

THE BOSTON SUN

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SERVING BACK BAY - SOUTH END - FENWAY - KENMORE

Rededication event held for Shaw 54th Regiment Memorial

By Lauren Bennett

The City of Boston celebrated the re-dedication of the Shaw 54th Regiment Memorial on the Boston Common on June 1 with a well-attended speaking program near the monument, following completion of its restoration work which began in 2020.

The event was hosted by Karen Holmes Ward, Director of Public Affairs and Community Services at WCVB, and featured such speakers as President of the Friends of the Public Garden Liz Vizza, Governor Charlie Baker, and Mayor Michelle Wu. An invocation was led by Chaplain Colonel Paul Minor, and a benediction was given by Pastor Willie Brodrick, II. The national anthem was sung by Briana J. Robinson.

Other speakers included poet

Sarah Nnenna Loveth Nwafor, filling in for the city's youth poet laureate Anjalequa Birkett, who could not attend, as well as David Blight, Sterling Professor of American History at Yale University; Robert Stanton, Co-Chair of the Partnership to Renew the Shaw 54th Monument; Lieutenant General Gary Brito, Deputy Chief of Staff for the US Army; Dr. Ibram X. Kendi, Director and Founder of the BU Center for Antiracist Research; and Michael Creasey, Superintendent of the National Parks of Boston.

The Boston Children's Chorus also performed a piece via a prerecorded video titled "Those Heroes Who Healed the Nation" by Julius P. Williams, and a performance of "Lift Every Voice and Sing" was given by Boston

(SHAW 54TH REGIMENT Pg. 4)



PHOTO BY JAN V. TROUSILEK

Officials gathered in front of the Shaw 54th Regiment Memorial on Boston Common during the national rededication ceremony on June 1.

OBSERVING MEMORIAL DAY IN THE FENWAY



Boston Mayor Michelle Wu remembers those who served and sacrificed so much for our country at the World War II memorial in the Fenway.

Shown to the right, a wreath provided by the City Of Boston was a small token to remember the fallen heroes of those that served military service.



AG hopefuls square off in virtual 'Visions for the Commonwealth' debate

By Dan Murphy

The three candidates now vying to succeed Maura Healey as the state's attorney general squared off during a virtual debate sponsored jointly by Boston Ward 5 Democrats and Boston Ward 4 Democrats on Monday, May 23.

On hand for "Visions for the Commonwealth: Attorney General Debate" were Andrea Campbell, an attorney and former Dis-

trict 4 City Councilor from 2016 until 2022 and its president from January of 2018 until January of 2020, as well as an unsuccessful candidate for Mayor of Boston in 2021; Shannon Liss-Riordan, a labor attorney who was a Democratic candidate for U.S. Senate in the 2020 election, but withdrew before the primary; and Quentin Palfrey, who once led the health care division in the Attorney General's Office and served as general counsel in

the U.S. Commerce Department under President Biden, and who lost in the 2018 lieutenant governor's race to incumbent Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito.

The event was moderated by Renée Loth, opinion columnist and former editor of The Boston Globe's editorial page.

Asked why he chose to enter the attorney general's race at this time, Palfrey said, "Democracy

(AG DEBATE Pg. 10)

Abutters of new proposed building at 1395 Washington St. concerned with window issue

Neighbors hope to work with developer to come to a resolution

By Lauren Bennett

Several abutters who live in the condo building at 1411

Washington St. in the South End say they have had issues working with the developer of the newly proposed six-story, mixed-use building at 1395 Washington St. on some concerns they have about the proposal. The building is being proposed by developer

Peter Georgantas.

The new building was approved by the South End Landmark District Commission (SELDC) at its May 3 hearing, where architect Dartag-

(1395 WASHINGTON ST. Pg. 3)

EDITORIAL

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2022

These have been difficult times for all of us, but particularly for our young people, who have sacrificed so many of their rites of passage to the demands of the pandemic during these past two years.

For older people such as ourselves, some of what we've lost -- such as a vacation or similar -- have only been postponed. We can make them up later.

But for our young people of high school and college age, their once-in-a-lifetime experiences, ranging from sports and extracurriculars, to class trips, to proms, to graduation days, either were canceled altogether or conducted in a truncated form.

We are only now beginning to recognize and understand the significant psychological and emotional impacts, not to mention the lost learning time and lack of contact with friends, that the pandemic has wrought upon this generation. The experts tell us that those adverse impacts will last well beyond the end of the pandemic (whenever that may be).

Still, life goes on, and it is with great pleasure and relief to see that the graduates of the Class of 2022 have been able to resume their lives to a level of near-normalcy, especially during this graduation season.

Graduation is a bittersweet time, both for the grads and their family members.

For the parents who will be watching their sons and daughters step to the podium when their name is called, no doubt they will be thinking of how fast time has gone by since they first brought their child by the hand to pre-school and kindergarten.

Such moments bring to mind the sentiments expressed in the lyrics of the song, Sunrise, Sunset, from the musical Fiddler on the Roof:

Is this the little girl I carried

Is this the little boy at play?

I don't remember growing older

When did they?

When did she get to be a beauty

When did he grow to be so tall?

Wasn't it yesterday when they were small?

Sunrise, sunset

Sunrise, sunset

Swiftly flow the days

Seedlings turn overnight to sunflowers

Blossoming even as we gaze

Sunrise, sunset

Sunrise, sunset

Swiftly fly the years

One season following another

Laden with happiness and tears

A high school graduation is a singular event in the life of every community, where almost everybody knows one of the graduates or their families. All of us share the happiness and sense of achievement of our young people who will be receiving their diplomas. And for all of us, a high school graduation brings back our own fond memories from our long-gone youth.

For the grads, their high school graduation marks both an end and a beginning. The grads no longer are children, either in the eyes of the law or in reality. They are full-fledged adults who will be leaving the sheltered harbor, where they have been protected from the full fury of life's storms and vicissitudes by their families and teachers, and embarking on a journey which none of them will be able to anticipate, but which will be full of surprises, both joyful and tearful.

We congratulate the Class of 2022 for all of the accomplishments that have earned them the right to step onto that podium to receive their diplomas.

