

Dorchester Reporter

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Owners of Carney submit proposal to locate a BPS school on the campus

A response to city's call for health-career academy's new home

By BILL FORRY
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

The city of Boston is reviewing five proposals — including one from a team that includes the current owner of the largely shuttered Carney Hospital campus in Dorchester— as it considers options for a new home for the Boston Public Schools' Edward M. Kennedy (EMK) Academy of Health Careers as part of a larger plan to expand the school's capacity and impact.

The city put out a Request for Proposals (RFP) last December asking for "proposals from qualified owners" willing to lease space to the city for a "long-term home"

for the school with a 20-to-25-year agreement and a "fixed-price option to purchase" the property as part of the deal.

The Reporter has learned that one of the five proposals submitted by the Jan. 27 deadline was from an entity called "Silver Carney Dorchester LLC," which is described as an "affiliate" of Apollo Global Management, Inc., the New York-based company that now owns and manages the 12-acre Carney Hospital property on Dorchester Avenue in Lower Mills. The hospital closed its main facility and emergency department last August as its parent company—Steward Health Care— ne-

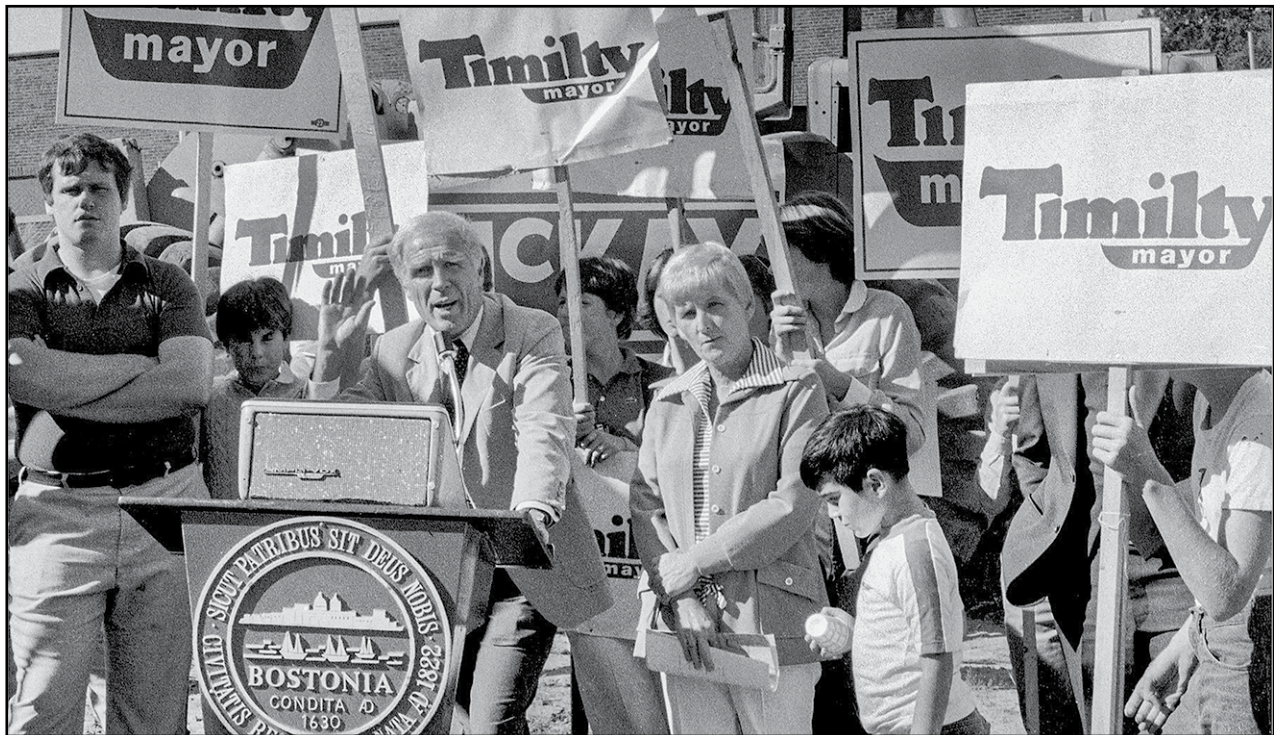
gotiated a bankruptcy case that impacted seven of its hospitals in Massachusetts.

Under an arrangement facilitated by Gov. Healey and key officials in her cabinet, the Carney and a second hospital in Ayer, Mass., closed last summer while five other Steward-owned facilities transitioned to new operators as Steward's operations in the Commonwealth collapsed.

A 33-member "working group" appointed by Healey and Mayor Wu has been meeting since November 2024 with a charge to make recommendations to the governor and mayor about what might happen
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The boarded-up doors of the front lobby of the Carney Hospital as seen last Monday (March 3).
Seth Daniel photo



Mayor Kevin White is shown at the podium during a 1979 event to announce the redevelopment of the Baker Chocolate Factory complex in Lower Mills. The incumbent was surrounded by supporters of Joe Timilty, a state lawmaker who challenged White in mayoral races in 1975 and 1979. Chris Lovett photo

In the parade of Boston's mayoral campaigns, White vs. Timilty in 1975 was a barnburner

By CHRIS LOVETT
REPORTER CORRESPONDENT

On Sept. 8, 1975, as many as 10,000 people showed up on City Hall Plaza to oppose a plan for expanding desegregation of the Boston Public Schools (BPS). Coinciding with the run-up to city elections, Boston's largest political gathering in that turbulent year was not for a candidate, but for a protest.

Two months later, voters came close to breaking with a pattern in city politics that had held since 1951. They re-elected the incumbent mayor, Kevin H. White, over co-finalist state Sen. Joseph F. Timilty, but the margin was only 7,528 votes, less than 5 percentage points. That was slightly smaller than the spread in 1955 between another second-term mayor, John B. Hynes, and state Sen. John E. Powers.

In the run-up to this year's upcoming vote for mayor, a look back at 1975 shows a very different city and a very different climate, with more sharp divisions, including a violent racial clash four weeks before the rally, at Carson Beach in South Boston. If the divisions over school desegregation were less explosive than they had been one year prior, 1975 was a difficult time for many US cities that were struggling with flight to the suburbs and the loss of manufacturing jobs. Making that worse were double-digit inflation and unemployment figures at more than 8 percent. In New York City, a fiscal crisis had prompted the creation of an outside financial control board approaching the powers of receivership.

Another source of stress for Boston, starting in
(Continued on page 12)

Developers submit new plans for towers on Morrissey parcel

By REPORTER STAFF

Two developers filed detailed revised plans last week for erecting two 18-story residential towers with a total of 754 apartments where WLVI Channel 56 once had its studios on Morrissey Boulevard. The filings unveiled the first phase of a re-do of a roughly 9-acre parcel that also includes the nearby Star Market.

The submissions to the Boston Planning Department are from POB Capital of Chicago and Copper Mill, a local development firm formed by Andrew Flynn, the one-time CEO of Scape North America, a concern that is building, or hopes to build, some 1,300 apartments in the Back Bay and the Fenway. In 2023, the BPDA approved a 7-building project for the parcel that also included office and lab space.

Last week's proposal stated that about 150 of the apartments in the towers, or 20 percent, would be rented as affordable.

The buildings would have 414 parking spaces – 25

(Continued on page 14)



A rendering of two towers planned for 75 Morrissey Blvd.
Image courtesy CBT



Mela Bush: "This was a civil rights battle"
File photo

Electrified Fairmount is next step for transit equity

By KARYNA CHEUNG
SPECIAL TO THE REPORTER

It has been nearly 30 years since Marvin Martin stood on an overpass by Erie and Washington streets in Dorchester and watched as a Fairmount commuter train whizzed by underneath him without stopping. Martin, who is Black, could see

that most of the commuter passengers didn't look like him. In that same time frame, the north-bound 23 bus stopped to pick up passengers, and Martin noticed that most of the passengers on the bus were Black or brown.

"It was already standing room only," he said, describing the scene

inside the bus. "People were packed in there like sardines. I said, 'What's wrong with this picture?'"

When Martin began organizing the community to push for an expansion of the Fairmount commuter line in 2000, there were five stops along the route running

through densely populated, majority-minority communities in Hyde Park, Mattapan, and Dorchester, with terminals in Readville and at South Station. As significant community advocacy gathered steam, those five stops became nine, with the final new

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Police, Courts & Fire

Knife-wielding man shot dead in Copley Sq. eatery by off-duty cop

A Boston police officer who was not on duty shot and killed a man who was armed with a knife inside a Copley Square restaurant on Saturday afternoon, according to police. Commissioner Michael Cox said the officer took action after the suspect chased two people into the Chick-fil-A restaurant on Boylston Street around 5:30 p.m.

“The off-duty officer identified himself as a police officer, instructed them to drop the weapon, at which point the individual did not comply. The officer discharged his weapon to stop the threat and the individual was struck,” Cox said.

The suspect — later identified as 32-year-old Lemark Jaramillo of Roslindale— was pronounced dead at a local hospital. The officer was not hurt but was taken to the hospital as a precaution. Suffolk County District Attorney Kevin Hayden said his office did not know the motive for the attack.

“We’re reviewing a large amount of video evidence in and around this area ... and we have reason to believe ... that there are other individuals who know something, who witnessed something, who may have been involved,” he said.

Mayor Wu spoke with reporters outside the restaurant following the shooting. “I’m glad that the officer is safe, and very grateful for a quick response from all of our first responders here in such an active part of Boston,” she said.

“We don’t look for loss of life,” Cox said. “Our condolences go out to the family of the individual. We are also proud our police officers, whether on-duty or off-duty, who activate themselves to help save lives.”

—WBUR

Two men were arrested by Boston Police last Wednesday (Feb. 26) during what police say was a drug-related search warrant operation at 51 Norton St. in Dorchester. The morning raid followed surveillance by members of the BPD’s Drug Control Units and also yielded a firearm. The two men taken into custody— Julian Niles, 34, of Stone Mountain, Georgia, and Daeshawn Jackson, 21, of Boston— have been arraigned in the Dorchester division of Boston Municipal Court.

According to a BPD account of the warrant execution, police arrived around 10:24 a.m. having observed Jackson “entering and exiting the building multiple times” and spotted Niles “arriving on an electric scooter and entering the premises. Based on prior intelligence, investigative findings, and their combined training and experience, Officers suspected that Niles was distributing narcotics in the vicinity, utilizing nearby streets for his activities.”

The BPD says Jackson had fentanyl and Niles was carrying an undisclosed amount of U.S. currency and two packages of suspected crack cocaine. A search of the residence produced a “Sig Sauer P365 semi-automatic pistol loaded with 11 rounds in a high-capacity magazine, along with an additional 10 rounds of ammunition” and more suspected drugs and drug paraphernalia.

Father of man who died 33 months after Red Line beating sues MBTA

The father of a 29-year-old man who died from injuries he sustained in a March 2022 assault on a Red Line train is suing the MBTA. Gorrett Viveiros argues that the MBTA was grossly negligent in failing to respond to complaints about the alleged attacker’s erratic behavior before he suddenly set upon his son, Zachary Dimona-Viveiros, and struck him repeatedly with a fist-size rock while the train was idling at JFK-UMass station.

Dimona-Viveiros died from his injuries on Dec. 12, 2024.

In the suit filed last Friday (Feb. 28) in Suffolk Superior Court, Gorrett Viveiros says the “assailant was behaving erratically and violently on MBTA property for a sustained period of time prior to the assault and, upon information and belief, multiple passengers complained to the MBTA and or sought assistance from the MBTA. Those efforts were ignored.”

The man charged in the attack, David Dimarco Washington-Halfkenny of Dorchester, has yet to come to trial because he remains held at Bridge-water State Hospital.

Following an evaluation of the 43-year-old Washington-Halfkenny, a Quincy District Court judge at an arraignment hearing determined he was not competent to

stand trial on the charges of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, possession of a dangerous weapon and armed robbery, according to court records, which show that judges have upheld that determination several times since. He is next scheduled for a competency hearing in court on March 20, according to court records.

Dimona-Viveiros, who was disabled, was on the way from Wollaston into Boston to meet his girlfriend, with whom he was talking on the phone when Washington-Halfkenny stopped pacing around the train car and began smashing the quartz into his face, as she could only listen helplessly, WHDH reported at the time. When officers arrived, they found Washington-Halfkenny shouting as he stood over Dimona-Viveiros, from whose head blood gushed, police said.

