

# Dorchester Reporter

*"The News and Values Around the Neighborhood"*

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Isaac Hampton, majority owner of Underground Legacy on Blue Hill Avenue plans to open within the next two months. Hampton, who grew up on nearby Walk Hill Street, has added art from local artists inside and outside the dispensary. *Seth Daniel photo*

## Cannabis stores are expanding into more Dot, Mattapan villages

### Tax reform, pricing concerns vex retailers

By SETH DANIEL  
NEWS EDITOR

With six adult-use, recreational cannabis stores now open in Dorchester and Mattapan, and several more expected to come online in 2024, local retailers are getting a better feel for the day-to-day challenges of the evolving industry and its real-world issues – tax reform, pricing, and oversaturation.

Retail locations are now open on Bowdoin Street, Freeport Street, Washington Street in Codman Square, Blue Hill Avenue in Grove Hall, Clapp Street near South Bay, and on Dudley Street near the Roxbury line. There is also a delivery-only cannabis

business located in Neponset Circle.

Active proposals for new dispensary locations in the new year include a long-vacant building on Gallivan Boulevard near Neponset Circle and the Zeb Boutique on River Street in Mattapan Square, which is expected to open in early 2024. Another dispensary near Walk Hill Street and Blue Hill Avenue is weeks away from opening its doors.

"Again, anyone can open a dispensary but not anyone can run a business," said Dru Ledbetter, co-owner of Zeb Boutique. "I am a businesswoman and that's what I do and plan to do here."

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Celebrating the re-opened JATC training center: From left: Louis J. Antonellis, business manager, Local 103 IBEW; Christopher D. Sherlock, training director, JATC of Greater Boston; Alan Scharfe, John A. Penney Co. Inc., Governor at NECA Greater Boston; Lauren E. Jones, Secretary, Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development; Robert Sheehan, President, Local 103 IBEW; and Kathleen Guinee, Aetna Fire Alarm Service Co. Inc., Vice President at NECA Greater Boston. *Cassidy McNeeley photo*

## A grand reopening at IBEW's Dot campus

By CASSIDY MCNEELEY  
REPORTER CORRESPONDENT

A much improved \$10 million Joint Apprentice Training Center (JATC) is now open on the Dorchester campus of the IBEW Local 103, where some 2,000 apprentice electricians are learning state-of-the-art technology in expanded classrooms and collaborative spaces.

Union officials gathered on Dec. 7 to celebrate the re-opening of the space at 194 Freeport St. that it shares with the National Electrical Contractors Association.

"The building was over 30 years old," said Lou Antonellis, business manager and financial secretary at Local 103. "Like any building that age, it kind of needed some refurbishment and for it to be updated. It's been in the plans for five years or so, it's really exceeded all our expectations."

The union's mission is to provide Greater Boston's developers with the best electricians and telecommunication specialists. While there are currently around 2,000 apprentices at the JATC Electrical Industry Training Center, Antonellis thinks the new resources

(Continued on page 10)

## US court upholds BPS's exam schools admission policy; no rights violated

By MAX LARKIN  
WBUR REPORTER

The First Circuit Court of Appeals has held that Boston Public School's exam schools' admissions policy used during the 2021-22 school year is constitutional, according to a ruling released last week.

A three-judge panel unanimously held that that policy, which weighed both student GPAs and their home ZIP codes, did not infringe the constitutional rights of white and Asian applicants, as the plaintiffs had argued.

The plaintiffs, known as the Boston Parent Coalition for Academic Excellence, had challenged the policy by pointing to declining shares of seats awarded to white and Asian students at Boston Latin Academy, the O'Bryant School of Math and Science, and the Boston Latin School.

The 2021-22 policy, implemented partly in response to the pandemic, was expressly designed to broaden access to the three public high schools and boost racial diversity in their enrollments — and it appears to have had that effect.

The interim admissions policy was used to select the schools' incoming 7th- and 9th-grade students for Fall 2021. It eliminated an entrance exam over fears it wasn't safe to administer during the pandemic. It sought out students with the top grades in each of

(Continued on page 5)

## Health disparities across city focus of Codman Sq. forum

By CASSIDY MCNEELEY  
REPORTER CORRESPONDENT

On Thurs., Dec. 14, about 100 people filled the seats of The Great Hall at Codman Square to talk about the health status of both the city at large and the Dorchester population specifically and hear from four experts, including Dr. Bisola Ojikutu, the executive director of the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC).

Ojikutu shared citywide data from 2017-2021 about life expectancy and mortality, asthma rates, diabetes, cancer, and other key indicators that the city agency tracks citywide and by neighborhood. As in years past, the data showed disproportionate impacts to Black and Latino residents and in certain zip codes, including those in Dorchester.



Dr. Bisola Ojikutu

Ojikutu called attention to the gap in average life expectancy, which is 80.2 years citywide, but lower in Dorchester zip codes 02121 and 02125 (77.8 years) and in 02122 and 02124 (78.2 years).

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Police, Courts & Fire

Seniors attacked while caroling on Johnston Rd.

The Boston Police Department will seek criminal charges against a 15-year-old and a 16-year-old they say approached a group of “elderly Christmas carolers” from behind on Johnston Road in Dorchester around 3 p.m. on Sun., Dec. 17., and punched two of them in the back of the head several times.

Police say the carolers were there to lend some musical support to a friend. The victims declined medical attention and were initially unable to find the suspects, but, police said, “Detectives conducted a follow up investigation, and were able to identify two juvenile suspects who were involved in the assaults. Detectives interviewed them with their parents, and the juveniles admitted to the crimes.”

The two will be charged with assault and battery on a person 60 or over, police said.

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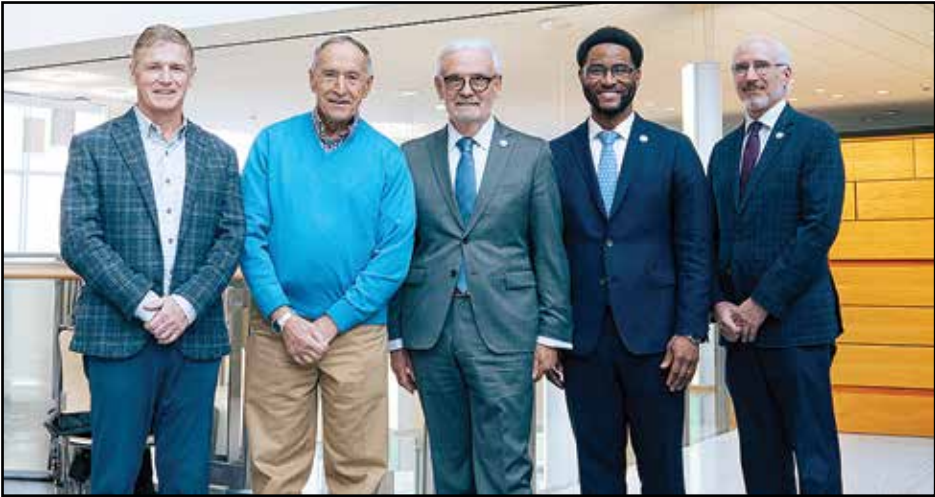
Somebody called 311 around 5:30 p.m. on Christmas Day (Monday) to report he had shot his wife at a Roslindale address and that he then tied up both her and the man he found with her and was standing over them. The call was routed to 911. Boston Police dispatched officers and Boston EMS sent two ambulances, one staffed by paramedics.

Police quickly recognized the address as Mayor Wu’s house. The detail officer stationed outside reported nothing amiss - and now they have opened an investigation into the attempted swatting.

...

Boston Police arrested a 48-year-old Dorchester man, Tyrone Wilson, last Thursday (Dec. 21) during a search warrant probe at a residence on Dale Street. Officers assigned to the B-3 Drug Control Unit were “conducting an ongoing drug investigation,” according to a police report. They “recovered a Smith & Wesson M&P Shield with one round in the chamber and six rounds in the magazine, and a Davis Industries P-380 with one round in the chamber and four rounds in the magazine,” according to a BPD account. Also found, police say, were “22 rounds of loose ammunition, powder cocaine, and about \$784 in US currency.” Wilson was taken into custody with plans for an arraignment in Roxbury District Court.

New Balance commits \$10 million to UMass Boston for sports institute



From left, New Balance President & CEO Joe Preston; New Balance Chairman Jim Davis; UMass Boston Chancellor Marcelo Suárez-Orozco; J. Keith Motley Endowed Chair of Sport Leadership & Administration Joseph N. Cooper; and Provost & Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs Joseph Berger. Courtesy Photo/UMass

The University of Massachusetts Boston has received a \$10 million commitment from Boston-based New Balance Athletics, Inc. to establish the New Balance Institute for Innovative Leadership in Sport on the Columbia Point campus. The gift will provide operational funds to launch the institute and endow it in perpetuity.

The commitment and the institute build on the New Balance Sport Leadership program founded at UMass Boston with a \$5 million gift in 2018.

“This is a brilliant partnership,” said UMass Boston Chancellor Marcelo Suárez-Orozco. “UMass Boston is the natural academic home for the New Balance program and this new institute. Innovative and interdisciplinary, the program prepares students for exemplary careers in sports management while offering a robust social justice platform to advance excellence, equity, diversity, and

human rights in sports. This aligns with our foundational idea that a UMass Boston education is designed to have impact and serve the greater good.”

Since the program opened in fall 2019, it has grown to 127 students majoring in sport leadership and administration, with another 34 students having already graduated. Students in the pro-

gram have participated in a combined 10,000 hours of internships in the sport industry.

“We are excited to expand our investment in UMass Boston through this institute, which reflects New Balance’s focus on advancing opportunities for transformatioal leadership, innovation, and diversity in our industry,” said Jim Davis, New Balance

Chairman. “Chancellor Suárez-Orozco and Dr. Joe Cooper have done a tremendous job to establish the Sport Leadership & Administration program. We look forward to seeing how this institute will enable the power of sport to positively impact our communities and create change-making sports leaders for the future.”

US Rep. Lynch bill asks for more federal funds for coastal protection

US Rep. Stephen F. Lynch has introduced federal legislation that seeks to shore up coastal barriers by expanding existing funding to include seawalls in communities like Dorchester and South Boston. His bill, the Seawall Expansion Act, would amend existing qualifications for inclusion in federal funding.

Currently, Lynch said,

the only infrastructure included are “embankments defined as levees.” His bill would allow “hard and soft infrastructure that act as a coastal barrier to be included as well.

“Coastal barriers such as seawalls and beach dunes are critical to protecting our coastline and keeping residents, businesses and our environment safe,” he said.

“They need consistent maintenance to ensure they remain secure, which requires cities and towns like Hull, Hingham, Weymouth, Quincy, and Boston, to seek federal funding to help keep them updated.

“The National Levee database is just that, a list of levees, and it is often used as a source for the distribution of federal funding,” he added. “The

Seawall Expansion Act would ensure coastal barriers everywhere, made of hard and soft infrastructure, would be included in the National Levee database and subsequently make it easier to receive federal funding and assistance from the Army Corps of Engineers.”

—REPORTER STAFF

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# New ordinance – a first – codifies rules on care of trees on city land

By **MARTHA BEBINGER**  
**WBUR REPORTER**

Boston has its first tree ordinance. It contains rules about when trees can be trimmed or removed from city-owned parks, the land around schools, libraries, and public housing. It does not apply to trees on private property, which comprise half or more of Boston's tree canopy. The new law is the city's latest effort to better protect trees, which provide shade, clean the air, and remove carbon emissions.

City leaders say more trees are a key piece of the city's plan to cope with longer, hotter summers.

