Dorchester Reporter

"The News and Values Around the Neighborhood"

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HARVEST OF LIQUOR LICENSES



Marcia Satchell (right) and her son, Aaron Perry, are ecstatic about receiving one of the new liquor licenses for their Blue Hill Avenue eatery, Blue Mountain Jamaican Restaurant. They already have a drink menu planned. Seth Daniel photos

Dot, Mattapan restaurants get new permits

By Reporter Staff

A diner on Bowdoin Street and a Jamaican restaurant on Blue Hill Avenue in Mattapan were among the establishments in Dorchester and Mattapan given new beer-andwine and all-alcohol licenses last Thursday by the Boston Licensing Board as part of the 225 new licenses granted by the Legislature last year.

The permits, which are in addition to a smaller batch of licenses approved earlier this year, will now go to the state Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission (ABCC) for its approval. A spokesman for the ABCC said its review could last about four or five weeks since these are new licenses, with the first ones likely put to use by late March.

One of the first to apply for and receive a license was Fresh Food Generation at 191 Talbot Ave.,



Fresh Food Generation Co-Founder Cassandria Campbell, right, and Morning Manager Julisa Hernandez.

which came up empty on a license petition three years ago. Now, owner Cassandria Campbell said, they see Mezcal, mimosas, and margheritas in their future.

"It's something we've been seeking for a long time, but it was something we didn't know would be feasible for us," Campbell said on Monday. "It seems like all the stars aligned and the hard work done by the activists to get this passed came together at the right moment for us.

"I'm really excited about Fridays and Saturdays. It's important after a hard week of work to be able to enjoy a drink on a Friday and Saturday at the neighborhood spot. We look to be that place."

Added General Manager Victor Medina: "I don't want liquor to suddenly become the center of the existing business, but it will bring in people to our location and put eyes on us that will make our food shine. That's what I'm excited about, how this will add to what we already do."

Marcia Šatchell and her son, Aaron Perry, of Blue Mountain Jamai-(Continued on page 16)

City holds off on Squares + Streets in Codman, Four Corners until '26

By Seth Daniel News Editor

The city's contentious Squares + Streets re-zoning program for Codman Square and Four Corners has been put on pause until 2026, Planning Department officials confirmed this week. The reason: to do more study in partnership with neighbors.

A high-priority project of Mayor Wu, the Squares + Streets process will continue in other areas. In Fields Corner, the goal is to get final recommendations approved this year – much to the chagrin of some in that neighborhood. The Roslindale program was approved by the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) board last week.

"During our extensive pre-engagement work, we built strong relationships and received helpful feedback about how best to commence a successful, collaborative, and equitable planning process in these communities," read a memorandum sent out from the Planning Department on Tuesday. "We are looking forward to launching a Squares + Streets planning process in Codman Square + Four Corners in 2026 and will continue engagement at that time."

Initiated by former Planning Director Arthur Jemison, the effort proposes a "toolbox" of new codes to build density and reform business regulations in business districts and main corridors like Washington Street in Codman Square. Areas in the plan would be upzoned using five new zones (S0-S4) so that larger buildings and business uses could be pursued by right without the usual community processes.

(Continued on page 10)

Kraft and Wu clash on plans for housing and rent control approaches

By Reporter Staff

Mayoral challenger Josh Kraft released new details about his positions on what he called housing "access and affordability" last Wednesday in the first in-depth policy disclosure of his incipient campaign. Notably, he said that he would unwind a Wu administration policy that increased the number of affordable units that developers are required to build – or provide offsite funding for – and return to the lower threshold put in place during Mayor Marty Walsh's tenure.

Kraft's plan doubles-down on a critique he made of Mayor Wu when he announced his intention to run last week: That she is not producing enough new units to meet demand in the city.

