Dorchester Reporter

"The News and Values Around the Neighborhood"

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Thursday, October 17, 2019

50¢

Challenger Soccer off and running in Savin Hill



Youth with developmental and physical disabilities can now enjoy the full benefits of playing soccer at McConnell Park, thanks to the Martin Richard Challenger Soccer program, organized through the Boys

For Wu, Mejia, engagement is key

The people are ready to be involved, she says

By Katie Trojano REPORTER STAFF

City Councillor atlarge Michelle Wu, in a replay of 2017, dominated the voting in September's preliminary election, topping the ticket with 19 percent of votes cast for a strong field of 15 candidates and finishing well ahead of fellow incumbents Annissa Essaibi-George and Michael Flaherty, who each earned just under 14 percent.

Since her election to

Grove Hall

pot shop is

set to open

The owners of Bos-

ton's first recreational

marijuana store -

Pure Oasis, on Blue

Hill Avenue in Grove

Hall – plan to open

their doors in the com-

ing weeks. Page 5.



City Councillor Michelle Wu topped the ticket in last month's preliminary

Yukun Zhang photo the council in 2013, Wu has emerged as a force: In 2016, she became the first woman of color to be named council president; she has been leading efforts to get policy makers and the Legislature to (Continued on page 21)

Candidates of color need unity, she says

By Daniel Sheehan REPORTER STAFF

At a round-table discussion hosted at her campaign office in Jamaica Plain last week, at-large city council candidate Julia Mejia sat surrounded by other candidates and community activists of color from Greater Boston. While topics ranged from campaign finance reform to displacement, time and again the conversation returned to a central question: "How do we engage black and



Julia Mejia of Dorchester finished fifth in at-large council election on Sept 24. Dan Sheehan photo

brown and low-income communities to activate their political power?"

Mejia, a Dorchester resident who has branded herself as "the last community organizer/activist still standing" in the at-(Continued on page 20)

Council at-large hopefuls take questions at Roxbury forum

By Katie Trojano REPORTER STAFF

The eight finalists in the at-large city council election addressed issues specific to the city's seniors last Thursday at a forum in the Charles Street African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church in Roxbury.

Saying that "seniors matter, and we are the most vulnerable population," the moderator, Russell "Russ" Ashton, the president of the Massachusetts Senior Action Council (MSAC), which spon-

sored the event, invited council members to ask questions of incumbents Michelle Wu, Annissa Essaibi-George. Michael Flaherty, and Althea Garrison and challengers Alejandra St. Guillen, Julia Mejia,

(Continued on page 14)

Revised proposal for Morrissey site lowers heights on residential towers To 17 and 15 floors from original 24 and 21 levels

By KATIE TROJANO REPORTER STAFF

The pair of residential towers that have been proposed for a site next to the old Boston Globe property on Morrissey Boulevard would be reduced in density and height in a revised plan shown to civic leaders at a meeting of the Columbia-Savin Hill Civic Association's planning committee last Tuesday.

Center Court Partners, the owner of the 2.23-acre site, initially floated the idea of towers with 24 and 21 floors, respectively, about a year ago. The new plan would lower the heights to 17 and 15 floors.

Construction of the residential buildings would be the first in a multi-phase buildout of the land Center Court owns between that site and the Hub 25 buildings next to JFK/UMass station that would dramatically change the Dorchester skyline and add roughly 695 new housing units to the neighborhood.

David Raftery of Center Court explained that

(Continued on page 18)

Roman tragedy recast for the modern era at the Little House

By Daniel Sheehan ARTS & FEATURES EDITOR

The Shakespearian tragedy "Coriolanus" tells the story of a Roman general elected against his will to rule a populace he reviles. That narrative, along with the way the text looks at populism and power structures, inspired Daniel Boudreau, the founder of Praxis Stage theatre company, to adapt "Coriolanus" for the group's next play.

It will be staged at the Little House on East Cottage Street in Dorchester this week, starting on Thurs., Oct. 17.

"I think what's compelling about this play is it's about democracy, it's about power, and it's about the abuse of power and the abuse of democracy," explained Boudreau. "At Praxis, we have a vision to do plays that sort of enter into complicated social crisis points that our society's in...the company



Jonah Toussaint and Zair Silva engage in swordplay at a rehearsal last week.

Dan Sheehan photo

believes that we're at the end stage of capitalism and things are really falling apart in our (Continued on page 17)



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DOT BY THE DAY Oct. 18 - Nov. 2, 2019

A snapshot look at key upcoming events in and around the neighborhood for your weekly planner.

Friday (18th) – 10th annual Boston Irish Honors luncheon at the Seaport Boston Hotel, 11:30 a.m. See bostonirish.com for more info.

• The Fall Pumpkin Float will return to the Boston Common Frog Pond on Friday, October 18, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Attendees are asked to bring 8-inch or smaller carved pumpkins that will be lit and then floated on the Frog Pond for a dramatic early evening display. Call 617-635-4505 or visit boston.gov/parks.

Saturday (19th) - Fields Corner Main Streets annual fundraiser- the ART-INI -from 5-9 p.m featuring a gallery show and silent auction. Stop by blend at 1310 Dorchester Avenue for some conversation with the artists, wine, beer and cider, and a silent auction. Talk with members of the Fields $Corner\,Main\,Streets\,board\,and\,hear\,about\,all\,that\,is$ going on in our community. Then, stay or come back from 7-9 p.m. for the main event. Bid on original art by local artists, dine, drink and dance.

• Urban Farming Institute of Boston invites the public to Food Day & Garlic Festival from 11 a.m.- 3 p.m. at the Fowler Clark Epstein Farm, 487 Norfolk St., Mattapan. Activities include bee workshop, cider pressing, live raptor demos, and more. See urbanfarminginstitute.org for more info.

Tuesday (22nd) – The Neponset River Greenway Council and DCR will host the annual Pumpkin Float at Davenport Creek inside Pope John Paul II Park in Neponset at 5:30 p.m. The event is held near the Hallet Street entrance to the park.

Saturday (26th) – Join a walking tour and learn about the hidden rich history of Mattapan on Sat., Oct. 26 at 10 a.m. as part of the Fall Mattapan/Open Streets Open Studios weekend. Stops include Wellington Hill, houses of worship, Simcos, the site of the Oriental Theatre, the new Neponset Greenway and many more. The tour starts at Young Achievers School (formerly the Solomon Lewenberg school) at 2 Outlook Rd. on Wellington Hill. The Open Streets Open Studios happening Oct. 26 and 27 includes an artist reception, jazz brunch and Harvest Garden Party. Learn more on our Facebook page or go to mattapanopenstudios.com to download the full program.

Sunday (27th) - Harvest Festival at Cedar Grove Gardens, 911 Adams St., Dorchester, 1-3 pm. Free, kids' costumes encouraged. Horse drawn wagon rides through Cedar Grove Cemetery.

Saturday (2nd) - First Parish Dorchester will honor Suffolk County District Attorney Rachael Rollins with a Meetinghouse Award for Service to the Community at their annual gala in the parish hall, 10 Parish St., Dorchester from 7-10 p.m. Full event details, including links to ticketing and sponsorship opportunities, can be found at first parishdorchester. org/tickets.

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Explosion, then fire displaces 40 from building in Mattapan

Just after noon on Saturday, Boston firefighters responded to 110 Livermore St., an apartment building off Cummins Highway in Mattapan, for a basement laundry-room fire that was being fed by an incoming gas main.

The fire started with an explosion, the Fire Department reported. Shortly after 12:50 p.m., firefighters shut off the flow of gas to the building and knocked down the fire.

Officials said there were no injuries, but that 40 residents were displaced. Damage was estimated at \$200,000.

- REPORTER STAFF



Pressley backs four women in their bids for at-large slots

By Katie Trojano REPORTER STAFF

Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley has endorsed four women including two newcomers— in their quest to win an at-large seat in next month's Boston City Council election.

In a statement issued by Pressley's campaign last Thursday (Oct. 10), she endorsed incumbents Michelle Wu and Annissa Essaibi-George, along with Alejandra St. Guillen and Julia Mejia.

"I am so proud to have served on the Boston City Council alongside the council. Michelle and Annissa, and to have gotten to know Alejandra and Julia through their years of service to our city," Pressley said in a state-

"Collectively, Michelle, Annissa, Alejandra, and Julia have devoted decades to advocating for and lifting up the residents of Boston."

Rep. Pressley has also recently endorsed Lydia Edwards, Kim Janey and Ricardo Arroyo to represent Districts 1, 7,

Pressley served five terms as one of the four at-large members of the Boston City Council from 2010 - 2019, before being elected to represent Massachusetts' 7th District in the U.S. House of Representatives, which includes about three-quarters of the city.

When Pressley vacated her at-large seat last January, her seat was automatically filled by Althea Garrison, who finished fifth in the at-

and 5, respectively, on large balloting in 2017. City reviews the demolition appeal for Geneva Ave. project

The Boston Landmarks Commission (BLC) is reviewing an application to demolish a house at 191 Geneva Ave. The panel has ten days to review the property and gather public comment.

The house would be razed to make room for a new, 27-unit apartment complex at 185 and 191 Geneva Ave. The project— dubbed "bed•rock•geneva" by proponent Hiep Chu of BT Geneva Development LLC- was approved by the board of the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) in March 2018.

The new building will rise five stories and



191 Geneva Ave.

includes eight parking space. It is located about station.

The public can offer "input about the signifi-

cance of this property" through Oct. 25 by email-200 feet from the Four ingthe Landmarks Com-Corners/Geneva MBTA mission at blc@boston.

- BILL FORRY

Police, Courts, & Fire

Dot man held for drug offenses after raid - Kenron Roache, 24, was arrested on drug trafficking charges on Saturday following a police action at a house at 37 Greenock St. in Dorchester. Boston Police say that he was taken into custody after their search of two apartments yielded more than 30 grams of heroin and more than \$166,000 in US currency. Roache was set to be arraigned in Dorchester District Court on Tuesday.

Fugitive in July murder caught in Dot - A 23-year-old Norwood man was arrested by Boston Police last Wed., Oct. 9 ,in the area of Morton Street and Lorna Road on warrants related to a July 17 murder in Roslindale. Anderson Lugo was taken into custody in connection to the shooting death of Daniel Vo, 24, who was found outside of 27 Rowe St. on that date. Lugo has since been charged with Vo's murder.

Bystander helps

keep man from jumping off I-93 overpass - Police were called to the scene at the Boston Street overpass last Wednesday night about 11:25 and assisted the bystander who had managed to grab the man by the sweatshirt through a chain-link fence and keep him there until officers arrived. An officer "climbed over the fence" and held "him in place until members of the **Boston Fire Department** arrived, cut through the fence, and pulled both the victim and the officer to safety." The victim was then transported by Boston EMS to an area hospital for treatment and evaluation.

In a statement referring to the bystander, Boston Police said, "While we would never ask anyone to put themselves in harm's way or endanger themselves in any way whatsoever, we are grateful for the assistance provided.. when every second truly mattered.

UPCOMING CIVIC ASSOC. MEETINGS • FULL LISTINGS ON PAGE 12

Bayside redevelopment planning session on Oct. 26 - A coalition of civic groups — Citizens Connect to Bayside will meet to discuss the future Bayside Development on Sat., Oct. 26 from 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at the BTU's Carson Place, 180 Mt. Vernon St., Dorchester. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. Light breakfast, childcare and translation services available. A shuttle will run from Harbor Point and JFK-UMass station. For more info: CitizensConnectBayside@

Martin Richard Foundation Service Event on Oct. 20 -The Martin Richard Foundation will host a Autumn Service Event on Sun., Oct. 20 from 12-3 p.m. at the Leahy-Holloran Community Center in Dorchester. Work with organizations committed to supporting neighbors with food insecurity. Can't stay to serve? Drop off your Thanksgiving-themed canned goods all day! Family-friendly. Contact joe@ martinrichardfoundation.org.

Oct. 29 meeting on 1199-1203 Blue Hill Avenue proposal - The BPDA will host a public meeting on Tues., Oct. 29 from 6:30 p.m.- 7:45 p.m. at the Mattapan branch of the BPL, 1350 Blue Hill Ave. to discuss a project change for a mixed-use residental and commercial building proposed

for 1199-1203 Blue Hill Ave. For more information, contact Lance Campbell at 617-918-4311 or lance.campbell@

Wellington Hill Neighborhood Council - The Wellington Hill Neighborhood Council will meet on Tues., Nov. 12 from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Mattapan branch of the Boston Public Library. Next meeting is Dec. 10. Updates can be found on Facebook page: @wellingtonhillneighbors. Or Google Group: wellingtonhill@googlegroups.com

Dorchester Open Studios set for Oct.19-20 - Dorchester Artists and Friends will spotlight the diverse talent of artists in Dorchester on Sat. and Sun., Oct. 19-20 at four locations. There will be an opening reception at the Uphams Corner Library on Thurs., Oct. 17, from 12 to 7p.m. The weekend locations for Open Studios (11 a.m.- 6 p.m.) are First Parish Dorchester, 10 Parish St.; Dorchester Art Project, 1486 Dorchester Ave.; African Winter Gallery, 21 Oldfields Rd., Dorchester; and Susie Smith Gallery, 29 Eldon St., Dorchester.

Ward 15 Democrats meet on Oct. 19 – Ward 15 Democratic Committee will meet on Sat., Oct. 19 at 9 a.m. at the Savin Hill Apartment common room, 130 Auckland St.,

Dorchester. Guest speakers include Rep. Liz Miranda and Michael Whouley, a native of Ward 15 who is a nationallyknown campaign organizer and Democratic strategist.

Sandra Day O'Connor focus of JFK Library Forum - The JFK Library will host a public forum on Mon., Oct. 28 from 6-7:30 p.m. focused a new book about America's first femal Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor. More info at ifklibrary.org.

Rep. Lynch hosts Service Academy workshop on Nov. 3 - Congressman Stephen F. Lynch (D-MA-08) will host an information session for all high school students interested in applying to one of the United States Service Academies on Sun., Nov. 3 from 10 a.m.- noon at Braintree Town Hall, 1 JFK Memorial Dr., Braintree. All students and their families are welcome to attend. For those unable to attend, more information on the Service Academy nomination process is available at lynch.house.gov.

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Ending ICE contract not 'a political move,' says sheriff, it's about care of women inmates

By Katie Trojano Reporter Staff

Suffolk County Sheriff Steve Tompkins is content with his decision to terminate the county's contract to house prisoners detained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) because of announced plans to "reallocate" space at the Suffolk County House of Correction for women.

