"The News and Values Around the Neighborhood"

Thursday, July 2, 2020 Volume 37 Issue 27 50¢

St. Brendan and St. Ann parishes merge

Pastor asks suggestions for a new name

By BILL FORRY **E**DITOR

Cardinal Seán O'Malley has approved the merger of St. Ann and St. Brendan parishes into a new Catholic parish in a move that will keep both church buildings open under a new name. In a letter sent to parishioners last week, Fr. Brian Clary said that the merger will take effect on July 1.

"On that day, the two parishes will end, and one new parish will be es-



tablished with two worship sites and campuses," Clary wrote. "All the assets and liabilities of the former parishes will be under one parish. With the car-



dinal's approval, we move forward. It is a daunting but exciting opportunity."

One immediate task will be selecting a new name for the combined parish.

While each church building will keep its current name, the parish itself will have a new one. Fr. Clary said parishioners are invited to submit their ideas through July 15 and three finalists will be sent to the cardinal.

"When submitting a name, two things are important: (1) give the name and (2) offer a reason for the name. You might think only in terms of a "saint's name," but there are many other possibilities (Holy Trinity, Incarnation, Holy Family, Gate of Heaven are parishes around the archdiocese)... The key is the reason why!"

Name nominations may be sent to Fr. Clary at revbmc@gmail.com.

Clary and his co-pastor, Fr. Bob

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HAIL AND FAREWELL

For BAA grads, care packages with diplomas

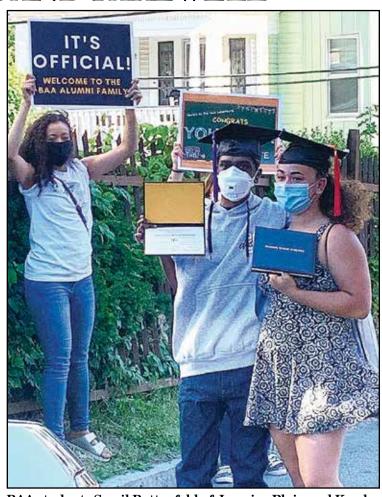
By Daniel Sheehan REPORTER STAFF

At a drive-thru event in front of their school last Thursday, seniors from the Boston Arts Academy received their diplomas and care packages purchased through funds raised by the BAA Foundation's "103 Reasons to Give" campaign, an initiative that raised nearly \$264,000 for a senior class that saw most of its year-end traditions and festivities cancelled by COVID-19.

"We're immensely grateful that the community chose to support BAA's diverse, talented, and hardworking graduates during this unprecedented time," said BAA Foundation President Denella

"Many of BAA's 103 graduates are set to become the first in their families to pursue higher education. The generosity of our donors will help ensure they are fully prepared to succeed in the next stage of

(Continued on page 8)



BAA students Samil Battenfeld of Jamaica Plain and Kaydra Hopkins (valedictorian Class of 2020) of West Roxbury with their diplomas. Don West photo

Walsh orders up fireworks 'task force'

REPORTER STAFF

Fed up, like many Bostonians, with the increase at all hours of illegal fireworks in the city, Mayor Walsh has set up a task force to address the issue ahead of the Fourth of July holiday.

"Fireworks are a serious issue not only in the City of Boston, but all across the country," Walsh said last Fri-

get woken up, some people with PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder) experience real harms, pets are terrified and they're fire hazards."

Last month, Walsh said, complaints of fireworks in the city had increased by 2,300 percent in May. According to the mayor's office, fireworks calls to the Boston Police Department in June were up

By Katie Trojano day. "People lose sleep, babies from last year by a factor of 5,543 percent, an increase in calls from 139 to 7,844.

The taskforce includes Jerome Smith, the mayor's chief $of civic \, engagement, At\text{-}Large$ City Councillors Michelle Wu, Michael Flaherty, Julia Mejia and Annissa Essaibi-George, the Boston Arson Squad, the Boston Police Department's Bureau of Community En-

(Continued on page 10)

If the pause is lifted, tenant advocates see 'tidal wave' of evictions

By Katie Trojano REPORTER STAFF

Tenant advocates this week warned of a potential "tidal wave" of evictions of Boston residents this year if the pandemic-induced moratorium on filings is lifted, saying it would exacerbate the crisis that already disproportionately impacts Black residents in city neighborhoods, including Mattapan and Dorchester.

City Life/Vida Urbana published its latest research on market-rate eviction filings

on Sunday which focused on Boston Housing Court records from 2014 to 2016 but also looked at filings from this year. The report was shared during an online conference that included tenant advocates from across the nation.

"The key finding here is that market-rate eviction filings in Boston are occurring disproportionately in neighborhoods of color, particularly Black neighborhoods," said David Robinson of MIT's Depart-

(Continued on page 11)

Councillors propose 'crisis response system' for non-violent 911 calls

By KATIE TROJANO REPORTER STAFF

Three city councillors want Boston to explore a new "crisis response" system that would divert non-violent, emergency calls away from the Boston Police Department in favor of "a more holistic public safety infrastructure integrated with public health.'

Michelle Wu, Julia Mejia, and Lydia Edwards introduced the proposal last Wednesday that calls for an unarmed "Community Safety Crisis Response System."

Edwards said the legislation was not meant to start a "replace the police" conversation. "This is about structural change, how we keep people

safe, and how we can increase trust in our government. National polling shows that across party lines, people want options when it comes to public safety," she said, adding:

"This could be useful when, say for example, there's a (Continued on page 10)



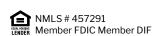
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Walsh gets budget OK; lays out plans to set up new 'equity fund,' file a zoning fix on housing

By KATIE TROJANO REPORTER STAFF

Mayor Martin Walsh last week rolled out three initiatives that he said are aimed at addressing systemic racism in Boston – an "equity and inclusion" cabinet in his administration; a new Racial Equity Fund; and the filing of a "fair housing" amendment to the city's zoning code before the end of the year.

The announcement came a day after the City Council approved the mayor's FY21 budget in a tight 8-5 vote with dissenters saying that the operational budget could only enact "incremental change" and allow "business as usual during an unprecedented time.'

In the face of the vote, Walsh thanked the city councillors who "voted for the budget, allowing those investments to move forward and advance the work of racial justice in our city." He added, "Systemic change doesn't come from one policy or budget investment. Our goals must be to build a process for change into the way government and our society

"We are moving 20 percent of the BPD overtime budget to [benefit] physical and mental health programming, the safety and well-being of our young people, and the long-term success of our neighborhoods."

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Walsh said his Equity and Inclusion Cabinet would be a "first in Boston's history." On Monday, Walsh named Dr. Karilyn Crockett, a Dorchester native and lecturer at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, to be the Chief of Equity, a new cabinet-level position.

"Karilyn is one of the most intelligent people I know, and I am so honored to welcome her back to city government to take the helm of this new role," said Walsh.

As to the Racial Equity Fund, he said, "This fund will invest in nonprofits that empower black and brown residents, in economic development, public health, youth employment, education, arts and other areas."

The initial goal is to raise \$10 million in funding, with a long-term goal of \$50 million, said Walsh who added that he would announce a steering committee to guide the fund this week.

"This work cannot be led by a mayor: it cannot be led by city councilors; it needs to be led by the community and this change needs to come through all of us," he

With respect to the zoning change, he said, "This amendment will require developers in our city to do more and to fight displacement andpromote inclusion."

The Boston Planning and Development Agency is working with the Department of Neighborhood Development, the Boston Housing Authority, and the Office of Fair Housing to create a project assessment tool that Walsh said will be used to identify and address the risk of displacement, and enhance access for historically excluded communities.

The mayor thanked District 1 Councillor Lydia Edwards, who voted yes on the budget yesterday, for her leadership on the amendment.

"We had a meeting a couple of weeks ago and Lydia made the importance of this amendment real, about saving people's abilities to live in their communities."

He also thanked District 8 Councillor Kenzie Bok, who voted for his budget, for her work in "drafting the language" of the amendment.

'We look forward to additional conversations with the council as a whole and the commu-



Dr. Karilyn Crockett

nity," Walsh said. "We believe Boston will be the first city in the country with fair housing requirements written into our zoning code."

Council votes no on use of 'facial-surveillance' by BPD

The City Council last week voted unanimously to bar police and other city agencies from using facial-surveillance software except for specific criminal investigations and even then only if the data are not generated by city-owned cameras. The proposal, which would also prohibit the city from buying data from companies that might use the technology, now goes to the mayor for his consideration. The proposal exempts systems, such as on phones, that use facial recognition solely for user authen-

The BPD says it does

not currently use facialsurveillance technology because it is unreliable. A planned upgrade to the camera network that the department has in place around the city would include a facial-recognition module, but BPD has said it would ensure that is turned off at all times.

City Councillor Ricardo Arroyo (Hyde Park, Roslindale, Mattapan), who sponsored the proposal, says the measure would ensure that Bostonians are not subject to misidentification or systemic racism - for example, the fact that some camera systems are not designed to deal well

with darker-skinned faces.

