Dorchester Reporter

"The News and Values Around the Neighborhood"

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MBTA closes Columbia Rd. entry to JFK/UMass, citing a 'structural' matter

By GINTAUTAS DUMCIUS Managing Editor

MBTA officials are continuing to find structural issues with JFK/ UMass station, a key transit hub located in Dorchester's Columbia-Savin Hill neighborhood.

On Nov. 19, the agency closed the station's topside Columbia $Road\,entrance\,after\,an\,in spection$ the previous weekend led to a "critical structural finding."

Inspectors kept reviewing the rest of the concourse and found T, which did not provide details of the issues, expects the concourse to be closed for at least four to five weeks, with the possibility of other areas of the station being closed off as inspections continue.

"The MBTA determined that closing the entrance was in the best interest of public safety," Lisa Battiston, a spokesperson for the public transit agency, said in a statement. "The closure will require pedestrians to divert to

"additional structural issues." The the pedestrian bridge connection from the busway ramp."

The JFK/UMass Station serves the Red Line, three commuter rail lines, various MBTA buses and shuttle buses to the JFK Library, the Edward Kennedy Institute and the UMass Boston campus, and Boston College High School students.

Transit "ambassadors" are available to help customers navigate around the closure, and a

(Continued on page 16)



The Columbia Road entrance to JFK/UMass station has been closed as the MBTA checks on what its investigators called a "critical structural finding." Gintautas Dumcius photo

'Hidden Heroes and Sheroes' get their rightful time in the spotlight

By SETH DANIEL News Editor

Eight men and women from Dorchester and Mattapan were honored for their quiet, but effective leadership at the Nov. 18 "Hidden Heroes and Sheroes" event held at a packed Black Box Theatre at Codman Academy. The annual event combines the efforts of the Codman Square Neighborhood Council with the Greater Four Corners Action Coalition to raise money for youth scholarships and to recognize residents who are activdely involved in neighborhood life but don't often get accolades.

The event was started in 1987 by the late Rev. Dr. Bill Loesch, and has been continued by his daughter, Cynthia Loesch-Johnson. This year's gathering, which was full of residents, elected officials, and friends of the organiza-



Civic Leadership Award winner Juwan Skeens with Revs. Ron and Kim Odom at the annual Hidden Heroes and Sheroes Awards in Codman Square on Nov. 18. Photo by Nikia Manifold of Shine Design Company

time it was held in person since 2019.

One of the honorees was Juwan Skeens, who has championed a new Life Skills Training Center in his neighborhood and was a founding

tions, marked the first member of the Redefining Our Community (ROC) neighborhood group. In accepting the award, Skeens recalled how he struggled after the murder in 2007 of his best friend, 13-year-old Steven Odom.

"I know I look nice and polished today, but I don't feel like that after what I've been through," said Skeens. "Martin Luther King had a dream and Malcolm X taught us to be relentless and (Continued on page 9)

Training center for life sciences to open at former Globe site in 2023

By GINTAUTAS DUMCIUS Managing Editor

A workforce training center focused on jobs in the life sciences is expected to open next year inside the former Boston Globe headquarters at 135 Morrissey Boulevard, according to a joint announcement by the Massachusetts Biotechnology Council (MassBio), a trade group, and Beacon Capital Partners, a real estate investment firm that worked with the developer Nordblom Co. on the redevelopment of the property.

The 4,000 square-foot facility will have three "fast-track" certificate training programs for those looking for a career as a technician or a lab assistant.

Developers first dubbed the 700,000 square-foot former Globe headquarters as "The BEAT," a nod to reporters who had worked inside it from 1958 to its closing and sale in 2017. The building has since been renamed Southline, partly a nod to the facility's location south of Boston proper. The space is geared toward life science companies affiliated with Flagship Pioneering, a biotech venture firm, and Nobull, a sportswear com-

Looking ahead, the developers are seeking to build a six-story building, also focused on biotech space, behind the former newspaper facility next to the (Continued on page 10)

Irish Pastoral Centre executive director Mary

Mary Swanton: Irish evangelist in all things

up in Ireland, the first thing Mary Swanton remembered hearing about from American tourists was something called a three-decker. "My Dad was a tour driver and

Dad and Mom often and they said they lived many immigrants, the cal instruments for the one of my first memories, Americans when they were there," she said. "I remember that I was six years old listening to Americans who were talking about Boston,

and I wondered, 'What in the name of God is a three-decker?"

With an entry level and room to move up, a three-decker was, for

When she was growing had us play our musi- in a three-decker. It's dream of a future. It was quite unlike a tourist's dream of the past, such as Bunratty Castle, the 15th century stone tower house in County Clare that was a favorite land-(Continued on page 12)



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3 charged with trafficking fentanyl in Lower Mills

Two men and a woman were arrested during a raid on a Lower Mills apartment last week in which federal, state, and local investigators found 100 pounds of fentanyl powder and pills, three industrial pill-press machines, and numerous sealed Priority Mail envelopes containing pills that were ready to be dropped off at a local post office, the Suffolk County District Attorney's office reported.

Rahelin Reynoso, 33 and Quenty Ogando, 44, had bail set at \$100,000 each at their arraignments Wednesday in Dorchester Municipal Court on charges of trafficking more than 200 grams of fentanyl. Erika Prado, 31, had bail set at \$50,000.

According to the DA's office, Postal inspectors, Homeland Security agents, state troopers, and BPD officers raided the apartment at 43 River St., near Old Morton Street. The office said the seized fentanyl has a street value of about \$2.25 million.

A Suffolk County Superior Court jury last week found Edgard Andre, 61, of Dorchester guilty on three counts of rape of a child in a case dating to the 1990s. The victim — a girl—was between 8 and 12 years old at the time.

Judge Sarah Weyland Ellis sentenced Andre to 10 to 12 years in prison and three years of probation following release. He was also ordered to register as a sex offender, stay 100 yards from the victim permanently, enter, and complete, sex offender treatment and provide a DNA sample. The DA's office said "the victim in this case deserves special credit because it was her determination, her factual assurance, and her compelling testimony that made the verdict possible."

A 33-year-old Brockton man was arrested last Saturday night (Nov. 26) after police say he tossed away a loaded .38 caliber Smith & Wesson revolver as members of the BPD Youth Violence Strike Force "approached to speak with him." Officers say that they found that the suspect—Titus Dirienzo—possessed "several small bags of pills and a bag of cocaine." He was to be arraigned in Dorchester District Court on multiple charges "including Unlawful Possession of a Firearm (3rd Offense), Unlawful Possession of Ammunition, Carrying a Loaded Firearm, Possession of Class A Drugs, Possession of Class B Drugs and Trespassing."

December 1, 2022

Boys & Girls Club News 17
Opinion/Editorial/Letters 8
Obituaries 16
Business Directory15
Days Remaining Until
Days Remaining Until Hanukkah18
, ,
Hanukkah18
Hanukkah
Hanukkah

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It was a packed house inside the Banshee on Dorchester Avenue on Nov. 21 for the first of three matches in the opening round of the World Cup to feature the US Men's National Team facing off against Wales. The Banshee has become the premeire bar for supporters of Team USA, which defeated Iran on Tuesday to advance to the tournament's "knockout" round. Editorial, page 8. *Photo courtesy AO Boston*

Guns stolen from Madison Park High car

By Seth Daniel **News Editor**

A guest speaker at Madison Park Vocational and Technical High School had two 9mm firearms stolen out of his personal car while it was parked in the school's garage on Fri., Nov. 18. The guns were licensed to the guest speaker, according to a Boston Police report obtained by the Reporter that redacted the name of the victim, who is from Taunton.

In an official communication to parents that night, Sidney Brown, the head of Madison Park, confirmed that the car was broken into but did not mention anything about firearms being stolen - only "items."

"An individual known to Madison Park Vocational High School, who was visiting Madison Park for a previously scheduled speaking engagement, reported that their car was broken into while parked on school grounds. He has reported to police that items were stolen, and this is now a Boston Police investigation," read the

communication.

Boston Public Schools (BPS) officials, asked for comment this week, said it was a police matter.

According to the police report, the guest speaker parked in the Madison Park garage around 9:30 a.m. and noted later that he had locked the vehicle. When he came back from the school event at 2:30 p.m., the two firearms were gone. He reported to officers that the two firearms were registered to him, and they were a 9mm Canik handgun, and a 9mm Ruger handgun. There were no cameras in the garage, the report stated.

BPD detectives and Taunton Police are following up on the matter.

That incident followed the reporting of an assault that took place on the John D. O'Bryant and Madison Park campuses that same week, on Nov.

According to a communication to the school community, two students from O'Bryant were involved in a physical altercation with an individual who was not au-

thorized to be on school property. A student and a teacher were injured during that altercation, which happened in the morning hours.

"School staff and Safety Services responded immediately and

intervened," read the communication. "This incident is still under investigation and any students found to have been involved could face discipline in accordance with the BPS Code of Conduct.'

Celebrity doubleheader in Boston on Friday: Biden, William and Kate

President Biden is becoming something of a regular in Massa-chusetts. The White House announced Tuesday morning that Biden, who spent Thanksgiving week on Nantucket with his extended family, will be in Boston on Friday to participate in a reception for the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee. No location was given for the event, but the White House said additional details will follow.

Back in September, the president made a full-day swing through Boston, touting the recent federal infrastructure law at Logan In-

ternational Airport and then giving a speech on his "cancer moonshot" at the John F. Kennedy Library in Dorchester. And in July, he visited Somerset to highlight the environmental and economic promise of offshore wind.

Biden's stop in Boston on Friday will coincide with a visit from British royals. William, prince of Wales, and Princess Kate were scheduled to arrive in town on Wednesday and on Friday to participate in the 2022 Earthshot Prize Awards at MGM Music Hall near Fenway Park.

– COLIN A. YOUNG

UPCOMING CIVIC MEETINGS AND COMMUNITY EVENTS



The Halfway to Dot Day 5k will take place on Sat., Dec. 10 along the paths of Pope John Paul II Park in Dorchester starting at 9 a.m. from Florian Hall. The 7th annual evtn is a family friendly run for all ages and abilities and is certifed and sanctioned by USA Track and Field-New England. Register online at halfwaytodotday5k.racewire. com. Adults \$25, kids \$5 donation (all of which goes to local sports organizations.) First responders \$20. Sponsored by the Dorchester Running Club.

