**Dorchester Reporter**

“The News and Values Around the Neighborhood”

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**50c**

### ‘Resiliency’ plans a sticking point in Port Norfolk build-out

By Simon Ross  
*RWB Reporter*

New housing, marina proposal have been on hold as city ramps up ‘climate-ready’ effort

### Tenean Beach gets a Saturday in the spotlight

By Alena Kuzub  
*Reporter Correspondent*

Last Saturday, Tenean Beach, one of Dorchester’s three public beaches, was unusually busy. Moms and dads strolled with baby carriages along the walkway. Children joyfully screamed in a red, blue and yellow bouncy house. Songs like “Uptown Funk” and “I Like to Move It” blared from a DJ’s speakers and iridescent soap bubbles from two foaming machines filled the air.

At 11 a.m. Tenean Beach Day, a free public annual event put on by the Port Norfolk Civic Association with the help of a grant from Save the Harbor/Save the Bay’s Better Beaches Program, was in full swing.

Visitors from various neighborhoods of Boston and beyond were treated to free pizza and ice cream from the Boston Police ice cream truck and entertained by the mingling performers of the Boston Circus Guild.

The goal of the event was to bring more people to the beach, said Maria Lyons, a resident of Port Norfolk and a member of its civic association.

Tenean Beach is located on the Neponset River delta along Conley Street and is separated from the rest of the Dorchester by I-93 near Exit 12.

The sandy beach is more than 600 feet long and 100 feet wide at high tide. It offers a view of the “Rainbow Street and is separated from the rest of the Dorchester by I-93 near Exit 12. The sandy beach is more than 600 feet long and 100 feet wide at high tide. It offers a view of the “Rainbow Neponset River delta along Conley Street and is separated from the rest of the Dorchester by I-93 near Exit 12. The sandy beach is more than 600 feet long and 100 feet wide at high tide. It offers a view of the “Rainbow.”

Alena Kuzub photo

(Continued on page 17)

### Committee formed to seek new UMass Boston leader

By Daniel Sheehan  
*Arts & Features Editor*

The UMass Board of Trustees approved last Friday the launch of a 21-member search committee that will be tasked with finding a new permanent chancellor for the university. The panel, which includes UMass Boston faculty, deans, students, alumni, and community leaders, will seek a successor for Dr. J. Keith Motley, who stepped down in 2017.

Katherine Newman is currently serving as interim chancellor at the Dorchester campus. Barry Mills served in the same post in 2017-2018.

The committee will be chaired by R. Norman Peters, who is vice chair of the university’s board of trustees, and UMass Boston faculty member Jean Rhodes will serve as vice chair of the committee. Among the local names on the committee are Linda Doreena Forry, a vice president at Suffolk Construction and a former state senator representing Dorchester and the UMass Boston campus. (Forry is married to Reporter publisher and editor Bill Forry.) Joyce Linehan, a senior policy advisor to Mayor Walsh and a Lower Mills resident, is also on the committee.

An earlier attempt to find a permanent successor to Motley ended contentiously in April 2018 amid sharp criticism from some members of the faculty. UMass President Marty Meehan announced his intention to begin a new search last May.

“This committee is distinguished and diverse, and is determined to provide strong candidates to lead UMass Boston,” said Rob Manning, chairman of the UMass (Continued on page 3)

### Neil F. Jones, master of the performing arts, at 78

The following obituary was compiled and written by relatives and friends of the deceased:

A funeral Mass will be held on Sat., Aug. 24, at St. Ann Church in Neponset for Neil F. Jones, a dancer, a singer, actor, and Dorchester native who over a long career in the performing arts appeared in a string of Tony-winning Broadway musicals. Mr. Jones, the second son of James C. and Eleanor F. (Stillman), died earlier this summer, on Sun., June 2, at Boston Medical Center. He was 78.

While growing up in

(Continued on page 19)

### Two ways to strengthen Boston’s Resident Jobs Policy

By Travis Watson  
*Special to the Reporter*

The Boston Residents Jobs Policy (BRJP) was established in 1983 to set employment standards for construction projects in Boston. Several articles have been published about the challenges of meeting the policy’s goals. But people are missing the two most significant factors contributing to non-compliance: the lack of a baseline for the total number of residents, people of color and women employed in construction in Boston; and the state’s public bid law.

**Challenge One – No Baseline**

The unknown total number of residents, people of color, and women currently employed as construction workers in Boston poses one of the biggest challenges to compliance with the BRJP. When construction projects in Boston fail to meet the BRJP goals, it is, at times, due to a lack of available Boston residents, people of color, and women. To check, we need to divide the total number of residents, people of color, and women working by the total number of residents, people of color, and women currently employed in construction. We need a baseline.

We judge construction project compliance in two ways: assessing

(Continued on page 9)

### Religious Services Chapel

VIETNAMESE PROGRAMMING (MENU, ACTIVITIES & STAFF)

PHYSICAL, OCCUPATIONAL AND SPEECH THERAPY

**Commentary**

The ports are lined with mudflats and the neighbors know each other’s names. Ben Tankle is a 90-year-old World War II vet who lives in the Port Norfolk neighborhood. When he first arrived, Tankle said, crime was rampant and the residents were derided as “port rats.”

Today, he considers his neighborhood among the biggest challenges of meeting published about the standards for construction. Two ways to strengthen Boston’s Resident Jobs Policy (BRJP) was issued a ramshackle waterfront lot and open public access funds for 85 units of desperately needed housing, boost tax revenue, and do it in a way that defends a section of the coastline from rising seas.

But to some longtime residents of Dorchester’s Port Norfolk neighborhood, all they see is more traffic, the arrival of six seven-story buildings — and on top of it all, the absence of a plan to protect the neighborhood from flooding.

The Port Norfolk peninsula is a hybrid of Boston and Cape Cod: a waterfront neighborhood with an old nail factory next to a marina. The streets are lined with mudflats and the neighbors know each other’s names. Ben Tankle is a 90-year-old World War II vet who lives in the Port Norfolk neighborhood. When he first arrived, Tankle said, crime was rampant and the residents were derided as “port rats.”

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## August 8, 2019

T'now say Red Line delays will extend into October

The June 11 derailment at JFK-UMass. State House News Service photo

### BY CHRIS LISINSKI

**STATE HOUSE NEWS SERVICE**

MBTA officials who initially said delays on the Red Line would continue “at least through Labor Day” are now saying the service could last through October.

