

Dorchester Reporter

“The News and Values Around the Neighborhood”

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50¢

Cruising the Mighty Morrissey

Savin Hill resident Owen Thomas enjoys canoeing and sailing on Dorchester Bay, sometimes with his four-year-old son in tow. But, last Friday, the 37-year-old architect opted for a solo mission in his whitewater kayak as a very high tide and a coastal storm conspired to inundate Morrissey Boulevard. Thomas's wife, Hilary Shepard, captured the scene as Owen paddled his way up and down the roadway, which was closed to vehicles for several hours, snarling traffic across the city. Story, Page 2.



THE YEAR THAT WAS

Development: Morrissey flooded with very big plans

Public safety: Violent crime puts parts of Dot, Mattapan on edge

BY GINTAUTAS DUMCIUS
MANAGING EDITOR

You can forgive yourself if you go by Boston Bowl in Neponset next year and have a distinct sense of déjà vu, or the feeling that you're seeing double.

A few steps away from the bowling alley and arcade, a Dorchester institution, work has been underway this year on 219 residential units, part of a project known as 780 Morrissey. Already a striking block of ongoing construction between Morrissey Boulevard and the Southeast Expressway, 780 will soon have a twin rising up beside it, on a site currently occupied by a somewhat shabby-looking Ramada Inn. At its last meeting of the year, the board of the city's development and planning authority signed off on 800 Morrissey, which will add 229 residential units to the area.

Thousands more units are expected in the years to come, if developers press ahead with their plans on parcels on Mount Vernon Street at Columbia Point and up and down Morrissey. The thoroughfare itself is set to undergo long-overdue changes. But first, there's the commission.

Tucked into a transportation-related law signed by Gov. Baker in August, the panel is tasked with studying and issuing recommendations for climate resiliency, infrastructure, and multiple transit modes for the corridor.

It will be co-chaired by the state's top environmental and transportation officials or their designees. Its other members, once chosen, will include the state's public safety chief, the conservation and recreation commissioner, Mayor Wu, Dorchester Councillor

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BY SETH DANIEL
NEWS EDITOR

The year in crime and public safety was one of major leadership changes from the US Attorney for Massachusetts to the Boston Police and Fire departments. It was also a year of heartbreak in neighborhoods where murders by gun and assaults took a heavy toll.

Following is a look back at it all, beginning in January:

- As DA Rachael Rollins prepared to leave her post in January for a new position as US Attorney for Massachusetts, Gov. Baker named Kevin Hayden, chair of the state's Sex Offender Registry Board (SORB), to serve out the remainder of Rollins's term. Hayden later threw in his hat in as a candidate for DA, running and winning a very competitive race against City Councillor Ricardo Arroyo.
- A Dorchester man was shot to death inside Braintree's South Shore Plaza on Jan. 22. Dijoun C. Beasley, 26, was shopping at the Forever 21 store when he was murdered, allegedly by Julius Hammond-Desir, 19, of Maynard.
- Several public safety unions, including the Dorchester-based Firefighters Local 718, waged a legal battle over Boston's Covid-19 vaccination mandate. A Superior Court judge had denied their combined motion for a preliminary injunction against the mayor's policy. But a state Appeals Court judge issued a stay while the Superior Court ruling was being reviewed. The unions involved were Local 718, the Boston Police Detectives Benevolent Society, and the Boston Police Superior Officers Federation.

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It's Letters of Intent Day on the Dorchester Y campus



Putting pen to paper on their futures are Bucknell-bound Takai Whitmore and Morgan State recruit Sharieff Andrews. Kareem Worrell photos



BY SETH DANIEL
NEWS EDITOR

When cousins Sharieff Andrews and Takai Whitmore were six years old, they played football side by side in Dorchester Eagles Pop Warner uniforms that were a bit too big and their efforts more cute than dominant.

One got bigger while the other got faster, and by their high school years they were among the best high school football players in Massachusetts. Last week, their hard work – the physical training, the practices, the games – paid off nicely

ly when they sat at their childhood “chill spot” in the Dorchester YMCA and signed Letters of Intent to play Division 1 college football next fall.

Whitmore, the faster one, who turned 19 last week, will play for Bucknell University in Pennsylvania on a full

scholarship. Andrews, 19, will be at Morgan State in Baltimore, also playing on full scholarship.

“It felt amazing to sign the Letter of Intent,” said Andrews. “It’s everyone’s dream to go to school for free and do something

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Police, Courts & Fire

Boston firefighters knocked down a blaze at 438 Talbot Ave. on Tuesday morning (Dec. 27) that caused an estimated \$450,000 in damage. No injuries were reported. *BFD photo*



Man, 18, fatally shot near Franklin Hill Ave.

An 18-year-old Dorchester man, Michel Collins, Jr., was shot repeatedly at Franklin Hill Avenue and Shandon Road around 11 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 23, before he was taken to a local hospital, where he died, police say. On Nov. 9, a man was shot to death at nearby Harvard and Paxton streets.

A Dorchester man has been charged with attacking two girls inside a Talbot Avenue apartment on Dec. 16. Michael Fairweather, 36, is alleged to have attempted to strangle the girls— ages 12 and 14— as a third child, age 4, watched the assault unfold. Prosecutors say that Fairweather was out on bail on another charge involving the same children. That bail has been revoked and he is being held pending a Jan. 17 hearing following his arraignment in Dorchester court.

A 30-year-old Boston woman was arrested and charged with stabbing another woman during an altercation at a Fields Corner gas station on the afternoon of Dec. 21. Police were called to the Mobil station at Geneva Avenue and Park Street just after 5 p.m. for “a fight in progress.” They found the victim— a 30-year-old woman— bleeding heavily from her lower abdomen. The victim told police she had been stabbed in the stomach. Skilar Morris was charged with assault and battery with a dangerous weapon and carrying a dangerous weapon at her arraignment in Dorchester court the next day. A judge ordered her to stay away from the victim’s home and work and to wear a GPS device. She was ordered held on \$10,000 bail. She is due back in court in February.

Owen Thomas lives in Savin Hill with his wife Hilary and their two children, ages 4 and 1. Last Friday morning, as a wind-driven rainstorm hit the coast in the middle of high tide, Thomas carried his kayak— designed to navigate whitewater rivers— to McConnell Park and paddled his way across the boardwalk to Morrissey Boulevard.

It was a voyage that the 37-year-old residential architect has been thinking about for years. “We live right down the street and thought it would be a funny thing to do,” Thomas told the Reporter this week. “They’ve been talking about repairing and raising up [the boulevard] for years, but that hasn’t happened. I thought a picture of somebody kayaking on the road might help encourage the city to do a little bit more about climate resiliency.”

The photos— taken by his wife Hilary Shepard and posted on Twitter by his neighbor Ryan Murphy— showed Thomas paddling southbound on the northbound lane of the boulevard, which was entirely closed-off to vehicular traffic for most of the day.

“It was really windy, but fortunately it was



Owen Thomas is shown mid-stream on Morrissey last Friday, Dec. 23. *Hilary Shepard photo*

warm. You could see the waves crashing on the water side as it was flooding over. It’s only the second time I’ve seen it connect completely from the Malibu beach side to the harbor.”

It took a bit of effort to maneuver his kayak over the median strip on Morrissey, but Thomas said the waters were otherwise plenty deep enough to allow for an easy paddle.

The main obstacles he encountered were recy-

cling bins that had been left curbside for trash day, but went floating off in the current.

Thomas, who is also a member of the Savin Hill Yacht Club, loves to canoe, fish and sail in Dorchester Bay. But this was his maiden voyage in his kayak, which is typically best equipped to handle river rapids in northern New England.

“We love Dorchester and Savin Hill,” Thomas said. “It’s an awesome place to be and we thor-

oughly enjoy being near the ocean and we like to go swimming in the bay, too.”

Thomas said he hopes that the images of his kayak replacing motor vehicles and bicycles along the state-owned parkway will give policy-makers a nudge towards modernizing the route.

“I know that the flooding disrupted life for a lot of people. It would be nice to see that get better.”

– BILL FORRY

Mass. home sales fall sharply in '22

By Chris Lisinski
State House
News Service

Single-family home sales in Massachusetts plummeted last month to the lowest November total in eight years while prices climbed to a new high, according to the latest report from The Warren Group.

Across the state, there were 3,806 sales of single-family homes in November, reflecting a 29.4 percent drop from the same month one year ago and a 34.7 percent decline from two years ago, The group said in a report published last Wednesday.

That’s the lowest No-

vember total since 2014, raising the stakes in a housing debate that lawmakers have been reluctant to dive into despite many families feeling financially burdened or locked out of the market.

“The significant drop in single-family home sales came as no surprise in November,” said Warren Group CEO Tim Warren in a statement. “A tightening inventory, higher interest rates, and economic uncertainties have had a big impact on consumer confidence, and real estate activity has taken a hit in recent months. The more important development is the slowdown in

median price hikes. The 3.9 percent increase we saw in November was the smallest percent increase on a year-over-year basis since June 2020.”

November’s sales slowdown continued a more than year-long trend. With only one month left in 2022, year-to-date single-family home sales are down more than 8,000, or 14.5 percent, over last year, the Warren report said.

Sales of condominiums also declined in November, falling to 1,663, or 21.8 percent less than November 2021.

Prices for both single-family homes and

condos climbed once again. The median price for a single-family home in Massachusetts last month was \$530,000, which was 15.2 percent higher than November 2020. On the condo front, the median sales price rose 6 percent from November 2021 to November 2022 to hit \$475,000.

“The condo market followed very similar trends to the single-family market in November— a massive year-over-year decline in sales paired with a more modest increase in price,” Warren said. “It’s clear that neither market is immune from current economic conditions.”

