## Dorchester Reporter

"The News and Values Around the Neighborhood"

Volume 38 Issue 5 Thursday, February 4, 2021 50¢

### Change of Command at the BPD

Dot native White takes watch as Gross retires



heart will always remain alongside my brothers and sisters of the BPD."

By KATIE TROJANO REPORTER STAFF AND MIA McCarthy REPORTER CORRESPONDENT

As a northeaster stalked the city Monday morning, Mayor Walsh swore in Dorchester native Dennis White as the city's 43rd police commissioner during a ceremony at Faneuil Hall held three days af-

ter William Gross retired unexpectedly and three days before Walsh, President Biden's nominee as US Secretary of Labor, is scheduled to sit for his confirmation hearing before the US Senate.

After being sworn in as his wife Jackie looked on and later draped the commissioner's gold badge around his neck,

White saluted his home neighborhood: "I am proof that it takes a village to raise a child. I was blessed to have grown up on Nottingham Street in the Four Corners area of Dorchester, where all families knew each other," he said. "So, my village families, please know that I accept this (Continued on page 16)



Dennis White, accompanied by his wife Jackie, was sworn in as the city's 43rd police commissioner on Monday by Mayor Walsh at Faneuil Hall.

Jeremiah Robinson/Mayor's Office photo

### **COVID-19 IN THE NEWS** State tops 500k cases; Baker pushes on growing sites; Walsh tends to openings

On Monday afternoon, as a winter storm was beginning its assault on New England, the state's accounting of confirmed Covid-19 cases moved past the 500,000 mark even as a downward trend in all the numbers continued across the state. Over the month of January, Massachusetts saw an almost 60 percent drop in the seven-day average case count, from a daily high of 6,242 on Jan. 8 to the 2,270 posted on Monday.

This was the day that residents across the states aged 75 and over, newly eligible that day to get appointments for their coronavirus vaccination shots, were left to decide "go" or "no go" on making it to their injection sites in the face of a dire forecast.

As they pondered their moves, Gov. Baker was talking of a "good week" ahead on the work at vaccination sites, noting that sites of all sizes had already been given their weekly doses and that the Monday storm likely won't have a ripple effect on vaccination efforts later in the week.

"Most of the folks we talked to over the weekend feel pretty confident they'll be able to get through most of the people they were planning to get through this week," he said, adding that some health systems were planning to vaccinate eligible patients beginning Monday but might not start now until Wednesday "just because of some of the issues associated with transportation.

#### Walsh cites 'encouraging news,' cautions on need to be ʻvigilant'

In noting a continuing stretch of good, i.e., falling, numbers on Monday, Mayor Walsh struck a positive tone as Boston officially took a step forward with respect to the state's reopening plans – into Phase 3, Step 1, which permits movie the-(Continued on page 12)



#### Happy Day at First Parish, Dorchester

Dorchester resident Maria Brito, 88, celebrated after she received the first round of Pfizer-Bio NTech Covid-19 vaccine on Monday at First Parish Dorchester. The historic church atop Meetinghouse Hill is serving as a vaccination site for patients of Beth Israel Lahey Health, which includes Bowdoin Street Health Center. Story, Page 2.

### 'Light at end' of Covid tunnel, Carney leaders say

By Daniel Sheehan REPORTER STAFF

Nearly ten months after Dorchester's Carney Hospital was designated as the nation's first Covid specialty hospital, the facility appears to have surmounted the hump of the crisis. Fewer than 20 Covid patients remain in the hospital's ICU unit, according to hospital officials last week, and at this point, the Carney is serving more non-Covid patients than those with the coronavirus.

The hospital's future role in administering vaccines to the general public is "yet to be determined," according to hospital leaders who spoke to the Reporter this week last week. More than 1,500 healthcare workers,

emergency responders, and other Covid-treating staff, including the vast majority of workers on site, have been vaccinated on the Carney campus to date.

Part of Carney's role now is raising awareness and easing anxieties in communities of color about getting the vaccine. It's what hospital president Tom Sands calls "leadership by example.

"I recognize that, rightfully so, people have been hesitant based on past things, be it the Tuskegee Experiment that we all know about where appropriate care that could have been provided was denied, or a number of other instances. So that's where that hesitancy comes from, in addition

(Continued on page 13)

### Essaibi George joins mayor race

## Says she'll manage post-Covid 'rebirth'

By BILL FORRY AND MADDIE KILGANNON

Annissa Essaibi George, a citywide member of the City Council and former Boston schoolteacher with deep roots in Dorchester, announced her candidacy for mayor of Boston last Thursday, Jan. 28. The 47-year-old mother of four and small business owner joined what is at this point a three-woman race — all colleagues on the council, all mothers - to succeed Mayor Martin Walsh, who is expected to resign in the coming days.

She launched her campaign outside of East Boston High School, where she worked for 13 years as a BPS educator before running for public office.

"Boston needs a leader at this moment to not just get through the crisis but to get us through a sustained recovery," she told the Reporter the day before. "I think if we can get through this pandemic, we are really going to see Boston reborn and I want to



"It's my experiences that make me the best candidate."

lead Boston through the rebirth."

Essaibi George, who owns The Stitch House on Dorchester Avenue, (Continued on page 5)

### Council set to bypass special ballot

By Katie Trojano REPORTER STAFF

With a US Senate hearing to review Mayor Martin Walsh's credentials to serve as the next US Secretary of Labor set for Thursday morning in Washington, D.C., the City Council was poised to vote through a measure on Wednesday that would bypass a special election to pick his suc-

The Home Rule petition was expected to garner near-unanimous (Continued on page 4)

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### Police, Courts & Fire

#### Man sought in probe of Four Corners murder

Boston Police this week released images of a man they want to talk to as part of a probe into the murder of a 19-year-old Dorchester woman who was shot to death near Four Corners on Jan. 22.

The unidentified male, shown at right, is wanted "in connection" with the murder of Tasjahnaya Dance, who police found shot multiple times in the area of Bowdoin Avenue and Washington Street. The incident happened around 12:40 p.m. Anyone who knows



the person shown in the photos is asked to contact BPD detectives at 617-343-4470. Or call the anonymous CrimeStoppers Tip Line at 1 (800) 494-TIPS or text the word 'TIP' to CRIME (27463).

### Frozen hydrants hamper firefighters at two blazes

The Boston Fire Department responded to 110 Fuller St., right, around 1:30 p.m. on Saturday (Jan. 30) for a fire that went to three alarms in part because no water flowedfrom nearby frozen hydrants.

The BFD motor department was summoned and heated the hydrants enough to get the water moving, the department reported.

The BFD said that some 16 residents and 3 pets were displaced and one firefighter was injured and taken to a local hospital.

At 11:45 the night



before, firefighters encountered similar hydrant-flow problems when they responded to a fire at 9 Roach St. Four residents and a dog were safely evacuated from the two-alarm fire. There were no injuries despite all the water quickly turning to ice. The department estimated damage at \$150,000.

### First Parish church now a vaccination site Invitations being managed by Beth Israel Lahey Clinic

By Katie Trojano REPORTER STAFF

First Parish Dorchester on Meetinghouse Hill opened its doors as an "invitation-only" vaccination site on Monday. The clinic, managed by Beth Israel Lahey Health, will be operating inside the historic Dorchester church seven days a week, 12 hours a day, according to Jenn Cartee, committee chair for Marketing and Outreach at First Parish Dorchester.

Jennifer Kritz, vice-president of communications for Beth Israel Lahey Health, said appointments are offered only by invitation from Beth Israel Lahey Health and will not be scheduled through the state website. The public should not show up at the church to seek a vaccine without an appointment.

"We are following Massachusetts' guidelines for vaccine distribution and will begin vaccinating our patients who meet the state's criteria for the beginning of Phase 2 (e.g. age 75 or older) on Monday, Feb. 1," Kritz said.

'Through our electronic medical records, we identified patients cared for by BILH and its affiliated providers who are 75 or older. With limited supply of vaccines available, we first reached out to eligible patients who live in communities that are disproportionately impacted by Covid-19 including Dorchester - as well as all other eligible patients across Massachusetts on a randomized basis to invite them to schedule an appointment for vaccination."

Kritz added: "As vaccine supply levels increase, we will continue to invite additional eligible patients. We strongly encourage everyone who receives an invitation from us to schedule an appointment for the vaccine."

Beth Israel, which

is affiliated with the nearby Bowdoin Street Health Center, is setting up extra lighting for entry and exit ways for additional safety.

"While First Parish Dorchester is worshipping remotely during the Covid-19 pandemic for the safety of our congregants, we are thrilled that the Meetinghouse can be used by partners to meet critical needs in our community," said Cartee.

The news follows Gov. Baker's announcement last week of a detailed plan to add dozens of new vaccine sites by Feb. 15, including three new mass vaccination sites. The governor directed people to the state's website where people can locate pharmacies and clinics closest to them on a map, check their eligibility, and schedule an appointment.

Beginning Feb. 1, residents 75 and older became eligible to be vaccinated as the state opened the second phase

of its vaccine distribution plan. Residents 65 and older have been bumped up in priority in Phase 2 and will join people with two or more high-risk conditions in the second group to become eligible in the next phase some time in February.

The number of clinics  $is\,expected\,to\,grow\,to\,165$ by mid-February, with the capacity to administer up to 305,000 doses of vaccines per week. That would include five of seven planned mass vaccination sites across the state, with the Double Tree Hilton Hotel in Danvers coming online Feb. 3, and the Reggie Lewis Center in Roxbury opening for vaccinations this week. Doses are also being administered at select Walgreen's pharmacies in the neighborhoods.

For more information  $on\ other\ vaccine\ sites\ in$ the city, visit the state's website: mass.gov,

### Wu wants vaccine sites in every zip code

#### By Katie Trojano REPORTER STAFF

An ordinance put forward by At-large City Councillor and mayoral candidate Michelle Wu last week would require that city health officials open at least one Covid-19 vaccination site in every zip code in Boston.

The proposal comes amid growing criticism of a state-run program to distribute the vaccine from other elected officials, including US Rep. Ayanna Pressley.

Wu introduced her proposal during a virtual meeting of the City Council on Wednesday.

Even as distribution across the Commonwealth has gotten off

to a rocky start, eligible Black and Latinx residents of Boston have faced even higher barriers to receiving the vaccine, including longer distances to distribution sites and hours of operation that are incompatible with non-traditional work schedules," Wu said.

The councillor cited a recent Boston Globe analysis, which found that fewer than 14 percent of Black residents and approximately 26 percent of Latinx residents of Suffolk County live in census tracts within a mile of a vaccination site, compared to nearly 46 percent of white residents.

"The evidence is clear:

Boston's communities of color are most at-risk for Covid-19. Roxbury, Dorchester, Mattapan, and East Boston shouldn't be vaccine deserts. They should be prioritized in our vaccine rollout," said Wu, adding:

"The city must leverage its immense healthcare resources to make it easier for residents to sign up for vaccine appointments, with hours and locations that are accessible for working families. Boston residents shouldn't have to spend hours on the phone trying to track down life-saving information."

Council President Kim Janey referred Wu's

proposal to the council's committee on Government Relations for a hearing.

District 4 Councillor Andrea Campbell, who is also running for mayor, joined with District 5 Councillor Ricardo Arroyo last week to schedule a Feb. 9 hearing that Arroyo said would "discuss strategies that will ensure the COVID-19 vaccine is equitably distributed, especially to communities who are hardest hit."

The hearing will be held online at 1 p.m. at boston.gov/city-counciltv. Members of the public who wish to testify can email shane.pac@boston.gov.

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Dorchester Reporter (USPS 009-687)

Published Weekly Periodical postage paid at Boston, MA.

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

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

News Room: (617) 436-1222 Advertising: (617) 436-1222 FAX PHONE: (617) 825-5516 Subscriptions: (617) 436-1222

#### UPCOMING CIVIC MEETINGS AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

the development of two combined lots: 1121 Dorchester Ave. and 31 Savin Hill Av.e totaling in 12,029 square-feet.

The proposed project would contain two structures: a new 4 story building fronting Dorchester Avenue containing 21 residential units and 19 off-street parking spaces and a separate 3 story building fronting Savin Hill Avenue containing 3 additional units. Parking is located in the main building's underground garage accessed via a shared easement off of Savin Hill Avenue. For more info, see bostonplans.org. Contact Ebony DaRosa at 617-918-4419 or ebony.darosa@ boston.gov for more info.

JFK Library will host a Black Heritage Month celebration online on Wed., Feb. 17 at 11:30 a.m. featuring the Benkadi Drume and Dance group. Register at jfklibrary.org/Celebrate.

The Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) has implemented a right lane closure along Morrissey Boulevard (inbound) from Freeport Street to the I-93 off-ramp through Fri. Feb. 5, 8 a.m.-

**Boston Planning and Development** 4 p.m. to accommodate sidewalk repair Agency will host a virtual public meeting work. Pedestrian accommodations will on Wed., Feb. 17 from 6-8 p.m. to discuss be clearly detoured. Traffic patterns will be clearly marked and a police detail will be onsite.

> The Melville Park Neighborhood Association meets the third Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. The link is posted on Nextdoor Melville along with the agenda.

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

Right now the maximum fuel assistance benefit is \$875. Last year the top benefit was \$1,140.

The city of Boston's Community Choice **Electricity program** to provide Bostonians with greater local control over the electricity that powers their homes and businesses launches in February 2021. Visit the City of Boston's Community Choice Electricity webpage to learn more and access webinar recordings in English and 11 other languages. These recordings are a valuable resource for learning more about the Community Choice Electricity Program. Virtual "office hours" will be offered each Tuesday and Thursday from 12 - 1 p.m. and will run to Feb. 2. Visit boston.gov for more info.

