

THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 2023

THE BOSTON SUN

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

SERVING BACK BAY - SOUTH END - FENWAY - KENMORE

499 Shawmut Ave. to get much-needed handrails

By Michael Coughlin Jr.

The South End Landmark District Commission (SELDC) unanimously approved a proposal for the installation of handrails on the front granite steps at 499 Shawmut Avenue during its meeting on Tuesday, Apr. 4.

Although the installation of handrails on the front steps might not sound significant on the surface, these front steps, which have been without handrails, could have been limiting for certain residents.

In the last six months, two owners of condominiums at 499 Shawmut Avenue have been sig-

nificantly injured and, without proper measures like these handrails, would be unable to access their homes safely.

“One owner, age of 71, has sustained a severely broken leg and has been unable to live at 499 Shawmut Avenue due to access restrictions. She uses a cane and will return to the building in mid-April,” said a representative from Eddie’s Iron Works, who presented the proposal before SELDC commissioners.

The representative added, “The other owner has sustained multiple fractures of vertebrae

(HANDRAILS Pg. 4)

Councilor Bok to leave office to lead BHA

By Dan Murphy

Kenzie Bok will step down from her post as District 8 City Councilor, effective April 28, to assume the reins of the Boston Housing Authority (BHA) as the city agency’s incoming administrator.

Before she was elected to the council in 2019 to represent the neighborhoods of Beacon Hill, Back Bay, Fenway, Audubon Circle, Mission Hill, and the West End, Bok served as the



COURTESY OF THE CITY OF BOSTON
 District 8 City Councilor Kenzie Bok, who is leaving office to become the next BHA administrator.

BHA’s senior advisor for policy and planning. Her achievements in this role included spearheading the BHA’s efforts to “vary the subsidy amount of federal housing vouchers by ZIP code,” according to an April 5

(BOK Pg. 4)

SPHINX VIRTUOSI TREATS CMCB STUDENTS TO FREE CONCERT



CARLOS CRISPIN PHOTOS

A quartet from the Sphinx Virtuosi performed a free concert and Q&A with Community Music Center of Boston students and members of the community on Saturday, April 8, in advance of their sold-out performance the following evening at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum.

The Sphinx Virtuosi is the premiere performing entity of the Sphinx Organization, the leading social justice non-profit dedicated to transforming lives through the power of diversity in the arts. They perform annually at Carnegie Hall and this year made their international debut in São Paulo, Brazil.

Sphinx Virtuosi members have also worked with leading international artists such as Beyoncé and Jay-Z and made high profile appearances including on “The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon” and the 2022 Grammys broadcast.



Ward 5 Democratic Chair Sharon Durkan announces bid for District 8 City Council seat

By Dan Murphy

Sharon Durkan, chair of the Boston Ward 5 Democratic Committee and a longtime political organizer in the city, as well as a resident of Beacon Hill, has announced her candidacy for the District 8 City Council seat.

Raised by working-class par-

ents in rural north Georgia, Durkan is a first-generation college graduate, earning a B.A. from Smith College. She first got involved with Democratic organizing as President of the Smith College Democrats and Vice President of the College Democrats of Massachusetts.

Durkan began working for

then-City Councilor Michelle Wu upon relocating to Boston in 2015. She has since worked with Sen. Ed Markey, among many others, to organize communities across the state.

In 2019, Durkan was named chair of the Boston Ward 5 Dem-

(DURKAN Pg. 4)

EDITORIAL

THE MARATHON BOMBING, 10 YEARS LATER

This week marks the 10th anniversary of the tragic Boston Marathon bombing which occurred on April 15, 2013, when two brothers set off a pair of bombs near the finish line of the marathon, killing three persons (Krystle Marie Campbell, a 29-year-old restaurant manager from Medford; Lü Lingzi, a 23-year-old Chinese national and Boston University statistics graduate student; and 8-year-old Martin William Richard from Dorchester) and injuring 281 persons, of whom 16 lost limbs.

In addition, during the manhunt for the bombers in the ensuing days, the brothers shot and killed 27-year-old Sean Allen Collier, an MIT police officer, who crossed their path, and shot two Boston police officers, one of whom, Dennis Simmonds, died on April 10, 2014, from head injuries he received during the shootout in Watertown.

One of the brothers was killed during the shootout and the other eventually was captured, tried, convicted, and sentenced to death, and now is imprisoned in a federal Supermax facility.

For those of us who are lifelong Boston-area residents, the horror of that afternoon, as well as the three-day manhunt for the suspects, will remain etched in our memories forever as no other local event ever has.

We will never forget the tremendous performance of the medical and emergency crews on the scene and at our area hospitals, who miraculously saved the lives of scores of victims who otherwise might have died from their wounds.

Ten years later, the memory of that day gives all of us pause to reflect, both to remember the innocent victims and to honor those whose heroic actions saved lives.

CLARENCE THOMAS: SUPREME HYPOCRITE

"I prefer the RV parks. I prefer the Walmart parking lots to the beaches and things like that. There's something normal to me about it." -- Judge Clarence Thomas in a recent interview.

The revelation this past week that Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas and his wife have been accepting luxury vacations from a Texas billionaire for the past 25 years, including a recent vacation that is estimated to have had a price tag of \$500,000 (that's not a typo -- there are no added zeros), is absolutely sickening.

For his part, this billionaire said he never discussed any cases with Thomas and reportedly never had any specific cases pertaining to him in front of the court.

However, among the other guests on these vacation junkets were top executives of major U.S. corporations, so it certainly is conceivable that some of these companies may have had matters that came before the Supreme Court during the 25 years that Thomas has been receiving these extraordinary gifts from the Texas billionaire.

However, the focus on whether any one of these wealthy and influential persons had any specific matters before the Supreme Court misses the point entirely, which is this: Thomas is hobnobbing with, and accepting gifts of immense value from, individuals who have a great deal of general interest in cases that come before the Supreme Court.

For example, the infamous Citizens United case in 2010 (in which the court held that the free speech clause of the First Amendment prohibits the government from restricting independent expenditures for political campaigns by corporations, thereby striking down a federal law that had placed a limit on donations by corporations) was brought by billionaires -- and who have been influencing U.S. elections ever since with what is known as "dark money" (because its source is unknown). Thomas -- surprise! -- voted with the majority in a 5-4 decision.

But beyond what, in our opinion, constitutes an obvious conflict of interest by Thomas, this is just another example of the hypocrisy that has marked Thomas's tenure ever since he was appointed to the Supreme Court more than 30 years ago.

Thomas rates as the most unqualified person ever to sit on the court. He never tried a case in a courtroom and had no substantive legal experience prior to being appointed to a seat on the federal Appeals Court. (He was incapable of having been named as a federal district court judge because he would have been clueless as to how to conduct a trial.)

He often speaks and writes of his humble beginnings growing up poor on a farm in Georgia, but he never acknowledges that it was thanks to de facto affirmative action programs at Holy Cross and Yale Law School that gave him the opportunity to rise to the highest court in the land. Nor does he acknowledge that it essentially was affirmative action by President George H.W. Bush that elevated him to his judicial posts, because Thomas by any objective measure was unqualified to be a judge.

