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SERVING BACK BAY - SOUTH END - FENWAY - KENMORE

Gov. Baker signs bill for new shadow law

By Dan Murphy

Gov. Charlie Baker signed a home-rule petition into law Friday that would allow Millennium Partners to build a 775-foot luxury, condo tower on the site of the shuttered, city-owned Winthrop Square Garage, thereby bypassing two existing state “shadow” laws protecting the Boston Common and Public Garden.

While the new building would cast new shadows on the parks on many early mornings, Mayor Martin J. Walsh introduced the bill in April for a “one-time” exemption to the state laws, citing the reported \$153 million windfall that sale of the property would bring the city. The City Council approved the bill by a vote of 10-3.

Brian Golden, director of the Boston Planning and Development

Agency, applauded Baker for signing the bill in a statement.

“This common-sense change will better protect the Boston Common and Boston Public Garden for years to come while allowing a project that will generate hundreds of millions of dollars for Boston’s neighborhoods, parks and public housing to move forward,” Golden wrote.

Baker’s office couldn’t be immediately reached for comment.

With passage of the bill, the Friends of the Public Garden, which steadfastly opposed the project, has negotiated an agreement with Millennium Partners, whereby the developer would invest \$125,000 a year for 40 years towards a fund for the upkeep of the Common, Public Garden and

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WALK FOR RENEWABLES



Photo by Beth Treffeisen

Cam Wilson was marching for both 350.org and for the Boston Clean Energy Coalition holds up a sign saying “No KXL Pipeline” at the Walk for Renewables.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT



Photos by Seth Daniel

HEAD-LINER: “Heder” of the Floor Lords dance troupe performed up, down and every which way during the South End 21st annual National Night Out celebration in Castle Square on Tuesday night, Aug. 1. The celebration brought out Mayor Martin Walsh, Police Commissioner William Evans and many more to the summer anti-crime celebration. Police officers also made many friends in the neighborhood as well. Here, Martin Chan gets to check out the motorcycles of Transit Officer Chi Keung and Transit Sgt. Stanley Pa’u.

South End hosts District 2 candidate forum

By Beth Treffeisen

Outside the Calderwood Pavilion in the South End, proud residents rooting for their favorite District 2 candidate held up colorful signs and posters. Inside, a large crowd formed to listen to the six candidates on topics ranging from displacement of residents due to high rents to traffic safety.

The Boston Ward 4 Democratic Committee, Ellis South End

Neighborhood Association, South End Forum, and the *South End News* hosted a candidate forum for the City Council District 2 race on Wednesday, July 26, at the Boston Center for the Arts.

The candidates included Mike Kelley, Peter Lin-Marcus, Ed Flynn, Joseph Kebartas, Corey Dinopoulos, Erica Tritta and Kora Vakil, who was absent from the forum. District 2 encompasses a diverse range of neighbor-

hoods including the Bay Village, Chinatown, South End, South Boston and downtown.

Sue O’Connell, the co-publisher of the *South End News* and *Bay Windows* and host of NECN’s “The Take with Sue O’Connell,” moderated the forum.

After a brief introduction from each candidate questions from the audience were answered through

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Historic Charlie's Sandwich Shoppe under new ownership

By Seth Daniel

The name still bears the antique spelling of “shoppe,” and the celebrity pictures of folks like “Jason” from *Friday the 13th* and numerous jazz legends still adorn the walls, but a new ownership has taken over the famous Charlie’s Sandwich Shoppe on Columbus Avenue that is excited about their warm reception into the community.

Damian and Sheree Marciante, owners of the other famous

diner nearby – Victoria Diner in Newmarket, have re-opened Charlie’s Sandwich Shoppe and have big plans for the old place.

“We turned on the lights and pulled up the shades and people started trickling in,” said Damian. “A lot of the neighbors and regulars have been coming in and sharing their experiences...We have all the original pictures on the walls that we kept – all the movie stars and the presidents who have come here and dined here. The history of Boston and the Victoria Diner and

Charlie’s are very important to us.

“I think diners in particular are a neutral zone,” he continued. “Everyone comes in, and you talk to each other. You could have a conversation with friends or meet people, and it’s a community thing. I think we need a place like Charlie’s to talk to each other in the digital age with social media going on so much. Here, you can come in and talk to a perfect stranger, and meet new people and

(CHARLIE'S SANDWICH SHOPPE Pg. 2)

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