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Shadow impacts on Emerald Necklace pondered at community meeting

By Dan Murphy

Ahead of the March hearing of the city's Zoning Commission, which is expected to result in the approval of the requested zoning changes that would allow the proposed Longwood Place project to move forward, community members convened for an in-person meeting to discuss the project's potential shadow impact on the Emerald Necklace on Monday, Feb. 27, at the Fenway Community Center.

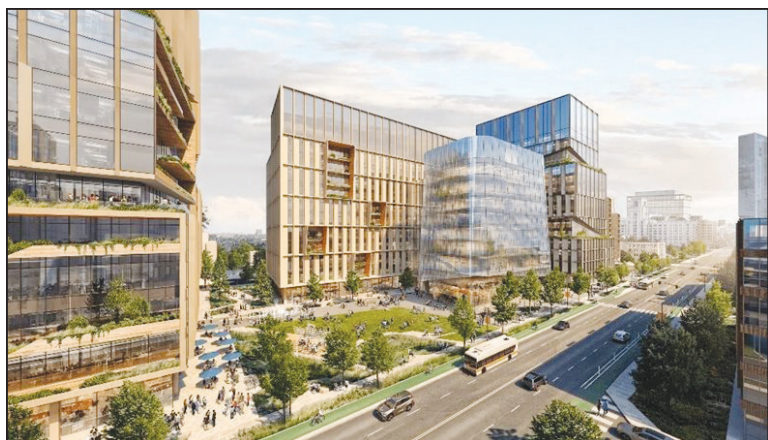
Skanska USA Commercial Development intends to redevelop Simmons University's approximately 5.8 acre residential campus located at 305 Brookline Ave. into Longwood Place, an approximately 1.75 million gross square feet of residential, office/laboratory, retail, restaurant, commercial, community space, and parking. The project would comprise five buildings, ranging in height from 295 feet

to 170 feet, and replace a cluster of brick dormitory buildings that currently occupies the site.

If this project is approved, it would get underway following the completion of Simmons' new, 21-story Living and Learning Center on Avenue Louis Pasteur, which will provide athletics space, a dining hall, and approximately 1,100 dormitory beds.

Now, the Longwood Place project hinges on the city's final approval of a Planned Development Area (PDA) that would create an overlay district for the 5.8-acre project site. The PDA would allow the project to exceed the height limit and create new shadow for more than one hour on the Emerald Necklace, Joslin Park, or Evans Way Park in direct violation of the Longwood Medical Area (LMA) Interim Guidelines. The Boston Planning & Development Agency board of directors authorized the approval of this

(SHADOW IMPACT Pg. 11)



COURTESY OF THE BOSTON PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

A rendering of the proposed Longwood Place project.



Shown above, Michelle Peterson and Paul Fleming take in the vibrant work of artist Denny Caruso in his studio.



Shown to the left, Printmaker Paula Ogier holds one example of her work.

"I'm a digital mixed media artist. I create a lot of artwork inspired by the city of Boston. The architecture, the street life, I have fun making images from them."

City to begin design phase for proposed new bike lanes on Berkeley and Boylston streets

By Dan Murphy

As part of its Better Bike Lanes initiative, the city is getting ready to launch the design phase for proposed new bike lanes on

Berkeley and Boylston streets, leaving some Back Bay leaders to anticipate what this will ultimately mean for the neighborhood's already fraught traffic conditions.

On Berkeley Street, the city is "envisioning" a one-way, separated bike lane that would connect the South End and Back Bay to the Charles River Esplanade.

(BIKE LANES Pg. 6)

Proposed Leonard Nimoy Memorial surpasses halfway mark towards \$500,000 fundraising goal

By Dan Murphy

The Leonard Nimoy Memorial proposed for the grounds of the Museum of Science has come one step closer to reali-

ty, after a local tech innovator's recent six-figure donation helped push the project past the halfway mark for its \$500,000 fundraising goal.

The museum has partnered

with the Nimoy family and Massachusetts artist David Phillips to build a proposed 20-foot-tall stainless-steel monument that

(NIMOY MEMORIAL Pg. 3)

EDITORIAL

THE PLANET IS SO MESSED UP

Our warm winter -- December was unseasonably warm and January was the warmest on record, while February had only a very, very brief cold snap, but also had many days of record-high warmth — is a classic good news/bad news situation. The good news is that our heating bills, with oil prices near record-high levels because of the war in Ukraine, are much lower than they would have been. Europe similarly has had a record-warm winter, which has reduced its usage of natural gas, averting what could have been an economic disaster.

The mild winter also has been a boon for the budgets of cities and towns. The dearth of snow and ice has meant that relatively small amounts have been expended for snow removal (at least so far).

But the long-term effects of our mild winters are not good. The warm winter of 2023, coming on the heels of warm winters for the past few years, means that climate change has firmly taken root in New England. According to a recent analysis by the federal Environmental Protection Agency, winters in Massachusetts have warmed by 4.5 degrees since 1896, a rate that is faster than the national average.

Part of the explanation for this may lie in another study recently released by scientists. According to their report, ocean heat content reached a new record high for the fourth year in a row, based on measurements of ocean heat accumulating down to a depth of more than a mile.

But here's the really depressing part: According to the scientists' findings, published in the journal *Advances in Atmospheric Science*, the warmth keeps working its way deeper into the ocean because greenhouse gases have trapped so much heat that the oceans' deeper waters will continue to warm for centuries even after humans stop using fossil energy.

So while it may be true that governments and industry are turning "greener," the bottom line is that it may not make any difference, and that's especially true because even under the best-case scenarios, the world will not be carbon-neutral for decades.

The effects of our warming planet have been visible for years with the onslaught of droughts, wildfires, devastating floods, and Category 5 storms that have left no part of Earth untouched, with implications that only now we are beginning to understand.

We don't mean to be the bearer of bad news, but the reality is this: As bad as things are today for the environment, they're only going to get worse before they get better.

THE ECONOMISTS ARE STILL JUST GUESSING

If you're like us, then no doubt you've been frustrated with the lack of consensus by economists and other so-called experts about the future of our economy. In the morning, we'll hear a prediction of a full recession in the coming months; in the afternoon, someone else will predict a mild recession with a "soft landing"; and in the evening, another talking head will say that everything is fine for the indefinite future.

The combination of the COVID-19 pandemic, the ensuing supply-chain issues, and a land war in Europe for the first time since WWII has skewed everything for which there is no direct precedent in the modern era. Today's economy is an amalgam of every economic era since WWII. We can draw some parallels to previous situations, but there are no direct analogies.

In addition, two factors are having a huge effect on the labor force, which in turn are affecting the overall economy.

The first is the retreat from the workforce of Baby Boomers, a trend that was accelerated by the pandemic. The Baby Boomer cohort has had an out-size effect on the economy and American life since they were born and they continue to do so today. In addition, Boomers are staying in their homes longer (which diminishes the supply of housing for Millennials) and, now that they have more leisure time, are traveling more (instead of buying stuff), and thus inflating the demand for service sector workers.

The other big factor accounting for the labor shortage is the trend of many younger workers both for remote work and to work fewer than 40 hours per week. These new realities are having ripple effects throughout the economy, particularly for the office real estate market and the small businesses in our major cities that depend on foot traffic from office workers.

The only thing that is clear to us is that none of the so-called experts have any idea what is going on with the economy and have even less of a clue about the future. To paraphrase Plato (quoting Socrates), the only thing they know is that they know nothing.

GUEST OP-ED

America's wars, who are the winners?

By Dr. Glenn Mollette

America was involved in Vietnam for 20 years. Our presence started small but by 1965 had significantly escalated. 3.1 million troops saw combat and at least 58,300 were killed. We spent over \$120 billion from 1965 to 1973 which led to an oil crisis and rampant inflation. Are you better off today because America fought in Vietnam? Are you safer?

America spent over \$2 trillion fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan. Then, we hurried and pulled out of Afghanistan leaving hundreds of millions of dollars in vehicles, buildings, bases, and weapons to be used by the Taliban. The country is now in shambles. Girls are not allowed to go to school beyond the sixth grade. Women are treated horribly by the Taliban. What did we do to help Afghanistan? Are they better off now? Are we better off for our 13 years in that country?

We invaded Iraq. We lost over 15,000 active service members and contractors in Iraq and Afghanistan. Take a look at Iraq and Afghanistan today. What did we accomplish?

We approved \$113 billion in aid to Ukraine in 2022 alone. Most Americans do not want

Russia to succeed in conquering Ukraine. Efforts to help Ukraine have been supported by most Americans. How far do we go? How much can we afford? How long are we able to keep this up? Does this become another Afghanistan? American troops are not there, yet. When will this happen?

When do we start fighting in Taiwan? China wants to control Taiwan. Taiwan is rich in resources and technology. Like Russia wanting Ukraine because of its proximity and resources, China figures it just makes sense for them to control neighboring Taiwan.

China is reportedly on the verge, if not already sending military arms to Russia. As America depletes our own defense stockpile of missiles, tanks and more, China knows we will have less to send to Taiwan. We have recently sent 200 soldiers to Taiwan and more will be going. It is scary to ponder how many more will be going in the next year or two.

