THREE-DECKER ARTISTRY AT ASHMONT GRILL

A collection of paintings by Dorchester-based urban landscape artist Jodie Baehre— including *Dorchester at Night, at right — are currently on display at Ashmont Grill through the end of July. The features new work from a series titled the “Emerald Era,” which heavily features the color green thanks in part to a residency Baehre participated in earlier this year in Epsom, New Hampshire. Baehre’s art has been featured in several exhibitions in Boston including Ambassadors 2 at Boston City Hall and The Big Picture at Atlantic Wharf Gallery. Her work is on permanent reserve at the Boston Public Library, Factory 37, Harvard University, and Mass General Hospital. Last year, Baehre received a grant from the City of Boston as a Fay Chandler Emerging Artist. Learn more about the artist at jodiebaehre.com.

‘It Is Erasing Our History’

Critics say new development blurs neighborhood boundaries

BY MIRANDA SUAREZ WBUR REPORTER

When Dorchester City Councillor Kim Janey stands outside the Marriott Residence Inn on Washington Street, she knows exactly where she is.

“We are standing here — in the heart of the city, in the heart of Roxbury, in Dudley Square,” she says.

And she’s right. The hotel lists its official address in Roxbury.

To Janey, who represents both neighborhoods, the name causes more than just confusion in a city where neighborhood boundaries are notoriously fuzzy. She sees it as an attempt to sidestep Roxbury, in particular as a black neighborhood, and embrace the whiter, wealthier South End.

“Roxbury has been home to the black community in the city of Boston for generations. And to try to claim that it is the South End is very problematic because it is erasing our history, it’s erasing people of color from that history, from our neighborhood,” Janey says.

But not everyone agrees, includ-

Mixed response to condo project near Codman Square

BY JENNIFER SMITH NEWS EDITOR

A proposed 34-unit condominium project was the subject of an all-times contentious public meeting Monday night in Codman Square. Some residents worried that the project sited near the corner of Washington Street and Aspinwall Road was out of step with the surrounding area and could contribute to displacement and gentrification. But, others said they liked the project and that overcrowding policy issues like affordability standards were a citywide matter.

Shanti Acquisition LLC — the developer — hopes to build a 34,200-square foot building with 29 underground parking spaces at the former site of Nelson Manor nursing home at 3 Aspinwall Rd. The facility has been dormant for decades and was boarded up in 1995.

The project team would demolish the existing building and build a new four-story building with underground parking and 7,800 square feet of landlords operating around it. The building’s exterior structure is designed to look like a collection of individual houses, though it will be connected with common space in the center like a normal condo complex.

Above ground floor would have a combination of studios, one-bedroom, two-bedroom, and duplex residential units. Four would be designated affordable units under the city’s Inclusionary Development Policy.

Irish Pastoral Centre plans move to Adams Village

BY ED FORBY ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER

The Irish Pastoral Centre, based for many years next to St. Brendan church, will relocate to new rented space in Adams Village next month, according to current executive director Peggy Davis Mullen.

Founded in 1987 at St. Mark’s parish in Dorchester with a mission to help recently arrived immigrants transition to American life, the non-profit is funded in part by grants from the Irish government and its own fundraising efforts.

Its new quarters will be on the second floor of a commercial building at the corner of Adams Street and Gallivan, above the Irish Butcher Shop and overlooking Greenhills Bakery.

Davis Mullen, who took charge at the IPC last April, said her first task was to find a long-term home for the program.

“That is a number one issue,” she told the Reporter. “We just need space, (to) give the people some dignity and privacy, and we want to expand some of the things we do,” she said.

Report underscores housing pressures

BY JENNIFER SMITH NEWS EDITOR

Exclusionary zoning practices and a tightening housing market are contributing to regional pressures on vulnerable populations in Greater Boston, a new Boston Foundation report lays out.

Historically affordable neighborhoods like Dorchester and Roxbury are quickly becoming more expensive, though they still include higher proportions of the city’s population. Foreclosures and greater concentrations of poverty.

Greater Boston as a whole is riding a period of strong post-recession recovery and growth, the report’s authors note. Yet to some extent Greater Boston has become— not for the first time—the victim of its own success, they say.

“Having failed to produce an adequate supply of housing for decades, the region is not prepared to accommodate the population growth that is being propelled by the current economic boom,” it reads.

It is resulting in increased demographic and economic segregation.

Irish Pastoral Centre plans move to Adams Village

A woman looks up at the old dilapidated Alexandria Hotel on Washington Street. City officials classified the redevelopment as a South End project, but the building is actually in Roxbury.

Jesse Costa/WBUR photo

is being propelled by the current economic boom.”

(Continued on page 12)
Attridge lead Dorchester YMCA

Anthony Attridge will be the new executive director of the High Street YMCA on Washington Street in Dorchester. Attridge, who lives in Richmond, will announce his resignation from the East Bay YMCA.

It's a homecoming for Attridge, who worked as the operations director of the Dorchester YMCA in his eight-year career. “I am so excited to return to Dorchester YMCA, to serve a community that I hold near and dear to my heart,” says Attridge, who holds a bachelor's degree in communications from Emerson College. “There have been some amazing and impactful things happening here, and I hope to enhance the Y's current partnerships and community impact for the people of Dorchester.”

State police said they received a report of a shooting at 6:08 p.m. at 398 Milton Ave. with officers finding a man dead at the scene. The victim, a 37-year-old man, was pronounced dead at the scene. The investigation is ongoing.

State police said a 36-year-old man had a reported 24-year-old male shot in the head late Saturday evening on Avenue in May. Police say the victim, a 24-year-old man was shot to death after 10 p.m. on May 19, 2019 in Codman Square. The victim later died at Dorchester Hospital. The investigation is ongoing.

State police said a 36-year-old male was shot to death at 4 p.m. at 255 E. Chestnut St. The victim, a 36-year-old male, was found shot to death at approximately 10 p.m. at 255 E. Chestnut St.

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Woods elevated to city’s Parks Commissioner

By Ally Jamieson

Two Boston police officers and three police unions are suing Boston police over the department’s policy of forcing officers returning to duty to complete a psychological evaluation.

According to the lawsuit, any officer on leave from work for six months or more is required to have a mental health evaluation with the department psychiatrist — regardless of why the officer was off the job. They are also required to receive a physical examination for any leaves longer than three months.

The suit alleges this violates the Americans with Disabilities Act, which says employers can’t require exams unless it’s “job-related and consistent with business necessity.”

“We think it’s important that obviously officers be fit, but that it’s an overreach for the department to subject them to psychological examinations or physical examinations unrelated to injuries,” said attorney Bryan Decker, who is representing one of the officers, James LaCroix, and the Boston Police Patrolmen’s Association.

LaCroix, who says he injured his back and hip during a foot chase of a suspect, was out on injury leave for 21 months. When he sought to return to light duty, he was ordered to receive a mental health evaluation as a condition of returning to work. He completed the evaluation and was approved for duty.

