When their day is done, Duck boats nestle in their big Dorchester home

BY YUKUN ZHANG
REPORTER CORRESPONDENT

They’ve become symbols of spring and Boston sports glories. But when Boston’s Duck boats are not on the road or on the Charles River, they spend their off-hours in a building near Fields Corner.

“In the summer, when the doors are open, people will drive by and you can see them jam on the brakes, stop, back up, look into the garage, and be like, ‘Oh my god, that’s where they are,’” said Tony Cerullo, who has been director of vehicle maintenance with Boston Duck Tours for 24 years. “When their day is done, Duck boats are parked in a garage near Fields Corner. Yukun Zhang photo

The large garage, home to 28 Ducks, is tucked into a corner of two narrow streets, with gates opening to an open parking lot connecting the garage to the street. The facility is staffed every day, even in off-seasons, between the weekend after Thanksgiving and the beginning of spring.

“Every winter, we take all the Ducks apart, and we clean all the inside parts out and replace the engines of some of them,” said Bob Schwartz, director of marketing and sales. “There are always ways to improve them. Right now, we are putting convertible roofs on all the Ducks—not all of them have them yet. We installed cameras and sensors several years ago for safety concerns.”

It’s still early in the season, and not all the ducks are in operation. Some are still being worked on, Schwartz said. Deep inside the garage, beyond the rows of Ducks, are shelves and cases of mechanical tools and parts. A Spider-Man poster, an old one from the Sam Raimi era, hangs high up above the aisle leading to more tools and workspace.

On the first morning of the 2019 season, Mayor Martin Walsh took office amid a crowd in the garage, where every Duck boat is named after a prominent figure or event in Boston’s history.

At the facility’s open house and pipe cutting ceremony last Saturday, Mayor Martin Walsh hailed the center’s potential, saying to a crowd of several hundred people, “It is going to offer an opportunity right in the heart of this neighborhood for people to make anything possible for them.”

“This is what it looks like to rebuild the middle class,” he added, “this building represents the opportunity for somebody to buy a home someday, to be able to put food on the table, send

... (Continued on page 4)

MBTA hosts public meeting on future plans for Ashmont-Mattapan trolley line from 6-8 p.m. at the Lower Mills branch of the BPL, 27 Richmond St., Dorchester.

Sunday (7th) – Hub New Music gives the world premiere of a new work by Kati Agócs, commissioned by Ashmont Hill Chamber Music for the ensemble at 4 p.m. at All Saints Church.

Thursday (11th) – JFK Library forum features Pulitzer Prize and National Book Award-winning author Robert Caro discusses his new book detailing his experiences researching and writing books on his distinguished career. He discussed key global issues and reflects on his distinguished career. He discusses key global issues and reflects on his distinguished career. President of Colombia, as well as the American Experience Series partners with Kennedy Library and WGBH will partner for an exclusive preview of the American Experience Series partners with Kennedy Library and WGBH will partner for an exclusive preview. See emkinstitute.org to register for free. Kennedy Library and WGBH will partner for an exclusive preview. See emkinstitute.org to register for free.

Governor Charlie Baker swore in Katherine Craven as the new chair of the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education. Craven, a native of West Roxbury, was the founding executive director and chief executive officer of the Massachusetts School Building Authority. She was first appointed to the 11-member Board in 2014. A former education aide to Speaker of the House Tom Finneran, Craven currently serves as the chief administrative and financial officer of Babson College, one of the nation’s leading business colleges located in Wellesley. She was formerly the executive director of the UMass Building Authority and assistant vice president for capital finance at Northeastern University. She was also a senior researcher at the Girls Clubs of Dorchester and received a Bachelor of Arts in History from Harvard University. She now lives in Brookline, with her husband and five children.

Photo courtesy Gov. Baker’s office

Kaboom sinks in Dorchester Bay; two are rescued by Coast Guard

Boston Police reported on Saturday that a kayak trip into Dorchester Bay for two months ago when their craft took on water and sank, forcing them - and their dog - to swim through 40-degree waters to a nearby buoy, where they grabbed a life preserver, hoping for rescue.

The men suffered severe hypothermia but survived, police say. The dog, however, died.

Police noted that someone on a tour of the JFK Library on Columbia Point found his binoculars toward the bay, spotted the two at the top of the buoy and called the Coast Guard. A BPD harbor-unit boat was already in the bay when strong winds and choppy seas “became overwhelming” and they tried to turn back, only to have their boat capsize.

The men were taken to a local hospital for treatment; the dog’s body was taken to Angell Animal Medical Center.

Police say they two men had launched the kayak from Carson Beach and made it out into Dorchester Bay when strong winds and choppy seas “became overwhelming” and they tried to turn back, only to have their boat capsize.

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continued community
ment and service needs,
average of invest-
other eight to 10 years,
keep them running for
tery (PCC) trolleys to
vestment to repair the
three phases of the
chief deputy operating
results were made public
speed Line study, a
two-year review the
Speed Line study, a
overview of the origin
represented Russell
Square, including state
vice Center in Mattapan
in January.

Erik Stoothoff, the T’s
chief deputy operating
officer, presented the
three phases of the
potential “transfor-

The ongoing phase 1
embodies a $7.9 million
vestment to repair the
current fleet of President
Conference Commit-
tee (PCC) trolleys to
keep them running for
another eight to 10 years,
vestment and service needs,
continued community
feedback and evaluation of
future vehicle options.

Phase 2 will bring
reparies and upgrades
to infrastructure and
stations to accommodate
new vehicles: bridges
that support heavier
vehicles, track, power
system, new signal
system at Central
and Capen road crossings.
Stations will be acces-
sible, platforms will be
repaired and access and
paths of travel at Val-
ley Road, Milton, and
Ashmont will also see
improvement. Phase 2
is expected to cost $90-
115 million.

In Phase 3, a new fleet
will likely replace the
current fleet of orange
PCC trolleys, which were
built in the mid 1940s.
The six options laid out
by the study range from
keeping the existing
trolleys to electric trolleys.
Buses are unpopular
with the community, and
the installation could
cause long service inter-
ruptions. Keeping the
old trolleys or buying
new models of the trolleys
won’t solve the access-
sibility issue. Of the two
options for light rail cars,
using the existing Type 9
cars, which have already
been tested on the Green
Line, is more economic
than buying new cars.

“Our next step is going
through our capital in-
vestment plan to request
funding for phase 2—we
have done that and it’s
in the program—and
we’ve got several public
meetings coming up,”
Stoothoff said as he con-
cluded the presentation.

The slow pace with
which the transforma-
tion is moving troubles
Barbara Crichlow, a
community activist.

"If you are waiting
for a solution for the
situation which we
are still hearing about
from people in the
community, you are
not going to get
one," she said. "How
much longer will we hear
this over and over and
over again?"

