"The News and Values Around the Neighborhood"

Volume 37 Issue 51 Thursday, December 17, 2020 50¢

# THE CAVALRY HAS ARRIVED



# Walsh reinstalls closings for indoor sites as numbers spike

# Stresses on hospitals, system called alarming

By Katie Trojano Reporter Staff

Renewed restrictions on gatherings and businesses kicked into effect in Boston this week as a post-Thanksgiving spike in coronavirus cases and hospitalizations continued to tax the state's health case system, even as new hope arrived on Monday in the form of the Pfizer vaccine.

That same day, Mayor Walsh said the city will return to a modified version of the state's Phase 2, Step 2 reopening plan, which his order put into effect on Wednesday with the likelihood that it could stay in place for at least three weeks, he said.

Indoor dining can continue, Walsh added, although a 90-minute limit for seating would be "strictly enforced," and bar seating will require special approval from city officials. Ordered to close — for at least three weeks: Gyms, indoor theatres, museums, and recreational facilities. Gatherings in private and public settings are required to have no more than 10 people for indoor settings and 25 for outdoor settings, per Walsh's order.

A Covid-19 vaccine shipment arrived at Boston Medical Center on Monday morning. The state's initial round of 59,475 doses, will be delivered to 21 hospitals and the Department of Public Health immunization lab, then redistributed to 74 hospitals across the state for front-line medical workers.

Story, Page 3. WBUR/Jesse Costa photo



Mayor Walsh spoke at Faneuil Hall on Monday.

Isabel Leon photo

Office spaces may remain open at 40 percent capacity, the mayor said, but he urged employers to allow employees to work from home as much as possible.

"Our numbers obviously spiked after Thanksgiving and we've stayed at that elevated level for most of December so far. We're pretty much into our third week of high numbers," Walsh told reporters inside Faneuil Hall.

"More and more people are getting sick and having to go to the hospital, and if these trends continue, it will be a very difficult winter for our hospitals and residents. Our public health officials have been analyzing this data closely and developing a plan. We aren't going to wait until this situation gets worse. We're going to be proactive."

(Continued on page 13)

# 'Community choice' electricity is coming to customers in Boston

By Katie Trojano Reporter Staff

Residents and business in Boston who pay for electricity are being informed by mail of a new city-sponsored program, Community Choice Electricity (CCE), that is aimed at improving Boston's clean energy performance via a bulk purchasing program that allows the city to buy electricity on behalf of those residents and businesses.

The rollout process will automatically enroll them in the program, which is scheduled for launch on Feb. 1, though they will have the opportunity to decline to participate.

The mailings include invitations to online webinars where people can learn about their options.

In a column printed in today's *Reporter*, Mayor Walsh calls the program "another big step" in the city's Climate Action Plan, which commits

(Continued on page 14)



**GIFTING CHOICES** 

The turtles at Phillips Chocolates have long been holiday gift favorites. For more local choices, see Page 6.

All contents
© 2020
Boston
Neighborhood
News, Inc.



Linda Monteiro: "I became a super voter"

# Dot's Electoral 'Collegian' tells of 'surreal' experience

By Daniel Sheehan Reporter Staff

On Monday, all eleven Massachusetts members of the Electoral College cast their votes for President-elect Joe Biden and Vice-President-elect Kamala Harris during an hour-long ceremony in the House chamber that lacked the pomp and circumstance of previous years.

One of the 11 electors was Linda Monteiro, a longtime Dorchester resident, City of Boston employee, and second-generation Cape Verdean-American.

Monteiro was born in Boston and grew up in Connecticut before returning to attend Northeastern University and settling in the Bowdoin-Geneva area of Dorchester, (Continued on page 5)

# Who's looking after your health?

**Choose Your Doctor Today.** 

Call 617-696-8809 for help selecting a Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital-Milton primary care physician or specialist.



# Police, Courts & Fire with rape of former student

A dean at Roxbury's Timilty Middle School has been charged with the rape of a 16-year-old who was a former student at the Timilty. Manuel Mendes, 38, who works as the Dean of Students, was arraigned Tuesday in West Roxbury Court where he was ordered held on \$35,000 bail and told to stay away from the victim and the school.

Suffolk County District Attorney Rachael Rollins said that an investigation revealed text messages that support the victim's allegation that "multiple assaults'occurred "beginning in February 2020 and continuing until the summer." She added, "This is the ultimate betrayal of a child's trust."

Mendes is expected back in court on Jan. 15.

In a statement, Rollins said, "I would like to encourage parents in the Timilty community and everywhere to talk to your children. If they raise any issues that cause concern, families in Suffolk County should reach out to my office or our partners in law enforcement or at the Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) of Suffolk County.

The CAC can be reached at 617-779-2146. Rollins's Child Protection Unit can be reached at 617-619-4300.

The Supreme Judicial Court on Tuesday upheld the first-degree murder conviction of Keron Pierre, who was found guilty of murdering two women and a man in a car on Mt. Ida Road in  $2009. \ {\rm The\ ruling\ means}$ Pierre will spend the rest of his life in jail — with no parole potential— for shooting to death Dhacora Haines, Chantal Palmer, and Anthony People on March 29 of that year. The three victims were in a car getting ready to leave a house party near Mt. Ida and Fox Street. Pierre fled to Trinidad the next day, but was extradited in 2013 and convicted in 2014.

Three men were arrested by Boston Police on Dec. 12 during an early morning "drug control unit" action on Quincy Street. According to a BPD account, the target of an ongoing investigation into alleged illicit drug dealing — Emanuel Pires, 32—was arrested. Two other men- Javar Barrows, 26, and Elber Silva, 26- were also arrested in "connection to this investigation."

Seized at the scene at 363 Quincy St were "approximately 16 lbs. of marijuana, a loaded 9mm Glock 26 handgun equipped with a drum style magazine with an estimated 50 round capacity, as well as a large amount of US currency and assorted drug paraphernalia."

# Codman Sq. cannabis store Timilty School dean charged gets a Zoning Board okay

By Katie Trojano REPORTER STAFF

A recreational cannabis store at 517B Washington St. in Codman Square last Tuesday won unanimous approval to move forward from members of the city's Zoning Board of Appeal.

Low Key Dispensary plans to convert an existing two-story building into a 17,000-square-foot retail space above 17,000 square feet of storage space. It also received a letter of approval from the Boston Cannabis Board last week.

The store plans to be open 7 days a week from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

We are going to see how the customer flow is and make adjustments accordingly as to how we will reduce hours," said Jeff Similian, chief operating officer of Low Key LLC.

The team also plans to encourage pre-ordering of its products, so that people are in and out



The storefront in Codman Square— the former site of XO Restaurant- will be converted into a recreational marijuana store.

quickly and long lines do not form around the building. Similian noted that Shawmut MBTA station is also close by [several blocks to the east] and also that there is a municipal lot along the left side of the building attached to an unoccupied storefront. He added that a bike rack would be located at the rear of the building.

"There are about 40 spaces in there and we plan on utilizing that space," he said.

Deliveries would be accessible through Aspinwall Road, and schedules would avoid peak traffic and business hours, he said, adding that multiple security employees would be on site at all times, and a Boston Police detail would be on duty for the dispensary's first month of operation.

While several people offered support of the proposal during the virtual meeting, there were eight letters of opposition received.

Chantal Lima Barbosa, from the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services, said that while

the Codman Square Neighborhood Council opposes cannabis establishments in the area, the mayor's office would be supporting this proposal.

"We acknowledge that this is an equity applicant that has been approved by the Boston Cannabis Board," she said. "Additionally, this proposal is located in a business district and will stimulate economic development."

Rudy Lambert, a Dorchester resident, said he thought that the proposal would bring jobs to the community and help those who were negatively impacted by the war on drugs.

"I think it would be great for the community and that they would do a lot of good work regarding hiring in the minority aspect and also just providing good space for their employees and the community," he said.

## T board approves service cuts in aiming to reduce 2021 costs

By Chris Lisinski STATE HOUSE News Service

Despite strong pushback, the MBTA is barreling ahead with significant service reductions for early next year, cutting the frequency of subway and bus trips, some commuter rail weekend service, ferry schedules, and more in a move to reduce costs amid a pandemic-fueled budget crunch.

With a 3-2 vote that capped off months of planning, public outcry and debate, the T's Fiscal and Management Control Board on Monday approved virtually all of the changes that MBTA staff had proposed, resurfacing long-simmering frustrations over the transit agency's funding and leaving unclear when or how services will be restored.

The board made a handful of changes aimed at keeping some commuter rail service after 9 p.m., setting a target date for determining if the agency needs to increase service, and ensuring that fare hikes which had not been recently proposed — will not factor into the agency's upcoming budget deliberations.

Cuts set to hit in January and March are scaled back from an earlier proposal and aimed only at the second half of fiscal year 2021. MBTA officials plan to decide in the spring whether to keep them in place, restore some service, or implement additional cuts in FY22, which begins July 1.

"Part of the reason why we have somewhat bifurcated the decision-making in this process is we want to see what we learn over the next few months," MBTA General Manager Steve Poftak told reporters ahead of Monday's meeting.

Under the plan unveiled and approved on Monday, the T will halt weekend commuter rail service on all but five lines starting in January, as well as reduce Hingham and Hull ferry service and cut all Charlestown and Hingham direct ferry service to Boston. Weekend service will remain available, but less frequent, on the Worcester, Providence, Newburyport/Rockport, Middleborough, and Fairmount Lines, which officials say together represent about two-thirds of the commuter rail's COVID-era weekend ridership.

Other major changes will hit in March: 20 bus routes will be eliminated; frequency will drop 20 percent on non-essential bus routes and 5 percent on essential bus routes; gaps between Red, Orange, and Green Line trains will increase 20 percent; Blue Line trains will run up to 5 percent less frequently; and more commuter rail cuts will arrive, including possible reductions in service after 9 p.m.

Commuter rail operator Keolis cut the system's weekday schedule by more than half this week to cope with a Covid-fueled staffing shortage. Citing "low employee availability because of Covid-19 absences," the company said it would slash regu $lar\,weekday\,service\,from$ 541 trains to 246 trains for at least two weeks. The change went into effect on Monday.

### December 17, 2020

Boys & Girls Club News 17
Opinion/Editorial/Letters 8
Business Directory14
Obituaries 18
Days Remaining Until
First Day of Winter4
Christmas8
New Year's Eve7
M.L. King Jr. Day25
Quadricentennial of Dot 3,661

Dorchester Reporter (USPS 009-687)

Published Weekly Periodical postage paid at Boston, MA.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: 150 Mt. Vernon St., Suite 120, Dorchester, MA 02125

Mail subscription rates \$50 per year, payable in advance. Make checks and money orders payable to The Dorchester Reporter and mail to: 150 Mt. Vernon St., Suite 560, Dorchester,

News Room: (617) 436-1222 ADVERTISING: (617) 436-1222 Fax Phone: (617) 825-5516 Subscriptions: (617) 436-1222

## UPCOMING CIVIC MEETINGS AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

Fuel assistance available — ABCD urges low-income individuals and families who are struggling to get by to apply for home heating assistance. To keep everyone safe during the pandemic, ABCD fuel assistance staff members are taking most applications over the phone by calling 617-357-6012. A fuel assistance staff member will take down application information and explain how to provide documentation, including mailing it, leaving it in a drop-box at ABCD headquarters, photographing and sending from their phones and other options. Applicants can go to bostonabcd. org for more info. There is a wide range of eligibility based on income and number of household members. Read the guidelines at masscap.org. ABCD pays the household's fuel vendor directly. Right now the maximum fuel assistance benefit is \$875. Last year the top benefit was \$1,140.

"City Hall" documentary — WGBH 2



will broadcast the premiere of Frederick Wiseman's "City Hall," a four-and-a-halfhour documentary that illustrates how municipal government touches residents' lives, on Tues., Dec. 22 at 8 p.m. The documentary follows Mayor Martin Walsh and his administration's work in

Through filmmaking Wiseman, himself a Boston native, hopes to show how city government touches upon almost every aspect of their lives, acknowledging how necessary services like sanitation, veterans affairs, elder support, parks,

licensing bureaus, record-keeping, as well as a myriad of other activities that support the citizenry, are often taken for granted.

'City Hall," Wiseman's 45th film, has been screened at film festivals worldwide, including the Venice Film Festival, the Toronto International Film Festival, the New York Film Festival, IDFA, and others. Free Saturday meter parking— The City of Boston will provide two hours of free parking at the city's 8,000 metered spaces on Saturdays during the holiday season. The program began on Nov. 28 and runs through Dec. 26. While payment at meters will not be required on these five days, the time limit on the meters will be in effect.

