

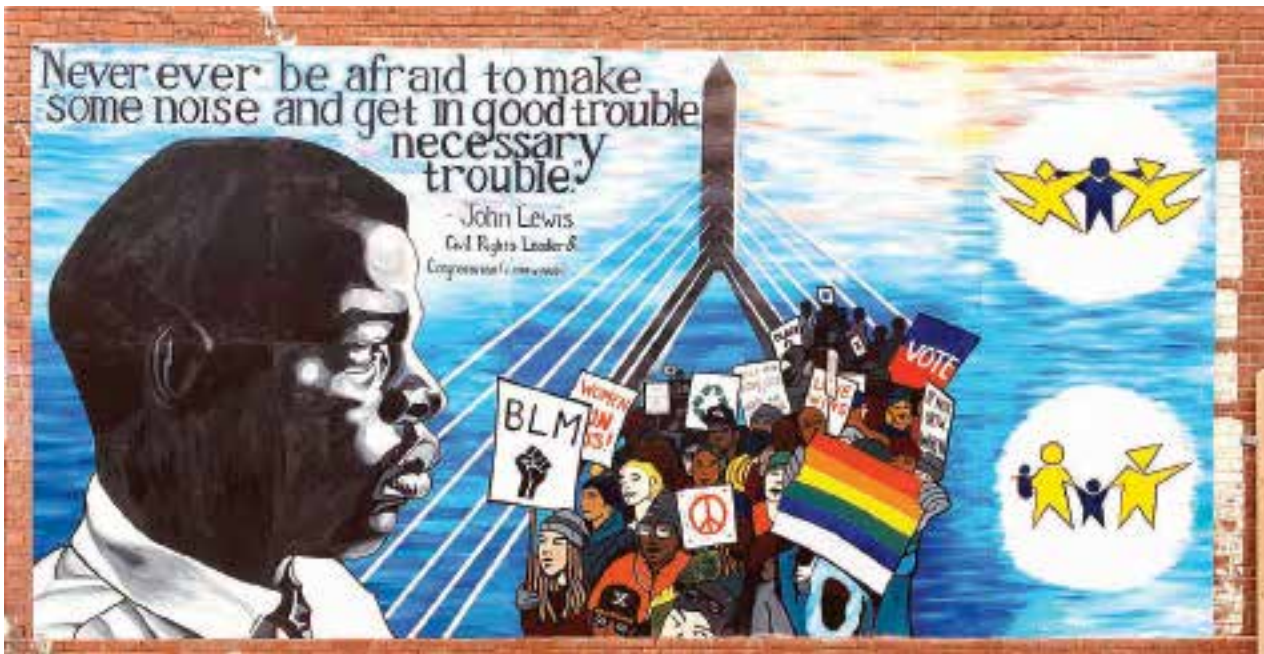
Dorchester Reporter

"The News and Values Around the Neighborhood"

Volume 38 Issue 7

Thursday, February 18, 2021

50¢



"March On," a mural outside the Epiphany School on Centre Street is the work of longtime teacher Ryan Jones. The mural depicts the late Congressman and civil right leader John Lewis and a modern-day scene of activists marching in a Boston setting.

A teacher's murals and drawings enrich Epiphany School's campus



Ryan Jones
Ohio born, now Dot man
Caitlin Cunningham
Photography

BY BILL WALCZAK
REPORTER COLUMNIST

For as long as he can remember, Dorchester's Ryan Jones has loved to draw. "I was super shy and quiet" as a child, he says, and drawing was the outlet he found to express himself.

At his Newark, Ohio, high school, his art teacher, Ms. McRay, helped him develop his skills and talent, especially the creating of portraits using pencil and charcoal, something his mother—also an

artist—favored.

Jones excelled in his classroom and studio artwork, but it was his prowess in football at the school that made him a top recruit for the University of Dayton, where, through his fraternity, he met a graduate who was a minister at a church in Dorchester.

It was through that connection that Ryan learned about a teaching fellowship at the Epiphany School, the innovative middle school and early learning center founded

by Rev. John Finley in 1997 and located near the Shawmut MBTA station. The school, replicated in dozens of communities across America, is tuition-free for its students, the children of economically disadvantaged families from Boston's neighborhoods.

In 2004, Ryan took on an apprenticeship that he has turned into a 17-year career at the school, earning a master's degree in education from (Continued on page 16)

As Boston schools reopen, parents are still opting for remote learning

BY CARRIE JUNG
WBUR REPORTER

Even though more public school students will be able to return to classrooms in the coming weeks, some families in communities most deeply affected by the coronavirus are opting to stay remote.

"I had Covid-19; my mom, my dad, my pops, we all had it," said Shylanda Johnson of Dorchester. "I'm still suffering from the aftermath."

Johnson — like all of the half dozen families



Avery Burton, Shylanda Johnson's youngest child, attends BPS classes remotely from her Dorchester home.
Photo courtesy Shylanda Johnson

who spoke with WBUR — is scared about what the virus might do to her

second and eighth grade kids if they got it.

"Education is number

one," she said. "But also health is, I feel, above that. And there won't be no education if your child is dead and you have to bury your child."

Research shows younger children are more likely to get a mild case of Covid-19 or remain asymptomatic.

So far, about 44 percent of Boston Public School families have decided they would remain remote. Another 44 percent have chosen to return their children to classrooms. Many (Continued on page 13)

Vaccination push is moving doses in 'right direction' as pharmacies pitch in

BY KATIE TROJANO
REPORTER STAFF

With the state's Covid-19 vaccine rollout showing signs of improvement, the whirlwind of news surrounding pandemic issues continued unabated into this week locally and across the state.

Vaccination sites spent the past week driving up the percentage of total doses received and administered. The state Department of Public Health on Monday afternoon reported that 75.2 percent of vaccines shipped had been administered — 1.14 million doses out of 1.52 million. The agency also noted that the number of people who are fully vaccinated is approaching 300,000, and the number of people in the state of Massachusetts who had received their first dose is nearing 850,000.

In an effort that has proved to be problematic, the Baker administration said last week that anyone who accompanies an eligible senior to one of the state's mass vaccination sites can also receive a shot.

Health and Human Services Secretary Marylou Sudders said the new accommodation for trusted family, friends, neighbors, or caregivers to get vaccinated along with vulnerable seniors came after consultation with councils on aging and other advocacy groups. (Continued on page 11)

Updating the rollout of Community Choice Electricity in Boston

BY COLMAN HERMAN
SPECIAL TO THE REPORTER

Back in December, every Boston household and business received a letter from the city about a new energy initiative — the Community Choice Electricity (CCE) program — designed to increase the use of environmentally friendly sources of electricity. But many of the recipients may not have understood the complicated options and set the letter aside, or mistook it for junk mail and tossed it.

What those people likely didn't realize was that by doing nothing, the city was going to



automatically sign them up for the new energy plan they were pitching, which involved switching from Eversource as the "supplier" of the electricity to a new source, Constellation Energy of Maryland. Eversource will continue to be the "deliverer" of the electricity.

How many people actually wound up getting switched?

(Continued on page 12)

All contents
© 2021
Boston
Neighborhood
News, Inc.



Who's looking after your health?

Choose Your Doctor Today.

Call 617-696-8809 for help selecting a Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital-Milton primary care physician or specialist.



Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital
Milton

Police, Courts & Fire



Firefighters took advantage of the top-floor porch of an adjoining three-decker to hose down the flames at 47 Woolson St last Thursday night. BPD photo

16 adults, 6 children
ousted by three-alarm
blaze on Woolson St.

Boston firefighters responded to an alarm at a three-decker at 47 Woolson St. in Mattapan around 9:15 p.m. last Thursday for what became a three-alarm fire that started on a rear porch, then spread to the second and third floors. At 9:30 p.m., firefighters were ordered off the roof. A few minutes after that, they were ordered out of the building to enter adjoining buildings with hoses to keep the fire from spreading. The BFD reports that 22 people— 16 adults and 6 children— were displaced by the fire.

Man murdered on Evans Street
mourned by family as devoted dad



Brandon D. Williams

The family of 32-year-old man who was shot to death on Evans Street on the night of Feb. 4, issued a statement late last week that said, in part: “On Feb.4, 2021, our beloved son, devoted father, and adored family member, Brandon D. Williams, was taken from us suddenly. We are so grateful for everyone that has reached out to offer your prayers and support. Brandon was a beautiful soul that will be missed by all who ever had the opportunity to meet him.”

The family held a private memorial service for him last Saturday.

Boston Police say they are continuing to investigate his murder. No suspects or motive for the deadly assault has been released by law enforcement or his family.

Police have asked for anyone with information in the case to call detectives at 617-343-4470 or to phone the anonymous Crimestoppers line at 1-800-494-TIPS.

Williams was the oldest of the four children of Stephanie Giles and Willie T. Williams, Jr., according to Stephanie Everett, who is a cousin to the family.

According to Everett, Brandon and his father relocated to Jacksonville, Florida, when he

was a toddler and he spent most of his young life there, graduating from Jean Ribault High School in 1998.

“In 2016, Brandon and his girlfriend became proud and doting parents to a daughter. A year ago, she was hospitalized and Brandon moved back to Boston to care for her. He worked 3 jobs to provide for his daughter,” the statement reads.

“Brandon will be remembered by our family for his love of fishing and cooking. In our darkest moments, we are comforted by the beautiful memories we were able to share with Brandon and the sun of Brandon’s aura that now shines brightly over his daughter.

We miss Brandon tremendously and ask that you continue to let the

family grieve and please continue to keep us in your prayers.”

City Councillor Julia Mejia, who lives nearby the crime scene, used social media to post about the murder, prompting criticism by some neighbors and Williams family members.

“I wanted to apologize to those who were exposed to the live Facebook post I shared last week,” Mejia wrote. “I responded as a parent, a neighbor, and someone who uses social media to amplify. My sincere condolences to my neighbors as they grieve the loss of their loved one. I have deleted the posts and have reached out to the family to apologize.”

— REPORTER
STAFF

No civil rights charges against
Rollins, Healey’s office decides

By Deborah Becker
WBUR Reporter

Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey last week said she will not bring charges against Suffolk County District Attorney Rachael Rollins after investigating an alleged disagreement in a Boston parking lot. But she has referred the matter to the state’s Ethics Commission.

“After conducting interviews and reviewing the available documentation and videos, we find no civil rights violations or violations of criminal statutes,” said the letter from First Assistant Attorney General Mary Strother.

Healey’s office in-

vestigated a written complaint from Katie Lawson, of Dorchester, alleging that Rollins threatened to issue her a ticket and flashed her car’s emergency lights as they were both trying to exit the South Bay Plaza parking lot in December.

Lawson told investigators that when she tried to merge into parking lot traffic on Christmas Eve, Rollins used her car to try to block her and told Lawson “Don’t try me lady, today is not the day.”

Strother’s letter says Rollins denies threatening a ticket and Lawson says a Boston police detective inaccurately wrote in a police report that Lawson had claimed

Rollins drove through an intersection with her emergency lights flashing. Strother also says the video footage of the incident was inconclusive.

Rollins’s attorney, Ronald Sullivan, issued a statement saying the District Attorney is glad Healey conducted a thorough investigation and referred the matter to the Ethics Commission.

“The District Attorney understands that the Attorney General’s office has made a routine referral of this matter to the Massachusetts Ethics Commission,” Sullivan wrote. “DA Rollins welcomes this review after the Attorney General has found no merit to the al-

legations lodged against her and fully expects a quick resolution by the Ethics Commission as well.”

A spokesman for the State Ethics Commission would not confirm or deny whether it received the letter or if it is investigating.

Rollins reportedly is under consideration to become the next US Attorney for Massachusetts. Andrew Lelling is leaving the post at the end of February and will take a job with a Boston law firm.

This story was first reported by WBUR 90.9FM on Feb. 11. The Reporter and WBUR share content through a media partnership.

February 18, 2021

Boys & Girls Club News 17

Opinion/Editorial/Letters 8

Business Directory..... 14

Obituaries 18

Days Remaining Until

Daylight Savings Time 24

St. Patrick’s Day..... 27

Passover 37

Easter..... 45

Quadracentennial of Dot 3,598

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, MA 02125

NEWS ROOM: (617) 436-1222

ADVERTISING: (617) 436-1222

FAX PHONE: (617) 825-5516

SUBSCRIPTIONS: (617) 436-1222

UPCOMING CIVIC MEETINGS AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

Historical Society program examines life of William Monroe Trotter — Historian Kerri Greenidge, author of “Black Radical: The Life and Times of William Monroe Trotter” will speak during a Zoom call organized by the Dorchester Historical Society on Sun., Feb. 21 at 2 p.m. Trotter, who lived in Dorchester, was the publisher of the Guardian, a weekly newspaper in Boston for more than 30 years. Go to dorchesterhistoricalsociety.org to register.

The Boston State Community Trust, Inc. a subsidiary of the Boston State Hospital Citizens Advisory Committee, Inc. is requesting grant proposals from community-based organizations located in the neighborhoods of Roxbury, Mattapan, Dorchester, Jamaica Plain, Hyde Park, and Roslindale. This funding round invites proposals in the following funding categories: Education & Job Training Initiatives; Youth Recreation & Social Development Initiatives; and Mental Health Initiatives. A maximum of \$10,000 per organization will be distributed in this funding round. The proposals will only be available for distribution to interested parties via electronic mail on Mon., March 1, between 8 a.m. and 6 pm. On March 1st interested parties must submit an electronic mail request for a copy and identify the organization that

is requesting the RFP. If the organization is not identified, the RFP will not be distributed. The electronic mail request must be submitted to: bjohnson@bevcoassociates.comcastbiz.net. The Boston State Community Trust reserves the right to suspend, withdraw, or amend the aforementioned RFP without prior notice.

Boston Praise Radio hosts Covid-19 programming — Boston Praise Radio and TV will air informational broadcasts about Covid-19 and the Black Community this month through March 30 on Mondays from 7-8 p.m. and Tuesdays from 12-2 p.m. Tune in on bostonpraiseradio.tv or on Roku, Apple-TV and TuneIn Radio.

Quincy College hosts virtual open house for its 7-10 week Nursing program on Thurs., Feb. 25 from 4-5 p.m. Register at QuincyCollege.edu/Nurse or email lpeckham@quincycollege.edu or call 617-984-1715.

UMass ‘fireside chat’ features Councillor Janey, new chancellor— UMass Boston will host a virtual event on Thurs., Feb. 18 featuring Chancellor Marcelo Suárez-Orozco, City Council President Kim Janey and panel of other community leaders in what the university calls a “fireside chat” to discuss how UMass can contribute to solutions important to Boston and urban communities. The

event is set to run from 9:30 a.m.-11 a.m. Register online at DotNews.com.