Eliza Butts, a Milton
resident who commutes
to Fenway every day,
noted that repurposing
Type 9 cars depends on
the MBTA purchasing
the Type 10 cars. Butts
asked when that will be
certain and whether
there will be a vote on
the deciding the vehicle.

Stoothoff answered
that whether Type 10
will be purchased “in the
next couple years” and there’s
no vote scheduled.

Cullinane asserted
that modernizing the
trolley route is a transit
equity issue. “Mattapan
has one of the longest
commutes into Boston in
the entire city… it takes
about one hour to get into
town, but if you take the
trolley out of the mix,
that commute time bal-
loons,” Cullinane said.

Butts asked when that
will be “the only cars in the
country of that nature.”

Stoothoff added that
the MBTA will have the
opportunity to see how
the Type 9 cars are work-
ring before repurposing
them for the Mattapan
line, and the extra fund-
ing from not having to
buy new vehicles
be “the only cars in the
country of that nature.”

As we are looking at
many different vehicle
options... But even if
that’s the case, when
we are talking about being
able to repurpose the
railcars from the Green
Line away from anything,
I think we need to be
the last to have them
be certain and whether
new light rail cars will
be “the only cars in the
country of that nature.”

Cullinane told the
Reporter.
Ducks and the workshift, moved between the mechanic on the morning Tours, Alex Lopez, a season for Boston Duck Off duty, Duck boats rest in Dot coop wanted something closer outgrew the space. “We Boston, but the business rented a shipyard in East water like in a shipyard. We used to. Way back.” Fields Corner, Dorches- ter, it’s sometimes a letdown. “I think they think we do it on the people often Creeulle said people often answer the phone when he tells them in the middle of the “front,” he said with a duck. After that, an addition was built in front of the original building. In 2006, the company replaced the World War II Ducks with newer ones, and five years ago, another piece of building was added, Cerulle said. Seeing the empty Ducks swimming in the morning or afternoon traffic of Dorchester can be a sort of surreal experience. “People do get excited when they see the ducks drive by,” said Matt Frank, executive director of Fields Corner Main Street, a neighbor-ood organization. Frank said that last November, his organiza- tion teamed up with Boston Duck Tours for their annual fundraiser, dubbed Ducktini instead of the usual Dotini. A Duck was parked at the venue, a photo booth was set up in front of it, and people who attended the events took selfies with the vehicle. “We have a very good relationship with them, and we plan to do more with them,” Frank said. Once in a while, when groups depart from Dorchester to go on a tour, the Duck rides would begin in Dorches- ter. Cerulle recalled Kit Clark Senior Center and Dorchester Little League as groups that received the pickups. Two weeks ago, on March 22, the first day of the Duck Tour sea- son, the half-hour ride on “Symphony Hal,” a bright yellow Duck, from the Fields Corner garage to Prudential Center was bumpy and silent except for the clanging of metal parts. The speed meter indicated a speed of a little over 20 mph. “We don’t drive this fast during the tour,” said the driver, Kulbir Samra, a native of India.

Above: “Back Bay Bertha” drives through the crossing of Adams and Park Street in Dorchester.

Right: A Duck boat departs from the garage.

Yukan Zhang photo

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Dorchester morning traffic as seen from the window of a Duck boat en route to Prudential Center.

A time of rest in the Fields Corner garage.

Alex Lopez, a mechanic, looks for a tool from the drawers in the garage.

Bill O’Connell, the operations manager, signals a driver in the garage.

Joe Rodin, who narrates the tour under the nickname Scott Milk, invites tourists to drive the Duck while the vehicle is on water.

A side mirror captures the garage scene where the boats are lined up for the work ahead.

All photos by Yukun Zhang
Pressley: DCCC vendor rule ‘slams door’ on women, people of color in particular

By KIMBERLY ATKINS
CoRESPONDENT

Rep. Ayanna Pressley is pushing back against a new Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee rule that penalizes politicians and other campaign vendors if they work for Democratic candidates who face challenging incumments in primaries.

The Boston Democrat, who unseated longtime Rep. Mike Capuano in the Bay State’s 7th District last November, said the rule “slams the door on people who look like me” and said she’s fighting the idea.

“I think we can certainly contribute to what are already culturally and institutionally biased systems if we don’t get to closer and in race,” Pressley told WBUR. That negative impact will be felt “on both sides of this, both on the candidate side and on the vendor side,” she said.

Pressley said that even before the rule, some vendors were told “not to work near” her campaign lest they face retaliation from Democratic Party leaders. She added that she was grateful for the “brave” staff who joined her campaign anyway, and says the success of primaries challenges like hers and New York Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez’s “shows that it’s possible to bring in new voices, to build alliances with underserved communities.”

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SJP II sixth grader runner up in state GeoBee competition

By ELANA AURIGE STAFF REPORTER
Thomas Germain, a sixth grader at Saint John Paul II Catholic Academy in Neponset, finished second in the National Geographic GeoBee State Competition held on Fri., March 29 at Elmore College in Springfield.

The GeoBee is an academic competition meant to promote geography knowledge in grades 4-8. The competition includes three levels - school, state, and national.

Schools hold their own GeoBee and name a school champion, who then takes a proctored and timed qualifying exam. More than 1,000 students across the state took the exam, but only the top 100 ranked from each state were selected to represent their school at the state competition. Germain placed first at the SJP II school-wide competition, but had competed in the GeoBee before, this was his first time making it to the state finals.

“First I got to represent my school and that I made it to No. 2 in the state,” he said. “The finals were challenging, but the semifinals were not. I prepared by reading books about geography and looking at maps and globes. I’d like to compete again but I have to see if my new school participates. I’m going to Boston Latin School next fall.

Germain has had an active interest in maps and flags since kindergarten, making questions like, “This UNESCO world heritage site sits in a Roman and Greek outpost but it is threatened by conflict in what North African Country?” a no-brainer.

Listener was the only 11-year-old Germain at the GeoBee competition.

“Thanks to my teachers, Mrs. Roach, Mr. Krier, and my principal, Mr. Cuomo for allowing me to compete, and said, “I’m thankful to my parents and sister for supporting me.”

Germain continues to read and study geography – his main hobby being memorizing the names of all countries, states, and provinces. He is an active member in school choir, soccer, archery and rowing.

In 1854, Henry Joseph Gardner was elected governor of Massachusetts on the ticket of the Know Nothing party. Previously, he had been a member of the Boston Common Council from 1850 to 1853, and president during his last two years on that body. He also served as a state representative in 1851 and 1852, and as a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1853.

The Know Nothing party stalwart was a descendent of Hannah Clap and Henry Gardner, of Stow, Massachusetts, who had been treasurer of Massachusetts, having been appointed by the Sons of Liberty to that office as early as 1774. In the years before the Revolution, Gardner was one of the towns that paid its taxes to Mr. Gardner instead of to the crown.

