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THURSDAY, MAY 9, 2024

# THE BOSTON SUN

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

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## Plans detailed for Greek seafood restaurant proposed for 401 Newbury St.

By Dan Murphy

A growing chain of New York City-based, upscale seafood restaurants with a Greek influence is planning to open its first Boston location at 400 Newbury St. (i.e. the Parcel 12 development above the Mass Turnpike), according to representatives for the venture on hand for the Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay Licensing and Building Use Committee's monthly meeting held virtually on Monday, May 6.

Avra, which in addition to three Manhattan locations, also now has restaurants in Miami, Fla., and Beverly Hills, Calif., intends to occupy 13,000 square feet on two levels of the street and plaza-levels of the so-called 'Car Gurus/Lego' building and hotel, said cofounder Nick Tsoulos. (Besides its Boston location, Avra is also currently planning to open new outposts in Dallas, Texas, and in Manhattan's Hudson Yards, he said.)

The ground level of the restaurant would be home to a ves-

tibule, as well as an elevator and grand staircase, said Tsoulos, while the kitchen, dining room, bar, and private rooms would all be located on the second level.

While the proposed restaurant would serve only lunch, brunch, and dinner (and not breakfast), the would-be establishment is seeking a traditional 8 a.m. to 2 a.m. license for the premises, said Attorney Dennis Quilty. He noted that the applicant would be seeking a corporation-to-corporation license change from the Samuels Corporation, with no change in location.

In response to the applicant's plan to create a patio with seating for around 50 diners between the hotel and office building, Conrad Armstrong, committee chair, and Elliott Laffer, a long-time NABB board member and past committee chair, both said they had previously requested a 1 a.m. closing time for the patio, especially given its close proximity to residential housing, including at 360 Newbury St.

Attorney Quilty said as a new building, the location is ready-made for deliveries, as well as for easy and convenient trash storage and disposal.

Regarding next steps for the project, Attorney Quilty said the applicant would hold an abutters meeting. "And then off we go," he added.

Tsoulos said they hoped to open the restaurant next April or

(401 NEWBURY ST., Pg. 3)

## MAYOR'S COFFEE HOUR AT PETERS PARK



MAYOR'S OFFICE PHOTOS BY JOHN WILCOX

Mayor Michelle Wu's annual Coffee Hour series stopped by Peters Park the South End on Sunday, May 6. Many residents came out to ask questions and mingle with the Mayor and fellow Boston Councillors in attendance. Shown above, a large crowd came out to attend. Shown right, Mayor Wu speaks at the event.

## PJK's Vincent Phan receives 'Poet of the Year' Award

Story & Photos by Marianne Salza

Patrick J. Kennedy School (PJK) 6th grader, Vincent Phan, received the Boston Scores "Poet of the Year Award," on April 26 in recognition of his eloquence and performance. The 12-year-

old was the winner of a poetry slam amongst over a dozen Boston Public School students. He was applauded for his articulateness and creativity.

Vincent's composition, "Achievements," describes tenacity, taking pride in one-

self, and the thrill of fulfillment; whether it is "swallowing 10 marshmallows" or setting a personal "world record."

"Every year, we have a poets' banquet, where two students

(PHAN, Pg. 5)

## Uniquely named donut shop opens pop-up at DeLuca's on Charles Street

By Dan Murphy

A donut shop with a uniquely local name has set up shop as a pop-up inside DeLuca's Market

on Charles Street.

Mass Hole Donuts, which has a brick-and-mortar location in Somerville's Teele Square, took over the small space inside the

store on Friday, May 3, which was previously the temporary home to Teuscher Chocolates.

(MASS HOLE DONUTS, Pg. 4)

Happy Mother's Day!!

# EDITORIAL

## CHANGE IN MARIJUANA SCHEDULING WAS LONG OVERDUE

The decision by the Biden administration last week to reclassify marijuana from a Schedule I drug to a Schedule III drug came as welcome (though long overdue) news for all Americans who have been aware for decades of the absurdity and injustice of that classification.

Marijuana became classified as a Schedule I drug, reserved for dangerous drugs such as heroin and LSD, during the administration of President Richard M. Nixon in 1970. Research into Nixon's presidential papers about 10 years ago revealed that Nixon's sole motivation for doing so was to provide a pretext to arrest, prosecute, and incarcerate Black and brown Americans, whom Nixon saw as political opponents during a time of political upheaval in our country.

That Nixonian policy of the past five decades has resulted in a disgraceful legacy of vast discrepancies in the enforcement of the drug laws by law enforcement at all levels, federal, state and local, to target Black and brown Americans at rates far greater than whites.

Countless lives -- and families -- in minority communities have been ruined because of racially-selective enforcement policies regarding the laws on marijuana.

Marijuana's classification as a Schedule I drug never had any basis in medical fact. Compared to just about any drug, both legal and illegal, marijuana has the least amount of harm and side-effects. No one ever has died from a marijuana overdose. By contrast, almost all commonly-available, over-the-counter drugs can cause a fatal overdose. (Even plain-old water can kill you if you drink too much of it.)

In addition, the common perception of marijuana as a so-called gateway drug, which became fashionable during the era of Nancy Reagan's "Just Say No to Drugs" campaign, was a myth. The only correlation that ever has been shown between a drug used early in life and hard-drug use later in life has been between cigarettes and opioid addiction.

On the other hand, we wish to emphasize strongly that marijuana should not be used by those under the age of 21, for whom marijuana use can have a lasting and deleterious effect on the still-developing human brain. (The same also can be said for nicotine, alcohol, high-sugar drinks, and ultra-processed foods.)

Hopefully, now that marijuana will be classified as a Schedule III drug (which is defined as a drug with a moderate to low potential for physical and psychological dependence, such as Tylenol with codeine), researchers in this country finally will be able to unlock how it affects the human body, which has THC (the active ingredient in marijuana) receptors throughout.

THC already has been shown to have a number of possible therapeutic uses, including treatment for glaucoma, pain, depression, and nausea for those undergoing chemotherapy.

