Mass. Ave. bike safety placed on city agenda

By Katie Trojano

A city of Boston-led initiative to create safer bike lane connections along Massachusetts Avenue was a topic of conversation at the McCormack Civic Association’s meeting last Tuesday.

The Melnea-Cass Better Bike Project intends to work with stakeholders to design improved bike lanes in Dorchester, Roxbury, and the South End on Mass. Ave and Melnea Cass Blvd., according to Jennifer Rowe, a Boston Transportation Department planner who spoke to the civic group.

Through the Go Boston 2030 process, the Better Bike Project identified Mass. Ave. as a priority corridor, and city officials are looking at ways to add a “cycle facility” to make the area safer for all users.

The Mass. Ave. route into Roxbury from Coolidge Corner and Melnea Cass Blvd. is now safer but not yet safe enough, according to Jennifer Rowe, a Boston Transportation Planning Department planner who spoke Tuesday at the Dorchester Reporter.

“Adding bike lanes is one thing, but we also need to have wayfinding on a bike route,” Rowe said. “We need to have bike lanes that are safe, but also that others can use.”

The Mass. Ave. route into Roxbury from Coolidge Corner and Melnea Cass Blvd. is now safer but not yet safe enough, according to Rowe, who spoke Tuesday at the Dorchester Reporter.

Father-son team share bond over eyewear, music appreciation

By Matteo Nichol

The father-son duo share passions for eyewear and music in their family business.

The 29-year-old Tariq said having an ambition to become a musician inspired him to become an optician. He explained in an interview, “and I had a certain familiarity with the ins and outs of eyeglasses.

“I was always very active in sports,” he explained in an interview, “and I didn’t like the Kacamak Abdul Jabbar goggles too much, so I’d wear my glasses and I would never lose them but I would always end up bringing them back to my dad bent up from baseball. It would look like the glasses were pretty much done, and I would watch him just bend and make a couple adjustments, and the glasses would be back to normal...I used to take mental notes of what he did and started to be able to adjust my own glasses. That was my first interest [in opticianry].”

After graduating with a music degree and learning how to self-promote for various jobs and gigs, Tariq said, he discovered a connection between his musical pursuits and his father’s entrepreneurial business.

“I kind of realized there’s a mold of working for yourself. You develop a trade or a skill, and then you market yourself in a way where you can show your uniqueness and your style, and I’d literally be here at seven o’clock, leave here at eleven o’clock or midnight sometimes, and then have to come back here at five or six o’clock,” he said.

“Getting it right’ approach seems to be the consensus

By Katie Trojano

After a series of community meetings that informed design proposals, officials from the Boston Public Library (BPL), Department of Neighborhood Development (DND), and members of other city departments joined community members for a fourth public meeting last Tuesday evening at the Fields Corner branch library on Dorchester Avenue to continue work on defining “a programming study for the future” of the library, said BPL President David Leonard.

“We’re excited to review a number of different options of how we could go forward based on the data that Oudens Ello Architecture has collected. This is really crucial meeting to hear feedback about what you like or what you think you go far in one direction or not enough in another direction,” he added.

Matthew Oudens, principal of Oudens Ello, presented design proposals with pros and cons for each viable option. “We plan to wrap up this study by the end of this year,” Oudens said before running through a series of renovation options. “I want to remind people that this is the end of the study phase and there is a long period of design that follows this.”

The first option would support a one-story library building that would either be a full renovation of the existing building, or complete replacement. A gut-renovation of the existing building would cost $12.3 million, Oudens said, adding that it would “focus on opening up the front entrance” and redesigning the interior without changing the footprint of the building.

Imagining the new Fields Corner library is stirring emotions

By Katie Trojano

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Father-son team share bond over eyewear, music appreciation

By Daniel Sheehan

Nearly ten years after opening up shop at Eye and Eye Optics in Lower Mills, Robin Nicholson has a new business partner: his son Tariq.

The father-son duo share passions for opticianry and music, the two forces that have shaped career trajectories for each of them. Both studied music in college— Robin at Berklee and Tariq at the now closed UMass Boston— before returning to school for opticianry apprenticeship programs— Robin at the newly closed Newbury College in Brookline and Tariq at the Benjamin Franklin Institute for Technology in the South End.

The 29-year-old Tariq said having an ambition to become a musician inspired him to become an optician.

After graduating with a music degree and learning how to self-promote for various jobs and gigs, Tariq said, he discovered a connection between his musical pursuits and his father’s entrepreneurial business.

“I kind of realized there’s a mold of working for yourself. You develop a trade or a skill, and then you market yourself in a way where you can show your uniqueness and your style, that I got in the driveway sometimes when I first opened up and it was just me and a couple of people, and I’d literally be here at seven o’clock in the morning, leave here at eleven o’clock or midnight sometimes, and then have to come back here at five or six o’clock,” he said.

“I sometimes have nightmares about the times when I first opened up and it was just me and a couple of people, and I’d literally be here at seven o’clock in the morning, leave here at eleven o’clock or midnight sometimes, and then have to come back here at five or six o’clock,” he said.

By Daniel Sheehan

opened up a gourmet burger joint, Bred, in Lower Mills nearly five years ago, the burden of owning and operating a restaurant full-time was overwhelming at times.

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Dorchester mourns Joe Zinck, civic leader, veterans’ stalwart

Joe Zinck, a Vietnam War veteran, former Boston Police Lt. Detective and a lifelong Dorchester resident, died last week. Zinck was a driving force behind the creation of the Dorchester Vietnam Veterans Memorial on Morrissey Boulevard in 1990. He was a fierce advocate and steward of the memorial site since its dedication in mid-2000.

A graduate of Boston English High School and the US Marine Corps, Zinck served with the 1st Marine Division during World War II. He fought in the Battle of Iwo Jima and earned a Bronze Star for bravery in action in Vietnam.

Joe Zinck, his city and his country for his entire life,” said Mayor Martin J. Walsh. “He gave back at every chance he could through his work supporting Boston police officers, as a lieutenant detective in the Police Department, and as director of the Boston Police Relief Association.

“For years to come, Joe Zinck will be a bright light, joy, and peace in a concert at the Strand Theatre on Sunday, Dec. 8. The event is sponsored by Bank of America.

By Katie Trajano

REPORTER STAFF

DAV honors Ba Le Nguyen for her support of its mission

From left, DAV member Coleman Nee, DAV Adjutant Michael Stack, DAV Adjutant Councillor Frank Baker. DAV Major Ronald Berube, DAV Adjutant Katie Trajano photon雍, Bethany Rollins, DAV Adjutant Councillor Kushmeet Panesar and Tailwind Vice President Jeaan Shin.

At the time of the murder, police said, a man fired a shot at Phillips, getting hit by a car and fleeing. Police said that Sanchez fled Boston to face the charges that were filed in 2015. The trial of the US Marshals was especially important, as was the work of Assistant District Attorney John Vezeris, Detective Jack Cronin of the Boston Police and unsolved homicide.

DOT BY THE DAY
Nov. 28 - Dec. 8, 2019

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

Thursday (28th) – Thanksgiving Day.

Friday (29th) – Celebrate Native American heritage at JFK Library event. Join the Wampanoag Nation Singers and Dancers as they share stories of their history and modern culture in a performance that culminates with a full audience dance in honor of Native American Heritage Month on Friday, Nov. 29 from 10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. at the JFK Library. Call 617-514-1644 to register or go to jfklibrary.org.

Saturday (30th) – City of Boston’s annual light and unlight trolley tour of Dorchester village tree lightings, 4-8 p.m. Stops include the Codman Square, The Strand Theatre (5), St. Teresa of Calcutta (5:30) and Ryan Playground (6). In Peabody Square, a 7 p.m. tree lighting is planned and which will also include a ceremony to officially re-name the plaza outside of Ashmont station for the late Vincent A. Dore.

