July 28, 2022 [Vol. 41, No. 48]

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# **LOCAL NEWS**

for and about Boston's best neighborhood

# A powerful combination

Romeo & Juliet, Boston Lyric Opera and Commonwealth Shakespeare Company, Boston Common, August 11 & 13. Free. blo.org

> By Jules Becker Contributing Writer

Twenty years ago Boston Lyric Opera entranced Hub opera lovers with a captivating "Carmen" at the Boston Common. Now the BLO is returning to the Parkman Bandstand for a joint production of the Charles Gound opera "Romeo & Juliet."





David Angus. Photo provided by

# Melody Valdes Named Chief Program Officer at USES

SUBMITTED BY USES

United South End Settlements (USES) is thrilled to announce the promotion of Melody Valdes to Chief Program Officer. In her new role, Valdes will work in close collaboration with CEO, Jerrell Cox, articulating and implementing the strategic vision and leadership of USES. She will oversee a portfolio of two-generational programs and services, providing guidance, supervision, and professional development to program directors working to evaluate the impact and effectiveness of USES' services.

Having emigrated from Cuba to the United States with her family at age 12, Valdes brings a unique perspective to her work and a deep understanding of the value of community in achieving success. Arriving in Boston as a post-grad to attend law school, she became involved with USES as a volunteer, and never left, becoming a full-time staff member shortly thereafter. Valdes began as an early childhood education teacher and then held roles as a workforce readiness coach and coaching manager. In 2020, she became director of family mobility



Melody Valdes. Photo provided by Emma Braun.

and was named chief of staff in November 2021

"Melody is a devoted and beloved member of the USES leadershipteam, and I can't think of anyone

Continued on page 4

# Dr. Stephanie Sullivan Appointed CEO of BHCHP

SUBMITTED BY BHCHP

Stephanie Sullivan, PhD, LMHC, a leader and advocate in healthcare, has been named the next Chief Executive Officer of Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program (BHCHP), succeeding





# **SEBA Annual Sidewalk Sale**

SUBMITTED BY SEBA

Friday-Sunday, August 12l14, sponsored by South End Business Alliance (SEBA)

Shop, Dine and Explore the South End of Boston for the day or weekend.

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Visit our design & art district

called SOWA. Visit artist studios & art galleries. Visitour home furnishing area

where many businesses specialize in home furnishing, lighting & art.

Stay at one of our local hotels and B&B.

More information at www. sebaboston.com/august-annualsidewalk-sale/

# Frog Pond Spray Pool now open!



Photo by Ion Seamans.

SUBMITTED BY MAYOR'S OFFICE

Mayor Michelle Wu, Boston's Chief of Environment, Energy, and Open Space Rev. Mariama White-Hammond, the Boston Parks and Recreation Department, and The Skating Club of Boston welcomed children and guests to kick off the 2022 summer season as the Boston Common Frog Pond spray pool reopened on Tuesday, June 28. The day included a fun and exciting celebration and the official opening of the spray pool sponsored by H.P. Hood LLC.

The spray pool is open daily from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. until Labor

Day. The facility is managed by The Skating Club of Boston and staffed by youth workers from the Boston Youth Fund. For further information, please call the Frog Pond at (617) 635-2120 or go to bostonfrogpond.com.

More photos on page 6

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### **BHCHP**

Continued from page 1

Barry Bock, RN, who has led the program for the past nine years.

"The Board is excited about Dr. Sullivan joining us, and continuing her long history of servant leadership," said Board of Directors Chair Brett Painchaud. "She has extensive experience ensuring that underserved patients are cared for in a respectful, dignified manner and that background will be invaluable to BHCHP."

Dr. Sullivan has spenther career securing equitable access to healthcare for marginalized patients, including people who are incarcerated and victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. She joins BHCHP from VitalCore Health Strategies, a leading provider of healthcare for correctional institutions. She is also a former assistant deputy commissioner of clinical services for the Massachusetts Department of Corrections, managing compliance and oversight for an S850 million contract providing a full range of treatment services.

Dr. Sullivan notes many parallels between correctional and community healthcare. "I am

very experienced with indigent populations not getting adequate treatment for substance use disorder, medical, mental health, and other related needs," she said. "The CEO position appealed to me because it represents the culmination of my life's work."

