Dorchester Reporter

"The News and Values Around the Neighborhood"

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50¢



Introducing the Dorchester Fieldhouse

A rendering of the front entrance to the Dorchester Fieldhouse planned for Columbia Point. See presentation on Page 16. Image courtesy of Martin Richard Foundation and Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester

BPS student-athletes watch from sidelines as games go on elsewhere

By SETH DANIEL REPORTER CORRESPONDENT

As the high school sporting world keeps rolling on around them, many Boston Public Schools (BPS) student-athletes have had their winter seasons disrupted for the third time in three years. The school district announced on Sunday night that it will continue the suspension of high school sports that began on Dec. 23 indefinitely, even as private schools in Boston and suburban districts continue with their seasons.

The disparity in policy was hammered home this week on Tuesday as boys' hockey teams from BC High and Xaverian faced off at Neponset's Devine Rink. "There are a lot of kids that can keep playing on club hockey teams or are still playing at private schools in Boston and yet we can't," said



Boston Latin School girls' hockey co-captain, Dorchester's Sydney Hanlon, said the continued suspension on winter sports announced by Boston Public Schools last weekend has hit student athletes hard. They can only sit on the sidelines and hope for a return. Michael O'Reilly photo

Dorchester's Sydney Hanlon, a senior co-caption of the Boston Latin School (BLS) girls' hockey team. "It's just a punch in the gut when you have them playing sports all around you and we can't. We just have to continue to adapt.'

BPS officials first instituted the stoppage to slow the spread of Covid-19 during holiday games and tournaments. That suspension was to end on Monday, but BPS spokeswoman Sharra Gaston said on Sunday that school officials had "made the difficult decision to continue the current pause in athletics that started during the winter break," a move that "prioritizes the health and safety of our students, staff, and spectators.

"We will continue to monitor the situation and make decisions

(Continued on page 10)

deeply cold temperatures, long testing lines, and staffing shortages inside public schools. Testing residents has proved to be a particular challenge, mirroring a nationwide problem. At the Anna Cole Community Center in Jackson Square, people last week waited for more than three hours in the cold to get tested, prompting city officials to set up a tent, with heating and ventilation. The testing site, one of the busiest in the city,

also extended its hours to 7 p.m., Monday through Thursday. The Heath Street Community Center is open Fridays from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m., Sundays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and closed on Saturdays.

Omicron surges

through the city,

sending positivity

numbers soaring

By GINTAUTAS DUMCIUS Managing Editor Boston's coronavirus positivity rate rose this week to 32 percent, a 10 percent hike over last week and a number far above the 5 percent tipping-point threshold that came as city officials grappled with

The tents are temporary, according to Dr. Bisola Ojikutu, executive director of the Boston Public Health Commission, since they are seeking to open up additional testing sites with longer hours. "That's really the longer-term solution to this," she said.

Codman's testing site at Russell Auditorium on Talbot Avenue was closed on Tuesday and Wednesday due to extreme cold. The health center planned to give out home test kits as an alternative to PCR (Continued on page 15)

Fields Corner project first to use community crowd-funding method

By SETH DANIEL REPORTER CORRESPONDENT

Having a voice in the neighborhood via community meetings is something that's prevalent in Dorchester and Mattapan as development remains strong in the neighborhoods. Now, a new financing method being offered for the first time in Dorchester allows neighbors to not only weigh in on projects, but also to invest in them.

It's equivalent of letting community members put their money where their mouths are say those who have brought the "regulation crowd funding" idea to Dorchester.

Miriam Gee, of Co-Everything, said they have long partnered with TLee Development on numerous projects, but after the federal government passed Title III of the 2012 JOBS Act, they focused on a small piece of that law called 'Regulation Crowd-funding exemption,' which is overseen by the Securities and Exchange Commission(SEC) and allows the public to invest small amounts in things like real estate projects.

While such offerings re not the make-orbreak financing required for affordable housing developments, the mon-(Continued on page 19)

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News, Inc.



'Bay City' seen sparking transportation fixes

By SETH DANIEL

REPORTER CORRESPONDENT Meetings focused on

the massive Dorchester Bay City project at Columbia Point kicked off on Monday of this week, with one of the main issues involved in the development-transportation – on the agenda.

How people will move around the new neighborhood is top of mind

project, as the site sits issues, but they mostly they have already been close to a number of areas waiting for upgrades, including Kosciuszko Circle (K Circle), Morrissey Boulevard, Mt. Vernon Street, and the JFK Red Line Station.

The developers Kirk Sykes and Dick Galvin, of Accordia Partners said they plan to contribute financially to

for close watchers of the those transportation hope the project will be a "catalyst" to bring everyone together to solve the bigger problems.

> "Part of our charge was to put together a game plan, to be the convener or catalyst to see these big partners come together with solutions on transportation," said

To that end, both said meeting for a year with a working group led by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) and involving eight city and state agencies focused on what is known as a Regional Transportation Demand Model (CTPS) - a planning tool that anticipates

(Continued on page 11)

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A rendering shows how a new fire station on Meetinghouse Hill might look. *Image courtesy Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture*

Artists sought for Meetinghouse Hill fire station project

The Mayor's Office of Art and Culture has issued a "call to artists" to commission a \$200,000 public art project that will be part of a new firehouse on Meetinghouse Hill

The Engine 17-Ladder 7 station — which has been located across the street from the First Parish Church since 1928 is set to be replaced by a modern firehouse that will be built on an empty lot next door on East Street. Construction on the \$24.7 million project is already underway, according to a memo released last week by the Boston Arts Commission, which will lead the selection process for an artist.

A site for the art installation has already been identified along a glass window bay, so "artists

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Days Remaining Until

MLK, Jr. Day 4

Valentine's Day32

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Quadricentennial of Dot 3,377

January 13, 2022

with experience working with translucent, archival materials (glass, plexi, etc.") in public space" are sought for this project, which seeks to highlight "firefighting and the neighborhood's relationship with the fire station."

The call for artists closes on Jan. 21. Two virtual question and answer sessions were set for this week— including Thurs., Jan. 13 at 6 p.m. There is a "strong preference for artists who have a connection to Dorchester and/or themes of the project," according to the city. For more information on how to apply, contact the project manager Sarah Rodrigo at sarah.rodrigo @boston.gov, or visit Boston.gov/arts.

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-BILL FORRY

Former SJC justice, ex-BPD head Davis join police commissioner search panel

By Gintautas Dumcius Managing Editor

Geraldine Hines, a former Supreme Judicial Court justice, and Ed Davis, who served as the late Mayor Thomas Menino's police chief, have signed on to a panel tasked with helping Mayor Michelle Wu find a new police commissioner. She told the group to identify the "best candidates no matter where they currently may be working" at a City Hall press conference on Jan.

Acting Commissioner Gregory Long, who has served for nearly a year on an interim basis, will advise the panel but will not be among the candidates for the permanent post. Wu last week called him a "close and trusted adviser" in running the department and setting up the search process.

The ultimate choice will step into a department riven by controver-



Geraldine Hines

sy and in need of reform. Before he left for the Biden administration in March, former mayor Marty Walsh tapped Dennis White for the job, then quickly put him on leave in the wake of reports in the Boston Globe of decades-old domestic violence accusations. Acting Mayor Kim Janey later fired White.

Separately, more than a dozen police officers have been charged by federal prosecutors in connection with overtime fraud, and nine have pleaded guilty. Additionally, a former police union official has been accused of child molestation, and the city has paid out millions of dollars in legal settlements over police wrongdoing.

Amid the upheaval, Boston has avoided some of the rising crime rates seen in other major cities. Violent crime and property crime have declined over the past five years. Violent crime in 2021 was down 15 percent from the year before, and homicides fell to 40 last year from 56 in 2020.

Davis, a former Lowell office who led the Boston Police between 2006 and 2013, said last Thursday that transparency and reforms of the department are "necessary."

Hines, who retired from the state's highest court in 2017, is chairing the search committee, which also includes Bishop William E. Dickerson II of Dorchester's Greater Love Tabernacle Church; Abrigal Forrester, a Caribbean American who grew up in Codman Square and serves as executive director of the youth organization Teen Empowerment, and Jasmine Gonzales Rose, a law professor at Boston University.

The committee is set to gather community input before plunging into its search, with public listening sessions scheduled for Thurs., Jan. 20. at 6 p.m., and Wed., Jan. 26, at 12 p.m. Meetings with community and law enforcement groups are also expected.

"As we continue to reckon with the impact of systemic racism on policing and violence, this is an opportunity for Boston to reimagine the role of the police as part of our broader infrastructure for public safety and public health," Gonzales Rose said in a statement.

Rollins launches criminal probe of MBTA

Suffolk County District Attorney Rachael Rollins said last week that her office has opened an investigation into whether the MBTA bore any criminal responsibility for the Green Line trolley cash last summer that injured 27 riders.

Rollins, who left office on Monday when she was sworn in as the US attorney for Massachusetts, said the investigation will focus on whether the transit agency failed to address the behavior of a trolley driver with a "reputation for speeding and history of violations."

She added in her statement announcing the probe: "There is perhaps no single state agency that impacts the daily lives of the millions of people who live and work in the greater Boston area more than the T. "Therefore, it is imperative that if we see a continued lack of oversight or negligence at the MBTA, that it is



This damaged Green Line trolley is shown after a crash last summer that injured 27 riders. The trolley operator— Owen Turner— was charged with negligence.

Photo courtesy NTSB

exposed and corrected."

The Green Line crash occurred last July when a trolley operated by Owen Turner slammed into another train from behind. National Transportation Safety Board investigators later determined that Turner's train accelerated before

the crash, and Turner was charged with negligence of a person having care of public conveyance and gross negligence in management of a train.

Rollins said Turner's colleagues and supervisors had been aware of his pattern of reckless behavior but failed to

take action.

"When an employer willfully turns a blind eye to one of their employee's dangerous and reckless actions, they become complicit in behavior. When those employee's actions rise to the level of criminal conduct, there are circumstances where an employer can and should also be held criminally responsible for the acts of an employee," she added.

The investigation will fall into the lap of Kevin Hayden, the chair of the Sex Offender Registry Board who was tapped by Gov. Baker last week to serve as district attorney until a new county prosecutor can be sworn in after the November elections.

Rollins also said her office had opened a perjury investigation into former Boston Police Detective John Brazile regarding his testimony in two murder trials.

- MATT MURPHY SHNS

UPCOMING CIVIC MEETINGS AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Dorchester Society will host a virtual program on The Synagogues of Dorchester, Roxbury & Mattapan on Sunday, Jan. 23, 2 p.m. via Zoom. Dorchester native Jeff Calish will describe the movement of the Jewish population to and from Roxbury, Dorchester and Mattapan over the last 150 years, and the synagogues that served the many congregations that were formed. He will also point out buildings that once housed Jewish congregations and are still in use by other religious groups in our neighborhoods. Register for the event at dorchesterhistorical society. org.

The Ward 15 Democratic committee will host its monthly meeting on Sat., Jan. 15 from 10 a.m. 11:30 a.m. via Zoom: https://fb.me/e/1n4kwhPyH.

The Boston Ward 17 Democratic committee will hold its annual caucus virtually, on Wed., **February 16.** The purpose of the caucus is to elect delegates to the Massachusetts Democrats 2022 State Convention. Doors open for registration at 5:30 p.m., and all participants must be registered and in the virtual room by 6:45 p.m. All are welcome, and any registered Democrat in Ward 17 can run and/ or vote. To register for the caucus. please visit https://bit.ly/w17caucus. A BPDA-hosted Article 80 public meeting will be held on Thurs., Jan. 27 at 6 p.m. in connection with the proposed Martin Richard Dorchester Fieldhouse project. See ad on Page 6 for more information on how to join the meeting, which will be held via Zoom. A comment period on this project will

be held through Feb. 7.

The RPDA will host t

The BPDA will host the next in a series of virtual public meetings beginning on Jan. 20 at 6 p.m. to review specific topics of the Dorchester Bay City project. The Jan. 20 meeting will focus on housing and economic development. Please register in advance by going to the link: bit.ly/3ysaUEy. Additional, topic-specific public meetings include Jan. 31 (inclusive public realm improvements and placemaking) and Feb. 17 (urban design and open space.) View more documents related to this project at bostonplans.org.

Roxbury Main Streets will a comedy night fundraiser on Friday, Jan. 14, 8 p.m. at Hibernian Hall, 184 Dudley St., Roxbury. The event will be hosted by Boston's own Corey Manning, who has appeared

at the Apollo Theater, Amazon Prime, Nickelodeon and NBC Family Feud. Proceeds from the evening will support the ongoing revitalization of the small business in Nubian Square and Roxbury. General admission is \$45 with a special pricing of \$25 for seniors and students. Tickets are available online at buryfunny.eventbrite.com. Boston Police will host a hockey skills clinic for youth on Sat., Jan. 15 at Murphy rink in South Boston. The clinic starts at 8 a.m. Space is limited. Call 617-343-4752 for more info.