Beginning this week, as part of a new agreement with other county sheriffs' offices, Suffolk County will begin receiving pre-trial and sentenced women from Plymouth, Essex, and Norfolk counties. Tompkins said that his department currently houses somewhere between 65 and 80 women, and he expects that roughly 200 to 250 more will be brought in.

He talked to the *Reporter* last Friday about the reasons behind his decision.

"We decided that we want to work with the ladies in Suffolk County that are suffering from domestic violence, sexual exploitation, substance abuse, homelessness and mental health issues," he said. That arrangement, he added, was reached in an effort to achieve

greater regionalization and delivery of critical services for what has become the fastest-growing incarcerated population in the country.

Several recent reports have revealed that, despite an overall decline in prison populations across the United States, the number of women incarcerated or involved in the criminal justice system has continued to rise.

"People have asked me if this is a political move, and it is not," Tompkins said. "This is not a move about ICE or anything that's happening with Trump or immigration; it's about saving lives. It has more to do with Methadone Mile, what's going on with homelessness, and the lack of beds and mental health services."

He continued: "I was voted in by the residents of Suffolk County, and I want to do the job as best I can and work with people that are staying here. The detainee population is transient they're going to be moved somewhere else. If I have to choose between the federal side and the local municipal side, I've chosen the local side."

The Sheriff's Depart-

ment said in a statement that it stands uniquely positioned to care for this demographic with its specialized gendersensitive programming, including the CREW Program (Community Re-Entry for Women), which has been recognized nationally for its work.

Women arriving to the House of Correction will be immediately classified and enrolled into Women's Program Services, which will allow them to partake in these essential services, but that will necessitate the diversion of resources to accommodate this increased focus.

With Women's Program Services, every woman is enrolled in a three-phase program model that helps address the psychological and educational barriers that have hindered their success in order to better prepare them for reentry.

"We take pride in the services that we have been able to provide to ICE detainees," Tompkins said in a statement, "but we are elated about this new opportunity to expand our services across the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

to reach more women with our dedicated programming so that we can begin to work on their recovery, address some of the issues that first led them into the system, and return them to society better able to care for themselves and their families."

Immigration and Customs Enforcement, which first signed its contract with the Department in 2003, will complete its relocation of detainees from the

House of Correction by mid-December. Tompkins told the *Reporter* that they will likely be moved to other facilities within the commonwealth.

"I would think, he said, that some of the detainees will be moved to one of the three other facilities in the commonwealth-- Bristol, Plymouth and Springfield. Some may go to upstate New York and some may go to the federal facilities in Rhode Island. Beyond



Sheriff Steve Tompkins

that, I don't know exactly where they are going to go."





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Sunday soccer program focuses on inclusion, 'buddies'

By Yukun Zhang REPORTER CORRESPONDENT

The soccer game in Mc-Connell Park on a warm autumn Sunday morning was laid-back and slow-paced. The field was small—around 100 feet on each end-and the players young—aged 12 or older.

One player was being pushed around on a wheelchair. A few other young people formed a line along one side of the field and cheered the players on.

The friendly game was the last activity of the Martin Richard Challenger Soccer Program, in which youths with developmental and physical disabilities aged 5 and up can learn and enjoy soccer with teen members from the Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester (BGCD) and volunteer coaches.

The program, organized by the Martin W. Richard Foundation and BGCD, pairs children and teens with disabilities with teen buddies from the community to play baseball, basketball, soccer, and swim.

The soccer program runs from 10 to 12 on Sunday mornings. Players aged 5 to 11 play in the first hour, and older players engage in more challenging drills in



Participants in the Martin Richard Challenger Soccer program kicked balls in McConnell Playground on Sunday, Oct. 13. Yukun Zhang photo

the second hour. The buddies assist and play along with the athletes.

Mary Kinsella, BGCD's vice president of education, said the athletes have different disabilities and the field may look disorganized, but the activities are individualized.

Dianne Lescinskas, the former director of inclusion of BGCD, added that the mission of the program is inclusion, to make sure that people with different abilities all have access to athletics.

Lescinskas has been involved in the Challenger initiative from its start. Her 22-year-old daughter, who is autistic, still plays baseball and basketball and manages the table with flyers and tee-shirts for soccer sessions.

Lescinskas said the mentorship and friendship between a player and a buddy persist even after the player has been taught about the skills of sports.

"I was at the super-

market with my daughter, and we saw one of the buddies who has been assisting her playing, and they say 'hi' to each other. Maybe that wouldn't have happened before. As a parent, it means a lot to us."

Each year, the program grows in size as the organizers learn from experiences, Lescinskas

Yvonne Nelson's 11-vear-old son, an autistic child with ADHD and sensory issues, has been participating in

Challenger activities for at least five years. The Dorchester resident said her son has improved in socializing with other people.

"I've seen him grow, and not just him, but so many other kids in the program...The kids with disabilities come in, and by the time they get to certain age, you see them

this, no matter what the ability level is.

Linda Freeman, whose 21-year-old son has been in the program for more than five years, shares the feeling. She said the program lets everyone play. "You have someone who uses a wheelchair. Let them play. No matter what their physical imperfection is, it's a perfect imperfection for his."

"If you take a look at them," said Freeman, looking at the field, "they look at each other as players... They don't care about race, color, gender. Nothing." Said Paulette Henry,

a mother from Jamaica Plain: "They may not be typical kids, but they are doing typical activities with other kids."

Participating in the program is a learning experience for the buddies, too. "You have kids from the community who come out every single Sunday to support these kids," said Lescinskas.
"And for them, they are learning about disability. They have more of a "can do" attitude. I believe their perception of disability has changed. They see these athletes as capable of playing soccer."

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Homebuying 100: Intro to Homeownership 12:00-1:00 PM

12:00-1:00 PM

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Grove Hall pot shop, the first in the city, set for November launch

By Alena Kuzub Reporter Correspondent

Boston's first recreational marijuana retail store – Pure Oasis – is preparing to welcome patrons to its Blue Hill Avenue location in Grove Hall by the middle of next month, according to its proprietors.

Ever since the city began to slowly roll out the licensing of recreational operators in the summer of 2018, many entrepreneurs have expressed interest in going into the cannabis business in Dorchester. Over the past year, the city organized at least eight community meetings in the neighborhood with different potential investors to discuss siting cannabis establishments at various addresses.

Pure Oasis LLC is one of only two applicants in Dorchester that have to date succeeded in securing a hosting community agreement from Boston. The other applicant is NS AJO Holdings, Inc., which wants to relocate its medical marijuana treatment center using a provisional certificate from Fitchburg to 50 Clapp St. near South Bay.

But Pure Oasis will be the city's first recreational cannabis store to actually open— if all goes according to plan over the coming weeks.

The 3,000-square foot retail space is located at 430 Blue Hill Ave. Customers will have to provide IDs at the entrance to prove that they are over 21 and will move in a single direction from a waiting area into a retail space and eventually



Kobie Evans, left, and Kevin Hart are partners in Pure Oasis, the city of Boston's first recreational marijuana shop scheduled to open in Grove Hall next month. *Mike Whittaker photo*

Currently, the business holds a provisional license, meaning that it will have to pass additional inspections after the interior and exterior

out through a separate door.

after the interior and exterior finishings are completed to secure the final permit from the state's Cannabis Control Commission.

Kobie Evans, a Boston native and a second-generation real estate broker from Roxbury, partnered with Kevin Hart, a Dorchester native, to build the business. Evans told the *Reporter* that construction work should be finished around Oct. 20.

Pure Oasis, whose part-

ners have invested hundreds of thousands of dollars into the establishment, plans to employ 20 people for daily operations. Evans said he is planning to hire from the community and ask neighborhood organizations to help identify possible candidates. He is particularly interested, he said, in seeking employees who might have marijuana-related offenses on their criminal record.

The store will not make any of the products itself but rather purchase them from other manufacturers and suppliers. The site has both on and offstreet parking available.

The partners' investment "is low compared to other businesses in the industry," Evans said. A vertically integrated corporate business might spend about \$3 million on cultivation and about \$1.5 million on retail. We are on a tight budget. I count everything down to not a penny but a dollar."

Evans is also waiting to hear back from the city of Boston about Pure Oasis's interest in opening another location on River Street in Mattapan.

As of late last month, the cannabis industry in Massachusetts had generated almost \$300 million in gross sales since the beginning of the year while employing more than 3,000 people. Weekly sales in September grossed almost \$11 million, with an average of \$44 spent per unit, according to the Cannabis Control Commission's public online database. Boston's community host agreements bound cannabis businesses to pay 3 percent of gross sales revenue.

Alexis Tkachuk, the director of the Office of Emerging Industries of Boston, said that the city has taken into consideration the characteristics of the different applications, including appropriateness of the site, whether there were traffic or parking concerns, what the community feedback was, and quality of the applicant's relationship with the community.

The diversity component and the Economic Empowerment designation from the state were important as well since Boston puts emphasis on having an inclusive local entrepreneurial focus, Tkachuk said.

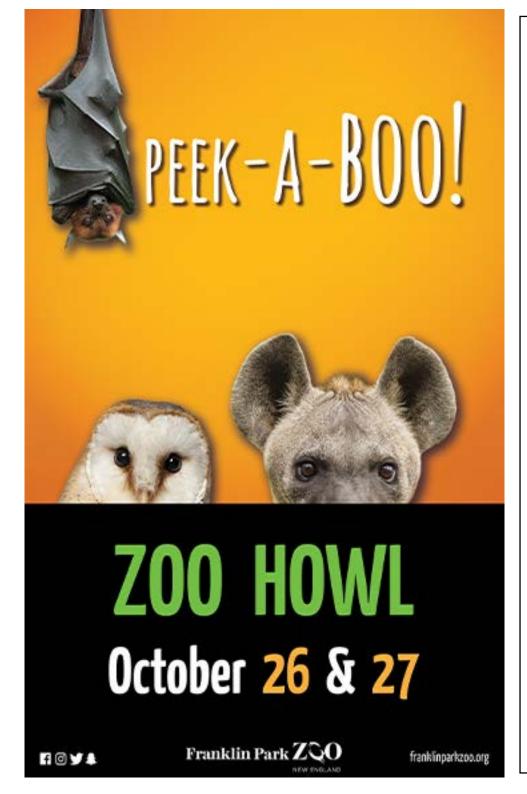
In the case of Pure Oasis, she praised Evans and Hart for their outreach to the community. They held extra meetings with various civic associations to talk about their proposed business, the site, and to find out about possible concerns.

They were also proactive in reaching out to elected officials in the area and appearing at city council hearings in case anybody wanted to ask any questions there, she said.

Tkachuk reported that the community felt good about additional security and the 24/7 video monitoring, with people saying that it would actually be safer than another type of business in that location.

Pure Oasis's host community agreement with the city requires them to hire qualified Boston residents and create diversity among people participating in the development of the site. Evans wants to honor his Economic Empowerment designation and make sure that more people, contractors, and employees would benefit from it.

"There is a need in Massachusetts for as many people as possible to benefit from these opportunities directly and indirectly," Evans said. "So, it's important for us to maintain those core values of giving back."





This October, Harvard Street Neighborhood Health Center is proud to participate in National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Breast cancer is one of the most common kinds of cancer in women after skin cancer. About 1 in 8 women born today in the United States will get breast cancer at some point.

- The good news is that most women can survive breast cancer if it's found and treated early.
- If you are a woman age 40 to 49, talk with your doctor about when to start getting mammograms and how often to get them.
- If you are a woman age 50 to 74, be sure to get a mammogram every 2 years. You may also choose to get them more often.
- Talk to a doctor about your risk for breast cancer, especially if a close family member of yours had breast or ovarian cancer. Your doctor can help you decide when and how often to get mammograms.

According to Pat Arnold, Women's Health Nurse Practitioner at Harvard Street Neighborhood Health Center "It's important that every woman be checked regularly for breast cancer. It's also not a bad idea for men to be tested as well if they suspect problems." We encourage everyone to learn as much information about this disease, especially if you have a family history of breast cancer."

For more information, visit the National Breast Cancer Association: https://www.nationalbreastcancer.org/breast-cancer-awareness-month or the Adult Medicine Department at:

www.harvardstreet.org | 617-822-5500

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Mother of murdered Weymouth officer backs death penalty

By Colin A. Young State House News Service

Sitting with grieving family members, two lawmakers renewed a push last Tuesday to reestablish the death penalty in Massachusetts for a narrow set of offenders: people convicted of murdering a law enforcement officer

The bill (H 3773) filed by Rep. Shaunna O'Connell of Taunton would give the state the option of seeking the death penalty for anyone 18 years or older who "murders a law enforcement officer ... either knowing that the victim was a law enforcement officer engaged in the performance of his or her duties or in retaliation for performance



Cindy Chesna, widow of Weymouth police Sgt. Michael Chesna, teared up during testimony from her mother-in-law Maryann (left) and Reps. Shaunna O'Connell and David DeCoste.

of his or her duties, or both." The bill defines law enforcement officer as "a correction officer or a person exercising the authority of a police officer, sheriff, or deputy sheriff."

O'Connell was joined at a Judiciary Committee hearing by the mother and widow of Weymouth police Sgt. he has not yet bee or convicted. En Lopes, accused of Chesna and an witness, is also av trial and has not yet

Sam Doran/SHNS photo Michael Chesna, who was killed in the line of duty in July 2018. O'Connell also invoked the line of duty deaths of Yarmouth police Sgt. Sean Gannon, who was killed on the job in April 2018, and Auburn police officer Ronald Tarentino Jr., who was killed in the line of duty in 2016.

The man accused of

killing Tarentino, Jorge Zambrano, was fatally shot by police in a subsequent standoff. Thomas Latanowich faces a first-degree murder charge in the death of Gannon, but he has not yet been tried or convicted. Emanuel Lopes, accused of killing Chesna and an elderly witness, is also awaiting trial and has not yet been convicted.

Massachusetts officially banned the death penalty in 1984 but capital punishment has not been carried out in the Bay State since 1947. Over the years, attempts to revive the death penalty here have either not gained traction or been voted down by lawmakers.

"I don't believe the authors of our Constitution

ever intended us to be limited in terms of what we can apply the death penalty to, certainly not to protect law enforcement officers," Rep. David DeCoste, a Norwell Republican, said.

Maryann Chesna, the mother of the Weymouth officer killed on duty, said she is a "complete supporter" of O'Connell's bill because it could provide a deterrent to criminals who shuffle in an out of the justice system.

"The justice system seems to me to be broken. There is no consequence, it's arrest and release, arrest and release. People are being taken in and within hours they're out, they're on probation, they're out on bail," she told the Judiciary Com-

mittee. "Nobody follows through, nobody knows what's going on, nobody seems to care."

