

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2020

THE BOSTON SUN

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

SERVING BACK BAY - SOUTH END - FENWAY - KENMORE

Diverse group on both sides of Mass. Ave. looks to get attention to quality of life issues

Thursday standout message: Enough is enough on Mass/Cass

By Seth Daniel

Yahaira Lopez has watched over the last few months as her mother, who lives on Washington Street in the South End, has just grown mentally exhausted from all of the quality of life issues at her stoop – whether it’s cleaning up feces, dodging drug needles, being scared by street people knocking on her door or any of the other indignities suffered by residents of all walks of life in this, one of the worst summers yet seen for drug use and homelessness on the Mass/Cass corridor.

Lopez said she grew up on the

corner of Massachusetts Avenue and Washington Street and her mother has lived there more than 20 years. Lopez has started visiting her mother nearly every day now, and has realized that conditions outside their long-time home are taking a toll on not just her mother – but other residents (rich and poor), businesses and those working in the area.

“I grew up right here and went to the schools here, and lived in Roxbury most all of my life,” she said on Monday. “I was here in the 1990s and so I know what the South End was like then too. We’ve seen it, sure, but I don’t think it’s been this exposed. To say it’s the impact of COVID-19, I don’t think so. Before COVID-19 was a hindrance, it was getting worse every year.

“My mom is exhausted and she’s worried about retaliation because I’ve been speaking up for her,” she continued. “I do get worried how my mom and others are dealing mentally with this situation. I’ve told her she should move, but she’s been here 20 years. To her, this is her home. It’s where she gets medical care and where her pharmacy is at and where her friends are. I have to figure out how my mom can stay in her community without having to choose between empathy and complacency.”

While many residents for many years have been involved in trying to figure out a better solution with City and non-profit leaders for the drug and homelessness epidemic that has grown over the

(STANDOUT, Pg. 4)

WHAT’S IN A NAME? KENNEDY NAME NO LONGER ENOUGH TO BEST VETERAN SEN. MARKEY

Markey wins 24 of 29 downtown precincts decisively

By Seth Daniel

Political pundits will be scratching their heads for weeks as they analyze the numbers and trends

that propelled U.S. Senator Ed Markey – once labelled dead in the water – to a clock-cleaning victory over Congressman Joe Kennedy III.

U.S. Senator Ed Markey pulled out a big win statewide, citywide and in the downtown neighborhoods on Tuesday, Sept. 1, over Congressman Joe Kennedy III – beating Kennedy decisively in 24 of 29 precincts in the downtown.

Kennedy kicked off his campaign more than a year ago in the South End with State Rep. Jon Santiago, making big headlines as he walked Mass/Cass and then visited the South End Neighborhood Health Center. His star seemed to be rising without limit, and Markey had yet to even enter the race. But political contests are not springs, but rather long-distance runs, and Markey and his Nike shoes are never to be counted out – prevailing in the long haul.

Many of the bigger precincts showed Markey winning by more than 100 votes, like at the Frederick Douglass Apartments (4-4) in

(ELECTION, Pg. 5)



U.S. Senator Ed Markey made a campaign stop in the South End on West Dedham Street with Registrar of Probate Felix Arroyo last Wednesday afternoon, Aug. 26. Markey touted his long record in the House and Senate, and his experience growing up as a working class kid in Malden. Though he faced rising star Joe Kennedy III, the veteran politician scored a decisive win statewide on Tuesday, and did extremely well in the downtown precincts, winning 24 of 29 and prevailing by more than 200 votes in some precincts.



Looking at an weeks-long encampment in front of the former Bar Lyon at the corner of Mass Avenue and Washington Street, Yahaira Lopez said she and other neighbors are mobilizing to say ‘Enough is Enough’ as their neighborhood spirals on quality of life due to the drug use and homelessness on Mass/Cass. They plan a standout with signs and plenty of energy on Thursday, Sept. 3, at 6 p.m. on this corner.

Recreational dispensary proposed for 297 Newbury St.

By Dan Murphy

A retail space at 297 Newbury St. could become home to an appointment-only cannabis dispensary that would offer preferential service to Back Bay residents.

Representatives for Ember Gardens, including CFO Shane Hyde, outlined their proposal Aug. 27 during a virtual meeting sponsored by the city’s Office of Neighborhood Services.

The hours of operation would

be 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily, with one hour each day dedicated to serving only Back Bay residents, representatives said, and the dispensary is expected to serve about 45 customers an hour.

Also, the dispensary would be located near the Hynes MBTA station, among other options for public transportation options, and offer price discounts on products to customers who travel via public transportation instead of driving.

(EMBER GARDENS, Pg. 3)

~~ Polls Reporting ~~
Check out the Numbers on Page 5!

EDITORIAL

ENJOY A SAFE LABOR DAY WEEKEND

"Time and tide wait for no man," wrote the poet.

The summer of 2020 is entering its final week as we approach the traditional Labor Day weekend and once again the summer season has flown by much faster than any of us would have liked, especially during a time when we find ourselves being held hostage by a microscopic virus.

But the calendar never lies and soon the summer of '20 will be just a memory.

Ordinarily, our end-of-summer editorial recalls the happiness and joy that the summer months have brought us. But this era of a pandemic has forced all of us to abandon almost every aspect of our traditional summer rituals, both big and small and on both communal and personal levels.

As this most awful of summer seasons winds down to just a few precious days, we certainly understand the desire on the part of many (if not all of us) to just let it all out, so to speak: "If this is the last, let's make it a blast!"

But amidst the chaos in our lives, one thing that has not changed, and that requires even more urgency than usual, is our annual admonition to our readers to enjoy the Labor Day weekend safely.

We certainly do not wish to rain on anyone's parade, so to speak, but we would be remiss if we failed to urge our readers that if they intend to have a good time, they should do so safely, both for themselves and their loved ones.

First and foremost, excessive drinking does not mix with anything -- whether it be boating, driving, water sports, hiking, bicycling, or just about any activity that requires some degree of coordination and observance of the rules of safety.

The news reports will be full of tragic stories over the weekend of those who died or were seriously injured in accidents that could have been avoided had excessive drinking not been involved.

In addition, though this is a holiday weekend for us, we must remember that the COVID-19 does not take a holiday. It always is lurking and seeking new victims who do not wear a face mask in public and who do not practice appropriate physical distancing at all times.

We must do our part to ensure that none of our loved ones -- let alone ourselves -- are among the inevitable, sad statistics.

We wish all of our readers a happy -- and safe -- Labor Day weekend.

A SUMMER OF CHAOS AND TRAGEDY

As America approached the Memorial Day weekend of 2020, the death toll from COVID-19 in the United States stood at just under 100,000 of our fellow Americans.

But now, three months later, that number soon will have doubled, as our nation's death toll from the virus approaches an astonishing and tragic 200,000 persons.

On May 25, a Black man, George Floyd, was murdered by a white Minneapolis police officer, who kept his knee on Mr. Floyd's neck for more than eight minutes while Mr. Floyd lay prone on the ground until Mr. Floyd stopped breathing.

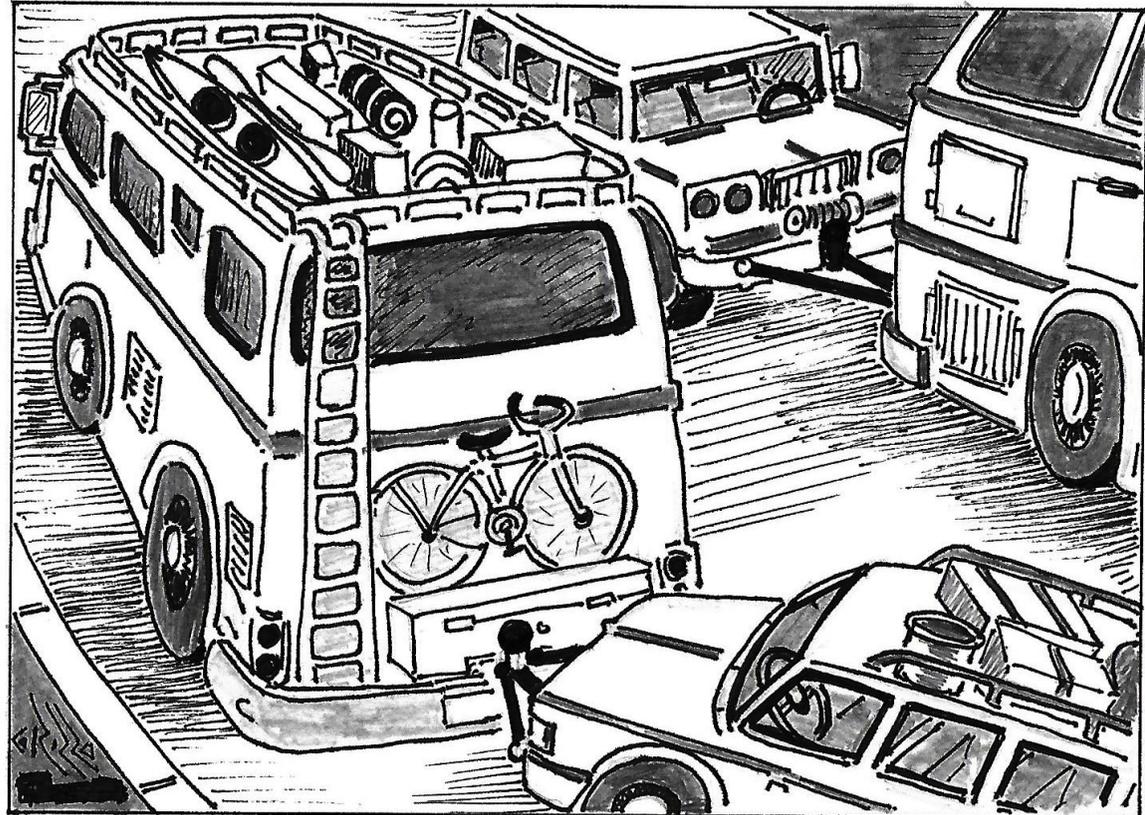
Three months later, a white Kenosha, Wisconsin police officer shot a Black man, Jacob Blake, seven times in the back in front of his three young sons, leaving Mr. Blake paralyzed from the waist down.

