

South End guide to holiday fun

BY MICHELE D. MANISCALCO

The holiday season is upon us and as usual, the South End's myriad shops, businesses and community organizations are ready to help us get

the spirit and prepare for our Christmas and holiday celebrations with family and friends. Here is a guide to some upcoming neighborhood festivities, all of which are free and open to the public except as noted.

SoWa Boston's Winter Festival, December 2 through 4 at the Power Station, 540 Harrison Avenue, will satisfy your shopping needs and

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While it isn't specifically holiday-themed, ART 100 BOSTON, a two-week exhibit and sale at the Piano Craft Guild Gallery, is an opportunity to select reasonably priced holiday gifts for the art lovers on

your list. ART 100 BOSTON, which offers paintings, pottery, sculpture and other media priced at \$100 or less by over 30 artists including Paul Goodnight and David Mynott II, opens on Friday, December 2 from

6:00-9:00 PM with a reception featuring refreshments and live music at the gallery, 793 Tremont Street, and runs through December 17.

Emilio's Pizza Closing

BY SUE O'CONNELL

After serving hot slices to the South End for over 40 years, Emilios

Ventouris, owner of Emilio's Pizza, has been forced to shutter the eatery. According to reports, Emilios has suffered a "severe back injury" and is closing the business while getting

treatment. It is unknown if this is a temporary or permanent closure.

Emilio's Pizza is 536 Tremont Street. It opened in 1979.

BINJ Listens to Haley House

50 Years of Yeast and Love

BY SUE O'CONNELL

The Boston Institute for Non-profit Journalism (BINJ) has collected first-person accounts from people who have been involved in Haley House, including co-founder Kathe McKenna.

BINJ's Chris Faraone continues the story:

If hungry people had to count on seasonal compassion, the poor would likely starve but for the holidays. The government only assists so much; in Boston, for example, it's been two years since the closing of



Haley House Bakery Cafe | Photo by Jaypix Belmer

critical services on Long Island, and the impact of that loss still weighs heavily on many who relied on those facilities for food, shelter, and jobs.

Thankfully there is another safety net, however strained, in which people who have been abandoned and rejected can find

hope. Plus a warm bed. And perhaps even employment. We hear a lot about our first responders and about the heroes who dart into burning buildings and such. But much less celebrated are community members

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Don't Be "Porch Jacked"

BY BPD

During the holiday season, the Boston Police Department advises residents to be aware of delivery packages being stolen from homes. With the holidays quickly approaching, we want to take this time to remind our residents to protect themselves from being targeted.

Tips to protect yourself from a home delivery theft:

Send the package to the residence of a trusted friend or relative who you know will be home. Be sure that the friend is ready and waiting to retrieve the package when the doorbell rings.

Ask the package delivery company to hold the package if you will not be home (many have local

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Rock me, Amadeus

Amadeus, Moonbox Productions, Plaza Theatre, Boston Center for the Arts, through December 17, 617-933-8600 or bostontheatrescene.com

JULES BECKER

In what many are calling a post-fact age, dramatic license remains an accepted stage device. After all, art and life are not the same though dictators and unscrupulous politicians try to blur or remove the differences between them. Calling these differences to mind is the riveting Moonbox Productions revival of "Amadeus" (1979) at the Boston Center for the Arts. The late British playwright Peter Shaffer deservedly won a Tony Award (1981) for this still stunning look at court favorite Antonio Salieri, protean genius Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and a late 18th century Europe that often embraced mediocrity over brilliance. The play may take some liberties with the facts about both composers, but gifted Moonbox director Allison Olivia Choat passionately plays all the right notes in a triumphant effort. At the same



Matthew Zahnzinger as Salieri, Cody Sloan as Mozart in "Amadeus," by Moonbox Productions. Photo by Earl Christie

time, IRNE Award-winning actor Matthew Zahnzinger (last season in Titanic Theatre's "The Polish Joke") demonstrates his amazing range in a powerfully disturbing portrayal of Salieri.

