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THE BOSTON SUN

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Proposed 1033-1055 Washington St. development pondered at public meeting

By Dan Murphy

The subject at hand during a virtual public meeting sponsored by the Boston Planning & Development Agency on Wednesday, May 31, was the proposed 1033-1055 Washington St. development in the South End, along

with a Draft Planned Development Area (PDA) Development Plan filed in connection with the project.

The Druker Co. is proposing a project comprising two life science/office buildings – 1055 Washington St. (the north build-

(1033-1055 WASHINGTON ST. Pg. 5)

Hotel Alexandra back on the market for unspecified price

By Dan Murphy

The fate of the redevelopment of Hotel Alexandra is again hanging in the balance with the historic building now listed on the market for an unspecified asking price.

Cushman & Wakefield, a Chicago-based global commercial

real-estate development firm, is now offering for the sale the long-neglected building located at the corner of Massachusetts Avenue and Washington Street at 1767-1796 Washington St.

According to Cushman & Wakefield, "The Alexandra is being offered without a formal asking price. Upon receipt of a

(HOTEL ALEXANDRA Pg. 4)



D. MURPHY PHOTO
Hotel Alexandra.

BVNA HOSTS FUNDRAISER



PHOTOS BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

Shown clockwise from top: The view from the rooftop patio at 212 Stuart Street were stunning and made for an excellent backdrop for the Bay Village Neighborhood Association Patio Party. Attendees taking in the views from the rooftop patio at 212 Stuart Street. Musicians Sebastian Ridore on viola, Rafael Nocedo on keyboard, Gen Yoshimura on drums, and Scott Ziegler on bass provided smooth music for the evening. See more photos on Pages 6 and 7.

Acorn helps alleviate burden of finding parking in the city

By Sun Staff

Finding parking in the city can be a challenging and often frustrating undertaking, but one company is helping to alleviate the burden by providing private, full-service valet parking options for townhouses and condos in the Back Bay and Beacon Hill,

along with contiguous neighborhoods (and with plans to expand to Bay Village, too, once the client-base there hits critical mass).

Acorn offers private, door-to-door valet service to the front door of condos and townhouses that don't have the benefit of dedicated parking. Members can simply text the service and their

vehicle will be delivered to their front door around 15 minutes later, or the valet can instead meet members when they arrive home to drop off their car at the garage. (Acorn works with local neighborhood garages, so the resident doesn't need to arrange

(ACORN Pg. 3)

EDITORIAL

JUNE IS A MONTH OF FREEDOM

June marks the first month of the summer season, the period on the calendar when we take vacations from school and work to travel and enjoy the company of our friends and family members. It's our personal time, that sweet spot each year when we break free from the humdrum of our daily schedules and we have the freedom to do whatever we want,

But June also uniquely celebrates a number of events that brought true freedom to Americans who had been unable to experience the promise of America -- "all men are created equal" -- that we take for granted today.

June 12 is known as Loving Day. It was on that day in 1967 that the U.S. Supreme Court struck down a Virginia law that forbade interracial marriage and made it a criminal offense to do so. The Lovings, an interracial couple, were convicted under that Virginia law and, to avoid jail, they agreed to leave the state. Similar laws existed throughout all of the Southern states until the Supreme Court's ruling.

June is observed as Pride Month by the LGBTQIA+ community to mark the date of June 28, 1969, when gays prtoested the arrests at the Stonewall Inn (a gay bar in New York City's Greenwich Village) at a time when police routinely made arrests of gay men on phony morals charges.

The riots, that lasted for a number of days, are widely-recognized as the beginning of the modern gay rights movement that culminated more than 50 years later with the Supreme Court decision of Obergefell v. Hodges in 2015 that struck down state laws forbidding same-sex marriage.

Juneteenth, which is now a national holiday, marks the day when the Union army entered the city of Galveston, Texas on June 19, 1865, and freed the slaves in Texas -- the last state to be occupied by Union forces and where slavery still existed -- pursuant to President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, which had gone into effect more than two years earlier on January 1, 1863.

Finally, June 14 is Flag Day, marking the adoption of the flag of the United States on June 14, 1777, by resolution of the Second Continental Congress. In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation that officially established June 14 as Flag Day and on August 3, 1949, National Flag Day was established by an Act of Congress.

Although it undeniably is true that America has fallen far short of the ideal that "all men are created equal," it also is undeniably true that the flag of the United States has been the world's greatest symbol of freedom since our nation's founding.

Nations, like people, are far from perfect. But hopefully, the many holidays of freedom we observe in June attest to the truth of the words of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., "The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice," that ultimately will fulfill the promise of America.

HAPPY NOT TO BE A BOSTON SPORTS FAN

When we were younger, we lived and died by our Boston sports teams. Yes, the late Bill Russell and the Celtics provided more than a decade of joy and, for a short time, so too did Bobby Orr and the Bruins. But overall, being a Boston sports fan meant that there was more agony of defeat than thrill of victory.

Those big, bad Bruins are remembered as much for their 1971 loss to the hated and heavily-underdog Canadiens in Game Seven in the Garden as they are for Bobby Orr's joyous Superman flight after his goal that won the Stanley Cup in 1970.

The Impossible Dream Red Sox of 1967 raised our spirits, only to break our hearts with a Game 7 World Series loss (yes, we were in Fenway), which was repeated in 1975 (we were in Fenway for that one too), and again in 1986.

As for the Patriots, we suffered through more than 40 years of frustration -- at the old Braves Field, Fenway Park, Harvard Stadium, and then Schaefer Stadium -- until Tom Brady came along and began a magnificent and magical run of almost 20 years of excellence. And yes, the Sox finally did come through for us in 2004, '07, '13, and '18, literally bringing tears to our eyes.

But despite those successes in the 21st century, all of those earlier years of heartbreak and defeat during our youth created their own form of post-traumatic stress (and for the record, the last Pats' game we've watched in its entirety was the 2008 Super Bowl game).

For those of us who have followed Boston sports for six decades, the early exit from the playoffs of the "best-team-ever" Bruins and the Celts' collapse last week in Game 7 were all-too-predictable. As for the Red Sox and the Pats, it is clear that they are destined to be consigned to the realm of mediocrity for the foreseeable future.

