

THE BOSTON SUN

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

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BOSTON BOOKS & FRENCH FASHION



PHOTOS BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

SOUTH END AUTHORS BOOK FESTIVAL: On April 4 at the Tenants Development Corporation, residents and attendees got to meet local authors and discuss their works, as well as their history with the South End. On the right, Carilyn Crockett, author of 'People Before Highways,' speaks to the gathering on how neighborhoods banded together to stop the I-95 Innerbelt project that would've destroyed many communities, including the South End. On the left, Lynne Potts with her book 'A Block In Time.' See more photos on Page 4.



PHOTO BY KEIKO HIROMI

FRENCH CULTURAL CENTER FASHION SHOW: A CASE OF CONTRASTS: The French Cultural Center partnered with December Thieves boutique of Beacon Hill to host a clair-obscur-themed fashion show at the center on Friday, April 6. The fashion show was curated by Lana Barakat, owner of December Thieves, featuring seven emerging designers, including Boston-designer Christian Restrepo. Clair-obscur is an artistic term meaning the contrast of light and dark. See more photos on Pages 6 and 7.

USES picks South End developer as preferred buyer for Tubman House

By Seth Daniel

The United South End Settlements (USES) has chosen South End developer New Boston Ventures, under Southenders David Goldman and Dennis Kanin, as the preferred buyer for the Harriet Tubman House building at 566 Columbus Ave.

USES Executive Director Maicharia Weir Lytle and New Boston's Goldman both said they were very excited about working out the deal – which will include a by-right 65-unit residential building with 17 percent affordability on top of

subsidized commercial space.

Goldman said New Boston has a long history in the South End carefully restoring and building projects such as The Modern, The Lucas and the Allen Mansion House. He said that care has gone into the planning for their successful bid, and it will go into the execution of the project.

“We started working with leaders and activists in the neighborhood while we worked on our proposal,” he said. “We are very mindful of the history contained at the Harriet Tubman House and all the significance of that build-

ing...Our proposal exceeds the City's requirement for affordable housing. We also will be looking at using 50 percent of the commercial space as affordable commercial space for non-profits to keep a non-profit presence on the site. We will be deeding some of the space back over USES...What we've proposed is very, very much of a reflection of what we heard when we were meeting with people in the community.”

The proposal features 65 units of residential with commercial space on the first floor, and it will

(TUBMAN HOUSE, Pg. 8)

Cathedral of the Holy Cross shines bright after two-year renovation

New worship space to debut Palm Sunday

By Seth Daniel

If there were ever an appropriate phrase for the massive renovation of the Cathedral of the Holy Cross in the South End, it would be, ‘Let there be light.’

That scripturally appropriate phrase is also very appropriate for the astonishing \$26 million renovation performed – and now completed – at the Cathedral on Washington Street, the home church of the Archdiocese of Boston.

After closing the main sanctuary for renovations in May 2017, the Cathedral will re-open this Sunday, April 14, for Palm Sunday Masses with Cardinal Sean O'Malley. The opening will also feature a blessing for the Marathon runners as well.

“We are thrilled to re-open the doors of our Cathedral to the South End and all of Boston, not just as the spiritual home for

Boston's Catholics but also as a community center and resource to all our neighbors,” said Very Rev. Kevin O'Leary, Rector of the Cathedral.

Walking into the new sanctuary space, one is awe-struck by the brightness, the light color palette on the walls, the new lighting and the unbelievably ornate and gilded vaulted ceiling.w

Much of the Cathedral's sanctuary was drab and very dark before the renovations – with unfortunate paint jobs over things like the ceiling and some of the back gilding behind the altar.

All of those things and more have been corrected, said spokesman Michael Kieloch.

“Every square inch has been touched by some sort of work,” he said. “There isn't anything here that hasn't been worked on in some way...Everything here is now

Foodie's building sells to development team for \$10 million

By Seth Daniel

An out-of-town residential development team has purchased the building housing Foodie's Market from M. Hernandez-Santibanez for \$10 million, but the owner of Foodie's said he doesn't plan on going anywhere in the near term.

Developers John Lubitz, of

Cohasset; Mark Epker, of Dedham; and Leo Corcoran, of the South End; have purchased the 1421 Washington St. building recently for the striking \$10 million sum.

Efforts to reach the team, including Epker by phone, were not successful.

It isn't certain what they plan to do with the property, which sits at

a key corner beside the Cathedral of the Holy Cross, but the developers seem to have been focused on residential buildings in the past.

Foodie's owner Vic Leon said he had discussed buying the building in the past, and even recently, but it wasn't feasible at the prices being offered.

“All I know is we're on a lease

(FOODIES, Pg. 2)

EDITORIAL

GUEST OP-ED

COLLEGE DEBT IS A NATIONAL CRISIS AND DISGRACE

One of the clearest indications of the growing income and wealth inequality in our nation is the level of college debt that is being incurred by the vast majority of the current generation of college students and recent graduates.

According to one study, student loans total an astounding \$1.5 trillion, a figure that represents the largest source of debt for Americans after home mortgages.

The recent college admissions scandal has highlighted what is common knowledge, namely, that the rich are able to gain admission into elite colleges for no other reason than their extreme wealth.

But the flip side of this story is that the wealthy not only can pay huge sums to bribe their kids' way into these schools, but also that they can afford to pay the full fare without worrying about financial aid or loans.

However, admission into elite colleges is not even the tip of the iceberg in terms of the issue of paying college expenses. Public college and universities used to be affordable alternatives for lower-income and middle-class students. But given that state and federal funding for higher education has been on a steady, downward plunge since the 1980s, state schools of higher education now have little money for scholarships, even for needy students.

As a result, today's young people are graduating with an average debt of \$50,000. \$100,000 in loans is not an uncommon figure -- and these are graduates from state universities.

There also are two other factors that are compounding the negative effects of high student debt: According to a recent study, young adults today earn \$10,000 a year less than their counterparts did in 1989. In addition, the interest rate on that \$1.5 trillion of debt is around seven percent -- a figure that is far higher than almost any other kind of consumer debt.

This situation not only is tragic -- and that is not too strong a word to use -- for our young generation, but it also holds profound consequences for the future of our country.

With such high levels of debt, young people are marrying later in life and having fewer children. Their college debt means that they will be unable to buy homes, which not only ultimately will have a depressing effect on the housing market and the economy, but will render the achievement of the American Dream all but impossible for this generation.

With the Baby Boomers reaching full retirement age, there also is this question: Who is going to pay for the Boomers' Medicare and Social Security costs if today's young people are so financially overburdened?

The Green New Deal proposed by Sen. Ed Markey and others not only is about saving our environment, but it also aims to give young people a fighting chance to get out from under the crushing burden of student debt and exorbitant tuition bills.

America is the only major country that imposes these debts upon its young people -- and the time may have come to end it now.

THE BOSTON SUN

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It's a Guarantee: high-quality Pre-K for all

By Mayor Martin J. Walsh

On April 2, we made a promise: in five years, Boston will achieve high-quality Universal Pre-Kindergarten for every four-year-old in the city. In the last five years, we've added 750 pre-K seats that are high-quality, and proven to close the achievement gap. Now, we're going to be investing \$15 million in our new Quality Pre-K Fund, which will close the high-quality gap by adding an additional 750 high-quality seats in Boston Public Schools, and community-based organizations.

Through this commitment, we'll be able to achieve our goal: a high-quality Pre-Kindergarten seat for every 4-year-old in the City in the next five years.

To make Boston a place where everyone can succeed, we need to start at the very beginning. The moment a child is born, they need high-quality resources and a safe place to call home. And when they set foot into the classroom, they need a strong foundation to set them onto the path to success. We must make sure that every single child, from every background and neighborhood, can get a strong start in life.

Access to high quality pre-K should be a guarantee, for every single family in Boston, regardless of income or background.

