# Dorchester Reporter

"The News and Values Around the Neighborhood"

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50¢

### No parade (again), but Sunday is still Dorchester Day

By BILL FORRY **E**DITOR

For the second consecutive year, Dorchester Day will not be celebrated next Sunday with the traditional parade up Dorchester Avenue from Lower Mills to Columbia Road.

The all-volunteer parade committee, acting on public health guidance from city and state officials earlier this year, elected to cancel the June 6 event back in March.

With a few exceptions there have been several cancellations caused by inclement weatherthe parade has been held on the first Sunday in June since the days after the Second World War.

Even when the parade was cancelled in past years, however, there were other events to celebrate Boston's biggest and most diverse town-turned-neighborhood. Sadly, the parade's two-vear hiatus has also brought what we hope is a temporary stop to related events that Dorchester has come to cherish as annual events: the Dot Day Chili Cook-off, the Little Miss and Young Miss contests; a contest to select a "mayor" of

Dorchester to raise funds for the parade; and a chief marshal's banquet on the Friday before the march.

So, is it actually Dot Day on Sunday if there is no parade? Our answer: Of course! Editorial, Page 12.



The story behind the town seal. Page 28

#### THE LONG MAKING OF 'LITTLE SAIGON'

#### Ambition, pride cited as keys

By Rebeca Pereira REPORTER CORRESPONDENT

Tan Le ducks into the narrow corridor behind the counter of Phó Hóa, his parents' Dorchester Ave. eatery, and emerges in another restaurant-front - this one pristine and futuristic, with golden disks for lighting fixtures and back-lit lettering along the wall reminding customers and employees to "Recognize Real."

The Reign Drink Lab, a café specializing in nitro-fueled, cold-brew coffees and teas, is as much a fusion of South Asian and American flavors as its home base in Fields Corner - a Dorchester village that boasts a large population of Vietnamese Americans who recently locked in recognition from the Massachusetts Cultural Council as the Boston's Little Saigon.

"While the official designation took a couple of years, this has been built over the past few decades. Without the restaurants and businesses that were built here, there wouldn't



Acting Mayor Kim Janey walked past the Luc Hoa Buddhist Center and Temple on Park Street during a May visit to Fields Corner. The temple and other Vietnamese American institutions and businesses are included in a newly designated cultural district dubbed

"Boston's Little Saigon."

Photo by John Wilcox/
Mayor's Office

exist a Boston Little Saigon," said Le. "Every establishment here stands for something. It's about being authentic, rep-



resenting our heritage in a new country, and keeping the culture."

Le, who sits on the founding board of Boston's Little Saigon, said the cultural district's official designation didn't come easily. The approval process was riddled with pandemic-related (Continued on page 32)

# 'Queenie' Santos, 'mom' to many at the Denney Center, hears laughter again

By Rebeca Pereira REPORTER CORRESPONDENT

Last March, Quennette "Queenie" Santos's mother, Izora Kindell, succumbed to renal failure after a tough battle against kidney and lung cancer. She was 92.

Much like her daughter, who herself had been diagnosed with stage four bilateral breast cancer five years earlier, "Momma" wore a smile on her face throughout her treatment and kept the doors to her home in Harbor Point open to the children who passed through the Walter Den-



'Queenie' Santos's goal: Get kids 'ready for the next steps of life."

Flavio D Photography

ney Youth Center next door.

(Continued on page 17)

### White swears Walsh knew of allegations

By Matt Murphy STATE HOUSE **News Service** 

Mayor Kim Janey said Tuesday that her office is reviewing video submitted by Boston Police Commissioner Dennis White's family claiming he was the victim, not the aggressor, of domestic violence in

his former marriage, but Janey suggested she still intended to "move in a new direction" after a hearing this week.

Also on Tuesday, in a piece of evidence that contradicts what former Mayor Martin Walsh has said on the subject, White said in a sworn (Continued on page 30)

### Hoop skills bring Dot's Soares to D-1

By Daniel Sheehan REPORTER STAFF

On a Friday evening in late May, Rivaldo Soares was at the CambridgeSide Cheesecake Factory surrounded by close friends and mentors for a send-off celebration dinner of sorts.

Weeks earlier, the 21-yearold Dorchester native had accepted a full basketball scholarship offer to play at

#### Next up for 'Waldo': University of Oregon

the University of Oregon, a Division 1 program in a Power Five conference that has seen recent success under head coach Dana Altman.

Such an invitation would be a big opportunity for any prospect with dreams of making it to the NBA; for Soares, it's the latest turn in a circuitous

route that has seen him play ball on the local Expressions AAU team, for the John D. O'Bryant High School team, and, most recently, for South Plains, a junior college in west

But before all that, Soares known by friends as "Waldo" first picked up a basketball at the Dorchester House.

"He sucked," recalled Nug-(Continued on page 26)



Sandra J. Milburn photo



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Police, Courts & Fire

### Police arrest Dot man in Park St. murder probe

Saturday on charges that he Wallace brother. fatally shot Ivanildo Barros, 37, of Dorchester, at 590 Park against Nickoyan, however, Friday (May 28).

brother Timi were charged together. with murdering a third ter by firing multiple shots eluded capture until 2004, released in 2015.

The murder charges or agreed to. the state's Supreme Judicial gree murder in 2017. The suspect and members Court ruled that prosecutors In 2000, Nickoyan and his decided to try the brothers

Gang-unit officers of the through Tasfa's front door. which, the SJC ruled, meant Boston Police Department The motive involved a dis- that Nickoyan's right to a arrested 46-year-old Nickoy- pute over drugs, according speedy trial had been vioan Wallace of Dorchester last to testimony by a fourth lated even after accounting for delays he had requested

Timi Wallace, however, St. shortly before noon last were later dismissed when was convicted of second-de-

That same year, the brothof his family have a history of had failed to bring him to ers were convicted of armed violence on the public record. trial fast enough after they robbery when they used a gun to hold up a gun store in Providence. Nickoyan was While Nickovan Wallace given a 10-year-sentence brother, Tasfa, in Dorches- was arrested in 2000, Timi in federal courts. He was



Above, Boston Police Superintendent-in-Chief Gregory Long spoke about plans for summer safety last Friday alongside Acting Mayor Kim Janey and Suffolk County District Attorney Rachael Rollins. The plan, rolled out ahead of the Memorial Day weekend-includes "intelligence-driven deployment and targeted engagement with gang-involved young people," according to the Mayor's Office. Janev said that an additional \$100,000 in grants will be made non-profits to "bolster summer programming and efforts targeting violence prevention." Photo by John Wilcox/Mayor's Office

#### UPCOMING CIVIC MEETINGS AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Forbes House Museum in Milton invites the community to a virtual panel discussion, "The Power of Murals," on Tuesday, June 15 at 7 p.m., featuring mural artists Silvia López Chavez, Franklin Marval and Nora Valdez, and moderated by Sarah Rodrigo, Public Art Project Manager for the Mayor's Office of Arts + Culture, City of Boston. The panel discussion complements the museum's 2021 Lincoln Drawing and Essay Contest. The Milton Cultural Council is sponsoring the virtual discussion. Registration is required but free; for details, visit forbeshousemuseum.org.

The Boston Parks and Recreation Department is offering free golf clinics at the George Wright Golf Course in Hyde Park for ages 7 to 14 years old. The firstrate Junior Golf Lessons program provides basic instruction in the fundamentals of golf taught by professionals. Equipment is provided, if needed, but you may bring your own clubs. Pre-registration is required. The lessons take place

Tuesdays through Thursdays with classes at 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. The series repeats weekly starting from July 6 until August 12. Clinicians are highly qualified golf instructors. To register, go to the "Parks Online Activity Search" link at www.boston.gov/calendar/juniorgolf-daily-lessons.

The northwest parking lot of Pope John Paul II Reservation playground in Neponset will be closed through July 7 to accommodate staging for playground repair work, according to the Department of Conservation and Recreation. The lot was closed on Thursday, April 8. The closure will be clearly marked. Visitors are encouraged to use the parking area to the northeast when visiting the park.

The Saint Mark's Area Civic Association's monthly meetings are held on Zoom on the last Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. Meetings are held monthly except July, August, and December. Members and other neighbors are welcome to attend. If you would like to attend a meeting, please send an email to the civic association at smacadot@msn.com and we will send you a link to the meeting.

Boston teens can now apply for the 2021-2022 Mayor's Youth Council, a group of 85 high school-aged youth who are committed to improving their communities and empowering young people in the City of Boston. Applications will be accepted through July 18. To apply to be a neighborhood representative on the Mayor's Youth Council, students must be Boston residents and entering grades 9-12 (or of comparable age). All applicants will participate in a group interview. Due to COVID-19, the 2020-2021 Mayor's Youth Council was fully remote for the entire program. To learn more and to apply online, visit youth. boston.gov.

SuccessLink - the City of Boston's online tool that enables Boston youth to register for summer jobs— is now accepting applications through May 9 for Boston teens aged 15 to 18. The City hopes to provide 5,000 jobs to youth and young adults this summer across more than 170 non-profit, communitybased organizations and city agencies. For more information on DYEE's summer employment program and additional youth resources, visit youth.boston.gov. Boston City Hall reopening fully on July 12 – Boston City Hall will soon be open for walk-in services five days a week. The center of city government, which has been open for pre-arranged appointments generally three days a week since reopening last July, will schedule appointments four days a week starting next week and as of July 12 plans to be open five days a week on a walk-in basis. - Colin A. Young, SHNS

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dotnews.com June 3, 2021 THE REPORTER Page 3

### Campbell stresses need for urgency in helping restaurants regain stride

By Daniel Sheehan REPORTER STAFF

District 4 City Councillor and candidate for mayor Andrea Campbell joined chef Tiffani Faison at Sweet Cheeks Q restaurant in Fenway last Wednesday (May 26) to lay out her restaurant recovery plan and the state of the hospitality industry as it begins to emerge from the limits of the pandemic.

Their conversation, which was live streamed on Campbell's website, touched on several themes: expanding outdoor dining and Open Streets pilots, reforming the liquor licensing process, and setting up a hospitality division at

entrepreneurship across the city.

Faison, a nationally known chef who owns four eateries in the city, reflected on the boost that outdoor dining gave to restaurant owners last summer in the middle of the crisis.

"What I liked," she said, "is that it allowed a little bit of individualism, a little flair. If we were able to do that in perpetuity, that would be great...it was a bridge for us to keep ourselves alive, to feel like all was not lost. In some ways I feel like it was more mentally helpful than it was financially helpful just to be operational.

City Hall to support food And it was nice to have some of the red tape taken away to make it happen."

Faison pointed out that the permitting and licensing processes are often obstacles as restaurant owners go about their business, so seeing some of those temporarily suspended or cut back during the crisis revealed some potential fixes. She indicated that Campbell's plan for a "one stop shop" at the city level would go far to make the entire process easier and

faster. "I think a hospitality division would be so helpful to navigation and vision. I'm in a place now where I can navigate those relationships and understand how it works - it's a lot of inside baseball. So, until you understand where to go and who to go to and how to do it, it can be really overwhelming. especially for first time business owners.

"If there's a road map," said Faison," to have someone almost like a concierge as a representative of the city doing that would be really helpful."

In discussing the role the restaurant industry plays in bringing back tourists to the city and the impact of those tourist dollars in the city Campbell described an "ecosystem" of interconnected forces that could create a domino effect in the industry.

"There are many restaurants that obviously draw folks from outside of Boston, outside the Commonwealth to come here, and Tiffani is one example, she's known nationally," said the councillor. "There's also the flip side – this industry is the industry helping folks provide jobs, helping the city address food insecurity, and it was doing this long before Covid-19. If anything, [the question is how does the City of Boston maximize these partnerships and become a better partner? And that's what I heard in the development of this plan: We need the city to make it easier for us to start a restaurant, to grow our restaurant profile, and to make sure it includes everyone."

Another key part of Campbell's recovery plan aims to address an issue that has long been at the root of inequity in the city's hospitality field: liquor licenses.



District 4 City Councillor and candidate for Mayor Andrea Campbell discussed restaurant recovery with Chef Tiffani Faison at Sweet Cheeks, a restaurant in the Fenway last week. Daniel Sheehan photo

License application fees, which can often exceed six figures, were waived during the pandemic, but Campbell called for  $further\,action\,to\,address$ an antiquated system that has resulted in only a handful of the city's 1,100 liquor licenses being owned by Black restaurateurs.

"Waiving the fees for a year is critical; the second piece is needing to have a broader more inclusive conversation on what liquor license reform should be. I've talked to a whole host of folks in the hospitality industry, those who have food trucks or are looking to expand and want to be able to offer

liquor or wine to help grow their business. Mattapan Square, the fact that there's no liquor license there right now, that's where I live! Talk about inequities in the system.

There's a lot of different opinions, people talking in silos, a lot of great ideas, so as the next mayor, [I'll be] convening this group in the immediate future and doing it in conjunction with a hospitality division so we can address these issues holistical-

The full conversation is available to view at facebook.com/andreaforboston.

# June 3, 2021

Boys & Girls Club News 31							
Opinion/Editorial/Letters 12							
Business Directory29							
Obituaries34							
Days Remaining Until							
Dorchester Day3							
Independence Day31							
Labor Day95							
Columbus Day130							

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### Three designs discussed for new Uphams Corner library

By MIA McCarthy Reporter Correspondent

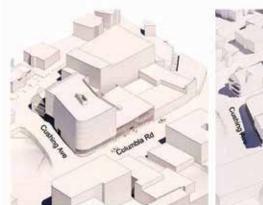
City officials discussed next steps in the Uphams Corner Arts & Innovation District process, including updates on plans for a new Boston Public Library branch on Columbia Road, during a virtual meeting held last Tuesday (May 25).

The virtual meeting featured input from the Fairmount Initiative Working Advisory Group (WAG), the Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative (DSNI), the Boston Planning and Development Agency, and the Mayor's Office of Economic Development.

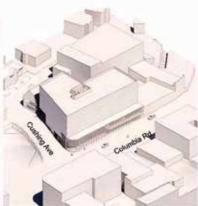
The planning in Uphams Corner has been underway since 2017. David Leonard, president of the Boston Public Library, led the discussion about the new branch setup while displaying three potential designs. The building will be sited on the former Bank of America property and its adjacent parking lot on the corner of Columbia Road and Cushing Avenue next to the cityowned Strand Theatre.

Leonard discussed what his team has gleaned from community members about their wants and needs for the new library. In addition to having extended hours, a partnership with the

#### **Three Site Test Fit Options**







1. Side-by-Side

Strand, and outdoor spac-

es, residents hope to have

the library form intergenerational relationships

and "communicate the

unique cultural identity

Each design included

children, teen, and adult

spaces, a conference

room or classroom, and a

small performance space, among other amenities aligned with residents'

responses. Previous dis-

cussions with local res-

idents led BPL officials

to implement affordable

housing into potential

sites throughout the city,

where the library is part-

nering with the Depart-

ment of Neighborhood

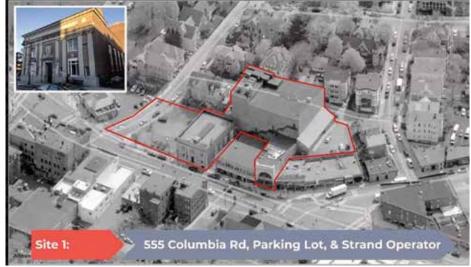
"This is one of several

library designs.

of Uphams Corner."

2. Stand-Alone

3. Tenant



Development, and the BPDA and [the Office of] Economic Developments to really explore if it's possible to bring about housing and a library on a single site," Leonard said.

The first design, a "side-by-side" design, included affordable housing on the corner side of the building and the library next door in another building. The second

option is a single-floor, stand-alone library with no housing option. The last option, called the "tenant" option, is a mixed-use building with the library on most of the

first and second floors and affordable housing above.

"We've heard again [about] the firm commitment about development without displacement," Leonard said. "We've heard the context of looking at the Uphams Corner neighborhood development as an arts innovation district. It's very important to us that we celebrate the arts and culture dimension, which has positive economic impacts, but also look at the innovation coming out."

The potential designs each come with different projected timelines: after city funding approval, the stand-alone library will take about three years to complete, while the mixed-use building will take more than four years.

The meeting was divided into breakout rooms to get feedback from residents about benefits, questions, and concerns. Residents brought up a range of topics, such as how the Strand will be impacted and whether commercial spaces for small businesses or a cafe could be available.

The meeting ended with an update on the Requests for Proposals (RFP) and next steps in the process. According to the plan, the city expects to issue the RFPs by late summer.



# Caregiver Solutions

with Meg Hogan, CEO of Boston Senior Home Care

When people hear the term "foster care," they typically think of the child foster care system. Adult Foster Care programs are quite different. Funded by MassHealth, Adult Foster Care supports a family member or friend\* who is helping with activities of daily living, such as dressing, bathing, and meal preparation for older adults or people with disabilities in their own home.

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### Where education is concerned, mayoral hopefuls' views diverge

By MIA McCarthy Reporter Correspondent

Boston's six major mayoral candidates took up discussions about exam school admissions, the place, if any, of police in school settings, and the governance of the School Committee during a virtual forum on education held last Thursday (May 27).

Mayor Kim Janey, City Councillors Andrea Campbell, Annissa Essaibi George, and Michelle Wu, state Rep. Jon Sanitago, and former city official John Barros have largely



found consensus in past forums. But during this event— hosted by the Boston Teachers Union (BTU) and Boston Education Justice Alliance (BEJA) — sharp differences in policy approaches emerged.

The biggest divide was on the issue of admissions to the city's three exam schools. Last year, amid the pandemic, school officials cancelled the annual exam school test and adopted a new system that uses grades and zip codes to assign seats to Boston Latin School, Boston Latin Academy, and the John D. O'Bryant School. The policy shift, which officials have said is a temporary one necessitated by the pandemic restrictions, was the subject of an ultimately rejected lawsuit brought

by mainly White and Asian parents.

When candidates were asked if they would keep the no-testing policy in place permanently, Wu and Janey said they would. Campbell, Barros, Santiago, and Essaibi George said they were against maintaining the policy in future years

In the area of staffing at BPDS, Janey was the sole candidate to say that she would not commit to using federal relief funds to hire more staff, including teachers. "There won't be any money to continue when the federal funding runs out," Janey explained. "It's not a good investment of money, because you won't be able to continue seven years out."

There were areas of consensus. All the candidates support ensuring that Boston Public School students are not homeless, and providing ethnic studies in curriculums. The group was also unanimous in looking to limit private foundations' policy influences in BPS and offering non-citizen BPS graduates a tuition-free community college plan.

The candidates all agreed that BPS students should spend less time on standardized testing. However, Santiago and Campbell said they are against eliminating the MCAS testing requirement.

There was also disagreement on whether to take police officers out of school buildings. Janey, Wu, Campbell, and Barros support removing police, while Essaibi George and Santiago do not.

Candidates were also split on whether to dismantle the Boston Regional Intelligence Center's gang database as a way to prevent racial profiling of BPS students. Janey, Wu, and Campbell would dismantle, while Barros, Santiago, and Essaibi George favor keeping the database.