Some progress has been made to repair signal infrastructure damaged by a June 11 derailment, and the Red Line is now running as many rush hour trains as it normally does, albeit at slower speeds. However, MBTA General Manager Steve Poftak said on Monday that he expects it will take another two months to return the entire system to fully automated electronic signaling.

“We are currently running a full schedule of trains during rush hour – 28 trains,” Poftak told reporters. “South Station event, according to audio provided by the MBTA. “However, because they are still manually signaled through several major portions of the route, it’s obviously slower than we’d like. So we have really got to figure out how to get everything back. We expect everything to be back at some point in October.”

Poftak said that several “incremental repairs” between now and the fall should help reduce delays, which were initially forecast at 10 to 20 minutes in the wake of the derailment when fewer trains were running.

Signals between JFK/UMass, where the derailment occurred, and Broadway were restored recently, a project initially forecast at 10 to 20 minutes. “We’ve got people in there every day,” Poftak said.

Officials still have not announced the cause of the derailment, which saw a train with 60 passengers on board damage two signal bungalows and destroy a third. Investigators ruled out foul play, operator error or a technical problem with the track infrastructure, and are now examining whether the 50-year-old car or its wheel truck was responsible.

**MBTA** - A Run for Gratitude set for Sept. 2 - The Town Hall meeting with District 5 candidates — The Greater Mattapan Neighborhood Council will host a "town hall" for candidates running for the District 5 seat of the Boston City Council on Sat., Aug. 10 at 11 a.m. at Brooke Charter High School, 200 American Legion Way. Please direct all questions to info@gmcouncil.com.

**PeaceDay Basketball Tourney at Roberts Playground** - The City Councilor Andrea Campbell and TwoItti presents an afternoon of basketball, networking, food and fun on Sat. Aug. 10 at Roberts Playground, 53 Dunbar Ave., Dorchester. Team RSVP: greevara203@gmail.com.

**MRBK** - A Run for Gratitude set for Sept. 2 - The Martin Richard Foundation, in partnership with the Boston Bruins Foundation, Northeastern and DMSE Sports, will host the second annual MRBK - A Run for Gratitude on Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 2 at Warrior Ice Arena at Boston Landing. The 5K Run/Walk registration fee is $45, with proceeds benefitting the Martin Richard Foundation. Participants who choose to fundraise and commit to raise a minimum of $150 will receive free entry into the race and a limited edition 2019 MRBK Team MRK race shirt. The event is open to runners, walkers and para-athletes of all ages and ability levels, including small children. Register now at BostonBruins.com/MBRK.

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Hike puts UMass tuition near $30K amid words of caution

BY KATIE LANNAN

August 8, 2019

The University of Massachusetts trustees last Friday approved a 2.5 percent tuition increase for in-state undergraduates, as members of the board cautioned of "clouds on the horizon" in enrollment and revenue trends.

The vote, held about a month before the start of fall classes, was postponed this year as UMass officials waited to see how the late state budget would handle their $558 million appropriation and the tuition rates paid by nearly 50,000 undergraduates.

Senate-backed language calling for a tuition freeze this fall, which the school said would lead to cuts affecting students, was dropped in favor of a new requirement that university officials meet with lawmakers to discuss financial and enrollment information.

With room, board, and mandatory fees factored in, the average increase for an in-state undergraduate student across the Amherst, Boston, Dartmouth and Lowell campuses works out to $887, for a total of over $5,000. UMass President Marty Meehan said tuition increases at UMass have averaged 3 percent over the past 10 years, while state universities and community colleges have hiked their rates by an average of 6 percent.

Meehan said UMass will form an advisory group with the goal of working "with the governor and the Legislature to keep tuition flat or below the rate of inflation next year." He said the group will focus on issues of access, affordability, quality and efficiency.

In a press release from the Hildreth Institute, a nonprofit focused on college affordability, UMass Amherst student Madison Billingsley said the tuition increase "really hurts." Especially for a state school, the cost of attending the flagship UMass campus in Amherst was $24,215. This fall, that cost will be $29,393, an increase of over $5,000.

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Climate ‘resiliency’ a key issue in Port Norfolk project debate

(Continued from page 1)

The safest places in the city. It’s the community... away from all the helter-skelter,” he said. “And the houses are all about the same, kept in very good condition, and almost every one of them... once you pass away it’s never sold; it’s always in the family. What a way to grow up. I want to live here like we did in the West End.”

The West End of Boston is where Tinkle was born and raised. Once a dense and bustling Italian and Jewish enclave, it was bulldozed in the 1950s to clear the way for the development you see today around Massachusetts General Hospital.

To many, the razing of the West End remains the epitome of “urban renewal” gone wrong. Tankle points out that the BRA, which oversees a big new development agency — called Boston Redevelopment of the West End — is overseeing a big new development project at the end of the peninsula, which if approved would increase the number of housing units in Port Norfolk by 65 percent. Neighbors’ concerns range from traffic to gentrification, but it’s the sticking point of climate resilience that illustrates the difficulties that could lie ahead for communities trying to leverage private investment to fortify the waterfront. Times have changed since the 1950s, and in many ways the urban renewal agenda that doomed Tinkle’s West End has been substituted with a new urbanism agenda of density, walkability, and historical preservation.

Climate resilience is a top priority, and even as the city pursues further zoning restrictions to its seven-acre lot. That description is familiar to anyone building on Boston’s waterfront; portions of the seawall will come down and create areas for water to eddy in... so that it slows down in its path.

The new development proposal is familiar to anyone building on Boston’s waterfront, and Climate Ready Dorchester neighborhood behind it, Climate Ready Dorchester program, with a series of adaptation plans already released in neighborhoods including East Boston and Charlestown. Next comes the final waterfront neighborhood project site, not the project site, not the project site, not the project site, not the project site. Wait for Climate Ready Dorchester. While Neponset Wharf remains in a holding pattern, much of Boston’s waterfront has been studied in granular detail through the city-led Climate Ready Boston program, which is overseen by Mayor Walsh personal intervention for Port Norfolk. The plan proposed is not just our adaptation agenda. But what’s happening in Port Norfolk could be a case study in the difficulty of satisfying stakeholders with opposing views. Even in some of the more vulnerable areas, other concerns seem to trump the threat of climate change.

A recent poll by the Conservation Law Foundation found that nearly two-thirds of all Bostonians cited overdevelopment above climate change as the greatest threat to the waterfront. Concerns over density and traffic are guaran-
died to water (Deabler said almost the entire site is impermeable now), and comply with state and federal guidelines for building in flood zones.