Covid-19 tests, Flu vaccine at Russell Auditorium — The Codman Square Health Center is offering Covid-19 testing and flu vaccines to the community by appointment at the Russell Auditorium, 70 Talbot Ave., Dorchester on Monday,

Tuesday and Thursdays from 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Wednesdays 10:30 a.m.- 7 p.m.; alternating Fridays 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and on select Saturdays (Dec. 5 and 19) from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Call 617-822-8271 to schedule.

Black Nativity moves online — The National Center of Afro-American Artists (NCAAA) celebrates the 50th season of Black Nativity, the Langston Hughes songplay, which has been performed in Boston since 1970, on Fri., Dec. 18 at 6 p.m. with a virtual gala. The event will include an online art auction and the premiere of the digital film "Black Nativity: 50 Years of Triumphs and Transition." Register at blacknativity50.org.

SEND UPDATES TO NEWSEDITOR@DOTNEWS.COM **SEE NEW EVENTS DAILY** AT DOTNEWS.COM

## D-Day: Corona virus vaccine arrives for front-line workers, long-term patients

By Katie Lannan and MICHAEL P. NORTON STATE HOUSE NEWS SERVICE

As the first Covid-19 vaccines began arriving in Massachusetts on Monday, a 96-year-old World War II veteran in Bedford became the first VA patient in the country to get the shot. The VA Bedford Healthcare system announced the milestone over social media, posting that Margaret Klessens, a resident of the Community Living Center in the Edith Nourse Rogers Memorial Veterans Hospital, had received the shot at 12:07 p.m.

The Bedford system is one of 37 VA sites the US Department of Veterans Affairs tapped to receive its first doses of Covid-19 vaccines for front-line health care workers and long-termcare residents.

Massachusetts ordered its initial round of 59,475 doses of Pfizer vaccines, which received emergency use authorization from the Food and Drug Administration on Friday, from the federal government on Dec. 4. Those doses, according to Gov. Baker's office, will be delivered to 21 hospitals and the Department of Public Health immunization lab, then redistributed to 74 hospitals across the state for front-line medical

The next 40,000 doses of Pfizer vaccines "will be allocated to the Federal Pharmacy Program to begin vaccinating staff and residents of skilled nursing facilities, rest homes, and assisted living residences," Baker's office said on Dec. 9.

Boston Medical Center received 1,950 doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine on Monday morning, a spokesman confirmed. "Beginning Wednesday, we will begin the first wave of vaccinations to front line health care workers, a group including doctors and nurses from our ICU and **Emergency Department** and patient floors that treat Covid-19 patients, but just as importantly, employees from environmental and support services, and other crucial positions that work in Covid-positive patient areas," the hospital said.

Massachusetts officials expect to receive 300,000 first doses of the two-shot vaccine by the end of the month. The Massachusetts Health & Hospital Association on Monday trumpeted the Friday vote by the Food & Drug Administration to approve the vaccine for Boston Medical Center pharmacy technical work-

er William Senior removed two trays of Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine, each containing 975 doses, from the box it arrived in Monday morning.

Jesse Costa/WBUR photo

emergency use, writing in its newsletter that health care workers and long-term care facility residents "can expect to get vaccinated as early as this week."

The MHA said one concern of its vaccine workgroup, which has about 80 members from nearly all hospitals across the state, is that the two-dose

vaccine, delivered about three weeks apart, "has been reported to cause some recipients discomfort for a day or more after the initial dose — a similar reaction to other viral vaccines."

Hospitals plan to stagger vaccine delivery to avoid gaps in their workforce if employees take a sick day, the MHA said.

# BMC doctor discusses plans for distribution of the vaccine

By Sharon Brody and DEREK J. ANDERSON WBUR

Now that the Food and Drug Administration has authorized emergency use of the first Covid-19 vaccine in the United States, health care workers will be among the first to get the vaccine. Dr. Cassandra Pierre, an infectious disease physician at Boston Medical Center who serves as the acting hospital epidemiologist, joined WBUR's Sharon Brody on Dec. 12 to discuss how the hospital plans to distribute the vaccine, and how health care workers are feeling about receiving it.

On vaccine availability for BMC workers who care directly for coronavirus-positive patients:

"We do not anticipate that [frontline-facing health care workers will be unable to get the vaccine]. What we're actually anticipating is that not everyone will be able to get their dose — their vaccine — within the first week or two weeks. It might be a month. It might be two months to get everyone actively vaccinated. It really depends on how much we get up front. But we do anticipate that we will be able to sufficiently cover everyone who is frontline-facing, who is caring for patients — especially those who are caring for Covid-positive patients. I should say, we really want to get everyone who is caring for patients, period, covered in the next few months.

"... But more than that, this is really about health care personnel, not just people who are providers or nurses. This is also very much about our support staff, certified nursing assistants, medical assistance, but also our environmental service workers, our food service workers. All of us have some risk of ... getting Covid.

On concerns about side effects and whether they might tempo-



Dr. Cassandra Pierre is an infectious disease physician at Boston Medical Center who serves as the acting hospital epidemiologist.

rarily incapacitate health care workers:

"This is actually one of our biggest concerns. We know that — having looked at the data — the vaccine is safe. But up to maybe, even up to 50 percent of people combined in the Moderna and the Pfizer trials, have experienced these side effects, which are common among people who get vaccines in general.

"Of course, we're concerned about the severe allergy that has been reported in the UK. But other than that, we're not as concerned... The concern, obviously, is the overlap in between the symptoms, the adverse events that you could be seeing as a normal course of having received a vaccine, and symptoms for Covid. So that's the fever, the body aches, the fatigue. So we have set up a system where ... we're... educating our staff, that if you develop a fever, if you develop maybe severe symptoms, we do want you to take some time off and we want you to get tested for Covid. So clearly that could quickly destabilize the workforce.

"In order to avoid that, hopefully, we are planning on staggering the doses. So not everyone in the same work group gets vaccinated at that certain time: that would be a recipe for disaster. [We're] trying to get people to get vaccinated right before they go off service or before the weekends so that people have time to recover and get over those side effects

before they have to come back to work.

On hospital workers expressing anxiety about the vaccine:

You know, I think that the decision to vaccinate health care workers first is really essential for three reasons. I mean, obviously, we want to make sure that we maintain our health care worker force, that we preserve their safety and their health, that they don't become infected with Covid during this critical period when we need them to take care of our patients. We also want to make sure that our patients are aware this is a safe place to come. The majority of health care workers have been vaccinated. You are safe to come into the space. But the third important reason, that kind of gets to what you're talking about, is we want our health care workers to serve as both indirect and direct spokespeople for the safety and efficacy of this vaccine, to show Americans, 'Yes, we believe in this so much that we ourselves are getting vaccinated to show you that it is safe and we believe in this.' And part of that is making sure that we can promote vaccine confidence among our own health care workers.

"And just as a sidebar, we know that many of the people in the hospital, like myself, are Black or belong to Black and brown communities, belong to communities that have been marginalized. And so we reflect our patient population.

We want to make sure that we also can speak to the lived experience of [being] a part of a group that has been experimented on, who has been marginalized, that has been disenfranchised for medical care, but [who want] to ... ensure our safety — our own individual safety and the safety of our communities and speak with knowledge, and speak with confidence to the fact that this is something that is going to safeguard our communities this year and for years to come."

On the most fair and helpful way to distribute the vaccine:

"Yeah, I think this is something we've been struggling with. I think one of the things that we have been hoping to use to our advantage is this concept of a vulnerability index that the CDC has conceived and utilized to identify where the hot spots will be. So that social or community vulnerability index really refers to a set of factors that might leave a community vulnerable to Covid or really any other health disparities.

"What is the density of housing in one area? Are people living in multigenerational households? What are the percentage of people that work in the essential fields that mean that they cannot quarantine safely at home? What are the language barriers? What is the percentage of people who live below

the poverty line?

"We know the factors that put people at risk, not just for Covid, but for other kinds of chronic diseases and health disparities. How can we use that index to more effectively target those areas or those individuals who are going to really benefit the most?

This story was published by WBUR 90.9FM on Dec. 12. The Reporter  $and \, WBUR \, share \, content$ through a media partnership.





see schedule of fees for details. Gift is awarded when account is opened. Please note, in the event the value of the free gift exceeds \$10, the bank is required to report the gift value on form 1099-INT. The recipient is responsible for all applicable taxes. Bank rules and regulations apply. Ask a representative for details.



Page 4 THE REPORTER December 17, 2020 dotnews.com



# One child, one teacher, one book, one pen can change the world.

—Malala Yousafzai



# Season's Greetings from the UMass Boston community to yours



www.umb.edu

## Dot's Electoral 'Collegian' tells of 'surreal' experience



Linda Monteiro, a longtime Dorchester resident, cast her vote as a member of the Electoral College in the Massachusetts State House on Monday.

where she has lived with her family for the last 27

A first-time elector, she said she campaigned for the position back in August with the hopes of making a difference. "I wanted to be part of this historic moment, because I wanted to be the one to actually cast the vote to move this country along and for us to transition, she said.

Monteiro now is hoping to bring more awareness to the Electoral College and how electors participate in that process. "It's such an obscure type of thing," she told the Reporter. "People don't know too much about it, including myself. It seems almost like a secret society. People don't know about it, or how to apply for it. I didn't know much about it until I became part of it." Monteiro admitted she's "not a fan" of the Electoral

Image courtesy Universal Hub (Continued from page 1) College and wouldn't mind if it was abolished, but added that "if it does continue, I would love to see more people who look like me." She has extensive experience volunteering for political campaigns and advocating for voting rights and voter activism. Playing such a key role in the democratic process, she explained, is special for her as a daughter of parents who valued their civic duty.

"My parents, when they became citizens, were very appreciative of becoming citizens. That's where I got my sense that I needed to do more for my community. They voted every cycle, they felt voting was the way they paid back for being in this country, so they made it their civic duty to do that. That's why I became a super voter, and I hope my children will follow my lead." The atmosphere in the

House chamber Monday was "surreal," said Monteiro, with only the electors allowed in the room and speeches being delivered through masks. She noted in her speech the significance of representing communities in Dorchester and Boston at large, with the majority of other electors hailing from elsewhere in the commonwealth. "I noted in my speech that I'm a lifelong Democrat from Dorchester. I grew up loving this place, and I'm proud to be from where I am," she said. In the end, Monteiro said casting the vote represented a moment of catharsis after she grew exhausted from the policies and rhetoric of the Trump administration. "I wanted to see the end come, and I wanted to be one of the people who did it," she said." Biden handily won

Massachusetts with 65 percent of the vote, or 2,382,202 ballots, while President Trump managed to secure 32 percent of the vote, or 1,167,202 ballots, out of the total of 3.6 million cast. And Biden triumphed over Trump, 306-232, in the national Electoral College vote tally on Monday.

Reports from State House News Service staff contributed to this article.

## **WE CAN HELP PAY YOUR HEATING BILLS!**

You may qualify for ABCD's Fuel Assistance **Program** and be eligible for as much as \$600 towards your heating costs (oil, gas, or electric).

## Maximum benefit is \$600

Household of 1 = \$39,105 *Household of 2 = \$51,137 Household of 3 = \$63,169* 

Household of 4 = \$75,201

Cold days are coming. ABCD's got you covered.

## **APPLY TODAY!**

Last day to apply is April 30, 2021

Residents of Boston, Brookline, and Newton: 178 Tremont Street, Boston, MA — 617.357.6012

Residents of Malden, Medford, Everett, Melrose, Stoneham, Winchester and Woburn: 18 Dartmouth Street, Malden, MA — 781.322.6284

abod | bostonabcd.org/fuel-assistance 178 Tremont Street Boston MA 02111



# **Holiday Help Is** Here!

as low as 5.19% APR\* u

up to \$5,000 up to 12 Months

Apply online at memberspluscu.org and you could be approved – INSTANTLY!

To all of our friends and neighbors, we wish you a warm and joyous holiday season and the wish of a much safer and happier New Year!

Your Friends & Neighbors at Members Plus Credit Union



To us, banking is personal.