Hannah and Henry had two sons, Henry Joseph and Joseph, both doctors of medicine. They lived in a house at the base of Jones Hill at the corner of Pleasant Street and Sawyer Avenue. In 1853, Henry Joseph purchased the Trull estate on Hancock Street on the side of Jones Hill.

Over the course of the two decades before the Civil War, the Commonwealth was faced with the challenges of social and economic change, mostly due to the recent arrival of huge numbers of Catholic immigrants, many of whom had fled Ireland during the worst of the Great Famine years. Among the most vocal opponents of the Know Nothing party was Gardner.

About 30 people turned out for a public hearing of the Metropolitan Beaches Commission last Saturday at the Savin Hill Yacht Club to discuss the current state of the public beaches in Dorchester – Savin Hill, Malibu, and Tenean – as well as the press that beaches, dunes and sand are in. A series of nine public hearings being hosted by the MBRA in the region’s beachfront communities as part of the process write a report with findings for recommendations for the Commonwealth. Commissioner Paul Nutting of the Friends of Savin Hill Shores thanked his fellow commissioners for coming to learn about the process. The commission plans a regional review hearing on Sat., May 18, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at UMass Boston.

PHOTO COURTESY Save the Harbor/Save the Bay

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In 1854, during his terms, legislation was enacted recognizing the property curtailment of the powers of the General Court, and acts relating to the curtailment of the powers of the governor, reform in special election laws, and the “reading and writing” clause in the naturalization laws.

The popularity of the nativist movement waned, and Gardner was defeated in the election of 1857 by a Republican anti-slavery candidate. Still the Know Nothings wielded some influence. Gardner had supported an amendment to the constitution that a foreign-born male, even after obtaining his citizenship papers, should have to wait 21 years to vote. The 1856 legislature cut this to 14 years. In 1858, with a limit of 2 years passed and in 1859, it passed again. In the 1860s, when the Republican party became more popular, the amendment was repealed.

The archive of these historical posts can be viewed on the blog at dorchesterhistoricalsociety.org. Please Note: The Society’s historic houses are open on the second Sunday of each month from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. James Blake House, 735 Columbus Blvd (1801); Lemuel Clap House, 199 Boston Street (1712 and remodelled 1765); William Hall, 308 centre Street (1712); and Brazilian Antonio Clap House, 199 Boston Street (1712).
One Boston Day: a celebration for everything Boston stands for.

By Mayor Martin J. Walsh

Every year on the third Monday in April, tens of thousands of Americans take to the 26.2-mile Boston Marathon route to Boylston Street at Copley Square. All along the route, thousands of spectators cheer on their friends, family members, and complete strangers. The race up our city’s own hill is nothing else like a “Sophie’s Choice” for municipalities like Boston and smaller towns as well, where access TV is a vital part of town meetings, elections and other civic events.

The new proposal would permit cable operators to “assign a value to public, educational and governmental access channels as representative as possible.” The city would set up a “Sophie’s Choice” for municipalities like Boston and smaller towns as well, where access TV is a vital part of town meetings, elections and other civic events.

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The access stations are largely funded through these fees and the FCC’s new formula, according to Sen. Ed Markey, “is working cable access channels could pose an “existential threat” to community television in Massachusetts. In Boston, the city decides to negotiate a host agreement. Boston decided to negotiate a host agreement.

The voters have spoken and like it or not, marijuana is legal in Boston. Given the newness of this industry, it is hardly surprising that everyone from elected officials to community leaders feels as though they’re finding their way through a series of complex rules.

“One Dorchester” is a group of 32 civic associations, Main Street programs, and health centers some of whose businesses are changing the landscape, to find accurate information to share with our community, and to work with state and federal officials to implement a process and ensure that the outcome is positive for both applicants and for the diverse residents of Dorchester and their economy.

On Jan. 14, One Dorchester met at the Strand Theatre with Stephen Hoffman, the chairman of the Cannabis Control Commission, and Alexis Tkachuk, the city’s Director of Emerging Industries. The purpose of the meeting was to get clarity on the regulations and the process, discuss the impact on our community, and recommend solutions to help ensure smooth implementation. By filing a second bill, SD-1983, which provides that 2 percent of marijuana fees go directly to funding the Social Equity program.

The other was to use industry payments for marijuana license bidders in Dorchester. The other was to use industry payments for marijuana license bidders in Dorchester. The other was to use industry payments for marijuana license bidders in Dorchester.

Another issue that One Dorchester identified was the lack of access to capital for Economic Empowerment applicants. State regulations give priority to applicants who are economically disadvantaged by marijuana regulations, but the reality is that it is a significant and essential step to start a marijuana business and our neighborhood leaders feel as though they’re finding their way through a series of complex rules.

We look forward to the completion of the memorial this coming summer.

In Boston, applicants must secure control of a building before they can submit a license application. Fairness should dictate that given the city’s buffer zone requirements, it’s essential that applicants know about other locations where a marijuana application has been submitted before they commit funds. This could be accomplished by publishing an up-to-date listing of the locations of submitted applications on the city’s website. The buffer zone is key to managing the marijuana industry in the city and should be enforced without exception.

Diversity and equal opportunity are musts for marijuana license applicants in Dorchester.

By Barry Lawton and Marti A. Glynn

This year, for the first time since 2013, One Boston Day and the Marathon fall on the same day. But it will be a Boston Strong day. We encourage everyone to do something good for your community on Monday the 15th or during the weekend leading up to it. GoToOneBostonDay.org! And tell us what you will do.

This year, we are also finalizing our work on a memorial to honor the heroes of April 15, 2013, left our city reeling; it was one of Boston’s grit and heart; our resilience and hope. It serves as a way to celebrate the resilience, kindness, and strength demonstrated by the people of Boston in response to the tragedy. We honor those we lost, and those whose lives were changed forever, with acts of kindness planned by individuals and organizations throughout the city and around the world. Last year, we honored the 2014 Boston Marathon and more than 100 individual acts of kindness. Bostonians shared their projects on social media, and the hashtag #OneBostonDaywas trending nationwide.

The news will publish the winners and the stories of some of these winners through social media, the newsletter, and on the website.

Diversity and equal opportunity are musts for marijuana license applicants in Dorchester:
Pipefitters Local opens ‘top-notch’ Dot facility

A hearty welcome to Dot Block, once a dumping ground, and now a destination

Above: Mayor Martin Walsh greeted the leadership of the Pipefitters Union Local 537 last Saturday inside their new facility on Enterprise Street near Edward Everett Square in Dorchester.

Below: Inside the training facility at the Pipefitters building. Photos by Yukun Zhang

A hearty welcome to Dot Block, once a dumping ground, and now a destination

(Continued from page 1)

“Not only will the Dot Block project close a gap in an area well known for illegal and unsavory behavior, but it will also encompass much needed housing, an underground garage, commercial space, 1.3 acres of open green space, and 125 trees. Additionally, the Dot Block project seeks to create safe, meaningful, and welcoming pedestrian connections from Meetinghouse Hill through the property to the Savin Hill MBTA Station.

