New committee takes charge of annual Comm. Ave. Mall holiday tree-lighting

By Dan Murphy

The annual holiday lighting of the trees on the Commonwealth Avenue Mall will stretch an additional two blocks this year, going all the way from Arlington Street to Kenmore Square, as the newly formed Commonwealth Avenue Mall Enhancement Committee takes charge of the effort.

The new committee comprises members of the Committee to Light the Commonwealth Avenue Mall, the all-volunteer group that lit the mall’s trees in years past, and representatives of the Friends of the Public Garden, which worked with the committee to ensure that the installation of the lights was done in such a way that paid heed to the health and care of the trees themselves.

The annual tradition began (Comm. Ave. Lighting Pg. 3)

WLP art instructor and former guest designs this year’s holiday card for shelter

By Dan Murphy

Each year, Women’s Lunch Place produces a holiday card, with proceeds going to support women experiencing hunger, homelessness, and poverty, and while the cards have typically been designed in the past by a current guest of the Newbury Street women’s shelter, this year’s featured artist, Kim Collins, is a former guest who has found permanent housing and now works as an art instructor at the shelter.

Twelve years ago, Collins, who had a career as a project manager in printing and publishing and as a publishing specialist, endured a combination of unaddressed (Collins Pg. 8)

HONORING PUERTO RICAN VETERANS

City Of Boston Latinix Community Liason Gladys Oliveros, Mayor Michelle Wu, Puerto Rican Veterans Monument Association president Tony Molina.

PHOTOS BY DEREK KOYOUUMJIAN

The Puerto Rican Veterans Memorial at Washington and Dedham Streets.

Msg. Guillermo Candelario plays Taps. See more photos on Pages 6 and 7.

BPD announces District 4 crime sees a decrease

By Michael Coughlin Jr.

With 2022 wrapping up, representatives from the Boston Police Department (BPD), Captain Steven Sweeney, and Sargent Matthew Hogardt revealed that part-one crimes have dropped by 6% year-to-date district-wide.

The statistics report encompassed the crimes committed from the beginning of the year through the end of October and was disclosed during the monthly East Berkeley Street Neighborhood Association (EBNA) meeting on November 1.

Some of the most significant decreases from this time last year came in rape and attempted sexual assault cases which saw a 52% drop. Residential burglaries and motor vehicle larceny also saw nice drops of 36% and 16%, respectively.

While part-one crimes decreased overall, there were still some upticks in crimes, such as non-domestic aggravated assaults, up 12%. However, Sweeney did not see the rise as something to panic about.

He cited that much of the increase can be attributed to fights and stabbings in the Mass and Cass area.

“IT’s not like we have people being assaulted all over the district, they’re kind of clustered in that area ... there’s no big clusters of people being assaulted walking home from work and stuff like that. They’re usually centered around certain locations,” said Sweeney.

Eventually, Hogardt delivered some exciting news to the residents in and around the EBNA area – every part-one crime year-to-date in the neighborhood dropped except for aggravated assaults. However, even with the slight increase in aggravated assaults, one has not been reported since July.

Although there is a lot to be happy about, Hogardt reminded residents to stay vigilant despite the decrease in crime. He stressed the importance of not leaving bikes or mopeds outside to fend (D4 Crime Pg. 2)
GET YOUR FLU VACCINE NOW!

We’ll be the first to admit that “vaccine fatigue” is affecting all of us these days. But the reality is that the viruses never take a break – virus fatigue is not in their DNA.

Although hopefully the worst of COVID-19 is behind us, experts are predicting the high likelihood of a flu season with the potential for dire impacts upon our senior citizen population, who are particularly susceptible to a bad outcome from a case of the flu.

The flu in an average year kills about 50,000 Americans, a rate that plummeted during the past two years when we were isolating and wearing masks. But with pretty much all of the COVID-19 restrictions no longer in effect, the flu is primed to return with a vengeance.

In addition, we also would note that contrary to common perception, COVID-19 is far from done with us. COVID-19 still is killing more than 300 Americans every day – that’s a rate of more than 100,000 Americans per year. (Let that sink in for a moment.)

Some experts are predicting that we may be facing a perfect storm of upper respiratory illnesses this winter from the flu, COVID-19, and RSV (which typically afflicts very young children and already is filling our hospital beds at the present time.)

It is up to each of us to protect ourselves and our family from these deadly diseases. With highly-effective vaccines readily available for both the flu and the latest COVID-19 variant (and yes, you can get both shots at the same time), there is no excuse for failing to be fully-vaccinated as the winter season approaches.

WE’RE DRINKING OURSELVES TO DEATH

A report issued last week by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has confirmed what we really already knew: The rate of deaths that can be directly attributed to alcohol rose nearly 30% in the U.S. during the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic.

With public attention focused on the opioid epidemic, excessive alcohol consumption has been overlooked as a public health problem.

But here are the grim statistics: The rate of such deaths had been increasing in the two decades before the pandemic, by 7% or less each year, but In 2020, they rose 26%, to about 13 deaths per 100,000 Americans, the highest rate recorded in at least 40 years.

Such deaths are twice as common in men than in women, but rose for both in 2020, the study found. The rate continued to be highest for people ages 55 to 64, but rose dramatically for certain other groups, including jumping 42% among women ages 35 to 44.

In addition, a second report, published in the Journal of the American Medical Association, looked at a wider range of deaths that could be linked to drinking, such as motor vehicle accidents, suicides, falls, and cancers. More than 140,000 of that broader category of alcohol-related deaths occur annually, based on data from 2015 to 2019, the researchers said. CDC researchers say about 82,000 of those deaths are from drinking too much over a long period of time and 58,000 from causes tied to acute intoxication.