Shaffer's play, inspired by an 1831 Pushkin short play simply entitled "Mozart and Salieri," similarly sees the two composers as rivals though they seem to have respected each other. In fact, Salieri actually play Mozart works during the latter's life and even taught his young son Franz Xavier (as well as the likes of Liszt and Beethoven). Even so, there were sources of friction. Mozart did sense that Salieri, the director of the Italian Opera, was working with

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THE TAKE
WITH SUE O'CONNELL

SHE HAS A LOT TO SAY...
SO DO HER GUESTS

WEEKDAYS AT 6PM
necn



Public Meeting

SOUTH END EDA NORTH ZONING AMENDMENT

MONDAY, DECEMBER 5
6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

1145 WASHINGTON ST
Project Place, 2nd floor
Boston, MA 02118

PROJECT PROPONENT:
Boston Planning & Development Agency

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:
Public meeting to discuss a proposed zoning text amendment to the Planned Development Area (PDA) requirements within the Economic Development Area (EDA) North sub-district of the South End neighborhood zoning district.

MAIL TO: **RAUL DUVERGE**
Boston Planning & Development Agency
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201
PHONE: 617.918.4492
EMAIL: Raul.Duverge@Boston.gov

CLOSE OF COMMENT PERIOD:
12/12/16

BostonPlans.org | @BostonPlans
Teresa Palhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

Holiday fun

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holiday-cheer desires with over 100 vendors selling locally produced foods, textiles and all manner of gifts. For added convenience, there will be a gift-wrapping station with proceeds going to Hearth, a non-profit located at East Concord and Washington Streets that helps low-income and homeless seniors. For those with a designated driver who want to get their drink on, Wine Riot will host "Winter Wine Land" with free samples under a tent on Thayer Street, and Area Four will dispense winter cocktails. Hours for the festival are 5:00-9:00 PM on Friday, December 2 and 11:00 AM-5:00 PM on Saturday and Sunday, December 3 and 4.

Boston Center for the Arts (BCA) Plaza at 539 Tremont Street welcomes the Mayor's Enchanted Tree Lighting on Saturday, December 3 from 3:00 PM-5:00 PM. Betsy Hall of the Ellis South End Neighborhood Association reports that her group will again be a co-sponsor of the festivities, including music, warm and cold snacks and drinks and children's crafts. The Enchanted Trolley will arrive at the BCA Plaza at 4:15 PM with Mayor Walsh and Santa and his helpers in tow.

The Blackstone/Franklin Square Neighborhood Association (B/FSNA) annual Christmas Tree and Wreath Sale, which will take place on Saturday, December 3 from 10:00 AM-3:00 PM in Blackstone Square, has evolved over the years from a chance to buy festive Christmas greenery to a full-fledged

holiday event. B/FSNA will sell Christmas trees and stands, wreaths, garland, bows and other supplies. There will be recorded holiday music, warm refreshments and a visit from Santa Claus from 10:00 AM-2:00 PM to hear Christmas wishes. The proceeds from this year's sale will help fund B/FSNA's and the Friends of Blackstone and Franklin Square's efforts to maintain and beautify the squares and the neighborhood. Those who pre-ordered can pick up their purchases that day and there will be a wide selection of open stock on the day of the sale, with wreaths priced at \$25 and trees ranging from three to 10 feet priced at \$35-\$85. B/FSNA Eric Huang reports that the group is working with St. Stephen's and United South End Settlements to identify families who could use help obtaining a tree and customers who would like to donate one can do so at a price of \$50.

On Sunday, December 4, a long-standing and popular South End tradition returns with the 54th Annual Worcester Square Neighborhood Tree Lighting at 4:00 PM. There will be hot and cold food and beverages courtesy of a host of neighborhood businesses, holiday music from the Leah Randazzo Quartet, a visit from Santa on a fire truck, a raffle with enticing prizes including a cash award, gift certificates and experiences from South End and other Boston businesses and attractions and gifts for the children. Raffle tickets, which cost \$2 each or six for \$10, will be available in advance through WSANA members and at the event, benefit WSANA programming, such as the

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Haley House

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who endure emotionally strenuous tasks, in some cases crusading against challenges like homelessness that rage for generations with no end in sight.

For half a century, Haley House has underpinned a major slice of the Hub's grassroots social service sector. First as a temporary shelter, then through the years as much, much more. Following the Catholic Worker traditions of hospitality and volunteerism that inspired Haley House, the operation has adapted to the needs of those they serve. In the words of co-founder Kathe McKenna, "First we saw that people were homeless and needed a place to stay. Then we saw that they were hungry and they needed food. Then we figured out that people needed permanent

housing. And then jobs."