Says Viveiros: “The MBTA’s utter lack of security, lack of response to complaints, lack of systems and procedures in order to protect disabled passengers from harm, and the lack of training and supervision of staff was so derelict that it can only be described as willful, wanton and or reckless.” The MBTA has until June 30 to respond to the suit.

—REPORTER STAFF

Dorchester Bay EDC adds property on West Cottage St. to its portfolio



This unoccupied property at 14-16 W. Cottage St. and an adjacent vacant lot in Uphams Corner have been acquired by Dorchester EDC. Seth Daniel photo

Dorchester Bay Economic Development Corporation (EDC) recently closed on 14-16 W. Cottage St., an occupied four-unit residential property and an adjacent vacant lot located in Uphams Corner. The EDC purchased the property in late December from Maura A. Hennigan for \$1,237,500.

The building includes three occupied two bedroom units and one vacant two-bedroom unit. Two of the three rented apartments are occupied by seniors with housing choice vouchers. Two of the units will be restricted to 80 percent AMI and two will be restricted to 60 percent AMI.

The acquisition is located adjacent to 18 W. Cottage St., a property owned by Dorchester Bay EDC as part of its Cottage

Brook Apartments scattered-site portfolio. The organization will make needed improvements to the interior and exterior of the building, creating local construction jobs for M/WBE contractors.

Existing and future tenants will have access to Dorchester Bay EDC’s services as well as neighborhood amenities such as public transit, parks, and recreational facilities, among other local amenities in the Uphams Corner neighborhood.

“This acquisition strengthens Dorchester Bay EDC’s commitment to preserving naturally occurring affordable housing and ensures that long-term senior residents—one of whom has called this property home for 20 years—can remain in in the neighborhood,” said CEO Kimberly R. Lyle.

—REPORTER STAFF

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Columbia Point, Boston (617) 740-7000

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The JFK Library presents a special performance by Celtic Bells called “The Irish in Boston” on Sat., March 8, at 10:30 a.m. in honor of St. Patrick’s Day. Celtic Bells weaves in songs and poems with lively fiddle, drums, flute, guitar, and bagpipes. See jfklibrary.org for more info.

The County Sligo Association of Boston will host its annual Corned Beef & Cabbage Banquet and Scholarship Drawing on Sat., March 8, at Florian Hall. Reception at 6 p.m., dinner at 7, with music by Mossie Coughlan. Tickets \$60 adults, \$20 students & children 6-16. For ticket & table reservations, call 617-293-4069.

Dorchester’s 16th annual St. Patrick’s Day

Brunch to benefit the Mary Ann Brett Food Pantry is Sat., March 15, from 9:30 to noon at St. Teresa of Calcutta parish hall, 800 Columbia Rd.

The Irish Pastoral Centre hosts its annual St. Patrick’s Day celebration at Florian Hall on Fri., March 14, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event begins with a Mass and blessing of shamrocks, followed by a corned beef dinner and music and dancing by Erin’s Melody. Tickets (\$40) must be reserved. Go to ipcboston.org or call 617-265-5300.

South Boston’s annual parade, a dual celebration of St. Patrick’s Day and Evacuation Day that will kick off on Sun., March 16, will begin at 11:30 a.m. an hour-and-a

half earlier than past years. The parade will follow its traditional route, up West Broadway from near the T station and onto East Broadway to City Point. Marchers will then turn at P street to East 4th and head back west, ending on Dorchester Street at Andrew Station.

The parade will be preceded by the traditional St. Patrick’s Day Breakfast, which once again will be hosted by state Sen. Nick Collins, who says the breakfast will begin at 9 a.m. and be televised on NECN, NESN, and BNN-TV and on the radio at 950 AM.

On Wed., March 12, City Councillor Ed Flynn, along with his council colleagues Erin Murphy and John Fitzgerald of Dorchester,

will host an Irish flag-raising ceremony open to the public on City Hall Plaza at 10:30 a.m. On March 17, the day after the parade, Flynn and Collins said they will take part in the Evacuation Day historical exercises at Dorchester Heights. The day begins with a 9:15 a.m. Mass at St. Augustine’s chapel.

Boston Centers for Youth and Families hosts a job fair for the city’s community centers and pools this Saturday (March 8) from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Shelburne Community Center, 2730 Washington St., Roxbury.

SEND IN EVENT NOTICES TO

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From BPD’s patrolmen’s union, a heart-felt endorsement for Wu

BY REPORTER STAFF

Mayor Wu won a ringing endorsement from the city’s largest public safety unions—the Boston Police Patrolmen Association (BPPA) and the association’s affiliated EMS partners—during a press conference held at the BPPA’s Dorchester headquarters last Thursday (Feb. 27).

Union officials said it was the first time in 30 years that they have endorsed a sitting mayor for re-election. The boost comes as Wu is facing a potentially stiff challenge from Josh Kraft, the philanthropist, former non-profit leader, and son of New England Patriots owner Robert Kraft.

Larry Calderone, the BPPA’s president, said the decision to back Wu was not a difficult one for the men and women who patrol the city’s streets each day. Calderone and BPPA-EMS union president Jason Yutkin credited Wu with bargaining fairly with their members and reaching a contract agreement in her first term and for making investments to add more Boston Police officers to the ranks through academy classes.

“I say that as strongly as I possibly can as we want her to be re-elected



Larry Calderone, president of the Boston Police Patrolmen Association, gestured to Mayor Wu, right, during a press conference held on Feb. 27, 2025 at the union’s headquarters in Dorchester during which the police union and their affiliated EMS union endorsed the incumbent Wu for re-election.

Seth Daniel photo

in November,” said Calderone, who says Wu has been a constant ally to his officers in moments of stress, injury, and insult over her time in office. “Every time there’s been an awful event, a tragedy, she’s been there with us,” he said. “She leads by example. She loves her police officers, and she shows it. She values what we do every day of the year.”

In accepting the endorsement, Wu noted that she was honored and proud to receive the union’s nod, saying, “We are the safest major city in America because of

your efforts, and we are intending to keep that going each and every day. I am so grateful for the work that you all put in each and every day, and I know that we all feel there’s a still a lot more work to do and that we’re never going to be satisfied until we’ve eradicated violence in the city and any incident is one too many.”

Wu added that she was “very proud to sit across the table from these hard bargaining unions to know and to understand the details of what every word in those contracts means for your

families at a time when there are so many who are looking to cut city services,” she said, “to call for slashing budgets, whether it’s public safety or city services in general, or trying to just paint a picture that city workers are, or public servants in general, and government is about fraud or waste or trying to maximize the efficiency.”

“I want to hold up Boston as example of where we are getting the best bang for our buck. City workers are first responders, our teachers, our public works employees across the board.

These are the people and family members who make our city run. And I will stand next to each and every one of you to continue putting the resources where we are serving the residents of Boston.”

In a poignant moment, Calderone called for a moment of silence for BPD Detective Mark Walsh, who was laid to rest on Thursday after a huge wake and funeral at St. Gregory’s Church in Dorchester. The 51-year-old father of two and veteran police officer in districts across the city died after a brief illness prompted by influenza last week.

“Last night, hundreds of officers stood outside the church down at St. Greg’s,” said Calderone. “We walked through, we paid our respects like we do all the time, but so did Mayor Wu, and I’m taking the opportunity to make sure that we say that here today because she stood at the altar with the Boston Police Commissioner, the command staff of the BPD and other officers and family members, and watched as every police officer, detective, guest, family and friend, made their respects to our fellow umbrella in the

church.

Headed: “This is who the mayor is. I want to let that sink in. It’s the person that she is the human being that she is the leader of the city of Boston, that she has exuded and led by example every day.”

The union officials said the timing of the endorsement—just days before the mayor is due to appear before a Republican-led congressional committee that’s expected to grill her and others on public safety and immigration issues—was not related to the national political dynamics.

“It has nothing to do with the trip to Washington D.C.,” said Calderone. “Our goal here is to stress... that we want to see her reelected. She’s been a great partner at the table.”

For her part, Wu said she had no idea that “the unions were going to take this up in the moment that they did. It was a wonderful surprise to get a note from Larry and then to learn that both organizations had decided to weigh in and to weigh in strongly. And for that, I’m incredibly grateful. It reinforces the truth about our city and who we are.”

Poll shows Wu with hefty lead over Kraft

BY CASSIDY MCNEELEY
REPORTER STAFF

Findings from the first public poll of the 2025 mayoral election cycle show incumbent Mayor Wu with a sizeable lead over her high-profile challenger, Josh Kraft, with roughly six-and-half months to go until the preliminary election.

The Emerson College Polling Center poll has Wu leading Kraft, 43-29 percent with roughly 24 percent undecided. The survey was conducted Feb. 24-26 through text messages with more than 600 respondents, all described as potential Boston voters.

The poll’s question that asked respondents to describe their attitudes about the direction of the city showed a majority with a favorable impression of Wu and what she is doing.

“Wu starts strong in the first pre-election poll of the year, with 57 percent of voters thinking the city is headed in the right direction, and 57 percent holding a favorable view of the mayor,” said Spencer Kimball, executive director of Emerson College Polling. “Wu’s support is strongest among Hispanic voters, at 54 percent, and Asian voters, at 58 percent, while Kraft splits the white vote with Wu 39 percent to 37 percent.”

The mayor’s job approval rating—distinct from her personal favorability—is lower at 41 percent, with 38 percent stating they disapprove and 21 percent neutral on her job performance. Wu is most popular among voters under 30 and over 70, according to Kimball’s analysis.

Only 13 percent of

respondents to the Emerson poll said they had never heard of Josh Kraft, despite the fact that he has not sought public office before. Kraft’s favorability rating in the poll was 27 percent with 24 percent “unfavorable” and 36 percent unsure.

The poll showed just 2 percent support for North End restaurant owner Jorge Mendoza-Iturralde, who has stated that he will run for mayor.

The Emerson survey also included questions about hot-button issues, including the renovation of Franklin Park’s White Stadium, immigration enforcement, housing affordability, and bike lanes.

According to Kimball, “68 percent of voters who support Mayor Wu for re-election also support the redevelopment of White Stadium, while

Kraft supporters are more split: 38 percent oppose the redevelopment, while 35 percent support it.”

The polls found that a small majority of respondents support the Boston Trust Act, which limits the scope of Boston Police coordination with federal immigration enforcement. The city ordinance is supported by 52 percent of respondents. Similarly, 51 percent of those polled think Boston should accommodate migrants seeking sanctuary.

When it comes to housing, 38 percent said Wu is the better leader to make costs more affordable while 25 percent believe Kraft is a better choice, with 31 percent saying neither candidate will.

The sharpest contrast is on the controversial issue of bike lanes. According to the poll, 69 percent



Josh Kraft, left, trailed incumbent Boston Mayor Michelle Wu by 14 points in the first public poll of the 2025 election cycle for Mayor of Boston.

Reporter file photos

of Kraft supporters said there are too many bike lanes in Boston while 29 percent of Wu voters said there are not enough.

The poll findings also suggest that more people think the City of Boston and the MBTA are heading in the right direction while Boston Public Schools are on the wrong track.

On Thursday morning, Commonwealth Magazine’s Gintautas Dumcius posted on social media about an internal

Wu campaign poll that he reports is even more favorable for the incumbent mayor. The poll—which Dumcius says was conducted by a Wu campaign-funded consultant GBAO Strategies—shows the mayor ahead of Kraft 65-25 percent. The phone poll of “possible voters”—conducted between Feb. 13-17—showed Wu winning 72 percent of Black voters and 73 percent of Latino voters, according to Dumcius’s post.

Six ‘winners’ chosen in Boston’s first participatory budget cycle

BY NIK DECOSTA-KLIPA
WBUR

After the submission of more than 1,200 ideas, Boston residents have selected five winning projects—plus a bonus one—in the city’s first-ever participatory budgeting cycle. The new process allowed any Bostonian over the age of 11 to vote on ways to spend \$2 million in taxpayer dollars. It’s a tiny fraction of the city’s more than \$4 billion bud-

get but supporters say it successfully engaged more residents — 4,462 of whom cast ballots — and provided an opportunity to experiment with crowd-sourcing.

“The idea is that this is not only about the projects themselves, but also about checking in with residents about what their priorities are and what they want the city to do,” said Eliza Parad, a coordinator for the Better Budget Alliance.