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Baker picks chair of Sex Offender agency to succeed Rollins

By Chris Lisinski State House News Service

Aformer Suffolk County prosecutor is in place as the county's district attorney for the next year, preparing to serve in what his former boss expects will be a "more traditional prosecutor's role" as reform-minded DA Rachael Rollins took on the position of US Attorney for Massachusetts after her swearing in on Monday.

Gov. Baker last Thursday named Kevin Hayden, who since 2015 has served as chair of the state's Sex Offender Registry Board (SORB), to serve the remainder of Rollins's term, which will last until the next Suffolk DA — whom voters will select in the Nov. 8 election — is sworn in.

The appointment marks a reprise for Hayden, a Democrat who served in the DA's office from January 1997 to April 2008 after he graduated from Boston University's School of Law. The interest post could offer him a foundation for a campaign should he choose to run for a full term.

Former Suffolk County District Attorney Daniel Conley, who oversaw Hayden for six years during his tenure, said he believes the SORB



Suffolk County District Attorney Kevin Hayden was sworn into office by Gov. Charlie Baker at the State House on Monday. *Photo courtesy DA's office*

chair will make an "excellent leader" as the new top prosecutor. the start of his tenure as DA in 2002, Hayden was a district court

'Like all good prosecutors, and I like to think I was the same way and I imparted this on the staff who worked for me, we recognize human frailty and we recognize that people who make mistakes are one class of individuals that come before the court. But there's also another class of defendants who are very serious and violent," Conley said in an interview with the News Service. "When Kevin was an assistant DA, he focused on both. He understood, and he could distinguish the difference."

Conley, now an attorney at Mintz Levin in Boston, recalled that at

the start of his tenure as DA in 2002, Hayden was a district court prosecutor and later rose through the ranks into leadership positions. According to Baker's office, he served as chief of the Safe Neighborhood Initiative Unit and as assistant DA for the Anti-Gang Unit, the Homicide Response Team, the Juvenile Unit, and for the Boston Municipal Court,

Hayden departed in 2008 to join a private law practice, Conley said, and later began serving as general counsel and active executive director roles for the Sex Offender Registry Board. In 2015, he became the agency's chair, replacing Gov. Deval Patrick appointee Anne Conners.

"I started 25 years ago as a young prosecutor right here in Suffolk County. Over the years it has remained the desire of my heart to serve and protect our many diverse communities. So, it's truly my distinct honor and privilege to be called home by the governor through this appointment," Hayden said in a statement. "With unwavering and compassionate commitment, I know it will be Suffolk County's continued legacy to shine as a beacon in the fields of public safety and criminal justice.'

In announcing his pick, Baker praised Hayden as "a dedicated public servant with a proven record of commitment to equitable justice and community engagement. A veteran of the District Attorney's Office, where he led the Safe Neighborhood Initiative Unit and devoted himself to leading community-based violence prevention outreach and programming, Chairman Hayden is equipped with the experience and knowledge necessary to serve in this role," the governor said. "I thank District Attorney Rollins for her service and commitment to the people of Suffolk County and look forward to continuing to work with her in her new role as US Attorney."

In a Thursday afternoon statement, Rollins offered Hayden "heartfelt congratulations," adding that his professional experience speaks to his prioritization of serious and violent offenses and addressing the needs of our communities. I look forward to working hand-in-hand with him as he ascends to his new role and I ascend to mine."

Earlier this year, Rollins tweeted, "FYI, when DA's leave, at least all the men that did before I was elected, they recommend (tell) the Governor who should replace them." On Jan. 6, she thanked Baker "for our numerous conversations and his thoughtful consideration

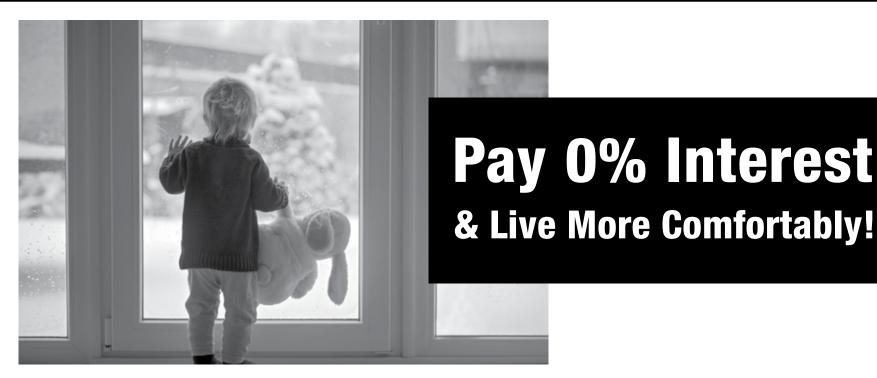
of the candidates who sought his appointment to serve out the remainder of my term."

Her approach as district attorney, which she outlined in a "progressive prosecution" strategy in March 2019, called for looking to divert or dismiss many nonviolent, low-level offenses. It also at times drew criticism from the Baker administration.

Conley said he anticipates Hayden will "pursue a more traditional prosecutor's role, one that is victim-centered and focused on serving victims and keeping neighborhoods as safe as they possibly can be. That's the kind of leader I expect that he will be because that's the kind of prosecutor he was as a young lawyer."

Voters will choose the next Suffolk County district attorney this fall. Hayden did not say on Thursday if he planned to launch a bid for a full term, but Conley said he hopes his acquaintance of two decades decides to do so.

There is now a vacancy as chair of the Sex Offender Registry Board. Baker's office said the administration is reviewing candidates to fill that role.



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MBTA feeling pinch of Omicron, the cold

By Chris Lisinski STATE HOUSE **News Service**

Bundle up and prepare for delays. With the potent Omicron variant cutting into the on-duty workforce and frigid cold forecast for early in the week, the MBTA continued to face obsta-

prove they are vaccinated.

Digital record of vax

Vaccinated residents of Massachusetts are now

able to access a digital record of their Covid vaccine

history, including a scannable QR code, that could

be stored on their smartphone and presented to

Gov. Baker's administration rolled out the

"COVID-19 SMART Health Care" on Monday just

as the city of Boston prepares for a new vaccine

requirement to take effect at the end of the week in

all restaurants, gyms, and entertainment venues.

Boston is one of the few cities in the state to adopt a

universal vaccine requirement for certain business-

es, but in other communities, individual business

owners have also decided to require customers to

Administration officials say the effort is designed

to make it easier for residents to prove their status

should they engage in any activities where proof of

vaccination is required, but has no plans to require

myvaxrecords.mass.gov and entering a name, date

of birth, and either an email address or cellphone

number. The system will pull up a resident's full

immunization record, including flu shots and other

vaccines, by accessing data stored in the Massachu-

Users will then be given the option to either take

a screenshot or add their COVID-19 SMART Health

Card with a QR code to their Apple wallet or similar

The digital health card will be available by visiting

its use in businesses on a statewide basis.

setts Immunization Information System.

non-iPhone application for easy access.

businesses requiring immunizations for entry.

status is now online

normal schedule.

About 50 T employees were out sick with active Covid-19 cases. MBTA General Manager Steve Poftak said on Monday, an uptick that has pressed the nearly 6,000-employee agency back into nearly the same distressed position that last month prompted officials to cut service on many bus routes.

In early December, the Twas dropping about one in every twenty scheduled bus trips because of a driver shortage. The new winter schedule that took effect Dec. 19 shaved bus frequency by about 3 percent to mirror the limited workforce, but the benefits did not last long.

"What we saw right after we made that reduction was that dropped trips dropped, which is what we expected to see, and then Omicron almost immediately swooped in and took hold," Poftak said in an interview. "We are seeing dropped trip numbers that I would say are roughly equivalent to what we saw before we reduced service."

The workforce impact so far has not been as dire as last year. During the previous winter surge, Poftak said, the MBTA peaked at 114 active employee cases. Agency leaders have long said they expect for every positive case, two other employees are out of work and unavailable while quarantining or caring for a loved one impacted by Covid.

Still, Poftak said he believes more staffers have called in sick due to the

-SHNS

virus than the about 50 who indicated they tested positive. Like leaders of many other agencies and businesses, Poftak said the ongoing surge fueled by Omicron has "definitely impacted our employee availability.'

Commuter rail operator Keolis has been feeling the strain, too. Poftak estimated the company has "roughly the same number of active cases as we do, and they're about a third of our size."

Starting Monday, the T and Keolis eliminated 26 of the roughly 500 daily trips across the network to manage the staff impacts. Most of the temporary cuts were local service to Reading on the Haverhill Line and to Framingham on the Worcester Line, according to Poftak.

Officials have not made any additional changes to the bus or subway schedule.

The MBTA is not alone in struggling to attract and retain enough workers. Business groups in virtually every field have complained of shortages in recent months, and last-minute closures have become common.

Poftak said the Twants to expand its active bus operator workforce by about 180 positions. A class of 27 new drivers started last week and a second class will start this month, which Poftak

called a "pretty unprecedented" pace.

In December, the T approved a contract with Boston Carmen's Union Local 589 that allows the agency to offer an unspecified one-time hiring bonus to attract new employees. Poftak said Monday that officials are still finalizing those plans and would share more in the "coming weeks."

On top of the depleted workforce, the tundra-like conditions that hit Massachusetts between Monday night and Wednesday morning with minus-zero wind chills in the forecast seemed likely to create issues for the MBTA's vehicles and slow down travel times.

The T cautioned commuters about the outlook, telling riders that delays are possible even as the agency makes "every effort to operate subway trains and buses at or near regular weekday schedules."

Of particular concern, Poftak said, is that the cold snap will follow a relatively mild weekend because too quick a change in temperature could create problems, especially for railways.

Vehicles can be impacted by the cold weather," he said. "At some point, it hit 45 degrees on Monday. Some time tomorrow, it's going to be, I think, five degrees or less. That obviously

puts a lot of stress, particularly on rail."

MBTA crews will store many train cars and buses indoors overnight to prevent exposing them to the harsh elements. and they will perform regular check-ups on vehicles that stay outdoors. Trains will cycle in and out of yards to avoid long stretches of idleness in the cold, workers will test brakes and propulsion systems for any moisture or ice buildup, and crews will perform inspections to ensure switch and third rail heaters are functioning.

The winter has stunted a months-long trend of MBTA ridership increasing, albeit still below pre-pandemic levels. Poftak said he wants to see a few more weeks of data before determining if the recent slowdown should be attributed to the Omicron surge or to a typical holiday slowdown.

Back in the spring, employee Covid cases at the MBTA dropped below 20. Poftak said it's not yet clear if the ongoing wave will continue to rise or if Omicron's blow to the workforce has already peaked.

"If we've learned anything in the last two years, it's that every time you think you've out-thought this virus or have a rock-solid scenario for the next year, you end up going back to the drawing board," he said.





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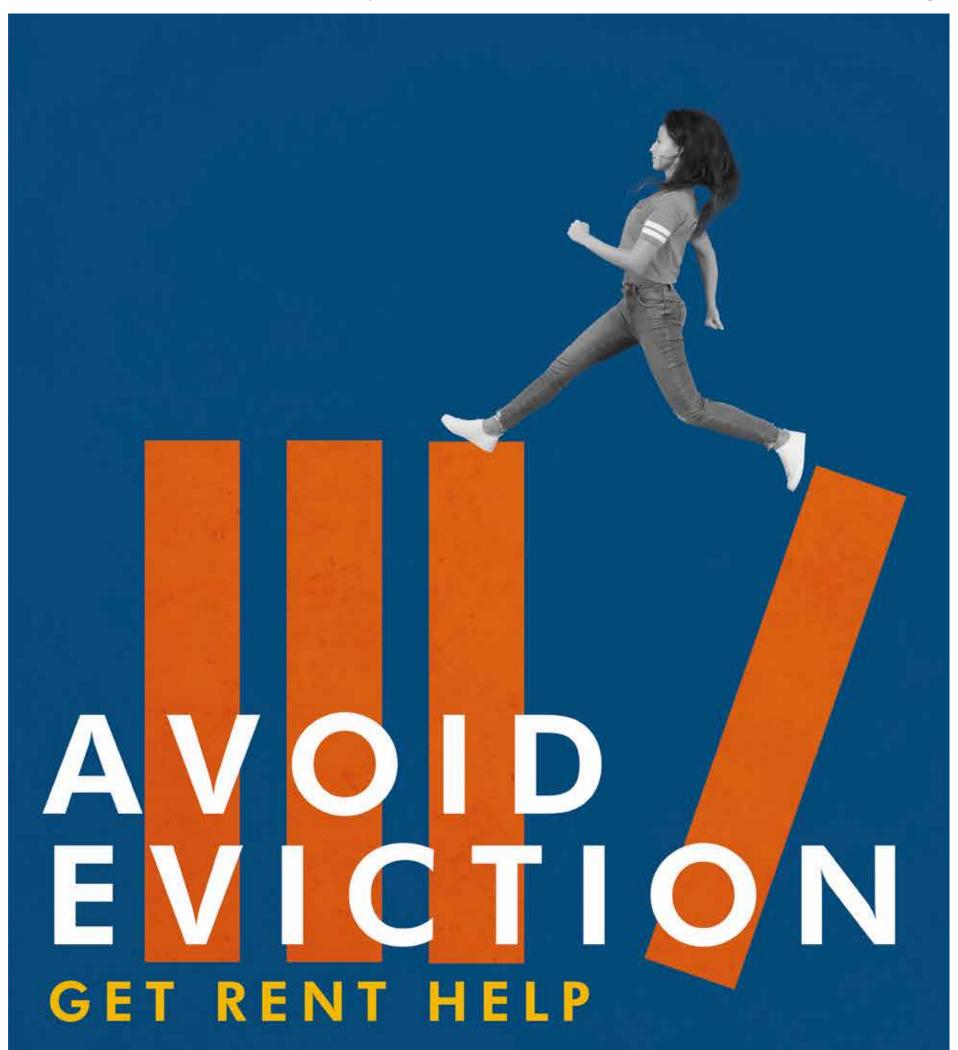
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With \$1 million raised, Allen works the grassroots in her governor bid

By MATT MURPHY STATE HOUSE News Service

Democratic candidate for governor Danielle Allen called the lack of available at-home rapid tests for Covid-19 "devastating" and "unnecessary" in an interview last Wednesday as a surge in cases strained school, private-sector workforces, and hospitals.

