Only final touches left, missioner, Ryan Woods, The city’s Parks com-

An artist looks at what’s going on behind Boston City Hall’s façade

Optimism reigns as first Covid-19 vaccine doses are rolled out locally

Rehab gives Neponset the Garvey Park it asked for
Dasaro will head up Ashmont Main Street

Greater Ashmont Main Street has announced the appointment of its fourth executive director: Jeanne Dasaro.

Dasaro has 15 years experience as a social entrepreneur, artist, and community builder. Since 2010, Dasaro has served as the founder of the Wonder Women of Boston network which helps women entrepreneurs, artists, and professionals of diverse backgrounds connect, create, and support each other. In 2013, Dasaro served as the inaugural In-Residence fellow at Wentworth Institute of Technology.

Most recently, she served as executive director of the Art Commission, working to create access to original works of art in every Boston community. Additionally, Dasaro was the launch and operations manager at Quincy Yoga & Massage. "I've lived in Dorchester for 15 years, Dasaro said she has an appreciation for the size and diversity of the neighborhood. "Dorchester is the Brazilian Triangle, I've lived on Jones Hill, and I've also lived in St. Mark's and Ashmont, so I've had an opportunity to live in a neighborhood that has access to other neighborhoods across Dorchester," said Dasaro. "For me, it's a very neighborhood-centric neighborhood, so even though it's a big neighborhood, it's like hyperlocal pride."

Dasaro is filling the vacancy left by former Executive Director Jenn Cazeau, who was available as a consultant during Dasaro's first weeks in August. Dasaro is yet to meet with the board and present their collective vision for the upcoming year, but she said she's "excited" about getting to work and will first look to maintain the community programming that has proved successful in past years, namely the Ashmont Farmers Market, the Dot Jazz Series, and the annual Bike & Brew celebration. "Some of those changed a little bit this year because of Covid, but we're still uncertain about what's going to happen in 2021 because of Covid, but we will absolutely look at how we can keep those important community connection points. A lot of the work in light of Covid will continue to help small businesses get support in the form of PPP loans, economic disaster loans, and make sure they stay active, operating, and vibrant." – DANIEL SIEGHEED

By Reporter Staff

High school juniors in Suffolk County are invited to apply for a new paid internship program in the office of District Attorney Ra. Paul R. McLaughlin. A scholarship in his name has been set up to fund the program, which will pair each student with a prosecutor within the office's two offices for a month. McLaughlin, an assistant DA who served as a memorial assistant DA who lived 25, told news outlets that he was in a coma for four days. Anyone with information regarding the individuals shown in the accompanying photos is asked to contact District C-6 detectives at 617-343-4742.

Two sought in South Boston stabbing case

Boston Police have circulated an image of two people whom they want in connection with a Dec. 18 attack in South Boston that left a young man with serious stab wounds. The victim has characterized the assailants as a hate crime. The incident occurred around 10:45 p.m. in the area of West Broadway and F Street.

Anthony Crambley, 25, told news outlets that he was attacked because he is gay and that he was in for four days. Anyone with information regarding the individuals shown in the accompanying photos is asked to contact District C-6 detectives at 617-343-4742.

UPCOMING CIVIC MEETINGS AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

BPDA hosts virtual public meeting on Flood Resilience Zoning

Boston Planning & Development Agency (BPDA) planning and zoning staff will host two virtual meetings — Jan. 13 and Jan. 15 — to review the draft Coastal Flood Resilience Zoning Overlay, which will provide new zoning definitions, dimensional and use standards for development projects to promote resilient design and better preparedness for extreme events, especially for future coastal storms and sea level rise. The meetings will include a presentation of the draft regulations in English and Spanish, and an opportunity for residents to provide feedback to existing zoning, followed by Q&A and comments. The same presentation and content will be covered at both meetings. The BPDA will take comments on the draft Resilience Zoning Overlay until Fri., Feb. 12. Translation and interpretation services can be made available upon request by reaching out to chris.busch@ boston.gov. The agenda and schedule for each meeting are available in the meeting zoom links for the meetings can be found on an advertisement page 12 of this week’s Reporter. The agenda is presented in English and Spanish and is available in PDF format at the following link: https://www.mass.gov/doc/development-regulations/reporter/cfr-2021.pdf. Columbia-Savin Hill Civic Association will meet virtually on Mon., Jan. 4 at 7 p.m. See columbia-savinhillcivic.org for more information. South Boston Block Street Civic Association will meet virtually on Tues., Jan. 5. Voluntary Capital intends to present a revised plan for a three-unit residential and commercial building at 126-128 St. and there will be an update on 120-122 Hancock St. to go sites.google.com/view/bscs_2021.