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 needed 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 pays the household’s fuel vendor directly. Right now the maximum fuel assistance benefit is \$875. Last year the top benefit was \$1,140.

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.

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.

SEND UPDATES TO
NEWSEDITOR@DOTNEWS.COM
SEE NEW EVENTS DAILY
AT DOTNEWS.COM

City Life/Vida Urbana vigils support Ashmont tenants facing no-fault eviction

By Katie Pedersen
Special to The Reporter

Despite current federal and state restrictions on evictions involving rental debt, no-fault evictions, which often stem from a landlord's desire to "flip" property or attract higher-paying tenants, exist in a legal gray zone without the same protections.

"This loophole is plaguing families across Boston and Massachusetts, leading to evictions and displacement in an extremely dangerous moment for our collective health," says Steve Meacham, coordinator of Organizing for City Life/Vida Urbana, which last week rallied outside a property near Codman Square where tenants are facing evictions they fear will mean homelessness for them.

When the Covid-19 pandemic hit, Stephania Pierre-Noel put her health on the line as a frontline worker at a local nursing home. Now, just a year later, she faces eviction from her home for the last nine years, 740 Washington St.

Her downstairs neighbor, Jean Gaspard, who has lived at the property on the edge of Ashmont Hill for 13 years, is con-

'We're being pushed out at an alarming rate'



Frank Sharpe won a reprieve in his "no-fault" eviction last Friday.

Photo courtesy City Life/Vida Urbana

fronting the same fate. "We've been good tenants," Pierre-Noel said. "Paying rent on time, no problem."

Nevertheless, they claim, their new landlord, who was not identified at last Wednesday night's vigil, has gone to extreme measures to push them out since inheriting the property from her deceased former employer last year.

Gaspard describes the level of harassment he's faced as "too much for me. She messed up everything downstairs. She took away my stove. She took away everything," he said, noting that he has been living without a fridge or access to his

laundry machine for months.

According to City Life/Vida Urbana organizer Antonio Ennis, "This is a tactic that the landlord is using to frustrate him, to shame him, and push him out of here hoping that he'll leave. That's a tactic that we're not going to tolerate."

Efforts by the Reporter to reach the owner, Susan Rose of Randolph, by phone this week were unsuccessful. The property is in a realty trust.

The Massachusetts Trial Court has reported that 449 eviction cases were executed across in the state last December, despite the moratorium on renters' evictions the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) ordered last year.

During the pandemic, no-fault evictions are proving to have serious consequences. According to Ennis, "People with pre-existing health conditions are compromising themselves by going into shelters."

Frank Sharpe, a disabled 71-year-old Vietnam veteran living at 25 Lawrence Ave. in

Dorchester, is currently facing that prospect. After receiving his eviction notice he applied for housing through the Boston Planning & Development Agency (BPDA) and through Metro Housing.

"I'm waiting for the opportunity to be placed. I need more time," he said.

Ennis discussed Sharpe's plight at the vigil. "He used to own his house, but he fell on hard times. The bank decided to do a short sale. Frank didn't have City Life at the time. He lost his home to a landlord who paid half of what Frank paid for the home," said Ennis.

"If the bank can take this property and sell it to someone else for half of what they sold it to Frank for, why couldn't they just sell it to Frank? It's simple. And it's this simplistic stuff that is predatory against people of color in this community. Because Frank didn't know his rights, they took advantage of him. He understands what happened. He took it on the chin. He's a soldier. All he's asking for is more time."

On Friday, two days after the rally, Sharpe received just that—more



A group of tenant activists gathered outside of a property at 740 Washington St. in Dorchester last week to protest "no-fault" evictions of two residents.

Katie Pedersen photo

time—after Judge Anne Kenney Chaplin, an associate justice in the state's Eastern Housing Court, ordered that his eviction be postponed until May 10. The reprieve came after an attorney representing Sharpe—Maggie Gribben of Greater Boston Legal Services—showed evidence that Sharpe has been able to make his rent payments.

Pierre-Noel and Gaspard are confident that they, too, can win their respective fights with the help of City Life/Vida Urbana.

Pierre-Noel said that when she received her eviction notice, "I didn't know what to do. Then I started to do my research and I found out about City Life. And I spoke to a great person who is Steve [Meacham], and ever since he's been helping. And I've been feeling better. I've been

going to a meeting every Tuesday, me and Jean, and that's why we're here today, so we can win this. And we believe we're gonna win it."

Gaspard added, "When it's your time, I'm going to be on your side, too."

Ennis closed the vigil with a call for collective action.

"This situation is very dear to me because this is my community and I grew up around here," he said. "And I don't like what's happening. We're being pushed out at an alarming rate. And for me, it's very important that the people who are not in-tune to these issues become aware because maybe [no-fault eviction] hasn't affected them, but that doesn't mean that it won't."

"When more people care, then more people come out and then we can fight this thing," he added.



Get a Better Car. Or Just a Better Payment.

NEW LOW RATES

as low as **2.49%** APR*
Auto Loans

PURCHASE: Avoid the finance guy and get more dealer price incentives!

REFI: Redo your current loan and pay less every month!

Apply **FAST** Online at memberspluscu.org



**Members Plus
Credit Union**

To us, banking is personal.

memberspluscu.org

781-805-1500

Medford Norwood Dorchester Everett Plymouth

*APR – Annual Percentage Rate. 2.49% APR for up to 48-month term. Monthly repayment of \$21.51 per \$1,000.00 borrowed. Payment does not reflect credit life and/or disability insurance and may differ slightly due to rounding. APRs are based upon credit score. Rates listed above reflect excellent credit scores. Other rates and terms available. Rates effective 8/14/2020 and are subject to change without notice. Membership requires a \$25 deposit in a share/savings account.



Hunt tapped to lead Mass. House committee on stimulus, census

**By BILL FORRY
EDITOR**

State Rep. Dan Hunt will lead a new House committee charged with scrutinizing the allocation of federal stimulus funds and census data, an appointment that marks the Dorchester Democrat's highest-profile legislative role to date.

It's the first committee chairmanship for Hunt, who was elected in 2014 to replace Mayor Walsh as the representative in the 13th Suffolk district, which includes Neponset, Cedar Grove, Adams Corner, St. Mark's Area, Clam Point, parts of Fields Corner, and one precinct in Quincy.

The selection, announced last Friday by Speaker Ron Mariano, makes Hunt a key player in how state lawmakers



Dan Hunt: His first chairmanship

approach the distribution of federal relief dollars, vaccine supply, and, eventually, in the reorganization of political districts based on data from the 2020 US Census.

"This is my first chairmanship and obviously I am very excited and I appreciate the faith Speaker Mariano has in me," said Hunt, who will

also maintain a role on the House Rules committee, which has been one of his tasks from the last legislative session.

The new panel that Hunt will lead will be tasked with reviewing federal spending, including stimulus bills and block grants, and recommending ways Massachusetts can tap into additional federal resources. It will also work with a special redistricting committee—led by Brighton's Rep. Mike Moran, a key member of Mariano's leadership team— "to ensure continued communication with all stakeholders, including the Secretary of State's office, and to ensure the Commonwealth has the necessary structure and resources in place for an accurate and complete census

count," Mariano's office said.

The census oversight role could prove critical in the way that Covid-19 vaccine doses and relief funds are apportioned, since such federal resources are sent to states on a "per capita basis." While Massachusetts is projected to see growth in its population—as much as 5 percent by some estimates—that actual count won't be known until later this year.

Last week, in a surprise announcement, the US Census Bureau announced that it now plans to deliver redistricting data to states by Sept. 30, instead of by March 31, a delay that will complicate efforts by state legislatures to redraw Congressional and legislative districts this year—as is required

every 10 years.

Redrawing the boundaries of districts to reflect population shifts is a job the Massachusetts Legislature faces pressure to complete in time for the 2022 elections.

More immediately, Hunt's committee will likely grapple with decisions made by the Baker administration on how to award grant dollars intended to stimulate the state's economy.

On Tuesday, Hunt said: "We believe that the economy is hurting now and we'd like to get grants out the door to make sure businesses, especially our restaurants, survive."

His committee is one of several that will likely give additional oversight to how Massachusetts approaches Covid-19 response and recovery.

Mariano also named Rep. William Driscoll of Milton, who has a background in disaster response and emergency management, to lead a new Joint Committee on Covid-19 and Emergency Preparedness and Management. Rep. Jon Santiago of Boston's South End, who works as an emergency room doctor at Boston Medical Center, will be the House vice-chair.

Mariano said last week that the Baker administration's vaccine rollout has been "marked by communications and operational shortcomings" that need to be corrected, in part guided by feedback from the Legislature, as the effort continues.

State House News Service reports contributed to this article.

Committee assignments allotted to Dot delegation

**By KATIE TROJANO
REPORTER STAFF**

Speaker of the Massachusetts House Ronald Mariano unveiled the first committee slate of his speakership last week, and Senate President Karen Spilka released assignments for her branch as well.

Sen. Nick Collins, who represents large parts of Dorchester and

Mattapan in the 1st Suffolk District, will chair the Senate committee on Community Development and Small business. He was also named vice chair of the committee on Bonding and Cannabis Policy.

Sen. Sonia Chang-Diaz, who also represents parts of both neighborhoods, will chair a joint committee on Cannabis

Policy and she will serve on panels focused on redistricting and "reimagining" the state's post-pandemic resiliency.

Rep. Dan Hunt, of Dorchester's 13th Suffolk, who will chair the House committee on Federal Stimulus and Census Oversight (formerly Redistricting), will also serve on the

following panels: Operations, Facilities and Building Security, and the Special Committee on Redistricting and Reapportionment.

Rep. Liz Miranda, who has represented the 5th Suffolk District since Jan. 2019, was named vice chair of the Committee on Human Resources and Employee Engagement, and will

serve on the committees on Public Safety, Veterans and Federal Affairs, Homeland Security, and Community Development and Small Business.

Rep. Russell Holmes will be on the committees on Bonding, Capital Expenditures and State Assets, Ways and Means, Global Warming and Climate Change, and


Veterans and Federal Affairs.

Holmes, a vocal critic of former Speaker Robert DeLeo, told the *Reporter* on Tuesday that he sees "very little difference" in how the committees have been assigned under Mariano.

"I plan on moving much of my agenda through Ways and Means," he

(Continued next page)






**WRITING
THE FUTURE**

BASQUIAT

**AND THE HIP-HOP
GENERATION**

Limited tickets available at
[MFA.ORG/BASQUIAT](https://mfa.org/basquiat)

Become a member
and visit for free

 **Museum of
Fine Arts Boston**

Sponsored by
BANK OF AMERICA

Jean-Michel Basquiat, *Anthony Clark*, 1985. Acrylic, oil, and collage on wood.
Private Collection, courtesy of T. Shafrazi Gallery, Image and Crown and Signature
© Estate of Jean-Michel Basquiat. Licensed by Artime, New York.

Walsh passes committee muster; home rule petition awaits Beacon Hill hearing

By BILL FORRY
EDITOR

A US Senate committee moved ahead Mayor Marty Walsh's nomination to be the next US Labor Secretary last Thursday in a rapid-fire vote that has positioned him for a likely confirmation vote before the full US Senate next week. The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions voted 18-4 to "report favorable" on Walsh's nomination.

The vote came after a hearing on Feb. 4 where Walsh breezed through a series of questions posed by Democrats and Republicans on the panel. It is not yet clear when the full Senate will take up the nomination, but Walsh is expected to be confirmed with the body under Democratic control.

Meanwhile, with Walsh's departure from City Hall now



Mayor Walsh responds to a senator at his committee hearing in the Capitol on Feb. 11

just days away, a bill that would bypass a special election to replace him awaits action on Beacon Hill. Rep. Chynah Tyler (D-Roxbury) filed the

bill — House D1757 — on Feb. 11. It has been assigned to the House Committee on Election Law, now chaired by Rep. Dan Ryan of Charlestown. It is not

yet clear if the bill will get a hearing this week or next. As with all home rule petitions, the measure must be approved by the city council, the mayor, the Legislature and the governor to become law.

Murphy makes it official: Erin Murphy, a Dorchester resident, mother of three and longtime public school teacher who ran for city council at-large in 2019, said on Tuesday that she's going to join a widening field of people who will seek election to a citywide council seat this year.

"I am running for City Council because now more than ever Boston needs leaders who understand the urgency of getting our kids and teachers safely back in classrooms, our local businesses up and thriving again, and our good jobs back to stay," Murphy said in



a statement to the *Reporter* on Feb. 17. "Recovering from the Covid-19 pandemic may be the greatest challenge our city has ever faced. I am ready to work together with everyone who believes that Boston's future is bright, but only if we are united in our common purpose of a better city for all."

Murphy finished sixth in the Nov. 2019 general election, a strong placement for a first-time candidate. Candidates for council at-large have until May 18 to gather signatures to get on the ballot for the Sept. 21 preliminary election.

Committee assignments allotted to Dot delegation

said in a phone interview. "I'm no longer a vice chair and I still think that not having a Black person in leadership is, to me, just not the appropriate thing. The assignments were delivered by the speaker, which I think is a bad way to do business."

He added: "One piece of legislation that I've been advocating for years is

that we should never have special elections. I'm hoping it gets a little more attention with what's happening this year," a reference to a home rule petitions to override special mayoral elections in Boston and Lawrence.

Rep. Brandy Fluker-Oakley, who was elected to the 12th Suffolk District seat

last year, will serve on the Community Development and Small Business panel, along with Judiciary, Racial Equity, Civil Rights and Inclusion, Transportation, and Community Development and Small Business.

"As a candidate, I campaigned for the State House to create a joint committee to address

long-standing racism in Massachusetts and I'm ecstatic to serve on the newly established Joint Committee on Racial Equity, Civil Rights, and Inclusion," she told the *Reporter* this week, adding:

"I am also excited to work with Chair Hunt to ensure that the census results in equitable representation and to

provide much needed resources to our communities that have been hit the hardest by the pandemic."

Rep. David Biele, whose 4th Suffolk District includes precincts in South Boston and parts of Dorchester, will serve on the Economic Development and Emerging Technologies and Export Development panels.

Though the joint committees are made up of members from both branches, representatives outnumber senators on the panels, giving the House and the House chair the upper hand in the joint committee structure.

State House News Service reports were incorporated into this article.

Your doctor at your convenience.

Book virtual or in-person appointment today.

