

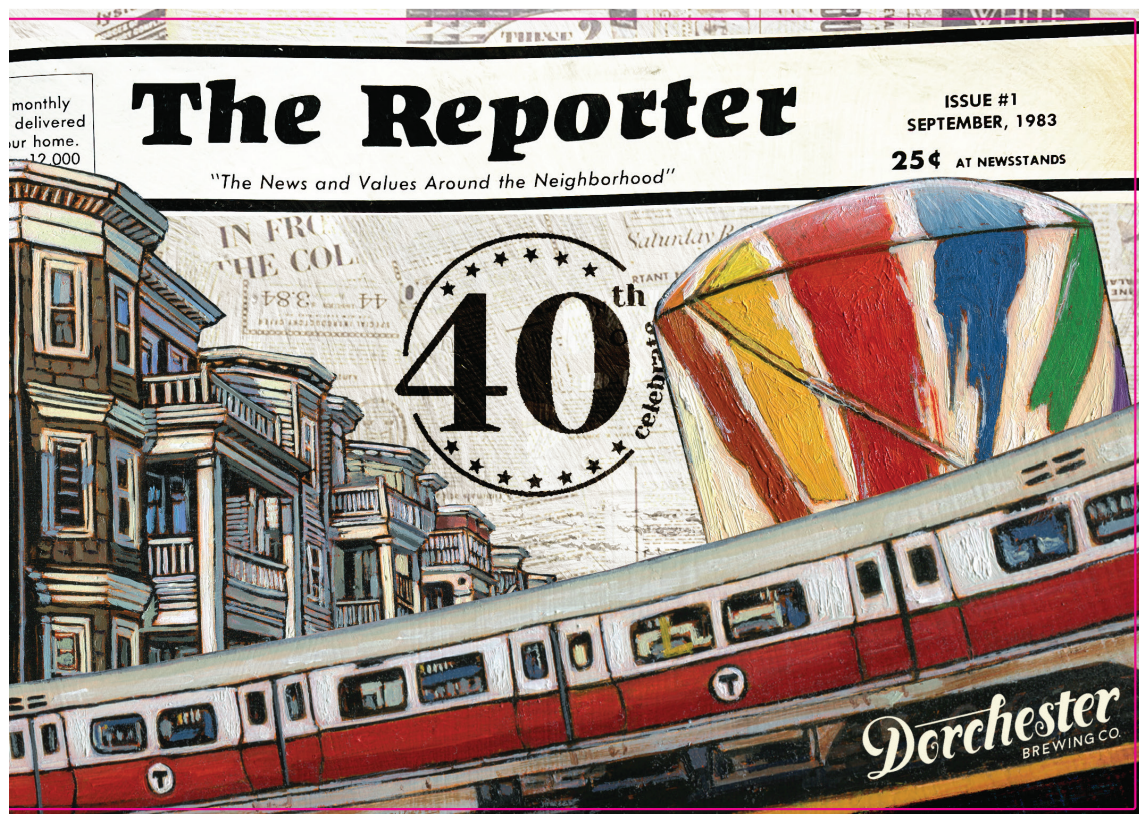
Dorchester Reporter

"The News and Values Around the Neighborhood"

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A collage of iconic Dorchester images hand-painted by artist Andrew Houle incorporates the original masthead of *The Reporter*, which debuted on this week in 1983. The artwork above is featured on a commemorative can produced in collaboration with Dorchester Brewing Company. See story on Page 36 in this week's special section on *The Reporter's* 40th anniversary

The Birth of The Reporter

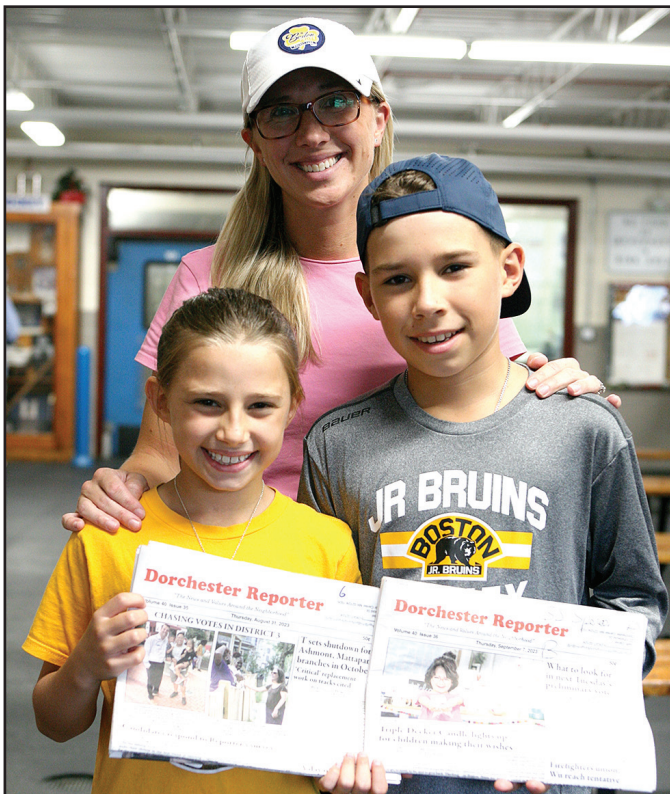
With a promise to bring readers "the news and values around the neighborhood" in each edition, *The Reporter* hit the streets of Dorchester for the first time forty years ago this week — Sept. 1983. In a special 40-page supplement inside this week's edition, we look back at the origins of *The Reporter* and its evolution through the decades where:

- Bill Forry, who was 10 when his parents, Ed and Mary, launched *The Reporter* from their Lower Mills home, recalls the earliest days of the family-run enterprise, which is now one of the few of its kind left in the region.

- Chris Lovett chronicles the years before *The Reporter*, when the Forrys published annual "yearbooks" that celebrated this neighborhood and its people.

- The late, great Boston Globe journalist Jack Thomas's classic *Reporter* story, first published in 2008, is retold.

- Bill Walczak recalls a changing Dorchester in 1983



Above, Christina (Redmond) Myers and her children, Mia and Cam, who deliver the *Dorchester Reporter* along the same St. Brendan's area route that she worked 30 years ago. See story on Page 23 inside this week's special section on the *Reporter's* 40th anniversary. *Seth Daniel photo*

FitzGerald tops field in District 3; will face Richards in Nov. runoff

Arroyo loses District 5 seat

BY REPORTER STAFF

Voters in select parts of the city on Tuesday trickled into polling locations, choosing two finalists, John FitzGerald, a Boston Planning and Development Agency official, and Joel Richards, a public school teacher, in the open race for City Council District 3, which includes Dorchester and the South End. They also expelled Ricardo Arroyo, the incumbent councillor for District 5, which includes Hyde Park, Mattapan, and Roslindale.

The latter made history, as Arroyo became one of two incumbents to be ousted in a preliminary since Boston switched to its current system in 1983. District 6 Councillor Kendra Lara, who represents Jamaica Plain and West Roxbury, is the other. She also lost her seat Tuesday night.

In District 3, Frank Baker decided back in April against running for another two-year term, sparking a seven-way preliminary. FitzGerald, who received support from Baker and former mayor Marty Walsh, was the top vote-getter. The name of the candidate who will join FitzGerald on the ballot for the Nov. 7 final election



John FitzGerald



Joel Richards

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At-large council contest is up next for city voters

BY GINTAUTAS DUMCIUS
MANAGING EDITOR

With the end of the preliminary election this week, voters can turn to the Nov. 7 ballot and its marquee race.

The ballot will feature eight contenders vying for the City Council's at-large slots, and voters can choose up to four. They will join the top two finishers in the district races that were on the ballot this past Tuesday (Districts 3, 5, 6 and 7), as well as incumbents like District 2's Ed Flynn (South Boston) and District 4's Brian Worrell (Dorchester and Mattapan) who are not facing challengers.

Three incumbents — Ruthzee Louijeune, Erin Murphy, and Julia Mejia — are running for reelection. The departure of veteran Michael Flaherty, who had two long stints on the Council, broken up by an unsuccessful run for mayor in 2009, has left voters with the choice of welcoming at least one newcomer to a body that has been riven by infighting and backbiting, even

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Documentary revisits the 'trauma' of the busing era

BY CHRIS LOVETT
SPECIAL TO THE REPORTER

The history starts with a dream and becomes a nightmare, only to be reawakened as a halting voice of trauma or equanimity steeped in regret. Such was the "moral arc" of Boston's "long road to school desegregation" in the PBS "American Experience" documentary, "The Busing Battleground," which premiered Monday night before 150 people at the Community Academy of Science and Health in Dorchester.

Taking place almost 49 years to the

day after the start of what many refer to as "court-ordered busing" in 1974, the screening was the first in a series of commemorative events organized by the Boston Desegregation and Busing Initiative, which includes several members who experienced the history. Even before the screening began, one of the group's co-chairs, Lew Finfer, a long-time community organizer, reminded the audience that the event was taking place in what was during the turmoil of the 1970s one of the few places in Dorchester where people of different races could

feel safe attending the same community meeting. He then drew attention to the documentary's last words, spoken by a pioneering Black journalist in Boston, Bryant Rollins, who passed in May 2022.

"If there had been a way for deep dialogue between Blacks and Whites, a lot of the conflict that arose in the sixties and the seventies was avoidable," said Rollins. "People were in a state of violent agreement. What we agreed about was inefficacy of busing. White parents didn't want it for their kids. They had differ-

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