The MBTA's new Winter schedule aimed at aligning service with the lower ridership levels experienced during the pandemic— went into effect on Sat., Jan. 23. Commuter rail will only offer weekend service on the Newburyport/Rockport, Framingham/Worcester, Fairmount Providence, and Middleborough lines. All other Commuter Rail lines will not have weekend service.

pays the household's fuel vendor directly. The new Winter Service Schedule includes additional trains on the Fairmount Line, which runs through Dorchester and Mattapan. "These added trains help to fill in service gaps that existed in the previous schedule and help to offer more consistent train intervals, such as clockface service which makes riding simpler for passengers," according to an MBTA statement.

For instance, on the Fairmount Line, the new Winter Service Schedule offers clockface service every hour. From Readville, a train will depart on weekdays every hour at 30 minutes past the hour between 6:30 AM and 10:30 PM. This consistent interval is maintained for all stops on the Fairmount Line, and during higher ridership times additional trains are available. The new schedules are available at mbta.com/CommuterRail.

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### Miranda: Law needed to 'rebuild' trust in immigrant communities

By Katie Trojano REPORTER STAFF

State lawmakers and advocates called for the swift passage of legislation that would limit cooperation between local police and federal immigration officials during a virtual press conference on Tuesday.

The Safe Communities Act is co-sponsored by Rep. Liz Miranda of the Fifth Suffolk district, which includes parts of Dorchester and Roxbury. She re-filed the bill this week along with Senator Jamie Eldridge (D-Acton) and Rep. Ruth Balser (D-Newton).

The bill has been filed in each of two previous sessions but sputtered without a vote. Sponsors said Tuesday that they believe its support continues to grow amid a changing political climate and with the Biden administration targeting action to reshape the country's immigration system.

Miranda called the bill a public safety and a public health imperative – and critical to the state's covid-19 response. The bill would void so-called 287(g) agreements that ICE reaches with local law enforcement agencies outlining collaboration. Several Massachusetts sheriff departments

have used such agreements. Several speakers warned at the bill unveiling that many people in immigrant communities have been hesitant to seek medical care during the pandemic because they are concerned that any interaction with the health care system could expose them to possible enforcement.

"As State Representative of a district with over 50 percent of residents being foreign born, it's clear this pandemic continues to have a devastating impact on immigrants and communities of color, further compounded with the perception that engaging with local government, police, courts, and hospitals risks family separation," Rep. Miranda said in a statement.

The legislation would prohibit police and court officers from asking residents about their immigration status or notifying federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) when a person is released from custody, unless he or she were finishing a criminal

"It's time to act and send a message to all immigrants in the Commonwealth, rebuilding and restoring trust across institutions," Miranda told the Reporter.

"As a first-generation Cabo Verdean-American legislator, as someone from a mixed status family, and as someone who represents a district that is over 50 percent foreign born, it's abundantly clear that the last four years, and this past year, has been devastating for immigrant communities -- we have been living through a pandemic within a pandemic within a pandemic."

"I am not shielded as a legislator or as a community leader, -- my brother and father were both deported in 1998 as I walked on the campus of Wellesley College," Miranda said.

Michael Curry, President and CEO of the Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers, spoke in support of the legislation.

"For years, our community health centers have seen immigrant patients disenrolling from Mass-Health and delaying or avoiding treatment out of fear that their information will be shared with ICE," said Curry.
"During COVID-19,

these fears have undermined testing, treatment and contact tracing efforts in immigrant communities, and could also impact vaccine administration. The Safe Communities Act will restore trust in our public institutions and more urgently, as we rollout the COVID-19 vaccine, ensure that our immigrant communities have access to this life-saving measure."

The bill, formally known "An Act to Protect the Civil Rights and Safety of all Massachusetts Residents," if passed, calls for implementation and in-service training for all law enforcement agencies in the Commonwealth within 12 months.

Miranda called on her colleagues to support the bill, which did not receive a vote in either the House or the Senate last session.

"Today, we are calling on the moral conscience of the Commonwealth, on all of my colleagues, community, and residents, to ensure and uphold the dignity, health and safety of all Massachusetts residents. It's time to end our involvement in deportations once and for all, I ask all of my colleagues to co-sponsor this critical legislation," she said.

Opponents, which include the Massachusetts Republican Party have argued that creating barriers between local, state and federal agencies could imperil public safety. So far, they have



Rep. Liz Miranda, shown with Mayor Walsh in 2018, is the co-sponsor of the Safe Communities legislation that was re-filed this week.

been successful in keeping the bills bottled up in Beacon Hill committees.

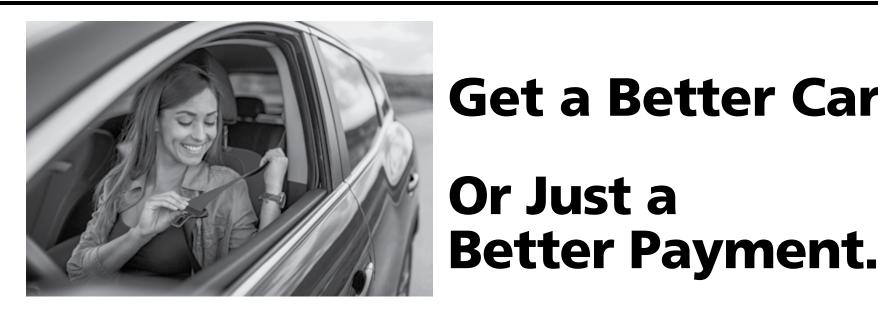
The latest push will play out under a new speaker, former DeLeo top deputy Ronald Mariano. Rep. Balser said Mariano "has talked about putting more votes out on the floor," which could improve the outlook if sponsors secure enough support.

A Mariano spokesperson told the News Service "it's premature to comment on the prospects of any one particular bill," saying the speaker is focused on finishing bill filings and starting the committee process.

Gov. Charlie Baker has for several years  $opposed\,the\,immigration$ enforcement reforms. He said in May 2018 that he would veto he similar Senate budget language, arguing that "decisions like this belong with local law enforcement."

Asked in July 2020 if his views on the bill had changed, Baker simply replied, "No."

State House News Service reports contributed to this article.



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### Council seen set to bypass special ballot

(Continued from page 1) that the petition is likely there may be vacancies support following two weeks of debate and testimony from councillors and the public.

The measure, drafted by Councillor Ricardo Arroyo, argues that voters and the city will be best served by waiting for the already-scheduled fall elections to choose Walsh's full-term successor.

Once approved by the council, the petition will require the support of the mayor, the Legislature, and Gov. Baker, who has indicated he would sign such a bill if it is sent to him.

A spokesperson for Walsh told the *Reporter* last week that the mayor "has not taken a position on the bill, but he will follow the will of the Boston City Council." State lawmakers who spoke to the Reporter in recent days have indicated

to be taken up— and passed— in short order on Beacon Hill.

It's not clear when Walsh will be confirmed by the Democratic-controlled Senate, which has been moving swiftly to date in confirming cabinet appointees. Council President Kim Janey will be sworn-in as acting mayor after Walsh submits his letter of resignation to the city clerk, triggering a transition that will see her in the city's top job through November, pending approval of Arroyo's petition.

Gustavo Quiroga, Janey's mayoral transition director, said this week that Janey will be prepared to begin her duties as soon as Walsh steps down.

"President Janey will assume the office of mayor, and when she does, in the cabinet and Mayor's Office that need to be filled," Quiroga told the Reporter in a statement. "If so, she will immediately appoint highly qualified candidates to fill those positions as needed. Given the multiple overlapping public health, economic, and racial justice emergencies confronting the city, the people of Boston need to have a Mayor's Office and city government that is fully and completely staffed with professionals focused on serving the people and aggressively advancing strategies for recovery, equity, and justice."

Of the 13 city councillors on the panel, 11 favored approving the petition before the scheduled Wednesday vote, according to a Globe account. Councillors Arroyo, Edwards,

Kenzie Bok, Julia Mejia, Ed Flynn, Michael Flaherty, Matt O'Malley, Liz Breadon, Michelle Wu, Andrea Campbell, and Kim Janey all support the petition, the paper reported on Tuesday.

Councillor Frank Baker has said he's "completely undecided" on the matter, and Annissa Essaibi George, who announced her mayoral campaign last Friday, said she will abstain from voting, citing what she characterized as a conflict of interest.

"I have made the decision to abstain from voting on the upcoming Home Rule Petition regarding the special election," she said in a statement. "As a candidate, this decision directly impacts me and my campaign.'

Her position put her at loggerheads with the other announced rivals for the mayor's post, Campbell and Wu, who both plan to vote in support of skipping a special election.

Janey, who has not yet stated whether she will seek a full-term as mayor this year, has pointed to a State Ethics Commission opinion that said all councillors could vote on the matter.

"For anyone concerned about conflicts of interest, the Ethics Commission has the final say and can offer advice to anyone who has questions," Janey said last week.

Arroyo said that his intention in offering the petition was to "make sure that we crafted something that was legally sound, that had precedent, that would make it all the way to the governor's desk for signature as quickly as we possibly could."

In a hearing last week, Michelle Tassinari, legal counsel in the Secretary of State's office, encouraged the council to include language to address what happens if Walsh were to leave before the petition passes.

"I think everyone seems to be on board that it should pass quickly. ... but you just want to cover yourselves for that possibility," she



Ricardo Arroyo Home Rule petition sponsor

said. "If you get an order for a special election or you get a vacancy, and you need to call for a special election I think you could put in the petition that there is pending legislation, and the order would only become effective in two weeks if the legislation doesn't pass."

Bok suggested an amendment to the petition that would make a permanent change ending special elections for mayoral vacancies in years with a scheduled election.

But Edwards and Arroyo wanted to separate the issue by tabling the conversation on permanent changes and keeping the petition language specific to this year's election to move the legislation along quickly. But both councillors did say they would likely support the idea in the future.

### Campbell's January haul: \$272k

Last month was kind to City Councillor Andrea Campbell's campaign effort. Her team announced on Monday that she has raised more than \$272,000 in January, an infusion fueled in part, no doubt, by Mayor Walsh's imminent departure for Washington, D.C.

In total, the Campbell

camp noted, the District 4 councillor and mayoral hopeful banked \$272,288.72 from more than 900 donors last month, which put her fund-raising number since her announcement last September at over

The campaign trumpeted: "That's more than any Black candidate has

\$600,000.

ever raised total for a mayoral campaign in Boston."

In other news, Campbell signed up two new campaign staffers in the last week: Jasmine Talley, a Georgia native who has been attached to campaigns for Bernie Sanders, Stacev Abrams, and Elizabeth Warren, will run

the candidate's ground game as field director. And Heeyoung Leem, a Boston College alum, will direct her digital outreach.

Campbell also picked up a notable endorsement last week, getting a nod from former Massachusetts First Lady Diane Patrick.

- REPORTER STAFF

### You Are Invited!

### **Communiversity:** Standing with the City, **Standing Up to the Times**

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Thursday, February 18, 2021 9:30-11 a.m.

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This event is free and open to all.

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City Official to Be Confirmed.

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Andrew Leong, Philosophy, Legal Studies, Latino and Asian American



Rebecca Herst. Sustainable Solutions Lab

**Facilitator** 



Kenneth Cooper, Senior Editor, GBH News

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Eric Esteves, Executive Director. The Lenny Zakim Fund



Maicharia Z. Weir Lytle, President and CEO, United South End Settlements

#### **University of Massachusetts Boston Student Performers**



Celine Voyard, Labor Studies Major, Class of 2022



Isabel Raymond, Nursing Major, Class of 2024

RSVP: tinyurl.com/y3bjqavw

## Essaibi George joins mayor's race

(Continued from page 1) ty my whole life gives me was first elected in 2015 and has gained a solid citywide profile. Her signature "hot lips pink" and white campaign signs first began popping up across the city in 2013 when the other first-time candidates included Michelle Wu, who gained a seat on the council, with Essaibi George coming up short. In 2015, when she beat out Steve Murphy for an at-large seat, she noted to the Reporter that there was "an appetite to increase the number of women on the ballot."

In 2019, she was the second-highest vote getter among the at-large candidates, finishing behind Wu, who announced her candidacy for mayor last September. Andrea Campbell, who represents District 4 on the council, is also an announced candidate.

"I'm very excited to hit this race running with colleagues," Essaibi George told the *Reporter*. "We have all developed personal relationships with each other. We spend time together and have gotten to know each other's families.

'We all love Boston. I do think my experiences as a teacher and small business owner and someone who has been involved in my communia unique experience," she said. "It's my experiences that make me the best candidate."

With maternal grandparents who were born in Poland, Essaibi George is the daughter of an immigrant father who came to Boston from Tunisia in 1972. "I don't come from a political family," she said. "My parents and grandparents voted, and I remember going with them to the polls, but they weren't political people.

She first became enamored of politics as a student at Boston Technical High School in Roxbury, now known as the John D. O'Bryant School of Mathematics and Science. She was active in student government and served on an advisory council that lobbied then-Mayor Ray Flynn for budget items on behalf of the school.

"I told my father at the time— 33 years ago now— that I recognized how important government was and that maybe some day I would consider running for office," Essaibi George said. "He said, 'With an Arab name, you'll never get elected to anything in this city."