We know we join with all of the members of our community in wishing them fair weather, both for their Graduation Day and in the years ahead.

By Jonathan Cohn

One year ago this June, Pavement Coffeehouse became the first unionized coffee shop in Massa-chusetts. Starbucks workers are trying to follow suit, with the baristas at numerous coffee shops in and around Boston filing for union elections.

Starbucks, which tries to fashion itself as having somewhat of a progressive image given its customer base, has responded in typical union-busting fashion, with smear campaigns coming down from corporate headquarters and the exclusion of unionized workers from a promised new pay increase.

GUEST OP-ED

Coffee tastes better with a union

Baristas have been through a lot during the pandemic. They had to spend the first few months with intense job insecurity, as locations all closed. And when they came back, they had to deal with customers hostile to the basic public health measure of mask-wearing, unstable work hours, and an increased workload coming from a new corporate emphasis on online orders—let alone the usual stresses of a job that requires you to be on your feet all day and keep a smiling face on.

The Boston Ward 4 Democratic Committee is proud to support the efforts of Starbucks workers to unionize and urges Starbucks

management to voluntarily recognize these unionization efforts.

Unions are a vital tool for workers to ensure better compensation, safe and healthy working conditions, and a voice at the workplace. And workers are not the only ones who benefit: customers benefit as well when shops are not plagued by high stress, turnover, or understaffing. And when you know that workers are being appropriately compensated and respected, the coffee indeed tastes better.

Jonathan Cohn is an East Fenway resident and the chair of the Boston Ward 4 Democratic Committee.

GUEST OP-ED

Boston's budget in the era of climate change and the Struggle for Environmental Justice

By Jackie Royce, PhD

Budget allocations should accurately reflect the city's policies and goals as embodied in municipal (and state) legislation and regulations. In this perspective I have come across one example of an opportunity to take a step which supports two major priorities or objectives and stops a project which directly undermines them. These two objectives are: (i) Mitigation of the effects of Climate Warming, and (ii) Reduction and ultimately eradication of the substantial inequities experienced by some communities and neighborhoods in their daily lives that are the legacy of many years of discrimination and neglect. Coincidentally, this example connects two very different open spaces that in distinctive ways make very valuable and special contributions to the quality of urban life in Boston.

First, Copley Square located in the prosperous Back Bay neighborhood. This urban park is one of Boston's jewels. It is nationally and even globally renowned for its surrounding architecture and

the regular events and activities it hosts as well as its role in the Boston Marathon and First Night. But it has suffered from inadequate maintenance and repair over many years. Its fabric, both visible and underground, is in sore need of restoration and renovation and some upgrading. We in Back Bay were delighted when it became apparent that funds would be available for this purpose. However, what many of us are not happy about is how this sorely needed project has now ballooned into a much more extensive and comprehensive redesign which we dislike and do not want or see the need for. This opinion has been expressed and heard very clearly on multi-

ple occasions but has not so far changed the intent to drastically redesign rather than much less expensively to repair and restore Copley Square. Substantially greater funding has been allocated to this redesign than was originally on the table.

Second, Crane Ledge Woods (CLW) in Hyde Park. Coincidentally, we have been made aware of a development project by Lincoln Properties that would destroy this open space, a rare urban wildland, which is highly valued by its surrounding EJ communities. Opposition from these communities has been unsuccessful so far in stopping the momentum

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1395 WASHINGTON ST. (from pg. 2)

nan Brown said that concerns regarding existing windows at 1395 Washington St. had been resolved with abutters.

But abutters like Stephanie Ragland said that is not true, and that they have yet to come to an agreement about what to do. The abutters say that the new building, which replaces an existing one-story building, will block light from windows on 1411 Washington St., rendering them useless and will change those one bedroom units into studios.

"The window issue is far from settled, unfortunately," Ragland told the Sun on May 24. "Unfortunately, they just continue to not reach a consensus with us." She said that while she and other neighbors have been able to meet more than once with the development team, there has "always been a disconnect."

She said that she has tried to reach out to project attorney Marc LaCasse several times regarding the window issue and other issues,

but "we still to this day have a long list of open items."

Ragland said she lives in one of the units at 1411 Washington St. that would be affected by the new building, and there are a total of four units affected.

"He had told us initially that there would be a few feet in between," she said, but as the project progressed, she said she was told there would now only be three inches between the two buildings.

"Once he changed that...we got concerned," she said, adding that she and others are worried about issues with air ventilation in those four units.

"We brought this to his attention," Ragland said, and "he said he wants to work with us on this." She also said that the condo board has also been working on this issue and have spent a lot of their own money trying to come up with a solution.

"Typically, developers are more inclined to work with the abutters

and we haven't had that experience unfortunately," she said.

She said she is also concerned about proper preservation of 1411 Washington St., as it is a historic building, and wants to make "sure we're doing the right things."

Ragland also said that "we have been working with a structural engineer to kind of represent our interests. That in and of itself is a little bit disappointing. Other developers would offer their engineer or pay for someone else."

Richard Anthony, a resident at 1411 Washington St. and a member of the condo board, said that the development team did not show the windows at 1411 during a Zoom meeting with neighbors. "He showed the building to his immediate left," Richard said—"showed the whole facade." He said that 1411 was shown from the front and "went right up to the edge of the windows; basically neglect-

ing the windows."

He said that those windows on 1411 are necessary for both ventilation "and for future value too."

Ragland said that this is "something we feel very passionately about," and there are owners who are concerned about the loss of value to their units at 1411 Washington St.

She added that "we're not against the development at all. We welcome it; we think it will be great and we don't blame others for wanting to develop the area," but "we really do want to reach a meaningful resolution with the developer."

She said that while some suggestions have been made by the neighbors for the window issue, they "haven't heard back on other options for the windows." Ragland also said that she invited Georgantas and Brown to her apartment months ago to show them what the windows were like from her perspective. "I'm

not sure how much that helped," she said, but "we've made ourselves available."

Anthony added, "these issues are just concerning to us for the building," and they are "still waiting to hear from them and get an answer out of them."

A request to attorney Marc LaCasse for a statement was unanswered by press time, but Ragland said that on the evening of May 24, the neighbors received a response from the development team via email.

