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THE BOSTON SUN

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

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FOPG celebrate Henry Lee's 100th birthday, legacy

By Dan Murphy

The Friends of the Public Garden lit 100 candles at the Parkman Bandstand on Boston Common on the evening of Monday, Jan. 13, at a small gathering to commemorate what would've been Henry Lee's 100th birthday, and to celebrate The Henry Lee Fund for Boston Parks..

Lee played a key role in establishing the Friends of the Public Garden – the nonprofit which in partnership with the Boston Parks Department cares for and maintains the Boston Common, the Public Garden, and the Commonwealth Avenue Mall, in 1970. He would go on to lead the Friends group for 41 years and was named the organiza-

tion's president emeritus upon his retirement.

At Lee's birthday celebration, Leslie Singleton Adam, chair of the Friends' board of directors, recalled how he was on hand at the Parkman Bandstand on June 11 for the public launch of The Henry Lee Fund for Boston Parks.

"Parks belong to everyone," Lee said at that time. "They are the property of everybody in Boston and that is not a statement; that is the law. But no park can survive unless people care about it. From their very beginnings, it has been public participation that has saved these parks, and it is public concern alone that assures

(HENRY LEE, PG. 3)



D. MURPHY PHOTOS

Shown above, the Friends of the Public Garden honored Henry Lee on Jan. 13, which would've been his 100th birthday, at the Parkman Bandstand on the Boston Common. Shown to the right, Leslie Singleton Adam, chair of the Friends of the Public Garden board of directors, recalls the indelible mark Henry Lee left on Boston's parks on what would've been his 100th birthday.

DR. SAKAMOTO SPEAKS AT BEACON HILL WOMENS FORUM



PHOTO BY MARIANNE SALZA

Guest speaker, Dr. Fernanda Sakamoto with BHWF Co-Presidents Tricia Stone and Richelle Gewertz. Physician-scientist and board-certified dermatologist, Dr. Fernanda Sakamoto, MD, PhD was the featured guest speaker at the latest meeting of the Beacon Hill Womens' Forum. See more photos on Pages 7 and 8.

Improvements completed at the Johnson Memorial Gates

Courtesy of Fenway Civic Association

Fenway Civic Association (FCA) has completed masonry repairs at the Johnson Memorial Gates, with the support of the City, local partners, and the George B. Henderson Foundation. Repairs addressed cracks in masonry, rusted embedded metal, and damaged bench balustrades, and installed decorative bollards to protect repaired areas where blunt force had damaged corners of the tall pylons of the

monument.

The Emerald Necklace Conservancy served as fiscal agent for a grant provided by the George B. Henderson Foundation, with additional funds provided by the Boston Planning Department.

Conservators from Folan Waterproofing & Construction conducted the repairs in fall 2024 following review and approval from the Boston Parks Department, Boston Landmarks Commission, and Boston Art Commission.

Vice President Patrick Folan

stated: "Folan Waterproofing & Construction is proud to have been a part in the recent efforts to preserve the historic Johnson Memorial Gates. At Folan Waterproofing & Construction, we take great pride in our work, and this project has reminded us that the best results come from collaboration. We are grateful to have been a part of this journey and look forward to seeing the positive impact it will have in the

(JOHNSON GATES, PG. 4)

EDITORIAL

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. NEVER GAVE UP

For those of a certain age, it is hard to imagine that 2025 will mark 57 years since the assassination of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in Memphis while he was standing on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel on April 4, 1968. Recalling how we felt when he first heard the news of Dr. King's murder still brings chills and a deep sense of sadness that never has subsided.

For those who are too young to have been alive in that era of American history, there are a few things that everyone should know about Dr. King that should provide inspiration to all of us.

First, Dr. King was fearless. He knew from the inception of his rise to prominence of the Civil Rights movement that he would become a target for those who opposed change. Yet, even though he often told others that he believed his death would be imminent, he did not relent in his fight to continue his work in the civil rights movement.

Second, Dr. King stood for the rights of all Americans, not merely those of color. He was in Memphis working with striking sanitation workers, whose pay and working conditions he was seeking to help improve. He was an outspoken critic of the Vietnam War because he knew it to be an unjust war, not only for poor Americans who could not get a college deferment for the draft, but also for the people of Vietnam, whose homeland was being bombed into oblivion at great profit for the American military-industrial complex.

If Dr. King were alive in the present era, there is no doubt that he would have been in the forefront of the Black Lives Matter movement, as well as the effort to reduce the economic inequality that has made attainment of the American Dream possible for a select few.

Dr. King's words ring as true today as they did two generations ago; his "I Have A Dream" and "I've Been to the Mountaintop" speeches are among the most powerful not only in American history, but in all of Western civilization.

All of us should learn from the example set by Dr. King that in each of us is the power to change the world -- that each of us has the capacity to inspire others, whether through our words or deeds, whether on a small or large scale, to make the world a better place. Many of our fellow citizens have followed the path set by Dr. King and many more will do so in the years ahead.

Dr. King often would say that "the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice." Admittedly, that "bend" often has taken a less-than-direct path in recent years. But as we celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day this Monday, let us recall not only his memory and the many things that he accomplished, but let us also resolve never to give in to the forces of intolerance, prejudice, and hate that continue to plague our country and the world today.

LOS ANGELES WILDFIRES: A TRAGIC SIGN OF THE TIMES

The apocalyptic images from Los Angeles this past week of the destruction caused by the still-raging fires are unfathomable. They are mindful of the horrific black-and-photos of Hiroshima in the aftermath of the atomic bomb in WWII.

Entire communities have been burnt to the ground, with only the charred foundations and concrete slabs of homes, businesses, municipal buildings, and places of worship serving as a reminder that this was a place where tens of thousands of people once called home.

The Los Angeles fires will affect all of us. With losses estimated at a minimum of \$60 billion, insurance premiums nationwide for homes and automobiles are certain to increase for everybody, just as they have in the aftermath of the hurricanes in Florida in recent years.

In addition, with tens of thousands of families and businesses losing everything in a state that represents 1/7th of the U.S. economy -- and with no hope of being able to return and rebuild -- there will be ripple effects across the economic spectrum that will impact all of us.