SAFE

AND

READY

Nibal Harati, MD

Hoa Tran, NP

John Ferrante, MD

Xiping Ren, MD

Natalia Ganson Myskhin, MD

Phi Tran, MD

Sue Lee, MD

Alex Griffin, MD

SAFE AND READY TO CARE FOR YOU

Camey Hospital's Center for Primary Care offers patients easy access to quality primary care with the added benefit of the full range of services and specialists offered by the hospital. We are committed to making it easy to schedule a primary care appointment. Our primary care providers can usually provide same day appointments. [Book virtual or in-person appointments today at 617-506-4970.](#)

Camey Hospital's Center for Primary Care
Selon Medical Building | 2110 Dorchester Ave | Dorchester MA 02124 | 617-506-4970
cameyhospital.org/services-directory/primary-care

Camey Hospital
A HYWARD FAMILY HOSPITAL

Her art plumbs the change in what being home means

By DANIEL SHEEHAN
ARTS & FEATURES
EDITOR

An upcoming show at Kingston Gallery in the South End will feature in its main gallery an exhibition by the artist Susan Greer Emmerson, a Dorchester resident.

“Unraveling,” a solo collection of paintings and sculptures inspired by the changing relationship people have with their home due to factors of climate change and biohazards, will be on display from March 3-March 28, with an



Susan Greer Emmerson opening reception to take place on Fri., March 5 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

In her work, Emmerson uses paint as well as debris and materials used in the creation of

houses, such as Tyvek paper and electrical wire, to make abstracted structures that evoke both ruin and rebuilding. In a statement, she described how she sees the safety of home as an illusion, considering how stability is rendered futile by man-made climate disasters, mass evictions, and other forces.

“This past year has changed the relationship many have with home,” she said. “For some, it has been a site of confinement, of forced isolation



Hireath #3, ink, charcoal and gouache on paper, 22 x 30 inches, 2020.
Image courtesy Kingston Gallery



Tom O'Neill
Experience
Integrity
Results
617-721-5966
tponeill2@gmail.com
SUCCESS!
REAL ESTATE

New Dorchester Listing!

5-7 Adanac Terrace – \$975,000.



Desired Ashmont Neighborhood:

- Two-family
- Private Driveway
- On Cul-De-Sac
- 2 Car Garage

Close proximity to the Red Line's Ashmont Station

and loneliness. It has been a place to grieve normalcy and human lives.”

Emmerson has exhibited extensively throughout the Boston area and the Midwest. She also has participated as a juror and a co-curator and has four times been awarded residencies at the Vermont Studio Center and also at the Torpedo Factory in Virginia and Virginia Center for Creative Arts.

Originally from the Midwest where she practiced for nearly two decades as an ear, nose, and throat surgeon, she received her BFA in Painting from Illinois State University and her MFA from Lesley University College of Art and Design in Boston.

Her work is found in the Grove Hall Public Library's permanent collections in Boston and in the Blooming-ton-Normal Transpor-


tation Center and City Hall in Illinois. She is a member of the Kingston Gallery in Boston.

Visitors to the gallery are required to wear masks at all times and maintain physical distancing. Capacity will be set at six visitors at a time, with some flexibility for families larger than six people.

For more details about the exhibition, visit kingstongallery.com.

BLACK LIVES MATTER

CODMAN SQUARE HEALTH CENTER STANDS WITH OUR COMMUNITY IN FIGHTING RACIAL INJUSTICE



MEET THE CANDIDATES

MAYORAL & COUNCIL CANDIDATE INTERVIEWS

Presented by WARD 15 DEMOCRATIC PARTY COMMITTEE



ANNISSA ESSAIBI GEORGE

JULIA MEJIA

You're Invited

In a pubic webinar, the Ward 15 (Dorchester) Democratic Party Committee will interview the candidate for Mayor of Boston, Annisssa Essaibi George and Julia Mejia for her second term as an At-Large City Councilor in Boston.

Saturday, February 20, 2021

(10:00– 10:40 AM Committee business meeting)
10:45 – 11:00 AM Julia Mejia interview
11:00 – 11:15 AM Annisssa Essaibi George interview

Join the meeting as a guest:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88045653591>

Or join by phone: +1 312 626 6799
Webinar ID: 880 4565 3591 (Find these links on
Facebook: www.facebook.com/ward.15.dems
Twitter @Ward15B)

It is believed that the Ward 15 interviews will be among the first public opportunities to hear from mayoral candidates in the short sprint to the special election in the Spring.
The interview of candidates for public office is part of the annual cycle of activities in the endorsement process of the Ward 15 Democratic Party Committee.

Reporter's

People

News about people
in and around our Neighborhoods

New stall at Epiphany School boasts Winters Farmers Market

By DANIEL SHEEHAN
REPORTER STAFF

Mass Farmers Markets and the Dorchester Winter Farmers Market unveiled a new structure at the Epiphany School near the Shawmut T station last Thursday that will serve as a food access point in the neighborhood for food-insecure families to obtain fresh fruits and vegetables.

The structure, a wooden, winterized market stall, can be set up and torn down for storage by two people in under 60 minutes with a minimal set of tools.

The Epiphany stall is the first of its kind in Massachusetts, and Mass Farmers Markets plan to erect nine more at various winter farmers markets across the state over the next few weeks as part of its 2021 Winter Farmers Market Initiative, an effort to uphold safe access to affordable healthy foods for families struggling this winter.

The vision for the stall materialized six months ago as Edith Murnane, executive director of Mass Farmers Markets, set out to find a solution to keep farmers markets open during a winter that has seen heightened food insecurity rates across Massachusetts due to the Covid-19 pandemic. “The vision behind the Winter Farmers Market Initiative is to ensure that Massachusetts residents can access all the benefits of farmers markets during this and future winters while managing exposure to this and future pandemics by creating habitable outdoor market environments,” explained Murnane. Inspired by the famous Christmas markets in Europe, Murnane and



Officials from Mass Farmers Markets, Dorchester Winter Farmers Market, Epiphany School and the Mayor's Office of Food Access unveiled the first winter market stall, shown below, outside the Epiphany School on Thursday.

a team of local professionals — designers, architects, engineers, green builders, and planners — set out to devise a solution that would create a hospitable outdoor vending environment at farmers markets.

The team, made up of the urbanist Sarah Howard; Steven Nutter, AICP of Place Practice in Somerville; Rick Williams and Phil Lemarche of Exhibit Technology in Leominster; and Arick Dyrda, a military veteran and owner of Design Build Boston, created a set of modular market stalls that can be set up at the beginning of the winter season and easily disassembled in early spring for storage.

More importantly, all materials and fabrications are locally sourced and produced to invest back

into the local economy. Access to farm-fresh products during the winter and early spring months is especially important because it is at farmers markets that residents can access their Healthy Incentive Program benefits, which provide \$40/\$60/\$80 extra food money to SNAP households. With one of the highest unemployment rates in the nation, Massachusetts residents need access to these extra food dollars now more than ever. And this winter season — as consumers are looking to shop in as safe and healthy manner as possible, meaning outdoors, in the open air — will be extremely important. The Dorchester Winter Farmers Market “has been bringing fresh food to Dorchester through local farms



since 2013,” said Cynthia Loesch-Johnson, organizer of the market and president of the Codman Square Neighborhood Council. “We are excited to partner with the Epiphany School and the Mayor's Office of Food Access to ensure our most vulnerable

Dorchester families have access to farm fresh food every week. We thank the Mass Farmers for its support of our efforts to improve the health of the Dorchester community and we look forward to utilizing this new outdoor stall, which will allow us to safely distribute

food to the community.” Reverend John Finley, head of Epiphany School, said the school is “honored to be hosting this creative new resource. Whether growing vegetables here on campus or helping families create their own gardens or working with partners like Mass Farmers Markets on food distribution, our teachers and our students are committed to bringing ever more healthy food into our community. COVID's tough, but we will get through this together.”

The initial Pilot Phase of the project has received funding from the state in Gov. Baker's FY2021 budget and is sponsored by state Rep. Liz Malia representing the 11th Suffolk District, and state Sen. Becca Rauch representing Norfolk, Bristol, and Middlesex Counties.

The funding was critical to provide the market stalls at no cost to the Dorchester Winter Farmers Markets and five other sites. While farmers markets in Massachusetts are deemed essential, they are often volunteer-run and lack funding for infrastructure purchases, especially when a systemic crisis arises such as the COVID-19 pandemic.

This important investment in the state's local food system infrastructure is seen as providing for greater food access, security, and resiliency in Massachusetts. For more information about the Dorchester Winter Farmers Market or to make a donation to the 2021 Winter Farmers Market Initiative, visit massfarmersmarkets.org/2021winterinitiative.

YESTERYEAR ARCHIVE

DORCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Reminder: The historian Kerri Greenidge will speak about her book “Black Radical: The Life and Times of William Monroe Trotter” at a Society program to be presented through Zoom this coming Sunday, Feb. 21, at 2 pm. Anyone wanting to attend should email Earl Taylor at earltaylor@dorchhistsoc@gmail.com, and he will send back a link for the meeting.

...

William Sharp and the “Victoria Regia”

Active as a lithographer and photographer on Dexter Street, Washington Village (today's Andrew Square), William Sharp lived and worked at the same address starting in the late 1850s. Sharp would have been a Dorchester resident except that the Washington Village area was



taken from Dorchester and added to South Boston in 1855. Father-in-law of James Wallace Black, he apparently learned the photographic process from Black, and added photography to his repertoire in 1858.

An English emigrant to American, Sharp arrived in the United States in 1839 and worked on perfecting the recently developed chromolithographic process during the following decades. The culmination of his efforts

was the publication of the illustrations for John Fisk Allen's “Victoria Regia,” or “The Great Water Lily of America” in 1854. For the publication, six illustrations in all were executed on elephant folio sheets. The most beautiful of all these images are these four, showing the stages from the beginning of the Bloom to the Complete Bloom.

To achieve the proper coloration, four separately inked stones were utilized. The resultant images are among the finest botanical chromolithographs ever published. Chromolithographs were first executed around 1835 in England and France. As opposed to hand-colored lithographs, which consisted of printing the image in black and white and then adding color by hand, chromolithography

called for the printing of the image in successive stages of color. Initial attempts in chromolithography used two stones in the creation of any image. The first stone was normally inked in black. After the image was thus defined, a second stone inked in one color was applied to the black and white image. As the process was refined, more colored stones were utilized in creating the final colored image. Sharp's illustrations for Allen's “Victoria Regia” are among the most sumptuous images using the medium ever done, and major landmarks in the history of printmaking.

The archive of these historical posts can be viewed on the blog at dorchesterhistorical-society.org.

Editorial

Outrage on Evans Street

The murder of 32-year-old Brandon D. Williams, who was shot to death by an unknown assailant outside his family home on Evans Street on Feb. 4, continues to roil his neighborhood. Unfortunately, too much of the outrage stirred by the atrocity has centered on the actions of one of his neighbors, City Councillor-at-Large Julia Mejia, instead of on the unknown person(s) who took his life.

On the night of the incident, Mejia filmed the scene outside of her home and livestreamed it on Facebook. She later took down her video, posted a non-graphic photo, and added a mournful statement about the murder.

Mejia came under intense criticism for her earlier response, particularly from LiveBoston, an organization that responds to crime scenes and posts images and information online. It alleged that Mejia was uncooperative with police on the scene. Relatives of the victim and other members of the community at-large also scolded Mejia for the lack of judgment and sensitivity she had shown by posting apparently unfiltered images from the scene. (The Reporter has not seen the video.)

Mejia quickly apologized via her social media feed: “I responded first as a mother, as a neighbor, and wasn’t thinking about being a city councillor. I responded in a way that if I had to do it again, I wouldn’t do it...I also know the impact on those that were exposed to it. I apologize for that. I reached out to the family and apologized for the hurt that it caused.”

Mejia’s misstep and the subsequent backlash should challenge all of us to re-think how violence and trauma impact our neighborhood — and consider how we react ourselves. Large parts of Dorchester — multiple thousands of our neighbors — have been victimized over and over again for decades by sustained acts of violence that, like the murder of Brandon William (to date), remain unsolved.

This is where the true outrage should be centered: There are murderers in our midst walking free — and not just the killer or killers of Brandon Williams, who, by all accounts, was “a beautiful soul,” as described by his family in a statement issued the day of his funeral last Saturday.

How is one supposed to react when a person is gunned down on your street?

Are we supposed to seal ourselves off in our kitchen or living room, put aside our smartphones, and speak of it no more, but for the rote messages of condolence and thoughts and prayers?

Or should we venture out, engage with neighbors, share the news and express our outrage that someone has been slain on our block?

In our collective rush to indict Mejia for her decision, have we stopped to ask ourselves why anyone in this neighborhood should have to make such a horrible decision?

It’s a fine line, particularly for an elected official. But who draws that line? Mejia did not seek out an act of violence to populate her social media platforms. The murderer(s) came to her front stoop. Had they not — and had she not posted an ill-advised video in that moment — would we still even be writing and talking about the killing of Brandon Williams? The truth is: It’s unlikely we would.

Black and brown Bostonians account for most of the murder victims in this city and their deaths are succinctly recorded and, most often, forgotten about in quick succession. In many instances, the cases turn cold before a week can pass.

Perhaps an unintended consequence of the councillor’s roundly condemned error will be to keep the cause of justice in Brandon Williams’s murder at the center of our attention. Maybe, in this case, it will be different.

—Bill Forry

BPS students speak 74 languages, so let’s make it easier for them to learn

BY ADLINE JUSTE
SPECIAL TO THE REPORTER

Growing up in Vero Beach, Florida, I acted as a translator between my mother and my teachers. My mom, a native Haitian-Creole speaker, was still learning English and my school didn’t have staff able to speak our home language. I even served as a translator during parent-teacher conferences.

Looking back, I can see that this need for translation resources created a barrier to a better education for me and countless other children.

The need for translation is an issue in Boston, too, where 31 percent of Boston Public Schools (BPS) students are English language learners. Students here speak more than 74 languages, but teachers and staff in BPS aren’t reflective of the diverse student population.

Last May, early on in the pandemic, BPS reported that at least 10,000 students may be virtual dropouts; many of the students who account for this number are also English language learners. Among many things the virtual dropout rate highlights is the need for new resources for students and their families who are learning English. This would help to promote school success and greater community integration.

BPS need not start from scratch. Already, BPS offers dual language or two-way bilingual programs, where English language learners are taught in both their native language and English. However, these programs are only available at select schools and only for Haitian Creole or Spanish-speaking students.

For a year, I worked as a teacher’s assistant with ninth-grade BPS students, including many who spoke my first language, Haitian Creole. A teacher’s assistant that I worked closely with took the initiative to translate students’ math curriculum from English to Haitian Creole to better support their needs. I often translated for many parents and teachers.

