

THE BOSTON SUN

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

SERVING BACK BAY - SOUTH END - FENWAY - KENMORE

Ducklings sculptor Nancy Schön enlists daughter to help create new sculpture for Newton's Waban Common

By Dan Murphy

For Nancy Schön, who brought the family of aquatic birds from Robert McCloskey's classic children's book "Make Way for Ducklings" to life with her bronze sculpture in the Public Garden, it was truly a family affair when she enlisted her daughter for her latest project – an 8-foot bronze caterpillar that now graces the Waban Common in Schön's hometown of Newton.

This project was a collaboration between Nancy and one of her four children, Susan Schön, an Andover resident who

has real gift for creating children's drawings – a skill she had previously put to good use working as a graphic designer. And Susan also once designed children's clothing, said Nancy, so Susan's skillset lent itself easily

to the project.

"The eyelashes and the face are all hers," Nancy said of the personal imprint Susan left on their caterpillar. "I want to give her total credit for making it wonderful all the way through."

The impetus for the project dates back to May of 2021, when Sallee Lipshutz, president of the Waban Common board of directors, reached out to Nancy about creating a sculpture for the green.

Nancy suggested something that children could sit on, like "A Dragon for Dorchester," her 8-foot bronze sculpture of a dragon which was installed in 2003 at the Nonquit Street Green.

"I said I thought it might be nice to have something long that children could sit on," she said.

Lipshutz, however, had her

(NANCY SCHÖN Pg. 5)

BPD: District D-4 sees 8-percent drop in Part One crime in '22 from previous year

By Dan Murphy

District D-4 saw an 8-percent drop in Part One crime in 2022 from the previous year, according to Boston Police.

Between Jan. 1 and Dec. 31 of last year, 2,505 incidents of Part One crime were reported in the district, which includes the Back Bay, South End, Lower Roxbury, and the Fenway, compared with 2,714 incidents during the same timeframe in 2021.

2022 also saw a nearly 17-percent drop in Part One crime in the district from the five-year average of 3,016 incidents.

Part One crime includes violent crimes (homicide; rape and

attempted rape; robbery and attempted robbery; and aggravated assault), as well as property crimes (burglary and attempted burglary; larceny and attempted larceny; and vehicle theft and attempted vehicle theft).

Five homicides were reported in the district last year as opposed to only one in '21, while two was the five-year average in this category.

Rapes and attempted rapes were down almost 47 percent, with 16 in '22, compared to 30 the previous year; the five-year average in this category was 28 incidents.

(POLICE Pg. 3)

CELEBRATING 'FIRST NIGHT' IN BOSTON



Fireworks light up the overcast sky over the Boston Common.



Dave Everett from the Harvey Traveler boutique makes his way in the parade in style driving a reproduction of a 1967 Buggatti Traveler.



PHOTOS BY DEREK KOUYOUNJIAN

History reenactors representing The Boston Tea Party exclaim "HUZZAH!" See more photos on Pages 6-8.



The Boston Public Library is lit up to serve as a performance stage for First Night.

EDITORIAL

PELE, THE ONE AND ONLY

Over the course of the past 60 years, there was one person who indisputably was the most famous man on the planet -- and that person was Pele.

Even those who knew nothing about soccer -- or any other sport -- still recognized his name in all four corners of the globe.

Pele revolutionized not only the game of soccer with his speed, finesse, power, and skill, but also the sports world in general. He became the first global superstar and elevated athletic competition into the realm of the international arena more than any person ever has.

It is because of Pele that more American children -- boys and girls -- play soccer today than any other sport in our country.

But what truly made Pele great was his incredible humility. He became an international star at the age of 17 when he led Brazil to the first of three World Cups in 1958, but throughout his long life, he never forgot his roots in the impoverished favela of his hometown of Santos, where he learned his soccer skills on the streets.

Pele served as an ambassador both for his country and the world of sports for decades, radiating his warm smile and joy wherever he went.

Pele was a beautiful man who played the beautiful game as no one ever has, both on and off the pitch. He will be missed.

WE ARE LIVING -- AND DYING -- WITH COVID-19

Although the restrictions -- masking, social distancing, etc. -- that were imposed during the first two years of the COVID-19 pandemic are largely gone and forgotten by the vast majority of Americans, the unfortunate reality is that COVID-19 has not forgotten us.

More than 315 Americans still are dying each and every day from COVID-19 -- that's about 115,000 deaths per year -- making COVID-19 the third leading cause of death in the U.S. after heart disease and cancer.

Ordinarily, those huge numbers would be cause for a public health emergency. But in comparison to the 3,000 deaths per day that were occurring during the first two years of the pandemic, we've become complacent.

We also would note that beyond the still-shocking death toll, COVID-19 continues to wreak havoc with our economy, with even the most conservative estimates asserting that thanks to time lost from work, hospitalizations, long-term medical care, and other disruptions, COVID-19 continues to cost us more than \$500 billion per year -- a huge sum attributable to a little bug.

Perhaps one reason why we have become so blasé about the risks of COVID-19 -- beyond "pandemic fatigue" -- is that COVID-19 has become a deadly disease almost exclusively among our country's senior citizens.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, people 65 and older accounted for 75 percent of all American Covid deaths. That dropped below 60 percent by September, 2021. But today, Americans 65 and over account for 90 percent of new COVID-19 deaths, even though 94 percent of American seniors have some level of vaccination.

However, far too many seniors have not received the new bivalent booster that became available a few months ago. Given that the immune systems of those over 65 are weaker to begin with and that the protection of the vaccine weakens over time, especially for seniors, the failure of senior citizens to get the latest bivalent vaccine booster has created a perfect opportunity for COVID-19 to infiltrate our senior population.

In our view, there are two takeaways from these statistics: First, every senior should get the new bivalent booster ASAP. Second, those who come into contact with seniors, whether in their personal or business lives, should wear a mask in order not to spread the disease to our most-vulnerable population.

Sorry to say, COVID-19 is not going away anytime soon. But two simple steps for our seniors and those who care about them -- an updated vaccine and a mask -- can go a long way toward mitigating the ongoing human tragedy of this pernicious disease.



