

Wu plans to extend fare free bus pilot

Says she would like to eliminate bus fares citywide

BY BRUCE MOHL
Courtesy CommonWealth Beacon

Boston Mayor Michelle Wu intends to extend the free bus pilot that is currently scheduled to end at the end of next month and, if the decision were up to her, would like to see it expanded citywide.

At a Boston Civic Summit on January 13, Wu said the free fare pilot on three MBTA bus routes has worked well over the last two years, with the routes attracting more riders than any other lines in the city.



Boston Mayor Michelle Wu spoke to reporters after the 2024 State of the City. (Photo by Gintautas Dumcius)

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Doc Wayne Youth Services Appoints New Board Member

South Ender Terf Borden

SUBMITTED BY DOC WAYNE

Doc Wayne Youth Services ("Doc Wayne"), a nonprofit innovator and provider of sport-based mental health therapy for youth, has announced the appointment of Tref Borden to its Board, bringing the total number to 14.

A philanthropic professional with over two decades of experience in the nonprofit sector, Tref was most recently Executive Director of the Fish Family Foundation, a Boston-

based private foundation focusing primarily on human services for low-income individuals and families in the Greater Boston area, with a particular interest in immigration and naturalization programs. Her career in philanthropy began as Executive Director at the Tiger Foundation in New York City, which supports educational, vocational, and social services organizations focusing on the lowest-income, highest-risk populations in the city.

"Tref provides a level of philan-



Terf Borden. Photo courtesy of Goodwin Consulting.

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Vive le Moulin Rouge!



Christian Douglas as Christian and Gabrielle McClinton as Satine in "Moulin Rouge! The Musical." Photo by Matthew Murphy, for MURPHYMADE.

Moulin Rouge! Tour presented by Broadway in Boston at Citizen Bank; Opera House through February 4. BroadwayinBoston.com.

BY JULES BECKER
Contributing Writer

Call "Moulin Rouge!" a jukebox musical with a difference. Unlike the ABBA-scored "Mamma Mia!" or Alanis Morissette-connected "Jagged Little Pill," the 2019 Tony Award winner evokes both a state of mind—about the Belle Époque art centered Montmartre of turn of the 20th century Paris—and an enchanting ambience—namely the title 1889 nightclub.

A pre-Broadway 2018 phenomenon at the Emerson Colonial Theatre, "Moulin Rouge" has now returned in a high-stepping, visually stunning tour at the Citizen Bank Opera House. If the evocation proved more intimate for this critic at the Colonial, the experience remains as vividly captivating at the Opera House.

As at the Colonial, the experience begins as audience members reach their seats. Male and female dancers

who could appear in nightclub-set paintings by Henri Toulouse-Lautrec stretch and move with gymnastic grace at both sides of the Opera House stage in attractive tight outfits—designed as sharply by Catherine Zuber as the dress fare of the affluent patrons at the Moulin Rouge (founded in 1889 and now frequented by tourists).

Soon flamboyant impresario Harold Zidler (inspired by Charles Zidler, who co-founded with Joseph Oller) opens the actual club spectacular that features a high-kicking can-can sextet and a rich variety of dance moves brilliantly choreographed by Sonya Tayeh.

Director Alex Timbers effectively establishes the struggling artists versus thriving businessman contrast that often drives the proceedings with writer Christian, painter Toulouse-Lautrec and dancer Santiago stage left and the imperious Duke of Monroth

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SOUTH END CALENDAR

10:00AM - 11:00AM

Fridays: Feb. 2, Feb. 16, March 1

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The Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services liaisons hosts weekly Coffee Hours located conveniently in each neighborhood. This is an opportunity to connect with your neighborhood liaison to receive support connecting with City departments, addressing any concerns, or just to say hello to connect joyfully.

Neighborhood liaisons look forward to hearing how Boston can improve our neighborhoods.

Free Winter Bike Repair Workshop

4:00PM - 6:00PM

Tuesday, February 6, March 5

Blackstone Community Center

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Join us for a free, hands-on workshop! We do all basic bike repair including: patch flat tires, align brakes, and adjust gears and shifters.

Learn and perform bike maintenance and basic repair. Feel to bring your bike! We will also have a winter biking craft. We will be at Blackstone Community Center once a month from January through March.

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10:00AM - 2:00PM

Saturday, March 2

Animal Rescue League of Boston

10 Chandler Street, South End.

Animal care is offering low cost-clinics across the City.

The rabies vaccine is free for Boston and non-Boston residents.

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- \$15 for spayed and neutered pets (please provide proof)
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- For seniors residents over 70, there is no charge to license their pets.

