Dorchester Reporter

"The News and Values Around the Neighborhood"

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Wu, Essaibi George tangle in TV debate Candidate duel over finances, BPS exam and 'free' MBTA

By GINTAUTAS DUMCIUS Managing Editor

With two independent polls showing her down by a 30-point margin, Annissa Essaibi George on Tuesday went on the offensive against mayoral rival Michelle Wu, as the two sparred over personal real estate

dealings, education and fare-free public transit in an hour-long NBC10 debate just days before early voting starts and two weeks before Election Day.

The debate, moderated by NBC10 anchor and Dorchester native Latoyia Edwards, opened with

candidates getting a chance to go directly at each other. Essaibi George charged that Wu is "delivering, I think, inconsistent messages, depending on the neighborhood you're in," on the process to enter the city's three exam schools. The changes, an effort to

increase diversity among the students, have drawn fire from parents in West Roxbury and other parts of the city.

"That's simply not true, Annissa," Wu said. "And this is a big distinction between us. That I support having equity in

(Continued on page 12)



Candidates Wu, left and Essaibi George, right, with moderator Latoyia Edwards in debate studio.

Mark Garfinkel/NBC10 Boston photo

A MURDER ON VIRGINIA STREET

Neighbors: Group homes adding to risk of violence

By SETH DANIEL REPORTER CORRESPONDENT

There's nothing new about police cars and ambulances zooming to Virginia Street. Neighbors say first responders frequent this Uphams Corner side street on a weekly basis, responding to emergencies and disturbances, often related to incidents at one or another group home on the

Last Monday evening, however, saw a far more serious situation unfold: A 43-year-old man was stabbed to death inside 6 Virginia St. The victim, identified as Peter Contois from Webster, Mass., had been living at the home, which is run by Victory Programs, a non-profit specializing in group housing for people in recovery.

There have been no arrests yet, but leaders of Victory Programs told the Reporter that the homicide was the result of an incident between two residents inside of the building.

Virginia Street spans about three quiet blocks and flows into Uphams Corner, but for a long time it has been a destination location for group homes and sober houses – offering services within a neighborhood setting for those in recovery, those coming off



Virginia Street resident Aaron Larget-Caplan in front of one of the many group homes on the small street flowing into Uphams Corner - with this particular group home being the site of a homicide on Oct. 11.

Seth Daniel photo

homelessness and/or reintegrating after incarceration.

While most neighbors said in interviews that they agree having such facilities is part of living in the city, they also think that the density on their street is now at a point where bad things are starting to happen.

Beyond last week's murder, there were two shootings on the street last summer, including one that was tied to another group home, neighbors

Victory Programs runs two homes on the street. Vinfen runs another two homes, and Faith House owner Joe Pizziferri Jr. operates two sober homes on the street and a third within eyeshot, on Arion Street.

Resident Aaron Larget-Caplan said neighbors have long had issues with the density and operations of homes, but 2021 has been historically bad.

"I call Vinfen more than I call my mother," said the music teacher who (Continued on page 14)

Panel backs off on breakup plan for Dot's Senate district Ward 16 precincts

will remain intact within city bounds

> By Gintautas Dumcius Managing Editor

Lawmakers in charge of redrawing political boundaries across the state on Tuesday dropped a plan to break

up a section of Dorchester in the Senate. The move came after local groups raised the possibility of legal action and labor unions with a heavy presence in the area waded into the debate that occurred in



Sen. Nick Collins **Retains Ward 16**

the wake of the decennial US Census.

A redrawing of the boundaries of the state's legislative and Congressional districts happens after every federal census report. Districts include wards, which are further broken down into precincts.

Sen. William Brownsberger, a Belmont Democrat who co-chairs the Legislature's redistricting committee, said that three precincts from Ward 16 that had been reassigned to a suburban Senate district in a draft proposal had been restored to the First Suffolk Senate district, which is represented by Nick Collins of South Boston.

The earlier map called for the breaking up of Dorchester's Ward 16 as a Senate district by placing the three precincts — 16-9, 16-10, and 16-12, which are in the Adams Corner, Neponset, and Port Nor-

(Continued on page 6)

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Poll: Most Boston voters say using the T is safe

DARRYL C. MURPHY WBUR REPORTER

A new WBUR-Dorchester Reporter-The Boston Foundation poll shows that a majority of Boston voters think the conditions on the MBTA are generally safe. Still, many say there is room for improvement after a series of recent accidents.

In just the past five weeks, the MBTA suffered resulted in nine reported of Jamaica Plain, who noted injuries, a deadly fall on a rusted, fenced-off staircase next to JFK-UMass station and a derailment on the Red Line. That's in addition to the dozens of other derailments in recent years.

"I do see a lot more train situations and accidents and derails happening that the T is his main form of transportation.

The poll found 73 percent of likely Boston voters rated the MBTA at least $somewhat\, safe.\, But\, just\, 19$ percent called it "very safe."

Said Rich Parr, research director at the MassINC Polling Group, which con-

an escalator malfunction more and more as time goes ducted the research: "A lot at Back Bay Station that on," said Jeremy Dunajski of people think it's mostly OK, but very few people think that it's completely fine.'

The poll showed that even more people had reservations when asked about Covid-19. Parr said the data show the pandemic is still heavy on people's minds, despite broad access

(Continued on page 13)

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Early voting for final election will begin on Saturday

Early voting for the Nov. 2 election, which will feature mayoral and City Council candidates on the ballot, starts this Saturday (Oct. 23), and runs through Fri., Oct. 29. Any registered voter in Boston can cast a vote at any early voting location in that timeframe.

The ballot will also have questions. The first one asks whether the City Council should have expanded budgetary powers as they work with the mayor to pass a multibillion citywide budget.

Another question asks whether Boston should go back to an elected School Committee. The committee, which was elected until the 1990s, is currently appointed by the mayor.

A third question asks whether an electric substation should be built in East Boston.

 $Boston\ City\ Hall\ serves\ as\ the\ main\\ early\ voting\ location, with\ the\ site\ open$

for voting Tuesday through Friday. On Tuesday and Thursday, the facility is open from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. On Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, it will be open between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

The rest of the early voting locations are available below.

Sat., Oct. 23 – 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. BCYF Paris Street, 112 Paris St., East Boston.

Condon Elementary School, 200 D St., South Boston.

Murphy School, 1 Worrell St., Dorchester.

Thelma D. Burns Building, 575

Warren St., Dorchester.
Another Course to College, 612 E

Metropolitan Ave., Hyde Park.
BCYF Roche 1716 Centre St., West

Roxbury.
BCYF Shelburne, 2730 Washington
St., Roxbury.

Central Library in Copley Square,

700 Boylston St.

Jackson Mann School, 500 Cambridge St., Allston.

BCYF Quincy, 885 Washington St., Chinatown.

Sun., Oct. 24 – 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. BCYF Paris Street 112 Paris St., East Boston.

Condon Elementary School 200 D St., South Boston.

Murphy School, 1 Worrell St., Dorchester.

ABCD Thelma D. Burns Building, 575 Warren St., Dorchester.

Another Course to College, 612 E Metropolitan Ave., Hyde Park. BCYF Roche, 1716 Centre St., West

Roxbury. BCYF Shelburne, 2730 Washington

St., Roxbury.
Central Library in Copley Square,

700 Boylston St. Jackson Mann School, 500 Camoridge St., Allston.

BCYF Quincy, 885 Washington St., Chinatown.

Tues., Oct. 26 – 12 to 8 p.m.
BCYF Tobin, 1481 Tremont St.,
Boston

Boston.
Harvard/Kent School, 50 Bunker
Hill St., Charlestown.

Margarita Muniz Academy, 20 Child St., Jamaica Plain.

BCYF Mildred Ave Community Center, 5 Mildred Ave., Mattapan.

Thurs., Oct. 28 – Noon to 8 p.m.

Saint Nectarios Greek Orthodox Church, 39 Belgrade Avenue, Roslindale.

District Hall, 75 Northern Ave., Seaport.

BCYF Perkins, 155 Talbot Ave., Dorchester.

Kroc Center, 650 Dudley St., Dorchester.

UPCOMING CIVIC MEETINGS AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

An at-large city council forum will be held on Thurs., Oct. 21 at 7 p.m. at St. Brendan's Church Lower Hall, 589 Gallivan Blvd. Moderated by Gintautas Dumcius and Katie Trojano of the Reporter.

Mayoral debate on Monday — The final Boston mayoral cebate will be held on Monday, Oct. 25 at 7 p.m. at WCVB Channel 5. It will be broadcast live and is hosted by WCVB in partnership with a media and educational consortium that includes The Boston Globe, WBUR, and the University of Massachusetts Boston's McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies.

District four forum— The two finalists for the District 4 city council seat— Brian Worrell and Evandro Carvalho, meet in a Zoom forum. RSVP to district-four-forum. eventbrite.com.

Men of Boston Cook for Women's Health, a virtual event to support the Codman Square Health Center, will be held on **Thurs., Oct. 28 from 6-7 p.m.** For ticket and donation info, see Codman.org/menofbostoncook.

Live music in Savin Hill Park on Sunday, October 24, from 1-4 p.m. Enjoy local acoustic music, featuring the Savin Hillbillies. All are welcome to join an open jam at the conclusion of the event. Bring your own chairs, blankets, and instruments. Interested in performing? Contact: savinhill@outlook.com.

Pumpkin Parade for Kids at Pope John Paul Park in Neponset on Thurs., Oct. 28 at 5:30 p.m. Costumes and carved pumpkins along the Neponset Greenway with music, candy and a pumpkin patch sponsored by DCR, Neponset River Greenway Council and NepRWA. Candy by Phillips Candy House. Email ripley@neponset.org or call 781-575-0354 x 301 for info.

The Martin Richard Foundation, in partnership with the Boston Bruins Foundation, New Balance and DMSE



Sports will host the fourth annual MR8K at Boston Landing on Sat., Dec. 4. Registration is now open at mr8k.org. The 5-mile course will take place at Warrior Ice Arena at Boston Landing. More than 2,000 people participated in 2019 event at Boston landing and the inaugural event at TD Garden, which resulted in a \$100,000 donation to McLean Hospital's LEADER program to support first responders. Registration is \$45. The event is open to

runners, walkers and para-athletes of all abilities, as well as families with small children.

Franklin Park Turkey Trot will be held Thurs., Nov. 25 Thanksgiving morning at 9 a.m. We're back running (or walking) in person with safety measures in place to protect your health. Participate in this timed 5k and support programs in Franklin Park. All ages, strollers, and race-friendly dogs on leash are welcome. Prizes for best costumes and by age-group. Sign up your running group, a family team, or just yourself: fpc5k.com.

Ashmont Hill Chamber Music concert features cellist Sterling Elliot and pianist Wynona Yinuo Wang at Peabody Hall, 209 Ashmont St., Dorchester at 4 p.m. See ahchambermusic.org for more info.

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Medical examiner: Jimmy Hayes died of drug overdose

By Reporter Staff

Dorchester native Jimmy Hayes lost his life last summer in part due to a lethal combination of cocaine and fentanyl, according to a report from the state's medical examiner that was made public last weekend. The former NHL and Boston College hockey star was found dead at age 31 in his Milton home on Aug. 23. His death, the state report said, is considered accidental.

On Sunday, the *Boston* Globe published a story by sports columnist Dan Shaughnessy that included comments from Hayes's widow, Kristen, and father, Kevin Hayes, Sr., who are still mourning his death, but wanted to go public with



The Boston Bruins memorialized the late Jimmy Hayes during their home opener on Sunday at the TD Garden. Hayes, who died in August at 31, played for the Bruins for two years during his NHL career. The Hayes family spoke out about his death, which tests have shown was caused by intoxication from a mixture of cocaine and fentanyl.

