

# Dorchester Reporter

"The News and Values Around the Neighborhood"

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Thursday, April 3, 2025

50¢

## RED LINE UPDATE



A shuttle bus took a practice run on Dorchester Avenue as a Red Line train passed above in Fields Corner on Monday, the day before train service on the Ashmont branch of the Red Line was suspended for a nine-day "surge." *Seth Daniel photo*

## Ashmont-JFK/UMass train service suspended through next Wednesday 3 weeks of 'shuttle trains' to follow

By WBUR and Reporter Staff

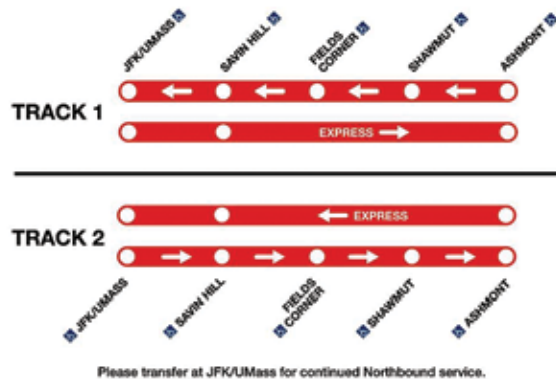
A month-long service disruption began Tuesday on the Red Line's Ashmont Branch, as shuttle buses replaced train service between JFK-UMass and Ashmont, including the Mattapan trolley line, through next Wednesday (April 9). That will be followed by three weeks of "shuttle trains" on the Ashmont branch.

The disruption will allow crews to perform track work and infrastructure upgrades, including replacing the aging "Ashmont Diamond" crossover track, which allows Red Line trains at the end of the branch to switch tracks and turn around. MBTA General Manager Phil Eng described it as "proactive" maintenance to avoid future delays.

"We want to replace it before it continues to fail," he said last week.

So, what does that mean for your commute in the near-term?

**April 1 to April 9:** During weekdays, shuttle buses will run every three to five minutes on the Ashmont branch and every five to six minutes on the Mattapan trolley line. (They'll be less frequent on the weekend.)



Shuttle trains, which will run between JFK/UMass and Ashmont from April 10 to April 30, will include express trains that will skip Shawmut and Fields Corner, where customers can expect 25 minute waits between trains. All passengers will need to transfer to the Braintree platform at JFK-UMass for continued northbound service. *MBTA graphic*

While the buses are free, they're not as fast as the trains. So you'll want to budget, to use the T's word,

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## Key Gallivan Blvd. section to close for 8 hours Saturday night into Sunday a.m.

The busy stretch of Gallivan Boulevard between Dorchester Ave. and Adams Street will be closed off to motorists and pedestrians for roughly eight hours this Saturday night (April 5) until Sunday morning (April 6) as repairs are made to an MBTA-owned bridge that carries trains and trolleys over the roadway.

"Appropriate signage and messaging will be in place to guide drivers through the work area," read a statement from the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT). "Drivers traveling through the affected area should expect delays, reduce speed, and use caution. All scheduled work is weather dependent and subject



The MBTA bridge over Gallivan Boulevard. *Reporter file photo*

to change without notice." The agency added: "This closure is necessary to support MBTA work

for the installation of a utility bridge adjacent to the tracks where they cross over the roadway."

The work is related to an ongoing project at the transit agency's Codman Yard, which supports rail service on the Ashmont leg of the Red Line. The three-year project has been the source of disruption and concern from some abutters on nearby streets and along the boulevard.

The MBTA suspended rail service along the Ashmont branch of the Red Line for nine days starting Tuesday of this week as part of a planned "surge" to make other track and bridge improvements. *-REPORTER STAFF*

## 'Mixed' results seen from state oversight of Boston's schools 'Concerted effort' cited, but positive shift in 'core factors' isn't happening, report notes

By Chris Lovett  
Reporter Correspondent

After five years of state intervention, with no clear gain in test results, the grade for the Boston Public Schools (BPS) was "mixed." What started just before the Covid-19 shutdown as a push for better outcomes wound up as a pat on the back for effort.

That was the assessment on March 25 from Russell L. Johnston, the acting commissioner of the Mass. Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). In his outgoing report to the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE), he summarized both progress and unmet goals for the Boston schools in connection with the three-year "Systemic Improvement Plan" put in place by a second memorandum of understanding with DESE in 2022.

Johnston credited Boston officials, including Mayor Wu, with a "really concerted effort," telling BESE members: "They met a lot of those initial benchmarks and have continued to grow the work beyond in the spirit of identifying those eight areas that are in the systemic improvement plan that relate to things like facilities, transportation, multilingual learners, inclusion - all very important areas that they have put just incredible work and thoughtfulness into. And I think there's just agreement between the district and DESE that there's still work to be done even after this three-year period." In its 2024 accountability report, DESE found "mod-

(Continued on page 12)

## 50 Cape Verdean women saluted at Bowdoin Street gala

By Seth Daniel  
News Editor

A gala on Bowdoin Street last week honored the lives of 50 Cape Verdean 'heroínas' in an event that coincided with Cape Verdean Women's Day and Women's History Month celebrations.

The third annual celebration was hosted once again by the Cape Verdean Association of Boston (CVAB) and held at Ristorante Cesária with live music, food, and a showcase of women from the community doing great things without much fanfare.

CVAB Director Paulo

Debarros said Women's Day in Cape Verde holds a very special place in the culture, with official celebrations there going back to 1981. The fact that the day coincides with Women's History Month in the United States has made it an opportune time on both fronts to recognize so many women who continue to go above and beyond in the community.

Those recognized included Elizabeth Gomes, who grew up in Boston in a Cape Verdean home while attending St. Patrick's grammar school and Madison Park High School. Now in the prime of her community

(Continued on page 9)



Noted singer and performer Ana Lopes with her husband, John Lopes. *Seth Daniel photo*

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Police, Courts & Fire

A flare-up of shots-fired happenings; one wounded; property damage noted

A series of shooting incidents have been recorded by Boston Police over the past week, including one last Thursday night (March 27) in which an individual was wounded by gunfire on Woodrow Avenue in Dorchester. In two other incidents, property damage was noted, but no one was reported injured.

Thursday night's shooting happened around 11:15 p.m. on the 200-block of Woodrow, according to a police report. When officers arrived, they were told that a male victim had already been taken to an area hospital with gunshot wounds that were non-life-threatening. Ballistic evidence was located on the scene, and the investigation is ongoing.

The night before—Wed., March 26, at about 8:30—officers responded to a ShotSpotter activation in the 600 block of Walk Hill Avenue in Mattapan where they found no one with any injuries, and made no arrests. They did locate ballistic evidence on the scene, with bullets going into a home on Fottler Road.

In a third incident, around 2:15 a.m. on Sat., March 22, a woman looking to park near her home off Greenwood Street in Dorchester reported that an unknown-to-her person opened fire on her vehicle. The ballistics hit the side of her car, and careened into a home down the street, but she was not injured, according to a BPD account.

Minutes later, police noted a ShotSpotter activation for nine rounds fired at 2:18 a.m. near the corner of Greenwood and Fowler Avenue. A large contingent of police rushed to the scene and found ballistic evidence on a porch in the 20th block of Greenwood. A sedan parked in front of a neighboring house had bullet holes in the passenger side door, and the home next to it also had bullet holes in it.

Residents who were asleep inside the home had no idea of what had happened, but upon further investigation officers found multiple bullet holes in the walls of the home, with a mirror shattered from a bullet and a spent bullet found on the bathroom floor. That incident also remains under investigation.

A 21-year-old man suspected in a March 23 shooting in a South Bay Mall parking lot was arrested after a traffic stop in Roxbury on Sunday, according to Boston Police. Juan Mejia Caminero will face assault charges stemming from the non-fatal shooting, according to a BPD account.

Boston Police are investigating an apparent shooting that was reported on Friday evening (March 28) in the vicinity of Dorchester and Welles avenues.

According to a BPD report, officers were called to an address on Welles Avenue around 5 p.m. for a report of a person shot in the leg. The reported victim was not on the premises, but officers say they spoke to a man on the phone, who told them he was on his way to Boston Medical Center. Police later found a vehicle parked on Shepton Street with ballistic damage and blood stains on the driver's side seat. The case remains under investigation.

Healey nominates a Hyde Park man for clerk magistrate post at Dot court

Dana Rutherford has been nominated by Gov. Healey to serve as clerk magistrate of the Dorchester Division of the Boston Municipal Court. Rutherford, of Hyde Park, has worked as assistant clerk magistrate for the Malden District Court since 2006. He will now be considered by the Governor's Council for confirmation.

"Dana Rutherford has shown a strong dedication to serving his community over the course of his career, and in this role, he will serve to ensure the smooth



Dana Rutherford: Two decades as an assistant clerk magistrate.

operations of the Boston Municipal Court," said Healey. "He's been a leader and committed public servant in the Malden District Court, and we look forward to

working with the Governor's Council to confirm his position as clerk magistrate."

Rutherford has two decades of service as an assistant clerk magistrate, 13 of which have been in the Malden District Court. In this role, he has performed show cause hearings, reviewed search warrant applications, run court sessions, and presided over small claims trials and motion sessions.

He was a founding member of the CHOICE Program, a program run out of the Roxbury

Division of the Boston Municipal Court that is aimed at reducing recidivism among court-involved young people by providing mentorship and connecting them with resources to help them succeed. He has also served as a facilitator for the Changing Lives Through Literature program.

Rutherford spent nearly two decades as a project manager in the private sector where he managed engineering projects throughout the country and in Osaka, Japan. -REPORTER STAFF

Boston Municipal Court judge finds an ICE agent 'in contempt'

A man in the middle of a criminal trial in Boston Municipal Court who was arrested by ICE outside the courtroom last week remains locked up as a legal battle over the federal agency's actions spread to federal court.

Boston Municipal Court Judge Mark Summerville started a flurry of rulings on Monday by first rejecting a motion from the Suffolk County District Attorney's office that he recuse himself from the case of Wilson Martell-Lebron, who had been on trial before a jury last week for providing fake information in an attempt to get a Massachusetts driver's license.

Summerville then dismissed the jury and threw out the charges against Martell-Lebron "based on prosecutorial misconduct" and indicated that he wasn't convinced

that prosecutors didn't know ICE was on the way to the courthouse. DA Kevin Hayden later rebutted the charges and said his office wanted Martell-Lebron's trial to continue.

The Globe reported that state troopers who may have known ICE was on the way testified that they did not help ICE. Summerville then declared that Brian Sullivan, one of the two ICE agents who grabbed Martell-Lebron last Thursday as he left the courtroom, was in contempt of court for failing to show up on Monday as Summerville had requested.

Rather than issuing a "bench warrant" that would allow police to arrest Sullivan, however, Summerville referred the matter to the DA's office "for investigation and prosecution."

But before he could issue that ruling, ICE filed a "removal" motion in US District Court in Boston to have the matter heard before a federal judge, under a Supreme Court ruling that federal employees cannot be compelled to testify in state

courts without approval of their agencies.

The case has been assigned to US District Court Judge George A. O'Toole, court records show. O'Toole had not taken any action on the case as of Monday.