The winning projects include:

- Fruits and vegetables: \$400,000 to offer grants to nonprofits that help food-insecure residents access fresh foods, such as fruits, vegetables, dairy, eggs, meat and seafood.
- Rat-proofing: \$500,000 to take on the city’s rat problem by investing in better trash cans in “high-density residential areas.”
- Reentry programs for incarcerated youths:

\$250,000 in one-time grants to nonprofits that support residents between the ages of 14-21 who are formerly or currently incarcerated. It will specifically focus on providing access to mentorship, skills training, education, and health and wellness programs.

- Rent help: \$200,000 to fund a pilot program offering renters between the ages of 16 and 24 up to \$5,000 to cover rental costs.

- Community gardens: \$500,000 in grants to nonprofits that build community gardens, with a focus on food deserts.
- Bonus: In order to spend all of the \$2 million, the city also plans to partly fund the sixth-place project: \$150,000 to install benches at high-ridership bus stops in Boston. (The original proposal called for \$450,000 to install about 150 benches; a spokesperson for the city said

\$150,000 will likely pay for around 50 benches, though it depends on the final contract.)

What’s next: Boston’s Office of Participatory Budgeting says it will work with various departments to implement the initiatives over the next few months.

This article was first published by WBUR on Feb. 27. The Reporter and WBUR share content through a media partnership.

▶▶ Meet Me at the MFA ▶ Spring Events

▶ Events ▶ Community ▶ Art ▶ Programs ▶ Events ▶ Co

Special Event

Nowruz

- ▶ Thursday 3/20
- ▶ 5–10 pm
- ▶ \$5 admission



Special Event

MFA Late Nites

- ▶ Friday 3/28
- ▶ 8 pm–1 am

Exhibition

Van Gogh: The Roulin Family Portraits

- ▶ Opens Sunday 3/30



MFABoston

▶ Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
465 Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA 02115



Nowruz: Caitlin Cunningham Photography MFA Late Nites: Tim Correia Photography
Vincent van Gogh, *The Postman Joseph Roulin*, 1889. Oil on canvas. The Museum of Modern Art, New York, Gift of Mr. and Mrs. William A. M. Burden, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Rosenberg, Nelson A. Rockefeller, Mr. and Mrs. Armand P. Bartos, The Sidney and Harriet Janis Collection, Mr. and Mrs. Wener E. Josten, and Loula D. Lasker Bequest (all by exchange), 1989. Photo Credit: Digital Image © The Museum of Modern Art/Licensed by SCALA / Art Resource, NY.

▶ Plan your visit at mfa.org

Reaction mostly upbeat as residents view 3D model of Grove Hall Community Center

By Cassidy McNeeley
Reporter Staff

Last week, community members were invited to the Boston Public Library's Grove Hall branch to check out the floor plans and view a 3D model of the future Boston Centers for Youth & Families Grove Hall Community Center, which will occupy a city-owned vacant lot just across the street.

The feedback at the session on Feb. 27 ranged from excitement, especially among the senior set, to questions about parking concerns, to disappointment by one attendee that plans did not include a steam room for seniors.

The facility, Dorchester's very first stand-alone, city-run community center, will be divided into three major components: aquatics, fitness, and enrichment, all of which will come together in a robust lobby right off Geneva Ave.

A stand-alone operation "differs significantly from our school-based sites," said BCYF Commissioner Marta Rivera in a statement to The Reporter. "School-based sites operate within a defined space in BPS facilities and are limited in hours of operation as well as programming space. This new facility will allow BCYF to offer a wider range of programming and greater access to the community center spaces and amenities."

With the design complete, the project is now in the construction documentation phase. Construction is projected to begin next fall and to last two years. After BCYF has enough time to move into the space, the facility will be open to the public.

The development is being completed through a collaboration of the city, BCYF, the Public Facilities Department (PFD), Utile Architecture and Planning, and a Community Engagement

Committee.

Interim Project Manager Tiesha Walton of the PFD welcomed residents to the library's second floor, where they could simultaneously look both at the renderings and out the window to where they will soon come to life.

"The object of today's open house was to provide these boards, showing you the progress to date of the project," said Walton, who stood in front of the design plans for the lobby, pool, senior center, teen center, and gymnasium.

Many of the senior residents who came to the session were especially excited to see the gym's design. "I'm very pleased that some of the things that I suggested will be there – like an indoor walking track all year round," said Eleice Latham, who asked about it at an earlier community meeting. "I wanted the walking track, so I'm pleased. I know everybody can't get everything they want."

The track will surround three basketball courts, three volleyball courts, and adaptive sports equipment. Just beyond the track are a cardio and weight room and a flex fitness room.

Latham added that the project team "asked us what we like, and they brought us in and made us a part of it." She and the other seniors also plan to utilize the senior center located in the enrichment wing right across from the athletic facilities. Connected to that center will be a community room, community kitchen, and indoor and outdoor art.

Pastor Miniard Culpepper of Pleasant Hill Missionary Baptist Church, isn't as satisfied as Latham. "We need a steam room for the seniors," he said. "It's been a long battle," one that the pastor isn't quite ready to concede is over.

When other community members



Members of the project team walked community members around the 3D model of the future facility.
Cassidy McNeeley photo

shared parking concerns, Assistant Director and Registered Architect Hélène Guézennec said that "we are committed to addressing the community's concerns and will make adjustments to the project where feasible."

Though parking may not be ideal, and a sauna is missing from the picture, residents can cool off in the five-lane pool located to the left of the lobby. Built for swim lessons and competitions, it will have a zero-barrier entry ramp, and diving blocks, and will be connected to locker rooms and gender-neutral shower rooms.

Jessica Pomare, who lives right up the street from the soon-to-be facility, said she and her six-year-old daughter are most excited about the aquatic wing.

Pomare, who also has an almost two-year-old son, added that she "didn't see anything for younger kids." Though the library will be right across the street and has plenty of programming for young kids, she is interested in how the community center's hours will compare.

"I feel like the hours of operation are going to be key for the success of the space," she said.

While both the pool and gym are on the first floor, the second floor houses the teen center. Pomare's children have quite a bit of time to go before they can study, lounge, and game there but she said she's excited to see the impact it will have on the community anyway. "That's a big part of the dangers for the neighborhood. There's a lot of kids with nothing to do. Keep them busy and I'm sure everything will just feel a lot better."

Mattapan resident Janetha Busby agreed, saying, "We're very, very, very happy 'cause it's going to uplift the community."

In total, the facility is designed to be 41,000 gross square feet. As of now, funding remains on track, but the final cost will not be confirmed until the estimate is finalized and industry price variations and bid results are accounted for.

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Primary Care ~ Pregnancy Care
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Dental Care ~ Behavioral Health
Call to make an appointment:
(617) 288-1100

UMass tracksters savor chance to strut stuff in D1 competition



Melvin Wiltshire



Jhenelle Evans



Derrick Touba



Justin Riley

By Cassidy McNeeley
Reporter Staff

Early last month, four UMass Boston Track & Field athletes left Dorchester and headed to Brighton for a competition at The Track at New Balance in the 2025 Showdown at The Heights.

Though the Beacons typically compete at the Division III level, the meet, hosted by Boston College, featured several DI teams, giving Derrick Touba, Jhenelle Evans, Justin Riley, and Dorchester’s Melvin Wiltshire the opportunity to compete at the highest level.

“It was a chance for us to really cut down on our times, considering New Balance is one of the best indoor facilities in the world,” said Wiltshire, who placed 26th overall. “I ran the 200m and had a



Jhenelle Evans was one of four Beacons who put on a strong performance at the 2025 Showdown at The Heights.

big PR of 23.17; that was my best ever 200m race.”

He didn’t start running track until his senior year at Boston Latin Academy in 2022. “I did football my junior and senior year, and my football team won the city championship for Boston Public Schools, and I just thought to myself, ‘let me try track and see what happens,’” Wiltshire told The Reporter. “I did indoor and outdoor track and became a captain, and I found out I was pretty decent at it.”

Even so, Wiltshire, now a junior studying computer science, had no idea he would soon become a collegiate athlete. Looking back, he hopes to inspire other kids from the neighborhood to consider

doing things they never thought they could.

“Growing up in Dorchester, there are a lot of different challenges and obstacles you may encounter. No matter who you are, what situation you’re in, there is still a way to succeed,” Wiltshire said. “I have been through a good amount of that living in Dorchester. I’ve been through some lows and some highs, but regardless of that fact, I’m still able to stay consistent to who I am.”

His teammate and fellow junior, Derrick Touba, is originally from New York but is also proud to now call Dorchester home.

“You can still be competitive at a high level no matter where you

are from,” said Touba, who competed in the 60m dash. “People from this community can do great things even though [other] people may count us out.”

He finished the 60m sprint in 7.25 seconds, earning a spot at 16th overall. Senior Jhenelle Evans raced in the same event in the women’s division and finished 17th overall with a time of 8.15 seconds.

Meanwhile, Sophomore Justin Riley, like Wiltshire, raced in the 200m dash. He also ran a new best of 23.02 seconds and placed 23rd overall.

Next week, the Beacons will compete in NCAA DIII Indoor Nationals at Rochester.



Dorchester native Melvin Wiltshire didn’t have to go far to continue his track career into college.

Officials say flu cases on decline, but situation is still dangerous

By Cassidy McNeeley
Reporter Staff

Despite a surge in flu cases across the City of

Boston since December, the city’s top public health official said last week that the latest data indicate a downward

trend in influenza cases and emergency department visits in recent days.

Dr. Bisola Ojikutu, the executive director of the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC), reported a significant week-to-week decline in cases during a Wednesday briefing with reporters.

“During the first week of February, there were

more than 1000 flu cases in Boston. The exact number was 1,087 flu cases,” Ojikutu said. “It’s down to 543 last week, so it seems like we’ve turned a bit of a corner.”

She added: “Emergency room department visits have also declined. Back in the beginning of February when we were sort of at the height of this increase, we noted about 12 percent of the emergency room depart-

ment visits were for influenza-like illness. Now we’re down to about 7 percent.”

Ojikutu encouraged Bostonians experiencing flu-like symptoms to contact their health care provider. Older individuals, young children, people with chronic health problems, and pregnant people are at a higher risk for severe complications from influenza and should seek emergency care if symptoms worsen.

According to data shared by the BPHC, the highest number of cases for the current flu period is noted in the 18-44 age group. Residents of all ages should continue to be vaccinated as cases of influenza are expected to persist well into April and possibly May.

The commission “has established a number of free flu vaccination clinics,” she said. “You can also receive vaccination for Covid-19 at these sites. We want to assure people that no documentation is needed in order to get vaccinated.”

Everyone six months and older should be vaccinated for both influenza and Covid, according to BPHC, but so far this season only 37 percent of Boston residents have

taken the shots. Ojikutu would like to see that number increase.

“That’s a little bit lower than the total number or the percentage across the state, which is around 40 percent, and also lower than the national rate, which is around 46 percent.” While people can continue other precautions like washing their hands and high-touch surfaces, Ojikutu said, “the vaccine protects us from severe complications, hospitalization, and death. Influenza can be serious.”

State officials recently warned health care providers that they have observed a “possible increase in children dealing with neurologic complications tied to the flu,” according to a State House News Service report. In an advisory issued by the state’s Department of Public Health, seizures were noted to be the most typical complication, which DPH said is followed by encephalopathy or encephalitis. Children who are unvaccinated against the flu or who have pre-existing conditions are at higher risk of developing flu-related neurologic complications, according to the advisory.