Boston's approach to pre-K is a national model in early childhood education, and we have

proven success in closing achievement gaps. It's because we offer some of the most comprehensive and high-quality programs in the country. Our teachers are trained to support students of all cultural backgrounds, they encourage critical and creative thinking, and they put the needs of our students first.

And the lessons children learn don't just stay in the classroom -- they have lasting impacts, all the way from kindergarten to college and beyond.

Every year, we've been working to expand this successful approach with the goal of reaching every single four-year-old in the City.

When I took office, we were facing a gap of 1,500 high-quality seats. Ensuring equal access to high-quality pre-kindergarten became one of our top priorities. We couldn't have done it without the partnership and dedication of educators, partners, organizations, and many more.

One of the first steps we took was creating a UPK Advisory Committee. The Committee gathered input from families, educators, and stakeholders. Their recommendations have been our guiding light in how we've taken steps to expand access to high-quality pre-K.

We've invested in new pre-K seats every single year since 2014, despite constraints on our budget and available classroom space. In our most recent budget for FY19, we designated \$850,000 to devel-

op 80 pre-K seats, together with community partners.

We learned that community-based organizations are central to our UPK strategy. We wanted to make sure we were building something to last and truly serve our communities. And today, we're providing more options for working families, right in their own neighborhoods. Because of our work, over the last six years, our initial gap of 1,500 seats has been cut in half. And now, this new fund will help us close the remaining gap, and achieve Universal high-quality Pre-Kindergarten in the City of Boston.

This isn't just about making enough seats available -- because if that were the case, we could have already achieved Universal Pre-K. This is about ensuring that every single pre-K seat we offer is a high-quality one that closes opportunity and outcome gaps -- and gives all of our children an equal chance at a strong start in life.

Our work isn't done. We're going to continue to develop our programs and pay attention to the needs of our students. We're going to continue to seek partnerships to help us make our programs even better.

Any time we can make an investment in a young person, it's a step forward for our entire city.

And it's an investment worth making.

FOODIES (from pg. 1)

attached to the store and emotional about it. My grandfather delivered groceries to the markets here in the South End by horse and buggy, so we go back a long way."

He said he has been in touch with the new owners, and is working with their lawyers.

He said the business has been strong in the last year or more, after having been challenged by the Whole Foods corporation in Ink Block. He said he has seen a good reaction to the return of beer and wine to the store as well.

"I think we're viable and the neighborhood needs us and we enjoy being in the neighborhood," he said. "We have a lot of employees from the neighborhood that work here."

The underlining zoning for the Washington Street corridor includes a height maximum of 70 feet, so anything larger would require a major planning process



The building housing Foodie's Urban Market has sold to an out-of-town development team, who recently purchased the building from long-time owner M. Hernandez-Santibanez for \$10 million.

and excessive height has been an issue of late on the corridor -- particularly with the 14-story Alexandra Hotel project.

Mayor Walsh announces FY20 transportation investments

By Lauren Bennett

Mayor Martin Walsh announced on April 5 his plans for transportation investment for the fiscal year 2020, with an emphasis on safety, reliability, and accessibility. Investments include bike lanes, sidewalks, and the management of parking meters.

The City of Boston launched a parking performance pilot in 2016 in the Back Bay and the South Boston Waterfront, where meter rates were adjusted to see the effect on parking. In the Back Bay, a consistent price was applied over a larger area, and Chief of Streets Chris Osgood said that the results of the pilot “were on point with what we were trying to achieve.” He said that 30 percent of congestion in the city is people hunting for parking, and in the Back Bay they were able to reduce double-parking by 14 percent and reduce illegal parking by 22 percent.

“If you’re going to the Back Bay, you’re actually likely to find a spot now,” said Boston Transportation Department Commissioner Gina Fiandaca, adding that it improves public safety for pedestrians and cyclists as well. Osgood said that as a result of the pilot, there was a higher rate of turnover and more cars were able to get to the curb area. There has also been a 7 or 8 percent reduction in certain violations citywide, and revenue has increased even with the decrease in issuance of violations.

As a result of the pilot, Osgood said that they are going to implement a “more holistic approach for the entire city” starting on July 1 of this year. Meter rates in places like Beacon Hill and the South End

will be \$2/hour, which Osgood said will help reduce congestion for people looking for parking, as well as “free ups curbside parking spaces for less double parking.” The current rate in these areas is \$1.25/hour. In places like Fenway/Kenmore, where there’s a very high demand for curbside parking, the rate will be raised to \$2.50.

Osgood said that these changes will increase revenue for the city (and estimated \$5 million) and improve people’s commutes. He also said that they will continue to collect revenue (10 cents per ride) from Transportation Network Companies like Uber and Lyft in order to help fund transportation projects, and an additional \$200,000 will be invested in the bus lane program.

The City will also invest \$4 million in sidewalk repairs and reconstructions, and further expand the BlueBikes program to bring more stations to more neighborhoods, Osgood said. This is part of GoBoston 2030, which includes ensuring that every Boston resident lives within a ten minute walk of a BlueBikes Station.

There will also be an \$800,000 increase in investment in safety and cleanliness, with the installation of new types of signage and rapid flash beacons, as well as an increase in the overall maintenance capacity in the city, Osgood said. More bike lanes will also be created and maintained. \$300,000 will be invested in electric vehicle chargers, in order to bring them to more neighborhoods in the city so they can be accessed by the public.

Fiandaca said that as of right now, there is no thought of a fee being implemented for resident

permit parking, but “we’re always open to conversations with the community,” she said. She said that the approach to resident parking is in line with GoBoston 2030, and “a lot of work is being done with the MBTA to give people alternative ways to get around.”

“Investing in transportation that works for everyone—whether you walk, bike, take public transportation or drive—is our key goal as we continue to improve transportation in Boston,” Mayor Walsh said in a press release. “Creating an equitable city with opportunity for all means ensuring residents can move easily and safely around Boston, and these new investments, from bike lanes to reconstructed sidewalks, will go a long way towards ensuring Boston’s streets and spaces are safe, reliable, and accessible for all.”

Boston Marathon Road Closures

The Boston Marathon and Patriot’s Day Parade will be held on Monday, April 15. The BAA 5K and the Invitational Mile will be held on Saturday, April 13. Street closures and parking restrictions will be in effect in the Back Bay, Beacon Hill, Brighton, Fenway/Kenmore, North End, and Government Center. See <http://thebostonsun.com/2019/04/10/boston-marathon-2019-traffic-advisory/> for a full list of road closures, parking restrictions and traffic restrictions for Saturday through Monday. Also note that there will be temporary suspension of USPS mailboxes along the marathon



Scan me to view road closures

route. Boxes will be pinned shut at the time of the last collection of mail on Friday, April 12 and reopened on Wednesday, April 17.

Cathedral of the Holy Cross Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday, April 14

- Mass in English, 8 a.m.
- Mass in Spanish, 9:30 a.m.
- Solemn Mass with Blessing of Palms/Blessing of the Runners, 11:30 a.m. (with Cardinal Sean O’Malley).

Tuesday, April 16

- Chrism Mass, 11 a.m. (with Cardinal O’Malley).

Wednesday, April 17

- Office of Tenabrae, 7 p.m.

Holy Thursday, April 18

- Bi-Lingual Mass of the Lord’s Supper, 7 p.m. (with Cardinal O’Malley).
- Sung Compline (BSC), 11:30 p.m.

Good Friday, April 19

- Morning Prayer (BSC), 9 a.m.

- Live Station of the Cross through the South End, noon, meet in front of the Cathedral.

- Liturgy of the Lord’s Passion in English, 3 p.m. (with Cardinal O’Malley).

- Liturgy of the Lord’s Passion in Spanish, 7 p.m.

Holy Saturday, April 20

- Morning Prayer (BSC), 9 a.m.
- Via Matris (Stations of Mary – BSC), 10 a.m.
- Solemn Vigil of Easter, 8:30 p.m. (with Cardinal O’Malley).