The city of Boston's annual Enchanted trolley tour of holiday tree lightings across the

at 16 locations, including Mattapan Square (1p.m. on Dec. 3), Codman Square (noon on Dec. 4) and Adams Corner (1 p.m. on Dec. 4). The event includes an appearance by Santa. SeeBoston.gov for a full schedule. On Thurs., Dec. 1, 6-8 p.m., the Home. stead Cafe in Fields Corner (1448 Dorchester Ave.) is hosting an artist reception for Dominique Chouteau and her exhibit, "Dorchester Stories: Surreal stories from real places." Currently on view at the cafe through the end of December, the show includes reproductions of her 14 original drawings, hung with a map showing the inspiration locations from around Dorchester. The BPDA will host a virtual meeting on Tues., Dec. 6 at 6 p.m. to discuss a proposed project at 26 Coffey St. in Dorchester neighborhood of Boston. The meeting will include a presentation by the developer Mildot, LLC, which plans to build a new, four-story residential building with 25 units. See ad on page 15 for more info on joining the meeting. BPDA hosts a virtual public meeting on

1334 Dot, LLC (the "Proponent") for the proposed redevelopment of four (4) parcels of land at 1320 Dorchester Ave. which together totals approximately 19,021 square feet (the "Project Site"). A portion of the Project Site is presently occupied by a two (2)-story residential/commercial building, while the remainder of the site is utilized as surface parking. The proposal calls for the construction of a six (6)-story, approximately 46,411 gross square foot residential building consisting of approximately seventy (70) residential rental units, which have been designed in accordance with the City of Boston's Compact Living Policy. The meeting will be held from 6-7:30 p.m. via Zoom. See page 15 for details.

The Martin Richard Foundation's 5th annual MR8K presented by New Balance will be held on Sunday, Dec. 4. The 5-mile race and 2.5-mile-walk begins and ends at Boston Landing, home of the Track at New Balance in Brighton. As the signature event for the Martin Richard Foundation, the MR8K builds community spirit while

neighborhoods will take place on Dec. 3-4 Tues., Dec. 13 to discuss a proposal by raising crucial funds to support the work of the foundation as well as community organizations. The event is open to runners, walkers, para-athletes, and families of all ages and abilities. Go to teammr8.org for more info

METCO hosts a free event for Boston families on Sat., Dec. 10, 12-4 p.m. at the Boys and Girls Club. 15 Talbot Ave., Dorchester. Learn about opportunities to apply for public education in suburban communities and meet current METCO families and learn about after-school activities and support services in the community.

Mayor Michelle Wu, the Boston Parks and Recreation Department, and title sponsor The Province of Nova Scotia will host Boston's signature holiday celebration, the 81st Annual Boston Common Tree Lighting, on Thurs., Dec. 1, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. adjacent to the Visitor's Information Center at 139 Tremont St.

SEND IN EVENT NOTICES TO **NEWSEDITOR@DOTNEWS.COM**

December 1, 2022 THE REPORTER Page 3 dotnews.com

Proposal for Mattapan multifamily ignites ZBA controversy

By Gintautas Dumcius Managing Editor

The city's development boom is leading to an increase in the number of residential units in buildings big and small, as City Hall hopes to alleviate a housing crisis driven by supply outstripping demand across the region.

That development has led to street-level verbal clashes in the neighborhoods as residents who oppose proposals are jousting with developers and neighbors who are in support, ratcheting up tensions that were on full display at the Zoning Board of Appeal's (ZBA) recent approval of a Mattapan multifamily on Oakridge Street, between Morton Street and Gallivan Boulevard.

The developer, Derick Joyner, wants to build a three-family home, with three parking spaces in the back, at 60 Oakridge St., a vacant lot next to 56 Oakridge, a single-family home that he also owns.

The portion of the ZBA's Sept. 27 virtual meeting that focused on 60 Oakridge was a messy affair, featuring an expletive shouted at Joyner and a back-andforth over the project's community support and opposition. After Eric James, City Hall's liaison to Mattapan, told board members that support narrowly outweighed opposition, the panel voted to approve the project, which was seeking zoning relief.

The controversy continued offline. Members of the Lower Mills Civic Association, which opposed the project, arguing it was too much density for the area, filed a public records request with City Hall and discovered that the reverse of James's statement was true: Opposition outweighed support.

Mark Brunke, a longtime member of the Lower Mills civic, said they were spurred to file the request because James's count of supporters during the meeting "raised some red

During the meeting, James had said the count was 14 letters in support and 13 in opposition. But in documents obtained through the group's public records request and shared with the Reporter, the letters of support and opposition were written by a small $group\, of\, individuals\, and$ counted multiple times. Some of the letters also referred to a similar project at 56 Oakridge that Joyner, the developer, pulled back on last year, but they were all collected in the same file. Overall, six people supported Joyner and his proposals, while 10 opposed them.

A spokesperson for Mayor Wu's office said that James, who began working for the Office of Neighborhood Services (ONS) this summer, "miscounted" when noting how many letters he had received in support and opposition. He had received 12 letters in support and 13 in opposition, according to the spokesperson. "This miscount was not intentional and upon realizing the mistake, Eric provided this information to the ZBA" on Oct. 13.

The civic group's public records request did not ask for relevant documents from the Office of Neighborhood Services (ONS), just from the ZBA and the city's inspectional services department. The spokesperson shared ONS documents with the Reporter "in an effort to be transparent and show community process."The documents overlapped with those in the civic group's records request.

Brunke, the civic group member, saying

counting multiple letters from one person, either for or against a project, is "absurd," called for a new hearing on the project. "It was approved on erroneous information," he said.

Reached over email, Mark Erlich, the acting ZBA chair, declined to comment on the miscount. He has served as the acting chair since September, when Wu announced a plan to overhaul the panel through a raft of new appointments. Her appointees remain in a City Council committee, but the mayor's move in September caused the longtime chair, Christine Araujo, to abruptly resign.

Nadine Marcellus, who lives around the corner on Ellison Street, appeared before the ZBA on Sept. 27 and voiced support for the 60 Oakridge project, saying it will increase the value of homes in the Mattapan/Lower Mills area. "The people who oppose this want everything looking like the 1950s," she said. Erlich later turned

to Joyner, who also attended the virtual meeting. Erlich said he initially believed the project faced significant opposition, but he

noted the 14-13 count from James. He asked Joyner to respond to the opposition, as well as to the concern from some about removing some mature trees from the property. Joyner said that the trees are more than 100 years old and "somewhat unhealthy." That remark prompted someone at the meeting to break in and swear at Joyner in disagreeing over the health of the trees.

Erlich moved to calm tensions and Joyner said he plans to plant two new trees in the front of the property and two new trees in the back. The board approved the project later in the meeting.

In an interview with the Reporter, Joyner defended his proposal, saying when he was initially before the ZBA in 2021, he planned to tear down the existing single-family structure at 56 Oakridge and build a three-unit building, in addition to a three-unit building on the vacant

"This year I decided to preserve the single family," he said, "and not demolish and renovate it as is, and the vacant lot was the only proposal for the three units." He accused opponents of circulating misinformation about his project in the lead-up to the ZBA vote in September.

Joyner also took aim at Brunke, who received a variance on his property at 48 Oakridge in 2006, when it was converted into a three-family from a two-family. Joyner said he is a minority developer while Brunke is a Caucasian man. "Why are they picking on me? Why are they cursing on the phone? It's not fair, it's not right. I grew up in Mattapan," Joyner said.

Asked to respond, Brunke said his conversion moved the location of one interior door, preserved the architecture and there was no change in scale or the overall size of the building, which is now three one-bedroom apartments, one of which he lives in. His project is not comparable to the 60 Oakridge proposal, Brunke said, because each unit would have three bedrooms.

We have wanted to negotiate with Mr. Joyner every step along the way," he said. "We want to reach an agreement with Mr. Joyner to build something that's appropriately sized for this neighborhood."

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Reunited, two women forge a tie between Harvard and Dot

THE REPORTER





The organizers: Dorchester's Lauren Woods, a Boston police officer, and Harvard University softball coach Jenny Allard.

By Seth Daniel News Editor

This fall, the Harvard Club in Back Bay sponsored an event to celebrate 50 years of women's competitive sports under the Title IX legislation. The occasion also involved a reunion of two pioneering female athletes and, as a result, a new collaboration to support Dorchester girls looking to play softball.

Following that re-connectionbetween Dorchester's Lauren Woods and Jenny Allard, Harvard University's long-time varsity softball coach, 15 to 20 Dorchester girls under age 12 gathered at Garvey Park in early November with nine varsity softball players from Harvard.

There was catching, throwing, and hitting, but creating excitement for women's sports like softball was also on the

day's agenda.

"It was a full circle moment for me," said Woods. "A woman who made me a better athlete was helping me again, but now to allow me to help other young females also become better athletes...I hope to be able to coach my own daughter someday here in the neighborhood."

Woods, who is also a Boston police officer, was a budding athlete at Boston Latin School (BLS) in the 1990s when sports were not as accessible to girls. At the same time, Harvard University had just hired Allard to coach their softball team, one of just three hires for female varsity sports in the college's history.

A softball pitching clinicat Harvard brought Woods and Allard together initially, and many years later, it was a softball clinic that has brought them together to fly the banner of female sports in the neighborhood.

At the fall event at the Harvard Club, Woods had brought several girl athletes from Dorchester in her capacity as a police officer, while Allard had brought much of her varsity softball team to mark the legacy of Title IX. While there, the women discussed the 1990s clinics, with Woods remembering how she drove from Dorchester to Cambridge to hone her pitching skills.

"When I saw Coach Allard, I got pretty inspired and reminiscent at the same time," said Woods. "Little did she know that I, the police officer who brought young girls to meet inspiring leaders like her, was also once a young aspiring softball athlete who took her pitching clinic in 1998."

The synergy was immediate, and Allard said she and her charges were



In early November, Dorchester softball players and members of the Harvard University varsity softball team participated in a clinic at Garvey Park as a first effort in what hopefully will be a long-standing partnership between the two.

Photo courtesy Boston Parks and Recreation

ready to hold an inaugural clinic in Dorchester in a partnership with the Boston Parks and Recreation Department.

"The goal this year was to make the connection and have our first clinic, and maybe get the girls who came to the clinic over to campus to see one of our games in the spring," said Allard, who also wants the clinic to not only sew the softball seeds, but also to educate young girls on why they have opportunities to play sports.

Allard was born just a few years after the Title IX era began and benefitted by being in the first wave of girls to play youth sports, which led to varsity sports in high school and college.

The legislation also pushed Harvard to elevate three women's sports to the varsity level in 1995, which is when Allard was hired full-time to coach softball.

"The opportunities were few and far between before Title IX," she said. "We want to let girls know that so they will continue to fight so that young women continue to have the same opportunities they have now."

In that vein, Allard and Woods want the girls in the neighborhood to learn why girls weren't allowed to play sports back in the day and be able to push back when others might try to keep them out again.

"We still need to push the envelope so that when we see inequalities, we know them and address them because they still happen," said Allard.

Jennifer Misiaszek, of Boston Parks and Recreation, said the partnership with Harvard is a winner, and something they plan to continue.

"The girls who came from Harvard really wanted to be there," she said. "It wasn't something the coach made them do...Softball has been dying in the city and it's sad to see that. I hope we can get it going again and this collaboration will help. It's amazing to have this connection with Harvard."



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Long-time Codman Square caterer flourished by keeping track of time



At a recent Veteran's Day event in Roxbury, longtime staffers helped set up the event and congratulated Perry on his upcoming retirement. Many have worked for him since he started his business 20 years ago. From left, Queen Qy'etlyf, Shavonne Overton, Kenny Perry, Monica Tchakmakian, and Rafael Hernandez.