"The ultimate goal is to have a climate-resilient urban forest that is thriving," said Kat Eshel, chief of staff at Boston's Office of Environment, Energy and Open Space. "Our canopy is connected to the health of our residents and well-being of our communities."

The public ordinance turns a patchwork of rules into comprehensive regulations for trees managed by the city. Construction projects on city-owned land will have to include a survey of all trees on the site with a trunk three inches in diameter or wider. Healthy trees can't be trimmed or

removed without public notice and a hearing. A tree's root zone, measured in relation to the size of its trunk, is also protected. There's an appeal process, in some cases, for neighbors who disagree with city plans to cut down trees.

City trees that line streets are already covered by a state preservation law. The Boston

ordinance expands and clarifies those rules. If a healthy street tree is removed in Boston, for example, it must be replaced by one or more of the equivalent size and species and be planted in the same neighborhood. The city's tree warden will manage replacements.

The ordinance establishes rules in line with

Boston's Urban Forest Plan – a 20-year project that has more than tripled the number of city employees caring for existing trees and planting new ones. One of the plan's goals is to close the gap between neighborhoods like Jamaica Plain, where 43 percent of the area is covered by trees, and East Boston, where that figure is 7 percent

and treeless blocks bake during warm months.

Across Boston there's an average of 27 percent tree cover. However, some neighborhoods have under 10 percent canopy cover. Some environmental advocates say that the city won't make significant progress in closing that gap until it adopts rules for trees on private as well as public land.

"We believe that public and private trees should have been in one ordinance," said Mimi Turchinetz, president of the Hyde Park Neighborhood Association, who is skeptical now that the city will create rules for privately owned trees. "It will be even more controversial and far more divisive."

A private tree ordinance would have to consider the different responsibilities of homeowners and renters, Boston's wide income disparities, and the cost of dealing with tree management. It could also face objections from residents. And there's the challenge of enforcing rules in tens of thousands of individual properties and yards.

"It's my hope that the city works creatively to figure out a way to do that," said Boston City Councillor Ricardo Ar-

royo, who co-sponsored the public tree ordinance that passed in mid-December. "The goal is to protect all trees."

Eshel said the city started with rules for public trees so it could "lead by example. That was our first priority," she said, "before getting to those more complicated discussions about trees on private property."

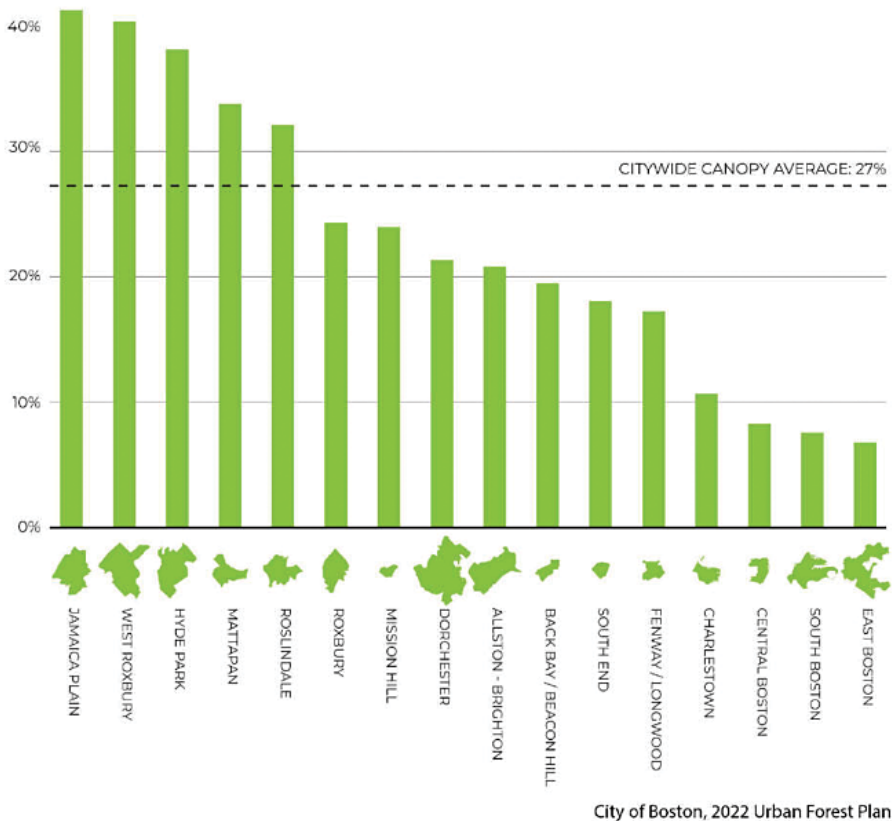
Some advocates who contributed ideas to the public tree ordinance say it should have strong enforcement and fines for violators. They say it will be difficult, politically, to add those elements to a private tree ordinance if they aren't in the public tree rules.

But David Meshoulam of Speak for the Trees, Boston, said there's excitement, too, that the value of each tree on public land in Boston will be seen and valued.

"These are fantastic steps forward," said Meshoulam. "We'll have to see if this changes how the city of Boston thinks about and preserves trees."

*This article was originally published by WBUR 90.9FM on its website on Dec. 20. The Reporter and WBUR share content through a media partnership.*

Boston's tree canopy coverage by neighborhood





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# Lawmakers urge legal action over firefighter’s toxic exposure

By COLIN A. YOUNG  
STATE HOUSE  
NEWS SERVICE

Nearly half of the Legislature signed onto a letter to Attorney General Andrea Campbell last week, imploring the state to join Worcester firefighters diagnosed with cancer in their lawsuit against companies that make firefighting gear alleged to include toxic PFAS chemicals.

Ninety-seven lawmakers – 24 senators, representing a majority of that chamber, plus 73 representatives – signed the letter, which asked Campbell to join and expand upon the suit that alleges manufacturers of turnout gear treated their products with per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and sold them to fire departments and governments despite knowing the health risks of PFAS exposure. The federal suit was filed last year by 10 Worcester firefighters diagnosed with cancer.

“Our firefighters place themselves in harm’s way to protect the Commonwealth’s residents and property. In doing so, they utilize gear, procured by the government, with the expectation that the gear will help protect them from harm. That gear should not provide short term protection at the cost of long-term harm. We respectfully request that your office undertake litigation related to firefighter turnout gear and help protect those who protect us,” the lawmakers wrote in their Dec. 18 letter to Campbell.

PFAS is a class of man-made



**Boston firefighters are shown at the scene of a fire in an apartment building under construction at 1644 Dorchester Ave. last Thursday, Dec. 21. There were no injuries reported and the cause remains under investigation. Photo courtesy BFD**

chemicals that do not break down entirely in the environment, and exposure to their long-lasting presence has been linked to serious and negative health impacts like thyroid disease and kidney cancer. PFAS chemicals are all around us; they are used in non-stick cookware, food packaging, children’s products, carpets, leather goods, ski wax, firefighting foams and more, and they have leached into drinking water supplies and the soil.

Serious levels of PFAS contamination have been found in more than 126 public drinking water systems in at least 86 Massachusetts communities.

Sen. Michael Moore of Millbury and Rep. James Hawkins of Attleboro circulated the letter for signatures, expanding on their legislative efforts to address PFAS exposure among firefighters. The duo filed a bill (S 1556 / H 2339) to require all

protective firefighting equipment sold in Massachusetts to specify whether it contains PFAS chemicals and for what reasons by 2025, and to ban PFAS in firefighting gear by 2027.

“Ask anyone how the majority of firefighter line-of-duty deaths occur – most will probably say smoke inhalation or on-call injury. The shocking truth is that, from 2002 to 2019, cancer accounted for 66 percent of firefighter deaths, according to the International Association of Firefighters,” Moore said in a statement. “PFAS exposure from firefighting equipment is a crisis for firefighters and the communities they serve. It is unacceptable that our firefighters must every day step into gear that is slowly poisoning them with few alternatives. It is time for the Commonwealth to step in to join the fight against the

manufacturers who are knowingly using toxic chemicals in this equipment – I hope this letter will move the needle and help demand accountability for our brave firefighters.”

Campbell’s office said it has received the letter and is reviewing it.

“AG Campbell is committed to continuing the office’s work at both the state and national level to address PFAS contamination and its significant impacts on Massachusetts residents, including our first responders,” a Campbell spokesperson said.

In June, a top official from Campbell’s Environmental Protection Division registered support for legislation that would implement many of the recommendations made last year by the PFAS Interagency Task Force. The official, Assistant Attorney General Andrew Goldberg, also said that studies have estimated that 99 percent of the US population has detectable levels of PFAS in their bloodstream.

PFAS contamination has become an increasingly urgent issue on Beacon Hill as the ubiquity of the chemicals and their negative health consequences have become better known.

In May 2022, then-AG Maura Healey filed a lawsuit, which was combined in the US District Court for the District of South Carolina with other similar suits, against manufacturers like 3M, Dupont and Tyco that manufacture PFAS chemicals contained in firefighting foam. The suit

alleged 13 manufacturers “deceptively” advertised products containing PFAS as safe despite knowing the chemicals were highly toxic and dangerous to the environment.

During a February radio interview, Healey, now governor, described PFAS contamination as a “big problem” and said reining in the impact of PFAS chemicals is a priority for her administration.

The PFAS Interagency Task Force released a report in 2022 with 30 recommendations, including an entire section about fire departments and firefighters. Then-Fire Marshal Peter Ostroskey, who served on the task force, said PFAS exposure was something that “fire departments are very concerned about.”

The report said that only firefighting gear with PFAS is able to meet current standards, which likely contributes to the higher rates of cancer diagnosis and cancer-related deaths that firefighters experience compared to the general population.

The task force recommended prohibiting the use of aqueous film-forming foams (AFFF) for firefighter training, funding a second round of an AFFF take-back and disposal program, requiring fire departments to notify state environmental officials whenever AFFF is used, supporting efforts to develop turnout gear that is completely free from PFAS, and requiring turnout gear manufacturers to provide written notice of the inclusion of PFAS in the gear at the time of purchase.

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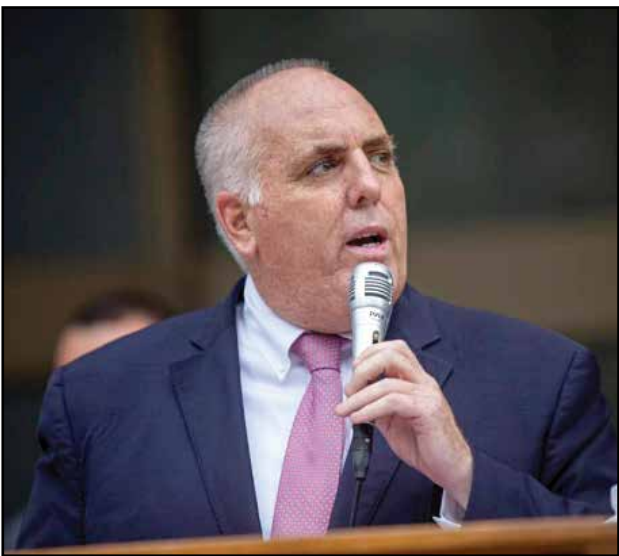
# Flynn presses for new council vote on anti-terror funds

By Bill Forry  
Executive Editor

The City Council held its final formal meeting of the year on Dec. 13, but its leader wants to reconvene this week to reconsider an earlier decision to refuse \$13.3 million in federal aid for anti-terror measures in the city.

Mayor Wu filed an order to authorize the city to accept the money, but the council failed to muster enough support to approve the funds. Her order was rejected in a 6-6 vote at the final session.

