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FRIDAY, JANUARY 31, 2025

THE BOSTON SUN

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY

SERVING BACK BAY - SOUTH END - FENWAY - KENMORE

BOSTON FAMILY DAY RETURNS THIS WEEKEND



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CITY OF BOSTON

Mayor Michelle Wu's Boston Family Days program expands on her successful BPS Sundays initiative, offering Boston Public Schools families free access to cultural institutions like the Museum of Science, Franklin Park Zoo, and more. Sunday, February 2, marks the third day of this program. Shown above, the Mayor shown with her family and other Boston families during the last Family Day trip to the Isabella Stewart Gardner museum. Read more about it on Page 2.

Katherine Snider comes on board as new leader of Hill House

By Dan Murphy

As the new Chief Executive Officer of Hill House, Katherine Snider comes to the Beacon Hill community center at a pivotal time for the longstanding organization.

"We are thinking about scale," Snider said last week in an interview at the Mount Vernon Street firehouse, which serves as headquarters for the nonprofit. "We'll be 60 years old next year, so how do you continue to scale such a great organization?"

Snider, who started in her current role on Dec. 2, had lived in New York City for 29 years before relocating with her husband, George Schwimmer, to the Charlestown Navy Yard last October. And although she

was previously unfamiliar with Hill House, she was certainly no stranger to Boston.

Snider's paternal grandfather worked in the Charlestown Navy Yard before it was decommissioned in the early '70s, and her father was raised in Jamaica Plain.

When Snider's parents first met, her mother was living at 20 Pinckney St., which was the childhood home of Louisa May Alcott, and as a great admirer of the 'Little Women' author, that connection always resonated with Snider.

She was raised in Montreal, where her father was a historian and taught classics at the esteemed McGill University. The rest of Snider's family remained around Boston, however, so she

visited the area often over the holidays during her childhood.

During her 25-year career, Snider has had what she describes as a "diverse career in the non-profit and philanthropic sector," adding that in some ways, she considers herself a "generalist."

Before joining the staff of Hill House, Snider worked for more than 16 years at Good + Foundation, a national nonprofit that focuses on ending multi-generational poverty. She served as the organization's Chief Executive Officer, after being promoted from executive director – a post she held for 12 years.

Previously she had served as associate director of The Rockefeller Foundation, a global non-

(SNIDER, Pg. 7)

Josh Kraft will run for mayor of Boston

Staff Report

Josh Kraft, president of the New England Patriots Foundation and former CEO and president of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Boston, will be a candidate for mayor of Boston in the 2025 election.

Kraft, who is the son of Robert Kraft, owner of the New England Patriots and the New England Revolution, filed papers with the state Office of Campaign and Political Finance Monday.

Josh Kraft will make an official announcement about his candidacy next week. Asked about his decision to run for mayor, Kraft said, "I love the City of Boston, most importantly all the great people I've met – hard working, committed, and caring. I'd be honored to have the opportunity and the privilege to work with all of them in a bigger and more impactful role."

Kraft worked for the Boys and Girls Clubs of Boston for 30 years, making a tremendous impact on people's lives throughout his distinguished service. Kraft founded the Chelsea Boys and Girls Club and served as its executive director. He launched a major fundraising drive that led to the construction of a spectac-



Josh Kraft, president of the New England Patriots Foundation.

ular, state-of-the-art \$11 million clubhouse in Chelsea. The club became the city's largest youth organization, with its members following Kraft's lead and regularly participating in community service projects.

Kraft later became the president and CEO of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Boston, and served 12 years in the position. Widely admired for his philanthropy and leadership of the organization, Kraft had the honor of having the Mattapan clubhouse named the Josh Kraft Mattapan Teen Center.

Kraft, who resides in the North End, will likely be challenging Mayor Michelle Wu, who has yet to formally announce her intention to seek re-election.

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EDITORIAL

GLP-1 WEIGHT-LOSS DRUGS SHOULD BE MADE AFFORDABLE FOR ALL AMERICANS

The widespread acceptance of the so-called GLP-1 drugs, Zepbound by Eli Lilly and Wegovy by Novo Nordisk, for weight loss has created a game-changing dynamic for the overall health of the 72% of Americans who struggle with maintaining a healthy weight.

The U.S. presently ranks among the most obese nations in the world and the trend had been predicted to climb upwards. However, for the first time in decades, obesity rates among Americans declined in 2024, reversing decades of our unhealthy collective weight gain as a nation. (The average American male today weighs 30 pounds more than he did in 1960 and the average American female today weighs 26 pounds more than she did in 1960 -- and no, it's not because we are taller today than then.)

The principal reason for this welcome reversal has been the use of the GLP-1 drugs, which have been shown both to decrease a person's appetite (thereby preventing overeating) and to make sugary, salty, and high-fat foods less appealing.

These drugs initially were formulated to assist persons with diabetes to maintain control of their blood sugar levels. However, it soon became clear that the drugs had the "side-effect" of a reduction in patients' body-weight because the drugs reduced their cravings and overeating.

Yes, the GLP-1 drugs have side-effects -- patients who use them lose muscle mass -- but overall, the drugs have been nothing short of a miracle for persons who struggle with eating healthily. In addition, the drugs have shown promise both in combating a number of other addictive behaviors (including alcohol abuse and gambling) and having direct, positive effects on other health conditions such as cardiovascular disease (the drugs lower blood pressure, among other things).

Making these drugs affordable for all Americans (in addition to those who receive prescriptions for their diabetes treatment for whom insurance covers the cost) should be the proverbial no-brainer. Yes, the drugs are extremely expensive (about \$1500 per month without insurance), but those costs will come down as Eli Lilly ramps up production at its new drug-making facilities in the near-future. Further, the federal government can negotiate price reductions for those on Medicare.

But right now, these drugs, when used for weight control only, are available as a practical matter only to the very wealthy who can afford the high price tag. In addition to plain fairness, making these drugs affordable for everybody who needs them to reduce their weight by covering them under insurance will make our nation healthier, which not only is a laudable goal in itself, but also will reduce our health care costs (most of which are traceable to being overweight) in the years ahead.

In short, failing to make the GLP-1 drugs widely affordable and available to all Americans is the proverbial case of being penny-wise and pound-foolish (and yes, the pun is intended.)

WE'RE OVER THE HUMP

The winter season generally is measured in two ways. There's meteorological winter, the three months of December, January, and February. And then there is astronomical winter, which begins with the winter solstice on December 21 and ends with the spring solstice on March 21.

But however you want to think about "winter," the last week of January basically brings us over the proverbial hump for the 2025 winter season. December and January are in the rear view mirror with only the short month of February ahead. (If you prefer astronomical winter, we'll be very close to the mid-point between December 21-March 21 by the end of this week.)

Of course, as we all know, Ol' Man Winter doesn't always play by the rules -- or the calendar. The infamous Blizzard of '78 occurred in February, as did a number of other huge storms. The first week of March may bring out the colorful crocuses and snowdrops pushing through the ground in our garden, but just as often as not, they're peeking through a fresh few inches of snowfall.

But what is undeniable, however you prefer to measure the seasons, and regardless of what Ol' Man Winter has in store for us, the days are now getting noticeably longer. There will be 10 hours and five minutes of daylight on February 1, compared to just the nine hours and eight minutes that we had on December 21.

In addition, when we take our walks and go for our runs, the sun's warmth is becoming noticeably stronger every day. And even if we get some snow, it typically disappears much faster in February and March than in January thanks to the strength of the sun.

So yes, after our colder-than-normal January, as far as we are concerned, spring can't come soon enough!

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Join Mayor Wu for family fun this Sunday

Special to the Sun

This Sunday, February 2, is the third in a series of Boston Family Days, an expansion of Mayor Wu's successful BPS Sundays pilot program, which gave Boston Public Schools students and their families free access to several cultural institutions throughout Boston. Media outlets are welcome to get b-roll and interview families at the participating institutions: the Museum of Science, Franklin Park Zoo, Boston Children's Museum, New England Aquarium, Museum of Fine Arts, the Institute of Contemporary Art, the Museum of African American History, the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum, and the

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum.

Mayor Michelle Wu visited the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum with her family for the launch of Boston Family Days on Sunday, January 5.

Through Boston Family Days, students and families gain free admission to participating institutions on the first two Sundays of each month. The enrollment platform has launched, students and families can register here. For children currently enrolled in Boston Public Schools or Boston Pre-K, they are automatically enrolled in this program. BPS families will receive their Boston Family Days pass directly via email from BPS.

PALISADES BURNING

wendy franco almquist

My sister Debbie from California inspired my poem called *Rituals of Place*

A tender tale of family leavings and candlelit farewells
To our parents' New York City home a few years past
Now from across the nation in dire contrast she is a victim
forced to evacuate

No gracious healing ceremony just a hurried bye as she and
Skip in their get-away-car Snaked their way on clogged high-
ways chased by a hellfire fed by raging winds Buildings and
homes devoured scorched to the bone and

Every creature through the noxious smoke fled for their
petrified lives

On TV they ash faced watched for views of their street as fires
roared to life again Singeing to the ground their home and heart
centering neighborhood town

The blessed blue skies and ocean views the friends like family
they loved so well

No where else they'd rather dwell than their own *Pacific Palisades*

Their first response on bended knee thankfulness for survival
But 40,000 home-wrecked souls seeking new L.A. abodes
stressed all to their limits Trauma tremors shook their nights and
insurance claims filled their days

Perhaps in time they'll be ready for a ritual goodbye but first
they must

Perform the monumental tasks the slings and snares of repair
so spiritual healing can begin

Only then can they wash away the terror of losing everything
Day by day to survive the Palisades burning
To brave to own their courage in the city of angels to start again

Wendy Franco Almquist is a Beacon Hill resident

SNIDER (from Page 1)

profit that, since 1913, has promoted the well-being of humanity worldwide via promoting sustainability and combating climate change; and as vice president of public affairs for New York City's Lower East Side Tenement Museum.