In the aftermath of hurricanes Helene and Milton this fall, we noted that Florida is close to becoming uninhabitable. Insurance companies have pulled out of that state, which means that most folks are unable to buy -- or sell -- a home, except at great expense. Moreover, living in the path of ever more-destructive hurricanes is akin to playing Russian roulette -- it's only a matter of time before the chamber spins and you're out of luck.

The same now is true of California because of the threat of wildfires.

But the reality of climate change is this: There is no place on earth where we are safe from the destruction of Mother Nature's climate-change-induced wrath -- and the situation is only going to get worse.

Way worse.

MassDOT alerts customers of EZDriveMA scam

Special to the Sun

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) is once again reminding customers to be mindful of text message-based scams, also known as smishing. The scammers are claiming to represent the tolling agency and requesting payment for unpaid tolls.

MassDOT urges customers to be cautious about email, text, and phone scams demanding payment of outstanding toll balances. Some attempts have been made to trick customers into sharing credit card numbers and other sensitive information by directing them to a website to pay their outstanding balances. MassDOT strongly encourages customers not to click the link contained in those messages.

MassDOT is underscoring that: EZDriveMA will never request payment by text.; and all links associated with EZDriveMA will include www.EZDriveMA.com.

The EZDrive "smishing" scam is part of a series of smishing scams which the FBI is aware

of. Smishing is when unscrupulous actors send deceptive text messages to get someone to reveal confidential or financial information.

The FBI recommends individuals that receive the fraudulent messages do the following:

File a complaint with the IC3, www.ic3.gov and be sure to include:

the phone number from where the text originated; and the web-site listed within the text.

Check your account using the toll service's legitimate website.

Contact the toll service's customer service phone number at (877) 627-7745.

Delete any smishing texts received.

If you clicked any link or provided your information, take efforts to secure your personal information and financial accounts. Dispute any unfamiliar charges.

MassDOT encourages all customers to stay alert to these types of scams and to contact EZDriveMA at www.EZDriveMA.com with any questions about notifications.

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Text or attachments emailed to deb@thebostonsun.com are preferred.

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Coletta Zapata publishes report on local climate action

Special to the Sun

As Chair of the Committee on Environmental Justice, Resiliency, and Parks, Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata (District 1) has published a comprehensive report titled “Boston Rising: Building a Resilient City on a Hill Through Local Climate Action,” following meetings and recommendations from dozens of environmental advocacy organizations. This 19-page report highlights Boston’s leadership as a model for local climate action, especially in response to potential federal rollbacks of environmental regulations and reduced funding for climate resilience. The report also introduces innovative municipal policy proposals and funding strategies to protect Boston from the adverse effects of climate change.

The report outlines the committee’s accomplishments under Coletta Zapata’s leadership and presents a forward-looking strategy through actionable policy

recommendations. In 2024, the committee oversaw more than \$33 million in funding to support Boston’s tree canopy, parks, food system, and clean energy initiatives. The committee also held numerous hearings and working sessions to advance Boston’s environmental objectives.

Recent strategic breakthroughs of the committee include establishing the Office of Climate Resilience, standardizing climate science and environmental justice education in Boston Public Schools, workforce development initiatives in the green and blue economy sectors, reimagining Boston’s food systems including the acquisition of a food hub, and adopting BERDO 2.0 and the Equitable Emissions Investment Fund.

New proposals include establishing a municipal climate bank and issuing green bonds, advancing electrification and geothermal solutions, transitioning to clean energy sources, implementing resilient zoning standards and

mitigation strategies, reducing polystyrene and plastic waste, integrating climate goals with sustainable mobility initiatives, and developing a Waterfront Business Improvement District (BID).

The report also emphasizes the importance of local climate leadership by leveraging strategic planning and innovative funding mechanisms to compensate for potential reductions in federal support. Suggested measures include seeking local foundation and grant funding, collaborative legislative advocacy, forming public-private partnerships, utilizing alternative federal programs, and fostering regional collaboration.

“Our goal is clear: to keep Boston on a path toward achieving its ambitious climate goals while ensuring that every voice is heard and every neighborhood benefits from the transformation ahead,” said Coletta Zapata. “We cannot afford to wait for others to act; Boston must lead the way with

solutions that put our communities first. I extend my gratitude to everyone who contributed to this report and to those committed to building a greener and more resilient future.”

“This report is a remarkable breakdown of the City’s current efforts and a great roadmap for the future. Steps like a municipal climate bank can ensure our climate efforts keep going and growing, especially in the absence of major federal climate funding. I am thrilled to see the City Council lead on climate justice. My thanks, especially, to Chair Coletta Zapata and Vice Chair Weber for their leadership of this committee,” said Hessann Farooqi, Executive Director of the Boston Climate Action Network (BCAN).

“Investments in the Mary Ellen Welch Greenway and the City’s Border Street nature-based protection plan are prime examples of how the City works with neighborhoods to identify and preserve critical assets. While

storm waters can cause billions in property damage, our recent summer informed us that wildfires, extreme temperatures, and air pollution cause immediate and widespread health issues especially among the poor. The Councilor’s report is a gateway report that documents all these issues and offers practical policy responses to these and other issues. Climate advocates and policy wonks should keep it as a handy and easy-read to share with residents of our City neighborhoods,” said Philip Giffie, Executive Director of Neighborhood of Affordable Housing (NOAH).

To read Coletta Zapata’s report in full, please visit bit.ly/EJ_GCZReport. For additional information please contact the Office of Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata by phone at (617) 635-3200 or by email at gabriela.ramirez@boston.gov.

HENRY LEE (from Page 1)

their care and keeping. It is so important that the people who know these parks best have a voice in their care and I am humbled that grants will be made in my name to support people and their parks across the city.”

The fund, launched with the goal of raising a \$2 million endowment, aims to “provide small grants for tree and sculpture care and support special projects in public greenspaces in neighborhoods throughout Boston,” on an annual basis, with a designated committee reviewing all applications, according to the Friends.