- REPORTER STAFF

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MassDOT invites the public to an "informational meeting" on a "proposed roadway reconstruction on Columbia Road and Kosciuszko Circle at I-93" this Thursday, April 3, at 6 p.m. at Boston College High School's Cadigan Lecture Hall, 150 Morrissey Blvd. "The purpose of this meeting is to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed Roadway Reconstruction on Columbia Road and Kosciuszko Circle at I-93 project. All views and comments made at the meeting will be reviewed and considered to the maximum extent possible," the agency said in a public meeting noticed published in last week's Reporter. In the event of inclement weather, a cancellation announcement will be posted on the internet at mass.gov/orgs/highway-division/events. City of Boston Housing Resource Fair is set

for this Saturday (April 5) from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Bolling Building, 2300 Washington St., Roxbury. Join a workshop, meet lenders, real estate agents, among other opportunities. Go to bit.ly/BHC-housing-resource-fair. Dot Park Cleanup set—Dorchester Park will participate in the Love Your Block Neighborhood Cleanup this Saturday (April 5) from 9:30 a.m. to noon. Volunteers should meet at the park's Adams Street entrance to remove litter and also rake leaves from the stone drainage systems throughout the park. Some equipment will be provided but participants are encouraged to bring gloves, rakes, and brooms, if available. Those walking to the park may want to bring bags to pick up sidewalk trash on the way. A "Raise up Our Voices in Joy and Resistance" sing-along will be held at First Parish

Dorchester, 10 Parish St., Dorchester this Saturday (April 5) from 6:30 to 8 p.m. It's free. Music, refreshments and a gathering for young and old. Contact First Parish at 617-436-0527. Mayor Wu and the Boston Parks and Recreation Department host the Mayor's Cup Street Hockey Tournament in partnership with the Boston Bruins Foundation on Mon., April 21, and Tues., April 22, during school vacation week. All games will be played at John "Jackie" O'Brien Street Hockey Court within Moakley Park on Columbia Road in South Boston. Additional support is provided by P&G Gillette. Teams will compete in five divisions: Mite (ages 6 to 8); Squirt (ages 9 to 10); Pee Wee (ages 11 to 12); Girls U8; and Girls U10. Please note that pre-registration for teams is required with a limit of eight teams per regional division. Visit boston.gov/parks-

sports to register or call 617-961-3083. The Bunny Hop, a free event sponsored by the Neponset River Greenway Council and the Neponset River Watershed Association, will be held on Sun., April 13, from 1 to 3 p.m. at Pope John Paul II Park, near the Hallet Street entrance. DJ Ed Regal will provide the music and a Bunny will lead the dancing. There also will be games, crafts and candy. Supported by Cedar Grove Civic Association, Port Norfolk Civic Association and Pope's Hill Neighborhood Association. Mass Affordable Housing Alliance—MAHA—hosts its annual Taste of Dorchester fundraiser on Thurs., April 24, from 6 to 8 p.m. at IBEW Hall, 256 Freeport St., Dorchester. Go to mahahome.org for tickets and more information. SEND IN EVENT NOTICES TO NEWSEDITOR@DOTNEWS.COM



# Cannabis retailer wants to move to new space in Codman Square

By **SETH DANIEL**  
NEWS EDITOR

A Codman Square cannabis dispensary is planning a relocation to a nearby space while an operator from Brockton hopes to set up a delivery service from the Washington Street storefront that the dispensary is vacating.

Jeff Similien, who owns and operates LowKey Dispensary at 571B Washington St. at Lyndhurst Street, told members of the Codman Square Neighborhood Council (CSNC) at their March meeting that he intends to relocate toward Four Corners, at 420 Washington St.

Similien told The Reporter this week that he plans to vacate his current space in June, a move prompted by a legal dispute with a former business partner, he said, which led to the sale last summer of the building that includes 571B Washington St.

"It took us a while to go back and forth and get to a point where we could negotiate," he said. "We made them an offer to buy the building and started to work with them to be able to stay in our location. It didn't work out."

The new owner of the building operates a cannabis business called Legal Greens, based in Brockton, which intends to seek to open a delivery-only business, according to Mark Bouquet, chief operating officer of Legal Greens, who noted that he grew up in Dorchester on Stanton Street.

The city of Boston has scheduled an abutter's meeting online for April 8, at 6 p.m. to



Low Key Dispensary is looking to move North.

Courtesy photo

consider Legal Green's license proposal to allow them to be a "marijuana courier and marijuana delivery operator."

Bouquet said they have operated for four years in Brockton and purchased the Codman Square building with the intent to be a landlord to Similien, but the finances didn't work out.

"We were not looking to move into this so quickly. The plan was to collect rent payments as a landlord for a period of time," he said. "If Jeff wanted to be there for 25 years, we'd have worked out a lease for that. It didn't work out and we have a

mortgage to pay, and we hope to make this profitable."

Similien, meanwhile, is seeking community support to bring his LowKey retail operation to 420 Washington St. under a new corporate structure and with a new license.

"We also outgrew our building and felt relocation would be a great thing," he said. "I do understand there are concerns, but I hope this is something the community will support us on so we can keep our business going and I can fulfill my dream of being a Black man from the community who has persevered

through many adversities and opened up despite the obstacles. I have never had any issues in Codman Square."

During the March 5 CSNC meeting, held via Zoom, Similien also asked that the CSNC join an effort with some elected officials calling for there to be only one retail dispensary permitted in Codman Square.

Council President Ruthzee Louijeune has signed on for that effort and in support of Similien's good standing in the community. Councillor Brian Worrell is also in favor of the one-dispensary cause in Cod-

man Square, but with a caveat.

"I wrote a letter saying that Jeff has been an outstanding member of the community," he said. "I'm only in support of having one marijuana dispensary in the Codman Square area, but nothing about Jeff's being the only one. I offered that he's been doing a good business in Codman Square."

Legal Greens noted that their proposed operation would not be a dispensary, only a courier operation, and they don't believe it would conflict with Similien's efforts down the street.

"We in no way wanted to be in Jeff's way; we'll let him do what he wants to do here to be successful," said Bouquet.

For their part, SNC members said they remain confused and need more information from both parties. They noted that they have never supported any dispensary, and that the former SnapChef building at 420 Washington St. is actually in the Four Corners catchment area.

Similien said he has been in a process with Four Corners neighbors and hopes he can gain their support and get a fresh start there, though some concerns exist about the business being next to several churches and Mother's Rest Park.

"We'll take the lessons learned and experiences and hopefully move to this location and do everything correctly," he said. "It's me. I'm from here. I want to see the community thrive and that's been the goal from day one."

## Dorchester Reporter

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BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS  
OF DORCHESTER



Find out what's inside.

# 2025 YOUTH OF THE YEAR FINALISTS



Willy A.

Dinya B.

Heleen B.

Osmaly B.



Chris C.

Jack D.

Conor F.

Amber G.



Leticia G.

Robin G.

Ellis M.

Audrey T.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2025 YOUTH OF THE YEAR ELLIS M. & ALL OF THE FINALISTS ON THEIR ACCOMPLISHMENTS! WE'RE SO PROUD OF EACH OF YOU AND ALL YOU CONTINUE TO BRING TO THE BGCDC COMMUNITY.



# Developer O'Brien says no to run against Wu and Kraft

BY REPORTER STAFF

The rumor began to spread around the city over the last few weeks: Thomas N. O'Brien, a developer and former chief planner for the city of Boston under the late Mayor Tom Menino, was mulling plans to enter the race for mayor of Boston. Late last week and over the weekend, the "word" was that he would announce his candidacy this week just ahead of Mayor Wu's formal announcement that she was running for reelection.

On Monday, a spokesman said O'Brien had decided against making a bid to unseat Wu.

"After many conversations with people I know, trust and admire, I've decided not to pursue a political candidacy at this time," O'Brien said in a statement handed to reporters. "Instead,



Thomas N. O'Brien has decided against a mayoral campaign this year.  
Photo courtesy HYM Investment Group

I will continue my work with The HYM Investment Group and my engagement in Boston's charitable and civic life."

He added: "My commitment to Boston remains unwavering. I'll keep

working to make our city a more affordable, inclusive and vibrant place to live, work and thrive — and I look forward to partnering with Mayor Wu, her administration and others to help achieve

that vision."

An O'Brien candidacy might have significantly changed the dynamics in a mayoral race that is still taking shape with Wu expected to launch her own re-election bid any day now.

Josh Kraft, a longtime non-profit executive and scion of the Kraft sports empire family, launched his own campaign for the seat in January. And Domingos DaRosa, who has run unsuccessfully for city council on three occasions in recent election cycles, also formed a committee to seek the mayoral job.

A South Shore native

who lives in the city with his wife Patricia and five children, the 61-year-old O'Brien is currently the managing partner of HYM Investment Group, a development firm that has built-out some of the city's most high-profile buildings in recent years, including the Warriors Ice Arena and adjacent buildings in Allston's Boston Landing and the Parcel 3 building in Roxbury.

His company is currently leading the redevelopment of Suffolk Downs, the 161-acre former horse racing site in East Boston, which could yield 10,000 new units of housing if built as planned.

Prior to entering private real estate, O'Brien served as the director of the Boston Redevelopment Authority — now known as the Boston Planning Agency — from 1993 to 1999. His biography on the HYM website says O'Brien has been a strong advocate for immigrant rights and is a board member of several organizations, including the Pine Street Inn, the Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy, and the Anti-Defamation League of New England. A member of the Massachusetts Bar Association, he is a graduate of Brown University

and Suffolk Law School.

Mayoral hopefuls must gather 3,000 signatures from registered Boston voters to make the ballot. Nomination papers will not be available from the city's Election Department until April 16, with a May 20 deadline to turn them in for certification.

The preliminary municipal election is set for Tues., Sept. 9. The top two finishers in that election would compete in the final election on Tues., Nov. 4.

The only public polling published — conducted by Emerson College Polling Center in late February — showed Mayor Wu with a strong early lead over Kraft, 43-29, with about 24 percent undecided. The survey took place before Wu made a nationally publicized appearance before a Congressional committee whose GOP members grilled her and other big city mayors on immigration policies and enforcement.

In a statement released by his campaign after O'Brien's decision, Josh Kraft said, "I understand that running for office is a deeply personal decision. I have great respect for Tom and his commitment to many community organizations."

## Local 7 Ironworkers back Kraft

The South Boston-based Iron Workers Local 7 union has endorsed Josh Kraft for Mayor, according to his campaign.

"Josh shares our members' values," said Vincent Coyle, Jr., business manager at Local 7. "He understands the importance of their work,

and we are confident he will protect the working families of today and tomorrow."

For his part, Kraft, said: "Having seen their work for three-plus decades in Boston's non-profit sector, I know the Iron Workers' reputation. Their members get jobs done on time and on bud-

get. And frankly, we could use a little more of that in City Hall these days."

Mayor Wu has been endorsed by several key city unions, including the Boston Police Patrolman's Association, SEIU, AFSCME Council 93, and Laborers Local 223.

—REPORTER STAFF



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# Students' imaginations earn spotlight at St. John Paul II Catholic Academy fair

By **CASSIDY MCNEELEY**  
REPORTER STAFF

Last Wednesday (March 26) the St. Gregory auditorium at Saint John Paul II Catholic Academy's Lower Mills campus turned into more lab than a gym as students from third to eighth grade presented their STREAM Fair projects for inspection.

STREAM is an acronym for science, technology, religion, engineering, art, and math, and last week's event gave the elementary and middle schoolers a showcase for the projects they had been working on for the previous six weeks.

"The second annual Lower Mills STREAM Fair curated an opportunity for students to both strengthen their science, math and engineering skills, but also to showcase their artistic and innovative creativity," said Lower Mills campus principal Lisa Warshafsky. "We are grateful to our teachers, families, and community partners for all of their support. We know we have a bright future ahead! Our students are our future doctors, engineers, researchers, and scientists."

Middle school science and social studies teacher Michael Gabelus told The Reporter that each third through eighth-grade student was asked to pick an idea and work on it at home and in the classroom.

"It's a good event because they get to showcase how smart they are, and also, it makes them feel good to have people recognizing their work," he said.

Gabelus, who graduated from SJP2 in 2009, said he wishes this fair had been held when he was a student because it teaches the students "never to limit themselves. So many of them during the process are like, 'I can't do this,' or 'it's too advanced for me,' but then they start the procedure and see they are capable of it. I think that's an indescribable feeling for them."

One of his favorite projects of the day was that of an 8th-grader named Ayden, who researched wind energy. Specifically, Ayden, who will be attending BC High next fall, built a miniature windmill to prove his hypothesis that wind energy could be used to generate electricity and power an LED light without a battery.

While Ayden produced wind with a hair dryer for his experiment, 5th-grader Clinton was able to blow up a balloon without a single deep breath. Instead, the 11-year-old discovered that if he poured vinegar into a water bottle and



Fourth-grade students Anderah and Abigail (back center) proudly posed with their classmates after presenting their research on how many jumping jacks increased their heart rate.



Though the gooey substance is popular for play, slime proved to be a favored experiment for many students.



The St. Gregory Auditorium overflowed with students, teachers, and community members at the second annual STREAM Fair.

placed a balloon full of baking soda on top, the materials would mix and produce carbon dioxide gas, inflating the balloon.

All the students welcomed their classmates, family, friends, and a group of community judges to check out their work. The judges' panel was made up of BPD Sgt. Detective Eddy Chrispin, MAMLEO; Adilson Lopes, Senior Worldwide

Go-To-Market Solution Lead; Alector Tavares and Mathew St. Marc, of Boston Fire Department Vulcans; and Melinda Brown, from the Massachusetts State Police.

Chrispin, who has been with the Boston Police Department for more than 25 years, was excited to take on the role of judge for the afternoon.