Among Dr. Sullivan's career highlights are initiating a medication-assisted treatment program within a prison system that reduced recidivism due to post-release relapse by 40% in its first year and creating and implementing the Federal Bureau of Prisons' first transplant program.

Since 1985, Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program has been delivering exceptional medical and behavioral health services to homeless individuals and families in Greater Boston. Each year, BHCHP provides care to over 11,000 patients wherever they are: in the streets and back alleys, at over 40 clinics in adult, family, and domestic violence shelters; at our clinics at Massachusetts General Hospital and Boston Medical Center; and in our 124-bed medical respite facilities, the Barbara McInnis House and the Stacy Kirkpatrick House. For more information, visit bhehp.org or follow us on Twitter and Facebook.

### **Theater**

Continued from page

Recently David Angus — the company's music director since 2010 — discussed the 1867 opera and the BLO-CSC collaboration.

"We do the theatrical side and the musical side," Angus explained. Noting that "Opera has so many facets," he offered, "When everything is working together, it's such a powerful combination." For the Boston Common English language edition, collaborators Angus and CSC artistic director Steve Maler are employing the Edward Tracey translation of the original Jules Barbier and Michel Carre French libretto. "It's a fairly modern translation," Angus submitted. "It's all about communication."

That communication unsurprisingly focuses on the title lovers. "Romeo & Juliet" may be rarely staged—even Angus admits "I've never done the whole opera," but Gounod's passionate love duets are rightly prized. "The love duets and the fights (as in Shakespeare's play) are fantastic," he declared. High points in the opera include Mercutio's Queen Mabballad, Juliet's well-known waltz, Romeo's declaration of love and their moving closing duet.

Tokeepthe love of Romeo and Juliet at centerstage, Angus stressed, "We've cut down all the ceremonial material (where the original opera included five acts). We want people to concen-

included rive acts), we want p

Ricardo Garcia. Photo provided by Jennifer Astin.

ople to concentrate on the lovers. "To that end, the production is just over two hours in lengthincluding an interval. "It's all about those fantastic love duets," he alerted. Even so, this collaboration is add-

ing "spoken text, narration and readings. We want to reinstate some of the Shakespearean sonnets." Moreover, some supporting roles take on additional importance in the Gounod opera. Tvbalt, identified here as Lord



Capulet's nephew, wants Juliet to marry Paris. Shakespeare's Nurse, here called Gertrude, "has become a bigger part."

At the same time, the BLO orchestra will be in black at the back of the stage in order not to distract from the singing and acting of the costumed cast. "We're doing it (the opera) in a fairly abstract way. It's a deliberate compromise. "The BLO chorus will be positioned above the orchestra on the three-level stage. Internationally renowned John Conklin is serving as the production's dramaturg.

Heading the BLO-CSC cast are Ricardo Garcia—in his BLO debut—as Romeo and Boston Conservatory at Berkleegraduate Vanessa Becerraas Juliet. Nicholas LaGesse, an emerging artist at the BLO, is playing Mercutio and Omar Najmi—afrequent BLO cast member—Tybalt. Arielle Rogers-Wilkey, who will perform in upcoming BLO productions of "La Boheme" and "Omar" is Gertrude and Philip Lima Friar Laurence. Joshua Conyers is portraying Lord Capulet and Fred C. VanNess Jr. Paris.

Angus looked to such a joint effort as an ideal approach for the BLO. "We want to be much more of a collaborator and a neighbor," he signaled. This fall, BLO will collaborate with Detroit Opera on a time-reversed "La Boheme" to be staged at the Emerson Colonial Theatre (September 23-October 2).





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# LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### Alexandra Hotel Development Welcomed

Tuesday July 12th was an exciting day for the neighborhoods of the South End / Lower Roxbury in Boston. The proposed redevelopment of the Alexandra Hotel by Jas Bhogal and Thomas Calus on the corner of Mass Ave & Washington St was approved by Zoning Board Appeals in Boston.

In 1895, the original Alexandra Hotel was named after Alexandra of Denmark and was an apartment building which had a steam powered elevator. It has been vacant since the late 1970's and had a disastrous fire in the 1990's.

As a long time resident of the South End since 1986, I look forward to seeing this historic building being restored and developed soon. This important site will have 70 new condos with 10 onsite affordable units with active ground floor retail. It will be such a positive addition to the neighborhood and have active uses. It is the last linchpin for that important corner.

