

# THE BOSTON GUARDIAN

August 9, 2019

Vol. 4 Issue 13

## Groundwater Levels Returning to Normal

By Zach Carmosino

After a rainy spring, Boston's groundwater has returned to a safe level, mitigating damage to city infrastructure.

Many of Boston's neighborhoods are built on marshland filled in with sand and gravel, including parts of Back Bay, South End, Fenway, Beacon Hill and Downtown. Many of their buildings are supported by wood pilings designed to be submerged below groundwater levels.

Groundwater levels vary by year, largely dependent on how much rain and snow falls. When levels drop, the pilings are exposed to air and are attacked by microbes that rot the wood, risking damage to the buildings they support.

When pilings rot, the buildings above them settle and cracks often appear. In several cases, buildings became unsafe to occupy. For homeowners, the cost of underpinning a home or restoring its wooden pilings, can cost more than \$250,000, according to Boston Groundwater Trust.

According to Christian Simonelli, executive director of Boston Groundwater Trust, high

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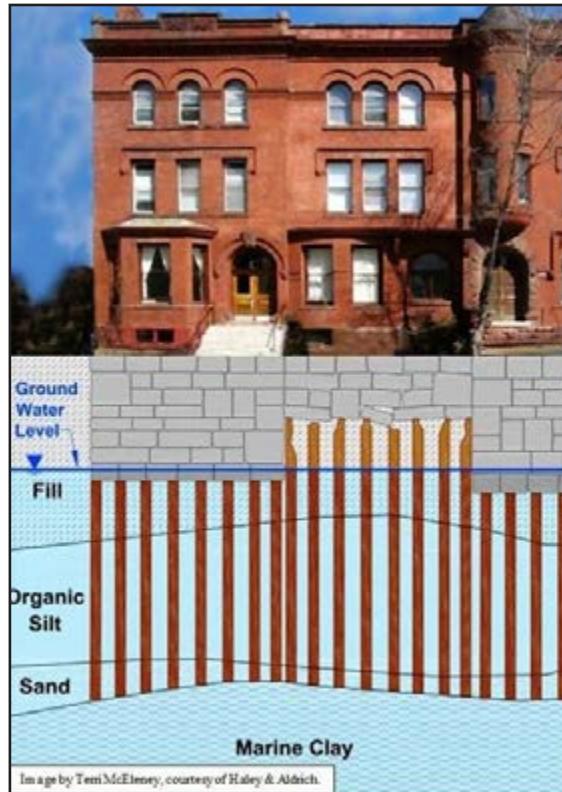


Photo: Joe Walsh

## State Cried Wolf About River Algae

By Joe Walsh

A state health warning about dangerous algae in the Charles River may have been overblown.

The warning, issued two weeks ago by the state Department of Public Health (DPH), advised residents to avoid the Charles due to elevated levels of

cyanobacteria. But the harmful toxins that some algae species produce were not found in the river and algae counts quickly normalized after a week. The advisory also did not stop hundreds of residents and tourists from plying the Charles

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Courtesy of Boston Civic Design Commission

## Parcel 12 Won't Use Fossil Fuels

By Dan Rabb

Boston may soon have its first high rise heated without the use of fossil fuels.

The developers of Parcel 12, a massive proposed complex spanning the Mass Pike along Massachusetts Avenue, say

they are committed to installing an all electric heating system in one of the two towers planned for the site. Rather than natural gas, the building will use a system known as an "air source heat

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## BSO Is Evaluating Its Underutilized Land

By Joe Walsh

The Boston Symphony Orchestra (BSO) is eyeing a large scale redevelopment project that could transform the face of Huntington Avenue.

### EXCLUSIVE

The BSO is looking into building a large complex with Symphony Hall as an anchor, according to members of the orchestra's Board of Advisors. The redevelopment project, still in preliminary stages, could replace a stretch of old low-rise retail buildings that line Huntington Ave near Symphony Hall.

BSO leaders have not



Photo: Joe Walsh

formalized or officially unveiled plans for the neighborhood, but the organization's Board of Advisors discussed preliminary ideas with BSO staff and with

acclaimed architect Elizabeth Diller, two board members said. The BSO declined to comment, and Diller, whose role with the

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## River Algae

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in kayaks and sailboats every day.

Cyanobacteria toxins can lead to liver and kidney issues if swallowed and can irritate skin. But for a place like the Charles where drinking the water is never advisable, the largest risk is with recreational users who might accidentally swallow algae-tinged water, according to a report by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Swimmers under the age of 10 hold the highest risk of swallowing toxins, but the risk for older swimmers is far smaller, the EPA found. On the Charles River

basin, where boating is more common than swimming and the river is wide, deep and constantly moving, the likelihood of swallowing toxins accidentally is even thinner.

"The risk factor, of course, would decrease," says microbiologist Gary du Moulin, who volunteers with Community Boating. "I don't think users should be concerned, but the advisories that are in place are logical."

DPH discourages boating in any water with an advisory, but boaters fill the river nonetheless. The Charles River Watershed Association (CRWA), which studies the river, acknowledges that these advisories do not stop people from using the Charles.

Instead, the group encourages the boathouses lining the river to limit kids' exposure.

"We have to be realistic," said CRWA Program Associate Nishaila Porter. "Nobody is not going to go out."

Though algae blooms have become an annual phenomenon on the Charles, state officials do not proactively test for them. Instead, DPH testing takes place after a passerby notices the algae's distinctive green hue. A laboratory then scans the water for toxins and counts the cyanobacteria cells, a technically demanding process.

If cell or toxin levels are high, the state posts an advisory until two tests show that the river is clear. Cell counts fell last week,

so the state may lift the advisory if another test this week confirms that decline.