Decker said he believes the practice is “absent medical and psychological evaluations,” absent a business necessity or to determine the officer’s ability to perform job-related functions.

Boston police declined comment because of the pending litigation.

This story was first published by WBUR 90.9 FM on July 5. The Reporter and WBUR share content through a media partnership.

Ryan T. Woods

Dorchester’s Ryan T. Woods has been promoted to the role of Commissioner of Boston Parks and Recreation by Mayor Martin J. Walsh. Woods has served in the department since 2007 and replaces former Parks Commissioner Christopher Cook, who joined Walsh’s cabinet last year as Chief of Environment, Energy and Open Space.

“Boston is a great parks city, and Ryan brings a wealth of internal and external experience to the role of Parks Commissioner,” Mayor Walsh said in a statement issued on July 5. “I am confident he is the right person to build on the department’s mission of access, equity, and excellence, and look forward to his continuing leadership.”

“I am very grateful for this opportunity to continue to work with the men and women of the Boston Parks and Recreation Department to create fun, safe and well maintained open spaces for Boston’s residents and visitors to enjoy,” said Woods.

During his tenure with the Boston Parks and Recreation department, Woods has held roles as the Public-Private Partnerships Coordinator, Program Manager, and Director of External Affairs. Recently, Woods served as Deputy Commissioner where he oversaw more than 800 free annual programs for residents, department communications, and parks operations.

A graduate of St. Michael’s College, Woods also holds a Master of Arts in Public Administration from Suffolk University. He is a lifelong resident of Dorchester, where he lives with his wife Lauren, a Boston Police Officer, and their two boys.

Renée Payne-Callen, a detective who broke a bone in her heel while on the job last year, says she was also required to receive an evaluation from the department psychiatrist when she was cleared to return to work almost a year later.

In addition to the two officers and the patrolmen’s association, the unions representing detectives and superior officers are also jointly suing.

The suit alleges this department policy is only required officers to undergo a psychological evaluation if they were returning from military leave. But to avoid violating a federal law protecting service members’ rights, the requirement was expanded to all officers returning from leave longer than six months. Decker said he believes that’s been the policy for a few years.

“Rather than just stop the practice, which we think they should have, instead they expanded it to everyone so that they wouldn’t be accused of just targeting veterans,” Decker said.

The suit is asking for unspecified damages, and that the court order BPD to stop requiring medical and psychological examinations “absent a business necessity or to determine the officer’s ability to perform job-related functions.”

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Presented by the Neponset River Watershed Association

**Sat., July 20 • 10am—2pm**

DCR Neponset Park, Dorchester

Entrance to the park is on Hilltop St., near Granite Ave.

More details at neposnet.org/riverfest

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By CESISI LISSINSKI

**STATE HOUSE NEWS SERVICE**

A day after allegations surfaced that the MBTA fired a senior employee because he raised safety concerns, Gov. Charlie Baker said he stood by the agency's decision but declined to discuss the matter in detail.

The Boston Globe reported Sunday that former MBTA Chief Safety Officer Ron Nickle filed a federal complaint alleging officials at the agency attempted to “undermine” his enforcement of safety regulations and sought to suppress findings to avoid public scrutiny.

Baker stood by the March firing.

“It’s complicated to talk about personnel issues, but I will say this: I was briefed by the T on this decision, and based on that, I support the decision they made to terminate him,” Baker told reporters at an unrelated event at the Charlestown Navy Yard.

Baker declined to elaborate on reasons for the firing, saying that Nickle’s allegations would likely “end up involving some sort of legal dispute.” He said the MBTA is still safe, though, pointing to investments in federally mandated anti-collision technology and other infrastructure improvements.

The Globe reported that Nickle had filed a 97-page complaint with the Federal Transit Administration over his termination, claiming the decision was retaliation for highlighting hazards at the MBTA.

Asked about the allegations, a T spokes-
woman said Nickle’s account is “replete with mischaracterizations and falsehoods” but that officials would still review his complaint.

In the wake of the Globe’s report, attorney Charles Goetsch, who is representing Nickle in a related Occupational Safety and Health Administration whistleblower complaint, wrote in a blog post that the former chief safety officer was fired just one day after raising concerns to federal authorities.

“The morning of March 21st Ron Nickle met with the Federal Transit Administration, Federal Railroad Administration, and State DPU to report on the results of his safety audits and inspections. He highlighted critical safety issues and discussed corrective actions to be taken,” Goetsch wrote. “The next morning the MBTA called him into a meeting and abruptly terminated him, giving no reason other than a desire ‘to move in a different direction.’

Nickle’s allegations are the latest controversy at an agency already facing criticism for its management, train derailments, and frequent service delays and disruptions.

A June 11 derailment on the Red Line, the fifth this year, caused such significant damage that delays will persist at least through the summer. While investigators are looking closely at the 50-year-old train itself, they still have not announced a cause of the incident.

Meanwhile, greater Boston commuters largely appear to have fed up with the state of public transit. Only 14 percent of respondents in a poll last month said they believe MBTA service has improved since widespread shutdowns in the winter of 2015 prompted reforms.

Massachusetts Democratic Party Chair Gus Bickford, who has slammed Baker’s handling of the T in the past, said Monday that reporting about Nickle’s complaints “suggests that the Baker administration knew about serious safety concerns and engaged in a coverup to hide these issues from public view.”

“Instead of taking steps to actually correct the problems identified by one of the top MBTA officials, the Baker administration used intimidation tactics to silence the employee from speaking out,” Bickford said in a press release. “Unfortunately, as we are seeing with the situation involving the firing of the former head of the federal Railroad Police, silencing those who bring inconvenient information to light appears to be a page right out of the Baker/Polito playbook.”

Shannon Liss-Riordan, attorney challenging U.S. Sen. Ed Markey in a Democratic primary, called for a congressional hearing to investigate the allegations “as well as the general management failures and safety practices at the MBTA.”

Goetsch could not provide a copy of Nickle’s complaint with the FTA, but according to the Globe’s story, Nickle alleged that MBTA officials — including Deputy General Manager Jeff Gonville — pressured him to tone down his safety reports to avoid drawing public criticism.

His complaint also alleges that MBTA officials wanted to prioritize on-time performance over safety on the commuter rail and was instructed to avoid putting internal communications in writing to avoid them becoming public, the Globe reported.

The MBTA said Nickle did not raise safety concerns in questions his quarterly reports to the Fiscal and Management Control Board and that he noticed any problems, he should have notified the general manager.

Spokeswoman Lisa Battison said the T will consult federal overseers to investigate Nickle’s allegations.