Gov. Charlie Baker has previously voiced support for capital punishment for the killing of a police officer, though he has acknowledged the idea is unlikely to gain traction.

Baker said he understands "there are huge constitutional issues associated with this" and said his administration has talked with the Legislature and legal scholars about a possible bill.

The governor said he has "a particular point of view here and I get the fact that it's not one that's shared by everybody and I'm OK with that."



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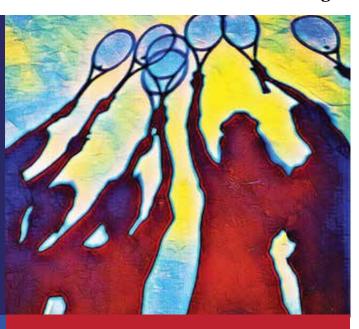


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Rocky Horror re-boot features Dot-based actor Jaclyn Chylinski

By Daniel Sheehan ARTS & FEATURES EDITOR

Jaclyn Chylinski, an actor based out of Dorchester, will star in an upcoming theater production of "The Rocky Horror Show," a play based on the 1975 cult classic film "The Rocky Horror Picture Show."

In an interview with the Reporter, Chylinski described the play, which is presented by Moonbox Productions and will run from Oct. 17 through Nov. 2 in a popup theater in Harvard Square, as a "complete homage" to the film.
"You'll see the same characters,

the same story, the same music but it's live," she said.

Chylinski plays a phantom in the show, one of six "failed experiments" of Dr. Frank-N-Furter. "We're all an amorphous blob that moves the show along and brings the audience in and creates the world that one would find if they were ever to come to Transylvania," she explained.

The play will be staged in a space at 25 Brattle St. in Harvard Square, a property that formerly housed the candy store Hidden Sweets. The makeshift theater with see-through storefront windows is a perfect place for the kind



Jaclyn Chylinski: Welcome to

of fun, informal ambience the show is aiming to create, said Chylinski.

"When you walk in it's going to feel like you're in an exploded fashion factory," she said. "And it'll be really intimate — we're on the same plane as the audience the whole time and they are very much a character in the piece."

She added as a forewarning that audience members should expect physical and verbal interactions with the cast and with props. "For the most part, if you're coming in, you're in the 'splash zone."

Most aspects of the show will remain faithful to the original iteration, with the exception of costumes meant to add a pop of color and more à la mode fashion

"There will be plenty of moments where undeniably you can see the film. We're definitely keeping it in the world of kitsch and camp, and you'll have the same rock and roll score, but the fashion of it is more updated. We're really turning things up a notch in the wardrobe department."

Moonbox Productions teams up with a local non-profit for every show they put on. For "The Rocky Horror Show," a portion of proceeds will go to BAGLY – the Boston Alliance of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Youth-an organization dedicated to social justice for LGTBQ+ young

Thursday through Sunday performances scheduled from Thurs, Oct. 17, through Sat., Nov. 2. Doors will open at 7:30 p.m. Tickets available at moonbox.org.

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ADAMS STREET BRANCH

The Adams Street branch will be closed for the construction of a new building until early

CODMAN SQUARE BRANCH

Thurs., Oct. 17 – 3:30 p.m. – Drop-In Homework Help; 4 p.m. – BTU Homework Help; HISET/GED Prep Class. Fri., Oct. 18, 11 a.m. – Stories, Stories, Stories. Sat., Oct. 19, 9 a.m. – USCIS Information Desk at Boston Public Library; 9:30 a.m. – Citizenship Class; 10 a.m. – ESL Conversation Group; Book+Bake+Yard Sale.

Mon., Oct. 21, 3:30 p.m. Drop-In Homework Help. Tues., Oct. 22, 10 a.m. - Toddler Time; 10:30 a.m. - Unleash the Amazing Quilter in You; 11 a.m. - Stories, Stories; 3:30 p.m. - Drop-In Homework Help; 4 p.m. - Faroles Workshop with La Pinata; 6 p.m. – Book Discussion Group. Wed., Oct. 23 – 3:30 p.m. – Drop-In Homework Help.

FIELDS CORNER BRANCH

Thurs., Oct. 17, 10:30 a.m. – Films and Fun; 3 p.m. – Drop-In Tech Help; 3 p.m. – Drop-In Tech Help; 3:30 p.m. – Drop-In Homework Help. Fri., Oct. 18, 9:30 a.m. – Lapsit Story Time; 10:30 a.m. – Preschool Story Time; 2 p.m. – Friday Afternoon Fun. Mon., Oct. 21 – Monday Films; Drop-In Homework Help. Tues., Oct. 22, 3:30 p.m. – Drop-In Homework Help; 6:30 p.m. – Hatha Yoga. Wed., Oct. 23, 10 a.m. – Adult Stress Relief Coloring; 3:30 p.m. – Drop-In Homework

GROVE HALL BRANCH

Thurs., Oct. 17, – 3:30 p.m. – Drop-In Homework Help; 5 p.m. – Halloween Films for Kids. Fri., Oct. 18, 10:30 a.m. – Short Preschool Movies; 2:30 p.m. – Teen Gaming. Sat., Oct. 19, 11 a.m. – ESL Conversation Group; 1 p.m. – "Dawnland" Film Screening and Panel Discussion. **Mon., Oct. 21,** – 11 a.m. – ESL Beginner English Class; 3:30 p.m. – Drop-In Homework Help. Tues., Oct. 22, 10:30 a.m. - Preschool Story Time; 3:30 p.m. – Drop-In Homework Help; Try DIY: Paint a Wooden Jack-o-Lantern. **Wed., Oct. 23**, 10 a.m. - reative Writing Workshops; 11 a.m. - Mother Goose on the Loose; 3 p.m. – Anime Club; 3:30 p.m. – Drop-In Homework Help; Kids Cooking with Miss Debbie..

LOWER MILLS BRANCH

Thurs., Oct. 17, 3:30 p.m. – Drop-In Homework; 5 p.m. – LEGO Club; 6:30 p.m. – Once Upon a River: Book Discussion; 6:30 p.m.m. – Pajama Storytime. Fri., Oct. 18, 9 a.m. – Little Wigglers' Lapsit; 1 p.m. – Alec Guinness Film Series. Sat., Oct. 19 – 11 a.m. – Family Pumpkin Carving & Decorating. Mon., Oct. 21, 3:30 p.m. – Drop-In Homework Help; 4 p.m. – BTU Homework Help. **Tues., Oct. 22**, 11 a.m. – Drop-in Computer Help; 3:30 p.m. – Drop-In Homework Help. **Wed., Oct. 23**, 10:30 a.m. – Preschool Storytime; 3:30 p.m. – Drop-In Homework Help.

MATTAPAN BRANCH

Thurs., Oct. 17, 12 p.m. – Senior Jewelry Making Class; 3:30 p.m. – Drop-In Homework Help; 4 p.m. – GrubStreet Presents: Poetry/Hip Hop Storytelling; 5:30 p.m. - Family Board Game Night; 6:30 p.m. -Yoga, Fri. Oct. 18, 10 a.m. – ESL Beginner English Class; 10:30 a.m. – Hugs & Play; Smart From the Start Story Hour; 3 p.m. – Crafternoons. Sat., Oct. 19, 10 a.m. - 10 a.m. - Computer Basics Class; 12:30 p.m. Zumba with Carlina; 1:30 p.m. - Haitian-Creole. Mon., Oct. 21, 10:30 a.m. – Hugs & Play; 2:30 p.m. – Beginning Mditation; 3:30 p.m. – Drop-In Homework Help. Tues., Oct. 22, 12:30 p.m. – Baby & Toddler Lapsit; 3:30 p.m. – Drop-In Homework Help; 4 p.m. – Tinker Time. Wed., Oct. 23, 10:30 a.m. – Toddler Time; 2 p.m. – Full STEAM Ahead; 3 p.m. – Faroles Workshop with La Pinata; 3:30 p.m. – Drop-In Homework Help. **Thurs., Oct, 24**, 12 p.m. – Senior Jewelry Making Class; 3:30 p.m. – Drop-In Homework Help; 4 p.m. - Grub Street Presents: Poetry/Hip Hop Storytelling; 4:30 p.m. – LEGO Club; 5:30 p.m. – Family Board Game Night; 6 p.m. – Sleepy Story Time; 6:30 p.m. - Yoga.

UPHAMS CORNER BRANCH

Thurs., Oct. 17, 12 p.m. - Open Studio's Meet and Greet; 3:30 p.m. – Drop-In Homework Help. Fri., Oct. 18, 3:30 p.m. – LEGO Builders. Sat., Oct. 19, 11:30 a.m. - Saturday Play to Learn Playgroup. Mon., Oct. **21**, 10:30 a.m. – Baby and Toddler Lapsit; 2:45 p.m. – Kids Cooking with Miss Debbie; 3:30 p.m. - Drop-In Homework Help; 4:30 p.m. – Make It Mondays: Science: Bubble Cube. **Tues.**, **Oct. 22**, 11 a.m. – Resource Fair; 3:30 p.m. – Drop-In Homework Help. Wed., Oct. 23, 3:30 p.m. – Drop-In Homework Help.

Open Studios has events planned for Dot and Mattapan over the weekend

Dorchester Open Studios event will take place this Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 19 and 20, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. The annual celebration, presented this year by Dorchester Artists and Friends (DAF) in partnership with Friends of the Uphams Corner Library, spotlights the diverse talent of artists in Dorchester by welcoming patrons into the spaces where the artists work. This year's Open Studios

The 18th annual will feature locations at The First Parish Church at 10 Parish St., Dorchester Art Project at 1486 Dorchester Ave., artist Larry Pierce's African Winter Gallery at 21 Oldfields Rd., and artist Susie Smith's gallery at 29 Eldon St. An opening reception, which will feature food and music and showcase some of the artists' work including paintings, jewelry, hand-crafted dolls, and other creative merchandise for sale, will take place at

the Uphams Corner Library on Thurs,, Oct. 17 from noon to 7 p.m. Mattapan Open Streets/ Open Studios will take place the following weekend on Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 26-27. Events will kick off at 10 a.m. Saturday morning with a Neighborhood Cultural and Historical Walking Tour that will leave from Young Achievers School at 20 Outlook Rd. (Attendees must register before $hand\,at\,event brite.com).$ The tour will be followed

by an Artist Showcase Reception from 3:30-5 p.m. at Brothers Restaurant at 1638 Blue Hill Ave. Festivities will resume at Brothers Sunday morning with a jazz brunch from 11:30-2 p.m. featuring the Fulani Haynes Jazz Collective. Brunch will be followed by a Harvest Art Party from 2-4:00 p.m. at the Woolson Street Community Garden. All events are free and inclusive.

-DANIELSHEEHAN



Reporter's

People

News about people in and around our Neighborhoods

Dot resident cited as 'Unsung Heroine' for her seniors advocacy

By Caleb Nelson REPORTER CORRESPONDENT

When Gov. Baker signed the budget for next year, he approved a Medicare Savings Program that Mrs. Edna Pruce and her friends at Mass Senior Action Council (MSAC) had worked for five years to create. They had rallied. They had lobbied. They had visited every senator at the State House, and Pruce had testified in front of the Legislature. In the end, her strong and



US Air Force Airman 1st Class David A. Whitson has graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, Texas.

Whitson is the son of Patrina Last and Desijah Whitson of Dorchester and the brother of Michael Whitson and Victor Roman of Dorches-

airman-aThe 2019 graduate of North Quincy High School-completed a program in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

Airmen who complete basic training also earn credits toward an associate in applied science degree.

certain voice and the help of her friends inspired life-extending changes to the state health system.

"Edna is a force to be reckoned with," said state Rep. Dan Cullinane, who nominated Pruce for the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women's 12th Suffolk District Unsung Heroine award for 2019. "When she is testifying, you feel like you've been hit with a ton of bricks because it's the harsh realities of health care. It's the personal stories of seniors, and it is Edna's kind, but fierce intensity."

The party honoring Mrs. Pruce was moved last Tuesday from the State House to Harbor Health Services on Morton Street. It's an incredible community that you see built in here," Cullinane said while also praising Pruce's tenacious career in healthcare advocacy. She has served the community in many humble capacities since moving to Dorchester in 1975.

"We started from ground zero with a vision," Pruce said during her concise, inspiring, and energetic speech at Harbor Health Services. "My heavenly father has just used me as a vessel to do his work.'

Born 86 years ago in segregated Wilmington, Delaware, Pruce remembers her grandfather, born a slave, and her grandmother, a Lenape Indian. Her grandfather was always in his overalls "landscaping for rich white folks," said Edna and he worked and saved to give his children a better life. "He was my first inspiration." Her father worked as a railroad mechanic, and her mother went to Wilberforce College. They both inspired her to seek higher education.

Turned down by every nursing school in Delaware, she attended Howard University. After graduation she joined the Air Force Nurse Corps and went to Montgomery, Alabama, for basic training. There she experienced the bus boycotts of 1955-56. "I was inspired by being there in that moment," she said in interview with the Reporter. "I saw the black people walking. I saw the car pools. And I listened to Martin Luther King Junior every Thursday exhorting people to keep going and not give up."

After living for five years in England, where she got married, she applied to be a nurse at Massachusetts General Hospital. "They knew it was about time to integrate," Edna said, and so she became the first black nurse at the hospital.

While working for decades as a nurse in Boston, Edna also volunteered in various ways to improve her neighbor's lives. She mentored and encouraged first-generation college students, and engaged in improving the health and wellbeing of her neighbors in Dorchester throughout her life.

The problem that first brought together dozens of the seniors who gath-



Shown from left: Brandon Gibbs, Chuck Jones, the president and CEO of Harbor Health, Edna Pruce, Rep. Dan Cullinane, and Carolyn Villers, executive director of the Massachusetts Senior Action Council. Caleb Nelson photo

ered last week to honor Mrs. Edna was the cost of healthcare in 2014, said Carolyn Villers, executive director of the MSAC. "We often say at Mass Action, we're not going to take it, we take charge." Beginning with a series of discussions about how one person's health care impacts others in the community, members of MSAC fought for updates to the state Medicare system. One observer explained that health costs ripple through everyone's budget, saying, "I might buy that medication, but that means I'm relying on the food pantry to provide food and that then cuts into my nutrition.'

Changes achieved through next year's budget outlays will allow for more seniors to take advantage of day programs at facilities like Harbor Health, where Edna Pruce's party was held. In addition, with its teams of nurses, physical therapists, and health aides, the Elder Service Plan (PACE) helps those who take care of aging family members, and still have to go to work.