In response to a question from Councillor Frank Baker (Dorchester), Arroyo said the proposal would not prohibit police from collecting photos from existing camera systems to find specific suspects, such as after the Marathon bombings.

"Let's not live in a society where we are constantly surveilling each other's faces," added Councillor Kenzie Bok (Back Bay, Beacon Hill, Fenway, Mission Hill).

- REPORTER **STAFF**

Mattapan pedestrian fatally struck **on I-93** – A 49-year-old Mattapan man was hit by two vehicles and killed on the I-93 expressway nearExit 9 in Milton on June 24 around 8:30 p.m. State Troopers say they found Tat Segundo in the roadway suffering from serious injuries. He was transported to Boston Medical Center where he succumbed to his injuries. "The exact cause and circumstances of the crash remain under investigation," according to State Police.

Police

Monday morning gunfire - A person was shot on Monday morning near Columbia Road and Devon Street, according to Boston Police. The victim, who was not named by officials, showed up to a Boston hospital with "non-life-threatening" injuries around 11 a.m.

Boston Police this week released the name of a 19-year-old man who was shot and killed on Thane Street in Dorchester on June 23. The victim -Malik Gabbidon of Jamaica Plain- was found outside a building at 26 Thane St. around 1:50 a.m. He died at a Boston hospital from an apparent gunshot wound. No arrests have been reported. Police have asked for anyone with information to call them at 617-343-4470.

Two men were arrested on June 27 after Boston Police responded to the Burger King parking lot near Grove Hall for a call of a disturbance caused by multiple vehicles around 1 a.m. One of the cars fled the scene with police in pursuit, according to a BPD account.

Officers say they stopped the vehicle and found the passenger was carrying a .40 handgun with a laser sight. Davonte Bowden, 22, was arrested on a gun charge and the driver, Niles Vibert, 23, faces traffic and drug charges, according to police.

Mass considered 'on track' to contain virus, models say

Massachusetts is one of four states on track to contain the coronavirus, while dozens of other states are at risk or have controlled the growth of COVID, according to a model developed by the Georgetown University Center for Global Health Science and Security, Stanford University Člinical Excellence Research Center, and Grand Rounds. The COVID Act Now

model was developed by technologists, epidemiologists, health experts, and public policy leaders, and attempts to predict how a disease will evolve in a population.

Last updated on June 29, it lists Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey and Connecticut as being on track to contain the coronavirus by virtue of its infection rate, positive test rate, intensive care unit

availability and ability to perform contact tracing. On the opposite end of the model are Florida, South Carolina, Alabama, Arizona and Missouri, which are all considered to be dealing with an active or imminent outbreak. Nineteen other states, including Texas, are considered

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Farmers Markets to re-open— A number of local Farmers Markets are slated to re-open in the coming davs in Dorchester and Mattapan, including: Ashmont Farmers Market at Droser Plaza next to Ashmotn Station on Friday, July 10, 3-7 p.m.; Codman Sq. Farmers Market, Sat., July 11, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.; Mattapan Square, Sat., July 11, 10 a.m.- 1 p.m., corner Cummins Highway and Fairway St.; Mattapan Farm Stand, Thurs., July 9, 1 p.m.-5:30 p.m. at Mattapan Community Health Center; DotHouse Health Center on Wed., July 8, 10a.m.-12p.m.; ReVision Urban Farm, Wed., July 8, 2-6 p.m. at 1062 Blue Hill Ave.; Fowler Clark Epstein Farmstand, 487 Norfolk St., Mattapan, Fri., July 10, 2p.m.-6 p.m. For more locations, see boston.gov.

Greater Mattapan Neighborhood Council (GMNC) plans to host a virtual Town Hall featuring the candidates for the 12th Suffolk House district on Sat., Aug. 1 from 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. See g-mnc.org for more information.

Mayor's Garden Contest— The 24th annual Mayor's Garden Contest will take place this year keeping within current social distancing guidelines. Boston's green thumbs have until 11:59 p.m. on Friday, July 10, to register. The contest provides the perfect opportunity to recognize those who have taken advantage of the "safer at home" guidelines to hone their gardening skills. Gardeners or those nominating their favorite gardeners may find printable and online nomination forms at boston.gov/mayors-garden-contest. For more information please call 617-635-4505.

On July 6, 97 youth meal sites will open through the City of Boston's Summer Eats 2020 program in partnership with Boston Children's Hospital. It provides nutritious breakfast and lunch at no cost to Boston youth 18 and under during the summer months. No ID or registration is required. Unlike previous years where many youth meal sites were limited to participants in summer programming, this year all sites are open to all youth in the City of Boston. For locations and times, go to boston.gov/departments/food-access/ summer-eats. Locations starting on July 6 include: BCYF Gallivan, 61 Woodruff Way, Mattapan, 10a.m.-2p.m.; BHA Franklin Field, 91 Ames St., Dorchester 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Boston Latin Academt, 205 Townsend St., Dorchester, 8:30-11:30 a.m.; Bowdoin St. Health Center, 230 Bowdoin St., 10a.m.-12 p.m.; Burke High, 60 Washington St., 8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Starting on July 11: Codman Square Farmers Market, corner of Washington and Talbot, 10a.m.-2p.m.

Travel guidance from Baker-Polito Administration Effective Wed., July 1, all travelers arriving to Massachusetts, including residents returning home, are instructed to self-quarantine for 14-days. This guidance does not apply to travelers from Rhode Island, Connecticut, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, New York or New Jersey. Additionally, workers designated by the federal government as essential critical infrastructure workers are also exempt from this directive. Travelers who are displaying symptoms of COVID-19 are instructed to not travel to Massachusetts. All visitors and residents of Massachusetts are also reminded that the use of masks or face coverings in public places where individuals cannot socially distance from others remains required.

For more information regarding City Hall hours of operation, visit boston.gov.

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New housing, farmland slated for old state hospital grounds

By Matt Murphy STATE HOUSE News Service

Gov. Charlie Baker visited Mattapan on Tues., June 23, to celebrate the selection of a minority-owned developer to build new housing, day care, and healthy food amenities on the site of the former Boston State Hospital, but he was greeted with frustration from some community members upset with their lack of access to him and an element of his new policing reform bill.

The governor, joined by state Rep. Russell Holmes, was at the Mass Audubon's Boston Nature Center and Wildlife Sanctuary, the first parcel of the site to be redeveloped after the hospital closed in 1979, to announce the selection of Primary Corporation as the developer of the final 10-acre parcel.

Primary Corporation, in a venture with Accordia Partners and Toll Brothers, plans to build 367 residential housing units, including 82 for ownership and 121 affordable units, including 42 for seniors. Holmes said it was the community that insisted on homeownership opportunities being part of the development, in addition to rental, and



Gov. Baker looked on as Rep. Russell Holmes addressed a protester during a June 23 news conference in Mattapan.

Angela Rowlings/Boston Herald/Pool photo

pushed for day care options and shuttle service for seniors.

The project will include food amenities, a farming initiative with the Clark/Cooper Community Gardens, and an expansion of the site's day care center. Construction is slated to begin in 2021 and be wrapped up in 2024.

"We want people who live in our neighborhood to just move across the street. We're not building a new neighborhood," said Holmes.

Baker said the redevelopment of the Boston State Hospital property goes back as far as his days as secretary of administration and finance under Govs. Bill Weld and Paul Cellucci in the 1990s.

"The site will be a truly great place to live and raise a family, with easy access to the T and open space to support a healthy lifestyle, and outdoor activities,' Baker said.

Kirk Sykes, president of Primary Investments and co-managing partner of Accordia Partners, said the companies, along with Toll Brothers, are committed to making sure the community gets brought into the project with jobs and training, as well as housing and investment opportunities.

"Primary-Accordia-Toll seeks to empower this community and its residents through our efforts and reach the kind of harmony and unity our name Accordia implies," Sykes said.

Holmes said that in his view the project will be successful when he sees residents of the community living there when it's completed and before then also have a role in its construction by way of getting the training and ful," Holmes said. jobs they need to start a career. He said it won't be enough for the developers to simply meet their 13 percent diversity hiring goals, and that he believes the developers

share his opinion. "We have a neighborhood that we live in, my wife and I, my mom. We can all walk over from our different places. This is our neighborhood. We do not expect folks from our neighborhood to walk by a site and 13 percent participation and think that's success-

The press conference was Baker's first public appearance last week. and he used the opportunity to offer an update on the state's fight against COVID-19. He also faced tough questions and interruptions from protesters about his proposed policing legislation. While the Black and Latino Legislative Caucus worked with Baker on the bill, one woman confronted the governor to take issue with a provision that would make officers

eligible for one-time bonuses of up to \$5,000 if they receive additional training in de-escalation techniques, bias-free policing, or narcotics.

"Five-thousand dollars for anti-racism training? Who deserves that?" the woman shouted.

Baker said his bill was crafted to enhance training for police across Massachusetts, and make sure they could be held accountable through a decertification process if they fail to live up to the new standards for policing.



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'Tired of being taken for granted,' Mather School librarian signs off

By Max Larkin WBUR REPORTER

The end of the school year is a natural moment for farewells. But for Maura O'Toole, a library paraprofessional leaving the Boston Public Schools after 14 years, the departure feels premature.