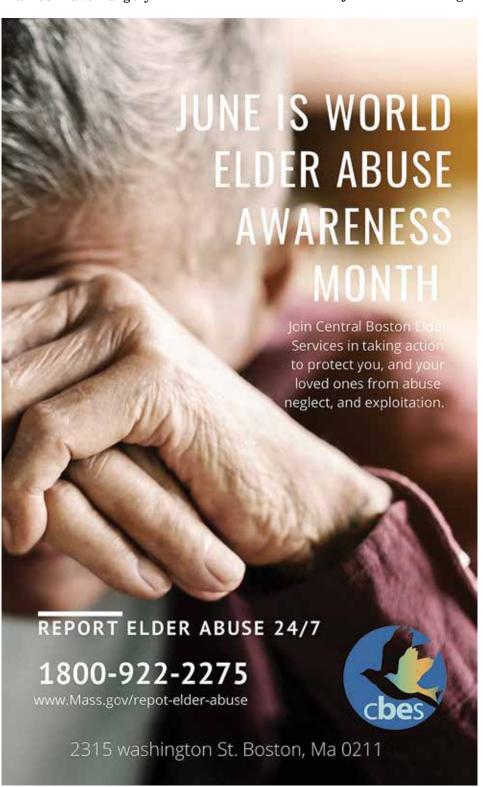
During the main discussion portion where candidates gave 90-second responses to questions about how to improve BPS necessities, reinstituting an elected school committee, academic racial and disability inequities, and infrastructure repair.

While BTU and BEJA said they supported transitioning to a publicly elected school committee, all of the candidates supported either a hybrid appointed-and-elected approach or an appointed panel.

Barros pointed to Boston's past fight to eliminate the elected system. "We fought hard to get away from an elected school board to an appointed one ... There are major challenges with the elected school board... but what we are hearing everywhere is what people want: They want to be more engaged, they want their voices heard."

Essaibi George said she favors a nine-member body appointed by the city council and the mayor. "I've been working toward this as a member of the city council and will continue with that as mayor of the city," she said. "The mayoral appointments will be designated to represent important education stakeholders, our parents, our students, our teachers, those in higher ed."

The virtual forum was one in a series hosted by local unions and progressive organizations. The next event — this Thursday (June 3 at 6 p.m.— will be hosted by Alternatives for Community and Environment (ACE) and focus on climate justice. Past forums and registration for future events can be found at bostonmayoralforums.org.



# Baker, Polito families to discuss 2022 balloting

Fresh off a trip to Tennessee for Republican Governors Association (RGA) meetings, Gov. Baker is still not saying if he'll run for re-election in 2022.

"That's something the lieutenant governor and I and our families are going to talk about, but we've been really focused on this," Baker said on May 28 after signing an order to rescind the Covid-19 state of emergency on June 15.

Earlier last week, people close to Baker told the News Service his re-engagement with the RGA could be a sign that he is leaning in the direction of running for a third term but that he had yet to share a final decision with top aides.

Baker has often pointed to the responsibilities of pandemic management when asked about his electoral plans, deflecting a question that's been a topic of speculation as other Republicans and Democrats alike weigh entry into the next gubernatorial race.

"We'll have that conversation at some point, but honestly the focus for both the lieutenant governor and me has really been Covid and all of the things that come with it," Baker said last week, fielding a re-election question during a radio interview.

On Friday, a reporter asked Baker if his characterization of the crisis as "pretty much over" means he's decided whether he will run. "That's pretty clever," Baker replied, before going on to say he and Polito would first talk with their families.

- KATIE LANNAN SHNS

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# Mayoral candidates grapple with 'Mass and Cass' issue

By Chris Van Buskirk STATE HOUSE **News Service** 

The six candidates running for mayor of Boston met last Wednesday at a forum hosted by the Suffolk County Sheriff's Department on May 26 where they homed in on criminal justice, substance abuse disorder, mental health, and homelessness.

The mayoral hopefuls have been appearing at a spate of forums over the past weeks and have started to pitch detailed policy proposals in an effort to attract voters.

At the forum, Suffolk County Sheriff Steven Tompkins, noting that the pandemic and previous presidential administration have highlighted inequities in the city, said it is important to hear what changes candidates would make to bring equity to people living in the city.

"We used to lead the way. We don't anymore, we're falling down the ladder. And so, we're looking at each and every one of you, or whichever one of you wins, you're gonna have all of our support because we need these changes to happen," he said.

"We need fairness, we need equity. We need clarity, we need homes, we need jobs. It just isn't right. Enough is enough. We can't stand it anymore."

A portion of the forum turned into open debate on how to best deal with substance abuse disorder, mental health, and homelessness issues near the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue and Melnea Cass Boulevard.

City Councillor Andrea Campbell proposed hiring what she calls a "Mass and Cass chief" to work with a special unit of public health, law enforcement, mental health, and recovery specialists to address the area.

"Right now, you have folks who are going out helping folks get into supportive housing, helping folks get a recovery, working on maybe decentralizing services," she said. "It's all disjointed. Everyone's in a silo, no one's sharing information with each other. So, I'm saying put together a unit where it's the same folks showing up that include mental health clinicians, recovery specialists, those who work in supportive housing to help those who are homeless."

Acting Mayor Kim Janey said her administration is "treating this the same way we did with Covid." She said she is setting up a working group with stakeholders in the recovery community, people of color, and business representatives, among others.



Boston mayoral candidates spoke at a forum on May 26 hosted by the Suffolk County Sheriff's Department. From left to right: former Boston Chief of Economic Development John Barros, City Councillor Andrea Campbell, Acting Mayor Kim Janey, City Councillor Annissa Essaibi George, Rep. Jon Santiago, and City Councillor Michelle Wu.

"In terms of decentralization, I don't see any communities raising their hand to say, 'Hey, we want services and treatment here," " she said. "So a lot of people can point their fingers, I don't see anyone raising their hand to say yes, we want to embrace people who need support and services. We've got a lot of work to do."

Speaking after Janey, former Boston Chief of Economic Development John Barros said "we need to hit the streets now. We have to triple the team on the streets now and get services on the streets right now. And we need to do it like not in some meeting or some new group, we need to do it by doing it now.'

Campbell said the city doesn't need another plan or working group.

"We need action," she said. "... No one's going to raise their hand. That's a fact. But leadership is critical to say even if you don't raise your hand, it is important that every neighborhood in the city of Boston respond as a collective to address these issues."

Responding to both Campbell and Barros, Janey pointed to work that "is happening on the ground," saying public health officials are reversing an average of four overdoses a day.

"This notion that nothing is happening, unfortunately, it's not true," she said. "I mean, people want to talk about that because people don't like what they see. And the truth is, this is a very complex issue. People are not magically getting well and getting jobs and getting housing. There is a plan in place.'

Prompted by a question asking candidates what they would do with the judicial system and its treatment of African Americans, Barros expressed support for increasing funding for public defenders and civil legal aid organizations that provide low-income people facing civil problems with legal representation.

"We got to make sure that our public defendants have the support that they need," Barros said. "If they have trouble managing case flows, that we get the right kind of advocates in the courts for us. And then we got to have people in the right place that can vouch for us.'

Campbell said it is important to make sure people are afforded due process and good lawyers when navigating the criminal justice system. She recalled when her twin brother cycled through the criminal justice system and eventually died while in custody "as a result of receiving inadequate health care.'

"My twin brother, the reason he was in custody for two years, he actually cycled through a lot of public defenders who weren't that great at what they do," she said. "And, so, I think that's number one."

Responding to the same question, Janey

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said the city needs to provide educational and economic opportunities, dismantle the school to prison pipeline, and address trauma.

"We have to continue to push and use this platform as elected officials to ensure that we are doing everything to dismantle the school to prison pipeline to make sure that we're not continuing to criminalize our folks,' she said. "Yesterday was the anniversary of the killing of George Floyd and we know that the conditions that led to his death still persist to this day and so it's up to all of us to continue in that fight."

City Councillor Annissa Essaibi George said the city needs to partner with state and federal government to end violations of civil rights in the judicial system. Long before residents end up interacting with the judicial or court systems, she said, they are interacting with "systems of care continuum that are already broken.'

"Whether it's our education system, whether it's our health care system, whether it's our transit system, whether it's our housing system, all of those components happen at the beginning, and we have to root all of those systems right to their core, root out that racism that exists within those systems," she said.

City Councillor Michelle Wu said she supports diversion initiatives to help keep people out of prison. At the same time, she said, there is much to be done at the city level.

"We know that the deck is stacked already because of the way information is flowing,' she said. "Our Boston police, for example, keep a database where most often young men of color, Black and brown boys, if you're in the wrong place, you're wearing the wrong color, you're with a group of people, all of a sudden, you get points after points, and you will arbitrarily in this database being watched."

Rep. Jon Santiago, an emergency room doctor at Boston Medical Center, said when he treats a patient coming into the emergency room with gunshot wounds, "it is almost always a failing of the system."

"It is always, almost always, a young Black or brown male. And for me, I have to ask myself, is this a coincidence? The answer's no," he said. "It's a failure of the system, of our government."

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6	2	650	\$1,812	60%
9	1	550	\$1,701	80%
10	2	650	\$2,025	80%

\*Rent will be reduced by the gas and electricity <u>utility allowance</u> with tenant payment

Minimum Incomes (set by owner + based on # of bedrooms + Area Median Income (AMI))

Maximum Incomes (set by DND + based on the household size + Area Median Income (AMI))

# of bedrooms	Minimum Income 60% AMI**	Minimum Income 80% AMI**	HH size	60% AMI	80% AMI
1	¢76.240	¢.(0.93/	1	\$56,400	\$67,700
'	\$36,240	\$40,624	2	\$64,440	\$77,350
2	¢/7/00	<b>#</b> / 0 C 0 0	3	\$72,480	\$87,000
	\$ <del>4</del> 3,488	\$48,600	4	\$80,520	\$96,650
	bedrooms 1	1 \$36,240	bedrooms 60% AMI** 80% AMI**  1 \$36,240 \$40,824	bedrooms 60% AMI** 80% AMI** size  1 \$36,240 \$40,824   2 \$43,488 \$48,600	bedrooms 60% AMI** 80% AMI** size 60% AMI  1 \$36,240 \$40,824 1 \$56,400 2 \$64,440 2 \$43,488 \$48,600

\*\*Minimum incomes apply. Minimum incomes do not apply to households with housing assistance (Section 8, MRVP, VASH).

Applications are available during the application period from Wednesday, June 9th, 2021 to Thursday, July 22nd, 2021

To request an online application or to have one sent by email visit

After careful consideration and an abundance of caution, the City of Boston has decided to cancel the in-person application distribution period. If you cannot complete the application online please call us at 617-652-0663, to request that we mail you one and to ask us for any support or guidance you might need to complete the application.

We will be holding two virtual informational meetings on June 30th, 2021 at 6:00pm and July 10th, 2021 at 11:00am through the following link: htt

**DEADLINE:** Applications must be submitted online or postmarked no later than **Thursday, July 22nd, 2021** ailed to: DVM Consulting LLC. 1452 Dorchester Avenue, 4th Floor, Dorchester, MA 02122

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For more information, language assistance, or reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities please call **617-652-0663** or email <u>5658bowdoinave@gmail.com</u>





### Jacobs will lead the UMass Boston Beacons in basketball

Heather Jacobs is the new the head women's basketball coach at UMass Boston. She replaces Kristina Baugh who left UMass Boston last June to take the head coaching position at Barry University. Jacobs was instrumental in the development of NCAA Division I Wagner University, where she served as head coach for five seasons. She guided



**Heather Jacobs** 

two student-athletes to earn major conference awards, while having at least one player being named to an All-NEC Team in each season. "Heather brings a wealth of experience, understands the importance of academics, and championship pedigree that will move our women's basketball program in the right direction," said Darlene Gordon, the interim Director of Athletics at the Dorchester

A native of Stoughton, Jacobs is a 2006 graduate of Franklin Pierce University, where she earned magna cum laude honors with a Sports and Recreation Management major, and a minor in Marketing. As a student-athlete, Jacobs was a two-time NE-10 Con-



Heather Jacobs, a native of Stoughton is the new head coach for the UMass Boston women's basketball team. Jacobs replaces former coach Kristina Photo courtesy UMass Boston

ference All-Academic selection while garnering Second Team accolades in her final season. A two-time team captain, Jacobs was a two-time team MVP and ranks among the top-20 on the Ravens' all-time scoring list and rebounding list at the time of her grad-

"I am grateful to come back home and continue to do what I love," said Jacobs. No stranger to Division III women's basket-

ball, Jacobs started her coaching career as an assistant at Norwich University. In her one season with the Lady Cadets the team posted a record of 24-4, and earned an at-large bid to the NCAA Tournament. She earned her first head coaching position in 2009 at Daniel Webster College, where she also served as an assistant athletic director and Senior Women Administrator. At Daniel Webster. Jacobs secured 47 wins, going 37-17 over her final two seasons. Being hired as the youngest head coach in the NCAA in 2007, she inherited a program that won just eight games the previous year and helped guide the Eagles to double-digit wins (10) in her first season.

### Easton Rep. Cronin said by some to be Biden pick as US ambassador to Ireland

BY MATT MURPHY STATE HOUSE News Service

Massachusetts House Majority Leader Claire Cronin, who was a top surrogate for President Joe Biden in Massachusetts during the 2020 campaign, could be headed to Ireland as ambassador, with one source saying the Easton Democrat is being vetted by the White House and an online report suggesting she was "soon to be revealed" as Biden's nominee.

The possibility that Cronin, who entered the House in 2013, could be headed across the Atlantic had Beacon Hill and social media buzzing last week, though the report

on the New York-based website IrishCentral had not been independently confirmed.

Cronin, an Easton Democrat, climbed to the number two position in House leadership this session under new Speaker Ron Mariano, though in a post-appointment interview with Commonwealth

she said "absolutely not" when asked if she aspired someday to become the first female speaker.

During the 2020 campaign, Cronin was one of Biden's biggest champions in Massachusetts as many other politicians lined up behind homestate US Sen. Elizabeth Warren.

One source on Beacon Hill said the White House had been calling people who have worked with Cronin both inside and outside of politics to discuss her background and character, leaving the feeling that the nomination is hers to lose.

Even after Biden finished poorly in the early primary states, people close to Cronin said that she continued to beat the Biden drum. The president's win in Massachusetts in March over Warren and Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders helped fuel his comeback on the primary trail, and when it came time for Massachusetts to officially cast its 11 Electoral College votes for Biden during the virtual Democratic National Convention last nummer it was Cronin who had the honor.

The news of Cronin's potential appointment, which IrishCentral attributed to "sources close to the matter," spread quickly online and had some of her colleagues eager to congratulate her.

"So proud of state Rep Claire Cronin (Dem, Brockton, Easton)!!! She's tough smart caring, super eloquent and wicked smart. Majority Leader Cronin will be an amazing ambassador to Ireland. Congratulations Claire," Rep. Michelle Dubois wrote on twitter, linking to the report.

Rep. Liz Miranda shared the same article, writing, "Congratula-tions to Leader Claire Cronin for this incredible



Joe Biden and his Massachusetts campaign surrogate Claire Cronin of Easton.

achievement. Thank you for being a partner to me in the House on so many issues. We are proud of you!"

Both tweets were later taken down, though Du-Bois left up a response to the IrishCentral tweet sharing the news: "She would be a great ambassador!" DuBois wrote.

Rep. Tram Nguyen also tweeted: "Congratulations to Leader Cronin! So well-deserved! She's smart, compassionate, and always willing to lend a helping hand.'

The author of the article, Niall O'Dowd, has been writing for months about the sweepstakes for the plum posting to the Emerald Isle, often mentioning Cronin as a contender, but Croto inquiries about her a mediator. interest.

The Easton Democrat, and aides to the new majority leader, did not respond to requests for comment on Wednesday, and others on Beacon Hill and within the Congressional delegation could not confirm that Cronin would be the pick.

"Rep. Claire Cronin is the Majority Leader. She is an outstanding public servant and I'm lucky to have her on my leadership team," Mariano said in a statement.

Other figures mentioned for the Ireland posting since Biden's election in November include Boston public affairs consultant Thomas O'Neill III, former U.S. Senator Chris Dodd, New

York civil rights lawyer Brian O'Dwyer, and former US Ambassador to Portugal Elizabeth Frawley Bagley.

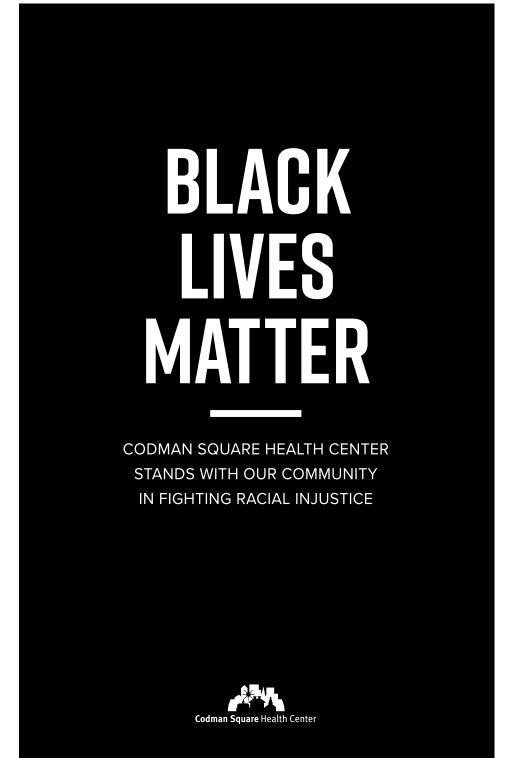
Whoever is chosen, they will have to be confirmed by the US Senate and will replace Edward Crawford, who served in the role from July 2019 to January 2021 during the Trump Administration.

Cronin chaired the powerful Judiciary Committee until she was tapped by Mariano earlier this year to take on the number two role in House leadership. She has played keys roles in the passage of major criminal justice, abortion access and policing accountability laws, and as a lawyer worked on the landmark Catholic clergy nin has not responded sex abuse settlement as

> In the House, she represents the 11th Plymouth District covering parts of Brockton and Easton.

> First elected in 2012, she is a graduate of Stonehill College and Suffolk University Law School. She is a member of the Massachusetts bar and has been admitted to practice in US District Court and before the US Supreme Court.

> Should she leave Boston for Dublin, Cronin's departure would open a plum position in House leadership with Speaker Pro Tempore Kate Hogan and Assistant Majority Leader Michael Moran among those who will be looked to as possible replacements.



# Reporter's People

#### News about people in and around our Neighborhoods

### Dorchester native commits \$1 million to Suffolk Law

A Suffolk University Law School alumnus and his wife have made a \$1 million commitment to a first-of-its-kind program that prepares law students to run their own firms, while also increasing access to justice for underserved clients.

Warren and Judith Levenbaum said that Suffolk's Accelerator-to-Practice Program has great personal meaning to them both.

The education I received at Suffolk has been an integral part of my journey," said Warren, a Dorchester native who graduated from the law school in 1973



Judith and Warren Levenbaum

and founded his own solo law firm just a few years later. "Judy and I are thrilled to support to learn by trial and

a program that teaches law students what they would otherwise have

error. Not only do they receive a strong legal foundation, but they get a really good head start on the business side of practicing law."

Founded in 2014, the Accelerator-to-Practice Program provides law students with specialized instruction in the management, marketing, and technology skills necessary to run law practices that serve average-income individuals and families.

Suffolk University President Marisa Kelly said the Levenbaums embody the program's entrepreneurial philosophy.

"Warren and Judy both know exactly what it takes to build a successful business," said Kelly. "They are also extraordinarily warm and generous people. We are profoundly grateful that they are creating similar opportunities for a new generation of Suffolk Law students."

After working his way through college and law school, Levenbaum moved to Phoenix, Ariz., and founded a personal injury law firm. Within 10 years, his one-man

practice had grown to 25, and today his firm employs a staff of 60.

Judy Levenbaum went to work straight out of high school, and eventually opened a successful high-end designer clothing store in Colorado - even though her attorney told her that all odds were against her. "For me, those were the magic words," said Judy, noting that she raised \$1 million to launch her business. ``Theoddsh avebeen against me all my life, and I've done very well that way."