"DPH requires samples taken one week apart to recommend rescinding the Charles River advisory," said DPH toxicologist Marc Nasarella. "Meanwhile, we continue to recommend that the current advisory remain in place."

The CRWA, for its part, measures blue and green pigments in the water, which can indicate the presence of cyanobacteria but do not directly confirm that algae or toxin levels have increased. Porter says more regular and proactive lab testing might be worthwhile.

"We should definitely be more on the lookout for cyanobacteria

blooms," Porter said.

This year's advisory on the Charles brought new attention to blue-green algae, a seasonal problem that studies have linked to water temperature and levels of nitrogen and phosphorus, which serve as nutrients. Climate change could make blooms more frequent, Porter says, but stronger pollution rules might prevent blooms by lowering the river's nitrogen and phosphorus levels.

For du Moulin, those kinds of pollution controls could be useful, but their ability to prevent blooms is unclear.

"They're natural phenomena," du Moulin said. "I'm not convinced that we wouldn't see these anyways."

## Groundwater

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precipitation in Boston over recent months have eased concerns over low groundwater levels brought on by a dry winter.

"We had an above-average spring," he said. "Overall, the wet spring and the slightly above-average year have helped."

Construction of roadways and

subway tracks beneath parts of the city created with landfill have caused groundwater levels to lower since these neighborhoods were built. This challenge is especially felt in Back Bay, which is almost entirely built on reclaimed mud flats along the banks of the Charles River.

The city created the Groundwater Conservation Overlay District that regulates this issue, which works to recharge rainwater into the

ground and ensures new construction and renovation projects do not further reduce groundwater.

This summer's return to higher groundwater levels has eased concerns created by low levels in the recent past. Boston experienced an atypically dry year in 2016, when the city saw an unusually low average of only 30.48 inches of precipitation across the city, according to the Boston Water and Sewer Commission.

Although groundwater levels are up since winter, the city is on pace this year for less rainfall than in 2018. Boston saw an average of 51.78 inches of rainfall across the city last year, according to the Boston Water and Sewer Commission. The city has received only 22.26 inches of rain so far, at pace to reach 37.97 inches over the course of a year.

Simonelli says Boston's current healthy groundwater

levels are a product of unusually high levels of rainfall last year compensating for relatively low precipitation in this one. That level of rainfall was beneficial in the recovery process for Boston's groundwater, but he expects a return to normalcy in 2019.

"2018 was so high, I think this year will push it back to normal levels," Simonelli said.



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## THE BOSTON GUARDIAN

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**PRESIDENT**

ROBERT WHITCOMB

**EDITOR/PUBLISHER**

DAVID JACOBS

**ASSOCIATE EDITOR**

GEN C. TRACY

**EDITORIAL ASSISTANT**

CAROLINE BRODERICK

**REPORTERS**

DAN ATKINSON

DAN RABB

JOE WALSH

MANNIE LEWIS

**PRODUCTION MANAGER**

BOB HENRY

P.O. Box 171558, BOSTON, MA 02117 TELEPHONE: (857) 265-3022 FAX: (857) 990-3128 EMAIL: news@thebostonguardian.com

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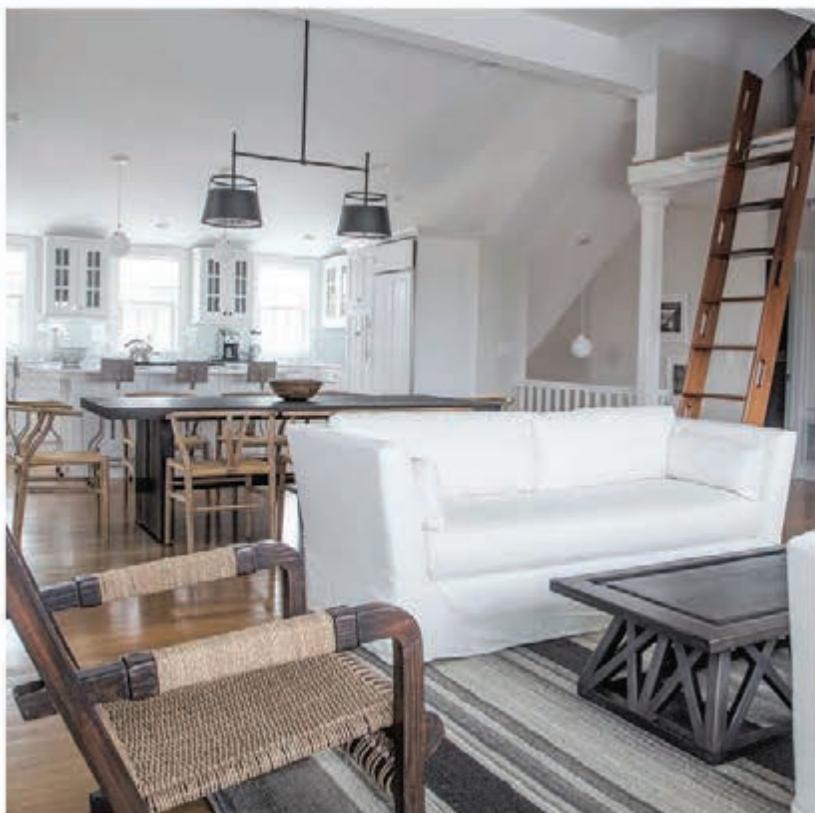
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# CRIME & PUNISHMENT

## POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS

By Caroline Broderick

District 4: 650 Harrison Avenue, 617-343-4457

District A-1: 40 New Sudbury Street, 617-343-4627

### Mace to the Face

Four officers responded to a call on July 10 around 6:15 pm at 1826 Washington Street, Hair Stop Beauty Supply.

Immediately upon arrival, officers saw the victim screaming with watery, red eyes. A hairy situation. The red-eyed victim told officers she was attempting to make a purchase when an employee ordered her to put down her cell phone while at the register.

