

# THE BACK BAY SUN

SHEDDING NEW LIGHT ON AN OLD NEIGHBORHOOD



Andrew Friedland

## The right next move

*Friedland combines expertise and passion to bring living in the city to life*

By Sun staff

ANDREW FRIEDLAND IS A SHINING example of a successful mid-life career-changer. Having worked in computer software marketing and development for 35 years, including owning his own company, he moved into real estate 5 years ago. This past year his sales (including “under agreements”) totaled \$17 million, and he was top producer in number of transactions at RE/MAX Destiny, with offices in Back Bay & Cambridge.

Friedland is a people’s person. He thrives on contacts with his clients and extends himself to go the extra distance for them. “This was missing for me in the high tech industry and is an aspect of my current career that I cherish. I derive great personal satisfaction when I know that I have helped my clients to achieve their goals and fulfill their dreams.”

Friedland entered real estate with a wealth of knowledge. His graduate business degree helped

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him in establishing his new career. More importantly, his engineering degree gives him a valuable edge in understanding the construction and system underpinnings of residential buildings.

Friedland has owned and renovated 14 homes. More recently he and his wife, Marilyn Levitt (a psychotherapist and coach), bought and renovated their 4-story townhouse located in the Symphony Hall neighborhood. Their home underwent a major transformation including the installation of a new kitchen and 5 new bathrooms; all new heating, windows, electrical, lighting; some rooms changed with new walls & doors and new stairway built; floors rebuilt and refinished; and painting throughout. This was all done in 4 months!

Friedland was on the premises daily working closely with their contractor. Marilyn, with her exquisite innate design sense, was largely responsible for the interior design and decoration. Throughout, they worked as a team and always ran ideas by each other and took final decisions together. It is this sense of functioning as a team that is an integral part of what Andrew brings to his real estate work with clients.

And Friedland loves Boston! Having raised two children in the suburbs, he brings to his work the experience of having moved to Boston as an empty nester and indeed empathizes and works effectively with those following that pattern. Andrew also especially enjoys working with people relocating to Boston and introducing them to some of the unique and wonderful features of life in

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this city. He is a regular instructor at Boston Center for Adult Education where he teaches “Secrets of the Boston Real Estate Market” and “Ready, Set, Sell” which are standards at the school.

And Friedland walks the talk! He and Marilyn frequent the Boston Symphony Orchestra; subscribe to the Huntington Theatre, the Boston Opera and the Boston Lyric Opera (Marilyn studies voice at New England Conservatory); help support the Boston Conservatory and are benefactors of their beloved Boston Ballet.

In addition they are active members of NABB. Andrew served for several years on the NABB City Services Committee and currently is a committee member of the Wine Tasting Group. For the past 3 years, Marilyn and Andrew have hosted the opening party for NABB’s Wine & Dine Group in their stunning home. They are also active with Symphony United Neighbors—Andrew serves on their board—and were instrumental in establishing the Symphony Neighborhood Task Force, with joint leadership with Councilor Mike Ross, Northeastern University and the BPD.

Having been raised in California and having lived, as well, in both Chicago and upstate New York, he appreciates all that life in Boston offers. He brings that spirit into his real estate work in a way that is genuine and infectious. “Boston is simply the best!” ●