

# Dorchester Reporter

"The News and Values Around the Neighborhood"

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50¢

## Developers offer ideas to UMass on Calf Pasture site

By COLMAN M. HERMAN  
SPECIAL TO THE REPORTER

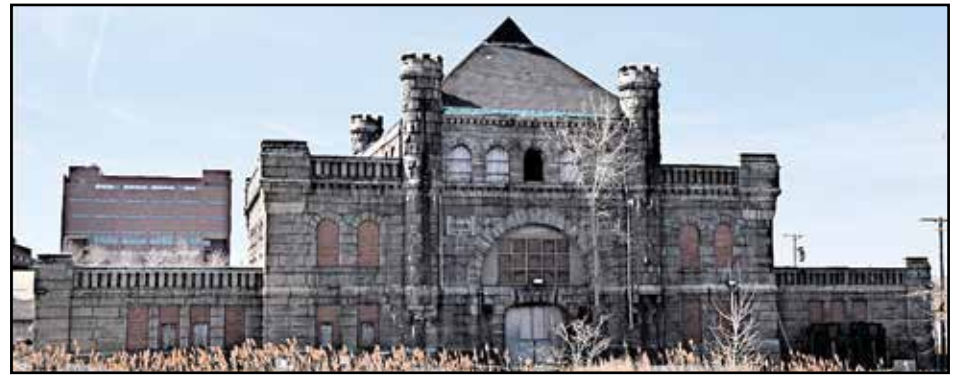
Eight high-powered developers have submitted a variety of ideas for the mixed-used development of the historic late nineteenth-century Calf Pasture Pumping Station and an adjacent site owned by UMass Boston on Dorchester's Columbia Point.

The developers were responding to what's called a request for information (RFI) issued by the University of Massachusetts Building Authority (UMBA) this year for developing the ten-acre site that comes with a ground lease of up to 99 years plus tax

incentives as a result of the property being located in a federally designated "opportunity zone."

The UMBA fought tooth and nail to keep the developers' responses shielded from public scrutiny, to the point that it took four months and two appeals to the state supervisor of public records in the secretary of state's office to pry loose the information.

The RFI process is being employed by the UMBA for two reasons: to gauge market interest in the property and to gain insight into "highest and best uses" of the project site. The UMBA is a quasi-public state agency whose



Opened in 1883, the Calf Pasture Pumping Station is now a feature of the UMass Boston campus.

mission is to build and repair facilities on all five of the UMass campuses.

### Big hopes at UMass Boston

According to the RFI, the school envisions a mixed-use for the property that complements the university

as a whole while serving as a new "front door" to the campus. With the reimagined Mt. Vernon Street — on which the Pumping Station is located — as a main artery running from

(Continued on page 13)

## A LEGACY OF HEALING

### Garden's roots were nurtured by grieving mom's sense of fate

By DANIEL SHEEHAN  
REPORTER STAFF

After opening at 424 Geneva Ave. last month, the HERO Hope Garden was officially dedicated in a ceremony on Sunday that centered the garden as a community sanctuary space honoring the memory of lost loved ones and completed the vision for the garden as it was originally conceived by Dorchester resident Judith Foster.

After her son Paul was murdered while attending college in North Carolina in 2013, Foster returned to her native Jamaica to seek healing and comfort in the natural beauty of her rural childhood home. While grieving with family there, Foster saw the power of "using nature as a healing conduit."

"Research shows that nature heals," said Foster. "If you are immersed in the earth, you're healing yourself... closer proximity with Mother Earth means a more healthy and empathetic you."

That realization later led her to found H.E.R.O. Nurturing Center, a Boston-based non-profit that organizes individual and group programming centered around healing, including

(Continued on page 10)



Judith Foster spoke at a ceremony on Sunday at the site of a new open space— HERO Hope Garden— on Geneva Avenue.

David Mareira photo

## Cannabis shop eyes retail location on Gallivan Blvd.

By KATIE TROJANO  
REPORTER STAFF

A proposal to site a 3,000 square foot retail cannabis store in a key commercial building in Adams Corner was the topic of discussion during an on-line-only meeting of the Cedar Grove Civic Association on Tuesday evening. The proposal by CNA Stores, Inc., a company based in Amesbury, MA, is the latest in a series of proposals in Dorchester, but the first for the Adams Corner-Neponset section.

Preliminary plans for the Dorchester facility would include a retail site in a roughly two-story building at 540 Gallivan Blvd., which currently houses Supreme Liquors, Boston Sports Club, a dental office and the specialty clothing retailer College Hype. The cannabis shop would be located in the building's basement level — next to College Hype's space — and would be accessible through the rear of the building, facing the large parking lot that is controlled by Supreme Realty Trust, which owns the building. The facility would operate from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

"The great thing about where we're looking to locate is that it's not in your face on Gallivan Boulevard, it's actually behind the building and it's almost like you have to know the destination is there to go find," said Robert DiFazio, the owner and CEO of CNA Stores Inc. "The entrance point in the back is underground which makes it a hardened building from a security standpoint. Access is only through one door."

DiFazio added: "There's a large parking lot in

(Continued on page 14)

## A call for an independent BPD accountability office

By KATIE TROJANO  
REPORTER STAFF

A board commissioned by Mayor Martin Walsh in June to review BPD policies and procedures turned in a series of recommended reforms last week, among them

the setting up of an independent office with broad investigatory and subpoena powers that could review and address civilian complaints and assess policies.

The task force, an 11-person group made

up of police, clergy, and activists and chaired by former US Attorney Wayne Budd, suggested that a new "Office of Police Accountability and Transparency" replace the existing Co-Op board, which has been

deemed ineffective by critics.

All of the recommendations, which will be translated into five languages, will be reviewed during a two-week public comment period and a public listening session

that began on Tuesday. Final measures will then be submitted to the mayor.

"These draft recommendations are the result of months of community engagement, extensive

(Continued on page 4)



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# Harbor Health offers free rapid HIV testing

Harbor Health will host an outdoor HIV Rapid Testing Clinic on Friday, Sept. 25, 1- 4 p.m., at 10 Minot Street in Dorchester, across the street from Daniel Driscoll – Neponset Health Center. The fast, free, and confidential clinic is open to anyone in the community who needs to know their HIV status.

No insurance is required and you do not need to be a Harbor Health patient to get tested. The HIV rapid test is a finger stick test and you receive results in 20 minutes or less. The clinic will take place outdoors in a well-ventilated tent for privacy and safety in the 10 Minot Street parking lot. To support safe physical distancing and sanitizing, please reserve a spot at [HHSI.US/GetTested](https://HHSI.US/GetTested) using a first name or alias or call 617-533-2228.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that everyone between the ages of 13 and 64 get tested for HIV at least once as part of routine health care. People at higher risk for HIV should get tested more often. Everyone will be screened for COVID symptoms prior to getting an HIV rapid test. Please wear a mask or face covering to the clinic or Harbor Health will provide one to you when you arrive if you do not have one.

# Mobile Covid test site is set up in Grove Hall

Starting Tuesday and running through Oct. 3, the City of Boston’s mobile testing site will be located in Grove Hall.

“Our mobile testing team was created to strategically expand testing in neighborhoods most in need because we know this is fundamental for keeping residents safe and healthy,” said Mayor Martin Walsh. “Thank you to East Boston Neighborhood Health Center for their continued partnership throughout the pandemic.”

The site, at 40 Geneva Ave. in Dorchester across from the Grove Hall Branch of the Boston Public Library, will offer testing at no cost and for symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals. No appointment is needed but registration is required.

Those interested in pre-registering should call 617-568-4500, and if they cannot reach that number, call 617-569-5800 for assistance.

The dates and hours in the mobile testing site in Grove Hall are: Tues., Sept. 22 – Fri., Sept. 25: 1 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.; Sat., Sept. 26: 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.; Tues., Sept. 29 – Fri., Oct. 2: 1 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.; and Sat., Oct. 3: 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

SHNS

September 24, 2020

Boys & Girls Club News ..... 17

Opinion/Editorial/Letters ..... 8

Business Directory..... 15

Obituaries ..... 18

Days Remaining Until

Columbus Day ..... 18

Halloween ..... 37

Election Day ..... 39

Thanksgiving ..... 62

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**First responders rescue worker hurt in fall** – A man working on top of the State Police barracks on Day Boulevard was injured on Tuesday morning after falling roughly 20 feet. Boston firefighters and EMTs responded to the scene just before 8:30 a.m. and rescued the stricken construction worker using a ladder truck. The man was taken to a local hospital with non-life-threatening injuries. *Bill Forry photo*

## Police, Courts & Fire

**Man, 72, assaulted while out walking** – A 50-year-old man has been charged with the assault of an elderly man in Mattapan earlier this month that left the victim blinded in one eye. The 72-year-old victim was accosted as he walked on Fremont Street on the evening of Sept. 10. He was punched and kicked in the head and the suspect pulled his pants off in an attempt to steal his wallet. Detectives from Area B-3 collected “numerous images” that were used to identify the suspect, who has been identified as Willis McGhee. He was detained during a traffic stop near Tesla Street and Edgewater Drive in Mattapan on Saturday night. Police say that McGhee “voluntarily returned to the district station to be interviewed by investigators who then established probable cause to arrest and charge him charges of Unarmed Robbery,

Assault and Battery on a Person Over the Age of 60, Assault and Battery by Means of a Dangerous Weapon (Shod Foot – Aggravated) and Mayhem.”

...

A man who was shot last month on Blue Hill Avenue died of his injuries on Sat., Sept. 19. Identified by Boston Police as 41-year-old Changa Toyloy of Boston, he was found suffering from gunshot wounds on the morning of Sun., Aug. 30, in the area of 612 Blue Hill Ave., near the intersection of Columbia Road. BPD detectives are asking that anyone with information about the murder co and call them at 617-343-4470.

...

Boston Police arrested a 17-year-old juvenile on Sunday morning on Magnolia Street after shots were fired nearby. According to a BPD account, officers spotted the suspect when they arrived at the shooting scene near Ceylon

## Fire displaces 19 people on Fairmount Street



**An overnight fire that started at 24 Fairmount St in Dorchester spread to 20 and 26 Fairmount and the garage at 28 Fairmount early Friday morning. Some 19 residents were displaced, but there were no injuries, the department reports, adding firefighters responded at 4:40 a.m. In addition to the buildings, at least one car caught on fire as well. The department estimates damage at \$2 million.** *BFD photo*

Park around 1 a.m., and chased him on foot when he took off running. Police say they found a loaded Colt 38 gun under a tree along the teen’s path. He will be charged with illegal gun possession. There were no reports of injuries from the gunfire that prompted the police response.

## UPCOMING CIVIC MEETINGS AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

**Cannabis meeting on Oct. 1**—A virtual outreach meeting for a proposed retail cannabis license sought by Boston Urban Dispensary LLC for 1114-1118 Blue Hill Ave. in Dorchester will be held on Thurs., Oct. 1 at 6 p.m. Call or email Mayor’s Office representative Roudnie Celestin at 617-635-2677 or [roudnie.celestin@boston.gov](mailto:roudnie.celestin@boston.gov) for more info. The meeting will be held online and via phone. See notice on page XX for instructions.

**Codman Square NDC hosts its annual meeting celebration** virtually on Thurs., Sept. 24 at 5:30 p.m. featuring a Dorchester trivia contest and free raffle. See DotNews.com for Zoom info.

**Blue Hill Avenue meeting on Sept. 30**—The Boston Transportation Department continues its community process to re-imagine the future of Blue Hill Avenue from Mattapan Square to Grove Hall with a virtual meeting on Wed., Sept. 30 at 6 p.m. on Zoom. It will include an update on improvements planned for Spring

2021 and a longer-term vision for the corridor. Register Here: [boston.gov/blue-hill-avenue](https://boston.gov/blue-hill-avenue).

**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 as part of the ongoing planning initiative focused on Mattapan. 6 p.m. on Wed., Sept. 23 online. Register at [bit.ly/PlanMattapanCorridorsActivity](https://bit.ly/PlanMattapanCorridorsActivity). See [bostonplans.org](https://bostonplans.org) for more info.

**The Greater Mattapan Neighborhood Council will host its monthly meeting** on Monday, Oct. 5 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom and streamed live on Facebook. The guest speaker is Gregory Minott AIA, LEED AP, co-founder of DREAM Collaborative, a Black-owned architectural firm. He is also the 1st Vice President/President-elect of the Boston Society of Architects. See [dotnews.com](https://dotnews.com) for log-in info.

**EMK Institute to re-open**—The Edward

M. Kennedy Institute for the United States Senate plans to open to group reservations on Wednesdays at the beginning of October. The 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 field trips, conversations, and tours with Institute staff made available to students, teachers, and groups on Tuesdays, 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](mailto:ayarde@dbcedc.org) or call 617-533-9561.

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# Cash crisis: MBTA weighing major service reductions

By CHRIS LISINSKI  
STATE HOUSE  
NEWS SERVICE

The MBTA may seek to trim its spending on bus, train, and ferry service by up to a quarter of a billion dollars over the next year-plus to help close a massive budget gap caused by a sharp plummet in ridership, according to projections that agency staff presented Monday.

T officials and the Fiscal and Management Control Board that oversees the agency are in the early stages of planning a series of service cuts, one piece in a multifaceted plan to cope with a shortfall of \$308 million to \$577 million on the horizon for fiscal year 2022. The thrust of the debate contrasts sharply with Beacon Hill's pre-pandemic plans to invest more in the T to improve service and make it more frequent and reliable.

Monday's meeting put early — and still tentative — figures on what kinds of impacts are in play. MBTA chief financial officer Mary Ann O'Hara told board members that depending on where the deficit lands, the T should target between \$60 million and \$255 million in cuts to meet its savings goal.

"All of those would

be significant cuts to our service levels and impactful to our riders," she said.

O'Hara calculated those proposed reductions as two-year sums reflecting both FY21 and FY22, though officials have also suggested that any service changes might not take effect until the next fiscal year starts in July.