Easter Sunday, April 21

- Mass in English, 8 a.m.
- Mass in Spanish, 9:30 a.m.
- Mass in Latin (OLC), 10 a.m.
- Solemn Easter Mass, 11:30 a.m. (with Cardinal O’Malley).

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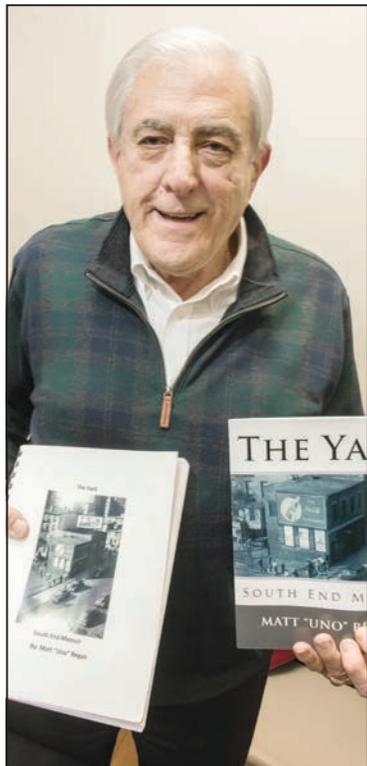
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FOURTH ANNUAL SOUTH END AUTHORS BOOK FESTIVAL

Photos by Derek Kouyoumjian

The fourth annual South End Authors Book Festival gave attendees the chance to meet writers who live or have lived in the South End and have access to their work. There were stories from many perspectives about the historic neighborhood of the South End. The event was held at the Tenants Development Corporation community room on Thursday, April 4.



Matt "Uno" Regan and his South End memoir 'The Yard,' both manuscript and finished product.



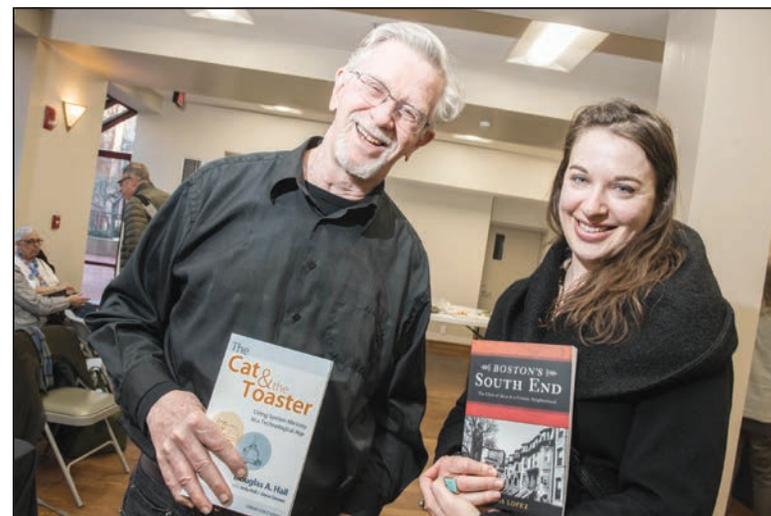
Veronique-Anne Epiter performs her composition 'The Treasure' - a song she wrote for everyone that ever was a child. She has also written the book 'Moon Fever,' a collection of poems, short stories, and other writings.



South End author Blackfoot Warrior with his wife, Mai Chang, and his work "Homeless" - a book of poetry of his experiences.



Tony Piccolo chats with Broncille and Charles Caizzi, writer of South End memoirs 'Just So You Know' and his latest, 'Just For The Fun Of It.'



Doug Hall bought 'The Cat And The Toaster' and Lisa Gordon picked up a copy of 'Boston's South End' by Russ Lopez. Lisa Gordon is working on a book now about Dr. Cornelius Garland, an African-American doctor who opened Plymouth Hospital in the South End.



Pictured above, State Rep. Jon Santiago with one of the event organizers, Alison Barnet.

Pictured to the right, Bonita McIlvaine (right) with her book '5 Squares,' a memoir about growing up in the South End in the 1960s, and her most favorite creation, her daughter Mia.



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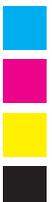
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 ZANNY MINTON BEDDOES Editor-in-Chief of The Economist Mon. Oct. 21, 2019 Wed. Oct. 23, 2019	 SUSAN RICE Fmr. Nat'l Security Advisor & U.N. Ambassador Mon. Mar. 16, 2020 Wed. Mar. 18, 2020
 BOB WOODWARD Washington Post Investigative Journalist Mon. Nov. 18, 2019 Wed. Nov. 20, 2019	 JASON ALEXANDER Seinfeld's George Costanza Actor & Comedian Mon. Apr. 27, 2020 Wed. Apr. 22, 2020
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Applicant proposes to open recreational marijuana dispensary at Little Steve's Pizzeria site

By Dan Murphy

The applicant behind opening a proposed recreational marijuana dispensary in the present location of Little Steve's Pizzeria unveiled its plans during a community meeting Tuesday at the Hilton Boston Back Bay.

Todd Finard, a Greater Boston area native and CEO of Boston's Finard Properties, outlined the proposed plans at this time to open the facility called Cypress Tree Management at 1114 Boylston St. with lifelong friends Victor Chaing, a hedge fund investor; Carlos Costeo, a construction safety manager; and Eric Liebman, who helped found the Boston-area Boloco fast food chain.

"We are all business people who have been investing for a long time," Finard said. "We live here and we work here."

Cypress Tree Management also plans to open another recreational cannabis dispensary in Newton, as well manufacturing and packaging facilities in Fitchburg and the southern part of the state, Finard said.

As for the current home of the pizzeria, which is slated to close this year after more than 50 years in business, the plan includes taking over the building's first two floors and basement, which total 7,800 feet.

"This allows us all the room to ensure that we don't have lines outside," Finard said. "There will be an internal-self contained queuing system, as well as express pickup."

(Some citizens in attendance expressed doubt, however, that this could be achieved on the days of concerts and events at Fenway Park.)

Upon entering the establishment, would-be customers would be asked for ID to validate they are of age using a state-of-the-art scanning device before taking their place in a virtual line. They would then be notified once their orders are available via text.

Rick Nagle, a former Massachusetts State Trooper the company has hired to oversee security, said this would take two forms — physical, which includes cameras and alarms; as well as less com-



The current home of Little Steve's Pizzeria and proposed future site of Cypress Tree Management at 1114 Boylston St.

mon "operational security," which includes training employees and constantly making changes to help the operation run more smoothly.

As for possible mitigation for the neighborhood, the team has already to the Fenway Civic Association to ensure that local residents are given priority for hiring, and that the work force be diverse.

Finard said his team chose the proposed because of its easy accessibility to the MBTA Green line, several bus lines, ample parking and the heavy foot traffic already there, but this did little to alleviate the concerns of some in attendance.

Several clergymen from St. Clement Eucharistic Shrine at 1105 Boylston St. said prevalent smoking of marijuana was already a problem in the area and fear that the dispensary would exasperate the problem.

"There will be no smoking on site and in way, shape or form would we tolerate smoking outside the store and will ban offenders from the business," Nagle responded. "We're going to be very vigilant."

Tim Horn, president of the Fenway Civic Association board of directors, said the proposed site is a bad location for a cannabis dispensary, adding that a nearby liquor store had closed amid community concerns. He also anticipates that smoking marijuana in the Fenway Victory Gardens. would become more commonplace with the dispensary's opening.

In contrast, Kevin Crampton, a 35-year resident Charlesgate East, expressed his strong report for the current location.

Addressing concerns that potent edible marijuana products could result in hospital visits for users, Jay Youmans, an attorney representing the applicant, said, "Any person who that happens to is one too many

so this is something that we take very seriously." He added that the product packaging would be clearly marked and sold in child-proof containers to keep them out of unintended hands.