Allen, who is on leave from Harvard University, where she holds the James Bryant Conant Chair as University Professor, is one of two Democrats currently in this year's race for governor. While her family history of public service pushed her toward a run for public office, Allen said, she ultimately decided to run last summer "out offrustration" with what she saw as a slow and inadequate response to the unequal impact the pandemic was having on different communities.

"The fact that we're still in this place where we cannot get our hands on rapid tests, for example, is just devastating. It's unnecessary," she

Allen said she traveled over the holidays to the United Kingdom with her husband, who is Brit-

ish, and found a different testing landscape. "They have a surge just as bad as ours, but you can get your hands on rapid tests in the UK. There's not a shortage. There's not a problem. It's not like it can't be done," she said.

If she were governor, the 50-year-old Allen said, she would have pushed harder for an interstate compact that could have worked with the federal government to build out testing and test manufacturing infrastructure. Allen previously chaired a rapid response group that contributed policy ideas to President Joe Biden's Covid-19 response plan.

Allen spoke with the News Service on the eve of the anniversary of the Jan. 6, 2021 attacks on the Capitol building in Washington, D.C. That same day, she released an outline of her proposal to strengthen democracy. In 2020, Allen $co\text{-}chaired\,the\,American$ Academy of Arts and Sciences' Commission on the Practice of Democratic Citizenship, which produced a report titled Our Common Purpose."

"For me, the Jan. 6 moment was a real moment to sort of dig in and say, "Look, we've got to

build a path toward hope. We've got to do that. We're at a real inflection point," Allen said.

Her plan calls for passage of the VOTES Act on Beacon Hill, including allowing voters to register and vote on the same day, and for reining in the influence of corporate money on state politics. She said as governor she and her office would comply with public records laws to the same degree as municipal government is required, and she said she would appoint a chief service officer to establish a "universal expectation of service" for all youth, including the creation of a Youth Climate Corps.

Allen said she'd also like to see the Legislature pass a bill allowing municipalities to implement ranked-choice voting, which failed as a statewide ballot initiative in 2020.

"It's a pandemic, but it's also a climate crisis. The strains on our democracy, racial injustice and inequality, and I just believe nothing could be more important than forging a path out of these dark, hard times," Allen said. "I believe a place we deserve to get to is a green and healthy

next generation democracy

A MassINC Polling Group Survey released last Thursday found that 70 percent of voters have still not heard of Allen, and 15 percent were undecided in their opinion of her. Seven percent said they had a favorable opinion, compared to 5 percent unfavorable.

"It's about grassroots work," Allen said of the challenge of breaking through. "We are, as you know, a state where all politics is local, and I think name recognition means something different in a state where grassroots matter so much."

Allen said she has been meeting with Democratic town committees, local chapters of civic organizations and other activist groups to build support, and has hired an organizing director and regional organizers with an eye on the Feb. 4 start of party caucuses where delegates to the Democratic Party convention will be elected.

"This project of reimagining ourselves as one commonwealth is about knitting our diverse communities together across the state. And to do that we're working to build a grassroots movement," she said.

Allen said she was not



Harvard University professor Danielle Allen announced her gubernatorial campaign on Boston Common last June. Chris Van Buskirk/SHNS/File

being put on whether Attorney General Maura Healey will run and the prevailing notion that she would be the immediate frontrunner for the Democratic nomination.

"I'm just focused on the work, honestly, and having a great time," she said.

For now, Allen is running alongside state Sen. Sonia Chang-Diaz, a Boston Democrat who has also talked about building a grassroots campaign and touted her campaign's small-dollar donations as evidence of momentum on that front.

Allen so far leads the Democratic fundraising field with over \$1 million raised for her campaign, and she has \$370,401 in the bank, though that total would be dwarfed by Healey's \$3.67 million in campaign cash should the attorney general get in the race.

Allen said that she often gets asked what frustrated by the focus the first bill she would file as governor would be, but she said her first actions as the state's chief executive would more likely be to shake up some of the boards and commissions, including the Department of Public Utilities board, that control policy at the state level.

"From my point of view, the first act would be appointments, and specifically appointments to the relevant commissions and regulatory bodies that will determine whether we not only meet but exceed the goals of the next generation climate road map, and we need to make sure that people who are in the driver's seat of decisions about the future of our energy infrastructure are renewable energy experts, the people who are building that, not people who have vested interests in the continuation of the fossil fuel industry,"

bpda **Virtual Public Meeting**

Martin Richard Dorchester Fieldhouse

Thursday, January 27 6:00 PM

Zoom Link: bit.ly/Fieldhouse1-27 Toll Free: (833) 568 - 8864 Meeting ID: 160 192 1994

Project Description:

BPDA-hosted Article 80 Public Meeting in connection with the proposed Martin Richard Dorchester Fieldhouse project, for which a Project Notification Form ("PNF") was filed with the BPDA on January 5th, 2022. Interpretation for this meeting will be provided in Vietnamese and Spanish. Should you require interpretation in another language, please contact Aisling Kerr through the information available below. Please register in advance for this meeting through the link provided above. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email from Zoom with a personalized link to join the meeting.

mail to: Aisling Kerr

Boston Planning & Development Agency One City Hall Square, 9th Floor

Boston, MA 02201 phone: 617.918.4212

email: aisling.kerr@boston.gov

Period: 2/7/2022

Close of Comment



Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

A race for sheriff: Tompkins aide sets bid to replace him

Citing the need for "new leadership," Sandy Zamor Calixte, a top aide in the Suffolk County Sheriff's Department office since 2006, formally launched her bid to challenge incumbent Sheriff Steven Tompkins in this vear's election on Jan. 5 outside the Mildred Avenue Community Center in Mattapan. The incumbent, who has served in the office since 2013, has told GBH News that he is running for reelection.

The sheritt, wno is elected every six years, manages the Suffolk County House of Correction and the jail on Nashua Street, has responsibility for inmates and pretrial detainees in custody, and oversees a staff of 1.000. Suffolk County includes Boston, Chelsea, Revere, and Winthrop.

"For the last two decades, I have done the work behind the scenes to make our department more equitable, transparent, and community-centered," Zamor Calixte said in a statement. "But after working within the system and pushing behind the scenes for change, it is clear to me that the only way to implement the



Sandy Zamor Calixte Taking on the boss

hange we need in this department to better serve our community is new leadership. I know that I am that leader."

Zamor Calixte first joined the department as coordinator of community outreach and youth program, then ascended to chief of external affairs and communications in 2014. According to her biography on the sheriff's website, she helped launch a program that "created pathways for students residing in Suffolk County to explore careers in law enforcement, and helped build a coalition effort with community organizations to curb youth gang violence."

She previously worked as an investigator for the Department of Industrial Accidents.

The challenger has hired Katie Prisco-Buxbaum, who managed City Councillor Andrea Campbell's mayoral run, then launched a consulting firm, Hyphenated Strategies, in November after the election, to work on her campaign.

Nancy Rousseau of Brockton is listed as campaign chair and treasurer, according to a filing with state campaign finance regulators.

Tompkins, too, was a longtime staffer in the sheriff's department before he got the top job. He had worked there for 11 years before Gov. Deval Patrick appointed him to the top job, replacing Andrea Cabral, who joined Patrick's administration as public safety secretary. Tompkins went on to win the November 2014 election for the job. He was reelected in 2016.

"Sandy has been a valued member of the Suffolk County Sheriff's Department since 2006, Tompkins told GBH. "I hate to lose her, but I welcome her to the battlefield. Let's dance."

- GINTAUTAS **DUMCIUS**

Reporter's People

News about people in and around our Neighborhoods

Uphams Corner development nonprofit's CEO stepping down

By GINTAUTAS DUMCIUS Managing Editor

Dorchester Bay Economic Development Corporation (EDC) is looking for a new leader. CEO Perry Newman plans to step down in June after six years in the top job. Newman, 63, said the Uphams Corner-based organization, which has a real estate portfolio and small business lending programs, is in strong



Perry Newman

financial shape. "The stars are in alignment for new leadership," he said in a phone interview.

A Codman Square resident, Newman took the job in December 2015 after stints at Combined Jewish Philanthropies and heading up his own international business development firm, Atlantic Group, in Portland, Maine. He also served for four years as director of international trade for the state of Maine.

Dorchester Bay EDC was set up in 1979, with a focus on affordable housing and economic development. The organization says it has built or preserved more than 1,100 units of housing and 160,000 square feet of commercial space. Much of its real estate portfolio is in Uphams Corner, where the organization is headquartered, and Grove Hall.

Its ongoing real estate projects include 43 units of senior housing on Leyland Street, the renovation of Uphams Corner's Pierce Building, and 62 units of affordable housing and artists space inside the former Citizens Bank building at 572 Columbia Road.

The organization recently wrapped up development of the Indigo Block, which includes 80 units of mixed income rental housing and 20,000 square feet of commercial space.

The small business assistance program has loaned to hundreds of small businesses, from "coffee shops, to web designers, to undersea marine repair services, to restaurants, and auto repair shops," among others, according to Newman.

The organization has 30 staffers, assets totaling \$229 million, and an annual operating budget of $\$5.\tilde{5}$ million. A 16-member board of directors oversees the operation.

Dorchester Bay EDC said it is looking for someone with at least seven years of senior leadership experience, preferably in the nonprofit sector. The job comes with a salary ranging from \$190,000 to \$240,000. Eos Transition Partners is handling the search for the new executive.

Newman praised the Dorchester Bay EDC's staff $\,$ for their work. "Many are from the community we serve and dedicated their careers to this community,' he said. "I feel privileged to have worked with them and I'm really profoundly moved by what they accomplished.

As for Newman, he is still contemplating his next steps after helping the next CEO get up and running.

"I like to say I still have miles left in me," he said. A Cleveland native, he has lived in Codman Square for the last eight years, Monday through Friday, while returning to Maine on the weekends.

"I don't think I'll ever be able to untangle myself from Dorchester Bay," he said. "It's been a tremendous experience and I wouldn't change a bit of it."



Jeopardy! Host Ken Jennings, left, and Sean Sweeney, right, a Dorchester resident who appeared as a contestant on the show on Jan. 7.

Photo courtesy Jeopardy Productions, Inc. Photo courtesy Jeopardy Productions, Inc.

His longtime ambition realized, Dot man gets slot on 'Jeopardy!' show

By Katie Pedersen SPECIAL TO THE REPORTER

This season of 'Jeopardy!' featured Dorchester resident and speech-language pathologist Sean Sweeney facing off in the competition known for requiring answers in the form of a question. "It's an ambition that I've had since high school, and I'm 48 now," Sweeney said. "I remember doing a trivia team in high school and starting to watch 'Jeopardy!' I'd rush home from swim practice to catch the end of it. I've always wanted to do it." For the past six years or so, Sweeney has taken the online test offered on the show's website at yearly intervals in an effort to make it onto the show, which is produced in California.

During the pandemic, he said, "I hopped back on and took it and didn't think much of it." Then, about a month later, he was invited to take another test, this time monitored over Zoom, where he was about one of 30 potential contestants. În regular years, Sweeney said, these tests would be administered in-person throughout the US. This year, Sweeney

said, "A lot of people didn't even turn on a light or say hello to the producer, but it's sort of an audition." He made a point of being personable. "About a month later, I heard that I'd moved on to the next level, and that was just nine people," Sweeney said. "They were all professors except for me. That was just a mock game and an interview." At that point, Sweeney was told, the producers had moved past skills and were looking at the personalities of potential contestants. "About a month later, I got 'the call' in 'Jeopardy!' contestant lore. They said, "We'd love for you to be here in about a month."