But the neighbors opposing the project argue the resilience measures will only protect the project site, not the neighborhood behind it, and they’re calling on the city to not issue permits until more is known about the climate threat. Absolutely,” said Maria Lyons, a Port Norfolk resident since 1981 and environment chair of the Port Norfolk Civic Association. “It’s one thing if somebody wanted to build a single family or two-family or whatnot. But when you’re talking about multiple developments, that’s a problem.”

Débabler adds that Mayor Walsh personally intervened for Port Norfolk, asking the developer City Point Capital to go back to the drawing board and come up with a plan more amenable to the neighbors.

But Deabler replies that the Dorchester study is yet to be underwater. So it’s in their interests for their site to be resilient. In order to defend an area from the ocean, neighbors, landowners, and government agencies have to arrive at some level of consensus. But what’s happening in Port Norfolk could be a case study in the difficulty of satisfying stakeholders with opposing views. Even in some of the more vulnerable areas, other concerns seem to trump the threat of climate change.

City officials say there’s no reason the development wouldn’t fit into a more comprehensive plan to protect Port Norfolk. But that plan doesn’t exist yet, and officials say they’d hold a developer to a plan that hasn’t even launched. “It has to be resilient by our regulations,” said Tom Czerwinski, a Port Norfolk resident who is overseeing the Neponset Wharf proposal at the BRA. “And quite frankly, just by the business of development, it doesn’t make sense to develop a property that’s going to be underwater. So it’s in their interests for their site to be resilient.

In order to defend an area from the ocean, neighbors, landowners, and government agencies have to arrive at some level of consensus. But what’s happening in Port Norfolk could be a case study in the difficulty of satisfying stakeholders with opposing views. Even in some of the more vulnerable areas, other concerns seem to trump the threat of climate change.

One way to think of [NIMBYism] is as a barrier, but it may actually be a productive barrier in the sense that it forces
Neighbors split on pros, condos of building out waterfront

The real politics of the planning and execution of these investments to really give consideration to local communities. But Keenan says neighbors often favor the status quo — and that can tuck toward the opposite of resilience.

“They may be making decisions that are in the interest of the present... but are they really thinking about the long term? Or are they thinking about their short-term housing values?” Keenan asked. “And I think that’s a conflict that is difficult for public sector entities and agencies to navigate.”

Some neighbors, like John Ryan, are backing the proposed development on Port Norfolk, saying it would increase property values and open up access to the water. “It brings up the neighborhood,” said Ryan, who lives up the street from the Neponset Wharf site and says he supports it as long as they mitigate traffic.

The developers behind the Neponset Wharf project, City Point Capital, did not respond to multiple requests for comment. But the man who sold them the land did.

“This would be a first class hidden jewel in Port Norfolk,” said local landowner and entrepreneur Ralph Bruno. “I got more to lose than anybody else if I don’t put a good project here,” he said while sitting on the deck of his restaurant and banquet hall, Venezia, which sits adjacent to the lot in question.

Bruno considered developing the lot himself before deciding to sell to City Point, whose vision he said squares with his own.

“That’s why I tied up the property,” he said. “I’ve been here almost 38 years now and I want to make sure it’s a good property everybody’s going to be proud of.”

Bruno doesn’t think developers can wait until the city’s climate assessment is released. The property is too valuable to go undeveloped, he said, and it won’t be the first time the neighborhood has changed.

“When I first came here in 1985, (34 years would be 1981) people said, ‘Oh my God, you’re gonna get killed by the neighbors.’”

But Bruno said if you come up with a plan that makes sense, the neighbors will eventually come around.

“You know you’re going to have a tough time at the beginning, but people are going to realize, ‘Hey, this is good for us.’”

Bruno is skeptical of climate doomsday scenarios, but he knows the ocean is encroaching. And once it’s clear what needs to be done, he said he’ll protect his own property, hopefully in coordination with the 85-unit development proposed for the lot next door.

But if the neighbors of Port Norfolk can’t come to an understanding with the developers, the Neponset Wharf project will face a difficult path to getting the city to sign off — no matter what kind of adaptation measures are on the table.

Support for this essay was provided by the Weather Eye Award, an award given to distinguished local reporters by RiseLocal, a project of New America’s National Network. The story was also done in collaboration with the Dorchester Reporter.

We’re bringing wellness closer to you in August.

Join us at our Health and Wellness Fair Saturday, August 17, 2019, 11am–2pm at Bowdoin Street Health Center.

Screenings, exercise demos, food and fun, right here in your neighborhood.

• Outdoor workouts
• Health screenings
• Games
• Music
• Face painting
• Food
• Raffle prizes and more!

The Wellness Center at Bowdoin Street Health Center

learn more: bidmc.org/Bowdoin
Muralists add splash to Gallivan’s walls

The BCYF Gallivan Community Center has undergone an artistic transformation thanks to four local artists who painted murals on the center’s walls on Wed., July 24, as part of a partnership with LIFEWTR, a bottled water company whose initiative to restore arts education curriculum and sponsor local beautification projects has seen similar murals pop up across the country.

Local artists Destiny Palmer, Sophy Tuttle, Chris Piascik, and Cedric Douglas all contributed a mural of their own design and inspiration to the Mattapan community center’s walls. Palmer’s piece, titled “Dreaming Isn’t So Concrete,” draws from her background in abstract art and education, creating a mural that “reflects unity in the community through the universal language of art.”

Tuttle’s work, “Whale Song,” depicts whales and seaweed in a nature-focused piece intended to “help create community, initiate dialogue, and inspire change.”

Douglas’s mural, “Birds Eye View,” uses graffiti art and incorporates nature and local metropolitan staples to inspire the youth to discover themselves and their place in the world through art.”

Piascik’s offering, “Make Your Own Path,” was “inspired by the Mattapan community” and is “reflective of his mission to teach others how art can positively impact their lives and help build communities.”

A former resident of the center’s walls.

Lower Mills, Piascik said the mural project made him think about the universality of art. “I was thinking about how there’s sometimes a misconception that art education is just for artists or for art students. Art can lead you in all different directions, and that’s kind of what I hope people get from the mural.”

