Dorchester Reporter

"The News and Values Around the Neighborhood"

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The former Dorchester Tire Shop on Dorchester Ave., vacant for a few years now, will be converted into a new café and roastery by Tam Le, above right, and his partners Pop and Ash Chan.

Photo by Malakhai Pearson

Coffee shop, cultural hub eyed for former tire shop site in Savin Hill

By SETH DANIEL News Editor

A Vietnamese American restaurateur who has specialized in coffee is brewing up a new café concept that he says will be the anchor of a cultural events hub located on the site of the former Dorchester Tire business at 1160 Dorchester Ave. in Savin Hill.

Tam Le, whose family owns and operates Pho Hoa Restaurant at 1370 Dot Ave. north of Fields Corner, shut down his popular Reign Drink Lab adjacent to Pho Hoa last fall and moved it to South Boston. But he says the new venture – Lêgacy Càphê – will tie up the loose ends and elevate the Vietnamese coffee experience in the neighborhood.

Le hopes to introduce the concept to neighbors soon and break ground by the end of the year, with an opening next spring.

"We are approaching the one-year anniversary of closing Reign in Dorchester," he said in an interview this week. "When we closed Reign, it was only toward the end I realized the community and customers val-

(Continued on page 6)

Data reflect improvements in T service; coming fiscal storm seen perilous to gains

By Sam Drysdale and Chris Lisinski State House News Service

Does it seem like your T ride is improving? It actually might be. More than two years after a federal investigation into the MBTA outlined a pattern of "systemic failures," leadership unfamiliar with basic safety procedures, and infrastructure that was actively deteriorating, data show that the T is now showing signs of real improvement as the current crop of leaders tries to earn back the public's trust.

The T is turning the corner on some major improvements – subway slow zones expected to be eradicated by the end of the year, speeds on the Blue and Orange Lines faster than before federal intervention, the largest workforce in years – and even advocates who previously hadn't hesitated to criticize the T are now singing its praises.



MBTA General Manager Phil Eng wary of financial setbacks. SHNS photo

However, there are financial problems on the horizon that are threatening to undo all that progress and send the T spiraling, unless state officials can agree on some potentially expensive solutions.

"It would be more than a backslide. It would be a wipeout, a deletion, of many of the positive steps the T has taken in the last year and a half under Phil Eng, eliminated in one fell swoop," said Brian Kane, executive director of the watchdog MBTA Advisory Board. "You're going to lose lots and lots of momentum gained by growing the workforce."

From a train on fire to a hiring blitz

The Thit its nadir in the summer of 2022, when a series of high-profile safety failures triggered a Federal Transit Administration probe and investigators found problems stretching across the agency.

After the FTA warned that staffing shortages were putting riders and workers at risk, the MBTA in June of that year slashed weekday service on the Red, Blue, and Orange Lines to weekend levels. Gov. Charlie Baker and his team shut the Orange Line down for a month for repairs that wound up not making much of a difference.

(Continued on page 13)

Fields Corner library to close next month; \$30.9m branch will be built in its place

By Seth Daniel News Editor

The Fields Corner branch of the Boston Public Library will close on Fri., Oct. 25, when work will begin to demolish the existing building at the corner of Dorchester Avenue and Park Street and replace it with a \$30.9 million project that is expected to be completed in 2026. To note the onset of the transition, the branch will host a Grand Closing Party on Sat., Oct. 19, from noon to 2 p.m.

"The staff will relocate, and they will know where by the time we close. Then we will have a beautiful new building in two years," said Priscilla Foley, a BPL official who briefed the Friends of the Fields Corner library last week.

After the closing, there will be a two-week period where assets from the existing library will be removed and the general contractor – which has not yet been chosen – will prepare the site for demolition.

Last week, the BPL trustees approved a \$57,716 contract with Meyer, Inc. of Connecticut to move and store the library collection during construction. In that regard, other branches have been "shopping" in Fields Corner for books that won't be kept and furniture that won't be re-purposed.

The demolition of the old branch could come as soon as the first week in November. "It takes a lot (Continued on page 12)

Parks chief Ryan Woods leaving Wu administration; 24 years with agency

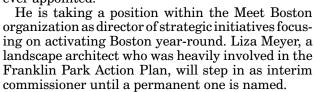
By SETH DANIEL News Editor

At the age of 16, Ryan Woods, working his first day for the Boston Parks Department, picked up a baseball and began teaching kids in Dorchester how to throw and catch it. Next month, he will leave the agency, having over 24 years climbed to the top of the organiza-

over 24 years climbed to the top of the organizational ladder as the youngest Parks Commissioner ever appointed.

Ryan Woods

Seth Daniel photo



The 40-year-old Woods took charge as Parks Commissioner in 2019 under former Mayor Marty Walsh and has continued in the role through Mayor Wu's term to date, during which time he has overseen historic investments in the city's parks over the last five years.

The job of commissioner involves overseeing 331 parks, cemeteries, golf courses and squares. "The commissioner was my fifth role at Parks in 18 years,"

(Continued on page 4)

Pressley cites need for law on school discipline equity

By Cassidy McNeeley Reporter Staff

US Rep. Ayanna Pressley said on Monday that a newly published report prepared by the federal Government Accountability Office (GAO) should prompt her colleagues in government to take action on legislation



Ayanna Pressley

she has crafted that is aimed at challenging the disparate disciplinary policies impacting Black and brown girls in K-12 public schools.

Pressley, who was joined by US House Speaker Emerita Nancy Pelosi at a press conference on the topic last week in Washington, said the report confirms what she and other advocates have long argued is a persistent problem in schools across the nation.

"The GAO's report was devastating but unsurprising," the congresswoman said. "To put it simply: This damming new report affirms what we've known all along. Black girls continue to face a crisis of criminalization in our schools, and it provides powerful new data to push back on the harmful narrative that Black girls are disciplined more because they (Continued on page 18)



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Police, Courts & Fire

C-11's 7 murders in '24 cited as driver of boost in serious crime

The latest summary of crime statistics released by the Boston Police this week show that serious – or Part One – crimes tracked by the department increased by one percent citywide through Sept. 22. The uptick was driven in part by a notable increase in homicides on District C-11, which includes much of Dorchester. There have been seven murders in the district since Jan. 1, compared to three last year in the same time span. Also on the rise in C-11, according to the BPD data: aggravated assaults, which can include shootings and other violent acts.

Murders citywide are down overall, from 29 to 14 across Boston. Notably, there have been zero homicides recorded to date this year in Area B-2, which includes Roxbury and parts of Dorchester in the Dudley Triangle and Uphams Corner.

The Boston Regional Intelligence Center, which publishes the statistics weekly, also reports that there have been 21 fewer shootings across Boston in 2024 compared to 2023. There have been 101 reported victims to date, down from 122 last year, a 17 percent drop.

A second man charged in the July 2022 murder of a 15-year-old boy on Ellington Street near Four Corners is on trial this week. Zontre Mack, 21, is charged with murder, possession of a firearm without a license, and possession of a loaded firearm without a license in the fatal shooting of Curtis Ashford Jr. on July 27, 2022. Dominick Gavin, 27, of Boston, who was also charged in connection to the fatal shooting, pleaded guilty to one count of accessory after the fact on Aug. 20. Judge Mary Ames sentenced him to three to four years in state prison.

According to DA Kevin Hayden's office, "Mack, who was 18 at the time of the shooting... fired multiple shots at a group of individuals, including Curtis Ashford Jr., gathered on Ellington Street. The group fled upon hearing the shots. Ashford was hit while trying to get away."

A police investigation located the vehicle driven by Gavin and gathered evidence, including DNA and fingerprints matched to Mack, according to Hayden's office.

A Dorchester man was arraigned last Friday on charges that he murdered Karen Taylor, 25, by repeatedly stabbing her in Roxbury on May 27, 1988, the Suffolk County District Attorney's office reported. According to the DA's office, a Suffolk County grand jury indicted James Holloman, now 65, on a charge of first-degree murder last week.

According to the DA's office: "In the late afternoon of May 27, 1988, Taylor's mother called to speak with her daughter whose three-year-old daughter answered the phone and told her grandmother that

Nominee forms available for city's Legacy Business awards

The nomination period for the city's third annual Legacy Business Awards is now open and will be through Friday, Nov. 1. Residents are encouraged to nominate long-standing businesses that have been located within Boston for at least 10 years and contribute to the cultural, historical, and societal fabric of their community or neighborhood.

To date, 60 local businesses representing 2,267 years of service to all of Boston's neighborhoods have been honored through the Legacy Business Program.

"The rich history of Boston is kept alive in these businesses," said Mayor Wu. "The Legacy Business Program not only preserves that legacy, but also provides the recognition that leads to a more prosperous future for our small business community. I want to thank our partners and the Office of Small Business for all that

they do in support of our legacy businesses."

After the nomination period closes, the City Council will review the list of nominated, eligible businesses and create a shortlist of potential awardees that a committee including representatives from City departments and Boston Main Streets will review before submitting the finalists to Mayor Wu. Selections are based on application scoring and community support. The review committee is set up to ensures that the finalists are representative of Boston by industry, neighborhood, gender, and race.

The 30 Legacy Business Award winners will be announced at a public awards ceremony next spring after which the city's Office of Small Business will provide them with access to grant funding, a commercial lease toolkit, free legal consultation, and other



Allan Edwards, owner of Allan's Formal Wear on Blue Hill Ave., with Mayor Wu in 2023. His tuxedo rental business was an inaugural winner of the Legacy Business Award.

Mayor's Office photo

technical assistance focused on succession planning and employee ownership.

The nomination form is available in English, Spanish, Haitian Creole, Simplified Chinese, Traditional Chinese, Vietnamese, Cape Verdean Creole, Portuguese, Somali, Russian, and French. Nominations are limited to one per resident. To learn more, visit boston.gov/government/cabinets/economic-opportunity-and-inclusion/legacy-business-program.

Work to begin this fall on \$300k series of field improvements to Victory Road Park

The state's Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) will close two softball fields at Victory Road Park in Neponset this fall as work begins on a \$300,000 capital improvement project. The playground and basketball courts there will

remain open.

In a statement issued on Monday, the agency said the project will include "outfield, infield, and team dugout restoration work as well as improving spectator seating and universal site access."

her mother was sleeping and she could not wake her up. The mother went to Taylor's apartment at 37 Williams St. in Roxbury but was unable to get into the building. She went around the back of the building and crawled through the window of her daughter's first floor bedroom, where she discovered her lying face-down in a pool of blood. Taylor had numerous stab wounds to her chest, head, and neck area." Taylor had been stabbed 15 times.

Holloman was taken into custody by members of the BPD's Fugitive Unit around 4:45 p.m. on Sept. 19 in the area of Chipman Street, according to BPD. —REPORTER STAFF Fencing will be erected around the work area next month. The project is

expected to be completed by next April.

-REPORTER STAFF

September 26, 2024

Dot Quadricentennial

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UPCOMING CIVIC MEETINGS AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

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emkinstitute.org/special-events

tion will lead the annual fall cleanup of the Neponset River at various locations this Saturday (Sept. 28) beginning at 9 a.m. Volunteers needed for all kinds of tasks. Details at Neponset.org/cleanup. A free event to showcase urban agriculture and climate justice work across Boston is on tap for the Nightingale Community Garden, 512 Park St. in Dorchester, this Saturday (Sept. 28) from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Trustees of Reservations and Grow Boston will host the event in collaboration with Agriculture Hall, Dorchester Food Co-op, Mothers Out Front, Save the Harbor/Save the Bay, The Food Project, Bowdoin Street Health Center, Resonant Energy, Extinction Rebellion, Codman Square Neighborhood Development Corp., ABCD, Boston Area Beekeepers and more. The event will feature games, gardening and cooking demonstrations, live animals, tractors, and resources for building a climate resilient Boston. Participants can

The Neponset River Watershed Associa-



enjoy food sold from Fresh Food Generation and music by Tjovi Ginen. Fresh flowers and produce will also be available from local urban farms. Gardeners are invited to submit their harvest in various categories including preserved food, fruits and berries, flowers and herbs (bouquet), honey, oddly shaped vegetable, general produce, and junior produce. Prizes will be awarded in each category. The grand prize will be a \$150 gift card to Comfort Kitchen. Gardeners are asked to bring their submissions by noon. Items grown in community gardens, urban home gardens and urban farms are eligible. Rain date: Sun., Sept. 29.

BMC's Vital Village Networks to host Community Leadership summit on Oct. 1-2 at Artists for Humanity EpiCenter in South Boston. The summit brings together "trailblazers from around the country who are dedicated to helping children and families get equitable access to the resources they need to thrive." Learn more and register

Edward M. Kennedy Institute

This Fall at the



Educational Field Trips



Speaker Programs



Upcoming Local Events



The City of Boston Planning Dept. will host a virtual public meeting on Thursday of this week (Sept. 26) from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. to discuss its Squares + Streets process

at vitalvillagesummit.org.

this week (Sept. 26) from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. to discuss its Squares + Streets process for Codman Square and Four Corners. Interpretation services are available in Spanish, Haitian, and Cape Verdean Creole. Call 617-918-4216 for more info. See bostonplans.org for details on joining the call. The city will also host virtual office hours to introduce zoning tools on Tuesday, Oct. 1. Go to bit.ly/SSCodman-4C-Zoning between 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. For more info, contact Lamei Zhang, 617-918-4216 or lamei.zhang@boston.gov.

Codman Square Health Center's Men of Boston Cook for Women's Health event is Thurs., Oct. 24, at 6 p.m. under the gala tent at the health center on Washington Street. See codman.org/menof-bostoncook for more info on tickets and sponsorships.

Deatrich Wise annual block party at the

Josh Kraft Mattapan Teen Center will be held on Sat., Oct. 5, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. at 10 Hazelton St., Mattapan. Farmers market, pop-up barbershop and hair braiding, photo booths. Contact Rick Aggeler at 617-533-9051 or raggeler@bgcb.org.