December 14 – Halfway to Dot Day 5k.

Police, Courts, & Fire

Man charged in '85 murder on Norwell Street – A 46-year-old man from the Dominican Republic after allegedly shooting a man in the head outside a Norwell Street house party in 1985 was arrested this week and charged with first degree murder charges on Monday.

William Sanchez, aka Wilmer Sanchez, who is also known as Wilman Soto, had been living in Hyde Park and shot at Media and another man, according to police.

Suffolk County DA Rachel Rollins’ office said that Sanchez fled Boston “hours after the shooting and went to New York City before fleeing to the Dominican Republic. After an extradition hearing with the Dominican Republic was signed in 2015, it took years to locate him and confirm his identity.”

There is no statute of limitations, Rollins said in a statement. “I want to thank the United States Attorney for Justice and the agencies involved in extraditing Mr. Sanchez back to Boston to face the charges that were filed in 1985. The trials of the US Marshals was especially important, as was the work of Assistant District Attorney John Vezeris, Detective Jack Cronin of the Boston Police and unsolved homicide.

Dot man charged in ‘18 Savannah Ave. murder – A Dorchester police officer arrested Marcus Ambrozio, 24, of Boston Thursday on charges that he fatally shot Gregory Phillips, 32, of Savannah Ave. in Mattapan on Dec. 10, 2018. Police reported that Sanchez fled Boston to face the charges that were filed in 2015. The trial of the US Marshals was especially important, as was the work of Assistant District Attorney John Vezeris, Detective Jack Cronin of the Boston Police and unsolved homicide.

At the time of the murder, police said, a man fired a shot at Phillips, getting hit by a car and fleeing. Police said that Sanchez fled Boston to face the charges that were filed in 2015. The trial of the US Marshals was especially important, as was the work of Assistant District Attorney John Vezeris, Detective Jack Cronin of the Boston Police and unsolved homicide.
Council hearing will focus on ‘Little Saigon’ district proposal

By KATIE TROJANO

A hearing sponsored by City Councillor Frank Baker and scheduled for next Thursday (Dec. 5) will take up the proposal to create a “Little Saigon” cultural district in Fields Corner.

The hearing will be heard by the Committee on Arts, Culture and Special Events, is set for 5:30 p.m. at St. Ambrose Church on Adams Street and will include public testimony.

If approved by the state, the designation “Little Saigon” would serve to identify a half-mile stretch along portions of Dorchester Avenue and Charles, Park, and Adams streets in Fields Corner as a center of Vietnamese cultural, artistic, and economic activity for at least five years.

The Networking Organization of Vietnamese Americans (NOVA) has proposed the designation. The subject was last discussed in September at a Fields Corner Civic Association meeting.

“I’m supportive of it,” said Baker. “I’ve been involved in this discussion for about five or six years. If the community comes out and there’s a large opposition, then maybe we have to figure out how to get people more comfortable with it,” he said. “The hearing is so that people can get more comfortable with it and figure out how we can get groups involved that feel like they aren’t a part of it.”

The hearing will involve the Mass Cultural Council and representatives from the mayor’s office speaking to the proposal. In the end, it is up to the council whether or not to pass a resolution along to the Massachusetts Cultural Council for review.

Election commissioners to start recount on Dec. 5

The city’s Board of Election Commissioners will begin the recount process of some 66,000 ballots from the Nov. 5 at-large city council election on Thurs., Dec. 5. To date, five votes separate the fourth and fifth place finishers, Julia Mejia and Alejandra St. Guillen, according to unofficial election results.

Both candidates have submitted the qualifying number of signatures for all 22 wards.

The recount will begin at 9 a.m. and continue on the next day with the opening of ballot boxes and packing of ballots into blocks of 50.

The actual recounting of votes cast will begin at 9 a.m. on Sat., Dec. 7, continuing through Dec. 9 as needed.

Each candidate will receive written notice with the time, date, and location of the recount, as well as the number of “agents” and observers each will be entitled to.

The process will include a hand count of all ballots aimed to ensure that each card is individually examined and certified.

– KATIE TROJANO
College Bound gets $90k boost from Patriot players, the Krafts, and a pair of cleats

BY JACK GOLDMAN

The New England Patriots and safety Devin McCourty have thrown their support behind College Bound Dorchester’s “Boston Uncornered” project with a grant of $90,000 from the Patriots’ Player Social Justice Fund, which contains player donations that are matched by the Kraft family.

During the Dec. 8 game against the Kansas City Chiefs, McCourty will throw custom cleats in support of Boston Uncornered as part of the NFL’s “My Cause, My Cleats” program. The rocks will be auctioned off after the game.

“There are many organizations that do amazing work in the area of social justice,” McCourty said in a release. “As individuals, there is a lot we can do to assist. But, if there is anything football teaches us, it’s that we can accomplish much more collectively as a team.”

“The goal of the social justice fund is to work together as a team to help effect change in our community by providing support to these national organizations. The more you learn about the work they are doing, the more you want to support their efforts.”

Founded in 2016, Boston Uncornered is a student-designed and student-run social justice fund that works with organizations this year to five charitable or educational organizations this year. Other recipients include Washington D.C. for participants to earn college degrees. The goal is for participants to earn college degrees. The goal is the field,” said Mark Culliton, College Bound Dorchester CEO.  

Boston Uncornered is a testament to the courage of Devinn and the Patriots and their belief in the work we do,” he said.

The Patriots’ Social Justice fund has awarded $450,000 in grants to five charitable organizations this year. Other recipients include Washington D.C. for participants to earn college degrees. The goal is for participants to earn college degrees. The goal is the field,” said Mark Culliton, College Bound Dorchester CEO.
A couple of firsts for the BFD as ten are given command posts

Mass. Ave. bike safety placed on city agenda

(Continued from page 1) Lumbria Road, which also has heavy volumes of truck traffic, is a critical link for bike travel. Near the midpoint, the corridor includes Newmarket Square, passing by Newmarket station on the Fairmount Line and South Bay Center.

Rowe cited “less-than-ideal” bike conditions for the 350-400 people who ride along Mass. Ave. each weekday. The number was recorded through a camera system during a project study, she said. In addition, Rowe said, the sidewalks along the corridor are in poor condition. She noted that Mass. Ave. is one of the worst streets in the city for accidents involving pedestrians and bikers, saying, “This area is pretty scary for people biking and walking.”

Part of the Better Bike outreach focuses on working with neighborhood associations and other stakeholders in the Mass. Ave. area. The project has hosted walk and ride-alongs with the general public, 1010 Mass. Ave. staff, and the Newmarket Business Association, and stopped by civic association meetings.

“This is a priority project,” said Rowe. “Our plan over the winter is to get to the drafting table to draw up some plans, iterate on them, and, during that process, discuss some of the trade-offs with different stakeholders, including neighborhood groups.”

“The bicycle facilities would include very little actual construction, consisting mainly of painted bike lanes. While the team hasn’t yet decided on any designs, Rowe said that viable options could include the addition of bike lanes on either side of Mass. Ave., or a bi-directional lane on one side.

“The hope is to lay out a design by late winter, finalize it in the spring, and start construction over the summer,” she added. Reconstruction of sidewalks in the area would likely happen over a longer period of time, she said, and require coordination with the city’s Public Works Department.

Proponents of the Better Bike Project will continue to collect feedback through the winter, hosting open houses and workshops focused on existing conditions, concepts and design tools, details of the preferred design, and pre-construction information.