GUEST OP-ED

Those who are grieving and suffering loss

By Dr. Glenn Mollette

Throughout the years, many of us watched Barbara Walters from NBC to ABC. I always tried to watch her special interviews. Often, the people she interviewed on primetime television specials were "the" high profile people at that given time. She became the highest paid journalist of her day being the first to sign a million-dollar contract with ABC.

Regardless of what we do in life we are still confronted by difficulties that often debilitate us. Walters had survived her own personal struggles, like we all do, including four divorces. Unfortunately, her reported battle with dementia took its toll on her health. We can all accomplish

much in life. Maybe not as much as Walters or maybe even more. Regardless, there is much about life we can't do anything about other than try to deal with it and do the best we can.

At least 37 people died from the recent winter storm in Buffalo, New York. Families are grieving. Hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, freezing temperatures, and snow have wreaked devastation on our country in the last twelve months. Loss of life can come from disease, weather, accidents or unconscionably by design.

We all have been horrified by the death of four college students in Moscow, Idaho. It's been beyond us how four beautiful people could be stabbed to death

in their beds reportedly between 3:00 and 4:00 in the morning. A young man who is a student at nearby Washington State University on the Pullman campus has been arrested at his parents' house in Albrightsville, Pennsylvania. Moscow police believe they now have the murderer in custody.

How anyone could commit such a heinous crime is beyond our comprehension. I'm sure it was beyond the scope of thought for these innocent young adults. We never know who is taking note of our lives, whereabouts and activities. Regardless of how calm and safe your community seems you can't take anything

(OP-ED Pg. 3)

The Independent Newspaper Group reserves the right to edit letters for space and clarity. We regret that we cannot publish with your submission. The Independent Newspaper Group publishes columns, viewpoints and letters to the editor as a forum for readers to express their opinions and to encourage debate. Please note that the opinions expressed are not necessarily those of The Independent Newspaper Group.

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Upcoming weekend service changes on Orange, Green and Red Lines

Staff Report

The MBTA announced upcoming service changes this month on the Orange, Green, and Red lines. Because of the continued demolition of the Government Center Garage by private developer HYM Construction, Orange and Green Line service changes will take place in January in the downtown Boston area. Additionally, the Medford Branch of the Green Line will be replaced with shuttle bus service from start to end of service on Sunday, January 8, to accommodate water line work. The Red Line will also experience service changes during the weekend of January 7-8 in order for the MBTA to perform work at JFK/UMass station.

The MBTA has been working closely with the City of Boston and the developer in order to accommodate the private Gov-

ernment Center Garage work affecting both the Orange and Green Lines:

- Riders should note that Haymarket-area buses will not be diverted during these weekends and will continue to stop at the temporary Haymarket bus stops. A list of Haymarket bus routes and these temporary stops is available at mbta.com.

Orange and Green Line trains will bypass Haymarket station during the weekends of January 7-8 and January 21-22. Orange Line riders should exit at North Station or State and walk to the Haymarket area. Green Line riders should exit at North Station or Government Center station. These stations are less than a half-mile from Haymarket, or a four- to eight-minute walk.

Closures will also take place on the Orange Line between Back Bay and North Station

and on the Green Line between North Station and Government Center Station during the weekend of January 14-15. Orange Line riders are asked to use Green Line service between Copley and Government Center stations. Green Line service between North Station and Government Center Station will be replaced with shuttle bus service. The purpose of these weekend diversions is to accommodate the private Garage demolition work. The MBTA will also perform maintenance on track, signal, and power systems, including the replacement of rail between Chinatown and Tufts Medical Center stations.

Extra MBTA personnel and Transit Ambassadors will be on-hand to assist customers. Accessibility vans will also be available for on-demand transportation – riders should ask

MBTA personnel for information and assistance. More information on alternate paths of travel will be available at mbta.com/alerts.

Riders are also advised that, due to the complexity of the continued demolition of the Government Center Garage by HYM Construction, additional weekend diversions will be necessary in the coming months to accommodate the ongoing work. The MBTA apologizes for this inconvenience and will announce additional service changes in advance as they are confirmed and scheduled. Riders are encouraged to subscribe to T-Alerts or to follow the MBTA on Twitter for up-to-date service information.

Green Line Medford Branch trolleys will also be replaced with accessible shuttle bus service between Medford/Tufts and East Somerville stations in both directions from start to end of

service on Sunday, January 8. The purpose of this one-day diversion is to perform emergency repair work on the water lines that service Medford/Tufts station, which require additional insulation. Riders may also utilize Bus Routes 80 and 87 for service throughout the area on January 8.

- Red Line Ashmont and Braintree Branch trains will be replaced with accessible shuttle buses between Broadway and Ashmont stations and between Broadway and North Quincy stations during the weekend of January 7-8. The purpose of this weekend diversion is to perform work on the pedestrian bridge between Columbia Road and the lobby at JFK/UMass station. After necessary repairs are completed, the MBTA will reopen the pedestrian ramp at Columbia Road

TRAFFIC ADVISORY THROUGH JANUARY 7

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.

FENWAY

Frozen Fenway Events – January 6 & 7, 2023

The Boston Red Sox will be hosting Frozen Fenway on January 6 & 7, 2023. Parking restrictions will be in place to accommodate the event on the following streets:

- Boylston Street, North side (odd side), from Kilmarnock Street to Brookline Avenue
- Boylston Street, South side (even side), from Richard B. Ross Way to Ipswich Street

- Brookline Avenue, Both sides, from Overland Street to Lansdowne Street

- Burlington Avenue, Both sides, from Brookline Avenue to end

- Jersey Street, Both sides, from Van Ness Street to Brookline Avenue.