Lastly, government regulation will ensure that dosage amounts are accurately labeled on available products. Just as alcohol content is indicated on beer, wine, and hard liquor, marijuana products, especially edibles, need to be labeled to provide consumers with needed-information about the potency of what they're ingesting.

The rescheduling of marijuana by the federal government is 50 years too late. But, as the saying goes, it's better late than never.

## ANTI-SEMITIC AND ANTI-MUSLIM HATE CRIMES MUST BE STOPPED

Both the Anti-Defamation League (ADL), the New York-based international Jewish non-governmental organization and advocacy group, and the Council of American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), the U.S.'s largest Muslim civil rights organization, have pointed to alarming increases in hate crimes in recent years.

The ADA recently reported that anti-semitic incidents in the past 10 years have grown exponentially from about 750 in 2013 to almost 9000 in 2023. CAIR reported that over the past decade, anti-Muslim incidents have increased three-fold, from about 2500 in 2013 to 7500 in 2023.

The recent events in the Middle East have stoked a cauldron of hate in the United States that always was there, but which for the most part bubbled beneath the surface. Today however, that cauldron has reached the boiling point, leaving American Jews and Muslims fearful of displaying their identity in public, lest some hate-monger with evil intent be in the vicinity.

We would note that the vast majority of the recent spike in hate crimes is not being committed by Jewish or Muslim Americans, but rather by white Americans, who are using the Middle East as a convenient pretext for their malevolent acts.

It is at times such as these that we think back to the simple, but profound, words of Rodney King after the white police officers who savagely beat him were found not guilty at their criminal trial and Los Angeles erupted in massive riots:

"I just want to say, you know, can we all get along?" King implored. "Can we get along? Can we stop making it horrible for the older people and the kids?"



## NEWS IN BRIEF

### SCHÖN FAMILY ART SHOW COMING MOTHER'S DAY WEEKEND TO WEST NEWTON

Nancy Schön, the sculptor whose works includes the iconic 'Make Way for Ducklings' statue in the Public Garden, will join six other female artists from her kin for a Schön Family Art Show over Mother's Day Weekend, from Friday, May 10, through Sunday, May 12, at 291 Otis St. in West Newton.

Besides Nancy, the art show will feature works by two of her daughters, Ellen Schön and Susan Schön, a ceramic artist and a designer, respectively. The art show will also feature four of Nancy's artist granddaughters, including Jackie Schon, a painter and photographer; Mia Schon, a mosaic muralist; Hannah Schön,

a photographer; and Charlie Dov Schön, a mixed media artist. Each artist will display a few pieces from their particular medium at the art show.

An opening reception for the Schön Family Art Show will take place on Friday, May 10, from 5 to 8 p.m., and gallery hours are on Saturday and Sunday, May 11 and 12, from noon to 5 p.m.

### WLP'S ANNUAL FUNDRAISER AND NETWORKING LUNCHEON SET FOR MAY 10 AT MANDARIN ORIENTAL

Women's Lunch Place Executive Director Jennifer Hanlon Wigon and M. Lee Pelton, President and CEO of the Boston Foundation, will have a fireside

(NEWS BRIEFS, Pg. 4)

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**CORRECTION:** Due to editorial errors in the May 2 print edition of this publication, as well as in that week's online edition, details of the 34th annual 'Literary Lights' a dinner hosted by the Associates of the Boston Public Library on Sunday April 21, at the Fairmont Copley Plaza hotel, were misreported.

This long-running event honors outstanding writers from the Northeast and celebrates their contributions to literature while raising vital funds to support the preservation of the Boston Public Library's Special Collections.

## MAYOR'S COFFEE HOUR COMES TO PETERS PARK IN SOUTH END

Mayor's Office Photos by John Wilcox

Mayor Wu brought her annual Coffee Hour series to Peters Park in the South End on Monday, May 6.



City Councilor at-Large Erin Murphy addresses the crowd.



City Councilor at-Large Henry Santana talks to residents.



District 2 City Councilor Ed Flynn was on hand for the event.

# Massachusetts House passes bill authorizing Chapter 90 Funding

Special to the Sun

The Massachusetts House of Representatives today passed a bill that includes \$200 million for the state's Chapter 90 program, which provides municipalities with a funding source for transportation-related improvements, including road and bridge repairs, as well as \$175 million for specific programs. The bill also appropriates \$25 million for the rural roads program established in last year's Chapter 90 legislation, which provides funding to rural communities in addition to the standard Chapter 90 distribution.

"Providing funding for critical infrastructure projects through investments in the Commonwealth's public transportation, roads, and bridges is one of the

most important responsibilities that we have as members of the Legislature," said House Speaker Ronald J. Mariano (D-Quincy). "I'm proud of the support for regional infrastructure that this legislation provides, and of the funding that it allocates for the purchasing of electric vehicles by transit authorities. I want to thank Chairman Straus and my colleagues in the House, for prioritizing this vital legislation."

"Through this bill, the House provides cities and towns funding to maintain bridges and roads while advancing transportation accessibility and electric vehicle acquisition," said Representative Adrian Madaro (D-East Boston). "I look forward to seeing the City of Boston use these dollars to address our transportation network."

"The Legislature continues to be responsive to the transportation needs of our towns and cities," said Representative Bill Straus (D-Mattapoisett), House Chair of the Joint Committee on Transportation. "This legislation demonstrates a commitment to funding for local transportation projects with again, our new program especially for funding to rural towns. I am pleased to support this important piece of legislation which provides more tools for towns to tackle their project backlog in time for the new fiscal year starting in July."

This legislation authorizes \$150 million in programs that will support various transportation-related projects. This includes \$25 million for each of the following:

- Municipal Pavement Program, which focuses on the improvement of municipally owned state numbered routes

- Municipal Small Bridge Program, which provides financial support to cities and towns for small bridge replacement, preservation, and rehabilitation projects

- Complete Streets Funding Program, which provides technical assistance and construction funding to municipalities for streets that provide safe and accessible options for all travel modes such as walking, biking, transit, and vehicles

- Municipal Bus Enhancement Program, which provides grant funding to towns to build out infrastructure related to mass transit by bus, such as bus shel-

ters, curb reconfiguration, bus lanes, and signal prioritization

- Mass Transit Access Grant Program, which provides grants to municipalities for design and construction for improvements to access commuter rail stations or other mass transit stations, such as parking lots, drop-off and pick-up zones, bike storage infrastructure, and electric vehicle charging infrastructure

- Municipal/RTA EV Grant Program, which provides grants to Regional Transit Authorities and municipalities for the purchase of electric vehicles and related charging equipment

Having passed the House of Representatives 155-0, the bill now goes to the Senate for their consideration.