"This past January, my position was reduced in hours," O'Toole said. It was the second such reduction she has experienced at the Mather Elementary School in Dorchester, where she has run the library for the past eight years.

O'Toole started out full time, but was cut to

years ago. The cutback in January would have brought her down to a 50 percent schedule. "I'm 45 years old. I should not be working two and a half days a week," O'Toole said. She chose to take a layoff instead.

For O'Toole, library work is never truly a part-time job. She organizes the space and applies for grants. She coordinates author visits and two book fairs a year — all while playing a social and instructional role in the life of the Mather.

"There'd constantly be kids trying to sneak

four days a week a few a bathroom pass and come to see me in the library," she said with a laugh. "I had to tell them they couldn't do that anymore."

> Over eight years, O'Toole tried to tailor her library to serve the students at the Mather - only 5.5 percent of whom are white. "When I first started working there, it upset me," she said of the book selection. "It was "Pinkalicious," with a little white girl. Or "Fancy Nancy" those were the books that were available."

After she received a grant from the Laura Bush Foundation to



Maura O'Toole, photographed with her fifth-grade class at the Mather in Courtesy Maura O'Toole

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www.elliottphysicaltherapy.com FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED find more books to serve the school's large Cape Verdean and Vietnamese populations, O'Toole found that children's books in Creole or about Cape Verde were very hard to come by. Still, she found ways to build her foreign-language collection, including asking the school's Vietnamese newcomers to bring back books in the language from frequent trips to Southeast Asia.

Students responded. "Every year, my checkout numbers were going up," O'Toole said. Even as district schools closed in March in response to the coronavirus outbreak, she had almost 11,000 books circulate this year.

Now, colleagues, families, and students are using video to thank O'Toole — and to say farewell.

"Ms. O'Toole, you try to get to students to love reading books - like now I do," said one third-grader. "If I were principal, I'd pay you double the amount of money that the real principal pays you."

Said O'Toole: "Schools

don't really think of their book inventory as an asset, when it really is. My collection at the Mather is probably worth \$200,000, if you had to replace it all. And 90 percent of that is through donations or fundraising."

The Mather is the third BPS school O'Toole has worked at during her 14 years in the district. "Every library I've worked at has closed," she said. It's a function of principals on tight budgets and, O'Toole believes, the underrating of libraries as a space for discovery or a source of research skills.

BPS officials did not respond to requests for comment on library strategy or cuts. But Mayor Marty Walsh's budget, which was approved by the City Council last week, includes \$80 million in spending cuts.

For O'Toole, it is painful to know that she can't continue working her four-day schedule at the Mather for want of \$15,000. "I'm tired of being taken for granted," she said. "I bring in a ton of resources. It just felt a little bit degrading.'

In the mid-1980s, O'Toole was a BPS student, including three years at the Mather. Back then, the library occupied the same space it does now — but it was a different atmosphere.

"We had sort of the stereotypical librarian that you'd think of ... 'If you lose a book, you have to pay for it," O'Toole said, remembering she was "terrified" of violating the policy. Now, she said, "one of my policies is, I just want my books back eventually.

For O'Toole, overseeing a library is a consuming passion. She spent last week clearing out the Mather's space of her Legos and her books — the better to prepare whoever uses the space next "so that they're not completely overwhelmed."

She's not sure what she'll do next year. "I haven't been able to secure another library job" so far, O'Toole said. But she will continue to seek her master's degree this summer in hopes of returning to the little world of the school library as soon as possible — but probably not in Boston.

"Virtual Community Forum to discuss renaming the field outside of TechBoston Academy to Keith Love Field. Tuesday, July 14th at 6pm. Email jrackauskas@bostonpublicschools.org for meeting access"

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Reporter's People

News about people in and around our Neighborhoods

So. Shore donor's gift bags lift spirits at Everett school

By KATIE TROJANO REPORTER STAFF

A small family-owned toy store on the South Shore stepped up this month to provide end-ofyear gift bags for all 237 students at the Edward Everett Elementary School in Dorchester.

The project began when Julie Ritchie of Toy Box of Hanover began working with third-grade teacher Katie Manning to organize gifts for her classroom.

"I thought, 'What if we just did the whole school?" said Ritchie, who owns the toy store that her mother founded 46 years ago.

"We do community outreach all the time, but this was probably one of my most fun donations." she said. "Within 10 days, we were able to put



Kate Manning and Julie Ritchie getting ready to transport the gift bags at the Toy Box of Hanover.

it together. There was an outpouring of customers and vendors excited to donate. It was amazing to be able to do something for the kids who have had such a tough school year, and send them off for summer in a fun way."

Karen Cahill, the Everett school's principal, said the personalized donations were extremely thoughtful. "When Covid-19 broke out, the kids were stuck at home without any socialization and Julie called me and

offered to donate gift bags to every student," said Cahill. "Each bag was personalized and came with an academic game for the kids to play with their families and social emotional toys, and there were things for kids with special needs.

"They really took the time and thought about it. It was just wonderful and extremely thought-

Once the donations were dropped off at the school, parents were invited to pick up the gift bags in person or in a drive-by curbside pickup in front of the Pleasant Street schoolhouse on June 16 and 17. Teachers and staff organized drop-offs for the families unable to participate in the pickup, ensuring that every student received a gift.

"The teachers and myself were so thrilled and so thankful, and the great thing is that they want to do it every year, said Cahill.

"As an inclusion teacher, this donation was

so amazing and generous," said Katie Manning. "We can't thank the Toy Box of Hanover enough for what they've done. During the quarantine, teachers did home visits to students throughout Roxbury, Dorchester, Mattapan, and Southie."

In addition to the kindness displayed by Toy Box of Hanover, Manning noted that local business owners Kevin and Kristen Brown of Brown Innovations also donated mask shields to Edward Everett staff to use while cleaning out their classrooms in the last week of school. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, a Boston-based publishing company, also donated more than 100 summer reading books to students.

Forrys cited for efforts to protect LGTBQ rights

By Daniel Sheehan REPORTER STAFF

Greater Boston PFLAG has presented its 2020 Cornerstone of Equality Award to former state Sen. Linda Dorcena Forry and Bill Forry, editor and publisher of the Dorchester Reporter. The regional branch of the national organization, which advocates for LGTBQ+rights, recognized $the\,Dorchester\,couple\,for\,their$ work on a local level pushing for civil rights and equal marriage opportunities for all people.

As a lawmaker, Dorcena Forry supported the controversial Equal Marriage law before the Legislature approved it in 2004, the anti-bullying act, and the transgender public accommodations bill.

Now a senior executive at

Suffolk Construction, she said, "We are proud to support the work of Greater Boston PFLAG. We know that the LGBTQ+ youth and teens suffer higher rates of depression, anxiety, and suicide. PFLAG is committed to building and strengthening students, families, and safe spaces through education and advocacy. This is a civil rights issue."

Bill Forry, whose editorial support for civil rights issues in that time was cited in the award announcement, added: "People have a right to love who they love. We must be vigilant and defend hard-fought victories. The pendulum can swing back. We are never secure. That's why the work of groups like PFLAG is so important."

The Forrys were to receive

the Cornerstone of Equality Award at PFLAG's annual "Pride and Passion" fundraising gala in May before CO-VID-19 intervened.

Sunnie Kaufmann-Paulman, PFLAG's newly appointed executive director said: "Allies like the Forrys are vital to advancing the work we do. While our services are virtual now, when social distancing ends, we will resume our in-person presentations to schools, workplaces, and the community, as well as bring our support groups back together."

To learn more about Greater Boston PFLAG (Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) and to view a video about this year's Cornerstone of Equality Award winners, visit gbpflag.org.



Bill and Linda Dorcena Forry

YESTERYEAR ARCHIVE

DORCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY Martha Dana Shepard

On one of our walking tours of the Harrison Square Historic District, we passed the house at 15 Ashland Street. and our guide mentioned that it was once home to Martha Dana Shepard, a 19th-century pianist who was well known in the New England region. She excelled as a teacher, as a concert performer, and as an accompanist. She lived later in life at 10 Alpha Road.

Many of our Dorchester neighbors are people of achievement, and we are hoping to provide biographies of some of them, including people still living. If you look around at your neighbors, perhaps you can suggest people to be interviewed.

Following is a transcription of the Martha (Dana) Shepard biography from "New Hampshire Women: A Collection of Portraits and Biographical Sketches of Daughters and Residents of the Granite State Who are Worthy Representa-



Martha Dana Shepard

tives of their Sex in the Various Walks and Conditions of Life. (Concord: The New Hampshire Publishing Co., 1895).