- Lansdowne Street, Both sides, from Brookline Avenue to Ipswich Street

- Newbury Street, South side (Mass Pike side), from Kenmore Street to Brookline Avenue

- Richard B. Ross Way, Both sides, from Boylston Street to Van Ness Street

- Van Ness Street, Both sides, from Ipswich Street to Kilmarnock Street

OP-ED (from pg. 2)

for granted. Lock your doors. Lock your bedroom door. Keep your handgun on your lampstand and try your best to create an environment that protects you as much as possible. With so many people sleeping in the rental house in Moscow, I'm sure these young college students felt safe. What appeared to be safe for them became an opportunity for an evil mind.

Typically, the attacker has the element of surprise on his side. It's always best to try to think ahead. Sadly, four Idaho University students were killed by someone who planned, plotted, and was patient enough to find the right moment to carry out the murders.

Accepting and dealing with

what we cannot change is one thing. Preparing for life but rolling with the punches, the turns and twists is another. Being watchful, careful, and never taking anything for granted could make the difference between life and death

Pray for these families and all the many friends and loved ones as they grieve and suffer from such devastating loss.

Glenn Mollette is the publisher of Newburgh Press, 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.

POLICE (from pg. 1)

In contrast, robberies and attempted robberies were up nearly 16 percent as the number climbed to 104 last year from 90 in '21; the five-year average in this category was 129 incidents.

Incidents of domestic aggravated assault saw a more than 4 percent increase, with 47 incidents in '22, compared to 45 the previous year; the five-year average in this category was 50 incidents.

Likewise, incidents of non-domestic aggravated assault were up more than 7 percent as the number climbed to 174 last year from 162 in '21; the five-year average in this category was 219 incidents.

Commercial burglaries were up nearly 22 percent as the number climbed to 62 in '22 from 51 the previous year, while the five-year average was 84 incidents.

In contrast, residential burglaries were down around 33 percent, with 70 incidents in '22, compared to 105 the previous year; the five-year average for this category was 148 incidents.

Incidents of larceny from a motor vehicle saw a nearly 23 percent decline as the number dropped to 323 last year from 419 in '21; the five-year average in this category was 457 incidents.

Other larcenies were down nearly 7 percent, with 1,532

incidents in '22, compared to 1,645 the previous year; the five-year average in this category was 1,879 incidents.

Auto theft was up almost 4 percent as the number climbed to 172 last year from 166 in '21, while 150 was the five-year average in this category.

Citywide, Part One crime was down 2 percent in '22 as the number of incidents dropped to 14,863 from 15,087 the previous year.

2022 also saw a more than 10-percent decrease in Part One crime citywide from the five-year average of 16,533 incidents.

Wu appoints Terrell as Executive Director of Office of Fair Housing and Equity

Special to the Sun

Mayor Michelle Wu announced Robert Terrell as Executive Director of the City's Office of Fair Housing and Equity. The existing office, which is within the Equity and Inclusion Cabinet, prevents discrimination and ensures equitable access to housing in Boston.

"In this moment as Boston continues to grow, ensuring every resident has a safe, healthy, affordable home is the foundation for a brighter future for everyone," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "The Office of Fair Housing and Equity is crucial in tackling discrimination and ensuring every resident and family has equitable access to housing across all of our city's neighborhoods. I'm grateful to Mr. Terrell for his leadership and commitment to centering equity in our housing work and serving our city."

"Having Robert Terrell's experience and passion for housing equity is essential to our mission of building a city for everyone," said Chief of Equity and Inclusion Mariangely Solis Cervera.



Robert Terrell, the latest Executive Director of the Office of Fair Housing and Equity.

"I'm excited to work beside him as we create new solutions for equitable and fair housing practices for our residents."

As Executive Director, Terrell will work to enforce local, state, and federal fair housing law in Boston to protect renters and buyers from discriminatory practices. Terrell's work in Boston's fair housing space has focused on the impact of gentrification and displacement in Roxbury and within transit corridors across the city. In this new role, he will

build on this to play a key role in centering racial justice and housing equity in city processes and protecting the interests of Boston residents. Terrell will also work to expand the investigatory capacity of the office to better receive formal complaints when laws are violated, increase access to trainings about housing rights for residents, and ensure fair housing is embedded into city policies.

"I am very excited to join the Office of Fair Housing and Equi-

ty as its new Executive Director. I look upon civil rights and fair housing work as a sacred trust. I want to assure everyone in Boston that we will do our utmost to combat housing discrimination in whatever form it takes," said Robert Terrell. "If you've ever been unjustly denied housing because of the color of your skin, the language you speak, the country you come from or whom you choose to love, our office is here to stand with you. We will enforce our fair housing laws justly, uphold the rights of our protected classes and we pledge to do so under all conditions and at all times".

Recently, Terrell served as the Fair Housing, Equity, and Inclusion Officer for the Boston Housing Authority's Office of Civil Rights. In this position, Terrell assisted in the development of the Boston Housing Authority's Racial Equity and Social Justice Initiative and chaired their Fair Housing working group, and supported the development of the Expanding Choice in Housing Opportunities (ECHO) Program that collectively created a framework central to how Bos-

ton removes barriers to fair housing today. This work eventually led Terrell to also play a role in creating a new Assessment of Fair Housing for the City of Boston.

Prior to joining the City of Boston, Terrell held leadership positions with many local organizations such as the Roxbury Neighborhood Council, the Madison Park Development Corporation Board of Directors, the Citizen's Housing and Planning Association's (CHAPA), Action for Equity's Housing Committee, the Boston Branch of the NAACP, the Planning Committee of the Annual Fair Housing and Civil Rights Conference, and the Assessment of Fair Housing's Community Advisory Committee and its Monitoring Committee.

Terrell also lectures part-time at Tufts University's Department of Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning where he received his Masters in Public Policy.

Robert also holds a BA in Government and Sociology from Bowdoin College.

State Treasurer's office launches small business toolkit and resource map

Staff Report

Massachusetts State Treasurer, Deborah B. Goldberg, recently announced the launch of the Treasurer's Office's

newly designed Small Business Resource Toolkit website. The toolkit provides access to comprehensive resources and materials for small business owners and

future entrepreneurs in Massachusetts.