In the middle of all this, who is really profiting from America's forever wars? The Military Industrial Complex will continue to make hundreds of millions of dollars with no end in sight. Manufacturers of mass weapons used in war have no end to their financial gains. Politicians who own stock in these massive

companies only stand to get richer and richer. How many thousands of shares of stock in these companies do our long-term Senators and Representatives own? Stopping or slowing our military aggressions around the globe would mean their stock would go down and their massive financial fortunes would be diminished.

Politicians should not be allowed to buy stock while in office. Before running for a political office they should be required to cash their stock out so they are not financially persuaded to promote the success of certain industries.

We don't want Ukraine to fall to Russia or Taiwan to China. However, what will our country have left to fight with after we have spent billions of dollars defending them? If your livelihood comes from investments in the massive military weapon sales industries, then you are probably spending most of your time counting your money.

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.

BPHC issues cocaine advisory

Staff Report

The Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) issued an advisory yesterday to Boston health care providers alerting them about concerning levels of presumed opioid-related overdoses in Nubian Square among individuals who believed they were using cocaine.

BPHC attributes these overdoses to the increasing presence of fentanyl within the cocaine supply. In 2021, the State detection program found 12% of cocaine samples tested in Boston flagged positive for fentanyl.

"Fentanyl is a highly dangerous substance that even in small amounts can lead to

a fatal overdose, so we urge all residents, health care providers, recovery workers, and outreach workers to remain vigilant for signs of opioid overdose, including among individuals who use cocaine," said Dr. Bisola Ojikutu, Commissioner of Public Health and Executive Director of the Boston Public Health Commission. "If you believe that someone has overdosed, call 911 immediately and administer naloxone (Narcan). BPHC offers harm reduction services to reduce the risk of fatal overdose, including naloxone (Narcan) distribution, drug testing and trainings on how to respond to an overdose. All our services are offered in compassionate and judge-

ment free environments."

Drug testing for fentanyl, naloxone, and overdose prevention and training are available to all through BPHC's Access, Harm Reduction, Overdose Prevention and Education Program (AHOPE). Individuals struggling with substance use, as well as their friends and families are encouraged to utilize these harm reduction services. Additionally, BPHC's Providing Access to Addictions Treatment, Hope and Support (PAATHS) program offers clinical treatment resources and referrals for treatment and recovery services.

For more information about harm reduction and treatment services, please visit boston.gov/recovery or call 311

EBNHC appoints Dr. Ryan Boxill as new Chief Operations Officer

East Boston Neighborhood Health Center (EBNHC), the largest community-focused health system in Massachusetts and among the largest in the country, is pleased to announce that Dr. Ryan Boxill, PhD MBA, has been appointed executive vice president and chief operations officer (COO). Bringing more than 20 years of experience

in the healthcare industry, Dr. Boxill's clinical training, business expertise, and strategic vision will strengthen EBNHC's ability to provide accessible, compassionate, high-quality care across their health system.

"As we grow to meet the needs of our community, we are thrilled

(EBNHC Pg. 6)



Dr. Ryan Boxill.

NIMOY MEMORIAL (from pg. 1)

would pay tribute to Mr. Spock, the character that Leonard, a native of the West End, first portrayed on the classic 1960s TV series "Star Trek." The monument would depict Mr. Spock's iconic Vulcan hand salutation comprising a raised hand with the palm forward and thumb extended while the middle and ring fingers parted (and which is usually accompanied by Mr. Spock's spoken expression of well-wishing, "Live Long and Prosper"). It would be illuminated from within using LED lighting.

The plans for the memorial were first announced on March 26, 2021, which would've been Nimoy's 90th birthday and was proclaimed "Leonard Nimoy Day" in the City of Boston by then-Mayor Martin Walsh.

"The 'Live Long and Prosper' symbol represents a message that my dad believed so strongly in," said Leonard's daughter, Julie Nimoy, in a press release at the time of the announcement. "My dad always loved Boston and he would be honored knowing that the Museum of Science would be the permanent home to this memorial. The sculpture not only depicts one of the world's most recognized and loved gestures for



COURTESY OF MUSEUM OF SCIENCE/DAVID PHILLIPS.

A rendering of the concept for the Leonard Nimoy Memorial proposed for the grounds of the Museum of Science.

peace, tolerance, and diversity, but it will also be a beautiful tribute to my dad's life and legacy."

The proposed memorial is the brainchild of Tom Stocker, a visual artist who lives on Northampton Street in the South End. Stocker began his efforts to memorialize Nimoy in his hometown in earnest around 2018 after watching "Leonard Nimoy's Boston" – a half-hour special that first aired on WGBH-TV in 2014 in which Nimoy, accompanied by his filmmaker son, Adam, returned to

his native city to reminisce about growing up in the old West End as the son of Jewish immigrants from Ukraine.

As of Wednesday, March 1, nearly \$288,000 towards the \$500,000 fundraising goal for the memorial had been raised.

To donate, visit mos.org/Nimoy.

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BLO to host special event

Staff Report

In honor of Women's History Month, Boston Lyric Opera presents a revelatory evening exploring the power of women's voices in opera performance, musical composition, and professional advocacy on March 6 from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Boston Public Central Library in Copley Square.

Artist-scholar Dr. Dana Lynne Varga will lead a conversation with fellow singers about the historical, dramaturgical, and personal resonance of vocal music drawn from wide-ranging contexts. Curated by BLO Artistic Advisor Nina Yoshida Nelsen, the musical program will include

works by Alma Mahler, Florence Price, and other extraordinary female composers featuring performances by Dr. Varga, BLO Jane and Steven Akin Emerging Artist Alumna Michelle Trainor and BLO Jane and Steven Akin Emerging Artist Brianna J. Robinson. Free and Open to the Public.

Registration is not required to attend this event, but is highly encouraged. Opera Night at the Boston Public Library is a legacy community partnership between Boston Lyric Opera and Boston Public Library offering equitable access to quality opera learning experiences for over 25 years.

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SoWa ARTISTS OPEN STUDIOS TO PUBLIC



Artist Tom Stocker works on a painting of a Caucasian Prayer Rug. He has led an effort to construct a memorial for Leonard Nimoy at the Museum Of Science, close to the West End where the famed actor grew up.

SoWa Artist Studios at 450 Harrison Ave is a collection of artists of various mediums who offer visitors access to their work space to view their art, discuss their process, and support the artistic community by bringing some of that art home. Be sure to check out the upcoming First Fridays night that will be happening March 3rd from 5pm to 9pm. It's a great way to start of the evening before Friday night plans.



Mixed-media work by artist Nick Peterson-Davis titled "This Is Not A Kilim."



Patricia Busso revises an earlier untitled painting. "When I have work in your studio and eyes on your paintings all the time, sometimes I notice something isn't working, yank it off the wall, and augment it or change it completely."



Artwork by Patricia Busso in her studio.



Denny Caruso in her studio. "I love color, I love faces, and watching period films on Netflix is like catnip to me, painting those scenes through my filter."



Denny Caruso in her studio. "I love color, I love faces, and watching period films on Netflix is like catnip to me, painting those scenes through my filter."



Printmaker Paula Ogier entertains visitors to her studio. "I'm a digital mixed media artist. I create a lot of artwork inspired by the city of Boston. The architecture, the street life, I have fun making images from them".



Artist Nick Peterson-Davis at work on his studio. "I paint to try to connect to my viewers and orient to uplifting subjects and making people feel good".



Everett Webster and June Graham looking at work they purchased from South End Woven Studios.

SoWa ARTISTS OPEN STUDIOS TO PUBLIC



Susan Alvey at South End Woven Studios, a collaborative of seven textile artists.



Artwork by Adrienne Christos outside of her studio.



Work on display and for sale at South End Woven Studios.



Nadia Parsons at her studio. Through her oil paintings, she seeks to “try to capture the grandeur of the sky.”



Cailey Harris chats with ceramic artist Kimberly Huestis at Porcelain And Stone Studio.



Jaime Herrera with his oil painting Chun Li. Inspired by anime, he noted that he likes using oils for its bright colors.



Oil paintings by Nadia Parsons in her studio.



Work by Kimberly Huestis at Porcelain And Stone Studio.



Ceramic artist Kimberly Huestis at Porcelain And Stone Studio

EBNHC (from pg. 2)

to have a COO with a proven track record of expanding access to care and advancing clinical quality in a community setting. Dr. Boxill's unique combination of behavioral health training and operational leadership will add valuable expertise to our organization's diverse executive team, helping us to meet the complex demands of community health post pandemic," said Greg Wilmot, president and chief executive officer of EBNHC. "We believe in care that goes beyond the clinic to address wellness where it starts: in the deeply interconnect-

ed lives of the people we serve. Dr. Boxill is the leader we need to advance this mission."

Prior to joining EBNHC, Dr. Boxill served as the chief behavioral health officer for Boston Medical Center (BMC) Health System where he was responsible for leading behavioral health strategy and operations across the health system, including BMC Hospital, BMC's Well-Sense Health Plan, and BMC's Boston Accountable Care Organization (BACO). Notably, Dr. Boxill led the strategic planning, design, and implementation of

BMC's recently launched Brockton-area Behavioral Health Center, regarded as one the most innovative, state-of-the art, and patient-centered behavioral health facilities in the country. His previous work as system vice president at Steward HealthCare drastically improved the overall performance of acute inpatient psychiatric and detox beds in his service line.

