

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 2021

# THE BOSTON SUN

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## In final State of the City address, Walsh speaks of Boston's resiliency

By Lauren Bennett

Mayor Martin Walsh delivered what was probably his final State of the City address virtually on January 12 from the new Roxbury branch of the Boston Public Library. Last week, President-elect Joe Biden nominated Walsh for Labor Secretary, and on Tuesday night, Walsh told Bostonians that he has accepted the position. The position still needs confirmation from the United States Senate, but if that happens, Walsh will step down and City Council President Kim Janey will become acting mayor. Walsh assumed office in 2014, and was reelected in 2017. "2020 was a tough year. 2021 is a year for healing," Walsh said in his speech, which, at times, became emotional as

he teared up speaking of his life in Boston and his seven years as the city's mayor. In his 2020 address, the mayor made promises to the city regarding affordable housing, education, transportation and more, but the COVID-19 pandemic came out of left field last March and shifted the way the Walsh administration had to think about the city. "COVID has affected all of us, but there's no doubt, it hit some harder than others. In Black, Latino, and immigrant communities, inequities in health, housing, and work opportunities caused more illness and job loss," Walsh said. "Older Bostonians and those with disabilities face the highest risk and the most isolation. Most students have been out of classrooms since March, and

(STATE OF THE CITY, Pg. 4)



PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY OF BOSTON/JEREMIAH ROBINSON

Boston Mayor Martin Walsh delivers what is likely his final State of the City address.

## THREE KINGS SPREAD CHEER AT VILLA VICTORIA



Traditions are part of what makes the South End community strong, even during challenging times. Every year, the Three Kings visit Villa Victoria in the South End the first week of January and bring so much joy to residents. This year, even the pandemic couldn't stop the celebration. Following safety protocols last week, the Three Kings were able to go door-to-door to deliver gifts to all of the children of Villa Victoria, lift the spirits of all who caught a glimpse of them, and remind everyone of the holidays that will be celebrated together in the future.

## Biden taps Mayor Walsh to become U.S. Labor Secretary in Washington, D.C.

Walsh's job performance already garnering praise from Bostonians

By Dan Murphy

After delivering what was likely his final State of the City address on Tuesday night, Mayor Martin J. Walsh is stepping down after seven years as the city's political leader, and his performance on the job is already receiving a largely laudatory response. "I think he will be remembered overall positively," Rep. Jay Livingstone said of Mayor

(PRAISE, Pg. 9)

Mayor has accepted the position, awaits U.S. Senate Confirmation

By Seth Daniel

President-elect Joe Biden has called on Mayor Martin Walsh to join his Cabinet and lead his incoming Labor Department – and Walsh has answered the call for his long-time ally and friend. Rumors had been swirling all last week, particularly in the State House, about Walsh's impending departure – which most thought would be

(WALSH TAPPED, Pg. 7)

## Alexandria to purchase Landmark Center

By Lauren Bennett

Alexandria Real Estate Equities, a real investment trust company that focuses on life science and technology office space, is poised to purchase the Landmark Center, which

includes 401 Park Drive and 201 Brookline Ave., from Samuels & Associates for \$1.52 billion, according to the US Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). "In January 2021, we entered into a definitive agreement to

acquire 401 Park Drive, 201 Brookline Avenue, and one future development opportunity, located in the heart of our Greater Boston life science cluster market, for a purchase

(LANDMARK CENTER, Pg. 3)

# EDITORIAL

## WE MUST NEVER FORGET THE LEGACY OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

As we were watching on TV the dramatic events unfold in Washington last week when the Trump Mob stormed the Capitol, threatening the lives of the Vice President, members of Congress, and the police who tried to hold them back (and actually murdering one of the members of the Capitol Police), the image of a gathering 58 years earlier in August, 1963, illuminated our mind's eye.

We are referring to the March on Washington, when more than 250,000 Americans from all across the country gathered at the Lincoln Memorial on a steamy summer day to demand "jobs and freedom," an event that was climaxed by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s immortal "I Have a Dream" speech.

The March on Washington was famous not only for Dr. King's iconic words, but also because the unprecedented mass gathering of Americans was completely peaceful. Pundits and others had predicted rioting, but there were no arrests, no incidents, no violence -- a stark contrast to the events of last Wednesday perpetrated by Trump's Mob.

The March on Washington and Dr. King's subsequent peaceful protests galvanized support for the goals of "jobs and freedom," eventually resulting in laws such as the Voting Rights Act and the Civil Rights Act that ended segregation in the South and discrimination in the North.

We would note that even the best efforts of a revered figure such as Dr. King could not stem the tide of violent rioting that marked the 1960s, most notably Watts in 1965, Detroit in 1967, and Chicago in 1968.

Yet Dr. King's legacy of peaceful protest is what endures today.

For those of us old enough to remember the 1960s, it's hard to believe that it has been almost 53 years since Dr. King was assassinated while he was standing on a balcony in a motel room in Memphis. Dr. King was in Memphis to show his solidarity with striking city trash collection workers.

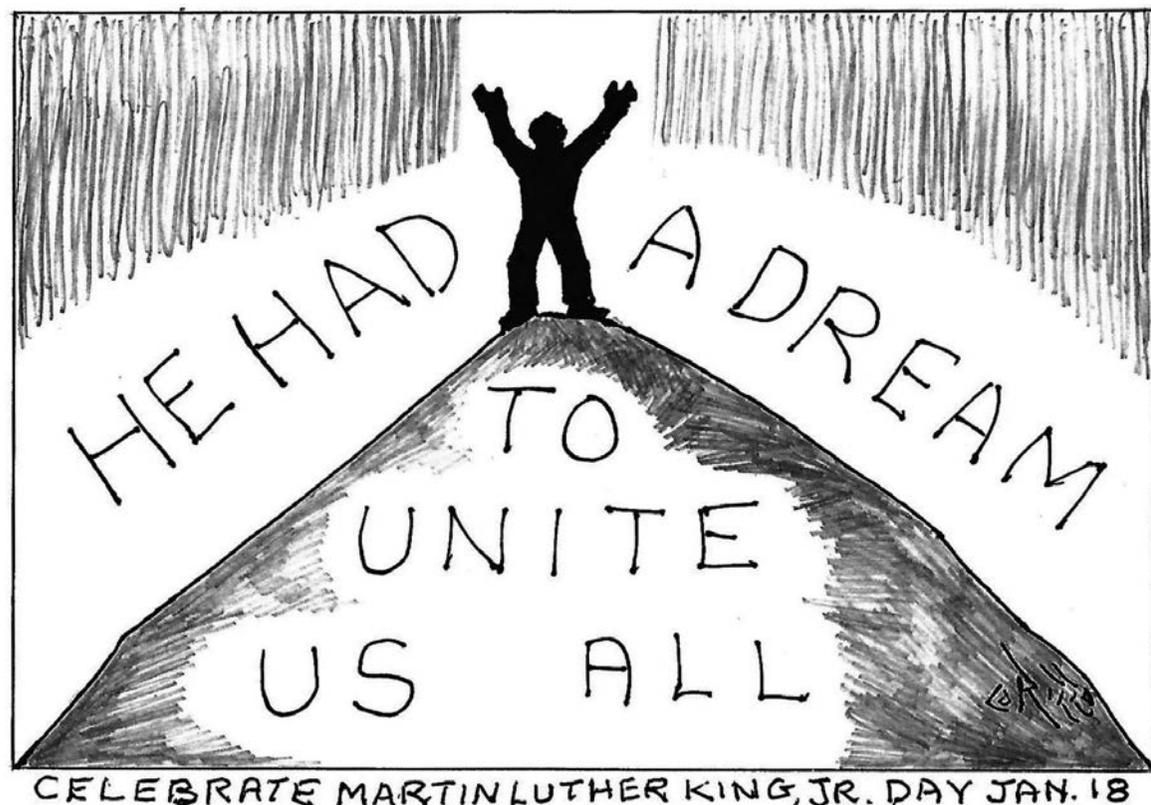
Every school child for the past generation knows well the story of Dr. Martin Luther King. But an elementary school textbook cannot truly convey the extent to which he brought about real change in our country. To anyone under the age of 50, Dr. King is just another historical figure.

But for those of us who can recall the 1960s, a time when racial segregation was lawful throughout half of our country and a stealthy racism prevailed throughout the other half, Martin Luther King stands out as one of the great leaders in American history, a man whose stirring words and perseverance to his cause changed forever the historical trajectory of race relations in America, a subject that some historians refer to as the Original Sin of the American experience.