Photos courtesy Boston Bruins

the news, in part to help "I was so certain that prevent future overdose it had nothing to do with incidents. drugs," Kristen Hayes told Shaughnessy. "I



that wasn't that [drugs] ... It didn't make any sense, so it was hard. I was hoping to get a different phone call when they called. I was hoping to get some clarity and I was shocked to hear that it was that ... He never showed any signs of a struggle at home."

The father, a wellknown presence in Dorchester, told the Globe that his son had sought treatment in recent years for addiction to painkillers that he began taking after injuries during his playing career.

"You have a beautiful, All-American boy who made a terrible mistake and it cost him his life," he told Shaughnessy.

Hayes - along with his brother Kevin Hayes, Jr., who plays for the NHL's Philadelphia Flyersis perhaps the most successful professional athlete to emerge from the Dorchester neighborhood. A product of the Dorchester Youth Hockey program based at the Devine Rink in Neponset, Jimmy became a national name in hockey circles while skating for Boston College, where he and his team won a national championship in 2010. He went on to a seven-year career in the NHL, including two seasons wearing the blackand-gold of the Boston

Bruins. He finished his career in New Jersey in 2018.

On Sunday, the Bruins honored the hometown favorite during their home opener at TD Garden as players added "Jimmy 11" decals to their helmets.

He left behind two sons— two-year-old Beau and five-monthold Mac. On Monday, his widow further discussed Jimmy's death on her Instagram account, writing: "Though we are shocked and heartbroken beyond words, I choose to remember my husband and the boys' father by the enormous love and joy he brought us and so many others. This battle does not define him, and I will still tell my boys to #belikejimmy."

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Janey issues tent ban for 'Mass. and Cass'

Tents and temporary shelters will be banned in Boston and the city will partner with state officials to stand up a new centralized command structure tasked with responding to a worsening addiction and homelessness crisis, officials said Tuesday.

really thought it was a

heart attack or anything

After weeks of growing concern about the conditions around the intersection of Massachusetts

Avenue and Melnea Cass Boulevard, or "Mass. and Cass," the Boston Public Health Commission on Tuesday declared substance use disorder. unsheltered homelessness, and related issues in the city to be a public health crisis.

Acting Mayor Kim Janey issued an executive order that will prohibit the use of tents and temporary shelters in the city, saying at a press conference that 'we cannot let our most vulnerable residents continue to suffer in these encampments. It is very difficult to provide outreach and treatment when people are living in tents."

Janey's office and the Baker administration did not make it immediately clear Tuesday how state resources would be

used in the city's new effort to get people out of tents and into shelter and treatment beds.

Last month, Gov. Baker said his administration had spoken several times with city leaders about the "humanitarian crisis" around the Mass. and Cass area.

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Baker and GOP chair Lyons lock horns in intraparty spat Funding for candidate who wrote Anti-Asian posts is issue at hand

By Gintautas Dumcius Managing Editor

The Massachusetts GOP's support for a Boston City Council at-large candidate who posted anti-Asian comments and conspiracy theories to social media has sparked an all-out war between two of the state's top Republicans.



Gov. Baker, a moderate Republican who maintains a high favorable rating among the electorate, told the *Reporter* last week that the state GOP's chairman, Jim

Lyons, should resign from his post after the party apparatus funneled \$3,697 toward digital ads to help Dorchester boxer Donnie Palmer in the September preliminary for City Council. T

The party, which has struggled in the fundraising department under Lyons, also sent out mailers on Palmer's behalf. The candidate came up short in the race, finishing in 14th place out of 17 who were on the ballot. The top eight candidates advanced to the Nov. 2 election.

Hours after Baker's comments, Lyons fired back, saying it may be "time for Gov. Baker to reconsider his party affiliation." He also sent out a fundraising email blasting Baker over his comments to the *Reporter* and ramped up criticism of the governor's vaccine mandate for state workers.

Baker, who frequently criticized former President Donald Trump, has often clashed with Lyons, a Trump supporter and former state lawmaker who became state party chairman



Massachusetts GOP chairman Jim Lyons, is rebuffing Gov. Charlie Baker's call for him to resign after his support for a City Council candidate.

State House News Service photo

in 2019 and won reelection in 2021. Baker's comments to the *Reporter* after Lyons' support for Palmer were the first time he had directly called on Lyons to resign.

While a candidate, Palmer said he was attempting to become the first Black Republican on the 13-member council. On social media, he attacked mayoral candidate Michelle Wu, the daughter of Taiwanese immigrants who was born in Chicago. He falsely called her a Chinese citizen and posted a photo of her side by side with one of Chinese leader Xi Jinping.

Palmer also falsely claimed that the 2020 election was stolen and criticized coronavirus vaccines.

"First of all, I've expressed previously my concerns about the level of vitriol and racism that's come out of a number of members of the committee," Baker told the *Reporter* after an unrelated event at Boston's Park Plaza Hotel. "I'm not familiar with this particular incident but unfortunately I'm dismayed, but on some level I'm

not surprised. It's a continuation of a practice that has no place in life, much less in public life."

Baker added: "And I said previously that I thought, based on some of the previous incidents that had taken place, especially with respect to the gay and lesbian community, that Jim Lyons should step down. I continue to believe that."

Baker was referencing anti-gay remarks made by a member of the Republican State Committee, who said she was "sickened" by a Republican Congressional candidate's adoption of children with his husband. Lyons at the time decried a "woke cancel culture mentality."

Baker said any next steps are up to the state committee, adding that he has previously said members should take a vote on these types of issues. "They are for all intents and purposes the organization that oversees the operations of the party apparatus, which is what we are talking about here," he said. Baker has not yet said whether or not he is running for a third four-year term in 2022.

The state GOP itself has not responded to requests for a reaction to Baker's stand; instead, it issued a statement to reporters after Baker's published comments that did not address its support of Palmer.

Nor has it responded to the *Reporter's* requests for comment earlier last week about backing Palmer's candidacy amid his racist social media posts.

On Thursday, Boston.com reported that Lyons was aware of Palmer's posts during the at-large preliminary. A member of the state committee flagged the anti-Asian posts to Lyons in late August, and asked him to retract the support for Palmer.

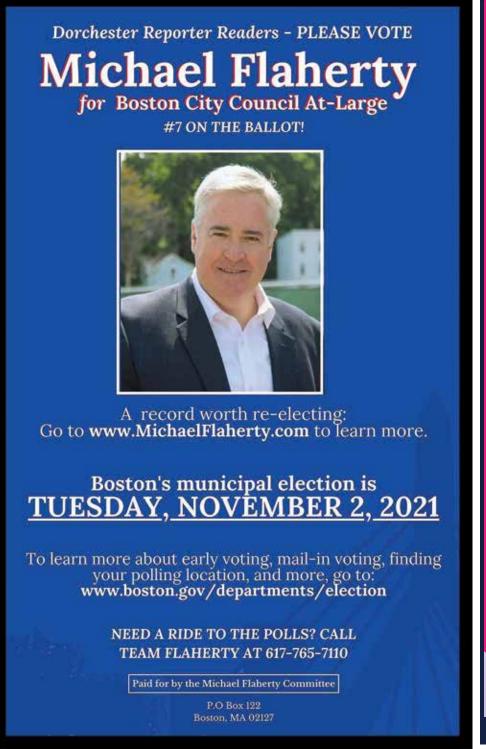
The state committee member shared screenshots of a text exchange with Lyons, showing her efforts to get Lyons to "denounce Asian hate" by Palmer. Lyons instead offered Palmer's contact information and told her to take it up with the candidate.

In a statement released to the media on Friday afternoon, Lyons argued that while in the Legislature he had supported the defeat of a bill that would have created a "registry system" of Asian Americans, while Baker backed Trump's impeachment.

"Sorry Charlie, unlike you, I will continue to fight for this great country and will continue to refuse to submit to the agenda of the radical left," Lyons said.

With the preliminary behind him, Palmer has now taken to social media with claims of a challenge against Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley, a Boston Democrat who is up for reelection next year.

Material from State House News Service was used in this report.





At-large race taking shape as a contest for two spots

REPORTER CORRESPONDENT The eight candidates vying for one of four at-large spots on Boston's city council are chasing votes across the neighborhoods this week ahead of the Nov. 2 general election. With early voting kicking off this weekend, the race is widely seen as a contest for two open spots, with recent polls showing incumbents Michael Flaherty and Julia Mejia — the top two finishers in the Sept. 14 preliminary— still running strong.

A hard-fought battle is now afoot for spots 3 through 5 right now, with the contenders pumping out endorsements and going to in-person events in search of an edge down the stretch. Even a fifthplace finish is a coveted spot this cycle, since Flaherty is widely seen as a potential Suffolk County DA appointment if current DA Rachael Rollins is approved— as ${\it expected-to}\,{\it become}\,{\it the}$ state's next US Attorney. If that happens, it would bump up the fifth-place finisher into Flaherty's

"All the candidates seem to be working very hard and I see a lot out there," said state Rep. Dan Hunt of Dorchester. "And it's not just social



David Halbert

media, but knocking on doors. In September, we had a little break in terms of Covid-19 restrictions. Neighborhoods are having events again and candidates go there. Erin Murphy from a Dorchester perspective is coming on strong with that."

Murphy, who finished fourth in the Sept. 14 balloting, has also shown strength in two recent surveys, including a Reporter-sponsored poll last week that showed her in a tie for the third position with Ruthzee Louijeune, a first-time candidate with roots in Mattapan. Both Murphy and Louijeune have strung together high-profile endorsements from labor and elected officials.

This week, Murphy touted fresh support from former state Rep. Jeffrey Sanchez of Jamaica Plain, who remains the highest-ranking Latino leader in Massachusetts history.



Ruthzee Louijeune

"Erin is a special kind of leader because she has walked in the shoes of the people she is seeking to represent," said Sanchez. "She taught in the Boston Public Schools for 22 years. She raised her family in the city as a single mom. And she's been on the frontlines of the substance abuse and recovery crisis for a long time. She's ready to represent the whole city."

Joining Murphy in what observers repeatedly say is a four-way battleground for spots 3 to 5 are Louijeune, Carla Monteiro, and David Halbert. All three along with Mejia-won endorsements this week from Andrea Campbell, the current District 4 councillor, who finished third in the mayoral contest last month. Campbell has also endorsed Brian Worrell to replace her in the district 4 seat on the council.

The "slate" advanced



Carla Monteiro

by Campbell this week mirrors the picks of US Rep. Ayanna Pressley and other progressive groups that have lined up behind Mejia, Louijeune, Halbert, and Monteiro.

"For David and Carla to get on, there's a need for white progressive voters to vote a full slate as well as Black voters to vote a full slate, and not to use bullet voting," said Jonathan Cohn, chair of the Ward 4 Democratic Committee, which covers the South End, Fenway, and parts of the Back Bay. Bullet voting is the strategic practice in at-large races to vote for only one candidate instead of choosing four candidates.

The group JP Progressives in Jamaica Plain has also endorsed those same four candidates and see it as a service provided to voters who trust them to weed through so many candidates and positions, according to



Erin Murphy

Krista Magnusson, the group's co-chair.

For Louijeune's part, the candidate says her team is focused on running their own campaign. While organizations might pick her as part of their own slate, she said her campaign is not collaborating with other candidates to form coalitions.

"We're running our own race and I look forward to having some $great\, collaboration\, on\, the$ City Council, but we're running our own race," she said.

State Sen. Nick Collins, who is supporting Murphy and Halbert along with Flaherty, said the contenders should be talking to voters about how to use hundreds of millions of dollars in federal funding that will be in the hands of the City Council next year for critical budgeting decisions. Such an inflow of federal dollars, he said,

will likely never happen

"I think it's an opportunity of a lifetime to be able to talk to voters as a candidate about the things you will be able to do by proposing a budget you can actually deliver on without having to pull resources from one place to give to another," he said.