The study found that as many as 1 in 8 deaths among U.S. adults ages 20 to 64 were alcohol-related, including chronic illnesses such as liver cancer, high blood pressure, stroke, and heart disease. Drinking by pregnant women can lead to miscarriage, stillbirth, and birth defects. Health officials say alcohol is a factor in as many as one-third of serious falls among the elderly.

And that’s not to mention the harm to others because of drunk driving accidents or alcohol-fueled violence, which causes death and injury to tens of thousands of Americans every year.

As we have noted many times in this space, the U.S. needs to launch a public health campaign, especially for young people, against alcohol similar to what we did with regard to cigarettes and tobacco use in the 1990s that finally brought that epidemic under control.

The statistics speak for themselves – and it’s time to take action.

Billions spent on the election while Americans struggle

By Glenn Mollette

Total cost of 2022 state and federal midterm elections may have exceeded $16 billion according to a OpenSecrets analysis. Federal candidates and political committees spent over $8 billion while state candidates, party committees, and ballot measure committees spent close to $8 billion.

Here are the five most expensive Senate races this year according to OpenSecrets. This includes both general election and primary candidates together with the outside groups supporting them, such as the national parties and Super PACs:

- Pennsylvania: $373.6 million
- Georgia: $271.4 million (Georgia’s is growing)
- Arizona: $234.6 million
- Wisconsin: $203.8 million
- Ohio: $202.1 million

Pennsylvania’s crucial U.S. Senate race has been the most expensive in the country this year — and it wasn’t even close. Georgia may end up close to $300 million. Who in Georgia is happy about this? The television stations. If you own a television station during a highly contested election season, in a lucrative market, you’ll never have to work again when the election is over.

Democrat John Fetterman, Republican Mehmet Oz and their political allies have spent a combined $312 million on a race that ended up not even close. According to OpenSecrets, a nonpartisan group that tracks money in politics, money poured into Pennsylvania for Fetterman as he had over $15 million dollars more to work with than Oz.

Many are wondering how Fetterman, a recuperating sick man with the worst debate performance ever on national television, beat Oz? The answer is not a simple sentence. The bottom line was they didn’t want Oz. Oz was seen as an outsider. Someone who moved to the state to further his career in politics. He is well known. That should have helped but it didn’t help him that much. He was well known for being rich, famous and still relatively good looking for an old guy. Fetterman on the other hand is the local state guy. He doesn’t look so good. They know who he is whether that is good or bad. He has been very sick and trying to rehabilitate. A lot of people feel sorry for him and didn’t see him as a rich, affluent personality but rather a down to earth guy they can relate to. People often cheer for the underdog. If you post something on social media saying you are sick, bad off, down and out you’ll get many more “likes” or responses than if you post you have just received a career advance and a $50,000 bonus.

Rand Paul of Kentucky raised $26,410,677 and reportedly spent $20 million. I hope he will use the remaining $6 million to rebuild homes in East, Kentucky recently devastated by flooding. Oz, even West, Kentucky that is still trying to rebuild from tornados that flattened that part of the state.

The money spent on this election and all national elections is insane. People all over America can’t afford to go the grocery store, fill up the gas tank or take care of their children’s school needs. Yet politicians, interest groups, political parties, and Political Action Committees are raising and spending mega millions trying to keep or gain a political seat. You can’t do anything about it either. We have so very little to say about anything in our country.

We have to depend on the people spending millions to get their seat. If the seat is worth millions to them and the special interest groups then do you really think they care about us we think?

Glenn Mollette is the publisher of Newburgh Review, Liberty Torch and various other publishing imprints; a national columnist – American Issues and Common Sense opinions, analysis, stories and features appear each week in over 500 newspapers, websites and blogs across the United States.

D4 Crime (from pg. 1)

off larceny.

“One thing we try to tell everybody is bikes are such a hot commodity. If you can avoid leaving your bike – even if it is locked up – if you could avoid leaving it outside, do everything you can to bring it inside,” said Hogard.

“People think they are safe with the chains – some of these guys walk around with like power tools, and they’ll just cut them off in seconds.”

Even buildings with designated bike rooms in garages are not that safe unless the room itself is locked, according to Hogard.

“I don’t want to say it’s a false sense of security but don’t think just because it’s in that room; it’s completely secure,” he said.

Moreover, Hogard emphasized steps to prevent package theft with the holidays rapidly approaching.

“If you have to have things delivered to your house, we try to tell people if you are not going to be home, do your best to maybe work with a neighbor or a family member and say, listen, the package is coming this date I am not going to be home can you maybe grab it for me,” said Hogard.

He also mentioned that if you order with Amazon, they offer a service where packages can be delivered to Whole Foods and picked up. There are also Amazon-specific lockers throughout the city where packages can be delivered and retrieved.

Overall, both Sweeney and Hogard seemed delighted with the numbers and indicated that residents could reach out to them with questions or concerns.

“Good numbers, and you know if anyone has feedback or any issues you’re seeing in the neighborhood or you’re hearing about, please reach out to us,” said Sweeney.

“People think they are safe with the chains – some of these guys walk around with like power tools, and they’ll just cut them off in seconds.”

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**WOMEN'S LUNCH PLACE FUNDRAISER SET FOR NOV. 17**

The Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay is teaming with the Women's Lunch Place (WLP), a women's day shelter on Newbury Street, to present their second Festival of Lights on Thursday, Nov. 17, from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Women's Lunch Place at 67 Newbury St.

This year's joint benefit will feature music, a silent auction, a cocktail reception, and dinner, with proceeds going to support NABB's civic work on homelessness, affordable housing, safety, and other civic issues, as well as WLP's services for homeless and at-risk women.

Individual tickets are $125, and sponsorships begin at $2,000.

Visit https://womenslunchplace.org/nabb for more details, including sponsorships, suggested auction items to donate, and to purchase tickets.