So we're happy that we're no longer followers of Boston's sports teams. To those who are, we can offer only this advice, "Be prepared for a lifetime of hurt."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THANK YOU

Dear Editor, Members and Friends of the Bay Village Neighborhood Association,

We wanted to take a moment to express our heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you for your incredible support and participation in our recent fundraiser. Despite the rain, you all came out with unwavering enthusiasm and turned it into an unforgettable event.

It was amazing to witness old and new friends coming together, sharing stories, and forging

new connections. The atmosphere was filled with laughter, joy, amazing music by the Boston Music Project and a deep sense of belonging, reminding us once again why Bay Village is truly the best neighborhood in Boston.

We want to extend our sincerest appreciation for your generous contributions. Your donations have a profound impact on our community, enabling us to continue organizing events, maintaining our neighborhood, and enhancing the quality of life for everyone. It is

your unwavering support that empowers us to create positive change and keep our neighborhood vibrant and welcoming.

Once again, thank you all for making our fundraiser an incredible success. Your presence, generosity, and friendship have left an indelible mark on our hearts, and we are immensely grateful for each and every one of you. Let's continue to support and uplift one another, making Bay Village an even better place to live.

Sincerely,

The BVNA Social Committee

Friends of Crite Park to hold Father's Day event

Special to the Sun

Some changes have occurred at Crite Park.

Originally, the groundbreaking was scheduled for June 18, but a few last-minute construction details arose as they always do. Thus, the groundbreaking will be on Saturday, September 23 with a September 24 rain date.

In lieu of the proposed June 18 groundbreaking, Crite Park will be holding a Father's Day celebration which is being organized by members of the community and led by Meagan Dichiaro, a Crite Park Board member.

The Father's Day celebration will be momentous as it is the first Crite Park community event in the six and a half years of initiating the Crite Park Revitalization project. The project is a grassroots effort that has been spearheaded by seven neighbors and supported by over 500 people in the

community.

In keeping with the theme of a new beginning for the park site, children will be decorating planters and planting flowers to give to their fathers. This event will be a casual family celebration with art projects, ice cream, and a chance for neighbors to mingle.

Crite Park has more good news in that a \$125,000 grant was received from the Edwin Ingersoll Browne Fund which is dedicated to open space beautification projects in Boston. The money will be used to purchase furniture arrangements that will populate the six seating alcoves that will line the park. The attached renderings display the furniture groupings which consist of love seats, side tables, armchairs, and game tables.

The furniture groupings link to Allen Crite's description of the everyday events of his neighbors playing, working,

and mingling as being scenes from living rooms. Monique Hall, Crite Park landscape architect, designed the seating alcoves within the park to reflect those living rooms scenes that Allen Crite captured in his paintings.

And one more bit of news --

Finally, the bidding process for the park construction officially began on June 5 when the City publicly advertised the project. By July the City will have selected a contractor so that the first phase of construction can begin in the fall. The dead trees at the site are already marked for removal and the Groundbreaking planning is almost finished.

To celebrate the beginning of a long-anticipated Groundbreaking, the Friends of Crite Park will have a block party on September 23 at the Crite Park site. Appleton Street will be closed to allow for family events, food, and music.

Nichols House Museum walking tour will transport guests back to the Hill at the turn of the 20th century

By Dan Murphy

An upcoming walking tour sponsored by the Nichols House Museum will transport guests back to the turn of the 20th century when Beacon Hill was considered Boston's most bohemian

neighborhood.

The Brahmins and Bohemians Beacon Hill Walking Tour kicks off on Wednesday, June 21, at 5:30 p.m. at the Nichols House Museum at 55 Mt. Vernon St.

(WALKING TOUR Pg. 4)



The Nichols House Museum.

COURTESY OF THE NICHOLS HOUSE MUSEUM

ACORN (from pg. 1)

parking themselves.)

Additionally, members will have access to their vehicles 24/7 should they choose to retrieve them independently of the service.

Other advantages of using Acorn are that members no longer have to worry about street-cleaning schedules or feeling uncomfortable waking to and from the garage at night.

Members also won't have to dig their cars out after snowstorms, nor will they ever need to circle the neighborhood looking for street parking.

Acorn also has charging stations so the service can accommodate EVs (Electric Vehicles) as well; in fact, this amenity has even been a factor in several members opting to purchase an EV as their next car.

Members can also buy deeply discounted passes for multiple guests, making Acorn a great option if members decide to host a dinner party at their homes.

As another incentive, Acorn offers members interior vacuuming and bottled water on request each time they request the delivery of their vehicles.

Acorn members have been so satisfied with the service so far that the only two who have opted out of the service so far did so because they were moving out of Boston.

Meanwhile, Acorn's services can help attract a much larger pool of potential of potential buyers for homes that don't have dedicated parking; in fact, real-estate brokers and developers now account for about one-third of the service's subscribers,

SOWA SUNDAYS IN JUNE

The artists of SoWa Artists Guild will also open on Sundays, June 11, 18, and 25, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., at 450 Harrison Ave.

For more information, visit www.sowaartists.com, [facebook.com/SoWaArtistsGuild](https://www.facebook.com/SoWaArtistsGuild), or <https://www.instagram.com/sowaartistsguild/>.

REP. LIVINGSTONE'S VIRTUAL OFFICE HOURS

Rep. Jay Livingstone will also hold virtual office hours on Thursday, June 15, from 10 to 11 a.m. via Zoom.

To receive the link for Rep. Livingstone's virtual office hours, or to set an alternate time to meet with him, email Cassidy. Trabilcy@mahouse.org.

FENWAY PORCHFEST SET TO RETURN SATURDAY, JUNE 10

The free Fenway Porchfest is set to return on Saturday, June 10, to venues across the neighborhood.

Visit www.fenwayporchfest.org for more information.