"And I think people will be excited to hear about how we can fix our problems in the city with these strategic resources as they ask voters to elect them to make these important decisions come January."

In the end, Rep. Hunt says, the outcome will come down to who comes out, what neighborhoods are represented, and which candidates have the passion to get people to the polls. In the end, it will be about GOTV-get out the vote."

The at-large city coun $cil\, candidates\, will\, appear$ together in an in-person forum on Thurs., Oct. 28, in the lower hall of St. Brendan Church, 589 Gallivan Blvd. The event, sponsored by a coalition of Dorchester civic groups, will be moderated by Reporter managing editor Gintautas Dumcius and the paper's correspondent, Katie Trojano. The event starts at 7 p.m.



Saturday, October 23 - Friday, October 29

Registered Boston voters can vote at any early voting location in the City, including City Hall. Pick a time and place that is best for you.

EARLY VOTING LOCATIONS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23, - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24 | 11 A.M. - 7 P.M.

BCYF Paris Street 112 Paris Street, East Boston, MA 02128

James F Condon Elementary School 200 D Street, South Boston, MA 02127

Richard J. Murphy School 1 Worrell Street, Dorchester, MA 02122

ABCD Thelma D. Burns Building 575 Warren Street, Dorchester, MA 02121

Another Course to College 612 E Metropolitan Avenue, Hyde Park, MA 02136

BCYF Roche 1716 Centre Street, West Roxbury, MA 02132

BCYF Shelburne 2730 Washington Street, Roxbury, MA 02119

Central Library in Copley Square 700 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02116

500 Cambridge Street, Allston, MA 02134

BCFY Quincy 885 Washington Street, Chinatown, MA 02111

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26 | 12 - 8 P.M.

BCYF Tobin 1481 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02120

Harvard/Kent School 50 Bunker Hill Street, Charlestown, MA 02129

Margarita Muniz Academy 20 Child Street, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

BCYF Mildred Ave Community Center 5 Mildred Ave, Mattapan, MA 02126

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28 | 12 - 8 P.M.

Saint Nectarios Greek Church 39 Belgrade Avenue, Roslindale, MA 02131

District Hall 75 Northern Avenue, Boston, MA 02210

BOSTON CITY HALL | OCTOBER 25 - 29

Monday, October 25 | 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Tuesday, October 26 | 9 a.m. - 8 p.m. Wednesday, October 27 | 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Thursday, October 28 | 9 a.m. - 8 p.m. Friday, October 29 | 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

DROP-BOX LOCATIONS

East Boston Branch Library 365 Bremen Street, East Boston, MA 02128

Charlestown Branch Library 179 Main Street, Charlestown, MA 02129

Central Library in Copley Square 700 Boylston Street, Back Bay, MA 02116

Roxbury Branch Library 149 Dudley Street, Roxbury, MA 02119

Honan-Allston Branch Library 300 North Harvard Street, Allston, MA 02134

Brighton Branch Library 40 Academy Hill Road, Brighton, MA 02135 Fields Corner Branch Library 1520 Dorchester Avenue, Dorchester, MA 02122

Jamaica Plain Branch Library 30 South Street, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

Mattapan Branch Library 1350 Blue Hill Avenue, Mattapan, MA 02126

West Roxbury Branch Library 1961 Centre Street, West Roxbury, MA 02132

Hyde Park Branch Library 35 Harvard Avenue, Hyde Park, MA 02136

Parker Hill Branch Library 1497 Tremont Street, Roxbury MA 02120

Grove Hall Library 41 Geneva Avenue, Dorchester MA 02121

Uphams Corner Branch Library 500 Columbia Rd, Dorchester, MA 02125





Panel backs off on breakup plan for Dot's Senate district

folk neighborhoods — in a district that includes Avon, Canton, Randolph, Stoughton, and parts of Braintree and is represented by Sen. Walter Timilty of Milton. The three precincts are also among Dorchester's most conservative voting ar-

Brownsberger said he took a run through the area last Sunday – from Broadway in South Boston through Dorchester, overinto Milton, and then back up Adams Street to Dorchester – and took notice of the change in the landscape between the two districts.

Earlier as the first draft was up for consideration, he had defended the proposal, saying that it wasn't uncommon for wards to be broken up, including in his own district.

Said state Rep. Dan Hunt, who as chair of the Ward16 Democratic

ORCHESTER

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(Continued from page 1) Committee raised the prospect of legal action if the three precincts were shifted into a suburban district: "I thank greatly the committee and Senator Brownsberger for their hard work throughout the whole process. The public can see that the process prevailed."

The public comment period on the map closed on Monday of this week.

Collins had also weighed in, noting that since the draft map was released, local leaders and unions had been united in opposition to moving the precincts to a suburban Senate

Labor unions' entry in opposition marked a rare instance in which unions are involving themselves in the process of redistricting. The Boston Carmen's Union, which represents MBTA employees, said Ward 16 should be kept whole in order for the Senate

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district to remain a "labor-friendly" seat. In a letter to lawmakers, Jim Evers, the union president, said the draft map "dramatically weakens the voice" of 1,000 union members who live in Collins's district, which is otherwise known as the First Suffolk Senate district.

"As urban residents, they are faced with different challenges day to day than those of suburban residents," he wrote. "In addition to ensuring that their needs are represented by someone who understands those issues, we are also concerned about watering down the voice of labor in the 1st Suffolk district."

Boston Firefighters Local 718, whose headquarters are in one of the precincts, also decried the proposed change.

"As a labor organiza-

tion, Local 718 doesn't usually weigh in on matters like redistricting,' the union's legislative agents wrote in their letter. "But given that this matter affects a large percentage of our membership, we believed it was prudent to weigh in."

David Holway, the president of the National Association of Government Employees, sent his own opposition letter, noting that his union has 1,000 members in the First Suffolk district.

The three civic groups $representing \, the \, affected \,$ neighborhoods — Cedar Grove, Pope's Hill and Port Norfolk — also oppose the proposal.

McKeon Post No. 146, which is located on Hill Top Street, is another organization that put its opposition to paper in a letter to lawmakers that was signed by past commanders and current executive board members of the post, which calls itself one of the largest veterans organizations in Boston.

Like Hunt, they said they would have considered legal action if the proposal went forward.

"The vast majority of our members were born in the city, educated in the city, left the city to join the military and then returned to the city to raise their families," the letter said.

The letter said the proposed map "may be well intentioned" but it "constitutes a serious disservice to our veteran members and their families whose voices need to be heard at the State House and not watered down."

State lawmakers are facing a tight timeline to finalize the maps. They

are reportedly aiming for Nov. 8 this year, due to House lawmakers being required to live within their district boundaries for at least one year before an election. State senators just have to be residents when elected.

Senate President Karen Spilka, a Framingham Democrat, on Monday pointed to the public comment process.

"We will certainly take a look at all of the comments. That's why we decided to have such a thorough and transparent process and have hearings and listen," she said. "And I know the chair met with advocates on many, many occasions with the folks involved in this, so we will see what gets reported out."

Material from State House News Service was used in this report.

Mayoral candidates: Arrest of Black man who was having a stroke is 'unacceptable'

By ALLY JARMANNING WBUR REPORTER

Both Boston mayoral candidates say it's "unacceptable" how Boston police treated a Black man who was having a stroke behind the wheel of his parked car.

Instead of immediately calling an ambulance,

police assumed he was drunk, arrested him, and left him in a holding cell for five hours.

City Councillor Annissa Essaibi George said Al Copeland's arrest in 2019 was a tragedy. She added that the city should have disclosed the incident at the time and must provide more information now.

We need to release the full details of that entire day, those hours, that experience," she said. "I want to know what happened that day."

through a records request that the city quietly paid Copeland \$1.3 million last summer.

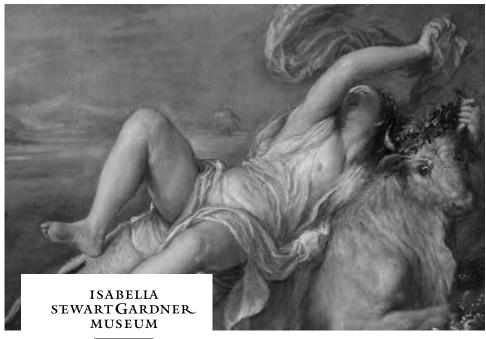
Councillor Michelle Wu, who is also running for mayor, said the incident is horrible, both for Copeland and public trust in the police. She said it speaks to the need to root out and eradicate racial bias in the city.

"We need changes to the structures and culture of our police department in Boston, and that includes making sure

WBUR learned that there's accountability and transparency," she said

Copeland's wife, Valerie, said she is glad the mayoral candidates are talking about her husband's treatment. But she wishes they would provide more concrete plans to make sure it never happens again.

This story was first published by WBUR 90.9FM on Oct. 18. The Reporter and WBUR share content through a media partnership.



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Reporter's People

News about people in and around our Neighborhoods

Four Corners Yoga studio wants to be seen as a 'place of refuge'

By Katie Pedersen Reporter Correspondent

Since 2017, 4 Corners Yoga + Wellness has worked to bring access to yoga, meditation, massage, and other wellness services to the Four Corners neighborhood of Dorchester.

Incorporated in 2016 by founders Christine Rose and Karuna O'Donnell, the studio currently employs 14 people and offers more than 15 classes a week. Rose and O'Donnell met at a massage and yoga studio in Jamaica Plain, where they shared space, before deciding to open a business together.

O'Donnell originally ran the yoga program at the 4 Corners facility, while Rose ran the meditation and massage offerings. After O'Donnell stepped aside over the summer to focus on her family, Rose became the sole owner.

According to her, the studio is "a place that people know can be their place of refuge. They can come in for the variety of workshops that we have." Stressing the breadth of services offered, Rose pointed to its reiki, pranic healing, meditation, yoga, massage, and reflexology programming.

"We definitely try and collaborate with our Four Corners neighborhood," said Rose. "We were fortunate to be named business of the year in our second year of business by Four Corners Main Street."

Past collaborations have included chair massages and yoga at the Codman Square and Ashmont farmers' markets. Additionally, Rose has rented out the studio for birthday parties, fitness trainers, book



Christine Rose, owner and operator of 4 Corners Yoga + Wellness, is shown helping a client during an outdoor even last summer. Inset: Christine Rose.

Photos courtesy 4 Corners Yoga + Wellness

signings, drum circles, and the Survivor Theater Project.

And before the pandemic, the facility hosted a holiday party open to anybody who had attended an event at the studio.

"We just like to be in the community," Rose said. "To show up and introduce people to our business. It's a diverse community and we're an all-inclusive space. Sometimes people ask me, 'Can men come? Can kids come?' And I'm like, 'Yeah, everybody is welcome here!" She added that the studio is LGBTQ-friendly and handicap-accessible.

Part of the business's mission is to expand access to wellness services in Dorchester. Its yoga school plays a key role in that goal, with its teaching program set to start up again in January.

"It's exciting to know that we're going to be having this yoga school again and bringing forth a new cohort of teachers who want to teach in the community," Rose said, adding that the five cohorts of yoga teachers whom O'Donnell trained are now "very much established, doing the sort of work that we do, working in places to make yoga accessible. Some of them have their own businesses. Some of them are working in places like the YMCA."

Although 4 Corners Yoga + Wellness is a for-profit business, Rose says they have sometimes been mistaken for a nonprofit because the prices are so low.

"I'm a very spiritual person, and faith without action is dead. So, we offer community classes for \$5," she said.

The regular cost for other classes is \$17, a price that Rose said was increased to cover pandemic-related costs. Although she doesn't take insurance, Rose claims she offers "affordable" pricing for massages, the intent being to "meet people where they're at."