But here's the irony of Thomas's personal affirmative action story: He is among the leaders of the Supreme Court faction that no doubt soon will be striking down affirmative action programs that have existed for decades in universities across the country.

Thomas's stance on affirmative action is the height of hypocrisy -- he benefited from programs that afforded him opportunities, but he is pulling up the proverbial ladder so that others cannot follow him -- that goes way beyond taking expensive vacations in the face of his laughably stated preference for "Walmart parking lots."



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

ATTENTION HOSPITAL CEO'S: PLEASE 'SHARE THE WEALTH' TO SUPPORT BEDSIDE NURSES...

Dear Editor,

Nurses have been long overdue for better salaries and the accommodation of on-site call rooms. Hospitals generate billions of dollars in revenue annually. Hospital CEO's receive salaries that range from \$1 to \$7 million annually. Is sitting in an executive suite of a hospital behind a mahogany desk, floors away from the frenetic patient care taking place 24/7 really worth a salary of \$1 to \$7 million dollars per year? How much would a safe on-site overnight suite for nurses including beds and shower facilities cost? Could those million-dollar CEO salaries instead go toward significantly increasing bedside nursing salaries? Could hospital CEO's find it in them to "share the wealth" to improve the working conditions and life of the bedside nurse?

Nurses are leaving bedside nursing in hospitals at alarming rates. Bedside nursing work is stressful both physically and mentally. Staffing and scheduling challenges plague the nursing profession.

Hospitals need to make improvements to the poor work environment that often leads to nursing burnout and turnover. Due to continual understaffing, nurses feel like they are constantly on call, even if they are not. In order to attract

more nurses to working in hospital settings, hospital environments are going to have to become more attractive for nurses. This means incentives such as increase in salaries and providing on-site nurse call rooms. If hospitals want to recruit and retain the nursing workforce needed to provide optimal patient care, they must offer nurses more than a pat on the back and the occasional 10 boxes of pizza lunches.

Many nurses travel to large Boston hospitals from Cape Cod, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, Maine, Vermont and they sometimes work double and triple shifts. Nurses often resign from their positions at hospitals for a variety of reasons such as understaffing, stressful conditions and lousy pay scales. However, many nurses resign due to costly parking fees and commuting long hours for their 12 hour shifts. Many younger new nurses have mounds of student loan debt and are unable to afford hotels for overnight stays due to a long commute. They instead, sometimes sleep overnight in their cars in order to make the next early morning 12 hour grueling shift.

Hospitals have always provided residents and MD's overnight on call rooms within the hospital, rightly so, given their busy schedules and overnight on call duties. However, nurses are not provided with safe, overnight on-call rooms within hospitals. If anything proved there is a need for this it was the COVID pandemic. In order to recruit, retain

(LETTER Pg. 3)

NEWS IN BRIEF

COMMUNITY ORGS TO HOST 9TH SUFFOLK FORUM ON APRIL 13

The Boston Ward 4 Democratic Committee, the Chinese Progressive Association, Inquilinos Boricuas en Acción, MassVOTE, and Reclaim Roxbury will be

hosting a candidate forum for the 9th Suffolk special election on Thursday, April 13, from 7 to 8 p.m.

The 9th Suffolk was vacated earlier this year by Rep. Jon Santiago; it contains most of the South End as well as parts of

Back Bay, Dorchester, and Roxbury. The special election will be taking place on Tuesday, May 2.

Both candidates - John Moran and Amparo "Chary" Ortiz - have been invited and have confirmed their attendance.

The forum will be held on

Zoom, and registration is available at <https://suffolk9forum.eventbrite.com/>.

'ONE BOSTON DAY: HONORING MEL KING' COMING SAT. TO BCA

The City of Boston, in partner-

ship with Boston Center for the Arts, presents "One Boston Day: Honoring Mel King through Writing" on Saturday, April 15, from 1 to 4 p.m. at Mills Gallery at BCA, located at 539 Tremont St.

NEWS BRIEFS Pg. 9)

GUEST OP-ED

Remember Phone Booths?

By Alison Barnet

It's Saturday and the Prudential mall is crowded. Here he comes on his cell phone, claiming, for all to hear, "This is just between you and me."

Remember phone booths? The way people pushed hard on the doors to make sure they were tightly closed? If they saw someone standing outside, they made a face and pushed on the doors some more. Why? Because a phone call was a private matter. Of course, back then people generally had more to say than "Oh, hi! I'm in a phone booth! What? I'll be home in five minutes."

Remember phone etiquette?

The good old days when people taking calls in front of us said, "Excuse me." When the phone rang at friends' houses—no protracted, cute "ring tones" in those days—our friends apologized because they knew that talking on the phone in front of other people is rude.

Not to laud the past—although it's looking better and better—but years ago we walked down the street with friends and talked with them. We noticed other people and the world around us. We would have been startled indeed if a friend had suddenly held a phone conversation in front of us (if you can call one side of a call a conversation). Gee, only a few years ago someone crossing the

street talking out loud gesturing and laughing idiotically would have been considered nuts—certifiable! Yet this behavior is now the norm.

It was a noisy enough world before things began to beep, ring, sizzle, and squawk, before we couldn't avoid hearing people's most intimate business. Little did we know how phone mad the world would become, how frequently our heads would spin, thinking the cheery "Oh, hi!" behind us came from someone we know. Isn't it funny when cell phone users complain they can't hear the person on the other end of the "line"—"What? Huh? I can't hear you!"—while remaining totally unconcerned about

the rest of us who, plunged into Cell Hell, are subjected to every word. Often I find myself wanting to say out loud on buses and trains, "Well, we can certainly hear you!"

One evening, the woman behind me was spewing out incredibly personal information. Then a guy standing by the rear door started up, giving us his Social Security number and his address.

None of us will ever hear a one-sided conversation like this:

"Damn it, Henry!

Why'd you have to bother me in the middle of the street?"

Fear cells sells. Even people who purport to hate cell phones

can't help but bring up the terrifying picture of a woman driving alone on an isolated road late at night. We wouldn't want her NOT to have a cell phone, would we? Strange that we're all so afraid of so many things, but driving while yakking on phones isn't one of them.

He's standing on the steps as I walk by. No one else is around, so he must be talking to me when he says, "Could I have the steak tips and a tuna salad?"

Alison Barnet is a longtime South End resident and author of five books on the neighborhood's history.

LETTER (from pg. 2)

and accommodate nurses for unexpected double and triple shifts, they should be generously compensated and be provided with safe, on-site overnite nursing call rooms within the hospital

at no cost.

Nurses are the lifeblood of any hospital. MD's and nurses work hand and hand and hospitals cannot function effectively without both. Therefore, hospital CEO's

should be making efforts to support the bedside nurse with what they need and deserve to perform their jobs well. Providing a significant increase in salary and on call overnight accommodations

would help in the short term and long term to recruit and retain highly skilled nurses. Nurses do not need more pizza or "Cookie Appreciation Days" in appreciation for their work. Bedside nurses need and deserve to be paid well for the backbreaking, exhausting, physical, mental and emotional work they perform on a daily basis. So hospital CEO's, how about "sharing the wealth" to support bedside nurses?

