



THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 2023

THE BOSTON SUN

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SERVING BACK BAY - SOUTH END - FENWAY - KENMORE

Public meeting to discuss proposed Charlesbank Landing set for June 22

By Dan Murphy

The public will get a look at the design plans and timeline for Charlesbank Landing on the Esplanade, which will include a year-round pavilion and visitors center, at a public meeting taking place on Thursday, June 22, from 6 to 7 p.m. at the West End Branch Library at 151 Cambridge St., as well as via Zoom.

The Esplanade Association, which is sponsoring the meeting, will oversee funding for the more than \$20 million project – one of the largest gifts ever made to the

Commonwealth's park system – and manage the operations of Charlesbank Landing over the next several decades.

The two-acre project site comprises the area in and around the former Lee Pool complex on the Esplanade; it sits between the Longfellow Bridge and Museum of Science and is adjacent to the Teddy Ebersol's Red Sox Fields, and Alford Memorial Spray Deck, as well as the future site of Gronk Playground.

(CHARLESBANK LANDING Pg. 5)



MARYANN THOMPSON ARCHITECTS AND MICHAEL VAN VALKENBURGH ASSOCIATES. COURTESY OF ESPLANADE ASSOCIATION

A rendering of the west view of the proposed Charlesbank Landing on the Esplanade.

Stanhope Street hotel proposal draws concern from residents of The Clarendon

By Dan Murphy

Residents of The Clarendon condominium building in the Back Bay sounded the alarm regarding the expected impact from the adjacent, proposed Stanhope Street hotel during a city-sponsored meeting on the

project held virtually on Thursday, June 7.

"This is going to be really close, much closer than we would have hoped," said Douglas Kant, a resident of The Clarendon at 400 Stuart St., which

(STANHOPE HOTEL Pg. 4)

FENWAY



Mighty Suicide Squirrels from Athol MA outside The Harlo; Guitar Trevor, Bass Kevin, Drums Jarrod, Wings King Frankie Melted.

PORCHFEST



PHOTOS BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

Spectators at The Verb Hotel wait to see The Skrimps perform. See more photos on Pages 6 and 7.

Durkan earns Mayor Wu's endorsement for District 8 Council

Special to the Sun

Sharon Durkan, a community activist, former political staffer for Mayor Wu and former Ward 5 Democratic Committee Chair, earned the endorsement of Mayor Michelle Wu in her campaign for the Boston City Council

District 8 seat for the special municipal election on Tuesday, July 25th. The seat is currently vacant after former Councilor Kenzie Bok resigned to become the Boston Housing Authority Administrator.

Drawing from her personal experience working closely with

Sharon over many years, Mayor Wu expressed her strong support for Durkan, highlighting her advocacy for the community she serves. "Over many years, I've seen Sharon passionately champion the needs and concerns of our

(DURKAN Pg. 10)

EDITORIAL

NOISE IS KILLING US

For those of us who live in the Greater Boston area, the noise that is all around us -- the roar of jets from the flight paths over our heads, the constant thrum of traffic on our bridges and expressways, the deafening sound of those obnoxious leaf blowers and lawn mowers, the harshness of motorcycles on our roads and of power boats (and those obnoxious jet skis) on the water, and the blare of sirens by fire engine and police vehicles (just to name the most obvious ones) -- is impossible to escape.

We always considered the constant noise to be a part of the background of our environment, the price we pay for living in the city. But the evidence is mounting that noise is much more than a mere annoyance -- it is killing us in subtle, yet measurable ways.

Researchers have found that noise doesn't merely affect our auditory senses (i.e., hurt our ears), but literally reverberates throughout our entire body. Noise causes a stress response in the brain that in turn triggers responses that snake their way along our cardiovascular and nervous systems.

The effects of noise are especially pernicious at nighttime because noise can interrupt a normal sleep pattern, thereby triggering a stress response even if the person does not recall being awakened.

Researchers at Mass. General who have analyzed the brain scans and health records of hundreds of patients report that those who live in areas with high levels of transportation noise are more likely to suffer from arterial inflammation and major cardiac events. Noise may even trigger heart attacks, and higher levels of aircraft noise have been tied to heart-related mortality.

It is estimated that 100 million Americans are subject to a level of noise that is harmful to our health. If the ill effects of noise are as bad as researchers say, it is not surprising that Americans' life spans are shorter -- even when taking into account our ongoing opioid epidemic, COVID, and high suicide rate -- than in countries that are not as "developed" as ours.

And for those of us who try to take care of ourselves by eating well, exercising, etc., it is very depressing to realize that the noise that surrounds us cancels out our best efforts at living a longer and healthier life.