Once he knew he'd be competing, Sweeney began researching how to train for the show online, determining his weak spots and expanding his knowledge through map quizzes, research, nonfiction children's books, and input from his husband. a high school math teacher. He also used archives of old games to practice selecting categories. "People think they give us New York. At the end the categories before we go and that there's spe-

cific things to study, but that's all on you," he said. "It could be on anything." Once Sweeney arrived in Los Angeles, he was tested several times for Covid-19 before he was able to enter the studio where he complied with strict protocols throughout his stay. "One of the best things that happened to me because of this was connections with people,' Sweeney said. "In this time where it's been kind of weird connecting with people, people in my life really like hearing about 'Jeopardy!' on Facebook." He added: "People have been so positive and supportive through the airing. Particularly during this time where we're having a Covid surge and people are kind of in the dumps, I think it's provided something cool for people who know me to look forward to." Sweeney finished a close third place behind "Su-perchamp" Amy Schneider, an engineering manager from Oakland, California, and Patsy Lester, a social studies teacher from Patchogue, of the Jan. 7 episode,

Schneider became the

fifth contestant in the show's 38-year history to win \$1 million.

"I made friends with a bunch of the contestants that I was with on that day, and we started a Facebook chat," Sweeney said. "We had to wait two months for our episodes to air, and that's a long time to wait." In the meantime, Sweeney said, they continued to connect online. Schneider "has been on the streak for 28 days," Sweeney said. "She passed a million dollars on my episode. When you arrive, you don't know that you're facing a "superchamp." She's already in fourth place all time. I think we all felt like we would've liked to do better, but we were facing someone who's a really good player and that happens. Above all, Sweeney said, he enjoys the learning inherent in 'Jeopardy!" "People like it because they like learning and knowledge," he said, adding that the game sparks interest "in knowing about the world and literature and pop culture Winning or not winning, it's a real privilege."

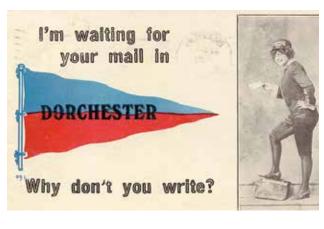
YESTERYEAR ARCHIVE

DORCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY Postcards

Within the postcard name was to be entered. industry in the early twentieth century, there was a subset of generic postcards with space for a town name to be printed or imprinted by a rubber stamp. We have two examples today, where the sender thought the cards appropriate and mailed them for a penny apiece. The generic items were called pennant cards, named for the shape of the space where the town

The archive of these historical posts can be viewed on the blog at dorchesterhistorical society.org.

Reminder: A house history from the Dorchester Historical Society would make a great gift to a homeowner in Dorchester or Mattapan. Take a look at some of the completed histories on the Dorchester Historical Society website





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Editorial

Boston schools need 'go remote' option

Regular readers of this space know that we've generally given city and state leaders high marks for their response to the Covid-19 crisis. We still do. It's not easy to stay ahead of this shape-shifting plague that confounds scientists and makes adapting real-time public policy a tricky business.

This week brought encouraging news. Education officials wisely extended the mandate for mask-wearing in schools across Massachusetts through Feb. 28. And Gov. Baker announced that 26 million new rapid test kits will be bought and distributed to K-12 schools and child care centers, which should help keep more kids in classrooms.

But when it comes to school districts and the question of remote learning, it just doesn't make sense to apply a "one size fits all approach" across the state. That has been made abundantly clear this week in Boston, which is struggling to keep teachers and kids safe in classroom settings that — in many cases— are antiquated and unfit for learning, particularly during extreme weather. Add to that a surging positivity rate— which spiked by 10 percent in Boston over the last week— and you have a recipe for chaos.

That is why Mayor Wu's assessment of the current state policy on public schools—it requires in-person attendance and does not allow for a remote option—is spot-on. School districts like ours that are juggling large populations of needy students and a surge in Covid-related absences among staff should have the flexibility to rotate in remote learning days or weeks.

Gov. Baker and his team have been adamant that the state should keep its in-person-only policy in place, telling a legislative committee on Tuesday that the narrative that schools "aren't safe is just not based on any data. "It's just not," the governor added. "And I'm not going to let people perpetuate this idea that schools aren't safe, because they are and it's been proven not just in Massachusetts but in the US and around the world for the better part of a year and a half."

But whether or not schools are unsafe due to virus transmissions, certainly it's not ideal for kids and teachers to have to contend with staff shortages that are compromising the capacity of individual schools to offer suitable instruction and safety measures. There were a reported 1,202 BPS staff members absent on Monday, according to the mayor, who has said that closings – like the one prompted by extreme cold on Tuesday – would be a "last resort because of the impact on so many families."

And whether or not everyone agrees on the perils to kids' health, clearly there is a huge uptick in transmissions happening that can put parents and faculty at risk. Data released by state education officials over the weekend reveal that there were 51,000 new cases of the virus reported among students and staff over the last two weeks, a sharp boost that does not yet even reflect what has happened since classes resumed for most students on Jan. 5.

The governor is correct that it's in the best interest of everyone when students are learning in classrooms. But in the face of a still-rampaging pandemic and the attrition of our teaching staff, it would be best to give districts like Boston the flexibility they need to make sensible decisions day-to-day, week-to-week until this latest sweep of the coronavirus eases up.

Many private schools and employers have employed that common-sense lever. Our school district should be afforded the same option.

Bill Forry

The Reporter

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Plumbing Dorchester's meaningful ties to the South Africa of Mandela and Tutu

By BILL WALCZAK REPORTER COLUMNIST

Bishop Desmond Tutu, part of a generation of anti-apartheid activists and revolutionaries who brought down a South African government built on racism, died on Dec. 26, 2021. As Anglican bishop in South Africa in the 1980s and 1990s, he became known world-wide as the heroic face of peaceful opposition to the apartheid government of South Africa.

Massachusetts had a particularly close relationship with the anti-apartheid struggle that was led by Nelson Mandela, whom the apartheid government jailed for nearly 30 years. He was released in 1990 following a world-wide boycott of South Africa as part of demands for democratic elections there. Mandela was elected president in that first post-apartheid election.

Boston was one of Mandela's first stops on a worldwide tour after he was released from prison. Massachusetts had been the first state to withdraw pension funds from companies that were doing business in South Africa, an action that spread across the world and put great pressure on the white leadership of South Africa to negotiate an end to white rule.

Much of that leadership was Boston-based, including then state Rep. Byron Rushing, and the former Dorchester resident and judge Margaret Burnham, who was head of the Free South Africa/Free Mandela movement. During some of Mandela's years in prison, a few of his children also lived in Massachusetts.

An estimated quarter million people attended Mandela's speech on the Esplanade on June 23, 1990. He was greeted as a hero, a combination Abraham Lincoln, Martin Luther King, and George Washington, everywhere he went. I was part of a large crowd that lined the entrance road to UMass Boston to cheer and greet Mandela's motorcade when he came to visit the Kennedy Library. He also stopped at Madison Park High School, and at an evening dinner in Mandela's honor, the Trotter School chorus, of which my son was a member, got to sing for him at the Copley Plaza.

Boston and the Commonwealth did more than root for a changed South Africa. In 1997, Massachusetts and the Eastern Cape Province signed a "sister state-province agreement" that called for close ties between educational and medical institutions. In 2000, a state commissioned Massachusetts—South Africa Health Task Force" sent a delegation to attend the International AIDS Conference, held in 2000 in Durban, South Africa. I was one of 20 people chosen to travel there in my role as CEO of the Codman Square Health Center.

What we saw was an immensely proud country that had succeeded in overturning a government built on bigotry and was then building a country based on democracy. We visited modern cities but also villages without electricity and met a population in the throes of a devastating AIDS epidemic. Our tour introduced us to universities and hospitals looking to modernize, and community groups creating support systems for their communities. We met community leaders, educators, and medical providers who informed us how we might help.

Back in Boston, the Codman Square Health Center staff and board looked at ways the health center could help. We realized that with the Dorchester House Multi-Service Center (now DotHouse Health), we had expertise in HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment, technology, and education, and launched a plan to work with entrepreneurial organizations in East London in the Eastern Cape Province.

These included the A.W. Barnes public school, located next to an "informal settlement" of shacks, which partnered with us to build a community technology center— the Masimanyane Women's Support Center— that worked with us on HIV and domestic violence, and with a group of women who made lunches and uniforms for the students at the school in a micro-enterprise project. The project was named "Izandla Ziyahlambana," a Xhosa saying that means "the hands wash each other."

The community technology center established early but primitive Zoom-like connections between students from the A.W. Barnes School and Codman Academy, while offering technology classes to students and their parents. We purchased industrial grade sewing machines and a joiner for the women to build their sewing businesses and sell garments and other textiles for income. We were able to have our HIV/AIDS workers collaborate with South African HIV/AIDS workers. A short video of this work is available on YouTube under the title "Izandla Ziyahlambana" at https://youtu.be/8SoyEKbmhqU.

The partnership received an award at the 2004 South Africa Partners gala, at which Bishop Tutu was a guest of honor.

The work of these health centers with partner organizations in South Africa inspired those of us who participated on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean because it was built on hope – for helping to create a healthier and better world. Over my many years in community organizing, I've come to realize that hope is the main ingredient that results in positive change. Hopeful people will work to make things better; hopeless people generally do not. Izandla Ziyahlambana gave people from communities 8,000 miles apart a reason to hope for a better world - something we could use in our divided and discouraged country and world.

Bill Walczak is a Dorchester resident. His column appears regularly in the Reporter.

Off the Bench

As evolution enhances our capacities, our inner selves lag behind the curve

By James W. Dolan Special to the Reporter

That mankind has made tremendous strides in science and technology is beyond dispute. The pace of progress since the Industrial Revolution validates the continuing development of our capacity to learn and apply skills previously thought to be confined to the imagination of science fiction writers.

Most such "progress" has been beneficial and has improved our standard of living. Often lost in the excitement are the downsides, the unanticipated problems that are the result of scientific and technological discoveries. Some have produced weapons of mass destruction capable of killing millions. Others have complicated how we relate to one another.

While these discoveries underscore the evolution of our intellectual capacity, do they also reflect a positive change in our values? Are we better? Are we more honest, more compassionate, more understanding, and more committed to the common good? Or are we the same as we have always been—self-absorbed, angry, and distrustful? It appears that the two paths of evolution do not occur in tandem.

The evidence strongly suggests our intellectual capabilities have steadily evolved over time while morally and emotionally we remain essentially the same as our ancestors. In fact, some of what we refer to as "progress" has created or exaggerated divisions within society. We have become more partisan, more antagonistic, and less able to either define or implement the common good.

Despite its history of mass annihilation, the threat of unimaginable nuclear war remains. Partisanship renders our national political processes almost incapable of constructive action. Despite the two-term

election of our first black president, race relations remain fraught. His autocratic successor has split the nation in two and that fact threatens our democracy. Truth is no longer objective reality; it is whatever you imagine or want it to be. Freedom, too, is now subjective.

War is madness, as is defund the police and guns for everybody. Climate change is a global threat, yet we are unable to agree on sensible limitations. Regrettably, evolution is developing on two tracks: Science and technology are exacting disciplines, requiring patience, experimentation, confirmation, and, eventually, consensus. Our humanity is subjective, emotional, impulsive, and dependent on guidance from parents, teachers, philosophy, and religion.

The spiritual (or humanistic) component of human nature has failed to keep pace with mankind's cerebral development. Without sensible restraints and clear directions, the balance between what we can do and should do is distorted as human nature improves slowly, incrementally. if at all. Unlike advances in science and technology, our progress is erratic, more variable, and more difficult to measure.

What does history teach us about evolution? That is happening and will continue so long as we do not destroy ourselves. Evolution is much more pronounced in science and technology and promises, if used correctly, to substantially improve life on earth.

But for that to occur, we must continue the slower and more complex striving to become better human beings.

beings.

James W. Dolan is a retired Dorchester District
Court judge who now practices law.

What's ahead at City Hall, on Beacon Hill for 2022

By GINTAUTAS DUMCIUS Managing Editor

After a year with three mayors amid an ongoing pandemic, Bostonians can't be blamed for wanting things to settle down a bit. But anybody who's made it to any Friday thinking, "Well, maybe next week will be quieter," understands that's a hope and prediction unlikely to come true.

The race for governor is expected to thrum in the background for the first half of the year, as Democrats, already in possession of a legislative supermajority, hope to retake the corner office held by Republican Charlie Baker for two terms. There will be plenty of intraparty battles among Democrats, as well as Republicans, some of whom remain in the tight thrall of a former president.

The race is already having ripple effects throughout the local political scene. State Sen. Sonia Chang-Diaz's decision to run for governor (an announced position she shares, for now, with Harvard Professor Danielle Allen) spurred two House lawmakers who've represented parts of Dorchester (Liz Miranda and Nika Elugardo) to gear up runs for her Senate seat. That means there'll be at least two House vacancies in Boston, offering a chance for more local activists and community organizers to throw their hats into the ring.