“The community process for this plan has taken nearly 6 years and well over 100 meetings. The most recent iteration of this development project provides for not only a better design, but also for more affordable housing options as well as a Dorchester residents’ preference. As part of the Inclusionary Development Program (IDP) a tool used by the city to create affordable housing, Dot Block is generating 66 affordable units on site. Of the affordable units, 51 will be 70 percent of the Area Median Income (AMI) and 15 will be 50 percent of the AMI. Half of the Median Income (AMI) units on site. Of the generating 66 affordable housing, Dot Block is seen as a Dorchester residential Development Program part of the Inclusionary zoning of this development as a Dorchester residential Development Program part of the Inclusionary zoning which sits on the site of the old, 1960s-era training center, is well-lighted by sunlit pouring through glass walls and tall windows. It radiates an industrial vibe with exposed ceilings and ash grey walls. Hundreds of people, including the families of union members, filled the auditorium for the open house and pipe cutting ceremony with union representatives, and city and state officials.

“I am grateful not only that this training facility is in the city of Boston, but I am grateful that it’s in Dorchester,” said Walsh, a Dorchester resident.

“Tens of thousands of people from our neighborhood are going to come here and get access to the best careers in the world,” said another Dorchester resident, Brian Doherty, general agent of Metro Boston Building Trades. And Brian Kelly, business manager of Local 537, said the new center more than triples the training space, increases the meeting space, and improves the center’s ability to train members.

“Instructors and apprentices, clad in yellow vests, gave tours and introduced the new facility to people before and after the ceremony.

“We first came to the building in January on the first school day. We came in here and were like, ‘Wow, the place is awesome,’” said Edward Page, a three-year pipework apprentice from Salem, N.H. The old building, Page said, was a single-story building and “kind of like a prison.”

“The welding shop on the first floor boasts 88 booths. Pete Aylward, a welding instructor, said the booths for stick-welding used to be tighter, and that the new welding machines are small but multi-functional.

“Chris Brennan, an HVAC (Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning) instructor, noted that in the old building, all the equipment was on wheels because everything had to be moved out of the box before the training and put away afterwards. Now it’s all set up, plugged in and up and running.”

Joe DeLuca, a pipeworker from Tewksbury, Mass., said the new facility is “top-notch.” He was trained at the old center, and now his daughter is a first-year pipework apprentice at Local 537.

“The five-year training program at Local 537 offers three options: pipework, welding, and HVAC. The program is free of charge except for union dues. No prior mechanical experience is required, and there is no age limit. Apprentices are assigned to work with union contractors from the beginning of the program, and their wages could go up as their skills improve.

“The best part of this is that we don’t pay for our education. You work and you go to school at the same time. They learn on the job, get the technical part of it at school, and take that skill to the job,” Brennan said.

Matthew Joseph, a second-year pipework apprentice from Dorchester, said the benefits of the program are “amazing.” He said he got into Local 537 through Building Pathways, a Boston program that helps low-income area residents access training and career in the construction industry. He started with a Boston program local, and a former pipeworker in his family.

Dylan Perez, a Watertown pipework apprentice, said the opportunities are not limited to pipework. A pipeworker can also be a project manager or a foreman.

Kelley said there are currently more than 500 apprentices at Local 537. “We are doing two things. We are preparing for the baby boomers to retire, and increase our membership to deal with the existing building boom in Boston.”

Or, as Matt Takis, a Salem, Mass. pipework apprentice put it: “Building Block is the one shield at a time.”

For more images and a video from the dedication ceremony, see DotNews.com.

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DOTFEST SET FOR APRIL 11
AT DOTHOUSE HEALTH
Join DotHouse Health in celebrating community life in Dorchester's Fields Corner neighborhood and one of the best community-based health and social services organizations in the City of Boston. The celebration will take place on Thurs., April 11 from 6 to 9 p.m. at DotHouse Health. For more information, please visit DotFest.org.

JFK LIBRARY MOONSHOT EVENT ON APRIL 4
JFK Library in Dorchester hosts a free program on Thurs., April 4 called American Moonshot: JFK and the Great Space Race, from 6-7:30 p.m. Award-winning author and Rice University professor of history Douglas Brinkley discusses his new book, American Moonshot: John F. Kennedy and the Great Space Race, with Pulitzer Prize-winning author and Harvard professor of history Fredrik Logevall. Register at jfklibrary.org.

DOT PARK CLEAN-UP, EASTER EGG HUNT
The Dorchester Park Association is cleaning up to get ready for Easter. Volunteers are needed to join a cleanup on Sat., April 13 from 8-11 a.m. It will consist of raking out leaves on the tennis courts and removing litter from the Spring Egg Hunt search area. If interested, please meet at the tennis courts any time before 8 a.m. The Spring Egg Hunt will begin on Sat., April 20 at 10 a.m. sharp, with the Easter Bunny will be available and attendees should prepare to search for eggs within Dorchester Park. Dorchester Park is located at 2180 Dorchester Ave. Please visit dotpark.org for further information.

CEDAR GROVE CEMETARY ANNUAL MEETING ON APRIL 25
The annual meeting of the proprietors of Cedar Grove Cemetery will be held on Thurs., April 25 at 3 p.m. in the office of Cedar Grove Cemetery, 920 Adams St. The purpose of the Meeting is to elect Trustees and to transact any other business that may properly come before the meeting. The Reports of the Treasurer and the Auditor will also be presented. The Annual Report of the Proprietors of Cedar Grove Cemetery for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2018 will be available at the Cemetery office.

(Continued on page 14)
Non-profits unite to counter hesitation on census responses

By Simon Rios
WBUR Reporter

Members from an array of organizations gathered at the library in East Boston Monday with a unified goal: to make sure people in their respective communities respond to the 2020 census. It’s an important decennial event that determines how much money and how much political representation Massachusetts is entitled to get.

It’s a common theme at the turn of a decade, but this time around, community-based advocates for the census say the job could be significantly harder than it was in 2010. That’s because the Trump administration is fighting to put the citizenship question on the 2020 census.

“If we ask this question, we’re going to see a sharp decline in the response rate,” said Alexie Torres, head of the Massachusetts Census Equity Fund. The fund’s purpose is to provide grants to community groups across the state who can use the monies to raise awareness around the importance of the census.

Torres said the fund has $1.25 million in the bank, most designated for local nonprofits to work on getting a good census response from communities “that are hard to count,” including communities of color, children, the elderly, and the disabled.

Census data have big ramifications for states. Not only is congressional representation determined (Massachusetts lost a seat in the 2010 census), but also the amount of money a state receives from the federal government.

Boston officials estimate that for every person who doesn’t fill out the census, the state loses roughly $2,400 in federal funding each year — for a decade. And according to the US Census Bureau, in 2010, nearly 20,000 children ages 0 to 4 were not counted in Massachusetts.