## FIRST CHURCH IN BOSTON INSTALLS ITS FIRST WOMAN MINISTER



COURTESY OF FIRST CHURCH IN BOSTON

Rev. Clyde Grubbs of First Parish Unitarian Universalist Canton gave the Charge to the Minister as the Rev. Dr. Stephanie May was installed at First Church in Boston as its first woman minister on Sunday, April 28.

## 401 NEWBURY ST. (from pg. 1)

May.

In another matter, the committee heard from an applicant seeking to open a gym on the second floor of the building at 867 Boylston St., which is home to the Back Bay Social Club restaurant on its ground floor.

The proposed second-floor space, which would offer personal fitness, was previously home to two other gyms over the years - BURN Fitness Studios, and before that, Life in Synergy,

said Kurt Therrien, the property owner.

The new gym would have proposed hours of 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily, with a 49-person capacity, said Attorney Quilty, who represented this applicant as well.

Attorney Quilty said the applicant would be seeking a conditional use license from the city, even though the location had been home to previous gyms, and has requested a hearing date with the city ASAP.



D. MURPHY PHOTO

The building at 867 Boylston St., which is the proposed future home of a second-story gym.

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

Continued from Page 2

chat at WLP's annual fundraiser and networking luncheon, eat LUNCH give on Friday, May 10, in the Oriental Ballroom at the Mandarin Oriental, Boston. The

luncheon begins at 11:30 a.m. and concludes at 1:15 p.m.

Hanlon Wigon and Pelton will address the pressing issues of the housing crisis in Boston, includ-

ing the shortage of affordable units and the critical need for safe, gender-specific housing for women in the community. The event will be held in the Oriental

Ballroom at the Mandarin Oriental, Boston.

This luncheon will include a delicious meal, an opportunity to network with Boston's best and brightest leaders, and an inside look at the context behind Women's Lunch Place's life-changing work from two experts in their fields. There will also be a raffle with local prizes.

All proceeds from the fundraising luncheon will be donated to Women's Lunch Place.

Tickets cost \$200 each and are available online at [womenslunchplace.org/elg](https://womenslunchplace.org/elg), along with sponsorships, program advertisements, and opportunities to support the raffle.

### GIBSON HOUSE MUSEUM TO OFFER FREE OPEN HOUSE ON SATURDAY, MAY 11

The Gibson House Museum, located at 137 Beacon St., will offer an Open House in celebration of Preservation Month on Saturday, May 11, from 1 to 4:00 p.m.

Select rooms will be open for viewing, and certain items in the collection will be highlighted.

The Open House is free to attend, and no reservations are necessary for guests.

### DUCKLING DAY RETURNS MOTHER'S DAY, SUNDAY, MAY 12

Join the Friends of the Public Garden on Mother's Day Sunday, May 12, for the return of Duckling Day – an annual celebration of the children's classic book 'Make Way for Ducklings' by Robert McCloskey.

Duckling Day is a family-friendly celebration held each year on Boston Common. Duckling Day features activity booths, lawn games, magic, and live music all at Parkman Bandstand. The event ends with a parade retracing Mrs. Mallard's steps to the Ducklings sculpture in the Public Garden.

Registration for a family of any size is \$35 and includes a goody bag for every child and entertaining Duckling activities for the whole family; register online at <https://friendsofthepublicgarden.org/events/ducklingday/>.

(NEWS BRIEFS, Pg. 9)

## MAYOR WU VISITS IBA PRESCHOOL PROGRAM



MAYOR'S OFFICE PHOTO BY JEREMIAH ROBINSON

Mayor Michelle Wu greeted staff and students during a visit to the IBA Preschool Program in the South End on Monday, May 6.

## MASS HOLE DONUTS (from pg. 1)

The company bakes six different donut-hole selections each day in its Somerville kitchen from more than 100 different options. Many are locally themed, such as the Green Monster, a filled brioche donut topped with emerald, vanilla glaze, tasted cocoanut, and lime custard; or the Copley Cheesecake Crunch, a poppyseed cake donut garnished with cream cheese frosting, butter cookie crumbs, and a cherry on top. All of the toppings used are premium ingredients, including Belgian chocolate sprinkles, real pistachios, and even apple chunks in their Johnny Appleseed cider donut holes.

"It's all about variety," said Peter Gladstone, the company's co-owner. "You just want one or two bites – you don't want the whole donut."

And with a business name like 'Mass Hole Donuts,' Gladstone said they also have to deliver a quality product to avoid being dismissed as a just half-serious company with a farcical name.

"We're fanatical about the quality of our donuts," he said.

"We throw batches out if they don't meet our expectations because we have a very powerful brand name that's enough to pull people in."

Gladstone, a longtime Arlington resident, now splits his time between his regular job as a senior advisor at Harvard Innovation Labs in Cambridge, where he mentors students on their start-up ventures, and Mass Hole Donuts, which he describes as his "passion project." While he isn't a baker, Gladstone said he pitches in anywhere else he can at Mass Hole Donuts, from running the cash register to washing dishes.

Mass Hole Donuts was operating a pop-up location in the Seaport earlier this year, and when it closed in April, the business was looking for a new location for a pop-up. Gladstone credits some close relatives who live on Beacon Hill for suggesting the neighborhood, specifically DeLuca's on Charles Street, as a prime spot for their next pop-up.

"The neighborhood has been so welcoming, not only the res-

idents but also other shop owners," Gladstone said of the warm reception they've received so far on Beacon Hill. "We've already become a destination, even though it's not like Charles Street needs any more people, but we're

attracting a foodie crowd."

Gladstone said the pop-up has also allowed Mass Hole Donuts to move into a coveted neighborhood, like Beacon Hill, which otherwise might not out of reach for them.



