

THE BOSTON SUN

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Walsh gives final farewell following Senate confirmation

By Lauren Bennett

Mayor Marty Walsh gave his final press conference as mayor of Boston on March 22, and headed off to Washington, D.C. on Tuesday morning to begin his new role as US Secretary of Labor.

The Senate voted 68 to 29 to confirm Walsh's position late Monday afternoon, after which he delivered his heartfelt final farewell to Bostonians.

Walsh reflected on his past seven years as Boston's mayor, saying that "there is no other elected or appointed position where you are so closely in touch with the people you serve. It's truly where democracy lies."

He said he has frequently been in touch with Acting Mayor Kim

Janey over the past two months, and said that "together the council president and myself and our teams have worked diligently to ensure a smooth transition."

Janey tweeted on Monday evening, "Congratulations on your confirmation, Secretary Walsh. You are a proud son of Dorchester who will bring our city with you to the @USDOL. The working people of America will benefit greatly from your passion. Now, we look ahead to a new day—a new chapter—in Boston's history."

Janey made history by becoming the first Black person and first woman to lead the city.

"I am proud of what we've

(WALSH, Pg. 3)



Acting Mayor Kim Janey is sworn into office on Wednesday by Supreme Judicial Court Chief Justice Kimberly Budd, as her granddaughter holds the Bible for her. She becomes the first African American and woman to lead the City of Boston following the departure on Monday night of former Mayor Martin Walsh.

Following Walsh's departure, Janey sworn in as acting mayor

By Lauren Bennett

In a ceremony at City Hall on Wednesday afternoon, Kim Janey was sworn in as the first Black person and first woman to lead the City of Boston, a day after Mayor Marty Walsh left for Washington D.C. following his confirmation as US Labor Secretary.

Congresswoman Ayanna

Pressley presided over the ceremony, which was attended by Janey's friends and family, while Chief Justice Kimberly Budd administered the oath of office. An invocation was delivered by Reverend Willie Bodrick II, Senior Pastor at the Twelfth Baptist Church. Pressley was the first woman of color on the Boston City Council and Massachusetts' first Black Congresswoman,

and Budd was the first Black woman to become Chief Justice of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court.

"It is a great day, another history making day in an unprecedented week in the City of Boston," Pressley said in her remarks.

Pressley called Janey a "fierce

(KIM JANEY Pg. 4)

Star Market proposes 50,000 square-foot Fenway location

By Dan Murphy

Star Market plans to open a new 50,000 square-foot location in the former Sears complex in the Fenway, according to last week's press release from the company.

The New England supermarket chain announced it would partner with Samuels & Associates, a Boston commercial estate developer, and Pasadena, Calif.-based Alexandria Real

Estate Equities, Inc. to build the new grocery store as part of an expansion planned for 401 Park, formerly the Landmark Center.

Samuels & Associates and Alexandria, according to Star Market, are now in the planning phase for a mixed-use building located adjacent to 401 Park building and abutting the MBTA D-line tracks on the site of an existing Bed, Bath & Beyond store and loading docks. The developers expect to file their

plans for the project with the Boston Planning and Development Agency this spring, and if approved, the new store could open in 2024.

"Star Market has been shining since 1915 and we continue to proudly serve our neighbors, friends and family in Greater Boston," Rob Backus, President of Shaw's and Star Market, said in a press release. "The Fenway

(STAR MARKET, Pg. 2)



Mayor Martin Walsh waves a final goodbye to Boston residents and those in attendance following an emotional farewell address.



EDITORIAL

VIOLENCE AGAINST THE AAPI COMMUNITY MUST END

Prejudice, discrimination, and violence against members of the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community has existed ever since immigrants from China began to arrive in America in the 1850s.

The first anti-immigration law in our nation's history, the Chinese Exclusion Act, specifically targeted Chinese immigrants in 1882 and was still the law of the land until 1943.

The wrongful detention of Japanese-Americans in camps during WWII has become well-known to every high school student of American history.

Locally, our newspapers through the years have reported on numerous incidents of hate in the Boston area, ranging from the graffiti and vandalism that plagued a popular Japanese restaurant in Winthrop Centre in the 1980s to the arson fires in Revere in the 1980s that culminated with the blaze in December, 1990, that drove more than 150 persons, mostly from the Revere Cambodian community, from their homes.

The tragic shooting late last week in Atlanta by 21 year-old Robert Aaron Long that targeted Asian-American employees in massage parlors is just the latest example of the growing trend of violence against Asian-Americans that was encouraged by the rhetoric of certain public figures who fed the flames of racial animosity with terms such as the "China virus" and "the kung-flu" to describe the COVID-19 pandemic.

The targeting of members of the AAPI community must stop. Hopefully, with a new administration that has rejected the divisive rhetoric of the past and a renewed determination by law enforcement to prosecute every incident of racially-motivated violence, our society can put an end to this virus of hate.

THE ATLANTA SHOOTINGS: A CONFLUENCE FOR A PERFECT STORM

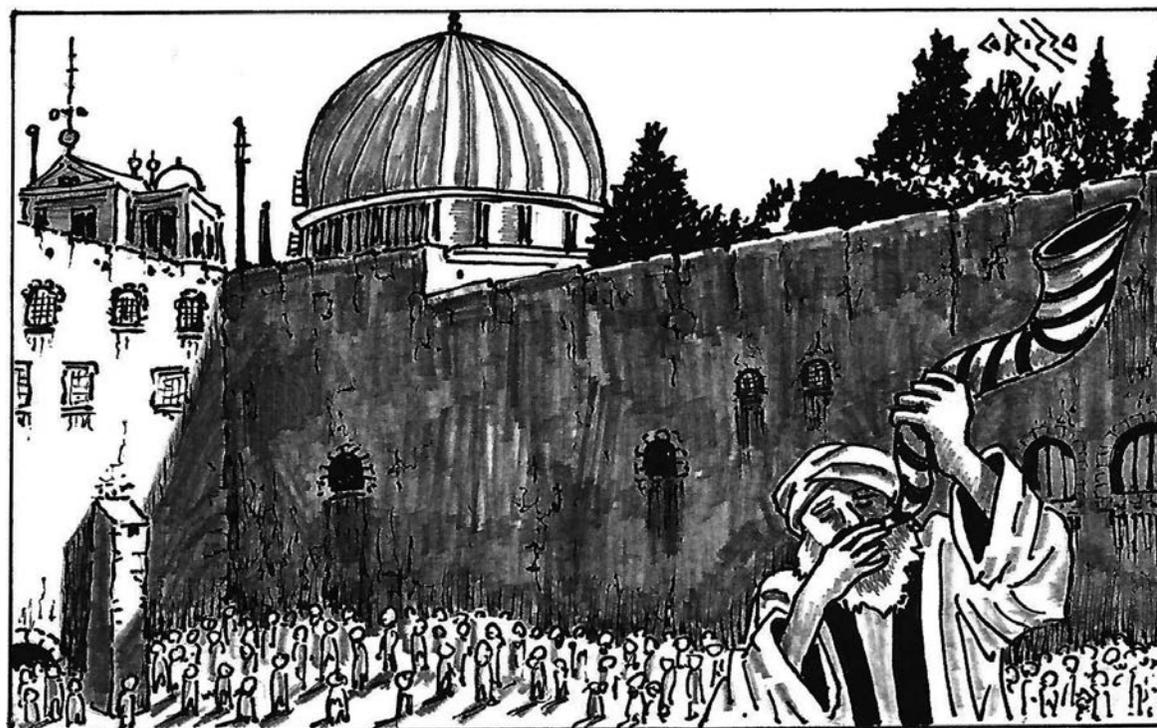
In addition to the obvious targeting of Asian-Americans in the tragic shootings in Atlanta, there were two other factors that created a perfect storm for this sort of tragedy to take place.