**BOOK LAUNCH SET FOR NOV. 19 AT MORE THAN WORDS BOOKSTORE**

Kim Samuel is launching her new book “On Belonging: Finding Connection in an Age of Isolation” (Abrams Press) with an event on Saturday, Nov. 19, from 4 to 6 p.m.

At More Than Words Bookstore at 242 East Berkeley St.

Samuel is the founder of the Samuel Centre for Social Connectedness, Fulbright Canada Ambassador for diversity and social connectedness, and Visiting Scholar at the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative.

In an age of social, economic, and ecological disconnection, what does it mean to belong? “On Belonging: Finding Connection” in an Age of Isolation is an exploration of the crisis of social isolation and of the fundamental human right to belong. It considers belonging across four core dimensions: in our relationships with other people, in our rootedness in nature, in our ability to influence political and economic decision-making, and in our finding of meaning and purpose in our lives, with lessons on how to create communities centered on human connection.

**EMERALD NECKLACE CONSERVANCY TO LIGHT CHARLES GATE PARK TREES GREEN ON DEC. 1**

In conjunction with the annual tree lighting on Boston Common and the tree lighting along Commonwealth Avenue Mall, the Emerald Necklace Conservancy will once again bring light to Charlesgate Park by illuminating 10 trees in green.

The lighting will take place on Thursday Dec. 1, at approximately 8 p.m. at the Charlesgate Park trees, located on Commonwealth Avenue between Charlesgate East and Charlesgate West. The trees will remain lit each evening through next March.

The lighting of Charlesgate Park began in 2021 and the Emerald Necklace Conservancy is excited to bring its signature emerald-green color lighting to the park again this winter. Complementing the annual lighting of the Commonwealth Avenue Mall, 10 Japanese zelkova trees will be lit at Charlesgate and adorned with green lights to distinguish Charlesgate as the connecting point between the Commonwealth Avenue Mall and the rest of the Emerald Necklace.

**COMM. AVE. LIGHTING (from pg. 1)**

When the late Back Bay resident, Ted Cutter, and his wife, Joan, traveled to Paris about 20 years ago and saw the dazzling holiday lights on the Parisian boulevards. Upon returning home, the Cutters thought that similar holiday lights on the Commonwealth Avenue Mall would be an amazing addition to winter in Boston and set about to make this a reality.

In the past, a few families have traditionally donated money to light the Commonwealth Avenue Mall during the holidays, although people generally didn’t realize this was a private endeavor and instead thought it was an effort funded by the city.

“This is a private endeavor that relies on the donations of private residents and is not funded by the city,” said Matt Sidman, who led the Committee to Light the Commonwealth Avenue Mall for at least the past decade and is now a member of the Commonwealth Avenue Mall Enhancement Committee. “Over the years, we’ve really had to explain this to people.”

It made sense over time for the Friends of the Public Garden to become more involved in the holiday lighting of the Commonwealth Avenue Mall, said Sidman, since the nonprofit was already maintaining the trees, statues, and benches in the park (as well as in the Public Garden and the Boston Common).

The Friends are also very supportive of the idea of the Commonwealth Avenue Mall Enhancement Committee working to help ensure that the Commonwealth Avenue Mall doesn’t get overshadowed by the other two parks, said Sidman, while the new group will also give the Back Bay community more of a “voice” when it comes to the Mall.

“The new committee will give Back Bay residents a real voice in the future of the Mall, and we believe it will improve everyone’s experience on the Mall going forward, so we’re really excited about it,” said Sidman, who added that he believes combining the efforts of the Friends group with those of the erstwhile Committee to Light the Commonwealth Avenue Mall will be more than sum of its parts.

“Hopefully in this case, one plus one will equal three,” said Sidman. “We listened to people and really want organizations, when appropriate, to come together to create more value for the community, and that’s basically what’s happening here.”

This year’s tree lighting is also only the beginning of an ongoing commitment by the Commonwealth Avenue Mall Enhancement Committee to the park.

“The idea is to have real transparency, and to create a way that the community can give directly to the Commonwealth Avenue Mall, so we can enhance it any way we see fit.,” said Sidman.

Friends President Liz Vizza said in a press release, “We know the holiday lights add to the feeling of safety and enjoyment on the Mall during some of the darkest and coldest nights of the year. Parks are for people and the opportunity to take on responsibility for the holiday lights is a way to celebrate this special park and help expand our reach.”

Added Vizza: “We are thrilled to have the opportunity to work with Matt Sidman and the longtime advocates of the holiday effort and to deepen our relationships in the Mall adjacent neighborhoods to build a tradition of year-round support for this special park.”

Sidman and Vizza will join Mayor Michelle Wu and Ryan Woods, commissioner of Boston Parks and Recreation, in welcoming the crowd at theHoliday Lights 2022 Ceremony on Thursday, Dec. 1, at 8 p.m. on the Commonwealth Avenue Mall at the intersection of Commonwealth Avenue and Arlington Street. At 8:30 p.m., Mayor Wu will turn on the holiday lights for 2022. The Newbury Boston will be providing cocoa and cookies for the assembled crowd.

The Friends invests more than $500,000 annually in the care of the Commonwealth Avenue Mall, and the 2022 Holiday Light Project is expected to require an additional $160,000. To make a gift in support of the Holiday Light Display of the ongoing care of the Commonwealth Avenue Mall, visit https://friendsofthepublicgarden.org/holiday-lights/.

**NEws in Brief**

**More Than Words Book Launch**


The book explores the crisis of social isolation and the fundamental human right to belong. It considers belonging across four core dimensions: in our relationships with other people, in our rootedness in nature, and in our ability to influence political and economic decision-making, and in our finding of meaning and purpose in our lives, with lessons on how to create communities centered on human connection.

**Commonwealth Avenue Lighting**

Mayor Michelle Wu joined residents and visitors for last year’s lighting of the Commonwealth Avenue Mall.