Neither Mr. Floyd nor Mr. Blake posed a threat to any of the officers such that the officers were justified in using deadly force.

In May 2020, our national unemployment rate and number of business failures stood at levels not seen since the Great Depression. Three months later, the improvement has been minimal with the spectre of worse to come thanks to the inaction by our leaders in Washington.

The Summer of 2020 has been a tragic disaster in this country by any and every measure. But instead of learning from our mistakes in order to move forward, our national leadership has offered no plan to alleviate the many problems we are facing.

Instead of giving us hope that better days lie ahead, the present administration's dysfunction has ensured that America will continue to spiral downward.



AT HOME OR AWAY, ENJOY LABOR DAY

Ethnic studies is a must for our schools, claim Boston City Councilors

Staff Report

Twelve of the 13 Boston City Councilors signed onto a letter supporting the Boston Teachers Union's Ethnic Studies Now! Committee and its campaign to fully integrate Ethnic Studies into the City's public school curriculum. The Committee, headed by educators from the Boston Teachers Union (BTU), is advocating for the program to become a core element of what is taught in the District's curriculum, making the school curriculum more representative of one of the state's most diverse student populations.

The vision for Ethnic Studies in Boston Public Schools (BPS) centers on the history and experiences of people of color to empower educators and students alike to not only collaboratively learn about world history, but also learn about the history that honors and affirms intersectional identities. Ethnic Studies builds on the collective power of communities of color and their social movements to inspire all to act locally and globally toward justice and transformation.

"Our students deserve an education that honors their identities, critiques the systems of oppression that structure our world, and

creates opportunities for them to build community and make real, impactful change," said Cecil Carey, an active member of the Ethnic Studies Now! Committee and an educator at Charlestown High School.

The 12 Boston City Councilors who signed the letter in support noted that more than 84% of BPS students are students of color, coming from 139 different countries. The letter was signed by City Councilors Ricardo Arroyo, Andrea Campbell, Kenzie Bok, Ed Flynn, Michelle Wu, Liz Breadon, Annissa Essaibi-George, Kim Janey, Julia Mejia, Michael Flaherty, Matt O'Malley, and Lydia Edwards.

"We share your commitment to providing the best educational opportunities for students in the district," the letter reads. "This [integration of Ethnic Studies] has become all the more important

given recent movements for social justice that have occurred in our communities, around the country, and around the world."

BPS Superintendent Brenda Cassellius has announced her support of Ethnic Studies and added the curriculum to the district's Strategic Plan, though no funding has been allocated for any Ethnic Studies positions for the 2020-21 school year as of press time. The Ethnic Studies Now! Committee encourages funding for Ethnic Studies being allocated as soon as possible in order to follow through on the district's commitment to racial equity.

The proposal put forth by the Committee urges the district to:

- Pilot an Ethnic Studies course in three to six schools within BPS in the 2020-2021 school year.
- Allocate funding for one or

(ETHNIC STUDIES, Pg. 3)

THE BOSTON SUN

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Coalition to Safely Reopen Schools citing serious occupational health concerns to be addressed prior to allowing schools to open for in-person learning

Staff Report

In response to the state-wide push to reopen schools for in-person education, the recently formed Coalition to Safely Reopen Schools, has issued its [position statement](#) citing a number of issues that need to be addressed to ensure that schools can be reopened without jeopardizing the health and safety of students, staff, or the communities schools serve. As a result of that analysis, the Coalition is calling for a phased approach to reopening, with no in-person learning unless and until those issues are resolved.

The Coalition is a statewide collaboration of school nurses, teachers, parents, bus drivers, cafeteria workers, librarians, school support staff, janitorial staff, labor, occupational health and community advocates, who came together to provide a frontline perspective and concrete medically-informed recommendations for what is needed to safely reopen for in-person learning. The group complements and builds on a number of other position statements issued by local and national teachers associations, including the Massachusetts Teachers Association, and American Federation of Teachers Massachusetts, as well as

expert analysis and reports provided by the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, the Massachusetts Education Equity Partnership and the Massachusetts Coalition for Occupational Safety and Health. It also relies on the perspective of school nurses from throughout the state, who are responsible for the health and well-being of students and every member of the school staff, all of whom will be placing their own well-being and that of their families and communities at risk as a result of reopening during this unprecedented pandemic.

“This process represents one of the most consequential decisions our communities and our state will make as our state and nation construe to grapple with a pandemic that is still surging across the nation, showing signs of a second wave in our state, with the threat of the flu season looming,” said Patty Comeau, RN, a member of the Coalition, the Massachusetts Nurses Association and a school nurse in Methuen. “In confronting this challenge a safe, scientifically guided, well planned, adequately funded and appropriately resourced process must be the priority for all involved, as the stakes couldn’t be higher and the outcome of our decisions truly have life and death consequences.”

The statement also highlights the need to keep equity as the central focus of reopening in order to address the needs of families, and communities; particularly Black, Latino and those residents of dis-

advantaged communities across the Commonwealth, who have been hardest hit by the pandemic, and whose communities often lack the funding and school infrastructure to support a safe reopening at this time.

The position statement addresses 16 different areas of concern that need to be considered and addressed appropriately to ensure a safe reopening of schools for in-person learning, including:

- Proper ventilation and circulation of air;
- Assessing community resources for alternative school settings;
- Ensuring proper social distancing;
- Standardization and availability of PPE for all staff and students
- Resources and infrastructure to support hand hygiene and mask wearing;
- Safe cleaning practices;
- Addressing the health and safety of students with special needs;
- Access to rapid testing;
- Clear guidelines for contact tracing;
- Appropriate school nurse staffing;
- Space to isolate and monitor suspected or positive cases;
- Resources for safe transportation of students;
- Safe re-entry into school protocols;
- Comprehensive education and training of staff prior to reopening;
- Disparities in access to in-person learning;
- Preserving school staff pay and

benefits.

The position statement clearly describes each specific area of concern as well as how each must be addressed to ensure a safe reopening. After completing this review, the Coalition position statement concludes:

“In light of all the issues we have presented, the current lack of funding appropriated to address these issues, and the increased need for staff, PPE, testing and other resources to implement a safe reopening, at this time; we don’t believe our State is ready to pursue in-person learning safely. And until these issues are resolved, it is also not safe to have staff stationed in these schools to conduct remote learning for students.”

The Coalition calls for the state and school districts to reopen for remote learning, while taking the time to develop comprehensive plans with the infrastructure, protocols, staffing, funding and training “to safely institute in-person learning that we all know our students deserve.”

The organizations that have endorsed the document to date include: American Federation of Teachers Massachusetts, Massachusetts Association for the Chemically Injured, Massachusetts Coalition for Safety and Health, Massachusetts Jobs with Justice, Massachusetts Nurses Association, Massachusetts Teachers Association and Service Employees International Union Local 888.

EMBER GARDENS (from pg. 1)

Ember Gardens would devote most of its 1,300 square feet space to a retail showroom, and signage on-site would be limited to a single sign in the window.

The menu would also be limited selection of items manufactured at its Plymouth County production facility, according to Ember Gardens representatives.

The dispensary expects to hire around 20 employees, all of whom must be Boston residents at the start of their employment, and Ember Gardens has pledged that 50 percent of new hires including at the management level would be women or minorities.

Also, Ember Gardens has pledged that it would have a profit-sharing plan whereby 5 percent of sales would go to employees who have been the company for at least a year.

Aaron Washington, a 28-year veteran of the Massachusetts State Police who was on hand for the virtual meeting, will head up security for Ember Gardens, and said their top priority will be

ensuring that its products don’t end up in the hands of minors.

Besides upon using state-of-the-art technology to verify each customer is at least 21 years of age upon entering the dispensary, security would also patrol the perimeter of the building to discourage secondary transactions involving the sale of cannabis to minors,

Washington said, as well as open consumption of cannabis. (And any customer caught openly consuming products purchased at Ember Gardens in the immediate vicinity of the dispensary would be permanently barred from the premises, Washington added.)

As for an expected opening date, Ember Gardens representatives said they don’t have a timeline yet as they continue to navigate through the permitting processes at the city and state levels.

Ember Gardens will soon launch its website at embergardens.com and inquiries can sent via email to info@embergardens.com.

ETHNIC STUDIES (from pg. 2)

more district-level full-time Ethnic Studies “Instructional Coach” educational position(s), supervised by the Social Studies Academic Department.

• Allocate district funding for professional development training for teachers and staff in which the pilot course is being taught.

• Allocate district funding for curricular development, including classroom materials and the implementation of a cycle of development, piloting, reflection, revision, and expansion of new courses like African American, Asian American, Native American, and LatinX

studies.

The Ethnic Studies Now Committee has built support for the policy among parents, families, students, community leaders and educators for the past three years. Dr. Bettina Love has endorsed the proposal as have many community organizations including the Citizens for Public Schools, Orchard Gardens United, the Boston Education Justice Alliance, BLS Asian Students in Action, Harvard Graduate School of Education, and the Vietnamese American Initiative for Development Inc. The list is still in formation.



PLAN: Nubian Square

Roxbury Strategic Master Plan Oversight Committee

Monday, September 14
6:00 PM - 7:45 PM

Zoom Registration
bit.ly/3gXMnxu

Event Description

The Roxbury Strategic Master Plan Oversight Committee was developed to oversee projects that fall under the Roxbury Strategic Master Plan. The committee meets monthly to discuss development and planning in Nubian Square. All meetings are held on zoom and open to the public. For more information, on how to Join, Engage, and Take Action, please visit the website.

Upcoming meetings/Próximas reuniones/Dat pwochen rankont yo se:

- October/Octubre/Oktòb 5
- November/Noviembre/Novanm 2

For interpretation services, contact the planner listed below one week before each meeting. Para los servicios de interpretación, comuníquese con el planificador que se indica a continuación una semana antes de cada reunión. Si w bezwen sévis entèpretasyon, kontakte moun kap planifye a pi ba a, yon semèn anvan chak reyinyon.