Community groups, civic leaders, park advocates, and other nonprofit organizations are invited to submit funding proposals through an RFP (Request for Proposals) process, which is now open and accepting applications until Friday, Feb. 28. Grantee awards are expected to be announced in early April.

Visit <https://friendsofthepublicgarden.org/leefund-application/> for more information.



D. MURPHY PHOTO

Rep. Jay Livingstone and his wife, Julie, are seen at Henry Lee’s 100th birthday celebration at the Parkman Bandstand on the Boston Common.

NEWS IN BRIEF

ZBA APPROVES CHARLESGATE WEST PROJECT

On Tuesday, Jan. 14, the Zoning Board of Appeal approved the 2 Charlesgate West project proposed for the Fenway.

Morro, a developer of multi-family housing, has proposed a 276,000 square-foot project comprising 400 fully furnished, smaller dwelling units; 2,900 Square feet of retail at the Ipswich Street level; and indoor bike parking for 408 bikes. No onsite parking is proposed for the project, although it would create an off-street loading area.

The City Council voted by a majority during its Nov. 6 meeting at City Hall to approve an amendment filed by Councilor Sharon Durkan to exempt the proposed project from the Boston Parks Commission’s Parks and Parkways Ordinance.

The developer had intended to subdivide the project site, apparently as a way to circumvent the Parks and Parkways Ordinance.

As proposed, the site would have been divided into Lot A, fronting the Back Bay Fens, with a maximum height of 70 feet; and Lot B, fronting Ipswich Street, with maximum allowable building heights in the range of 295 feet.

DISCOVER MGH’S BLUM CENTER ON TUESDAY, JAN. 28

Discover the Blum Center, in Partnership with the Slavin Academy, on Tuesday, Jan. 28, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Blum Center, White 110, on the MGH main campus.

At this time, information on upcoming programs, a

Q&A sessions to answer your questions, and insights into the educational resources will be available to patients, families, and the community. A clinicians will also be available to educate attendees on checking their blood pressure at home and understanding how it relates to

Project Bread seeks applicants for 2025 Council of Experts

Special to the Sun

For the second year, Project Bread is building a Council of Experts with Lived Experience. Launched in 2023, the Council of Experts integrates the lived experiences of individuals and families facing food insecurity into Project Bread's decision-making, programming, and policy initiatives. The nonprofit invites residents to contribute their expertise and co-create solutions that will make it easier for others living in Massachusetts to access and afford food with dignity.

Members of the 2023-2024 cohort contributed to projects like improving evaluation tools with the research team, refining communications for The Walk for Hunger fundraiser, increasing awareness of summer hunger programs with the Child Nutrition Outreach Program, and

meeting with legislators to steward the launch of the statewide Make Hunger History coalition. Their involvement has enhanced outreach, resource sharing, policy strategy, and program development, ensuring that the needs of the community are met in a sustainable way.

"The Council of Experts inaugural cohort showed that experts with lived experiences in food insecurity can make a difference for systemic change," says Project Bread Vice President of Engagement, Catalina López-Ospina. "As a council member, you will have the opportunity to be part of strategy development, planning, and decision-making for statewide initiatives. Professional development training will strengthen your leadership skills, and your contributions will help us create impactful and effective solutions to food insecurity."

Eligibility requirements include:

- You are 17-years-old or older.
- You live in Massachusetts.
- You are active in your community and work to build strong, positive connections.
- You have time and interest to work with Project Bread staff,

anti-hunger groups, and lawmakers to create partnerships in the future (like joining coalitions).

- You feel comfortable sharing your personal experiences with food insecurity to raise awareness, inspire others, engage funders, and create change.
- You understand that end-

ing hunger and social injustice requires breaking down racist systems.

- You enjoy working with people from different backgrounds and are open to learning new perspectives.

Experts will serve on the

(PROJECT BREAD, PG. 5)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Continued from Page 3

CONGRATULATIONS, MAYOR WU

Mayor Michelle Wu and her husband, Conor Pewarski, welcomed their first daughter and third child, Mira Wu Pewarski, at 2 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 13.

"Mayor Wu wishes to express her deepest gratitude to the nurses, doctors, and healthcare staff who made this possible for her family and who work every day to support so many families across the city," according to a city spokesperson.

The newborn, arriving at 8 pounds, 4 ounces and 20 inches, joins her two older brothers, Blaise and Cass.

Mayor Wu is the first Boston Mayor to give birth while in office.

their heart health, as well as on monitoring their health at home.

All are welcome at this event where light refreshments will be served.

For more information, contact the Blum Center at 617-724-7352 or via email at PFLC@partners.org.

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/event/winter-walk-2025-boston/>.

WINTER WALK TO END HOMELESSNESS SET FOR FEB. 9

The ninth annual Winter Walk to End Homelessness takes place

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@nabonline.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://nabonline.org/committees/homelessness-task-force/> for more information on NABB's Homelessness Task Force.

JOHNSON GATES (from Page 1)

community."

The Johnson Memorial Gates were established in 1902, and are composed of two tall marble piers, balustrades and benches, and troughs which once supplied water to horses. Fenway Civic has engaged in advocacy for repairs since 2013, effecting multiple repairs and securing Community Preservation Act funding, which propelled a capital restoration of the Gates and surrounding parkland in 2019.

FCAs past

Vice President Matthew Brooks, who led conservation efforts at the park offered these comments: "The Johnson Memorial Gates have stood as an elegant entryway to the Back Bay Fens for over a century. As venerable Fenway landmarks, we endeavor to restore and protect them for the continued betterment, benefit, and enjoyment of future generations."

The recently completed

repairs finalize FCAs multi-year effort to preserve the memorial, bequeathed to the City by Ellen Cheney Johnson, save for one remaining improvement – the decorative lion's heads.

"We hope to repair some minor damage to these components and take some time to celebrate the park in 2025," stated Marie Fukuda, co-chair of FCAs Parks and Open Space committee.

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A rendering of the 69-81 Kilmarnock St. project proposed for the Fenway.

New developer proposes changes to project approved for ‘West Site’ of 69-81 Kilmarnock St.

By Dan Murphy

A newcomer to the project, an affiliate of Samuels & Associates filed a Notice of Project Change on Jan. 8 to make changes to the ‘West Site’ of the previously approved 69-81 Kilmarnock St. project in the Fenway.