Snider said a "common thread" ran through her previous work with Good + Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation, and the Lower East Side Tenement Museum as each organization's "focus was on sustainable urban development and promoting livability for families, with a focus on vulnerable populations."

Unlike Good + Foundation and the Tenement Museum – two organizations she came to during their respective "nascent" stages – Snider describes Hill House as an "organization with a deep history."

Snider said she thinks Hill House is currently in a "great" position but added that she now hopes to "move it from great to greater."

While Hill House has historically served families of means, Snider said the organization is currently building its scholarship program, as well as working on building partnerships with non-profits that serve underprivileged communities.

Hill House now intends to expand the diversity of the communities, as well as the number of children and families served, along with the breadth of its programming, added Snider.

On a personal note, Snider raised her two sons in New York City – Tobey Schwimmer, now a 20-year old University of Chicago undergraduate student; and Riley Schwimmer, a 19-year-old freshman at Emory University in Atlanta, Ga.

"Having raised two kids in the city, I would have loved to have had a Hill House," she said.

Instead of having to shuttle her kids to an art lesson at one location and then for soccer or baseball somewhere else like she did in New York, Snider said, "Here you have it all under one roof."

Hill House is looking ahead to '26 as a milestone year as it will mark the not only origination's 60th year but also 25 years since it first called the Mount Vernon



GEORGE SCHWIMMER PHOTO

Shown are Katherine Snider (center), the newly named Chief Executive Officer of Hill House, is seen outside the Mount Vernon Street firehouse, with her sons, Tobey Schwimmer (at left) and Riley Schwimmer.

Firehouse home.

One major challenge Hill House now faces is the Firehouse's ongoing maintenance, including the pressing need to replace the building's compromised roof.

"We are the stewards and have to make sure the building is really maintained and getting the TLC it deserves," said Snider. "We're starting to plan community celebrations and want to make sure we have got the facility in great shape to expand and open more to the public."

Hill House is currently undertaking a capital needs assessment, as well as applying for a grant for roof repairs through the city's CPA (Community Preservation Act) fund, with assistance from District 8 City Councilor Sharon Durkan's office.

Besides the Firehouse, Hill House are also the stewards of the former police station at 74 Joy St., where the organization shares space with the Beacon Hill Civic Association (BHCA) and the Beacon Hill Nursery School.

Upon starting in her new role with the organization last month, Snider said she immediately struck by how many enduring partnerships Hill House has with other neighborhood organizations, including not only the BHCA and Beacon Hill Nursery School but also Rogerson Communities, the Esplanade Association, and Friends of Teddy Ebersol's Red Sox Fields, among other groups.

"I have never seen the same level of collaboration as I have here," said Snider.

The annual Hill House's annual holiday Tree & Wreath Sale took place during Snider's first week on the job, and she was immediately impressed that Upper Crust Pizza had donated food for volunteers.

"We know that a healthy community is an ecosystem that embraces a multitude of uses including spaces for health, education, shopping, dining, and physical wellness," said Snider. "We are invested in the livability of our neighborhood, and we feel the same of our neighbors."

Coletta Zapata introduces legislation providing tax exemptions to landlords

Special to the Sun

Boston City Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata proposed legislation allowing the City of Boston to opt-in to the "Good Landlord Tax Abatement." The Good Landlord Tax Abatement allows municipalities to offer property tax exemptions for affordable rentals occupied by individuals earning below a locally determined income threshold. The tax credit, sponsored by State Senator Lydia Edwards and State Representative Andres Vargas, was included in the Massachusetts 2023 tax package.

"Boston is consistently ranked as one of the most expensive cities for renters. The housing crisis continues to displace our neighbors, force families out of their communities, and leave countless residents on the brink of homelessness. Adopting the "Good Landlord Tax Abatement" will allow the City of Boston to deliver more housing to renters at affordable rates by incentivizing landlords to provide truly affordable housing opportunities," said Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata. "I look forward to the discussion with my Council colleagues to provide both immediate relief and long-term opportunities for Boston's residents and property owners."

To qualify for the exemption, the property must be rented at an affordable rate set by the City of Boston per United States Depart-

ment of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) guidelines, have a yearly lease, and be occupied year-round by households earning no more than 200% of the area median income.

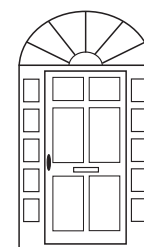
Coletta Zapata's ordinance comes as Boston's housing crisis continues to worsen, with many residents being pushed out of their neighborhoods due to rising rent costs and rental availability, though expanded in recent years, remaining limited. As of January 2025, Boston's average rent is \$3,393 per month, more than double the national average. Rising maintenance costs for small landlords frequently drive up rents, further limiting affordable housing options for residents.

"I am so excited to see Boston leading the way. I am particularly proud of Councilor Coletta's leadership. If passed we will be helping small property owners that are already doing the right thing. I hope more cities and towns will use this special power to keep rents low and while helping landlords," said State Senator Lydia Edwards.

This docket was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means chaired by Councilor Brian Worrell (District 4). A hearing will be scheduled in the upcoming months and posted on the Councilor's social media channels. This proposal was co-sponsored by Councilors Brian Worrell (District 4) and At-Large Councilor Henry Santana.

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TITANIC

THE ARTIFACT EXHIBITION

Now on
display at
Park Plaza

Special to the Sun

TITANIC: The Artifact Exhibition has brought nearly 250 authentic artifacts from the wreck site of Titanic by RMS Titanic, Inc. to The Saunders Castle at Park Plaza in Boston, where they will remain on display until May 29, 2025. Presented by The Gold Group in Boston and viewed by more than 35 million people worldwide, TITANIC: The Artifact Exhibition is one of the highest attended in history and is coming to Boston for the first time. E/M Group and RMS Titanic, Inc., have curated an incredible collection of authentic Titanic artifacts that will allow guests to experience the real stories of

Titanic passengers and crew. These items have been honorably conserved and presented to the public to help educate and tell the story of Titanic. Visitors can also explore meticulously re-created rooms, including the opulent Grand Staircase.

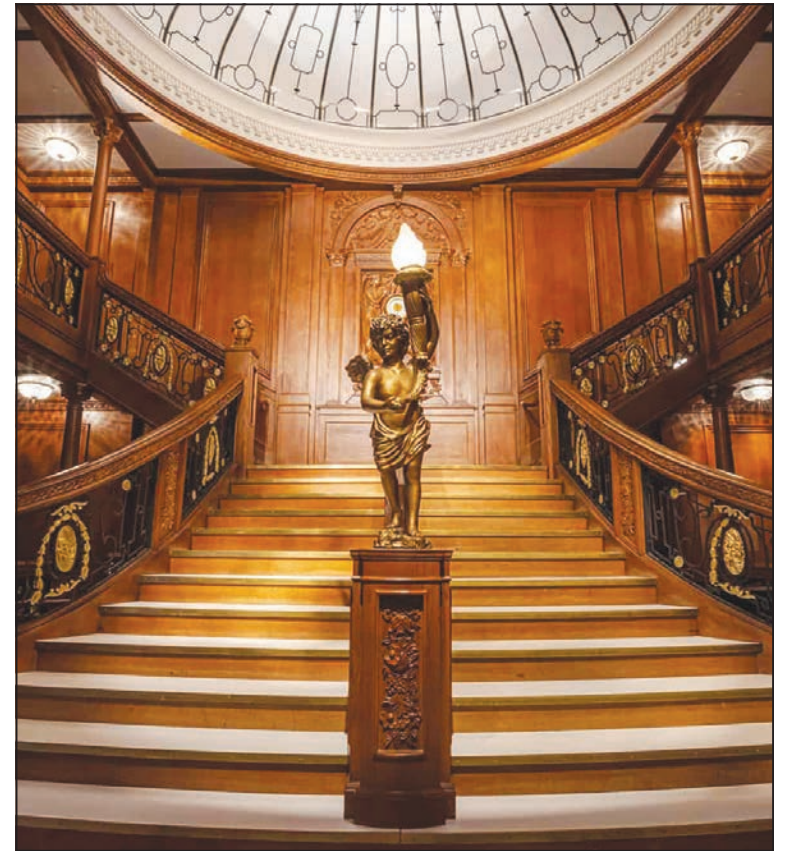
"Boston eagerly awaits our Exhibition, which continues to set record-breaking attendance figures," said Gautam Chandna, Director of Business Development at E/M Group. "The Exhibition's continued success, as demonstrated in city after city, speaks to its broad appeal and exceptional quality."