The employee, or now suspect, threw a piece of paper at the victim, who then retaliated by throwing another unknown object back. A thrown object for a thrown object leaves the world objectless. It went zero to 100 real quick when the suspect/employee followed the victim out of the store and pepper sprayed her.

It is doubtful there was a sign in the establishment reading, "Put your phone down or get mace to the face."

Several witnesses said the suspect also

attempted to throw a knuckle sandwich. They described the suspect continually pepper spraying the victim while she was on the ground.

The suspect admitted to pepper spraying the victim yet attempted to justify the actions by saying the victim cursed and knocked over several items. Officers reported the shop to be in order with no items scattered around. The suspect was transported, booked and charged.

### AirBnBurglary

On July 19 around 7:42 pm, two officers responded to a radio call for a burglary at the 200 block of Northampton Street.

When the officers were making their way downtown, driving fast, faces pass and they're crime bound, they receive a tidbit about the residence. The property manager said it should be vacant because the home is an AirBnB, though the manager could hear multiple voices coming from inside



The Massachusetts Department of Transportation

#### PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

#### BOSTON - CLARENDRON STREET I-90 WB ON-RAMP PERMANENT CLOSURE

**WHO:** Massachusetts Department of Transportation  
**WHEN:** Tuesday, August 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM  
**WHERE:** Boston Public Library in Copley Square  
 Commonwealth Salon - Please use the 700 Boylston Street entrance of the Library  
 700 Boylston St, Boston, MA 02116

On Tuesday, August 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM, the Massachusetts Department of Transportation will join area officials for a public information meeting regarding the permanent closure of the I-90 Westbound Clarendon Street on-ramp which will take place on September 3, 2019.

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), TTD/TTY (857-368-0603) or by email ([MassDOT.CivilRights@dot.state.ma.us](mailto: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.

For transportation news and updates visit MassDOT at our website: [www.mass.gov/massdot](http://www.mass.gov/massdot), blog: [www.mass.gov/blog/transportation](http://www.mass.gov/blog/transportation), or follow MassDOT on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/massdot](http://www.twitter.com/massdot) and Facebook at [www.facebook.com/massdotinfo](http://www.facebook.com/massdotinfo).

prior to making the burglary call.

Officers opened the unit to find it empty, though notably unkempt. Whether the disarray of the home was intentional, they were unsure, but there were no signs of forced entry.

The property manager must really be on top of their units because they said some tenants have attempted to check into the unit previously only to walk into a group of unknown men! This was not on the listing!

Similar incidents have occurred, but the property manager never thought to report those. There has even been property stolen from the unit, also unreported.

Officers were able to find an iPhone, bank card and school ID card. They logged the evidence and notified District 4 detectives.

### Not the Brightest Star

On July 20 around 3:20 am, a victim reported her wallet was stolen while shopping at the Star Market, 33 Kilmarnock Street.

The victim shopped around 8 pm the night prior and left with a full cart. She loaded up the bags into the car and placed her wallet in the cart. She forgot to load up the most valuable item.

It was not until receiving an alert on her phone that the victim realized her wallet was missing. The alert notified her that her Capital One debit card was used at 7-Eleven and Target. She cancelled all bank cards.

### 7-11 Robbery

Around 5:40 am on July 22, two officers responded to a robbery in progress at 121 Jersey Street location of 7-Eleven.

Officers spoke to the store manager upon arrival who also happened to be the victim. An unidentified man had attempted to rob the store, according to the manager. Maybe the suspect missed free Slurpee day!

The manager tried to stop the suspect from shoplifting, then the suspect started being aggressive. The suspect threw the manager to the ground and attacked him. Probably not over a Slurpee.

The suspect took the manager's wallet, ripping his pocket. The wallet contained \$530. The suspect rode off into the sunset on a city Bluebike.

### Malicious Makeup Mission

Two officers responded to a larceny in progress call on July 22 around 3 pm at Sephora, 88 Newbury Street.

The loss prevention officer at Sephora described the blushing thief as a white male wearing a gray baseball hat, blue sweatshirt with tan shorts and a black backpack. The fair maiden's object of desire? Six makeup palettes priced at \$55 each.

The unknown suspect fled the store on foot with his new makeup, never to be seen again.

### The Cat Did It

On July 22 at about 7:31 pm, an officer responded to a radio call at the 20 block of Appleton Street for a breaking and entering.

The victim told the officer that he left his home for a fun, stress-free vacation away from his feline companion on July 19. That all changed when he received a call from his pet sitter the next day reporting that a broken basement window had been found.

When the parents go away, the cats come to play. The victim theorized that the window was used to break into the home, but it is doubtful he considered his own furry friend to be the suspect.

A repairman fixed the window and the victim reported no property stolen.

### Puppy Punter

On July 27 around 6 pm, an officer responded to a report for assault on a dog.

The victim's owner explained that while cute little Fido was sitting on the grass in Copley Park, a man kicked the poor pup.

Completely unprovoked, the owner was baffled as to why the suspect would want to hurt her fur baby. The owner asked the suspect why, but the suspect responded by mocking the question. She then informed him that he should not kick people's dogs. A life lesson learned.

The suspect bolted toward the Copley T stop when the owner began calling 911. The dog did not appear to be injured and the officer advised her to call the police if he is seen again.

### Those Meddling Kids

On July 27 around 2 pm, an officer took a walk-in report for vandalism to a motor vehicle in Concord Square.

The victim informed the officer that neighborhood kids vandalized his Jaguar on July 23. The victim was smart and had video surveillance of what happened.

A gaggle of kiddos took a rock to his vehicle and proceeded to scratch it. Kids have some weird trends nowadays. There were not many details provided about the weapon of choice, such as the type of geode used, the mineral or color. Good luck tracking down that vicious rock.