“As the MBTA’s unyielding commitment to safety, the Authority has made a number of changes, including hiring a new Chief Safety Officer, to ensure the T’s Safety Department remains focused on its mission with the highest level of professionalism, expertise, thoroughness, and accuracy that its customers and employees expect,” she said in a statement. “While the former employee’s statement is replete with mischaracterizations and falsehoods, the MBTA, nonetheless, will review the former employee’s unsubstantiated claims with its regulatory partners.
The Farmer’s Market, which is staged every Friday afternoon outside the Ashmont MBTA station.

“Fruits of Our Ocean.”

The market works in tandem with the health center, which continues the “Prescribe Food and Vegetables to Patients as a Part of Their Care Plan. Patients can use vouchers at the market as part of the Vegetable Prescription Program, which launched in 2010. Lopez-Opsina added: “We are granting some of the farmer’s markets money to make summer meals there, so all kids (in the BPS system) can go in and get free lunches.” Some youngsters, she noted, “lack real food because they rely on the schools to get the meals. Now we are tackling that at the farmer’s market and the market is sponsoring meals there. We have 5 to 7 markets that have agreed to do this.”

On July 16, the Dot-House Health will open their Tuesday Farmer’s market at 1353 Dorchester Ave., which is behind the Dorchester Health Center’s WIC office. Partnering with Revision House Urban Farm, they will sell a great variety of produce including many Asian vegetables that are used in many cultures. They will accept card, cash and coupons. It runs through October.

Finally, on Wednesdays, shoppers can stop by the ReVision Urban Farm at 1062 Blue Hill Ave. from 2-4 p.m. The farm, which opened in June, will stay open on Wednesdays through Oct. 2.

More information about farmer’s markets across the city may be found online at boston.gov/food.
What are those Bamboo teepees in Ryan Playground?

Visitors to Ryan Play-ground in Mattapan this past week might have noticed that a pair of new structures have appeared in the field near 315 River St.

Two 14-foot tall bamboo teepee-like structures were installed last week-end by a team helped by a pair of Wentworth Institute of Technology (WIT) alumni who first assembled the buildings for an art installation near the Museum of Fine Arts last year. Those students, Colin Sabin and Vrajesh Patel, learned about bamboo construction and architecture through Bamboo Bali Studio, a WIT independent study program set in Bali.

Wentworth professor Robert Cowherd established Green School Bali in 2012, giving birth to a bamboo design-build program that has since graduated over 200 Master Builders, including 32 Wentworth Architecture students. In a press release, Cowherd provided some back-ground on the history of bamboo construction as an important cultural legacy.

“During the 18th and 19th centuries, Dutch colonial officials had built bamboo buildings throughout the Southeast Asian archipelago as ‘unsanitary.’ Today a dedicated network of self-proclaimed ‘Bam-boo Revolutionaries’ in Indonesia, the fourth most populous country in the world, is working to create bamboo forest economies as an alternative to short-sighted extractive projects driving climate change.”

Now re-innervated in a new home on the Nepon-set Greenway as a dona-tion from Wentworth, the bamboo structures will be showcased as a fixture of Mattapan Love through-out the summer.

Additional informa-tion about the bamboo structures and their installation, including small scale models and open to the public. The Dudley Jazz Fes-tival is presented by Creative Cultural Arts. For more information, go to creativeculturalarts.org or visit the Dudley Jazz Facebook page, or email ccarts@comcast.net or call 617-631-9809.

Jazz Fest set for Hannon Park on July 27

The fourth annual Dudley Jazz Festival will take place on Sat., July 27 from 12-6 p.m. at Mary Hannon Park, 1135 Blue Hill Avenue. The festival, which was founded by local veteran musician Fred Woodard in 2016, presents some of the area’s top jazz talent in an outdoor, family-friendly setting.

Fred Woodard, right, is the organizer of the Dudley Jazz Festival at Mary Hannon Park and is also a performer.

This year’s lineup will include The Fred Woodard Collective, The Lance Martin Trio, Gabrielle Goodman, Salim Washington with special guest Jason Palmer, and The George Russell Trio. All shows are free and provided by a pair of Wentworth Institute of Technology (WIT) alumni who first assembled the buildings for an art installation near the Museum of Fine Arts last year. Those students, Colin Sabin and Vrajesh Patel, learned about bamboo construction and architecture through Bamboo Bali Studio, a WIT independent study program set in Bali.

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Spencer Powers, shown on ladder, helped Leon with the construction of the teepee-like structures. Two 14-foot tall bamboo buildings near the Museum of Fine Arts last year are the organizer of the Dudley Jazz Festival.

Additional information about the program, is available at Ideal Mixer.

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**ADAMS STREET BRANCH**

Friday, July 12th will be the last day of service before the Adams Street branch closes for the construction of a new building. We will reopen early 2021. Our building holds and other items will be transferred to the Lower Mills Branch.

**CODMAN SQUARE BRANCH**

**FRI., July 12**

10:30 a.m. - Stories, Stories, Stories. Sat., July 13, 3 p.m. - USCIS Information Desk at Boston Public Library. Tues., July 16, 10:30 a.m. - Historic New England - Girl Running: Bobbi Gibb and the Boston Marathon; 11 a.m. - Stories, Stories, Stories; 1:15 p.m. - Read-About; 1 p.m. - Dominican Art by Marvina, Fri., July 19, 10:30 a.m. - Stories, Stories, Stories; Tues., July 23, 11 a.m. - Stories, Stories, Stories; 1:15 p.m. - Read-About.

**FIELDS CORNER BRANCH**

**Thurs., July 11**

10:30 a.m. - Films and Fun; 10:30 a.m. - Preschool Films and Fun; 3 p.m. - Drop-In Tech Help. Fri., July 12, 12:30 p.m. - LapSit Story Time; 10:30 a.m. - Preschool Storytime.

**Sat., July 13, 9 a.m.** - USCIS Information Desk at Boston Public Library. Tues., July 16, 6:30 p.m. - Hatha Yoga. Thurs., July 19, 10:30 a.m. - Bilingual Haitian Kreyol Storytime; 10:30 a.m. - Films and Fun; 10:30 a.m. Preschool Films and Fun; 3 p.m. - Drop-In Tech Help. Fri., July 19, 9:30 a.m. - LapSit Story Time; 10:30 a.m. - Preschool Story Time. Tues., July 23, 6:30 p.m. - Hatha Yoga. Thurs., July 25, 10:30 a.m. - Films and Fun; 10:30 a.m. - Preschool Films and Fun; 3 p.m. - Drop-In Tech Help. Fri., July 26, 9:30 a.m. - LapSit Story Time; 10:30 a.m. - Preschool Films and Fun. Tues., July 30, 6:30 p.m. - Hatha Yoga.