Said Council President Ed Flynn in a statement last Thursday: “I am now asking Mayor Wu to resubmit the necessary paperwork next week to the City Council for a formal vote to accept this funding. If city offi-



City Council President Ed Flynn wants an “emergency” to revisit federal grant for anti-terror preparedness.  
WBUR photo/Jesse Costa

cials fail to exercise that option, I will call for an emergency City Council meeting for next week to discuss our options and to encourage my colleagues

to vote to support this funding.”

Wu’s office, when asked for a response to Flynn’s request, said that the matter can wait for the

new year and a newly sworn-in council.

“In eleven days, Mayor Wu will swear in a new City Council with four new members,” a spokesperson told the Reporter in an email. “Rather than reopen a vote more than a week after the Council President adjourned the session for the term, the administration is preparing to welcome the next Council and move important items in the new session.

“As communicated to the Council President last week and again this morning, it is unfortunate that this important regional grant funding was not passed under this current Council, but we have been in contact with other municipalities and are confident that there will be no impact on op-

erations or public safety if this grant is refilled and accepted in January.”

Wu, who supports the funding, said the money would assist “planning, exercises, trainings, and operational needs, that will help prevent, respond to and recover from threats or acts of terrorism, including chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive incidents.”

Flynn said on Thursday that he was “deeply disappointed that my City Council colleagues failed to provide the leadership necessary to protect our city and many cities and towns throughout Greater Boston.” He will be replaced as council president next week newly elected councillors are sworn in.

The council’s decision

prompted Sen. Nick Collins to file legislation that would strip cities and towns of authority over certain federal grants — and shift that responsibility to the Legislature and governor.

City Councillors Ricardo Arroyo, Liz Breadon, Kendra Lara, Ruthzee Louijeune, Julia Mejia, and Brian Worrell voted against the order, according to meeting minutes. Councillors Frank Baker, Gabriela Coletta, Sharon Durkan, Michael Flaherty and Erin Murphy voted in favor, as did Council President Ed Flynn. Councillor Tania Fernandes Anderson was absent and did not cast a vote.

Chris Lovett and State House News Service coverage contributed to this report.

# Federal court upholds BPS’s exam schools admission policy

(Continued from page 1) Boston’s ZIP codes. And it gave preference to qualified students from relatively low-income codes.

In a 34-page opinion, Judge William Kayatta, Jr., wrote that even if the policy did disproportionately exclude some applicant groups, it still used “valid, facially neutral selection criteria.”

Kayatta wrote that the

approach “created less disparate impact, not more,” in that incoming exam school students better reflected the city’s racial makeup than under the previous policy, which simply ranked students citywide by their middle school grades and test scores.

Across Greater Boston, civil rights groups celebrated the panel’s decision, which comes

just six months after the US Supreme Court barred universities from explicitly considering race in admissions.

Oren Sellstrom, the litigation director for Lawyers for Civil Rights, which intervened in the case, said the ruling reinforces the idea “that there’s nothing problematic about school districts seeking to ensure diversity, particularly through

race-neutral means.”

The short-lived policy at issue in this case has since been abandoned and replaced by one along similar lines that includes a standardized test and uses smaller census tracts rather than ZIP codes.

In their arguments before the First Circuit, the plaintiff group was represented by the Pacific Legal Foundation, a non-profit libertarian law firm

that has challenged similar admissions policies in Virginia. PLF attorneys could not be reached for comment, but Jennifer Ohman, a spokeswoman for the foundation, said the court’s decision is out of step with the Supreme Court.

In a June decision barring the consideration of race in college admissions, US Chief Justice John Roberts wrote that

“eliminating racial discrimination means eliminating all of it.”

The majority’s ruling in Students for Fair Admissions v. Harvard is cited repeatedly in Kayatta’s decision.

This article was first published by WBUR 90.9FM on its website on Dec. 20. The Reporter and WBUR share content through a media partnership.

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Isabella Robbins and Siobhan Manning



Rosalind Hornbach



Mairead Manning and Matilda Curd *Courtesy photos*

## Five Dot dancers strut their stuff in Boston Ballet’s ‘The Nutcracker’

Dorchester dancers Isabella Robbins, Matilda Curd, Rosalind Hornbach, and Mairead and Siobhan Manning are all performing in Boston Ballet’s production of Mikko Nissinen’s ‘The Nutcracker’ this holiday season. Robbins is a Page, Siobhan is a Polichinelle, while Mairead, Curd, and Hornbach are performing the role of Urchin.

The Nutcracker opened Nov. 24 at the Citizens Bank Opera House with performances through Dec. 31.

Miss Robbins is a 6th grade student at Saint Brendan School, where she consistently earns high honors and writes for the school newspaper. She has a love for all dance and began taking classes when she was only two years

old. Besides studying ballet at Boston Ballet School, Isabella also attends Miss Linda’s School of Dance in Dorchester and Woods School of Irish Dance in South Boston. In July she competed in Irish Step Nationals in Nashville. Outside of dance she also enjoys playing ADSL softball, CYO basketball, figure skating, and cheering on her twin brother, Brady.

Miss Curd is a third grader at the Perry School in South Boston where her favorite subjects are writing and science. She started classes at Boston Ballet at age 3. She also dances at Miss Linda’s and has been a Girl Scout since age 3.

Miss Hornbach, a third grader at Mil-

ton Academy, loves animals, reading, and art. In addition to dancing, she swims, sails, and plays the piano. After being an audience member at the ballet for several years, she is excited to be a part of the Nutcracker performance this year.

Mairead Manning is a 6th grader at Boston Collegiate Charter School and Siobhan Manning is a 4th grader at the Richard Murphy K -8 school. The girls both play soccer with Dorchester Youth Soccer (DYS) and are members of the Boys and Girls Club of Dorchester (BGCD). They participate in many activities at BGCD including the chess club and swimming on the Marr-lins swim team. This past April they both

qualified for the Boys & Girls Club National Swim Championships in St. Petersburg, FL, where Siobhan finished third in the 25-yard Butterfly and fifth in the 25-yard Breast.

All children performing in The Nutcracker are students at Boston Ballet School and Boston Ballet School’s Professional Division at Walnut Hill School for the Arts and they are coached by an experienced staff including Boston Ballet Artistic Director Mikko Nissinen, Children’s Rehearsal Director Dalay Parrondo, and Boston Ballet School’s world-renowned faculty.

Tickets start at \$25. For more information, visit [bostonballet.org/nutcracker](http://bostonballet.org/nutcracker) or call 617-695-6955.



## Murphy School fourth graders raise \$1,133 with Christmas ornament sale

Students in Sean Fitzgerald’s fourth grade class at the Murphy School – with help from some eighth graders – raised \$1,133 for The Women’s Lunch Place shelter in the Back Bay this month by selling homemade Christmas ornaments crafted from a tree that came down in

Fitzgerald’s yard. Fitzgerald said the class has been studying the idea of volunteering and making changes to their community by focusing on words like “altruism.” They wanted to go big for Christmas and decided to create Christmas ornaments from the tree’s branches and sell

them to the community. They set a goal of \$500 – which many thought was too high – but eventually doubled that in a week. Eighth graders then pitched in and sold hand-made coasters as well, bringing the overall total to \$1,133.

A representative from The Women’s Lunch

Place visited Fitzgerald’s classroom last Wednesday to accept the check and tell the students more about their mission and daily operations.

In the classroom on Monday, students told a visitor from the *Reporter* that they have found it feels much better to give to others rather than to

receive a gift themselves. They also said they felt that they had the power to help other people in need around them.

“They have learned that if they want their community to improve, they need to take action and do something,” said Fitzgerald. “We can’t wait for someone else –



even a politician like Joe Biden. They have learned they can do something even as kids.”

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Reporter's

People

News about people in and around our Neighborhoods

# Mildred Avenue K-8 students argue free speech in mock trial

Students from Mattapan's Mildred Avenue K-8 School were among the middle schoolers who participated in a 10-week mentorship program with law offices, law schools, and state offices this fall.

The program culminated in an in-person mock trial at the John Joseph Moakley Federal Courthouse last month in which students presented their cases in hour-long trials to determine the outcome of a First Amendment case centered around a student's free speech rights.

In the case, *Jordan King v. Granger School District*, King uses TikTok to aggressively call out fellow classmates for their environmental practices. Principal Smith tells King to take down her posts, she re-



**William Tom, of the Mildred Avenue K-8, watches the reactions of the judge during the mock trial.**

fuses, and is suspended. King initiates a case against her school district for violating her First Amendment right to free speech.

"Our Mock Trial Program prepares middle school students to engage on important issues in our democracy," said Matt Wilson, executive director of Dis-



Angel Sosa, second from right, of the Mildred Avenue K-8, argues his case in the Mock Trial Program. Photos courtesy Discovering Justice

covering Justice. "This fall, students across the Commonwealth had the unique opportunity to learn about First Amendment free speech issues, examine the workings of the justice system, and explore and question the ideals of justice."

Discovering Justice is a civic education non-profit that provides after-school programs as well as in-school civics and social studies curriculum for K-12 students. Taught by experienced legal men-

tors, students grapple with real constitutional issues, develop persuasive arguments, and practice questioning and examining witnesses.

# Latoyia Edwards, Marty Walsh, among '23 NE Council honorees

On Oct. 26, some 1,800 guests from throughout the New England region gathered at the Omni Boston Hotel at the Seaport for The New England Council's 2023 Annual Celebration. The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the 2023 New Englander of the Year Awards.

First presented nearly 60 years ago, the award honors residents or natives of the New England states for their commit-

ment and contributions in their fields of work, as well as their leadership and impact on the New England region's quality of life and economy.

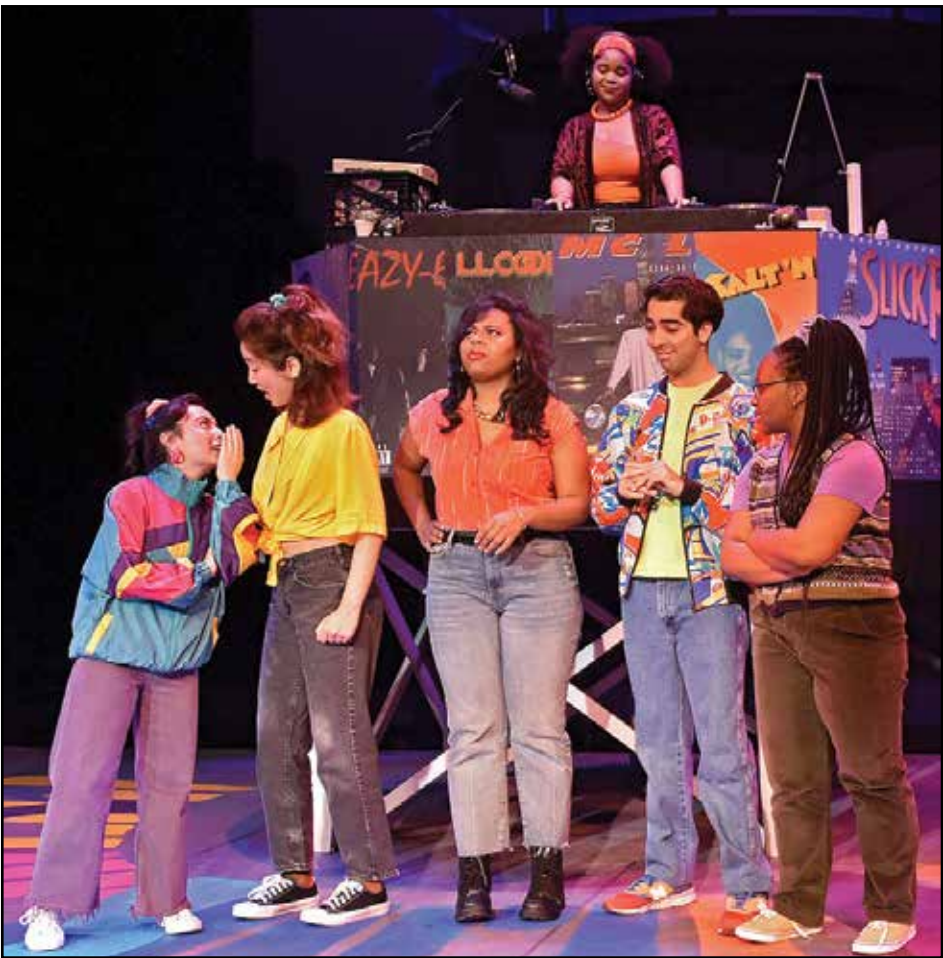
This year, the Council was pleased to honor Latoyia Edwards, anchor, NBC10 Boston & NECN; Dr. Jim O'Connell, president, Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program; Pamela D.A. Reeve, board chair, American Tower Corporation; and the

Marty Walsh, executive director, National Hockey League Players' Association.