"Everybody wants to stay at home. It's nobody's dream to move to a nursing home," said Julie Richer, director of Marketing and Enrollment for Harbor Health, who is raising the efforts of MSAC to keep seniors active and engaged in the policy issues that affect them. "The reality is they cannot do it on their own. They have to have a team in place."

Said Russell Ashton, a MSAC leader, "It's all about the joy of life, and extension of life. What Edna has given me and everyone else in this room is her heart and she's given her soul." He then turned to Edna whose leadership brought him into the Council, and said, "I want to personally thank you for everything that you have done for me to enrich my life, and to enrich the lives of seniors."

Myrtle Huggins met Mrs. Pruce through Northeastern when she first arrived in Boston, and they built a relationship around community activism. "We're taught in the Air Force to be strong," said Huggins, who felt an instant connection to Pruce who also had served in the USAF. "This is my kind of person, because I picked up she was speaking from the heart, and not from the lips."

As a vocal presence at community meetings, Huggins pointed out, Edna offers a trove of information and insight. And young people in the community would ben-efit greatly from talking with her and hearing her stories. "If you need something and would like to know something this is the encyclopedia book right here."

A secretary with MSAC in Cambridge, an Army veteran, and a peace activist, John Rattlif praised Pruce's heart. "With the strength of her grandparents, she learned to confront the institutional racism that unfortunately still grapples with the soul of this country," he said. "She was in the heart of a system based on hate and designed to keep people from fulfilling their potential. She found a way, and in finding that way, in struggling for the justice that she knew was there somewhere, she developed herself into the strong person that we've been gifted to help lead us."

YESTERYEAR ARCHIVE

DORCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Dorchester Historical Society as been featuring mini-biographies of Dorchester residents who served in World War I. This week's profile, excerpted from the text written for the Society by Camille Arbogast, is of Percy Edward Blair, who was born on April 17, 1898, at 778 East Fifth Street, South Boston, to Milledge and Sophia Blair. Percy was the oldest of four children. His younger sibling Milledge L. was born in 1900, followed by Clarence in 1902, Florence in 1907, and Arthur in 1916. The family had moved to Dorchester by 1913, when they resided at 6 Bearse Avenue in Lower Mills. Milledge was a machinist; a "brass finisher," according to directories. The 1910 census reported he was a safety valve tester at a brass factory. Eventually, he would become a foreman at the Mason Regulator Company, 1107 Adams Street, Lower Mills.

Percy attended school through the eighth grade. He then worked as a clerk in Boston. On Nov. 5, 1916, he enlisted in the Massachusetts Na-



Percy Edward Blair

tional Guard. He reported for duty on July 15, 1917. He initially served in the 11th Company Coast Artillery Corps (CAC) of the National Guard. The CAC manned coastal and harbor fixed artillery instillations and minefields. During the war, the CAC also was responsible for all manned

heavy artillery.

Camp Eustis, Virginia, to serve with the 57th Ammunition Train CAC. On Oct. 21, 1918, he departed for France, on the USS Aoelus, along with the 45th Artillery CAC, under the command of Captain K.S. Stevenson. He served overseas until Jan. 23, 1919, when he sailed from Bordeaux on the USS Siboney. He was discharged on Feb. 12, 1919.

After his discharge from the service, Percy returned to live with his family at 87 Richmond St., Dorchester, and found work as a machinist in a car shop. here. By then, Percy was working as a cable splicer for the New England Telephone and Telegraph Company; he stayed with the telephone company for 40 years

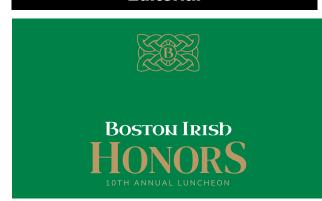
"In 1929, Percy married Beatrice Moran. Initially they lived with Percy's parents at 96 Wrentham Street in Dorchester, but in 1931, they moved to the Wollaston area of Quincy. The next year they purchased a home in the Montclair neighborhood of Quincy,

at 39 Bowdoin Street. Their son, Rob-On Aug. 7, he was transferred to ert, was born in 1936. Percy retired in the mid-1960s. Around this time, his son, Robert, working as a mason, returned to live with his parents. In November 1970, Robert, now an accountant, married Judith Ann Reid of Quincy.

Percy died on Jan. 1, 1973, at Quincy City Hospital. A Mason since 1927 and a member of the Macedonia Lodge, he was buried after a Masonic service in Cedar Grove Cemetery, Lower Mills,,

The archive of these historical posts can be viewed on the blog at dorchesterhistorical society.org. The Dorchester Historical Society's historic houses are open on different dates. The Lemuel Clap House (1712 and remodeled 1765) at 199 Boston Street is open on the third Saturday of each month. The James Blake House, 735 Columbia Road (1661) and the William Clap House, 195 Boston Street (1806) are open on the third Sunday of each month. Open hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Editorial



Friday event celebrates the best of Boston's Irish

This Friday, Oct. 18, the Reporter's sibling publication— the Boston Irish Reporter— will host a luncheon at the Seaport Boston Hotel. The event is called Boston Irish Honors and it's now in its tenth year.

The Irish Reporter has been a part of the Reporter's extended family of newspapers and online publications since 1990. (The Forry family, which owns and operates the Reporter and the Boston Irish Reporter, have deep roots in Ireland.)

In 2008, when we first gathered with a small group of advisors and friends to launch the annual luncheon, we had two central ideas in mind.

First, we hoped to honor the remarkable people and families in our community who truly exemplify the best qualities of the Boston Irish. In telling their stories, which speak to our heritage both here and in Ireland, we seek to reaffirm our immigrant roots and recall, with gratitude, the men and women who came here and made Boston *our* home.

Boston is an exceptional city because of all the cultures that have joined together to make it their home. It's a team effort. But, we feel it is important for those of us with roots in Ireland to tell *our* story— for the benefit of our children, ourselves, and those who are coming next.

The other notion behind this luncheon was to create an event that supports our brand of community journalism. Since 1990, the Boston Irish Reporter has been a key source of information for a constantly evolving, dynamic Irish American community in this region. By necessity, and quite naturally, we have evolved, too, and we have survived in a media environment that has proven to be quite challenging.

Next year will begin a new chapter in our Boston Irish story. We are preparing to re-launch our website, BostonIrish.com. In the coming months, BostonIrish.com will become our primary vehicle for publishing our work. The print edition of the Boston Irish Reporter will continue in a seasonal form - but it will no longer be a monthly publication. This transition is an exciting one for our news organization, which continues to draw talented and dynamic reporters and editors to our newsroom.

On Friday, we will salute two women and two men who have inspired us with their vision, their hard work and their caring for others: Jim Carmody, Kathy and John Drew, and Grace Cotter Regan. It will come as little surprise to our audience to learn that all of them have strong ties or roots in Dorchester. Carmody, who runs the Seaport Boston Hotel, grew up in Neponset. Regan, who's dad Jim Cotter was born and raised in Savin Hill, is the president of Dorchester's BC High. Kathy Drew grew up on Elm Street in Dorchester, near Fields Corner. They will join many other Dorchester people and families — the Bretts, the Hunts, the Mulvoys, the Walshes, the Corcorans, and others who have been recognized at this event. Last year, we honored Bob and Mary Scannell, the couple who run the Boys and Girls Clubs of Dorchester.

Mayor Martin Walsh, a past honoree who serves as an honorary co-chair of the Boston Irish Honors, will be one of the speakers at this year's event. In years past, the mayor has taken the opportunity to speak to this largely Irish-American audience about the unique responsibility we— as the descendants of new Bostonians - have to those who have joined us here from all points on the compass.

This is why we choose to celebrate our heritage in such a fashion. It's a reminder about where we have come from— and that we are never far removed from the struggle and hardships that face so many of our newly arrived neighbors.

You can learn more about the Boston Irish Honors event— and our ongoing journalism focused on the Irish American community— at our website, BostonIrish.com.

Bill and Ed Forry

Should those serving life sentences get a review after 25 years? I think so

By Lew Finfer SPECIAL TO THE REPORTER

More than one thousand individuals are serving life sentences in Massachusetts prisons. A bill filed by state Rep. Jay Livingstone of the Back Bay would allow them to get a hearing before the Parole Board after serving 25 years. It would not guarantee that they'd be released, just that they would appear

The idea was debated at a hearing last Tuesday (Oct. 8) during which scores of people impacted by both violent crime and life sentences spoke up.

Some family members of those who had been murdered by those serving life sentences are adamantly against any chance of release for the killers – ever. But family members of those serving life sentences are left to wonder: Can a person *never* be rehabilitated? Isn't there a chance that some of these people could live lives that contribute to society and not

How would you feel about this legislation if you had a parent or sibling murdered? How would you feel about it if you had a parent or sibling in prison

Then there are wrongful convictions in which people serve decades in prison only to be exonerated by new evidence. You can't give them back those years.

Sean Ellis, then 21, was found guilty of the shooting death of Boston Police Det. John Mulligan in 1993 and sentenced to life in prison. When it developed later that the officers who had arrested him were involved in corruption with Mulligan and later pled guilty to the charges, Ellis was released. He was in his early 40s and had served 22 years.

Sean Ellis could not go to the funerals of his dad, aunts, and nephew. He had begun to lose hope. He saw people die in prison. Two close cousins were

"I wondered how I'd feel about those who did this

to them," Ellis said at last week's hearing. "But, it's about hope and redemption. People can be rehabilitated in prison."

If he had given up on himself — and if he did not have a dedicated lawyer in Rosemary Scapicchiohe'd still be serving a life sentence for a murder he didn't commit while the actual murderer remained

On the other hand, the mother of a murder victim testified: "Give them no second chance. Except if our loved ones could come back to life, but they can't. Stop victimizing families with legislation like this." Another mother, reflecting on the murder of her son by someone serving life in prison said, "I go to my son's grave but I can't kiss him. He doesn't know I'm there."

In his remarks, Raashan Hall of the ACLU said that when people of color get murdered and the people of color who committed the crimes go away for life, the community is losing in two ways.

My co-worker, Keturah Brewster, has a cousin who committed a murder at 18 and he's now 35. He misses family funerals too, of course. These families see so much anguish, and they live with it every day.

I understand and empathize with families of victims when they believe that those who murdered their loved one should pay for it with life in jail. But because of my faith in redemption, I believe that the prisoners facing life should get a chance after serving 25 years to make their case that they have been rehabilitated.

Even though I would be angry and hateful toward anyone who murdered someone in my family, I hope I'd support this kind of chance at parole for the killer. Loved ones lost cannot be brought back to life, but they can be remembered always.

Lew Finfer is a Dorchester resident and co-director $of the \, Dorchester \, based \, Massachusetts \, Communities$ Action Network.

The quick and easy way shouldn't apply to pet adoption

By Mary Nee

October is National Adopt a Shelter Dog Month. I know, yet another month to celebrate pets, but as president of the Animal Rescue League of Boston, this particular month is close to my heart.

Moment of Paws

At ARL, we unfortunately see many situations where pet

owners decide to adopt from an ad in the newspaper or on the internet, or from an unscrupulous breeder. While many of these adopters may get an animal quickly and relatively easily, what they don't get is the full story, and that tends to lead to expensive emergency care and, for some, eventual heartbreak.

The truth is, with these kinds of adoptions, you just don't know what you're getting, and therefore, are taking an enormous risk. The animal may not be vaccinated, it may have crossed state lines without following quarantine protocol, it may be sick or afflicted with an undiagnosed genetic disorder,. The list goes on and on.

Classified ads can be enticing, "Free to a Good Home" or "small rehoming fee", with cute pictures of an animal that may or may not be the dog that's up for adoption.

Puppy Doe, one of the most infamous animal cruelty cases in our state's history, was passed around three times on Craigslist. She was listed as "Free to a Good Home" and her final owner put her through sadistic acts of torture, which ultimately cost Puppy Doe her life.

These types of transactions are dangerous for both the animals and people involved. It supports and encourages black-market-type sales, and again, there is no recourse for the consumer should something happen to the animal.

ARL is currently supporting state legislation that would mandate regulations for boarding kennel and daycare facilities, prohibit the sale of puppies and kittens less than eight weeks old, and additionally would make these types of "roadside sales" illegal in Massachusetts.

The safest way to adopt a pet? Go to a reputable shelter or rescue organization like ARL.

At ARL, every animal undergoes a thorough medical examination and behavioral evaluation, is spayed or neutered, vaccinated, and microchipped. For some animals, other pre-adoption services may include surgical or dental procedures to ensure that their family is getting the healthiest and happiest pet possible.

We all love convenience in our daily hectic lives. Asking Alexa to order toothpaste or other household



Meet Murray, who looks to be a good candidate for adoption.

goods saves us time and money. However, convenience should never enter the equation when people are looking to adopt a living creature.

Pets are a part of our family, so if you are looking to add a new member during Adopt a Shelter Dog Month - do yourself, your family, and your prospective pet a favor, and ditch convenience for the peace of mind that comes from adopting from a reputable shelter.

If you believe that Massachusetts should mandate regulations for boarding kennels and daycare facilities, prohibit the sale of puppies and kittens less than eight weeks old and end "roadside sales," please contact your state representatives and senators and ask them to support S. 114, H. 1774: An Act Protecting the Health and Safety of Puppies and Kittens in cities and Towns. Your voice matters!

Mary Nee, a resident of Dorchester, is the president of the Animal Rescue League of Boston. Pet questions?Email ARL at press@arlboston.org.

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No pot café pilot without impaired driving plan, Baker urges

ers who refuse to take a

Also among the group's

recommendations is a

proposal for the Legisla-

ture to pass a law autho-

rizing state courts to take

"judicial notice" that in-

gesting the active compo-

nent in marijuana, THC,

"impairs motor function,

reaction time, track-

ing, cognitive attention, decision-making, judg-

ment, perception, pe-

ripheral vision, impulse

control, and memory."

The group also suggested

that lawmakers amend

the open-container law

so it can apply to mari-

juana, meaning drivers

could not have loose or unsealed packages of

marijuana in an area of

the car accessible to the

The special commis-

sion, which was cre-

ated as part of the 2017

law that established

the CCC, also suggests

amending the existing operating under the

influence law so that, in

driver.

breathalyzer test.



Britte McBride, one of the state's marijuana regulators, said that "there's no Sam Doran/SHNS photo time to waste" in addressing impaired driving.

By Colin A. Young STATE HOUSE News Service

Gov. Charlie Baker made his latest push last week for the Legislature to get moving on his impaired driving bill, which he said took on greater urgency when the Cannabis Control Commission last week took a step toward allowing social consumption marijuana lounges.

Baker, Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito, CCC member Britte McBride, Walpole Police Chief John Carmichael, Mothers Against Drunk Driving National President Helen Witty, and a representative of the state's marijuana dispensaries held a press conference Monday to tout a bill that Baker filed earlier this year to deal with operating under the influence in the wake of marijuana legalization.