"On the number one challenge facing our residents – access to housing that regular people can afford - production under Mayor Wu has ground to a halt," said Kraft. "Having so many permitted projects continue to sit on the shelf generates no new housing, no new jobs, and no new tax revenue. My plan will change that.' He also introduced an "opt-in" form of rent control that Kraft argues would be more effective than Wu's strategy of formalizing rent reforms through the Legislature. Several hours later, Wu, speaking on GBH's Boston Public Radio station, used the term "fake" to characterize the rent control element of Kraft's plan, called it a "distraction" from the "real proposal [which] is to dismantle affordability requirements and take us back to when it was anything goes for developers." The mayor also noted that up to 30,000 units

Courtney Eldridge's odyssey From Town Field player to a coach with Iowa's Hawkeyes

By Seth Daniel News Editor

The old playground basketball game Around the World could be compared to the hoops career of Dorchester native Courtney Eldridge who traveled across the globe with a basketball in hand before finally finding a home as an assistant coach for the University of Iowa men's basketball team. The 44-year-old Eldridge started his journey on the courts of Codman Square and Fields Corner, then played high school ball at Thayer Academy before taking his game to Division 1 University of North Carolina-Greensboro, where he excelled. A long professional career overseas followed in countries like Turkey, Brazil, and Italy until he exchanged his sneakers for a spot on the sidelines and worked his way up the ranks in Iowa where he is now an assistant coach with the university's Hawkeyes and living in Iowa City with his wife Aisha and their four children. For all that globetrotting, travels, Dorchester is never out of mind for Eldridge. "I still get back there



50¢

Courtney Eldridge, assistant coach for the Iowa Hawkeyes men's basketball team, giving pointers to an Iowa player during a game against New Hampshire on Dec. 30. *Stephen Mally/hawkeyesports.com photo*

every now and then, a few times a year, to visit my mom; she still lives on Florida Street, same house I grew up in," he noted. And the courts he grew up on still figure prominently in the formation of his game and his life.

"I really learned how to play and got my love for basketball at the courts in Town Field at Fields Corner," he said. "That's where the love of the game started. Being a young kid and watching the older guys come down – at that time there were high school stars coming out...You had to win to stay on and that built that winning (Continued on page 5) (Continued on page 11)

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February 20, 2025

has not advanced the

Born and raised in St. Peter's parish in the Bow-

doin-Geneva section of

Dorchester, Chambers at-

 $tended \,the\,Mather\,School$

and Grover Cleveland

School before joining the

USNavy at age 17. He has

been a generous donor

to many causes in his

hometown over the de-

cades. Last year, he made

a \$100 million pledge to

Massachusetts General

Hospital to build a new

facility that will bear his

name when completed in 2027.

According to the Globe,

the Asbury Automotive

Group will acquire "33

dealerships, 52 franchis-

es, and three collision

centers in Massachusetts

-REPORTER STAFF

and Rhode Island."

project.



A second episode of firearms arrests on Cummins Highway

Boston Police officers with a search warrant arrested a Randolph man in a Cummins Highway apartment near Mattapan Square last Wednesday morning (Feb. 12) during an operation that police say yielded a loaded rifle, three guns and bags of coke, crack, and fentanyl. Sean Brown, 29, was charged with unlawful possession of a firearm, second offense, unlawful possession of a loaded firearm, second offense and unlawful possession of ammunition, police say. He was not charged with possession of the drugs.

At his arraignment in Dorchester Municipal Court on Feb. 13, Judge Jonathan Tynes ordered him held pending a dangerousness hearing on March 10.

According to a BPD report, officers went to 880 Cummins Highway around 8:40 a.m. on Feb. 12. and after a few minutes, an individual opened the door.... Officers secured the outside of the building, where they observed a discarded firearm inside of a bucket. After further investigation, officers determined that an individual inside of the apartment had discarded the firearm upon officers' arrival. The suspect was placed into handcuffs, and the apartment was secured pending a search warrant. The firearm recovered was later determined to be a Glock 37 with one round in the chamber and seven rounds in the magazine."

The arrest came one week after a multi-agency investigation into an alleged human-trafficking ring housed at a nearby Cummins Highway apartment resulted in the arrest of six people on Feb. 6.

A man who was shot and killed at 35 Tennis Rd. in Mattapan on Feb. 5 has been identified as Mauricio Lawrence, 33, of Mattapan. Police found him unconscious in a basement apartment and he was pronounced dead in the ambulance on the way to a local hospital. Police found shell casings in the driveway. BPD detectives have asked the public to call in

tips as they continue their investigation. Please call 1-800-494-TIPS if you can assist. A 36-year-old Boston man has been arrested and charged with the hit-and-run death of a 20-year-old college student who was struck in a crosswalk on Washington Street in Roxbury on Jan. 18. Police say the vehicle that struck Taylor Wilkinson was operated by Christopher Baker, who was taken into custody on

time of the incident. She was injured, but survived.

to safety around 8:30 a.m. Shuttle buses replaced trolley service for several Belvidere Street in Boston on Feb. 12. He has been hours, but normal service charged with manslaughter, leaving the scene, and was restored around 1:30 operating with a suspended license, among other p.m. on Tuesday, accordcharges. Wilkinson was walking with her sister at the

ing to T officials. Video captured by MBTA cameras show the river water creeping into the right-of-way near Milton station around 7:30 a.m. Within minutes, the tracks in and around the station were submerged in several feet of water.