The city's Planning Dept. will host a virtual public meeting on Thurs., Oct. 17, from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. to discuss a proposal for 29-33 Romsey St. to include the demolition of existing, vacant structures and the construction of a 4-story, 35-unit apartment building. See page 21 for details.

The city of Boston's Mercury Recovery program hosts a zero-waste drop-off day this Saturday (Sept. 28) from 8:30 a.m.-noon, Central DPW Facility, 400 Frontage Rd., Boston. Go to boston.gov/hazardous-waste for a full list of acceptable items. Boston residents only. Proof of residency required.

SEND IN EVENT NOTICES TO NEWSEDITOR@DOTNEWS.COM

Wu hears leaders on need for Mattapan Sq. task force

By Seth Daniel News Editor

Mayor Wu told civic activists in Mattapan this month that she agrees with their idea of forming a task force to address mounting concerns about public safety and aesthetics in the Mattapan Square business district. In her first appearance at the Greater Mattapan Neighborhood Council (GMNC) since taking office, Wu and members of her staff answered a variety of questions during the Sept. 9 virtual meeting, but the focus settled on conditions in Mattapan Square over the last 18 months.

"Let's think about setting up something that's not just meetings for meetings or duplicative of another group that is doing this," Wu said. "I like to have a one-pager that says here's our mission over the next 90 days, here's the recommendations, and then there will be a phase of finding the funding for it. I think that could be a good way, and if this group wants to be the driving force behind that, we would love to provide the staffing and energy and convening structure around it."

Wu's comments came after about 20 minutes of focused discussion about Mattapan Square, which included concerns raised by GMNC chairperson Fatima Ali-Salaam and Cummins Highway neighborhood leader Ruth Georges.

"One of the things that repeatedly comes up for the many residents over the last year and a half is a constant worry about Mattapan Square," said Ali-Salaam. "Many people are quite shocked at the level of disarray we see...There are some struggling with their own addictions whether alcohol or illicit drugs. There seems to be a lack of care for what the Square looks like and it's overwhelming."

She added that one of her long-time



A rendering from a city-led re-design effort shows proposed changes to traffic flow along Blue Hill Ave. in Mattapan Square.

BTD image

neighbors shared a story about the Square that broke her heart. The neighbor brought her granddaughter there during a visit and the younger woman was shocked by what she saw there.

"The grandmother told me she felt ashamed," said Ali-Salaam. "That was like an arrow to me personally because I live near the Square. We need to figure out how to get between the building owners, shop owners, and us...Nothing has to be like this."

Georges, who is president of the Cummins Highway Neighborhood Association (CHNA), made the call for a task force.

"I do think as one resident in the community, a larger strategic conversation with multiple city departments as it relates to code enforcement on the Square, capital investments in addition to private funding opportunities that need to be looked at," she said. "I dare say we need some kind of committee

that is working in tandem with Main Streets, civic leaders, and our elected officials who have consistently listened to our frustrations on this."

She noted a major concern with the upcoming infrastructure investment along Blue Hill Avenue is how businesses and residents will attain the economic ability to stay when things improve. She stressed in a conversation with The Reporter that getting the attention of commercial building owners is going to be critical.

"The Square does not fully embody the kind of services the residents of the community want to patronize," she said. "There are a lot of owners that were here and they fled and didn't look back. They have not said to us that despite not living here, they would like to know what it is people who live here want in the Square...The city needs to commit to this task force...We have inherited a chronic issue that has been

happening for more than 20 years."

Wu said that since she has been in office, including her time as a city councillor, there have been concerns about Mattapan Square – whether those stressors are coming from the pandemic, newly arrived migrant families, the housing crisis, or the opiate crisis.

"There is this still constant thread that this is a gateway to the city of Boston and one that creates what could be a first impression for a young child or the sense of whether people feel safe and part of community," she said. "I want to take responsibility...We need to make sure the city is being as strong a partner on this as we can be."

She suggested models for the Square like those used in Uphams Corner where the Main Streets program and city worked together to hire local folks to clean and beautify the area.

The mayor said she wanted to "huddle" with elected officials and her administration team to plan for facilitating the task force with the GMNC.

Speed humps to be part of Blue Hill revamping

During the Sept. 9 meeting, the mayor introduced the new manager of the Blue Hill Avenue Re-Design Project, Maya Mudgal of the Boston Transportation Department (BTD). In a question from Rexford Road's David Holness about getting speed humps installed, Mudgal said they will be included within the Blue Hill plan for side streets on the corridor.

She said they will be outside of the regular speed hump program and will likely come before the project rolls out. "We can anticipate traffic ebbs before they even happen," she said. "We can't predict people's behavior, but we can try to anticipate that."

September is National Recovery Month



Featuring: **Dr. Joji Suzuki, MD**



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Parks chief Woods leaving Wu administration; 24 years with agency

(Continued from page 1) said Woods, who worked part time as a summertime coach through high school and college. Later, he oversaw public/private partnerships, worked in programming, was the communications director, and then deputy commissioner. Overseeing the parks has been a very special job, said the lifelong Dorchester resident because he was often improving the very parks that he used as a kid.

"The one thing I love is that I was born and raised in Dorchester and still live in Dorchester," Woods said. "To be a part of this administration and the previous administration when we had great investment in parks. Whether it was me playing ADSL soccer or Savin Hill Little League, these investments were at parks I played at when I was a kid," he said.

"Over the last five years to see McConnell Park, Town Field, Harambee Park, and Ryan Park on Dorchester Avenue get upgraded is very special. I'm also really excited about Walsh Park getting upgrades and have a home for girls softball."

Woods is so tied to parks that he and his wife Lauren bought a home across from a park in Dorchester, a property his three children play at and



City Parks Commissioner Ryan Woods will leave his position next month for a job at Meet Boston. Seth Daniel photo

that has helped him gain perspective on the system he oversees.

"I also take my kids to a lot of other parks around the city and their input has helped me a lot," he said with a laugh. "They have a rating system of 3, 2, or 1, and they'll tell me, 'Dad, that one was just a 2.' The input really has helped."

In looking back at his tenure, Woods said, it is impossible to ignore the pandemic that started a year after he took the reins. It was time when parks become a haven.

He said he thought the job was going to be "ribbon cuttings and meeting people," but it quickly turned into having to close parks and follow the latest health guidelines – producing guidance signs that had to be posted with zip ties across every property.

"We learned through Covid," he said. "People started having birthday parties there and community meetings and a lot of other gatherings. It was one place they could go safely. We even worked with the mural team to paint circles six feet apart to help people social distance.

"That's when we saw the real importance of parks and that's when the influx of investment in parks" came into play, he added. "It really put parks and the Parks Department on the front burner and showed they are important in our daily lives."

Another key outcome from his tenure was the completion of the Franklin Park Action Plan and making early investments in the program.

"We ended up with the best engagement on any project in Parks history," he said. "It took four years but now we have a roadmap and funding for Franklin Park. Sometimes a master plan goes on the shelf, but this one had funding. We don't have the \$200 million it needs, but we have the \$20 million to start."

Woods added that an executive director of Franklin Park – a key recommendation from the plan – should be in place by next month, as they are conducting in-

terviews right now.

Of course, the question he is frequently asked is which park does he enjoy the most. Is it the world-famous Kelleher Rose Garden or the breathtaking beauty along the Commonwealth Mall?

"It's actually Franklin Park," he said. "It's because every time I go to Franklin Park and walk through it, I end up going to a new location I've never been to before. All the sudden you can find yourself on Schoolmaster Hill, where Ralph Waldo Emerson had a place... or you go through the

wilderness on a path that could be in the Berkshires, but you're really in the epicenter of Boston."

Woods said that he never had a day when he didn't want to come to work, and that was mostly because of the great staff and workers who did "incredible work" day in and day out.

"I think we've done a great job and will continue to do a great job," he said. "We're so fortunate in Boston to live within a 10-minute walk of a park, and our parks offer a lot. They're more than just a bench and a trash barrel."

Kottaridis named to head city's Preservation Office

Kathy Kottaridis, a preservation professional with more than three decades of experience, will helm the city's preservation initiatives as director of Boston's Preservation Office, Mayor Wu announced this week. Her emphasis will be placed on fostering "inclusive historic narratives" and partnerships among the public, private and nonprofit sectors, the Mayor's Office said.

"Kathy brings unparalleled experience and passion for preserving Boston's historic places while elevating the sto-



Kathy Kottaridis

ries of our diverse communities will help ensure that Boston's history is honored," Wu said in a statement.

"Under her leadership, we will continue to make historic preservation a tool for social and racial equity, celebrating our past while building a future that benefits all Bostonians."

Kottaridis most recently served as executive director of Historic Boston Incorporated. In her new role, Kottaridis will oversee the Boston Landmarks Commission, the city's Historic District Commissions, the Archaeology Program, and the Commemoration Commission. She'll also lead commemorative efforts tied to the country's 250th anniversary in 2026, and the city's 400th anniversary in 2030.

- STATE HOUSE NEWS SERVICE

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Do you want to be a good neighbor?

Saturday, September 28 is Good Neighbor Day, and it's a great reminder that you can take action today and every day by becoming a volunteer with FriendshipWorks.

Our nonprofit provides elders in Boston with friendship and support through five free programs, and we're inviting you to help. Whether you assist by making weekly visits, helping with a household chore, or accompanying an older adult to a medical appointment, you'll be making their days a whole lot brighter!

Help ensure that every elder in your community feels valued and connected by volunteering today.

To learn more call (617) 482-1510, ext.147 or visit www.fw4elders.org/goodneighbor

Habla Español? (617) 482-1510, ext. 141





Bunker Hill and UMass Boston will partner on admissions

By Reporter Staff

UMass Boston and Bunker Hill Community College will launch a "new pathway" for students to transition to four-year college through a partnership agreement that will ease transfers and encourage collaboration between the two Boston campuses. The agreement, announced on Sept. 25, is dubbed the "Future Beacon Joint Admissions Program."

UMassBostonChancellor Marcelo Suárez-Orozco says it will open "a welcoming, supportive pathway for them to continue their educational journeys, find what they love, and shape meaningful careers."

Bunker Hill sends more transfer students to UMass Boston than any other institution, with roughly 300 students making the switch each year, according to UMass Boston, which added that it "welcomes more than 1,500 new transfer students annually, more than any other public university in Massachu-



 ${\bf UMass\,Boston\,Chancellor\,Marcelo\,Su\'{a}rez-Orozco.} {\it Photo\,courtesy\,UMass\,Boston}$

setts."

Said BHCC President Pam Eddinger, "We both understandwhatitmeans to serve our urban and gateway communities of first-generation college students, of immigrant families, and post-traditional learners. This joint admissions agreement not only brings our institutions closer together and more focused than ever on that critical work, but it also means our students will have a seamless opportunity to go from community college to bachelor's degree and beyond."

The agreement will allow prospective students to simultaneously apply to both BHCC and UMass Boston. Bunker Hill students will also be able to "access campus resources, including a UMass Boston Student ID, Wi-Fi, various athletic and student life

events, Beacon Fitness Center, and Healey Library resources. Upon graduation, they are guaranteed admission to UMass Boston with a 2.0 GPA or better (excluding competitive programs)."

The program also includes fee waivers for enrollment deposits and merit scholarships – up to \$2,000 per year – to eligible students.

News of the agreement comes as the overall

five-campus UMass system has seen a dip in enrollment. During a UMass Board of Trustees Administration and Finance Committee meeting last week, university officials said enrollment is up this year by a scant 0.1 percent across its campuses and acknowledged a big gap in funding for needed infrastructure repairs and upgrades. Over the past 20 years, the average annual enrollment growth rate at UMass has steadily declined.

UMass President Marty Meehan said the demand for a UMass education "remains strong" while also noting the significant demographic challenges facing universities across the nation as the population of high school graduates continues to decline, "especially in the Northeast."

"We've seen it not only with the non-elite privates, we've also seen it with the community colleges - enrollment is down significant over the last decade, as well as the state universities. At UMass, we've done much better, but like every university we're looking at these challenges, and if those challenges are left unmanaged, they'd have the potential to challenge our university as well."

Enrollment figures presented at the meeting showed 30,460 fulltime students at UMass Amherst. Enrollment at UMass Boston has risen since fiscal 2022 and stands at 13,085, while enrollment at UMass Lowell has declined over the same period to 13,521. UMass Dartmouth has 6,604 students enrolled this fiscal year, and there are 1,425 students enrolled at the UMass Chan Medical School in Worcester.

At a UMass Committee on Academic and Student Affairs meeting, also last Wednesday, Meehan gave a presentation on enrollment that mainly touched on the diversity of the incoming class of 2028

"Despite the United States Supreme Court decision last year overturning affirmative action in college admissions," he said, "UMass continues to educate a student body that is increasingly reflecting the diversity of our commonwealth. In fact, the class of 2028 is the most diverse in our university's history."

Exactly half of the incoming class at UMass are students of color, up from 48 percent in fall 2023. At UMass Boston, the most diverse of the system's campuses, 73 percent of class of 2028 members are students of color.

A State House News Service report contributed to this story.

English MCAS scores dipped across all grades

The learning loss that came about as a result of the pandemic and its shift towards remote schooling that began more than four years ago is still showing up in standardized test results, state officials said this week as they released the latest batch of MCAS scores.

Across Massachusetts, students in every grade level scored lower on English language arts in 2024 than they did a year prior, losing gains made last year in the subject and lagging far behind pre-pandemic scores.

"The road back from the pandemic is not short,"

Education Secretary Patrick Tutwiler said during a press briefing on the 2023-2024 academic year test results

The most dramatic losses were in fifth grade, where the number of students meeting or exceeding expectations fell six percentage points below last year's fifth graders on the reading and writing portion of the test. Other grades dipped between one and four percentage points from last year.

– STATE HOUSE NEWS SERVICE



Coffee shop, cultural hub eyed for former tire shop in Savin Hill

(Continued from page 1) Since then, it's been my goal to get Reign back in Dorchester."

