Emerald Necklace Parkfest to be held throughout the Emerald Necklace Parks

Presented by the Emerald Necklace Conservancy, Emerald Necklace Parkfest marks Frederick Law Olmsted’s 200th year with free activities across the Emerald Necklace park system. The event will take place on Saturday, Sept. 24 from 1-6pm with a rain date of Sept. 25. Events will take place in Franklin Park, the Arnold Arboretum, Jamaica Pond, Olmsted Park, Riverway, Back Bay Fens, and Charlesgate Park. All events are free and open to the public, and all locations will feature picnic zones, parade decorating, data “community listening boards,” as well as Emerald Necklace-wide scavenger hunts to prompt exploring designed by Culture House.

Emerald Necklace Parkfest will be the year’s biggest event for Olmsted Now: Greater Boston’s Olmsted Bicentennial and the inspiration of this day-long celebration of shared use, shared health and shared power along the Emerald Necklace linear park system Olmsted designed. In addition, Emerald Necklace Parkfest is an opportunity for community groups or organizations to showcase the amazing ways you help make Greater Boston’s parks and public spaces more vibrant, verdant, equitable and welcoming for all.

Charlesgate
- Charlesgate Boulevard 1-4pm
- The Bridgeside Cypher/Cambridge Hip Hop 1-4 pm: unique all-inclusive hip-hop experience

Women’s Lunch Place is celebrating 40 years of serving women in need this year, and is gearing up to host its annual Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser.

Women’s Lunch Place to celebrate 40 years at annual Dinner gala

By Lauren Bennett

Women’s Lunch Place (WLP) is celebrating 40 years of serving women in need this year, and is gearing up to host its annual Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser. The fundraiser, which was held last year as a series of small watch parties, is returning to a fully-in person event this year at the Fairmont Copley Plaza on October 21.

According to a press release from WLP, “The program will feature the stories of several Women’s Lunch Place guests and honor Cummings Foundation, which recently awarded a 10-year $300,000 grant to Women’s Lunch Place enabling its Advocacy services team to create individualized health, stability, and financial independence plans for vulnerable women.”

WLP opened 40 years ago as “Boston’s first daytime shelter for women,” and continues to serve women today.

City officials discuss student move-in

By Lauren Bennett

As students begin to return to Boston and move into their apartments, several city officials gathered at 20 Linden St. in Allston on August 31 for a press conference regarding student move-in.

Speakers included the city’s Chief of Operations Dion Irish, Sean Lydon of the Inspectional Services Department (ISD), Conor Newman of the Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Services, Boston Transportation Department (BTD) Commissioner Brad Gerratt, Mike Brohel of the Public Works Department, and Fire Marshal Joseph Shea.

“The city’s taking a coordinat-ed, cross-departmental approach to ensure that our students, families, and folks who are moving today or this weekend have a safe and smooth move-in period,” Irish said. He said that the city is also working to ensure that students are moving into units that are clean and safe.

Sean Lydon, ISD Inter...
ENJOY A GREAT -- AND SAFE -- LABOR DAY WEEKEND

With the weatherman predicting a superb Labor Day weekend, we hope that all of our readers will have a chance to make the most of the final weekend of the summer season.

The Summer of '22 overall has been a great one that, we hope, has created memories that will last a lifetime for our families. The coming Labor Day weekend promises to give us one final opportunity to enjoy the outdoors in whatever way we choose.

However, as always, we urge our readers to do so safely, not only for ourselves, but also for our family members, friends, and loved ones, whether we are on land or on the water.

None of us wants to be a tragic statistic, and that means making sure that we ourselves and those around us do not overindulge in alcohol. Yes, accidents do happen even under the best of circumstances, but generally speaking, no one ever gets hurt by being sober. It’s sure that we ourselves and those around us do not overindulge in drinking Labor Day weekend promises to give us one final opportunity to enjoy the outdoors in whatever way we choose.

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

SCHOOL’S BACK -- DRIVE WITH CAUTION

With schools back in session this week after the summer vacation, morning rush-hour commuters need to readjust our driving habits to ensure that we take into account the thousands of children who will be filling our streets during our morning commute.

We’ll be honest and admit that school buses, school crossing guards, etc. are a pain in the neck, especially if we’re running a bit late on our way to work.

But that is no excuse for ANY sort of driving behavior that does not take into account the safety of the children in our communities.

Every morning commuter needs to be a patient and defensive driver, especially in the first few weeks of school, when youthful exuberance typically results in kids dashing out into the street to greet friends for the start of the new school year.

Each of us is responsible not only for our safety, but also for the safety of others when we are behind the wheel of a motor vehicle -- and that is doubly true when school is back in session.

MBTA fall service cuts are yet another hit to mobility in Greater Boston and the region

Wednesday’s announcement by the MBTA that it would sustain and deepen service cuts on the rapid transit system and bus network, puts the region’s transportation future in jeopardy. Federal, state, and local officials must work together to restore critical services as quickly as possible. These service cuts will overlap with the unprecedented Orange and Green Line shutdowns, compounding significant challenges for riders and the region, and raising serious equity, mobility, environmental, and economic concerns. Magnifying the impact of chronic underinvestment in infrastructure, these cuts underscore the MBTA’s continued inability to address critical systemic staffing issues.

Transit is essential to Boston and the consequences of diminished service are felt every day by riders. These cuts will ripple across our region this fall as students return to school, more workers return to the office, and the Orange Line resumes service with the expectation of major improvements. To rebuild trust in transit, we call on Secretary Buttigieg and members of the Massachusetts Congressionally delegation to work with the MBTA and the FTA to restore safe, reliable service to Boston and the region. We must:

• Find accelerated solutions to the rail dispatcher shortage that has resulted in substantial reduction in rail service since June. As additional dispatchers enter service, the MBTA, with support from the FTA, must prioritize restoration of peak period service levels as quickly as possible.

• Immediately address the critical shortage of bus operators which has led to dwindling service for the most loyal and transit-dependent riders. The Department of Transportation and Department of Labor must work with the MBTA, state officials, and labor unions to understand and remove the barriers to attracting this essential workforce, financial or contractual.

• Support improved MBTA communication with riders in advance of any significant future service disruptions that may be necessary to address safety deficiencies identified by the FTA.

LETTER to the Editor

Doctors urge vaccinations for students returning to school

Dear Editor:

“As schools in the Commonwealth prepare to open for the new academic year, the physicians of the Massachusetts Medical Society (MMS), the Massachusetts Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (MCAAP) and the Massachusetts Academy of Family Physicians (MassAFP) strongly encourage parents and guardians to ensure that their children are up to date on all vaccinations and boosters, including those that reduce the effects of and transmission of COVID-19 and those required to attend school.

