



THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 2023

# THE BOSTON SUN

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## City holds second design meeting on proposed Back Bay Fens pathway improvements

By Dan Murphy

The city held its second design meeting virtually on Jan. 10 to discuss making proposed improvements to the Back Bay Fens pathways, including plans for the new Evans Way Bridge.

Lauren Bryant, project manager for the Boston Parks and Recreation Department, said the project began this summer and “will be looking holistically at pathways and connections of different park elements, but not necessarily at all the park elements themselves.”

Besides looking at accessibility at the pathway entrances and the “site amenities that touch the pathways,” the project will also take into account site furnishings like benches, trash receptacles, and lighting, as well as the health of trees along the pathways, added Bryant.

The project was originally just focused on the pathways themselves, she said, but its scope has since been expanded to include three additional items: the World War II Memorial, along with its paths and accessibility; the John Boyle O’Reilly Memorial; and the new Evans Way Bridge.

“The scope of work will review and amend pathways to improve: accessibility; desirability and uses; stormwater and runoff; materials; and pathway longevity,” said Bryant.

The current project reflects public comments made at the city’s first design meeting for the project held virtually last October, said Bryant, while feedback

from the second Jan. 10 meeting will be reflected in the conceptual design for the project.

Construction is expected to start this fall, said Bryant, and the estimated cost for the project was \$6.3 million before its scope was expanded to include the three additional items. The new items won’t necessarily be capitol funded but instead could be funded through possible grants from the city’s Community Preservation Act (CPA), the city’s George Robert White Fund, and the city’s Edward Ingersoll Browne Fund, she said.

Kyle Zick, a landscape architect for the project, said ownership of the site area is shared between the city and the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), so the project would require some collaboration between the city and state.

Zick and his staff have documented and collected data on the pathways, he said, while looking at their materials (e.g. asphalt, concrete, and woodchips); their condition; their width; and their slopes per ADA regulations.

Additionally, Zick and his staff have collected information on and photographed lighting and a wide range of site furnishings, including different types of trash receptacles and seating, among other items. Using this information, Zick and his team will create an inventory for replacing items, as well as to create some uniformity among the street furnishings in the park, he said.

(BACK BAY FENS Pg. 3)



COURTESY OF THE BOSTON PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

A rendering of the project proposed for 165 Park Drive in the Fenway.

## BPDA to hold virtual meeting on proposed 165 Park Drive project on Monday, Jan. 30

By Dan Murphy

The Boston Planning & Development Agency will hold a virtual public meeting on the residential project proposed for 165 Park Drive, adjacent to Holy Trinity Orthodox Cathedral in the Fenway, on Monday, Jan. 30, from 6 to 8 p.m.

Transom Real Estate intends to construct a pair of seven-story residential buildings in the

rear of the parking lot for the church at 165 Park Drive, across from the Back Bay Fens. Together, the buildings, which would each stand nearly 75 feet tall, will occupy around 117,559 square feet and include a total of 115 dwelling units.

The first building will contain 48 home-ownership units, all of which would be affordable, while the second unit will contain 67 market-rate apartments,

according to members of the project team on hand for the Jan. 5 virtual meeting of the city’s Impact Advisory Group (IAG) for the project.

The Jan. 30 public meeting was originally scheduled for Jan. 12.

For more information, visit <http://www.bostonplans.org/news-calendar/calendar/2023/01/30/165-park-drive-public-meeting>.

## BPDA and BTM announce findings of Copley Connect pilot program

Special to the Sun

The Boston Planning & Development Agency and Boston Transportation Department announced on Thursday, Jan. 19, the findings of the 2022 Copley Connect pilot program via the

launch of a storymap that details the data collected over 10 days last June.

Following the success of the pilot, transportation planners with the BPDA and BTM intend to study permanent improvements to Dartmouth Street

between the Boston Public Library and Copley Square Park that would improve the public realm between three of Boston’s most popular civic spaces and formally unify Copley Square, according to a press release from

(COPLEY CONNECT Pg. 6)

# EDITORIAL

## THE MAURA HEALEY ERA HAS BEGUN!

Governor Maura Healey wasted little time since her inauguration a few weeks ago in setting the pace for what we're sure will be an active -- and activist -- administration with her announcement last week that she will be filing her first two pieces of legislation, one of which is a \$987 million "immediate needs" bond bill targeting housing and economic development and another for an additional \$400 million for MassWorks that will make grants available to cities and towns for infrastructure projects.

Governor Healey, who highlighted economic development as a top priority during her campaign, said she filed the "immediate needs" bill "to ensure critical housing and economic development programs across the state can continue to serve people in Massachusetts without interruption."

The \$400 million for infrastructure will continue the funding stream for MassWorks, which was established in 2010, that will ensure that this key program will create essential infrastructure improvements in communities across our state,

In our view, Governor Healey's announcement represents a burst of energy that portends a refreshing change in the atmosphere on Beacon Hill.

To be sure, her predecessor, Charlie Baker, was the most popular governor in the country during his eight-year tenure. But it was clear that after two exhausting terms in office, Baker's enthusiasm for the job had waned -- which, by the way, is to be expected, especially after three years of battling a pandemic.

But beyond that, Healey represents a true changing of the guard in politics on Beacon Hill. For all of his progressive views, Charlie Baker was a straight, male Baby Boomer who, like all of us, was a product of his age and his times. There were some things he just could not accept, such as marijuana legalization and providing driver's licenses for non-citizens, that showed that he was out-of-step with the times.

By contrast, Maura Healey is a gay, female Gen Xer -- and accordingly will bring a perspective to the job of governor that will be based on her personal experience.

(We also would note that both Baker and Healey are Harvard graduates where they both played basketball, but Healey was the captain and a star player, whereas Baker was...not so much.)

Yes, the times they are a changin' -- and we're looking forward to the Maura Healey era in Massachusetts.

## JACINDA ARDERN: A TOTAL CLASS ACT

We wish to make note of the incredibly classy announcement last week by New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern, who told her country that she will be stepping down from the post after almost six years in office.

Ms. Ardern took over the job at the age of 37, making her at the time the youngest head of state in the world.

She admitted very forthrightly that she had "nothing left in the tank," and that she was shifting her focus in life to her family (she has a four year-old daughter.)

Jacinda Ardern epitomized the term "political courage." Her tenure will be remembered for her compassionate response to a massacre in a mosque in the nation's capital, Christchurch, and for her subsequent spearheading of a ban on assault weapons in that country. She also guided New Zealand through the worst of the COVID crisis with courage, determination, and competency that saw New Zealand ultimately have one of the lowest COVID mortality rates in the world.

Ms. Ardern will be missed on the world stage. We can only hope that political leaders in our country might learn from her example.

## EXTEND YOUR DRY JANUARY INTO FEBRUARY

Over the past few years, Dry January has become more and more popular. It is estimated that 15% of regular drinkers choose not to drink during the month as a means of detoxing their minds and bodies from the pernicious effects of alcohol.

Those who are nearing completion of their Dry January may want to consider a recent report from the Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction which stated:

"Research shows that no amount or kind of alcohol is good for your health. It doesn't matter what kind of alcohol it is -- wine, beer, cider or spirits. Drinking alcohol, even a small amount, is damaging to everyone, regardless of age, sex, gender, ethnicity, tolerance for alcohol or lifestyle."

The Canadian report confirms what scientific studies have been reporting for the past few years. The World Health Organization has labeled a Class 1 carcinogen, with even small amounts of alcohol linked to many cancers, particularly breast cancer in women.

Alcohol presently outranks drug abuse as a leading cause of death in our country, behind only heart disease and cancer. In addition, the direct cost to our health care system and the hidden toll on families and individuals from alcohol abuse far outweighs the damage to society caused by legal and illegal drugs.

If you've been able to complete a Dry January, then try to extend it for another month into a Dry February. Your mind and body will appreciate it.

## GUEST OP-ED

## Monterey Park, Evansville shootings, Hero Brandon Tsay, we need the news, good and bad

By Dr. Glenn Mollette

We like good news but typically the news is not good. Too often no news is good news. In reality, no news is bad news for us all.

There is lots of recent bad news. A crazed gunman entered a dance hall in Monterey Park, California killing 10 people and wounding many innocent people. A former employee walked into an Evansville, Indiana Walmart and shot an employee in the face in the store breakroom. The shooter was killed by local police. A planned protest in downtown Atlanta turned violent when protestors damaged stores and burned a police car over the weekend.