He said that some of ued it as a local business. the things Reign lacked were seating and a food program, two priorities featured at Lêgacy. "We

Watertown's Arsenal Apartments Conveniently located near the mall and bus lines. Now taking applications for 1-2BR apartments Low Income, Aged 62+ and Disabled Must meet selection criteria and income-qualify Apply in person 465 ARSENAL ST | WATERTOWN, MA. 02472 OR CALL FOR AN APPLICATION 617-924-5565

see this as the next evolution of Reign Drink Lab in Dorchester," he added.

The new concept, just a few blocks up from Le's "home base" at Pho Hoa, comes with help in the form of a Supporting Pandemic Affected Community Enterprises (SPACE) grant from the city, and a new partnership with Ash and Pop Chan, whose family also owns the Dot Block development nearby and was instrumental in securing the Dorchester Tire site. The Chans and Le believe that with Lêgacy, they can kickstart a cultural hub for Dorchester on

the property with events, showcases, and arts presentations.

Already, the 'Illuminous' group has had a couple of shows on the property utilizing projected artwork, and that is seen as a starting point for the overall concept. "We see opening the café as the first step in realizing that vision," said Le.

Lêgacy will feature a food program that will be a fusion-oriented "spin" on classic breakfast and lunch items developed in consultation with the chefathis Quincy restaurant, Le Madeline.

The coffee will be the centerpiece though, complete with a roastery on site. Le met Vietnamese coffee producers at an industry expo in 2021 and soon after began to import coffee beans directly from Vietnam.

During that event, he had a discussion with a woman in a Vietnamese long dress, and found out that she represented

top growers in Vietnam. He said the conversation represented the beginning of "an amazing business relationship' that has resulted in him travelling to Vietnam to meet the farmers, learn how they grow the coffee beans, process them, and brew them the traditional way.

Now, as a first-generation Vietnamese American, he said he is excited to bring the coffee industry to the forefront in Dorchester while also supporting the farmers he has come to know.

"The thought of creating this bridge to Vietnam and growing the Vietnamese coffee profile in the United States while supporting these farmers in Vietnam is very meaningful to me and something I've grown very passionate about," he said.

Getting coffee beans from Vietnam is different, he explained, because Vietnamese coffee



Tam Le, coffee master

uses the Robusta bean, as opposed to the more common Arabica bean in American coffees. "That's what Vietnamese coffee is known for and what gives it that bold flavor and why it is so strong and caffeinated," he said.

For the time being, Le will be perfecting his coffee program - including the former Vietnamese cold brew he used to serve at Reign - at Le Madeline. But once the doors open at Lêgacy next year, he's confident that it will become a new coffee and cultural hub for Dorchester.



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To Dot's Yanna G, her music mirrors the life that she's living Launches debut album, 'On Everything I Love'

By NICOLE BELCASTRO SPECIAL TO THE REPORTER

On a warm evening in late July, about 80 people gathered in Dareales, a sneaker and clothing store on Dorchester Avenue, to hear the debut album of Ciana Gibson, a 20-year-old vocalist who performs as Yanna G. She can walk to the storefront boutique from her home, so the crowd that night included bunches of friends and family and teammates alongside music executives, some of whom flew into Boston to attend.

They included Chase N. Cashe, a Grammv-award-winning producer who has worked with some of the biggest names in music - from Eminem and Drake to Kendrick Lamar and Frank Ocean.

'This girl is amazing," Cashe told the hyped-up party audience. "The new generation, they got substance, they got something to say, and they're coming from a place that it's not expected from. This is a moment."

The store, packed with Boston kids, reflected the moment as the tracks from her debut album, "On Everything I Love." boomed from the speak-



Ciana Gibson, a 20-year-old vocalist who performs as Yanna G., is generating buzz with her debut album produced by Chase N. Cashe. Cassidy Nguyen photo

ers and Yanna G sang along to her own vocals.

Later, she told The Reporter that the release was about more than personal success. It was about representing the people she grew up with and "speaking the words they didn't or couldn't speak."

The album has been she notes on the album's

released by the Boston-based label Words Speak Life, a name that also serves as Yanna G's personal mantra. She sees real power in her lyrics, believing that once something's spoken, it'll come true.

"Words speak life, but this is just the intro, so," first track "Brighter Dayz." On the second, "My Desires," Yanna G leaves no room for debate about her boundaries. She'll no longer let men throw her off her schedule or mess with her mind anymore because that messes with her anxiety.

Integral to her artistry is her childhood in Dorchester, specifically her time playing basketball. The thumping beat of "Major League" takes listeners back to when Yanna G's excitedly cheered on the Celtics and went hooping with her friends.

Likening her feelings to Angel Reese's, a WNBA player who is having a historic rookie season, Yanna G tells how ready she is to bask in her success after lots of hard work. Basketball taught her "how to grind even when it's hard" and how to use her craft as an emotional outlet, except that now music's her outlet.

As she records, she channels her childhood inspirations: Lauryn Hill, Mary J. Blige, and Erykah Badu to create R&B songs infused with hip-hop elements like she did on 'Heart Breaker."

The Reporter caught up with Yanna G at The Record Co., a recording studio on Mass Ave in Newmarket with community work space. She was dressed in camo cargo pants, a Dallas stars jersey, and a camo Boston Red Sox hat. Chunky gold jewelry adorning her neck, wrists, and fingers completed the outfit, creating an effortlessly cool streetwear that looks like the ones on influencers' Instagram posts.

She popped into Studio C where her music career started three years ago. Her two EPs, singles, and album were all made in her bedroom, which has been equipped with an Amazon bundle of mu-full story; rather it just she said.

sic equipment, complete with a standing mic on her dresser surrounded by noise shoulders.

"When I'm writing, when I'm recording, those are the times when I get to cry the most, where I get to be my most vulnerable self," she said. "So being around a whole bunch of people, it's not easy for me, because I felt like I just can't open up.'

One person Yanna G opens up to is Ikenna Ndugba, her manager and a family friend. A mutual friend, the Boston-based artist Nay Speaks, was already part of the Words Speak Life label. "Obviously, I love recording by myself," she said, "but I'm trying to figure out how to mix and master, and at the same time having to email people, I was like, 'No, I need help. This is too much going on."

For Ndugba, the choice to work with Yanna G was easy since he had observed her work ethic and believed that she has a powerful message to share. He says managing Yanna G is about answering one question: "How do we make sure people hear what she's saying and feel what she's saying?"

Ndugba helped with the album's song selection, combing through Yanna G's catalog of recorded songs to pick the ones that could tell a complete story when arranged properly, interlocked like puzzle pieces. He's also there to push Yanna G when she needs it. During the creation of "On Everything I Love," Ndugba encouraged her to keep the track "My Desires" as it appears on the album rather than replacing it with a more subdued version.

Yanna G says it wasn't her intention to create an album that tells a happened that way as her music mirrors her real life, whether she's experiencing a season of heartbreak or healing.

While creating music is a cathartic experience for her, she said she hopes releasing her music will show her audience that we all have more in common with each other than we think. She hopes each listener listens to the album selfishly, taking what they need from it.

Yanna G wants her album to teach listeners a lesson that she recently learned on her own: Some relationships end without an apology or closure. "Releasing that for me was my apology to myself. I said to myself, 'Baby girl, no matter where you feel like people might owe you or what you might deserve, it can always be replenished within yourself."

The album's last song, "Sky Angel," was written after Gibson's uncle passed away last year. As she used her home studio as a creative outlet to grieve, it reminded her of her uncle's attic recording studio where she'd record her poems over a track.

She recalls thinking "release, release, release" as she recorded "Sky Angel." She made an intentional choice to end the album on a heavier note, saying, "If you sit and listen to the album again on a loop, it goes back to "Brighter Dayz." For me, going from "Sky Angel" dealing with a heavier topic, back to "Brighter Dayz," it shows there's always a brighter day."

As she continues with her career, Yanna G hopes she will remain intentional when making music for herself and others. "There's not really a motive other than I need to get this off my chest when I make music,'

Chamber music concert set for Oct. 6 in Peabody Hall at All Saints Church

Ashmont Hill Chamber Music will present a program called "memory & will" at Peabody Hall in All Saints Church, Dorchester on Sun., Oct. 6, at 4 p.m. The performance will include Steph Davis playing the marima, violinist Brian Stulligross, and Amy Advocat on the bass clarinet.

According to organizers, the "first half is concerned with the liberating power of traditional African balafon music and African-American spirituals, the second half ushers in a new, Afrofuturist aesthetic representing the imaginative sonic world of tomorrow."



Steph Davis is the featured performer at the Ashmont Hill Chamber Music concert on Oct. 6. Photo courtesy AHCM

Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$18 for students, \$3 for EBT holders. Children under 18 are free.

Tickets are available at ahchambermusic.org.

-REPORTER STAFF



Reporter's People in and around our Neighborhoods

Work Inc. custodian visits D.C. and lobbies lawmakers

Camron Canty traveled to Washington, D.C. last week to represent Dorchester's WORK Inc. at the SourceAmerica Grassroots Advocacy Conference and meet with legislators as an advocate for more opportunities for individuals with disabilities. Canty, a Quincy resident, is, through Work Inc., a custodian at the Volpe National Transportation Building in Cambridge, where he is part of the team that ensures the building is cleaned and maintained.

WORK Inc. employs 130 individuals with disabilities on AbilityOne contracts with the federal government in Massachusetts and New England.

Camron trained with WORK Inc.'s National Nonprofit Partner, SourceAmerica, and peers nationwide to pre-



Camron Canty

pare to meet with legislators during the week of September 9, when he traveled with a representative from WORK Inc. and his sister, Mackenzie, to tell his - and WORK Inc's – stories on Capitol

He spoke with staffers at the offices of US Reps. Stephen Lynch, Ayanna Pressley, Katherine Clark, and Jake Auchincloss and US Sens. Elizabeth Warren and Edward

Fontbonne Student Council members wait their turns to help bury the time capsule. Dorchester students Isis Whitney-Payne (far left) and Makayla Deschamps (third from left) are pictured with fellow Student

Fontbonne marks 70th birthday by burying mementos in a time capsule

On Sept. 9, Fontbonne Academy brought together current students and alumni, including members of the first graduating class, as it celebrated its 70th anniversary with a time capsule ceremony.

Speakers included Head of School Maura Spignesi, the newly appointed superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Archdiocese of Boston, Eileen McLaughlin, and members of the Sisters of St. Joseph, the religious order that founded the school.

A standout moment

was the address by Irene items to highlight events Desharnais, a returning alum from the Class of 1958, who shared personal memories and reflections with the students.

Students contributed several items for a time capsule buried on campus that included a variety of from 2024, including a Celtics championship banner, copies of the Milton Times and Boston Globe, Polaroid photos of students, and messages about current students' hopes and dreams for the

VNA Care 'Heroes' gala set for Nov. 2



Dr. Vin Gupta NBC medical analyst

VNA Care will hold its annual Heroes in Health Care event on Nov. 2 at the Mandarin Oriental in Boston. This year's award recipients are Nancy E. Oriol, MD, and Dr. Vin Gupta, MD, MPA.

Oriol is co-founder of The Family Van and Faculty Associate Dean for Community Engagement at Harvard Medical School and Dr. Gupta is



Dr. Nancy Oriol Founder, The Family Van

chief medical officer for Amazon Pharmacy & New Initiatives - and a medical analyst for MSNBC and NBC News.

VNA Care, the first organized visiting nurse association in the United States, has a 137-year history of providing health care in patients' homes and the community.

Her aunt's death inspires Dot resident to raise funds, join the Jimmy Fund Walk

Dorchester resident Theonide Pierre will be participating in the annual Jimmy Fund Walk to advocate for healthcare resources in Haiti, her parents' homeland. The event, set for Oct. 6, is held in Boston to raise money to support medical care and cancer research at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

Pierre, 28, says she was inspired to do the walk after her aunt passed away from ovarian cancer realized that a lot of Hai $tians\,don't\,receive\,a\,lot\,of$ health care options," she said in noting that her aunt had to travel to the Dominican Republic to receive care, a dangerous journey that she could not endure easily.

"In Haiti," Pierre said, "if you don't have the money to get the procedure right there and then they won't do the procedure on you." She added that that situation resulted in "complications with my aunt

just made it my mission to really bring awareness to a lot of countries that don't have universal health care or awareness of screenings or looking for the warning signs,' Pierre said.

Pierre, who aspires be an epidemiologist, studied anthropology and science medicine at UMass Boston. Her experience studying anthropology, she said, has inspired her to continue sharing her story and raising "Ever since then I've awareness. This year, she

will be doing the 5k walk.

"My main goal is to really be that beacon or person to really bridge the gap between accessible healthcare to other countries and not just, you know medical but also resources letting them know, 'Hey, if you're having these symptoms, you might have this, so you should just check it

To support Pierre on her walk, visit Jimmy-FundWalk org

-REPORTER STAFF

YESTERYEAR ARCHIVE

DORCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Carney Hospital closed its doors on Aug. 31 of this year, a casualty of financial decisions made by Steward Health Care Network. The hospital owes its beginning to the generosity of Andrew Carney, a Boston clothing manufacturer, who established it on the Howe estate on Dorchester Heights in South Boston. The facility moved to its location on Dorchester Avenue in Lower Mills in 1953.

The hospital was operated by the Daughers of Charity before it became part of the Archdiocese of Boston's Caritas Christi hospital system. In 2010, it was subsumed into the Steward Health Care Network.

The following are excerpts from a telegram sent to the Carney from the White House by President John F. Kennedy to Carney Administrator Sister Margaret on Oct. 8, 1963, six weeks before he was assassinated in Dallas:

"I am pleased to send greetings and congratulations to the professional, administrative and volunteer staff



A postcard showing the Carney Hospital circa 1953.

of Carney Hospital as you commemorate a century of medical service to the citizens of Boston.

"Your institution was conceived during a period of crisis and transition in American history when hospitals, although desperately needed to care for Civil War casualties, were few in number and inadequately equipped and staffed. Established in this period of great national need, Carney Hospital is among those institutions that have consistently pioneered for the best possible medical care. ...