However, as much as things have changed for the better in the past 53 years in terms of racial equality in our society, the events of last Wednesday also made it clear that we still have a long way to go before it can be said, as Dr. King put it in his speech at the Lincoln Memorial in 1963: "I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character."

"What would Dr. Martin Luther King do if he were alive today?" we often ask ourselves. We can't say for sure, but we do know that although King accomplished much in his lifetime, he would be the first to understand that the work for which he gave his life still is far from done.

Dr. King advocated for non-violent protest and he practiced what he preached. That's a lesson that must be re-learned by each succeeding generation. We can only hope that his spirit and courage can continue to inspire this and future generations to bring about a world in which all persons are treated with fairness, dignity, and respect.



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### WHAT IS USES BRAGGING ABOUT?

Dear Editor,

The Harriet Tubman House has now been completely demolished. In the process, while wrecking crews did their dirty work, United South End Settlements hung banners along the fence telling of the wonders of its many programs and core values. Is the demolition of its building one of those wonders?

We read 'Join us in the fight for racial equity. Harness your power to disrupt the cycle of poverty.' And just how do you do that? By tearing down your building and putting up luxury condos?

Many tout programs that used to operate inside the Tubman House, although with less affected-sounded names like: *whole family approach*, *family mobility*. Only *early childhood education* sounds right. Several of the banners even incorporate photos of Jameel Parker's mural, which was smashed like everything else.

'Visit our programs at 48 Rutland Street' - as though the place was anywhere near as big as the Tubman House and could incorporate all the programs.

I found the addition of Christmas wreaths offensive. What's to celebrate about tear-

ing down the place?

The messages along the fence are what a friend of mine calls balloon talk. Don't forget the mandatory 'Black Lives Matter.'

Alison Barnet  
South End

### MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN CLIMATE CHANGE

Dear Editor,

The City of Boston has announced a new program that will reduce Boston's contribution to climate change. The Community Choice Electricity (CCE) program delivers electricity from sources with 28% renewable energy content vs today's 18% renewable energy for slightly less than today's cost. Residents do not have to do anything to participate, vir-

tually all Boston's residents are automatically enrolled in the program.

But the exciting part of the CCE program is the "opt up" option to the Green 100 plan which provides electricity to residents that is 100% from renewable sources for only a few cents more per kWh!

I compared our electricity bill for 2020 to what it would have been if we were on the new Green 100 plan. Our bill would have increased by less \$10.00 per month, or roughly \$0.32 per day. To me that is a small price to pay for electricity from 100% renewable sources.

The CCE program begins February 1 and the majority of Boston residents are automatically enrolled in the plan which delivers electricity from 28% renewable energy. For those who

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## THE BOSTON SUN

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**LANDMARK CENTER** (from pg. 1)

price of \$1.52 billion,” Alexandria Real Estate said in the SEC report, which was dated January 5, 2021.

According to a recent Boston Globe article, Samuels & Associates bought the former Sears building in 2011 “with financial backing from an arm of JP Morgan, for \$530 million.” The developer had promised various forms of programming for the community with the creation of a new lawn in front of the building by paving over a parking lot, and offered things

like ice skating and workout classes in the new park prior to the pandemic.

The Rink at 401 Park had its grand opening in December of 2019, and Samuels & Associates touted the rink as one that is easily set up and removed due to piping connected to a chiller in the basement of 401 Park Drive, rather than having a large, external chiller.

The development also brought Time Out Market, a food hall with food from Boston’s top restaurateurs, to the

building, as well as a Trillium Brewing Company location.

“During the past decade, Samuels & Associates has invested in the repositioning of 401 Park as a destination for the innovation economy, health and life sciences, and related companies, updated the ground floor experience to include a new public park and Time Out Market food hall, and expanded the available commercial spaces with the redevelopment of 201 Brookline,” a spokesperson for Samuels & Associ-

ates told the Sun.

“Our view is that the Fenway would continue to attract high quality life sciences firms, led to the design of 201 Brookline as a leading lab-ready building, which has proven its worth, both to tenants and investors. We will retain ownership of significant holdings in the neighborhood, including life science assets, residential, and retail.

In looking ahead to the future, we remain confident that this site, including the lab-ready 201 Brookline project, and additional commercial development, will continue to be a draw for the region’s growing life sciences community. We are pleased with Alexandria’s vote of confidence in the project and the Fenway neighborhood. We will remain a partner in the

project and look forward to collaborating with Alexandria on the management, leasing, and future development of this site.”

Alexandria Real Estate Equities declined to comment on the sale.

On January 14, 2021, the Boston Planning and Development Agency recommended that the Board of Directors approve the sale of the building, citing that “The General Counsel has determined that the changes set forth in the Application do not collectively constitute a ‘fundamental change’...and a public hearing is therefore not required.” The Board of Directors is set to vote on this matter at its Jan.14 meeting.

**LETTERS** (from pg. 2)

wish to opt up to the Green 100 plan the details are on the City of Boston’s website, search on CCE. All you need is your Ever-source account number. CCE is a program that we should all be embracing to help our planet. Please join me in opting up to the Green 100 plan.

**Stephen Morgan**  
South End

**BATHROOMS VERY NEEDED IN PUBLIC PARKS**

Dear Editor,  
We cannot deny that bathrooms are necessary for a basic human need. This need for bathrooms in public space is denied now more than ever. I am not alone in this concern. I am a volunteer with Common Cathedral and Common Art. I have heard from many homeless people about the difficulty and often the impossibility of finding an open public bathroom on the Common and at Copley Square. I have also heard about the horrible indignities they suffer when they can’t find a bathroom, indignities which no human should have to suffer. I can-not ignore this and I beg you not to ignore it.

This lack of accessible, safe, clean bathrooms continues to be a serious public health problem which affects us all: homeless people who sleep outside as well as the many residents and tourists who enjoy these beautiful parks. Many homeless people formerly used the bathrooms at the Copley Library, now closed since last March. Hotels won’t let non-guests use the facilities. Burger King on

Tremont Street won’t even let customers use their bathrooms. Current-ly there is no place for them to go since so many places are closed because of the virus.

We do not need to re-invent the wheel. I think there are some simple solutions. There already are some great bathrooms on the Common: at The Frog Pond and at the Visitors Information Center. However, the City of Boston doesn’t manage them. The Frog Pond bathrooms are managed by the Skating Club of Boston and are open currently from 10 to 4 Saturday through Thursday and from 10 to 5 on Fridays. I think the Frog Pond bathrooms could stay open all night. Or even at the least they could be open the hours that the Common is open to the public – which are 6 AM to 11:30 PM. The Visitors Information Center on the Common next to Tremont Street also has great bathrooms. It is managed by the Greater Boston Convention and Visitors Bureau, but sadly their bathrooms are now closed until further notice. They had to furlough some employees as a result of the pandemic.

I am sure that if the Skating Club and the Greater Boston Convention and Visitors Bureau had more funding they could be able to be open longer hours. The extra staffing needed to supervise and maintain these bathrooms could be quickly hired. I believe money can be found in the city’s budget and also raised from local businesses.

Other cities have responded to the bathroom crisis. Cambridge has public bathrooms

in Harvard Square and in Central Square. Why can’t Boston just get the bathrooms it already has open longer hours and/or put up some porta potties and supervise them? For about \$1500 a month five porta-potties and a hand sanitation station can be rented and installed with weekly maintenance included. San Francisco has 24 supervised San Francisco Pit Stop stations, most of which are open 24/7. Why does Boston continue to ignore the problem? If there is a big event, like the Boston Marathon, there’s no problem having porta-potties at Copley. But now with everything shut because of the vi-rus and with the need for public bathrooms greater than ever, the city of Boston has its head in the sand and ignores the problem.

Bathrooms are a necessity in public spaces. Simply put: The city can and should collaborate with the Skating Club and the Greater Boston Convention Bureau so they can extend their hours and hire the staff needed to maintain and supervise these bathrooms. Or install some porta-potties which can be supervised and used in a safe and clean manner. This is not impossible given the combined resources of the city, the Skating Club and the Greater Boston Business and Convention Bureau. A workable solution must be found and implemented as soon as possible to have bathrooms on the Common and at Copley Square 24/7. All people should be able to take care of a basic body function and keep their dignity.