This building is very important to me. In 1995, I had my photo taken by the Boston Globe in front of the vacant Alexandra Hotel. The front page of the Business Section announced the support of the late Mayor Thomas M. Menino, the Boston Redevelopment Authority (BRA) with City agencies on improving and redeveloping this historic boulevard through Public / Private Partnerships with the City and the State. The study area was from the MA Turmpike to Melnea Cass Blvd from the South End to Lower Roxbury.

At that time, there were 7 acres of vacant parcels, many boarded up buildings and lack of mixed-use housing & ground floor uses. I was appointed by the late Mayor Thomas Menino to chair the Washington Street Task Force as a volunteer with 28 members. This task force was made of residents, public housing tenants, business owners, and non profits along with elected officials. It was the first time for the South End/ Lower Roxbury area worked together on a joint vision for the future development of this neighborhood. In 1997, recommendations by the Task Force were presented to the City and new zoning was adopted which allowed future development to go forward with neighborhood and City support.

Today, over 2000 housing units have been rehabbed & built. Over 60 % of the units are affordable with 125 new ground floor businesses. These uses are retail, restaurants, fast

casual food establishments, service businesses, and nonprofits. The street was redeveloped by Private/ Public partnerships with the City & the State with developers, nonprofits and property owners. It truly has been a real success.

Many thanks to Kim Crucioli from The Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services, the Boston Planning & Development Agency staff, the South End Landmarks Commission, City Councilors Michael Flaherty, Frank Baker, and Tania Fernades-Anderson, State Representative Jon Santiago, and shout out to South Enders Bob Minnocci, Steve Fox, Worcester Square Area Neighborhood Association (WSANA) and many others for supporting this project.

I can't wait to celebrate and look forward to the ribbon cutting and groundbreaking for the Alexandra Hotel and see another building be redeveloped. Now let's get this built soon!

Sincerely yours, Randi Grohe Lathrop Resident of the South End, former Deputy Director of Community Planning at the BRA and presently President & CEO of RG Lathrop Consulting in Boston. Volunteer board member of South End Business Alliance (SEBA)

# °41/48

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### Letters policy

Tobe considered for publication, lettersmust be no longer than 500 words, refininfrom extreme personal attacks; be signed and include an address and daytime telephone number. Writers should refrain from making incorrect statements since they may be barred from future issues. Deadline is noon Tuesday for Thursday's paper. To send us letters: Mail to PO BOX E.14, Boston, MA 02127; E-mail:letters@southendnews.com

# NEWS FROM... FRIENDS OF THE SOUTH END LIBRARY

# Flood damage / library shutdown news:

The basement flooding in April damaged mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems, requiring replacements. The Library is engaged in this redesign and the purchase of new equipment. Delays due to supply chain challenges are expected; the estimated time frame is another 6-8 months during which the Library will remain closed.

Please don't leave book donations at the door; borrowed books can be returned to the Central Library (or any other branch).

# Free Concerts in the Park this summer:

In spite of the extended closure of the South End Branch, the shows will go on!

### Tuesdays at 6:30pm in the park:

August 2: Zeke Martin and The Oracle (jazz/funk fusion), featuring Pat Loomis

August 9: The Dopelotus (R&B, neosoul), featuring Pat Loomis

August 16: Sarah Seminski and Friends (jazz and blues), featuring Pat Loomis

August 23 & 30: International Strings (classical, jazz, popular, and world music).

### **USES**

Continued from page 1

more deserving to hold this position," said Chief Executive Officer Jerrell Cox. "As a vital part of the USES community for many years, Melody brings expertise, passion, and continued commitment to the families of our organization to this new role."

In her role as chief of staff, Valdes was responsible for providing administrative and operational leadership to the executive team while also overseeing USES' family mobility programming, a core part of the organization's overall mission. She has worked closely with all facets of the organization including its board, senior team, and executive team, supporting USES's overall mission and vision.

"I moved to Boston many years ago to attend law school, but after discovering USES

as a volunteer, I knew that's where my passion truly lay," said Valdes. "It's been an honor to work for this incredible organization for the past 14 years, and it is an honor to step into this new role."

Valdes holds her Bachelor of Science in Psychology from the University of Pennsylvania and currently lives in the Mission Hill neighborhood of Boston.

