Dorchester Reporter

"The News and Values Around the Neighborhood"

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Thursday, September 17, 2020

50¢



Cyclists have been flocking to Ashmont Cycles' new location in the Treadmark Building, above. Below, employee Zane Baker-Poveromo busy at work.

Daniel Sheehan photos

Biking boom boosts business, Ashmont Cycles makes a move

More room, visibility in Treadmark space

By Daniel Sheehan REPORTER STAFF

Ashmont residents and cycling enthusiasts may have noticed a familiar face in new digs in recent weeks with the neighborhood bike shop Ashmont Cycles moving into storefront space in the Treadmark building.

On Aug. 25, owner Jack Pelletier officially opened the doors at 1977 Dorchester Ave., just a stone's throw from his former site on Talbot Avenue next to Ashmont Grill, where he had operated since setting up shop in 2011.

Pelletier said in an interview that the new shop gives his employees more room to work, provides ample natural light thanks to a row of storefront windows, and overall creates a better shopping experience for customers.

"The other space was initially built as a working garage; my shop was basically one of the bays of the garage, so it was pretty tight with low ceilings," he said. "Here, there's obviously more room and there's just a better flow for people walking in and out.'



Inside the shop, bicycles hang from a ceiling rack by the windowfront while a display behind the counter offers a wide array of parts, tools, and accessories. In a back room, Pelletier and his small staff - a handful of grease-stained teens, including his son Isaac – tinker with bikes. (Continued on page 5)

With agreement set on safety measures, BPS preps for opening

By KATIE TROJANO REPORTER STAFF

With a stakeholders agreement on safety measures in place, the Boston public schools will reopen for remote learning next Monday (Sept. 21) with the expectation that certain groups of students may be back in classrooms for in-person learning as early as October.

The online opening is on pace, according to BPS Superintendent Brenda Cassellius, who led reporters on a tour of two schools in Dorchester and Mattapan last Wednesday, pointing out both new technology and the protective barriers that are being installed as teachers attend to final preparations for greeting their students.

A final agreement on reopening measures was reached last Thursday after weeks of negotiation between BPS officials and the Boston Teachers Union (BTU). Key components of the memorandum include a facilities walk-through with health and safety teams, alternative work options for high-risk educators, random Covid testing for five percent of BTU membership weekly, technology and laptops for paraprofessionals by Sept. 21, and



Nick Lind, a teacher at Mildred Ave. K-8, sits at his desk behind a new classroom camera. Katie Trojano photo

a waiver allowing all BTU members to bring any school-aged children in grades K-12 to school with them for any fully remote learning times if they cannot find child care.

Students prioritized for classroom learning will include some English Language (EL) learners; those with disabilities in inclusion classrooms with high needs; children experiencing homelessness; those in the care

(Continued on page 16)

Despite pandemic, parks in Dot are getting facelifts; more work scheduled for '21

By Daniel Sheehan REPORTER STAFF

Several city-owned parks in Dorchester are under construction — or nearing completion— this season as projects have resumed following brief disruptions to work and community meetings caused by the pandemic. Although most Boston Parks and Recreation operations ceased in mid-March, meetings were back on track in a virtual format by mid-April and construction came back a month later.

Work has recently been completed on a nearly \$1 million renovation to Downer Ave. playground on Jones Hill. New

amenities include an amphitheater, a dog park, and other changes meant to maximize use of the small space.

Next up, a series of updates to Dorchester Park that are scheduled to be completed by the end of this month will maintain the central climbing structure while adding new sets of swings and even an ADA accessible drum set.

The completion of a more than \$5 million project at Garvey Park in Neponset will follow in November, fixing major drainage issues and creating lookout spaces, a dog park, and increasing (Continued on page 6)

Wu: My run for mayor in '21 starts now

REPORTER STAFF

At-large Councillor Michelle Wu made it official on Tuesday: She is running for mayor of Boston next year. Her campaign released a multilingual video on Tuesday that never men-

Martin Walsh by name, but in it she said she is running to "make Boston a place for everyone."

It is not yet clear if Walsh, who is in his second term, will seek a third.

"We're in an unprec-

By Katie Trojano tioned incumbent Mayor edented time as Boston the scale and urgency of necessary to re-imagine faces a pandemic, an economic crisis, and a national reckoning on systemic racism," Wu said in a statement released to the media Monday night. "To meet this moment, we need leadership that matches

our challenges. Business as usual has been failing Bostonians since well before the pandemic, and Covid-19 has exposed and exacerbated deep inequities across our city. In this moment of crisis, it's not only possible but

community-based leadership with the vision and conviction to act."

Wu's campaign video was released in three languages — Chinese. English and Spanisheach of which she used (Continued on page 4)



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Vehicular access to Malibu Beach 'boat launch' now closed

By Katie Trojano REPORTER STAFF

A section of Malibu beach that is heavily used by people to launch small boats and jet skis was blocked off from vehicular access with a concrete barrier by state officials this week.

The move came amid ongoing public safety issues at the state-controlled beaching area that is bisected by Morrissey Boulevard.

In July, a 43-year-old Dorchester man died when his jet ski - launched from Malibu - slammed into a sailboat at high speed. Neighbors referenced that fatal incident— and other concerns about large outdoor gatherings on both sides of the boulevard beaches— during an online meeting of the Columbia-Savin Hill Civic Association on Tuesday evening. Rep. Dan Hunt was on the Zoom call and fielded questions from about 45 residents, some of whom said they hoped for more State Police presence in the area.

Marta Carney, a Savin Hill neighbor who spoke up during the meeting, noted that "over the weekend, the area was flooded with cars, tents, fire grills and there were all kinds of things going on over there— even with Covid."

She added: "Neighbors are really trying to just make it safe over there by requesting the dusk to dawn hours and more police. A lot of neighbors want it to stay open but just enforce the hours."

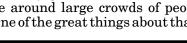
Hunt said that oversight of the beaches in Savin Hill is split between a few jurisdictions. He said he hopes to convene stakeholders and find a way to "reimagine" the boat ramp area of Malibu as part of a larger re-design of Morrissey Boulevard.

But in the short-term, he said, he would like to find an alternative ramp location by the spring. He said he would ask nearby yacht clubs to accommodate neighbors by allowing them to launch from

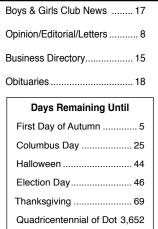
The concrete jersey barrier now in place will remain there until a solution is identified, he said.

Will Sutton, a resident of Saxton Street who fishes and launches his kayak from Malibu, said he hoped a new access point can be opened soon.

"I'm pretty sensitive to the concerns about safety and I specifically go to that area because I don't want to be around large crowds of people," said Sutton. "One of the great things about that space is



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that people have access to the [Boston Harbor] islands where they can camp overnight. It was a unique place and I think one of the reasons you see so many people there is because access to the water, despite being a coastal city, is hard. There's just roading all over the place. So hopefully there are ways to preserve access while addressing the safety issues.'

Sutton suggested that allowing public access to Dorchester Bay via a currently closed ramp next to the National Grid gas tank on Victory Road could be an alternative. Hunt said he, too, sees that location as a potential solution. It has been closed for years due to security concerns related to the gas tank next door.

"I walked the boat ramp down there with the [DCR] deputy commissioner in June," said Hunt. "It looks pretty good and I think with minor improvements that it's a possible option."

A man launched a small vessel into Dorchester Bay from Malibu Beach last summer.

Bill Forry photo

T ridership is ticking up

The MBTA has noticed a "modest increase" in ridership in recent weeks, though averages across the system still remain well below pre-pandemic averages, General Manager Steve Poftak said on Monday.

Toward the end of August and in the beginning of September, weekday ridership on the T's buses and its Blue Line both of which have consistently experienced the highest demand amid the Covid-19 outbreak — crept above 40 percent of the levels observed in late February.

Ridership on the Orange, Green, and Red Lines hovered in the low-to mid-20 percent of pre-pandemic range over the past two weeks, the highest it has been since early March. The Green Line had seen levels below the other trains through most of the

pandemic, but in recent weeks it has caught up and now tracks closely with other lines, Poftak said.

"My educated guess is that ... as some of the universities come back that are along the Green Line, we are seeing an increase in ridership," Poftak said a Monday's Fiscal and Management Control Board meeting. Commuter rail ridership remains the lowest of

the bunch, still lingering around 8 percent of February averages.

The dramatic changes in commuting patterns have created enormous challenges for the T, where officials predict they will face hundreds of millions of dollars in a fiscal year 2022 budget deficit because of cratering fare revenue.

- CHRIS LISINSKI SHNS

Police, Courts & Fire

Four officers hurt in car/foot chase-The Boston cops were injured when, police said, a man they called a "career criminal" struck them with his car near the intersection of Geneva Avenue and Columbia Road last Saturday night. Michael McKoy, 35, was eventually arrested after a wild car and foot chase that ended near Mass Ave and Melnea Cass Boulevard. Police say they found a cache of weapons and ammunition in his car— along with crack cocaine, heroin/fentanyl

and \$25,000 in cash.

"This individual had six illegal firearms, many of them loaded, and drove recklessly through the streets of Boston, harming four police officers while also putting members of the community at significant risk," said District Attorney Rachael Rollins. "These officers were attempting to protect us as a community. They put themselves in harm's way to keep us safe and deserve our thanks."

Three of the four officers McKoy is alleged to have hit with his vehicle went to local hospitals with non-life-threatening injuries. Judge Jonathan Tynes ordered that he be held without bail pending a dangerousness hearing at his arraignment at Dorchester Court on Monday.

Teen, 14, arrested with gun at Roberts **Playground** – The boy was stopped by Boston Police on Saturday night on Walton Street when, they say, they found him carrying a loaded .38 caliber handgun. Officers were called to the scene near Roberts Playground just after 8 p.m. by someone who reported that the teen had threatened to shoot them. The

juvenile was set to be arraigned in Dorchester District Court this week.

Woman found dead in June ID'd - The woman whose body was found close to the Devine Golf Course in Franklin Park last June has been identified by Boston Police as 52-year-old Leslie Atkins of Springfield. Her remains were found "in the area of 17 Jewish War Veterans Drive" on the afternoon of June 14. Her death was later ruled to be a homicide and is under investigation. Anyone with information is asked to call detectives at 617-343-4470.

UPCOMING CIVIC MEETINGS AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

PLAN: Mattapan workshop on Sept. 23 — Organized by the Boston Planning and Development Agency, the meeting will focus on "height and use" and further discuss urban design guidelines that will serve all people of Boston and as part of the ongoing planning initiative focused on Mattapan. 6 p.m. on Wed., Sept. 23 online. Register at bit.lv/ PlanMattapanCorrdorsActivity. bostonplans.org for more info.

The annual Savin Hill Neighborhood Yard Sale is on Sat., Sept. 19, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. (rain date: Sunday, 9/20). To get on the map or to request a copy of the map of participating homes, please send an email to savinhill@outlook.com.

Public meetings on housing proposal— The BPDA has scheduled a virtual meeting on Tues., Sept. 22 at 5:30 p.m. to discuss a proposal for 69 Bailey St., which calls for a new, four-story, 29-unit residential building on the site of a former veteran's post at that address. To register for the meeting through Zoom, visit bostonplans.

A series of public events to gather feedback on the proposed improvements to Boston Common as part of the Boston Common Master Planning Initiative will be held over the coming weeks. Mayor Martin J. Walsh has committed

\$28 million from the sale of the City's Winthrop Square garage to renovate and enhance Boston Common. The goal of the new Master Plan is to create a Common visitors to our city while protecting this special place for decades to come.

