extra care when turning corners with snow piles that might limit visibility.

- Carbon monoxide poisoning is a concern during winter weather, especially with the use of generators. Residents should use their home heating systems wisely

and safely, and have a working carbon monoxide detector on each floor of the home. Call 911 immediately if you suspect carbon monoxide poisoning.

- Sitting in a car while idling can be deadly if the tailpipe is blocked. Do not let children sit in an idling car while shoveling. Clear any household exhaust pipes of snow.

- Have a contractor check the roof to see if snow needs to be removed. If roof snow can be removed from the ground with the use of a snow-rake, do so with caution. Avoid working from ladders and be mindful of slippery surfaces.

Dress for the weather:

- Wear several layers of loose-fitting, lightweight, warm clothing rather than one layer of heavy clothing.

- Outer garments should be tightly woven and water repellent.

- Always wear a hat and cover your mouth with a scarf to protect your lungs.

- Dress children warmly and set reasonable time limits on outdoor play.

- Restrict infants' outdoor exposure when it is colder than 40 degrees Fahrenheit.

Watch for signs of frostbite:

- Signs of frostbite include loss of feeling and white or pale appearance in extremities such as fingers, toes, ear lobes, and the tip of the nose. If symptoms are detected, get medical help immediately.

Watch for signs of hypothermia:

- These include uncontrollable shivering, memory loss, disorientation, incoherence, slurred speech, drowsiness and apparent exhaustion. If you or someone you know shows any of these symptoms, get in touch with a healthcare provider immediately. If symptoms are severe, call 911.

Heating guidelines for property owners and tenants:

- In accordance with the Massachusetts State Sanitary Code, the heating season officially begins on September 15 and runs through June 15. Property owners must heat habitable spaces at a minimum temperature of 68° between 7:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. and 64° between 11:01 p.m. and 6:59 a.m.

- In cases of emergency, property owners are encouraged to keep a list of licensed contractors (electrician, plumber and gen-

eral contractor) on file. Tenants experiencing problems with their heating system should check the thermostat, ensure the dial is turned on, and report insufficient or no heat problems to the property owner or manager immediately.

- If your landlord or property manager is unresponsive, contact the Inspectional Services Department (ISD) at (617) 635-5300 to file a complaint, or call 311.

Heating safety:

- Never try to heat your home using a charcoal or gas grill, the kitchen stove, or other product not specifically designed as a heater. These can cause a fire or produce dangerous levels of carbon monoxide very quickly.

- Have your heating system cleaned and checked annually.

- Make sure all vents are clear of snow or any other debris.

- Install and maintain smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors on every level of your home. Carbon monoxide is an invisible gas produced whenever any fuel is burned. Common sources include oil or gas furnaces, water heaters, fireplaces, stoves, and some space heaters. It has no smell, taste, or color. It is a poison and is deadly.

Tips to keep water flowing and pipes unfrozen during extreme cold:

- The Boston Water and Sewer Commission recommends homeowners locate a home's main water shut off valve, and learn how to use it. Should a frozen pipe burst, shutting the main valve quickly will minimize flooding and property damage.

- Homeowners should insulate pipes in unheated areas like basements, garages and crawl spaces. Use inexpensive hardware store materials to prevent pipes from freezing and to keep warm water flowing.

- Circulate warm air around pipes by keeping cabinet doors open. Circulate a trickle of tap water through pipes during extreme cold to help prevent them freezing up.

- Locate your water meter, protect it from drafts, and make sure basement doors and windows are shut tight.

- If pipes do freeze, slow thaw with a hair dryer. Never use an open flame to thaw pipes. If water is lost in all taps, call BWSC 24-hour Emergency Assistance Line at 617-989-7000.



Mayor Michelle Wu (center) joined City officials at the Public Works yard on to discuss winter preparations currently underway in the City of Boston.

Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1 BACK BAY	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
Yee, Alan H	Caraballo, Roxana M	169 Beacon St #B4	\$640,000
Underwood, Patricia	Oconnor, Susan M	271 Beacon St #1	\$518,000
302 Beacon Street NT	William R Vanarsdale LT	302 Beacon St #GDN	\$6,225,000
302 Beacon Street NT	Reed Robin E Est	302 Beacon St #PH	\$3,200,000
BJ N Cnty Medical Dental	Amin, Seema	56 Clarendon St #1	\$1,075,000
Commonwealth 115 LLC	Atchinson, Robert	115 Commonwealth Ave	\$19,800,000
Zide, Erin	Zaanoni, Hector	636-638 Beacon St #502	\$530,000
Yideben Realty LLC	Wang, Xin	857 Beacon St #52	\$537,500
Yee-Li, Elysia W	Lucas FT	4 Charlesgate E #701	\$1,150,000
Bartram, Allyson	Suzanne L Bandanza FT	333 Commonwealth Ave #3	\$1,820,000

BEACON HILL

Burns, Brett A	Brickman, Jason S	94 Beacon St #4	\$2,900,000
Walsh, Mark	29-31 Brimmer LLC	31 Brimmer St #4	\$2,100,000
Parkinson, Andrew R	Chen, Diana M	18 Hancock St #3	\$1,690,000
Yurrita, John	Jacobs, Robert	36 Myrtle St #1	\$595,000
J L Blotnick T 2006	Scott, Kenneth R	145 Pinckney St #712	\$645,000
Skomorowski, Christopher R	JDMD Owner LLC	45 Temple St #403	\$3,700,000

BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE

Marciano, Christopher J	Steven M Mennen RET	21 Appleton St #1	\$1,165,000
Nanda, Abita S	39 Appleton Street LLC	39 Appleton St	\$3,900,000
Flaherty, Colin	Mobilio, Julie	76 Appleton St #3	\$856,000
81 Gibson RT	Hanratty, Teresa A	81 Appleton St #3	\$1,935,000
Doig, Anne L	Thrasher, Monica B	150 Appleton St #3E	\$1,300,000
Andres Realty LLC	Eidemiller, Elise C	1 Charles St S #10H	\$2,075,000
Zeng, Kevin	FPG Lagrange Owner One	47-55 Lagrange St #2A	\$164,800
Li, Jack M	FPG Lagrange Owner One	47-55 Lagrange St #5A	\$164,800
Colon, Giselle	FPG Lagrange Owner One	47-55 Lagrange St #8D	\$314,000
Mei, Xuehua	FPG Lagrange Owner One	55 Lagrange St #1004	\$314,000
Lou, Xinhua	FPG Lagrange Owner One	55 Lagrange St #4F	\$615,000
Washington, Philip	FPG Lagrange Owner One	55 Lagrange St #503	\$795,000
Bai, Sha	FPG Lagrange Owner One	55 Lagrange St #709	\$800,000
Picarillo, David P	Mittleman, Robert S	29 Hanson St #1	\$1,330,000
Rothman, Richard	Ablon, Brooke W	14 Milford St #1	\$3,125,000
Hunt, Oliver B	Rubens, James I	47 Milford St #1	\$1,950,000
Wilson, Jody	Ellms, Alette E	673 Tremont St #3	\$699,000
Mullen, Brooke	Browne, Kristen A	90 Wareham St #404	\$349,209
AFC Watches LLC	KKH Boston LLC	333 Washington St #855B	\$662,000

WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN

Howard Property Group LLC	Paula Morse 2019 RET	2-1/2 Battery Wharf #4405	\$1,360,000
Dugan, John	Annette Smith 2012 IRT	80 Broad St #601	\$970,000
Minh-Vo, Jenny N	Swift, Parker	34 Clark St #2	\$700,000
Dooley, Allyson	Larosa, Charles	326-328 Commercial St #31	\$353,000
Larosa, Charles	357-5 Commercial Foti RT	357 Commercial St #5	\$540,000
Mills, Nicole	Dawson, Meagan	480 Commercial St #3B	\$593,000
Peal, Jill K	John B Shea 2014 RET	44 Commercial Wharf #44	\$980,000
Mt Unit 5503 Nominee RET	Mit RE Foundation Inc	1 Franklin St #5503	\$4,600,000
Rosenberg, Daniell E	Tse, Tai H	88 Kingston St #4D	\$642,500
Lai, Jesse D	Coughlin, Lisa M	210-216 Lincoln St #302	\$967,000