The company will also launch a website so residents can reach out with their concerns and suggestions, including the location of a proposed pick-up and drop-off location, Youmans said.

Yissel Guerrero, Mayor Martin J. Walsh's liaison to the Fenway neighborhood, said the city would sponsor its official public meeting

on the application April 29, when the team will attempt to address some of the community concerns they heard.

Meanwhile, Fenway resident Marie Fukuda expressed her frustration with what she described as the seemingly piecemeal approach to rolling out proposals for marijuana dispensaries to the community.

"I'm really frustrated with the process...and seeing these come one at time," Fukuda said. "Because of the way the law is written, we don't get that choice."

Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
BACK BAY			
Sweig, Jonathan M	Jammen, Michael T	133 Marlborough St #2	\$1,575,000
Sweig, Jonathan M	Jammen, Michael T	133 Marlborough St #2A	\$1,575,000
Sylvia, John F	Coerver, Harrison F	17 Marlborough St #3	\$1,710,000
BEACON HILL			
Kang, Hai	Henderson, Horace	67 Hancock St #4	\$1,653,189
Wenyi T	Henderson, Horace	67 Hancock St #5	\$348,231
Wenyi T	Henderson, Horace	67 Hancock St #6	\$370,902
Wenyi T	Henderson, Horace	67 Hancock St #7	\$343,696
Wenyi T	Henderson, Horace	67 Hancock St #8	\$361,833
Wenyi T	Spillane, Mary E	67 Hancock St #9	\$602,149
Hussey, Philip	Manning, Frank	36 Pinckney St	\$3,100,000
SOUTH END/BAY VILLAGE/KENMORE			
Bowker, Haley	Sola, Jessica L	73 E Berkeley St #1	\$380,985
Chastain, David	Fitzgerald, Maura	64 E Brookline St #7	\$999,000
Oppenheim, Jason P	Stone, James D	82-84 E Brookline St #6	\$1,260,000
Carney, Allen	Lang Hallett Gerhard RET	485-495 Harrison Ave #402	\$1,300,000
Serwin, Janine K	Salem, Patricia	49 Milford St #2	\$750,000
Collier, Earl M	Huh, Kyung S	45 Province St #1602	\$1,555,000
Geraghty, Brian F	148 West Newton Unit 2	148 W Newton St #2	\$2,225,000
Stebbens, Margaret W	Kane, Ellen D	45 W Newton St #4	\$699,000
Bennett, Melissa	79 Waltham Street 3 LLC	79 Waltham St #3	\$830,000
Wen, Eric Y	Lexicon Government Svcs	15 Worcester Sq #2	\$888,000
Lexicon Government Svcs	Harley, Brian F	15 Worcester Sq #2	\$888,000
Wells, Anne W	Knowles, Dillon	8 Yarmouth St #1	\$1,250,000
WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN			
Clifford, Meghan	PC&Z LLC	326-328 Commercial St #52	\$585,000
Millennium Beyond LLC	Prosperous Land LLC	1 Franklin St #1902	\$921,000
Millennium Beyond LLC	Prosperous Land LLC	1 Franklin St #2002	\$930,000
Millennium Beyond LLC	Prosperous Land LLC	1 Franklin St #2102	\$931,000
Zhang, Bingyin	Tower Properties LLC	1 Franklin St #3409	\$1,525,000
Randle, John C	Mckee, Patrick M	103-109 South St #5C	\$1,750,000
Woo, Kit O	Dumas-Suffolk RT	151 Tremont St #26S	\$625,000

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FRENCH CULTURAL CENTER HOSTS CLAIR-OSBOURNE FASHION SHOW

Photo by Keiko Hiromi

The French Cultural Center partnered with December Thieves boutique of Beacon Hill to host a clair-obscur-themed fashion show at the center on Friday, April 6. The fashion show was curated by Lana Barakat, owner of December Thieves, featuring seven emerging designers including Boston-designer Christian Restrepo.

Restrepo and Anastasia Ikonnikova of Nuit were present at the show, launching their spring collections. Clair-obscur is an artistic term meaning the contrast of light and dark.

“Our goal was to offer the audience an authentic, immerse fashion experience, as if they are attending a show in Paris,” said Adrien Argentero of the French Cultural Center.

Guests were greeted with wines from Provence Imports and hours d’orves from Colette, sibling to Frenchie and Petit Robert Bistro of the South End.



Above, Make-up artist Ashley Pimente (grey sweater) putting foundation on model Cassie Jekanoski before the show. To the right, Ran Moore and Pamela Graves-Moore.



Above, Damon Brassford of Holiday Boutique, and Lana Barakat of December Thieves. Below, Janet and Caroline Collet.



Hitoshi Minato, Evelyn Beato and Ruben Casanova.



Raja-Elie Abdounour, Christo Shalish, Julie Nijmeh and Heloisa Fitzgerald.

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FRENCH CULTURAL CENTER HOSTS CLAIR-OSBOURNE FASHION SHOW



Lindsay Hills, Erin Robertson and Nick Grieco.



Above, Designer Anastasia Ikonnikova of *Nuit*, *Passage Crampton*, Lana Barakat of *December Thieves*, Rebecca Larios, Jamesii Delande and designer Christian Restrepo. To the left, Loic Le Garrec and Melanie Berent of *Colette*.



One of the models presenting her outfit.

Applicant outlines plans to open Boylston Street recreational dispensary

By Dan Murphy

The applicant proposing to open a recreational marijuana dispensary in the heart of the Back Bay outlined their plans during a public meeting sponsored by the city Monday night at the Copley Branch of the Boston Public Library.

Michael Dundas, founder and CEO of Sira Naturals, told the capacity crowd that the company intends to open the facility at 829 Boylston St. between the Apple Store and Walgreens Pharmacy. Sira Naturals currently operates medical marijuana dispensaries in Cambridge, Somerville and Needham, as well as a cultivation and manufacturing facility with a commercial kitchen in Milford.

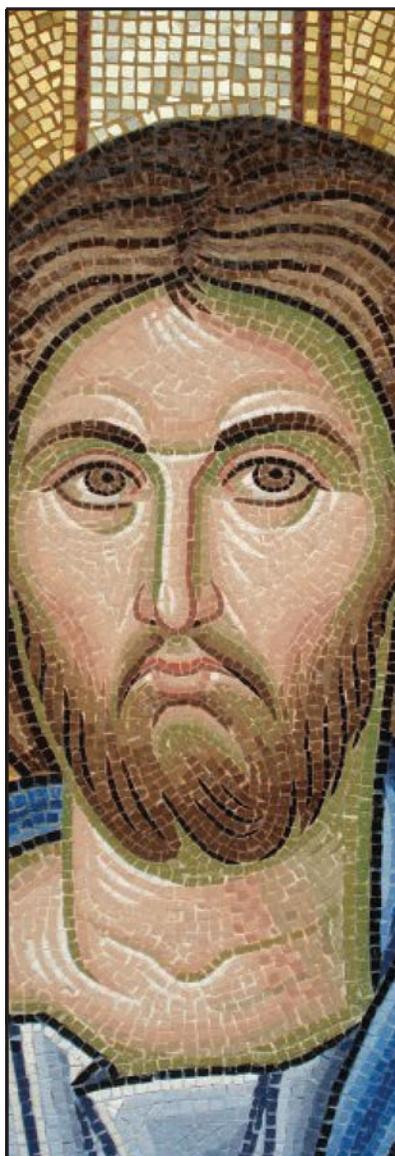
“There are 51 stores coming to

the City of Boston, whether you like it or not,” Dundas said. “It puts the neighborhood in a difficult position...because you have to look at the location and proposed operator as well.”

Dundas said Sira Naturals would renovate the entire building where it hopes to open on Boylston Street “to give it the look and feel that the neighborhood deserves,” and that the store would have separate entrance and exit doors to create “a circular flow of customers through the building.”