Boston Harbor Now Sculpture Stroll

Boston Harbor Now will sponsor a Sculpture Stroll on Thurs., Dec. 31 from 1 p.m. dusk on Boston’s waterfront. Count down to 2021 with over a dozen ice sculptures hosted by businesses and cultural sites across the waterfront. Learn more at bostonharbornow.org/NYE. Fuel assistance available — ABCD urges low-income individuals and families who are struggling to get by for home heating assistance. To keep everyone safe during the pandemic, ABCD fuel assistance staff members are taking most applications over the phone by calling 617-357-6042. A fuel assistance service staff member will take down application information and explain how to provide needed documentation, including mailing it, leaving it in a drop-box at ABCD headquarters, and sending from their phones and other options. Applicants can go to bostonharbor. org for more info. There is a wide range of eligibility based on income and household members. Read the guidelines at masscap.org. ABCD pays the household’s fuel vendor directly. Right now the maximum winter season benefit is $875. Last year the top benefit was $1,140.1 p.m. Call 617-823-8271 to schedule.

SEND UPDATES TO NEWSEDITOR@DOTNEWS.COM

SEE NEW EVENTS DAILY AT DOTNEWS.COM

December 31, 2020

The Boston Planning and Development Agency has approved a series of building permits for the $200 million Dot Block development in Glover’s Corner. It is expected to begin in the first quarter of 2021, said Diana Pina, a representative for the developers, Samuels and Associates and Winter-gold.

As of right now, the site is up for grabs, but we will absolutely look at how we can keep those important community connection points... a lot of the work in light of Covid will continue to help small businesses get support in the form of PPP loans, economic disaster loans, and make sure they stay active, operating and vibrant.” — DANIEL SIEGHEED

Paul R. McLaughlin

Slain while on duty

West Roxbury, was assaulted as he left a train station near his home in 1995. His killer was a leader of a Dorchester street gang that McLaughlin had been assigned to prosecute. McLaughlin never had the privilege of working with Paul, but more than 25 years after his murder, his passion for justice and second chances still stand as an inspiration to all of us,” Rollins said. "Paul’s legacy lives on in the work that we are doing here at the Suffolk County District Attorney’s Office, at the Dorchester youth center that bears his name, and now with the McLaughlin Scholars Program." McLaughlin Scholars who go on to higher education will receive financial assistance from the DA’s office, Rollins said. An online information session will take place on Jan. 6. For more information or to apply for the scholarship, please visit suffolkdis-trictattorney.com/scholar-ship. The deadline to apply is Feb. 5, 2021.
Councillors: Body cam footage shows need for pepper-spray rules

By Simon Rios
WBUR Reporter

“We’re gonna start spraying.”

That’s an officer’s quote pulled from Boston police body cam footage from May 31 — when a massive, peaceful Boston police body cam footage from May 31 — when a massive, peaceful Boston police body cam footage from May 31 — when a massive, peaceful Boston police body cam footage from May 31 — when a massive, peaceful protest turned violent.

May 31 — when a massive, peaceful protest turned violent.

That’s an officer’s quote pulled from Boston police body cam footage from May 31 — when a massive, peaceful protest turned violent.

The officers were documenting an elderly man why police are taking an aggressive stance.

Some city councillors say the body cam footage reinforces their early calls to place new restrictions on the use of weapons like tear gas and rubber bullets.

The city needs a law to govern the use of crowd-control weapons. “The department says they have policies in place to restrict the use of these weapons,” said Campbell. “That wasn’t necessarily clear to us,” said Campbell. “So we said, ‘If you do, we want to codify that so it’s part of the public record. And, so folks know exactly what that policy is.’ Walsh is expected to make a decision on the ordinance in the days ahead. The measure passed the Council 8-5, meaning if the mayor vetoes it, proponents will have to persuade one of five city councillors to vote against it to change his or her mind.

This article was originally published on December 31, 2020 by WBUR 90.9FM. The Reporter and WBUR share content through a media partnership.

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$5.1m rehab gives Neponset the Garvey Park it asked for

(Continued from page 1) much feedback, there’s a good sense of pride that we did right by the community,” said Woods. The revamped space reflects a number of the community’s hopes that were aired during a series of public meetings. The facility is anchored by a new artificial turf surface, a nice replacement for the old, often uneven and flood-prone grass baseball diamond and playing field.

“Throughout the community process we heard a want and need for artificial turf and for lighting,” said Woods. “By having artificial turf, you can play if it rains, so the games can still take place in inclement weather. It also extends your season; if there’s no snow, you can start using turf fields much earlier, in March or December, for example. And the addition of the lights will extend the time you can play.