Contact:
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bostonplans.org | @bostonplans
Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

Mayor Walsh, BHA awards \$2.5m in food distribution contracts

Staff report

Mayor Martin J. Walsh announced that the Boston Housing Authority (BHA) is launching a \$2.5 million partnership with local businesses and nonprofits to distribute hundreds of thousands of meals to its most vulnerable residents through the end of the year.

Leveraging federal aid, the new initiative will help address a variety of short- and long-term nutritional needs for low-income families in Boston's public housing communities as part of an ongoing City effort. The funding is expected to finance logistical and staffing costs to provide up to 230,000 meals to 4,100 extremely low-income households through at least December 2020.

"Every resident in Boston needs access to food, and this is an opportunity to make sure that our most vulnerable communities continue to get it," Mayor Walsh

said. "This new investment will be a life-changer for countless Boston residents, and we look forward to forging new partnerships to make this happen."

"Food and shelter are two of the most fundamental basic needs that must be met in order for other opportunities to be possible," BHA Administrator Kate Bennett said. "We are eager to build upon the City's food assistance efforts and get these resources into our public housing communities as soon as possible."

The Boston Housing Authority is committed to utilizing federal aid to directly benefit residents, and the expenditures on food initiatives alone represent roughly 25% of BHA's federal aid from the CARES Act. Up to \$1.689M will be awarded to serve BHA's federal family sites through a partnership between City Fresh Foods (MBE), Commonwealth Kitchen (woman-led nonprofit business incuba-

tor serving numerous MWBEs), the Haley House (a nonprofit social enterprise employing individuals facing barriers to traditional employment), and the YMCA of Greater Boston. Up to \$732,000 will provide for direct, door-to-door delivery to seniors facing food insecurity by Boston nonprofit Ethos.

Ethos is also receiving a \$500,000 grant from the Boston Resiliency Fund to deliver nutritious meals for those who do not meet the age or impairment threshold for the Title III-C Nutrition Services Program, but are food insecure due to their inability to access or prepare food during the crisis. This grant will serve approximately 850 food insecure adults between the ages of 55 and 60 with underlying health concerns and/or weakened immune systems, who are caregivers for elders or other individuals with disabilities, without reliable

and safe transportation, or those whose living situations do not allow for adequate food preparation. In total, Ethos has received over \$1 million from the Boston Resiliency Fund to support these efforts, following an initial grant of \$559,000 in March.

"Older adults are some of the city's most vulnerable citizens and the COVID-19 public health emergency has created unprecedented challenges and disruptions in their lives," said Valerie Frias, CEO of Ethos. "The grant awards from the BHA and Boston Resiliency Fund will enable Ethos to meet their critical nutrition needs in the city's public housing communities and beyond. This is yet another example of the commitment that The City of Boston and Mayor Walsh have made to the health and safety of those experiencing food insecurity throughout this crisis."

Mayor Walsh launched the Boston Resiliency Fund in March,

and to date the Fund has distributed over \$25.7 million to 340 nonprofit and local organizations and there is \$7.6 million in funds remaining. Fifty-four percent of grantee organizations are led by a person of color, 57 percent of grantee organizations are led by a woman, and 27 percent of grantees are immigrant-serving organizations.

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 public health emergency, BHA, the City of Boston and many private partners have stepped up efforts to provide much-needed meals to low income communities facing economic hardship and food insecurity during the quarantine. These efforts have already been a boon to many BHA communities, and this investment is expected to help BHA and the City to streamline these efforts.

STANDOUT (from pg. 1)

years, many believe meetings and discussions have been played out. The state hasn't stepped up, and the City's plan has deteriorated into a spectacle of human carnage on several South End corners. So, Lopez said she thinks it's time to unite businesses, workers, residents – both rich and poor – and

all of the racial groups represented to stand up and say, 'No More.'

And stand up is exactly what they plan to do.

Lopez and several community partners, neighborhood associations and business leaders are planning a standout Thursday, Sept. 3, at 6 p.m. in an action called 'Make

the Community Comfortable for All.' They will hold it on the corner of Mass Avenue and Washington Street.

"Businesses shouldn't have to put up with this, and children are going to have to go to school through this," she said. "For residents, this corner specifically iden-

tifies two groups of residents and housing and businesses that are impacted equally. Once you go to one side of Mass Avenue that's the wealthier side, and once you are on the other side, that's the poor side. However, these are two different groups of people in that way that are impacted. It can't be boiled

down into a socio-economic issue or a race issue. It's the first time we can say we are all impacted despite race, socio-economics or status."

The plan is to have a major presence with signs, chants and a clear message that it isn't okay to have people living on the sidewalks, destroying quality of life for residents, ruining businesses, and being on display, sadly, in front of everyone that passes in and out of Boston.

"We have been charged with ostracizing those who are coming down here, but I think the City of Boston has done a better job of ostracizing them by putting them in the public eye of everyone coming and going into Boston," she said. "These folks are still someone's children or someone's parents. They shouldn't be put on display like that."

She said the standout is just the first step for residents to send a message of 'No' to City and state leaders for the situation that has unfolded in the neighborhood. Lopez said they hope to use that momentum to keep going and build on the past efforts that have taken place, but maybe in a more insistent and less patient way.

"We're going to keep at it," she said. "We'll see how many people show up and how many like-minded people show up to be part of the conversation. We'll send a message to Boston to say 'Enough is Enough.' I think this is the first time two 'hoods have mobilized as a collective to move it forward."

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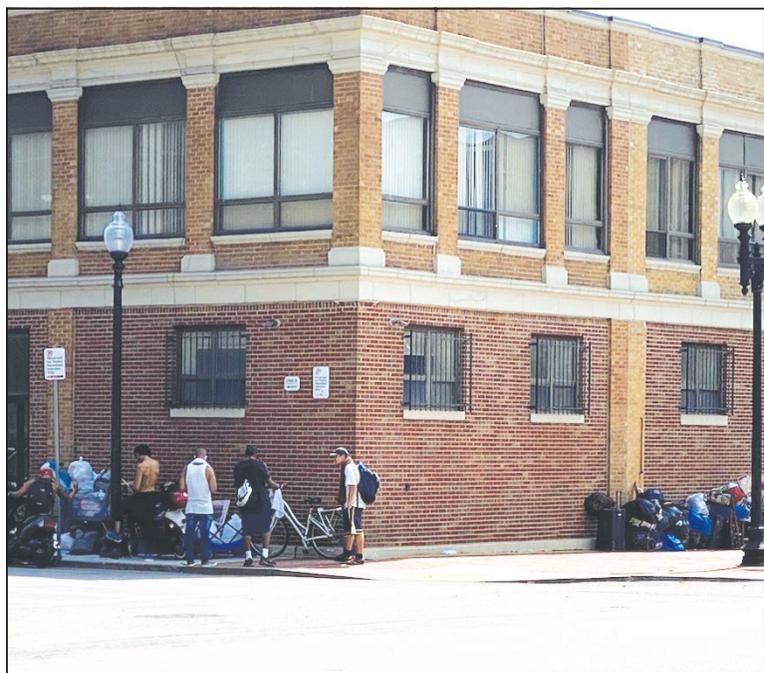
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While an established encampment was removed from Melnea Cass last week, residents of Alexandra Ball were unhappy to see new encampments pop up on the sidewalks of their neighborhood this week – some of them blocking front doors to residential buildings.

Alexandra Ball neighbors celebrate one victory, only to find another defeat

By Seth Daniel

Breaking her silence on the issue, Council President Kim Janey issued a letter last week to neighbors in the Alexandra Ball Neighborhood Association announcing that encampments on Melnea Cass Boulevard had been removed, but that good news was greeted with new encampments popping up on sidewalks in front of residential buildings.

Encampments with about 10 to 15 brand new tents began to show up this summer on Melnea Cass near Washington Street with little being done to put an end to them. The City had said last week it was cleaning up the encampment regularly for sanitary issues, but didn't

have a legally-sound protocol to remove the encampments.

That seemed to change late last week when Janey's letter came.

"As a result, the encampments have been removed from Melnea Cass Blvd. and Jim Rice Field," she wrote. "While connecting those most in need to these crucial services is imperative, this is not a one-and-done solution and the opioid epidemic is still very much ongoing in Boston. There are still many with substance abuse disorders in need of treatment, shelter, and long-term support."

Janey said she is working on scheduling a walk-through of the area with neighbors, and also thanked them for being vocal and working towards finding a solu-

tion. Janey said she has filed an order at the City Council to hold a hearing on the effectiveness of the City's Mass/Cass 2.0 plan. That hearing, she wrote, is coming soon.

As great as this news was, encampments on the sidewalks of Alexandra Ball began to pop up on Monday and Tuesday.

Residents said the encampments were in front of entryways, blocking them from being able to leave their homes without having to move tents and lean-tos. Meanwhile, people returned with sleeping bags and began taking up residence near the basketball courts at Ramsay Park – hardly a fitting tribute for a park built to remember an amazing, decorated African American war veteran who graduated West Point.

ELECTION (from pg. 1)

the South End where Markey won by 168 votes. Another was Tent City (4-2) where Markey won by 120. Then there was St. Cecilia's in the Back Bay where a huge voter turnout delivered Markey a 246-vote margin. It was like that throughout the Back Bay at both precincts in the Copley Library (5-7 and 5-8) where Markey won both by more than 200 votes.

The lone area of support for Kennedy was where Rep. Santiago had campaigned for him in Worcester Square and Lower Roxbury. Kennedy won Villa Victoria as well, and tied Markey at the Hampshire House, 400 to 400.

Neither campaigned extensively in the South End or Back Bay during the heated campaign, but both did make stops in the neighborhood, with Markey visiting the South End last week on his 'Leads and Delivers' bus tour.