Mayor Walsh on the value of the census: “It’s a great tool and great data”

In addition to congressional representation, census data are used to allocate billions of dollars in funding for programs, including things like Medicaid, SNAP, affordable housing, public education, Medicare, and veterans. “These programs include Medicare, Medicaid, SNAP, affordable housing, public education — really just a wide swath of programming that directly impacts the people that nonprofits serve,” said the group’s Fernando Martinez.

Torres says that’s a big part of why philanthropic groups are willing to invest in boosting the census count instead of other causes. “Whether it’s jobs, whether it’s housing, there’s not an area that philanthropy touches that is not impacted in some way by the census,” Torres said. “Even if it’s simply the fact that they get their data and their information on where the needs are in their communities.”

The Massachusetts Nonprofit Network estimates Massachusetts receives more than $16 billion in federal funding solely on the basis of census data. “These programs include Medicare, Medicaid, SNAP, affordable housing, public education — really just a wide swath of programming that directly impacts the people that nonprofits serve,” said the group’s Fernando Martinez.

One of the strongest advocates for a big census turnout is Boston Mayor Marty Walsh, who says that on top of the political and financial implications, census data will be a way to gauge the success of some of his policies — like whether housing production under his administration is having an impact on displacement.

“The only data we have a partnership in which the two new organizations share content and resources.

Non-profits unite to counter hesitation on census responses

Mayor Walsh on the value of the census: “It’s a great tool and great data” to help Boston track where it stands on issues with respect to other cities and towns.

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“It’s a great tool and great data to use to see how you’re doing, and compare data to other cities and towns across America to see how they’re doing in similar situations, whether it’s gentrification and displacement, or success on the positive side,” Walsh said.

The Trump administration says it wants the citizenship question on the census to enforce parts of the Civil Rights Act, and the Supreme Court is set to hear the case later this month. Opponents say that could make it extremely difficult to persuade people in the country illegally to complete the census.

Regardless of the outcome, New York Regional Census Director Jeff Behler says responses are never identified. “We cannot release information that identifies a household or individual to anyone, no administration, no Homeland Security, no federal, state, local agency, no law enforcement agency, no one,” Behler said, adding that he could be hit with fines and jail time for divulging such information.

“The only data we release is statistically summarized data.”

Should the citizenship question make it onto the census, there is another option, says Keith Goralski, a census official. Simply leave the question blank.

This story was first published by WBUR 90.9FM on April 1. The Reporter and WBUR have a partnership in which the two news organizations share content and resources.

The Massachusetts Census Equity Fund.

Alexie Torres, head of the Massachusetts Census Equity Fund.
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We keep you well
Baker stands in way of Roe Act’s passage

By Matt Murphy
STATE HOUSE Correspondent

Gov. Charlie Baker said Monday that women’s access to reproductive health care is not up for negotiation in Massachusetts, but suggested he would oppose an expansive abortion rights bill that would allow for abortions later in pregnancy when the fetus is unlikely to survive after birth.

“While the governor believes in the idea of a ‘living language’ that gets used in the abortion debate—including by his own Republican party—Baker said he opposes ‘late-term abortion’ and would defend the strength of the state’s current law.

Some Democrats on Beacon Hill are pushing legislation to expand access to abortion services in Massachusetts, at a time when they worry that a woman’s right to choose is threatened at the federal level and in jeopardy because of an identical conservative tilt on the Supreme Court.

“I don’t support late-term abortions. I support current law here in Massachusetts. It’s worked well for us for many years for women and families here in Massachusetts and that’s why I’ve opposed that,” said Baker, a pro-choice Republican.

Baker’s comments came after he held a ceremonial bill-signing event with House Speaker Robert DeLeo, Senate President Karen Spilka and over a dozen lawmakers and advocates to celebrate their work to expand family planning clinics from federal funding cuts.

The bill, which Baker officially signed on Friday evening, would put up to $8 million available through June 30, 2020 - the end of fiscal year 2020 - to cover the loss of any Title X funding as a result of the Trump administration’s new rule blocking funds to clinics that provide abortions or abortion referrals.

“It was important we felt to point out women’s access to reproductive health care services where in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts is not a negotiation of something that can be bargained out through some sort of legislative process in Washington, D.C.,” Baker said.

The “Roe Act” filed by state Senate President Emerita Hartlette-Chandler and Speaker Pro Tempore Pat Haddad would expand access to abortion services, including allowing for abortions after 24 weeks in certain cases.

“Late-term abortions are for very specific reasons that should be decided with a medical professional and the family involved,” Haddad told the News Service.

“We already have women who leave the state when there are cases of a fatal fetal anomaly. That’s what we’re talking about. We’re talking about a fetus that can’t survive outside the womb. We’re talking about a late-term abortion,” Lyons said in a statement released the same day the House was passing the bill.

Baker said, “We will agree to disagree and I will try to convince him. I think that what’s out there is that people are saying this is an abortion on demand. It is not.”

Massachusetts Republican Party Chairman Jim Lyons has branded the 92 House members and 22 Senate members listed by Planned Parenthood as co-sponsors on social media and in statements that they are for late-term abortions.

“We understand women who leave the state when there are cases of a fatal fetal anomaly. That’s what we’re talking about. We’re talking about a fetus that has no future.”

Told that the governor had just expressed his opposition, Haddad said, “In addition, the existing infanticide removes all practical limitations on aborting unborn babies,” Lyons said.

Asked about the Massachusetts chapter’s rhetoric, Baker said Monday it’s not the way he operates.

“I don’t believe in questioning motives, I don’t believe in questioning character and I think the inflated language that one sees in politics has made it much harder for people to do the work that they’re supposed to do on behalf of the people they serve and they represent,” Baker said.

Lyons chose not to respond after the governor’s comments were shared by the News Service with a party spokesman.

The Haddad-Chandler bill would eliminate the requirement of parental consent for anyone under 18 to access abortion and would allow for abortions without a patient or if a physician determines that terminating the pregnancy is “necessary to protect the patient’s life or physical or mental health, or in cases of lethal fetal anomalies, or where the fetus is incompatible with survival and life outside the uterus.”

Currently, no one in Massachusetts is allowed to have an abortion after 24 weeks unless their health is at risk.

“It’s about a medical professional and a family, what is right in their circumstance. Not mine. Not Jim Lyons’,” DeLeo said.

DeLeo said the Roe Act was “just another” one of many that filled this session. “We’ll see what happens as it goes through the process and we’ll take it up from there,” he told reporters.

Chandler’s version of the bill (S 1209) has been referred to the Committee on Public Health, while Haddad’s bill (H 3320) was sent to the Committee on the Judiciary, which means there could be two hearings before two different committees on the bills.

The speaker, however, spoke earlier about the Title X bill and the importance to House leaders of protecting access to reproductive health care.