THE MIRACLE IN THE AMAZON JUNGLE

The news this week of the rescue of the four children, ages 13, 9, 4, and 11 months, who survived in the depths of the Amazon jungle for 40 days after their small airplane crashed (killing the pilot, their mother, and another adult passenger) is nothing less than miraculous.

This part of the Amazon in Colombia is so remote that it took two weeks for rescuers just to locate their plane and then five more weeks to track down the children.

The children are members of an indigenous tribe who teach their children about the wonders -- and the dangers -- of the jungle. According to a statement from the Organization of the Indigenous Peoples of the Colombian Amazon, the children's survival was "a sign of the knowledge and relationship with the natural environment of life, which is taught and learned from the mother's womb and is practiced from a very early age."

The children's maternal grandmother said that the eldest child, a 13-year-old girl, had a "warrior"-like nature and their grandfather said the 9- and 4-year-old brothers were very "skilled" at walking through the forest.

They knew what fruits and seeds they could eat and which ones to avoid, how to capture water, and were aware of the many types of venomous snakes that live in the jungle. During the night, they slept in tree trunks to avoid predators.

Needless to say, as one expert noted, "Four Western kids of the same age would have died" there. In fact, we'd add that everyone reading this column would have died in the jungle, save perhaps for someone who has undergone wilderness training in the military.

The children's story of their survival illustrates how far removed we in the so-called "civilized world" are from nature -- most of us can't even avoid poison ivy or ticks in our own backyards. It also should make us ask this question: Are we better off with the life we have created, or have we sown the seeds of our own demise by our intentional destruction of the natural environment?

By Alison Barnet

I once talked with a man whose family lived on the top floor of the Hotel Alexandra from 1951 to 1979.

Although the name was written out front, he never called it the Alexandra; to him it was simply "home." Then I met another man whose family had lived in a large apartment on the first floor in the early 1980s.

Skippy White's Records was in one of the ground floor storefronts, Star Wigs (and, before that, South End Community Health Center dental) in the other. Uncle Ned's Money To Loan, where I once pawned a typewriter, was in the Ivory Bean building next door.

There were many such residence hotels in the South End years ago; they were not hotels as we know them today. Back then, people wanted low-rent apartments and weren't concerned whether they were in the South End or Roxbury.

Once a beautiful building, the historic (1875 Peabody and Stearns) Hotel Alexandra, now covered with dirt and graffiti, trees growing in front of its boarded-up windows, has been bounced around from owner to owner for decades. The City of Boston let several Alexandra owners off the hook by not requiring them to adhere to building standards or take other responsible action. How about cleaning up the graffiti? They were allowed to get away with doing next to nothing. It's what you might call a slippery slope.

Interesting that back in 1984--almost 40 years ago--owner Peter Bakis came to a neighborhood meeting and said, "although he had not yet decided what to do, he estimated the project would cost \$2 million. Today, cleaning up the pigeon excrement would probably cost that much. The Alexandra became a cause celebre as it deteriorated fur-

GUEST OP-ED

Enough is enough

ther, and developers couldn't afford to take it on.

In 2008, the Church of Scientology bought the property. Its intention, after selling its Beacon Street building, was to open new headquarters at the Alexandra, but that never happened. In 2011, the Ivory Bean building was found structurally unsound and demolished. In 2014, Scientology decided the building didn't fit its needs and put it on the market.

Random headlines:

Alexandra Hotel to be saved by Church of Scientology

Alexandra delayed

Stalled restoration

Potential developer for Alexandra Hotel ready to make building proud again

Old Alexandra Hotel slated to become condos, instead of previously approved [boutique] hotel

Makeover in 8 Weeks

Alexandra Hotel hit with graffiti

Alexandra Hotel Developers to Put Project Up for Sale as Financing Unravels

New Life for Old Plans to Revive the Long-Empty Alexandra

And the latest (Boston Sun, June 8):

Hotel Alexandra back on the market for unspecified

price

Fourteen years ago, a neighbor who wrote an article called "Just Say No to Hotel Alexandra," urged the City to condemn the property and seize it by eminent domain at a "fair price." That made a lot more sense than glass towers on the roof, luxury condos, a boutique hotel, and more years of further decay. Forget unrealistic profits in the many millions.

That makes more and more sense today. The City could step in, acquire the property using historic preservation grants and other non-profit funds and re-open the building for affordable housing. It could lease a storefront to, for example, the South End Branch Library, which will be closed at its present site for many years, and how about welcoming the activities and meeting space that used to be in the Harriet Tubman House before it was torn down. This would be genuine community benefits.

But I'm afraid here we go again. FOR SALE and sales falling through. What a mess!

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

JOHN MORAN SWORN IN AS 9TH SUFFOLK DISTRICT STATE REP.