WARD 5 DEMOCRATS CAUCUS SET FOR JUNE 17 AT OLD SOUTH CHURCH

The Boston Ward 5 Demo-

NEWS IN BRIEF

cratic Committee will hold a Caucus to elect delegates to the Massachusetts State Democratic Convention on Saturday, June 17, at 9:30 a.m. at Old South Church, located at 645 Boylston St. in the Back Bay. All are eligible Ward 5 Democratic voters can participate in the caucus but must be checked in by 10 a.m.

The Convention is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 23, at the Tsongas Center in Lowell.

For more information, visit <https://bostonward5dems.org/>.

OPEN NEWBURY SET TO RETURN SUNDAY, JULY 2

Newbury Street will again be closed to vehicle traffic every Sun-

day from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. from July 2 to Oct. 15 for the return of Open Newbury, according to the city.

The route will be the same as previous years, with Newbury Street closed to cars from Berkeley Street to Massachusetts Avenue. Parking will be restricted on Newbury Street and adjacent streets, with enforcement beginning at 5 a.m. Signs will be posted informing drivers of the change.

Visit <https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#inbox/FMfcgzG-smNZDkqPgWqTWwLlvFTZL-GQbd> for more information on Open Newbury.

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INVITATION FOR BIDS

Vermin Extermination services

EV000012535

Contact Information

Hazel McAfee Grants Manager

617-635-4920 x 2704

The City of Boston (the City), acting by the Commissioner of the Boston Centers for Youth & Families, hereinafter referred to as the Official, invites sealed bids for **Vermin Extermination services to be performed at various Community Centers and the Main Office of the Boston Centers for Youth & Families (BCYF)** and particularly set forth in the Invitation for Bids.

The bid documents will be accessible online from Monday, May 29, 2023, through Friday, June 09, 2023

by visiting the City of Boston Public Procurement website at boston.gov/procurement/ and clicking on the supplier portal button to access event ID # **EV000012535**

The term of the contract shall be for two (2) years starting July 1, 2023 ending June 30, 2025

The attention of all bidders is directed to the provisions of the Invitation for Bids and contract documents, specifically to the requirements for bid deposits, insurance, and performance bonds as may be applicable. All bids for this project are subject to M.G.L. c.30, s. 5 and in accordance with the terms and provisions of the contract documents.

Sealed bids shall be filed electronically no later than 4:30 pm on Monday, June 12, 2023 by login onto the City of Boston Procurement website as listed and accessing the above listed event number. The contract awarded pursuant to this invitation for bid will **commence on or about Monday, July 3, 2023.**

Marta E. Rivera, Commissioner
(May 29, June 05, 2023)

WALKING TOUR (from pg. 3)
before visiting various sites in the neighborhood that were noteworthy between 1885 and around 1930, including making stops chronologically on Mt. Vernon, Pinckney and Joy streets and on Cedar Lane Way.
Camille Arbogast, the museum's new Public Engagement

Manager who has developed, and is leading the tour, said, "[It] was inspired by a desire to explore what Beacon Hill was like around the turn of the 20th century, when the Nichols family was living at 55 Mount Vernon Street. We'll talk about writers, artists, and actors, and highlight

some of the really bohemian locations on Beacon Hill."
Added Arbogast, "Beacon Hill was known then as the most bohemian place in Boston, which was often described as Boston's Greenwich Village. There was really a fascinating mix of people living on Beacon Hill at that time."
Among the neighborhood's residents then were Charles and Maurice Prendergast, two brothers and post-Impressionist painters who had their studios in the Swan House Stables on Mt. Vernon Street.

Other notable residents of the neighborhood at this time who will be highlighted on the tour include Timothee Adamowski, the first conductor of the Boston Pops who lived on Chestnut Street; along with several one-time denizens of Pinckney Street – then the epicenter of the neighborhood's bohemian arts com-

munity – such as photographer Fred Holland Day, writer Louise Guiney, and architect Ralph Adams Cram.

"In the 1920s, another avant-garde group developed along Joy Street around the Barn Theatre," said Arbogast. "By that time, Beacon Hill was well known as a hot spot of Boston's alternative culture with bookstores, galleries, artistic clothing shops, and a number of cafes, some of which may or may not have been speakeasies. Researching this tour, I enjoyed the opportunity to dig a little deeper and really try to flesh out fuller stories of these people and places, and the connections between them."

For the tour, Arbogast has budgeted about an hour and a half to allow attendees to ask questions and really delve into the stories being told.

"I think that people sometimes have an idea of who lived on Bea-

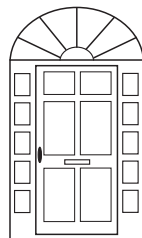
con Hill [during this time], and this may present a more complex picture of who was living here then. We'll try to bring to light this time period on Beacon Hill and what it was like to live and visit here at that time," she said.

The tours will be offered a couple of more times over the summer, said Arbogast, so check the museum's website (nicholshousemuseum.org) in the coming weeks to learn about additional dates.

Admission for the tour is \$20 per Nichols House Museum member, or \$25 for non-members. Space is limited, and the tour will traverse the neighborhood's sidewalks so guests can expect to encounter hilly terrain and uneven pavement.

Visit <https://www.nicholshousemuseum.org/events/brahmins-and-bohemians/> to reserve your spot and for more information on the event.

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HOTEL ALEXANDRA (from pg. 1)

signed Confidentiality Agreement, investors will be provided with access to due diligence materials via The Multifamily System website. Once investors have had an opportunity to review the offering materials and tour the property, Cushman & Wakefield will schedule a 'Call for Offers.'"

The five-story, late Gothic building, with its sandstone façade and cast-iron details, was built in 1875 as a residential hotel by Caleb Walworth, one of the Walworth Brothers who founded The Walworth Manufacturing Company, which helped pioneer steam technology in the late 19th century. It remained a desirable address until 1900 when a new elevated electric train began running past its doors, beginning the Hotel Alexandra's slow decline throughout the 20th century.

The building had sat mostly vacant for more than 30 years (except for a longstanding retail tenant on the ground level) until 2008, when it was purchased, along with the historic brownstone next door known as the 'Ivory Bean,' for \$4.5 million by the Church of Scientology. The Scientologists planned to make the properties their new headquarters, but that plan was dashed in 2011 when they were forced to demolish the Ivory Bean building after bricks from its crumbling façade fell to the

sidewalk.