Daniel Sheehan

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The Adams Street branch will be closed for the construction of a new building. We will reopen early 2021. Museum pass, holds and other items will be transferred to the Lower Mills branch.
Dot’s Maya Saunders feted by NAACP at national parley

Chairman Emeritus Roslyn Brock of the National Association of Government Affairs Leadership Program, Young Professional of the NAACP Next Generation (NextGen) Young Professional Leadership Program, works as coordinator of government affairs and public policy at the Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers. The other honoree from the NextGen program was Ayanna Polk of Roxbury, who in her decade or so with the NAACP in Boston has concentrated on civic engagement.

The 12-month program works with young adults ages 21 to 35 in local NAACP branches whose main focus is a voter action plan. They also develop civil rights competencies and leadership skills to use as social justice advocates.

“I’ve joined the membership committee of the Boston Branch and I’m actually in the midst of planning with a few other members, a young adult mixer,” said Saunders. “I feel that even people my age that aren’t involved in the NAACP have a notion that it’s an old people organization. I think that a lot of people don’t realize that there are young people in the NAACP doing great things. Many of them live in Dorchester as well.”

The program, she says, has helped build her network in the city.

“Everyone is doing great things and supporting each other. I think the key is that we’ve all been supporting each other. And that’s really what got me through the program, just that network, a lot of us feel like family now,” she said.

Boston, home to the NAACP’s first chartered branch, which was founded in 1911, will host the organization’s national gathering next year. Saunders said that the convention in Detroit has her pumped up. “I felt there being extremely motivated,” she said.

A group of about 45 volunteers gathered at the Bikes Not Bombs warehouse on Harvard Street in the Four Corners section of Dorchester on July 28 to help load a shipping container destined for El Salvador. The contents: 613 recycled bicycles and parts that will be sent to the Salvadoran Center for Appropriate Technology, an environmental group. The volunteers gathered during a break in their work to take a call to end to Trump administration detention camps. Above, Bikes Not Bombs co-founder Karl Kurz (standing), immigration attorneys John Willshire Carrera and Nancy Kelly (both seated on the container) who direct Harvard Legal Aid and Refugee Clinic at the Greater Boston Legal Services (GBLBS) are shown. The organization has sent over 77,000 bicycles to Africa, Central America and the Caribbean since 1984. James Wang photo

Members of the Wahlberg family, got together last Wed., July 31 to celebrate the series finale of Wahlburgers with a viewing party at Wahlburgers in Dorchester. The reality show wrapped after a successful 10 seasons with over 95 episodes. Pictured (l-r): Paul Wahlberg, Alma Wahlberg, Arthur Wahlberg, Bob Wahlberg.

Dot’s Barros to perform at Boston GreenFest

Dorchester’s Bino Barros will take the stage at the 12th Annual Boston GreenFest & Tech Expo on Sat., Aug. 17 with a performance of Cabo Verdean music, enriched with soul that captures the hearts of listeners of every age and background. Barros will perform at 7 p.m. at Christopher Columbus Waterfront Park, Long Wharf.

Asinger, songwriter, guitarist, bassist and composer born in Santiago, Cabo Verde, he is the founder of Atlantic Music, an events production and management agency. Barros is also the co-founder of a Unity Peace Festival held in Ronan Park, Dorchester. A storyteller by heart, he believes that it is important to laugh and enjoy the best of life while reaching out to help others. “I am so honored to be part of GreenFest,” Barros said. “It gives me the opportunity to share my music with people from all walks of life and to do my part to raise consciousness of the importance of banding together to save our environment. I truly feel that music can give us hope and joy in these difficult times.”

The 12th Annual Boston GreenFest & Tech Expo is organized by Street and with his wife, Charlotte, called it home for nearly 60 years.

Lowell Vincent Kingsley was born in 1918 in Illinois to Dr. Howard and Edith (Hildall) Kingsley. Howard later became a professor of psychology at Boston University’s School of Education. And in 1936, Edith joined BU’s Educational Clinic, which focused on remedial reading, a field then in an embryonic stage. Two years later, with her colleague Helen Lund, Edith founded the Kingsley School in the Back Bay, believed to be the first school in the nation to provide intensive reading instruction to children of normal or higher intelligence who struggled to read.

In 1948, Lowell Kingsley became the director of the Kingsley School, a position he held for thirty-seven years. Working in the early days of the school is now called “sensory education,” the Kingsley School’s talented, innovative teaching team explored and often succeeded with experimental techniques to teach the whole child who had not succeeded in traditional classrooms. Mr. Kingsley believed children would try harder to learn if they weren’t designated as difficult and if their efforts weren’t measured solely by the traditional grading system within a standard school’s class structure. Rather than issue report cards, his school prepared written reports for parents that discussed their children’s accomplishments in detail.

Enrollment began to dwindle after 1972, when the Legislature approved Chapter 766, which established the right of young people in the Commonwealth to have access to educational programs best suited to their needs. In 1991, when the Kingsley School had relocated to Fairfield Street, it merged with a Montessori school housed in the same building.

Forty-three years after the Kingsley School first identified the need and then opened its doors to educate children with learning disabilities, the concept the school pioneered was codified in Massachusetts law and, through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, made available to children across the nation.

The archive of these historical posts can be viewed on the blog at dorchesterhistoricalsociety.org. Please Note: The Society’s historic houses are open on the third Sunday of each month from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. James Blake House, 735 Columbia Road (1661), Lenox Clay House, 192 Boston Street (1712 and remodelled 1765); William Clapp House, 185 Boston Street (1860).

YESTER YEAR ARCHIVE

Dorchester Historical Society

Lowell Vincent Kingsley 1918-2017

The archive of these historical posts can be viewed on the blog at dorchesterhistoricalsociety.org. Please Note: The Society’s historic houses are open on the third Sunday of each month from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. James Blake House, 735 Columbia Road (1661), Lenox Clay House, 192 Boston Street (1712 and remodelled 1765); William Clapp House, 185 Boston Street (1860).
Failure to control mass murder weapons weakens our Union

From the get-go it has been an unwieldy experiment, this union of ours. Conceived amid grievances shrouded in a blanket of divinity and foreign gods and their mercenaries, it was launched as a practical necessity for the survival of a fragile, newborn republic.

A faulty foundation of human bondage and stolen land made it destined to result in friction and a reenactment of the civil conflict five years later. The narrative of that time handed down to 20th-century Americans was blissfully stripped of its racial and gendered context, the evil it wiped out the evil of slavery and prevented our wayward southern neighbors from dissolving our sacred Union. Such malady was wound around as we labored to “bind up the nation’s wounds” for decades before his murder by a secessionist gunman.