"The developer apologized for the delay in getting back to us, said that responses to our requests are in process and he will try to get them to us soon and asked about the status of a couple of things," Ragland told the Sun in an email. "While we are still waiting on substantive responses to our various requests and issues raised, it is great to get the ball rolling again."

OP-ED (from pg. 2)

behind Lincoln Properties' proposal to blast away and destroy this green space and its trees (it includes some wetlands and provides an unusual urban habitat for several species) to build luxury apartments (270 units in all) with an associated clubhouse and amenities. In effect the developer's project would establish a gated community in the heart of an EJ community. Moreover, the removal of trees in CLW by the developer would wipe out the gains achieved from 5 (FIVE) years of planting new trees in Boston to improve the city's tree canopy.

Already residents cannot take advantage of CLW as they have for many years, because the developer, before the project has been approved, has blocked access with Private Property, No Trespassing signage. This proposal is currently going through the BPDA's Article 80 Review Process (990 American Legion Highway). The only way to stop this destruction is for the city to purchase CLW from its owner (Jubilee Church) at a fair market price after denying the private developer permission to proceed with the project. Denial is justifiable on rock solid grounds (pun intended if you know CLW). They include the lasting damage this project will inflict upon our urban environment in violation

of the city's well publicized policies and goals, and the harm it will cause to the surrounding EJ communities in ways that increase the inequities they encounter in their daily lives, dishonoring the pledges we have made to alleviate them.

To allow this project to proceed would be a visible and profoundly disturbing violation of two of the city's priorities, to: (a) Preserve and where possible expand public open spaces in the city for the sake of the quality of life of its residents and in particular the ability of green spaces to combat the effects of Climate warming (urban heat islands), and (b) Provide amenities to EJ communities as part of overall efforts to reduce the disadvantages and deficiencies they suffer from compared to other urban neighborhoods. While there are several sources of funds that the City might apply to the purchase of CLW, the timing of the need to do something about Copley Square suggests that any funds currently allocated to its undesirable and undesired redesign over and above what is needed to repair and restore (an excess of perhaps \$8-10 million) should preferably be transferred into a budget for this purchase, as a contribution to funds sufficient to cover the likely full fair market price.

In contrast to EJ Communities, Back Bay is well endowed with open spaces including nationally and even globally recognized locations such as the Commonwealth Mall and the nearby Public Garden, Boston Common and Esplanade. For reference the total acreage of CLW (24 acres) is equal to that of the Public Garden. Back Bay residents and groups have played and continue to play a vital role, along with other organizations, in preserving and enhancing these spaces over many years and several generations, with the admirable and critical assistance of elected officials and City agencies. Had Back Bay residents been unsuccessful in these efforts the entire city would have been deprived of all the benefits that these places now deliver for residents of all the city's neighborhoods. The EJ communities around Crane Ledge Woods are trying to emulate this role for their neighborhood. The harmful consequences of allowing the destruction of CLW to proceed would resonate city-wide beyond the direct and immediate deleterious impact on the EJ communities in which it is embedded. Failure to act would raise serious questions and doubts about the strength of the city's professed commitment to the values embedded in policies to tackle the environmental impact of Climate

Warming for all residents and the inequities experienced by residents in EJ Communities.

Please respond to the wishes and dedication that are manifest in the initiatives of several community groups adjacent to Crane Ledge Woods, and the serious well documented concerns they have identified (short- and long-term) based on the foreseeable and largely unfixable damages that will be caused following the irreversible loss of this space and its destruction by a private developer. The suggestion to transfer some funds from the Copley Square project is only one, and in any case only a partial solution to finding funds for the purchase of CLW. Other sources

of available funds may be better suited should the transfer of Copley Square funds turn out to be impractical because of legal or bureaucratic obstacles, and it is deemed easier to apply excess funds now allocated to this project for other worthy purposes.

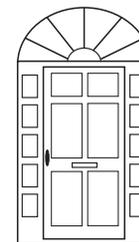
Please take the necessary budgeting actions to forestall the impending disaster of 990 American Legion Highway, in recognition of the compelling public interest in saving and preserving the status of CLW's precious acres within Boston.

Jackie Royce is a member of the Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay Green Committee.

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NEWS BRIEFS

MAYOR'S NEIGHBORHOOD COFFEE HOURS

Mayor Wu's Neighborhood Coffee Hours are a unique opportunity to speak directly with the Mayor and staff from City departments about open space and their neighborhoods. Dunkin' will be on-site to keep Bostonians runnin' with freshly brewed and full of flavor Iced Coffee and assorted fan-favorite MUNCHKINS® donut hole treats. In addition, each family in attendance will receive a free flowering plant provided by the Boston Parks and Recreation Department, while supplies last. Dunkin' will brew up even more event fun with Dunkin'-ized lawn games and gift card giveaways. Residents at each event will be

eligible to win a raffle prize from Dunkin'. Fresh fruit will be provided by Star Market. Additional support by City Express.

The Bay Village/Chinatown neighborhood coffee hour will take place on June 2 from 9:30-10:30am at Elliot Norton Park, 295 Tremont St.

The South End neighborhood coffee hour will take place on June 10 from 9:30-10:30am at Peters Park, 230 Shawmut Ave.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS LIVING HEALTHY-SATURDAY MORNING WALKS

Attend Saturday Morning Walks hosted every Saturday beginning Saturday, June 4 and ending Saturday, September 24.

The group will be meeting at the Franklin Park Golf Course Clubhouse located on 1 Circuit Dr, Dorchester, MA at 9:15 AM and walking starts at 9:30 AM. This is a great way for people to get fit and build connections with others in the Greater Boston area.

MAYOR WU ANNOUNCES CURBSIDE FOOD WASTE COLLECTION PROGRAM

Building on her commitment to make Boston a Green New Deal City, Mayor Michelle Wu and the Public Works Department announced that a curbside food waste collection program with rolling online enrollment is now available. Food waste collection will align with residents'

(NEWS BRIEFS Pg. 8)

'MAKE WAY FOR DUMPLINGS' AT SOLID SOUND



Ting Ting Dumplings of Warren Vt., one of the food vendors at this year's seventh Solid Sound – a three-day music festival headlined and curated by the Chicago rock band Wilco, which returned over Memorial Day weekend to Mass MoCA (the Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art) in North Adams, Mass. – paid homage to Robert McCloskey's classic children's book "Make Way for Ducklings" with this whimsical marketing tagline.