We did hear astonishing good news from Monterey Park. Brandon Tsay confronted the gunman at a second location where he was about to enter and kill more people. He heroically wrestled the gun away from the killer and pointed it at him causing the gunman to leave the scene. Only God knows how many lives Tsay saved. He is a true hero.

News is always happening nationally, locally and individually to us all. We need the information whether it's good or bad. We need the national and regional news but the local news is up front and close to us.

For example, all around us we are targets of scams, thieves and prowling bad people. Americans were scammed to the tune 5.8 billion dollars in 2021. (Digital Guardian). We are never beyond being duped. Today, daily text messages,

emails, phone calls and mail come to Americans phishing for a sucker who will buy the false story they are telling. They are good at what they do.

My son was away in a foreign country when I was duped out of \$350 years ago. The caller was very professional sounding and convincing. I believed that if I did not pay the money owed by my son it would negatively impact his career. This was at the beginning of the telephone scam industry and I paid him the money. Later I realized that I had been scammed.

Years ago, a dear friend received a telephone call from someone posing as an IRS agent. The scammer told the senior adult man that he owed \$45,000 in back taxes for various reasons. The friend was about 90 years old and living on a meager retirement income. He didn't realize he was being scammed, was overwhelmed with anxiety and killed himself.

"At every level of life there is a new devil," an old friend once said. At every stage of life there are new twists, turns and curves. We are never beyond being informed, learning and developing. Young people make mistakes but so do old people. We often think we've lived long enough and know most everything, but we don't. Most of us have become more aware of this problem but crooks work at catching people off guard and are constantly developing new schemes.

Today, we have search engines and are inundated with news and

(Op-Ed Pg. 3)

# THE BOSTON SUN

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## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### THE YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS

Dear Editor,

As the Chair of Public Health and Mental Health, the first Order I filed as a City Councilor was to address the youth mental health crisis in our City. As a Boston Public School teacher for over 20 years, and a mom for 33 years, I know first hand that the mental health challenges that our children were facing before the

pandemic were of great concern. The pandemic has only intensified these concerns as it continues to take an alarming toll on our children's mental health.

Our families, caregivers, schools, community centers, faith based organizations, health centers, and hospitals are caring for our young children with soaring rates of depression, anxiety, trauma, loneliness and suicidal ideations that will have lasting negative impacts on them, their

families and their communities. I will strive to move swiftly towards ensuring that every child has access to high-quality, affordable, and culturally competent mental health care.

Now, more than ever, with the rise of violence in our schools, our Boston Public Schools need a robust, equitable, and strong athletic program for our students. The physical benefits are just the beginning. Students participat-

ing in school teams are far more likely to have improved grades, report healthier social behavior, and reach higher academic and professional success after high school. Our students have the will, the talent, and the RIGHT to all the incredible, life-long benefits that school sports offer.

I will also continue to advocate for ALL our students to have access to quality before and after school programing. Effective

afterschool programs provide nurturing learning settings that bring a wide range of benefits to our children, families, and communities. When done right, they provide social, emotional, cognitive, and academic development, reduce risky behaviors, promote physical health, and provide a safe and supportive environment for children and youth.

**Erin Murphy, Boston City Councilor-at-Large**

### BACK BAY FENS (from pg. 1)

A land surveyor will also be contracted to study the site's topography, said Zick, as well as to determine the relative accessibility of the park's various features. An aerial study of the site was completed over the summer, he added, so its findings will be tied together with the findings from the topography study to create a unified study, which will hopefully be finished in time for the third design meeting for this project on Feb. 16.

Moreover, Zick and his staff completed a lighting assessment of the site over the summer, he said, although the lighting at the Victory Gardens has since been repaired and therefore wasn't reflected in the study.

The project will provide an opportunity to add benches along the Muddy River, as well as for new benches and perhaps a picnic table and drinking fountain in the Fenway Victory Gardens, said Zick.

Also, the project will allow for the addition of new trees and shrubs to the site and for the vegetation management of overgrown shrubs, added Zick.

With the World War II Memorial now included in the proj-

ect scope, there will also be an opportunity to conserve its existing bronze and repair the pavement at the location, said Zick.

The project will also look at the opportunity to add new bike racks, he said, while also examining how bikes circulate throughout the site.

Zick said he and his staff have also met with the Boston Parks Department maintenance staff to address their concerns regarding site maintenance, including snow removal and trash collection.

The alignment of some paths might need to be altered as part of the project, particularly closer to the Fenway, said Zick.

Rebuilding the Evans Way Bridge will reactivate a connection in the park that hasn't been used in nearly 50 years and likely have a significant impact on how the park is used in the future, said Zick, adding that the project team will be soliciting feedback on whether the bridge should accommodate pedestrians only, or whether it should accommodate both pedestrians and bicyclists instead. Either way, it's unlikely that the bridge would be wide enough to accommodate park vehicles or emergency vehi-

cles, he said.

Elena Saporta, another landscape architect on the project, said the new Evans Way Bridge will be funded in part through a \$650,000 CPA grant. The old bridge, which fell into disrepair and was disassembled in the late 1970s, measured 81 feet long and 10 feet wide. Concrete abutments from the old bridge are still in place, but it's unclear whether they can be reused, she said.

There's currently a 6-foot elevation at this location, said Saporta, so the grade would need to be modified, or the deck elevated, to make the new bridge ADA accessible without handrails.

Marie Fukuda, a longtime resident of the Fenway and a Fenway Civic Association board member, expressed her concern that the Back Bay Fens, which she describes as the only open space available to residents of the neighborhood, many of whom live in small apartments, would become primarily a "bike corridor."

Fukuda encouraged the city to work with DCR to get bike traffic off the pathways and onto the

parkways instead.

Likewise, Freddie Veikley, another longtime Fenway resident, encouraged the project team to reroute bicycle traffic along the perimeter of the site to make the Back Bay Fens a "passive park instead."

"Let's not encourage the park to be used as a demand path," added Veikley.

Tim Horn, president of the Fenway Civic Association, urged the traffic team to consider taking measures to calm bike traffic, such as installing bollards to slow down bicyclists as they cross into the park.

But despite his concerns, Horn applauded the project, especially

with its newly expanded scope.

"I think that it's a fantastic project," said Horn, "and I'm really excited to see it happening."

A third design meeting is scheduled to take place via Zoom on Thursday, Feb. 16, from 6 to 7:30 p.m., although Bryant said more than three public meetings would likely be scheduled on the project, with possible meetings devoted solely to the Evans Way Bridge or the World War II Memorial.

Visit <https://www.boston.gov/departments/parks-and-recreation/improvements-back-bay-fens-pathways> for more information on the project.

### OP-ED (from pg. 2)

information. However, we don't hear all the news nor do we know everything we need to know when we need to know. Often, we learn the hard way. This is why education is expensive. Life experience education is often the most expensive and difficult of all learning processes. Even in life education we learn but we don't always utilize the life experience very much. Too often we repeat the same mistakes hoping for a different outcome.

We can't go wrong with good

information. This is why you need the publication you are reading. Your local paper and online news sources are crucial to a community's health and overall well-being. Local newspapers, blogs and online sources tell what is happening in your local town and county. Support this news source with your subscription and advertising needs. County newspapers that have been around for years continue to close. Every week I receive notification of a newspa-

per printing its final edition and that's not good news.

*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.*

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## OBITUARIES

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# Esplanade Association hosts free Frost Fit Winter series 2023 presented by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts

Special to the Sun

The Esplanade is known to be a favorite spot for many Bostonians looking for a free, safe space to exercise. The Esplanade Association ([esplanadeassociation.org](http://esplanadeassociation.org)) is excited to announce it will be hosting their fifth season Frost Fit Winter Series 2023 Presented by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts. This outdoor winter fitness series on the Esplanade will feature a program-packed lineup of workout classes and winter activities for people of all ages, abilities, and fitness levels to enjoy.

The Winter Fitness Series will launch on January 28th at Fiedler Field with a 3-hour event featuring two workout classes, hot chocolate and swag all free to participants! Spend an hour or two learning about this year's upcoming Frost Fit season and check out registration for classes.

From January 30 to March 4, the November Project, 261 Fearless Club New England, and Lynx Fitness Club will each hold around one class per week. While you break a sweat, you can recover with a cup of hot chocolate, and receive free swag

after all the classes!