For decades, Titanic has had a hold on people immersing themselves in the real stories of heroism, love, fear, and impossible decisions in the face of the "unsinkable" ocean liner meeting its fate. It was a watershed moment in world history and has made an indelible mark on history.

Upon entering TITANIC:

The Artifact Exhibition guests are drawn back in time to April 1912, when the Ship embarked on its first and final journey. Guests receive a replica boarding pass, assume the role of a passenger, and follow a journey through life on Titanic—from the Ship's construction to life on board, to the infamous sinking. Also covered is the contemporary effort to recover artifacts and conserve the wreck site for scientific analysis, historical preservation, and to ensure future generations can admire, contemplate, and learn from Titanic.

Located in the Back Bay, The Saunders Castle at Park Plaza is a former armory and is a design-



The foyer.

nated National Historic Landmark. For tickets and more information, please visit <http://www.castleboston.com/>.

Tickets to the exhibition are now on sale www.titanicboston.us, tickets start at \$39.50

Experiential Media Group,

LLC (E/M Group), located in Atlanta, GA, is a world leader in the development and display of exhibitions that educate, entertain, and inspire audiences of all ages.

(TITANIC, Pg. 5)



A young historian examines a Boarding Pass used on the Titanic.



Visitors can sit and examine a manifest of all the passengers onboard the ship when it sank in 1912.

TITANIC FACTS & TRIVIA

On Board Titanic

- The cost of an average first-class ticket on Titanic from Southampton to New York was \$450, although prices varied based on cabin size and amenities.
- A first-class suite cost \$2,500, or approximately \$73,000 in 2022.
- However, the most luxurious suites with a private promenade deck cost \$4,500 in 1912, or approximately \$131,400 in 2022.
- A third-class ticket on Titanic cost \$40, or approximately \$1,170 in 2022. Up to 10 people resided in each third-class room. "
- First-class passengers had the luxury of paying for their leisure while on board: a ticket to the swimming pools cost 25¢, while a ticket for the squash court (as well as the services of

- a professional player) cost 50¢.
- Sixty cooks and assistants worked in Titanic's five kitchens. They ranged from soup and roast cooks to pastry and vegetable cooks. There was also a cook who prepared kosher meals for the Jewish passengers.
- There were only two bathtubs for the more than 700 third-class passengers aboard the Ship.
- The forward part of the Boat Deck was a promenade space for first-class passengers and the rear part was for second-class passengers. Passengers from these classes thus had the best chance of getting into a lifeboat simply because they could get to them quickly and easily.

Disaster Strikes

- Even if all 20 lifeboats had been filled, there would only have been enough room to save

- 1,178 people.
- At first, most of the passengers did not believe that Titanic was really sinking, hence the low number of 28 aboard the first lifeboat even though it could have carried 65.
- Titanic was one of the first ships in distress to send out an "SOS" signal. The radio officer used "SOS" after using the traditional code of "CQD" followed by the Ship's call letters.
- Dorothy Gibson, a 28-year-old silent screen actress, was an established movie star who, along with her mother, survived the sinking. Gibson would later star in Saved from the Titanic, a film released one month after the disaster. The costume that she wore in the film was the same dress, sweater, and coat that she wore on the night of the sinking.

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Group for TITANIC: The Artifact Exhibition Website: www.emgroup.com Email: marketing@emgroup.com

- Tennis player R. Norris Williams and his father, Charles, felt it was too cold to remain out on deck as the Ship went down so they went into the Gymnasium to ride the exercise bicycles.
- At the time of Titanic's destruction, the water temperature was 28°F (-2°C). Most of those struggling in the water in their life jackets would have succumbed to hypothermia, while others may have had heart attacks.

The Aftermath

- Initial headlines of the Titanic disaster claimed all passengers survived and the Ship was being towed to land.
- No skeletons remain at the

wreck site. Any bodies that were carried to the seabed with the wreck were consumed by fish and crustaceans. With the currents, and the difference in weight of the ship, it is unlikely that the remains of those who perished at the surface sank to the wreck site.

- In the 1898 novel Futility, written 14 years before the sailing and sinking of Titanic, author Morgan Robertson penned a fictitious tale about a ship named Titan that collides with an iceberg. Some of the uncanny similarities between the book and the Titanic disaster include:

- the month (April)
- the length of the ships (Titanic was 882.9 feet; Titan was 800 feet), and
- the number of passengers on board (Titanic had approximately 2,200; Titan had 2,000).

TITANIC (from Page 4)

RMS Titanic, Inc.'s (RMST) mission is to preserve the legacy of Titanic's maiden voyage, subsequent sinking, and the memory of her passengers and crew through comprehensive educational programs, innovative exhibitions, research and recovery initiatives, wreck site imaging and analysis, and ongoing

Titanic collaborations. RMST was granted salvor-in-possession rights to the wreck of Titanic and is the only company permitted by law to recover artifacts from the wreck site. RMST has recovered and conserved more than 5,500 artifacts since 1987 and is an affiliate of E/M Group.



Some surviving items and memorabilia from the Titanic on display at the exhibition.

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TITANIC

THE ARTIFACT EXHIBITION

TitanicBoston.us

The Saunders Castle at Park Plaza

130 Columbus Ave, Boston, MA

MWRA introduces proposal to eliminate CSOs in the Charles River

Special to the Sun

Last week, the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) and the cities of Cambridge and Somerville introduced several alternative project concepts to eliminate Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs) from polluting the Charles River, a significant step toward delivering the swimmable river promised by the 1972 Clean Water Act.

MWRA, Cambridge, and Somerville are required to carry out an extensive updated CSO planning effort to address the ongoing challenge of raw and partially treated sewage being dumped into the Charles River during heavy rain.

CSOs are a key source of contamination to the Charles and are becoming more frequent as

our climate changes. In these outdated systems, stormwater and household/industrial wastewater are collected in the same pipes to be conveyed to a wastewater treatment plant, but during heavy rainstorms, the combined system cannot handle the excess polluted water and releases it into the river.

One option MWRA, Cambridge, and Somerville presented was a CSO storage tunnel, a well-established technique to eliminate combined sewage discharges that has been used in Portland (OR), Milwaukee, and South Boston. This innovative tunnel would be designed with climate change in mind, making CSOs a thing of the past in all but the most severe storms expected under future climate conditions.

Additional options present-

ed include implementing green stormwater infrastructure (GSI) in combination with tunnel storage to reduce or eliminate CSOs in smaller storms. GSI provides numerous co-benefits, such as reducing flooding and urban heat impacts, improving air and water quality, and beautifying neighborhoods.

“This investment will pay dividends for future generations as climate change increases the imperative for access to public swimming areas, making good on the promises of the 1972 Clean Water Act and the Clean Charles Initiative of 2005,” said Max Rome, CRWA’s senior stormwater program manager.

“For the past decade, we’ve seen little to no improvements to CSO conditions in the Charles River, and overflows vary year to year based on the weather.

So it’s exciting to see real projects that could make meaningful improvements,” said Julie Wood, CRWA’s climate resilience director. “Now we need to get this done. With this once-in-a-generation investment, we can stop the flow of untreated sewage into our environment while also greening and beautifying our neighborhoods.”

“We are pleased to see these project ideas from MWRA, Cambridge, and Somerville, which is a key step in the path to a Charles River clean enough to swim in,” said Emily Norton, executive director of CRWA. “Imagine during our hotter summers, if greater Boston residents of any income level would have a safe, free place to jump in the water to cool off. We look forward to working with MWRA and the cities of Cambridge and

Somerville to make that vision a reality.”

While the MWRA has reduced sewage discharges by over 95% since 1988, tens of millions of gallons of sewage-laden stormwater are still entering the river every year, and that volume is growing thanks to climate change. In 2023, 72 million gallons polluted the Charles, equivalent to 109 Olympic-sized swimming pools.

Charles River Watershed Association’s mission is to protect, restore, and enhance the Charles River and its watershed through science, advocacy, and the law. CRWA develops science-based strategies to increase resilience, protect public health, and promote environmental equity as we confront a changing climate.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

FENWAY CDC TO HOLD FIRST COMMUNITY CONVERSATION ON JAN. 30

Fenway CDC will hold its first of three Community Conversations on Thursday, Jan. 30, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the 300 The Fenway (Simmons College), as well as virtually.

Among the topics of discussion will be the group’s future plans for affordable housing, organizing, and community programs.

Reserve your spot by visiting <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/community-vision-conversation-tickets-1116836842059?aff=oddtcreator>.

VIRTUAL MEETING TO DISCUSS FUTURE OF SOUTH END BRANCH LIBRARY FEB. 10

A fifth community meeting to discuss future plans for the South End Brach Library takes place virtually on Monday, Feb. 10, from 6:30 to 8: p.m.

Follow the link at <https://tinyurl.com/BPLSouthEnd> to register for the meeting.

WINTER WALK TO END HOMELESSNESS FEB. 9

The ninth annual Winter Walk to End Homelessness takes place

LITTLE STEVE’S PIZZERIA REPORTEDLY REOPENING WITH SLIGHTLY REDUCED HOURS



D. MURPHY PHOTO

Once a popular late-night destination for hungry college students, Little Steve’s Pizzeria is poised to return to its former longtime home at 1114 Boylston St., but with slightly reduced hours this time.