United South End Settlements (USES) offers programs that holistically support families in achieving economic mobility. The nonprofit's Family Mobility Program helps parents and caregivers develop their own capacity to set and reach their goals, increase their income and assets, and connect with new networks of people through one-on-one coaching. For children and youth, USES provides quality education and enrichment opportunities that foster

personal development and social-emotional skills such as perseverance, communication, teamwork, and problem-solving.

In addition to Early Childhood Education, USES offers club48, an afterschool and out-of-school time program with state-of-theart STEAM-driven curriculum for youth ages 5-12. Each summer, USES' overnight camp located in Center Sandwich, NH, Camp Hale, serves boys and girls ages 6-17 with the goal of improving their sense of well-being. leadership, social skills, and awareness of personal potential. USES believes that as families increase their income and assets, become more resilient and connect to a diverse network, they and their children are more likely to develop the necessary skills to disrupt the cycle of poverty. For more information about USES, please visit

# Service Guide Ads Get Results.

For more information please email: Jeff at sales@southendnews.com

# NEWS FROM... ST. STEPHEN'S YOUTH PROGRAMS



The 23rd summer of B-SAFE is underway and our youth are making memories at our four sites across the city. Leaning into our theme You're Exactly What This Family Needs, everyone has been sharing their skills, whether at staff trainings, in the office, or at one of our program sites. The SSYP family is strong because of the diversity of skills and experiences we all bring to it.

Everyone has a unique and important role in our family. Our parent chefs are cooking up a storm in our kitchens in the South End, Lower Roxbury, Mattapan, and Dorchester. Our teens are stepping up and displaying their leadership skills every day facilitating activities and being role models for the youth at their sites. YOU are making a difference by supporting these endeavors! Help us end our programyear STRONG by supporting B-SAFE through your donation and keep reading to hear some of the stories that are happening right now!

It's hard to believe that we are already in week two of B-SAFE! We are thrilled to be back in Mattapan and Dorchester this summer, hosted by Church of the Holy Spirit and St. Mary's Episcopal Church, in addition to our year-round sites in the South End and Lower Roxbury. Our team has been hard at work planning and leading activities that blendacademics and social-emotional support

(SES) and exciting field trips, many of which are in collaboration with our wonderful community partners! Responding to feedback from families, we have expanded our program to include students entering Kindergarten in the fall, a shift from previous years where enrollment began with students entering first grade.

# Some of our recent field trips have included:

- Rollerworld
- Boston Bowl
- The Boston Children's Museum
- Holly Hill Farm
- · Local parks and sprinklers

In a recent SES rotation at one of our LEARN sites, one of our SES team members, David, interviewed the youth about their experiences for an "internal podcast" to build community. They each talked about their favorite things about B-SAFE and...spoiler alert: they all love the field trips! Edward, one of our elementary-school youth who is with us all year long said one of his favorite things at B-SAFE this summer is the food, especially the chicken alfredo, but he doesn't put the broccoli in his. That kind of honesty is one of OUR favorite things about working with young people!

More information at www.ssypboston.org

# blendacademics and social-emotional support More information

**Letters Policy** 

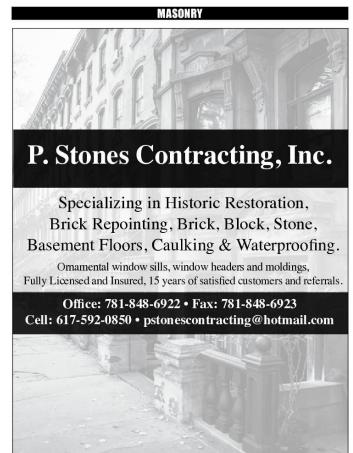
The South End News welcomes letters to the editor.

All letters must be signed and accompanied by a mailing address and phone number.

Because of space limitations, letter should not be more than 200 words.

e-mail: letters@southendnews.com

# **SERVICE GUIDE**



### WEDDINGS



Visit us online for breaking news in your neighborhood at MySouthEnd.com

### Continued from page 1



Four-year-old Julian Rivera of Roxbury lends his artistic talents to a communal painting provided by the Boston Mural Crew at the June 28 opening of the Boston Common Frog Pond spray pool. Photo by Jon Seamans.



Boston's Chief of Environment, Energy, and Open Space Rev. Mariama White-Hammond joins the happy crowd of youngsters helping to launch the summer season at the Boston Common Frog Pond during the June 28 opening celebration hosted by Mayor Michelle Wu, the Boston Parks and Recreation Department, and The Skating Club of Boston and sponsored by H.P.Hood LLC. Photo by Jon Seamans.