'Our bill will equalize treatment of alcohol and drugs with respect to driving under the influence and aims to improve the process leading up to, during and after a suspected operating under the influence incident,' Baker said.

After alcohol, marijuana was the most prevalent drug found in the systems of drivers involved in fatal crashes in Massachusetts between 2013 and 2017, the governor's office said. The bill (H71) he filed in January touches upon detection of impaired drivers, the interaction between police officers and drivers who are thought to be impaired, and how cases involving suspected impaired drivers are handled in the state's courts.

The CCC approved regulations in late September that pave the way for establishments where adults could use marijuana together in a social setting. The Legislature would need to act before the CCC's planned social consumption site pilot program could begin, and Baker said Monday that lawmakers should not allow social consumption to move ahead without addressing his concerns about impaired driving.

"While this idea still requires a change in statute before social consumption sites become a reality, this move underscores the reality that our commonwealth and our communities are facing new public safety $challenges\,in\,the\,context$ of the legalization of the adult use of marijuana," the governor said. "Just as the social consumption of alcohol is a major driver of impaired driving, these sites also create new challenges for our public safety officials seeking to keep our communities safe.

Baker's bill was referred to the Joint Committee on the Judiciary. The committee has not yet scheduled a hearing on it.

Baker did not directly call for the committee to schedule a hearing soon, but instead thanked the Legislature for "a number of conversations with them about this issue at the leadership and committee level.

Last year, a Department of Public Health study found that nearly 35 percent of adults who reported using marijuana in the past 30 days also reported driving under the influence of marijuana. DPH said baseline data suggest that about 7 percent of all adults drove under the influence of marijuana in the past 30 days and that about 12 percent of all adults rode with a driver who was under the influence of marijuana.

Baker's bill (H 71) is based on 19 recommendations from the Special Commission on Operating Under the Influence and Impaired Driving. If the Legislature adopts the recommendations, a driver suspected of driving under the influence of marijuana who refuses to take a chemical test for impairment would lose their license for at least six months, the same penalty applied to suspected drunken drivhave to prove only that the driver was impaired to obtain a conviction.

The commission's recommendations, and Baker's bill, also call for the Municipal Police Training Committee to expand training of drug recognition experts -- the commission said the state's municipal police forces should have at least 351 DREs total, as well as other DREs at the State Police -- and for the state's court system to allow DREs to testify as expert witnesses.

Since retail marijuana

court, the state would sales began in Massachusetts 11 months ago, Carmichael, the chief of police in Walpole, said it is too soon to know the overall impact of legalization on road safety, but said his officers have been noticing an increase in OUI incidents involving drugs, while drunk driving incidents decrease.

> "We have seen the same kind of trend with more OUI-drugs - and not just marijuana. Marijuana is a component of that but some of it is OUI-drugs in general – surpassing the amount of

times that we're coming across people who are under the influence of alcohol," he said.

McBride, a member of the CCC appointed by Attorney General Maura Healey, said that there is no silver bullet to deal with impaired driving, but called Baker's bill "a constellation of pieces" that will help deter people from driving while under the influence, identify when people are driving impaired and hold people accountable for making the roads less safe for everyone else.

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Reporter's Neighborhood Notables

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MARTIN RICHARD FOUNDATION SERVICE EVENT ON OCT. 20

The Martin Richard Foundation will host a Autumn Service Event on Sun., Oct. 20 from 12-3 p.m. at the Leahy-Holloran Community Center in Dorchester. Work with organizations committed to supporting neighbors with food insecurity. Can't stay to serve? Drop off your Thanksgiving-themed canned goods all day! Family-friendly. Contact joe@martinrichardfoundation.org.

OCT. 29 MEETING ON 1199-1203 BLUE HILL AVENUE PROPOSAL

The BPDA will host a public meeting on Tues., Oct. 29 from 6:30 p.m.-7:45 p.m. at the Mattapan branch of the BPL, 1350 Blue Hill Ave. to discuss a project change for a mixed-use residental and commercial building proposed for 1199-1203 Blue Hill Ave. For more information, contact Lance Campbell at 617-918-4311 or lance.campbell@boston.gov.

BAYSIDE REDEVELOPMENT PLANNING SESSION ON OCT. 26

A coalition of civic groups — Citizens Connect to Bayside—will meet to discuss the future Bayside Development on Sat., Oct. 26 from 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at the BTU's Carson Place, 180 Mt. Vernon St., Dorchester. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. Light breakfast, childcare and translation services available. A shuttle will run from Harbor Point and JFK-UMass station. For more info: CitizensConnectBayside@gmail.com.

FOOD DAY & GARLIC FESTIVAL AT FOWLER CLARK EPSTEIN FARM

Urban Farming Institute of Boston invites the public to Food Day & Garlic Festival on Sat., Oct. 19 from 11 a.m.- 3p.m. at the Fowler Clark Epstein Farm, 487 Norfolk St., Mattapan. Activities include bee workshop, cider pressing, live raptor demos, and more. See urbanfarminginstitute.org for more info.

DORCHESTER OPEN STUDIOS SET FOR OCT. 19-20

Dorchester Artists and Friends will spotlight the diverse talent of artists in Dorchester on Sat. and Sun., Oct. 19-20 at four locations. The community is invited



Cornhole, ladder ball, and fall family fun were all on tap at South Bay's "Dotoberfest" celebration this past Sunday. The event will continue this weekend with hours from 3-7p.m. on Thursday and Friday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. This Saturday and Sunday, October 19 and 20, a "pup-up" pet adoption event will run from 12-3 p.m. Other features include a beer garden, artisan vendors, food trucks, lawn games, live music, a pumpkin patch, and children's games and crafts. The event is located on Jan Karski Way in South Bay Center.

Dan Sheehan photo

to enjoy and support our local artists by purchasing their work. There will be an opening reception at the Uphams Corner Library on Thurs., Oct. 17, from 12 to 7 p.m. The weekend locations for Open Studios (11 a.m.- 6 p.m.) are First Parish Dorchester, 10 Parish St.; Dorchester Art Project, 1486 Dorchester Ave.; African Winter Gallery, 21 Oldfields Rd., Dorchester; and Susie Smith Gallery, 29 Eldon St., Dorchester. **WARD 15 DEMOCRATS MEET ON OCT. 19**

Ward 15 Democratic Committee will meet on Sat., Oct. 19 at 9 a.m. at the Savin Hill Apartment common room, 130 Auckland St., Dorchester. Guest speakers will include Rep. Liz Miranda.

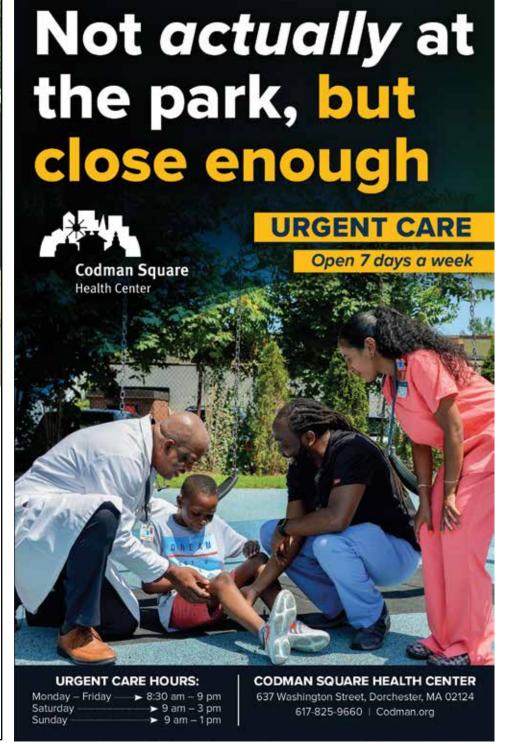
ROLLINS TO BE HONORED BY FIRST PARISH DORCHESTER

First Parish Dorchester will honor Suffolk County District Attorney Rachael Rollins with a Meetinghouse Award for Service to the Community at their annual gala on Sat., Nov. 2 in the parish hall, 10 Parish St., Dorchester from 7-10 p.m. Full event details, including links to ticketing and sponsorship opportunities, can be found at firstparishdorchester. org/tickets.

(Continued on page 16)



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- John McCormack Civic Association

Invite you to participate in a discussion and planning session for the future

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Registration 9:30am

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Council at-large hopefuls take questions at Roxbury forum

(Continued from page 1)

Erin Murphy and David Halbert— were in attendance.

The first question was raised by Linda Freeman of Roxbury, who is concerned about the number of homeless in the city.

Flaherty answered that the city "can and must do more" to address homelessness. "This council, working with our mayor, has supported a number of programs and initiatives to help on the affordable housing side and to address homelessness," he said. "Our hope is that by increasing the linkage formula we're able to create more opportunities, supporting SROs [Single Room Occupancy], tenant protections, and line items in our city's budget."

Said St. Guillen: "When we talk about housing, we need to talk about the multi-faceted servicing that needs to go along with that; it's not just putting a roof over someone's head. We have to think about the circumstances that put them in that position in the first place."

Halbert replied that he "stands behind" the Housing First movement. "We have to use it as a platform to bring people the services they need," he said. "But we also have to think that people shouldn't have to get to the place of being homeless in order to get those services. We should be doing everything we can to make

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS SUFFOLK, ss.

Docket Number: SU15P1512
To all persons interested in the matter of: Johnnie Mae Hunt of Boston in said County of Suffolk, an incapacitated

nerson under conservatorshin

Apetition has been presented to said Court, for license to sell a private sale of certain real estate of Johnnie Mae Hunt of 31 Vinson St., Boston, MAinthe County of Suffolk, and praying that the petitioner, Michelle Marie Merck may

become the Seller of said real estate.
TO THE HONORABLE JUSTICES
OF THE PROBATE AND FAMILY
COURT IN AND FOR THE COUNTY
OF SUFFOLK RESPECTFULLY represents Michelle Marie Merck conservator of the property of Johnnie Mae
Hunt in the County of Suffolk mentally
ill person having no husband that said
ward is interested in certain real estate
situated in the County of Plymouth

described as follows:

Unit #7, Building 24 at Madrid Square Condominiums located at 685 Oak Street, Brockton, MA 02301, recorded in the Plymouth County Registry of Deeds Book 16439, page 220 that it is necessary that said ward's interest therein be sold for her maintenance, the income for her estate being insufficient therefor, - that an advantageous offer for the purchase of said real estate has been made to the petitioner in the sum of \$85,000 dollars: that the interest of all parties concerned will be best promoted by the acceptance of said offer. The United States Veterans Administration is not a party in interest to this petition. I hereby certify that the estate of said ward does not exceed \$1000 in value. Wherefore said Michelle Marie Merck conservator pray that she may be licensed to sell and convey the same - at private sale in accordance with said offer or upon such terms as may be adjudged best, and that she may become the seller of said real estate.

If you desire to object thereto you or your attorney should file a written appearance in said Court at Boston before ten o'clock in the forenoon on the 7th day of November 2019, the return day of this citation.

Witness, Brian J. Dunn, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this 7th day of October, 2019

Felix D. Arroyo Register of Probate Published: October 17, 2019



City council at-large candidates discussed issues important to senior citizens during a forum held last Thursday in the Charles Street African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church in Roxbury.

Katie Trojano photo

sure that we're being proactive."

He also said that he would look to increase homeownership in the city, calling it "one of the best ways to stabilize and prevent homelessness."

Mejia said that she "likes the idea" of Housing First, and would pursue it further. "We've been having the same conversation and expecting the same results," she said. "What I'm proposing is that we look at the Inclusionary Development Policy (IDP), and I'm pushing for 50 percent instead of [the current] 13 percent for each affordable housing project."

Murphy agreed with the other candidates, sayingthat we shouldn't wait for people to become homeless before we begin addressing this crisis." She also said that she would look at freezing home taxes for seniors as a step toward being proactive.

Wu said that she "fully supports" Housing First and how Boston is already implementing facets of it. "Many of our emergency shelters are already starting to use that model like Pine Street Inn, which already has more transitional housing beds than they do overnight emergency beds," she said. "Investing in a per-

son, investing in their value and giving them stability pays off in the long-run."

Wu pointed to her recent call to abolish the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) as a bold step towards a holistic look at how to plan for housing in the city.

Garrison said that her solution would be rent control, eviction control, and price controls over anything that has to do with development. "You can't build your way out of a housing crisis," she said. She also chided her incumbent colleagues, saying they "have not taken steps to address the crisis although they know there is a crisis and they've been elected over and over."

Another questioner asked the candidates their opinions of a federal voucher lottery, which mixes seniors with those who have substance abuse or disabilities

abilities.
Flaherty said he would support a policy that senior housing should be for seniors only. St. Guillen said that the issue "goes to the core of how we create policy" and she would look to address the policy and change how the city incorporates seniors' voices in creating policy that affects them.

"We need to make sure that we're thinking

DotHouse Health

about this whole issue holistically," Halbert said. "We need to ensure that seniors can feel comfortable where they live, but also that those individuals who do need mental health and addiction services aren't just being turned out."

Mejia would focus on creating a community-centered approach to development. "Everybody deserves to live in a safe space and I think we have an opportunity to change the way we do business in the city of Boston period," she said.

Murphy replied: "We have to deal with addiction, mental health trauma and homelessness, but senior housing should be senior housing. We already know we have a crisis, but we shouldn't put those problems onto seniors, who we already have to serve better."

Garrison, who at one point drew a reaction from the gathering when she urged voters to "bullet" her, that is, only vote for her, again took on an at-large colleague. "I've been aware of this policy ever since I've been running for public office," she said, "However, Mr. Flaherty has been on the council about 12 years and what has he done about it?" She said she would propose legislation to address "alcoholics and drug addicts," and that she's

1353 Dorchester Avenue

www.DotHouseHealth.org

not in favor of putting "these people" in senior buildings.

Wu said that she wanted to get the facts straight, noting that the issue has been a popular topic when she has talked with seniors.

"Councillor Flaherty and I have actually pushed and gotten change on this piece," Wu said, "It's not everything that we need but I know that we pushed hard. This [voucher system] is defined by federal law, and because the buildings are getting federal funding, we are subject to some of those constraints."

A question centered on transportation asked the candidates how they would improve access and affordability of transportation to seniors.

Flaherty started off by thanking Wu for speaking to his efforts after Garrison name-dropped him. "I didn't have to drop the mic, Michelle did that for me. So I'm going to do the same for her," he said. "Michelle has led the effort on the council to really take on the MBTA, deservedly so."