“The importance of in-person learning and its positive effect on the mental, emotional, and physical well-being of children cannot be understated. Public health officials, school officials, school districts, and families must work collaboratively toward a shared goal of an academic year with as little disruption as possible. Vaccines are safe and remain our most effective public health tool to prevent outbreaks of COVID-19 and interruption of day-to-day learning that will result from a significant increase of positive cases.

“COVID-19 is still here, it is still a threat to public health, and there exists the likelihood of a surge in the fall and winter. Therefore, it is critically important that schools be prepared to shift quickly to preventive measures proven to reduce the spread of COVID-19 should community data suggest a significantly increased risk of contracting COVID-19 within the school or in the community.

“Our organizations will work closely with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) and the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) and continue to monitor key data and base real-time COVID-19 guidance on relevant and current public health data. We wish all students, school staff, and families a safe and productive school year.”

Dr. Theodore Calianos, President, Massachusetts Medical Society
Dr. Mary Beth Miotto, President, Massachusetts Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Dr. Emily Chin, President, Massachusetts Academy of Family Physicians
**BAY VILLAGE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION’S 50TH BLOCK PARTY**

Celebrate BVNA’s 50th block party on Thursday, September 22, from 6:30 - 9:00 pm at the Josiah Quincy Upper School, Fayette Street parking lot. Join us for a lively and festive evening under the stars. Rain or shine! (Rain venue is the Revere Hotel). Note: Due to City Hall permitting restrictions, the BVNA is unable to hold the party on Melrose Street this year.

Dinner will be catered by Maggiano’s with vegan and vegetarian options available. There will be a 50/50 raffle (cash only) with donations going to the Greater Boston Food Bank. Additional raffle prizes include a one night’s stay at the Revere Hotel. Simply write a check payable to the BVNA, include a brief note, and put through the mail slot at 24 Melrose Street by September 19th.

**ELLIS 2022 FALL THEATRE SERIES**

The Ellis Neighborhood Association is very excited to announce a new partnership with local theatre companies to offer discounted tickets to productions this fall. Here's a wonderful opportunity to get to know your neighbors while supporting the talent and dedication of these important non-profit South End organizations.

**Tickets for Members**

- Discounted ticket for seniors (65+), students, and children 14 and older are $15.
- Children 13 and under are free.

In celebration of the BVNA’s 50th Block Party, please consider donating an extra $10 to help support this special anniversary. As in years past, we want everyone to attend. So, if cost is a burden, simply email president@bayvillage.net. All requests will be handled confidentially.

**Tickets are Available Now!** Advance tickets, including discounted pricing, are available for BVNA Members.

**Early Bird pricing through Thursday, September 1st is $20 for Members.** On Friday, September 16th, the Member ticket price will increase to $25.00.

**Lyric Stage, 140 Clarendon Street**

Tickets: $50

**SUMMER DANCE PARTY SERIES**

Boston’s Summer Dance Party Series is back! This family-friendly event series, featuring salts, kizomba, R&B, and house music, is free and open to the public. Join us at City Hall Plaza on the following Fridays from 5PM – 8PM for each of our four dance parties:

- **On Friday, September 9, 2022, enjoy a House dance party on City Hall Plaza!**
  - DJ Bruno will be playing house music along with a dance performance by Phunk Phenomenon and the Floor Lords.

**BOSTON TOGETHER AGAIN**

Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, continuing through mid-October, Boston Together Again will host a series of free wellness events, cultural nights, and movie nights on Copley Square, the Boston Common, and City Hall Plaza. View the schedule of events at bostongetheragain.com.

**CITY ACCEPTING ELIGIBILITY FORMS FOR COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDING**

The Community Preservation Act (CPA) 2023 grant funding is open. There is nearly $39 million available to distribute to projects that build affordable housing, preserve historic sites or create open space and recreation. The deadline to submit an eligibility form is August 31. To apply for the FY23 Funding Round visit the How to Apply Page and complete a Rolling Eligibility Form.

The CPA Office will determine if a project meets the eligibility criteria of the CPA statute. If your project is eligible, applicants are invited to submit an application for consideration to our nine-member Community Preservation Committee. Learn more at boston.gov.

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**PARKS (from pg. 1)**

- for all ages, experience levels, genders, languages and backgrounds
  - Charlestown Alliance & Emerald Necklace Conservancy 2pm: Tour on park history and its future
  - Emerald Necklace Conservancy presentations on care for new trees at 1pm & 3pm
  - Food Truck 1-4pm

- Back Bay Fens:
  - Fenway Garden Society 1-3pm: Pollinator Garden Grand Opening with ribbon cutting, talks, info on beekeeping and composting at the Fenway Victory Garden
  - Park Trivia with prizes and lawn games 1-4pm: at Shattuck Visitor Center offered by the Verizon Engagement Team
  - Conservancy presentation on volunteer program to remove invasive species 3pm

- Riverway:
  - Park Trivia with prizes and lawn games 1-4pm offered by the Verizon Engagement Team
  - Olmsted Park/ Allerton Overlook:
    - National Parks Service 1-4pm: Pop-ups presented by the Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site
    - Live music 1-4pm with Aydan aka DJ CO’D
    - Triveni Dancers 1-3pm: two performances of Indian dance
    - Food Truck 1-4pm

- Jamaica Pond:
  - National Parks Service 1-6pm: Activity Pop-ups presented by the Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site at the Boathouse & Bandstand
  - Drag Queen Storyhour 1-4pm at the Boathouse & Bandstand
  - Photobooth 1-4pm at the Boathouse & Bandstand offered by the Verizon Engagement Team
  - Edie Bresler photography expo 1-4pm: Photographer Edie Bresler will be at Pinebank
  - Promontory making cyanotypes with passers-by and photographing on her 4x5 field camera. These 19th century photographic processes connect us to the technology of Olmsted’s time while also offering the chance to make art in our parks now

- Food Truck 1-6pm: Kush by Saba, a modern Mediterranean concept by Chef Saba
  - Wahid Duffy and her sister Sara Wahid

**Arnold Arboretum:**

- Arboretum Tours 1-4pm starting at the Hunnewell Building lawn
  - The Caterpillar Lab 1-4pm: hands-on insect learning at the Hunnewell Building lawn
  - Franklin Park at the Shattuck Picnic Grove:
    - Trike Called Funk 1-4pm: featuring local artists
    - Mr. Twister Youth Opera 4pm: presented by Mothers Out Front
    - Canvas Studios 1-4pm: accessible community art projects by Boston’s only Black-owned paint bar
    - Lawn Games 1-6pm
    - Live music 5-6pm with Aydan aka DJ CO’D
  - Culminating PARADE 5-6pm
  - Food Truck 1-6pm