### Murphy School wins \$20k grant for recovery efforts

The Richard J. Murphy School in Dorchester is one of five Boston schools chosen by Boston  $Schools\,Fund\,to\,receive\,a$ \$20,000 grant to "re-center" the social-emotional wellness of students, staff, and families.

The grants are part of an overall \$250,000 effort by the non-profit to support post-pandemic education in Boston.

"It has been a challenge to build strong conditions for all learners who are disproportionately affected by the pandemic," said Courtney Sheppeck, principal of the Mur-phy School. "This grant enables us to think creatively about the overall school day and schedule to build an engaging and differentiated day overall. We want to use data to drive daily instruction and receive supports and tools for teachers to differentiate based upon the needs of the students in a systematic cycle."



The Richard J. Murphy School

Boston Schools Fund has also released a School Re-Centering Guide, a nationally researched, evidenced-based toolkit any Boston school or district leader can use to address pandemic-related learning loss and focus on holistic student recovery.

"Even with massive resources coming in from the federal government, educators need the capacity to ensure they are using their resources as well as possible," says Will Austin, the founder and CEO of the fund.

The guide and accompanying interactive website include tools and materials grounded in best practices for student culture, curriculum and instruction, social-emotional wellness, talent management, and family engagement, among others.

To find out more visit edrecentered.org.

### Polish Club, turning 80, seeks help in identifying terms of its presidencies

As part of ongoing efforts to record and archive the history of their club, the Polish American Citizens Club is embarking on a project to compile the dates of service for all those who have served as club president.

"This project came about after we started doing more research in preparation for our 80th anniversary gala in September 2019," said club secretary Erica Manczuk Stocks. "As we started to delve deeper and deeper into our history, we realized that we didn't have a very comprehensive list of people who served as president. As an organization, we felt it was important to preserve and honor our history, our leaders, and our place in the Polish-American community of Massachusetts."

Through newspaper articles, obituaries, and conversations with former members, the club has been able to put together a preliminary list, but there is still a lot of information missing. The club is hoping that members of the Polish diaspora of New England can help fill in the blanks.

"The officers and directors have been working very hard to ensure the future of the club so that it can continue to serve the community for decades to come. We acknowledge how important our past is, and we want to make sure it is properly reflected moving forward," said Peter Dziedzic, club

If you or someone you know has any information about the men listed below or know of anyone who served as a president of the Polish Club in Boston, please send an email to polishclubboston@gmail.com.

Roman Kalnicki; J.

Zaporwicz; John Antoniewicz; Benedict Kizelewicz; Stanley Zdonek; Stanley Kowalewski; Zygmunt Zaborowicz; Joseph Szyp; Franciszek Daszewski.

The Polish American Citizens Club is a civic organization and social club in the heart of Boston's Polish Triangle. Founded more than 90 years ago, it provides a gathering place for Polish-Americans and their families and strives to foster engagement, community involvement, and philanthropy. All Polish-Americans, particularly those who are second and third generation, are invited to connect with their roots and become club members.

Please go to polishclubboston.com or follow us on social media at @ PolishClubBos on twitter and Instagram and Facebook at facebook. com/PolishClubBoston.

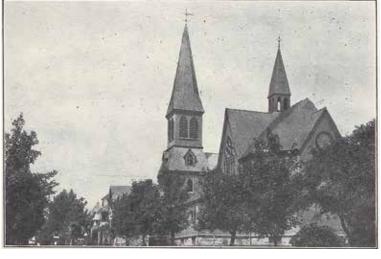
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#### Harvard Congregational Church

The cornerstone for the Harvard Congregational Church, located at approximately 15-19 Gleason Street east of Blue Hill Avenue at Franklin Park, was laid in 1887. In 1928, Congregation Bnei Israel began to use the building, but then left in 1943. At some point, the building was taken down, and in 2002, the land was broken into three parcels and a private developer built two-family buildings on the site.

In its July 3, 1887, edition The Globe reported the evening this way: "Beneath the trees surrounding the site of the Harvard Congregational Church, Dorchester, and on the temporary staging erected on the completed foundation walls of the proposed edifice, gathered a



goodly assemblage yesterday afternoon to take part in the impressive service in connection with the laying of the corner-stone. The exercises opened with music by the Mendelssonn Quartet, after which Rev. T. Valentine of Harrison Square invoked the divine blessing, and following the reading of the Scriptures by Rev. Frank Kasson, Thom-

as K. Conpropst furnished the historic statement relative to the formation of the society.

"The establishment of a religious society on or near Harvard Street, Dorchester, has been under discussion for several years, and in 1883 the matter of erecting a chapel on Harvard street was presented at the annual meeting of the Second Parish of Dorchester by Thomas W. Bicknell. In 1884 the subject was more earnestly talked over by the people, and more interest was awakened by the advent of new families. At this time a plan for a chapel was drawn by a noted Boston architect and estimates were made for the building by J. H. Burt &Co. of Dorchester. Charles H. Greenwood very generously offered a lot of land at the north-west corner of Harvard Street and Warner Avenue for the use of the proposed society."

The gathering was later told that "the excavation and construction of the cellar have been performed by Hugh Nawn at a contract price of \$771. The erection of the church building has been contracted for by Messrs. Meade & Mason of Boston at a cost of \$7744. The building will be 65-feet square, with an octagon apse, an audience room, a lecture room, a pastor's study, a Sunday school room and ladies' parlor, a library room, kitchen cloak-room, and other proper apartments.'  $The \ archive \ of \ the se \ historical$ posts can be viewed on the blog at dorchesterhistoricalsociety.org.

### Senate revives push for higher ride-share fees

By Chris Lisinski STATE HOUSE **News Service** 

The state Senate revived its push to increase fees on ride-hailing services such as Uber and Lyft in its fiscal year 2022 budget bill, and with roadway congestion starting to return in force, transportation reform activists are hopeful the House will join their colleagues from across the hall.

With a 27-2 standing vote on May 25, senators approved a budget amendment from Transportation Committee Co-chair Sen. Joseph Boncore that would increase the per-trip fee for transportation network companies, or TNCs, and reform how the state collects data from the widely popular platforms.

The House did not include any of those fee changes in its budget bill approved in April, but both branches previously approved nearly identical measures as part of a transportation

bond bill they sent to services from the cur-Gov. Baker – who vetoed that section – at the end of the 2019-2020session.

"Our hope is that this can become part of a compromise or a trade," Chris Dempsey, director of the Transportation for Massachusetts group, told the News Service. "I can't tell you that the House is chomping at the bit to take action on this, but I also haven't heard opposition to the idea. We know that the House has supported increases on TNC fees in the past. There's no reason the two chambers can't agree again on some language and put something in front of the governor with enough time to override vetoes if need be."

Transportation Committee Co-chair Rep. William Straus could not be reached for immediate comment last

Following approval of Boncore's amendment, the Senate budget plan now calls for increasing fees on ride-hailing rent flat 20 cents per trip to 40 cents for a shared ride, \$1.20 for a non-shared ride, and \$2.20 for a luxury ride. It would also put an additional 20-cent fee on rides that start and end in the MBTA's ser-

Revenue, which would likely total in the tens or hundreds of millions of dollars depending on ridership, would be split between the Commonwealth Transportation Fund, municipalities where the trips begin, the MBTA, and the state's regional transit authorities.

Speaking on the Senate floor last Tuesday, Boncore described his amendment as a way to alleviate congestion by incentivizing other modes of travel while also generating funding to invest in the state's public transit systems and roadway infrastruc-

"Roadway congestion returned to pre-pandemic congestion sooner than we thought. It came back quicker than most other things," Boncore said. "The language before us today presents a unique opportunity to address two transportation needs."

In January 2020, before Covid-19 hit, Baker said app-based companies contributed to "tremendous pressure on every part of our transportation system" and filed his own bill seeking to raise the per-trip fee on appbased ride companies to a flat \$1.

But a year later, when the Legislature included a tiered structure of higher fees in a \$16.5 billion bond bill, Baker rejected the proposal, calling it "complicated" and improperly based on pre-pandemic assumptions about how Massachusetts residents travel.

"Before instituting fees that are aimed at incentivizing certain travel behaviors, we need to understand what ridership and congestion patterns are going to look like after the pandemic," Baker wrote at the time.

Dempsey criticized that line of thinking from the governor, referencing the administration's ongoing efforts to study the "future of work" and how common telework will remain as offices reopen.

"The governor saying 'because we don't know the future of work we must stay in place and stick to the status quo' is a strategy that is going to look pretty darn foolish in six months when that crushing congestion returns, because it's going to return," Dempsey said. "I would say that the governor should understand that what makes Massachusetts such a dynamic economy and a productive place to live and be is because we have the smartest people in the world in really small spaces."

"If he thinks the future of work is we're all living in a bubble and working from home, that's going to be a sad future for the commonwealth,'

Dempsey continued. "If everyone's just working from home, you can get better weather and cheaper housing in North Carolina or Arizona."

Baker refiled legislation in April aimed at updating data collection requirements and safety regulations on the companies. The Boncore amendment in the Senate's budget also includes a similar push to track trip start and end points, mileage and routes, which, supporters say, will give state officials a better picture of how the platforms contribute to congestion more closely than under current law.

Both Uber and Lyft have pushed against fee increases in recent years. In January, amid the Legislature's last push, Über spokesperson Alix Anfang said, "Massachusetts won't solve congestion or fully fund mass transit without ensuring that all users of the road pay their fair share."

## State's public health chief stepping down this month

Massachusetts Public Health Commissioner Dr. Monica Bharel

June 18, after leading the Department of Public Health through the plans to step down on first 15 months of the

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Covid-19 pandemic.

Secretary of Health and Human Services Marylou Sudders announced Bharel's departure plans on May 27, saying she wanted to "extend my deepest thanks to Commissioner Bharel for her service to the Commonwealth during these unprecedented times and to wish her the very best as she pursues her next professional chapter."

Deputy DPH Commissioner Margret Cooke, who joined the department in 2015 as its general counsel, will serve as interim commissioner.

A primary care physician with a master's in public health degree, Bharel served as the for the Boston Health Care for the Homeless before joining the Baker administration in 2015. She contracted and recovered from COVID-19 last year, and later in 2020 took an unrelated temporary medical leave, during which Cooke served as acting commissioner.

"It has been an honor and privilege to serve residents of the Commonwealth as the state's top physician and the Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health," Bharel said in a statement. "After serving in this role for more chief medical officer than six years, which is

longer than any public health commissioner has served in nearly a quarter of a century, it is the right time to begin a new chapter. "DPH staff have helped make Massachusetts a national leader in testing and vaccination while demonstrating a tireless commitment to placing health equity front and center of that work. Because of our work these past six years, Massachusetts now consistently ranks as one of the healthiest states in the nation."

- KATIE LANNAN

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### Traffic volume increases, distracted driving spikes

ngs for distracted driv- in March, and 10 ing on Massachusetts roadways have exploded in the last four months, reflecting both steppedup enforcement and also growing traffic as the state continues to reopen, officials said Monday.

**Acting Transportation** Secretary Jamey Tesler told the Department of Transportation's board of directors that the number of drivers stopped for allegedly using a device behind the wheel increased sharply for each of the past four months.

In January, police issued 151 citations and warnings for distracted driving, according to figures Tesler presented. That increased to

Citations and warn- 405 in February, 3,515 Gulliver said at Mon-April — about 68 times as many as in January.

"This can be accounted for both in the increased focus on enforcement as well as, obviously, from the winter to the spring, a significant increase in traffic on the roads, a significant increase in activity," Tesler said.

A new law prohibiting the use of any electronic device while driving, save for a single tap or swipe to activate handsfree mode, took effect in February 2020 with fines starting in April 2020.

Traffic has been rebounding in recent months after dropping significantly earlier in the pandemic. Highway AdministratorJonathan

officials project travel during the upcoming Memorial Day weekend will be "approaching and possibly even matching 2019 volumes."

Said Tesler: "This is an important reminder for everybody to not engage in distracted driving, to put down your phones. It will be a busy period of time. We're excited we're taking the next step in opening, but we do encourage people to drive safely, and we really want to focus on the critical role that avoiding distracted driving can play in keeping the commonwealth, other drivers and yourself

– CHRIS LISINSKI SHNS

dotnews.com June 3, 2021 THE REPORTER Page 11

## 'Food Action' group tackles hunger along Blue Hill Ave. corridor

By Katie Pedersen Reporter Correspondent

With the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, unemployment rose and access to social services in Dorchester and the city's other neighborhoods was seriously disrupted. Food insecurity became a critical issue, and disproportionately so in majority-minority neighborhoods. In the face of that development, local organizations organized under the umbrella of the Neighborhood Food Action Collaborative (NFAC) have spent the last half-year or so rising to the occasion.

According to Mariana Cohen, co-founder of Vital CXNs and the Collaborative, NFAC was created early last December in response to unmet needs in Boston neighborhoods.

"Toward the end of last year, there was a report done by the city where they did an assessment to see where the gaps in connections and services are," she told the Reporter. "One of the things that came out of that was community members saying that a lot of the services are disjointed. There's not good communication and coordination happening between the different services in the city. They called for action to ask all these food distributors and organizations doing sourcing, distribution, delivery—all of that—to start collaborating better so that community members could know where to get food without going to so many places and navigating so many systems. Out of that, we brought together what is now called the Neighborhood Food Action Collaborative."

NFAC consists of two groups — Neighborhood Connections in Dorchester, Mattapan, and Roxbury, and a sister group based in Hyde Park and Roslindale.

According to Cohen, "We're taking a very hyper-local approach to the way that we're doing this work. We do have separate groups meet ing within these smaller neighborhoods. The collaborative is about coordination. It's about creating relationships between residents as well as organizations that are doing the work of food. We are just there to create the infrastructure. The members of the collaborative are really the experts and the ones doing the work."

One notable organization working to address food insecurity in Dorchester is The Most Worshipful George Washington Carver Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons at its temple on Talbot Avenue. Established in 1847, the Lodge has served as a communi-



Volunteers are shown outside of the Most Worshipful George Washington Carver Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons on Talbot Avenue, which has stepped up its efforts to distribute food to local families. *Katie Pedersen photo* 

ty anchor and service organization for more than 170 years. It now collaborates with a sister chapter of Eastern Stars, the women's branch of the Freemasons.

In normal years, the organization provides free Thanksgiving baskets to members of the local community in partnership with the Centre St. Stop and Shop, organizes an annual dinner for senior citizens the Saturday before Mother's Day, and sponsors Christmas and Halloween parties for kids.

In the words of freemason Eddie Woumn, the Lodge "celebrates every holiday in the community." They also provide other essential community services.

According to Eastern Star leader Carrie Du-Bose, "We are a service organization. A lot of people don't know what we do in the community. We give four or five scholarships away every year to the community. We allow people to have repasts here, especially [family and friends] of people who died of gun violence and didn't have insurance or anything. We allow them to use the facilities.

Confronted with the challenges of the pandemic, the lodge decided to do even more. "We were seeing more need, and we figured that we had the building up here

and we had the space," Dubose said.

Last August and September, the George Washington Carver Lodge donated its facilities for Covid-19 testing. Around the same time, they began looking for ways to distribute food to local families. On Thanksgiving Day, the Lodge fed over 200 families. However, throughout the fall and early winter, members struggled to gain access to more food to donate.

According to Dubose, "From that point on, we weren't able to find out where to get any of the boxes. We went through City Hall, we went through the representatives. Nobody was able to tell us how we could get the grants [for food distribution] in. I was talking to Eddie, and I said, 'We got a big place down here, we got accommodation. We should be able to get the food."

In January, the Lodge struck up a partnership with Fair Foods, a local organization that sells "rescued" food at discounted prices. However, Fair Foods dropped out once the Lodge started distributing free adult meals from Boston YMCA and children's meals from City Fresh. "As [Fair Foods] got in the door, they wanted to charge for everything," Woumn said.

The Lodge's partnership with NFAC has proven much more successful. According to Dubose, a member of the Eastern Stars came across a phone number for the organization on the back of a truck. After calling, the Lodge was connected to Mariana Cohen at the Blue Hill Corridor Group, now called NFAC.

"We got involved in them, and I'm glad we did," Dubose said. "The Blue Hills Corridor Group helped us get the food for the community when none of the state reps, or City Hall, were able to. Everybody else was talking about grants and this and that. The Corridor Group made it happen. City Fresh and the YMCA really stepped up their game. We wrote emails, and we said, 'We've got this Lodge down here, we've got these volunteers,' and nobody responded until I got involved with Mariana. If it hadn't been for them, we would not be getting the boxes of food that we have now. The program could be improved by us having easier access to get the food."

Cohen estimates that since joining NFAC, the Lodge has been able to increase its monthly distribution from around 100 boxes of food a month to roughly 5,000. However, the operation is entirely dependent on members of the Lodge donating their time.

"The community is doing the work for the community," Cohen said. "This is community members distributing food to their neighbors."

When asked how many hours members of the George Washington Carver Lodge have donated to food distribution efforts, Dubose laughed.

"We don't even count them," she said. In recent months, Lodge members have volunteered from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. every Monday and Wednesday to unload trucks, advertise the food drive, distribute boxes, organize the site, and clean up.

"We're here Monday and Wednesday. If anyone has any other days they want us to distribute food, we'll talk to the group and become available. This is what our organization is all about. It is all about volunteering. We do all these volunteer hours, and none of us is getting a dime for being here."

Robert Jenkins, a YMCA staffer and collaborative member, spoke up in support of the work that the Lodge is doing in Dorchester and surrounding neighborhoods.

"Since the pandemic, they've been able to use their space in a positive light. They're giving out meals. They're a place for vaccinations. So it's a community base. I hope that when all this dies down, they'll be able to keep it up," he said.

In recent weeks, the NFAC has compiled a resource guide for community members. According to Cohen, "It's a reliable source for people to look at every day to see where they can get food in their neighborhood. It's a resource that we'll continue to build out and get into the hands of residents."

Dubose emphasized the guide's importance, saying, "In September, the extra money is going to stop and the extra benefits for the food stamps are going to stop, so people are going to go back to being hungry. We need to get it out so that people know where they can get the food."

Anyone interested in getting involved in the ongoing work of NFAC is invited to join a virtual Community Meeting on June 15 at 7 p.m. In addition to updating community members on the Collaborative's work, NFAC will be soliciting feedback on ongoing service gaps to improve food distribution.

Cohen emphasized that any upcoming NFAC plans will be based on whatever feedback residents offer. "We have a lot of really great organizations. We have lots of amazing residents who have stepped up doing the pandemic. It's just about connecting the pieces. When we bring together multiple organizations that are doing similar work, within minutes vou can see how we can get more food out in the community just by having the conversations that we're having. What we've seen through this collaborative is the power of bringing people together." Note: Other Dorches-

ter, Mattapan, and Roxbury NFAC members include Dorchester Community Fridge, Harvard Street Neighborhood Health Center, the Boston Public Health Commission, the Most Worshipful Prince Hall  $Grand \, Lodge \, of \, Free \, and$ Accepted Masons, City Fresh Foods, NEU4J, Brigham Health, the Center of Community Wellness, Boston YMCA, Boston Medical, the Mayor's Office of Food Access, Health Leads, Daily Table, About Fresh, Mattapan Food and Fitness Coalition, the Urban Farming Institute, and The Boston Project Min-



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#### **Editorial**

### Dorchester Day '21

So, is it actually Dot Day on Sunday without the namesake parade? Our answer: Of course! This weekend, many of us will observe the high holiday in backyard gatherings or by patronizing our favorite Dot eateries.