SHAW 54TH REGIMENT (from pg. 1)

Arts Academy alumna Latoria Boyd.

The Shaw 54th Regiment Memorial is "a tribute to the first Black Civil War troops from the Northeast," Holmes Ward said. "It gives me chills to think that the 54th paraded up Beacon St.—this Beacon St.—on May 28, 1863, nearly 160 years ago."

The monument was originally unveiled in 1897.

"As you bear witness today, know that you are standing on the shoulders of people like Harriet Tubman and Booker T Washington, who were here 125 years ago for the dedication of the monument on May 31, 1897, and Colin Powell, who was here 100 years later in May of 1997 for the centennial celebration of this powerful monument," Holmes Ward said.

In 2018, a partnership between the National Park Service, the City of Boston, the Friends of the Public Garden, and the Museum of African American History began work to restore the monument.

According to Friends of the Public Garden president Liz Vizza, "over \$3 million was invested by the partners to ensure that this memorial will inspire and speak to generations to come. We knew our efforts to preserve these bronze and stone freedom fighters could be a catalyst for deep, meaningful conversation around equity, social justice, and the power of collective action."

Vizza also thanked all those who made this restoration project possible.

Governor Charlie Baker could not attend the rededication in person because he was out of state at another event, but he submitted a video message which was played for the audience.

"The memorial honors the brave heroes of the 54th Regiment, but it's also a tribute to the highest ideals of our Commonwealth and our country," Baker said. "The completion of this restoration project also comes at an important time in our history, as our society continues to deal with and address systemic racism and the breakdown in many, many communities and across our country between and among people, especially those with different points of view."

Baker also thanked those who contributed to the restoration process.

"It gives me great pride that such a significant monument in our shared history has its home right here in Massachusetts, looking out the window and just steps from the State House," he said.

Mayor Michelle Wu thanked the numerous elected officials in attendance, from state legislators to city councilors to Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley, US Attorney Rachael Rollins, and District Attorney Kevin Hayden.

Wu talked about the 54th Massachusetts Regiment and how it was the "first all Black

regiment in the Northeast," led by Robert Shaw. Half of the men were killed in a battle at Fort Wagner.

"Their courage and devotion to the cause of liberty for all was an inspiration and a rallying cry for union forces and our soldiers across the country," Wu said.

She added, "Today, this memorial is an important reminder that the work of justice cannot, must not fall only upon those who suffer most directly under injustices. It is a reminder of what all art at its best can do to inspire us, call us to be better versions of ourselves in service of our communities."

Wu also spoke about this memorial's connection to the forthcoming "The Embrace" memorial, which honors the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and his wife, Coretta Scott King. Construction has begun on the memorial, which is set to be complete this coming winter.

Following the event, people were encouraged to visit the "Witness to History" tent on the Common, located behind the memorial, to meet the 54th Regiment Company, a living history of the Civil War, as well as Black Heritage Trail Walking Tours and to sign the Witness to History book and to learn more about the 54th Massachusetts Regiment.

The full video recording of the rededication ceremony can be found on the Boston City TV YouTube channel.

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‘The Voice’s’ Andrew Marshall shines at MGH CenterStage

Special to the Sun

Last week, Andrew Marshall, finalist of NBC’s “The Voice” Season 20, and local singing group Voices of Hope performed at Mass General Cancer Center’s signature event, CenterStage, which raised more than \$2.2 million for cancer research and development.

Co-chairs Isabelle and Ian Loring gathered with about 300 guests at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, for a beautiful evening of storytelling and celebration to honor progress in the fight against cancer.

Andrew Marshall’s incredible story was one of many shared at the CenterStage event. Marshall is a Boxford native 23-year-old who underwent treatment for acute lymphocytic leukemia at MGH for almost four years. At the age of 16, Marshall came to MGH after he suddenly developed jaundiced eyes. He spent three days in the hospital being tested for a number of possible causes – tuberculosis, hepatitis, mononucleosis, and even leu-

kemia. The tests all came back negative. It wasn’t until Alison Friedmann, MD, clinical director of the Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Unit at Mass General for Children, insisted upon one further test that Marshall’s diagnosis was finally determined.

Throughout his treatment, music remained Marshall’s passion and got him through his darkest times. He used music therapy via the Mass General Cancer Center Katherine A. Gallagher Integrative Therapies Program to gain his strength and his confidence to play music again. Though there was a point he thought he would never sing again, he rose through the ranks as one of the favorites contestants on “The Voice” Season 20 in 2021.

“I don’t know how my life will pan out,” said Marshall. “‘The Voice’ has opened so many doors for me in terms of music and my future – but if the time comes, I would go back to school to become a music therapist, really because of the incredible people I encountered at Mass General



Andrew Marshall with Voices of Hope at MGH CenterStage.

and the kindness and passion they showed for their work.”

To learn more about Mass General Cancer Center and its extraordinary work, visit www.massgeneral.org/cancer-center.

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CITY OBSERVES MEMORIAL DAY AT WWII MEMORIAL IN FENWAY



World War 2 Veteran Richard Cook watches the ceremony.



Barry Reaves recites The Gettysburg Address.

Photos by Derek Kouyoumjian

The City Of Boston conducted a Memorial Day Ceremony called "Honor And Rememberance: A Vigil Of Peace" at the World War II Memorial in the Fenway. It was a solemn remem-

berance of sacrifice and gratitude for that sacrifice, protecting what we have as a nation. Veterans from the Gulf War, Vietnam, War, Korean War, and WW2 were in attendance and were honored guests.



Boston Commissioner Of Veterans Affairs Robert Santiago and Mayor Michelle Wu thank World War 2 Veteran Richard Cook for his service as they lay a wreath at the WW2 Memorial.

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Kimberley Shaw of the Coast Guard Auxiliary and Bugels Across America plays Taps to render military honors for the Memorial Day Ceremony.



Boston Commissioner Of Veterans Affairs Robert Santiago and Mayor Michelle Wu thank Korean War Veteran Lillian O'Neal (center) for his service as they lay a wreath at the Korean War Memorial.