The Boston Licensing Board approved an application on Jan. 22 from Koushik Babu Koganti, who also owns the Boston Halal chain but has no association with the pizzeria’s original ownership, for a common victualler license, with a 3 a.m. closing time.

After meeting with the Fenway Civic Association, Koganti agreed to a 2 a.m. closing time on most weekdays and on Sundays, and 2:30 a.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, according to local online new outlet Universal Hub. Little Steve’s opened in 1968 and remained in business for around half a century. The location has subsequently been proposed as not only space for another restaurant but also as a recreational cannabis dispensary. The city’s Zoning Board of Appeal approved a three-story marijuana dispensary in the space back In 2021, Universal Hub noted, but those plans never came to fruition.

MEP raise awareness campaign for new boater education law

Special to the Sun

In an effort to boost boating safety and responsibility, the Massachusetts Environmental Police (MEP) is informing the public about the Hanson-Milone Boater Safety Act, which was recently signed into law by Governor Maura Healey. This law, set to take effect on April 1, 2026, introduces a mandatory boater education program for all motorized vessel operators. The new program aligns Massachusetts' boating regulations with federal U.S. Coast Guard safety standards and aims to ensure that every boater is equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary to safely navigate the state's waterways. MEP is now working to raise awareness and provide resources to help boaters prepare for the changes ahead.

"Boating is an important part

of life in Massachusetts, and this new law ensures that everyone on the water is properly prepared," said Interim MEP Colonel Chris Mason. "Whether you're an experienced boater or just starting out, the knowledge gained from this course will help keep you, your passengers, and our waterways safe. Our goal is simple—make boating safer for everyone."

"I am so proud to see the Hanson-Milone Act finally become law. Massachusetts is home to some of the most beautiful waterways in the world, but too often, a day of fun on the water ends in tragedy because someone operates a boat without proper safety training," said State Representative Kathy LaNatra (D-Kingston). "This legislation establishes a straightforward program to make sure anyone operating a boat in the Com-

monwealth has the necessary safety knowledge to keep themselves and others safe. I want to thank Governor Healey for her signature, as well as Speaker Mariano, Chairman Michlewitz, Chairman Straus and my Senate colleagues for their support of this legislation. Most importantly, I want to express my deepest gratitude to the Hanson and Milone families for their relentless dedication and advocacy for this life-saving legislation."

What Does This Mean for Boaters?

Starting April 1, 2026, anyone wishing to operate a motorized vessel in Massachusetts will be required to complete an approved boating safety education course.

The goal is to ensure that every boater has the skills and knowledge needed to operate their vessel safely, reducing accidents and ensuring a more enjoyable experience for all. The education program will cover important topics such as:

- Navigation Rules: Under-

stand how to safely maneuver on the water and avoid collisions.

- Emergency Procedures: Learn what to do in case of an emergency to protect yourself and your passengers.

- Environmental Protections: Gain awareness of practices that protect Massachusetts' treasured natural resources.

Who Needs to Enroll?

- If you were born after January 1, 1989, you must complete the course by April 1, 2026, with no penalties assessed until September 1, 2026.

- If you were born on or before January 1, 1989, you'll have until April 1, 2028, to complete the course.

The program will be available through a variety of convenient platforms, including online courses, in-person classes, and partnerships with local organizations.

Why This Is Great for Boaters

This new law not only enhances safety, but it also empowers boaters with the knowledge they

need to navigate Massachusetts' vast and beautiful waterways with confidence.

With thousands of miles of coastline and numerous lakes and rivers, Massachusetts is a haven for boating enthusiasts.

Simplified Access to Education

MEP will manage the implementation of the new law and ensure boaters have easy access to education. Proof of education will be required while boating on Massachusetts waters, so getting your certificate is simple and convenient.

To get started, boaters can visit the official Massachusetts Boater Education website at www.mass.gov/how-to/boat-safety-certificate-course

For additional information on the new law, including frequently asked questions and course details, please visit the Massachusetts Environmental Police website www.mass.gov/OLE or contact the Boat and Recreation Vehicle Safety Bureau at (508) 564-4961.

BTD officials outline plans for installation of multi-space meters on Tremont Street

By Dan Murphy

Boston Transportation Department officials were on hand for a virtual meeting on Thursday, Jan. 22, to discuss the installation of multi-space meters on Tremont Street as the first step in a citywide meter-modernization overhaul.

The BTD intends to install 31 'pay-by-plate,' multi-space parking meters for approximately 234 metered spaces, including 202 two-hour metered spaces and 32 15-minute metered spaces on Tremont Street between Arlington Street and Massachusetts Avenue, said BTD Commissioner Nicholas Gove.

The meter rates will be \$2 per hour for the two-hour metered spaces, available to purchase in 15-minute intervals.

Installation of the new meters is expected to take around two weeks, with completion expected at the end of February, said Gove, and the city will begin meter enforcement in March.

This project, said Gove, will also include create commercial loading zones; 15-minute pick-up and drop-off areas; and new Resident Permit Parking Only


spaces.

Citywide, the BTD's initiative entails the modernization and replacement of more than 5,000 single and dual-space meters, as well as 160 multi-space, 'kiosk-style' pay stations, said John Romano, director of operations.

All meters will continue to accept the ParkBoston app; quarters (but not bills); and Visa, Mastercard, and Discover debit and credit cards.

"The new Tremont Street meters will offer tap and pay, virtual receipts, and be available in English, Spanish, and Simple Chinese," added Romano. "All new meters will be pay-by-plate, so customers will no longer need to return to their vehicle to display payment."

Goals of this initiative, said Romano, include improving both customer service and BTD operations; embracing technology and data analytics while encouraging mobile payments and reducing on-street meter hardware; and supporting "the continued implementation of flexible curb management strategies to create smarter, more efficient streets and plans for future street design changes."



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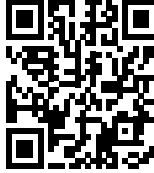
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PROJECT PROPONENT: Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and Dana Farber Cancer Institute


DESCRIPTION: This is a Task Force Meeting for the proposed Institutional Project 1 Joslin PL for Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and Dana Farber Cancer Institute, located in the Longwood Medical Area neighborhood of Boston. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the overall Institutional Project and the potential impacts. The meeting will include a presentation followed by questions and comments from the Task Force and the public.

MAIL:
Tyler Ross
Planning Department
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201
617.918.4214
tyler.c.ross@boston.gov

Website:
bit.ly/1JoslinPlaceHospital

Close of Public Comment Period:
3/3/2025

Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

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For art lovers, summer is just around the corner

Special to the Sun

Looking for a cure for the winter blahs? If you like art, February could be your lucky month.

Most art galleries display works by a handful of notable artists, allowing viewers and browsers, if they're so inclined, to home in on a desirable painting. But at some galleries a curious art lover encounters an embarrassment of riches. The Signature Members Show by the New England Watercolor Society, now at the elegant Guild of Boston Artists gallery on Newbury Street, offers paintings by 75 noted artists, all of whom have had work repeatedly judged to be exceptional.

Distinguished though they may be, the artists clearly vary widely in their technique and choice of subject matter. Some celebrate color, painting tulips, tangerines, or turtles with a vibrancy and panache that gladdens the heart. Others use a more muted palette but pay careful attention to form and composition, producing work – a courtyard, a pantry, or the weathered side of a house – with a calm and deeply satisfying balance. A few pull off both feats at once: viewers will be arrested by a soft-toned amber and russet fall landscape framing a startling bright barn as red as a stoplight.

All these paintings are for sale at affordable prices. Kristin



Richard LaRoche, *Old Westford Road*.

Stashenko, chair of this year's show, voiced the enthusiasm of her colleagues: "In viewing the paintings in this show I was struck by the interesting perspective and the vastly different points of view that artists chose to explore in their paintings. The first word that comes to mind is diversity – of media, technique, and painting surface. This show encompasses the finest watercolors in New England and offers a window into the creative process of art. It is a show you should not miss!"

This year's exhibition juror, who chose the paintings for the Society's prestigious awards, is Jean-François Arnaud, born in Toulouse, in the south of France. For him, painting "is about capturing the atmosphere, the play of light, and the large shapes that evoke a scene." That aesthetic is evidently shared by most of the painters represented in this show. The exhibition runs until March 2, with a reception and awards presentation February 8. As part

of the Society's commitment to education, award-winning member artists will give free painting demonstrations on weekends.

The society, which traces its history to 1885 and numbers such figures as John Singer Sargent, Childe Hassam, Andrew Wyeth, and Ruth Wynn among its past luminaries, today claims nearly 150 signature members and an overall membership of over 400.

New England Watercolor Society Signature Members Show, Guild of Boston Artists, 162 Newbury Street, Boston, February 4 to March 2, 2025, Tuesday through Saturday, 10:30 am to 5:30 pm, Sundays 12–4 pm. Closed Mondays. Reception and awards Saturday, February 8, 2–4 pm. Painting demonstrations Sundays 2–4 pm February 16 (Robert O'Brien), February 23 (Dylan McKnight), and March 2 (Carolyn Latanision).

www.newenglandwatercolor-society.org.



Ann Hart, *Crazy for Tulips*.




Carol Latanision, *In the Pantry, Olson House*.



Alonzo Clarke, *Centaur*.



James Varnum, *CORE Triptych*.