For full details, please visit emeraldnecklace.org.
Traffic advisory for 2022 student move-in

Per the City of Boston: Student move-in at local colleges and universities will require temporary parking restrictions in Boston from Sunday, August 28, through Sunday, September 5, 2022. Parking restrictions will help with move-in activity in the City of Boston. Check below for neighborhood-specific information:

Northeastern University's Move-In, Fenway
Sunday, August 28, 2022, through Monday, September 5, 2022
“Tow Zone No Parking Aug 28 - Sept 5” signs on the following streets:
- Opera Place, Both sides, from Huntington Avenue to Saint Stephen Street
- “Tow Zone No Parking Aug 28 – Aug 31” signs on the following street:
  - Gainsborough Street, South side (even side), from Saint Botolph Street heading southerly to MBTA
- “Tow Zone No Parking Thursday” signs (for 9/1/22) on the following streets:
  - Gainsborough Street, Both sides, from Huntington Avenue to Hemenway Street
  - Hemenway Street, Even side, from Forsyth Way to Westland Avenue.
  - Saint Stephen Street, Both sides, from Gainsborough Street to Massachusetts Avenue
  - Symphony Road, Both sides, from Hemenway Street to Saint Stephens Street
  - Westland Avenue, Both sides, from Hemenway Street to Massachusetts Avenue
- “Tow Zone No Parking Sept 2 - Sept 5” signs on the following streets:
  - Hemenway Street, Odd side, from Forsyth Way to Westland Avenue.
  - Saint Stephen Street, Both sides, from Opera Place to Gainsborough Street
  - “Tow Zone No Parking Sept 3 - Sept 5” signs on the following street:
    - Forsyth Street, Both sides, from Huntington Avenue to Hemenway Street
Northeastern University's Move-In, Roxbury
August 28, 2022, through September 5, 2022
“Tow Zone No Parking 7AM to 8PM Aug 28 through Sept 3” signs on the following street:
- Columbus Avenue, North side (odd side), from Burke Street to Melnea Cass Boulevard
- “Tow Zone No Parking Aug 31 through Sept 5” signs on the following street:
  - Coventry Street, Both sides, from Tremont to Columbus Avenue
- “Tow Zone No Parking Aug 31 through Sept 1” signs on the following street:
  - Tremont Street North side (odd side), from Burke Street to Coventry Street
- “Tow Zone No Parking 7AM-5PM Sept 4 & 5,” signs on the following streets:
  - Columbus Avenue, South side (even side), from Melnea Cass Boulevard to Douglass Park
  - Davenport Street, Both sides, from Tremont to Columbus Avenue
Boston University Move-In
Wednesday, August 31, 2022 – Thursday, September 1, 2022
“Tow Zone No Stopping Aug 31 – Sept 1 8AM to 8PM” signs at the following locations:
- Platt Street, North side (even side), from Linden Street to Ashford Street.
- Ashford Street, North side (even side), from Linden Street to Malvern Street
- Gardner Street, North side (even side), from Linden Street to Malvern Street
- Linden Street, East side (even side), from Gardner Street to Pratt Street.
- Brighton Avenue, South side (even side), from Linden Street to Reedsdale Street.
- Highgate Street, North side (even side), from Cambridge Street to Farrington Street.
- Farrington Street, North side (even side), in front of #14 Farrington Street to Highgate Street.
- Cambridge Street, South side (even side), from #424 Cambridge Street (near Denby Street) to Linden Street.
- Wadsworth Street, North side (even side), from Pratt Street to Hartley Terrace.B.U. Move-In – Wednesday, August 31, 2022 – Thursday, September 1, 2022
FRESH AND LOCAL

Add a pinch of time

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

There’s a difference between food that takes time to prepare and food that is time-consuming. Plenty of delicious recipes call for hours of preparation. However, they don’t need your attention throughout the process. Sometimes adding a pinch of time means less work for the cook.

Autumn and the holiday season bring busier schedules and may need food that you want to make in larger batches. Traditional recipes and warming comfort food can fit nicely into meal planning for a busy cook. The bonus is that many of these oldies-but-goodies need few ingredients and use common pantry items.

Recipe Guidance

We love it when a recipe points out the time you’ll need to make it and breaks it down into understandable segments. For example, Marc Bittman’s recipe for gravlax lets you know that it will take “at least 24 hours, largely unattended.” A recipe for Butternut Squash with Orange Oil and Caramelized Honey in the book “Ottolenghi Test Kitchen Shelf Love” notes: “Prep time: 15 minutes, Cook time: 40 minutes, Infusion time: 20 minutes to 1 hour.”

In addition, recipe developers often include suggestions for what you can prepare ahead. Even if they don’t, as you hone your cooking skills, you’ll learn that you can sauté aromatics and rewarm them as needed.

Make Your Own Timeline

You can also create a do-it-yourself assessment of how much of your attentive time a recipe will take. Let’s take Mina Stone’s recipe for Revithia sto Fournro (Oven Chickpeas) from “Lemon, Love & Olive Oil.” It begins by soaking dried chickpeas overnight. Soaking means planning ahead, but it won’t take much of your time.

Next day you put the chickpeas in an ovenproof dish with a lid, add fresh water, quartered onions, unpeeled garlic cloves, bay leaves, salt and olive oil. That step only takes moments and pantry ingredients. You don’t have to add shopping time to your day. Cover and bake for four hours.

Finally, add lemon juice, more olive oil, black pepper and correct the seasoning. With the addition of some cheese, bread, and olives you have a traditional Greek meal. You also have a pot of lovely chickpeas to use in other ways.

Again, this is a quick process for the cook. While this recipe in its printed form seems long and daunting and takes more than 16 hours to prepare, those are not contiguous hours and your engaged time between each step is brief.

Other Slow Cook Methods

Braise, roast, poach, smoke, soak, marinate, slow cooker, Dutch oven, simmer, and even sous vide are cooking words that might alert you to a cookbook or recipe where a pinch of time will result in a potful of flavor. Many of these cooking steps are for food that is easy to make in large or small batches and can be made ahead.

Plan Ahead to Slow Down Your Food

The second paragraph of The Slow Food international manifesto reads, “We are enslaved by the same insidious virus: Fast Food, which disrupts our habits, pervades the privacy of our homes and forces us to eat Fast Foods.” As you plan meals, remember that you might be able to prepare a healthier, more delicious, and less expensive meal in line with the Slow Food philosophy by adopting recipes that take a long time to create but very little time away from other activities.