**Local & Trusted** memberspluscu.org

**BETTER RATES** 

FREE CHECKING

LARGE ATM NETWORK

**MOBILE APP** 

\*APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Payments for 5.19% APR for 12-months are approximately \$85.70 per month per \$1,000 borrowed. Terms up to 12 months. Minimum loan amount \$500 and maximum loan amount \$5,000. APR is based upon credit score. Rates listed above reflect excellent credit scores. Rates effective October 13, 2020 and subject to change without notice. Offer valid through 01/01/2021. Membership requires a \$25 deposit in a share/savings account.







Page 6 THE REPORTER **December 17, 2020** dotnews.com

# Holiday suggestion: Hunt for those gifts in your zip code

By Daniel Sheehan REPORTER STAFF

This year's holiday season offers us a chance to support local businesses and entrepreneurs who have seen their incomes and lifestyles disrupted by the pandemic. If you're inclined to channel your spirit of giving toward your Dorchester neighbors, here are some suggestions for when you're looking for last minute stocking stuffers this week and next.



**Support Local Art** at DAP - Now with a shiny new storefront in Fields Corner and a well-stocked online store to match, Dorchester Art Project offers a one-stop shop for products made by locally based artists. Patrons can browse an impressive collection of music, paintings, apparel, and accessories, including local brands oftea, skincare products, and herbal remedies, as well as assorted crafts and arts supplies.

Plus, shopping at DAP is a surefire way to make sure your money is going to the artists' pockets: the shop's base revenue model constitutes a 30-70 split to the artists, so not only is much of your plus you'll have a free purchase price going directly to the creator, it's also benefiting an important community arts organization.

Phillips Chocolate Turtles - Phillips Chocolates — formerly known as Phillips Candy House— has been supplying Dot's sweet-tooth set with their fix since 1952. They've developed a much bigger following over the decades and their signature chocolate turtles made it onto Oprah's Favorite Things list a few years back. These days, they do a heavy trade in online orders, but lucky you: their store at 818 Morrissey - a few steps from Boston Bowl- is open and ready to fill your stocking. They also have some excellent holiday gift basket options.



A gift card to your favorite eatery-Local restaurants are depending on us to make it through this winter, and gift cards are a great way to provide a boost from the safety of your home. This is one way to help these establishments stay afloat through what looks to be some long winter months ahead, meal to look forward to once warm weather returns. Some local eateries offering gift cards include Ashmont Grill, Tavolo, Bowery, The Industry, Shanti, Dorchester Brewing Co./M&M BBQ, 50 Kitchen, 224 Boston, Lower Mills Tavern, and tons more.

**Atrinket from Cedar** Grove Gardens - The



popular shop on Adams Street is a seasonal favorite for holiday decorations like trees, wreaths, and poinsettias. But it's also a great place for gift ideas from ornaments to candles to calendars and more, many of which are locally sourced. Cedar Grove Gardens also offers non-contact deliveries for those who prefer to have plants or gifts brought to their front door, hassle-free. You can also pick up a 2021 Dorchester calendar featuring the artwork of Dot's own Celia Mc-Donough.

Dot apparel from food business incubator College Hype – This



shop is a gold mine for neighborhood-themed apparel and has plenty to offer in terms of holiday gift ideas. Need a Dorchester winter hat for when you're digging out your car? They have it. Have the urge to curl up and watch Wahlberg flicks in a Dot Rat hoodie? No problem. If somehow you read those two suggestions and thought, 'Those aren't Dorchester enough,'how about an OFD-branded flask? All those and more are available at collegehype.com and at the company's headquarters on Gallivan Boulevard.



Commonwealth Kitchen Gift Box-This year the Quincy Street is offering "Made in Boston" holiday gift boxes filled with products from local chefs and entrepreneurs. Commonwealth Kitchen's \$50 Small Gift Box and \$75 Large Gift Box each include a variety of locally sourced cookies, teas, sauces, condiments, and other treats. Gifting one of these boxes to a friend or loved one is a great way to support CW's mission of building a just and equitable food economy by helping women, people of color, and immigrants build successful food businesses.

A Dorchester Historical Society Memento -This year the Dorchester Historical Society is offering a variety of holiday-themed gifts through its online shop. Mugs, trivets, and Christmas ornaments each recall a different facet of the Dorchester scene. Or for the history buff in your life, gift them a collection of antique postcards or a personalized research dive into the past life of their historic home.

Donate to a local **nonprofit** – With revenue streams and other sources of funding cut off because of the pandemic,



many neighborhood nonprofits are struggling to continue their missions this year. Consider making your gift a donation to one of these vital organizations that provide services and necessities for our neighbors at a time when they are needed most.

Some to consider: The Food Project, Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester, Found in Translation. The Louis D. Brown Peace Institute, Catholic Charities, Roca, Inc., the Dorchester Youth Collaborative, Rosie's Place, VietAID, The Boston Project Ministries, Horizons for Homeless Children, Lovely Sisters of Boston, Mujeres Unidas Avanzando. Pine Street Inn, and the Martin Richard Foundation.

## Carney earns 'A' grade for patient safety efforts

Dorchester's Carney Hospital has once again earned an 'A' for achieving the highest national standards in patient

safety from The Leapfrog Group, a non-profcollects and monitors

nationally.

"Patient safety is our it organization that number one priority at Carney Hospital and hospital performance across all Steward hos-



Order online or by phone **Dorchester Reporter recommends Dot Dining & Take-Away Guide Great Dining in the neighborhood** 

### Ashmont Grill

Year round outdoor dining w/heated Private Cubby Full menu available for online ordering or delivery Thu-Mon 5-10, Sun 11-3 brunch, 5-8 dinner ashmontgrill.com Phone: 617-825-4300

### **Tavolo Ristaurante & Bar**

Family Size options available totake out Book your reservations on RESY Tues-Sat 5-10 TavoloPizza.com Phone: 617-822-1918

DotNews/ Dorchester Reporter supports local restaurants To advertise here, call 617-436-1222 addesk@dotnews.com



# **Now Offering Telehealth Services**

Elliott Physical Therapy is owned by a Milton family with

over 25 years of physical therapy experience. We provide orthopedic physical therapy

by licensed physical therapists to children, teens and adults.

To schedule an appointment please call 617-696-8141! Worried about a nagging injury? Call for free injury screen today.

elliott PHYSICAL THERAPY

475 Adams Street 480 Adams Street Milton, MA 02186

617-696-8141

Fax: 617-322-1079

www.elliottphysicaltherapy.com

pitals. To be honored with an 'A' grade from Leapfrog reflects that steadfast commitment - even during difficult times," said Tom Sands, president of Carney Hospital.

"This has been a challenging year, and we're extremely proud of the world-class expertise and services our community-based hospital has been able to provide our patients through it all," he added. "With our 'A' score, we will continue to provide top quality care to our community.'

"Hospitals that earn an 'A' grade are making it a priority to protect patients from preventable medical harm and error," explained Leah Binder, president and CEO of The Leapfrog Group. "We congratulate hospital leaders, board members, staff, volunteers and clinicians who work so hard to earn this A."

Developed under the guidance of a National Expert Panel, the Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade uses 28 measures of publicly available hospital safety data to assign grades to more than 2,600 US acutecare hospitals twice per vear.

To see Carney Hospital's full grade details, and to access patient tips for staying safe in the hospital, visit hospitalsafetygrade.org.

# Reporter's People

## News about people in and around our Neighborhoods

# Dot fifth grader featured in 'Starry Night' choir concert

This Saturday (Dec. 19), Dorchester resident and fifth-grade student James Keough will feature in "Starry Night," a filmed production of the annual Christmas Concert performed by the boys choir at St. Paul's Choir School in Cambridge.

Keough, 10, initially began singing in shows at Pope John Paul's Neponset campus before joining the St. Paul's choir a year and a half ago. He also studied drums and piano at Boston School of Music in Lower Mills for five years.

This year, the Harvard Square concert that normally draws around 800 people is instead switching to a livestream digital format so that music lovers can experience the concert from home.



Dorchester's James Keough, center, is shown in an earlier, pre-Covid performance with the boys choir at St. Paul's Choir School in Cambridge. mage courtesy St. Paul's Choir School

Keough said filming the live production was memorable but difficult given takes of each song.

"It was very hard to do it because of Covid, the struggle to get perfect we had to keep on doing

cuts and the openings," he explained. "It took two days to film it but in the end it was worth it."

The performance takes its inspiration from Vincent Van Gogh's painting masterpiece "Starry Night," depicting the wonder found in the night sky and embracing the spirit of Christmas celebration. Fifteen musical selections include perennial Christmas favorites by Johann Sebastian Bach and modern-day compositions of John Rutter, as well as original arrangements by SPCS Music Director James Kennerley and Theodore Marier, SPCS founder.

Keough said his favorite piece to sing was "Personent Hodie," an original piece written in Latin by Kennerley.

The event will be livestreamed at 7 p.m. and is available to access via christmasinharvardsquare.com or through the St. Paul's Choir School You Tube channel.



From left: Jalil Presley-Rogers, Kymani Williams, Jamaal Bonnette, Jahkye Icart, Jaleese Young. Daniel Sheehan photo

# Dot's Tai joins King Boston team

Dorchester's Tammy Tai is the new Deputy Director of King Boston, the non-profit organization that works to honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Coretta Scott King. She serves on the faculty of the Institute for Nonprofit Practice and is an Adjunct Lecturer on Education at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. She has a B.A. in sociology from Harvard University and an M.B.A. from the Heller School for Social Policy and Management at Brandeis University. Raised in New York, Tammy is the first generation of an immigrant family from Jamaica



Tammy Tai

and lives in Dorchester with her three teenage children and spouse.

On Jan. 18, Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday, King Boston will be holding a virtual dedication ceremony for "The Embrace memorial, a 22-foot-high monument on Boston Common consisting of four intertwined bronze arms intended to inspire

the social justice values the Kings espoused. The virtual celebration will feature political, civic and cultural voices sharing sentiments and values that the Kings have instilled as part of their legacy in Boston.

"I am excited to bring my experience to the transformative work needed to shift wealth, housing, racial equity, and public education here in Boston," said Tai. "We look forward to partnering with BIPOC communities in the city as we consider how to disrupt the systems of inequity in order to create meaningful, lasting change grounded in economic justice."

# Dot teen designed new mural at Bridge Boston Charter School

By Daniel Sheehan REPORTER STAFF

With Covid-19 bringing changes to teaching as we know it, Jamaal Bonnette, an art teacher at Bridge Boston Charter School in Roxbury, has been meeting the challenge of keeping kids engaged through virtual classes — a tall task for anyone. So. when a building manager suggested he convert a storage container on campus into a mural art project, Bonnette jumped at the chance.

"I'm a hands-on teacher, and they were familiar with me doing art outdoors in the past, so this was right up my alley," said Bonnette.

Over the last several weeks, Bonnette worked together with a handful of 8th grade students to design and paint a mural on one of the storage pods that had

excess desks in anticipation of a switch to Bridge," said Young, hybrid learning. Paint- who explained that the ing outside in a safe trophies paid tribute to environment gave the kids a needed outlet and a goal-oriented project they could be proud of, he explained.

"It was a long, difficult six weeks trying to teach remotely. This project gave them some motivation and made their engagement better, and it's so special that I was able to share the experience with them."

Jaleese Young, a 13-year-old from Dorchester, submitted the art design that was ultimately chosen by Bonnette for the mural: a background of vertical and horizontal stripes with a pair of trophies and a jaguar the school's mascot — in the center.

"The mural represents

been brought in to store a lot of what we students have been through at the school's basketball and step teams, which each won their respective championships last year. "I knew if I wanted it to pop, it had to have stripes. I really wanted to show people my creativity."

Principal Will Carter said the mural reinforces the core "Jaguar values" - joy, achievement, generosity, unity, acceptance, and resilience.

"It was a great way to build Bridge pride, and do so in a safe way," he said. "And on top of that, it's a nice way of beautifying the community."

Added Young: "This is something I can say I did. It's about being able to set a goal and accomplish it.'

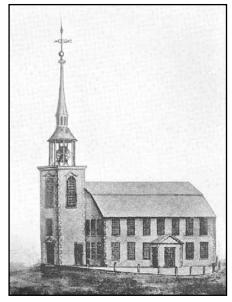
## YESTERYEAR ARCHIVE

**DORCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY** A church of many moves: 1630-1897

In 1630, on the eve of the sailing of the Mary and John from England to the Massachusetts Bay Colony, the First Parish Church congregation was formed. After their arrival in early June of 1630, the new settlers built houses for themselves and a meeting house for worship. The first building was located near the intersection of present-day Pleasant, Pond, and Cottage Streets, which was replaced by a new building in 1645 at the same location. This meeting house was moved by oxen to "Meeting-House" Hill to a location on the east side of Winter Street, in 1670. Eight years later, a new and larger meeting house was built on the northwest corner of Church and Winter Streets.