Despite her affordable rates, Rose claims that the studio has weathered the pandemic "well."

"We've been well supported by our members and given the grants that we received and the Cares Act money that we received, we're fortunate that we're not in any danger of closing," she said.

For Four Corners native and yoga teacher Tiffany Hogan, the establishment of 4 Corners Yoga + Wellness represents a positive change for the neighborhood.



"I recently moved back to my childhood home in the neighborhood," she said. "It's great to see how the area has changed and how there are so many more businesses, especially this one, which really helps people. It's so nice to be in a place that feels like a community. Christine has really exposed yoga and wellness and massage and other things to the community that they weren't exposed to before."

John Christopher, also a Four Corner resident,

was one such passerby. The 70-year-old retiree heard that he should try yoga for health reasons.

"I had a friend who was teaching at 4 Corners," he said. "I walked by the studio one day, and went in. When I walked in, there was an aura of comfortability. When I met the co-owners, they were so welcoming and peaceful and happy. Their mission was to bring yoga and massage therapy to the community. The yoga that I know is predominantly white."

"I appreciated that, and I wanted to be part of that. And that's how I began. I'm a very physical, athletic person. I started to really understand the practice, and I just wanted more. I also enjoyed how it was being taught in a gentle, compassionate way. The teachers were there to help. I was in."

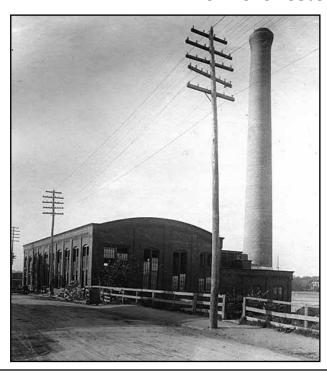
Christopher went on to complete the yoga teacher course and now runs classes of his own. Currently, he is participating in a book group on race offered by the studio. He credits his success in large part to Rose and O'Donnell.

"You can't fake passion," he said. "That was their mission—that was what they wanted to do. You understood that by how they lived. That aura got me and everyone else there to be part of that mission. Karuna and Christine were a great team. They just gelled. It was great to go there and just be in that peaceful, cooperative setting. Christine has a passion that is so infectious and powerful that it's unreal. I have not been up on something like this in my lifetime, and I'm 70."

YESTERYEAR ARCHIVE

DORCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY
The Dorchester Power Station

The Dorchester Power Station of the West End Street Railway Company generated electrical power for the company's street cars on the Dorchester, Neponset, Ashmont, and Milton lines. The brick power station on Freeport Street with a tile roof and chimney and a wharf for coal delivery was erected in 1896. A dock extended into the bay. The coal was delivered in barges and hoisted to the top of a trestle, where it was dumped into automatic self-dumping cars. The station had two batteries of two 500 horse power boilers each.





The building is now occupied by the Yale Electric Company.

The structure's hardburned brick with freestone trimmings sits on a foundation of concrete and stone. The roof, carried on arched iron trusses provided by the Boston Bridge Company, is a series of arches constructed of two layers of flat fireproof tiles laid in cement "springing from truss to truss."

This special roof construction was designed by a Mr. Baker and carried out under his instructions by the Guastavino Co. The Guastavino tile arch system is a version of the Catalan vault brought to the United States in 1885 by the Spanish architect and builder Rafael Guastavino. He gained a US patent for the process in 1892.

The illustrations

show the building from an early photograph and an example of Guastavino arches from the New York Municipal Building.

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

Reminder: A house history from the Dorchester Historical Society would make a great gift to a homeowner in Dorchester or Mattapan. Take a look at some of the completed histories on the Dorchester Historical Society website

Editorial

to Election Day

We are now less than two weeks out from the municipal general election in the city of Boston. And the polls—including one commissioned by the Reporter, WBUR, and The Boston Foundation— clearly suggest that the contest for mayor isn't really much of a contest. In that survey, conducted by The MassINC Polling Group, Michelle Wu has what seems to be a monumental lead over Annissa Essaibi George. A fresh poll for the Boston Globe and Suffolk University published on Tuesday echoed those results, with Wu seen leading by more than 30 points over

It's a margin big enough to make lesser people take a knee. But, to her credit, Essaibi George showed mettle during the two televised debates with Wu held in the last week. Both nights, she was the better candidate: poised, direct, and in full command of facts and stats. Essaibi George showed why she earned a spot in the mayoral final. In the end, she may not be the victor, but she is acquitting herself well. Those not in her camp, including many who count her out entirely, would do well to keep their champagne orders on pause.

Some other take-aways from what has been a hyper-busy news cycle locally:

 The proposal by some state senators to excise three Ward 16 precincts from Dorchester and ship them over the river to our friends in Milton and points south prompted outrage from some quarters, particularly in the impacted Neponset precincts -16-12,10, and 9. Others, pointing to those precincts' well-documented penchant for leaning red on election day, were tempted to say "good riddance." That's a bad take.

Since annexation in 1870, Dorchester has never been fully united, politically or otherwise. But it should be our goal to keep this neighborhood's precincts aligned in the city of Boston, not within a suburban district. We need to be rowing together on a host of issues, even if our precincts don't always vote in concert on election day. It's for the best that lawmakers moved quickly this week to keep us in the same boat.

 Some other nuggets of intelligence from last week's survey from the excellent researchers at MassINC Polling Group: When it comes to public opinion on law enforcement in Boston, it's complicated. Fifty-five percent of people polled said that they view Boston Police favorably and a roughly equal amount are in favor of hiring more police officers, with just over a third- 37 percent- in favor of reducing funding for policing.

There is some degree of racial division on the issue of police reform. Sixty-one percent of non-white respondents said reforming the BPD should be a "major priority" for the next mayor. But about half of the total group polled, including white people, agreed with that sentiment. That's not wildly off base.

A solid majority — 56 percent — told pollsters that it makes sense to "redirect" some 911 calls to other agencies. An equal number, however, agree that the city needs more officers on the streets. Mixed messaging? Not really. The next mayor will need to both reform the BPD, but also hire more cops and train them well. It's a tall order, but this poll indicates what many of us see and feel around us: Police officers aren't the enemy. Far from it.

It might help matters, though, if police unions most notably the patrolman's, the BPPA—take more care and accountability for whom they back politically. Last week, we reported that the BPPA endorsed the failed candidacy of at-large council candidate Donnie Palmer, whose vicious slurs against Asians, most notably Michelle Wu— should have been no to anyone with access to a smartphone. By aligning itself with a radical, conspiracy theory Trumpist, the BPPA undermines its own credibility and tarnishes the reputations of other endorsed candidates.

- Bill Forry

The Reporter

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Vaccinations defeated smallpox, polio; Musings on the way together, we can make Covid next to go

By BILL WALCZAK REPORTER COLUMNIST

Have you met anyone recently who had smallpox? No, you didn't, thanks to the vaccines that wiped out that disease across the planet. Yet, given the current fracas over Covid vaccines, you'd think they are new, untested medicines. They're not.

Smallpox was a deadly worldwide disease that killed 30 percent of those it infected. It had been around for thousands of years (scientists have detected it in Egyptian mummies).

When it was brought to North America by European explorers, it killed entire indigenous populations. There is evidence that the Chinese, Africans, and other groups had experimented with curbing smallpox a thousand years ago. The story of the creation of a vaccine that ultimately eradicated this deadly disease involves our own city of Boston.

Smallpox inoculation in America, called variolation, which means putting an active virus into a body, was first done in Boston in 1721 by Dr. Zabdiel Boylston, the result of knowledge gained from an enslaved African named Onesimus. In 1706, Onesimus had become the "property" of the noted Boston minister Cotton Mather, who was the grandson of Rev. Richard Mather, an early minister of the First Church in Dorchester after whom the Mather School is named.

Cotton Mather asked Onesimus about a particular scar he had, and the slave responded that in Africa they treated smallpox by removing pus from a person with an active smallpox sore and putting it into an incision in the bodies of others who did not have smallpox. Mather spoke to other enslaved Africans in Boston, who spoke of this procedure and said that they believed themselves to be immune from smallpox.

Boylston heard of this from Mather, who became an advocate for this process, and during an outbreak of the disease in 1721, the doctor put smallpox pus into an incision in three healthy patients, his 13-year-old son and two enslaved Africans. From that treatment, the three became immune to smallpox. A few hundred others were also inoculated in the same manner. As a result, there were far fewer deaths than in the uninoculated population.

Despite its success and Mather's advocacy, Boylston's inoculation method met with tremendous opposition. Other doctors, ministers, and politicians of the day argued that the process interfered with divine Providence while also asserting that enslaved Africans should not be believed. Boylston had many threats on his life, one of which was an effort to hang him. He was arrested and forced to agree to not inoculate others without government permission. Mather himself was also threatened by anti-vaxxer Bostonians.

A few years later, Boylston traveled to London and publicized his work, "Historical Account of the Small-Pox Inoculated in New England," which prompted English efforts at inoculation. His success also encouraged doctors in many of the American colonies to begin inoculating against the diseases.

In 1776, Abigail Adams inoculated her children against smallpox during an outbreak in Boston. She reported that "a spirit of inoculation" had gripped Boston, and that thousands were taking the treatment.

The first vaccine mandate in American history occurred during the Revolutionary War, when Gen. George Washington ordered mandatory inoculation against smallpox for American troops. This edict followed a losing battle where more than half the American soldiers were stricken with smallpox.

Many historians consider the Revolutionary War to be a battle against two enemies — the British and smallpox. Washington's mandate was essential in staving off smallpox long enough for his officers and troops to defeat the British.

Vaccination – a treatment that prompts production of antibodies that provides immunity – against smallpox was developed in London when an English physician, Dr. Edward Jenner, noticed that milkmaids who had gotten cowpox (a weakened type of smallpox that infects cows) were somehow protected from smallpox. He took pus from a cowpox sore and tested his thinking by putting it into an incision of a patient who became immune to smallpox.

The word "vaccine" comes from the Latin word for cow because of this connection to cowpox. This allowed for inoculation to occur outside of a smallpox epidemic, and avoided the downside of variolation by use of a weakened form of smallpox, which produced immunity without the side effects, including some mortality, which occurred when the actual smallpox pus was put into a healthy person's body.

Louis Pasteur's development of a laboratory technique for creating a modern smallpox vaccine led to efforts to eradicate smallpox in North America (elimination declared in 1952) and in Europe (1953). In the 1960s, the World Health Organization intensified its efforts at vaccination for the rest of the world, and in 1980, it declared that the world was free of smallpox.

In previous centuries, smallpox was a major cause of death and illness, often leaving survivors with horrible pockmarks. Despite the evidence that inoculation saved lives, anti-vaxxers continually threatened its advocates with injury and worse.

The Covid vaccine will soon be authorized for children ages 5-11. It has been tested on thousands of children and will likely be half the adult dose. If you have doubts on whether it's safe, please consider

There have now been nearly seven billion doses of Covid vaccine given out across the world, more than 400 million in the US alone. No medicine has ever been tested on this number of people. The places with the highest percentage of vaccinated people are the ones with the lowest number of cases, hospitalizations, and deaths.

Our forebears feared catching smallpox and polio, two diseases that were wiped out by vaccines in the face of opposition by anti-vaxxers. This hysteria against vaccination has continued with the Covid pandemic. But there is a bottom line: We will defeat the coronavirus when we achieve universal vaccination.

Against a rising death count soon to surpass 750,000 in the United States alone, let's apply the knowledge and courage of Onesimus, Dr. Zabdiel Boylston, Abigail Adams, George Washington, Dr. Edward Jenner, and Louis Pasteur to the situation today. Roll up thy sleeve.

 $Bill\,Walczak\,is\,a\,Dorchester\,resident\,and\,founding$ president and former CEO of Codman Square Health Center. His column appears regularly in the Reporter.