Under the direction of Treasurer Goldberg, the toolkit was designed to provide a range of relevant, important information, often needed, when facing the enormous challenge of starting a small business for the first time. Typically, it has been impossible to easily find the resources and advisors that can help lead to success. This website offers valuable educational materials on how to plan, maintain, and grow a successful small business.

"By collecting relevant resources in one place online, we are providing an understandable road map for people as they begin to develop and open their own businesses," said State Treasurer Deborah B. Goldberg. "One of my top priorities has been to ensure that everyone has equal access to the tools and information they need to succeed. And by supporting the growth of independent small businesses, we not only positively impact their own development, but also our local communities and the state's economy, in many positive ways."

To help ensure that small businesses thrive, this toolkit provides additional information about banks, community development financial institutions (CDFIs), and community partners available across the Commonwealth.

"Successful small businesses are critical generators of wealth, they are the backbone of the economy," said State Senator Lydia Edwards (D-Boston). "I am so thankful to Treasurer Deborah Goldberg and her team for creating a website that serves as a one-stop-shop for small businesses new and old. I look forward to sharing this new resource with my constituents."

"The State of MA Treasurer's Office has taken yet another step to actively support economic empowerment for entrepreneurs and small businesses throughout the Commonwealth," said Samilys Rodriguez, Director - Eastern Massachusetts Center for Women & Enterprise. "The Center for Women & Enterprise Women's Business Centers are just one of many business resources in the Treasurer's new Small Business Resource Toolkit, which can provide additional

support and guidance for clients to achieve their next business milestones."

"Congratulations to the Office of the Treasurer's team for their hard work and dedication in creating a website that connects and provides resources for business owners in Massachusetts," said Aliesha J. Porcena, City of Boston Director of Office of Economic Opportunity & Inclusion. "At the City of Boston, we are committed to working across agencies, to make sure business owners have the resources and tools to start, grow, and build a business in Boston. As we work to address the many hurdles that businesses face, and build a community of support for businesses, this tool is an effort in that direction."

There are several organizations and community partners across the state that help business owners with technical assistance and business counseling. The Treasurer's Office's website has identified these organizations and placed them by county and category on a Small Business Resource Map. This map will be updated on a regular basis.



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NANCY SCHÖN (from pg. 1)

heart set on a sculpture based on the titular character from “The Very Hungry Caterpillar,” a 1969 children’s picture book designed, illustrated, and written by the American author, Eric Carle. But this plan was ultimately derailed due to licensing issues surrounding Carle’s book.

Since Waban Common sits directly across from Angier Elementary School, Nancy then proposed her sculpture could depict a squirrel holding a book. The Waban Common board rejected this idea outright, however.

“I went back to the drawing board, and they were very insistent on it being a caterpillar,” said Nancy.

Once this was settled, Nancy began exhaustively researching caterpillars by poring over books and illustrations – a habit she has dutifully employed with all of her subjects since creating her

first piece of the public art, the Ducklings, back in 1987.

(Nancy has created more than 20 public sculptures, which in addition to the Ducklings in the Public Garden and “A Dragon for Dorchester,” also includes the Tortoise and the Hare in Copley Square, as well as another set of Ducklings in Moscow, Russia.)

Nancy and Susan finished their caterpillar in December, which was right on target, since Nancy said it typically takes her between one and two years to complete each sculpture.

It was installed on Waban Common on Dec. 20, and a formal dedication is set for the spring, although a date for this event has yet to be announced.

“I can’t wait to see kids climbing on the caterpillar – it’s just the right size for little kids, even big kids,” said Nancy, who added it’s not uncommon to see adults, as

well as children, sitting atop her Ducklings sculpture in the Public Garden.

When Nancy and Susan were creating the sculpture, they gave it the informal moniker of “Rosie,” but Nancy said she hopes that the Waban Common board of directors would hold a contest for children to give it a lasting name.

Meanwhile, Nancy, who turned 94 in September, said she has several “other things in the pipeline” that she’s now keeping close to the vest pending their official announcements, but retirement clearly doesn’t seem to be an option for her.

“I just feel like I’m one of the luckiest people that ever lived,” she said. “People have been so kind and supportive to me – it’s wonderful. I hope I can keep producing things that other people are going to enjoy.”



COURTESY OF NANCY SCHÖN

The bronze caterpillar sculpture on Waban Common in Newton, which was created by Nancy Schön and her daughter, Susan.

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CITY OF BOSTON HOLDS FIRST NIGHT CELEBRATION TO RING IN THE NEW YEAR



Mark Pellitter of the Puppeteers Collaborative high fives a spectator in the parade.

Photos by Derek Kouyoumjian

It was uncertain if many would venture out on the last night of 2022 with the rain coming down, but the unseasonably

warm temperatures in the upper 50s helped bring out the crowds. First Night Boston was a series of events throughout the city to celebrate the New Year. A parade that marched from Copley

Square to the Boston Common, free concerts, ice sculptures, and many other activities kept young and old entertained, from one year as it turned into the next.



Miss Massachusetts Skarlett Ramirez



Ruby and Gus aren't waiting for Midnight to share a New Year's kiss.



Members of the Puppeteers Collaborative march in the First Night Parade.



Members of the Open Air Circus march in the parade.

LUNCH AND DINNER

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CITY OF BOSTON HOLDS FIRST NIGHT CELEBRATION TO RING IN THE NEW YEAR



Some happy visitors from Morocco are excited for the New Year.



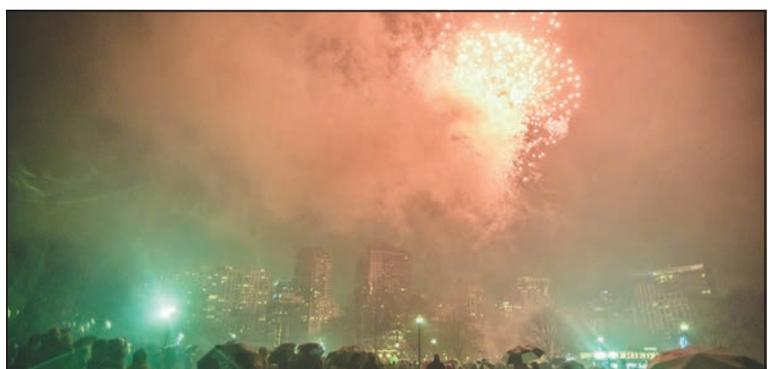
Spectators endure the rain to watch the First Night Parade and kick in 2023.