"We have a rubric that allows us to kind of

make sure all these questions are being asked, and answers are being produced," he said. "If they can simplify things for me, it means they've reached a certain level of comprehension and understanding."

While Chrispin learned a lot from the kids, the detective hopes they learned from him, too. "I need them to know there are people from

their community who look like them and care about them," he said.

Tavares, a firefighter who is president of the Boston Society of the Vulcans, added that it was important for the kids to "see police officers and firefighters that looked like them, interact, and relate."

The judges were quick to notice that the experiments that seemed to

get the most attention from the students were centered around snacks and slime. Fourth-grade student Madison made a solar oven using a cardboard box, saran wrap, aluminum foil, and a light. Inside, she made smores for her classmates while explaining that the oven "is easy to make because it's cheap and usually you would have this stuff at your house already."

Just across from Madison's project was ten-year-old Shealon's. "I did rock candy," she said, "and I was thinking about if I use different kinds of sugar, how it would affect the rock candy, and if I would get the same results. The different sugars I used were granulated sugar, powdered sugar, and brown sugar."

Shealon added that her friend did a similar project at last year's fair and inspired her to do one this year. Her favorite part of the experiment was working with her mother and getting to eat the delicious mango-flavored, blue-dyed, granulated sugar rock candy.

Meanwhile, Jamar took the savory route and focused his project on fries, comparing the ingredients and preservatives in french fries from McDonald's, Burger King, Chick-fil-A, and Wendy's. He was happy to discover that his favorite fries, Wendy's, of course, were made up of the healthiest ingredients.

Nearby Riyah showcased three types of slime, while Pascall and Anthony made their own lava lamps and Belinda created color-changing flowers.

With so many interesting and impressive projects around the room, it was hard to pick a favorite, but Judge Chrispin knew one thing for sure.

"Every single one of you has the ability to be incredibly successful just based on the projects I saw today," he said. "I should walk around and get everyone's autograph because I know at some point in the near future all of you are going to be superstars."

## THE AWARDS

### Overall, by class

Kristen B. (Grade 3); Aiden D. (Grade 3); Abigail R. (Grade 4); Tony L. (Grade 4); Cassie C. (Grade 5); Anthony G. (Grade 5); Marven L. (Grade 6); Meelhan S. (Grade 7); Na'Zyia C. (Grade 7); Victoria L. and Olivia B.G. (Grade 8)

### Scientific Explanation and Creativity

Addison J. (Grade 3); Jordan D. (Grade 3); Ace A. (Grade 4); Olivia P. (Grade 5); Athan B. (Grade 7); Eshia M. (Grade 7); Emani D. (Grade 8)



# Reporter's People **News about people in and around our Neighborhoods**

## Urban College of Boston to honor civic benefactor William Kennedy at its commencement rites in May

Dorchester's William F. Kennedy, co-chair of the public policy and government affairs division at the law firm Nutter McClennen & Fish, will be honored during the Urban College of Boston's commencement on May 31 with the prestigious Robert M. Coard Leadership Award for his significant, and longtime, philanthropic endeavors.

Kennedy's generous work and contributions have benefited a wide

array of community and educational efforts, including Emmanuel College, the Board of Bar Overseers, Catholic Charities, Pine Street Inn, and the University of Massachusetts.

"Education, for me and for so many others, has been the pathway to closing the gap in opportunity and success when you come from a nontraditional background," said Kennedy, a graduate of the College of the Holy

Cross with a juris doctorate degree from Suffolk University Law School.

"I am grateful to receive such a prestigious award from Urban College of Boston, which is doing the crucial groundwork to improve the lives of Boston students from all backgrounds."

Lai Chan, a master teacher and assistant director of the Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center (BCNC), will also be recognized at



**William F. Kennedy**

the Downtown ceremony, with an honorary associate degree in early childhood education for her transformative work in this field. Malaak Compton-Rock, the founder of Angelrock Project South Africa Trust, will be the keynote speaker.

## Bos Nation out; Boston Legacy in

BY CASSIDY MCNEELEY  
REPORTER STAFF

When the managers of the Boston team in the National Women's Soccer League announced two weeks ago that the club would soon carry a different name, many fans were enjoying beers and BBQ at the 2025 season launch party while saying 'bye, bye' to the team's original moniker, Bos Nation.

Last Tuesday morning, perhaps over coffee and croissants this time, those fans were introduced to the Boston Legacy Football Club.

"Our name is just the beginning," said club controlling owner Jennifer Epstein. "It's what we build together, through dedication, commitment, and grit that will give it life. We aim for our values to reflect a city that breathes competition, passion, and pride, and to pay tribute to those who paved the way before us, including the game-changers who helped build previous women's professional teams in Boston."

"We are also focused on the future, for the next generation of players and fans who will carry forward what we build today."

The name, produced

with listening, research, and consultation, is meant to reference Boston's long sporting history while simultaneously glancing toward the future.

"I look forward to watching the Boston Legacy build a club for a new generation while honoring those who helped build the game," said Kristine Lilly, former USWNT midfielder and two-time World Cup champion. "It is an exciting time for women's soccer, and I look forward to cheering on the Boston Legacy."

Though fans made hundreds of suggestions, when the season rolls around in fall 2026, they'll be chanting just one name at a newly renovated White Stadium.

Chanel Keenan, a Dorchester native, a disability justice in sports advocate, and the club's brand advisor, is more than ready to yell it proudly.

"We are about to watch a renewal of this incredible club in the city of champions," said Keenan. The pride Bostonians have in sports is one of our greatest uniting forces."

More announcements on the club's crest and wordmark will be made in the coming months.

## Boston Collegiate students chat up professionals at 'career symposium'

BY SETH DANIEL  
NEWS EDITOR

On a recent Thursday morning, the lunchroom at Boston Collegiate Charter School buzzed with more than the usual student conversations. Dressed in their best professional attire, sophomores met and mingled with more than three-dozen local professionals from a range of career fields at the school's annual "career symposium."

The guests represented many professions, among them architecture, medicine, law, financial management, and the trades. Students began the symposium by rotating through five-minute meetings with guests and getting to know a little bit about the different professions. Then they tested their networking skills, circulating for half an hour and seeking out specific professionals for more in-depth conversations.

Alumna Shalyse Powell-Forbes, who serves as a member of Boston Collegiate's young professional's board, helped to greet the visiting professionals and directed student rotations. Her



**Boston Collegiate alumni, from left: Jacqui Nguyen, Shalyse Powell-Forbes, Rodney Adams, and Herbert Hall joined the symposium to share their experiences and support the event.**

mother, Nicea Powell, also participated, telling students about her work as a fleet manager for Hertz.

"I love giving back to students who are in the same position I was in and helping them navigate either college experiences or office life," she said. "Events such as the junior internship helped prepare me for what I could expect in the real world and aided me in understanding that skills are transferable regardless of the role you take in an organization."



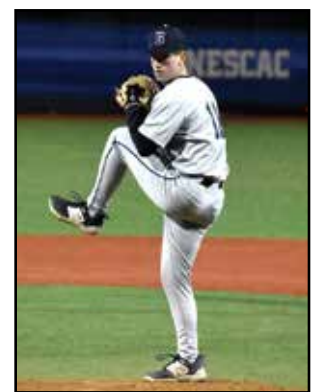
**Students converse with architectural designer Helmsley Alphonse about his work at STA Design. Courtesy photos**

## Brandeis hails its freshman hurler

Brady Lane, a BC High graduate, was named Brandeis Athlete of the Week by Brandeis University for his impressive performance on the mound for the Judges so far this season.

Lane closed out a 6-0 win over Wentworth Institute of Technology and helped the team sweep Coast Guard Academy in a doubleheader.

A freshman, Lane has pitched a total of 12.2 innings earning 16 strikeouts. He'll be back in



**Brady Lane**

action this weekend as the Judges travel to New York City to play NYU.

## YESTERYEAR ARCHIVE

DORCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Scutching Knife and Hackle

Last week, we saw a flax break. This week we have a photo of the Clapp family scutching knife and hackle (sometimes called a heckle).

After the stems were broken with the flax break, the debris on the outside of the stems was scraped off using a wooden knife, called a scutching knife. A bundle of flax was held up against an upright board and the edge of the wooden knife is scraped along



the fibers to pull away pieces of the stalk. The action is repeated until all of the stalk has been

smooth and silky.

The fibers are then drawn through a hackle, which combs the straw and some of the shorter



fibers out of the desirable longer fibers.

...  
The archive of these historical posts can be viewed on the blog at [dorchestehistoricalociety.org](http://dorchestehistoricalociety.org), from which The Reporter derives, often through editing for space, this weekly feature. The society's William Clapp House and James Blake House are open to the public on the third Sunday of the month from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.



## Editorial

## Bracing for city's austerity budget

Two weeks ago, Mayor Wu declared that the state of the city is strong— and that includes the overall economy. But there's a storm gathering from a hostile Washington, D.C., regime that seems intent on testing and eroding that strength. And so, as Wu, her budget team, and her city council colleagues prepare to plan out spending for fiscal year 2026, they're already telegraphing the belt-tightening that many of us are already doing in our own lives and businesses.

Wu and City Councillor Brian Worrell, chairman of the council's Ways and Means Committee, exchanged letters on Monday that offer a sneak peek into what we'll likely see when Wu delivers her first draft of the proposed FY26 budget to councillors for review next week.

"Discipline"... "No new city positions"... "Caution"... "Worst case scenarios" – those were the key words sprinkled throughout their correspondence, in which both the mayor and the council's lead budget broker outlined the likely content and tone of the budget season.

"This year's budget must reflect fiscal discipline to protect Boston's community and economy in the face of federal uncertainty," the mayor advised. "The FY26 budget will focus on protecting critical city services our residents and businesses depend on and meeting our long-term financial obligations. City departmental budgets... will reflect eliminating long-term vacancies to constrain growth, with no new City positions; targeted reductions in non-personnel items; and limited new resources to support critical services."

In his own letter, Worrell had advised the mayor "to limit [the city's] overall budget growth in order to stay nimble enough financially to backfill critical city services for any federal funds that are lost in FY26."

He wrote: "Last fiscal year, the city saved tens of millions of dollars in salaries, and in order to achieve the City Council's limited requests, we suggest leveraging payroll savings from the nearly 2,000 vacant jobs in the city."

How much of a hole could get blown in the city's budget in a worst-case scenario? In her memo, Wu notes that there's \$300 million in federal funds "supporting critical city services each year." And that figure does not account for the impacts on property and sales taxes and other revenues that Boston relies on for its coffers— all of which are likely to be impacted by Trumpian tariffs and other chaotic trade policies that are just now coming into the city lens.

We'll know a lot more about just how austere the budget will be by this time next week. But suffice to say, we should all brace for impact. A hiring freeze is not a new device for city administrations that have faced daunting economic downturns. But the new dynamic this year is a White House that seems committed to ravaging the larger statewide and regional economy with sweeping cuts to grants and wholesale workforce "reductions," a.k.a. mass firings.

In this context, it'll be important for the mayor and the council to chart a course that's not only fiscally responsible, but also intentional about how we re-deploy resources. As Worrell suggests, some savings might be realized by redirecting payroll costs from some 2,000 city positions that his committee says are currently unfilled. That's a sensible measure on paper as long as it does not undermine public safety and essential city services. The mayor and Boston's other elected leaders didn't seek out this assault from Washington, D.C., but they must be counted on to respond on our behalf with creativity, restraint, and prudence. The signal sent this week is that they understand that assignment.

**-Bill Forry**

## I have fond, and soggy, memories of selling newspapers on Sundays

By LAWRENCE S. DICARA  
SPECIAL TO THE REPORTER

Whenever I go out on a cold and rainy day, I think back to my days selling newspapers in front of St. Gregory's Church in Dorchester or, on occasion, in front of St. Mary of the Angels Church in Egleston Square in Roxbury. This was long before Gore-Tex and other modern materials that keep people dry and the insulated coats that are so common in the 21st century.

There is nothing like ink on your hands on a rainy day when selling newspapers: There's not much you can do about it except wash your hands with soap and hot water time and time again until the ink is gone! As hard as one tries, it is difficult to keep newspapers dry in the middle of a rainstorm. However insulated one might be, it is very difficult to sell newspapers when your fingers are frozen.