Mary Beth Muckian

Mary Beth Muckian, BSN, RN is a graduate of Boston College and Regis College. She has been a nurse for 17 years and currently works as a Utilization Review Manager. She has worked over her nursing career in the areas of bedside nursing, Nursing Research and Occupational Health Nursing.

HANDRAILS (from pg. 1)

in February, compromising her mobility and ease of using stairs."

The proposal sought to add two iron handrails, which would be installed by the aforementioned Eddie's Iron Works - a commercial and residential professional welding company based out of Everett.

Overall, the handrails would be able to be installed in less than a day and would allow for these recovering residents to return to their homes when the time is right - most importantly - safely.

While one would think the approval process of this proposal would be a slam dunk, several modifications to the handrails were required before the commissioners ultimately approved them.

The initial design called for

handrails with decorative rings sandwiched in between a top and bottom rail. However, Commissioner John Amodeo indicated that both the rings and bottom rail would have to be removed to keep with the required simplicity of the area.

Fellow Commissioner John Freeman indicated that removing the rings might actually be safer, even though he did mention it was out of the commission's purview.

"It's actually better, for that matter, too ... the rings interrupt the finger grasp, so it's a safer rail to not have the rings," said Freeman.

"It'll actually be better for your owner - for your client," added Amodeo.

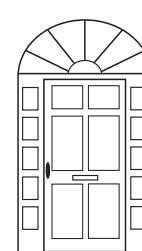
Another required change was to turn the bottoms of the three

posts holding up the rail and attach them to the inside of the wall that encloses the steps so they are not set in the granite treads. "We do this so that you don't get water infiltration around the base of the post into the step that could freeze and cause cracking of the steps - we want to avoid that," said Amodeo.

The final modification was that the bottom of the handrail lines up with the end of the wall that encloses the granite steps - without damaging the granite.

A motion was made to accept this proposal with the provisos mentioned above and was seconded by Commissioner Catherine Hunt. There were no public comments made about the proposal, and it was eventually unanimously approved.

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Rentals

Mayor Wu to open Swan Boats on April 15

Staff Report

Mayor Michelle Wu, the Boston Parks and Recreation Department, and the Paget family will host the first ride of the season on the popular Boston Swan Boats as they open at the Boston Public Garden lagoon on

Saturday, April 15, at 11 a.m.

2023 marks the 146th season for the Swan Boats, a beloved tourist attraction and iconic symbol of Boston and the Public Garden. The oldest and smallest boat in the fleet just celebrated its 113th season, while the newest was launched in 1993. The swan

on the boats is made from either copper or fiberglass, depending on the age of the boat, and encloses a paddle mechanism that is used to propel the boat through the water.

Launched in 1877 by Irish immigrant and shipbuilder Robert Paget, the Swan Boats con-

tinue to be owned and operated by the Paget family. Mr. Paget designed the Swan Boats after attending the opera Lohengrin in New York City. At the end of the opera, the hero crosses a river in a boat drawn by a swan.

Fully loaded, each Swan Boat weighs three tons and is powered

by the driver using a foot-propelled paddle wheel. The Swan Boats are built on oak-framed pontoons sheathed in copper, just as they were initially constructed in 1877.

For more information, visit boston.gov/swan-boats.

DURKAN (from pg. 1)

ocratic Committee.

“As chair of the Boston Ward 5 Democratic Committee, I have found my true passion in serving as a community advocate and organizer, working to address critical community challenges and elect leaders dedicated to the issues that matter most,” Durkan wrote in an email. “In this role, I helped elect our first woman of color Mayor and our first woman Governor and Lieutenant Governor duo, keep our Democratic leadership in the Senate, and elect the first Black woman for the Third-Suffolk district to state Senate. It has been energizing to be a small part of the infrastructure of what makes it possible for transformational leadership in our city, and I look forward to what we can accomplish if I am elected to City Council.

Durkan added: “I understand

the needs of my District 8 neighbors because I face many of them myself. I have listened to so many of my neighbors and fellow community members on the issues that matter most to them, and know that affordable housing, quality transit and safe streets, access to health care, and climate resiliency are essential for strong, vibrant communities. As Ward 5 Chair, I have a proven track record of advocating for the needs of my community. I look forward to continuing to solve pressing challenges as a City Councilor.”

With current District 8 City Councilor Kenzie Bok poised to step down from her seat at the end of the month to lead the Boston Housing Authority, Durkan believes the time is right now for her to step up from behind the scenes as someone who has long



COURTESY OF SHARON DURKAN

Sharon Durkan, candidate for District 8 City Councilor, as well as chair of the Boston Ward 5 Democratic Committee.

encouraged women to assume leadership roles in local politics, and to assume a role as an elected official herself.

“As a volunteer trainer for

Emerge Massachusetts, a group that trains women considering a run for office, I always posed the question, ‘If not you, then who?’” wrote Durkan. “It is a pivotal time for the City of Boston. The decisions that our leaders make today will determine the success of future generations – we must tackle the issues that are keeping residents from thriving in our city.”

Within the first 24 hours of her candidacy, Durkan said she had already raised \$25,000 for her campaign and garnered some notable supporters.

“Sharon has been a fierce advocate as chair of the Ward 5 Dems, and she will fight for us every day on the City Council. I know that Sharon believes in economic and social justice,” said Fenway activist and neighbor, Helen Cox.

Brian Poe, the restaurateur behind the Parish Café in the Back Bay, as well as two Beacon Hill establishments, The Tip Tap Room and the Crane River Cheese Club, is also firmly in Durkan’s corner.

“I’ve known Sharon’s family since I was a baby,” said Poe. “Having seen for generations what they bring to the communities they are involved in, I’m optimistic and supportive of her advocacy for independent businesses, and her support for the needs of our local communities.”

To learn more about Durkan’s campaign for District 8 City Councilor, visit sharondurkan.com, or you can donate any amount to her campaign via ActBlue at <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/durkan-email-april>.

BOK (from pg. 1)

press release in which Mayor Michelle Wu announced Bok’s new role, whereas previously “all voucher recipients received the same subsidy regardless of where they were applying to live in the Greater Boston area.” This program continues to allow all voucher recipients greater flexibility in deciding where they want to live in the city.

Additionally, Bok helped lead the successful ballot initiative campaign to enact the Community Preservation Act (CPA) in Boston in 2016, which has since generated tens of millions of dollars for affordable housing in the City.

“I’m so excited to return to BHA to put our residents and voucher-holders at the heart of everything our City does, by providing safe high-quality housing for every family and by ensuring the best access to jobs, services, and all the opportunities Boston has to offer,” Bok said in a press release. “To truly have a City for all, we have to boldly invest at the local, state, and federal levels in the BHA housing that continues to anchor so many of

our communities. I was lucky to learn from my predecessors in this role, Kate Bennett and Bill McGonagle, that residents come first at BHA, and I’m looking forward to working with Kate over the coming transition to continue that essential focus.”