Mayor’s Office photo by Isabel Leon
The public got a look at the latest plans for the proposed development of air-rights Parcel 13 in the Back Bay, which will include a 100-percent affordable housing component, in addition to Level 2 lab space, during a virtual meeting sponsored by the Boston Planning & Development Agency on Monday, Nov. 14.

The project site is located on the northeast corner of the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue and Boylston Street, partially over the east and west bound lanes of the Massachusetts Turnpike and partially over the MBTA Green Line Hynes station.

The Peebles Corporation is proposing a project comprising two buildings – a 10-story, 120-foot residential building and a 12-story, 178-foot lab and office building – which together would contain 300,000 zoned square feet of lab and office space; 125 units of on-site affordable housing, including studio, one-, two-, and three-bedrooms; and 10,000 square feet of ground-level retail space spread among three storefronts.

The project would have no on-site parking (and therefore no new curb-cuts on Boylston Street), but would include a "micro-mobility hub," consisting of more than 100 public bicycle spaces with lockers open to the public. The developer has also committed to making a $30 million investment in ADA accessibility improvements to the Hynes T station as part of the project.

As for the construction timeframe, the developer hopes to have discretionary permitting in place next year, said Mark Rosenshein of Boston-based Trademark Partners. Financing would begin in 2024, and the project would break ground in the second quarter of that year. Construction is then expected to wrap up in the first quarter of 2027, said Rosenshein.

Don Peebles, founder, chairman, and Chief Executive Officer of the Peebles Corporation, said the original proposal for the site comprised a luxury hotel with luxury condos above it. But that after a lengthy process, the developer instead settled on the current proposal, he said, which comes in response to the city’s current affordable housing crisis, as well as in response to the downtown of the hotel industry in the wake of the pandemic.

Only 6 percent of the Back Bay’s housing stock is currently affordable housing, compared with the citywide average of 19-percent affordable housing, said Peebles.

The project team is exploring the possibility of making the one block of Boylston Street below Massachusetts Avenue inbound, said Rosenshein, to make it consistent with the rest of Boylston Street. Since a bus line already travels west on Boylston Street, a dedicated westbound lane would be created to accommodate only buses, firetrucks, and bicycles, he added.

This change would allow for bus stops on both sides of the street, which Rosenshein said would “effectively match” what’s being done with the Parcel 12 development with a dedicated bus lane, a separated bike lane, and two lanes of traffic.

The future of the development of Parcel 13 wouldn’t hinge on this decision, however, said Rosenshein, who added that the developer plans to hold a meeting dedicated solely to traffic conditions on Boylston Street.

Elliott Laffer, chair of the Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay board of directors, said the project would likely require the creation of a PDA (Planned Development Area), which establishes special zoning controls for large and complex projects. He said he believes that it “should be the first and last PDA in the historic district,” especially since there are no more undeveloped air-rights parcels in the area. Laffer said he want this “written into the zoning rule that allows it to happen.”

Tim Horn, a Fenway resident, requested that the project include ride-share accommodations, since he believes many of those employed there would rely on ride-share options to get to work.

Ann Tousignant, who lives on the 300 block of Commonwealth Avenue, said she has “concerns about living in a historic district that could be irreparably changed by the skyline you’re proposing.”

“I’m really concerned about the height and what the shadows would mean for any of us who are on the other sides of this structure,” she said.

Likewise, another Back Bay resident, Ann Prendergast, also expressed her concern about this issue and said that a petition opposing the height of the proposed project has already garnered 345 signatures.

Peebles responded that a project that includes an affordable housing component, as well construction of a $60 million deck above the overpass, wouldn’t be “feasible” with a reduced height.

“If we were not to get the height, then we would not build affordable housing,” said Peebles. “Then, the question is do we want to build an all-lab building or not.”

The city is accepting public comments of the Parcel 13 proposal through Nov. 30 via the project website at https://www.bostonplans.org/projects/development-projects/parcel-13, or by emailing Sarah Black of the BPDA at Sarah.Black@boston.gov.

“It was a fun book to write,” exclaimed Gallagher. “I’ve read 5,000-10,000 pages of FBI [Federal Bureau of Investigation] files.”

Gallagher spent ten years completing “Nazis of Copley Square” because he requested three FBI files, and each document took two years to be released.

“Nazis of Copley Square” reveals how American terrorists conspired to overthrow the government in alliance with Adolf Hitler. Gallagher details the evolution of the Christian Front, an anti-Semitic organization most numerous in New York, Philadelphia, and Boston, with some 100,000 members along the East Coast.

During his lecture, Gallagher mentioned the affiliation between master German spy, Herbert Scholz, and Francis P. Moran, an Irish Catholic from Dorchester who operated the Christian Front. Their first official meeting of the two was in July 1940 at the German Consulate, located at 39 Chestnut Street, Beacon Hill.

“All allegedly, the first floor of that building was lined with lead, so the FBI listening devices couldn’t hear,” revealed Gallagher.

Scholz was the Diplomatic Consul in Boston (1938-1941), an elite SS (Schutzstaffel) officer, and Hitler’s spy chief in the United States. He attended Leipzig University, in Germany, and received a doctorate degree in Nazi Philosophy.

Scholz recruited Moran -- who was fluent in German -- for Nazi propaganda and espionage. He provided Moran with direction and funds as he embarked on religious speaking tours along the East Coast, increasing Christian Front membership.”

“Francis Moran’s headquarters for the Christian Front was located on the second floor of the Copley Square Hotel,” Gallagher pointed out. “It was impressive and had one of the most beautiful lobbies in the city. One of the people who lived there was Babe Ruth, when he played for the Red Sox.”