The first was the easy and immediate access for the purchase of a high-capacity weapon by the 21 year-old perpetrator of the shootings, who was able to buy the gun on Tuesday morning and kill six people that afternoon.

The idea of a waiting period -- also known as a cooling-off period -- between the purchase of a gun and the delivery into the hands of the buyer has been shown to be an effective measure in saving lives. According to a recent study, states with mandatory waiting periods -- regardless of their length -- had an average of 17 percent fewer murders and 10 percent fewer suicides by guns.

The second factor was the influence of the young man's church upon his mind from an early age. This is by no means an excuse for his murderous spree, but it is to say that he clearly had been brainwashed by the extreme and confusing messages from his evangelical church about sex that led him to believe that he had an unnatural sex addiction that he could quell only by taking extreme measures.

When there are tragedies such as the shootings in Atlanta, we all want easy answers. But in reality, the truth of what drives persons to commit such heinous acts are not always easily understood, even by the perpetrators themselves.



CELEBRATE PASSOVER MARCH 27-APRIL 4

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

A FINAL GOODBYE

Dear Editor,

To the people of Boston,

Today, the United States Senate voted to confirm me as the next Secretary of Labor. I am deeply honored to serve my country in this way at such a critical moment in our history.

Before I depart, I want to say thank you to the City and the people who helped make me the person I am today. I have spent my entire life in Boston. It's the City that welcomed my immigrant parents, and it's the City that gave me a chance to follow

my dreams.

When I became Mayor in 2014, I said I would listen, I would learn, and I would lead together with you. That is what we did, every moment of my time in this office. Our City's success is due to all of you who advocated for a better, more inclusive future for the city we all love. This spirit of collaboration, compassion, and community has been especially clear during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Our City has come together in extraordinary ways to look out for one another. My heart is filled with pride.

I want you to know: Wherever I go, I will bring Boston with me. I will work to make the new administration in Washington, D.C., the best federal partner Boston and America's cities have ever had, and I will never stop fighting for the values we believe in.

I hope you and your families are staying safe and well during this uncertain time. There are better days ahead, and I have no doubt you will continue to show the world what it means to be Boston Strong.

Sincerely,
Marty Walsh

STAR MARKET (from pg. 1)

community can look forward to a brand-new, technology-enabled, state-of-the-art store, and we look forward to partnering with Samuels & Associates to make the project a reality."

The announcement of the new supermarket also came as welcome news to Katherine Greenough, Vice President of the Audubon Circle Neighborhood Association.

"This is a very exciting piece of news for all Audubon Circle and Fenway residents!" Greenough wrote in an email. "To have a new, larger Star Market in the area will add so much to our quality of life -- both economically and socially. While we still have concerns about shadows, noise during and after construc-

tion, and deliveries, ACNA is overall very supportive of this project."

Star Market will continue to operate at its home of more than 40 years at 33 Kilmarnock St. (at the corner of Boylston Street) until the new store opens, according to the company, "to ensure the community has uninterrupted access to essential groceries." Samuels & Associates has also agreed to purchase the two-acre site.

"For many years, we have aspired to incorporate a new, full-service grocery store for the Fenway neighborhood," Peter Sougarides, a principal at Samuels & Associates, said in a press release. "We are delighted to

partner with Star Market and create an opportunity for them to expand and evolve."

In 2013, Samuels & Associates announced a mixed-use development plan for the 401 Park site, according to The Boston Globe, that in addition to 550 residences and 125,000 square feet of retail, restaurant and office space, would have also included a 75,000 square-foot Wegmans grocery store. But that deal eventually fell through.

In January, Alexandria announced a \$1.5 billion deal to buy that project from Samuels' investors, the Globe also reported, and to partner with the Boston developer on its next phases.

THE BOSTON SUN

PRESIDENT/EDITOR: STEPHEN QUIGLEY

MARKETING DIRECTOR: DEBRA DIGREGORIO (DEB@THEBOSTONSUN.COM)

ART DIRECTORS: KANE DIMASSO-SCOTT, SCOTT YATES

REPORTERS: SETH DANIEL, SETH@REVEREJOURNAL.COM

LAUREN BENNETT, LAUREN@THEBOSTONSUN.COM

WALSH (from pg. 1)

been able to do together over the last seven years in moving the city forward," Walsh said at the press conference. During his term, Walsh said that almost 140,000 new jobs have been created in the city, Boston is "number one in the nation for building affordable housing," major crime has been reduced, the graduation rate in Boston Public Schools has increased nine points, and a "new system to end homelessness was created."

He added, "We tackle racial justice. We changed Boston's reputation. We still have work to do."

Walsh said he will be the "first to admit" that more work needs to be done, but he is confident that it will continue.

Also during Walsh's administration, investments were made in new parks, libraries, community centers, fire stations, streets, sidewalks, bike lanes, and more, he said.

"We did all of this while managing our city finances responsibly..." Walsh said. Over his seven years as mayor, the city had an AAA bond rating each year.

He also said that "battling a global pandemic" was "not what anyone expected," but "in some ways, it was a blessing" and helped the city come together to help each other.

"As I told the team this morning, the journey doesn't stop. The work of the city keeps going. Tomorrow morning, when there will be a new mayor in City Hall, the work needs to continue to move forward. The work will continue to be hard. But I'm confident that our public servants, our business community, and our residents will continue to rise up to the occasion," Walsh said. "Boston, Massachusetts is the greatest city in the world."

Walsh said he wanted to "thank every person who held a sign for me, made a phone call for me, put a bumper sticker on their car for me, that fought for me, that advocated for me; I want to thank all of you." He also thanked those who "criticized" him, adding "that might have been criticism you were giving, but what it was for me is 'we have to do better.'"

He also gave advice to the candidates running for mayor in the November election.

"Enjoy the race," he said. "Have fun. Talk to everybody."

However, "I will not be playing a role in the mayor's race,"

Walsh said. "It is not right for me to play a role in the mayor's race, number one, and number two, the candidates that are running...I know them all personally. One worked for me, one grew up on my street, one's a legislator, we served in the same body, I served with councilors as well, so it's no place for me to be involved."

Walsh also said he will not endorse any mayoral candidate.

Walsh said that he doesn't "know if I can put a signature achievement" on his time in office, but "I'm really happy with our accomplishments in housing. We inherited a housing crisis in our city. I'm really happy with 2300 formerly homeless people living in a home today."

He said he would leave his failures "for other people to criticize."

Walsh said that "there's definitely a feeling of work undone," but "I think that your work is never done." He said he would like to have built the Long Island Bridge, "but we're not giving up on that one."

Walsh also said that he was hoping to have the investigation on Dennis White, who was appointed police commissioner after William Gross' retirement but was found to have domestic assault allegations against him, completed before leaving, but that did not happen.