It's worth recalling that the very first Dorchester Day observances back in 1904 featured lots of speeches and a military band, but no parade (See story, Page 19). In the years since that first modest gathering on the slopes of Savin Hill, the commemoration of Dorchester's settlement in 1630 has waxed and waned in terms of participation and scope. Still, it's fair to say that the last year or so has marked a nadir for the whole concept of Dorchester Day.

In addition to missing out on a second consecutive parade—a number of the attendant events that orbit the parade have also gone dark: the senior salute luncheon, the grand marshal's dinner, Little Miss Dorchester, and the "race" for mayor of Dorchester, an honorary title that goes to the person who raises the most money for the parade committee's coffers.

In the not-so-distant past, the United States Navy would order a warship to port in Boston to join in the celebration as a guest of honor. What's lost by not staging the parade and its constellation of events? It's hard to say with ironclad surety, but like most traditions, Dorchester Day is rooted in memory and nostalgia. And each year that it is not staged further erodes that foundation of sentiment.

For those who've watched paraders pass us by since we were in Pampers, it's a day that feels special and familiar because of all of those Dot Day marches ahead of this one. For schoolkids and their slightly older siblings, the parade seemed synched specifically to mark the end of the school year and the unofficial launch of summer.

This is not meant as a critique of the decision to cancel this year. The parade organizers—all of them unpaid servants who do good work to stage the event annually— had to make a tough call in March, and did so with what was then the best guidance available. At that time, it seemed unlikely that parades would be permitted. The Pride parade downtown has also been pushed off to 2022.

But there's a pang of remorse attached to this year's omission. It will be 88 and sunny on Sunday. The city's ballyards and beaches and beer gardens are swollen with patrons once again. The avenue beckons for horses and marching bands and bagpipes and steel drums and dragon dances.

After a long year of isolation and introspection, Dot Day '21 could've been an epic release of energy and happiness— a uniquely Boston street party that might have eclipsed all that proceeded it. Alas, none of that is on tap.

It remains to be seen what next year might bring. Dorchester Day will survive and thrive again if enough men and women who are committed to making it a thing each year decide to make it a priority once again. In the meantime, this year we can at least celebrate together in greater numbers and — for those of us with the double-dose of vax—without the facemask.

Celebrate responsibly and make the neighborhood proud. Happy Dot Day!

– Bill Forry



A scene from the 2016 parade.

#### The Reporter

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# In Mattapan, an animated call for justice, policing reform in George Floyd's name



A few hundred people gathered at Mattapan's Walker Playground on May 25 after a march from Milton to Norfolk Street to mark the one-year anniversary of George Floyd's murder by a Minneapolis police officer. Above, Ron Bell, the event's emcee is shown kneeling during a prayer and period of silence.

\*Rebeca Pereira photos\*

#### BY REBECA PEREIRA REPORTER CORRESPONDENT

The metallic rush of steel percussion – the instrumentation of Hyde Park's Branches Steel Orchestra – swelled as hundreds of people descended on Walker Playground in Mattapan last Tuesday evening for the final leg of the March for George and Justice. The rally at the Norfolk Street Park, one of many held nationally on May 25 to mark the one-year anniversary of the murder of George Floyd by a Minneapolis police officer, followed a mile-long trek from Milton to Mattapan and drew support from advocacy and faith-based organizations in each community.

Marchers spilled out along Blue Hill Avenue, echoing the shout, "We are one, our cause is one, we must help each other if we are to succeed," and calling for passage of the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act, federal legislation that has been approved by the House of Representatives but is awaiting action in the US Senate.

The cacophony of call-and-response chants, led by Dunk the Vote's Ron Bell, gave way to a silent 9 minutes and 29 seconds of kneeling – the amount of time Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin's knee remained on the dying George Floyd's neck. Chauvin was convicted of the murder last month and will be sentenced this month.

"Go home, soak your feet," said Bell, "because we're going from Mission Hill to Beacon Hill, and we're getting justice."

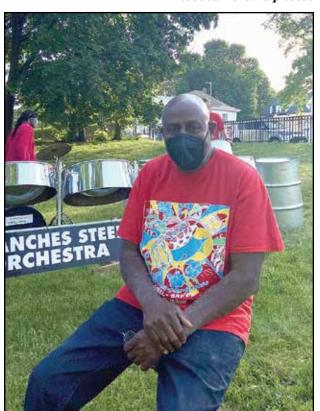
Paul Smith, founder of the Branches Steel Orchestra, said Chauvin's guilty verdict turned his "helpless[ness] into joy." He said he remembers where he was when he heard of Floyd's killing – sitting on his living-room couch, flipping through channel-to-channel coverage of roiling protests unlike any he'd ever seen.

"When he died, I was so angry," said Smith. "I thought, 'This shouldn't be happening to anyone of any race, it shouldn't be happening period,' but it happens over and over again," said the Trinidadian immigrant and a Black man. "There was nothing I could do then, but today is how I honor [George Floyd]," he said.

Smith said he has also found a new way of honoring Floyd's life – in his mentorship of children as young as 10-year-old Kendal Black, who malleated the marimbas to the tune of ABBA's "Dancing Queen." Smith noted that "their success is my reward. I have faith that their generation will break the trend."

A plumber by trade, Smith recalled the harassment he faced during the '70s and '80s while servicing dank basements in the South End. Now, in retirement, he conducts the orchestra in gigs across town. He called Tuesday's rally — which he heard about from his pastor, Rev. Zenetta Armstrong at Mattapan's Church of the Holy Spirit, a "spiritual convocation."

For many volunteers and protesters, including Leomina Limage, who distributed water to demonstrators, the outcome of the Chauvin trial was a "vindication of faith." Limage, accompanied by her friend Bapsy Jose, who drove from Maryland to participate in the march, found a spot at the bottom of the park knoll, nearest to the stage, to hear from



Paul Smith, founder of the Branches Steel Orchestra, was on hand for the rally in Walker Playground. "When he died, I was so angry," said Smith.

Bell and other speakers.

"I'm all for protesting, but it's also time for us to develop policy so we can change the laws that are on the books, and not just change the laws, but execute them," said Bell in an interview with CBS Boston.

Bell encouraged protesters to "take a look around and cut the check" to support political candidates who prioritize police reform, including mayoral candidates Michelle Wu and Andrea Campbell, both sitting city councillors, and Democrat gubernatorial candidate Ben Downing, who joined alongside protesters in Mattapan.

"There's not much to say today because today is a solemn anniversary," said Wu, in brief remarks. "But this continues to be a call to action. We need to make sure that every day the memory of every injustice that has happened continues to drive us forward."

Former City Councillor Tito Jackson also lingered at the playground with organizers after the crowd had dispersed, and said the movement for Black lives is looking for "accomplices not allies. We need to make sure we're advancing our neighborhoods and our communities towards a place where we can look back and truthfully say 'Black Lives Matter."

He added: "The movement has grown but we need to see courageous policy, we need to see elected officials stepping forward and fighting for reform even when police unions come after them. Accomplices go to jail with you, they fight the flames with you. That's power, that's empathy, and that's what we're rallying for and what we need moving forward."

#### **Commentary**

# THE CODMAN SQUARE STORY: Where 'nonprofit innovation' wins the day

#### BY BILL WALCZAK REPORTER COLUMNIST

During a recent visit to Codman Square Health Center, I was chided by a staff member who noted that whenever she sees me there, I am taking a group on a tour. She's probably right. Over my 47 years of involvement in Codman Square, I've given hundreds of tours, not just of the health center, but of Codman Square itself.

People have come from many countries and dozens of states, and the tours continued after I left daily work in Codman Square. In fact, I'll be giving a walking tour of the square in July to Fellows from the Rappaport Center for Law and Public Policy.

The Walczak Tour tells a story of residents re-envisioning their down-and-out community and rebuilding it. It's an account of the title for July's walking tour—"Nonprofit innovation: The Codman Square story."



Bill Walczak

Codman Square has an interesting story to share. Once the town center of Dorchester, where its Town Hall was located, it became a major commercial center in pre-annexation Dorchester, and remained a vibrant business area into the 1970s.

Then, a combination of massive population loss, disinvestment, demographic change, and general urban decay sent

the Square into a tailspin. Abandonment and arson left the area looking like the definition of blight. In 1983, a majority of candidates for mayor announced that, if elected, they would "rebuild Codman Square."

The fact that Codman Square was the "border" between Black and white Dorchester made multi-racial efforts complicated, especially during the desegregation (busing) years, but the Square was a place where people on all sides learned to work together, and the nonprofit agencies produced by the residents are the embodiment of their efforts to improve and redevelop the neighborhood.

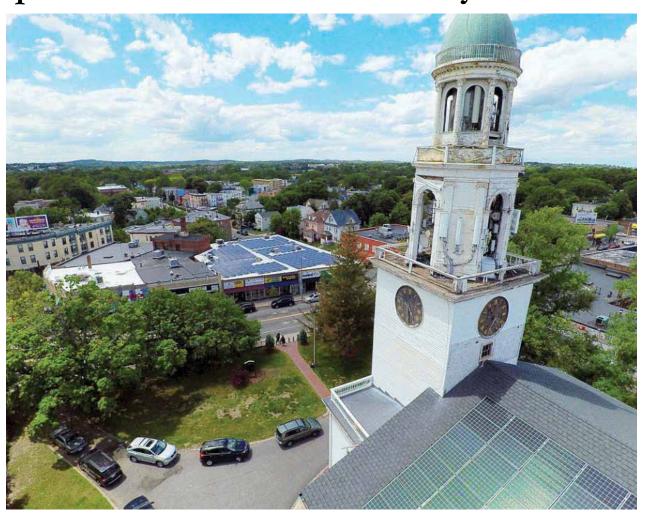
Recently, the City of Boston started a neighborhoods promotion campaign called "All Inclusive Boston (allinclusivebos.com)." In addition to typical tourist information, the campaign invites people to "explore like a local" by visiting the neighborhoods. The website information mainly includes restaurants, but there is much more in a place like Codman Square, which came through an existential crisis, and emerged, largely through actions by its residents and nonprofit agencies, to be a vibrant center of community life, a place with an array of services that include education, health care, housing, food, and fitness.

My tour starts at 450 Washington St., the Codman Square Health Center's (CSHC) Wellness and Fitness Center, where Daily Table, a nonprofit grocery store that sells only nutritious food at about 2/3 the cost of a regular grocery store, has been operating for six years. Daily Table may be the only grocery store in America where everything sold is good for you, and where one can get enough food for a week on your EBT card.

Daily Table shares the building with a Teaching Kitchen, operated jointly by CSHC and Daily Table, which offers free cooking classes to local residents and groups. Adjacent to the kitchen is HealthWorks at Codman, a fitness center for women and children that opened in 2008. Membership is defined to be affordable to all and has sliding fee rates based on income. Across the hall, the Health Center operates a free tax preparation clinic in the building during tax season, generating millions of dollars for local residents.

Heading south, we pass the Codman Square Neighborhood Development Corporation (CSNDC), the result of 1981 merger of the Codman Square CDC and WE CAN, both 1970s housing programs. Codman Square NDC has built 1,300 affordable housing units in the Codman Square area, while working with tenants on job training, small business development, community agriculture, and the like. It is promoting the greening of the square with LEED certified buildings and buildings with solar panels, and it is earning a designation as an eco-district as it advocates for sustainable building.

Codman Square residents have led its revitalization since coming to terms with the community's need to re-create itself after being radically transformed in the 1960s and 1970s. A key organization that has led the community's efforts at envisioning its



A modern-day view of Codman Square from above Second Church in Dorchester.

Image courtesy Resonant Energy

future and building a culture of cooperation among the communities and organizations that populate the area is the Codman Square Neighborhood Council, which was created in the 1980s and is still going strong. Currently, it is taking the lead on remaking the Codman Common so that it includes both current space and the land owned by the Second Church, a quintessential New England meeting house built in 1805 with timbers brought from Maine (then part of Massachusetts), and notable for its Paul Revere Bell and the solar panels on its roof.

At the intersection that is Codman Square, one building that faces it used to have a the address Zero Codman Square. It is the Great Hall, formerly the Codman Square Branch Library, and the early site of the Codman Square Health Center. The Hall building was in terrible condition when the health center took it over in 1979, and over the years it has preserved the main reading room as the Great Hall, which includes a stage, as the center of civic life for the Codman Square community, and the location of Neighborhood Council meetings. Great communities have strong organizations that value cooperation, with great places to meet and organize to prompt that cooperation, and the Great Hall is such a place.

Immediately after the Great Hall is the main clinical building of the Codman Square Health Center, organized in 1975, and Codman Academy Charter Public School (CACS), started in 2001. Codman Academy was, and may still be, the only school located within a medical facility. As such, it has been written about in numerous journals, and is the model for the Chan-Zuckerberg education initiative.

As a matter of fact, Priscilla Chan did a pediatric rotation in Codman Square several years ago to study how the school and health center interact. Codman Academy high school students walk the same halls as medical professionals, eat in the same dining room, and have opportunities to gain internships and jobs at the health center.

Codman Academy's K-8 school is located across the street in the 1899 Lithgow Building. The interior school design is a very early example of "trauma informed" architecture, and includes a dance studio, library, art studio, and dining room. Both schools have chef-prepared food every day, and CACS has been considered one of the healthiest schools in Massachusetts, due to its focus on all things health related.

Codman Academy is also spearheading greening initiatives for the square, with LEED certified buildings, adding beehives to the roof of the K-8 school and helping to create nine raised-bed rain gardens on the roadways. It will soon be creating a healing micro-forest on a pie-shaped piece of land on Norfolk Street.

Codman Square Health Center is one of the larger

employers in Dorchester today. And with more than 100,000 annual visits to clinical programs, it is one of the largest health centers in Boston. Open seven days a week, it offers a comprehensive list of services beyond medical care, including behavioral health, dental, eye care, and many auxiliary services.

CSHC has also been a catalyst for community development, partnering in the development of the services at 450 Washington Street, involved in not only the founding of Codman Academy, but also the Edward Kennedy Health Careers Academy, and other innovations, such as BOLD Teens, which organized teens to get an ordinance passed in Boston to forbid pharmacies from selling tobacco products, and has sponsored farmers markets in the square. Then there's the Clemente Program, which offers college instruction to low-income residents in the humanities, with the goal of encouraging full matriculation into college.

Continuing our tour, we walk down Centre Street to the Epiphany School, founded in 1997, which is both a middle school and an Early Learning Center. An institution at which all students are on full scholarships, Epiphany offers remarkable full service educational programs to lower income students and their families. Its new ELC starts at infancy with a program that involves the entire family with the goal of ensuring that participants are ready for kindergarten. Epiphany has inspired 19 other like schools around the country.

All of these remarkable institutions fall within a ten-block area, making Codman Square a center for both urban revitalization and nonprofit innovation. Visitors from other countries have generally assumed that the institutions and buildings they see were provided by the government, but, for the most part, these organizations built themselves up over many years by raising money with the support of community boards made of community residents.

These are the stories that have made Codman Square a must-see place for many hundreds of visitors over the years. They tell of a multi-racial community that hit rock bottom, but with good community leadership, a clear vision for the future, effective organizing, and the creation of organizations that collaborate rather than compete and provide solutions to the needs of the residents, built itself back up. It's an inspirational tale for other communities around the world.

All Inclusive Boston should add to its marketing of neighborhoods by including such histories and the work done by residents to improve their communities. Coming out of the pandemic, 2021 is a good year for Bostonians to learn about the vibrant neighborhoods that surround us.

 $\label{eq:billwalczak} Bill\,Walczak\,is\,a\,Dorchester\,resident\,and\,the\,former\\president\,and\,CEO\,of\,Codman\,Square\,Health\,Center.$ 

### Diaper-drive gets assistance from Janey, union volunteers

#### By Rebeca Pereira Reporter Correspondent

Mayor Kim Janey joined union leaders under the blue awning of the Boston Teachers Union hall for a diaper donation drive last Wednesday, cooling off with an ice cream bar and thanking community childcare workers for doing "life-changing and life-giving work."

"We know how difficult the pandemic has been, particularly on moms, who are often the sole caretakers and heads of their households," said Janey. "These diapers for young, single mothers are like gold. This work is so important."

The event – which was sponsored by local organizations like Mujeres Unidas Avanzando and the Greater Boston Labor Council—collected toys, wipes, and diapers to benefit the Brookview House, a nonprofit serving women and children facing homelessness.

The agency provides affordable housing, domestic violence relief, and youth support services to more than 350 Dorchester and Roxbury residents yearly.



Mayor Kim Janey attended a Diaper Drive at the Boston Teachers Union Hall in Dorchester on May 26 hosted by the Greater Boston Labor Council to raise awareness for homeless women and children. All donations from the drive went to the Brookview House, a nonprofit for homeless women and children.

Mayor's Office Photo by Jeremiah Robinson

"We help women experiencing homelessness lift their children out of homelessness; it's about providing education, training, and jobs for women experiencing homelessness," said Brookview CEO Deborah

Hughes. "Covid-19 has been tough for Brookview, and we desperately need all of these donations."

Care That Works, a coalition of community-based organizations and labor unions con-

vened by Boston-based Community Labor United (CLU), was also a co-sponsor for the drive, helping to organize the event and fielding donations from local unions.

Kindsay McCluskey, CLU's

deputy director, spoke to the structural barriers facing working-class families and said "the diapers and supplies that are here behind us are hugely important for moms to be able to care for their kids, but we also know we need a better childcare system for moms to be able to depend on."

Janey also highlighted the need for expanded infrastructure around childcare and family support, pointing to her administration's \$50 million rental relief program as a source of stability for Bostonians facing unemployment and eviction.

Janey, who faced food and housing insecurity as a child, told the *Reporter* that "having grown up in this city and not always having the things that we needed, I know these issues personally. Housing continues to be a challenge in our city, and this fund has already helped so many families."

"Covid-19 has exposed and exacerbated the inequities that were already here, and, first and foremost, we're making sure that our residents are well served," she said.