That conversation, she noted, was on her mind as she contemplated a campaign for mayor. "I want to be in this race knowing my voice matters and having a citywide organization and success that speaks to the desire of the people of Boston to have my voice in that executive role," she said.

Her campaign will have its headquarters in the same Dorchester Avenue storefront where her grandfather once ran a TV repair shop. Until recently, the space was occupied by Gately Insurance, which closed its doors last summer after 25 years, "in large part because of the pandemic," Essaibi George said.

Dorchester is likely to become highly competitive ground for what looks to be a growing number of candidates from the neighborhood. Another potential campaigner with Dorchester roots is John Barros, who lives in Uphams Corner and ran for mayor in 2013. He has served on Mayor Walsh's cabinet as Economic Development chief throughout his administration. William Gross, the city's police commissioner until his abrupt retirement last Friday, has decided not to run for mayor.

Essaibi George and her husband, Doug George, a real estate developer and builder, live in Dorchester's Polish Triangle section. They have four children: Douglas, 16, and 14-year-old triplets Charlie, Kayden, and Samir.

Her campaign held a standout on Thursday evening in front of her three-decker childhood home at the corner of Dorchester Avenue and Taft Street, the same street that her longtime friend and political ally, Marty Walsh, was raised

The two leaders share another connection: Both served terms as president of the same civic association - Columbia-Savin Hill- before seeking public office.

Essaibi George said that Walsh had been the first one to call and tell her that she'd won a council seat in 2015. "I am proud of my longstanding friendship with Mayor Walsh," she said on Wednesday. "I'm also proud of the independent voice I've brought to the council."

Over the years, she said, she has been 'productively critical of things I'm not 100 percent on board with" with respect to the Walsh administration.

"It's important to have that dialogue. When I think back on the Walsh administration, it's hard to not first

### Keep track of City Hall news at the Lit Drop

This is going be interesting. The race to succeed Mayor Walsh has begun in earnest. There's going to be news breaking left and right and if you're a Bostonian with a thirst for this stuff, the Dorchester Reporter and our website, DotNews.com, is your best bet to track it all.

Our team will be dropping daily jewels on the latest machinations, endorsements, and candidates for mayor and council at our vertical site, the Lit Drop. Find it all at DotNews.com/LitDrop.

For those who have not been immersed in the trenches of a political campaign in Boston's neighborhoods, Lit Drop is a reference to a tried-and-true campaign tool: Sending an army of volunteers across a ward or precinct to hand-deliver campaign literature right to voters' doors.

You can also follow us on Twitter @LitDrop. Keep an eye on this space for updates.

-Bill Forry, Editor

think about his handling of the pandemic and its impacts. This has been the most critical time. For all of the challenges our city has faced over the vears, this has created a heightened awareness of those inequities. I'm very proud of the work Mayor Walsh has done to lead and guide this city at this time. It creates a lot of anxiety about what's next, but it reminds me of all of the work that remains undone."

"I'm not walking away from my responsibility as a city councillor, Essaibi George said. "We'll continue to do that work in partnership with then-acting Mayor Janey. Government is a team sport. We have a lot to do in the interim, and I will continue my work."

Bill Forry is the editor of the Reporter. Maddie Kilgannon is a correspondent for the Reporter.



Our safe and ready Emergency Department combines world class medical expertise with first-in-class safety protocols so you'll get the right care, treatment, and attention you need - right here in our hospital.



## Rapper Christmas has lots to say while waiting for the snow to melt

By Daniel Sheehan Arts & Features Editor

On the cover of "Hiding," an album released by Michael Christmas at the tail end of 2020, the Boston rapper beams giddily from a glowing laptop screen in a shadowy room. The image paints a portrait of a quarantining Christmas isolated in his bedroom, his smile the only thing illuminating the darkness.

That dynamic is reflected in the music itself: Christmas takes time for quiet introspection and bluntly considers the hurt and injustice he sees around him, but nevertheless gives listeners moments of hope and humor that shine through the gloom.

Having grown up in Roxbury, the 26-year-old has connections to Dorchester by way of proximity. His expertise in local eats means doling out culinary recommendations when artist or producer friends come to town, as in: Dorchester and Mattapan have the best Caribbean food; everything at Simco's is good except the pizza.

Christmas has per-

formed in the neighborhood and regularly collaborates with Dot MCs like Cousin Stizz and Latrell James. And as an adolescent, he spent a lot of time hanging with friends in Fields Corner.

After being holed up for much of the past year as a way to stay safe, Christmas talked with the *Reporter* early in the new year about how he misses being on stage, connecting with his fans, and experiencing the exhilaration of performing new songs.

"When you make new music, you think about performing it," he said. "Even when I'm writing it, I think about performing the music-you do like the little whispering yell voice that you would do on stage. I do that all the time with "Hiding" —in the mirror, in the living room, wherever.

"Not getting to perform "Hiding" right now is trash. You want a big crowd, you want the crowd from the crib and a stage full of your homies and everybody knows the words and shit. But it's okay that we can't do that. I think it lets the music serve as its own thing, which I don't think it always gets the chance to."

The strength of Christmas's pen shines through on the album, which features clever wordplay, vivid storytelling, and several moments of self-awareness. On "Cinderblocks," he addresses police brutality and other forms of oppression using a metaphor of people being held down by invisible weights. While many fans have come to expect humor and feel-good hooks from his songs, Christmas has never shied away from illuminating social ills,

he said. "I just assume people don't *listen* listen when they listen to my music, but if they do they'll catch that I'm generally always talking about this... I get upset being here and knowing we really are not supposed to be here like that. So I try not to delve too deep into it and make people uncomfortable, but that's why I do it in metaphorical ways on my album so that people understand like, this [...] is all built to hold us back...injustice is everywhere you look, it's ingrained in the place we live. That's when you get stressed every day, like, [....], I live in America."

In a promo video released in the weeks leading up to the album, Christmas can be seen working his way through a faux "training" montage as a voicemail from



Michael Christmas: "Not getting to perform "Hiding" right now is trash."

comedian The Kid Mero plays in the background, playfully extolling the rapper's work ethic and dedication. The clip was hyperbole – "I never just run uphill like that" – but Christmas's hard work and practice to push himself and improve his writing skills are no joke. He explained how the recent death of MF Doom, one of his favorite rappers, has compelled him to up his game and leave his weaker bars on the cutting room floor.

"Some of my first recorded raps were on Doom beats," he said. "It's like one of those things. I've been watching the Cobra Kai show and as Daniel LoRusso gets older and Mr. Miagi's not there, all of that stuff is still sitting in his head but he's not practicing every day. Then he gets inspired again and starts practicing again, and that's kind of how I felt with Doom's passing. It made me go back down that rabbit hole. It felt like I was going up into the attic to dust off boxes and look at my childhood... Technically, he really broke all the rules; the beats he made were like the weirdest beats with the weirdest tuneage and drums and it all worked to perfection.

"When you have a legend like that, I assume it's the same way hoopers felt when Kobe passed away; every time they stepped on the court after that it was for him. I kind of feel that same feeling now with writing, like, if Doom wouldn't bob his head to this, I'm not even gonna say it."

After reflecting on the loss of one of his heroes, Christmas offered thoughts on his own trajectory. The penultimate track on the album. "When I'm Gone," shows Christmas at his most introspective, imagining the life he'll have years down the line, and the life he'll leave behind. In the song, he comes to a simple conclusion in terms of what he wants from life: making a deep, personal impact on listeners, as other artists have done for him.

"As far as my own personal goals in life, that's what I want: to be able to continue to do the things I love to do at a high level and do more of them. I want to do movies, I'm going to continue to do standup when it's safe to do standup, I want to keep directing, I want to write for other people... The legacy goal is just to leave behind a ton of content, but what I want to do is actually change people's lives in the way my favorite content has always been able to change mine. The inspiration I draw from standup comedians and movies is just as important as the inspiration I draw from music."

In conversation, Christmas doesn't exactly paint a picture of hopefulness. "Why do keep thinking [...]'s gonna be okay?" he asked with a wry laugh. But having been through a lot ("I know what homeless is like and I ain't going back"), he has built up an uncanny sense of resilience to battle his more realist tendencies.

On the album's closer, "Don't I Know It," he alternates between despair and optimism, lamenting that "Life too crazy now to notice I'm spiraling out of control" before reasoning, "Life gets better, like wait for the weather." He knows that making it through tough times — like biding time for the snow to melt and the ground thaw at the end of a long New England winter—is tough and requires patience.

"If you're poor right now, but you know you're getting paid next week, or even if the weather itself is terrible, you're just waiting for it. It's like winter, sitting and waiting for the next time you can step outside comfortably. You know there's gonna be that day, it's just not tomorrow. It's January, man, we're right there in the middle of the song 'Don't I Know It' right now."

## Virtual Public Meeting

### 1121 Dorchester Avenue

Wednesday, February 17 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

**Zoom Link:** bit.ly/3iYwIA6 **Toll Free:** (833) 568 - 8864 **Meeting ID:** 160 398 9216

#### **Project Description:**

The proposed project consists of the development of two combined lots: 1121 Dorchester Ave and 31 Savin Hill Ave totaling in 12,029 square-feet. Construction will contain two structures: a new 4 story building fronting Dorchester Ave containing 21 residential units and 19 off-street parking spaces and a separate 3 story building fronting Savin Hill Ave containing 3 additional units. Parking is located in the main building's underground garage accessed via a shared easement off of Savin Hill Avenue.

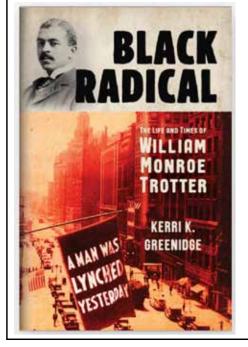
mail to: **Ebony DaRosa** 

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

Boston, MA 02201 phone: 617.918.4419

email: ebony.darosa@boston.gov





#### The Dorchester Historical Society welcomes Historian Kerri Greenidge author of

Black Radical: The Life and Times of William Monroe Trotter Sunday, February 21, 2pm *via Zoom\** 

William Monroe Trotter (1872-1934) published the *Guardian*, a weekly Boston newspaper, for more than 30 years, bringing his radical vision of Black liberation to readers across the nation. Learn about this little-known but seminal figure in American history, whose ultimately tragic life offers a link between the vision of Frederick Douglass and Black radicalism in the modern era.

\*Send an email to earltaylordorchhistsoc@gmail.com to receive the link to the Zoom meeting.

## Reporter's People

### News about people in and around our Neighborhoods

### Music of her youth in England jolts her memory, and song breaks out

### Moment to treasure at Standish Village

By Daniel Sheehan REPORTER STAFF

Earlier this month, a heartwarming moment between a resident and her caretaker at Standish Village Assisted Living home in Lower Mills went viral, hopping the pond and making the rounds in a community in England.

A video posted to social media shows Dorothy Stein, an 89-year-old resident at Standish Village who has dementia, joyfully singing along to "The Blaydon Races," a song she sang in her youth while growing up in Newcastle upon Tyne.

The moment was made possible by Dorothy's caretaker, Maisie Miller, who had on a whim appealed to a Newcastle-based Facebook group for suggestions for songs Dorothy might know.

The 24-year-old Miller said she felt an immediate connection to Dorothy after joining the staff at Standish Village's COMPASS MemorySupportNeighborhood eight months ago, finding common ground in their mutual love of music.

"She loves music the same as I do, so deeply, and she responds in such an animated way," said Miller, a Brighton resident.

"I was familiar with most of the music she loved — Broadway, Julie Andrews- but I also knew Dorothy is from Newcastle and was looking for ways to connect with that part of her. I went to Facebook and found this group in Newcastle and put out a request not knowing if I would get a response.

"The feedback I got was amazing," Miller said, "and the song most recommended was "Blaydon Races," a wellknown tune sung in the stands as a sort of fight song at Newcastle United matches." As Dorothy heard the song being sung, Miller said, her reaction was incredibly strong and passionate. "She immediately lit up and became emotional. her eyes welled up, she looked so moved...I knew she was connecting deeply, she was exclaiming that she hadn't heard it in a long time, and it was a response I hadn't really seen in someone."

Dorothy's daughter, Anne, said it was "wonderful" to see her mother react so joyfully and be reminded of a different time. "She has been in the states since 1967, and has gone back to visit a couple times. ... but it's something we haven't tapped into in many, many years. To see her singing and being just so elated, I was like, 'Wow, that's been buried under there for so many years.' It brought me so much pleasure to see her so happy." In her memory-care training, Miller noted how all people, including dementia patients, benefit from music therapy treatment. "As we age, we lose a





Left, Dorothy Stein holding her daughter Louise back in the day. At right, she relaxes with her caretaker at Standish Village, Maisie Miller. Photos courtesy Stein family.

lot on the left side of the brain - like language comprehension. For the most part, recollections are still there, they're just hard to find...Music is the key, and not just for people with dementia. In 95 percent of cases, people with dementia retain music, poetry, and prayer, the things centered on the right side of our brain.

"It's a blessing; music in particular is the language of the soul, it's a language everybody speaks, and we have it forever...We all can feel the power of music and getting to witness Dorothy have that sense of herself and home reminds us all of the power of music.

"For me, it's one of the most important elements of life, it's honestly something spiritual."

Since surfacing on Facebook and Twitter. the video has inspired stories by several English news outlets, including the BBC, that interviewed Miller and Anne Stein last week. Initially, Stein said, she was wary about exposing her mother in her current mental state. "My sister and I had talked because we loved the video, but we were getting a little nervous if we wanted to show Mom like this. But this is real life, we're living in the real world, and this is what happens. Even though my mom has dementia, there are some beautiful moments that come out of that...now her joy has gone out into the world and affected so many other people...it's the gift that just keeps on giving.