Dr. Boxill is a licensed clinical psychologist in New York and Massachusetts and holds a PhD in Cross Cultural Clinical Psychology from the California

School of Professional Psychology in Fresno, CA. He completed his pre-doctoral training at the Hudson River Regional Psychology Internship Program at the New York State Office of Mental Health and his Harvard Medical School Postdoctoral Fellowship training at the MGH-OCD Institute at McLean Hospital. Dr. Boxill has an MBA from the University of Massachusetts with a specialization in Finance, and is a certified trainer in Diversity and Intercultural Sensitivity.

"Healthcare is a basic human right and East Boston Neighbor-

hood Health Center is taking actionable steps towards improving patient care, committing to the wellbeing of its patients and workforce, and providing equitable healthcare opportunities to those who need it," said Dr. Ryan Boxill, executive vice president and chief operations officer of EBNHC. "I am thrilled to join an institution with the compassion and drive to make impactful changes in fostering a healthier community in East Boston and beyond."

BIKE LANES (from pg. 1)

"Today, people who want to bike from the South End to the Back Bay don't have great options," according to the city's website dedicated to the proposed Berkeley Street bike lane (<https://www.boston.gov/departments/transportation/berkeley-street-bike-lanes>). "We aim to complete a missing link in our bike network between Tremont Street and Beacon Street. Commuters will be able to reach job centers in the Back Bay and beyond. And everyone will be able to safely bike between two vibrant shopping, dining, and entertainment districts: Tremont Street in the South End; and Newbury Street in the Back Bay."

On Boylston Street, the city is proposing a one-way, separated bike lane between Arlington Street and Massachusetts Avenue.

"Many people already ride their bikes on Boylston Street as a natural continuation of trips from Fenway, Mission Hill,

the Longwood Medical Center, and Brookline," according to the city's website dedicated to the proposed Boylston Street bike lane (<https://www.boston.gov/departments/transportation/boylston-street-bike-lanes>). "Today, people biking on Boylston Street contend with a busy street lacking a dedicated bike lane. There is also frequent double parking and commercial loading. As a result, several blocks of Boylston Street are high-crash corridors for bicyclists."

This route was announced in September as part of the city's expanded bike network. The city spent the last few months collecting information about existing conditions, including traffic volumes. The Boston Transportation Department has begun public consultation to hear from residents, businesses, and other street users to help refine the vision for these streets.

The city will hold Better Bike Lanes office hours from 3 to 7

p.m. on March 1, 15, and 29; on April 12 and 26; and on May 10. Visit the project websites to sign up for office hours.

Meanwhile, Elliott Laffer, chair of the Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay board of directors, is among those who believes that adding bike lanes to Berkeley Street will only serve to exasperate the street's already challenging traffic conditions.

"There's a very marginal traffic situation [in the area], and it all gets concentrated on Berkeley," said Laffer.

If a driver gets off Storrow Drive and wants to go west-bound, there are only to point of entry - Berkeley Street and Charlesgate - which are located fairly far apart, as Laffer noted.

And traffic has been an issue on Beacon Street, since the fall of 1982, he added, when the city decided to change the one-way direction of traffic flowing on Charles Street between Charles Circle and Beacon Street.

All of this has led to congestion on Beacon Street and slight congestion on Berkeley Street, said Laffer, as well as making the intersection of Beacon and Berkeley the worst in the Back Bay, which has consistently earned a grade of 'F' on traffic studies.

"It's a very difficult intersection. It's a very dangerous intersection for drivers, pedestrians, and people on bikes, and none of that would be helped by making the street even more congested by taking out a lane of traffic [to accommodate the proposed Berkeley Street bike lane]," said Laffer.

The alternative would be to remove parking on Berkeley Street to accommodate the bike lane, but Laffer anticipates that suggestion wouldn't be met favorably with car owners in the

neighborhood.

Moreover, if bikes come down the right side of the street on Berkeley Street, they would then need to cross over its traffic lanes to reach Beacon Street, said Laffer.

And if the bike lane were instead to go on the left-hand side of Berkley Street, the traffic would be "squeezed in on the right," which, he added, could cause further congestion on Berkley Street.

Cars that don't want to take Storrow Drive when they go to Beacon Street would then need to make a left and might have to cross over the bike lane to reach their destinations, said Laffer.

Bicyclists would also have to navigate the block between Arlington and Berkeley streets outside of any bike lanes to reach the proposed Berkley Street bike lane.

Meanwhile, traffic coming out of Mugar Way and turning onto Storrow Drive already creates dangerous conditions.

"Pedestrians take their lives into their own hands when they cross at Berkeley, where drivers are already frustrated because they've been jammed up," said Laffer.

Regarding proposed bike lanes on Boylston Street, Laffer said this is mostly a "merchant issue" while acknowledging "there's a lot of street there."

As Laffer understands it, a bike lane on Boylston Street couldn't go on the right side of the street due to the close proximity to the Prudential Center and the Hynes Convention Center, among other major destinations on that side of the street.

Putting a bike lane on the left side of Boylston Street instead would need to be studied first, he said, to determine whether there could still be parking there, as

well as what the expected impact would be of taking away a traffic lane.

But the city's traffic studies could also very well overlook one major factor: Delivery drivers for and drivers picking up orders from Chik-fil-A on Boylston Street frequently double park outside the store, said Laffer, yet the city's study likely wouldn't take this into account, since double-parking is illegal.

Moreover, providing bike lanes in no way ensures that bicyclists will use them, said Laffer, since bicyclists face no penalties if they opt not to use them.

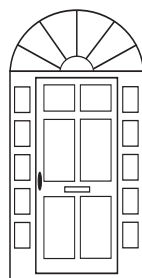
Meg Mainzer-Cohen, president and executive director of the Back Bay Association, said while the city has yet to share their plans for the proposed Boylston Street bike lane with her group or with the neighborhood's business community, she believes that if implemented properly, a bike lane on Boylston Street "can be successful."

"The Back Bay Association looks forward to working with the Boston Transportation Department to ensure the safety of all users while also enabling successful curb operations," Mainzer-Cohen wrote. "It will be important to maintain Boylston Street's vehicular capacity link between Back Bay, Downtown and the Seaport and incorporate commercial loading access, hotel patron entry and exit, valet operations, and the overall safety of pedestrians at the curb. As we have seen BTB 'over reduce' capacity on other important arteries, adding to intersection cues, (like Tremont Street and Huntington Avenue), we will look carefully at the City's plans."

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Nacho World Tour

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

Often, a food adventure begins when leftovers become second acts. Our non-traditional nacho world tour started with a container of roasted root vegetables, leftover braised beef, and some black beans.

Penny spread tortilla chips on a sheet pan; added pieces of roasted carrot, onion, potato, rutabaga, and squash; sprinkled a layer of grated cheese; dotted it with black beans; and topped that with shredded braised beef. After a few minutes under a hot broiler, she added cherry tomatoes and scallions. She served it with sour cream and lime wedges on the side.

Recipe Development Research

The following day, we began tossing ideas around for recipes. We discussed everything from Chinese nachos with char siu (bbq pork) and hoisin sauce to Polish nachos with kielbasa and

horseradish.

Now in research mode, we borrowed a copy of Dan Whalen's "Nachos for Dinner" from the library. We soon learned to enjoy his system for taking foods you love and turning those flavors into nachos. Whalen starts with a chapter on building blocks. You'll find recipes for nacho-friendly sauces, salsas, guacamoles, beans, vegetables, and proteins. For most of these, he adds a few ways to use that ingredient in nachos.

He follows with chapters for turning popular soups, salads, appetizers, sandwiches, tacos, comfort foods, brunch, and snack items into trays of nachos. We've bookmarked his recipes for Chicken Larb, Banh Mi, Chicken Parm, and Italian Sub Nachos. Whalen even invented an array of dessert nachos. We can't wait to try the S'mores, Apple Pie, and Strawberry Shortcake nacho recipes.

Your Nachos

From what we learned, the dish was named for Ignacio Anaya, the inventor, whose nickname was "Nacho." The snack he created for a favorite customer in 1940 was fried tortilla triangles with shredded Colby cheese, heated and topped with pickled jalapeños. He was working with what he had—something crispy, cheesy, and spicy. We honor his creativity by using his formula with any ingredients that fit the role.

You can replace tortilla chips with any base layer that will work with your theme and be easy to pick up. We like toasted naan for Indian nachos. Whalen uses pie crust triangles for his Apple Pie nachos.

Nacho Tips

We suggest following the best tip we took from "Nachos for Dinner." Whalen wrote, "...sometimes it is better to reserve the toppings on the side for dipping.



Our non-traditional nacho world tour started with a container of roasted root vegetables, braised beef, and some black beans.

ping. This keeps the chips crispy and the nachos themselves less messy, and it lets the eaters decide how much salsa, sour cream, or other cold topping they want."

Enjoy the fact that Nachos are casual food. Go ahead and serve them right on the baking sheet. This can be a perfect time to use smaller ¼ or ⅓ size sheet pans for individual servings. And line your pan with parchment paper or foil for fast cleanup.

Another favorite tip from the book was, "Spread them out so that every chip has at least 50 percent of its surface area

exposed to the pan's surface."

Finally, many of us first tasted Nachos in a favorite pub. These were likely to be a big pile of "loaded nachos" that became soggy long before the plate was empty. Try for a more straightforward array of ingredients with cold toppings on the side. You may find that you prefer your clean and crispy homemade nachos better than the pile from the pub.