**Maria Termini**



**Why have some communities not been a part of medical research?**

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## STATE OF THE CITY (from pg. 1)

families have struggled with childcare.”

Walsh honored the 1,060 Boston residents who have lost their lives to the virus, and praised those who stepped up to help during the crisis, including EMTs, doctors, nurses, firefighters, police officers, and more.

“As mayor, I made decisions I never thought I’d have to make: to close schools; pause construction; turn our convention center into a field hospital; and cancel the Boston Marathon for the first time in its history,” Walsh said.

He also spoke of other achievements in 2020, including the creation of a Health Inequities Task Force and the Boston Resiliency Fund, the distribution of more than six million meals to Boston residents, providing 40,000 laptops to Boston Public Schools (BPS) students, and the distribution of permanent rental vouchers to more than 1,000 families at risk for homelessness.

“We may be hurting, but the state of our city is resilient; the state of our city is united; the state of our city is hopeful; and the state of our city is deep-down Boston strong,” Walsh said.

Looking forward, Walsh said that “there will be more hard

decisions to make,” but everyone must keep playing their part by wearing masks and following all other guidelines to help stop the spread of the virus. The city will continue to provide free COVID testing, Walsh said, as well as access to the vaccine once it becomes available for more and more people.

Earlier this week, BPS announced a new plan for reopening school safely for hybrid learning, and Walsh said the distribution of food, laptops, clothing, and housing supports will be expanded.

“We’ve been hit hard by the COVID recession,” Walsh said. “For seven years, we built one of the most dynamic and resilient economies in the world.”

He said that jobs can be brought back to every neighborhood as part of economic recovery in the city.

Walsh also provided a special message to the city’s small business owners. “You are the soul of our economy, and you sacrificed so much for the safety of our city,” he said. “I will never forget it.”

He added that \$26 million has been provided to almost 4,000 small businesses so far, and small business will be “at the center of our recovery,” he said.

Walsh also said that construction on new affordable homes will continue, as Boston has “stayed the national leader in subsidized, affordable housing.”

Boston is also now the first city in the nation with a requirement for Fair Housing in the zoning code. “It’s a powerful tool to protect residents from displacement,” Walsh said.

Walsh also addressed recovery services, which he said have remained in place since March, as well as climate work. He said that he “made sure that Boston never strayed from the Paris agreement—even when the White House did.”

Boston has already issued its first Green Bonds, which will fund projects related to energy efficiency, and Community Choice electricity will become a reality next month.

Walsh also spoke about racial equality in the city. “The urgency of our work has never been more clear,” he said. “Last summer, George Floyd’s murder sparked a long-overdue reckoning with racism. I thank Black Bostonians for the way you made your voices heard. And I thank everyone who joined the movement — Black, white, Latino, Asian, and indigenous peoples standing together.”

He said that he has “listened

to those who have been there to tell their stories and speak their truth,” from Black youth on his team to leaders, clergy, and activists. “They described lifelong anxiety around being pre-judged and denied opportunities,” Walsh said. “I heard grief, not just over lives lost -- but over children’s futures limited.”

Last year, Walsh declared racism a public health crisis, allocated millions of dollars into youth and other programs, and “we enacted historic police reforms, with Black and Brown Bostonians leading the work,” he said. The city is now in search of a Chief of Equity to lead the work.

He said that though he is “proud of the work we’ve done in Boston,” he added that “doing better than before isn’t enough,” and systemic racism needs to be addressed on all levels in the city.

“No city is better prepared than Boston to meet this moment,” Walsh said, adding that the city has “set a new standard for fiscal management,” and has earned triple-A bond ratings for seven consecutive years.

“We made the right decisions in the good times, so Boston has the strength to move forward now.” He mentioned many new investments, such as historic investments in parks, libraries, a brand new fire station in Roxbury, the renovation of Boston City Hall plaza, and many others.

“I believe in Boston,” Walsh said. “This is the city that welcomed my immigrant parents. This is the city that picked me up when I needed a second

chance. This is the city where I fought side by side with you for marriage equality, immigrant rights, addiction treatment, criminal justice reform, education funding, and good middle-class jobs.”

He said that as part of the Biden Administration, he “will work to make sure it’s the best federal partner Boston and America’s cities ever had.”

He continued, “the truth is, I’m not going to Washington alone. I’m bringing Boston with me. This city is not just my hometown, it’s my heart.” He mentioned many people who have helped and guided him over the years, including his parents, teachers, priests, the kids he coached in Little League, those he met in recovery, his colleagues at the State House, and other elected officials he currently serves alongside, among many others.

“Seven years ago, at my first inauguration, I said ‘I will listen, I will learn, I will lead. We are sworn in together and we are in this together – all of us.’ I meant it. Every minute of every day in this job, I spent listening to you, talking with you, working with you and working for you. I will never forget it, and I will forever be grateful.”

Walsh finished his speech by saying that Boston still has “tough days ahead of us. But we’ve been knocked down before, and we always get back up. In 2021, Boston will rise up again. We will leave no one behind. And our city will be stronger than ever.”

The full text and video of Mayor Walsh’s address can be found at: [www.boston.gov/news/state-city-2021](http://www.boston.gov/news/state-city-2021).



## Virtual Public Meeting

# Parcel 8 Proposal Presentations

**Monday, January 25**  
6:00 PM - 7:45 PM

**Zoom Link:** [bit.ly/parcel8](https://bit.ly/parcel8)  
**Toll Free:** (833) 568 - 8864  
**Meeting ID:** 161 399 1728

### Project Description:

Join the BPDA for a presentation of three proposals for redeveloping Parcel 8 in Nubian Square. Review the proposals at [bit.ly/PlanNubian](https://bit.ly/PlanNubian). Interpretation and translation will be provided in Spanish and Haitian Creole.

Rejwenn Ajans Devlopman ak Planifikasyon Boston pou yon prezantasyon nan twa pwopozisyon pou redevlope Pasèl Teren 8 nan Nubian Square. Konsilte pwopozisyon yo nan [bit.ly/PlanNubian](https://bit.ly/PlanNubian). Peryòd kòmantè a pral fèmen nan 8 Fevriye. Yo pral bay sèvis entèpretasyon ak tradiksyon nan lang Kreyòl Ayisyen ak Panyòl.

Únase a la Agencia de Planificación y Desarrollo de Boston para asistir a la presentación de tres propuestas para la reurbanización de la parcela 8 de la plaza Nubian. Vea las propuestas en [bit.ly/PlanNubian](https://bit.ly/PlanNubian). El período de comentarios se cerrará el 8 de febrero. Se ofrecerá interpretación y traducción al español y al criollo haitiano.

mail to: **Morgan McDaniel**  
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**Close of Comment Period:**  
2/8/2021

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# Council President Janey starting transition to Acting Mayor

By Seth Daniel

Council President Kim Janey appears to be about ready to make history in becoming Acting Mayor of the city – thus also becoming the first African American mayor of Boston.

Janey, who represents part of the South End and Lower Rox-

bury, said in a statement she would be ready to take the reins if Mayor Walsh were confirmed. “I want to start by congratulating Mayor Walsh on his nomination for U.S. Secretary of Labor,” she said. “His deep love for the City, and his dedication to working people and good jobs, have left a remarkable

impact, and his legacy will show that dedication. Should Mayor Walsh be confirmed by the Senate, I am ready to take the reins and lead our city through these difficult times. I look forward to working with the Walsh administration and my colleagues on the Council to ensure a smooth transition, as we address the

unprecedented challenges facing our city.”

In his State of the City Address on Tuesday night, Walsh expressed confidence in Janey’s ability to lead the City through the COVID-19 pandemic and other challenges.

“If confirmed by the United States Senate, I will step down as Mayor, and City Council President Kim Janey will become Acting Mayor,” he said. “I have spoken with Councilor Janey. I am confident that the operations of City government, including our COVID response, will continue smoothly. And I want you to know, the work we have done together for the past seven years has prepared Boston to build back stronger than ever.”

Sources on the City Council said if Janey were to become Acting Mayor, she would also remain Council President and District 7 Councilor at the same time.

Her staff did not immediate-



Council President Kim Janey would become Acting Mayor if Mayor Walsh were to be confirmed as the next U.S. Labor Secretary.