He said that he is grateful that the investigation is "thorough" and he's been in touch with Acting Mayor Janey about moving forward, adding that he is "confident" that the investigation will be finished "within the next couple of weeks."

Walsh said "I'm proud of the accomplishments that my administration has done in the city, because it's not my accomplishments, it's the people I work with's accomplishments and that's honestly how I feel."

He continued, "This has been a very very bittersweet last eight weeks. I have been very emotional in my office because I love the people I work with. They're amazing. I love being mayor of the city I grew up in. I'm honored to have been called by President Biden to serve in his cabinet.

And I think, honestly, now thinking about it, I think I just try to get every single last second out of being mayor of the City of Boston....then I can start focusing on the new gig."

Several elected officials and

mayoral candidates have issued statements on the mayoral transition, including City Councilor Andrea Campbell, John Barros, and State Rep. Jon Santiago.

"Congratulations to our new Secretary of Labor, Marty Walsh. I look forward to working with Mayor Walsh in his new role to center working people as we build a strong, equitable recovery from this pandemic and for the future of the City of Boston," Andrea Campbell said in a statement. "There's so much I've been proud to work with Mayor Walsh on to address longstanding inequities in Boston, including establishing the Youth Development Fund, passing the Community Preservation Act, and most recently committing our City to historic policing reforms.

I wish him the absolute best as he embarks on this new chapter.

It's with excitement and joy that I also congratulate our Council President, now Acting-Mayor Kim Janey. This is a historic moment for our City, and absolutely the beginning of a new era of female leadership in Boston."

In a statement, mayoral candidate John Barros, who worked as Walsh's Chief of Economic Development for the past seven years, said "Marty Walsh is the right person at the right time to serve as United States Secretary of Labor. As millions of Americans struggle to recover from the devastating impacts of the pandemic, we now have a Secretary we can trust to advocate for the needs of working families across

the nation."

Jon Santiago said in a statement, "I have been proud to call Marty Walsh our mayor and my friend during his time in office. His leadership has been marked by a commitment to public service, an empowerment of working people and for those in recovery across the City of Boston and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Throughout a global pandemic, he's guided our city with a steady hand, navigating immense challenges I look forward to working with him in the years ahead as he begins the work of advocating for working families nationwide alongside President Biden and Vice President Harris."

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Remembering Cliff Janey's role in the South End's Bancroft School

By Paul Wright,
South End Historical Society

Clifford Janey, who was an influential, charismatic teacher at the South End's Bancroft School from 1974-1977, passed away at his home in Washington, DC, on February 13, 2020, but he has not been forgotten as an educator here – and is especially remembered now that his daughter, Kim, has ascended to be the first African American and woman to lead the City of Boston. CJ, as he was known, is remembered with affection and respect by his students, their parents, and his fellow teachers. He

was one of the key interviewees in the first round of the South End Historical Society's Oral History Project in 2018 that focused on the Bancroft School. The Bancroft was an alternative public school that flourished from 1969-1981, and CJ was one of the formative influences on the school's innovative curriculum and practices. A native of Boston, he came to the Bancroft after earning a doctorate in education at Boston University, and went on to national prominence as superintendent of schools in Rochester, NY, Washington, DC, and Newark, NJ. At the time

of his passing he was a Senior Research Scholar at Boston University's School of Education. At a reception for the Bancroft oral history team in December 2018 CJ enjoyed an emotional reunion with several former Bancroft students, parents, and teachers. In a communication about his experience in the South End he said: "I taught three years at the Bancroft and enshrined in my classroom a celebrated soulful marriage between schools and communities. Let's give more 'space' to the significance of the Bancroft and its remarkable contribution to the roots of public education!!"



PHOTO COURTESY OF JUDITH AND JENNIFER WATKINS, AND LYNN WEISSBERG
Typical Bancroft School class, 1976. Cliff Janey is second from the right in back row. His daughter, Kim Janey, was sworn in this week as the new leader of the City of Boston.

KIM JANEY (from pg. 1)

advocate on behalf of our children and education equity," and said that "this is a proud day for the City of Boston and all Bostonians."

Janey was the first woman and first Black person to become the District 7 City Councilor, eventually becoming the City Council president. According to City Councilor Matt O'Malley's office, O'Malley has now become City Council President Pro Tempore as he was previously the vice president.

"She will lead with clear eyes, a fully heart, and a steady hand as we begin with the reconstruction of our city that this city and our country ache for," Pressley

said of Janey.

"Today is a new day," Janey said in her speech. "I stand before you as the first woman and first Black mayor of Boston, the city that I love. I come to this day with life experience that is different from the men who came before me."

Janey thanked her family for their support over the years.

"As a girl growing up in Boston I was nurtured by a family who believed in me and surrounded by good neighbors who knew my name," she said.

She spoke of her experience being bussed to her school in the 1970s as a pre-teen during the effort to desegregate Boston Pub-

lic Schools.

"I had rocks and racial slurs thrown at my bus, for simply attending school while Black," she said.

She said that she has always been an active supporter of quality public education for all students, especially as a young mother herself who wanted the best public education for her daughter. "This issue is personal to me," she said.

"As I assume the responsibilities of mayor of Boston, I promise to give you bold, courageous leadership," she said, adding that she will be "starting with an unrelenting focus to address the impacts of COVID-19."

Janey said that she will "fight" to ensure that vaccines are accessible for all, "especially in communities hardest hit" by the virus, as well as work to expand testing across the city.

Additionally, "our recovery must include working together on behalf of our children," she said, by reopening schools in a safe way and ensuring that teachers get vaccinated.

She said she has plans to invest in summer opportunities for students and partner with the superintendent and other groups to "help our children recover academically and emotionally."

Janey said that the pandemic has only made existing inequalities and gaps "worse," and that action needs to be taken.

Janey mentioned the disparity study that was recently published, saying that it "showed the enormous inequality in our city contracts." She said that "as mayor, I will take action to solve this problem with new creative solutions to boost city contracts with minority business enterprises and new strategies to hold

ourselves accountable."

She also spoke about racial justice in the city and the work she plans on doing on that front.

"Dismantling systemic racism also includes reforming how we police our city. As mayor, I will continue to be an advocate and lead the implementation of these reforms. Together, working with our police department, I am determined to bring safety, healing and justice to all of our neighborhoods."

Janey said that there is "more work to do," and "that work starts now." She thanked her transition team and the city staff for their work so far.

"To the people of Boston, I say you have a stake in our city's future," Janey said. "You are the essential part of this recovery. Let's not be afraid to tackle the longer-term challenges that we face together. From racial justice to environmental justice; from affordable housing to our transit system. From our public schools, to public safety. We cannot go back. Our only option is to go better."



Virtual Public Meeting

321 Harrison Avenue

Wednesday, April 7
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Zoom Link: bit.ly/3vBodAJ
Toll Free: (833) 568 - 8864
Meeting ID: 161 547 0046

Project Proponent:

Nordblom Development Company

Project Description:

The Proponent has submitted a Notice of Project Change for the previously built project at 321 Harrison Avenue. The NPC proposes a change from office space to lab space. No other changes are proposed.

mail to: **Nick Carter**
Boston Planning & Development Agency
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201
phone: 617.918.5303
email: nick.carter@boston.gov

Close of Comment Period:
4/10/2021



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Hynes Convention Center launches as mass vaccination site

Two hours of free parking available for those getting the shot

By Seth Daniel

If there's a little bit of a sporting event or road race feel to the organization of the Hynes Convention Center mass vaccination site – which went full-on starting Monday – there's a pretty good reason for it.