The Esplanade Association provides free programming to people in the greater-Boston community to engage their minds and bodies on the Esplanade. Frost Fit encourages people to venture outside and experience the beauty of the Esplanade in winter while beginning the new year with regular workouts. Frost Fit is created in partnership with Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts.

"We're proud to partner with the Esplanade Association to offer free fitness classes throughout the winter", said Jeff Bellows, Vice President of Corporate Citizenship and Public Affairs at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts. "Being active is critical for our physical and mental health. The Frost Fit Series encourages year-round wellness by making it fun to come together as a community for some fun winter fitness along the beautiful Esplanade."

## Winter Activity Guide

As part of our Frost Fit Series

presented by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts and in partnership with REI Co-op, the Esplanade Association is encouraging residents and visitors to get outside this winter on the Esplanade with our Winter Activity Guide. From Sunday, January 29th through Sunday, March 5th (weather dependent), the first 50 people to complete at least 4 activities in the guide and bring their completed guide to the Boston/Fenway REI Co-op store will receive a free skate session and skate rental to The Rink at 401 Park Ice Rink presented by REI located in Fenway. In addition, as part of the Winter Activity Guide, each participant can redeem one free Bluebikes ride courtesy of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts through March 31st!

## Launch Event Details

Location: Fiedler Field on the Esplanade

Date: 1/28/23

Cost: FREE

Eventbrite Link: <https://Frost-Fit-Launch-2023.eventbrite.com>

Time(s): 10am-1pm

10am-10:45am - Morn-

ing walking session with 261 Fearless Club New England 10:15am-10:45am

11am-12pm - Afternoon workout session with Lynx Fitness 11:00am-12:00pm

10:30am-12:30pm - FREE hot chocolate available!

## Class Schedule

### Monday Workouts with November Project

- Location: Fiedler Field

- Date/Time: Mondays, 6:30am-7:30am

- Cost: FREE

261 Fearless Club New England Tuesday Winter Walks

- Location: Hatch Memorial Shell Lawn

- Date/Time: Tuesdays, 4pm-5pm

- Cost: FREE

### Saturday Workouts with Lynx

- Location: Fiedler Field

- Date/Time: Saturdays, 11am-12pm

- Cost: FREE

The Esplanade Association is a 100% privately-funded non-profit organization that works

to revitalize and enhance the Charles River Esplanade, sustain its natural green space, and build community in the park by providing educational, cultural and recreational programs for everyone. Working in collaboration with the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, the Esplanade Association is dedicated to improving the experiences of the millions of visitors who enjoy Boston's iconic riverside park.

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts ([bluecrossma.com](http://bluecrossma.com)) is a community-focused, tax-paying, not-for-profit health plan headquartered in Boston. We are committed to the relentless pursuit of quality, affordable health care with an unparalleled consumer experience. Consistent with our promise to always put our members first, we are rated among the nation's best health plans for member satisfaction and quality. Connect with us on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and LinkedIn.

For further information about Frost Fit, contact Samuel Englert, Programs and Partnerships Manager, [senglert@esplanade.org](mailto:senglert@esplanade.org).

## Boston's COVID-19 numbers show promising trends, but risk of transmission remains

Staff Report

As Boston's COVID-19 metrics continue to improve following a spike in cases and hospitalizations, the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) is reminding residents that the risk for getting COVID-19 remains and that individuals need to get their bivalent booster to avoid severe infection and hospital-

ization. BPHC also encourages everyone to mask indoors, test before and after large indoor gatherings, and to stay home when ill.

Daily COVID-19 cases in Boston have decreased by 23% over the past week and by 42% over the last 14 days (as of 1/20/23) and new COVID-19 hospitalizations are down by 10%

and 16% during the same time frames (as of 1/20/23). In another positive sign, the CDC moved Suffolk County back down to medium community risk last week, after a short period of being at high.

Data from BPHC's newly launched wastewater surveillance program show the number of COVID-19 particles in the city's wastewater decreased by 52% over the past two weeks and are now at an average of 1,856 COVID RNA copies/mL throughout Boston. Six of the 11 neighborhoods in Boston fall below this average.

"All of our metrics are currently trending in the right direction. But it is important to remain vigilant. Nationally, hundreds of people still die from COVID daily," said Dr. Bisola Ojikutu,

Commissioner of Public Health and Executive Director of the Boston Public Health Commission. "I encourage everyone to get boosted, test for COVID-19, access treatment if positive, wear masks indoors and stay home if you are sick."

Boston has also seen considerable improvement on the spread of influenza, with 79 confirmed cases from January 14-20, down significantly from the peak of 944 cases observed December 3-9. While this is another encouraging trend, it is important to note that flu season can be bimodal and have two peaks of activity. As such, getting an annual flu vaccination remains critically important for ensuring protection during the remainder of flu season.

The Boston Public Health

Commission has several free, walk-in standings sites offering COVID-19 vaccines and boosters, testing, flu vaccinations, and rapid at-home testing kits throughout the city. Services are available for everybody ages 6-months and older with no IDs or proof of insurance needed. Seventy-five dollar gift cards are available for those who get a COVID-19 vaccine or booster, while supplies last. This incentive is offered in collaboration with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

Boston City Hall - 1 City Hall Sq., Haymarket Room

• Open Mondays 7am-1pm and Wednesdays 12-5pm

Bruce C. Bolling Building - 2302 Washington St., Roxbury

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# John Borders named Director of Tourism, Sports and Entertainment

Special to the Sun

Mayor Michelle Wu announced that John Borders IV will serve as the new Director of Tourism, Sports and Entertainment for the City of Boston, a critical department within the Economic Opportunity and Inclusion Cabinet.

Borders IV most recently served as Principal of VTH & Madison, a consulting firm based in Boston, where he concentrated on implementing strategies focused on the growth and expansion of businesses owned by people of color like startups and celebrity boutique brands. Prior to his work at VTH & Madison, he served as an Account Executive at Everfi, a mission-driven company that addresses education inequities through data-driven software, and as Senior Manager of Community Engagement at the Boston Celtics.



John Matthew Borders IV.

“Boston is a city for everyone, with something special for every resident and every visitor to experience across our neighborhoods,” said Mayor Michelle Wu. “As Boston continues to grow and welcome people from around the globe, we look to center and highlight the vibrancy of our communities even more. I’m grateful to John for his commitment to serving our city and look forward to his leadership in ensuring that Boston is a wel-

coming and inclusive place for all.”

“As Boston emerges from the pandemic, it is an exciting opportunity to bring residents and visitors together,” said Segun Idowu, Chief of Economic Opportunity and Inclusion. “With a vision of revitalizing our communities and turning our neighborhoods into destinations, I know that John, as a son of Boston, will enhance our standing on the local and global stage.”

In this role leading the Mayor’s Office of Tourism, Sports and Entertainment, Borders IV will help to advance the department’s new vision of creating a more welcoming City by proactively attracting the meetings, events, conventions, and festivals that amplify Boston’s rich cultural diversity and bring people together. This will be done through the planning, development, and implementation of special community-driven events and celebrations, and deeper collaboration with agencies like Meet Boston, the Massachusetts Convention Center Authority, and the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce. Additionally, Borders IV will oversee the process of film and TV production in the City, ensuring a broader understanding of the City’s diversity is highlighted and that all neighborhoods are cast in a positive light.

“What an opportunity to join the Administration in this role at such a critical time in the history of our city,” said John Borders IV, Director of Tourism, Sports, and Entertainment. “As the narrative of Boston continues to shift we get to shape the next chapter of what that means locally, domestically, and internationally. I am excited to leverage Boston’s greatest resource - its people - to enhance the great work already being done by so many and to amplify what’s to come. The possibilities are endless and the best of Boston’s communities will be showcased like never before.”

A son of the City, John Borders IV is a graduate of Morehouse College and proudly hails from Dorchester, MA. With a career focused on leveraging brands for impact, his skill sets have shown

forth through focused work in the areas of corporate social responsibility, community engagement, relationship management, and business development. Some of the organizations Borders IV has

worked with include Goalsetter, Everfi, CUME, Morning Star Baptist Church, the Boston Celtics, as well as the Patrick administration for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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## LEGAL NOTICES

### LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Self Storage Sale  
Please take notice Prime Storage - Boston Southampton St. located at 100 Southampton St., Boston, MA 02118 intends to hold an auction to sell the goods stored by the following tenants at the storage facil-

ity. The sale will occur as an online auction via [www.storage-treasures.com](http://www.storage-treasures.com) on 2/8/2023 at 12:00 PM. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings. Gina E Camillo unit #3002; Lisa M. Bazin unit #3052; Junior Mota unit #3118; James Suarez

unit #3120. 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.