Markey pulled out the statewide win with 55 percent of the vote to Kennedy's 44.6 percent of the vote. In Boston citywide, it was even more lopsided as Markey collected 59 percent of the vote (77,518) to Kennedy's 40 percent (52,485).

Markey enjoyed strong support in western Massachusetts, and also on Cape Ann. Kennedy showed strength in southeast Massachusetts and central Massachusetts – as well as in Chelsea, Revere, and Lynn.

In his concession speech Tuesday night, Kennedy said his coalition will continue.

"The Senator is a good man," he said of Markey. "You've never heard me say otherwise. I know it was difficult between us at times -- good elections get heated -- but I am grateful for our debates, for his commit-

ment to this Commonwealth, and for the energy and enthusiasm that he brought to this race. Obviously, these results are not the ones we were hoping for...We built a campaign for the people that our politics too often locks out and leaves behind. We built a campaign for Lawrence and Chelsea and New Bedford and

Roxbury and Brockton and Springfield and Lowell and Worcester. We built a campaign for working folks -- of every color and creed -- who carry the economic injustice of this country on their backs. This campaign's coalition will endure."

UNOPPOSED RACES

In several races locally, state

leaders were unopposed, making for no high-profile local elections as there were two years ago.

State Rep. Jon Santiago won with 5,605 votes.

State Rep. Chynah Tyler prevailed with 3,998 votes.

State Rep. Jay Livingstone won with 4,623 votes.

State Sen. Sonia Chang Diaz won her unopposed race with 31,173 votes.

State Sen. Will Brownsberger got 14,072 votes in the Boston part of his sprawling district.

State Sen. Joe Boncore got 10,810 votes in the Boston part of his district.

PRECINCTS FINAL COUNT

5-1 (Bay Village, Franklin Institute) Markey 842 Kennedy 563	Kennedy 185	Kennedy 230	Kennedy 104	8-3 (Worcester Square, Orchard Gardens CC) Markey 130 Kennedy 168
5-2/2a (Fenway/Kenmore, Boston Arts) Markey 349 Kennedy 116	5-7 (Back Bay 2, Copley Square Library) Markey 461 Kennedy 200	4-2 (South End, Tent City) Markey 539 Kennedy 419	4-8 (St. Botolph, Symphony Plaza West) Markey 189 Kennedy 83	9-1 (South End, Youth Development 100 W. Dedham) Markey 244 Kennedy 319
5-3 (Boston Common, State House) Markey 414 Kennedy 184	5-8 (Back Bay 3, Copley Square Library) Markey 408 Kennedy 182	4-3 (South End, McKinley SCHOOL) Markey 316 Kennedy 177	4-9 (Fenway, Wentworth Institute) Markey 62 Kennedy 84	9-2 (South End, Washington Manor Apts.) Markey 453 Kennedy 261
5-4 (Beacon Hill top, West End Library) Markey 473 Kennedy 162	5-9 (Back Bay 4, St. Cecilians) Markey 543 Kennedy 247	4-4 (South End, Frederick Douglass Apts.) Markey 388 Kennedy 223	4-10 (Fenway, Simmons College) Markey 63 Kennedy 17	9-3 (South End, Hampton House) Markey 400 Kennedy 400
5-5 (Beacon Hill Charles St., Hill House) Markey 160 Kennedy 86	5-10 (Back Bay 5, BU, Kilachand Hall) Markey 333 Kennedy 103	4-5 (Back Bay, Symphony Plaza East) Markey 261 Kennedy 146	3-7 (South End, Cathedral High) Markey 871 Kennedy 407	9-4 (Lower Roxbury, Madison Park Complex Hayes House) Markey 197 Kennedy 268
5-6 (Back Bay 1, Emmanuel Episcopal) Markey 384	5-11 (Beacon Hill Top, Hill House) Markey 285 Kennedy 125	4-6 (Fenway, Morville House) Markey 176 Kennedy 84	8-1 (South End, Cathedral High) Markey 206 Kennedy 190	
	4-1 (South End, McKinley School) Markey 461	4-7 (Fenway, Morville House) Markey 246	8-2 (South End, Cathedral High) Markey 438 Kennedy 245	

Save the Harbor and Brain Arts bring you Beats on the Beach virtual music contest

Staff report

The environmental advocacy organization Save the Harbor/Save the Bay and the non-profit Brain Arts Organization have teamed up this summer to connect people to the region's public beaches during the pandemic through free virtual arts and wellness programs that amplify the voices of area BIPOC artists as part of their Better Beaches Program Partnership.

"We think that the best way to save the harbor is to share the harbor with free events and programs for everyone to enjoy," said Save the Harbor Executive Director Chris Mancini. "But the truth is that not everyone feels welcome on some of our region's most spectacular, and cleanest, public beaches. After the murder of George Floyd and in the face of ongoing violence and oppression faced by BIPOC communities across the country, Save the Harbor is emphasizing our commitment to marginalized

groups by working with our current and new partners to make sure that everyone feels welcome on our beaches.

This new collaboration with the Dorchester based Brain Arts Organization features a nature-based wellness and healing series and a beach soundscape music competition hosted by local Black artists and producers LDER and Rilla Force, and judged by Boston-born poet, rapper and educator, Oompa. Participants will create a beat from a series of sounds recorded by the producers on Boston's beaches, and Oompa will select the best beat and create an original song using it. The competition began on August 17 and will close on September 7. The winner will receive a cash prize of \$200.

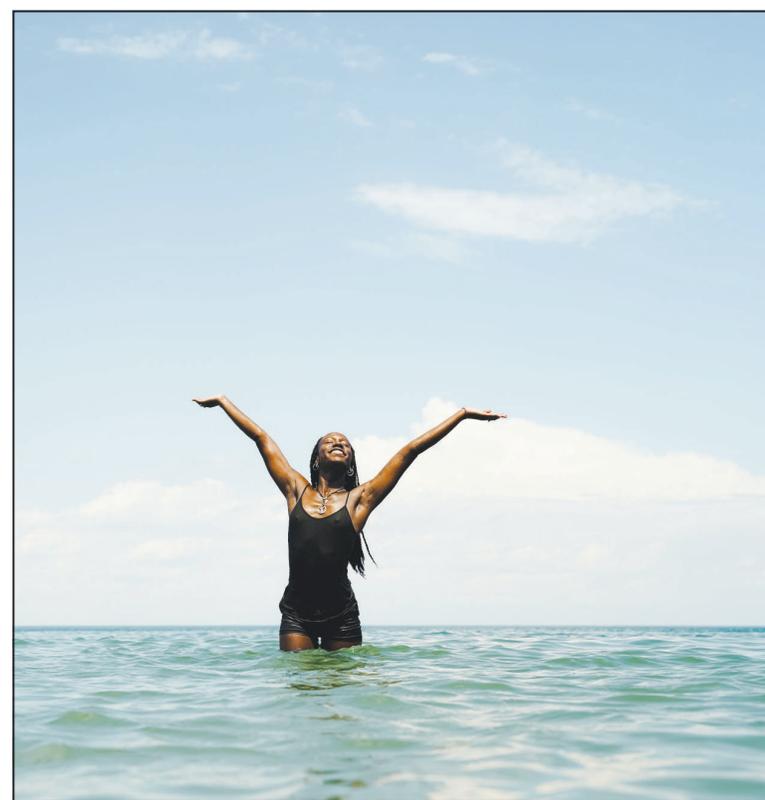
The Harbor Healing series features virtual meditation, healing and wellness guides from the Sistahs of the Calabash, Joye Williams from Joyefully Natural and You Good Sis.

"Community members enjoy and connect to the beach in many different ways" said Joye Williams, Save the Harbor's Senior Staff Assistant and Founder and herbalist at Joyefully Natural. "Whether you prefer guided meditation or simply swim in the clean water, enjoying the beach enhances your mood and improves your mental, physical and spiritual well being. Understanding the different ways people enjoy and experience the beach increases our understanding of each other, our communities and the natural world."

The Brain Arts Organization and all of the artists taking part in Harbor Healing and Beats On The Beach are part of a crucial effort to help welcome all community members to the beaches and encourage everyone to take ownership of the public beaches near them.

"Part of our mission is to foster a culture where individuals can create their own power and opportunities, so reclaiming our city's beaches for Black wellness and creativity is a very exciting project for us," says Emma Leavitt, the director of the Brain Arts Organization. "We are grateful for the opportunity to creatively activate this space with our community and we hope that this becomes a sustaining relationship that builds from year to year."

"Amplifying the voices of Black, Brown, and Indigenous folks is a priority as these marginalized communities continue to fight for their lives," said Save the Harbor's Community Engagement Coordinator Maya Smith. "We hope that creating this engaging community arts project with Black and POC voices at the forefront will continue making our beaches more wel-



Joye Williams, Founder of Joyefully Natural, emerges from the sea after a salt scrub at Nantaket Beach



Boston-based music producers Rilla Force and LDER gather natural sound for the Beats on the Beach contest

coming to all of our diverse community members."

Save the Harbor/Save the Bay has led and managed the Better Beaches Program Partnership with the Department of Conservation and Recreation for more than a decade, distributing grants to community partners in Nahant, Lynn, Revere, Winthrop, East Boston, South Boston, Dorchester, Quincy, and Hull, which have been used to host 870 free events and programs for the nearly 2 million regional residents who live within a short ride or drive to the beach.

Save the Harbor/Save the Bay would like to thank the Baker-Polito Administration, the Massachusetts Legislature, the Metro-

politan Beaches Commission, the Department of Conservation & Recreation, the Boston Centers for Youth and Families, Harpoon Brewery, JetBlue, the Richard Saltonstall Charitable Foundation, National Grid, P&G Gillette, and all the Better Beaches Program funding partners and event sponsors for their support of the Better Beaches Program.

To enter the music competition, visit the Beats on the Beach webpage at savetheharbor.org/beats. To learn more about Save the Harbor/Save the Bay or the Brain Arts Organization, visit their websites at savetheharbor.org and brainarts.org

State announces policies to support families, expand childcare options while their children are remote learning

Staff report

The Baker-Polito Administration on Friday announced new policies that will provide families who require childcare while their children are engaged in remote learning additional options by allowing programs to offer supervised care during regular school day hours.