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7 Whittemore LLC		Mickiewicz FT	Cataldo, Judith A	7 Whittemore Ter	Dorchester	05/14/21	825,000		
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T&T Brothers Realty LLC		Fernandez, German A	•	17 Parkman St	Dorchester	05/12/21	500,000		
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Delury, Raymond		Cuddy, William F		54 Mill St	Dorchester	05/14/21	548,304		
115 Adams Street LLC		115 Adams St LLC		115 Adams St	Dorchester	05/10/21	830,000		
Red Lion Holdings LLC		11 McIellan Street LLC		11 Mclellan St	Dorchester	05/11/21	200,000		
Konig, Julie	Konig, Evan	Famvest LLC		360 Harvard St	Dorchester	05/12/21	1,017,000		
Young, Kerrie A		Walsh, Catherine A	Walsh, Stephen J	1103 Adams St	Dorchester	05/14/21	975,000		
Heatley, Jeanette P		Melli FT	Melli, Anthony F	135 Granite Ave #34	Dorchester	05/12/21	358,750		
Boyd-Hill, Carla D		Rose, Jeffenese C	•	1000 Harvard St #H	Mattapan	05/11/21	295,000		
Davis, Tasha M		County, Kenwin		105 Itasca St	Mattapan	05/10/21	565,000		
Leonidas, Claude		Leonidas, Jean	Leonidas, Martha	144 Savannah Ave	Mattapan	05/10/21	500,000		
Geffrard, Marie L		Reynolds, John		56 Westmore Rd	Mattapan	05/10/21	710,000		
Klein, Cody	Klein, Jacquelyn	Ashby, Angela D		14 Old Morton St	Mattapan	05/11/21	633,000		
Sheehan, Dylan J	Snyder, Nora A	Campbell, Lauren E		55 Downer Ave #1	Dorchester	05/14/21	610,000		
Stowe, Andrew L	Stowe, Blair T	Enos, Jessica L		164 Boston St #3	Dorchester	05/11/21	425,000		
Myers, Kyle	Brown, Alyssa	Brandon, Matthew	Brandon, Hannah	25 Romsey St #3	Dorchester	05/13/21	679,000		
Rubiera, Esteffani M	•	671 Adams Street RT	Sweeney, Joan B	671 Adams St #671	Dorchester	05/10/21	300,000		
Kenney, Meghan		Spears, Mary C	Spears, William E	440 Adams St #3	Dorchester	05/14/21	442,000		
Phillips, Rachel	Phillips, Doris F	Crowd Lending Fund 1 LLC		18-20 Cedar St #1	Mattapan	05/14/21	360,000		
Dahl, Kristine S	Waters, Joshua M	Leverenz, Scott A		9 Park St #10	Dorchester	05/14/21	772,000		
Stump, Patrick	Johnson, Adam	Christensen, Joel	Nistar, Shahnaaz	43-45 Owencroft Rd #2	Dorchester	05/14/21	676,500		
Miller, Tara		Slesinski, Taylor		648 Columbia Rd #3	Dorchester	05/14/21	381,400		
Wang, Julie	Lavallee, Laura	Nichols, Kristen M		92 Lawrence Ave #2	Dorchester	05/11/21	578,000		
Chaplin, John	Schepeler, Christine R	36-38 Colonial LLC		36 Colonial Ave #1	Dorchester	05/10/21	609,900		
King, Alexandria	•	Woodward Park LLC		2 Woodward Park St #2	Dorchester	05/11/21	499,000		
Birtz, Marissa W	Birtz, Justin S	67-69 Auckland Street LLC		67-69 Auckland St #3	Dorchester	05/12/21	1,215,000		
Taub, Daniel G	Giera, Stefanie	36-38 Colonial LLC		38 Colonial Ave #2	Dorchester	05/13/21	610,000		
Heacox, Brian L		3 Dorset LLC		3 Dorset St #1	Dorchester	05/14/21	718,000		
Fedak, Thomas	Commane, Patricia	177 West Seventh St RT	Keohane, Denis F	1173 Adams St #303	Dorchester	05/14/21	740,000		
Masferrer, Eduardo	Sato, Lumina	2-4 Crossman Street LLC		2-4 Crossman St #2	Mattapan	05/14/21	689,000		
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dotnews.com June 3, 2021 THE REPORTER Page 15

#### Hero Square at Adams and Centre dedicated to soldier lost at sea in WWII



The Dalton family joined with Mayor Kim Janey on Monday during a Hero Square dedication in honor of US Army Sgt. William Dalton, a Dorchester resident who lost his life at during WWII.

On Memorial Day, Mayor Kim Janey joined other elected officials, veterans, and family members at the corner of Adams and Centre streets in Dorchester to dedicate a new "Hero Square" that recalls the life and death US Army Sgt. William Dalton, who grew up close to the intersection.

He enlisted on April 8, 1943 and went on to serve in the 66th Infantry Division and the 262nd Infantry Regiment during World War II.

He was reported missing in action and presumed dead on Dec. 24, 1944, when a German submarine torpedoed the passenger ship he

Mayor's Office photo by Isabel Leon was aboard, the SS Leopoldville. Dalton was awarded a purple heart for his service to his country.

"Today, we recognize and remember his sacrifice and the sacrifices made by so many in the defense of freedom," said Janey in her remarks.

Since the first ceremony of its kind in 1898, the city has dedicated 1,200 Hero Squares across the city, with the goal of educating communities about the history of military service in their own neighborhoods.

To learn more about the program and to access the Hero Square Database, visit boston.

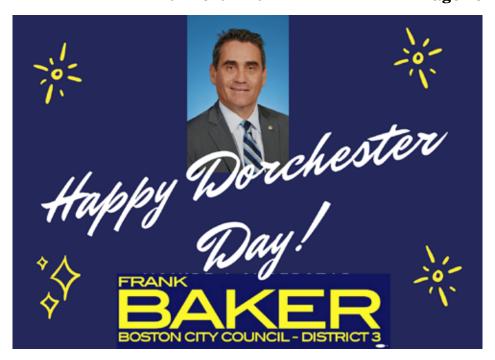
Erin Murphy, a

Dorchester resident who is running for an at-large seat on the Boston city council, told the Reporter she was honored to be in attendance on Monday. Murphy said she knew the Dalton family from the neighborhood and had several family members in her classroom as a BPS teacher at the Murphy School.

"The Dalton family was very proud and honored to have their loved one be remembered and have this spot in the neighborhood that they could visit or drive by and feel proud," said Murphy. "They are a big family and almost all of them came out to participate in this ceremony... the event was another reminder of all the great people in the city who must be remembered and honored for their service and ultimate sacrifice every day, not just on Memorial Day."

Since the first ceremony of its kind in 1898, the city of Boston has dedicated 1,200 Hero Squares across the city, with the goal of educating communities about the history of service in their own neighborhoods.

-DANIEL SHEEHAN







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Page 16 THE REPORTER June 3, 2021 dotnews.com

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### 'Queenie' Santos, 'mom' to many at Denney Center, hears 'laughter again'

(Continued from page 1)

As she looked up through the sunlit canopy lining on Mt. Vernon Street three months after her mother's passing, Queenie said she can still see her mother perched at the window of her apartment, waving to her on the sidewalk below.

Santos's own children had passed through the Denney in the center's early days 30 years ago. Now, her grandchildren—eight of them, and one on the way—scramble through the building's double doors daily to greet their grandmother, the center's director of youth and development, at the top of the rubber-rimmed staircase.

"When I go like this," the 60-year-old Santos said, tapping her upper thigh twice, "I'm greeting, I'm tying shoes, I'm saying hello. It's easy to ask a kid why they're acting up, but when you look in their eyes and focus on them for those seconds, you remember why they're here and why you're here, too.

"They're human. This is not just about taking kids through the door and babysitting. This is about supporting them and getting them ready for the next steps of life."

The Boys and Girls Clubs of Dorchester took over management of the Denney Center in 2003. The seat atop the stairs has unquestionably belonged to Queenie Santos since the clubhouse's inception, but as a teenager long before that, she was on the receiving end of youth services.

A Columbia Point native, Santos said that the village that helped raise her was always an extension of her family. A lifelong parishioner at Greater Love Tabernacle, she



Quenette 'Queenie' Santos, right, was shown with two of her longtime BGCD colleagues in this photo from 2018: Mike Joyce, left, and the late Bruce Seals, who passed away in 2020 after a battle with cancer.

Photo courtesy BGCD

said her childhood faith-leaders exemplified values she emulates in her work every day.

"Loving and caring gives us the gift of life, and if we give people opportunities the same way God loves us and entrusts us with responsibility, we see initiative and resolve and peace amongst the youth," she said. "My parents surrounded us with brothers and sisters, and together we took on the world. We're stronger together."

She added: "They gave us opportunities others thought we would never have here — for a place that had no hope, this was a very engaging place to be," she said. "They made sure of it."

In her adolescence, Santos joined the student leadership board of Boston Against Drugs and watched as Action for Boston Community Development (ABCD) spread its roots on Columbia Point. When the now-defunct youth center on Brandon Street began to in-

troduce youth services to the neighborhood, she made sure she was there for the daily head count.

"My beginnings are out of this backyard," she said. "Dorchester has always been in me; this is all I know. People often say, 'Why do you work with kids? They're so... fill-inthe-blank.' But I remember who I was as a kid, growing up in the projects, someplace people used to say was dilapidated, one of the worst places in Boston. We were used to being told that if we were here, you were never going to be anything. But we've proved people wrong so many times."

Santos has certainly done her part in helping generations of children and teens prove those nay-sayers wrong. Her move into early education was an unexpected pivot from her 15 years as an injury prevention specialist for the city of Boston, but Bob Scannell, president and CEO of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Dorchester



Queenie Santos gets a hug from one of her youngsters.  $BGCD\ photo$ 

told the *Reporter* he knew she was "special" from day one.

"I've had thousands of people work for me at the Boys and Girls Club, but we're really blessed to have Queenie in our corner. She's always smiling, and, throughout the years, she has impacted thousands of people," he said. "She really does miracles."

Every summer, the Denney, which normally operates as an afterschool program with occasional extended "twilight hours," expands its programming to offer recreational activities to 140 kids – water play, park art, skateboarding, and two headline retreats, one to Maine and the other to Walt Disney World, which Santos has chaperoned year in and year out.

But it's her streak of selflessness that draws the highest praise. Scannell noted that Santos has previously taken in young girls without a home. Over the years, many children besides her own have called her "mom," he said. "She's never punching a time clock, working nine to five. She's there first thing in the morning, and she's the last person out the door.

He added: "She works for me, but, really, she works with me – she's a friend to me, but really she's a friend to everyone," a sentiment affirmed by numerous accolades to Santos's generous spirit, including the New England Women's Leadership Award, recognition from TD Bank's 'Shirts Off Our Backs' program, and, most of all, the trust of her community.

On most days, Santos debriefs her staff, then greets the kids as they pour into the center before retreating into her office for the "adult work" that no one else does—coordinating with Santander Bank to bring financial literacy lessons to the Center, connecting with UMass Boston to schedule college tours and tutoring sessions, and budgeting resources and manpower in a year when help has been scarce.

The onset of the pandemic

in the winter of 2020 shut down the Denney clubhouse completely, and, when it reopened in June, the facility struggled to accommodate any more than 25 students while complying with state-mandated social distancing. The program continued without its customary swarm of summer volunteers, staffed by only four full-time employees, including Santos.

But with restrictions easing a year later, there's hope on the horizon.

"Back in October," said Santos, "we had kids tell us 'I wish I could give you a hug,' and it hurt to have to say 'no' to them. Now, we're hearing laughter again, the kids are connecting with each other, and we've seen them re-experience the love and compassion that they missed."

The community at Harbor Point is also growing and diversifying, and Santos believes that's a good thing – especially when the first cohort of kids she cared for at the Denney, her prodigals, return to the clubhouse with children of their own.

"When I was growing up here, it wasn't a very diverse community, but our community changed," she said. "Now, people are fighting to get in, and, in a way, it feels good to know that people love something as much as I do."

While she would bargain for infinite time at the Boys and Girls Clubs of Boston if she could, with retirement just five years away, Santos said her experience with breast cancer and her remission have put things into perspective. She reached five years cancer-free in March, and she has every intention of seeing the milestone repeat itself once, twice, three times over.

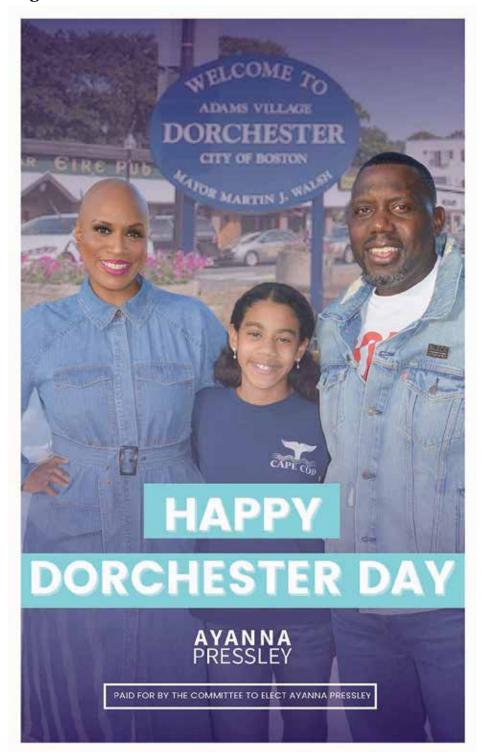
"I used to want to save the world, but I realized it doesn't work that way. When two or three children come back and say, 'Thank you, you helped me be myself without fear and rejection and stipulations,' that's the biggest thing for me," she said. "That's enough."



Quenette 'Queenie' Santos is shown with a few of her club members.

BGCD photo

Page 18 THE REPORTER June 3, 2021 dotnews.com





# Happy Dorchester Day 2021



"Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly. I can never be what I ought to be until you are what you ought to be. This is the interrelated structure of reality."

- Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

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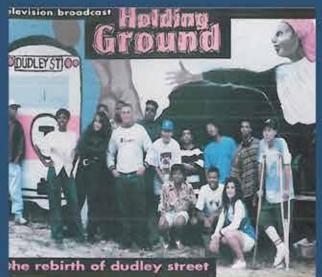
Happy Dorchester Day!

Page 19 June 3, 2021 THE REPORTER dotnews.com

# JOHN BARROS FOR MAYOR OF BOSTON

### 

- Grew up in Roxbury and Dorchester, the son of Cabo Verdean immigrants.
- Became an advocate and community organizer as a teenager.
- At 17, became Dudley St. Neighborhood Initiative's first youth Board Member.
- Earned a scholarship to Dartmouth, one of first in his family to graduate college.
- At 26, named Executive Director of DSNI, and led the organization for 13 years.
- In 2010, was appointed to the Boston School Committee.
- In 2014, appointed by Mayor Marty Walsh to establish and lead Boston's first Economic Development Cabinet, and served in that role for 7 years.
- Co-owns Cesaria in Dorchester, Boston's first full-service Cape Verdean restaurant.
- Lay leader at St. Patrick's Church.
- With his wife Tchintcia, he is raising 4 young children in the neighborhood he grew up in. John (second from right) featured in "Holding Ground," on ownird-winning



documentary about the community-led revival of the Dudley neighborhood



#### A leader with a record of getting results

- As Director of DSNI, led historic transformation of the Dudley neighborhood in early 2000s.
- Established the largest urban community land trust in the country.
- Acquired hundreds of vacant lots and converted 36 acres into 225 affordable homes, gardens, parks, playgrounds, schools, a community center, and a greenhouse.
- Won more than \$10M in Fed. grants to turn around the Orchard Gardens K-8, Dearborn Middle School, and Burke High School and establish the Dudley St. Neighborhood Charter School.
- As Chief of Economic Development, he led the effort to bring 140,000 good new jobs to Boston.
- At the same time, he worked with Mayor Marty Walsh to make record investments in job training, affordable housing, public education, parks, climate action, and the arts.
- Brought unemployment down to 2.4% before the pandemic -- lowest ever.
- Protected the City's finances: AAA bond ratings every year for 7 years in a row -- a record.
- Led the effort to save Boston's small businesses during COVID-19 with \$20 million in relief.
- Boston ranked #1 city to handle a recession and #1 city to bounce back from COVID.

### Ready to lead Boston at this pivotal moment

- If elected, John will be the first Black man and the first person of Cabo Verdean descent to serve as Mayor of Boston. He's ready to address long. standing social inequities and make Boston more inclusive for **immigrants**, people of color, people with disabilities, and the LGBTQIA+ community.
- John played a central role in the Lity's aggressive pandemic response. He's: ready to hit the ground running leading Boston's recovery.
- He has a clear plan to bring Boston back to life and invest in the communities that have been hardest-hit by the crisis.
- A lifelong champion for good jobs, John has a plan to improve opportunities: for women, people of color, immigrants, and veterans.
- John has practical and policy experience building affordable homes, improving schools, fighting climate change, improving public transit, helping seniors, and supporting the arts. He has a multi-faceted strategy for making progress in all of these areas.





To learn more, volunteer, or donate: BarrosForMayor.com





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Page 20 THE REPORTER June 3, 2021 dotnews.com



REAL PROGRESS

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dotnews.com June 3, 2021 THE REPORTER Page 21

### The origins of Dot Day: A quiet remembrance in Savin Hill

By Peter F. Stevens Special to the Reporter

Excitement wafted through the crowd along Savin Hill. The community was gathered for a special event that would evolve into a tradition. Sails dotted the blue waters of Dorchester Bay below the shady slopes, where a "historical pilgrimage" was about to unfold. It was June 25, 1904.

As the people of Dorchester turned their thoughts back to 1630, when the weary passengers of the "Mary and John" claimed their foothold in the New World, the first Dorchester Day Celebration was on the move

In many ways, the genesis of Dorchester Day began with the creation of the Dorchester Historical Society in April 1891. William H. Whitmore, who served as the City Registrar, and local luminary James H. Stark, both of whom were known as avid students of the town's past, spearheaded an organization that numbered 25 members at its inception. That number would quickly swell.

To celebrate the town's rich annals, the society envisioned a way to blend the past with the present, to gather those who lived in Dorchester and those who had moved, and to bring them together in something of a historical homecoming.

Trask writes: "...many of the best known and most influential men of the old town have become members of the society. Among the result of the society's work may be mentioned the observance of the 274th anniversary of the settlement of Dorchester and the inauguration of Dorchester Day, which is now a fixture, and under the auspices of the society the anniversary is observed yearly, and is practically a 'home coming' for the residents of old Dorchester that are scattered throughout the land."

Trask describes the festive mood that filled the city, then and now: "Business houses and private residences are elaborately decorated. There are parades, addresses, regattas, ringing of bells, fireworks, etc."

In an April 1904 meeting of the society, Stark, the organization's vice president, first pitched the notion of a "Dorchester Day." He proposed that the town celebrate its founding by gathering the community atop Savin Hill, where the Puritan company of the Mary and John had built their first fort and had carved out their first tenuous foothold in the Massachusetts Bay Colony. Stark's stated objective was "to draw the attention of the public to this most



Savin Hill Park was the site of the original Dorchester Day observances staged in 1904. File photo

beautiful and attractive historic spot, with the end in view that the city should purchase it for a park and hand down to posterity this lovely hilltop."

There was just one problem: The society's funds were depleted from having refurbished its home. Still, Stark pressed the concept of Dorchester Day and "argued that it would not only draw the attention of the public to the necessity of preserving to posterity this historic spot, but it would also advance the interests of the society, as it would bring it more prominently before the public, and if it proved a success 'Dorchester Day' would become the annual 'field day' of the society."

Stark's powers of persuasion worked. The society voted to celebrate the town's settlement with a band concert and ceremonies at the summit of Savin Hill. James H. Stark, chosen to raise funds, came up with \$135 in donations, enough to foot the bill for a tent, printed fliers, and refreshments; he also persuaded officials to provide the Municipal Band and flags for free.

That the first "Dorchester Day" was a smash hit is evident from the pages of the *Boston Herald* the next day, June 26, 1904: "Lifted nearly one hundred and fifty feet above Dorchester bay, the craggy slopes and tree-covered heights of 'Rocky Hill,' 'Old Hill,' or 'Savin Hill,' as it has been variously styled, were yesterday the scene of commemorative exercises that seem destined to make a new place of historical pilgrimage for the tourist whose steps are annually bent toward Massachusetts.

"The members of the Dorchester Historical Society, having planned to turn this long-neglected spot into a park, which shall at the same time commemorate the settlement of Dorchester in 1630, and possess the character of a national monument, had enlisted the aid of several local societies, such as Savin Hill Improvement Association, Gen. Rufus Putnam Chapter, D. R., Savin Hill Yacht Club, Harrison Square Association, Dorchester Lower Mills Improvement Association, Mattapan Improvement Association, Field and Forest Club, Dorchester Veteran Firemen's Association, Benjamin Stone, Jr., Post 68, G.A.R., and the United Improvement Association of Dorchester.

"Under invitation of these organizations some two hundred citizens of Dorchester gathered in a tent on the crest of Savin Hill, and there, alternated with selections by the Boston Municipal Band, under Emil Mullenhauer, patriotic addresses were made on the significance of the day and the site, the speakers being Richard C. Humphreys, President of the Dorchester Historical Society; James H. Stark, who delivered the oration; the Rev. Eugene R. Shippen of the First Church in Dorchester, who presided; the Rev. Peter Ronan, and Representative Guy A. Ham."