To learn more visit boston.gov/mass-ave-south.
**Mel King mural is dedicated at Madison Park High School**

By Daniel Sheehan & Features Editor

A larger-than-life mural at Madison Park High School depicting King in such varied fields as housing, technology, job creation, medical education, and economic development to improve the quality of life for Boston residents of color. He is called a mentor and role model by thousands of young people who have grown up in the neighborhood.

By Daniel Sheehan & Features Editor

The mural, which was commissioned by Fields Corner Main Streets and DAP and made possible through a 2019 Innovation Grant from the Boston Main Streets Foundation, is located on a wall near the Fields Corner T stop and the Hien Vuong Vietnamese Restaurant. It includes portraits of foods like rice, avocado, and fish, which Fernandez explained, are common in Latin American cultures like her own, but also in Vietnamese culture and other ethnicities represented in the diverse demographics of the neighborhood.

"Rich from every country tastes so different," she noted, yet the staple serves as a common thread through various different communities. At the base of the mural, dozens of signatures from community members create a pattern on the tabletop that adds a direct community connection to the piece, said Fernandez.

"I had my uncle and my mom come through and my cousins, a lot of random people off the street, older people, folks from DAP," she said. "So it was really special to have that aspect of it and have the community be a part of it.

Fernandez, who painted the mural over the course of the last month, said the experience was personally rewarding. "I'm extremely thankful for Fields Corner Main Streets and for DAP," she said. "It meant a lot more than just putting paint on the wall."
Leonard Lee, Sr. appointed to city’s Parks and Recreation Commission

Dorchester resident Leonard Lee, Sr. was sworn in as the newest member of the Boston Parks and Recreation Commission at the Commission’s October 28 public meeting. The seven-person review body is appointed by the Mayor.

In his current position with the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, Lee acts as general manager for the Melnea Cass Recreation Complex in Roxbury with responsibility for the total operation of Melnea Cass Recreation Complex, Roxbury Heritage State Park, and Dillaway Thomas House. As part of his role, Lee organizes educational programs. Lee has decades of experience in public health, most recently as director of the Division of Violence and Injury Prevention at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health overseeing a $30 million budget and managing four units: Sexual and Domestic Violence Prevention; Child and Youth Violence Prevention; Suicide Prevention; and Injury Prevention and Control. Prior to taking on the senior managerial role at the Department of Public Health, Lee served as the Unit Manager of Child and Youth Violence Prevention managing the shaken baby syndrome, youth violence prevention, and safe spaces for LGBTQ+ youth programs. Lee was also an Executive Director at a number of nonprofits throughout the Boston area, including the Roxbury YMCA, ABCD, Inc., Dorchester Neighborhood Service Center, Odwyn Learning Center, and the Wang Theater.


Leonard M. Lee, Sr.

Pillow Power: Reverend June Cooper, executive director of Dorchester-based City Mission Society, led businesses, and it supported the organization which provides expressive arts creations, diorama building and more for children and families in Boston neighborhoods. More at familiescreatingtogether.org.

Codman Health Center named Top 100 Women-Led listing

For the sixth consecutive year, Codman Square Health Center has been named one of the Top 100 Women-Led Businesses in Massachusetts by the Commonwealth Institute and The Boston Globe. Codman is led by CEO Sandra Cotterell, RN who has been at the center since 1994 and CEO since 2011.

The Commonwealth Institute is a nonprofit that supports women-led businesses, and it considers revenue, operating budgets, number of full-time employees, diversities, innovative leadership.

“The inspiration to lead is a little different than the inspiration to care for patients, and it’s important that women in healthcare see that those in leadership roles can make a real difference in patient care, staff satisfaction, and in their community.”

Codman Square Health Center is open 7 days a week, serves over 22,000 patients with over 115,000 annual visits, 115,000 staff visits, and over 320. A majority of staff are members of the Dorchester community.

Sandra Cotterell Health Center CEO

Honorable Serge Georges, J.D., the associate justice of the Dorchester Division of the Boston Municipal Court, has joined the Board of Trustees at BC High.

Georges, who grew up in Dorchester, is a 1988 graduate of BC High.

Before being appointed to the court, Georges was an experienced trial attorney concentrating in civil litigation, criminal defense, and matters involving professional licensure and liability. Prior to becoming a sole practitioner, Georges was a partner at Barron & Stafied, P.C. as well as an associate at Todd & Weld and Rackemann Sawyer & Brewster, P.C. He also is adjunct professor at Suffolk University Law School and a former president of the Massachusetts Black Lawyers Association.

Several students from Dorchester earned Honor Roll status for Quarter One 2019-20 at Fontbonne: Abigail Jean-Michel, 2nd grade; Samantha Soldano, 3rd grade; Minorah Frejusz ’21 and Caroline Smith ’23 earned second honors; and Madison Coughlin ’20 and Joby Frejusz ’23 earned Honorable Mention.

Several students from Mattapan have been named to the First Quarter Honor Roll at Boston College High School: Alexander Jordan ’22 earned High Honors. Gemly Cajuque ’22 and Arnel Cello ’22 earned Honors.

Three students from Mattapan have been named to the First Quarter Honor Roll at Boston College High School: Alexander Jordan ’22 earned High Honors. Gemly Cajuque ’22 and Arnel Cello ’22 earned Honors.

‘Boston from Mount Bowdoin’

The view is probably from the land owned by Nathaniel Phillips. The highest points of land on the hill are along Bowdoin Avenue. Boston is shown in the distance, with the Massachusetts State House just left of center. The body of water in the center of the illustration is the former South Bay, at that time a body of water that rose and fell with the tides as the sea water flowed through what is now the Fort Point Channel. There is railroad trestle crossing the South Bay, and that line of tracks was the early version of the Fairmount Line. At the far right, First Church stands on Meetinghouse Hill.

Mount Bowdoin is one of the hills of Dorchester. The Boston Landmarks Commission’s area form for Mount Bowdoin, dated 1995, reads: “Mount Bowdoin was named for James Bowdoin, the Revolutionary War patriot and governor of Massachusetts during the late 1780s. As early as the mid-18th century, Gov. Bowdoin summited on Dorchester’s Mt. Bowdoin, or Bowdoin Hill as it was originally known. He was undoubtedly attracted to the panoramic views of the harbor and Blue Hills visible from atop the hill that would be named in his honor.”

The “Bowdoin Road was located at the crest of a secondary hill projecting from the lower southern slopes of Mt. Bowdoin. In fact, Bowdoin Avenue started out as a two-pronged driveway leading up the hill from Four Corners (Bowdoin, Washington, Harvard streets intersection) to the Bowdoin house. The western “arm” of this driveway continued northward past Bowdoin’s residence and over the Mount’s upland pastures. This road represents present day Bowdoin Avenue. The eastern “arm” of Bowdoin Avenue ran directly past the governor’s house and was renamed Rossetter Street during the late 19th century.”

The other Dorchester hills are: Ashmont Hill, Codman Hill, Jones Hill, Meetinghouse Hill, Mount Ida, Pope Hill, Savin Hill.

The Archives of these historical posts can be viewed on the blog at dorchesterhistoricalsociety.org. The Dorchester Historical Society’s historic houses are open on different dates. The Lesueur Clap House (1712 and remodeled 1765) at 199 Boston Street is open on the third Saturday of each month. The James Blake House, 725 Columbus Road (1661) and the William Clap House, 195 Boston Street (1806) are open on the third Sunday of each month. Open hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Coming Saturday: Droser Plaza at Ashmont

It has been nearly ten years since Vince Droser’s sudden death from a heart attack in his home on Barrington Road. The passing of the 55-year-old New York native stunned the Dorchester community, particularly the tight-knit Ashmont-Adams Village neighborhoods where he and his family had become central to civic and social life. His official role was vice president for development at Trinity Financial, Inc., the Dorchester-based company that built the Carruth Building on what was once an MBTA parking lot for the old Ashmont station. He was the project manager for the Carruth, which opened in 2010. He shepherded the project through a long process, built consensus with his neighbors, funded the project with the reconstruction of Ashmont Station and Peabody Square, and made sure every detail of the six-story building was spot-on.