In 1743, a new meeting house was built on what is now the Town Common. The eastern entrance was about where the Soldiers Monument now stands. The building was 68 feet long, 46 feet wide, and 104 feet high at the top of the weathervane. This is the building pictured in today's image.

That building was enlarged in 1795, and then replaced in 1816 on the site where the current First



First Parish Church in 1743

Parish Church now stands. The 1816 church lasted until 1896, when it burned down and was replaced the following year by the building we

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

Page 8 THE REPORTER December 17, 2020 dotnews.com

### **Editorial**

# RIP, Bruce Seals, a Dorchester legend

The news radiated across the neighborhood on Tuesday afternoon and, for so many of us, it was a gut punch: Bruce Seals, the Louisiana native who had made the Boys and Girls Clubs of Dorchester his professional home since 1990 and from there helped raise thousands of our kids, was dead at age 67.

One of the many indignities of this cruel year is that most of us didn't know that Bruce was suffering from cancer. Bob Scannell, the head of the Boys and Girls Club who worked alongside Bruce for three decades at the Deer Street campus, was stunned that his friend and colleague was suddenly gone. How could it be?

Those who crossed paths with Bruce will likely never forget their first encounter. His was a towering presence. At 6-foot-8, he sometimes had to negotiate himself into a room, like a two-act play. On the basketball court as a young man, he was a daunting presence who imposed his will on oppo-



Bruce Seals

dominant fashion.

For all that, off the court, Bruce Seals was one of the gentlest, kindest souls you'd ever be likely to meet. And over his 30 years in Dorchester, the novelty of his NBA stardom gave way to a new distinction. He was a lynchpin player on the Deer Street Dream Team, the core, five-person roster that has led what may just be our neighborhood's most critical institution: Mike (Joyce), Bob (Scannell),

shot shows him stuffing

Julius Erving, Dr. J., in

Mary (Kinsella), Queenie (Santos). And Bruce.

This writer had the pleasure of meeting Bruce on one of his first days in Dorchester. I was a high school junior "working" in the games room at what was back then called the Marr Club. I wrote a story for the Reporter—likely my first byline here—about the former Seattle SuperSonic who was now in charge of the gym, with the title of assistant athletic director. Bruce's Bayou drawl seemed dipped in molasses. No one in Dorchester that I knew spoke like him.

Bruce was kind. He doted on the young ones and seemed to know all of their names, a real feat since when the clubhouse was in full summertime swing, you're talking hundreds of kids per hour. Bruce seemed to be laughing to himself, perpetually amused by the stream of young humans who bounced through his doors and lifted his spirits.

It wasn't always easy to chuckle in the early 1990s, when street gangs were more prevalent and strict rules about hats and colors needed to be enforced at the club's doors. Bruce's easy-going nature could turn stern when needed— and it was at times. Getting summonsed into Bruce's office, tucked into a corner right off the gym floor, was no doubt an existential experience for many a member.

Bruce helped to create the club's signature program of the 1990s— Safe Summer Streets— and much of it revolved around basketball. This was Bruce's passion: teaching kids and teens the game of basketball. Many went on to play college ball and can thank Coach Seals for the degrees on their walls. Thousands more simply learned how to have fun, secure in the fact that they were safe in Bruce's house.

Losing him is a blow that won't be fully felt until we're all back in the gym, retiring his number, which is, of course, what must happen. There'll never be another Bruce Seals.

- Bill Forry

## The Reporter

"The News & Values Around the Neighborhood"
A publication of Boston Neighborhood News Inc.

150 Mt. Vernon St., Dorchester, MA 02125
Worldwide at dotnews.com
Mary Casey Forry, Publisher (1983-2004)
William P. Forry, Publisher/Editor
Edward W. Forry, Associate Publisher
Thomas F. Mulvoy, Jr., Associate Editor
Barbara Langis, Production Manager
Jack Conboy, Advertising Manager

Maureen Forry-Sorrell, Advertising Sales
News Room Phone: 617-436-1222, ext. 17
Advertising: 617-436-1222 x14 E-mail: newseditor@dotnews.com
The Reporter is not liable for errors appearing in
advertisements beyond the cost of the space occupied by the error.
The right is reserved by The Reporter to edit, reject, or cut any copy without notice.
Member: Dorchester Board of Trade, Mattapan Board of Trade
Next Issue: Thursday, December 24, 2020

Next week's Deadline: Monday, December 21 at 4 p.m.
Published weekly on Thursday mornings
All contents © Copyright 2020 Boston Neighborhood News, Inc.

## How Dorchester Bay City can be the beginning for a new Boston

By Imari Paris Jeffries

In 1966, a year after Martin Luther King Jr. came to Boston for the historic Freedom Rally march for fair housing, education reform, poverty reduction, and race equity, he went to Chicago to help local leaders fight discriminatory housing practices, one of the many ways that racism manifested itself in northern cities like Boston.



**Imari Paris Jeffries** 

The Chicago campaign set the stage for national housing discrimination reform. As the country lay in mourning and crisis after Dr. King's assassination on April 4, 1968, Congress moved to pass the Fair Housing Act, a law designed to safeguard people from racism and discrimination when looking to rent, buy, or finance a home.

But no single law could undo what decades of inequity and

predatory practices had done to low-income people and people of color. Today, researchers from the National Community Reinvestment Coalition rank Boston as the third most gentrified city in the country. Our current fight against rampant gentrification and for affordable housing can be traced to wide-spread discriminatory housing policies in the mid-20th century. Predominantly Black neighborhoods like Roxbury were redlined, denying residents the full benefits of homeownership. Predatory lending practices, artificially high-interest rates, and sales schemes resulted in home repossession, community instability, and created a subset of people who were confined to rental vulnerability.

Over the decades, Boston has topped lists of the most expensive cities to live in as we have seen dramatic increases in home prices and rents. Even during the pandemic, we see a surge in those prices despite dramatically declining inventory numbers. With those increases, diversity pays the cost. According to a recent *Boston Magazine* story, two-thirds of Black Bostonians live in one of three neighborhoods: Dorchester, Roxbury, and Mattapan. And the most recent census data tell us that of the 147 Greater Boston municipalities, almost half -61- are at least 90 percent white.

For some reason, Boston has gotten away with being segregated. The last time the city had an opportunity to create a new neighborhood from scratch was the Seaport. And by any measure, diversity was not a consideration. For the companies, homeowners, to pre-COVID watering holes, the same patterns of segregations hold. The Seaport could have been different, a better reflection of the city we want to become.

In Dorchester, however, we are getting a second chance. The Dorchester Bay City project on the site of the former Bayside Expo Center is slated to be a \$6-million-square-foot hub of housing, retail, and office space on Columbia Point. It promises new public spaces, access to the Harborwalk, retail, and a mix of live, work, and play.

As we are moving toward post-COVID and post-racial unrest and into a community of equity that Boston really wants to be, the Bay City could be the beginning. Here are a few ideas that could help:

Invest and offer incentives for Black, indigenous people of color (BIPOC) to establish and develop in the new neighborhood;

Increase the amount of affordable housing from 20 to at least 25 percent;

Ensure that there are workforce development and career opportunities so that residents also can have live/work experiences;

Subsidize non-profits to have offices and programming space in the community;

Have potential companies commit to the principles in the Black Mass Coalition's re-imagining Boston document.

In his work, Dr. King laid out his vision of "the Beloved Community." He described affordable homeownership as a crucial component to family stability and a proven means for providing families and communities with long-term benefits, like increased educational attainment, improved health outcomes, equity building, and civic engagement.

The promise of Dr. King's Beloved Community requires Boston to acknowledge the full extent of housing insecurity and inequity in our city and establish housing as a right - and part of a new social contract. Put simply, the city must work together with local advocates and housing organizations to build and secure housing for all Boston residents.

And it can all start in Dorchester.

Imari Paris Jeffries is the executive director of King Boston, a nonprofit dedicated to honoring the legacy of Coretta Scott King and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. while addressing economic and racial inequities.

# What citizens should know about the Community Choice electric program

### By Mayor Martin J. Walsh

Boston is a leader on climate action. We're preparing our communities for climate impacts like coastal flooding and heat waves, and we're cutting the emissions that cause climate change to begin with. We've committed to becoming carbon neutral by the year 2050, and we've developed a Climate Action Plan to get us there.

An important part of this work is bringing more clean, renewable energy into our city. And now, we're taking another big step in this work with the rollout of our Community Choice Electricity (CCE) program. This is our policy to combine the buying power of Boston's homes and businesses to get more stable and affordable electricity rates and bring more clean energy into our city.

CCE allows the community to make informed electricity choices, increases utilization of renewable energy, and helps protect vulnerable populations who are most at-risk from the climate crisis.

The city has been sending notices to residents who are enrolled in Eversource Basic Service letting them know that they're being enrolled in the clean energy program starting Feb. 1. They don't have to do anything to get that benefit and be part of this program. The Community Choice Program is an optout proposition, meaning that customers who are on Eversource Basic Service will be automatically enrolled unless they choose to decline participation. We're also providing discounts for 20,000 low-income residents, through a solar energy program.

The opt-out period extends through Jan. 11. During this time, customers can decline by signing and returning a postage paid opt-out card received by mail. Customers can choose in or out at any time without penalty, and have the option to "opt-up" to receive 100 percent renewable electricity. Participation in the program will only change where customers' electricity is coming from, not how it is

delivered to their homes.

The program will officially launch in February and will be the largest municipal aggregation setup in New England. This is an opportunity for residents to be in better control of their energy consumption by placing power in the hands of the city rather than a company or utility. I assure everyone that the City of Boston is committed to moving forward with affordable and stable electric rates, and we are a trusted resource for residents seeking information on their electricity options.

We are committed to making sure that residents have all the information they need about this program and their options. Starting Dec. 14, the Environment Department will host a series of 11 webinars for residents and businesses. Staff will answer questions on how the program works, customer benefits, electric rates and renewable energy offered, key features, and what to expect over the next few months as the program launches.

I encourage everyone to attend one of these webinars to learn more about how this program will benefit our goal to make Boston a more sustainable and resilient city. More information about these webinars, including instructions for registering, is available at Boston.gov/community-choice-energy.

Recently, I was named the chair of the US Climate Mayors. This is an opportunity to highlight the progress we're making here in Boston, and work with our fellow cities to promote climate action at the national level as well. As cities across the country continue to look to Boston as a leader in this work, our Community Choice Electricity program will be a key component of our efforts. I encourage all Boston residents to support this work by participating in this program, and continuing to take climate action in your everyday lives. For more information about the City of Boston's efforts, and about other steps the City is taking, visit Boston.gov/environment.

# On the allure of people singing together

By BILL WALCZAK REPORTER COLUMNIST

Four year olds are great. They love Christmas and other holidays of the season. The relentless joy they experience seeing houses lit up and decorated trees twinkling through windows as they wait for Santa can light up others with joy, even in such difficult times.

On Monday night, a planned walk to Malibu beach was diverted by a beautifully decorated house on Savin Hill Avenue, so our family bubble decided to take in the lights. My four-year-old granddaughter spied a blow up Santa on his sleigh being pulled by reindeer with Rudolph at the lead, and insisted that we all sing "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer." As we continued our walk around Savin Hill, other inflated decorations resulted in our singing "Santa Claus is Coming to Town" and" Jingle Bells." It was a wonderful experience.

Singing together is rare in America. Those of us who love singing with others have church choirs, and a few other options, but Americans typically do not get together to sing, nor do they make it part of their fun times and parties, except at Christmas time. I believe that secular Christmas music is the only remaining folk music left in America. Most Americans can't even sing the national anthem, but they know "Jingle Bells" and "Santa Claus is Coming to Town" and "Rudolph."

Singing together is a way to build both community and country. South Africa offers a wonderful example of this. In my time at the Codman Square Health Center, I was involved in an HIV/AIDS project in South Africa and I visited AIDS hospices there as part of our work. At the end of visits, the nurses at the hospice would sing something in the Xhosa or Zulu language in wonderful harmony. Once, following a song in Xhosa, the nurses turned to the American visitors and asked the Americans to sing something back. The Americans looked at their feet. There was no song that all of us knew, and none except some churchgoers had ever sung a song with a group.