During parent-teacher conferences, I would often observe and actively listen to the dialogue between the teachers and parents of students that I worked with closely. However, in one instance I noticed that the parents/guardians of one of my students were simply nodding instead of verbally communicating with the teacher. I was immediately reminded of my mother — I knew the student of these parents/



Adline Juste

guardians spoke Haitian-Creole, so I decided to ask them if they wanted me to translate.

It turned out that they couldn’t fully understand everything their child’s teacher was articulating during their conversation and they had concerns they wanted to convey. After deciding to actively translate, teachers and parents were able to fully understand each other and communicate their respective thoughts and concerns regarding the student. I ended up translating for the parents/guardians of my student as they met with different teachers; at the end of the night, they thanked me repeatedly.

Yet these are isolated cases. The majority of the time, English language learners are expected to learn a curriculum in a language that they have not yet mastered, while their parents are expected to navigate their children’s educations.

BPS schools that are currently offering dual-language programs have seen positive results. Expanding these programs across BPS — and to include additional languages — would benefit the educational and social outcomes of English language learners.

BPS should also hire translators. Many parents who are still learning English but want to be involved in their children’s education — parents just like my mom — are struggling to do so. Translators would be a major step toward inclusion and better parent-teacher communication.

Pittsburgh Public Schools, where the student population speaks roughly 50 languages, provides a roadmap. The district incorporated the TransPerfect phone service, freelance translators and multilingual classroom assistants. Although they still face many challenges, Pittsburgh families have responded positively to the availability of these resources.

A positive consequence of pursuing these efforts is that BPS teachers and staff would become more racially, ethnically, and culturally diverse. Having access to representative teachers allows students to advocate for themselves and to reach out when they need services or supports. Academic performance may also improve.

Implementing these programs will require a great deal of time and money. But just imagine what new opportunities will arise when children and their parents are given the tools to better communicate and understand what they are learning.

Adline Juste is a graduate student at the Boston College School of Social Work.

Early education access bill gets boost

BY KATIE LANNAN
STATE HOUSE
NEWS SERVICE

Massachusetts would gradually establish a universal system of early education and childcare from birth through age 5 under a new and pricey bill backed by a statewide coalition of more than 120 groups.

The Common Start Coalition said the pandemic has underscored how critical early education and childcare are for families and the economy, and access remains out of reach for many. The coalition is coordinated by a committee consisting of the Coalition for Social Justice, Greater Boston Legal Services, Jewish Alliance for Law and Social Action, Mass. Association of Early Education and Care, Mass. Business Roundtable, the Commission on the Status of Women, Neighborhood Villages, Parenting Journey, Progressive Democrats of Massachusetts, SEIU Local 509 and Strategies for Children.

The bill’s sponsors are Reps. Ken Gordon and Adrian Madaro and Sens. Susan Moran and Jason Lewis, co-chairman of the Education Committee.

The bill proposes a five-year rollout that supporters say would prioritize lowest-income, highest-need families. It would create a new direct-to-provider funding allocation, based on capacity rather than attendance. Once fully implemented, families earning less than half the statewide median income would be able to access early education and childcare options for free, and families above that threshold would pay up to 7 percent of their total household income.

The proposed program would also cover after- and out-of-school time for kids aged 5-12, and through age 15 for those with special needs.

A December poll conducted for the coalition by Beacon Research indicated voter support for the concept. Asked about state government subsidizing the cost of childcare with extended hours and a sliding-scale fee that would be free to families below a certain income threshold, 64 percent of 800 voters surveyed said they backed the idea and 23 percent opposed.

A coalition official said supporters envision funds being allocated from the state and federal governments.

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

News Room Phone: 617-436-1222, ext. 17

Advertising: 617-436-1222 x14 E-mail: newseditor@dotnews.com

The Reporter is not liable for errors appearing in advertisements beyond the cost of the space occupied by the error.

The right is reserved by The Reporter to edit, reject, or cut any copy without notice.

Member: Dorchester Board of Trade, Mattapan Board of Trade

Next Issue: Thursday, February 25, 2021

Next week's Deadline: Monday, February 22 at 4 p.m.

Published weekly on Thursday mornings

All contents © Copyright 2021 Boston Neighborhood News, Inc.

Letter to the Editor

Baker’s poor response to pandemic no surprise

To the Editor:

It is not surprising that our current governor is floundering in managing the pandemic. His background in health insurance and his affiliation to the Republican Party suggests a vision of a private, profit-making health system. Such a system does not serve the people well.

The lack of a fully functional public health infrastructure is resulting in a disorganized effort of various for-profit entities getting involved in the effort to get the vaccines out to the public. The reliance on ‘start-ups’ to have bright ideas as to how to do this shows a remarkable lack of knowledge about, and perhaps lack of respect for, public health practice and expertise.

The systematic defunding of public health has proceeded as Pentagon funding has ballooned in recent decades, with cuts in funding to other public institutions such as schools, transportation, and housing. Government, also a public institution, has a key role to play, and contrary to pro-profit propaganda, government programs are not less efficient than profit-seeking enterprise.

We must learn from this experience and fund a public health system that will be able to cope effectively with, yes, the next pandemic.

Rosemary Kean
Dorchester People for Peace and Justice

Pandemic fuels push for more ballot reforms

By CHRIS LISINSKI
STATE HOUSE
NEWS SERVICE

A group of lawmakers will work in the coming weeks to extend COVID-era elections reforms so that they cover this spring’s municipal elections, then turn their attention toward securing a permanent overhaul to the state’s voting system.

A bill that Rep. John Lawn and Sen. Cynthia Creem touted last week has many broad similarities to a recommendation Secretary of State William Galvin made a day earlier. Both would enshrine mail-in and early voting policies and authorize same-day voter registration in Massachusetts.

While they work to build consensus on tackling the long-term proposal, Lawn and Creem said they will also seek action in the short term to ensure that voters can continue to cast ballots by mail and that cities and towns can open early-voting periods in upcoming local elections.

Creem has filed a bill (SD 189) that would push the expiration of those allowances from March 31 to Dec. 31. Lawn said he believes legislative leaders are interested in a three-month extension through June.

“We’re hearing from a lot of city and town clerks who are anxious about planning for this for the April, May, and June elections that are coming up, so that’s something we’re immediately trying to extend to the end of June,” Lawn said.

Lawn, a Watertown Democrat who served as House Election Laws Committee chair last session, and Creem outlined legislation they dubbed the VOTES Act (HD 1536 / SD 1002) that would keep many of last year’s mail-in and early voting reforms permanent.

Under the bill, elections officials would be required to send mail-in ballot applications to all registered voters. A voter could reply with a request to receive mail-in ballots permanently for all future elections until they cancel.

In-person early voting would be offered for at least two weeks before regular state elections and one week before primaries and special elections, while local election officials could choose whether or not to make those options available in municipal contests.

The Lawn and Creem bill overlaps in several

major sections with what Galvin, the state’s chief elections official, proposed on Feb. 9. It goes further in some areas, including clear language requiring sheriffs and corrections officials to distribute information about voting and mail-in ballot applications to eligible inmates.

Bay State residents are not permitted to vote while they are serving a sentence after a felony conviction, though they regain the right once their term is complete.

“Voting is a way of participating and feeling part of a community, and it can play an important role in a successful re-entry from prison,” Creem, a Newton Democrat, said. “Additionally, over half of incarcerated people in Massachusetts are pre-trial and still innocent. They should be able to vote if they want. It is not a privilege, it is a right.”

The bill from Lawn and Creem would also allow prospective voters to register on the same day that they cast a ballot, either on Election Day or on any of the in-person early voting days, and push the voter registration deadline from 20 days before an election to 10 days.

Galvin said that his forthcoming bill would only allow same-day registration on Election Day itself.

Some advocates and lawmakers have pushed same-day registration for years without any success. Janet Domenitz, executive director of MASSPIRG, said at the Wednesday press conference that Massachusetts lags 21 other states that already authorized the policy, echoing a point former Common Cause Massachusetts Pam Wilmot made in 2019.

In 2014, the Senate approved language that would have allowed voters to register and cast ballots in one visit, but the provision did not survive negotiations with the House. During its debate of the Covid-19 elections bill in June 2020, the House rejected same-day registration amendment with a 16-139 vote.

Addressing that vote, Lawn said that lawmakers did not want to put too much pressure on city and town clerks last year given that their jobs were already upended by the pandemic, and acknowledged the lack of consensus around the proposal in the House.

“As much as I’m very supportive of this, we’ve still got work to do with some of our colleagues

who didn’t think it was the right time, which was most of us,” he said. “We do have some work to do with some other legislators, getting on board with same-day voter registration.”

Several voting rights and racial justice advocates said during last Wednesday’s bill unveiling that the legislation would also play an important role in improving equity.

“Communities of color continue to be disproportionately underrepresented in our electoral politics,” said Rahsaan Hall, director of the Racial Justice Program at the ACLU Massachusetts. “National studies have shown that early voting and same-day voter registration increase participation in communities of color, particularly in Black communities.”

Election reform has emerged as a high-profile topic in the early weeks of the 2021-2022 lawmaking session.


Needham Democrat Sen. Becca Rausch unveiled a package of bills Tuesday that, in addition to making mail-in voting permanent, would also allow municipalities to adopt ranked-choice voting systems, designate Election Day as a legal holiday in place of Columbus Day, push the state primary from September to June, modernize the centralized voter registry, and require presidential primary candidates to disclose four years of tax returns to make the Massachusetts ballot.

“These half-dozen bills provide sorely needed upgrades to our antiquated voting systems and forward-thinking updates to our election laws that uplift voters across the Commonwealth,” Rausch said in a statement.

If he is reappointed as the House’s top lawmaker on the Election Laws Committee, Lawn will play an important role in synthesizing the various proposals into a bill that can reach the House and Senate floors.


Asked about differences between his bill, Rausch’s bill and Galvin’s proposal, Lawn replied that “everything’s on the table from every good idea that’s out there.”

“We’re absolutely not in different places,” Creem added about cooperation with the secretary. “We’re going to come up with a bill that he loves as much as we love.”



HARBOR HEALTH
ELDER SERVICE PLAN

A Massachusetts PACE Program




Virtual tours and program enrollment now available!

Live confidently, independently, and safely in your own home.

LEARN MORE about the PACE program, an exceptional alternative to a nursing home. Offering personalized healthcare and all-inclusive services to aging individuals to keep them independent and at home.

- Visit ElderServicePlan.Org -



1135 Morton Street, Mattapan

QUINCY COLLEGE

New 7 & 10 WEEK COURSES
MARCH 1 & MARCH 24

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO REGISTER FOR SPRING!



INTERESTED IN A CAREER IN HEALTHCARE?
NURSING VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE

Learn more about Quincy College's Practical Nursing (10-month) and Associate of Science in Nursing (two-year) programs.

During the information session, we will review requirements and expectations of each program as well as costs and financial aid. Scholarships available!

NURSING VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE DATES

WEDNESDAY	FEBRUARY 17TH	11:00AM-12:00PM
THURSDAY	FEBRUARY 25TH	4:00PM-5:00PM

REGISTER FOR A SESSION AT:
QUINCYCOLLEGE.EDU/NURSE

QUESTIONS? CONTACT: LINDSAY PECKHAM AT
LPECKHAM@QUINCYCOLLEGE.EDU, 617-984-1715



inspires

‘Twindemic’ averted: Flu rates low in Mass., across the nation

**BY CAREY GOLDBERG
WBUR REPORTER**

Dr. Daniel Solomon wasn’t just scared of a bad flu season. With the coronavirus still circulating, he was scared of even a normal flu season.

“I was concerned about overwhelming our hospital capacity,” he said. “Our ICUs have been running on a thin margin, and I was concerned that if there was an additional surge of influenza, we just wouldn’t have the resources to care for patients.”

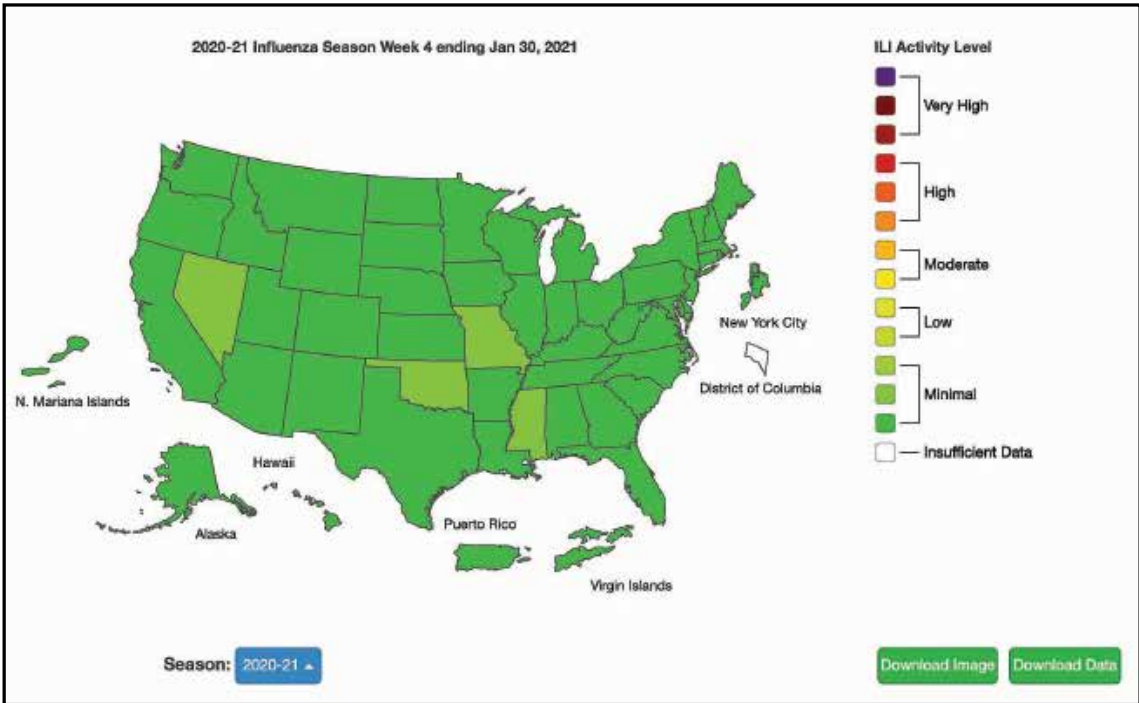
Solomon is an infectious diseases doctor at Brigham and Women’s Hospital, where he and colleagues review the flu numbers at weekly meetings.