We would assemble the newspapers early sections in the basement of Mr. O'Neill's cellar on Mother Julia Road every Saturday. Back then, there were lots of inserts and mighty large classified sections in the Sunday papers that came off the presses on Thursday and Friday. Mr. O'Neill was the janitor for the church. He had many children and was perhaps the strongest man I had ever seen. He could plow a foot of snow with a little hand plow almost effortlessly. He had been born in Scotland and came to this country to raise his family.

The news sections arrived from the newspaper plants late Saturday night into Sunday, and they were added to the original sections before we distributed some of the complete editions out to three stations

outside the major doors of the church in the morning, keeping most of them in Mr. Connolly's station wagon until they were ready to be brought to the sidewalk and sold.

I was never very good at stacking newspapers, as Mr. Connolly would often remind me.

Once when I was selling papers in Egleston Square, it was raining cats and dogs and I was there on my own. Fr. Thomas Corrigan, a young priest assigned to St. Mary of the Angels, drove his car around the corner to the front of the church and invited me to sit inside and have a cup of hot coffee. Even when I went into the church to go to Mass, nobody ever touched any of the newspapers. If someone took a newspaper they would leave a quarter. I think people generally appreciated that they could buy a newspaper on their way out of church.

Of course, I am dating myself, because the 1960s were a time when most everybody went to church on Sunday and most everybody bought a Sunday paper.

Friends of mine had other stations. One of the Weinberg brothers (their father worked with my father at the Boston Herald) was my classmate at Boston Latin School. He sold papers at Morton Street and Blue Hill Avenue – a great location. Others would sell them outside subway stations.

It was not easy work, but it was a great way to learn plenty about life. It also convinced me that I prefer to work indoors.

*Lawrence S. DiCarra is a Dorchester native and former Boston City Councillor who practices law in Boston.*

## With a month to leave the US, Haitians and others scramble for their next steps

By SIMÓN RÍOS  
WBUR

Until this week, Nickey's story had all the hallmarks of an American dream in the making. She's in her second year of community college, works three jobs and serves as a student trustee on the board at her school.

Nickey came to the US two years ago from Haiti under a program known as humanitarian parole. She said it was a lifesaver — literally — as it allowed her to get out of a country sinking ever deeper into chaos.

Without the program, "I would probably not be where I am right now," she said. "I could have been dead. But here I had the opportunity to grow — away from all this turmoil. I would say it's a chance in a lifetime."

Nickey, who is 21, said she's felt at home in the US since she arrived. But this week the Trump Administration announced it's ending the policy that allowed her and 530,000 others to come to the U.S.: humanitarian parole for citizens of Cuba, Haiti, Venezuela and Nicaragua, or CHNV.

WBUR agreed to use Nickey's nickname because she fears speaking out could make her a target for deportation.

"Immigration is going crazy," she said. "People with green cards are getting deported, people applying for asylum are getting deported. So, you just don't know where you stand."

Nickey said her world has turned upside down in recent days. She's afraid she could lose the life she's building here. "It just feels like [what] I thought was a dream come true, is turning into a nightmare," she said. "And there's no way to stop it."

Nickey's uncle sponsored her journey to Boston under the humanitarian parole program. It was created by the Biden Administration as a legal route for people from places facing economic and humanitarian crises — and more than half a million people were cleared to fly to the US.

The program's goal was to reduce the number of migrants appearing at the southwest border, where officials said an "all time high" number of immigrants attempted to cross without authorization in 2022. The effort seems to have worked. But on Tuesday, the Trump administration said the rationale for the policy is no longer valid, as border encounters have decreased dramatically since President Trump took office.

People like Nickey have until April 25 to leave the US, face deportation or get new legal status. She applied for asylum, and now she's waiting to hear whether immigration officials will allow her application to proceed.

"That's the only option that I have because I can't go back to Haiti," she said. "Going back to my country right now is just death for me."

Haiti has been wracked by gang violence in recent

years, and according to the United Nations, nearly 10 percent of the population has been displaced.

William O'Neill, a United Nations expert on Haiti, recently traveled to the island nation. Earlier this month, he said that he's never seen Haiti in a worse situation, and countries deporting Haitians should reconsider returning them to a place where the capital city is cut off from the rest of the country and doesn't have a functioning airport.

"How are they going to get back?" O'Neill asked. "And then what are they facing in the capital? Violence. Shortages of everything."

Despite the dire situation, humanitarian parole was never meant to be a permanent legal status. It was designed to last just two years.

Matt Cameron, an immigration lawyer in Boston, is dealing with multiple cases similar to Nickey's. He said parolees could begin receiving notices to appear in immigration court, and be placed into removal proceedings.

"I've got plenty of people that were expecting to be able to remain until well into next year that are now having to make other decisions," Cameron said.

Of the half million people whose humanitarian parole is ending, Cameron said some may choose to go back to their countries. Returning to their countries voluntarily could allow them to return to the US legally in the future, he said, whereas getting deported would make that much harder, if not impossible.

The US government is also curtailing a host of other immigration programs aimed at protecting people from countries in turmoil, including one known as Temporary Protected Status or TPS. Between the two programs, nearly 900,000 Haitians and Venezuelans are on track to lose their immigration status.

A legal challenge is pending to stop the White House from ending humanitarian parole programs for Haiti and Venezuela, as well as initiatives designed for Ukrainians and Afghans.

Jeff Thielman, head of the International Institute of New England, a nonprofit that serves many of the immigrants with humanitarian parole in Massachusetts, said thousands of people are likely to be affected by Trump's reversal of programs like CHNV parole.

Thielman's group administers an employment program for 1,000 people, and about 80 percent of them are humanitarian parolees from Haiti. He's helped place them in jobs ranging from food prep to hospital orderlies to home health care aids.

"We're very concerned that all of a sudden, at the end of April, their status could be ended, and they could lose their right to work," he said. "And that would be a disaster for the state."

"All those people are going to be impacted, and that is not good for this economy."

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# 50 Cape Verdean women saluted at Bowdoin Street gala



Heroínas Noemia Monteiro DoCanto and Elizabeth Gomes with CVAB Director Paulo Debarros in center.



Ambrizeth Lima, Loduvina Barros, and Joao Lopes.



Mother and daughter restaurant team, Rudmilla Barros and Ana Semedo. They operate Cape Verde Taste on Geneva Avenue.



Anaya Moreira, Lucy Grooms, Joanne DaSilva, Maria Sachetta, and Maria Dafonseca.



Mayoral candidate Josh Kraft made the rounds at Thursday's event talking to the 'heroínas' and their guests.



Jessica Correia, CVAB Director Paulo Debarros, Nazare Martins, and Lucy Grooms. Seth Daniel photos

(Continued from page 1) interaction."

activism, she is an advocate for autistic children who founded a public safety officer-training program that is currently in the pilot phase at Boston Medical Center and trained six classes of officers for dealing with autistic children and adults.

"The reason I got into something like this is that I've very outspoken, bold, and blunt and don't sugarcoat crap," she said, noting that her 21-year-old son has autism, and she has always worried about law enforcement interactions with him.

"Sometimes officers think they have the upper hand in a situation when they don't, and they don't know how to approach the situation. What can you do with an autistic child? You're going to make the situation worse if you yell, and have the firearm, the badge, and the radio."

She said her son flourished once in a Boston Public School, and now travels on the subway as he has a "passion for trains." And her advocacy with public safety officers using her experience with autism is breaking down barriers.

"Hopefully I'll be able to expand and work with them to make the training available to Boston Police and state troopers," she said. "The saddest thing about autism is that it is an invisible disease, and many people don't recognize it in an

Also recognized was 56-year-old Noemia Monteiro-DoCanto, who has spent 30 years advocating for public safety and prosperity on Bowdoin Street with various organizations. Now a community health worker for Bowdoin Street Health Center, she recalled gathering residents and business leaders to form the long-standing public safety task force. "It's so special to see what that has come to do now many years later – all on Bowdoin," she said.

"It feels good to be honored; I don't like the spotlight," she added. "But it's nice to be recognized, and to know in the third year this makes 150 women in the spotlight who can all connect and work together to make the community even better."

Other notables in the audience included Dr. Ambrizeth Lima, 60, who retired from Boston Public Schools in January after decades of teaching English as a Second Language (ESL) in schools like the Jeremiah Burke High School, the Mildred Avenue School, and Madison Park High.

"I enjoyed the daily interactions with students most definitely, and Boston is such an exciting school district to work in," she said.

Another standout was Nazare Martins, who has lived in the Bowdoin-Geneva area for 50 years, raising six of her own

children and many others from the community. She was honored not only for her work at Bowdoin Street Health Center, but also for her open-door policy at home where she has cared for countless young people who needed a helping hand.

The list of heroínas also includes: Adalgisa Ramos, Adalicia de Pina, Ana Maria Fidalgo, Ana Lopes, Ana Monteiro, Ana Semedo, Carla Alina Rodrigues DePina, Cecilia De Andrade, Cristina Santos, Elsie Dias;

Hena Lopes, Ineida Alves, Jessica Correia, Dr. Joanne DaSilva, Joyce Galvao, Julie Cabral, Kleusa Andrade, Lea-Antoinette Serena, Lourenca Barros-Randolph, Maria Alice Mendes Cardoso;

Maria 'Tchibita' Correia, Maria Lucia Fonseca-Grooms, Maria 'Aaliyah' Soares, Maria Socorro Barbosa, Marisa Babcock, Mary Ann Lomba, Mina DeBarros DePina, Narcisa Araujo, Natalina Mendes, Neusa Pina;

Neusa Ribeiro, Nuria Silva, Orisa Tomar, Ruddmila Barros, Vanusa dos Santos, Zuleica Rosario, Adalina Alves, Assuncao Teixeira, Euridice Fonseca, Ineida Tavares;

Iracema Tavares, Juju Brito, Paula Silveira, Maria Lomba, Elizabeth Gomes, and Sabina Depina.

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# Novelist sets her personalities, scenes from memories of Dorchester

By **CASSIDY MCNEELEY**  
**REPORTER STAFF**

After publishing a collection of stories in 2017 that were inspired by her father, Michaela Casey has returned to the shelves with a second book, "The Right Place at the Right Time," which, like the first, is set in her native Dorchester. Though the novel is spread across 174 pages, it only covers one day in the lives of three fictional characters: Maggie Dodge, Billy Nee, and Eamon Lally.

"All three of them are having sort of like identity crises of very different sorts," said Casey,

who now lives in the foothills of western Maine. "Somehow, during the course of this day, the major events happen, and they all end up at the grocery store."

The store, Eddie Jack's Old Time Superette on Dorchester Avenue, is modeled on the old Dorchester Market, which is depicted on the book's front cover. Casey, now 72, grew up near the store at her home on Columbia Road right next to St. Margaret parish's church (today's St. Teresa of Calcutta parish's church). After completing grammar school at St. Margaret's, she attended Girls' Latin High School in Codman Square, which, before its closing

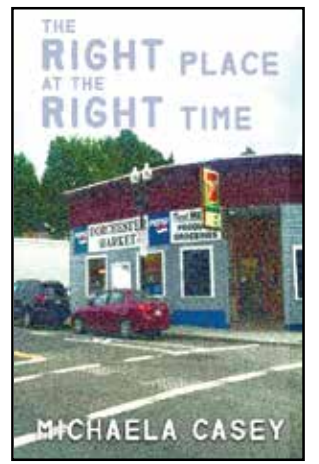
in the mid-1970s, was a distinguished public school where Casey honed her writing skills.

With the school long gone and the radical changes in the church over the last 70 years, writing a book about her young self's life offered a way for her to travel back in time and re-experience things the way they were.

"I don't think of myself as a nostalgic person but somewhere, somehow in my subconscious, I think maybe I am," Casey said in an interview with The Reporter. "I'm not nostalgic about the way Dorchester is now; I seem to be nostalgic about the way it was. And it's



Michaela Casey and her book.



Courtesy photo

not that way anymore, so maybe that's why I left."

Other parts of the book are reflections about her time in and around Dorchester.

"There is a major character in the book, the young woman whose mother has dementia. My mother suffered from dementia when we were still living in Dorchester," said Casey. "I got to see that closer up than anybody would want to."

The now-retired schoolteacher also called on some of her experiences at The Perkins School for the Blind in Watertown and the Buckingham, Browne & Nichols School in Cambridge while writing the book.

"During the summer I would dabble. I would write an article, and some of them got published but nothing really serious," said Casey. "I really had yearned to do a book, but when you're a teacher, there's not a whole lot of time. When we retired, I had more time."

While her first book was based on life with her father, this one derives in part from life with her husband Bob, who "told me this story of when he

was in kindergarten, and it was December. School got out, and the school hired a new driver. He had like a dozen kids, but he was unfamiliar with the route."