Americans used to sing together more. There was a time when folks would sing songs that seem created for groups, such as "Heart of My Heart." Many houses had pianos and someone who knew how to play songs that people could sing together. St. Patrick's Day parties would have everyone singing old Irish rebel songs as a group, but most of those folks are in nursing homes or deceased now. "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" at the 7th-inning stretch seems the best we can do, and our country is the less for it.

Over the years, I've had Christmas carol singing parties at my house, where people would get song sheets, and where even those with poorly tuned voices participated. The gatherings were always well attended, because people really want to sing together, but have over time lost opportunities to do that. The band I play in, the Savin Hillbillies, hands out song sheets of the old country music we play, and we encourage everyone to sing the choruses. It's always well received.

Our country is seriously divided and angry. Perhaps we can help bridge the divide by reclaiming folk songs, teaching song in school, and make it part of our future parties and gatherings. We can start with" Jingle Bells," a song composed in Medford and sung around the world. Even four year olds know it.



# WITH YOU TO GIVE

Several Consumer Loan Options Available\*

CityOfBostonCU.com | 617.635.4545



NMLS #403469









# Affordable housing activists want boost in development measures

By Katie Trojano Reporter Staff

Affordable housing activists are calling on Mayor Walsh to strengthen the city's Inclusive Development Policy (IDP) and urging state lawmakers to pass a home rule petition that would boost developer linkage fees.

At a virtual press conference last week, a group dubbed the Coalition for a Truly Affordable Boston said its members want the city to mandate that any new development build in, or pay for, 33 percent of the units to be affordable, a big jump from the current IDP formula of 13 percent. The activists also want changes in how the city defines income levels so that units are more affordable for residents with the greatest need along with the release of full data about the IDP and

development in the community.

According to the them, affordable rental units should be listed at 30 percent to 70 percent of Area Median Income (AMI) and ownership units should be 50 percent to 100 percent AMI.

"Before the pandemic the need for affordable housing was one of the top issues," said Karen Chen, executive director of the Chinese Progressive Association and involved in the coalition. "That is still true during the pandemic, and during recovery it is going to continue to be the top issue." Chen added that the city should look to address the long waiting lists for affordable housing applicants.

Activists also called on the Legislature to pass the home rule petition signed by Walsh in September 2019

before its session ends on Dec. 31. The bill, which has been stuck in a committee since last January, would give the city the authority to update its linkage program, which funds affordable housing and job training from money from commercial development projects. It would also codify the IDP into law.

"We really need our state legislators, the Boston delegation in particular, to call on state leadership to move this bill," said Chen. "It doesn't cost any money but really gives the city of Boston the ability to work with the residents and find solutions to the critical and urgent housing needs."

Markiesha Moore, a member of the Dorchester Not for Sale group, said residents need more affordable housing, as well as increased access to higher-paying jobs in order to resist displacement.

"The rents are going up, but people are sitting at home and no one's income is coming up," said Moore. "We're being priced out so that new people who can afford these units are coming in. The jobs that are coming in we are not able to attain because we have no training or access. We can't get a job to afford the place that we are in."

Moore referenced the massive Dorchester Bay City project, proposed by Accordia Partners LLC, to transform the 34-acre former Bayside Expo site into a new community with a mix of housing, retail, and public space along the waterfront in Columbia Point. Under the current IDP formula, Accordia must set aside 226 of its 1,740 total units as affordable at 70 percent AMI.

Accordia has committed to surpassing that requirement. Last week, the development team pledged that 261 units would be priced at 60 percent AMI. And while the city requires that Accordia pay \$32.9 million into funding

off-site housing, the team proposes to pay \$56.4 million.

But Moore and others said that this is not enough. "I will say that they need to do better, the city needs to do better. They need to represent the people," she said.

Christine Varriale, a volunteer with the Allston-Brighton Community Development Corporation Affordability Action Committee, said that her neighborhood has "watched more square footage of development get approved in our neighborhood than in any other" over the last few years.

According to Varriale, 2,711 units of housing in Allston-Brighton are currently under BPDA review, and only 342 units are affordable under the city's current IDP. "Those are big numbers for market rate units, but not so much for the IDP. Even the 342 units are not affordable to most people living in Allston- Brighton, since the median income in our neighborhood is at around the 50 percent AMI level, like you see citywide," she said, adding, "we need sweeping reform to IDP to help build affordable housing that better fits the demographics of our neighborhood, especially with an impending eviction wave due to Covid-19."

If the city's IDP were set to 33 percent from 13 percent, Varriale pointed out, those numbers would increase from 342 affordable units to 900.

"Just think of how much we've lost because we haven't updated IDP," she said.

The coalition will be hosting a series of virtual phone banking sessions in an effort to persuade state legislators to pass H. 4115 and also to call on Walsh and BPDA Director Brian Golden to upgrade IDP and affordability measures.

Information on the phone baking sessions and the petition are available at affordableboston.org.

NORTH BENNET ST. SCHOOL

# OPEN HOUSE

DECEMBER 14 - 16

FREE, 100% VIRTUAL, & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

**NBSS.EDU/OPENHOUSE** 



# **5 Ways** to check on Mom's well-being this holiday season.

- Give a Hug: Do you notice weight changes, increased frailty?
- Ask about Friends: Especially given the current state of our world, are there still signs of active friendships?
- Open the Medicine Cabinet: Is Mom taking her medications as prescribed?
- Check the Mail: Look for unopened mail or unpaid bills
- Inspect the Kitchen: Look for expired food, broken appliances

Use this checklist to look for warning signs during your holiday visits. If your mom isn't doing well at home alone, **Compass on the Bay or Standish Village** may be the perfect solution. We offer an innovative enriching approach to senior living and alzheimer's care.



## Home sales in state soar during second viral surge

By Michael P. Norton STATE HOUSE News Service

Low interest rates and the work from home shift are contributing to a continuing "frenzy" of home-buying in Massachusetts and sales activity and prices both set records in November.

Sales rose nearly 25 percent last month and the median sale price of a single-family home increased 17.6 percent compared to last November, to \$460,000, The Warren Group reported Tuesday morning.

After a pause when the Covid-19 crisis hit in March, the market roared back in the summer and the sales pace has held up through the fall as buyers, sellers, and the industry have adjusted to conditions in the pandemic.

Sales in November exceeded sales in June, reversing the traditional pattern in which home-buying picks up in the spring and slows down in the fourth



18 Lonsdale Street

quarter, said Tim Warren, CEO of The Warren Group.

"Buyers are taking advantage of to the Warren Group's data. rock-bottom interest rates and the ability to work from home to set their sights on communities farther and farther from their offices now that community is less of a factor for many prospective buyers," said Warren.

Sales in April were down nearly 14 percent. They fell off 30 percent in May and were down 24 percent in June, before beginning to rebound in June and July and then spiking 27 percent in September.

While a record 5,773 sales were recorded last month, sales dipped by 11 percent in Suffolk County, but were "especially strong" on the islands of Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard, Warren said.

There were 41 home sales on Nantucket last month, compared to 12 in November 2019, and the median home sale price on the island in November was just under \$2 million, according

Home sales last month in Barnstable County were up more than 52 percent over November 2019, and sales out west in Berkshire County last month rose 43.5 percent over-the-year.

Single-family home sales are up 1.5 percent over the first eleven months of 2019. The median single-family home sale price this year is \$445,000, an 11.3 percent increase compared to last year.

The condo market has not been as strong, but sales in November were up more than 11 percent compared to November 2019, and the median condo sale price last month rose 8.5 percent to \$410,000, a record for the month.

Year-to-date, condo sales are down 3.5 percent compared to the first 11 months of 2019, with a median price of \$415,000, a 9.2 percent increase. Median condo prices fell last month in Suffolk and Middlesex counties.



## THE CITY OF BOSTON CAN HELP YOU

understand your healthcare options.

Together, we can navigate your healthcare plan options to find the best fit for you. For more information about this and other resources you may qualify for, visit www.boston.gov/benefits or call 311.



# Supreme Liquors





\$**9**.99

Seven Moons Red

**Bodini Malbec Crusher Pinot Noir** Kung Fu Girl Riesling **Davinci DOCG Chianti** Ecco Domani Pinot Grigio **Chateau Grand Versennes Bordeaux** 19 Crimes Cabernet **Chateau Haute Cabanieux Medoc** Oyster Bay Sauvignon Blanc Kendall Jackson Sauvignon Blanc Casillero del Diablo Chardonnay



**Drouhin Beajolais** 



Relax Riesling

**Angeline Pinot Noir Cockburns Ruby Porto Dreaming Tree Cabernet** 

Casa Ibidini Nero D'Avola



Gewurztraminer

Dr. Loosen Riesling

**Trimbach Riesling** 

Mount Veeder Napa Cab ......\$29.99

# Kendall Jackson Chardonnay

A to Z Pinot Noir

Franciscan Cabernet .....

Coppola Cabernet Josh Chardonnay Josh Sauvignon Blanc **Josh Pinot Noir** Coppola Chardonnay Josh Cabernet

Lunetta Prosecco ....... \$9.99 Ruffino Prosecco ....... \$12.99 La Marca Prosecco ..... \$12.99 Veuve Cliquot Yellow .. \$49.99

Moet Nectar Imperial .. \$54.99 Dom Perignon ...... \$159.99 'Ace of Spade Rose" \$349.99

\$39<sub>.99</sub>

The Prisoner



.\$8.99

B Side Cabernet

Decoy Chardonnay

.\$16.99 Mark West Pinot Noir

Staggs Leap Artimus ......\$59.99 Chateau Larose Trintaudon ....\$18.99

..\$15.99 Frescobaldi Castiglioni ......

Taylor 10yr Porto

### Buffalo Trace ......750ml .... \$26.99 Basil Hayden ......750ml ....\$29.99 ......750ml ....\$28.99 Eagle Rare 10yr ......750ml ....\$29.99





Four Roses Yellow 750ml \$16.99	)
Elijah Craig Small Batch 750ml .\$29.99	•
Henry McKenna 750ml \$34.99	•
Jim Beam 1.75ltr\$26.99	•
Makers Mark1.75ltr\$49.99	•



Tito's Vodka1.75ltr\$29.99	Tanqueray Gin1.75ltr\$34.99
Johnnie Walker Black 1.75ltr\$59.99	Hiram Walker Coffee Brandy 1.75ltr\$19.99
Captain Morgan1.75ltr\$23.99	Baileys Irish Cream 1.75ltr \$44.99
Patron Silver1.75ltr\$89.99	Jagermeister1.75ltr\$34.99
Gosling Black Seal 1.75ltr \$29.99	Glenfiddich12yr\$39.99
John Jameson1.75ltr\$44.99	Hennessy750ml\$39.99
Bacardi Silver1.75ltr\$19.99	Macallan\$99.99
Smirnoff1.75ltr\$19.99	Don Julio Blanco 750ml \$44.99
Grey Goose1.75ltr\$49.99	Gunpowder Gin 750ml \$29.99
E&J Brandy1.75ltr\$19.99	Oban\$79.99
Kahlua\$36.99	Caravella Limoncello 750ml \$16.99
Crown Royal1.75ltr\$39.99	Aperol750ml\$19.99





Stella Artois	.12pk Btl
Amstel Light	.12pk Btl
Corona	.12pk Can
Guinness Stout	.12pk Btl
Modelo Especial	.12pk Btl
Twisted Tea	.12pk Btl
Angry Variety	.12pk Btl
Strongbow	
Blue Moon	15pk
Goose Island	15pk
Shock Top	15pk
Long Trail Power pack	12pk
Harpoon	.12pk Can
Cisco	.12pk Can
Long Trail	.12pk Can
Smutty Nose	.12pk Can
Sierra Nevada	



# \$25.<sup>99</sup>

Budweiser	36 Pack
Bud Light	36 Pack
Coors Light	36 Pack

Magners .....12pk Btl





\$16.<sup>99</sup>

\$13.<sup>49</sup>

Victory Monkey ...... 12pk

\$15.<sup>99</sup>

Magic Hat #9 ...... 15pk

Rolling Rock ......18pk





\$19.<sup>99</sup>

Heineken .....18pk Btl

\*\*All Beer Plus Deposit

**All Liquors Stores Will Be Closed** at 6:30 pm on Christmas Eve and all day on Christmas Day Day



Sale Effective 12/17/20 to 12/24/20



## Walsh reinstalls closings on indoor sites, gatherings

(Continued from page 1)

Every neighborhood in the city saw an increase in positive rates in the last week. Dorchester, East Boston, and Hyde Park remain the neighborhoods with the highest positivity-- all of which have rates between 10 and 12 percent. Roxbury, Roslindale and South Boston are all over 8 percent.