"Over the years Bostonians have come to look upon Carney Hospital with both pride and appreciation. The contributions of your institution, however, reach far beyond the geographical boundaries of the community you serve. Progress against disease and disability in any part of our country is a step toward better health for the entire nation—one of which all Americans can acclaim."

The archive of these historical posts can be viewed on the blog at dorchesterhistorical society.org. The Society's William Clapp House and James Blake House are open to the public on the third Sunday of the month from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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Editorial



A "deployable" barrier is shown in use at the MB-TA's Aquarium subway station. City of Boston photo

On Friday, learn how 'deployables' stem flood damage

On any given day, you're likely to bump into all manner of walking tours in Downtown Boston, most of them populated by tourists following in step to a Freedom Trail guide dressed in his or her finest colonial garb.

But this Friday afternoon will feature a new cluster of pedestrians traipsing around Faneuil Hall and environs. The Wu administration has dubbed it "Deployable Day" and it's meant to be an immersive experience in the city's preparations to guard against rising sea levels and the resultant flooding that is already a fact-of-life for waterfront neighborhoods.

"Learn about the City's flood protection measures, ways to stay safe during a flood, and whether a deployable is right for you," reads a city statement promoting the tour, which will be led by Brian Swett, the city's newly installed Chief Climate Officer, and Chris Osgood, director of Climate Resilience. (The tour starts at noon at the Congress Street entrance to City Hall.)

What's a "deployable?"

As the photo here shows, it's a temporary barrier that can be installed at key locations – MBTA station entrances, building lobbies, etc. – to mitigate flooding events. They are typically metal walls that can be folded into place before a tidal event or storm to seal off infrastructure that might otherwise be inundated.

The city is calling Friday's "first annual" event a citywide training exercise, although it's mainly focused around the downtown area. But these contraptions are almost certainly going to be in use in Dorchester, South Boston, and other coastal communities in the coming years, according to city officials.

Unlike the permanent natural berms that will be landscaped along the Morrissey Boulevard corridor, for example, the deployables can be stored out of sight when they're not needed. And they are considered superior to sandbags because they can easily be re-used and do a better job in protecting assets like buildings and equipment from water damage.

Who should go to "Deployable Day?" If you live in a flood-prone zone – or manage or own a property there—it's a good opportunity to get acquainted with the technology and vendors in the industry, some of whom will be on hand to offer live demonstrations during the (cue the Gilligan's Island theme song) three-hour tour.

Get more details on the city website: boston.gov/deployables day.

- Bill Forry

The Reporter

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Which way will political wind blow in '24

By Joe Caiazzo Special to The Reporter

As the famous saying goes, "We can't direct the wind, but we can adjust the sails." Politics is a lot like sailing, and Massachusetts's 2024 Democratic primary was rough waters for a few elected officials.

Sailors – and political observers –must know the difference between the apparent and true wind to reach their goals. For the non-sailors out there, apparent wind is what you feel based on the boat's motion, while true wind is the literal direction or what you would feel standing on land.

Many politicians here in Massachusetts and across the country misread the wind in 2018 and paid the price for it in 2020 and beyond. It is important not to make the same mistakes with 2024's results. Here is why 2024's results likely aren't the true wind - and how 2018's apparent wind blew a lot of political futures onto the rocks:

Primary election turnout is too low to draw conclusions

The Massachusetts state primary is one of the latest in the nation, with only three states holding later contests. This poses a significant hurdle to potential challengers campaigning during the heart of peak vacation season. Election Day is the Tuesday following Labor Day, and there is a depressed turnout, even with aggressive vote-by-mail and early vote offerings. This year, there is no top-of-the-ticket race to attract attention: unlike in 2018, 2020, and 2022, there are no high-octane contests on the Democratic ticket for governor, senator, or Congress.

Action vs. Status Quo

With a few exceptions, primary challengers draw significant attention if they represent voters' desire for action. This year, the sample size is tiny because of Massachusetts's nation-leading rate of incumbency: more than two-thirds of incumbents faced no primary or general challenges. The sample size is two: a state representative race in Cambridge and an obscure county-wide office in Suffolk County.

In Cambridge, a young graduate student who is also a card-carrying member of the Democratic Socialists of America – the same group that formally expelled NY Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio- Cortez for being insufficiently committed to socialism – nearly defeated a self-described "progressive" who is also a senior legislative leader and long-time incumbent.

The challenger's effort was seen as quixotic until about a month before the primary, when an enormous public outcry over the lack of legislative activity, swollen leadership salaries, and committees that did not meet this session nearly swept them to victory.

Across the Charles River, a first-time candidate leveraged her traditional qualifications – she was a lawyer running for Clerk of the Supreme Judicial Court – and the support of several popular incumbents into a winning campaign against a long-time Boston City Council incumbent whose anemic campaign never provided her rationale for running.

2020's primary, general election proved '18 primary wasn't ideological

In the wake of Trump's election in 2016, a series of Democratic challengers defeated long-time incumbents: AOC defeated Congressman Joe Crowley, the third most powerful House Democrat; at home, Boston City Councilor Ayanna Pressley defeated 20-year incumbent Mike Capuano, and an outsider toppled Democrat Rep. Jeff Sanchez, the House majority's Ways and Means chairman.

Many observers – and presidential candidates – thought this meant that Bernie Sanders-style progressivism was on the march in the Democratic Party. The apparent wind of progressivism was wrong: less than two years later, in the presidential primary, voters rejected progressive stalwarts Elizabeth Warren and Bernie Sanders for Joe Biden. In 2018 and 2020, voters searched for an accessible candidate who understood their everyday struggles and was not committed to an esoteric set of legislative and socioeconomic goals.

As politicians, practitioners, and prognosticators alike plot their courses ahead, let these points serve as your lighthouse to avoid hitting the rocks. The shoreline does not change, similar to the fundamentals of electoral politics. However, the tides and wind frequently shift, as voters' hopes, desires, and needs do. Do not forget that the majority of eligible voters feel the true wind daily. It is easy to be swept up among the few people on the boat, solely focused on the apparent wind for temporary motion.

Joe Caiazzo is partner at The JCN group. He has held senior roles with the presidential campaigns of Bernie Sanders and Hillary Clinton and has worked on numerous other races, including those run by Rhode Island's Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse, Elizabeth Warren and Joseph P. Kennedy III.

MassInc poll of state voters shows a Harris landslide over Trump, with dropout RFK Jr. liked by 3 percent

AMassINC Polling Group poll published on Monday showed that nearly 6 in 10 voters said they would pick Vice President Kamala Harris, the Democratic nominee, if the election were held at the time the survey was taken (Sept. 12-Sept.18).

The Republican nominee, Donald Trump, earned 31 percent support, and 3 percent said they would select Robert F. Kennedy Jr., who in August suspended his independent campaign and endorsed Trump.

When pollsters, who interviewed 800 likely voters in a survey with a margin of error of 4.1 percentage points, limited the options to just Harris or Trump, Harris earned 63 percent support to Trump's 35 percent

Another Democrat, US Sen. Elizabeth Warren, also saw a sizable margin of support in the new poll. About 56 percent of voters said they would award Warren another term if the election were held today, compared to 35 percent who would vote for Republican John Deaton.

Top issues voters cited in the presidential election were jobs, wages and the economy (picked by 55 percent of respondents), abortion and reproductive rights (51 percent), the future of democracy in America (50 percent), and immigration policy (45 percent).

Two-thirds of likely Massachusetts voters said they think the US Supreme Court's ruling overturning the federal right to an abortion enshrined in Roe v. Wade was the wrong decision, and 62 percent also disagreed with the High Court decision that presidents have immunity from prosecution for official acts in office.

Three in four respondents said they would strongly or somewhat support a proposal to remove lifetime appointments for Supreme Court justices and instead grant each judge on the high court a single 18-year term.

As to local issues, a plurality of voters said they are displeased with Beacon Hill's lack of transparency, an issue long a target of criticism from good government activists and interest groups across the political spectrum.

When voters were asked for their views on the state's lawsuit against the town of Milton for its refusal to follow the MBTA's housing program known as the Communities Act that will be before the Supreme Judicial Court next month, 50 percent of likely voters called the law enacted in 2021 "good policy." See story, Page 11.

-REPORTER STAFF

State eyes \$100m from tax amnesty program

Massachusetts taxpayers who did not file state returns or have unpaid assessments will get a chance later this year to get back on track while avoiding the normal penalties and associated interest payments.

The Department of Revenue announced last Thursday that a new tax amnesty program will run from Nov. 1 through Dec. 30. The state over the years has periodically launched such programs as a method of getting taxpayers to comply with their obligations.

The program was authorized through an outside section of the state budget that slotted in an expectation that \$100 million in revenue collected through the amnesty program will be available to support the budget.

"I urge individuals and businesses to take this opportunity to voluntarily pay their back taxes and interest beginning Nov. 1," Revenue Commissioner Geoffrey Snyder said in a statement.

The department has a webpage up – Massachusetts

Tax Amnesty 2024 Frequently Asked Questions – with answers and a list of eligible tax types, which include individuals, businesses, estates or trusts. The program features a three-year limited look-back period for individuals who failed to file required returns.

Those ineligible for amnesty are taxpayers under tax-related criminal investigation or prosecution, those who received prior amnesty relief in 2015 or 2016 for the same tax type and period, taxpayers in active bankruptcy, and taxpayers who filed a false or fraudulent return.

Eligible taxpayers with an existing tax liability will receive an amnesty eligibility letter, the department said, and outstanding returns must be filed for the amnesty period requested, and all tax and interest due must be paid by Dec. 30, 2024.

-MICHAEL P. NORTON State House News Service

SJC sets date set for arguments over MBTA housing law effects

Campbell: Milton case is about 'who holds government power'

By Colin A. Young STATE HOUSE NEWS SERVICE

Six justices of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court will hear arguments on Mon., Oct. 7, on Attorney General Andrea Campbell's push to force Milton to comply with a 2021 zoning law. It's a case that the high court took on because of the new and important public policy issues it deals with.

The court set the specific date for arguments earlier this month, according to the case docket, and the paperwork has been coming in thick from dozens of other municipalities that will be affected by the court's ruling on their legal obligations and the state's enforcement powers under the so-called MBTA Communities Act. Those communities are trying to shape the justices' thinking on the issue.

'This is a case about the separation of powers and the rule of law — about who sets the rules that govern the Commonwealth and how they do so," the town of Milton wrote in a brief it filed last month.

Campbell filed the lawsuit against Milton and its building commissioner, Joe Atchue, in February, alleging violations of the 2021 law that requires cities and towns near T service to adopt zoning that allows multifamily housing by right in certain areas. She argues that the law does not allow for communities to opt out of new zoning requirements and is seeking court-ordered compliance. Milton officials contend that the only punishment for not complying is ineligibility for certain state grants.

"As the Town suggests, this case is about who holds government power," Campbell's office wrote in its reply brief filed last week. "The Legislature, exercising authority that it undisputedly possesses under the state Constitution, has enacted an undisputedly mandatory provision that applies to over 170 municipalities. Milton alone not only has refused to comply with that mandate, but it also insists that the Commonwealth is powerless to make it comply. But Milton cannot wall itself off from the Legislature's attempt to begin to remediate a housing crisis that affects the entire Commonwealth.'

Justice Serge Georges picked the case for full SJC consideration when he determined in March "that this case raises novel questions of law which are of public importance, and which are time sensitive and likely to recur, i.e., the scope of a municipality's legal obligations under [the MBTA Communities Act], and under the related Guidelines, and whether the Attorney General has authority and standing to enforce compliance with the same.

The court's website shows that Justice Bessie Dewar, the former state solicitor, will not participate when the case is called on Oct. 7 at 9 a.m.

"We're looking forward to that because we think it



Attorney General Andrea Campbell speaking to reporters last February.

SHNS photo by Alison Kuznitz

would be extremely helpful. We obviously wanted it sooner, but the court decided to delay it," Campbell said of the arguments Tuesday on GBH Radio. "And we think it will be helpful, because we think they will say — and we're hoping that, and pushing that through all of our filings—that not only is the MBTA Communities law mandatory, but that our office, and my office, has the authority to enforce it, and because it's mandatory and we have the authority to enforce it, we also have an obligation and responsibility to work with a municipality that's in violation of that law to get them to come into compliance.

There are 177 communities that either have or will have to rezone to encourage multi-family housing because they either host or are adjacent to MBTA service. The mandate, which lawmakers wove into an economic development package at the last minute and without real public debate, is meant to encourage needed housing production but several towns have been considering referendums similar to Milton's to ignore the law.

Campbell said a week ago Tuesday on GBH Radio that "right now, 175 are taking steps to come into compliance" and added, "So kudos to all those municipalities that will never make a list in the news." Her 175-town figure represents all affected municipalities minus Milton, which did not comply by its deadline, and Holden, the Worcester suburb that the state considers not in compliance because it has not submitted an action plan and has said it will not comply with the law by its end-of-2024 deadline.

Milton Town Meeting initially approved a zoning reform plan that would have complied with the law. But opponents of the changes worried about excess development pursued a referendum, and a majority of Milton voters chose to spike the zoning plan.

Zoning has long been the domain of municipal-

ities, contributing to lagging housing production in some places, but Campbell wrote in her lawsuit over Milton's noncompliance that "the Legislature has retained 'supreme power in zoning matters,' as long as it acts in accordance with the Home Rule Amendment," quoting from a 1973 court ruling.

In its August filing, the town of Milton acknowledged that the MBTA Communities Act "is not a toothless mandate: the MCA provides that a non-complaint municipality will lose funding under four state programs." It argues that the Legislature specifically limited the punishment for non-compliance to loss of state funding.

"The Legislature might have selected an even more forceful enforcement mechanism, such as an action by the Attorney General to require compliance, but it did not," the town wrote.

It added, "This is a separation of powers issue. In enacting a new statute, the Legislature is entitled to decide that the statutory goal is best advanced through financial penalties and not injunctive relief. Allowing the AG to always pursue injunctive relief, even if the Legislature specified only some lesser remedy, will make it impossible for the Legislature to balance competing policies and interests when establishing new statutory regimes."