Purusium unus. Out of one many. It’s the optimistic fallacy and the modern interpretation has grown to include our absorption of people from around the globe in our melting pot, its proliferation of lethal, mass-casualty weapons of war without dramatic change. When Trump has left the White House in 2021, the racial chasm and spurring on the crazies who clearly intended to incite those intent on targeting our newborn republic.

I, and we, oppose the charter school expansion

To the Editor:

I am writing this letter in opposition to the proposed expansion of the Neighborhood House Charter School located at 21 Queen St., Dorchester.

I attended the public hearing held by the Board of Appeal at City Hall and I was appalled at how the meeting flowed where so many residents of the immediate neighborhood, including many abutters who had taken the day off from work to be able to voice their concerns before the board, never got the opportunity to do so.

There is no reasonable objection to the neighborhood objection to these plans and we as a neighborhood never even got a chance to express them. That’s appalling, to say the least. Observing the members of the board during the meeting either texting or emailing on their phones, and that our voices were falling on deaf ears; that’s why I am writing this letter in opposition to the proposed expansion.

The school plans to add 21,000 square feet to its footprint with 12 new classrooms and a one-story gymnasium. And they will increase the population of the school up to 525 students.

I object to their proposed plans for the following reasons:

• Traffic congestion: In spite of what is proposed and has been discussed, traffic, which is horrendous already, is only going to get worse.

• Nuisance: Any expansion is only going to exacerbate the state of nuisance that exists today. There are many legitimate concerns and complaints from the neighbors about noise, adultery, unfair parking, and the smell from the CCC’s economic empowerment program, not to mention the social equity program as the article indicated.

• Child/Neighborhood safety: Already a child was struck by a car on Train Street and any expansion is going to exacerbate the problem. Why can’t the NHCS go elsewhere with their plans, to an area where they own the property is going to work. Why can’t the NHCS take advantage of the social equity program as the article indicated.

This is a fantastic neighborhood and everyone you speak to that lives here doesn’t just like it here, they love it here. We are a great, close-knit community and we care, we love this community, we are a tight-knit community and we care, we love this community.

Bill Forry

Citing ‘fed up’ as reason to again vote for Trump delusional – and dangerous

BY JAMES W. DOLAN

Removing that metaphor, the writer commented on a Scott Leigh column highly critical of President Trump. After acknowledging that President Trump is “his America’s disoriented, delusional president,” the writer asked, “What would it take for Republicans to abandon him?” Since the government is controlled by a few people who are broken and dysfunctional, the writer asked, “Is he the worst president?”

Some have suggested, Americans may want a “bull in the China shop to disrupt things.” But that would only stretch the chaos and give the “spirit of a politician” to those beholden to special interests and the less moderate primary vote.

He complained of traditional politicians “promising everything to everyone, including things they clearly intend to do away with. Why?”

The solution to being “fed up” is not to wreck the joint in the belief that things can’t get worse. They can. I believe there are no solutions to the human condition, but there are better ways. More than that, American politics is a “You must be part of the solution, not part of the problem” of how we address institutional failures. But Americans can strengthen a democracy when we work to improve lives. Campaign finance reform, term limits, elimination of the Electoral College, requiring balanced budgets, reducing spending and, perhaps most important today, fostering a spirit of bipartisan cooperation.

I was skeptical of term limits but am now convinced they would be a good idea. If the political survival would no longer be the primary motivation for elected officials. They could spend less time raising money and more time trying to achieve meaningful accomplishments. The time now in assured re-election far outweighs that devoted to enacting constructive legislation.

Disappointment, frustration, and anger with Washington are understandable, even unavoidable, but “fed up” is dangerous. It provides an excuse for an extreme response. The kind that can and has produced demagogues. Balance and moderation are increasingly rare but the time to prevail. However, the need for leaders of character, honor, integrity, is critical. Can we find a leader who is a “break it down” when we need leaders committed to “build it up.”

The issue of Trump is “hopelessly broken and dysfunctional, too,” he explained. “He has all the worst characteristics of traditional politicians with none of the values associated with the good old days.”


I am writing this letter in opposition to the proposed expansion of the Neighborhood House Charter School located at 21 Queen St., Dorchester.

I attended the public hearing held by the Board of Appeal at City Hall and I was appalled at how the meeting flowed where so many residents of the immediate neighborhood, including many abutters who had taken the day off from work to be able to voice their concerns before the board, never got the opportunity to do so.

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to the Editor:

On June 15, my wife and I saw the smoke from all the way down in Hingham where we were driving. It was from the nine-alarm fire that damaged seven homes on Old Morton Street in Lower Mills. Two firefighters and two residents were hurt at the scene.

Damage to property will likely be in the millions. We thank our firefighters, EMTs, and concerned citizens who helped immediately for their bravery.

Would you be surprised to learn that Dorchester and Mattapan neighbors and small businesses have responded with many donations to the suddenly homeless families of Old Morton St.? They have. A Go-Fund-Me page has raised over $20,000. On Sat., July 27, a fundraiser for the families was held at St. Gregory’s Hall and was organized by the Lower Mills Civic Association and others. Terry Dolan spearheaded the whole thing, so we want to acknowledge her and all her volunteer helpers. There was a spread of pasta, meatballs, chicken tenders, cold cuts, sliders, etc. donated by the Lower Mills Tavern, Pat’s Pizza and ice cream sundaes donated by the Ice Creamsmith. Other donations were made by St. Gregory’s Church, Cedar Grove Gardens, City of Boston Credit Union, Senator Nick Collins, Dolan Funeral Home, Dorchester Reporter, Gibson Sotheybe Realty, Pat’s Pizza, Castlemaine, Cleary Elevator, East Boston Savings, Neponset Realty, De- nis Keohan, Carney Hospital, XFinity and many, many more neighbors, supporters and friends. Thanks to them all.

-Lew Finfer, Dorchester

THE REPORTER

August 8, 2019

Benchmarks, bid law reforms needed for city’s Job Policy

Continued from page 1 the project tries to reach the BRJP employment goals and analyzing actual results versus the goals. Judging the process is straightforward; a project either did or didn’t follow the best practices provided to them by the city. Jotting actual results versus the goals is nearly impossible without a baseline.

For example, if a project is achieving 25 percent resident participation versus the 51 percent goal, then one of two things is happening: either the project isn’t hiring residents as it should, or there aren’t enough residents available to work to reach the goal. Without a baseline, we can’t confidently determine what that 25 percent true is represents.