Do you have a question or topic for Fresh & Local? Send an email to Penny@BostonZest.com with your suggestion.

GALA (from pg. 1)

provide a “holistic approach” to helping women in need. WLP provides “mental health and other wellness programs, direct care such as laundry, access to showers, feminine hygiene and other essentials, housing advocacy and employment counseling, and, of course, the delicious healthy, shared meals that are a Women’s Lunch Place hallmark,” the release states.

The Sun spoke with WLP’s Chief Development Officer Paula White about the impact of this fundraiser and WLP’s work as the organization celebrates its 40th anniversary.

“One of the things that’s going to make this event, I feel, really special, is not only celebrating or looking at 40 years of Women’s Lunch Place,” she said. “We’re looking to tell a larger story about...homelessness, poverty, and women’s rights over the past 40 years.”

This year, award-winning filmmaker Steve Liss of Boston Film Works will “tell our story,” White said, with a video presented at the event.

Additionally, “we are hoping to celebrate not only with the current leaders, but all the past leaders both in Boston and in Massachusetts,” she said, which include WLP leaders as well as government and industry leaders.

The organization is aiming to raise $500,000 on the night of the fundraiser, and she said that folks should know that “any money that is raised through this event is going to help women who walk through our doors. Every day those needs change, but it’s really about food security, housing security, and economic empowerment,” and “giving women the opportunity to create those building blocks to build an independent and stable life for themselves on their terms.”

White also said that WLP has been collecting data over the past 20 years, and in those 20 years, has served over 1.5 million meals, held nearly 40,000 one-on-one advocacy appointments, and provided 100,000 showers and laundry services.

“These are the types of things we’re hoping to highlight throughout the event,” White said: “How important it is that a place like Women’s Lunch Place has existed for 40 years,” and the need for it to “continue to exist for the next 40 years.”

White said that tickets to the Spaghetti Dinner are quickly selling out, so “people shouldn’t delay” in purchasing them, as they are expected to sell out soon. “Tickets are $250 each. “This event for Women’s Lunch Place is kind of going to be the pinnacle of our entire year,” White said, “and we are expecting a really top-level curated guest list.”

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit womenslunchplace.org/spaghetti-dinner.

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THE BOSTON SUN

SEPTEMBER 1, 2022
West End Branch Library will be among sites features in ‘Book It Around Boston’ event

By Dan Murphy

The West End Branch of the Boston Public Library will be one of five branch libraries included in “Book It Around Boston” - an event designed to incentivize movement across the city’s neighborhoods.

BPL has partnered with Heartbreak Hill Running Co to offer guided routes from BPL locations at the four corners of the city for participants to walk, run, or bike from the start location to other BPL branches, concluding with a warm reception at the Roxbury branch. The event is the kickoff of the BPL Passport initiative, which will roll out in September during Library Card Signup Month, according to a press release.

“We are thrilled to launch the BPL Passport and to host the Book it Around Boston event,” BPL librarian Maggie Levine said in a statement. “The Passport is a fantastic way to see and experience the many neighborhoods of Boston through the lens of its treasured local libraries. Every branch of the BPL has its own unique personality and important role within the community it serves, and we hope this passport and Book it Around Boston will encourage Bostonians to get out and explore our wonderful city.”

Book it Around Boston will take place on Sep. 10, at 9:30am. Participants can choose one of five branches to start at, depending on how far they would like to walk, run or bike. Besides the West End Branch Library, which is easily accessible to the Chinatown Branch, Central Library in Copley Square, and South End Branch, with the 4-mile route ending at Roxbury Branch, other stops include: Honan-Allston Branch (6 miles); visit Central Library in Copley Square, South End Branch, end at Roxbury Branch; Roslindale Branch (5 miles); visit Grove Hall Branch, end at Roxbury Branch; Fields Corner (2.8 miles); visit Uphams Corner Branch, end at Roxbury Branch; and Parker Hill Branch (0.8 miles); end at Roxbury Branch – this route is recommended for families.

There will be a reception at 10:30 a.m. at the Roxbury Branch, the final stop on all the Book it Around Boston routes. There will be snacks and refreshments served, along with remarks from guest speakers. The first 100 participants to register for the event will also receive a free T-shirt.

“This event is about celebrating accessibility to me,” Finch Henry of Heartbreak Hill Running Company said in a press release. “We are celebrating the accessibility of exercising in a shared outdoor space as well as the accessibility of BPL and its staff: a historical public resource which goes beyond lending out books. I hope people will engage more with the resources their neighborhood library offers.”

Added Dan Fitzgerald, co-founder of Heartbreak Hill Running Company: “Being able to celebrate cross-community movement using our world-class library system as the guide is so exciting. BPL exists in every corner of our city offering free, democratic access to information and education. Running, for us, is always an opportunity to unite people and communities of all backgrounds in sport. I can’t wait to bring both together on September 10th!”

All participants will receive a BPL Passport: a new booklet outlining routes to walk, run, or bike between each of the BPL’s 26 locations, encouraging residents to get out and explore the city. For each branch participants visit, they will receive a branch stamp in their BPL Passport. BPL Passport booklets will be handed out at the Book it Around Boston starting locations, but can also be used anytime and will be available for patrons to pick up on a first-come-first-serve basis at all BPL locations.

To register for Book it Around Boston, visit: bplrun.splashthat.com. For a complete list of BPL branches visit: bpbibliocommons.com/locations.

Licensoring Board approves Grand Tour name change; and Union Park Pizza relocation to Newbury Street

By Lauren Bennett

The City of Boston Licensing Board held a virtual Transaction Hearing on August 24 and a Voting Hearing on August 25, where it approved a change in d/b/a at 314 Newbury St., as well as the relocation of Union Park Pizza from 1403-1405 Washington St. to 244 Newbury St.

314 NEWBURY ST.— GRAND TOUR NAME CHANGE

Attorney Kristen Scanlon spoke on behalf of chef and owner of Grand Tour Michal Serpa, who requested to change the name of the restaurant to Little Whale Oyster Bar. She said that there will be no change in ownership, and the “only change is to the concept and menu,” which “will now offer and highlight classic New England-style seafood dishes.”

The renovations and update will cause “minimal disruption to operations,” and the restaurant will be shut down on Sept. 4 to make the changes, and is expected to reopen on Sept. 12. The Licensing Board voted to approve this request.