“In the past,” he added, “some flag football leagues would bring in rental lights and pay for a series of public meetings that were aired during that section has been positively programmed with features to attract dog walkers and kids. According to Woods, the wide-scale changes, representing the first substantial renovation work done to the park since the mid-2000s, fix chronic shortcomings that have persisted at the park for decades. “Drainage issues that have caused flooding in the ‘70s are finally being addressed,” he said. “The turf field it was important to have state-of-the-art lighting.”

Some other suggestion-driven modifications include a new walking loop around the park, additional bleacher seating, an updated street hockey rink with new fiber-glass boards replacing the plywood ones, and new playground areas and structures for both younger and older kids. The new basketball court, turf field, and rink now all have lighting fixtures and scoreboards. Several new trees and other plantings on the fringes of the park and at the nearby Devine Rink have been added to the Devine Rink lot, which has regularly not had enough spaces to provide for park users. Woods said the city also installed a dog park in an area of the space that in the past has had a lot of “negative activity.” That section has been positively programmed with features to attract dog walkers and kids. According to Woods, the wide-scale changes, representing the first substantial renovation work done to the park since the mid-2000s, fix chronic shortcomings that have persisted at the park for decades. “Drainage issues that have caused flooding in the ‘70s are finally being addressed,” he said. “The way the Parks Department in past administrations had done stuff is they would address individual components of a park one at a time. When you do it piecemeal like that, there are certain areas that continue to get neglected, so when you’re able to incorporate all the systems – drainage, lighting and so on – all at once and do it right, we felt we had to take that opportunity.”

Woods, a Savin Hill native, said McCon nell Park was his go-to spot growing up, but he acknowledged that Garvey holds a special significance for him and a lot of folks in the neighborhood. “Garvey Park is such a focus piece for the community. It’s where they came together in the aftermath of the marathon bombing to show support for the Martin family. It’s great to see those much-needed renovations finally come through...Our hope is that this is a Park that the kids in the neighborhood will have pride in. “This will be their home field for baseball, lacrosse, and flag football programs, and when other kids come in, these kids from Dorchester will take pride in having a home field that looks great.”

Above, a look at the new playground structures at Garvey. Below, the new basketball court boasts lighting fixtures and an electronic scoreboard. Lines and other final touches will be applied in the spring. Daniel Sheehan photos
Zakim Fund marks 25 years of funding positive change

BY KATIE TIBRANZO, REPORTER STAFF

The Lenny Zakim Fund is known for its commitment to getting out and supporting local organizations that are dedicated to achieving social and racial justice since 1995. Zakim, the longtime out-front head of the Anti-Defamation League locally in the last quarter of the 20th century, launched the fund 25 years ago as a public charity after he was diagnosed with a rare form of cancer. The fund works to support organizations through grant allocations, in the present as assistance, fundraising, and more through the hands-on engagement of a volunteer board of directors. Many of the organizations funded are based in Dorchester and Massachusetts, and they benefit local residents, including New England United Way, the Migrant Family Services Institute Inc., and Grounded Mixed Martial Arts.

Eric Estevs, a Roxbury resident and executive director of the Lenny Zakim Fund, said his experience with the organization has come “full-circle. My introduction to the fund was many years ago, when I served on the board of an organization called Project Hop-Hop, which was funded by the Lenny Zakim Fund,” he told the Reporter. “I was part of an organization that was funded and now I’m the person kind of in charge of the organization.”

A philanthropist, educator, artist, community advocate, and technologist, Estevs previously served as Director of the Social Innovation Fund at The Boston Foundation. He joined the Zakim Fund last December.

He also previously served for Root Cause, Harvard Business School’s Institute for Innovation Management, and the Boston Impact Initiative. In fact, he co-founded LeadBoston, an experiential professional development program focused on socially responsible leadership, based in Boston. “Lenny Zakim was very active against bigotry and discrimination,” said Estevs. “The fund grew out of that activism. Unfortunately, inevitably, he passed away from cancer, but the fund has continued work battling discrimination, hate, and racism. Achieving social change and equity in our communities requires building bridges between grassroots organizations, the people they serve, donors, volunteers, and community leaders.”

The fund supports organizations as far as outside of the city as the Saint Mihiel offensive, which started on Sept. 12 through November 11, 1918, and was discharged at Camp Devens on April 16, 1919.


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

Stagehands Union fundraising for unemployed members

The Boston union representing stagehands, IATSE Local 11, launched a GoFundMe campaign over the weekend to support its members, with the goal of collecting $100,000 in contributions. As of 5 p.m. Monday, 45 donors had contributed a total of $10,450. The union said that the fundraiser aims to ease financial burdens on the 500 stagehands, or 99 percent of its membership, who are unemployed because of the cancellations of live events during the Covid-19 crisis, and that donations will go directly to support Local 11 families “during the longest work stoppage in IATSE history.”