By SETH DANIEL News Editor

When Dorchester native Kenny Perry was attending Hyde Park High School in the 1970s, he started training to be a chef. That decision led to a 46-year career in the food industry, with the last 20 being his own company-Perry's Gourmet Catering in Codman Square – a business that he plans to retire from at the end of this year.

"What got me into cooking and into the kitchen was that in the mid-1970s, they were telling us all the time that computers were going to take peoples' jobs," he said. "I figured one thing a computer couldn't do was cook a meal. I liked cooking and stuck with it and have been in food service for 46 years...I started in high school and continued in the Marine Corps."

Perry, now 62, will hang up his spatula and flip the business to his long-time staff member, Shavonne Overton, who is excited to take over



Perry's numerous clients that range from MIT in Cambridge to private clients in the neighborhood to the Trotter Elementary School in Dorchester.

"I'm originally from North Carolina and so I knew all the southern stuff. And with nine siblings, you had to be in the kitchen to get the first piece of fried chicken," he said. "So, I picked up a lot from watching my mom."

Perry attended the Thompson Elementary and Martin Luther King Middle School and graduated from Hyde Park High. After service in the Marine Corps from 1979 to 1985, he returned home and worked as a cook in a number of area restaurants and institutions, finally landing a long-term position running the kitchen for City Fresh Foods that was formerly in Four Corners. Some 20 years ago, he figured it was time for him to run his own business, so he set up shop with his brother, Roger Perry, in Codman Square.

While things have been steady for two decades - he describes

Left, Kenny Perry beside his delivery van, which has delivered thousands of meals in the Greater Boston area.

his clients as "family" going out on his own in October 2002 was tricky at first. "In November and December, I made \$60,000 in two months



Perry's Gourmet Catering owner Kenny Perry with incoming owner Shavonne Overton.

Seth Daniel photos

- it was great," he said. "Then January came and nothing. I didn't understand how the industry goes up and down like a yo-yo. I know those ebbs and flows now, but that was scary. I was a single father raising two boys and it was scary when no money came in that January. But I learned and the best thing I ever did was start my own business...I have no regrets now and am beyond happy God gave me what he gave me."

Perry said that catering for events big and small - whether a backyard party or a City of Boston shindig requires good timing and punctuality. He said you must know when to shop, when to prep the food, when to cook the

food, and when it's time to just "get that food out the door and on time."

Being punctual is something he inherited from the Marine Corps, and it was something that gave him credibility as a caterer. "I'm always on time; if I'm not on time, something's wrong - and I never run out of food," he said with a laugh.

As to the decision to retire now, Perry said, "I wanted to go another three years, but it isn't going to happen," he said. "It is bittersweet, but I'm going to stay on in a limited way as a consultant. I want to make sure the food stays the same and the clients are happy. I really want to make sure Shavonne will succeed.'



CODMAN SQUARE HEALTH CENTER STANDS WITH OUR COMMUNITY IN FIGHTING RACIAL INJUSTICE





Reporter's People

News about people... and tigers in and around our Neighborhoods

Breakfast goers hail the high value of BGCB's YouthConnect programming



Kevan Barton sat with YouthConnect social workers at the breakfast.



YouthConnect Partnership Award recipient Keyla Jackson (third from left) with YouthConnect officers and directors after the breakfast. Photos courtesy Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston

YouthConnect, a Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston (BGCB) program, in partnership with the Boston Police Department, held its 11th annual YouthConnect Fall Partnership Breakfast on Thur., Nov. 17, at

250 families receive Thanksgiving meals at Dot Y: With the everyday challenges most families are facing this year, combating food insecurity was a top priority for the teams at The Sarkis Team at Douglas Elliman Real Estate and NextDine Hospitality, who together provided 250 Thanksgiving meals for Dorchester families this year. The distribution of their generosity took place at the Dorchester YMCA on Washington Street last Saturday morning, where hundreds lined up through the morning hours.

the Renaissance Boston Waterfront Hotel.

The event celebrated the city's social workers, community leaders, and police officers who through the program work tirelessly to help Boston's youth and

families who struggle with safety and social emotional issues. Since 1996, YouthConnect has served more than 17,000 individuals across Bos-

In light of a recent uptick in Boston's gun violence, community leaders took to the podium at the breakfast. Police Commissioner Michael Cox stressed the importance of YouthConnect's work in helping lead its young people to safer and brighter futures.



David Shapiro, CEO of the YMCA of Greater Boston, Manny Sarkis, partner and COO of The Sarkis Team at Douglas Elliman Real Estate, Arielle Dawkins, a member of the general board of advisers, and George Sarkis, partner and CEO of The Sarkis Team at Douglas Elliman Real Estate.

Photo courtesy of The Sarkis Group



Boston City Councillor Erin Murphy joined volunteers to distribute 250 turkeys to neighbors at the Mary Ann Brett Food Pantry in Dorchester on Nov. 20. She is shown above with Jim Brett, former state representative from Dorchester, president and CEO of the New England Council, and son of Mrs. Brett, the food pantry's namesake.

Photo courtesy the New England Council

Dot's McCusker keys Lasell over Husson



Conan McCusker is ready to make a move against a Husson Eagle defender.

Dorchester's Conan McCusker was a difference maker as the Lasell Lasers defeated the Husson Eagles, 88-81, in a game played in Bangor on Nov. 21. The win moves the Lasers to 3-2 on the season.

Lasell ended the half on a 24-7 run to take a 39-37 lead into the intermission with McCusker supplying much of the punch. He posted 17 points on 6 of 8 shooting, including 4 of 5 from three-point range.

The Dot native kept it up in the second half. Twice, with under five minutes remaining in the game, the Eagles got the lead down to single digits, but both times McCusker responded with three pointers to push the lead back up to double digits. With 23 seconds remaining, Husson closed to within three, but McCusker sank two free throws to

YESTERYEAR ARCHIVE

DORCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

McCreight Home Sanitarium

In 1887, Mary B. McCreight immigrated to the United States from Ireland. By 1902, she was renting 58 Bowdoin Avenue and running a hospital. In 1908, she purchased the property. Two years later, she expanded to next door at 56 Bowdoin Avenue and operated the two houses as a hospital.

Mary had capacity to take



in tuberculosis patients, but facility catered mostly to the herself, a lodger, and eleven her business had 40 beds. down in the mid-20th century from Census records, it ap- elderly. In 1910, she had a patients, some of whom Mary died in 1948. pears that in later years, the staff of five in addition to stayed for years. At its peak,



and replaced by the multi-The houses were taken unit building seen in the right ments.

half of the illustration.

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

The Society's historic houses are closed at this time due to the pandemic. For now, our in-person programming has been suspended, and we are using Zoom instead. Watch for announce-



The Boston Latin Academy football team get together for a team picture at Fenway Park on Tuesday, November 22 prior to the clash with their Thanksgiving rival, O'Bryant. The Dragons won 32-6 and end the season at 7-4. O'Bryant ends at 4-5.

Patrick O'Connor photo

Helping hands pitch in for Shirley's Pantry's turkey gifting

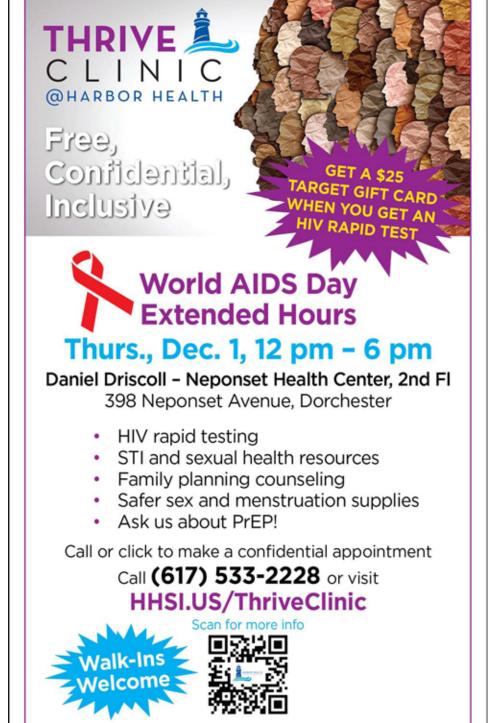
Mayor Michelle Wu, Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley, and several other elected officials and friends dropped by Shirley Shillingford's Pantry in Mattapan on Sat., Nov. 19. to help with the big turkey distribution that serves hundreds of families in Dorchester and Mattapan.

Councillor Erin Murphy, Shirley Shillingford, Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley, Mattapan resident Kenya Beaman, Councillor Julia Mejia, Mayor Michelle Wu with her two boys, Robert George, and Mattapan resident Ruth Georges.

Photo courtesy of

nt Ruth Georges. Photo courtesy of Mayor's Office/ John Wilcox







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BOSTÓN MEDICAL

Editorial

Banshee is Boston HQ for USA's World Cup dream

Roughly 6,503 miles separates the northern stretch of Dorchester Avenue from Doha, the capital city in the tiny Persian Gulf nation state of Qatar. There's an eight-hour time difference, to boot.



From Left: USA fans Michael Ratty, Garrett Quinn and Josh Gee at the Ban-

But over the last week-and-a-half, those barriers have been bridged inside the Banshee, the iconic Dot Ave barroom that has its roots in Ireland but is also Boston's premier spot to watch sporting events of all stripes.

The Banshee is also the headquarters for AO Boston, the local chapter of the American Outlaws, the largest network for supporters of the USA men's national soccer team, which has

returned to World Cup play this year after an eightyear hiatus. The Outlaws have been based out of the Banshee since 2007, the year that Boston became the fourth chapter of the national group.

Back then especially, trying to find a bar locally that was willing to put on a soccer match on a Monday night or a Tuesday afternoon was a challenge," says Evan Cipriano, vice president of AO Boston. "The Banshee has just always had that presence - whether it was Premier League and Irish and Scottish matches. So, when we approached them, they were very supportive, and they've always taken care of us for both the men's and women's national team."

Cipriano credits Banshee co-owner Ray Butler with being the energy behind the partnership, including generous sponsorships of the AO Boston chapter's philanthropic efforts on behalf of Boston Scores, which supports spreading the sport of soccer in underprivileged communities.

Butler says the pairing happened "organically," but notes that this year's World Cup, with its unique timetable in the late fall, has been "interesting."

"The good thing for us is that the games are on so early so the regular evening crowds don't see the effects of it," says Butler, who also lives in Dorchester. "We don't open for the 5 a.m. games, obviously, but the AO group have been unbelievably loyal to us."

With at least 400 active members and a growing cohort of more casual fans in tow, the AO Boston group has added two additional host bars this year - The Dubliner in Government Center and Parlor Sports in Inman Square - to accommodate the hardcore fans who cannot make it to Dot Ave. four hours before kick-off to guarantee a standing-room-only spot inside.

But the Banshee remains the go-to location for the Outlaws. On Black Friday, when the USA took on England in a high-stakes match that ended in a scoreless draw, there was a long line around the block to get in. On Tuesday morning, anxious fans were still trickling in for the USA's win-or-go-home match against Iran. Nerves were high, but Ray Butler was bullish as the early crowd nursed their first pints of the day.