This single memory evolved into the description in the book of Billy Nee, the young grocery worker who helps his friend Joe by covering his afternoon van route. From there, it seemed, ideas spun around in her brain as quickly as the van's wheels turned.

"It's funny how just that little vignette, it just clicked in my head, and I just sort of elaborated on the idea, the concept, the scenario. It spawned characters and it's funny how it works, but it worked."

"The Right Place at the Right Time" is available on Amazon and at Barnes and Noble. Her readers should be pleased to know that another story, likely set in Dorchester yet again, is on its way.

"I'm very slow, so don't hold your breath ... and we're coming up on the gardening season, so that slows me down a little bit more," Casey said.

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# Latino Law Enforcement group hosts 3rd Women's History Month fundraiser

By SETH DANIEL  
NEWS EDITOR

Hundreds of participants packed into Dorchester's Boston Bowl for the 3rd annual LLEGO Boston (Latino Law Enforcement Group of Boston) Women's History Month bowling fundraiser.

Formed in 2017, LLEGO is a group of Latino police officers from the Boston Police (BPD), Boston Fire (BFD), corrections institutions, security companies and college/university campuses. It has grown steadily, and its Women's History event has expanded over the last 3 years from 10 teams to 32 teams this year. All of the participating bowling teams fundraise for the charity of their choice, as long as it is a women-led, or women-focused, non-profit in the area.

Teams of police officers, community members, and elected officials pulled out all the stops on Sunday and had plenty of strikes and spares to report on their scorecards.

LLEGO President David Hernandez, a sergeant in the BPD, said the organization has its volunteers run everything from girls winter softball and T-ball training in Dorchester



One of the teams celebrating a great outing. From left, Taisha Chevere, Geo Chevere, Shayna Lyons, Maykol Garcia, and Wandy Rosario. *Seth Daniel photos*

to a pre-Police Academy Training program to help recruit and prepare those in the community for a law enforcement career. The program, he said, has grown from 15 people per class to 100 per class, with 50 percent of them women, 85 percent people of color.

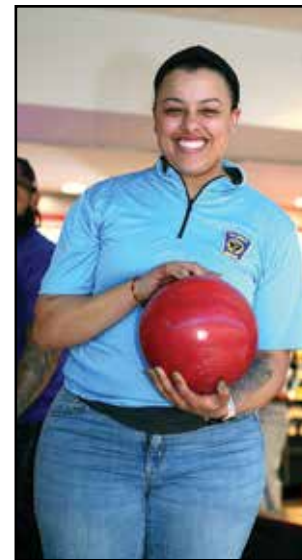
"A thing that makes us unique is that our board is comprised of officers and community members," he said. "This really helps us stay level-headed and keep in step with what



LLEGO founder Jose Ruiz, President David Hernandez, and civilian financial advisor Eric Rivas.

the community wants and is asking for."

Hernandez said the narrative that no one wants to be a police officer is something they are



Ready to bowl was Kimberly Valdez.

changing, and it's something he has overcome himself. As a young man, he witnessed his father get arrested by mistake and put in a chokehold in front of their Roslindale home by an undercover drug unit— an incident that caused him to intervene in the struggle and chaos. It left him frustrated, he said, but it didn't lead him to go to war with police; he wanted to make things better.

That, he said, is the spirit behind LLEGO Boston's work within police organizations and within the communities they serve. "We're about solutions for the community," he said. "That was a big motivation for me; I wanted a solution and to work for change from within."



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# 'Mixed' results seen from state oversight of Boston's schools

(Continued from page 1)

erate progress" in the BPS, with some academic progress and even greater improvement in combatting chronic absenteeism. In a statement on March 25, Boston School Superintendent Mary Skipper emphasized a continued increase in the system's five-year graduation rate and the percentage of school buses running on time. She also noted new educational partnerships and expanded programs for language learners. "Over the three years," said Skipper, "we have made notable progress in addressing systemic barriers and have enhanced our operational capacity, maintaining a laser focus on transportation. We are setting a high bar for transparency and on-time performance, which averaged 94 percent for the month of March, and through the Z m technology platform, we continue to gather insightful data on yellow bus ridership and routing trends that will lead to future increases in on-time performance."

Paul Reville, a former state education secretary and current professor at Harvard University's Graduate School of Education, acknowledged that the agreement with Boston was less about academic outcomes than it was about process.

"States have modest capacity to help with improvement, so this kind of designation is really, I think, more effective at increasing a sense of urgency than it is on actually solving the problems," he said. "But the good news is it appears that the Boston Public Schools have responded over the past couple of years and put in place some of the mechanisms to deliver on higher performance. And we still need to hold the system accountable for that performance over time here, because it's not enough to put in place the infrastructure; you actually have to execute. And students have to learn at higher levels, but we have to be smart about how we measure that learning."

Coinciding with Wu's first full year in office, the 2022 agreement was a sequel to the memo of understanding drawn up two years earlier with DESE under former mayor Marty Walsh and former BPS superintendent Brenda Cassellius. At the time, the measures of success, apart from graduation rates, were mainly based on scores from the state's standardized MCAS test. A comparison of BPS scores between 2019 and 2024—before and after disruptions from the Covid-19 pandemic—show a general lack of improvement. And, at the March 25 meeting, BESE vice chair Matt Hills



School buses last week near James W. Hennigan K-8 School in Jamaica Plain. A report issued last week by the state's Dept. of Elementary and Secondary Education found improvement in BPS bus performance after a shaky start last September. Chris Lovett photo

shifted the focus to DESE's previous yardstick—and what he called an "abysmal start" to student transportation last September.

"I know everybody's trying," he insisted. "I know nobody wants this, but I just kind of feel the need to highlight the academic and then this one operational issue." Even before the meeting, the lack of improvement in MCAS scores was highlighted in a report by the Boston Policy Institute (BPI). The report also noted that chronic absenteeism, following a post-pandemic peak, was at 34.6 percent for the year 2023-24. The figure in 2019 was 25.2 percent, described as "staggering" in a 2020 letter from former DESE Commissioner Jeffrey C. Riley that accompanied a scathing review of the BPS. "We've had these agree-

ments, they've led to some changes," the BPI report's author, Dr. Kerry L. Donahue, observed, "but we're not getting at the systemic core factors, which was the reason for the whole intervention. The state shouldn't be using its power to intervene to just require people to write plans. It should be to shift student and school outcomes in the performance of the district. And that has not transpired at this point." Even Riley's letter in 2020 pointed to a lack of progress in the system's lowest-performing schools, addressing "systemic barriers to equity," and supporting the "most vulnerable" students. "While the Boston Public Schools has historically been among the country's leading urban school districts,"

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DESE officials wrote in the report, “in student performance, improvement in student academic outcomes has been largely stalled for the past decade.” During the decade, Boston had a change of mayoral administrations and a rapid turnover in superintendents. According to researchers for The Boston Foundation, between 2014 and 2022, the BPS and public charter schools also saw their share of “high-needs” students increase from 70.2 percent to 81.4 percent. In December 2024, after decades of declining enrollment, BPS reported an influx of 2,379 students over three years who were, according to a top official, “almost exclusively” immigrants. Also affecting performance metrics, starting in 2017, was the adoption of the “Next-Generation” MCAS exams, with higher standards to promote college readiness. In the years that followed, the results showed continuing gaps between numbers for Black and Latino students, as opposed to white and Asian students. Students within the groups also had different levels of English proficiency and the number of years in the BPS. Accounting for 45 percent of the BPS enrollment, Latinos are the system’s largest student population, including language learners and US-born students whose primary language is English. According to Lorna Rivera, the director of UMass Boston’s Mauricio Gastón Institute for Latino Community Development & Public Policy, the Latino category also includes recent older, unaccompanied minors from other countries, some with limited or interrupted formal education.

“We know what languages,” said Rivera, “but we don’t know the deeper piece there of that disaggregation.”

A comparison of BPS MCAS results between 2019 and 2024 for “Hispanic/Latino” students shows that, for grades 3-8 and 10, there was a decrease in the percentage meeting or exceeding expectations in all subjects, with the same tallies down for BPS students in total. But Reville cautioned that, because of shifting demographics and differing baselines, group results on MCAS have limited use as a measure of student progress. “I assume that was a consideration in the state’s not over-focusing on those results,” he surmised, “because it absolutely has an effect. The population is changing, and the proportionate demographics are increasing for students with significant disadvantage, whether it’s poverty, language, or disability. And, therefore, you’re not comparing apples to apples. You’re not comparing the same population and you’ve got the chronic attendance problems post-Covid.” In a letter to Skipper on March 24, Johnston pointed to improvements in special education services and language learners. In the fall of 2025, the BPS plans nine new “bilingual” education plans, including dual language programs coupling English with Spanish, Cape Verdean Kriolu, and Mandarin Chinese.

After the programs were announced last year, some advocates and parents criticized additional plans for English immersion and “inclusive” placement of language learners—some speaking different home languages — in classes taught in English. They argued that students would do better in classes with more use of their home language—by classmates and teachers. And Donahue, when asked about her report for BPI, said the BPS still lacks “a very clear or evidence-based plan” for language learners.

A pioneering dual language program in English and Haitian Creole at the Mattahunt Elementary School in Mattapan was a factor in last year’s top award for learning progress by the nonprofit school improvement fundraiser EdVestors. But Rivera acknowledged that a more transitional approach to language learning could also be more labor-intensive, with more need for training and professional development. Almost one-third of the BPS students



**A Haitian-Kreyol/English dual language class at the Mattahunt Elementary School in Mattapan in 2017. Cited in the Mattahunt’s “School on the Move” award last year, the program is one example of the expanding options for BPS language learners.**  
*Chris Lovett photo*

are classified as “English Language Learners,” and they speak dozens of different languages—which Reville said could make matching with teachers more difficult.

Donahue also suggested other ways to boost achievement for the general student population. “I would look at high dosage tutoring as an option,” she said. “I would look at really strong evidence-based early literacy program, making sure every teacher is trained, that every school has a model for intervening when students aren’t making grade level progress.”

DESE commended the BPS for progress on facilities planning and information about enrollment projections. In January 2024, officials announced that as many as half the BPS schools could be closed in the coming years. In January of this year, Skipper and Wu announced plans to close three more schools at the end of 2025-26, with other schools being merged, reconfigured, or redesigned. The changes have met with opposition from parents, including those with children at the Dever Elementary School in Dorchester. But Donahue emphasized that reducing under-used capacity could allow more resources to be used for other needs. “Now, you’ve got probably what’s an excess of classroom teachers for the number of kids you have,” she said. “You could move some of those people into becoming reading specialists or interventionists. Somebody needs to be thinking about a human capital strategy that aligns with the facilities plan, because that is where the majority of the money is.” BPI’s executive director, Gregory Maynard, noted that DESE had drawn attention to problems with school facilities two years before the 2022 memo of understanding.

“I would say, if you were looking at how the agreement was intended to work when it was signed in June 2022,” Maynard argued, “that this was intended to be an opportunity for Boston to go and do the hard things that it had resisted doing so far. And that particularly is around right-sizing the number of Boston’s public schools.” Boston officials also have to contend with changes in federal policy and funding. The US Dept. of Education supports programs for students with disabilities and literacy efforts for children in poverty, along with teacher training. The department has also measured progress and monitored programs for students with disabilities and language learners. President Trump is trying to eliminate the department, with some programs to be dismantled, and others shifted to a

different federal agency or handed off with funding to state governments. The changes are currently facing legal challenges from several states.

According to Will Austin, the founder of the Boston Schools Fund, Trump’s action also comes after 2015 federal legislation scaling back federal and state initiatives that had been adopted under the 2002 “No Child Left Behind” Act.

“These reductions mean fewer people helping families afford college, protecting civil rights, and researching how to teach children better,” Austin wrote in his March 14 “Boston Focus” newsletter. “Regardless of one’s political or policy orientation toward local control, none of these three functions can or should be carried out by localities (which is why they are federalized to begin with).”

“So, it is fair to assume these services will be diminished or completely go away. That appears to be the point.”

Boston officials are also concerned about the Trump administration’s immigration enforcement policies, including recent decisions to end “temporary protected status” (TPF) this year for Venezuelan and Haitian immigrants. The move is also facing legal challenges, along with prompting a resolution in opposition filed by three Boston city councilors.