# Arroyo files Council order to waive Special Election

By Seth Daniel

City Councilor Ricardo Arroyo has filed a Home Rule Petition before the City Council to waive any Special Mayoral Election that would be triggered if Mayor Martin Walsh were confirmed as the new U.S. Secretary of Labor and would leave before March 6.

mayoral candidates Michelle Wu and Andrea Campbell, the Special Election plays well for them in that they have a significant head start on campaigning and fundraising.

hasn’t read or will be before her Committee, but she does plan to have a hearing sooner rather than later on the matter.

ly return a message this week to confirm if that were the case.

Janey won election as the District 7 Councilor when the seat opened up as long-time Councilor Tito Jackson ran against Walsh for Mayor in the 2017 General Election. After serving one, two-year term, she was elected to the Council President position in January 2020.

Her late father, Cliff Janey, was a noted educator and taught at the Bancroft School in the South End from 1974-77 in the turbulent busing era.

The City Charter indicates that a Special Election would occur sometime in June if Walsh were to leave before the cutoff date of March 6, which most expect will certainly happen. The Charter indicates that if there is a vacancy in the mayoral seat within 16 months of the last Municipal Election, a Special Election must take place. With the current timeline in Washington, D.C., in overdrive, it is highly likely that Special Election mandate would be triggered.

However, Arroyo said he believes a Special Election would be too dangerous and could suppress the vote of minority communities in Boston.

Such a call has a steep hill to climb to become reality.

With so many on the Council anticipating a Special Election run, it would be a difficult task to get it out of the Council in the first place. Were it to pass the Council, it would have to go to the State Legislature as a Home Rule Petition to be approved by the full body.

Her staff did not immediate-

That has been a gift from Heaven to many considering a run in the Special Election, particularly for those already in office, as they could run without having to give up their existing seats in state or City government. For already announced

“Holding an unnecessary and redundant Special Election for the position of Mayor of Boston would endanger the health of Boston residents during a deadly pandemic, exacerbate an already uncertain financial future for the City, and contribute to existing inequities often seen in special elections that contribute to the disenfranchisement of immigrant, low-income, disabled, Black, and Latinx communities,” he said.

The Special Election date would depend on when, or if, Walsh is confirmed by the U.S. Senate and leaves his mayoral seat. Most estimate the date of a Special Election would figure to be in June.

Her staff did not immediate-

# Fenway Rep. Chynah Tyler set to become youngest chair of state Black and Latino Legislative Caucus

Staff report

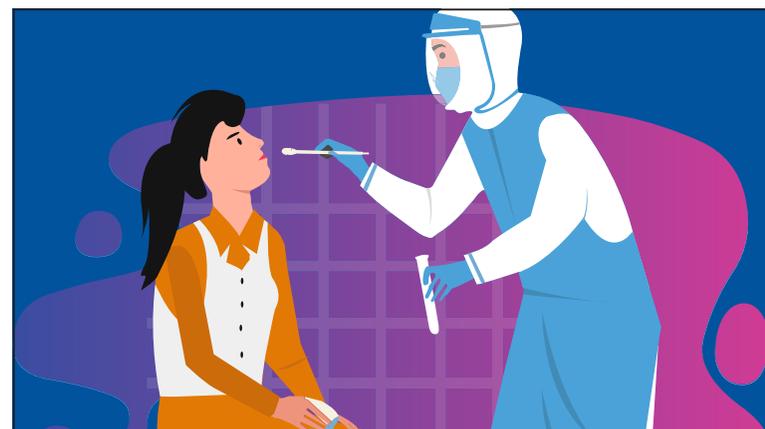
Rep. Chynah Tyler is set to become the Chair of the 15-member Massachusetts Black and Latino Legislative Caucus (MBLLC) for the 2021-2022 legislative session. Rep. Tyler succeeds Rep. Carlos Gonzalez of Springfield who served as chair during the 2019-2020 legislative session. At 31 years-old Rep. Tyler will be the youngest Chair since the Caucus’s founding in 1973.

“I am proud and honored to be leading my fellow Black and Latino legislators through these

most difficult times. In this new role, I am looking forward to building strong coalitions with all of my colleagues in the legislature including Senate President Spilka and Speaker Mariano, Governor Baker and members of the community so that we may continue to uplift the issues of Black, Latino and residents of color from around the Commonwealth,” said incoming Chair Tyler. “I am humbled by the distinction of becoming the Caucus’s youngest Chair as now more than ever we need the next generation of leaders to come forward with creative

solutions, bold leadership and to take decisive action.”

As the incoming Chair of the MBLLC, Rep. Tyler has expressed her continued commitment to equity in all aspects of public life with a strong focus on education, public health, and public safety saying “This pandemic has only served to horribly exacerbate preexisting inequities in our society. As we move into this new legislative session it is imperative that we continue to approach every issue with equity at the forefront of the discussion.”



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EBNHC provides walk-thru COVID-19 testing to anyone who wants to be tested, six days a week at 79 Paris Street.

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Monday-Friday: 8am-11:30am and 1pm-4:30pm  
Saturday: 10am-1:30pm



Visit [ebnhc.org/covid19](http://ebnhc.org/covid19) for other testing sites around Boston

# South End leaders note unfinished business with Walsh's departure

Most give him good marks, could have done better with opioid crisis

By Seth Daniel

With all signs this week pointing to Mayor Martin Walsh being confirmed as the next U.S. Labor Secretary for President-elect Joe Biden, many in the South End said they gave his Administration high marks on things like affordable housing and City services, but would have liked to see him do better on the opioid crisis in their neighborhood.

At the same time, many said they also worry about a lot of unfinished business that the sudden departure of Mayor Walsh has left undone – issues like private sewers, Mass/Cass 2.0 and pedestrian safety efforts.

South End Forum Moderator Steve Fox was one who felt there was a lot of unfinished business left in the South End. He said he would be using those unfinished issues as a gauge for any candidate.

“We wish the mayor well in his new work in DC,” said

Fox. “What we want to know now is how we can continue to advance the agenda on so many issues like Mass/Cass 2.0 and Long Island and Water & Sewer equity...Our attention will be focused on what the policies and positions are for candidates on these unfinished issues of crucial importance to the South End.”

George Stergios, president of the Worcester Square Area Neighborhood Association (WSANA), said most of Mayor Walsh's efforts were successful in the neighborhood, but said his effectiveness on the opiate crisis could have been better.

“I hope he has as much success as Secretary of Labor as he had with most of his efforts as Mayor, for example, in expanding affordable housing, and more success than he had with the one that affects us in WSANA the most, the opiate crisis,” he said.

Eight Streets President Michael Almond had a similar view of Walsh's time in office.

He said residents have felt that Walsh has responded well to COVID-19, and coordinated well with Gov. Charlie Baker on the pandemic. He said the flow of information and services to residents has been “laudable.” Almond also said the talent on

the ground, with the Office of Neighborhood Services (ONS), was substantially upgraded during Walsh's tenure – and also gave him high marks on expanding affordable housing.

“In the South End in particular, ONS staff have been very responsive to residents' concerns and we trust that this commitment will continue,” he said. “The track record of the Boston economy speaks for itself. As importantly though, the Walsh Administration has made a commitment to providing affordable housing to ensure that the city remains a diverse community.”

He said one area he would have liked to have seen more improvement, like Stergios, was on the opiate crisis. “One disappointing aspect of the Walsh Administration has been the slow response to the Opioid crisis,” he said. “It took a long time to develop an adequately resourced response and this delay put a huge strain on many South End residents and neighborhoods. Going forward we hope that the Mayor's successor will redouble the legal efforts to reopen the Long Island Bridge and shelter facilities to give those devastated by the Opioid crisis the support they need.”

WSANA Vice President Desi Murphy said he felt the Administration was just hitting its stride when Walsh announced his departure.

“I thought his Administration was starting to hit their stride becoming more confident and engaging us better,” he said. “It's disappointing for him not to finish his term but let's be honest with ourselves - who is going to say no to a job offer from the president? Many of the actual and potential candidates will bring new perspectives on Mass and Cass. Hopefully they will continue the successful efforts like public works and the continued willingness to engage neighbors. I hope that the eventual new mayor or mayors continue supporting Long Island (Recovery Campus).”

Like Eight Streets, East Berkeley Neighborhood Association (EBNA) President Ken Smith said his Association members really valued the consistent talent at ONS – which he said helped EBNA advance some long-time goals.