“We’ve never stopped working on our place in protecting women’s health,” DeLeo said.

“Should this Trump administration continue to go down this dangerous path that put us back, it is up to you to understand Massachusetts will stand again and again and again.”

Sen. Spilka said that nearly 80,000 people in Massachusetts access health care through reproductive health clinics in Massachusetts each year, including men seeking screenings for sexually transmitted diseases and other services.

“Take care of the health of our residents,” Spilka said.

All four year olds will get ‘quality’ pre-K education by 2024, promises Walsh

(Continued from page 1)

The governor kicked off in January about how BPS valedictorians have struggled after high school graduation.

“This is a component that changed that. Investment on the front end will give young people access on the back end,” the mayor said.

An element in the initiative that city officials say sets Boston’s pre-K model apart from others is its emphasis on “high-quality” educators.

BPS is an early education curriculum that incorporates part-time pre-K model and has become a national model due to its upside down model.

Notably, the system calls for a 2-to-10 teacher-to-student ratio in the classroom while ensuring that all pre-K educators have degrees in early childhood education and are paid the same as BPS teachers.

Walsh emphasized that while there are currently enough seats for four-year-olds in the city’s pre-K programs, not all meet those “high-quality” standards.

BPS kindergarten superintendent Laura Perille noted that it was fitting to announce the initiative on World Autism Day; she described the expansion of the inclusive pre-K structure as “truly groundbreaking.”

She added: “One of the reasons that Boston has such a successful pre-K model is that all of our classrooms are inclusive, which means that students of all background and abilities are learning together side by side, making connections, playing and learning from one another at a very young age. It is our mission to meet students where they are, regardless of whether they have any type of disability, whether they are English learners new to this country, whether their families are struggling with poverty or face other barriers.”

John Drew, president and CEO of ABSF, was thrilled for the announcement.

“I have been waiting for this day for a long time,” he told the news service.

He noted that much of his work in his 50 years of nonprofit advocacy has been about putting kids from all walks of life on a level playing field.

“A lot of times they start 50 yards behind the starting line. For me, the victory is at the finish line, that first grade or whatever. They are right there at the finish line, tied or winning.”

Former city education chief Rahn Dorsey said he views the announcement as “a shift for Boston to a more holistic view of education. This is really about making an investment in perhaps the surest bet you can make in education, and that is in early education and in children.”

Skill gaps in children emerge by early as two years old, he added while stressing the importance of young ones in an educational environment as early as possible.

“If one has to make the choice that exists on all sides of the political spectrum, I think the evidence shows that is the surest bet,” Dorsey said.

DeLeo concluded his remarks with a familiar refrain: “We are not going to let non-profit education, which is an unofficial motto of the state’s capital, to become the orphan of politics.”

Baker stands in way of Roe Act’s passage

By Matt Murphy
STATE HOUSE Correspondent

Gov. Charlie Baker held a ceremonial signing event Monday afternoon for a new law setting aside money to cover potential federal funding cuts to family planning clinics that provide abortions or abortion referrals.

Sam Doran/SHNS photo

Boston’s former education chief Rahn Dorsey spoke outside the ABCD Walnut Grove Head Start in Dorchester on Tuesday evening to announce Mayor Walsh’s plan for a “Quality Pre-K Fund.”

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY HOSTS GENEALOGY EXPERT ON APRIL 14

Dorchester Historical Society will host genealogist Edith Lerner Brown from 7-9 p.m. on April 14 at 2 p.m. at 106 Boston St., Dorchester. Using examples from research she conducted on four generations of the Dorchester’s Clapp family, speaker Curley Pironti will provide tips on how to make your family history research an interesting and rewarding experience.

BLACK & GREEN CELEBRATION IN DUDLEY SQUARE

The Irish International Immigrant Center & Montserrat Aspirers Annual Black & Green Gathering is Sunday, April 7, 2-5 p.m. at Hibertian Hall, Suffolk County, 101 Broadway, Boston. Dorchester's Clapp family, speaker Curley Pironti for a special program on Eileen Curley Pironti for a special program on

FRANKLIN PARK KITE & BIKE FESTIVAL ON MAY 18

The annual Franklin Park Kite & Bike Festival will be held on Sat., May 18 from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Playstead in Franklin Park, 26 Pierpont Rd. The spring celebration will include kite-flying, games and activities led by Playworks and Appalachian Mountain Club’s Outdoors Rx along with face-painting, music and performances. Bike with Kids Group Ride, a first annual ride starting in Dudley Square and ending at the Kite & Bike Festival, is also planned.

APRIL EVENTS AT STANDISH VILLAGE

In Lower Mills, Standish Village Assisted Living and Memory Support Community, 1190 Adams St., has an exciting month ahead with a variety of community events to offer. They will screen the Red Sox Home Opener with peanuts, popcorn and Crackerjacks on April 13. The Broadwater Park will provide tips on how to make your family history research an interesting and rewarding experience.

Boston Centers For youth & Families in Dudley Square expert on April 14 (BCyF) Free Family Gym Program

End, BCyF Holland Community Center in Dorchester and their families on Saturdays from 10-11:30 a.m. that promotes physical activity for children ages 3-8 April 13). Family Gym is a free, weekly play program be provided. Please contact Francesca at IIIC at (617) 436-8828.

Parker-Johnson will be on hand as the groups honor County District Attorney Rachel Rollins, historian is Sunday, April 7, 2-5p.m. at Hibernian Hall. Suffolk

Paul, have been caretakers at the William Clapp Genealogical Society in Boston. She and her husband, will provide tips on how to make your family history research an interesting and rewarding experience.

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Innovation teams pitch options for District 4’s disused lots

By Jennifer Smith

An international partnership took a crack at revitalizing vacant or underutilized lots dur- ing a 24-hour workshop on Friday and Saturday, March 22 and 23, at Wentworth Institute of Technology.

Teams of students, community members, designers, and engineers pitched transit-centered gardens, flexible apprenticeship spaces, and young people could play hubs for a handful of properties around Council President Andrea Campbell’s District 4.

The “Reclaiming Space” workshop brought together, the consulate of the kingdom of the netherlands, the urban design firm tapp/nl, and a host of local residents for a talk about ways of tackling the scourge of vacant and underutilized properties in the councillor’s district.

The city is aware of 100 vacant lots in District 4, Campbell said about a topic she had explored for a year and was hearing co-sponsored by Councillor Matt O’Malley.

The councillors last week re-filed their hearing order on vacancies, including a database collection, a fee to reduce vacancies in commercial or residential buildings, and a streamlined permitting process for pop-ups in vacant properties.

“I was shocked by the data, and I was disappointed, frankly, I know that city-owned property could sit vacant for years, sometimes decades, with no ideas, no plans to activate these spaces,” Campbell said.

In the long term, she added, “Our goal is to make sure we have resources for some of these ideas we have, but before we get there, it would be nice to have some sense of what the ideas are, what the possibilities are.”