Governor Charlie Baker signed an Executive Order that allows the Department of Early Education and Care (EEC) to authorize currently licensed after-school and out-of-school programs to operate during the school day while children are learning remotely.

As schools prepare to reopen, working parents need to find care and learning support for their school-aged children while they are engaged in remote learning. Current state statute prohibits licensed after-school and out-of-school time programs for school-aged children from offering care during school hours. The Executive Order allows EEC to authorize childcare programs, like YMCAs, Boys and Girls Clubs, family childcare homes, and others, to care for school-age children while they participate in remote learning.

The Department will also exempt informal remote learning

parent cooperative arrangements organized by families, if the groups are supervised by unpaid parents. These parent cooperatives are still subject to any state orders regulating gatherings in place under the COVID-19 state of emergency.

In addition, the Executive Order creates a temporary license exemption for remote learning enrichment programs to provide supervision and care for school children up to age 14 while they participate in remote learning during the school day. These remote learning programs, which must meet specific criteria, will need to first be approved by their local municipality before they can apply

for the license exemption. Programs run by a school district are already exempt from EEC licensure and do not need to apply for this exemption.

The Departments of Early Education and Care and Elementary and Secondary Education will issue joint guidance that details the minimum requirements for remote learning programs, including background record checks, health and safety standards, facilities checks, and child to staff ratios.

Municipalities will ensure programs, that are approved for the license exemption, comply with health and safety requirements.

"We all want our children to get back into school as soon as possible and we applaud the schools and districts that are making the extra effort to bring their students back in some form," said Education Secretary James Peyser. "At the same time, we know that remote learning will be part of the educational experience for many students this fall, so it's critical that we enable parents, after-school providers, and community organizations to offer additional childcare options and learning supports when students are unable to attend school in person."

EBNA sees improvements in Peters Park homeless situation

By Seth Daniel

The East Berkeley Neighborhood Association (EBNA) kicked off the fall civic season in the South End from behind a computer screen, with public meetings still being held online due to COVID-19 restrictions.

At the top of the list for the meeting was discussions about Peters Park, and the major issues that have played out with drug use and homeless people living in the park over the summer. Several residents had been critical of the City's response and Pine Street's outreach in the Park, but on Tuesday night neighbors said there has been great improvement since August.

President Ken Smith said there have been some issues in the park this summer due to the closure of

a lot of services and day programs, but most see a big improvement lately.

"There has been a lot of issues with individuals who are homeless living in Peters Park," said Smith. "Spending part of the day there is fine; they have the same rights as anyone else...But they can't live there and do drugs there... The confluence of many issues has led to this. We have noticed a big decrease in sleeping overnight on the basketball court and baseball diamond. A lot of that has been minimized."

City officials, following a couple of walk-throughs with Councilor Ed Flynn, asked Pine Street Inn to step in for outreach in Peters Park. However, many felt like the outreach wasn't consistent, and may be making it a destination. That seemed to change over the

last few weeks.

"We don't want people living in the Park," said Aimee Coolidge of Pine Street. "That's not a dignified way to live and Pine Street is all about getting people housed."

Pine Street's Ed Cameron introduced himself, saying he had worked at Pine Street in the 1980s, and then returned last year. He said they send out two outreach vans every night and encounter about 130 people citywide. Normally, they wouldn't concentrate so much on Peters Park, but now they have been, he said.

"We did start paying more attention to Peters Park," he said. "I know there was a flare up there a year ago. Then this July and August we as a staff got more involved. We were seeing about 20 people there and we knew 15 or so. Some of them we saw in the

day and they were in shelter and we were able to move them to housing."

He said there is one couple that continued to live in the Park, but have since moved to another area of the South End. He said among all of them, drug use was pretty prevalent.

•COUNCILOR FLYNN APPOINTED TO MASS/CASS TASK FORCE

Councilor Ed Flynn appeared at the EBNA meeting, and announced that Mayor Martin Walsh had asked him to be on the Mass/Cass 2.0 Task Force to address quality of life issues.

Flynn has been quite candid about his focus now on quality of life issues in the South End around homelessness and public drug use.

"Make no mistake about it, we have significant quality of life issues in the South End related to the homelessness," he said, noting that he was asked to be on the Task Force last week.

"The situation on Mass Avenue and Melnea Cass is not getting better," he continued. "We see drug activity in our neighborhoods. As we know, we can't arrest our way out of the problem and our homeless outreach workers are doing a great job. I'm not going to be able to solve the issues at Mass Avenue, but I can respond to calls and get things done."

Councilor Flynn also previewed a hearing he intends to have on infrastructure, focusing on the issues that caused a major water break on Harrison Avenue in the spring and the issues of private sewers in the South End.

"If the issues of infrastructure

and rodent control don't work for you, then nothing works for you," he said. "Quality of life issues are essential."

•MICHELEWITZ TELLS OF MAJOR BUDGET GAP

When State Rep. Aaron Michlewitz landed the chairmanship of the Ways & Means Committee two years ago, it was a coup to be in charge of a budget that was flush with cash and a prosperous economy.

Now it's all a different story, and he related that to EBNA neighbors, noting that there is potentially a \$6 billion budget shortfall (out of about \$29 billion in discretionary spending) that has to be dealt with by October.

"Getting the Ways & Means Chair, at first it was a great job to have because we had an economic expansion and now it's the worst job in the state," he said. "We're looking at a \$5 to \$6 billion cut we would have to make and that's 20 percent of the State Budget. That will be dramatic and painful to cities and towns and services we all rely on. We are concerned about that and are waiting to see...with the hope we'll get some federal bailout...A \$6 billion gap is significant. We have \$3.5 billion in the Rainy Day Fund and that's one of the top in the country, but that won't cover it and we can't use it all in one year."

He said the only way to solve this issue, absent a federal bailout, is by cutting services, using the Rainy Day Fund, or raising taxes. Those will be uncomfortable discussions, he said, but they are likely coming.



A screenshot from the recent East Berkeley Neighborhood Association meeting held on Zoom.

Boston Local Development Corporation receives CARES grant to support loans for Boston small businesses impacted by COVID-19

Staff report

Mayor Martin J. Walsh announced Monday that the Boston Local Development Corporation has received a \$693,000 CARES Act Recovery Assistance grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration (EDA) to capitalize and administer a Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) to provide loans to coronavirus-impacted small businesses in Boston.

"Since the impacts of COVID-19 first touched Boston, we have remained committed to providing every possible resource to help our small businesses," said Mayor Walsh. "This additional funding for the Boston Local Development Corporation will allow Boston to continue its efforts to provide and

leverage additional resources to support the small businesses that fuel our neighborhoods and our economy during this challenging time."

The Boston Local Development Corporation (BLDC) works to increase employment opportunities for Boston residents by providing small business loans with a focus on commercial, industrial, and service companies. Over the last twenty years, the BLDC has provided over \$20 million in small business loans. These loans have successfully leveraged over \$95 million through collaborations with Boston's banking community. The loan funds have helped to create or retain over 3,500 Boston jobs. There are two types of loans available:

- The Standard BLDC Loan

Fund is available for existing businesses, new ventures, and businesses relocating to the City of Boston. These loans range from \$25,000 to \$150,000.

• The Backstreets Boston Back-up Loan Program provides financing for Boston companies in the industrial and manufacturing sectors. These loans differ from our standard program in that loan amounts can reach up to \$250,000.

BLDC loans can be used to support the working capital needs of a growing small business, assist in the purchase of a new business property, fund construction of leasehold improvements, purchase new equipment and machinery, construct an addition to an existing plant, and provide for expanded inventories. The BLDC coordi-

nates with Boston's banking community to provide gap financing through subordinated debt.

"On behalf of the BLDC Board of Trustees, I would like to express our excitement that this additional funding will give us the opportunity to have an immediate impact on the recovery of Boston's small business community," said Bill Nickerson, General Manager of the BLDC.

The BLDC is a private 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation governed by an independent board of trustees. The day to day operation of the program is provided by the Boston Planning & Development Agency's Financial Services department.

Small businesses interested in learning more about BLDC and applying for a loan should

visit <https://www.bostonbusinessloans.org/bldc>.

The funding announcement builds on the Walsh Administration's ongoing efforts to address the needs of Boston's workforce and small businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic. Mayor Walsh and the Office of Economic Development launched the Small Business Relief Fund and the Boston Reopen Fund, two strategic initiatives to support small businesses and employees. Over \$13 million in debt-free grants has been allocated to help small businesses across the City of Boston pay rent, fulfill payroll, or cover any operating expenses, as well as cover costs of personal protective equipment, cleaning supplies, and temporary structures required for reopening and to keep employees and customers safe.

Gov. Baker deactivates the National Guard after a few days

By Seth Daniel

After calling up the National Guard on Friday, Aug. 28, for up to 1,000 Guardsmen to potentially help municipal leaders, Gov. Charlie Baker deactivated the National Guard on Monday.

Baker said National Guard members were there to assist municipalities until further order. National Guard personnel were ready to assist cities and towns throughout the activation but did not take an active role in any municipal operations.