Bok, who will be charged with providing housing for around 9 percent of the city’s residents, or 62,000 Boston residents, in her new role, added: “Public housing is a public good, and all of Boston benefits when our public housing communities are strong.”

Besides her previous work with the BHA, and with the City Council, Bok has held community leadership roles in various local organizations, including the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization (GBIO) and the Massachusetts Affordable Housing Alliance (MAHA). After graduating from Harvard College, she earned an M.Phil and a Ph.D. in History from the University of Cambridge in England as a Marshall Scholar, and formerly taught courses at Harvard on housing justice.

Reflecting on her time with the City Council, Bok wrote in part

in an April 5 email to her constituents: “If I could freeze this opportunity in amber and come back to it after two, four, or six more years as your District 8 city councilor, I would. We have so much exciting work underway together, which I would love to continue. But this is a rare moment of alignment, in that we have a Mayor, a Governor, and a President who all support the mission of public housing and voucher subsidies to ensure that our communities have places for everyone to live, regardless of income. To rebuild America’s social safety net, beginning at the BHA, will require city, state, and federal support. So I cannot freeze the frame; I feel a strong call to this work, and I have accepted the Mayor’s offer.”

Mayor Wu said in a press release: “The Boston Housing Authority has been a lifeline for generations of Boston families, and in this moment of housing crisis, the BHA must be a model for housing as health, safety, opportunity, and community. Kenzie brings a deep commitment to our BHA communities along with an expansive vision

of how public housing should anchor our neighborhoods and city—I’m thrilled for her leadership and look forward to building on the strong foundation set under Kate’s stewardship by the entire BHA team.”

Bok will replace outgoing BHA Administrator Kate Bennett, who was appointed to the role in 2020, and will begin a transition period next month before Bennett steps down from the role later this summer.

“I am delighted that Councilor Bok will become the next Administrator at the BHA,” said Bennett in a press release. “She is the right person to take BHA to the next level. She is passionate about the Authority and its mission, she knows our staff and residents, and she is a brilliant housing advocate.”

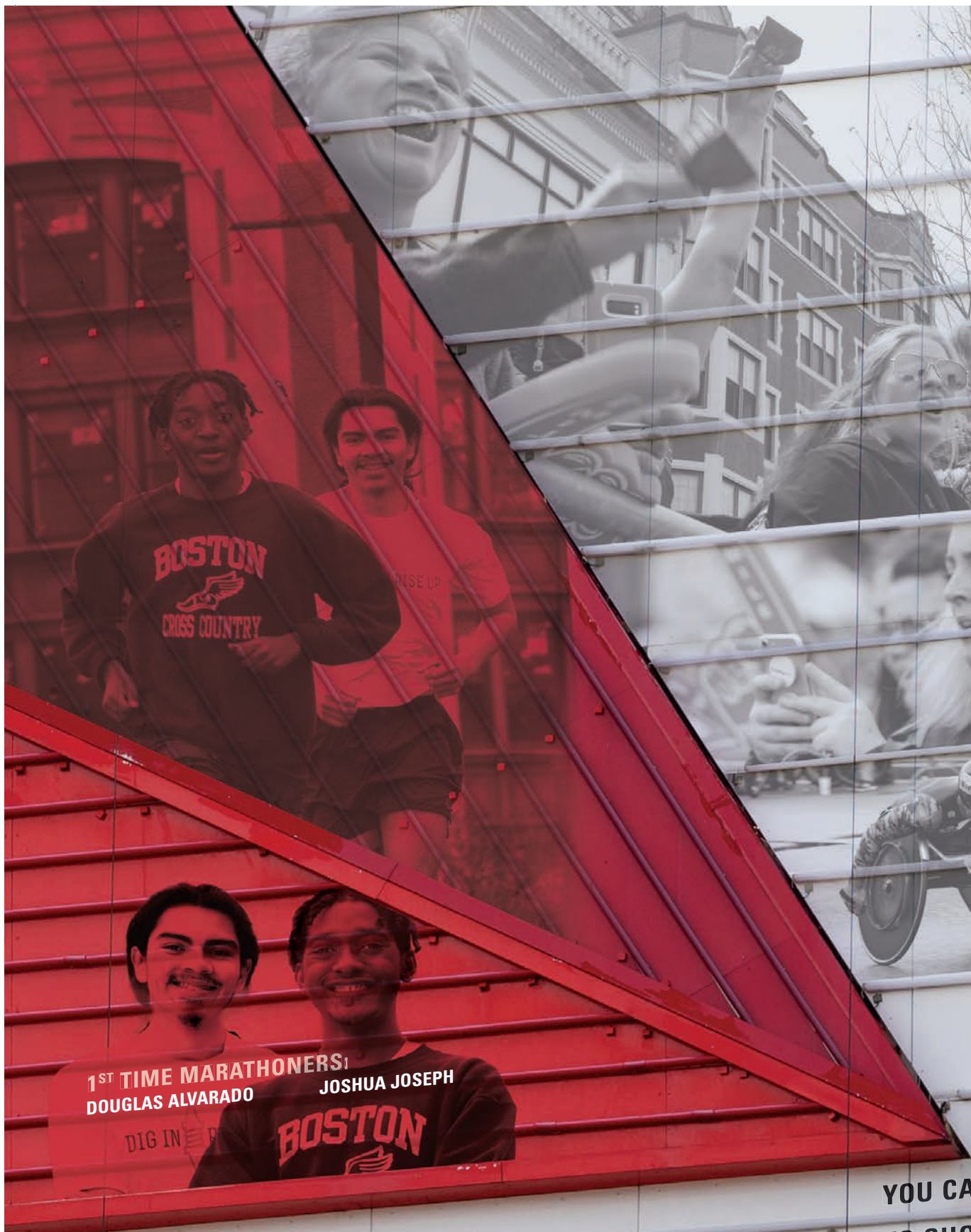
Meanwhile, City Council President Ed Flynn said while Bok will be sorely missed by him and his fellow councilors, he’s also confident that she will prove to be an “incredible” leader of the BHA.

“Councilor Bok is an excellent colleague, whose intellect, knowledge, and passion for service have made her an invaluable

asset to the City Council. I know that Councilor Bok will make an incredible Administrator for Boston Public Housing, and her experience and expertise will allow her to not only manage and preserve our public housing stock, but also continue to improve the lives of public housing residents. I look forward to working with her in her new capacity and continue to advocate for our public housing tenants and communities.”

Likewise, Rep. Jay Livingstone, who has worked closely with Bok on many issues and initiatives during their respective times in office, wrote: “Kenzie Bok has had a huge, positive impact on the district and the city regarding addressing food and housing insecurity, the improvement to the provision of city services, and many other issues. She has been a great partner. I’ll miss working with her as a councilor but look forward to working with her in her new role, where I expect to see tremendous strides made.”