The store would aim to keep the same hours of operation as Sira’s other dispensaries, daily from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., but Dundas said he would be willing to negotiate that with the community.

(SIRA, Pg. 8)



Holy Week at Saint Cecilia Church

Palm Sunday of the Lord’s Passion

*Masses are at 5:00 p.m. (Saturday), 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., and 6:00 p.m.

Holy Thursday

8:00 a.m. | Morning Prayer
7:30 p.m. | Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper
*Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 10:00 p.m.
10:00 p.m. | Night Prayer

Good Friday

8:00 a.m. | Morning Prayer
3:00 p.m. | Stations of the Cross
7:30 p.m. | Solemn Liturgy of the Passion of the Lord

Holy Saturday

9:00 a.m. | Morning Prayer
8:00 p.m. | The Great Vigil & First Mass of Easter

Easter Sunday

*Masses are at 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., and 11:30 a.m.
6:00 p.m. | Paschal Vespers

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TUBMAN HOUSE (from pg. 1)

be done according to zoning on all points, including height, said Goldman.

“We intend to build it according to the existing zoning as of right – which means it will be no higher than 70 feet,” he assured.

As tribute, the new proposed development will be known as Tubman Place.

Both parties are now in the midst of negotiations to work out a purchase and sales agreement that would indicate the price and the other stipulations on the sale.

Weir Lytle said the designation is something they are excited about, noting that they had at least 40 tours of the building by developers and a good list of finalists to

choose from.

“We do feel good about the designation,” she said. “We have been going through a very long, 18-month process to evaluate our real estate. Throughout that, we’ve explored all options and feel this is a good thing. We feel very good about New Boston Ventures. Their proposal is in line with the RFP with a significant focus on the community benefit, which is what stood out about them...The community benefit was a very important feature to us...They also have a mix of housing that exceeds the City’s minimum for affordable housing. We were also very interested in that they made a large commitment to using minority capital so the minority community

will have a direct financial stake in the project. The team was a very diverse team of people also.”

Said USES Board Chair Julia Johannsen, “After a thorough review of more than nine responses to our RFP, our real estate committee of board members, community members and industry experts recommended New Boston Ventures based on many qualifying factors, notably, their experience building mixed-income residential developments and their well-earned reputation for contributing to the communities in which they build. Their proposal demonstrates a high-level understanding of the community and the diversity within the South End. As a result, the Board of Directors voted to enter into this

next phase.”

A very important piece of the agreement includes preserving the mural on the outside of the Tubman House.

“We will look to either re-create or move the existing mural on the building if possible,” said Goldman. “If not, we will photograph it and reproduce it within the community exhibit space in the building.”

Also, there is proposed to be a social enterprise café on the first floor that will be named the ‘Hi Hat’ – a nod to the famous jazz café that once stood on the site.

They also plan to include community benefits to local organizations like IBA, and intend to sit down with Tenants Development Corporation (TDC) to try to work out the affordable component of the development – which exceeds the City’s requirement by 5 percent.

Goldman added that if one includes the affordable commercial space, their affordability requirement goes well above 20 percent.

“Honestly, we want to make this easy for the community and USES,” he said. “I think it’s a very good proposal for the community and I want people to know what we’re doing. I think a lot of people will be relieved.”

The team working on the project for New Boston Ventures includes a great deal of diversity, Weir Lytle and Goldman said.

The development team includes President of the Minority Developers Association Richard Taylor, President of the Massachusetts Minority Contractors Association Beverley Johnson, former head of the Boston Elections Commission Jovita Fontanez, architects Jonathan Garland of J. Garland Enterprises and Nancy Ludwig of Icon Architecture and the South End real estate firm Sprogis & Neale.

“Knowing USES for as long as I have, I can appreciate the difficult decisions that they’ve had to make to secure the future of the organization. I also understand the many different feelings around this sale; however, USES remaining in the South End and continuing its legacy in service to children and families is critical,” said Fontanez.

Weir Lytle said proceeds from the sale would go towards preserving and promising a future of serving families and children in the South End and Lower Roxbury. Another portion would be dedicated to upgrading the 48 Rutland St. campus, and making it into the new Harriet Tubman House.

“Proceeds from the sale will go to ensuring the future of the organization and making certain we continue to serve children and families,” she said. “Part of the proceeds will go towards building the Harriet Tubman House...We could be breaking ground mid- to late-2020.”

A rosy Green and White Ball blossoms at The Four Seasons

Staff Report

As the weather warms and buds begin to bloom, the Friends of the Public Garden prepares for its signature springtime gala, the Green and White Ball, to be held on Friday, April 26, at Four Seasons Hotel Boston. The Green and White Ball raises funds to provide care for the Boston Common, Public Garden and Commonwealth Avenue Mall – the mission of the Friends since its inception almost 50 years ago.

The Honorary Chair for this

22nd annual black-tie gala is Peter A. Brooke, whose late wife Anne Brooke played an integral role in the organization and this event for many years. The co-chairs, Beacon Hill’s Ashley Harmon, Amanda Pratt, Jessica Schmitz and Lisa Taffe, will welcome around 300 guests to enjoy a lively cocktail reception with signature drinks and passed hors d’oeuvres, a three-course dinner in the stunning Four Seasons ballroom, and dancing with the band Night Shift. Event partner Marc Hall Design will dazzle guests with his floral inspiration for this year – the rose.

Last year’s event raised \$650,000 for the care of the Boston Common, Public Garden and Commonwealth Avenue Mall. Funds raised allowed for the installation of “smart” irrigation systems in the Garden and Mall to conserve water and promote healthy trees and lawns. In a recent test, this new system proved to save over 44,000 gallons of water in just one panel of the Public Garden.

To learn more about the Green and White Ball, visit www.friendsofthepublicgarden.org.

SIRA (from pg. 7)

Dundas said the Back Bay facility would offer only recreational marijuana to start, but would possibly sell medical cannabis in the future. “It’s impossible for organizations to survive selling only medical marijuana,” he added.

On their busiest days, Dundas said Sira’s other dispensaries serve between 400 and 500 people, but he anticipates the foot traffic would dissipate as more cannabis shops open.

The store would also adopt a virtual queue system based on Apple’s Genius Bar to help facilitate sales, Dundas said.

Mike Mershimer, a security specialist hired by the company, said that his firm would undertake “a wall-to-wall, thorough risk assessment of all its facilities.”

Said Mershimer, “They go above and beyond, and they’re spending a lot of money to bring us in.”

State Rep. Jay Livingstone underscored the importance of thoroughly vetting the manager for the Back Bay facility who has yet to be named.

In response to concerns raised by those in attendance that people smoking marijuana in and around



The proposed future home of Sira Naturals at 829 Boylston St.

the Commonwealth Avenue Mall, Dundas said his staff would aim to educate customers.

“We will remind [customers] that smoking outside is illegal, and that we want to be good neighbors,” Dundas said. “We can probably take proactive steps so that people don’t use it in the neighborhood.”

Dundas also said Sira Naturals would be held accountable if their product got into the hands of underage users.

“We believe cannabis is not a panacea...and there is a growing body of research that cannabis is not good for the developing brain,” he said.



Public Meeting

1252-1270 Boylston Street

Monday, April 22

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

300 Fenway

Simmons University
Main College Building, Room C101
Boston, MA 02115

Project Proponent:

Scape Boylston, LLC

Project Description:

Scape Boylston, LLC proposes an approximately 235,095 square foot, approximately 175 foot tall mixed-use building including 533 academic accommodations and ground-floor retail.

mail to: **Tim Czerwienski**
Boston Planning & Development Agency
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201
phone: 617.918.5303
email: tim.czerwienski@boston.gov

Close of Comment Period:
5/8/2019

CATHEDRAL (from pg. 1)

more vibrant and lighter and more accessible.”