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APPLE BUYS BOYLSTON STREET BUILDING FOR \$88 MILLION



D. MURPHY PHOTO

Apple, Inc. has purchased the Boylston Street building, which is home to its three-story flagship store, for \$88 million, the Boston Business Journal first reported last week.

The California tech giant acquired the building at 815-825 Boylston St. from an affiliate of Tribeca Holdings, the London-based company which purchased the property for \$27.5 million in 2012.

When it first opened in 2008, the 815 Boylston St. location was the largest Apple store in the U.S.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Continued from Page 6

on Sunday, Feb. 9, at 9 a.m.

Join thousands on a winter walk around the Boston Common to raise money to end homelessness. All the money raised goes directly to programs working around Boston to prevent, support and care for our homeless community.

Register online at <https://secure.qgiv.com/event/winter-walk2025-boston/>.

Participants are also invited to walk with the Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay Homelessness Task Force. Register online and get your materials at the big tent, then meet at the corner of Beacon and Charles streets at 8:45 a.m. For any questions, email htf@nabbonline.org.

Also, if you see someone staying outside, call 311 and provide as many details as possible, such as their location, their personal descriptions and dress, as well as behavior or other identifiable traits.

Likewise, if you see adverse changes to someone who has been a regular in a certain spot, or if there is an acute or emergency health situation or security issue call 911.

Rather than giving money to a homeless person, consider carrying some Dunkin' or other gift cards to give so they can buy food and a drink and use the restroom. Use your discretion in all instances.

Visit <https://nabbonline.org/committees/homelessness-task-force/> for more information on NABB's Homelessness Task Force.

UPCOMING EVENTS SPONSORED BY THE GIBSON HOUSE MUSEUM

The Gibson House Museum, located at 137 Beacon St., presents 'Love at the Gibson House: a Valentine's Day Celebration' on Saturday, Feb. 8, at 1 and 3 p.m.

The Gibson House is the home of many loves: of newlyweds making a home for their three children; between Irish servants of neighboring houses; and of gay men in the late-19th and early 20th centuries. Join us this February for a celebration of their love and yours. This event is perfect for couples, a "Galen-

tine's" date, or for an adult-child pair to enjoy.

At this event, the museum invites guests to make Victorian-inspired Valentines, take vintage photographs with their sweetheart in the period photo booth, learn about the various love stories at the Gibson House, and enjoy a delicious spread of sweets and tea. Special guest Etiquetteer, Robert B. Dimmick, will offer brief talks on the social customs of the period and answer your etiquette questions.

Admission is \$65 for a pair of adults; \$50 for an adult/child pair; (best for children 10+); \$35 for a single adult ticket; and \$25 for a single child ticket. Purchase tickets online at <https://www.thegibsonhouse.org>.

Also back by popular demand, the museum will offer 'Elements of the American Wedding 1860-1920' on Saturday, Feb. 22, from 4:30 to 6 p.m.

At this time, join Etiquetteer, Robert B. Dimmick, on an

exploration of wedding customs in the United States from the Civil War to Prohibition. Aside from familiar customs like the white wedding dress and tossing the bouquet, Etiquetteer will look at fads like the floral bell, how wedding breakfasts were conducted, and the home wedding. Two of the most celebrated weddings of this period included President Cleveland's White House wedding to Frances Folsom and Consuelo Vanderbilt's wedding in New York to the Duke of Marlborough. Etiquetteer will also share the stories of Gibson family weddings, especially those of sisters Mary Ethel (held in Nahant) and Rosamond, held in the Music Room of the Gibson House six months after the death of her father.

Admission is \$25 per person for the general public and \$20 per person for museum members. Purchase tickets online at <https://www.thegibsonhouse.org>.

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The 'Quin House Impact Fund announces new director

Special to the Sun

The 'Quin Impact Fund has announced the appointment of Michelle Perez Vichot, an accomplished leader of nonprofit and social service organizations, as Director. The appointment comes on the heels of a monumental year of impact, with the organization having contributed over \$3.3MM to Boston area non-profits since its inception, including over \$900k in the past year.

Vichot brings more than 25 years of experience in social services and organizational leadership to The 'Quin House Impact Fund. Most recently, she served as Chief Executive Officer of the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Billerica and has also held leadership roles at the Boys and Girls Clubs of Boston, where she advanced from Executive Director to Executive Vice President of Operations. Vichot also has served on the Board of the Chil-

dren's Room, a nonprofit that offers grief support services for children and families.

"I look forward to bringing my experience to this new role at The 'Quin House," Vichot said. "I have a long career history of not only driving organizational growth, but also cultivating relationships with local businesses, government entities, and community stakeholders, which will be key as we continue to build upon the good work that

the Impact Fund does in Greater Boston through both fundraising and volunteer service. I am so proud to be a part of this team as we kick off 2025."

A licensed independent clinical social worker, Vichot holds a Master of Social Work from New York University and a Certificate in Nonprofit Management from the Institute for Nonprofit Management and Leader-

(QUIN IMPACT FUND, Pg. 11)



Michelle Perez Vichot.

Boston Athenaeum's 'Visionary Projects' exhibition to showcase legendary Boston architectural illustrator Frank M. Costantino's work

Special to the Sun

The Boston Athenaeum has launched its newest exhibition, Frank M. Costantino: Visionary Projects, presenting the drawings of eminent Boston-based architectural illustrator Frank M. Costantino. Featuring graphite process sketches, watercolor illustrations, and finished colored pencil renderings of some of Boston's most iconic buildings, the exhibition reveals the evolution of human-centered design associated with Costantino's artistic approach across fifty years of architectural illustration.

On display at the Boston Athenaeum from February 3 – May 3, 2025, Visionary Projects will exhibit the creative process behind one of the world's most respected practitioners in the field of architectural illustration. Focused on Boston and New

England projects, the exhibition showcases key landmarks such as the Hynes Convention Center, Esplanade 2020 Vision, the Old State House renovation, Seiji Ozawa Hall at Tanglewood, and Copley Place.

"Visionary Projects is the first solo exhibition to display Frank M. Costantino's masterful talents outside of the drafting studio. This exhibition reveals the process of architectural illustration, materializing a process that is often purposely hidden and celebrating the handmade quality of Costantino's work," said Lauren Graves, Assistant Curator at the Boston Athenaeum. "Frank is one of the last illustrators to do this work by hand, with most of the field now opting to digitally render designs. Visionary Projects displays his mastery of this art, celebrating Frank's unparalleled skill and highlighting the

Athenaeum's dedication to Boston's artists and architects."

Based in the Boston area, Frank M. Costantino has collaborated with leading architectural, design, and development firms throughout the United States, Canada, Europe, and Japan. Costantino's meticulous detail and vibrant depictions, from preparatory sketches to finished renderings, reveal his collaborative process and vision of how a project promotes a more livable and sustainable Boston. Viewers will experience how Costantino's use of colors, shadows, and figures throughout his illustrative process situates his buildings within the context of the expanding city, reflecting their relationship to the future of Boston and its residents.

Visionary Projects was made possible through a gift of over 200 drawings by Costantino to

the Boston Athenaeum in January 2024. The exhibition builds on themes of architecture and urban space central to other recent exhibitions at the Athenaeum, such as Revisiting the Ruins: The Great Boston Fire of 1872 and Developing Boston: Berenice Abbott & Irene Shwachman Photograph a Changing City; and demonstrates the Athenaeum's investment in both historical and contemporary art and culture, as well as the institution's commitment to highlighting local artists and stories.

"We are honored to add Frank M. Costantino's work to the Athenaeum's collection of architectural materials. This exhibition is a testament to the ways in which his talents have shaped Boston's skyline," said Leah Rosovsky, Stanford Calderwood Director at the Boston Athenaeum. "As a library, muse-

um, cultural institution, and historic landmark with a deep interest in Boston's architectural history, the Athenaeum is honored to showcase the work behind these projects and the talent and impact of Frank M. Costantino in particular."

Visionary Projects will be the crux of several exhibition-focused programs, including curator-led exhibition talks, lessons on perspective architectural drawing, tours for architectural college students, and author talks. On March 11, 2025, Costantino will join Athenaeum members and guests for a keynote lecture, "From Sketch to Skyline: Frank M. Costantino Reflects on Fifty Years of Architectural Illustration in Boston." The event is open to the public, with tickets free for members and \$20 for nonmembers. More information will be available at bostonathenaeum.org/events.

Founded in 1807, the Boston Athenaeum is a unique combination of library, museum and cultural center. One of the country's oldest and most distinguished independent libraries, the Athenaeum's circulating collection includes over half a million books, from works published in the 1800s to the latest bestsellers. Special collections include significant works of art and extensive research holdings of rare books, manuscripts, maps, prints, and photographs.

Members, visitors and the community enjoy a year-round calendar of cultural programs. The Athenaeum is a member-supported not-for-profit institution that everyone is invited to join. Learn more at bostonathenaeum.org.