### Gulp

An officer responded to a larceny report around 1 am on July 29 at the 121 Jersey Street location of 7-Eleven.

The store manager informed the officer that a male entered the fine shop, poured himself a big, hearty Gulp soda, then walked out of the store.

The grand larceny totaled up to a whopping \$1.87. A small price tag for a large crime.

The store manager found it in his heart to not pursue larceny charges on the suspect who was later identified. Instead, the manager requested the man be trespass from his store. No more big Gulps for you!

## Old Timers Welcome Newcomers

Longtime Beacon Hill notables mingled with neighborhood newcomers at 75 Chestnut Monday night, for the Beacon Hill Civic Association's Meet and Greet. The monthly event regularly draws dozens of residents interested in meeting each other in a casual setting.



Photos: Joe Walsh

## Esplanade Murals Prevent Vandalism



Photo: Joe Walsh

By Joe Walsh

The once dreary pumphouses lining the Charles River Esplanade have become canvasses for public art.

The Esplanade Association hired a trio of artists to paint three Boston Water and Sewer Commission pumphouses near Fairfield Street and the BU campus, turning blighted graffiti magnets into showcases of art. The three muralists, all of whom have local connections, unveiled their work to the public last week.

The murals serve two purposes, according to Esplanade Association Executive Director

Michael Nichols. They enhance the park by introducing new art for visitors to enjoy, he says, and they discourage vandalism by eliminating empty spaces for graffiti artists to occupy.

This is not the first time the Esplanade Association has used art to prevent vandalism. A concrete slab underneath the Bowker Overpass was covered in a mural two summers ago and Nichols says that project prevented vandalism on the overpass and in surrounding areas of the park.

"Generally speaking, thoughtful murals tend to cut down on negative instances of graffiti," he said.

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# 'Stolen' Statue Is Coming Home



By Zach Carmosino

Robert Burns and his dog, Luath, are one step closer to returning to their original home in Fenway. But first, they need a cleaning.

The statue of the famed 18th century poet and his canine companion is set to move back to the Back Bay Fens this fall after four decades in Winthrop Square downtown. Next week, the bronze likeness of the Scottish literary icon will be moved to

a conservator's studio in an effort to restore its condition, the penultimate stop in what many in the Fenway say is the monument's journey home.

"We're thrilled to have it back in the park," said Margaret Dyson, director of historic parks.

Though it stood Downtown since the 1970's, the statue was once an important piece of civic life in the Fenway. Created

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*A GUIDE FOR THE DAY YOU'RE LAID OFF*

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Photo: Joe Walsh

# 'WaterGoat' Will Clean Muddy River

By Joe Walsh

Trash heaps that plague the Muddy River could disappear as soon as next summer.

The Muddy Water Initiative secured funding last week in the state's annual budget to buy a floating trash collection boom. When it is installed next year, this WaterGoat will stretch across the Muddy and capture debris from the surface in an attempt to end severe trash buildup.

Organizers hope to correct a decades-old

trash problem in the Muddy. The brook regularly fills with garbage that drifts throughout the Emerald Necklace, often accumulating downstream near the dam that separates the Muddy from the Charles River.

"Anybody who has walked by the Muddy River has noticed that it is in a catastrophic state right now," said Caroline Reeves, cofounder of the Muddy Water Initiative. "It's not bad, it's catastrophic."

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**PawSox**

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# More Police for Methadone Mile

By Zach Carmosino

The Boston Police Department (BPD) will maintain an increased presence around Newmarket and its surrounding neighborhoods for an indefinite period of time, according to city officials.

The blue surge comes as the city deals with fallout from Operation Clean Sweep, a crackdown on crime along Boston's "Methadone Mile" in which Boston police made over 30 arrests in the wake of a recent attack on a Suffolk County corrections officer.

The intensive nighttime operations displaced many homeless residents living near the two emergency shelters around the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue and Melnea Cass Boulevard.

Now, many of those homeless residents have dispersed throughout the Fenway, the South End and Roxbury, leaving them cut off from recovery treatment and other services, leaving residents of surrounding areas nervous that the problems that once plagued Atkinson Street have come to their front door.

Officials from both the BPD and the mayor's office say the continuing police presence throughout these neighborhoods is meant to address both these problems.

"We're trying to balance public safety and

neighborhood quality of life issues that we know people are experiencing," said Chief of Health and Human Services Marty Martinez, at a South End meeting addressing the fallout from Operation Clean Sweep. "We're trying to balance the fact that people deserve dignity respect and access to care and services, and we're trying to make sure people feel safe both in their neighborhoods and are getting care and services."

Police in the South End and other affected neighborhoods will be paying special attention to alleys and other areas where individuals might use drugs or sleep, according to Special Advisor to the Mayor Buddy Christopher, who oversees services in the Newmarket area. He emphasized that such increased vigilance is not punitive, but intended to assist the homeless and get people help.

"The messaging that's supposed to be coming from the police, their opening line is, 'Can we help you? Can we get you to a shelter?'" Christopher said. "The objective is to get these folks, both male and female, we're trying to get these people off the street into some more proactive way of dealing with their situation right now."

According to Christopher, the city now wants homeless residents to return to

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## Night Out with Neighbors

Residents gathered to join Mayor Marty Walsh, Police Commissioner William Gross and Boston Police Department Command Staff for the 36th annual National Night Out on Tuesday. The tradition honors the successes of crime prevention while celebrating with food, drinks, activities and awards.



Photos: Dan Rabb



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## Parcel 12

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pump" that runs off the city's electrical grid.

The result, they say, will be a significantly smaller carbon footprint.

"We wanted to push the envelope with sustainability," said Abe Menzin, executive vice president of development at Parcel 12 developer Samuels & Associates. "This will be the first high rise application in Boston of an air source heat pump in a building of this size."