Whoever's in the governor's chair come next January will play a big role in determining what happens to Mayor Michelle Wu's first term agenda, which includes a fare-free MBTA and



Mayor Michelle Wu hosts a press conference at Boston City Hall on Jan. 10 to discuss the ongoing efforts at the Mass and Cass area of Boston. Photo by Isabel Leon

that were part of her campaign platform.

Before announcing his decision to stick to two terms, Baker kept the door ajar for Wu's proposals as he sought a non-aggression pact with Boston's new chief executive. Wu has already hit the road with plans for three fare-free bus routes that run through Dorchester, Mattapan, and Roxbury, but whether she makes more headway with rent control than the late Mayor Thomas Menino, who also proposed its return, remains to be seen.

Meanwhile, Democrats running for governor will be seeking Wu's endorsement while taking pages from her playbook. Her 2021 win - with an overwhelming 64 percent mandate from the city's voters – came three years after Ayanna Pressley knocked

rent control, two items out fellow Democrat Michael Capuano and a year after US Sen. Ed Markey fended off a challenge from an ambitious young member of the Kennedy family, as redundant as some of those adjectives may be. These results portend a shift in the electorate, at least in Boston, with voters in the latest election seeking a more liberal candidate who proposes an overhaul of how we

> Here's what else to watch for in the coming months.

> take public transit and

how much we spend to

live here.

New police commissioner. The Boston Police Department was thrown into turmoil last year after Acting Mayor Kim Janey fired Commissioner Dennis White after the Boston Globe revealed a troubling personnel record overlooked by the Walsh administration. Separately, a former police union official was accused of molesting children, while other cops have been charged with overtime fraud. Wu, like some of her predecessors, is likely to run into resistance from public safety unions, which have typically resisted reforms, preferred praise, and disdained outsiders while turning contract fights into nasty affairs.

The schools. The Boston Public Schools system has its own multitude of problems, the most recent happening this week when more than 1,000 staffers, nearly half of them teachers, stayed away on Jan. 4, in part due to the coronavirus pandemic. Violent incidents, such as the ninth grader who on Nov. 3 allegedly attacked the head of Dorchester's Henderson K-12 School, have also drawn scrutiny from advocates and city councillors.

In the background, there's the steadily declining percentage of school-age children among Boston's population as parents seek other options.

Next steps for Long Island. A week ago Tuesday, Wu and her team lit out for Long Island, taking a 10-minute ferry ride to what was once home to many of the city's addiction and recovery offerings. The bridge to Long Island abruptly came down under Mayor Marty Walsh, who cited its dilapidated structure. But the city has been locked in a legal battle ever since with neighboring Quincy, whose residents have resisted rebuilding the bridge that starts on Quincy land.

In a press conference after her team's return to the mainland, Wu said the amount of space that remains available on Long Island – 400,000 gross square feet of buildings – widened the eyes of her housing chief, Sheila Dillon. "There is a very powerful potential for recovery, and for those who need access to services to continue that

legacy on the island," Wu, who pushed for a focus on ferry service during the campaign, told reporters. There isn't yet a timeline for when an island facility could be back up and running, as city officials focus on creating temporary housing to deal with the addiction and homelessness crisis at Massachusetts Avenue and Melnea Cass Boulevard.

The end of the Boston Planning and Development Agency. Mayoral candidates often run against the city's planning and development agency, including Marty Walsh and, when he ran against Mayor Menino in 2009, City Councillor At-Large Michael Flaherty. Under Walsh, the agency underwent a rebrand while still technically carrying the name Boston Redevelopment Authority. Wu has been adamant about abolishing the agency and hiring a chief of planning, who will be tasked with streamlining the whole process and making it more transparent. The development pipeline is expected to continue as the abolishing slowly gets underway.

Speculation about the future of development in Boston, and about who will be one of the key figures behind it, is a focus of the city's real estate industry. "It's like waiting for a pope to be chosen," one insider recently told the Boston Business Journal.

LEGAL NOTICES

COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE & FAMILY COURT
SUFFOLK PROBATE & FAMILY COURT
24 NEW CHARDON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02114
CITATION GIVING NOTICE
OF PETITION FOR
APPOINTMENT OF CONSERVATOR
OR OTHER PROTECTIVE ORDER
PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B,
§5-304, & §5-405
DOCKET NO. SU21P2606PM
IN THE MATTER OF
BRUCE NANCE, SR.
of DORCHESTER, MA
RESPONDENT RESPONDENT (Person to be Protected/Minor) the named Respondent and all

other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Bostonian Nursing Home of Dorchester. MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Bruce Nance, Sr. is in need of a Conservator or other protective order and requesting that Jessica Libby of Milton, MA (or some other suitable person be appointed as Conservator to serve With

be appointed as Conservator to serve With Personal Surety on the bond.

The petition asks the Court to deter-mine that the Respondent is disabled, that a protective order or appointment of a Conservator is necessary, and that the proposed conservator is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or

proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 01/28/2022. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance i you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date action may be taken in this matter withou further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return d IMPORTANT NOTICE

The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense. Witness, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.

Justice of this Court. Felix D. Arroyo
Register of Probate
Date: December 28, 2021
Published: January 13, 2022 COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE & FAMILY COURT
SUFFOLK PROBATE & FAMILY COURT
24 NEW CHARDON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02114
CITATION GIVING NOTICE
OF PETITION FOR
APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN
FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON
PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304
Docket No. SU21P2664GD
IN THE MATTER OF:
DENISE BEY
of DORCHESTER, MA
RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitated Person

To the named Respondent and all other rested persons, a petition has been filed by Mass Dept. of Mental Health of Westbor by Mass Dept. of Mental Health of Westbor-ough, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Denise Bey, is in need of a Guardian and requesting that (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve Without Surety on the bond. The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is neces-sary, and that the proposed Guardian is

sary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this ourt and may contain a request for certain

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 AM on the return date of 01/20/2022. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named

person's right to make decisions about persons right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, on may be appointed at \$15th expenses. one may be appointed at State expense. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.

Date: December 23, 2021 Felix D. Arrovo Register of Probate Published: January 13, 2022

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BPS student-athletes watch from sidelines as games go on elsewhere

(Continued from page 1) in consultation with BPHC (the Boston Public Health Commission) as Covid continues to shape our school year," her statement concluded.

At Dorchester's Jeremiah Burke High School, boys' basketball coach Sean Ryan and his 2019-20 state championship team were set to get back on the court on Monday to defend their title after three interrupted seasons. Even their championship was affected by the virus when the final game in Worcester was cancelled and they shared the title with their opponent. Last year was a shortened year. There was no state tournament, and not much of a season.

Ryan says his team was "chomping at the bit" to resume play. "To date, we've played one game and two were postponed," he said, "and I don't have any answers for them. Sports matter an awful lot to kids in the city, and especially basketball at a school like Jeremiah Burke. A lot of kids choose to come here because of the sports like basketball. Honestly, to persuade them to come back to school without it has been difficult."

Like many coaches across the city, Ryan



Boston Latin School girls' hockey co-captain, Dorchester's Sydney Hanlon. Michael O'Reilly photo

said he is all for safety and not saying anyone made a wrong decision. He supports the pause, but also cannot overlook that other schools around Boston, and private schools in Boston, are still playing games safely. He hopes his team can get to that point sooner rather than later.

For some players, he said, their future could hinge on having more games. "I feel I have one of the better kids in the city right now, but he's a senior and didn't play as big a role (in 2020) when he was a sophomore," he said. "Last year he made a lot of progress, but it was a short season and masks and everything, it was a hard to get a $college\,coach\,to\,come\,out$ in that environment. For some of these kids, basketball might present an

opportunity that opens doors for them to get to college. That opportunity is being taken away from them right now."

Katie Nolan, a Dorchester resident and Boston Latin Academy (BLA) girls' hockey head coach, worries that some of her players might never get a "normal" season, an experience that affects their emotional health significantly.

These sports are an outlet to get away from school pressures and outside factors, so when they get on the court or on the ice, those things go away," she said. "That has now been taken away from them again.

"Last year they only got to play 10 games and started super late. This year we were given false hope that we'd have a full season," added Nolan. "Kids need the social interaction and that keeps getting stripped from them. You go a couple miles down the road to Quincy or Milton and they're still playing. A lot of private schools in Boston are still playing in Boston."

credits team leaders - particularly Hanlon and fellow Dorchester senior co-captain Sarah Young – with their grit and leadership in the face of it all.

"They are more resilient and have endured things that no other team before them even had to," said Galvin. "They've been showing great leadership and that means something much different in 2022... It's the things that don't show up on a scorecard that these kids are hitting out of the park. They say city kids are built differently, and I believe that."

Brenna Galvin, as-

sistant coach for the

BLS girls' hockey team,

said they are very dis-

appointed with the

suspension. Still, she

Both Hanlon and Young grew up playing Dorchester Youth Hockey and have played hockey at BLS since the seventh grade. This was to be their last year, and they hoped to defend the Dual County League title they've held for four years. Now, watching from the sidelines while the rest of that predominately suburban school league continues to play, their hopes are in question. In fact, they don't even know if they'll ever suit up again.

"We have to adjust to the mindset of playing every game like it's our



tion Sarah Young said she's been waiting her whole hockey career-one that started at Dorchester Youth Hockey - for her senior year, and now it feels like it's being taken away by Covid. Lilah Conroy photo



Jeremiah Burke boys' basketball coach Sean Ryan says his team is "chomping at the bit" to resume play.

Photo courtesy MIAA

last game and giving 110 percent at every practice because it might be our last practice," said Hanlon. "Usually when they say play every game like your last or to give 110 percent, it's a morale booster. This season it's just the truth."

Added Young, "It's devastating news because this was probably the last year I'll play hockey in my life, and it keeps getting postponed and getting worse every day. You play all your life, and you wait all that time for your senior season and then it feels like it's taken away."

Dorchester resident and BLA girls' hockey captain Maeve Roche said the team mood is very low. "I'd say the mood of the team is that we're very down because we have no answers to when we might get to go

back, if ever," Roche said. For both BLS girls' hockey and Burke boys' basketball, the show has gone on for their rivals, and their hopes of continued dominance on the ice or hardwood boils down to a waiting game.

"In a perfect world I would like to start back up tomorrow because the rest of the state is playing now," said Young. "I get it, but we're the only team now that isn't playing in the Dual County League, which we've won four years in a row."

Added Hanlon, "Our league opponents will not wait around for us... Right now, we can only watch from the sidelines and hope."



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STAFF LUNCH BREAK: 1:30 - 2:15 PM

(TIMES MAY VARY)

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Ward 15 Democrats Party Committee **Monthly Meeting:**

> January 15, 2022 10:00-11:30 AM

Zoom: https://fb.me/e/1n4kwhPyH

'Bay City' seen sparking transportation fixes

Developers pledge aid to help push critical issues

(Continued from page 1) all new developments, housing units, and transportation trips through 2040.

Galvin and Sykes said that work will be the underpinning for a large state and city transportation study of K Circle and Morrissey Boulevard that is to begin later this year.

"We have been meeting for the better part of a year now to understand how the city and state can work to make these solutions come to bear," said Sykes.

They hope to light the spark that can leverage public money from sources like the recent federal infrastructure investment and jobs act, and private funding from other developers in the immediate area.

Such a strategy, using a large project as a catalyst, was employed about six years ago on Rutherford Avenue in Charlestown – a similar stretch used as a secondary commuter roadway – with the Encore Boston Harbor casino project acting as





Transportation was the key topic of the most recent Dorchester Bay City development meeting on Jan. 10.

that catalyst. That effort yielded detailed plans for the area, and that project is funded and scheduled for construction next year

The hope is such a process can repeat for the K Circle, Morrissey, Mt. Vernon, and JFK quadrangle, and Dorchester Bay City, for its part, indicated it planned to make a \$26.7 million commitment. That money would be for designing, permitting, funding, and constructing transportation improvements. But 66 percent of that commitment, or \$17.7 million, will be reserved for use during Phase 1 of the Dorchester Bay City project to construct a new Mt. Vernon Street layout to meet the city's Complete Streets standards.

The most recent cost estimate for Mt. Vernon Street is \$15 million, with K Circle at \$200 million, Morrissey Boulevard at \$40 million, and the JFK Station renovation at \$100 million.

"Most of the solutions are right there in front of us," said Galvin. "We've talked about them for years. Our strategy is to confirm these strategies and solutions and provide early dollars... starting with Mt. Vernon Street as our first improvement and putting out money early to help advance the JFK Station, Morrissey and K Circle and make these projects...'shovel worthy.'

Galvin added that the remaining money from Dorchester Bay City would be under the purview of the city and the project's Community Advisory Committee (CAC).