A special election to fill the District 8 city council seat is expected to be announced in the near future.



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MFS BOSTON ProAm TOURNEY

Derek Kouyoumjian photos

The MFS Boston ProAm Tournament was held in Boston at the University Club. Teams comprised of Professional-Amateur players played.



Dara and David Adams.



Matthew Henderson looks to hit the ball.



Professional player from NYC Sam Khalifa was teamed with amateur Scott DeSantis were matched against amateur John Fitzgerald and professional player from Toronto Matthew Henderson

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Think Back Bay needs a Spring Cleaning? Join us!

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Women's Maria Elena Uvina and Kayley Leonard from NYC faced off against Eleni and Lume Landman South Africans from Rye NY.



James Stout and Scott Arnold were matched against Chris Calais and Zac Alexander who won the match.

MFS BOSTON ProAm TOURNEY



Squash legend and organizer of the tournament Lenny Bernheimer addresses the spectators of the match.



Claire Adams may have lost her baby tooth but she's still ready to take on the court.



The two teams embrace after the match showing Honorable sportsmanship.



Lume Landman focuses on the ball before hitting it.



Matthew Henderson hits the ball.



Woodford and Jon Hyett are enjoying the matches.



CFO of MFS, the title sponsor, Amrit Kanwal and Squash legend and tournament organizer Lenny Bernheimer.

Wu and B.A.A. announce inaugural Fastest Bostonian Award Medal for 2023

Staff Report

Mayor Michelle Wu and the Boston Athletic Association (B.A.A.) has announced an award for the Fastest Bostonian, which will be given to the Boston man and woman with the quickest finish times in the 2023 Boston Marathon on Monday, April 17. This is also the first year the Boston Marathon has a category for non-binary runners, and one Boston resident is making history running in this category. The City and the B.A.A. will recognize this athlete as the first Bostonian to participate in the race registered as non-binary. This is the first time there will be any awards specifically for Boston residents. Mayor Wu and the B.A.A. will celebrate these three runners at a reception in the days following the 127th Boston Mar-

athon.

"The Boston Marathon, the world's greatest race, brings tens of thousands of runners from all over the world to our City," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "Thanks to

the B.A.A.'s partnership, we're excited to start a new tradition at the 127th Boston Marathon to highlight the fastest runners from

(FASTEST BOSTONIA Pg. 8)

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A turkey making its way along Chestnut Street.

Big Day Boston to host city-wide birding event

On May 6, all bird lovers will get a chance to see how many different species of birds that they can spot. The event is billed as a friendly birding competition to see who can spot the highest number of species in a single day in the core of Boston.

Registration will be conducted at Copp's Hill Terrace starting at 9:30 a.m. with birding starting

at 10 a.m. The neighborhoods where one can see birds will be Beacon Hill, Charlestown, Chinatown, Downtown, the Leather District, the North End, and the West End, including the Common and the Public Garden.

The winner will be announced at 4:30 p.m. at Copp's Hill Terrace. For more information visit BigDayBoston.com

FASTEST BOSTONIAN (from pg. 5)

Boston and an athlete breaking barriers, as we celebrate the world-class excellence and diversity of our local running community."

"The City of Boston is known world-wide for its heritage in athletics, and for welcoming runners each Patriots' Day," said Jack Fleming, President and CEO of

the B.A.A. "We also are home to the most dedicated marathoners, and the Fastest Bostonian Award will recognize the achievement in the Boston Marathon. Together with Mayor Michelle Wu, we look forward to once again celebrating all finishers from Boston and beyond on race day."

The Boston Marathon is the world's oldest annual marathon, traditionally held on Patriots' Day. This year, the Boston woman and man with the quickest time crossing the Finish Line will receive a commemorative glass bowl engraved with the phrase "Fastest Bostonian." The first Boston runner registered in the non-binary category will also receive a personalized award.

"What an exciting opportunity we have to add this recognition to an already amazing tradition that is the Boston Marathon," said John Borders, Director of Tourism, Sports, and Entertainment. "We have the chance to highlight the best of what Boston has to offer in front of the world by celebrating our residents, our neighborhoods, and now crowning the fastest Bostonians and those making history in the process."

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The world's most popular display of LEGO art exhibition extends its run one additional week

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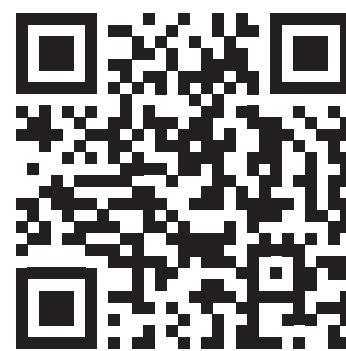
A captivating exhibition featuring intriguing works of art by renowned contemporary artist Nathan Sawaya—has announced that it will extend its final week in Boston, with tickets now on sale through Sunday, April 30 — this will be the last chance to experience the exhibition as it must close. THE ART OF THE BRICK displays over 90 works of art made exclusively from one of the most recognizable toys in the world—the LEGO® brick. Tickets prices start at \$28 and last chance tickets are available at www.artofthebrickexhibit.com.

Centrally located in the Back Bay area of Boston, the newly renovated Newbury Street location introduces visitors to a reimagined museum-like experience, with breathtaking contemporary art at every turn. The collection features original pieces as well as re-imagined versions of some of the world's most famous art masterpieces made exclusively from LEGO bricks like Da Vinci's Mona Lisa and Van Gogh's Starry Night and as well as a gallery showcasing an innovative, multimedia collection of LEGO brick infused photography that Sawaya produced in collaboration with award-winning photographer Dean West.

THE ART OF THE BRICK also includes fan favorite, Yellow, a sculpture of a man ripping his chest open with thousands of yellow LEGO bricks cascading from the cavity. In addition, visitors will be able to walk beside

a 20-foot-long T-Rex dinosaur skeleton made out of bricks and come face-to-face with a giant LEGO skull.

THE ART OF THE BRICK is the first major exhibition to use LEGO bricks as the sole art medium. Sawaya transforms LEGO bricks into tremendous and thought-provoking sculptures, elevating the toy to the realm of art. Sawaya's ability to transform this common toy into something meaningful, his devotion to spatial perfection and the way he conceptualizes action, enables him to elevate what almost every child has played with into the status of contemporary art.



Scan this QR code to buy tickets on your phone.

Seen by more than 10 million people world-wide, THE ART OF THE BRICK has inspired creativity and wonder in fans of all ages in over 100 cities in 24 countries across 6 continents. CNN rated THE ART OF THE BRICK as one of the global "top ten must-see exhibitions," PBS NewsHour hailed the artist, "Nathan Sawaya the Leonardo Da Vinci of LEGO Art," and The

New York Times proclaimed "...the playfulness is contagious."