**GROVE HALL BRANCH**

Sat., July 13, 1 p.m. - Family Yoga. Tues., July 16, 10:30 a.m. - Reading Readiness. Wed., July 17, 11:15 a.m. - Read-About; 3 p.m. Anime Club. Thurs., July 18, 3 p.m. - USCIS Information Desk at Boston Public Library. Sat., July 20, 6:30 p.m. - Drop-In Tech Help. Tues., July 23, 10:30 a.m. - Reading Readiness. Wed., July 24, 11:15 a.m. - Read-About. Thurs., July 25, 5 p.m. - Cooking with Miss Debbie - Cupcake Wars. Sat., July 27, 1 p.m. - Family Yoga.

**LOWER MILLS BRANCH**

The Lower Mills branch will be closed for an interior refresh through mid-summer 2018.

**MATTAPAN BRANCH**

Thurs., July 11, 5 p.m. - Evening Movies; 6:30 p.m. - Free Gentle Yoga. Fri., July 12, 12:30 p.m. - Drop-DMC; 5 p.m. - Hip Hop Dance with Tyh. Wed., July 17, 3 p.m. - Craftersoons. Thurs., July 18, 5 p.m. - Cooking with Miss Debbie - Cupcake Wars. 5 p.m. - Evening Movies; 6:30 p.m. - Free Gentle Yoga. Fri., July 19, 11:15 p.m. - Read-About. Tues., July 23, 3 p.m. - Tinker Tuesdays. 6 p.m. - Drop-DMC; 5 p.m. - Hip Hop Dance with Tyh. Wed., July 24, 3 p.m. - Craftersoons. Thurs., July 25, 6 p.m. - Zipline - Bag Ice Cream with Miss Sherry; Evening Movies; 6:30 p.m. - Gentle Yoga. Fri., July 26, 11:15 p.m. - Read-About. Sat., July 27, 5 p.m. - Sackaby Beats Concert. Tues., July 30, 3 p.m. - Tinker Tuesdays; 6 p.m. - Hip Hop Dance with Tyh.

**UPHAMS CORNER BRANCH**

**Thurs., July 11, All Day - Communicate Like a Champion Drop In Activities. Fri., July 12, All Day Communicate Like a Champion Drop In Activities. Sat., July 13, 2 p.m. - II Day - Communicate Like a Champion Drop In Activities. Mon., July 15, All Day - Explore the Library Scavenger Hunt; 2:30 p.m. - Baby and Toddler LapSit. Tues., July 16, All Day - Explore the Library Scavenger Hunt; 2 p.m. - Historic New England - Girl Running: Bobbi Gibb and the Boston Marathon; 3 p.m. - Cover Letter Tips. Wed., July 17, All Day - Explore the Library Scavenger Hunt. Thurs., July 18, All Day - Explore the Library Scavenger Hunt; 6:30 p.m. - Pajama Story Time. Fri., July 19, All Day - Explore the Library Scavenger Hunt; 10:30 a.m. - Story Craft Hour.
Kyre Ambrose and Brayen Reyes Castro of Dorchester will serve as emissaries of the arts this summer along with twelve other teens from the greater Boston area as Reach: Summer Outreach Dance Apprenticeship Program. The Louis D. Brown Peace Institute has received a $30,000 grant from the Boston Foundation. This grant will allow us the opportunity to work with Dorchester residents Kyre Ambrose (left, standing) and Brayen Reyes Castro (right, standing) along with two college interns, Hanna Cyr and Brandon McCrory-Joseph.

In 2006, Micki Taylor-Pinney, then artistic director of Dance Collective, moved the program to Boston University, where she is the director of dance.

During three weeks of intense daily class and rehearsal with Reach staff, the teens prepare for the company's summer tour. The tour, which begins July 22 and lasts two weeks, includes 11 professional performances and 25 workshops, over 1,200 kids and adults at nearly 20 dozen local camps and community centers in the Greater Boston area.

“We all benefit from Reach’s success — the performers and those who strive to bring the power and beauty of dance to a wider audience,” Taylor-Pinney said. Reach is primarily funded by charitable grants and through private donations. For more information, visit dotnews.com

Peace Institute
The Louis D. Brown Peace Institute has received a $30,000 grant from the Boston Foundation for its Dorchester Open Door Grants program. The Louis D. Brown Peace Institute was founded in 1994 and today serves 90 percent of homicide victims’ families annually in Boston, delivering consistent and coordinated families services impacted. This grant will allow us to increase our capacity as an organization and lead us down a path of sustainability as we plan for the future,” said Clementina M. Chery, who is the CEO of the Peace Institute.

Thayer Academy in Braintree — an independent, co-ed day school for grades 5-12 — recently announced its Middle School Graduates Honor Rolls for the third term. Dorchester students who made the honor roll included: Tatiana Allen, Maxine Baker, Damaris DeFellipe, Isabel Lochaivo, and Michael Scully.

At the Dorchester Historical Society, we continue to commemorate the service of Dorchester residents who served in World War I.

This edition features Robert Hogg Johnson. Following are excerpts from a biographical sketch authored by Camille Arboagast.

Robert Hogg Johnson was born at 39 Robinson St., at Meetinghouse Hill on Sept. 15, 1892. His parents, Mabel and Wells H. Johnson, were both from New Hampshire.

Wells was a lawyer and stenographer in the Dorchester office of the private secretary of New Hampshire U.S. Sen. Edward Rollins. He spent two seasons in Boston, D.C. with the senator and later had a long career as a stenographer in the Suffolk Superior Court. Prior to their marriage, Mabel worked as a housekeeper in Boscowen, New Hampshire.

Robert Hogg Johnson had three younger sisters, Ruth, Rita, and Mildred. In 1960, the family lived at 118 Londondale St. By 1910, they had moved one block over, to 70 Shepton St.

During the 1913-1914 school year, Robert was a special student at Boston University. On his World War I draft registration he gave his profession as actor and listed the "Bostock Brothers" theatrical agency of Times Square, New York, run by Claude and Gordon Bostock, as his employers. Robert was drafted and inducted into the army on June 26, 1918. He initially served with Company E of the 340th Infantry of the 87th Division. He joined Company L of the 340th shortly before shipping overseas on the USS Stephen Castle on Sept. 12, 1919.

He made a Private First Class on Oct. 7 and in December, he began serving with the 39th Infantry Military Police Company. He returned to the United States in September 1919 and went back to live on Shepton Street.

The 1926 Boston directory shows Robert living at 25 Wheatland Ave. and working as an artist. By 1929, Robert was no longer listed in the directory and details about Robert’s life after this time are sparse and problematic.

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

The Dorchester Historical Society’s historic houses are open on different dates. The Lemuel Clap House and remodeled 1765 at 199 Boston Street is open on the third Saturday of each month. The James McKe House, 735 Columbia Road (1661) and the William Clap House, 195 Boston Street (1830) are open on the third Sunday of each month. Open hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Police Academy’s newest recruits mirror how the BPD reflects and serves our neighborhoods

By MAYOR JAMES M. WALSH

Last month, we welcomed the Boston Police Academy’s newest recruits. These men and women had spent the last six months learning to serve and protect the people of Boston with the highest standards of excellence and professionalism. As the recruits crossed the stage, they stopped to shake hands with me and Commissioner Gross. It was a powerful experience meeting each and every new member of our city’s police department, which is the oldest and largest in the country.