Creating a baseline is challenging, though. First, there are two forms of construction in Boston – union and open-shop. Union construction doesn’t collect race, ethnicity, or gender information from their members, and if non-union firms do, it’s firm-specific and sporadic, at best. Second, that information is private, and companies are not obligated to provide it. Additionally, construction workforces are fluid.

Thanks to all who helped when fire struck Old Morton Street

The BRJP operates in a dysfunctional system. But as former New England Council of Carpenters leader Mark Eriich argues, “If there’s a dysfunctional system and it keeps staying in place, at some point it’s not dysfunctional because it’s functional for somebody. This current purgatory that we have has served many people extremely well.”

While I am not addressing wage theft, Mark’s words resonate with the system in which the BRJP operates. As it stands today, the construction system is functioning exceptionally well for contractors that have no intention of hiring residents, people of color, and women under the BRJP. Moreover, these same contractors continue to win contracts to work in Boston, often via public bid.

To truly determine compliance with the BRJP, we need to have baseline data. The data will help inform whether compliance, or the lack thereof, is due to a shortage of available workers or a failure to hire them.

We also need a public bid law that incorporates BRJP compliance into the award process. These two recommendations will create a system that can both accurately determine compliance efforts and award firms that hire residents, people of color, and women with future contracts.

Travis Watson is the chair of the Boston Employment Commission. He serves as Community Impact Officer for Massachusetts Housing Investment Corporation.
A community meeting will be held on Wed., Aug. 7 from 6 - 7:30 p.m. at the Mattapan Public Library, 1350 Blue Hill Ave., Mattapan to discuss updates on the progress of Mattapan Station parking lot redevelopment. For more info, contact Diane Clark at delark@nuestracdc.org or 617-989-1210. See mattapanstation.org for more details.

PRESSLEY TO BE HONORED AT CODMAN’S ANNUAL MEETING
U.S. Rep. Ayanna Pressley and Boston Police Commissioner William Gross will be the guests of honor at the Codman Square Health Center’s annual public meeting on Thurs., Aug. 8 at 6 p.m. at the Great Hall, 6 Norfolk St., Dorchester. Open to the public. See codman.org for more info.

AUG. 8 MEETING ON VIOLENCE PREVENTION
City Council President Andrea J. Campbell will host a public hearing on Violence Prevention on Thurs., Aug. 8 at 3:30 p.m. at the Mattapan branch of the BPL, 1350 Blue Hill Ave., Mattapan. The hearing is intended to examine how much money to city spends on violence prevention efforts and how effectively those funds are spent.

DISTRICT 5 CANDIDATES IN MATTAPAN FORUM
The Greater Mattapan Neighborhood Council will host a “town hall” for candidates running for the District 5 seat of the Boston City Council on Sat., Aug. 10 at 11 a.m. at Brooke Charter High School, 200 American Legion Hwy. Please direct all questions to info.gmncouncil@gmail.com.

DORCHESTER YOUTH SOCCER REGISTRATION
Registration is now open for Dorchester Youth Soccer’s fall season. Registration closes on August 15 so the league can have time to assign teams, order uniforms and equipment, and generate schedules. Ages 4-13. Travel teams play on Saturday and House League plays on Sundays. Home field is Pope John Paul II Park. Game times to be determined. Please register today at dyssoccer.com.

PEACE DAY BASKETBALL TOURNEY
City Councillor Andrea Campbell and TwoLitt presents an afternoon of basketball, networking, and dancing. The tourney starts at 2 p.m. at Codman Square Park at 6 Norfolk St., Dorchester, MA 02124.
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6:00pm
500 Rutherford Avenue, Charlestown

RSVP today!
800-829-GRAD

cambridgecollege.edu
Dorchester’s Under-10 All Stars win Mayor’s Cup Baseball title

By Neil Janulewicz

The Dorchester Little League 10-and-Under All-Stars captured the Mayor’s Cup championship last week by defeating the Mayor’s Cup champion All-Stars. The championship game was a thriller. Dorchester struck first in the top of the first inning when Quinn “Q-Tip” Taylor singled and immediately stole second. Andrew “Lefty” O’Malley drove in Taylor with a grounder past the second baseman, putting Dorchester up 1-0. Dorchester’s pitching and defense, including the second baseman, Brayden “Buck” Buckley, laced a double to right. With two outs in the top of the sixth, with the game still at 1-1, Brayden “Buck” Buckley laced a double to right. The go-ahead run across in the bottom of the fourth inning. With the game still 1-1, a single by Taylor past the reach of the second baseman, driving in Buckley and sending the bench and the crowd into a frenzy. Confident in their pitching and defense, Dorchester headed out for the bottom of the sixth to defend the 2-1 lead. Buckley struck out the first Parkway hitter looking. The next batter smashed a grounder between the first and second baseman that Janulewicz got to and threw to first for the second out. Needing only one out to seal the win, Buckley induced another ground ball to the second baseman, Allston-Brighton in the opening weekend, then defeating Mission Hill and Charlestown in the semi-finals. The championship game was a thriller. Dorchester finished just one run short in the tiebreaker to play in the Section 3 championship game. Coaches Neil Janulewicz, Dan Cotter, Marty O’Malley, and Patrick Ryan. The ADSL Softball program claimed the Mayor’s Cup a few weeks ago. Congratulations to all!

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ewmortgage.com • Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5 pm
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All Makes/Models

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How Massachusetts lost count of its poor students

By Max Larkin

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free movie nights in city parks
auditions ongoing for boston city farmers market in peabody square
Ground on Tues., Aug. 13 at 7:45 p.m.
winning film Glory at the Boston Common Parade screening under the stars of the Academy Award-free screening of film “glory”
Milk Shaw Benedict and more.
(Continued from page 10)

set for Wed., Aug. 21 at Ronan Park, Dorchester.

at Rogers Park, Allston-Brighton. “Black Panther” is Breaks the Internet.” Ramsay Park in Roxbury (Wed., Field, Roslindale with “The Incredibles 2.” On Mon., p.m.). The series begins on Mon., Aug. 5 at Fallon parks. All shows begin at dusk (approximately 7:45 p.m.).

performance will be at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, August 6, 2019 at the Epiphany School, 154 Centre St., Dorchester. Participation will be free and all materials are provided, but children must be accompanied by an adult. Groups of eight or more must make prior arrangements by calling the Parks Department at 617-635-4505 or email-boston.gov/parks. In addition, the New England Aquarium will bring its traveling tide pool exhibit to four locations and the Marionette Puppet Show series will return in July and August at 11 a.m. at various children’s workshops. Experience the unique charm of Rosalita’s Puppets featuring marionettes made by professional actor-puppeteer Charlotte Anne Dare. Artists in Residence Workshops will be held from 10 a.m. to 12 noon in parks across the city.