Samuels & Associates' proposal for Parcel 12, currently in the midst of Boston's mandated public feedback process, envisions a mix of retail, office space and either a hotel or residences spread over the Mass Pike between Boylston and Newbury Streets. The plan calls for the offices and living spaces to be located in separate towers with stores, restaurants, and an open green space in between.

At present, only the 13-story hotel and residential tower is slated for all electric heating. Larger rooms and more varied floor plans in office buildings make heating a challenge, according to Menzin, and air source heat pumps lack a sufficient track record in commercial spaces. Still, he says the office tower is designed to make switching to electric heat possible once the technology is proven.

"We designed it with systems that can easily be converted to all electric," said Menzin.

"It has a centralized high efficiency gas boiler which can easily be replaced, as opposed to a decentralized system with smaller units on

different floors."

Yet some clean energy activists say Samuels & Associates should commit now to eliminating fossil fuels across all of Parcel 12.

"We applaud the commitment to environmental leadership with the residential tower, but we'll still press them to commit all the way and make the office tower all electric as well," said Meredith Outterson, leader of the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization's Climate Justice initiative. "It's important to push them to do it now, because otherwise once the building is already built the public won't have input and there will be no one to hold them accountable."

Even if fossils fuels are eliminated across all of Parcel 12, questions remain as to whether electric heat will immediately impact the project's carbon footprint. Much of Boston's electricity, which would power the heat pump system, comes from non-renewable sources like coal power plants. While Menzin claims electric heat will make the building 20% more efficient, experts disagree on whether grid power is "cleaner" than natural gas in terms of emissions.

Yet both Menzin and Outterson agree that the benefit will be seen over time as city and state laws force electricity providers to dump fossil fuels and embrace renewable energy sources.

Outterson says she wants to see Parcel 12 built with this future in mind.

"It's so important that we keep transitioning away from fossil fuels and keep pushing for that transition to be faster," she said. "It just doesn't make sense to keep adding natural gas hookups and adding natural gas infrastructure."

She designed a "face chain" motif that forms a river out of several interlinked human faces. This design reflects the pumphouse's role in keeping water levels balanced, she says, and it expresses the human connections she hopes her art will help stimulate.

"I think that, as humans, we balance each other out in the same way the pumphouse does," Solei said.

Human connections were also integral to funding the mural project. The Esplanade Association funded its three newest murals through individual donations totaling more than \$10,000, Nichols said. The state Department of Conservation and Recreation, which owns the park, power washed years of graffiti and temporary paint from the pumphouses, preparing them for the muralists.

With some of the Esplanade's most graffiti-heavy structures now converted to art, Nichols says the Esplanade Association will explore more ways to integrate public art.

"We're committed to a robust art and culture program in the park," Nichols said.

## Esplanade Murals

Continued from Page 5

The Esplanade Association reviewed dozens of interested artists before choosing, Nichols said. Each artist painted a separate pumphouse with designs highlighting the park's natural features.

Sophy Tuttle, one of the muralists, highlighted the native plants and animals that live in the Esplanade and pass through it during annual migrations. She said she aimed to introduce passersby and commuters to the range of wildlife that call the urban park home.

Another muralist, Ann Lewis, used vertical lines to mimic humans' efforts to control water, a fitting theme for a pumphouse. The building was a challenging canvas because of its irregular shape, she says, but its varied surfaces made the piece visually interesting. She hopes park users will stop and wonder about the mural.

"I'm always trying to engage people to think differently about their surroundings," Lewis said.

Solei, the final artist, also focused on water.

## Muddy River

Continued from Page 6

The Initiative plans to deploy the WaterGoat near the end of the Muddy River, at a portion of the Back Bay Fens between Ipswich Street and the Richardson Bridge. If permits are approved this winter, the WaterGoat will be unveiled after the river thaws next spring, according to Reeves.

After the device's introduction, the impact will be immediate, Reeves said.

The WaterGoat will capture floating trash in its web of buoys and nets, which sits atop the water and leaves the river's wildlife unscathed below. Every week, teams of volunteers will pull the device from the water and throw away its spoils. As years' worth of garbage works its way through the river and into the grips of the goat, Reeves says neighbors will see a noticeable drop in trash volume within the first month.

"That's a visible win for the neighborhood," she said. "It's not just a public health hazard, but it's an eyesore."

State legislators allotted \$12,000 for the project.

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## Burn's Statue

Continued from Page 6

by Henry Hudson O'Reilly, the monument was dedicated in 1920 to much pomp and circumstance, including a speech by then Governor Calvin Coolidge. The depiction of Burns, best known today for penning the New Year standard "Auld Lang Syne," paid tribute to the contribution of Scottish immigrants.

Yet in 1975, the statue disappeared from its pedestal, leading some authorities to believe it was stolen. And in a sense, it was.

A developer asked the city for the statue while searching for public art to complement his new building in Winthrop Square. The Boston Arts Commission moved the monument from the Fenway in the middle of the night, with no warning or discussion with the neighborhood.

"The Boston Arts Commission decided that if they grabbed it in the dead of night, it would be very hard to fight back," said Fenway Civic Association (FCA) Vice President Matthew Brooks. "The city was being predatory."

The FCA has long been looking for a way to return the statue to their neighborhood.

## Methadone Mile

Continued from Page 7

Atkinson Street, close to the two rehabilitation centers operated by the Boston Public Health Commission. He said one of the goals of Operation Clean Sweep was to deter individuals who made the area unsafe for those seeking services. Of the 32 people arrested, only four or five did not have long criminal histories, he said.

Emotions ran high at Wednesday night's South End meeting as city officials addressed the recent law enforcement sweeps and

The grant will pay for the WaterGoat's purchase, installation and permitting, plus a year of private trash hauling for the debris captured by the device.