The American intelligence agencies surveilling the Christian Front included FBI Counterintelligence, US Office of Naval Intelligence, US Army Counter Intelligence Corps, Office of Strategic Services, and the Boston Police Department. When Moran moved the Christian Front underground in 1943, not even the FBI could monitor it.

“One of these agencies, for the duration of the 1930s-1940s were able to figure out if Moran was an agent of Scholz, and a Nazi Spy,” asserted Gallagher.

The FBI eventually snuck an informant into the circle, her codename was T 1, and she worked in the Charlestown Naval Base and was fluent in German. T 1 refused to take the stand against Moran in a trial because she was fearful of her life.

“By 1943, Moran became more deeply anti-Semitic; and approved of the extermination of the Nazis,” Gallagher said and added “once he was under Scholz’s tutelage, he went deeper into Nazi ideology.”

Gallagher’s interest in the subject began when he was an undergraduate student being trained in semi-automatic weaponry to become a police officer in his hometown. He recognized that the young men in a 1939 photograph were Christian Front members, and were holding Springfield 1903 rifles with a .30-06 caliber shell. The action committee took part in military training and target practice before and after Sunday mass.

“The guns shoot a five-round clip,” explained Gallagher, whose nickname was “Officer Friendly.” The bullet is three inches long, and will go through a brick wall. That’s military-grade weaponry.”

These men attempted to overthrow the US government by force in 1940; and were charged with seditious conspiracy by the FBI, but were later exonerated.

“It was wild that a bunch of Catholics tried to overthrow the government and nobody knew about it or cared. The chilling way they cached weapons and made bombs was unbelievable,” said Gallagher. “The Scholz and Moran relationship, in my opinion, was one of the most secret relationships of World War II. Both of them got off free, and retired to quiet, substantial lives after the war; and they did a lot of dirty work in the meantime.”

He teaches American Catholic history, Vatican diplomacy, U.S. diplomatic history, 19th and 20th century American social and religious history, and the history of the Holocaust.

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VETERANS DAY CEREMONY AT PUERTO RICAN VETERANS MEMORIAL

Photos by Derek Kouyoumjian

The Puerto Rican Veterans Memorial is the first, and only, memorial dedicated to honoring the sacrifice and dedication of veterans of Puerto Rican descent. On Veterans Day, a ceremony was held to remember the service of those brave soldiers and include new names on the memorial plaque and bricks.

Shown right: Former Puerto Rican Festival President Reinelda “Chickie” Rivera.

“The Star Spangled Banner” is played as the US Flag is raised.

DELUCA’S MARKET
Beacon Hill & Back Bay

THANKSGIVING HOURS

Thanksgiving day
11/24 Open 9am - 3pm

Black Friday
11/25 Open 10am - 7pm

WE’RE GRATEFUL FOR YOU!

Boston City Councilors Kenzie Bok, Ed Flynn, and Erin Murphy (2nd from right), Mayor Michelle Wu (3rd from right), Veterans Services Commissioner Robert Santiago (4th from right), Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker, and Boston Police Commissioner Michael Cox unveil the Memorial Plaque.

Boston City Council President Ed Flynn offers remarks.

Crystal, Lucas, and Juan Jaramillo.
VETERANS DAY CEREMONY AT PUERTO RICAN VETERANS MEMORIAL

Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker with Boston City Councilors Erin Murphy and Ed Flynn salute as the US Flag is raised.

Boston City Councilor Kenzie Bok offers remarks.

Jose C Masso III, Boston Mayor Michelle Wu, and Chief Of Human Services José F Massó.

Tatiana and Zoraida De La Rosa.

Boston Mayor Michelle Wu offers remarks.

Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker offers remarks.

Boston City Councilor Erin Murphy offers remarks.

Boston Police Commissioner Michael Cox offers remarks.

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The $125 ticket includes fresh flowers, floral foam & wooden vase delivered to your door. During the workshop, floral artists from Alice’s Table will guide you to create a sparkling centerpiece, just in time for the holidays! Last day to register is November 23, 2022. Supplies and weblink will be shared 1-2 days before the event. Register online at: https://tinyurl.com/2swe3988
mental health issues and traumatic abuse that left her “completely shattered and unable to work.” She subsequently lost her apartment and began sleeping on the street.

Even before she found her way to Women’s Lunch Place, Collins said she was “intrigued” to learn that the shelter served guests their meals on china plates.

“I found a place that had advocacy and a really great facility, with a library, computers, and laundry facilities,” she said of Women’s Lunch Place. “They treated you with dignity; they didn’t treat you like a nameless homeless person.”

Collins soon made a lot of friends at the shelter and was immediately able to connect with the resources she needed. Besides “wonderful meals,” Collins said Women’s Lunch Place offered women in need a place to sleep in pre-pandemic times.

Staff even took the time to learn the names of their guests, something that Collins is trying to do herself now that she works at the shelter.

“They saw you as an individual,” she said. “There’s such a humanity you get at Women’s Lunch Place that you don’t get anywhere else – it’s about the humanity.”

Building on the strides she made at Women’s Lunch Place, Collins was able to find permanent housing. She returned to Women’s Lunch Place this fall as a staff member, leading several classes each week in the shelter’s low-barrier, non-judgmental Therapeutic Expressions program.

Students in her Art Therapy classes work in four mediums, including collage, painting, drawing, and sculpture.

“The classes have become more and more popular,” said Collins, a disabled artist. “With the women I’m working with, I can look forward to them becoming much more functional, since they’re working with such a wonderful organization.”

Through its art program, Women’s Lunch Place recognizes that its “clients all need a form of personal expression,” said Collins, so when she interviewed for the teaching position, she did her best to explain how despite being bogged down by carrying all their worldly possessions in a few bags, many of the homeless women she has known also made room for a sketch book and supplies, or a notebook to write in.