The project area comprises two separate sites – the West Site, which is bound by Kilmarnock Street to the east and Queensbury Street to the south and encompasses two parcels; and the East Site, which is home to Idyl, a new 365-unit residential

building with 2,100 square feet of retail.

An approximately 86,000 square-foot, eight-story building, with around 77 residential units, was previously approved for the West Site; it was proposed by the erstwhile developers, Cabot, Cabot and Forbes and CIM Group of Los Angeles.

The NPC project now proposes a building with the same square footage but with 89 units divided into two components.

‘Component 1’ proposes approximately 45 patient-family housing units while ‘Component

2’ would include approximately 44 residential units. (The two components could be constructed simultaneously, or at different times, depending on the market and other variables.)

The Boston Planning Department will hold a virtual public meeting public on Jan. 23 at 6 p.m. while the public comment period closes on Feb. 7.

Visit <http://www.bostonplans.org/projects/development-projects/69-kilmarnock-street> to register for the meeting, to submit a public comment, or to learn more about the project.

PROJECT BREAD (from Page 4)

Council from February 2025 to November 2025, committing 10 paid hours per month. During this time, Council members will have the opportunity to learn about Project Bread’s role as a leader in the anti-hunger movement. They will collaborate with Project Bread’s teams on key programs and strategies as thoughtful partners while learning and sharpening their skills as community and civic leaders who can drive change within their communities across Massachusetts.

The application is available in Spanish, English, and Portuguese.

If you would like to receive the application in another language or as a paper form, please email us at council_experts@projectbread.org. Members will be compensated for their time and commitment. Individuals who apply and are accepted to the Council of Experts with Lived Experiences are expected to act as anti-hunger ambassadors in their communities, and to be ready to fully engage and network within the program. Immigration status is not required to apply.

Applications will be accepted through Feb. 3, 2025. For

more information and to apply to become a member of Project Bread’s Council of Experts, visit: <https://www.projectbread.org/council-of-experts>.

Project Bread, the leading statewide food security organization in Massachusetts, connects people and communities in Massachusetts to reliable sources of food while advocating for policies that make food more accessible—so that no one goes hungry. For more information, visit: www.projectbread.org.

FRESH & LOCAL

Controlling food waste

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

Food waste is a hot topic these days. More of us have taken our first steps on the pathway that will lead us to waste less food. We cannot afford to make this resolution in January and forget it by March. However, it is a lifestyle change you can decide to develop slowly over the next few years.

What’s Working for Us

As carfree city dwellers, we shop for food in the European style. We buy what we can carry or, at most, what will fit in our shopping cart. We think about one or two meals at a time rather than trying to purchase food for a week or two. We visit farmer’s markets, bakeries, and specialty stores to support small food producers.

As food writers, we’ve learned how to select and care for the food we buy. We check the dates on packages and avoid pre-packed produce when we can. At home, we transfer packaged produce, like berries, to a clean container and immediately use any damaged items.

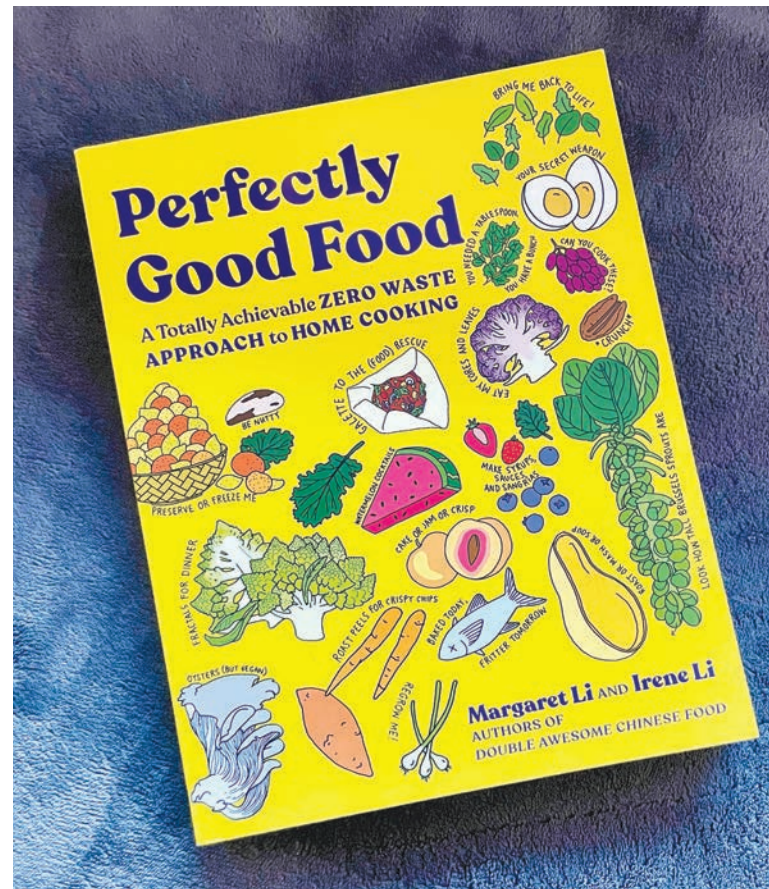
When we dine out, we often share food rather than ordering more than we can finish. We also bring our trusty little bento box container with us in case we don’t finish our food. We can also use this if we want something on the menu to take home for another meal. Most restaurants will be reluctant to put take-out in your container. However, you can order that shepherd’s pie or tiki masala with the rest of your meal and tuck it into your reusable container.