The first public meeting of the virtual open house will be held on Wed., Sept. 16, from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Links to access virtual events will be posted at bostoncommonmasterplan.com in advance of each meeting This will be followed by smaller, interactive open forum discussions over the coming weeks where members of the public will have an opportunity to review proposed improvements, ask questions, and share ideas with the project team panelists. The schedule for the open forum discussions is as follows: Tues., Sept. 22, 12 to 1 p.m.: Park-wide Strategies for Improvements; Thurs., Sept. 24, 6 to 7 p.m.: Visitor Activities and Play; Tues., Sept. 29, 6 to 7 p.m.: Performances and Active Recreation; Thurs., Oct. 1, 12 to 1 p.m.: Gateways and Edges.

Mayor's Office seeks immigrant leaders **for civic program** — The mayor's office is seeking immigrants to enroll in a 12-week-course aimed at teaching new

leaders on "how to effectively navigate local government." The program— "Immigrants Lead Boston" — is sponsored field trips, conversations, and tours with by the Mayor's Office for Immigrant Institute staff made available to students, Advancement in collaboration with teachers, and groups on Tuesdays, the Civic Engagement Cabinet. The City of Boston is granting the participants scholarship stipends of up to \$1,000 for their "time and commitment." The program begins October 21, 2020 but applications are due by Sept. 18. To learn more about Immigrants Lead Boston and to apply, visit boston.gov/immigrants-

The Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the United States Senate plans to open to group reservations on Wednesdays at the beginning of October. institute on Columbia Point in Dorchester announced its plans Wednesday, saying it will reopen in accordance with federal, state and city rules and through the use of mobile ticketing, contactless entry, touch-free exhibits, one-way walk paths, hand sanitizing stations, and an increased frequency of cleaning and disinfecting of high-touch areas. The institute also announced new virtual and online public and educational programs dealing with voting and social

justice. "Institute programming this fall will be complemented by new virtual Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Educational experiences at the Institute, such as Today's Vote and The Citizen's Senate, along with its exhibits, will use digital devices, immersive role playing, and simulation to teach civics and inspire the next generation of leaders." - SHNS

Dorchester Bay EDC plans Oct. 2 online **fundraiser** – Dorchester Bay Economic Development Corp. (EDC) will host its 41st annual fundraiser "Dorchester Strong: Rising to the Challenge" on Fri., Oct. 2 via a live-stream that will be held from 7-8 p.m. The honorees are Sophia Haynes-Cardwell of Stajez Cultural Arts Center and Sheriff Steven Tompkins, with special guest Dr. Beverly Daniel Tatum. For more information, please contact Angela S. Yarde at ayarde@dbcedc.org or call 617-533-9561.

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To cheers, Florian Hall re-opens dining room with expanded hours

By Daniel Sheehan Reporter Staff

Florian Hall, the iconic multipurpose union hall and event space on Hallet Street, welcomed customers back to its restaurant last week for the first time since last March. The building is home to the Boston Firefighter's Union Local 718 and serves as a gathering space for other unions based in the neighborhood.

Locals know it as a polling station, as a site of countless fundraiser "times," and as a reliable lunch spot for favorites like baked scrod and chicken parm. But with large gatherings on hold for the foreseeable future, a part of the hall's identity has been stripped away.

"It's been a big impact because our main source of revenue is those big events," said Mary Ellen Strum, Florian's banquet/function manager. "Christenings, birthday parties, funerals, office Christmas parties, political fundraisers, annual banquets — any function you can think of, we host it here."

For now, Florian is pivoting to food service full time, expanding its normal lunchtime-only hours to an 11:30-8 p.m. window. Restaurant regulars rejoiced when,



A view of the Florian Hall lunch crowd last Friday afternoon.

after months of checking in by phone and email, and knocking on the doors hopefully, they received word that Florian would be serving food once again.

"We have a very loyal customer base," said Steve MacDonald, Local 718 executive assistant. "We get a lot of regulars coming from the Keystone Apartments just across the street, as well as active and retired firefighters. The [firefighters] credit union is right across the street, too, so a lot of fire, police, and EMS workers do their banking over there and then come here for lunch."

A few safety-driven changes have somewhat altered the dining experience: there's no bar service, tables have been spaced out, patrons must wear masks until seated, and customers' names are taken down upon entry for contact tracing measures. Some larger round tables, which can seat up to 10, have also been removed, prompting some regular groups of retirees to split

up into two parties.

But so far, said Strum, business has been "very steady. News got around pretty quickly by word of mouth, and a lot of people have been coming in saying, 'We're so glad you're back!' Plus we have KENO, which is a big draw." Last Friday

Daniel Sheehan photo

around lunchtime, only two or three tables in the dining hall were empty.

"It's good to be interacting with people again and putting everyone back to work," said John Sarro, union vice president. "We have a really unique situation here to have a union overseeing a restaurant...it's an iconic place for people that have their big moments here. I think this reopening really benefits the community."

Buddy Murphy, a retired firefighter, said he enjoyed the familiar atmosphere at Florian. "It feels like normal, almost," he said. "I come all the time for lunch because the food's good, it's close, there's plenty of parking...I hope people keep supporting it because we need a place like this."

Joanne Scialdone, who said she's been coming to Florian for "many years," didn't mince words about finally getting to dine again with her friends at her favorite restaurant: "It's the best thing that's ever happened!"

SJC Chief Ralph Gants has died at 65

Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court Chief Justice Ralph Gants has died, the court's associate justices announced Monday afternoon. Gants, 65, had served as the high court's top judge since July 2014, when he was sworn into the post by Gov. Deval Patrick. He had announced last Tuesday that he had undergone surgery after suffering a



Ralph Gants

heart attack on Sept. 4.
Later in the week,
Justice Frank Gaziano
said that Gants was
following proceedings in
a lawsuit around Gov.
Baker's powers during
the COVID-19 emer-

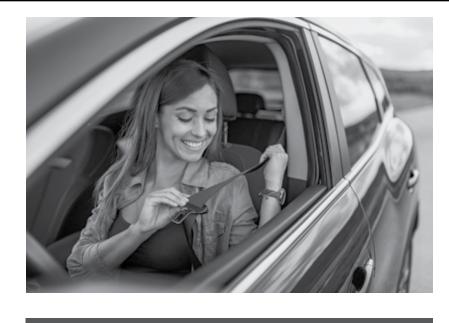
gency and planned to

participate in the final

The other justices said they were announcing Gants's death "with deep sadness. Our hearts and prayers are with his family. We have no further information at this time," the statement said.

Gants, along with Justice Barbara Lenk, are the only justices on the seven-judge SJC bench not appointed by Baker. Lenk plans to retire on Dec. 1

– KATIE LANNAN SHNS



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Wu: My run for mayor in '21 starts now

(Continued from page 1) when speaking into the camera.

Wu's intentions to run became public last weekend when Walsh told the Globe that she had told him of her intentions in a phone call.

At a press conference on Tuesday outside of Boston City Hall, Walsh declined to respond in detail to any questions about Wu's campaign for mayor.

"I commend Councillor Wu on her decision, I have great respect for her or anyone who runs for office, and I look forward to more conversations about how we can move our city forward, but right now we are battling the Covid-19 pandemic.

Walsh added that he was focusing on rebuilding the economy, reopening schools, housing the homeless, advancing reforms with the police department, and helping to elect Joe Biden and Kamala Harris to the White House, noting, "that's quite honestly what I'm working on, and what I'm focused on."

At the same hour, Wu was in Dorchester at Town Field park huddling privately with a group of teenagers before heading to Nubian Square and, later, Allston-Brighton for campaign events. The Fields Corner event was closed to reporters, but



City Councillor Michelle Wu visited Town Field in Fields Corner on Tuesday, Sept. 15, hours after announcing via video and social media that she will run for mayor. Katie Trojano photo

Wu spoke to the *Reporter* before it began.

"It's been a packed day across the city," said Wu. We had lunch with Latinx community leaders commemorating the first day of Hispanic heritage month and we're about to head into a meeting with youth activists. We'll be at the bus station and house parties and standouts, so it's been a long day and I'm looking forward to many, many more of them."

with youth activists at Town Field was one of many she planned to engage with new voters in her campaign.

"Boston has the resources, we have the activism, and we have the ideas. We just need bold, urgent leadership and young people are always at the forefront of delivering that," she said.

Wu added that she enjoyed campaigning while also governing. "I think Wu said her meeting sometimes people think of government and campaigning as two separate matters that require two distinct skill sets, but if we want a government that really represents and reflects our communities, it should be the same," she said.

Should a Walsh-Wu face-to-face campaign become a reality - hardly a certainty given the city's active electoral scene – money will talk. In public reports filed with the state's Office of Campaign and Political

Finance, Wu's campaign spent \$53,363 in August, a large sum for a council candidate not in a campaign. Wu has a little more than \$346,000 in cash on hand this week, compared to \$5.5 million in Walsh's account.

The mayor has not yet discussed publicly his plans for re-election next year. He is closely allied with former Vice President Joe Biden and could be recruited into a Biden administration depending on events on

Nov. 3 and beyond.

In Boston, District 4 Councillor Andrea Campbell, a former council president, has been moving money into her campaign coffers. According to OCPF, she has \$285,000 in the bank, which is considered a large sum for a district councillor. However, $unlike\,Wu, Campbell\,has$ not been spending large sums— yet.

Reaction from Campbell —and most city politicians to Wu's decision -was muted in the hours after her formal announcement. One exception was Lydia Edwards, a district councilwoman from East Boston, who noted it in a Tweet.

"Well, it's a race... next year," Edwards wrote. "I do want to acknowledge that [Councillor Wu] has joined a small group of less than 10 women to run for mayor of Boston. Proud of her. Now back to our regularly scheduled program of removing Trump on Nov. 3."

City Councillor Frank Baker, who represents Dorchester in District 3, said Tuesday: "My support is with Mayor Walsh. I think he's done a great job, pre and post covid. There's a reason why our numbers are where they are and we never saw an overwhelming surge like New York. That shows real leadership."



Special Virtual Workshop

PLAN: Mattapan

Height & Use: **A Corridors Activity**

Wednesday, September 23 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Register Here:

bit.ly/PlanMattapanCorridorsActivity

Call In: +1 669.254.5252 or +1 646.828.7666 Toll Free: 833.568.8864

Meeting ID: 160 971 0493

Event Description

This PLAN: Mattapan workshop will be a continuation of the August presentation. The planning team will provide a brief refresher of our August meeting and then move into small group activities. There will be an opportunity for large group questions and answers at the end of the meeting.

The purpose of this meeting is to:

- Share and discuss existing building heights, allowable zoning, and potential future heights
- Further the development of urban design guidelines and zoning for Mattapan's

We will incorporate recommendations from other City and State Agencies that are also conducting and implementing various planning efforts in and across Mattapan. We encourage attendees to revisit the toolkits produced for previous workshops that include a brief overview of Article 60 (Mattapan's zoning code) and Article 80 Project Review, which can be found on our website.

Translated materials and interpretation services will be provided in Haitian Creole and Spanish.

Contact:

Rosa Herrero de Andres Boston Planning & Development Agency One City Hall Square, 9th Floor Boston, MA 02201 617.918.4340 | rosa.herrerodeandres@boston.gov



Virtual Public Meeting

1463-1469 **Dorchester Avenue**

Thursday, September 24 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Register Link: bit.ly/33jCx3k Toll Free #: 833.568.8864 Meeting ID: 161 171 4955

Project Description:

The developer proposes to build a five (5) story, twenty-nine (29) unit apartment building with ground floor retail space.100% of the residential units will be income restricted. The project will include twenty-five (25) studio units and four (4) one-bedroom units.

mail to: Stephen Harvey

Boston Planning & Development Agency

One City Hall Square, 9th Floor Boston, MA 02201

phone: 617.918.4418

email: stephen.j.harvey@boston.gov

Biking boom boosts business, Ashmont Cycles makes a move

(Continued from page 1)

Pelletier acknowledged Carl Micci of Micci Fuel, his former neighbor, for his "tremendous support" over the years, and also thanked Trinity Financial and Greater Ashmont Main Streets for their assistance with the move.