The presence of Father Ronan was especially telling, proving how far the town had come from the days of its first English settlers, Puritans who loathed anything smacking of "Popery." In 1904, the Catholic cleric's honored place at the ceremonies reflected an era when the Irish Catholics were finally winning greater acceptance from the descendants of the Mary and John emigrants.

In Dorchester Day celebrations to come, whether the 25th or 50th versions, the festivities became bigger, parades and even regattas took shape, and more money was poured into the event, one aspect remained virtually intact. That aspect was Stark's vision of Dorchester Day as a "homecoming."

A look at the Dorchester Day coverage by the old *Dorchester Beacon* reveals that many of the civic organizations and businesses that supported the first such gathering remained long-time backers. Even as new arrivals to the town took their own places in the festivities through the years, that sense of place and home — of community — has stood the test of time.

Peter F. Stevens is a former staff member and now a frequent contributor to the Reporter and the author of numerous books, including the newly published Untold Tales of the Boston Irish. This article was originally published in the Reporter in 2018.

# **Happy Dorchester Day!**

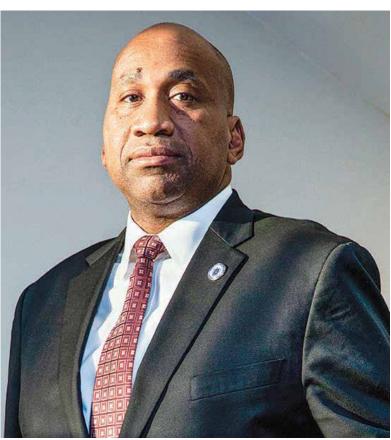


# Erin Murphy for Boston City Council At-Large

We won't be seeing each other along the parade route this year, but we will be seeing each other around the neighborhood as we celebrate our love for Dorchester!

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# Wishing your family a Happy Dorchester Day!!



# State Representative Russell Holmes

Representing the People of the 6th Suffolk District

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# From pros to newbies, The Record Co. gives artists space to record, rehearse

By Daniel Sheehan Arts & Features Editor

Before Covid shut down most of Boston's music and entertainment economy, local artists already faced challenges in the form of limited accessible rehearsal, recording, and performance space in the city, despite it being home to a thriving music scene and an abundance of talent. Now, as the Boston scene prepares to reopen and regain lost ground, a Dorchester non-profit organization is looking to address those chronic shortages.

The Record Co., a state-of-the-art co-op music space, has its newly renovated head-quarters on Mass Ave. poised to become a community hub for musicians and producers in the neighborhood and across Greater Boston.

The Newmarket Square building that since 2011 had housed a couple of studios and a small but diverse network of music makers underwent an extensive rehab over the last two years after the property was purchased by a developer who made an agreement with the non-profit to let them stay and expand its footprint.

Now, The Record Co. (TRC) boasts a 12,500-square-foot facility with 4 recording studios and 15 rehearsal rooms featuring commercial grade sound isolation and music and audio equipment. And the kicker: These spaces, designed to be shared, are available to rent for between \$10 and \$32 per hour.

"The comparison isn't perfect, but sometimes we get compared to



Roslindale-based producer Femi Akindele, left, manned the console in one of TRC's new recording studios as Benjamin Adeniyi aka "Gingaman" of Lynn recorded vocals in the booth. At right, the lobby of The Record Company.

Daniel Sheehan photo

co-working spaces — Fairmount Innovation Lab, Artisan's Asylum. This is the music equivalent of that," said TRC founder and executive director Matt McArthur.

Shared music spaces aren't a new concept; typically in Boston they have taken the form of dank(and sometimes unsafe) warehouses where a handful of artists or bands pool money to rentrooms by the month. But many of these options, which could cost hundreds of dollars, have shuttered or been demolished in recent years. TRC is looking to fill that void, and to do so in a way that hasn't been done before nearly anywhere.

"It might be a reflection of the sad state of affairs that is music space, but we're having a hard time finding anything comparable in the country," said McArthur.

At TRC, artists or groups can book a recording or rehearsal room at an affordable rate and tailor it to their individual needs. "When you book one," explained McArthur, "you say, for example, 'I need a drum set and two guitar amps,' and when you show up, your room is set up for



you the way you need it." Musicians can choose from small rehearsal rooms, which are ideal for solo practice or one-on-one lessons; medium-sized rehearsal studios for a three- or four-piece band; and large studios for fullband jam sessions. Not only does the \$6 million plus reworking of TRC provide much needed space, but it also provides rooms that are high quality and that meet industry safety and technical standards.

"I cannot overstate how much of the investment of the project is in the bones. You'll never see it," explained McArthur. "It's the air conditioning, it's the 25 individual floating concrete slabs that were poured so that no one room is connected to another, it's being able to come in for a rehearsal session for ten bucks an hour, it's having all the equipment you need. Having a reasonably quiet space to work in is just bananas. It's not a thing that exists."

When TRC put out a survey to Boston's music community during the planning process, the responses played an important role in shaping what the space looks like now. Some of the input from the 600 artists surveyed was expected: 71 percent of respondents rated Boston's affordability as poor or very poor, while 81 percent of artists of color rated the Boston music community as fair to very poor. But other feedback was contrary to what McArthur anticipated.

"We went into those conversations assuming that performance space was going to be the highest priority, and it wasn't...a lot of folks were saying, 'Why would I need performance space when I can't even find somewhere to write or practice?' So we doubled down on rehearsal space."

At The Record Co. last Friday, several groups were on site practicing and laying down recording takes, including Groovin' You, a local wedding band made up of Berklee students, and 48 Degrees North, an alt-pop band based in Tacoma, Washington. The band had previously planned to record with Mike Davidson, a Waltham-based engineer, but when those plans fell through, TRC's

BYOE (Bring Your Own Engineer) policy provided a solution.

"We were originally supposed to record at my studio, but we're in the process of moving, so we're not ready to do that," explained Davidson. "But this place is great. For a maker space, for a co-op space, it's super high end. A lot of times co-op spaces can be kind of run down, but you can tell a lot of thought was put into the design; every room is world class."

Davidson added that the facility is unique in that it allows audio engineers a chance to hone their skills and make it a temporary home base for their business. "For upand-coming engineers who want to get their feet wet in a professional environment, but also in a low-key setting where they're not paying out the nose for studio time, I think it's a great resource to gain that experience," he said.

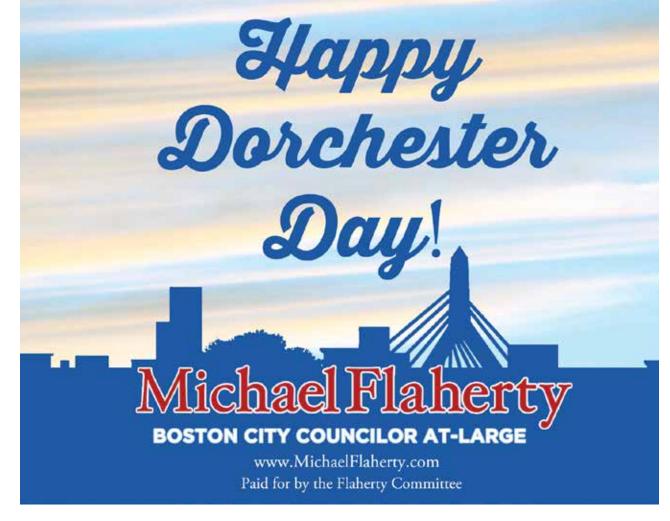
Also at the facility on Friday were Benjamin Adeniyi of Lynn and Femi Akindele of Roslindale, a vocalist/producer duo working in one of the studios on a forthcoming project. The two met in college at UMass Dartmouth and had been making music in their dorm room before discovering The Record Co. Adeniyi, who goes by the stage name "Gingaman," said he was impressed with the new digs.

"I love this place, man, this place is dope. I've never actually been to a recording studio before... the setup is really nice."

For Adeniyi and for Akindele, who was gradually adjusting to the wide range of technology available in the studio, The Record Co.'s mantra of welcoming beginners and experts alike and treating them with respect made their first studio visit a bit less intimidating.

"This is my first time using a lot of this equipment," said Akindele. "A lot of these things I use for mixing, but I've never actually seen it in person. I just use the software plugins...it's crazy coming from a bedroom setup to here."

In addition to being a proving ground for upand-comers, TRC is also proving to be a useful resource for producers and engineers with years of expertise under their belt, like Marquis Neal, a





born and bred Dorchester resident who has worked as an audio engineer, music entrepreneur, record label president, and now serves on TRC's Leadership Council.

Neal's knowledge of the local geography was useful in confirming to McArthur and his team that the location at 960 Mass Ave. is indeed in Dorchester; his experience in the local music scene means he knows enough to know the new space at The Record Co. is something special.

"As an engineer, being able to have a studio I have access to for low cost, and still can charge an hourly cost, that's dope. As an artist, it's also dope that you can go in and bring your own engineer," said Neal.

The Record Co.'s location is also one of its strengths, according to Neal, who said having a multi-purpose space in Dorchester means artists won't have to hoof it to Allston or Cambridge or outside of the city to rehearse or record.

"Having the facility is one thing, but it's in a place where it's a predominantly Black neighborhood, and where people are already fighting for resources," said Neal. "Shoutouts to the founders for picking that place.



Waltham-based engineeer Mike Davidson, left, worked with Tacoma, WA based band 48 Degrees North on their latest project in TRC's Studio A.

Daniel Sheehan photo

It's where it's at, and people have a better chance to take advantage of it. For young kids growing up around here, now you're in a situation where this is where you're playing, this is where you're spending your time after school...the trajectory of the scene is on its way, hopefully with this, it can expand even more."

TRC staff are waiting with bated

breath for the official end of the pandemic when the new facility can be used to its full potential, including Studio A's performance space, which can accommodate up to 90 people for intimate live shows. In the meantime, McArthur is inviting anyone interested in music to check the place out, regardless of experience or ability.

"We're agnostic about quality or

career orientation here," he explained.
"At the root of it, what everyone in this space has in common is they enjoy making music. We're not here to judge or tell you what to do; we're creating space for you to pursue that yourself."

For more information about The Record Co. or to book a session, visit therecordco.org.

# Brandy.\* Fluker Oakley

State Representative 12th Suffolk District



#### HAPPY DORCHESTER DAY

# SPILLANE

**BOSTON CITY COUNCIL AT-LARGE** 



### Looking forward to seeing you on the campaign trail this summer, and at the Parade in '22!

I'm running to ensure that we fully recover from COVID-19, and can enjoy Dorchester Day in person next year! As a lifelong Bostonian, I know that a real recovery is going to take all of us. Our City needs advocates and policy-makers who have been on the front lines facing Boston's toughest problems.

I worked to address Boston's housing crisis as part of Boston's Department of Neighborhood Development (DND), helping to create over 1,000 affordable housing units across the City. As a senior staffer for City Councilor Kenzie Bok, I helped manage one of the toughest city budgets in recent memory and provided constituent services for residents and businesses affected by COVID-19.

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## Hoop skills bring Dot's Soares to D-1

(Continued from page 1)

get, a longtime Soares mentor and a community leader at the Dorchester Youth Collaborative who has been a fixture for years in the Dot House gym, a spot of refuge where local kids tend to congregate.

As the story goes, when Soares, then a fifth grader, walked into the gym to watch a friend play, Nugget tossed him a jersey and invited him onto the court.

"I was bad," admitted Soares that evening at the Cheesecake Factory, nodding. "Now, I'll give 'em like 35 plus change."

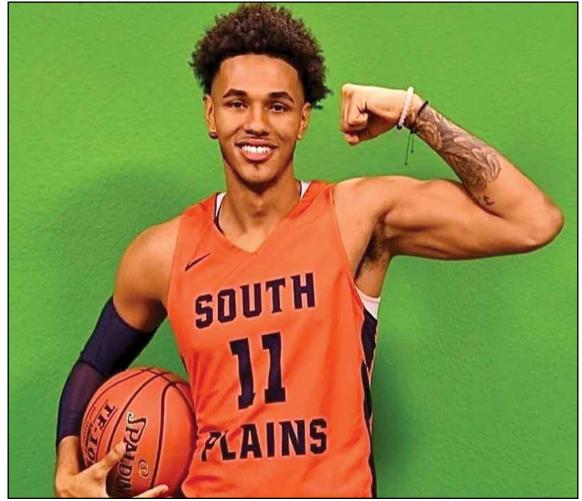
The quip prompted guffaws and comebacks around the table, from a group mostly made up of kids who grew up alongside Soares in the same blocks around Dakota and Westville streets near Fields Corner.

Over the course of the dinner, they all offered words of encouragement and advice to "Waldo," telling him they were proud of him, urging him to continue working hard and not look back.

For his part, Soares is looking forward to his first taste of D1 basketball.

"It's part of the dream that I've been hoping for, you know? My whole high school career was waiting for this moment...I can't wait to develop as a player."

A dynamic 6-foot-6 guard, Soares accelerated his development in recent years, rising from the status an overlooked, off-the-radar prospect to a player with offers from six big programs. Last season



Rivaldo Soares's fitness fit the bill at South Plains Junior College in West Texas this past season where he averaged 15.2 points and 6.8 rebounds a game, led the team in scoring, and earned NJCAA first-team All-America honors.

\*\*Courtesy Rivaldo Soares Instagram\*\*

at South Plains, he averaged 15.2 points and 6.8 rebounds per game, leading the team in scoring and earning NJCAA first-team All-America honors.

Soares considers himself an "all around type of player, very versatile. There's nothing on the court I don't think I can't do. I try to do everything, be a two-way player, do it at both ends of the floor."

He added he chose Oregon because "my play style fits in with what they do, and they know what they're doing with [junior college] guys," offering senior Ducks guard and Pac-10 player of the year Chris Duarte as an example of a player who has taken a similar path from junior college to a major D1 program and, once July rolls around, to the NBA draft.

Playing at a pro level is the goal for Soares, who named his father as his "driving force. I consider him to be my hero. Without him none of this is possible."

Professional success and an NBA salary would allow Soares to pay back his father— Adriano Soares—for his years of support, he explained.

"I definitely want better for

him. He's gone through a lot, he's been through a lot because of me. He's sacrificed so much of his life so that I'm good. He's the best father I could have had. A lot of other people would have quit, but he's the most solid and strongest man I know. He's endured a lot, and I can't wait to relieve him of a lot of that stress."

As someone who has seen dozens of kids with hoop dreams come out of Fields Corner and graduate through the D-House gym and the DYC program, Nugget knows just how much of an achievement Soares's Oregon commitment is. As invested in him as he and the rest of the DYC crew are, this Dorchester kid's victory is a victory for all of them.

"A lot of people wrote him off," he said. "Where we're from, we're all designed to fail. It's like we're not supposed to make it out."

The Soares family is Cape Verdean, the mention of which prompted Nugget to rack his brain for Cape Verdean NBA players. He turned up "very few" past and present. Many Cape Verdean kids from Boston don't make it out of the streets, let alone to college programs, he noted.

"But we all helped Rivaldo, we're all going to continue to help him. And I wouldn't just do it for him, I'd do it for all the kids. He's just the next one up."

Toward the end of the dinner, Emmett Folgert, founder of the now defunct DYC, offered a Waldo anecdote. On a hot day last summer at Town Field, where kids from the organization played ball, Soares

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to constantly evolve and ensure we're
able to complete projects safely and
efficiently day in and day out. Visit our
website to learn more:
feeneybrothers.com/safety



Greg and Brendan Feeney



#### **Feeney Brothers Utility Services**

103 Clayton Street Dorchester, MA 02122 had stepped in to break up a fight on the court and usher kids to safety. Minutes later, he taught the them Navy Seal box breathing, a de-escalation technique used at DYC to reduce stress.

"He's an amazing kid," said Folgert, reflecting on Soares and his peers. "I've seen these kinds of groups many times before. The outcomes survival in the present, and mature adult success decades later — are stunning. I'm lucky and thankful to be part of this one."

Soares himself knows how special it is to have

#### **LEGAL NOTICE**

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE & FAMILY COURT SUFFOLK PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT 24 NEW CHARDON STREET BOSTON, MA 02114 617-788-8300 CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME Docket No. SU21C0196CA IN THE MATTER OF:

CESAR J. MEJIA A Petition to Change Name of Minor has been filed by Cesar J. Mejia of Dorchester, MÅ requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:

Lucas Sosa
IMPORTANT NOTICE
Any person may appear for

ourposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Suffolk Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of **06/14/2021**. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

Witness, HON. BRIAN J DUNN, First Justice of this Court. Date: May 24, 2021

Felix D. Arroyo Register of Probate shed: June 3, 2021 such a tight-knit community at home, one that he will continue to rely on after making the trek out to Oregon.

"I'll miss the people more than Boston itself," he said. "Wherever I go, there's always a solid group of people that always got my back."

In a way, Soares is

#### **LEGAL NOTICE**

COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
Suffolk Probate & Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Rector MA 02114 Boston, MA 02114 (617) 788-8300 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION Docket No. SU17P2495EA ESTATE OF: ABIGAL MARTINEZ

DATE OF DEATH: 10/28/2015 To all interested persons: A Petition for S/A - Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Persona Representative has been filed by Lesbia Martinez of Dorchester, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

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 07/05/2021.
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

affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days 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 Benresentative 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: May 24, 2021 Felix D. Arroyo Register of Probate Published: June 3, 2021

taking up the torch from the late Terrence Clarke, another young Boston phenom who ran in similar circles in the Expressions program and at the Dot House gym. Clarke died tragically in a car accident in April, just months before he was poised to be drafted into

the NBA as a lottery pick.

June 3, 2021

In a recent social media post, Soares dedicated his upcoming season to Clarke.

Just as he inspired a generation of kids who looked up to him, Soares is now giving other youth from Dorchester and Boston at-large a reason to dream.

"For me, it gives a lot hometown star. All Nug-

of kids who are younger than him hope," said Nugget. "It shows I'm not selling them a false dream."

Many in the Boston area will likely be watching Ducks basketball for the next few years, checking in on the progress being made by their

get and the rest of the Dorchester House group can do now is continue to support Waldo, knowing how far he's come, knowing his future is tied up in their collective futures.

'We can't allow him to fail," said Nugget, "because if he does, we



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#### **Happy Dorchester Day!**

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#### The Boston Foundation

proudly celebrates the diversity and vibrancy of our city's largest neighborhood—big in size and big of heart. Thanks to Boston Mayor Kim Janey and the Mass Cultural Council for designating a part of Fields **Corner the "Boston Little Saigon** Cultural District!" Since the '70s

and '80s, Fields Corner has been home to a large Vietnamese community, which has contributed mightily to the character and the success of this vibrant neighborhood. This new district will lift up and preserve the Vietnamese American culture that has made such indelible contributions to Dorchester's unique history of immigration. We stand in solidarity with all of Dorchester's Asian Americans against the ignorance and hatred that drives any kind of violence toward our treasured friends and communities. We stand in solidarity with all of the good people of Dorchester on Dorchester Day 2021!

For more about the Boston Foundation, visit www.tbf.org.

### The story behind Dorchester's town seal

By Peter F. Stevens Special to the Reporter

In April 1865, Dorchester's Town Meeting gathered to consider an important civic measure - "to procure...a Corporate Seal of the town." Many modern residents of Dorchester are familiar with that seal, emblazoned with the words "Dorchester 1630" and the Latin motto "Pietate, Literis, Industria," but some may not realize the depth of thought that the men at that 1865 town meeting put into the proud symbol.