Shop Your Pantry & Leftovers

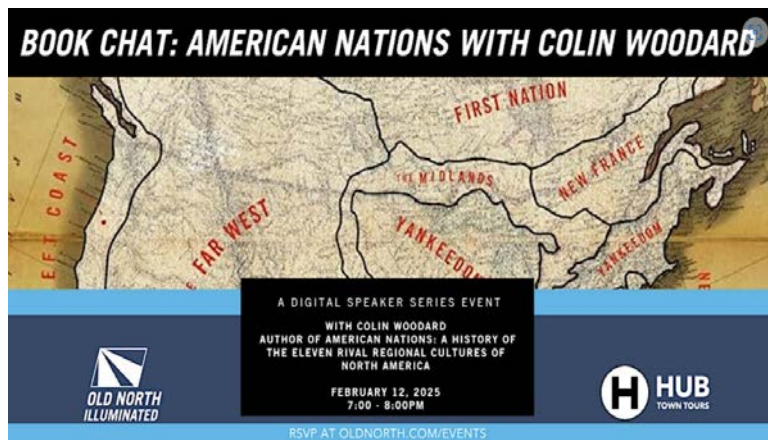
Try playing the “Use these ingredients” game, which is popular in food competition shows. However, you get to choose the ingredients. There is a joke among food writers about how many times they’ve added chickpeas to their shopping cart because they couldn’t remember if they had some.

That makes this a great ingredient to grab for your mystery supper. Now, pull out the produce, condiments, grains, and spices you love with chickpeas.

(FRESH & LOCAL, PG. 6)



“Perfectly Good Food: A Totally Achievable Zero Waste Approach to Home Cooking” can help when standing in the kitchen wondering what to make for supper.



Old North Church presents ‘American Nations’

Special to the Sun

Join New England-raised award-winning journalist and historian Colin Woodard for a special discussion of his book, ‘American Nations: A History of the Eleven Rival Regional Cultures of North America,’ on Wednesday, Feb. 12, from 7 to 8 p.m. In American Nations,

Woodard contends that North America is made up of eleven distinct nations, each with its own unique history and ideals. In this engaging book chat, he will explore how these regions, from the Deep South to Yankeedom, continue to shape America’s identity and political landscape today. Attendees are encouraged to read the book and share their

own thoughts and experiences during this lively discussion. This virtual event is accessible with a donation of any amount to support Old North Illuminated, the nonprofit that stewards Old North Church. The 2024 Speaker Series is brought to you in part by HUB Town Tours. To register, please visit: <https://www.oldnorth.com/events/>.

Annual Mayor’s Youth Summit set for February 22 at EpiCenter

Special to the Sun

Mayor Michelle Wu and the City of Boston’s Office of Youth Engagement (OYEA) announced free tickets are now available for the 2025 Mayor’s Youth Summit (MYS), an annual, citywide celebration of the contributions of young people to Boston’s culture. With support from many local, youth-serving partner organizations and City departments, the 2025 Summit will be held 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 22 at the Artists For Humanity EpiCenter, a vibrant arts center for youth, located in South Boston. The Mayor’s Youth Summit, which resumed last year under Mayor Wu’s leadership, builds on her commitment to making Boston a home for everyone and ensuring our city’s youth have the tools to reach their fullest

potential. “Boston’s future is in our young people, and we’re lucky to have their leadership and energy to build a city for everyone. We were so excited to bring back the Mayor’s Youth Summit last year for the first time in decades, and this year we will be expanding it based on high demand,” said Mayor Michelle Wu. “I look forward to another exciting summit held in partnership with local organizations doing great work with our youth.” The 2024 Summit, which was held by the City for the first time in 20 years and marked 30 years since its inception, brought over 200 youth attendees from around the city. This year, the Summit is expanding to 500 free tickets available for teens ages 14-19 and 100 tickets for adult providers in the youth work

space. It will feature free food, speakers, giveaways, and live performances from local youth of Beat the Odds and 617Speaks, among others. “The Mayor’s Youth Summit is more than just a gathering—it’s a platform to celebrate young people, showcase their talents, and build connections,” said Pedro Cruz, Executive Director of the Office of Youth Engagement and Advancement. “Together, we are shaping a city that reflects the dreams and ambitions of our future leaders.” “This annual event is a testament to the power and potential of Boston’s young people and I’m thrilled that we are able to

expand our capacity this year,” said José F. Massó, Chief of Human Services. “We invite every young person to join us and enjoy the space, while helping drive the change they want to see in Boston.” Two awards will be given at the 2025 Summit. The Youth Leader Award will honor two Boston residents between the ages of 14 and 19 years old who demonstrate high levels of leadership among their peers and/or a commitment to civic engagement. The Youth Organization Award will be given to two organizations who demonstrate exceptional dedication to empowering and supporting

Boston’s youth. “We are honored to offer Artists for Humanity as the venue for this important annual event, which celebrates and brings together youth voices and leadership. We hope the space inspires creative collaborations,” said Anna Yu, Artists for Humanity Executive Director. “We are so grateful that the City of Boston continues to invest deeply in youth engagement and youth employment.” To learn more about and reserve free tickets for the 2025 Mayor’s Youth Summit, please visit boston.gov/youth-summit.



FRESH & LOCAL (from Page 5)

Google “recipe generator,” enter your ingredients, and you’ll find

some options for supper.

Sisters Irene and Margaret Li of Mei Mei Dumpling fame have a great book to keep in your kitchen, “Perfectly Good Food: A Totally Achievable Zero Waste Approach to Home Cooking.”

The book came out of their equally helpful website, www.foodwastefeast.com. As food truck pioneers and restaurateurs, they saw how food waste impacts the bottom line and found ways to use the items you and I might have tossed to make delicious food.

“Perfectly Good Food” introduces readers to “hero recipes” like fried rice, soups, dumplings, pancakes, frittatas, and fruit crisps. Once you master the technique, you can switch up the ingredients.

Another great resource is Tamar Adler’s The Everlasting Meal Cookbook: Leftovers A-Z. This award-winning author lets

you look up what you have, including items you might not have considered using, like banana peels and almost empty food jars. The book includes more than 1,500 recipes.

Know Yourself

Will a big pot of your favorite soup keep you happy for a week, or will you grow tired after a few days and finally toss out what you haven’t eaten? If so, make smaller batches or freeze some of what you make.

If you find yourself near the checkout counter with too many impulse buys too often, consider a final stroll through the store to put a few things that might become food waste back on the shelf. If you still want it next trip, you can buy it then.