“The EBNA has been fortunate to work with Mayor Walsh's Administration these past few years,” he said. “We haven't always had the best support and visibility from

the Mayor's office, but this did improve over the past few years. We gained traction with our goals for the neighborhood through the support and dedication of Faisa Sharif. We believe her promotion is a sign that the Administration valued her level of engagement and listening to the concerns with neighborhood leaders and the associations/constituents they represent.”

WSANA Board member, and Walsh supporter, Bob Minnocci said he was convinced Walsh wasn't leaving his seat, so he was surprised of the announcement – and disappointed. He said the departure leaves a lot of loose strings, and hopes those issues won't see a reversal just as he felt they were hitting their stride.

“He assured a number of people over the past few months that he was in Boston to stay and finish the work he started and would not be going to Washington,” he said. “Politics and words of politicians sometimes have a short shelf life. His departure leaves some of his best work, like Long Island, possibly in peril, depending on who succeeds him and their inclination toward the drug recovery campus, which we desperately need.”

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**WALSH TAPPED** (from pg. 1)

announced last Wednesday. National events at the U.S. Capitol seemed to postpone that, and on Tuesday it was first officially reported by Politico.com. On Friday, Biden held a television press conference to make the official announcement

“I am nominating a good friend and a stand-up guy – Marty Walsh of Boston,” said Biden on Friday. “The son of Irish immigrants, his only downside is they’re not from Mayo, they’re from Galway. They left Galway and moved to Boston. Marty was born and raised in Dorchester. People who know him know he’s tough as nails...He’s in his second term a successful time as mayor of the iconic city of Boston and always puts working people first...Marty understands that the middle-class built this country and unions built the middle class. He sees how union workers have held this country together in crisis...They are literally keeping this country going and they deserve a Secretary of Labor who knows how to build their power of workers. He knows that when I say our future is built in America, it will be a future built by American workers.”

He noted that the Free Labor Standards Act didn’t say one could only have unions, but said unions should be encouraged. Some of the issues Biden identified for Walsh to work on was a \$15 minimum wage, pension protection, worker safety, wage theft, union participation in trade policy and paid family leave. In a bit of a surprise, Biden said he gave “serious consideration” to putting Sen. Bernie Sanders into the position, but the two decided it would be best for Sanders to remain in the Democratically-controlled Senate. He would be the first union member to serve as Secretary of Labor. He would need to be confirmed by the U.S. Senate

“This is one of the most important departments to me,” said Biden. “I trust Mayor Walsh and I am honored he accepted.”

Walsh spoke during the press conference also, but his most poignant comments came during Tuesday’s State of the City Address – where he often got emotional at the parts where he spoke about leaving his hometown and his job as mayor, which he has called his

“dream job.”

He told the online audience Tuesday that he had accepted the job of Labor Secretary and was just waiting for Senate confirmation.

“In eight days, we’ll have friends and allies in the White House who believe in cities and share our values,” he said, beginning to choke up. “As a member of that Administration, I will work to make sure it’s the best federal partner Boston and America’s cities ever had. The truth is, I’m not going to Washington alone. I’m bringing Boston with me. This city is not just my hometown, it’s my heart. It’s my mother and father at the kitchen table on Taft Street in Dorchester, talking about helping people...In the end, I carry with me the people of Boston, from every neighborhood: every child who shared a dream with me; every senior who shared a memory; every business owner who welcomed me in; every nonprofit or community leader I worked with; and everyone watching right now who cares about their family and the future of this city.”

It wrapped up a surprising few days in City politics where many loyal Walsh supporters felt there was no way he was going to leave for Washington, D.C., though others – primarily in the State House – felt it was an absolute given. The news first came on Thursday around 1:30 p.m. when Politico.com broke the official news.

However, Councilor Michelle Wu – who is running for mayor – enjoyed breaking the news somewhat before it became official in issuing a statement shortly after the Politico story. That, of course, is something the mayor did for her last fall when he “outed” her mayoral campaign to The Boston Globe before she officially announced it.

“Congratulations to Mayor Marty Walsh on his nomination as Labor Secretary for the Biden Administration,” said Wu. “He will be the first union member to serve in this role in nearly 50 years, and his leadership will come at a critical time for the labor movement. There is much work to do to clean up the backwards, anti-worker policies of the Trump administration that have hurt so many here in our city, and

Boston needs a partner to fight for working families at the federal level.”

The other announced mayoral candidate, District 4 Councilor Andrea Campbell – a former Council President – also issued a statement Thursday afternoon.

“Congratulations to Mayor Walsh on his nomination as Secretary of Labor - a fitting role for someone who has spent his entire career fighting for working people in and out of public service,” she said. “The realities of deep division in our country and city have never been more clear than they have this year - amidst a pandemic and yesterday’s domestic attack on our democracy. For Boston, there’s so much at stake in 2021 as we look to recover from this pandemic and reimagine what our city can be without persistent inequities. I know Mayor Walsh will be a partner in that work in this new role.”

Others that had been suggested alongside Walsh were Congressman Andy Levin of Michigan, former Deputy Labor Secretary Seth Harris, California Labor Secretary Julie Su and AFL-CIO Chief Economist Bill Spriggs, according to the Politico.com report and other previous media reports.

Local trade unions immediately gave their support to Biden picking Walsh.

“IBEW Local 103 has seen firsthand that Marty Walsh is a champion for all working people,” said Business Manager Lou Antonellis. “We share his values that every worker deserves access to great training, great careers, and a chance at the American dream. As an organizer, legislator, and Mayor, Marty Walsh has demonstrated his profound commitment to making stronger communities and safer workplaces.”

The state AFL-CIO also commended the pick, noting they have worked closely with Walsh and believe he will be a great Secretary of Labor.

“Marty Walsh is a champion of working people and is a perfect pick to lead the Department of Labor,” said Massachusetts AFL-CIO President Steven A. Tolman. “From my time working side by side with Marty Walsh both in the legislature and as the President of



Mayor Martin Walsh shown here being sworn in on Jan. 1, 2018 at the Cutler Majestic Theatre as his mother, family and President-elect Joe Biden look on. Biden was the keynote speaker at the Inauguration event and spoke about the close friendship with Mayor Walsh – which has now budded into what looks to be a close working relationship as Walsh heads off to become a member of the new Presidential Cabinet.

the Massachusetts AFL-CIO, I have seen the unmatched level of care and passion he brings to fighting for working people every day. His service and record as a dedicated labor leader, legislator, and Mayor of Boston provides overwhelming evidence that he will be a terrific Secretary of Labor.”

There haven’t yet been any announcements as to when confirmation hearings would begin, but certainly they would be after the Jan. 21 Inauguration Day, though many believe confirmation could come quickly with the U.S. Senate soon being controlled by the Democratic Party.

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# Who's Running? More like who isn't running for mayor

State Rep. Santiago looks to be heading for a run

By Seth Daniel

In the wake of Mayor Martin Walsh deciding to join the Biden Administration in Washington, D.C., everyone quickly wondered who would be a candidate in any Special Election, which would be required if Walsh left office before March 6 – which he is expected to do.

That said, the proper question this week wouldn't be who is running, but rather who isn't running.

Filling Mayor Walsh's seat could likely mean a workout for voters at the polls in 2021. Were there a Special Election in June as required by the City Charter, that would mean there would also be a Preliminary Election in September and a General Election in November. The City could potentially have four mayors in one year in some scenarios. Were things

to change after November with the shifting political sands nationally and at the state level, it could even mean another Special Election sometime thereafter.

In the South End, the major story brewing right now is what looks like it could be a serious effort by State Rep. Jon Santiago to run for mayor.

"I am weighing my options," he told the newspaper on Sunday.

On Monday, he also told television news stations that, as an Emergency Room doctor, leading the City through the pandemic is appealing.

"This election will be the most consequential race in the city of Boston," Santiago told Boston 25 news. "And we are in a crisis of epic proportions that has ravaged the economy and the public health system. And I think the opportunity to lead the city through this end of this crisis is incredibly appealing. And I also think that my experience in government, medicine and the military really

lends itself towards that."

Santiago is a shooting star type of candidate in that he has succeeded in so many arenas, including politics, very quickly. Just starting his second term as a state representative whose territory includes the South End, Lower Roxbury, and parts of the Back Bay and Beacon Hill, he is also a captain in the Army National Guard and returned from a deployment to the Middle East in mid-December. Also an Emergency Room doctor at Boston Medical Center, he chronicled on social media his walk through a blizzard in December – one day after returning from his deployment – to get the COVID-19 vaccine. Through his deployment, he said he had never missed a vote in the State House.