“There is nothing my members want more than to get back to work putting on the events that our community loves, but until we can do that safely, these workers and families need help,” business manager Colleen Glynn said in a statement.

An IATSE member emphasizes her position.
Secretary Walsh?
It’s a real possibility

Our mayor, Martin J. Walsh, is on the super short list of potential mayoral candidates in the Biden-Harris administration. The job would be very hard to pass up. SOURCES familiar with the mayor told me this week he is likely to accept the position if it’s offered.

Last week, Politico published a story that floated Walsh as a possible favorite for the Labor post—“he definitely wants Marty Walsh,” one unnamed source told the news site, adding that many political insiders believe Walsh has also been lobbying on behalf of their union member.

But the Politico piece also threw up a big caution flag. “It said that I was still very much in it,” Walsh himself has “no desire to run for mayor anytime soon.”

Staying in Boston would require Walsh to defeat Staying in Boston would require Walsh to defeat Wu and Andrea Campbell, at least one of them in a head-to-head fashion, in next year’s election. Wu and Andrea Campbell, at least one of them in a head-to-head fashion, in next year’s election.

The timing and circumstances— from this perch—would seem to favor Walsh appointment. The mayor is one of the most high-profile municipal leaders in America. He is the subject of a four-hour Frederick Wiseman documentary that is highly favorable and

And, while it’s still possible that other leading Massachusetts political figures will get recruited into roles on the Biden-Harris team, so far it is just John Kerry, the former senator and Secretary of State, who has heard his 617-cell buzz for a new role. Special thanks to the Reporter’s Katie Trojano.

Of course, there’s the question of whether the mayor would accept a post. It depends on whom you ask. Walsh’s spokesman, Michael Flaherty, the mayor who last week withdrew his own name from a contest to replace outgoing United States Attorney General William Barr. If Bob DeLeo, doesn’t think Walsh will leave for D.C. And, while it’s still possible that other leading Massachusetts political figures will get recruited into roles on the Biden-Harris team, so far it is just John Kerry, the former senator and Secretary of State, who has heard his 617-cell buzz for a new role.

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE REPORTER’S KATIE TROJANO.

More about Mass and Cass, and I just know leaving,” Holmes told the Reporter’s Katie Trojano.

It was also a frequent guest on national news pro-grams. The timing and circumstances— from this perch—would seem to favor Walsh appointment. The mayor is one of the most high-profile municipal leaders in America. He is the subject of a four-hour Frederick Wiseman documentary that is highly favorable and

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SPECIAL THANKS TO THE REPORTER’S KATIE TROJANO.
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Boston added jobs, avoided layoffs in face of the pandemic

By Meg McIntyre

Back in June, when the City of Boston was wrestling with its fiscal 2021 budget under the financial strain of the coronavirus pandemic, Mayor Walsh declared that municipal layoffs were off the table.

Now, six months later, Walsh has apparently stayed true to his word.

Despite making roughly $65 million in cuts to its original budget proposal, the city has neither laid off nor furloughed any workers since the crisis began, according to budget director Justin Sterritt.

In fact, the city’s total headcount is expected to increase from about 17,700 employees last January 2020 to approximately 18,030 employees in January 2021.

Early in the pandemic, staff cuts and furloughs hit other cities and towns in nearly every region of the state as local officials attempted to balance their budgets under Covid constraints.

“We’ve been really steadfast in our desire to limit layoffs and limit any service reductions,” Sterritt said.

“And frankly, I think we’re probably one of the few cities or few major cities in the country that’s been able to do that.”

The $3.61 billion budget approved by the City Council represents about a 3.4 percent increase over spending in fiscal year 2020, according to officials.

To trim spending, Boston instituted a six-month hiring freeze for non-essential positions, which Sterritt said will be extended through the end of this fiscal year on June 30, 2021. Officials also limited overtime in certain departments, cut spending on travel and equipment purchases, and delayed the city’s bond sale to the fall, he said.

The $404.2 million police budget is down about 2.4 percent compared to fiscal 2020, partly due to the reallocation by the end of this fiscal year on June 30, 2021. Officials also limited overtime in certain departments, cut spending on travel and equipment purchases, and delayed the city’s bond sale to the fall, he said.

The $404.2 million police budget is down about 2.4 percent compared to fiscal 2020, partly due to the reallocation by the end of this fiscal year on June 30, 2021. Officials also limited overtime in certain departments, cut spending on travel and equipment purchases, and delayed the city’s bond sale to the fall, he said.

Sterritt noted, including nurses, social workers and custodians in the school system, as well as some positions related to environment, public health, and economic development.

The public health side, Sterritt said, the city made a “considerable investment” in neighborhood trauma teams - groups of social workers and clinicians that respond to trauma incidents. Some long-term positions were also created in the Public Health Commission, using part of the reallocated police overtime funds.