COURTESY PHOTO

Longtime South End resident John Moran was sworn in by Gov. Maura Healey on June 7 during a ceremony at the State House. Moran succeeds Jon Santiago, who now serves as the state's Secretary of Veteran Affairs, in the seat.



OUR MEMBERS, YOUR NEIGHBORS, THEIR EXPERIENCES ...

We've been really impressed with the ease of Acorn, and how much it has made day-to-day city life stress free. We can't imagine living in the city without this fantastic service-we save so much time not walking to and from the garage, or trolling for a spot.

Bravo to the Acorn staff!

Jim P.
Beacon Hill, Boston

Acorn Valet parking service is a game changer for living in Back Bay.

The service is efficient and reliable, and the employees are professional and personable.

The cost is reasonable compared to owning a space. My car is parked in a garage, out of the elements, which is perfect for street cleaning, weather emergencies and when I travel.

Now that I have Acorn, I am no longer interested buying or renting alley parking.

Libby M.
Back Bay, Boston

Acorn has been a complete game-changer for our family of five and after just a few months of using it we could not imagine life without it. While we previously had to dread hurried drop-offs (strollers, car seats, pets, etc) on our busy Boston street and long walks from the garage. We now enjoy timely and stress-free pick-ups and drop-offs right at our front door. The app makes it seamless to track our car or the valets progress and we have removed a major stress point in our lives.

The valets always meet us with a smile and help us load and unload the vehicle. Our family and friends also love the guest access to the service when they visit.

We recommend Acorn to anyone living in the city looking to remove the daily hassle of parking.

Andrew & Chelsea O.
Beacon Hill, Boston

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NABB Homelessness Task Force event a success

Special to Sun

It was standing room only at the Neighborhood Association

of the Back Bay’s Homelessness Task Force event for “A Conversation with Dr. Jim O’Connell

and Dr. Eileen Reilly” on June 5. at the Boston Public Library’s Rabb Hall.

HTF Co-Chair Kathleen Young moderated the event, which generated extraordinary

interest from well over 300 residents from Boston and envi
(NABB TASK FORCE Pg. 5)

STANHOPE HOTEL (from pg. 3)

would apparently be located just 30 feet away from the rear side of the proposed hotel, during the joint Impact Advisory Group (IAG) and public meeting on the project sponsored by the Boston Planning & Development Agency.

The developer, Stanhope Hotel Holdings, LLC, which comprises affiliates of H.N. Gorin Inc., the Boston family-owned real estate company that has owned the project site for between 30 and 40 years, and Masterworks Development Co., LLC, which

developed the Club Quarters hotel group, has proposed a 21-story, 300-room mid-level hotel for 39 Stanhope St. (The project won’t include the adjacent building at 35 Stanhope St., which is home to The Friendly Toast restaurant, however.)

While the developer had originally intended to build an entirely new building, the as-of-right project will now preserve the façade of the historical, two-story brick building at that address, which was originally built as a horse stable in 1868 and was last



COURTESY OF THE BOSTON PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

A rendering of the Stanhope Street hotel proposed for the Back Bay.

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EV000012555

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 to **Provide and Deliver on an as –needed basis 50lb- Cylinders of Carbon Dioxide (CO2) to various Pools Sites located throughout the City of Boston.**

The bid documents will be accessible online from Monday, June 12, 2023, through Friday, June 23, 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 # **EV000012555**

The term of the contract shall be for three (3) years starting July 1, 2023 ending June 30, 2026

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 4:00 pm on Monday, June 26, 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 10, 2023.**

Marta E. Rivera, Commissioner
(June 12, June 19, 2023)

home to the now-shuttered Red Lantern restaurant, said Don Wiest, the applicant’s attorney.

The latest iteration of the project includes a recessed, largely glass “blank space” atop the stable building but below the new floors above it, which would visually signify the transition between the new and old elements of the building, said Harry Wheeler, a principal with South Boston-based Group One Architects.

A “vertical notch” has been added to the party wall on the previously flat side façade of the building to “create a corduroy effect,” added Wheeler.

Further refinement to the project since it was first presented at a public meeting sponsored virtually by the BPDA on May 5 of last year includes increasing the building’s height from 255 feet to 270 feet (with an additional 15 feet of mechanicals above that), said Wiest – a proposed change that was the cause of additional concern regarding potential loss of light and privacy among residents of The Clarendon.

One Clarendon resident, Iain Webb said the back of the new hotel would essentially be a “wall of glass,” with its hotel rooms looking directly into his building’s units, and subsequently force condo residents to keep their shades drawn around the clock.