What no one needs is yet another rags-to-riches ode to meritocracy. Far more central to the fostering of real equality are rags-to-restoration tales in which those who have historically lacked fortune and luck are treated with respect and dignity. There aren't nearly enough stories like that, especially ones that reveal the gamut of experiences, from the mundane to the moving, of those who dedicate their lives to lifting those in poverty. So for the 50th anniversary of Haley House, we asked Executive Director Bing Brodenick to assemble a roundtable of voices to dredge up memories for us to spin into an oral history. Documented in detail, it should serve as an inspiration to us all.

You can read 50 Years of Yeast and Love at <https://medium.com/binj-reports/haley-history-ea421a341f12#.58cc3mnhg>

Porch Jacked

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delivery centers). While we can't promise that this service is available, there are companies that will hold a package for up to 5 days.

Request that your package is marked "signature required." This requires the delivery person to stand by and wait until you're available to retrieve the package. You could also put a note on your door, requesting the deliverer go to your next door neighbor for the signature.

Leave special instructions on where to deliver the package. A good place is on the

side or back of the house, so that the package is out of sight from the road. Ask the delivery person to take and discard the note with him/her or leave it with the package.

Use a company that provides a tracking service and check online to see when your package is scheduled to arrive.

Have the items shipped to the nearest store for "in-store pick up."

If you have an understanding boss, have your packages delivered to you at work.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to the Community Service Officers of your district. These simple tips can

Holiday fun

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Worcester Square Summer Concert Series, as well as a donation to a neighborhood charity.

Claremont Neighborhood Association (CNA) is hosting its Annual Holiday Party, a pre-holiday party and benefit on Thursday, December 6 from 6:00 PM-8:00 PM at Shun's Kitchen, 520 Columbus Avenue. be free appetizers and a cash bar to set the stage for mixing and mingling and stimulate the spirit of giving. CNA will also be accepting donations of new and gently used items for Cradle to Crayons.

Have fun and take advantage of some special deals during The 8th Annual Holiday Shopping Night on Wednesday Dec 7th from 4:00 PM-9:00 PM. the festive evening sponsored by Washington Gateway Main Street, the South End Business Alliance, CTIP Properties and Siena condos at Ink Block includes deals, celebrations and specials at over 30 local shops and special treats at 9 area restaurants. There

is free parking at 540 Harrison and free pedicabs will be taking customers around from 5:00 PM-8:00 PM. For more information, visit shopthesouthend.com.

IBA (Inquilinos Boricuas en Acción) invites neighbors and friends to its Christmas Tree Lighting on Thursday, December 8 at 5:00 PM at Plaza Betances, 100 West Dedham Street. The festivities will include parrandas, traditional Puerto Rican Christmas songs, and a visit from Santa. Put on your dancing shoes and join the fiesta with the Villa Victoria community! All are welcome.

On December 16, the Villa Victoria Center for the Arts hosts Navidad en la Villa, a special evening of bilingual holiday music with Puerto Rican tenor Christian Figueroa sharing the stage with Colombian conductor Lina Figueroa and the Unitas Ensemble Chamber Orchestra. This is a ticketed event. Tickets cost \$20-35 and are available on-line at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/navidad-en-la-villa-tickets-27202276742>.

Be it Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa or Festivus, have a happy and safe holiday season!

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Toys for Children in Need

Coldwell Banker collecting toys

The Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage offices in Boston's Back Bay, Beacon Hill and South End neighborhoods are collecting donations of toys and other gifts for The Home for Little Wanderers' Big Wishes Gift Drive. Big Wishes is one of the Boston area's oldest and largest toy drives, supporting children and families who are living in at-risk circumstances and are served by The Home's programs across Boston and Eastern Massachusetts.

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage encourages members of the community to drop off new unwrapped toys at the Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage offices located at 137 Newbury St., Back Bay; 84 Chestnut St., Beacon Hill; 505 Tremont St., South End (formerly Hammond Residential); and 633 Tremont St., South End. Coldwell Banker

offices are accepting donations now through Tuesday, December 13, 2016.

"We are proud to continue this annual tradition during the season of giving. Our neighbors have generously donated toys and other gifts in the past, and we hope they will do so again this year. Their contributions will help bring holiday cheer to children and families that are facing difficult times," said Merit McIntyre, president of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in New England. "We are so appreciative of any donations."