In total, about $30 full-time equivalent positions were added in this year’s budget, according to the city, including 279 in the school system, four in the Public Health Commission, and 47 in other city departments. Jim Durkin, legislative director for the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Council 95, which represents government workers across New England, said city workers have been pleased with the level of support Walsh’s administration has provided them during the crisis.

He said Walsh has shown “great respect and appreciation” for public sector employees.

“Because they’re needed on the job, our members haven’t had the luxury of sheltering safely in the confines of their home, but the Walsh administration has worked with us as safe as possible,” Durkin said.

“We’ve never going to be able to eliminate risk, but by working with the mayor and his team, we’ve been able to reduce the risk of exposure.”

Pam Kocher, president of the Boston Municipal Research Bureau, said the city has benefited from several years of revenue growth partly spurred by new development, which helped the city avoid staff cuts that have impacted some other major metropolitan areas. Boston ended fiscal 2020 with a $15.3 million budget surplus, marking the city’s 35th year of producing a surplus.

“So coming into this difficult situation for our community, for businesses in the city, Boston came into it positioned quite strongly financially,” Kocher said. “So that has definitely made a real difference for the city.”

Although the city was able to balance its budget without cutting staff, it has not been immune to the effects of a pandemic-era economy. Because the state has allowed businesses to delay payments of local taxes such as the rooms and meals tax and hotel tax until April 2021, official on Monday said the city has 70 percent of the city budget comes directly from property taxes, a revenue source that has inspired a bit more optimism among officials during this period.

Kocher explained that because there is a lag between assessment and property tax bills, any decline in that area would not emerge immediately. But it typically takes an extended economic downturn to significantly decrease property tax revenue, she said.

The remainder of the city’s revenue comes from federal sources such as grants from the federal CARES Act, funding and FEMA reimbursements to help reduce the economic impact of the crisis on residents. The amount of funding the city is receiving from external sources has increased by roughly 20 percent from fiscal year 2020 to fiscal year 2021, according to the Research Bureau.

Sterritt said the city’s first concern will be keeping services intact.

“We sort of made a priority of basic city services,” he said, “and that’s why we’ve sort of focused our planning efforts over the last seven years to put it in a position where we can have a little less in the revenue area that has prompted some reopening guidelines, he said revenue from businesses like hotels and restaurants will likely continue to be affected. The city’s fiscal 2021 budget anticipates that excise collections will fall by roughly $38 million, or nearly 19 percent, according to the Research Bureau.

“It’s definitely an area of concern, an area that we’re a little less informed on than we normally would because the state has delayed those excise taxes,” Sterritt said.

“But we’re certain monitoring that as a potential area of risk.”

However, more than 70 percent of the city budget comes directly from property taxes, a revenue source that has inspired a bit more optimism among officials during this period.

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The remainder of the city’s revenue comes from state aid, which is expected to remain

level this year at $464.2 million, and local receipts such as interest and investments, fines and fees, licenses and permits and departmental revenue, which are projected to decline by about 1.2 percent. Total revenue is estimated at $3.6 billion for fiscal year 2021.

Going forward, Kocher said, Boston is still facing unforeseen expenses due to the pandemic, and it will be important for the city to make the most of its federal CARES Act funding and FEMA reimbursements to help reduce the economic impact of the crisis on residents.

“The amount of funding the city is receiving from external sources has increased by roughly 20 percent from fiscal year 2020 to fiscal year 2021, according to the Research Bureau.

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Optimism reigns as first Covid-19 vaccine doses are rolled out

(Continued from page 1)

Through a partnership between the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CVS and Walgreens are administering vaccines to nursing home and assisted living residents, with the pharmacies handling scheduling and coordination of on-site clinics, supply ordering, and cold chain management of the vaccines.

Officials at the state’s coronavirus command center said this month that they expected between 40,000 and 60,000 doses of the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine to be shipped to CVS and Walgreens for skilled nursing facilities in Massachusetts.

As of last Tuesday, before the long-term care vaccination campaign began, 35,618 people in Massachusetts had received their first of two vaccine doses, according to the Department of Public Health. Many of those in the first wave to be vaccinated are health care workers, including men and women who work at facilities in Dorchester.

Staff at the Harvard Street Neighborhood Health Center received doses of the Moderna vaccine on Christmas Eve. Stan McLaren, president and CEO of the health center, was the first person to be vaccinated.

“There’s been a lot of mistrust in my community, and some workers in the healthcare field, and a lot of it has to do with history,” McLaren said. “I want to show that I believe the vaccine to be safe, and I would not ask my employees to do something I would not do myself.”