### LEGAL NOTICES

### CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION TO EXPAND THE **POWERS OF A GUARDIAN**

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court

Docket No. SU98P0078

In the interests of: Celeste Delvillar Of: Cambridge, MA

RESPONDENT Incapacitated Person/Protected Person

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons a petition has been filed by Deborah Bies Gorham, Esq. Department of Mental Health of Westborough, MA in the above captioned matter requesting that the court: Expand the powers of a Guardian of the Respondent.

Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114

The petition asks the court to make a determination that the powers of the Guardian and/or Conservator should be expanded, modified, or limited since the time of the appointment. The original petition is on file with the court.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 68/11/2022. This days in NOT a hearing date, but a deading date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the pethion. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.

Date: July 07, 2022

Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

### CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF Commonwealth of Massachusetts CITATION ON PETITION The Trial Court TO CHANGE NAME **Probate and Family Court POWERS OF A GUARDIAN**

### In the matter of: Ashlee Byanca Rodriguez of Boston MA

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Ashlee Byanca Rodriguez of Boston MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: **Ashlee Byanca Frades** 

Docket No. SU22C0144CA

**Suffolk Probate** and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street PO Box 9667 Boston, MA 02114

(617) 788-8300

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Suffolk Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 07/07/2022. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: June 14, 2022 Felix D Arroyo Register of Probate

# TO CHANGE NAME

CITATION ON PETITION | Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court **Probate and Family Court** 

### In the matter of: Joanna Xiaohan Li of Boston MA

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Joanna Xiaohan Li of Boston MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: Jo Leigh

SU20C0321CA **Suffolk Probate** and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street PO Box 9667 Boston, MA 02114

(617) 788-8300

Docket No.

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Suffolk Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 08/11/2022. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: July 14, 2022 Felix D Arroyo Register of Probate

# PETITION TO EXPAND THE

nmonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court

Docket No. SU13P2429GD RESPONDENT

In the interests of: Charles Turner Of: Boston, MA Incapacitated Person/Protected Person

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by the **Department of Mental** Health of Boston, MA in the above captioned matter requesting that the court: Expand the powers of a Guardian of the Respondent.

Suffolk Probate and Family Court ew Chardon Street 24 N PO Box 9667 Boston, MA 02114

The petition asks the court to make a determination that the powers of the Guardian and/or Conservator should be expanded, modified, or limited since the time o the appointment. The original petition is on file with the court.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 08/18/2022. This day's NOT a hearing date, but a deading date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: July 12, 2022 Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probat

### CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court

Docket No. SU22P1113EA

Estate of: Josephine Lloyd Adamson Also Known as Lady Josephine Lloyd Adamson Date of Death: 04/03/2022

rffolk Probate and Family Cour 24 New Chardon Street PO Box 9667. Boston, MA 02114 (617) 788-8300

To all interested persons: A petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by: Logan M. Chandler of Brookline, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Logan M. Chandler of Brookline, MA and Michael Bird of Milland EN be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration

fou have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object o this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Cour sefore: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 08/25/2022.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affici of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you. or outperforms white it unity (SVI Jugos) in the return of year, action into year cases intended to the outperform.

INSUREMENTED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHIEST'S INVIPORM PROBATE CODE (MURPO). A Personal Representative appointed under the MURPO in an unsupervised administration is not required file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons intenseted in the estate are etitled to not regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in a matter relating to the estate, including the elicitation of assex and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon, Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court, Date: July 14, 2022

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### Continued from page 6



Eight-year-old Brooklyn Nieves-Farrell of the South End - pictured with Boston Music Project director Sebastien Ridore - meets fellow classically-trained musician Mayor Michelle Wu at the opening of the Boston Common Frog Pond spray pool on June 28. The celebration was hosted by Mayor Wu, Boston's Chief of Environment, Energy, and Open Space Rev. Mariama White-Hammond, the Boston Parks and Recreation Department, and The Skating Club of Boston and sponsored by H.P. Hood LLC. The spray pool is open daily from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.until Labor Day and managed by The Skating Club of Boston. For further information, go to bostonfrogpond. com. Photo by Jon Seamans.



# **SERVICE GUIDE**

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