In FY21, the T budgeted about \$1.19 billion for spending on its transportation services. The possible range of cuts floated Monday would represent 5 percent to 21 percent of that one-year baseline.

Those projections rely on the T hitting other savings targets. O'Hara said it could free up \$160 million by reallocating federal funds and another \$134 million if the T received state legislative authorization to pay salaries for capital workers with borrowed funds rather than with operating budget revenues.

The House and Senate each included language authorizing the capital-salary change — which was a target for MBTA officials long before the pandemic — in their versions of transportation bond bills, but no final legislation has emerged nearly two months after lawmakers

began private conference committee negotiations.

If either of those two savings goals fall short — or if revenues do not meet projections, or if any other unforeseen complications arise — the agency could need to seek greater service cuts, O'Hara said.

"There's a lot of things we just do not know," she said. "Those factors are not considered at this point."

Officials have also previously suggested that fare increases and layoffs could factor into a long-term budget plan, particularly since current projections anticipate deficits every year through at least fiscal year 2025.

Transit agencies across the country have seen fare revenues evaporate as large portions of riders lost work, opted to work remotely, or shifted to their own vehicles.

Leaders from several agencies, including MBTA General Manager Steve Poftak, called last week for Congress to allocate at least \$32 billion in emergency funding to the transit sector.

Poftak said at Monday's meeting that while he will continue to push for federal relief, an aid package "is not something we can rely on" and that MBTA officials

"have to plan for a future in which that does not exist."

The MBTA's higher-ups and board will decide in the next few months how to realign the transit network to cut back on costs. While Transportation Secretary Stephanie Pollack warned last week that the process would be "painful," she said the agency is taking a new approach by centering essential service and building around it rather than building up to a set budgeted amount.

Staff will draft plans for the changes by dividing service into four

categories based on two variables: "transit-critical" populations, or those who have lower access to automobiles at home and live in areas with larger populations of color, and likelihood of high ridership.

Trains, buses and ferries that serve a high number of "transit-critical" riders and have higher ridership should maintain or expand service levels whenever possible, staff suggest.

For lines that have considerable demand but less transit-critical ridership, the T's team said the agency could

strategically cut service in ways that push commuters onto alternative modes. Low-ridership but high-demand areas might see greater walking distances between available stops, while service that rates lowest on both metrics is most likely to experience cuts.

"If we want to preserve or even improve some parts of the system, it will make it worse for someone else, whether that is a series of riders, areas, et cetera," Kat Benesh, the T's chief of operations strategy, policy and oversight, said Monday. "But something has to give."

## MBTA worker killed in Charlestown accident

A veteran MBTA employee was struck by a vehicle while reporting to his bus for a shift around 6 a.m. Monday and died from his injuries after being transported to a local hospital.

T officials identified the employee killed in the accident at the Charlestown Bus Yard as Bernadin Etienne, an 18-year veteran of the transit agency.

Steve Poftak, general manager of the MBTA, did not speak in detail about how Etienne was struck, saying that

MBTA Transit Police and Boston police are investigating the circumstances of the accident as well as "what, if any, mitigations can be put in place" to address potential safety concerns.

"Today, we just take a moment to remember Bernadin, an 18-year employee of the MBTA and someone who was well liked by his colleagues and performed admirably at his duties," Poftak said at an afternoon board meeting.

In a joint letter to staff, Poftak and Boston Car-

men's Union President Jim Evers said that safety is "a top priority at the MBTA" and reiterated that a "thorough investigation" was underway.

Poftak and Evers told the agency's staff that grief counseling is available to anyone who needs it through the T's Employee Assistance Program.

"It is hard when we lose one of our own," they wrote.

— CHRIS LISINSKI  
SHNS



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# A call for an independent BPD accountability office

(Continued from page 1)

sive research, and hard work from the members of the task force, and I want to thank each and every person for contributing to this initial version,” Budd said in a statement. “As we continue our work to finalize these recommendations, I urge all Boston residents to read our report, and share your feedback, and be a part of this crucial, important work.”

Other proposals in the 17-page report include: formalization and expansion of the department’s commitment to diversity and inclusion; expansion of the use of the body-worn camera program; enhancement of four use-of-force policies to include clear and enforceable disciplinary actions for any violations; and new data and recording practices that enhance accountability, transparency, and public access to records and data.

“View these recommendations as the floor rather than the ceiling on police reform,” the report reads. “The Task Force had approximately sixty days to research and propose a set of high-level recommendations to the mayor. This period is not sufficient to draft an exhaustive or highly detailed set of recommendations. The BPD and the city must continue to work with the Boston community to develop additional reforms.”

The panel said that in

adopting its proposals, it will not be enough “that the mayor approve the Task Force’s recommendations and that the BPD pledge to implement them. The BPD and/or the city must also measure the BPD’s progress and enforce consequences where results are not achieved,” the report states. “To that end, the Task Force recommends that all of its recommendations be accompanied by accountability metrics,

develop a clear set of disciplinary consequences, and issue public status updates.”

The commission said that the city and BPD should also analyze the capabilities and expertise of the department and determine where responsibilities could be shifted; develop a culture that prioritizes diversity, equity, and community engagement; and pledge to implement its recommendations without in-

creasing BPD’s budget.

“The time for urgent change is now, and I thank the task force members for their in-depth work, and commitment to holding our city to a higher standard,” Walsh said in a statement. “These initial recommendations will guide how we reform Boston’s police force and strengthen our commitment to community policing. As we finalize this report, we’ll continue to prioritize the voices of our Black and Brown residents, who bear the brunt of the racial injustices embedded in our society.”

BPD Commissioner William Gross also thanked the panel members and said that the department’s mission “is to keep our communities safe, provide opportunities for those who need it, and build trust throughout our neighborhoods. We are committed to ensuring transparency and accountability in the Boston Police De-

partment, and I thank the task force for their work in helping us better serve our communities.”

City Councillor Andrea Campbell, who chairs the council’s committee on Public Safety and Criminal Justice, praised the task force for its work, but said “we need to go even further. This report is a call to action for all city leaders to make sure this time isn’t like the others, when entrenched political forces watered down the reform our policing system desperately needs.”

She added, “It’s up to all of us to pass the bold, politically challenging reforms we need to make all Boston residents feel that their police force is working to keep them safe, and to be unafraid to have the tough conversations about why Black and Brown residents often do not feel protected by police.”

Campbell also said that an ordinance before the council to create a



“ I urge all Boston residents to read our report, and share your feedback, and be a part of this crucial, important work.”  
– Task Force chairman Wayne Budd

new independent entity charged with reviewing any BPD conduct violations and police contracts should be adopted.

The board, she said, “would create transparency when it comes to publishing data on police stops and arrests, going further to make hiring and promotional practices equitable to increase diversity in all our public safety agencies, demilitarizing our police, and getting serious about reducing police overtime spending to actualize funding reallocation to programs that address root causes of violence – especially after the overtime abuse we’ve recently learned of.

“It’s time for action,” she said.

The Task Force encourages residents to submit written comments or feedback on the initial recommendations, in any language, using the multilingual Google forms contained in the link below. Written comments will be accepted for a two-week period, from Sept. 14 to Sept. 25.

[boston.gov/calendar/boston-police-task-force-community-listening-session](https://boston.gov/calendar/boston-police-task-force-community-listening-session)

## Jury trials resume in October

Jury trials will begin to resume on a limited basis next month, court officials announced last Thursday, a major step forward after the pandemic prompted courthouses to pause most in-person business and proceedings. Under a new order from the Supreme Judicial Court, individual courts will start the first phase of reviving jury trials on Oct. 23.

Panels will be limited to six people, and each participating court location will hold no more than one trial at a time to avoid excessive crowding that could render social

distancing impossible. Courts can empanel new grand juries, though the SJC said they will be subject to conditions aimed at minimizing risks.

The chief justice of each Trial Court department will work with the Trial Court’s chief justice to decide which cases go to jury trials in Phase 1, which will last until at least February 2021, according to the SJC. A second phase of the resumption of jury trials is scheduled for February, but could change based on public health metrics.

Courthouses have been open to the public since July for limited services

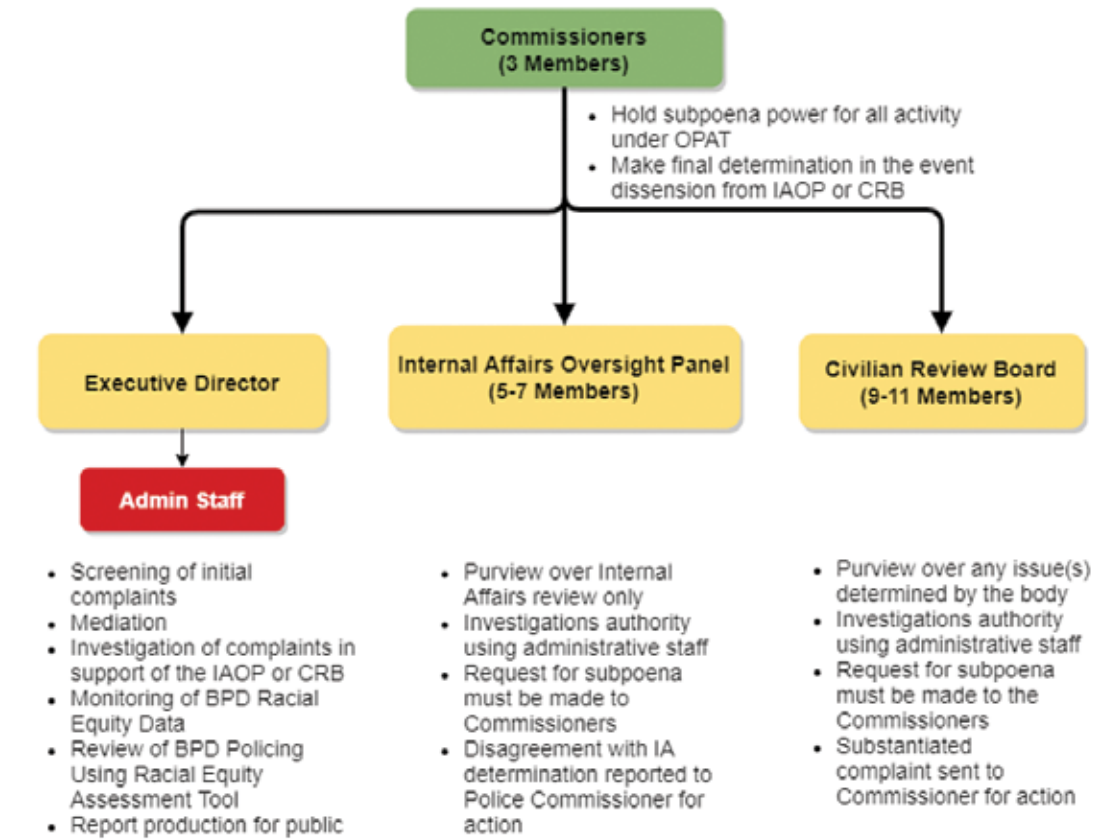
that cannot be handled virtually or are able to be transacted more smoothly in person, and that practice will continue during the first phase of trials. Judges will also continue to schedule and conduct bench trials both remotely and physically.

The plans generally align with recommendations the Jury Management Advisory Committee outlined in July, one part of which called for trial cases to be limited temporarily to less serious topics such as minor criminal charges and civil matters.

- CHRIS LISINSKI  
SHNS

### Office of Policing Accountability & Transparency (OPAT)

Organizational Chart / Reporting Structure



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# SJC makes it easier to challenge racial profiling in traffic stops

**BY ADAM GAFFIN**  
**UNIVERSAL HUB**

The Supreme Judicial Court has ruled that in the absence of state-mandated data on the race and ethnicity of drivers pulled over for traffic stops, drivers who feel they were targeted for enforcement because of their race or ethnicity no longer have to provide detailed statistical analysis of an officer's traffic stops to prove why they were pulled over.

That determination came in a Sept. 17 ruling in which the state's highest court ruled that prosecutors cannot use as evidence a gun found in the SUV of a Black man pulled over in the Clam Point neighborhood for an expired inspection sticker on Nov. 28, 2017.

The court concluded

that his attorney had provided evidence that he might have been pulled over by gang-unit officers because of his race. If the stop was unconstitutional, then so was any evidence that followed it, in this case, the "gun inside an open bag on the rear passenger seat." The officers said they found the weapon while conducting an inventory of the car before having it towed away.

According to the court's summary of the case, the officers found themselves behind a Mercedes SUV and, although the driver was not doing anything wrong, one of the officers fed the vehicle's registration number into a criminal justice database. The search showed that while the driver was a man, it was registered

to a woman and that the SUV had an expired inspection sticker. They pulled the driver over, learned he had a suspended license and warrants for driving without a license, ordered him out of the car and put him in handcuffs. Then they found the gun.

The evidence his lawyer used came from a statistical analysis of the officers' "field interrogation and observation" reports and traffic citations. Such a statistical analysis was required under a 2009 ruling, in which the state's highest court explicitly outlawed racial profiling in traffic stops.

But the court also noted that the lawyer's use of statistics was exceptionally rare, because it's so difficult to get access to that sort of data in

Massachusetts. A law that briefly required cities and towns to compile and post data on traffic stops, which the court cited in its 2009 ruling, long ago expired and the Legislature has resisted efforts to renew the requirement, as recently as this year, the court said.

With no action from the Legislature but with what it said was a need to protect minority drivers' constitutional rights, the court said in its ruling that motorists can now use other evidence to make the case they were stopped because of their race or ethnicity.

"While a defendant must show more than the fact that he or she was a member of a constitutionally protected class and was stopped for a traffic infraction, the burden must not be so

heavy that it makes any remedy illusory," the ruling said. "The requirement that a defendant establish a reasonable inference that a traffic stop was motivated by racial bias means simply that the defendant must produce evidence upon which a reasonable person could rely to infer that the officer discriminated on the basis of the defendant's race or membership in another protected class. Conclusive evidence is not needed."