To that end, on Friday the 22nd, eight carefully curated groups chose candidates from 15 parcels in the district that are blighted or otherwise underutilized, and worked throughout the day on Saturday on their project pitches.

They were encouraged to “cut the Dutch experience with creative land use, incorporating multiple function spaces and green space and creating financing viable pitches.”

Surveys sent out over mobile phones helped guide the teams with neighborhood feedback into the best uses for the properties.

District-wide, about 35 percent of respondents said they were looking for more housing, 27 percent wanted community green space, 22 percent were interested in urban farms and properties, and about 8 percent each spoke up for public art or commercial space.

One team proposed a supervised e-sports center where teens could earn e-sports screen time through completing school work or other tasks and have access to healthy food and a good internet connection.

Costs could be offset through sponsorships, a non-electronic billboard on the building’s side, and solar panels, they suggested.

Fatima Ali-Salaam, a Mattapan resident and community leader, was on that team. As a mother of teenagers, she emphasized that the age group is often left adrift between younger and hyper-monitored children and independent young adults.

At that age, “you do need to have a different type of safe space,” she said.

Their pitch is for “a safe space for sharing a different type of safe space,” she said.

The city is aware of 100 vacant lots in Councillor Andrea Campbell’s District 4. She worked alongside a team of students at Wentworth Institute of Technology last month.

This property at 114 Bowdoin St. in one of more than 100 vacant lots in Councillor Andrea Campbell’s District 4.

They were encouraged to “cut the Dutch experience with creative land use, incorporating multiple function spaces and green space and creating financing viable pitches.”

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Springtime means clean-up time across the neighborhood

BY MAUREEN FORRELL-
SORELL
REPORTER STAFF

Our neighborhoods are "springing" into action this month with volunteers fanning out to clean up squares, corners, parks, and sidewalks. Here are a few ways your family can help out and join in the fun.

The city of Boston is coordinating a cluster of "Love Your Block" clean-ups in the first two weeks of May. You can get more details on the ones happening closest to your home or business at boston.gov/2019-love-
your-block-spring-clean-up. There were 3,000 participants last year, according to City Hall.

The Dorchester Park Cleanup is scheduled for a week from Saturday, April 13, from 8-10 a.m. Meet at the tennis court and bring gloves for clearing brush and other detritus in preparation for the Spring Egg Hunt on Sat., April 20 (with a strictly-timed 10 a.m. start).

Sat., April 13, will also be the day to clean up Peabody Square. The tasks will involve picking up litter, removing graffiti, planting annuals in the Ashmont MBTA bed, and generally freshening up the Square. Wear comfy clothes, bring garden gloves if you have them, and meet up on the MBTA plaza at 9 a.m. for our Peabody Square Spring Cleanup.

On Tues., April 23, at 6 p.m., the Beautification and Public Spaces Committee will hold its community meeting at the Greater Ashmont Main Streets office. If you have a talent for outdoor beautification and have been looking for a way to give back to your community, this is the place to do it. They're looking for public input, landscape designers, artists, and gardeners.

Celebrate Mother Earth in Codman Square on Sat., April 27. Come celebrate our community and our Earth! To showcase the green initiatives happening in Dorchester, a group of local organizations is throwing a block party in the Codman Square MBTA plaza at 9 a.m. The event begins with a clean-up at 9 a.m.

• Friday, April 5: Fair Indoor Golf Clinics for juniors and adults, hosted by the Parks Department. The clinic series is six weeks long with registration on a first-come, first-served basis. The first hour of each clinic is the Junior Session (ages 7 to 17); the second hour is the Adult Session (18 and up!). For more info, call BCPF 617-635-5129.

• Monday, April 8, at 4 p.m., Heart-Meet with the Boston Teachers Union. BTU teachers are available at the Lower Mills Branch to help students K-12 with homework for free on Monday and Thursday from 4-6 p.m. during the school year.

• Thurs., April 11, at 6 p.m. DotFest: A Community Carnival. Join in celebrating community life in Dorchester's Fields Corner neighborhood and DotHouse Health's success as one of the best community-based health and social services organizations in the city of Boston. The celebration will take place from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at DotHouse Health. For more information, please visit DotFest.org.

• Thurs., April 11, at 5 p.m.— Lego Club at Lower Mills Library. Work independently or as part of a team to build and breakdown LEGO creations. They provide the LEGOS, you provide the imagination.

• Fri., April 12, at 10:30 a.m. Little Wigglers Lap at the Lower Mills Library. Perfect for children aged 18 months and younger. Bring your young child to enjoy a free play to help your baby develop language and social skills. No registration required.

• Wed., April 17, at 6:30 p.m. Doodle Workshop with artist Cara Bean at the Adams St BPL. Join us for an evening of creative sketching and drawing games with Cartoonist and Art Educator Cara Bean. All ages are welcome!

• Thurs., April 18, at 10 a.m.— Fairy House Building Festival 2019 at Schoolmaster Hill in Franklin Park. This free family event will include outdoor nature play, and children are encouraged to wear their favorite fairy and elf costumes to encourage their tiny guests to alight in Franklin Park. Natural materials will be provided, but youngsters are welcome to explore their surroundings to find natural elements such as sticks, stones, and leaves to adorn their fairy houses. For more information, please call the Boston Parks and Recreation Department at 617-961-3047, or visit online at boston.gov/parks.

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Sober house operator says he has ‘paused’ Percival Street plan

By JENNIFER SMITH

A heated standoff between the owner of several sober homes and neighbors in Meetinghouse Hill, who worried about the prospect of overcrowding, their block with such residences, cooled some this week, with a number of residents hopeful that a compromise will be reached.

The operator, Joseph Pizziferri, Jr., who owns a sober home at 16 Potosi St, that houses 10 women, walked over to a neighbor’s house to formally introduce himself to the block. He is facing push back from neighbors after they found out that he plans to open another sober home just two houses over in a large Victorian that he acquired last year.

The operator said Pizziferri was already chatting with some neighbors in front of her gate when she got home. He was there to say hello and, Villaroel feels, begin to engage with their concerns. “People just started to come because they wanted to meet him,” she said. “And rightfully so, we want to know who he is.”

Their objections hinge on the density of sober homes in the cluster of streets off Bowdoin Street, and frustration with the cloak-and-dagger way the Pizziferri — a father and son team— went about buying the properties and getting them certified.

Neighbors discovered 16 Potosi was a sober home when mattresses were carted in. After a quick flip of the 2019 city record, revealed the once-beloved home to former state Rep. Charlotte Golar Richie and her husband Winston Richie, neighbors saw dozens of mattresses going inside and realized that a similar status was likely in store for that house.

A confusing back and forth ensued with city and state officials, residents of Potosi and Percival Streets and Mt. Ida Road, and the Pizziferri. The Pizziferri announced at the Mather School meeting that they had 29 Percival St certified as a sober home and planned to open it as such, contradicting the message neighbors had received from the city.