Prior to that, he also worked the front lines during the surges of COVID-19 at BMC and also at the South Boston Convention Center's Field Hospital.

His interest draws into question the reported interest of North End/South End State Rep. Aaron Michlewitz – chair of the powerful Ways & Means Committee and a potential Speaker of the House in the future. Michlewitz was said by sources close to him on Thursday evening that he was interested in making a run for mayor in a Special Election.

However, some sources this week have indicated that Michlewitz wouldn't run if Santiago were to run. With Santiago seemingly very interested, some say that counts Michlewitz, who is positioned very well at the State House, out.

Michlewitz didn't respond to the newspaper on Wednesday after confirming his potential interest late last week.

Already in the race are At-Large Councilor Michelle Wu, who announced last fall that she was running. District 4 Councilor Andrea Campbell also entered the race last fall, and has shown great momentum lately in gathering support and raising money.

Both Wu and Campbell have been making the rounds for some months in the neighborhoods – with Campbell speaking in late November at the Worcester Square Area Neighborhood Association (WSANA)

meeting, and Wu always enjoying established support in the South End and Back Bay since living there some years ago.

Potentially jumping into the race on Monday was Police Commissioner Willie Gross, who said he is giving deep consideration to a run. Gross would be an intriguing candidate who has been popular in the neighborhoods and would generate lots of law enforcement support. Gross has been routinely visible over the past few years as Commissioner. Having grown up in Boston and spent most of his adult life in the Boston Police Department, he has made a recognizable name for himself. However, in the current police-community climate, it is uncertain if his support would spread citywide.

"It's an honor for people to think of you in that capacity when you're Police Commissioner," he said on Monday afternoon. "There's a lot of anti-police sentiment. We know why. We're working on reform. It's such an honor to be thought of in that capacity. I can't give you an answer 100 percent. Out of respect, I'm going to give this deep consideration. If there's one thing that is true, I would never be as presumptuous to throw my hat in the ring when the mayor just made his announcement...I will talk to my family, the mayor and my friends about this. You can't decide this in three days."

An experienced mayoral candidate is at-Large Councilor Michael Flaherty, who told the newspaper Wednesday he is also considering a run for mayor. Flaherty ran against the late Mayor Tom Menino in 2009, and said he isn't ruling out another run this year.

"I can say on the record that I am weighing all of my options," he said. "There are a lot of factors to consider, including who enters the race and whether we have a Special Election or not. Our City needs a Mayor and leaders in each elected position that are fully committed to both bringing our City through this pandemic and continuing the work of making Boston a better, more resilient and equitable place for all its residents."

Meanwhile, others on the

Council, and some others in the Boston state delegation, are at first-glance considered potential candidates.

Some names floated around off the bat are Council President Kim Janey, South Boston State Sen. Nick Collins, Councilor Annissa Essaibi George, District 2 Councilor Ed Flynn, Beacon Hill/Back Bay State Rep. Jay Livingstone, Dorchester State Rep. Russell Holmes and former Dorchester State Sen. Linda Forry.

On the other side of the coin are those that are not running – which in this case has also made big news.

State Sen. Sonia Chang Diaz – who represents Jamaica Plain, Mission Hill, and the South End – had been rumored to be lining up support in her part of the City, but on Friday she told the newspaper it wasn't true.

She is not running, she said.

"I am focused on state-level policy and implementation as a lever for tackling the big challenges facing us—from coronavirus response, to racial and economic justice, to climate change, to economic growth," she said. "I haven't been making calls about running for mayor and I'm not planning to run for mayor. I congratulate Marty Walsh on this exciting new chapter, and I'm overjoyed that the City of Boston will get Kim Janey—who's been my sister in service since before either one of us was in elective office – as its next mayor."

District 1 Councilor Lydia Edwards confirmed almost immediately she will not run in a Special Election.

"I am not running for mayor in no way, shape or form," she said. "I'm interested in the City staying stable and focused and getting it through one of the most difficult times ever, which is the pandemic and a potential economic recession. People need to stay focused and do their jobs now."

Charlestown State Rep. Dan Ryan also said he isn't interested in running either.

Any Special Election would mean candidates could run without consequence of losing their Council or Legislative seats, which prompts what is expected to be a large field for any Special Election.

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# Victim in Christmas Eve attack near Mass/Cass has died

## Medford man murdered outside Southampton Shelter

Staff report

Bruce Rose, who was violently attacked inside his home near Mass/Cass on Christmas Eve, has died this week of the injuries he suffered in the attack. In the wake of Mr. Rose's death, Suffolk prosecutors expect to arraign Wyse Richardson, 23, on new, upgraded charges.

Richardson was previously arraigned on December 28, 2020, in the Roxbury Division of the Boston Municipal Court on charges of aggravated assault

and battery on a person over 60 and aggravated burglary in connection with the attack. At that time, Judge Debra Delvecchio ordered him to undergo an evaluation at Bridgewater State Hospital.

The pending case against Richardson is expected to return to court on Friday, January 15. Prosecutors expect that Richardson will be arraigned on new charges during that court appearance.

"My office is here to provide Mr. Rose's loved ones with the support they need as the case against the man accused of killing Mr. Rose moves forward. The Victim Witness Advocates assigned to my Homicide Unit

are available to connect family members and others impacted by Mr. Rose's death with the services and resources they may need to cope with their grief and begin the long process of healing," District Attorney Rachael Rollins said. "Mr. Richardson is accused of a violent attack that robbed Mr. Rose of his life. He will be held accountable for the harm he is alleged to have inflicted."

Richardson is accused of breaking into a Pompeii Street apartment building and violently beating a 66-year-old resident and ransacking the man's apartment at approximately 11 p.m. on Christmas Eve. The victim suffered a serious head

injury and was transported to an area hospital, where he died this week.

### POLICE SEARCH FOR KILLER OF MEDFORD MAN

Boston Police are asking the public for help in a murder that took place on Jan. 4 outside the Southampton Shelter in Newmarket.

At about 7:31 p.m. on Jan. 4, officers responded to a radio call for a person stabbed in the area of 115 Southampton St. near Mass/Cass. On arrival, officers located a male victim suffering from a stab wound. The victim was transported to a local hospital where he was later pronounced deceased. The

victim has since been identified as Richard Ghiozzi, 33, of Medford.

The Boston Police Department is actively reviewing the facts and circumstances surrounding this incident and is asking anyone with information relative to this investigation to contact Boston Police Homicide Detectives at (617) 343-4470.

Ghiozzi was the second person murdered in that location within the past six months, with Damian Hughes, of Westborough, also begin stabbed to death last summer at or very near the same location.

## PRAISE (from pg. 1)

Walsh. "[In Back Bay and on Beacon Hill], he'll generally be remembered for working with the business communities and the neighborhood associations to achieve the best results."

Upon entering office, however, Mayor Walsh initially found himself at odds with the Beacon Hill community, which hadn't largely supported him in the election, Rep. Livingstone said, over the installation of ADA-accessible curb-cuts on streets in that neighborhood.

"But at the end of the day, he listened to the neighborhood's concerns and took them into account," Rep. Livingstone said, "and we were able to reach a resolution that satisfied everyone's expectations."

While Rep. Livingstone said the number of people suggesting that he enter the race to fill Mayor Walsh's seat has been flattering, he flatly insists he isn't interested in the job.

"A diverse, talented group of individuals have declared or seem like they're ready to declare their candidacies," Rep. Livingstone said. "Boston seem like it will have a great choice to replace Mayor Walsh, and I look forward to learning about those candidates as the race develops."

City Councilor Kenzie Bok, who also said she has no intention of running for mayor and remains committed to her work in District 8, wrote: "I think one of Mayor Walsh's greatest legacies in the district will be the Community Preservation

Act. His support was crucial to its passage, and when you think about its three pillars — historical preservation, parks, and affordable housing — those are three very important priorities for our district. In fact, it's really the first city historical preservation money to be made available. I've seen so many great CPA projects get funded in our neighborhoods already, and I think the program has been set up well—so that's definitely a legacy for the Mayor to be proud of."

Elliott Laffer, chair of the Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay, said, "I think Marty Walsh has a tremendous body of difficult experiences that he personally and his family have dealt with that makes him a very compassionate person, a very caring person, and that's really come through in the work he's done as mayor."