"Mrs. Shepard very early in her life realized in just what direction her talent lay and developed it in that direction. Her home was in the town of Ashland, N. H., and she lived there some years after her and festivals, until through of work which I had chosen, vears she moved to Boston. the instrumentality of someone who knew of her work, there came a chance (1865) for her to go to Keene, N. H., to play at a festival there at which Carl Zerrahn, already the most famous director in New England, was to conduct. This was the first opportunity which she had had to play at so large a festival and under so experienced a conductor. Mrs. Shepard tells the story herself as follows:

" 'I was a young woman then, almost unused to the world outside my own country town, and when I came to consider the proposition found myself frightened at the thought of coming before so large an audience and so able a conductor. Mr. Zerrahn even then had the reputation of being a keen critic, and not very favorably disposed

and this seemed to be the first beginning to be made. I accepted the offer and made my plans to go. My baby then was only six months old, and this in itself seemed reason enough to make me give up, but when the time came I took my baby and my girl and went to Keene. The girl stayed at the hotel and minded the baby and I went to the hall. To say that I was frightened wouldn't begin to express the situation, but I watched Mr. Zerrahn's baton, and when that came down I came down on the piano. I did the very best I could, and I succeeded."

Mr. Zerrahn was quick to recognize the merits of his new-found accompanist, even if she was a woman. From that time until her retirement from her field of work in 1897, Mrs. Shepard played every

marriage. She had gradually toward women pianists. I year at a great many festivals, won a good local reputation as was determined I would all over New England, New an accompanist for choruses succeed, though, in the line York and Canada. After a few and added the position of a church organist and director of a choir to her other work.

In her late years Mrs Sheppard was a prominent in club circles in Boston and vicinity. She was organist and leader of the choral class of the Dorchester Woman's Club and was similarly connected with the Melrose Woman's Club. She was a member of the New Hampshire Daughters and for many years was the organist of the First Unitarian Church in Milton. She died in 1914. $The \ archive \ of \ the se \ historical$ posts can be viewed on the blog at dorchesterhistoricalso-ciety.org. The Society's historic houses are closed at this time due to the pandemic. We will announce when the houses will be once again open to the public.

Editorial

Fairmount pilot gains steam in Dot, Mattapan



CharlieCards may now be used at Fairmount Line stations, like Blue Hill Ave. MBTA photo

What's new on the Fairmount Line? As of June 22, a lot. The commuter rail line that connects Readville to South Station is now in the early stages of a yearlong pilot that offers increased train frequency, a new ticketing system and a marketing push from the T and Keolis, the company that manages the line.

The pilot was supposed to start in May, but was delayed a month by the effects of the pandemic, which caused a colossal drop in ridership across the system. That decline is slowly reversing, but with many people still leery about sharing space on subway cars or buses, the commuter rail train offers an alternative.

The eight additional trains per weekday — it is hoped— will make the Fairmount a more convenient option for commuters getting into and out of Boston from our neighborhood. They include 4 new inbound trains leaving Readville at 5:10 a.m., 9:25 a.m., 3:05 p.m., and 3:53 p.m. and four outbound leaving South Station at 7:35 a.m., 9:15 a.m., 6:50 p.m., and 12:00 a.m.

Another new element: You can now use your CharlieCard to ride the Fairmount Line. The T has installed "validators" on all Zone 1A station platforms — which includes all of the ones in Dorchester and Mattapan. CharlieCards can now be used at these stations to print a "proof-of-payment" to show the conductor when onboard the train. You can also buy tickets using a mobile app.

According to the MBTA: "Fairmount Line riders who pay with a CharlieCard can also transfer for free within 2 hours of their first tap to local buses, the Silver Line, and the Red Line at South Station. Riders transferring from buses to the Fairmount Line at any Zone 1A station will pay only the difference in fare when they tap a platform validator with their CharlieCard."

It's estimated that the pilot program will cost the MBTA about \$1.1 million to operate. But that's a sensible sum, particularly given the much larger investment made by state officials in the Fairmount Line over the last decade. New stations at Talbot Avenue, Newmarket, Four Corners and — most recently—at Blue Hill Avenue near Mattapan Square have been part of a strategy to offer more and better transit options to people who live in Mattapan, Dorchester and Hyde Park. Last January, when the MBTA board voted to approve this pilot state Senator Nick Collins rightly called it "a big step forward on transit equity, access & economic opportunity."

It's important to note that during this year-long "pilot," MBTA and Keolis will be carefully measuring its progress, particularly daily ridership data. The still-lingering restrictions of the coronavirus pandemic—and the related unemployment—make this a tough time to "test" the long-term viability of any transit line. Thankfully, according to a statement posted by the MBTA, the agency has left the door open to "extending the evaluation period if needed... as communities and businesses recover from the pandemic."

— Bill Forry

The Reporter

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The virology podcast TWIV has become an essential source for COVID-19 news

By BILL WALCZAK REPORTER CONTRIBUTOR

Eager to hear next week's news on COVID-19 today?

"This Week in Virology, or TWIV," the longstanding podcast that previews next week's COVID-19 news, and that some listeners refer to "The Car Talk of Virology," is my current obsession. Parts of the podcast use such arcane language that I admit I have also used it to lull myself to sleep.

Made up of a group of eminent virologists under the leadership of Columbia University's Dr. Vincent Racaniello, every episode opens with the somber "This Week in Virology: the podcast about viruses; the kind that make you sick."

The podcast gets a five-star rating, though



Bill Walczak

recently there have been some complaints about it delving into politics. Racaniello says that he gets emails from "people saying keep politics out of science," to which the group cheered the reply: "If the politicians are willing to keep the politics out of science, we certainly will."

On the conspiracy theory that the virus came from a lab in China, Racaniello states: "The virus didn't come from a lab, it came from a bat, and that's the end of that, and if you think otherwise, you're just misled and foolish, okay?"

They did an entire episode on bats, the culprits in a number of virus transmissions to humans, partly due to their being the only mammals that can fly.

The podcast features robust discussions on Covid-19 led by Daniel Griffin, a physician and leader of Parasites Without Borders. Despite the horrific increase in transmission of the virus in southern and western states, the information from Griffin was mainly positive on the treatment front this week.

He noted that the medical world has learned much in understanding the clinical course of the disease. We now understand the importance of dating when symptoms start, as we know that the second week is when serious problems can start with oxygen levels, which can be checked in the home via a \$30 over-the-counter oximeter, which will indicate if the patient needs to be hospitalized.

Clotting issues follow in Week 3, with the potential of infection or super-infection in Week 4.

A patient who would have been likely to die in the early phases of the spread of COVID-19 can now be treated using alternatives to ventilators, such

as "proning" or putting a patient on his/her belly to help with respiration. Anti-coagulation drugs can avoid Week 3 problems and steroids have led to dramatic improvements in survival rates.

Griffin talked about a recent patient, an elderly man who returned to New York with COVID-19 after wintering in Florida. Whereas he might have died in March, the man's treatment more than two months later was "calm and systemic." He was hospitalized, started on steroids and anti-coagulants, and will soon be discharged. Griffin said it was a very different experience from just a few months ago.

Other take-aways from this week's program:
Drugs: In a Yale study Tocilizumah used with

Drugs: In a Yale study, Tocilizumab used with steroids increased survival rates for patients on ventilators by 75 percent and 93 percent for those not on ventilators. African-American and Hispanic patients did even better than Caucasians. On the other hand, the much-ballyhooed drug Remdesivir has had a "limited, minor role" in combatting the disease.

Houston's increase in cases is "looking like NYC in April... and Texas is looking like "a rocket trajectory out of control."

Pregnant women are at higher risk for needing hospitalization than women who are not pregnant.

We're still in the first wave of the virus. We opened the states too early without a testing plan. If we can't get control, we could see continuous waves. The return of snowbirds to the north is a concern.

The virus is not able to spread as well outdoors. There was not a big uptick from the demonstrations. The new fear is, with increased summer heat, people gathering for indoor air conditioning will lead to more cases.

There are a significant number of people who have-term symptoms, as many as 8-10 weeks with fever, and continuing fatigue and burning chest symptoms.

They don't see a vaccine within a year and think we'll be in the same place a year from now.

The virologists are pessimistic about Americans being able to control the onset of the virus, but optimistic on saving more lives. Care is better now; mortality is down. Many doctors know what to give and what not to give and when, and when to hospitalize. The fear is that hospitals get flooded with cases.

To the question of how other doctors treating COVID-19 will learn from his experience, Griffin noted that change is slow. There are many studies, but the typical doctor does not have enough time to study them. Eventually, institutions will evaluate studies, evidence of good practice in the US and from the WHO on successful practices in other countries, and produce new guidance.

This Week in Virology can be seen or heard at microbe.tv/twiv/. I hope you'll become a fan, too.

Bill Walczak is a Dorchester resident and the former president/CEO of Codman Square Health Center. His column appears weekly in the Reporter.

Letter to the Editor

Lawmakers fall short on 2020 voting rules

To the Editor:

"A riot is the voice of the unheard," said Martin Luther King, Jr. From Franklin Park to Beacon Hill, the streets of Boston have been filled with tens of thousands of people who want to have their voices heard. The fundamental voice of the community is our vote.

Today, the Legislature has a conference committee working to reconcile two bills (H. 4778 and S. 2755) to make voting easier this fall. We fear the result will be equivalent to the fabled invention of the camel by a committee told to create the horse.