The court laid out a series of circumstances a defense attorney could use to argue a stop was potentially unconstitutional and ask a judge to conduct a hearing in the case, including whether the stop was by an officer who does not normally do traffic enforcement, the

officer's actions during the stop, the "safety interests" in making the stop, and whether the stop complied with the officer's department regulations on traffic enforcement. Also:

"A defendant has a right to reasonable discovery of evidence concerning the totality of the circumstances of the traffic stop; such discovery may include the particular officer's recent traffic stops and motor vehicle-based field interrogations and observations (FIOs)," the judges concluded.

*Adam Gaffin is the editor of Universal Hub, the online Boston news site. The Reporter and Universal Hub share content through a media partnership.*

# Study: Boston ranks low among American cities for racial inclusion

**BY SIMÓN RIOS**  
**WBUR REPORTER**

In several areas, Boston has made gains toward become a more racially inclusive city. But with the racial poverty gap, Boston has moved in the opposite direction: It has progressively widened since 1990, bucking a trend in the opposite direction of other US cities, according to new research from the non-profit Urban Institute.

The study looked at how equitable the economy is for all city residents — as well as how the economic indicators

break down along racial lines. Tina Stacy, a researcher at the Urban Institute, said that among 274 cities, Boston ranks 151st in terms of economic and racial inclusion combined.

"Driving these changes were increasing rates of income segregation [and] increases in the racial poverty gap — meaning that the gap between the poverty rate for people of color compared to white, non-Hispanic residents increased," Stacy said.

Based on the latest available census data,

the analysis showed a 15 percent gap between the poverty rate for white people and people of color in Boston in 2016. In the other 273 cities that gap was 11 percent, and unlike in Boston, the percentage had decreased in recent decades.

The study drew on data from 1980 to 2016. During that period, Boston never ranked as an especially economically or racially inclusive city. It placed at 109th in 1980 and 98th in 2000. But its level of inclusion only worsened over the last

two decades, sinking to 151st nationwide.

A ranking of 274 US cities by racial and economic "inclusion" puts Boston below the middle of the pack. Compared to large cities across the country, Boston ranks 81st in economic inclusion, and 204th in racial inclusion.

The city across the Charles River tells a different story, the data showed. Cambridge

ranks 25th among its counterparts for overall inclusion, meaning how equitable the economy is along lines of race and class.

Consistent with the rest of the cities in the study, the data showed improvements in Boston's racial education gap, as well as racial segregation in the city. Stacy cautioned against blaming policymakers for Boston's lack of inclu-

sivity, saying economic forces could be the culprit despite efforts to the contrary.

"And we don't know what the counterfactual is," she said. "Maybe without those efforts, those numbers would look even worse over time. We want this ranking to be ... an opportunity to identify areas of improvement."

## A SAFER, SLOWER AMERICAN LEGION

### LEARN ABOUT UPCOMING CHANGES

- 1

**Franklin Park Playground**  
Saturday, September 26  
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- 2

**Franklin Hill Park & Fields**  
Thursday, September 24  
4:30 - 7:30 p.m.
- 3

**Stella Road at American Legion**  
Tuesday, September 29  
4 - 7 p.m.



# BLACK LIVES MATTER

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# Audio play set in Boston takes on police brutality with sonic touches

By DANIEL SHEEHAN  
ARTS & FEATURES EDITOR

An audio play written by John Oluwole Adekoje, a Boston-based playwright, filmmaker, and part-time faculty member at Boston Arts Academy, is among several plays released this week as part of the Huntington Theatre Company's "Dream Boston" series.

The series, launched earlier this year, challenged playwrights to enact "a future vision of our city" set at a location special to the writer. Adekoje chose to set his play, "The Rainman," on a stretch of Malcolm X Boulevard that he frequents. Against a "2024 dreamscape" backdrop, "The Rainman" grapples with an issue plaguing American society today.

"It's about police brutality," explained Adekoje, "but it's set in a world where everything has completely changed—it's kind of apocalyptic—and there's this ex-police officer at the bus stop trying to get on a bus."

The ex-cop is denied entry to the bus—a representation of moving on—and therefore needs the help of the Rainman, a young man he shot years ago, to come aboard.

"They have to have a conversation about what happened," said Adekoje, calling the work "a complicated story about forgiveness and sacrifice and status."

The play draws on elements of fantasy and science fiction to comment on a reality that

often seems chaotic and dystopian, he added.

"It's not fantastic in the sense of the Marvel world, it's fantastic in the sense that it pulls you into a world you recognize but you don't recognize. We are living in a world that's kind of shaky right now, so a better way to describe it visually is to make it apocalyptic, but it's the same world."

Writing an audio play, as opposed to a film or stage play, called for a slightly different approach, said Adekoje.

"I just wrote it like film, then began to adjust to the radio. I didn't want it to just be talking heads," Adekoje said he wanted to conjure visuals for listeners through sonic sounds, which will hope-

fully help them see the visuals in their heads.

Sonic cues and sound effects, such as bus motors and rain noises, serve to help the listener "feel the whole world," as Adekoje put it.

After the writing process, the recording process required a slightly different approach as well due to Covid precautions. Sanitized Zoom recorders were sent to each of the voice actors in the project, who then joined together online for a virtual table read.

Adekoje said the conversation at the crux of the play demonstrates a need for ongoing dialogue in order to address police brutality and other social ills.

"There's a necessity for all groups to have com-



Playwright/filmmaker John Oluwole Adekoje teaches film at BAA in Fields Corner.

munication with each other, no matter how bad things are. There's got to be a way to work it out, and so this play provides that opportunity. It's not just about the violence, but also after the violence. What happens? How do you begin to heal a community? And that's what it's focusing

on...I think the takeaway is that racism is not acceptable, xenophobia is not acceptable, but when that happens we still have to find a way to heal ourselves. I hope the play does that."

"The Rainman" is available for listening at [huntingtontheatre.org](http://huntingtontheatre.org) as of Sept. 23.

## Short film featuring Dot's Red Shaydez will be given screen time at Roxbury fest

By DANIEL SHEEHAN  
ARTS & FEATURES EDITOR

A short film accompanying to "Little Sabrina," a song from local rapper Red Shaydez' 2016 album Magnetic Aura, will be screened next week as part of the 22nd Roxbury International Film Festival, which will take place this year in a virtual format from Sept. 30 through Oct. 5.

Shaydez, who penned the song during a late-night shift at a concierge job, enlisted the help of Boston-based filmmakers Lionel Djaowe (LTD Films) and Starr Nathan to bring a visual representation of the tune to life. While the "mini movie" was filmed three years ago, Shaydez submitted it to the festival last year and says the message still rings true in 2020.

The song, which Shaydez dedicated to "all the misguided young girls in the world," de-



Red Shaydez makes a cameo appearance as a concerned stranger in the music video for "Little Sabrina," a short film set on the streets of Fields Corner.

picts Sabrina, a 14-year-old young woman without a motherly role model

who falls victim to peer pressure and unrealistic societal expectations and

is eventually traumatized by a shocking event in which she is abducted

by a male passerby.

"We made this in 2017, but it's not an issue that stopped in 2017. It's still happening," explained Shaydez.

The film stars his stepsister as "Sabrina," while teens from The Hip Hop Transformation, a Cambridge-based youth music nonprofit that Shaydez co-heads, round out the rest of the small cast. Several scenes take place along Geneva Ave. and outside the Dorchester home where Shaydez lived at the time.

The MC makes a cameo in the movie as a concerned stranger sitting at a Fields Corner bus stop, who offers advice to the young girls sitting beside her.

For Shaydez, the song is the only one in which she's not rapping from her own point of view or about her lived experiences.

"This was less about me

rapping and more about the story," she explained. "My character is trying to be that guiding light. Sabrina's character is very impressionable, and you see peer pressure get the best of her. She didn't have that support, you know, her mom is nowhere to be found...I know there's a lot of little girls that can relate."

Djaowe, speaking on behalf of himself and Nathan, said they saw the film as an opportunity to deliver a bold and urgent message.

"Our process is to let the music speak first," said Djaowe. "When Red Shaydez came to us with the Little Sabrina record, we automatically knew how important the message was and it almost became a responsibility to do it justice at the visual level. Sex trafficking is very real issue in our country that doesn't get spoken about loudly enough. We're artists and filmmakers from Boston, a small city, so creating art like Little Sabrina that has purpose and resonates with world issues is one milestone, but having it recognized on platforms such as the Roxbury International Film Festival is an achievement."

"Little Sabrina" caught local eyes when it was first released, racking up thousands of views on YouTube. For Shaydez, who described a pattern of "delayed gratification" over the course of her career, knowing the film will reach even more people through the festival is encouraging. "The fact that it's still making waves today just shows you never know how far that impact goes."

For the full festival screening schedule, visit [roxfilmfest.com](http://roxfilmfest.com).

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Reporter's

People

News about people  
in and around our Neighborhoods

Teamsters step up with supplies for Russell Elementary students

By DANIEL SHEEHAN  
REPORTER STAFF

Members of Teamsters Local 25 Women's Committee organized the delivery of approximately 300 backpacks filled with school supplies and other essential items to the Russell Elementary School on Columbia Road last Thursday morning. The distribution efforts marked the second year in a row that the committee has donated backpacks to the Dorchester school.

With considerable populations of low-income, learning-disabled, and homeless students, the Russell community faces struggles that have only been exacerbated by the pandemic and the accompanying economic crisis. In addition to traditional school supplies like notebooks and pens and pencils, the backpacks also contained everyday toiletry items like toothpaste and hand sanitizer.

Local 25 business agent Joan Corey said that after seeing students' reactions last year, renewing the backpack campaign drive this year was "a no-brainer. We met the children and have now a better understanding of how the school operates, and they're just tremen-



Members of Teamsters Local 25 Women's Committee and Russell Elementary School staff posed in front of donated backpacks at the school last Thursday. *Daniel Sheehan photo*

dous people. We love to give back." The partnership between the union and the school is poised to grow further, said Corey, with Teamsters donating money for a classroom

space and equipment designated specifically for programming for students with autism and learning disabilities.

"We have a long relationship with the group Autism Speaks, including an annual benefit gala in support of that organization, so it was natural for us to want to build on that support in the community," said Corey.

Sharon Sodergren, a staff assistant at the Russell, said the donations would help ease the transition to remote and hybrid learning for students, particularly through the headphones included in the backpacks.

"It's a bit overlooked, but headphones are badly needed for those of our students who may be learning from home and are in a situation where there are siblings or multiple kids learning virtually in the same room as them, so that they can hear and communicate effectively in an online format," explained Sodergren. "We're so grateful for this partnership with Local 25 that started with BPS but has grown beyond that in so many ways."

370 start learning at Lasell in Newton

Lasell University in Newton began its fall semester in early September by welcoming more than 370 new students to its campus and virtual communities. Among them are Dorchester residents Candace Undag, studying Business Management; Emely Lopez and Denisse Rodriguez Beltran, studying Communication; Angelie Sahadeo, studying Entrepreneurship; Jayden Robinson, studying Fashion Design and Pro-

duction; Tyler Wright, ing Fashion Merchandising and Management; Myhong Dang, studying Graphic Design; Linda Baptista and Laidaliz Suarez Gonzalez, studying IDS Curriculum & Instruction; Mekhi Edge Wallace, studying Sport Management; and Lanaya Kimble, who will study within one of the University's five schools. Kares Mack, a resident of Mattapan, will study Criminal Justice.

Ubiem joins leadership team at Harvard Street

Dr. Cyril Ubiem has joined Harvard Street Neighborhood Health Center as the Senior Vice President of Programs and Services. In this newly established role, he will be responsible for directing its Behavioral Health Department. In addition, he will seek to expand programs that will directly support the health needs of the center's service areas – the neighborhoods of Dorchester, Mattapan, Roxbury and beyond. "I'm confident that Dr.

Ubiem will add value to the Harvard Street family and our mission to serve as the primary health resource for our community," said Stan McLaren, President and CEO of Harvard Street. "He brings a wealth of experience in community, public and behavioral health that will enhance our existing programs as well as new health service opportunities." Prior to joining Harvard Street, Dr. Ubiem was the Vice President of Programs

and Services at Whittier Street Health Center, where he managed several federal, state, and city grants. He specializes in grant writing, program design, implementation, and management. "Harvard Street is headed in a good direction with a focus on growth, and I am happy to be part of this process," said Dr. Ubiem. "Serving our community has always been my focus. Stan, the CEO is building a great team that will take this health

center to new heights." A resident of Randolph, Dr. Ubiem received his Master of Arts in Counseling Psychology from United States International University and earned his Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from Northeastern University Boston in 2010. His clinical and public health interest include health disparities among people of color, Infectious Disease, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, Substance Abuse Disorder, and dual diagnosis.

YESTERYEAR ARCHIVE

DORCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Walter Baker's Old Stone Mill

The stone building at the left of the photo was known as the Old Stone Mill on the west side of Adams Street next to the Neponset River. Built in 1849, it replaced an earlier stone mill building on the same site. The top of Walter Baker's Pierce Mill building appears in the distance on the east side of Adams Street. The Pierce Mill was constructed in 1872, so the photographs is no earlier than that year.

The early wooden mill building on this site was replaced in 1813 by Edmund Baker with a building constructed of granite blocks. The building was used for the manufacture of woolen cloth and satinette, a cotton product with a satin-like finish, as



well as for the manufacture of chocolate. The building was destroyed by fire in 1848, and Walter Baker built a new stone building (the one in the photograph) for use as a cacao roasting mill. In 1891 the building was replaced by the Baker Mill building, a brick building designed by Winslow and Wetherell in the Romanesque Revival style.

The Baker Mill building, built in 1891, now houses residential condominiums, where an individual unit may sell for many times the cost of construction of the whole six-story building, which was \$135,000.

The archive of these historical posts can be viewed on the blog at [dorchesterhistoricalsociety.org](http://dorchesterhistoricalsociety.org).



Editorial

What a gift she gave to us

Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who died last Friday at age 88, lies in state this week in Washington, D.C. Her death may turn out to be a seminal moment in the nation’s history and not just because of the loss of a renowned jurist and transformational woman. Her death, sadly, means that with the approval of her successor by the Republican-controlled US Senate, the balance of power on the nation’s top court will likely shift much farther to the right — and probably stay that way for many years to come.