"USA will win toďay," he declared. Indeed, USA beat Iran 1-0 and plays Netherlands on Saturday at 10 a.m. See you at the Banshee. - Bill Forry

The Reporter

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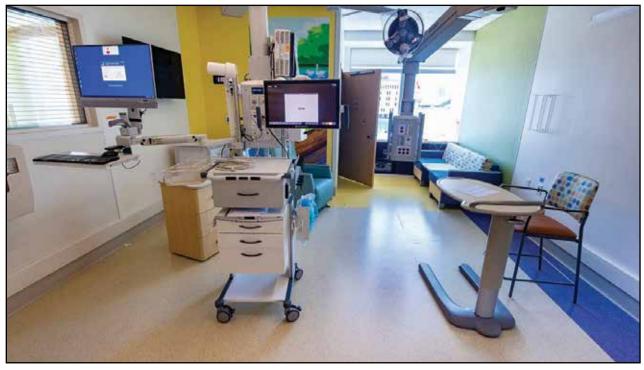
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'The onslaught just keeps coming'

Hospitals scramble to respond to a surge in children sick with RSV



A room in the new cardiac intensive care unit at Boston Children's Hospital. Jesse Costa/WBUR photo

By Priyanka Dayal McCluskey WBUR REPORTER

Dr. Tim Gibson was working a shift at Winchester Hospital when he saw a 7-week-old baby with RSV struggling to breathe. The child needed intensive care. But these days, pediatric ICUs in Massachusetts are usually full. "We called every hospital within 200 miles, and they all said, 'We don't have a bed, do your best.' And it was a real, real sick kid," Gibson said.

Eventually, UMass Memorial Medical Center, where Gibson also works as chief of pediatric hospital medicine, found space for that baby, an another child would have to wait a little longer to receive treatment. These are the types of choices doctors are making as a spike in cases of respiratory syncytial virus, or RSV, strains hospitals across Massachusetts and forces them to employ new strategies to cope with the wave of young patients.

Hospitals are canceling surgeries to make room for kids with respiratory illness. They're repurposing some spaces to accommodate more patients. And they're asking tired doctors and nurses to pick up

As they scramble to respond to RSV, they're also bracing for an uptick in flu. And Covid continues to spread. RSV is an old virus, but it's hitting with new force this year - at least partly because fewer people are wearing masks than during the previous two winters.

The virus is usually mild. But it can be serious for children with heart or lung disease, and for newborn babies with tiny airways. Some patients are just a few days old. "The onslaught just keeps coming," Gibson said. "It's been the worst I've ever seen."

Sometimes, there are no ICU beds for kids anywhere in Massachusetts, and they need to be transferred to another New England state. Other children wait in crowded emergency departments for hours until hospital staff can find them a bed.

State officials have loosened some regulations to help hospitals free up space for more patients. At hospitals in the Mass General Brigham system, some teenage patients are staying in adult units. And some older babies are being treated in ICUs typically reserved for newborns in their first days

Boston Children's Hospital is keeping some patients overnight in rooms normally used for shortterm recovery from surgery. And the pediatric wing at UMass Memorial is borrowing a few beds from a nearby unit for adults.

The Worcester hospital is also increasing capacity to treat the sickest patients by offering at least one element of ICU care outside the ICU. The treatment, called high-flow nasal cannula, blows humidified oxygen through prongs placed in a child's nose.

"Our census — it fluctuates minute to minute, hour to hour, but we've been full," said Dr. Larry Rhein, chair of pediatrics at UMass Memorial. "It's a revolving door of who it is, but it's always full."

Children who develop the lung infection pneumonia or inflammation known as bronchiolitis from RSV usually improve after several days of treatment with oxygen and fluids.

Rhein said the staff are trying to treat patients quickly, send them home and make room for more.

One way they plan to do this is by moving certain patients who recover into a playroom filled with books, toys, and games. Children can play here -

with supervision — until their families are ready to bring them home.

"That will free up their bed space for the next young infant to come in, who does need the monitoring, and does need nursing attention," Rhein said.

Each day at UMass Memorial, about a dozen children in the emergency department typically wait for a bed.

For pediatricians, this crisis feels eerily like the early pandemic days of 2020, when hospitals were flooded with Covid patients. Now, it's RSV patients.

But hospitals are under more pressure today, said Dr. Paul Biddinger, who leads emergency preparedness for Mass General Brigham. They're grappling with a shortage of health care workers and an increase in sick patients.

"All of this is occurring in the context of an extraordinarily overcrowded health care system at baseline," Biddinger said. "This is very different than when we went into the pandemic in March of 2020 with a busy health care system — but one that did not have levels of crowding that we see today."

Massachusetts has about 1,000 hospital beds for children, and fewer than 150 of them are for kids who need intensive care, according to the state Department of Public Health. Those ICU beds are spread across just five hospitals — three of them

Tufts Medical Center closed all of its pediatric beds this summer, including 10 ICU beds. Boston Children's, meanwhile, opened a new inpatient tower.

At Children's, the biggest pediatric hospital in Massachusetts, staff in the command center make calls throughout the day to help manage the flow of patients across the region.

Dr. Sara Toomey, the hospital's chief safety and quality officer, said doctors and nurses are working to triage the sickest kids and see them quickly. "We are really trying our best to make sure that every kid is getting the care they need," she said. "Admittedly, it might take a little longer.'

Boston Children's expanded its emergency department to accommodate the influx of patients, by borrowing space from a day clinic. "We're over capacity on many days and are using every possible space we have," Toomey said.

Doctors have noticed a dip in RSV cases in recent days. But the capacity crunch has not eased. And even as RSV declines, flu is likely to rise.

'We're anticipating this to go on, probably, realistically, until the spring," Toomey said. "So [we're] thinking and planning actively to make sure we can support our community up through the end of April."

There is no approved vaccine for RSV, but doctors are urging people to stay up to date on flu and Covid vaccinations to reduce the spread of other respiratory illness through the rest of fall and winter.

And while medical groups are not pushing for mask mandates, they are asking people to consider wearing masks, at least in crowded indoor spaces. "Anything that people can do — washing their hands, wearing masks, getting vaccinated — will help," said Rhein, of UMass Memorial.

'We really are working incredibly hard, and we want to be available. And we are. But it will take everyone's help."

This article was originally published by WBUR 90.9FM on Nov. 23. The Reporter and WBUR share content through a media partnership.

'Hidden Heroes and Sheroes' get rightful time in the spotlight

(Continued from page 1) fearless. I share that dream and I, too, am fearless today. I want to thank ROC. It's an organization that helped me feel like growing up."

Standing next to Pastors Ron and Kim Odom, the late Steven's parents, Skeens broke down in tears and talked about the years of confusion and struggle he faced after the violent loss of his friend.

"When we lost Steven at age 13, I didn't quite understand that," he said. "We got off the bus and he asked if I was going to play basketball that day. I had some things to take care of at home and said I was going to try to catch him later because we had dress-down day at school the next day – and that was a big deal because we wore uniforms every day. I just never thought it would be the last time I $would\,see\,my\,best\,friend$ alive."

He added that grief turned into more serious depression in high school "because I didn't have any way to recover from that pain." It was the community that pulled together and pulled him out of his funk, he said. Along with former City Councillor (and attorney general-elect) Andrea Campbell, ROC gave him an avenue to focus his energy on healing and helping his community. "You can turn your pain into purpose and it's not the end," he concluded.

Councillor Julia Mejia, who grew up in Four Corners and Codman Square, encouraged the heroes and sheroes to keep doing what they have been doing quietly.

"Those who do the most often have the least," she said. "When you do what you can with what little you have and with so much love, that's what being a hidden hero is all about."

Stafford Lewis, of Greater Four Corners, an awardee as well as a sponsor of the event, said now that the awardees are known, they must step up their efforts.

"When you're hidden and you're outed, you have to step your game up," he said. "Before, no one was watching... but now we really have to go to work and form



Awardees and guests gathered for a photo before the event. From left, Cynthia Loesch-Johnson, Suffolk Sheriff Steven Tompkins, Stafford Lewis, James Massey, City Councillor Julia Mejia, Desrianna Mae Clary, Saraphina Jean, BPD Supt. Nora Baston, state Rep. Russell Holmes, City Councillors Brian Worrell and Erin Murphy, Juwan Skeens, and Supt. James Chin.

coalitions with people who didn't know about us before."

The key presentation, the Millennium Award, went to Boston Police Supt. Nora Baston, a community engagement specialist who leads a team of officers who are present at most every event in the area.

Baston said it was the sheroes in her life, such as her mother and siblings, who allowed her to pick up the pieces at difficult times in her life and move ahead.

"I wouldn't have made it here without the sheroes in my life," she said. "It's an honor to receive this award because it means my constant sacrifice and love has impacted the youth here in a positive way."

The full list of awardees follows:

•Millennium Award

— Supt. Nora Baston;
Civic Leadership Award

— Stafford Lewis and Juwan Skeens; Neighborhood Leadership Award

— Justin & Jamie Chase and Desrianna Mae Clary; Youth Leadership Award — Saraphina Jean, Zaheera Fernandez, and James Massey.



City Councillor Erin Murphy, Officer Kerline Desir, BPD Supt. Nora Baston, Officer Jamila Gales, and the city's chief of Community Engagement Brianna Millor.

Seth Daniel photos

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Michael Massey with his son, James Massey, 15, who received a Youth Leadership Award.









Training center for life sciences is sited in former Globe building

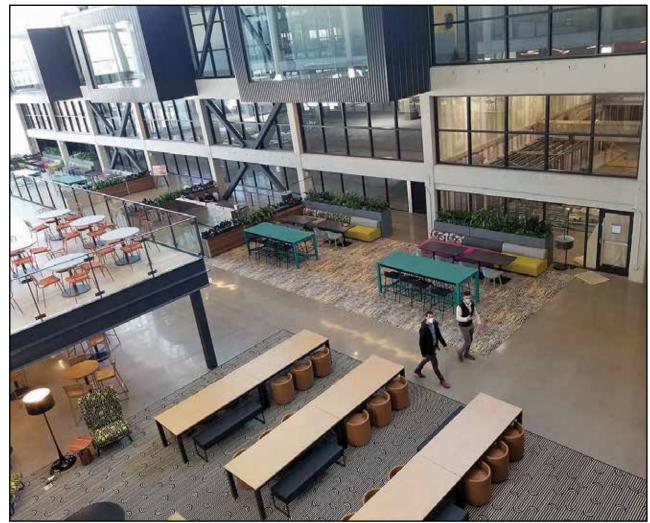
(Continued from page 1) Southeast Expressway.

The training center is expected to offer lab space, classrooms, and programming to deal with workforce shortages and skills gaps, as well as help with "our deep desire to bring underrepresented and marginalized individuals into the life sciences in $dustry, "Kendalle\, Burlin$ O'Connell, MassBIO's president and chief operating officer, said in a statement.

A MassBIO survey earlier this year showed that among 120 companies, 78 percent said they expected to hire employees. In 2021, the biopharmaceutical workforce added 12,00 jobs, driven by venture capital and the construction of new lab and biomanufacturing space.