False info, misleading language mark column on US aid to Israel

To the Editor:

It's only prudent to question government spending, especially when multi-trillion-dollar programs are being pushed at a time when debt has quickly sky-

Letter to the **Editor**

rocketed to unprecedented levels and threatens the foundation of America's economy. However, in your

Oct. 14 commentary section, Jeff Klein uses false information and misleading language in supporting Ayanna Pressley's misguided opposition to a relatively small outlay that would further American interests in the volatile and vital Middle East while saving the lives of both our Israeli friends and Palestinian Arabs – who are in no way our friends.

One example of many: Klein writes that "US military aid has been used repeatedly to bomb Gaza and to attack Israel's neighbors," but he conveniently neglects to mention that all those efforts were directed at terrorists, terror facilities, and terror bases.

In May, Gaza terrorists launched more than 4,300 rockets at Israel in just 11 days. Every one of those rockets was targeting civilians and would have killed many were it not for the amazing Iron Dome

[Israel's all-weather missile defense system – Ed.]. Debris from one of those rockets actually fell in a park just a few feet from a bicycle path I often use.

While those Hamas rockets only cost a few hundred dollars each to produce, it's exorbitantly expensive to intercept them, with each interceptor costing close to a hundred thousand dollars. Which leaves two questions:

1. Do we want to help save lives? Funding the Iron Dome interceptors saves lives.

2. Are we willing to use what for the United States is a negligible amount of money to help save those

Klein also refers to what he calls "a cruel blockade of the Gaza Strip." There is none. Israel transfers massive amounts of goods to Gaza every day. Except for some disruptions when Hamas rockets damaged power lines and attacked the transfer points, it even continued to supply Gaza with food, medical supplies, fuel, and electricity while Hamas was bombarding Israel with rockets, One would be hard pressed to find another example of a country doing that much to help an enemy trying to destroy it.

– Alan Stein, Natick, and Netanya, Israel

Skunks are rodent predators? A myth, I'm told

REPORTER CORRESPONDENT

Let's face it, though we may not want to admit it: 2020 was the year of the ratin most city neighborhoods and, regrettably, that includes the west of Washington Street.

It's the first time that I can recall in two decades of recollections that rats were a problem in this neighborhood. And if 2020 brought them into the neighborhood, then 2021 was the year they built a two-room addition and put dormers in the attic for their growing families.

It's a blow to the community ego to suddenly have a rat problem, but as it was explained to me by a city inspector, last year saw many restaurants around the city close down or hibernate, and that led to rearranged rodents ranging farther to find their feasts. Here on the west side of Washington, we have our share of things to wish we didn't have, but I could always tell my friends in the South End or on Dorchester Avenue, who might have looked down their noses a bit at our area, that "at least we don't have any rats like you do."

It was in the midst of one of those conversations recently that an old-timer friend of mine suggested skunks as a solution.

Okay, maybe I keep different company than a lot of people who might be reading this, but there's a long-standing myth that just won't die suggesting that in the 1940s and 1950s, the City of Boston released boatloads of skunks into its neighborhoods to control a growing rodent population. If I haven't heard it once, I've heard it a million times from people I know – mostly long-time Bostonians who've passed this on for decades.

At first, I thought this was plausible. Skunks are known to occasionally eat rats, and there are a lot of skunks in Dorchester. So maybe today's skunks come from a lineage of a rat eaters that rid our streets and backyards of rodent infestations 60 and 70 years ago.

Not so, said my friend Marion Larson of the state's Division of Wildlife, who said it was an interesting piece of urban folklore, but not true.

"I talked with someone who worked for our agency in the 1950s, and he was much amused," she said

In fact, skunks don't eat rats and they waddle around urban homes for precisely the same reason that rats do - our trash storage and management habits need some work, she said.

"It's not a glamorous topic, but it needs to be West Side **Stories**

addressed in a systemic manner which involves businesses - particularly food-related operations - and residential inhabitants," said Larson.
"Unfortunately, there are those who are using rat poison, which can be ingested by other wildlife and unsupervised pets and it either kills the animal outright, or another animal eats the poisoned animal or feeds it to young wildlife who can sicken and die."

Skunks are just part of the landscape and probably always have been, she said. However, she mused,

hawks and other raptor birds do eat rats, and if they are suddenly present in your neighborhood, then you've probably gotten an explosion of rats.

"Contrary to popular belief, predators don't control prey populations; it's actually the reverse," she said.

And to think I thought all those peregrine falcons had suddenly arrived here just for the view of the harbor.

KEEPIN' THE **CHANGE**

Some folks in the neighborhood have been bringing up the fact that the new owner of one of the corner stores (which will remain unidentified) has allegedly been keeping the pennies when giving back change.

So, for instance, when you buy a \$1.92 Spicy Slim Jim, or those odd Ketchup flavored potato chips, with a couple of dollar bills, the clerks are giving you back a nickel instead of eight cents. It's such an old school move, but one that quickly makes me, and a lot of other neighbors, a stranger so far as that store is concerned

Not many people notice, but storekeepers know that over days, months, and years, this it adds up to a tidy sum. Four cents here, three cents there, eight cents now and then, and you can have thousands in no time depending on the volume of your sales.

If I were them, I'd stop keeping the change. It's not as if they're giving a price break either; I paid nearly \$3 for a can of Carnation milk not long ago.

GET A FIRE EXTINGUISHER

It's just a year ago that we had a bit of a fire in our home, and I'm going to frame this tidbit as a public service announcement for everyone to get a fire extinguisher for the kitchen. Last October, a member of the family had some hot oil on the stove that went from worrisome to near disaster in a matter of seconds. As the flames grew hotter and

sprung higher into the air, I could find nothing with which to cover the pan or stop the flames. My immediate reaction which every fire official in eastern Massachusetts since then has told me was incorrect - was to get the pan out of the house and throw it into the street. On the way out the door, though, it exploded in a ball of fire.

It's nothing short of a miracle that the house wasn't set ablaze, but in the course of it all, I suffered third-degree burns, which are pretty serious. I can still recall lying in the hospital bed about this time last year, watching the baseball playoffs while wondering if I was going to be able to keep my mobility. In another miracle of miracles, I healed up rather fine, and rather quickly, and have had no long-term affects at all.

I've been told that I should have thrown baking powder on the fire, or that I should have put a cast-iron skillet slowly over the top of the pan. Needless to say, I encourage everyone to get a fire extinguisher for the kitchen, keep it up to date and learn how to use it.

Fires in the home aren't incremental over time; they're an underestimated fast fuse.

WOW PARK

Finally, the City has assigned a project manager to the effort to make a new public park on Norwell Street in the

West of Washington and the first step comes (WOW) neighborhood. Now, there really isn't a park anywhere in WOW; it's one of the few neighborhoods without one. That's about to change,

on Oct. 30 when Parks and Recreation hosts an in-person meeting on the future site (271 Norwell St.). The meeting will be all about what neigh-

bors want to see there, and WOW has some fun Halloween activities planned. The meeting starts at 11 a.m. – probably ought to be there for

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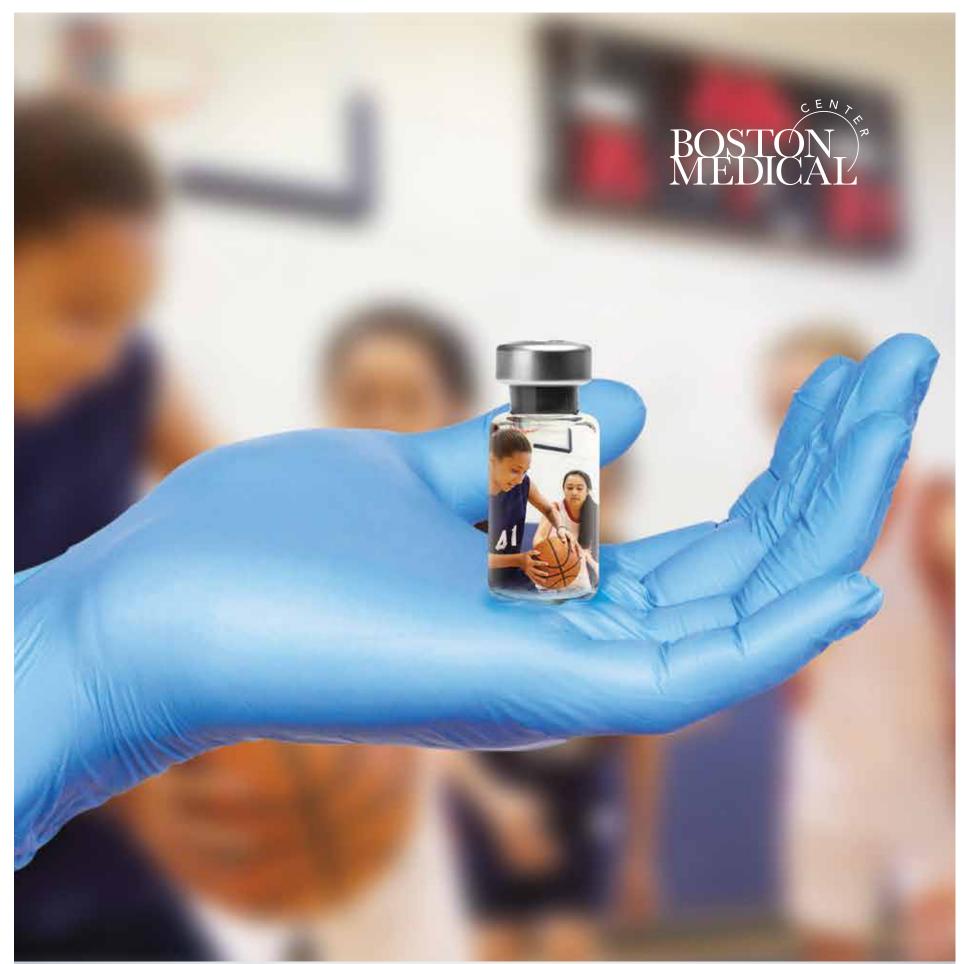
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For more information on scheduling, please visit: www.DotHouseHealth.org Page 10 THE REPORTER October 21, 2021 dotnews.com



COVID-19 VACCINE

Getting there is in here.

The more of us that get vaccinated, the sooner we can get back to the things we love. Schedule your vaccine appointment close to home today.

Vaccination Locations:

- Poston Medical Center @ Dowling Building, Ground Floor
- Mattapan COVID-19 Vaccination Site @ Morning Star Baptist Church
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Dot Pot tourney draws a crowd to Neponset's Garvey Park

The 6th annual Dot Pot roller hockey tournament returned to the new Garvey Park the weekend of Oct. 9 and 10, with the purpose of having two fun days of roller hockey on the new rink at Garvey, and also to raise money for charity. There were 16 teams from the neighborhood and from all over Greater Boston, according to Co-Directors Peter Cahill, Ryan Sweeney, and Timmy Galvin. The tournament was put on hiatus officially last year due to Covid-19, and took place in the fall instead of the summer this year.

However, many people found their way to play and watch the action all weekend long, raising money for Dot Pot Scholarship Fund – which goes in part toward supporting Dorchester Youth Hockey, Dorchester Little League Baseball, and Project D.E.E.P.

The two days of action on the roller hockey rink turned out to be greatly positive for the neighborhood, the youth organizations, and everyone in attendance



Friends and families and roller hockey players from across the neighborhood and Greater Boston flocked to Garvey Park on Oct. 9 and 10 for the Dot Pot charitable roller hockey tournament.