D. MURPHY

Pictured, left to right, are Mass Hole Donuts employees Kevin Paquette and Shane Dooley; Peter Gladstone, the company's co-owner; and Caroline Aiello, co-owner of DeLuca's Market, inside the donut shop's pop-up location at DeLuca's on Charles Street.

"This is a desirable location for us that we'd never be able to afford otherwise," he said. "Charles Street is one of the most iconic streets in Boston that normally wouldn't be attainable for a one-stop bakery in Somerville."

At DeLuca's, Mass Hole Deliveries is still working on logistics, but ideally, they'd be receiving donuts by 9 a.m. Tuesday through Sunday. (The pop-up is closed on Mondays.) They typically receive two deliveries from Somerville each day, with the donuts often selling out before their targeted 7 p.m. closing time.

"We never sell day-old donuts," said Gladstone. "They always have to be fresh."

Mass Hole Donut's pop-up at DeLuca's is now set to run through mid-summer, but that timeline could also be extended.

"If it makes sense for both of us, we'll keep it going," said Gladstone.

Visit [masshokedonuts.com](https://masshokedonuts.com) to learn more about the company.



Vincent Phan, center, with his father, Dung Phan, Acting Principal Rosa Esparza, Rebeca Villatoro, Elementary School Enrichment Coordinator, Boston Scores, Soccer coaches, Marcus Bevel and Ralph Colson, Brenda Bailey, Writing Coach, Boston Scores, and retired PJK teacher, and Cynthia Grant-Carter, PJK Soccer/Writing Coordinator, Boston Scores, and retired PJK teacher, with the PJK soccer team.

**PHAN** (from pg. 1)

from all of our schools write an original poem, memorize it, and perform it in front of an audience,” said Rebeca Villatoro, Elementary School Enrichment Coordinator, Boston Scores. “The judges felt particularly impressed by Vincent’s poem. Multiple people from my office tell me that when they need a little bit of energy, they’ll read his poem. It’s so motivating.”

Villatoro presented Vincent with a plaque and Boston Scores’ first “Poet of the Year” scholar-

ship. Boston Scores is a non-profit organization that collaborates with Boston Public Schools to provide urban youth with after-school soccer and enrichment classes.

Retired PJK teacher, Cynthia Grant-Carter, Soccer/Writing Coordinator, Boston Scores, commended Vincent for his hard work, congratulated him for his accomplishments, and expressed her confidence in him as he continues his education next year at Boston Latin School.



Brenda Bailey, Writing Coach, Boston Scores, and retired PJK teacher, Cynthia Grant-Carter, PJK Soccer/Writing Coordinator, Boston Scores, and retired PJK teacher, Dung Phan, and his son, Vincent Phan, recipient of the “Poet of the Year” award, Marcus Bevel, soccer coach and PJK paraprofessional, and Ralph Colson, soccer coach.



Vincent Phan, 6th grade, reciting his poem, “Achievements,” on April 26 during the Patrick J. Kennedy School morning line up



Shown above, Rebeca Villatoro, Elementary School Enrichment Coordinator, Boston Scores.



Shown to the left, Patrick J. Kennedy School soccer team applauding their friend, Vincent Phan, for his award.

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# GIBSON HOUSE HOLDS 27<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MUSEUM BENEFIT

Derek Kouyoumjian Photos

The Gibson House held its 27th Annual Museum Benefit at the St Boltolph Club. Community Boating was presented with an honoree award for their work

in bringing the joys of sailing to Bostonians young and old. The evening also was dedicated to the memory of former Board President Ruth Kupfer, who passed away in January 2024.



Lovers of Bostonian history filled the St Boltolph Club for their support for Gibson House.



Anthony Sammarco, Christine Cavataio, and Gibson House Board member Jack Glassman.



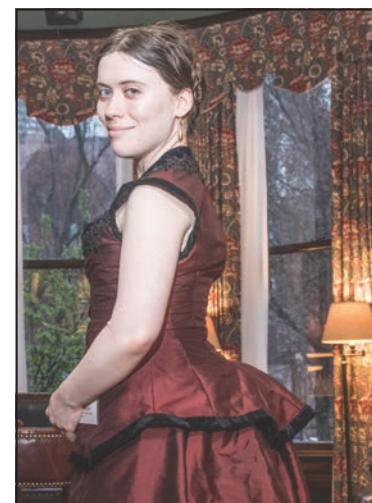
Andrea Stewart and Dan Cooper of Cooper Lace who provided period-appropriate lace curtains for Gibson House.



Community Boating Executive Director Spoke after accepting an award for his organization's work in enriching the city.



Gibson House Board Members Sam Duncan and Laurie Thomas.



Gibson House guide Catherine Carver shows off the fabulous dress she designed and made in the Library at the St Boltolph Club.



St Boltolph Club bartender Maria Garcia creates a splendid Manhattan.



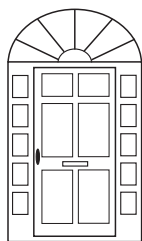
Items available in the silent auction.



Music was provided by Craig Ball with John Mulroy and Chris Rathbun.

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# GIBSON HOUSE HOLDS 27<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MUSEUM BENEFIT



Gibson House Board member Jackie Blombach introduces and presents the evening's honoree award to Community Boating.



Gibson House Board member Laurie Thomas spoke of former Board President Ruth Kupfer, who passed away earlier this January.



Gibson House Curator Meghan Gelardi Holmes updated everyone on developments at the museum-Plaster renovation-The showing of three paintings of Nahant in lieu of a painting loaned to another institution, as the family had a second home in Nahant, and had a really a strong connection to it.-The introduction of period-appropriate place curtains.-The procuring of a portrait of a family member of the house.



Gibson House Board member Susan Ashbrook also spoke of former Board President Ruth Kupfer, who passed away earlier this January. She announced the launching a campaign, the Ruth Kupfer Memorial Fund, to raise 55k in her memory.



The evening had a poignant note as the passing of Board President Ruth Kupfer earlier this year was on everyone's mind.