Do you have a question or topic for Fresh & Local? Send an email to Penny@BostonZest.com with your suggestion.

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Summer brings unique programs for local kids

By Sun staff

While winter is still upon us, it's already time for parents to look past the current school year and begin considering summer alternatives for their children. Boston-area kids can choose from a range of different offerings this year, but enrollment for the unique programs described below is limited. So don't hesitate to enroll, lest you miss out this summer.

Each summer, The Advent School's campus at 99 West Cedar St. is transformed into a makerspace where children become

designers, tinkerers, and builders.

The Design at Advent Summer Program offers three completely unique two-week sessions for children ages 5 through 12.

Designers begin each session by sorting through recycled materials, learning proper tool use, and engaging in the design process. Each day, the designers and faculty set out to explore the city, play games, and gather inspiration. On the last Friday of each session, the designers share their creations and prototypes with friends and family with a Design Expo.

The program also takes advan-

tage of the Advent School's city location by making frequent field trips to the Esplanade Playground, Boston Common, Public Garden, and other outdoor spaces.

Session One, from June 20-30, is Puppet Engineering, which is inspired by the Puppet Showplace Theater and the work of famous puppeteers, including Jim Henson and Frank Oz.

Session Two, from July 10-21, is Biomimicry in Boston, which is inspired by the processes found in nature.

Session Three, from July 25 through Aug. 4, is Woodwork Wonders, which is inspired by wood - one of the world's most abundant and versatile materials.

Programming runs from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., with extended day options also available.

This year, the Advent School is offering a scholarship for Design at Advent. Anyone who applies for financial aid to attend the program and who is not a currently enrolled

Advent student is eligible. Families can find all the details on our website here <https://www.advent-school.org/community-enrichment-program>. The scholarship was made possible through grant funding from the Beacon Hill Civic Association.

Visit <https://www.advent-school.org/community-enrichment-program> to register and for more information on the Advent School's summer programming.

Whether you're are looking for academic enrichment, athletic growth, or if just want to enjoy some good old fashion fun, BC High is the place to be this summer.

For the academically minded student, BC High offers top notch academic courses in a wide variety of areas, including SAT/ACT Prep, Chemistry, Biology, Algebra, Geometry, Trig for Calculus, Digital Photography, Intro to Drawing, High School Writing, and more. Rising high school seniors can

get a jump start on their common application in the College Essay class. Additionally, middle schoolers can get ahead with Math Fundamentals, Writing Fundamentals, Study Skills classes, and an Intro to Algebra I class.

For both high school and middle school athletes, BC High's sports camps are designed for players of all ability levels. Led by dedicated BC High coaches, the goal is to promote teamwork and fun through various drills, games, and competitions. Camps are offered in Baseball, Basketball, Soccer, Lacrosse, and Football. Just looking to maintain a strong body? Check out our Scholastic Sports Performance Program to improve mobility, strength, power, speed, and conditioning.

For campers interested in trying something different this summer, BC High offers the following specialty programs: Arts Camp, All Sports, Minecraft, Coding & Robotics, Roblox Mission to Mars!, and Dungeons and Dragons.

Many of BC High's summer offerings are co-ed, so everyone is encouraged to explore these programs online at www.bchigh.edu/summer-programs.

The Boston Children's School Summer-Fun-Program will begin its 41st year on July 10 and continue for six weeks, ending Aug. 18, at 8 Whittier Place in the West End.

The program, designed for children between the ages of 3 and 8, is located at Charles River Park in the West End. The Boston Children's School has its own private playground, which allows children to play safely outdoors, away from the noise, congestion, and traffic. Inside, the facility is fully air conditioned.

The program is organized by age, and each group is taught and nurtured by state certified teachers with the help of teacher interns from local area colleges and universities. All activities are designed to be developmentally appropriate for each age group.

Besides daily play activities, children can use the swimming pools on a daily basis at The Clubs at Charles River Park. The program also offers children science, music appreciation, and field trips.

Visit BostonChildrensSchool.Org for more information. Early registration is encouraged because

(LOCAL PROGRAMS, NEXT PAGE)



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SUMMER FUN PROGRAM! **FOR AGES 3 - 8 YEARS OLD**

THE BOSTON CHILDREN'S SCHOOL

Eight Whittier Place
617-367-6239
BostonChildrensSchool.Org

WILD & SCENIC FILM FESTIVAL

4.29.23
6:30-9:30 at Atlantic Wharf

"e" inc.'s Wild and Scenic Film Festival is BACK IN PERSON and coming to Boston on April 29th. Food, Fun, Festivities, & Fabulous Films you don't want to miss!

Visit www.einc-action.org to sign up for updates.

presented by: **e inc.** the planet science learning & action center



2023 Summer in the City



THE ADVENT SCHOOL 15 BRIMMER ST. BOSTON, MA 02108

The Advent School Design at Advent summer program offers three completely unique STEAM-based two-week sessions for children ages 5 through 12.

Summer 2023 Themes
Puppet Engineering: 6/20 - 6/30
Biomimicry in Boston: 7/10 - 7/21

Woodwork Wonders: 7/24 - 8/4
Each child learns proper tool use, engages in the design process, and builds prototypes out of recycled materials. Designers explore Boston daily, play games, and gather inspiration. The designers share their creations and prototypes with friends and family on the last Friday of each session at the Design Expo. This year, a program scholarship is available! Find out more at <https://www.advent-school.org/scholarship>.

BOSTON CHILDREN'S SCHOOL 8 WHITTIER PLACE BOSTON, MA 02114 617-367-6239

BostonChildrensSchool.com
Summer Fun Program

The Boston Children's School Summer Fun Program celebrates it's 41st year of providing exceptional summertime experiences and academic enrichment to children between the ages of 3 and 8 years old. The Summer Fun Program at The Boston Children's School is conveniently located at Charles River Park, in the historic West End section of Boston. Our location is fully air-conditioned. The school has its own private playground, which allows children to safely play outdoors away from the noise, congestion and traffic of the city streets. Our location also allows children to explore the cultural richness of the City of Boston through field

trips to museums, theaters, libraries and historic sites. The Summer Fun program is organized by age. Each age group is supervised, taught and nurtured by certified teachers, along with teacher interns from local area colleges. All activities are designed to be developmentally appropriate for each age group. Children can use the pool areas, on a daily basis, at The Clubs at Charles River Park. The Summer Fun Program also offers children yoga, music appreciation, science, arts and crafts, and interactive storytelling. Parent involvement and participation are always a part of the program, which begins July 10, 2023 and ends Aug. 18, 2023.

If you would like your child to become part of the 2023 Summer Fun Program at the Boston Children's School, please call Judy Langer, Program Director, at 617-367-6239

BOSTON COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL 150 MORRISSEY BLVD. BOSTON, MA 02125 617-436-3900

BChigh.edu

Imagine your summer at BC High where boys and girls grades

5-12 from Boston and beyond can get involved in sports camps, academic courses, middle school enrichment courses and specialty programs alike. Please visit our website for a complete list of offerings. BC High looks forward to spending the summer with you!

CHARLESTOWN BOYS & GIRLS CLUB 15 GREEN STREET CHARLESTOWN, MA 02129

617-242-1775

www.bgcb.org

Summer programs at the Charlestown Club run from July 5th - August 18th, 2023

Summer Camp is for ages 6 (entering First grade in September) to 12 years and will run Monday thru Friday from 9:00am - 4:00pm

The Summer Teen/Young Leaders Program for ages 13-14 runs 9:00 am - 4:00 pm.

Email Sharon for details at sfidler@bgcb.org

Teen Evening Program for ages 13-18 are from 4:00 - 7:00pm

Summer Camp runs from July 5th thru August 18th

Session 1 - July 5th - 21st

Session 2 - July 24th - Aug 4th

Session 3 - Aug 7th - 18th
Registration Starts Wednesday, March 1st for Current Members
Registration for New Members starts Monday, April 3rd
All Registration will take place online this year.

For more information, please contact Membership Director, Maura (mcannon@bgcb.org), Derek (dgallagher@bgcb.org) or call the Club at 617-242-1775

"E" INC. - ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE LEARNING CENTER

114 16TH STREET
SUITE 1030
BOSTON, MA 02129
617-242-4700

www.einc-action.org

"e" inc.'s Summer Science Discovery Program (SSDP) is back, with a New Added Week of Camp Fun!

Who are our closest relatives in the WILD. Why Monkeys, Apes and Lemurs of course! Come learn about how the world of primates came to be, after the dinosaurs (SUMMER IN THE CITY, NEXT PAGE)

LOCAL PROGRAMS (from previous page)

space is limited.

If you have any questions about the BCS Summer-Fun-Program, please call Judy Langer, Program Director, at 617-367-6239.

The Charlestown Boys & Girls Club, located at 15 Green St. in Charlestown, which celebrates its 135th anniversary this year, will again be offering summer programming from July 5 through Aug. 18.

The Summer Camp for ages 6 (entering first grade in September) to 12 will run Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., while the Summer Teen/Young Leaders Program for ages 13-14 runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information, email Sharon for details at sfidler@bgcb.org.

Additionally, the Charlestown Boys & Girls Club is offering Teen Evening Program for ages 13-18 from 4 to 7 p.m.

Session 1 at the summer camp runs from July 5-21; Session 2 runs from July 24 to Aug. 4; and Session 3 runs from Aug. 7-18.