UNION PARK PIZZA

Attorney Kristen Scanlon also represented Joe Silva, owner of Union Park Pizza, who is looking to relocate the restaurant from 1403-1405 Washington St. in the South End to 244 Newbury St.

The building where the restaurant currently exists is under renovation, so Silva was seeking a new location to keep the restaurant open.

Scanlon said that Silva has been in the restaurant industry for more than 20 years as a general manager and also a part owner of a different restaurant. The current location has 16 indoor seats and 30 seats for temporary outdoor dining, though those were not used this year “due to the pending move,” Scanlon said. “They’ve been working on obtaining a new space since they learned of that news and found this particular space on Newbury St near Fairfield St. and are excited to move over and become new members of Back Bay,” she said. “In the South End, they’ve quickly become the go-to neighborhood spot for brick oven pizza, priding themselves on making their sauce and dough in-house daily with organic ingredients as well as imported ingredients from Italy.”

Union Park Pizza opened in 2018, and obtained a beer and wine license shortly after, Scanlon said, and has been an “exemplary licensee.”

(Courtesy of the Boston Public Library)
City proposes zoning amendments for cannabis establishments

By Dan Murphy

With an eye on promoting equity in the industry, the city is recommending that zoning guidelines for cannabis establishments be amended to not only remove the required half-mile buffer zone between dispensaries, but also to change their designation from “Conditional Use” to “Allowed Use” in all non-residential districts.

The city’s Zoning Commission had already enacted zoning that designated cannabis establishments as “conditional use” in commercial and industrial zoning sub-districts prior to the 2019 creation of the Boston Cannabis Board (BCB), which, according to the city, was “established to develop regulations and procedures for evaluating proposed cannabis establishment licensing applications and ensuring the equitable regulation of the industry.”

Today, 12 cannabis establishments are operating in the City of Boston after they all secured zoning relief from the Zoning Board of Appeals and were also licensed by the BCB – a two-part process that many believe has resulted in redundancies, and in some cases, has put the Zoning Board’s determinations at odds with the BCB’s rulings on the same applications.

“To remedy this situation, the City of Boston has recommended amending the Zoning Code to treat Cannabis Establishments in the same way that retail uses are treated, Allowed in commercial and business sub-districts but remain Forbidden in residential sub-districts,” according to the Boston Planning & Development Agency’s website. “The process for seeking zoning relief through the Zoning Board of Appeal has been made redundant by the Boston Cannabis Boards process and regulations so the time is right to phase out the ZBA requirement.”

In an Aug. 29 letter to BPDA Director J. Arthur Jemison, District 8 City Councilor Kenzie Bok wrote that she supports the removal of the half-mile buffer zone rule from the zoning code because “as a specialized body considering the emergence of the cannabis industry across the whole city, the BCB is better positioned than the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) to weigh the differing factors in considering whether an exception to the half-mile buffer zone is appropriate or not.”

Councilor Bok added that the addition of two new members with “relevant expertise” to the BCB (increasing the board’s ranks from five to seven members) would “help it weigh these issues, and make location considerations more central to the BCB’s grading rubric.”

(The BCB uses a scoring sheet to rate applicants that takes into account four criteria, including the business’s diversity and inclusion plan; its employment plan; community feedback and public support; and location, safety, and security.)

“I believe this is an appropriate streamlining of the process, and I believe that we have seen the BCB’s deliberations reflect an enhanced consideration of location dynamics over the past year,” Councilor Bok wrote.

Regarding the second proposed change to the city’s guidelines for cannabis establishments from “Conditional Use” to “Allowed Use” in all non-residential districts, Councilor Bok wrote, “I represent a number of parts of the City in which residential and business uses are extremely cheek-by-jowl; such areas of my district are in fact often home to many more residents than areas of the City commonly described as ‘residential.’ This mix of uses makes for dynamic, vibrant urban neighborhoods, but of course can also result in certain tensions.”

One method developed for addressing tension in these neighborhoods is to designate all business uses as “Conditional,” wrote Councilor Bok, to encourage businesses to meet with residents, as well as to adopt certain “protocols” for “trash pickup, hours of operation, deliveries, curb management, etc.”

Added Councilor Bok: “Throughout my district, there are numerous areas where residential and commercial stakeholders have gotten together and agreed on local business sub-district zoning that applies ‘conditional’ status to nearly all uses—from cafés to liquor stores. In this situation, it would be strangely inconsistent to remove the ‘conditional’ status only for marijuana retail, as proposed in your petition. Since the BCB does not consider detailed good-neighbor restrictions to be appropriate for inclusion in Host Community Agreements, your petition would mean that the neighborhoods I represent would have standing to seek agreement on matters such as hours and trash pickup in advance of a ZBA vote for a café, but not for a cannabis shop.”

At an Aug. 29 virtual meeting sponsored by the BPDA on the proposed zoning changes, City Councilor at-Large Michael Flaherty, who described himself as “one of the chief architects” of the half-mile buffer, said the ZBA should continue to uphold this guideline so as not to inure any one neighborhood with an abundance of cannabis establishments.

Councilor Flaherty also predicted that the city would only have a “limited window” to facilitate the opening of Boston’s cannabis establishments before the industry is “reclassified” at the federal level.

“Stop & Shop and Walgreens—once they get into the business, it’s going to completely change the trajectory of what we’re discussing,” said Councilor Flaherty.

Brian Keith, Chief Operating Officer of Rooted in Roxbury, said they intend to open an equity retail cannabis shop at 331 Newbury St. this November. Which comes after paying rent at the location for the past two years.

Rooted Roxbury also spent an estimated $150,000 on attorneys, architects, and consultants before they even filed their application with the city, Keith said, while the ZBA process could double those costs and extend the time frame – something that could cause the applicant to eventually run out of funds and fail as a business.

Elliott Laffer, who chairs the Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay, said while the time and cost issues that applicants face are legitimate concerns “so is the desire of the neighborhoods to be heard.”

Since residential and commercial uses are so inextricably linked in the Back Bay, Laffer said, “We need to work really hard so that busines neighborhood can be viable, but that the residential neighborhood is viable, too.”

Segun Idowu, the city’s Chief of Economic Opportunity and Inclusion, said while it “made sense” to charge the ZBA with evaluating would-be cannabis establishments in the city prior to the formation of the BCB, now, the ZBA process is now nothing more than an “unnecessary barrier,” which can take months to navigate and put an “unnecessary burden” on equity applicants.

As a result, some applicants have found themselves in the unenviable position of having to find another location for their proposed cannabis establishment, or having to sue the city instead, said Idowu.