Emily Shick, daughter of Gibson House former Board President Ruth Kupfer who passed away earlier this year, with Padraic Joyce.



Jane Timken, Reid Sherline.



Robert Dimmick served as the evening's etiquetteer.



Gibson House Board member Jackie Blombach with Marcie Maycock and Craig Hughes.

Gibson House Jackie Blombach with Community Boating Executive Director Charlie Zechel. The Gibson House recognized Community Boating as the nation's oldest public sailing organization, bringing the joy of sailing to adults and children.



The Gibson House honored Community Boating that evening. Community Boating Board members Duane Farrar and Catherine Rockett and Executive Director Charlie Zechel with Janet Dracksdorf.



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# Spirit of Boston holds ribbon-cutting ceremony

Photos & Story by Marianne Salza

Boston Harbor City Cruises' signature dining vessel, the Spirit of Boston, has returned to Commonwealth Pier, beside the Seaport World Trade Center, after year-long interior renovations following an onboard fire. Executives, corporate clients, members of the Boston Fire Department, and friends explored the ship over cocktails and hors d'oeuvres during a Dockside Showcase on April 24.

"This is an exciting moment for us. We lost the Spirit last year due to a small fire. We took the opportunity to have a renovation," said Kelley Yelle, City Experiences/City Cruises General Manager. "We're proud of it. It's our wonderful icon of all of our ships in Boston."

Vice President and General Manager of Boston Harbor City Cruises Bob Lawlyer, who designed the interior of the Spirit, explained that visitors can expect a fully modern finish.

"There was no damage to the hull or the vessel's structure," said Lawlyer. "We did renovations to just about everything our guests can see or touch, so we are excited. It's like a brand new boat inside. It was a team effort. We wanted to make sure she was in great shape for our guests. I love the second deck bar."

Although the bar itself was not renovated, the section below the bar, where the steel buckled, was replaced. A new fire-suppression system was also installed in the engine room and gally spaces.

The Spirit of Boston's demolition process began in the Charlestown Navy Yard immediately



Thuy-Linh Phan, of Fall River.

after the fire in late March 2023. The Spirit was then relocated to a shipyard in Bridgeport, Connecticut, where the reconstruction project took place.

Nearly every soft surface of the 34-year-old vessel – such as the carpets, wall coverings, and ceilings -- was remodeled to ensure there was no water damage or lingering smoke odor.

"The ship looks better than it ever has. The interior is what passengers notice. There are maps and décor on the walls. Things have been brightened and refreshed. It looks brand new," said Deck Hand Jacob Deck, of Arlington, who is serving in his fourth season on the Spirit. "I love it here. My colleagues are amazing. It's the best working environment in Boston."

The four-level, 192-foot-long yacht can accommodate 600 passengers. The Spirit of Boston features two exterior observation decks, and three interior, climate-controlled dining areas. Guests can enjoy buffet-style dinners, and musical entertainment on a new sound system presented by an onboard DJ.



Kelley Yelle, City Experiences/City Cruises General Manager, cutting the ribbon for the introduction of the newly renovated Spirit of Boston, with Captain Thayer Harris, James Lonergan, Deputy Fire Chief, Fire Commissioner Paul Burke, and Bob Lawlyer, Vice President/General Manager, Boston Harbor City Cruises.



Boston residents, Camille McDermott and Francesc Garrett, drinking raspberry tequila lime rickeys and enjoying the buffet table of cheeses.



Taylor Farnsworth, Kaylie Heilig, and Anne Schreiner, of The Westin Boston Seaport, enjoying drinks at the bar on Deck 2.



Julia Hill, Saphira Lasseur, and Suzee Vicente, of a Seaport pharmaceutical company, were excited to see the remodeled interior of the Spirit in anticipation of an upcoming June team-building event on the ship.



The Spirit of Boston, docked at Commonwealth Pier, in South Boston.



Debbie Knowlton and Lindsay Kosel, of Boston Consulting Group, enjoying Boston Pop Bellini Chambord Champagne on Deck 3.



# The Rooftop at Revere hosts exclusive summer launch party, May 22

Special to the Sun

The Revere Hotel team cordially invites guests to rejoice in the grand reopening of the iconic rooftop for the upcoming summer season.

On Wednesday, May 22nd, from 6:00pm to 9:00pm, revelers are welcomed to one of Boston's largest and liveliest rooftop lounges for an exclusive launch extravaganza marking the beginning of the 2024 summer season. The Rooftop at Revere offers unparalleled views above the Theater District and Back Bay, making it the ultimate destina-

tion for dining, drinking, mingling, and merrymaking.

Crop Organic Vodka and Makers will co-sponsor the event, tantalizing guests with special cocktail samples expertly crafted to complement Revere's signature snacks and small bites. The evening promises live entertainment, photo opportunities, and more.

Tickets for the event are priced at \$30 per person. For complete details and ticket purchase, please visit [www.eventbrite.com/e/rooftopereveresummerlaunchparty-tickets-900040554527](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/rooftopereveresummerlaunchparty-tickets-900040554527).

**WHEN:** Wednesday, May 22nd, from 6:00pm to 9:00pm

**WHERE:** The Rooftop at The Revere Hotel, 200 Stuart Street, Boston, MA 02116

Tickets are priced at \$30 per person.

Shaped by the vibrant local

culture and the rebellious, independent spirit of Boston, Revere Hotel Boston Common stands as a downtown sanctuary for the adventurous and inquisitive. Offering authentic local experiences, the original Back Bay hotel is situated steps away from Bos-

ton's Theater District, Newbury Street, and Copley Square.

The Revere Hotel is located at 200 Stuart Street, Boston, MA 02116. For more information or reservations, please visit [www.reverehotel.com](http://www.reverehotel.com) or contact (617) 482-1800.

## NEWS IN BRIEF Continued from Page 4

### TO HOLD UPCOMING EVENTS

SoWa Artists Guild presents SoWa Sundays take place on May 12, 19, and 26 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

All events will be held at 450 Harrison Ave.

Visit [sowaartists.com](http://sowaartists.com), [facebook.com/SoWaArtistsGuild](https://www.facebook.com/SoWaArtistsGuild), or [instagram.com/sowaartistsguild/](https://www.instagram.com/sowaartistsguild/) for more information.