Spectators line up along Boylston Street to watch the First Night Parade.



The Hot Tamales Brass Band soldier through the rain to bring their music, keeping spirits dry in spite of the rain.



Fireworks light up the overcast sky over the Boston Common.



The trees of Boston Common are colorfully lit to help revelers celebrate First Night.

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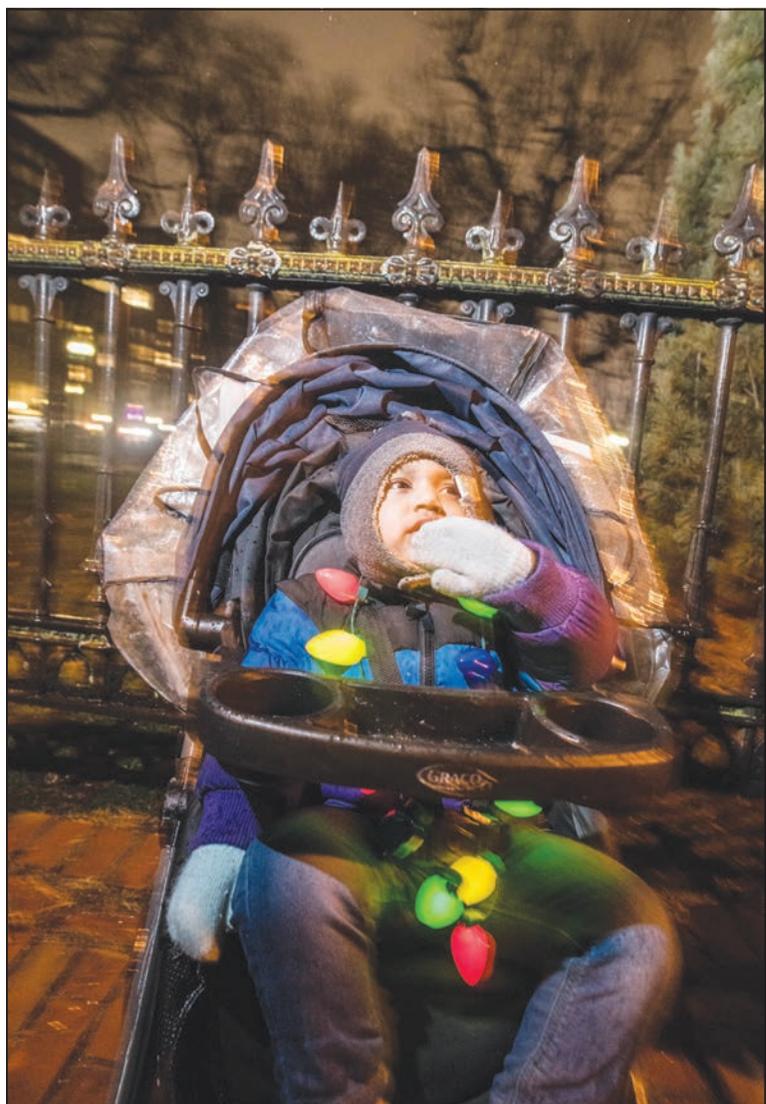
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CITY OF BOSTON HOLDS FIRST NIGHT CELEBRATION TO RING IN THE NEW YEAR



Amay Nirmal is excited to watch the remainder of 2022 turn into the start of 2023.



An audience takes in the musical expertise of Sons Of Levin, performing in front of the Boston Public Library in Copley Square.



Conductor Lawrence Isaacson leads the audience at the Old South Church in singing the National Anthem.



Ava McTomney and Jaymie McManus.



First Night revelry on the Commonwealth Ave Mall.



Hasaan and Mahira Iqbal



Brian, Ranisha, and Ocean Pacheco share some family fun to celebrate First Night.



Liz Chen and Quan Nguyen are lit up to celebrate the start of 2023.



Lya Bennett shows off her enthusiasm for the performance of Sons Of Levin, performing in front of the Boston Public Library in Copley Square.

Mass Save offers energy tips for this winter season

Special to the Sun

With the increase in winter energy costs, what are some quick and affordable changes one can do to lower my energy use?

Some energy-saving options that you can do yourself at home include:

- Checking and changing the air filter in your furnace on a monthly basis. Unclean filters slow down airflow and make the system work harder, thereby wasting energy.

- Adjusting your thermostat just a few degrees can make a big difference in your bill. When home, set your thermostat at 68 degrees Fahrenheit or lower for heating. Lower the thermostat 7 to 10 degrees Fahrenheit each time you leave the house for two or more hours, and then again when you go to sleep at night.

- In the winter, open window dressings during the day to capture warmth and close them at night to prevent heat loss.

- Keep your fireplace damper closed unless a fire is burning. Keeping the damper open is like keeping a window wide open during the winter – it allows

warm air to escape right up the chimney.

- Switch to ENERGY STAR® certified light-emitting diode (LED) bulbs. LEDs use up to 90 percent less energy than incandescent bulbs and last up to 25 times longer.

- How can the Sponsors of Mass Save help one with financial or billing assistance?

The Sponsors of Mass Save offer two income-based offerings: the Enhanced Residential Incentives and the Income Eligible Program. Both start with a no-cost Home Energy Assessment and offer discounted or no-cost products and services. You can use this table to determine if you qualify for either of these offerings. Information about State and Federally funded payment assistance programs that provide relief on winter heating bills can be found on your utility's website. Local Community Action Agencies may also provide bill assistance and financial assistance toward home improvements. Lastly, you can enroll in a budget or balanced billing plans, which allows you to pay the same amount each month for energy. Based on an estimate of

your energy usage for the year, your utility will bill you in 12 equal increments.