Sunday June 5th Noon to 6pm FREE! Rain or Shine!

Beacon Hill Art Walk



Come stroll through the gardens and passageways of the North Slope and enjoy the works of 100 artists!

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Corner of Cambridge and West Cedar Street

www.beaconhillartwalk.org



Members of the Boston Police Gaelic Column Of Pipes And Drums salute as Taps is played.



Air Force Veteran Jim Sinatra salutes as Taps is played.



The World War 2 Memorial served as a solemn and hallowed setting for the Memorial Day Ceremonies.

CITY OBSERVES MEMORIAL DAY AT WWII MEMORIAL IN FENWAY



Vietnam Veteran Tommy Lyons takes a moment to reflect.



Veteran Bill Chisolm points to his uncle's name, Archibald Chisolm, on the WW2 Memorial Wall.



Boston City Councilor Ruthzee Louijeune speaks with Korean War Veteran Lillian O'Neal.



Boston English School JROTC cadet Wilson Mercado stands guard at the Memorial for Korean War Veterans.



Boston English High School ROTC Cadet Ilan diaz stands guard at the Memorial for Vietnam War Veterans.



Bryan Bishop sings the song "The Last Full Measure."



Friends Of The Boston Mounted Park Rangers member Frederica Beikley checks in with Rangers Emma Papargiris and Alex Hartgrove and their partners Otis and Mystic.



The full ensamble of attendees include Boston Mayor Michelle Wu, Councilors Ruthzee Louijeune and Erin Murphy, Veterans, and Cadets from the Boston English High School JROTC.

OBSERVING MEMORIAL DAY IN THE SOUTH END

Photos by Derek Kouyoumjian

Memorial Day was observed in the South End at the Puerto Rican Veterans Memorial with dedications, remembrance, and



Boston City Council President Ed Flynn offers remarks.

solemn respect. State and city dignitaries came to help commemorate the sacrifices made by the Puerto Rican community in Boston for service to our great nation.



The Memorial Day Ceremony was held at the Puerto Rican Veterans Memorial in the South End.



Attendees stood silently with hand over heart as Taps was played and the flag was raised.



Community leader and Ceremony organizer Antonio Molina thanks everyone for attending and introduces Massachusetts State Governor Charlie Baker to the podium.



State Rep Jon Santiago offers remarks.



State Rep Nika Elugardo offers remarks.



Suffolk County Sheriff Steven Tompkins offers remarks.



Boston City Councilor Erin Murphy offers remarks.



Mayor Michelle Wu offers remarks in Spanish and English.



Boston City Councilor Ricardo Arroyo offers remarks.



Boston City Councilor Ruthzee Louijeune offers remarks.



Gov. Charlie Baker offers remarks.



Veteran Jaime Rodriguez offers remarks.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Continued from Page 4

scheduled trash and recycling collection days. This program will reduce the City's reliance on landfills and incinerators, and make it more convenient for Boston residents to dispose of their house-hold food waste. The food waste, which will be collected through a partnership between Garbage to Garden and Save That Stuff, will be sent to Save that Stuff's composting site in West Bridgewater to be turned into compost that will be made available to Boston parks, gardens, and schools, and sent to Waste Management's CORE

Facility in Charlestown where it will be made into clean energy. Learn more on the city's website.

'SOULEDAD' LANDMARKS MEETING

Please join us in support of "Souledad", a new mural by artist Victor "Marka27" Quiñonez pro-posed for Washington Manor in the South End. The mural was commissioned by the Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture as part of the City of Boston's Transformative Public Art Program. Boston Housing Authority and Youth Lead the Change are

collaborating on the project. The mural, inspired by the long history of cultural gatherings at Villa Victoria, depicts several African, Neo-Indigenous, and Chinese symbolic images representing prosperity, luck, longevity, and double happiness. The South End Landmark District Commission will be reviewing the proposal for the mural at their public hearing on June 7 at 5:30 p.m. Please send support via email by Monday, June 6 to southendlcd@boston.gov. RSVP and submit testimony at tinyurl.com/souledad by Monday, June 6 at 5 p.m.

DONNA SUMMER DISCO PARTY

Mayor Michelle Wu and the Office of Tourism, Sports, and Entertainment will host Celebration of Summer: Donna Summer Disco Party on Thursday, June 16 on Copley Square. This family-friendly event is free and open to the public and will take place between 6PM and 9PM. This annual event celebrates the start of summer with the music of Donna Summer! More info at boston.gov.

SWEET & SOUR, LLC ABUTTERS MEETING RESCHEDULED

The abutters meeting for Sweet & Sour, LLC, originally scheduled for May 31 at 6pm via Zoom, has been rescheduled to June 21 at 6pm. Mayor's Liaison Kim Crucioli said that the reason for the reschedule is that there were concerns about the lack of notice for the meeting and the applicant decided to re-flyer the neighborhood.

Back Bay, surrounding area's weekly COVID positive test-rate drops slightly

Citywide test rate still hovers at 11 percent

By John Lynds

The Back Bay and the surrounding area's weekly COVID positive test rate dropped last week but still remains above 12 percent as Boston health officials grapple with new, more contagious strains of the virus.

The Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) reported that COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations continue to rise. Last week adult COVID-19 hospitalizations in Boston were 208.7

per day, 8.7 over the 200 per day threshold. This metric helps the BPHC understand the burden of serious COVID-19 cases among adults resulting in inpatient care in Boston hospitals.

Last week, 1,353 Back Bay, Beacon Hill, North End, West End and Downtown residents were tested for the virus last week and 12.1 percent were positive--this was a 17 percent decrease from the 14.6 percent that tested positive as reported by the BPHC on May 23.

One hundred sixty four additional residents contracted the virus between May 23 and May

30 and there have now been 10,896 confirmed cases in the neighborhood since the start of the pandemic.

Boston's citywide weekly positive test rate also decreased last week but remains above 11 percent.

According to the BPHC 18,277 residents were tested citywide last week and 11.1 percent were COVID positive--this was a 4 percent decrease from the 11.6 percent that reportedly tested positive for the week ending on May 23.