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. SU25P0378GD
IN THE MATTER OF:
JACOB BERNSTEIN
OF BOSTON, MA
RESPONDENT
Alleged Incapacitated Person
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Mass. Dept. of Mental Health of Westborough, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Jacob Bernstein is in need of a Guardian and requesting that (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve 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 **03/20/2025**. 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.
Stephanie L. Everett, Esq.,
Register of Probate
Date: February 21, 2025
Published: March 6, 2025

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
Suffolk Probate & Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Docket No. SU25P0435EA
ESTATE OF:
JEAN MAYHEW
a/k/a: JEAN G. MAYHEW
DATE OF DEATH: 07/06/2023
To all interested persons:
A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Roxanne Douglas of Hyde Park, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Roxanne Douglas of Hyde Park, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.
IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of **03/27/2025**. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.
UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.
Witness, HON. BRIAN J. DUNN, First Justice of this Court.
Date: February 27, 2025
Stephanie L. Everett, Esq.,
Register of Probate
Published: March 6, 2025

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
Suffolk Probate & Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300
CITATION ON PETITION
FOR ORDER OF
COMPLETE SETTLEMENT
Docket No. SU23P0585EA
ESTATE OF:
RUTHLYN GLENTINE BENJAMIN
a/k/a: RUTHLYN BENJAMIN,
RUTHLYN G.D. BENJAMIN
DATE OF DEATH: 10/28/2022
A Petition for Order of Complete Settlement has been filed by Duane G. Sullivan, Esq. of Quincy, MA requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account, Amended 1st and Final Account filed 2/18/25 and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.
IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of **03/25/2025**. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.
Witness, HON. BRIAN J. DUNN, First Justice of this Court.
Date: February 18, 2025
Stephanie L. Everett, Esq.,
Register of Probate
Published: March 6, 2025

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE & FAMILY COURT
SUFFOLK DIVISION
24 NEW CHARDON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02114
Docket No. SU25D0040DR
DIVORCE SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING
MELISSA LAWRENCE
vs.
ADILSON FARIA
To the Defendant:
The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown. The Complaint is on file at the Court. An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411.
You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon: Melissa Lawrence, 30 Patterson St., Boston, MA 02124 your answer, if any, on or before **04/17/2025**. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court.
Witness, HON. BRIAN J. DUNN, First Justice of this Court.
Date: February 13, 2025
Stephanie L. Everett, Esq.,
Register of Probate
Published: March 6, 2025

Reporter's

People

News about people in and around our Neighborhoods



A Lifetime Achievement Award will be presented to Dorchester's Marie St. Fleur, Esq., the CEO and principal at St. Fleur Communications and former state representative at the Massachusetts Black Lawyers Association's annual gala on Fri., April 11, at 6 p.m. at the Intercontinental Boston, 510 Atlantic Ave. Each year, the MBLA awards four scholarships to deserving law students. All of our scholarships are named after distinguished Black legal professionals from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. For more info, email Nishawnda Ellis Castillo at gala@mablacklawyers.org.

Efforts to understand rare breast cancer bring together residents and researchers

Several Dorchester and South Boston residents who are members of IBC New England were participants as the group made donations to two local hospitals to support efforts to research and enhance understanding of breast cancer. Grants of more than \$12,000 each were given to the Diane Connolly-Zaniboni Fund for Breast Cancer Research at Tufts Medical Center and to the Inflammatory Breast Cancer program at Dana Farber Cancer Institute.

IBC New England was created 15 years ago to promote education and awareness about inflammatory breast cancer, a rare and aggressive form of breast cancer.

The fund at Tufts Medical Center was established in memory of Diane Connolly-Zaniboni, of South Boston, who passed away from inflammatory breast cancer in 2000. In their efforts to increase research and education on breast cancer, Diane's



At the presentation at Tufts Medical Center, from left: Cris Gourley, of Tufts Medical, Charles Tevnan, of Dorchester, member of IBC New England, Sue Asci, 24-year IBC survivor, Janice Connolly-Laubenstein, of South Boston, sister of Diane Connolly-Zaniboni (rear); James Brett, of Dorchester, (rear), Dr. Rachel Buchsbaum, Tufts Medical Center (front), Judy Connolly, sister of Diane Connolly, Ann Brady, of South Boston (front), Rep. Sean Garballey (Arlington), and Deb McKinnon, sister of Diane.

family advocated for the first-ever Breast Cancer license plate in Massachusetts. The plate was launched in 2006, and proceeds from its sales are donated to the Tufts effort. The fund there supports breast cancer research by awarding a grant to a research scholar every two years at Tufts while also setting up educational programs such as expert speakers on breast cancer includ-

ing aggressive forms of breast cancer such as IBC.

The donation to the Dana Farber will help cancer surgeons, medical oncologists, and radiation oncologists with specific expertise in diagnosing and treating IBC. The IBC center also has a research program with several active clinical trials underway, educational programs for patients and caregivers, a support group, and public aware-

ness and educational activities. The program at DFCI is the only one of its kind in the northeast. IBC New England has collaborated with DFCI to promote awareness about the disease and support educational efforts.

"When I began my journey with IBC 24 years ago, there was not a lot of IBC-specific research done nationally to consider. There was very little published informa-

tion and no IBC-specific support network," said 24-year IBC survivor Sue Asci. "Most people I spoke with had never heard of this disease.

"I joined with other survivors to change that by creating a peer-led networking group, and then in later years, the educational group IBC New England. We have seen the growth of the IBC program at Dana Farber and more clinical trials. With the advocacy efforts of Sean Garballey and Jim Brett, we now have a permanent IBC Awareness Day in Massachusetts – the second Tuesday of October – on which, to hold events, programs and educate."

IBC remains the least understood of all breast cancers and is very aggressive. The disease does not typically present with a lump and is virtually undetectable by standard mammography. Symptoms are atypical and include a red rash and swelling. IBC can be diagnosed at any age but is seen more frequently among women under the age of 45.

–SUE ASCI

Essaibi George selected to chair N.E. Women's Leadership Awards

Annisssa Essaibi George will chair this year's New England Women's Leadership Awards (NEWLA) event, which benefits the Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester (BGCD). The program will be held on Tuesday evening, May 13, at the Seaport Hotel in Boston. Honorees will be announced this month.

Essaibi George, former president and CEO of Big Sister Association of Greater Boston, a mom, a former Boston Public Schools teacher, and an At-large Boston City Councillor is the owner of Stitch House

Dorchester. She is a first generation American and lifelong Boston resident.

Her father, Ezzedine, immigrated to the United States from Tunisia in 1972 and her mom, Barbara, was born in a Displaced Persons' camp in Germany to Polish parents and came to the US in the early 1950s. Her parents met, married, and made their home in Dorchester, where they raised Annisssa, her brother, and two sisters. Like her siblings, she is a proud BGCD alum. Her favorite memories included playing low hoop basketball at

the Club and attending sewing classes.

"It's truly a full-circle moment for me," she said. "I keep thinking about what my 7-year-old self would say if she knew that many years later, she would be invited to play a major role in an organization that has meant so much to our family. I am honored to be this year's NEWLA chair."

"Annisssa has championed the passion and power of girls to succeed for the better part of her career," noted Bob Scannell, president & CEO of BGCD. "Her commitment to helping



Annisssa Essaibi George

girls succeed through mentorship and enrichment programs that support their growth and development perfectly aligns with NEWLA's mission."

She and her husband Doug are the proud parents of four boys: Douglas, and triplets Charlie, Kayden, and Samir.

Sportsmen's signs on public relations chief

Sportsmen's Tennis & Enrichment Center (Sportsmen's) has announced the hiring of Carl Thompson, a man whose career has been dedicated to serving youth and communities, as its first-ever new head of external relations.

Thompson most recently served for a decade as the executive director of the Berkshire Partners Blue Hill Club of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston. He also was a senior fellow at the Institute for Nonprofit Practice.

"Carl's extensive experience in nonprofit leadership, fundraising, and



Carl Thompson, new chief of external communications at STEC.

Photo courtesy Sportsmen's community engagement makes him an ideal fit for this new role at Sportsmen's," said Toni Wiley, CEO of Sportsmen's.

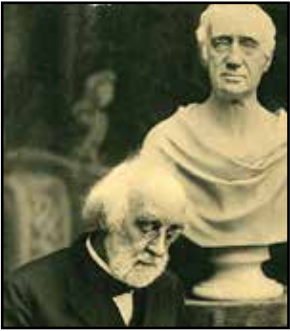
YESTERYEAR ARCHIVE

DORCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

John Joseph May, historian, abolitionist

1813-1903

John Joseph May owned an estate on the west side of Dorchester Avenue in the area between Pond Street (Crescent Avenue) and Mayfield Street. His father had founded one of the earliest hardware companies in Boston and he became a partner in his father's business. In 1837, May married Caroline Simpkins Danforth and in 1845, he bought his Dorchester land and moved there to the estate he called Mayfield. The couple were philanthropists and supported many organiza-



John Joseph May and his home off Dorchester Avenue that he called Mayfield.

tions that promoted good government and education, worked to prevent sickness, and preserved historic monuments.



May was a president of the Dorchester Historical Society and a mem-

ber of the New England Historic Genealogical Society who published a

genealogy of his family and one for his wife's family.

He was "a firm abolitionist ... When it was rumored that the Southerners would try to prevent the inauguration of President Lincoln in 1861, ... he went to Washington to join the president's bodyguard ... He personally equipped the Dorchester company of the 42nd Regiment and contributed largely to other companies," according to several historical accounts. (1)

(1) Arthur Wellington Brayley. *Schools and*

Schoolboys of Old Boston. (Boston, 1894) and a biography of May that appeared in the New England Historical and Genealogical Register, April 1904.

The archive of these historical posts can be viewed on the blog at dorchesterhistoricalsociety.org, from which The Reporter derives, often through editing for space, this weekly feature. The society's William Clapp House and James Blaine House are open to the public on the third Sunday of the month from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

A hockey adventure in divided Belfast makes me want to tear down walls

BY TARYN DANIEL
SPECIAL TO THE REPORTER
The dozens of Peace Walls in Belfast, Northern Ireland, make up a series of barriers that separate predominantly Catholic neighborhoods from the Protestant neighborhoods. They are not for the most part what they once were – attempts to prevent violence between the neighbors – but they stand as reminders of the Troubles, a 30-year period beginning in the late 1960s during which few were physically safe when crossing to the other side. Another reminder: The gates are still locked at night.

These communities fought a deadly fight over a mix of religion and politics until the so-called Good Friday Agreement of 1998 led to a calming of the violence and new government policies. As I stood in front of a Peace Wall in Belfast last November seeing it in person, I began to realize how neighbors can be separated even without walls because of their views on how life should be and on the faiths that give them strength.

I was there because I had the privilege of being chosen for The Boston to Belfast hockey cultural exchange program run by a non-profit headed up by Steve Burke. It’s an initiative that takes youth from all over Boston to historic Belfast, teaches them leadership skills, and exposes them to a different culture as they form bonds with Belfast teens via the game of hockey.

We had a personal meeting with the Lord Mayor of Belfast, and we visited many landmarks in the city, including The Peace Walls, the US Consulate, the Titanic Museum, the Belfast Soccer Stadium, and Giant’s Causeway. We attended some of the college hockey games played in the Friendship Four



Members of the Boston to Belfast delegation, including program director Steve Burke (far left), met with Belfast Lord Mayor Mickey Murray, who represents the Balmoral area of the city. The author, Taryn Daniel, stands behind his right shoulder. *Courtesy photo*

Tournament between Boston University, Harvard, Notre Dame, and Merrimack. We even got to skate between periods of the Harvard-Notre Dame game.

We also competed in a hockey tournament with Belfast kids and teens. The way we were split into many different teams meant we got to meet many different Belfast kids and to take the role of leading our own teams.

From what we learned before going to Northern Ireland, hurling and Gaelic football were only played in the Catholic

communities, and rugby was played only in Protestant communities. Even their games were divided. But hockey was considered a neutral sport by both Catholics and Protestants. The sports brought all of us kids and teens together no matter who anyone was, what they looked like, or how well they played.

Set up that way, the hockey was great. But I couldn’t stop thinking about the Peace Walls, some of which are 45 feet tall.

Being in front of such a barrier, I felt small, and I felt what it meant for people to be separated. Our tour guide, a Catholic who fought during the Troubles, said he couldn’t go to the Protestant memorial because it still hurts too much.

Many times, we can travel and look at things like the Peace Walls and make harsh judgments, not seeing how we do the same things in different ways. For me, I find there are invisible walls in Boston separating the different people here. I feel that they separate me from the suburban kids I know who have been privileged their whole life. There are different experiences and exposures that I have, and they don’t. Sometimes they see this as a threat, and many of them aren’t even allowed to travel into my community and go through the “invisible walls” here.

I also see walls dividing our city of Boston into different parts instead of all of us being a part of one city. Belfast is the same. But their walls are out in the open, and they seem to be trying to break them down in ways that maybe we aren’t.

My trip to Belfast taught me how to see things from other perspectives better. I saw that it was not only about what people believe, but for some it was all they knew. I’m not sure how to go about doing anything about these new feelings yet, but I am resolved to do something good and get involved in something good to break down barriers so that real walls or invisible walls don’t separate people anymore.

Taryn Daniel is 15 years-old. A Dorchester resident, she attends Archbishop Williams High School and plays hockey in Dorchester and West Roxbury.