1/19/23, 1/26/23  
BS

# Kick off the New Year with an updated COVID-19 booster and \$75 gift card

Staff Report

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) has extended its \$75 gift card offer through March 31 for Massachusetts residents who get a COVID-19 vaccination or booster at participating “Get Boosted”

vaccination clinics in Chelsea, Everett and Revere. The clinics offer first and second doses of the vaccine as well as the updated bivalent COVID-19 booster, which is approved for everyone ages six months and older.

Staying up to date on vaccines, including boosters, is the

most effective way to prevent serious illness from COVID-19. Commonwealth residents who get vaccinated or boosted against COVID-19 at any of the designated clinics can receive a \$75 gift card to a local retailer for each dose administered, while supplies last.

DPH is working with local partners to make the COVID shots accessible to as many people as possible.

• In Chelsea, clinics are currently scheduled at the Senior Center, 10 Riley Way, every Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Feb. 26;

• In Everett, clinics are currently scheduled on Tuesdays and Saturdays at Eliot Family Resource Center (times vary), and on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Pope John High School through March;

(COVID CLINIC Pg. 7)

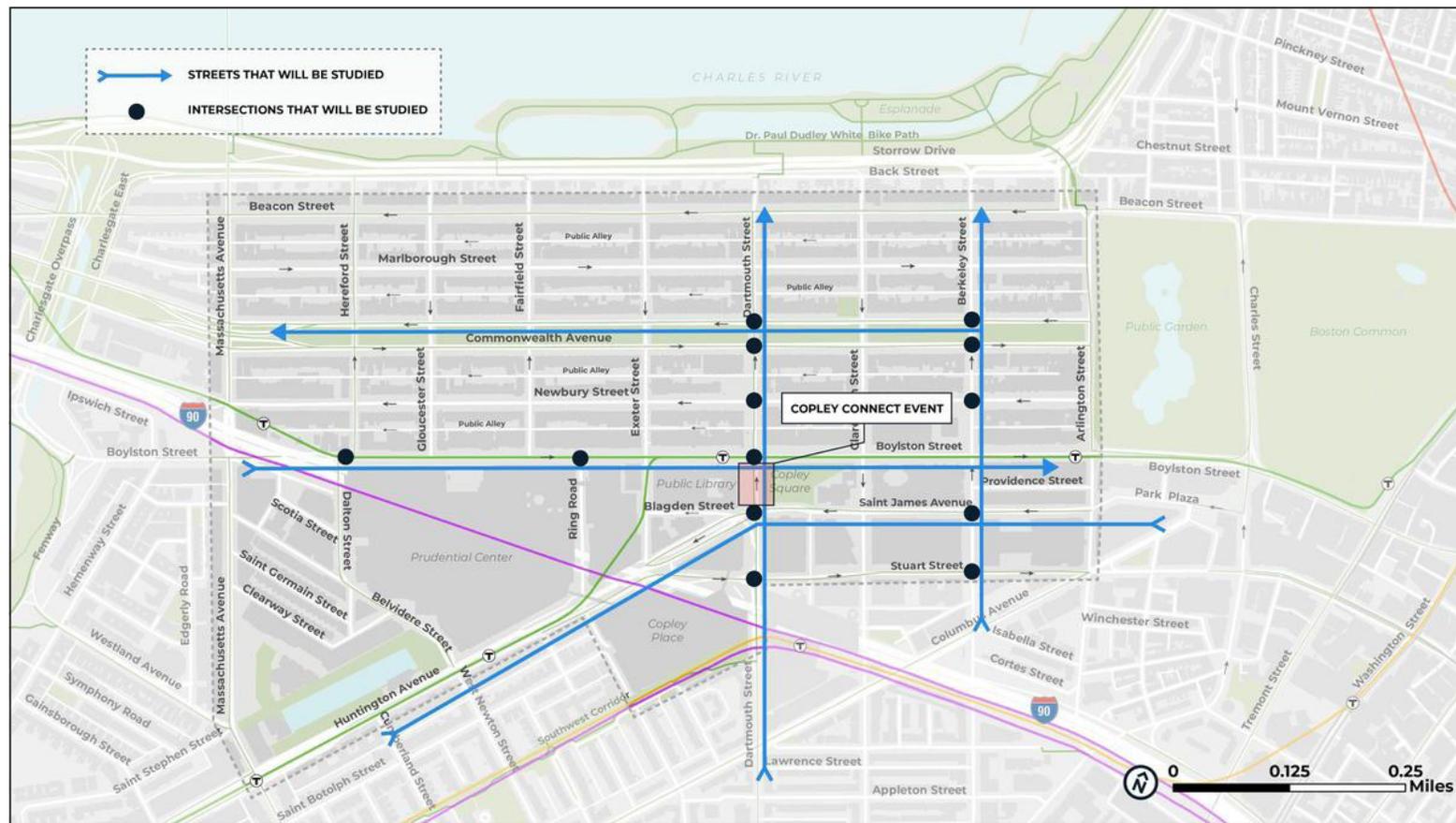
## COPLEY CONNECT (from pg. 1)

the city.

During the pilot, the space was opened to pedestrians and closed to non-emergency vehicular traffic. This new public space maintained the existing bike lane and featured café seating, food trucks, performances, dance lessons, and library programming over the course of 10 days. An emergency vehicle lane was also incorporated into the Copley Connect design for Dartmouth Street. Emergency vehicle access on Dartmouth Street will continue to be an important design consideration.

The majority of the feedback following the pilot was overwhelmingly positive, with many visitors saying they would visit the area more frequently if it was made a permanently car-free space. BTDA and BPDA staff engaged with approximately 1,000 people over the course of the event. Staff provided a survey on site and online for those who could not attend or did not get the chance to fill one out in person.

“We saw this summer how Copley Connect brought people together to build community and opened up biking and walking without substantially adding to traffic,” Mayor Michelle Wu said in a press release. “The data shows that open streets can spark economic and community



COURTESY OF THE CITY OF BOSTON

A map showing the Copley Connect pilot area and street closures.

vibrancy when we make them safe. We will continue to work with residents and local organizations to reimagine how our streets work for us.”

Added Chief of Planning Arthur Jemison: “I want to thank our partners in BTDA for working with us to create such

a successful pilot program. We look forward to continuing to work together to see how we can make this space on Dartmouth Street work best for Bostonians and all those visiting our great city going forward.”

Chief of Streets Jascha Franklin-Hodge said in a press release: “The Copley Connect pilot showcased the creative ways that we can use the shared space of the streets to benefit more people. We appreciate the partnership of the BPDA as we continue to explore the possibilities of connecting these important spaces in the City.”

Transportation planners collected data before and during Copley Connect to understand how the pilot impacted walking, biking, and driving activity on City streets. An analysis of motor vehicle routes in the area found that travel times during the pilot were generally comparable to pre-pilot travel times, with minimal time

added onto trips. The analysis found that lower traffic volumes made Dartmouth Street more comfortable for biking. These results have encouraged the BPDA and BTDA to advance the Copley Connect Long-Term Design Strategy, which will identify concepts for the redesign of Dartmouth Street and identify ancillary changes to nearby streets, as needed, according to the city.

There are a number of factors the City and BPDA examined during the pilot initiative including the impact on the surrounding street network and the use of the open street space. During these 10 days, staff engaged with the public about the pilot and how they think this space should be used moving forward. In addition to the ongoing community engagement throughout the duration of the pilot, the BPDA held a “Chat With a Planner” event on site, in which community members spoke with neigh-

borhood planners about the initiative.

Besides this initiative, the Boston Parks and Recreation Department is in the process of making improvements to Copley Square Park, which borders Dartmouth Street. These improvements will protect and enhance existing trees, strengthen the connection between the Square and the Library, improve the existing fountain, provide lush green space for enjoyment and habitat, and create new opportunities for seating and gathering, as a way to reinvigorate the area as a community gathering space, according to the city.

At its last monthly meeting on Thursday, Jan. 19, the BPDA board of directors on Thursday, voted to authorize a request for proposals (RFP) to engage a consultant design firm for a one-year term to study making permanent improvements to the Dartmouth Street right of way.