"Who would have thought that my mother in this point in her life would have been a catalyst for all this good will? It's a really magnificent thing to come out of a particularly terrible I couldn't speak more

year and a devastating and heart-wrenching condition." Stein, a Dorchester resident, praised the staff at StandishVillageforgoing above and beyond in their efforts to make Dorothy and other residents feel welcome and at home.  $\hbox{``When\,my\,parents\,moved'}$ they were living together, but my father couldn't care for my mother...She was moved into memory care; it was a grueling, difficult decision but it had to be done.

"I had a lot of fear about the kind of care she was going to be getting, but the people in the COMPASS Memory Care program acknowledge every person who lives there, and the things they are interested in... My greatest fears about caring for my mom have been put aside because I know she is with people who respect her and take good care of her.

highly of the place."

For Miller's part, she said experiences like the one she shared with Dorothy are her favorite time of her daily routine at work, where she tries to emulate the example set by the staff around her. "It's a great place to work," she said. "Everyone I've met there are my role models, I have so much to learn from them. The staff they attract, everyone is so amazing, and they're frontline workers, many are immigrant single mothers, so they've witnessed the worst of Covid.

"This community has been suffering, but we still have so much joy and so many awesome moments throughout the day. It's been hard... but focusing on the good is what they're good at." To learn more about Standish Village, visit seniorlivingresidences.

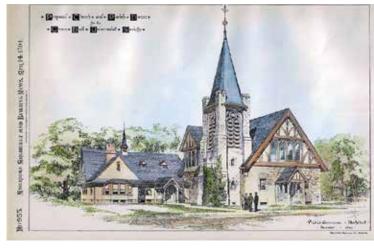
#### YESTERYEAR ARCHIVE

DORCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

#### Grove Hall Universalist Society Church and Parish House

This week's illustration comes from the April 14, 1894, issue of American Architect and Building News. The drawing of the proposed church and parish house does not exactly match the church as it exists today. Was the building constructed as in the drawing and then altered? Or was it built as it exists today?

TheHolyTabernacleChurch is located at 70 Washington St. and has a legal address on the side street of 14 Bishop Joe L. Smith Way. This section of Washington Street is between Columbia Road and Blue Hill Avenue. The society that built the church was the Grove Hall Universalist Church, and it followed the design of Francis R. Allen. The following is from the 1913 "Parish Register of the Grove



Hall Universalist Church, Dorchester, Massachusetts, and Favorite Recipes.'

"The Grove Hall Universalist Church came into existence March 3, 1878, being an off-shoot of the Roxbury Universalist Church, and

in its inception received the cordial support of that parish. On January 9, 1878, a meeting was held at the residence of Mr. Franklin S. Williams for the purpose of organizing a church. Starting as a mission church,

holding its first or preliminary meetings at the residents of various interested persons, it soon wanted a centrally located temporary home, and began holding its meetings in Wetherell Hall, at or near the junction of Washington Street and Blue Hill Avenue. That served its needs for a time, but the desire for a home having more the churchly appearance prevailed, and the church on the corner of Blue Hill Avenue and Schuyler Street was built. This amply served the purposes of the society until about 1892, when the subject of a new larger church was agitated, resulting in the building of the present edifice. At about this same time it also ceased to be a mission church, and since then has been able to maintain ser-

vices without calling upon the state Convention for aid. The present edifice was completed in 1895, and cost, furnished, about \$45,000: \$25,000 of this was provided for by a mortgage; the balance was raised by canvassing our parishioners. To our good member, kind and generous neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. Ivers W. Adams, we are largely indebted, both for their liberality in subscribing for the building and in their continued liberality in contributing to the wiping out of the mortgage debt, which has lately been accomplished and made possible largely through their instrumentality.'  $The \ archive \ of \ the se \ historical$ posts can be viewed on the blog at dorchesterhistorical society.

#### **Editorial**



Dorchester resident Kenneth Fowler, 79, received a Covid-19 vaccine on Monday at First Parish

Photo courtesy Beth Israel Lahey Health

### Vaccine scramble is like a lottery game for seniors

As February began this week, the rush to get appointments for Covid-19 vaccinations moved to full throttle. On Monday, the door was opened wide for seniors 75 and over to get on schedules for their first shots after which those 65 and older and certain people with pre-existing conditions will step up to the starting line.

All of which seems simple enough, but many of the 75-plus folks, who were eligible to begin applying for appointments last Wednesday, have been frustrated by a near-incomprehensible state-run application process via computer that, with its several pages of questions about identification and quality of health, is bedeviling for them to work their way through.

In some cases, registrants are being directed to download their vaccination records into an application niche as if that were a commonplace procedure

One septuagenarian associate tells of how last Friday, he went on his computer to register for the vaccine at Gillette Stadium. When he reached the final page on the screen, he found two openings for Feb. 5. He clicked on the first one and immediately received a yellow-backed error message disallowing that time for him. Of course, this fellow said, the site offered no way for him to find out what the error was.

After affirming he had applied correctly in the first instance, he clicked the link that the screen said had been saved only to find that he had to go back to square one to try again. After giving his bid a few more tries, and getting the error message every time, he quit the effort.

At the same time, we started to hear last week about successful appointments being made all across town. One correspondent said she was all set to get the shot this Thursday at the Reggie Lewis Center; another had an appointment at Fenway Park; and yet another was successful at a Walgreens on Columbus Avenue. They all felt like they had won the lottery.

I was able to get an appointment for the first of my two shots at a local Walgreens this Saturday. I had been trying for a couple of days, but finding each time that they were fully booked.

Then I noticed it seemed that an additional day as being made available around the end of each day. So just after midnight on Saturday, I went online and found that the Walgreens in Lower Mills had added the following Saturday and there were appointments available all day.

I had my choice of times and booked for this Saturday, Feb. 6, at 9:45 a.m.

The system then booked me for four weeks later, Sat., March 6, for the second shot. As there are four weeks between shots one and two, I'm guessing it will be the Moderna vaccine that I'll receive.

Walgreens has five nearby stores offering the vaccinations, including three in Mattapan and Dorchester, on River Street, at Morton Street, and on Gallivan Boulevard in Neponset. The other two are in Roxbury, on Warren Street and on Columbus Ave.

Here's a tip for any of you still looking: Try going to the map at mass.gov in late afternoon or into the evening. If necessary, stay awake until midnight to see if an extra day has become available. Keep trying; don't give up.

An individual who recently received his second shot had this advice for senior citizens: "Make this your job, keep trying over and over to get an appointment. It can be done, and it very well could be a life-saver."

**Ed Forry** 

### We need a plan to speed up vaccinations; the following is one approach to consider

By BILL WALCZAK REPORTER COLUMNIST

Covid, the No. 1 killer in the country, is preventable with a vaccine. Massachusetts is one of the world's great centers of medicine and research, home to four outstanding medical schools and several of the world's greatest teaching hospitals, along with hundreds of organizations that practice health care. Some 18 percent of the jobs in metropolitan Boston are in health care.

Yet, as of Feb. 1, Massachusetts was ranked 41st of the 50 states in percentage of distributed vaccines that have been administered. The Centers for Disease Control reported that the state had received 1,060,900 vaccine doses as of Jan. 31, but had used only 57 percent of that allocation in putting 608,947 doses in people's arms. Our vaccination rate is lower than 40 other states. Records show that 6.7 percent of Massachusetts residents have had one dose; 1.7 percent have completed both, and 451,953 doses were yet to be used.

We're in a race to get the vaccine under control, to reduce the opportunity of the virus to mutate and be more virulent, to prevent the spread of the virus to millions and prevent the deaths of many more thousands. The chief way to do that is to get the vaccine into people's arms as fast as possible so we can build to herd immunity quickly.

Assuming that Gov. Baker and Secretary Sudders can create enough vaccination sites and staff them, and that President Biden can deliver enough vaccine for every American, here's a plan to improve our state's poor national standing:

Create a deadline for vaccinating everyone. We value what we measure. We need to choose our finish line date, then determine how many doses need to be administered each week, and hold ourselves accountable for achieving that goal, with regular reports to the Commonwealth. I propose August 30, 2021. It's ambitious, but possible.

Be flexible with our plan. Yes, we should be vaccinating those in high risk categories first, but that doesn't mean that we wait until we're finished with

those categories to move into the next ones. Some have described this problem by citing how airlines board: We call group A first, but don't wait for every single person in A to be seated before proceeding to B, or every plane would leave late. Achieving our vaccination goal will require efficiency, which means having enough flexibility in our plan to ensure that there are enough patients in line, even if it means opening later categories earlier.

Provide alternative systems to engage people. We need to make it easy. It would be so helpful to have a unified health care system, such as in the United Kingdom, but we don't. Our fragmented system requires us to have both website appointments and phone-in ones, and as many community vaccine sites and mega sites as needed. We can ask physicians to retrieve vaccine from central repositories for administration to their patients, set up as many mega and community sites as needed, and quickly train more health workers to give the doses.

Tailor the message and the outreach. The Commonwealth needs an excellent public information campaign to assure those who have doubts about the vaccine that they are safe. People of color have been victimized by medical experimentation in the past, and many have every reason to question taking the vaccine. Drawing on the large talent pool of people of color in leadership roles in medicine, clergy, education, politics, and science who worked to create the vaccine, a public information campaign would help the community understand that the vaccine is about the safety of their families and communities. We need those leaders fully supported and engaged in designing and delivering this campaign.

There's a lot riding on getting this done as soon as possible. Our economy will only rebound when the virus is dispatched and schools and childcare facilities can be fully open. Our collective mental health could surely use a victory.

That means that we cannot miss any opportunity to vaccinate. The last week of January had 111,901 doses administered in Massachusetts. We need 420,000 per week, starting Feb. 1. The race is on.

### Here's to a different kind of MCAS: More Compassion, Assurance, Support

By BILL HENDERSON SPECIAL TO THE REPORTER

Most people in Massachusetts recognize MCAS as the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System, which public schools use to test students in a variety of subjects from grade 3 into high school. In these times, though, students also desperately



**Bill Henderson** 

need another kind of MCAS from their educators- More Compassion, Assurance, and Support.

Compassion: Students are dealing with increased anxieties. Because of the pandemic, all students have had to adjust in different ways to remote learning, mask wearing and social distancing. Many have witnessed their family members' isolation, ill-

ness, even death. Increasing numbers of students have worries about the economy, wondering whether their families will have enough money for basics such as housing, food, and utilities. Far too many students have fears about racial injustices, having viewed the suffocation of George Floyd and the riot at the Capitol as well as listening to other disturbing

Assurance: All students need to hear how leaders are working to confront the pandemic, poverty, and racial injustices. They also need to hear that they are not going to fail or be kept back in school if they make a reasonable effort during these challenging times. Students who experience greater hardships or anxieties need greater attention. Although this has been complicated by hybrid and remote learning, connecting regularly with students is critical. Teachers and support staff need to reach out even more to help their students believe that they can succeed.

**Support:** Assessments are necessary to determine student needs' and instructional strategies. Given these extraordinary times, though, are all the many MCAS tests still warranted? Certainly, the high stakes accountability that can label and punish students and schools should be waived. It would be particularly onerous for students who have had little or no in-person instruction to return to their schools in the spring just to be bombarded by too

Education leaders should plan for a more limited number of assessments to diagnose students' needs. Then they should advocate and mobilize to provide significant support continuing throughout the summer. Tutoring should be offered to students who are struggling with basic skills.

Counseling should be provided to students dealing with mental health issues. Supplementary services should be scheduled for students with disabilities and English language learners who have missed out on them. In addition, all students should have greater access to age-appropriate enrichment materials, particularly in science and social studies, which are currently often neglected. State and district leaders should be responsible for identifying and preparing instructional videos and lessons around common curriculum. These can be posted and available not only to schools but also to homes and community centers across the Commonwealth using technologies that have been developed over this past year.

Students need and deserve education leaders who will prioritize a different MCAS - more compassion, assurance, and support.

Bill Henderson is a former teacher and principal who worked in the Boston Public Schools for 36 years. The Henderson School in Dorchester is named in his honor.

### The Reporter

"The News & Values Around the Neighborhood"

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

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Next Issue: Thursday, February 11, 2021 Next week's Deadline: Monday, February 8 at 4 p.m. Published weekly on Thursday mornings All contents © Copyright 2021 Boston Neighborhood News, Inc.

### Pressley tells Baker she's 'gravely concerned' about rollout

REPORTER STAFF

Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley is urging Gov. Baker to step up the Commonwealth's vaccine rollout in her district. In a letter to the governor dated last Thursday, she wrote, "Despite the fact that we continue to see record spikes in cases across the Commonwealth, I remain gravely concerned that your administration's vaccination and response plans continue to fall short of serving the needs of the communities most impacted, including those in my Congressional district.

"It is absolutely vital that policymakers at munities most impacted by this pandemic and the public health experts that are fighting this virus on the frontlines."

Pressley urged Baker to update the state's vaccine deployment plan to address inequities and to do more to build trust in Black and Latinx communities. Specifically, she urged Baker to commit to prioritize hard-hit neighborhoods and begin building out "robust community-centered programs to begin delivering and administering vaccines in hot spot communities."