After the Church of Scientology was unable to raise the estimated \$17 million necessary to restore the Hotel Alexandra, the building was reportedly purchased in 2018 for \$11 million by Alexandra, Partners, LLC.

A 10-story, 158-room boutique hotel, which would have far exceeded the 70-foot height limit for new construction in the South End Landmark District, was approved for the location by the Boston Planning & Development Agency board in March of 2019, but that plan was scuttled when the pandemic struck.

The developer said they subsequently considered selling the building after investors pulled out of the project, but instead the project was reimagined as "Alexandra Residences," a 13-story, mixed-use development with ground floor restaurant and café space, a rooftop level bar/restaurant, and around 70 condo units. The South End Landmarks District Commission (SELDC) approved this latest iteration of the project on Oct. 30, 2019, and then, the BPDA board approved it on Oct. 14, 2021. The city's Zoning Board of Appeal also granted a change in occupancy for the project to a multifamily residential use with a commercial/restaurant use on the ground floor and the restoration of the existing historic façade on July

12 of last year.

Lloyd Fillion, a 45-year resident of the Roxbury side of Massachusetts Avenue, is quick to point out that the Hotel Alexandra is actually located in Roxbury, however, since it sits on his side of Massachusetts Avenue.

"It's critical that people realize that the Roxbury Neighborhood Council has been mandated a role in planning, reviewing, commenting on, and approving or not approving development proposals in Roxbury... and that Mass Ave is the dividing line between the South End and Roxbury," said Fillion.

As for Alexandra Partners' decision to sell the building at this time, their attorney, Marc LaCasse said, "Like elsewhere in the city and state and across the nation, housing starts have stalled for the same reasons everywhere. Interest rates have spiked 5 percent from last year into this year. Lenders are far more skittish. Regional bank failures didn't help, and rising construction materials and construction costs compounded everything as well."

To salvage the project now will take "a multi-pronged effort to find the right combination of partners or a buyer to acquire the property and develop it as approved," said LaCasse.

KELLEHER ROSE GARDEN SET TO BLOOM



The gorgeous roses in the Kelleher Rose Garden in the Back Bay Fens of the Emerald Necklace are about to bloom! The Rose Garden contains more than 10 classes and 200 varieties of roses - almost 1,500 plants in total! The Kelleher Rose Garden Hours are Monday – Friday 7am – 5pm and Saturday – Sunday 10am – 5pm, May through October. This romantic garden is located in the heart of the city and is a wonderful respite! Don't miss it!

Every year, the Emerald Necklace Conservancy recruits volunteers to assist deadheading and prune roses and to weed the rose



beds and borders. "Tuesday with Roses" takes place every Tuesday during the season from 5:30-7:30pm. Registration for "Tuesday with Roses" are open with more details available on www.emeraldnecklace.org

1033-1055 WASHINGTON ST. (from pg. 1)

ing) and 1033 Washington St. (the south building), respectively – that would sit on an L-shaped site, with an above-grade connection between the sixth to eighth floors of the two buildings. The two structures would stand approximately 150 feet high to the roofline, below about 20 feet of screened mechanicals. Both buildings will include ground-floor retail and restaurant space, community/non-profit space, and two levels of below-grade parking, as well as 254 bike spaces throughout the site.

Each building will have its own lobby and ground-floor retail and restaurant space, along with their own individual fitness accommodations and civic space, said David Manfredi, CEO and founding principal of Elkus Manfredi Architects.

The project will create a landscaped, mid-block pedestrian path between the two buildings, said Manfredi, which, in its latest iteration, would take pedestrians from Traveler and Washington streets, through a straight line going east to west onto Millicent Way and then Shawmut Avenue before eventually reaching the Castle Square apartment complex on Tremont Street.

The path, which intends to reinvigorate Washington Street as a commercial corridor, would range in width from 85 feet down to 25 feet at its narrowest point near Shawmut Avenue, said Mikyoung Kim, a landscape architect for the project. It would be adorned with planter, canopy trees, and outdoor seating along the way, she said, and would also offer open view corridors intersecting the site.

Access for deliveries would be provided off of Shawmut Avenue, said Manfredi, with only one way in and one way out, and all loading taking place behind closed doors. All cars will exit and enter the buildings onto

Washington Street, he said.

Five curb-cuts, including four on Washington Street and one on Shawmut Avenue, are located on the project site, said Manfredi.

Stephen Tisdalle, who represents the board of trustees for the Lucas Building, which directly abuts the site, said they would support the project while applauding the design.

Tisdalle said the Lucas trustees supported creating the ingress and egress, along with an additional curb cut, on Washington Street, but wouldn't support any changes to traffic flow on Shawmut Avenue, including a new curbcut there.

Additionally, Tisdalle lauded the developer for their commitment to landscape an open parcel located next to the project site, and to maintain it into perpetuity as a public park.

Tisdalle also underscored the need for more parking in the neighborhood and said that the Lucas trustees don't want to see the city reduce parking accommodations in the current plan.

Emily Antonelli, a representative for the neighboring 100 Shawmut condominium building, also voiced their support for the project, which, she said, "would undoubtedly have a positive economic impact on the neighborhood."

Antonelli also echoed another of Tisdalle's recommendations and urged the developer to maintain Shawmut Avenue as a one-way street.

Kate Chang, vice president of community and government relations for the Pine Street, voiced her organization's support for the project, especially since the ground-floor restaurant and retail uses could provide possible future partnership opportunities for the Pine Street Inn's workforce training program.

Kristi Keefe, one of two co-executive directors for the Boston Center for the Arts, located at

539 Tremont St., also supported the proposal.

Barbra Boylan, vice president of The Druker Co., assured neighbors that the lab space in the buildings would be limited to Biosafety Levels 1 and 2, and that the PDA would contain language specifying that the buildings' use couldn't later be changed to Biosafety Levels 3 and 4.