Follow THE ART OF THE BRICK exhibit (@artofthebrickexhibit) on Facebook and Instagram, and at the hashtag #BostonBricks

Former NYC corporate lawyer turned contemporary artist, Nathan Sawaya is the first artist ever to take the LEGO brick into the art world as a medium. Sawaya has earned a top position in the world of contemporary art and has created a new dimension by merging Pop Art and Surrealism in awe-inspiring and groundbreaking ways. Sawaya's touring exhibition – THE ART OF THE BRICK® – has entertained and inspired millions of art lovers and enthusiasts around the world. CNN heralded, THE ART OF THE BRICK is one of the top ten "must-see exhibits in the world!" Sawaya is an author, speaker and one of the most popular, award-winning contemporary artists of our time. For more information visit www.brickartist.com.

Running Subway is a New York-based entertainment production company that has produced a multitude of successful exhibitions and theatrical productions including King Tut, The World of DaVinci, The Dead Sea Scrolls, Harry Potter, and The Art of the Brick. Running Subway is also responsible for the highly successful, Broadway and touring production of How the Grinch Stole Christmas! The Musical as well as

Judy Garland In Concert and Sinatra at the London Palladium. For more information about Running Subway, please visit <https://www.runningsubway.com/>

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News in Brief

Continued from Page 3

Besides honoring King's memory through writing, a Kindness Tree will be created at this event celebrating his life and legacy, which will be donated to a local school.

OLD SOUTH CHURCH TO OFFER BLESSING OF ATHLETES AND MARATHON SERVICES THIS SUNDAY

One day ahead of the 127th Boston Marathon on Monday, Old South Church in Boston will hold its annual Blessing of the Athletes and marathon services on Sunday, April 16, at both 9 and 11 a.m., at 645 Boylston St.

The two identical services will include a performance of "Highland Cathedral," which was written for Scottish games and composed for competition, on bagpipes.

APPLICANT FILES LOI TO TRANSFORM SOUTH TOWER OF SHERATON BOSTON INTO DORM

An applicant filed a Letter of Intent (LOI) with the city on Tuesday, April 11, outlining their plan to transform the south tower at the Sheraton Boston at 39 Dalton St. in the Back Bay from a 428-room hotel to dormitory use. (The existing north tower will remain a hotel and isn't part of this proposal.)

The proposed project includes repurposing of both the existing hotel ground floor retail area and third-floor hotel area to create approximately 12,000 square feet of dedicated student amenities, including uses such as a student lounge, dining facilities, quiet study area, laundry room, and/or fitness center, and a new main building entry dedicated to students. It will also include for the students, certain site, landscaping, handicapped access, and other improvements to the outdoor plaza adjacent to the planned new dormitory building main entrance, according to the Boston Planning & Development Agency.

The applicant's initial plan was to host 854 Northeastern University students in the hotel's south tower.

The BPDA is soliciting nominations for the Impact Advisory Group (IAG) for the proposed project, and interested parties can email Michael Sinatra, project manager, at michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov.

APPLICANT FOR PROPOSED MASS. AVE. LODGING HOUSE SIGNS GOOD-NEIGHBOR AGREEMENT

Armando Hernandez, who together with his business partner, Thomas Calus, have proposed a new lodging house for 507 Massachusetts Ave., was on hand to sign a good-neighbor agreement at the April 4 monthly meeting of Chester Square Neighbors, which took place at 607 Columbus Ave.

The agreement was drafted by the Claremont Neighborhood Association. And includes a commitment to clean the sidewalk daily from the corner of Tremont Street to the bus stop near the park, according to Carol Blair, president of CSN. Armando also said "they will contract with Project Place's Clean Corners/Bright Hopes program for this and other work," added Blair.

The five-story building, which had previously operated as a lodging house under different ownership, contains eight dwelling units, including two larger units.

SOWA SUNDAYS THIS MONTH

The artists of SoWa Artists Guild will also open every Sunday in April from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., at 450 Harrison Ave.

For more information, visit <http://www.sowaartists.com>, <http://facebook.com/SoWaArtistsGuild>, or <https://www.instagram.com/sowaartistsguild/>.

WARD 4 DEMS OFFER SCHOLARSHIPS TO AREA NINTH- AND 10TH GRADERS

The Boston Ward 4 Democratic Committee is offering scholarship awards for students in the ninth and 10th grades.

The committee will be honoring several students with awards of \$400 each at its summer community event in August.

To apply, students must submit written responses to two essay questions in the language of their choice; the essays will then be judged on the merits of depth and originality. The extended deadline for essays is May 15.

Apply at bostonward4dems.org/scholarship-program.

For more information, email scholarship@bostonward4dems.org.

Ward 4 schools include Boston Latin School, William McKinley South End Academy, and the Windsor School, while Ward 4 includes parts of the Back Bay, Fenway, and South End.

GARDEN OF THE BACK BAY'S ANNUAL TWILIGHT PARTY RETURNS APRIL 26

The Garden Club of the Back Bay's annual Twilight Garden Party will take place on Wednesday, April 26 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at the St. Botolph Club, 199 Commonwealth Ave.

The event will include live music, drinks, and hors d'oeuvres, with proceeds going to support the Garden Club's "mission in caring for neighborhood trees, promoting civic beauty, and providing horticulture education to the public."

Visit https://www.eventbrite.com/e/twilight-garden-party-tickets-492999042407?mc_eid=f6104b19a0&mc_cid=ab07e7ad33 to purchase tickets and learn about sponsorship opportunities for the event. R.S.V.P. is requested by April 14.

USES COMMUNITY YARD SALE SET FOR MAY 6

USES (United South End Settlements) will hold its Community Yard Sale on Saturday, May 6, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 48 Rutland Road

Donations are also being collected for the sale at 48 Rutland Road, with clean and good conditioned items being accepted, including children's and adult clothing; shoes and boots; household items; small appliances; and toys and sports gear.

All proceeds from the sale will benefit the children of USES.

For more information, call 617-375-8150 or email kcoffin@uses.org.

PROJECT BREAD'S WALK FOR HUNGER RETURNS MAY 7 TO THE BOSTON COMMON

After going virtual for the past three years due to the pandemic, Project Bread's annual Walk for Hunger returns on Sunday, May 7, from 9-11 a.m., as a three-mile walk around Boston Common,

with proceeds benefitting the fight against food insecurity in the Commonwealth.

The fundraising event, which dates back to 1969 and traditionally takes place on the first Sunday in May, has set a target of \$1 million this year.

Visit http://support.projectbread.org/site/TR?fr_id=1490 to register and for more information on the event.

WOMEN'S LUNCH PLACE ANNUAL FUNDRAISER SET FOR MAY 12 AT PARK PLAZA HOTEL

Women's Lunch Place will celebrate our 12th annual eat LUNCH give fundraiser at the Grand Ballroom, Park Plaza Hotel, 50 Park Plaza, on Friday, May 12, at 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

At this dynamic networking event, business professionals from Greater Boston will gather to celebrate 40 years of Women's Lunch Place and the leaders who share its vision, give back to their community and make an indelible impact on the women that the organization serves.

This special luncheon includes a meal, raffle, and the opportunity to hear about the great work and mission of WLP from some of Boston's brightest women leaders.