"Wherever you live or work in Boston, the covid virus certainly has been spreading and the activity in Boston hospitals continues to increase. We're monitoring our hospital data on a daily basis and on each of our key metrics the data is moving closer to our threshold for concern," said Walsh.

"Those include daily emergency room visits for Covid-19, the availability of surgical beds, and the total occupancy in our intensive care units. We're also seeing increased activity in our EMS and 911 calls."

For the week ending Dec. 6, an average of 5,552 Bostonians were tested for the virus; 438 people tested positive daily; and the community positivity rate climbed to 7.2 percent, up from 5.2 percent the week before. On Monday, 374 positive cases and 1 death were recorded.

The percentage of occupied adult non-surgical ICU beds at Boston hospitals was at 90 percent as of Dec. 10.

Marty Martinez, chief of Health and Human Services for the city, said that Boston hospitals have surge plans ready and would be able to expand capacity and treat everyone who needs it.

"We do have thresholds and we haven't hit them yet, but you're likely to see that by the next time we're up here, we're going to have hit two of those thresholds," he said, adding that as of Monday there were more than 300 Covid-19 positive patients in Boston hospitals.

"We haven't been at that number since June. The bed capacity is starting to be something we're concerned about."

Said Walsh: "We're going to take action now to reduce in person activity in our city, we're working to reduce the spread of the virus in our city, and to prevent our hospitals from getting overwhelmed," said Walsh. "Our goal with this three-week pause is to slow the spread now rather than have to implement more severe shutdowns later on."

He added: "After three weeks, if these metrics have moved in the right direction, we will lift these restrictions."

The mayor asked residents not to travel for the upcoming holiday or host parties of any kind. Hol-

## STATUS OF BOSTON'S REOPENING

Boston is returning to a modified **Phase Two Step Two** of the Reopening Massachusetts plan effective **Wednesday, December 16**.

### **GATHERINGS:**

Indoor gatherings are limited to 10 persons and outdoor gatherings are limited to 25, unless sector-specific guidance allows for other capacities.

### **BUSINESSES:**

Please check if your industry will be impacted by the changes below and at **boston.gov/reopening**.

### **RESIDENTS:**

Everyone must continue to follow public health guidelines at **boston.gov/coronavirus** to slow the spread of COVID-19.

iday gatherings should be limited to immediate family and household members only, he said. "Today's rollback is about making individual sacrifices for the greater good and how we approach the holiday as well," he said.

On Monday morning the first shipment of vaccines began arriving at Boston hospitals, and healthcare workers were scheduled to start receiving vaccinations this week.

"That is the light at the end of the tunnel," said Walsh. "As we buckle down for some more hard work in the weeks ahead, we can take some hope knowing that better days are in sight. I ask everyone to follow the lead of our health care experts and heroes and take the vaccine when it comes here."

When asked about the possibility that indoor dining could be complete-

ly halted in restaurants, Walsh said that could likely happen if infection rates continue to climb.

"Restaurants will eventually be shut down if our numbers continue to go up and [we] have problems in our hospitals. When we get to the point where it is going to be critical for capacity, we will have to take the next step," he said.

When asked if he's concerned about Covid-19 metrics getting even higher with the potential for more holiday travel, Walsh had this to say:

"I'm very concerned about that and about holiday parties and house parties in general. I'm concerned about seeing these numbers go up every day. The public health experts said we would see increases in November and December, and that January and February could be the worst months of the

entire pandemic.

"Everything they've said has come to fruition. January and February are not here yet but coming off the heels of the holiday season, we could see really bad numbers. That means more deaths, hospitalizations, more ventilators, and straining on our hospital system."

On Tuesday, Gov. Baker also urged people to take safety precautions more seriously during the December holiday season.

"It's pretty simple," he said. "The safest way to celebrate this year is with members of your own household and to postpone or cancel any travel plans and to avoid gatherings with people you don't live with. Any type of celebration beyond that has real potential, as we saw with Thanksgiving, to spread the virus and hurt the ones we love the most."

Baker made a similar plea to the public ahead of Thanksgiving, but based on his comments Tuesday and the data he presented, it appears that not enough people heeded the governor's

warnings last month. He said he hopes more people will alter their traditional holiday plans because "we just saw that movie" and are now seeing the impacts it had.

On Dec. 1, four days after Thanksgiving, the statewasaveraging about 2,400 new COVID-19 cases each day. A week later, or about 10 days after Thanksgiving, the average number of daily new cases had nearly doubled to almost 4,800, Baker said.

Colin A. Young of State House News Service contributed to this report.

### **LEGAL NOTICE**

NOTICE OF INITIAL SITE INVESTIGATION AND
TIER I CLASSIFICATION
EVERSOURCE ENERGY
12 CENTRAL AVENUE, MATTAPAN, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS
RELEASE TRACKING NUMBER 3-36034

A release of oil and/or hazardous materials has occurred at the above referenced location, which is a disposal site as defined by M.G.L. c. 21E, § 2 and the Massachusetts Contingency Plan, 310 CMR 40.0000. As a result of this investigation, the site has been classified as Tier I pursuant to 310 CMR 40.0500. On December 10, 2020, Tighe & Bond, Inc., on behalf of NSTAR Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy filed a Tier I Classification Submittal with the Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP). To obtain more information on this disposal site, please contact Timothy Montague of Eversource Energy at (617) 541-6240, or Gary Hedman, Licensed Site Professional, of Tighe & Bond, Inc. at (508) 304-6357, 4 Barlows Landing Road, Unit #15. Pocasset. MA 02559.

The Tier Classification Submittal and the disposal site file can be viewed at MassDEP website https://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/portal#!/search/waste-site using Release Tracking Number (RTN) 3-36034, at or at MassDEP, Northeast Regional Office, 205 Lowell Street, Wilmington, MA (telephone 978-694-3200). Additional public involvement opportunities are available under 310 CMR 40.1403(9) and 310 CMR 40.1404.

# **NOTICE**

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

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



William Clapp House, 195 Boston Street Lemuel Clap House, 199 Boston Street James Blake House, 735 Columbia Road

www.dorchesterhistoricalsociety.org



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



# 'Community choice' electricity is coming to customers in Boston

(Continued from page 1) the city to being "carbon neutral by the year 2050." He wrote:

"This is our policy to combine the buying power of Boston's homes and businesses, in order to get more stable and affordable electricity rates and bring more clean energy into our city. CCE allows the community to make informed electricity choices, increases utilization of renewable energy, and helps protect vulnerable populations who are most at-risk from the climate crisis."

The new supplier that has contracted with the city- Constellation Electric- is headquartered in Maryland. Residents who remain enrolled in the city plan will see the name Constellation Electric printed on their monthly bills, but will continue to send payments to Eversource, which will respond to emergencies, read meters, and maintain the distribution and transmission lines.

Residents and mer-

chants who currently use trol over Boston's energy Eversource Basic Service will be auto-enrolled in the city's CCE program starting in February 2021 unless they choose to opt-out.

Those who want to decline participation can do so any time before Jan. 11 by signing and returning a postage paid reply card they will receive in the mail. Enrolled customers will also be allowed to opt out of the program at any time without penalty— and also have the option to "opt-up" and receive 100 percent renewable electricity.

About 150 similar aggregation programs are offered in communities across the Commonwealth, but Boston's program will be the largest by far. The city currently counts some 220,000 residential and 30,000 small business customers on the electric grid. City officials see the policy as an option that gives residents more agency and choice and, ultimately, greater confuture.

"The ability to have more renewable energy with more consistent and stable pricing makes the program highly advantageous," said Christopher Cook, Boston's Chief of Environment, Energy, and Open Space said this week. "Choice is the key word here; you've got to give the community choice in their climate future."

Climate activists have been advocating for the city to implement such a program since state law made aggregated buying programs an option in Massachusetts in 2010.

Andy Wells-Bean, campaign coordinator at The Boston Climate Action Network, described the CCE program as a "win-win situation" allowing for much more price stability and renewable energy without Boston residents having to pay more.

He told the Reporter that her network "has pushed for CCE for some years now. It has been adopted by other cities and towns across the state and has been a big benefit to them. We wanted to bring those benefits to the City of Boston."

Wells-Bean weighed

the pros and cons of such a program as a member of a working group that has advised the Boston City Council. Affordability for residents, she said, was a top priority.

"I think we need to be moving toward 100 percent renewable energy everywhere, but of course we need to also make sure that folks are not spending a disproportionate amount of their income on utilities," he said.

The average home in the city uses about 600 kilowatts per hour and a resident in one who receives the city's default standard plan would save roughly \$2.84a month, according to an estimate from city officials. Since every customer's usage is likely to vary, customers can gauge their own estimated cost using a web-based calculator at cityofbostoncce.com.

Cook said one of the main benefits is the ability to increase the amount of renewables that power Boston's electricity.

"When we're relying on a renewable portfolio standard, as ambitious as that might be comparatively to other states, it's very clear that the climate crisis requires bold action," he said. "So,

we need to move on clean energy quicker and this is one of the tools we have to do that. At the same time, residents will also get the benefit of price stability."

On Dec. 16, the city will begin hosting the informational webinars that will continue into January describing the program and its benefits, and discussing what to expect over the next few months as the city makes the transition. Interpretation and translation services will be available for the meetings.

"We believe that most residents will actually choose to stay with the standard option and there's great benefit to doing that, but we want people to have as much information as possible,' said Cook.

"We don't want people to leave the program, but if they choose to do so for whatever reason, they can. But most people will probably choose to do nothing, which means they'll be on the default service," he said. "Just by doing that, they are actually increasing the amount of renewable energy, making us more sustainable into the future and also lowering their energy costs."

"We also recognize,"

Cook said, "that there are people out there who have the ability to pay more and are willing to do that. They can actually opt up and get to 100 percent space match class renewable energy. That's wonderful, but people have to make some tough choices when it comes to their budgets, and we want to respect

At-Large City Councillor Michelle Wu, an advocate of the CCE initiative, is happy to see the program come to fruition.

"Nearly four years after introducing Community Choice Energy at the Boston City Council, I'm thrilled to see Boston moving forward with the single biggest step we could take to ramp up renewable energy for residents and small businesses," Wu said in a statement given to the Reporter this week.

"This bulk purchasing program for clean energy will be a seamless way to expand access to the green economy, while protecting our residents from scam third party energy suppliers.'

For more information on the upcoming information webinar series, or to register, visit boston.

# **DUFFY ROOFING CO., INC.**

**ASPHALT SHINGLES · RUBBER ROOFING** · COPPER WORK · SLATE · GUTTERS **CHIMNEYS** 

**Fully Insured Free Estimates**  617-296-0300 duffyroofing.com

State Reg. #100253

**AUTO BODY REPAIRS** 

(617) 825-1760 (617) 825-2594 FAX (617) 825-7937

# Fitzpatrick Brothers

Free Pick-Up & Delivery Service

150 Centre Street **Dorchester, MA 02124** 



(617) 436-8828 DAYS

## (617) 282-3469 Steinbach's Service

## Station Inc. COMPLETE AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE

321 Adams St., Dorchester 02122

Corner of Gibson Street

**State Inspection Center** 



## CEDAR GROVE GARDENS

Unique Florals & Gifts

617-825-8582

911 ADAMS STREET DORCHESTER, MA 02124

Our Current Hours are: Mon-Wed. 10-4 Thur-Sat. 9-5 and Sun10-3

## DORCHESTER PRESCHOOL PRESCHOOL - TODDLER 7:30-5:30

617-265-2665

email: dorchesterpreschool@yahoo.com

281A Neponset Avenue, Dorchester

Lic. #291031

## **KERRY CONSTRUCTION, INC.**

**Snowplowing / Sanding / Salting Driveways and Parking Lots Bobcat and Loader Services Roof Shoveling** 

**Fully insured** 

617 825 0592



- Plumbing Heating
- Fuel Oil **INC.** . Air Conditioning

## **DUCTLESS MINI-SPLIT A/C & HEAT PUMP INSTALLATION, SALES & SERVICE**

Water Heaters • General Repairs • Gas & Oil Heating Installation & Repairs • Gas Fitting & Appliance Installations • Bath & Kitchen • Remodeling Senior Discounts

**617-282-4300** 1146 Dorchester Avenue Master Lic. #12430

# Flynn Roofing Co.

ASPHALT SHINGLES | RUBBER ROOFS

Commercial | Residential | Licensed | Fully Insured | MA Reg #134410



617-479-3431

FLYNNROOFING.COM

FREE ESTIMATES

## Baker returns plan for abortion access to Legislature

By Chris Lisinski STATE HOUSE News Service

Gov. Baker announced opposition last week to allowing 16 and 17 year olds in Massachusetts to acquire abortions without consent from a parent or a judge, setting up a potential battle with the Legislature's Democratic supermajority even as he supported other abortion-access proposals.