Some progressives are fighting for expanded early voting, expanding time for voter registration, etc. Others are more concerned with the dangers of COVID-19. Progressives pushed for postage-paid applications and ballots as well as examination of polling place locations to prevent negative effects on minority communities.

But, universal voting by mail is not even being considered. Why not provide for universal voting by mail, the solution that is the simplest, the cheapest, and best protects against COVID-19 while ensuring the highest voter participation?

Over 80 percent of voters approve of it, according to a recent poll commissioned by State House News Service. Twenty-nine Massachusetts mayors signed a letter to Secretary Galvin requesting it. Common Cause, US Senate candidates Markey and Kennedy, Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley, our own little DotTheVote, and many more want universal voting by mail.

Instead, under the current bills, voters would be asked to choose from the following: (1) Vote by absentee ballot, which requires an application; multilanguage education about how to apply, timetables for applications, early voting and registration rules and timetables, etc; and postage that doubles the cost over universal voting by mail. (2) Vote early, in person, which requires multi language education, exposing poll workers and voters to the virus; rental costs for the locations. (3) Vote in person on election day, which requires full poll worker staff at every precinct, even if only one voter shows up and more exposure to the virus. (4) Not vote.

There is no provision for paying for the education of voters for this new and complicated set of "options," particularly for senior citizens, the language challenged, immigrants, and new voters. Except for postage, there is no funding provided for the other changes.

As a small example, during normal times in Boston, there are only 50 sandwich board signs placed around the city to announce voting days, and these are only in English. Now there will be multiple early and regular election days for the September primary and November general elections.

Once again, the road to hell is paved with good intentions. And if the voice of community is suppressed, that voice will be unheard, with the result described by MLK in 1967.

This letter was composed by Edward M. Cook, president of DotTheVote, and board members Linda Barros and Denise Williams Harris.

Battle against COVID-19 also rages underground

By MIKE VARTABEDIAN

Over the last month we have learned just how much we take things for granted. That includes visiting relatives, handshakes and hugs with good friends, or even a dinner out at a restaurant.

In that same time period, we have also learned to appreciate the people we may have taken for granted. Certainly, that means the doctors, nurses, and other medical professionals who work tirelessly to keep us safe and healthy. It also now includes grocery store workers who stock the shelves to keep us well fed, as well as those who prepare food for take-out.

There are countless other tangible examples - and hundreds of subtle ones, one of which is literally below the surface – the pipes that allow water to come out of our sinks and flush down our toilets.

The water and sewer workers are no less front-line pieces in the battle against COVID-19 as are the firstresponders, medical personnel, or any other essential employees.

This awful disease can be carried through the system and can be passed on by coming in contact with waste and sewage. While the workers have Tyvek suits and other protective equipment, they're putting themselves and their families at significant

risk every day to keep others safe.

An employee at a wastewater treatment center in San Jose, California, tested positive for COVID-19 last month, leading to 17 other employees having to self-quarantine. Besides perfectly illustrating the risk to sanitation workers, the diagnosis also opened discussion about the possibility that these centers could be short-staffed, which could lead to broader and deeper problems.

More locally, authorities are taking all feasible precautions. Boston Mayor Marty Walsh has been a maior champion for working people and residents during this crisis. He has been a decisive and active supporter of the workers who toil in the pipes below the ground for the Boston Water and Sewer Commission. He has supported the BWSC workers with equipment, flexibility, and has had his administration consistently reminding Bostonians who are facing toilet paper shortages not to flush wipes or other materials that don't break down as easily. They will lead to clogs and force sanitation workers into action in a dangerous situation.

Across the country, steps to mitigate the amount of work being done in water and sewer to reduce exposure have included postponing planned maintenance and upkeep on watermains and

RCC plans in-person and virtual return in fall

Roxbury Community College on Tuesday announced that it plans to offer a «combination of online, remote, hybrid and in-person classes» for students this fall.

The offerings include courses that are entirely online with coursework completed at a student's own pace; online classes with set meeting times; courses with some in-person classes

and some online work; and a "limited number" of courses happening through traditional in-person instruction. The school said in-person classes will be held in spaces that allow instructors and students to stay six feet apart from each other, and that thousands of face masks, antimicrobial pens and bottles of hand sanitizer have been purchased for staff and student use.

other parts of the infrastructure that would involve a number of workers in close proximity. However, that also comes with a risk – watermain breaks and other pipe bursts that would exacerbate an already sizable problem.

Failures of sewage treatment systems would be catastrophic. If water stopped running in hospitals, or if backed-up toilets begin to overflow in an elder-care facility, lives would be even more imperiled than they are now.

Most policymakers, government officials, and emergency planners are on the same page right now. They are all fully committed to doing everything they can to slow the spread of the disease and protect the public.

The larger test will come once the pandemic ends and society returns to whatever the new normal looks like. There is a renewed appreciation of medical professionals and first responders, as well as a newfound respect for supermarket workers, food handlers, and other service industry

Water and sewage sanitation workers should be grouped in with these folks. It is easy to take running water and flushable toilets for granted when everything works the way it should. But we should remember the people who keep it running smoothly, and who are there when a problem arises. These workers are invaluable, even if we didn't know or think about them

Mike Vartabedian is the Assistant Directing Business Representative for $International \, Association \, of \, Machinists$ and Aerospace Workers (IAMAW), District 15, which represents workers at the Boston Water and Sewer Commission.



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For BAA grads, care packages with diplomas



Denella J. Clark, President, Boston Arts Academy Foundation; Anne Clark, Don West photos BAA Head of School; and BAA alumni greeted graduates.

their academic careers and lives."

Ninety-seven percent of the Class of 2020 is continuing on to higher education, with graduates attending Carnegie Mellon University, New York University's Tisch School of the Arts, Berklee College of Music,

(Continued from page 1) MassArt, and UMass Amherst, among other

"Our senior year certainly did not conclude the way many of us had imagined," said Nalany Guerrier, Class of 2020 and student body president. "However, the challenges our class has faced over the last few

months have strengthened our collective desire to change our city and our world for the better. We are thankful that our community has shown that, even during difficult times, young artist-scholars are worth supporting and empowering."



Student Martha Moreta received her diploma from head of school Anne Clark.



Greg Holt, chair of the Music Department, with student Mariana Gomez Rivera of East Boston.

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It is during these challenging times that we come together.



July 2, 2020 THE REPORTER Page 9 dotnews.com

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\$13.⁹⁹

Blue Moon	12pk	Btl
Wachusett	12pk	Can
Cisco	12pk	Can
Lagunitas IPA	12pk	can
Brooklyn Summer	12pk	Btl
Sierra Nevada	12pk	Btl
Truly Seltzer	12pk	Can





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Modelo	12pk Btl
Stella Artois	12pk Can
ounders IPA	15pk
Blue Moon	15pk
larpoon Rec League	15pk

\$4199

Founders IPA	тэрк
Blue Moon	15pk
Harpoon Rec League	15pk
Harpoon	12pk Ca
Down East	9pk
Citizen Variety	12pk
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Schofferhofer	12pk Can	.\$12.99
Sam Adams	12pk Btl	.\$13.49
Heineken Light Loose Ca	se	.\$24.99
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nek Coronita Loose Case Heineken18pk btl



Miller Lite 30pk **Coors Light** 30pk

**All Beer Plus Deposit



\$15.⁹⁹

Magic Hat Jam Pack 15pk Victory Golden Monkey... 12pk Btl





			Makers Mark	1.75ltr	\$49.99
Tito's	1.75ltr	\$29.99	Baileys	750ml	\$24.99
Johnnie Walker Red	1.75ltr	\$29.99	Capt. Morgan	1.75ltr	\$24.99
Cointreau	750ml	\$29.99	Tullamore Dew	750ml	\$24.99
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1.75ltr	\$69.99
1.75ltr	\$62.99
1.75ltr	\$54.99
1.75ltr	\$44.99
750ml	\$27.99
	1.75ltr 1.75ltr 1.75ltr 1.75ltr 750ml



Tanqueray	1.75ltr \$32.99
Crown Royal	1.75ltr \$39.99
Svedka Vodka	1.75ltr \$17.99
Four Roses Single Batch	750ml\$34.99



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Bulleit Bourbon	.750ml	. \$28.99
Paul Masson	. 1.75ltr	\$19.99
Chivas Regal	.750ml	\$19.99
Aperol	.750ml	\$19.99
Basil Hayden	.750ml	\$29.99

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A to Z Pinot Noir



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Napa Cabernet

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Coppola Cabernet Kim Crawford Sauvignon Blanc **Chat Bonnet Sauvignon Blanc** LaMarca Prosecco Ruffino Prosecco



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90 Point Rose • Campo Viejo Reserva Davinci Pinot Grigio • Clean Slate Riesling Podere Montepulciano • Jean Luc Columbo Rose Lunetta Prosecco • Edna Valley Chardonnay Mark West Pinot Noir • Seven Moons Red Blend



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Baker: No quarantining needed for visitors from Northeast

By Matt Murphy STATE HOUSE News Service

In parts of the country, cases of COVID-19 are skyrocketing. But

country prepare to celebrate the Fourth of July this week, Gov. Charlie Baker said Tuesday that he was lifting the 14-day

as people across the self-quarantine directive for anyone traveling into Massachusetts from any of the other five New England states, New York or New Jersey.