The BPDA is accepting public comments on the proposed zoning amendments for Boston’s cannabis establishments through Sept. 9 via email at bpdarpz@boston.gov.

CALL 781-485-0588 TO GET YOUR AD IN THE DIRECTORY TODAY.
Massachusetts unemployment and job estimates for July

The state’s July total unemployment rate dropped by two-tenths of a percentage point at 3.5 percent over-the-month, the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development announced Friday.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics’ preliminary job estimates indicate Massachusetts gained 13,500 jobs in July. This follows last month’s revised gain of 5,800 jobs. The largest over the month private sector job gains were in Professional and Business Services, Education and Health Services, and Other Services. Employment now stands at 3,680,100. Since the employment trough in April 2020, Massachusetts gained 629,100 jobs.

From July 2021 to July 2022, BLS estimates Massachusetts gained 134,500 jobs. The largest over the year gains occurred in Professional, Scientific, and Business Services, Leisure and Hospitality, and Education and Health Services.

The July unemployment rate of 3.5 percent was the same as the national rate reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The labor force decreased by an estimated 7,500 from 3,773,100 in June, as 800 more residents were employed, and 8,300 fewer residents were unemployed over-the-month.

Over-the-year, the state’s seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was down by 2.2 percentage points.

The state’s labor force participation rate – the total number of residents 16 or older who worked or were unemployed and actively sought work in the last four weeks – was down two-tenths of a percentage point at 65.8 percent. Compared to July 2021, the labor force participation rate was up 0.2 percentage points.

July 2022 Employment Overview

Government gained 12,800 jobs over the month. Over the year, 4,500 jobs were lost.

Professional and Business Services gained 5,500 jobs over the month. Over the year, 34,300 jobs were added.

Utilities gained an estimated 1,400 jobs over the month. Over the year, 5,200 jobs were added.

Construction lost 600 jobs over the month. Over the year, 9,500 jobs were added.

Trade, Transportation, and Utilities lost 1,200 jobs over the month. Over the year, 16,400 jobs were added.

Leisure And Hospitality lost 12,300 jobs over the month. Over the year, 30,700 jobs were added.

Labor Force Overview

The state’s July total unemployment was down by 2.2 percentage points at 3.5 percent from the June rate of 3.7 percent. Over-the-month, the July labor force was down by 7,500 from 3,773,100 in June, with 800 more residents employed and 8,300 fewer residents unemployed. The labor force participation rate, the share of working age population employed and unemployed, dropped at 65.8 percent.

The legal drinking age is 21.

The results of the publication survey are "other pizza offerings in the area," Union Park Pizza is “unique” in that it serves brick oven pizza. The restaurant also serves salads, appetizers, and specialty pizzas, Scanlon said.

The restaurant met with the Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay (NABB) in July, which "did not oppose the change of location," Scanlon said, and an abutters meeting was held on August 24.

The restaurant hopes to open "ASAP" on Newbury St., according to Scanlon, which means “hopefully by October.”

The board voted to approve this request.

The City of Boston reminds you:

The legal drinking age is 21.

Thanks for not providing alcohol to teens.

Proudly sponsored by The Patrón Spirits Company.
Baker-Polito administration highlights school safety initiatives

In recognition of Overdose Awareness Day, an annual observance in Massachusetts and around the world, Gov. Charlie Baker, Secretary of Health and Human Services Marylou Sudders, Department of Public Health Deputy Commissioner Jennifer Barrelle, DPH Director of Bureau of Substance Addiction Services Deirdre Calvert, and other state and local officials today joined families, friends, and volunteers in planting 20,000 flags on Boston Common, signifying the Massachusetts residents who died as a result of drug overdose in the past 10 years. The Baker-Polito Administration also issued a proclamation declaring Aug. 31st Overdose Awareness Day across the Commonwealth. The purple flags were planted at the Common’s Liberty Mall in front of the State House to honor and remember individuals who lost their lives to overdose, acknowledge the loss felt by family and friends, raise awareness, and remove the stigma of drug-related deaths. An information booth was set up to offer addiction prevention and recovery support resources.

Following the planting of the flags, a moment of silent reflection was observed. In addition to the flag display, several state bridges and buildings are being lit up in purple.

Overdose Awareness Day is followed by Recovery Month, a national observance held in September to promote hope and recovery from addiction. Recovery Month celebrations and events will be held across the state. For information about these events, visit www.MOAR.org.

The Baker-Polito Administration remains focused on the opioid epidemic and continues to invest millions of dollars to expand a wide range of harm reduction, substance use awareness, treatment intervention, and recovery services. The Fiscal Year 2023 (FY23) budget passed by the Legislature and signed into law last month invests $597.2 million in total funding for a wide range of services that support individuals struggling with substance addiction and programs that work to prevent substance addiction through education, prescription monitoring, and more. This historic investment represents a fourfold investment in state funding to tackle the addiction crisis since 2015. DPH has also expanded harm reduction programs as part of its overall overdose prevention efforts, including low-threshold housing (transitional and permanent), post-overdose support teams for overdose survivors, and mobile addiction services to improve access to treatment.

To learn more about Massachusetts’ efforts to reduce addiction and prevent stigma, visit www.mass.gov/opioids. If you or a friend or family member is struggling with substance use, please call the Massachusetts Substance Use Helpline at 800-327-5050, or visit https://helplinema.org/.

The Executive Office of Public Safety and Security remains deeply committed to working with our federal, state, and local partners to ensure that schools provide a safe and healthy learning environment for our children and educators, said Public Safety and Security Secretary Terrence Reidy. “We continue to build on vital initiatives, including school resource officer training, security infrastructure investments and the implementation of standardized policies to advance our shared goal of achieving the highest safety standards in school districts across the Commonwealth.”

“As the school year approaches, the Administration’s action supports our students and teachers across the Commonwealth to have the resources they need to be and feel safe in the classroom,” said Secretary of Health and Human Services Marylou Sudders. “Today’s proposed investment in the well-being of our children is crucial to the Commonwealth’s commitment to protect students, teachers, staff and our future.”

As students and staff head back to school across the Commonwealth, we are proud to announce new measures that will proactively invest in student safety and the security of education facilities across all levels,” said Secretary of Administration and Finance Michael J. Heffernan. “We look forward to filing for funding to support these important initiatives in the coming weeks.”

Baker-Polito administration recognizes Overdose Awareness Day and Recovery Month

Governor Charlie Baker and Lt. Governor Karyn Polito, joined by Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education Jeff Riley, Acting Commissioner of Early Education and Care Amy Kershaw and public safety officials, announced plans to file legislation proposing significant investments in school safety initiatives to support programming, training and resources for schools and districts throughout the Commonwealth. The administration’s proposed investments will expand its ongoing commitment to deliver a safe and secure learning environment for all Massachusetts students.