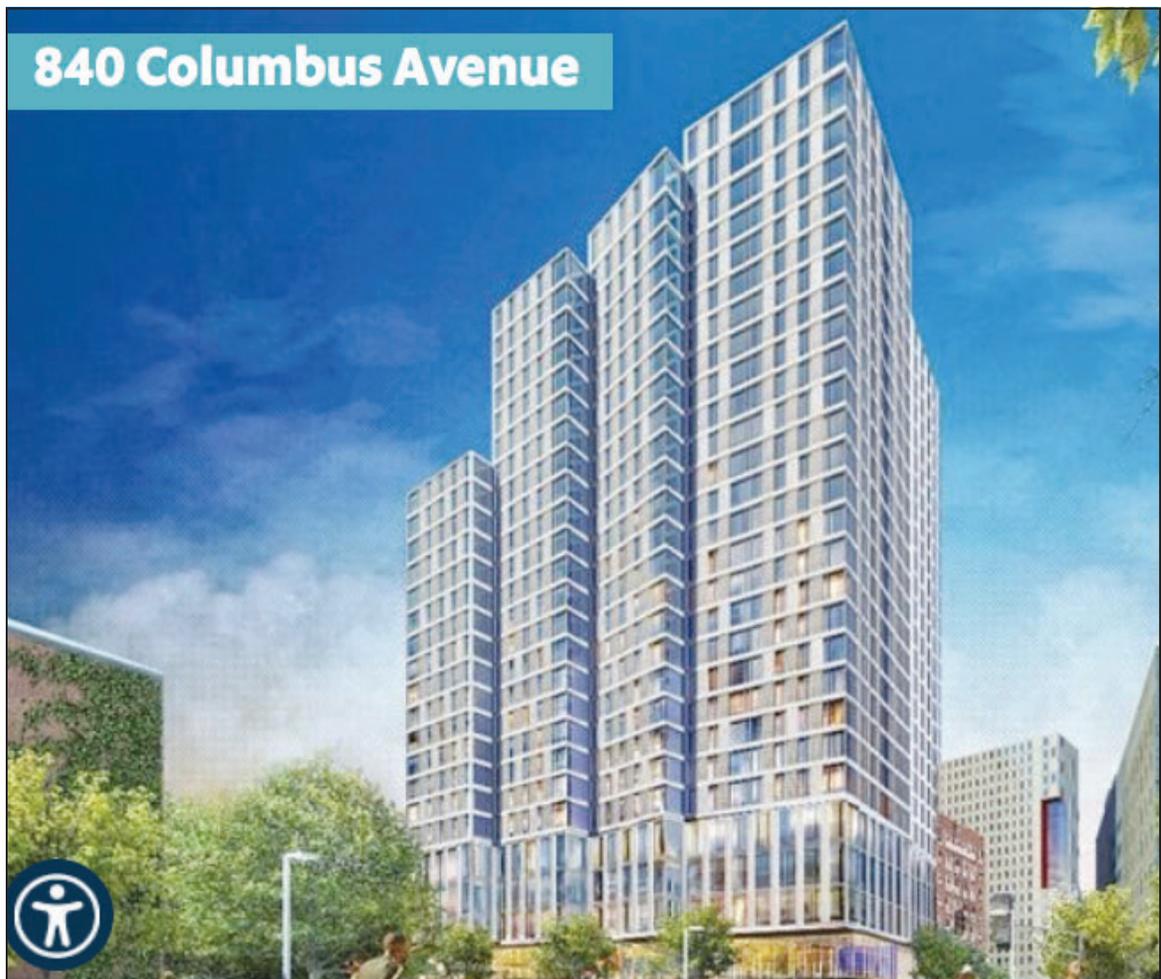
The worry seems to have been about potential protests following the police-involved shooting of Jacob Blake in Wisconsin.

Major protests did not materialize throughout the region though.

“Following coordination with municipal leaders through the weekend regarding potential large

scale demonstrations, Governor Baker today (Aug. 31) authorized the Adjutant General of the Massachusetts National Guard to end the Governor’s Aug. 28 activation order. That activation, which made Guard personnel available in the event that municipal leaders required their assistance, will end at midnight tonight,” said an administration spokesperson.

Personnel drawn from the Guard’s military police units undergo federally-accredited police training and receive additional instruction on Massachusetts police training standards. When assisting a local police department, they use that department’s policies, radio frequencies, etc., whenever possible. While federal Title 32 funding has been extended for COVID-19 missions, Guard personnel activated by this order served on state active duty.



Discussions by the Northeastern Task Force will re-start on Sept. 22 after COVID-19 delays shut down the review of the 26-story student housing tower on Columbus Avenue

Northeastern University picks up again on 26-story student housing tower

By Seth Daniel

Northeastern University has picked things back up on the proposed 26-story student housing tower on Columbus Avenue in the South End, with the Boston Planning and Development Agency calling for a Sept. 22 meeting of the Northeastern Task Force.

The virtual meeting will take place at 6 p.m. on Sept. 22 to discuss the proposed housing plan for 840 Columbus Avenue – next door

to the student housing tower completed two years ago.

The development plan was unveiled in November 2019 and called for about the same plan as the existing tower, with a 26-story student housing tower with a five-story podium for student services on a piece of land across the street into the Lower Roxbury neighborhood. It would be owned by Northeastern, and leased to All Campus Communities (ACC).

That is the same company that built and leased the property where the existing tower sits.

The development of the building progressed through January and was before the Boston Civic Design Commission (BCDC) just before COVID-19 hit and stopped the project from moving.

Now, it will pick up later this month for discussions about where the second tower will go from here.

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Virtual panel discussion focuses on reexamining public monuments during ‘time of racial reckoning’

By Dan Murphy

As part of the programming planned in conjunction with the ongoing restoration of the Robert Gould Shaw and the 54th Regiment Memorial on the Boston Common, a virtual discussion took place Monday, Aug. 25, on reconsidering and reevaluating the nation’s public monuments during “a time of racial reckoning.”

Renée Ater, Associate Professor Emerita at the University of Maryland and the author of “Remaking Race and History: The Sculpture of Meta Warrick Fuller,” among other books, was joined for the talk by David Blight, a Sterling Professor of American History at Yale University who has written and edited numerous books, including his latest - a 2018 biography of black abolitionist Frederick Douglass that earned him a Pulitzer Prize for History. Karen Holmes Ward, director of public affairs and community services for WCVB-TV, as well as host and executive producer of its award-winning weekly series “CityLine” and the co-producer of “Return to Glory,” a documentary about the 54th, served as moderator, and like the approximately \$3 million restoration of the Shaw 54th memorial itself, the discus-

sion was sponsored via a partnership comprising the Friends of the Public Garden, the City of Boston, the Museum of African American History and the National Park Service.

The Shaw 54th Memorial is unique in “a landscape of generic Civil War monuments,” Blight said, because it distinctly captures a historic moment on May 28, 1863, when 1,007 black soldiers and 37 white soldiers from the 54th gathered on the Boston Common and marched down Beacon Street in front of the State House. After boarding a steamship to South Carolina later that evening, the regiment went on to fight in Charleston, S.C., in the Battle of Grimball’s Landing on July 16, 1863, and in the fateful Second Battle of Fort Wagner on July 18, 1863. About half the ranks of the 54th would end up dead, missing or later die of injuries sustained in those battles, Blight said.

The memorial, which was the first civic monument in the nation to pay tribute to the heroism of black soldiers, also effectively mixes realism as seen in the soldiers’ faces, Blight said, with elements of idealism as represented by the angelic figure that hovers above them.

Ayer, who also participated in

“The Power of Public Monuments and Why They Matter,” the first panel discussion the Partnership to Restore the Shaw 54th Memorial sponsored last year at Suffolk University’s Tremont Temple, said crafting the soldiers’ heads was no easy task and required sculptor, Augustus Saint-Gaudens, to create 40 castings to capture their 23 individual faces. (No surviving members of the 54th were selected as face models, however, and Saint-Gaudens instead found his models in bus stations and at various other locations throughout Boston.)

The angelic figure above them, Ayer said, is an allegorical representation of a female holding an olive branch to symbolize peace, as well as poppy leaves to represent death.

The Shaw 54th Memorial also successfully merges and incorporates three distinct styles of sculpture - equestrian, bas-relief and allegorical representation. “No other monument can make these three forms come together,” Ayer said.

Blight pointed out that the memorial represents “promise and betrayal” when considering that the freedoms that the soldiers of the 54th fought and died for went largely unfulfilled during their lifetimes. But he disagreed with the

notion that the sculpture depicts the black soldiers as being subservient to Shaw, a white man, and instead, Blight countered that it accurately reflects the regiment’s formation going into battle, and that the soldiers appear to in fact be pushing Shaw forward.

The monument is also significant in that it was “planted” on the Boston Common on May 31, 1897, Blight said, at a time when American race relations were as fraught as they’d ever been, and with lynchings taking place both the day before and after its unveiling.

As more public monuments across the country are coming under scrutiny, Ayer suggested putting a moratorium on creating new ones “as we fundamentally rewrite history.”

Moreover, Ayer added, “Certain monuments are no longer effective...[because] they set in stone in public places what many of us think of as false narratives.”

Ayer also believes there needs to be a “community conversation” before any new public monument is erected.

“You don’t plop monuments in people’s neighborhoods and say, ‘Deal with it.’ You ask them to get involved,” Ayer said. “You could build a monument on Bos-

ton Common right now, and in 20 years, someone would want to tear it down.”

Except in unique instances, such as considering the future of 13 Civil War statues in the collection of National Statuary Hall in Washington, D.C., Blight agreed the fate of public monuments should be largely left to the judgment of the communities where they’re located.

“Communities have to decide, a city has to decide,” said Blight, who added, however, that he opposes the removal of public monuments from cemeteries.

As he previously proposed in a July 17 New York Times opinion piece, Blight recommended the creation of a national arts commission to determine the best practices and engage new artists as the “Confederate landscape [continues to] come down.”

Looking at how other countries and cultures have handled “conflicted and divisive” chapters in their histories, Blight said, should also be considered in deciding the future of public monuments in the U.S.

“You’ve got to be deliberative,” he said of the process, “and you should try to learn some history.”

Boston Resiliency Fund is supporting BLO partnership to produce clear-front face masks

Mayor Martin J. Walsh announced that through a grant provided by the Boston Resiliency Fund, Boston Lyric Opera (BLO) will work with its local costume shop partner, CostumeWorks, to initially produce over 1,800 lip-reading-friendly clear-front face masks to support Boston’s Deaf and Hard of Hearing communities, and others who rely on facial expression to communicate. BLO will manage distribution of the face masks in partnership with the Mayor’s Commission for Persons with Disabilities. The masks produced will be donated, or sold at a discounted rate.