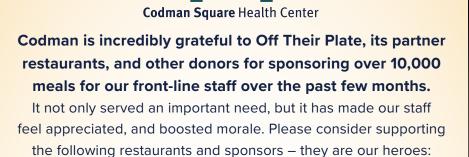
Baker said the quarantining instructions will remain in place for anyone coming into the state from anywhere else, including new hotspots around the country like Florida.

Some states, like Rhode Island and Maine, have put in testing and quarantining restrictions for visitors based on positive testing rates in the states they are traveling from. Rhode Island entered its third phase of reopening on Tuesday allowing gatherings of larger sizes, but also said that anyone coming from a state with a 5 percent or greater positive test rate will have to quarantine for 14 days unless you have a negative test within the last 72 hours.

"Different states have different rules," Baker said.

Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito also announced a new \$20 million rental assistance program that will use a mix of CARES Act and other federal funds to provide relief of up to \$4,000 per household to families struggling to pay their rents or mortgages due to COVID-19. "The goal here is simple, provide housing stability," Polito said.

Polito also made a push for the governors long-stalled housing legislation that would make it easier to obtain local approval for developers to build more housing in communities where real estate has become scarce and unaffordable for many families. Polito said the housing crunch was a problem even before the pandemic, and needs to be addressed.























ROW 34





































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'Crisis response system' sought for 911 calls on non-violent cases

(Continued from page 1) other cities that have crowd of young people making too much noise or setting off firecrackers in a park. Or if there's a senior who might have wandered off or there's a person with mental issues or a homeless individual who needs help."

For her part, Wu said, "As we are having a conversation about how to structure our public safety and public health infrastructure in Boston, we need to move toward responsiveness to the voices that have been crying out and wanting both services delivered in a safe and effective way.

"This means that someone from a background of mental health expertise, substance abuse counseling, social work, or community outreach would be deployed instead," she said. "The experience from the

enacted this have shown that it not only delivers better outcomes for residents, but also has saved money as well because they are delivering the most efficient resource to $meet\,the\,need,"\,said\,Wu.$

Mejia told the Reporter on Friday that the proposal is about providing "a step towards looking at our options to ensure that we're sending mental health professionals and people that have the skills and are trained to help where they are needed," she said. "We're creating a framework for what a communitycentered approach looks like.'

She said she has hosted virtual town halls with activists and residents suggesting alternate test pilots meant to engage the community on enforcement and accountability.

"A lot of the things that I've been hearing from constituents are about using alternative ways for us to think about engaging the community on enforcement measures and studying accountability metrics and how we train and educate," Mejia said.

"I'd also been tagged in several social media posts in regards to the fireworks in the city. People didn't feel like calling the police is the right approach and a lot of people are asking for a community-based approach that they can be involved in," she added.

The ordinance specifically calls for the city to develop within 90 days a systemic community safety crisis-response plan for non-violent emergency calls to "directly connect people in need to city or community-based service providers and replace law enforcement presence in nonviolent, non-criminal situations with a range of unarmed service providers."

According to the proposal, this would include health care professionals, mental health workers, workers specializing in outreach to residents experiencing homelessness, and other unarmed professionals with specialized training.

Walsh orders up fireworks 'task force'

gagement, and a slew has partnered with nonof community leaders profits and gathered perwhose names W alsh will announce this week.

Mejia told the Reporter on Friday that she intends to incorporate community feedback that she solicited during an online 'Fireworks Trauma' forum that she convened last month. The event drew 300 participants from across the city, some of whom described how the nearnightly barrage of explosions impacts people with PTSD.

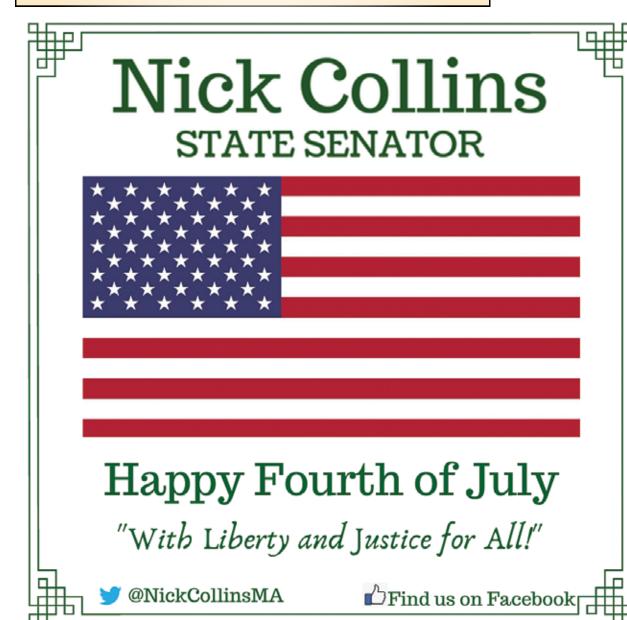
"I'm hoping to get an opportunity to continue this work and build on a framework that we've already created," Mejia

"I had a quick conversation with the mayor and Jerome Smith about the community-centered

(Continued from page 1) standpoint. My team in different neighbor-

> Bostonians generally expect to hear fireworks sounding off in their neighborhoods in the weeks leading up to and following the Fourth of July, but the frequency and intensity of this year's display has been significantly worse than usual.

> Boston Police do respond to calls for fireworks and confiscate large quantities. However, community service officers in Dorchester have acknowledged that there are limits to enforcement efforts and that they have been overwhelmed by the volume of calls this season.



dotnews.com July 2, 2020 THE REPORTER Page 11

If pause lifted, 'tidal wave' of evictions called certain

(Continued from page 1) ment of Urban Studies and Planning department, who compiled the report with his MIT colleague, Justin Stiel, in partnership with City Life-Vida Urbana.

"When the dust settles on the immediate crisis, and evictions once again proceed, Boston's communities of color will face an unprecedented surge in evictions," the report states.

Unemployment is at unprecedented levels amid a pandemic-prompted national recession, and roughly one in five renter families across the state will be unable to afford housing costs, according to the study.

Gov. Baker signed a bill on April 20 imposing a 120-day pause on almost all housing removal procedures, despite urging from landlords that he allow them to issue notices to quit. The new law allows him to extend it in 90-day intervals if the public health crisis continues.

Rep. Kevin Honan, the House chair of the Legislature's Housing Committee, and Boston Mayor Martin Walsh both added their voices via Twitter to those calling on Baker to trigger an extension.

Walsh called for Beacon Hill leaders to add "whatever supports are necessary to protect landlords from foreclosure and other harms" to a longer moratorium. "Housing insecurity is clearly an issue of racial equity as well as general economic disruption," he tweeted.

Walsh noted that it's important to help small landlords, who still have mortgages, property taxes, and other bills to pay, and risk losing their buildings, according to The Boston Globe. Peter Shapiro, a longtime Boston housing counselor and smallproperty landlord, told the paper that he has been working with trade group Mass Landlords to push a bill that would have the state guarantee rent for landlords who don't evict tenants who can't pay. Without some sort of backup, he said, many smaller landlords — who often charge lower rents than

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Eviction Filings in Boston Housing Court Suspended Due to COVID-19 (March 1, 2020 - April 20, 2020)

institutional investors with newer buildings — could go bust if tenants can't or won't pay rent for months to come.

Robinson and Stiel found that: 52 percent of Boston's rental units are in majority-nonwhite communities, while 70 percent of evictions are filed in the same neighborhoods; 37 percent of eviction filings occur in neighborhoods where a majority of residents are Black, even though only 18 percent of the city's rental housing is in these neighborhoods; more than 78 percent of all evictions filed in Boston during the pandemic and before the statewide eviction moratorium occurred in communities where the majority of residents are people of color; neighborhoods with the highest market-rate eviction filing rates were Roxbury, Mattapan, Hyde Park, South End and Dorchester.

Robinson said that the data set only accounts for "formal" eviction filings and doesn't capture evictions that happen "informally" outside of court. "We're not seeing it as the sum total of all evictions that are happening in Boston, but kind of the trends and patterns of evictions," he said.

The researchers also compared eviction filing data from 2014 to 2016 with more recent eviction records dating from the "onset of the pandemic in Boston"

on March 1 to April 20, when Baker signed the statewide eviction and foreclosure moratorium.

Lisa Owens, executive director at City Life/Vida Urbana, said that Boston's neighborhoods are bracing for a "tidal wave" of evictions when the statewide moratorium on eviction is lifted in August.

"Massachusetts housing court is estimating 20,000 eviction filings immediately after the moratorium on foreclosures and evictions is lifted as early as Aug. 18," she said. "Well before the pandemic, Black communities and other communities of color were subject to systemic racism in the form of government policies and discriminatory and oftentimes violent actions of private market actors.