December 29, 2022

Boys & Girls Club News	13	Dorchester Reporter (USPS 009-687)
Opinion/Editorial/Letters	6	Published Weekly Periodical postage paid at Boston, MA.
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UPCOMING CIVIC MEETINGS AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

The John F. Kennedy Presidential Library hosts a free Celebrate! performing arts program for families on Mon., Jan. 16: Benkadi Drum and Dance performs traditional West African rhythm and movements on Martin Luther King Jr. Day at 10:30 a.m. Make reservations online at jfklibrary.org/celebrate or call 617-514-1644.

The Zoning Commission of the City of Boston will host a virtual public hearing on Wed., Jan. 11 at 9 a.m. to discuss an amendment filed by the Boston Planning & Development Agency that would expand the boundary of the Olmsted Green Smart Growth Overlay District to include the Olmsted Village development project in the Greater Mattapan Neighborhood District. This meeting will only be held virtually and not in person. You can participate in this meeting by going to https://bit.ly/BZC_January2023.

Copies of the petitions and a map of the area involved may be obtained from the Zoning Commission electronically, and you may also submit written comments or questions to zoningcommission@boston.gov.

Gov.-elect Maura Healey and Lt. Gov.-elect Kim Driscoll plan to hold their inaugural celebration at TD Garden on the night of Thurs., Jan. 5. Healey and Lt. Governor-elect Driscoll have attached the theme “Moving the Ball Forward” to their inaugural, a reference to their time as college and professional basketball players. “The inaugural team said Wednesday that tickets will become available “in the coming weeks” as well as details about the timing, ticketing, program, and additional events. The new Legislature will be sworn in on Wednesday, Jan. 4, 2023, and Healey and Driscoll will be sworn in on Jan. 5. Gov. Charlie Baker

said this fall in a radio interview that he plans to take the traditional “lone walk” down the front steps on Jan. 4, a day before he officially leaves office.

– MICHAEL P. NORTON/SHNS

The Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) encourages residents to get their COVID-19 booster and annual flu vaccination. The updated boosters are available for everyone ages 5 and older. BPHC operates several free, walk-in clinics that offer COVID-19 testing, vaccines, boosters, and flu shots. No insurance, no IDs, and no appointments are needed at these sites. Locations include: **BCYF Hyde Park Community Center:** 1179 River St, Hyde Park. Open Tuesdays from 12-8 p.m.; Thursdays from 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; **Bruce C. Bolling Building:** 2302 Washington St, Roxbury. Open Tuesdays-Saturdays from 12-8 p.m.; **Lena Park Community Development Corporation:** 150 American

Legion Hwy, Dorchester. Open Sundays from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Mondays from 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Wednesdays from 12-7 p.m.; and Fridays from 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. For more information about where to find a COVID-19 vaccination or testing clinic near you, visit boston.gov/covid19.

In honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Franklin Park Zoo and Stone Zoo will offer free admission on Mon., Jan. 16. Throughout the day, there will be keeper chats, animal encounters and more to explore! Guests are invited to write messages of hope and peace on murals located within the Tropical Forest Pavilion at Franklin Park Zoo and within the Animal Discovery Center at Stone Zoo. For a schedule of activities, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. visit zoonewengland.org.

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It's Letters of Intent Day on the Dorchester Y campus

(Continued from page 1)

you love like football. You get to earn the degree you want to get while still playing football and that's amazing." Whitmore said he is excited to go to a school with stellar academics and be able to play football at the same time.

The most enjoyable part for the cousins, though, was that they are giving their parents a "gift" for supporting them.

"Academics at Bucknell are amazing," said Whitmore, whose overall goal was to get to a point where "my parents don't have to worry about paying for college. They (Michael Whitmore and Teisha Worrell of Dorchester) have a lot going on and keeping that off their plate was important to me. I wanted to give back to them for all the sacrifices they've made for me."

Added Andrews: "That was really the main reason for working so hard to get a scholarship – being able to tell my parents (Dexter Andrews and LaTarsha Williams of Dorchester) don't have to pay for my college. It's so much weight off your shoulders."

Andrews has honed his skills as an interior defensive lineman, and he expects to play as a



YMCA Executive Director Anthony Attride, Sharieff Andrews, Takai Whitmore, and YMCA Associate Director Larry Merritt II on signing day.

freshman in some role at Morgan State. He'll arrive at the school after a post-graduate year at St. Thomas More School in Connecticut. Before that, he played his junior and senior years at Malden Catholic High School as a transfer student from the Wakefield schools where he had been in the METCO program since the seventh grade. His elementary school days were spent at Boston Renaissance Charter, and, for a year, at the Davis Leadership Academy in Fields Corner.

Whitmore attended William Monroe Trotter Elementary, and then Boston Latin Academy (BLA), where athletics was not a key focus. As he began emerging

as a high-level football player, he caught the attention of Dexter-Southfield, where he played the last few years.

This year was a breakout time for him as a running back, where he often dominated on the field. However, he's been playing defensive back at Bucknell, as he is one of the top-rated defensive backs this year in New England.

Still, both said their journeys began together on the Dorchester Eagles Pop Warner team, under the tutelage of long-time coach Terry Cousins and his crew of adult leaders.

Football, which Andrews began playing at age five, is an experience he shares with his older brothers, Dexter (Jr.),

who played for Worcester State, and Taaj, who is in junior college in California playing for the College of the Sequoias. The game was a trial by fire for Sharieff. "Football was kind of inherited," he said. "I was the youngest and they used to really sling me around."

Whitmore began playing because his cousins and friends were already doing so. While his mother was initially skeptical when he took up football at age six, eventually all family members were aboard with their support.

Andrews said his work ethic traces back to his time in an Eagles uniform. "That's really what made the dog in me," he said. "Everyone knows

the Eagles are tough and we had a lot of good players. We were always the powerhouse in the city and as young kids we learned that drive and how to compete and how to go up against the best competition.

"What I learned with the Eagles helps separate me from other athletes. No matter what, I can't stand around or lie down. I've always got to be going."

Whitmore, who didn't inherit football in the same way as his cousin, said he learned confidence as an Eagles player.

"I was accustomed to being around the right people and good coaches," he said. "You eventually look around and

realize you're playing on a team with a lot of good players and you're one of the top players. That meant a lot at a young age and helped me understand I can do this. I got a lot of confidence from that situation with the Eagles."

The signings at the Y last Wednesday (Dec. 21) coincided with the early National College Signing Day, when thousands of young men across the United States signed letters to play football at various universities on full scholarships. For Andrews and Whitmore, having it at the YMCA was a "full circle moment."

The staff and the facility, which has a partnership with the Eagles, were always friendly and accommodating. They said it was a safe place to go even when things might not be ideal on the streets outside the building. Having had very positive childhood memories there, they said they wanted to show the kids there now that any dream is possible.

"Coming back to sign my letter served as a representation and something for the kids here to see, kids that are in the same position I was a few years ago," said Whitmore. "That meant a lot to my family and me."

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Editorial

In support of the Comfort Inn plan

A proposal by the Pine Street Inn and The Community Builders to convert an existing Comfort Inn hotel on Morrissey Boulevard into supportive housing for formerly homeless adults has prompted an impassioned debate about the role Dorchester can and should play in assisting those struggling to live out their lives with dignity in one of the most expensive cities on the planet.

There are decent and well-meaning people on both sides of the Comfort Inn divide and legitimate concerns have been raised and heard. But, in the end, the project presently under review by the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) should be approved for two main reasons:

First, the project itself can improve conditions in and around the site with minimal impacts and costs. Secondly, the chief beneficiaries of the new housing will be our neediest neighbors from in and around Dorchester, including many who have been waiting anxiously for safe and affordable housing in their own community.

The two nonprofits intend to renovate the 131-room Inn into 104 studio rental units, each with a kitchenette and bathroom. The complex will also have security, with case managers working on site with the tenants, all of whom are subject to eviction if they don't follow the rules enforced by an experienced team of property managers. That's a major shift from the transient, unregulated environment of the current chain hotel, which can be a magnet for problems if left unchecked.

Some of those opposed to the hotel's conversion have cited anecdotal accounts of drug use, homelessness, and loitering at local parks, beaches, and businesses. But most of the tenants who will be housed at the converted hotel are already tenants in scattered site housing elsewhere in Dorchester. Most, according to Pine Street, are older adults over 50 years of age in apartments that aren't ideal for "aging in place." These men and women — once relocated to the Comfort Inn's renovated space — will have direct access to support services and each other's company. And, in moving out of their current units, they'll free up urgently needed subsidized housing for people waiting for that opportunity.

Some opposed to the Pine Street-TCB proposal have suggested that Dorchester residents already pull their weight in the form of group homes, sober houses, scattered subsidized units, and the like. It's true that city neighborhoods like our own are generous in spirit and compassionate towards those in need, in part, because "these people" are so often our own family and friends. It should be a point of pride, not a strike against us, that Dorchester welcomes the chance to help our neediest, more vulnerable neighbors.

The Morrissey corridor will undergo significant change in the coming years with hundreds of new units of market-rate units slotted to rise within blocks of the Comfort Inn site. This project presents a chance for us to help house existing neighbors who need the support services and affordable options that only this type of housing can offer.

And, in the process, we can stabilize a block that might otherwise present a larger public safety threat in less experienced hands. In the Comfort Inn conversion, we have an opportunity to improve the neighborhood, help our neediest neighbors, and unlock new opportunities to alleviate the housing crisis more broadly. We should seize it.