Registration is now open for current members, while registration for new members begins Monday, April 3.

All Registration will take place online this year (www.bgcb.org).

For more information, contact Membership Director Maura (mcannon@bgcb.org), or Derek (dgallagher@bgcb.org), or call the Club at 617-242-1775.

"e" inc., the environmental science learning center located 114 16th St., Suite 1030, in Boston, is bringing back its Summer Science Discovery Program (SSDP), with a new added week of camp fun.

The program's first week from Aug. 14-18 will focus on monkeys and other primates, during the second week from Aug. 21 through 25, the shift will focus to dinosaurs. The third and final week from Aug. 28 to Sept. 1 will take a deep dive into the world of insects.

Each week's programs will also include an off-site themed field trip to add to the fun. The Summer Science Discovery Program, which is open to children entering first grade in the fall and through fifth grade, starts at 9 a.m. and pick-up is at 3:30 p.m. each day. Ten After-Care slots are available each day and can be set up upon registration. "e" inc.'s Summer Science and Discovery Program

For more information, visit www.einc-action.org and click on the camp tab to download all papers for registration, or call e inc. at: 617-242-4700 or email: info@einc-action.org. Please note: During the school year, staff are in the field teaching every day, but they will always respond within one business day to any queries.

DESIGN AT ADVENT SUMMER PROGRAM

**STEAM-based
programs for kids ages
5 to 12!**

**Puppet Engineering
6/20 - 6/30**

**Biomimicry in Boston
7/10 - 7/21**

**Woodwork Wonders
7/24 - 8/4**

Scan to register!





2023 Summer in the City



Disney NEWSIES JR.

"You get your picture in the papers, you're famous."



Warren-Prescott's cast for the musical, Disney's Newsies Jr., is gearing up for their performance at the end of March. Led by the talented Theatre and Arts Director, Olivia Cichon, these cast members have been hard at work since September learning lines, songs, and dances. Coupled with parental support and of course the all-important crew, this school community will transform the Warren-Prescott stage into 1899 New York City. Tickets will be sold at www.showtix4u.com in the coming weeks for the March 24-26th performances. Be sure to check the website or see the posters around Charlestown to purchase tickets!

Congratulations to Ms. Cichon, the cast, and crew!

Ashley Arias
Tatianna Brown
Gabriel Campbell
Selisa Carless
Anna Cavanagh
Jia Chen
Hudson Chiu
Eleanor Chiu

Camryn Collier
Alexandra Das
Emma Dawley
Sam DeMont
Walter DeMont
Brielle Deferiere
Kelvin Deng
Ashley Dorman
Audrey Dupuy
Genevieve Dupuy
Max Ehrenpreis
Tessa Ehrenpreis
Caroline Emrick
Elizabeth Emrick
Atticus Evans
Julia Fenn
Caroline Gowdy Fillo
Leah Finkel
Ella Fitzgerald
Louisa Fix
Lucy Flynn
Gemma Frattaroli
Sarah Garlough.

Aidan Gilmartin
Liliana Gomez
Jhonailys Arias Guerrero
Maxwell Hayek
Leah Heaton
Julian Hendzel
Evelyn Hill
Avery Hughson
Alexa Humphrey
Klara Plumb Jove
Luca Kaluski
Graham Katt
Simon Katt
Julia Kowalczyk
Nolan Kurtz
Xavier Lam
Boden Langon
Addison MacRoberts
Jonathan Macedo
Lucas McCabe
Desmond McKenna
Neriah McNeil
Finnuala McKenna

Jaila Meme
Malaiyah Minnis
Lidia Montano
Annalise Murphy
Stella Murray
Skyla Njieptchi
Emelia Nolan
Tess Nuzum
Leilani Ortiz
Maddison Pendleton
Ortiz
Lola Osborne
Cameron Osborne
Hugo Oughton
Callan Perry
Will Perry
Fiona Powers
Paige Robinson
Brooks Rogers
Dana S Rogers-Bly
Ava Russell
Alice Sachek
Emily Santosuosso

Rebecca Santosuosso
Taylor Signorelli
Bryce Stewart
Eve Stuppy
Emma Sullivan
Ben Talbot
Sayuri Eulesis Tovar
Lilly Velsmid
Juliette Wright



SUMMER IN THE CITY (from previous page)

went extinct millions of years ago. Why do gorillas eat greens? How do chimpanzees make sleeping nests? Find out when we explore Primates in Week 1! Then, in week #2, we shift to Dinosaurs – the biggest, “badest,” characters on Earth. Did you know that they laid eggs, some swam in the water, and some were leaf-eaters! Dinosaur Discovery is coming to Summer Science Discovery Program for Week #2. Finally – it is BUGS for week #3. The largest

living group on the planet, BUGS come in several shapes, many sizes, and they affect absolutely everything on the Earth all the time!

“e” inc.’s Summer Science Discovery Program takes place during the last three-weeks of August. All about Primates takes place on Week #1 (August 14-18). Discovering Dinosaurs will begin Week #2 (August 21-25). Then lastly, we dive

into Insects on Week #3 (August 28-September 1).

With each week also including an off-site themed field trip to add to the fun, your campers won’t want to miss these wonderful fun-filled science weeks. The Summer Science Discovery Program starts at 9AM every day and pick-up is at 3:30 PM each day. TEN After-Care slots are available each day and can be set up when you submit your

registration. “e” inc.’s Summer Science and Discovery Program is open to children entering First grade in Fall and goes up to Fifth grade.

As ever, at “e” inc.’s Summer Science Discovery Program, the days are full -- conducting experiments, building models, observing live specimens, turning our ideas into ART, doing investigations, meeting new friends, and having fun – there’s something

for everyone at “e” inc.!

For more information, visit: www.einc-action.org and click on the camp tab to download all papers for registration. Questions? Call us at: 617-242-4700 or email us at: info@einc-action.org. Please note – during the school year, staff are in the field teaching every day. We will always respond within one business day to any queries. Can’t wait to see you this summer!

SHADOW IMPACT (from pg. 1)

PDA at its virtual Thursday, Jan. 19, monthly hearing, while the matter is set to go to the Zoning Commission for final approval at its virtual March 29 hearing. (The Zoning Commission was originally scheduled to review this matter on March 1, but the meeting has been rescheduled to later in the month due to a lack of quorum.)

Speakers on hand for Feb. 27's "Out of the Shadows: The Longwood Place Proposal and its Impact on the Emerald Necklace" meeting, included Tim Horn, president of the Fenway Civic Association; landscape architect Elena Saporta; Jack Schleifer, field operations manager for the Emerald Necklace Conservancy; and Steve Wolf, a member of the Conservancy's board of advisors.

Horn, who was also a member of the Impact Advisory Group (IAG) for the One Simmons project, as well as a member of the review body for the Institutional Master Plan (IMP) for Simmons College, said, "I never thought [Simmons and Skanska] would violate the LMA guidelines. Never in my mind did I think that would happen."

Regarding the BPDA board's approval of the PDA, Horn said, "I believe the system was flawed. The review body was not familiar with shadows and not shown the study until the very end."

According to the shadow study, on March 21 - the Spring Equinox - which Wolf described as "the start of the growing season," as well as a "critical time for plant growth," the Longwood Place project would create 5.25 hours of new shadow, affecting 8.14 acres on the Riverway and 2.86 acres on the Back Bay Fens.

On Dec. 21 - Winter Solstice - the Longwood Place project is expected to cast 6.75 hours of new shadow, affecting 8 acres on the Riverway, 1.5 acres on Liff Park, and .5 acres on the Back Bay Fens, according to the study.

Mitigation for Longwood Place, which would only be allocated if the project moves forward, Wolf noted, includes a \$6 million endowment to be managed by the Boston Parks Department for the affected areas on the Emerald Necklace, as well as an additional \$1 million to study the impact of shadows on parkland.

Wolf, together with Saporta and Fenway residents Marie Fukuda and Freddie Veikley,

started an online petition to prevent any new shadow from encroaching on the Emerald Necklace due to new development (available at <https://www.change.org/p/protect-the-emerald-necklace-parks-please-dont-take-our-sunlight-away?redirect=false>); as of Wednesday, March 1, the petition had garnered more than 2,500 signatures towards its goal of 5,000 signatures.

Wolf pointed out that the petition only comes in response to the potential shadow impact related to the height of Longwood Place while describing many other aspects of the project as "state-of-the-art urban design."

Contrary to the significant amount of new shadow that would be cast on the parkland per the shadow study, Saporta said Skanska had pledged that the Longwood Place development would create a maximum of two hours of new shadow.

Meanwhile, Schleifer discussed some of the ecological concerns related to shadow, including soil health, which could lead to reduced germination of seeds, reduced microclimates, and challenges with root establishment; invasive species, which generally thrive in shadowy conditions; the health of canopy trees; and water quality and river health.

Dolly Boogdanian of Audubon Circle said the parkland where she has walked regularly for the past 40 years would be impacted by the new shadows cast by Longwood Place.

"Our parks are not a competing interest," said Boogdanian. "These are not something you barter away so you can get something else."

Moreover, Boogdanian pointed out that while the PDA makes provisions for approximately 2.3 acres of new public open space on the project site, its language could later be amended, resulting in the future development of that parcel.

"I consider that land banking," she said. "Someday, those beautiful two acres won't be open space."