Frank M. Costantino

VISIONARY PROJECTS

Exhibition Opening

February 3 at 5:30pm

[Register here](#)

BOSTON
ATHENÆUM

Wu announces more than \$64 million in Affordable Housing funding awards

Special to the Sun

Mayor Michelle Wu has announced \$64.2 million in new, recommended funding from the Mayor's Office of Housing, the Community Preservation Fund, and the Neighborhood Housing Trust (NHT) to create and preserve income-restricted units of housing in eight Boston neighborhoods. This ambitious portfolio of projects consists of 12 projects with a total of 637 units of mixed-income housing that includes both rental and homeownership units for families, housing for older adults and housing for those experiencing homelessness. These proposed projects meet the Mayor's Office of Housing standards for zero-emissions buildings and represent transit-oriented, green development. This announcement was made today at the Harvard Ed Portal in Allston, with city leadership, local elected officials, affordable housing developers, and community organizations.

"Collaborating closely with communities across neighborhoods, we're urgently working to create and preserve more than 600 income-restricted housing units across the city," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "These housing awards will strengthen our communities, enhance affordability, and continue making progress for Boston as a home for everyone. I'm grateful to the Neighborhood Housing Trust and the Community Preservation Committee for their continued partnership as we continue our efforts to address affordability across Boston's neighborhoods."

These awards have been funded by federal programs such as HOME Investment Partnership

and the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), as well as local programs like Inclusionary Development Policy (IDP) funds, Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds, and Linkage contributions from large commercial developments. These projects will advance City goals to affirmatively further fair housing, and will efficiently utilize City resources and land to increase the supply of housing available to residents across Boston neighborhoods.

"This funding represents another important step in making Boston a city where everyone can find a place to call home," said Chief of Housing Sheila A. Dillon. "By supporting these 12 developments, we are not just creating housing—we are strengthening neighborhoods, preventing displacement, and ensuring that residents have the stability they need to thrive. These funds build on the historic investments in housing made

by the Wu administration over the last three years, reflecting our continued commitment to addressing Boston's housing challenges head-on."

Proposals for these funding awards were evaluated by the Mayor's Office of Housing (MOH), the Neighborhood Housing Trust (NHT), and the Community Preservation Committee (CPC). The funding award recommendations stem from a review process following a Request for Proposals issued by MOH in the fall of 2024. Each proposal was evaluated by teams of senior leadership, underwriters, and architects using criteria such as financial feasibility, team capacity, community support, design quality, and alignment with market needs. Of the 21 projects submitted, 12 were selected to receive funding. MOH will work with the remaining project teams to strengthen their proposals for future funding opportunities.

"The Community Preservation Committee acknowledges the crucial role that affordable housing plays in the lives of our residents and is steadfast in its dedication to building more inclusive and resilient communities," said Thadine Brown, Director of the Community Preservation Act Office. "Through the Community Preservation Fund, we are proud to support the creation of new affordable housing units in Boston. These proposed projects not only offer homeownership and rental opportunities for low- and moderate-income residents but also help prevent the displacement of long-term residents, providing them with a sense of security, stability, and improved health outcomes."

"As Boston grows, ensuring access to affordable housing is vital to maintaining Boston's diverse neighborhoods," said Catherine Hardaway, chair of the Neighborhood Housing

Trust. "Affordable housing isn't just about providing homes, it's about fostering stable neighborhoods and driving economic development. The Neighborhood Housing Trust remains committed to partnering with developers, community organizations, and residents to champion innovative, sustainable housing solutions. I want to thank my colleagues who serve on the Neighborhood Housing Trust for their commitment to affordable housing in Boston. Together, we can create resilient neighborhoods where every Bostonian has the opportunity to thrive."

"The Neighborhood Housing Trust and Community Preservation Fund are valuable tools we have to continue to support affordable housing development in the City," said Chief of Planning Kairos Shen. "I am happy that the various large scale development projects which went

(AFFORDABLE HOUSING, Pg. 12)



MAYOR'S OFFICE PHOTO BY MIKE MEJA

'QUIN IMPACT FUND (from Page 10)

ship. She was named Executive Director of the Year by the New England Yankee Chapter last year and the Community Social Capitalist Award from Social Capital Inc., in 2012. She lives in Boston.

The 'Quin Impact Fund serves as a financial resource for local philanthropic organizations that make positive contributions to the Greater Boston community. The 'Quin House, a private social club in Boston's Back Bay that is committed to affecting change in the local community, is a space for members to not

only further their education on important issues but also provides avenues for them to make a difference for the better on those issues. The Impact Fund was launched in 2019, a year prior to the opening of The 'Quin House, and is now the foundation of the club's philanthropy and the vehicle through which members can have a collective positive impact.

The Impact Fund supports six pillars throughout the year in Arts and Culture, Innovation and Discovery, Equity and Opportunity, Health and Wellness, Youth and Education, and

Earth 360°. The Fund is hosted by The Boston Foundation and, thanks to the generosity of The 'Quin House member community's contributions along with an anonymous donor's matching funds, has awarded more than \$3.1MM in grants to over 150 Greater Boston organizations.

The Fund has also hosted numerous volunteer opportunities for The 'Quin House members and staff since 2021. Volunteer efforts in 2024 included participation in Boston's annual Winter Walk, clothing sorting

and toiletry kit packing for Cradles to Crayons, preparation of apartments for the homeless at the Pine Street Inn, riding in the Pan-Mass Challenge for cancer research and treatment, multi-day efforts at The Greater Boston Food Bank, and most recently, the collection of more than 300 gifts for Department of Children and Families children through the Wonderfund. Since inception, The 'Quin House Impact Fund has also sponsored over 100 programming events designed to showcase the important and meaningful solu-

tions local non-profits are providing to challenging problems.

"After this very successful year of community engagement, inspirational programming, and financial investment in high-impact, non-profit organizations, through The 'Quin Impact Fund, we are excited for what is to come in 2025 and beyond under the continued leadership of co-chairs, Linda Whitlock and Kanna Kunchala, and new Director Michelle Perez Vichot!" said Sandy Edgerley, 'Quin co-founder.

FRESH AND LOCAL

Snip, Snip...

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

As we enjoy more foods from other cultures, we adopt the techniques and utensils used to make or enjoy them. One of the latest trends is the adoption of scissors, which are used in Korean homes and restaurants.

Our Scissor Collection

We find scissors safer and more sensible for specific kitchen tasks. We keep four different types in the kitchen. The most used is a pair of inexpensive kitchen scissors that stay in our dish drainer. (We use them so often that we don't bother to put them away.) These cut open food packages, snip herbs or scallions, and complete other jobs that require a way to separate and clean the blades after use.

We have heavy-duty poultry shears for jobs like spatchcocking chicken or cutting the fins, head, and tail off whole fish. Again, these come apart for cleaning but can cut through bones, so be careful!

Our Korean scissors, with their longer blades and serrated

edges, are great for cooking. If you've enjoyed Korean barbecue, you may have seen them paired with tongs to turn and cut meat or whole kimchi into bite-size pieces. These scissors also make trimming excess fat off poultry and meat easier.

This set is also used for chopped salads and cutting leafy greens for sautéing or sandwich-

es.

Since we don't believe that cutting noodles is bad luck, we also use these to cut very long noodles to make them easier to eat.

We recently watched a video from a small taverna in Greece where the cook tossed a whole blanched octopus in a hot pan, cut it, and tossed it with scissors

until he had perfectly grilled bite-size bits for service.

Finally, we have first responder trauma shears for the jobs where these shine. Designed to cut off clothes and bandages in emergencies, these can be sterilized or cleaned in your dishwasher.

We use these to cut through plastic containers and packaging. They are inexpensive and very good at cutting flatbreads or pizza. We keep an extra pair in our picnic kit.

Experiment with Scissors

You may find different uses for scissors than we have. If you don't have a set, we suggest you try something like our utility scissors first. How a tool feels in your hand is a significant factor in how much you like it, so be sure the pair you buy is comfortable. Consider how they would work for a big job, like separating two pounds of chicken wings into drumsticks and flats.

Your kitchen scissors should be extremely sharp and have easy-to-grip, non-slip handles. While you may not want blades

as long as those in our Korean example, a longer blade can be helpful for some tasks.

Finally, ease of cleaning is vital to preventing cross-contamination and food-borne illnesses. We prefer sets with removable blades for cleaning or dishwasher-safe materials.

Some shears offer little extras like a screw cap or bottle opener built in. Some trauma shears have a carabiner built into the handle and can hang from an apron.

Think about how and what type of meals you cook and choose the best option for your kitchen. You probably don't need heavy-duty poultry shears if you don't work with whole chickens or fish. If grilling and Korean food are not your thing, skip that pair. But we recommend a basic pair of kitchen scissors, and every home should have trauma shears for food or for other emergencies.

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



We use four types of scissors in our kitchen. Top to bottom, they are Korean scissors, heavy-duty poultry shears, utility scissors, and first-responder trauma shears.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING (from Page 11)

through our development review process and paid into Linkage were able to support the NHT in making this round of funding possible."

"We are honored to be a recipient of this year's City of Boston's affordable housing funding awards, which strengthens our mission to deliver inclusive and accessible housing solutions in Allston Brighton. The Allston Brighton Community Development Corporation is proud to support Mayor Michelle Wu's vision of creating more equitable sustainable housing for all," said John Woods, Executive Director of the Allston Brighton Community Development Corporation. "We deeply appreciate the support and dedication of our Mayor Michelle Wu, the Mayor's Office of Housing, the Neighborhood Housing Trust, the Community Preservation Committee, the North Allston residents, Coun-

cilor Liz Breadon, and Harvard University for helping us create new sustainable inclusive housing in our city."