On the argument related to the powers of the attorney general to enforce laws that provide for other specific remedies, Campbell has gotten some back-up from three of her predecessors.

Three men who held the attorney general's job for a consecutive 24 years – Francis Bellotti (1975 to 1987), James Shannon (1987 to 1991) and Scott Harshbarger (1991 to 1999) - filed their own brief with the SJC, supporting Campbell's position and her office's power to compel Milton into compliance.

Southie

Unpretentious, Endearing, Dangerous Joanne C. Parsons

Amazon Reviewer ..one of those books that makes you want to stay up into the wee hours to finish.'

Poll: Communities Act has majority's support

The controversial MBTA Communities Act that is scheduled for a hearing before the SJC on a lawsuit filed by the state against the town of Milton has generated plenty of handwringing around Beacon Hill, but a new poll found voters are more likely to support the zoning reform measure than oppose it.

An even 50 percent of likely voters think the law enacted in 2021 is "good policy," compared to 31 percent who called it "bad policy," according to a MassINC Polling Group poll published Monday. Another 19 percent said they did not know or would

not answer the question.

Pollsters described the law as "requir[ing] cities and towns in the MBTA region to create zoning for a certain amount of multi-family housing to be built."

The survey conducted for WBUR and Common-Wealth Beacon ran between Sept. 12 and Sept. 18 and involved 800 likely voters. It has a margin of error of 4.1 percentage points.

– CHRIS LISINSKI State House **News Service**

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Fields Corner library to close next month; \$30.9m branch will be built in its place

(Continued from page 1)

less time to take a building down that put one up," said Foley. "It's really one of those things where you'll go by one day and it's there, and then the next day it's gone."

Before that, the contractor will likely erect a fence around the site and on parts of the sidewalk and roadway to make the demolition operation safe and to delineate the construction site. A construction trailer will have to be located somewhere on site as well. Many construction management issues like these will be fine-tuned when the general contractor is actually on the job.

The final design shows a two-story building that will feature two floors of programming space to include a community room and events room.

The best estimate for the length of construction is around two years. Foley said the Adams Street library in 2019 and the Roslindale branch in 2021 were completed within 18 to 24 months, while larger projects like the Jamaica Plain and Roxbury branches took significantly longer than 24 months.

During the time the Fields Corner branch is closed, patrons will be encouraged to use the Adams Street and Codman Square branches. Meanwhile, Librarian Kim McCleary and a staff member will be holding "office hours" at Chill on Park, 142 Park St., in Fields Corner each Tuesday and Thursday from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. They will offer tech help, laptop access,



Looking down Park Street toward Adams Street.



Renderings of the new \$30.9 million Fields Corner library branch, which is about to get very real with an Oct. 25 closing date scheduled and demolition of the old building expected in early November.

Graphics courtesy of BPL

limited printing, and take book requests during those times. Chill on Park has donated the space.

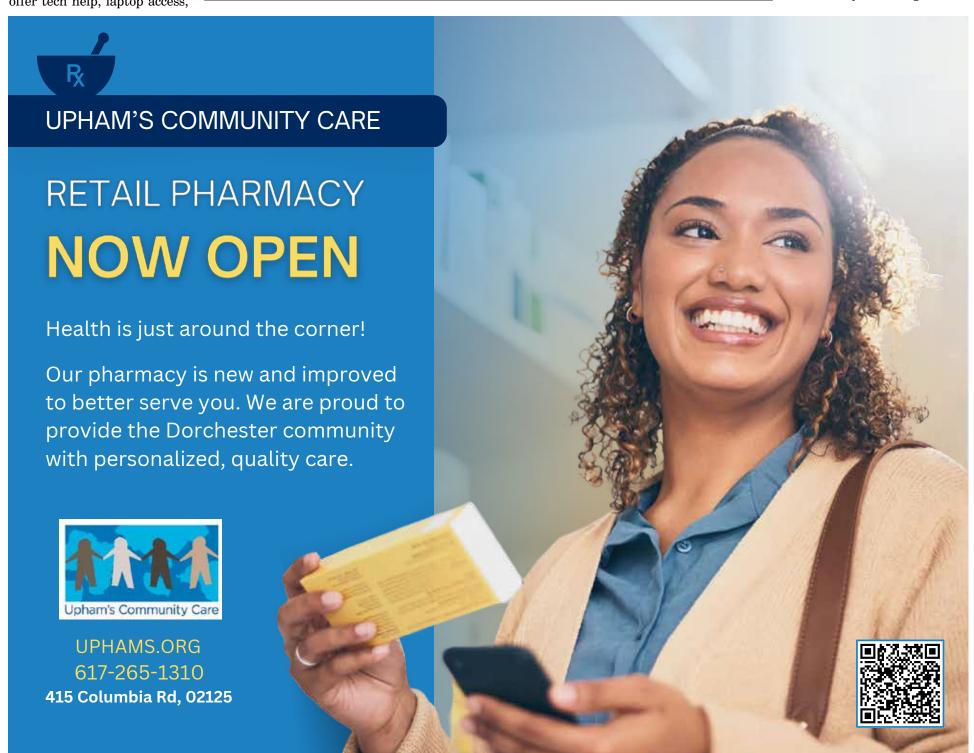
There will also be library pop-ups planned during construction for book browsing, checkouts, pre-school story-times, and other activities sponsored by local non-profits and in collaboration with the soon-to-open Just Bookish bookstore on Dorchester Avenue.

Yoga and computer classes that have been a staple at the library will be moved to nearby branches, and the BPL is working with AgeStrong to provide transportation for senior citizens.

A mobile citywide children's librarian is scheduled to be hired in the coming months and that individual's first task will be to provide programming in Fields Corner one time per week, while a permanent children's librarian will be sought next year.

Rachel Kemper, president of the Friends of the Fields Corner Library, hopes for a big turnout for the Oct. 19 event.

"It will be a thank you to the building and the staff for all these years here," she said. "This has been a very special and important place for our community for a long time."



Data reflect improvements in T service; coming fiscal storm seen perilous to gains

(Continued from page 1) And in a potent symbol, a train burst into fire on a bridge crossing the Mystic River, prompting one passenger to jump into the water below.

Even by the following year, riders were still fed up, especially after officials revealed in the spring of 2023 that they had blanketed the system with miles of speed restrictions that slowed down travel.

Confidence in the agency is at an all-time low and the agency's actions, or lack thereof, are only eroding further and making the job of advocates more difficult," Jarred Johnson, executive director of the advocacy group Transit-Matters, told T officials in July 2023, about two months after Phil Eng started as general manager. "The T is not doing a good enough job of demonstrating its care for riders."

Today, though, the message coming from TransitMatters and other MBTA-watchers is much different.

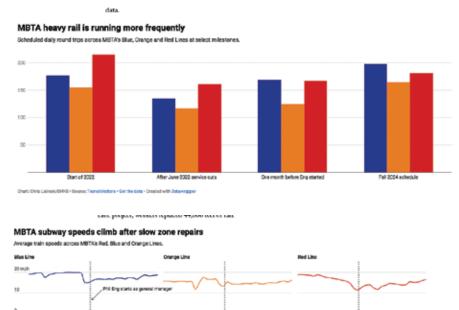
"The way the T has been operating is night and day," said Devin Matté, co-lead of the TransitMatters lab, last week. "They're giving us a tentative shutdown schedule a year in advance, communications before each shutdown, making efforts to provide better alternatives, and when the T gets back up and running you can actually feel the difference."

There are still plenty of hiccups, flaws, and missteps, but the service the MBTA is running in the fall of 2024 is a noticeable change from what riders had to contend with two-plus years ago.

Since last month, riders have been able to tap a credit card or mobile wallet to pay their fares for subways, buses and trolleys, a transformation that was once delayed indefinitely. Lower-income Bay Staters have new access to half-priced fares, another idea that had been floating around the T for years before becoming reality.

Trip frequency on the core subway system has climbed, and in some cases has completely reversed the FTA-era cuts. Under the fall 2024 schedule that took effect last month, the T now plans to run 198 Blue Line round trips and 165 Orange Line round trips on a typical weekday — the highest level since 2016, according to TransitMatters data.

The Red Line isn't quite at best-in-eight-years levels, but its trip frequency has grown, too, and MBTA officials say the line will improve even more once they finish



a 23-day shutdown for repair work.

That closure, stretching from the JFK/UMass stop in Dorchester down to Braintree, is the biggest block remaining on the calendar after nearly a year of rolling shutdowns designed to fix the slow zones that erupted into public view shortly before Eng took over.

A few shorter diversions are still to come, and Eng said the T is on schedule to complete all of the work and lift the final slow zones – spots where trains cannot operate a full speed due to safety concerns with the tracks – by the end of the year.

Through Aug. 13, before the latest Red Line work began, MBTA officials said they had lifted more than three-quarters of the speed restrictions that once plagued the system and shaved a collective 45 minutes off subway travel time as a result.

With tracks now able to support higher-speed travel, trains are moving faster, albeit not quite at the same levels they once hit. Over the past 18 months, average train speeds have increased 33 percent on the Red Line, nearly 25 percent on the Blue Line, and 12.5 percent on the Orange Line, according to a News Service analysis of TransitMatters data.

Eng attributed the upward trajectory to a combination of factors, especially an extensive repair campaign this year and a hiring blitz that pushed T staffing to the highest level in more than a decade.

"Talking with Green Line operators, for example, the track work that we've accomplished on the Green Line has allowed them to better adhere to their schedules. Better adherence means we can run more trains, and you can run more trains now because we have more operators," Eng said in an interview with the News Service. "They go hand in hand."

Bus driver hiring is up, leading to fewer dropped trips, Eng said. And on the commuter rail, ridership has been so strong in recent years that it's basically returned to pre-pandemic levels – something no other MBTA mode has come close to achieving.

Sep Jan 2024 2022

A high point, Eng said, was the June 21 championship parade for the Boston Celtics. The Tran rush-hour service across the subway system all day, plus boosted some commuter rail offerings to accommodate the crowds of fans who flooded into the city to celebrate.

"We could not have done that a year ago. The number of trains we ran all day long and the level of service we provided was something that would not have been able to have been done," he said. "We would not have been able to allow those folks to enjoy that parade in the manner that they did, getting in and even leaving as early as they wanted to or throughout the day."

The contracted repair work for all of the year-plus track improvement campaign cost roughly \$300 million altogether, according to a T spokesperson, who stressed that figure does not include additional costs of shuttle buses, materials, and some other factors. (The Boston Globe reported that the shuttle bus costs could reach as high as nearly \$194 million.)

Kane, whose organization represents cities and towns that help fund the MBTA, said the agency has "turned a corner" during Eng's tenure.

"It's a proverbial battleship turning in the ocean. You've got to start the turn way in advance. The building blocks were put in place by the [Fiscal Management and Control Board], the end of the Baker administration, and certainly this current Healey-Driscoll administration have been critical," Kane said. "The lion's share of credit has to go to Phil Eng and the

governor for hiring him."

Crews have also grown much more efficient and successful at the actual repair work, Eng said.

He pointed to the 2022 Orange Line shutdown – which all occurred under Eng's predecessor, Steve Poftak, and Gov. Baker – as a comparison. Over that 30-day span, Eng said, workers replaced 6,000 feet of rail. In the first week of the current Red Line project, workers replaced 44,000 feet of rail.

Eng was not alone in pointing to the original Orange Line closure as a far cry from today's efforts. Both Matté and Kane made the same comparison unprompted.

"Nothing changed. That was a disaster. People saw that and said, 'We don't want to do that again,'" Kane said of the 2022 shutdown. But now, he added, "people are starting to realize" tangible benefits after their commute is disrupted for a few weeks of repairs.

Asked if he had any idea why shutdowns are so much more productive today than two years ago, Kane replied, "Nothing that I'd like to say on the record."

Matté described the Orange Line fire, followed by the month-long shutdown that yielded few tangible results, as the peak of public distrust in T. "Things had not improved. Speeds had not gotten better," Matté said. "So I think there was a big expectation among people that these shutdowns don't do anything."

Matté continued, "Since Phil Enghas come in charge – and we look at every shut down, we've been tracking them – in 2024, with few exceptions, they say, 'We're going to clear x number of issues saving riders y number of minutes,' and they have been meeting that with almost every shutdown."

Eng himself compared the shutdowns happening under his tenure to the ill-fated 2022 Orange Line closure, though he held back from disparaging his predecessors. He pointed out the extra 38,000 feet of rail his team has already replaced during the first week of the Red Line shutdown, and when asked what has made the project so much more productive, he said it's all about communication and pre-planning.

"I always believe that the technical stuff is not the hard part. It's the people skills, the c eseddcfdommunication," he said.

"Nobody wants us to go back there"

Eng said he thinks the biggest hurdle on the horizon for the T is the enormous backlog of work needed to bring the entire system into a state of good repair. Last year, the agency put a \$24.5 billion price tag on fixing every asset that's currently not in a state of good repair.

In addition to the track program, Eng said there are a number of things on his to-repair list: upgrading the subway's signals, getting new Orange and Red Line cars on the tracks, eventually replacing Green Line trolleys with new Type 10 cars, modernizing stations, and improving accessible service.

For everyday riders, Matté said he hopes the T will focus next on shortening headways.

"You want to be able to just show up at the stop and know that it's not going to be that long until your next train if you miss one. You don't have to plan around a schedule, you're not late because of the T. You just know you have to get up, get to the T, and know how long it'll take you to get to your destination," Matté said. "For everyday riders, it's about dependability."

Unlike the public campaign to eradicate slow zones by the end of 2024, Eng didn't identify any one specific area among the \$24.5 billion state of good repair backlog as his primary goal for the upcoming year.

"All of these go hand in hand, and then where are the bigger things that we need to look at? And there's a lot of desire to see where do we envision taking the T in the future?" Eng said, identifying "workforce, safety, and accessibility" as key components of what he sees as the T's roadmap.