Baker returned the abortion policy section of the fiscal 2021 budget with a proposed amendment on Friday, offering a mixed review of what landed on his desk and seeking to change rather than reject the package.

He supported several sections, such as the codification of abortion rights in state law and a provision allowing the procedure after 24 weeks of pregnancy in cases with a fatal fetal anomaly.

"These are important changes to protect a women's reproductive rights and autonomy in the Commonwealth, and I support them,' Baker wrote in a letter to lawmakers Friday. "However, I cannot support the other ways that this section expands the availability of late-term abortions and permits minors age 16 and 17 to get an abortion without

the consent of a parent or guardian."

The Republican governor proposed an amendment to the Legislature's abortion language, which had been built on the so-called ROE Act, placing the onus back on Democratic House and Senate leaders with only three weeks left in the two-year lawmaking session.

Lawmakers can agree to Baker's proposed changes, amend them further, or double down on the proposal they originally passed and send that back to the governor.

Under the spending bill compromise that lawmakers sent to Baker last week, which the governor signed, Massachusetts would have lowered the age to receive an abortion without parental or judicial consent from 18 to 16, effectively granting 16 and 17 year olds the ability to seek the procedure on their

Activists had argued that setting the threshold at 18 forces teenagers who survived incest or who do not have supportive families to face a difficult situation, caught between approaching parents who might react negatively or the sometimes traumatic judicial system.

dotnews.com December 17, 2020 THE REPORTER Page 15

"And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying: 'Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom His favor rests."

Luke 2: 13-14

# To the Catholic Community of Dorchester, Mattapan and Roxbury,

As we priests gather to offer Christmas Masses we are praying for you and your loved ones during these difficult yet hope filled days. May the birth of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, that we celebrate help transform our lives and shine forth in our deeds towards one another.

## **Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!**

The Parishes and Staffs of:

Holy Family Saint Mark

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Saint Martin de Porres
Saint Ambrose Saint Teresa of Calcutta

Saint Christopher Saint Peter

Saint Christopher Saint Peter

Saint Gregory Saint Patrick

Saint Katherine Drexel

"Christmas reminds us that God continues to love us all... To me, to you, to each of us He says today, 'I love you and I will always love you, for you are precious in my eyes.'.. This is the gift we find at Christmas. We discover that the Lord is absolute gratuity, absolute tender love... He is born in utter poverty in order to win our hearts by the wealth of his love."

Pope Francis



dotnews.com Page 16 THE REPORTER **December 17, 2020** 



Download our Mobile Service App







**0% APR 72 MOS ENJOY NO MONTHLY** PAYMENTS FOR 90 DAYS

VISIT US @ QUIRKCDJRBOSTON.COM

## **NEW 2021 JEEP RENEGADE LATITUDE 4x4**

\$28.520 -3.000 REBATE. **CHRYSLER** FINANCE BONUS..

LEASE LOYALTY... FIRST RESPONDERS..

QUIRK DISCOUNT......-2,522 SUBPRIME BONUS...

MONEY DOWN

LEASE: \$3.995 ZERO DOWN \$

ASSOC OF REALTORS....-500 QUIRK DISCOUNT. Quirk Price

## **NEW 2021 JEEP CHEROKEE LIMITED 4x4**

MSRP......\$37,270 REBATE......-1,500 CHRYSLER FINANCE BONUS... LEASE LOYALTY... ASSOC OF

-500 REALTORS. QUIRK DISCOUNT.... FIRST RESPONDERS DISCOUNT... SUBPRIME BONUS.

LEASE: \$3,995 ZERO DOWN

QUIRK DISCOUNT.. Quirk Price

## **NEW 2021 JEEP WRANGLER** SPORT JL 2 DOOR 4x4



**Quirk Price** 

MONEY DOWN 5 PER MO. LEASE: \$3.995

99 PER MU. 42 MOS.\* ZERO DOWN LEASE

## **NEW 2021 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LAREDO 4WD**

MSRP..........\$37,695 -750 REBATE.

-500 LEASE LOYALTY....

ASSOC. OF REALTOR......-500

QUIRK DISCOUNT......-3,697 FIRST RESPONDER DIS...... -500 MONEY DOWN \$ LEASE: \$3,995

LEASE: QUIRK DISCOUNT.... Quirk

ZERO DOWN \$

## **NEW 2021 JEEP GLADIATOR**

SPORT S 4x4

MSRP......\$42,990

QUIRK DISCOUNT....-4.992

FIRST RESPONDERS DISCOUNT... ASSOC OF

REALTORS.

QUIRK DISCOUNT......-5,992 Quirk Price Quirk

MONEY DOWN \$ LEASE: \$3.995 9 PER MO. 42 MOS. ZERO DOWN

\$36,998

# **NEW 2020 DODGE DURANGO**

**SXT PLUS AWD** 

MSRP......\$40,480 REBATES......-2,950 FIRST RESPONDERS DISCOUNT...

CHRYSLER CAPITAL....-1,500

ASSOC OF **REALTORS** 

QUIRK DISCOUNT....-3,032

LEASE: \$3,995 9 PER MO. 36 MOS.\* ZERO DOWN

LEASE:

Quirk .998 Price

## NEW 2020 Ram 1500 CLASSIC **WARLOCK QUAD CAB 4x4**

MSRP......\$42,930 REBATES.....-3.750 CHRYSLER CAPITAL....-1.000

CONQUEST LEASE...... ASSOC. OF REALTORS.....-500

FIRST RESPONDERS DISC ....-500 TRUCK OWNER CONQUEST..



MONEY DOWN LEASE: \$3,995 42 MOS. ZERO DOWN PER MO. LEASE:

DISCOUNT

Quirk Price

## NEW 2020 Ram 1500 BIG HORN **CREW CAB 4x4**

MSRP.......\$46,020 \_\_\_-1,000 REBATES.... QUIRK DISCOUNT... -6.502

CONQUEST LEASE.

ASSOC. OF REALTORS......-500 FIRST RESPONDERS DISC ....-500

TRUCK OWNER CONQUEST..



MONEY DOWN \$ PER MO. LEASE: \$3,995 42 MOS.

79 PER MO. ZERO DOWN LEASE: 42 MOS.\*

**QUIRK** -10,002 DISCOUNT. Quirk

## **NEW 2020 RAM 2500 BIG HORN** CREW CAB CUMMINS DIESEL 4x4

MSRP..........\$66,735 REBATES..... COMMERCIAL DISCOUNT.....-1,000 **QUIRK** DISCOUNT..

CONQUEST LEASE.. FIRST RESPONDERS DISCOUNT...

ASSOC. OF REALTORS.

FORD/GM CONQUEST...=



**QUIRK** DISCOUNT

Quirk

**Price** 

### \*Lease Loyalty: Must be returning Chrysler lessee. Conquest Lease Assist. available to current lessees of competitive non-Chrysler vehicles. See dealer for details. All lessees: \$3995 down, 10K miles/yr. Tax, title, acq., sec. reg & doc. additional. Extra charges may apply at lease end. "Promaster Conquest: must own a comparable comm. vehicle ask for details. Approved credit. Finance Bonus requires finance w/ Chrysler Capital. Conquest Bonus avail. to Silverado & Sierra owners, no trade required. To qualify for snow plow rebate customers must be a business owner. All transactions must be completed at time of sale. Must finance with dealer. Subject to program change without notice. Sale ends 12/31/20 0% AVAILABLE IN LIEU OF THE REBATE AND SUBJECT TO BANK APPROVAL.

**Price** 

# QUIRK SERVICE CENTER







\$59.95 FULL-SYNTHETIC OIL CHANGE **SERVICE UP TO 5 QTS.** 

**INCLUDES TOP OFF FLUIDS, SET TIRE PRESSURE** & COMPLIMENTARY MULTI-POINT INSPECTION.

- CERTIFIED TECHNICIANS
- EARLY BIRD HOURS
- FREE ESTIMATES
- STATE INSPECTION

**SERVICE HOURS** 

**MON-FRI: 7 A.M. - 6 P.M. SAT: 7 A.M. - 4 P.M.** 

**SUN: CLOSED** 

**Quirk Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram of Boston** 



**December 17, 2020** THE REPORTER Page 17 dotnews.com



# **BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF DORCHESTER**



**BGCD Keystone Club Partners with Christopher Kimball's Milk Street for** Virtual Cooking Classes: See details below

**CONNECT THE DOT:** Spring S.A.T. Prep Classes Offered at BGCD: BGCD is proud to partner with Let's Get Ready which is a peer driven program that will offer a Virtual S.A.T. Prep Course this coming Spring. The program is designed to help first generation students from low-income families to benefit from well training older students to help prepare for the S.A.T's. The course will run on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. Sessions will begin on February 22nd and conclude on April 30th. Let's Get Ready will provide live sessions by current College students to provide the mentoring and coaching. The course prioritizes current 11th grade students but will also accept those interested from other grades if spots remain. To register you must go to http://www.letsgetready.org/ signup. For more information please reach out to Chad Hassey at chassey@ bgcdorchester.org.

**FIND OUT WHAT'S INSIDE: BGCD Keystone Club Partners with** Christopher Kimball's Milk Street for Virtual Classes: BGCD's Keystone Club members have resumed their **Cooking Class series with Christopher** Kimball's Milk Street. This past week members made a fresh and delicious pasta dish with a homemade sauce. There will be one more class for the fall session before we kick off a 4-week series Winter program. Thank you to our long-time partner Christopher Kimball's Milk Street for offering these classes in the virtual setting and allowing our members to learn the art of cooking and the importance of eating healthy. In addition, Keystone members are working on a Drive this month to collect new donated hats, gloves, socks, etc. for the homeless. Please feel free to reach out to Teen Director, Ariana Nazario at anazario@bgcdorchester.org for more information.



donation to Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester this holiday season. BGCD is doing all they

To donate to BGCD, please visit https://give.bgcdorchester.org/holidays or scan the QR code below.

Harp + Bard is also doing a Holiday Toy Drive in support of BCCD! Toy donations I be accepted in our Toy Box located at the front of the restaurant.

> THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Dorchester's Harp + Bard to Host Donation & Toy Drive in Support of **BGCD:** See details below

**DID YOU KNOW:** Dorchester's Harp + Bard to Host Donation & Toy Drive in Support of BGCD: Harp + Bard Restaurant is making spirits bright for BGCD this holiday season. Our friends at Harp + Bard are holding a donation and

toy drive to support the children of **BGCD!** We are so grateful to Mike Gavin and his daughter Maura for continuing to show up for us no matter the circumstances and we could not be more grateful for their support! To support BGCD this holiday season, please visit https://give.bgcdorchester. org/holidays or scan the QR code above. Toy donations will be accepted at the front of the restaurant located at 1099 Dorchester Ave. Dorchester, MA 02125. We kindly ask that all toys are new and packaged for proper sanitation before going to members. Thank you for your support, and hope we can all continue to support each

**UPCOMING EVENTS** 

Christmas Break - Closed December 24 & 25

Virtual Programming Opportunities December 28 - 31

New Years Day - Closed January 1

\*Please note these events are either virtual or will be following all COVID-19 safety restrictions while meeting.



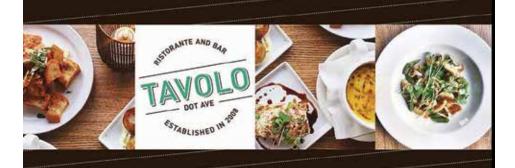
617.288.7120 | 1135 Dorchester Ave. | www.bgcdorchester.org





100% committed to the wellness of our guests & staff. we have created some safe and comfortable spaces for you!

Grab your mask and come see us. - Team Tavolo



www.tavolopizza.com • 1918 Dorchester Avenue • Dorchester, MA 02124



other in meaningful ways this season.