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

DR. FERNANDA SAKAMOTO GUEST SPEAKER AT BEACON HILL WOMEN'S FORUM MEETING

Photos & Story by Marianne Salza

Physician-scientist and board-certified dermatologist, Dr. Fernanda Sakamoto, MD, PhD, is passionate about helping people. She strives to build patients' confidence while improving and healing their skin. During Dr. Sakamoto's January 14 presentation at the Beacon Hill Women's Forum (BHWF) meeting at the Hampshire House, she described laser skincare treatments that reduce acne and scarring, and explained the scientific discoveries that she learned through extensive clinical studies.

"My end goal is to help patients," said Dr. Sakamoto, Assistant Professor in Dermatology at the Harvard Medical School, Wellman Center for Photomedicine, and Massachusetts General Hospital. "I love meeting and helping people."

Doctor Sakamoto believes in collaborating with intelligent individuals who she can exchange fresh ideas with and learn from. With the support of fellow dermatologists, engineers, and physicists, Dr. Sakamoto has

developed high-end laser technology that uses near-infrared light and does not interact with melanin present in the skin.

"I believe in hard work. I'm super organized. I like to be practical," asserted Dr. Sakamoto, smirking towards her dermatologist husband, Rox, who she noted is lacking in organizational skills.

In 2022, Dr. Sakamoto launched a science-based, cruelty-free cosmetic line, LightWater Skin. Although the company is no longer in business, she is considering restarting and rebranding it.

"The idea of LightWater was to create the cleanest skincare product," explained Dr. Sakamoto. "Any skincare product will have some preservatives and shelf life. Once you open the jar, they start degrading. The idea was to make something in small, single packages with zero preservatives, and the right active ingredients to make something pure. We also wanted something that would not create reactions and was sustainable. Seventy-percent of the price of your skincare is the jar, not the product. That was upsetting to me."

Doctor Sakamoto was raised in Brazil, where she maintains a cosmetic laser clinic, and is a founding member of the Dream Beam Foundation, which is presently creating a free clinic and training center in São Paulo.

She has contributed to over 30 scientific and clinical publications in peer-reviewed journals, as well as over a dozen chapters in dermatology textbooks.

Doctor Sakamoto is the recipient of the American Society for Laser Medicine & Surgery's Best Overall Scientific Award, Best Clinical Science Award, Best



Mary S., Casey Cokkinias, Richelle Gewertz, Emily Roessel, and Lisa.

Basic Science Award, the Horace Furimoto Award for Innovation, and the Ellet Drake Memorial Award for her innovative laser procedures.

"The most successful projects that we have worked on were based on simple ideas that nobody thought about before," said Dr. Sakamoto. "I think the only way for us to succeed in life is to have a good village, and that includes our work colleagues, mentors, and collaborators."

Although dedicated to her work, Dr. Sakamoto values spending quality time with loved ones. She stresses that having that foundation – as well as a canine companion, and regular exercise – will help one live a longer and more fruitful life.

"Having a healthy life should always be number one," said Dr. Sakamoto, a mother to three sons: William, 9, Charles, 8, and Andrew, 3. "Life is juggling balls: work, family, health, friends, and spirit. I learned over and over that work always bounces back."

Doctor Sakamoto's Beacon Hill neighbors have contributed to her life, as well. During the holiday season, she attended a Christmas party every other day and was excited to meet people of all ages.

"I love people. Having adult friends is hard, but you have to be open to that," said Dr. Sakamoto. "I think the beauty of humankind is finding something in common. I love that we can do that in Beacon Hill. It feels like a village."



Dr. Fernanda Sakamoto enjoying conversation with friends.



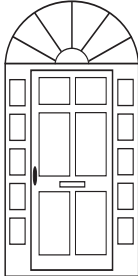
Amanda Currey, Suzanne Daley, and Dr. Fernanda Sakamoto. See Page 8 for more photos.



Tricia Stone, Co-President, Charlottee Thibodeau, President of The Beacon Hill Circle for Charity, and Richelle Gewertz, Co-President.

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DR. FERNANDA SAKAMOTO GUEST SPEAKER AT BEACON HILL WOMEN'S FORUM MEETING



Marti Hopkins and Kim Freedman.

PHOTOS BY MARIANNE SALZA



Perla Fernández Saint-Amanda, Vice President, Casey Cokkinias, new member, and Richelle Gewertz, Co-President, and Connections Co-Director.



Renata enjoying cocktail hour with friends.



Jean enjoying conversations with friends during cocktail hour.

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Kelly Wuinn and Cailey Sapienza.

Red Bull Heavy Metal comes to Boston Feb. 22

Special to the Sun

World's top street snowboarders will compete in a snowboard rail-jam competition on the steps of City Hall Plaza

Red Bull Heavy Metal is taking the world's top street snowboarders from the mountains and bringing them to Boston, creating one of the most anticipated competitions on the snow 2025 calendar. Leading the talent pool is X Games Gold Medalist, Zeb Powell. The competition will be held on Saturday, Feb 22, 2025 at City Hall Plaza from 2:30-6pmET, doors opening at 2pmET and spectating is free to the public.

Red Bull Heavy Metal is expanding to Boston for the first time ever, serving as the second iteration of the event within the 2025 calendar. After a successful 2024, the Minnesota State Capitol Building will again be home to the event, slated for Feb 1, 2025.

Powell, who has been vocal about making the mountains more accessible to inner city communities through snowboarding, was inspired by previous Red Bull Heavy Metal and wanted to bring the sport to the city that he has grown to love and call home. Boston's City Hall Plaza recent renovation creates a "too good not to ride" atmosphere for these snowboarders.

"Sharing the joy of snowboarding with the heart of the Northeast brings so much energy to the sport," said Powell. "A lot of amazing snowboarders come from around Boston and not everyone knows that. This event

exposes more people to the sport who would otherwise never know about it."

Boston's City Hall Plaza is at the epicenter of Downtown Boston and has undergone a remarkable remodel to better serve the diverse residents and visitors of the city. Led by the City's Operations Cabinet, the goal of the renovation was to move toward

a more accessible, sustainable and more connected public space that would be home to a wide range of events.