“And we say, ‘Is there any flu activity yet?’ And we always hear, week after week, ‘No.’ So it’s been incredibly mild,” he said. “And there’s this prevailing feeling of amazement and relief that we’re not facing a concurrent epidemic of influenza and Covid.”

In the fall, public health experts in Boston and beyond were dreading the prospect of such a “twindemic.” Now, it’s increasingly clear that, thankfully, this has been the flu season that wasn’t.

Federal flu maps use a traffic-light color scheme — green when flu is low, yellow when it’s medium, and red when it’s high. Here in Massachusetts and around the country, the maps would normally show plenty of yellow and red by February. But this year they’re pure green.

And it’s not just flu that’s low. Dr. Eileen Costello, the



chief of ambulatory pediatrics at Boston Medical Center, said it’s other viruses as well.

“We have seen dramatically reduced rates of influenza this year and respiratory syncytial virus, which is a viral infection of infants and very young children that we see,” she said. “It’s the meat and potatoes of every pediatric practice in America, and we’re not seeing it at all this year.”

Basically, “flu season hasn’t started,” said Dr. Lynnette Brammer from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

She would know. She’s the country’s lead flu tracker, and she says this is the mildest season since the current tracking system began in 2009.

“I hate to date myself, but this is my 30th flu season in the flu division. I think I can pretty safely say this is certainly the lowest flu season I’ve ever seen,” she said.

Many factors appear to be at work. “Most obviously are the mitigation measures that are in place to try and slow down the COVID pandemic: wearing a mask, washing your hands, keeping a distance,” Brammer said. “Those things are probably having a huge impact on influenza.”

Also, a big drop in travel, especially international travel, and more people getting flu vaccines.

Brammer said much can be learned from this low flu season that could apply in more normal, non-pandemic

times. Of course, no one wants pandemic-style restrictions every winter. “But it might be worth considering that in flu season, particularly if it’s a bad one, you might want to consider mask use, particularly for people that are very vulnerable. There’s going to be a lot to think about.”

And many calculations to be made.

“The problem, of course, is that there are tradeoffs,” said Daniel Solomon from Brigham and Women’s. “And the measures we took this year have just had unbelievable costs.”

They range from the toll isolation has taken on many people, including older adults and people who live in long-term care facilities, and learning loss in schools.

Solomon predicts major efforts to analyze which tradeoffs make sense for a more normal year. He’d like to see a nuanced approach to flu season — for example, wearing masks in crowded indoor settings, but not outdoors. He also hopes flu vaccines will be required for schoolchildren, as they were last year in Massachusetts, although the measure generated some controversy.

Normally, the flu kills tens of thousands of Americans every year, including dozens of children. Dr. Jeb Teichman, from the nonprofit Families Fighting Flu, said that last flu season, 188 children died, matching the highest number the CDC has recorded.

This season is very different. “It’s just amazing,” he said. “So far, through week four, that’s through the end of January, one pediatric death.”

He said the record 192 million flu shots given this season were a good match for the flu strains going around. “And my crystal ball, which is really fuzzy, is going to tell me that with the way the SARS-CoV-2 is changing and variants showing up, we’ll be getting a flu shot every year and a Covid booster.”

Flu season lasts through early spring, so experts are saying that although it’s looking like a record-low year, it’s still too early to feel all the way out of the woods.

This article was published by WBUR 90.9FM on Feb. 10. The Reporter and WBUR share content through a media partnership.

COMPLETE CARE ALL IN ONE PLACE!

- ✓ Codman Square Health Center offers comprehensive dental care for the whole family – including children, teenagers, and young adults.
- ✓ Codman has dental staff who specialize in treating youth and young adults. Our gentle approach keeps kids comfortable and happy!



Call
(617) 822-8271
..... or visit
CODMAN.ORG
to make an
appointment for
your child.



CODMAN SQUARE HEALTH CENTER, 637 WASHINGTON ST., DORCHESTER, MA 02124 | (617) 822-8271 | CODMAN.ORG

WE CAN HELP PAY YOUR HEATING BILLS!

You may qualify for **ABCD's Fuel Assistance Program** and be eligible for as much as **\$875** towards your heating costs (oil, gas, or electric).

Maximum benefit is \$875

Household of 1 = \$39,105
Household of 2 = \$51,137
Household of 3 = \$63,169
Household of 4 = \$75,201

APPLY TODAY!
Last day to apply is April 30, 2021

Residents of **Boston, Brookline, and Newton:**
178 Tremont Street, Boston, MA — 617.357.6012

Residents of **Malden, Medford, Everett, Melrose, Stoneham, Winchester and Woburn:**
18 Dartmouth Street, Malden, MA — 781.322.6284



bostonabcd.org/fuel-assistance
178 Tremont Street Boston MA 02111

Vaccine push moving doses in ‘right direction’; pharmacies pitch in

(Continued from page 1)

cates for older adults.

It didn't take long for news of strangers calling elderly residents and offering to pay to take them to get a vaccine shot, a result Baker deplored, warning senior citizens not to share their personal information if they are contacted by someone unfamiliar offering to transport them to a mass vaccination site.

Boston City Councillor Andrea Campbell called for the state to rescind the “companion” policy. She had previously urged Baker to lower the age eligibility as well.

“We know the health disparities — Black people, especially Black men, often don’t make it to 75,” she said. “The state should rescind this policy or limit it to Massachusetts residents 65 and older accompanying, and immediately open up appointments to these other individuals.”

Meanwhile, Sudders also noted that some 30 new retail pharmacy sites are opening at CVS and Walgreens locations around the state, and that 30,000 of the new appointments will be at pharmacies.

With Massachusetts now receiving about 108,000 doses



Gov. Charlie Baker, Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito, and Health and Human Services Secretary Marylou Sudders observed a COVID-19 vaccination in progress on Feb. 11 at East Boston Health Center.

Nancy Lane/Boston Herald/Pool photo

of Pfizer and Moderna vaccine a week from the federal government, Sudders said, the state will post 100,000 appointments this week, including 74,000 new appointments that will be added online on Thursday. At Boston City Hall last week, Mayor Walsh urged

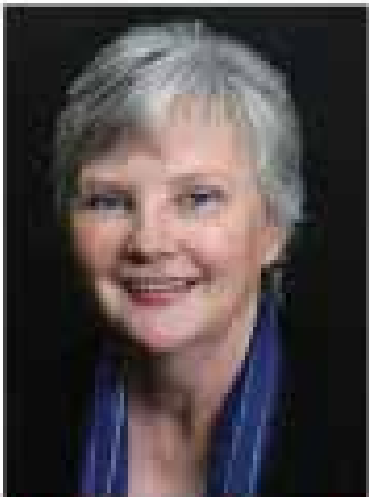
Bostonians to seek out weekly tests even as the case load in the city is “heading in the right direction.”

“Testing does remain critical even as the vaccine becomes available to more groups,” he said. “Get tested once a week if at all possible.”

The city continues to collaborate with the state on vaccine rollout, Walsh said, noting that several vaccination sites are up and running in the city, including the Reggie Lewis Center in Roxbury, Fenway Park, multiple sites operated by Community Health Centers, and 8 pharmacy locations.

Baker: Get vaccine, even if you had Covid

Massachusetts residents should still seek a coronavirus vaccine when they become eligible even if they have previously contracted the highly infectious virus, Gov. Baker said last week. He touted the protection a vaccine can offer against newer strains of the coronavirus that were first identified in other countries and have been spreading in the United States in recent weeks.



MARY KELLY
marykelly@jackconway.com

DON'T MISS OUT ON AN
INCREDIBLE REAL ESTATE MARKET!

Thinking of buying or selling?

As a top agent at Conway, I have the marketing, negotiating and industry skills to successfully get you from listed to sold.

Conway
CITYSIDE

CALL ME TODAY! 617.697.3019

Conway-Cityside • 748A Adams Street • Dorchester, MA 02121 • jackconway.com

Buyer		Seller	Address		Date	Price
Dyer, Margaret		Gile, Timothy J	60 Gibson St #104	Dorchester	01/29/21	\$322,000
MMH Talbot LLC		505-507 Talbot Ave LLC	505-507 Talbot Ave	Dorchester	01/29/21	1,450,000
Springer, Darian C		StLouis, Mary	70 Lyndhurst St	Dorchester	01/25/21	690,000
Il Investments LLC		Barron James F Est	6 King St	Dorchester	01/29/21	649,500
Storie, Ryan P	Storie, Amanda R	Mary F Nolan RET	23 Train St	Dorchester	01/29/21	803,250
King, Melissa A	Benson, Yvonne T	Fromkin, Caroline	6 Treadway Rd	Dorchester	01/29/21	895,000
Rodrigues, Antonio		Awudo, Mawuena	7 Vassar St	Dorchester	01/29/21	950,000
Mongo, Alexia		Balestra, Albert A	39 Elmont St	Dorchester	01/25/21	600,000
Nguyen, Linh K	Nguyen, Bach T	Lindesay, Dona	19 Westcott St	Dorchester	01/29/21	505,000
Icebox Pie LLC		82 Fuller Street RT	82 Fuller St	Dorchester	01/29/21	992,500
Felix, Donald	Felix, Rachel V	Mcgough, Michael	30 Beaumont St	Dorchester	01/28/21	1,955,000
Riley, Scott M	Sullivan, Kelly M	40 Plain Street RT	40 Plain St	Dorchester	01/29/21	665,000
Le, Kim L		Kelleher, Richard T	579-581 Ashmont St	Dorchester	01/26/21	775,000
Gilles, Shieda R		Mcgrath FT	300 Minot St	Dorchester	01/26/21	541,000
Fahie, Danae C	Fahie, Devin M	Azores, Marcia	6 Donwood Ter	Mattapan	01/28/21	629,000
Delva-Charles, Iriele	Dorlean, Jean C	Dockett, James A	113 Wellington Hill St	Mattapan	12/15/20	425,000
Nguyen, Tuan V	Dam, Diem	Nguyen, Hieu T	36 Hosmer St	Mattapan	01/29/21	1,200,000
Maloney, James J		Mulkern, Maureen	159 Walnut St	Dorchester	01/29/21	500,000
Marshall, Oliver	Vernerey, Allison	Sturtevant, Eve S	166 Boston St #3	Dorchester	01/28/21	630,000
Snow, Anthony		Docarmo-Werner, Filipe	45 Fottler Rd #3	Mattapan	01/29/21	268,000
Fitzgerald, Paul M		Johnson, Maiah A	22 Jerome St #2	Dorchester	12/22/20	420,000
Bell, Natalie	Georgi, David	Jackson, Benjamin B	27 Samoset St #C	Dorchester	01/25/21	450,000
Hurley, Jordan		Duncan, Jahfree	34-36 Howe St #2	Dorchester	01/29/21	425,000
Mousavian, Seyedamirabbas	Madraki, Golshan	Shields, Michelle E	45 Nightingale St #B	Dorchester	01/25/21	430,000
Gosselin, Kristopher	Mcgrath, Aidan J	Gosselin, Sara	615-C Adams St #615C	Dorchester	01/27/21	685,000
Dunbar, Ryan		Stubbs, Scott D	24 Thelma Rd #3	Dorchester	01/28/21	641,000
Lan-Nguyen, Phuong T		Vong, Christina	407 Adams St #407	Dorchester	01/25/21	330,000
Lungelow, Latasha C		Trinity Ashmont 2 HO LP	1971 Dorchester Ave #5009	Dorchester	01/26/21	243,200
Rutnik, Jordan M		11 Carson Street LLC	11 Carson St #2	Dorchester	01/28/21	615,000
Mitchell, Kenneth A		Beckford, Phillip A	21-A Dacia St	Dorchester	01/28/21	725,000
Wendover Dreams LLC		Wendover Street RT	Wendover St #B	Dorchester	01/29/21	525,000
Baker, Megan A		Ponde House RT	37 Harbor View St #2	Dorchester	01/29/21	180,000

Updating the rollout of Community Choice Electricity in Boston

(Continued from page 1)

About 225,800 Eversource residential and business accounts were eligible for enrollment in the city's CCE program. Of that number, 13,800 opted out, leaving 212,000 accounts that were switched into one of three pricing plans in the CCE program. Of these, about:

210,050 are in the middle pricing plan ("Standard/Default") in which the city automatically enrolled accounts,

1,250 opted down to the least expensive plan ("Optional Basic") and

700 opted up to the most expensive plan



Christopher Cook Cites "clean energy tool"

("Optional Green 100").

The more expensive the plan, the "greener" it is.

All the data reported here were provided by the City of Boston at the request of the *Reporter*. Data were not available

segmented out by residential and business.

Consumer advocate Edgar Dworsky takes issue with how the CCE program was pitched to electricity users.

"Electricity is a commodity. Given the opportunity to save money on it, most people would jump at the chance," says Dworsky, the founder of ConsumerWorld.org and a former Massachusetts assistant attorney general. "But that is not what happened here in Boston where less than one percent affirmatively chose the least expensive plan, Optional Basic. This suggests that few

people actually read or fully understood the city's mailing and did nothing – the exact result the city wanted so it could choose the plan it wanted on their behalf at a higher price."

But Christopher Cook, Mayor Walsh's environment chief, argues that a forceful effort was required. "It's very clear that the climate crisis requires bold action," he told the *Reporter* in December. "So, we need to move on clean energy quicker and this is one of the tools we have to do that."

Boston now joins over 150 other Massachusetts

cities and towns in adopting the CCE program, which is a provision of the commonwealth's electricity law. First approved by the Boston City Council in 2017, it has taken the city three years to find an electricity supplier that was willing to do business with it. Constellation was, in fact, the only company that submitted a bid. There are no penalties that can be imposed on the company if it does not live up to the standards enumerated in the contract.

State law now requires utilities to purchase an increasing amount of power from renewable energy sources every year. The intent of the CCE program is to speed up the process by encouraging electricity users to choose greener energy now. Although alternative electricity suppliers have been around for years, predictably most people have not voluntarily switched over to them.

How much do the savings currently amount to with the cheaper CCE plans? Not much.