Michael Rosenzweig, another Clarendon resident, said that he expects that the additional trash and traffic generated by the hotel

would make conditions in his building “unlivable,” especially since three parking spaces that the project would create for loading and unloading will be located just outside the entrance to his building’s garage. (The proposed hotel itself includes no plans for on-site parking accommodations, according to the project team.)

Likewise, Bill Beckman, also a resident of The Clarendon, said the new hotel would adversely affect half of his building’s more than 100 units, likely resulting in decreased property values. “This is not reasonable and fair,” said Beckman, who urged the city to “pause” the project to re-examine height limits for the new hotel.

IAG member Karen Reeves pointed out that the new hotel would permanently impede views of The Clarendon building, which was designed by internationally award-winning architect Robert A.M. Stern, from the Massachusetts Turnpike, among other vantage points.

Jonathan Hyatt, a resident of the Albert A. Pope condominium building at 221 Columbus Ave., which sits kitty-corner to the project site, said he and all of the other residents of his building whom he has spoken with are strongly opposed to the project. “It looks like a terrible place to have a hotel,” he said.

In contrast, IAG member Meg Mainzer-Cohen said, “It’s amazing how far this project has come from the original design. I think

that it works really well with the neighborhood.”

Mainzer-Cohen said she was particularly impressed with how the project would “integrate” and “bleeds into” the adjacent Frieda Garcia Park as part of the design. She also lauded the developer’s commitment to assist the city in plans to “pedestrianize” Stanhope Street by closing it all but emergency vehicles.

“I think this is really quite an achievement and a great location for a hotel,” she said.

Regarding the proposed pedestrianization of Stanhope Street, Wiest said this work is “not remotely necessary for our project” but added that it’s “a process we’re happy to be a part of and to support.”

Quinn Valcich, BPDA project manager, said the BPDA and Boston Transportation Department intend to “pedestrianize Stanhope Street regardless of whether the hotel happens at all.” He added that the city had asked the developer to partner with them on changes already planned for Stanhope Street, which will remain city owned and publicly accessible.

The public comment period for the project is open through June 23. To comment on the project, visit the BPDA’s project page (<http://www.bostonplans.org/projects/development-projects/stanhope-hotel>) or email comments directly to Quinn Valcich of the BPDA at quinn.w.valcich@boston.gov.

NABB TASK FORCE *(from pg. 4)*

rons. The event was an important effort to increase the understanding of the small segment of the homeless called 'Rough Sleepers,' those who are unwilling to take avail of shelters and are so challenging to help.

Gianna Gifford, Chief of Adult Library Services, introduced the event by overviewing the diverse social services at the Boston Public Library. Dr O'Connell, President of Boston Healthcare for

the Homeless Program, and Dr Reilly, Chief Psychiatrist on their 'Street Team', discussed the challenges and rewards of providing medical and psychiatric care to the homeless population who sleep outside in Boston.

They explained the extraordinary abuses that this chronically homeless population has endured that has contributed to their difficulty assimilating. The very high incidence of severe mental illness

also impedes their transition to being housed compared to the majority of short term homeless individuals who fill our shelters. The audience demonstrated great interest and compassion with their questions.

For more information on Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay's Homelessness Task Force, visit <https://nabbonline.org/committees/homelessness-task-force/>.



PHOTO BY NANCY GERTNER

Pictured, left to right, are Dr. Jim O'Connell, Dr. Eileen Reilly, and NABB's HTF co-chair Kathleen Young.

CHARLESBANK *(from pg. 1)*

Besides the year-round pavilion and an accessible visitors center that will offer general park information and exhibition space, plans for Charlesbank Landing also include year-round public restrooms; a café with indoor and outdoor seating; a roofdeck that would provide views of the Charles River; an outdoor nature play area; and classroom/community meeting space.

The project also includes plans for a programable event lawn that could accommodate small performances and art exhibits, said Jen Mergel, who joined the Esplanade Association as its James & Audrey Foster executive director on June 1, while a green roof garden with three access point would provide a "quite space for passive reflection" and offer elevated views of the Charles River.

Moreover, the project is being developed with climate resiliency in mind, added Mergel, with the building designed to be Net Zero. It will also include a rain garden, which will collect 100 percent of stormwater, she said.

In anticipation of the upcoming meeting, Mergel said, "I'm really excited to meet community members, both in-person and online, because their voices are what matters most in the process. We're looking for as much input from as many different ages, interests, and perspectives as possible."

The Esplanade Association hopes to solicit input from meeting-goers in a number of areas, including what the community would like to see outdoors on the site, as well as how the indoor community and educational space should be programmed, added Mergel.

Additionally, the project would include a multi-functional court, she said, so the Esplanade



A rendering of the north view of the proposed Charlesbank Landing on the Esplanade.