"As a city, we are all about creating exciting and energetic experiences for our residents," said Boston Mayor Michelle Wu. "Bringing together diverse communities in the heart of the city is truly something special. City

Hall Plaza is the people's plaza and I look forward to seeing it continue to thrive and serve our residents."

The official mountain and parks partner, Loon Mountain, will be providing 300 tons of snow (20 truck loads) to ensure the conditions are perfect in the city.

Originally launched in the

early 2000s, Red Bull Heavy Metal is a legendary showcase of the grit, creativity, and raw energy that defines street snowboarding. After its triumphant revival in 2022 in Duluth, MN, the event has quickly asserted itself as America's pinnacle street snowboarding competition, drawing massive crowds and glowing praise from fans and riders alike.

Each stop—be it the dynamic terrain of Duluth (2022), the historic streets of Detroit (2023), or the steps of the Minnesota State Capitol Building (2024)—has delivered unforgettable moments, cementing its reputation as one of sport's most exhilarating events.

The unique competition hosts top male and female riders while encouraging creativity and inventiveness on unforgiving features, such as rails, stairs and benches, that may look more at home in a skate park. Last year saw Egan Wint and Luke Winkelmann take home top prizes while Minnesota native and the unofficial host of the event, Benny Milam was named runner-up. Milam is thrilled to welcome the world's best back to his home state and return to the top of the podium, where he stood after Red Bull Heavy Metal Duluth in 2022.

"Since the revival of Red Bull Heavy Metal, the state of street snowboard contests are booming," said Milam. "It's really

(RED BULL HEAVY METAL, PG. 10)



Zeb Powell catches some air during the 2024 Red Bull Heavy Metal held in St. Paul, Minnesota last February.

Rockland Trust launches its 21st annual Scholarship Program

Special to the Sun

Rockland Trust is pleased to announce the launch of its 21st Annual Scholarship Program. This program is open to students who are enrolling in part-time or full-time post-secondary studies for the first time at an accredited two—or four-year college, university, or vocational-technical school for the entire upcoming academic year (2025-2026). Rockland Trust will award up to sixteen \$3,000 renewable scholarships this year. Applications are available online at RocklandTrust.com/Scholarship.

"It's an honor that for 21 years Rockland Trust has been able to provide scholarships for students across our service area.

It reaffirms our commitment to individuals through the power of education," said Andrea Borowiecki, Vice President of Charitable Giving & Community Engagement. "By providing these opportunities to advance post-secondary learning, we continue to invest in the potential of our communities and the bright futures of those we serve."

Applications will be considered based on financial need, academic performance, and unusual personal or family circumstances. Applicants must reside in a county Rockland Trust serves. To learn more about guidelines, and eligibility criteria, and access the application, please visit RocklandTrust.com/Scholarship.

The Rockland Trust Char-

itable Foundation's mission is to strengthen the communities served by the Bank. We enable individuals and their families to access opportunity and improve the quality of their lives. To date, the Foundation has distributed more than \$30 million in grants to qualified non-profit organizations in the communities served by Rockland Trust. For information about the Rockland Trust Charitable Foundation, please visit www.RocklandTrust.com/CharitableGiving.

Independent Bank Corp. (NASDAQ Global Select Market: INDB) is the holding company for Rockland Trust Company, a full-service commercial bank headquartered in Massachusetts. With retail branches in Eastern

Massachusetts and Worcester County as well as commercial banking and investment management offices in Massachusetts and Rhode Island, Rockland Trust offers a wide range of banking, investment, and insurance services to individuals, families, and businesses. The Bank also offers a full suite of mobile, online, and telephone banking services. Rockland Trust was named to The Boston Globe's "Top Places to Work" 2024 list, an honor earned for the 16th consecutive year. Rockland Trust has a longstanding commitment to equity and inclusion. This commitment is underscored by initiatives such as Diversity and Inclusion leadership training, a colleague Allyship mentoring

program, and numerous Employee Resource Groups focused on providing colleague support and education, reinforcing a culture of mutual respect and advancing professional development, and Rockland Trust's sponsorship of diverse community organizations through charitable giving and employee-based volunteerism. In addition, Rockland Trust is deeply committed to the communities it serves, as reflected in the overall "Outstanding" rating in its most recent Community Reinvestment Act performance evaluation. Rockland Trust is an FDIC member and an Equal Housing Lender.

ICA Watershed launches 2025 season with Chiharu Shiota's powerful installations that reflect on home and migration

Special to the Sun

This summer, the Institute of Contemporary Art/Boston (ICA) opens the 2025 Watershed season with Chiharu Shiota: Home Less Home, on view May 22 through Sept. 1, 2025. The exhibition features two large-scale installations by the Berlin-based, Japanese artist Chiharu Shiota (born 1972 in Osaka, Japan), including the debut of a new commission made for the ICA Watershed. Shiota foregrounds universal stories of migration, home, connection, memory, and survival. Her signature approach combines intricate, immense, and web-like installations built of thread and rope with quotidian objects—such as shoes, suitcases, beds, chairs, dresses, and keys—that serve as symbols for human pres-

ence and memory. Chiharu Shiota: Home Less Home amplifies the ICA Watershed as a unique space for public art in Boston and will be included as part of the inaugural Boston Public Art Triennial. The exhibition is the artist's first solo presentation in New England and is organized by Ruth Erickson, the ICA's Barbara Lee Chief Curator and Director of Curatorial Affairs, with Brianne Chapelle, Curatorial Department Coordinator.

"Shiota's awe-inspiring installations address themes of migration and home that resonate meaningfully with the Watershed's location in East Boston and beyond," said Erickson. "She uses common materials to imbue her work with profound and personal connections. We

are honored to be able to invite Boston audiences to participate by sharing an image or story of their personal experiences of leaving one home and finding another, adding another meaningful dimension to this important exhibition."

Visitors to the exhibition will first encounter the installation Accumulation—Searching for the Destination (2014/2025), which the artist has adapted to fill the monumental scale of the Watershed space. In this powerful work, dozens of vintage suitcases are suspended from red rope, some vibrating and shaking with the turbulence of anticipation. For Shiota, who brought only one suitcase when she moved from Japan to Berlin in 1996, the suitcase symbolizes the starting point of a new journey.