Likewise, Pam Jorgensen, president of Fenway Victory Gardens and a neighborhood resident, said she believes that the project pits Simmons College against the Emerald Necklace. "And I find that deeply, deeply upsetting," she added.

Longtime Fenway resident Veikley said, "It's a huge project

that doesn't need to cast that much shadow on our public parks, and it doesn't need the height."

Veikley pointed out that even if the Zoning Commission were to authorize the PDA at its March hearing, Mayor Michelle Wu still "has the option not to sign off on it and can equate her non-signature with changes [to the project] she wants to make."

Maggie Van Scoy, Mayor Wu's Neighborhood Services liaison for Fenway-Kenmore, as well as for Back Bay, Beacon Hill, and Mission Hill, was in attendance and said she would report comments from the meeting back to Mayor Wu ahead of the March Zoning Commission hearing.

"We know this issue is of paramount importance to the community," she said.

District 8 City Councilor Kenzie Bok, who was also on hand for the meeting, said she feels like she's "really walked into a bind as a councilor," not only because the future of Simmons hinges on the success of the project, but also because negotiations for the project were already underway when she took office in January of 2020.

But despite these challenges, Councilor Bok said she negotiated a 25-foot reduction in height for the building's tallest building

in January.

Councilor Bok also noted that each of the buildings would be subject to the city's Article 80B review process for large projects so there would be future opportunities to refine the plan and for the community to provide further input.

Regarding the Longwood Place project's inherent conflict with the LMA interim guidelines, Councilor Bok said, "The guidelines issue is a huge issue citywide. The BPDA works on guidelines and doesn't put them into the process" (e.g. Stuart Street).

Laura Brink Pisinski, vice president of university real estate development and facilities management for Simmons College, said she had heard the concerns voiced at the meeting and would discuss them with Skanska.

"We'll continue to try to modify the project throughout the process," she said. "We're not done with this conversation. Don't think that this is the end of the story, just because the Zoning Commission approves the zoning. I think this is a much longer conversation than that."

Simmons will maintain control of the project site for the duration of the 99-year lease, she added.

Pisinski asked that the project

be allowed to proceed. "If we don't move forward, I think the collaboration stops," she said.

Kyle Greaves, a manger of commercial real estate development for Skanska, said the project has evolved in response to community input, with more housing, more open space, and reduced height, all of which were achieved while reducing the shadow impact.

But Greaves added, "We cannot move forward with a project when we don't know the shadow guidelines."

Meanwhile, Horn of the Fenway Civic Association suggested that the community ask the Zoning Commission and the city to defer approving the PDA for Longwood Place, or a more likely option, he said, would be to request revised PDA language on the project's maximum shadow impact.

"To allow the PDA to violate the parkways ordinance is just completely wrong," he said of the ordinance that no building or structure can be built or altered within 100 feet from a park or parkway within the City of Boston without prior written permission from the Parks and Recreation Department.

But as Horn also acknowledged: "Simmons needs this project, and we need Simmons."

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Boston sees continued improvement in COVID-19 metrics

Staff Report

The Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) shared that the city continues to note downward trends in several key COVID-19 metrics. Suffolk County is now at low community level, per the CDC.

While these data are a positive sign, residents who are at high risk of severe illness and hospitalization should continue to take precautions.

The amount of new COVID-19 cases per day have decreased by 36% over the past two weeks

(data through 2/24). Boston hospitals had 143 new hospital admissions through February 27, which marks a 23% decrease over the past two weeks.

Analysis of the city's wastewater shows the level of COVID-19 particles has remained stable

over the past two weeks, having decreased by 14%. Nine of the 11 neighborhood testing sites had rates that were below the citywide average of 1,222 RNA copies/mL (data through 2/19).

"The downward trends that we have noted are encouraging."

said Dr. Bisola Ojikutu, Commissioner of Public Health and Executive Director of the Boston Public Health Commission.

"However, COVID-19 is unpredictable and continues to have a disproportionate impact

(COVID-19 Pg. 13)

Back Bay Architectural Commission meeting set for March 8

The Back Bay Architectural Commission will hold a virtual public hearing on Wednesday, March 8, 2023 at 5:00 pm

Please note: this meeting will only be held virtually and not in person. You can participate in the meeting by going to

Or calling 301-715-8592 and enter meeting id #. You can also submit written comments or questions to backbayac@boston.gov.

I. DESIGN REVIEW PUBLIC HEARING - 5:00pm

HTTPS://ZOOM.US/J/96355693471963 5569 3471
23.0640 BB — 349 Marlborough Street:

Applicant: Rebecca Marston
Proposed Work: At rear yard remove dead Ailanthus tree.

23.0522 BB — Zero Marlborough Street: Continued from 2-8-2023 Applicant: Jonathan Keep

Proposed Work: Reinstall and re-landscape entrance to lower unit that was removed to install new drainage system.

23.0330 BB — 362 Commonwealth Avenue:

Applicant: Diego Arabbo
Proposed Work: At roof replace existing roof deck.

23.0640 BB — 302 Beacon Street:

Applicant: Douglas Millis
Proposed Work: At front façade relocate entrance to first-story and build entry steps, and replace all windows in-kind; at rear elevation add a connecting hallway at the lower level between the dwelling and the garage with a walkway on top of it to connect the main floor of the dwelling to the existing garage roof deck, add a door to allow access to the walkway and enlarge windows at upper floors; and at roof expand existing deck and headhouse, and replace all mechanical equipment.

II. ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW/APPROVAL: In order to expedite the review process, the commission has delegated the approval of certain work items, such as those involving ordinary maintenance and repair, restoration or replacement, or which otherwise have a minimal impact on a building's appearance, to commission staff pending ratification at its monthly public hearing. Having been identified as meeting these eligibility criteria and all applicable guidelines, the following applications will be approved at this hearing:

Applicants whose projects are listed under this heading **NEED NOT APPEAR** at the hearing. Following the hearing, you will be issued a Determination Sheet to present at the Inspectional Services Department (1010 Massachusetts Avenue) as proof of project approval when applying for permits. ISD personnel will send an electronic copy of your building-permit application to the commission staff for review. (To avoid potential confusion, the text of your building-permit application should be consistent with the project description given below.) Commission staff will accordingly authorize the execution of the work, attaching any applicable provisos, reflecting the relevant guidelines and precedents.

PLEASE NOTE THAT FOLLOWING ISSUANCE OF THE DETERMINATION SHEET NO FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE WILL BE ISSUED FOR THE APPLICATIONS LISTED BELOW. The electronic building-permit application as annotated by commission staff will constitute your Certificate of Appropriateness; this will be valid for one year from the date of the hearing. The applicant is required to notify the commission of any project changes; failure to do so may affect the status of the approval.

If you have any questions not addressed by the above information, please contact staff at 617.635.1935 or BackBayAC@boston.gov. Thank you.

23.0600 BB — 100 Beacon Street: At roof replace existing roof deck in-kind and repair membrane roofing.

23.0596 BB — 166 Beacon Street: At front façade replace four fifth-floor one-over-one windows with wood one-over-one windows.

23.0626 BB — 166 Beacon Street: At front façade replace five fourth-floor one-over-one windows with wood one-over-one windows; and at rear elevation replace one fourth-floor one-over-one window with a wood one-over-one window.

23.0665 BB — 179 Beacon Street: At roof replace four existing skylights.

23.0648 BB — 188 Beacon Street: Replace eight one-over-one wood non-historic windows in-kind.

23.0650 BB — 413 Beacon Street: Replace eleven one-over-one wood windows in-kind.

23.0579 BB — 399 Boylston Street: At front façade replace wall signage.

23.0661 BB — 501 Boylston Street: At roof repair and replace roofing; remove two skylights at penthouse roof; replace all roof drains, flashings, access ladders, and other roofing accessories; and remove all abandoned roof top equipment.

23.0657 BB — 951 Boylston Street: Clean, repair and repoint masonry, replace twenty-four windows in-kind, and refinish doors.

23.0628 BB — 22, 24 & 26

Commonwealth Avenue: At rear elevation repoint and repair masonry, and repaint existing fire escape.

23.0618 BB — 50 Commonwealth Avenue: Replace twelve first-story windows with historically appropriate wood windows.

23.0617 BB — 267 Commonwealth Avenue: At front roof repair existing chimney.

23.0642 BB — 287 Commonwealth Avenue: At front façade repair and re-paint existing balconies, and replace seven one-over-one wood windows in-kind.

23.0591 BB — 9 Fairfield Street: At rear yard replacement of deteriorated parking area with new brick pavers, granite steps, iron railing and gate; reconstruction of deteriorated retaining/garden wall; replacement of rotted wood fence along side yard in-kind; and new 2'x2' granite pavers at rear courtyard set on stone dust with rat proof screen mesh underlayment.

23.0616 BB — 8 Gloucester Street: At rear elevation replace sixth-story non-historic steel window unit with two one-over-one wood windows.

23.0659 BB — 73 Marlborough Street: At rear elevation repair and repaint existing fire escape.

23.0631 BB — 118 Marlborough Street: At front façade replace four one-over-one wood windows in-kind.

23.0625 BB — 282 Marlborough Street: At front façade restore entryway to its original appearance.

23.0636 BB — 405 Marlborough Street: At front façade repair and repoint masonry; and

repaint window trim.