But Vince Droser was more than just a developer. He and his wife, Nancy, were in constant motion as civic ambassadors in the neighborhood. As Ed Forry wrote upon Vince’s passing: “At the annual neighborhood block party, it was Vince who brought the barbecue grills, gas tanks, the hot dogs, and burgers—and then remained at the grill, cooking until everyone had eaten and the food was gone. At Christmas, after the city workers had put lights on the community tree at Peabody Square, he’d show up with a stepladder, and personally add extra ornaments and decorations.

“He leaves a huge hole in the fabric of our neighbor-hood,” Ed wrote.

That remains true today. Since 2011, friends and colleagues of Droser have gathered and made significant progress in extending his legacy of growth and improvements in and around Ashmont. The neighborhood headquarters has beenTemplate added

The Urban Gardener

The Urban Gardener’s Thanksgiving Day Schedule

(Editor’s Note: Due to popular demand, we are pleased to reprint Mary Casey Forry’s classic column about her schedule of activities around the house for Thanksgiving Day. This article first appeared in the Dorchester Reporter in November 1986.)

By Mary Casey Forry

6:51 a.m. - Rise and attempt to aim. Find way to kitchen without falling over sleeping animals on the dark, narrow, crook-stairway. Remove cold, dead, foul from refrigerator and give it a sponge bath, remembering to remove innards in little plastic bags which butcher hides in any nook and cranny. Put them in pan while attempting to keep space under control.

Add bread and spices and prepare to insert them into fowl. Do not, under any circumstances, attempt to cut corners by stuffing the fowl the night before, or everyone at table will die of food poisoning before sundown.

6:35 a.m. - Rummage through dark house looking for needle and thread with which to sew fowl back together again. Contort the fowl to fit into roasting pan by bending its little wings behind its back. If this does not work, cut them off (he’s finished using them).

6:45 a.m. - Massage fowl liberally with butter or some other lubricant (other than motor oil) to keep it moist while cooking. This procedure never works, but makes it feel like Julia Child.

6:50 a.m. - Tell fowl in oven and check cooking chart for time. Figure anywhere between five and six hours until fowl is done. If anyone asks later how the child is, be optimistic and say, “Some- time today.”

7:00 a.m. - Remove bakery pies from trunk of car and line them up where anyone can see them. Throw boxes away and when family asks if you made them, look offended, lie and say, “Of course.”

7:05 a.m. - Sit down and have morning beverage of your choice.

7:10 a.m. - Remove appropriate vegetables from refrigerator and peel or otherwise ready them for cooking. It is best to do this early because some juggling for burner space on stove is in order since there are only four burners and 17 side dishes. Neighbors are of no help at this time, since they are in same boat.

8:30 a.m. - First family member appears in kitchen demanding bacon and eggs for breakfast. Give them a dollar and point them in the general direction of the nearest McDonald’s. Tell him to a football stadium where you can sit in 20 degrees weather watching high school students in their uniforms and maim one another. Tell him you are much too old and maimed to want to know if you can hold everything under control. Band will want to know if you can hold everything under control. Tell him if he’s not at the table in 20 seconds, he’ll be the first casualty of the holiday weekend.

1:32 p.m. - Family assembles at table. Say Grace. At this point some family member, usually the youngest, announces how bad they feel for the turkey, spoiling everyone’s appetite.

1:50 p.m. - Dinner and halftime over. Remove dishes and food from table. Wash dishes, pots, pans, silver and crystal. Attempt to remove gravy and candle wax stains from linen.

2:30 p.m. - Set out desserts and beverages.

2:40 p.m. - Remove dessert plates and silverware, cups and saucers, and wash same.

3:30 p.m. - Finish removing debris from kitchen and dining areas. At this point, husband usually saunters into kitchen and asks what he can do to help. This way you know that the Stuffing Bowl is over and the Squash Bowl has not yet begun. Tell him thanks a lot, but his concern and good wishes are out of place.

6:00 p.m. - Finish last course and sit down with youngest child to watch “Santa and the Million Dollar Parents” on television.

6:30 p.m. - Husband and children want to know what’s for supper. Tell them the kitchen is closed for the night.

7:00 p.m. - Tell children for the last time that under no circumstances are there any Christmas decorations going up in this house tonight.

8:00 p.m. - Sit down to relax with newspaper. Realize from the ads that there are only 20 shopping days left until Christmas. Take a Prozac, wish one and all a Happy Thanksgiving, go to bed and cry self to sleep.

Mary Casey Forry co-founded the Reporter in 1983. She passed away in December 2004.
A reflection on the supply side of our pursuit of more housing

By LAWRENCE S. DiCara

November 27, 2019

The Reporter

Page 9

dotnews.com

By Lawrence S. DiCara

Lawrence S. DiCara, an attorney and former Boston City Councilor, spoke to the Greater Mattapan Neighborhood Council Nov. 16. His speaking notes are excerpts from his remarks.

“Even though I have lived in Jamaica Plain for 30 years, I am a native of Dorchester, and remember Dorchester and Mattapan in the pre-war era. Of course, there has been an ongoing debate as to exactly where the line is drawn between Dorchester and Mattapan.

“It was really very simple 50 years ago in my neighborhood: if you went to St. Angela’s, you lived in Mattapan. If you went to St. Gregory’s, you lived in Dorchester, notwithstanding whatever the post office or your zip code might have suggested.

“When I attended the Charles H. Taylor School, the Mattapan kids went out on the Morton Street side; the Dorchester kids went out on the Gallivan Boulevard side.

“The Boston Zoning Code was enacted in 1965 when Boston was a very different city and I was at Boston Latin School. There began, I believe, beginning in the early 1980’s, a down-zoning of neighborhoods. Buildings could be constructed as a matter of right than the housing the people now living in the city, the result of which is that more young, mostly white people are living in Roxbury, Dorchester, and Jamaica Plain, and displacing families, mostly families of color that include children, because they can pay for a housing unit than a large family.

“We cannot solve our housing problem, and it is a significant problem, solely by building luxury units in downtown build- ing and having it for affordable units here and there. We cannot only build small units without parking spaces.

“The two greatest issues in affordable housing in Boston and most other cities occurred over the last 50 years.

“The first, I think, has been a major social housing issue, and the second has been a major condition, and that is all to do with what I think we can most readily identify it very early on to. Since we have a lot of families who need to have a balanced structure, we have families with a lot of families, and many families, who need to live in a place to have a balanced structure, which means that they can either live in one family or a family’s housing stock for families for children.

“The real issue, of course, is that the zoning policies of the great majority of the cities and towns make it difficult for all but single-family houses on large lots to be constructed. I know that Gov. Barker’s new zoning bill is guidelines, but I think to me what is a very moder- est step – to change from the zoning that we have now living in the War on Poverty. For the most part, the federal government has been on the side of the people who need affordable housing units requires both public urban and federal dollars.

“Something is very wrong with a system that results in some projects requiring 12, 15, 17 different sources of funding, each of them requiring extensive documen- tation. Soft costs can be enormous when increasing the cost/

“Need are far more significan- cant actions on the part of the state in order to provide housing options for people of various incomes and various ages across the city.

“I know that later on this evening, you will be hearing from Councilor [Michelle] Wu, who has been very forthcoming about her interest in abolishing the Boston Redevelopment Author- ity. I think she is 100 percent correct in what takes its place if that thing, and that changes, that says it all, with re- spect to housing options in the City of Boston.