Association will be soliciting feedback on what types of sports and activities the community would like to see there.

Mergel grew up in Dorchester and regularly rode the Red Line to Charles station to swim in Lee Pool as a child. Now, she said she hopes Charlesbank Landing will become a destination that attracts not only visitors from the immediate area but also from around the region.

Meanwhile, the project comes on the heels of a comprehensive public process led by the state's Department of Conservation and Recreation – the Esplanade Association's partner in managing the Esplanade. DCR retained Maryann Thompson Architects and Michael Van Valkenburg Associates for the process, which engaged more than 25 stakeholder groups in a nine-month analysis that included feedback from nearly a dozen community meetings and hundreds of public comments.

Last year, the House and Senate both unanimously passed legislation filed by Sen. Sal DiDomenico and Rep. Jay Livingstone to allow the DCR-owned project site to be leased to a private partner for 30 years, with a possible 10-year extension. Sen.

Will Brownsberger and former City Councilor Kenzie Bok also played instrumental roles in supporting this effort.

Refreshments, on-site



A rendering of the rain garden at the proposed Charlesbank Landing on the Esplanade

childcare, and translation services will be provided at the meeting. R.S.V.P. at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/charlesbank-land->

ing-public-meeting-tickets-648370161607?aff=oddtcreator.



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FOURTH ANNUAL FENWAY PORCHFEST

By Derek Kouyoumjian

The Fourth Annual Fenway Porchfest was organized by Fenway Community Center, the Community Development Corporation, and the Fenway Alliance. With venues all throughout the neighborhood, spectators could enjoy the free performances while exploring the Fenway community. Unfortunately the weather curtailed many of the performances this year.



Trumpet player Alfredo Bruno and keyboardist Alan Magny performed at the Boston Temple of the Seventh Day Adventist Church on Peterborough Street.



The Mighty Suicide Squirrels drew an impressive and enthusiastic crowd in spite of the weather.



Alexis, Alicia, and Maddy went to the Boston Pride Parade but came back to Fenway to enjoy Porchfest a little before partying on.



The Skrimps/ Nick Simpson on drums, Will Woyda on bass, James Burke on vocals, and Cory and Davis Horgan on rhythm and lead guitars perform in front of the iconic Verb Hotel sign.



Performing at Saloniki Greek restaurant on Kilmarnock Street was Gaia Mobilij, a hip-hop act comprised of Wavy Wattz and Kay Wattz.



The New Wright Brothers, Tristan New and David Wright, perform in front of Fenway Community Center, Tristan New and David Wright.



A crowd took shelter at The Station to listen to Knot Art perform.



King Frankie Melted off the Mighty Suicide Squirrels had a unique stage presence.

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FOURTH ANNUAL FENWAY PORCHFEST



Hip-hop artist SeeFour was ready to take the stage at The Station.



Kay Wattz of Gaia Mobilij performs at Saloniki Greek restaurant on Kilmarnock Street.



Eesha Sachdeva and Nisha Mathur dance in front of the Boston Temple of the Seventh Day Adventist Church on Peterborough Street as Alfredo Bruno preformed on trumpet and Alan Magny preformed on keys.



The Skrim's drummer Nick Simpson covers his drums as a rain shower interrupts their set.



Knot Art preformed at The Station with a stage setup which gave him cover from the rain.



Molly Wong was sad the weather was dampening the Porchfest mood, but at least The New Wright Brothers had cover from the rain to preform under at the Fenway Community Center.



Passerby in cars driving on Boylston Street couldn't help but notice the Mighty Suicide Squirrels in action.



David and Carter Reed listened to The New Wright Brothers at the Fenway Community Center.



Guitarist Trevor and vocalist King Frankie Melted off Athol based Band Mighty Suicide Squirrels performed outside The Harlo on Boylston Street. They made sure that as many people as possible knew that they were performing.



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MAYOR WU MARCHES IN PRIDE PARADE



Mayor's Office Photo by Isabel Leon

Shown below and to the left,

Mayor Michelle Wu marches in the LGBTQ+ Pride Parade in Boston on June 10.



Drag Queen Story Hour Boston receives Open Door Award from Old South Church on Pride Sunday

Old South Church in Boston honored the Boston Chapter of Drag Queen Story Hour with the prestigious Open Door Award on Sunday, June 11, recognizing their exceptional contributions to our communities and the profound impact of storytelling.

Patty Bourrée, on behalf of Drag Queen Story Hour, graciously accepted the Open Door Award during the 10am service. Following the service, Patty

hosted a captivating story hour during the much-anticipated 'Rainbow Disco Coffee Hour.'