23.0620 BB — 447 Marlborough Street: At front façade repair entry steps.

23.0658 BB — 131 Newbury Street: At front façade replace wall sign at first-story storefront.

23.0658 BB — 137 Newbury Street: At front façade install wall sign.

23.06643 BB — 142 Newbury Street: At front facade install wall and window signage at lower level retail space.

23.0646 BB — 282 Newbury Street: Replace ten non-historic six-over-one windows with wood true-divided light wood six-over-one windows.

III RATIFICATION OF 1/11/2023 & 2/8/2023 PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

IV STAFF UPDATES V PROJECTED ADJOURNMENT: 6:30PM

BACK BAY ARCHITECTURAL DISTRICT COMMISSION

Kathleen Connor (Chair) (Back Bay Association)), Iphigenia Demetriades (Vice-Chair) (Boston Real Estate Board), Robert Weintraub (Back Bay Association), John Christiansen (Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay), Thomas High (Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay), Lisa Saunders (Mayor's Office), Vacant (Mayor's Office), Zsuzsanna Gaspar (Boston Society of Architects), Ethel MacLeod (Boston Society of Architects)

Alternates: David Eisen (Boston Society of Architects), Andie Chan-Patera (Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay), Kenneth Tutunjian (Greater Boston Real Estate Board), Tanvi Nayar (Mayor's Office), David Sampson (Back Bay Association)

Wu and Immigrant Advancement award Mini-Grants to promote U.S. citizenship

Special to the Sun

Mayor Michelle Wu and the Mayor's Office for Immigrant Advancement (MOIA) are awarding \$50,000 in mini-grants to five nonprofits for creative initiatives that help green card holders become U.S. citizens. The grants range from \$2,000 to \$12,000 for programs including citizenship classes, education, and outreach.

"Becoming a U.S. citizen is an important milestone yet we know for many in our communities that it can be an expensive, intimidating and never ending process," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "I'm grateful to MOIA and these organizations for their critical work in reducing barriers

to citizenship with creative and community-driven initiatives."

"Many immigrants want to become U.S. citizens but are deterred because of how much it can cost, questions about the process, and even anxiety about navigating the system," said Monique Tú Nguyen, Executive Director of the Mayor's Office for Immigrant Advancement. "By giving diverse nonprofits mini-grants, immigrants can get help through trusted sources in their communities."

Five local organizations are selected to receive funding from the MOIA Promoting Access to Citizenship Mini-Grants. They are:

Agencia ALPHA: Funding will increase capacity to provide citi-

zenship classes.

Azerbaijani Society of New England: The organization will hold a citizenship awareness workshop and start test preparation classes for the Azerbaijani community.

Nigerian American Multi-Service Association: The mini-grant will help launch a new "Citizenship Pathway Program" that focuses on outreach and application help to green card holders in African communities.

Project Citizenship: Funding will support the creation of a free online self-navigated portal to guide people through the naturalization application process.

Vietnamese American Civic Association: The organization will help the Vietnamese commu-

nity prepare for citizenship interviews through individual and group practice sessions.

There are several benefits to becoming a U.S. citizen including being more active in the community, having the right to vote, and living in the United States without risk of deportation. About 30,000 Boston residents are eligible for U.S. citizenship.

"The fulfillment of being citizens of a country after living here for years is something that many in our community earnestly look forward to," said Godwin Nnana, President of the Nigerian American Multi-Service Association. "This grant will help make that a dream come true for a number of green card holders in our community."

"We're grateful for the City's support on this critical issue," said Thuan Tran, Executive Director of the Vietnamese American Civic Association. "This shows the City's understanding and recognition of the public issues faced by immigrant communities today. This mini-grant will certainly support our continuing effort to assist Vietnamese green card holders in performing their citizenship interviews competently."

These mini-grants will support programming from March through September 2023. Anyone interested in joining these programs can contact the organizations directly.

Free tax preparation for Boston and Mystic Valley residents offered

Staff Report

Action for Boston Community Development (ABCD) urges all residents of Boston and the Mystic Valley who earned \$60,000 or less in 2022 to schedule a FREE in-person tax prep appointment at one of our neighborhood sites by calling 617-348-6329 or visiting bostonabcd.org/tax.

ABCD is a co-founder of the Boston Tax Help Coalition, a public-private collaboration with the City of Boston, which seeks to ensure the full participation of all Boston residents in the City's economic vitality and future. In addition, ABCD is a member of the Massachusetts Association for Community Action (MASS-CAP) Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) network and offers free tax preparation services in the Mystic Valley Area. Both the Boston and Mystic Valley coalitions fall under the federal VITA program.

ABCD's IRS-certified tax preparers will prepare and electronically submit returns through

in-person appointments and document drop off. Last year, ABCD helped 2,565 residents complete their state and federal tax returns, resulting in \$6,431,747 in federal and state refunds combined, \$1,454,056 in Earned Income Tax Credits (EITC) and \$72,597 in Child Tax Credits (CTC). That economic infusion channeled dollars back to hardworking families and revitalized businesses in under-resourced neighborhoods. For over 30 years, ABCD has provided more than 150,000 people across the city with free tax preparation services.

Those who may qualify for free tax preparation services include:

- People who earned \$60,000 or less in 2022
- People with disabilities
- Limited English-speaking taxpayers

ABCD tax volunteers are multilingual, and fluent in eight languages including English, Spanish, French, Mandarin, Cantonese, Vietnamese, Cape Verdean

Creole and Haitian Creole.

"ABCD is proud to be a longstanding partner of the VITA program and the Boston Tax Help Coalition," said ABCD President and CEO Sharon Scott-Chandler. "Free tax preparation services help empower people who are struggling by providing the necessary IRS-certified tax experts to complete their returns, ensuring that Greater Boston residents obtain every tax credit to which they are entitled. In doing so, money is channeled directly back into the hands of residents and under-resourced communities. People have an opportunity they don't often have to access a lump sum of their hard earned cash and pay off debts or save toward things like buying a house or furthering education. With extraordinarily high food and energy prices today, they are also able to help meet immediate needs like rent and transportation."

ABCD'S IRS-certified tax preparers will make sure that residents receive every tax relief

measure to which they are entitled, including:

- EITC – Earned Income Tax Credit – one of America's most effective anti-poverty initiatives – EITC is a tax deduction that rewards work. This year a Married Filing Jointly family with three or more children earning up to \$59,187 and filing jointly will receive total federal and state EITC deductions of \$9,016 off their 2022 income tax. EITC can be claimed retroactively for the past three years, so eligible taxpayers can qualify for a sizable sum. The IRS estimates that one out of five eligible taxpayers will not claim EITC and will lose out on this important credit.

- CTC – CHILD TAX CREDIT – returns a maximum of \$2,000 in 2022. This is a non-refundable credit which reduces the tax liability. The CTC has been reduced to 30% of the total amount paid for tax year 2022.

- SENIOR CIRCUIT BREAKER – a state tax deduction providing seniors age 65 and older

who pay unsubsidized rent or property taxes. The maximum credit amount for tax year 2022 is \$1,200. If the credit owed exceeds the amount of the total tax payable for the year, the additional amount of the credit will be refunded without interest.

A Massachusetts-based nonprofit human services organization, ABCD provides disadvantaged residents in the Boston and Mystic Valley areas with the tools, support, and resources they need to transition from poverty to stability and from stability to success. Each year, we serve more than 100,000 individuals, elders and families through a broad range of innovative initiatives as well as long-established proven programs and services. For 60 years, ABCD has been deeply rooted in each neighborhood we serve, empowering individuals and families and supporting them in their quest to live with dignity and achieve their highest potential. For more, please visit bostonabcd.org.

COVID-19 (from pg. 12)

within communities throughout Boston and among individuals who are vulnerable due to underlying illness and immunocompromise. We urge Boston residents to get boosted and to utilize the free vaccination and testing resources available throughout our city."

Indoor masking remains an important strategy to decrease

transmission risk. Individuals who are at higher risk of severe illness and hospitalization due to COVID-19 are highly encouraged to mask while indoors.

In addition, individuals with COVID-19 symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19 should wear a high-quality mask or

respirator in public indoor spaces. BPHC reminds residents that staying up to date on their COVID-19 vaccinations by getting the bivalent booster is the most effective way to reduce the risk of COVID-19 infection and severe illness that can result in hospitalization. If you have not received a COVID-19 booster

since August 2022, you are due to receive the updated bivalent booster.

Bivalent boosters, as well as the primary COVID-19 vaccination series, COVID-19 testing, and flu shots are free and available at BPHC's standing clinics throughout the city. At-home rapid testing kits and \$75 gift

cards for individuals who receive a COVID-19 vaccination are also available at these sites, while supplies last. Walk-ins are welcome and no IDs or proof of insurance are required.

• Boston City Hall – 1 City Hall Sq., Boston

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

Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
BACK BAY			
Ufland, Jonathan E	Eldridge, Joseph T	85 Saint Botolph St #4	\$1,175,000
McGovern, Matthew E	Arizpe, Daniel B	286 Commonwealth Ave #4	\$2,150,000
BEACON HILL			
Svenson, Benjamin	Collins, Kristin A	70 Brimmer St #305	\$525,000
Svenson, Benjamin	Collins, Kristin A	108-114 Chestnut St #305	\$525,000
Svenson, Benjamin	Mt Vernon Rt	62 Mount Vernon St	\$4,375,000
Baker, Christopher	Manolova, Tatiana S	32 Myrtle St #4-1	\$690,000
BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE			
Bolton, Graham J	Fpg Lagrange Owner One L	55 Lagrange St #2003	\$2,479,000
Kumar, Ajay	Burrows, Matthew P	16 Miner St #604	\$1,250,000
WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN			
Li, Michael L	2503 Millennium Towers	1 Franklin St #2503	\$3,200,000

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Emerald Necklace Conservancy's Party in the Park luncheon to take place May 17

Special to the Sun

The Emerald Necklace Conservancy has announced that Party in the Park, the city's beloved annual luncheon to raise awareness and funds for the Emerald Necklace parks, will take place on Wednesday, May 17, at Franklin Park.