With their road race and sporting event business gutted by COVID-19 restrictions, CIC Health and the state have utilized Boston-based DMSE Sports to help coordinate the flow of folks coming in for vaccinations to the new site.

Matt West, who is also the CEO of DMSE Sports, is now the director of operations for the Hynes site, and said his company is using its expertise from organizing races and events to keeping the vaccination site moving orderly.

“We specialize in road races and running races and anything from the BAA 10K and half-marathon all the way up to the LuLu Lemon San Diego 10K,” West said during the site's soft opening on Friday, March 19. “Our business has been gutted by this virus and put on hold. So, we've pivoted to work with CIC Health to be able to manage these mass vaccination sites from an operations standpoint. It's a game-changer for us to be able to get people back to running, which is what we specialize in.”

“It's connecting with people, moving people and understanding people,” he continued. “We have all those elements in a road race and we do them here at the Hynes Convention Center when we're vaccinating people. We're just trying to make sure people get through in a safe, orderly and

comfortable fashion and that's something you'll see at the races we put on.”

The Hynes mass vaccination site is a product of the time, with conventions gone and the Red Sox looking to likely have a season this year starting in April, some things had to be shuffled. The mass vaccination site at Fenway Park will close by the end of March, and operations will be increased and moved to the Hynes – which has much more space and no convention business booked any time soon.

For CIC Health, which is based in Cambridge, this will be their fourth mass vaccination site – the others being Fenway, Reggie Lewis Center and Gillette Stadium in Foxborough.

“This is our fourth mass vaccination site for CCI in the Commonwealth,” said West. “Right now we have about 500 guests a day coming through our doors for our soft launch. Starting on March 22 we'll be ramping up and we'll eventually get up to around 5,000 vaccinations per day depending on supply through the state. We're really excited to open our doors... Guest flow is a huge piece to all this. No one has ever done this before so managing expectations of ourselves and making sure we understand how guest flow will work has been huge.”

As an aside, to make things easier, there will be two hours of free parking for anyone being vaccinated at the Prudential Center garage, courtesy of Boston Properties.

“We have worked with our friends at Boston Properties who own the buildings next door and they have made available two hours of free parking for all guests coming to be vaccinated,” said West. “You can park at the Prudential Center garage and



Margot Blume, who oversees the 'Vaccine Prep Bar' at the new Hynes Convention Center mass vaccination site, said the operation is very time sensitive. Holding up a vial of the Pfizer vaccine, she said they have six hours to use it before it goes bad, and each vial has about seven shots. The Hynes site opened fully on Monday and hopes to ramp up to about 5,000 shots per day.

bring your ticket up and we'll validate it after you've been vaccinated.”

David Gibbons, executive director of the Convention Center Authority (MCCA), said the Hynes gives space to ramp up from about 1,000 shots per day at Fenway to go to about 5,000 per day.

“During the darkest days we set up the Boston Hope hospital in the Convention Center and taking care of patients with COVID and the homeless,” he said. “Now we're at our other building in the Hynes and giv-

ing vaccinations and it's a lighter day. There are better days on the way.”

Gibbons said there were a lot of positives for being at the Hynes.

“The advantage here is the location,” he said. “You're minutes away from a lot of different Boston neighborhoods.”

The site is currently giving out the Pfizer vaccine, as that is what the state is supplying them with. Each 1.8 milliliter bottle is prepared at a “vaccine bar,” where shots are drawn up and checked for accuracy and ID. Each vial



A worker at the Hynes site draws up vaccine at the Vaccine Prep Bar.

of vaccine lasts six hours from when it is first punctured, said Margot Blume.

“It's a very time sensitive operation,” she said.

Last Friday, some people had already secured appointments at the Hynes and were getting vaccinated. One of them was John Aubrey, of Revere Beach.

“I'm here because I want to be able to go back out to a bar at some point and I can't now because they're all closed,” he said. “This was easy. I booked the appointment, walked in and got a COVID shot. Everyone that can sign up, should. This is simple.”

He said getting the shot does make him feel a little more secure.

“It's a nice feeling,” he said. “I'd like to get the second one before I feel totally secure – especially with everyone going to work and me trying to go to work. After the second one, I'll feel everything is safe.”

Aubrey said he is booked to come back in the next few weeks to the Hynes for his second does.



Rodrigo Martinez, communications director for CIC Health, said they are trying to make the most comfortable environment for patients as possible.



John Aubrey, of Revere Beach, said getting the vaccine at the Hynes was very easy, and encouraged others to do so.



Jose Barreto, of Malden, gets his COVID vaccination on Friday.



Matt West is the director of operations at the Hynes, but he is also the CEO of DSME Sports, of the largest road race coordinators in the country. That business has been gutted by COVID, but the company is using its race logistics expertise to organize the mass vaccination site.

Kelly Bates launches Boston City Council at-Large campaign

Staff Report

Hyde Park resident Kelly Bates, a mom, problem-solver, crisis management leader, lawyer and a champion for women and girls, will launch her campaign for Boston City Council At-Large on Monday.

Since filing with the Office of Political Finance (OCPF), the Bates Campaign has raised \$53,000 from 182 donors, with an average donation of \$291.

Bates, who has led a number of local and national non-profit organizations over the past 25 years, is the daughter of a Black mother and an Irish father, who married in 1963 before interracial marriage was safe or widely accepted. Bates said, "I grew up in two worlds that were so similar yet so different. I saw pain, but also beauty, in each." Bates lost relatives on both sides of her family to addiction, and felt the toll that mental illness played in her mother's life. Bates has lived in Boston for nearly three decades and currently resides in Hyde Park with her husband

Yves and sons Paul and Christian.

Bates decided to run for City Council because "Boston, the city I love, is in crisis: COVID-19 and addiction are ravaging our public health, families can no longer afford to remain in the city they love, and we desperately need a swift economic recovery that works for all. I'm running for City Council At-Large because I know that by coming together, we can not only repair our communities, but reimagine a better and more equitable future for Boston."

Launching her campaign in Women's History Month, Bates highlighted the role that women have played in her life: "I'm standing on the shoulders of strong women, who taught me that by bringing people together, we can overcome anything," said Bates.

Issues facing women and girls will be central to Bates' platform. After graduating from Boston University Law School, Bates led a coalition of over 50 women's groups that successfully advo-



Candidate for Councilor-at-Large Kelly Bates.

cated for policies that benefited women and girls, passing legislation that ensured new mothers could stay in the hospital longer after childbirth and one of the first laws prohibiting sexual harassment in the workplace. Bates is also a founding board member of Emerge Massachusetts, which trains and supports women running for political office. "I truly believe that when women succeed, Boston succeeds," she said.

Bates has also been a long-time advocate for Boston's young people. Bates brought together residents throughout the city, and fought to save Boston's neighborhood libraries from closures and devastating cuts. She also serves on the board of directors of her son's school, Fenway High, supporting students, parents, and educators during remote learning, "By bringing people together, we can build a more equitable Boston."

Bates released a video and a campaign website, batesforboston.com. A transcript of the video follows:

Every day, I think about my parents. I'm the proud daughter of a Black mother and an Irish father who married in 1963. I grew up in two different worlds, and saw a lot of loss and a lot of love in each.