There's another, more immediate financial chasm looming that has Kane especially worried. The MBTA continues to spend significantly more money than it brings in through combined state and local assistance, fares and other sources of revenue, and the agency plans to drain a final tranche of stashed-away federal aid

this year.

In fiscal year 2026 – which begins in July – T budget-writers expect to face a roughly \$700 million budget shortfall, and they forecast the gap will grow in subsequent years. Without additional assistance or major cuts, the MBTA could run out of cash in the first quarter of fiscal 2026, the latest agency-produced forecast suggests.

Kane said a solution will need to emerge quickly, especially because the T would need to notify workers in the spring about hypothetical layoffs – putting at risk much of the improvement accomplished.

"In 2021, the T put a series of draconian service cuts on the table," he said.
"They expected to net \$142 million from that. This deficit is five times greater than that deficit. There isn't five times more service to be cut and still call themselves a public transportation agency. It's an existential crisis."

Warnings about the T's financial outlook are a perennial feature on Beacon Hill, and some skeptics might view them like a modern-day boy who cried wolf.

Kane insists that the situation is worse now because of lingering effects from the pandemic. Ridership – and the fare revenue it brings with it – still remains stuck well below pre-Covid levels, and commuters who have come back appear more likely to pay for individual trips rather than the weekly or monthly passes that steer more money to the T.

Eng said MBTA officials are talking about potential cost savings, and he suggested he is not "panicking" about the potential shortfall. He stressed that "we're not going to be able to find all of those savings on our own," seemingly hinting that the T might look for an infusion of state aid.

T officials in recent months have cast heightened attention on the agency's funding history, delivering lengthy public presentations about the "forward funding" system that dedicates a portion of the state's sales tax revenue to the agency.

"We saw the disinvestment in our infrastructure, we saw the disinvestment in our workforce, and that absolutely was the wrong direction. That's why we want to make sure that we continue to talk about how we got to where we were just a year and a halfago, and where we've come from from that point," Eng said.

He continued, "That is just to show, starkly, that we don't want to go back there. Nobody wants us

Q&A on Question 4: Whether or not to legalize psychedelics for therapeutic use?

By Walter Wuthmann WBUR

Voters will soon decide whether to legalize

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Docket No. SU24P1916GD
IN THE MATTER OF:
ROBERT MINES
of DORCHESTER, MA
RESPONDENT

Docket No. SU24P1916GD
INTHE MATTER OF:
ROBERT MINES
of DORCHESTER, 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 Robert Mines is in need of a
Guardian and requesting that (or some other
suitable person) be appointed as Guardian
to serve on the bond.

borough, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Robert Mines 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.

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 10/16/2024. 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 afficiavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

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: September 12, 2024

Published: September 26, 2024

plant-based psychedelic drugs in Massachusetts. A majority "yes" vote on Question 4 on the November ballot would approve the use of natural psychedelic substances, like psilocybin mushrooms, for people 21 and older at licensed therapy centers.

Massachusetts would then be the third state, following Oregon and Colorado, to legalize certain psychedelics, with state law creating a regulatory framework for their therapeutic use. But like cannabis, substances like psilocybin and mescaline would remain illegal at the federal level.

What exactly would Q. 4 do if passed? – The law would create a five-member "natural psychedelic substances commission" to oversee the new psychedelics industry. Similar in structure to the state cannabis control commission, the members would be chosen by the governor, attorney general, and treasurer.

What your vote will mean - A "yes vote" would allow persons over age 21 to use certain natural psychedelic substances under licensed supervision and to grow and possess limited quantities of

those substances in their home. It would also create a commission to regulate those substances. A "no vote" would make no change in the law regarding psychedelic substances.

The commission would license "psychedelic therapy centers," where people 21 and older could take certain drugs under the supervision of a licensed facilitator. The law would allow for the cultivation and sale of five types of substances: dimethyltryptamine (DMT), mescaline, ibogaine, psilocybin, and psilocyn. The commission would be tasked with defining who is allowed to administer the drugs. The first centers would not open until at least 2026.

People would not be able to buy psychedelics at retail shops, like marijuana dispensaries. However, the law would decriminalize possession and the limited growth of the drugs at home for personal use.

What do supporters argue? - Proponents argue that limited legalization would be another important step in reversing the government's decades-long war on drugs. They also point to studies

showing psychedelics' potential as a treatment for people with depression or those struggling with addiction.

Today, Boston is a hub for research into psychedelics and mental health. The Center for the Neuroscience of Psychedelics at Massachusetts General Hospital is looking into a possible treatment that combines psychedelics and MDMA with psychotherapy to treat post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) in veterans, among other related studies.

Meanwhile, Dana Farber is investigating whether psilocybin eases depression in patients with cancer. Advocates say residents deserve access to potentially revolutionary therapies.

"Voting yes on Question 4 will give veterans, patients with end-of-life distress, and people who are suffering access to this life-saving mental health tool," said Jennifer Manley, a spokesperson for Massachusetts for Mental Health Options, which has been the driving force behind the campaign. «Psychedelic medicine can provide healing and hope where other mental health treatments have failed.»



Psychedelic plants such as holy basil, coleus and lemongrass are growing in the greenhouse for research at Massachusetts General Hospital.

Jesse Costa/WBUR photo

Massachusetts for Mental Health Options is funded by the Washington, D.C.-based New Approach PAC, which also led the legalization efforts in Oregon and Colorado. The committee has received more than \$4 million in donations and in-kind contributions since its launch in the summer of 2023, primarily from wealthy donors like TOMS Shoes founder Blake Mycoskie, actress Eliza Dushku, who is

Dr. Bronner's soaps.

What do opponents argue? – Opponents worry about a proliferation of drugs that will remain federally illegal. The law would allow people to grow their own psychedelic plants in a space no larger than 144 square feet, as long as they're secured from anyone under 21. The Colorado

best known for her role in

"Buffy the Vampire Slay-

er," and All One God Faith

Inc., the company behind

psychedelics law also allows for limited home growth, while Oregon does not.

"A black market is inevitable with this amount of home growth," said Chris Keohan, a spokesperson for the Coalition for Safe Communities, a committee formed to oppose the ballot question.

Detractors also point to issues of cost and access. Early evidence from Oregon shows psychedelic treatment can cost people from \$800 to \$2,500 out of pocket.

"This measure prioritizes for-profit corporate interests over public health and dangerously and unnecessarily decriminalizes psychedelics for recreational use and distribution statewide," Keohan said.

This article was published by WBUR on Sept.20. The Reporter and WBUR share content through a media partnership.



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'Ellen's Boys' depicts family life in a Dot three-decker 60 years ago

By Cassidy McNeeley REPORTER STAFF

Next weekend a Dorchester three-decker will take center stage in Cambridge as The Foundry and True Rep Theatre present Jim Sullivan's "Ellen's Boys" on Oct. 4, 5, and 6.

The play, directed by Donald Sheehan, takes place in 1965 and follows the lives of the six kids in the Flaherty family led by Ellen, their widowed mother.

"I grew up in an Irish Catholic family, there's six of us. The play itself is based on my father's mother, who we call Nana," said Sullivan who grew up in Braintree. "Ichose Dorchester because we had gone to Dorchester when we were voung. Nana was very big in our eyes," he said, noting that his father had grown up in a two-family home in Dorchester.

He added, "The charac-

teritselfis based off of her John, of molestation. but the stories that happened in the play aren't anything that happened within the family.

Instead, the Flahertys had to come to terms with their identities and their quickly approaching decisions about their futures. This involves the storyline in which one of the sons, Gil, struggles to come to terms with his sexuality.

"Back in 1965, he would hide it. He knows that he's gay, but he hides that because he's Irish Catholic, probably goes to church each week, and probably sees a life of living with his mother," Sullivan told The Reporter. "Then this person comes into his life, and he sees this opportunity that he can go and have a real life. That's what causes the turmoil."

Gil's siblings also face their own challenges.

'There is the story of

And also, the story of the younger brother Michael who is in the army and is going out to Vietnam," Sullivan said. "A lot of things that are happening within the family."

As the Flaherty kids grapple with their destinies, Ellen is there to help. Sullivan describes her as a character "that everybody seems to identify with. They've had a grandmother like that, they've had a mother like that, and it cuts across all religions, it isn't just an Irish Catholic thing. The character is universal, and I think the stories are universal.'

To learn more about "Ellen's Boys," visit 101 Rogers St. Cambridge at 7:30 p.m. next Friday and Saturday or at 2 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets are \$30 for general admission and \$25 for students, seniors, and groups of ten or more. Tickets can be pur-



Actors Paul Noonan, Donald Sheehan, and Victoria Bond are shown in a scene from "Ellen's Boys." Denise Maccaferri photo





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Back to school and work the impact on animals

Moment of Paws

It's that time of year when we head back to school and work, and as we begin our fall routines, it's important to remember that they may increase our pet's anxiety.

Animals are much more in tune with us than you would think, and when we are back to rushing around to get out the door in the morning you may see some signs of anxiety develop in your pet - particularly dogs and cats.

This time of year, pets may follow you around more, become needier, and develop some other behavioral issues, including depression, excessive barking, house soiling, as well as destructive behavior.

Before pet owners get frustrated, here are some tips that you can build into morning and evening routines that can help alleviate their anxiety:

• Along with a morning walk, build in a five-minute play session and be sure to add in a special treat. When you leave the house, do not give a big "goodbye" as this could add to the animal's anxiety when you leave.

• Before you leave, give your dog a food-stuffed toy or food puzzle to distract them for the initial half hour after you leave. For cats, give them a perch where they can distract themselves by watching birds and the outside world; or hide pieces of dry food around the house to give them another activity.

• Leaving a radio on



can also work wonders. Hearing voices or soft music can ease your pet's anxiety and assure them that they're not alone.

• For dogs, a dog-walking service can provide a wonderful mid-day break and offer interaction with people. If you're away from home for more than eight hours, a doggie daycare facility may also be worth looking into. Keep in mind these facilities are currently not regulated in Massachusetts so it's up to pet owners to do their research – start with ARL's Board Safely guidelines to help make a smart choice.

• When you get home, set aside 10 minutes to play with your pet. For cats, bring out some special toys and get them moving, and at the end of the session a special treat

Vouchers Accepted

around in makes them even happier!

Dogs are natural greeters, so when you arrive home, it's important to reward them for calm behavior rather than talking, touching, or making eye contact when they're at the highest point of excitement. They will learn to self soothe their excitement and calm down quicker when you arrive home, again helping their anxiety and stress.

 After dinner interaction with the entire family is also important to let them know they're loved and important.

Pets have amazing, individual personalities, and if you get to a point where your pet's behavior is becoming a concern, the Animal Rescue League of Boston offers a free behavior helpline to answer questions about dogs, cats, and small animals. For assistance, call (617) 226-5666, or email behaviorhelpline@ arlboston.org.

Dr. Edward Schettino is the president and CEO of the Animal Rescue League of Boston. He holds a doctorate in Veterinary Medicine from the Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at or some catnip to roll Tufts University.

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Figure 19.

ELEANOR ELWIN, ROSAMUND ELWIN, AND GREGORY ELWIN, AS HEIRS TO THE ESTATE OF NAOMI JAMES AND THE ESTATE OF NAOMI JAMES AND ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES AND PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ESTATE OF NAOMI JAMES, Defendants:

To the above-named Defendants: Rosamund Elwin and Gregory Elwin, as Heirs to the Estate of Naomi James; and All Unknown Heirs, Devisees, and

and All Unknown Heirs. Devisees, and

and All Unknown Heirs, Devisees, and Personal Representative of the Estate of Naomi James
A Complaint has been commenced against you in the Boston Municipal Court Department, Dorchester Division, 510 Washington Street, Dorchester, Massachusetts 02124, by the Plaintiffs seeking enforcement of the statutory lien for unpaid common fees pursuant to M.G.L. c. 183A, sec. 6.
You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon Alexandra R. Hulick, Plaintiff's attorney – whose address is 45 Braintree Park, Suite 107, Braintree, MA 02184, a copy of your answer to the complaint which

copy of your answer to the complaint which is hereby served upon you, within twenty (20) days after publication of this summons, exclusive of the day of publication. You are also required to file your answer to the complaint to the office of the Clerk of this Court either before service upon Pichitiff's Court either before service upon Plaintiff's attorney or within five (5) days thereafter If you fail to meet the above requirements judgment by default may be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint. You need not appear personally in court to answer the complaint

Unless otherwise provided by Rule 13(a), your answer must state as a coun-Isola), your answer must state as a counterclaim any claim which you may have against the Plaintiffs which arises out of the transaction or occurrence that is the subject matter of the Plaintiff's claim or you will be barred from making such claim is now they cotion.

in any other action.
Witness, JAMES W. COFFEY, First Justice of said Court in Dorchester this 2024.

Published: September 26, 2024

COMMONWEALTH OF COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE & FAMILY COURT
SUFFOLK PROBATE & FAMILY COURT
24 NEW CHARDON STREET 24 NEW CHARDON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02114
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF
PETITION FOR RESIGNATION
OF A GUARDIAN OF AN
INCAPACITATED PERSON
Docket No. SU04P0012G11
IN THE MATTER OF:
RAYMOND TIBBS
of BOSTON, MA
RESPONDENT
ncapacitated Person/Protected Perso

Incapacitated Person/Protected Person To the named Respondent and all other To the named Respondent and all ther interested persons, a petition has been filed by David A. Culliton of Greenfield, MA in the above captioned matter requesting that the court: Accept the Resignation of the Guardian of the Respondent.

The petition asks the Court to make a determination that the Guardian and/or Conservator should be allowed to resign; or that should be removed for good gauge; or that

should be removed for good cause; or that the Guardianship and/or Conservatorship is

the Guardianship and/or Conservatorship is no longer necessary and therefore should be terminated. 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 10/15/2024. This day is NOT return date of 10/15/2024. Inis day is NO1 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

30 days after the return date

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the abovenamed person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the ight to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make his request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person canno afford a lawyer, one may be appointed a State expense.