# COVID-19 TEST

& FLU VACCINE CLINIC AT HE RUSSEL

# **AUDITORIUM**

70 Talbot Ave, Boston, MA 02124



### **CLINIC SCHEDULE:**

DECEMBER 2020						
S	М	T	W	Т	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

JANUARY 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

**MONDAY, TUESDAY, THURSDAY** 

9 AM - 5 PM

WEDNESDAY 10:30 AM - 7 PM

FRIDAY (ALTERNATING)

9 AM - 5 PM

SATURDAY (TWO PER MONTH)

9 AM - 1 PM

On weeks with Saturday testing, there will be no testing on Friday. There will be no testing on Christmas Day.

**COVID-19 TESTING AND FLU VACCINATIONS ARE AVAILABLE** TO THE COMMUNITY BY **APPOINTMENT ONLY. CALL** (617) 822-8271 TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT.

Codman Square Health Center will conduct COVID-19 testing for any community member who wants to be tested, regardless of symptoms or contact with others.

......

CODMAN SQUARE HEALTH CENTER, 637 WASHINGTON ST., DORCHESTER, MA 02124 | (617) 822-8271 | CODMAN.ORG

## RECENT OBITUARIES

### LORRAINE T. (ADIE) GEANACOPOULOS

Age 91, of Dorchester passed away on December 8, 2020. Beloved wife of the late Thomas Geanacopoulos. Loving mother of Demetra Geanacopoulos of Weymouth, Deborah Purdy of Dorchester, the late Charles Geanacopoulos and his wife Andrea of Shirley, Patricia Geanacopoulos of Whitman, Pamela Amerault and her husband Brian of Quincy, Thomas Geanacopoulos and wife Cheryl Geanacopoulos of Ashburnham, Elizabeth Hobson and her husband Thomas of Milton, and Denise Geanacopoulos of North Attleboro. Loving Nana of Melissa Hanson, Kiel Geanacopoulos & his wife Atty, Walter Geanacopoulos, Thomas, Lori, and Andrew Hobson, and Beth-Anne Amerault. Loving Mimi of Olly & Felix Geanacopoulos. Caring sister of the late Kenneth Adie & wife Rita of Rockland, and the late Lawrence Adie & his wife Mary of Randolph. Retired employee of the Boston Public School Dept. Visiting hours in the John J. O'Connor & Son Funeral Home, 740 Adams St. (near Gallivan Blvd.) DORCHESTER, Monday from 4-8pm. Relatives & friends are respectfully invited. Lorraine's request is "Please no flowers, I am allergic". Donations may be made in memory of Lorraine to St. Ann Church, 243 Neponset Ave., Dorchester, MA 02122. Due to the ongoing health crisis, proper social distancing and facemasks will be required. A private Funeral Mass will be held in St. Ann's Church. Interment in Blue Hill Cemetery. For directions & expressions of sympathy, please visit www.oconnorandson.com.

BOC, Anna M. (Crifo), 92. Anna was born and raised in South Boston and lived in Dorchester for many years before moving to Carver. Wife of the late

Anthony T. Boc. Sister of the late Louis, Angelo, Salvatore and Joseph Crifo, Frances McKinnon, and Rose Caltado. She is survived by 17 nieces and nephews.



## **Cedar Grove Cemetery**

COVID-19 restrictions will be in place

A quiet place on the banks of the Neponset River

Chapel available for: Weddings, memorial services, and celebratory masses. Indoor Services available for winter burials. Greenhouse on premises for fresh flowers. Columbarium for cremated remains. Plant a tree program.

920 Adams St., Dorchester, MA 02124 • 617-825-1360 Consecrated in 1868. Non-Sectarian.

## TEVNAN|TEVNAN

100 City Hall Plaza

415 Neponset Avenue Boston, MA 02108 | Dorchester, MA 02124 617-423-4100 | 617-265-4100

> Attorneys at Law www.tevnan.com



garet, of Milton, five days

shy of her 75th birthday. Mary was the eldest daughter of the late Bill and Ann Curran of Milton. She was predeceased by her brother, PFC Paul Curran, who gave his life fighting for his country in Vietnam; and by her two granddaughters, Lily and Chloe Schultz. Mother of four children and five grandchildren, Brendan Schultz of Warwick, RI, Brian Schultz (Katie Schultz) of Milton, their children, Patrick and Grace, Alison Dunn (Billy Dunn) of Weymouth, their children, Sydney and Billy, and Timothy Schultz (Erica Schultz) of Northport, NY, and their daughter, Sophia. Mary is also survived by her sister, Patty Curran (husband, Michael Magnuson); her brothers, Bill Curran (wife, Sue Curran), Chris Curran (wife, Anne Curran); as well as their children, her nieces and nephews. Mary graduated high school from St. Gregory's in Dorchester. Mary had a long career at the Boston Globe working in their Circulation Department. After leaving the Globe, Mary worked at the Massachusetts State House. The family asks that you make a donation in Mary's name to the Wounded Warrior Project, woundedwarriorproject.



FEENEY, Robert F.. of Dorchester. Bob attended BC High then Suffolk University and it's law school. He was an assistant district attorney in Suffolk County, then as a civil trial attorney, at a small Plymouth firm with his friend and partner, Jack Haverty. His parents, Jim and Rita ("O'Connell") Feeney, and sister-in-law, Ann, pre-

deceased him. Bob leaves behind his brothers/sisters-in-law, Jack, Mike and Nancy, Rich and Jean, Jim and Jean, and Dan and Sharon; his friends, Tim and Susan Stille, and Susan Underwood and Paul DerBoghosian; and many nephews and nieces. Donations can be made to Season's Hospice and Palliative Care who provided excellent compassionate care.



GRIFFIN, Laura of Milton. Daughter of the late Wilmore and Marguerite (Callahan) Holbrow, and stepdaughter of the late Emma (Kutz) Holbrow. Wife of the late John J. Griffin. Sister of Mary Long of Hingham, the late Frederick Holbrow of Braintree, the late Joan Kavanaugh of Quincy, and the late Wilmore Holbrow of California. She is also survived by her sistersin-law Judy Griffin of Norwell, wife of the late Dennis Griffin, and Mary Holbrow of California, wife of the late Wilmore Holbrow. Mother of Katie A. Griffin of Cambridge, Amy M. Lenane and her husband Michael of Milton, John P. Griffin and his wife Christine of Arlington, and Richard H. Griffin and his wife Maureen of Cohasset. Grandmother of 8 and aunt of many nieces and nephews. Laura grew up in Dorchester. She worked in her father's greenhouses and flower shops on Dorchester Avenue and in downtown Boston. She worked at the Boston Globe, Patriot Ledger, the Milton Record Transcript, the Quincy Sun and the

Milton Times. HOUTON, Daniel J. of Dorchester. Father of Mariah G. and her husband Russ Blaine of Chelmsford. Grandfather of 2. Foster father of Dr. Hong Duong of California. Son of the late Daniel and Mary (Toland) Houton of



of John Houton and his wife Dr. Ellen Kanter of Buzzards Bay, Thomas Houton and his wife Donna of Beverly, Catherine and her husband Dr. Joseph Benedict of Mystic, CT. Roseleen and her late husband George Pyne of Milford, the late Anna and her late husband Val McGann, the late Charles Houton, and the late Patricia Houton. Formerly married to Kathleen Kilgore, of Naples, FL. Longtime companion of Angela Durkin of Quincy. Survived by many nieces, nephews, grandnieces, and grandnephews. He served six years in the Navy during the height of the Vietnam War. Upon return to civilian life, he enrolled in University College, Dublin, Ireland prior to completing his Master's degree in International Relations at The Fletcher School, Tufts University. In 1970, he launched a Congressional run as a 9th District Independent, after which he worked as a contract negotiator for the next 25 years at Hanscom Air Force Base and Honeywell. After retiring in 1995, Dan volunteered many years as a reading tutor at the Marshall School in Dorchester. To honor Dan's memory, donations may be made to the New England Center for Homeless Veterans at nechv.org



ISLES, Catherine Theresa (Mason), 87, of Dorchester, originally from Vicksburg, Mississippi. Catherine served in the Air Force during the Korean War and was

honorably discharged in 1954. She was preceded by her husband, Irving Isles, Sr., her stepdaughter Paula Isles and her stepson Irving (Butch) Isles, Jr. She leaves her son, Joseph Isles, Sr. (wife Georgeanna McLaughlin Isles) of Kissimmee, Fla., daughter Stacey Isles-Brako (husband Frank Brako, Jr.) of Dorchester, stepdaughters Cheryl Isles Alford (husband Clinton Alford) of Lawrenceville, GA and Jeane Isles of Cambridge, MA, daughter-in-law Joselyn West Isles of Mattapan, sisterin-law Honey Desmond of Scott, Louisiana, 11 grandchildren, 12 great grandchildren, 2 greatgreat grandchildren and a host of family, friends and caregivers.



MARSHALL, Mary **Bell**, 94, born in Thompson, Georgia to David and Irene (Freeman) Williams, she was the fifth of seven children: David Jr., Clara, Johnnie, Elizabeth, Viola and Annie (all pre-deceased) Mary came to Boston in 1963 and worked at Mass General Hospital for 28 years as a Dietary Assistant. Mary was a member of Mt. Calvary Holy Assembly No. 1, Inc. in Boston. Mary leaves two children: her daughter, Mary Lue Moore and her son, Cornelius Marshall and his wife, Ernestine. Mary also leaves 8 grandchildren, 12 great grandchildren, 4 great-great grandchildren and a plethora of relatives and friends.



SUMERA, Kathleen M., 82 of Savin Hill. Kathleen is survived by her son, Victor Sumera and wife, Minda; son, Rennie Sumera and partner, Laurel Bellavance: cousin, Martha Lafrance; childhood friend, Marie Drake; 4 grandchildren; and 2 great-grandchildren. Kathleen was born in Schenectady, NY, to Odena Martel and Robert O'Brien in 1938. Raised in Boston, Kathleen married Victoriano Sumera in 1959. Although a short marriage, Kathleen and Victoriano remained close loving friends, raising their two children together. She worked at MIT and the Catholic Charities Adult Education school for over 35 years. In 1977, Kathleen would want donations to be made to The Animal Rescue League of Boston, an organization that was arlboston.org

### **NEW CALVARY CEMETERY**

Serving the Boston Community since 1899 - Non Sectarian Reasonable pricing and many options to choose from.

Grave pricing starting at \$1,200 Package pricing from \$3,800 (includes grave purchase, first opening & liner for a weekday service). Cremation Niches starting at \$1,400 (Includes Niche Purchase, First Opening & Inscription)

617-296-2339

12 Month No Interest on Grave Purchases, **Pre Need Opening Arrangements** Lots with multiple graves and oversized graves available. Package price only available for an 'at need' service. Overtime Fees apply to Saturday and Holiday Interments Other options available at Mt. Benedict Cemetery

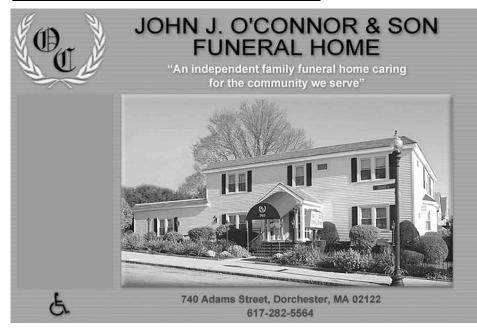
> in West Roxbury The B.C.C.A. Family of Cemeteries

366 Cummins Highway, Roslindale, MA 02131 Pricing information and maps available online at: www.BostonCemetery.org

Main Office located at:

617-325-6830

info@bcca.comcast.net





Ocean Edge Resort & Golf Club, Brewster, Cape Cod, MA



Harbor Point on the Bay Dorchester, MA



Ramblewood Apartments Holbrook, MA

Corcoran Jennison's portfolio includes, residential housing, hotels, resorts, health facilities, academic campuses, retail centers, and golf courses.

cjapts.com | corcoranjennison.com | cmjapts.com



Page 20 THE REPORTER December 17, 2020 dotnews.com



Internet Essentials from Comcast brings you affordable, high-speed Internet so your kids can learn from home. When you're connected, you're ready for anything.

Apply today if you qualify for programs like the National School Lunch Program, housing assistance, Medicaid, SNAP, SSI, and others. Households who owe money to Comcast may still qualify if approved by 12/31/20.

New Internet Essentials customers may be eligible for two months of free service. \$9.95

Per Month + Tax
after promotional pricing

- No Term Contract
- No Credit Check
- Free Self-Install Kit
- Up to 25/3 Mbps
- Access to Xfinity
   WiFi Hotspots

**Apply Now** 

InternetEssentials.com 1-855-846-8376



