Community calls for green space at South End lot

By Linda-Ray Wong
COURTESY SAMUEL NAVARRO

A vacant land parcel at 142 Shawmut Avenue was discussed on Jan. 30 at the Castle Square community room, with about 50 attendees. The Boston Planning & Development Agency (BPDA) owns the lot and sought public input for its future development. BPDA senior planner Marie Mercanti said, “The parcel is next to the Lucas development on 136

Continued on page 2

Wood is arresting in Bad Dates

By Jules Becker

Call “Bad Dates,” an ideal rendezvous for long-time couples and newcomers alike. Talented

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Daytime street cleaning resumes Thursday, March 1.

Check the posted street sweeping signs on your street for the schedule and parking restrictions.
Dog Lady

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Ladie and changed her life at a time she really needed him. Yet the best healer after Shotty died turned out to be another dog, adopted two years after the terrible loss.

Dog Lady waited awhile but she now understands why some people have to go out and get a new dog right away. These animals bring their magic. Oh, new dogs will never take away the grief completely but they sure help. Dexter is an entirely different animal from Shotty. Oh, he’s the same breed but he’s his own dog. And Dexter makes Dog Lady very happy to live with a creature again. She still cries for Shotty but Dexter is a reminder life goes on.

Dear Dog Lady,

I saw a man on the street who regularly leaves behind his dog’s droppings. I would see this and I probably should have called him out about it. One day, I became so enraged that I used one of my own bags to pick up his dog’s dung as I furiously followed him back to his building. After he went inside, I waited an appropriate length of time and went up the stairs to his front door. I left the poop bag right outside the front door and ran away. Since then, I haven’t seen him out with his dog. Do you think I scared him away? Or sent a serious message?

-Ted

Dear Ted,

Hmm, well, giving the guy a reminder and a shout out would have been kinder and more adult. You must feel some guilt about your methods as you wouldn’t have confronted a stranger. The guy didn’t pick up after his dog but he didn’t cause any harm to your person. He committed thoughtless acts, not heinous deeds.

However, as much as Dog Lady thinks your behavior was immature and ineffective, she also had a wicked gleam of vicarious enjoyment. Outsiders who allow their dogs to make other people’s property without consequence make the world an unsafe place for dogs and everybody else.

People, please act as if everybody’s watching. Pick up after your pet.

Write to doglady@gmail.com.

Community

Continued from page 1

Shawmut and was previously licensed as a construction lay down site for the Lotus.

The rectangular lot is about 8,543 square feet on 142 Shawmut Avenue, with the Lucas condo on the left. On the right is an L-shaped parking lot, along with a former Verizon building owned by the Druker Companies. It does not go from Shawmut Avenue to Washington Street but is used with the L-shaped lot as a pedestrian shortcut.

“The goal for this discussion is to obtain neighborhood feedback for a possible request for proposals (RFP) to redevelop the property that would seek community benefit from the parcel,” said Maryam Parvaiz, BPD Assistant director for development. The meeting began the public process to put the lot on the market, before the BPD issues an RFP based on the input.

Castle Square Tenant Organization (CSTO) would like 142 Shawmut Avenue to be a green space, said CSTO executive director Deborah Backus. “We do not want to be overwhelmed with apartment buildings.”

The Lucas condo sits on the site of the former Holy Trinity Church, which was sold by the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston in 2014. The Lucas’s 53 condos use the existing parking garage shell; the building does not cast new shadows. Attendees voiced concerns about density in the South End and how a new building at the 142 Shawmut lot could cast nearly three-story buildings into the street.

On the left of the Lucas development is Boston Chinese Evangelical Church (BCEC), which owns the former location of South Cove Masonic Nursing home at 120 Shawmut Avenue. BCEC’s Senior Pastor Steven Chin asked about ownership of the parking lot and Verizon building, along with development plans, as the lot is critical for access.

The lot’s zoning is an economic development area; the ground floor would maximize retail, but housing could be on upper floors. Mercanti said it is about 50 feet wide by 1,000 feet long, with a floor-to-area ratio of 4, for a maximum height of four stories.
Theater
Continued from page 1

local favorite Thomas Robach (2005 RNS), best play winner “Mausoleum,” and no less than three Broadway shows turned this 2001 one-woman play into an eye-catching, three-course match-up offering.

Ricchly flavored by new York’s restaurant manager, Haley’s 1999 television series “Nanny, Nanny, Nanny” has once again (the first time) turned the Huntington Theatre into a restaurant where one can enjoy the same kind of atmosphere that one would find in a fine dining establishment.

Hannaford Wood—a quintessential “New Englander” who once worked as a chef in the famous 1945 film “The Great Gatsby”—is now a restaurateur in his own right and has opened a new restaurant in nearby Market Square that promises to offer a similar kind of atmosphere.

Teen
Continued from page 1

jobs across the city.