The Council is grateful to our 2023 Annual Celebration co-chairs, Katherine Craven, chief administrative and financial officer, Babson College, and Cain Hayes, president & CEO, Point32Health, as well as the dozens of sponsors who made the evening such a tremendous success.



From left at the 2023 New Englander of the Year Awards Celebration: Jesse Edwards; Latoyia Edwards, anchor, NBC10 Boston & NECN; Jim Brett, president and CEO, The New England Council; Lorrie Higgins; and Martin J. Walsh, executive director, National Hockey Players' Association. NE Council photo



Emerson College student Mah 'Bijou' Camara, at far right, of Dorchester participated in Emerson Stage's production of "How We Got On," performed this fall at the Paramount Center in Downtown Crossing. Written by Idris Goodwin and directed by Summer L. Williams, this adaption performed by Emersonians explores the life of suburban teens coming of age in the 1980s, dreaming of fame and fortune, and their journey of finding themselves in the culture of Hip-Hop. Camara is majoring in Theatre and Performance and is a member of the Class of 2026.

## YESTERYEAR ARCHIVE

### DORCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

#### Happy Winter Season!

This illustration is an advertisement for Baker's Cocoa from Christmastime 1925. Walter Baker & Co. is internationally known for its cocoa and baking squares. Founded in Dorchester in 1780 by James Baker, the company is named for his grandson. It remained in Dorchester until the 1960s.

Enjoy your time with family and friends and your winter activities.

These posts can be viewed on the blog at [dorchesterhistorical-society.org](http://dorchesterhistorical-society.org). The Society's William Clapp and James Blake Houses are open to the public on the third Sunday of the month from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.





Editorial

# A farewell to The Industry

The Industry Bar & Grill, a popular dining option in Adams Village, will serve its last cocktail and crab cakes on Thursday (Dec. 28). The 151-seat eatery and bar, which opened to much acclaim in July 2017, has been sold to a new owner, who will renovate the space at 750 Adams St. and transform it into a Mexican-themed eatery, Chubbs Taco & Tequila Bar.

The new proprietor is Julian Bolger, who also owns Lucy’s American Tavern, another Adams Corner favorite. Bolger’s Maverick Hospitality group also owns several other eateries, including The Bowery in Lower Mills. The sale and liquor license transfer were finalized and approved earlier this month, according to David Arrowsmith, the man who built out and owned The Industry for the last six years.

“The village has been good to us,” Arrowsmith told the *Reporter* this week. “But we are excited for this new concept for the village and we know we’re turning the keys over to the right people. It will be a raging success in 2024.”

It’s a bittersweet moment for Arrowsmith, an Irish-born entrepreneur who also runs the successful Dorchester-based Capital Construction and Exterior Solutions by Capital. When he and his partner, Martin Davis, first bought the old Sonny’s space in 2016, they envisioned a unique, more upscale dining experience — and delivered. The dining room, with its signature red-leather booths and room-length bar, was a major upgrade, and Davis, who brought extensive experience as a restaurant manager, planned out a terrific American comfort food menu that filled a much needed niche in the neighborhood.

The Industry drew couples with champagne tastes for brunch and date nights, and it was a hit with families, too, with a can’t-be-beat \$5 kids menu option in the early days. But a tragic curve ball swerved into the works at that time, too. “Originally, when Marty and I started out, I was to build it and Marty was to run The Industry. But then Marty passed away very soon after, really a couple of months after we opened,” lamented Arrowsmith.

Devastated by the loss of their friend, Arrowsmith and his wife Donna nevertheless gamely stepped into the void and ran it for six years at the expense of personal time and weekends.

“We enjoyed every minute of it,” David said on Tuesday. “I love Adams Village and our patrons and neighbors. Everyone here has been so fantastic. We have only one regret, that Marty would have been still with us.”

The Arrowsmiths, who welcomed a son who is now two years-old, look forward to getting back some down time and patronizing the new spot when it comes online.

“I spend 95 percent of my time on the Capital businesses, so I wasn’t able to give The Industry to love that it needed,” said Arrowsmith.

“I knew it was going into the right hands.” The Industry planned to serve its full menu right through the end of the night on Wednesday and take the opportunity to bid a proper farewell and thank you to its many fans.

Shawn Ahern, the Chief Operating Officer for Maverick Hospitality, said that renovations will start soon.

“We will begin renovations right after the New Year with an opening in Spring 2024. The concept will be driven around creating a fun, energetic and funky neighborhood taqueria that seamlessly blends our scratch kitchen and bar programs with a warm and welcoming atmosphere and vibe,” said Ahern.

—Bill Forry

## The Reporter

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Commentary

# New growth takes center stage as Boston sets its FY2024 tax rates

*The following analysis was published last week by the Boston Municipal Research Bureau, an independent, non-partisan organization established in 1932 to provide objective and impartial research and police analysis about Boston’s city government.*

Boston’s assessed property value sustained its upward trend, marking over a decade of continuous growth by increasing \$8.6B or 4.1 percent from FY23, for a total value of \$220.9B for FY24. Fueled by an unprecedented surge in new growth of \$121.8M, Boston’s tax levy is expected to jump by \$195.6M or 6.1 percent this year.

The assessment date for FY24 is January 1, 2023 and captures the market activity of 2022. This record for new growth tops the previous best of \$102.7M set in FY21 by \$19.1M, or 18.6 percent. New growth is a critical component of the annual tax levy increase because it permits the City to maintain its ability to deliver basic services. In every year from FY16 onward, new growth has represented more than half of the tax levy limit increase. This creates a heightened importance for new development and raises questions about how development can continue apace as the City faces economic uncertainty.

**Property Values** — Boston’s growth in FY24 taxable value represents an increase of \$8.6B or 4.1 percent, substantially less compared to last year’s growth of \$14.4B or 7.3 percent. By class, residential value increased by \$5.7B or 4.0 percent, while business (CIP) value rose by \$2.9B or 4.1 percent. While growth in commercial value of 4.1 percent and per-

sonal property (mainly the equipment and machinery of utilities and office equipment) of 8.3 percent drove business assessed values up overall, industrial property valuation decreased by 1.7 percent. The City’s property base remains strong.

**Levy & New Growth** - Boston’s property tax levy, the total revenue the City can raise through real and personal property taxes, increased by \$195.6M or 6.5 percent from FY23 to \$3.19B in FY24. In FY24, property tax revenue from new growth of \$121.8M accounts for 62.1 percent of the levy limit increase, enabling the levy limit to rise by 4.1 percent on top of the base increase. New growth in FY24 rose by 24.7 percent or \$24.1M over new growth in FY23, resulting in a substantial expansion of the City’s levy raising capacity.

**Tax Rates & Classification** - In addition to the value jump, tax rates for both residential and business properties increased this year after a slight decline last year. Residential tax rates increased by \$0.16 or 1.5 percent to \$10.90 per thousand dollars of value, while the business tax rate of \$25.27 increased by 2.3 percent or \$0.59. As a result of the City’s application of full classification, which allows the City to shift the property tax burden from residential to CIP, business property holds only 33.3 percent of the taxable value in the city, yet pays 58.3 percent of the tax levy. Residential property represents 66.7 percent of total taxable value but will pay 41.7 percent of property taxes.

# Suit: Steward owes some \$46M in back payments to temp nurses

A Cincinnati staffing agency that provides temp nurses to hospitals has sued Steward Health Care Systems, which operates Carney Hospital in Dorchester and St. Elizabeth’s Medical Center in Brighton, for the money it says the hospital system stopped paying for all of the healthcare professionals funneled to Steward hospitals following the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic.

In its suit, which was filed in Suffolk Superior Court, ProLink Healthcare charges that Steward slowed and then stopped its payments in 2022, ultimately to the tune of \$45.6 million. ProLink alleges that Steward owes it \$1.78 million specifically for healthcare professionals sent to St. Elizabeth’s and \$50,093 for those sent to the Carney. However, its accounting of its total bill includes \$2.5 million in arrears for North Shore Medical Center, now known as Salem Hospital, which is owned by Mass General Brigham, not Steward.

ProLink says it continued to honor its end of its deal with Steward and kept paying the nurses it had sent to Steward hospitals in Massachusetts and other states through Dec. 9, 2023, when the

last of the healthcare professionals it had sent to a Steward hospital finished an assignment.

In its complaint, ProLink says the two sides signed a staffing agreement that went into effect in April 2020, as the first wave of Covid-19 was filling hospitals with patients. The company says it ramped up even more staffing after the omicron variant swept the country in November 2021, once again leading to an explosion of hospital use. In total, ProLink says, it sent 1,600 healthcare professionals on assignments at Steward hospitals in Massachusetts and elsewhere.

But, the company says, starting in early 2022, “Steward’s billing-persons became non-responsive and/or failed to address when payments would be made.”

By mid-November 2022, the company says, Steward was already up to \$25.4 million in arrears. By May 20 of this year, ProLink alleges, Steward had hit \$35.2 million in arrears - plus another \$10 million in current balances. A date for Steward to respond to the suit has yet to be set by the court.

– REPORTER STAFF

# Foundation outlines the ‘scary part’ of a turnaround of MBTA operations

By COLIN A. YOUNG  
STATE HOUSE  
NEWS SERVICE

The financial and policy analysts at the Mass. Taxpayers Foundation have mapped out how “the path to a safe and reliable transit system just got a lot longer” thanks to a ballooning price tag for bringing the MBTA’s infrastructure into a state of good repair.

The MBTA updated its state of good repair management last month – using a slightly different calculation than resulted in the 2019 estimate of about \$10 billion, as MTF explains in the brief it published last Wednesday — to show that it would now cost \$24.5 billion to fix all MBTA assets that are not in a state of good repair, which is almost two-thirds of them.

And that figure includes only the cost of addressing current problems, not “needed investments in modernization, electrifications, accessibility, climate resiliency or expanded services,” including those that the T included in a 2021 framework unconstrained by available funding, MTF said.

In order to make those investments and eliminate the new repair backlog estimate, MTF said that the MBTA would need to increase annual capital spending above the 2019 target of \$1.4 billion by “approximately \$2 billion per year as a starting point.”

That’s what MTF called “the scary part ...” Given that the MBTA lacks sufficient resources to even manage the previous \$10 billion SGR Index, let alone the projects in the unconstrained 10-year spending framework, an additional \$2 billion in capital needs puts the capital gap at near unsurmountable levels ... climbing to an average of \$3 billion annually for FY 2025 through FY 2031,” the foundation wrote.

The implications of the repair backlog and how it affects public transit service through and around the largest city in New England are gigantic.

“If the MBTA cannot return to safe and reliable service, the Boston economy cannot recover,” MTF wrote. The brief also declared that the consequences of continuing with a majority of MBTA assets out of repair “would be catastrophic to the regional economy and the impacts would fall on transit-dependent communities and those who have few affordable transportation alternatives.”