Daniel Driscoll Neponset Health Center also received the Moderna vaccine last week and began its “phase one” rollout by vaccinating 30 staff members on Wed., Dec. 23. The effort — led by the center’s practice manager, Jilaine Morales, and nurse manager Jilaine Morales, RN, will continue over the next month, according to the CEO of Harbor Health Service, Chuck Jones.

“In phase one of the roll-out we are vaccinating staff in accordance with DPH guidelines,” Jones told the Reporter. “We look forward to welcoming the community to receive the vaccine in phase two and three, in early 2021.”

Cardinal Sean O’Malley announced on Monday that he had received the first of two doses of the Moderna vaccine on Dec. 24 at St. Elizabeth’s Medical Center in Brighton. In a statement, the 76-year-old O’Malley said Dr. Joseph Weinstein, chief physician executive of Steward Health Care Network, had noted “that I qualified for the Covid vaccine” and offered to facilitate the inoculation.

“With recognition of the importance that all persons be vaccinated when possible, I was very happy to receive this invitation,” the cardinal said. “I am grateful to have been in line for the vaccine and encourage all people to be vaccinated as the opportunity is presented, as an important action of care and concern for our loved ones, our communities and our nation.”

The archdiocese said O’Malley is scheduled to receive the second dose in January. The ongoing first phase of vaccination has been limited to health care workers and long-term care residents and staff. In a recent MassCINC Polling Group survey of 1,180 Massachusetts residents, 36 percent said they would like to take the vaccine as soon as it’s possible for them to do so, with 47 percent saying they wanted to wait until either a few people they know or many other people get the shot first.

When the results of Sunday’s poll were released, 46 on Saturday brought the pandemic’s death toll to 11,852 since March 20, a figure that rises to 12,110 when deaths among people with likely Covid-19 cases are added.

Michael P. Norton of State House News Service and Bill Purdy of the Reporter contributed to this article.

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In charge: Frederick Wiseman, shown below, at right, captures Mayor Walsh & Co. in action.  
Photo courtesy of Zipporah Films

**A Study in Contrast**

One recurring theme in the film is affordable housing. A particularly significant scene, said Wiseman, concerned a meeting where city officials discussed how to deal with serious problems of housing, hunger, health and all the myriad issues that the city has to cope with on a daily basis.

"Obviously, all the problems aren't resolved. Some are more easy to resolve than others but the basic point is that a good-will effort is being made by employees of a city government that cares about its citizenry."

He continued: "In the Trump Administration, this effort was not made. There was an almost complete collapse of the accepted contractual norms between the federal government and the citizens."

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Murphy’s Mission: Christmas toys for those less fortunate

Mark Murphy and younger brother Michael of Neponset raised money to donate some 425 toys to local kids in need. “It was definitely different,” said Murphy, a 17-year-old student at The Cambridge Matignon School. “There are a lot of people out of jobs right now, so it was tougher to ask for donations. We had to think of more creative ways to raise money. The kids needed it this year more than ever.” One of his team’s most successful fundraising efforts came in the form of “football squares,” a Patriot-themed raffle whereby people could donate $5 to buy one or more squares on a numbered grid, with the final scores determining a winner at random. That popular initiative raised the bulk of funds, with Murphy’s school, sports teams, and family members chipping in to round out the fundraising efforts.

In total, Murphy raised around $3,500, allowing him to donate 425 toys to ABCD, the local nonprofit with which he partners each year to distribute the toys. Once the money was raised, Murphy and his younger brother Michael spent three hours at the store, filling carriages with a variety of toys for kids of all ages from babies to teens. Delivering the gifts to ABCD knowing that they will brighten the holidays for needy children makes the whole operation worthwhile, said Murphy.

“The most rewarding part is knowing you’re giving these kids a chance to open something on Christmas, when they might not usually get to,” he said. The Murphy family had been planning to host a larger fundraising event such as a Fun Run or charity sports match this year, but saw those plans scuttled by the pandemic. Next year, they hope to host a larger community event and meet their goal of 500 toys.
Celebrate your pet’s first holiday season at home – safely!

By Dr. Edward Schettino

Many people welcomed a new animal family member in their homes during 2020, and this can also be a sensory overload for pets. Bright lights, shiny objects, trees inside the home, new sounds and smells can make pets both anxious and curious about the abrupt change in their surroundings.

The Animal Rescue League of Boston shares these five tips for keeping the furry members of your household safe during the holiday festivities.

Decorate with care. Ribbons and tinsel are especially attractive and hazardous to cats. Holiday plants like mistletoe, holly, lilies, and poinsettias can cause vomiting, upset stomach, and blisters in your pet’s mouth.

Secure your tree. Your frisky pet won’t be the first to topple over a 6-foot fir! Support your tree with a sturdy stand and wires to prevent tipping. Should they decide to make a leap for it. For other toxic chemicals. Avoid placing the menorah, or lit candles, anywhere your pet can reach or on a surface that can be toppled over.