The double-dose of despair — losing the iconic Ginsburg only to see her replaced by a conservative picked by this wretched president—is a bitter pill to swallow. Republicans will not honor Ginsburg’s dying wish to wait for the presidential election before choosing her successor. All signs point toward a fast-tracked nomination and confirmation before Nov. 3, with even oft-times “moderate” senators like Utah’s Mitt Romney indicating their willingness to collaborate.

Some Democrats have already suggested that they may seek to expand the number of seats on the court if they regain control of the Senate and win the presidency in November. That might, in fact, come to pass.

This week, however, should be a time to mourn Justice Ginsburg, the woman, the leader, the jurist, the American, the warrior. What a gift she gave to our republic; what a life she lived. And what a burden she carried, right to her final moments. In her last months, she battled pancreatic cancer, the latest in a string of ailments that she gamely faced down in her later life. In this instance, she did so knowing that her imminent mortality would trigger further acrimony, divisiveness and, likely, a setback for the causes she held so dear.

It’s true that some of the hard-won gains she helped make possible— particularly for women— might be less secure in her absence. But her real legacy can never— and will never— be undone. She blazed trails that no mortals can unblaze. She inspired generations of young people— of all genders— to mobilize for their full rights as Americans.

As our own District Attorney Rachael Rollins said, poignantly, on the day of Ginsburg’s death: “She has been called a liberal icon, but every American, regardless of their political beliefs, has Justice Ginsburg to thank for pushing our nation closer to fulfilling the promises our Constitution holds.... We have lost a national hero. Now the fight becomes even more urgent for those of us that remain. May her memory be a revolution.”

-Bill Forry

**Correction**

A story in the Sept. 10 edition on the search for the remains of WWII Japanese POW Sgt. Joseph Beard gave the wrong name for the president of the Dorchester Historical Society. He is Earl Taylor. The Reporter regrets the error.

Massachusetts must fill funding gap for low-income students

**BY BILL WALCZAK  
REPORTER COLUMNIST**

A new study by the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce and Massachusetts Business Alliance for Education (MBAE) has found that our Commonwealth spends \$4,642 more per student to educate kids in wealthy towns than it does on students from low income districts.

The report — aptly named “Missing the Mark: How Chapter 70 Education Aid Distribution Benefits Wealthier School Districts and Widens Equity Gaps” — was released last week.

The economic crisis brought on by the pandemic and our shared economic future require that Massachusetts make some changes to education funding to ensure a more equitable system. People of conscience should ask the obvious question: Is it fair for our state government to subsidize wealthy communities’ school systems?

Wealthy people tend to live in wealthy communities. While the prestige of manicured lawns and large, costly homes may be enough to attract the wealthy to these communities, ensuring that these communities stay wealthy is the result of zoning.

Though zoning is practiced all over Massachusetts, when it is used to prevent low income people from living in certain towns, it is called “exclusionary zoning.”

Examples of this include zoning regulations that discourage the development of smaller houses, apartment buildings, and multi-family houses, and/or requires one to five acre lots to build a house. Such regulations increase the cost to build and therefore greatly reduce the likelihood that these communities will have a wide range of economic, racial, and social diversity.

Wealthy towns can spend much more on education for their children, so many of these towns have essentially created public schools with benefits that resemble private schools.

Chief Justice Ralph Gants was a champion for racial justice

**BY LEW FINFER  
SPECIAL TO THE REPORTER**

Easing punishment for those convicted for possession of drugs has not been the most popular cause for public officials to take on. Yes, activists and community groups have taken it on, but it’s a very uphill climb to persuade state legislators and governors, who most fear the charge that they are “soft on crime.”

Here in Massachusetts, the unlikely but real champion in the fight to repeal long mandatory minimum sentences was SJC Chief Justice Ralph Gants, who died last week at age 65 after a brief illness. I was there at a packed State House hearing on June 9, 2015, when Gants got up and said this — and more:

“There are at least three reasons why the Legislature needs to abolish mandatory minimum sentences: racial justice, justice reinvestment, and fairness in sentencing. Let me begin with racial justice: mandatory minimum sentences have a disparate impact on persons of color.

“I can spare you a thousand words by turning your attention to Exhibit 1. That chart shows that in 2013, 44 percent of all persons convicted of drug offenses were persons of color, but 75 percent of all persons convicted of drug offenses with mandatory minimum sentences were persons of color. This remarkable 31 percent differential is not a one-year phenomenon; it is the same differential as in 2002.

“And the differential during this twelve-year period never fell below 20 percent. Given the durability of this racially disparate treatment over time, there is no reason to believe that the past will not be prologue. If you do not abolish minimum mandatory sentences for drug offenses, you must accept the tragic fact that this disparate treatment of persons of color will be allowed to continue.”

One of the mandatory minimum laws targeted for reform meant that anyone convicted of selling drugs within 1,000 feet of a school would receive a long sentence. It may have been reasonable to penalize those selling drugs to teens, but this law also covered any sales to adults near a school, even sales at midnight when no youth were around or that took place 6 blocks or a 1,000 feet from a school. This was the “War on Drugs.”

The biggest driver of mass incarceration were these long mandatory minimum sentences on drug charges. And the disproportionate sufferers of these sentences— as Gants said— were people of color.

Gants was immediately attacked for his testimony by almost all the district attorneys in the state. They continued making their case for why mandatory minimums should be kept in place. And they kept

on attacking Gants in the media. To his credit, the chief justice kept speaking out on this despite the attacks.

I am an organizer in a group called Massachusetts Communities Action Network and we were one of the Steering Committee members of the Jobs Not Jails Coalition that took on this criminal justice reform campaign. We put Justice Gants’s statement on fliers, fact sheets, letters to legislators, and quoted them in meetings with legislators. They may not have believed us. But it was very hard to disregard a chief justice, let alone one who had the data to back it up.

As the result of our campaign, five of these laws assigning mandatory minimums on different drugs were repealed. It meant fewer people went to prison for a long a time and it meant more people ended up getting referred to treatment instead of prison. And it was a measure of racial justice.

Last month, Chief Justice Gants convened a wide variety of stakeholders to deal with the possible tens of thousands of eviction cases that would flood the courts if the state’s moratorium ends — as scheduled—on Oct. 17. This month, Harvard Law School released a massive report on racial disparities in sentencing in the court system that Justice Gants had asked them to do.

I’ve been working for 50 years as a community organizer in Massachusetts, but I have never seen a chief justice step out of his lane to prophetically challenge such injustices. The very powerful— and he was a powerful person — just don’t take such risks very often.

So, we will miss him a lot. I humbly ask other powerful politicians and corporate leaders to take a moment to think about risks they can take to change the story when we have so many people hurting with lives of pain and despair.

*Lew Finfer is a Dorchester resident and a longtime community organizer.*



Justice Gants

The Reporter

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## Commentary

# How to honor Pat O'Neill's legacy: Get involved

By ERIN D. CALDWELL  
SPECIAL TO THE REPORTER

It has been five months since the Ashmont Adams Neighborhood Association lost its longtime civic leader, 80-year-old Patricia “Pat” O’Neill after a battle with cancer. In the meantime, the national mood has been grim. Natural disasters are impacting large swatches of the country, racial justice protests have swept the nation, and last week’s passing of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg has infused an already contentious election with an additional shot of urgency and partisanship.

It can be tempting as an average citizen in a sizable American city in a state that holds little surprise in federal elections to feel powerless. But that’s not the way Pat O’Neill would have looked at things. She understood that change doesn’t only happen at federal or state levels, that often the most important progress takes place in your backyard.

Her passing, say her friends and neighbors, has left a void in the community where that sort of understanding made a difference, a space that can best be filled by a new generation stepping up to carry her mantle.

Andrea Baez, who served as the executive director of the Dorchester YMCA for five years, and worked closely with Mrs. O’Neill during that time, summed it up this way: “It would take five people for every one Pat O’Neill to fill that void,” she said.

Still, members of the Ashmont Adams Neighborhood Association are trying. New leaders have stepped up to help deliver masks, check in with residents, drop off loaves of bread, and provide a consistent touchstone to community members.

“We regularly ask ourselves, what would Pat do?” said Gail Ravgiala, who serves as the Ashmont-Adams secretary. “During Covid-19, we’ve tried to act as a beacon of light that



Pat O'Neill, second from left, enjoyed Dorchester Day in 2005 with friends and neighbors, including Gov. Deval Patrick, far right. Below: Pat O'Neill, who led the Ashmont-Adams Neighborhood Association until her death in April.

some things are still as they were. The pandemic has reinforced why organizations like ours are so important.”

O’Neill’s example stretches far beyond the boundaries of the neighborhood. Her tireless promotion of local needs regularly reached City Hall, particularly during her 20 years as president of the association, her admirers said in interviews.

“Elected officials had a hard time saying no to Pat, and they are always in attendance at our meetings,” said Mary Kelly, treasurer of the association. “It gives us a voice that City Hall and the State House listen to, and a lot of visibility about who we are.”

City Councillor Andrea Campbell initially met O’Neill during her first run for office. She was challenging a 32-year incumbent and didn’t get a lot of support from the community, she said, until she met her “Irish mother,” Pat O’Neill.

“Pat believed in me, and that created joy,” said Campbell,

“because there was something about an older Irish woman attaching herself to a Black woman and believing that regardless of what separates or divides the City of Boston, we can solve problems by being open-minded and coming together.”

In changing neighborhoods, the role of civic organizations in influencing policy and working with leaders at the city and state level is significant. To elected officials, community leaders like Pat O’Neill are their eyes and ears on the ground.

“If government truly wants to have an impact in communities, it has to engage residents to hear their thoughts and solutions. They are the connection to the community,” said Campbell. “Voting is absolutely important, but civic engagement is bigger than voting. You can have an impact every day by participating in these organizations.”

Councillor Frank Baker, who represents District 3,



said he leaned on people like O’Neill to provide historic context for neighborhoods that are changing rapidly.

“The negativity these days is palpable. It’s important that people come together and work toward positive outcomes,” he said. “Pat’s example was that of an advocate; she would work with everybody and represent the neighborhood holistically, even when there were differences of opinion.”

Retiring state Rep. Dan Cullinane, who has represented parts of Ashmont-Adams since 2013, worked closely with O’Neill. “There was always a full room at commu-

nity meetings when Pat ran them,” he said. “She made everyone laugh, but she also asked pointed, focused questions that moved business forward. People wanted to be there because they wanted to be with Pat. People like her were cornerstones of the community. In no small way, it is because of her example that people want to live and stay in Ashmont-Adams.”

Cullinane knows firsthand the value of being involved. He joined the Cedar Grove Civic Association at 15 and the experience influenced his career path as well as how much he cared about the world he lived in.

“These organizations are not simply about day-to-day issues; they build community over decades,” he said, noting that the regular meetings also provide a built-in level of accountability for elected officials. “If you talk to a constituent one month, you have to get it done or have an answer for them by the following month.”

Those who knew Pat O’Neill well have a suggestion for those who would like to remember her life through action. Make a difference in the world by taking a page from her book—and start right here in Dorchester.

“Pat was really into promoting community and making Ashmont-Adams a cohesive place where everyone felt included, accepted, welcomed,” said Stacey Monahan, a close friend and neighbor for many years. “She modeled that civic engagement. How I treat my neighbors matters; how I act in my community matters.”

*Residents who are interested in getting involved are encouraged to attend the Oct. 1 meeting of the Ashmont Adams Neighborhood Association. [Details on time and location are still to be determined; see the group’s Facebook page for updates]. The civic group is commissioning a memorial to Pat O’Neill. Donations can be sent through Mary Kelly at mlk9647@comcast.net.*

## Grandmothers providing child care deserve support from state

By BETTY MCGUIRE  
SPECIAL TO THE REPORTER

I’m a Dorchester grandma. I’m still helping take care of my grandkids. And in this month when we celebrate Grandparents’ Day (Sept. 13th), I ask Gov. Baker and state legislators to support low-income grandparents who provide child care.

Other states have included grandparents and other relatives, friends, and neighbors in their efforts to help low-income parents with child care needs. Massachusetts must do the same.

Many of my fellow members at New England United for Justice (NEU4J) are also working-class grandmothers living in Mattapan and Dorchester. Our neighborhoods have large Black, Brazilian, Cape Verdean, Haitian, and Vietnamese communities. As older women living in communities of color hit hard by the pandemic, we are extremely exposed and vulnerable to the coronavirus.

Although life is more dangerous for us, our kids and our grandkids need us more than ever. The moms in our communities can’t work from home. They are getting their hours cut or losing their jobs because they can’t

find affordable child care. It will only get harder now that school is starting remotely. Some child care programs are offering school-day supervision for kids that can’t stay at home. But my daughter couldn’t afford child care even before the pandemic; how can she afford even more of it now?

I took care of my grandkids every day after school before the pandemic. Sometimes I would drop them off at school and take care of them on week-ends, too. The pandemic has changed my family’s child care needs, but my grandkids continue to spend time at my home, and I continue to provide support to my family.

We grandmothers know we are only part of the solution. NEU4J is a founding member of Care That Works, a coalition of grassroot groups and labor unions that organize working parents, nannies, and au pairs, family child care providers, and center-based child care workers. Led by Black, Latinx, Asian, and white women, we fight for justice for all the women taken for granted as caregivers and all the mothers and children held back from their full potential.

Our families need help today, not tomorrow. For a lot of families, for a

lot of reasons, grandmothers or other relatives, friends, and neighbors are the only options available right now. We do need to help more families access child care programs, but we should also strengthen child care wherever it’s happening. As for us: We care for our grandkids because we love them and want to be there for our own kids, but we also deserve to be seen and supported for all the work we do.

The governor Baker and state legislators can make that happen. Child care assistance for poor and working-class families can already be used for families that depend on relatives, friends, and neighbors. In other states many families do get assistance for this form of child care. To actually get money to those caregivers in our state, state leaders must do two things:

First, raise progressive revenue for child care and other public services for everyone to recover, not just people who were already fine to begin with.