—Bill Forry



From left, Thelma Burns was Boston's "community service champion." Robert Marr was "one of Dorchester's most generous and loyal sons." 105-year-old Ernestine Emiline Sealy, 105, a Barbados native, left behind a rich family legacy: 2 sons and a daughter, 12 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren, and 7 great-great grandchildren. Bob Haas was a passionate advocate for Dorchester, a legendary civic leader and organizer in the Dudley Street and Uphams Corner neighborhoods. Catherine White, 98, was a Savin Hill mainstay, the mother of 8, grandmother of 20, and great-grandmother to 24. A proud union representative of Local 54, she was the cook at St. William's rectory until the age of 84.

In Memoriam Dorchester 2022

By THOMAS MULVOY
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

They were among the many who said goodbye. Some served in government. Some served the interests of their neighborhoods in public settings while others did so from home. Some offered spiritual direction. Some built things, and one delivered the mail with diligence and equanimity. For all that, they had one thing in common: A connection to Dorchester during their lives.

Robert L. Marr, characterized in a Reporter editorial as "one of Dorchester's most generous and loyal sons" was the son of Colonel Daniel Marr, the namesake of the original Boys and Girls Club. Bob and his brother, Dan. Jr., raised the money and drove the project. The fifth-generation construction company — which Bob's grandfather, Daniel F. Marr, founded in 1898 — specializes in steel erection, scaffolding, and cranes. "Back in the day, and over 50 years, he never stopped," said Bob Scannell, BCGD president and CEO. "Bob didn't just write checks and walk away. He was involved in every committee, every event. And look at the legacy he leaves behind."

Thelma D. Burns very much earned her designation as Boston's "community service champion." She served as co-founder and executive director of The Storefront Learning Center, one of Boston's first programs focused on the needs of inner-city youth. Her involvement with Boston's marginalized youth grew to include her service in two different Metropolitan Council of Education Opportunity (METCO) program communities, first Cohasset and later Belmont, where she spent more than 20 years as program director. After her retirement from METCO in 2001, Thelma focused on the needs and concerns of Boston's senior community. She served on the Action for Boston Community Development (ABCD) Board of Directors for more than 35 years in multiple capacities and headed the ABCD Dorchester Neighborhood Service Center board for more than 15 years. She also operated in a leadership capacity on numerous community boards, including Central Boston Elder Services, the Mayor's Senior Advisory Council, and the Roxbury YMCA.

Theresa "Terry" Dolan was a longtime Dorchester civic leader and environmental activist who specialized in caring for her home community, the Lower Mills, to which she was drawn, she said, by the "mini-renaissance" of the Walter Baker Chocolate buildings on the banks of the Neponset River. After earning a graduate degree at Simmons College, she worked for 25 years in the Massachusetts State House, serving six governors of both political parties, from Michael Dukakis to Deval Patrick. Upon her retirement in 2008, Ms. Dolan became a leader in community civic activities, advocating for the cleanup of the Neponset River and volunteering as secretary/treasurer of the Dorchester Lower Mills Civic Association.

Bob Haas, a New Jersey native, a passionate advocate for Dorchester, was a legendary civic leader and organizer in the Dudley Street and Uphams Corner neighborhoods. He was also an accomplished, classically trained pianist and organist, who performed two full-length concerts at the Strand Theatre. A founding member of the Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative (DSNI) and the Dorchester Bay Economic Development Corporation, the two most important engines of economic renewal and civic life in his part of Boston, he "was a tall, big teddy bear," said John Barros, a close friend and former colleague. "He was a committed community builder who organized in Roxbury and Dorchester for decades and was a true giant in the community with a big heart and consistent dedication to his neighbors."

Others who served their city in public roles included **Thomas P. Lyons**, a one-time deputy Commissioner of Health and Hospitals for the City of Boston; **William Cotter**, who was a deputy Director of the Department of Neighborhood Development for the city for 30

years and a stalwart youth sports figure, especially with Savin Hill Baseball and Dorchester Youth Hockey; **William "Billy" Celester Jr.** rose through the ranks of the Boston Police Department to the position of deputy superintendent before he was recruited to become Director of the Newark (NJ) Police Department in 1991. He also served as commissioner of the Suffolk County House of Correction at Deer Island; **Herbie Berman**, 95, of the US Postal Service, surely set some kind of record for service with the agency through all sorts of Dorchester weather until he stopped walking his routes at age 88.

When it came to spreading the news, **Jack Thomas** was always at the ready. He grew up in Neponset and worked on Morrissey Boulevard for some 50 years as a reporter, city editor, columnist, ombudsman, and feature writer at the Boston Globe and as a correspondent for the Dorchester Reporter and its sister publication, The Boston Irish Reporter; **Barbara McDonough**, 86, who delighted Dorchester Reporter readers for more than three decades with her accounts of daily life in Neponset and beyond, died on New Year's Eve 2021 just a few minutes before the arrival of 2022. She was the Reporter's longest-serving columnist and a regular presence in the newspaper's offices from 1983 until her retirement in 2015; **Edward D. Miller**, 91, a Dorchester native who moved all the way to Milton, told all the stories about Boston College athletics as the university's Director of Sports Information over the last quarter of the 20th century.

THE RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY

Sister Theresa Cunningham, SND de Namur, 96, taught for many years at Notre Dame affiliated Dorchester schools, including St. Gregory Elementary and St. Gregory High Schools and St. Ambrose School. Later, she worked on the staff of The Pilot, the newspaper of the Boston Archdiocese. ... **Rev. Jacques A. McGuffie**, 76, a native of Haiti who served as a priest in Dorchester at Holy Family and St. Peter parishes was a delayed vocation who came to the priesthood after the death of his wife and a career as an accountant. ... **Rev. George A. Carrigg**, 91, was for 48 years a constant presence at Saint Christopher Parish on the Columbia Point Peninsula.

PERSONALITIES

Michael C. Szkolka was that guy in the Green Dragon Tavern in Boston reenacting a scene from the 18th century — a British Redcoat throwing back a few pints with tourists and locals alike, deploying his inexplicable combination of crankiness and charm that made him genuinely likable. He had a passion for education and history as he was a teacher for 26 years at Fontbonne Academy in Milton, an adjunct professor at Quincy College, and a staple on the Freedom Trail in Boston as a tour guide with Lessons on Liberty. ... When it came to staying power, **Catherine M. (Glavin) White**, 98, of Savin Hill, was in the front rank. Mother of 8, grandmother of 20, and great-grandmother to 24, she was a proud union representative of Local 54 and employee of Boston University. After retirement, she took on the cooking responsibilities at St. William's rectory, where she worked until the age of 84. ... Another Savin Hill mainstay, **Patricia Powers**, raised her family there while finding the time to work as a patient care assistant at St. Margaret's and St. Elizabeth's hospitals for 37 years and later as a volunteer tour guide at the Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the United States Senate on Columbia Point. ... **Ernestine Emiline Sealy**, 105, a Barbados native, left behind a rich family legacy: 2 sons and a daughter, 12 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren, and 7 great-great grandchildren.

...

Lastly, the Franklin Park Zoo lost Anala the tiger, at 17, of kidney failure. Officials deemed her an "incredible ambassador for her species."

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Commentary

My best-use recommendations for ‘millionaires’ tax proceeds

By **BILL WALCZAK**
REPORTER COLUMNIST

On Nov. 8, a majority of Massachusetts taxpayers voted to change the Commonwealth’s Constitution to create a tax of 4 percent for income over



Bill Walczak

a \$1 million in addition to the existing 5 percent flat-rate income tax. The new law stated that the money would “provide the resources for quality public education and affordable

public colleges and universities, and for the repair and maintenance of roads, bridges and public transportation.”

There’s a wide divergence of opinion as to how much money will wind up in the state’s coffers as a result of the constitutional change. The Massachusetts Teachers Association believes it will be \$2 billion, but most organizations that study Massachusetts tax law think it will be closer to \$1.2 billion. Tax accountants are already informing their wealthy clients about how to get around this new law, via trusts set up in other states and other tax avoidance measures, so it could be even less.

Whatever it winds up being, it is very important that the money be used wisely. These dollars should ensure that our commonwealth has both the educational capacity and infrastructure for a healthy economy to flourish. Here are my recommendations for its use, consistent with the stated goals of the successful ballot question:

• **Fully fund full-day pre-kindergarten seats.** This includes K-1 (for 4 year olds) and K-0 (for 3 year olds). Research shows that children who are in high quality early education programs perform better in school and are more likely to read at grade level by third grade, which is a major determinant of student success. Funding this has the added benefit of decreasing income inequality. With Massachusetts having the seventh worst rate of income inequality in the US, funding quality K-0 and K-1 would significantly increase incomes for low-income families.

• **Double student scholarships to public universities and make community college free.** A Hildreth Institute study of the state’s investment in higher education shows that funding has declined by 20 percent per full time student, with financial aid dropping 35 percent between 2001 and 2020. The same study shows that the cost of attending community college has increased by 52 percent and state universities by 59 percent while real household income growth increased only 13 percent over the same period. The result is that our students have the eighth highest rate of student loan indebtedness in the US, according to the Institute for College Access and Success.

Massachusetts has no natural resource to build an economy on. What

we have are smart people, on whom our economy is generated. Recent data show that fewer graduating students from our high schools are choosing to attend college. We need more incentives to encourage them to do so. Gov.-elect Healey has indicated support for the MassReconnect program, which will provide the opportunity for residents over the age of 25 to earn free community college certificates and degrees. We need everyone in Massachusetts to have a degree or certificate to maintain a robust economy. Giving free access to community colleges is the first step.

• **Fix the MBTA.** A Massachusetts Taxpayers Foundation (MTF) analysis of the MBTA from last August details both the problems and the potential solutions to our troubled public transit agency. The report starts with an ominous statement: “Failure to fix [the T] has profound impacts on the region’s economy and the companies and people forced to rely on public transit.” Speaking personally, I’ve been trying to use the MBTA to get to meetings, since some meetings are moving from zoom to in-person. Every single time there has been a problem, with the result that I have been late for meetings or have spent 40 or more minutes getting to or from downtown (from the Savin Hill Red Line stop, a 3-mile trip). It’s hard to call this “rapid transit.” Were it warmer, I’d ride my bike, as driving a car can take as long or longer than riding the T.