Among these recruits are veterans, former teachers, and youth sports coaches. Many of them brought their family with them and loved ones came up on stage with them. It was a powerful reminder of the deep connections our police officers share with our community.

This graduating class also reflects Boston’s rich diversity of languages, cultures, backgrounds, and religions. It includes more people of color than any class in recent memory, and the largest group of former cadets to graduate from the academy since we reinstated the cadet program in 2015.

The cadet program is a paid on-the-job training program for young people in Boston’s neighborhoods. It prepares them for the rigorous of the Police Academy, and connects a more diverse pool of candidates with local careers in law enforcement.

When I was elected mayor, I made it a priority to reinstate the cadet program. I saw it as a powerful way to make our police department more representative of the people it serves. In the four years since we brought the cadet program back, the results have spoken for themselves.

Today, the percentage of cadets have been people of color, representing Boston’s Black, Latinx, Asian, and Native American communities. The percentage of female cadets has kept rising, and the 2019 cohort of cadets is exactly fifty percent female.

To see how significant these numbers are, take a look at the national landscape. Throughout the United States, about 25 percent of police officers are people of color, and they’re 15 percent or women. The Boston Cadet program is pushing doors wide open for a much more diverse, more inclusive police department.

Such a force is crucial to our public safety strategy. It helps ensure that our men and women in uniform deeply understand the challenges people are facing in our neighborhoods. It also helps build trust between our police and the people they serve, so that residents feel safe coming forward and asking for help.

Our police officers are trusted and familiar faces in our neighborhoods. They are an important part of the fabric of our communities, working with public health, social service, and youth work professionals.

This is what community policing looks like, and it has helped make Boston one of the safest cities in America. Our crime rate has fallen by roughly 25 percent over the last 5 years. This year alone, major crime is down by about 10 percent. Our motto is that we keep Boston safe by “lifting people up, not locking people up.”

Diversifying and strengthening the Boston Police Department is part of a broader, citywide commitment. We’re working with the state to create a cadet program for the Boston Fire Department. And through our City Academy, hiring initiative and improved outreach, we’re drawing from a more diverse candidate pool for EMT’s and paramedics. This commitment extends beyond public safety and first responders — it’s about every part of city government.

My cabinet is the most diverse in the history of our city, and nearly half of all full-time city employees hired over the last five years have been people of color.

Together, we’ll continue building a culture of trust and engagement across all neighborhoods, accelerating the success of the cadet program, and continuing to push doors wide open for everyone in Boston.

The back-story to the ‘This Old House’ pilot

By LEW FINER

SPECIAL TO THE REPORTER

The public television series “This Old House” turned 40 this year. The first house featured in the program’s pilot — a beautiful, stately home at the corner of Eller Street and George Street near Peter’s Church — was vacant at the time. The home was beautifully restored and it remains a jewel in the neighborhood under the stewardship of its current owners.

But, there’s much more to the story of how it became vacant in the first place. Before it was acquired by WGBH-TV, it was home of Earl Perkins, a Korean War veteran who led the Meeting House Hill Civic Association that met monthly nearby at the First Parish Church. Like civic leaders across the city, Earl devoted his time to lead these groups, get residents together, react to problems they see, and try to get city officials to respond.

But when Earl lost his job unexpectedly, he faced mounting problems that so many of his neighbors also encountered in that era. In the 1970s, Dorchester was plagued by hundreds and hundreds of abandoned buildings. Bank relining schemes meant it was harder to get financing for many. It was opposed to the development of the area of Dorchester because lenders said parts of the neighborhood were foreclosed, but people broke into it repeatedly.

The fires endangered nearby buildings and the people who lived there. They were also targets for vandals and thieves. And, the results lowered property values for everyone.

As a result, Mayor Kevin White on the topic of abandoned buildings in Meeting House Hill/Bowdoin-Geneva. In front of 300 community members, he said he used to “date a girl on Barry Street” — was taken aback at the plight. He gave them a list of over 60 abandoned buildings and asked the city to tear them down. He agreed to do that. We had a similar meeting in 1975 with federal HUD officials asking us to think about the need for tougher foreclosure regulations.

In 1976, we asked Boston Housing Court Chief Judge Paul G. Arney (not the federal judge Arthur Arney, who is known for the 1974 desegregation and housing decision /) to hold an unprecedented, evening of a...
By Neema Avashia

My gloves came off the day representatives of my school district told us they would be closing our school, the McCormack Middle on Cor asia Point. Our students were sent to a turnaround high school that had never taught middle school students.

Recently arrived immigrants in language-specific programs, which the high school did not offer, would be dispersed across the city. As for our staff, the representative from Human Capital glibly told us, “We have no plan for you.”

What does it mean when the system you’ve poured your heart into doesn’t have the decency to consider a thoughtful transition plan before making the decision to close your school? It means they never saw you as human in the first place.

It means that your job, your livelihood, is impossible for them to look away from your humanity.

I went home from work that afternoon and composed a Twitter account. Opponents of other district proposals had successfully used Twitter to shame city leadership into changing course.

I am a McCormack-Middle teacher, ” my first tweet read. “Today the district announced they will be closing my school, and I am left full of questions.”

Once I began, there was no stopping. I knew that if the McCormack closed, I would be a teacher anymore. That the work it took to build these relationships, and this community, was not something I could take up a second time under the specter of further closures.

On Twitter, I relentlessly poked holes in the plan. BuildBPS was founded on the premise of renovating pre-WWII buildings, yet our building was constructed in 1968. Multiple schools have failing heat systems and leaking roofs, but our building had received a new boiler, windows and roof within the last ten years. BuildBPS purported to prioritize the most vulnerable students, yet disrupted the education of our English Language Learners. My recklessness knew no bounds.

I went before the Boston School Committee and announced, “I am here to give you a history lesson,” then reminded them that our students had turned around previously — the elementary school next door — and that doing so had placed the elementary school under even higher scrutiny from the state. I delivered annotated copies of Ewe Ewing’s book, “Ghost in the Schoolyard” — which analyzes school closure decisions in Chicago — to over 15 district leaders.

In her book, Ewing writes, “A fight for a school is never just about a school. A school means the potential for stability in an unstable world, the potential for agency in the face of powerlessness, the enactment of one’s own dreams and visions for one’s own children. But it is also about wanting to feel that your school is your school.”

“... You want to feel that the rules are fair, not that you’re playing a shell game. You want to feel like a citizen. So you fight.”

And fight we did. Our students lobbied...
ADAMS STREET BPL BRANCH TO CLOSE FOR RENOVATIONS
The Adams Street branch of the Boston Public Library will close for renovations on Fri., July 12. The project will enlarge and modernize the branch, which is expected to re-open in early 2021.