Gov. Healey said two weeks ago that she has been talking with state lawmakers and unnamed “stakeholders” about what kinds of taxes and fees are necessary to address the massive list of infrastructure needs at the MBTA. She told WBUR that “it’s going to take a lot of thinking about how to get there in terms of the kind of revenue that we need for that.”



## (Continued from page 1)



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# Newly renovated training center re-opens at IBEW’s Dot campus



Lou Antonellis, Local 103 IBEW business manager. Cassidy McNeeley photo

(Continued from page 1) and renovated space will only increase the number of students.

“It’s definitely a great alternative to college,” said Antonellis, whose two children are apprentices at 103. “We don’t discourage anybody from going to college – it’s a great pathway – but going to college is expensive. If you’re thinking you may not be the right fit to go to college, there’s a real career in the electrical industry that has great wages and fantastic health insurance paid for by the employer in a pension plan so you can retire one day with dignity.

And that’s a great alternative offer that we give to people that don’t want to go to college and don’t go the traditional route.”

The center also hopes



The renovated JATC of Greater Boston building on Freeport Street.

Cassidy McNeeley photo

to attract future apprentices through the Clean Energy Pre-Apprenticeship Program, which will

bring more young people into the trade and expand its role in creating career pathways in the clean

energy sector.

Secretary Lauren E. Jones of the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development attended the Dec. 7 event and looks forward to making the trade more diverse. “Part of this is opening more doors for women and people of color,” said Jones, who thinks the opening will fuel the economy by providing meaningful pathways, livable wages, and supply benefits.

Antonellis said that one of the biggest challenges about the renovation was keeping the building open for current apprentices while construction was underway.

“We lost two-thirds of the building while under construction. Moving people around and changing classrooms and temporary spaces all while trying to build the place



A training session inside the new JATC of Greater Boston center. Photo courtesy Local 103 IBEW

out in a timely fashion [was tough],” Antonellis said in an interview with the Reporter.

With the updates now complete, JACT has tripled its hands-on training spaces with 16 labs and 20 classrooms, all of which Antonellis hopes will positively impact the community.

“This building is

Dorchester. We’re open to the community for whatever the community needs,” Antonellis said. “We want the people of Dorchester, especially the kids in the community that are looking for a career, to know the doors are open at Local 103 for a great career in the electrical industry.”

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# Mildred Avenue seniors celebrate the holidays



Several of the Mildred Avenue seniors and special guests gathered for a group shot during the party. The food was sponsored by Related Beal, with Mattapan's Aisha Miller of Related Beal, far right, in attendance. *Seth Daniel photos*



Santa Claus might be coming to town, but Myrtle Huggins was already there – dancing up a storm of Christmas songs from the Jackson 5 during the Christmas party.

The Mildred Avenue Senior Citizens group had a lively Christmas breakfast and lunch party at the community center on Dec. 19 – with more than a little dancing and singing mixed in as well.

The seniors started their day-program at the Mildred Avenue Community Center last February. It has become wildly popular with scores attending every Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Founder Barbara Crichlow said they feel very fortunate to create such a popular and sustainable program so quickly and were excited to have their first Christmas party – recalling that there was no such happy gathering for Mattapan seniors last year.

This year's fete was punctuated by guests including Mayor Wu, Councillor Michael Flaherty, Police Commissioner Michael Cox, and other supporters.



Arthur and Lynette Griffeth with Vernessa Harris of the City's AgeStrong Commission. The Griffeths are well known for appearing frequently in television advertisements for Consumer Cellular. They filmed the commercial on a whim several years ago in New York, but their segment remains on air.



Dressed for the season were Agatha McGuire, Donna Henderson, and Millie Edwards.

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Cannabis stores are expanding into more Dot, Mattapan villages



Jeff Similien in the LowKey Dispensary at Codman Square, which officially opened on Nov. 10, is already facing a changing market. Seth Daniel photo

(Continued from page 1)

Brian Chavez, who operates three High Profile x Budega dispensaries on Freeport Street, Dudley Street, and in Roslindale, sees the market becoming increasingly competitive.

“I remember when we got into this early on, people quoted crazy numbers. I stayed pretty conservative and felt like we would just wait and see. Nothing is easy; I don’t care what industry you’re in. Here, you’re building from the ground up and now you do what you have to do to stand out from the competition.”

Chavez, who opened his third location on Dudley Street last summer, is one of the more seasoned operators. Others, like Jeff Similien of LowKey Dispensary in Codman Square, opened to business last month after years of permitting and planning. While things are heading in the right direction, Similien and his Inventory Control Manager, Sam Gerver, are preparing for a market much different from when they started out.

Gerver, who was brought on by Similien because of his experience running dispensaries in other states like Colorado, said operators have to open and then focus on creating a place that’s not just a “weed store. In Denver, there were more places on the street to pick up a \$5 doobie than a \$5 latte,” he said.

“We know we’re headed to a very oversaturated market at LowKey. We have always said we want to create a place where people will pass by other dispensaries to get to us because they know the experience at LowKey will be far superior than other places.”

For them, the key has been to approach the store as a business from day one, and they’ve parlayed that through celebrity endorsements – such as being the sole Massachusetts partner for hip-hop star Method Man’s Tical branding.

“We’re fortunate they chose us as their Massachusetts partner and that sets us apart,” said Gerver. “It’s a big responsibility and they have entrusted us...The brand of Method Man is great, but when they experience the product we put in the package, that will get them back.”

For Chavez, whose dispensaries are known for offering “deli-style” cannabis that isn’t pre-packaged, the price fluctuations are challenging. He said there are about 20 dispensaries open in the city and he is skeptical they will attain the 52 mandated by law and continue to compete with dispensaries outside the city.

“I feel it’s a race to the bottom now with everyone cutting prices and trying to stand out,” he said. “Not long ago, we were very happy to have 1/8’s for sale at \$15, but one month later so many others in the city had that same price.

In Brockton, they were selling them for \$8 because they have lower overhead costs. People were going all the way to Brockton to save \$7.”

Chavez added that ounces once sold for \$300 or \$400, and now they go for \$75. Likewise, the average customer when he opened spent \$100 to \$120 per visit, but that’s now down to \$30 to \$50.

“A lot of people are going to find out just securing a license and opening is not going to be enough to sustain and provide a livelihood,” he said.

That’s something Similien and Gerver found out before they opened. With only a month under their belts, they already see that the industry is headed in a downward direction in terms of pricing and product quality.

“If the industry is going to have any future whatsoever, it’s critical we don’t devalue everything and then it’s a race to the bottom that will turn into poor product across the board and non-sustainable business plans for operators,” said Gerver.

Similien said they plan to combat that prospect with great customer service and quality, unique products. In January, they will debut their Boston neighborhood-specific strands of high-quality cannabis. They will have ‘Dorchester Diesel,’ ‘Blue Hill Dreams,’ ‘Roxbury Runtz,’ and ‘Orange Line,’ to name a few.

“You have to give people reasons to come in and create a vibe and create consistency in the product,” said Similien. “It’s a lot that goes into it. It’s like building a house. You don’t just throw rooms together; you design it and talk to an architect.”

On Blue Hill Avenue, Isaac Hampton is preparing to open the doors in about a month to Underground Legacy Social Club, a “mom and pop” dispensary that has already vastly improved the aesthetics of the corner at Walk Hill Street. Having grown up on Walk Hill, Hampton said his roots in the community and the process of listening to the community before opening will help him stand out. Already likely to be the only dispensary on the Mattapan section of Blue Hill Avenue for a while, he said that operating small and within the fabric of the neighborhood is what will bring customers to him.

“A lot of people talk about social impact, and it’s become cliché but we’re really trying to be a mom-and-pop local provider for the community,” he said. “We’ve been able to get feedback from the community and developed the marketing plan around that feedback, so we believe we’ll provide what they’re looking for.”

He added, “We’re working with a lot of very small vendors to bring specialty products to the market you don’t necessarily see elsewhere...We’re small

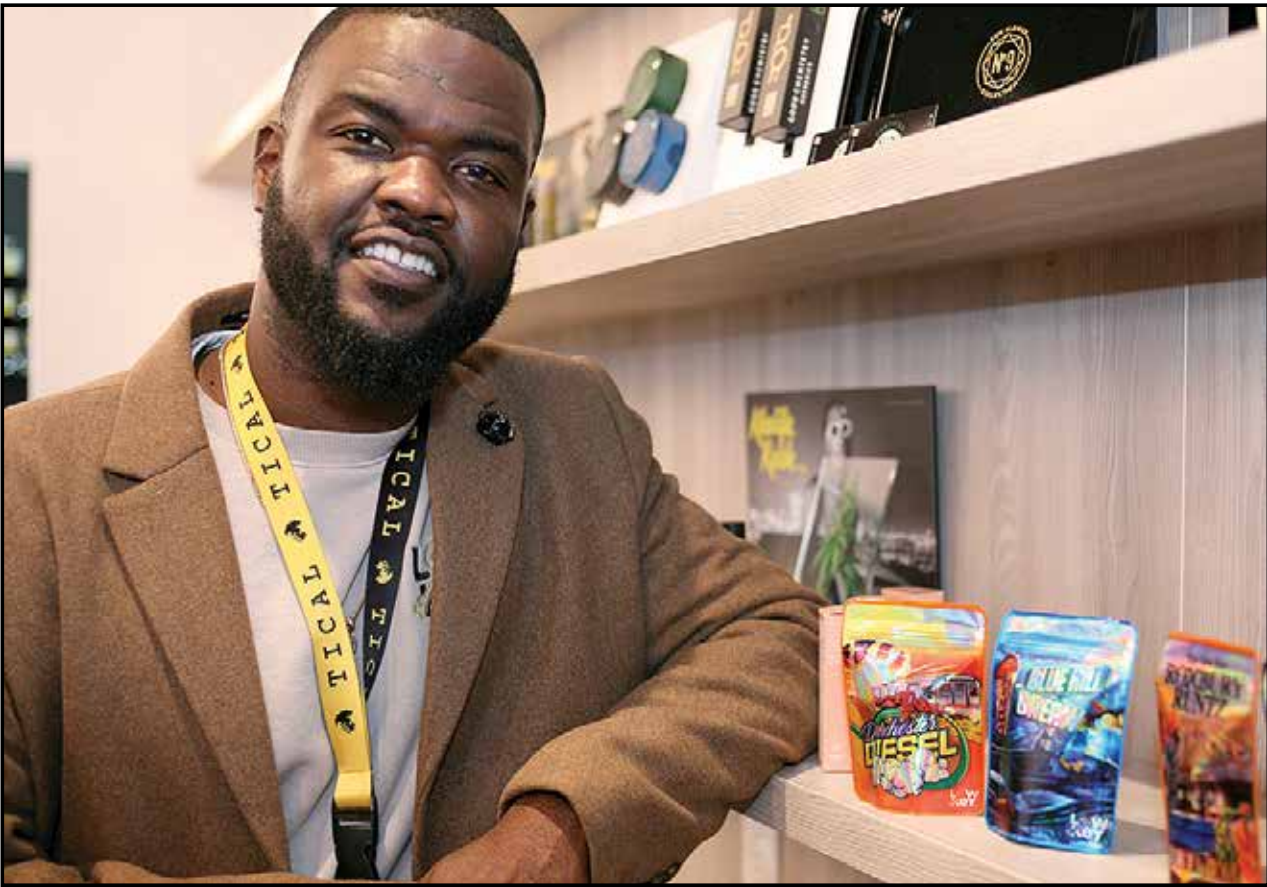


and mighty and want to work and support that market.”