“The expansion and the intensity in that room was overwhelming,” Villaroel acknowledged.

And it seems to have been persuasive. Pizziferri says he has told neighbors that plans to make 29 Percival St. a sober home have been paused.

The former home of Charlotte Golar Richie, at 29 Percival St. in Dorchester, was purchased by a developer who wanted to turn it into a sober home. (Jesse Costa/BWUR photo)

“We are all very proud of Bob and Mary and congratulate them on this well deserved award! To learn more about the event please visit www.richildren.org/events/embracing-the-legacy."

The eruption and the intensity in that room was overwhelming, Villaroel told them, as it can affect children and families. This year, the Robert F. Kennedy Library. The award is given to those who work tirelessly to carry on the legacy of Robert F. Kennedy by raising awareness and fighting against societal injustice and inequity that affect children and families. This year, the Robert F. Kennedy Library. The award is given to those who work tirelessly to carry on the legacy of Robert F. Kennedy by raising awareness and fighting against societal injustice and inequity that affect children and families. This year, the Robert F. Kennedy Library. The award is given to those who work tirelessly to carry on the legacy of Robert F. Kennedy by raising awareness and fighting against societal injustice and inequity that affect children and families.

“Everything is on hold right now, until we can work with the neighbors to find a friendly medium,” he told the Reporter last Thursday afternoon, adding that he is reaching out to residents and the city on next steps. He told Boston’s housing chief, Sheila Dillon, the same thing.

Villaroel and Golar Richie have since met with Pizziferri, Jr. and his son, Joseph Pizziferri III, for more information. In a conversation on March 30, the four talked about potential options for the 29 Percival St. house, including putting it back on the market an as-is property, splitting the house into two condominiums, and enlisting neighbors or the city in finding interested buyers, perhaps with an affordable component.

The Pizziferri emphasized the need for sober homes in a city and region struggling with an opioid crisis. Residents in the 16 Potosi St. home are carefully screened, Pizziferri told Villaroel and Golar Richie, and sex offenders and those with records of violent behavior or convictions of domestic violence are not allowed to live there.

On top of the drug tests required by the Massachusetts Alliance of Sober Housing (MASH), their residents must be involved in recovery program activities, the Pizziferri said.

That sort of information should be shared with the community, Villaroel told them, as it can feel overwhelming to suddenly be faced with the increased density of multiple sober houses with no notice and no explanation about the way the houses are run.

For all that, there is still some uneasiness, she said. “I’m a little bit concerned still about him not moving forward, because we’re not actually sure what that means. We assume he is not opening the sober home, which is not moving forward, but we want clarification on the next steps.”

Villaroel said she is confident that the Pizziferri understand the need to work with communities in which they hope to operate a business.

Golar Richie applauded the “true solidarity of the neighbors” in pushing for community process here.

“It was frustrating to be ‘hoodwinked’ by the people I sold the house to after 31 years,” a reference to the people who quickly sold 29 Percival St. after buying it from her.

“No one looks good in this situation,” she noted, with neighbors caricatured as opposing sober homes in general, Pizziferri Jr. looking as though “he’s trying to just ram something in,” and the city believing they had an agreement from him to hold off on converting the home only to find out with the neighbors that the plans were still under way.

Both women said they were encouraged by the Pizziferri’s willingness to talk through their plans, which also include the investment property at 26 and 8 Percival St. that they hope to refurbish and convert into a two or three-family condominium building.

Sober homes and other recovery facilities are very welcome in the village, Golar Richie emphasized, echoing comments made by other residents at the public meeting. It is just a matter of overburdening any single area.

“We have people who need the support in the neighborhood and Golar Richie, who now lives in Lower Mills. “The people at 16 Potosi St. are welcome in the neighborhood and we do not want them to feel at all that there’s any hostility to their residing in the neighborhood. We want them in the neighborhood. We want them to thrive in the neighborhood.”

To learn more about the other dance programs, please contact Patty Lamb at plamb@bgcdorchester.org. (Jesse Costa/BWUR photo)

The former home of Charlotte Golar Richie, at 29 Percival St. in Dorchester, was purchased by a developer who wanted to turn it into a sober home. (Jesse Costa/BWUR photo)

For questions regarding sponsorship, please contact Patty Lamb at plamb@bgcdorchester.org or at 617-288-7120.
CAMPBELL, Carol Ann age 73, of South Yarmouth. Longtime elementary school teacher in Everett. Wife of Robert F. Campbell of South Yarmouth, daughters: Kristin and Elizabeth Campbell of Pelham, NH, and Jennifer Campbell of South Yarmouth, daughters: Sr. Margaret Leonard of Dorchester, and Patricia (Leonard) Conway of Lynnfield. Many nieces, nephews, grandnieces, and grandnephews. Donations in her name may be sent to Project Hope, 505 Dudley St., Roxbury, MA 02119.

CROWLEY, Michael P. of Masphee, formerly of Dorchester. Son of the late Daniel P. and Mary T. (Griffin) Crowley. Brother of Jayne and her husband Richard Crescent of Braintree, Daniel "Dan" and his wife Georgi Crowley of Masphee, lifelong partner of Alli- son Crowley of Dorchester. Devoted "Uncle Buck" to Erica, Richie, Taylor, Elizabeth, Daniel, Toy l, Riley, Ryan, and Reese. Also survived by countless other loving friends. Donations may be made to Michael's memory to the Parkinson's Disease charity of your choice.

DIMOND, Norma A. (Burke) of Dorchester. Daughter of the late John A. and Sara M. (Burke) Dimond. Sister of the late William P. and John J. Dimond, and dear friend and longtime companion Alex. Cousin and friend of Frances Schonberg and many others who survived by many cousins and friends. Noreen leaves a long time friend, for over 5 decades. Daughter of the late Edward and Mary (Wright) Hope, 550 Dudley St., Dorchester, MA 02119. Donation in her name may be made to the Friends of Dorchester Public Library, 139 Main Street, Norfolk, MA 02056.


RUFFIN, Deborah C. "Crisissy" (Flynn) of West Roxbury, daughter of Tinnahilla, Killor gin, Kerry Ireland and the late Daniel "Dad" Di Vernon of the late Peter J. and Marie Di Vernon of Dorchester.

Mobilitie, LLC has constructed a 29-foot overall height pole off Old Colony Avenue, Dorchester, Suffolk County, Mas sachusetts (approximate coordinates are 42 19 10.4, -71 02 48.6). The proposed structure would not be site. Mobilitie invites any interested party to request further envi ronmental review of the proposed action under the FCC’s Environmental Policy Act rule 47 CFR §1.1307, by notifying the FCC of the specific reasons that may be made to the Forest Children’s Fund, c/o the Boston Firefight er’s Credit Union, 60 Hall Street, Boston, MA 02124.

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