As Mayor, Walsh also made major strides as he became more comfortable on the job. "He's grown a lot as mayor, and that's not unusual for someone in that position," Laffer said.

Mayor Walsh's success in increasing the public-housing stock throughout the city, Laffer said, and his adroitness in handling the coronavirus is how his tenure in Boston will likely be remembered.

"I was a skeptic in 2013, but I'm really going to miss Marty Walsh.," said Tom Perkins, President of the Bay Village Neighborhood Association. "Faisa Sharif and his Neighbor-

hood Services team are terrific at following up on details, getting things done. There may not be much glamour in fixing streetlamps, installing crosswalks or enforcing regulations, but Walsh clearly understood that mayors make their reputation by delivering on quality-of-life issues and being responsive to all residents of the City, not just those in their natural constituency. He hasn't wasted much time sloganeering about issues beyond the Mayor's control or pandering to audiences outside the City limits. Huge shoes to fill."

Rob Whitney, chair of the Beacon Hill Civic Association board of directors, said, "As president and now chair of the Civic Association, I had a lot of interaction through Mayor Walsh's senior staff, including Chris Osgood [the Mayor's chief of streets, transportation and sanitation] and Chris Cook [commissioner of the Boston Parks Department] that was really positive, working with our neighborhood on issues that are important to residents."

Whitney praised Osgood, under Mayor Walsh's leadership, in particular for his work implementing the agreement that the Civic Association now has with the city for upgrading sidewalk intersections

"Mayor Walsh has been very good, and especially [Osgood] and his staff, at creating more accessibility on Beacon Hill for the present and into the future,"

Whitney said.

Moreover, Whitney said he has also been "impressed with Mayor Walsh's commitment to affordable housing and his attempt to create affordable housing in all neighborhoods in the city, and of course, the long-term project that will continue long after he goes to Washington."

Whitney said that he looks forward to the Beacon Hill Civic Association joining with the West End Civic Association and the Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay again to sponsor a mayoral candidates forum in the coming months.

Tim Horn, president of the Fenway Civic Association, commended Mayor Walsh for his commitment to the city's parks since the groundbreaking at Symphony Park at the beginning of his first term.

"The support for the rehab of the Johnson Gates and the entrance to the Back Bay Fens and the increase in parks funding in general now appears like the best possible use of funds prior to a major pandemic," Horn wrote. "Our parks and open spaces have been over run with good use this year and due to the investment in these places they were ready for the increased use. It is vital that funding for parks be sustained in the future. It is the one area that benefits all residents regardless of age, race or gender."

Sharon Durkan, who chairs the Boston Ward 5 Democrats,

praised President-elect Joe Biden for his choice of Walsh as Secretary of Labor, where, she said, Walsh "will get the chance to continue his legacy of commitment to workers and working families on the national level."

Added Durkan: "Mayor Walsh has led Boston during the biggest national public health crisis in history. The last [seven] years, we have seen some great technological improvements from City Hall including the innovation of Boston 311, which better enabled residents for support in non-emergency issues. These improvements will better enable the next Mayor to build on accessibility and transparency at City Hall. We've seen an increasingly empowered council, and I anticipate the collaboration will continue with the next Mayor's administration."

Looking ahead to Boston's next mayoral election, Durkan wrote, "This is bound to be an exciting year of conversation about Boston's future, and the Mayor we want to see take us into our 'new normal.' With a record number of women and people of color expected to run, this could be the most diverse slate of candidates in Boston's history. Voters are looking for a leader who can bring us together in the midst of these precarious and challenging times."

*The Sun's Lauren Bennett contributed to reporting for this article.*

# ATTENTION TO DETAIL

BY PENNY CHERUBINO

## THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The brickwork in the last clue is on 6 Durham Street designed and built by Ivory Bean in 1881. The South End Historical Society reproduced a newspaper article from the 1850s that noted, "... and that experienced builder, Mr. Ivory Bean, has done the mason's work for the block, which is sufficient to know that the work is well done."

The next clue will be found in the Back Bay.

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

## THIS WEEK'S CLUE



# Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
<b>BACK BAY</b>				
Detherage, Michele N		Kovacs, Tiberiu	195 Beacon St #5	\$580,000
Kenney, Stephen V		Joullian, Edward C	322 Beacon St #6	\$840,000
340 Beacon LLC		Cance, Mary B	340 Beacon St #1	\$4,000,000
MJR Investments LLC		Goldberg, Andrew N	300 Boylston St #606	\$2,550,000
Dent, Timothy		Deware, Brett F	254 Commonwealth Ave #3	\$1,450,000
Ronald&Ann Cami FT		Crowley Legacy T	63 Commonwealth Ave #2	\$2,275,000
Hu, Hanzhong		Larson, Jenna	106 Marlborough St #7	\$1,129,045
Zhen, Jingxin		Sandhir, Bihu G	201 Newbury St #307	\$920,000
Rantakari, Heikki		Parsons, James N	412 Beacon St #2	\$1,100,000
Raffi, Edwin		Faucher, Joseph	461 Beacon St #2	\$950,000
<b>BEACON HILL</b>				
43 Anderson Street LLC		Nancy Macmillan	43 Anderson St #1	\$765,000
Sullivan, Kevin		Iranmanesh, Nacim	10 Bowdoin St #204	\$393,101
Doyno, David G		Lawrence, Merloyd	102 Chestnut St	\$2,850,000
Vanreusel, Stephen W		Burke, Timothy W	65 Mount Vernon St #4	\$1,375,000
Jonathan Thomas LLC		Alexander, Robert C	70-72 Mount Vernon St #1A27	\$1,827,500
Austein-Miller, Geoffrey		Marieb, Erica A	193 Saint Botolph St #4	\$1,085,000

## Join investigative reporter and author Hank Phillippi Ryan for NABB Special Event Feb. 10

Staff report

Join the Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay's Special Events for a fascinating evening with investigative reporter and noted author, Hank Phillippi Ryan, during a one-hour virtual presentation on Wednesday, Feb. 10, at 7 p.m.

A bestselling author of 14 mystery thrillers, Ryan is the winner of the genre's most prestigious awards, including five Agatha's, four Anthony's, the

Daphne, and the coveted Mary Higgins Clark Book Award. Book reviewers have called her "a master of suspense," and her newest novel is the chilling psychological stand-alone novel, "The First to Lie."

Ryan is also an on-air investigative reporter for Boston's WHDH-TV, as well as a television reporter since 1975, with 37 Emmys and 14 Edward R. Murrow Awards. She has also battled her way through hurricanes, floods, and blizzards;

wired herself with hidden cameras; chased down criminals; and confronted corrupt politicians, while her hard hitting journalism has changed laws and lives.

Ryan lives in the Boston area with her husband, a nationally renowned civil rights and criminal rights and criminal defense attorney.

Register at [speialevents@nabonline.org](mailto:speialevents@nabonline.org), and a link will be sent to you for the event.

## Old YWCA building in Back Bay proposed to become affordable housing

By Dan Murphy

The historic, 13-story Back Bay building owned by YW Boston (formerly YWCA Boston) at the corner of Clarendon and Stuart streets is now proposed for redevelopment into 210 affordable housing units, which, many believe, could go a long way towards creating additional, much-needed lower-cost living spaces in that neighborhood.

Beacon Communities has proposed the rehabilitation of approximately 50,000 square feet comprising the existing Hotel 140 and 118 apartments

into affordable housing, which will be operated in partnership with the Pine Street Inn. Two of the existing tenants, the Lyric Stage Company of Boston, a nonprofit performing arts center, and the Snowden International School, will also stay on as part of the redevelopment plan, and no changes are planned to the building's exterior.

Of the project, State Rep. Jay Livingstone said, "It's a great idea to bring long-term affordable housing to the neighborhood, and I look forward to the public process."

Elliott Laffer, chair of the

Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay, is also encouraged by the plan.

"It's an excellent opportunity to get us get deeply affordable housing in neighborhood to help address that sort of issue," said Laffer said, who added that he expects the Article 80 process for the project would run smoothly as well.

The Boston Planning and Development Agency was scheduled to hold an Impact Advisory Group and Public Meeting virtually on the project Jan. 13; read next week's Sun for more in-depth coverage.

# Positive test rates are up in the Back Bay and surrounding areas

By John Lynds

Last week the cumulative COVID-19 positive test rate in Back Bay and the surrounding neighborhoods as well as the weekly positive test rate rose slightly.