The shop's relocation comes in the wake of a biking boom ushered in by the pandemic. That spike in customers has boded well for Pelletier, but it's also led to supply shortages.

"This summer's been crazy in the bike industry, not just for me, but for the nation and, I've heard, globally," he said. "And I've heard this about other outdoor activities too, people buying kayaks, RVs. We're really low on new bike inventory, and we're just waiting for manufacturers to have new inventory to provide. Parts from my suppliers, too, it's been hard to get, stuff like tires, pedals, brakes."

Pelletier pointed to a decrease in car traffic in the early stages of the outbreak that may have made people "feel more welcome on the roads," as well as some folks opting to bike over taking public transit for safety reasons, with others escaping the indoors on two wheels after becoming "stir crazy." All of those factors spell success for Pelletier, who is optimistic that the trend will stick.

"Bike sales have been up. I took on more staffthis summer than I've ever had."

Dorchester resident Leon Samuel was at the shop last week with his seven-year-old





Owner Jack Pelletier (left) and customers Leon and Nicoliah Samuel (right) inside the new Ashmont Cycles shop last week.

Daniel Sheehan photos

daughter, Nicoliah, buying a new part for his bike.

"We've been going to the old location for years and it's always been a good neighborhood business," said Samuel.
"I consider myself more of a
biking novice, but they're good
at diagnosing what you need.
I just rely on their expertise."

For Pelletier, after nearly a decade in Ashmont, moving the shop to a location outside the neighborhood was unthinkable.

"Since opening, the neighborhood's been just so great. I didn't consider moving elsewhere"

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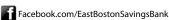
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Despite pandemic, Dot's parks are getting facelifts; more on tap in '21

(Continued from page 1) shade and accessibility.

The interruption earlier this year pushed back completion dates for a few local projects, said Parks Commissioner Ryan Woods, and forced the department to adapt to a new community meeting process, which has presented both new access opportunities and new challenges.

"Although the transparency is great because people can Zoom from their home and they don't have to worry about child-care to get to these meetings, we still want to make sure we're hitting on all equity measures," said Woods. "Not everybody has broadband access, not everybody has access to get to a computer or onto wifi, et cetera. So we really want to make sure we're offering many ways - whether it's people calling in or putting stuff online or $\overline{getting}\ on\ a\ Zoom-that$ we're getting the most feedback we can for each of our projects... everything's really done through that community process, so that transparentengagement process is really crucial for us to understand what are the needs for the community."

Another handful of projects are slated to either begin construction or planning meetings in the upcoming months and are expected to be completed before next summer.

Phase 3 of a multimillion-dollar transformation of Harambee Park on Talbot Avenue will begin in a few weeks, adding football fields and pathways to the



Construction continues this month at Garvey Park, which is in the latter stages of an extensive, \$5 million renovation that is now scheduled for completion in November. A rendering shows what the park will look like once work is finished. Photo by Dan Sheehan/Rendering courtesy city of Boston Parks Dept.



largely-finished soccer fields, drainage improvements, amphitheater, and pedestrian walkway at the space.

A renovation to Doherty-Gibson Play-ground at Town Field in Fields Corner will go out to bid this winter for spring construction, said Woods, and will include new play equipment, accessible entrances, fencing, and efforts to make the space cooler by adding water play features and plantings to provide more shade.

Similarly, bids for an \$8 million project at McConnell Park in Savin Hill — which would freshen up the site's Little League fields and rework the parking lot and traffic flow— will go out this fall.

And a complete renovation of Ryan Playground in Mattapan, slated for next year, will begin design meetings this fall.

Woods said the wide scope of many of these projects reflects the Walsh administration's commitment to a thorough reworking of the neighborhood's green spaces.

"In the past, the department used to do a lot of one off fixes," he explained. "This administration is taking a more comprehensive look, so it's more than just one court or one field. We're looking at multimillion-dollar renovations. Sometimes parks are one of the first things cut, so we're fortunate to have a mayor involved who grew up in parks and understands the approach we're aiming for.

Rite Aid offers Flu shots for kids

Kids between the ages of 3 and 18 can now get a flu shot at Rite Aid stores in Massachusetts as a result of a change at the

federal level. The drug store chain, which lists 10 stores in Massachusetts, said a change made by the U.S. Department

of Health and Human Services now allows Rite Aid pharmacists to administer flu shots and other vaccines to kids between the ages of 3 and 18. That gives parents one more option in Massachusetts, where Gov. Charlie Baker recently

mandated that most students in Massachusetts schools get a flu shot this year.

The administration announced the requirement as "an important step to reduce flu-related illness and the overall impact of respiratory illness during the COVID-19 pandemic," but later clarified that the mandate will stay in effect even after the current pandemic is in the rearview mirror. Baker said having kids in K-12 schools and undergraduates at Massachusetts colleges immunized against the flu should help this fall, when the traditional flu season could overlap with a second wave of COVID-19.

"We currently have about an 81 percent ... get-the-vaccine rate for students here in Massachusetts K through 12. I think our view on it is pushing that number up higher would be a

good thing, getting the college kids to play in this space would be a good thing, and the federal government bought a ton of extra flu vaccine this year specifically because they would like to see states work to enhance and extend the number of people who actually get the flu shot," he said. For the 2018–19 influenza season, Massachusetts had the highest rate of vaccination among children between six months and 17 years old. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control said the state had 81.1 percent flu vaccination coverage among children, compared to a national average of 62.6 percent. For adults, Massachusetts had the second-highest rate of flu vaccination at 53.5 percent. Only Rhode Island's rate of 56.3 percent was higher, according to the CDC.

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Dot's Trzcinski to direct Animal Care for Parks and Rec



Alexis Trzcinski

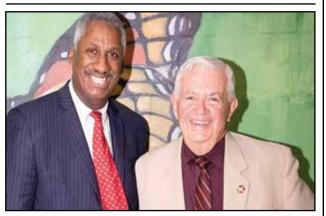
Alexis Trzcinski of Dorchester has been promoted to Director of the Animal Care and Control division of the Boston Parks and Recreation Department. She has worked in the animal welfare field for over 24 years after beginning her career at the Animal Rescue League of Boston where she worked in direct animal care and pet adoptions.

Trzcinski joined Boston Animal Care and Control in 2004 and has served as the division's assistant director since

2015. In that role, she organized the expansion of the city's low-cost animal wellness program, worked collaboratively with other humane law enforcement organizations, performed administrative hearings, and ensured that the division continued to provide high level care for animals in the city's animal care facility in Roslindale.

"I am excited for the opportunity to have a positive impact on the lives of animals, and build stronger relationships within the community," she said. "My passion is helping animals in need. Lucky for me, that is also the mission of this talented team."

A graduate of UMass Boston, Trzcinski has lived in Boston most of her life and currently lives in Dorchester with her husband, twin sons, two cats, Bowser and Mack, and her dog, Otter.



Greater Grove Hall Main Streets received a \$100,000 grant from the Cummings Foundation this year, helping to fuel its work on economic development and urban planning for the Grove Hall area of Dorchester and Roxbury. "This grant will enable us to increase the amount of support we are able to provide individuals and non-profits working to improve the community," said Ed Gaskin, executive director of Greater Grove Hall Main Streets, shown above, left, with Bill Cummings.

Photo courtesy GGHMS



Members of the Richard family gathered with neighbors and friends on Saturday to unveil a new art installation at Martin's Park in South Boston. The event was meant to celebrate Team MR8 members, many of whom ran a virtual Boston Marathon in recent days in support of the Martin Richard Foundation. While this was the last for Team MR8, the foundation will continue to promote teamwork and healthy lifestyles while challenging runners to #RunForMore through the MR8K race. Above, from left, Bill Richard, Jane Richard, Denise Richard, Sierra Rothberg of Lusterity, who designed the installation along with Jen Coyne of Lusterity, Team MR8 runner Bob Cleary, Jeremy Jarrett from MacKay Construction who helped install the art, and Mark Juaire, a volunteer and neighbor.

MRF photo

Steel is now fully in charge at St. Mary's Center on Jones Hill

Alexis Steel is the new president of St. Mary's Center for Women and Children, the facility on Jones Hill in Dorchester that works to help women and their families move out of poverty and homelessness. Steel, who joined the organization in 2018, has been the acting president since last January. The center's Board of Trustees made the posting permanent in a unanimous vote this

Kathy Maple, chair of the board, called Steel "the right leader at the right time for St. Mary's Center. Throughout her tenure at St. Mary's Center, and most recently in her role as the senior leader, Alexis has demonstrated lead-



Alexis Steel ership capabilities of a seasoned executive."

She added, "Alexis communicates honestly and with integrity. She is passionate about social justice for women and children and is committed to creating pathways out of poverty. She sees the value of stabilizing lives and understands how to leverage this stability as a platform for education and employment and, ultimately,

for self-sustainability." Before joining St.

Mary's Center, Steel was senior manager of Global Operations for the Consortium of Affordable Medical Technologies (CAMTech), Massachusetts General Hospital. Through her work over four years at CAMTech, she was able to build her expertise in working with women and children across the globe, mainly in Uganda and India.

Additionally, she worked in grants and contract administration for large research studies at Partners Healthcare. Elementary teaching experience in a rural village in Honduras, and her participation in the Children's Enrichment Program at the Wom-

en's Center of Rhode Island have enhanced and complemented her professional background and inherent passions.

"I am humbled and honored to lead this amazing organization," said Steel. "With a global pandemic, and the push for social justice for families like ours across the US, this has been one of the toughest years St. Mary's Center has had since opening its doors. It is our collective mission to ensure that moving forward we continue to be focused on enhancing the services we provide and continue evolving as an organization to provide the best level of service we can to the families we work with every day."

YESTERYEAR ARCHIVE

DORCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Which came first: Trolley or Cemetery?

The first railroad line through Dorchester, which was in operation by 1845, was the Old Colony along the eastern edge of the town, a right of way now used by the T to Quincy and beyond. The following year, the Dorchester and Milton Branch Railroad was incorporated to run from the Neponset station of the Old Colony to Mattapan Square.

The concept of a cemetery near the Neponset was approved in 1868; the name Cedar Grove Cemetery was officially adopted in January 1869; and the first cemetery lot was sold in May 1870.

In 1872, the Old Colony and Newport Railway Corp. built the Shawmut Branch Railroad, a steam railroad, as a connection between the Dorchester and Milton Branch Railroad near the Neponset River. This line is today's Red Line branch that leads from JFK-UMass station to stops at Savin Hill, Fields Corner, Shawmut, and Ashmont, then, via trolley, along



the old Dorchester and Milton tracks across the southern edge of the Cedar

Grove Cemetery and on to Mattapan Square.

The act incorporating the Shawmut Railroad Company was passed by the Legislature on June 22, 1870. The law gave Edmund P. Tileston (who had paper factories at Mattapan), Henry L. Pierce (who owned the Baker Chocolate Co.), and Franklin King (a major property owner in Dorchester) the right to "locate, construct, maintain, and operate a railroad with one or more tracks, commencing at some convenient point on the Neponset River ... crossing in its course the Milton Branch Railroad and the Cedar Grove Cemetery ..."

Grove Cemetery ..."

After the electrification of the T in 1926, the part of the Dorchester and Milton Branch Railroad that traveled eastward to Neponset experienced less traffic and later fell into disuse. Its route was approximately that of the current bike path along the river.

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

Editorial

Change in temps brings new challenge for eateries

Pull out those long-johns. Double-up on the fuzzy socks. Outdoor dining season on public property has been extended through at least Dec. 1 in the city of Boston. That's good news.

The Walsh administration lifted restrictions on sidewalk patios— and offered plenty of help in the form of infrastructure— to get restaurants that were shuttered indoors back into some form of business this summer. Those provisions were due to expire on Halloween. Mayor Walsh announced Tuesday that restaurants can continue to serve customers on their makeshift patios for another month, weather permitting. Outdoor dining that is staged on private property can go on for the duration of the health emergency, he said.