Annie Gordon, a tenant at Fairlawn Apartments in Mattapan, said she was fighting a rent hike and possible eviction before the moratorium passed. "We face extremely high rent increases, and residents don't understand that they have rights and that they can fight back," she said.

Ruby James Saucer, a Mattapan resident who last year faced a \$700 rent increase before negotiating with her landlord in court through a tenant organization, said nearly her entire income goes towards paying rent. During the COVID-19 pandemic **78% of all evictions filed in Boston** during the pandemic are in census tracts where the majority of residents are people of color.

"You just can't live to pay rent in this country," Saucer said. "If we don't have rent control to combat that and if we don't do something before this moratorium is over, we will be in a world of panic with people not being able to live in their homes."

During the online discussion, housing advocates from around the country shared their cities' perspectives on how evictions disproportionately impact their own communities of color, contributing to a nationwide trend.

In December 2019, Walsh released "An Action Plan to Reduce Evictions," pledging to create 69,000 affordable housing units in Boston by 2030. His housing goal is to have 15,820 affordable housing units across a range of incomes, increasing the city's income-restricted inventory total to 70,000.

"The city tracks eviction data every year and the data has clearly shown that evictions rates are higher in affordable housing and neighborhoods of color," Sheila Dillon, the chief of housing for the city, said in a statement. "The Walsh adminis-

tration is committed to reducing the number of evictions in Boston and has put forth a plan to guide this work."

On Monday, US Rep. Ayanna Pressley referenced the City Life/Vida Urbana report as she spoke on the House floor in support of H.R. 7301, a bill that she said "would provide targeted relief to renters and homeowners impacted by the COVID-19 crisis." Thirty percent of families have missed a rent payment during the pandemic, she noted.

"Our families, in particular Black families, are on the edge of an eviction tsunami, just as the renter protections put in place through the CARES Act are due to expire next month," she said.

"I am proud that this bill includes my Public Health Emergency Shelter Act and will provide more than \$11 billion in funding for rapid rehousing and efforts to improve the health and safety of those experiencing homelessness. We must support this critical legislation and affirm our commitment to housing as a human right and housing as a form of justice."

State House News Service reporting was included in this story.

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RECENT OBITUARIES



FARRELL, James T. "Jimmy" "Jim," 78, of Brockton, formerly of Dorchester. He was a son of the late William and Margaret (Crawford) Farrell. Jimmy attended Boston State College and served in the U.S. Air Force. Jim worked for South Boston Post Office. Survived by his brother, Kevin Farrell of Dorchester and sister, Kathleen Farrell and her spouse Dorothy of Jamaica Plain; his sister-in-law, Clare Farrell of Randolph; also several nieces, nephews and their children. He was the brother of the late Martin Farrell, Jayne Fahy and her husband David and Anne E. Farrell and her late partner Pasquale Rosati. Donations in Jim's name may be made to the American Heart Asso-

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GUILFOYLE, Julia Marie, 81, a lifelong resident of Dorchester and Scituate, MA. Marie began her career at the Greenwood School in Dorchester, where she taught kindergarten for 32 years. Marie is survived by her sister Patricia Guilfoyle of Dorchester, brother Paul Guilfoyle of Fort Mill, SC. and seventeen nieces and nephews. Memorial contributions may be made to Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands.



LARKIN, John Edward Jr. of Rockland, formerly of Dorchester. John was the husband of the late Priscilla (Pagel)

Larkin. Father of Adelaide Burke of Quincy, Warren Hoppie of Whitman, Nancy Palhete of Rockland, Arlene Mac-Donald of Holbrook, Al Hoppie, Joan Edlin and Sue Larkin all of Marshfield, Priscilla McMahon of Pembroke, Shirley Larkin of Whitman, Alexander Larkin of New Hampshire, Scott Larkin of Marshfield and the late Richard Hoppie and John Edward Larkin, III. Brother of Trudy McLocklin of Littleton, Albert Larkin of Norfolk and Rita Elsmore of Rockland. Also survived by 34 grandchildren, 57 great grandchildren and 6 great great grandchildren. Retired member of District Council 35, Local 579 Painter's Union. John was a US Navy Korea Veteran. If desired, contributions in John's memory may be sent to South Shore Visiting Nurse Association, 30 Reservoir Park Drive, Rockland, MA 02370.

McMILLAN, Beverly Ann, 79, of Plymouth. Born in Norwood, she was the daughter of the late Peter and Delia Haldane. Beverly worked for the Boston Globe for 30 years. The longtime companion

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
Suffolk Probate & Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Docket No. SU20P0963EA
ESTATE OF:
BERYL WINT BERYL WINT

BEHTL WINI

DATE OF DEATH: 02/25/2020

To all interested persons:
A petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy
and Appointment of Personal Representative
has been filed by Windsor L. Glenn of Milton, 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: Windsor L. Glenn of Milton, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in an unsupervised administration.

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 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 07/31/2020.

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

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

Unsupervised Administration
Under The Massachusetts Uniform
Probate Code (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court.

Representative and may petition the Cour in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of

Witness, HON. BRIAN J. DUNN, First Justice of this Court. Date: June 19, 2020

Felix D. Arroyo Register of Probate



of the late Thomas Moore. Beverly is survived by her children, Cindy McMillan of Salisbury, MA, Todd McMillan and his husband, Andrew James Stone, of Dorchester, Lisa Piper and her husband, Randy, of Somerville, ME, Peter McMillan of Plymouth and the late Stephen McMillan. Beverly was the sister of the late William Haldane. She leaves 8 grandchildren. $\underline{and}\,5\,\underline{great}\underline{-}\underline{grandchildren}\underline{-}$ Donations may be made in Beverly's memory to Pat Roche Hospice Home, 120 Longwater Drive, Norwell, MA 02061.



NOLAN, Mary F. (Gildea) of Dorchester. Wife of the late Thomas J. Nolan.

Mother of Paul Francis and his wife Mary Nolan of FL, Eileen Marie and her husband Robert Kelley of Quincy, Kevin Thomas and his wife Jil Nolan of Duxbury, Brian Richard and his wife Terrie Nolan of Pembroke. Grandmother of 11. Sister of Sheila Fullam of Dorchester and the late Margaret Maloney, Sally Carroll and Rosemarie Corcoran. Remembrances may be made in memory of Mary to the Boston Home or the Dana Farber Cancer Institute.



O'CONNOR, Cecelia M. "Celia" (Harkins) Of Dorchester, 83. Wife of the late Richard F. O'Connor. Daughter of the late Edward and Rebecca Harkins of Ireland. Mother of Susan Mastrogiacomo and her husband, Philip, Richard O'Connor, Carol Goodrich, and Rebecca Mc-Grath and her husband, John. Grandmother of 10. Sister of Mary Garvey. Also survived by many nieces and nephews.



SWANSON, Lillian, 92, the last surviving sibling of 12, from Dorchester. She is survived by her daughter-in-law, Sarah, son James, his wife Niki, and son William and his wife Mona.



WALLACE, George **L. Jr**. He leaves behind his wife, Janice (Miller) Wallace. Father of Pamela Evans of Dorchester, Marianne Leaman and her husband, William of Hanover, James Wallace and his wife, Erin of Duxbury, and the late George C. Wallace. Grandfather of 6. Brother of Robert Wallace and his wife, Heather of Morgan Hill, CA, and the late Marilyn Wallace and Charles Wallace. Also survived by many nieces, nephews and cousins. George was devoted to various activited at St. Ann Parish, including Boy Scouts, Lector, Eucharistic Minister, Parish Picnic, Finance Committee and Bingo.



WILLIAMS, Melvin **Dexter** was born in 1961. He was educated in the Boston Public School System, and later attended trade school to earn a degree. As a young man, he participated in and was honorably discharged from the National Guard Division of the US Army. He is survived by his parents, Tiny and Arthur Williams. Melvin's daughter, Monica Hall. Children, Arthur III, Arthrishian and Johnnie Williams all and Johnnie Williams all of Boston, and five grandchildren. Aunts Ella Johnson of Boston, Martha Walter, Barbara Harper, Pastor Joan Robinson, Della Millner, all of Danville, VA; Sylvia Crawley of Philadelphia, PA, Remonia Guthrie of NC, and a special aunt Ruby Rolley of Dorchester. A host of relatives, friends, and cousins will continue to hold him in memory.

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LEGAL NOTICES

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT **PROBATE & FAMILY COURT** FOLK PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT 24 NEW CHARDON STREET BOSTON, MA 02114 617-788-8300 CITATION ON PETITION

TO CHANGE NAME

Docket No. SU20C0172CA IN THE MATTER OF: JOSHUA SHAWN PLACE LALIBERTE A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Joshua

Shawn Place Laliberte of Boston MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to Joshua Šhawn Place IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes 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 08/10/2020 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. BRIANJ. DUNN First Justice of this Court. Date: June 22, 2020

Felix D. Arrovo Register of Probate Published: July 2, 2020

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
INFORMAL PROBATE INFUHMAL PHOBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE
Docket No. SU20P0510EA
ESTATE OF:
JOSEPH J. ZINCK
DATE OF DEATH: November 20, 2019

SUFFOLK DIVISION

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Lisa M. Zinck of Dorchester, MA, a Will has been admitted to informal probate. Lisa M. Zinck of Dorchester, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered

under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court, Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to nstitute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

Published: July 2, 2020



The Industry finds 'successful' mix of take-out, patio and indoor dining

By Daniel Sheehan Reporter Staff

As phase two, part two of plans to reopen the state's economy continued this week, Dorchester eateries continued to make more strides towards recovery while reimagining their dining experiences in light of an still-evolving "new normal."