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- Three-year rabies vaccines will be given if you are able to show proof of previous rabies vaccines.
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Bus

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The pilot, with the city reimbursing the T for lost fare revenue, is currently scheduled to end on February 29.

"We are going to keep it going," Wu said at the summit, according to a recording on YouTube. "If it were up to me, we would have free bus citywide because that is the fastest way to move people, that is the most equitable way to move people. We need to figure out the revenue sources and that's a larger conversation."

The MBTA confirmed the agency is in discussions with the city on extending the pilot, but Wu's spokeswoman declined to answer questions about the extension and how it would be funded. The city has been using \$8 million in federal funds to pay for the first two years.

Wu's comments come at an interesting policy time. At her State of the Commonwealth speech on Wednesday, Gov. Maura Healey promised to establish a permanent, reduced fare for low-income T riders this

year. As outlined by T officials last month, the agency is considering a half-price fare for passengers earning less than 200 percent of the federal poverty level. The proposed low-income fare would apply to all MBTA services, not just buses.

At an MBTA board meeting last month, Wu's appointee to the board raised concerns that the presentation on a low-income fare didn't consider eliminating fares entirely. "I would really like to see how much this is going to cost versus just making the fares free," said the board member, Mary Skelton Roberts. "We need to compare apples to apples."

Roberts was scheduled to expand on her comments during a taping of The Codcast on Thursday, but backed out early Wednesday evening saying the timing was not right.

Wu in the past has called for making all of the MBTA free to use, but her comments at the summit suggested that, like some transit advocates, she may be focused more immediately on making buses free. Dispensing with fare collection on buses speeds up service by allowing passengers to board quickly at all doors without presenting tickets or

paying cash.

MBTA officials say the Boston free fare experiment has speeded up service and boosted ridership by more than 20 percent. But the officials say only about 2 percent of the new riders switched to the bus and stopped driving, with the rest coming from other MBTA transportation modes (subway, commuter rail, etc.) or migrating from walking and biking.

In a March 2021 report, the left-leaning Massachusetts Budget and Policy Center said transit advocates working with the Livable Streets Alliance concluded that eliminating fares on local buses would cost the MBTA \$33.7 million in annual fare revenue. Another \$6 million to \$7 million would be lost if making buses free meant parallel-running paratransit had to be free, the report said.

An MBTA spokesperson didn't estimate what foregoing fares would cost the T, but did pass along a financial document covering 2022 filed with the Federal Transit Administration. According to that document, the T spent \$532 million on bus service and generated \$55 million in fare revenue.



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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 PO BOX E14, Boston, MA 02127; E-mail: letters@southendnews.com

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WHERE: Virtual
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HOSTED BY:

City of Boston
Michelle Wu, Mayor
Dion Irish, Chief of Operations

Boston Public Library
David Leonard, President

Public Facilities Department
Kerrie Griffin, Director



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Doc Wayne

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thropic and human services expertise that will further strengthen our distinguished Board as we continue to expand both nationally and globally," commented Board Chair Shalini Kasida. "With unrelenting tragedies happening around the world, making mental health therapy access a priority for youth via

training for organizations, clinicians, teachers, coaches and other development professionals is essential to helping young people and children process and heal."

Earlier on, Tref was home raising her children for ten years during which time she co-founded a faux finishing and latex paint recycling company on the South Shore. Thereafter, she worked in the investment banking industry prior to beginning her career in

philanthropy.

"In light of so many children and older youth being impacted by the conflicts and strife worldwide, it is imperative that mental health supports are scaled to meet their needs to ensure the trauma they endure does not have lifelong implications," Tref stated. "Doc Wayne's evidenced sports-based approach is helping children in the U.S. and in over 25 other countries, including conflict zones,

through its Champion's Network® trauma-informed training programs. I'm eager to work with this incredible organization that continues to change lives and foster hope."

Tref has served on the Philanthropy Massachusetts Board for 10 years, formerly as chair. She received a Bachelor's degree in Engineering Sciences & Economics from Dartmouth College and a Master's degree in Mindfulness Studies from Lesley University.

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Moulin Rouge

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stage right. Toulouse-Lautrec, speaking for the artists and hard-working citizens, proclaims their common motto: Truth, Beauty, Freedom and Love.

Fans of the inspiring 2001 Baz Luhrmann movie of the same name will know that newcomer Christian—here from Ohio as opposed to the Englishman in the movie—will be drawn to the singing headliner Satine. The story of his passionate love for the spell-binding but fragile chanteuse is the focus of the musical's relatively uncomplicated book.