Neponset River flooding prompted

a raft rescue at Milton trolley stop

"There's a dam just upriver and ice formations on that dam have caused the water to back up and spill the banks just upstream of the dam," said Milton Fire Chief Chris Madden.

Madden said the trolley was trapped in water that in some areas rose to four feet. T officials say the trolley experienced a "power issue," which caused it to be stuck.

A spokesman said the disabled trolley was "coupled with another trollev and pulled into the Mattapan yard, where it

Palm Sunday......52

Dot Quadricentennial 1927

will undergo a thorough inspection.'

No injuries were reported.

-REPORTER STAFF

February 20, 2025 Boys & Girls Club News 17 **Dorchester Reporter** (USPS 009-687) Published Weekly Periodical postage Opinion/Editorial/Letters......8 paid at Boston, MA. Obituaries..... 18 POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: 150 Mt. Vernon St., Suite 560, Dorches-Business Directory..... 14 ter, MA 02125 Mail subscription rates \$60 per year, **Days Remaining Until** payable in advance. Make checks and Ash Wednesday.....13 money orders payable to The Dorchester Reporter and mail to: 150 Mt. Vernon St., Daylight Saving Time 17 Suite 560, Dorchester, MA 02125 St. Patrick's Day..... ...25 April Fools' Day 40 Passover 51

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Report: Chambers is selling his dealership empire for \$1.34 billion

To Georgia firm Asbury Group

Dorchester native Herb Chambers has agreed to sell his chain of car dealerships to a Georgia-based company in a deal worth \$1.34 billion, according to a report on Tuesday in The Boston Globe, which said the 83-year-old magnate would retain ownership of his Mercedes-Benz dealership in Boston.

The Chambers holdings include a Honda dealership on Morrissey Boulevard, which Chambers acquired in 2018 from used-car dealer JD Byrider. Chambers sought and won approval to build a multi-story Honda showroom on the two-acre site in 2022, but

Flooding along the

Neponset River inundat-

ed Milton station on the

Mattapan High-Speed

Trolley Line on Tuesday

morning, prompting a

rescue operation by the

Milton Fire Department

after a car with six pas-

sengers and an operator

on board got stuck in the

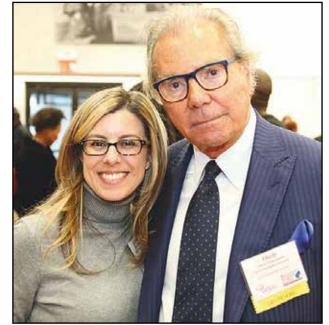
Firefighters used a

yellow raft to ferry people

from the orange Ash-

mont-bound PCC trolley

rising waters.



Herb Chambers and his longtime chief of staff at the Herb Chambers Companies, Nicole Martin, attended the 2022 Taste of Dorchester event in support of the Massachusetts Affordable Housing Alliance. Seth Daniel photo



MassDOT Highway Division hosts a public meeting to discuss the proposed reconstruction of Columbia Road and Kosciuszko Circle at I-93 project on Tues., Feb. 25,

to RSVP

at 6 p.m. at BC High's Cadigan Hall, 150 Morrissey Blvd. See more at mass.gov/ orgs/highway-division/events.

City-sponsored open house to share the design of a new community center in the Grove Hall section of Dorchester on Thurs., Feb. 27 from 2:30-5:30 p.m. at the Grove Hall Branch of the Boston Public Library, 41 Geneva Ave. Stop by the open house to view a model of the proposed design. See Boston.gov/BCYF-Grove-Hall. (This meeting was re-scheduled from earlier dates due to inclement weather.) Franklin Park Winter Festival Davs will be held on Sat., Feb. 22 and March 22 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Indoor and outdoor activities. Games, sledding, s'mores,

prizes, and fun for all ages. At the William Devine Franklin Park Golf Clubhouse, One Circuit Drive.