The WaterGoat fits into a larger effort to restore the Muddy River, an Emerald Necklace centerpiece that has become trash strewn and pollution ridden after decades of neglect.

While garbage is the Muddy River's most visible problem, the river's more pervasive issue is harder to see. The Muddy is one of the Charles River's most polluted tributaries, Reeves said, and this pollution has led to a

It succeeded by pressuring developer Millennium Partners into a deal as part of an agreement to build a skyscraper at 115 Winthrop Square, which is currently under construction. While Millennium Partners agreed to finance the statue's relocation to the Back Bay Fens, they also agreed to pay for its conservation, as nearly 100 years of exposure to Boston weather left it in need of repairs.

According to a report from Daedalus Inc., the Watertown-based art restoration firm set to begin repairs by August 11, the statue is discolored and patina worn. In addition, the pedestal is dirty, stained by carbon and other elements absorbed by the stone. Daedalus plans to clean the statue's bronze figures and add a protective coating, as well as repair cracks and surface damage on its stone base.

With restoration efforts soon to commence, Brooks expects the statue to return to its original West Fenway location in October.

His organization expecting to commemorate the return of the monument with a weekend event in October. Brooks says it is long past time to bring the Burns statue back to its intended home.

"It's a wonderful piece of public art that was specifically dedicated to the Fenway," he said.

the city's approach to the opioid crisis as a whole. Mayor Marty Walsh's representatives announced that Walsh will hold a public forum in the South End the first week of September. The crowd was big enough that the event had to be moved outside from its planned location in the South End Library. Residents voiced a wide range of opinions, and those both for and against Operation Clean Sweep often harshly rebuked the city representatives.

Martinez reinforced to the audience that solving the drug abuse issue in Boston would take much more than any one idea.

"There's no simple answer, and anyone that tells you that is lying to you," he said.

serious cyanobacteria problem, leaving globs of noxious green scum nestled among the river's mounds of floating trash and dead phragmites reeds.

The Muddy Water Alliance eventually hopes to address this wider pollution issue through better stormwater management, but sifting out the trash is a strong first step, Reeves says. By making the river more visually appealing, Reeves hopes to encourage further conservation.

"For many years, the Muddy River has been a site of abuse," Reeves said. "We need to treat it with the respect it's always deserved."

**Thursdays**

**BAA & Esplanade Association Run Club.** Boston Athletic and Esplanade Associations run club open to runners of all abilities, running 5K and 5-mile runs. Free. Fiedler Head Statue, Charles River Esplanade. 6:30 am.

**Tuesdays-Thursdays, August-September 5**

**River Fit Summer Series.** Zumba, Lynx and Yoga. Free. Fiedler Field & Hatch Shell, Charles River Esplanade. 6 pm. Pre-registration encouraged: [esplanade.org/fitness](http://esplanade.org/fitness).

**Mondays, August**

**Salsa in the Park Mondays.** Outdoor salsa part with classes, performances, music. Free. Blackstone Community Center Courtyard, 50 West Brookline Street. 6-9 pm.

**Mondays & Saturdays, August**

**Quincy Market Tour.** Tour of the architecture, politics and geography. Free. Faneuil Hall. 11 am-12 pm.

**Wednesdays, July-August 14**

**Dorothy Curran Wednesday Night Concerts.** Outdoor concerts for all ages. Free. City Hall Plaza. 7 pm.

**Wednesdays, August**

**Titus Sparrow Park Concerts.** Outdoor concerts for all ages. Free. Titus Sparrow Park. 6:30 pm.

**Thursdays, August**

**Boston Calling Block Parties.** Enjoy games, music and drinks. Free. Dewey Sq Park. 5-8 pm.

**Sundays, May-October**

**SoWa Open Market.** Local art, food, drinks, music. Free. 460 Harrison Ave. 10 am-4 pm.

**Saturdays, August**

**Summer Lawn Games on the West Lawn.** Games from cornhole to giant Jenga are open to the public every Saturday this July-August. Free. Christopher Columbus Park, West Lawn.

**Wednesdays, August**

**Croquet on the West Lawn.** Do you have a competitive drive but don't want to break a sweat? Come hone your croquet skills on the West Lawn. Free. Christopher Columbus Park. 12-4 pm.

# ON THE TOWN

**Saturdays, July-October**

**Games Day at The Steps.** Oversized Jenga, Connect 4, checkers, music and putting green. Free. Corner of Washington and Franklin Streets. 11 am-3 pm.

**Friday, August 9-Sunday, August 11**

**Madonna Della Cava Feast.** Feast coinciding with the festival held in Sicily. Free. North End. 12 pm.

**Saturday, August 10**

**9th Annual Boston African Festival.** Celebration with art, fashion, vendors, food, music. Free. Boston Common. 10 am.

**REI's Find Out: Party in the Park.** Fun run, yoga, bike maintenance classes, s'mores, giveaways and music. Free, registration is required. 401 Park Green Space. 10 am.

**MFA Exhibition Opening: Viewpoints.**

Highlights from the Howard Greenberg Collection of Photographs. Museum of Fine Arts.

**Boston Contemporary Dance Festival.** Array of contemporary dancers from across the US. \$15-\$50. Huntington Avenue Theatre, 264 Huntington Ave. 2 pm & 7:30 pm.

**Sunday, August 11**

**50th Annual Chinatown August Moon Festival.** Live performances, food, art and vendors. Free. Phillips Square, 1 Harrison Avenue. 10 am.

**Trinity Church Art & Architecture Series.** Learn about Trinity Church's building and art through a forum after the 10 am service. Free. Trinity Church, 206 Clarendon Street. 11:30 am.

**SoWa Second Sunday.** More than 80 artists will be in their open studios with art available for view or purchase. Free. 450 Harrison Avenue. 11 am-4 pm.