“We know that wearing face masks is one of the most effective ways to stop the spread of COVID-19,” said Mayor Walsh. “It is critical that our residents are able to access face masks, and I am pleased that through the Boston Resiliency Fund we are able to support Boston Lyric Opera’s unique partnership to create needed face masks for our Deaf and Hard of Hearing residents as well as others

who rely on lip-reading and facial expressions to communicate.”

“Accessibility is about more than just ramps. This is another example of Mayor Walsh’s commitment to ensuring access and inclusion of all persons with disabilities throughout the city’s reopening after COVID-19,” said Boston Disability Commissioner Kristen McCosh. “I would like to thank the BLO for their hard work and dedication in producing these clear masks. Our city thrives because of successful public-private partnerships like this.”

“Who could predict that a pandemic would bring to us an opportunity like this -- to serve a new community,” said Bradley Vernatter, Boston Lyric Opera’s Chief Operating Officer. “Along with the production staff at BLO, the artists at CostumeWorks took great care in designing and delivering a simple, elegant product to help potentially thousands of Boston’s Deaf and hard-of-hearing citizens. At the same time, it puts hard-hit artists back to work,

which is a goal we prioritize even if we can’t perform live for the time being. We are delighted and thankful to the Boston Resiliency Fund for making this effort possible.”

Since launching in March to help Boston residents most affected by COVID-19, the Boston Resiliency Fund has distributed over \$25.7 million to 340 nonprofit and local organizations and there is \$7.6 million in funds remaining. Fifty-four percent (54%) of grantee organizations are led by a person of color. Fifty-seven percent (57%) are led by women, and 27 percent are immigrant-serving organizations.

Since its founding in 1976, Boston Lyric Opera has led the way locally and regionally in celebrating the art of the voice, through innovative programming and community engagement initiatives that redefine the opera-going experience. BLO is the largest and longest-lived opera company in New England.

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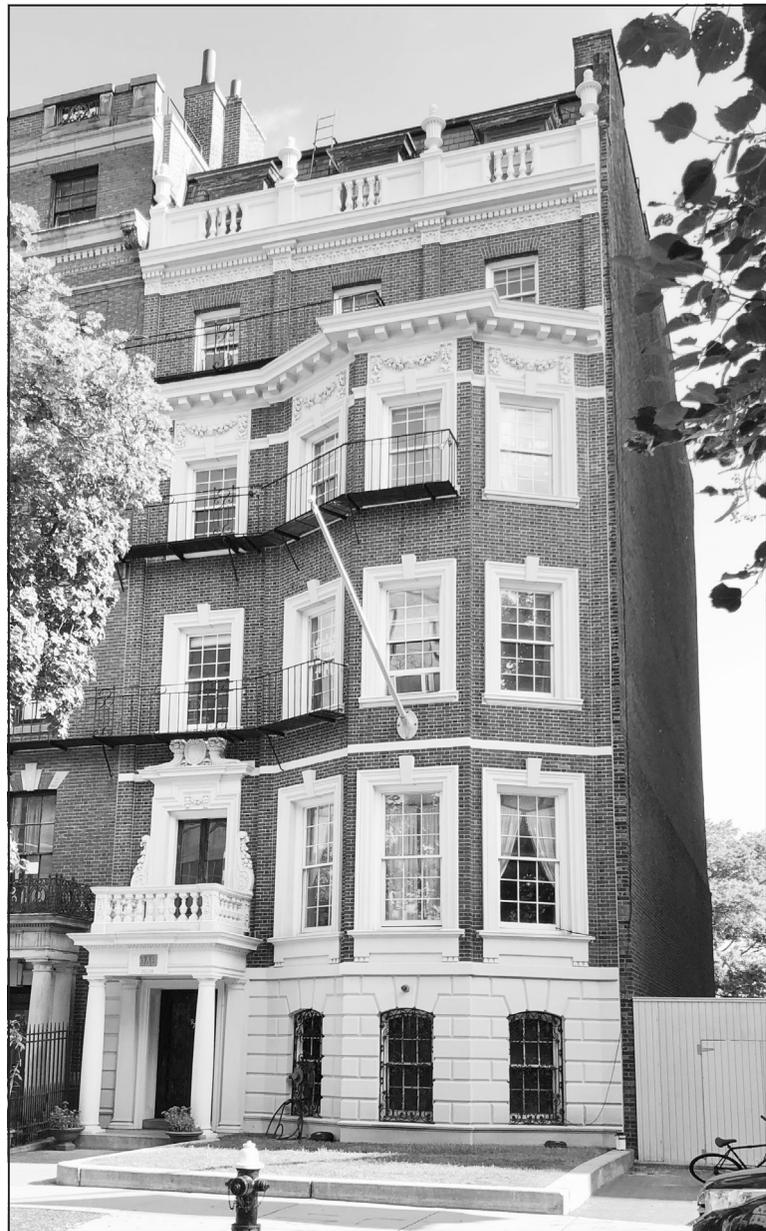
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ATTENTION TO DETAIL

BY PENNY CHERUBINO

THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The ornate window with balcony in the last clue is on 97 Bay State Road built circa 1900 and designed by the architectural firm of Rice and Peters. The Study Report for the Bay State Road Historic District calls this building a rare example of High Georgian Architecture, pointing out the, "... heavy stone carving, swags within the entablature, paneled balustrade and urns at the roofline ..."

The next clue will be found in the South End.

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

THIS WEEK'S CLUE



Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
BACK BAY			
Park, Daniel 11 Gloucester Street NT	Cremmins, Lorretta Gosselin, John T	2 Clarendon St #603 11 Gloucester St #4	\$755,000 \$1,100,000
BEACON HILL			
Biondi, Paul PKLKIL LLC Murray, Ryan J Yeung, Helen H Nadeau, Christopher R Lucent LLC Rogoff, Leah Garcia, Emely B	Atkinson, Tracy A Rowland, Milton C Harriss, Paul G Calareso, Lisa Carl J Barbera RET Stemlar, Anne M Louis O Tamposi Galatas, William A	31 Brimmer St #2 100 Charles St #1 109 Chestnut St #1 2 Hawthorne Pl #16A 36-1/4 Joy St #36-4 30 Pinckney St #7 37 Revere St #8 8 Whittier Pl #6D	\$1,700,000 \$525,000 \$965,000 \$616,000 \$490,000 \$600,000 \$875,000 \$605,000
BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE			
Kim, June H Yan, Zhihong Hewes, Lemuel B Misiano-Uniac, Robyn R Evers, Michael G Laviazar, Brigid Balder, Harrison Dinh, Hao H Alfano, Donald C Nguyen, Josephine L Glazman, Boris Belsky, Alan Chan, Taniel Cohen, Steven M Gibson, Thomas F 86 Exclusive Prop LLC Petro, Julie A Schleer, John S Morduant, Stephanie E Bhiwala-Alhateeb, Zahra S Mulhall, Tara	Goulding, Jonathan A Foy, Noel P Russell, Nicholas G Harte, Thomas M Grigor, Nancy Bernard, Clare Tatkow, Benjamin Luyet, Michael Gentry, Isabel A Daly, Conor W Dechiaro, Steven Conway, William T Corcoran, Leo S Harlan L Lane RET Miller, Wells W Setco LLC JP Property 1 LLC Watch, Janice L Gillis, Andrew Doyle, John P Shapiro, Rachel	54 Appleton St #3 118 Chandler St #4 40 Winchester St #405 8 Dwight St #1 21 Father Francis Gilday St 9 Greenwich Park #5 5 Hanson St #2 700 Harrison Ave #307 725 Harrison Ave #E103 600 Massachusetts Ave #4 15 Upton St #5 42 W Newton St #B2 82-84 Waltham St #7 1166 Washington St #201 1387 Washington St #503 333 Washington St #207B 3531 Washington St #518 10 Worcester Sq #1 8 Worcester Sq #1 40 Worcester St #1 67 Worcester St #4	\$417,000 \$715,000 \$1,242,000 \$665,000 \$799,000 \$1,335,000 \$918,000 \$285,652 \$970,000 \$700,000 \$1,217,500 \$680,000 \$961,000 \$375,000 \$999,000 \$700,000 \$601,800 \$1,360,000 \$869,000 \$1,320,000 \$725,000
WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN			
Elder, David K Nearhos, Stephanie M Dhendecourt, Alexis	Meidhof, Thomas J Eow, Gregory Beitboston LLC	357 Commercial St #10 100 Fulton St #4T 580 Washington St #1012	\$550,000 \$940,000 \$1,200,000

DCR to restart parking enforcement for street sweeping

Staff report

Starting on Tuesday, September 8, and continuing through Monday, November 30, the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) will commence parking enforcement along all DCR Parkways during street sweeping operations. On designated sweeping days, parking is prohibited at various times. Massachusetts State Police (MSP) will enforce the parking restrictions by ticketing

vehicles in violation (the agency is not towing vehicles at this time). Additionally, "No Parking" signs have been installed at specific DCR locations, noting the day and hours that parking is prohibited.

DCR Parkways and Roadways, including, but not limited to:

- Boston – David Mugar Way;
- Jamaica Plain – Arborway, Willow Pond Road, Francis Parkman Drive and Centre Street;
- Fenway – Riverway, Jamai-

caway, Fenway, Forsyth Way, Charlesgate Extension, Park Drive, Boylston Street, Agassiz Road and Perkins Street;

- Chelsea – Commandant's Way and Constitution Beach Road;
- Revere – Revere Beach Boulevard, Broadsound Ave, Winthrop Parkway, Ocean Ave, and Lynnway (Port of Pines);
- Lynn – Lynn Shore Drive;
- Winthrop – Winthrop Shore Drive.

RMV to offer designated service hours for customers 75 or older

Staff Report

The Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) is announcing that it will begin offering dedicated service hours for customers who are 75 years of age or older and are required to renew their Massachusetts driver's license in person.

The new designated service hours will be by appointment only and will be offered on Wednesdays through the month of September at select service center locations. The services will begin on Wednesday, Sept. 2, at the Watertown Service Center with additional locations in Danvers, Leominster, New

Bedford, and South Yarmouth to follow beginning on Wednesday, Sept. 9. The RMV is offering this new customer service option to facilitate proper "social-distancing" protocols to keep customers and staff safe and healthy.