A range of political, historic, and civic considerations compelled Dorchester's leaders to seek a seal testifying to the town's unique history and sense of place in Massachusetts. With the Civil War coming to its savage end and with so many Dorchester families having lost fathers, sons, and brothers on the conflict's far-flung battlefields, local leaders wanted to extol the town's more than 250 years of contribution and sacrifice, to wit:

"The town of Dorchester...the mother of free public schools, whose patriotism and liberality have been so tried in the early wars with the Indians, with the French in colonial days, in the War of the Revolution, in the

Shay's Rebellion, in the last war with England, and in the dreadful war so lately gloriously closed."

A town seal, in the opinion of people from Neponset to Savin Hill, would help to "sacredly preserve the beautiful tribute of her citizens to the memory of sons, who, in obedience to early instructions, and inherited purpose in morality, patriotism, and humanity, have laid down their lives on the altar of their country."

Along with patriotism, a large band of Dorchester's residents hoped a local seal would reinforce their status as an individual town, for in 1865, the prospect of annexation by Boston was on the horizon. Many locals already lamented that in 1804, "that part of Dorchester's territory lying upon her northern border...including Dorchester Heights, had been appropriated by Boston. In the 1850s, Dorchester leaders had vainly struggled as "Washington Village was swallowed up by the city."

With many residents still hoping to fend off further incursions by Boston, a who's who of prominent Dorchester men-Edmund J. Baker, Edmund P. Tileston, Nathan W. Tileston, and others - formed a committee to design a town seal in April 1865. Joining the effort was Dorchester's Antiquarian and Historical Society.

The contingent described their purpose: "Your Committee have sought to emblazon upon the Town Seal such a device as would symbolize the acts which rendered the early settlers of this town a peculiar [particular] people, and objects of gratitude and veneration by their descendants for all time to come."

The centerpiece of the committee's design was a shield embossed near its base with the image of a rough-hewn, thatchroofed church, without a chimney. In explanation of the church's significance in Dorchester's annals, the committeemen noted: "The early settlers of Dorchester organized themselves as a church at the New Hospital in Plymouth, England, in March of 1630, prior to their embarkation for this country, which act was pre-eminently the cornerstone of the foundation of this town, although they did not arrive here until early in June of that year."

To the rear of the seal's church, another

rude, thatched structure appeared on the shield. The second structure represented Dorchester's first school.

"The free school," Edmund Baker and his colleagues asserted, "the system of which has been exerting a beneficial influence over the whole country, was established in this town in 1639, and is said to be the very first free school in the world. The foundation of this institution is recognized on the shield..."

The committee cited the portrait on the shield of a "rude mill, with its large wheel, which is seen upon the left bank of the Neponset River, the course of which river, from its source to its mouth, lay through the ancient territory of

Dorchester."
The image symbolized Israel Stoughton's corn mill, which he built in 1633 "by grant of land and timber by the town...and is said to be the first water-mill in the colony, if not the country."

Readers scrutinizing the impressive background of the shield will likely identify the scene's inspiration - the Blue Hills. The committee, testifying to those slopes' importance to the town's early development, asserted: "In the background will be recognized the Blue Hills, which served as a landmark to pilot the early settlers to the mouth of the Charles River, and from behind which the rising sun is shining upon a colony who left their homes in the mother country, not as adventurers in search of gold, as exiles, or for conquest, but the more precious boon of religious liberty."

A regal image materialized atop the shield, soaring above the rolling contours of the Blue Hills. A castle with three imposing turrets crowned the slopes, the mill, the school, and the church. Baker and company proudly summed up their castle as a fitting symbol for the town:

"The triple-towered castle surmounting the shield is adopted in respectful memory of Dorchester in Old England, of whose seal this is the principal charge (in commemoration of that borough having been formerly a Roman fortress), and from which place the infant colony derived much of its strength, both physically and spiritually."

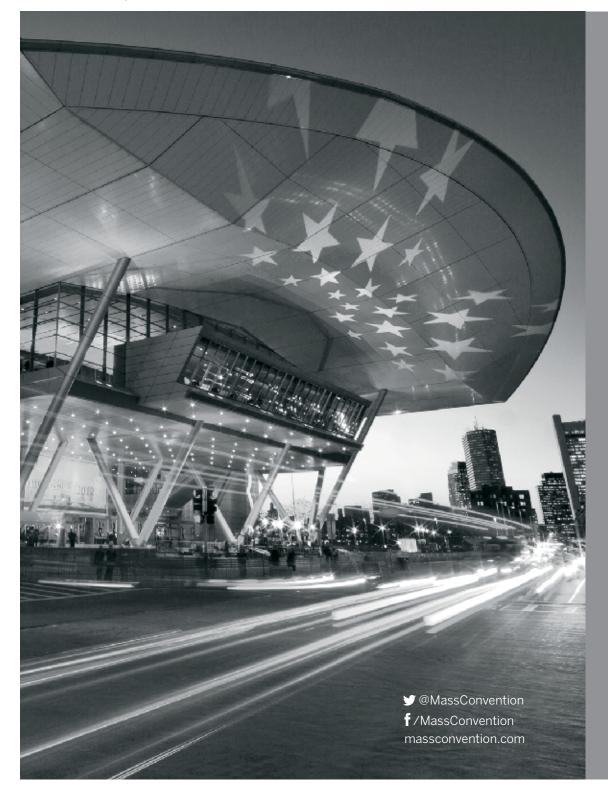
The "Roman connection" would take on added suitability several decades later, when ancient Roman paving

stones would be placed at Dorchester High School.

A banner draped beneath the castle and along the top and sides of the shield bore the motto "Pietate, Literis, Industria." For the committemen and their neighbors, the trio of words represented a direct link between the early settlers and the residents of 1865, words reflecting values passed down through the centuries. "The motto upon the ribbon ... signifies that piety, learning, and industry were the prominent virtues which the early settlers coveted, and which their descendants unanimously accord to them."

In the case of Dorchester's town seal, the adage that a picture is worth a thousand words might well be revised: The seal's carefully chosen symbols are worth a thousand words - plus three more that speak volumes.

Peter F. Stevens, a former staff member of the Reporter, is the author of numerous books, including the recently published Untold Tales of the Boston Irish. His article on the history of Dorchester's town seal was first published in the Reporter in 2000.



# Happy Dorchester Day!

We celebrate the incredible neighborhood of Dorchester and wish you a Happy 391st Birthday!

MASSACHUSETTS CONVENTION CENTER AUTHORITY

DAVID M. GIBBONS

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## 'Vision' group eyes stretch of Dot Ave. from Columbia Road to Freeport Street

A number of Dorchester Avenue residents and business leaders have begun meeting virtually with a goal of focusing civic associations on a renewed purpose: reimagining the stretch of the avenue between Columbia Road and Freeport Street.

The Dorchester Ave. Vision Committee (DAVC), which originated from a deferred Boston Main Streets proposal, met on May 26 to revisit the avenue's history and field community concerns. Foremost among the latter: the perceived lack of variety in retail stores and restaurants. Michael Keamy, the

past.

group's founder and a long-time Dorchester resident, told the Reporter that "it was disappointing to be denied a Main Streets designation, but, after some time went by, it seemed like we could put our heads together and have a more lasered focus on this area we cared about if we organized amongst ourselves."

DAVC, which encompasses three subcommittees centered on business development, streetscape upgrades, and urban planning, is currently compiling an exploratory "wish list" in collaboration with developers and business owners.

**NOTICE** 

The Dorchester Historical

Society is always looking for

photographs and high school

yearbooks from Dorchester's

Due to the pandemic, the Society is

closed to the public at this time.

This could mean more pointed lobbying in favor of anything from more frequent sidewalk maintenance and clearer signage to getting the green light for commercial development projects, Keamy said.

"In coming meetings, perhaps next month, we're looking to take a stroll down Dorchester Ave. as a chance for people to come together and socialize, but also as a chance to bring a notebook and pen and look around at what's working and what needs to be improved upon," explained Keamy. "We're expecting considerable growth in this area in the next few years."

The group plans on first expanding its own online presence and is recruiting new members on a rolling basis. Interested parties can reach DAVC at dorchesterave@gmail.com.

- REBECA PEREIRA

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#### **LEGAL NOTICE**

**MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE**By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Jeanette L Blake a/k/a Jeannette L. Blake and Maxwell A. Blake to Argent Mortgage Company, LLC, dated December 18, 2006 and recorded with the Suffolk County Registry of Deeds in Book 40986, Page 158, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder by virtue of an Assignment of Mortgage dated July 20, 2011 to Kondaur Capital Corporation recorded with Suffolk County Registry of Deeds, Book 48163, Page 226, and as further assigned to Bay State Home Group, LLC dated December 31, 2012 in Book 50754, Page 274, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing same will be sold at public auction at 10:00 AM, on June 23, 2021 on the mortgaged premises being known as 42 Edson Street, Boston (Dorchester), Massachusetts, being all and singular the premises described in said mortgage to wit:

The land with the buildings thereon, situated in the part of Boston called Dorchester, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, bounded and described as follows:

described as follows: SOUTHERLY: by Norfolk Street, forty and 0/100 (40.00) feet,

WESTERLY: by Lot 5, as shown on a plan hereinafter mentioned, one hundred thirty-five and 5 7/1 00 (135.57) feet, more or less:

NORTHWESTERLY: by land now or formerly of the N.Y.&N.E.R.R. as shown on said plan, seventy and 11/100 (70.11) feet, more or less: and

EASTERLY: by land now or formerly of the Dorr Estates, as shown on said plan, one hundred seventy and 50/100 (170.50) feet more or less. Containing 7,232 square feet of land and being shown as Lot 6 on a Plan dated February 1896, and drawn by C.E.C. Breck, Engineer, and recorded with the Suffolk County Registry of Dsleds in Book

2342, Page 17.
There is excepted and excluded from this conveyance so much of

the above described property as was taken by and granted to the City of Boston for the widening of Norfolk Street by instruments recorded in said Deeds in Book 3677, Page 182 and 183; being a strip of land about twelve and 0/100 (12.00) feet wide and extending along the front of said lot and containing about four hundred ninety four (494) square feet of land. The area of the Lot hereby conveyed about 6,738 square feet of land.
The above described Premises are also conveyed subject to an easement taken by M.D.C. for water purposes as set forth in an instrument recorded with said deeds in Book 59011, Page 294.

Being the same premises as conveyed to the mortgagor by deed of Leo Brown, dated January 24, 2003, recorded with Suffolk County Registry of Deeds, Book 30414, Page 83.

The premises will be sold subject to and/or with the benefit of any and all restrictions, easements, improvements, covenants, municipal or zoning regulations or requirements, outstanding tax titles, condominium charges fees or assessments, municipal or other public or minium charges, fees, or assessments, municipal or other public or governmental taxes, assessments, outstanding orders of condition or any municipal requirements, and any liens or claims in the nature of liens, and existing encumbrances of record created prior to the mortgage, if any there be, and the rights of tenants and occupants of the premises, if any there be. No representation is made as to the status of any improvements on the mortgaged premises and the Buyer

purchases subject to all requirements related thereto.
The premises are being sold with the express acknowledgment that the Mortgagee makes no representation or warranty as to the presence or absence to any wetlands or environmental issue at all, or related to the septic or well systems, if any, or as to any contaminants or other substances as noted under M.G.L. C21F or any other Massachusetts Statute, Code or Regulation does exist, the correction thereof will be at the Buyer's sole cost and expense, and shall be separate from the purchase price. The Buyer shall indemnify and hold harmless the Mortgagee from any and all costs, expenses or liability related to any of the aforesaid.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of \$7,500.00 DOLLARS shall be paid by the successful bidder to the Mortgagee in cash, by certified or by cashier's check at the time and place of the sale as a deposit. The successful bidder will be required to execute an Auction Sale Agreement immediately after the close of the bidding. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid in cash, by certified check, by cashier's check, or other check satisfactory to Mortgagee's attorney within thirty (30) days thereafter at the offices of BARSH AND COHEN, P.C., Attorneys for the Mortgagee, 189 Wells Avenue, Newton, Massachusetts, in exchange for which and at such time and place the deed shall be delivered to the which and at such time and place, the deed shall be delivered to the

purchaser for recording.

The Mortgagee reserves the right to amend the foregoing terms of sale by written or oral announcement made before the auction sale, during the sale thereof or at the commencement of or during any postponed sale, the right to bid at the sale, to reject any and all bids and to postpone the sale up until the time the property is declared

sold by the auctioneer. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in the Notice of Mortgagee's Sale or its publication.
OTHER TERMS TO BE ANNOUNCED AT THE TIME AND PLACE

Dated: May 25, 2021

Signed: Bay State Home Group, LLC Present Holder of said Mortgage By its Attorneys, Barsh and Cohen, P.C. Neil S. Cohen, Esquire Attorney for the Mortgagee 189 Wells Avenue Newton, Massachusetts 02459 (617)332-4700

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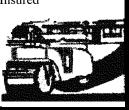
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**Lemuel Clap House, 199 Boston Street** 

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www.dorchesterhistoricalsociety.org

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email: dorchesterpreschool@yahoo.com

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# White swears that Walsh knew of past allegations

(Continued from page 1) the video. "He was very video statement that he sympathetic to what was personally told Walsh that he was the subject of a restraining order from his ex-wife in the late 1990s.

"I mentioned that I had a restraining order put on me with false allegations I tried to shoot somebody," White said, according to a Boston Globe account of

and notice of sale.

going on with me as I was about his past and how we had overcome some hurdles in our lives to move on."

Walsh has denied prior knowledge of the allegations, despite White's and former BPD Commissioner William Gross's assertions that Walsh would have been

**LEGAL NOTICE** 

Notice is hereby given by Always Open Towing at

18 Talbot Av. Dorchester Ma. in pursuant to M.G.L

c.225, section 39a that the following vehicles will be

for sale at a private auction on June 19, 2021 at 8am

to satisfy the garage keepers lien for towing, storage

2014 Mercedes CL250

2009 Honda Accord

2016 Toyota Corolla

2017 Honda Civic

2007 Toyota Yaris

2012 Chevy Sonic

2019 Hyundai Elantra

2015 Mercedes C300

2017 Infinity QX60

2005 Lexus ES350

2006 Jeep Cherokee

2002 Mazda Protege

2007 Chevy Impala

2000 Infinity I30

Vin:WDDSJ4GB7EN130300

Vin:1HGCP268X9A182736

Vin:2T1BURHE3GC733838

Vin:SHHFK7H55HV408583

Vin:JTDJT923475128729

Vin:1G1JA6SH6C4183286

Vin:5NPD84LF0KH466342

Vin:55SWF4KB8FU004790

Vin:5N1DL0MM3HC517160

Vin:JTHBA30G155131712

Vin:1J4GR48KX6C177285

Vin:JNKCA31A3YT104333

Vin:JM1BJ245X21449352

Vin:2G1WT58N979173507



**Boston Police Commissioner Dennis White at City** Hall on the day he was sworn-into office, Feb. 1, 2021. Mayor's Office photo by Jeremiah Robinson

briefed on White's internal affairs file as part of

any promotion process. Janey's office planned a hearing for Wednesday June 2 to consider whether to remove White, who was accused in 1999 of hitting and threatening to shoot his then-wife, who was also a police officer.

Over the weekend, White's attorney asked Janey to consider video affidavits submitted by his daughter, Tiffany, and former sister-in-law claiming that it was his ex-wife who was abusive, not White, according to multiple reports.

Janey, in an interview on GBH's "Boston Public Radio" on Tuesday, said her team was "looking at these videos as we speak" and said they would be considered as she decides whether to fire White.

"I'm not sure why this information was not captured in the investigation where folks had an ample opportunity to make their case there. Part of the concern was the lack of cooperation with the investigator and certainly that was also discovered throughout the police department," Janey said, referencing the city-commissioned review of the allegations against White.

"We will make a determination based on all of the information. The purpose of this hearing, though, is to move in a new direction," Janey continued.

The mayor repeatedly mentioned the "blue wall of silence" as something that needed to be broken down in the Boston Police Department. She also referenced the investigation's finding that White struck a 19-yearold woman in 1993 "over a fight around \$10."

"What is clear is that we need to move our city forward. We need to move our police department forward," Janey said, calling for new policies in the police department around domestic violence, sexual assault, and a process for vetting leadership.

If Janey does fire White, as expected, the mayor suggested that the search for a permanent replacement could take months and may not be concluded before the city elects a new mayor in November.

"I would imagine that this process would take months. Again, we do not want to find ourselves with a rushed process, with a process where individuals have not been fully vetted, so it is important that we take out time with a search committee," she said.

Janey is one of six major candidates seeking to replace Walsh on a full-time basis, along with City Councillors Michelle Wu, Andrea Campbell and Annissa Essaibi George, state Rep. Jon Santiago and the city's economic development chief John Barros.

White was appointed quickly by Walsh following Gross's resignation, but worked as commissioner for two days before Walsh suspended him after the Globe inquired about past allegations of domestic violence contained in court records.

"I think everyone at this point acknowledges that the process that got us here in terms of making a quick appointment is not the process we want to continue," Janey said. "We do need to take the time to have a search. Boston is a world class city, Boston deserves a national search, where the community is front and center in terms of being able to weigh in on what they'd like to see in a police commissioner."

Janey sidestepped questions by host Jim Braude about whether she thought she had the authority as acting mayor to name a permanent police commissioner, or whether she could guarantee that a search would stretch beyond the election.

"I would make sure that our search committee, if this is the route we're going, lays out a timeline and a process by which we will get there. But what I will say, and be very clear, is that we will not put forth a process that would be rushed and have a candidate or finalists who has not been fully vetted," Janey said.

Wednesday's hearing was scheduled for 9 a.m. and set to be closed, despite White's attorney requesting that the proceeding be public.



# **BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF DORCHESTER**

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GET YOUR TICKET TODAY FOR OUR New England Women's Leadership Awards!: See details below

**CONNECT THE DOT: GET YOUR TICKET TODAY FOR OUR** New England Women's Leadership Awards! The first 250 registrants will receive a branded event tote!: BGCD is hosting the 28th Annual New England Women's Leadership Awards (NEWLA) on June 17th at 5:30pm virtually! Our members will take the virtual stage as dancers, poets, keynotes and presenters. This year, we're honoring four amazing women who are all incredible role models for our girls. This year's honorees are: Samantha Mewis, Team USA **Professional Soccer Player & Club** Volunteer; Teresa Maynard, Owner of Sweet Teez Bakery & BGCD Parent, Sherry Dong. Director of Community Health Improvement Programs at Tufts Medical Center; and **Dora Ullian**, who is receiving our "Circle of Giving" Award for her incredible support of our Clubs. For tickets and sponsorships, please visit bgcdorchester.org/newla.

**FIND OUT WHAT'S INSIDE: BGCD Learning Hub Members Help** Beautify BGCD with Gardening Project: Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester's Learning Hub members have been getting outside and helping to beautify BGCD. After cleaning the basketball court at the Club on Deer Street, our members were ready to start their gardening project.

They continued by painting and filling the planters with beautiful flowers. Once the planters were finished, members created their own garden stones to put as their finishing touch. We would like to thank our members who participated for their hard work and help to keep BGCD clean and beautiful.

For more information on Programming, please contact Vice President of Programming Brendan McDonald at bmcdonald@bgcdorchester.org.



**DID YOU KNOW: RIDE WITH US! Join BGCD's 2021** Rodman Ride Team: On Saturday September 25th we will be back on the road for an in-person Rodman Ride for Kids Event! The event will feature a 25 or 50 mile route that will begin and end at Rodman Ford in Foxboro. After the event there will be a barbeque and celebration for all who participated. If you can't Ride in September you can still help by becoming a "Choose Your Own Adventure" virtual participant.