All the new construction projects funded in this round will be required to follow the Zero Emissions Building (ZEB) requirements outlined in the MOH Design Standards. New developments will use electricity and on-site solar panels as their sole fuel source.

Chinatown/South End

- 50 Herald Street, a project led by Beacon Communities Services LLC and the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association, will create 117 affordable rental units, including 22 Inclusionary Development Policy (IDP) off-site units. All units will be affordable between 30-60% of AMI. The project will also include a sizable ground-floor retail space capable of locating

an Asian market.

Fenway

- 112 Queensberry, developed by the Fenway Community Development Corporation, will transform this under-utilized urban infill site into a six-story building with 24 units of affordable transit-oriented rental housing. These units will serve individuals earning 30-60% of AMI.

Jamaica Plain/Mission Hill

- Envision Hotel, located at 81 South Huntington Avenue, will be acquired and rehabilitated by Victory Programs. The hotel, currently operating as an emergency shelter, will transition into 41 deeply affordable permanent supportive housing units for individuals experiencing homelessness

Mission Hill

- ODJ Development LLC will

build 48 affordable homeownership units serving households earning 80-100% of AMI on City-owned land. The development will include open space and urban farming opportunities.

This announcement of a \$64 million City investment to create and preserve 637 units of affordable housing continues the Wu Administration's historic investment in affordable housing production. The Wu administration, in its first three years, has created more affordable housing than at any other three-year period dating back to 1998. In addition to increasing the supply of affordable housing, the Mayor has worked urgently to unlock market-rate development through a new \$110 million Housing Accelerator Fund aimed at closing financing gaps for approved projects. Under her leadership, the City has launched zoning and programs aimed at fostering

a wider variety of housing for all Bostonians, including accessory dwelling units, housing with public assets like libraries, office-to-residential conversions Downtown, and more mid-size multifamily housing in walkable and transit-oriented areas. Mayor Wu and her administration have also helped more families become homeowners than in any other three-year period since 1998 and adopted new policies and programs to reduce the cost of utility bills for homeowners. Mayor Wu continues to fight for residential tax relief legislation for Boston residents impacted by sharp increases in their Fiscal Year 2025 third-quarter property tax bills. This refiled tax proposal expands on Mayor Wu's relief package that passed the City Council and House of Representatives last year.

Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
BACK BAY			
1201 Boston Strong Rt	220 Boylston St Unit 120	220 Boylston St #1201	\$14,000,000
Downing, Jennifer	Garcia, Jose D	14 Clarendon St #402	\$1,465,000
Gulla, Christopher	Sutherland, Margaret	425 Beacon St #1	\$1,625,000
Pi, Ming	Tewani, Kamlesh	534 Beacon St #302	\$590,000
1201 Boston Strong Rt	220 Boylston St Unit 120	220 Boylston St #1201	\$14,000,000
Akca Ft	Benway Jr, Charles H	390 Commonwealth Ave #503	\$1,200,000
Given, Anna	Daly, Christine S	416 Commonwealth Ave #503	\$1,215,000
BEACON HILL			
Martin, Michele	83 Mount Vernon LLC	83 Mount Vernon St #1	\$4,400,000
Gisondi, Amy L	Stanton, James P	8 Whittier Pl #2D	\$650,000
BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE			
Nethery, Meredith	Consalvo, Nicholas	4 Lyndeboro Pl	\$2,250,000
Tully, Daniel	Tsai, Andy H	3 Douglas Park #58	\$750,000
Nethery, Meredith	Consalvo, Nicholas	4 Lyndeboro Pl	\$2,250,000
Gaglia Jr, Charles A	Gaglia, Jason	16 Miner St #112	\$977,000
Given, Anna	Daly, Christine S	425 Newbury St #PS137	\$1,215,000
Soni, Rakesh	Zamir, Mark	448 Park Dr #4	\$1,290,000
Bp Wellington LLC	Freeman Ft	7 Wellington St	\$3,150,000
Ps Holdings LLC	Okn Funding LLC	5 Worcester Sq #1	\$1,980,000
Ps Holdings LLC	Qs Lending T	5 Worcester Sq #2	\$2,100,000
Ps Holdings LLC	Qs Lending T	5 Worcester Sq #3	\$2,300,000
WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN			
Elizah B McLaughlin RET	Mcaf Winthrop LLC	240 Devonshire St #5303	\$2,900,000
Crowe, Michael K	Cohen, Gary	300 Pier 4 Blvd #6K	\$1,875,000
Martinez, Jordan	Kelliher, Abby	151 Tremont St #8C	\$730,000

Attention to Detail

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY PENNY CHERUBINO

THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The face in the last clue is on the awning post at 333 Commonwealth Avenue. Designed by architects McKay and Dunham, it was built as a hotel in 1895. In 1953, it became a home for elderly women and a nursing home. In 1981, it was converted to condominiums.

You'll find the next clue in the Fenway.

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

THIS WEEK'S CLUE



LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Self Storage Sale
Please take notice Prime Storage - Boston South End located at 100 Southampton St., Boston, MA 02118 intends to hold an auction to sell the goods stored by the following tenants at the storage facility. The sale will occur as an online auction via www.storage-treasures.com on 2/11/2025 at 12:00PM. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are

household goods, furnishings and garage essentials. Harold Jordan unit #3037; Denise Hurley/Marshall's unit #3226; Jermall Butler unit #3237; Sillas Vilme unit #3311; Jesse Thomas Powers unit #4081; Nestor Montano unit #4097; Shane Valcourt unit #4215. All property is being stored at the above self-storage facility. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. See manager for details.

1/23/25, 1/30/25
BS

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Self Storage Sale
Please take notice Prime Storage - Boston Traveler St. located at 33 Traveler St., Boston, MA 02118 intends to hold an auction to sell the goods stored by the following tenants at the storage facility. The sale will occur as an online auction via www.storage-treasures.com on

2/11/2025 at 12:00PM. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods, furnishings and garage essentials. Johna Grimaldi unit #260; James Griffin unit #743. All property is being stored at the above self-storage facility. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. See manager for details.

1/23/25, 1/30/25
BS

DO YOU NEED TO PLACE A LEGAL NOTICE?
Don't Forget to check with the Courts to see if you qualify for a FEE WAIVER

United States Attorney Foley announces appointment of First Assistant U.S. Attorney

Special to the Sun

United States Attorney Leah B. Foley has announced that Katherine Ferguson has been appointed to serve as First Assistant United States Attorney for the District of Massachusetts. Ms. Ferguson, a career prosecutor, has served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney for more than a decade.

“Ms. Ferguson’s leadership, dedication, and prosecutorial excellence have earned her widespread respect within our office and beyond,” said U.S. Attorney Foley. “Her deep understanding of federal law enforcement and her commitment to upholding the rule of law make her an invaluable asset. I am confident that she will bring the same integrity and vision to her new role as First Assistant U.S. Attorney as she has throughout her career.”

Ms. Ferguson has served as Deputy Chief of the Narcotics & Money Laundering Unit for the U.S. Attorney’s Office since 2017 and Lead Task Force Attorney for the District’s Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force since 2021. As Deputy Chief of the Narcotics & Money Laundering Unit, Ms. Ferguson was responsible for overseeing federal narcotics and money laundering investigations and

prosecutions. As an Assistant U.S. Attorney for 15 years, she has extensive experience working collaboratively with other federal, state and local partners to dismantle multi-jurisdictional and international drug trafficking and money laundering organizations.

Prior to joining the U.S. Attorney’s Office, Ms. Ferguson served as an Assistant District Attorney for the Suffolk County District Attorney’s Office. There, she handled over 600 cases in Boston Municipal Court from arraignment to disposition and oversaw the prosecution of child abuse and narcotics offenses in Superior Court. From 2006-2007, Ms. Ferguson served as a law clerk for the Honorable Sandra L. Lynch with the First Circuit Court of Appeals.

Ms. Ferguson graduated from Princeton University, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Economics with Highest Honors, Phi Beta Kappa. While at Princeton, Ms. Ferguson earned Certificates in Political Economy and French Language & Culture. She also received a Masters in Public Policy from the John F. Kennedy School of Government and graduated cum laude from Harvard Law School, where she was an Executive Editor for the Harvard Law Review.



A photo of the new full electric catering truck, the first of its kind in North America.

Mass. leaders launch first EV catering truck in North America to serve Logan Airport

Special to the Sun

Cargo Ventures, a developer and property manager of state-of-the-art logistics facilities in key transportation markets, hosted the launch of the first electric catering truck in North America specifically designed for the aviation industry.

The launch is the result of a collaboration between Mallaghan, a leading manufacturer of Ground Support Equipment (GSE) for the aviation industry and International Motors, LLC (International), a global leader in the commercial transportation industry. The electric vehicle (EV) will be operated by DO & CO, an international catering business and will support Delta Air Lines’ Onboard Dining services, operating out of Cargo Venture’s Logan Cargo Park on McClellan Highway in East Boston.

The launch featured remarks from: Governor Maura Healey; Massport CEO Rich Davey; Ash Dhokte, VP Onboard Services, Delta Air Lines; Ronan Mallaghan, CEO, Mallaghan; and Debbie Shust, VP, Customer Insights and Experience, International. Additional guests included State Senator Sal DiDomenico, State Representative Adrian Madaro, and Boston City Councilor Gabriela Coletta-Zapata.