All proceeds from the fundraiser support the 1,100-acre park system that serves as a backyard for residents and a destination for more than 1 million park users each year. The Conservancy stewards the Emerald Necklace through advocacy, maintenance and restoration, education, access improvements, public programs and the promotion of park stewardship through youth education and volunteer programs.

"We're looking forward to welcoming civic leaders, green-space advocates and Emerald Necklace supporters and advocates to Franklin Park for this year's Party in the Park. As always, we'll be bringing energy, style and fun to the tent -- rain or shine -- to raise funds for the vital work the Emerald Necklace Conservancy does to maintain Boston's largest park system," saAlex Ablon and Emily Derr, co-chairs of the 2023 Party in the Park, said in a press release.

This May, Party in the Park returns to Franklin Park, the largest in the Emerald Necklace at over 500 acres -- considered the park system's crowning jewel park system by its designer Frederick Law Olmsted. Party in the Park will feature the presentation of the Liff Spirit Award, given to an individual or individuals whose leadership, commitment to cities, passion for public places, dedication to the democratic ideals fostered in urban parks and ability to inspire public ser-

vants and private citizens to join in common cause best reflects the spirit and legacy of Justine Mee Liff, Boston's Parks Commissioner from 1996 to 2022. This year's awardee will be announced soon.

"Party in the Park, the Emerald Necklace Conservancy's signature fundraising event, funds essential tree care and capital projects in the parks," Karen Mauney-Brodek, president of the Emerald Necklace Conservancy, said in a press release. "It also supports our education programs, free public programming, resources for park users, advocacy efforts and special initiatives. We are extremely proud of the work the Conservancy has done for the past 25 years to steward and improve the Emerald Necklace, and to connect all Bostonians and visitors to these parks -- your parks. The Necklace's 1,100 acres, stretching from Dorchester to the Back Bay, are such an important part of our city and our collective efforts to manage climate change."

Founded in 2003, Party in the Park attracts the area's most generous greenspace supporters and civic leaders for a stylish tented luncheon in the Emerald Necklace. Guests don their finest millinery at this "must-attend" fundraiser to herald the coming of spring to Boston. From picture hats and fascinators to cloches and pillboxes, every conceivable type of headgear will be on display. Festive spring décor, including stunning floral arrangements by DiCicco Design, will grace the venue while attendees enjoy a champagne and hors d'oeuvres reception, crafted by Max Ultimate Food, followed by a seated luncheon and program.

For more information and tickets, visit www.emeraldnecklace.org/party-in-the-park.

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Auction MAY 3

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Sold for \$170,100



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PHOTOS AND TEXT BY PENNY CHERUBINO

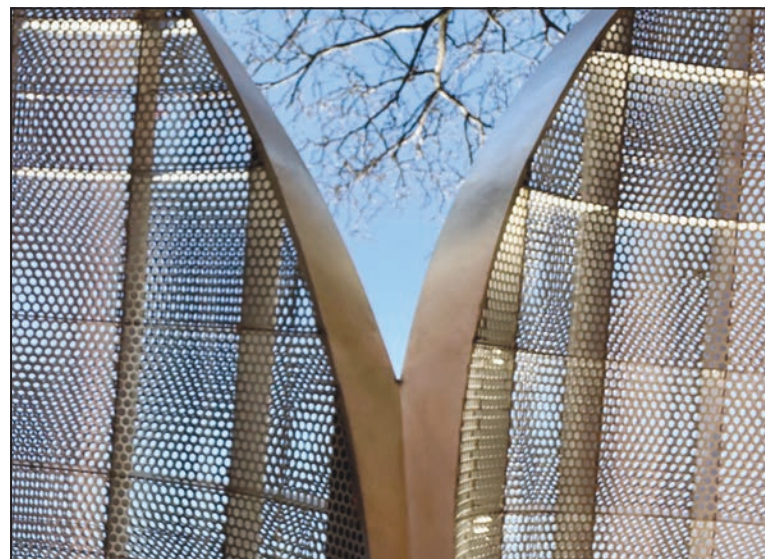
THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The fanlight in the last clue is on 1724 Washington Street, built circa 1806. Keith N. Morgan, writing for the Society of Architectural Historians, noted, "The Porter Houses are probably the oldest surviving buildings in the South End. Following the Revolutionary War, Washington Street was slowly developed with similar graceful Federal residences. The architect is unknown, but Charles Bulfinch is a likely candidate."

The next clue will be found in the Back Bay.
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



OPEN HOUSE
Sunday, March 5th
12pm-1pm

66 MOUNT VERNON STREET, RESIDENCE ONE

3 BEDROOMS | 3 FULL 1 HALF BATHROOMS | 2,709 SQUARE FEET

LISTED AT \$3,850,000



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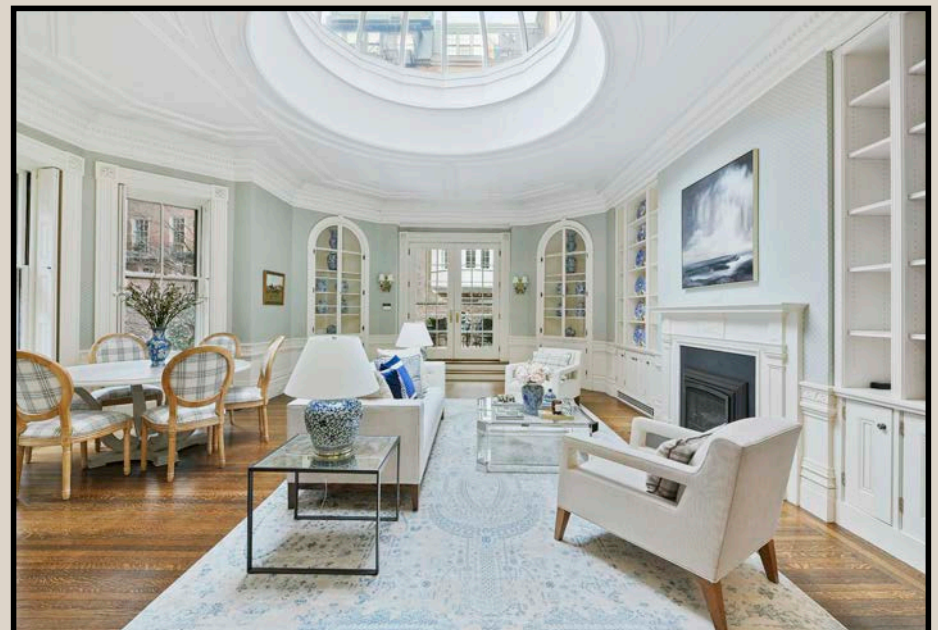
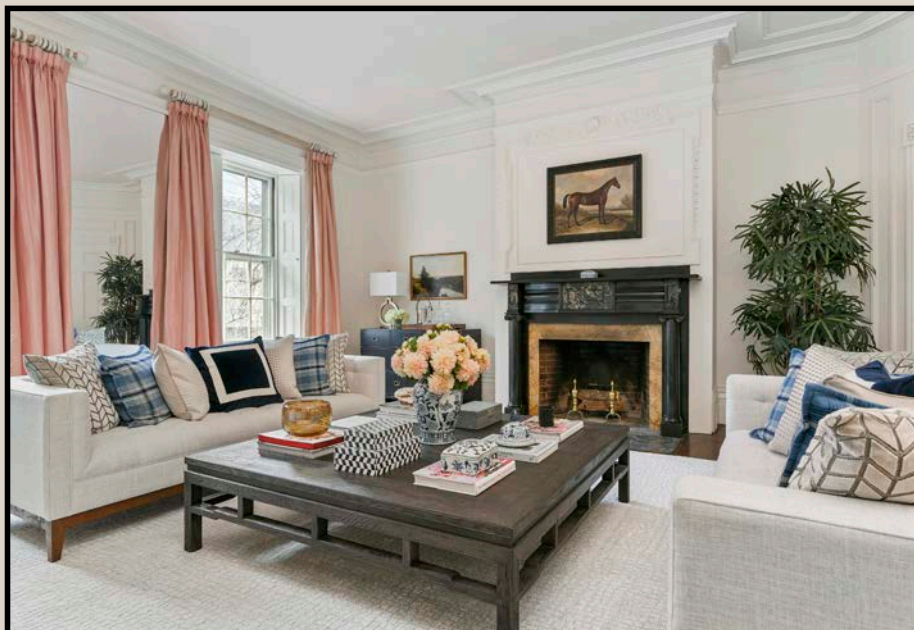
31 CHESTNUT STREET

9 BEDROOMS | 6 FULL 1 HALF BATHROOMS | 8,979 SQUARE FEET

LISTED AT \$8,490,000



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