"Restaurants have faced incredible challenges during this ongoing public health crisis, and the City of Boston is committed to helping them survive and succeed, including by giving restaurants more flexibility around outdoor dining," Walsh said.

Restaurants, particularly downtown, have been

Restaurants, particularly downtown, have been gutted by the covid scourge. Many have closed permanently. Dorchester has fared better—at least, so far. Most existing neighborhood restaurants re-opened after the state-mandated ban on indoor dining was eased, aided in part extra outdoor space in what turned out to be a great summer, weather-wise. And, given that many people are working from home and often within easy striking distance, Dot people have been patronizing their local businesses.

But the chill of fall is in the air and the first flakes aren't far behind. Restauranteurs and their allies at City Hall need to find new ways to keep customers at room temperature while they dine, particularly if there's some reprise of indoor restrictions.

At the Bowery in Lower Mills, which boasts a terrific outdoor dining space as part of its existing footprint, they plan to bring back a trio of yurts that made their debut last winter. Back then, the Bowery yurts—basically an upscale tent, decked out with blankets and handsomely decorated—were a novelty, a way to make decent use of a space that went little-used for five months of the year. This season, they'll have company in the form of a larger, heated tent that the Bowery's owners plan to erect over a larger side patio that will afford them extra seating space. They are hoping to have the tent and the yurts up and running in early November.

Restaurants will need more technical support from City Hall to make it work. They'll also need our continued patronage to survive the winter. Let's make it happen.

-Bill Forry



A yurt on the Bowery patio last season.

The Reporter

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About Q.1: 'Right to repair' - the sequel

By Callum Borchers WBUR Reporter

Question 1 on the Massachusetts ballot this fall may look familiar. It's a sequel to the "Right to Repair" measure that passed eight years ago. Because of that law, you can take your car to any shop — not just a dealer's service center — and a mechanic can plug into your vehicle's computer system to figure out what's wrong. You can also buy a device to do this yourself

The idea is that you have a right to the information needed to repair your car wherever you want and can't be forced to go to a dealership, hence the "Right to Repair" moniker.

Now, with this new ballot question, many mechanics say they ought to have access to something more — something called "telematics."

Details of the Question

If you drive a late-model car, it's probably equipped with the automobile equivalent of a FitBit that monitors the vehicle's mechanical health and sends those readings wirelessly back to the manufacturer. The term "telematics" refers to this kind of real-time data about your car, and it can be valuable info.

There may be nothing wrong with your vehicle yet, but if telematics tell the manufacturer that a certain part is wearing down and will need to be fixed soon, the automaker can notify you in an email or even a message right on your dashboard. And there's a decent chance that alert will come with an offer to schedule maintenance — with just a few easy finger taps — at the dealer ship that sold you the car in the first place.

Some independent shops worry they'll lose business to dealer service centers because of the convenience factor

What your vote would mean

A "yes" vote on Question 1 would create a shared database for the telematics that currently flow only to automakers. Drivers could then grant permission for any mechanic to keep tabs on their cars, which could help level the playing field. Your neighborhood shop could more easily anticipate a problem and prompt you to schedule service before something breaks—just like a dealership.

Automakers strongly oppose Question 1 and say they're not just looking out for dealerships but for drivers, too. They say a large telematics database could be a magnet for hackers. And they point out that even if a maintenance alert tries to steer you to a dealer service center, you can always instead choose a different mechanic.

A no vote on Question 1 would make no change to the existing "Right to Repair" law.

Who's Backing This, Who's Opposing It?

Advocates on both sides of the Question 1 debate are using extreme arguments to make their cases.

In an interview, Right to Repair Committee Director Tommy Hickey said if the ballot measure fails, "it could be the evisceration of the independent repair shop," and that consumers "are going to be forced to the dealerships." He offered a possible scenario to support his claim: "Let's say you're driving along, and your starter's going to go out. So the manufacturer pings the car and says, 'Hey, go to a dealership right now. Your starter's about to go out.'

"You say, 'Well, I have a trusted, independent repairer. I've been using him for 15 years. He's a local guy.' I go down to the independent repair shop, he plugs into the [on-board diagnostic] port, and no code comes up for the starter. So, he says, 'Nothing wrong with your car.'

"You leave. Ten miles out, your starter goes out. What then? You've lost faith in your independent repairer. You're broken down. It's too late because you didn't go to the dealership. And, so you're being forced to the dealership on something that your independent repairer should be able to fix."

While Hickey's hypothetical is plausible, a good mechanic might take the manufacturer's warning about an impending starter malfunction more seriously. Rather than simply check for a digital repair code, the mechanic could physically inspect the starter for signs of trouble and replace it before it fails.

Meanwhile, an ominous TV ad produced by the Coalition for Safe and Secure Data, the leading opponent of Question 1, suggests that passage of the ballot measure would help violent criminals hunt their targets.

"Domestic violence advocates say a sexual predator could use the data to stalk their victims," a female narrator claims in the ad.

Viewers who read the fine print will notice, however, that this concern is attributed to the California Coalition Against Sexual Assault. The group spoke out not against Question 1 in Massachusetts this year but against a bill in California in 2014. That bill, which did not pass, would have increased access to a wide range of vehicle data, including location information.

The measure on the ballot in Massachusetts this fall refers specifically to "mechanical data related to vehicle maintenance and repair."

In an interview, Coalition for Safe and Secure Data spokesman Conor Yunits contended that the "sexual predator" threat raised in his group's ad remains valid. He said the "mechanical data" language in Question 1 could be interpreted to include location information because driving in certain environments — the salty sea air of Cape Cod, for example — may corrode parts of a vehicle.

If a vehicle were to transmit location info to a shared database, that could create "personal safety risks," Yunits argued.

The Coalition for Safe and Secure Data is funded primarily by a trade association of auto manufacturers, according to the Massachusetts Office of Campaign and Political Finance. The Right to Repair Committee is largely funded by groups in vehicle maintenance businesses.

This article was published by WBUR 90.9FM on Sept. 14. The Reporter and WBUR share content through a media partnership.

Ranked voting offers more options

By CHERYL CLYBURN CRAWFORD SPECIAL TO THE REPORTER

The past few years have seen a wide range of elected positions, from Boston City Council to US Congress, filled by Black, Latinx, Asian, and female candidates. Yet, while our democracy has much to be proud of, all too often the majority of voters see their voices ignored.

For example, In 2013, then-State Sen. Katherine Clark won the highly-competitive Fifth Congressional District Democratic primary with 31.6 percent of the vote. In 2018, Lori Trahan won the Third Congressional District Democratic Primary with 21.7 percent of the vote. Just a few weeks ago, Newton City Councilor Jake Auchincloss won the highly-competitive Fourth Congressional District Democratic primary with 22.4 percent of the vote. And, right here in Dorchester, Brandy Fluker Oakley won the Twelfth Suffolk State Rep. Democratic primary with 39.3 percent of the vote in a four-person race.

As of now, the most competitive elections in our state do the poorest job in reflecting the will of most voters. Fortunately, we can fix that this fall by voting Yes on Question 2—for Ranked Choice Voting (RCV), a system that would allow voters to rank candidates in the order of their preference, as opposed to selecting only one.

If, for example, six candidates are running, voters can rank those candidates from one to six. If a candidate wins a majority of votes on the first ballot — that is 50 percent +1— then the election ends there. But if no one attains a majority, the candidates with the fewest votes are eliminated and those that ranked said candidates first have their second choice counted instead. This continues until one candidate attains the majority of support.

RCV may sound complicated, but it is actually

quite simple. Instead of selecting only one candidate for each race, you can rank them. If you only want to select one, then you can select one. Yet at the end of each race, the winner will have majority support. Even if the winner ends up being the second or third preference of some voters, they would still have a broader base of legitimate supporters than many candidates do in our current system.

RCV has many other benefits. First, it promotes diverse candidates. Since individuals need not worry about the "spoiler effect" under RCV, candidates of color and female candidates are more likely to run – and win – with RCV than without. The city of San Francisco, for example, elected their first female African-American mayor in 2018 with RCV.

Second, RCV increases voter choice and competition. With more candidates and parties willing to run for office, both candidates and voters become more engaged in each election, driving up turnout.

Across the country, cities like San Francisco and Minneapolis use RCV, as does the entire state of Maine. But we do not need to look that far to see how well it works. Cambridge has used RCV since the 1940s and has one of the most diverse and representative city councils in the entire country. Meanwhile, cities in Western Mass, like Amherst and Easthampton, have already voted to implement RCV in 2022.

This fall, we have a unique opportunity to lead the nation by implementing RCV statewide. Our voices will be amplified and our power expanded. I urge you to Vote Yes on 2 this fall.

Cheryl Clyburn Crawford is the executive director of MassVOTE, a non-profit, non-partisan advocacy organization dedicated to voting rights. She is also the first vice president of the NAACP Boston Branch.

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Cristo Rey Boston students return for in-person learning Savin Hill school launches campaign on funding gap

By KATIE TROJANO REPORTER STAFF

At Cristo Rey Boston High School on Savin Hill Avenue, new and returning students were welcomed into classrooms for in person learning a month ago, on Aug. 17, the school's usual start date. The private Catholic high school is currently operating within a hybrid learning model, with about half of the 220 enrolled students exercising the option to learn from home instead.

"Each student can be in the building three days and be remote two, but only about fifty percent of the students are choosing to come in at all," said school president Rosemary Powers.

Part of a Jesuit-founded network based in Chicago, Cristo Rey Boston is one of the system's 37 college prep schools in place across 24 states that exclusively serve students and families with limited resources. It offers students a rigorous curriculum, a distinctive work-study program, and the support of an inclusive community.

In an interview, Powers acknowledged that the juggle of teaching both in-class and remotely has been a challenge.

"It's hard for our teachers," she said. "They have 10 or 12 students sitting in front of them in the classroom and then 10 or 12 more who are logged in and they can see them on the computer screen. I've definitely heard from teachers that it's super hard work and that they're stressed."

The school building, which formerly housed



Above, students from Ms. Edwards art class took advantage of summer temperatures as they gathered outside the Cristo Rey Boston school on Savin Hill Avenue recently. Inset: A scene inside a classroom Photos courtesy Cristo Rey Boston

the elementary school of St. William's parish, does not have an HVAC filtration system. "All the vent systems and fans have been cleaned and all of our windows are open," she said.
"We're following state
and city guidelines as well. Everybody has to wear a mask, surfaces are frequently sanitized. We've spent a lot of time cleaning the building. It's an old building and it's never looked clean-

Cristo Rey phased in students slowly last month, starting with a grade a day. They have since ramped up the schedule. Students are learning remotely on Mondays, and those who opt to return to the building rotate throughout the week with three grades in at a time.

Powers said that staff and administration had been preparing for a school reopening since June. "We set up a Covid-19 task force way back at the end of June that had been meeting weekly all summer. We've also had a lot of professional development available for





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teachers that they've been able to take advantage of all through the summer. Last year, we pivoted very quickly to the remote model, so we feel like we actually have some experience."

Administrators and staff are taking extra precautions, often staying in their offices while in the building and hosting meetings via Zoom instead of gathering in small spaces. And while the weather has been warm, teachers have seized opportunities to bring some of their classes outside.

"It's hard on those kids keeping those masks on all day, from the time they walk into the building until they leave," said Powers. "We try to do mask breaks where people can stand six feet apart out into the yard. They're high school kids.

They'd like to be closer to their friends so we're focused on constantly reminding them of the importance of social distancing and keeping masks on. They've done really well, so we are pleased, but we also know that it's tough."

The school's financial model is built on its corporate work study program, through which each student works one day a week with a "corporate partner," said Powers.'"Every student goes out to work one day a week and that \$10,000 per student pays half of their tuition, and we fundraise for the rest of it. In a typical year, we raise \$2 million just through straight philanthropy, and through corporate work study we generate \$2 million from the kids being out and doing work."