Transportation planner Lourenco Dantas, who is working on the Dorchester Bay City project, said that by reducing parking substantially, they believed that most trips would come via walking and public transportation. The shares of trips coming by public transit at morning are expected to be at 37 percent, and 27 percent in the evening. Pedestrian trips would account for 24 percent in the morning and 34 percent in the evening, according to Dantas. With upcoming Red Line train car and signalization upgrades, their analyses showed that there would be enough

capacity on the Red Line to handle the project's increased transit trips.

Another strategy for limiting traffic, Sykes and Dantas said, is not building the allowed number of parking spaces. They are building 2,865 spaces at the full buildout, while they are allowed 3,600 slots. The existing parking on the site now consists of 2,338 spaces.

During the comments from the public, Steve Hollinger said he felt the plans were very "car-centric," especially with roadways that were 53.5 feet wide and "ridiculous for a floodplain and a city trying to build density."

Neighbor Desmond Rohan said he had major reservations about the larger transportation issues like K Circle and needed "assurance of action there." "We've seen this show before," he said.

David Butler, of the Columbia-Savin Hill Neighborhood Association, said he hoped that the approach would work, but he felt the plans didn't reflect how gridlocked the area is now

"I think you've understated how quickly the whole neighborhood gets gridlocked," he said. "It's great that you're fixing Mt. Vernon, but all those streets have chokepoints."

The next topical meeting for Dorchester Bay City will focus on housing and economic development and will be online on Thurs., Jan. 20, at 6 p.m.





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Page 12 THE REPORTER January 13, 2022 dotnews.com

Herb Chambers

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How to deal with your pet's stress and anxiety

By Dr. Edward SCHETTINO

Beginning a new year typically brings a sense

Moment of Paws

of renewed hope and optimism, but our level of anxiety going into 2022 may be at an unprecedented high.

Just like humans, pets can be prone to stress, anxiety, and depression. The onset of the aforementioned can come from sensing, empathizing, and mirroring our own mental states. It can also come in response to the addition or loss of a family member or pet, a change in routine, or moving into a new home.

At the Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL), we regularly treat animals of all species exhibiting various behaviors. It could be a dog with fearful body language, a cat who chronically hides, a feather-picking bird, a nervous rabbit with bulging eyes, among others.

Signs that your pet may be experiencing stress, anxiety, or depression can include: lower-than-usual activity levels, a lack of appetite, excessive grooming, regression of behavioral

training, and destructive strengthens the bond beor aggressive behavior.

If your pet is exhibiting any of these, consider the following:

• Give them more attention. Spending more time with your pet assures them they are cared for and safe. Whether it be play time, petting, grooming, or cuddling, do whatever they and you enjoy.

• Increase activity. Just like us, when your pet is active, there's the potential for mood enhancement. Inactivity can lead to boredom, which can lead to sadness, so make sure your pet is getting plenty of stimulation and exercise - it will not only improve their mental and physical health, but also yours!

• Establish a routine. Having a routine is crucial for a healthy and happy pet. Providing structure to their day keeps them focused and stimulated.

• Continue socializing and training. Socialization for dogs is critical and spending time with canine friends or in doggie daycare can drastically improve their mood. Training is also key, as it adds another layer of stimulation and tween you and your pet.

• Speak with an expert. If you suspect a decline in your pet's mental health, talk to your veterinarian. To navigate any behavioral issues your pet may be having, you can also reach out to ARL's free Pet Behavior Helpline by $calling (617)\,226\text{-}5666\, \text{or}$ emailing behaviorhelpline@arlboston.org.

Being a pet owner can be challenging, but we are all in this together! This column is a forum for you, so please, if you have a specific question



Please keep an eye on pets like Macchi to track their moods.

or topic you would like me to address, please email press@arlboston.

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



The Dorchester Historical Society presents The Synagogues of Dorchester, Roxbury & Mattapan

with Dorchester resident Jeffrey Calish Sunday, January 23, 2pm via Zoom*

Dorchester native Jeff Calish will describe the movement of the Jewish population to and from Roxbury, Dorchester and Mattapan over the last 150 years, and the synagogues that served the many congregations that were formed. He will also point out buildings that once housed Jewish congregations and are still in use by other religious groups in our neighborhoods.

*Register for the event at dorchesterhistoricalsociety.org.

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Flu activity high for first time since April 2020 Similar symptoms add to mix amid COVID-19 surge

By Chris Lisinski STATE HOUSE NEWS SERVICE

As the Omicron-driven surge in Covid-19 infections keeps apace aggressively, Massachusetts is also grappling with the early months of what is shaping up to be an active time for the seasonal flu.

Influenza-like illness activity reached the highest of four severity ratings in the week from Dec. 19 to Dec. 25, the most recent period with a Department of Public Health report available. That's the earliest point in the season that the Bay State has hit that level in several years.

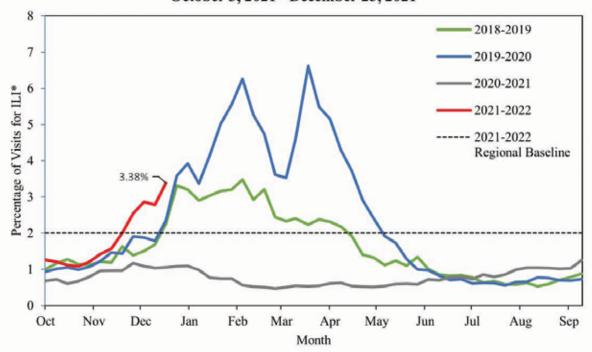
The 93 health care facilities that serve as "sentinel sites" to monitor the flu reported that 3.38 percent of visits they saw in the week ending on Christmas Day were for influenza-like illness, well above the 2 percent regional baseline that estimates a typical impact and higher than the same week in any of the past three years.

"Many more people are infected with influenza than are tested for influenza," the department

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Figure 1. Percentage of Visits for Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Reported by Sentinel Provider Sites in Massachusetts October 3, 2021 - December 25, 2021



*Influenza-like illness (II.I., defined by fever ≥100F and cough and/or sore throat), as reported by Massachusetts sentinel surveillance sites. II.I reported by in ED syndromic surveillance include cases meeting the II.I definition and cases with a diagnosis indicating influenza infection The 2021-2022 regional binformation on how this baseline is calculated please visit https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/overview.htm.

defines influenza-like illness (ILI) as a fever of at least 100 degrees Fahrenheit in addition to a cough and/or a sore throat — symptoms similar to those that Covid patients experience.

While activity has been noted in its report. DPH robust so far, the inten-

sity of influenza illness has not climbed at the same rate. DPH called the severity of influenza "moderate," the second lowest of four options, in the week ending Dec. 25.

The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) cautioned of "early signs that flu vaccination uptake is down this season compared to last." The flu season "is just getting started," the national

agency wrote. "There's still time to get vaccinated. An annual flu vaccine is the best way to protect against flu and its potentially serious complications. CDC recommends everyone six months and older get a flu vaccine."

About 0.62 percent of hospitalizations in Massachusetts were associated with influenza the week ending Dec. 25, in line with the same point during the 2019-2020

season and below this time in the 2018-2019 season.

So far, the flu's effect has varied by region.

DPH said central Massachusetts is experiencing the most potent impact, while the northeast, southeast and inner metro Boston regions also face high influenza-like illness activity. Boston itself, the outer metro Boston area and western Massachusetts are reporting moderate influenza-like illness activity, DPH said.

DPH's most recent report, published last Friday, also marks the first time that state health officials have deemed influenza-like illness activity high since the week ending April 18, 2020, early on in the pandemic that has upended the world.

For the entire October 2020 to May 2021 season, when pandemic precautions such as capacity restrictions and social distancing were more common, DPH said its sentinel providers reported "minimal" flu activity.

In the 2019-2020 season, DPH declared flu activity high across the state for the first time the week ending Dec. 28, 2019.

Most positive influenza specimens recently reported by health care facilities in Massachusetts are influenza Type A, and H3N2 is currently the predominant strain, DPH said.

As they prepare for an uptick in flu illness, health care providers in Massachusetts and across the country are already struggling under the weight of the ongoing Omicron surge and persistent staffing shortages. A group of physicians and nurses cautioned last week the state's emergency departments are at "critical capacity" and that "things will get worse."

The flu season also continues to ramp up in other parts of the country. In its own report covering the week ending Dec. 25, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said the eastern and central United States are "seeing the majority of viruses reported" while western states are reporting lower levels of influenza virus circulation.

Most influenza A (H3N2) infections have occurred among children and young adults between the ages of 5 and 24 years old, the CDC said, but the "proportion of infections occurring among adults age 25 years and older has been

increasing."
The CDC deemed Massachusetts and 15 other states and jurisdictions to have "high" influenza-like illness activity in the most recent week of surveillance. Three others — Georgia, North Dakota, and New Jersey - had "very high" activity in that span, the CDC said.







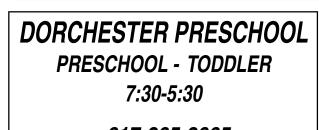


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Wu reports progress on clearing Mass. and Cass

By Katie Lannan STATE HOUSE News Service

Eighty-three people have moved into new housing from encampments in the area of Massachusetts Avenue and Melnea Cass Boulevard, and space is available for the other 62 living there at the time of a December survey, Mayor Michelle Wu said on Monday, two days before her deadline for clearing the tents and connecting people with services.

The Boston Public Health Commission's survey last month identified 145 people living in the area known as Mass. and Cass, which has become the epicenter of the city's homelessness, addiction, and mental health crises. The Wu administration then set a Jan. 12 deadline for

getting those 145 people into housing and other needed services.

"We continue to make progress on this goal," Wu said on Monday.

"Daily wellness checks continue to happen, especially as the temperatures have grown colder, and we continue to see people moving in, every single day, into the new housing that's been created," she said.

"So, this week marks a transition from a housing surge to community building and recovery. On Wednesday, the city will continue efforts to connect individuals with housing, take down the tents that are left behind and no longer needed, and begin clearing the street.

Removing the encampments will take more than a day, Wu said, and city public health, public works and police officials will remain in the neighborhood after Wednesday.

As other officials have done, Wu described the situation at Mass. and Cass as a "humanitarian crisis." She said the city's efforts to address it are driven by a "public health and housing-led approach" and will involve medium-term and longer-term plans as well.

Almost all of the people surveyed last month said existing shelter options did not meet their needs and that they would like to move into low-threshold housing, Wu said.

Sheila Dillon, Boston's housing chief, said the city has worked with the state and nonprofits to bring online low-threshold housing and shelter space. Spaces for 200 individuals have been identified, and 159 are now operational, she said.

Dr. Monica Bharel, the former state public health commissioner and an advisor to Wu, said everyone staying in the Mass. and Cass encampment will be "offered a safe indoor space to go." Outreach will "intensify" between Monday and Wednesday, she said.

"We all know that the conditions are very unsafe in the encampment," Bharel said. "In the last week with the temperatures plunging and the snow, we are worried about hypothermia, frostbite, and other cold- related injuries as well."

Omicron surges across the city, sending positivity numbers soaring

(Continued from page 1) ing to increase testing in tests in the interim.

Mayor Michelle Wu said on Monday that she didn't expect district-wide school closures, with the exception of Tuesday, when falling temperatures forced the city into a snow day, the first temperature-driven closure since January 2015. Wu said there were 1,202 absences among teachers and staff on Monday.

"Closures are truly a last resort," she said, with officials monitoring the situation school by school.

Dr. Ojikutu added that schools staying open are important for student social and educational wellbeing. They are seekschools, she said.

But vaccination rates among children in Boston remain low. Among those ages 5 to 11, there is a 37 percent rate. Among Black children in that age range, 18 percent are vaccinated, and among Latinx children, 23 percent. "We can do better than that," she said.

Some schools are still getting ready to offer remote learning, which will bring the city into conflict with state officials, including Gov. Baker, who have resisted flexibility on the topic. Schools will have to make up the days at the end of the year if they go into remote learning.

Baker said school districts must provide 180 days of in-person education this school year. The last day of school in Boston is currently June 22.

Baker said schools have "a bank of days that are available to them to deal with weather-relatedissues or work-related issues, and if we were to have a conversation with school districts about that, we would probably have it when we got a little farther through the year."

Said Wu, whose administration has stayed in close contact with state officials, earlier this week: "This is all hypothetical at this point, because we've

had not yet had to move there, but if staffing challenges persist at certain schools and we would need to do this on a school-by-school basis, many of these schools are already preparing to offer remote learning whether or not it gets counted by the state. And so, again, for Boston to have maximum flexibility in administering what is safest for our students, that still provides a high-quality learning experience, we would always appreciate that flexibility.