Rivera says the change in enforcement is also causing anxiety at UMass Boston. “My students are really scared,” she said. “They’re not going to school — like these things in that [DESE] report. We’re worried about chronic absenteeism since Covid—kids haven’t been going. What are we doing?” Reville said federal cuts in spending, including money for school meals, would affect anything from student outcomes to local budget decisions.

“These are factors that will affect attendance,” he said. “They will affect kids’ focus and motivation, and will affect the district’s ability to deliver at high quality levels. And I think that the general atmosphere, where the feeling is the sector is kind of under siege at the moment, is bound to affect performance at all levels.”

“So, I’m very concerned in terms of where we’re headed on all this, but there’s so much uncertainty now that it makes building a budget complicated. Because, to some extent, [while] you have modest reliance on federal aid right now, it’s not clear whether that aid is going to be coming in that has been authorized by Congress.”

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**Moment of Paws**

**By DR. EDWARD SCETTINO**

Rising costs – from housing to eggs – are practically everywhere you turn and they are creating stress and hardship. Here at the Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL), we know that when people struggle, pets struggle.

Owning a pet has certainly become more expensive as well. The average cost for a cat or dog is more than \$1,000 annually, and that is just for the basics – food, supplies, and routine veterinary care. What this figure doesn't take into account are emergency injuries, illnesses, or a

myriad of other things could happen to our pets in the course of a year.

Pets are family, and a companion animal can drastically improve our physical and mental wellbeing. I want to share the resources that are available and the things you can do to help keep your pets a part of your family.

The Animal Rescue League of Boston offers a variety of programs and services to help pet owners in need. In Greater Boston, the Wellness Waggin' provides low-cost pet wellness for pet owners in Dorchester, Roxbury, Mattapan, and East Boston. For \$20,

**The rising cost of pet care**



**Dogs and cats, like Mimi, can get low-cost care from the ARL's Wellness Wagon.**

pets receive a wellness exam, vaccinations, flea treatment, and more. These services would cost several hundred dollars in a veterinary clinic setting.

Additionally, the Keep Pets S.A.F.E. (Supporting Animals and Families Everyday) program delivers pet food and essential supplies to clients in the Boston area, helping pet

owners facing financial barriers.

ARL Animal Care & Adoption Centers, particularly ARL's Cape Cod facility, often have free pet food and supplies that are available on a first-come-first-serve basis and pet owners can find puppy pads, crates, toys, and numerous other items to keep pets safe and healthy.

Having an issue with your pet's behavior? ARL's Pet Behavior Helpline is a free service that can help tackle issues such as excessive barking, crate training, housing soiling, among other behavior-related issues that can arise during your pet's life. You can contact the helpline at 617-226-5666 or email behaviorhelpline@arlboston.org with your questions and concerns.

While incredibly beneficial for your pet, many pet owners are unable to spay or neuter their pet due to either cost or accessibility. ARL's Spay Waggin' provides low-cost spay/neuter services to Boston, the South

Shore, South Coast, and Cape Cod and the Islands. Pet owners can also contact their local animal control officer to see if they qualify for a subsidized spay/neuter voucher through the Massachusetts Animal Fund.

Finally, see what resources are available through your city of town. Your animal control officer can help find the local pet resources available to you.

We are all committed to eliminating barriers to pet ownership. If you need assistance, you're not alone and don't be afraid to reach out for help by logging onto arlboston.org/here-to-help. For organizations like ARL, the goal is to keep pets in the home and out of shelters.

*Dr. Edward Schettino is the president and CEO of the Animal Rescue League of Boston. He holds a doctorate of Veterinary Medicine from the Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University.*

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**Local Real Estate Transactions**

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Marte, Juan M	Abreau Realty TLLC	36 Whitman St #3	Dorchester	03/12/25	\$410,000
Goncalves, Eloisa H	Sibley, Royal	7 Brenton St	Dorchester	03/13/25	830,000
Baker, Victoria E	Connolly Protection Ft	362 Savin Hill Ave	Dorchester	03/14/25	450,000
Queensborough Rlty Grp LL	Eutaw Holdings LLC	14 Westcott St	Dorchester	03/12/25	725,000
Rivera, Adrian B	Joyce, Michael	15 Ruggdale Rd	Mattapan	03/13/25	915,000
Le, Ngoc P	Saqo LLC	25 Fottler Rd	Mattapan	03/14/25	625,000
Holland, Brian T	Smith, Walter B	1215-1221 Morton St	Mattapan	03/10/25	344,000
Saetia Survivors Ft	Stuart, Aidan	21 Dix St #2	Dorchester	03/12/25	539,000
Hynes, James D	Nunziantie, Antonio	71 Beaumont St #2	Dorchester	03/14/25	532,500
Berkowitz, Zachary A	Olmsted Grn Condo Iii LLC	13 Goldfinch Ct #13	Mattapan	03/10/25	420,000
48-50 Torrey Street LLC	Torrey Realty LLC	48-50 Torrey St	Dorchester	03/10/25	950,000
Armstrong, Clandancy E	1644 Dorchester LLC	1644 Dorchester Ave #4	Dorchester	03/10/25	719,000
Obiegbu, Adaobi I	Olmstead Grn Condo Iii LL	2 Goldfinch Ct #2	Mattapan	03/12/25	465,000
Boyle, Maggy S	Osullivan Development Inc	60 Fuller St #1	Dorchester	03/12/25	742,000
Brown Perspective Lothrop	Murray Hill Group LLC	Richmers Rd #61	Mattapan	03/13/25	300,000
St Clair, Felix	Stoney Brae Dev LLC	24 Elder St #2	Dorchester	03/13/25	320,000
Cirino, Sylvia R	Olmsted Grn Condo Iii LLC	3 Goldfinch Ct #3	Mattapan	03/14/25	390,000
Monterroso-Silva, Leonel					

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# State unemployment up slightly, to 4.3 percent

The statewide unemployment rate continued to creep upward at a slow pace in February, climbing one-tenth of a percentage point to 4.3 percent, officials announced last Friday.

Massachusetts again experienced slightly higher joblessness than the country as a whole, which had an unemployment rate of 4.1 percent in February. From February 2024 to February 2025, the statewide unemployment rate increased one-half of a percentage point.

Different measurements of the total number of jobs showed varying trends, officials said.

Federal Bureau of Labor Statistics data counted 2,700 more Bay Staters employed in February than in January, but a separate payroll job estimate suggested the number of positions in Massachusetts had dropped 2,400 over the same span.

Economists with Mass-Benchmarks said in their most recent report that the Massachusetts economy "remains a study in contradictions."

"On the one hand, high-line economic indicators are generally positive: Unemployment is remarkably low, and inflation has finally returned to levels acceptable enough for the Fed-

eral Reserve to begin lowering interest rates. This is the 'soft landing' that economists were hoping for when trying to tame inflation without inducing another recession," they wrote.

"On the other hand," they noted, "public sentiment about the economy remains largely negative, and while inflation is slowing, the ramifications of dramatic price increases over 2021 and 2022 certainly still impact most households today."

-CHRIS LISINSKI SHNS

# Healey okays a remote, hybrid meeting extension

Gov. Healey has extended Covid-era remote and hybrid meeting allowances for public bodies until mid-2027, avoiding their potential expiration this week. She signed the bill that lawmakers sent her last week to keep in place language granting public bodies flexibility to hold meetings virtually or in hybrid formats, as well as measures lowering the number of people necessary for a quorum at Town Meeting and allowing representative Town Meetings to be held with

remote participation.

Those policies were set to expire March 31, but the new law pushes that sunset date until June 30, 2027. Municipal officials, many of whom are gearing up for busy town meeting season, have urged the state to keep the status quo in place, arguing that they have boosted civic participation and made it easier for local governments to manage operations.

-COLIN A. YOUNG SHNS

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### LEGAL NOTICE

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT SUFFOLK PROBATE & FAMILY COURT 24 NEW CHARDON STREET BOSTON, MA 02114 (617) 788-8300**  
**CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION Docket No. SU25P0200EA ESTATE OF: JUDITH A. NEEDHAM a/k/a: JUDITH NEEDHAM DATE OF DEATH: 02/08/2024**  
To all interested persons:  
A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Jonathan W. Palmer of Quincy, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Jonathan W. Palmer of Quincy, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve With Personal Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.  
**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 04/23/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.  
**UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)**  
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.  
Witness, HON. BRIAN J. DUNN, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: March 19, 2025  
Stephanie L. Everett, Esq. Register of Probate  
Published: April 3, 2025

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE & FAMILY COURT SUFFOLK PROBATE & FAMILY COURT 24 NEW CHARDON STREET BOSTON, MA 02114**  
**CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR RESIGNATION OF A GUARDIAN OF AN INCAPACITATED PERSON Docket No. SU93P2416 IN THE INTERESTS OF: BERT GIBSON of BOSTON, MA RESPONDENT**  
Incapacitated Person/Protected Person  
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Alan Levine of Methuen, MA in the above captioned matter requesting that the court: **Accept the Resignation of the Guardian of the Respondent.**  
The petition asks the Court to make a determination that the Guardian and/or Conservator should be allowed to resign; or should be removed for good cause; or that the Guardianship and/or Conservatorship is no longer necessary and therefore should be terminated. The original petition is on file with the court.  
**You have the right to object to this proceeding.** If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 04/17/2025. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.  
**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.  
Witness, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.  
Stephanie L. Everett, Esq. Register of Probate  
Date: March 25, 2025  
Published: April 3, 2025

**The Massachusetts Water Resources Authority**  
is seeking bids for the following:

BID NO.	DESCRIPTION	DATE	TIME
WRA-5621	Vibration Analysis Training and Support Services	04/15/25	2:00 p.m.
WRA-5624	Purchase of Two (2) Submersible Motors	04/16/25	3:00 p.m.

To access and bid on Event(s) please go to the MWRA Supplier Portal at <https://supplier.mwra.com>

**LEGAL NOTICE REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS**

The MASSACHUSETTS PORT AUTHORITY (Authority) is soliciting consulting services for MPA CONTRACT NO. **A471 FY-25-30 - FLAGGING AND TRAFFIC CONTROL SERVICES AT ALL MASSACHUSETTS PORT AUTHORITY FACILITIES.** The Authority is seeking qualified multidiscipline consulting firm or team, with proven experience to provide professional services of flagging and traffic control services at various Massport locations on an as-needed and when required basis. The consultant must be able to work closely with the Authority and other interested parties in order to provide such services in a timely and effective matter.

The consultant shall demonstrate experience in several disciplines including but not limited to: Traffic Zone setup, Job Site Flagging, Traffic Control, Lane Closures and Detours.

The contract will be work order based, on the total fee for the contract shall not exceed FIVE MILLION DOLLARS (\$5,000,000).

A Supplemental Information Package will be available, on Wednesday April 2nd 2025 on the Capital Bid Opportunities webpage of Massport <http://www.massport.com/massport/business/bids-opportunities/capital-bids> as an attachment to the original Legal Notice, and on COMMBUYS ([www.commbuys.com](http://www.commbuys.com)) in the listings for this project. If you have problems finding it, please contact Susan Brace at Capital Programs [SBrace@massport.com](mailto:SBrace@massport.com) The Supplemental Information Package will provide detailed information about Scope of Work, Selection Criteria and Submission Requirements.

In addition, a Project Briefing shall be held via Zoom on 10:00am on Wednesday April 9th 2025. The briefing is not mandatory; however, it is strongly encouraged to best familiarize your firm with the project details and prequalification process <https://massport.zoom.us/j/3228766679?omn=81708994824> Meeting ID: 322 876 6679

By responding to this solicitation, consultants agree to accept the terms and conditions of Massport's standard work order agreement, a copy of the Authority's standard agreement can be found on the Authority's web page at <http://www.massport.com/massport/business/capital-improvements/important-documents/>. The Consultant shall specify in its cover letter that it has the ability to obtain requisite insurance coverage.

This submission shall be addressed to Luciana Burdi, Intl. Assoc. AIA, CCM, MCPPO, Director of Capital Programs and Environmental Affairs and received no later than 12:00 Noon on Thursday May 15, 2025 at the Massachusetts Port Authority, Logan Office Center, One Harborside Drive, Suite 209S, Logan International Airport, East Boston, MA 02128-2909. Any submission which is not received by the deadline shall be rejected by the Authority as non-responsive. Any information provided to the Authority in any Proposal or other written or oral communication between the Proposer and the Authority will not be, or deemed to have been, proprietary or confidential, although the Authority will use reasonable efforts not to disclose such information to persons who are not employees or consultants retained by the Authority except as may be required by M.G.L. c.66.