With a long history of embracing the LGBTQIA+ community, including ministering to AIDS patients during the 1980s and being the first Christian church in Boston to host a gay wedding, Old South Church remains dedicated to promoting equality and social justice.



PHOTO BY JAMIE GARUTI SAGE

Patty Bourrée reads to the crowd at Old South Church.



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UPCOMING EVENTS SPONSORED BY WORCESTER SQUARE AREA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

The Worcester Square Area Neighborhood Association presents Summer Concerts on the third Thursdays of June, July and August, including on June 15, July 20, and Aug. 17, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in Worcester Square. Bring a blanket and a snack or dinner and enjoy a variety of musical groups under the trees.

The park will be open for Summer Open Sundays from 1 to 7 p.m. on several Sundays throughout the summer, including on June 18, July 9 and 30, Aug. 20, and Sept. 24. Enjoy a relaxing time in the park, bring some games and enjoy the view on the square. For hygiene purposes (small park, lots of kiddos running around barefoot), you are asked to leave your pets at home.

You can find updates at online at worcestersquare.org, or at [Facebook.com/worcestersquare/events](https://www.facebook.com/worcestersquare/events).

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.Trabilly@mahouse.org.

NEWS IN BRIEF

ANNUAL PRESIDENT'S WALKING TOUR OF ENTIRE EMERALD NECKLACE PARK SET FOR SATURDAY, JUNE 17

Lace up your walking shoes and join the Emerald Necklace Conservancy for the 5.5-mile annual walk through Frederick Law Olmsted's entire Emerald Necklace park.

On Saturday, June 17, from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. (rain date: Sunday, June 18), join the Conservancy President Karen Mauney-Brodek on a complete 5.5-mile walk from Franklin Park to Charlesgate of the Emerald Necklace park. Participants will make brief stops along the way to take in the scenery and learn about this historic parkland and the Conservancy's current work to restore, maintain and improve these greenspaces while championing better parks access for all.

Participants are encouraged to bring a refillable water bottle with water; lunch and/or snacks; a hat; and sunscreen. They should also dress in layers and wear comfortable walking shoes.

There will be brief stops along the way for lunch, snacks, water and restroom breaks, but most time will be spent walking.

The walk is free and open to the public, but registration is required.

Visit www.emeraldnecklace.org/event/presidents-walking-tour-2023/ to register and for more information.

SOWA SUNDAYS IN JUNE

The artists of SoWa Artists Guild will also open on Sundays, June 18 and 25, 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/>.

OPEN NEWBURY SET TO RETURN SUNDAY, JULY 2


Newbury Street will again be closed to vehicle traffic every Sunday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. from

(NEWS BRIEFS Pg. 10)



EMERGENCY ALL BLOOD TYPES NEEDED.

Give now.



MAYOR MICHELLE WU'S NEIGHBORHOOD COFFEE HOUR

Photos by Jon Seamans



Northeastern students Pablo Vasquez and Matt Stachowski scored plenty of Dunkin' swag, fresh fruit from Star Market, and a plant grown from seed at the Boston Parks Department greenhouses during Mayor Michelle Wu's June 13 Neighborhood Coffee Hour at Symphony Community Park.



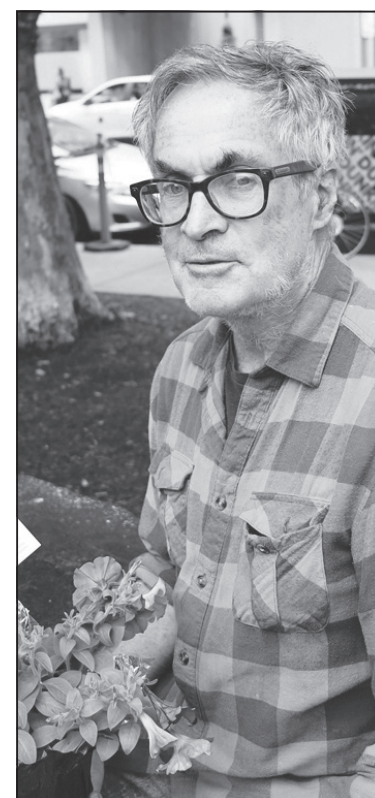
Boston Public Library employees Michael Williams of Back Bay and Gianna Gifford of the Fenway are just two of the City employees on hand to meet the public at Mayor Michelle Wu's Fenway/Kenmore Neighborhood Coffee Hour at Symphony Community Park on June 13. The series, held in partnership with Dunkin' and Star Market, offers attendees the opportunity to meet one-on-one with Mayor Wu and City officials. For a list of remaining dates and locations go to boston.gov/coffee-hours.