The holiday card designed by Collins depicts a homeless woman walking alongside the entrance to Women’s Lunch Place in wintertime. She didn’t have many photos to work with when she started the project, so she instead drew from her imagination and her own memories of being homeless. Collins adorned the woman in her illustration in the “uniform” commonly worn by a homeless woman during the winter in Boston, which includes a coat, backpack, and leggings.

Besides designing the holiday card and teaching classes at Women’s Lunch Place, Collins has also been busy revamping her artist website at Kimcollinsart, which she expects will be up and running after Thanksgiving.

Henry Morris, communications and marketing manager for Women’s Lunch Place, said purchasing these holiday cards can go a long way towards helping women in need.

“We’re seeing greater demand across the board for meals and mental health services than we’ve ever seen, and winter means the holidays, but it also means cold weather, so there could be no better time for people to support Women’s Lunch Place,” said Morris. “The main thing is that it’s a really thoughtful way to give someone a gift because not only is the art beautiful, but also because it’s directly supporting women who are in need of help.”

A pack of five cards costs $25, which provides a woman with a week of healthy meals, safe transportation to the shelter, or a winter hat, socks, and gloves; cards, which include envelopes and a description of your gift’s impact, will be mailed within three business days of purchase.

Bulk orders of 100 or more cards are customizable with a personal message and/or image.

Visit womenslunchplace.org/holiday-cards to purchase Women’s Lunch Place holiday cards.
Wu announces resources for residents facing food insecurity

Mayor Michelle Wu announced resources that will support residents facing food insecurity during the holiday season and year-round. The City is launching the Find Your Food Pantry campaign led by the Community Engagement Cabinet in partnership with the Mayor's Office of Food Justice (OFJ). Additionally, beginning on Tuesday, November 15, residents will be able to apply and learn more about SNAP benefits by visiting the Community Engagement Brianza Millor. “I encourage residents to reach out to their neighborhood organizations and give back - whether that be by donating or spending time volunteering.”

Residents interested in helping support food pantries can connect with their local food pantry directly to identify ways to contribute or volunteer. Needs and hours of operation will vary by organization.

Office of Neighborhood Services (ONS) liaisons will be visiting community partners in their respective neighborhoods during their “Field Fridays” in the months of November and December. The Office of Civic Organizing is helping organize sign ups for residents who would like assistance being connected to volunteer opportunities. Residents can sign up on the website. Additionally, through a partnership with the state’s Department of Food Justice’s website.

Through the Find Your Food Pantry campaign, residents are encouraged to reach out to their local food pantries and other community partners this holiday season and to establish connections with local food pantries and organizations to strength en Boston’s communities year-round. Residents can find a list of local pantries via the Greater Boston Food Bank on the Office of Food Justice’s website.

In FY 2022, the Greater Boston Food Bank distributed a total of 24.6 million pounds of food through their network of over 100 food distribution partners in Boston. This is a 27 percent increase compared to pre-pandemic distribution in 2019. Much of the food pantry system relies on volunteers. Contributions are critical to help food pantries provide additional food like fresh produce from Massachusetts farmers and staples that are culturally relevant to each community.

“Boston works best when we work together for our shared values, so this year we’re launching a campaign that goes beyond the holiday season,” said Chief of Community Engagement Brianza Millor. “I encourage residents to reach out to their neighborhood organizations and give back - whether that be by donating or spending time volunteer ing.”

Joanne Freeman and Heather Cox Richardson to Receive Prescott Award for Excellence in Historical Writing

On November 17, noted historians Joanne Freeman and Heather Cox Richardson will jointly receive the Prescott Award for Excellence in Historical Writing from the Colonial Dames of Massachusetts in partnership with the Massachusetts Historical Society (MHS). After accepting the award at the MHS headquarters, Professors Cox and Richardson will tape their popular weekly podcast, Now and Then, in which these noted historians use their knowledge of the past to inform current events.

The theme of this podcast will be “Unsung History” drawing on objects from the MHS collection that represent the stories of ordinary people who – in one way or another – took part in or witnessed important historical events of moments. This includes a 19th century ledger book with images made by Native American prisoners of war, and a bottle of leaves from the Boston Tea Party.

Joanne Freeman is a professor at Yale whose work focuses on the Revolutionary and early Federal periods in American history. Heather Cox Richardson, a professor at Boston College whose focus is the post-Civil War period, is well-known for her blog “Letters to an American.”

The Massachusetts Colonial Dames are delighted to be collaborating with MHS in the presentation of the award. The presentation will take place in person at the MHS headquarters on Boylston Street. The event will begin at 5:30pm with a reception followed by the award presentation at 6pm. Drs. Freeman and Richardson will then address the audience together as they tape their weekly podcast. The public can register for this event at https://www.masshist.org/events

The Prescott Award was initiated in 2013 when the Massachusetts Dames, whose headquarters is on Beacon Hill in Prescott House, recognized Dr. Laurel Thatcher Ulrich, the 300th Anniversary Professor at Harvard University, as the first recipient. Since then, David O. Stewart, Jane Kamensky and David Silverman have been chosen by the Dames to receive the award.

Events happening in the City of Boston this week will bring some parking restrictions and street closures. People attending these events are encouraged to walk, bike, or take public transit. Information on Bluebikes, the regional bike share service, may be found on the Bluebikes website and information on the MBTA may be found online. The MBTA advises riders to purchase a round-trip rather than a one-way ticket for a faster return trip. Walking is also a great way to move around.

BACK BAY/ BEACON HILL
Camp Harbor View Citython 5K – Saturday, November 19, 2022

The annual running of the Camp Harbor View Citython 5K will begin on Charles Street between the Public Garden and Boston Common. The route will follow Beacon Street to Arlington Street to Commonwealth Avenue outbound, turning around at Charlesgate West and returning by Commonwealth Avenue inbound. Parking restrictions and possible street closures will be in effect to accommodate the runners.