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# Wu announces agenda for new state legislative session

Staff Report

Building upon a successful 2022 legislative year, Mayor Michelle Wu today announced the City of Boston's 2023-2024 state legislative agenda with priority bills focused on improving the lives of Boston's residents. These proposals would amend state laws that impact the City's housing, transportation, early education, climate, and planning and development policies.

"These legislative proposals would address very urgent issues in the lives of our residents," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "We are excited to partner with our colleagues on Beacon Hill to ensure Boston and the Commonwealth move forward on these shared priorities."

## Real estate transfer fee and senior tax relief home rule petition

The City of Boston will re-file its home rule petition to allow the City to levy a fee of up to 2% on real estate transactions above \$2 million. The proposal would also increase a tax credit for Boston senior homeowners. The fee would generate nearly \$100 million annually to create and preserve affordable housing in Boston and reduce property taxes for qualified low-income senior homeowners. This proposal has been filed as HD.3016.

## Boston seat on MBTA Board of Directors

Boston residents, Boston Public Schools (BPS) students, and commuters throughout the City make up the core of the MBTA's ridership. The City will again pursue legislation to add a Boston seat on the MBTA's Board of Directors. The proposal will build on support garnered last session when former Governor Baker, Senate, and House leadership supported the proposal to add a Boston seat to the Board. This proposal has been filed as HD.451 and SD.563.

## MBTA Commuter Rail fare equity

This proposal would make all single ride fares from commuter rail stations in Boston the same price as a single trip on the T, currently \$2.40, significantly expanding access to stations in Roslindale, Hyde Park, Readville, and West Roxbury, which are currently priced at \$6.50 or \$7.00 per ride. Increased commuter rail ridership during the Orange Line shutdown demonstrated that residents can be incentivized to ride the commuter rail and help ease some regional congestion. This proposal has been filed as HD.1303 and SD.1242.

## Consumer protection

At a time of rising energy costs, this legislation would ban predatory competitive electric supply companies that trap unsuspecting residents into high electric bills. Extensive investigations by the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office have documented the ways that Massachusetts residents, particularly low-income residents and people of color, are targeted by these companies. The City of Boston's municipal aggregation program, Boston Community Choice Electricity (BCCE), offers rates that are half the price of Basic Service. This proposal has been filed as HD.3214 and SD.648.

## Early Education

Currently, families who become unhoused must go through a lengthy process to receive state vouchers for childcare, cutting off families from care when they need it most. This legislation would close the gap so that unhoused families would immediately receive childcare vouchers. Last year, the City was grateful to receive \$1 million from the federal government through the support of Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley to support families in this time of need. This legislation would also automatically qualify unhoused children ages 0-3 for early interven-

tion services for one year after becoming unhoused. This proposal has been filed as HD.3061.

## Rent Stabilization

Boston plans to file a home rule petition this year that will protect families from rent gouging and displacement as Boston continues to grow. This proposal builds on Mayor Wu's ongoing initiatives to address housing affordability in Boston. To date, that includes signing an Executive Order designed to speed up affordable housing production, signing an Executive Order relative to affirmatively furthering fair housing, hiring the City's first Chief of Planning, announcing an action plan to best utilize the City-owned land described in the Public Land for Public

Good: Citywide Land Audit, and launching Welcome Home Boston, a historic investment in affordable homeownership in Boston.

## Urban Renewal

Given the upcoming expiration of a dozen urban renewal plan areas across Boston, the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) and the Wu administration will seek to amend the decades-old state law that governs Urban Renewal in Boston to remove and modernize antiquated structures which would allow Boston to better meet the needs of current and future Boston residents. The City will be filing a home rule petition with the Boston City Council soon.

## COVID CLINIC (from pg. 1)

• In Revere, clinics are currently scheduled at Women Encouraging Empowerment, 50 Walnut Ave., on Tuesdays Jan. 24 and Jan. 31 from 3 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

To find a clinic offering the \$75 gift card near you, go to [Mass.gov/GetBoosted](https://Mass.gov/GetBoosted). No ID or proof of health insurance is required.

In October 2022, DPH launched the Get Boosted campaign as part of its Vaccine Equity Initiative to increase vaccination rates, with a focus on boosters. Massachusetts is a national leader in COVID-19 vaccination; according to the CDC, 93% of the state's population age 6 months and older has received at least one dose, compared with 81% nationally. Some 64% of fully vaccinated individuals in

Massachusetts have had a booster.

"We'd like to see as many people vaccinated as possible, so we are offering these community-based COVID vaccination clinics – including a \$75 gift card incentive at select locations – to make it easier for people to protect themselves and those around them," said Massachusetts Public Health Commissioner Margret Cooke. "These boosters provide the best protection against the Omicron subvariants, which are currently the most prevalent strains of COVID-19 in Massachusetts. The vaccine and boosters are proven to be safe and effective for adults and children. If you've been thinking about getting the vaccine, now is the time."

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### BPDA APPROVES LONGWOOD PLACE PDA

The Boston Planning & Development Agency board of directors authorized the approval of a Planned Development Area (PDA) for the proposed Longwood Place mixed-use project at the board's Thursday, Jan. 19, monthly meeting, which took place virtually.

This determination approved PDA No. 134 in the Longwood Place, Fenway/Longwood Medical Area for Skanska USA Commercial Development's planned redevelopment of Simmons University's approximately 5.8 acre residential campus located at 305 Brookline Ave. into approx-

imately 1.75 million gross square feet of residential, office/laboratory, retail, restaurant, commercial, community space, and parking. The project would comprise five buildings, ranging in height from 320 feet to 170 feet, and replace a cluster of brick dormitory buildings that currently occupies the site.

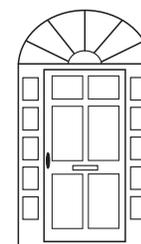
### GIBSON HOUSE MUSEUM TO OFFER VIRTUAL PROGRAM ON 'SARGENT'S WOMEN'

Gibson House Museum will offer a virtual program called "Sargent's Women: Four Lives Behind the Canvas" on Tuesday, Feb. 7, from 7 to 8 p.m.

In this illustrated virtual lecture, author Donna M. Lucey will explore the extraordinary experiences of four women painted by the iconic, high society Gilded Age portraitist John Singer Sargent. Each woman inhabited a rarefied world of large fortunes and strict conventions yet managed to do something unexpected to upend society's rules. Basing her research on original letters and diaries, Lucey uncovered stories of forbidden love, family conflict, ambition, desire, and triumph.

Admission is \$12 for non-members of the museum and \$10 for members. Register at <https://www.thegibsonhouse.org/events>

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Rentals

# BPDA holds inclusionary development policy forum

By Adam Swift

A proposed change to Boston's inclusionary development policy needs to offer more opportunity for truly affordable housing units in the city, according to housing advocates who spoke during a Boston Planning and Development Agency online forum on Saturday, Jan. 21.

BPDA and city officials laid out the background of inclusionary development and the proposed zoning proposal, as well as the path it needs to take for final approval, during the forum.

Mayor Michelle Wu announced proposed changes to the IDP policy on December 15, 2022.

The Mayor's proposed changes to IDP include: Lowering the threshold from 10 to seven units, and, for rental projects, increasing the proportion of the project that is income-restricted from 13% to 20% of the project, while also deepening affordability requirements. In addition, 17% of the project will be income restricted at an average of 60% of Area Median Income, and an additional 3% of the project will be offered at market rents and reserved for people with housing vouchers.

"Up until now, the only way we got inclusionary development units was because a project needed some kind of zoning relief and was 10 or more units," said Tim Davis, a deputy director in the mayor's housing office. "With

this new power that was given to us in 2021, we can now put inclusionary housing into the zoning code, and this process is part of the legislatively required process to include a feasibility study, housing conditions study and to put that in and then go forward with zoning."

The current policy applied to projects with 10 or more units that require zoning relief. In 2015, the city created three zones for inclusionary development.

"Looking at the proposed inclusionary zoning, developments that do not need zoning relief and are built as right will still have to support income-restricted housing," said Davis. "The proposal is to drop the trigger from 10 units to seven units."

Under the new policy, rather than requiring a set number of inclusionary units, requirements will be calculated in square footage to allow for more flexibility and the production of family sized units, Davis said.