free Parkarts workshops for kids
The Boston Parks and Recreation Department’s annual ParkARTS program sponsored by Holly Bruce returns in July for kids ages three to ten at the Arts in Residence Workshops held from 10 a.m. to 12 noon in parks across the city. Participation is free and all materials are provided, but children must be accompanied by an adult. Groups of eight or more must make prior arrangements by calling the Parks Department at 617-635-4505 or email-boston.gov/parks. In addition, the New England Aquarium will bring its traveling tide pool exhibit to four locations and the Marionette Puppet Show series will return in July and August at 11 a.m. at various children’s workshops. Experience the unique charm of Rosalita’s Puppets featuring marionettes made by professional actor-puppeteer Charlotte Anne Dare. Artists in Residence Workshops will be held from 10 a.m. to 12 noon in parks across the city.

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New web tool is meant to help lawyerless eviction defendants

By SIMON RIOS
WBUR REPORTER
In Massachusetts housing courts, more than 60 percent of landlords have legal representation. That’s not the case for tenants; less than 10 percent go to court with an attorney. The nonprofit Greater Boston Legal Services (GBLS) says it’s now trying to “level the playing field” with the release of a web tool designed to help give legal guidance to people facing eviction.

“It helps them with the very basics,” said Quinten Steenhuis, an attorney at GBLS and creator of the online tool, “which is filling out paperwork that they can use to lay out their case and to explain to the judge, and to the other side, why they should not be evicted.”

There is a 25 percent default rate in eviction cases, according to Steenhuis. The free tool, MADE Massachusets Defense for Eviction can change that, he said, by reminding people of court dates and assisting them with legal forms.

MADE asks a series of questions about a person’s eviction case. From start to finish, the process takes anywhere from 25 to 90 minutes. It begins with a video that explains how landlords must take tenants to court to remove them. Then, questions are asked, including ones about court dates and whether the user wants a jury trial.

After doing eviction defense work for the last decade, Steenhuis said he developed the tool because many people weren’t able to attend GBLS legal clinics. And even if they did attend, he said the process was often time-consuming and inefficient.

“When they’re doing this on their own [with the tool], they’re just seeing the things that are relevant to their case,” he said. “So, it’s saving us a lot of time and expanding access to a good defense in court.”

The tool’s release comes as lawmakers on Beacon Hill consider the so-called “right to counsel” bill, which would guarantee legal representation for most tenants facing eviction.

Despite the disparity in legal representation between landlords and tenants, Skip Schloming, of the Small Property Owners Association, said landlords in lower income neighborhoods often don’t have attorneys either.

“We have landlords who are not getting rent, and in order to fight a tenant with an attorney they probably need to pay an attorney, too, if they can afford it,” he said. “If they can’t, where is the level playing field?”

Schloming believes that legal assistance also should be available for landlords.

The GBLS tool is not the same as legal representation, but it’s a stop-gap measure aimed at empowering those facing eviction and ultimately increasing housing stability for low-income renters.

The tool is online now in English and Spanish, and with an assist from the city of Boston, it is in Vietnamese, Chinese and Haitian Creole.

Although it’s designed for people in Massachussets, Steenhuis said it’s “open source and can be adopted for use in other states.”

This story was published by WBUR 90.9 on July 31. The Reporter and WBUR share content through a media partnership. Simon Rios is based in the Dorchester Reporter newsroom. He may be reached at srios@u.ar.com. For more news, see u.ar.com and dotnews.com.
After Gov. Charlie Baker signed the budget, Polito said she was “very pleased” that their administration has increased funding for sexual assault and domestic violence accounts by 25 percent since taking office in 2015. The $80 million, according to Baker’s office, includes funding to provide emergency shelter for domestic violence victims and their children.

Polito, who chairs the Governor’s Council to Address Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence, thanked lawmakers for including $1.5 million in support of an ongoing public awareness campaign aimed at educating teenagers about healthy relationships. Launched on social media platforms in May with a focus on youth between the ages of 12 and 18, the RESPECT-fully campaign is the state’s first public awareness campaign related to sexual assault and domestic violence in almost 20 years.

The budget also contains $2 million that the administration said would support increased staffing at the State Police Crime Laboratory in connection with a requirement in last year’s criminal justice overhaul that crime labs test all sexual assault evidence kits within 30 days of receiving them from local governments. A separate line item within the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, dedicated to the purchase and distribution of sexual assault evidence kits, is funded at $86,956.

Other elements of the justice reform law represented in this year’s budget include extra money for the Parole Board to support an anticipated higher caseload of individuals newly released into supervision and additional funding for education, mental health and medical staff at the Department of Correction, Baker’s office said.
Tenean Beach gets a Saturday in the spotlight

Continued from page 1

Swash” National Grid natural gas tank, downtown Boston downtown, UMass Boston, and nearby marinas.

Lyons said the DCR has been improving the beach for the past 10 years. A paved walkway that is lined with benches and lighted at night runs along the beach. Four wooden shelters provide shade. One can also take refuge in a small green park on the right side, which offers several picnic tables. There is a playground, two tennis courts, and a basketball court nearby.

“I bring the kids here every once in a while,” said Sophia Gittens of Lower Mills, who brought her three, aged 7, 10 and 12 to Tenean Beach Day.

“This is something good for the kids to do out in the community.”

There were things to do both for children and their parents. Many children surrounded New England Aquarium’s tanks, where they could touch local marine wildlife like muscles, scallops, sea urchins, a spider crab, and a bright orange bat star, native to Northern California.

A separate tank contained baby mud snails and long-clawed hermit crabs that the aquarium representatives collected at the beach. Armed with buckets and magnifying glasses, children were encouraged to go into the water to search for more snails and crabs on their own.

Another popular activity was painting. Dot Art, a local non-profit organization that encourages children ages 3 to 10 to make art, set up a tent with painting supplies and easels, and children could exhibit their creations on lines that were hung along the perimeter of the tent.

Adults were able to find out more about the community and local initiatives. A Greenway representative was informing visitors about the kick-off in September of Climate Ready Dorchester Program, which is a part of the city’s initiative to prepare neighborhoods for the impacts of climate change, specifically coastal flooding and sea level rise.