The current CCE Constellation rates are 10.9¢ per kilowatt hour (kWh) for the Optional Basic plan, 11.4¢ per kWh for the Standard/Default plan, and 14.7¢ per kWh

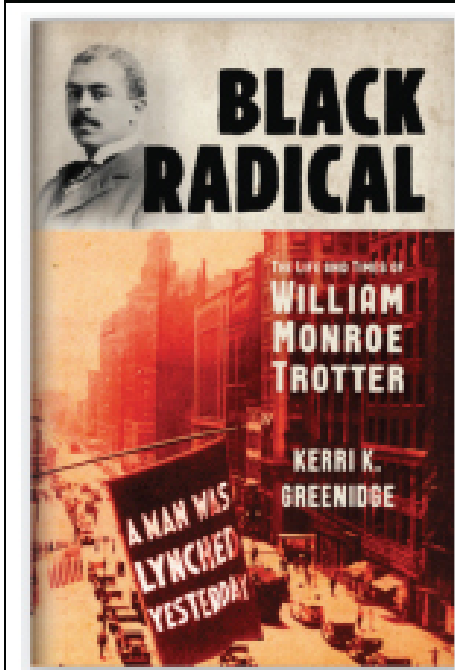
for the Optional Green 100 plan. The rates are guaranteed from February to November, but then could go up, down, or remain the same.

As reported by the city, the basic rate offered by Eversource, the current electricity supplier, is set at 11.8¢ per kWh through June, with the company changing its rates twice a year, in January and July.

The current savings over Eversource now thus amounts to a half penny and a penny per kWh with the Standard/Default and Optional Basic plans, respectively. So a customer who consumes 600 kWh per month will save about \$2.40 with the Standard/Default plan and about \$5.40 with the Optional Basic plan. But remember: "Future savings cannot be guaranteed."

This same customer will pay \$17.40 more per month over Eversource for the Optional Green 100 plan.

"We're proud of the program," says David Musselman, director of the city's municipal energy unit. "We think it's a benefit for customers and we're looking forward to having this program in place for a number of years into the future."

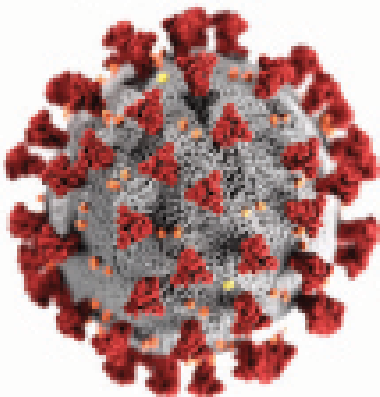


The Dorchester Historical Society welcomes Historian Kerri Greenidge author of *Black Radical: The Life and Times of William Monroe Trotter* Sunday, February 21, 2pm via Zoom*

William Monroe Trotter (1872-1934, in Dorchester 1899-1909) published the *Guardian*, a weekly Boston newspaper, for more than 30 years, bringing his vision of Black liberation to readers across the nation. Learn about this little-known but seminal figure in American history, whose life offers a link between the post-Reconstruction work of Frederick Douglass and Black activism in the modern era.

*Go to dorchestherhistoricalsociety.org to register for the event.

GET THE FACTS COVID-19 & THE BLACK COMMUNITY



**TUNE INTO THE BROADCAST AND HEAR
PASTOR BRUCE WALL
LEONARD LEE & LEON ROCK
INFORM THE BLACK COMMUNITY**

**BOSTON PRAISE RADIO & TV WILL AIR
COVID-19 INFORMATIONAL BROADCAST**

**EVERY MONDAY | 7PM TO 8PM
FEBRUARY 8, 2021 UNTIL MARCH 29, 2021**

**EVERY TUESDAY | 12 PM TO 2 PM
FEBRUARY 9, 2021 UNTIL MARCH 30, 2021**

**WWW.BOSTONPRAISERADIO.TV
ALSO ON: ROKU-TV, APPLE-TV, TUNEIN RADIO**

**"AS BLACK
PEOPLE IN
BOSTON WE
NEED THE
TRUTH ABOUT
THE DANGERS
OF COVID-19
AND HOW WE
CAN PROTECT
OURSELVES,
OUR FAMILIES
AND OUR CITY
RESIDENTS."**

SPONSORED BY BOSTON PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION

As Boston schools reopen, parents still opt for remote learning

(Continued from page 1) parents told WBUR they had concerns about the coronavirus. Some parents said they liked the consistency of staying remote, particularly so late in the school year when many kids would only gain about a dozen days of in-person learning.

Boston Superintendent Brenda Cassellius said she understands why a lot of parents might be hesitant to send their kids back into a school building. “When they see it first hand and have to endure through it, it of course raises the level of anxiety in a family,” she said. “However, all of the metrics seem to be headed in the right direction.”

Parent hesitancy to return has also been at play in the greater Boston area’s charter schools, which predominantly serve families of color. Most charter schools started the year remotely, in large part because that’s what most of the enrolled families preferred.

“We explicitly reached out to families in Boston and Lynn in December and said we could run a very small program for you if you want to come back,” explained Rhonda “Nikki” Barnes, head of the KIPP Academy



Shellina Semexant with her two kids, Joshua and Gina.
Photo courtesy Shellina Semexant

Charter Public School network in Massachusetts. “But they said: no, we are nervous about this virus.”

In a more recent survey, about half of KIPP families said they wanted to come back to classrooms. Barnes said the game changer was the availability of surveillance testing. She explained, it’s not enough to talk about formal research studies that show low transmission in schools.

People want to know what’s happening in their child’s school building. With surveillance

the virus, but she has decided to let them head back into the classroom this spring.

Some parents said they are encouraged by phased-in re-openings. At KIPP, the schools will only add about a dozen new students each month.

“If your friends are able to go there for one, two, three weeks and nothing happens, then you can also go to be part of it,” parent David Nok Daniel said.

KIPP and Boston Public School leaders hope that improved communication and transparency will also help ease parent fears. Like many public schools across the state, BPS developed an online dashboard for parents to check infection rates in the school buildings and have been sharing information from sanitizing and mask policies to ventilation system upgrades.

But for some parents, that’s still not enough.

“For me, it’s not a trust issue,” said Shylanda Johnson. “Why would we want to send our children back to school when there’s a new strain that entered our area?”

Studies are underway to determine how effective the vaccines are against the new variants.

But many school leaders said there are also risks associated with staying remote, such as increased anxiety and depression from the social isolation. And students with certain disabilities are at risk of skill regression and other health issues. That’s why Cassellius says in-person learning needs to at least be an option for families, particularly with how effective the district’s mitigation strategies have been since reopening to additional high needs students in February.

“Knock on wood, we have not yet had a case that’s happened in schools,” said Cassellius. “There’s no 100 percent fool-proof protocol. But all of them together really does act as a pretty strong wall.”

She’s hopeful that as the spring rolls on, more parents will feel comfortable sending their kids back into the classroom.

This article was originally published by WBUR 90.9FM on Feb. 11. The Reporter and WBUR share content through a media partnership.

LEGAL NOTICE

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE & FAMILY COURT
SUFFOLK PROBATE & FAMILY COURT
24 NEW CHARDON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02114
CITATION GIVING NOTICE
OF PETITION FOR
APPOINTMENT OF CONSERVATOR
OR OTHER PROTECTIVE ORDER
PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B,
§5-304, & §5-405
Docket No. SU20P1742PM
IN THE MATTER OF
LARRY J. MALTA
of BOSTON, MA
RESPONDENT
(Person to be Protected/Minor)**

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Marian Manor of Boston, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Larry J. Malta is in need of a Conservator or other protective order and requesting that Lisa Judkins of Sutton, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve With Personal Surety on the bond.

The petition asks the Court to determine that the Respondent is disabled, that a protective order or appointment of a Conservator is necessary, and that the proposed conservator is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court.

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 return date of 03/11/2021. 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 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 request on behalf of the above-named 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: February 04, 2021
Published: February 18, 2021

Do you have news to share about you and your family? Send in your people items to newseditor@dotnews.com or reach us on Twitter @DotNews

BOSTON STATE COMMUNITY TRUST, INC.

REQUEST FOR GRANT PROPOSALS

The Boston State Community Trust, Inc. a subsidiary of the Boston State Hospital Citizens Advisory Committee, Inc. is requesting grant proposals from community-based organizations located in the neighborhoods of Roxbury, Mattapan, Dorchester, Jamaica Plain, Hyde Park, and Roslindale. This funding round invites proposals in the following funding categories: Education & Job Training Initiatives; Youth Recreation & Social Development Initiatives; and Mental Health Initiatives. A maximum of \$10,000.00 per organization will be distributed in this funding round.

The Request for Proposals (RFP) will only be available for distribution to interested parties via electronic mail on Monday, March 1, 2021 between 8:00 am and 6:00 pm. On March 1st interested parties must submit an electronic mail request for a copy of the RFP. All RFP requests must identify the organization that is requesting the RFP. If the organization is not identified, the RFP will not be distributed. NO REQUESTS WILL BE PROCESSED AFTER 6:00 p.m. NO REQUESTS WILL BE HONORED “PRIOR” TO MARCH 1st . Upon submission of the request, an electronic version of the RFP will be forwarded to each respondent. The electronic mail request must be submitted to: bjohnson@bevcoassociates.comcastbiz.net.

The Boston State Community Trust reserves the right to suspend, withdraw, or amend the aforementioned RFP without prior notice.

Effort underway to ‘reimagine’ Main Streets program

By DANIEL SHEEHAN
REPORTER STAFF

Over the course of the past year, Boston’s Main Streets network provided vital support to a number of businesses in Dorchester hit hard by the Covid-19 pandemic. Beyond setting up relief funds, several Main Streets organizations pitched in to help stand-up makeshift outdoor dining areas or to facilitate take-out and delivery services.

Now, the city’s Office of Economic Development has renewed an initiative to “re-imagine” Main Streets, with the goal of maintaining and expanding many of those services going forward.

Natalia Urtubey, director of Small Business for the Mayor’s Office, said the health crisis revealed the importance of those services and indicated a need to build upon their existing framework.

“I think the pandemic has shone a different light on the value of Main

Streets, and on what role the city plays in helping small businesses have access to everything they need to be successful,” she said.

“It made us think about the future of our commercial districts, and what are things each district needs to connect to their neighbors and customers and be integrated in the fabric of the community.”

Last fall, the Office of Economic Development awarded a contract to Boston-based Strategy Matters and CJ Strategies as consultants to lead the Reimagine Boston Main Streets effort. They are now conducting a series of conversations on virtual platforms to get a sense of Boston residents’ perspectives on various Main Streets programs, and to learn what is working and how they could be better.

Feedback sessions began three weeks ago, with ten more scheduled for the coming weeks. So far, said Urtubey, there

has been “great turnout.”

Boston was the first city in the United States to create a Main Streets program, in Roslindale in 1983. Since then, the network has grown to 20 programs, each showing varied success in establishing thriving commercial areas in their districts.

John Barros, Boston’s chief of Economic Development, said that in addition to “expanding and deepening” the services provided by Main Streets, he also hopes to even the playing field by targeting the gaps and weaknesses brought to light by Covid-19.

“In terms of equity issues, we know that the pandemic exacerbated and showed the divide in those businesses who have an online presence, those who can

do delivery, who can engage people who are not necessarily walking by their storefront, and those who couldn’t,” said Barros, a Dorchester resident. “We’re also trying to make sure our small businesses know how to do public contracting...we’ve been holding workshops on how small businesses in our neighborhoods can know about Requests for Proposal, learn how to access those, and even things like what does a good response look like? How can I be talking to the city about the things I need?”

At the local level, the initiative will look to model after the interconnectedness of Dorchester’s Main Streets sectors and increase services such as language access that are vital in such a

diverse part of the city.

“Dorchester has six Main Streets programs. It’s the largest concentration of Main Streets in the city,” said Urtubey. “We have an incredibly diverse and super-connected Main Streets—Fields Corner runs into Ashmont, Four Corners is linked closely to Bowdoin-Geneva...the Main Streets in Dorchester really collaborate a lot to support each other, which is a great way to showcase the work that Main Streets does,” she said.

“We’re hoping to leverage more of that cultural diversity, making sure Vietnamese business owners and Spanish-speaking business owners are connected and have access to the resources they need. What we’re hoping to

get out of some of these conversations is spread awareness about the resources the city brings to the table, and make sure we’re engaging all the businesses in the district.”

A number of feedback sessions for Dorchester-based Main Streets organizations are scheduled for the coming weeks:

Fields Corner on Thurs., Feb. 25 at 5:30 p.m.; Grove Hall/Four Corners/Bowdoin-Geneva/Uphams Corner on Thurs., March 4 at 5:30 p.m.; and Greater Ashmont on Thurs., March 11, at 5:30 p.m.

For more scheduling information and to access virtual meeting links, visit boston.gov/departments/economic-development/boston-main-streets.

City aims to boost paramedics diversity

Boston will offer a new round of scholarships for current EMS members as part of a program to increase diversity and inclusion among the ranks of Boston Emergency Medical Services.

The funds will assist 16 emergency medical technicians who are now beginning their course work at Bunker

Hill Community College (BHCC) to become certified paramedics.

The program is being coordinated through the United Coalition of EMS Providers (UCEP) in partnership with both the Mayor’s Office of Workforce Development and BHCC.

Paramedics are state-certified EMTs

who hold an additional certification that expands the scope of their practice to include complex procedures, such as intubations.

Boston EMS members promoted to the rank of paramedic earn approximately 36 percent more than an EMT.

“Increasing the diversity of our paramedics will result in a direct benefit to inpatient care,” said Boston EMS Chief of Department Jim Hooley.

According to UCEP, 40 percent of personnel hired in the last three years have been

women and 36 percent have identified as Asian, Black or African American, Latinx, or more than two races; however, personnel holding the rank of paramedic are 6 percent persons of color and 19 percent women.

The paramedic certification can cost over \$10,000 to secure.

“The Boston EMS members selected for the paramedic UCEP scholarship are 75 percent women (12 of 16), 37 percent bilingual (6), and 94 percent (15) people of color.”

- DANIEL SHEEHAN



DUFFY ROOFING CO., INC.

ASPHALT SHINGLES • RUBBER ROOFING
• COPPER WORK • SLATE • GUTTERS
• CHIMNEYS

Fully Insured
Free Estimates

617-296-0300

duffyroofing.com

State Reg.
#100253

HANDY HANDS

MAINTENANCE & GENERAL SERVICES

Telephone: 857-800-2333

Minor Interior & Exterior Painting
Minor House & Garage Cleanout
Gutter & Downspout Cleaning
Minor Carpentry
Minor Plumbing
Minor Trash Removal
Minor Assembly Work
Odd Jobs

Gutter/Downspout Cleaning

Free Estimates
• 24 Hour Voicemail
• Friendly Service
We aim to work within your budget
No job too small



A. HOHMANN CO., INC.

• Plumbing
• Heating
• Fuel Oil
• Air Conditioning

DUCTLESS MINI-SPLIT A/C & HEAT PUMP
INSTALLATION, SALES & SERVICE

Water Heaters • General Repairs • Gas & Oil Heating
Installation & Repairs • Gas Fitting & Appliance
Installations • Bath & Kitchen • Remodeling
• Senior Discounts

Master Lic. #12430 **617-282-4300** 1146 Dorchester Avenue

CEDAR GROVE GARDENS

UNIQUE FLORALS & GIFTS

WWW.CEDARGROVEGARDENS.COM

617-825-8582

911 ADAMS STREET DORCHESTER, MA 02124



KERRY CONSTRUCTION, INC.