That same day, Pressley told the *Reporter* that she was frustrated with all levels of government the state's vaccination

rollout so far, characterizing it as "delayed and disorganized" and calling for a better-coordinated effort to get the medication to people in city neighborhoods hit hardest by Covid-19.

"How can Massachusetts be ranked 29th in the nation for vaccine distribution when we are a healthcare Mecca and have the infrastructure," she said in an interview, adding, "We've got to center equity and prioritize vaccinations in our hardest hit communities. This is about saving lives and I just feel that the vaccine rollout to date, frankly, has been delayed and disorganized."

In her letter to Baker, Pressley again pointed to the central role that she wants community health centers to play. She urged that the state mount a public awareness campaign in partnership with trusted medical professionals and community voices to dispel misinformation about the vaccine and build trust in Black and brown communities.

This week, Massachusetts initiated the second phase of the vaccine plan that began last month with people in long-term care facilities, frontline medical workers and, more recently, first responders.

Residents 75 and older are now eligible to be vaccinated while those 65 and older have been bumped up in priority in this phase, joining those with two or more highrisk conditions in the who will become eligible in following weeks.

Baker announced plans to add dozens of new vaccine sites by Feb. 15, including the Reggie Lewis Center at Roxbury Community College, which opened this week as a mass vaccination site for eligible Bostonians. First Parish Dorchester church has also come online this week as a site, but by "invitation only" as managed by the Beth Israel Lahey

Clinic program. Pressley cited reports showing that Black and Latinx residents make up less than 3 and 4 percent, respectively, of those who have been vaccinated thus far, compared to 60 percent of white residents.

Pressley also pointed to President Biden's executive order aimed at ensuring an equitable pandemic response and recovery, and offered her partnership to continue pushing for resources at the federal level.

"I stand ready to partner in any way to ensure our hardest hit communities are able to access the lifesaving resources and vaccinations necessary to combat this unprecedented pandemic," she wrote.

### Lynch tests positive for coronavirus

US Rep. Stephen Lynch tested positive for Covid-19 last Friday, his office announced. He is "asymptomatic and feels fine," his communications director, Molly Rose Tarpey, said in a statement noting that he will self-quarantine and vote by proxy in Congress this week.

Tarpey said Lynch got the positive result Friday afternoon after a staffer in his Boston office had tested positive earlier in

"Congressman Lynch had received the second dose of the Pfizer vaccine and subsequently received a negative Covid-19 test prior to attending President Biden's Inauguration," Tarpey said.

Lynch becomes the second member of the Massachusetts congressional delegation to announce a positive COVID-19 test in as many days, following Rep. Lori Tra-



Stephen Lynch is asymptomatic and is in quarantine.

han, who similarly said Thursday that she was asymptomatic and will self-quarantine.

- STATE HOUSE **NEWS SERVICE** 

### New England Council lays out stimulus support

Agroup of business, academic, and government leaders from across New England praised President Biden's proposed stimulus package on Monday as an important step to get the pandemic under control and support economic recovery.

In a letter to the region's congressional delegation, the New England Council highlighted several aspects of the so-called \$1.9 trillion 'American Rescue Plan" that members believe "would be particularly

beneficial for our region." including funding for higher education, extension of food security benefits, and additional funding for public transitagencies.

"The Council believes this plan includes a variety of provisions that will support the goals of stemming the spread of this deadly virus, while also supporting economic recovery," the group wrote. 'We were particularly pleased that President Biden's proposal includes measures to address

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racial inequities already present in our society and only exacerbated by the pandemic."

The Council — which is led by Dorchester's Jim Brett— also urged the congressional delegation to focus on a public education campaign surrounding vaccines, additional relief and support for the health care industry, aid to private colleges and universities, and paid family and medical leave in any additional legislative action.

- SHNS

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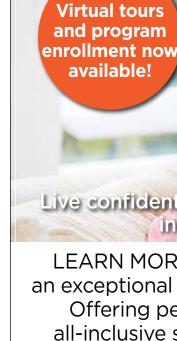
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### Shanti owners blaze entrepreneurial path through the pandemic

By Daniel Sheehan Reporter Staff

When Solmon and Rokeya Chowdhury opened up Shanti Indian Cuisine on Dorchester Avenue in 2001, they knew they were taking a risk. There weren't many Indian or South Asian restaurants in the area and they couldn't be sure if there would be enough support to keep such an eatery afloat.

"It was a struggle at the beginning because not many people wanted to try Indian food, but those few people who did really liked it," Solmon told the *Reporter* in a recent interview. "That core of customers was really important to us. It was the people in Dorchester that kept Shanti going."

Now, twenty years later and staring down a year-long pandemic, that support has remained unwavering, said the Chowdhurys.

After getting his start with Ashmont Realty in the mid-90s, Solmon saw Shanti as a foundation upon which to expand his business model. The success of Shanti on Dot Ave. led to new restaurant locations in Roslindale and Kendall Square, and, eventually, the Dudley Cafe in Roxbury.

Last spring, after refocusing their business



Solmon and Rokeya Chowdhury: "It was the people in Dorchester that kept Shanti going."

model on takeout and delivery, Solmon and Rokeya set out to ensure a safe work environment for their staff, personally ferrying employees to and from the restaurant to avoid taking risks on public transit.

"At the beginning of Covid, we started figuring out how could we go into skeleton cost mode to make sure we could survive," recounted Rokeya. "With Shanti, we have been more lucky. At Dudley Café, our sales have dropped 80 percent, and the restaurant in Kendall Square is closed off until workers come back. What's carrying us are the Dorchester and Roslindale locations; our sales have actually been higher in Dorchester compared to pre-pandemic, and we've been humbled by the support from the community."

With Shanti Dorchester providing a firm base, the Chowdhurys have set about using their real estate experience to make an impact elsewhere in the community with a goal of increasing homeownership.

Over the past few years, Shanti Acquisitions – the Chowdhurys' development LLC –has rebuilt and revitalized more than 250 units of housing while creating jobs and hiring local residents. In 2021, they plan to break ground on projects at 3 Aspinwall Rd. in Codman Square, 36 Temple St. in Mattapan, and Bartlett Place

in Roxbury.

The focus on affordable development is part of a strategy to build pathways to economic autonomy for local residents, said the Chowdhurys.

"When we see multiple needs in the community, part of our vision is taking our own needs and then reinvesting in the community in another avenue," explained Solmon. "An overall, long-term goal of ours is to create generational wealth, and often to do that you have to be a homeowner. In our experience, when you own a home, it's easier to leverage that to start your own business, get financing, get a student loan. There are all these domino effects...owning a home is how you create the wealth. Plus, when you have homeowners, they care about the neighborhood more and want to support local businesses."

That mission of wealth creation is poised to branch offinto yet another sector for the family: the burgeoning cannabis business. Solmon and Rokeya were recently approved by the Boston Cannabis Board for a license for the first cannabis dispensary in Nubian Square, a venture they are naming "Rooted in Roxbury."

"We were discussing how these dispensaries are coming to our neighborhood, and it's usually big corporations that are eying those spots, and what is the community benefit to that? We figured we have business experience, why not apply for a license? How

can we do this better? A locally owned dispensary that could help provide access and opportunities for Roxbury and Dorchester residents to get in on the ground floor would be more constructive than an entity owned by a regional or national company, they reasoned. The community support came: More than 40 investment partners who are Roxbury and Dorchester residents have already invested a range of sums, depending on what they could afford.

"Neighborhoods like us would not have access if people don't have a lot of funds to put down," explained Solmon. "Here, we're creating the platform where someone who has \$2,000 to invest has an opportunity to be a part of it at the entry level—usually the minimum investment is much, much higher. A lot of people who have invested, this is their first experience investing in something...We had a few women put money together to have one half share."

The group of investors is 96 percent Black, over 50 percent are women, and they are all Boston residents, reflecting a Black and brown ownership team.

With so many local residents in on the ground floor, the Chowdhurys hope to continue in that vein by hiring local employees and delivering the greatest impact to those "in the immediate radius" of the site. Having already secured a community host agreement and city approval, they are now waiting on zoning approval and aiming to open up shop by the end of the year.

"I think we got so much support because we're a community-conscious business," said Solmon, "not someone from outside coming in to profit and then leave.

"And it goes in line with the city's new regulation to make sure equity candidates also get a say in this business as well...it's empowering for a lot of people to be able to say, 'Yes, I have invested in a cannabis business, in an emerging market.' Everyone is very excited about it."

To learn more about the dispensary, visit rootedinroxbury.com.



## Longtime auto dealership eyed for housing on Dot Ave

existing Avenue Auto

Wholesalers- which

has been in business

for 58 years, according

to Shirley Bragel, who

owns the business and

land with her husband

 $George. \, The \, business \, will \,$ 

remain operational until

the new project gains

the necessary approvals

where it's time to get all your ducks in a row,"

said Bragel, 83. "We

were there when nobody

wanted it. Hopefully, it

The proposed project,

described as a "Live/

Work/Eat Development"

would create a mixed-use

residential development

with market rate and

affordable housing op-

portunities and a large

ground floor retail space

in a contemporary aes-

will come together.'

You get to a point

approved.



A rendering shows a proposed building at 1121 Dorchester Ave. RODE Architects image

#### By Daniel Sheehan Reporter Staff

A project proposed by a South Boston-based developer would bring 24 new units of housing spread across two structures on what is now an auto dealership at 1121 Dorchester Ave. near Savin Hill.

The 12,000-square-foot project would include a four-story building fronting Dorchester Ave. that would contain 21 units and 19 off-street parking spaces, and a three-story building at 31 Savin Hill Ave. that would include three additional units.

Parking for the development would be located in the building's underground garage accessed via a shared easement off Savin Hill Avenue.

If approved, the project would replace the

thetic that the proponent— Broadway Hospitality Group— claims is "appropriate in scale, massing, and design within the surrounding neighborhood."

The developer says it would provide a number of other community benefits, including "a more pedestrian friendly and activated Dorchester Ave." by widening the streetscape with an improved sidewalk that would make room for outdoor dining opportunities and landscaping.

The project application also touts the "creation of 80-100 construction jobs over the approximately 18-month duration of the project," and the "long-term establishment of retail jobs over the life of the project with a full-service restaurant on the ground level."

Contributions will also be made to the local Boys and Girls Club and the Martin Richard Foundation, the application noted.

A virtual public Article 80 meeting for the project is scheduled for Feb. 17 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. For more information, visit the project page at bostonplans.org.



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Romero, Heiry M	Romero, Juan C	Lindo, Cleopatra		72 Lawrence Ave	Dorchester	01/15/21	\$429,500
Goncalves, Marlene B	Goncalves, Anibal B	Martinez, Gregorio	Martinez, Maria	106 Stanwood St	Dorchester	01/11/21	900,000
Nguyen, Trong D	Pham, Thuy H	Milien, David	Fleurinord, Anezaine	6 Samoset St	Dorchester	01/13/21	801,000
Patel, Sahil C		Eisemann, Henry G	Russell, Leslie C	5 Adams St	Dorchester	01/15/21	1,120,000
Barker Dev Corp		JC Clover LLC		24 Sagamore St	Dorchester	01/15/21	905,000
115 Adams St LLC		Leblanc Michael J Est	Ferus, Debbie J	115 Adams St	Dorchester	01/13/21	500,000
Driscoll, Brian		Chin, Gylwood	Tang, Trinh A	51-R Linden St	Dorchester	01/15/21	890,000
Melo, Aneuris G		Abiodun, Michael A	Abiodun, Falilatu A	54 Esmond St	Dorchester	01/11/21	653,000
86 Kingsdale St Dev LLC		Cambridge St Realty LLC		86 Kingsdale St	Dorchester	01/15/21	1,075,000
MK Melvin Properties LLC		Nguyen, Trach		99 Woodrow Ave	Dorchester	01/15/21	334,000
19 Irma St Dev LLC		JMA Housing LLC		19 Irma St	Dorchester	01/13/21	875,000
Jean-Baptiste, Anthony		Eutaw Holdings LLC		43 Theodore St	Dorchester	01/12/21	810,000
1069 Wa Street Dot LLC		Solid RT Boston	Cefalu, Anthony	1069-1071 Washington St	Mattapan	01/14/21	950,000
Costello, Eileen M		Darville, Barry P	Darville, Sally A	70-72 Sanford St	Mattapan	01/11/21	562,500
Brown, Daunielle M		Best Net Capital LLC		42 Hollingsworth St	Mattapan	01/13/21	455,000
Hyder, Eric		Scott, Timothy J		60 Sawyer Ave #3	Dorchester	01/15/21	499,000
Blackwell, David E	Cox-Blackwell, Altressa E	Wilson, Sandra V		14 Estella St #2	Mattapan	01/11/21	230,000
Delpha, Jason T	Delpha, Jillian W	Monson, Todd		5 Edison Grn #3	Dorchester	01/14/21	625,000
Dunn, Tara	Jackson, Evan	Gaucher, Michael J		298 Ashmont St #D	Dorchester	01/11/21	483,500
Collins, Christopher		Devereaux-Milburn, Aaron		944 Dorchester Ave #29	Dorchester	01/15/21	589,000
Bailey, Dyane		Jarmanning, Josh	Jarmanning, Allison	64 Harvest St #3	Dorchester	01/15/21	549,000
Aliati, Vaniza		Tanery, Ann	Tanery, Antonios	328 Savin Hill Ave #328	Dorchester	01/12/21	1,074,000
Kesseli, Aaron		Dukor-Jackson, David	Dukor-Jackson, Tara	38 Wentworth Ter #3	Dorchester	01/13/21	480,000
Moss, Joshua	Blessing, William	Fischer, Katherine E		28 Dix St #1	Dorchester	01/14/21	645,000
Whang, Brian B		Pantalone, David W		944 Dorchester Ave #4	Dorchester	01/15/21	650,000
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### State tops 500k cases; Baker pushes on vaccination sites

(Continued from page 1) aters, gyms, and indoor fitness centers, and the like to reopen again. He said the city has taken a "very cautious approach" when it comes to reopening the economy.