While the plot may seem like a poor man's romance, the show's production values are as exquisite as Satine's Tiffany and Cartier tastes. Quite fittingly, gifted designer Derek McLane provides a diamond-shaped platform for the top hat-donning singer's motif medley—including the James Bond number "Diamonds Are Forever," the iconic "Diamonds Are a Girl's Best Friend" and the Madonna hit "Material Girl."

Satine's popular routines notwithstanding,

Zidler needs to satisfy the potential financial savior Duke's emotional interest in the singer and stage a hit new production at the nightclub. Will Satine favor the Duke over Christian? Will Christian's writing and the characters in the show come too close to home for Monroth?

The answers should be fairly obvious to theatergoers not familiar with the film. Even so, there is an uncommon bounty of rich design as well as a clever connecting of music by the likes of David Bowie, Adele and Lady Gaga to the characters' relationships and fortunes.

A strong cast makes those relationships and fortunes engaging. Christian Douglas may not be quite as compelling as Aaron Tveit at the Colonial, but he does capture Christian's early naivete and eventual savvy. Gabrielle McClinton is very persuasive as often bewitching Satine. Tveit and Karen Olivio had stronger chemistry in the pre-Broadway edition, but Douglas and McClinton make their romance convincing. Nick Rashad Burroughs sings robustly as Toulouse-Lautrec, and Danny Burgos displays fine flair as Santiago. Sarah Bowden is a standout as acerbic but insightful dancer



Jeigh Madjus, Holly James, Jacqueline B Arnold and Robyn Hurder welcome audiences to the Moulin Rouge! Photo by Matthew Murphy, for MURPHYMADE.

Nini. Robert Petkoff catches Zidler's expansive body language as impresario and contrasting insecurity as he deals with his inconstant male lover attendant and the Duke. Andrew Brewer is properly rough as Monroth.

Initially Satine—mistaking the writer for the Duke—reflects that Christian is not what she expected. Theatergoers looking for intricate plotting may be surprised, but "Moulin Rouge" is delightfully different. Vive la difference!

LEGAL NOTICES

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION		Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court
		Docket No. SU23P1777EA
Estate of: Margaret A. Cummings Date of Death: 06/25/2023		Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114 (617) 788-8300
To all interested persons: A Petition for S/A - Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by: Lawrence O'Brien of South Boston, 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: Lawrence O'Brien of South Boston, MA and Julie Mulkerin of Hampton NH be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in an unsupervised administration.		
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 02/13/2024.		
This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.		
UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC) A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.		
WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: January 10, 2024 <i>Stephanie L. Everett, Esq, Register of Probate</i>		

CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME		Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court
		Docket No. SU24C0009CA
In the matter of: Nicole Marie Patton		Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114 (617) 788-8300
A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Nicole Marie Patton of Boston, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: Nicole Patton Minahan		
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 02/06/2024. 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: 01/08/2024 <i>Stephanie L. Everett, Esq, Register of Probate</i>		

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L.c. 190B, §5-304		Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court
		Docket No. SU24P01156D
In the matter of: Ratna Salapu Of: Boston, MA		RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitated Person Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Boston Medical Center of Boston, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Ratna Salapu is in need of a Guardian and requesting that (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve Without Surety on the bond.		
The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.		
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 02/15/2024. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline 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: January 18, 2024 <i>Stephanie L. Everett, Esq, Register of Probate</i>		

Letters Policy

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

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

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CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF CONSERVATOR OR OTHER PROTECTIVE ORDER PURSUANT TO G.L.c. 190B, §5-304 & §5-405		Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court
		Docket No. SU15P2489PM
In the matter of: Laurence Bruen Of: Boston, MA		RESPONDENT (Person to be Protected/Minor) Suffolk Probate and Family Court, 24 New Chardon Street, Boston, MA 02114
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Veteran Affairs Boston Healthcare Sy of Boston, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Laurence Bruen is in need of a Conservator or other protective order and requesting that Duane Sullivan of Quincy, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve Without Surety on the bond. The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is disabled, that a protective order or appointment of a Conservator is necessary, and that the proposed conservator is appropriate. The petition is on file with this 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 02/20/2024. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline 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.		
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WITNESS, Hon. Joan P. Armstrong, First Justice of this Court. Date: January 16, 2024 <i>Stephanie L. Everett, Esq, Register of Probate</i>		

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L.c. 190B, §5-304		Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court
		Docket No. SU24P0101GD
In the matter of: Laurence Bruen Of: Boston, MA		RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitated Person Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Veteran Affairs Boston Healthcare of Boston, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Laurence Bruen is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Duane Sullivan of Quincy, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve on the bond.		
The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.		
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 02/20/2024. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline 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: January 16, 2024 <i>Stephanie L. Everett, Esq, Register of Probate</i>		

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