Already the significant investment in the property, which was not well-maintained previously, has shown that he listened to neighbors. The property is clean and well-kept, and the building is a repository of artwork from local artists, including Ds7 and Art by Nau.

“One condition with the neighborhood process was we agreed to clean up this corner; there were a lot of maintenance issues not being dealt with,” he said. “Also living over here as a kid at one point it was a record store and gift shop, and I often patronized it. I saw it go downhill over the years and it was very personal to me getting to see these plans come together and add some curb appeal to this location.”

Ledbetter said that Zeb Boutique, which will open in a storefront on River Street, is just now starting construction on the property, having secured a provisional license in October. Using a community-driven approach, they are seeking



The cannabis industry in Dorchester and Mattapan reached a marked stage of maturity in 2023, and operators just opening their doors are quickly facing a saturated market. Jeff Similien, who just opened LowKey in Codman Square in November, said it isn't enough to just sell cannabis – you must be different immediately. He said they will be debuting neighborhood strands in January – notably 'Dorchester Diesel' and 'Blue Hill Dreams' – to create a different experience.

out local investors.

“It takes longer to gather investors, but it gets you investors there for the long haul and

there to support you,” she said. “A lot of people want in and out of cannabis because it feels like the green sea has opened

up. The truth is any long-standing community business is going to be a benefit to the commu-

nity and that's the kind of business we want to be for Mattapan.”

Back on Freeport

Street, Brian Chavez sees even bigger issues ahead – ones involving the federal government and the differing status of cannabis legality. That, he said, has allowed the very mature issue of concerns about tax reform to form among experienced operators. Not being a recognized business federally means they cannot write off business expenses or claim losses on their federal taxes – a crippling reality once dispensaries are beyond the opening stage.

“I don't care if you're a multi-state operator (MSO) or a mom-and-pop operator, to be sustainable in the future we're going to need federal tax reform,” he said. “You can operate at a loss and still have a federal tax bill because you cannot fully deduct things like rent and other expenses. In essence, you didn't make any money, but still have to pay your tax bill.”

And for those who think federal legalization will sweep in soon and solve these and other similar problems, Chavez cautions, “Don't hold your breath.”



Isaac Hampton of Underground Legacy said a commitment to clean up the property and add local art inside and outside the building has been the first step in ensuring the community that he will be a trusted operator. He will likely be the only operator on Blue Hill Avenue beyond Grove Hall for some time. Seth Daniel photos



## Cannabis store again asks okay for Gallivan location

The proponents of an adult-use cannabis dispensary at 770 Gallivan Blvd. held a second community meeting on Dec. 18 as they continue to seek city approval to open their business.

City officials explained at the outset of the sparsely attended 19-minute virtual meeting that a new community meeting is required every six months while the propos-

al is still under consideration for permitting.

Applicants Richie Parsons and Michelle Foley once again outlined their proposal for the Surf's Up dispensary, which would occupy a former Verizon retail space near Neponset Circle and noted that nothing had changed since the first meeting.

Parsons, a St. Brendan's native, currently manages a medi-

cal marijuana dispensary for the group, which operates five dispensaries in total, in Needham. He would serve as general manager of the store. He noted that they believe they are six months out from opening, with per-

mitting taking longer than expected.

Surf's Up will not sell individual cannabis cigarettes, or “pre-rolls,” he and Foley said, but rather that there would be a three-cigarette minimum purchase to prevent usage

on site.

Meanwhile, they announced again that they had agreed to a mitigation contract with the Cedar Grove Civic Association that would provide \$110,000 to the civic group over five years.

Parsons is a musician who was in a 1980s punk-rock band the Gremies that recorded the song, “No Surfin' in Dorchester Bay.” The song is the inspiration for the dispensary's name.

– SETH DANIEL

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# Wu assigns new personnel to neighborhood services roles

Boston’s Office of (ONS) has a new dep-  
Neighborhood Services uty director in Chris

Breen, who is tasked with strengthening the city’s relationships with local businesses, organi-  
zations, and residents.  
A Boston native who has worked for the city in various roles over more

than 18 years, Breen previously served as the urban renewal manager at the Boston Planning and Development Agency and as the Charlestown liaison. He also taught at the Eliot K-8 Innovation

School in the North End.  
In another new assign-  
ment, Boston native Cecily Graham has been named the city’s new Hyde Park neighborhood liaison. Graham, who’s currently pursuing her master’s in public admin-  
istration, was previously the director of policy and reach for the Boston City Council.

Mayor Wu hailed her appointees’ talents: “Chris brings knowledge of every sector of city government to our ONS leadership team. Cecily leads with a passion for community organizing



Chris Breen

and public policy, and I’m excited for our Hyde Park residents to get to know her.”  
—STATE HOUSE NEWS SERVICE

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## Mass. unemployment stayed under 3 percent in November

TheMassachusettsun-  
employment rate inched  
upwards in November  
but remained under 3  
percent for the seventh  
straight month. State of-  
ficials reported on Dec. 22  
that the state jobless rate  
rose to 2.9 percent from  
a revised October rate of  
2.8 percent. The national  
jobless rate in November  
was 3.7 percent.

Labor officials also  
cited Bureau of Labor  
Statistics data pointing

to a gain of 3,200 jobs  
in Massachusetts last  
month, following a re-  
vised loss of 500 jobs in  
October. Since employ-  
ment levels bottomed out  
in April 2020, Massachu-  
setts has gained 724,600  
jobs, the Executive Office  
of Labor and Workforce  
Development said, with  
66,100 jobs added over  
the year ending in No-  
vember 2023.

—STATE HOUSE NEWS SERVICE

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| Local Real Estate Transactions |                      |                           |                      |  |                                 |            |          |           |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|--|---------------------------------|------------|----------|-----------|
| Buyer                          |                      |                           | Seller               |  | Address                         |            | Date     | Price     |
| Van, Daniel Q                  | Khan, Trinh R        | Bui, Thien T              |                      |  | 12 Sudan St #A                  | Dorchester | 12/07/23 | \$530,000 |
| Patel, Sanchit                 |                      | Wong, Walter Y            |                      |  | 336 Adams St #17                | Dorchester | 12/07/23 | 375,000   |
| Vo, Trong-Huy                  | Hua, Suekuen L       | Hua, Hung T               | Ta, Ivy D            |  | 26 Howes St                     | Dorchester | 12/08/23 | 1,000,000 |
| Halima, Mosammat               |                      | Begun, Rowshan A          |                      |  | 141 Millet St                   | Dorchester | 12/04/23 | 1         |
| Mccarthy, John P               |                      | Jmg One Rt                | Mccallum, John       |  | 9 Downer Ct                     | Dorchester | 12/08/23 | 770,000   |
| Faherty, James                 | Baker, Nancy         | Baker Robert L Est        | Baker, John V        |  | 28 Spring Garden St             | Dorchester | 12/04/23 | 795,000   |
| Colon, Anthony                 |                      | Desantis, Peter           |                      |  | 74 Leonard St                   | Dorchester | 12/08/23 | 154,700   |
| Starke, Axel                   |                      | Martin, James H           | Scott-Martin, Marcic |  | 15 Wales St                     | Dorchester | 12/06/23 | 61,256    |
| North Dorcjester LLC           |                      | Quinbach Raymond W Est    | Quimbach, Paul       |  | 5 Freeport Way                  | Dorchester | 12/04/23 | 1,500,000 |
| Tran, Hanh                     |                      | 19 Countryside Drive Rt   | Cabral, Rudolph J    |  | 19 Countryside Dr               | Mattapan   | 12/04/23 | 650,000   |
| Smith, George A                | Forbes-Smith, Judy J | 33 Outlook Rt             | Singleton, Cheryl P  |  | 33 Outlook Rd                   | Mattapan   | 12/08/23 | 600,000   |
| Nivar, Wuinnie C               | Perdomo, Erick       | Blocker, Aaron T          | Blocker, Valerie J   |  | 43 Ormond St                    | Mattapan   | 12/08/23 | 790,000   |
| Morris, Kevin R                |                      | Gordon, Jason S           |                      |  | 121 E Cottage St #2             | Dorchester | 12/06/23 | 450,000   |
| Hector, Melissa L              |                      | Lantz, Stacey C           |                      |  | 39-41 Bishop Joe L Smith Way #5 | Dorchester | 12/05/23 | 357,000   |
| Vaze, Onkar S                  |                      | 19 W Tremlett Street LLC  |                      |  | 19 W Tremlett St #5             | Dorchester | 10/23/23 | 555,000   |
| Karys, Jason                   |                      | 52 Withington Street LLC  |                      |  | 52 Withington St #6             | Dorchester | 12/04/23 | 590,000   |
| Crowley, Julia                 |                      | 34 Alpha Road LLC         |                      |  | 34 Alpha Rd #1                  | Dorchester | 12/04/23 | 582,500   |
| Korbman, Carol                 | Lushan, Michael      | 52 Withington Street LLC  |                      |  | 52 Withington St #4             | Dorchester | 12/05/23 | 587,550   |
| Berger, Alex J                 | Tavares, Robert E    | 52 Withington Street LLC  |                      |  | 52 Withington St #5             | Dorchester | 12/07/23 | 690,000   |
| Whitehead, Christopher J       | Cowan, Justin L      | 3-5 Bellflower Street LLC |                      |  | 5 Bellflower St #1              | Dorchester | 12/07/23 | 985,000   |



# The year’s Top Tips on how to protect your pets’ wellness

By Dr. Edward Schettino

As 2023 draws to a close, I hope your year has been filled with 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 2023:

• **The Wonders of Fostering an Animal in Need.** Fostering is a fantastic to help an animal in need and helps tremendously by freeing up precious shelter space and giving the animal the chance to receive the personalized attention, care, and love that they deserve. Animal foster care can reduce stress, help in an animal’s recovery, improve behavior, and nurture animals too young to be adopted.

• **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 temperate can rise to deadly levels in a matter of minutes. Not only is it dangerous, but 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 Know When Boarding your Pet.** There are countless options when it comes to pet boarding and doggie daycare, but it’s important to remember that there are currently no



Houston

state-wide regulations regarding these businesses, so all facilities are not created equal. It’s up to you as a pet owner to advocate for your animal and do your research before selecting a business to entrust the care of your animal to. Some things to keep in mind include finding out about safety protocols and licensing, asking for details when it comes to supervision and interaction, and downloading ARL’s Board Safely™ checklist at [arlboston.org/board-safely](http://arlboston.org/board-safely).

• **Microchipping Your Pet Ups the Odds of Being Reunited if They’re Lost.** Millions of pets go missing each year, but if your pet is microchipped, it can exponentially increase the odds of the animal returning home safely. A microchip is low-cost and will last the life of your pet. Should your pet go missing, contact your local animal control, fill out a lost report with every shelter within a 60-mile radius of where your pet went missing, and if microchipped, contact the company to let them know the animal is missing. It’s important to remember not to give up! Many pets go missing for months before being found, so stay positive and keep searching.

• **Make Pet Wellness a Year-Round Commitment.** We want our pets to live the best lives possible, and with that desire comes some things to keep in mind to keep our pets healthy and happy for years to come. Regular veterinary visits are important to give us an idea of our

pet’s overall health, and while you’re at the vet, make sure your pet is up to date on all vaccines and preventatives. Just like us, dietary needs change as pets age, so be sure to talk with your vet about your pet’s nutritional needs. You can always increase playtime and training sessions as well as periodic grooming for your pet. Visit [arlboston.org](http://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 2024. 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 has a doctorate in Veterinary Medicine from the Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University.*

## LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
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Suffolk Probate & Family Court  
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Docket No. SU23P2334EA  
ESTATE OF:  
CHRISTOPHER OLONDO CATER  
a/k/a: CHRISTOPHER O. CATER  
DATE OF DEATH: 06/08/2023

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Barbara A. Anderson-Cater 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: Barbara A. Anderson-Cater of Mattapan, MA, be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety (on the bond in unsupervised administration).