Talking to the media at Faneuil Hall, he pointed to the fact that the city was re-classified last Thursday in the state's assessment system from high to moderate risk, with a 57.2 daily inci-

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dence rate per 100,000 people over the last 14 days. The city had previously reported a 71.7 daily incidence rate.

"So that's certainly also encouraging news as we move forward here.

But we need to continue to stay vigilant," said Walsh, who was looking to a Senate confirmation hearing on his nomination as US Secretary of Labor later in the week.

"We've had several weeks now in a row here of declining numbers as far as positivity rates for Covid,' he added. "Over the last two weeks, it's down 1.6 percent in total. So that's also good to see improvements in those neighborhood numbers."

Looking ahead to the Super Bowl and Tom Brady's participation, cautioned people against gathering with individuals outside of their own household. "I know that there is some excitement in Boston about that game, so we want you to be very careful about that," he said. "We also want to make sure

testing is part of your routine."

#### Pressley to Baker: Let's step up the pace

In a letter to Gov. Baker sent last Thursday, Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley urging him to step up the Commonwealth's vaccine rollout in her district, writing, "Despite the fact that we continue to see record spikes in cases across the Commonwealth, I remain gravely concerned that your administration's vaccination and response plans continue to fall short of serving the needs of the communities most impacted, including those in my Congressional district."It is absolutely vital that policymakers at all levels of government heed the calls of the communities most impacted by this pandemic and the public health experts that are fighting this virus on the frontlines." See Page 9.

### Wu asks vaccine sites in every city zip code

At-large City Councillor and mayoral candidate Michelle Wu filed an ordinance last week that would require that city health officials to open at least one Covid-19 vaccination site in every zip code in Boston. She cited a recent Boston Globe analysis, which found that fewer than 14 percent of Black residents and approximately 26 percent of Latinx residents of Suffolk County live in census tracts within a mile of a vaccination site, compared to nearly 46 percent of white residents. See Page 2.

## Lower Mills Library joins artists in Teen Music Maker Showdown

The Hip Hop Transformation (THHT), a youth organization coled by local rap artist Red Shaydez, will partner with the Lower Mills branch of the Boston Public Library over the next month for the Teen Music Maker Showdown, a musical event series and statewide competition for teens. Starting this Friday, and continuing through Feb. 25, Massachusetts residents ages 13-18 are encouraged to submit self-produced music tracks to be evaluated by a panel of judges from The Hip-Hop Transformation (THHT), ICA Teens, the Clubhouse Network, the BPL, and

Youths between the

ages of 13 and 18 who are Massachusetts residents and interested in participating can email up to three original music submissions to virtualteenroom@bpl. org starting at 4 p.m. on Feb. 5 through midnight on Feb. 25. Contestants must be between the ages of 13-18 and reside in Massachusetts. Winners will be awarded Visa gift cards of up to \$150 and eligible contest winners will be awarded \$100 commissions to create music for the BPL's Twitch and Teen YouTube channels.

The BPL and THHT will host three events around the contest featuring industry experts: a kickoff event this Friday on the BPL Twitch

channel that will include a Q&A with professional artists for teens interested in participating; a music maker workshop on Feb. 17 in which producer Lightfoot and rap veterans Red Shavdez and Flash (N.B.S.) will advise teens on their projects via Zoom; and an award celebration on March 5 featuring a panel of industry judges who will share submission clips and announce the contest winners.

Through the Music Maker Showdown, the BPL is aiming to support teens interested in showcasing their work, gaining professional experience, and connecting with leaders in the Boston music industry.

"The BPL is thrilled to partner with The Hip Hop Transformation to bring teens the opportunity to create and share their art, as well as advance their careers and make connections in a competitive but exciting industry," said BPL President David Leonard

"The Hip Hop Transformation program is honored to team up with BPL Teens for the first ever statewide music-maker showdown! This event provides a platform for teens all over Massachusetts to have their music creations heard," said THHT's Artist Development Director, Red Shaydez.

"Not only will this be an opportunity for three upcoming creators to have their music placed, but it will also be a great networking opportunity that could spawn future collaborations. We at THHT hope that this showdown will be the first of many."

For full submission guidelines please visit http://bit.ly/TeenMusic-Maker.



### Carney leaders say they see 'light at end' of Covid tunnel



**Dr. Robert Lowenstein** Photos courtesy Steward Health Care



(Continued from page 1) to cultural differences... Having someone who respects the culture and communicates in a manner that people can relate to are things we are good at and that we focus in

"It requires significant logistical and supply chain coordination to get this done in a timely manner, so it's a monumental challenge that requires support and a 'can-doit' spirit on the federal state and local level," said Sands. "The plan is coming together, people are getting vaccinated, we just need to figure out a way to get more shots in arms faster."

After scrambling to increase capacity and pivot its infrastructure nearly a year ago, Carney is now well equipped to juggle both Covid and non-Covid patients, explained Sands, even as the number of coronavirus-specific patients and staff continues to decrease.

"Going through two waves of Covid in less than 12 months has been something we never want to go through again, but if we have to, we will be ready," said Sands. "We're now looking forward to how we will continue to serve the community in an effective manner as we get past Covid. We're still in a pandemic; however we

can see some light at the

end of the tunnel." Two distinct waves

Carney experienced two intense phases of battling the virus. The first crested last spring— "We were pretty much all Covid, all the time," said Sands. "In the summer the numbers went down but then they began to ramp back up again in October, so we found ourselves once again, almost like Groundhog Day, bringing in over 70 of what we call 'travelers' and contract workers to help us open up beds," he said.

The hospital nearly doubled the number of intensive care beds on hand and doubled the number of medical and surgical beds. Along the way, on-the-fly improvisations like creating new tiered units of care and other adjustments were keys to success, Sands

explained.
"One lesson learned was, in addition to ICU beds and regular medical beds, we created what was called a 'step-down' unit where a patient didn't necessarily need an ICU level of care, but needed something a little bit better than the regular floor care. So we were able to create that space to support the patients," he said.

"In terms of where we are and how we've made the turn, we still have Covid patients but less than 20 positive patients in the hospital," Sands said. "The 70 travelers we brought in are now down to less than 20, and the number continues to go down. The demand for Covid services continues to go down as well, which is a good thing.

"So, lots of lessons learned, but some great success and results, and now we're making the pivot to begin to make sure the community knows we're safe and ready to serve the community." Dr. Robert Lowenstein, an emergency medical specialist at Carney, said that the emergency department patient volume is not quite back to pre-Covid numbers, but has steadily increased following a "remarkable reduction" in volume during the first wave of the pandemic last spring. He emphasized

#### LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE & FAMILY COURT SUFFOLK DIVISION
24 NEW CHARDON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02114
Docket No. SU19D1317DR
DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION and MAILING CLEIFE A. DUME

MARILIN DUME

To the Defendant:
The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for irretrievable Breakdown. The Complaint is on file at the Court An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411.

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon: Cleife A. Dume, 60 Walnut Park, #2, Roxbury, MA02119-1176 your answer, if any, on or before 02/25/2021. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudica-tion of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court.
Witness, HON. BRIANJ. DUNN, First Justice of this Court.
Date: January 27, 2021

Felix D. Arroyo Register of Probate Published: February 4, 2021

that people in need of care shouldn't think twice about heading to Carney or putting off the visit for fear of catching the virus. "It's really important for the residents of Dorchester to know we are open and ready to take care of them, and that we employ the safety protocols necessary to make distinctions between Covid and non-Covid patients," said Lowenstein. "For example, ambulances will call in advance and say, 'We have a respiratory Covid patient coming in.' We've streamlined that process so they know exactly what room to go to. They bypass waiting rooms and so forth so as not to expose others who are non-Covid." A testament to how safe the facility is, Sands and Lowenstein noted, is the fact that last year, for

the second year in a row, Carney Hospital was identified as a "Grade A Leapfrog Facility" by Leapfrog, a nonprofit watchdog organization that evaluates hospitals based on safety and quality of care.

That should give [residents] an extra level of confidence that when I go to Carney, I'm going to a high-quality, safe facility for care," said Sands.



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Suffolk Probate & Family Court
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(617) 788-8300
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Docket No. SU21P0190EA
ESTATE OF
CHARLES RICHARD HOLMES, JR.
DATE OF DEATH: 12/07/2020

DATE OF DEATH: 12/07/2020
To all interested persons:
A petition for Formal Probate of Will with ppointment of Personal Representativ has been filed by: Patricia Fullam of nas been flied by: Patricia Fullam of Springfield, VT requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that Patricia Fullam of Springfield, VT be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in an Insularyies of administration. IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 03/10/2021.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed the appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

Unsupervised Administration
Under The Massachusetts Uniform
Probate Code (MUPC)
APersonal Representative appointed under
the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court, Persons annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

Witness, HON. BRIAN J. DUNN, First Justice of this Court

Justice of this Court.

Date: January 29, 2021 Felix D. Arroyo Register of Probate Published: February 4, 2021

### **LEGAL NOTICE**

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE & FAMILY COURT
FOLK PROBATE & FAMILY COURT
24 NEW CHARDON STREET 24 NEW CHARDON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02114
CITATION GIVING NOTICE
OF PETITION FOR
APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN
FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON
PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304
Docket No. SU20P2389GD
IN THE MATTER OF:
JOHN P. WENEK
of DORCHESTER, MA
RESPONDENT
Alleged Incapacitated Person
To the named Respondent and all other
interested persons, a petition has been filed

rested persons, a petition has been filed by Brigham & W Hospital of Boston, MA ir by Brigham & W Hospital of Boston, Ma In the above captioned matter alleigning that John P. Wenek is in need of a Guardian and requesting that (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve Without Surety on the bond.

The petition asks the Court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is neces

the appointment of a Guardian is neces-sary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A M on the at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **02/23/2021**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance you for your attorney. written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date. IMPORTANT NOTICE

The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this reques on behalf of the above-named person. If the on behalf of the above-flathed person; if the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer one may be appointed at State expense. Witness, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.

Felix D. Arroyo Register of Probate Date: January 15, 2021 Published: February 4, 2021



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### Cannabis shop wins zoning approval for Freeport Street site

By Adam Gaffin Universal Hub

The Zoning Board of Appeal on Tuesday approved plans by the owner of Antonio's HiFi Pizza and Bosburger in Fields Corner to open a recreational marijuana mart at 43 Freeport St.

The proposal by Brian Chavez still needs the approval of the state Cannabis Control Commission before he can turn the first floor of what is now a vacant three-story building into one of two cannabis shops he hopes to open in Boston. The other would be at Washington Street and Archdale

Road in Roslindale. The Boston Cannabis Board approved the Freeport Street project in October.

Chavez's Freeport Street branch of Massachusetts Citizens for Social Equity, in a building owned by the Susi family, would have 24 parking spaces. Chavez's lawyer, Mike Ross, said that if need be, he would likely be able to use additional parking spaces on other properties that Susi owns next to it.

However, Ross said, that might prove unnecessary because by the time Chavez is likely

to win state approval, even more marijuana establishments would be open in the Boston area, further reducing the odds of the large crowds seen at the first shops to open in the

Ross added that, at 4,500 square feet, the proposed shop is much larger than other shops the zoning board has approved and has plenty of room inside for patrons

to wait their turn to buy, so he does not expect any lines to form outside the building, which is located in an industrial area with no nearby schools or residences.

The zoning approval

calls for sore operations between 10 a.m. and 9 p.m., seven days a week.

UniversalHub.comand the Reporter have a partnership and share content frequently.

### Walsh touts new city-funded initiative on housing vouchers

Saying it's similar to the large Section 8 federal program, Mayor Walsh on Monday launched a new city housing voucher program, predicting it will provide rental assistance to hundreds of low-income city households whose needs are not being met by other housing programs.

Walsh included \$2.5 million for the City of Boston Voucher Program (CBVP) in his fiscal 2021 budget to create the initioative, which will focus on vouchers tied to particular sites or developments. City housing and neighborhood development program officials have been work-

ing on the program's design in recent months with low-income renters, nonprofits, service providers, property owners and developers.

The Boston Housing Authority will issue a request for proposals from housing operators and developers interested in incorporating vouchers into their developments. Long-term contracts between the housing authority and property owners, similar to the Section 8 model, aim to ensure program stability.

"The first \$2.5 million

being advertised now by the BHA will get hundreds of homeless families with children in the Boston Public Schools off the streets and into permanent housing," Michael Kane, spokesperson for the City Rent Subsidy Coalition and the Mass Alliance of HUD Tenants, said in a statement released by City Hall. "We look forward to working with the BHA to implement and expand this program in the months ahead."

– STATE HOUSE NEWS SERVICE

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#### **LEGAL NOTICES**

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
Suffolk Probate & Family Court
24 New Chardon St., Boston 02114
(617) 788-8300
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Docket No. SU02P2482AD1
ESTATE OF

MANUEL PINA MENDES DATE OF DEATH: 09/20/2000

To all interested persons: A petition for S/A - Formal Probate of Will Dorchester, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Maria Rocha Mendes of Boston, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate o serve Without Surety on the bond in an unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 02/26/2021.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline Inis is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the

objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

Unsupervised Administration
Under The Massachusetts Uniform
Probate Code (MUPC)

APersonal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or

tion is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may actified by Courting westerview to the petition the Court in any matter relating to the

pention re-countrially material relating to the setate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

Witness, HON. BRIAN J. DUNN, First Justice of this Court.