**Union Park Concert.** Davey the Clown followed by Carl Eisman Group with Blackbird doughnuts and Ben & Jerry's ice cream. Free. Union Park, South End. 3-6 pm.

**Sunday Night Movies in the Park: Back to the Future.** Free, popcorn available. Sunset. Christopher Columbus Park.

**Monday, August 12**

**Tasty Burger Trivia Night.** Free. Tasty Burger, 1301 Boylston Street. 8 pm.

**Tuesday, August 13**

**Titus Sparrow Park Children's Concert.** Free. Titus Sparrow Park. 10 am.

**Berklee Concert with Hatsune Hirakura.** Jazz pianist concert. Free. 401 Park Drive Green Space. 12 pm.

**Pipes on the Plaza.** Free organ concert. Christian Science Plaza, 219 Mass Avenue. 12:15 pm.

**Fenway Civic Assn. Summer Public Meeting.**

News and updates to Fenway public spaces. Fenway Community Center, 1282 Boylston Street. 6-8 pm.

**Movie Night at Fenway.** World Series trophies on display, followed by *Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse*. \$10 (kids under 12 are free). Fenway Park Gates A & D. 6:45 pm warning track, 8 pm movie.

**Wednesday, August 14****Boston Landmarks Orchestra Annual Green Concert.**

In partnership with New England Aquarium. Free. Hatch Memorial Shell. 7-9 pm.

**Pilot Block Neighborhood Assn. Pizza Party.** Free, pizza and concert included. Titus Sparrow Park, 200 W. Newton. 6-8 pm.

**Thursday, August 15**

**Rosalita's Puppets Marionette.** Free performance sponsored by ParkARTS. Christopher Columbus Park. 11 am.

**ParkARTS Artist in Residence**

**Workshops for Kids.** Ages 3-10 can enjoy arts and crafts. Free. Christopher Columbus Park. 10 am-12 pm.

**SoWa Artist Talk.** A conversation with artists Mishael Coggleshall-Burr, Wilhelm Neusser and Natalia Wrobel discussing their paintings. Abigail Ogilvy Gallery, 460C Harrison Avenue. 6-8 pm.



**Greenway Augmented Reality Tour.** Tour of AR art. Free, registration is required. Meet at Dewey Sq. 5:30 pm.

**Summer of '69: Woodstock.** Songwriter and Berklee associate professor Mark Simos explores the significance of Woodstock. \$25-\$21. Boston Center for Adult Education, 122 Arlington Street. 6:30 pm.



**Movie Musicals at the Marketplace:** *A Star is Born.* Trivia, photo-op, prizes and a movie showing. Free. Faneuil Hall Marketplace. Pre-show at 7:30 pm, movie at dusk.

**Saturday, August 17**

**The Fenway Food Tour.** Learn history while munching. \$60. Hotel Commonwealth, 500 Comm Ave. 10 am.

**Sunday, August 18**

**Phillis Wheatley Day.** The day Phillis became a member of the Old South congregation. Free with museum admission. Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington Street.

**Monday, August 19**

**Boston Art & Music Soul Festival.** BAMS Fest celebrates youth and women empowerment through high-energy performances. Food trucks, games. Free. Hatch Shell, Charles River Esplanade. 6-7:30 pm.

**Wednesday, August 21**

**Panel Discussion: Women in Landscape Architecture Today.** To discuss the gender pay gap in architecture. Featuring panelists Clara Batchelor, Deneen Crosby, Eleni Glekas and Jessalyn Jarest. Free, registration required. Nichols House Museum, 55 Mt. Vernon Street. 6-7:30 pm.

**Thursday, August 22**

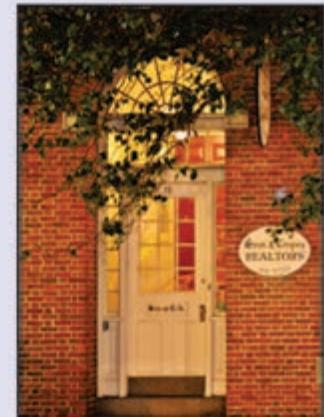
**Free Admission at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum's Neighborhood Nights.** Live performances, food trucks. 25 Evans Way. 5-9 pm.

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# Our Local Real Estate



## 380 Beacon Street, Unit 2

By Caroline Broderick

The Charles River has calming blue waters running for 80 miles, a verdant, activity rich Esplanade and the opportunity to escape from city life. Many Bostonians travel to the Charles for rowing, kayaking or trails, but at 380 Beacon Street, Unit 2, the river is your backyard. Views of the Charles from the lush summer through the striking white winter are available with the single move of a curtain.

This home is in an ideal location for peaceful living and access. Although this area of Back Bay is quiet and calm, it's only a few blocks away from Newbury Street, a unique shopping spot with endless boutiques and restaurants.

380 Beacon Street, Unit 2 is a three bedroom, three bathroom single floor co-op home with rare traits, making it a true gem. The ceilings stretch for over 10 feet and the walls are adorned with tall, oversized sound proof windows. The home fills with sunlight and has views of the Charles from the living room. Dark oak wood flooring spans throughout, contrasting with the bright white paneled walls.

Built in 1900 but converted into a cooperative in 1985, Unit 2 has five wood fireplaces, detailed molding and wainscoting. Its interior windows open the space up. Leading from the living area is a more secluded wood paneled room tucked into the corner of the home that can be used as a library or office

because of its built-in wall shelving.

The kitchen is equipped with professional grade appliances and high end custom cabinetry. There are two ovens and double Bosch dishwashers, as well as six stove burners. The stone counters extend to a spacious breakfast nook, a sunny spot with custom cabinets, an extra refrigerator, windows and a built-in bench. Off the kitchen is a large formal dining room with working pocket doors that separate the living room from the dining area.