According to the latest data released by the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) last Friday, overall 39,263 Back Bay, Beacon Hill, North End, West End and Downtown residents have been tested for COVID-19 and the data shows that 4.8 percent of those tested were COVID positive—a 4.3 percent increase from the 4.6 percent two weeks ago.

Last week 3,288 residents were tested and 3.8 were positive—a 5.5 percent increase from the 3.6 reported two Fridays ago.

Citywide, 33,903 residents

were tested and 8.9 percent were found to be COVID positive last week.

At a press briefing last week Mayor Martin Walsh reminded residents about extending Boston's temporary pause on reopening, Last Tuesday the Mayor announced that he would extend the pause on Phase 3 of reopening for at least another three weeks, until January 27.

"This is an effort to slow the spread to protect hospital capacity and avoid a more severe shutdown later on," said Walsh. "This is not about targeting specific sectors as the cause of viral spread, but instead, an effort to reduce overall activity happening outside people's homes."

Boston's Office of Economic Development has been reaching out to different sectors to

let them know about the extensions and answer any questions.

To find a complete list of industries and activities that will remain closed, and those that are allowed to stay open, visit [Boston.gov/Reopening](http://Boston.gov/Reopening).

Walsh said in another three weeks, the City will re-evaluate the situation.

"If the metrics have moved in the right direction we'll lift these restrictions," said Walsh. "If the metrics get worse, we'll have to put in place more restrictions."

However, he added he is hopeful that he will be able to lift these restrictions, but he is taking a cautious approach and doing what he feels is right for Boston.

The infection rate in Back Bay and surrounding neighborhoods increased 8.4 percent in one week according to the lat-

est city statistics.

The BPHC data released last Friday showed Back Bay, Beacon Hill, North End, West End and Downtown had an infection rate of 349 cases per 10,000 residents, up from 321.9 cases per 10,000 residents.

One hundred fifty-one additional residents became infected with the virus last week and the total number of cases in the area increased from 1,794 cases to 1,945 cases as of last Friday.

The statistics released by the BPHC as part of its weekly COVID19 report breaks down the number of cases and infection rates in each neighborhood. It also breaks down the number of cases by age, gender and race.

Citywide positive cases of coronavirus increased 7.3 percent last week and

went from 42,195 cases to 45,206 confirmed cases in a week. Thirty-five more Boston residents died from the virus and there are now 1,060 total deaths in the city from COVID.

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## For the Record

### CORONAVIRUS 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.*

### HOLIDAY DECORATIONS

All wreaths, lighting fixtures, wires, and other related items must be removed from City property no later than February 2, 2021. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Please contact Eric Prentis at [Eric.Prentis@boston.gov](mailto:Eric.Prentis@boston.gov), or Rob Lewis Robert.LewisA@boston.gov, if you have any questions.

### From the Jan. 12 Zoning Board of Appeals hearing, online:

- 294 Columbus Ave., South End. Applicant: Jonathan Chung and Phuong Vu. Purpose: Change of Occupancy from 4 to 5 residential units. Demolish existing spiral stair. Infill former in unit stair opening with one hour ceiling assembly. Install base & wall cabinets, counter top, sink and faucet in basement common function area A.

### From the Jan. 13 Boston Cannabis Board meeting, 1 p.m., online:

- Ember Gardens Boston LLC Proposed Licensed Premise: 297 Newbury Street, Back Bay License Type: Retail Recreational Cannabis Dispensary License Proposed Hours of Opera-

tion: 11:00am - 8:00pm

Equity Status: Equity Applicant  
 Date of Initial Application: August 17, 2020

Date of Filing with Inspectional Services Department: August 20, 2020

Date of Community Meeting: August 26, 2020 and October 13, 2020

Presentation Team: Shane Hyde, CEO, Aaron Washington, Chief of Security, Joseph Hoffman, Partner, Thomas Augustine, Partner, and Christopher Tracey, Consultant.

### From the Jan. 14 Boston Groundwater Trust meeting, 4 p.m., online:

- Trust leadership update & re-election of Trust Officers: 15 VOTE REQUIRED

- Financial report updates from Treasurer & Executive Director: 10

- NABB Amicus Brief Update: 10

- Update on review regarding relationship with the City: 10

- Insurance coverage update: 10

- BPDA GCOD revision update: 10

- Update on operating manual: 10

- Executive Director's report: 10

- Other business: 10

### From the Jan. 14 Public Facilities/BPS Community meeting, 6 p.m., online:

- The Public Facilities Department and Boston Public Schools will be holding the 2nd Community Meeting for the William E. Carter School Project Feasibility Study, currently in the Preferred Schematic Report phase (PSR). Per the MSBA

regulations, the PSR summarizes the District's chosen Preferred Schematic Design from the options studied during earlier phases (Preliminary Design Program) for the future William E. Carter School building in the South End.

### From the Jan. 14 School Committee Nominating Panel, 4 p.m., online:

- Review and approve minutes from previous meeting.

- Discuss application process and deadlines to fill the current School Committee vacancy due to resignation (term expires 1/3/22).

- Review School Committee application.

### From the Jan. 19 Community Preservation Committee meeting, noon, online:

- Discussion of FY21 Historic Preservation and Open Space and Recreation Applications.

### SCHOOLS INFO

- BPS Priority Registration Begins This Week – Priority registration for school year 2021-22 began on Jan. 5 for students entering grades K0, K1, 6th, 7th and 9th grades. Priority Registration for those grades ends on Jan. 29. Assignment notifications are on March 31. Students entering K2 and all other grades have priority registration on Feb. 8 and ends on April 5. Assignment notifications for those grades is on May 28. There are informational Zoom sessions about registration on Weds. Jan 20, 4 p.m.; and Sat., Feb. 27, at 10 a.m. BPS Welcome Centers are temporarily closed to

the public, but registration can be done online and via phone. Call (617) 635-9010 to schedule a phone appointment with a specialist.

- P-EBT Cards - All BPS students will have more P-EBT funds for this school year. If you received P-EBT funds in the past, look for funds to be allocated the last week of December. New to P-EBT? You will get a P-EBT card in January or check your existing EBT card for funds. Learn more at [www.MAP-EBT.org](http://www.MAP-EBT.org) or call the Assistance Line at 877-382-2363.

- MLK Virtual Celebration – On Thursday, Jan. 14, at 7 p.m., all are invited to attend the 39th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration featuring dance, visual art, and music from BPS students. The performances celebrate and reflect on Dr. King's words and legacy as we live it today and connect with a passage from one of the civil rights leader's speeches or his overarching themes of non-violence, justice, hope, community, and equality.

- Princeton Summer Journalism Program – Applications are due Monday, Feb. 22. PSJP is a free journalism and college preparatory program for high-achieving current juniors from low-income backgrounds who are interested in journalism. Over seven weeks, students attend virtual workshops led by professional journalists and Princeton University professors. After the program, students work with a volunteer college adviser, a professional journalist or program alum, to complete their college applications.

- Free Pre-K Spaces Available - There are still spaces available

for free, in-person, high-quality Pre-K at community-based organizations across the city for the 2020-21 school year for children who are 4 years old as of September 1, 2020. More information is available at [bostonpublicschools.org/upk](http://bostonpublicschools.org/upk).

### FREE BPS BREAKFAST IN SOUTH END/FENWAY

Students who wish to get a free breakfast Monday through Friday, 8:30 to 11:30 am.,

have three sites to choose from in the South End and Fenway. This is the BPS initiative,

but other organizations are also serving meals in the area as well.

- Blackstone Elementary School – 380 Shawmut Ave. (South End).

- Boston Chinese Evangelical Church, 120 Shawmut Ave. (Monday, Weds., and Friday only – South End).

- Boston Latin School – 78 Avenue Louis Pasteur (Fenway).

### 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.



**20 LOUISBURG SQUARE**  
 6 BEDS | 6F 2H BATHS | 7,610 SQFT  
 \$16,000,000



**122 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE #1**  
 2 BEDS | 2.5 BATHS | 2,459 SQFT  
 \$5,650,000



**403 MARLBOROUGH STREET #14**  
 2 BED | 1 BATH | 942 SQFT  
 \$899,000



**333 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE #22-24**  
 4 BEDS | 2 BATHS | 2,796 SQFT  
 \$4,750,000



**110 SUDBURY STREET #4105**  
 2 BEDS | 2 BATHS | 1,848 SQFT  
 \$3,900,000