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 01/24/2024.

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, 2023  
Stephanie L. Everett  
Register of Probate

Published: December 28, 2023

## NOTICE OF ACTIVITY AND USE LIMITATION Former New Model Cleaners Site 841 Cummins Highway Mattapan, MA 02126 RTN 3-28399

A release of oil and/or hazardous materials has occurred at this location, which is a disposal site as defined by M.G.L. c. 21E, § 2 and the Massachusetts Contingency Plan, 310 CMR 40.0000. On December 19, 2023, St. Moritz Realty Trust recorded with the Suffolk County Registry of Deeds a Notice of Activity and Use Limitation on the disposal site, pursuant to 310 CMR 40.1070 through 40.1080.

The Notice of Activity and Use Limitation will limit the following site activities and uses on the above property:

- Use of the Property as a free standing single or two-family residence, school, daycare, or child care center, except for use of new buildings and/or existing buildings that include, as part of their design and construction, the installation of a vapor barrier and/or a SSDS designed to mitigate vapor intrusion from the subsurface into the occupied space of the building, provided that the design and installation of the vapor barrier system and/or SSDS is prepared under the supervision of a Licensed Site Professional and complies with MADEP and MCP requirements to maintain a Condition of No Significant Risk;
- Constructing new buildings without proper engineering controls (i.e., a vapor barrier system and/or SSDS designed and installed under the supervision of a Licensed Site Professional) to mitigate potential vapor intrusion into the occupied space of the building;
- Any activities which damage and/or compromise the effectiveness of engineering controls (i.e., vapor barrier and/or SSDS) for new buildings in preventing the mitigation of potential vapor intrusion into the new buildings;
- The removal of engineering controls (i.e., vapor barrier and/or SSDS) from new buildings constructed at the Property, unless such use, in the Opinion of a Licensed Site Professional, is consistent with maintaining a Permanent Solution and a condition of No Significant Risk;
- The removal of, or modifications to, the asphalt-paved surface barrier unless, in the Opinion of a Licensed Site Professional, such modification and/or removal will not result in an increased potential for vapor intrusion into occupied structures and/or mobilization and migration of site-related volatile organic compounds into groundwater; and
- Except with respect to emergency repair of underground utilities, any activities that will involve the disturbance, excavation, or removal of on-site soils, unless such activity is first evaluated by a Licensed Site Professional who renders an Opinion stating that such activity is consistent with maintaining a condition of No Significant Risk.

Any person interested in obtaining additional information about the Notice of Activity and Use Limitation may contact Kevin L. McAndrews, LSP, Clean Soils Environmental, an IES Inc. Company, 50 Salem Street, Suite 108, Lynnfield, MA 01940, telephone number 617-623-8880.

The Notice of Activity and Use Limitation and the disposal site file can be viewed at MassDEP website using Release Tracking Number (RTN) 3-28399 at <https://eeaaonline.eea.state.ma.us/portal/#!/search/wastesite> or at MassDEP, Northeast Regional Office, 150 Presidential Way, Woburn, MA 01801, 978-694-3200.



## Virtual Public Meeting

# White Stadium

JANUARY

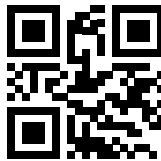
11

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Zoom Link: [bit.ly/48rqcKJ](https://bit.ly/48rqcKJ)

Toll Free: (833) 568 - 8864

Meeting ID: 160 187 4753



### Project Description:

The BPDA is hosting a Public Meeting for the proposed White Stadium project. The meeting will include a presentation followed by Q&A. In partnership with the City of Boston and the Boston Public Schools, Boston Unity Soccer Partners, LLC proposes to rehabilitate White Stadium, centering its renovation efforts on the “West Grandstand” and improvements to the “Grove Area”. The revitalized White Stadium will serve as an improved facility for BPS students, community events, and gatherings, and as the home pitch and venue for Boston’s new National Women’s Soccer League team. Please use the following link to register for the meeting: [bit.ly/48rqcKJ](https://bit.ly/48rqcKJ) Meeting ID: 160 187 4753 Toll-Free Call- in Number: (833) 568 - 8864.

*La información de esta reunión es crucial para usted como residente y parte interesada de la ciudad de Boston. Se encuentra disponible el servicio gratuito de interpretación de la información brindada en estas reuniones. Si necesita servicios de traducción, contáctese con: (ebony.darosa@boston.gov) (617-918-4419)*

*La reunión está programada para el 01/11/2024. Por favor, solicite los servicios de interpretación a más tardar 5 días antes de la fecha de la reunión.*

*Enfòmasyon ki nan reyinyon sa a enpòtan anpil pou ou menm antan ke rezidan Vil Boston ak moun ki gen enterè nan vil sa. Sèvis entèpretasyon ki disponib pou kominike enfòmasyon yo nan reyinyon sa yo san okenn frè anplis pou ou. Si ou bezwen sèvis tradiksyon, pri tan kontak: (ebony.darosa@boston.gov) (617-918-4419)*

*Reyinyon an pwograme pou 01/11/2024. Tanpri mande sèvis entèpretasyon an 5 jou pou pita anvan dat reyinyon an.*

*Informason di kelreunion é stremamenti importante pabokérezidenti di sidadi di Boston y parti interesáu. Sirvisus di interpretason sta disponivel pa komunika informason na kes reunion sin nenhum kustu adisyonál. Si nha mesti di sirvisus di traduson, nha podi kontakta siginti: (ebony.darosa@boston.gov) (617-918-4419)*

*Kel reunion sta markadu pa 01/11/2024. Pur favor solisita sirvisu di interpretason más tardar 5 dias antís di data di reunion*

mail to: **Ebony DaRosa**

Boston Planning & Development Agency  
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor , Boston, MA 02201

phone: 617.918.4419

email: [ebony.darosa@boston.gov](mailto:ebony.darosa@boston.gov)

BostonPlans.org



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Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

Notice is hereby given by Always Open Towing at 18 Talbot Avenue, Dorchester, MA 02124 in pursuant to M.G.L. c.225,section 39A, that the following vehicles will be for sale at a private auction on January 11, 2024 at 8 am to satisfy the garage keeper’s lien for towing, storage and notice of sale:

2023 NISSAN ARMADA PLATINUM – VIN: JN8AY2DB3P9830910

2017 KIA OPTIMA – VIN: 5XXGT4L33HG145739

2015 Volkswagen GTI – VIN: 3VWYT7AU8FM032301

2004 ACURA TL – VIN: 19UUA662X4A051372

2017 Hyundai Elantra – VIN: KMHD74LF6HU321299

2014 BMW 3 SERIES – VIN: WBA3X5C51ED557087

2005 TOYOTA COROLLA – VIN: 1NXBR32E35Z474688

2010 HONDA ACCORD – VIN: 1HGCP3F89AA010935

2013 HONDA ACCORD – VIN: 1HGR3F93DA030749

2008 ACURA MDX – VIN: 2HNYD28238H546172

2011 HONDA PILOT – VIN: 5FN9F4H65BB039480












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|  <p><b>2011 Honda CR-V LX</b><br/>FINANCE FOR <b>\$299*</b><br/>PER MO. 48 MOS.<br/>\$2,500 DOWN<br/>Stk# BH81510A, 4 cyl, auto, p/b/s, a/c, 55,383 mi.</p>            |  <p><b>2015 Honda Accord Sport</b><br/>FINANCE FOR <b>\$339*</b><br/>PER MO. 60 MOS.<br/>\$2,000 DOWN<br/>Stk# BH81546A, 4 cyl, auto, p/b/s, a/c, 89,240 mi.</p> |  <p><b>2019 Honda Civic Sport Hatchback</b><br/>FINANCE FOR <b>\$359*</b><br/>PER MO. 72 MOS.<br/>\$0 DOWN<br/>Stk# BH24461A, 4 dr, 4 cy, manual trans p/s/b, a/c, 85,149 mi.</p> |
|  <p><b>2016 Honda Accord Sport Sedan</b><br/>FINANCE FOR <b>\$359*</b><br/>PER MO. 60 MOS.<br/>\$2,000 DOWN<br/>Stk#BH24500, 4 cyl, auto, p/b/s, a/c, 71,101 mi.</p> |  <p><b>2015 Honda Accord EX-L</b><br/>FINANCE FOR <b>\$369*</b><br/>PER MO. 60 MOS.<br/>\$2,000 DOWN<br/>Stk#BH81653A, 4 cyl, auto, p/b/s, a/c, 66,211 mi.</p> |  <p><b>2020 Honda HR-V LX</b><br/>FINANCE FOR <b>\$422*</b><br/>PER MO. 72 MOS.<br/>\$1,000 DOWN<br/>Stk#BH81251B, 4 cyl, auto, p/b/s, a/c, 11,202 mi.</p>                      |
|  <p><b>2020 Honda Accord LX</b><br/>FINANCE FOR <b>\$432*</b><br/>PER MO. 72 MOS.<br/>\$0 DOWN<br/>Stk# BH24507, 4 cyl, auto, p/b/s, a/c, 32,382 mi.</p>             |  <p><b>2023 Honda Passport EX-L</b><br/>FINANCE FOR <b>\$649*</b><br/>PER MO. 72 MOS.<br/>\$2,000 DOWN<br/>Stk# BH81435A, V-6, auto, p/b/s, a/c, 3,035 mi.</p> |  <p><b>2022 Honda Pilot Elite</b><br/>FINANCE FOR <b>\$695*</b><br/>PER MO. 72 MOS.<br/>\$2,000 DOWN<br/>Stk# BH81465A, V-6, auto, p/b/s, a/c, 11,259 mi.</p>                   |

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Stk# BH81610A, 4 dr., 4 cyl., auto, p/s/b, a/c, 93,845 mi

2013 Honda Accord Sport..... Buy for \$14,998  
Stk# BH81575B, 4 dr., 4 cyl., auto, p/s/b, a/c, 80,961 mi

2018 Kia Sportage LX..... Buy for \$14,998  
Stk# BH24383A, 4 dr., 4 cyl., auto, p/s/b, a/c, 90,433 mi

2015 Toyota Camry LE..... Buy for \$15,498  
Stk# BH81672B, 4 dr., 4 cyl., auto, p/s/b, a/c, 82,840 mi

2016 Jeep Renegade Trailhawk..... Buy for \$15,698  
Stk# BH81817B, 4 dr., 4 cyl., auto, p/s/b, a/c, 836,375 mi

2019 Dodge Journey..... Buy for \$15,998  
Stk# BH24502, 4 dr., 4 cyl., auto, p/s/b, a/c, 74,547 mi

2020 Chevrolet Sonic LS..... Buy for \$15,998  
Stk# BH81576A, 4 dr., 4 cyl., auto, p/s/b, a/c, 24,831 mi

2015 Honda Accord Sport..... Buy for \$16,998  
Stk# BH81546A, 4 dr., 4 cyl., auto, p/s/b, a/c, 89,239 mi

2015 Honda Civic EX..... Buy for \$16,998  
Stk# BH81628A, 4 dr., 4 cyl., auto, p/s/b, a/c, 48,563 mi

2012 Honda CR-V EX-L..... Buy for \$17,498  
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Stk# BH24340, 4 dr., 4 cyl., auto, p/s/b, a/c, 46,143 mi.