FARMERS MARKET IN PEABODY SQUARE
The Ashmont Peabody Square Farmers Market opened for the season last Friday, June 28 at the Ashmont MBTA plaza. The market will be open every Friday from 3-7 p.m. through Oct. 18. It includes farm-fresh produce, local meats, artisan breads and pastries, live music and more. See the weekly vendor line-up at tinyurl.com/AFMCal.

RIVERFEST AT NEPONSET PARK ON JULY 20
Neponset RiverFest will be held on Sat. July 20, at DCR Neponset Park, Dorchester (at the corner of Granite Ave. and Hilltop St.). Join Neponset River Watershed Association as they celebrate the Neponset River and the beautiful parks and pedestrian paths along the shore, along with the natural salt marshes and wetlands that support more than 200 species of birds, fish and other wildlife.

This is a family-friendly, public event. The public is encouraged to bring a blanket and a picnic, and spend the day. Activities include: free canoeing/kayaking, rock wall climbing, soccer demonstrations, bouncy house, and casting clinic. Multiple food trucks, biking, rock wall climbing, soccer demonstrations, bouncy house, and casting clinic. Multiple food trucks, biking, rock wall climbing, soccer demonstrations, bouncy house, and casting clinic. Multiple food trucks, biking, rock wall climbing, soccer demonstrations, bouncy house, and casting clinic. Multiple food trucks, biking, rock wall climbing, soccer demonstrations, bouncy house, and casting clinic.

Dorchester Little League's 10-and-Under All Star team defeated Charlestown on July 3 to win the District 9 Championship for the second consecutive year. The victory earned the team a slot in the next round of the Little League tournament, which starts Friday (July 12) at 8 at the Ryan Playground in Charlestown. The players shown above include (front row, left to right): Raymond Nunez, Brayden Buckley, Quinn Taylor, Michael Quinlan, Jayson Damas, Matthew O’Loughlin. Second row (l-r): Andrew O’Malley, Thomas Quinlan, James Janulewicz, Colin Yandle, Christian Noto, Brandon Clark. Coaches: Neil Janulewicz, Pat Ryan, Marty O’Malley. Not pictured: Dan Cotter.

call 617-433-7050 if you have any questions or want to volunteer. For further information, please visit mattapanonwheels9.eventbrite.com.

MATTAPAN ON WHEELS BIKE-A-THON ON JULY 20
The 9th annual Mattapan on Wheels Bike-A-Thon, a youth-led event, will be held on Sat., July 20 from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Ages 8 and up, 12 and under accompanied with an adult. All routes will begin at George H. Walker Playground, 528 Norfolk St., Mattapan. There are three courses based on skill level: Family Ride, 9 miles to destination Pope John Paul II Park, Dorchester; Intermediate Ride, 17 miles to destination Carson Beach, South Boston; and Advanced/Expert Ride, 23 miles to destination Castle Island, South Boston. Contact mattapanonwheels@gmail.com or call 617-433-7050 if you have any questions or want to volunteer. For further information, please visit mattapanonwheels9.eventbrite.com.

MULTICULTURAL DAY IN CODMAN SQUARE ON JULY 13
Celebrate the variety of cultures that make up our neighborhood at Dorchester Multicultural Day on Sat., July 13, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Codman Park & Second Church in Dorchester parking lot, corner of Washington St. & Talbot Ave., Codman Square. Live Entertainment, music, dance and fashion. Local vendors, food for sale, community choir, arts for kids and more. Bring a folding chair and relax all day or stay for as long as you can. No cost to attend. Vendors may register for a table at this outdoor event (indoors in case of rain) by July 6. Includes: Vendors, food for sale, community choir, arts for kids and more. Bring a folding chair and relax all day or stay for as long as you can. No cost to attend. Vendors may register for a table at this outdoor event (indoors in case of rain) by July 6. Includes:

One 6-foot table, 1 chair. You may bring your own tent. For further information contact: secondchnaz@gmail.com or 617-825-2797. Sponsors are:

Second Church in Dorchester, Codman Square Neighborhood Council, Codman Farmers Market, Codman Square Neighborhood Development Corp.

(Continued on page 14)

FROM LOWER MILLS TO THE POLISH TRIANGLE, FRANKLIN PARK TO PORT NORFOLK...

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Coogan's Neighborhood Notables
civic assoc's • clubs • arts & entertainment • churches • upcoming events
The Spatial Distribution of Income

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates 2013-2017

FIGURE 3.9
Percent of Owner Households Spending 30 Percent or More of Income on Housing Costs by county, 2015, 2016, 2017

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates 2013-2017

FIGURE 3.10
Percent of Renter Households Spending 30 Percent or More of Income on Housing Costs by county, 2015, 2016, 2017

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates 2013-2017

Report underscores regional housing pressures

Communities with significant shelter costs are more sustainable, according to the report. AHT)

affordable housing trust

leadership on housing is...greater as ever.

property, were for base-

More than one third of all "racially and ethnically-concentrated areas of poverty" are in Suffolk County, primarily in neighborhoods like Dorchester and Roxbury. Reducing segregation goes hand in hand with permitting more housing units, the report states, but the right mix of housing types is critical. "Simply building more units without considering the type or affordability is unlikely to reduce segregation," the authors write.

The report recommended steps for the state legislature, such as requiring multi-family zoning for areas suited for high-density housing like transit hubs or neighborhood centers and allowing multifamily housing types in all single-family zones. It also recommends laws that "prevent frivolous appeals of local approvals to build new housing where the appeals are simply a delay tactic that raise no significant issues of law or fact."

Outside of legislation, the Greater Boston report recommends increasing resources for pro-housing groups and education about the value of building denser housing supply.

"For most of the last century Greater Boston has been a national leader in addressing the housing needs of its residents," the report concludes. "As much as has been accomplished, this Report Card illustrates that serious challenges remain and that new ones have emerged. The need for strong civic leadership on housing is as great as ever."
Mixed response to condo project near Codman Square

(Continued from page 1)

On Monday, dozens of people sat in the Great Hall operated by the Codman Square Health Center for a short presentation from RODE Architects on changes made to the project over the course of five prior community meetings, including a one-story reduction in overall height and drop of six units. The meeting was the second hosted by the Boston Planning and Development Agency and the public comment period has been extended until July 19.

Marilyn Chase, who managed the meeting and represented Shanti Acquisition, was a 15-year Dorchester resident who told the assembled crowd, “I wish I could’ve said yes. I feel like Dorchester has worked with groups for years. I feel like this is a dying industry.”

Lynette J. Antoine, a sometime advocate noted she was misplaced. The local business owner a few blocks away, said she had spoken to local business owners and the “business community was enthusiastic.”

They wanted the kind of people who would help build businesses, who would shop in the neighborhood, being able to afford some of the things that are around so the community could grow together like other areas of the, like the Roslindales and JP’s,” said James.