Visit <https://womenslunchplace.org/eat-lunch-give?> to reserve your seat for the event.

DUCKLING DAY EVENT SET TO RETURN MOTHER'S DAY, SUNDAY, MAY 14

The Friends of the Public Garden will again partner with the Boston Parks Department for the annual Duckling Day event on Sunday, May 14, from 10 a.m. to noon.

Every year, hundreds of participating children, dressed as their favorite characters from Robert McCloskey's classic children's book, "Make Way for Ducklings," join the parade led by the Harvard Marching Band. The parade route begins on the Boston Common at the Parkman Bandstand and ends in the Public Garden near the Make Way for Ducklings sculpture.

Playtime on the Common will take place ahead of the parade and include Interactive Circus Games with Esh Circus Arts;

Jenny the Juggler; Peter O'Malley, magician; Jump, climb, and play with Knucklebones; a chance to meet the giant Duck; a visit with the Harvard University Band; a "Make Way for Ducklings" reading station; and a goody bag for every kid filled with Duckling Day-themed items.

The registration fee is \$35 per family in advance (before May 12) and \$40 per family the day of the event. Each child who registers will receive a special goody bag. Register at <https://friendsofthepublicgarden.org/2022/12/01/ducklingday2023/>.

For more information on Duckling Day, visit <https://friendsofthepublicgarden.org/events/ducklingday/>.

MOZART AND HAYDN AT KING'S CHAPEL ON SUNDAY, MAY 21

Crescendo Productions presents the music of Haydn and Mozart brought to life by renowned Viennese fortepianist Daniel Adam Maltz on Sunday, May 21, at 5 p.m. at King's Chapel at 58 Tremont St.

Maltz is in demand worldwide with 50 tour dates per year and hosts Classical Cake, the podcast about Viennese classical music and culture. He specializes in Wiener Klassik (Viennese Classicism), especially the works of Haydn, Mozart, and Beethoven, and performs on Viennese fortepianos typical of their time. He studied historical performance at the Royal Academy of Music in London and the Universität für Musik und darstellende Kunst in Vienna.

The program will include Sonata in Bb Major, Hob. XVI:25 by Joseph Haydn; Sonata in F Major, K. 332 by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart; Sonata in F Major, Hob. XVI:23 by Haydn; and Sonata in C Major, K. 330 by Mozart.

The price of admission for the event is discretionary, but there are suggested donations for guests of \$10, \$15, and \$25, respectively. Visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/mozart-and-haydn-at-kings-chapel-tickets-607624580477?aff=ebdssbdest-search> to reserve your spot at the event.

For more information on other upcoming events presented by Crescendo Productions, visit <https://www.crescendoproductions-arts.com>.

Harvard Travellers Club Hosts Worldwide Birder Noah Stryker at its Annual Meeting on May 16

Special to the Sun

The Harvard Travellers Club is pleased to conclude its 2022-2023 season with a presentation from world birder, Noah Strycker. In 2015, he set a record for a worldwide Big Year of birding, seeing 6,042 of the world's estimated 10,365 bird species at the time (58.3%), becoming the first person to record half of the world's birds in a single year. His journey spanned 41 countries and all seven continents. After dinner at the Harvard Club Back Bay, Strycker will give a presentation on this incredible adventure plus his many other travels including trips to the polar regions where he has travelled more than 50 times as well as Amazonian Ecuador, Costa Rica, Panama, the Australian Kimber-

ley, the Farallon Islands, Hawaii, Michigan, Florida, and Maine.

Strycker is the author of many publications about birds, including *Birding Without Borders: An Obsession, A Quest, and the Biggest Year in the World*. Other publications include *Birds of the Photo Ark* (2018), *Among Penguins* (2011), *The Thing With Feathers* (2014), and *Birding Basics* (2022).

This presentation will mark the final meeting of the Harvard Travellers Club's 120th year since its founding in 1902. The club traces its roots to Harvard's eminent geographer, Professor William Morris Davis, who in association with Copley Amory, Archibald Cary Coolidge, Roland B. Dixon and Hames J. Kidder, invited Harvard colleagues to meet in an effort to

promote and discuss "intelligent travel and exploration". The Club continues to accept new applicants.

While the Golden Age of geographical exploration during which the club was founded is long since passed, the spirit behind the founding of the Club remains intact. Today, members continue to commit themselves to intelligent travel and continue to be curious about other landscapes, cultures and scientific discoveries. Definitely unchanged is members' enjoyment in learning of one another's travels.

In 1913 the club began to meet at the Harvard Club on Commonwealth Avenue – a tradition which continues to this day. The club currently meets eight times a year for cocktails, dinner, and a lecture. This season kicked

off with a lecture by explorer, author, and television personality Captain Sean Meagher on sailing in the Arctic.

Other recent highlights included fascinating presentation by James Shedd and Geoffrey Clark on recreating the Greely Arctic Expedition of 1881-84, Brian Buma on the search for the southernmost tree in the world, and Tim Cope on a trip from Mongolia to Hungary on horseback. Last November the club celebrated its 900th meeting with a gala dinner of one hundred members and guests and a lecture by renowned Shackleton expert Robert K. Headland.

"Our members join together to share stories of distant places, rugged climbs, boating expeditions, foreign cultures and traditions", says Council member

and North Shore resident Peter Creighton. "Member presence and participation propels this club forward and I love learning about other members' adventures".

To that end the club is welcoming potential new members and interested parties to consider attending the dinner in May to meet the membership committee. Membership in the Harvard Travellers Club is open to persons who have a background or interest in world travel.

Visit <http://www.harvardtravellersclub.org> for more information, and contact jenniferle-noxcraig@gmail.com if you are interested in attending the dinner and Strycker lecture.

Council hearing focuses on connected issues of trash and pest control

By Dan Murphy

The City Council's Committee on City Services and Innovation Technology held a special hearing on Tuesday, April 11, at City Hall to discuss a pair of ordinances that address two prevalent and inextricably linked issues – trash contracts and procedures in the City of Boston, along with pest control citywide.

The first ordinance (Docket #0443) that focused on trash contracts and procedures was sponsored by City Councilor Kenzie Bok, who chaired the hearing, along with Councilors Ruthzee Louijeune and Councilor Michael Flaherty. The second ordinance (Docket #0144) call-

ing for a hearing on pest control was sponsored by City Council President Ed Flynn and Councilors Liz Breadon and Gabriela Coletta. (A third ordinance [Docket #0611] requested the acceptance and expenditure of a \$100,000 grant for the Recycling Dividend Program, awarded by the MA Environmental Protection Division and to be administered by the Public Works Department.)

The city entered into a five-year, \$28 million contract for trash and recyclables pickup with East Boston-based Capitol Waste Services on July 1, 2019, the terms of which changed the trash pickup time to 6 a.m. from 7 a.m.

Dennis Roache, assistant superintendent of waste reduction for Boston Public Works and a panelist at the hearing, said the current contract will end on June 30, 2024, with the new one to start on July 1 of next year, which is expected to go out to bid this October or November.