Witness, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First lustice of this Court

Justice of this Court.

Stephanie L. Everett, Esq. Register of Probate Date: September 4, 2024

Published: September 26, 2024



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Pressley cites need for law on school discipline equity

(Continued from page 1)

misbehave more."

She added, "Despite making up only 15 percent of all girls in public schools, Black girls received nearly half of all suspensions and expulsions in the 2017-2018 school year. Nationally, Black girls were disciplined more than three times the rate of white girls and in my home state of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Black girls were suspended at 4.2 times the rate of their white peers."

The report was commissioned in 2022 after Pressley and Pelosi called on the GAO to take up the issue and report back to Congress. The agency analyzed '17-'18 data on rates of suspension and expulsion. Asked how those numbers stacked up against the 2023-2024 school year nationally, Pressley offered her opinion that "it may be even worse."

On Monday, Pressley said her interest in the problem dates back to her time on the Boston City Council when two Black sisters at Mystic Valley Charter School in Malden were punished for wearing hair extensions.

"This was pre-my alopecia, and I was wearing my hair in a protective hairstyle as well," Pressley said. "I thought this was likely a systemic issue and they were not an anomaly and then I conducted evidence-based focus groups with 100 girls working closely with Dr. Monique Couvson, president of The National Black Women's Justice Institute at



US Rep. Ayanna Pressley spoke during a press conference on Sept. 20 outside the US Capitol building to counter false GOP claims targeting Haitian mirgants. Pressley, who serves as the co-chair of the House Haiti Caucus, introduced a resolution calling on Congress to denounce racism directed at Haitians.

Photo courtesy House Haiti Caucus

the time. It was that research that became the foundation of [the legislation] that I introduced once I was in Congress."

Pressley's bill – H.R.5325, dubbed the PUSHOUT Act – stands for ending Punitive, Unfair, School-based Harm that is Overt and Unresponsive to Trauma. Pressley says it is meant to disrupt the cycle of Black girls being pushed out of school by investing in safe and nurturing school environments for all students, especially girls of color.

Race is not the sole indicator of how students across the country are treated unfairly, she said. The GAO report illustrated that while Black girls receive more and harsher discipline than their white peers, Black girls with disabilities or in the LGBTQIA+ community

experience disproportionately severe discipline than their cisgender, heterosexual, able-bodied classmates.

That resonates with Dr. Monique Couvson, author of "Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in School," a book on the subject.

"As a former educator and principal investigator of evaluations for school-based programs," Couvson said, " I know that the safest schools for Black, Latina/e, and Indigenous girls and gender-expansive youth are those that operate with the belief that no child is disposable.

"That demonstrates this by building an infrastructure, which includes counselors and restorative approaches, to respond to children appropriately when they experience dysregulation."

She added, "The Ending PUSHOUT Act is an important effort to grow our schools' capacity to be locations for healing, so they can fully realize their potential as locations for learning."

In Pressley's view, the unfair treatment of Black and brown girls in schools correlates to the treatment minorities face far beyond the hallways and classrooms.

"All the recent youth risk behavior surveys have pointed to the ways," she said, "in which students of color, LGBTQ students, disabled students, and immigrant students have felt more vulnerable and more targeted and that has everything to do with an emboldened white nationalism and emboldened racism and bigotry that is

fanned by the rhetoric of Donald Trump and JD Vance and their allies."

Pelosi, in her remarks last week, urged Congress to act on what she called a "ground-breaking GAO report that highlights the unaccepted discrimination that Black and brown girls face in K-12. We're talking little girls, every day. When people ask me what the most important issues is facing our Congress, I always say the same thing. Our children, that's all of our children."

While Pressley's legislation is unlikely to move in this current session, she thinks Massachusetts can be a leader through state law.

"I hope once we are not in the legislative session and I am back in the district and we're doing events in the community to sound the alarm and raise awareness about this report, that Massachusetts will want to be a leader," she told The Reporter. That we're not waiting until I moved federal legislation to begin to root these things out.

"While we have been under this Republican majority, they have not been leading on these issues that are a true consequence to everyone that calls this country home. They have not been centering the people and this is a systemic crisis, the pushout crisis, and we have to end it," said Pressley. "I need Hakeem Jeffries to get that gavel and be our speaker and for the Democrats to be back in the majority so that we can advance this."





BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF DORCHESTER

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Team BGCD Takes Part in 34th Annual Rodman Ride for Kids: See details

CONNECT THE DOT: Team BGCD Takes Part in 34th Annual Rodman Ride for Kids: On Saturday, September 21st, Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester participated in the 34th Annual Rodman Ride for Kids in Foxborough, MA. Rodman Ride for Kids is the #1 athletic event in the country that helps support at-risk youth. This year we had a team of 31 combined participants who did the 25 or 50 mile route as well as others who participated in the "Choose Your Own Adventure" virtual Ride. Our team was made up of staff, board members, alumni and friends, all of whom showed up to help support programming at BGCD. If you are able, please consider supporting Team BGCD to help us reach our goal! To donate to Team BGCD, please visit bgcdorchester.org/ rodman-ride. Thanks to all of our riders who participated and worked hard to fundraise for our Clubs!

FIND OUT WHAT'S INSIDE:
BGCD Dance Program Hosts Tryouts
for Upcoming Fall Team: The Dance
Program at Boys & Girls Clubs of
Dorchester, under the leadership of
Shannon Zarnoch, offers a variety
of classes as part of the evening
enrichment schedule. Two of these
groups include our Senior Dance Team
and Junior Dance Team, which will take
part in competitions throughout the
year. Last week, we held try-outs for
the Junior Dance team which will begin
classes next week. Congratulations
to the members selected to join the
team!

BGCD's After School Evening Enrichment begins September 30th. To see all the programs being offered this fall, visit bgcdorchester.org/ programs. For more information on the BGCD Dance Program, please contact Shannon Zarnoch at szarnoch@ bgcdorchester.org.



BGCD Dance Program Hosts Tryouts for Upcoming Fall Team: See details below.

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past week, Boys & Girls Clubs of
Dorchester received a generous
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assignments. Thank you to our friends
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UPCOMING EVENTS

Challenger Soccer Season Begins September 29 *Pre-Registration required, Email eferrara@bgcdorchester.org

After School Evening Enrichment
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Zachary Fenton made his professional boxing debut on Aug. 23 where he beat Moises Rivera with a second-round knockout.

Emily Harney photos

Three Dot boxers find grooves with Savin Hill trainer Jay Kelly

By Cassidy McNeeley Reporter Staff

Over the past few weeks three boxers, each at a different point in his professional career, have made some noise in the ring. While they vary in age and weight class, their deep Dorchester roots have tied them together under the training skills of Savin Hill native Jay Kelly, a former fighter.

Boxing has allowed Marc Anthony Muniz, Anthony Hines, and Zachary Fenton to go places they never thought was possible. Now, with Kelly's help, they hope to inspire the next generation of local kids to leave the streets for the ring.

"It definitely kept me out of the streets," said Muniz. "I think boxing is great. I'd love to be a positive influence on the kids because I felt like it was good for me. It kept me from hanging out with the wrong people and it kept me in the gym,



Marc Anthony Muniz defeated Austin Reed in a first-round knockout and is now 5-0 in his professional career.

in shape, and made me think about my health."

Muniz's boxing career began when Kelly and his father opened the Dorchester Boxing Club in Fields Corner. "I was just a kid in high school at the time, probably about 15 years old," Muniz, now 27, told The Reporter. "I basically got into boxing at that age, and we did well. We started winning a bunch of fights and I won a big fight at TD Garden."

That fight in the arena off Legends Way in 2013 was Muniz's sixth bout as an amateur. While he defeated fellow lightweight Luca Lo Conte Botis, soon after he took a break from the sport.

Said Kelly: "Marc fought when he was 15 to 17, and then life got in the way. He looked back and realized he should have been boxing and tried to pick up mission impossible and come back when he was 26."



Anthony Hines defeated Diego V. Perez, in the first round on Sept. 7. *Emily Harney photos*

Two years ago, Muniz reunited with Kelly, put back on his gloves, and made his professional debut. Since then, he has trained hard and proven himself in the ring. Most recently, on Sept. 7, he fought against Austin Reed at IBEW Local 103 Freeport Hall in Dorchester.

That "Saturday night was a really exciting night for me," said Muniz, who fought at 140 pounds. "I trained for a real tough opponent; I was expecting it to be a much tougher night for me, but we trained hard." That training included running around Savin Hill, his favorite area of Dorchester. He defeated Reed with a first-round knockout and is now 5-0 in his professional career.

"It was amazing," Muniz said. "It was an unbelievable feeling not too many people get to experience. When the punches are flying, and you hear the crowd, it's super exciting and fun."

Fights these days, however, are about much more than just having fun. Muniz is no longer a high schooler with a hobby; he's a fighter and the father of two. Kelly said he has noticed a shift in Muniz since he became a dad.

"He was way better prepared for this fight than any of his other fights since coming back," said Kelly. "It definitely showed; he was a different beast in there."

But the fighter, who's currently working toward fighting six rounds at 135 pounds come Christmas time, is far from done. "I do plan on stepping it up," said Muniz. "I fought at TD Garden before and hopefully one day I can sell the place out. I want to be a positive influence for the kids in the community

and set a good example." For his part, Kelly is also making time these days for Anthony Hines and Zachary Fenton.

The 36-year-old Hines also fought on Sept. 7 at the IBEW Hall. Weighing in at 158 pounds, like Muniz, he took but one round to defeat his opponent, Diego V. Perez. Also, like Muniz, he got into boxing to stay out of trouble.

"I grew up in Fields Corner. It was tough, I was right in where they would call the bad part of Dorchester," said Hines. "There were always drugs, violence, and robberies. Boxing took me away from all that."

Since he first took a jab at the sport in high school, Hines has spent years working on and off with Kelly. The pair have traveled as far as Columbia and Mexico throughout his 20-plusyear career.

During that time, he formed friendships with other fighters in the community including Muniz and Fenton. "We've all known each other because we're all from Dorchester and then when the Dorchester Boxing Club opened up, we became a lot closer," said Hines, who plans on fighting next in November.

While he and Muniz have been in the professional world for a bit, Fenton made his debut earlier this summer, beating Moises Rivera on Aug. 23 with a second-round knockout at

Royale Nightclub on Tremont Street.

Fenton got hooked on the sport at a young age after attending the Golden Gloves with his aunt. "I've been boxing my whole life. I had a lot of amateur fights. I was good when I was younger," he said. There were "a lot of ups and downs and trials and tribulations in my life but I finally got it together. I had my pro debut and I'm going to fight again on Feb. 8."

He added, "The gym has helped me. If I'm in the gym, I'm out of trouble and doing the right thing. I'm just grinding and helping people and super focused."

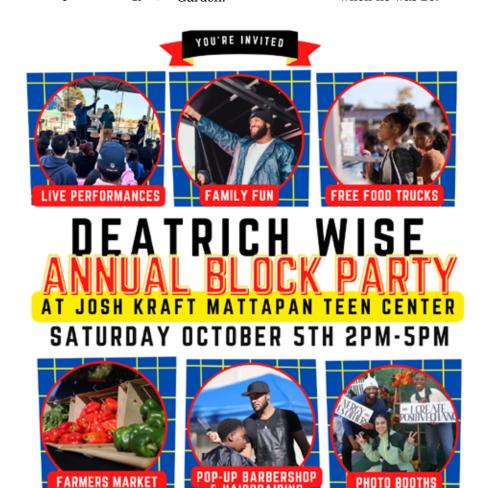
Fenton isn't just a 29-year-old fighter these days. During Covid, he also became a trainer. He owns the Fenton Boxing Club gym in Southie and it's there that he wants to help younger boxers achieve what he has.

"The feeling when you get your hand raised after a tough fight, it's the best feeling in the world. It's better than anything I can think of. It's just all the hard work put in," Fenton said.

As he continues to work hard with younger boxers, he will simultaneously be working out in anticipation of his own fight this winter.

"I'll be training with Jay, and I'll be in the best shape of my life and I'm going to destroy someone," said Fenton, who plans on fighting ten pounds lighter. "We can do something good here, we can make a big local name and do something."

The athletes and trainers have a lot of work to do in the next few months, but they wouldn't want it any other way. Kelly and the three boxers encourage more kids in the community to enter the gym and strap up some boxing boots, too. If they hadn't, they say, they're not sure where they would be today. "I can't imagine my own life had I not boxed," said Kelly. "You go through the rest of your life with a different self-esteem and a different sense of self-worth."



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September 26, 2024

DESCRIPTION:

The City of Boston Planning Department is hosting a virtual Zoning Office Hour as part of the Squares + Streets planning and engagement process for Codman Square + Four Corners! At this Office Hour, community members will be introduced to zoning as a tool that guides development and will discuss both existing zoning in Codman Square + Four Corners and Squares + Streets zoning districts. Community members are encouraged to come with any level of question or interest on the topic of zoning!

Mail to: Lamei Zhang

Planning Department

One City Hall Square, 9th Floor

Boston, MA 02201 Phone: 617.918.4216

lamei.zhang@boston.gov Email:

City of Boston

Planning



Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETING



PUBLIC MEETING: 29-33 ROMSEY STREET

Register: bit.ly/3MPRBx2 Toll Free: (833) 568 - 8864 **Meeting ID:** 161 975 1987



PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Proposed Project includes the demolition of the existing, vacant structures on the 25,271 square foot site at 29 - 33 Romsey Street, and the construction of a 4-story, approximately 45,677 gross square foot residential building including thirty-five (35) rental units and twenty-six (26) parking spaces at ground level.

Mail to: Stephen Harvey

Planning Department One City Hall Square, 9th Floor Boston, MA 02201

617-918-4418 Phone: Email: stephen.j.harvey@boston.gov Close of Public Comment Period: 11/1/2024



The Massachusetts Water Resources Authority

is seeking bids for the following:

BID NO.	DESCRIPTION	DATE	TIME
WRA-5520	Supply and Delivery of Liquid Emulsion Polymer to the Deer Island Wastewater Treatment Plant	10/08/24	2:00 p.m.
WRA-5521	Supply and Delivery of Sodium Bisulfite to MWRA Wastewater Facilities	10/08/24	2:00 p.m.