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 1.1 percent last week and went from 186,446 to 188,509 confirmed cases since the start of the pandemic.

There were three additional deaths in Boston from the virus in the past week and the total number of COVID deaths is now at 1,469.

The Boston Public Health Commission strongly recom-

mends residents:

Wear high-quality, well-fitting masks indoors and on public transportation;

Stay up to date on COVID-19 vaccinations and boosters;

Stay home if you feel sick;

Ensure proper indoor ventilation by opening windows when possible;

Gather outdoors as the weather warms, instead of indoors;

Test for COVID-19; and

Contact your health care provider about anti-viral treatment if diagnosed with COVID-19.

Baker recommends allocating \$15 million in state funds for design of Storrow Drive tunnel

By Dan Murphy

Gov. Charlie Baker recommended the allocation of \$15 million in state funds for the

design of the more than 70-year-old Storrow Drive tunnel as part of a supplemental budget he filed last month.

The bill, called "An Act Making Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2022 to Provide for Supplementing Certain Existing Appro-

priations and for Certain Other Activities and Projects," was filed May 18, and, according to Gov. Baker, "allocates approximately \$1.7 billion of the tax surplus into projects and programs that will create permanent value for the Commonwealth."

Regarding the proposed funding for the tunnel, Rep. Jay Livingstone wrote: "The Storrow Drive tunnel needs to be replaced, and I appreciate that the Govern-

nor is taking this set towards that goal. I look forward to the public discussion that could start and am hopeful that MassDOT will not repeat its past proposal to cause significant negative impacts to the Esplanade as part of any plan."

Like Storrow Drive itself, the tunnel, which carries traffic through the parkway that runs alongside the Charles River Esplanade, was built in 1951.

BLC approves concept for Ayer Mansion interior

By Lauren Bennett

The Boston Landmarks Commission (BLC) on May 24 approved the concept of returning the Ayer Mansion at 395 Commonwealth Ave. into a single family home. There are many details yet to be worked out, but because the property is for sale, the project proponents said that those details will have to come back before the Commission for a hearing once they are sorted out.

Architect Rob Clocker explained that portions of the inside of the building are listed as a national landmark, and the proposal is to change the configuration of part of the floor plan as a sort of master plan to change the existing use a rooming house back into a single family home, which is the building's original use.

He explained that two rooms—Mrs. Ayer's chambers on the second level and the Breakfast Room in the front of the building on the third level—"have been modified from their original state."

Joe Cornish, Director of Design Review for the BLC, said that the BLC only has purview over certain portions of the interior, and the entire exterior is under the jurisdiction of the Back Bay Architectural Commission, which recently approved a slate of work on the exterior.

Clocker said that the original fireplace will remain in the chambers but all original windows will be part of the room once again by removing a partition that had been built. He also said that the Breakfast Room will be converted into a primary bedroom with all three original windows visible from inside the room.

In the entry vestibule, all existing original finishes will be maintained, as will the original finishes in the marble hall. The door that connects 395 to 397 Commonwealth Ave. next to the fireplace will be infilled, as the buildings will no longer be joined as part of the new proposal. The brick party wall will be rebuilt between the two properties, he said.

In the level two hall, the stained glass lay light and the original oval staircase will remain, and the hanging light is missing portions from its original state. The floor finishes in the hall have been changed, but are proposed to be returned to wood as they originally were.

In the parlor on level one, the floors are original and will be maintained, but the wallpaper will be changed as it is not original.

In the salon on level two, the fireplace and glass cabinets are original and will be kept, but paper on the glass will be removed. The wooden door will also be made operable once

again. The room has been carpeted, and the developer said that no original floor remains underneath the carpet. There is also ceiling tile, but the developer said that no original detail remains under the tile either.

There is also a chapel, dorm rooms, and other things like a basement hallway that will be changed and there are other alterations to the rooms that are not within the purview of the BLC.

"Our intent would be to get your general approval of this direction of returning its use to the family and this configuration of the floor plans," Clocker said. Because the building is for sale, he said that a potential future buyer would likely want to have input on some of the details that have not yet been worked out, so they would come back before the Commission with a proposal for those.

The BLC ultimately voted to approve the direction for the project proposed at the hearing, with "no provisos other than once the design is being refined further, they'll come back to us with a new application." The approved work includes the removal of partition walls in the chambers and the Breakfast Room, the closing of the door between 395 and 397 Commonwealth Ave. with the reinstallation of the brick party wall, and the conversion from a rooming house to a single family home.

Suspect in shooting near Park Street T station reportedly still at large

By Sun staff

Authorities are still seeking a suspect wanted in connection with a shooting last Thursday afternoon, May 26, in the area of the Park Street MBTA station.

An individual, who wasn't identified, was shot near the T station, across from the Boston Common, in the vicinity of Tremont and Winter streets, according to published reports. The victim was reportedly taken to an area hospital and was expected to survive in the immediate aftermath of the shooting.

According to WCVB-TV, witnesses said they saw two men arguing before one man began shooting at the other one, and one witness said they heard what sounded like two gunshots.

Suffolk University reportedly alerted its employees of the shooting and further asserted that the suspect fled the area in the direction of a Red Line T station.

Suffolk County District Attorney Kevin Hayden said in a statement released last Thursday afternoon: "In the midst of national mourning for the child and adult victims of the Texas mass shooting, we experience broad-daylight gunfire in one of the most congested areas of Boston. I pray for the victim and I pray that all of us—our entire society, from the largest businesses to the smallest neighborhood groups—will join the effort to reduce illegal guns on our streets and in our communities."



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AG DEBATE (from pg. 1)

is literally under attack...and it's important to stand up for the most important rights."

Palfrey said the attorney general would need to be "independent," which he described as one of his personal strengths. "I have a bold, aggressive vision for this office, and I'll stand behind it," he added.

Liss-Riordan said she has spent the last 20 years acting as a "private attorney general" and has "made headlines taking on some of the largest corporations in the country," like FedEx, Starbucks, and Uber.

"I'm the only practicing lawyer in the race. I've won jury trials and won appeals...and helped shape laws to serve the people," said Liss-Riordan, who added that she has also received the endorsement from the Massachusetts AFL-CIO, which represents around 500,000 people across the state.