The Industry in Adams Village is the latest restaurant to take advantage of new city initiatives to make outdoor dining viable along its frontage. A new patio seating area created by reclaiming a sliver of Adams Street beside the restaurant has enough room for eight tables, said owner David Arrowsmith. He thanked City Councillor Frank Baker for assisting with getting the project green-lit.

Arrowsmith added he's "positive" about the coming months, with dine-in eating expected to provide a boost to the robust take-out business that has evolved at the restaurant during the pandemic.

"I think you could say it's been tremendously successful," he said. "We've been very fortunate with to-go foods. We've had great support from the community and since we've reopened the to-go business has carried on. I think we had more to-go orders last night than sit-in patrons."

The Industry has also seen a flurry of orders come in through delivery apps including Caviar, Doordash, and Uber Eats. Ordering at the restaurant is now touchless thanks to cards on each table with a QR code. Customers only need to scan the code with their phones to bring up the menu.

For now, patrons can reserve tables either inside or on the patio. Hours are 4-10 p.m. from Monday to Friday, per city guidelines, with brunch being served until 4 p.m. on the weekends.

"It's a different atmosphere," admitted Arrow-



The Industry, above, uses a QR code to direct patrons to its digital menu, which includes cocktails.

smith, who anticipates the return to normalcy will be a gradual process.

"We're just hoping this all passes swiftly," he said. "It's going to be a slow start, being at half capacity and all. But we're looking forward to what the fall brings."

At Dorset Hall in Neponset on Tuesday, a handful of customers were enjoying a rainy lunchtime indoors. Just outside the eatery, what used to be a car lot is now a blacktop packed with picnic tables— a change that has been well received by the community, said staff.

In Lower Mills on Tuesday, The Ice Creamsmith announced "scooping is back!" as the shop reopened for full menu service at the door, which will be offered Tuesday through Sunday from 3-8 p.m. Customers will also still be able to place orders online for quick pick up of quarts, pints, and sundae fixings. The shop had moved to an online-only ordering system in recent months.





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LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE
Docket No. SU20P0818EA
ESTATE OF:
JAMES H. GRAHAM
DATE OF DEATH: March 14, 2020
SUFFOLK DIVISION

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Patricia A. Walls of Scituate, MA, a Will has been admitted to informal probate. Patricia A. Walls of Scituate, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered

under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

Published: July 2, 2020

NOTICE

The Dorchester Historical Society's historic houses are closed at this time due to the COVID-19 corona virus.

We will announce when the houses will be once again open to the public.

For now our programs have been suspended.



William Clapp House, 195 Boston Street Lemuel Clap House, 199 Boston Street James Blake House, 735 Columbia Road www.dorchesterhistoricalsociety.org

'March Like a Mother' rally calls for action to protect Black lives





At left, activist and Mattapan resident Nashida Baril addressed hundreds of attendees in front of Trinity Church in Copley Square last Saturday. At right, rally goers raised a fist in solidarity as poet Ashley Rose recited one of her works. Photos by Daniel Sheehan

By Daniel Sheehan REPORTER STAFF

Several hundred people gathered in front of Trinity Church in Copley Square last Saturday to listen as a lineup of activists, artists, and elected officials — all of them women — led a "March Like a Mother For Black Lives" rally.

Most of the speakers at the family-friendly event were Black women from Dorchester, Mattapan, and Roxbury. Included among the ranks

were several elected officials who have gone on to represent the communities in which they grew up, including state Rep. Liz Miranda, whose Fifth Suffolk House district includes parts of Dorchester and Roxbury; City Councillor Kim Janey, and District Attorney Rachael Rol-

Miranda pointed to a familiar trend visible in the main demographic behind the country's current wave of activism.

"There is no movement in American history that has not been led by the young people and the women of this country," said the representative. who was also critical of Massachusetts's proclaimed progressivism.

In her remarks, she called for bans against "no knock" police searches and chokeholds and pointed to a 30-year difference in life expectancy between Bostonians who live in Roxbury and those who live in the Back Bay, a statistic from a 2016 Boston University study.

"It's a blue state until we talk about public justice," said Miranda. "We should be ashamed to talk about our liberalism."

Janey echoed Miranda's comments, thanking "the mamas in the background doing the work" for fueling the movement. She called on rally goers to support women and people of color-owned businesses and noted the momentum of the current moment.

"Our country is at a crossroads," she said. "There's a reckoning happening.'

Nashira Baril, an activist and midwife who founded the city's first safety and criminal birth center in Mat-

tapan, spoke of what she sees as an ongoing "dissonance" in society: the complex co-existence of "black grief and black joy" in the African-American community, as well as a dissonance in white circles between "espoused activism and a lack of action."

Baril described the ongoing pandemic as a "portal" to another world as she cautioned against a return to normality. emphasizing that in her line of work —the maternal health system— the US lags behind other developed nations, especially when it comes to mortality rates of Black mothers.

Ashley Rose, a Haitian-American poet from Boston, punctuated the defiant, resilient atmosphere of the rally with a reading of her poem, "The Haunting."

"In 2020, you don't want to be warring with me," she read, addressing the American systems of oppression and racism. "Not for another day, not for another decade, and damn sure not for another century. So. from this Black mother, let my children's children's children be free in this land that you built on black lives and black backs... or forever be haunted by me.'

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surmountable debt." There have been clear

(Continued from page 1) face a growing and "in-Connors, made the request for a merger in May, warning that "time is running out" as they

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warning signs that such a merger might be inevi-

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table. Clary and Connors have worked with lay leaders over the past two years to confront a growing debt and deferred maintenance problems. Parishioners mounted a vigorous public campaign to raise funds and attendance in response.

Clary also reported that he will return to full-time duty as pastor at the end of June after a long health leave. "It has been quite a ride, but with a clean bill of health from my doctors and feeling well, I look forward being back to full ministry. Thanks for all your prayers and concern. It helped a lot,' he wrote.

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dotnews.com July 2, 2020 THE REPORTER Page 15



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF DORCHESTER

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September 26th: See details below.

CONNECT THE DOT: BGCD Takes Part in 30th Annual

Rodman Ride for Kids Virtual Event September 26th: Our beloved Board Member Don Rodman who was such a great leader, philanthropist and supporter of BGCD said "people give to people and it's not for me, it is for the kids". This year the Ride is virtual but no less important. We are giving you the opportunity to help. Whether you get on a bike, create your own adventure or just spread the word - you're making a difference! We know that fundraising now is difficult, but like any challenge - we need to face it head on together! We have a special incentive that if the Club recruits 25 team members in July who commit to raising \$300 by Ride day in September, the Ride will match at an additional \$200! Join Team BGCD today at rodmanrideforkids.donordrive. com/event/bgcd2020 and help us cross the finish line!

FIND OUT WHAT'S INSIDE: BGCD Gets Ready for Virtual Summer Programming for Members: Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester will be continuing our "BGCD At Home" Virtual Programming this Summer. Mondays through Thursdays we will be providing activities such as Brain Games, Boxing, Body + Fuel Fitness, Art, Reading and more! Programs will run from July 13th to August 21st and will meet online via

We will also be hosting Family Movie Nights every Wednesday at 6:30 PM online via Zoom. We will be watching some of your favorite new movies like Trolls, Coco, Sonic and more. Make sure to RSVP with Brendan!

For more information or to register, please email Brendan McDonald at bmcdonald@bgcdorchester.org with your child's name and age.



DID YOU KNOW: BGCD Congratulates Our

Graduating Class of 2020: As the school year officially comes to an end, Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester would like to congratulate our graduating Senior Class of 2020 on all of their accomplishments!

Despite all of the challenges and difficult times, your perseverance has shined through. No matter where your paths may take you, you should always remember that BGCD will always be here for you. Once a member, always a member! We know you all have great, bright futures ahead of you and all of us at BGCD wish you the best.

Whether it be college, a job, or another path, we cannot wait to see what the future holds for you all. Congratulations!

UPDATES

Due to the COVID-19 Crisis, all 3 of our Clubhouses will remain closed. For the most up to date information on Club activities and resources or to make a donation to our Clubs, please go to our website at bgcdorchester.org.

For those in need of assistance, please call our Club Community Hotline @ 617-288-7120 ext. (4444) or email us at info@bgcdorchester.org.

Thank you to our community and friends, we will get through this together!

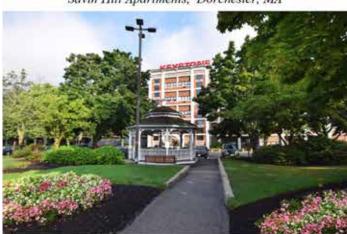
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