While the tenants of the two buildings have still yet to be determined, Manfredi said he expects that the project would comprise about 60 percent lab use and 40 percent office use, which is typical of new mixed-use lab buildings in Boston or Cambridge, but he added that ratio could change as the project progresses.

The developer plans to make an additional Article 80 filing



COURTESY OF THE BOSTON PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
A rendering of the proposed 1033-1055 Washington St. development in the South End.

with the BPDA in the next month or so, which will trigger another 30-day round of public comment, said Sarah Black, BPDA senior project manager.

The public comment period for the PDA Development Plan for the project ends on June 16.

Public comments can be submitted to Sarah Black of the BPDA via email at Sarah.Black@boston.gov, or submitted via the BPDA project page at <https://www.bostonplans.org/projects/development-projects/1033-1055-washington-street?>



JOIN US!

south end GARDEN TOUR

SATURDAY, JUNE 17 • 10AM-4PM

A self-guided tour through neighborhood gardens & green spaces to benefit community gardening in Boston

Tour Start: Berkeley Community Garden
500 Tremont Street (corner of Tremont and East Berkeley)

For more info, to volunteer in exchange for a free ticket, and to buy tickets:
thetrustees.org/seg

DAY OF TOUR:
purchase at Berkeley Community Garden

TICKETS:
Trustees members \$28
Nonmembers \$35

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BAY VILLAGE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION HOSTS FUNDRAISER



Leslie Colburn, President of Bay Village Association Trish Gillis, Allie Fitzgerald, David Wright, Prilla Brackett, and Brian Boisvert



Organizers of the event were Jenny Lashway, Kristina Lindsey, Paria Froot, and Kim Kulasekaran.

Photos by Derek Kouyoumjian

The Bay Village Neighborhood Association had held a fundraising event at 212 Stuart Street on their rooftop patio. Participants were treated to food, drink, music, stunning views, and great company with neighbors.



Silent auction items were donated to help raise money for Bay Village Neighborhood Association activities.



Elaine Sabatino and Paria Froot look over some of the silent auction items.



Mary Teeven and Sara Barakat.



Boston Preservation Alliance Director of Communications Matthew Dickey, Boston Music Project Chris Schroeder, and Cel Kulasekaran.



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FENWAY PORCHFEST

Saturday, June 10th
(rain date Sunday, June 11th)
12:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
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www.fenwayporchfest.org

BAY VILLAGE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION HOSTS FUNDRAISER



Dick and Kathy Froot with Shadi and Matt Serwin.



Annie Short, Ben Beck, Emily Agnew, and Andy Briney.



Ben Beck, Chris Wood, Rocque Dion, and Stephanie Howard.



Scott Hunter and Wai Ming Siu.



Kevin and Karen Manning.



Ben Beck, Chris Wood, Rocque Dion, and Stephanie Howard, and Steve Dunwell.



Mark Alexander and Andrew Jackson.



Emily and David Agnew.



David Weight and Dom Barakat.



Grant Simpson and Prilla Brackett.

Kaji Aso Studio

Institute for the Arts

2023 Concert Series



The Formosa Duo

Chi-Chen Wu, pianist & Sam Ou, cellist

Saturday, June 10th at 7:00 pm

Enjoy music in a gallery atmosphere
Program includes Boulanger, Liszt, Schumann, & Rachmaninoff



Kaji Aso Studio: 40 Saint Stephen St, Boston, MA 02115

More info: administrator@kajiasostudio.com

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Mission Hill Fenway Neighborhood Trust, Inc.



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Cathedral High School awarded \$75,000 Cummings grant

South End school receives three years of funding from Cummings Foundation

Special to the Sun

Cathedral High School is one of 150 local nonprofits that will share in \$30 million through Cummings Foundation's major annual grants program. The school campus located in the historic South End was selected from a total of 630 applicants during a competitive review process. It will receive \$75,000 over three years.

Cathedral High School is a Catholic, urban, and coeducational college preparatory school committed to excellence and social justice. Within an environment that encourages our scholars to reach their full potential, Cathedral students are expected to make lasting and powerful impacts in their local, national, and global communities.

Through the Cummings Foundation grant Cathedral High School will be able to expand and broaden college and career options for inner-city youth in greater Boston so that all students have a transformational post-secondary experience.

"We are incredibly honored to receive this grant which will ultimately bolster our 7th through

12th grade college readiness program. Our expanded model now creates a pathway for college readiness for all students, states President, Dan Carmody. We are proud of the work we have done to prepare students for college and this grant allows us to enhance and broaden our program."

For the past 20 years Cathedral has had a 100% high school graduation and 100% college acceptance rate. Josh A., class of 2022 valedictorian and aspiring financial actuary, who just completed his first year at the University of Arizona said, "I chose Cathedral because there was a 100% college acceptance rate. Growing up my mom pushed me to try to make it to college. I knew from an early age where I wanted to go and that I'm going to need a college degree to get there."

The Cummings \$30 Million Grant Program primarily supports Massachusetts nonprofits that are based in and serve Middlesex, Essex, and Suffolk counties. Through this place-based initiative, Cummings Foundation aims to give back in the areas where it owns commercial property. Its buildings are all managed, at no cost to the Foundation, by its affiliate, Cummings Properties. This Woburn-based commercial real estate firm leases and manages 11 million square feet of debt-free space, the major-



Members of the 2023 Cathedral High School graduating class.

ity of which exclusively benefits the Foundation.

"The way the local nonprofit sector perseveres, steps up, and pivots to meet the shifting needs of the community is most impressive," said Cummings Foundation executive director Joyce Vyriotes. "We are incredibly grateful for these tireless efforts to support people in the community and to increase equity and access to opportunities."

The majority of the grant decisions were made by about 90 volunteers. They worked across a variety of committees to review and discuss the proposals and then, together, determine which requests would be funded. Among these community volun-

teers were business and nonprofit leaders, mayors, college presidents, and experts in areas such as finance and DEI (diversity, equity, and inclusion).

"It would not be possible for the Foundation to hire the diversity and depth of expertise and insights that our volunteers bring to the process," said Vyriotes. "We so appreciate the substantial time and thought they dedicated toward ensuring that our democratized version of philanthropy results in equitable outcomes that will really move the needle on important issues in local communities."