**MASSACHUSETTS PORT AUTHORITY RICHARD DAVEY CEO & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**NOTICE TO TRADE CONTRACTORS REQUEST FOR TRADE CONTRACTOR QUALIFICATIONS**

The MASSACHUSETTS PORT AUTHORITY is soliciting Statements of Qualifications from **TRADE CONTRACTORS** interested in performing work for **L1629 FRAMINGHAM LOGAN EXPRESS GARAGE EXPANSION.** The Authority is seeking Qualification Statements from Trade Contractors who have a demonstrated experience in the construction and implementation of similar work in terms of scale and complexity as required for the **FRAMINGHAM LOGAN EXPRESS GARAGE EXPANSION.** In accordance with Massachusetts construction manager at-risk requirements, MGL Chapter 149A Section 8, Qualification Statements are being requested from trade contractors capable of performing the following classes of work: **RESILIENT FLOORS.**

The contract includes the following scope of work: **RESILIENT FLOORS**

The estimated cost of the trade contractors' portion of this phase of the Project is approximately \$36M and the construction duration for this phase is approximately 2 months. The estimated value of work to be performed by trade contractors is as follows:  
Resilient Floors: (090005, 096510) .....\$ 50,000

The Authority is implementing this project in accordance with MGL Chapter 149A, Sections 1 thru 13. This selection of trade contractors conforms to MGL Chapter 149A, Section 8, subsections (b) to (k) inclusive. This Request for Qualifications (RFQ) will be utilized to pre-qualify trade contractors capable and experienced in the construction of parking garages and terminal buildings. The Authority shall utilize a two-step process including the prequalification of trade contractors based on an evaluation of the Statement of Qualifications received in response to this solicitation, followed by an Invitation to Bidders that will only be issued to the prequalified trade contractors. A Prequalification Committee consisting of four representatives, one each from the Designer and the CM at Risk and two Massport staff. This Prequalification Committee will be conducting a qualifications-based evaluation of submissions received from interested trade contractors in order to identify prequalified trade contractors who will be invited to respond to a written Invitation to Bidders. Please note that the Authority is not utilizing this process to prequalify subcontractors who are not trade contractors which shall be done separately in accordance with MGL C149A, Section 8, subsection (j).

Qualification Statements shall be evaluated in accordance with the following criteria; (1) Management Experience; (2) Project References including a Public Project Record and (3) Capacity to Complete including a demonstration that the contractor has the financial stability and long-term viability to successfully implement the Project.

A Supplemental Information Package which will provide more details on the scope of the Project as well as the selection process and evaluation criteria shall be available as of WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, 2025 on Bid Express, the Capital Bid Opportunities webpage of Massport <http://www.massport.com/massport/business/bids-opportunities/capital-bids> as an attachment to the original Legal Notice, and on COMMBUYS ([www.commbuys.com](http://www.commbuys.com)) in the listings for this project. If you have problems finding it, please contact Susan Brace at Capital Programs [SBrace@massport.com](mailto:SBrace@massport.com)

Responses shall be addressed to Luciana Burdi, Intl. Assoc. AIA, CCM, MCPPO, NAC Director of Capital Programs and Environmental Affairs, and received no later than 12:00 PM Local Time on THURSDAY, MAY 1, 2025, via Bid Express <https://www.bidexpress.com/businesses/27137/home>

All questions relative to your submission shall be directed to [CPBidQuestions@massport.com](mailto:CPBidQuestions@massport.com). In the subject line of your email, please reference the MPA Project Name and Number. It is strictly prohibited for any proponent to contact anyone else from Massport about this project from the time of this solicitation until award of the project to the successful proponent.

**MASSACHUSETTS PORT AUTHORITY Richard A. Davey CEO & Executive Director**



# While it's not like the old days, T sees lift in riders, fare revenue

By CHRIS LISINSKI  
STATE HOUSE  
NEWS SERVICE

Every dollar could make a difference as the MBTA prepares to cope with a massive budget gap, and the agency in recent months has picked up millions more than expected from riders.

T General Manager Phil Eng said last Thursday (March 27) that fare collections since fiscal 2025 began July 1 have surpassed projections by about \$18 million, a boost to a major revenue stream for the MBTA. He attributed the uptick to a combination of higher ridership, better fare-collection efforts by T staff and more reliable service.

While ridership still has not returned to pre-pandemic levels, the MBTA's core subway system transported 24 percent more passengers in February 2025 than it did in February 2024, Eng said. "We're really optimistic that we can continue to see this continue, this path," he noted at an MBTA Board meeting. "Ridership is up on all of our modes. This is just the tip of the iceberg."

In the agency's \$3.02 billion fiscal 2025 budget, MBTA budget-writers forecast collecting about \$403 million in fares. That represented a decrease from fiscal 2024, when the budget set a \$418.5 million fare



A digital sign at the corner of Park Street and Dorchester Avenue in Fields Corner warned of the impending Red Line rail service suspension on Monday, March 31. The Ashmont branch of the Red Line will be offline through April 9. *Seth Daniel photo*

estimate, in part because of the volume of shutdowns and diversions expected during a lengthy track repair campaign.

Fares made up a larger share of the T's funding before the pandemic rewired travel patterns. The MBTA's fiscal 2020 budget projected collecting more than \$690 million in fares, about one-third of all revenues the agency expected to receive that year.

Officials have projected the T could face a nearly \$700 million budget gap next year, which could be mostly closed if lawmakers embrace Gov. Healey's proposal to significantly increase state aid for the agency.

...

T officials want to boost spending on maintenance, modernization, and expansion projects by another \$200 million in the latest five-year capital improvement plan, targeting investments across the public transit system.

T officials last Thursday rolled out a draft \$9.8

billion capital investment plan for fiscal years 2026 through 2030. The new plan is larger than the \$9.6 billion version for fiscal 2025 through 2029. It includes more than 670 projects ranging from upgrades to the Green Line to ferry terminal accessibility upgrades.

T officials estimated in 2023 that it would cost \$24.5 billion to bring all agency assets into a state of good repair.

As budgetary pressures threaten to slow progress at the T, Transportation Secretary Monica Tibbits-Nutt described the draft plan as "making a bold commitment to improving MBTA service across the region."

About \$3.8 billion in the plan is tied to rapid transit, according to a summary. Another \$2.5 billion would fund commuter rail investments, while the bus system could receive close to \$1.1 billion.

Release of the draft CIP kicks off a 21-day public comment period. Officials will incorporate feedback and present a final plan later in the spring.

## JustBook-ish

### April

THURS  
3

**Sip & Shop: A Mixer for Food Folks & Culinary Creatives**

JustBook-ish Culinary Director, Tamika Francis (founder of Food & Folklore) hosts a mixer for culinary creatives. This event also features a micro culinary talk from Chef Chris Faison.

FRI  
4

**JUST BELOVED: Poetry Slam & Open Mic**

A poetry slam & open mic occurring every first & third Friday hosted by Crystal Valentine & Emmanuel Oppong-Yeboah. This week's feature is George Abraham.

SAT  
5

**KIDIE CORNER: Ramses Learns Kindness**

Join us for this family reading of *Ramses Learns Kindness* featuring Rachele, Renaud and Ramses Alexandre!

SAT  
5

**Jam Session: Black Cotton Club**

Re-imagining jam sessions by welcoming the audience to be unfiltered & unapologetically themselves with their voices & bodies. Curated by DziDzor

SUN  
6

**Movie Night: Holding Ground the Rebirth of Dudley Street**

Hosted by DSNI, Holding Ground: The Rebirth of Dudley Street follows activists who ignite change in Roxbury. This event will feature dinner and discussion.

TUES  
8

**Freedom Sounds: Live Music Series**

This Tuesday will feature vocalist, songwriter and producer, Chris Walton.

RSVP FOR EVENTS AT [WWW.JUSTBOOK-ISH.COM](http://WWW.JUSTBOOK-ISH.COM)

*Culturally Radical Locally*

## Ashmont-JFK/UMass train service suspended through next Wednesday

(Continued from page 1)

"ample" extra time. Officials say riders traveling from Mattapan to Park Street should expect their commutes to take at least an extra 45 to 60 minutes.

What are other options? For the next nine days, the T is making the Fairmount commuter rail line and the 18 bus free.

Meanwhile: The rest of the Red Line should see normal service — and there'll even be a little more frequency between JFK/UMass and Braintree, with trains run-

ning every seven to eight minutes.

**What's a shuttle train?** Since the T won't be able to turn trains around while the crossover is being replaced, they'll just be running a single train back and forth on each of the two tracks. On the northbound track, the train will stop at all five stations from Ashmont to JFK/UMass, then throw it into reverse. Due to technical reasons, it will run "express" on the way back and skip Fields Corner and Shawmut. Meanwhile on the southbound

track, another train will do the opposite.

**Wait times will be longer** — 13 minutes at Ashmont, Savin Hill, and JFK/UMass, and *at least 25 minutes* between trains at Shawmut and Fields Corner. The trains also won't be free.

But the T says the shuttle trains should be faster and more accessible than buses. MBTA officials also said it's the first time in recent memory they've used shuttle trains for such a long period of time — and on double tracks.



## Everyone's House Has a History Curious to know about yours?

Request a House History from the  
Dorchester Historical Society!

Our volunteer researchers use extensive online resources to look for information about the original owner, year of construction, previous occupants, and more, for houses in Dorchester and Mattapan. A written report documents their findings for you.

Go to [www.dorchesterhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.dorchesterhistoricalsociety.org) and click House History dropdown to request individual house research and see completed histories.





# BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF DORCHESTER



**BGCD Members Take Trip to See Addams Family Musical Thanks to Boch Center Education Department:** See details below.



**BGCD Celebrates Seniors Chris C., Leticia G., & Osmaly B. for Prestigious Scholarship Opportunities:** See details below.

**CONNECT THE DOT:**  
**BGCD Members Take Trip to See Addams Family Musical Thanks to Boch Center Education Department:** On March 21st, BGCD members from two of our sites had the opportunity to attend a spectacular night out at the Boch Center's Wang Theater, where they were treated to the musical comedy, *The Addams Family!* A huge thank you to the Education Department at the Boch Center for making this amazing opportunity possible for our members. Their support helps make the world of fine arts accessible to our youth and sparks creativity and imagination. For more information on the Fine Arts program at BGCD, please contact Katy Sullivan and [kfarrar@bgcdorchester.org](mailto:kfarrar@bgcdorchester.org). Our full range of arts programs allow members to exercise creativity while learning an appreciation for artistic expression that keeps members engaged and eager to come back for more.

**FIND OUT WHAT'S INSIDE:**  
**BGCD Celebrates Seniors Chris C., Leticia G., & Osmaly B. for Prestigious Scholarship Opportunities:** BGCD is thrilled to announce three outstanding members of the 2025 graduating class who are taking their next big step toward success! Join us in congratulating Chris C., Leticia G., and Osmaly B. who have received the Posse, Remondi and Questbridge Scholarships to attend three outstanding colleges in the fall. These scholarships are a true testament to their hard work, dedication, and academic excellence! BGCD is proud of these incredible young leaders, and we can't wait to see all the amazing things they'll accomplish! Our Power Forward Program offers assistance to members looking to learn about careers and post High School opportunities. For more information, contact Tricia Chapple at [pchapple@bgcdorchester.org](mailto:pchapple@bgcdorchester.org).

**DID YOU KNOW:**  
**BGCD Host Ribbon Cutting on Financial Literacy Lab With \$100,000 Grant from Webster Bank:** BGCD is excited to announce a partnership with Webster Bank as we open dedicated lab space on a new Financial Literacy Program. Webster Bank chose BGCD to become one of a selected group of youth agencies to provide youth and families with programming and tools needed for financial empowerment and future financial well-being. On April 10<sup>th</sup>, we will be hosting a special ribbon cutting unveiling a new space thanks to a generous \$100,000 grant from our friends at Webster. This space will be available in time for Financial Literacy Month, a nationwide, collaborative endeavor marked by a variety of activities and events across the country and throughout April. A huge thank you to Webster Bank for making all of this possible for our members!