Dorchester, in particular, could become home to some of that new space. Various developers making their way through the city's approvals process have proposed new lab space at "Dorchester Bay City," which will be anchored at the former Bayside Expo Center and extend across Mount Vernon Street to where a Santander Bank now stands.

Then there's the stretch of land between the BEAT and JFK/ UMass Red Line Sta-



An interior view of the Southline campus at 135 Morrissey Blvd.

Gintautas Dumcius photo

tion, known as 35-75 Morrissey. Its proximity to the T station, and from there a short ride to Cambridge's Kendall Square, a hub of biotech companies, has made the area attractive to developers.

"This center will be

the biotech ecosystem that is developing at Southline," Steve Purpura, president of the life sciences section at Beacon Hill Partners, said. "It will create more community awareness around the opportunities in the life sciences industhe perfect addition to try which will translate

into much needed labor for the biotech industry that is in dire need of trained talent at this level."

The training programs will be free, and a stipend will be offered to offset lost work hours, according to the organizations. "Certificate holders will have access to sophisticated entry-level positions with beginning salaries expected to pay mid to high five-figures plus benefits," they said in a release.

UMass Boston, which is a short walk across Morrissey Boulevard from 135 Morrissey,

is also involved, as is Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) and the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health

"As Boston's only public research university and the most diverse university in New England, UMass Boston is committed to working alongside MassBio to strengthen our pipeline of talented, hardworking, and diverse students," said UMass Boston Chancellor Marcelo Suárez-Orozco.

"With four out of five UMass Boston graduates staying in Massachusetts after graduation," he added, "this purpose-built initiative will advance our goals of creating economic opportunity while strengthening the life sciences cluster that is so central to our economy."

Frank Baker, whose City Council district includes the Southline facility, has long pushed for life sciences job opportunities for Dorchester residents.

"Training our residents right around the corner from where many of them live to provide them entry into rewarding careers in the life sciences is an integral part in the creation of a better future for our children," he said in his own statement.

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1320 Dot Ave. developer reduces residential units

By Gintautas Dumcius Managing Editor

The developer who in 2021 proposed a new six-story building across four parcels of land on Dorchester Avenue has reduced the number of residential units and added ground-floor commercial space.

The project, located at 1320 Dorchester Ave., a short walk from the MB-TA's Fields Corner Red Line station, now has 70 units, instead of 80, and 1,790 square feet of commercial space. Nine units will be designated as affordable housing.

All of the units will be studios, ranging from 377 to 450 square feet, in order for the project to be "fully compliant"



A rendering depicts a new six-story building proposed across four parcels of land near Glover's Corner at 1320 Dorchester Ave.

Image courtesy Choo & Co., Inc.

living" guidelines. The lines allow developers to of an effort to ease the

with the city's "compact "compact living" guide- build small units as part

city's housing crunch.

A virtual public meeting on the project is set for Dec. 13 at 6 p.m. In a supplemental filing dated Nov. 17, the project's developer promises "tens of thousands of dollars" in revenue to the city of Boston and the creation of 80 construction jobs.

The project is being developed by 1334 Dot LLC, which lists Robert F. Raymond as the manager. George Morancy of South Boston, as legal counsel, and Choo & Co. of Quincy as the architect. Doug George of Walter Huntington Construction LLC is tasked with construction management.

Morancy, in the supplemental filing, said the changes are "adjustments made in response to comments received during the project's community review process."

The site currently has a small residential and commercial building, and most of the parcels are used for parking. The developers propose six parking spaces, with none for residents, citing the proximity to the Fields Corner MBTA Station.

The project also calls for a 685-square-foot fitness center and a 1,000-square-foot workplace/lounge area. A bike sharing and repair station, as well as a 1,336 square foot roof deck, are also in the plans.

BPDA approves 50 condos behind Burke High School

The board of the Boston Planning and Development Agency recently signed off on a five-story residential building behind the Jeremiah Burke High School in Dorchester. The development at 66 Geneva Ave., approved on Nov. 17, will have 50 units of varying sizes and 17 parking spaces. Eight of the units will be designated affordable housing.

The proponents first filed an application with the BPDA in June, under the agency's "Small Project Review" guidelines.

The developers are Solmon Chowdhury and Rokeya Begum, a husband-and-wife team that also owns Shanti





A series of renderings show the proposed design of a five-story apartment complex that would be sited near Burke High School at 66 Geneva Ave. in Dorchester.

Image courtesy Sol and Associates

Indian Cuisine, with locations in Dorchester, Roslindale, and Cambridge, and the Dudley Cafe in Roxbury.

The site, which currently features a one-story building, has been home to the New Faith Missionary Baptist Church. It is assessed at \$3.4 million, according to city

Construction is set to start in next year's second quarter, and cost \$15 million.

The project's mitigation measures include a "more comfortable and accessible" bus stop outside Burke High; \$50,000 to the city's parks department to support nearby parks and open space; \$14,000 to support bike-sharing; a dedicated bike room inside: a wider sidewalk; three street trees around the site: a raised crosswalk where Geneva Avenue connects with Bishop Joe L. Smith Way: and a rooftop solar installation.

The project is steps from the Grove Hall shopping center and a short walk to the Four Corners/Geneva commuter rail station on the MBTA's Fairmount Line. It will be a few doors down from the new community center run by the Boston Centers for Youth and Families that was announced in October. The community center, which will be built on a vacant city-owned lot, remains in the planning stages.

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Mary Swanton: IPC director is an Irish evangelist in all things

(Continued from page 1)

mark shown off to visitors by Swanton's father. A musically talented driver and cultural ambassador for the transport company CIE Tours, he took visitors all over Ireland, And, during the summer, Mary's Mom piled the kids into the car and they followed their Dad's coach bus.

"I took it for granted, but I literally was in every county in the republic of Ireland as part of my childhood," said Swanton. "It was lovely. It was a great thing to experience." It was also a beginner's lesson about the power of music—as self-expression, but also as a connection between different people and parts of the world because, as Swanton could boast, "Dad sang his way through every county in Ireland."

One of five children of John and Teresa Delaney, Swanton grew up in Limerick City, the birthplace of Bill Whelan, later famed as the composer and visionary for the Irish theatrical show Riverdance. Like Whelan, Swanton attended the Limerick School of Music, close to where she lived. She also had a sister who played the harp and guitar, another sister who played piano, a brother Ger (RIP), who was the artist, and a younger brother Joe who played bagpipes. Later, during his time in the Boston area, Joe was the Instructor for the IBEW pipe band, and performed on the first album by the local Celtic punk band, the Dropkick Murphys.



US Labor Secretary Martin J. Walsh spoke at the official dedication of the new Irish Pastoral Centre headquarters on Gallivan Boulevard in Adams Corner on Sat., Nov. 26. Looking on at right, (l-r) are Mary Swanton, City Councillor Erin Murphy and Shane Caffrey, Vice Consul General of Ireland to Boston.

Ed Forry photo

Swanton started on the violin when she was six. When she was ten, she was tall enough to be recruited for double bass. That filled a need in the school's orchestra, resulting in a chance for her to play with the Irish National Youth Orchestra. She also learned there was more to being a musician than following a score.

"Although a musical composition is someone else's style and you are directed to play as written," she said, "you'll often find your own style within your adaptation of it, which can be more meaningful." Joining the orchestra allowed her to meet more than two hundred young musicians from all around Ire-

land, and to perform anything from classical symphonies to arrangements of traditional music.

In 1983, at age 14, Swanton was selected to go on tour in the United States with Ireland's National Senior Irish Youth Orchestra. During a stopover at Shannon Airport to clear customs, she called home from a pay phone and told her father she had been interviewed by a reporter and would be on television. "And he said, 'That's great," she remembered. "Mind yourself. Have a great time."

Once she checked into a hotel in Boston, that's exactly what Swanton planned. She

did not plan a conversation with a Boston area priest she saw approaching her, and whom she recognized from her father's tours. "I was in America," she said. "I was going to see a three-decker. Remember that? And I said, 'I'll talk to you in a minute.""

The priest couldn't wait. He broke the news and told her she had to go right back to the airport. "So, while I was on the plane," she explained, "Dad left work and ran to get to his car to see me on television and got a massive heart attack and died. We were all shattered."

For the time being, there would be no three-deckers and no debut at Symphony Hall.

Back in Boston for good

It took another four years before Swanton came back to America, this time as an immigrant and entry-level worker. She got her first job by falsely claiming she knew how to make pizza, which she had only seen watching "Sesame Street."

Within a couple of weeks, her boss caught on and reassigned her as a waitress. A few months later, she was working at a retail pharmacy. She became certified and worked at area hospitals for 10 years.

When a music teacher left St. Brigid's School in South Boston, that led to another entry-level opportunity, but this time in a field she knew well. Swanton also formed a choir at Saint Vincent's Parish, which included children from the West Broadway public housing development. There was also a grant from Eversource to pay for some instruments, which, she said, was greatly appreciated. From that came a "side gig," singing and playing at weddings and funerals.

During her time in South Boston, Swanton met her husband, Albert Swanton. Among the "many great people" she met in South Boston was a certain regular at the Galley Diner, a breakfast-and-lunch spot on P Street, near Castle Island, with four tables and twelve counter stools. "On Sunday mornings," she said, "I often met a kind soul named Joe, and he was very



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IPC director is an Irish evangelist in all things

much an 'ordinary Joe.' He was the nicest, most unassuming man. He'd ask me about Ireland, and how am I getting on in Boston, and things like that."

It was only later, looking at a TV screen, that she realized the man at the diner was Congressman Joe Moakley. Her take-away: "One thing I learned about America, about Boston, that still impresses me to this day is how unassuming people are. And they don't live in their titles, and they don't elevate themselves because they have a title. What a great lesson!"

After Moakley's passing in the spring of 2001, Swanton's choir was asked to sing for the funeral at St. Brigid's Church, which drew an overflow crowd, including the-then president, George W. Bush, his predecessor, Bill Clinton, and US Sen. Ted Kennedy.

Swanton's work at St. Brigid's led her to the music program at St. Mark's School in Dorchester and, later, to work for the consortium of schools brought together as Pope John Paul II Catholic Academy. That put her into the orbit of Father Dan Finn, whom she had known since 1988. The pastor of St. Mark's parish for 22 years, he was a founder of the Irish Pastoral Centre Boston (IPC), which he still serves as chaplain.

Among Swanton's music students at St. Mark's were two children of IPC's operations and programs assistant, Jennifer Molloy. She credits Swanton with approaching students in a way that made them receptive. "They wanted to do a good job for her, and they would practice, and they would play for all of us. And you wouldn't hear a pin drop," said Molloy. "They were all in unison, and they all played so well. And they were all so proud of themselves."

The students even got to experience what Swanton missed when sne was 14: a trip to Symphony Hall. And Molloy said the lesson from that went beyond the music. "I think it's the experiences of going to Symphony Hall," she said, "and just never being in an environment like that and walking in and just seeing that there's a whole other world out there."

At St. Mark's, Swanton also encountered a whole other world, with students of different racial and ethnic backgrounds. "You're meeting people from all over the world and everybody brings something different to the table, and it's great," said Swanton. "I mean, what an education! It couldn't be learned in a school. It couldn't be

learned in a classroom." And it was at St. Mark's that she met Bill Whelan of *Riverdance* fame.