The Home needs gifts for children ranging in age from birth to 22-years, with an urgent need for gifts for the 14- to 18-year-old teenagers in its care. To help meet the challenge of providing suitable holiday gifts for the teens that The Home serves, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage also welcomes donations of gift cards from major retail stores, as well as online retailers, for personal care items,

electronics, sporting goods and other items.

Additionally, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage is donating a \$60 gift card for every touchdown the Boston College Eagles scored during the 2016 football season to Big Wishes.

Every year, dozens of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage offices throughout Massachusetts collect donations for Big Wishes. The company's charitable foundation, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Cares, has been a consistent supporter of The Home for Little Wanderers.

To learn more about how to help The Home this holiday season, including how to pledge a gift from a child's personal wish list or shop from a general list and have the gift delivered free of charge directly to The Home's Toy Room, please visit www.thehome.org/bigwishes.

Ramsay Park Restoration Community Meeting #2

The Boston Parks and Recreation Department and the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services invite the public to a meeting about the upcoming capital improvements to Ramsay Park located at 1917 Washington Street, South End, Boston.

The Parks Department would like to share information regarding the upcoming planned

improvement funded through the annual City of Boston Capital Plan. The project includes landscape rehabilitation of basketball courts, tennis courts, plaza space, and the playground. Following a brief presentation, community members will be able to offer input regarding the material presented and the design process.

The meeting will be held on Tuesday,

December 6, 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m., Mandela Homes Community Room (Rear of Building), 1855 Washington Street, South End.

For more information, please call Nathan Frazee at (617) 961-3167 or email Nathan.Frazee@boston.gov.

News from...

Boston Groundwater Trust (BGwT)

Boston Groundwater Trust (BGwT) has just completed our ninth and final set of well readings for 2016. We had more rain in the month of October (5.87") than we did in the previous 4 months combined. As a result the majority of the wells were up in this reading set. We need more months like October. As of November 29th we have had just 29.04" of precipitation. This is the least amount we have ever had in the January-November timeframe (see table in the attached November 2016 newsletter files). In our 811 observation well network 16 wells were the highest they

have ever been and only 3 wells (compared to 66 wells last reading set) were the lowest they have ever been. Our system average is currently 6.36'.

As for our hotspot areas, levels in the central to western part of Back Bay recovered quite nicely. In particular the area along Beacon and Back Streets bounded by Exeter and Herford streets. BWSC continues to investigate and dye test lines along Beacon, Back, and Fairfield Streets where levels did come up but still remain low. In the South End BWSC relined a sewer at the corner of Appleton & Tremont

Street. Thus far we have yet to see a positive on groundwater levels in that area. BWSC investigations along Clarendon Street in the South End continue as well. The remaining areas all saw nice bumps from the rainfall in October.

Attached are the usual color coded well elevation maps for our entire network. I've also attached additional files and have a brief explanation of each below.

For more information and the full report visit bostongroundwater.org.

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Letters policy

To be considered for publication, letters must be no longer than 500 words; refrain from 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 46 Plympton St., 5th floor, Boston, MA 02118; FAX to 617.464.7286; E-mail: letters@southendnews.com

Amadeus

Continued from page 1

other Italians to keep his Austrian counterpart from obtaining posts and staging some operas in the 1780's and landing the prestigious position of tutor to Princess Elisabeth.

Shaffer has included such real factors in a strong theatrical conflict in which Salieri ranges from jealousy and feigned friendship with his colleague to betrayal and determination to kill the rival he sees as God's favorite. That perceived favoritism for an excessively drinking and coarse Mozart nags at devoutly Catholic Salieri so much so that he questions God's judgment and pledges to ruin the Deity's chosen one. Impacting Mozart's finances and way of life becomes Salieri's very effective strategy in the play. Shaffer cleverly frames "Amadeus"—the title tellingly meaning 'love of God' as well as being Mozart's middle name—with an old and wheelchair-bound Salieri chronicling the genesis and development of the rivalry and its effect on his life, music and religious beliefs. While there is no evidence that Salieri actually poisoned Mozart (as rumor claimed)—and the cause of the latter's death may never be known, Salieri—who announces that he killed him—did suffer dementia in his last days as presented here. Liberties aside, "Amadeus" has a lot to say about obsessive jealousy and the mysterious nature of genius as well as these very different composers.