Liss-Riordan said she has "spent 23 years not just as a practicing lawyer, but as one of the top plaintiff lawyers in the country."

Her top priorities as attorney general would include protecting consumers' rights and the environment, as well as her commitment to race issues, according to Liss-Riordan.

Campbell said she hadn't "jumped into this race lightly" and had first talked with employees in the attorney general's office and with past attorney generals before announcing her candidacy.

As for what distinguishes her from the other two candidates, Campbell said her legal background is "more comprehensive," and that she had started out doing pro bono work for children to ensure they have access to "high-level education."

Asked who should be "most afraid" of her candidacy, Campbell replied those "who accept the status quo," adding that she's in this race for "bold issues, and to always be a leader."

"I really believe in transparency and accountability," added Campbell.

Liss-Riordan said those who should fear her candidacy the most are "powerful interests who think they can skirt laws and take advantage of workers, consumers, and our environment."

To this end, Liss-Riordan said she intends to establish a fund to allow workers to immediately recover stolen wages, as well as a "green bank," which would

use money won in environmental cases to fund clean energy projects and for environmental justice projects.

"People who violate laws and take advantage of regular people are those who should be afraid of me being attorney general," said Liss-Riordan.

Palfrey said he wants to "set a fair tone during a time of great conflict," pointing to what he describes as a "failure of leadership on an international level," an imbalanced Congress, and a "Supreme Court that has been hijacked by extremists."

"I want to have a tone of decency and respect so people who are willing to deal fairly have nothing to worry about," said Palfrey.

On the biggest challenges now facing Massachusetts, Campbell cited mental health issues not only for adults, but also for children, along with the need for more housing.

Liss-Riordan said Massachusetts residents are now most impacted by the high cost of living, so she wants to ensure that they all recover "every penny" of their lost wages.

Palfrey pointed to "structural racism" and "wealth inequality" as currently the most pressing issues for the Commonwealth's residents.

Regarding the possibility that the Supreme Court might now strike down *Roe v. Wade*, Campbell said there is "real fear and angst in Massachusetts related to these issues," especially since many people don't realize that the case has already been codified in the state, which ensures the right to abortion and reproductive health care.

Liss-Riordan said, "With the failure of *Roe*, we now see a legal landscape unlike anything we've seen since the Civil War. It's going to take a creative legal strategy to keep that from happening."

Moreover, Liss-Riordan pledged that if a national ban on abortion comes to pass, as attorney general, she would never enforce it in Massachusetts" and would also introduce "litigation to ensure that other states can't reach into our borders to enforce their laws here."

Palfrey said he had seen the movement towards a national ban on abortion "coming for a long time," which, he added, has "clearly been the goal of a radical group of jurists."

As attorney general, Pal-

frey committed to do his part to reverse this trend by making the state's laws surrounding this issue as strong as possible, and to enforce them vigorously, as well as to create a "safe harbor" for those who are fleeing other states with more oppressive abortion laws.

All three candidates said they would strongly oppose a ballot question that would designate "gig" workers (e.g. Uber, Lyft) as independent contractors.

"We've got to fight like hell against this ballot initiative, but this is just the beginning," said Palfrey. "We're going to be in this fight for the long haul regardless of how this ballot initiative turns out."

Palfrey said he wants to see increased power for the attorney general to help combat the \$1 billion lost to wage theft annually throughout the Commonwealth. "There's a lot we can do with the tools we have," he added.

Liss-Riordan, who currently serves on the Coalition to Protect Workers' Rights board, said, "It was challenged even getting it on the ballot, so I think we have a fighting chance of keeping it off the ballot this year."

But regardless of the fate of the ballot question, Liss Riordan acknowledged that this issue isn't going away either.

"I've been in a chess match with these companies," said Liss-Riordan, "and we need an attorney general who can play the next round in this match. This is the future of employment in America that's at stake."

Campbell said it's now critical to inform Massachusetts voters of this ballot measure, as well as to educate them about the repercussions of gig workers being "misclassified" as independent contractors.

Additionally, Campbell said this is in fact a broader issue, which also includes employers taking advantage of workers who are afraid to come forward with their grievances on account of their questionable immigration statuses.

Regarding climate concerns, Campbell said she doesn't think the state's goals for limiting emissions are "aggressive enough," and that the utility companies and corporations would merely adjust their business plans to meet these goals.

Campbell also said she would do her part to engage communities of color and rural communities on environmental issues, who thus far have been left out

of the conversation.

Regarding climate concerns, Palfrey said, "What we do and what we fail to do will determine what kind of lives our children and our grandchildren face."

As attorney general, Palfrey said he would follow the example set by President Biden's executive order "to make climate a priority in everything we do in the state."

All three candidates agreed that using nuclear power to reduce the state's dependency on fossil fuels isn't a viable solution.

In response to Palfrey's question about Campbell allegedly receiving support from a Super PAC, she fired back that her campaign, which she describes as "grassroots, people-powered campaign," has been mischaracterized. She always holds [herself] accountable to the people" and isn't " beholden to special interests," added Campbell.

"There are no corporate interests in this race. There's no PAC in this race. It's all from individual donations," Campbell said of her \$800,000 war chest. "I'm really proud and honored that people have taken money out of their pockets to invest in my campaign."

While Liss-Riordan acknowledged that she had in part self-funded her campaign, she said this is a far different scenario from taking money from corporations or special interests.

"It's night and day about taking money from corporate entities and special interests and having the money to invest in one's own campaign," added Liss-Riordan.

("I've never been able to self-fund, so there are barriers to entry for some candidates," replied Campbell.)

Palfrey said his "loyalty is to the people," and that his campaign "needs to be free from conflicts of interest or even the appearance of conflicts of interest."

Regarding the ongoing opioid epidemic now facing the Commonwealth, Palfrey said, "I do think safe injection sites need to be part of the solution."

Palfrey cited the failure of the War on Drugs and added that Massachusetts now needs to focus on providing treatment, rehabilitation, and stabilized housing for those afflicted by substance abuse.

Likewise, Liss-Riordan said she would support safe injection

sites as one more tool necessary to combat the ongoing opioid crisis. "Saving a life in Worcester or Pittsfield is just as important as saving a life in Boston," she added.