There’s a lot of blame to go around, but that won’t help. The MBTA needs to fix its infrastructure but is limited in borrowing money because it is paying off debt it does not deserve to have, like \$3.8 billion from the Big Dig. Its greatest need is to pay for deferred maintenance, like replacing the 50-year-old trains that have “equipment failure” leading to delays in service.

The MBTA should be the first transportation priority for the millionaires’ tax. Every person riding the T is someone who might otherwise be in a car on a highway that cannot handle additional traffic, resulting in additional carbon emissions that our state has promised to eliminate. Public transit is an essential item for our economy, to mitigate the effects of global warming, and for equity. We don’t need another study to determine what is needed. The MTF, the Federal Transit Administration, and other agencies have looked at the problems of the T. The MTF summarized the need as “three key components: working physical infrastructure, fiscal health, and a functioning organization.” We need the political will to make that happen.

The millionaires’ tax money should be invested in the long term needs of Massachusetts, which is not something our commonwealth does well. The suggestions above will have a positive long-term impact on our economy, the environment, indebtedness of our residents and the wealth gap.

The people and the organizations opposed to the millionaires’ tax argued that we can’t trust the Legislature with the dollars that will be generated by it. They almost succeeded in convincing enough voters – 48 percent voted no. It will be a shame if the legislators prove them right.

Woman charged with Mora Street arson

A Dorchester woman was arrested Tuesday on charges she set a three decker at 74 Mora St. on fire - in a two-alarm blaze in which Boston firefighters rescued several residents. Nikia Rivera, 45, was arraigned in Dorchester Municipal Court that same day. Judge Erika Reis ordered her sent to a DMH facility in Worcester for an evaluation.

A witness to the fire told officers that Rivera told him, “I’m sorry, I had to do it” before leaving the scene on foot. The DA’s office says Rivera told officers, “I had to do it. That house is haunted. I lit the house on fire.” The three-family house is owned by a Brockton man, according to city records. The fire department says two residents were slightly injured. — **STAFF**

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Ji Young Chae and Jeffrey Cirio in Mikko Nissinen's The Nutcracker by Brooke Trisolini

Development: Morrissey flooded with very big plans

(Continued from page 1)
Frank Baker, and state lawmakers, or if they choose, their designees.

The commission hasn't met yet, with its makeup pending and the transition of power now underway at the State House. Baker is handing the reins of government over to Maura Healey, who has been filling out her cabinet picks in the last few weeks.

South Boston state Sen. Nick Collins, who also represents Dorchester, said the commission has a June 2023 deadline for its recommendations, though it could be extended, given where things stand now. He estimates that an overhaul of Morrissey, from Neponset Circle to Kosciuszko Circle, could cost \$1 billion, meaning the commission will likely have to look at "creative" financial tools to pay for it.

Healey's incoming transportation chief is familiar with Morrissey: Gina Fiandaca served as Boston's transportation commissioner for four years under Mayor Marty Walsh before heading to Austin to work as an assistant city manager.

The buildings in the pipeline for the boulevard won't just be residential. Projects close to JFK/UMass MBTA Station, which, like Morrissey, is overdue for an overhaul, call for commercial and lab space.

Proximity to the MBTA is key, since the Red Line is considered a "life sciences" corridor that shuttles workers to the biotech hub in Kendall Square. But forecasters believe that heavy demand for lab space will drive equally heavy demand for workers in the tens of thousands. Neighborhood residents foresee Dorchester benefiting from both.

"The future in Dorchester is biotech, lab space, high-tech manufacturing space," Councillor Baker told the Reporter earlier this year.

But this is a lookback. Here are some of the major projects that have either received approval, or remain underway in Dorchester and Mattapan.

Dorchester Bay City

The \$5 billion project spans 36.5 acres and covers the site of the former Bayside Expo Center, a portion of the Boston Teachers Union property, and the Morrissey Boulevard building across Mount Vernon Street occupied by Santander. Developers, who are eyeing a Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) vote by the coming summer, plan to build a mix of residential, commercial, and lab space. The project, living up to the "city" part of its name, could last 15 to 20 years.



The BPDA is proposing larger residential developments along the River Street corridor, mixing commercial space with residences.

Image via BPDA

PLAN: Mattapan

The construction of 2,400 additional homes. A more diverse mix of retail along major corridors, including bodegas and daycares. Street improvements with a focus on pedestrians. Those are all part of city planners' initial draft that would turn Mattapan, a majority

Black/African American area, into a "10-minute neighborhood."

The plan was released in October, and while city officials had eyed a BPDA vote before the end of the year, that has been pushed off.

A key component of the plan is an initiative focused on accessory dwelling units, dubbed "ADUs 3.0." City officials say they'll add "gentle density" to the area, help build generational wealth, and bring housing to a region that desperately needs it.

Separate and apart from the proposal are planning initiatives underway for Boston Public Schools, Blue Hill Avenue, Cummins Highway, and the Neponset River Greenway extension.

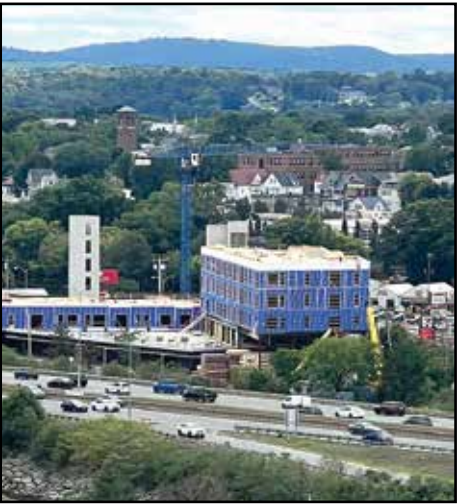


A view of the Port Norfolk waterfront, which will be re-developed through an approved project at 24 Ericsson St., which includes two new residential buildings a new boathouse, and a fishing pier.

Bill Forry photo

Port Norfolk

The BPDA board signed off on the 3.6-acre development at the beginning of the year. The project, known as both "Neponset Wharf" and "24 Ericsson," is adding three buildings to the Port Norfolk peninsula, which in recent years has been home to a distillery and a restaurant. The developers aim to bring two residential buildings and mixed-use space, as well as a new boat-house, a harborwalk, and a fishing pier.



A view of construction underway at 780 Morrissey Blvd. as seen in September 2022.

Bill Forry photo

900 Morrissey

Pine Street Inn, the largest homeless services provider in New England, is partnering with nonprofit developer The Community Builders Inc. to convert the Comfort Inn on Morrissey Boulevard into permanent, supportive housing aimed at formerly homeless people. The 130-room hotel would turn into 103 units, with 24/7 security and case managers from Pine Street Inn. The site was once the location of one of the earliest Quincy-based Howard Johnson's restaurants. The project, which has generated heated support and pushback in the neighborhood, remains under the review of the BPDA.



Plans for a 29 residential unit site at Rent-All. Image via Boston Planning

Rent-All in Lower Mills

A five-story, \$15.2 million condominium project at 1169-1171 Adams St. will add 29 residential units to Lower Mills. The project is going up on the site of a longtime tool and party supply store, Rent-All of Boston. A vacant single-story residential building on the parcel will also be demolished.



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

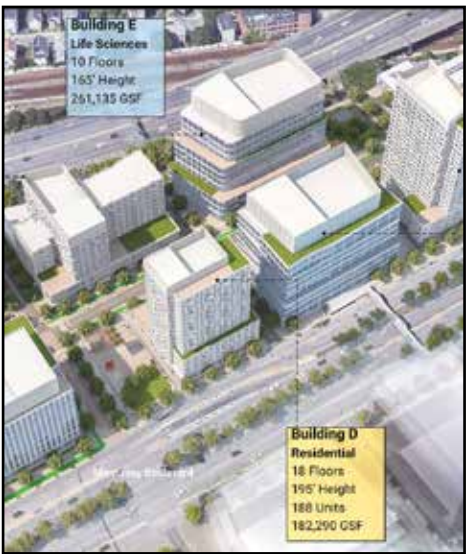
Gintautas Dumcius photo

The BEAT, rebranded

The team behind the redevelopment of the former Boston Globe headquarters, located at 135 Morrissey, initially called it the BEAT, short for Boston Exchange for Accelerated Technology and a tip of hat to the "beat" reporters who worked at the newspaper for 60 years. Now the name of choice is "Southline," as they hope to draw life science companies to the space. The companies would be joining fitness apparel company Nobull, which is moving its headquarters there from Boston proper. The development team, Beacon Capital Partners and Nordblom Co., have also floated an additional building, focused on life science space, rising up on the Savin Hill side of the property behind the main complex.

Dorchester Field House

The youth sports facility planned for Columbia Point received key city approvals this year, as well as money from federal, state, and city officials. The 75,000- square-foot, three-story building is a joint project between the Martin Richard Foundation and the Boys and Girls Clubs of Dorchester. Plans for the Mount Vernon Street facility include basketball courts, running tracks, an auditorium, and a cafeteria.



35-75 Morrissey

Residential towers and lab space could be coming to the parcels south of the JFK/UMass MBTA Station. The properties are currently home to the former Ch. 56 TV station, a two-story office building, and a Star Market with an adjacent liquor store. The project would add 7 buildings, including 4 life science and commercial buildings and 3 residential buildings, rising in height as they approach the MBTA station. The supermarket would remain open during construction. The public comment period on the project, at the BPDA level, ends Jan. 15.