I moved through these worlds standing on the shoulders of strong women who taught me that by bringing people together, we can overcome anything.

I've had relatives survive and others lose their lives from addiction; be it opioids, crack cocaine,

or alcohol.

I lost my mom when she was 60, she struggled for most of my life with mental and physical health challenges. My dad always reminds me of her deep belief in hope despite the hardships she faced.

Boston is in crisis: COVID-19 and addiction are ravaging our public health, families can no longer afford to remain in the city they love, and we desperately need a swift economic recovery that works for all.

We need to rebuild our crumbling schools and help our children rebound from the pandemic.

We can tackle the climate emergency before it's too late,

Save Boston residents money and create jobs by making the T fare-free, and end violence by uplifting our youth, like during the Boston Miracle.

I'm Kelly Bates and I'm running for Boston City Council-At-Large because I know that by coming together, we not only can repair our communities, but reimagine a better and more equitable future for Boston.

Zoning Board of Appeals approves five one-bed units at 34 East Springfield Street

By Lauren Bennett

The Zoning Board of Appeal (ZBA) on Tuesday voted to approve zoning relief for the proposed project at 34 East Springfield St. in the South End to renovate the existing four story row house into five affordable one bedroom rental units. The project is proposed by the Boston Housing Authority (BHA).

According to the ZBA notice,

the project has zoning violations of insufficient usable open space, insufficient number of parking spaces, the basement unit is forbidden, Floor Area Ratio is excessive, there are roof structure restrictions, and the project is in the Groundwater Conservation Overlay District.

Developer Matthew Zoller said that this project's purpose is to "redevelop what was formerly part of the West Newton Rut-

land housing development."

Christian Simonelli of the Boston Groundwater Trust said that he has received the approval letter from the Boston Water and Sewer Commission and a no-harm letter from an engineer.

Zoller said that all units except for the fourth floor unit are 750 square feet, and the fourth floor unit is 625 square feet.

The proposed basement unit is a "typical South End garden-style

unit with full access at the back," Zoller said. "It's going to be an accessible unit with its door to the alley in the back."

Kim Crucoli from the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services said that the mayor's office is in support of the project, and that an abutters meeting was held in October, where neighbors expressed support for the project.

She also said that the Worcester Square Area Neighborhood Asso-

ciation was in support as well, and they had also met with the project proponents in October.

"The income restricted units will benefit and be a great addition to the neighborhood.

Also in support were City Councilors Frank Baker, Michael Flaherty, and Annissa Essaibi George, as was Carolyn Barry from the BHA.

The ZBA voted to approve the proposal.

THE CITY OF BOSTON CAN HELP YOU

save money on your water and sewer bill.

Boston Water and Sewer Commission now provides **seniors and disabled homeowners** a 30% discount on the sewer portion of their monthly bill to go with the 30% discount on water. New discount automatically applied to those already signed up. Are you eligible but don't presently get a discount? Call **617-989-7800** to get signed up.



B

Acting Mayor Kim Janey

#BOSCanHelp

BOS:311

Ruthzee Louijeune launches campaign for Council at-Large

Staff Report

Ruthzee Louijeune, an attorney and advocate, this week launched her campaign for Boston City Council.

“Today, I am announcing my candidacy for Boston City Council At-Large,” said Ruthzee Louijeune. “I have the experience and conviction needed to lead this city forward. We must do more to care for our residents, our children, and our businesses, and we must do so with urgency. As an attorney and advocate, I’ve focused on issues and campaigns that center working people and Black and Latinx communities. I’m running for all of us, and this campaign will need all of us, together, to create an equitable Boston. We can achieve this

vision: a city where all feel welcome, a city that is more prosperous, a city that is more just, a city where all are valued and treated with dignity.”

Ruthzee brings seven years’ experience working on political and advocacy campaigns, fighting for working people and Black and Latinx communities on issues of housing, education access, and civic participation. Most recently, Ruthzee started her own legal and advocacy business, The Opening PLLC. Previously, Ruthzee served as Senior Counsel for U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren’s presidential campaign. Prior to that, she was a lawyer at Perkins Coie LLP.

Since the pandemic hit, Ruthzee has been working with the



Candidate for Councilor-at-Large Ruthzee Louijeune.

Massachusetts Affordable Housing Alliance (MAHA) to expand homeownership opportunities in the city for first-generation homebuyers, particularly Black

and Brown residents. She has also been volunteering with the Guild Works in Dorchester, delivering food and supplies to Boston residents quarantining with COVID-19 or struggling with food insecurity.

“Ruthzee will be a great addition to the Boston City Council. Ruthzee’s background of advocacy will make her a solid decision maker and City Councilor for the people. Ruthzee will be a leader who matches great negotiation skills needed for systems change with great constituent services, and that is what I look for in my City Councilor,” said Marie St. Fleur, Former State Representative. Fleur spent 11 years in the Massachusetts House of Representatives and

was the first Haitian-American elected to state office in the United States. “Ruthzee’s candidacy is historic for the Haitian-American community. If elected, Ruthzee would break barriers.”

Ruthzee, 34, is the daughter of Haitian immigrants, born and raised in Mattapan and Hyde Park. She is a trained attorney and advocate. She graduated from Columbia University, Harvard Kennedy School, and Harvard Law School. She is also a proud graduate of Boston Public Schools: Charles H. Taylor Elementary School, the John W. McCormack Middle School, and Boston Latin School. She resides in Hyde Park, and is fluent in French, Haitian Creole and speaks conversational Spanish.

Friday, March 26 declared ‘Leonard Nimoy Day’ in City of Boston

By Dan Murphy

Just days before being confirmed by the Senate as the nation’s Labor Secretary, exiting Mayor Martin Walsh declared this Friday, March 26, “Leonard Nimoy Day” in the City of Boston in honor of the West End native who skyrocketed to international fame in the 1960s for his portrayal of the iconic character, Mr. Spock, on the classic TV series, “Star Trek,” on what would’ve been Nimoy’s 90th birthday.

Walsh wrote that Nimoy, who died at age 83 in February of 2015, “through his fictional character, Mr. Spock – half human/half Vulcan – gave the immigrant, the refugee, and the oppressed, a hero for ‘the Outsider.’”

Nimoy honed his acting skills at the Elizabeth Peabody House and the West End House, as well as through a summer scholarship for acting lessons at Boston College in his teens, wrote Walsh, and he was awarded an honorary degree from Boston University in 2012.

“I encourage all Bostonians to recognize Leonard Nimoy’s commitment and dedication to the Arts and the lasting impact that he has left on the community,” Walsh told WBZ-TV, the local news outlet that first reported the story.

Walsh’s proclamation dovetails with an effort to build a memorial to Nimoy in the West End that South End artist Tom

Stocker began in earnest in March of 2015, one month after the actor’s death.

Somewhat surprisingly, Stocker, who regularly watched the series in reruns in the ‘70s and even saw “Star Trek: the Motion Picture” upon its theatrical release in 1979, has never considered himself a “Trekkie.” But instead Stocker’s interest in Nimoy was piqued after watching “Leonard Nimoy’s Boston” – a half-hour special that first aired on WGBH-TV in 2014 in which Nimoy, accompanied by his filmmaker son, Adam, returned to his native city to reminisce about growing up as the son of Jewish immigrants from Ukraine in the old West End.