The building is “an opportunity,” James said. “Is it perfect? No, but it fits parts that are important to me and that’s homeownership.”

Affordability and neighborhood character are valid concerns, said Cheryl Antoine, but the criticism in the meeting was misplaced. The local business owner and longtime advocate noted she has worked with groups like Dorchester Not For Sale and Reclaim Roxbury and is very familiar with the gentrification worries.

“We are having the wrong conversation with the wrong set of people,” she said in the meeting. “Look at the adjustments that was made to the design, and it’s a beautiful thing. The folks that will be living in those units are going to look like me. There are people that can afford it.”

She and Chase noted that there is a demand for smaller homeownership units in the area. “I know how this works because I’ve been there, but tonight I’m in support of this,” Antoine said. “I’m tired of our neighborhood looking a certain way. The 10,000 cars are already here. What we need to do is take our argument and fight to the mayor, not to a developer such as this individual, but he’s working to help us.”

Another woman in the midst of the room began yelling over Antoine in disagreement, cutting her off several more times. When Chase offered the woman the microphone after the exchange, she said she did not want to say anything.

Jeff Durham, a candidate for city council in District 4 who lives on Talbot Avenue in Codman Square, took his turn at the microphone to share his desire to see the site turned into a nursing home again. He identified himself as a candidate for public office and read the entirety of a press release to the assembled crowd, then BPDA project manager John Campbell protested that it was not a political event and later apologized to the group for the political nature of Durham’s comment.

“I think that a better use of the former nursing home is in finding ways to increase job opportunities and not expensive housing,” Durham read.

“I believe we can find economic development for the site that brings jobs and nurtures the existing community with sustainable jobs that creates stability,” Chase said.

She and the others said they did examine the possibility of running a nursing home into the future but determined it was not a financially viable option.

She cited news reports on the decline of the nursing home industry due to lack of supports and decreasing demand. “Your feedback will go a long way to helping us understand how public feels about it,” he said.
New regulations would allow for cafes and pot home delivery

By COLIN A. YOUNG
State House News Service

After unanimously agreeing to them last month, cannabis regulators last Tuesday released rewritten rules that would govern both sides of the legal marijuana world, proposing regulations to eliminate an annual fee for medical patients and set the stage for home delivery of recreational marijuana and marijuana vaping lounges.

The Cannabis Control Commission set out to revise and republish its state of regulation after assuming control of the medical marijuana program from the Department of Public Health in December and as regulators rolled out the first licensed pot stores in Massachusetts.

The product of months of policy discussions and hearings, the new draft regulations for the medical marijuana world as well as the adult-use or recreational industry will be open for public input until Aug. 16.

"This has been painstaking, this has been hard," CCC Chairman Steven Hoffman said last Thursday, thanking staff members for their work on the draft regulations. The CCC voted 5-0 on Thursday to approve the draft regulations but they were not released publicly until Tuesday.

In addition to eliminating the $50 annual registration fee for medical marijuana patients, the draft regulations spell out the proposed rules for two areas that have been topics of much discussion since the early days of legal marijuana and the CCC: authorized social or public use of marijuana and home delivery of non-medical marijuana.

Before a pilot program for on-site consumption could start, the CCC says lawmakers have to act. In a press release, the agency said the recommended pilot program "would not be able to begin without a change in state law or the passage of legislation that will first allow cities and towns to authorize social consumption in their communities." The CCC in May approved, on a 3-2 vote, a policy allowing for a social consumption pilot program in a limited number of communities. Mirroring the policy, the draft regulations would permit a social consumption pilot program to operate in up to 12 municipalities. Towns that participated in a CCC-led working group on social consumption -- including North Adams, Amherst, Springfield, Provincetown and Somerville -- would be among those able to opt into the pilot, the CCC said.

For the first two years they are available, licenses for cannabis cafes -- officially referred to as primary-use locations -- will be held aside exclusively for microbusinesses, craft marijuana cooperatives, applicants with prior status through the CCC's economic empowerment system and participants in the CCC's social equity program as a way of trying to level the playing field between big companies and smaller operators.

Before the licenses are made available to general applicants, the CCC will collect and amend data and establish specific criteria to determine whether goals of the exclusivity period are met.

The CCC's Cannabis Advisory Board had previously recommended allowing social consumption and suggested that it could reduce the risk of children getting a hold of the drug and may limit how much legal marijuana is illegaly transported out of state by tourists. The CAB also suggested that the CCC develop state limits on the "serving size" for social consumption, establish a maximum number of servings allowed per "immediate use package" that cities and towns could adopt, and set a maximum daily exposure limit at which point a budtender could decide to stop serving a consumer.

The commission had drafted regulations in 2018 to allow so-called social consumption but put the issue on the back burner after pushback from Gov. Charlie Baker. The governor this year indicated he could support the idea of starting social consumption as a pilot program before rolling it out more widely.

"I think the issue around protecting the general rules of the game associated with how recreational marijuana is going to work when you get into the social consumption sites and all that comes with it are really hard and really complicated," Baker said in May. "And I think doing it on a pilot basis would make a lot of sense."

Baker proposed a change to the state's marijuana law in 2018 that would have spelled out a local initiative petition process for towns considering on-premise consumption of marijuana, but it was not taken up in the Legislature.

The draft regulations also set the table for delivery-only licenses, a license type that advocates have said would help level the playing field between large and small businesses because the barriers to entry for delivery would be far less burdensome than those for retail licenses.

Delivery companies would be required to obtain their marijuana from other licensed operators in the state and consumers will have to pre-verify their age and identity at the retailer prior to placing an order for delivery. Deliveries for non-medical marijuana will only be made to residential addresses in cities or towns that allow marijuana retail sales.

To get to this point, the CCC worked through five specific policy issues at a meeting last Tuesday -- ownership and control, home delivery of marijuana, public marijuana consumption at certain licensed establishments, suitability and the removal of product.

Those five issues were all that remained to be ironed out; the bulk of the regulations were prepared by commission- ers and CCC staff after holding public hearings and policy debates in recent months.

The CCC plans to hold public hearings on the draft regulations in August and will take public input through Aug. 16.

"Newly the public has the opportunity to grapple with some of the complex issues we have considered as we continue working together to build a safer, more equitable, more sustainable and more effective industry in Massachusetts," Hoffman said in a statement.

Hoffman has previously said he expects the CCC to vote to finalize the rules "right after Labor Day, maybe mid-September."
BnBL sign-ups now underway
Free healthy cooking classes in neponset
singers
proJect d.e.e.p.
college essay workshop at
of Boston's favorite summer basketball league, the
programs team at 617-533-2228 or prevention@hhsi.
to register or contact Harbor Health's prevention
6th graders in the community over four Wednesdays
a free four-week healthy cooking class for 5th and
7 or by appointment. See bostoncitysingers.org or
More audition sessions are planned on Sept. 6 and
September. Auditions are happening by appointment
alldorchestersports.org. Program fee: $40.
on Wed., Aug. 7 at 5:30 p.m.- 8 p.m. for the class of
the lawn of Boston's oldest house, The James Blake
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A view of the existing Neighborhood House Charter School campus on Queen Street. The school plans to expand its physical plant in a project set for review by the Zoning Board this month. Google image after they receive approval from the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) board, which the charter school proposal received on March 16.