Boston Centers for Youth & Families (BCFY) is the City of Boston’s largest youth and family service agency. BCFY offers a variety of engaging and enriching programs for people of all ages. For more information, please visit www.boston.gov/departments/boston-centers-youth-families.

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South End residents running for cancer research

Running in the Boston Marathon® to raise money for Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

SUBMITTED BY
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

On April 16, South End residents are running to conquer cancer as members of the Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge team in the 122nd Boston Marathon®. Residents include:

- Devon Celler
- Sarah Haasensperger
- Mark Pappas
- Alixen Stern
- Tana Sullivan

Along with more than 500 Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge teammates from across the United States and around the world, they will run Massachusetts’ historic marathon route from Hopkinton to Boston to raise $5.5 million for cancer research at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

This year marks the 29th annual running of the Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge (DFMC). One hundred percent of the money raised by the Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge team goes to Dana-Farber’s Claudia Adams Barr Program in Innovative Basic Cancer Research that supports promising science research in the earliest stage. The Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge has raised more than $155 million for the DFMC Program to date.

In 1990, Dana-Farber was among the first charity organizations to be recognized by the Boston Athletic Association (BAA), which organizes the Boston Marathon. The Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge transfers its members extensive fundraising support, training, and advice from 1976 Boston Marathon men’s champion Jack Fultz, and team training runs, planned in opportunities for non-runners. Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge runners who are not qualified for the Boston Marathon receive an invitational entry into the race.

David-Farber Marathon Challenge runners include cancer survivors and patients, and family and friends of those who have been affected by cancer. Each team member must fulfill a basic fundraising commitment:

- $1,500 (pledge, donations, or matched donations from employers)
- $500 (pledge, donations, or matched donations from employers)

In addition, runners who receive their entry from Dana-Farber, have a fundraising commitment of $5,000, while all other runners, who have joined the DFMC after obtaining their own race entry, have a fundraising commitment of $3,000.

A conversation with the Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge team about their fundraising efforts:

- "It is a great honor to be able to represent Dana-Farber and contribute to the fight against cancer. Running in the Boston Marathon is a dream come true, and we are grateful for the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of those affected by cancer."
- "I am excited to be part of the DFMC team and to raise money for cancer research. It is a great opportunity to combine my love for running with my passion for making a difference in the world of medicine."

To contribute to the Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge, visit www.DFMC.org or contact the Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge office at (617) 632-1970 or dfmc@dfci.harvard.edu. Follow DFMC on Facebook: www.facebook.com/danafarber.marathonchallenge. On Twitter: #RunDFMC.
BPD Officers Bravely Confront and Apprehend Hostage-Taking Suspect During Robbery of a CVS Pharmacy in Boston

At about 10:00 A.M. on Sunday, February 11, 2018, officers from District C-4 (South End) responded to a call for a breaking & entering in progress at 1245 Boylston Street (CVS Pharmacy) in Boston. While en route to the call, officers received information that the suspect was still on scene and threatening to harm an employee being held against her will with a hypodermic needle.

On arrival, officers were directed towards the store’s pharmacy where they observed and encountered a black male holding a store employee against her will. Feeling for the safety and well-being of the store employee, officers unholstered their firearms and immediately ordered the suspect to release the victim and drop any weapons in his possession. When the suspect emerged away from the victim, officers quickly moved in and subdued the suspect.

A search of the suspect yielded officers to take possession of a pair of gold-colored brass knuckles. According to the victim, the suspect walked behind the pharmacy counter told her he was a CVS employee and demanded to know where the pain killers were kept. When the victim employee asked to see her work credentials, the suspect grabbed the victim by the back of her head and slammed her head into the pharmacy counter. At one point, according to the victim, the suspect was holding a bag of cash and demanded her. Officers spoke to a second store employee who stated that the suspect approached her, pulled her in the store area with two hands and threatened to kill her.

Officers arrested Justin Morgan, 20, of Boston and charged him with Assault & Battery with a Dangerous Weapon (Brass Knuckles), Armed Robbery, Kidnapping and Assault & Battery on a Police Officer. The suspect is scheduled to be arraigned in Roxbury District Court on Monday, February 12, 2018.

During the booking process, the suspect became verbally belligerent and physically abusive towards the officers. Refusing to cooperate, the suspect instead repeatedly tried to punch and kick officers. One officer was struck in the face.

Officers Make Sure “One Stop” is the Last Stop for Armed Robbery Suspect

At about 1:04 P.M. on Tuesday, February 13, 2018, officers from District C-4 (South End) responded to a radio call for an armed robbery at One Stop Convenience in the area of 364 Tremont Street. Upon arrival, officers were advised that an unknown male with a pleasant staff over his face entered the store, showed a knife, and demanded money from the register. The suspect then grabbed an undisclosed amount of money from the register and fled on foot on West Newton Street, with the store clerk in pursuit.

Additional responding officers provided a suspect description and canvassed the area for a possible perpetrator. The officers’ attention was soon drawn to a person fitting the description calling out from behind a fence. Officers apprehended the male, and he was identified as the suspect who robbed the store.