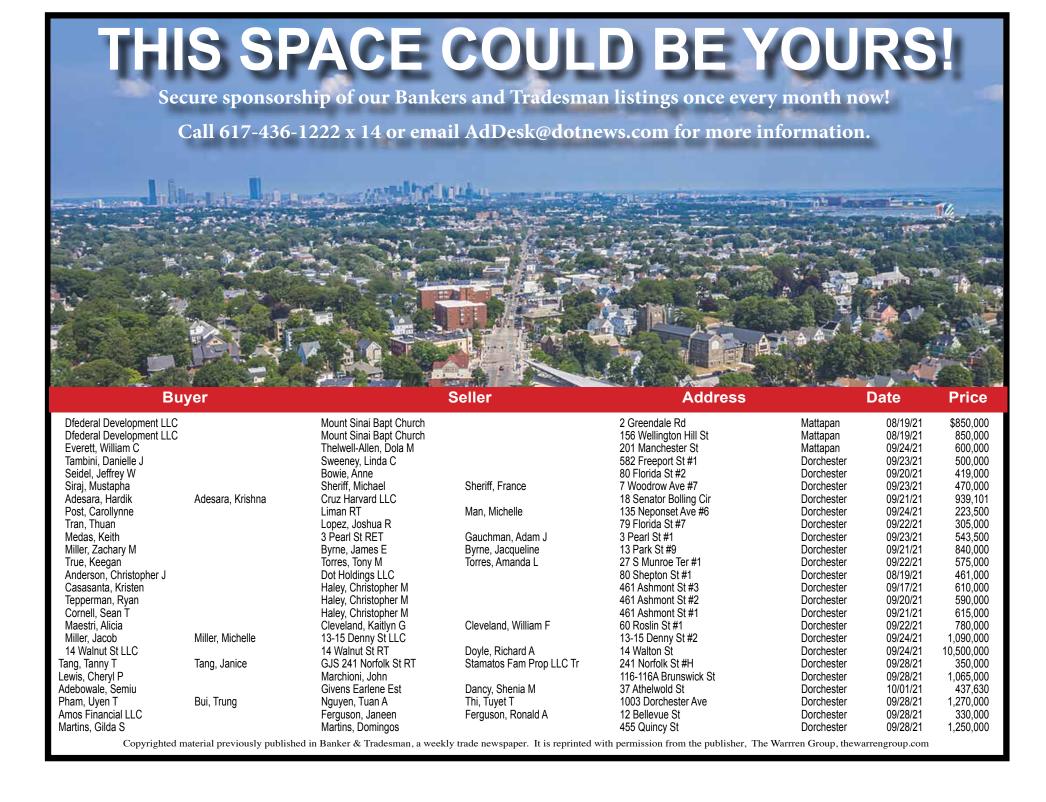


Goalie Brendan Clancy was at the ready, while teammate Peter Cahill stood by.



Quinn McCarthy from the Cahill Team controls the ball during action Saturday at the Dot Pot roller hockey tournament on the new Garvey Park rink. Hundreds came to play and watch over the two-day charitable tournament.

Seth Daniel photos



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Mayoral finalists duel in NBC10 Boston, Dot Reporter-sponsored debate





Annissa Essaibi George, left, and Michelle Wu debated city policies and their city council records during a televised debate at the NBCU Boston Media Center on Tuesday. *Mark Garfinkel/NBC10 Boston photos*

(Continued from page 1) every part of our system, and I think it's right that

we are adding reforms to this process so that every single child has a shot at getting to the exam schools and that we see the full representation in each of our classrooms."

Wu said she supports having an entrance exam, as well as factoring in grades and socio-economic criteria to ensure diversity.

Midway through the debate, the candidates were also asked by Fatima Ali-Salaam, a Dorchester Reporter reader and head of the Greater Mattapan Neighborhood Council, about what they would do to fix the struggling Madison Park, the city's only vocational educational school.

Wu said she would create an advisory council with representatives from life sciences, trades, tech and the environmental industries. Essaibi George said Wu had read her plan because she has made a similar pitch. "I'm sorry, I have not read your plan. I apologize," Wu said. "I've been in many meetings, though, with community meetings and I've had numerous conversations with faculty, alumni."

The two candidates also talked about the MBTA. When her turn came to ask Essaibi George a question, Wu noted that Essaibi George has criticized her plans for a fare-free MBTA and asked what Essaibi George's plans are to ease traffic. "Your allies have even tried to use scare tactics to make people afraid of my plans for fare-free public transit," Wu said, referring to a pro-Essaibi George super PAC this week spending \$125,000 on a negative ad highlighting Wu's proposal.

Essaibi George, who touted her endorsement from the MBTA carmen's union, fired back that making the T free "nearly impossible without partnership at the state level" and argued Boston residents will have to pay a multi-billion dollar price tag. "It's unfair to ask the people of Boston to pay that price tag." she said.

tag," she said.

"We're already paying the price tag for transportation that doesn't work, that leaves people stranded when our cars and buses are too crowded or not coming," Wu said in her response. According to Wu, a Roxbury Community college student who lives in Mattapan recently told her the free Route 28 bus pilot underway now, which Wu supported, "changed his life."

The NBC10 debate, in partnership with the Dorchester Reporter and the Bay State Banner, occurred hours after a second independent poll showed Wu with a massive lead over Essaibi George. A Boston Globe/Suffolk University/NBC10 poll mirrored a

MassINC Polling Group survey conducted last week for Dorchester Reporter, the Boston Foundation and WBUR: Wu was at 62 percent to Essaibi George's 30 percent.

Later in the debate, Edwards, the moderator, asked Essaibi George about a Boston Globe report that Essaibi George's City Council office sought to stop a project that would have negatively affected a project developed by Essaibi George's husband, Doug, who is also a landlord. The July article also noted housing code violations and late payments for registration of apartments. A Globe review, released last week, found that city officials have hit Doug George's properties for more than 550 code violations.

Councillor Essaibi George said she is not involved in her husband's business and, in the case of the rival project, her office worked with a district councillor and neighbors who opposed the project.

Essaibi George then took aim at Wu, asking what her relationship is with Terry Considine, a Colorado Republican and real estate investor who has donated to Wu's campaigns for mayor and City Council. Considine also donated to the late Mayor Thomas Menino in 2012, mayoral candidate John Connolly in 2013, and John Miller, a Republican candidate for state attorney general in 2014.

Essaibi George noted that Considine referred to immigrants from Latin America as "wetbacks" in 1986, when he unsuccessfully ran for U.S. Senate. (He later apologized for the slur.) "You need to disavow that," Essaibi George told Wu and alleged the Considine family helped Wu buy her two-family home

Wu said there was no wrongdoing. She bought her two-family home with her college roommate, who is Considine's daughter, and their respective husbands. The college roommate, Elizabeth Likovich, and her husband later moved, and Wu's mother moved in, according to Wu. Likovich is the godmother of one of Wu's children and vice versa, Wu added.

"I am willing and able to stand behind every single bit of the success and stability that my family has had, because it has taken hard work," Wu said. "So I have been reporting every bit of our financial transactions over the years as a city councillor, and there's simply nothing here, and I'm disappointed to see the tactics being used."

After the debate, Wu said she met Terry Considine on the first day of college. Freshman year roommates at Harvard are typically assigned by the school, and Wu did not know the family before then

"We don't talk politics," she said.



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Poll: 65 percent of city voters support an elected school board

By Max Larkin and Carrie Jung WBUR Reporters

Boston voters overwhelmingly support the idea of switching from an appointed to an elected school board, according to a Mass Inc Polling Group survey of more than 500 likely voters for WBUR, the Dorchester Reporter, and The Boston Foundation

The poll found that 65 percent of likely voters said they want to restore an elected school committee in Boston, three decades after the city switched to a panel appointed by the mayor. By comparison, only 14 percent said they oppose the idea, which will be on the city's Nov. 2 Boston ballot as a non-binding resolution.

Rosanny Sanabria of East Boston noted that every other municipal school committee in Massachusetts is chosen at the ballot box. "Generally, when parents have a little bit more input, then that's usually the best way to go," said Sanabria, who is a BPS graduate with two nieces in the district.

The change to an elected school board would need approval from the City Council, the Legislature and Gov. Baker.

Brandon Bowser, a former Boston public school teacher who favors the change, said that the past year's scandals and the resignations of four committee members "definitely didn't make the body look good," adding, "If you're having scandals on the board of a company, maybe there need to be changes."

Dan Barcan of Roslindale, who has one child at Boston Latin Academy and another outside the district, was one of the few to oppose the move to an elected committee.

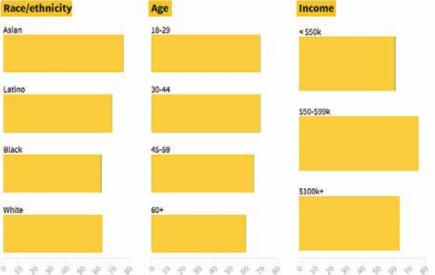
He observed that they can become consumed by lightning-rod issues, like mask mandates and the perception of "critical race theory" in curricula.

Barcan, who advises educational organizations in his work, worries that if the move is made, candidates with unrepresentative agendas might nevertheless win seats in low-turnout elections.

Meanwhile, most local voters said they want schools to focus equally on helping students academically and emotionally as they recover from the pandemic — in part because many have come to see that the issues are deeply intertwined.

"It's hard to peel them apart," Barcan said. "Even if you have minimal stressors outside of school, it's a huge source of anxiety to realize, 'I didn't really get what happened last year in math"

Move To Elected School Committee In Boston Has Broad Support Percentage of respondents in favor, by group



Source: WBUR survey, MassINC Polling Group, n = 501, Oct, 6-12, 2021

Dilia Feliz of Dorchester said that her fiveyear-old daughter did well with the academic part of remote learning at the charter school she attends — but "ended up getting anxiety attacks because she couldn't socialize with other people."

A large minority, 31

percent of respondents, said that the focus should be on academic catch-up, leaving room for social-emotional losses to be recovered elsewhere.

Sean Barrett of South Boston said that one of his three children has suffered mentally over the past year, but that the family wants trained mental-health professionals to tackle that issue. "I think we need to get back to normal, pre-Covid, as fast as possible," Barrett said.

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

Poll: Many Boston voters say they can't afford to buy a home in their neighborhood; renters, people of color key responders

By Simón Rios WBUR Reporter

More than half of likely Boston voters believe they would have to move to another neighborhood to buy a home in the next five years, according to a new poll. The poll found just a quarter of likely Boston voters said they could purchase a home in their current neighborhood in the next five years.

West Roxbury home-

owner Rachel Poliner said the city's next mayor must prioritize the cost of housing for Boston to maintain a diverse population.

"I bought my house in the late 1990s, and there's no way I could afford to buy into this neighborhood now," she said.

Poliner added that she wants the city to enact policies to create more affordable and varied housing throughout the city.

The poll found the high cost of housing was particularly troublesome for renters and people of color. While 46 percent of white respondents said they would have to move to buy a home, the number climbed to more than 60 percent for Black, Latino and Asian voters surveyed.

MassINC Polling Group conducted the survey of more than 500 voters for WBUR, the Dorchester Reporter, and the Boston Foundation. It carries a margin of error of plus or minus 4.9 percentage points.

Overall, three-quarters of voters called controlling the cost of housing a major priority. But the issue was particularly important for people backing Councilor Michelle Wu for mayor. About 85 percent

of Wu's supporters rated housing costs a major priority, compared to just 45 percent of Annissa Essaibi George's backers.

The survey also found that people of color and women were more likely to consider the cost of housing to be a key concern.

But Hyde Park homeowner Frank Rodriguez, who works for the city, was among the 26 percent of voters who didn't think reining in housing costs should be a major priority.

"I find that housing in the city of Boston is affordable, at least for me," he said.

Rodriguez said he grew up public housing projects and thought the city's housing policy was already on the right track.