The Foundation and volunteers first identified 150 organizations to receive three-year

grants of up to \$225,000 each. The winners included first-time recipients as well as nonprofits that had previously received Cummings grants. Twenty-five of this latter group of repeat recipients were then selected by a volunteer panel to have their grants elevated to 10-year awards ranging from \$300,000 to \$1 million each.

This year's grant recipients represent a wide variety of causes, including housing and food insecurity, workforce development, immigrant services, social justice, education, and mental health services. The nonprofits are spread across 46 different cities and towns.

Cummings Foundation has now awarded \$480 million to greater Boston nonprofits. The complete list of this year's 150 grant winners, plus nearly 1,500 previous recipients, is available at www.CummingsFoundation.org.



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Back Bay Architectural Commission meeting set for June 14

The Back Bay Architectural Commission will hold a virtual public hearing on June 14, at 5 p.m.

This meeting will only be held virtually and not in person. You can participate in the meeting by going to <https://zoom.us/j/98033187641> or calling 301-715-8592 and enter meeting id 980 3318 7641 #. You can also submit written comments or questions to backbayac@boston.gov.

The following is the agenda for the public meeting:

I. DESIGN REVIEW PUBLIC HEARING - 5:00pm

23.1015 BB 7 Newbury Street:

Applicant: Raymond Thill

Proposed Work: At front façade install wall and window signage, and install flag holder and commercial flag.

23.1052 BB 581 Boylston Street:

Applicant: Jessica Mancuso

Proposed Work: At front façade replace storefront.

23.1040 BB 777 Boylston Street:

Applicant: Rebecca Lee

Proposed Work: At front façade relocate existing door and add additional doorway and sign band; at rear elevation restore two windows and window openings; and at roof install new HVAC units and repoint masonry at existing mechanical headhouse.

23.1031 BB 32 Hereford Street:

Applicant: Keenan Brinn

Proposed Work: Replace existing street light with DAS node.

23.1007 BB 511 Beacon Street:

Applicant: Dr. Rich Atkins

Proposed Work: At rear elevation mount HVAC unit to wall.

23.1004 BB 114 Commonwealth Avenue:

Applicant: Laurel Bern

Proposed Work: At rear elevation

install HVAC unit in walled garden area.

23.1047 BB 238 Marlborough Street:

Applicant: Marcus Springer

Proposed Work: Repair, repoint and clean masonry; restore mansard window surrounds in-kind; restore front door; repair rotted window trim; remove fire escape on the fourth floor; remove pipe rail handrail at front steps and install new wrought iron handrail and garden surround; repair front garden curb surround; plant a new tree centrally in the front garden; install tree up-lights; re-certify all fire escapes; and remove wood stairs from the rear of the building to the alley level and replace with new masonry stairs and wrought iron railing to match the Marlborough Street façade.

23.0963 BB 282 Marlborough Street:

Applicant: Peter White

Proposed Work: Foundation

waterproofing at the entry stairs, requiring removal of two trees and excavation at the house foundation. Replacement of the curbing at the front yard fence. Repainting and repairing the existing fence and re-attachment to a new painted curb to match main access steps. Removal of exposed portion of concrete footing at fire escape. New front yard plantings and path lighting at main entry walk, and the side access walk to sunken courtyard.

Removal of existing staircase down to courtyard. New staircase to be painted steel with wood treads. Replacement of existing precast concrete paving with granite. Repointing of existing brick retaining wall, replacement of brick wall wood and asphalt shingle cap with limestone cap.

Replacement of existing wood paneling with new wood paneling. Build new fence panel enclosure to conceal trash and recycling receptacles.

23.1051 BB 389 Marlborough Street:

Applicant: Robert Paladino

Proposed Work: Restoration of the front and rear facades; replacement of the doors and sidelights on the front facade at the 4th Floor terrace; modification of the fenestration on the rear façade at the garden level; and the addition of a roof deck.

At the front yard replace the fence and curb at the front garden; material improvements to the front walkway; and a revised patio footprint with new plantings.

At the rear yard repair and

restore the existing brick retaining walls and patio; replace the existing wood fence along the patio and parking area; and repair the asphalt paving at the parking area (to be maintained as an existing condition).

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

(BBAC Pg. 11)

SOUTH END LIBRARY NEWS & NOTES

New librarian named for the South End Branch

Special to Sun

The South End Library is delighted to welcome Christina Jones as our new Librarian. Christina has been with BPL for about five years as a floating librarian, doing stints in every department at Copley and at all but two BPL branches. Just prior to starting at the South End on May 25, she was overseeing the interlibrary loan process. Before joining BPL, Christina worked in retail. She holds a degree in Library Sciences from Simmons University, where she worked in the campus library.

Christina is excited about serving our community. She is investigating the bike bookmobile possibilities and preparing to implement interim services such as story times, author talks, and other valuable programming. She can be reached at cjones@bpl.org.

Architectural Firm selection

Four architectural firms made the short list for the Library renovation. These include, in ranked order: 1.) Utile, Inc.; 2.) Oudens Ello Architecture, LLC; 3.) Annum Architects, Inc.; and

4.) Schwartz/Silver Architects, Inc.

The top contender, Utile, has significant experience with other branch libraries (such as Roxbury and Jamaica Plain), a strong community engagement process, and a design inclination toward transparency/natural light.

Fee negotiation with Utile has begun. The project will likely be presented for formal approval to the Public Facilities Commission (PFC) at its mid-July meeting. (Information re how to join this public meeting can be found on the PFC section of the boston.gov website.)

Following approval, the City Hall contracting process will begin. As the contracting process is expected to take 1-2 months, work on the study and design phases will likely begin in late summer/early fall. The design process usually last a year, and construction about two years.

Community Engagement process

As part of the study and design phases, the architects will reach out to the community for input on the project. They will host four meetings for this purpose, which will also be attended by

BPL staff, Public Facilities staff, and all interested community members. It is expected that the first meeting will be virtual and subsequent ones will be hybrid.