Snowplowing / Sanding / Salting
Driveways and Parking Lots
Bobcat and Loader Services
Roof Shoveling
Fully Insured

617 825 0592

(617) 436-8828 DAYS
(617) 282-3469

Steinbach’s Service Station Inc.

COMPLETE AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE
321 Adams St., Dorchester 02122
Corner of Gibson Street
State Inspection Center



Flynn Roofing Co.

ASPHALT SHINGLES | RUBBER ROOFS

Commercial | Residential | Licensed | Fully Insured | MA Reg #134410

617-479-3431

FLYNNROOFING.COM FREE ESTIMATES

AUTO BODY REPAIRS

(617) 825-1760
(617) 825-2594
FAX (617) 825-7937

Fitzpatrick Brothers CORPORATION

Free Pick-Up & Delivery Service

150 Centre Street
Dorchester, MA 02124





Delicious Chef-Prepared Food in the Neighborhood

Support our local restaurants
Order online or by phone
Dorchester Reporter recommends
Dot Dining & Take-Away Guide
Great Dining in the neighborhood

Ashmont Grill

Year round outdoor dining
w/heated Private Cubby
Full menu available for online ordering or delivery
Thu-Mon 5-10, Sun 11-3 brunch, 5-8 dinner
ashmontgrill.com
Phone: 617-825-4300

Tavolo Ristorante & Bar

Family Size options available totake out
Book your reservations on RESY
Tues-Sat 5-10
TavoloPizza.com
Phone: 617-822-1918

DotNews/ Dorchester Reporter
supports local restaurants
To advertise here, call 617-436-1222
addesk@dotnews.com

Just like we do, pets need proper dental hygiene

By DR. EDWARD SCETTINO

It was a question from the dentist we all dreaded when we were grow-

Moment of Paws

ing up. “How often do you brush your teeth and are you flossing regularly?” Then, as we aged, we realized how important good dental hygiene is. And, just like us, good dental hygiene is important for our pets.

February is National Pet Dental Health Month! The perfect time to call your veterinarian and schedule a dental check-up.

When we neglect our dental health, it leads to the development of plaque, which leads to tartar. When the tartar penetrates below the gum line, periodontal disease sets in. That is the most common dental issue for dogs and cats, and most pets present signs before the age of three. It can be painful, lead to tooth decay, and, eventually, tooth loss. Poor dental health can also lead to secondary diseases.

When infection sets into the gums, bacteria



Dogs — like Champ — need to practice good dental hygiene, just like their owners. Call your veterinarian and schedule a check-up.

can find their way into the bloodstream and affect organs in the body including the liver, kidneys, and heart.

Common health problems associated with poor oral hygiene include blood or bone infection, diabetes, and high blood pressure. The pain caused by periodontal disease can also trigger poor appetite and lead to weight loss and nutritional deficiencies.

How do you know if your pet has dental disease? Signs include bad breath, red and inflamed

gums, increased salivation, tooth discoloration, lack of interest in favorite chew toys, and poor appetite.

The good news: Prevention is the best medicine. Start your pets on an oral hygiene regimen at an early age to reduce the risk of problems in the future. Discuss the best course of action with your primary veterinarian to see what the best plan is for your pet.

Some tips to get you started:

Brush your pet’s teeth daily to prevent plaque

and tartar buildup (this is a process that involves time and dedication to get your pet used to the toothbrush and brushing). Use a toothbrush designed for pets or a piece of gauze)

Use only toothpaste that’s meant for animals

Offer your pet dental treats that are designed to prevent plaque buildup

Speak with your veterinarian to see if a “dental

health” pet food is appropriate for your pet

Along with preventive measures, dental procedures for pets have come a long way over the last 10-15 years. Many private practices now offer dental services in-house.

During your pet’s next wellness visit, talk to your veterinarian about oral care for your animal, and what steps you can take to make sure they live a long, healthy, and

pain-free life. Talking about this now will have a tremendously positive result in the future.

Dr. Edward Schettino is the president and CEO of the Animal Rescue League of Boston, and has a Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine from the Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University. Pet questions? Email ARL_at_press@arlboston.org.

Indoor exhibits reopen at Franklin Park Zoo



A baby De Brazza’s monkey is among the newcomers to Franklin Park Zoo’s Tropical Forest indoor exhibit.

The Franklin Park Zoo is welcoming guests back to its indoor exhibits now that the facility’s buildings are open in accordance with the City of Boston’s return to Step 1 of Phase 3 of Massachusetts’s reopening plan.

The Tropical Forest, Bird’s World, and Franklin Farm exhibits are all welcoming guests once again at a reduced capacity to ensure a safe experience for all, with capacity limits being strictly enforced in accordance with city and state guidelines.

Visitors will be able to meet a host of new arrivals from the Zoo’s fall baby boom in the indoor Tropical Forest: a western lowland gorilla baby, a pygmy hippo calf, a Baird’s tapir calf, and a De Brazza’s monkey baby.

In a press release, the zoo updated the public on how some of the baby animals have spent their last few months in quarantine: “Even while indoor exhibits have been closed, the dedicated care team at Zoo New England has been providing all of the animals with the same top-notch care as always,” the Zoo’s advisory said.

“As the babies continue to grow, the team has enjoyed observing new milestones and behaviors from the little ones. Ptolemy, the pygmy hippo calf, and Millie, the Baird’s tapir calf, have both been enjoying playing and running with their moms and have been making waves with little laps in their on-exhibit pools.”

Guests can expect to see the hippo, tapir, and

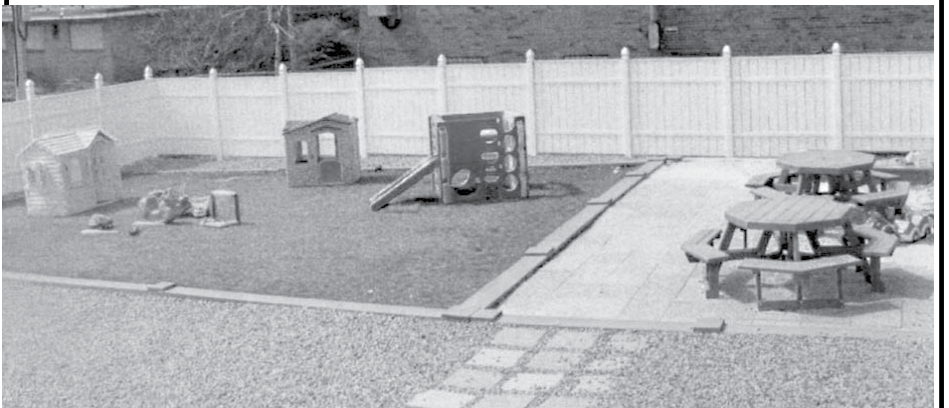
De Brazza’s families on exhibit from 10 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. daily. The gorilla family will have access to their exhibit space beginning at 11:00 a.m.

Tickets to visit Franklin Park Zoo must be purchased online and reserved for a specific time slot. Access to the indoor exhibits is included with general admission. Mask wearing and social distancing is required for all visitors. For more information and to reserve online timed tickets, visit franklinparkzoo.org.



7:30-5:30
15 months -
6 years

DORCHESTER PRESCHOOL PRESCHOOL TODDLER



Secure Play Area – 4000 sq. ft.

617-265-2665

email:dorchesterpreschool@yahoo.com

Lic. #291031

281A Neponset Avenue, Dorchester

Thinking of selling?

We’ve got buyers who want to own in your neighborhood!

Get a **FREE** comparative marketing analysis—find out what your home is really worth in today’s market! *Mention this card.*

Sold in Lower Mills

Sold in Codman Hill

Sold in St. Mark’s

Sold in Savin Hill

Sold in Shawmut

James Harrison
Owner/REALTOR®

Cell: 617-784-8635
617-298-2400
www.BostonBayside.com
james@bostonbayside.com

BOSTON BAYSIDE
PROPERTIES
a real estate company

“This place is AWESOME!! They really listened to what I had to say and stood with me until I found the perfect place! I went through so many different real estate offices until I found these guys who really made me feel comfortable. I recommend their services to anyone!” — Judy S., Boston ★★★★★

A teacher’s murals and drawings enrich Epiphany School’s campus

(Continued from page 1)

Boston College along the way. He is now a sixth-grade lead teacher in reading and writing

He notes that in addition to strong academics and social-emotional supports, Epiphany offers an array of arts programs, including drama, gardening, dance, visual arts, fashion, music, and coding, many in the form of electives led by teachers and based on their interests.

Ryan’s artistic passion led him to draw pencil and charcoal portraits of prominent people of color “to inspire students by drawing people they should learn more about.”

His portraits of Marvin Gaye, James Brown, Ray Charles, “a young” Michael Jackson, and Aaliyah adorn the walls of Epiphany’s middle school. He also created portraits of Michelle and Barack Obama and Maya Angelou for the school’s Early Learning Center, so that the young children there would have strong role models, too.

His most recent, and largest, piece of art is an outdoor mural at



Ryan Jones, a native of Ohio, has settled in Dorchester and teaches at the Epiphany School.

Caitlin Cunningham Photography

Epiphany titled “March On.” It was created via a new medium for Ryan

acrylics on an exterior wall.

The mural depicts the late Congressman

John Lewis watching over Black Lives Matter activists marching over the Bunker Hill-Lenny Zakim Bridge. And it includes Lewis’s well-known advice: “Never ever be afraid to make some noise and get in good trouble, necessary trouble.”

Ryan says that his creation is a “take off on the mural in Selma” that memorializes the “Bloody Sunday” march over the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama, in 1965. He notes that he was inspired to paint this mural after seeing one featuring Nelson Mandela lose its space to a re-development effort in Nubian Square.

“March On,” he says, fits well at Epiphany, a school that celebrates social justice and encourages students to “stand up for people who want equal rights.”

Jones now calls Dorchester his home and walks to work at Epiphany. His portraits have received increasing notice, and he has recently completed several commissions. He has several on a waiting list, but is happy to consider more.

Those with an interest can contact him at creationsbycarmine@gmail.com.

Bill Walczak is a Dorchester resident and former CEO/President of Codman Square Health Center. His column appears weekly in the Reporter.



The late artist Prince in “You Got the Look” as drawn by Ryan Jones.



The late actor Chadwick Boseman as drawn by Ryan Jones in “Purpose.”

WONDERING IF YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO PLAY CLUB HOCKEY? COME TRY OUT FOR ONE OF THE LONGEST RUNNING FRANCHISES IN THE BEST LEAGUE WITH THE BEST COMPETITION AND BEST COACHING AROUND, EASY COMMUTE TO CANTON AND ROCKLAND, BOYS AND GIRLS PROGRAMS FROM LEARN TO PLAY UP THROUGH MIDGET HOCKEY.

BOSTON JR TERRIERS 2021 - 22 SEASON TRYOUTS

CANTON

DEVELOPMENT
WED - 3/17 - 5:00PM
FRI - 3/19 - 5:00PM

MITE MINOR 2019
MON - 3/15 - 5:00PM
TUE - 3/16 - 5:00PM
THUR - 3/18 - 5:00PM

MITE MAJOR 2013
MON - 3/15 - 6:00PM
TUE - 3/16 - 6:00PM
THUR - 3/18 - 6:00PM

SQUIRT MINOR 2012
MON - 3/15 - 5:10PM
TUE - 3/16 - 5:10PM
THUR - 3/18 - 5:10PM

SQUIRT MAJOR 2011
MON - 3/15 - 6:10PM
WED - 3/17 - 5:10PM
THUR - 3/18 - 6:10PM

PEE WEE MINOR 2010
TUE - 3/16 - 6:10PM
WED - 3/17 - 7:10PM
FRI - 3/19 - 7:10PM

PEE WEE MAJOR 2009
MON - 3/15 - 7:10PM
WED - 3/17 - 6:10PM
THUR - 3/18 - 7:10PM

BANTAM MINOR 2008
TUE - 3/16 - 7:10PM
WED - 3/17 - 8:10PM
THUR - 3/18 - 8:10PM

BANTAM MAJOR - 2007 (FULL)
MON - 3/15 - 8:10PM
TUE - 3/16 - 8:10PM
FRI - 3/19 - 8:10PM

GIRLS

THE CANTON SPORTSPLEX IS THE HOME FOR ALL GIRLS TRYOUTS AND PROGRAMS

U8/U10
MON - 3/15 - 7:00PM
WED - 3/17 - 6:00PM
FRI - 3/19 - 5:10PM

U12/U14
TUE - 3/16 - 7:00PM
WED - 3/17 - 7:00PM
FRI - 3/19 - 6:10PM

FOR DETAILED INFORMATION OR QUESTIONS CONTACT
DCURTIS@TERRIERSHOCKEY.COM
781-821-0304
WWW.TERRIERSHOCKEY.COM

ALL TRYOUTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

BAVIS

MITE MINOR 2019
WED - 3/17 - 5:20PM
THUR - 3/18 - 5:20PM
3RD TBA

MITE MAJOR 2013
WED - 3/17 - 6:20PM
THUR - 3/18 - 6:20PM
FRI - 3/19 - 6:20PM

SQUIRT MINOR 2012
TUE - 3/16 - 5:00PM
THUR - 3/18 - 7:20PM
FRI - 3/19 - 5:30PM

SQUIRT MAJOR 2011
TUE - 3/16 - 6:00PM
WED - 3/17 - 6:00PM
THUR - 3/18 - 5:00PM

PEE WEE MINOR 2010
MON - 3/15 - 5:00PM
WED - 3/17 - 5:00PM
THUR - 3/18 - 6:00PM

PEE WEE MAJOR 2009
MON - 3/15 - 6:00PM
TUE - 3/16 - 7:00PM
THUR - 3/18 - 7:00PM

BANTAM MINOR 2008
MON - 3/15 - (A-K) 8:00PM / (L-Z) 8:20PM
WED - 3/17 - (A-K) 8:20PM / (L-Z) 8:00PM
THUR - 3/18 - (ALL) 8:00PM / 8:00PM

BANTAM MAJOR - 2007 (FULL)
MON - 3/15 - 7:00PM
TUE - 3/16 - 8:00PM
WED - 3/17 - 7:00PM

NATIONAL BOUND AND SPLIT SEASON EHF MIDGETS

	U14 - 07	U15 - 06	U16 - 06/05	U18 - 04/03
CANTON	SAT - 3/13 - 5:00PM SUN - 3/14 - 5:00PM SAT - 3/20 - 2:00PM	SAT - 3/13 - 6:00PM SUN - 3/14 - 6:00PM SAT - 3/20 - 3:00PM	SAT - 3/13 - 7:00PM SUN - 3/14 - 7:00PM SAT - 3/20 - 4:00PM	SAT - 3/13 - 8:00PM SUN - 3/14 - 8:00PM SAT - 3/20 - 5:00PM
BAVIS	SAT - 3/13 - 10:00AM SUN - 3/14 - 10:00AM SAT - 3/20 - 10:00AM	SAT - 3/13 - 11:00AM SUN - 3/14 - 11:00AM SAT - 3/20 - 11:00AM	SAT - 3/13 - 12:00PM SUN - 3/14 - 11:00AM SAT - 3/20 - 11:00AM	SAT - 3/13 - 1:00PM SUN - 3/14 - 12:00PM SAT - 3/20 - 12:00PM

BE EMPOWERED.