Officers also recovered a plated staff near to the suspect where he was handcuffed, $225 in US currency on the suspect’s person, and a knife along the suspect’s flight path. Officers wanted the 17-year-old juvenile from Roxbury and charged him with Delinquent to wit, Armed Robbery and Delinquent to wit, Assault by Means of a Dangerous Weapon (Knife). Detectives are investigating the possibility that the suspect is responsible for several similar robberies in Cambridge.
News from....

Washington Gateway Main Street

WGMS Welcomes a New Director, Lisa Quiroz. Lisa will be serving as the acting director tasked at creating a strategic plan for the organization. Driven, passionate and a true "go-getter" is how to best describe her, the quality of her work speaks for itself.

With over 15 years of experience in art, curation, design, communications, experiential retail, fundraising and more, Lisa offers a new way of thinking around building effective and locally responsible programming with an energetic community that is contagious.

WGMS Acting Director: Lisa Quiroz with Artists Prentak, Miah L. and Diagan Hill of Boston City Lights

THE SOUTH END WRITES / THE LIBRARY INVITES

Tuesday, February 27, 6:30 PM

You're invited to a talk by Lauren Prescott, executive director of the South End Historical Society, about her new book, Boston’s South End, a neighborhood's history in postcards, based on the SEHS's collection.

Seating is limited. Books are available for borrowing, sale and signing. We serve refreshments.

Friends of South End Library

665 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02118

The South End branch of the Boston Public Library is fully handicapped accessible. For more information, please visit www.friendsofsouthendlibrary.org

Caregiver,
South End, Boston, MA

10:00AM to 4:00PM, three (3) days during the week.

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 MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION - HIGHWAY DIVISION
 NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
 Project File No. 605789

A Design Public Hearing will be held by MassDOT to discuss the proposed Reconstruction of Melnea Cass Boulevard project in Boston, MA.

WHERE: Boston Water and Sewer Commission
980 Harrison Avenue
Boston, MA 02119

WHEN: Thursday, March 1st @ 7:00PM

PURPOSE: The purpose of this hearing is to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed Reconstruction of Melnea Cass Boulevard project. All views and comments made at the hearing will be reviewed and considered to the maximum extent possible.

PROPOSAL: The mile long Complete Streets focused Reconstruction of Melnea Cass Boulevard project looks to enhance public safety and provide multi-modal travel options for all users while serving the regional traffic demand on the corridor. The project will reconstruct all pedestrian and bicycle facilities, reconstruct roadway pavements, update traffic signal equipment, enhance storm-water management, invest in landscape architecture, and include protected intersections. The proposed typical roadway cross-section will include two 10.5 foot travel lanes in each direction with 10.5 foot turning lanes. Sidewalks ranging from 7 to 8 feet in width will be provided along both sides of the Boulevard. Bicycle accommodations consisting of 6 to 8 feet wide separated bike lanes are provided in accordance with applicable design guides. A secure right-of-way is necessary for this project. Acquisitions in fee and permanent or temporary easements may be required. The City of Boston is responsible for acquiring all needed rights in private or public lands. MassDOT’s policy concerning land acquisitions will be discussed at this hearing.

Written views received by MassDOT subsequent to the date of this notice and up to five (5) days prior to the date of the hearing shall be displayed for public inspection and copying at the time and date listed above. Plans will be on display one-half hour before the hearing begins, with an engineer in attendance to answer questions regarding this project. A project handout will be made available on the MassDOT website listed below.

Written statements and other exhibits in place of, or in addition to, oral statements made at the Public Hearing regarding the proposed undertaking are to be submitted to Patricia A. Leavenworth, P.E., Chief Engineer, MassDOT, 10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116. Attention: Highway Design, Project File No. 605789. Each submission will also be accepted at the hearing. Mailed statements and exhibits intended for inclusion in the public hearing transcript must be postmarked within ten (10) business days of this Public Hearing. Project inquiries may be emailed to dot.feedback.highway@state.ma.us. This location is accessible to people with disabilities. MassDOT provides reasonable accommodations and/or language assistance free of charge upon request (including but not limited to interpreters in American Sign Language and languages other than English, open or closed captioning for videos, assistive listening devices and alternate material formats, such as audio tapes, Braille and large print), as available. For accommodation or language assistance, please contact MassDOT’s Chief Diversity and Civil Rights Officer by phone (857-368-8580), fax (857-368-0602), TDD/TTY (857-368-0603) or by email (MassDOT.CivilRights@dot.state.ma.us). Requests should be made as soon as possible prior to the meeting, and for more difficult to arrange services including sign-language, CART or language translation or interpretation, requests should be made at least ten (10) business days before the meeting.

In case of inclement weather, hearing cancellation announcements will be posted on the internet at http://www.massdot.state.ma.us/Highway/

JONATHAN L. GULLIVER
HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATOR

PATRICIA A. LEEVENWORTH, P.E.
CHIEF ENGINEER