In addition to these architect-led meetings, BPL staff will reach out to engage with the community, perhaps with specific groups, such as seniors, students, etc.

As they begin their work, the architects will develop a project timeline, which will be published on the South End Branch page of the BPL website, as well as on FOSEL's website and via links and through other social media.

Interim Library Services

Because the South End Branch will be closed for a significant period of time during renovation, it is critical that BPL offers enhanced interim library services. BPL staff are optimistic that the space offered by United South End Settlements may be usable as a fixed location to house temporary operations and programs such as story time, book clubs, and workforce development, as well as book drop-off. As noted above, BPL is also looking into using a bike bookmobile.

Robotic Software Engineer - F/T, perm. position in Boston, MA. Dvlp proprietary commercial s/ware that communicates w/ different industrial robots over a variety of s/ware network protocols. Write, edit, test & debug robotics s/ware code using robot scripting languages & the knowl of network protocols. Work w/ robot mfrs to troubleshoot s/ware code issues affecting robot performance & stability. Maintain & extend applic-level state machines that manage robot higher-level behavior. Conduct dsgn reviews to achieve consensus on new features & applic improvements. Support robotics field engineers to solve customers automation challenges using the co. technology. Apply the following tools & technologies to write, edit, test, debug & share s/ware code & track changes: C++, Linux s/ware dvlpmnt, network prgmg, Wireshark, TCP/IP networking stack, Git, Jira, Valgrind. Min. reqs: Masters deg in Robotics Engg or rlted field, such as Mechanical Engg or Electrical & Comp Engg. Must have advanced level proficiency in all of the following tools: C++, Linux s/ware dvlpmnt, network prgmg, Wireshark, TCP/IP networking stack, Git, Jira, Valgrind. Submit resume by mail to Joy Ramsbotham, Director, Human Resources, Realtime Robotics, Inc., 27 Wormwood St, Ste 110, Boston, MA 02210; or via e-mail to: joy@rtr.ai. All qualified candidates must meet the stated min. reqs. Please indicate (a) whether you are immediately available to accept the position & begin employment if offd, (b) your desired salary range (if applicable), & (c) whether you possess unrestricted work authorization in the U.S.



Sam Ou (left) and Chi-Chen Wu.

The Formosa Duo set to perform at Kasi Aso Studio

Special to the Sun

The Formosa Duo, Chen Wu and Sam Ou are set to perform a free concert on June 10 at 7 p.m. at Kaji Aso Studio, 40 Saint Stephen Street, Boston, (seven doors from Symphony Hall). Kaji Aso is an art school and gallery. This event is part of a concert series to enjoy music in a gallery atmosphere.

Space is limited. Please R.S.V.P. to administrator@kajiasostudio.com

Since earning their respective doctorate of musical arts degrees from the New England Conservatory of Music (NEC), pianist Chi-Chen Wu and cellist Sam Ou have been collaborating as

the Formosa Duo for nearly two decades. The diverse repertoire that they have performed encompasses a wide stylistic span, from the Classical and Romantic periods, through the 20th century and into the present. This program includes Boulanger, Liszt, Schumann, & Rachmaninoff.

Kaji Aso Studio programming is supported in part by grants from the Mass Cultural Council through the Cultural Sector Recovery Grants for Organizations program; by the Boston Cultural Council / Reopen Creative Boston Fund, administered by the Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture; and by the Mission Hill / Fenway Neighborhood Trust.

DONALD C. KELLEY

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BBAC (from pg. 10)

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.

23.1048 BB 5 Arlington Street: Replace fifteen non-historic wood windows and one non-historic wood door in-kind.

23.1011 BB 137 Beacon Street: At rear elevation restore windows and replace storm windows.

23.1039 BB 204-206 Beacon Street: Replace existing condensers (2) with 2 Mitsubishi heat pumps; replace existing skylights with new skylights in same locations; replace existing headhouse with skylight; refurbish and re-clad existing headhouse; install new lighting, roof, copper siding, and patio door; rebuild existing chimney with salvaged and/or new brick to match existing; replace and relocate railing between refurbished headhouse and reconstructed chimney; and remove fire escape on Back Street façade connecting 204 and 206 Beacon Street.

23.0948 BB 236 Beacon Street: At side elevation replace copper flashing in-kind and repair gutter and masonry.

23.1042 BB 263 Beacon Street: At front façade replace concrete sidewalk with brick pavers.

23.1072 BB 274 Beacon Street: At roof replace black rubber membrane roof, copper cop-

pings and flashings, and skylights in-kind; replace rubber membrane at penthouse with copper standing seam panels; and install safety railing.

23.1025 BB 286 Beacon Street: At rear elevation replace four, lower-level one-over-one windows with wood one-over-one windows.

23.0992 BB 400 Beacon Street: At front garden replace dying Magnolia tree in-kind.

23.1022 BB 452 Beacon Street: At front façade replace four, second-story, one-over-one wood windows in-kind; and at rear elevation replace one, second-story, two-over-two wood windows in-kind.

23.0926 BB 467 Beacon Street: At front façade install black iron handrails at entry steps.

23.1035 BB 473 Beacon Street: At rear elevation replace four, second-story one-over-one wood windows in-kind.

23.0965 BB 711 Boylston Street: At rear elevation infill existing window opening with brick matching surrounding masonry.

23.0891 BB 152 Commonwealth Avenue: Installation of four HVAC units and guardrail at uppermost roof.

23.0988 BB 192 Commonwealth Avenue: At roof replace existing tar and gravel roof with black rubber membrane roof.

23.1017 BB 192 Commonwealth Avenue: At roof replace roofing, skylights and headhouse door in-kind.

23.1044 BB 197 Commonwealth Avenue: Replace ten, one-over-one non-historic aluminum windows with one-over-one wood windows.

23.0991 BB 256 Commonwealth Avenue: At rear elevation repair existing fire escape.

23.0956 BB 263 Commonwealth Avenue: At front façade repair masonry.

23.1018 BB 390 Commonwealth Avenue: At front façade replace eighth-story non-historic

patio door in-kind.