Another key element is a brand new front worship space with a quatrefoil cross embedded in the brand new stone floor. The altar and baptismal in the front space is much more open and light – and great pains were taken to match the new elements with the classic altar.

“I think the truly amazing part is the new combination altar and baptismal blend so well together,” he said. “The new elements come together seamless with the 19th Century high altar in the back. You can’t tell one is from the 1870s and one is from 2019...They actually did some research and found the quarry in Italy where the stone for

the high altar came from and used that stone for the new elements. They really wanted to get the appearance just right.”

Even the scrollwork behind the altar is an overlooked, but very interesting, part of the renovation. While it had been painted over, preservationists were able to look at old black and white photographs to see what the back of the altar looked like. They used those photographs to recreate the design that is now on the walls.

The 19th Century German stained glass windows were also fixed, improved and preserved. Those windows are one of the largest collections of German stained glass in North America, and Kieloch said the detail in fixing

BAA Foundation kicks off new campaign with \$1M towards health and wellness

By Lauren Bennett

The Boston Arts Academy held an event hosted by Mayor Walsh on April 4 to officially launch its “Building Our Future” campaign, which hopes to raise \$30 million in five years to support the public arts high school. At the event, two gifts totaling \$1 million, one from the Lewis family and one from an anonymous donor, were announced. The gifts will support fitness, health, and wellness at the school, with the \$500,000 Lewis family gift being recognized by naming the new fitness center after Donna Harris-Lewis’ late husband, Dr. Reginald “Reggie” Lewis of the Boston Celtics. The anonymous gift of \$500,000 will support the school’s Health and Wellness Program.

The Boston Arts Academy broke ground on its brand new, state-of-the-art facility in September of last year, which will replace the 100 year old postal warehouse that previously served as the school building. The new school will open in September of 2021.

“After more than two decades, the Boston Arts Academy remains a vibrant haven for learning and artistic expression for almost 470 diverse and talented students,” said Lee Pelton, President of Emerson College and chair of the BAA Foundation Board. He explained the importance of arts and arts education in the City of Boston: “On a per capita basis, this city has more arts and culture than any other city in the country and 18 million people attend Greater Boston arts and culture events each year, which is enough to sell out Fenway Park 488 times,” Pelton said.

Mayor Walsh praised the BAA Foundation Board and thanked them for all the work they do to support the arts. Walsh said that it is important for students to have choices for where they want to go to school. He told a story of a student who transferred to BAA from Boston Latin School because it was not a good fit for her—“it’s about creating an opportunity for our young people to experience and learn what they want to learn and experience,” Walsh said. “That’s what this school’s about.”

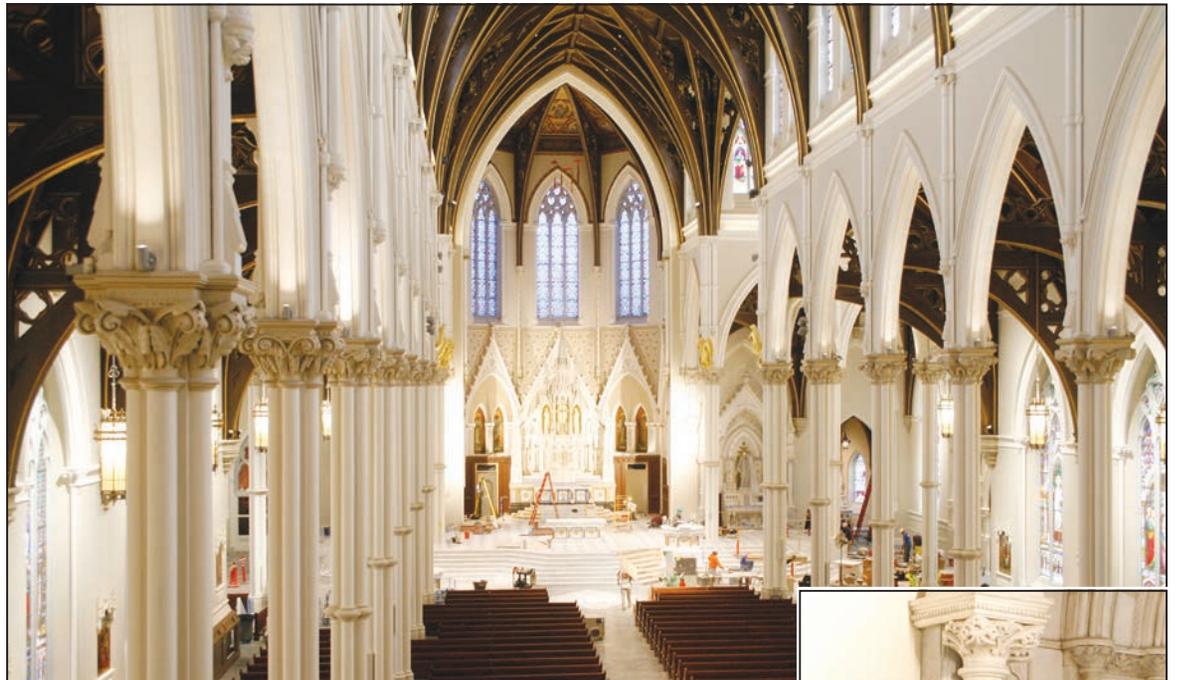
Walsh said that a recent federal study found that arts and culture contributes \$800 billion each year to the United States economy—more than agriculture, tourism, and construction, he said.

Lee Michael Kennedy of Lee Kennedy, Co., the construction company for the project, gave a construction update at the event. “This is first class, state-of-the-art stuff,” Kennedy said. “You’ve seen it come down. It came down quick. Now it’s going to look like we’re not doing a whole bunch,” he said, eliciting laughter from the crowd.

Kennedy said that there are 70 existing concrete piles that have to be removed, which he said was “slow work.” He said they will then have to install new piles and remove dirt. “So it will look like six months of us just driving equipment around the site,” Kennedy said.

He said that so far, they are getting along with the neighbors, which he said is a big part of their job. “We want to remain friends.” He thanked the project architects,

(BAA Pg. 11)



The astonishing, \$26 million renovation of the Cathedral of the Holy Cross reveals a much lighter, more ornate worship space now that the two-year project is completed. The Cathedral sanctuary will debut this weekend for Palm Sunday Masses.

them was incredible – even in windows at the very top that people would like never see up close.

The most important component, however, was that they were able to include new fire suppression systems, a new heating system, a new cooling system, a new video camera system and important handicap access upgrades.

“There are a lot of things that are really important that we did that people might not be able to see, but they are critical,” said Kieloch. “The electrical system was in big trouble. We had 1940s wiring grafted onto 1920s wiring. A lot of the people working on this said if we hadn’t done this now, we might not have had a Cathedral in the near future.”

Not to be lost is the cleaning and repair of the massive, 5,900-pipe Hook & Hastings organ. That will be unveiled in full later in the summer when construction dust has been fully cleared out.

One nice touch for the community is that they decided to have all of the stained glass windows backlit so that they can be seen prominently at night as people travel up and down Washington Street.

“Now, it will stand out at night like the landmark it is and hopefully it makes it look more inviting too,” he said.

The architect for the project was Elkus Manfredi and the general contractor was Suffolk Construction.



Very Rev. Kevin O’Leary said he is excited to re-open the Cathedral to the community after two years of renovations.

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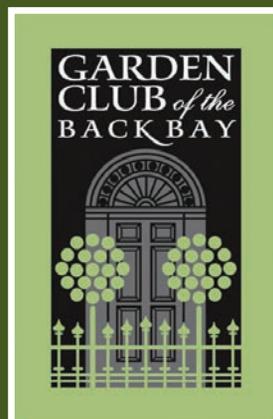
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NEWS BRIEFS

SOWA MARKET RETURNS MAY 5

The SoWa Open Market, on 460-540 Harrison Ave., will kick-off its 16th season on Sunday, May 5. Every Sunday, from May through October, more than 175 makers and thousands of visitors converge in SoWa, amidst a vibrant backdrop of artist studios, galleries, boutiques and vintage shops.