Nimoy also revealed in his autobiography “I Am Not Spock,” that he based the Vulcan salutation, which comprises a raised hand with the palm forward and thumb extended while the middle and ring finger ring fingers are parted, on a rabbinical blessing he saw performed during a religious service he accompanied his grandfather to as a boy at an Orthodox synagogue in the old West End.

Stocker, who has been in close contact with Leonard’s daughter, Julie Nimoy, has finalized the design for the memorial, which, he said, depicts the Vulcan hand salutation crafted from stainless-metal lattice and illuminated from inside using LED lighting.

Stocker, a Northampton Street resident, said he drew his inspiration for the design from

“Scrolls” – a 16-foot-high sculpture by Boston-area artist David Phillips” crafted from perforated stainless steel to resemble the form of a violin and illuminated from within via LED lighting that sits on the lawn across from the New England Conservatory’s Jordan Hall.

Progress on the Nimoy Memorial is now moving at a swift pace, said Stocker, although the Nimoy family, which is fully on board with the project, has

asked him to not yet divulge who would fund the project, as well as its possible location.

Stocker, who initially proposed “Leonard Nimoy Day” to the City of Boston, has also reached out to Montreal, Canada, the hometown of William Shatner, who played Captain James T. Kirk on “Star Trek” opposite Nimoy and remained a close friend of Nimoy’s throughout his life, in regard to that city declaring March 22, which was

Shatner’s 90th birthday, “William Shatner Day.” But so far, Stocker hasn’t heard back from them.

As for the status of the memorial, Stocker said he hoped to have more information to share on this project in time for the day honoring Nimoy.

“This is sort of an appetizer for the main course,” Stocker said last week of the information he has provided to date, “with meatier details coming down the line.”



Holy Week at Saint Cecilia Parish

This year, we will be celebrating Holy Week virtually on our YouTube channel.

Palm Sunday of the Lord’s Passion - March 28

Sunday Mass - 10:00 a.m. (live on YouTube)

Holy Thursday - April 1

Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper - 7:30 p.m. (live on YouTube)

Good Friday - April 2

Stations of the Cross - 12:00 p.m. (video on YouTube)
Commemoration of the Lord’s Passion - 3:00 p.m. (live on YouTube)

Holy Saturday - April 3

The Great Vigil of Easter - 7:30 p.m. (live on YouTube)

Easter Sunday - April 4

Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord - 10:00 a.m. (live on YouTube)

All videos may be found at [youtube.com/SaintCeciliaParish](https://www.youtube.com/SaintCeciliaParish).

For other information, or to learn more about us, please visit our website at [stceciliaboston.org](https://www.stceciliaboston.org).

We look forward to welcoming you virtually for Holy Week.

Saint Cecilia
PARISH

18 Belvidere Street, Boston MA | 617-536-4548 | www.stceciliaboston.org

Mayoral candidate Annissa Essaibi George meets with Back Bay business owners

By John Lynds

Last Thursday, At-Large City Councilor and Boston Mayoral Candidate Annissa Essaibi George made a campaign stop in Back Bay and met with business owners struggling throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

Restaurants have been hit particularly hard by the pandemic and were forced to recalibrate their entire business model in order to survive. Some decided to pack it in for the winter and reopen when the warmer weather returns to New England and the infection rates decline.

As part of her “Get Boston Back to Business Tour”, Essaibi George visited Jonquils Cafe & Bakery in the Back Bay where she bought coffee and some baked goods and discussed the resources and support needed to recover,

rebuild and thrive post-pandemic with owners and staff.

“The pandemic has been devastating for our small businesses,” said Essaibi George. “That’s why it was important to me to be on the ground in every single neighborhood to hear directly from business owners and employees about their experiences. I want to thank the businesses in the Back Bay for hosting me, sharing their perspectives, and offering their insight on how we can get Boston back to business and build an economy that works for everyone in this city.”

Essaibi George said since launching the tour two weeks ago she’s heard directly from small businesses about the real challenges they’ve faced before and during this crisis.

“Of course we’re talking about recovery, but we’re taking

it a step further and really getting at the root issue of redesigning our economy to work for everyone,” said Essaibi George. “I look forward to continuing these important conversations with small businesses and employees in every single neighborhood of Boston.”

As a former Boston Main Streets Director for Fields Corner and a small business owner herself, Essaibi George previously visited small businesses in Downtown, East Boston, Dorchester, Roslindale, West Roxbury, Chinatown, South End, Jamaica Plain, Allston and Brighton.

Before entering the political arena, Essaibi George taught Economics, Business Management and Health & Human Services to juniors and seniors at East Boston High School and served as the school’s assistant



Last Thursday afternoon At-Large City Councilor, mayoral candidate Annissa Essaibi George visited small business owners in the greater Boston area. As part of her “Get Boston Back to Business Tour”, Essaibi George visited Jonquils Cafe & Bakery in the Back Bay to discuss with local owners and staff about the resources and support needed to recover, rebuild and thrive post-pandemic.

softball coach for 14 years.

In 2015 Essaibi George decided to run for Boston City Council and was part of a wave of change that ushered in a new era on the council. That year Essaibi

George and Andrea Campbell ousted two incumbent councilors and doubled the number of women on council with their victories.

Mayoral candidate Michelle Wu responds to Atlanta shooting, violence against Asian Americans

By John Lynds

Here in the Back Bay 15.1 percent of our neighbors are Asian Americans and while they make up a small minority of our overall population they contribute greatly to the fabric of the community as business owners, parents, students, and activists.

The recent trend of violence against Asian Americans has been shocking and the shooting in Atlanta that killed six Asian Americans at three spas last week has shaken us all to our core.

City Councilor Michelle Wu, who is vying to become Boston’s first Asian American Mayor of Boston, responded to the recent uptick in violence towards the Asian American community across the US as well as the Atlanta shooting.

“I join our Asian American community in mourning and solidarity following the senseless shootings in the Atlanta area,” said Wu in a statement. “It’s heartbreaking and appalling to see the anti-Asian harassment, violence, and now mass murder that has accelerated over the past year — part of a long history of racism in America that we all

must fight to end. And all too often, the most silenced members of our community — Asian American elders and women working in invisible industries — have borne the brunt of these attacks.”

Wu said the unconscionable blaming of Asian American communities for the devastation from the COVID-19 pandemic has reinforced the sense of invisibility and perpetual foreigner status that so many have known their entire lives.

“Growing up as the daughter of immigrants from Taiwan, some of my most vivid childhood memories involve racist encounters with strangers,” she continued. “People who knew nothing about me except for my appearance feeling empowered to pull eyes into slits or chant ching chong sounds. That constant feeling of needing to be aware, ready, on guard whenever out in public. Since before COVID-19 was spreading in the United States, Asian American communities have been on edge, reeling from the impacts.”

Wu said Boston has not been immune to these incidents and in every city across the country, we



City Councilor and Mayoral Candidate Michelle Wu.

must build community to protect and celebrate intersectional identities.

“We will stop Asian hate and combat racism by meeting this moment, by building a city for everyone, by transforming our systems to see and value every life,” she said.

Wu also encouraged residents to support the Asian Community Emergency Relief Fund.