"For example, if we would have required 15 units under the old policy, but a lot of them were studios and one bedrooms, we might get 14 units instead of 15 units because we are also getting two-bedroom units as part of the package," Davis said.

The biggest change in the housing zones would see Charlestown moving from Zone B to Zone A, and East Boston moving from Zone B to Zone C when it comes to some of the specifics of the

inclusionary development plan.

"For home ownership in zones A and B, we would be looking at getting 10 percent of the square footage at 80 percent of area median income, and an additional 10 percent at 100 percent of area median income for a total of 20 percent of square footage for and average AMI of 90 percent," said Davis. "Under Zone C, we get 6.5 percent square footage of 80 percent and 6.5 percent at 100 percent of area median income for a total of 13 percent of square footage of average area income. The reason why we have differentiated for Zone C is that we are finding through our usability analysis that even at 13 percent, condo projects in the outer neighborhoods are not actually currently feasible."

Bryan Glasscock, the deputy director of regulatory planning and zoning for the BPDA, highlighted the next steps in the process for the inclusionary development changes.

"As with any potential change to the zoning code, there is a fair amount of public process that's required," said Glasscock. "We've scheduled ... two city-wide public meetings to present the work that has been done and what our proposed response is to take to the zoning commission."

After gathering feedback from the public meetings, the final proposed zoning amendment would go to the BPDA board to recommend the zoning change.

"Unlike ordinary zoning, this particular proposal would also then go to the Boston City Council for a vote," Glasscock said. If it passes at the council level, it would then go forward for a public hearing before the Boston Zoning Commission for approval, and eventually be signed by the mayor and become part of the zoning code.

During the public question and answer period on Saturday, Sasha Goodfriend read a statement on behalf of the Coalition for a Truly Affordable Boston (CTAB), an organization made up of over 20 housing justice organizations that have been advocating for a stronger inclusionary development policy since 2017.

The points addressed in the CTAB statement were echoed by a number of the speakers who followed Goodfriend.

Goodfriend CTAB recently worked with several councilors to introduce a resolution that called for Mayor Wu to do an executive order to strengthen IDP and specifically decrease the income limit for rental units from 70 percent AMI to an average of 40 percent AMI, and decrease the limit of ownership units from 80 to 100 percent AMI to 50 to 100 percent AMI.

"There are some changes in this proposal that CTAB is very excited about, including requiring a percentage of building square footage to be affordable,

using an average AMI to allow units to reach lower AMIs, and increasing the payout units," said Goodfriend. "But importantly, the average of 60 percent AMI must be lowered to an average of 40 percent AMI, we believe, specifically to close the racial housing gap. In the city of Boston, most Black, Latinx, and Asian renters have household incomes of less than \$31,000 to \$37,000, and this IDP proposal keeps most units at 60 to 100 percent AMI, which is about \$84,000 to \$140,000 for a family of four."

Goodfriend said CTAB does support the mayor's proposal to mandate 3 percent of units for mobile voucher holders because it believes it will make units more accessible to lower income households.

"However, this proposal to increase the set aside percentage from 13 to 17 percent must be increased, and vouchers can be used on top of that higher number," she said. "We also believe Zone C must have the same affordability requirements for ownership as the rest of the city and shouldn't stay at 13 percent."

Lastly, Goodfriend said the proposal should ensure that the IDP units are made permanently affordable and not converted back to market-rate units.

Several other Boston residents also spoke to advocate for more accessible affordable units for disabled renters.

## Two new museum exhibits celebrate contrasting elements of maritime life

The USS Constitution Museum, in partnership with the USS Constitution Model Shipwright Guild and the Seafarer's Trust, proudly presents the 43rd annual exhibit, Masters of Miniature: Ship Model Show, and the new companion photography show "Life At Sea 2022". The exhibits, opening on Saturday, January 28, showcase the intricate and spectacular handcrafted models from local modelers alongside photography documented by seafarers worldwide, shining a light on the human side of the experiences and challenges this essential workforce faces.

Ship modeling is an art as old as shipbuilding itself and one for which USS Constitution has been a favored subject. Model shipbuilding provides a glimpse into vessels' remarkable history



PHOTO BY ARVY VERDER, ITF SEAFARERS' TRUST LIFE AT SEA PHOTO COMPETITION

Arvy Verder's "PATINTERO" is part of the "Life at Sea 2022" photo competition by the ITF Seafarers' Trust on display at the USS Constitution Museum. The image captures crew on a vessel at anchor in China playing a traditional Filipino children's game known as "block and catch" or "block the runner."

and intentional design. The process reveals much about the original shipbuilder's design,

engineering, form, and functional considerations as they built a ship to accomplish a specific pur-

pose. This year's Model Show showcase over 70 exquisite, handcrafted models of all types created by USS Constitution Model Shipwright Guild members across New England. From ninth-century ships to pleasure craft of today and everything in between, the show includes vessels of many kinds made by skilled Modelers representing Master Craftsmen and a new generation of modelers. They will be available daily to answer questions and demonstrate the craft of model building. Attendees can vote for their favorite model.

This year, the Museum also features a companion exhibit, ITF Seafarers' Trust LIFE AT SEA 2022, to convey the human side of maritime life. Featuring submissions to the ITF Seafarers'

Trust photography competition, the images were taken by seafarers at work, communicating their unique perceptions and experiences while forging lives connected to ships and the sea. In contrast to the perfectly and intricately designed ship models, the emotionally charged imagery conveys the challenges and incredible passion of people who work in various ways connected with the sea. Robert Kiihne, Director of Exhibits at the USS Constitution Museum, explains, "These personal, moving images shine a light on the experiences of people who are often invisible to us; the seafaring men and women from around the world that make trade possible. By presenting their reality along-

# Celebrate Black History Month on Freedom Trail



Freedom Trail Foundation's acclaimed African-American Patriots® Tours celebrate the African-American patriots that played a vital role in the start of the American Revolution in Boston and in the formation of our country. Led by 18th-century costumed guides, tour-goers have the opportunity to view history through the eyes of these courageous men and women throughout Black History Month in February.

African-American Patriots® Tours begin on Saturday, February 4, 2023 and are held regularly in February on Saturdays and Sundays departing at 10:45 a.m. from the Boston Common Visitor Information Center. Revolutionary figures such as Crispus Attucks, Phillis Wheatley, Prince Hall, Peter Salem, and others come to life during these 90-minute walking tours while zigzagging through the Freedom Trail - Boston's iconic 2.5-mile brick trail leading to 16 nationally significant historic sites.

African-American Patriots Tours invite visitors to discover the sacrifices these patriots made, the battles they fought, and legacies they left behind. Experience the historic events of the American Revolution and the immense contributions of black Bostonians as they unfold along Boston's historic red-lined path.

African-American Patriots® Tours are ideal for groups, schools, residents and those visiting the city. Public tour tickets may be purchased at the Boston Common Visitor Information Center at \$17 for adults, \$15 for seniors and students, and \$8 for children under 12, and tickets may also be purchased online at [TheFreedomTrail.org](http://TheFreedomTrail.org). The African-American Patriots® Tours are also available year-round for groups by reservation.

For information regarding Freedom Trail events and programs, tickets, reservations, group rates or questions, please call (617) 357-8300 or visit [TheFreedomTrail.org](http://TheFreedomTrail.org).

## MARITIME LIFE (from pg. 8)

side the work of highly skilled Model shipwrights, we hope to explore the engineering beauty of ships throughout history and the realities their human crews face daily."

The Masters of Miniature and LIFE AT SEA 2022 exhibits will run from January 28 through February 25, 2023. Both exhibits are open to all visitors during regular Museum hours, from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. daily. Admission is by suggested donation.

The Boston Marine Society sponsors Masters of Miniature.

The USS Constitution Model Shipwright Guild encourages the art of constructing model ships and supports research in nautical history through its monthly meetings, workshops, educational activities, and exhibits. Guild members maintain a working model shop at the USS Constitution Museum, with an extensive library of modeling books and plans. For more information about model building: <https://www.usscmsg.org>

The ITF Seafarers Trust is a UK charity established in 1981, which funds programs that advance the well-being of maritime workers, seafarers, and their

families. They are funded by the Trust's own capital funds, and by the investment income of the Welfare Fund at the International Transport Workers Federation, a global federation of transport workers' unions representing nearly 20 million members. For more information, visit <https://www.seafarerstrust.org/>.