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BOSTON MEDICAL CENTER

Bay City developers aiming for BPDA okay by summer

By IZZY BRYARS
SPECIAL TO THE REPORTER

The developers behind the \$5 billion “Dorchester Bay City” proposal, which would remake 36 acres in the neighborhood’s Columbia Point area, are hoping to receive a key approval from city officials by this summer.

Accordia Partners last week unveiled changes to the project, which seeks to bring a mix of uses, from commercial and lab space, as well as residences, to the site of the former Bayside Expo Center. The firm also owns 2 Morrissey Blvd., which is home to Santander Bank offices, as well as a subdivision of land owned by the Boston Teachers Union.

The latest version of the proposal, filed with the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) last week, would create more open space by the waterfront, in part by ditching a large building, and placing a 6,300-square-foot “pavilion” that focuses on public amenities.

Dick Galvin of Accordia Partners appeared before the Columbia Savin Hill Civic Association’s planning committee on the same day the developer filed the update (Dec. 13). Committee members focused on the impact of building Dorchester Bay City, an effort slated to last over decades, and the expectation that the state will eventually reconstruct “K Circle,” shorthand for Kosciuszko Circle, the traffic-snarled rotary off Morrissey, Columbia Road, and I-93.



An aerial view of the proposed Dorchester Bay City site looking southwest. The latest iteration of the 36-acre development includes additional greenspace and amenities like the Dorchester Esplanade shown in the foreground adjacent to Carson Beach. Image courtesy Accordia Properties LLC/Stantec Architecture

“A huge benefit of the project is being a catalyst but also a direct contributor to solutions,” Galvin said at the planning committee’s meeting, which took place over Zoom.

The proposed changes to the area include overhauls to traffic flow and street improvements, with bike lanes stretching down Mt. Vernon Street from the JFK/UMass MBTA station to the UMass Boston campus.

Bill Walzcak, a long-time Dorchester activist

and resident of Savin Hill, worries that the construction may bring more challenges to the area. “Dorchester traffic getting any worse is a crazy idea,” he said, “but where do the cars and traffic go around the street construction?”

Citing internal project estimates, Galvin said the number of cars on the street before and during construction would be approximately the same.

Kirk Sykes, also of Accordia Partners, said transportation cannot

be addressed in isolation. Fixing that element, Sykes said, has to go hand-in-hand with building neighborhood resiliency to climate change and rising sea levels, the other focus of the Bay City project. Affordable housing is yet another focus, and all must be addressed simultaneously, with support from the public and private sector, he added.

“We have to keep pressure on but also involve public agencies,” Galvin

said. “The things we can do ourselves are funding and building Mt. Vernon St and other smaller things, but there are things we need to do collectively with the state and others.”

Both Galvin and Sykes said they hoped to get a BPDA board vote on the project, a key approval, by this summer. “We may not agree on everything, but I’m hoping we can agree to move forward,” Sykes said.

But some residents said they wanted more

of the project to focus on K Circle and Morrissey Boulevard. “It’s too bad a group of developers can’t get together and see how this project intersects at K Circle,” Jake Wachman said.

State officials, joined on a designated commission by city leaders, have been tasked with reviewing the Morrissey corridor, as the area grapples with a development up and down the key coastal thoroughfare. A report is due by next June.

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Barbalho, Lucio	Donovan, Matthew G	Nason, Steven C		288 East St #3	Dorchester	12/05/22	430,000
Smart, Adam T		465 Development LLC		27 Saxton St #3	Dorchester	12/05/22	735,000
Timothy J Floreth T	Floreth, Timothy J	Grampian Moran LLC		147 Grampian Way #1	Dorchester	12/06/22	1,275,000
Rose, Myra		Forrester, Dexter		28 Wabon St	Dorchester	12/07/22	699,000
Weaver, Ian A		Edge RE Investments LLC		116 Alexander St #2	Dorchester	12/09/22	565,000
Liew, Jay	Cattania, Camilla	Grampian Moran LLC		147 Grampian Way #3	Dorchester	12/09/22	1,120,000

Public safety: Violence put parts of Dot, Mattapan on edge

(Continued from page 1)

•Boston and Canton Police were faced with a mystery in February when Boston Police Officer John O’Keefe, a 16-year veteran of the department, was found dead outside a Canton home. His girlfriend, Karen Read, was charged with second-degree murder for allegedly hitting him with her car and leaving.

•A federal judge in Boston sentenced Bruce “Arki” Brown, 43, of Dorchester, to 11-and-a-half years in US prison for his 15-year career as a pimp that included routine beatings and threats to intimidate the women – and a 16-year-old girl –he was trafficking in prostitution.

•Boston’s requirement of proof of vaccination to enter certain indoor spaces ended on Feb. 18, after officials said the city had hit three thresholds that indicate levels of coronavirus among the populace. But officials at the State House, just a short walk from City Hall, kept limits in place. On Feb. 22, the state capitol building welcomed visitors for the first time since the March 2020.

•A man from Worcester was arrested in February after he allegedly broke into the Franklin Park Zoo and attempted to get into a secure enclosure for the facility’s tigers. State troopers were called to the scene by security staff who detained 24-year-old Matthew Abraham.

•A Nigerian man living in Grove Hall who pretended to be a dashing American soldier so he could worm his way into the hearts of lonely women online to swindle them pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit mail fraud. Mike Oziegbe Amiegbe, 42, even managed to persuade a 70-year-old woman in San Antonio to fly to Brussels in pursuit of a box purportedly containing \$24 million that he had found while allegedly serving in special forces in Syria.

•A Boston police officer was arraigned in Dorchester court on March 7 on a charge that he tried to intimidate an internal affairs investigator whose probe landed him on administrative leave for moving out of Boston before his union contract allowed him to. The defendant—Matthew Morrissey – allegedly drove to the detective’s house, parked his pickup truck out front, “rolled down his window and stared at the fellow officer.” It was allegedly the third time he had done such a thing.

•The Tech Boston Academy (formerly Dorchester High School) was rocked on Tuesday evening, March 15, when two shooters riding on a scooter came into the school parking lot and shot a teacher and a 17-year-old student preparing to get on a fan bus travelling to a state high school basketball playoff game. They survived their injuries. About 90 minutes after the shooting, the basketball team was scheduled to play a high-stakes Final Four State Tournament game in Framingham against Watertown. Tech Boston lost, 59-50. The two teens later arrested and charged with the gunfire are from Lynn and Dorchester.



What started off as a casual morning event full of free swag, complimentary Dunkin’ cups of coffee, and potted plants quickly turned violent during Michelle Wu’s “coffee hour” in Ronan Park on June 22 as police arrested a Dorchester man after he engaged in an altercation with police yards from the mayor. Shawn Nelson, 43, was later arraigned in Dorchester District Court on charges of resisting arrest, disturbing the peace, and using a bullhorn in violation of the permit. Seth Daniel photo



Veteran officials take new posts – From left, Boston Police Commissioner Michael Cox, Boston Fire Commissioner Paul Burke, and C-11 Commander Capt. Shawn Burns. At right, 16-year-old Jucelena Gomes, who was killed in a Jan. 2 shooting in Codman Square that left two other people wounded.



Rachael Rollins took the oath as US Attorney for Massachusetts in April. Mayor’s Office photo by John Wilcox

Police: This man is a “one-man crime wave”



In April, Boston Police called a Fields Corner man, Thanh Le, a “one-man crime wave.” He had broken into several area restaurants multiple times and had multiple open cases at Dorchester District Court. In June, police say, he drove a stolen car the wrong way onto an I-93 exit ramp while wearing a ski mask. A few minutes later, he lost control at Freeport Street, drove over a curb and smashed into another vehicle. He then fled on foot. He was Tased and taken to an area hospital for treatment.

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A four-alarm fire at 19 Oakley St. on April 2 caused no injuries but significant damage to that home and the back of two homes on Corona Street. More than 100 firefighters fought the blaze. Seth Daniel photo

•Two men were sentenced to life in prison without parole in March after they were convicted in the shooting death of Deondra Lee, a 34-year-old father of four who was killed while watching a July Fourth fireworks display with his wife near their home in 2018. The murderers— Michael Carleton and Travis Phillips— drove up behind Lee and shot him at point-blank range for no apparent reason near the corner of Dacia and Brookford Streets.

•An ugly altercation unfolded on April 2 at the busy intersection of Granite Avenue and Gallivan Boulevard involving a group of people on mopeds and a motorist and his passenger. The assault, which was recorded and went viral on social media, sent two people to the hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

•A Fields Corner man described by police as a “one-man crime wave” was the subject of a few crime stories throughout the year. In April, Thanh Le was charged with breaking into several area restaurants and had multiple open cases at Dorchester District Court. Later, in June, he allegedly took a stolen car the wrong way on an exit ramp of I-93 North while wearing a ski mask. A state trooper pursued him but broke off the chase. A few minutes later, Le lost control at Freeport Street, driving over the curb and hitting another vehicle. He then fled on foot. A confrontation ensued and Le was tased and taken to an area hospital for treatment. Later in the year, he was linked to a February incident where he violently pushed a woman down in Fields Corner and stole her purse.

•A Dorchester man was killed on April 12 when his arm became stuck in the door of a Red Line subway car as it pulled away from Broadway station. Robinson Lalin, 39, was pronounced dead at the scene. His fate sparked a major investigation of the MBTA by the National Transportation Safety Board.

•A federal judge on April 15 unsealed an indictment charging 19 members of the Dorchester-based Cameron Street gang with a variety of RICO violations dating to 2010 that include one murder, 33 attempted murders, 17 armed robberies, 19 unarmed robberies, including home invasions, one carjacking and selling crack, marijuana, and guns. Most of the members were rounded up by ATF agents and BPD officers. Feds said the gang had been terrorizing the Bowdoin-Geneva neighborhood for decades.