Watch out for wires. Chewing on electrical cords can cause severe oral burns and even fatal shocks for cats and dogs. Secure cords with plastic casing you can cover with a bit of tape. Never let your pet supply shop.

Plan your pet’s meal around yours. This will keep your pet occupied and will make them less likely to try and partake in your holiday. Common holiday foods that can be toxic to our pets include turkey skin, poultry, mushrooms, onions, grapes, raisins, certain types of nuts, raw dough, chocolate, and dairy products. Planning on adopting a pet for a family member or loved one? Please don’t make it a surprise! Brining a new pet into a home is a huge decision and commitment, and the entire household should be involved in the process. There should be a conversation to see if the person not only wants a pet, but also what type of pet would best suit their lifestyle and living situation. Yes, the puppy with the big red bow around its neck is a great image, but if you really want to get a pet as a gift, I would recommend giving a stuffed animal as a placeholder until the recipient is ready to take the next steps.

Together for the holidays: Cricket and Buzz

Dr. Edward Schettino is the president and CEO of the Animal Rescue League of Boston, and has a doctorate in Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University. Pet questions? Email ARL at press@arl.boston.org.

Flood Resilience Zoning Overlay District

Wednesday, January 13
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Zoom Link: bit.ly/CFRODJan13
Toll Free: (833) 568 - 8864
Meeting ID: 161 062 3707

Friday, January 15
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Zoom Link: bit.ly/CFRODJan15
Toll Free: (833) 568 - 8864
Meeting ID: 160 772 4427

Project Description:
Please join Boston Planning & Development planning and zoning staff for a virtual meeting to review the draft Coastal Flood Resilience Zoning Overlay, which will provide new zoning definitions, dimensional and use standards for development projects to promote resilient design and better prepare new and existing buildings for future coastal storms and sea level rise. The meeting will include a presentation of the draft zoning article and updates to existing zoning, followed by Q&A and comments.

The same presentation and content will be covered at the meetings on January 13th and 15th. We will take comments on the draft Resilience Zoning Overlay until Friday, February 12th.

Translation and interpretation services can be made available upon request by reaching out to chris.busch@boston.gov at least a week in advance of the meeting.

mail to: Chris Busch
Boston Planning & Development Agency
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201
phone: 617.918.4451
e-mail: chris.busch@boston.gov

Close of Comment Period:
2/12/2021

Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

Virtual Public Meeting
HAPPY NEW YEAR TO OUR LOWER MILLS NEIGHBORS

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- The Pooped Pooch
- Dunkin’ Donuts

Home of:
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- Cummins Family Dental
- Caregiver Homes of Massachusetts
- New England Community Services
- Community Services Institute
- Banner Publications Ink.
- Delta Physical Therapy
- Codman Square Health Center

1100 Washington Street, Dorchester, Lower Mills

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- New Years Day - Closed
  January 1
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day - Closed
  January 18
- Let’s Get Ready SAT Prep
  February 12 - April 30

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

CONNECT THE DOT

BGCD and Mark Wahlberg Youth Foundation Provide 250 Gift Packages for Club Youth: Although Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester was unable to host the Annual Mark Wahlberg Youth Foundation Party at the Tewksbury Country Club this year, we were still able to assemble gift packages for 250 youth representing 16 Boys & Girls Clubs from across the region.

A huge thank you to our program partners Soles4Souls and Operation Warm who provided clothing and winter jackets for these gift packages. In addition, each member received a gift card for the holidays compliments of the Foundation.

BGCD would like to thank the Mark Wahlberg Youth Foundation for ensuring this opportunity remained available this year.

FIND OUT WHAT’S INSIDE:

BGCD Thanks Partners & Supporters for Successful Holiday Season: BGCD would like to thank all of our partners and supporters who have hosted donation initiatives to help support our Clubs. So many came together to raise funds, host toy drives, donate meals and more. A huge thank you to Lower Mills Tavern, Yellow Door Taqueria, Harp + Bard Restaurant, Elevate Youth, Jamaica Mi Hungry Food Truck, Thermo Fisher, Star Market, Dell EMC, Nike, Sam Mewis, Moar Companies, RODE Architects, TD Bank, Duxbury High School, St. Mary’s Church, Fenney Brothers, Lucy’s American Tavern, The Bowery, Oracle, Tom Gannon & Friends and Sweet Teez Bakery.

BGCD is thankful for all of our partners, supporters and friends for always thinking of our Clubs. With your help, we have been able to make our members and families Holiday Season merry and bright.