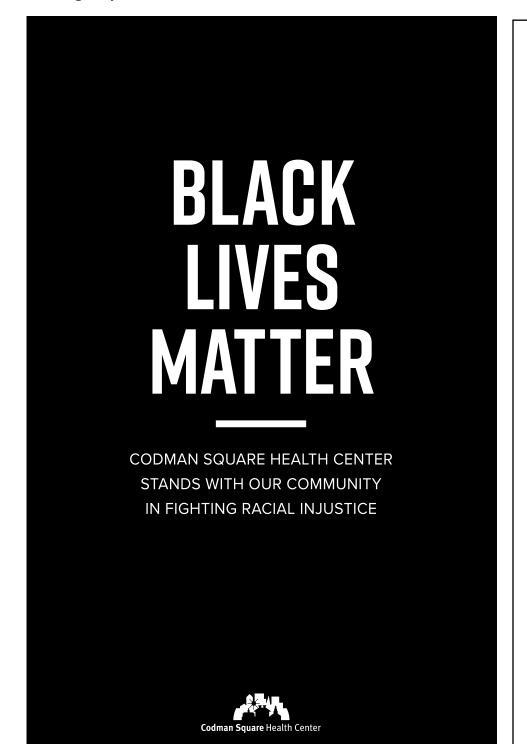
Material from State House News Service was used in this report.

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LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given by Always Open Towing at 18 Talbot Ave, 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 January 27, 2022 at 8am to satisfy the garage keepers lien for towing, storage and notice of sale:

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Studio	\$33,750	2	\$67,650	
1-Bedroom	¢70.E7.0	3	\$76,100	
	\$39,540	4	\$84,550	
2-Bedroom	# / / ECO	5	\$91,350	
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Nonprofits lay out plans for fieldhouse on Columbia Point site

By GINTAUTAS DUMCIUS Managing Editor

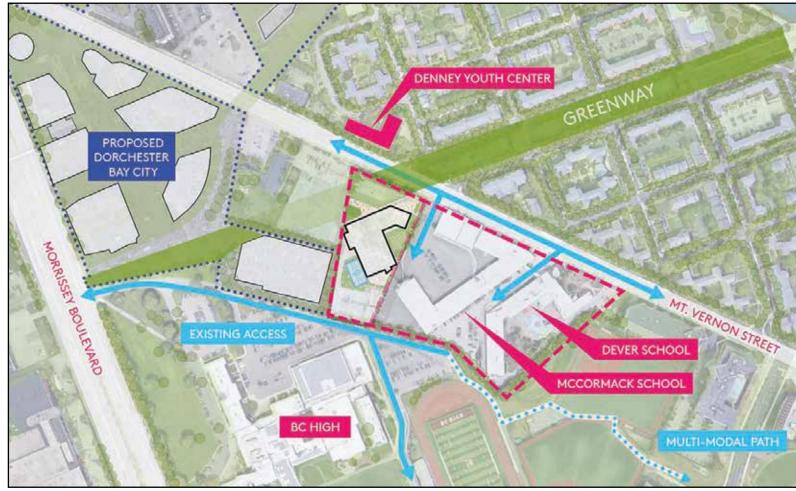
Two local nonprofits, The Martin Richard Foundation and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester, have filed their joint proposal for a 75,000 square-foot family-focused facility in Columbia Point with city officials, a move that kickstarts the city's review process for this sort of large project.

The proposed three-story building at 315 Mt. Vernon Street - to be called the Dorchester Fieldhouse - was designed by RODE Architects. The facility will comprise indoor playing fields, a walking track, fitness rooms, classrooms, a theater, and a teaching kitchen and outdoor roof garden. A public cafe, with outdoor seating, and a parking lot for 45 vehicles, are also part of the proposal.

"This facility is uniquely designed to meet the next generation of students; located intentionally to attract and $impact kids\,most\,in\,need$ and programmed with elements that allow for a forward-thinking, regenerative approach to sustainability, health, wellness, and culture for all kids of all abilities," Bill Richard, Martin Richard Foundation co-founder, said in a statement. "I am excited for the future for our kids and hopeful that this facility will be a space that propels their imagination and talent to lead our city forward."

The project comes as Columbia Point, and the roadway that cuts through it, Mount Vernon Street, sees a surge in development. One major development, "Dorchester Bay City," seeks to remake dozens of acres by the waterfront as part of a \$5 billion effort spanning the next 20 years and including residential and office buildings, along with lab space. Separately and just south of the development, residential buildings are set to sprout between I-93 and Morrissey, close to Boston Bowl.

Dorchester Fieldhouse



The proposed Dorchester Fieldhouse will be next to the Dever School and McCormack School, as well as Boston College High School. A rendering shows it'll be close to a massive development known as "Dorchester Bay City."

say the \$50 million facility will become a "destination location" on Columbia Point. The facility is next to the Mc-Cormack Middle School and Dever Elementary School, St. Christopher's Parish church, and close to the campuses of UMass Boston and Boston College High School. It is also across the street from a youth center operated by the Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester (BGCD).

"Now is the time for a significant generational investment that will be a transformational event for the city and our kids," Bob Scannell, the president and CEO of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester said in a statement. "With newer, world-class facilities, bigger and more dynamic space, we can change more lives for the next 50 years."

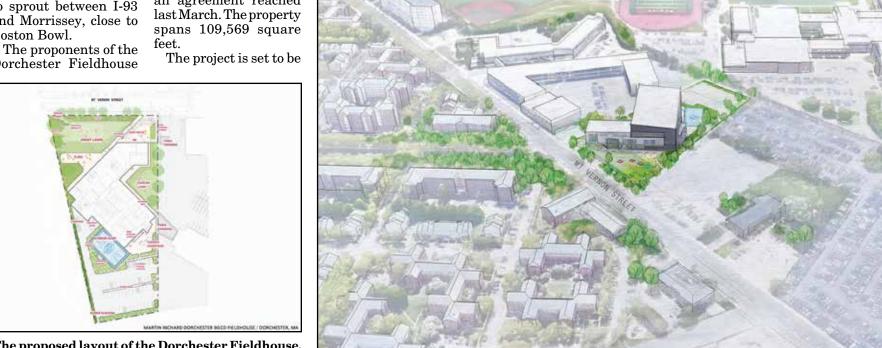
BGCD and the Martin Richard Foundation are leasing the property, a former schoolyard, from Boston Public Schools in an agreement reached financed through private funds and fundraising from the Martin Richard Foundation and BGCD, with no public funds expected.

Construction could start by June 2022, and finish up by late 2023, according to the proponents' 222-page filing with the Boston Plan-

ning and Development Agency. Lee Kennedy of Quincy is listed as the construction manager.



Two local nonprofits, The Martin Richard Foundation and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester, are teaming up to propose a fieldhouse for Columbia Point. Image courtesy of Martin Richard Foundation and Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester



The proposed layout of the Dorchester Fieldhouse. which is undergoing a city review process for large

Image courtesy of Martin Richard Foundation and Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester

An aerial view of the proposed Dorchester Fieldhouse. Image courtesy of Martin Richard Foundation and Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF DORCHESTER

ET W TO ITT YOU STOR



BGCD Teens Enjoy A Week of Fun Field Trips for Winter Break: See details below.

CONNECT THE DOT:
BGCD Teens Enjoy A Week of Fun

Field Trips for Winter Break: Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester's teens spent a special winter break going on some fun field trips! To kick off the week, they visited Selfie WRLD Boston where they immersed themselves in fun, eye-catching art installations and had a great time taking their own special memory photos. Other field trips included an outing to Boston Bowl where they played candlepin bowling and arcade games. To finish the week, they took a trip to the movies to see the new Spider-Man: No Way Home and enjoyed a delicious lunch courtesy of our friends at Coppersmith in South Boston. We hope our teens enjoyed their winter break with BGCD! To learn more about BGCD's Teen programming and how your teen can get involved, please contact Teen Director Evelyn Nunez at enunez@ bgcdorchester.org

FIND OUT WHAT'S INSIDE: BGCD is Celebrating National

Mentoring Month This January: January is National Mentoring Month and a special time to celebrate our mentors and role models at BGCD. This month-long celebration of mentoring is full of exciting opportunities to grow the movement and raise awareness about the power of relationships. At BGCD, we have a supportive and caring staff who mentor each day and who welcome each child to explore and grow into contributing, kind and responsible members of the community. Throughout the month of January, help us celebrate all of the positive role models, mentors and mentees that have begun at BGCD. Make sure to follow our socials to continue celebrating National Mentoring Month with us! To become a volunteer at BGCD, please contact Volunteer Coordinator Amy Gately at agately@bgcdorchester.org.



BGCD is Celebrating National Mentoring Month This January: See details below.

DID YOU KNOW:
Opportunity for High Schoolers
to Join BGCD's College Fellows &
Career Prep Program: Boys & Girls
Clubs of Dorchester's College Fellows

& Career Prep Program has kicked off for the new year! High schoolers can join us every Tuesday during the month of January at 6:00 pm via Zoom for upcoming workshops and events.

Upcoming events include: January 11 - College Alumni Speakers January 18 - Scholarship Info Night January 25 - Career Speaker Series

Please note our College Fellows session is open to all high school students and do not need to be enrolled at the Club.

For more information or to RSVP to any of these programs, please contact Tricia Chapple at pchapple@bgcdorchester.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

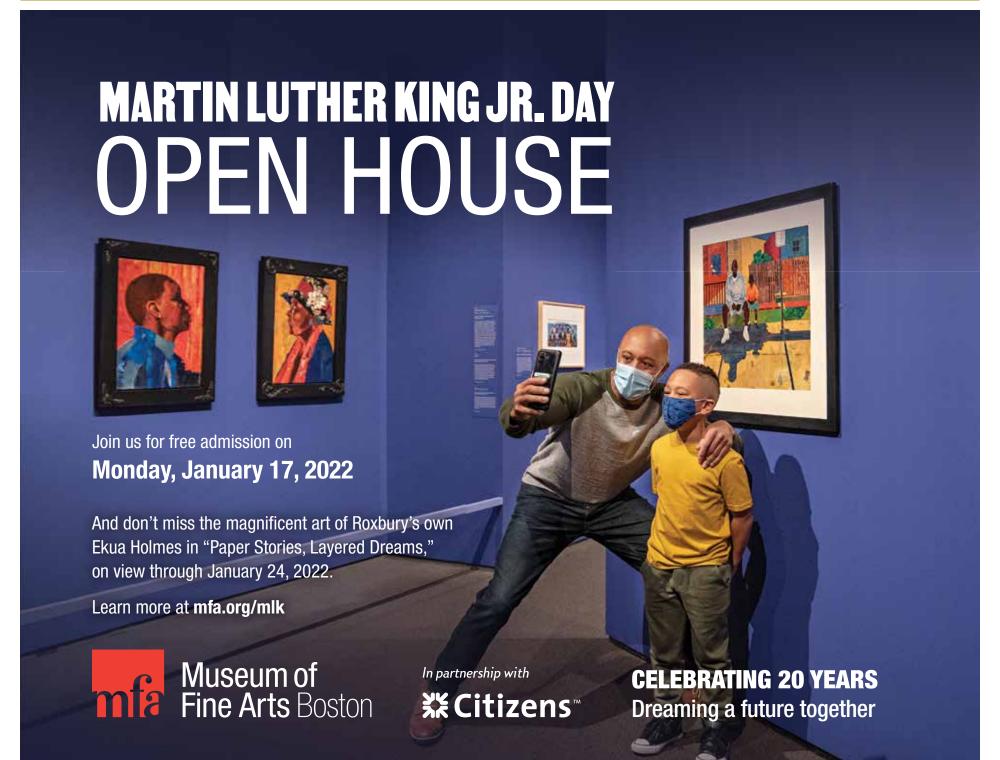
Elevate Youth Outing January 15

Martin Luther King Jr. Day - Closed

Let's Get Ready SAT Prep February 28 - April 29



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RECENT OBITUARIES



CONLEY, Norma D. (Walsh) of South Boston. Wife of the late Francis J. Conley. Mother of Francis J. Conley Jr., and his wife Johanna of Quincy, Lorraine Crowell and her hus-band Harry of Braintree, and the late Kenneth G. Conley and his wife Kerri of Braintree. Grandmother of 5; and three great-grandchildren. Sster of Theresa Madden of Quincy, Claire Hooley of Milton, Marguerite Freeman of Wisconsin, and the late Mary Reardon, John Walsh, Josephine Bennett, Ellen Gast, and James Walsh. Please consider making a donation to St. Jude

Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105.



DIRRANE, Nora (Hannon) of Dorchester, formerly of Ballygar, County Galway, Ireland. Wife of Brian C. Mother of Maryann Dirrane and her husband Sean Connor of Milton and Brian P. Dirrane of Dorchester. Grandmother of 3. Sister of the late Lawrence, John, and Mary Hannon. Daughter of the late Michael and Annie Hannon. Donations may be made in her memory to the Irish Pastoral Centre, 512 Gallivan Blvd.,

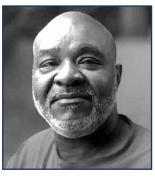
Suite 201, Dorchester, MA 02124 or at ipcboston.