Parking restrictions will be in effect from 12 AM-12 PM on the following streets:
- Arlington Street, Both sides, from Stuart Street to Marginal Road
- Broadway, Both sides, from Melrose Street to Piedmont Street
- Charles Street South, West side (odd side), from Tremont Street/Jefferson Street to Stuart Street
- Church Street, Both sides, from Stuart Street to Tremont Street
- Cortes Street, Both sides, from Arlington Street to Berkeley Street
- Fayette Street, Both sides, from Charles Street South to Marginal Road
- Isabella Street, Both sides, from Arlington Street to Columbus Avenue
- Marginal Road, Both sides, from Tremont Street to Arlington Street
- Melrose Street, Both sides, from Charles Street South to Marginal Road
- Piedmont Street, Both sides, from Arlington Street to Broadway
- Shawmut Street, Both sides, from Church Street to Broadway
- Tremont Street, West side (odd side), from Marginal Road to Jefferson Street/Charles Street South
- Winchester Street, Both sides, from Broadway to Arlington Street

BAY VILLAGE
Neighborhood Fall Clean-Up – Saturday, November 19, 2022

The clean-up program is scheduled from 8:00 AM to Noon. Parking restrictions will be in place on the following streets:
- Arlington Street, Both sides, from Stuart Street to Marginal Road
- Broadway, Both sides, from Melrose Street to Piedmont Street
- Charles Street South, West side (odd side), from Tremont Street/Jefferson Street to Stuart Street
- Church Street, Both sides, from Stuart Street to Tremont Street
- Cortes Street, Both sides, from Arlington Street to Berkeley Street
- Fayette Street, Both sides, from Charles Street South to Marginal Road
- Isabella Street, Both sides, from Arlington Street to Columbus Avenue
- Marginal Road, Both sides, from Tremont Street to Arlington Street
- Melrose Street, Both sides, from Charles Street South to Marginal Road
- Piedmont Street, Both sides, from Arlington Street to Broadway
- Shawmut Street, Both sides, from Church Street to Broadway
- Tremont Street, West side (odd side), from Marginal Road to Jefferson Street/Charles Street South
- Winchester Street, Both sides, from Broadway to Arlington Street
Mayor Michelle Wu has announced the reopening of City Hall Plaza.

The recently completed renovation transformed the Plaza into a civic space for all residents, with universal accessibility, new communal spaces, increased environmental sustainability, and critical infrastructure improvements that will ensure the plaza is safe and accessible for generations to come.

"City Hall Plaza is a space to bring people together and build community," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "I'm grateful for the work of all our City workers and partners to transform the plaza into a welcoming, resilient, and accessible space for residents and visitors to enjoy."

The plaza design and implementation was led by global design firm Sasaki, based in Watertown, Mass. Shawmut Design and Construction was the construction manager for the project. The project was managed through the City's Operations Cabinet by the Public Facilities Department in partnership with the Property Management Department and was assisted by owners project manager Skanska USA.

"City Hall plaza is the people's plaza, and it is now a civic front yard that ALL can access and take pleasure in," said Chief of Operations Dion Irish. "I'm excited to see our community enjoy our playground, event spaces, our new pavilion and the reopened north entrance to City Hall. The Public Facilities Department, our project partners, and numerous city agencies did an amazing job working together, with community input, to create a signature civic space that aligns with our goals and values."

"We are proud of the bold vision that the City embraced to make Boston City Hall Plaza an inviting and accessible outdoor public space," said Fiske Crowell, Sasaki principal and architect. "A robust community engagement process helped us transform the Plaza from a harsh outdoor environment into a new green space where all are welcome. We are excited to celebrate the reopening of both the plaza and the expanded north entry to the building."

"To be tasked with the transformation of one of Boston's most beloved and historic spaces has been a tremendous honor," said Kevin Sullivan, executive vice president of Shawmut Design and Construction's New England region. "Through this extensive renewal with our partners from the City of Boston and Sasaki, we've reinvigorated City Hall Plaza to create a more accessible, sustainable, and connected public destination at Boston's civic heart that will serve as a forward-thinking attraction for generations to come."

City Hall Plaza's redesign includes a focus on:

A Welcoming Front Yard for Civic Life

With Boston's renovated City Hall Plaza, this community space will become universally accessible for residents of all abilities. Opening up the Plaza for all includes re-opening the second floor of City Hall Plaza to the public, allowing easier access to the building.

"I am thrilled that City Hall Plaza is now welcoming and accessible to people with disabilities," said Kristen McCosh, Boston's Disability Commissioner. "City officials really listened to input from the disability community, and they made access the top priority. Before this renovation, it was extremely difficult for disabled people to navigate the expansive brick Plaza, which provides a vital connection between Congress Street and Cambridge Street. But the uneven brick and numerous stairways have been replaced with smooth unit pavers and gently sloped walkways. Now when people with disabilities ask where the accessible route across City Hall Plaza is, I can say, 'You don't understand - the whole plaza is accessible now, not just one route!'"

Public Art

In February, the City of Boston released a Call to Artists for public art to complement the renovation of City Hall Plaza. There were two separate opportunities outlined in the call. The first was a short-term artwork for the north entrance to the building. The second was for a permanent artwork to display for the exterior of City Hall. These commissions are envisioned as the first of a series of artworks for this site that will recognize and celebrate the stories of Boston and City Hall Plaza.

The City selected Rhea Vedor to create the short-term artwork, which will be a sculptural installation on the planting bed at the north entrance that will be installed for one year. Yuke Li was commissioned to create 2D graphics for the new display system on the west exterior wall of City Hall and the wall panels near the new civic pavilion, which will also be installed for one year. The graphics have been installed, and the sculpture is expected to be installed in spring 2023.