2025 TAX CLINICS

FREE TAX PREPARATION

Codman Square Health Center

Mayor's Office

BOSTON TAX HELP COALITION

WHEN:

MON: 4 PM – 7:30 PM

TUES: 4 PM – 7:30 PM

SAT: 9 AM – 12 PM

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BOSTON RESIDENTS WHO WORKED IN 2024 AND QUALIFY FINANCIALLY

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WHY:

ENSURE THAT YOU GET THE EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT. MONEY IN YOUR POCKET!

WHERE:

450 WASHINGTON ST. NEXT TO THE DAILY TABLE

HOW:

DROP BY ANY TIME THE CLINIC IS OPEN. WALK-INS WELCOME!

Form 1040

Department of the Treasury—Internal Revenue Service

U.S. Individual Income Tax Return

For the year Jan. 1-Dec. 31, 2018, or other tax year beginning

Your first name and initial

If a joint return

United States Treasury

100

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QUESTIONS? CALL 617-822-8182 FOR MORE INFORMATION

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Dorchester: 450 Washington St

Roxbury: 2201 Washington St

Salem: 135 Lafayette St

QR CODE

www.dailytable.org/save

Just last week, The Reporter noted that a group of physicians who still provide care to thousands of patients in the Seton Medical building on the Carney campus have been told that they must leave their office spaces by May 22 of this year. No reason was given for the lease terminations, which were delivered to the various doctors via certified mail on Feb. 21 and Feb. 24.

Insta | FB | X = @BCYFcenters
Bluesky = @BCYF.boston.gov

Saturday, March 8
11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
BCYF Shelburne
Community Center
2730 Washington Street,
Roxbury



Councillor Julia Mejia (center) with students from Boston International Newcomer’s Academy (BINCA) in Dorchester, including Community Hub School Coordinator Ja-Han Wang. More than 40 percent of the school’s students have Dominican roots.

The Dominican community celebrates Independence Day at a Dot union hall

**BY SETH DANIEL
NEWS EDITOR**
Residents and elected officials with roots in the Dominican Republic gathered in Dorchester last Thursday morning (Feb. 27) for a second annual breakfast celebrating Dominican Independence Day that was hosted by Dorchester City Councillor Julia Mejia.

The event at the IBEW Hall on Freeport Street

was heavy with Boston-area Dominican leaders in politics, business, and community affairs and it took on a regional scope in partnership with the city of Lawrence and the state of Rhode Island with Massachusetts Lt. Gov. Kim Driscoll and Rhode Island Lt. Gov. Sabina Matos in attendance.

Mejia, a Dorchester resident, said last year that she and others in the

Dominican community wanted to honor their Independence Day, but also highlight the accomplishments and outstanding efforts by people of Dominican descent across New England.

“We took some paint from [State Sen.] Nick Collins with the St. Patrick’s Breakfast and the three Dominicans on the Boston City Council collaborated to start this event, and it was

very successful,” she said. “This year out of respect and to honor we are co-hosting with the city of Lawrence that has the largest population of Dominicans. Half of the program this year will be dedicated to Lawrence. Next year we’re going to partner with Rhode Island and Lt. Gov. Matos.”

After performances of the American and Dominican National Anthems, and youth traditional dance group Ritmo Canela, community awards were given to Juana Matias, Rafael Ruiz, Tony Barros and Daniel Peralta, Francia Gonzalez, Vilma Martinez-Dominguez, Melvin Vargas Tineo, and Pedro Pinales Martinez.

Added Lawrence state Sen. Pavel Payano: “We are not just part of the story; we are leading it.”



Youth dancers from the Ritmo Canela group performed a traditional Dominican dance.




Chanda Smart of the Kraft campaign, and Yudith Alvarez, of Hispanic Image Magazine.



Somerville Mayor Katjana Ballantyne – who got her start running a non-profit at Dorchester’s St. Mark Church – and Oscar Guerrero, director of Dominicans Living Abroad Index Boston.



The Fernandez family were front and center at the celebration, including Daniel, Jose, Ambiris, and Nelson. *Seth Daniel photos*




TEACHER PIPELINE PROGRAMS

RECRUITMENT, CULTIVATION
& DIVERSITY PROGRAMS

Are you looking to teach in the Boston Public Schools?

Free Program for Aspiring Teachers in the Boston Area!

Applications are open for the Bilingual Education/Accelerated Community To Teacher (BE/ACTT) program. BE/ACTT is a free, one-year pre-practicum program designed for career switchers, substitute teachers, paraprofessionals, and others looking to become teachers of record in BPS. There is no requirement to be bilingual to participate. Deadline to apply is April 11, 2025.



Are you already a BPS teacher who needs help with licensure?

Free BPS Initial Licensure Program!

Apply to the BPS Teaching Fellowship to advance your licensure! The BPS Teaching Fellowship (BPSTF) is BPS’ in-district educator prep program. BPSTF is a one-year practicum program designed to support novice teachers to secure initial licensure in either ESL or Moderate Disabilities. Deadline to apply is April 11, 2025.

TO APPLY, VISIT

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In the parade of Boston’s mayoral campaigns, White vs. Timilty in 1975 was a barnburner

(Continued from page 1)

the 1950s, was the displacement of thousands of households, mainly by urban renewal, together with land clearances for highway projects and expansion at Logan Airport. Between 1950 and 1980, Roxbury alone lost almost one-third of its total housing units.

One attempted remedy for displacement, through White’s “Infill Housing” program, was stymied by neighborhood opposition and the bankruptcy of the program’s lead developer. The Boston Banks Urban Renewal Group (BBURG) program, started under White in 1968 to overcome discrimination, confined mortgages for Black homebuyers to parts of Dorchester, Roxbury, and Mattapan. That resulted in property turnover accelerated by speculative blockbusting, often followed by defaults and housing abandonment.

In 1975, the outside power looming over Boston’s elected government was W. Arthur Garrity, the federal judge who had issued the desegregation order. After rejecting a less ambitious “Phase II” plan that was proposed by a group of court-appointed masters, Garrity adopted a plan devised by two experts. Though strongly supported by the Boston NAACP, the Phase II plan met with objections from several white elected officials, including White and Timilty. But the two rivals also stopped short of expressing sharply defined policy differences over desegregation. Though both called for a peaceful reopening of school, White had the incumbent’s advantage of sending the message with free TV airtime during a moratorium on campaigning.

White had won his first term in 1967 with a runoff victory, by six-and-a-half points, over Boston’s leading opponent of desegregation, School Committee member Louise Day Hicks. In a 1971 rematch, after Timilty had been eliminated in the preliminary election, White defeated Hicks by a margin of 23.3 percent. Hicks was not a candidate for mayor in 1975, but she was on the ballot, running for a seat on the all-at-large City Council.

Most of the areas carried by Hicks in her campaigns



State Senator Joseph F. Timilty addressed a candidate’s forum held in 1979 at the Old Dorchester Post in Adams Corner. Timilty, a Marine Corps veteran who lived in the Lower Mills section of Dorchester, challenged incumbent Mayor Kevin White that year after coming within 7,528 votes of the incumbent White during a more competitive contest in 1975. Timilty died in 2017 at age 79. *Chris Lovett photo*

for mayor were carried in 1975 by Timilty, including South Boston, Charlestown, Ward 18 (Hyde Park and adjacent areas), and Dorchester’s Wards 13 (Uphams Corner-Columbia-Savin Hill), 15 (Meetinghouse Hill/Fields Corer) and 16 (Neponset/Ashmont). One exception was Ward 20 (West Roxbury and part of Roslindale), which flipped for Timilty. Ward 14 (Grove Hall, Franklin Field, Wellington Hill), carried by White in 1967 with 76 percent of the vote, was carried in 1975 by Timilty, but with fewer than half the combined number of votes, a result of an accelerated exodus of its Jewish population.

A 37-year-old Marine Corps veteran who grew up in Dorchester Lower Mills, Timilty was the grandson of a state senator. He was also the nephew of a police commissioner appointed by James Michael Curley, a colorful political figure who was also the city’s last

incumbent mayor to lose a bid for re-election, in 1949. In 1972, after two terms on the City Council and his first run for mayor, Timilty won a seat in the state Senate, where his aides included a future Boston mayor from Hyde Park, Tom Menino.

The son of one former Boston city councillor and son-in-law of another, in 1960, White became, at age 31, the youngest person in the state to be elected Secretary of the Commonwealth. Before seeking his third term as mayor, he had run unsuccessfully for governor in 1970 and suffered another setback in 1972, when a chance for him to become the Democratic nominee for vice president with presidential nominee George McGovern was quashed by US Sen. Ted Kennedy.

Despite similarities in family background, the two candidates inhabited two different Boston worlds:

Timilty, in a diverse outlying neighborhood in Mattapan, with his children in the BPS; and White, in a more patrician setting at the foot of Beacon Hill. But that difference also overlapped with a common trait of style, personified by the dashing figure of John V. Lindsay, the “Silk Stocking District” congressman who was mayor of New York City from 1966 through 1973. Noted for appearing in shirtsleeves with a jacket slung over his shoulder, Lindsay looked less like a politician than an advertising visionary on “Mad Men.”

Lindsay was a new prototype, tailored for the cooler and more casual medium of television. On the heels of President Lyndon B. Johnson’s “Great Society” programs, Lindsay expanded New York’s safety net, but he also increased taxes and struggled with delivery of basic services. By 1975, with New York and Boston in crisis, the Lindsay look had lost some of its luster, even when sported locally by an underdog mayoral challenger who grew up in Dorchester.

“Timilty was not an ‘ethnic,’” recalled Ed Forry, the co-founder of the *Dorchester Reporter*. “He was an Irish kid, an Irish Catholic from St. Gregory’s. But he was sort of a ‘John Lindsay’ type, so he didn’t have a strong base of support from the white ethnics.”

Another political figure

JustBook-ish

Upcoming events

March

SAT
8

Illustrator Talk: Ekua Holmes
Join us for a talk with Illustrator, Ekua Holmes for a reading and discussion on the making of *Black Girl You Are Atlas*, and *Corsette*.
2:00pm - 3:30pm

SUN
9

Workshop: Getting Organized—Community Care
Building on our January workshop, this workshop is a chance to reconnect with folks in your community and for us to strengthen the skills of community care.
3:30pm - 5:30pm

TUES
11

Freedom Sounds: Alligator Bites Never Heal
Join Steph Davis, our music curator, for an album listening party featuring Doechii’s *Alligator Bites Never Heal*. Discussion to follow.
6:30pm - 8:00pm

WED
12

Author Talk: The Includers
Join us for a reading and conversation from writer and organizer Collette Phillips. She’ll be reading from *The Includers*, a book centering culturally relevant leadership.
6:00pm - 7:30pm

THURS
13

The Lit Lounge: Reading Party
Join us for a quiet community gathering. Bring a book or buy a book. Enjoy cookies on us. *This is a whites-only event.
6:30pm - 8:00pm

FRI
14

Author Talk & Youth Mic: Safia Elhillo
Join us for a reading from poet and author, Safia Elhillo. Safia is the author of *Bright Red Fruit*, *Girls That Never Slept* and *Home is Not a Country*. Youth Q&A and open mic to follow. All are welcome, only youth can sign.
6:00pm - 8:00pm

SUN
16

Author Talk: Ripples of Hope
Debra Bingham will be leading a talk and doing a reading of her son’s David K. Jones (1981-2023) book *Ripples of Hope in the Mississippi Delta*.
2:30pm - 4:00pm

TUES
18

Freedom Sounds: Diji Kay
Join us for a live music session featuring flutist, Diji Kay. Freedom sounds happens every Tuesday and is curated by Steph Davis.
6:30pm - 8:00pm

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Tues-Fri 2pm-8:30pm
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who grew up in St. Gregory’s Parish, Larry DiCara, made his own mark as the youngest person elected to the City Council, at age 22, in 1971. Four years later, the graduate of Boston Latin and Harvard, a political moderate with diverse support around the city, was losing ground in Dorchester and bracing himself for possible defeat, according to his memoir, “Turmoil and Transition in Boston.”

He wrote: “It was simply the worst year in politics in city history in my lifetime. The sense of betrayal and impotence churned in a cauldron that poured a poisonous potion into the very atmosphere. The evidence of political problems for me was everywhere.”

By the time the campaigning was underway, Ira Jackson, White’s chief of staff from 1972 to 1975, had left the administration. As Jackson related in a recent email, this was after he had been “totally traumatized and burned out by busing. As I recall, it was one hell of an election,” Jackson wrote, summing up the competition as a “great race and a tough slugfest” with a “formidable opponent.”