Second, make payments higher and easier to access for the caregivers.

Payment can make old setups more dependable, or they can help parents find new caregivers and let more vulnerable caregivers step back for safety. Formalizing the role of grandparents

and other caregivers opens the door to organizing materials, training, and other resources for us to provide the best care we can. And more cash will help low-income families recover more quickly.

In the long view, the biggest benefit would be for our state to take a step forward in truly seeing child care as work that benefits everyone — and seeing all child caregivers as workers who deserve respect and support.

When child care programs closed for three months, grandparents were the first line of backup. That was the first call to include grandparents in the pandemic response, but it wasn’t answered. The start of remote schooling is another clarion call for Gov. Baker and state legislators to pay attention to where the burden of child care is landing. There is no reason to leave grandmothers out of the conversation when so many of the most vulnerable parents and children are depending on us.

*Betty McGuire is a member of New England United for Justice.*

*This article was written with support from Sarah Jimenez, senior researcher with Community Labor United.*



A LEGACY OF HEALING

Garden’s roots were nurtured by grieving mom’s sense of fate

(Continued from page 1) emotional wellbeing workshops and regular nature walks in the Blue Hills.

The HERO Hope Garden helps to fulfill a piece of Foster’s mission by creating a place in the neighborhood that she hopes will serve as a green urban oasis.

“H.E.R.O. stands for Healing, Empathy, Redemption, Oasis,” explained Foster. “This garden is the final part of that process, and hopefully it’s a model for what HERO nurturing can look like in the future.”

Work on the garden initially started with a groundbreaking in 2018, at which Foster met state Sen. Nick Collins and state Rep. Liz Miranda. Foster bonded with Miranda after she shared her own story of healing after losing her brother to gun violence in 2017. Foster recalled how volunteers unearthed a bullet casing at the site while digging garden beds.

“To me, that really stressed the fact that this needed to be a healing place,” she said.

Today, the garden welcomes passersby to explore a “food forest” with fruit trees, plants, and raised bed gardens; a greenhouse for community and educational use; and a community meeting and gathering space with a handful of tables, chairs, and umbrellas.

The focus with the garden was always on sustainability, said Foster, who worked with Speak for the Trees Boston to push for fruit trees and permanent structures over seasonal flower beds. In the years to come, collard greens,



Above, a view of the HERO Hope Garden on Geneva Avenue this summer. The garden welcomes passersby to explore a “food forest” with fruit trees, plants, and raised bed gardens; a greenhouse for community and educational use; and a community meeting and gathering space with a handful of tables, chairs, and umbrellas.

Below (right): A group of volunteers assembled at the Geneva Avenue site last year to begin work on the project.

Below left: Boston Food Forest Coalition executive director Orion Kriegman spoke at Sunday’s ceremony to dedicate the HERO Hope Garden on Geneva Avenue.

strawberries, blackberries, peaches, apples, and other fresh foods grown at the garden will nourish the local community under the stewardship of the Boston Food Forest Coalition and the Mattapan-based Farmers Collaborative.

Foster said Sunday’s ceremony affirmed the work of her nonprofit and demonstrated how much the local Bowdo-

in-Geneva neighborhood— one with a history of trauma from gun violence— embraced the project.

“It was really special to see this multiracial, multicultural, coordinated community effort all inspired by my tragedy from losing my son, and knowing that this community also suffered trauma before I experienced my own...I

needed to make sure that this was a legacy of healing left in the wake of all these tragedies, and during this time of Covid when people really need a healing space to sit, reflect, and breathe, I think it’s that much more important.

“Seeing all the different people that gathered on behalf of the garden gave me hope in the face of hatred, Covid, and all

the devastation we’re currently experiencing. The gathering [Sunday] gave me hope that we can have a better future for my granddaughter, and I was proud to know Paul was the catalyst for bringing those people together.”

Judith Foster’s son, Paul A. Fyffe, Jr., was shot outside a Charlotte, N.C. nightclub in 2013.





# Cartee leaving by year's end; Ashmont Main Streets civic in search for new director

**By KATIE TROJANO  
REPORTER STAFF**

After more than five years as the leader of Greater Ashmont Main Streets, Jenn Cartee will leave her role as executive director before the end of the year. In an announcement last week, she said the organization is seeking applicants for the position.

Greater Ashmont Main Streets, part of the city's Boston Main Streets program, connects local businesses, organizations, and residents; supports the community in advocating for resources; and hosts local events.

Cartee started with the Ashmont area organization in July 2015 with plans to stay for five years. But, she noted last week to the *Reporter*, she had said she would stay until 2021 since a national Main Streets Center conference was set to take place in Boston next April and "we were up for a Great American Main Street Award." That event has now been postponed until 2023. "Everything has shifted under us," she said.

Cartee informed the board that she is willing to stay in the position



**Jenn Cartee**

until mid-December as needed until her successor is in place.

She has worked with the group's board and executive committee to craft the job description. The team, she said, wants to "emphasize that there is such a wide variety of backgrounds that could prepare one really effectively to excel in this role."

The coronavirus emergency has impacted a significant amount of the organization's fall and winter programming, Cartee said. "The reality is that a lot of our fall programming, once the farmers market ends on Oct. 30, will not be occurring," she said. "We are doing twice as much or more of the business support work that we historically do but we didn't have the Bike & Brew festival, we're not doing the monthly jazz series, the trolley tour tree lighting – if it happens – won't happen with

a holiday pop up market from us.

"So, it's a relatively quiet time of the year, and it seemed like it would be a lost opportunity not to get the next person in during this window so that they would have time to get their legs under them and relay the main streets model before leaping into the post-pandemic recovery, which we hope will be the spring's work."

Since the pandemic hit Cartee said that the organization has been "very committed to the food access that the farmer's market provides, but as that comes to a close, it's the right moment for this transition for both the organization and myself," she said.

"I'm excited that it seems to be arranged in such a way that we'll have a robust overlap period," she added. "We're hoping that if the timeline works out, we'll have four to six weeks of me on part time while the new person is learning the ropes."

To read more about the organization or apply for the executive director position visit, [greaterashmont.org/jobopening/](http://greaterashmont.org/jobopening/).



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# Question 2: Ranked-Choice voting, explained

By SIMÓN RÍOS  
WBUR REPORTER

In November, Massachusetts voters will take up a ballot question that would fundamentally reshape the way they cast their ballots. Under a system called “ranked-choice voting,” elections that involve more than two candidates give voters the option of numerically marking their choices.

Proponents of ranked-choice voting (RCV) say it would help to ensure that no candidate is elected by a minority of voters. Supporters include former Govs. Deval Patrick and Bill Weld, as well as former Harvard president Lawrence Summers, who calls it “the single most important change we can make to improve American democracy.”

But the system is controversial. Those against the proposal say it violates the “one-citizen, one-vote” principle and could create a bureaucratic nightmare.

**How Does It Work?**  
Ranked-choice voting only applies to races with three or more candidates, and only when one candidate does not reach greater than 50 percent in the initial vote tally.

Until that point, votes are tabulated at the precinct level, the same way they are under the current system. If no candidate gets more than half the votes, the ballots go to a central location where the non-first choices are redistributed in successive rounds until someone crosses the 50 percent threshold.

In each round of the counting, the last place candidate is eliminated, and the second choice of that candidate’s voters are added to the tallies of those who remain. That process continues until a candidate tops 50 percent.

If the ballot initiative passes, it wouldn’t be the first time voters in

### Example: Correct Marking

Only one vote per candidate. Only one vote per column.		DO NOT USE						
CANDIDATE FOR RE-ELECTION	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
HERSHEY CHOCOLATE BAR, 1600 Smores Road	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
GUMMY BEAR, 2564 Haribo Street	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
CANDY CANE, 12 Peppermint Lane	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
CHARLESTON CHEW, 292 Main Street	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
M. M. CHOCOLATE, 255 Character Way	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
REESE P. B. CUP, 24 Peanut Place	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	

### Example: Incorrect Markings

Filling in more than one choice for a candidate:

1	2	3	4
1	2	3	4
1	2	3	4
1	2	3	4

Giving more than one candidate the same ranking:

1	2	3	4
1	2	3	4
1	2	3	4
1	2	3	4

Ovals that are not filled in completely and cannot be read by the machine:

1	2	3	4
1	2	3	4
1	2	3	4
1	2	3	4

the state get to rank candidates. Cambridge has a system known as “proportional representation,” which ensures that “any group of voters that number more than one-tenth of the votes cast can be sure of electing at least one member of a nine-member Council.”

**Why Proponents Want the Change**  
Those behind the ballot initiative say elections are broken. They point to candidates who win elections without majority support. One case is Massachusetts Congresswoman Lori Trahan, who among 10 Democratic candidates ran for the 3rd District

House seat in 2018. She won the primary election with less than 22 percent of the vote.

Proponents of ranked-choice voting are now also citing Jake Auchincloss’ recent 4th District Democratic primary win. In a packed race, he won with less than a quarter of the vote.

“It has now become the exception, not the norm, for winning candidates to achieve majority support in highly competitive, widely contested races,” according to a press release from the non-partisan group MassVOTE. “Ranked-choice voting, however, can fix that.”

Voter Choice Massachusetts, the advocacy group behind the ballot initiative, estimates that 40 percent of races involving three or more candidates result in a winner who does not get a simple majority.

Those who champion the system say ranked-choice voting will spur greater participation in elections and encourage campaigns to reach out to a broader base of support, and thus lead to more civilized politics.

**Maine, the First with RCV**  
Maine voters opted in a 2016 ballot initiative to become the first state to adopt ranked-choice voting for statewide elections. Proponents pushed for RCV after conservative Paul LePage won the governorship with a minority (or a plurality) of the vote — first in 2010 with 37.6 percent, then in 2014 with 48.2 percent.

Proponents characterize the effort as a non-partisan way to expand participation and allow more diverse candidates to get elected. But some conservative opponents, like the Maine congressman who lost his seat to RCV, argue that progressives are more likely to run multiple candidates in an election, drawing more voters to the polls who favor a Democrat over a Republican as a second choice.

The first major test of RCV happened in 2018 in Maine, over a House seat then held by Republican Bruce Poliquin. Poliquin got 46.3 percent of the votes in the first round — slightly

better than his Democratic opponent, Jared Golden — with about 8 percent split between two independent candidates. Because Poliquin didn’t cross the 50 percent threshold, a second round of counting was triggered, and Golden pulled ahead with 50.6 percent to win the race. Poliquin tried to fight RCV in court but was unsuccessful.

Last month, the law survived the latest of several legal battles questioning its constitutionality. Maine’s Supreme Judicial Court recently blocked a ruling that would allow a ballot question to repeal RCV — the third time in four years that voters there would have had the chance to vote on the election system. Maine is now set to become the first state to use RCV in a presidential contest, though legal challenges remain ahead of the election that could change that.

**Backers and Opponents**  
The group formed to push RCV here is Voter Choice Massachusetts. Supporters include the state Democratic Party, the League of Women Voters and the Massachusetts Immigrants and Refugees Advocacy Coalition. Financial supporters include prominent CEOs in Massachusetts, as well as advocacy groups Action Now Initiative and Unite America.

Voter Choice Massachusetts says it has raised \$5.5 million as of mid-September, with roughly half of those funds raised in the two weeks after the Sept. 1 primaries.

The Massachusetts Fiscal Alliance has railed against ranked-choice, claiming the state would be better off with runoff elections. In runoffs, a field of candidates is narrowed to the two top vote-getters, and a second election is held to determine the winner.

The ballot committee against RCV in Massachusetts is called No Ranked Choice Voting Committee, which organized late in the summer. Patricia Chessa, chair of the Westford Republican Town Committee, is listed as the group’s only official, according to the Office of Campaign and Political Finance. Chessa did not immediately respond to a request for comment, and no data is available on the OCPF website.

More broadly, critics of the election system often say it is too confusing for voters.

**What Would RCV Apply To?**  
Beginning in 2022, the system would be used in primary and general elections for statewide offices in Massachusetts, as well as certain state and federal legislative positions. Ranked-choice voting would not be used in presidential elections, county commissioner races, or district school committee races.

If approved by voters, advocates say the new system would be limited to these offices at first but could expand to other races, including the presidential election.

Should voters approve the ballot measure, the secretary of state would issue regulations as to the mechanics of RCV in Massachusetts and carry out a campaign to educate voters on the new process.

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



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# Developers offer ideas to UMass on Calf Pasture site

(Continued from page 1) the MBTA’s JFK-UMass Red Line station, the university anticipates that the street will turn into a “grand boulevard.”

The towering Calf Pasture building, with its castle-like silhouette, would provide visitors to the campus with a “stunning structure as an introduction,” according to the RFI, which also notes that it will only be available for use by UMass Boston.

The ten-acre project site comprises two parcels of land:

- Lot A consists of 5.8 acres and contains the Calf Pasture Pumping Station along with a 100-space surface parking lot that is currently being used by the Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the United States Senate.

- Lot B consists of 4.2 acres and is currently being used as a surface parking lot for UMass Boston students and faculty.

The companies that submitted responses to the RFI are Accordia Partners, American Campus Communities, The Drew Company, The Fallon Company, Lincoln/Davenport, Michaels/Nordblom, New Atlantic/Historic Boston, and Pennrose/Devco/Hunt.

The developers provide varying degrees of detail, but they all discuss how good they are at collaboration and the need for community input.

For the Calf Pasture building, they proposed a variety of uses, including academic, administrative, and admissions offices; a theater; and an events space.

The Drew Company would also incorporate an innovation center into the Calf Pasture building for students, non-students, and companies to “build upon the foundation set by the research facilities located on campus.”

Accordia wants to



greatly expand the footprint of the Calf Pasture building by adding interior floors and an exterior annex that would boost the structure’s overall square footage from 26,000 square feet to as much as 75,000 square feet. The facility would then be used for a welcome center, senior administrative offices, and an event space.