### ELLIS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION TO HOLD ANNUAL FUNDRAISER ON JUNE 4 AT COSMICA

The Ellis South End Neighborhood Association is celebrating its 60th anniversary with a fundraiser and cocktail celebration on Tuesday, June 4, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at Cosmica, located at 40 Berkeley St.

This event, 'Celebrating the Neighborhood,' will feature a silent auction, vintage wine raffle, and hors d'oeuvres and drinks in Cosmica's outdoor/indoor restaurant, as well as an opportunity for neighbors in the Ellis area to meet and mingle.

Funds raised by the event will support the Ellis Neighborhood Association's ongoing outreach initiatives including support of Haley House, Melvin H. King South End Academy and Ellis Early Learning.

Tickets are available online at [www.ellisneighborhood.org](http://www.ellisneighborhood.org). For more information about sponsorships and opportunities to support the auction, contact [info@ellisneighborhood.org](mailto:info@ellisneighborhood.org).

### SAVE THE DATE: GARDEN CLUB OF THE BACK BAY'S TWILIGHT GARDEN PARTY SET FOR TUESDAY, JUNE 4, AT THE NEWBURY HOTEL

The Garden Club of the Back Bay will present its annual Twilight Garden Party on Tuesday, June 4, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at The Newbury Hotel at 1 Newbury St.

The Twilight Garden Party is the Garden Club's largest source of funds that go directly towards tree care and community outreach while this year's event also celebrates the Garden Club's 60th anniversary.

For tickets and sponsorship opportunities, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/twilight-garden-party-tickets-851099289887?aff=oddtcreator>.

### FENWAY PORCHFEST RETURNS SATURDAY, JUNE 15

The fifth annual Fenway Porchfest, a collaboration between the Fenway Community Center and the Fenway Community Development Corporation, takes place on Saturday, June 15, from noon to 4:30 p.m.

This free festival, that transforms outdoor spaces throughout the neighborhood into impromptu concert stages, will feature musicians from across Fenway and beyond at locations.

Interested in volunteering (and getting free lunch and a T-shirt!)? Register at <https://www.fenwayporchfest.org/signup/help/>

### MOH Income Restricted Rental Opportunity

**1595 and 1599 COLUMBUS ROXBURY, MA 02119**

**65 Income-restricted Units**

58 Income-restricted UNITS IN THE LOTTERY					
# of Units	# of bedrooms	Rent	Maximum Income Limit (% AMI)	# built out for mobility impairments	# built out for Deaf/hard of hearing
7	1	30% of HH Income	30%	4	-
8	3	30% of HH Income	30%	1	-
11	1	\$1,670	60%	1	1
32	2	\$2,004	60%	-	1

7 Units are Homeless Set-asides					
# of Units	# of bedrooms	Rent	Maximum Income Limit (AMI)	# built out for mobility impairments	# built out for Deaf/hard of hearing
2	1	30% of inc	30%	0	0
4	2	30% of inc	30%	1	0
1	3	30% of inc	30%	1	0

7 Homeless Set-aside units will be filled through direct referral from HomeStart. For more information, please contact us at the email address or phone number below. For direct referrals, please visit <https://www.homestart.org/bostonhsa>

Minimum Incomes (set by owner + based on # of bedrooms + Area Median Income (AMI))			Maximum Incomes (set by HUD/MOH + based on household size + Area Median Income (AMI))		
# of BRs	30% AMI	60% AMI	Household Size	30% AMI	60% AMI
1	-	\$37,000	1	\$31,170	\$62,350
			2	\$35,640	\$71,300
			3	\$40,080	\$80,150
2	-	\$44,500	4	\$44,520	\$89,050
			5	\$48,090	\$96,200
3	-	\$51,250	6	\$51,660	\$103,300

Minimum Incomes Apply. Minimum incomes do not apply to households with housing assistance (Section 8, MRVP, VASH) or for the units in this development that include a project-based voucher.

Applications are available during the application period for 55 days, from April 4, 2024 - May 28, 2024

Applications are available in person on the following days, dates, and times in the following place(s)			
Day	Date	Time	Location
Monday - Friday	04/15/2024 - 5/17/2024	9 AM - 4 PM	Urban Edge, 1542 Columbus Ave, Roxbury, MA 02119
Saturday	4/27/2024 and 05/11/2024	10 AM - 2 PM	Urban Edge, 1542 Columbus Ave, Roxbury, MA 02119
Thursday	04/15/2024 - 5/16/2024	4 PM - 7 PM	Urban Edge, 1542 Columbus Ave, Roxbury, MA 02119
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday	04/15/2024 - 5/16/2024	10 AM - 6 PM	Boston Public Library, 2044 Columbus Ave, Roxbury, MA 02119

To request an online application or to have one sent by email visit <https://bit.ly/ColumbusAveAppReq> or call 857-344-0699

We will hold our first informational meetings on **April 23, 2024 at 10:00 AM, Urban Edge Board Room, 1542 Columbus Ave, Roxbury, MA 02119**. Join virtually, too, through the following link: <https://bit.ly/49MN5Z0>

We will hold a second informational meeting on **May 9, 2024 at 6:00 PM, Mary Ellen McCormick, 345 Old Colony Avenue South Boston, MA 02127**. Join virtually, too, through the following link: <https://bit.ly/3wCp6Oq>

**DEADLINE:** Applications must be submitted online or postmarked no later than **May 28, 2024**. Mailed to **1542 Columbus Ave, Roxbury, MA 02119**

- Selection by Lottery.
- Asset & Use Restrictions apply.
- Preferences Apply.

For more information, language assistance, or reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, please call 857-344-0699 or email [1599columbusave@winco.com](mailto:1599columbusave@winco.com)



## FRESH & LOCAL

# The Seasoning Triangle

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

You often see the instruction “season to taste” at the end of a recipe. This phrase means more than salt and pepper since we learned to use the seasoning triangle to enhance whatever we make. That triangle is traditionally considered to be the addition of salt, sweet, and acid to a dish to achieve a balance that brings out the flavor of the ingredients. We also like to add umami to this equation.