This season will feature the return of the SoWa Beer Garden. Created in partnership with Craft Collective, a different local brewer will take over the taps each Sunday. Brewers will include Fiddlehead Brewing Company, Single-Cut Beersmiths, Finback Brewery, Banded Brewing and many more. Keep an eye out for special events and guest appearances, such as our Mother's Day rosé pop-up with The Urban Grape and our annual Oktoberfest party hosted by Schilling Beer Company. The family and pet-friendly beer garden will also feature live music, lawn games, and Boston's favorite food trucks. In addition, SoWa will continue to host a DIY Workshop series, where visitors can sign up for instructional classes led by a SoWa vendor, and will continue partnerships with local charities via collaborative activations, such as performances by Urbanity Dance, interactive painting with

Artists for Humanity, a More Than Words book swap, and kick'n it with South End Soccer.

For information on weekly happenings, please visit: www.sowaboston.com/calendar/.

ONE LESS GUN IN BACK BAY

On Friday, April 5, officers assigned to the District D-4 (South End) Drug Control Unit were conducting an undercover drug investigation in the area of Copley Square when officers observed the suspect, Rashjeem Benson, 36 of Boston, engaged in what appeared a drug transaction.

Specifically, officers observed Benson selling Class B Drugs (Crack Cocaine) in the area of 885 Boylston St. After observing the transaction, officers approached Benson and, after identifying themselves as Boston Police Officers, asked if he was dealing illegal drugs. Benson immediately became uncooperative and refused to comply with the officer's commands to place his hands behind his back. After a lengthy struggle, officers were able to handcuff and subdue Benson. A search revealed a loaded .44 caliber revolver that was later determined stolen out of Nashua, N.H., on March 11.

Benson is charged with Unlawful Possession of a Firearm, Unlawful Possession of a Firearm during the

Commission of a Felony, Unlawful Possession of Ammunition, Distribution of Class B Drugs (Crack), Resisting Arrest, Assault and Battery with a Dangerous Weapon on a Police Officer and Receiving Stolen Property.

BOSTON POLICE RECRUIT INFO SESSION

The Boston Police Department will hold an information session and next steps meeting for potential recruits for the Department.

The session will take place on Tuesday, April 16, at 6 p.m. in the Bolling Building, 2300 Washington St. (Dudley Square).

Get information on new recruit fitness standards, the Civil Service Selection process and the anticipated BPDA hiring/time lines. Space is limited. Register online at EventBrite.

RED SOX SEASON OPENER

The Red Sox kicked off the home season with their first home game Tuesday. Other upcoming home games include:

- April 11 vs. Blue Jays at 7:10 p.m.
- April 12 vs. Baltimore Orioles at 7:10 p.m.
- April 13 vs. Baltimore Orioles 1:05 p.m.
- April 14 vs. Orioles at 1:05 p.m.

BERKELEY STREET GARDEN CLEAN UP – SUNSHINE!



PHOTO COURTESY SARAH HUTT

The Berkeley Community Garden, a member of the Trustees, held its annual spring kickoff event, the Cleanup and Cookout/Potluck. A large crowd attended and everyone had a fantastic time on a rare sunny day. Also attending were State Rep. Aaron Michlewitz, Councilors Annissa Essaibi-George and Ed Flynn, as well as Mayoral Liaison Faisa Sharif.

April 15 vs. Orioles at 11:05 a.m.

BACK BAY HAPPENINGS

•The Garden Club of the Back Bay, the Boston Parks Department, and the Boston Fire Department will be dedicating a cherry tree and installing a memorial plaque at 298 Beacon St. to Honor Edward J. Walsh and Firefighter Michael Kennedy who lost their lives fighting a fire at that address on March 26, 2014. The dedication will be on April 18 at noon.

•Spring Fun Party! Come celebrate spring with the Friends of

the Clarendon Street Playground. Join us for an egg hunt, coffee and donuts and a visit from the Easter Bunny. The fun all takes place on Sunday, April 13, at 11 a.m. in the Clarendon Street Playground. Volunteers are needed to hide eggs at 9 a.m. To help with the event, please call (617) 247-3961 or email playground@nabonline.com.

•The NABB Police Panel/Public Safety Forum will take place on April 25, 6 p.m., in the sanctuary of the First Church in Boston, 66 Marlborough St. For more infor-

(NEWS BRIEFS Pg. 15)

For the Record

From the April 9 Zoning Board of Appeals meeting, City Hall:

- 113-115 Marlborough St., Back Bay. Applicant: Gabriel Sunshine

Purpose: Interior renovations including structural, fire alarm, all new finished and proposed new roof deck.

- 103-105 Newbury St. Applicant: Frazer 103 Holdings LP

Purpose: Add outdoor patio seating for 18 seats. Add one restaurant with use item 37 with take-out use 36A, and outdoor patio seating. Interior occupant load of 49 persons.

From the April 10 License Board hearing, City Hall:

STEPHI'S ON TREMONT LLC D/B/A: STEPHI'S ON TREMONT; 571 TREMONT St., South End. Holder of a Common Victualler 7 Day All Alcoholic Beverages License has petitioned to transfer the license from the above - To: 571 Tremont, LLC (at the same location) On first floor on one room, main dining area, bar, private dining area and restroom with storage, kitchen and restrooms in basement. Seasonal (April-November) outdoor patio on DPW Land. Jefferson Macklin, Manager. 1 a.m. Closing Hour. Lastly, has petitioned to pledge the license to DT Capital, LLC.

From the April 11 One Day License Amendment hearing, City Hall, 10 a.m.:

•Rebel Restaurants d/b/a Tony C's Sports Bar, 1265 Boylston St., Fenway, have applied for a one day amendment to open at 8 a.m. to serve food and alcoholic beverages on Marathon Monday April 15. Hours of operation would be from 8 a.m. – 1 a.m.

•The Catered Affair, Inc, d/b/a The Catered Affair at the Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St. Back Bay, have applied for a one day amendment for a wedding on April 27, the cocktail reception will start at 7 p.m. and run until 8 pm, the dinner will start at 8 pm, the bar will re-open after dinner when the dancing starts at about 10 pm until 1 am, the bar will close at 1 am with a soft beverage service until 1:30 a.m., all guests out by 2:00 am.

•Backlash Taproom LP d/b/a Backlash Beer Co. 152 Hampden St. Newmarket, have applied for a one day amendment to extend closing hour until 1 a.m. for a public show (community arts/music), on May 4.

From the April 11 Public Improvement Committee meeting, City Hall, 10 a.m.:

On a petition by TC Systems Inc. for a Grant of Location with lead company status and no participants to install new telecommunication conduit with City shadow within the following public ways in Boston Proper:

Clarendon Street – generally southeast of Public Alley no. 435.

Public Alley no. 435 – from Clarendon Street to a point southwesterly, at the rear of no. 115 Newbury Street.

From the April 12 South End Landmarks Site Visit, Albany Street, 8 a.m.:

Previous Site Visit on 02/21/2019, Previous Hearing 7/3/2019
587 Albany Street Proposed Work: 587 Albany Street Proposed Work: Demolish existing structure and construct a new multi-unit residential building.
Previous Site Visit on 02/21/2019, Previous Hearing 7/3/2019.

From the April 16 Licensed Premise Violations hearing, 10 a.m., City Hall:

•BB SOCIAL CLUB, LLC, D/B/A: BACK BAY SOCIAL CLUB, 867 BOYLSTON St., Back Bay.
02/05/2019 Premise operating outdoor seasonal patio against restrictions.
•CHARLESMARK HOTEL LLC, D/B/A: CHARLESMARK HOTEL, 655 BOYLSTON St., Back Bay.
02/05/2019 Operating seasonal patio outside of Licensing Board Restrictions (food and alcohol service).