The new contract would reconsider groupings of neighborhoods designed to make the job easier to bid on for trash contractors, said Roache, who added that some of these grouping date back 10 to 15 years "so it might be time to revisit them."

Said Roache: "The way we

look at contracts and how they're written is a big step forward on how they're managed. If we write better contracts, we can get better service, and that's the goal."

But with tight streets in Boston, which provide little room for trash containers, the city has typically only been able to attract two or three bidders for each trash contract.

"It's been tough attracting quality trash contractors to our city," said Roache, who added that the city is also now making preparations ahead of hiring a new trash fellow.

Meanwhile, the city launched its compost program, which was also its first pilot in containerization, with 10,000 participants on July 1 of last year, said Roache, and the program is expected to add 10,000 more participants each July for the next three years. (There are currently between 6,000 and 7,000 city residents on the wait list for the program as well, he said.)

The program has already proven to be an unmitigated success, said Roache, resulting in the composting of 500 tons of materials in just its first six months.

And as the program hits a higher density, it will undoubtedly save the city money by reducing both the trash and recyclables

steam, added Roache, who said while rates constantly fluctuate, it now costs \$92 per ton to dispose of trash and between \$100 and \$115 per ton for recyclables.

John Ulrich, assistant commissioner of environmental services for the Inspectional Services Department and another panelist, said "integrated pest management" is the most effective way to address the prevalence of rodents in the city. He added that finding ways to reduce and containerize trash helps to diminish the food source available to rodents.

Using dry ice has been successful in reducing rodent infestations in the Boston Common and other parts of the city over the past few months, said Ulrich, and while most rodents travel no more than 300 feet from their burrows, it still remains difficult to gauge the actual number of them in the city.

Councilor Bok described trash and rodents as "the Number One quality of life issue" in her District 8, especially since a number of its neighborhoods don't have containerization.

The problem is further exacerbated, she said, by the city allowing residents to leave their trash out overnight after 5 p.m.

"We need to just not have trash out. Period," said Coun-

cilor Bok, who added that things got even worse during the pandemic. "It's just offering rats a buffet overnight."

Councilor Bok suggested that "a tailored approach for each neighborhood" should be taken into account when the city negotiates its next trash contract, and that future opportunities for containerization should be explored in some neighborhoods.

Council President Flynn said illegal dumping of trash was another persistent problem, especially in his constituency of Chinatown, as well as other downtown neighborhoods.

David Stein of Tremont Street echoed Councilor Braedon, who referred to trash on city streets as a "perennial problem" and advocated for a citywide ban on single-ply trash bags, which he described as "troughs for rats."

Stein asked about the metrics for measuring progress on tackling the city's rodents problem and also suggested soliciting new ideas for combatting the problem from the trash collectors themselves.

Karen Clark, a Back Bay resident, also pointed to people disposing of trash in the alleys near Fairfield Street using inappropriate containers, including open

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Ma, Jingli	Kane, Patrick M	2 Hawthorne Pl #50	\$519,000
Frontado, Lisa	Bachovchin, William W	11 Joy St #4	\$1,075,000
Poznar, Matthew J	Young, Christopher	79 Myrtle St #4	\$1,600,000
BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE			
Jiang, Xinrong	Fpg Lagrange Owner One L	47-55 Lagrange St #PH22D	\$5,368,000
Ahmad, Talal A	Div Shawmut LLC	100 Shawmut Ave #1104	\$1,862,000
Frascotti, Katherine M	Packard, Stephanie J	32 Traveler St #608	\$795,000
WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN			
Sterling Atlantic LLC	Palakurthi, Anokh	100 Lovejoy Wharf #5E	\$1,159,000
Hill Of Grace Rt	Caplan, William	3 Avery St #305	\$760,000
Mathew, Paul G	Bruce D Thibodeau T	99-105 Broad St #6E	\$729,000
Han, Huabing	Gong, Yi	1 Franklin St #1411	\$1,032,000
Brown, Devon N	Winkler, John	210 South St #4-2	\$950,000
Joseph Mills 2007 T	Skladzien, Joseph C	151 Tremont St #9H	\$785,000

PEST CONTROL (from pg. 10)

boxes and paper bags. “The problem is trash begets trash,” she said, “so we just have people dumping trash everywhere.”

Clark suggested that the city take steps to educate residents on proper trash disposal, such as posting signs on the corners of alleyways asking people to not leave their trash there, and to instead dispose of waste in a proper nearby trash receptable.

Meghan Awe, chair of the Beacon Hill Civic Association board of directors, said with people leaving trash out at 5 p.m. for a scheduled 6 a.m. pickup the next day, it often sits out overnight on the sidewalk, which besides adversely affecting accessibility and the general cleanliness of the neighborhood, also provides a food source for rodents.

Additionally, Beacon Hill, one of the city’s densest neighborhoods, especially on the North Slope, is grouped together for trash collection with other dense neighborhoods, including Charlestown, Roxbury, and the North End, she said. “We really look forward to

collaborating with the city to find better collection zones, and to make sure [trash collection] happens during daylight hours,” said Awe. “The Beacon Hill Civic Association steadfastly supports same-day pickup [starting at no later than 9 a.m.] so there is no trash out on the sidewalks overnight.”

Rob Whitney, a resident of Beacon Hill since 1985 and former chair and president of the BHCA board, also called for changing the pickup time to 9 a.m. in his written testimony to the city.

“I would propose putting into the next garbage hauling contract, the requirement that garbage collection on Beacon Hill and other City neighborhoods could not begin until 9 a.m. on garbage pickup days,” Whitney wrote in part. “I would also propose that city residents not be allowed to put out their garbage the night before pickup day, and instead be limited to putting out their garbage only during daylight hours just prior to the 9 a.m. pickup time. This is the only way that our City neighborhoods

like Beacon Hill will even have a fighting chance in their epic battle against the rats.”

Likewise, Elliott Laffer, chair of the Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay board of directors, described the 6 a.m. trash pickup time as “really an intrusion for people who don’t have to be up for work.”

Diana Coldren, who has lived “all over Beacon Hill over the past two decades,” also said she would like to see a new trash contract that commits to a pickup time of no later than 9 a.m.

(Coldren started an online petition at <https://www.change.org/p/stop-the-rat-buffet-in-beacon-hill> requesting that the city adopt an 8 a.m. trash pickup time on Beacon Hill, which as of publication time had garnered 269 signatures towards its goal of 500 signatures.)

Moreover, Coldren requested that trash on Charles Street be pickup first in the neighborhood and also reiterated a suggestion that Boston follow New York City’s lead by allowing trash to be left out earlier in closed containers.

Attention to Detail

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY PENNY CHERUBINO

THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



You'll find the star anchor in the last clue on 225 West Canton Street built circa 1890. This was the home and later the office of Dr. Cornelius N. Garland. Dr. Garland founded The Plymouth Hospital at 12 East Springfield Street to serve the black community and train black physicians and nurses who were otherwise denied admission to city hospitals.

You'll find the next clue 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



NEW LISTINGS AT CAMPION

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