Last year we had so much success with those who still wanted to be part of the team by walking, biking, running, yoga or just wanted to help support the Club.

For more information or to join our team, please visit our website page at https://www.bgcdorchester.org/ rodman-ride-for-kids/ or contact Patty Lamb to plamb@bgcdorchester.org.

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Elevate Youth E.A.T Initiative** June 3

College Fellows & Career Prep Celebration June 16

Virtual New England Women's Leadership Awards June 17 \*Sponsorships & Tickets available now at www.bgcdorchester.org/newla/

\*Please note these events are either virtual or will be following all COVID-19 safety restrictions while meeting.



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# The long making of 'Little Saigon'

(Continued from page 1) interruptions, and the application, which normally takes from five months to a year to get an okay, was only granted in early May, three years after the Networking Organization for Vietnamese Americans (NOVA) launched its initial inquiry into the designation protocol.

NOVA's focus also changed as a result of indefinite business closings and ever-changing Covid guidelines. The non-profit now offers ServeSafe certification courses in English and Vietnamese, assists business owners in maintaining their licensure, and offers technical support and translation services to those who need them.

"The pandemic was a difficult time for everyone. Business went down and it was a lot of work to adapt, but the city helped keep us up and running by giving us the conditions we needed to be able to



A mural on the side of Phó Hóa restaurant features symbols of Vietnamese folklore.



**Nhat Le** 

stick it out," said Le, who attributes his own success in "riding out" the pandemic to piecemeal relief measures like small business loans, the expansion of outdoor dining, and the extension of liquor-licenses to include take-out cocktails.

The Little Saigon designation, although lengthy and elusive, arrived at an opportune moment. The Cultural Council began designating districts in 2011 in response to legislation signed by former Gov. Deval Patrick. There are now 51 such communities across the state, three of them in Boston, including the Latin Quarter in Jamaica Plain.

Each designation offers special access to grants and state-sponsored aid; and, with its status cemented, Boston Little Saigon has already secured a substantial \$75,000 "Our Town" grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Annie Le, president of NOVA and Boston Little Saigon, said the grant has cushioned the district's depleted rainy-day fund and enabled Little Saigon's inaugural board to readjust its mission from pandemic survival to a "broader vision.

"We're focused on Vietnamese language



**Marvina Patterson** 

bringing people together and helping artists and business owners flourish in Fields Corner," she said. "Obtaining federal funding takes time, but we know where our pain points are as a community and we know which steps we need to take to mitigate the harm left over from Covid-19."

"Artists have felt unsupported. We hear it all the time: Venues are closed and the gig economy doesn't work during a public health emergency. We need to make sure artists are thriving and feel our support," she said.

As the end of the Commonwealth's State of Emergency inches closer to June 15, NOVA is looking to the renewed possibility of an in-person Summer Festival, a tradition revived and revitalized with new signage across the district and an "art alley" connecting Dorchester Avenue and Adams Street.

The first order of business: Hiring the organization's first full-time employee, its first salaried member who will be tasked with managing the district's branding, aggregating a directory of its small businesses, and ensuring that dual Vietnamese language



Nina Truong

services are accessible to business owners.

For all that, the volunteer-based organization pulled off a series of community-building endeavors during the pandemic despite the team's limited capacity. NOVA board members distributed New Year festival kits, miniature guides to assembling do-it-yourself apricot tree centerpieces, and joined forces with local senior centers to pass out gardening kits in the first week of June 2020.

"We're doing well. We don't need a map of the next ten years because we have a vision and a plan," said Annie Le. "We're working really hard to move forward with the designation, take full advantage of the resources it allows us to tap into, and come together as a community."

Michael Bobbit, executive director of the Cultural Council, agrees that the district is "in good shape. I've traveled the United States and seen Little Saigons in numerous other places," he said, "and what we've built here over the past couple decades is really extraordinary. It's a terrific way to drive the economy, strengthen the character of the



Tan Le is shown outside of Phó Hóa, his parents' Dorchester Ave. eatery, which is adjacent to his café, Reign Drink Lab, on Dorchester Avenue. Daniel Sheehan photos

Vietnamese community, and attract tourists and spending."

The designation, Bobbitt said, was fundamentally collaborative: The city's Department of Arts and Culture assisted NOVA with its Request for Proposals, and inspiration for the submission came from observing the development of Boston's Latin Quarter, which encompasses Hyde and Jackson Squares.

Bobbitt, who is the father of an adopted Vietnamese son, hopes the trend will continue, pointing to the Fields Corner branch library as a potential partner for Little Saigon's early education initiatives and as a venue for art exhibitions.

"Community and cultural preservation is so important when you're living in an unfamiliar place," said Bobbitt, who joined the Cultural Council in February 2021 fol-

lowing a 12-year tenure as the artistic director of the Adventure Theatre-MTC in Maryland.

"I'm learning about the state, its districts, and advocating for funding at the appropriations level, but the ground level work is being done in our communities," he said.

That last is a sentiment echoed by Tan Le – collaboration works. Nearly 30 years ago, his parents, refugees of the Vietnam War, founded Phó Hóa to create a glimmer of familiarity on new soil. Boston's Little Saigon is the culmination of years of community building, and the designation is now a matter of legacy.

Said Le: "We're coming up on the third generation of Vietnamese immigrants in Dorchester. There's no better way to say 'thank you' than to honor our parents and carry the name Little Saigon."

### Report: Nail salons, workers face steep climb in recovery

By Taylor Driscoll

Reporter Correspondent A newly published report based on interviews with nail salon workers — many of them employed in or living in Dorchester — details the challenges facing the industry and its largely immigrant workforce that was particularly hard hit by the pandemic.

The Vietnamese American Initiative for Development, Inc. (VietAID) in Fields Corner and Greater Boston Legal Services (GBLS) published the "From Our Own Voices" report last week. Based on 52 interviews with nail salon workers between 2016 and 2020 and survey responses from both worker and salon owners during the pandemic, the survey shines a spotlight on flaws within the industry that were already present before Covid-19, but that have intensified since.

"The United States nail salon industry overwhelmingly consists of low-wage Asian, immigrant women, and



Vietnamese Americans who make up half of the national workforce predominate in this industry," said Thao Ho, a joint fellow for VietAID and GBLS. "Massachusetts has a significant nail salon industry, with over 1,500 nail salons."

Many workers are paid by commission and not fixed salary, a circumstance that left many struggling during the lockdown. The intimate nature of the work made it impossible for nail technicians to work remotely.

One worker featured in the report, who spoke to the *Reporter* but asked that her name be withheld, said she struggled throughout the lockdown, even though she did receive unemployment benefits. She found that she needed to go back to work during her pregnancy when the stay-at-home mandate was lifted in June 2020.

"I picked myself up and forced myself to go back to work even though I was pregnant and my belly was so big while I was working," she said. "I knew that I had to return to work because I really did not have enough income coming from the benefits I was getting to pay for things like rent, food, and other things for my household. I returned to work and did my best to survive during the pandemic."

Business owners — hit with declines in revenue as high as 35 percent last year— are in a tough spot, too. Projected growth within the nail industry was expected to go up 13 percent over the decade pre-pandemic, according to the study. Instead, hit with an av-

erage 35 percent decline in revenue, many owners laid off employees.

The report estimates that it will take the industry five years to fully recover.

"When small business owners are heavily impacted, it trickles down to the worker force and directly impacts the workers on the ground," said Ho. "Even though owners tried to respond to the slowdown by raising the cost of service, we saw that this was simply not enough to accommodate for drastic loss in customer volume."

As nail salons began to reopen last June, many workers had to choose between health concerns and stable income to provide for their families. The study found that workers' main concern about coming back to work was health safety, but with limited work options, going back to salons seemed like the only viable option they had to support themselves and loved ones.

"I was worried because

I have another eightyear-old at home and so I did whatever I could to protect myself and those around me," said the worker. "That included eating and drinking by myself and not with the other coworkers. I know that when people gather, it's much easier to get Covid."

Covid."

The report also touched on the rise of anti-Asian racism within the country and how it has affected the nail salon industry this year. Since the industry consists mainly of immigrant Asian woman, the report points to a "surge" of xenophobic rhetoric and anti-Asian panic by the public.

"In this time of increased violence against Asians, we also hope to continue providing resources to workers who have felt the brunt of sexual violence and face fears for workplace safety," said Janet Vo, a staff attorney at GBLS. "We strive for a shift built upon principles of sustainability to help both immigrant workers

and small businesses succeed, and based on our findings, it's clear that the nail industry is seeking resources and solutions that will benefit both workers and owners in the long term."

Both Ho and Vo say that government and community leaders need to step up to ensure that these workers should not only be protected within their own communities but also given adequate funding to ensure their salons are supported as well. It's up to the public, too, in places like Dorchester to support local salons with their consumer dollars.

"In supporting nail salon workers and small businesses, our communities and economies also benefit as a whole," said Vo. "This industry is predominantly made up of immigrants, limited English-proficient speakers, Asian women and low-wage workers and they need immense support as the state reopens and restrictions are lifted."





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#### RECENT OBITUARIES



COLLINS, Robert L. Jr. of Dorchester. Husband of Helen M. (Smith) Collins. Father of Robert W. of Dorchester and his fiancée Colleen Duffy of Walpole, and Meredith S. Collins of Dorchester. Brother of John of Somerville, Kevin of Quincy, Marianne King of Braintree, Daniel of Marshfield, Elizabeth Hapgood of Braintree, Joseph of Weymouth, Michael of Dorchester, Ann Marie Collins of Braintree, and Kathleen Sciarratta of Medford. Robert was a member of Local #589. Donations may be made to Dorches-

ter Little League.

FALTER, Theresa
A. "Pat" (Hobin) of
Watertown. Wife of the late Thomas Andrew Falter. Mother of Thomas A. Falter, II and his wife Brenda of Greenville, NH, Edward W. Falter and his wife Nancy of Pepperell, Leo C. Falter and his wife Debra of Watertown, Deborah M. Walsh and her husband Arthur of Greenville, NH, and Susan E. Vincuilla and the late Donald

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**FUNERAL SERVICES** 

Cremations

Pre-Arrangements

Funerals

of Framingham. Sister of the late Edward, John, Thomas, Robert Hobin, and Margaret Allen. Grandmother of 12. Great-grandmother of 4. Also survived by many nieces & nephews. Past President LAOH Div. 14 & past Treasurer LAOH Middlesex County. Memorials in Pat's memory may be made to the Watertown Catholic Collaborative St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry, 770 Mt. Auburn St., Watertown, MA 02472.



FINN, Patrick A. "Pat" of Dorchester. Husband of Patricia (Gallagher) and father of Sean. and Allison and her fiancé, Jake Sheehan. Son of the late Mary (Freeman) and the late Gerald Finn.

Brother of Diane McGoldrick and husband Fred, Richard Finn and wife Carol, Kit Finn and the late Raymond, Deac and James Finn. He is also survived by many nieces and nephews. He worked many years for Airborne/ DHL and then as an independent courier. Donations may be made in his name to the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center – Bone Marrow Transplant Program.



HANLEY, Mary P. "Mae" (Mulkern), 84, longtime resident of High Pond Estates in Bridgewate. Mary was the daughter of Irish immigrants, the late Michael and Delia Mulkern, and grew up in South Boston.

She was the wife of Martin "Marty" J. Hanley. They lived in South Boston, Dorchester and then Randolph. Mary worked for Verizon for over 40 years. Sister of the late Father Michael Mulkern OFM, the late Frank Mulkern, and the late Robert Mulkern. Aunt of the late Paul Mulkern. Donations may be sent to St. John Church, 210 Central St., East Bridgewater, MA 02333.



HERNON, Moreen W. (O'Hara) in Dorchester, formerly of Portland, Maine. Wife of Stephen Hernon. Mother of Michael J. Hernon and his fiancé Cait Witham of Connecticut and Barbara B. Hernon of Dorchester. Sister of John and his wife Judy O'Hara of Falmouth, Maine. Moreen was a former paraprofessional for Bay Cove Human Services, Marian Manor Nursing Home, and Boston Collegiate Charter School. Donations in Moreen's memory may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105 or at stjude.org

JOYCE, Flora M. (Mazzone) of Dorchester. Wife of the late John

**LEGAL NOTICE** 

Docket No. 21P0909 REF. SU12P0619PM COMMONWEALTH OF

MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
SUFFOLK DIVISION
ORBET ROBERSON

v. LENORA McGHEE KWAN - DESCIA P.T. JONES REF. #'s 13P1429

F. Joyce. Mother of Sheila

Joyce-Bird and her hus-

band Dennis of Dorches-

ter. Grandmother of 8.

Also survived by many

nieces and nephews. Do-

nations in memory of Flo-

ra can be made to the Flo-

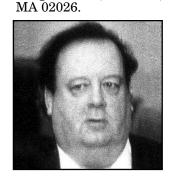
ra M. Joyce Scholarship

Fund at Laboure College of Healthcare, 303 Adams

Street, Milton, MA02186

or at laboure.edu/giving

PAROLIN, Mark J., 59, of Pompano Beach, formerly of Dorchester and South Boston. Husband of Patrick Pound of Pompano Beach, FL. Son of the late John and Ann Parolin of South Boston. Brother of Ann and her husband Robert Morley of Pompano Beach, FL, Barbara Parolin of Pompano Beach, FL and Maureen Parolin of Boston, and the late Sean Parolin of South Boston, MA. Also will be deeply missed by his Uncle Richard Parolin and his wife Roseann, mother-in-law Elizabeth and her late husband Charles Pound, sisterin-law Bethany Williams and her husband Tony. Mark joined the Boston Police Department as Patroman in 1986 and later promoted to Sergeant before retiring in 2019. Past President of the Boston Police Superior Officers Federation. Please make donation in Mark's memory to Shultz Guest House Dog Rescue at sghrescue.org or at Shultz Guest House, 7 Burgess Lane, Dedham,



WHELAN, Finbarr G. of Quincy, formerly of Dorchester. Son of the late James and Eileen (Ring) Whelan. Brother of James Whelan of Dorchester, Patrick Whelan of Quincy, and Michael and his wife Roberta Whelan of Hanover. Uncle of Matthew and his wife Crystal Whelan, Keith Whelan, Courtney Whelan and her husband Robert MacLean, Jason and his wife Jessica Whelan, and Kari and her husband Julian Allatt. Finbarr was a retired member of the Painters and Allied Trades Union District Council #35 and a longtime patron of the Dot Tavern in Dorchester. Donations in Finbarr's memory may be made to the Matthew J. Walsh Foundation for Melanoma Research at

mjwfoundation.org

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#### **LEGAL NOTICES**

COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
Suffolk Probate & Family Court
24 New Chardon Street 24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Docket No. SU20P1706EA
ESTATE OF:
PATRICIA CONSTANCE MOLDEN DATE OF DEATH: 04/14/2020

A Petition for Informal Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Stephanie V. McAskill of Malden, MA requestng that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested n the Petition. The Petitioner requests that tephanie V. McAskill of Malden, MA be Stepnanie V. McAskill of Malden, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in an 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 obtain this proceeding.

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

Cour before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 07/09/2021.
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 his proceeding the properties of the process and objection followed by an affidavit or objections within thirty (30) days of the eturn day, action may be taken withou urther notice to vou

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION

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 annua
accounts with the Court. Persons interestee. n the estate are entitled to notice regarding he administration directly from the Persona Representative and may petition the Cour in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses o

Witness, HON. BRIAN J. DUNN, Firstice of this Court stice of this Court. Date: May 28, 2021

Felix D. Arroyo Register of Probate Published: June 3, 2021

COMMONWEALTH OF 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. SU21P1118EA ESTATE OF: ANNE DORA WALKER DATE OF DEATH: 01/12/2021

al Representative has been filed by Warrer al Hepresentative has been filed by Warren
T. Walker of Dorchester, 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: Warren
T. Walker of Dorchester, MA be appointed
as Personal Representative(s) of said estate
to serve Without Surety on the bond in an
unsupervised administration unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court Petition from the Petitioner of 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 06/30/2021.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance.

by which you must file a written appearanc and objection if you object to this proceeding 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 Benresentative appointed under

sonal Representative appointed unde he MUPC in an unsupervised administration s not required to file an inventory or annua accounts with the Court. Persons interested n the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Persona the administration directly from the Persona Representative and may petition the Cour 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: May 27, 2021

Felix D. Arrovo Register of Probate Published: June 3, 2021

REF. #'s 13P1429
19E0101
To all interested persons:
The Petitioner states the following:
A Petition has been filed by: Orbet Roberson Per the court's Order of February 13,
2020, the special Master, David, Chernyc, Esq., has made recommendations in his report dated August 26, 2020 relative to the sale of the property located at 106 report dated August 26, 2020 felative to the sale of the property located at 106 Glenway Street, Dorchester, Massachusetts (the "Property"). The Property was appraised for a value of \$650,000. An offer has been received on the Property for \$628,000 (the "Offer"); however, no sales commission will be required making this Offer consistent with and greater than the Market value. Petitioner seeks to have the Court approve this Offer and authorize the sale of the Property.

Petitioner respectfully requests that this Honorable Court do the following

 The Offer on the Property is approved by the court;
2.) The Special Master is authorized to sell

Defendant's interest in the Property 3.) The Property should be sold as quickly as possible

The Special Master is granted the authority to do what is necessary to free the house of tenants;
 The Special Master is granted any other special Master is granted any other than the special Master is granted any other special master is granted the special master is granted any other special master is granted and granted any other special master is granted and granted any other special master is granted any other special master is granted and granted and

power he deems reasonably necessary so that the Property may be sold as quickly as possible without encumbranc

es; and
6.) That Defendant's proceeds from the sale of the Property be held in escrow pending further Order of this Court. Attachments:

Court Order Letter from David E. Cherney, Special Master

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 06/23/2021.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadlin ov which vou must file a written appearance by Whiter you must me 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 date, action may be taken without further actions within the control of the further notice to you.

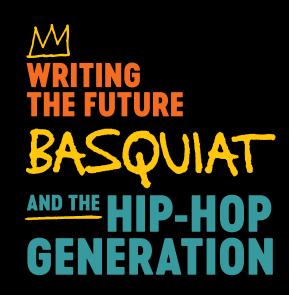
Witness. First Justice of this Court.

Date: May 12, 2021 Felix D. Arroyo

Register of Probate Published: June 3, 2021

dotnews.com THE REPORTER Page 35 June 3, 2021





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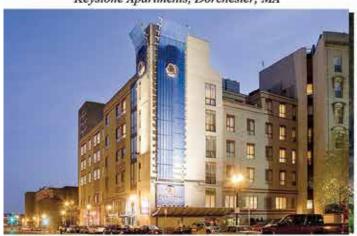
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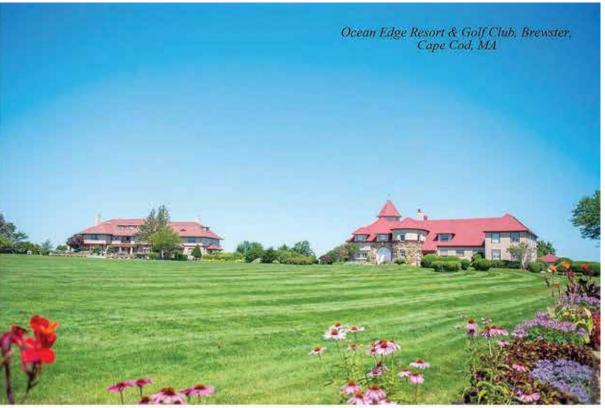
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