Survey: Most Boston voters say that using the MBTA is safe

(Continued from page 1) bury said she hasn't takto vaccines and fewer en the T since 2019. She has a medical condition

"It's just a reminder that that Covid mindset is still very much out there and the T needs to be thinking about that as well when they're trying to convince people to get back on and ride," he said.

The survey, which included more than 500 likely voters, has a margin of error of plus or minus 4.9 percentage points.

Mike McFadden of Roxbury says he only rides the T to get to work. McFadden said he doesn't trust the agency's cleaning efforts and is hesitant to bring his children onto the system.

"Kids, they like to touch everything, and I'm not sure how well they're wiping these trains down on a regular basis like they used to," he said.

The poll showed 43 percent of voters don't ride the T at all now, more than double what was the case before the pandemic.

Angela Golay of Rox-

bury said she hasn't taken the T since 2019. She has a medical condition and uses transportation provided by MassHealth to get to her appointments. For other trips,

she catches a ride with her partner or someone else. Despite this, she says, "Ain't nothing wrong with the T. If I ain't had no other choice, I'd be on that T. I would be on the MBTA. Trust me."

The agency's data show average weekday ridership is gradually rising. But it's less than half of what it was before the pandemic. Still, the vast majority of Boston voters want to invest in the T. The poll showed that 69 percent consider improving public transportation a major priority.

This article was first published by WBUR 90.9FM on Oct. 15, 2021. The Reporter and WBUR share content through a media partnership.



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Neighbors: Group homes adding to risk of violence

(Continued from page 1) lives next to a Vinfen group home. "Ninety percent of the clients are wonderful and most employees are, too. When they keep people in the homes, they do a decent job. But it doesn't take much to have an issue."

Vinfen's communications director did not return a phone call requesting comment. Pizziferri, the Faith House sober homes operator, also didn't respond to an e-mail seeking comment for this story.

But Sarah Porter, who oversees Victory Programs — including the property at 6 Virginia St., did speak to the Reporter.

"It was horribly tragic and an out of the ordinary incident," said Porter. "It happened inside the building, which is horrible for those living inside the building, but may be better for people in the neighborhood. It's a horrible situation of violence we haven't had there in many, many, many years."

Like many neighbors, Porter agrees that neighborhoods like Uphams Corner are overburdened with service providers. But, she argues, the murder on Oct.11



Virginia Street resident Aaron Larget-Caplan in front of a group home next door to his house that he says is a constant source of quality-of-life issues. Seth Daniel photos

shouldn't completely a given. At the same overshadow the important work done there.

"(Six Virginia has) been there a very, very long time, and it's been multiple things," she said. "Then 9 Virginia has been a recovery home forever. In terms of should programs be de-populated in historically overburdened communities like Dorchester and Roxbury that already support a number of these services - that's

time, where should these housing programs be put? It's a delicate balance.

"You don't want to burden a neighborhood, but at the same time you need to put the help where people will use it," continued Porter. "It's a very difficult thing on Virginia Street. It's the same thing with Long Island or the hotel in Revere."

John Barros, the for-

mer mayoral candidate who lives on Virginia Street, doesn't want to start a campaign against such homes and services. but he also believes Virginia Street is oversubscribed.

"Like Mass and Cass, a concentration of houses providing certain services is a lot for any street in any neighborhood,' he said. "I do think that is the case for Virginia Street. I'm willing to be a neighbor to homes

that are providing services, but recognizing we have more than our fair share."

Barros added: "I don't want to be a neighbor complaining because I believe it's important to have these houses and places to go get services. I think some of the houses on our street are really well run and I want to recognize them for doing a good job."

City officials, he thinks, should re-examine the distribution of programs across the neighborhoods.

"There should also be a conversation about what concentration or numbers of people we should allow in any one neighborhood...There should be a conversation about the right density in residential areas... The question it also begs is how many per capita or per neighborhood. I wonder if Dorchester might have too many per capita." he said.

Sober Homes are a little different from group homes in that they aren't particularly regulated by the state or city, and are not an official mental health programs, but rather are a place where residents must remain sober as part of a lease agreement. They are not officially licensed or catalogued, but the Massachusetts Alliance of Sober Housing (MASH) does keep a registry of sober home landlords who register with them.

According to MASH, there are 22 registered sober homes in Dorchester-more than any other Boston neighborhood. Of those, Pizziferri operates seven of them, all known as Faith Houses.

Meanwhile, it has long been reported that more than 50 percent of the population using the city's shelter system have a last known address outside of Boston. That has led to numerous discussions about statewide decentralization of services and locating services outside of Boston closer to the homes of those who use the services.

Victory Programs provided statistics for its three homes in Dorchester, one in Jamaica Plain and one in Boston proper, and it showed that from July 1 to Sept. 30, some 55 percent of its clients had last addresses outside Boston or outside the state. Another 43 percent gave addresses in Boston. However, 83 percent were either actively homeless or had been precariously housed prior to coming to the programs.

"We don't often have people come into our services after being in Worcester," said Porter, who noted that the homes are for those that have already been through treatment programs elsewhere.

But Larget-Caplan, the Virginia Street resident, argues that sober homes are "making money hand over fist" while not contributing more to the city's tax base or to stability on the street.

"It just becomes a transient community with little or no ties to the community...I'm not being paid to babysit their clients. We don't see group homes on Beacon Hill or on Commonwealth Avenue. You see them in places the city tends to neglect. The daily quality of life has definitely taken a dive on this in 2021.'

For her part, Porter says that many of the program participants are making great strides in life, thanks to the homes.

"If anyone was to come and visit the program, they would see how far many individuals in the program are from Mass and Cass," she continued. "Most in the program are re-integrating into the community...They are in dramatic turnaround $mode. That \lqs \, part \, of \, what \,$ makes Monday's tragedy so hard – both individuals were doing that when this happened.'

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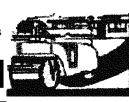
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LEGAL NOTICES

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE & FAMILY COURT SUFFOLK DIVISION
24 NEW CHARDON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02114
Docket No. SU20D1251DR
DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION and MAILING JULIETA PETERS

JASON STEVE PETERS To the Defendant:

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

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon: Julieta Peters 96 Draper St., #1, Dorchester, MA 02122-1223 your answer, if any, on or before 11/08/2021. 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: September 17, 2021

Felix D. Arroyo Register of Probate Published: October 21, 2021

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE & FAMILY COURT SUFFOLK DIVISION
24 NEW CHARDON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02114
Docket No. SU20D1755DR
DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION and MAILING QUANASHIA MONIQUE MALLARD

ROBERT DEAN MALLARD, II To the Defendant:

The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown.
The Complaint is on file at the Court. An Automatic Restraining Order has peen entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would 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 coursed to appropriate the party and the course of the state of th

required to serve upon: Quanashia Monique Mallard, 887 Washington St. #1, Dorchester, MA 02124 your answer f any, on or before 11/12/2021. If you ail 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 Justice of this Court.

Date: October 13, 2021 Felix D. Arroyo

Register of Probate
Published: October 21, 2021

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City launches effort on new BCYF centers in Dot Grove Hall advocates dismayed by plans for park instead of facility

By SETH DANIEL REPORTER CORRESPONDENT

The excitement around a new plan to build multiple stand-alone community centers throughout Dorchester over the next 10 years was tamped down somewhat when some of the loudest advocates from Grove Hall were told in a meeting on Monday that their long-time preferred site would not be a center, but rather a park.

Several city agencies are combining efforts to engage every nook of the neighborhood in planning for the uses and programming in any potential free-standing Boston Center for Youth and Families (BCYF) community center. The final result could mean multiple community centers – perhaps as many as three to five such facilities – in different parts of Dorchester within a 10-year time frame.

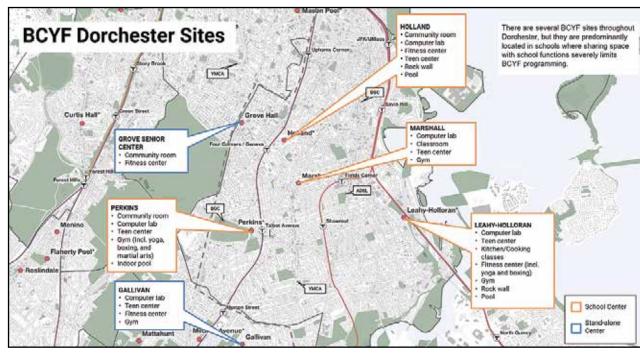
"It can take up to six years," said Allistair Lucks, project manager from the Public Facilities Department (PFD). "We're at the very, very beginning tonight...This is a 10-year Master Plan to build new BCYF facilities in Dorchester."

The study of programming and facilities is expected to take eight months and include three more meetings. Then, the city will begin to look at sites throughout the neighborhood on both public and private land – test-fitting each location for programming needs, size, existing assets, and cost.

As exciting as that sounded, the mood was darkened when advocates from Grove Hall began to testify about their long-time preference and urgency for a community center on Geneva Avenue behind the Jeremiah Burke High School. At that point, city officials seemed to throw a step-back curveball at the advocates in saying that site was going to be a park, not a center.

That site is going be a park," said Kerrie Griffin, a Dorchester resident and director of PFD. "That has been in discussions for a few years now and is being looked at by the Parks Department and DND (Department of Neighborhood Development). I think there are other opportunities we could look at in the neighborhood...It might be old information, but that was the latest information I had that they were about to start permitting it."

Mike Kuzo, of Project RIGHT, has been a long-time and vocal advocate of putting a community center on the Geneva Avenue site, and was incensed by the assertion that it would be a park.



"Why put a park in an area that doesn't need it?" he asked. "The Parks Department can't control public safety issues in the park. They come to us for help now. It would be more beneficial to have a community center than a park."

Many of the other advocates from Grove Hall, which by far had the largest and most organized voices on the meeting, were also surprised at what they were hearing.

"I am one thousand percent behind Mike and all others in this community," said Cynthia Moore. "As I was listening, I was confused because we need a community center and it's going to be a park. How can we have a planning meeting and somebody somewhere has made the decision already that this is going to be a park?

"Parks are not a place for us to take our children and feel safe. To have a park there a half-mile from big Franklin Park doesn't make sense either...At this point, it's maybe time to look at the have-nots and give us something. I'm fighting with the have-nots."

Added Rachel Simmons, "Putting another park there is opening up to the same situation we have...It gives another place for people to hang out and do drugs. There have been many

attempts to put a community center here, but they have all closed."

The Geneva Avenue space in question is situated in what Kozu and others call an "activity desert," with little or no organized programs for youth. At one time, there was a tent-like bubble located there that housed youth programs and, according to neighbors, was very popular up until the point when it closed.

Some residents said it's the best location because it's neutral territory in regard to gang turf and neighborhood beefs.

"If Mike is pushing hard for a site to put a community center, I would give credit to that," said District 4 Council candidate Evandro Carvalho, who is a former Dorchester state representative.

ADSL Director Candice Gartley, who agreed with the Grove Hall advocates, said Fields Corner is in the same boat. She stressed that any sites should be located first in areas like Fields Corner and Grove Hall where there are few resources now.

"I really feel we haven't done our job to provide our community a safe place for families to go," she said.

we have...It gives another place for people to hang out and do drugs.

There have been many

Joy DePina, who manages a BCYF Center at the Marshall School, said it would be important to

build multiple centers and not just one or two, as that would likely spark inter-neighborhood issues over getting the resource – or not.

Marilyn Forman, of the Codman Square area, said she recalled growing up in the neighborhood and having ample opportunities at the Robert Gould Shaw House—a program based on Blue Hill Avenue and Columbia Road where Stash's Pizza now sits. She said something in that location—such as in the Endicott School - that stressed the arts and crafts would be a great idea. "Arts have been something taken away," she added.

The heart of the city's effort is to begin a process now to start planning for what communities would like to see in a new center That study would be done in May 2022.