In contrast, Campbell was more circumspect and said she would instead defer to individual cities and towns on this matter.

"I'd never stand in the way of a municipality starting safe injection sites, but as a statewide issue, there needs to be more conversations," said Campbell, particularly in regard to where they would be located.

Asked how he would address the Commonwealth's current need for more housing, Palfrey recommended building dense housing near public transit in an effort to not only address housing affordability, but also to help meet climate goals.

"I do believe rent control should be on the table as a solution," said Palfrey.

Likewise, Liss-Riordan pledged she would advocate for building more densely concentrated housing nearby public transit and said she would also establish an Office of Tenant Advocacy to represent tenants and to expand mediation in courts "so they're not just mills for evicting people."

Moreover, Liss-Riordan said she would take on banks to engage in discriminatory lending practices and agreed that "rent control is part of the answer."

Campbell pointed to the foreclosure crisis of 2008-09 when the attorney general's office adopted some "really innovative practices" to help keep people from losing their homes and said we should think about bringing back such measures.

Campbell also recommended using receivership to activate city-owned lots for the purpose of building new housing as another possible solution.

Regarding rent control, Campbell said, "Rent control is a conversation for the municipalities. I have real concerns about whether it's an effective tool."

The general election for attorney general of the Commonwealth is set for Tuesday, Nov. 9. Healey announced in January she wouldn't seek a third term as the state's attorney general so she could instead focus on her candidacy to succeed Gov. Charlie Baker in this November's gubernatorial race.

To view a video recording of the virtual debate, visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jZHd6wdCNhI>.

Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
BACK BAY			
128 Beacon St Residence RT	Hailer, John T	128 Beacon St #D	\$7,500,000
Bertke, Marykate	Wood Jr, Dexter E	383 Beacon St #C	\$2,550,000
Brennan, Killian	17 Gray Street LLC	17 Gray St	\$1,950,000
Huang, Ya-Ti	Fitzpatrick, Matthew	311 Commonwealth Ave #50	\$1,670,000
Eghdamian, Mehdi	Moltz, Evan	342 Commonwealth Ave #4	\$636,000
Litwin, David P	Weaver, William K	402 Marlborough St #1	\$1,150,000
Brown, Tristan G	Pomeroy, Stephen W	407 Marlborough St #5A	\$740,000
Mckenna, Scott B	Wood, Stephen	435 Marlborough St #2	\$790,000
Dhupar, Neha	Dhupar, Rishi	16 Miner St #606	\$590,000
BEACON HILL			
Na, Sonhwa	Stanganelli, Joseph S	10 Bowdoin St #401	\$1,075,000
Wilcox 3rd, Harry W	Putnam, Frederick A	76 Chestnut St #3	\$3,050,000
Hoos, Axel	3-5 Joy LLC	5 Joy St #3	\$6,190,000
Phillips, Matthew A	Homer, Geoffrey	140 Mount Vernon St #1	\$1,450,000
Abrams, Alexander	Wyrzten, Ryan	41 Pinckney St #1	\$1,300,000
Huerth, Carolyn	Thurer, Robert L	129 Pinckney St	\$3,405,000
Tansey, Margaret	Gleason, Paul	145 Pinckney St #417	\$675,000
Lin, Hsing-Yi	Wood, Ryan C	8 Whittier Pl #16A	\$500,000
BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE			
Lema Real Estate LLC	Ruth E Kenerson RET	25 Bay State Rd #1	\$799,500
Field, Rachel	Moterle, Veronique	12 Greenwich Park #3	\$875,000
Liu, Yong	Kelly, Kevin G	111 Jersey St #19	\$479,000
Tsai, Frederick	Westlette NT	131 Park Dr #20	\$374,845
West, Ross D	Lagarce, David	121-127 Portland St #207	\$910,000
Greater Boston Prop Svcs	Johnson, Etta	118 Riverway #12A	\$425,000
Habib, Ghofran	Div Shawmut LLC	100 Shawmut Ave #910	\$619,900
Kwok, Sheldon J	Varney, Shannon	136-140R Shawmut Ave #1D	\$2,250,000
Adiwidjaja, Carrissa A	Gennerman, Heidi M	32 Traveler St #501	\$1,100,000
Eduardo, Sabrina	Sommerkamp, Gifford	587 Tremont St #3	\$590,000
Mcconnell, Debra S	Harold William Gustat RE	43 Upton St #2	\$751,000
Sheridan, Jesse M	Prum, Stone	88 Wareham St #405	\$699,000
Prum, Stone	1313 Wa St Unit 323 LLC	1313 Washington St #323	\$1,080,000
Getz, Daniel	Wang, Zhang	3531 Washington St #202	\$735,000
Geraniotis, Coralea T	Fields, Cherise	43 Westland Ave #314	\$203,682
Sypko, Timothy D	Wolter, Jonathan G	25 Worcester St #2	\$2,150,000
Murray, Patrick	Mcmahon, Marissa	154 Worcester St #1	\$810,000
WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN			
Harbour, Brian	Bresnahan, Richard M	80 Broad St #301	\$1,670,000
Brian Gilroy RET	Boulevard Broad St LLC	110 Broad St #404	\$2,600,000
Jones, Allan R	Ware Gst FT	85 E India Row #25C	\$1,400,000
MV 2022 LLC	Richman Tiger LLC	1 Franklin St #3103	\$3,450,000
Ranade, Himali M	Bowers Jr, Richard G	210 South St #11-5	\$805,000
Vigo Realty Hldg LLC	Nucleus Hldg LLC	100 State St #10	\$1,425,000
Alexander Biel 1994 T	Lopez, Scott	151 Tremont St #25E	\$1,615,000

ATTENTION TO DETAIL

BY PENNY CHERUBINO

THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The glass tower in the last clue is on 2 Clarendon Street. This structure was originally designed by architect S. J. F. Thayer as the Clarendon Street Baptist Church in 1868. After a fire in 1981, its footprint was preserved and Finegold Alexander + Associates redesigned it as a 60-unit condominium community in 1988.

You'll find the next clue in the Back Bay.

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



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12:00PM - 1:00PM



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