In October of 1975, many in Boston were captivated by another slugfest, the seven-game World Series match-up between the Red Sox and the Cincinnati Reds. Euphoria peaked when the Sox made their comeback in Game 6, clinched with a 12th-inning walk-off home run over the left field wall by Carlton Fisk. By the time the home team went down in Game 7, there were less than two weeks to go before the final election. And, when the contest for mayor regained the attention of voters, the news coverage was less focused on desegregation, housing, or taxes than charges of corruption.

The corruption topic was in the air as early as April, when *The Boston Globe’s* Spotlight Team revealed that Boston firefighters said they were being pressured to contribute to White’s campaign. Four months later, White’s fire commissioner and a deputy chief were under grand jury indictments for illegal fund raising. They were acquitted of the fund-raising charges—eight months after the election.

In the last weeks before the election, White faced new reporting alleging improper fund-raising, but Timilty was also tarnished, thanks to an assist from Boston’s police commissioner, Robert DiGrazia, then at the height of his popularity as a reformer. Five days before the election, in a volley of interviews with news outlets, he tied White’s challenger to disgruntled police officers, while linking some of the reports about the incumbent’s alleged corruption to feeds by organized crime figures.

In the end, a polarized electorate rendered a mixed verdict. White won a third term, but with his double-digit advantage in the preliminary round shaved by half. Hicks was the top vote-getter for City Council, with John Kerrigan, her former anti-busing ally from the School Committee, finishing seventh. DiCara came in fifth, 4,654 votes behind the body’s most combative conservative, Albert L. “Dapper” O’Neil.

In the voting for School Committee, Elvira “Pixie” Palladino, an anti-busing activist from East Boston, won her first term, finishing behind a more moderate first-timer, David Finnegan. Leading the pack was another moderate, Kathleen Sullivan.

According to *The Globe*, White’s campaign strategist John Marttila blamed the shrinking margin between election rounds on the corruption stories, as well as an incumbent’s disadvantage of being the messenger on desegregation enforcement. In “Boston Against Busing,” the historian Ronald P. Formisano cited a national factor: the “mood of disillusionment” and “an across-the-board decline in trust of public institutions,” intensified by President Nixon’s resignation in disgrace the previous year and, in April of 1975, the humiliating US withdrawal from Saigon.

Though all fifteen winners in the election were white, the margin of victory in the mayor’s race was almost exactly the same as White’s advantage with the city’s Black voters. Some of the credit for the difference was given to White’s hiring of Black



Louise Day Hicks spoke during a Dorchester forum in 1979 when she was a candidate for re-election to the Boston City Council. Hicks, who served for one term in Congress from 1971-1973, also challenged Mayor White — unsuccessfully— in 1971. She died in 2003 at age 87. Chris Lovett photo

men and women to high-level positions, including Paul Parks, Clarence “Jeep” Jones, and Alfreda Harris—in addition to patronage hires from various constituencies. As one activist recalled, “Kevin was an operator. He was good. He was smooth.”

In his book “Chain of Change,” the former state representative Mel King highlighted one more political factor: the organizing that took place in 1971 to support the mayoral candidacy of Thomas I. Atkins, the first Black member of the City Council since its conversion to an at-large body in 1951. In 1977, Boston voters, including an organized base in the Black community, elected John D. O’Bryant, the first Black to serve on the School Committee since 1901.

In 1979, King made his own first bid for mayor. Though he failed to get past the preliminary round, White supported an ordinance championed by King that would set hiring goals for “minorities,” women, and city residents on publicly funded construction projects in Boston. In that year’s final election, Timilty made his third try for mayor, but fell short of his 1975 total by more than 12 percent—more than three times the drop for White.

The 1975 election victories for Hicks and Kerrigan turned out to be their last, with their pool of support drained by the accelerated exodus from the city after the start of desegregation. Between 1970 and 1980, the city’s population declined by 12.2 percent, surpassing New York City’s 10.4 percent drop over the same period. Court intervention in the BPS was followed by interventions for other problems—such as public housing deterioration and harbor pollution—that elected officials failed to solve. Likewise, political engagement in Boston evolved further beyond the confines of electoral politics into community action, nonprofit development and services, and advocacy.

Looking back on 1975, DiCara and Forry see a time with more violence, more random crime, and more abandoned houses going up in flames. DiCara also recalled more job opportunities for people getting involved in political campaigns.

“Back then, people worked in the campaign because they wanted a job,” he said on reflection. “That’s really not the case as much anymore. Government jobs were good jobs. Government jobs provided stability. Government jobs provided opportunities in some cases to make some money on the side. Think of building inspectors. A lot of them got in trouble in those days. Very few people are out there today looking for a job with the city.”

Campaigns in 2025 can still highlight problems,

from rising taxes on residential property owners to concerns over drug use and homelessness in parts of the city. The Boston Public Schools struggle with academic performance, but without the seismic disruptions of fifty years earlier. If too much housing in 2025 is too unaffordable, and some new housing meets with opposition from neighborhood groups, the problems fifty years ago in much of the city were plummeting property values, fallout from BBURG and Infill housing, and, especially in Dorchester and Mattapan, tax assessments that failed to keep pace with the real estate market.

When Forry talks politics with fellow members of the “Boomer” generation, the most controversial topic that comes up would have been unthinkable in 1975. “They’re all left-leaning Democrats,” he said, “and their big issue is bike lanes down Boylston street. It drives them absolutely bonkers. And they hold the incumbent mayor accountable for that.”

In elections over the past two years in major US cities, two first-term mayors made national news for being voted out. Lori Lightfoot failed to reach the final election in Chicago after the city suffered, during her administration, its highest number of homicides in more than 25 years—quite unlike the sharp drop in Boston’s homicides since 2022. In San Francisco, where incumbent London Breed was voted out last November, the main issue was the concentration of homelessness, drug use, and crime in downtown areas. Similar problems have made news in downtown Boston, where the police district, Area A1, posted an increase in non-domestic aggravated assaults in 2024—though still below the district’s total for 2019, when there were also more robberies and attempted robberies.


Unlike Boston’s mayors of at least the past century, Breed’s successor, Daniel Lurie, never previously held public office. A philanthropist and heir to the Levi Strauss fortune, Lurie cast himself as the outsider running against city hall “insiders.” Likewise, Wu’s most visible challenger so far, Josh Kraft, is also a philanthropist, along with being the chair of the board for the Urban League of Eastern Massachusetts and a son of New England Patriots owner Bob Kraft.

A four-term city councillor when she was elected mayor in 2021, Wu made her mark by her detailed policy work, especially on development regulation, climate change measures, and transportation. Unlike White and Timilty, Wu was a high school valedictorian – and a Harvard University and Law School grad who, as a first-generation political candidate, became the first woman and person of color elected mayor of Boston.

If Wu and Kraft differ from their Boston predecessors, DiCara expects little change from the patterning with the city’s incumbent mayors. By his reckoning, almost any challenger in the final election could get one-third of the vote, while a “strong challenger” could get about forty percent. “And the question is,” he wondered, “where do they get the other ten percent? And, looking at the map, and I know the city precinct by precinct, I don’t see where Josh gets the votes.”

LEGAL NOTICES

<p>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. SU24P2608GD IN THE MATTER OF: GABRIEL E. TEJEDA of BOSTON, MA RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitated Person</p> <p>To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Edwin D. Tejeda of Boston, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Gabriel E. Tejeda is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Edwin D. Tejeda of Boston, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve Without Surety on the bond.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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 04/02/2025. 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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Witness, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.</p> <p>Stephanie L. Everett, Esq. Register of Probate Date: February 26, 2025 Published: March 6, 2025</p>	<p>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. SU24P2607GD IN THE MATTER OF: EWIN G. TEJEDA of BOSTON, MA RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitated Person</p> <p>To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Edwin D. Tejeda of Boston, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Ewin G. Tejeda is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Edwin D. Tejeda of Boston, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve Without Surety on the bond.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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 04/02/2025. 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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Witness, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.</p> <p>Stephanie L. Everett, Esq. Register of Probate Date: February 26, 2025 Published: March 6, 2025</p>
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They noted that garage entrances and loading docks will also have “deployable flood shields” should flooding be in the forecast.

The logo for Kerry Construction, Inc. is a black circle with a white border. Inside the circle, the text "KERRY CONSTRUCTION, INC." is written in a bold, sans-serif font. Below the company name, a list of services is provided: "Carpentry, Roofing, Gutters", "Decks & Porches", "Windows & Doors", "Snow Plowing", and "Sanding & Salting". To the left of the services list, there is a black starburst shape containing the text "Fully Licensed & Insured" in white.

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Electrification of the Fairmount Line is next step for transit equity, advocates say

(Continued from page 1)

station, Blue Hill Avenue, opening in 2019.

The latest improvement set for the Fairmount Line is the electrification pilot project proposed by Keolis Commuter Services that the MBTA approved last July. The \$54 million plan will bring battery electric multiple-unit train cars to replace the current diesel-fueled trains. These more environmentally friendly BEMUs are expected to begin operating in 2028.

Keolis is hearing from bidders on the BEMUs and it is “on track” timeline-wise, though the project is in its early stages, according to Janet Cheung, regional rail lead and program assistant at TransitMatters, an advocacy group for better transportation and accessibility.

Keolis CEO Abdellah Chajai confirmed in a written statement that the company and the MBTA are waiting on manufacturer responses. Once one is selected, Keolis will confirm plans to launch BEMU cars in 2028.

The Fairmount Indigo Transit Coalition, one of many community advocacy groups specific to the Fairmount Line, and Keolis hosted a joint event last Thursday (Feb. 27) to celebrate the electrification project as a victory for transit equity in conjunction with Black History Month.

“This was a civil rights battle, and we all worked together and coalesced to make sure that this happened for our communities, because we would



A Fairmount Line commuter rail train moved along the tracks at Hyde Park's Readville station on Feb. 27. Photo by Cynthia Bergstrom

have been left behind,” Mela Bush, co-chair of the coalition said during the event.

The MBTA has worked over the past year to reduce wait times and increase service on the Fairmount Line. New schedules were announced last May that have trains mostly running on 30-to-60-minute intervals, as opposed to the 90-minute intervals in the past. After the installation of the BEMU trains, T officials anticipate reducing intervals to 20 minutes on weekdays, as BEMUs slow down and speed up quicker than diesel trains. These continuous changes are meant to improve the reliability of the line, a move that regular commuter Jason Ellis appreciates.

“For the most part, this [train is] usually here when I get here,” said Ellis, who takes the

train from terminal to terminal three days a week for work. “When I get to South Station to go home, it’s usually right there, waiting to go.”

While officially a commuter rail line, the Fairmount Line is situated between the T’s Red and Orange Lines, where there is no rapid transit alternative into the city.

The communities along the Fairmount corridor are designated Environmental Justice Populations by the Massachusetts Office of Environmental Justice and Equity based on minority population, income, and language isolation data. A 2023 report by the Boston Public Health Commission revealed that Mattapan, one of the neighborhoods that the Fairmount Line services, has the highest rates of asthma emergency department visits in the

city.

Multiple studies show that diesel exhaust and particles exacerbate asthma symptoms. BEMU train cars operate on hybrid power, using overhead catenary wires to charge on-board batteries that move the trains. The electric power reduces both energy use and air pollution compared to diesel trains.

“It’s not just about transportation, not just

about getting you there quicker,” said Coalition co-chair Marilyn Forman. “It’s also about helping to improve the physical health of the people that are living along that line.”

Forman credited Keolis for facilitating conversations between the MBTA and community advocacy groups on how to improve the Fairmount Line and keeping communication open.

“It’s a strong partnership. We really work collaboratively and with every part of the MBTA,” said Sheri Warrington, Keolis director of public relations and government affairs. “The MBTA is supporting the Fairmount Indigo Transit Coalition and the passengers that we want to be connected with.”

At the legislative level, state Rep. Russell Holmes sees the pace of the project as “promises not kept” to the community. Then-Gov. Deval Patrick committed in 2014 to a rollout of diesel multiple units (DMU) to replace the diesel trains.

DMUs were meant to provide the Fairmount Line with faster service and shorter wait times

between trains but those plans never got off the ground. At the time, only one company responded to bid requests, and its asking price was seen as too high.

With new technology available now, Holmes said, he would hold Gov. Healey and the MBTA to the timeline they promised for BEMUs.