Under Choat's tight direction, both are vividly portrayed. Matthew Zahnzinger captures Salieri's vulnerability as an old man

along with his venom during his long career at court. Look for a richly complex portrayal—with amusing attention to Salieri's gluttonous sweet tooth and contrasting cold deception as Mozart mistakenly calls him 'friend.' High-points are Zahnzinger's pathos-rich moments as Salieri rages at God and his expressive awe and amazement listening to part of Mozart's sublime opera "The Magic Flute."

Cody Sloan is equally convincing in the supporting role of Mozart—sharply catching his man child mirth and delight at the ease of creating landmark works like "The Marriage of Figaro." Sloan smoothly balances Mozart's epithet-rich earthiness, his deep caring for wife Constanze Weber and loner demeanor as his life grows more challenging. Caroline Keeler has the right combination of loving support and tenacity as Constanze. Arthur Gomez is properly pompous as Count Orsini-Rosenberg, and Andrew Winson finds Baron van Swieten's relative humorlessness and OCD seriousness.

The Moonbox design team proves a solid complement to the strong cast. Jeffrey E. Salzberg's nuanced lighting matches the ups and downs of the composers—especially in the later going. David Lucey's handsome costumes reflect Salieri's affluence and Mozart and Constanze's simpler attire. Cameron McEachern's skills as properties master add considerable detail to the spare elegance of his set design.

The informative Moonbox playbill smartly lists the all-important musical excerpts in order of appearance, and music director Dan Rodriguez and a complement of talented musicians—Grand Harmonie members among

them—do full justice to the Mozart and Salieri repertoires.

At a key moment of insight, Mozart speaks of God hearing the world as millions of sounds. The sounds in Moonbox's soulful "Amadeus" are very much worth everyone's time.

For "Amadeus", Moonbox is pairing with Food for Free, a non-profit organization that recovers fresh food that might otherwise be discarded and provides fresh produce and healthy meals for emergency food programs and individuals in need. Besides a table at the BCA, theatergoers can go to www.foodforfree.org/join to help.

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Resources

YEAR UP Recruitment

What: For young adults interested in taking their next step in their journey towards a career & higher education, Year Up's mission is to close the opportunity divide through a one-year intensive program. This free program serves youth ages 18-24 who receive an educational stipend and earn up to 31 FREE college credit recommendations while taking classes and completing an internship at top companies in Boston to prepare them for a professional career.

When: Visit Year Up's website <http://www.yearup.org/future-students/admission-process/?location=boston/> to view our Fast

Track Sessions

Where: Year Up, 45 Milk Street, Boston, MA 02109
More info: To learn more, contact Saida at SReyes@yearup.org or call the Admissions Team at 857-305-9990 to RSVP for an upcoming Fast Track session. Interested applicants should fill out an online Student Interest Form at www.yearup.org

Salvation Army Kroc Center 6th Annual Tree Lighting

What: The Kroc Center will be hosting their 6th Annual Tree lighting. There will

be a special performance by the Salvation Army band, a short devotional by Pastors, ringing of the "Official First Bell", annual Kettle Kick-Off, and light refreshments.

When: Thursday, December 1

Where: Salvation Army Kroc Center Boston, 650 Dudley Street Boston

More Info: Please contact Yhinny Matos at yhinny.matos@usa.salvationarmy.org

Boston Public Schools Parent Essentials

What: Parent Essentials is a course designed to equip parents with skills and information about the Boston Public Schools so that families can be stronger teachers, advocates, and leaders.

When: Tuesday evenings from October 18-December 20 from 6:00 - 8:00 PM

Where: Campbell Resource Center, 1216 Dorchester Ave

More Info: Please contact ctengwall@bostonpublicschools.org or call 617-635-7750

Immigrant Legal Resource Center (ILRC)

What: What immigrants can do now. People should go to a legal services provider to be screened for any possible immigration options other than DACA they for which

they may already eligible. The ILRC has a comprehensive client intake form to assist practitioners in screening. It can be found online at <https://www.ilrc.org/screening-immigration-relief-client-intake-form-and-notes>.

More Info: The Immigration Advocates Network maintains a national directory of more than 950 free or low-cost nonprofit immigration legal services providers in all 50 states. It can be found online at <https://www.immigrationlawhelp.org>. Community members should be warned of fraudulent service provider schemes and educated about how to seek competent immigration help. The ILRC has created community education flyers about this available in English and Spanish available online at <https://www.ilrc.org/anti-fraud-flyers>.