- What is a no-cost energy assessment, and how does one qualify?

Whether you're a homeowner, renter, landlord, or business owner, the Sponsors of Mass Save® offer no-cost virtual or in-person Energy Assessments. This assessment is a great way to find energy-saving opportunities within your home or business. An Energy Specialist will assess your current energy use, help you develop a plan to make your home or business more energy efficient, as well as educate you on available rebates and incentives.

- What kind of help can one expect to receive from the Sponsors of Mass Save?

On top of no-cost assessments and financial assistance programs, the Sponsors of Mass Save also offer a range of rebate options and incentives. To see available rebate options for both your home or business, follow the links or visit www.masssave.com

- Where do one go to get energy efficient products? (Mass Save

Marketplace)

To find and purchase affordable energy efficient products, use the Mass Save Marketplace. Access sales through the residential or commercial marketplaces for items such as electronics, appliances, and other equipment, valid through 12/31/22.

- Con el aumento en los costos de energía durante el invierno, ¿cuáles son algunos cambios?

Algunas opciones de ahorro de energía que puede hacer usted en casa incluyen:

- Revisar y cambiar el filtro de aire de su horno mensualmente. Los filtros sucios bloquean y reducen el flujo de aire, haciendo que el sistema trabaje más y desperdicie energía.

- Ajustar su termostato solo unos pocos grados puede hacer una gran diferencia en su factura. Cuando esté en casa, configure su termostato a 68 grados Fahrenheit o menos para la calefacción. Baje el termostato de 7 a 10 grados Fahrenheit cada vez que salga de la casa por dos horas o más, y de nuevo cuando se vaya a dormir por la noche.

- En invierno, abra las cortinas/persianas durante el día para

captar el calor y ciérrelas por la noche para evitar la pérdida de calor.

- Mantenga cerrada la compuerta de la chimenea a menos de que haya fuego. Mantener la compuerta abierta es como mantener una ventana completamente abierta durante el invierno: permite que el aire caliente escape por la chimenea.

- Cambie a bombillas de diodo emisor de luz (LED por sus siglas en inglés) certificadas por ENERGY STAR®. Los LED usan hasta un 90 por ciento menos de energía que las bombillas incandescentes y duran hasta 25 veces más.

- ¿Cómo pueden ayudarme los patrocinadores de Mass Save con asistencia financiera o de facturación?

Los patrocinadores de Mass Save® ofrecen dos ofertas con base en los ingresos: los Incentivos Residenciales Mejorados y el Programa Elegible Según los Ingresos. Ambos comienzan con una evaluación de energía del hogar sin costo y ofrecen productos y servicios con descuento

(ENERGY TIPS Pg. 10)

Nearly \$2.74 million awarded to combat violence against women

Staff Report

The Baker-Polito Administration announced that dozens of law enforcement, criminal justice and victim services organizations have been awarded grants through the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Grant program including the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office with a grant of \$119,919.88.

The federal funds will help Massachusetts agencies in efforts to prevent, reduce and improve responses to acts of gender-based, sexual and domestic violence; stalking; and human trafficking. The 44 grant recipients were selected through a competitive application process administered by the Office of Grants and Research (OGR), a state agency that is part of the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS). Each organization funded in FY23 will be eligible for additional funding during the three following years. "These grants allow our Com-

monwealth to enhance our work combatting domestic violence and sexual offenses. Meeting the needs of survivors, providing safety nets for those seeking to escape, and holding perpetrators accountable requires a coalition of law enforcement and service providers. VAWA funds have allowed us to build these vital partnerships and provide resources, not just in 2023, but for years to come," said Governor Charlie Baker.

"Since taking office, this administration has shown an unparalleled dedication to ending domestic and sexual violence. As chair of the Governor's Council to Address Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence, I've had the privilege of working with professionals and organizations across the Commonwealth that are committed to this mission. This funding will allow state agencies, police and service providers the resources they need to effectively respond to and reduce these offenses," said Lt. Governor

Karyn Polito.

"These grants help improve how law enforcement and the criminal justice system respond to violence against women through training opportunities and enhanced capacity to investigate and prosecute these offenses. It also ensures that the victims of domestic and intimate partner violence, sexual assault and exploitation, and stalking have access to the services they deserve," said Public Safety and Security Secretary Terrence Reidy.

"The VAWA Grant Program is one of the most impactful programs administered by the Office of Grants and Research. These funds help ensure that victims have access to the protections of law enforcement and the criminal justice system, as well as trauma-informed and culturally-competent services. We look forward to working alongside all our funded partners to achieve this mission," said OGR Executive Director Kevin Stanton.

The VAWA Grant Program is funded by the Department of Justice. Through an application review process, recipients were

selected from across four categories: Courts, Law Enforcement, Prosecution, Victim Services, and Discretionary.

**ADDRESS To Director of DCF/
share material to any DCF faculty**

**SUDDERS
One Ashburton Place
11th floor
Boston, MA, 02114,
PROGRAM FOR DEAD
PARENTS
Unaware of Address**

**EOHHS CHELSEA
CENTER
Department of
Children and Family
80 Everett Avenue 1st
Floor, Chelsea, MA
02150
617-660-3400**

**Parent is here and always available.
617-461-0785 or 617-461-5002
I, Thalwanti Maharaj Singh, upon oath,
signed under pains and penalties of perjury,
Shobhadevi S. Singh is being NEGLECTED for
EIGHT YEARS, from A PRIVATE SCHOOL without
any visitation or any holiday.
THE CHILD IS STILL IN DCF CUSTODY.
What Does CONSTITUTION say to DCF**

FRESH & LOCAL

What's for Dinner?

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

If your job is meal planning and preparation, this is a question you'll ask yourself all too often in the months ahead. For us, that question is, "What's for Lunch?" since that is our main meal of the day. Even for an experienced home cook, coming up with an endless array of meals that are tasty, nourishing, and easy to prepare can be daunting.