“Has it been a long time coming? I say yes,” he said. “I hate when we promise our community something and don’t deliver it.”

For the advocates who have spent years pushing for changes to the Fairmount Line, the electrification project is just the next step. In Forman’s words, “a closed mouth don’t get fed.”

“When someone says yes to this big thing, it makes you feel like there’s no stopping,” she said. “If you don’t advocate for the things that are going to improve the quality of life for you and your family, for your community, then nothing ever happens.”

This story is part of a partnership between the Dorchester Reporter and the Boston University Department of Journalism.



The Massachusetts Water Resources Authority

is seeking bids for the following:

BID NO.	DESCRIPTION	DATE	TIME
WRA-5613	Quality Assurance Diver Services for Wachusett and Sudbury Reservoir	03/18/25	2:00 p.m.
WRA-5614	Supply and Delivery of Sodium Hydroxide to the Deer Island Treatment Plant	03/18/25	2:00 p.m.

To access and bid on Event(s) please go to the MWRA Supplier Portal at <https://supplier.mwra.com>

LEGAL NOTICES

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT Suffolk Probate & Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Docket No. SU25P0379EA
ESTATE OF: NOAMI JAMES
DATE OF DEATH: 03/22/2018

To all interested persons:
A Petition for Late and Limited Formal Testacy and/or Appointment has been filed by Eleanor D. Elwin of Boston, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Eleanor D. Elwin of Boston, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of **04/17/2025**.

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

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

Witness, HON. BRIAN J. DUNN, First Justice of this Court.
Date: February 21, 2025
Stephanie L. Everett, Esq.
Register of Probate

Published: March 6, 2025

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 TO EXPAND THE POWERS OF A GUARDIAN
Docket No. SU24P0945GD
IN THE MATTER OF: SOL RODRIGUEZ
of DORCHESTER, MA
RESPONDENT

Incapacitated Person/Protected Person
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Mass Dept. of Mental Health of Westborough, MA in the above captioned matter requesting that the court:

Expand the powers of a Guardian of the Respondent.

The petition asks the court to make a determination that the powers of the Guardian and/or Conservator should be expanded, modified, or limited since the time of the appointment. The original petition is on file with the 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 **03/13/2025**. 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.
Stephanie L. Everett, Esq.
Register of Probate
Date: February 12, 2025

Published: March 6, 2025

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT Suffolk Probate & Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Docket No. SU25P0403EA
ESTATE OF: JACQUES FORTUNE
DATE OF DEATH: 09/22/2011

To all interested persons:
A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Yvette Adrien of Randolph, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Yvette Adrien of Randolph, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve With Corporate Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of **04/01/2025**.

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

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

Witness, HON. BRIAN J. DUNN, First Justice of this Court.
Date: February 25, 2025
Stephanie L. Everett, Esq.
Register of Probate

Published: March 6, 2025

The Massachusetts College of Art and Design (MassArt) will undergo a comprehensive evaluation visit on March 16-19, 2025, by a team representing the New England Commission of Higher Education (formerly the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, NEASC).

The New England Commission of Higher Education is one of seven accrediting commissions in the United States that provide institutional accreditation on a regional basis. Accreditation is voluntary and applies to the institution as a whole. The Commission, which is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education, accredits approximately 220 institutions in the six-state New England region as well as several other states and American-style institutions overseas.

MassArt has been accredited by the Commission since 1950 (approximately) and was last reviewed in Spring 2017. Its accreditation by the Commission encompasses the entire institution.

For the past year and a half, MassArt has been engaged in a process of self-study, addressing the Commission's Standards for Accreditation. An evaluation team will visit the institution to gather evidence that the self-study is thorough and accurate. The team will recommend to the Commission a continuing status for the institution. Following a review process, the Commission itself will take the final action.

The public is invited to submit comments regarding the institution to:

Public Comment on MassArt
New England Commission of Higher Education
301 Edgewater Place, Suite 210
Wakefield, MA 01880
Email: info@neche.org

Public Comments must address substantive matters related to the quality of the institution. The Commission cannot settle disputes between individuals and institutions, whether those involve faculty, students, administrators, or members of other groups. Comments will not be treated as confidential and must include the name, address, and telephone number of the person providing the comments.

Public Comments must be received by March 19, 2025. The Commission cannot guarantee that comments received after that date will be considered.

Liquor license for Bowdoin Street eatery sparks debate

**By SETH DANIEL
NEWS EDITOR**

A Bowdoin Street restaurant is hoping to be one of several businesses selected to receive a full liquor license in an upcoming second round of awards as part of an official push to expand opportunities in underserved parts of the city, but is getting additional scrutiny this month after residents raised concerns about past public safety problems in the business district.

The expanded permit at Pollo Restaurant was the topic of a lively debate during last Thursday evening's Greater Bowdoin Geneva Neighborhood Association (GBGNA) meeting. Members of the civic group, which has new bylaws and a new leadership structure, say they have been supportive of other liquor licenses in the area, but have specific concerns with Pollo Centro. The eatery's owner, Miguel Santana, and members of the Bowdoin Geneva Main Streets touted the license as a way to upgrade the business and help solve the problems that are frustrating neighbors.

Lisa Allen, an attorney representing Santana, said the upgrade from the existing beer and wine license to an all-alcohol license will change the dynamics at the restaurant, located at 225 Bowdoin St. Pollo now operates as a casual dine-in and take-out restaurant during the day and, with an entertainment license, they also use host after-dinner hours events. It currently closes around 11 p.m.

"He's also looking to make some upgrades to the property and make it more of a sit-down, family-friendly restaurant, where patrons and families can come in and sit down and enjoy a meal with a drink," she said. "There's not a lot of all-alcohol liquor license restaurants where patrons can go in the vicinity except one other location

(Restaurante Cesaria)."

But immediate abutters, especially on Stonehurst Street, were not in favor of the expanded permit due to issues like improper trash disposal, disruptive patrons, and music on the weekends.

"I have a problem with the liquor license; the problems don't happen on the main street," said Mary Miller. "They happen on the side streets or behind the restaurant. I'm afraid of them having a full liquor license."

Janelle Watty expressed a similar sentiment. "I'm dealing constantly with people coming back and peeing on cars or in the yard," she said. "The noise is also a thing because they are arguing with each other."

Veronica Barros, who lives behind Pollo and is the co-president of the civic group, also opposes the upgrade. "I can tell you my experience being here since Pollo has been in business has not been pleasant," she said. "They have not shown to be responsible or care about the neighbors... The music is so loud I can hear it in my house at night. If it was a responsible business and they respected us, this could be different. I wouldn't support them getting anything more than what they have."

Santana noted that he took over the building when it had been vacant for many years after the sudden closing of Gigi's Place, which closed down after a series of public safety problems. The former owners shut down the bar around 2007 but retained Gigi's Liquors farther down on Harvard Street.

Santana said he has been committed to the neighborhood, has improved the building substantially, and has attracted a better-behaved clientele.

"If there's an opportunity to enhance my business, I think I deserve a shot," he said. "There has never been a shooting, stabbing, or altercation at my business, and you can check the

record... If I'm allowed this opportunity, everything will be better because as others here know it's hard to make it on beer and wine. When you have liquor you don't need loud music or the crowds... The people attracted to beer and wine – it doesn't work financially for a restaurant."

Tony Barros, co-owner of the nearby Restaurante Cesaria, agreed with Santana and supported his effort for a full license.

"I know how hard it is to operate a full-service restaurant with just beer and wine," he said. "We almost closed our doors. He's just looking for an opportunity... When people come to his business, they will come to my business and other businesses here, too."

Advocates from Main Streets and the Cape Verdean Association of Boston (CVAB) – as well as other business owners – made the case that the business district is safer and more vibrant than it once was.

Paulo DeBarros, the director of CVAB and president of the Main Streets board, said the community blocked a brewery from locating on a nearby block, which he said was a missed opportunity.

"All we have is problems, problems, problems and it's the same people that block things on Bowdoin and it needs to stop and that's not the new neighbors," he said. "We should not be pointing fingers. We should not be trying to stop a business that is trying to thrive economically."

Bernadette Richardson said she opposes liquor on principle but felt that the negative critique of Santana's business was unfair. "I don't understand why because since he's been there it has been an improvement," she said.

Davida Andelman, former president of GBGNA, said the key now is to have conversations between all parties quickly. The matter was continued for

further discussion. Attorney Allen said their next step would be to apply to the city Licensing Board before the second round deadline in May.

THE NOTEBOOK

- **Street calming Phase 2** – A city-led Transportation Action Plan for Bowdoin Geneva will continue this spring, according to Pat Hoey of the Boston Transportation Department (BTD). He pointed out to GBGNA that the city has successfully implemented speed humps throughout the area and is now moving to five raised crosswalks at key locations, three of which will be around the UP Academy and Marshall Community Center. The other two will be on Bowdoin at Olney Street and at Mt. Ida Street. Construction is expected in early 2026.
- **"We want to try to do this every year and chip away at the action plan,"** he said.
- **Police matters** – C-11 reports the arrest of a "major player" during a mid-morning warrant operation last month at Richfield Street and Barry Road that seized drugs, a firearm, an ammunition. Police used search warrants from Dorchester and Roxbury District Courts for addresses on both streets. ... Police recently arrested a man who broke into the Cape Verdean Seventh Day Adventist Church on Hamilton Street twice in one day – nabbing him at night during the second break for the felony charge. The alarm first went off around 8 p.m. and officers found a side door open, and a back window smashed with money gone and some audio-visual equipment left by a fence. Officers had an undercover watch on the property later on when an eyewitness called in another break at the church. Detectives were quick on the scene and the man was also caught on camera. He was arrested.

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BGCD Partners with NE Patriots Foundation for Cheerleading Clinic for Members: See details below.

CONNECT THE DOT:
BGCD Partners with NE Patriots Foundation for Cheerleading Clinic for Members: Last Wednesday, BGCD partnered with the New England Patriots Foundation to host a special Cheerleading Clinic at our Marr Clubhouse! The Cheerleaders brought their energy, enthusiasm, and expertise for this specially designed clinic to inspire and empower our young athletes. Members practiced cheerleading skills, including struts, cheers, and routines, while learning more about teamwork, leadership, and sportsmanship. At the end, each member went home with a goodie bag, pom poms and a new cheer bow. A special thank you to the New England Patriots Foundation and the Patriots Cheerleaders for putting on this amazing event! To learn more about partnering with BGCD, please contact Mike Joyce at mjoyce@bgcdorchester.org.

FIND OUT WHAT'S INSIDE:
BGCD Keystone Members Cheer on Team BGCD Marathon Runners By Hosting Water Stop: On Saturday February 22nd, members of BGCD's Keystone Club came out to support our Boston Marathon runners (and others) by hosting a waterstop on a training run. Members and staff braved the cold morning to cheer on runners and offer them snacks and beverages for their long run. BGCD's Marathon team has been training for several months in preparation for the approaching Marathon. Thanks to all our team members for their efforts on behalf of BGCD. Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester (BGCD) is proud to be part of the 2025 Bank of America Boston Marathon® Official Charity Program, with 15 entries for the 129th Boston Marathon® presented by Bank of America. To learn more or to donate to Team BGCD at www.bgcdorchester.org/boston-marathon.



BGCD Keystone Members Cheer on Team BGCD Marathon Runners By Hosting Water Stop: See details below.

DID YOU KNOW:
BGCD Young Professionals & McGonagle's to Host "Trivia Night" on March 24th: Join BGCD's Young Professionals Board and McGonagle's Pub for Trivia Night! On March 24th from 7 - 10pm, grab your team for some friendly competition while enjoying a cash bar, raffles and more with proceeds benefiting our Clubs. The event will take place at McGonagle's at 367 Neponset Ave, Dorchester. Tickets are \$20 per person with a max team size of 6 and can be purchased at bit.ly/bgcdtrivia25. Can't make it to trivia? No worries! Stop by any time on March 24th, as McGonagle's will be donating 15% of all sales to BGCD from the entire day. A special thank you to our friends at McGonagle's for their support of this event! To learn more about the Young Professionals, please contact Hailey Cummings at hcummings@bgcdorchester.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Celtics Field Trip
March 6
- Shamrock Shuffle Dance
March 14
- Elevate Youth Drumlin Farm Trip
March 15
- Youth of the Year Dinner
March 20
- Young Professionals Trivia Night
@ McGonagle's Pub
March 24
- 1906 New Balance Invitational
Basketball Tournament
March 29

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RECENT OBITUARIES



COLLUPY, Margaret M. of Dorchester, formerly of Mission Hill. She was the beloved of Edward W. Collupy Sr. of Dorchester. Mother of: Edward Jr. and wife Debra Collupy of East Sandwich; Paul and wife Susan Collupy of North Attleboro; Christopher and wife Joanne Collupy of Braintree; and Joanie and husband Chris Keating of Orleans. Also survived by 11 grandchildren. Peg was also blessed with 23

great-grandchildren. Peg is survived by her sister Joan Caulfield Lyons. Peg was predeceased by her brother, Thomas Caulfield, and her sisters, Eileen Brady and Mary Caulfield. Peg worked at Saint Gregory’s rectory. She worked at the Mustard Seed Bookstore on Gallivan Boulevard and then almost to the end for Deveney & White Monuments. Donations may be made in Peg’s memory to Old Colony Hospice 321 Manley Street West Bridgewater, MA 02379, oldcolonyhospice.org/donation-overview.