“Today, we’re asking for you to make a donation to support the Greater Boston area’s Asian Community Emergency Relief Fund to help provide direct finan-

cial support to Asian and Asian American Boston residents who are having trouble meeting their basic needs,” said Wu. “If you can, please chip in to the Asian Community Emergency Relief Fund. Your donation will go towards providing aid to those in our city’s Asian American community who need it most.”

The fund can be found at https://donorbox.org/covid19-relief-fund?utm_campaign=mfb&utm_medium=wu-email&utm_source=wu-em-210319-acerf&emci=1d852ae9-b488-eb11-85aa-

00155d43c992&emdi=bcc5daad-b888-eb11-85aa-00155d43c992&ccid=3988518.

Asian Americans account for 6 percent of all the COVID 19 cases and 8 percent of all the deaths in Boston. While countless communities are severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Asian American community in Greater Boston is being hit harder than most. Many are immigrants who work in food, hospitality, home care, and child care sectors that have been closed. Consequently, these workers have lost their incomes. Because of language barriers and immigration status, not everyone can access public benefits like unemployment and the new stimulus dollars. These families are in jeopardy of not having enough money to buy basic necessities and pay for housing.

So far the fund has raised and distributed over \$350,000 and helped 327 families, totaling 946 individuals and 55.5 percent of the fund went to families with undocumented members, and the remaining fund helped families that were ineligible for other public benefits because of their immigrant status.

FIND US ONLINE AT WWW.THEBOSTONSUN.COM

ATTENTION TO DETAIL

BY PENNY CHERUBINO

THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The paw in the last clue is on sculptor Nancy Schön's "Tortoise and the Hare" in Copley Square Park. She has said, "The tortoise and the hare seemed a perfect metaphor to represent the wide variety of people who participate in the marathon - people of all ages, shapes and sizes, many of whom finish, but walk over the finish line."

The next clue will be found in the Kenmore/Fenway neighborhood.

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

BACK BAY

Xie, Lu C
Pashley, Christopher
Murray, Joanne P
CDZ RT
Reddy, Avinash
321 Dartmouth NT
Spicker, Hermann
Lucas, Sky M
Herzallah, Khader
Fitzpatrick, Matthew
Jundy, Natali A

SELLER 1

Hoffmann, Michael J
Carlozzi, Mary E
Bashian, Christopher
Oliveira, Alexandre
Zakim, Joshua
Ryan, Patrick
David J Witham RET
Stephen Mele 2015 T
Naji, Firas
Miller, Andrew
Poulos, Georgia

ADDRESS

105 Beacon St #10
125 Beacon St #8
322 Beacon St #5
75 Clarendon St #606
177 Commonwealth Ave #2&4
321 Dartmouth St #4
298 Marlborough St #4
201 Newbury St #204
110 Stuart St #26F
311 Commonwealth Ave #50
360 Newbury St #505

PRICE

\$1,085,000
\$810,000
\$775,000
\$1,250,000
\$890,000
\$4,600,000
\$1,275,000
\$1,675,000
\$1,100,000
\$1,595,000
\$1,550,000

BEACON HILL

Krempus, Robert
Somer, Rachel
Driscoll, Kenneth J
Hui, James M
45 Temple Street PH1 RT
Francisco, Jose M

Geiger, Ross
4 Beacon H LLC
33 Mt Vernon Street LLC
Ibrahim, Nasrien E
JDMD Owner LLC
Rhein, Peter V

75 Charles St #5B
4 Joy St #3
33 Mount Vernon St #1
11 Revere St #2
45 Temple St #PH1
6 Whittier Pl #2J
\$640,000
\$5,800,000
\$2,475,000
\$645,000
\$8,750,000
\$530,000

BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE

Kapelson, Cassandra A
Lamb Stratton T
Dowlati, Soroor
Perry, Brian J
60 Charlesgate W 4A LLC
60 Charlesgate W 4A LLC
Tannoury, Margaret M
Huang, Hui
Sharma, Manu
Lee, Daniel S
Sung, Tsung Y
Sung, Tsungyuan
Sung, Tsung Y
Giblin, Brendon
Bennett, Melissa
Thomson, Cheryl
Michay, Magdi
Cho, Albert
Petrova, Rositsa D
Howard, Kyle S
Hazelton, Bryan C

Nguyen, Stephanie
Casper, Cheryl P
2451 Washington LLC
2451 Washington LLC
Kasdon-Sidell, Louisa
Kasdon-Sidell, Louisa
Kazakevich, Elaine
Coku, Lindita
Zlotoff, Benjamin D
Orvieto RT
Zhou, Jingyl
Curry, Michael T
Marder, Kathleen S
Donnelly, John
Giblin, Brendon P
Stone, Patrick S
Allied Residences LLC
Allied Residences LLC
Johnson, Constance M
Ellis, Lauren M
Kahn, David

285 Columbus Ave #201
505 Tremont St #606
2451 Washington St #206
2451 Washington St #401
5-7 Bay State Rd #4A
60 Charlesgate W #4A
33 E Springfield St #1A
58 E Springfield St #2
405 Marlborough St #21
11 Park Dr #11
11 Park Dr #17
125 Park Dr #22
125 Park Dr #39
296 Shawmut Ave #2
296 Shawmut Ave #2
81 Waltham St #6
88 Wareham St #301
88 Wareham St #501
1721 Washington St #503
88 Worcester St #6
9-11 Worcester Sq #6
\$481,000
\$935,000
\$439,000
\$585,000
\$850,000
\$850,000
\$430,000
\$585,000
\$1,750,000
\$310,000
\$649,000
\$523,000
\$529,000
\$2,730,000
\$2,675,000
\$980,000
\$636,500
\$695,000
\$640,000
\$1,000,000
\$1,900,000

WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN

Davis, Gary S
King, Robert B
Hotermans, Christophe
Tan, Lily
Howley, Michael
Carol A Hodges 2004 RET
J P Rosenfield 1995 T
Clements, Dina
Pelzek, Ashley
Nawana, Namal
Szymborski, Zdzislaw J

Carol A Hodges RET
Kalton T
Trujillo, Daniel
Nguyen, Trucdao T
L A Lopiccio 2017 T
Zandparsa, Roya
Rappaport, James W
Lanza RT
Doran, Jean M
Osoul Hldg De 3 Inc
Peter J Stone IRT

2 Avery St #24B
2-1/2 Battery Wharf #4308
65 E India Row #6E
1 Nassau St #1208
20 Rowes Wharf #506
2 Avery St #26G
50 Battery St #308
357 Commercial St #210
480 Commercial St #4B
1 Franklin St #3704
449-463 Washington St #3A
\$1,245,000
\$2,000,000
\$797,000
\$434,007
\$1,900,000
\$1,550,000
\$2,725,000
\$933,333
\$530,000
\$3,300,000
\$1,075,000

Lawsuit against Exam School admissions process slows down notification

By Seth Daniel

As if the Exam School admissions process could be any more confusing, now parents waiting for notification of acceptance, or not, will have to wait about a month or more longer than usual.

A parent advocacy group called the Boston Parent Coalition for Academic Excellence Corp. filed a lawsuit this month on behalf of several parents claiming discrimination against Asian American and white stu-

dents under the revised process created last fall due to COVID-19. That process went forward using zip codes, student population data and grade point average/MCAS test results to determine admission to the three selective schools, which include Boston Latin School, Boston Latin Academy and O'Bryant High School. The entrance this year is for students in 6th grade going into 7th, and for those in 8th grade going into 9th. The typical timeline has students and families notified of acceptance by

mid-March.