Mayor Michelle Wu chats with Mo Alkhatib of Fenway Brothers (back to camera) during the Fenway/Kenmore Coffee Hour at Symphony Community Park on June 13. The series, held in partnership with Dunkin' and Star Market, offers attendees the opportunity to meet one-on-one with Mayor Wu and City officials.



Fenway residents Charles King and Robert Phillips take a moment to relax at Symphony Community Park during Mayor Michelle Wu's Neighborhood Coffee Hour on June 13.



Fenway Victory gardener Thomas Collins picked up flowers at Mayor Wu's Fenway/Kenmore Coffee Hour on June 13. Attendees were treated to Dunkin' coffee and donuts, fresh fruit from Star Market, and potted plants grown at the Parks Department greenhouses in Franklin Park.



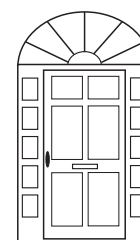
Symphony Road Community Garden members Jane Taub, Nasreen Latif, and Barbara Fay enjoy Dunkin' coffee, fresh fruit from Star Market, and flowers grown by the Boston Parks and Recreation Department at Mayor Michelle Wu's Fenway/Kenmore Neighborhood Coffee Hour on June 13.



Boston Age Strong Commission advocate David Reedy greets Fenway residents Ruth Khowsais and Renee Harmon at Mayor Michelle Wu's Symphony Community Park Neighborhood Coffee Hour on June 13. The free series invites residents to enjoy treats from Dunkin' and Star Market along with the chance to meet directly with City officials up to and including the Mayor.

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News in Brief Continued from Page 8

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://www.boston.gov/departments/transportation/open-newbury-street> for more information on Open Newbury.

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

The Boston Ward 5 Democratic 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

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of "Doing Business As" filed on May 18, 2023 for legal name
CAROLYN TOPACIO UBIERA
Suffolk County, Massachusetts
183 Callender st,
Boston, MA 02124
Signed by: Carolyn-Topacio:
Ubiere ubieratc@gmail.com

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/>.

VIRTUAL MEETING ON PLANNED IMPROVEMENTS TO PUBLIC GARDEN TOOL HOUSE SET FOR JUNE 28

The city will sponsor its second virtual meeting on planned improvements to the Public Garden tool house, which is home to the park's maintenance and Swan Boat operations, on Wednesday, June 28, at 6 p.m.

The project is a partnership between the Boston Parks and Recreation Department and the city's Maintenance Department. Visit boston.gov/tool-house for more information.

FREE JAZZ AND BLUES CONCERTS AT SOUTH END BRANCH LIBRARY PARK THIS SUMMER

Friends of the South End Branch Library will be sponsoring free Jazz and Blues concerts Pat Loomis and friends on Tuesdays, July 18 and Aug. 1, 15, and 29, at 6:30 p.m. at the South End Branch Library part at 685 Tremont St. Please bring your own chairs.

For more information, visit friendsofsouthendlibrary.org.



PHOTO BY BENJAMIN CHEUNG

District 8 City Council candidate Sharon Durkan (center) is seen with supporters, including Mayor Michelle Wu, on Tuesday, June 13, in the Kelleher Rose Garden.

DURKAN (from pg. 1)

residents," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "She has been a valued advisor, team member, and friend, who always leads with her heart and knows how to get things done. Sharon will hit the ground running, working towards building safer streets, affordable housing, and climate-resilient infrastructure, all while addressing the nuts-and-bolts, fundamental constituent service needs of our communities."

Mayor Wu's endorsement is a testament to Durkan's ability to address the pressing issues facing District 8 and advocate on behalf of its residents.

"I am humbled and honored to earn the endorsement of Mayor Michelle Wu," Durkan expressed. "Mayor Wu is a champion for every neighborhood of Boston. When I first met with then-Councilor Wu many years ago, I was struck by our shared values and experiences. Her vision for Boston's future inspires many Boston residents, including myself, to pursue a life of public service. Her knowledge of the city and our district provided me with invaluable insights

into the needs and aspirations of our community. Having Mayor Wu's support is special and meaningful to me, because we share a relentless commitment to every resident of our city."

Durkan, an accomplished community organizer, has been actively involved in advancing bold leadership across the state. Durkan has worked tirelessly to transform our City's leadership and win important progressive victories. Her experience as the former Ward 5 Democratic Committee Chair has equipped her with a deep understanding of the unique challenges faced by residents in District 8. From May 2015 to May 2020, Durkan worked as then-Councilor Wu's Finance and Committee Director, doing the political work necessary during campaign season and off-years to enable the grassroots momentum that made it possible to engage city residents in community work, and then moved on to work as Senator Ed Markey's

Massachusetts Finance Director. Durkan also was instrumental in the Mayor's Inaugural Committee and in helping to facilitate political efforts since the Mayor's election.