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Light and Unite tree Lighting to Ur
The City of Boston’s annual light and unite trolley
tour of Dorchester village tree lightings will be held
on Sat., Nov. 30, 4-8 p.m. Stops include Port Norfolk
(4:30) The Strand Theatre (5), St. Teresa of Calcutta
(5:30) and Ryan Playground (6). In Peabody Square,
a 7 p.m. tree lighting is planned and will include a
ceremony to officially re-name the plaza outside of
Ashmont station for the late Vincent A. Droser.

Lower MiLls holiday StroLL on
SaTuRDaY
The 12th annual Lower Mills Holiday Stroll is set
for 3-6 p.m. with a 6:15 p.m. tree lighting at East
Boston Savings Bank. Complimentary trolley stops
at EBSB, Baker’s Artists’ Lofts, Milton T stop and
Forbes House Museum.

BPDA PLANS DEC. 3 MEETING ON
PORT NORFOLK PROPOSAL
The Boston Planning and Development Agency
(BPDA) will host a public meeting on Tues., Dec. 3
at 6 p.m. at the Boston Winery, 26 Ericsson St. to
discuss “next steps for the review of the 24 Ericsson
St. project” by proponents City Point Capital. The
contact at the BPDA is Tim Czerwinski at 617-918-
5303 or tim.czerwinski@boston.gov.

CeleBrate native aMerican heritage
at JFK LiBraRy event
Join the Wampanoag Nation Singers and Dancers
as they share stories of both their history and modern
culture in a performance that culminates with a full
audience dance in honor of Native American Heritage
Month on Friday, Nov. 29 from 10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
at the JFK Library. Call 617-514-1644 to register or
go to jfklibrary.org.

HalFWay to dot day 5K on dec. 14
Dorchester Running Club sponsors the fifth annual
Halfway to Dot Day 5k and Toy Drive on Sat., Dec.
14 at Pope John Paul II Park, Hallet Street entrance
in Neponset, 9 a.m. Followed by a toy drive breakfast
at Florian Hall, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Suggested donation:
$20 and unwrapped toy for a child in need. More info
at DotRunners.org.

More than 140 runners gathered at the Seaport Hotel on Fri., Nov. 22, for the kick-off of the Final MR8 Boston Marathon Team. The evening started off with a three-mile run around Boston’s Seaport, with a special stop at Martin’s Park. The run next April will mark the final time the Foundation will host a team for
this event. “We are excited to have the largest team this year and this group of runners is a dedicated group of many people who have run with us before,” said Bill Richard, co-founder of the foundation. “They understand that we are deepening our impact through philanthropic work and charitable giving as
part of our renewed focus.” Since 2014, the Martin Richard Foundation has worked to advance the values of sportsmanship, inclusion, kindness, and peace
by investing in community programs that broaden horizons for young people and encourage them to embrace civic engagement and celebrate diversity.

(Continued on page 14)
Baker set to sign landmark education funding bill

November 27, 2019

THE REPORTER

By Katie Lannan
State House News Service

Gov. Charlie Baker was expected on Tuesday to sign into law a sweeping overhaul of the state’s school finance system that will commit the state to expend $1.5 billion in funding over seven years.

Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito, Senate President Karen Spilka, House Speaker Robert DeLeo, Education Committee Chairmen Alice Peisch and Sen. Jason Lewis, and Boston Mayor Martin Walsh were expected to attend the event at Boston English High School in Jamaica Plain.

The bill (S2412) passed both branches of the Legislature unanimously in October, more than a year after talks on a similar funding reform bill fell apart in the final hours of formal sessions of 2018.

Advocates kept the pressure on lawmakers to act this year with regular rallies and the filing of a lawsuit alleging unconstitutional inequities in the current funding formula.

The bill is aimed at closing persistent achievement gaps, and it provides new money to school districts to cover expenses associated with employee health care, special education, English language learners, and students from low-income families.

Those four areas were identified as major cost drivers in a 2015 state report that found the formula’s foundation budget underestimates the cost of education by $1 billion a year.

School districts will be required to prepare plans detailing strategies they will deploy to close achievement gaps, with the first plan due in 2020. State education officials will review the plans and can require amendments on those that do not conform to the bill’s requirements.

That accountability provision was the main difference between the House and Senate versions of the bills, and Peisch and Lewis have both said they feel the language they settled on strikes the right balance between state oversight and local control.

The bill does not appropriate money or include new taxes, leaving it up to lawmakers to make annual funding decisions as part of the budget process.

“I certainly think what this means for us and for the Legislature on a go-forward basis, this is going to have to be sort of first-in when we make decisions about what the budget looks like,” Baker said.

Michael P. Norton contributed reporting to this article.

AG Healey settles with collection firm that targeted the elderly and the poor

Company agrees to $4m payout

By Simón RioS
WBUR Reporter

Attorney General Maura Healey’s office has reached a multi-million-dollar settlement with a debt collection firm that targeted the elderly and the poor.

In a settlement announced Tuesday, the Delaware-based Portfolio Recovery Associates agreed to stop targeting the elderly and the poor.

Under the settlement, Portfolio agreed to stop debt collection in the state and pay out $4 million that documents show. But the company did not admit to any violations charged in the lawsuit.

Julia Jones, a Boston resident, said Portfolio agreed to stop pressuringPortfolio Recovery Associates did not respond to a request for comment on the settlement.

Healey said she hopes other companies engaging in questionable collection practices will take the settlement as a warning. “Hopefully today we make clear, and maybe that will reduce bad behavior, that we are going to come after you if you engage in abusive debt collection in the state.”

The Delaware-based company did not admit to any violations charged under the Consumer Protection Act, court documents show. But the company agreed to pay out $4 million that will go to thousands of its alleged victims.

While it is legal to collect on debt, Healey said, “aggressive pressuring and intimidating of consumers” is not. She noted that the company tried to collect on debts that were so old they were unenforceable and failed to inform consumers that Social Security and disability benefits, as well as pension income and child support, can be exempt from having to pay debt collectors.

Under the settlement, Portfolio agreed to stop targeting people whose income is exempt from debt collection. The company also agreed it won’t try to collect if it can’t prove a debt is valid.

Julia Jones, a Boston resident, said Portfolio came after her for less than $1,000, and when the company couldn’t document the original source of the debt, she turned to the attorney general.

Jones said having debt collectors coming after you is like having a weight around your neck. “It’s hard to have limited resources in the first place, but then when you get these constant reminders that you’re no good… it kind of erodes your dignity.”

Portfolio Recovery Associates did not respond to a request for comment on the settlement.

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Michael P. Norton contributed reporting to this article.
The Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the United States Senate welcomed more than 200 college students from across the country on Nov. 15-16 for the Newman Civic Fellows Annual Convening hosted in partnership with Campus Compact.

While in attendance, the students took part in productive group conversations on policy and community-based change, heard from civic leaders, and made their voices heard through programs in the Institute’s full-scale replica Senate chamber.

“These rising leaders are already bringing participatory democracy to life through their engagement with the issues of the day. We hope that their activism, community engagement, political and public service passions only grow as a result of their time at the Institute,” said EMK Institute CEO Gina Perille.

The Newman Civic Fellows visited Columbia Point for a weekend of programs, workshops, and networking, convening to discuss how to address societal challenges and to experience some of the Kennedy Institute’s legislative simulations. Among the hands-on legislative simulation experiences that the Newman Fellows took part in at the Institute was consideration and passage of the Green New Deal and deliberations on the merits of the PATRIOT Act.

Boston City Councillor Lydia Edwards discussed her experience as an organizer and her path to elected office in the City of Boston at the convening.