•Patrick Rose, a former president of the Boston Police Patrolmen’s Association (BPPA) and one-time C-11 officer, pleaded guilty in late April to raping six children over a period of 27 years. Suffolk Superior Court Judge Mary Ames sentenced the 67-year-old Rose to 10 to 13 years in prison, followed by 10 years of probation for the 21 counts of child rape and sexual assault.

•School safety and violence was a prime concern in 2022 and seemed to come to a climax in Fields Corner at the former Boston Arts Academy (which has now moved to a new

Public safety: Violence put parts of Dot, Mattapan on edge

building in Fenway). In May during a rally in front of the school organized by parents and students, Lily Handy said one of her schoolmates nearly cut off her ear in a violent attack in the school.

- A 48-year-old man was shot dead by a Boston Police officer in Dorchester at about 2:40 a.m. on May 14 after the man allegedly attempted to stab another officer in the middle of Glendale Street. Two officers were transported to the hospital with non-life-threatening injuries, and the male suspect — later identified as Richard Ortiz of Revere— was pronounced dead at the scene.
- A 32-year-old Dorchester man was accused in May of using a 3D printer in his Columbia Road home to manufacture guns and ammo that law enforcement officials say were meant to be trafficked on the streets of Boston. Edmilson Andrade, 32, was charged and it was the first big reference to “ghost guns,” which are weapons made almost entirely with parts manufactured with a 3D printer.
- Weekly road closings that started May 27 in Dorchester and Mattapan around Franklin Park riled some members of the community. But other residents say the closings have been in place for three years to curtail noise and quality-of-life concerns and have brought a sense of relief to the neighborhood. Either way, the situation highlights a sharp disagreement on how to handle concerns that emerged

during the pandemic.

- At least 11 people were hurt in a series of shootings in Boston over the July Fourth weekend, including four men who were wounded in an incident on Bailey Street near Ashmont station that took place shortly after midnight on July 3. Three victims were taken to the hospital with non-life-threatening wounds. A fourth man made it to a local hospital on his own, with non-life-threatening injuries. A male victim was more seriously injured by a shooting that happened on Mattapan’s Elizabeth Street around 2:19 a.m. on July 3.
- Paul F. Burke, a Roslindale native and father of three was appointed Boston’s fire commissioner on July 1. He succeeded Jack Dempsey, who retired after 35 years in the BFD ranks.
- Residents of 23 Lithgow St. were spared as a three-alarm fire raged through their Codman Square three-decker last week on a hot Friday afternoon, July 15. There were no injuries to civilians, but one firefighter suffered minor injuries and 17 people were displaced from the three-decker and the building next door.
- One of the most traumatic murders in 2022 came on July 27 when a 15-year-old boy was shot to death outside 28 Ellington St. in Dorchester. The victim— Curtis Ashford, Jr.— was taken to a local hospital, where he was pronounced dead. He had recently graduated from the McCormack

Middle School. Zontre Mack, 19, of Canton, was charged in the murder. Dominick Gavin, 25, of Boston, was charged with being an accessory after the fact of murder.


- Three people were shot— two fatally— at the three-decker home at 26 Melbourne St. early on Sept. 4. Boston Police were called to the scene around 3 a.m. One person died at the scene and a second person was pronounced dead at a local hospital. A third victim sustained non-life-threatening injuries. The victims who died were later named as Tefan Ivy, 32, of Brockton, and Jermaine Daye, 33, of Randolph.
- A student at Jeremiah Burke High School was listed in stable condition after he was shot by another student on school grounds outside the building on the morning of Oct. 4. A firearm was recovered, and a suspect was arrested shortly afterward. The incident occurred just weeks after a 17-year-old from Randolph allegedly stabbed a Burke High student in the shoulder while in the building.
- Jean McGuire, the 91-year-old civil rights and education activist, was stabbed on Oct. 11 in Franklin Park while walking her dog. The attack on McGuire, a former member of the Boston School Committee, outraged members of the community in the neighborhood around Franklin Park and ignited calls for better safety mechanisms in Franklin Park.
- A flurry of shooting in-

cidents in Dorchester —including the brazen murder of a barber in his own store on Washington Street near Grove Hall— prompted renewed anxiety about an uptick in violence. In the killing incident, an unknown gunman burst into Celebrity Cuts barbershop and fired on Herman Maxwell Hylton, a 43-year-old Roxbury man who was a co-owner of the shop. He was cutting a young boy’s hair at the time of the assault. The shooting followed several murders in Dorchester and Mattapan, including the Oct. 4 shooting death of 19-year-old Christian Berryman. Fatal shootings in November were also logged on Orlando and Paxton streets.

- A seven-year-old child was relieved of a loaded gun by police at Dorchester’s UP Academy/Holland School on Oct. 27. On Dec. 9, a girl brought a firearm in a backpack to the Saint John Paul II Columbia Campus in Dorchester. The incident was deemed accidental by authorities, who said a family member who had the gun was licensed to have it. He was summoned to court on charges related to the case.
- Gunfire erupted near Roberts Field on Nov. 1 just as a football practice for the Dorchester Pop Warner program was ending. One person was injured when 14 bullets were fired near the Lee Academy Pilot School on Dunbar Avenue, close to the field, where many players, coaches and parents ducked

for cover. The apparent target of the shooting suffered only minor injuries.


- Two men and a woman were arrested during a raid on a Lower Mills apartment in late November, where federal, state, and local investigators found 100 pounds of fentanyl powder and pills, three industrial pill-press machines, and numerous sealed Priority Mail envelopes containing pills that were ready to be dropped off at a local post office. The office said the seized fentanyl had a street value of about \$2.25 million.
- More than 25 shots rang out at a Talbot Avenue tire shop just after school let out at the nearby Lee K-8 school on Dec. 5, sending two men to the hospital with non-life-threatening injuries. The shootings occurred as several kids were in the after-school program at the BCYF Perkins community center across the street. Two unidentified teen-agers were arrested and police arrested Sydeeq Murchinson, 18, of Dorchester, on Dec. 21 for charges related to the event.
- A major City Council-sponsored hearing on Dec. 17 at the Lilla Frederick Middle School on Columbia Road addressed public safety challenges amidst a long stretch of shootings, homicides, and aggravated assaults. The hearing allowed residents, police, and city officials to speak candidly about a situation that many said felt out of control and ignored.



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Codman Square Health Center

Top tips from 2022

By Dr. Edward Schettino

As 2022 draws to a close, I hope your year has been filled with

Moment of Paws

the never-ending joys of having pets in your life. As we all know, pet ownership can be as challenging as it is rewarding; and if there is one thing that I can convey to pet owners in this monthly column, it's that you are not alone!

Whether you've had pets throughout your life, or if this is your first time with a furry family member, there will inevitably come a

time when you may need support. That's why organizations like the Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL) offer many resources, including this column, to help both pets and their owners thrive.

To start your new year off on the right paw, here are the top 5 tips we've shared with you in 2022:

Help to Manage Your Pet's Anxiety and Stress. This has become a more important part of pet ownership in recent years. Increasing activity, establishing a daily routine, and continuous training are all ways to help manage stress and anxiety levels, and you can always reach

to an expert, including ARL's free Pet Behavior Helpline, for advice should the condition become worrisome.

Never Leave a Pet Alone in a Hot Car. ARL's annual Too Hot for Spot@summer safety campaign reminds pet owners of the dangers of leaving an animal in a hot vehicle, even with the windows cracked. A car's inside temperature can rise to deadly levels in a matter of minutes. Not only is it dangerous, it's also illegal in Massachusetts. This is also true in winter months when the low temperatures can be life-threatening as well. When it doubt, keep your pet at home.

What to Do Should Your Pet Go Missing. It's a fear we all have with our pets, but if your pet is missing, it's

important to act quickly. You should first notify your local animal control officer, as well as file a lost report with ARL and with every shelter within a 60-mile radius of where your pet went missing. You should also contact your pet's microchip company, and don't give up! Many pets go missing for months before being found so stay positive and keep looking. If your pet isn't microchipped, now is a perfect time to consider



Jax

getting one.

Recognizing Pain in Our Pets. Pets tend to hide when they're in pain, so it's up to us to recognize the signs and then take action. Signs of pain in our pets include decreased appetite and activity, difficulty walking or lying down, excessive grooming, and whining or being unusually quiet. You know your pet best, so if you suspect something may be wrong, contact your veterinarian immediately.

Thinking Beyond Puppy Adoption. When it comes to adoption, many are immediately drawn to puppies and kittens, but while adorable, they may not be the right fit for every household, so ARL encourages potential adopters to look beyond puppies and kittens. Consider a mature or senior pet, a pet that

was a victim of abuse or neglect, or a pet with a medical condition. These animals have plenty of love to give, and while there may be challenges, adopting one of these animals is extremely rewarding!

Visit arlboston.org for more pet tips, or to revisit any of the topics covered in this year's A Moment of Paws column.

Thank you for inviting me into your family, and I look forward to bringing you more pet health and safety topics in 2023. Until then, I wish you and all of your furry, and feathered family members Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year!

Dr. Edward Schettino is the president and CEO of the Animal Rescue League of Boston. He holds a Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine from the Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University.

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Go to www.dorchesterhistoricalsociety.org and click House History dropdown to request individual house research and see completed histories.

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BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF DORCHESTER





BGCD Members Beatrice R. & Grainne M. Selected for Posse Scholarships: See details below.

CONNECT THE DOT:
BGCD Members Beatrice R. & Grainne M. Selected for Posse Scholarships: Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester would like to congratulate members Beatrice R. & Grainne M., both of whom have been selected for the prestigious Posse Scholarship!