“We made a significant investment in our property specifically to support electrification of industrial vehicles,” said Jake Citrin, CEO of Cargo Ventures. “We’re thrilled to have partners, from Massport to DO&CO and of course Mallaghan and International, who are committed to increasing sustainability in airport and airline support services. We couldn’t be prouder that this first-of-its-kind EV will be based

on our property.”

“We’re proud to host the first EV catering truck in North America here in Massachusetts and continue our leadership in building a clean energy economy,” said Governor Healey. “This will also deliver immediate benefits for our residents, including cleaner air across East Boston. We congratulate Delta and Cargo Ventures on this major accomplishment.”

“Massport is excited to welcome the first EV catering truck at Boston Logan, marking another step forward in our commitment to environmental stewardship and aligning with our overarching Net Zero goals,” said Massport CEO Rich Davey. “We are grateful for the partnerships that made this possible and look forward to seeing more of these innovative EVs in the future.”

The collaboration between Mallaghan and International has been a years-long effort in which each partner contributed its deep expertise resulting in this vehicle, which will serve as a model for continued production.

Combining technical expertise with a deep understanding of customer requirements, Mallaghan designs and manufactures a comprehensive range of specialist products, including hi-lifts, aircraft maintenance, stairs, and deicers, tailored to the needs of our international partners. Headquartered in Dunganon, Northern Ireland, and with a manufacturing facility in Newnan, Georgia, Mallaghan employs a team of more than 400 people.

Ronan Mallaghan, CEO of Mallaghan, shared: “At Mallaghan, our goal is to continuously push the boundaries of innovation, providing our customers

with cutting-edge, sustainable solutions that reduce environmental impact. As the industry evolves, we remain dedicated to meeting the growing demand for eco-friendly equipment and look forward to continuing to work with our partners to deliver market-leading products.”

Based in Lisle, Illinois, International Motors, LLC* creates solutions that deliver greater uptime and productivity to our customers throughout the full operation of our commercial vehicles. We build International® trucks and engines and IC Bus® school and commercial buses that are as tough and as smart as the people who drive them. We also develop Fleetrite® aftermarket parts. In everything we do, our vision is to accelerate the impact of sustainable mobility to create the cleaner, safer world we all deserve. As of 2021, we joined Scania, MAN and Volkswagen Truck & Bus in TRATON GROUP, a global champion of the truck and transport services industry. To learn more, visit www.International.com.

“At International, our customers are at the heart of everything we do,” said Debbie Shust, VP, Customer Insights and Experience. “We are committed to delivering solutions that help our customers achieve their goals, both operationally and environmentally. This electric catering truck is a perfect example of that commitment. Our shared vision led us to collaborate with Mallaghan to develop and deploy a zero emissions solution that not only meets their operational needs but also continues to accelerate the impact of sustainability. We are proud to have been a part of this project and look forward to working on many more together.”

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Wu announces City Hall as the newest historic landmark in Boston

Special to the Sun

Mayor Michelle Wu and the Boston Landmarks Commission announced the official designation of Boston City Hall as a local Landmark. The designation recognizes Boston City Hall's architectural, cultural, and civic significance, ensuring the preservation of its unique character and historical identity for future generations.

"For more than five decades, Boston City Hall has served as a hub where residents come together to shape our city's future, and has become a symbol of our city's resilience, innovation, and commitment to our constituents," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "As we officially designate Boston City Hall a Landmark, we honor its deep historical and cultural significance. This milestone serves as an affirmation of our commitment to preserving this space as a vital symbol of our democracy and a center for civic engagement. Our administration is proud to help the building evolve into a space that is accessible to the community while maintaining its historic character."

Completed in 1968 in the former Scollay Square neighborhood, which was demolished as part of urban renewal of the mid-twentieth century, Boston City Hall stands as an iconic example of Brutalist architecture. The building was designed by Kallmann McKinnell and Knowles in response to a Boston Redevelopment Authority architectural competition in 1961. The building was conceived as a symbol of democratic governance and accessibility, fostering transparency and civic engagement. Its bold design marked a departure from Boston's traditional architectural vernacular of brick and brownstone, redefining the city's architectural identity and the nature of public space.

"As Chair of Planning, Development, and Transportation, I am proud to celebrate the designation of Boston City Hall as a Boston Landmark," said City Councilor Sharon Durkan. "Since 1968, this building has stood as a bold architectural statement and a living symbol of transparency, innovation, and civic identity. This milestone honors not just its iconic design but the community it serves while challenging us to preserve its legacy and reimagine its role for future generations. I extend



Boston City Hall.

my gratitude to Commissioner Eamon Shelton, Commissioner Kristen McCosh, and the teams whose stewardship and advocacy have ensured this designation reflects both our history and our commitment to accessibility and inclusion. Boston City Hall is more than a building—it's a catalyst for civic engagement and a home for those who serve our great city."

Boston City Hall's significance extends beyond its striking design, reflecting broader trends in 20th-century urban planning. It introduced principles of integrated civic and public space that have influenced urban design across the United States. As both a product of Boston's urban renewal era and a focal point for public gatherings and civic dialogue, the building has become a lasting cultural and civic symbol.

Boston Landmark designation follows the completion of a comprehensive Conservation Management Plan (CMP) in 2021, funded by the Getty Foundation. The CMP provides a roadmap for maintaining and managing the building while addressing functional updates needed to ensure its continued use. Landmark designation aligns with the CMP's recommendations to protect the building's architectural integrity while guiding future changes. The designation also includes commitments to enhancing accessibility measures within the building, ensuring that it remains inclusive and welcoming for all members of the public.

"This landmark designation affirms Boston City Hall's place as a cornerstone of our city's architectural and civic heritage," said Kathy Kottaridis, Director of the Office of Historic Preservation. "This decision ensures that the building will continue to inspire and serve future gen-

erations while adapting to meet the needs of a modern, vibrant Boston."

While Boston City Hall has faced criticism and calls for demolition in the past, it has also inspired a dedicated community of advocates who recognize its architectural and cultural value. Landmark designation ensures that any proposed changes to key features of the building will undergo review by the Boston Landmarks Commission to maintain its integrity.

"I am grateful that City Hall is being celebrated and protected for its architectural, cultural, and historical significance," remarked Eamon Shelton, Commissioner of Property Management. "Of course it is not a perfect building, so I am thankful that the Study Report, which serves as a roadmap for future decisions, both acknowledges the significant architectural features and memorializes the ongoing projects and necessary future changes. Only through growth and thoughtful adaptation can the 'People's Building' be fully accessible and inclusive for all, now and into the future."

"I appreciate that this landmark designation will not prevent necessary upgrades to improve access for people with disabilities. City Hall was constructed with architectural barriers that would not be present if it were built today, so accessibility upgrades will remain a key priority moving forward," said Disability Commissioner Kristen McCosh.

An upcoming historic preservation conference will take place in Boston, providing a timely opportunity to celebrate the Landmark designation of Boston City Hall. Organized by the Historic Preservation Education Foundation and the Boston Architectural College, the Pre-

serving the Recent Past 4 conference will take place from March 19-22, 2025, with a focus on the challenges and opportunities of preserving postwar architecture. The opening reception for the conference will be held at Boston City Hall.

Throughout Mayor Wu's first term in office, the City has designated 25 landmarks in Boston

in addition to the Highland Park District, more than twice the number of historic designations that occurred in the decade prior. There are over 8,000 properties designated as individual Landmarks or located within Boston's local historic districts. Any 10 registered Boston voters can petition the Boston Landmarks Commission to designate a historic neighborhood, building, landscape, or object as a protected Boston Landmark or District. Local historic districts carry the ability to regulate change in historic neighborhoods, unlike National Register districts, which advocate for their protection. Residents can learn more about designating a landmark in Boston by emailing BLC@boston.gov. The Office of Historic Preservation, established in 2022, continues to support the preservation of the city's historic assets as part of Boston's commitment to carbon neutrality, sustainability, and inclusivity.

Pioneer Scholar Activist to be focus of February Film Series at King's Chapel

Special to the Sun

On Sunday Feb. 9 at 2 pm the King's Chapel Film Series will screen the new documentary film, *Ira de Augustine Reid: Haverford College's Unsung Scholar Activist*.

Born in Jim Crow Virginia in 1901 into a Baptist Pastor's household, Ira Reid was recruited by W.E. B. DuBois to join the Sociology Department at Atlanta University in the late 1930's, then succeeded DuBois as chair.

From his youthful gathering of an interracial group to study Physics in a southern city where no secondary education was offered to people of color, to directing research for the Urban

League in early 1930's, to founding of no cost "people's colleges" in Atlanta and Harlem, Reid's scholarship advocated for justice.

As the first Black professor to teach full-time at an elite white northern liberal arts college and as a beloved faculty mentor, Dr. Reid bridged barriers promoting understanding of and respect for everyone's humanity. Come to appreciate Reid as a pioneer and explore how Reid helped Haverford College live up more fully to the best of its Quaker values. The Rev. Stephen Washburn, Moderator of the Ira Reid Foundation, will present the film and moderate discussion.



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