The John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum will host a free performance by the Okra Dance Company, "Dancing Journey of Africans in America," on Thurs., Feb. 20, at 10:30 a.m. as part of its Celebrate! family programming. Audiences of all ages will be inspired by African dance, music, and rhythm on American culture in honor of Black History Month.

The 2025 Mayor's Youth Summit will take place on Sat., Feb. 22, from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Artists for Humanity EpiCenter on West 2nd Street, South Boston. This free citywide celebration aims to engage and inspire Boston teens ages 14-19. Learn more at boston.gov/youth-summit. Comedy night at the Dot Tavern on Thurs., Feb. 27, at 8 p.m. will benefit the Dorchester

Columbia Point, Boston (617) 740-7000

Day Parade on Sun., June 1. Raffle tickets for Bruins v. Predators tickets (March 4) game. See @mayorofdot on Instagram for more. **Black Employee Network Employee** Resource Group Celebration is Fri., Feb. 21, at 6 p.m. at Carver Lodge, 82 Talbot Ave., Dorchester. Connecting Black City employees and the community with City Leadership to celebrate all of the triumphs of the Black diaspora.

Learn about the history, art, and fashion of headwraps as Tafari Wraps leads this interactive presentation and workshop on Tues., Feb. 25, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Mattapan BPL branch. Also at the branch, Bro. Joel Mackall for a Saturday Series presentation on the "Hidden History of Black Boston" on Sat., March 1, from 2

to 4 p.m., 1350 Blue Hill Ave.

The 2025 Pride Parade will take place on Sat., June 14 accompanied by festivals on

Boston Common and at City Hall Plaza. Boston Pride for the People celebrations start with a parade from Copley Square through the South End and Back Bay, culminating at Boston Common where an all-ages concert and festival will take place. A 21+ block party will take place in the afternoon on City Hall Plaza. See bostonprideforthepeople.org for more info.

Caregivers supporting loved ones with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias are invited to attend a support group at Standish Village Assisted Living. 1190 Adams St. in Lower Mills on Tues., Feb. 25, at 6 p.m. To RSVP and learn more information, email fsemanko@standishvillage. org or call 617-298-5656.

SEND IN EVENT NOTICES TO NEWSEDITOR@DOTNEWS.COM

DCF facility set for former Walgreens space on River Street

By Cassidy McNeeley Reporter Staff

The state's Department of Children and Families (DCF) is planning to leave its office on Park Street near Fields Corner and open new quarters at 90 River Street near Lower Mills, ideally by the end of the coming summer, in a retail space that has been empty since a Walgreens store closed abruptly in 2022.

A spokesperson for Trinity Financial, which owns the Riverway Plaza building on the Dorchester-Mattapan line, told The Reporter that the 25,000-square-foot space is currently being rebuilt to accommodate a "state-of-the-art facility" where social workers can engage with families in office spaces, conference rooms, and specialized children's play areas.

"The retail sector has been hit hard since the onset of the pandemic, and it has been increasingly challenging to attract long-term tenants," said Stacey Pagos, director of Marketing and Leasing for Trinity Financial. "Working with the state to house critical services for our neighborhood and beyond has been a game-changer, providing our shopping center with much-needed stability and reinforcing its role as a cornerstone of the community."

DCF currently has 29 local offices spread throughout Massachusetts.

"We recognize how crucial it is for children and families to feel comfortable and supported during their visits to our office,



and the design for the new office will be warm and welcom-

ing," a DCF spokesperson told th The Reporter. "Additionally, pu

the space is easily accessible by public transportation, making

A Road Test Center operated by the state's Registry of Motor Vehicles occupies a storefront location in the Riverway Plaza. Trinity officials say the center hopes to extend its lease there for another five years.

The former Walgreen's drug store at Riverway Plaza at 90 River Street is being renovated into a new facility for the state's Department of Children and Families, which plans to relocate its Dorchester office to the site later this year. Cassidy McNeeley photos

it convenient for families and children to visit."

The 100,000-square-foot building is now home to Planet Fitness and BSW Beauty, with a new nail salon expected to open there soon. It also houses a Registry of Motor Vehicles Road Test Center that RMV has said it is interested in keeping there on a lease extending for another five years, according to Trinity's Pagos.