Mayor Wu's endorsement further solidifies Sharon's position as the best equipped candidate for the Boston City Council District 8 seat. This endorsement adds to endorsements by State Rep. Jay Livingstone, Former Councilor Kenzie Bok, State Rep. Aaron Michlewitz, State Sen. Lydia Edwards, Former Councilor Josh Zakim, Councilor Ruthzee Louijeune, State Sen. Liz Miranda, State Sen. Will Brownsberger, UNITEHere Local 26, Ward 5 Democratic Committee, and Ward 10 Democratic Committee.

To learn more about Sharon Durkan and her campaign, visit sharondurkan.com or connect with her on Twitter, or Instagram.

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Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1 BACK BAY	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
261 Beacon 63 LLC	Bas, Heidi P	261 Beacon St #63	\$1,310,000
E Terasaki 2014 Childrens	Oedel, Richard	86 Marlborough St #3	\$3,225,000
Lagodich, Anatolii	Lin, Hsiao-Hui	364 Marlborough St #1	\$540,000
Singer-Clark, Talia	Tung, Su-Hsin	196 Boylston St #1	\$650,000
Vas LLC	Angela Browne RET	373 Commonwealth Ave #202	\$975,000
Shattuck, Melissa	Tyrrell, Jennifer	373 Commonwealth Ave #404	\$835,000
Macgrath, Mark H	Fitzsimons, Shane	337 Marlborough St #3	\$2,325,000
Exter, Michael	Hinshaw Jr, William R	451 Marlborough St #RE	\$4,100,000
Bramante-Doroci, Regina	Johnson, Kathleen G	31 Massachusetts Ave #B2	\$478,000
Yaroshenko, Yana	Chin, Robert A	662 Massachusetts Ave #7	\$675,000
Staudt, Matthew	Carey, Ryan M	690 Massachusetts Ave #2	\$1,400,000

BEACON HILL

Briglio, David	Alessandrini, Mark W	42 Mount Vernon St #1C	\$1,400,000
Laferriere, Michael F	Burns, Susan	53 Mount Vernon St #2	\$2,999,000
Burkus, Gregory J	Oleck, Lorna E	70-72 Mount Vernon St #4B27	\$1,380,000
Croteau, Michael D	Zola, William	140 Mount Vernon St #8	\$2,320,000
Pajolek, Louisa G	Sayare, Mitchel	73 Pinckney St #6	\$799,000
Ttvogel LLC	145 Pinckney St Prop LLC	145 Pinckney St #628	\$530,000

BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE

Gendreau, Kyle F	Johann-Berkel, Kip	40 Lawrence St #4	\$1,700,000
Lakis, Adib	Juju 26 Realty LLC	26 E Springfield St	\$2,750,000
Arnold, Allison	Ganguly, Arjun	36 Hall St #2	\$835,000
Lillier Group LLC	Efi V T	495 Harrison Ave #102	\$925,000
Goldstone, Daniel	Marshall Sharon L Est	519 Harrison Ave #D613	\$945,000
Thr Acqui Northampton LLC	Fenway Ns Acquisition LL	373 Northampton St	\$600,000
The Huang Cheung Ft	65-16 Park Drive Rt	65 Park Dr #16	\$368,000
Chang, Kevin	Div Shawmut LLC	100 Shawmut Ave #507	\$1,489,900
Keum Han Corp	Div Shawmut LLC	100 Shawmut Ave #712	\$999,900
Reed, Colby	Norgard Oppold Ft	478 Shawmut Ave #10	\$615,000
Mehta Ft	Johnston, Eugene	2-A Wellington St #1	\$1,130,000
Bowler, Stephen	Cowan, Daniel	28 Worcester Sq #1	\$1,600,000

WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN

Bergeron, Senada A	Young, Thomas M	42-48 Chauncy St #9C	\$995,000
39cw8 LLC	39-8 Com Wharf T	39 Commercial Wharf #8	\$2,135,000
Rhee, Sarah	Mcaf Winthrop LLC	240 Devonshire St #3605	\$1,800,000
Pagani, Alessandro	Mcaf Winthrop LLC	240 Devonshire St #4804	\$2,675,000
Chiriac, Alexia	Choi, Brian	181 Essex St #E303	\$645,000

Attention to Detail

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY PENNY CHERUBINO

THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The decorative post in the last clue is in front of 1721 Washington Street, home to Yunnan Kitchen, which opened in 2022. The restaurant serves Yunnan (or Dian) cuisine from China's southwest and has received tremendous accolades, including a nomination for a James Beard Award for Best Chef in the Northeast.

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



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