“As children return full-time to the classroom this fall, we want parents and educators to know that our administration is always working to improve and build on all the resources available to districts to make their schools as secure as possible,” said Governor Baker. “Our administration has and will continue to provide critical resources for students, staff, families and first responders while making significant investments in training for first responders and school staff so they can protect Massachusetts schools.”

“Children, teachers and staff deserve to feel safe in the classroom, and our administration’s funding proposal will invest in the resources and programming required to equip school communities and emergency personnel with the tools they need to keep schools safe,” said Lt. Governor Karyn Polito. “We look forward to working with our colleagues in the Legislature to provide critical funding for districts across the Commonwealth.”

Governor Baker signed a supplemental budget with $15 million for school safety initiatives in October 2018. To date, as part of the Safe and Supportive Schools Initiative, the Baker-Polito Administration has awarded $15 million in grant funding, including $7.5 million awarded to more than 150 districts statewide to invest in security-related infrastructure upgrades and $7.5 million in grant funding to increase mental health support and to support schools’ hiring of additional mental health and behavioral health specialists. Additionally, the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS) and the Department of Early and Secondary Education (DESE) actively and frequently collaborate on training and best practices for emergency and active shooter responses in school settings.

District superintendents are required each year to attest to that they have a multi-hazard evacuation plan in place, as well as that there is training provided to support that plan.

Public safety officials today also highlighted the Active Shooter/Hostile Event Response (ASHER) Program, an internationally recognized standard adopted by the Commonwealth as part of its ongoing commitment to emergency preparedness and community resilience to promote a statewide model for an integrated active shooter and hostile event response. Through cross-discipline collaboration among first responders and emergency personnel, ASHER is designed to protect communities and help them prepare, respond and recover from crisis events. The ASHER framework has already been implemented in state-run police and fire training academies, and parallel training is being finalized for current state police and fire personnel.

The Baker-Polito Administration will file a supplemental budget request in the coming weeks totaling nearly $40 million to support critical school safety initiatives and equip students, staff and emergency responders with the training necessary to respond to better respond to threats within schools.

The proposal will include:
- Matching grants for security and communications upgrades in K-12 schools and public higher education institutes
- Grant funding for child care providers to support safety measures and multi-hazard emergency planning
- Grant funding to support districts pilot an anonymous “tip line” to report potential threats
- Funding for a statewide “Say Something” public awareness campaign and corresponding training
- Support for ongoing emergency response training for school officials
- Creation of a comprehensive school safety website

“These safety proposals would support a huge range of children and students, from those in child care to those at public colleges and universities,” said Education Secretary James Peyser. “The key to these proposals is collaboration among different state agencies and different local entities. When we invest in strengthening partnerships between school districts and first responders, we help ensure that schools are safe environments focused on learning and growing.”

“These proposed supports would be a welcome addition to school districts’ safety planning and infrastructure,” Elementary and Secondary Education Commissioner Jeffrey C. Riley said. “The matching funds for equipment upgrades, plus funding for additional school staff to meet and collaborate with first responders are critical pieces that will help ensure our schools are places where students are safe, healthy, and ready to learn.”

Nearly 200,000 children are spending time in our early education and care programs across the Commonwealth each day,” said Department of Early Education and Care Acting Commissioner Amy Kershaw. “These resources would provide our programs with the critical resources needed to not only upgrade and modernize their safety and security systems but also to plan, prepare and practice for various emergency scenarios based on the unique needs of our young learners and the early educators who work with them.”

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BPHC reminds eligible residents to get vaccinated against monkeypox to slow virus’s spread

The Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) is reminding Boston residents that vaccines can help protect against monkeypox illness when given before or soon after being exposed and are encouraging eligible residents to get vaccinated. This guidance comes after the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) announced 41 new cases of monkeypox and new protocols for administering the JYNNEOS vaccine that will expand the state’s supply, enabling more residents to get vaccinated.

To increase the number of vaccine doses available, the JYNNEOS vaccine is now being administered intradermally (into the skin), as opposed to in the muscle, at a lower dose that still provides the same immune response, following guidance from the CDC and FDA. The intradermal regimen includes two doses of the vaccine. Vaccination before or soon after exposure is highly effective at preventing monkeypox infection or reducing the severity of infection.

Monkeypox most commonly spreads through direct skin to skin contact with a monkeypox rash, sores, or scabs. It can also spread through contact with surfaces that have been exposed to the monkeypox virus. Anyone who comes in close contact with someone who has monkeypox is at risk for becoming infected.

“Im optimistic that the new approach to monkeypox vaccination will allow us to vaccinate more people, help ensure vaccines are distributed equitably, and ultimately support our efforts to control this outbreak,” said Dr. Bísola Ojikutu, Commissioner of Public Health and Executive Director of the Boston Public Health Commission. “Getting vaccinated against monkeypox is an effective way to prevent disease. I strongly encourage all residents who are eligible for vaccination to schedule an appointment as soon as possible.”

Currently, the following individuals who live or work in Massachusetts are eligible to receive the vaccine:

- Known contacts identified by public health via case investigation, contact tracing, and risk exposure assessments (this may include sexual partners, household contacts, and healthcare workers); as well as
- Presumed contacts who meet the following criteria:
  - Know that a sexual partner in the past 14 days was diagnosed with monkeypox or
  - Had multiple sexual partners in the past 14 days in a jurisdiction with known monkeypox.

It is particularly important that education and vaccination efforts support men who have sex with men (MSM) and the broader population of people they may be in close intimate contact with. While anyone can get monkeypox, the current outbreak spread among networks of MSM poses a threat to BIPOC LGBTQ+ individuals, a group that faces high barriers to care and poorer health outcomes due to centuries of oppression and marginalization. As BPHC responds to this unprecedented outbreak, supporting Boston’s BIPOC LGBTQ+ residents by improving access to care and pushing back against anti-LGBTQ+ stigma will remain a top priority.

Infections with the type of monkeypox virus identified in this outbreak are rarely fatal. However, people with weakened immune systems, children under 8 years of age, people with a history of eczema, and people who are pregnant or breastfeeding may be more likely to get seriously ill or die. People infected with monkeypox virus are also required to self-isolate until the rash fully scabs and skin heals over, which can require anywhere between 2-4 weeks of isolation.