Two companies — AAC and Michaels/Nordblom — focus on developing housing for the project site in an effort to capitalize on their expertise.

“As the nation’s foremost provider of housing on university campuses and the only publicly-owned student housing company, AAC sees great potential in the Calf Pasture project sites to expand UMass Boston’s vision for evolving as a residential campus,” the company says in its response. The company’s preliminary demand analysis indicates the potential need for an additional 450 to 550 beds of student housing on campus.

Michaels/Nordblom’s predominant proposed use for the UMass site

is housing as well. In support of this focus, it points to the site’s location on Columbia Point, its proximity to the UMass Bayside property that is being redeveloped by Accordia Partners, and the “continually growing jobs” along the MBTA’s Red Line, especially The Boston Exchange for Accelerated Technology (“The BEAT”). The BEAT is a 695,000-square-foot urban innovation campus at the former location of *The Boston Globe* on Morrissey Boulevard being developed by Nordblom.

Michaels/Nordblom notes that the housing could be a mix of units for students, faculty, and staff; university-affiliated units; affordable housing; senior housing; and housing for retirees who are enrolled in UMass Boston. The school runs a special program for retired people who attend classes on a non-degree basis.

A number of developers proposed incorporating a retail component to the

project site. For example, Lincoln/Davenport contemplates restaurant venues ranging from “quality sit-down experiences to quick-stop menus targeted toward student budgets,” a food store, a pharmacy, a hair salon, a health club, and retail stores focused on “fashion and merchandise reflective of student life and city living” offered by both local and national retailers.

AAC offers a caveat regarding the retail com-

ponent. “Any retail strategy for the sites will need to pay careful attention to the emerging Bayside site redevelopment and the amount of retail/mixed-use envisioned for that proposed site, which is considerably larger and more centrally located as a retail/mixed-use destination,” the company states in its response.

A number of developers proposed building a traditional or a boutique hotel on the project site.

“The location of the UMass Boston campus lends itself to a variety of hospitality products and we believe that either an independent or branded, extended-stay hotel in the upscale segment will offer the most value to students and visitors alike,” Lincoln/Davenport states in its response. “The site’s proximity to Red Line and I-93 also makes it a convenient alternative option for Boston Convention Center visitors. We would explore partnership with a national hotel brand such as Hyatt or Hilton.”

The next step in the process of developing the Calf Pasture project site will likely be the issuance of a request for proposals (RFP) by the UMBA. Bids will be solicited to do the work UMass Boston decides it wants done, which is based on the information gathered from the eight developers as part of the RFI process.

The ten-acre Calf Pasture property is the latest section of the UMass Boston campus being offered for redevelopment by the UMBA, which last year agreed to lease the 20-acre Bayside portion of its campus to Accordia, a deal that could generate as much as \$235 million for the university.

## Pumping station is a Boston keepsake

Between 1630 and 1869, the marshlands of Columbia Point were used as a calf pasture, which gives its name to the Calf Pasture Pumping Station. The building is now listed on the National Register of Historic Places as well as on an inventory of the state’s most endangered historic properties.

The antique structure now sits in stark contrast to the modern buildings of two of its neighbors — the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum and the Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the United States Senate.

The pumping station is historically significant for a variety of reasons. It is an excellent example of Romanesque Revival architecture and it is the only remaining nineteenth-century building on Columbia Point. It also represents what was an evolving industrial building type for housing innovative equipment.

What’s more, the pumping station was the city’s first major effort to establish a comprehensive public sewage system. Within 35 years of its construction, it was the keystone of a sewage disposal system that was a model for the rest of the nation.

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Rev. Moses Taylor, right, pictured with Stop & Shop Store Manager Michael Hannon.

The Anointed Church, members and Rev. Moses Taylor are thanking Stop & Shop Supermarket Chain for 6 years of partnering and hosting the back-to-school giver away of school supply and backpacks at the South Bay Stop & Shop, 1100 Mass Ave in Dorchester, MA. We are thanking Stop & Shop Supermarket, CEO/President, Mr. Gordon Reid, for his quick action as well as success, credibility and knowledge that he had bring to Stop & Shop, by leading with excellence. We are thanking Mr. Michael Hannon, South Bay Stop & Shop manager and to the management team and all department managers at South Bay Stop & Shop for all the hard work they do.

I hope this message finds you and your loved ones safe and healthy during this difficult time as, school are opening for our children. Our hearts go out to those who are ill or have lost family or friends, as well as to the brave professional’s stores managers, associates of Stop & Shop Supermarket, medical professionals and first responders on the front lines. We are praying for all those whose jobs were financial impacted by this global pandemic of COVID-19.



# Cannabis shop pitched for Gallivan building in Adams Corner

(Continued from page 1) the back that will help mitigate some of the traffic concerns that get generated through the openings of our stores and cameras that we put out will heighten security in that area.”

DiFazio said that the company has secured four licences for cannabis business in Massachusetts, including two for dispensaries in Amesbury and Haverhill, one for a cultivation site and another for a retail factory.

If approved, the Dorchester location could employ anywhere from 15-30 people.

No persons under the age of 21 would be allowed in the facility and security guards would be positioned at the entrance of the store to check IDs, DiFazio told about 45 people who joined the meeting online. The added layer of security, he said, would be a benefit to the surrounding community.

When the session was opened up for questions from the community, several people asked questions about products, security measures and the potential for an on-site police detail and specific community


benefits.

Steve Bickerton, president of the CGCA, said that the possibilities for community benefits were briefly discussed when the team came before the association’s executive board to discuss their plans over the summer.

“I will say that these guys are fully open to suggestions from our group and other community groups on where they should direct their community benefits package,” said Bickerton. “We mentioned youth hockey, little league, things like that and they said basically wherever the civic association and neighborhood groups prefer is where they’ll look.”


DiFazio said: “We’ll be required to donate \$25,000 a year to the local community, and we can work to get things done that will bring benefits to everyone. There are a lot of different things we can do and I’m not opposed to anything.”

One neighbor raised concerns that a cannabis dispensary would attract long lines of customers. District 3 Councillor Frank Baker, who was on the virtual



### CNA Dorchester

- 540 Gallivan Blvd. with entrance from parking lot
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A slide from a presentation shown to CGCA members on Tuesday.

call, offered some context based off of other establishments that have opened in the city.

“As a few of the stores opened up, the only problems were lines. In Brookline there were a lot of issues with lines coming out to the street and in another place the issue was traffic,” he said. “I think that as the stores open up you won’t see the overcrowding especially if you have online ordering.”

Baker also said it would be difficult for the team to secure a permanent police detail, as some civic members suggested.

“I don’t necessarily think that this group would be able to say

they can offer police details. The reality is that they will have difficulty getting police details there just because of the amount of work that’s going on. If that’s something the community really wants, it might be something that’s difficult for this group to deliver on.”

DiFazio said that a police detail would likely be in place when the business first opens.

“Then,” he added, “based on our assessment of the situation in the community and around the building, we’ll come up with a plan to transition from a police detail into our own security personnel.”

Dianne Morad, a



Robert DiFazio, president and CEO of CNA Stores, Inc., spoke during an online meeting of the Cedar Grove Civic Association on Tuesday.

Dorchester resident who is a liaison for the CNA team, pointed out that the city has mandated a half mile buffer zone between cannabis establishments.

“If you think that Rob and his team are folks that you can work with and that will run a professional and caring business, I hope that you would choose to work with them because there are going to be a large number of establishments in the city,” Morad said.

“If Rob and CNA Stores locate here, then, according to the city, there would be sort of a half-a-mile force field around

that establishment and others wouldn’t be able to set up shop. If these are guys that you feel like you can work with and talk to, then this might be the best bet for you.”

After more than an hour of discussion, the membership agreed to put CNA Store’s proposal up for a vote at their next general membership meeting in October. The vote will decide whether or not the civic association will publicly support the proposal. The next step would be for the CNA group to seek city approvals to open at the Gallivan location.



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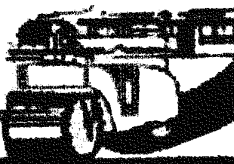
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# Morrissey developments still awaiting their kickoffs

By KATIE TROJANO  
REPORTER STAFF

The fate of two large-scale retail re-development projects along a key stretch of Morrissey Boulevard remains unclear this week, as delays likely prompted by the pandemic continue.

In March, the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) approved the plans of the national retailer Floor & Décor to open a store in a renovated building at 729 Morrissey Blvd., the high-profile location off Victory Road that has been empty since National Wholesale Liquidators went out of business in 2018.

An attorney for Kimco Realty, which controls the site, told members of the Clam Point Civic Association in February that the flooring store would make substantial renovations to the interior and facade of the existing building and reconfigure on-site parking. The property is zoned as a neighborhood shopping district, requiring that a retail business operate out of the space. Kimco Realty purchased the property, which they are now calling Morrissey Plaza, in April 2014.

Representatives for Floor & Décor did not respond to the *Reporter's* re-



Architect renderings of the Morrissey Boulevard delayed developments.

quest for comment on the project's status. There has been no visible construction or renovations at the site, which was, according to an attorney for Kimco Realty, originally expected to open by late this year or early in 2021. That was before the Covid-19 pandemic broke out.

Across the boulevard, a project that was initially filed with the BPDA in September 2019 by associates of the Herb Chambers Companies included plans for a new four-story headquarters setup for their Honda dealership that opened last year at 710-720 Morrissey Blvd.

If approved, the multi-story complex would comprise some 112,600 square feet of space for showrooms, offices, service bays,



vehicle storage, and customer lounges and amenities.

Preliminary plans indicate that the project would mean space for roughly 222 cars within the building, including inventory, and about 178 outside spaces.

The project was reviewed by the Boston Civic Design Commis-

sion (BCDC) in September. According to Lance Campbell, BPDA project manager, the team is planning to re-engage Dorchester residents in public meetings.

"At this point in time the project has only been reviewed at BCDC. There are no current meetings beyond the BCDC level scheduled,"

Campbell said in an email to the *Reporter*. "At some point, there will be a Public Meeting

and or IAG meeting scheduled to re-engage the local Dorchester community."

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## Oktoberfest rolls out this weekend at DBCo

Dorchester Brewing Co. will host a week-long Oktoberfest celebration from this Saturday, Sept. 26 through next Saturday, Sept. 3 complete with festive beer, food, music, and a decorated beer hall.

The Mass Ave. brewery's DBCo Fest Bier, a

Marzen Lager brewed with Vienna and Pilsner malts and German Hallettau Tradition hops, will be available by the stein in the taproom and by the four-pack to take home, while M&M BBQ will serve beer-braised bratwursts, hot dogs, pretzels, and sauerkraut

along with its regular menu.

An accordion player will provide a musical ambience fest throughout the week. Guests who show up in traditional German attire of lederhosen and dirndls will receive special prizes.

Social distancing and current Covid safety guidelines will apply at all times at the brewery. Reservations and walk-ins will be accepted. More info available at: [dorchesterbrewing.com/private-events/](http://dorchesterbrewing.com/private-events/).

– DANIEL SHEEHAN

### THE WARREN GROUP'S

RECENT REAL ESTATE TRANSACTION LISTINGS for  
Dorchester Zip Codes 02121, 02124, 02125 and 02126

Buyer	Seller	Address	Date	Price	
Auguste, Joanne	Beckles, Ingrid	127 Woodrow Ave	Dorchester	09/01/20	\$31,6997
Fu, I-Hsiun	Xu 168 LLC	6 Bispham St	Dorchester	09/04/20	\$125,0000
Pontes, Rosalice P	Malloy, Eric	60 Bellevue St	Dorchester	09/03/20	\$950,000
Pepin, Yasmany					
Wood, Roger D	Watson, Diana R	84 Spencer St	Dorchester	09/04/20	627,000
Wood, Ivonne					
Nguyen, Hieu	Tran, Duc	22 Leroy St	Dorchester	09/02/20	1,125,000
Ho, Phuong					
Tan, Jinlong	Burton, Mary	46 Adams St #A8	Dorchester	09/04/20	235,000
29-33 Romsey Street LLC	James J Rice Post 28 Amve	33 Romsey St	Dorchester	09/04/20	700,000
Chew, Allen Y	Situ, Mei Z	41 Moseley St	Dorchester	09/03/20	830,000
Chew, Peter	Tan, Jian Q				
4 Payne St LLC	Design 55 LLC	4 Payne St	Dorchester	09/01/20	774,999
Ballou, Brendon	Callahan, Kristine E	106 Granite Ave	Dorchester	09/04/20	849,000
Ferriter, Tracey	Callahan, Jeffrey B				
Farrar, David	Mccaffrey, Marie E	27 Samoset St #A	Dorchester	09/03/20	460,000
Smith, Timothy	Parker, Kathleen	46 Rosemont St #1	Dorchester	09/01/20	470,000
Smith, Aimee	Goyette, Nicholas				
Shea, Matthew	Weinstein, Scott	108 King St #3	Dorchester	09/01/20	506,100
Shea, Brianna	Frost, Katherine				
Oconnor, Catherine A	Kanner, Zia G	3 Newhall Pl #3	Dorchester	09/01/20	507,000
Riendeau, Joseph	Lombard, Melisse P	782 Dorchester Ave #6	Dorchester	09/01/20	746,000
Riendeau, Paul					
Banks, Charles	Queally, Desmond J	135 Neponset Ave #3	Dorchester	09/04/20	255,400
Fulton, Christopher B	Shackett, Keith K	79 Florida St #5	Dorchester	09/03/20	300,000
Comeau, Marcia L	Michael M Taubenberger LT	201 Savin Hill Ave #2	Dorchester	09/02/20	1,065,000
Comeau, Christopher D	Taubenberger, Michael M				
Watson, Brianna	Pham, Julien L	944 Dorchester Ave #50	Dorchester	09/01/20	625,000
Mori, Thomas H					
Nascimento, Oliveira	Bray, Emily L	39 Sagamore St #3	Dorchester	09/01/20	385,000
Correia, Edward	Bray, Paul T				
Chew, Peter	AP Group LLC	66 Stanley St	Dorchester	09/04/20	830,000
Mei, Manna					
Chew, Peter	AP Group LLC	66-R Stanley St	Dorchester	09/04/20	830,000
Mei, Manna					

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# Uncertain future spurs UMass to cut costs now

By KATIE LANNAN  
STATE HOUSE NEWS  
SERVICE

Facing a \$335 million budget shortfall this fiscal year, University of Massachusetts officials on Tuesday outlined the steps they're taking to prepare for an uncertain future, including some staffing cuts that encountered pushback from union representatives.