“It was a pleasure to join the Kennedy Institute, Campus Compact, and all of the student leaders who are making a difference in their communities nationwide,” said Councillor Edwards.

“The Newman Civic Fellows are an invigorating and positive example of how the next generation uses collaboration, community organizing, and creative public problem-solving to tackle significant issues facing cities, states, and our nation,” she added.

The weekend convening was orchestrated by Campus Compact, a national association composed of more than 1,000 colleges and universities with a commitment to strengthening democracy through civic-and community-oriented values. Based in Boston, Massachusetts, the coalition serves as the single organization within the higher education sector aiming to help schools improve community life and educate students for civic and social responsibility.

“The cultivation of community-committed leaders has never been more crucial,” said Campus Compact president Andrew Seligsohn. “Our Newman Civic Fellows are outstanding leaders at their institutions who are already bringing people together to create positive change. We’re proud to work in partnership with the Kennedy Institute to amplify the great work these students are doing, enable them to learn from each other, and prepare them to meet the challenges facing our democracy.”
Massachusetts poised to lead states with flavored tobacco ban

By Katie Lannan

The sale of all flavored vaping and tobacco products, including mint and menthol, would be banned in Massachusetts, and e-cigarettes would be newly taxed, under a bill the House and Senate sent to Gov. Charlie Baker on Thursday.

The bill would take effect immediately upon the signing of the legislation. The sale of all flavored vaping and tobacco products, including menthol, would be prohibited.

The bill ultimately passed on a vote that was close to party lines. Majority Leader Bruce Tarr voted in favor, and Sen. Vitali deMacedo, who owns a gas station, voted present. Democratic Sens. Anne Gobi and Michael Brady joined the other four Republicans in voting against the proposal.

Sen. John Keenan, the Senate sponsor of a flavor ban bill on which the legislation was based, said the group of advocates he'd worked with included an eighth grader who wanted to protect his younger brother from the dangers of vaping and an 11-year-old concerned about his older sister who wanted to quit.

“Some kids have come to us for help,” Keenan said. “How can we say no?"

The ban on flavored vaping products would take place immediately upon the signing of the legislation, said it would be possible to get it on the governor’s desk by the end of the day and senators during debate expressed an interest in avoiding complications by keeping their bill close to the one that passed the House 127-31.

The final bill includes some differences from the one the House approved, including the removal of language that would allow law enforcement to seize vehicles used to transport flavored cigarettes.

Sen. Jamie Eldridge, who sponsored the Senate amendment to remove the ability to smoke pot, but we’re going to take the ability to smoke a lottery ticket away.” That’s crazy,” said Westfield Republican Donald Hu-

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FRANKLIN PARK TURKEY TROT ON THANKSGIVING
The seventh annual Turkey Trot at Franklin Park starts at 9 a.m. on Thanksgiving (Nov. 28). Online registration is open until Wed., Nov. 27th. The stars time is 9 a.m. See franklinparkcoalition.org.

ENCHANTED TROLLEY TOUR MAKES STOPs DEC. 6-8
The Mayor of Boston’s Enchanted Trolley Tour will take place from Friday, December 6 to Sunday, December 8 this year in several Boston neighborhoods. The event will include tree lightings, holiday performances, and children can meet Santa. It’s the 24th edition of the citywide event, and the event will kick off at 5:30 p.m. in Mattapan Square Friday night (Dec. 6). Dorchester will be the first neighborhood the festivities hit Saturday (Dec. 7) at 1 p.m. in Codman Square, and the tour will end in Adams Village at 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 8. The event is sponsored by Bank of America.

ALZHEIMER’S DISCUSSION IN GROVE HALL
The Alzheimer’s Association welcomes the public to Meeting of the Minds, featuring regular discussions with local Alzheimer’s disease and dementia researchers. The programs will be held Monday, Dec. 2 beginning at 11 a.m. at the BCYF Grove Hall Community Center, 51 Geneva Ave. It is free and open to the public. More than 130,000 people are living with Alzheimer’s disease in Massachusetts, a number expected to increase 15% by 2025. To register for Meeting of the Minds or for more information call 800.272.3900 or visit alzmassnh.org/meeting-

ABRAMS SPEAKS AT JFK LIBRARY FORUM ON DEC. 3
Stacey Abrams, New York Times bestselling author, nonprofit CEO, former Georgia House Democratic Leader and 2018 Democratic nominee for Governor of Georgia, discusses her distinguished career and continuing work on voting rights and social issues at the JFK Library on Tues., Dec. 3, 6 p.m. Free. Go to jfklibrary.org to register.

STRAND THEATER CONCERT ON DEC. 8
Join Boston Children’s Chorus for cherished tales paired with music celebrating light, joy, and peace in a concert at the Strand Theatre on Sunday, Dec. 8 at 3 p.m. Contact info@bostonchildrenschorus.org.

BOSTON COMMON TREE LIGHTING ON DEC. 5
Mayor Martin J. Walsh and guests from the Province of Nova Scotia will kick off this year’s 78th Annual Tree Lighting on Boston Common on Thurs., Dec. 5, from 6 to 8 p.m. The tree lighting throughout the park will light up in sequence shortly before 8 p.m when Mayor Walsh is joined on stage by members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Santa Claus in Rudolph, and Frosty. The show will close with a pyrotechnic display by Atlas PyroVision. WCVB Channel 5’s Anthony Everett and Shayna Seymour will once again host Channel 5’s live broadcast of the event beginning at 7 p.m featuring multi-platinum singer-songwriter and Lexington native Matt Nathanson, award-winning Nova Scotia alt-pop stars Neon Dreams, Nova Scotia R&B singer-songwriter Zanami, performances by cast members from the new musical “Dolly Parton’s Smokey Mountain Christmas Carol,” and “Irving Berlin’s White Christmas: The Musical,” as well as Dorchester’s Holy Tabernacle Church Choir. This is the 48th year that Nova Scotia has given a tree to the people of Boston as thanks for relief efforts following the December 6, 1917, explosion of a munitions ship in Halifax Harbor. Within 24 hours of the disaster a train loaded with supplies and emergency personnel was making its way from Boston to Nova Scotia. For more information please call 617-635-4505 or go to boston.gov/parks.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY’S HOMEWORK HELP
Boston Public Library’s free Homework Help program, underway offfice hours Monday through Thursday from 3:30 -6:30 p.m. is open to students in grades K-8; no registration required. Boston Teacher’s Union tutors are also available during select weekdays from 4-6 p.m. for students in grades K-12. Visit bpl.org/homework.

POLICE DISTRICT C-11
Non-emergency line for seniors: 617-343-5649. The Party Line phone number, where you can report loud parties, is 617-343-1478, 24 hours/7 days per week.

RIVER STREET CIVIC ASSOC.
The River Street Civic Association meets on the second Sunday of each month from 6-8 p.m. at the Police Senior Citizens, 249 River St., Mattapan.

APPLE GROVE ASSOC.
The Apple Grove Association meets on the second Tuesday of every month from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Apple Grove Church, 1460 Columbia Rd., Dorchester.

ASHMONT-ADAMS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOC.
Meetings are typically held on the first Thursday of every month at the Plasterer’s Hall, 7 Frederica St., at 7 p.m. Contact Pat O’Neill at pattiahmont@gmail.com.

ASHMONT HILL ASSOC.
Meetings are generally held the last Thursday of the month. For info, see ashmonthill.org or call Mes-ter Bronski.

ASHMONT VALLEY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOC.
Meetings are usually the 2nd Monday or Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at 776 Washington St., Dorchester.

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Father-son team share bond over eyewear, music appreciation

(Continued from page 1) and then I just thought about it like, ‘Well, he’s been doing that with the glasses.’