Although the program is still intact, Powers said the school has taken a hit in the crisis and has launched a fundraising campaign in an attempt to make up for any losses.

"Our model is tossed on its head this year. We do have some fabulous partners who have decided to support us anyway. They've written a check and decided that students can come into their offices when they are back in their offices sometime next year. Other corporate partners have said they would try to employ students virtually.

She added: "But some just aren't able to afford it this year, so we're finding that instead of raising the \$2 million that we would typically raise in a year, we need to raise about \$3 million."

The seven-week funding campaign is called "Bridge the Gap" to fill the need. "We're going to highlight students, some corporate work study partners, and keep pushing out info every week."

Annual tuition is \$9,000 per student, and the campaign urges donors to support a student for a vear but also welcomes donations at incremental levels.

The Shah Family Foundation and the Catholic Schools Foundation have each donated \$250,000 and Powers said the campaign hopes to match that support.

"We have a total of 112 students who need support. We've taken care of 56 of them through those generous gifts. And we have 56 more kids to support," she said.

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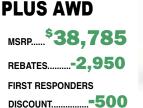
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Families rally for outside probes of police shootings

By Chris Van Buskirk State House **News Service**

At a rally in front of the State House last Wednesday, Rahimah

aamah Rahim, said her reached in his pockets son was a good man who "cared about the people that were homeless, the people who didn't have shelter, the people who

many times to dole out money for people who didn't have what he had."

Usaamah Rahim was shot and killed by a an FBI agent in 2015 after police officials say he approached officers with a knife.

Rahimah Rahim attended the rally organized by Mass. Action Against Police Brutality to call on Gov. Baker to assign a special prosecutor to reopen all past cases of police brutality in the state.

Among the cases the group wants a special prosecutor to investigate are the deaths of Massachusetts residents Terrence Coleman, Eurie Stamps, Usaamah Rahim, Burrell Ramsey-White, and Juston

The protest comes just over three weeks after police in Kenosha, Wisconsin shot Jacob Blake, whose severe injuries furthered nationwide protests calling for an end to systemic racism and police brutality. The protest on the State House was held in solidarity with Blake's shooting.

Rahimah Rahim said she raised her five children to be respectful citizens and to look out for other people who didn't have the privileges

they had. "How many other mothers have to lose their children to this brutality? How many more of us have to lose our relatives, our families? It's genocide," she said. "We cry out as Americans about what's going on in other countries. We cry for the people who are being persecuted there. What about us? Cry out for us. Cry out for us."

At a press conference earlier in the day, Baker said he didn't know if he had the authority to reopen closed cases.

"It's always been my impression that the state official who has the most latitude with respect to reopening cases is the attorney general," he said. "And I do know the attorney general can choose to take cases that DAs either don't take or aren't interested in. I don't know if the attorney general has the authority under existing law to reopen a case that's been closed. And as I stand here, I don't know if I do either."

Organizers of the rally said their effort had the support of nine families of men shot by police in the state, some of whom showed up to share their stories. Among them was Hope Coleman, the mother of Terrence Coleman. Diagnosed with schizophrenia, he was shot in 2016 by Boston police after his mother called for an ambulance to take him to the hospital. Prosecutors allege he attacked personnel responding to the call with a knife.

"All I heard was two shots," Hope Coleman said Wednesday. "I didn't hear him holler."

Brock Satter, co-founder of Mass. Action Against Police Brutality, started off the evening with a chant, "Indict, convict, send those killer cops to jail. The whole damn system is guilty as hell." As he called on Baker to appoint a special prosecutor, Satter responded to the governor's comments from earlier in the day.

"He was under some question about whether he had the power to reopen the cases. So, who knows? Who knows in government how to run it?" he said. "But



Jennifer Root Bannon, whose brother Juston was killed by local police in February, said her message is that "law enforcement cannot, I say cannot, be investigating themselves." Sam Doran/SHNS photo

what you and I know is what needs to happen is that when police commit crimes, they need to be held accountable for the crimes they commit. So they need to figure it out .. whoever has the power, they need to figure it out."

Jennifer Root Bannon, whose brother Juston Root was killed by police in February, filed a wrongful death suit in US District Court in Boston on Aug. 10. Police shot at Root— a Mattapan resident— 31 times after he led them on a chase from Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston into Brookline with a replica gun. The six Boston and State Police officers involved in the shooting were cleared by prosecutors.

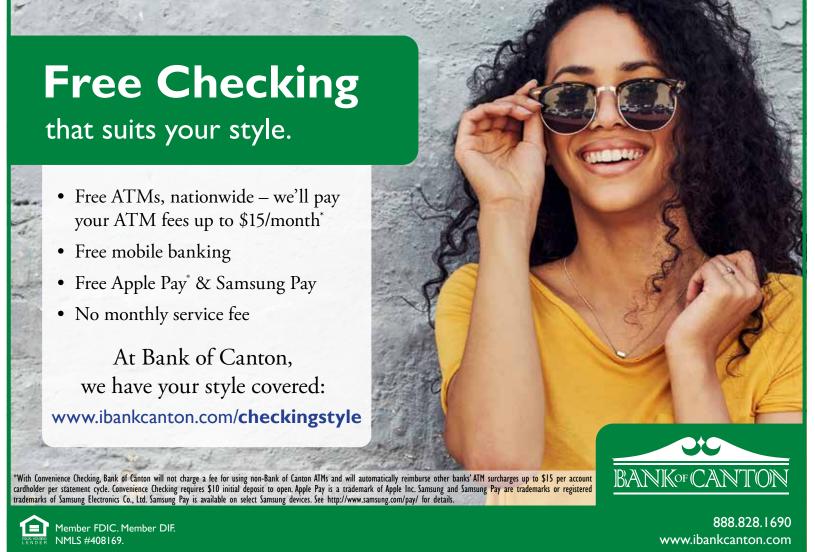
On Wednesday, Root Bannon called for an end to police brutality and for officials to hold accountable officers who break the law. She said the departments need mandatory independent investigations by an impartial department for incidents involving deadly and excessive force.

"Not only here in Massachusetts but across this country. Today, the message I want to make very clear: Law enforcement cannot, I say cannot, be investigating themselves. Continuing on this current path will never bring about justice," she said. "Gov. Baker, I'm going to ask you again, reopen my brother's case for an independent investigation. Reveal the truth.

Two pieces of legislation to reform police accountability and curb use of force tactics remain in conference committee, where lawmakers negotiate differences between bills behind closed doors. The Senate first passed its version on July 14 and the House followed suit with similar legislation on July 24.

The bills largely do the same thing — set up an independent body to certify and decertify police officers in the state. The bills also limit the use of chokeholds and tear gas, and restrict qualified immunity from civil lawsuits for police officers accused of alleged misconduct.





Fields Corner arts space set to expand



Sam Potrykus outside DAP's newly expanded space on Dot Ave.

Daniel Sheehan photo

By Daniel Sheehan Arts & Features Editor The Fields Cor-

ner-based gallery, work-

shop, and performance

venue Dorchester Art Project(DAP) announced plans to expand last week after securing a lease for an adjoining 6,400-square-foot space at 1490 Dorchester Ave.

The bi-level ground floor/basement property, which formerly housed a grocery store and fish market but has been vacant for years, will likely become home to a storefront selling things like t-shirts, guitar strings, and artwork, said programming director Sam Potrykus.

Another chunk of the property could hold an art workshop and co-working space that would be rented at a low day rate, while the back portion of the space, which sits directly beneath the current DAP stage, will likely become another performance venue and dance floor.

Further square footage below in the basement has potential for a recording studio and rehearsal spaces.

"It'll basically be what

we have but in a bigger space that's on the first floor and is wheel-chair-accessible," explained Potrykus. "It's all the stuff we're already successful with —giving artists space at an affordable rate, providing high quality services, and prioritizing people from Dorchester at the same time."

DAP has established itself as a cultural epicenter in recent years, hosting regular art exhibitions and concerts and helping a diverse collective of artists flourish in their own studio space.

Potrykus said the expansion is ultimately about "increasing the sustainability" of the organization. By growing the project, Potrykus, a Jamaica Plain resident, and DAP leadership hope to create salaried positions and eventually hand off stewardship of DAP to folks from the neighborhood.

"That's the only thing that's missing from DAP. We're doing great work, but we're run by all these part-time creative workforce hustlers, instead of creating full-time jobs and taking care of people

in a more sustainable long-term way," said Potrykus. "This is an effort towards that — we're gonna use this opportunity to move towards sustainability."

For now, DAP volunteers have their work cut out for them; Potrykus already has community members signing up to clean and remodel the space in the coming weeks. While the entire renovation process likely won't be finished until several months from now, DAP is aiming to open its storefront by Oct. 1.



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Count your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, foster kids, and the children of any friends or relatives staying with you, even if it's only temporary. Babies count, too! Even if they're still in the hospital, as long as they were born by April 1, 2020, make sure the person completing the Census for your address includes them on the form.

For more information about the 2020 Census, visit 2020Census.gov or call 844-330-2020. #2020Census #CountAllKids

Moment of Paws

Prepare your dogs and cats for the unexpected

By Dr. Edward SCHETTINO

This has been an un-

precedented year. We have endured challenge after challenge and, with

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE & FAMILY COURT SUFFOLK PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT 24 NEW CHARDON STREET BOSTON, MA 02114

CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME
Docket No. SU20C0112CA
IN THE MATTER OF: ANTHONY E. CASTELLANO

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Anthony E. Castellano of Dorchester, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:
Anthony E. Defilippo
IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Suffolk Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of **09/30/2020**. This is not a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written

oroceedina. Witness, HON. BRIAN J DUNN, First Justice of this Court.
Date: September 10, 2020 Felix D. Arroyo Register of Probate

appearance if you object to this

LEGAL NOTICES COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT **PROBATE & FAMILY COURT**

SUFFOLK PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT 24 NEW CHARDON STREET BOSTON, MA 02114 617-788-8300 CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME Docket No. SU20C0058CA IN THE MATTER OF:

ESRAA AL MUBARAK A Petition to Change Name of Minor has been filed by Esraa Al Mubarak of Boston, MA request ing that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:

Esraa Lami IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Suffolk Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 09/24/2020. This is not a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

Witness, HON. BRIAN J. DUNN, First Justice of this Court. Date: September 01, 2020 Felix D. Arroyo

Register of Probate Published: September 17, 2020

September being National Preparedness Month, 2020 is truly the year where we should all take a moment and prepare for the unexpected.

We've seen more than a dozen named storms and we're just now getting into the heart of hurricane season. Wildfires have ravaged countless miles of land in the US, and here in Massachusetts we are in the midst of a growing drought.

ThethreatofCOVID-19 remains, and for some this may mean self-quarantine, forcing other household members, including pets, to find other accommodations.

As we prepare for the unexpected, include your pets in the planning process so when a disaster strikes, you and your pets will be ready to go at a moment's notice.

Below are four simple

steps to keep in mind as we prepare.

Disaster Kit. Just like every person in the home, animals in your household need their own kits. You should include at least a one-week supply of food *and* water, along with collapsible dishes; a week supply of medication; photographs, tags, and other identification; leash, harness, crate/ carrier; toys, blankets and treats; waste bags, litter and litter tray.

Pet-Friendly Evacuation Centers. Many, but not all, evacuation centers allow pets. Check your area for not only evacuation centers, but also pet-friendly hotels, boarding facilities, and even friends or relatives that would allow you and your pets to stay. Keep in mind that during the Covid-19 pandemic, procedures, protocols and

even capacities may be altered to ensure a safe environment for both people and pets.

Make Sure Your Pet is Microchipped. We covered the importance of the microchip in last month's column. It's the simplest way to be reunited with your pet should you become separated. If your pet is already microchipped, take the opportunity while preparing to make sure all contact information is correct and up to date.