You already season to taste when you squeeze a wedge of lemon on a piece of fish. Some of you may reach for the salt shaker automatically at the start of a meal, ready to adjust the salinity to your preference. Cranberry sauce on your turkey sandwich is welcome to balance savory and sweet in that traditional favorite.

It takes practice to do this as your final meal preparation step. However, mastering the triangle will improve your results and refine your ability to taste. The two of us have different takes on the perfect balance. Ed prefers more salt, and Penny likes more acid. She keeps this in mind when she cooks and will season with salt to her taste and acid to Ed's. That way, we can both make the

final adjustment to our portion.

### Learning to Balance

To learn to balance flavor and see what each component adds to the mix, we suggest you make a simple oil and vinegar salad dressing. Your base mix of  $\frac{1}{3}$  vinegar and  $\frac{2}{3}$  oil already has the acid from the vinegar. Add salt or a salty ingredient like soy sauce or fish sauce bit-by-bit until it tastes good to you. Next, drizzle in a few drops of honey or agave syrup until you like the balance of the triangle flavors.

### Tips for Finding Balance

Until you become comfortable with your flavor-balancing skills, remove a portion of the food from the pot and experiment with it. If you make a minor mistake on a small scale, you can add that back into the pot and see how it tastes. The lemon added to a small dish of soup may be enough for the whole pot.

Penny has learned to always put her additions in a spoon rather than pouring from the bottle or carton. It is far too easy to slip and add more than is needed from a larger container. Moreover, seeing the addition will help you estimate how much you should add to the main supply if you like what you tasted in the sample bowl.



We are experimenting with licorice salt and briny capers to enhance the flavor of our favorite spring salad of shaved fennel and asparagus.

We keep a variety of flavor enhancers on hand in each of the triangle's classes. Often, we choose an acid based on the dish's cultural origins. We use rice vinegar for Chinese and Southeast Asian dishes. Lemon, lime, and yogurt (yes, yogurt is acidic) go into Indian and Middle Eastern cuisines. Some vinegar, including balsamic, raspberry, and seasoned rice vinegar, adds sweet-

ness and acidity simultaneously.

We even have a collection of salt that will add a second helping of taste to a dish. Smoked salt is a great way to enliven a piece of steamed fish. We are experimenting with licorice salt to double down on the anise flavor in our favorite spring salad of shaved fennel and asparagus.

Choose your salt component from salty or fermented foods

like MSG, miso, seaweeds, parmesan cheese, miso paste, anchovies, Worcestershire, or fish sauce, and you'll also ramp up the dish's savory, umami appeal.

Do you have a question or topic for Fresh & Local? Email [Penny@BostonZest.com](mailto:Penny@BostonZest.com) with your suggestion.

# Mayor Wu announces three new neighborhood liaisons

Special to the Sun

Mayor Michelle Wu has announced new staff in the Office of Neighborhood Services, including Anthony Nguyen as the Mid-Dorchester Liaison, Josh McCorkle as the Roslindale Liaison, and Maccon Bonner as

the Mission Hill, Fenway-Kenmore, Beacon Hill, and Back Bay Liaison. The Office of Neighborhood Services is integral in connecting residents to City services and resources, facilitating resident input in all aspects of local government, ensuring the appropriate City departments respond

to constituent service requests, attending neighborhood meetings, and responding to emergencies such as fires to help displaced residents.

“Our neighborhood liaisons are our residents’ direct connection to City Hall and its services,” said Mayor Michelle Wu. “Anthony’s passion to serve from growing up in Dorchester and working at SPARK ensures that our residents will be heard and supported with compassion. Maccon knows City Hall and has shown his dedication to delivering for constituents. Josh’s background in communications and education will empower residents to continue to stay connected to City resources. I am excited for these three liaisons to become familiar faces in their neighborhoods.”

**Maccon Bonner**

Maccon Bonner was born



New neighborhood liaison for Fenway, Kenmore and the Back Bay, Maccon Bonner.

in Boston and raised in Brentwood, New Hampshire. Bonner returned to Boston to attend Suffolk University in 2020. He interned for the Boston City Council District 8 office. He has a passion for connecting with constituents and bringing City Hall out of City Hall by making

government accessible for all. Bonner is a resident of Mission Hill.

“Becoming a neighborhood liaison is a new chapter in my life,” said Mission Hill, Fenway-Kenmore, Beacon Hill, and Back Bay Liaison Maccon Bonner. “I can’t wait to help continue to cultivate an environment where our neighbors, businesses, and institutions work in tandem with the great people in City Hall to address concerns and meet the needs of the community.”

**Anthony Nguyen**

Anthony Nguyen is a proud lifelong Dorchester resident with a passion to serve the Mid-Dorchester community. Prior to joining the Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Services, Nguyen was the Director of SPARK Boston. He joined

(LIAISONS Pg. 11)