He added: "There's no reason why fares cannot be free, given that we spend so much on them. And we should have a seat on the board to make sure we get our fair share with respect to the \$86 million we give the MBTA."

St. Guillen thinks there can be more work done on the city level to supplement state efforts. "We have tons of luxury developments coming in," she said, "and we have the opportunity to tax them and use those funds to be able to fund

services for seniors."

Halbert said that the issue is related to development.

"We need to cluster the places seniors are going so that they don't have to make multiple stops," he said.

"I am all on board with the Wutrain and supporting a lot of the efforts that Michelle has been leading about a "free T," Mejia said. "I would push a little bit further. There are a lot of places that don't have enough transit to begin with. We need to make service more frequent across the city." She also supports bringing back late night T service to accommodate those who provide care for seniors.

Murphy called the MBTA "broken" and said that there must be a city council seat on the MBTA board. "We need to make sure the T is affordable, reliable, and in places that we need it most," she said, "We also need to make sure The Ride is brought to where the seniors are."

Garrison said that she filed legislation that would hold out \$85 million from the MBTA until repairs were made, then accused Wu of blocking it. "Replace all three of those councillors that have been there for years. Get rid of all of them," she said.

The rebuke prompted a response from Wu. "Is this a candidate forum or a reality TV show?" she asked, adding, ""I do want to give Mrs. Garrison all credit where it's due. In February, when the MBTA said that it would raise fares across the board, she was there protesting, and I appreciate that."

Wu said that issues related to transportation are important to every single person in the city. "We contacted the MBTA in order to get that hearing, and the T refused. We've been trying to find ways to take it to them, and we have a lot more work to do."

Wu topped the citywide field ticket in the preliminary election, finishing with 19 percent of the votes cast. She was followed by incumbents Essaibi-George and Flaherty, who each collected just under 14 percent. St. Guillen, a former member of Mayor Martin Walsh's administration, secured the fourth slot with just under 9 percent.

Competition for the fifth position was fierce between Mejia (7.7 percent), incumbent Garrison (7.09 percent), and Erin Murphy, who ended up with 6.84 percent. Halbert earned himself a spot on the November ballot by securing the eighth position at 4.76 percent.



Community Health News

Lelling: Fed enforcement still awaits injection facilities

By Chris Lisinski STATE HOUSE **News Service**

U.S. Attorney Andrew Lelling reaffirmed his opposition to supervised drug consumption sites this month. doubling down on his promise to prosecute any such program a day after a federal judge ruled the facilities would not violate a section of the Controlled Substances

His pledge comes as supporters of the idea in Massachusetts sense growing momentum in the wake of the case, arguing the ruling sets a legal precedent in favor of a controversial but vital way to limit the opioid epidemic's death toll.

Judge Gerald McHugh ruled on Oct. 2 that a nonprofit's plans to open a supervised consumption site in Philadelphia do not run afoul of the so-called "crack house statute" as federal prosecutors had alleged in a civil suit.

Lelling, who has argued that allowing in-

dividuals to use preobtained illegal drugs without chance of arrest would violate federal law, said in a Thursday press release that he "respectfully disagrees" with the ruling and views it as "only the first step in a long process of judicial review for this important issue."

"As the Deputy Attorney General said, efforts to open injection facilities, including here in Massachusetts, will be met with federal enforcement," Lelling said.

The proposal is a charged one for Beacon Hill, where a handful of lawmakers have staunchly advocated in favor of supervised consumption — also referred to as safe injection sites as a potential tool to prevent people from dying and get them into treatment.

A state commission tasked with studying ways to reduce harm from the epidemic recommended piloting one or more such sites, which already exist in Canada and some European countries. They would be particularly valuable, supporters say, as the synthetic opioid fentanyl grows more common in overdose cases because it is so potent that a crisis can emerge in seconds.

Families affected by addiction and a range of medical experts back the push, imploring legislators with wrenching testimony several times this year to defy federal warnings as Massachusetts did when it became the first state in the nation to legalize same-sex marriage.

Somerville Mayor Joe Curtatone is working to open a site in his city next year, but many in the Legislature have vet to endorse the idea. concerned about its legality and how such sites would affect professional licensures.

"This is a counterintuitive approach," Sen. Julian Cyr, who supports the idea and co-chairs the Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery,

told the News Service in the wake of the ruling. this week. "Many of our colleagues upon hearing this would have a kneejerk response of saying, 'wait a minute.' It's a different way of thinking. So we just want to make sure we're doing the due diligence to share with our colleagues what we heard today and what we've been hearing.'

Although the Baker administration has embraced other strategies such as needle exchanges, Gov. Charlie Baker has repeatedly opposed calls for supervised consumption, often pointing to Lelling's prosecutorial threats.

An administration spokeswoman did not say Thursday if the governor's view had changed

"The Baker-Polito Administration remains focused on the legal, safe and evidence-based approaches to treatment, recovery and education that are already underway and have helped make Massachusetts one of very few states where opioid-related overdose deaths decreased in 2017 and 2018," Sarah Finlaw, the governor's press secretary, said in a statement.

The Harm Reduction Commission, which included medical professionals, individuals who use drugs and politicians, found significant evidence after studying the issue for months that supervised consumption sites reduce risks of death and disease.

Lelling contested those findings and the commission's conclusion that no overdose deaths had been reported inside any existing supervised consumption sites in other countries. He also pointed to the recent decline in total overdose deaths in Massachusetts, from 1,050 in the first half of 2018 to 938 in the first half of 2019.

"Opioid overdose deaths are down 11 percent over this time last year, a substantial drop and the continuation of a multiyear trend," Lelling said. "Now would not be the time to open a site for the purpose of making it easier to take heroin and fentanyl."

State child obesity rate at 14.4 percent

STATE HOUSE **News Service**

Obesity affects nearly 83,000 people between the ages of 10 and 17 percent in Massachusetts, or about 14.4 percent of people in that age group, according to a new report.

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation reported last week that the obesity

rate for this group puts Massachusetts in the middle of the pack among states, with a ranking of 25th. That rate has held steady over the years.

The foundation says it has invested more than \$1 billion over the last decade to address the problem, help more children to grow up at a healthy weight, and expand access to affordable healthy foods.

"These new data show that this challenge touches the lives of far too many children in this country, and that Black and Hispanic youth are still at greater risk than their White and Asian peers," foundation president Richard Besser said in a statement.

Canadian health official to share injection site insights

By Chris Lisinski STATE HOUSE News Service

A public health official from Quebec who has overseen the Canadian province's opening of supervised drug use sites will speak at the State House this month as Massachusetts lawmakers weigh whether to launch a similar effort. The Massachusetts for Supervised Consumption Sites coalition will host an Oct. 22 rally to increase pressure on the Legislature to back a pilot program that a

range of medical experts support, but that U.S. Attorney Andrew Lelling opposes.

Horacio Arruda, Quebec's national director of public health, will deliver remarks at the rally about the "successful implementation of supervised consumption sites" in his province, according to Fenway Health, a coalition member.

The sites, which allow the use of pre-acquired drugs under medical watch without the threat of arrest, exist in several Canadian cities and in Europe but not in the United States. Some Beacon Hill lawmakers have been pushing to launch a program in Massachusetts, but the idea has not caught on in the Legislature and Gov. Baker outright opposes the idea.

Last week, a federal judge in Pennsylvania ruled that a non-profit's effort to open a supervised consumption site did not violate a provision of the Controlled Substances Act as prosecutors had alleged, but Lelling vowed to prosecute any similar plans in Massachusetts regardless.



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WATER MAIN FLUSHING NOTICE

Boston Water and Sewer Commission will commence Water Main Flushing in the Roxbury and Dorchester areas starting:

October 20, 2019 through November 27, 2019

The boundaries for the areas being flushed are: Melnea Cass Boulevard to the north, Victory Road and Centre Street to the south, Harrison Ave and Dudley Street to the east and I-93 and Dorchester Bay to the west.



The purpose of the Water Main Flushing Program is to improve drinking water quality for residents and businesses.

Water Main flushing will take place between the hours of 10:00 P.M. and 6:00 A.M.

The flushing process may cause discolored water and a reduction in pressure. The discoloration of the water will be temporary and is not harmful. If the condition persists, please contact BWSC's 24 Hour Service at (617) 989-7000.

BWSC appreciates your patience as we work to improve the quality of drinking water we will provide to the residents and businesses of Boston.

If you have any questions, contact BWSC's Night Operations Manager at (617) 989-7000 or visit our website @ www.bwsc.org.

Neighborhood Notables

(Continued from page 12)

OPEN HOUSE AT UMASS BOSTON

UMass Boston will host an open house event for freshman on Sat., Oct. 19 from 8:30 a.m.- noon. Register at umb.edu/openhouse.

WALKING TOUR OF MATTAPAN ON OCT. 26

Join a walking tour and learn about the hidden rich history of Mattapan on Sat., Oct. 26 at 10 a.m. as part of the Fall Mattapan/Open Streets Open Studios weekend. Stops include Wellington Hill, houses of worship, Simcos, the site of the Oriental Theatre, the new Neponset Greenway and many more. The tour starts at Young Achievers School (formerly the Solomon Lewenberg school) at 2 Outlook Rd. on Wellington Hill. The Open Streets Open Studios happening Oct. 26 and 27 includes an artist reception, jazz brunch and Harvest Garden Party. Learn more on our Facebook page or go to mattapanopenstudios. com to download the full program. Tickets are FREE with a \$10 and \$5 suggested donation. Register at mattapan_2019_tour.eventbrite.com.

BOSTON COMMON PUMPKIN FLOAT

The Fall Pumpkin Float will return to the Boston Common Frog Pond on Friday, Oct. 18, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Hundreds of illuminated jack-o'-lanterns will be floated on the water accompanied by spooky family activities. Attendees are asked to bring 8-inch or smaller carved pumpkins that will be lit and then floated on the Frog Pond for a dramatic early evening

display. Adults and children are encouraged to wear Halloween costumes and participate in a wide range of fun activities. Test your courage in our haunted zombie maze, take a ride on the Spooky Mansion Slide, experience the Jumpin' Pumpkin, try your skills at the bean bag toss, and enjoy nighttime fun on our LED swings and seesaws. The Fall Pumpkin Float is presented by the Boston Parks and Recreation Department in partnership with the Skating Club of Boston. This free family-friendly event will also include glow-in-the-dark games, children's crafts, games and giveaways by Magic 106.7. A monster mash of science activities will include the Massachusetts Horticulture Society, giant bubbles with the "Bubble Guy" Jim Dichter, and Halloween giveaways. For more information, please call the Boston Parks and Recreation Department at 617-635-4505 or visit boston.gov/parks.

KID CONVENTION AT EMK INSTITUTE

On Sat., Oct. 19, the Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the United States Senate will welcome young visitors and their families to enjoy a wide array of engaging opportunities at Kid Convention. With generous support from the Martin Richard Foundation, this full day of hands-on experiences will allow children age 5 and up to learn about the legislative process, government, and the importance of making a difference in their communities. Two Kid Convention sessions will be offered on October 19: one at 10 a.m. and another at 12 p.m. with a range of activities included in each. Highlights include What Makes A Good Leader? and Presidential Pet Primary where young people can gear up for the 2020 election by casting a vote for whichever presidential candidate's pet they believe should get the nomination for PPOTUS

(Presidential Pet of the United States). Offered at no charge to families, October 19 marks the fourth Kid Convention at the Institute's Columbia Point location on the University of Massachusetts Boston campus. **FIELDS CORNER MAIN STREET ART-INI**Fields Corner Main Streets annual fundraiser—

Fields Corner Main Streets annual fundraiser—the ART-INI — will be held on Sat., Oct. 19 from 5-9p.m featuring a gallery show and silent auction. Stop by blend at 1310 Dorchester Avenue for some conversation with the artists, wine, beer and cider, and a silent auction. Talk with members of the Fields Corner Main Streets board and hear about all that is going on in our community. Then, stay or come back from 7-9 p.m. for the main event. Bid on original art by local artists, dine, drink and dance.

ABCD GALA TO FEATURE SINGER AUDRA MCDONALD

Action for Boston Community Development (ABCD) hosts its annual gala that recognizes and honors community volunteers on Friday, Nov. 8 at the Boston Marriott Copley Place, 110 Huntington Ave, Boston. The evening kicks off with a Social Hour at 6 p.m. and the dinner program at 7 p.m. The event will feature a performance by record-breaking Tony, Grammy and Emmy award winning performer Audra McDonald. More at abcdheroes.org.

SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR FOCUS OF JFK LIBRARY FORUM

The JFK Library will host a public forum on Mon., Oct. 28 from 6-7:30 p.m. focused a new book about America's first female Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor. More info at jfklibrary.org.

REP. LYNCH HOSTS SERVICE ACADEMY WORKSHOP ON NOV. 3

Congressman Stephen F. Lynch (D-MA-08) will host an information session for all high school students interested in applying to one of the United States Service Academies on Sun., Nov. 3 from 10 a.m.- noon at Braintree Town Hall, 1 JFK Memorial Dr., Braintree. All students and their families are welcome to attend. For those unable to attend, more information on the Service Academy nomination process is available at lynch.house.gov.

PUMPKIN FLOAT AT POPE JOHN PAUL II PARK

The Neponset River Greenway Council and DCR will host the annual Pumpkin Float at Davenport Creek inside Pope John Paul II Park in Neponset on Tues., Oct. 22 at 5:30 p.m. The event is held near the Hallet Street entrance to the park.

FARMERS MARKET IN PEABODY SQUARE

The Ashmont-Peabody Square Farmers Market is open for the season at the Ashmont MBTA plaza. The market will be open every Friday from 3-7 p.m. through Oct. 18. It includes farm-fresh produce, local meats, artisan breads and pastries, live music and

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Roman tragedy recast for the modern era at the Little House

(Continued from page 1) society, and it's time for people to really rise up and understand their position in this and challenge power across class lines, race lines, and the way in which people are oppressed due to their race, their gender, and their sexuality."

Boudreau, a South End native and actor, founded Praxis on November 9, 2016 – the day after the fateful 2016 presidential election. As such, most of the company's works are framed in the context of a protest or challenge of what they perceive to be a white supremacist establishment. Like Shakespeare, Boudreau says he has conflicted feelings about democracy, which reveal themselves in his interpretation of the play.

"I think democracy is a beautiful concept, but I'm also somebody who's getting very nervous about, you know, especially with the past presidential election, it's hard for me not to be really despondent and angry about the common people."

Praxis's version of the play is set in 2049 in a "rapidly degenerating society" that inhabits what can be interpreted as "New Rome." Co-director Audrey Seraphin spoke to the tragic tone



Dorchester native Zair Silva will play the title role of Coriolanus



Praxis Stage founder and director Daniel Boudreau

of the work and how that translates to a dystopian setting.