Bobin, a native of Jamaica who moved to Boston in the 1980s, says he has always appreciated glasses—fitting with the same artistic approach he uses with his music. That artistic lens at work has always set him apart from more traditional opticians, he finds. “When I went to school for opticianry, they had a mechanical approach to it,” he recalled. “They’d say, ‘OK, a guy with this shaped face, this is the shape frame you put them on. And this frame that has this shape goes on him. And this frame shaped frame you put them on.’ But within my musical, artistic approach to life, I throw all of that away. Because I go by the personality of the person, the art of the way this frame looks on this person. “That same thing—a pair of glasses is supposed to complement you, your personality, your likeness, and what you want to do.”

Like his father, Tariq has found that his artistic eye for the unique or the unconventional plays an important role in his new line of work. He prefers the more “out there” eyelash designs—citing pro athletes Russell Westbrook as major influences on recent eyewear trends—and encourages customers to express themselves through their glasses, as well. “I want to show people that they can kind of overcome their fears, in a sense,” he said. “In a business approach, you want to make sure you have a nice collection that can suit all personality styles. But there are a lot of people who come in here who are in a shell, and they want to stick to something safe...I like to try and push people—not force it—but just show them something new. I want to help people have an open mind.”

When Bobin and Tariq aren’t working in the shop together, they are songwriting together in the same room, singing together as members of the Conscious Reggae band, which features Bobin on bass and Tariq on keyboards. The group, which has been around since before Tariq was born, has played at venues like Fenway Park and Gillette Stadium in addition to a weekly brunch gig at West End Johnnie’s, a summer-time gig at Cape in South Boston, and various private events. Now, Bobin is finding that their rhythm as bandmates is translating into chemistry in the workplace. “It’s a great feeling because it’s a family business and the trust level I don’t have to worry about. The trust is 100 percent, and there’s a confidence in knowing that he’s got my back 100 percent...his approach to it is the same in the way that I think about it. I consider myself very lucky.”

Robin Nicholson assisted a customer at his eyewear business last week. Nicholson uses an “artistic approach” to help his customers find the right frames.

The Bred Classic – Barrow’s Flagship burger creation delivers on quality of taste, texture, and aesthetics.

‘Leap of faith’ works out for Bred proprietor

(Continued from page 1) Bobin’s father, Bobin Superior, has six years and the 32-year-old Barrow says he has finally achieved a “work-life/home balance” that has allowed him to translate his love of music into success.

“There’s definitely been a lot of trial and error, but I have no culinary background,” he told the Reporter. “A lot of people thought I was crazy, telling me restaurants don’t last long, early mornings, a lot of work, a lot of long nights, early mornings. But I’ve started to find balance, the right cuisine and, you know, just like a workspace that works for me.”

Getting a helping hand from his father helped Barrow to share that burden of running a restaurant; his father has assisted with every step of opening a restaurant since before Tariq was born, and the two share a bond over eyewear, music appreciation and a love for the unique or the unconventional.

Barrow is revamping one of those places where he was assistant manager, Whitter Street Health Center, played a role in shaping his relationship with food from a young age, he said. “She was a strong influence behind serving quality food,” he said. “Growing up in Mattapan there weren’t that many options. If you wanted to get a burger, you had to go to McDonald’s or Burger King or one of those places where the food is just, you don’t even know what you’re eating. She was a big influence on me, wanting to create in a way that customers feel great about eating, not only because it’s local but also because you put a lot of care and thought into the food that we put on our plates.”

That level of care is evident in Bred’s grass-fed beef patties, fresh and all-natural chicken, free-range eggs and, Barrow said, “a lot of care and thought in trying to select the food that’s here.” He said, “I haven’t had a chef background or anything but I have been a consumer for a long time, and I know what I like, I know what things go well together.” As any local who has tried one of Barrow’s burgers would agree, Bred and Lower Mills go well together, too.

Daniel Sheehan is the Arts and Features Editor for the Dorchester Reporter.
Imagining the new Fields Corner library is stirring emotions. We’re all experiencing this. It’s a crisis state-wide,” Baker said. “If we, as the city is facing an economic crisis, we have to want to build this model, I think – and I could be wrong – the state would never be able to allocate some of the pressure on our neighborhoods for affordable housing.”

Language, culture, education. “It’s the city’s test space for innovative ideas to increase housing affordability. Housing combined with public assets – which has been incorporated into the planning process for the Fields Corner library – is our effort to explore what the thoughtful co-location of housing and our city’s public assets could look like,” Cain said. Cain said that incorporating housing on top of public assets such as libraries, firehouses, and municipal parking lots requires creativity, deep collaboration across city departments and residents, and prioritizing affordability. Combined private and public assets can create mixed-use housing. “It’s a new precedent for the city — and likely the state. Although it would be new in Massachusetts, there are other US cities that already do this,” Cain said.

City Councilor Frank Baker seemed to support the idea of committing to housing above the library.

“I understand peoples’ angst about the old neighborhood, but if it’s a new Boston,” she added. “We’ve gained 100 public housing residents in the 17 years I’ve been here. If we’re going to keep them, we’ve got to find another way. That includes changing some of the concepts of neighborhoods.”

Candice Gartley, executive director of the Community Advisory Committee, relayed the panel’s concerns over location, lack of parking, and a request to investigate alternative solutions while the library is under construction. She also said that in earlier meetings, there was no mention of mixed-use housing.

“At the last meeting, I think the group felt the same way,” she said, “it seemed that the community and the committee were completely against mixed-use housing.”

During the meeting, Dr. Taylor Cain of the City’s Housing Innovation Lab, explained that Boston is looking for new ways to incorporate public assets into housing. The Lab, she said, “is the city’s test space for innovative ideas to increase housing affordability. Housing combined with public assets – which has been incorporated into the planning process for the Fields Corner library – is our effort to explore what the thoughtful co-location of housing and our city’s public assets could look like.”

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Ugly Sweater Party at Harp + Bard
December 6

Polar Express

Jingle & Mingle at The Barking Crab
December 12

Shawnee Peak Ski Trip
January 11

*See details below.

BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF DORCHESTER

CONNECT THE DOT:
BGCD Takes Part in Giving Tuesday Campaign: Over the Thanksgiving holi-
day, don’t forget about Giving Tuesday. On December 3rd, Boys & Girls Clubs
of Dorchester will be launching our “Give 5 Get 5” campaign.

BGCD asks that you donate $5, then get five friends to also donate $5 each.
For just $5, we can cover the cost of one child’s yearly membership.

Make sure to stop by any of these restaurants that kindly support BGCD
this Giving Tuesday: Tavolo Ristorante, Ashmont Grill, Yellow Door Taqueria,
Lower Mills Tavern, Harp + Bard, Savin Bar and Kitchen, McKenna’s, Land-
mark Public House, Blarney Stone, and Honeycomb.

To donate, please visit bgcdorchester.org/donate.

FIND OUT WHAT’S INSIDE:
BGCD Hosts Second Annual Toy Party: Last week, Boys & Girls Clubs of
Dorchester hosted our second annual Toy Party in partnership with Play Your
Part Boston at BEC Local 103.

250 members from BGCD were invited for the party of a lifetime. They enjoyed
taking part in activities such as trying out new games, building Legos, and
much more!

Thanks to the generosity of so many toy industry donors and Play Your Part
Boston, each member went home with a bag of high quality and development-
tally appropriate toys that will be sure to fill their hearts with promise as we
enter the holiday season.

A enormous thank you to all of the volunteers and donors that made this event
possible.

Save the Date for the BGCD Ugly Sweater Party: Boys & Girls Clubs of
Dorchester and The Harp + Bard present our annual Ugly Sweater Party on
Friday, December 6th! Stop by The Harp + Bard Restaurant wearing your
most festive holiday sweater for food, fun and raffles!