However, in a letter to parents late last week, Supt. Brenda Cassellius said the process would be delayed because of the lawsuit.

"On Tuesday, March 16, in a court hearing for the ongoing lawsuit regarding this year's Exam School admissions process, the judge stated his goal is to provide a decision on the case by April 15, 2021," wrote Supt. Cassellius. "This lawsuit directs our timeline for informing families about Exam School admissions. We will move forward as

soon as possible. We will also share any impact the case has on the admissions timeline directly with families and on our website. Updates will be available every two weeks..."

That setback could complicate enrollments for families in K-8 schools who have 6th graders. To keep their spot in those schools were they not to get into the exam school could be complicated by the longer timeline to hear about admissions to the exam schools.

According to the Dorches-

ter Reporter, the parent group is made up of 14 families, with 10 of them from West Roxbury. They do maintain a Facebook page under the same name.

Fighting back against the suit are a coalition of organizations, including the Greater Boston Latino Network, the NAACP Boston Branch and the Asian American Resource Workshop. They are being represented by attorneys from Lawyers for Civil Rights Boston and the Greater Boston Legal Services.

Councilor Flynn working with BHA to promote vaccine equity for residents living in public housing

Staff report

Councilor Ed Flynn is working with the Boston Housing Authority (BHA) to ensure that eligible residents living at BHA housing have access to COVID-19 vaccines. He has been in contact with the BHA about onsite vaccinations for residents, as there is a large number of our seniors, residents of color,

and immigrants living at these developments who have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19.

Councilor Flynn's team assisted in the outreach effort in notifying residents at the both the Monsignor Powers in South Boston and the St. Botolph Housing Development in Back Bay about onsite vaccination clinics, includ-

ing calling residents in multiple languages such as Spanish, mandarin and Cantonese. Councilor Flynn has visited some public housing developments, and in addition, members of Councilor Flynn's team assisted in vaccine efforts at Torre Unidad in the South End with door-knocking, calling, and helping our seniors with the vaccine registration pro-

cess.

"It is critical that our neighbors in public housing have the same level of access to COVID-19 vaccines as anyone else, especially as many of these residents are in communities that have been hit so hard, and disproportionately, by pandemic," said Councilor Flynn. "Vaccine equity is key to our path of recovery

for our city and country. I will continue to work with the BHA to ensure that our residents have the opportunity to get vaccinated and help protect themselves, their families, and their communities."

For more information, please contact Councilor Flynn's office at 617-635-3203 and Ed.Flynn@Boston.gov.

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.

From the March 23 Boston Civic Design Commission meeting, online:

- 220 Huntington Avenue, Back Bay.

- Fenway Center Phase 2 Facade and Public Realm, Fenway.

From the March 25 Entertainment Application Hearing, 11 a.m., online:

- Sons of Boston
88 Van Ness Street, Fenway. Request: To maintain and operate the categories of trivia, disc jockey, karaoke, instrumental music up to five (5) performers, vocal music up to five (5) performers, and dancing by patrons for seven (7) days a week to the existing non-live entertainment license.

Applicant: Causeway Union, LLC.
Manager: Jason Kuczynski

From the Community meeting for proposed Cannabis Establishment in the South End/Back Bay: This is an application by Redemption Co. for a Recreational Cannabis Establishment to be operated at the address of 29 Stanhope St., South End/Back Bay. The

scheduled date for the meeting will be on March 25, 2021, at 6 p.m. via WebEx.

This BPDA virtual public meeting is to present proposed amendments to Article 32 Groundwater Conservation Overlay District of the zoning code and receive comments in order to extend protection to groundwater levels in areas of the city with older buildings on wooden piles built on filled land. This includes parts of East Boston, Downtown Waterfront, Roxbury/South End, South Boston and Audubon Circle. The meeting will take place on Monday, March 29, from 5:30-7 p.m. via Zoom.

From the March 29, 10 a.m., CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS HEARING: Ordinance requiring equitable COVID-19 vaccine distribution in the City of Boston. Ordinance extending paid sick leave for City of Boston employees to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. These matters were sponsored by Councilor Michelle Wu and were referred to the Committee on January 27, 2021 and February 3, 2021.

From the March 30, 1 p.m., CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON CIVIL RIGHTS HEARING: Order for a hearing to discuss ways for the City to prevent and investigate incidents of hate crimes and discrimination. This matter was sponsored by Councilor Ed Flynn, Councilor Andrea Campbell, and Councilor Lydia Edwards and was referred to the Committee on Janu-

ary 13, 2021.

From the March 30, 4 p.m., COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT HEARING: Order for a hearing regarding the state of affordable housing as to Boston's Inclusionary Development Policy. This matter was referred to the Committee on February 10, 2021. The chair and sponsor is Councilor Lydia Edwards.

COMMUNITY MEETING FOR A PROPOSED CANNABIS ESTABLISHMENT on March 31, 6 p.m., online: This is an application by Andrea Pearce, Royalty Group, LLC for a Recreational Cannabis Establishment to be operated at the address of 31-39 Stuart Street, Boston, MA 02116.

This is BPDA a virtual public meeting to present proposed zoning changes that would make Accessory Parking a Conditional Use in neighborhood business subdistricts. Currently it is an Allowed Use in basements and first floors where there is an Allowed Use on the upper floors, such as residential. This condition creates a blank street wall with no active first floor use and runs counter to planning goals for neighborhood subdistricts. By making Accessory Parking Conditional, requiring a Conditional use permit, it provides an opportunity for community input and design review. The meeting will take place on Weds. March 31, from 5:30-7 p.m. online via Zoom.

VIRTUAL TREE REMOVAL

HEARING: BACK BAY: An April 1, 10 a.m. meeting: The request is for the removal of one red oak tree measuring 14 inches dbh (diameter at breast height) due to the MBTA Symphony Station Improvements Project on the Huntington Avenue side of 300 Massachusetts Avenue in Back Bay. The hearing will be held by the City of Boston's Tree Warden (or designee). Please note that due to the current pandemic the hearing will be a virtual meeting via ZOOM. Written comments or questions may be submitted to parks@boston.gov prior to the hearing.

The BPDA will host a virtual public meeting regarding a Notice of Project Change for 321 Harrison Ave. in the New York Streets area. The proponent has changed from office space uses to lab space uses. No other changes are proposed. The meeting will take place online Weds., April 7, from 6-8 p.m.

SCHOOLS INFO

- School Return Timetables – March 1-4 – Students in K0-Grade 3 (Groups A and B); March 15-18 – Students in Grades 4-8 (Groups A & B); and March 29-April 1 – Students in grades 9-12 (Groups A & B).

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.

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.



PRIVATE TERRACE

300 BOYLSTON STREET #1003
3 BEDS | 2.5 BATHS | 2,492 SQFT
\$7,990,000



201 W BROOKLINE STREET #PH402
3 BEDS | 3.5 BATHS | 3,802 SQFT
\$6,699,000



52 BEACON STREET #PH
4 BEDS | 3F 2H BATHS | 5,438 SQFT
\$9,500,000



305 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE #2
3 BEDS | 3 BATHS | 4,253 SQFT
\$10,900,000



122 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE #PH
3 BEDS | 3.5 BATHS | 4,144 SQFT
\$13,200,000