Each of the four undergraduate UMass campuses — in Amherst, Boston, Dartmouth and Lowell — made the decision this summer to reopen for the fall semester with a mostly remote model and with a limited number of students living on or otherwise accessing campus. Those numbers range from a combined 1,300 resident and commuter students at UMass Boston to a total of 3,470 resident and commuter students at the flagship Amherst campus.

At a pair of trustees meetings Tuesday, UMass system officials said the campuses' moves to remote instruction were prudent, but that the re-

sulting loss of \$72 million in expected room and dining revenue exacerbated a pandemic-driven budget gap.

UMass President Marty Meehan said the increased shortfall requires "very tough expense reductions," and university finance officials tallied the projected cuts at \$291 million.

"Each of our campuses made difficult decisions, cognizant that we are likely facing a multi-year challenge," Meehan said. "Layoffs have been a last resort, but each of our chancellors has worked with the union and non-union employees in the spirit of shared sacrifice to minimize the number of layoffs. In many cases they have negotiated agreements and replaced layoffs with furloughs and pay cuts, which have enabled many employees to keep their health insurance, and to keep their jobs."

Lisa Calise, the UMass senior vice president for administration and finance, said the anticipated shortfall of \$335 million represents more than 10 percent of the

system's \$3.3 billion budget.

"The COVID pandemic does not come with a timeline for when things will return to normal, and there's still significant uncertainty for us as we manage through FY '21," Calise said.

She said better enrollment figures than originally projected — instead of a 5 percent decline, actual enrollment is tracking half a percent below the prior year — are contributing \$23 million in revenue, but \$291 million in expense reductions are needed to balance the budget.

Those cuts, according to figures presented Tuesday, include almost \$161 million on the workforce side — a mix of leaving vacant positions unfilled, a voluntary separation incentive program, short-term furloughs, salary reductions, temporary layoffs or long-term furloughs, and permanent layoffs.

The combination of furloughs, temporary layoffs and permanent layoffs add up to a total staff reduction of 16 percent across the cam-

pus, Calise said.

According to UMass, the 141 permanent layoffs and 1,616 indefinite furloughs account for about \$40 million, or 14 percent, of the total projected expense reductions.

The meeting was held remotely, and the Massachusetts Teachers Association said Tuesday that UMass union members planned to directly message trustees "about the impact of cuts on campuses resulting from the trustees' budget." Three union representatives also addressed the board during its public comment period.

Verena Lisinski, chair of the Educational Services Unit at UMass Dartmouth, told the trustees they had "forced our leadership to balance the budget on the backs of the employees, including most of the lowest paid individuals on our campus," and Anneta Argyres, president of the Professional Staff Union at UMass Boston, asked them to consider the effects of their choices.

"At a time when students need more support,

more contact with faculty and staff and more access to campus jobs, your budget has resulted in larger class sizes, fewer graduate assistantships, fewer support for staff, and fewer jobs for our students," she said. "We're told you've made these budgetary decisions in order to protect UMass, but instead, these cuts are hurting the very institution that you, our trustees, have the responsibility to steward."

Steve Striffler, president of the Faculty Staff Union at UMass Boston, urged trustees to pull from the system's reserves to solve its budget woes.

"This is an ideal moment to do so not simply because we need it, but because the set of fiscal problems is temporary," he said. "Enrollments are good, the state's economy will bounce back. It's a short-term problem that the reserves were designed for. Their use now can stop, or at least slow, the harm that has already been done, preserve the long-term integrity of our insti-

tutions and ensure we are ready when campus life returns, all without threatening the long-term fiscal health of the UMass system."

Defending the spending cuts, board member Stephen Karam, who chairs the Administration and Finance Committee, called deficit spending "irresponsible," said the system's endowment is restricted by donors for long-term use, and asserted that raiding reserves would leave UMass "defenseless" ahead of an uncertain future.

"Not all of the reserves are available to be spent," he said. "Available reserves, which we call our operating liquidity, will only cover less than three months of our operations."

Calise said that depleting liquid reserves would leave the university unprepared for "future COVID or any other unforeseen events, not to mention the future, where we know FY '22 is also going to be challenging."

# CDC eviction moratorium not enough, activists say

By CHRIS LISINSKI  
STATE HOUSE  
NEWS SERVICE

A federal moratorium aims to ban evictions through the end of the year, but housing justice advocates are worried that low-income renters could still "fall through the cracks" of that policy and want the state to step in with additional action.

On Thursday, one month before the Massachusetts eviction and

foreclosure moratorium expires, activists urged lawmakers to approve legislation (H 4878 / S 2831) that would extend the moratorium for a year after the state of emergency ends, freeze rents in that span, and create a fund to support small landlords financially impacted by the outbreak.

The state-level proposal — which has 90 co-sponsors and is before

the Housing Committee — would be a stronger option both during the remainder of the pandemic and in the recovery period, the City Life / Vida Urbana group wrote.

"While the Centers for Disease Control recently issued a limited eviction moratorium that applies nationwide through the end of 2020, advocates maintain it is not a solution and fails to provide the clear, strong protection or path to long-term

recovery offered by the Housing Stability bill," the group wrote. "Many questions and concerns have been raised about how the federal moratorium will operate and whether it will allow vulnerable tenants to fall through the cracks. Advocates also point out that the federal measure does not provide any relief at all for homeowners or small-scale landlords, and does not address the looming rental arrearag-

es that have accumulated since the pandemic caused massive economic disruption."

Gov. Baker could trigger a second extension to keep the Massachusetts moratorium in place past its current Oct. 17 expiration, though he has not indicated if he plans to do so. Rose Webster-Smith, a program coordinator with Springfield No One Leaves, said in Thursday's press release that her group is planning

"eviction blockade trainings in all four counties of Western Mass" to prepare for a potential wave of housing removals, which some estimates have said could total tens or hundreds of thousands.

"If our government doesn't act, it's going to be the community rising up to protect our neighbors," Webster-Smith said. "If it comes to that we'll be ready to block evictions."

Notice of Public Meeting

Notice is hereby given that a virtual\* Community Outreach Meeting for a Retail Cannabis license, for "Boston Urban Dispensary, LLC", is scheduled for:

Date:

Thursday, October 1st, 2020

Time:

6:00PM (login and registration from 5:45 PM)

Online:

www.bit.ly/publicmeetingbostonurban

Phone:

CALL-IN (617) 315-0704  
MEETING # 173-267-4604  
To participate on the phone, press \*3 to raise/lower your hand.

\*This meeting is hosted online via Cisco Webex for COVID-19 safety accommodations.

The proposed business address is identified as:

1114-1118 Blue Hill Avenue, Dorchester MA 02124

There will be an opportunity for the public to ask questions.

If you have any questions about this meeting or have comments about the proposal, please, contact:

Roudnie Célestin  
Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services  
roudnie.celestin@boston.gov  
(617) 635-2677


Please note, the City does not represent the owner(s)/developer(s)/attorney(s). The purpose of this meeting is to get community input and listen to the community's positions on this proposal. This flyer has been dropped off by the proponents per the city's request

Sept 22

NOTICE

The Dorchester Historical Society is always looking for photographs and high school yearbooks from Dorchester's past.

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



William Clapp House, 195 Boston Street

Lemuel Clap House, 199 Boston Street

James Blake House, 735 Columbia Road

www.dorchesterhistoricalsociety.org

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
THE TRIAL COURT  
PROBATE & FAMILY COURT  
SUFFOLK PROBATE & FAMILY COURT  
24 NEW CHARDON STREET  
BOSTON, MA 02114  
Docket No. SU93P1646  
CITATION GIVING NOTICE  
OF PETITION FOR  
RESIGNATION OF A GUARDIAN  
OF AN INCAPACITATED PERSON  
RESPONDENT  
Incapacitated Person/Protected Person  
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Elora Decareau of Hyde Park, MA in the above captioned matter requesting that the court: Accept the Resignation of the Guardian.  
The petition asks the Court to make a determination that the Guardian and/or Conservator should be allowed to resign; or should be removed for good cause; or the the Guardianship and/or Conservatorship is no longer necessary and therefore should be terminated. 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 10/15/2020. 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, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.  
IMPORTANT NOTICE  
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.  
Witness, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.  
Felix D. Arroyo  
Register of Probate  
Date: September 08, 2020  
Published: September 24, 2020

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
THE TRIAL COURT  
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT  
Suffolk Probate & Family Court  
24 New Chardon Street  
Boston, MA 02114  
(617) 788-8300  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR  
FORMAL ADJUDICATION  
Docket No. SU20P1598EA  
ESTATE OF:  
PATRICIA LYNCH  
DATE OF DEATH: 08/08/2020  
To all interested persons:  
A petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Julie Ann Lynch of Milton, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Julie Ann Lynch of Milton, 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. 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 10/28/2020.  
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 Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.  
Unsupervised Administration  
Under The Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code (MUPC)  
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court 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 16, 2020  
Felix D. Arroyo  
Register of Probate  
Published: September 24, 2020



# Food sources, awareness cited for rise in city rodent reports

By CHRIS VAN BUSKIRK  
STATE HOUSE  
NEWS SERVICE

Take a moment to take stock of some of the issues the COVID-19 pandemic has created: an economic crisis, the difficulties of working from home, and the scramble to respond to a severely infectious virus.

One more thing to add to the list of problems in 2020: a rise in rodent activity across residential areas in Boston that is prompting city officials to look for ways to address health and cleanliness issues.

While neighborhoods like Allston have long dealt with rat infestations, the closure of restaurants due to Covid-19 has shifted the location of trash from commercial districts to residential areas — and with that, city officials said Tuesday, the rats have migrated.

Out of concern for public health and sanitation, Boston City Councillors Ed Flynn and Liz Breadon held a virtual hearing Tuesday to address illegal dumping and the increase in rodent activity during the pandemic.

“During the Covid crisis, we have heard increased reports of the problems related to rat infestations and rodents in our neighbor-

hoods,” Breadon said. “However, out here in Allston-Brighton, long before the pandemic, we had a perennial issue with rodents to the extent that our neighborhood is colloquially called Rat City.”

Inspectional Services Assistant Commissioner Leo Boucher said New York City, Chicago, New Orleans, and the United Kingdom are some areas that are seeing an uptick in rodent populations and sightings. In Boston, he said, a “perfect storm” led to increased reports and an uptick in the population: Covid-19 changing peoples’ eating habits, several mild winters, and a decline in commercial trash as businesses shut down.

“All those changes in practices resulted in the trash being moved from the commercial areas into more heavily residential areas. So once again, as folks said, the rats were starting to migrate toward where their food source was,” he said. “And in addition to that, as we can all attest to, we’ve had some incredibly mild winters. So, the kill-off that we normally get during the seasonal times was reduced. And as a result, we did get an increased population.”

Flynn said he received reports of rodent infestation in recent months

from neighbors who saw an uptick in pest activities. Like Boucher, Flynn attributed the jump in sightings to the loss of typical food sources.

Inspectional Services Commissioner Dion Irish said the pandemic created a challenging time for the department with a rise in demand for their services. Rodent issues are not new to the city, he said, and the department has professionals on staff who work several shifts throughout the day to address rodent problems.

“This is not a glamorous issue,” Irish said during the hearing. “But as you all mentioned before, it’s a very important issue, it is one of many important issues that we have to deal with as a city, it’s quality of life, it’s public health. We take it seriously.”

A part of limiting upticks in rodent activity comes down to controlling food sources as rats can sometimes live a mere 150 feet away from where they eat, Boucher said. To curb rodent activity, the Centers for Disease Control recommends sealing access into homes and businesses, removing debris and heavy vegetation, storing garbage in tightly covered bins, and removing pet food from yards.

And while the CDC warned environmental health and rodent control programs of a potential increase in service requests and reports of unusual or aggressive pest behavior, Boucher said one of the biggest misconceptions is rats acting more aggressive towards humans.

“It’s very, very, very critical that we understand they’re more aggressive toward each other, not more aggressive toward humans; that’s a very important fact to get out there,” he said. “They’re becoming aggressive towards each

other because they’re fighting for that same piece of food.”

City officials also encouraged residents to use Boston’s 311 line to report rodent sightings. Boucher said the service is a “great tracking mechanism” as complaints are automatically sent to the Inspectional Services Department and listed in a queue for officials to deal with.

Calls to the service are on the rise, Boucher said, and part of the reason can be attributed to the fact that the pandemic forced people

to spend more time at home.

“People are home now, you see a lot more when you’re home. I mean, I’m home today working, because I’ve got all my resources here and all I hear is construction trucks driving by and I hear dogs barking. I see things during the day that I don’t normally see,” he said. “That’s characteristic across the city, people working from home. You’re more likely to know what’s going on in your neighborhood.”



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BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF DORCHESTER

# BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF DORCHESTER





**BGCD Marathon Member & Affiliate Club Board Chair of San Diego Runs Virtual Boston Marathon:** See details below.

**CONNECT THE DOT:**  
**BGCD Marathon Member & Affiliate Club Board Chair of San Diego Runs Virtual Boston Marathon:** Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester would like to thank Board Chair of Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater San Diego, Jeff Levinson for running this year's 2020 Virtual Boston Marathon for Team BGCD. This is Jeff's second year running the Boston Marathon for BGCD and we could not be more proud and thankful for his support. Despite the terrible air quality and conditions due to the California wildfires, Jeff and his daughter completed the 26.2 Virtual race. We thank you for your determination and being an inspiration and role model for all of us.

Thank you for your commitment to helping support our Boys & Girls Clubs mission here in Dorchester as well as in your own community.