"This is a planning exercise now and will develop the program each neighborhood wants," said Griffin. "Based on that program, we will do analysis and test fits on sites, not just city-

owned sites, but private acquisition sites. The goal is to develop a 10-year plan where we're building multiple sites in Dorchester."

The effort is being coled by a Community Advisory Committee (CAC) nominated by the city and elected officials. The CAC includes: Charlie Conners, Boston Parks; Mike Joyce, Boys & Girls Club of Dorchester; Mike Kozu, Project RIGHT; Erico Correia, Project RIGHT; Tara Register, Dorchester CARES Coalition; Paul Malkemus, the Boston Project Ministries; Marilyn Forman, Codman Square Health Centers; Cynthia Loesch, Codman Square Neighborhood Council; Marti Glen, Hancock Street Civic Association: Steve Power, Jones Hill Association; Hiep Chu, Fields Corner Civic Association; Emmett Folgert, Dorchester Youth Collaborative; Laquisa Burke, WOW Coalition; Nina Johnson-Letona, Woodrow Avenue Neighborhood Association; Duane Osborn, Nubian Square business owner; Ed Gaskin, Greater Grove Hall Main Streets; and Faarooq Sahabdeen, NAACP Boston Branch.

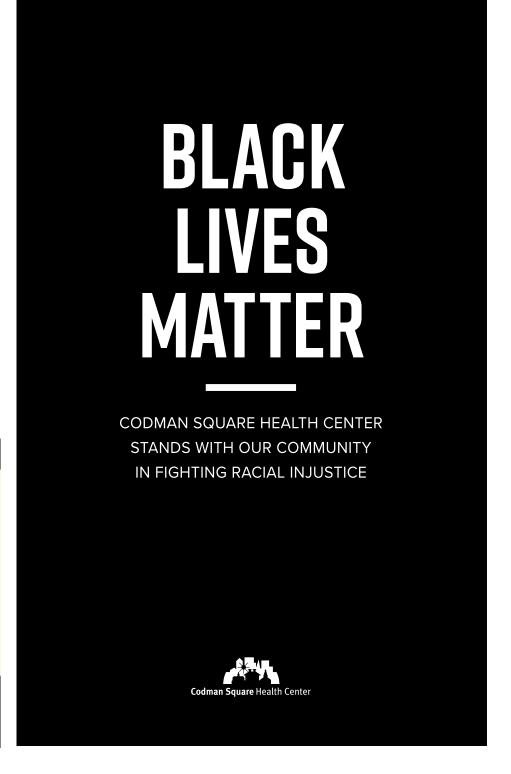
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SUN: CLOSED



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BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF DORCHESTER

in You Tube



BGCD Partners with Dick's Sporting Goods for "Let Her Play" Girls Sports Initiative: See details below.

CONNECT THE DOT:
BGCD Partners with Dick's Sporting
Goods for "Let Her Play" Girls
Sports Initiative: Boys & Girls Clubs
of Dorchester is excited to partner with
Dick's Sporting Goods as part of the
"Let Her Play" Initiative.

The Dick's Sporting Goods Giving Truck was on the road visiting Philadelphia, Washington DC, Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Indianapolis, Kansas City, Knoxville, and Boston to deliver the gift of sport to girl athletes across the country. Dick's delivered 15,000 gift bags exclusively to girl's programs to help encourage girls to play and to stay engaged in sports programs. BGCD would like to thank Dick's Sporting Goods for making this opportunity available to our girls.

We truly value your partnership and look forward to future endeavors together.

FIND OUT WHAT'S INSIDE: BGCD Members Take A Trip to Canobie Lake Park's Scream Fest: This past Friday, Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester took members on a fun Fall field trip to Canobie Lake Park in Salem, New Hampshire to experience Scream Fest. ScreamFest is one of the largest Halloween events in the Northeast where fear meets fun by night. Members were able to enjoy thrilling theme park rides, spooky haunted houses and roaming monsters, monster parades and much more. This field trip is a part of BGCD's new initiative to bring our members on more excursions outside of the Club. These field trips are designed to allow our members to try new and fun experiences outside of the Club and city limits.

For more information on programming, please contact Brendan McDonald at bmcdonald@bgcdorchester.org.



DID YOU KNOW: DON'T MISS Special Grand Drawing Gala-Ween On October 29th: Enjoy a Spooktacular night under the Pavilion Tent at Granite Links Golf Club. Included with your ticket is a chance to win one of our amazing Grand Prizes each valued at over \$5000 each! More importantly, come together and celebrate what we can do together to help support the Clubs and ensure bright futures for the children of Dorchester! Event highlights will include an incredible silent auction, delicious food stations, dancing to a fabulous live band, lots of spooky surprises and our special Grand Drawing! Grand Prizes will include exclusive vacations, a Peloton Package, Wine Fridge and Cooking Classes and much more.

To purchase a ticket or a sponsorship, visit our event website at www.rsabid. com with the event code "02125".

UPCOMING EVENTS

Challenger Soccer Sundays at 10am & 11am

UMass Dartmouth College Tour October 23

Boston University Basketball Clinic October 25

Grand Drawing Galaween
October 29
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the event code "02125"

Marilyn Rodman Theater for Kids November 2



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Virtual Open House, November 14 commschool.org/openhouse

RECENT OBITUARIES



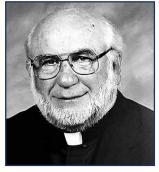
BRACKETT, William J. "Billy" of Falmouth, formerly of Dorchester. Husband of Elizabeth "Betty" (Ford) Brackett; father of Brendan Brackett and his wife Joan of Pelham, NH, and Lauren Brackett of Dorchester; grandfather (Pipa) to 1; brother of Kathleen DeMita and her husband Joseph of Reading. He is survived by many

cousins and friends. Billy served as Lt. for the MBTA Police and retired after 30 years of service. He was founder and past president of the MBTA Police Retirement Association as well as the past president of the Cedar Grove Civic Association. He was a former president of St. Brendan's CYO basketball and inducted into the CYO Hall of Fame. Please consider a donation to Cops with Kids with Cancer at https://copsforkidswith-

cancer.org/
CORBIN, Mary Emory, aka, Mary Agnes McCall and "Sister", 76, of Dorchester. Daughte to Mumphred Ivory McCall and Vir-



ginia Phillips McCall in Effingham, South Carolina. Mary worked as a Home Daycare Provider which she had done for years before retiring. Mary leaves to carry on her memory, siblings: Jacob McCall, Richard (Judge) McCall, Larry McCall, Elijah McCall, William McCall, Sheila (RC) McCall, Israel McCall, Alphonso McCall, Timothy McCall, and Dorothea McCall. Children: William E. McCall, James E. Mc-Call, Camella Haynes (McCall) and Tomango Corbin; 15 grandchildren; and 8 great-grandchildren.



PETERSON, Paul Reverend Dorchester.Husband of Audrey Peterson of Dorchester and the late Diane Peterson. Father of Zoe A. Kelly of Quincy, Kristin M. Olsen and her husband Holger of Hull and Paul M. Peterson and his wife Gina of California. Stepfather of Jennifer Larson and her husband Jon Bultmeyer of Dorchester and Matthew Larson of Bellingham. Brother of the late Marjorie Lacey. "Grampa" of 7. In memory of Paul, donations may be made to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Faith Lutheran Church



or Wollaston Lutheran Church, all in Quincy.

RATTO, John Stephen, 93, of Needham, formerly of Norwood. Husband of Frances (Minton) Ratto. He was father to Nancy M. (Ratto) Folan and her husband Mark of Norwood, MA, and Jo Ann Ratto Ross and her husband John of Nashua, NH. Grandfather of 4. Great-grandfather of 1. He is the brother of Charles Ratto of Sudbury and the late Eugene, Louise and Marie. He was the son of the late John Baptiste Ratto and Theodora (Cuneo) Ratto. John grew up in Dorchester and lived with his family in Norwood. Donations can be made in John's memory to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105-9959, stjude.org.



REYNOLDS, Carol Marie Therese (Lawton) of Dedham, for-merly of Dorchester, 83. Daughter to Joseph F. and Mary A. (Fitzgibbon) Lawton. She was a nurse at the former Mattapan Chronic Disease Hospital. She was the wife of Paul M. Reynolds, mother of Paula M. and her husband, Dennis Sproul of Hanover, James J. and his wife, Linda Reynolds of Milton, Rosemary and her husband, Joseph O'Toole of South Boston, and her late infant daughter, Patricia Mary Reynolds. "Nana" to 8. She was also great-grandmother of 1. In addition to her parents, Carol is predeceased by her sister, Claire Anne Alba, brother, Joseph F. Lawton Jr., his wife, Claire (Byron), son Joseph F. Lawton III, and daughter, Susan (Lawton) Mendes. Donations in Carol's memory may be made to the Tunnel to Towers Foundation, 2361 Hylan Boulevard, Staten Island, NY, 10306.

ROUNDBURG, Marjorie (MacDougall), 100, of Savin Hill. She was the wife of the late Richard L. Mother of Alice L. Ferrandi of Dorchester and Alice's fiancé Larry Gillis of Milton. Sister of the late Barbara L. MacDou-



gall. Grandmother of 1. Great-grandmother of



SHEA, Robert John

Sr., 89, of Marshfield,

formerly of Norwell and Hyde Park. Husband to the late Joan (Sullivan) Shea. Born in Everett, he was the son of the late Albert J. and M. Evelyn (Gammon) Shea. He was raised in Dorchester. US Air Force veteran. He started his civilian career as a "copy boy and ended as a copy grandfather," working first for the Boston Post, then for many years working for both Boston Edison and for the USPS. He was a courier for Gatehouse Media well into his 80's. He was the father of Carolyn O'Malley and her husband Stephen of Bridgewater, Robert J. Shea, Jr. and his wife Tracey of Burlington, NC, Susan Shea of Pembroke and Kimberly West and her husband David of Pembroke. Papa of 7. Great-grand-father to 5. Bob was predeceased by his brother James A. Shea and his sister Eileen E. Sullivan and her husband Philip. He is survived by his sister in law Grace Shea of Hyde Park. He is also remembered by many nieces, nephews and friends. Contributions in his memory may be made to Crohn's & Colitis Foundation, Attn: Financial Operations, 733 Third Avenue, Ste. 510, New York, NY 10017 or Arthritis Foundation, 1355 Peachtree St. NE, 6th Suite, Atlanta, GA

30309. STANFORD, David R. of Worcester, formerly of Dorchester, 72. The dear friend of Harry Fullerton and Heidi Condon, David was a retired Parole Officer for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, a longtime member of Boston Prime Timers, the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, and was a longtime performer with King Richard's Faire. He is also survived by many friends in those organizations. Contributions may be made in David's memory to the Boston Prime Timers c/o Harry Fullerton, 130 Neptune Blvd. #104E., Lynn, MA 01905.

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IN LOVING MEMORY



My brother (Andrew) and I would like to cordially invite you to a special Memorial Service in honor of our mother, Marie R. Eddy on Sunday, October 31st, 2021, which would have been her 90th birthday. This special service is being held at our church, First Parish Dorchester at 10 Parish Street in Dorchester, MA. This commemorative event is being held between the hours of 12:30 to 1:30 pm. Anyone that wishes, if you would like to speak or share a special thought, please send your name and association to Rev. Elizabeth Ladd at minister@firstparishdorchester.org with a brief description of what you would like to say and include that it is for her service. If you cannot attend but would like to share that special thought, please write it down and forward it on to me at eddysandra1955@gmail. com or the address below and I will make sure that it is read for all to here.

Anyone wishing to bring food or refreshments is welcome. Please be mindful of others and plan on wearing a mask. Respectfully,

Sandra Eddy

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Andrew Eddy

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