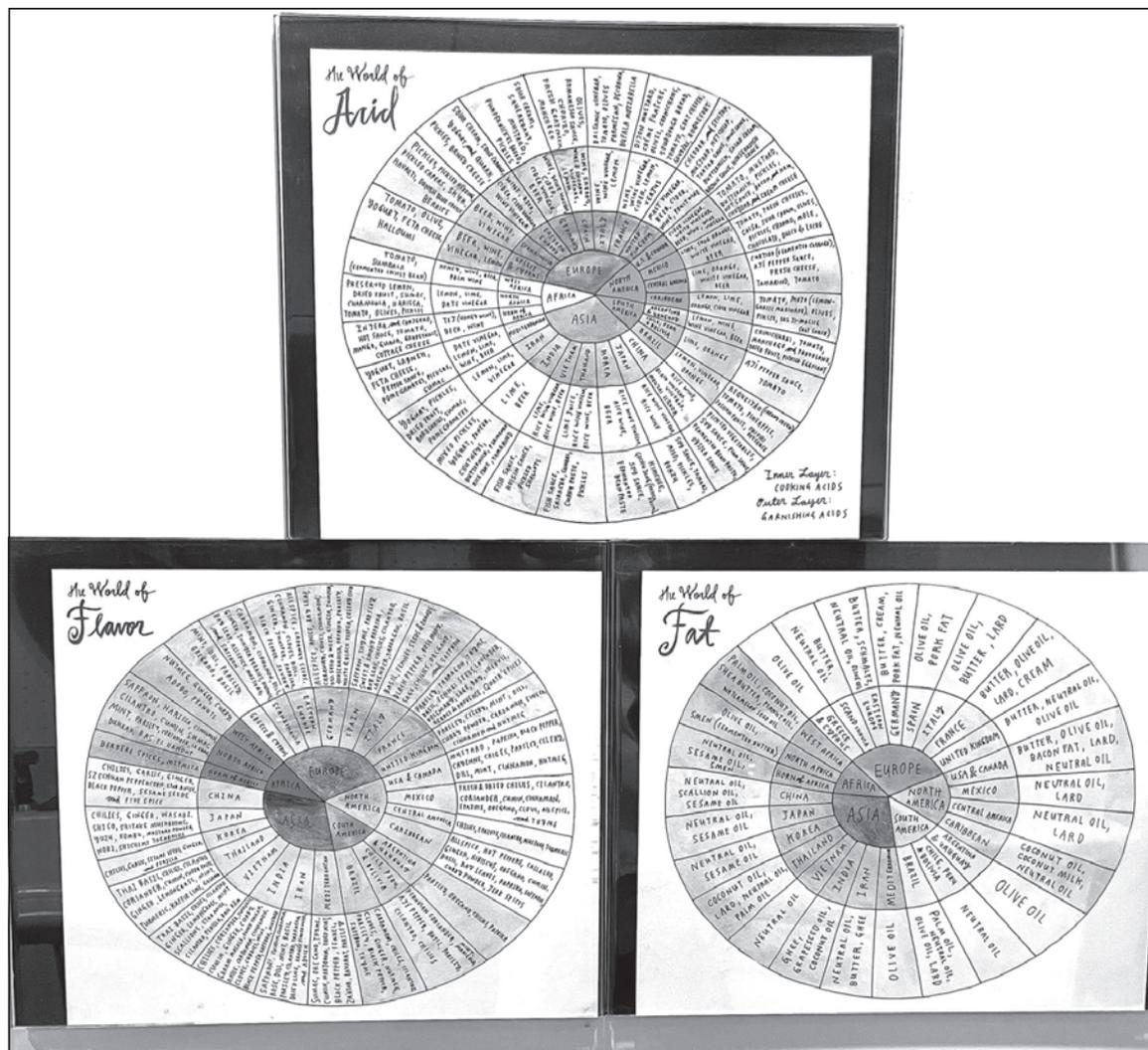
So much so that one savvy entrepreneur offers a set of dice you can roll to help decide what to cook or order for that next meal. Each die has a bunch of options, including cooking methods, proteins, grains/carbs,

herbs, bonus ingredients, and vegetables for each season.

Penny uses a similar approach to add cultural variety to our meals. She purchased Wendy MacNaughton's illustrations of the flavor wheels from the book "Salt, Fat, Acid, Heat" by Samin Nosrat. They conveniently live on our refrigerator. She can then choose the salt, fat, and acid that will spin what we have on hand into the taste of Africa, Asia, Europe, North America, or South America.

Reduce Decision Fatigue

Steve Jobs often wore a black top and jeans to eliminate one



Illustrations of the flavor wheels from the book "Salt, Fat, Acid, Heat" live on our refrigerator. We use these to spin a meal to the taste of Africa, Asia, Europe, North or South America.

daily decision. In the world of food, this has resulted in themes like Meatless Monday, Taco Tuesday, Fish on Friday, or Sunday Roast.

Many long-time cooks develop a rotation of dishes they can whip together without referring to a recipe. Some of these may be recipes made from leftovers and pantry staples at the last moment, like tacos, egg dishes, quesadillas, grain bowls, salads, soups, and sandwiches.

Intentional Leftovers

When she has enough time, Penny will make a large batch of soup, stew, a casserole, or a braised or roasted dish that we'll dine on for a few days. She'll freeze some of these as single servings to feed us on busy days. As she cooks, she'll also make extra supplies of cooked and spiced minced lamb or beef, sauces, and poached chicken to turn into a quick meal.

We have food writer David Leite to thank for the jar of cooked onions and garlic that's often in our refrigerator, ready to give us a head start on a meal. In his book, "The New Portuguese Table," Leite wrote, "I find spending up to half an hour sau-

teing onions takes a chunk out of busy weekday evenings, so I make big batches of the stuff and scoop out what I need when I'm at the stove."

Stuck in a Food Rut?

In avoiding decision fatigue, you may be bored with what you're cooking and eating. There are many solutions for this issue thanks to prepared food, the Internet, and our excellent library system.

Type "recipe for" plus an ingredient or two into a web browser, and you'll find hundreds of options for a new dish. Pick one that sounds good to you. If you learn better by watching than by reading, do the same on YouTube.