The Posse Foundation identifies, recruits and trains individuals with extraordinary leadership potential. Posse Scholars receive full-tuition leadership scholarships from Posse's partner colleges and universities. Both members went through a rigorous interview process along with many other high quality candidates before being selected.

Join us in giving a big congratulations to Beatrice and Grainne! BGCD is incredibly proud of all that you have accomplished.

FIND OUT WHAT'S INSIDE:
BGCD Celebrates Holidays with Member Holiday Party: Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester celebrated the Holidays with a special party for invited members. Everyone attending enjoyed a festive day that began with a hot breakfast, then members enjoyed playing carnival style games in the gym, and the party finished off with BGCD staff handing out toys for all.

BGCD would like to give a special thanks to all of our individuals, families, local businesses and corporate partners who contributed to the success of the parties with gifts for the members. Your generosity has given our members a special holiday season and we could not do this work without you.

To learn more about partnering with BGCD, please contact Mike Joyce at mjoyce@bgcdorchester.org.



BGCD Celebrates Holidays with Member Holiday Party: See details below.

DID YOU KNOW:
Help BGCD This Year-End Giving Season with a Gift Today! You can make sure every child who walks through the doors of our three Clubhouses in Dorchester finds safety, fun and a sense of belonging. Our mission is to always welcome and connect young people and families to opportunities that embrace diversity, nurture growth, and inspire success. It is generous donors and partners like you who make this happen. Appreciated stocks, bonds, and mutual funds held for more than a year is a great giving vehicle. When a donor gives an appreciated security they will receive a tax deduction for the full market value of the security and save on Capital gains tax. Consider making a monthly gift that gives all year! Please consider a gift before December 31st at <https://secure.qgiv.com/for/bgcdedy>. Thank you from all of us at BGCD for your support!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Holiday Recess - Membership Closed
December 23 - January 3

After School Program Reopens
January 4

Project BIND Semi-Formal Dance
January 6

Teen Scholarship Night
January 10

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RESERVATIONS AND INFORMATION:

In order to optimize your comfort and enjoyment, reservations are recommended for all visitors to this free program. Make reservations by visiting jfklibrary.org/celebrate or calling 617-514-1644 and leaving a message. Children are seated on the carpeted floor with their caretakers. Space is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Limited seats are available for people with disabilities, seniors, and others unable to sit on the floor. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

We encourage audience members to wear masks to boost the comfort level of the staff and your fellow participants.

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Last chance to visit this special exhibit!

The exhibition *First Children: Caroline and John Jr. in the Kennedy White House* looks at the public's fascination with the President's progeny, a fascination fed by the media. Through photos, articles, commercial products, and film, the faces of the Kennedy youngsters helped cement the new President in the public's collective mind as a national figure with whom anyone could identify. While President Kennedy saw value in this humanized imagery, Mrs. Kennedy sought to protect her children from the public eye by focusing her efforts on creating "normal" childhoods for them in the midst of world attention.

The majority of the over 120 objects, images, and ephemera shown are from the Library's museum collection and archives—most are exhibited for the first time.

Don't miss the activity book, *A Tour with Tony: A White House Mouse* and explore this temporary exhibit which features artifacts, photographs, video, and documents related to President and Mrs. Kennedy's young children.



The *First Children* exhibit closes on January 8, 2023.

Columbia Point, Boston • 617-514-1600 • www.jfklibrary.org

General admission to the Museum is \$18. Children 12 and under are always free. Additional student, military, senior, and EBT discounts available.



RECENT OBITUARIES

COLETTA, Margaret B. (O'Brien) of Braintree, formerly of Dorchester. Wife of the late Gerard A. Coletta, Jr. Mother of Kathleen Stefani and her husband Michael of Hernando, FL, Maureen Coletta

of Miami, FL, Gerard "Chip" Coletta III and his wife Theresa of Norfolk, Marybeth Forbes and her husband Scott of Braintree, and Michael Coletta and his wife Julie of Marshfield. Daughter of the late Patrick and



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ZONING HEARING

The Zoning Commission of the City of Boston hereby gives notice, in accordance with Chapter 665 of the Acts of 1956, as amended, that a virtual public hearing will be held on January 11, 2023, at 9:15 A.M., in connection with a petition for approval of the Fifth Amendment to Development Plan for Planned Development Area No. 67, Olmsted Green ("Fifth Amendment"), filed by the Boston Redevelopment Authority d/b/a the Boston Planning & Development Agency.

Said Fifth Amendment would amend the Development Plan only with respect to the allotted square footage for the Brook Charter School Project Component (already constructed) on the Lena 3 Park Parcel (the "Proposed Project"), and the total Gross Floor Area for the Olmsted Green Project. This Fifth PDA Amendment amends the provision that the school use on the Lena Park Parcel may be up to approximately 73,600 square feet from approximately 61,000 square feet (for a total increase in square footage of approximately 12,600 square feet). This Fifth PDA Amendment also revises the total Gross Floor Area for the Olmsted Green Project to approximately 853,600 square feet from approximately 841,049.

This meeting will only be held virtually and not in person. You can participate in this meeting by going to https://bit.ly/BZC_January2023. Copies of the petitions and a map of the area involved may be obtained from the Zoning Commission electronically, and you may also submit written comments or questions to zoningcommission@boston.gov.

Interpreting services are available to communicate information at this hearing. If you require interpreting services, please contact the following: zoningcommission@boston.gov or 617-918-4308. The meeting is scheduled for January 11, 2023. Please request interpreting services no later than January 6, 2023.

For the Commission
Jeffrey M. Hampton
Executive Secretary

ZONING HEARING

The Zoning Commission of the City of Boston hereby gives notice, in accordance with Chapter 665 of the Acts of 1956, as amended, that a virtual public hearing will be held on January 11, 2023, at 9:00 A.M., in connection with the Text Amendment Application No. 508 and Map Amendment Application No. 750 filed by the Boston Redevelopment Authority d/b/a the Boston Planning & Development Agency.

Said map amendment would amend "Map 8A and Map 8B, Greater Mattapan Neighborhood District," by expanding the boundary of the Olmsted Green Smart Growth Overlay District ("SGOD") to include the Olmsted Village development project ("Olmsted Village") to fall within the district and thus allow the Chapter 40R benefits to apply to the project. The proposed text amendment would amend Article 87A, Olmsted Green Smart Growth Overlay District, by including additional uses within the Olmsted Village portion of the Olmsted Green SGOD, to accommodate the senior housing program.

This meeting will only be held virtually and not in person. You can participate in this meeting by going to https://bit.ly/BZC_January2023. Copies of the petitions and a map of the area involved may be obtained from the Zoning Commission electronically, and you may also submit written comments or questions to zoningcommission@boston.gov.

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For the Commission
Jeffrey M. Hampton
Executive Secretary



Mary (Flaherty) O'Brien. Sister of the late Joseph O'Brien, Mary Lawless, Patrick O'Brien, James O'Brien, Bernadette Norton, Eileen Sullivan, William O'Brien, and Timothy O'Brien. Also survived by 10 grandchildren. Donations may be made in her memory to Cops for Kids with Cancer at copsforkidswithcancer.org.
CONWARD, Geraldine "Gerri" Ann (Paschal), 72, of Dorchester. Daughter to the late Mildred "Millie" Alexandrina (Christopher) (Paschal) Washington and Richard Earle Paschal Sr. Wife of Thomas Conward (T.C.). Mother of Kevin Conward (deceased), Nakeisha Conward of Dorchester, and Jaleel Conward of Randolph. Sister of the late Mary Paschal. Grandmother of 5. Great grandmother of 2. She is survived by her



DOYLE, Linda M. (Deraney), 101, of Quincy, formerly of Dorchester. Wife of the late Thomas F. Doyle. Mother of Susan Prindeville and her husband Graham of Rockland, Maureen Tomanski and her husband Robert of Somerville, and John Doyle and his wife AnneMarie of Marshfield. Grandmother of 10 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren. Linda was a veteran of the United States Navy who served her country during WWII. Please consider making a donation in memory of Linda to Full Circle Adoptions, 8 Bridge Street, Northampton, MA 01060 <https://fullcircleadoptions.org/donate>

siblings, William Boyd (Rose) Paschal, Steven Gerard (Grace) Paschal, Richard Earle (Debra) Paschal, Jr., Denise Aleina Washington, Delores Elaine Washington, and Deitra Venice Washington. She is also survived by a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.



DOYLE, Linda M. (Deraney), 101, of Quincy

cy, formerly of Dorchester. Wife of the late Thomas F. Doyle. Mother of Susan Prindeville and her husband Graham of Rockland, Maureen Tomanski and her husband Robert of Somerville, and John Doyle and his wife AnneMarie of Marshfield. Grandmother of 10 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren. Linda was a veteran of the United States Navy who served her country during WWII. Please consider making a donation in memory of Linda to Full Circle Adoptions, 8 Bridge Street, Northampton, MA 01060 <https://fullcircleadoptions.org/donate>



NAUGHTON, Mary (Joyce), of Dorchester formerly of Camus, Co. Galway, Ireland. Wife of the late Michael J. Naughton. Mother of Catherine McNicholas and her husband Mark of Braintree, Michelle Harty and her husband Joseph of Quincy, Michael Naughton and his wife Kate of Braintree, and Christine O'Riordan and her husband Kevin of Braintree. Sister of Bridie Joyce of Braintree. Sister-in-law of Bridie Joyce of Quincy, and Peg Conley of Walpole. "Nana" of 9. Great-grandmother of 5. Donations in memory of Mary may be made to the Irish Pastoral Centre, 540 Gallivan Blvd., Dorchester, MA 02124, ipcboston.org

PRAYER TO
THE BLESSED VIRGIN
(NEVER KNOWN TO FAIL)

Oh, most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, Fruitful Vine, Splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh, Star of the sea, help me and show me, herein you are my Mother. Oh, Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of heaven and Earth! I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in this necessity. (Make request). There are none that can withstand your power. Oh, show here you are my mother. Oh, Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3 times). Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hands (3 times). Thank you for your mercy to me and mine Amen.
The prayer must be said for 3 consecutive days and after that the request will be granted. The prayer must be published.
-E.W.F.