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## Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1 BOSTON	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
Houser, Katelyn F	Narayan, Raghav K	3 Appleton St #303	\$560,000
Curley, Karen M	Goldman, Joseph H	236 Beacon St #2A	\$1,075,000
Zhang, Pu	Li, Jinyan	275 Beacon St #2B	\$759,000
Gd Mercantile T	290 Beacon LLC	290 Beacon St #1	\$1,250,000
Gd Mercantile T	290 Beacon LLC	290 Beacon St #1	\$1,250,000
Tweedy, Robin	Thayer, Carolyn	1 Charles St S #708	\$712,000
Goutopoulos, Bridget R	Fpg Lagrange Owner One L	55 Lagrange St #1610	\$710,000
Saini, Puneet S	Fpg Lagrange Owner One L	55 Lagrange St #6J	\$655,000
Anmar 2024 RET	Ts Residences Hld LLC	430 Stuart St #30D	\$4,900,000
Meissner, Karl J	Isaac, Thomas	478 Beacon St #2	\$849,000
Wu, Xiang	Sheila F Oneill 2023 RET	64 Charlesgate E #62	\$470,000
Nicholson, Rachel W	Alfonso Delgado Muerza T	500 Columbus Ave #1	\$2,499,000
Sarwal, Parul	Meredith Pramer Gift T	521 Columbus Ave #5	\$789,000
Millen, Jonathan D	Jim Lieb T	390 Commonwealth Ave #809	\$725,000
Epstein, Lindsey	Gregory D Sheehan Irt	1 Cumston St	\$2,725,000
42 Garden 2 LLC	Gokce, Taner H	44 Garden St #2	\$750,000
Perrotti, Madison R	Cacace 3rd, John A	55 Irving St #55	\$350,000
Maria Anderson Richmond T	Tchen, Jordan	416 Marlborough St #603	\$865,000
Najera, Isabel	Luo, Hong	31 Mount Vernon St #4	\$2,575,000
Rado, Brett N	Crow, Cassandra A	59 Phillips St #4	\$600,000
Keefe, James G	Clay H Rives RET 2017	81 Revere St	\$3,750,000
Smith, Brian C	Li, Siyun	40 Traveler St #602	\$1,160,000
Ade, Cynthia	Mary L Gillis T	12 Upton St	\$2,099,900
Le, Simone R	Ade, Cynthia N	96 W Concord St #3	\$1,430,000
Kelsey, Christi G	Muehlberger, Michael	86 Waltham St #1	\$2,850,000
Mccann, Thomas E	Pacheco, Sofia	100 Fulton St #4N	\$750,000

### LIAISONS (from pg. 10)

SPARK Boston in 2021 and held the position of captain, volunteering his time assisting with programming efforts. As the son of Vietnamese immigrants he understands the importance of community, cultural awareness, and advocacy for those who traditionally have lacked the opportunities to engage civically.

In taking up his role as the Mid-Dorchester liaison supporting Uphams Corner, Bowdoin/Geneva, Four Corners, and Codman Square areas, Nguyen is excited to deepen his service in the neighborhood he calls home. Since Dorchester is the largest neighborhood in the city, there are two liaisons who provide constituent services for the neighborhood. The areas Dorchester Liaison Ross Cochran serves includes Dorchester Bay, Savin Hill, Ashmont, and Lower Mills.

"I look forward to working closely with residents to continue improving our neighborhood and address constituent concerns," said Mid-Dorchester Liaison Anthony Nguyen. "I am excited to meet community leaders who have dedicated so much time to

their neighborhood as well as the next generation of civic leaders. It is truly an honor to have the opportunity to serve the city I was born and raised in."

#### Josh McCorkle

Josh McCorkle is an experienced education, marketing, and communications professional. A Brookline native, he has a bachelor's degree in English from Boston University and a master's degree in elementary special education from Lesley University. Before joining the Office of Neighborhood Services, McCorkle worked as a teacher, university administrator, operations professional, and editor.

"As the Roslindale liaison, I plan to make community members feel that they have a clear line of communication with City Hall so that they can feel confident that their government is working for them," said Roslindale Liaison Josh McCorkle.

"Anthony, Josh, and Maccon are compassionate leaders who are a great addition to the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services," said Office of Neighborhood Services Executive Director

Beata Coloyan. "I encourage community members to attend liaisons' weekly Coffee Hours every Friday in neighborhoods to get connected to resources, personally meet their respective liaison, and receive guidance on how to navigate City services."

The City of Boston's Parks and Recreation Department is currently hosting Mayor Wu's Neighborhood Coffee Hours. This spring event series is a unique opportunity to speak directly with the Mayor, neighborhood liaisons, and staff from City departments about open space and their neighborhoods.

The Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services (ONS) encourages, facilitates, and maximizes citizen input and participation through service requests, neighborhood meetings, mailings, and emergency responses. To report non-emergency issues to the City, residents are encouraged to connect with BOS:311 by dialing 3-1-1 or downloading the free BOS:311 app on iOS or Android platforms.

## Attention to Detail

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY PENNY CHERUBINO

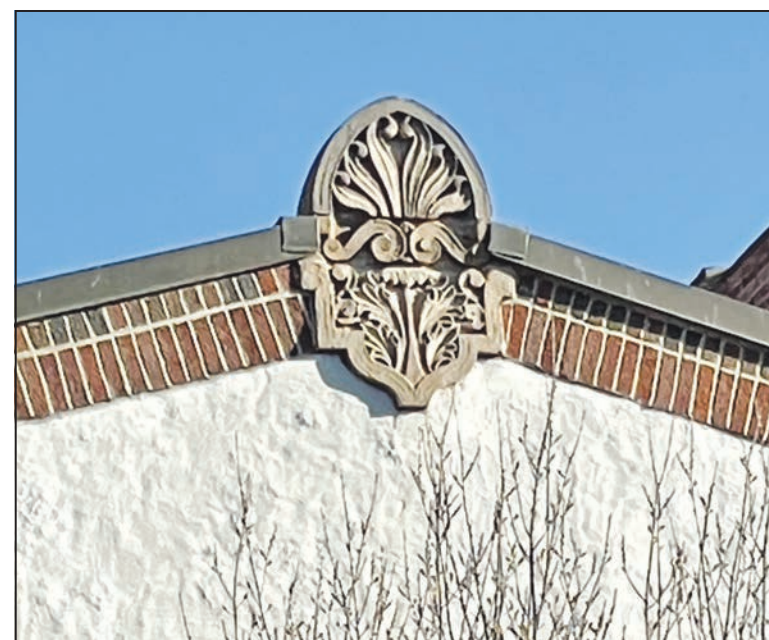
### THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The corner in the last clue is on Boston Conservatory's property at 31 Hemenway Street. In 2010, the building was renovated and expanded to offer improved facilities for theater, dance, and musical theater students. The next clue is in the South End.

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

### THIS WEEK'S CLUE



# PRICE IMPROVEMENTS!

## 10 ROWES WHARF, UNIT 901

2 BEDROOMS | 2.5 BATHROOMS | 1,933 SQUARE FEET  
*NOW LISTED AT \$3,895,000*



## 2 AVERY STREET, UNIT 29D

2 BEDROOMS | 2.5 BATHROOMS | 1,596 SQUARE FEET  
*NOW LISTED AT \$2,550,000*



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