"We grew up in the same neighborhood. and it was a personal highlight when Bill visited the school where I was teaching music," said Swanton. "He conducted our students' performance of Jingle Bells at Christmas time. What a moment!"

A 'parish without boundaries'

A nonprofit organization funded in part by the Irish government and donations from the Irish American community, the IPC was founded in 1987, just as Swanton was settling in Boston.

Partly due to immigration reforms by the federal government in 1965, the channels to legal status and citizenship for Irish immigrants were drying up. But, with a sluggish economy in Ireland during the 1980s, its immigrants were still heading for the US, often staying, illegally, past the time limits on their visas. Even when a special visa program was created in 1990, with key support from Congressman Brian Donnelly, legal immigrants still had less access than their predecessors to help from relatives and social networks in the community.

"A lot of them were on their own, and they fell through the cracks. And in many ways the American dream became a nightmare," said Fr. Finn. "So we were the next best thing to being family for them in those services and programs that we provide. When the person came, we brought them in to this kitchen table, made the tea and the coffee and had the talk."

The IPC offered job training, counselling, and help with housing and the legal process around immigration. For immigrants without legal status, the organization that Fr. Finn described as a "parish without boundaries" was also a place where they could freely discuss their needs. "Having a place of trust and confidence where you would know that the story would go no further was so totally important to them." he said, "And so that's still ongoing in so many

While teaching at St. Mark's, Swanton started going to IPC events and bringing her son Seán to its mother and toddlers program. "It helped us stay within our heritage in a broader community," she explained. But she also stressed the value of networks developed by the IPC, including employers and landlords who could provide jobs and housing, legal and immigration issues, and

reduce isolation and loneliness for those living alone. The IPC is a comprehensive community resource organization.

Before joining the IPC as a staff member, Swanton expanded her range of contacts through work as content manager and editor for the weekly paper *The Boston Irish Emigrant*. In that role, said the IPC's director of operations, Audrey Larkin, Swanton was "very open" to giving the organization more recognition.

"She was always very welcoming and including us in the newspaper weekly," said Larkin, "which spread out what we were all doing in a way that we hadn't been able to do previously, because The Boston Irish Emigrant was very important to many people beyond Boston in the wider area."

After the paper ceased publication in 2019, Swanton joined the IPC as a staff member and expanded the content and reach of its newsletter.

"I learned that community news is an essential conduit for blending culture and heritage with identity and a sense of belonging," she said. "It's a vital connection which proved essential at the Pastoral Centre during lockdown, when we created and mailed a monthly 32-page magazine to seniors in our community. We now print almost a thousand copies of the newsletter per month."

And that led to her being named the executive director in January of last year. "She was the right person for the job," said IPC board member Della Costello. "Mary is an organizer. She has the background of all things Irish, in a way. She's also able to reach out to people. She has a great sense of community spirit in helping people." Added to that is what Costello called a "welcoming attitude."

"Walking into the center, the first thing you're always offered is a cup of tea—and some brown bread," she said. "It was sation night a Friday gather music and fish ordered from Fish Market.

like walking into a very nice Irish home."

And Swanton's organizing skills led to Costello being asked to head a weekly knitting group that donates some of its creations to homeless children. A native of Loughrea in Galway, Costello grew up in a family active in local politics and business. Before coming to the US, she lived in London for a time, working in the accounting department for Lloyd's of London. She became acquainted with the IPC through Fr. Finn, while helping with accounting and serving as a lector at St. Mark's.

To serve aging members of its population, the IPC has a growing number of groups meeting at locations in the Boston area.

"People come together for coffee, for bingo, for trivia, for talk, just to, for support system and music," said Fr. Finn. "Many of them are all alone in their homes. And we'd probably be the only family that they'd have. And so those get-togethers every week can mean so much to them. And many who cannot come to those groups every Tuesday, we have a group of volunteers who make calls to them on their phone, at home."

Among the other regular IPC activities are meetings of sobriety groups and immigration legal clinics, 4 weekly Senior Café's in Brighton, West Roxbury, Dorchester, and Weymouth. There's the Irish Senior Network where weekly calls are placed by volunteers to keep in touch with older members in our community.

On Monday evenings, a clinical social worker is available for appointments and there is a weekly card game on Thursdays. There is also a weekly Mother and Toddler group and knitting club. Monthly get-togethers include an Irish language conversation night and a First Friday gathering with music and fish and chips ordered from the Adams Fish Market

In March of this year, the IPC helped find temporary accommodations for the family of Oisín Traynor, a four-year-old boy from Co. Armagh who needed specialized medical treatment in the Boston area for quadriplegic cerebral palsy. Costello said the IPC helped with outreach to Irish and British consulates, and noted that, because the boy was unable to eat solid food, Swanton tracked down a restaurant-grade blender for the family to use while state side. After just four weeks of treatment in Boston, the boy and his family came by for a meal at the IPC. "And," Costello said, "I saw that little boy with a chicken nugget, actually

The IPC also made itself more accessible with its recent move to a new location, at 540 Gallivan Boulevard, near Dorchester's Adams Village. In contrast with the previous location, visitors can enter without using a stairway, and there's more convenient parking.

chewing it."

"This place that we are in needed a whole lot of work that would cost thousands, hundreds of thousands of dollars," said Fr. Finn. "But, because of Mary reaching out to local construction workers who volunteered to give their time and work, for this place to be up and running for us August first was amazing. Without her reaching out and, and getting so many companies to donate things, it would not have happened."

"It was the Irish community who stepped up huge, whether it was monetary donations or donations of labor and materials," said Swanton. "We still had quite an expense, but it was nothing, nothing in comparison, to what it should have been."

For board president Maryellen Brett, the person-to-person character typifies the IPC method and mission—and Swanton's role.

one who is exposed to

both sides, and Mary is out there in the community. She's been part of the Irish community here in the Boston area for a really long time," said Brett. "She has strong ties back home. She's really sort of perfectly positioned to do that. And her personality suits it as well."

For Audrey Larkin, the person-to-person cycle went from getting free help from the IPC to volunteering. She came to the US from Dublin at age 40, working as a personal care attendant for the elderly. Having previously worked in the buying office for a major Irish wholesaler, she later found administrative work in Boston. After taking charge of the IPC's employment and housing support program, she would later become its business manager.

Fr. Finn came to the US when he was 18 years old. He was from County Cork, and his mother was from Clonakilty, the birthplace of Michael Collins. When he finished high school in the Boston area, he decided that he wanted to become priest, but he had no knowledge of Latin. The remedy: parlay his skills in hurling to get a night job and housing, along with summer school to learn enough Latin for getting into St. John's Seminary. After his tenure at St. Mark's, he ministers to a wider territory.

"Our mission is very much like the corporal works of mercy-feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, visit the sick, visit the prisoner, bury the dead, and help the poor and comfort the afflicted," he said. "That's very much the spirit of a parish, when we are a parish without boundaries. And I go in so many places to do funerals. I did five last week, and there are funerals at home in Ireland, and some of the family members can't go home because, if they do, they can't come back."

Chris Lovett wrote this article for the program of the Boston Irish Honors luncheon on Oct. 28.



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First a tour of Dot's neighborhoods, then the big lighting stop at Ashmont



Santa Claus greeted hundreds of children gathered at Ashmont Station and gave out some goodie bags to the

The Dorchester Holiday Celebration Committee and the city made nine tree-lighting stops throughout the neighborhood last Saturday $night, Nov.\, 26, with \, Santa$ Claus, Mrs. Claus, Mayor Michelle Wu, and several other special guests going along for the ride. The tour also stopped by Martin's Park (named after Dorchester's late Martin Richard) in the Seaport.

The fun started in the neighborhood just after 4 p.m. at Neponset Circle and concluded around

7:15 p.m. in Peabody Square.

In Ashmont, hundreds turned out for the Greater Ashmont Main Streets' Holiday Pop-up Market, followed by the tree lighting. Music in Ashmont was provided by several bands throughout the afternoon before everyone converged on Santa and Mayor Wu and other elected officials when they arrived just

With little Levi Jones assisting with the countdown, the tree was set alight along Dorchester Avenue outside Ashmont Station.

Seth Daniel photos



Ford and Hadley Duffin were on their very best behavior ahead of Santa Claus arriving at Ashmont



rell declared Dorchester the best neighborhood for celebrating the hol-



Councillor Brian Wor- Councillor Erin Murphy said it was good to be "home" for Christmas, as she grew up on Ashmont ments to place on the Ashmont Tree. Street.



Katie King and Bibek Gurung with Fionn the dog at the tree lighting in Peabody Square.



Children's author Candelaria Silva was one of the holiday vendors at the Ashmont Pop-up Market.



State Rep. Brandy Fluker Oakley recalled spending a lot of time during the holiday seasons in Ashmont, as her mother's office was located in Peabody Square.



off a hand-made orna $ment from \, the \, Christmas$ booths.



mont Main Streets welcomed everyone to the market and the tree lighting.



Sydney Hanlon showed tree at one of the vending



Councillor Ruthzee Louijeune implored all the kids to make sure they were on their best behavior ahead of Dec.





Yenny Estevez and Lorebell Vasquez made orna- Leo and Sal Guerriero chilled with some hot cocoa as they waited for the tree lighting.



Little Levi Jones and Mayor Michelle Wu perform the countdown ahead of lighting the tree at Ashmont Station in Peabody Square on Saturday. They were joined by hundreds of revelers that packed Ashmont to welcome in the holiday season. The Dorchester Holiday Celebration Committee pulled off nine tree lightings throughout the neighborhood on Saturday, Nov. 26.



Aine O'Donnell, Kati Kelley, and Mary Kelley stood joyfully in front of the Ashmont Christmas Tree on Saturday after it was officially lit by Mayor Wu and the Dorchester Holiday Celebration Committee.

Pressley wants to scale up efforts to aid survivors of murder victims

By Sam Drysdale STATE HOUSE News Service

In a ceremony commemorating the start of Massachusetts's annual Survivors of Homicide Victims Awareness Month on Nov. 21, US Rep. Ayanna Pressley announced that she had introduced a Congressional resolution to bring the awareness effort to the national level.

"It's long past time that as survivors, your healing is centered, and your needs are met. From grief counseling, to bereavement leave, to financial assistance, Congressional intent is a powerful thing," Pressley said.

The resolution would designate Nov. 20



Clementina Chéry

through Dec. 20 as an awareness month for the victims of homicide and their families nationwide, as Massachusetts has observed since 2000 when Gov. Paul Cellucci signed a law to create the awareness month in the state.

"This resolution expresses that Congress sees you, we hear you, and we're committed to making the investments necessary to ensure that you receive the healing that you deserve," the congresswoman said.

Pressley, who represents large sections of Boston, said recent gun violence in the city "deepens our resolve to raise awareness and to invest in trauma care."

Seven people were shot and killed in Boston in October, and as of Oct. 23, Boston had so far seen more deadly gun violence than it did during the same period in 2021 – 26 fatal shooting victims, compared to 22 last year. A violent night in Boston earlier this month left one dead, and five others iniured after three separate shootings happened around the city in the span of an hour.