The master bedroom is fitted with a walk-in closet and a large bathroom. The bathroom has a double sink and vanity along with a clawfoot bathtub. Sophisticated paneled walls give the bathroom a luxurious feeling.

The residence has a total of 10 rooms and includes a separate 483 square foot area with a private bath, large windows and fireplace, which can be used for a fitness studio, extra living room or office.

This 3,714 square foot condominium comes with a common rooftop deck, central air and one parking space with up to two additional rental parking space options. 380 Beacon Street is professionally managed and Unit 2 has direct elevator access. This home is listed at \$6.398 million. Contact Jonathon Curley at (781) 258-7996 or Elizabeth Crowley of William Raveis Real Estate at (617) 797-8659 for more information.



## BEACON HILL OPEN HOUSES

Price	Address	Type	Pkg	Beds	Baths	SF	Open House	Phone
\$8,500,000	46-54 Irving St	MF	0	28	16	11,284	Fri 11-2	(617) 256-5516
\$6,999,000	5 Joy St #PH	C	0	4	3.5	3,828	Sun 12-2	(617) 645-5888
\$4,999,000	5 Joy St #1	C	0	3	3.5	2,974	Sun 12-2	(617) 645-5888
\$1,449,000	25 Chestnut St #7	C	0	2	2	1,166	Sat 12-1:30	(617) 905-5441
\$1,195,000	70-72 Mt Vernon St #3B	C	0	2	1	1,045	Sun 12-1	(617) 797-1270
\$1,095,000	41 Beaver Pl	C	0	1	1	977	Sun 2-3	(617) 796-6084
\$829,000	234 Causeway St #919	C	0	1	1	1,011	Sun 11-1	(617) 680-9097

## BACK BAY OPEN HOUSES

Price	Address	Type	Pkg	Beds	Baths	SF	Open House	Phone
\$4,700,000	480 Beacon St #1	C	2	4	3.5	3,480	Sat 11:30-1	(508) 395-5938
\$3,400,000	184 Marlborough St #7	C	1	3	2.5	1,912	Mon 5-6:30	(617) 716-0240
\$2,300,000	375 Marlborough St #4	C	1	3	2	1,380	Sun 12-1	(617) 797-1270
\$2,095,000	37 Beaver Pl	C	0	2	2	1,435	Sun 2-3	(617) 796-6084
\$1,999,900	12 Gloucester St #4	C	0	2	2.5	1,732	Sun 12-1:30	(774) 275-4030
\$1,899,999	24 Marlborough St #2	C	1	3	2.5	1,338	Sun 3:30-5:30	(617) 538-2239
\$1,575,000	402 Marlborough St #3	C	2	2	2	1,145	Sun 12-1	(617) 797-1270
\$1,395,000	457 Beacon St #2	C	1	2	2	1,113	Sat, Sun 12-1:30	(617) 967-6666
\$1,395,000	457 Beacon St #2	C	1	2	2	1,113	Mon 5:30-7	(617) 967-6666
\$1,299,900	227 Beacon St #1	C	0	2	2	1,415	Sun 2-3	(774) 275-4030
\$1,299,000	167 Comm Ave #1	C	0	1	1.5	1,243	Sun 11-12	(617) 960-6080
\$1,175,000	345 Comm Ave #8	C	1	2	1	1,125	Fri, Sun 12-1	(617) 908-4000
\$989,000	71 Marlborough St #1	C	1	2	1	942	Sun 12-1	(857) 222-3987
\$819,900	329 Beacon St #2	C	0	1	1	690	Sun 12-1	(508) 769-1084
\$799,000	409 Beacon St #3	C	0	1	1	684	Sun 12-1	(508) 934-6699
\$779,000	160 Comm Ave #521	C	0	1	1	701	Sat 12-1	(857) 222-3987
\$750,000	313 Beacon St #14	C	0	1	1	657	Sat, Sun 11:30-12:30	(617) 480-0414
\$699,000	35 Bay State Rd #1R	C	0	1	1	682	Sun 1-2	(617) 413-3216
\$675,000	362 Comm Ave #5B	C	0	1	1	581	Sat 12-1	(617) 270-1188

## SOUTH END OPEN HOUSES

Price	Address	Type	Pkg	Beds	Baths	SF	Open House	Phone
\$2,650,000	15 Braddock Pk #1	C	2	3	2.5	2,370	Sun 11:30-1	(617) 861-3636
\$2,575,000	112 W Concord St #PH	C	1	3	3	2,107	Sat, Sun 11:30-12:30	(617) 908-4000
\$1,995,000	26 Rutland Sq #3	C	1	2	2.5	1,640	Sun 1:30-3	(617) 861-3636
\$1,550,000	678 Mass Ave #4	C	2	4	2.5	1,844	Sun 11:30-12:30	(617) 266-4430
\$1,249,000	9-11 Harcourt St #501	C	0	1	1	926	Sun 11:30-1	(617) 678-6923
\$1,100,000	1313 Washington St #323	C	0	1	1	1,024	Sun 12-1	(617) 266-4430
\$975,000	4 Worcester Sq #5	C	1	2	1	982	Sun 12-2	(617) 721-2143
\$940,000	5 Greenwich Pk #5	C	0	2	1	739	Sun 12-1:30	(617) 413-0888
\$915,000	300 Columbus Ave #5	C	0	2	1	894	Sun 11:30-1	(617) 861-3636
\$869,900	600 Mass Ave #4	C	0	2	1	1,045	Sat 12-2	(978) 758-2419
\$739,000	167 Warren Ave #4	C	0	1	1	614	Sun 1:30-3	(617) 861-3636
\$559,000	16 Melrose St #2	C	0	1	1	588	Sat, Sun 12-2	(617) 869-4907

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