Throughout September, certain service centers will dedicate Wednesdays (hours vary by location) to customers 75 years of age or older whose driver's license or ID card expires in September, including customers whose licenses/IDs were extended until September (March, April, and May expirations).

The following service centers will exclusively serve these

customers who make renewal appointments:

- Danvers Service Center (starting Sept. 9)
- Leominster Service Center (starting Sept. 9)
- New Bedford Service Center (starting Sept. 9)
- South Yarmouth Service Center (starting Sept. 9)
- Watertown Service Center (starting Sept. 2)

Below are the options for seniors to renew by appointment:

- If you are a AAA member, you may make a reservation now to renew your driver's license/ID at a AAA location. Visit aaa.com/ appointments to schedule your

visit.

•If you are not a AAA member, visit Mass.Gov/RMV to make a reservation to renew at an RMV Service Center. Select the Seniors License Renewal option on the Make/Cancel a Reservation transaction.

•Email the RMV for assistance to renew at MassDOTRMVSeniors@dot.state.ma.us email address.

•Call the RMV at 857-368-8005.

License and ID renewal appointments are also available at our other open RMV Service Centers that offer general appointments to the public. Select Renew My Driv-

er's License or Mass ID option on the Make/Cancel a Reservation at Mass.Gov/RMV to view availability and make a reservation at one of these locations.

The RMV is introducing this service channel alternative in light of the COVID-19 public health emergency to encourage 'social-distancing' in its Service Centers and prioritize other essential in-person needs by appointment-only. All RMV customers are encouraged to visit www.Mass.Gov/RMV to complete one of over 40 other transactions available online, by mail, or by phone.

For the Record

C O R O N A V I R U S UPDATE: Due to public health concerns, the hearings that normally would be held on a week have been postponed or canceled due to the guidance of Mayor Martin Walsh and the order of Gov. Charlie Baker. Some meetings, however, have been moved to an online or teleconference format under the emergency order on the Open Meeting Law issued by Gov. Baker.

From the Sept. 2 South End Landmarks Committee meeting, on site, 5 p.m.:

•22 Braddock Park - Proposed work: At the front façade all levels, replace eight (8) curved sash windows in kind; at the roof, construct a roof deck with skylight access.

•51 Rutland Square. Proposed work: Install a railing at the front façade mansard level (which was modified prior to designation).

From the 10 a.m., Sept. 3, CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE HEARING: A remote hearing regarding the expansion of the Boston Services Team. This docket was sponsored by Councilor Annissa Essaibi-George, and was referred to the Committee on July 8, 2020.

From the Sept. 3 Public Improvement Commission meeting, 10 a.m., City Hall Rm. 801:

•On a petition by Mark Kenmore LLC for the Widening, Relocation, and Extension of the existing right-of-way lines of Commonwealth Avenue (public way), Boston Proper, generally at Beacon Street/Kenmore Square, located west of Brookline Avenue.

•On a petition by Charles River Park "D" Company for the making of Specific Repairs within the following public ways in Boston Proper, consisting of curb realignment, roadway and sidewalk reconstruction, as well as new and relocated pedestrian ramps, specialty pavement, street lighting infrastructure, street trees, planters, land-

scaping, storm drain infrastructure, street furniture, bike racks, driveway curb cuts, and the removal of traffic islands:

*Lomasney Way - generally at address no. 35, southeast of Martha Road/Nashua Street;

*Martha Road - on its southwesterly side, northwest of Lomasney Way/Nashua Street;

*Thoreau Path - generally north of William Cardinal O'Connell Way.

•On a petition by CKG Columbus LLC for the making of Specific Repairs within the following public ways in Boston Proper, consisting of consisting of curb realignment, sidewalk and pedestrian ramp reconstruction, as well as new and relocated specialty pavement, street lights, street trees, irrigation infrastructure, storm drain infrastructure, bike racks, and driveway curb cuts:

*Columbus Avenue - on its southeasterly side at address no. 566, between Massachusetts Avenue and West Springfield Street;

*Massachusetts Avenue - on its northeasterly side at address no. 450, southeast of Columbus Avenue;

*West Springfield Street - on its southwesterly side southeast of Columbus Avenue.

•On a petition by 1241 Boylston LLC for the making of Specific Repairs within the following public ways in Boston Proper, consisting of curb realignment, sidewalk and roadway reconstruction, as well as new and relocated pedestrian ramps, specialty pavement, street lights, traffic signal infrastructure, storm drain infrastructure, and a driveway curb cut:

*Boylston Street - on its northwesterly side generally at address no. 1241, at Ipswich Street;

*Ipswich Street - on its northeasterly side, between Van Ness Street and Boylston Street.

•On a petition by 1241 Boylston LLC for the granting of a Projection License for the installation of a canopy over a portion of the sidewalk within Ipswich Street (public way), Boston Proper, located on its northeasterly side at the side of 1241 Boyl-

ston Street, between Van Ness Street and Boylston Street.

From the Sept. 8 CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS HEARING: A hearing regarding an ordinance establishing a Civilian Review Board in the City of Boston. This matter was sponsored by Councilors Andrea Campbell, Ricardo Arroyo, and Julia Mejia. It was referred to the Committee on July 29, 2020.

From the Sept. 8 Boston Art Commission Hearing, 4 p.m., Online via Zoom:

- FOR DISCUSSION
- Emancipation Group statue (Back Bay), 4:10 p.m.
- Fern Cunningham Statement and Proclamation.

From the Sept. 8 Bay State Road/Back Bay West Architectural District, 5 p.m., via Zoom (HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/89750839820)

ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW

- Bay State Road: At rear elevation replace decking at existing balcony.

- 58 Deerfield Street: Replace roof slate and copper flashing in-kind, and re-paint metal cornice to match existing color.

From the Sept. 9 License Board hearing, 10 a.m., via Zoom (HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/87184178172?PWD=Y2ZZVU-1LYXHOU2JMS0JXK0TZWWD-HUT09):

- Boston Shawarma, Inc. D/B/A: Boston Shawarma, 315 HUNTINGTON Ave., Fenway. Has applied for a Common Victualler License to be exercised on the above - In two rooms on the first floor with a kitchen and storage in rear. Manager: Koko Topajian. Hours of Operation: 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.

- April 23 Florist LLC D/B/A: April 23 Café, 222 NEWBURY St., Back Bay. Has applied for a Common Victualler License to be exercised on the above - In two rooms

on the first floor with kitchen in the front and storage in the rear. Manager: Qisheng Jia. Hours of Operation: 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

From the Sept. 9 Back Bay Architectural Commission meeting, 4:30 p.m., via Zoom (HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/86551606937):

VIOLATIONS COMMITTEE PUBLIC MEETING

- 329 Commonwealth Avenue: Unapproved installation of HVAC units at rear deck and on top of penthouse roof.

DESIGN REVIEW

- 15 Arlington Street: Replace four chimney stacks above level 17 at top of building.

- 79 Newbury Street: At front façade redesign stairs and dig-out area at lower retail space.

- 252 Newbury Street: At front façade construct bump-out.

- 292 Newbury Street: At rear elevation convert window into door.

- 28 Exeter Street: Construct roof-top addition.

- 137 Beacon Street: At front yard install temporary exhibit panels.

- 53 Marlborough Street & 300 Berkeley Street: Replace two windows in courtyard, remove one window and door at courtyard and infill openings with masonry, install roof-top HVAC unit at one-story addition, remove HVAC unit at courtyard, install HVAC units at roof of 300 Berkeley Street, and replace handrail at entrance of 53 Marlborough Street.

- 15 Commonwealth Avenue: At rear elevation construct garden wall and re-landscape rear yard.

- 341 Commonwealth Avenue: Replace 31 windows.

- 341 Commonwealth Avenue: Construct roof deck.

- 129 Commonwealth Avenue: Construct one-story rear addition and re-landscape rear yard.

BOSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT UPDATE ON PERMITS

Due to the harsh economic impact of the COVID-19 pandem-

ic on businesses, the Boston Fire Department is extending the expiration date on all existing Place of Assembly and Annual Permits from June 30, 2020 to September 30, 2020. Any issued Place of Assembly Permit or Annual Permit stating an expiration date of June 30, 2020 will now automatically be valid in the City of Boston until September 30, 2020. The invoices for renewal will be mailed out in mid-August, and the permitting cycle for both Place of Assembly and Annual Permits will become October 1 to September 30 of the following year from this point forward.

REPORTING WORKPLACE SAFETY CONCERNS

•Workers in any size organization have options if they feel they are being pressured into an unsafe situation. Attorney General Maura Healey has created resources for workers to report safety concerns during reopening. They include an online form at the Attorney General's website and a dedicated Fair Labor hotline at 617-727-3465. People can also find those resources by calling 311.

HOW TO REPORT A PROBLEM PROPERTY

Since taking office in 2014, Mayor Walsh has made fixing quality of life issues a priority in his administration. From investing in Public Works to making sure community policing is a staple in every neighborhood, we are making sure every neighborhood is clean, safe and a great place to live and work in. Unfortunately some properties in Boston need more help than others, and that's why we are here. If you know of a property that fits one of the following criteria: multiple calls to 911, one that's blighted or just a general concern, we encourage you to reach out to your neighborhood liaison.



UNMATCHED VIEWS OF THE CITY

1 FRANKLIN STREET #3506
2 BEDS | 2.5 BATHS | 3,506 SQFT
\$3,350,000



492 BEACON STREET #14
2 BEDS | 2 BATHS | 1,273 SQFT
\$1,300,000



80 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE #PH
4 BEDS | 3F 2H BATHS | 3,560 SQFT
\$6,250,000



8 BYRON STREET
4 BEDS | 3 BATHS | 2,720 SQFT
\$4,500,000



86 MARLBOROUGH STREET #3
3 BEDS | 3 BATHS | 2,520 SQFT
\$3,250,000