Chaplain Clementina Chéry, co-founder and CEO of Louis D. Brown Peace Institute, which organizes the annual awareness month in Massachusetts, asked those attending the virtual ceremony to ask their Congressional representatives to support Pressley's resolution, HR 1317, to create the national awareness

"Our goal for next year is that we will be in DC" observing the awareness month, she said.

State Rep. Liz Miranda of Roxbury, who lost her brother to gun violence, made it clear to ceremony attendees that she will be an advocate for the survivors of gun violence in her new role.

"Consider me not only a partner ... but a family member and a friend who will always be there to uplift this community, to share this community and to ensure that we're doing the right things ... to support this community," she said.

Sen. Nick Collins of South Boston, whose district includes Dorchester, Mattapan, Hyde Park, and South Boston, spoke at the ceremony about his own experience losing a cousin to "senseless" violence.

He thanked the Louis D. Brown Institute for Peace for its advocacy to bring awareness "not just to the pain that's been suffered, but also of the important work that's being done and continues to be done."

"We want Massachusetts to be a leader in transforming the way society responds to families of murdered victims, whether they were gang involved, whether they were known to the police, whether they were shot by the police, or whether they were the good children that got caught in the crossfire," Chéry said.

Wu cites dramatic progress on Mass. and Cass problems

By Chris Lisinski STATE HOUSE News Service

While the confluence of homelessness and substance use in Boston's "Mass. and Cass" area persists, Mayor Wu argued on Monday that conditions on the ground have improved dramatically in the year since she took office.

Wu, who has drawn criticism from a range of fellow policymakers and community leaders over the ongoing issues near Massachusetts Avenue and Melnea Cass Boulevard, said her communication about response to the ongoing crisis has fallen short at times but otherwise touted her administration's approach as a success.

Asked in an interview on WBUR's Radio Boston to identify a "red X" from her first year in office, Wu said she "didn't claim the right framing for our efforts. It is night and day from where we were a year ago." She added that "it is 80 percent, 90 percent, even, better than where we started a year ago where people were dying on the streets and there were fires and

rampant diseases spread from a rodent infestation and widespread human trafficking in structures that we didn't really know what was going on inside."

She said that although the issue is "not solved," the city's approach to the encampments, frequent drug use, and mental health issues present at Mass. and Cass has served as a national example of how to address homelessness and

Her optimism is not universally shared. Wu moved in January to clear encampments from the area, and while officials believe there are now fewer people involved, reports are still widespread about people congregating near Mass. and Cass, often selling or using drugs.

Last month, Wu told WBUR that about 20 tents "come up and down every other day." She said the city had worked to stand up about 200 units of "wraparound" supportive housing, but that Boston would be unable to manage the situation on its own and needed "the state to step up."

Wu's remarks in October prompted a public spat with Gov. Baker, who said the state played a key role in development of low-threshold housing and put \$40 million toward addressing homelessness and addiction issues.

"The first time she said she was looking for a partner, I kind of ignored it. I actually thought it must have been a mistake or something," Baker told GBH's Boston Public Radio last month, adding that Boston officials halted a series of regular meetings with his health and human services chief, Marylou Sudders.

Their disagreement does not just stem from what role the state played – Baker told GBH he believes Boston needs to incorporate a law-enforcement angle to its approach.

"I think the big challenge at this point is it's

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not just a housing, it's not just an addiction challenge," he said. "At some point, the city's got to deal with those drug dealers who just hang around down there and just prey on people."

On Monday, Wu said, "To now be in a place where there are still many, many people who need services and more people have come knowing that this is a city that is committed to providing services -- I'm really proud of the work that our team has done, but I think not sharing that along the way and not communicating more of what we were measuring, what we were learning along the way, led to quite a difficult set of public conversations

about that," she said. On the flip side, Wu dubbed the city's response to a month-long Orange Line shutdown - an unprecedented step Baker deputies at the

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"This is an area where it would've been very easy for city government to walk away. 'This is the state's problem, the MBTA has its own leadership team, a different level of government and it looks like it's going

to be really bad – why don't we just duck for cover and try not to get splashed by the negative consequences of that?" she said. "Instead, our team really stepped up and said we're not only going to take on the risk of owning some of this, but we don't have any other choice."



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RECENT OBITUARIES



BURNS, Thelma D. (Callender) A wellknown Boston community service champion. Thelma served as co-founder and Executive Director of The Storefront Learning Center, one of Boston's first learning programs focused on the needs of inner-city youth. Thelma's involvement with Boston's marginalized youth grew to include her service in two different Metropolitan Council of Education Opportunity (METCO) program communities, first Cohasset and later Belmont, where she spent more than 20 years as program director. After her retirement from METCO in 2001, Thelma became focused on the needs and concerns of Boston's senior community. She worked tirelessly advocating for the elderly, serving on numerous committees organizing life-enriching educational and social programs Thelma served on the Action for Boston Community Development (ABCD) Board of Directors for more than 35 years in multiple capacities, including Board Chair, Vice Chair, and Committee Chair. Thelma headed the ABCD Dorchester Neighborhood Service Center board for more than 15 years. She also operated in a leadership capacity on numerous community boards, including Central

Boston Elder Services,

the Mayor's Senior Advisory Council, and the Roxbury YMCA. Most recently, she served on the Board of the Grimes-King Foundation for the Elderly, Inc. In 2016, Thelma was recognized when ABCD elected to name its newly renovated building in her honor. Thelma's was a longtime, devoted member of Morning Star Baptist Church and was active in her local chapter of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority for many decades. Thelma leaves behind her husband of 66 years, Edward Burns; her children Gemma (Elisa) Burns, Karen (Cecil) Burns White, and Candace Burns; her grandsons, Kyle (Paige) White and Cedric (Julianne) White; and great-grand-daughter, Morgan White. Gifts may be made to the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in memory of Thelma D. Burns in support of the Cancer Care Equity Program Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, P.O. Box 849168, Boston, MA, 02284, and / or the Action for Boston Community Development Head Start programs, mail checks to: Action for Street, Boston, MA, 02111 (please indicate Thelma Burns Memorial in the check memo).



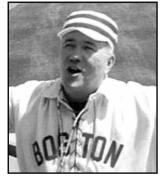
MEEKINS, Robert Douglas Sr., 92, of Quincy, formerly of Dorchester and Newton. Son to to

Frederick Quentin and Mabel Regina Meekins. US Air Force veteran. Robert is survived by his wife, Mattie L. Meekins; sons, Gregory Q. Meekins and wife Mary T. Meekins, William A. Powell and wife Leona Powell; his sister, his grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

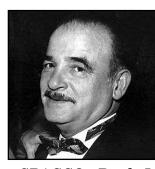


MURPHY, Robert **A. "Bob"**, 96, of Quincy. Son of the late Cecelia (Chamberland) and Robert E. Murphy. Husband of Dorothy Ann (Howlett) Murphy. Father of Robert Murphy of Quincy, Carol O'Brien of Dorchester, Michael Murphy and his wife, Donna of Hanover, Susan Boudreau and her husband, Kevin of Quincy, Jeffrey Murphy

and his wife, Leslie of Sarasota, FL, Gail Crann and her husband, Paul of Westford, James Murphy and his wife, Melissa of Duxbury; in-laws, Lisa Murphy of Weymouth, James O'Brien of West Hartford, CT; his brother, Gerald Murphy of South Carolina. Grandfather of 19; and the great-grandfather of nine. Predeceased by his son, Peter Murphy of Scituate; and his sister, Mary Murphy; and brother, John Murphy of Boston. Dance with someone you love in his honor.



SAVAGE, Brian E. "Shaper", 74, of Braintree, formerly of Dorchester. Father of Amy Savage of Weymouth. Son of the late Edward "Doc" Savage and Helen (Drake). Brother of Michael Savage and his wife Ellen of Cohasset, Patti Loiodice and her late husband Donald of Kittery, ME, Elizabeth "Betty" Griffin and her husband Neil of Weymouth and Ted Savage and his wife Barbara of Walpole. Longtime friend of Kathy Savage of Weymouth. Also survived by several nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.



SPACCO, Paul J. Retired B.F.D. Engine 17, of Dorchester. Husband of the late Mary B. (Donovan) Spacco. Father of Paul Spacco of CA, Dianna Spacco of Pembroke, Patricia Spacco of Quincy, Susan Spacco Sheinkopf of Newton, and Elizabeth Spacco Pearlstein of Dorchester.

Grandfather of 8; and four great-grandchildren. Brother of seven. US Army veteran, Korean War. Please consider donating to the Boston Fire Fighters Local 718 IAFF Children's Fund, or the MSPCA, in memory of Paul.



SULLIVAN, John J. "Jack", 57, of Canton for-merly of Dorchester and Hyde Park. Husband of Stefania (D'Amato) Sullivan of Canton. Brother of Jill (Sullivan) D'Amato of Peabody and June Sullivan of Crossville, TN. Son of Joseph F. Sullivan of Forestdale and the late Noreen (Cregg) Sullivan. Also survived by several extended family and friends.

Boston Community Development, 178 Tremont MBTA closes Columbia Rd. entry to JFK/UMass, citing 'structural finding'

(Continued from page 1) van is available upon request for riders with disabilities needing to get between the Columbia Road entrance and the JFK/UMass busway area during the closure, she added.

"The MBTA recognizes this is an inconvenience to our customers," Battiston wrote. "We remain committed to safely operating and investing in our facilities, infrastructure, and vehicles while delivering reliable



A view of an alternate entrance to the JFK/UMass station from Sydney Street, Gintautas Dumcius photo which remains open.

service to our riders that depend on the MBTA

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Suffolk Probate & Family Court
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Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Docket No. SU22P2617EA
ESTATE OF:
JOSEPH MICHAEL DEPALMA
DATE OF DEATH: 07/19/2021
p. all interested persons:

A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy, and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Denise Lewis of Dorchester. MA requesting that the Court enter a format Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Denise Lewis of Boston, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration. IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 0.1/0.2023 of 01/03/2023

of 01/03/2023.
This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION

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

administration. Witness, HON. BRIAN J. DUNN, First Justice of this Court.
Date: November 22, 2022

Felix D. Arroyo Register of Probate

COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
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PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
Suffolk Probate & Family Court
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Boston, MA 02114
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CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Docket No. SU22P2606EA
ESTATE OF:
JORGE DOS SANTOS
DATE OF DEATH: 01/10/2022
all interested persons:

Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Lucindo Dos Santos of Boston, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Lucindo Dos Santo of Boston, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration

administration.

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

Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 01/03/2023.
This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavior objection within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION
UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS
UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC) Personal Representative appointed under he MUPC in an unsupervised administration s not required to file an inventory or annua Is not required to line an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Persona Representative and may petition the Couri nany matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

administration.
Witness, HON. BRIAN J. DUNN, First Justice of this Court. Date: November 21, 2022

Felix D. Arroyo Register of Probat Published: December 1, 2022

for their transportation needs. We will continue to update the public as more information becomes available."