DID YOU KNOW:

Great Futures Start Here at BGCD with Year End Giving:

As 2020 comes to a close, we look forward to brighter days ahead in 2021 here at BGCD. We look forward to re-opening our doors at full capacity and continuing to do “whatever it takes” for the youth and families we serve. Your simple, yet powerful act of giving connects our young people to academic resources, encourages them to embrace healthy habits and develop an understanding of service. We know that giving is not simply about making a donation, it is about making a difference in the lives of the members and families we serve. A gift of any size will help us continue to be the vital resource for those who need us most. To donate, please visit https://give.bgcdorchester.org/eoy20.

If you would like to donate stock or make a gift from your DAF account, please contact Kip Parker at kparker@bgcdorchester.org. Thank you!

LYNCH, Mary, 83, of Dorchester. She is survived by her children, Margaret Lynch, Norwell, Lorraine Lynch, Weymouth, and Robert Lynch, Alpharetta, GA. She will be laid to rest with her mom and best friend, Mary Jeffrey.

MULLIN, Brian of Dorchester, formerly of Inismore, Aran Islands, Co. Galway, Ireland. Husband of Mary E. (McDonagh). Father of Sean and Michael, Bri- an, Teresa, Anna, Evi, and Kevin and Michele. Grandfather of 3, Brother of Pat and the late Mary and John. Also survived by many nieces, nephews, and friends. He was a strong advocate for the laborers union, retiring from the local 223 after 53 years of service. Donations in memory of Brian may be made to Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital – Milton.

MURPHY, Joseph M. in Quincy, former- ly of Dorchester. Son of Pat- rick Denney of Quincy. Brother of April Knowlton and the late Mi- chael Hayes. Nephew of Thomas Murphy, his wife Asmae and their family of Dorchester, Maureen Murphy of Quincy, Mary Murphy of Taunton, and the late John, Michael and Therese Murphy. Uncle of Tony Murphy and Jack- son Knowlton. Grandson of the late Mary and John Murphy.

MILTON, Jesse, 95, born in Selma, Alabama to the late Richard and Flora Milton. He was the second eldest of nine children. Husband to the late Al D. Milton. Jesse was also predeceased by 4 brothers: Richard, Fred, Dave and Les. one sister-Evelyn Coo- per; one grand-son-Artis Knowlton; and many other in-laws, nieces, nephews and friends. Jesse leaves his son-Joe Per- dorado; daughter-Beau Per- dorado; and 1 great grandchild.

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Main Office located at: 366 Cummins Highway, Roslindale, MA 02131
Information pricing and maps available online at: www.BostonCemetery.org info@bcca.comnet

Rosenthal, Irene M. (Kelly), born in 1950 in Boston and raised in Dorchester and Brough- ton. Predeceased by her mother Frances Sydel (Melchett) and Paul Ken- nell Sydel, as well as her sister Elaine Burroughs and her husband Marc Rosenthal. She is remem- bered by her children Allison Ostroff (Jon- than), David Davis (Lee) and Sarah Ono-Murphy (Michael), as well as her sister Beverly Scheuer, sister and brother-in-law Betsy and Richard Weis- el, and 8 grandchildren.
In Irene’s memory, donations could be made to the Alzheimer’s Asso- ciates, alz.org and the ASPCA, aspca.org

Ryan, Timothy P. in Marshfield, formerly of Dorchester, suddenly, 52 years of age. Son of Kim- berly M. (Garnett) Ryan. Father of Collum Ryan of Dorchester, Brian Ryan and the late Colleen F. Ryan of Marshfield, Maggie R. Ryan of New York, Julie D. Ryan of the late Molly Clare Ryan. Son of the late Robert V. and Jo-Anne M. (Carroll) Ryan. Nephew of Allen Ryan of Kennozienski of Hamp- shire and Marg (Carroll) Corcoran of Mansfield. Survived by several cousins and any dear friends. Tim was a graduate of BC High Class of ’86, Suffolk University Class of ’90, and he received his MBA from Babson College. Tim was the Director of Performance and Attrition for Liberty Mutual in Dorchester. He was a past president
December 31, 2020

North Norfolk Yacht Club was a member of the CAIA. Do
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lived in Jamaica until she
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Monica was born in West
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SETALSINGH, Barbara Se-

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partment, 30 East 33rd
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Donations may be
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St., New York, NY 10016.
The year 2020 has reminded us of the importance of slowing down so that we may care for one another and think critically about our values as a society.

Moving forward into 2021, let’s resolve to support working families. Let’s resolve to build a strong economy based on equity and community standards. Let’s resolve to make our voices heard in the halls of power, and to listen to one another, so that together we can create a brighter future for all.

IBEW Local 103 and NECA Greater Boston electrical contractors remain committed to doing our part to build that brighter future.

Wishing all of our neighbors a very happy and healthy new year!

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