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- Marr-lins Swim Team @ National Championship Meet  
April 10 - 14
- Elevate Youth Hiking Trip  
April 12
- Keystone Volunteer @ Food Pantry  
April 12
- Patriots Day - BGCD Closed  
April 21
- April School Vacation  
April 22 - 25 \*Pre-registration required
- NEWLA  
May 13

617.288.7120 | 1135 Dorchester Ave. | [www.bgcdorchester.org](http://www.bgcdorchester.org)



## New Patients Welcome!

### Pediatrics at Daniel Driscoll - Neponset Health Center



**Our board-certified pediatricians and nurse practitioners look forward to caring for your newborn, child or teen!**

**FIND US AT: DANIEL DRISCOLL - NEPONSET HEALTH CENTER**  
398 Neponset Avenue, Dorchester

Call to make an appointment:  
**(617) 282-3200**



HARBOR HEALTH



[HHSI.US/Pediatrics](http://HHSI.US/Pediatrics)



# RECENT OBITUARIES



**CADEUS, Louis Antoine "Michael"**, 65, of Dorchester, originally of Haiti. Son to Al-ta grace B. Cadeus and Ilima Cadeus in De Paup Haiti. He leaves to cherish his memories his wife, Marie Monique Antoine Cadeus; his parents, Alta Grace and Ilima Cadeus; brother, Robespierre Philippe Cadeus; his children: Taina Pere, Ashley Pierre, Ebjamila Aubry, Starkency Pierre, Nephews: Philip Christo Cadeus, Ryan Antony Cadeus, Daniel Robert Cadeus, Emmanuel Jacob Ca-

deus and a host of close friends and co-workers.



**DiBARI, John D.**, 71, of Dorchester. Son of the late Angelo DiBari (BPD) and Anna (Mollica) DiBari. Brother of his identical twin brother James DiBari of Saugus, Sam DiBari and his wife Doreen of Saugus, Paul DiBari of Dorchester, Angela DiBari and her partner Gina of York, Maine, and Diane Turra and her husband Eugene of Ayer. Nephew of Hazel Mollica of Ipswich and Christine Mollica of Dorchester.

Cherished uncle. John is also survived by many close cousins, and his special friend Marion Gill. John worked as a mechanic for Unifirst Corporation for over 25 years before retiring.

**FLYNN, Margaret "Peg" (Martyn)**, 96, of East Bridgewater, formerly of Dorchester. Wife of the late Owen J. Flynn. Mother of Annmarie Dickinson and her husband Bob of Weymouth, Theresa Howley and her husband Mike of The Villages, FL, Mark Flynn and his partner Dawn of Norton, and the late Brendan Flynn and his surviving wife Dale of Tewksbury. Grandmother of 4, and the late Kimberly (Powers) Brunet. Sister of Paddy Kilcommons of Ireland, and the late Michael Cummings, Mary Finneran, Larry Cummings, Tom Cummings, and John Cummings. Margaret is

also survived by many great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and dear friends. Please consider making a donation in memory of Margaret to Cornerstone Hospice and Palliative Care.



**GOLDBERG, Eve**, 46, of Dorchester. Wife of Brian Lynch and the devoted mother to Eleanor, Madeline and Miriam. Eve is survived by her parents, Sarah and David Goldberg, her sister Jessica Goldberg, her brother and sister-in-law William and Alison Goldberg, and her nieces Lila and Ava Goldberg, Maeve Pospischil and nephew Eamon Pospischil. Also, survived by her mother-in-law and father-in-law Rosemary and Joseph Lynch and brother-in-law David Pospischil and sister-in-law Jo-Anne Lynch. Eve worked as the Director of Research at the Center for Collaborative Education. Please consider making a donation in Eve's memory to support the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute or the Boston Education Fund.

Evelyn was predeceased by her husband, Richard P. Ierardi. Evelyn is survived by her children, Christopher and his wife, Kristina of Bourne and Michelle LeBlanc and her husband, John of Plymouth. She was also the grandmother of 2. She was predeceased by her siblings, Joseph O'Brien Jr., Louise Anne Reid; and sister-in-law, Judith and husband, Augustus Camelio. She is survived by her sister-in-law, Monica O'Brien; and many nieces, nephews and friends. Evelyn worked for many years as a loan officer in the First National Bank of Boston. The family requests donations be made in Evelyn's memory to The Jimmy Fund and/or the Norwell VNA.



**LAMBERT, Wilfred J., "Billy"**, 87. Wilfred was one of the co-founders of Lambert's Rainbow Fruit. He was born in the South End, before moving to Biddeford, Maine. Husband to the late Muriel (Horsfield) Lambert. Son of Blanche and George Lambert and father to: Carole Lambert and her partner Bo Queeney of Hull; William Lambert and his wife Kathleen of Hanover; Sandra Lambert and her partner Mike Cramer of Duxbury; Michelle Logan and her husband Greg of Kingston; Daniel Lambert of Braintree; Stephanie McDonald and her husband Jimmy of Pembroke; and Stacey Child and her husband Skip of Needham. He also leaves three nieces. Wilfred was the brother of Ferdinand Lambert, Lorraine Elwinger, Paul Lambert and George Lambert. Grandfather of 22 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his grandchild James Lewis. He also leaves many nieces and nephews.

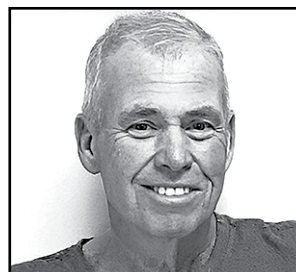
brook, Marian O'Brien and her husband, Paul of Dorchester, Matthew Mahoney and his wife, Mary of Holbrook, Kathleen Moynihan and her husband, Tom of Walpole and Susanne Cunningham of Dedham. Son of the late Paul and Marian (O'Loughlin) Mahoney. Brother-in-law of Mansour Tannas of Dorchester, Frank Votruba of Canton, Karen Mahoney of Brockton and the late Elizabeth Votruba and Tommy Tannas. Also survived by many nieces and nephews. Please make contributions in Paul's memory to the Lustgarten Foundation for Pancreatic Cancer Research, at [lustgarten.org](http://lustgarten.org) or to Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, at [dana-farber.org](http://dana-farber.org)



**MORRISSEY, Brian D.**, 68, of Dorchester. Son of Dorothy (McGinty) and Francis Morrissey. He is survived by his daughters Meghan Morrissey of Pembroke and Caleena Cesarini of Middleborough and his grandsons Gunnar and Michaela. Brian was one of fifteen children raised in Dorchester by his mother Dorothy. He is survived by sisters Geri Graham of West Wareham, Deirdre London of West Roxbury, Erin Richards of Abington, Teresa Foster of Abington and brothers Michael of Canton, Kevin of Quincy, Bernard of Glenburn, ME, Dennis of Glenburn, ME, William of Meridian, ID and Timothy of Boston. Brian was predeceased by sisters Jeanne Griffin and Jayne McLaughlin and brothers Sean and Matthew. Brian was a retired mailman. Donations may be made to a charity of one's choice in Brian's name.



**SONCRANT, Champ A.**, 77, of Hampton, New Hampshire, formerly of South Burlington, VT. Champ was the son of the late Harold and Marian (Atkins) Soncrant, he was raised in Dorchester and Dedham. He spent 41 years at Champlain College in Burlington, VT, teaching accounting. He is survived by his wife, Joanne; and their dog, Luke. Champ leaves numerous nieces, nephews and cherished friendships.



**MAHONEY, Paul J.**, 70 of Norwood. Husband of Theresa (Tannas) Mahoney. Father of Krysten Hurwitz and her husband, Scott of CT, and Meaghan Mertz and her husband, Dustin of CO. "Papa" of 4. Brother of Jean Comparetti and her husband, Paul of Canton, Ellen Hayes of NH, Joyce Walsh and her husband, Kevin of Weymouth, Judy Morrissey and her husband, Michael of Canton, Peter Mahoney of Hol-

**TEVNAN | TEVNAN**  
 15 Broad Street, Ste. 800 Boston, MA 02109 617-423-4100  
 415 Neponset Avenue Dorchester, MA 02124 617-265-4100  
 Attorneys at Law  
[www.tevnan.com](http://www.tevnan.com)

**Cedar Grove Cemetery**  
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Contact the office for information on the cost of burial needs, memorial benches and memorial trees. The Cemetery office is open Monday - Friday 8:00 to 4:00, and Saturday 8:00 to noon. The Cemetery grounds are open from year-round 7:00 am to 6:00 pm - weather permitting. 920 Adams St., Dorchester, MA 02124  
 920 Adams St., Dorchester, MA 02124 • 617-825-1360  
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**LEGAL NOTICE**

**SUMMONS CIVIL-ORIGINAL IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS DIVISION OF ST. THOMAS AND ST. JOHN ACTION FOR DEBT FORECLOSURE OF LIEN AND BREACH OF CONTRACT**  
 Case No. ST-2024-CV-00163  
**CAPTAIN'S COMMAND AT BLUEBEARD'S BEACH CLUB INTERVAL OWNERSHIP CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION,**  
 Plaintiff,  
 vs.  
**ANNETTE P. GAINES, LINDA OSBORNE, and PATSY L. OWENS,**  
 Defendant

DEFENDANTS:  
 ANNETTE P. GAINES, LINDA OSBORNE, and PATSY L. OWENS  
 Please take notice that an Order for Service by Publication dated January 9, 2025 was entered by the Clerk in the above captioned matter.  
 You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon Dudley Newman Feuerzeig LLP, plaintiff's attorney, whose address is shown below, an answer to the complaint, which is herewith served upon you, within 21 days after service of this summons against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.  
 Alex M. Moskowitz, Esq. (Attorney for Plaintiff)  
 Address: **DUDLEY NEWMAN FEUERZEIG LLP**, Law House, PO Box 756, St. Thomas, USVI 00804-0756  
 Telephone: (340) 774-4422  
 NOTE: The defendant, if served personally, is required to file his/her answer or other defense with the Administrator/Clerk of this Court, and to serve a copy thereof upon the plaintiff's attorney within twenty-one (21) days after service of this summons, excluding the date of service. If served by publication or by personal service outside the jurisdiction the defendant is required to file his/her answer or other defense with the Clerk of this Court, and to serve a copy thereof upon the attorney for the plaintiff within thirty (30) days after the completion of the period of publication or personal service outside of the jurisdiction.  
 Witness my hand and Seal of this Court this day of 2025.  
 Tamara Charles  
 Clerk of the Court  
 Published: March 13, March 20, March 27, and April 3, 2025



**IERADI, Evelyn H.**, 86, of Weymouth, "OFD". Daughter of the late Joseph G. O'Brien, Sr. and Helen E. O'Brien.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT Suffolk Probate & Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114 (617) 788-8300**  
**CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**  
 Docket No. SU25P0670EA  
**ESTATE OF: YARETZY REYES**  
**DATE OF DEATH: 06/25/2024**

To all interested persons:  
 A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Marangeliz Medrano of Randolph, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Marangeliz Medrano of Randolph, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.  
**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
 You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of **05/01/2025**. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.  
**UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)**  
 A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.  
 Witness, HON. BRIAN J. DUNN, First Justice of this Court.  
 Date: March 27, 2025  
 Stephanie L. Everett, Esq.  
 Register of Probate  
 Published: April 3, 2025

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# TEACHER PIPELINE PROGRAMS

## RECRUITMENT, CULTIVATION & DIVERSITY PROGRAMS

### Are you looking to teach in the Boston Public Schools?

#### Free Program for Aspiring Teachers in the Boston Area!

Applications are open for the Bilingual Education/Accelerated Community To Teacher (BE/ACTT) program. BE/ACTT is a free, one-year pre-practicum program designed for career switchers, substitute teachers, paraprofessionals, and others looking to become teachers of record in BPS. There is no requirement to be bilingual to participate. Deadline to apply is April 11, 2025.



### Are you already a BPS teacher who needs help with licensure?

#### Free BPS Initial Licensure Program!

Apply to the BPS Teaching Fellowship to advance your licensure! The BPS Teaching Fellowship (BPSTF) is BPS' in-district educator prep program. BPSTF is a one-year practicum program designed to support novice teachers to secure initial licensure in either ESL or Moderate Disabilities. Deadline to apply is April 11, 2025.



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# ▶▶ Meet Me at

# the MFA ▶ Spring Events

ty ▶ Art ▶ Film ▶ Events ▶ Community ▶ Art ▶ Film ▶ Eve

### Film Series

## Wicked Queer: Boston's LGBTQ+ Film Festival

▶ 4/10–4/12



### Kids and Family Program

## April Vacation Week

▶ 4/23–4/26

### Special Event

## Art in Bloom

▶ 5/2–5/4



# MFABoston

▶ Museum of Fine Arts, Boston  
465 Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA 02115