"This piece is a tragedy, and so often when we look at contemporary works they try to see the good in people. Shakespeare takes it from a completely opposite perspective where the citizens are sort of this many-headed mob," she said. "It's a play that looks at class a lot. In our play it looks at race a lot. Daniel and I did a lot of intentional casting to make sure that all of our generals and protagonists are played



Lauren Squier, left, and Zair Silva spar in front of the play's dystopian set. Ďan Šheehan photo

by people of color, and our ensemble is predominantly white."

The interactions between protagonist Coriolanus and the common people of Rome, who put the general on a pedestal before eventually plotting his downfall, reminded Seraphin of the way American society views professional athletes.

"During the rehearsal process, a lot of the things with Antonio Brown and the Patriots were something that I was following, sort of looking at the repercussions of fame...the generals are thought of as the sort of characters you can collect stats on. Yet the're not really seen as real people, but this pillar and beacon of what it to be a man.'

Zair Silva, the Dorchester native playing the title role of Coriolanus, said he compared his character to Allen Iverson, the star NBA guard whose career often flirted with controversy.

"[Iverson] had so much influence because of what he did on the basketball court," said Silva, "and people embraced him not necessarily as a person but as this brand. But then they were so quick to turn on him and talk trash about him. To me, he's misunderstood, and he's a victim of his circumstance.'

Another way in which Praxis's Coriolanus deviates from tradition is its casting of Thomika Bridwell, a black woman and Roxbury native, in the role of Roman general Titus Lartius.

"It's an honor to be able to play this role, and I'm very proud of Praxis, of Daniel and Audrey for what they're doing in terms of casting all people of color, and particularly women in this role," said Bridwell.

"I've watched a lot of different versions of this play on YouTube and this character is traditionally played by a white man. So, it's amazing for me to be able to embody this character."

Bridwell expressed hope that members of the surrounding Dorchester community, particularly young people, will attend and that the play will spark conversations about race and gender

"I love that as artists we get an opportunity to do that," she said. "To initiate and facilitate some of those harder conversations, and people get to see themselves reflected in ways they may not often get the opportunity to."

Silva noted that the location of the play in an intimate setting in Dorchester is just as important as the work's thematic content.

"I was raised here in Dorchester, in walking distance from here," he said. "I didn't really have much of an opportunity to watch shows that are nearby, that are local. So this to me, if I had had this as a kid to come watch, this would have been really inspirational for me...I kind of see myself. I hope to see kids from around the neighborhood come in to watch this because it could be really inspirational." Praxis's production of Coriolanus will open on Thurs., Oct. 17 and run through Sun., Nov. 3. Plays will take place on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays at 7p.m. and on Sundays at 4p.m. All performances will be staged at Little House at 275 East Cottage St. in Dorchester. To learn more about the company or to purchase tickets, visit praxisstage.com.

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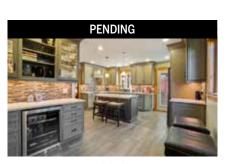
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Revised proposal for old Globe site lowers heights on residential towers

THE REPORTER

(Continued from page 1) the changes to the project over the last year have been informed, in part, by meetings with other stakeholders in the neighborhood.

"A lot of what we think we can do to help bring life to and beautify the entire area is going to depend on partnerships

NMLS #408169.

with entities like the MBTA and DCR," Raftery said. "We'll have to play our role in getting that done. But we're happy to show a design that we think works and we are happy to go out and advocate it as part of our project.'

Raftery said that Center Court has participated in meetings with nearby stakeholders like Boston College High School, Nordblom Co, the developer of The BEAT on the former Globe site, UMass Boston, the Corcoran Jennison Companies, and Accordia Partners, developers of the Bayside property, in looking at the "macro-



A plan to build two residential towers at 75 Morrissey Blvd. (next to the old Globe building) has been scaled back in height. Image courtesy Stantec

picture' of development in the area.

Some members of the civic group who spoke up at Tuesday's meeting are still generally unhappy about the proposal, saying that the height of the towers would be completely out of step with the rest of Dorchester and that the number of units would drastically add to traffic issues along the boulevard.

Other residents countered that density like that of the Center Courts proposal was exactly what was envisioned and outlined in the Columbia Point Master Plan, a document published in

"One of the key principles of the master plan was that we allow developers height and density to get more benefits," said Don Walsh, a Savin Hill resident who chaired the task force that compiled the master plan. "The plan approved height and density because of the betterments that the plan was giving to the community. It was a trade- off.'

One element of the Center Court plan for the part of the Morrissey corridor that it controls between JFK-UMass station and the former

WB56 property site is the construction of a new street that would connect the various properties.

"If this is a neighborhood, the most important thing to do is to connect it to other neighborhoods, and that's not easy," said David Dixon, vice president of planning and urban design at Santec, which is advising Center Court Partners.

"The first thing we need to do is make it a real street that people would want to use," Dixon said. "We want to make sure that we have enough activity-density and housing – so that we can get retail along the

Association member Bruce Shatswell, of Svdney Street, liked the idea of connecting the Morrissey properties to the larger neighborhood.

"I'm going to suggest to you that there needs to be a political will in this, not just a project," he said, "although I like the idea of connecting everything. Part of that might be starting with nomenclature— and it needs to be understood as Dorchester."

He also said that the density of the development could make it hard for some to access the wa-

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terfront on the other side of Morrissey Boulevard. "I'm glad to see a master plan here, but it needs to be coordinated all the way around. If they have a greenway downtown where the expressway was, we need a greenway in Dorchester that is public space and gives us access to the water."

 $Center\,Court\,Partners$ purchased the 2.23-acre site at 75 Morrissey from the car dealer Herb Chambers in June 2017 for \$14.5 million. The group also owns the Star Market parcel and the Beasley Media Group building.

Down the line, Center Court envisions four or five new buildings in phases two and three, accounting for 1,080 units of housing, 86,500 square feet of retail, including a 60,000-square foot market, and around 1,000 parking spaces. This vision sees an existing roadway in the middle of the Hub 25 site extended to and through the new project, creating a tree- and park-lined internal road to the east of the expressway.

Center Court's lawyer, Dennis Quilty, said that the development team has not yet filed any plans with the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA), but hopes to do so soon. The team will then meet again with the Columbia-Savin Hill planning group after assessing feedback.

See more images of the Center Court plan for Morrissey at dotnews.

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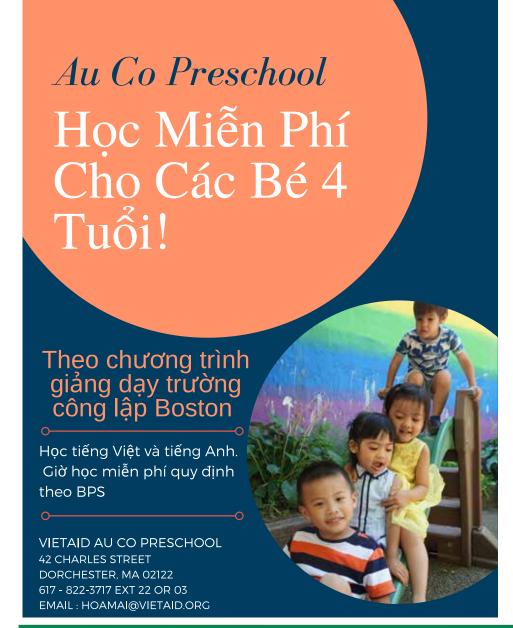
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To the Defendant: Joao Lobo Gomes, LKA, 45 Stonehurst Street, Dorchester, MA 02122

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

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon: William G. Rehrey, Esq., Retired St, Cnty & Muni Employees, 11 Beacon St., Suite 309, Boston, MA 02108 your answer, if any, on or before 11/07/2019. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court. Witness, HON. BRIAN J. DUNN, First

Justice of this Court

Date: October 10, 2019
Felix D. Arroyo Register of Probate
Published: October 17, 2019





dotnews.com October 17, 2019 THE REPORTER Page 19



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF DORCHESTER

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BGCD Members Take Part in MiDDles Program Sponsored by Wells Fargo: See details below.

CONNECT THE DOT:
BGCD Members Take Part in MiDDles Program Sponsored by Wells
Fargo: Members of BGCD MiDDles
program had their first meeting last
week. The lesson plan consisted of understanding the parts of the brain and
how they work. They also did an experiment where the objective was to help
calm us down when we feel anxious or
stressed.

The MiDDles is a program for grades 5 through 8 where members are able to prepare for high school, learn about potential careers, and socialize with friends.

A special thank you to Wells Fargo for supporting Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester and the MiDDles program!

For more information, please visit bgcdorchester.org or contact Tricia at pchapple@bgcdorchester.org.

FIND OUT WHAT'S INSIDE:
BGCD Members Take Part in New
Tumbling Program with UMass
Boston Cheer Team: Every Tuesday
our members are able to learn new
tumbling and cheering moves with the
help of the University of Massachusetts
Boston cheer team. Supported by the
UMass cheer team, our members gain

confidence and new skills.

This program is part of our healthy lifestyles initiative. Tumbling, physical fitness, and other activities serve as motivating tools to teach our members the importance of working toward a goal, staying active, and always giving it their best effort while having fun.

To learn more about our healthy lifestyles programming programming, please visit bgcdorchester.org or contact Brendan at bmcdonald@bgcdorchester.org.



at our Annual Grand Drawing Gala:
Join us on Saturday, November 16th
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Boston for our black-tie gala to benefit
Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester.

The event will include an incredible silent auction, chef prepared four course dinner and dancing to the Uptown Funk of well-known disco band "Booty Vortex!" To add to the excitement, our guests will eagerly await our signature Grand Drawing, hoping to win one of our (TEN) unique Grand Prizes that include vacations, exquisite jewelry, shopping sprees and more!

For tickets please visit our website at bgcdorchester.org/grand-drawing-gala. For more information or sponsorship opportunities, please contact Patty Lamb at plamb@bgcdorchester.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Keystone Milk Street KitchenStarts October 21

Halloween Party at the Denney Center October 31

Destination U College Fair November 7

Grand Drawing - A Night at the Disco!November 16



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Candidates of color need unity, she says

(Continued from page 1)

large city council race, bases much of her campaign work around that mission.

After receiving endorsements earlier this month from former rivals Priscilla Flint-Banks, William King, Domingos DaRosa, and Michel Denis (the latter two participated in the discussion), Mejia has essentially taken up the torch from her fellow candidates of color. Acknowledging the contributions of folks like DaRosa and Denis, Mejia emphasized the importance of unity around a common goal.

"This has to be beyond us," she said. "We have to all be aligned with what the vision is collectively."

Mejia came to the US at the age of five, the daughter of a single mother and undocumented Dominican immigrant.

"My mom came to this country on a visa, but she overstayed her welcome and so she ended up not having papers," Mejia said. "So, at a very early age I had to learn how to navigate systems, learn how to speak English, translate for her, translate for everyone else in the neighborhood, and that's where I got my skills [and learned] to fight. And I've been fighting ever since."

Mejia's Dorchester roots are strong: She became the first in her family to earn a diploma after graduating from Dorchester High School, she worked at a shoe store in Fields Corner as a teen, and she was crowned Little Miss Dorchester in 1989.

But she also grew up in the '80s at a time when the city



Julie Mejia, left, and City Councillor Michelle Wu were seated next to each other during a candidate's forum at Florian Hall on Oct. 1. Yukun Zhang photo

was fraught with racial tension, a reality that shaped her outlook on matters of race and economic injustice. Mejia recalled a traumatic childhood memory: A neighbor, unprovoked, turned his dog loose on her. "It was really challenging to be an immigrant in the city of Boston, and in Dorchester in particular," she said..."but that was what it was like back

Mejia later moved to New York for a while and got a job $covering \, the \, 2000 \, presidential$ election as a producer for MTV. That experience planted in her the seeds of a career in public service, she said.

"I always have known that our vote is our voice, and that work traveling around the country and seeing how people were so apathetic inspired me to continue to be engaged in not politics so much, but just in civics."

With the goal of increasing civic engagement in mind, Mejia launched Determined Divas, an organization focused on registering low-income residents to vote and encouraging them to participate in the political process.

"I launched Determined Divas because I was tired of elected officials knocking on my door asking me for my vote and then I don't see you anymore," she said.

"We wanted to build the infrastructure so we could host elected official dialogues postelection to keep you engaged and to create opportunities for constituents to co-design policies so that we're not left out of the conversation. And it's through that process that I was inspired to run."

At the discussion, Mejia laid out a few of her core policy goals, one of them the creation of a Poverty Intervention Oversight Committee on the city council that would assess just how effectively various agencies are working to narrow Boston's socio-economic

She has also set her sights on campaign finance reform, noting that too many political campaigns are based on a "pay to play" system that favors wealthy candidates and reinforces obstacles for working class candidates like herself. A first step toward a fairer system could start with taking cues from New York's campaign finance legislation, she suggested.

"In New York there's a matching fund program. If you raise a percentage, the city

matches it. We've seen in New York that more low-income candidates of color are running because they have the support to do so."

Mejia sees herself as essentially being an all the time candidate, engaging with prospective voters in laundromats, nail salons, Dunkin Donuts, Stop & Shop, even approaching cars stopped at a red light to talk. In touting her grassroots origins, she casts her opponents in the race as "political insiders" while aligning herself with everyday people.

"I believe that as the last community organizer/activist standing in the race, I have a sense of responsibility to make sure that people don't lose faith in democracy," she said. "We need to see ourselves reflected in positions of power. We don't need to be super polished, or policy wonks. Our lived experience does count for something, and that matters."

In discussing her focus on the campaign trail in the weeks leading up to next month's election, Mejia returned once again to the theme of that morning's discussion: activating the underrepresented voter base.

"I'm making a concerted effort in making sure that we wake up the sleeping giant, which are our marginalized communities, low-income communities, black and brown in particular," she said. "Because I'm thinking of a long-term strategy-this is not just about my election or about me as a candidate. This about how do we build power for black and brown communities to recognize that we do matter."

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The people are ready to be involved, she says

(Continued from page 1) pay more attention to the beleagured MBTA (maybe, she says, make it a fare-free operation); and, most recently, she spoke up loudly with a 72-page review of her concerns about the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA). Bottom line: She wants it "abolished.

"There's a sense more than ever this year at the polls that people are excited about city government and are ready to partner on the issues that matter," Wu said in an interview with the Reporter. "My goal over the next few weeks is to keep getting out there and push turnout as high as we can possibly get it."