Date: January 15, 2020

Felix D. Arroyo Register of Probate Published: February 4, 2021

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
Suffolk Probate & Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Docket No. SU21P0092EA
ESTATE OF:
RUTH H. BROWN
DATE OF DEATH: 09/27/2016

A Petition for Late and Limited Formal Testacy and/or Appointment has been filed by Cheryl E. Brown-Greene of Boston, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Cheryl E. Brown-Greene of Boston, MA be appointed as Persone of Boston, MA be appointed as Persone. Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in an unsupervised administration

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 03/09/2021.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you do object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance IMPORTANT NOTICE

and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

Unsupervised Administration
Under The Massachusetts Uniform
Probate Code (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice requarding

n the estate are entitled to notice regarding he administration directly from the Persona Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

Witness, HON. BRIAN J. DUNN, First stice of this Court.
Date: January 26, 2021

Felix D. Arroyo Register of Probate

Published: February 4, 2021

### Community power compacts are gaining steam

By Meg McIntyre SPECIAL TO STATE HOUSE News Service

With the launch of Boston's new Community Choice Electricity program this month, nearly half of Massachusetts municipalities are now buying electricity on behalf of their residents in an effort to provide cheaper, greener power.

As of January, the state had approved 168 municipal aggregation programs, which allow local governments to procure and provide electricity at competitive rates. Advocates say the initiatives give cities and towns more control over their power sources, and often offer lower rates than utilities for consumers.

Communities that have enacted such programs see them as a way to save money for residents while making progress toward carbon reduction goals - and they expect that the number of aggregation programs in Massachusetts will continue to grow.

Here's how it works: After developing a municipal aggregation plan and gaining state and local approval, municipalities select a broker to solicit bids from different energy suppliers. Communities then choose a supplier based on cost and the desired amount of electricity from renewable sources. Unless they opt out, consumers are automatically placed on the default plan chosen by the city or town, and they'll continue to receive their monthly bill from the local utility - but often at a lower price point.

#### 'Bellwether for the state'

Cities and towns in  $Mass a chusetts \, have \, had$ the option to pursue municipal aggregation since 1997, although most programs have launched in the last five years or so, said Julie Curti, senior clean energy and climate planner for the Metropolitan Area Planning Council

"It took a little bit more time and I guess some test cases for municipalities to see how the program could work for it to really start to grow," Curti said. "I think once a few communities ran programs successfully, it set a template and a model others have followed."

Boston's program is now the largest in the Commonwealth, and officials told the News Service they hope the city can offer an example for other communities. Christopher Cook, Boston's chief of environment, energy and open space, said the program is part of the city's commitment to environmental justice and one of its goals is to

make renewable energy more accessible to residents who are socially vulnerable and have likely been disproportionately impacted by climate change.

"I do think that we are a strong bellwether for the state just because of the amount of people that we represent and the diversity of the people that we represent," Cook said. " ... If we're able to actually achieve our climate goals with renewable energy, that means that others around the Commonwealth, despite their concerns around potential costs, are able to do that as well."

Under state law, retail electricity providers must source a certain percentage of their power from qualified renewable energy facilities. Through aggregation, communities can offer different tiers of service with varying levels of renewable energy above that standard, giving consumers the ability to choose "greener" op-

In Boston, roughly 700 residents have signed up so far for an option to receive 100 percent of residents and businesses

their electricity from renewable sources, which is offered at a slightly more expensive rate, according to Cook,

The city's default plan will source roughly 28 percent of its electricity from renewable facilities during its first nine-month contract with energy supplier Constellation, which is 10 percent above the 2021 state standard of 18 percent.

"With a lot of aggregation programs, we're seeing them go five percentage points, 10 percentage points, much higher beyond that standard to procure more green electricity for their consumers," Curti said. "And that's, from a local level, probably one of the most, if not the most, impactful ways to reduce emissions if you're trying to meet climate goals."

#### **Towns band** together

Although many municipalities cite the potential environmental benefits of aggregation, cost-savings are also a big motivating factor. In Plymouth, where a program has been in place since 2017, local

have saved roughly \$7 million on electricity costs over three years, according to energy officer Patrick Farah.

Local governments can also partner to form aggregation programs, which some smaller communities are eyeing as a way to increase their purchasing power. In August, for example, 12

towns in Franklin County and one in Hampshire County joined in the launch of a community power initiative.

Officials noted that the biggest concerns they heard from residents while doing programs related to the requirement to opt-out are about the desire to continue using the local utility as their electricity supplier.

Cook said that reluctance may have something to do with "predatory" practices used by competitive electricity suppliers who often go door-to-door or leave mailers in low-income neighborhoods offering misleading introductory rates that later skyrocket.

### **ATTENTION CONSTRUCTION WORKERS (All TRADES) JOB OPPORTUNITY**

Preservation of Affordable Housing and Nuestra Comunidad are seeking applications from candidates for work at the new construction project at

Mattapan Station that meet the following criteria: City of Boston residents\*, people of color and women in and around the Boston area. All Mattapan and other local neighboring residents in construction trades are encouraged to apply. Requests for applications can be directed to the trailer at: 466-476 River St. Mattapan, MA. Applications and resumes can be left in the drop box at the address mentioned above.

\*Proof of residency is a requirement a copy of your current driver license, MA ID or current Utility bill will be accepted as forms of proof and should be submitted with your application.



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#### **LEGAL NOTICE**

#### MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale in a certain Mortgage and Security Agreement given by Sherika Alford dated May 20, 2019 recorded with the Suffolk County Registry of Deeds in Book 61145, Page 230, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the condition of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction at 12:00 P.M. on the 23rd day of February, 2021, on the mortgaged premises located at 268 Itasca Street, Boston (Mattapan), Suffolk County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, as follows, to wit:

A certain parcel of land with buildings thereon, situated on Itasca Street, Mattapan, Suffolk

County, Massachusetts and being shown as Lots 94, 95, 96 & 97 on a plan of Homeward Terrace made by John N. McClintock, C.E. dated April 25, 1908 and recorded with the Suffolk Deeds in Book 3274, Page End and containing 8,000 square feet of land, more or less porting to said plan.

For Mortgagor's title, see deed dated April 26, 2019 and recorded with said Suffolk County

Registry of Deeds Book 61145, Page 228

The Mortgagee reserves the right to postpone the sale to a later date by public announcement at the time and date appointed for the sale and to further postpone at any adjourned sale date by public announcement at the time and date appointed for the adjourned sale date. These premises will be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in

force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed. If the premises is a condominum unit, then the premises will also be sold subject to Massachusetts General Laws chapter 183A, as amended, the applicable Master Deed and

any and all amounts as may be due, following such sale, to the applicable condominium trust.

If the successful bidder at the foreclosure sale defaults in purchasing the property according to the terms of this notice of sale or the terms of the Memorandum of Sale executed at the time of the foreclosure, the Mortgagee reserves the right to sell the property by foreclosure deed to the second highest bidder (or other successive bidders, in the order of their bid) provided that such other bidder deposits with Mortgagee's attorneys, Tamkin & Hochberg, LLP, the amount of the required deposit as set forth below within five (5) business days after written notice of default of the previous highest bidder and title shall be conveyed to such other bidder within thirty (30) days of the default, which time periods may be reasonably extended by the Mortgagee in its sole discretion.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of TEN THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$10,000.00)

by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance of the purchase price is to be paid by certified or bank check at a closing to be conducted no more than thirty (30) days after the date of the auction. The description for the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

BRARM, LLC Present Holder of Said Mortgage By its Attorneys, Tamkin & Hochberg, LLP 313 Washington Street, Suite 202 Newton, MA 02458 617-964-2501 (phone) 1/28/21, 2/4/21, 2/11/21

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### Change of Command at the BPD: Dennis White takes the reins

(Continued from page 1) communities, which he men and women of the honor on behalf of you." said have been strained department,"White said

Turning to Walsh, who appointed him last Thursday, White, a veteran of 32 years on the BPD force who recently served as Gross's chief of staff, said: "Thank you for entrusting me with the leadership of the Boston Police Department. I will not let you down."

In response, the mayor said, "I am confident he will continue the department's reputation as a leader in community policing and advance the department's commitment to accountability and transparency and help lead the Boston Police Department into a new era."

White said the promotion fulfilled a dream his mother had before she died from lung cancer in 2014. She had told him she dreamed he would first meet President Obama and then would become Boston's police commissioner.

"In March of 2015, I had the honor of meeting and taking a picture with President Obama," White said. "Today, February 1st, 2021, Beverly's dream came true for her favorite child."

White, who is African American, highlighted his goal of building better relationships between police and their communities, which he said have been strained following the pandemic and the aftermath of the murder of George Floyd by Minneapolis police officers last May. He served as a member of Boston's Police Reform Task Force last year.

"The BPD will continue to prioritize community engagement to build trust and relationships with our citizens and community," White said. "We will get through this together, but we will have to make changes in doing so."

In addition to implementing new recommendations, White said he is dedicated to prioritizing the health and wellness of Boston's sworn officers after a hard year.

The department, he noted, "has been tested this past year. The Covid pandemic has strained our resources with our officers working long hours in difficult situations. Still the Boston Police Department has answered all the calls to service without hesitation to our citizens."

Both Walsh and White thanked Gross - who attended the ceremony - for his work and commitment to the city as well

"You never waited in your commitment to the well-being of the men and women of the department," White said to Gross. "Your commitment has also been shown in your love for the citizens of the city. I wish you the best ... in your next chapter of life, my brother."

Walsh said one of his proudest moments as mayor was appointing Gross as commissioner in 2018. Gross served the Police Department for 37 years and was Boston's first African-American police commissioner.

"He led the department with passion and purpose," the mayor said. "He embodied a strong spirit of community policing. He made neighborhoods safer and took Boson's national Leadership to a whole new level."

White concluded by expressing his hopes for what's ahead: "I look forward to working closely with the members of the department, communities and all our partners to continue to make the Boston Police Department the best in the country."

Gross's decision to leave the job came as a surprise to most observers, though he had recently discussed the idea of running to succeed Walsh. However, City Hall sources told the *Reporter* last week

that Gross was not going to run, a decision Gross confirmed on WBZ Radio's Nightside with Dan Rea on Thursday.

Gross told the Globe that he always intended to leave his post when Walsh left the mayor's office. He said that Walsh's decision to pick White as his successor had "nothing to do with who is interim this or that," an apparent reference to City Council President Kim Janey, who will be the acting mayor after Walsh's departure. "We're talking about the efficiency of a police department that is going through police reform on a state, local, and federal level. So you want a true leader, and he is a true leader," Gross said of White.

In a statement, Gross said: "It is only after long and careful consideration that I have made the decision to retire from my role. My heart will always remain alongside my brothers and sisters of the BPD, who over the course of my 37-year career have become my village. I will continue to be one of their biggest champions as I move forward with my next chapter."

Gross received praise from other city leaders as well.

At-large Coun-

cillor Annissa Essaibi-George, reacted to Gross, retirement news last Thursday on Twitter. "Congrats on a well deserved retirement @ BPDPCGross. I appreciate your many years of service to our City. Thank you," she wrote.

On Thursday afternoon, Suffolk District Attorney Rachael Rollins said, "Commissioner Gross has been a valued partner in our shared desire to make residents in the city of Boston safe from violence and harm. We have stood shoulder to shoulder at homicides and other violent crime scenes, working together to restore and build on the trust and faith in law enforcement that our communities need to have. I look forward to continuing that critically important work with Acting Commissioner Dennis White."

District 3 City Councillor Frank Baker told the *Reporter* that Gross "did an outstanding job as police commissioner. He is a good-hearted leader who is beloved by his men. I wish the best for him."

The Massachusetts Association of Minority Law Enforcement Officers (MAMLEO) issued a statement on Thursday that praised both Gross and White.

The retired commissioner, the group said, "leaves behind a legacy that includes being the first Black police commissioner to serve the City of Boston. During his tenure, Gross promoted more officers of color than any previous administration. He will always be remembered as the Peoples' Commissioner who has worked tirelessly to make sure both the public and BPD stafffeel supported," the statement read.

Of White, whom MAMLEO called "the second Black police commissioner in Boston's history," the group said: "Commissioner White has worked his way through the ranks, beginning his career as a Patrol Officer in Roxbury, working his way to his current position as Superintendent, Chief of Staff to Commissioner Gross. Last year, White served on the Police Reform Task Force alongside MAM-LEO President Eddy Chrispin. White has been a long-time ally to MAMLEO, among other things helping to achieve open lines of communication between MAMLEO and BPD leadership."

Reporter editor Bill Forry contributed reporting to this story.









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**February 4, 2021** THE REPORTER Page 17 dotnews.com



### **BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF DORCHESTER**



**Volunteer Ventures MA Builds Desks for Learning Hub Members at BGCD:** See details below

CONNECT THE DOT: **Volunteer Ventures MA Builds Desks for Learning Hub Members** at BGCD: Barry Glass, the creator of Desk Mates, a project of Volunteer Ventures MA builds and donates much needed desks to Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester. Barry and his group of talented volunteers built amazing wooden desks for members in our Learning Hubs. BGCD is providing a vital, safe and supportive space for our members to learn during their out of school time, We are able to assist families in our community during out of school learning so parents are confident that their children are supervised by Club staff who help provide a safe and structured work space, as well as provide them with social-emotional support. For more information on Learning Hubs, please contact Vice President of Programming, Brendan McDonald at bmcdonald@bgcdorchester.org.