If you have a cookbook collection, pull a favorite off the shelf or open one in your e-reader for inspiration. You can also download many ebook versions of popular cookbooks from your library. Or, you can stop by and scan the library shelves to choose something from a favorite author, culture, or cooking method.

Finally, you can have a few prepared meals in your freezer to give the cook a break. Or, you can dine out or order takeout from restaurants that still need your support to survive the slower winter months.

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

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Your Year Your Cost



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Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1 BACK BAY	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
Keller, Meredith B	Kaplan, Jeffrey	357 Beacon St #7	\$2,550,000
Beacon 23 Realty LLC	Li, Hongpeng	857 Beacon St #23	\$545,000
Qian, Xiaohong	Hitt, Molly E	362 Commonwealth Ave #5E	\$710,000
Liu, Kai L	Ross, Alexander J	464 Commonwealth Ave #54	\$649,000
BEACON HILL			
Burke, Jonathan	Smith, Richard J	21 Beacon St #3A	\$575,000
78 Mount Vernon NT	Brimmer St Garage Condo	70 Brimmer St #310	\$500,000
BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE			
97 Appleton LLC	Familetto, Paul	97 Appleton St	\$2,850,000
1 Charles 2022 RT	James H Messenger T	1 Charles St S #7B	\$1,895,000
John F Giblin Jr RET	Mendu Capital LLC	1 Charles St S #9C	\$2,000,000
Liu, Jacky	FPG Lagrange Owner One	55 Lagrange St #204	\$240,800
Pires, Martha	FPG Lagrange Owner One	55 Lagrange St #3C	\$182,600
Del-Aguila, Rachelle	FPG Lagrange Owner One	55 Lagrange St #601	\$735,000
Yang, Zhong	Kearns, Karen J	40 Saint Botolph St #4	\$460,000
Burrows, Matthew	Warren 154 LLC	154 Warren Ave #2	\$4,500,000
Zhao, Hua	Elliott, Robert	519 Columbus Ave #4	\$820,000
Kerfrt 2 LLC	Pyramus LLC	38 Fenway	\$3,150,000
535 Newbury LLC	America Realty LLC	535 Newbury St	\$4,660,000
Fabio Enterprises LLC	Minerva Holdings LLC	175 Portland St #3	\$1,100,000
Merrill, Michael W	Yeung, Jean N	124 Saint Marys St #1	\$925,000
Cortina, Armando	Ebert David L Est	15 Waltham St #B602	\$980,000
WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN			
Tregurtha, Anthony N	L&M George 2020 RET	1 Avery St #17B	\$1,750,000
Barcelo, Trevor W	Jaye, Michael E	2 Battery Wharf #2302	\$2,200,000
J T Baerlein&D M Volpe T	Mcgrath, Eileen	65 E India Row #14E	\$640,600
Richard A Crean RET	Bertrand, William D	85 E India Row #28H	\$775,000
Rowes Wharf 309 RT	J P Rosenfield 1995 T	20 Rowes Wharf #309	\$2,625,000
Weiss, Matthew A	Frazer 80 Holdings LP	80 Summer St #1	\$3,600,000

ENERGY TIPS (from pg. 9)

o sin costo. Puede usar esta gráfica para determinar si califica para cualquiera de estas ofertas. Puede encontrar información sobre los programas de asistencia de pago financiados por el estado y el gobierno federal que brindan alivio en las facturas de calefacción de invierno en el sitio web de su empresa de servicios públicos. Las Agencias de Acción Comunitaria Local también pueden brindar asistencia con las facturas y asistencia financiera para realizar mejoras en el hogar. Por último, puede inscribirse en un plan de presupuesto o facturación balanceada, que le permite pagar la misma cantidad cada mes por energía. Según una estimación de su uso de energía para el año, su empresa de servicios públicos le facturará en 12

incrementos iguales.

- ¿Qué es una evaluación de energía sin costo y cómo califico? Ya sea propietario de una vivienda, inquilino, arrendador o dueño de un negocio, los patrocinadores de Mass Save® ofrecen evaluaciones de energía virtuales o en persona sin costo. Esta evaluación es una excelente manera de encontrar oportunidades de ahorro de energía dentro de su hogar o negocio. Un especialista en energía evaluará su uso actual de energía, lo ayudará a desarrollar un plan para hacer que su hogar o negocio sea más eficiente energéticamente y lo educará sobre los reembolsos e incentivos disponibles.
- ¿Qué tipo de ayuda puedo esperar recibir de los patrocinadores de Mass Save?

Además de evaluaciones sin costo y programas de asistencia financiera, los patrocinadores de Mass Save® también ofrecen una variedad de opciones de reembolso e incentivos. Para ver las opciones de reembolso disponibles para su hogar o negocio, siga los enlaces o visite www.masssave.com

- ¿Dónde debo ir para obtener productos energéticamente eficientes? (Mass Save Marketplace) Para encontrar y comprar productos económicos de bajo consumo, utilice Mass Save Marketplace. Acceda a las ventas a través de los mercados residenciales o comerciales de artículos como electrónicos, electrodomésticos y otros equipos, válidos hasta el 31/12/22.

Attention to Detail

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY PENNY CHERUBINO

THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The windows in the last clue are on 9 Commonwealth Avenue, built in 1861. According to the website www.BackBayHouses.org, it is "...one of two houses (7-9 Commonwealth) built at the same time in a symmetrical design..." However, number nine was remodeled in 1937. How many changes do you see in the two buildings today?

The next clue will be found 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.

THIS WEEK'S CLUE



CAMPION AND COMPANY

FINISHED 2022 AS THE

#1 OFFICE

IN BACK BAY & BEACON HILL*

#1 BOSTON
OFFICE FOR SALES
OVER \$2M+*



#1 AGENT
IN
NEW ENGLAND*

TRACY CAMPION AND THE TEAM AT CAMPION
ENDED THE YEAR WITH
\$846 MILLION IN CLOSED SALES.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU IN 2023!