The Buddy System. Keep in mind that you may not be home when disaster strikes. Connect with friends and neighbors to ensure that someone is willing to evacuate your pets if you are unable to. A colleague of mine recently told me a story about not being home when his neighborhood was evacuated during a wildfire. Fortunately, a neighbor

was willing to gather his cat and bring her to an evacuation center and the two were reunited days later after the danger had abated.

Putting your emergency plans together is not an incredibly time-consuming project, and once you're done, simply set it aside.

Should a disaster strike, remember every minute matters. Being prepared and knowing what to do and where to go saves precious time and helps to keep you, your family, and your pets safe should you face an emergency.

Dr. Edward Schettino $is\ the\ president\ and\ CEO$ of the Animal Rescue League of Boston. He has a Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine from the Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University. Pet questions? Email ARL at press@arlboston.org.

COMMONWEALTH OF

MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT

PROBATE & FAMILY COURT

SUFFOLK PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT

24 NEW CHARDON STREET BOSTON, MA 02114 617-788-8300 CITATION ON PETITION

TO CHANGE NAME

Docket No. SU20C0270CA IN THE MATTER OF:

JA'HKI ELJAH HARRIS

A Petition to Change Name

of Minor has been filed by Ja'hki

Eljah Harris of Dorchester, MA

equesting that the court enter a

Decree changing their name to: Ja'hki Elijah Cofield

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for ourposes of objecting to the

etition by filing an appearance

at: Suffolk Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the

eturn day of **09/30/2020**. This is

not a hearing date, but a deadline

by which you must file a writter

appearance if you object to this

DUNN, First Justice of this Court

Date: September 01, 2020

Witness, HON. BRIAN J

Felix D. Arroyo

Register of Probate

roceeding.

HELP WANTED

JOB DESCRIPTION **Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion**

The City of Everett is looking for a dynamic leader to help drive organizational change around diversity, equity and inclusion. The Director will design and implement organization-wide DEI efforts, and help shape a healthy and inclusive culture where everyone can grow and thrive. We are looking for a candidate with a deep understanding of diversity challenges and an ability to lead systemic change. This position reports directly to the Mayor and collaborates with senior leadership and other key stakeholders to advance our diversity and equity initiatives, and overall inclusion strategy. The Director will be tasked with measuring and monitoring organizational diversity, with a concrete goal to diversify leadership and staffing across the organization and to develop criteria for measuring the stations progress. This person must be able to create a vision of change that will inspire colleagues at all levels and help the administration meaningfully serve our ever more diverse public.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- Bachelors degree required with a minimum of 5 years of related work.
- Experience implementing diversity and inclusion programs and educational tools; or any equivalent combination of education, training and experience which provides the required knowledge, skills and abilities to perform the essential functions of the job.
- Excellent interpersonal and organizational skills.
- Knowledge of commonly used organizational diversity and ed

Communications Specialist/ **Public Information Officer**

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Education:

· Bachelor's degree in communications, journalism, marketing, business administration, public relations, or a related field.

Experience:

At least five years of experience dealing with social networking, preferably in a municipal or government setting; or any equivalent combination of education and experience.

Submit cover letter, resume, and writing sample to Human.Resources@ci.everett.ma.us using the subject line "Communications Specialist". Please include all of the above-mentioned documents as attachments to the

LEGAL NOTICES

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE & FAMILY COURT
SUFFOLK DIVISION
24 NEW CHARDON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02114
Docket No. SU209D10142DR
DIVORCE SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION and MAILING
MARIA E. PEREZ

JOSE A. PEREZ

To the Defendant: The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown The Complaint is on file at the Court An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411.

You are hereby summoned and

required to serve upon: Maria E. Perez, 82 American Legion Highway, Apt. 5, Dorchester, MA 02124 your answer, if any, on or before 11/11/2020. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the nearing and adjudication of this action You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court. Witness, HON. BRIAN J. DUNN, First Justice of this Court.

Date: August 17, 2020

Felix D. Arroyo Register of Probate Published: September 17, 2020

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS MASSACIOSET IS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
Suffolk Probate & Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION Docket No. SU20P1593EA ESTATE OF: JOANNE T. SKELLEY DATE OF DEATH: 02/08/2020

To all interested persons:

A petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Amy J. Wojdag of Hanson MA requesting that the Court enter a forma Decree and Order and for such other relie as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Amy J. Wojdag of Hanson, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in an unsupervised administration IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. Petition from the Petitioner or at the Count. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 10/15/2020.

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

Unsupervised Administration
Under The Massachusetts Uniform
Probate Code (MUPC)

Apersonal Representative appointed under

A Personal Representative appointed unde the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annua accounts with the Court. Persons interested n the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Persona Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of

administration.
Witness, HON. BRIAN J. DUNN, First Justice of this Court.
Date: September 02, 2020

Felix D. Arroyo Register of Probat tember 17, 2020

COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
Suffolk Probate & Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION FORMAL ADJUDICATION Docket No. SU20P1535EA ESTATE OF: **COLEMAN KEANE**

DATE OF DEATH: 04/22/2020 petition for Formal Adjudication of Representative has been filed by Bosto nian Nursing Care/Rehab of Boston, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relie as requested in the Petition.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court You have a right to object to this proceed ing. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 10/08/2020.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidaut 6 Objections within this (20). Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you. Unsupervised Administration

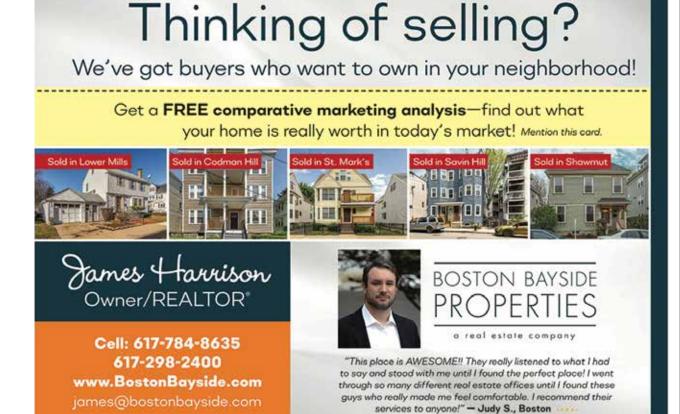
Under The Massachusetts Uniform

Probate Code (MUPC)
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons nterested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.
Witness, HON. BRIAN J. DUNN, First
Justice of this Court.

Date: August 27, 2020

Felix D. Arroyo

Register of Probate Published: September 17, 2020



Teachers' take-away: 'We're in uncharted territory'

By Katie Trojano REPORTER STAFF

There are variations depending on the system- public, charter, private or parochial. But, all teachers in Boston schools are adapting to the shifting demands of covid-era instruction this month.

At Pope John Paul II Catholic Academy's Columbia campus, roughly 60 percent of K-8 students are back in classrooms since re-opening for in-person learning on Sept. 9.

Claire Barton Sheridan, the campus principal, says that the remaining students chose to learn from home- and are monitoring classrooms via laptops and tablet.

"The kids are doing fantastic, attendance has been excellent and they are being very good about following the rules," said Sheridan. "We've worked very hard all summer to make sure that the building was set for each of the kids to come back successfully."

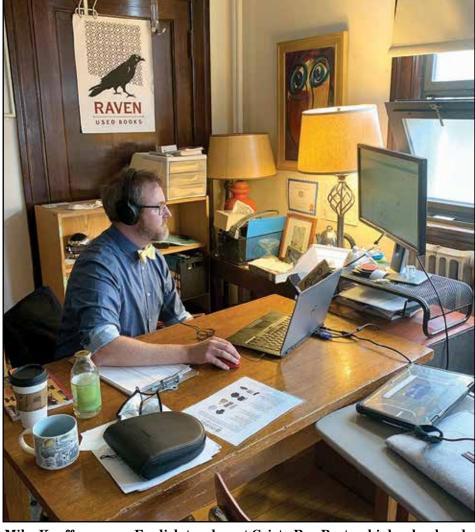
Teachers participated in professional development throughout the summer, she said.

"Communication was key, all of our parents would get a communication from the principal each week outlining where we were at that time and what our hope was in moving forward.

Everyone knew that it was a fluid situation and things could change, but that's okay, no stress. We will deal with it if there's a concern and we have plans in place for everything that you could think of just in case.

At the McCormack Middle School on Mt. Vernon Street, teachers and staff continue to prepare for the launch of online-only classes on Sept. 21. Monique Symes, a 7th grade English teacher at the BPS school, said she and her colleagues are spending five to six hours a day

AUTO BODY REPAIRS



Mike Kauffmann, an English teacher at Cristo Rey Boston high school and a Savin Hill resident, is shown at his desk. Photo courtesy Cristo Rey Boston

on professional development through Sept. 18.

"At the McCormack, we're hoping that between Monday and Wednesday we connect with all, if not almost all of our families through our town halls," said Symes. "The focus of our initial communication is to make sure that everybody knows that all students will start school online on the 21st.

Symes said she has heard rumblings that teachers do not want to go back into school buildings. She disputes that, but acknowledges that many do have concerns about how to track air quality.

"We haven't seen a lot of information around how that's going to be assessed and sustained throughout the time that we're supposed to be in the building," she said. "Teachers definitely want to go back

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to school, but we also want to make sure that it's safe."

> Shannon Casey, a Dorchester resident who teaches at the BPS Curley in Jamaica Plain, agrees.

> "Some people think that teachers don't want to go back. But everyone that I know who is healthy and doesn't have health concerns wants to be back," she said.

> Casey has been juggling class lists, preparing family and student outreach, and deciding which remote platforms to use.

> "It's easier if the whole school is using the same platforms because we obviously have families

with multiple students in different grades and it just becomes overwhelming," Casey said.

During upcoming open houses, Casey said teachers will focus on asking families what resources and supplies they need.

"Whether that be some time with a school counselor, meals, chrome books, whatever they need," she told the Reporter. "We've just started to focus on lesson planning and planned our first day today, which took off a lot of pressure."

Casey said she's concerned about screen fatigue for both students and teachers-and also

about making sure kids have the tools they need at home.

"Being able to distribute supplies is probably the concern that's at the top of my list. We just don't know who the responsibility falls on of distributing them and we know that we won't be able to dive deep into curriculum while staying under the minute limits because if they don't have a book, manipulative, or even just a notebook or pencil to be writing their work down then we're going to have to sub that out with something virtual," she said.

Mike Kauffmann, an English teacher at Cristo Rey Boston on Savin Hill Avenue, sees a silver lining to the new "hybrid" model. Survey results at Cristo Rey— which has been open longer than most schools in the city— have shown that some students actually prefer remote learning, while others have trouble focusing at home.

"In most of my classes I have about 6 kids live, and depending on the size of the class, I have about 14 to 18 remote. Teaching both at the same time can be really challenging and there

isn't really a model of what it would look like to do both, so it's kind of an uncharted territory there," he said.

"It's a weird balance, because the fewer students we have in the building the less risk for everyone in the building, the longer the building might be open. At the same time, you miss having a bunch of other people and students in the building, but there are just so many complexities to consider for all of the families. I try to respect whatever it is families have to do to stay safe."

Kauffman said he would be remiss if the technology developed for remote learning isn't incorporated in the future to make learning better.

"I hope that once everyone is safe and feeling secure in their needs and their loved ones are cared for, I hope we can look at some of the questions that remote teaching has made us ask," he said.

"I'd be sad if in a year from now, every classroom looked just like it did in 2018 or 2019. I hope there is something positive that comes out of all of this."



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With agreement approved on safety measures, BPS preps for opening in remote mode, for now

(Continued from page 1) of the Department of Children and Families; and students who attend special education public day schools.

One group (B) will begin on Oct. 1 and 2 (Thurs./Fri.); and a second group (A) will begin on October 5 and 6 (Mon./Tues.). On Oct. 12, special education public day students are scheduled for a transition to in-person learning four days a week.

In a press conference on Thursday, Mayor Walsh thanked the teachers for working on the agreement, the result of months of work between the Boston School Department, Cassellius, and BTU President Jessica Tang. "The focus of this framework is ensuring the safety for everyone in our schools," he said.