"Through activating City Hall Plaza with public art and cultural events, we're cultivating a more inviting space that celebrates the communities that make up the city," said Kara Elliott-Ortega, Chief of Arts and Culture. "We're excited to be able to showcase Boston's creative community while also transforming a historic civic space."

Flexible and Accommodating Event Venues

The renovation of Boston City Hall Plaza expanded one of Boston's largest event spaces, and created civic event spaces that can be used by all Boston residents. The renovation included creating seven new "plug and play" locations for community groups to utilize, with space for 10,000 to 12,000 visitors on the main plaza and room for 20,000 to 25,000 person gathering on the entire plaza.

A Model of Sustainability and Resilience

Creating a sustainable City Hall Plaza that meets the City's environmental goals was one of the key parts of the plaza renovation, and this renovation will make City Hall Plaza one of Boston's signature civic spaces environmentally sustainable, meeting Boston's resilience standards.

The renovation includes an increase in green infrastructure through an increased use of permeable surfaces that will soak up stormwater. The design also includes 100 new trees, improving the shade, scale and air quality of the plaza. Fifty lights were replaced with LEDs, and new landscape technology, and 22,500 feet of granite and brick paving were reused or recycled.

The Phase 1 City Hall Plaza project's main goal was to make the plaza more accessible for all while delivering updated programming capabilities, adding new infrastructure and making the plaza more sustainable. This $70 million investment will connect Congress and Cambridge Streets with a new gently sloped sidewalk.

Hanover Promenade activated by 21st century civic amenities like shady seating and gathering areas, a destination play space, public art space, and an iconic water feature. The main plaza will accommodate events of up to 12,000 people in a wide variety of potential configurations.

Food Insecurity

In 2021, OFJ provided 21 organizations with over $1 million in funding to focus on outreach around safety net resources. Through its community food access programming like Boston Double Up Food Bucks, Farmers Market Coupon Program, and community grants, the Office of Food Justice works directly with community organizations and businesses, to build stronger community networks for food justice and access to healthy, culturally-relevant food. More on the Find Your Food Pantry campaign, including a list of food pantries and information video from Mayor Wu can be found at www.boston.gov/find-pantries. Residents looking to apply for SNAP can do so on the Commonwealth's website.
**Real Estate Transfers**

**BUYER 1**

**BACK BAY**

Immobiliare Santa
Hung-Mok, Chi
Lee, Grace K
Haime, David
Holiday Realty Inc
Haime, David
El Hadidy Back Bay Rly
Bauer, Maurice
Miller FT
Brandl, Andreas

**SELLER 1**

Quinn, Edel
Falconieri, Joseph
Shin, Soon M
Gifloy, Faye B
Rubin, Gary B
Gifloy, Faye B
311 Comm Ave Condo Assn
Grace L Lane Family LP
Shah FT
Rosa, Cheryl A

**ADDRESS**

169 Beacon St #2-1
195 Beacon St #9
259 Beacon St #30
186 Commonwealth Ave #54
69 Saint Botolph St #2
186 Commonwealth Ave #54
311 Commonwealth Ave #10
Grace L Lane Family LP
437 Marlborough St #21
198 Saint Botolph St #4

**PRICE**

$705,000
$715,000
$679,000
$605,000
$1,175,000
$605,000
$1,000,000
$1,280,000
$594,000
$721,000

**BEACON HILL**

Costa, Christine L
Calamare, Andrew
JMB RT
Liss Jr, Robert W
Martin, Brett F
Kwon, Young Min
Bernard L Willett RET
Tirozzi, Karen

**ADDRESS**

1-3 Chestnut St #38
9 Hawthorne Pl #9-3R
88 Mount Vernon St #40
133 Pembroke St #5
30 Pinckney St #8
145 Pinckney St #216
145 Pinckney St #727
8 Witter Pl #18K
8 Witter Pl #23A

**PRICE**

$950,000
$540,000
$619,957
$850,000
$545,000
$510,000
$590,000
$590,000
$460,000

**BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE**

White, John D
Yefremova, Anastasia
Mejia, Amirkasra
S&D Boston Prop LLC
Crewe-Vatcher, John
Alkhereiji, Tarik A
Duncan, Dante
Freedman, Lune
Cheng, Fong

**ADDRESS**

17 Appletone St #2
91 Burrell St #2
11 Fayette St #2
10 Follen St
249 Newbury St #1
589 Tremont St #2
465 Beacon St #1
478 Beacon St #4
481 Beacon St #34

**PRICE**

$1,500,000
$405,000
$2,255,000
$3,360,000
$1,255,000
$636,000
$905,000
$770,000
$848,000

**NEXT CLUE**

**ATTENTION TO DETAIL**

By Penny Cherubino

**THIS WEEK'S ANSWER**

By Penny Cherubino

**THIS WEEK'S CLUE**

The barber pole in the last clue is on 59 Clarendon Street, the home of Clarendon Barbers. The Barber pole's traditional red and white stripes came from medieval times when they represented the presence of a barber-surgeon who did bloodletting, pulled teeth, and amputated limbs in addition to cutting hair. The blue stripe was added in the United States.

The next clue will be found in the Back Bay.

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

$1,030,000
$1,475,000
$760,000
$645,000
$2,899,000
$7,020,200
$2,245,000
$665,000
$721,000
$2,255,000
$8,000
$1,000
$1,175,000
$605,000
$590,000
$2,245,000
$665,000
$950,000
$590,000
$460,000
*Property Spotlight*

81 Beacon Street, Unit Four
4 Bedrooms | 3 Full 1 Half Bathrooms | 3,300 Square Feet
Listed At $7,250,000

*Property Spotlight*

100 Beacon Street, Unit Six
4 Bedrooms | 4 Full 1 Half Bathrooms | 4,140 Square Feet
Listed At $8,900,000

Beacon Beauties!