**FIND OUT WHAT'S INSIDE: BGCD Kicks Off Black History Month with Inspiration Memorials** in Our Lobbies: February is Black History Month which is an annual observance originating in the United States that celebrates African-American history.

To kick off our celebration, our Front Desk staff created inspirational displays in the lobbies of our Marr and McLaughlin buildings. Each display honors past and present heroes that have paved the way for so many in our country and serve as role models for our nation. These displays serve as an educational tool for our young members to learn about their history.

BGCD's staff always encourage our members every day to make a difference in their community and to be the change they want to see in the



Lobbies: See details below **DID YOU KNOW: BGCD Keystone Club Hosts** February Donation Drive: Help **BGCD's Keystone Club give back this** winter season. Our teen leaders are holding a donation drive collecting canned goods to support one of our **local Dorchester Community Fridges** in Fields Corner. A Dorchester Fridge is a small, outdoor food pantry that promotes the moto, "Take What You Need, Leave What You Can. All donations can be dropped off at our Marr Building or Denney Center locations between now and February 26th from 8am - 4pm Monday through Friday. Please do not leave donations

Dorchester, MA 02125. **Denney Location**: 270 Mount Vernon Street, Dorchester, MA 02125 For more information, please contact Teen Director Ariana at anazario@ bgcdorchester.org.

outside of designated hours.

Marr Location: 35 Deer Street,

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### RECENT OBITUARIES

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Grace of Milton, Ann

Marie Driscoll of S. Bos-

ton, Noreen D. Graul

and her husband Thom-

as of E. Greenwich, RI,

Paul T. Driscoll and his

wife Jackie of Milton

and Joan D. Canavan

and her husband Brian

of Milton. Grandmother

of fifteen grandchildren

and seven great-grand-

children. Nora was sis-

ter of the late Mary Dee-

gan, the late Humphrey

Lynch, Francis O'Toole,

Nell Kemmy, and Joan

Lynch, all of Ireland.

where she is survived by

15 nieces and nephews.

She will be missed by her

husband's family: Mary

(Nick) Driscoll, Daniel

Driscoll of Dorchester,

Mary Driscoll Greene

of Braintree, Michael and Margaret Driscoll

Holland of Hanover, Jo-

seph and Mary Driscoll,

Kathleen Driscoll Hynes

and Michael and Ann

Driscoll Moran, all of

Milton, and Patrick and

Bernadette Driscoll of

Dorchester. Donations

may be made in her memory to the American Parkinson's Assn. at ap-

dama@adpaparkinsons.

HOULIHAN, Sister Jane Ann, SC (Sis-

ter Paul Christine) of

Mount Saint Vincent,

Wellesley Hills. A Sister

of Charity for 69 years

who was missioned in

Our Lady of the Angels School, Richmond

Hill, NY; Saint Aidan

School, Williston Park,

NY. Saint Peter School,

Dorchester; Saint Greg-

ory School, Dorches-

ter; Aids Care Center

for Children, Roxbury;

Youville Hospital, Cam-

bridge; Saint Joseph

Home, Dorchester; Eliz-

abeth Seton Residence,

Wellesley; Mount Saint

Daughter of the late Paul

J. and Anna Christine

(Kelly) Houlihan. She is survived by her sis-

ter, Rita Hurley and her

husband, John, of Wey-

mouth, MA; her brother,

Gerald (Mike) Houlihan

and his wife, Kathleen,

of Weymouth, MA; her

sister-in law, Maureen

Houlihan of Marshfield,

MA: her brother-in-law.

Robert Jennings of Wey-

mouth, MA; her closest

friend, Sister William

Noreen Riley, SC (Aun-

tie Dolly); her nephews,

Reverend Paul Hurley,

Peter Hurley and John

Hurley, Brian Houlihan,

Kevin Houlihan, David

Houlihan and Marc Hou-

lihan, Michael and Ste-

phen Jennings; her niec-

es, Susan Kiley, Mary

Beth Jennings, Elaine

Buckley, Paula Leaver-

ton, Annemarie Ng and

Christine Jennings, as

well as many grandniec-

es and nephews and all

her sisters in commu-

nity. Donations may be

made to the Sisters of

Charity, Halifax, 125 Oakland Street, Welles-

Vincent,

Wellesley.



BRUNO, Marianne (Hines), 79, of Quincy, formerly of Dorchester. She was the wife of the late Anthony W. La-Torella. A daughter of the late James Gordon and Dorothy Jordan Hughes. She is survived by her daughters, Patricia (Bebe) Hines of Everett, Annette Kesaris and her husband Anthony of Whitman and Marianne Hines-Juarez and her husband Walter of Dorchester; her sons, Anthony Hines of Dorchester, James Hines of Quincy and Christopher Hines of Quincy; her siblings, Patricia Dempsey of Point Blank, TX and

Kevin Jordan and his wife Brenda McLean of Raynham; her 67 grandchildren, great grandchildren and great-great grandchildren; she also leaves her five nieces and one nephew. She was the mother of the late Robert Hines, sister of the late Thomas Gordon, grandmother of the late Samantha L Pinson and Aunt of the late Linda Pinieri and Michael Pinieri.



CHICK, Priscilla Freeman. She was predeceased by her husband, Parker Newhall Chick, Jr.; her parents, Alvin J. Freeman and Elinor Ferris Freeman of Norfolk, MA; and her brother, David Freeman of Hingham, MA and Bridgton, ME. Priscilla is survived by her brother Jim and his wife Angela Freeman of Sarasota, FL; and by her children, Candace Chick and Mark Jalbert of Dorchester, MA, Penelope Chick and Rory Rothman of Ithaca, NY, and Pamela (Chick) and Dan Paterson of Westwood, MA. She is also survived by six grandchildren. Priscilla is also survived by her many nieces and nephews and their extended families. Memorial donations may be made to St. Christopher's Church, 625 Main Street, Chatham, MA 02633 or Habitat for Humanity of Cape Cod, 411 Main Street, Suite 6, Yarmouth Port, MA 02675.



DOOLEY, John "Sean," 57, of Columbia, CT, formerly of Dorchester. Son of Catherine and the late John Dooley of Dorchester. Husband of Linette (LaRocque) Dooley and father of John "Jack" Dooley. Brother of Mary Dooley of Boston, Barbara Dooley of Dorchester, Kathleen Hickey of Quincy, Margaret Dooley of Dorchester and Karen Stockbridge of Milton and brotherin-law of Steven Stockbridge of Milton. Sean is also survived by eight loving nieces and nephews, aunt, uncles and many cousins. Donation in Sean's memory to the Dana Farber Cancer Institute, P.O. Box 849168 Boston MA 02884 or via

DRISCOLL, Nora E. (Lynch), 88. Wife of the Milton and Palm Beach Gardens, FL. Nora is

dana-farber.org/gift

late J. Frank Driscoll, of survived by six children,

#### **LEGAL NOTICE**

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT **PROBATE & FAMILY COURT** FOLK PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT 24 NEW CHARDON STREET BOSTON, MA 02114 617-788-8300 CITATION ON PETITION

**ASAD SAMUEL GOODLOW** A Change of name has been filed by Asad Samuel Goodlow or Dorchester, MA requesting that

Samuel Moiforay IMPORTANT NOTICE

proceeding.
Witness, HON. BRIAN J DUNN, First Justice of this Court Date: January 25, 2021

Published: February 4, 2021

**Rose**, of Dorchester, for-



ti. She was a dedicated longtime member of the Boston Missionary Baptist Church, Mother of Patrick Leandre of Haiti. Marie is also survived by many friends and extended family both near and far.

MARLEY, Dorothy M. (Hanson), of Dorchester, 75. Dorothy was the longtime girlfriend of the late Martin "Bob" Barter. Mother of Darlene Smith and her husband Mark Barter of Raynham, Glen Smith of Boston, Brian Smith of Canada and Arlene Donovan and her husband Thomas of Raynham. Grandmother "Nana" of 7 and great-grand-



mother of 1. Sister of Regina Dec of Dorchester. She is also survived by several nieces and nephews. Contributions in her memory may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38140.



SORDILLO, Eileen K. (Holloran) of South Boston, formerly Dorchester. She was the wife of Ernest J. Sordillo. Mother Michael Sordillo and his wife Jill of Clemmons, NC, Paul Sordillo of South Boston, Marie Morrison and her husband Joseph of Brockton, Thomas Sordillo and his wife Bridget of Pembroke, and Linda Sordillo of Quincy. Sister of John Holloran, Maureen Monahan, Kathleen Joyce, Peter Holloran, Frances Rizza, Margaret Geary, and the late Joseph Holloran and Barbara Holloran. Grandmother of 5. Also survived by many nieces, nephews, and friends. Donations in memory of Eileen may be made to Autumn Hospice or to the Alzheimer's Associ-

ation.

ROSENBLOOM, Stanley, 83 of Roslindale, formerly of Mattapan. Son of the late Morris and Ethel (Luftman) Rosenbloom and brother of the late John Rosenbloom. He was an employee of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Insurance for over 45 years. He served in the Massachusetts Army National Guard for 8 years. He is survived by his wife of 54 vears Sandra (Addelson); children Michelle, Gail, Barry, and David; his sister Elaine Levine and sister-in-law Joyce Addelson; nephew Mark Levine and niece Rhonda Levin and their families and many cousins and friends. Donations in his name may be made to the National Kidney Foundation.



VISCONTI, Joan Marie (Caine), 86, of Mansfield, formerly of West Roxbury and Dorchester. Wife of Emery J. Visconti. Mother of James J. Visconti and his life partner Louise Benvissuto of North Attleboro and Dennis E. Visconti of Mansfield and his late wife Janet Visconti. Grandmother of 2. Sister of the late Catherine Powlitis, Barbara Mancinelli and Henry Caine, Jr. Donations in Joan's memory may be made to Our Daily Bread, 15A West Street, Mansfield, MA 02048.



WATSON, (Cole), 75, of Hull. Wife of Jeffrey L. Watson. Mother of Kimberly Anne Kingston Esq., Joshua A. Watson (wife Jill Ann Fitzsimmons), and Grandma of 1. Daughter of the late Walter A. and Doris (Murphy) Cole. Sister of Donna M. Mac-Farlane, the late Debra Cole-Epstein, Denise E. Donnelly, Frank X. Cole, Joseph T. Cole, Walter E. Cole. She was "Auntie Di" to her many loved nieces and nephews. She worked tirelessly in the Boston Public School system for almost 40 years, first as a teacher, then as a dedicated school psychologist. Donations may be made in her name to any local chapter of the Alzhei-

mer's Association.

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617-325-6830

info@bcca.comcast.net

TO CHANGE NAME Docket No. SU16C0328CA IN THE MATTER OF:

the court enter a Decree changing their name to:

Any person may appear for ourposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Suffolk Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of **03/04/2021**. This is not a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this

ley, MA 02481. LEANDRE, Marie Register of Probate



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



Harbor Point on the Bay Dorchester, MA

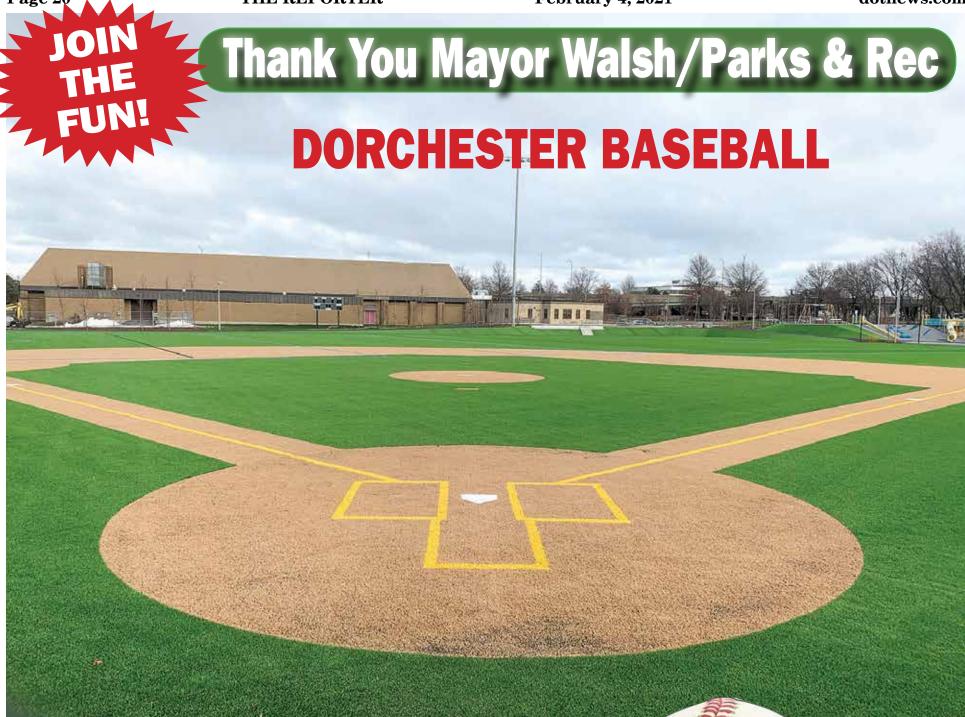


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