23.1034 BB 8 Gloucester Street: At side (north) elevation restore window opening and window at sixth-story.

23.0954 BB 15 Hereford Street: At roof replace extension of chimney liner at existing chimney.

23.1003 BB 163 Marlborough Street: At penthouse replace seven, one-over-one non-historic windows with one-over-one wood windows.

23.1038 BB 173 Marlborough Street: At front façade repair and repoint masonry.

23.0976 BB 180 Marlborough Street: Replace eight, one-over-one wood windows in-kind.

23.1009 BB 192 Marlborough Street: At rear addition replace decking at existing roof deck.

23.1026 BB 227 Marlborough Street: At rear elevation replace two, second-story, two-over-two windows with wood two-over-two wood windows.

23.0862 BB 341 Marlborough Street: At roof replace black rubber membrane roof and existing roof deck in-kind.

23.0912 BB 363 Marlborough Street: Replace twelve, one-over-one non-historic windows with one-over-one wood windows.

23.0990 BB 205-207 Newbury Street: At front façade installation of dining furniture at existing patio areas.

23.1049 BB 244 Newbury Street: At front façade replace existing blade sign.

23.1046 BB 252 Newbury Street: At front façade replace wall signage at lower level.

23.0632 BB 272 Newbury Street: At front façade replace wall signage at lower level.

Iii ratification of 5/10/2023 public hearing minutes

Iv discussion of proposed guidelines for ring doorbells

V staff updates

Vi projected adjournment: 8:00pm

SEND US YOUR NEWS

The Boston Sun encourages residents to submit engagement, wedding and birth announcements, news releases, business and education briefs, sports stories and photos for publication. Items should be forwarded to our offices at 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151. Items can also be faxed to 781-485-1403. We also encourage readers to e-mail news releases and photos to

deb@thebostonsun.com

Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
BACK BAY			
Spector, Eli	Hegarty, Michael	200-202 Beacon St #2	\$1,175,000
Mckim, Jack S	Bartlett, Jeff T	315-317 Beacon St #2	\$545,000
Jensen, Katherine C	Robbins, Emily J	50 Commonwealth Ave #605	\$1,155,000
Savoy, Pamela H	Garber, Jean P	191 Commonwealth Ave #3	\$2,700,000
Snow Owl 33 T	255 Marlborough St Unit	255 Marlborough St #2	\$4,685,000
Trinity Stuart Primary Co	Bosotn Redevauthority	430-436 Stuart St	\$9,000
Dolnick, Janice	Kemper, Debra G	416 Commonwealth Ave #103	\$3,250,000

BEACON HILL			
The Happy Journey LLC	Codman Properties LLC	73 Charles St #1C	\$550,000
Mfd Beacon LLC	Grayson, Bruns H	31 Chestnut St	\$7,400,000
Dean, Cameron	Dhillon, Perminder	59 Hancock St #1	\$550,000
Van Alphen, Manjola U	Dorta, Abel D	9 Hawthorne Pl #7F	\$405,000
Monomoy Seashell LLC	Dragons Legacy LLC	43 Irving St #3	\$608,000
Phillips Boston LLC	Valle, Christopher	11 Phillips St #2	\$550,000
Flynn, Andrew	Rives, Robert C	99 Pinckney St #3	\$1,035,000
Guillermín, Nils	Woodcome, Katherine	21 Temple St #6	\$482,000

BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE			
Fontaine, David	Aldrich, Charles L	80 Broadway #3A	\$1,145,000
Mcmanus, Sarah A	Richardson Unit Rt	298 Columbus Ave #1	\$700,000
Moran, Jane	Mcdonald, Carl	301-319 Columbus Ave #805	\$3,100,000
Vernekar, Devayani P	Olaughlin, Andres R	14 Lawrence St #2	\$1,300,000
Hecht, Peter	Cherewatti, John M	17 Durham St #4	\$1,500,000
Clark, Tara	Messina, Michael	22 Hanson St #3	\$1,490,000
Zak, Jennifer	Quinn South End LLC	370 Harrison Ave #1019	\$1,034,900
Balogh, Peter	Quinn South End LLC	370 Harrison Ave #1124	\$859,800
Deluca, Rachel	761 Harrison Church LLC	771 Harrison Ave #PH11	\$1,585,000
Fitzpatrick, Mary A	Genest, Suzanne	121-127 Portland St #206	\$1,216,000
Carlock, Catherine M	Kovalenko, Marina	7 Primus Ave #3	\$540,000
Acosta, Lazaro	Afshar, Firooz	45 Province St #1507	\$615,000
Johnson, James	Devine-Chase, Lindsey	64 Queensberry St #310	\$425,000
Lyons, Thomas M	Sarah B Wulff RET	219 Shawmut Ave #2	\$2,150,000
Deco Rt	Chu FT	411 Shawmut Ave #3	\$1,240,000
Heim, Scott A	Klein, Julianne	217 W Springfield St #1	\$1,263,000
Stevens, Virginia	Stephen E Sollitto Lt	12 Walnut St #1	\$715,000

WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN			
Cheeseman, Thomas J	Alan & J Nierenberg Jret	376 Commercial St #2G	\$1,225,000
Forever Rich Inv LLC	Mcaf Winthrop LLC	240 Devonshire St #5314	\$1,750,000
Festa Jr, John R	Mcaf Winthrop LLC	240 Devonshire St #5414	\$1,805,000
Lu, Mei	Abushaar, Fahed	1 Franklin St #3101	\$2,225,000
Vila Real Realty LLC	14 Golf Clubs LLC	19 Harris St	\$1,187,500
Vila Real Realty LLC	Boston Kca LLC	19 Harris St	\$1,187,500

Attention to Detail

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY PENNY CHERUBINO

THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The detail in the last clue is on the sculptor Frank Smullin’s Labyrinth of Datalist on the Boston University Campus near Marsh Chapel. On the BU public art page Lawrence Fane is quoted as writing about this work saying, “The pipes could squeeze and pull, constrict the space passing through them, and generate a sense of contained and bursting energy.”

You’ll find the next clue in the South End.

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

THIS WEEK'S CLUE





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