Teachers were back in school buildings last week participating in professional development and family engagement sessions.

"It has been an allhands-on deck approach to getting our schools ready for our kids and I just couldn't be more proud of the incredible work that has been done," Cassellius told reporters outside of the



Superintendent Cassellius, left, chats with Mather School principal Marcia Riddick, above. At right, Pat Brophy points out safety measures.

Katie Trojano photos

Mildred Avenue K-8 school in Mattapan. "I can't tell you the number of people who have stepped up to ensure that we are opening our doors safely."

Sept. 10 was supposed to be the first day of class for all BPS students, she noted.

"Typically, the mayor is with us and there are lots of high fives and hugs. But we all know that today we're living in a different reality, a new normal. We've worked all summer and through the spring to get



ready for this moment," the superintendent said.

Walsh reported last week that the city has seen a new low in its Covid-19 positive test rate — 1.7 percent positive rate, down by 2.3 and 2.7 percent from two previous weeks.

"This was good news

for us in being able to have more of our students in our buildings," said Cassellius. "We continue to watch these numbers closely over the next several weeks to do all we can as a school community so that we can open our doors to our children and staff."

After surveying parents on their preferred return method over the summer, Cassellius said that, overall, BPS families were essentially split in their responses.

"About 50 percent of our families are saying they want to come back in person and about 50 percent want to be in remote learning," she said. "But I do think as the confidence builds, that families will come in. They will see that facilities are ready and they'll want to have their children back in schools."

During the tour, officials showed how schools are equipped with plexiglass dividers and vinyl separators as well as electrostatic sprayers, commonly known as foggers, that will be used to infect surfaces in school buildings every Wednesday, Saturday, and any time school officials deem cleaning necessary within a classroom or large space.

Each classroom will also be equipped with a large bottle of disinfectant spray and the district has ordered 150,000 reusable and 2 million disposable masks. The Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) has reviewed and approved the daily sanitizing protocols that BPS has put in place.

Markings on stairwells and hallways promote one-way streams of foot traffic and multi-lingual signage reminding students to socially distance and wash their hands appear on walls all around the schools.

"Hopefully, students will help us make more signage that is student friendly and help participate in building the sense of community and safety that they want to be in," said Cassellius.

To enhance ventila-

To enhance ventilation, classroom doors will be propped open. Cassellius noted that district officials worked with Boston Fire Chief Jack Dempsey on safety

guidelines.

"Thanks to Commissioner Dempsey for some flexibility [to allow] having these doors open so that air can flow in and out," she said.

In facilities that don't have HVAC ventilation systems, windows will be open year-round. Of the system's 123 schools, about 35 are equipped with an operational HVAC system.

"Each of our 123 buildings is very different and complex; that's why this has been such a difficult time," Cassellius said at the Mildred Avenue school. "Right now, we're at one of our newer facilities that has an HVAC system and other more modern features—larger classrooms, gyms, and teacher spaces, and the sizes of classrooms are more uniform.

"We are also going beyond state guidance and we've purchased over 3,000 fans," she said.

The school district's plumbing division has evaluated and repaired 2,200 bathrooms and repaired or replaced 7,000 windows. At the Mather School atop Meetinghouse Hill, 36 windows have been repaired to improve ventilation, said Samuel DePina, chief operations officer for BPS.

"The BPS plan meets or exceeds DESE guidelines," added Pat Brophy, the city's chief of operations who explained that while the state requires each classroom to have a minimum of one operational window, BPS has ensured that multiple windows will be open.

A total of \$14 million has been spent to repair and maintain buildings since the closure last spring, added Brophy.

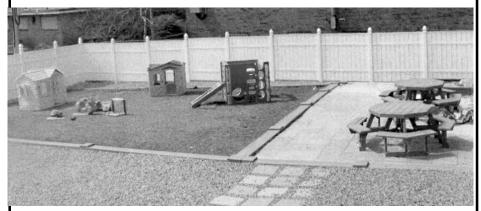
Cassellius said that parents and teachers will have an opportunity to walk through buildings in the coming weeks while noting that teachers are currently learning how to involve families more strategically and navigate new technology that is helpful for virtual instruction.

"Educators will spend at least the next two weeks of professional development learning those new platforms and developing the new systems for how we can work both remotely and in the hybrid forms," she said.

"Public health information guides our decision making and we are only going to bring our students and staff back into our buildings if it is safe to do so," she said. "But what we know about the coronavirus is that it does rapidly evolve and that we have to be nimble and flexible in order to meet the many complex needs of our facilities and our students."

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NOTICE

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Due to the pandemic, the Society is closed to the public at this time.



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www.dorchesterhistoricalsociety.org

Custodians in spotlight as school year eases in

By Carrie Jung WBUR REPORTER

Schools welcoming back students this fall have a lot of deep cleaning on their to-do list right now. Over the last few weeks, the custodians in Boston have been busy posting signage about mask and social distancing rules, installing a lot more hand sanitizer and soap dispensers, and finalizing new plans for cleaning schedules, especially in high touch areas.

"We're going to try to prop the doors open this year just so no one will be touching them," said Earnest Bass, the daytime custodian at the John W. McCormack Middle School in Dorchester. "Handles, lockers, doors, glass, those are all the areas that just get touched. Just walking by for no reason, [kids] just put their hand out and they touch them."

Boston is beginning the school year remotely on Sept. 21, but once students return to the buildings this fall, custodians are expected to clean all bathrooms and high touch areas every two to three hours, according to new protocols based on federal and state recommendations.

'We will be adding additional staff in all of our schools to do



Custodian Earnest Bass stands in the storage room filled with cleaning supplies at the McCormack Jesse Costa/WBUR photo School in Dorchester.

the increased cleaning," explained P.J. Preskenis, assistant director for facilities and building services.

Preskenis and Bass said they're excited to see the students again. Under the current plan, most kids in the McCormack Middle School's general population will be phased back to an in-person learning model in early November. Students with the

highest needs across the district will be phased into a hybrid learning model beginning in October.

"As a custodian, we take great pride in our job. Great, great pride," said Bass. "We're all going to have to do a little extra. Anything we have to do to ensure the safety of everyone entering our buildings, we're very much glad to

In what would typically be the first week of the new school year, the custodial supply room at the middle school is fully stocked right now. He called the room a "lifeline" as the new cleaning schedules go into effect this fall.

"Tissue paper towels, soap, disinfectant, these are all the things that we're going to need to assure these kids that they can go to the bathroom safely," he said. "So that their parents won't have to worry about them leaving the house in the morning and possibly using a bathroom on themselves because they're scared to go into the bathroom.

In addition to cleaning, Boston school maintenance staff will be distributing 6,000 sheets of plexiglass to teachers to create barriers between desks and classroom

spaces. Main office spaces will also be outfitted with vinyl curtains.

This story was published by WBUR 90.9 on Sept. 11. The Reporter and WBUR share content through a media partnership.

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE & FAMILY COURT FOLK PROBATE & FAMILY COURT 24 NEW CHARDON STREET 24 NEW CHARDON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02114
Docket No. SU17P1408GD
IN THE INTERESTS OF:
ROBERT DRISCOLL
Of DORCHESTER, MA
CITATION GIVING NOTICE
OF PETITION TO EXPAND
THE POWERS OF A GUARDIAN
RESPONDENT
Incapacitated Person/Protected Person
To the named Respondent and all
other interested persons, a petition
has been filed by DMH c/o Office of
General Counsel of Westborough, MA;
Boston Medical Center of Boston, MA in

Boston Medical Center of Boston, MA is the above captioned matter requesting that the court: Expand the powers of a Guardian.

The petition asks the Court to make

a determination that the powers of the

a determination that the powers of the Guardian and/or Conservator should be expanded, modified, or limited since the time of the appointment. The original petition is on file with the court.

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 A.M. on the return date of 10/16/700. This day is NOT a hearing Defore 10:00 Am. on the return date of 10/16/2020. 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 of the property of the return date of the property of the date, action may be taken in this matte without further notice to you. In addition without thritter house to you. In adultion 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 eturn date.
IMPORTANT NOTICE

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The outcome of this proceeding may imit or completely take away the abovenamed person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The abovenamed person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the abovenamed, person, if the abovenamed person, if the abovenamed. named person. If 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.

Felix D. Arroyo

Register of Probate
Date: September 01, 2020
Published: September 17, 2020



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF DORCHESTER





BGCD Members Take Part in BGCA Fine Arts Competition: See details

CONNECT THE DOT: BGCD Members Take Part in BGCA Fine Arts Competition:

Congratulations to BGCD members Tina Le and Gabby Maynard who were recently named winners at the regional level in the Boys & Girls Clubs of America's National Fine Arts competition. Their entries, along with others from our Fine Arts program were sent to the Northeast Regional exhibit held in Fitchburg, MA. This exhibit included works from members in 11 states. Tina and Gabby's artwork will now be exhibited as part of the National exhibit which will include winners from all five regions. Thanks to all of our artists who submitted artwork and best of luck to Tina and Gabby as they move forward in the competition.

For more information on the Fine Arts program please contact Katy Farrar at kfarrar@bgcdorchester.org.

FIND OUT WHAT'S INSIDE: Still Time to Register & Support **BGCD in 30th Annual Rodman** Ride for Kids Virtual Event: Staff members at Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester are so excited for this year's Virtual Rodman Ride for Kids on September 26th. We are training and working hard to raise critical funds for the Club we love.

This year the Ride is virtual but no less important, so please consider joining our team or donating to help support. Whether you get on a bike, create your own adventure or just spread the word you're making a difference! We know that fundraising now is difficult, but like any challenge - we need to face it head on together.

Join Team BGCD today or donate at rodmanrideforkids.donordrive.com/ event/bgcd2020 and help us cross the finish line!



on September 12th: See details below.

DID YOU KNOW: BGCD Boston Marathon Team Run Virtual Marathon Here in Dorchester on September 12th:

We had three members of our 2020 **BGCD Marathon Team run this year's** virtual Boston Marathon on a specially designed Dorchester route starting and finishing at BGCD on Saturday September 12th. Our team members began the marathon at 8 AM and left from our Clubhouse on Dorchester Ave. We tracked them as they completed their 26.2 mile journey through the streets of Dorchester and into Boston that then led them back to our Clubs where they crossed the finish line.

Thank you to our entire BGCD Marathon Team members who also ran the Virtual race elsewhere and who helped raise vital funds to support our Clubs, members and families. You all did an amazing job and have accomplished an incredible goal.

UPDATES

Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester Hiking Club:

BGCD's has partnered with Elevate Youth to create a new Hiking Club. The club meets at 10 AM every other Saturday, where they hike the Blue Hills Reservation. Our next hike will take place on September 26th.

Pre-registration is required.

To register or for more information, please email Brendan McDonald at bmcdonald@bgcdorchester.org.



RECENT OBITUARIES



AUGUSTE, Ginette Rita, also known as Mama Rita, a longtime resident of Dorchester. She was born in Haiti to Joseph Damour Cadichon and Rosemarie Illa Raphael. She is survived by George Auguste, her husband of 59 years, her 8 children (Rosemarie, Guerta, Edson, Wedline, Wander, Rigaud, Larousse and Lutton) and her 33 grandchildren and 8 great grandchildren, and her 6 living siblings (Jacques, Joseph, Gabriel, Elly, and Pericles). Rene Ginette also survived by over 50 nieces, nephews and cousins. Preceded by Carneau, Eles, Gideon, Rosana and Estida.



Peter J. COYNE, "PJ" of Belmont, suddenly. He will be remembered as an entrepreneur who combined his Irish-American heritage with a deep understanding of Latin American language and culture. Mr. Coyne, born in Boston in 1967, was the son of the late Peter M. Coyne and Rhoda K. (Murphy) Coyne of Belmont. He lived and was educated in Latin America and Mexico from early childhood until the age of eighteen and was bilingual in Spanish and English. Besides his late parents, Mr. Coyne leaves his partner, Kerry Turner of Dorchester and many Coyne, Sullivan, DiMartino cousins and many friends.