City Councilor Frank Baker and the mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Services spoke in favor of the project at the BPDA meeting. “Through the neighbor process I believe we have come up with a better design,” Baker told the board. “And also have identified multiple transportation issues that we will be dealing with in the time comes.”

The BPDA board decision includes a mitigation plan to deal with pick-up and drop-off areas within the new expansion, which is available on the agency’s website.

Opponents to the plan have expressed irritation at the timing of a late-July zoning board hearing for the proposed Neighborhood House Charter School expansion at 21 Queen St. The school filed plans in February with the Boston Planning and Development Agency to add 12 classrooms and a gym in a three-story extension. It is scheduled to be discussed at a Zoning Board of Appeal hearing on July 30 in City Hall that begins at 9:30 a.m.

A view of the existing Neighborhood House Charter School campus on Queen Street. The school plans to expand its physical plant in a project set for review by the Zoning Board this month. Google image after they receive approval from the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) board, which the charter school proposal received on March 16.

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Critics say new development blurs neighborhood boundaries

Dudley Square, the gateway to historic South End, is being transformed.

The Residence Inn's attempt to sell a property nearby has long-range implications for the area's history.

DeShawn Riley grew up nearby and doesn't see any need to clarify the boundary between the two neighborhoods.

"You cross over one street, it's considered Roxbury; one street, it's considered South End, so I mean, does it really matter?" he says, laughing.

Valvoline, because they may prefer to judge the neighborhood border and market their properties in the trendy South End instead.

For the most part, everyone is making it up," he says.

Valvoline points to Mass Ave., which many people define as the border between the South End and Roxbury. A look at the real estate website Trulia's price map shows that median list prices can be up to $100,000 higher on the South Side.

Valvoline says this demonstrates that the area includes some of Roxbury's highest real estate values and some of the South End's lowest.

For a realtor, that means marketing a property as cheap as a good buy in the South End might be easier than marketing it as an expensive choice in Roxbury.

"If you have developers are probably thinking, I'd just like to sell to them for more money what we could, and if we're gonna leverage a lot of the South End cachet? Great," Valvoline says.

Inconsistency among city agencies may also be contributing to the blurring of neighborhood boundaries.

Recently, the Boston Planning & Development Agency incorrectly listed the nearby Alexandra Hotel project in the South End, even though it falls on the Roxbury side of Mass. Ave. by the agency's own definition.

DiGangi's office is in Roxbury, and his company D2 Development has other properties on its website advertised in Roxbury.

DiGangi says he's happy to work in the neighborhood. He adds that he has had no problems selling or renting out units to the students and young professionals in his Roxbury buildings.

"It's in the South End, it's in the South End. If it's in Roxbury, it's in Roxbury. The best way to change the perception or erase a negative connotation to do good things in that community," he says.

"You shouldn't run away from where it is." But what DiGangi calls "a negative connotation" bothers City Councilor Janey.

She says the neighborhood is already a great place. And while she welcomes new residents, Janey worries that marketing this area as the South End will speed up gentrification, which is already making it difficult for some Roxbury residents to live there.

"We've got to call out when people are doing things or marketing things in a way, if in fact it is rooted in racism, not even realizing it, you know, you know?" Janey says.

But DiGangi, the city's former chief of planning and design, says the area is not designed to be.

"I remember a time when some residents claimed their South End had been turned into the Back Bay." Janey says.

You know, in the last 50, 60 years, South End has completely transformed," he says.

"It slowly grew from the north side all the way over to more of the Back Bay. Avenue and started encroaching on Roxbury." New developments, like the upscale Alexandra Hotel project, has already creased Mass. Ave. to the Roxbury side of Washington Street.

Valvoline, the real estate researcher, predicts other luxury amenities will start moving into Roxbury soon.

And he says the new probably won't coexist with the old forever.

That point of equilibrium is also hard, he says."Often it goes right from there into a place that's all $15-a-glass wine bars.

In other words, a place that looks a lot more like the South End.

This story was first published by WBUR 90.9FM on July 8. The Reporter and WBUR have entered into a partnership in which the two news organizations share content and resources.

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PETRAS, Karen A.

Registered by the Massachusetts Probate and Family Court to serve as the Guardian of the person and property of a minor who was the daughter of deceased person, Karen A. Petras. This minor is living in the state of Massachusetts at 75 Sylvan St., Danvers, MA 01923.

PETER, Karen A.

Longtime resident of the City of Boston, Housing Inspectors Office, 617-935-5900.

MOLLON, David D.

David D., former of Dorchester, 66. He was the husband of 46 years to Patricia L. Mollon. Also survived by 4 children.

REARDON, John M.

Quincy, formerly of West Roxbury, 88. He was the husband of 37 years to Evelyn R. Reardon. A retired veteran of the U.S. Army, he was a former Police officer in the City of West Roxbury. He was also a dedicated supporter of the West Roxbury V.F.W.

H.O.W. House, 41 Van Dyke St., Providence, RI 02908.

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Unity Cup soccer tourney kicks off Friday at Moakley Park

By Daniel Sheehan

Fans who are still hungry for soccer following the conclusion of the FIFA Women’s World Cup can find plenty of action at the second annual Boston Unity Cup, a tournament set to take place this weekend, July 12-14, in South Boston’s Moakley Park.

The Unity Cup, which originated in Philadelphia in 2016 and enjoyed its inaugural Boston event last year, is a city-wide adult soccer tournament meant to capture the spirit of the World Cup by bringing together Boston’s diverse community around a mutual love for soccer. Last year, 16 teams representing 16 countries participated in the tournament. This year, the field has expanded to 28 teams, with players representing several countries with notable cultural enclaves in Dorchester and Mattapan, including Vietnam, Haiti, Cape Verde, Ireland, and Jamaica, among others.

This year, a women’s tournament bracket has been added along with the men’s bracket. The Unity Cup will begin Friday afternoon at 5:45 p.m. with opening ceremonies featuring performances by local artists, followed by kick-off at 6:30 p.m. Play will continue all day Saturday beginning at 9 a.m., followed by a knock-out round on Sunday.

The tournament will conclude with a “Parade of Nations” at 5:30 p.m. on Sunday, after which a champion will be crowned in the finals. This year’s event will also feature a Kids Tournament, as well as Revolution Soccer Events, food trucks, and a festival atmosphere. To view the tournament schedule, or to sign up as a volunteer, visit bostonunitycup.com.
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