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



King's Lynne Apartments Waitlist Opening Soon!

The waitlist for our HUD Section 8 Project-Based Voucher program, offering 1-4 bedroom apartments, will be open from October 1-31, 2024. Interested applicants are invited to apply during this period for an opportunity to be placed on the waitlist via a fair lottery system.

The income eligibility requirements are as follows:

No. of Persons	Max Annual Income (50% AMI)	No. of Persons Max Annual Incon (50% AMI)	
1 Person	\$57,100	4 Persons	\$81,600
2 Persons	\$65,300	5 Persons	\$88,150
3 Persons	\$73,450	6 Persons	\$94,700

Enjoy the comfort of a home where rent is only 30% of your adjusted gross income, ensuring affordability.

Visit kingslynne.com to download your application or reach out to us at wmuzorewa@cjmanagement.com. Alternatively, call 781-581-7106 during our office hours or stop by in person at 115 O'Callaghan Way, Lynn, MA.

Application Pickup Dates and Times:

- Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday (October 1-31, 2024): 9 am to 4 pm
- Saturday, October 12, 2024: 10 am to 12 pm
- Thursday, October 24, 2024: 9 am to 7 pm

Ensure your application is submitted by October 31, 2024, at 4 pm to secure your participation in the lottery. Please use one of the following methods:

- Drop off at the management office
- Email to wmuzorewa@cjmanagement.com
- Fax to 781-592-7340
- Postmarked by October 31, 2024, if sent by US Mail

Our lottery will be held remotely on November 18, 2024, at 11 am. For more information, language assistance, or reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, contact the King's Lynne Management Office at 781-581-7106 | TTY: 711.

King's Lynne Apartments welcomes applicants from all backgrounds. We embrace diversity and inclusivity. Our community is pet-free and smoke-free. This ensures a cleaner, healthier, and more comfortable living experience for all residents.

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LEGAL NOTICES COMMONWEALTH OF

MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT

PROBATE & FAMILY COURT

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE & FAMILY COURT SUFFOLK DIVISION 24 NEW CHARDON STREET BOSTON, MA 02114 Docket No. SU18D0828DR SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION MICHAEL COLON, Plaintiff(s)

JOHANNE LOUISSAINT,
Defendant(s)
To the above-named Defendant(s)
Johanne Louissaint,

A Complaint has been presented to this Court by the Plaintiff(s), Michael

Colon, seeking the Court to make such orders as it deems expedient concerning a complaint for modification filed on 05/21/2024

You are required to serve upon, Michael Colon, plaintiff - whose address is 52448 Seminole Ct., Apt. 1, Fort Cavazos, TX 76544, your answer on or before 1205(00). or before 12/05/2024.

If you fail to do so, the court wil proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer in the office of the Register of this Court at 24 New Chardon Street, Boston, MA 02114.

Witness, Hon. Brian Dunn, Esquir First Justice of said Court at Suffolk, this

Register of Probate Published: September 26, 2024

18th day of September, 2024. Stephanie L. Everett, Esq

SUFFOLK PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT 24 NEW CHARDON STREET BOSTON, MA 02114 617-788-8300 617-788-8300 CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME Docket No. SU24C0414CA IN THE MATTER OF: **NATEJA SAIMILYS**

DIAZ-GREENE

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Nateja Saimilys Diaz-Greene of Dorchester MA requesting that the court ente a Decree changing their name to:

Nateja Saimilys Diaz IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for urposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Suffoll Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 10/03/2024. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you nust file a written appearance if you

object to this proceeding. Witness, HON. BRIAN J. DUNN irst Justice of this Court Date: September 3, 2024

> Stephanie L. Everett, Esq Register of Probate nber 26, 2024

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE & FAMILY COURT SUFFOLK DIVISION 24 NEW CHARDON STREET BOSTON, MA 02114 DIVORCE SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION and MAILING **NORA BAMIDELE**

vs. JOSEPH BAMIDELE

To the Defendant: The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court gram 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 financia status of either party. SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411.
You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon: Nora Bamidele,

required to serve upon: Nora samilate, 55 Bartlett Station Dr., #306, Roxbury, MA 02119-1176 your answer, if any, on or before 10/30/2024. 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: September 4, 2024

Stephanie L. Everett, Esq.
Register of Probate
Published: September 26, 2024

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



RECENT OBITUARIES



CAREY, Richard J., 77, of Walpole, formerly of Dorchester. Richard was the son of the late Joseph and Mary (Cahill) Carey. He was the husband of Eloise (Dawood) Carey. Father of Brian Carey of Fox-

boro and Richard Carey of Mansfield. Richard was also the brother of the late Eileen White.



CHOICE, Charleen, 56, of Dorchester. She was a Residential Counselor at the Coolidge

Contact the office

for information on

the cost of burial

needs, memorial

benches and me-

morial trees. The

Cemetery office is

open Monday - Fri-

day 8:00 to 4:00,

and Saturday 8:00

to noon. The Cem-

etery grounds are

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House, a residential reentry center for formally incarcerated people. She was preceded in death by her mother, Virginia Burkes Patterson, and father, Charles Choice. Wife of Johnny Thompson. She is survived by her only daughter Shaniqua Choice (Joaquin Thomas) sister. quin Thomas), sister Felicia Choice, brother Rashaun Burkes (Danielle Burkes), grand-daughter Justice Thomas-Choice and grandson August Thomas-Choice, niece-in-love Renee Cobb and family, as well as a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, and close friends.

GALVIN, Bernice (Betts) of Dorchester. Wife of Joseph Galvin. Mother of Susan Galvin of Dorchester, Robert and his wife Jeanne of Plymouth, Daniel Galvin of Holbrook and the late Scott and Ronald

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE
DOCKET NO. SUZ4P1368EA
ESTATE OF:
EDDIE WILL TENNYSON
DATE OF DEATH: January 2, 2024
SUFFOLK DIVISION
of all persons interested in the above

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Lorenzo Clark of Dorchester MA, a Will has been admitted to informal probate. Lorenzo Clark of Dorchester, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without

surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any can be obtained from the Petitioner.

Published: September 26, 2024



Galvin. Sister of John Betts and his wife Patricia of Plymouth. Also survived by 9 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren. Donations may be made in Bernice's name to stjude.org



MULDOON, Marjorie (Marge) M., 96, of Hingham, formerly of Dorchester. Wife of the late John P. Muldoon, Jr. She was the daughter of the late Henry and Ann (Hennessey) McAndrews. A founding member and first president of the Codman Square Civic Association, Marge was an activist before the term existed. In the 1970's she worked with concerned citizens and local politicians to improve her neighborhood. She led health care initiatives, beautification projects, petition drives, and block parties. Commitment did not end in her neighborhood. Marge's dedication to her faith played a significant role throughout her life. From St. Gregory's and St. Mark's, to St. Paul's, her faith never wavered. Whether she was organizing trips, anniversary milestones, or serving as a Eucharistic minister, Marge knew the importance of parish life and its role in supporting the community it served. Her social causes did not sway her from other interests. Marjorie was a graduate of Boston Business School; and after her family was grown, she served as a legal secretary for over 20 years. One career Marge never retired from was baking. As a professional cake decorator, Mrs. Muldoon created cakes for any affair. She leaves her children Kevin Muldoon and wife Patricia; Robert Muldoon and wife Linda; Maryanne Muldoon; Catherine Pug-sley and husband Stephen; Son-in-law James McPhee; Stephen Mul-doon and wife Donna; Paul Muldoon and wife Ann; Jane Burt and husband Christopher; Julie Quill and husband John; and John P. Muldoon III and wife Loraine. She was predeceased by her daughter Jean McPhee (Muldoon). Grand-mother of 35, and great grandmother of 37 (with two more on the way). Marge also leaves behind her siblings: Sr. Ann Marie McAndrews, SND; Sr. Jane McAndrews, SND; and Jean McAndrews. She is predeceased by her brother William McAndrews and sister Joan Grant (McAndrews). Please consider a donationto the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur Retirement Fund or Norwell VNA and Hospice nvna. org in memory of Marjo-



WATERMAN, Richard Joseph "Dick", 88, of Marshfield, formerly of Dorchester. Army

for many years. Richard was a Gold-Plated Life Member of The American Legion, a Life Member of The Disabled American Veterans, a Life Member of The Korean War Associa-tion, and later became a member of the Veterans of Foreign War. Richard was predeceased by his mother, Anastasia Mackay Waterman, brother, Kenneth Francis, and sisters, Thelma Ann and Norma Jean. He is survived by his three children and their families: daughter, Susan, of Marshfield; son, Richard, Jr., of Nevada; and Jill Calk of Marshfield, her husband, Al, and their 2 children. Richard leaves behind his nephews, Billy Waterman and Eric Waterman, his wife, Kim and their son, Matthew, of Chelmsford. "Uncle Dickie" was adored and also survived by his loving niece and goddaughter, Sherri Laurier, and her wife, Barbara, of New Jersey. Richard had a special place in his heart for Elaine Gibbons. They spent about thirty years as friends, and sometimes partners.

Commander of the Old

Dorchester Post, #65

ZANGLA, Kath-



leen J. of Weymouth, formerly of Dorches-ter and originally from South Boston. Kathleen graduated from UMass Boston with a Master's Degree and worked as a social worker for the elderly and as a substitute school teacher in the Quincy School Department. A longtime member of the Democratic National Committee and a Eucharistic minister volunteer at St. Ann's Church in Quincy and Dorchester. Kathleen was the wife of Robert J. Zangla and mother to Michael Bishop of Hull, Kimberly Anderson of Athol, Kevin Bishop of Worcester, and Thomas Zangla and his wife Robyn of Randolph. She was the sister of William 'Billy' Garland of Quincy and the late Patricia 'Pat' Foley of Whitman, and is survived by many nieces, nephews, and cousins. She was a stepmother to Michele, Robert, Paul, and Andrea, a loving grandmother of 11, and a great-grandmother of 4. Donations in memory of Kathleen may be made to the Alzheimer's Association of MA, 320 Nevada St. #201, New-

ton, MA 02460.

LEGAL NOTICES

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
Suffolk Probate & Family Court UNTOIN PROBATE & FARMING VOICE
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Docket No. SU24P1972EA
ESTATE OF:

KIET VAN NGO DATE OF DEATH: 05/09/2024 and Appointment of Personal Representative

and Appointment of Personal Hepresentative has been filed by FaithLinh H. Rowe of Rockwall, TX requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: FaithLinh H. Rowe of Rockwall, TX be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve With Comprate Surety on the hond to serve With Corporate Surety on the bond 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 written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 10/30/2024.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by Inis is No1 a nearing date, but a ceadinine 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 affidavitof objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you. may be taken without further notice to you UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION

UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS LINIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed unde the MUPC in an unsupervised administratio is not required to file an inventory or annua accounts with the Court. Persons intereste in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Persona Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses o

administration.
Witness, HON. BRIAN J. DUNN, First
Justice of this Court.
Date: September 18, 2024 Stephanie L. Everett, Esq

Register of Probate Published: September 26, 2024

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
Suffolk Probate & Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Docket No. SU24P1966EA
ESTATE OF:
WILLIAM PATRICK DONOVAN
DATE OF DEATH: 11/26/2023
all interested oersons:

Appointment of Personal Representative h Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Francis W. Donovan of Milton, 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: Francis W. Donovan of Milton, MA be appointed as Personal Representa tive(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety IMPORTANT NOTICE

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 10/30/2024.

of 10/30/2024.
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 s not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested to the active representative approach to the court of the cour in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Persona Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of

dministration.
Witness, HON. BRIAN J. DUNN, First Justice of this Court.
Date: September 18, 2024_

Stephanie L. Everett, Esq. Register of Probate Published: September 26, 2024

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT Suffolk Probate & Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114 (617) 789 8290 (617) 788-8300 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION Docket No. SU24P1220EA ESTATE OF: THOMAS MON NG a/k/a: THOMAS NG, THOMAS M. NG DATE OF DEATH: 01/23/2024

To all interested persons:

A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been flied by Thomas J. Ng of Boston, MA and Michael J. Ng of Weymouth, 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 Michael J. Ng of Weymouth, MA and Thomas J. Ng of Boston, MAbe appointed as Persona Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised

IMPORTANT NOTICE 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 10/09/2024. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. I 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 nay be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION

UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC) 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 administration. Witness, HON. BRIAN J. DUNN, Firs

Justice of this Court.
Date: September 20, 2024
Stephanie L. Everett, Esq Register of Probate Published: September 26, 2024

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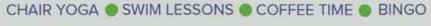


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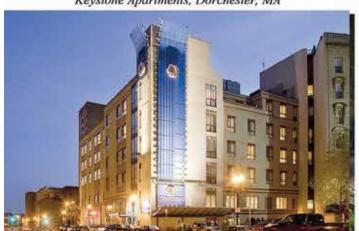




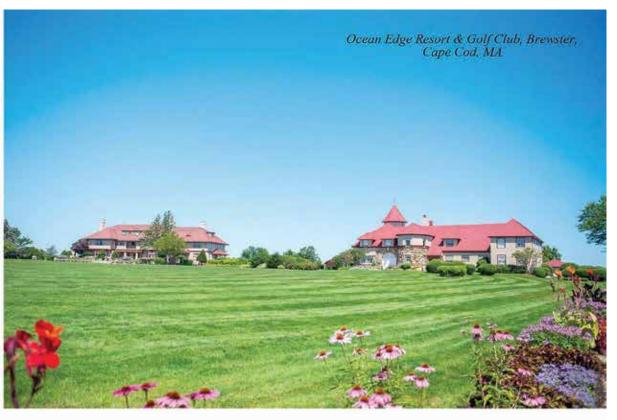
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