The USS Constitution Museum serves as the memory and educational voice of USS Constitution by offering award-winning exhibits where all ages can have fun while learning and exploring history together. The Museum's mission is to engage visitors in the story of Constitution to spark excitement about maritime heritage, naval service, and the American experience. The Museum is open seven days a week with a pay-what-you-wish admission policy, and the Virtual Museum is open 24/7. The USS Constitution Museum is a 2022 winner in USA Today's 10Best Readers' Choice in the "Best History Museum" category and Boston Parents Paper's Family Favorites in the "Historic Sites & Tours" and "Museums & Attractions" categories. For more information, visit [usscm.org](http://usscm.org).

# Boston Festival Orchestra and Boston Athenaeum to offer unique chamber music series

Special to the Sun

Deep in the pandemic, when the concert halls were shuttered, the Boston Festival Orchestra now and then used the Boston Athenaeum as a practice space, and their music filled the building. A friendship began, and from that, an artistic collaboration.

Now, in an innovative multidisciplinary artistic collaboration, the Boston Festival Orchestra (BFO) and the Boston Athenaeum have formed a partnership to reflect on special Athenaeum exhibitions through the lens of chamber music.

With three 2023 chamber music concerts in the intimate setting of the Athenaeum's Henry Long Room, the BFO will perform compelling and relevant repertoire that blends the familiar with the unknown, according to BFO conductor Alyssa Wang. "The concerts will span many time periods, cultures and mediums, prodding us to ask questions such as: Who is art for? In what ways can we use art to connect with our heritage? In what ways can we use art to reconcile with the past?" she said.

Each chamber music concert will reflect on a specific Athenaeum exhibition:

- February 9 - Materialia Lumina, the BFO pairs new and old works of classical music with stunning selections of artists' books showcased in the Athenaeum's current gallery exhibition, Materialia Lumina / Luminous Books.
- April 8 - Performing previously hidden and game-changing voices in classical music, the BFO reflects on the ramifications of an exclusionary past and reconsiders the constructs of race, gender, and class. The music is inspired by Re-Reading Special Collections, a new Athenaeum initiative to reinterpret and recontextualize works of art from its permanent collection.
- June 22 - A Place I Never Knew explores a series of photographs by local photographer Tira Khan., The BFO will use music to reflect bridges among Khan's Indian, American, British heritages.

Departing from tradition, the concerts will include opportunities for audience participation. Concert-goers will be able to walk through the featured exhibits and converse with artists during the receptions following the concerts.

"For many audience members, these events may serve as the first introduction to the Boston Athenaeum or the Boston Festival Orchestra," said Boston Athenaeum director Leah Rosovsky. "We hope that by mixing communities we strengthen the entire arts and culture community of Greater Boston."

## Concert Schedule

All three concerts are in the Henry Long Room at the Boston Athenaeum, 10 ½ Beacon St., Boston.

- Thursday February 9 at 6 p.m.
- Saturday April 8 at 3 p.m.
- Thursday June 22 at 6 p.m.

The concerts are free to BFO subscribers, Athenaeum members and the general public, but registration is required at: [bostonathenaeum.org/events](http://bostonathenaeum.org/events)

The Boston Festival Orchestra, founded in 2019, brings the highest caliber of artistic performance to the Greater Boston community through its Summer Stage, Chamber Series, and partnerships with local nonprofits. By employing local professional musicians, presenting creative and relevant programming, and engaging with the community through education and outreach programs, the BFO fosters a welcoming and inclusive environment that enriches the culture of the city. Since its inaugu-

ral season in 2021 - when they became Boston's first orchestra to perform live concerts since the start of the pandemic - the BFO has grown to become one of Boston's celebrated music institutions, redefining young leadership in classical music and what it means to make music today.

Founded in 1807, the Boston Athenaeum is a unique combination of library, museum and cultural center. The Athenaeum's present home at 10 ½ Beacon St., designed by Edward Clarke Cabot, opened in 1849 and was named a National Historic Landmark in 1965. One of the country's oldest and most distinguished independent libraries, the Athenaeum's circulating collection includes over half a million books, from works published in the 1800s to the latest best sellers. Special collections include active research holdings of 100,000 rare books, maps and manuscripts, and 100,000 works of art, from paintings and sculpture to prints and photographs. Members, visitors and the community enjoy a year-round calendar of cultural programs - book talks, exhibitions, concerts, speakers, social gatherings and other opportunities for connection. The Athenaeum is a member-supported not-for-profit institution that everyone is invited to join. [bostonathenaeum.org](http://bostonathenaeum.org)

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# Molasses flood murder mystery released by Boston author

Frances McNamara from Boston's West End debuted her mystery novel "Molasses Murder in a Nutshell" in the "Nutshell Murder Mystery" collection Jan. 15, 2023 as part of Level Best Book's Historia line. Set during the famous Boston molasses flood, the book introduces historical figures Frances Glessner Lee and Dr. George Magrath as fictional detectives.

"Molasses Murder in a Nutshell" is set in January 1919. A tank bursts in Boston's North End, flooding the neighborhood with molasses. When a woman is found murdered in the wreckage, Frances Glessner Lee asks her old friend, medical examiner Dr. George Magrath to help exonerate a young serviceman. Frustrated by her lack of education and skills, she wants to clear the young man's name and find the killer. Will creation of a miniature crime scene lead to the truth? It's the best she can do.

"The purpose of a forensic investigation is said to be 'convict the guilty, clear the innocent, and find the truth in a nutshell.'"

This is the first in a series of fictional stories roughly based on the "Nutshell Studies of Unexplained Death." Over twenty miniature crime scenes were used from the 1940's to the present to train police detectives. Set in the 1920's these stories imagine Frances Glessner Lee working with Suffolk County Medical Examiner, Dr. George Magrath to learn about "legal medicine" as forensic science was known at the time. Working with Magrath provided the foundation for the miniatures for which Frances Glessner Lee has become known as the Mother of Forensic Science.

McNamara grew up in Boston where her father served as Police Commissioner for ten years. A retired librarian, she is author of 9 books in "The Emily Cabot Mysteries" about a social activist in Chicago during the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Praise for Frances McNamara's previous novels:

"...The real-life characters mingle seamlessly with the fictional ones to capture the myriad

contradictions of Chicago, from the dirty politicians and gangsters who run the city to the idealists, intellectuals, and revolutionaries who are committed to social change. This timely novel informs as much as it entertains." Publishers Weekly starred review for book 9 of the series.

"McNamara packs in fascinating and edifying period details while never losing sight of the riveting mystery plot. Historical fiction fans won't want to miss this one." PW starred review for book 8 of Emily Cabot Mysteries series.

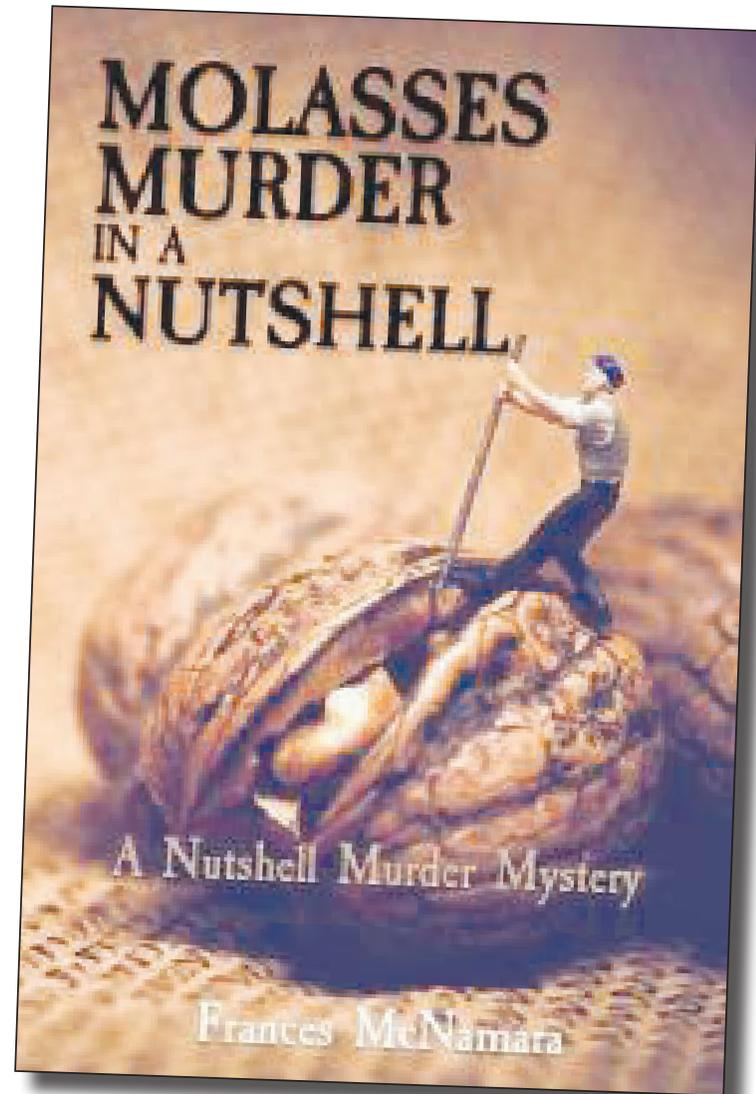
"McNamara's suspenseful third Emily Cabot mystery...convincingly recreates a pivotal moment in American labor history...Laurie King and Rhys Bowen fans will be delighted." Publishers Weekly