**FIND OUT WHAT'S INSIDE:**  
**Hurry! Please Support BGCD in the 30th Annual Rodman Ride for Kids Virtual Event:** BGCD is now 48 members strong and want to get to 60 by ride day! Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester is so excited for this year's Virtual Rodman Ride for Kids which will be held this Saturday, September 26th. Whether you get on a bike, do a walk-a-thon, create your own adventure or just spread the word - you're making a difference! This year the Ride is virtual but no less important because our kids and families need us. Please join our team today or donate to help support one of our many participants. We need to be Dorchester strong and help support Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester!

Join Team BGCD today or donate at [rodmanrideforkids.donordrive.com/event/bgcd2020](https://rodmanrideforkids.donordrive.com/event/bgcd2020) and help us cross the finish line!

**DID YOU KNOW:**  
**Highlights from our BGCD Teen Career Prep Summer Program:** The Career Prep Summer program has concluded at BGCD and we would like to thank our partners: Mayor, Martin J. Walsh and the City of Boston's Department of Youth Engagement & Employment; the Boston Private Industry Council; and John Hancock and the M.L.K. Scholars program.

Thanks to their support BGCD was able to employ 85 deserving teens from across Dorchester at our three Clubhouse locations. In addition to their on-site work the participants also took part in Career Exploration Zooms and the Everfi Financial Literacy curriculum to enhance their summer experience.

Many thanks to these long-standing partners for another successful summer.

## 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](mailto:bmcdonald@bgcdorchester.org).



617.288.7120 | 1135 Dorchester Ave. | [www.bgcdorchester.org](http://www.bgcdorchester.org)



RECENT OBITUARIES



DUNFORD, Maureen T. of Hyde Park,

Milton, Dorchester, and England. Daughter of the late Maurice and Molly (Hutchinson) Dunford. Sister of Michael Dunford of England. Cousin of Margaret M. Dunford of Whitman, Michael F. Dunford of Weymouth, and Robert P. Dunford of Dorchester, and their families. Maureen was a

former Vice President, Secretary, and Trustee of the Irish Social Club in West Roxbury. She was also a retired receptionist for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Welfare Department for over 20 years.

**CRITTENDEN, Michael Anthony** of Dorchester. Companion of April Williams of Dorchester. Father of Makita Williams-Crittenden of Somerville, Michael and Melissa Crittenden both of Dorchester. Brother of Mounier Jones. Grandfather of Malik, Malia and Mila. Michael was born and raised in Boston.

**GOMES, Eugenia** of Dorchester, 91. Born in Fogo, Cape Verde, she was the wife of the late Filipe Gomes. Eugenia was the mother of Ana Pina, Maria Mendes, Sara Gomes, Maria Fernandes, Marta Gomes, Martinho Gomes, Maria Gomes, Jose Gomes, Licinio Gomes, Eliseo Gomes, Alirio Gomes and Miguel Gomes. She is also survived by many grandchildren.



**GREEN, Ann P. (Canavan)** of Melrose, formerly of Malden. Wife of the late Joseph R. Green, Sr. Mother of Penny Farrell and her husband Tim of Malden, Joseph R. Green and family of Billerica and Joanne Perperian and her husband Eppy of Melrose. Grandmother of 3. Sister of Paul Canavan and his wife Jeannie of Braintree, Robert Canavan and his wife Donna of Wrentham, Helen Freedman and her husband Michael of Dorchester and the late John Canavan, Joseph Canavan, Mary Brindle, Barbara Woodman, Katherine Canavan, Thomas Canavan, Margaret Clancy, James and Richard Canavan. Sister-in-law of Sandy, Karen and Norma Canavan. Ann was raised and educated in Dorchester. Donations in her mem-

ory may be made to the Tufts Cancer Center, c/o Elisa Scher, MSN RN-BC, Executive Director, 41 Montvale Ave., Stoneham, MA 02180.



**GREENE, Barbara A. (Ryan)** of Dorchester. Wife of the late James M. Greene, Sr. Mother of Judith Greeley of Dorchester, and Donna Greene-Ferrin and her husband Doug of Haverhill. Predeceased by Patricia Greene-Ng, Virginia Greene, James M. Greene, Jr., Thomas Greene, and Bobby Greene. Grandmother of Janah Ng of Dorchester, TJ Ng and Margaret Maher of Dorchester, Michael Ng and Lauren Didrikson of Weymouth, Kevin Greeley and Rose Curran of Dorchester, David Watts of Haverhill, Kathleen Greeley and her fiancé Joshua Howe of Dorchester, Kyle Greeley and Amanda Kelly of Dorchester, Eric Watts and Marissa Coe. Doting Great Grandmother of Angelica Owirka, Chanse, Hazel and Trenten Ng, Noah Lacey, James Owirka, Thomas and Eleanor Ng. Mother-in-law of Tommy Ng of Dorchester. Twin Sister to Elizabeth Jackson and her husband George of Braintree. Barbara also leaves behind several nieces, nephews, and cousins.



**GIVENS, Lillie Jean (Farris)**, 73, Born in in Vicksburg, Mississippi. She was the daughter of the late Reverend Simon Bell Ruby Robinson. She moved to Boston in 1966 and met her husband Roger Givens, who she has been married to for 49 years. She was preceded in death by her parents, her brothers, Roosevelt Robinson, Leon Robinson and Apostle Johnnie Farris. Lillie Jean leaves husband to mourn her and three sons: Jacky, Roger Jr. and Marlon Givens; her twin sister Lizzie Mae Couvertier, Ernestine Stevens; sisters-in-law Jackie Jackson, Beatrice Blue (John), Earlene Palmer, Prophetess Joyce Farris; brothers-in-law Edward Givens (Phyllis), Frederick Givens (Willett), Wayne Givens; 4

granddaughters and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.



**KELLEY, Patricia M. "Patsy" (Ryan)** of South Boston. Wife of the late Frank J. Kelley. Mother of Francis E. Kelley and his wife Marianne of Milton, Patricia Lampron of Dorchester, Steve Kelley of Hopkinton, Ellen Cawley and her husband Michael of Dorchester, Lynda Hosea and her late husband Carl of Dorchester, Julie DeZutter and her husband Phil of Upton, and Matthew Kelley and his wife Kristine of Easton. Grandmother of 18 and 7 great-grandchildren. Sister of Margaret "Peggy" Ryan of South Boston, and the late Red and Buddy and Mary O'Neill, and Mike, Jim, and Joe Ryan. Also survived by many nieces, nephews, in-laws and friends. Donations in memory of Patsy may be made to the Carl Hosea Jr. Helping Hands Foundation, 11 Flavia St., Dorchester, MA 02122.

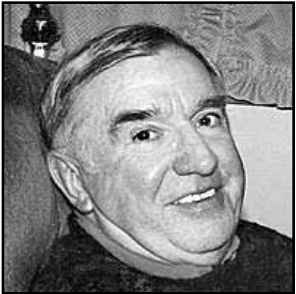


**LA VIE, Theresa M.**, of Dorchester, 86. Wife of the late Harold J. La Vie. Mother of Renee M. Whitehouse of Dorchester, Bruce W. La Vie of Braintree, Lisa A. Donovan of Dorchester, Theresa M. Ruka of Scituate, Michelle Mank of Marlborough and Harold J. La Vie Jr. of Dorchester. Grandmother of ten and great-grandmother of eight. Donations may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105.



**LYNCH, James J.**, 87, of Braintree. James was born in Somerville and raised in Charlestown. He lived in Braintree for the past fourteen years, previously in Quincy for many years, and earlier in Milton and Dorchester. Jim

was a special education teacher in the Quincy public schools for many years, retiring in 1995 after teaching at North Quincy High School for twenty-five years. Husband of Kristen N. Johnson. Jim was married to the late Margaret A. Lynch and they were the parents of seven children. Father of James Lynch and his partner Anne Hart of Milton, John Lynch and his wife Anne Marie of Franklin, Christopher Lynch of Holbrook, Matthew Lynch and his wife Sharon Brown of North Falmouth, Susan Benslimane and her husband Bens of South Orange, N.J., Richard Lynch of Braintree, and the late Dennis Brian Lynch. Grandfather of twelve and great-grandfather of five. Brother of Ann French and her husband Joseph of Norwood, the late Barbara McCarthy and her late husband Joseph. Jim is also survived by several nieces and nephews. For those who wish, donations in James' memory may be made to First Congregational Church of Braintree, 12 Elm Street, Braintree, MA 02184 or to the charity of your choice.



**McDONOUGH, James T.**, 93, of Falmouth Heights, formerly of Mattapan. Born to the late Patrick James and Elizabeth (Parsons) McDonough of South Boston. Predeceased by his wife of 45 years, Louise (Flynn) McDonough; siblings, Lillian Cox of Andover, Robert McDonough of Watertown, and William McDonough of Weymouth. Survived by his 2 daughters, Marie McDonough of Westborough and Patricia Henderson and husband Mark of Pembroke, as well as 2 sons, John McDonough and wife Pamela of Attleboro MA, and son Stephen McDonough of Falmouth. He leaves 9 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren; his cousin, Mary Lou Barbagallo of Belmont, MA and sisters-in-law Barbara Carroll of Falmouth and Joan Moore of Maple Valley, WA; and dozens of nieces, nephews, as well as grand nieces and nephews. Memorial donation for Jim may be made to the Falmouth Service Center, PO Box 208, Falmouth, MA 02541 falmouthservicecenter.org.

**SHELSEY, Virginia M.** of Milton. Born in Boston, Virginia was a graduate of Boston University and a longtime (Continued next page)



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# BGCD sets ‘Learning Clusters’ for students working remotely

**By KATIE TROJANO  
REPORTER STAFF**

As students return to school this fall, some learning remotely and others in-person, the Boys and Girls Club of Dorchester (BGCD) announced Monday the launch of a new program to support students learning virtually: “Learning Clusters” by which staff will engage groups of K-8 students in activities while they learn remotely.

Students will be welcomed into safe and clean buildings where they will have access to meals and snacks, a structured dai-

ly schedule, social-emotional and mental health support, WiFi connectivity and computer access, fitness activities, as well as tutoring and other enrichment activities.

“We have heard from our families and the need is clear: Educational support for their children is their number one concern,” said Brendan McDonald, BGCD’s vice president of programming. “Our team is proud to be able to fill this need and offer the services our families deserve, proving that together we can do more to help close the gaps in

equity when we work collaboratively to help ensure every child’s success.”

This fall, BCGD staff will work with groups of up to 12 students from families in need of full-day programming organized by grade level for remote learning. Activities will include arts and crafts, STEM, health and wellness activities, as well as fitness, outdoor play, and more.

“As Boston Public Schools plan for modified learning this school year, many families will need support to make it work for them and their

children when classes start next week,” said Mary Kinsella Scannell, BGCD’s senior vice president of education and programming. “We see the need and are working with families to develop a comprehensive plan to provide safe, supportive, and meaningful programs. Our hope is that the proposed Learning Clusters will help to alleviate stress, support children’s social-emotional well-being and address educational inequalities as we continue to battle

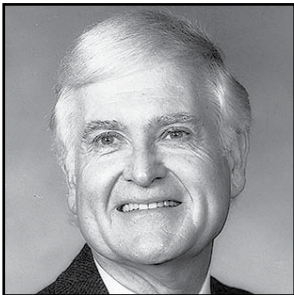
the Covid-19 pandemic.”

Since March, BGCD has distributed nearly 15,000 meals, hosted more than 400 virtual program videos and

zoom lessons, and delivered diapers and formula to hundreds of families. The club reopened in July with limited capacity.

administrator for the Boston Public Schools. Daughter of the late Thomas M. and Elena M. (O’Brien) Shelsey. Sister of the late Anne M. Shelsey. A Mass of Christian If desired, contributions in Virginia’s memory may be made to St. Elizabeth’s Parish, 350 Reedsdale Road, Milton, MA 02186.

**SULLIVAN, James J.**, 85, of Plymouth, formerly of Dorchester. He was the husband of Charlotte C. “Sherry” Sullivan and the son of the late James J. and Gertrude T. (Synkowski) Sullivan. He was born in Boston and lived in Dorchester for many years before



moving to Plymouth 41 years ago. He graduated from Dorchester High School. Mr. Sullivan served in the U.S. Coast Guard and in the Coast Guard Reserves. Mr. Sullivan owned James J. Sullivan Insurance Agency in Quincy for 57 years before retiring. He served on the Board of Directors and many committees for the Massachusetts Insur-

ance Agents Association and served on the Board of Directors for Mass. Movers Association. Survivors include his wife, Charlotte C. “Sherry” Sullivan, 3 daughters, Margaret “Meg” Sullivan of Quincy, Catherine “Carrie” Sullivan of Randolph, Maura Robey of Braintree, 2 sons, James Sullivan of Quincy and Sean Sullivan of Norwood, 2 stepchildren, Jane Leary and Max Hackney of Weymouth, 19 grandchildren, 3 great-grandchildren, and his dog, Lady. Donations in his memory may be made to the Dana Farber Cancer Institute, P.O. Box 849168, Boston, MA 02284-9168.

## LEGAL NOTICE

### LEGAL NOTICE

In accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 114, Section 3A, notice is hereby given that more than seventy-five years has elapsed following the issuance of a license by the Proprietors of Cedar Grove Cemetery to Cheever N. Ely for the grave at Lot No. 89, Section No. 7, Cedar Ave., in the Cedar Grove Cemetery, and the Cemetery cannot locate the holder’s successor in interest after making a diligent search; and that within 180 days hereof the Cemetery will reclaim ownership of the license, unless a successor in interest to the late Cheever N. Ely and Madeleine W. Ely contacts the Cemetery in writing on or before that time. In accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 114, Section 3A, if ownership of the license is ascertained after the Cemetery has reclaimed ownership of the license, then the Cemetery shall pay the fair value of the license at the time of its taking to the owner.

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Telephone: 617-825-1360  
www.cgcm.org

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See notice in the future for  
Time for Billys Memorial Mass

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