The exhibition then leads to the artist's newly commissioned work, Home Less Home. Within a field of red and black ropes forming the shape of a house in space, Shiota suspends thousands of documents, including those contributed by local Boston participants. These passports, letters, photographs, immigration papers, and messages hover above vignettes of domestic furniture selected and arranged by Shiota.

For her new work, Shiota invites individuals to share sto-

ries and images of what home means, what it feels like to leave home, and what it takes to rebuild it. The collection of personal images and stories will take place in the spring of 2025 through partnerships with local community organizations and an open call to East Boston residents from the artist and ICA. Together, these works consider the journey towards one home and away from another.

Chiharu Shiota: Home Less Home will be included as part of the inaugural Boston Public Art Triennial, the city's first and only public art event set to run every three years from May to October.

Chiharu Shiota (born 1972, Osaka, Japan) is a Berlin-based Japanese artist who has been working at the intersection of performance, sculpture, and large-scale installation since the 1990s. Shiota is internationally renowned for her large-scale installations, which she has exhibited globally, with recent solo presentations at the Nakanoshima Museum of Art, Osaka, Japan (2024); Fundació Antoni Tàpies, Barcelona, Spain (2024); Hammer Museum, Los Angeles (2023); Queensland Art Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane, Australia (2022); ZKM | Zentrum für Kunst und Medien, Karlsruhe (2021); Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongare-

wa, Wellington (2020); Mori Art Museum, Tokyo (2019); and Gropius Bau, Berlin (2019). Her work has also been included in numerous group shows and international exhibitions, including the 56th International Art Exhibition at the Venice Biennale (2015) where Shiota represented Japan with her installation The Key in the Hand.

Since its founding in 1936, the ICA has shared the pleasures of reflection, inspiration, imagination, and provocation that contemporary art offers with its audiences. A museum at the intersection of contemporary art and civic life, the ICA has advanced a bold vision for amplifying the artist's voice and expanding the museum's role as educator, incubator, and convenor. Its exhibitions, performances, and educational programs provide access to the breadth and diversity of contemporary art, artists, and the creative process, inviting audiences of all ages and backgrounds to participate in the excitement of new art and ideas. The ICA is located at 25 Harbor Shore Drive, Boston, MA, 02210. For more information, call 617-478-3100 or visit our website at icaboston.org. Follow the ICA on Facebook, Instagram and TikTok.



PHOTO BY GUAN MING LIN

Accumulation—Searching For The Destination.

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RED BULL HEAVY METAL *(from Page 9)*

cool to watch the event grow year over year from a small park in Duluth, Minnesota to where it is now, traveling to new cities like Boston."

The event will feature three differentiated competition zones, each highlighting different aspects of street snowboarding. Riders will tackle custom-designed rails, gaps, and creative features that will challenge even the most experienced snowboarders. More information about the three zones will be shared closer to the event.

The full list of confirmed riders will be announced at redbull.com/heavymetalbos in the coming weeks.

Similar to past events, Red Bull Heavy Metal will once again open the competitor's field to the public with a Last Chance Qual-

ifier being held at Loon Mountain. More information, including date and registration details for the qualifier, will be released at redbull.com/heavymetalbos in the coming weeks.

"With growth comes change and that change means back to back Red Bull Heavy Metals in the same year," said Milam. "I'm really excited to watch this event turn into a mainstream event in

the world of snowboarding."

The single day contest will take place on Saturday, February 22 at Boston's City Hall Plaza in Boston, MA. Gates open at 2pm and the event is free and open to all spectators. Red Bull will also release video content to recap and support the event for those who cannot be in attendance.

Visit Redbull.com/Heavy-MetalBOS for more information.



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Turkey Realty LLC	Sukhtian, Marlyne	717 Atlantic Ave #2A	\$864,000
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TSA publishes final rule on REAL ID enforcement

Special to the Sun

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) published a final rule providing a framework for federal agency phased enforcement of REAL ID requirements. Federal agencies, including TSA, will begin REAL ID enforcement on the deadline—May 7, 2025. Starting on May 7, only state-issued driver's licenses and identification cards that meet the security requirements established by the REAL ID Act will be allowed for official purposes, including boarding commercial aircraft. The final rule provides necessary flexibility for federal agencies to begin enforcement in a manner that takes into account security, operational risk and public impact.

Federal agencies that use a phased enforcement approach must also coordinate their enforcement plans with TSA and make them publicly available on agency websites. TSA will

provide additional information about its use of phased enforcement authority on TSA.gov.

“Congress passed the REAL ID Act in 2005 to enhance security standards for identification, directly in response to the security vulnerabilities highlighted by the 9/11 attacks,” said TSA Administrator David Pekoske. “Identity verification is foundational to security. I urge those who use a driver's license or state-issued identity card as their primary form of identification to access federal facilities or board commercial passenger aircraft, to ensure these credentials are REAL ID-compliant. We are committed to engaging with the public, licensing jurisdictions and states to facilitate a smooth transition to REAL ID enforcement beginning May 7, 2025, which this rule supports.”

All states are issuing REAL ID-compliant driver's licenses and identification cards. TSA

continues to urge travelers to obtain a REAL ID-compliant state-issued driver's license, state-issued identification card or another form of acceptable ID before May 7, 2025 to avoid delays at airport security checkpoints.

The REAL ID Act, enacted pursuant to a 9/11 Commission recommendation, established minimum security standards for state-issued drivers' licenses and identification cards that federal agencies may accept for purposes of boarding federally regulated commercial aircraft, accessing certain federal facilities and entering nuclear power plants. Enforcement of the REAL ID Act and regulations enhances the security of these documents and the ability of federal agencies to accurately verify an individual's identity.

For more information on REAL ID, please visit TSA.gov/real-id.

Attention to Detail

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY PENNY CHERUBINO

THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The last clue's tile detail is on the cloister walkway at BU's Marsh Chapel. This is a publicly accessible example of the Guastavino tile arch. Architect Rafael Guastavino patented this structurally strong and fireproof system in 1842, and it was used in many Boston buildings, including the Boston Public Library in Copley Square.

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

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

THIS WEEK'S CLUE



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