GILL, Annette (Morante), 80, of Dorches-Annette taught modern foreign languages in the Boston Public Schools system for over 30 years. Wife of Daniel of Dorchester; sons, Danny and his partner Maureen Lyons of Quincy, David and his wife Bethann of Weymouth; 4 grandchildren; sister Louise Morante of Newton and numerous other family members and friends. Donations made be made in Annette's name to the American Kidney Fund, 1192 Rockville, MD, 20852.



GOONAN, Nora P. (Daly), 80, of Needham, formerly of Dorchester. She worked for many years as a secretary with the Joint Committee on the Judiciary at the State House. Šhe was also an active member of the Irish Social Club in West Roxbury. Wife to Thomas Goonan; mother of Michael Goonan of Needham and Patrick Goonan and his wife Kristyn of West Rox-bury; "Nana Nora" to 4. Sister of Noel Daly and his wife Elizabeth of West Roxbury, Carmel Collins and her husband Vincent of Westwood, Teresa O'Connor and her husband Christy of Westwood; the late Mary Finn, Gerald, Joseph, Michael, Frank; and the late infant Patrick. She was also the sister-into the late Patrick and Nora Morrissey, and is survived by many nieces and nephews.



GUINS, Donald O'Neal, 53, of Dorchester, originally of Alabama. Son of Earline Guins and Willie James. Husband of Wilma Fox. Father of Donald Fox-Guin Jr, Doneisha Fox-Guin, William Fox-Guin, and Wakeem Fox-Guin.

He also has another son Mark Peters born to Sylvia Peters. Grandfather of 5. Brother of Tawonda Slayden (Charles Slayden); Antwan Guin. He leaves a host of niecnephews, cousins, and friends.



JENKINS, Margaret M., 84, formerly of Dorchester. Daughter of the late James Jenkins and Gertrude F. (Smith) Jenkins. Sister of the late James J. Jenkins, and Millie Young and her surviving husband Daniel. Aunt of 8. Also survived by many cousins and friends. Kindly consider a memorial donation in Margaret's name to: Alzheimer's Association, 309 Waverlev Oaks Rd., Waltham, MA



LANE, Richard M. "Ricky" Jr. in Beverly Hills, of South Boston. Son of Atty. Richard M. Lane, of Šouth Boston, and Virginia "Ginny" Tomasini Lane, Esq., of South Boston and Pocasset. Brother of Andrew C. Lane, BFD, and wife, Allison, BPD, of Dorchester, and David E. "Bouge" Lane of South Boston. Uncle of 2; grandson of the late Edward and Helena Lane of South Boston and Raymond Tomasini and Boston School Committee President Rita Walsh-Tomasini. BC High graduate, class of 1999. U.S. Army veteran. Please consider a donation to the Martin Richard Foundation.



LYONS, Thomas P., 91, of Dorchester, former Deputy Commissioner of Health and Hospitals for the City of Boston. He was the son of the late Thomas H. and Agnes (Martin) Lyons. He is survived by his children, Patricia and her wife Dorothy, Thomas and his wife Beth, Peter and his husband Michael, and predeceased by his sons John and Michael. He is also survived by his brother Father Peter A. Lyons, TOR and his sis-

ter Regina Charles; five grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. Donations can be made in his honor to Franciscan Friars, TOR Missions & Ministries, P.O. Box 500, Loretto, PA 15940.



MORRISON, Elaine Veronica (Manhertz), 75, of Dorchester, formerly of Jamaica West Indies. Daughter to the late Frank and Neva Manhertz. She leaves her husband Jonathan, three daughters, her Stephanie Adaramola, Sophia Morrison and Sherdene Morrison, her three grandchildren, her aunt Viola, her brothers Wilberforce Manhertz and Earle Manhertz, and their wives Pauline and Maxine respectively, her sister Bevan Manhertz Thomas, a brother- inlaw Richard and his wife Gem, a sister-in-law Hilda, nieces, nephews, cousins, her church family and a host of other family and friends. She is preceded in death by her sister Enid Campbell and her son-in-law Temitope Adaramola.



OLSON, Patricia "Trish" (O'Brien) of Dorchester. Wife James M. Olson. Mother of Catherine McDonagh and her husband Eamonn, Michael Olson, and Michelle Olson and her fiancé Nick. "Grammy" of 2. Sister of Paul O'Brien and his wife Maryanne, Stevie O'Brien and his wife Kelley, Mary DeMariano and ner nuspand Mark, Cathy Crum and her husband Steve, Anthony O'Brien, Barbara McKenna and her husband Joe, Sean O'Brien and his wife Patty, and the late Francis X. O'Brien and his surviving wife Dotte. Also survived by many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. Daughter of the late Francis and Kay O'Brien. Please consider making a donation in memory of Trish to a charity of your choice.

PIZZIFERRI, Linda Diane of Dorchester, formerly of Brighton. Daughter of the late Michael R. and Mary L. (McGovern) Pizziferri. Sister of Marie T. Pizziferri, Mark J. Pizziferri, Ann C. Benoit all of Hull, and Paula White of Scituate. Also survived by

many nieces and nephews. Donations in memory of Linda may be made to St. Joseph Preparatory High School, Advancement Office, 617 Cambridge St., Boston, MA 02134 or at saintjosephprep.org

SMITH, Harvey Jr. of Dorchester. Husband of the late Christine (Brandt) Smith. Father of Annette Gaston, Deborah Griffin, Anita Snead and the late Harvey Floyd. Grandfather of 4. Brother of Iris Beard, Lester Smith and the late Louise Bailey, Mary Morris, Evelyn Ray Smith, Adam Smith and Preston Smith. He will be greatly missed and remembered by many friends and extended family.



STRAND, Margaret R. (Murryay), 88, of Braintree, formerly of Dorchester. Son to the late Martin and Minnie (Coady) Murray, Margaret graduated from St. Patrick's High School, Boston. Wife of the late Roy H. Strand. Mother of Robert Strand and his wife Gloria of Duxbury, Kenneth Strand and his wife Mary of Kissimmee, FL, and Lisa Turley and her husband Brian of Pembroke. Sister of Longuemare Frances of Pembroke. "Nana" of "Great-Nana" of 1. She is also survived by nieces, nephews, extended family and friends. Memorial contributions may be made in Margaret's name to Massachusetts Alzheimer's Disease Research Center, Mass General Hospital, 114 16th Street, #2011, Charlestown, MA 02129.



WOOD-BOYLE, **Douglas**, of Dorchester, formerly of Everett, Malden and Lynn. Husband of Linda Wood-Boyle. Son of the late Neal Boyle of Malden and the late Catherine (Rogers) Boyle of Everett, and is survived by his brother Neal and his wife Sandy, as well as nieces, nephews, grand-nieces and grand-nephews and the many friends who loved him dearly. He was preceded in death by his brother, Lt. Colonel David Boyle. Donations in Doug's memory can be made to the Outreach Fund, c/o the United Parish of Auburndale, 64 Hancock Street, Newton, MA 02466.



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dotnews.com January 13, 2022 THE REPORTER Page 19

Fields Corner project is first to use crowd-funding method

(Continued from page 1)

ey they bring in is an extra source of funding that allows the community to participate in more than just meetings, said Gee.

For the past two years, she and others have met with a small group of long-time Dorchester residents to talk about the opportunities the law provides and potentially implement it as a part of a mixed-use, workforce housing development at 1463 Dorchester Ave. in Fields Corner. Recently, they launched an offering to the public in what Gee said may be the first such effort in the neighborhood.

"Most developers aren't usually interested in getting \$500 or \$1,000 here and there from the neighborhood to have a small stake in a project and get a small return," she said. "It's easier if TLee Development gets a big investor to put in money and calls it a day. Now, about three years since we started meeting, we've got to the point where the project is under construction...The Crowdfund offering is live and we're hoping to get as many Dorchester residents as possible to hear about this opportunity and consider investing."

Per SEC regulations, participants in an offering cannot contribute without consequence to a news story or public advertisement that discusses the terms of the offering, the goals, the timeline, or the dollar amounts raised. All of that can be learned by visiting the SEC-approved platform, Small Change, and searching for the offering. The rules for



The building going up at 1463 Dorchester Ave., which abuts the Red Line tracks, is part of a new community financing method that allows the public to make small investments in things like real estate projects. This offering is a first in Dorchester.

Seth Daniel photo

the overall concept state that offerings must be \$1 million or less, and an individual must be over 18 and can invest up to \$2,200 per year or 5 percent of his or her net worth, if it is less than \$107,000.

Some neighbors have already taken notice, one of them being Marilyn Forman, the president of the Erie Ellington Brinsley Partnership Neighborhood Association, who said she has long thought about having community investment for vacant lots or housing developments. When TLee and Co-Everything started circulating the idea of 'regulation crowd funding,' she

said her association pledged to support it.

Forman said she has chosen to invest and added that she hopes the concept takes hold after this first offering because it's a chance to have a real voice in the community and on the development that occurs there. She said she was excited to learn that investors could be part of a Project Oversight Committee that has input into some parts of the management of this project, such as what kind of retail operations are chosen.

"I'm excited about it and that I had an opportunity to be a part of it because it's a part of history here," she said. "I have a little piece of the 40 acres and the mule. It's a piece, but I'm excited nonetheless and hoping this will take hold... This hasn't been done here before. I could be skeptical, and folks should be because there is risk like any investment, but you bite the apple, or you don't. It's a risk, but I think it's one that is worth the community going after."

Forman said she goes out of her way now to check on the development of the building, to see how things are going. "I'm excited because it's my piece of the rock," said Forman. "We own our house, but I didn't get to see them build it. I can see this and it's history and I can tell my grandkids I was part of this project and then pass it on to them. That's where you get into the idea of generational wealth that we all talk about, and this is something more than an annuity to pass down, because it has a story to it."

Gee said that kind of enthusiasm for owning a piece, even a small piece, of the neighborhood was common in their concept meetings. She said many people had never been able to come up with a down payment for a home but were interested in getting a chance to own something.

"In going through the set-up process and diving deep into community engagement, it's been clear folks are excited about this idea," she said. "It hasn't been attempted here before...It's really investing in real estate in your neighborhood without having to pay a huge down payment."

Gee said they have learned a lot over the past two years leading up to the launch and are happy with the process that brought them to this point and helped them to learn how such a concept can be replicated on other projects.

"We've had to go through a lot of hurdles to get here, but we're excited to be where we are," she said.

The project at 1463 Dorchester Ave., on the old Gallagher Insurance building site, was previously approved as a 5-story, 29-unit affordable housing rental project with retail space. Construction on the project began late last October.





Keystone Apartments, Dorchester, MA



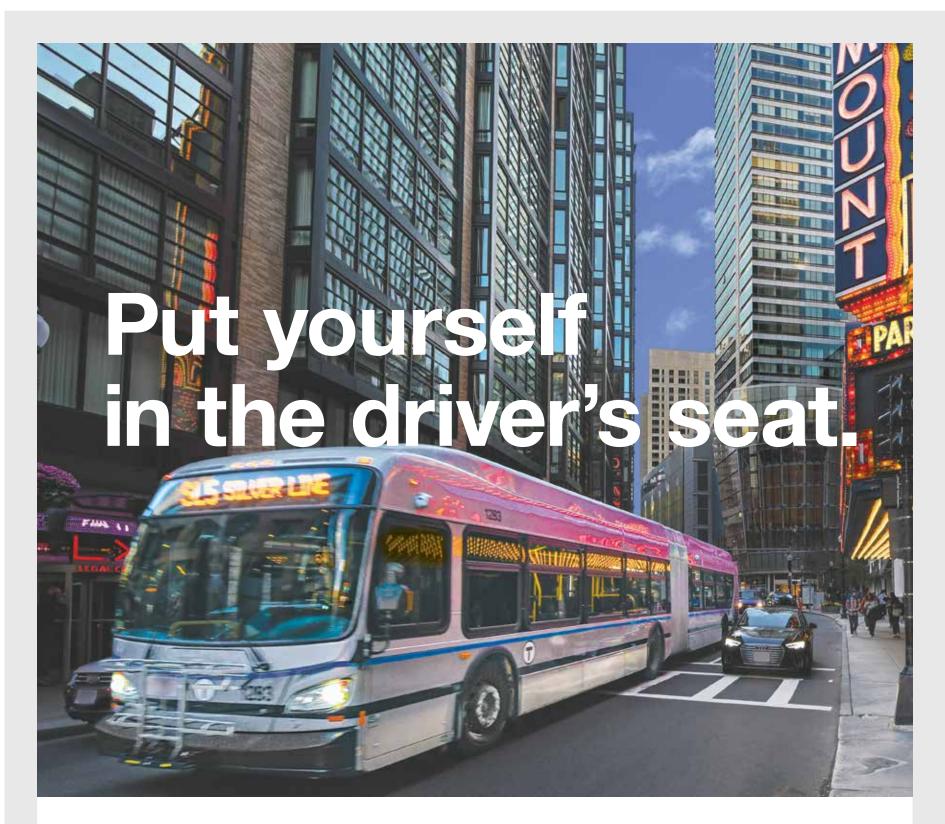
Harbor Point on the Bay, Dorchester, MA



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