DIONNE, Peter L., 84, of Readville, formerly of Dorchester. Peter is survived by his wife Ann (Costello) Dionne; his son, David and wife, Cynthia. He was preceded by his late son, John. He also leaves his sister,



Norine Robbins of Hyanis, many nieces and nephews. Preceded by his brother, Edward Dionne; and sister, Sally Hunt. He was a longtime member of John P. McKeon Post. AFSCME Retirees 93 local 293. He retired 24 years from City of Boston, Parks Dept.



DOWDALL, Joan of Dorchester. Daughter of the late Ernest L. and Grace M. (Hinckley) Dowdall.

GARVEY, Helen L., 88, of Milton, formerly of Dorchester. She was the wife of the late Attorney John M. Garvey. She taught at several inner-city schools such as the Shaw School and the Mattahunt Elementary in Dorchester. Mother to John P. Garvey and his wife Julie of Wellesley, Lawrence P. Garvey and his wife Kathleen of South Weymouth, Michaela C. Martini and her husband Thomas of Falmouth, Patrick J. Garvey of Milton, and Kevin P. Garvey of Milton. She was the sister of Richard Quirk of Dennisport, Mary Marks of Cape Coral, FL, and was predeceased by her siblings Cecelia Earle and Lawrence Quirk. Grandmother to 9.

GERMAIN, Clodel, 69, in Dorchester. Born in Hinche, Haiti to Jacques Germain and Phoebe Germain. He was a mid-



dle school teacher. Clodel is survived by daughters Valerie Fleury, Sabine Fleury-Germain, and son Pascal Fleury-Germain, his mother Phoebe Germain, sister Magguie Germain, and brothers Teddy Germain, Marcus Germain, Reginald Germain, and Evans Germain. Clodel is preceded in death by his father Jacques Germain,



HARRIS, Levi Jr., 70, of the Boston Fire Department. He was assigned to Engine 52/ Ladder 29 on Blue Hill Avenue. Son of Levi Harris Sr. and Gussie Thomas Harris. Levi is survived by his wife, Valeria Harris; children, Tremayne Harris, Leisawn Harris, and Dr. Te-Ana Harris; and 3 grandchildren; 3 siblings, Alma Harris, Sallie Harris, and Tommy Lee Harris; his mother-in-law, Ora Lee Green (Charlie Sr); sisters-in law, Carolyn McGee, Patricia Harris (James) and Theresa Harris (Willie Lee) and Shirley (Daniel); brothers- in-law, James L. Dickey, Ernest McGee and Charles Jr; he also leaves a host of aunts, cousins, nieces, nephews, extended family, and close-knit friends.



KELLEY, Robert A., 80, of Dorchester. He was the husband of the late Brigid “Bridie” (Connolly) Kelley. Bob was the son of the late Charles A. Kelley and Anne (McKeever) Kelley. Massachusetts National Guard veteran. Bob dedicated over three decades of his career to the Gillette Corporation. He was the friend of Patricia “Patty” Gilmore of Dorchester, the brother of Paul Kelley and his wife, Peg, of Weymouth, and William “Bill” Kelley and his wife, Maureen, of Lynn. He was a uncle to many nieces and nephews and a beloved cousin to

many. He was predeceased by his siblings Patricia Brady and Richard Kelley. Expressions of sympathy may be made in Bob’s memory to The Sisters of West Street, 43 West Street, Boston, MA 02111



McCANN, Joseph Gerard Sr., 84, of Norwood, originally from Dorchester. Son to Michael McCann and Mary McCann (O’Halloran.) He is survived by his wife Ruth McCann (Quirk.) He leaves his three children, daughter, Christine McCann and her husband, William Parry, son, Joseph McCann, Jr. and his wife, Lisa McCann and son, Steven McCann and his wife, Kristen McCann. “Pa” of 6 grandchildren. He is also survived by his two older brothers, Michael “Chris” McCann of Norwell, and John “Jack” McCann of Merrimack, NH. Joe worked at New England Telephone for 45 years. Joe served in the Coast Guard Reserves. Gifts may be made in Joe’s name to Providence TrinityCare Hospice Foundation.



McDERMOTT, Janet M. (Shea), 64, of Dorchester. Wife of Patrick J. McDermott of Dorchester. Mother of Erin McDermott of Dorchester, and Shannon Cappuccio and her husband Michael of Dorchester. Grandmother “Yayo” of 3. Sister of Terry Hamilton and her husband Dixon Bergman of Plymouth, Donna Brown and her late husband Robert of Pembroke, Laurie Seckinger and her husband Dave of Braintree, and the late Carol Vialpando of Quincy. Sister-in-law of Michael McDermott and his wife Mary of Manchester, NH, and Mary Ellen Hess and her husband Russell of Bridgewater. Janet is also survived by many nieces, nephews, cousins, and dear friends. Daughter of the late James and Leah Shea. She was a longtime volunteer for Mass Fallen Heroes. Please consider making a donation in memory of Janet to Turning the Tide Ovarian Cancer Retreats or to Massachusetts Fallen Heroes.



MCDEVITT, Mary Elizabeth, 95, of Dorchester. Mary was the daughter of the late Mary (Doherty) McDevitt and John McDevitt and sister of the late Helen (McDevitt) Cahill and the late Sister Susan McDevitt. Aunt of Mary Beth Cahill and Steve Champlin of Washington, DC, Ed and Mary Ann Cahill of Northborough, Joseph Cahill of Walpole, and Mary Cahill of Foxborough, Michael and Elaine Cahill of Medway, Ann and David Castagnetti, of Bethesda, MD and Clare and Paul Serrantino of Cromwell, CT. Mary worked for NE Telephone and was a Member of the NE Telephone Pioneers. She volunteered at St. Margaret’s Hospital on Tuesday nights for 40 years and was also an active member and former Secretary of the County Donegal Association of Greater Boston. Contributions can be made in Mary’s name to St John’s Food For the Poor Program, 20 Temple Street, Worcester, MA 01604 ~ stjohnsfoodforthe poor.org/donations or Elizabeth Seton Residence, 125 Oakland Street, Wellesley Hills, MA 02481 ~ elizabethseton.org/donate

MULKERN, Joseph M., of South Boston. Son of the late Francis B. and Sophie ‘Pat’ (Malinovich) Mulkern. Brother of Patricia Turner and her late husband Joseph of Braintree, Denise Bognanno and her late husband Joseph of Weymouth, Marice Mulkern and her late husband William Cleary of Savin Hill, John Mulkern and his wife Julie of Kingston, Brian Mulkern and his wife Joyce of Scituate and the late Francis B. Mulkern, Jr. Also survived by many nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews. Longtime member of the South Boston Yacht Club. Donations in memory of Joseph may be made to a charity of your choice.

O’LOUGHLIN, Anthony John Swiger, 36, of Dorchester. Anthony is survived by his parents, Stephen and Kathleen O’Loughlin of Maine; his brother, Stephen O’Loughlin of New Hampshire; and his sister, Leanna O’Loughlin Silas of Illinois. His sister, Brittany Fuentes of New York, predeceased her brother. If you wish to offer a remembrance of Anthony, the family requests that you make a donation to Boston Health Care for the Homeless in his name. <https://www.bhchp.org/get-involved/ways-to-give/#donate>

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Craft brewers say that steel prices, tariffs will hurt them, cost clients

BY ANNA RUBENSTEIN
SPECIAL TO WBUR

Small breweries were already struggling before the Trump administration imposed a 25 percent tariff on foreign steel and aluminum last week. Several Massachusetts brewers say they're worried about how price spikes for materials will harm their businesses.

Breweries have yet to hear from manufacturers how the tariff will affect pricing for cans and steel equipment such as kegs and fermenting tanks. But the numbers don't look good for an industry facing economic headwinds.

"If everything goes up [to] 25 percent, that's all the margin for a small business," said Matt Malloy, co-founder of Dorchester Brewing Co on Massachusetts Avenue. "It becomes a push, and then it becomes not worth it any longer."

Demand for beer in the US decreased during the pandemic and hasn't recovered, with sales peaking in 2019 and declining since. Shutdowns led to temporary closures of tap rooms, and inflation has driven up the cost of raw materials.

Brewers will likely pass on the new tariff costs to consumers by

increasing beer prices, some say while noting a lessening demand for beer products.

"It's insult to injury for a lot of people," said Adam Romanow, founder of Castle Island Brewing in South Boston and Norwood. "To see another potentially significant increase both to our operating materials, like cans, and to equipment that we have to invest in to grow is certainly going to create additional challenges for the industry."

During his first term, President Trump imposed a 10 percent increase on aluminum tariffs under very different circumstances: In 2018, the beer industry was thriving, and that tariff exempted Canada, where most aluminum comes from. President Biden kept the tariff in place.

Under the new tariff, the stakes are higher, Malloy said. Sitting on the top floor of Dorchester Brewing, which overlooks downtown Boston, he took out his calculator to do the math: the aluminum in each beer can costs about 12 cents. A 25 percent tariff on Canadian aluminum will add 3 cents.

A case of beer at Dorchester Brewing — which has a profit margin

of \$3 to \$6 — might cost around 72 cents more to produce.

"That might not seem like a lot — that's a lot," he said. "Who's going to pay for that? The end consumer or the small business. If the small business doesn't see value in staying around, they're just going to fold."

Chris Lohring, founder of Notch Brewing in Brighton and Salem, said he anticipates the tariffs will add \$50,000 to \$75,000 worth of expenses a year that his company can't cover without raising prices.

"The only thing we can do — so we can pay our staff a living wage, so that we can make sure we have our breweries operating efficiently — is pass that onto the consumer," he said. "Our customers are already at the top of the limit where they want to be spending for craft beer."

Lohring noted that the stated goal of the 2018 tariff — to increase aluminum production in the United States — never materialized. There are only five American smelting plants, and a statement from the Aluminum Association said this is not enough to supply the industry.

"If you're asking the United States now to provide everything, that's going to come at an expense that the consumer is not willing to spend," Lohring said.

An alternative to decreasing reliance on imports would be to recycle more, according to experts. Only 43 percent of cans were recycled in the United States in 2023, with the majority ending up in landfills.

"It would be better for business, for independence from foreign aluminum, it would be better for the environment," Lohring said. "Somehow that makes too much sense for Trump."

To weather the tariffs, some people have proposed turning back to glass bottles, but Lohring said most brewers have shifted their infrastructure to cans, which are cheaper and more environmentally friendly. Most breweries aren't able to bottle even if they wanted to, since they no longer have the equipment.

The tariff could also make it harder for smaller breweries to grow, because of higher prices for stainless steel tanks. That doesn't sit well with brewers like Lohring.

"Small businesses are



Dorchester Brewing Co. beer cans emblazoned with a commemorative Dorchester Reporter label are shown on the assembly line at DBCo's Mass Ave location in 2024. Dorchester Brewing Co. image

at the whim of an administration that was put in place through billionaires," he said. "It's not a good feeling."

Malloy is worried about what else is coming from the new administration.

If Trump imposes tariffs on European products, as he has signaled he might do, the cost of the malt Dorchester Brewing Co. imports from Germany could also rise. Malloy said he can only absorb so much before his business becomes

untenable.

"The margin for smaller breweries continues to erode," he said. "and the demand for beer is less and less ... it's a really hard combination for breweries."

This story, part of a partnership between WBUR and the Boston University Department of Journalism, was first published by WBUR on Feb. 21. The Reporter and WBUR share content through a media partnership.



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