From the April 17 St. Botolph Landmarks Commission, 5:15 p.m., City Hall:

DESIGN REVIEW
•25 Follen St. #4 Proposed Work: Install new roof deck
•258 West Newton St. Proposed Work: At front façade, remove fire balcony. At rear of structure visible from a public way, modify previously approve rear doors, eliminate transoms. Construct two balconies on first and second floor; construct a fence at rear patio.
•7 Harcourt St. Proposed Work: At front façade, remove existing granite step and replace with new granite that is level with the sidewalk.

ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEWS

145 St. Botolph St.; 32 Garrison Square; 56 St. Botolph St.; and 7 Harcourt St.

COMMUNITY MEETING FOR PROPOSED MARIJUANA ESTABLISHMENT:

There will be a community outreach meeting for a proposed marijuana establishment on April 23 at 6:30 p.m. The Proposed Marijuana Establishment is anticipated to be located at: Brookline Avenue, Fenway. There will be an opportunity for the public to ask questions.

NEWS BRIEFS (from pg. 14)

mation, contact publicsafety@nabonline.com.

•Hop over to Fairmont Copley Plaza on Sunday, April 21, and celebrate Easter in a grand style this year. The Fairmont is hosting an extravagant, family-friendly brunch buffet with multiple seating options at 10:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. As a special treat for the little ones, children can hunt for over 1,000 Easter eggs throughout the hotel, interact with adorable farm animals from Enchanted Animal Parties, enjoy an arts and crafts section, and get creative at a decorate-your-own-cookie station. Plenty of family photo opportunities inside the luxurious setting of Fairmont Copley Plaza.

SOUTH END DATES

•The Worcester Square Area Neighborhood Association (WSANA) and the Blackstone Franklin Square Neighborhood Association will hold a combined social mixer on April 16, at 6 p.m., in Estragon (Harrison Avenue). There will be free appetizers.

•United South End Artists will present an Art Marathon on Sunday, April 14, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. in studios throughout the South End. Log on to USEAboston.com for details and locations.

•The Ellis South End Neighborhood Association Board of Directors will meet on Tuesday, April 23, at 6:30 p.m. at One Chandler

Street.

•The East Berkeley Neighborhood Association (EBNA) will meet on April 16, at 6:30 p.m. in Project Place, second floor. This month, there will be a development update from UDR, developers of 345 Harrison Ave. There is more to come on this project, and they will explain. Historian Russ Lopez will be on hand to talk about the history of East Berkeley. Finally, there will be a major discussion on the long-anticipated two-way Washington Street plan.

•The Worcester Square Area Neighborhood Association will meet on Tuesday, April 23, in Boston Medical Center's Menino Pavilion at 7 p.m. New location, look for the signs to the surgical suite. Also WSANA will be holding elections on May 28 for the executive board. Anyone interested can send an email to the nominating committee, Peter Sanborn, peter_sanborn@comcast.net, and Sahar Zaheer, sahar.zaheer@gmail.com.

Trash contract is up for review, City said to be mulling a change

By Seth Daniel

The City of Boston's Public Works Department (PWD) is in the midst of re-evaluating a new five-year trash pickup contract – set to make a decision between two major contractors in the next week or so.

The City said right now they are in the final stages of completing the new trash collection contracts, and believe they will be done in mid-April. Beyond that, they hope to have the new contractor chosen and a contract signed.

The current contractor is Sunrise Scavenger, who took the contract five years ago from East Boston's Capitol Waste Services. Now, both companies are vying for the downtown contract for the coming five-year period.

When Sunrise won the contract five years ago, it was to applause from some downtown neighborhoods as Capitol had a spotty history with the cleanliness of their pick-ups – particularly on smaller streets or in alleys of the South End and Back Bay.

Some neighborhoods have indicated many of those problems have dissipated since Scavenger came on as the contractor.

While the official contract isn't completed and City officials would not confirm it, word on the street

was that Capitol seemed to have the edge in the process as they are said to have had a much lower bid in so as to win back the business.

An official announcement is expected within the next two weeks.

Steve Fox of the South End Forum said trash issues were paramount at the Forum when Capitol was the contractor. He said he is hoping that Sunrise is able to keep the contract.

"I am very concerned about changing the vendor based on our experience before Sunrise and our experiences with Sunrise," he said. "Our experience between the two over a 10-year period was night and day...Now that we've experienced them under the new contract, we know what a positive performance looks like. We won't expect anything less in the future."

In a related matter, the City is also evaluating the contract for disposal – meaning where the trash trucks take the trash to get rid of it.

The City has used Wheelabrator Technologies in the Rumney Marsh on the Lynn side for many years. A second bidder has emerged in Lynn's Covanta Energy. Both are vying for the contract with Boston – the largest trash contract in the area.

Neither contracts involve commercial trash pickups, only residential.

BAA (from pg. 6)

Perkins Eastman and Wilson Butler, for their "beautiful design work."

"Come the summer of 2021, we will deliver this building, fully commissioned, highest quality humanly possible," Kennedy said.

"When I visited the school I saw the magic," said Donna Harris-Lewis, local philanthropist, donor, and member of the "Building Our Future" Campaign Cabinet. "I said, how special is this? And the only thing I could think of was, we have this here in Boston? So guess what? We have to show the world that we can do this... that we can have the number one high school for performing and visual arts."

Sean Curran, BAA Foundation Board Member, said that BAA headmaster Anne Clark has said that "the city we have is a wonderful city and talent is distributed equally throughout the city, but

D-4 POLICE NEWS**UNWELCOME GUEST**

On Monday, April 1, at around 4:30 a.m., police responded to a call to investigate a person at a commercial building at 10 St. James Ave.

Earlier in their shift, officers had received two separate radio calls involving the same suspect at that location, and following the second incident, security guards issued a no-trespass order to the suspect.

Police read the suspect his Miranda rights, placed him under arrest for trespassing and transported him to D-4 headquarters for booking.

The suspect is scheduled to appear in Boston Municipal Court.

WRONG NUMBER

On Monday, April 1, at about 4:50 p.m., officers responded to a radio call for suspected fraud at the Sprint store at 422 Boylston St.

On arrival, the victim told police

he had closed his account there in November, but his social security was used to open an account the following month. The victim added that he hasn't been charged any money, and that the account was been paid to date.

In order to cancel the account, the victim was advised that he needed to complete a police report.

SNEAKY SNEAKER SALESPERSON

On Tuesday, April 2, at approximately 2 p.m., police responded to a radio call for a larceny at Nike-town at 200 Newbury St.

Upon arrival, officers spoke to the loss prevention specialist who said an employee had been stealing from the store by filing fraudulent refunds from November of 2018 until last month totaling \$2,897. He also the store has computer records and security records of the fraudulent refunds.

opportunity is not," Curran said. "We seek to close that gap permanently...we seek to deliver onto our students in their city the finest...purpose-built arts high school in the entire country."

Headmaster Anne Clark told the Sun that the new school building is "a dream come true."

"We've waited a very long time for this moment to arrive," Clark said. "...we were in the old postal warehouse for 20 years and were doing great work there and we have amazing students and amazing teachers but for them to have a purpose-built arts facility will change everything."

Clark expressed her gratitude for the \$1 million donation towards health and wellness at the new building, as there was previously no fitness center at the old

school. "We didn't even have a gym, which is a challenge because as a public school, physical education is a state requirement." She said that though the dancers were getting physical activity, the other students ran up and down stairs and did calisthenics in an assembly hall. Physical education "is an important part of health and wellness in any young person, but especially a young artist," she said.

Clark said she was "very grateful" to the Massachusetts School Building Authority and the City of Boston for providing the building. "But facilities don't stay new forever," she said, "and we also need to make sure that we have the teachers and the equipment and the programming to make amazing things happen in the building—that's what this is all about."

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