2022 Toyota Corolla LE..... Buy for \$21,698  
Stk# BH81503A, 4 dr., 4 cyl., auto, p/s/b, a/c, 22,393 mi

2017 Honda Pilot EX..... Buy for \$22,498  
Stk# BH81694A, 4 dr., 6 cyl., auto, p/s/b, a/c, 76,324 mi

2021 Honda Civic LX ..... Buy for \$22,998  
Stk# BH81739A, 4 dr., 4 cyl., auto, p/s/b, a/c, 26,803 mi



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BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF DORCHESTER



**BGCD Members Attend Urban Nutcracker at Boch Center:** See details below.

**CONNECT THE DOT: BGCD Members Attend Urban Nutcracker at Boch Center:** Last weekend, Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester took a group from our Dance Program to see the Urban Nutcracker at the Boch Center Shubert Theatre. Anthony Williams' Urban Nutcracker is the modern Boston-centric holiday classic that showcases winter scenes set in present-day downtown blending the rhythms of Duke Ellington with the classical music of Tchaikovsky. A special thank you to our friends at the Boch Center Education Department for providing the tickets. BGCD encourages the importance of the Arts, as it allows members to exercise their creativity and learn an appreciation for artistic expression. For more information on BGCD's Dance Programming, please contact Social Recreation Director Shannon Zarnoch at szarnoch@bgcdorchester.org.

**FIND OUT WHAT'S INSIDE: BGCD Marathon Runner Mary Lupoli & Colleagues Make Gingerbread Cookies with Early Ed:** This Holiday season, Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester Boston Marathon Team member Mary Lupoli and her two colleagues Matt Polhemus and Tim Giarusso from Oxford Properties Group visited our Walter Denney Youth Center Early Education & Care Program to make gingerbread cookies with our Toddler Classrooms!

Mary bought the 30 cookies and decorating materials, and also made a large donation of toys to our toy drive. A special thank you to Mary, Matt and Tim for helping to spread holiday cheer to our members at BGCD.

For more information on Volunteering at BGCD, please contact Volunteer Coordinator Macy Pierce at mpierce@bgcdorchester.org.



**BGCD Marathon Runner Mary Lupoli & Colleagues Make Gingerbread Cookies with Early Ed:** See details below.

**DID YOU KNOW: BGCD Keystone Club Holds Donation Drive:** Recently, Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester's Keystone Club is holding a drive to collect books, toys and clothes for ages 0-3 for our partners at Room to Grow. Room to Grow's program provides critical support to families raising babies born into low-income circumstances. They provide parents and caregivers with essential baby and toddler items, strategies and support to promote their children's development, and connections to community resources that can meaningfully expand their support network. Donations can be dropped off at our McLaughlin Clubhouse at 1135 Dorchester Ave, Dorchester, MA 02125.

For more information on partnering with BGCD, please contact Senior VP of Operations Mike Joyce at mjoyce@bgcdorchester.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Winter Recess  
December 25 - January 2

Marr-lin Swim Team Meet  
January 6

Elevate Youth Ski Trip  
January 13

Keystone Room to Grow Drive  
Now - January 15

Keystone Cupcakes for Caring  
January 15

Happy New Year  
from BGCD!

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» Applications are due by February 5, 2024

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» In a Community Health Center setting

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- » Mentorship and professional development
- » Didactic learning sessions
- » Formal evaluations and feedback

**QUESTIONS? WANT TO LEARN MORE?**  
» We invite you to attend our information session held via Zoom on Thursday 12/21/23 from 7 – 8 pm.  
**Visit:** [codman.org/fnpr](https://codman.org/fnpr) for the link information



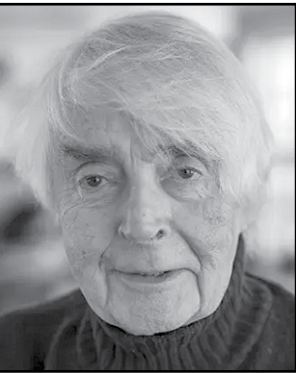
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RECENT OBITUARIES



**GUINEY, Terrence (Terry)**, 80, of Westport, and Dorchester Son of Bart and Claire Guiney. Husband of the late Elaine McLaughlin of Dorchester. Terry leaves his son Peter of Weymouth, (OFD), and his four brothers Timothy Guiney MD, of Boston, Bart Guiney of Yarmouthport, Thomas Guiney Esq. of Roslindale and Donald Guiney Esq. of Chilmark. and many

sisters-in-law, nieces and nephews. Donations may be made in TG’s name to Habitat for Humanity in Mattapoisett, MA.

**ITRATO, Julia M. (Berchtold)**, 65, of Dorchester. Wife of Joseph Itrato. Sister of Vinny Berchtold and his late wife Anna, and Ellen Oneil and her husband Robert of Hanover. Aunt of Vin, Kerry, Kasey, and Colleen; and great-aunt of Vincent and D.J.



**JUAREZ, Anthony W.**, 38, of Dorchester. He

was the son of Walter A. Juarez and Marianne L. Hines of Dorchester. Anthony is survived by his son Anthony W. Juarez Jr. (Kaplan) of Middleboro; his siblings Ashleigh M. Lewis and her husband Donta L. Lewis of Boston, Alex A. Juarez and his partner Alyssa Furkart of Dorchester, Antonio M. Juarez of Dorchester and Alycea M. Juarez of Dorchester. His nieces and nephews; his long-time partner Keri Pait and her children Armani, Arianna and Aliyah Melendez of Dorchester. He was the grandson of the late Irma Gorman, Marianne Bruno (Hines). Anthony is also survived by a host of aunts, uncles and cousins.

**KEARNEY, William P. Jr. “Billy”** Billy, 69, of Northborough, formerly of Jamacia Plain and Dorchester. He leaves his wife, Bridget (Mulkern); two children,



Erin M. Kearney of Northborough and William P. Kearney and his wife, Elisabeth Larrivee of Whitinsville; three grandchildren; his siblings, Michael, Stephen and Brian Kearney and Ann DiCarlo; many nieces and nephews. A sister, Maureen Kearney, preceded Billy in death.



**MACCHIONE, Rita E.**, 76, of Dorchester. She was the daughter of the late Mary A. (Ballerino) and Mario Macchione. Sister of the late Richard Macchione and his surviving wife Marie. Aunt of Kevin Macchione and Michelle Espinosa. She also leaves her lifelong friend Anne Jacob. Also survived by several loving cousins. Donations in Rita’s memory may be made to the National Kidney Foundation, 6110 Executive Blvd., Rockville, MD 20852 or at kidney.org.



**MCGETTIGAN, Benny (Stephen)**, 49, of Dorchester, formerly of Strabane, Co. Tyrone, Ireland. Husband of Carol Ann (Crawford) McGettigan. Brother of Jim McGettigan, Pol McGettigan and his wife Annemarie, and Edele McGettigan and her partner Anthony. Son of the late Hugh P. and Bridie McGettigan. Benny is also survived by many nieces, nephews, and dear friends. Son-in-law to Richie and Maura Crawford. CBrother-in-law to Aiden and his wife Linda, Darren and his wife Sonya, and Connor and his wife Lynsey. Please consider making a donation in memory of Benny to the Kevin Bell Repatriation Trust, kbrtrust.com.

**MOSLEY, Arnetha**, 79, of Dorchester. She was predeceased by her father Nash Sparks and her mother, Lou Alice



Ward (Sparks), her brother’s Frederick (Freddie) and Lavern (Lee), her sister Betty Mae and her brother Nash Sparks, Jr. She is survived by her sons Guy Mosley, Jr. and Anthony Mosley of Boston, her daughter Betty Mae Mosley and her life partner Glenn Champagne of Needham, and a host of cousins, relatives, and close friends.

**PATRICK, Josephine C. (Juzenas)** of Dorchester. Wife of the late Albert J. Patrick. Mother of Michael Patrick and his wife Lori, Eileen (Patrick) DeSalvatore and Dianne (Patrick) Pongonis and her husband Anthony. She also leaves behind five grandchildren and two great grandchildren.



**SKRZYNIARZ, Stanislaw “Stanley”**, 98, of Franklin. Husband to the late Apolonia. Father of George Skrzyniarz and his wife, Donna of Calabash, NC, Eugene Skayne and his wife, Gisela of Boxboro, Elizabeth Skrzyniarz of Franklin and the late John Skriniaz and his wife, Krystyna Skriniaz of Pembroke. Also survived by nine grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. Brother of the late John Skayne, Frank Skrzyniarz and Joseph Skrzyniarz.



**SWINDLE, Taurin Paris**, 42, of Dorchester. Son of Paris and Sherry Swindle. Co-founders of our family business Renaissance Group. He was an entrepreneur who worked with family members to establish a company which provides consulting services especially to communities underserved. Taurin is survived by his parents Paris Swindle and Sherry Swindle. His brother Eric Swindle, sister in-law

Tiffany Swindle and sister Takiyah Woodberry, and his nephews and nieces. He is also survived by a host of other relatives and friends.



**TOOMEY, Anastasia W.**, 81, of Weymouth, formerly of Dorchester and Milton. Wife of David F. Toomey. Mother of Kathleen Toomey Jabs and Eric of Williamsburg, VA, Erin Toomey Power and Joe Dolan of Canton, Michael D. Toomey and Sheila of Weymouth and Johanna O’Connor and Brendan of Canton. Proud “Nana” of Lydia, Nicholas, Sarah, Declan, Brianna, Louise, Joseph and Olivia. Sister of Mary Daley of Hingham, Maureen Chew of Plymouth, Michael Walsh of TN, and the late Thomas Walsh. Daughter-in-law of Anna Plein. Also survived by many nieces and nephews. Donations, in memory of Anastasia, may be made to Norwell VNA and Hospice, 120 Longwater Drive, Norwell, MA 02061 or to Friends of the Unborn, Quincy, MA.



**WHITTAKER, Ann Christine (Levins)**, 88, of Norwell, originally from Dorchester. She was the daughter of the late Joseph C. and Theresa M. (Desmond) Levins. Ann was the wife of the late John H. Whittaker. She is survived by their children Mark Whittaker and his wife, Pam Oliver of Pepperell, John Whittaker and his wife, Jean of North Reading, Andrew Whittaker of Rockland, Jean Leighton and her husband, Michael of Scituate and Matthew Whittaker and his wife, Joonie Ra of Mansfield. She is also survived by her sister, Jean (Levins) O’Neill of Winchester; and her brother, Joseph Levins, Jr. of South Boston. She was predeceased by her brothers, Paul and Robert Levins; and Mary (Levins) McGrath. Sister-in-Law of Paul Whittaker, Sr. of Whiting, NJ. Grandmother of 6. Also survived by many nieces and nephews. Donations in Ann’s memory can be made to the Scituate Animal Shelter, 780 Chief Justice Cushing Hwy., Scituate, MA 02066 or to the Mass Audubon Society, 2000 Main Street, Marshfield, MA 02050.



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Contact the office for information on the cost of burial needs, memorial benches and memorial trees.

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LEGAL NOTICE

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Suffolk Probate & Family Court  
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CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION  
Docket No. SU23P2622EA  
ESTATE OF:  
RAFAEL ANGEL SANTANA  
DATE OF DEATH: 08/04/2023  
To all interested persons:  
A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Mary Santana of Ashland, 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: Mary Santana of Ashland, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve With Corporate 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 01/31/2024.  
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, 2023  
Stephanie L. Everett  
Register of Probate  
Published: December 28, 2023

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Happy Holidays

FROM THE WORRELL BROTHERS



We extend warm wishes to Dorchester, Roxbury, Mattapan, Roslindale, and Jamaica Plain. May your holidays be filled with joy, community, and festive cheer!

From:  
City Councilor Brian Worrell &  
State Representative Christopher Worrell

Community Office  
(617) 265-0743  
5 Erie St, Dorchester, MA 02121