Attention to Detail

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY PENNY CHERUBINO

THIS WEEK'S ANSWER

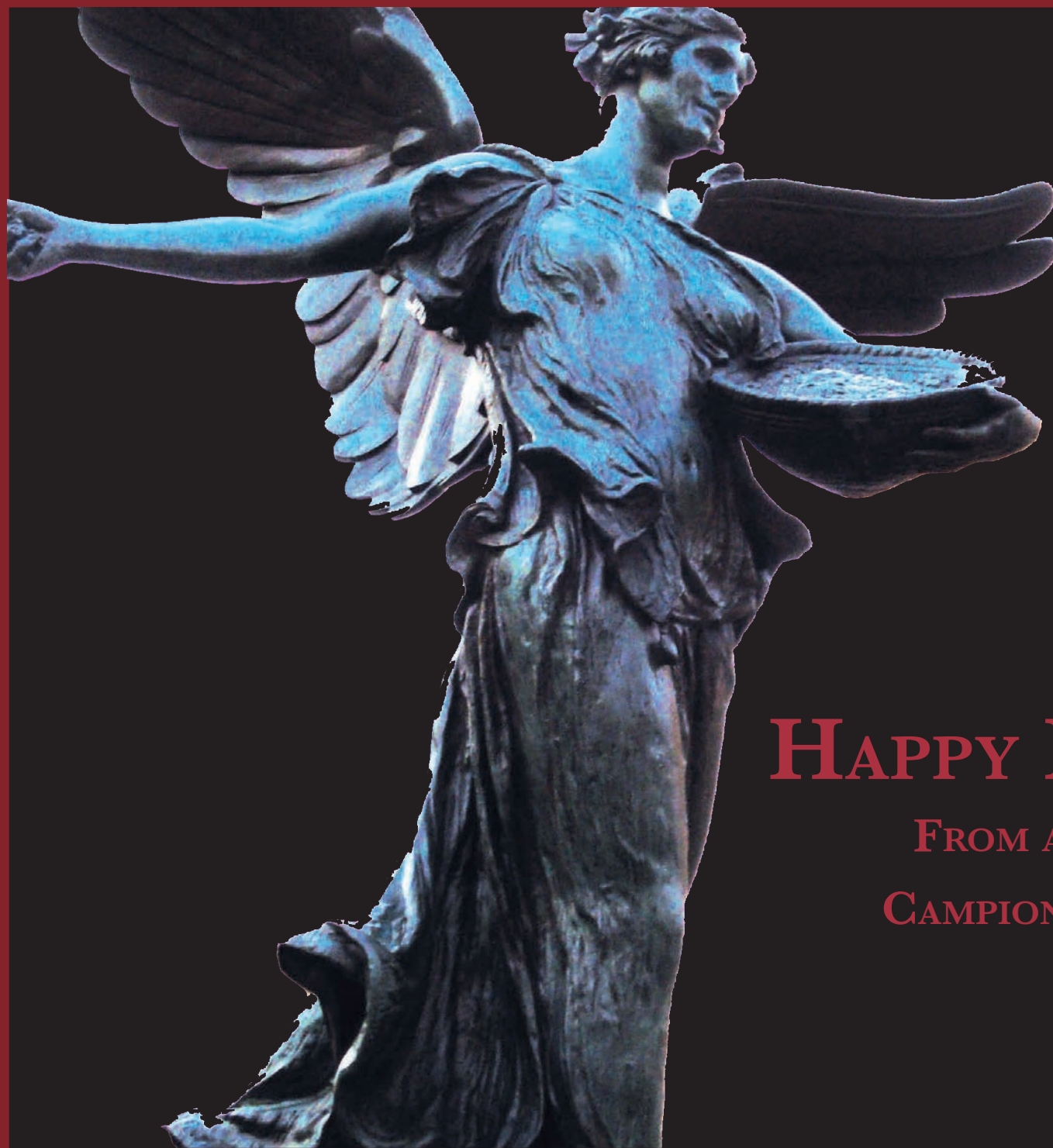


The windows in the last clue are on 700 Beacon Street. In 2015 Boston University purchased the property that formerly housed Lesley University's College of Art and Design. It was to be used for academic, instructional, office, studios, labs, and meeting spaces.

The next clue will be found 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





HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

FROM ALL OF US AT
CAMPION & COMPANY

TRACY CAMPION AND THE TEAM AT CAMPION AND COMPANY
OFFER OUR SINCEREST THANKS FOR ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR!
WE WISH YOU ALL A HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON AND LOOK FORWARD
TO WORKING WITH YOU IN 2023!