The MBTA previously

LEGAL NOTICE

CITATION G.L. c. 210, § 6 Docket No. SU22A0217AD COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
SUFFOLK PROBATE & FAMILY COURT 24 NEW CHARDON STREET BOSTON, MA 02114 617-788-8300 IN THE MATTER OF:

JERELL JOSHUA JACKSON
To: Ayisat Kafaru, Joshua Jackson any unnamed or unknown parent and persons interested in a petition for the adoption of said child and to the Department of Children and Families of said Commonwealth.

A petition has been presented to said court by: Lillian Hylton of Dorchester, MA; Elisha Hylton of Dorchester, MA requesting for leave to adopt said child and that the name of the child be changed to **Jerell Jackson Hylton**.

If you object to this adoption you are entitled to the appointment of an attorney if you are an indigent person.

An indigent person is defined by SJC Rule 3:10. The definition includes but is

not limited to persons receiving TAFDC, EACDC, poverty related veteran's benefits, Medicaid, and SSI. The Court will determine if you are indigent. Contact an Assistant Judicial Case Manager or Adoption Clerk of the Court on or before the date listed below to obtain the necessary forms

JOSSAIN IONIS.

IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST
FILEAWRITTENAPPEARANCE IN SAID
COURT AT BOSTON ON OR BEFORE TEN O'CLOCK INTHE MORNING (10:00 AM) ON: 01/23/2023. Witness, HON. BRIAN J. DUNN,

Fsquire. First Justice of this Court. Date: November 21, 2022 Felix D. Arroyo Register of Probate Published: December 1, 2022

closed — and kept closed for months — the stairs at the Sydney Street entrance to the western side of the station.

Separately, the main stairs to the MBTA station, off Morrissey Boulevard, were closed for four months earlier this year, starting on May 19, after staffers and engineering consultants found "structural concerns."

In September 2021, another set of stairs, connecting the Columbia Road overpass to Old Colony Avenue underneath, became the focus of an investigation after a 40-year-old Boston University professor fell to his death through them. State workers demolished the stairs, which were owned by the state Department of Transportation (Mass-DOT), after the fatality.

The stairs had been in disrepair, and a sign with MBTA branding said they would be closed until "Fall 2020." The professor's family has filed a lawsuit against the MBTA and Mass-DOT.



Cedar Grove Cemetery

A quiet place on the banks of the Neponset River Contact the office for information on the cost of burial needs, memorial benches and memorial

The Cemetery office is open Monday – Friday 8:00 to 4:00, and Saturday 8:00 to noon. The Cemetery grounds are open year round 7:00 am to sunset - weather permitting.

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THE REPORTER dotnews.com **December 1, 2022** Page 17



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF DORCHESTER

fy in You Tube



Elevate Youth Takes BGCD Members on Outdoor Rock Climbing Excursion: See details below.

CONNECT THE DOT: Elevate Youth Takes BGCD Members on Outdoor Rock

Climbing Excursion: Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester maintains an ongoing partnership with our friends at Elevate Youth to offer monthly outdoor activities. Elevate Youth's vision is to spark a lifelong love of the outdoors through equitable access and routine immersion in nature as a way to foster agency and lead holistic, healthy

For the month of November, a group of members traveled to Hammond Pond to take part in a Rock Climbing activity. Next up for activities will be an Outdoor Adventure Day in December. A huge thanks to the team at Elevate Youth for offering these unique experiences to our members. To learn more about **BGCD** Partnerships, please contact Mike Joyce at mjoyce@bgcdorchester.

FIND OUT WHAT'S INSIDE: BGCD Hosts "Bright Futures" Grand Drawing Gala: On November 19th, **BGCD** hosted our 35th Annual Grand **Drawing Gala at the Fairmont Copley** Plaza, Boston. It was a fabulous night with nearly 300 guests who helped raise over \$500,000. The event included a silent auction, live auction, chef prepared four course dinner, dancing to one of Boston's best bands "Up All Night", and our incredible Grand Drawing! A special thank you to our Gold Sponsor Lee Kennedy Co, Inc.; Silver Sponsors DiNicola Law Group, LLC and Joseph J. Corcoran Company; and Bronze Sponsors The McIntosh Foundation, S&F Concrete, Jane & Paul Panariello, The Marr Companies, Corcoran Jennison Companies, State Street, Deirdre Karle, and Feeney Brothers Utility Services; and all who supported with tables, patrons and tickets! You're making bright futures possible at BGCD!



DID YOU KNOW: BGCD Keystone Club & Teen Program Create Jared Boxes for Create The Change Week: Members of the Keystone Club and the Teen

Program came together this month to create Jared Boxes as part of Project Giving Kids' Create the Change Week. A Jared Box is a plastic shoe-sized storage box filled with small gifts, toys, games, crayons, coloring books, and fun activities.

Project Giving Kids hosts this event annually to encourage youth volunteerism with virtual, at home and onsite engagement opportunities. Our group assembled 60 boxes which will be delivered to a local hospital to share with incoming patients in need of long term pediatric care.

For more information on the Teen **Program please contact Chad Hassey** at chassey@bgcdorchester.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Marr-lin Swim Team Hosts Arlington BGC for Meet December 3

Family Bingo Night December 9

Polar Express Event December 10

Elevate Youth Outing December 10

Gingerbread House Party with Dell EMC December 14

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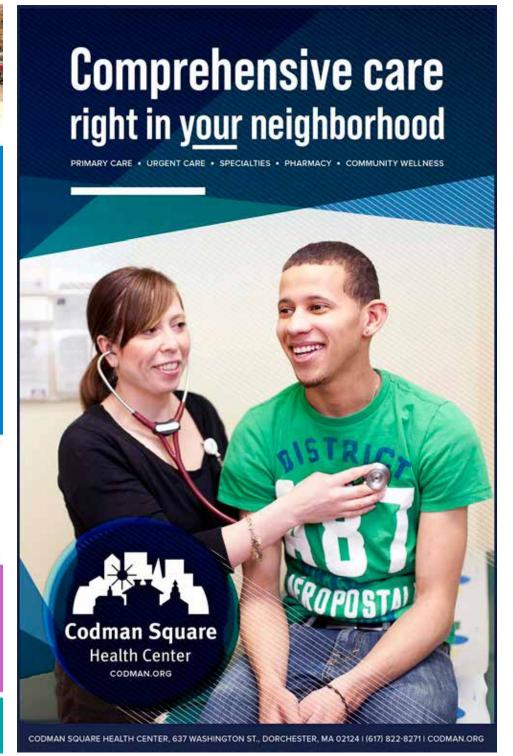
SHOWCASE!

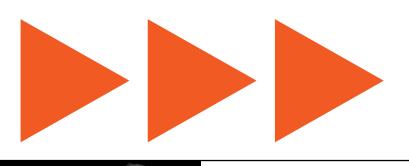
SATURDAY, DEC. 10, 12PM - 4PM BOYS & GIRLS CLUB 15 TALBOT AVE, DORCHESTER, MA 02124

ENTERTAINMENT

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Generously supported by Patti and Jonathan Kraft. Images Top Right: J. R. Eyerman, Audience watches movie wearing 3-D spectacles (detail), 1952. Gelatin silver print. The Howard Greenberg Collection—Museum purchase with funds donated by the Phillip Lern Print Prin

Communities must make ready for migrant arrivals, says Wu

By Chris Lisinski State House News Service

Massachusetts communities will "need to be ahead of the curve" to absorb an influx of asylum-seekers and other migrants expected to continue in the coming months, Mayor Michelle Wu said on Monday.

Boston has welcomed hundreds of new arrivals recently, Wu said, adding that many advocates warn the steady flow of migrants will continue for the next few months. She praised the state's response as "great and amazing," describing a "real acceleration" in standing up housing.

"Over the summer, our hospitals were absorbing much of the intake and community organizations were absorbing much of the intake, connecting people to various shelter options or housing," Wu told WBUR's Radio Boston. "When those frontline organizations reached capacity, then I think we saw the state really step into leadership on this."

Gov. Baker has been pressing for more help from the federal government to support arriving migrants, and he filed a \$139 million spending bill on Nov. 18 that would fund more than 1,300 temporary shelter

units and cover the costs of shelter provider rate increases, a temporary central intake center, and placing new students in local schools.

"The influx of new arrivals and additional families seeking emergency assistance is a humanitarian crisis we must address across the Commonwealth," Baker wrote in a letter to lawmakers alongside the bill.

For all that, top Democrats on Beacon Hill have not mirrored Baker's urgency, sending the legislation to the House Ways and Means Committee for review one week ago and otherwise offering no indication of how or when they plan to act.

"I worry that the flow will continue for the next few months - it's what all the advocates are telling us, that we will need to be ahead of the curve in being able to absorb this capacity," Wu said. "What we see in terms of the speed of action for our immigrant families is exactly what it should be, and we need to do even more. There are many other communities also that need to see that same speed of action."

The Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency, or MEMA, in early December will begin using the Bob Eisengrein Community Center in Devens as an intake center where as many as 60 families or 125 individuals can reside during their first few days in emergency shelter. Officials plan to offer case management and other services at that location before transferring individuals to another emergency site or longer-term housing.

In just a bit more than five weeks, the administration's response to migrant arrivals will become the responsibility of Gov.-elect Maura Healey.

Wu said Monday she still has not held an in-depth meeting with Healey since the Democrat cruised to victory nearly three weeks ago, though they have exchanged "a lot of messages back and forth" and appeared together at a handful of events.

"She needs time to get her transition up and running, to enjoy her Thanksgiving, so I'm ready and eager when we will get the chance to sit down," Wu said. "We were aiming for this week, so we'll see—I think there's a lot happening this week across the city, but sometime in the next couple of weeks, I'm sure that will happen."

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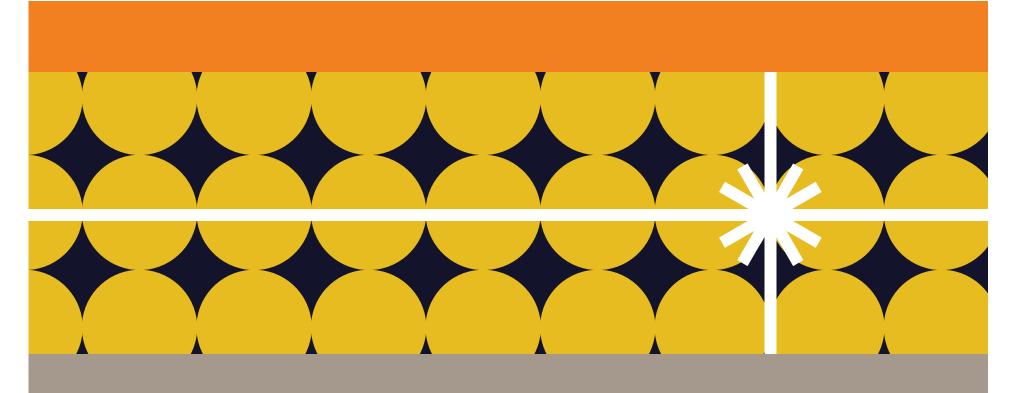
Harbor Point on the Bay, Dorchester, MA



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Page 20 THE REPORTER December 1, 2022 dotnews.com



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