LEPPO, Vincent J., 25, of Sharon, passed suddenly due to diabetes complications. Born in Boston, he was the son of JoAnn Mazzotta of Sharon and the late Andrew P. Leppo. In addition to his mother, he leaves his sister Talia Leppo of Sharon, and his stepfather Joe Mazzotta of Ŝharon. He also leaves his grandparents Donna Bonanno, the late Robert Bonanno and wife Nana Shirley Bonanno, all of Raynham, Nunna Mazzotta of Norwood, grandparents Marcia and Martin Leppo of Stoughton, MA, He worked for Local 103 IBEW for 2 years until his untimely passing. Donations in Vincent's memory may

be made to The Joslin Diabetes Center at joslin.org/donate or at 1 Joslin Place Boston, MA 02215.



PIERCE, Maurice **A.** (**Maddox**), 90, of She was Dorchester. born in Atlanta, Georgia to the late Reverend King Caesar Maddox, Sr. and Docia F. O'Myer Maddox. Maurice was married to her former late husband, Sanders Wilborn Jr., with whom she had three children Rica A. Smallwood, Sanders Wilborn III, and Sandra Lee-Tucker. Maurice later married the late Charles E. Pierce and from that union one son, Antonio E. Pierce was born. Maurice was preceded in death by her parents, her brothers: K C. (Bertha) Maddox, Timothy E. Sr. (Geraldine) Maddox and her sister Flora E. Maddox. Maurice is survived by her youngest brother James F. Sr. (Alice) Maddox, and her four children. In addition, Maurice leaves eight grandchildren as well as twenty-one great grandchildren, five great-great grandchildren, a host of nieces, nephews and extended family



SMYTH, Jeanne A. (Spelman) of Falmouth, formerly of Dedham and Dorchester. Wife of the late Charles F. Smyth for 67 years. Mother of Sheila A. Becker and her husband Richard of Dedham, Charles F. Smyth, Jr. and his wife Rebecca of Westwood, Paula J. Whalen and her husband John of Dedham, Susan V. Howard and her husband John of Falmouth, and Pamela J. Damaris and her husband Joseph of Falmouth. Grandmother of 10. Great-grandmother of 9. Sister of the late Virginia. Donations may be made in Jeanne's memory to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Pl., Memphis, TN 38105.

SULLIVAN, Annette M., 101, of Mashpee.



She was predeceased by her husband Herbert I. Sullivan. She was the daughter of Annette M. Sullivan and Daniel J. Sullivan. She was predeceased by her brother Daniel J. Sullivan and 3 sisters, Barbara A. Driscoll, Geraldine Porter and Dorothy Crowley. She was also predeceased by her daughter Janine Wilson of Riverside, CA. She is the mother of Judith Sullivan Fortin and Lionel P. Fortin of Ipswich, MA, Peter and Paula Sullivan of Juno Beach, FL, Mary A. Sullivan of East Falmouth, and Herbert I. (Kip) Sullivan, Jr. and Nancy Sullivan of Naples, FL. She was the grandmother of 10 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren, as well as many loving nieces, nephews and extended family. She was born in Dorchester, and following her marriage in 1945 lived in Milton and Falmouth.

WARREN, James Edward, after a lengthy illness. Born in New Haven, Connecticut, in 1948, James was one of seven children born to Chanie (Chambers) Warren and Wallace Warren. James was a teacher working in $the\,Boston\,Public\,Schools$ for over 30 years. He leaves behind his daughter, JaMika S. Robinson, two granddaughters, Desire Pinckney and London Cook, his sister,



Elizabeth, and his best friends, David Huffman and Percy Davis. James was preceded in death by his son, Girard E. Kersey, as well as his siblings, Wallace, Levora, Lavenia, Betty, and Sarah.



WASZKIEWICZ, Jean M. (Ashwin) of Salem, NH, formerly of Dorchester. Wife of the late Jan Waszkiewicz. Mother of Christine J. Barriere and her husband Larry of Manchester, NH, Peter M. Waszkiewicz and his wife Linda of Wrentham, Robert A. Waszkiewicz and his wife Donna of Alton, NH, and the late Teresa Callahan and her late husband Michael Callahan and the late Richard J. Waszkiewicz and his wife Maura of Dorchester. Also survived by 14 grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by a great-grandson Andrew Cunningham. Donations may be made in her memory to the Alzheimer's Association atalz.org.



ZELETSKY, ard E. Sr. in Salem, NH, formerly of Dorchester. Father of Richard E. Zeletsky Jr. and his longtime companion Isabel Mercauto of Somerville, and Dennis M. and his wife Christina Zeletsky of Salem, NH. "Grandpa" 3. Former husband of Maryann (Danielson) Zeletsky. Son of the late Joseph J. Zeletsky Sr. and Ethel T. (Nelson) Zeletsky. Brother of Joseph J. Želetsky Jr. of Weymouth, John A. Zeletsky of Dorchester, and Raymond M. and his wife Maxine Zeletsky of Dorchester. Survived by several nieces and nephews. Veteran of the U.S. Army, serving during the Vietnam War era. He was a retired City of Boston employee, working for the Department of Public Works for over 20 years. Donations in his memory may be made to the Greater Boston Food Bank, 70 South Bay Ave., Boston, MA 02118.

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LEGAL NOTICES

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

Docket No. SU20C0057CA IN THE MATTER OF: SAJJAD ALI JEBUR AL MUBARAK A Petition to Change Name of Minor has been filed by Sajjad Ali Jebur Al Mubarak of Boston, MA requesting that the court enter a

Decree changing their name to: Sajjad Lami IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Suffolk Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of **09/24/2020**. This is not a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this

proceeding.
Witness, HON. BRIAN J. DUNN, First Justice of this Court. Date: Setpember 01, 2020 Felix D. Arroyo Register of Probate

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE & FAMILY COURT
SUFFOLK PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
24 NEW CHARDON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02114
EXTERNAL PROPERTY OF THE PROPER

CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME Docket No. SU20C0067CA IN THE MATTER OF: ARIAN LARRY PERSAE
A Petition to Change Name

of Adult has been filed by Ariar Larry Persae of Dorchester, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to Larry Ashkenazy IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Suffolk Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of **09/24/2020**. This is not a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this

oceeding. Witness, HON. BRIAN J. DUNN, First Justice of this Court. Date: September 01, 2020 Felix D. Arrovo Register of Probate

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A thrilling end to the softball season for ADSL teens

BY KEVIN P. MONAHAN SPECIAL TO THE REPORTER

It was another exciting Friday night at Toohig Park as two well- matched ADSL Senior girls' softball teams squared off in the championship game. The Hawks and Eagles beat each other during the regular season and were well prepared for the main event.

Coach Dan Clark's defending champions the Hawks— have been the dominant team for years and were confident they had what it takes to repeat. The Eagles had a handful of returning seniors and a majority of rookies just moved up from the majors. Coaches Mike Haggarty and Matt and Noreen Kelley watched them transform from apprehensive to confident players as the year went on. Pitcher-catcher combos were the strength of both teams with Lauren and Avery Dillon for the Hawks and Emma Astrofski and Carol Casado for the Eagles.

In the first inning, Hawks' leadoff hitter Lauren Dillon was the offensive spark, starting the game with a single. She was driven in by Brenna Emma's fielder's choice. Eagles' hurler Astrofski settled the Hawks following with two K's.



Above: the championship-winning Eagles (front, l-r): Jolise Grullon, Charlotte Doherty, Emme Finnegan, and Madelyn Murphy; (back, l-r) Coach Michael Hegarty, Carol Casado, Maeve Doherty, Ava Duffy, Kaitlyn Murphy, Keira Flynn, Monica Kelly, Emma Astrofsky, Coach Noreen Kelly, and Coach Matt Kelly. The Hawks: (back, l-r) Dan Clark, Aine Walsh, Abby Quinn, Ali Tracey, Brenna Emma, Kaelin Clark, Ava O'Brien, Sydney Hanlon, Bob Dillon; (front, l-r) Lauren Dillon, Sarah Tracey, Caroline McCarthy, Avery Dillon, Sarah Clark.

Photos by Kevin P. Monahan



Dillon then took to the mound and easily handled Emme Finnegan and Emma Astrofski. The Eagles busted out with string of singles by Ava Duffy, Carol Casado, Monica Kelley,

Kierra Flynn and Jolise Grullon. With two out and two strikes, Madelyn Murphy did some damage with a rope down the third base line. Aggressive running resulted with an in-thepark grand slam. After one: Eagles 5, Hawks 1.

Hawk Ava O'Brien started the second by driving a deep triple, but was left on third as Astrofski was heating up and settled the side. Eagles' Caitlin Murphy led off with a single and was driven in by Emme Finnegan. Dillon then settled down and retired the side. After two: Eagles 6, Hawks 1.

In the third, Lauren Dillon again led off with a single, followed by Sydney Hanlon's deep drive that was capped off with a two-RBI single by Brenna Emma. Astrofski ended the threat with two more K's. Hawks Lauren Dillon settled in as well and limited the Eagles' meat of the order to a single by Carol Casado who was driven in by Kierra Flynn. Dillon ended the inning backed by solid infield play of Ava O'Brien & Kaelin Clark. After 3: Eagles 7, Hawks 1.

In the fourth, Eagle's Ava O'Brien struck again with a solid single and was driven in by a clutch at bat by Avery Dillon. Astrofski responded with 3 more K's. Eagle sister combos Madelyn/Caitlin Murphy and Charlotte/ Maeve Doherty started to pile on with a string of singles. Emma Astrofski helped herself out with a solid double as the Eagles piled on with four more runs. After 4: Eagles 11, Hawks 3

Astrofski dominated in the fifth with 3 straight K's. Dillon kept the Hawks' hopes alive following with two K's ofher own to blank the Eagles.

The scorebook looked bleak for the Hawks. Eagles 11, Hawks 3. After a pep talk by coaches Dan Clark and Bob Dillon, the Hawks came alive in the sixth. Sarah Tracy, Sara Clark, and Lauren Dillon started off with solid singles. Sydney Hanlon lit things up with a grand slam blast to deep left. Brenna Emma then doubled and was driven in by another solid hit from Caroline McCarthy. The Hawks were coming back with a vengeance, but the Eagles brought in closer Monica Kelley who cooled things off and finished the Hawks off with two K's and a 4-3 play.

In the end, the Eagles squeaked out their first championship: Eagles 11, Hawks 8.

A big thank you to the dedicated coaching staff of Hawks' Dan Clark and Bob Dillon and Eagles' Mike Haggarty and Matt and Noreen Kelley. A bigger thanks to the players who put on an exhibition of safe fun in the park and serve as mentors to the younger divisions.

Kevin P. Monahan is the commissioner of ADSL Girls' Softball.



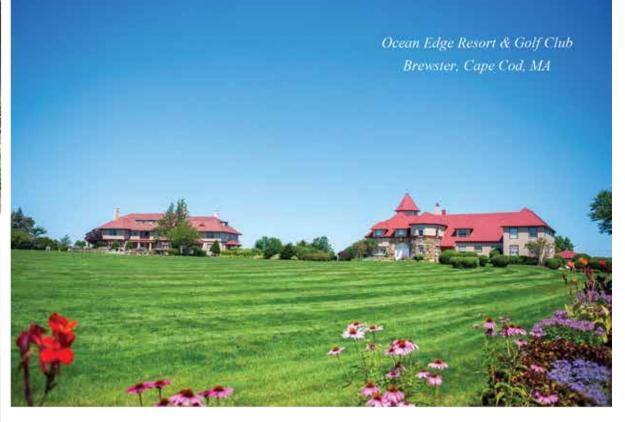
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King's Lynne, Lynn, MA

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