HELP WANTED

Harbor Health

Daniel Driscoll-Neponset Health Center

is seeking a Food Access Assistant to work in our Food Pantry on **Tuesdays from 7:30 AM to 3:00 PM** to assist with sorting and distributing food to clients of the pantry and other administrative tasks. HS diploma required and bilingual a plus! Hourly salary starting at \$18. Apply online at <https://www.hhsi.us/about-us/join-our-team/> or call 617-533-2342 for more info.
EOE

HELP WANTED

Codman Square Neighborhood Corporation (CSNDC)

Community Organizer

CSNDC seeks a self-motivated, experienced Community Organizer to help build a base of resident leaders – an "Equity Army" – to advocate for economic and racial justice within the Codman Square/Four Corners/South Dorchester neighborhoods of Boston. Key responsibilities of the role include the following: cultivating relationships with community residents, partners, and stakeholders; developing strategic neighborhood outreach plans to recruit residents for leadership development, advocacy campaigns, and other initiatives; supporting the development and implementation of issue-oriented campaigns and special projects; ensuring accurate and timely reporting of activities to identify progress toward meeting goals; and representing CSNDC as needed at collaborative, coalition, and community meetings.
Our ideal candidate will have a proven commitment to social justice and possess many of the following skills and experiences: excellent verbal, written and organizational skills; strong understanding of organizing/mobilizing principles with at least 2-3 years of community organizing or related experience; demonstrated record of success in leadership development as well as formulation and implementation of organizing campaigns; availability to work some evenings, and periodic weekends; and bilingual in English and another language predominant in CSNDC's service area is preferred.
This position is currently operating on a hybrid remote/in-office schedule. The base salary for this position is \$58,000, actual salary will reflect experience and qualifications. For a full job description please visit the [Jobs and Resources](#) page on our website. To apply email a resume, cover letter, and a list of three references to CSNDC's Director of CORE Marilyn Forman, marilyn@csndc.com with Community Organizer in the subject line.

Codman Square Neighborhood Corporation (CSNDC)

Lead Organizer

CSNDC seeks a self-motivated, experienced Lead Organizer to help build a base of resident leaders – an "Equity Army" – to advocate for economic and racial justice within the Codman Square/Four Corners/South Dorchester neighborhoods of Boston. Key responsibilities of the role include the following: day-to-day community organizing, base building, networking, and resident mobilization within assigned neighborhood sectors; assist Director of CORE in planning team building activities, hiring, training, and the supervision of volunteers as well as CORE staff; serve as a Liaison between CSNDC and external stakeholder groups; develop strategic neighborhood outreach plans and approaches; implement innovative ways to provide information and recruit residents for leadership development, advocacy campaigns, community cohesion activities and other initiatives; ensure accurate, timely reporting and data entry of activities, to identify progress toward meeting goals and objectives.
Our ideal candidate will have a proven commitment to social justice and possess many of the following skills and experiences: excellent verbal, written, listening and organizational skills; strong understanding of organizing/mobilizing principles with at least 3-5 years of community organizing or related experience; demonstrated record of success in leadership development as well as formulation and implementation of organizing campaigns; 3-5 years supervisory experience; availability to work some evenings, and periodic weekend; bilingual in English and another language predominant in CSNDC's service area is preferred.
This position is currently operating on a hybrid remote/in-office schedule. The base salary for this position is \$65,000 with room for negotiation; actual salary will reflect experience and qualifications. For a full job description please visit the [Jobs and Resources](#) page on our website. To apply email a resume, cover letter, and a list of three references to CSNDC's Director of CORE Marilyn Forman, marilyn@csndc.com with Community Organizer in the subject line.

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
Suffolk Probate & Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Docket No. SU22P2819EA
ESTATE OF:
ODETTE A. INNOCENT-PIERRE
DATE OF DEATH: 10/29/2022

To all interested persons:
A Petition for Formal Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Marie A. Chrispin of Mattapan, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Marie A. Chrispin of Mattapan, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve With Personal Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.
IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 01/31/2023.
This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.
UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.
Witness, HON. BRIAN J. DUNN, First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 20, 2022
Felix D. Arroyo
Register of Probate
Published: December 29, 2022

Baker Leaves Healey, State With New Emissions Plan

By CHRIS LISINSKI
STATE HOUSE
NEWS SERVICE

By the year 2050, the Baker administration envisions virtually all of the state's more than 5 million light-duty vehicles will run on electric power instead of fossil fuels, 80 percent of Massachusetts homes will be heated and cooled with electric heat pumps, and the statewide electrical infrastructure will be able to handle two and a half times more load than in 2020.

Those are some of the key benchmarks in a new climate and clean energy plan Gov. Charlie Baker's secretariat published Wednesday, outlining sector-specific emissions reduction targets and policy steps that will help Massachusetts achieve the legally required target of achieving net-zero statewide carbon emissions by the middle of the century.

The 2050 plan, which the Baker administration released on its way out the door of state government, seeks to formalize and expand a range of tactics already in play, leaning heavily on electrifying the transportation and building sectors and expanding clean energy sources such as offshore wind.

Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Beth Card said the 192-

page document "represents the commonwealth's comprehensive and aggressive plan to achieve net-zero cost effectively and equitably."

"To successfully achieve net zero in 2050, it is essential to transition our electricity system to clean energy and make Massachusetts transportation and buildings more energy-efficient and electrify those sectors," Card told reporters. "This effort will have significant implications for our economy, which is why we must engage closely with other state agencies, municipalities, businesses and residents."

"Really, this plan is a comprehensive sort of capture of what we think needs to happen next," Card later added.

State law requires Massachusetts to cut total greenhouse gas emissions at least 85 percent below 1990 levels by 2050, plus offset any remaining emissions by removing an equal or greater amount of carbon dioxide or its equivalent from the atmosphere.

The Baker administration plan sets specific sublimits for 2050 emission reductions for several sectors: 86 percent in transportation, 95 percent in residential heating and cooling, 92 percent in commercial

and industrial heating and cooling, 93 percent in electric power and 72 percent in natural gas distribution and service.

Those sublimits are slightly stricter than they would need to be to achieve the 85 percent economy-wide reduction necessary to hit net-zero emissions, and the administration said that approach offers "margins for error."

Baked into those target figures is an expectation that policymakers, industries and individual Bay Staters can achieve major reforms in the two decades between 2030 and 2050, particularly in the transportation and heating and cooling sectors. For example, the Baker administration previously set the 2030 emissions sublimit for transportation at a 34 percent reduction below 1990 levels, 52 percentage points below the new 2050 target.

Card said transportation policies in the plan include continued investment to build out electric vehicle charging infrastructure and incentives to push more consumers to purchase electric vehicles. The MOR-EV program will provide rebates worth up to \$3,500 for purchase or lease of an EV with a price of \$55,000 or less, Card said, adding that the Department

of Energy Resources will soon add rebates for low-income households and medium- and heavy-duty vehicles as authorized in a 2022 law.

The plan also factors in vehicle standards Massachusetts previously adopted requiring all light-duty vehicles sold in 2035 and beyond are either zero-emission or plug-in hybrids.

Binding together the transportation changes is a broad effort to reduce Bay Staters' reliance on traveling in their own personal cars. Instead, policymakers will work to encourage greater use of walking, biking and public transportation, including by constructing more housing near transit stations.

On the building front, the plan calls for creation of what Card called a statewide "benchmarking and labeling program" that would make more information public about building emissions, plus development of a "statewide climate finance accelerator" to drive more investments in buildings seeking to eliminate carbon emissions.

It also implements recommendations of the Commission on Clean Heat that Baker created via executive order. That panel published its final report last month, recommending steps

such as development of a "clean heat standard" to incentivize building electrification and cleaner heating technology.

Another area of focus is on land conservation. The administration set a target of ensuring that at least 40 percent of lands and waters in Massachusetts are permanently conserved and shielded from development by 2050, an increase over the 27 percent that the plan says are now "legally protected in perpetuity."

Card said the plan also calls for crafting policies to limit the clearing of forests for solar developments and for planting at least 64,400 acres of trees in the coming decades.

"Achieving net-zero will require significant changes in how land is used throughout the commonwealth, including energy and transportation infrastructure, housing development and land conservation," Card said.

Energy Undersecretary Judy Chang pitched the new 2050 plan as a longer-term complement to the Baker administration's 2025 and 2030 plan, saying it "really explores all the other trajectory beyond 2030" necessary to achieve net-zero emissions by the century's midpoint.

"We need to increase

communication about climate in general within the state and outreach to people that have to make individual decisions," Chang said. "It talks about the investments in educating the workforce and increasing investments in the workforce."

Card said the Baker administration modeled its 2050 plan "to be flexible enough to respond" to new technological developments, federal policies and global trends, infrastructure siting or any other changes that could emerge in the next 27-plus years.

The Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs last Wednesday also launched an online dashboard that the public can use to better understand how Massachusetts is faring along the road to its greenhouse gas emissions targets.

"With climate impacts already at our doorsteps, now is the time to take action for the future," said Conservation Law Foundation Vice President Caitlin Peale Sloan. "This plan is on the right track, especially when it comes to phasing out fossil fuels in our homes and on our roads. But we need to do more on environmental justice to make sure that no communities are left behind in the years ahead."



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