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## CITY PAWS

### A Tired Dog...

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

"A tired dog is a good dog" is an old saying with a ring of truth to anyone who has lived with an energetic dog during a blizzard. Keeping your pup physically fit, socialized, and well-behaved requires a winter workout plan.

#### Add Fun to Winter Walks

One way to achieve the goal

of keeping your dog socialized in winter is to make walk dates with friends. It's far too easy to turn around a head home on a clear cold day when it is just you and your pup making the decision. If you're meeting up with someone, you are more likely to walk longer.

Winter offers opportunities for burning calories and creating a tired dog. We remember a Husky

in our neighborhood who loved catching and chasing snowballs. Our Westie Poppy loves running in the snow; the deeper, the better. We know this activity will tire her out quicker than walking on a shoveled sidewalk.

Of course, your dog has a place in deciding how long you are out in the cold and how far you walk. You must watch for signs that your dog has or will

have had enough by the time you reach home. Age, size, type of coat, and health issues all come into play. If your dog has joint, back, heart, or other medical problems, outdoor exercise should be within your vet-recommended guidelines for this type of activity.

#### Winter Warm-Up Spots

You can extend your walks by

planning a stop where you and your dog can shelter and warm up. For example, stop into a favorite, pet-friendly spot. Great pet supply shops around the area mean having places that your dog will try to visit each time you are nearby. You can pick up a bag of treats or a new toy on a day when being inside is a welcome respite.

(CITY PAWS Pg. 11)

## Rockland Trust launches its 19th annual scholarship program

Rockland Trust is pleased to announce the launch of its 19th Annual Scholarship Program, which is open to students who are enrolling in a part-time or full-time undergraduate study program for the first time at an accredited two or four-year college, university, or vocational-technical school for the entire upcoming academic year (2023-2024). This year, Rockland Trust

will be awarding up to sixteen \$3,000 renewable scholarships.

Applications will be considered based on financial need, academic performance, participation in school and community activities, and work experience. There will be a section for applicants to write a brief essay of educational goals and potential career aspirations, along with a section to provide insight for

any unusual personal or family circumstances. Applicants must reside in one of the following counties to be eligible: Barnstable, Bristol, Dukes, Essex, Middlesex, Nantucket, Norfolk, Plymouth, Suffolk, or Worcester in Massachusetts or Providence County in Rhode Island.

"Rockland Trust is deeply committed to strengthening the communities in which we live

and work. The scholarship program is particularly meaningful because it allows us to make an investment in the future of those communities," said Christopher Oddleifson, Chief Executive Officer at Rockland Trust. "Every year, we look forward to hearing the stories and goals of tomorrow's generation of leaders. We are honored to play a small role in helping each stu-

dent advance their educational journey and take another step toward a purposeful future."

Rockland Trust Scholarship applications are available online at [RocklandTrust.com/Scholarship](https://www.rocklandtrust.com/Scholarship) (Opens in a new Window). To learn more about guidelines, eligibility criteria, and access the application, please visit [RocklandTrust.com/Scholarship](https://www.rocklandtrust.com/Scholarship)

# Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
<b>BACK BAY</b>			
Hartley, Lee A	Spicker, Hermann	298 Marlborough St #4	\$1,500,000
362 Comm Realty LLC	Houston Holdings LLC	362 Commonwealth Ave #1	\$1,425,000
Grant, Jacqueline L	119 St Botolph LLC	119 Saint Botolph St #3	\$1,699,000
<b>BEACON HILL</b>			
61 Beacon 3 LLC	Yeracaris, Yoryos	61 Beacon St #3	\$1,330,000
Federoff, Carolyn	Hawthorne Place Res Rt	2 Hawthorne Pl #10E	\$65,000
Federoff, Carolyn	Hawthorne Place Res Rt	2 Hawthorne Pl #10E	\$65,000
Bruno, Melanie	Trabucco, Stephen	54 Myrtle St #10	\$550,000
<b>BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE</b>			
Walmsley, Charlotte	Casher, Richard	88 Chandler St #3	\$1,975,000
Boston Troy 2023 Rt	Levy, Gareth W	300 Columbus Ave #1	\$1,680,800
Monderer, Benjamin	Harrigan, Nola	505 Tremont St #610	\$3,250,000
Reynolds, H P	Wilner, James R	23 Bay State Rd #4	\$1,200,000
One Concord Square U5 LLC	Galvin, John E	1 Concord Sq #5	\$1,675,000
Nhiem & P Nguyen 2018 RET	Msb Ent Partners LLC	102-108 Gainsborough St #304W	\$822,000
Geraghty, Brian F	Mansour, Marc P	700 Harrison Ave #605	\$1,925,000
Drake, Frederick T	Golz, Reece	1682 Washington St #5	\$40,000
Concerbio Boston Inc	Kotova, Ekaterina	43 Westland Ave #409	\$850,000
<b>WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN</b>			
Lu, Xin	W & Kesley Kersten Ft	1 Franklin St #2403	\$2,950,000

## CITY PAWS (from pg. 10)

Public transit can offer a two-way solution. If the weather takes a turn for the worse (or you think your dog has had enough), you can go to the nearest transit option. The MBTA allows companion animals on their vehicles at the drivers' discretion. The stations themselves are pet-friendly, and while they may not be toasty

warm in winter, they can shelter you from the wind, snow, and rain.

Pick a dog-friendly shop or transit station as the distant point of your walk on a cold day. For example, if you walk from Beacon Hill to South Station, you can stop for a cup of hot chocolate, give your pup water and a

treat, warm up, and either take the MBTA or walk home – once your toes have thawed.

### Train Away a Problem

This winter, we're working on our dog's barking problem. Poppy thinks it's her place to bark anytime she hears a bark, sees an animal on TV or a computer screen, or hears a child screech in our building. We disagree and aim to teach her to come to us, lie down or go to her designated quiet spot. Poppy is food motivated and tends to gain weight in winter, so we've stocked up on training treats she loves, which are only two calories each.

One or more of these solutions might fit into your winter workout plan. Think about the friends you might walk with, the places you might warm up, and what problem you might solve with a winter of training sessions.

*Do you have a question or topic for City Paws? Send an email to Penny@BostonZest.com with your request.*



*We're teaching Poppy to go to her quiet spot and calm down instead of barking as a winter training exercise.*

# Attention to Detail

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY PENNY CHERUBINO

## THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



*The window in the last clue is on 390 Marlborough Street. Built in 1885, it's one of more than eighty houses in the Back Bay Residential District attributed to the prolific architect Samuel D. Kelley.*

*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 with your suggestion.*

## THIS WEEK'S CLUE



# COMMONWEALTH AVENUE SPOTLIGHT



## 183 COMMONWEALTH AVE, UNIT FOUR

2 BEDROOMS | 2 FULL 1 HALF BATHROOMS | 2,539 SQUARE FEET

*LISTED AT \$5,490,000*



## 380 COMMONWEALTH AVE, UNIT TWO

3 BEDROOMS | 3 FULL 1 HALF BATHROOMS | 2,960 SQUARE FEET

*LISTED AT \$5,900,000*



## 191 COMMONWEALTH AVE, UNIT THREE

3 BEDROOMS | 3 FULL BATHROOMS | 2,323 SQUARE FEET

*LISTED AT \$2,990,000*

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