Enjoy The Outdoors This Spring

Our goal is to empower you to actively manage your pain without the need for more costly, invasive & potentially harmful treatments.

For Your Safety, We Now Offer Telehealth Physical Therapy via Computer, Tablet or SmartPhone.

elliott

PHYSICAL THERAPY

Milton 617.698.8141
Dorchester 617.508.7210
Hingham 781.875.1913
Easton/Brockton 508.559.5108
North Attleboro 508.318.0559

www.elliottphysicaltherapy.com
FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF DORCHESTER



ART CLASSES

ON SALE FEBRUARY 9TH

In All Mediums For All Skill Levels

This Program and the Community Arts Initiative are Generously Funded by the Linde Family Foundation

APPLY ONLINE

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

The Museum of Fine Arts Partners with BGCD for Winter Session: See details below.

CONNECT THE DOT:
The Museum of Fine Arts Partners with BGCD for Winter Session:
Looking to explore the ARTS? Registration for MFA Studio Art Classes during February break and Winter II session are open! The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, offers year-round studio art classes and workshops taught by experienced educators and professional artists in a unique setting. Artists explore a variety of media and fun themes related to the collection. All students/families interested in taking studio classes from Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester will receive a full scholarship to cover course fees. Please complete scholarship form at <https://www.mfa.org/programs/studio-art-classes/studio-art-scholarship-application>. After receiving your scholarship application, a code will be emailed with instructions to register. For questions, contact MFA liaison Ivy Davis ivadavis@mfa.org.

FIND OUT WHAT'S INSIDE:
Sweet Teez Bakery Donates Cupcakes to BGCD for Fun Decorating Challenge: Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester would like to thank Club parent and owner of Sweet Teez Bakery, Teresa Maynard for donating cupcakes and decorating kits to our Learning Hubs. Our members had so much fun decorating their own cupcakes. They created a special challenge by trying to make their own versions of a professionally made unicorn cupcake. Each cupcake came out beautiful and unique, which was so special to each member. Check out BGCD member, Kimilly's cupcake pictured above!

A huge thank you to Sweet Teez Bakery for your continued generosity to Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester. For more information on our Learning Hubs, please contact Brendan McDonald at bmcdonald@bgcdorchester.org.



Sweet Teez Bakery Donates Cupcakes to BGCD for Fun Decorating Challenge: See details below.

DID YOU KNOW:
Don't Miss February BGCD College Fellows & Career Prep Events: Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester's College Fellows & Career Prep Program is wrapping up February with an exciting set of finance career focused workshops including Tuesday at 6pm and Wednesday at 4:30pm. The last events for February include a College Fellows workshop with Gina Bolvin of Bolvin Wealth on Tuesday and guest speaker Justin Cross, Store Manager from TD Bank on Wednesday! Please note our College Fellows session is open to all high school students and do not need to be enrolled at the Club. Keep an eye out for more upcoming College & Career Prep events and workshops coming next month!

To register or for more information, please contact Tricia Chapple at pchapple@bgcdorchester.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Christopher Kimball's Milk Street Cooking Class
February 22

College Fellows Workshop
February 23

Elevate Youth E.A.T Initiative
February 25

Let's Get Ready SAT Prep
February 23 - April 29

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



FIND OUT WHAT'S INSIDE.

617.288.7120 | 1135 Dorchester Ave. | www.bgcdorchester.org

WITH YOU TO CONQUER YOUR DEBT

Begin the new year with one of our low rate solutions to consolidate your debt into one easy payment and put more cash in your hands.*

CityOfBostonCU.com | 617.635.4545
Be sure to mention code: **CONQUER**



RECENT OBITUARIES



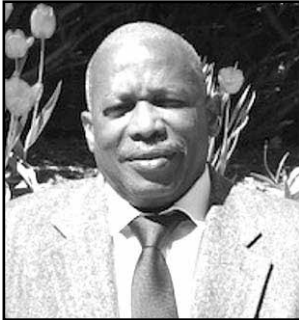
BATTISTE, John Percy, 91, of Mattapan. He was born in New Orleans to Carrie (Richmond) Battiste and John Percy Battiste. Carrie got remarried to Ellis Johnson, who was a loving dad to all of his children. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy (Mitchell) Battiste of Mattapan; sister, Celestine Stokes of Los Angeles, CA; brother, Ellis Johnson (Marguerite) of New Orleans, LA; several nieces and nephews. John was predeceased in death by his parents, stepfather, Ellis Johnson; brother,

David Charles Battiste; sisters, Carrie Battiste and Stella Johnson. He served in the U.S. Armed Forces until 1953.



GIBBONS, Marilyn, 74, of Dorchester. Wife of Edward P. Gibbons. Daughter of the late Eileen T. (Ryan) and Edward J. White. Mother of Pamela Gibbons, Edward "Teddy" Gibbons, Jr. and Jeffrey Gibbons, all of Dorchester. Grandmother of 3. She was predeceased by her brother Edward White. She worked for many years at Joseph Pollack Corporation. Marilyn

was a member of the Clam Point Association.



JOHNSON, Robert "Rocko," 68 of Dorchester. He was born in Tela, a town on the Caribbean coast of Honduras, to Agnes Johnson. Rocko leaves his wife Margaret Squires-Johnson; his children Craig Parker, Tiesha Stewart, Ashley and Jessica Johnson, and Dana Harris; his siblings Daphne Tookes-McElrath, Jose "Freddy" Tookes, Debra Tookes-Smith, and Dianne Lackiram; and a host of other cherished family members and friends.

to the Mansfield Animal Shelter, P.O. Box 25, Mansfield, MA 02048.



MOORE - CORRIDON Paula, 64 of Dorchester. Paula was the second child of the late Helen Moore and Thaddeus Corridon. She migrated to USA in 1989 with her two children, Nicole and Kerwyn. Eventually, Paula's family blossomed with the addition of her 3 grandchildren. She leaves her two children-Nicole and Kerwyn; siblings - Deanne, Marlon, Richard (Deceased) and Arthur; nieces and nephews; Anike, Marcus, Kwesi, and Mahara; grandchildren-Shanika, Alexis, and Shamar; sister-in-law-Charmaine. The family is a reflection of the Moore, Corridon, Peli, Freser and Trimmingham names, along with many others.

eral nieces and nephews. Marines Corps veteran. Donations may be made to the Cotting School, 453 Concord Ave., Lexington, MA 02421, cotting.org, in memory of his son David.



ROBINSON, Betty Ray 80, of Dorchester. Daughter to the late Grace, aka Muggie (Shuler) Stevens and Arthur Thomas Stevens of South Carolina.

Wife of the late James Robinson. Betty Ray was predeceased by James Robinson, Roy K Lawrence, Theodore Roosevelt (FT), Laurie Stevens, Barbara Reno, LeRoy Stevens, Willie Renaud, Eleanor Baltazar, James (Homer) Robinson Jr, Mark Robinson, Margaret Robinson, Zanora Lewis, and Antwan Robinson. Betty Ray leaves brother Richard Stevens and sister Yvonne Francillon. Her children Gary Stevens, Brenda Robinson, Caroline Robinson, Kevin Robinson (Anita), Terrance Robinson (Natalie), Veronica Robinson (Ernest), 2 Steven Robinson, and Mitzi Robinson (Jef), Goddaughter Kim Stevens, a host of grandchildren, nieces, nephews, great-grandchildren and a special friend Roslyn David.

Emilio Ramos of Austin, TX; daughter Jylle Joyner of Pflugerville, TX; 1 granddaughter; 1 great-granddaughter and a host of nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews, other relatives, and good friends. The family asks you to remember her by patronizing a black-owned business during Black History month. Sylvia would appreciate this kind act.

ROHDE, Dr. William Arthur, physician known to Bostonians as Dr. Bill, 75. Dr. Bill was born in Nashua, Iowa to parents Clarion and Ruth Rohde. He was the chief medical director and administrator of the Massachusetts State Psychiatric Hospital from the mid '70's to the early '90's. Dr. Bill left the State Hospital to open a Boston treatment clinic to help those suffering from drug addiction and alcoholism. He was well known in Greater Boston's addiction recovery community. Throughout his long career, Dr. Bill also served on the staff of the West Roxbury District Court's Clinic, Boston State Hospital, McLean Hospital, and Brigham and Women's Hospital. At the time of his death, he was working on the fourth chapter of a book explaining his sometimes controversial approach to the treatment of addiction.



WILLIAMS, Brandon Dante, 32, of Dorchester. He worked at Delta Projects Group Home as a counselor for several years. Brandon leaves his wife Euphrate Louis, daughter Alilah Eden Williams; his mother Stephanie Giles and stepfather Linwood Giles Jr. of Dorchester; his father Willie T. Williams, Jr. and stepmother Yolanda Williams of Jacksonville, FL, sister Tianna Martin-Edwards and Amil Edwards of Lynn; brothers Corey and Collin Williams of Jacksonville, FL., niece Kennedy Edwards of Lynn MA, and a host of beloved aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. He is preceded in death by his grandparents Thomas Martin Sr. and Annie L. Martin, grandparents Willie T. Williams Sr. and Bridget Williams, uncles Thomas Martin Jr. and Eugene Martin, cousins Rick Martin, Reginald Martin, Lakeah Travis, Sean Ely and Melissa Key.



Cedar Grove Cemetery

COVID-19 restrictions will be in place

A quiet place on the banks of the Neponset River

Chapel available for: Weddings, memorial services, and celebratory masses. Indoor Services available for winter burials. Greenhouse on premises for fresh flowers. Columbarium for cremated remains. Plant a tree program.

920 Adams St., Dorchester, MA 02124 • 617-825-1360
Consecrated in 1868. Non-Sectarian.



MASON, Michael R., 57, a retired Boston Firefighter, of Norton, formerly of Norwood, Mansfield and Dorchester. Father of Luke Mason and Sean Mason, both of Norwood. Brother of Catherine Connaughton of Mansfield, Rosemarie Loeshner of Mansfield, Barbara Manley of Mansfield and Lisa Maffie of Canton. Donations in his memory may be made

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE & FAMILY COURT
SUFFOLK PROBATE & FAMILY COURT
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. SU20P1738GD
IN THE MATTER OF:
LARRY J. MALTA
of BOSTON, MA
RESPONDENT
Alleged Incapacitated Person

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Marian Manor of Boston, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Larry J. Malta is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Lisa Judkins of Sutton, MA (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 necessary, 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 return date of 03/11/2021. 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 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 request on behalf of the above-named 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: February 04, 2021
Published: February 18, 2021

McKAY, James A. Jr. of Brighton. Husband of the late Mary C. (Danehy) McKay; father of James and his wife Victoria of Marshfield, Brian and his wife Tracy of Needham, Mark and his wife Barbara of Hingham and the late David McKay. Brother of Margie Silva, the late Dorothy Backus and the late Barbara Sampson. Also survived by eight grandchildren and sev-

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE & FAMILY COURT
SUFFOLK PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
24 NEW CHARDON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02114
617-788-8300
CITATION ON PETITION
TO CHANGE NAME
Docket No. SU21C0025CA
IN THE MATTER OF:
ALEXANDRIA DIXIE BERRYMAN

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Alexandria Dixie Berryman of Boston, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:

Kaj Scott Peltonen
IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes 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 03/11/2021. This is not a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

Witness, HON. BRIAN J. DUNN, First Justice of this Court.
Date: January 26, 2021
Felix D. Arroyo
Register of Probate
Published: February 18, 2021

ROBINSON, Sylvia Eleanor (Simmonds), 86, in Hutto, TX. She was born to Horatio and Rachel Simmonds. Sylvia served in the Women's Air Force. Former spouse of Eddie Robinson. Sylvia was preceded in death by her parents; sister and brother-in law Hyacinth and John Joseph; brother John Simmonds; and nephews Richard Joseph and Dennis O. Simmonds. She leaves behind her sister Helaine Simmonds of Boston; sister-in-law Catherine Green Simmonds of Mashpee, her sons and their wives Daryl and Ann Robinson of Austin, TX; Wayne and Ju Shih Robinson of Penang, Malaysia; daughter and her husband Robyn and

TEVNAN

100 City Hall Plaza
Boston, MA 02108
617-423-4100

TEVNAN

415 Neponset Avenue
Dorchester, MA 02124
617-265-4100

Attorneys at Law
www.tevnan.com

NEW CALVARY CEMETERY

Serving the Boston Community since 1899 - Non Sectarian
Reasonable pricing and many options to choose from.

Grave pricing starting at \$1,200
Package pricing from \$3,800 (includes grave purchase, first opening & liner for a weekday service). Cremation Niches starting at \$1,400 (Includes Niche Purchase, First Opening & Inscription)
617-296-2339

12 Month No Interest on Grave Purchases,
Pre Need Opening Arrangements
Lots with multiple graves and oversized graves available.
Package price only available for an 'at need' service.
Overtime Fees apply to Saturday and Holiday Interments
Other options available at Mt. Benedict Cemetery
in West Roxbury

The B.C.C.A. Family of Cemeteries
Main Office located at:
366 Cummins Highway, Roslindale, MA 02131
Pricing information and maps available online at:
www.BostonCemetery.org
617-325-6830 info@bccacomcast.net



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



*Harbor Point on the River
Dorchester, MA*



*Ramblewood Apartments
Hollbrook, MA*

Corcoran Jennison's portfolio includes, residential housing, hotels, resorts, health facilities, academic campuses, retail centers, and golf courses.

cjapts.com | corcoranjennison.com | cmjapts.com

CORCORAN
JENNISON
Companies