The event starts at 8pm and will include food buffet, a cash bar, 50/50
raffle, silent auction, and more! Please consider bringing a new, unwrapped
toy for a child as part of our toy drive!

Tickets are only $25 per person and can be purchased at the door or ahead
of time at The Harp + Bard Restaurant located at 1099 Dorchester Ave in
Dorchester, MA. This is a 21+ event.

For more information, please contact Chad Hassey at chassey@bgcdorches-
ter.org.

Upcoming Events

Shawnee Peak Ski Trip
January 11

Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester
617.288.7120 | 1135 Dorchester Ave. | www.bgcdorchester.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

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CARROLL, Charles E. “Charlie” of Braintree, currently of Braintree. Husband of Teresa (Fitzgerald) Carroll of Braintree. Brother of James J. Carroll of BBank, Boston, Judith A. Carroll of Arlington, Charles E. Carroll, Jr. of Fitzwilliam, NH, Teresa M. Walsh and her husband Michael of Braintree, William S. Carroll and his wife Sarah of Dedham, Anne Louise Mercer and her husband Daniel of Dedham. Brother of the late Mary Cornburn, John F. Carroll, James “Joe” Carroll, Catherine Calahan and Ann Louise Mercer. Brother-in-law to Phan Carroll, Linda and Joe McCabe and Fayth. Henry, Cherished grandfather of Jake Havelas, Paul Carroll, Stephen, Chloe and Clint Walsh, Elizabeth and Nicholas Carroll, Jillian, Julia and Colleen Merger. Great-grandfather of Cara and Francesca Walsh. Charlie is also survived by many nieces, nephews and his closest friends. Charlie was born, raised and educated in Dorchester. He was an employee of the MBTA for over 30 years before retiring. He was a member of the Boston Carmen’s Union 589, and was a United States Army Veteran. Most of all, Charlie was a husband and father of Braintree, at the age of 72. He was the son of the late Leo and Susan Concannon, husband of Dorothy (Lynch) Carroll of Braintree. Charlie was also survived by his children and grandchildren, and Penelope were the lights of his life. He was survived, by “the best big brother” ever James “Joe” Charles Carroll, and his niece and nephews, who was born and raised in Dorchester, Bobby enjoyed lifelong friendships with fans from Fields Corner. Donations in Bobby’s memory may be made to the Salvation Army, 6 Baxter St., Quincy, MA 02169.

CONNARE, Margaret J. A. “Peggy” of Dedham, formerly of Dorchester. Wife of Paul F. Connare. Mother of Christine B. Connare and her husband Nuno Goncalves of Natick, and Cathy M. and her husband Eric Knowlton of North Oxford. Nana of Emma K. Goncalves and Paul R. Knowlton. Sister of John and his wife Gabrielle Griffin of Lowell, Charles J. Griffin of Boston, Michael and his wife Carol of Alhington, Robert A. “Pete” Connare, his wife Beth Griffin of West Roxbury, and his nieces, nephews, and Peggy’s memory may be made to the Dedham Community Foundation, 300 Rosewood Dr., Suite 105, Danvers, MA 01923.

COSTIGAN, William J. “Bill” of Randolph, formerly of Milton. 78 He is survived by his wife Susan K. Costigan, his children Joseph Costigan of MD and Julie Costigan of Plymouth, and his grandson Jase. Bill grew up in Milton, the son of the late Tom and Norma Costigan (Fardy Costigan). He was the brother of Thomas Costigan, the late Skip, the late Evelyn Costigan and his twin, the late Edward Costigan. Bill was a graduate of Milton High School, served in the US Army, and was later a member of the Boston Police Department. Donations in his memory may be made to the Boston Police Foundation 415 Neponset Avenue, Dedham, MA 02026.

CULY, Kathleen M. (” ready ’” ) in the presence of Dorchester, Daughter of the late Joseph E. (Pellegrino) and Jeanette (DiCaprio) Culy. She was a graduate of the University of Rhode Island and was a member of the Class of 1989, and the University of Rhode Island. She was also a member of the Rhode Island State Police. Kathleen was the wife of the late Joseph C. Culy. She is survived by her children David J. Culy and his wife Jessica, and his wife Mary T. Culy.

DEAN, Lyndon G., age 60, of Rockland and West Roxbury. He was a lifelong resident of the Boston area and was a graduate of the University of Massachusetts at Boston. He is survived by his fiancée, Mary Ann Moore, his children, Kelly, and John, and his wife, Laura Dean. He was the son of the late Richard and Dorothy Dean. Lyndon was predeceased by his parents, his fiancée, and his three children.

GAINE, Ann F. (O’Leary) of Carlisle, Massachusetts, formerly of West Roxbury and Dedham, Daughter of the late Patrick and Mary Gaine and is survived by her children, James, John, and Michael and her grandchildren, Jack, Sam, and Lucy. Ann was predeceased by her husband, George Gaine. She is survived by her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, as well as her nieces and nephews.

LYDON, Patrick J. Jr. of Abington, age 89, of the late Michael and Eileen Lyons. He was predeceased by his wife, Eileen Lyons, and is survived by his children, Michael, Patrick, and Kathleen, his grandchildren, Patrick Jr., Kelly, and Michael, and his great-grandchildren, Patrick and Elizabeth. Patrick was a graduate of the University of Massachusetts at Boston and was a member of the Class of 1967. Patrick was a member of the Class of 1967 and was a member of the Boston Police Department.

LYDON, William J. “Bill” of Dedham, age 87, of the late Patrick Lydon Esq. and Ellen Lydon. He is survived by his children, Dr. Ryan Lydon of East Bridgewater, Brother of the late Joseph J. Lydon and the late Tim Lydon, Lydon was a graduate of Dedham High School and was a member of the Class of 1965. William was predeceased by his wife, Ellen Lydon, and is survived by his children, Michael, Patrick, and Kathleen, his grandchildren, Patrick Jr., Kelly, and Michael, and his great-grandchildren, Patrick and Elizabeth. William was a graduate of the University of Massachusetts at Boston and was a member of the Class of 1967. William was a member of the Class of 1967 and was a member of the Boston Police Department.

PERRAULT, John “Pete” of Boston, age 75, of the late Robert Paul and his wife, Donna, and sister-law Robert Paul and his wife, Donna, and was predeceased by his wife, Ellen Lydon. He is survived by his children, Michael, Patrick, and Kathleen, his grandchildren, Patrick Jr., Kelly, and Michael, and his great-grandchildren, Patrick and Elizabeth. William was a graduate of the University of Massachusetts at Boston and was a member of the Class of 1967. William was a member of the Class of 1967 and was a member of the Boston Police Department.
The largest fundraiser of the year for the Boys and Girls Clubs of Dorchester was held on Sat., Nov. 16 at the Fairmount Copley Hotel. This year’s theme was “A Night at the Disco” and featured the band “Booty Vortex.” Now in its 32nd year, proceeds from the gala support membership programming at the clubs.

Flavio DeBarros photos

Grand Drawing boosts coffers for Boys and Girls Clubs of Dorchester

Shown l-r: Bobby Scannell, Mary Kinsella Scannell, Queenette Santos, Linda Dorcena Forry, Bill Forry, Bob Scannell.

BGCD member Wil Hingston, who offered remarks at Grand Drawing, with his mom Tammy Hingston, left, and Mayor Martin J. Walsh, right.

Kate Merrill of WBZ-TV is shown with club member Fatamatou Balde.

Lee Michael Kennedy, the chairman of the board of the BGCD.

Club members greeted guests upon arrival at the Fairmount Copley Hotel.

Kate Merrill with Fatamatou Balde.

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