"People talk about being disappointed that it was 11 percent of voters that came out to vote in September," Wu, a Roslindale resident, said. "But I think it's important to point out that having the election in and of itself was a victory because Boston has not had a preliminary in a council-only year since 2003."

Her strategy going into the Nov. 5 general election is to focus on policy and organizing, she said. Some of her areas relate to the ever-growing traffic and transportation problem, out of reach housing prices, and the climate crisis that she says is already affecting Boston neighborhoods.

"We are in a really important moment for the city and the country," she said, "and residents across every neighborhood are ready to get involved with shaping the future of their community. That very much depends on the council exercising leadership with bold, progressive actions," she added. "We need to give people a reason to come out to vote and that means putting forward the ideas that I hope to see the council address next term."

As to her call to shut down the BPDA, last week she went public with her belief that Boston's current development processes, rather than harnessing the city's growth to address urgent challenges, have instead exacerbated inequality, traffic and congestion, and climate vulnerability.

"We can't afford to maintain a complicated system that only the powerful and privileged can navigate," Wu wrote in her review. "For us to be connected and have a comprehensive citywide planning effort really would be moving us toward the future that we're missing out on, one where [we're] harnessing our growth and development as a way to fix our problems. We need to move away from a system based on special exceptions and driven by influence toward a system based on community driven planning."

In place of the BPDA, Wu has proposed the creation of a new Planning Department that would "overhaul the zoning code to introduce consistency and predictability to the development process" and "begin compiling a comprehensive master plan built on meaningful community engagement."

She added: "Right now we are looking at every new development on its own, and it's a new negotiation that frustrates everyone involved. Residents feel like they have to gear up for battle with every new project, and developers don't have any predictability about what they might be able

to build, how long it will take, or what they will need to do to match community needs."

Wu, who currently serves as chair of the Council's Committee on Planning, Development, and Transportation, says her report is based on feedback and research from conversations with residents, public hearings on proposed projects, meetings with civic leaders and neighborhood associations, and historical research.

She said that "many residents in Dorchester," where community engagement and diversity are important, "were the inspiration for pieces of the report, and the need to put all of it into one recommendation. The neighborhood really represents the diversity and promise of the city and a history of all of the waves of immigration and welcoming new people. And it's now really a hot spot for development."

Wu calls the BPDA approach to development "complicated, expensive, unpredictable and inconsistent," and says that the city needs to look at the issue in a more holistic way, taking into account factors like climate resilience, housing affordability, and transportation.

"When we have a system based on a lot of complications and needing to get special approvals there's a very small number of interests that win out," Wu said.
"And it's developers and businesses who know the system because they have those relationships or can pay someone to guide them through it. But the vast majority of people don't have a way to meaningfully get through."

With respect to traffic

and transportation, Wu said, "I think in general we need to move away having parking minimums and instead focus on how we get every part of the city connected to public transit," Wu said. "When I say planning, it's about connecting that conversation with the one about parking minimums."

"The city council is the way that residents can have the most direct access to what's happening in the city," Wu said. "Our job is to provide that transparency and ask the questions of city agencies. The team of councillors that voters will choose on November 5 really will have a tremendous impact on people's daily lives and offer the potential for everyone to be part of and included in government."





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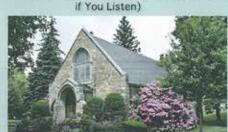
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CHRISTMAS, nest A., 86, of Dorches-Predeceased his parents Stella and Ernest Christmas, he leaves his wife Lucy (Harris) Christmas of Dorchester, six children: Junior Christmas and his wife Joanne of Roslindale, Yvette Carrethers and her husband Robert of Phoenix, AZ. and Joan Edwards. Ingrid Christmas, Sharon Christmas and Lindon Christmas, all of Dorchester; ten grandchildren, and 3 greatgrandchildren. He was the brother of Rudolph Christmus of Tennessee and Gloria Hopkinson of London, and brother-inlaw of Iona Christmus, Elsie Williams and Wendy Joseph. He was a special uncle to Diana (Annie) and Lauryn, Cecil, Rudolph, Oliver and Joy. Ernest was born and raised in Guyana and came to Boston in 1971. He was a skilled welder by trade and worked at General Dynamics for many years. Honor Ernest with laughter and a smile. Commit random acts of kindness and expect nothing in return.

FRASSIČA, Josephine (Murphy). Josie was a proud City of Boston Parking Enforcement Officer for many years. Josie was predeceased by her husband

of 51 years, Joseph, her sisters, Jacqueline Dalzell, Lillian Tagliaferro, and Helen Walsh, her brothers Walter and Robert Murphy and her granddaughter Christine Macauley. She is survived by her sister, Rita Regan of Spring Hill, FL and her children, Beverly Downey of Spring Hill, FL, Jilda Vuilleumier and her husband Robert of Hernando, FL, Jacqueline Frassica of Hudson, FL, John Frassica and his wife Damaris of Tampa, FL and Dr. Joseph Frassica and his wife Tina of Gloucester, MA, as well as nine grandchildren and eleven greatgrandchildren. Please send donations to the Alzheimer's Association,

www.alz.org LYONS, Paul V. of Milton. Husband of the late Elaine M. (Hurley) Lyons. Father of Judith Lyons of Quincy, Maureen Trowbridge and her husband Peter of Burlington, Paula Small and her husband Matthew of South Boston, and Joseph Lyons and his wife Kristen of Houston, TX. Grandfather of Peter, William and Caroline Trowbridge, Audrey, Jack and Grace Lyons, and Kathleen Small. Son of the late Joseph and Doris (Griffin) Lyons. Brother of Robert

Virginia of Needham. Brother-in-law of Marie Fitzpatrick and her late husband Edward of Hingham. Nephew of Dorothy Connors of Dorchester. Paul is also survived by two nephews, Edward, Jr. and his wife Joanne Fitzpatrick of Reading and William and his wife Karen Fitzpatrick of Weymouth their wonderful and families. Donations in Paul's memory may be made to the Quincy Retired Teachers Scholarship Fund, 124 Briar Westwood, MA Lane. 02090. MANNING, Freda

Lyons and his late wife

M. (Fitzgerald) of Dorchester. Wife of James M. Manning. Mother of Daniel, Jeremiah, and James Manning, all of Dorchester. Daughter of the late Jeremiah and Oonagh (O'Neill) Fitzgerald. Sister of Katherine Kelliher Weymouth, Frances Lyons of Falmouth, Laurence Fitzgerald of Plymouth, Joan Smith of Rochester, NH and the late William Fitzgerald. Remembrances may be made to the Pat Roche Hospice House, 86 Turkey Hill Land, Hingham, MA 02043.

O'DONNELL, John J. lifelong resident of Dorchester. Husband of the late Patricia A. (Durnin) O'Donnell. Father of Joseph B. and Christine O'Donnell, Dorchester, bothof and the late Kathleen O'Donnell. Also survived by many cousins and neighbors. Vet. Korean War, USMC. Donations may be made in memory of John to St. Brendan's Parish, 15 Rita Rd., Dorchester, MA 02124.

PICCIONE, Paolo of Westwood, 87. Husband of Maria (Giacobbe) Piccione. Father of Sandra Laurenti of Westwood, Mary DiDonato of Dedham, and John Piccione of Westwood.

RIDEOUT, Carmie (Zimmerman), 88. Born in Piketon, OH, she is survived by husband John of Norway, ME, sister Debbie Adkins of FL, and daughters Linda Rideout of NC, Helen Occhipinti of MA, and Constance Lamattina of ME. She also leaves behind many grandgreatchildren and grandchildren. She will join both of her sons in heaven - Daniel Rideout of AZ and John Clifford Rideout, III of Taunton, who predeceased her.

SWANSON, Richard, lifelong resident of Dorchester, 64. Born in 1954 in Boston, Richy is survived by his mother, Lillian (Alcott) to whom he was devoted. He was preceded in death by his father, Joseph Swanson. Richy was a longtime communicant of St. Ambrose Church, and a dedicated advocate for the Fields Corner Library. He was the father of Danielle Garlinger of Mansfield, Sherelle Swanson of Dorchester, Michelle Francis of Nova Scotia and stepfather to Jennifer Kelly of Braintree and the late Jeana Kelly. He is also survived by his grandchildren, Loralei and Zachary Garlinger and Charlotte Austin, all of Mansfield, and Zaire and Georgina Francis, both of Nova Scotia; his siblings, James Swanson of Brockton and William Swanson of Longmeadow; his sisterin-law Sarah Swanson of Dorchester; his former companion Catherine Kelly of Mansfield and many nieces and nephews. Richy was predeceased by his siblings, Maureen Sullivan and David and Joseph Swan-

LEGAL NOTICES

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE & FAMILY COURT SUFFOLK DIVISION
24 NEW CHARDON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02114
Docket No. SU18D0049DR
DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION and MAILING LISA DEDONNO

vs. NICHOLAS DeDONNO

To the Defendant:

The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown of the Marriage. The Complaint is on file at the Court. An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the cur-rent financial status of either party. SEE

Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411 You are hereby summoned and re quired to serve upon: Michael A. Podolski Esg., Law Offices of Michael A. Podolski 601 High St., Suite 202, Dedham, MA 02026 your answer, if any, on or before 12/03/2019. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court. Witness, HON. BRIANJ. DUNN, First

Date: October 3, 2019 Felix D. Arrovo Register of Probate
Published: October 17, 2019

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT **PROBATE & FAMILY COURT** SUFFOLK PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT

24 NEW CHARDON STREET BOSTON, MA 02114 617-788-8300 CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME Docket No. SU19C0210CA IN THE MATTER OF: VICTORIA CONCEPCION

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Victoria Concepcion of Boston, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: Victoria Pena

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Suffolk Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of **10/31/2019**. This is not a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceedina.

Witness, HON. BRIAN J DUNN, First Justice of this Court Date: October 09, 2019 Felix D. Arroyo Register of Probate

Published: October 17, 2019

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE & FAMILY COURT
DEPARTMENT
SUFFOLK DIVISION Docket No. 19W1269 SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION RHYHEEMMA JUNE BURNS Plaintiff(S)

ALONZO MONTREZ DELOACH, Defendant(s)
To the above named Defendant(s):

Alonzo Montrez Deloach A Complaint has been presented to this Court by the Plaintiff, Rhyheem ma June Burns, seeking a Complain or Custody-Support-Parenting Time

You are required to serve upor Suffolk Probate and Family Cour whose address is 24 New Chardor St., Boston, MA 02114 your answe on or before 14th day of November

If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adiudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer in the office of the Register of this Court at Boston.
Witness, BRIAN J. DUNN, ES-

QUIRE, First Judge of said Court this 1st day of October 2019. Felix D. Arroyo Register of Probate

Published: October 19, 2019

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE & FAMILY COURT
SUFFOLK DIVISION
24 NEW CHARDON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02114 Docket No. SU19D2053DR DIVORCE SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION and MAILING
SHARON RDDICK

vs. CHARLES A. NDANGO

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

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon: Sharon Rd-dick, 1875 Dorchester Ave., Apt. 317, Dorchester, MA 02124 your answer. any, on or before 11/29/2019. If you fa to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action You are also required to file a copy o your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court. Witness, HON. BRIANJ. DUNN, First

Justice of this Court.
Date: October 8, 2019

Felix D. Arrovo Register of Probate Published: October 17, 2019

LEGAL NOTICES

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. SUL1091786FA Docket No. SU19P1786EA ESTATE OF: BOBBIE J. PIPER DATE OF DEATH: 01/09/2019

A petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Ada Gamble of Boston, 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: Ada Gamble of Boston, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in an unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Vol. bour the right to abtain a proper of the

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

Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 11/21/2019.
This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

Unsupervised Administration
Under The Massachusetts Uniform
Probate Code (MUPC)

APersonal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration

the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annua 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: October 02, 2019

Felix D. Arroyo Register of Proba Published: October 17, 2019

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT PHOBATE 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. SU19P2206EA ESTATE OF: JOHN E. BARBOUR, SR. DATE OF DEATH: 03/08/2017

A petition for Public Administration has been filed by Ryan Blake of Salem, MArequesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requests in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Ryan Blake of Salem, MA be appointed as Pages all Pages and the Salem and the Salem Pages and Pages and the Salem Advantage Pages and Pages and Pages Pages All Pages Advantage Pages Page Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve With Personal 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 proceed. ing. To do so, you or your attorney must file written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a m. on the return day of 11/11/2019.

of 11/11/2019.
This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

Unsupervised Administration
Under The Massachusetts Uniform
Probate Code (MUPC)

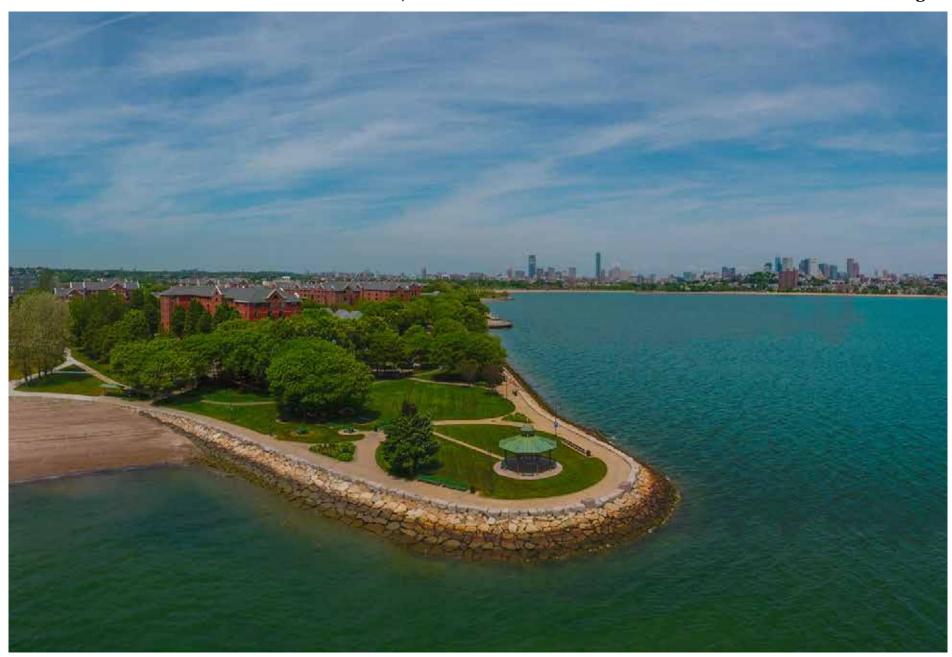
APersonal Representative appointed under

sonal Representative appointed unde

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 30, 2019

Felix D. Arroyo Register of Probate Published: October 17, 2019



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