Volunteer with Sole Train

What: Sole Train is a community building and mentoring program that uses running as a vehicle for setting and achieving previously unimaginable goals. Volunteers are asked to commit 1-2 hours a week of weekday practice time and 5 weekend races/community building events. No running experience is required.

More Info: Please contact Sole Train at aridenour@trinityinspires.org or visit <http://www.trinityinspires.org/sole-train/>



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ZONING HEARING

The Zoning Commission of the City of Boston hereby gives notice, in accordance with Chapter 665 of the Acts of 1956, as amended, that a public hearing will be held on December 14, 2016, at 9:00 AM, in Room 900, Boston City Hall, in connection with Text Amendment Application No. 468, filed by the Boston Redevelopment Authority d/b/a Boston Planning and Development Agency ("BRA").

Said text amendment would amend Article 64, South End Neighborhood District, with respect to the maximum floor area ratio ("FAR") in Planned Development Areas ("PDAs") within the Economic Development Area North Subdistrict

A copy of the petition may be viewed at the office of the Zoning Commission, Room 916, Boston City Hall, between 9 AM and 5 PM any day except Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays.

For the Commission,
Kathleen R. Pedersen
Executive Secretary

ZONING HEARING

The Zoning Commission of the City of Boston hereby gives notice, in accordance with Chapter 665 of the Acts of 1956, as amended, that a public hearing will be held on December 14, 2016, at 9:45 AM, in Room 900, Boston City Hall, in connection with a petition for the approval of the First Amendment to the Development Plan for Planned Development Area No. 59 (the "First Amendment"), Harrison Commons and Harrison Court, 771 Harrison Avenue, South End, filed by the Boston Redevelopment Authority d/b/a Boston Planning and Development Agency.

Said First Amendment would allow for the Church building to be converted into 63 rental units and would also allow for an increase in floor area ratio and a reduction and reallocation of parking within the Development Plan

A copy of the petition, a map of the area involved and the First Amendment may be viewed at the office of the Zoning Commission, Room 916, Boston City Hall, between 9 AM and 5 PM any day except Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays.

For the Commission,
Kathleen R. Pedersen
Executive Secretary

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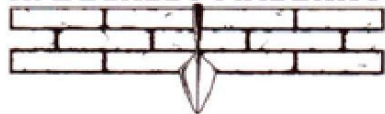
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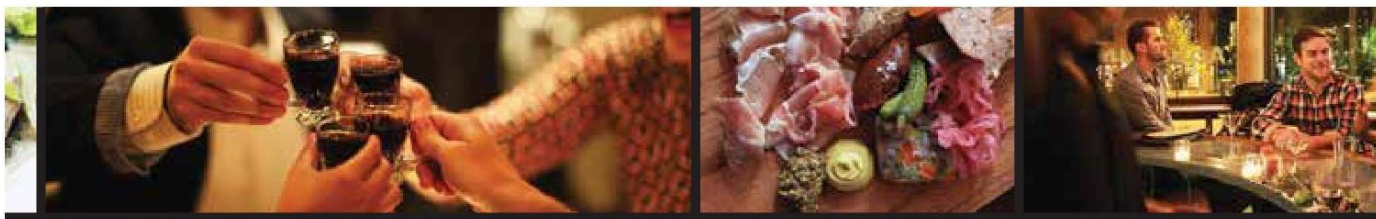
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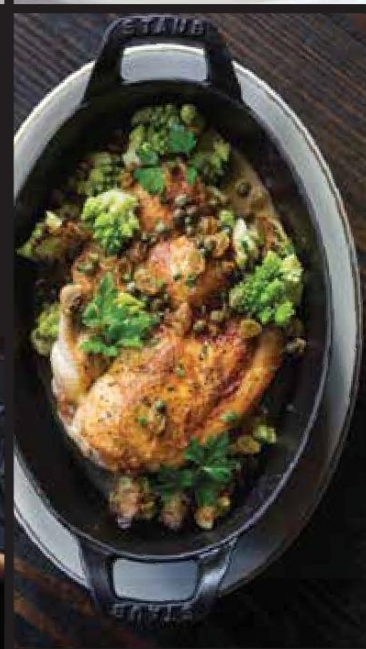


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