Representatives of the Neponset River Watershed Association and Neponset River Greenway Council were on hand to talk about protection of the river basin as well as exploration and enjoyment of the river by bike or kayak.

Some visitors, like Robert LeBron, 17, Bobbie Odum, 27, and Nazia Perry, 23, didn’t know about the event. They live near Ashmont Hill and sometimes walk down to the beach. Now they were enjoying ice cream and discussing the event. “This is super cool,” said Perry.

“We wish more people just knew about it. There is a lot of people and a lot of kids in Dorchester, and people would enjoy this,” said Odum. The group knew of someone who swam at the Tenean beach, but they said they were not keen on swimming in the water without knowing how clean it was.

A DCR sign on a lamppost says that the beach is open for swimming. According to the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, in 2014-2018, 71 percent to 95 percent of water samples have met swimming standards at Tenean Beach. There are no more combined sewer overflows that impact the beach. Currently, sources of bacteria at the beach include animal and bird waste and urban stormwater runoff in wet weather.

Still, it is a good idea to call the DCR beach line at 617-626-4972 that is prerecorded every morning at 6 o’clock. The phone message details the beaches in the Commonwealth that have been issued a warning or are closed for swimming.

Another improvement to the beach is still lacking is its own bath house with showers and toilets. Sal Giarratani, a silver-haired former resident of Clam Point who now lives in East Boston, said such amenities are important to promote the beach.

“I used to come over here because there is no one. Nobody knows about it. And you just open up your chair...and just relax.”

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“Caring for your life’s journey…”
Neponset native Neil F. Jones, master of the performing arts, dies at 78

(Continued from page 14)

Neponset alongside his older brother, Larry. Mr. Jones developed a love for his community and its people. Following in the footsteps of his father, known throughout the city for his booming singing voice, he took to entertaining at an early age. As a child, he tap-danced on the sidewalk for pennies. Later, as a member of St. Ann Parish, Jones joined the CYO’s St. Ann’s Players, performing in theatrical productions under the direction of his mentor Jack Morris.

After graduating from Dorchester High School in 1959, Mr. Jones entered the workforce with jobs as a soda jerk at Teddy’s Drug Store in Old Harbor Village, as a co-conductor of a children’s television show as an emergency X-ray technician at Boston City Hospital, and as a salesman for the Scripto Pen company. He also served in the US Army National Guard.

But the theater was in his blood and in the early 1960s, he was awarded a full, four-year scholarship to the Boston Conservatory of Music, where he studied music, dance, voice, acting, and piano. He spent summers during this period performing in 30 musicals with stock companies in North Carolina, Cape Cod, and New Jersey.

In 1963, Mr. Jones headed to New York and while waiting for his big break, landed a job as a captain at the iconic Tavern on the Green restaurant. He was soon hired to perform for a season with the Jeffery Ballet. He was then cast in his first Broadway musical, with the original company of "Hello, Dolly!" The David Merrick-produced musical starring Carol Channing won 10 Tony awards in 1964, including Best Musical. He held a record that the play held for 37 years. His show-stopping leap over the orchestra pit drew gasps from the audience at every performance. Channing gave him a baby grand piano for his Manhattan apartment.

Soon, television came calling. While still a cast member in "Dolly," Mr. Jones was one of a quartet of young actors tapped to star in the NBC network's Saturday morning live-action series "The First Look." Each week, the program introduced young actors tapped to star in the NBC network's "Dolly," Mr. Jones was one of a quartet of young actors tapped to star in the NBC network's "Dolly." The NBC television special went on to win four Emmys and a Peabody Award.

During the show-stopping "I Gotcha" number, Minnelli appears with only two dancers: Mr. Jones and Spencer Henderson. On the commentary track of the film’s 2006 DVD release, Minnelli calls them "Two of the best dancers in the world – Spencer and Neil!" Returning to New York in 1973, Mr. Jones was dance captain and assistant director of "Cyrano," starring Christopher Plummer, at the Palace Theatre. He also danced in the musical, which was produced by Michael Kidd.

Mr. Jones left the Big Apple in 1975 and returned to his beloved Dorchester, sharing his knowledge and love of the stage with several local theatre companies. One of those was the newly reformed St. Ann’s Players – rechristened The New Neponset Players. With his old friend Jack Morris, he produced, acted in, and designed scenery for the troupe for nearly a decade.

In 1979, The McCormack Center for the Arts hired Mr. Jones as director of theater programs. He oversaw productions at the renovated Strand Theatre in Dorchester, bringing name talents like Count Basie and Buddy Rich to the venue. He continued to paint and write poetry. His spiritual, loving spirit, and ability to cheer others never dimmed. He was a fun-loving, consummate entertainer who enriched the lives of all who knew him with his generous nature, sharp sense of humor, and joyful personality.

In addition to his daughters, Tara Jones of Eugene, Oregon, and Bonnie Shugrue and her husband, Brandon of West Simsbury, and many nieces and nephews and their families.

The funeral Mass on Aug. 24 will begin at 11:30 a.m. and be followed by a Celebration of Life from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at The Common Market Restaurant on Willard Street in Quincy. RSVP to neiljones4life@gmail.com.

Jones oversaw productions at the renovated Strand Theatre in Dorchester, bringing name talents like Count Basie and Buddy Rich to the historic Dorchester venue.


In the early 1970s, along came "Liza with a ’Z’: A Concert for Television" which took the entertainment world by storm. Mr. Jones was a featured dancer in the 1972 concert film starring Liza Minnelli. The film was directed and choreographed by Bob Fosse, with music by Fred Ebb and John Kander. The NBC television special went on to win four Emmys and a Peabody Award.

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South Boston and The Company Theatre in Norwell. He sang every Sunday with the St. Ann’s Choir.

Mr. Jones would often introduce himself with the words from one of his poems: “My name is Cornelius Francis Patrick Xavor Cugat Jones. I am an English, Irish, German, Welsh, Catholic, Jewish American which, to my way of thinking, deems me to be, I suspect, a paranoid schizophrenic, dyslexic manic depressive, multi-transsexual petty thief and a bigot suffering from attention deficit disorder, the Roman Catholic Church, and guilt over the joy of being born in Boston, Massachusetts.”

In 2012, Mr. Jones suffered a stroke that left his left side paralyzed. This did not deter him. He continued to write and paint poetry. His eternal optimism, loving spirit, and ability to cheer others never dimmed. He was a fun-loving, consummate entertainer who enriched the lives of all who knew him with his generous nature, sharp sense of humor, and joyful personality.

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