The JYNNEOS vaccine is currently available at the following locations in Boston by appointment only:
- Boston Medical Center: Register for an appointment directly at www.bmc.org/monkeypox. Appointments can be made by calling 617-414-2803 Monday through Friday between 9 AM and 5 PM.
- Additional locations offering the vaccine in Massachusetts can be found at mass.gov/monkeypoxvaccine.

For the latest information on monkeypox, including prevention, how to identify symptoms, and resources available to residents, visitboston.gov/monkeypox.

With the end of summer (sadly) around the corner, Labor Day is too! Boston’s top restaurants and bars are celebrating the holiday with not-to-miss activities and fun. With a list of events like movie nights, Drag Shows, Monday Brunch and “all-you-can-bowl”, there is something for everyone. Please see below for Labor Day Weekend specials at Alibi Bar and Lounge, Rochambeau Kings Dining and Entertainment, Sonsie, Lansdowne Pub, and Loretta’s Last Call.

On Monday, September 5, Alibi Bar & Lounge will be kicking off its “Movie Mondays” series with an outdoor showing of JAWS on its patio. Kicking off at 5 p.m., the event is free to attend and will feature a speciality cocktail, the caramel popcorn old fashioned, as well as popcorn to soak on in addition to its regularly available menu. Movie Mondays will continue with a free movie showing every Monday throughout the fall.

Set in the old “drunk tank” of what was the Charles Street Jail, Alibi is a hot spot for cocktails and late-night snacking. Boasting a cavernous, moody feel adorned in celebrity mugshots, Alibi creates a fun environment for imbibing while nodding to its “criminal” past. With a robust beverage program and complimentary food offerings, Alibi is open seven days a week from 5 p.m. to 2 a.m.

Rochambeau 900 Bourke Street, Boston, MA 02115 www.rochambeauboston.com Located in the heart of the Back Bay, adjacent to the Prudential Center, Rochambeau will be kicking off brunch early on Monday, September 5th at 11 a.m. Serving up classic French cuisine, brunch favorites include Croque Monsieur, with ham, brie, bechamel, gruyère, pommes frites; Duck Confit Hash with harissa hollandaise poached eggs; and Moules Frites with sauce provencal, white wine, tomato, capers, grilled eggplant.

**Kings Dining & Entertainment All MA locations**

[https://www.kings-de.com](https://www.kings-de.com)

Making it Boston’s ultimate gaming headquarters, Kings Back Bay, Seaport, Dedham, Burlington, and Lynnfield locations offer indoor fun for the whole family this Labor Day. Perfect for spending time out of the sun and in the AC, all Kings locations will be offering an All You Can Play Pass Monday-Sunday, September 5th, which offers guests unlimited bowling, billiards, and arcade games for only $23/- making where to spend one of the last days of summer an easy “game-time” decision.

**Sonsie 327 Newbury St., Boston, MA 02115**

[617] 351-0400 www.sonsieboston.com

Beloved Newbury Street eatery Sonsie will be opening its doors early for brunch guests on Monday, September 5th at 9:30 a.m. Serving up classic bistro fare and brunch favorites, the menu’s most popular dishes include Temura French Toast with Fruity Pebbles, Strawberry Compote, Cereal Milk Anglaise; the Brunch Pizza with Bacon, Hen Egg, Home fries, Caramelized Onion, Roasted Tomatoes, Green Onion, Mozzarella, Tabasco, Hollandaise and the Sonse Burger with Calabrian Pepper Aioli, Aged Cheddar Cheese, Bead and Butter Pickles, Smoked Bacon.

**Lansdowne Pub 1 Lansdowne Street, Boston, MA 02215**

[www.landsdownepubboston.com](http://www.landsdownepubboston.com) [617] 247-1222

Lansdowne Pub is calling all the single ladies (and men!) to join for a Labor Day Weekend Drag Brunch featuring the Queen Bee herself, Beyonce. Taking place from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., the Drag Tease is your answer for Sunday Funday! Performing along to Beyonce’s biggest hits from DJ La Mega Beba, the talented cast of performers includes Chalma The Angel, Plane Jane, Dominick Cross, Arabella The Goddess.

**Loretta’s Last Call 1 Lansdowne Street, Boston, MA 02215**

[www.lorettaslascall.com](http://www.lorettaslascall.com)

[617] 421-9595

Boston’s favorite country bar, Loretta’s Last Call, will be two-stepping all day long on Sunday, September 4th this Labor Day Weekend at its annual ‘Merica All Day Party! Alongside brunch served from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., a full lineup of great live music will keep the party going all day long from 11 a.m. to 1 a.m. Live music acts will include:
- Brunch | 11:30AM – 4PM
- Line Dancing | 7PM-10PM
- Nick Casey | 10PM-1AM

**THE BOSTON SUN**

The rate of Fenway residents testing positive for COVID-19 was up from a week earlier as the positive rates in the South End, as well as in the Back Bay and nearby neighborhoods, continues to fall.

According to data released by the Boston Public Health Commission, 356 Fenway residents were tested for covid between Aug. 16 and Aug. 22, with 9.3 percent, or 33 individuals, testing positive for the virus. This was a significant increase from the prior week of Aug. 9-15, when 6.2 percent, or 24 of the 388 individuals tested were positive for the virus.

In the South End, 7.1 percent, or 37 of the 533 individuals tested between Aug. 16 and 22 were positive for the virus, which was down from the week of Aug. 9-15, when 8.0 percent, or 39 of the 490 individuals tested were positive for the virus.

In all, 614 residents of the Back Bay, Beacon Hill, Downtown, the North End, and West End were tested for covid between Aug. 16 and Aug. 22, with around 6.3 percent, or 39 individuals, testing positive for the virus. This was down from the prior week of Aug. 9-15, when 7.6 percent, or 46 of the 602 individuals tested were positive for the virus.

Citywide, 8,750 residents were tested for covid between Aug.16-23, with 7.8 percent, or 682 individuals, testing positive for the virus. This was a slight decrease from the prior week of Aug. 9-15, when 7.4 percent, or 664 individuals, of the 8,931 individuals tested citywide were positive for the virus.

Positive covid tests increase in the Fenway while dropping in nearby neighborhoods

By Dan Murphy
The windows in the last clue are on 50 Dalton Street. The website www.cinematreasures.org reports that this was the site of the Cheri Lowes Cinema for 40 years after opening in 1966. It closed in 2001. The entertainment offered at the location today is the Kings bowling alley, arcade, and dining.

You’ll find the next clue in the Fenway.

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

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THIS WEEK’S CLUE
55 luxury two-to-four-bedroom residences offering the seamless fusion of an exceptional boutique residential experience with an unparalleled suite of resort-style amenities. Self-park garage parking included.

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