Trinity Financial, which is owned and managed by Dorchester resident Jim Keefe and his longtime business partner, Patrick Lee, worked with Iconic Capital, LLC, to secure the 15-year lease of the onetime Walgreens space.

The company's portfolio includes extensive holdings in Boston neighborhoods, including the Carruth and Treadmark buildings in Ashmont, the Star Market on River Street, and the Foley Senior Residences and Mattapan Heights, both located on the grounds of the former Boston Specialty and Rehabilitation Hospital on River Street.



SUNDAY MARCH 9*

1:30PM REGISTRATION * 1:45PM FUN BEGINS

FIELD EVENTS BEGIN AT 1:45PM. RACES ON THE TRACK FOR ALL AGES BEGIN AT 3:00PM.

MORE INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT BSTNMAR.ORG/BAAFITNESSSERIES



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baa.org







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February 20, 2025

JFK Library closes abruptly, but re-opens next day, amid layoffs

By Reporter Staff

The John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum in Dorchester closed abruptly on Tuesday, but reopened to the public on Wednesday, following a chaotic sequence of events triggered by a White House executive order that impacted federal workers.

The library initially told the public it would be "closed until further notice," according to a message posted on its website on Tuesday, Feb. 18. The library's foundation later confirmed that the closure was triggered by an executive order from the White House that deals with "probationary" workers in the federal government, which included five staff members at the Columbia Point institution.

According to a several sources, the library was instructed to "lay off all probationary members of staff" — defined as "people who have been with the Library for less than a year" — which included five employees who deal directly with visitors to the museum.

Senior leaders at the library were "devastated that our dedicated and talented Library colleagues have been treated in this way."

The library and museum, which opened in 1979, is one of 14 presidential libraries across the country and is administered by the National Archives and Records Administration, a federal agency.

This is not the first time that the Kennedy Library has been negatively impacted by federal cuts and Washington D.C. strife.

In 2018-2019— during the first Trump administration— the library was forced to close for more than a month when a government "shutdown" prompted widespread service suspensions across the country.

US Senator Ed Markey, in a social

media post on Tuesday, said shutting down the JFK Library "if even for just a day, isn't just wrong, it degrades the very office of the President."

Congressman Stephen F. Lynch said he was "very disappointed that Donald Trump and Elon Musk have forced the JFK Presidential Library to be closed to the public. Congress recently approved sufficient funding to keep the JFK Library open and this overreach is one more unlawful action by the Trump administration."

In a statement sent to The Reporter, Boston City Councillor John FitzGerald slammed the Trump administration for causing the temporary closure.

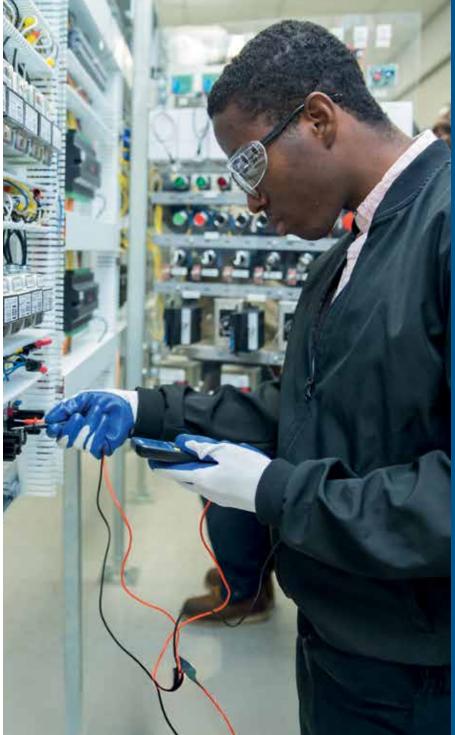
"I stand with the workers, educators, and all who rely on this institution. Boston will not let its history be erased and I will fight for the library's reopening," said FitzGerald, who represents Dorchester on the council. "Perhaps a visit to the library could have taught the president something about integrity and putting country over self."

In response to the Reporter's request for comment, US Senator Elizabeth Warren's office sent the following statement: "President Trump is firing American workers who monitor bird flu outbreaks, safeguard nuclear facilities, and now those who promote American history in Dorchester – all to help pay for tax breaks for billionaires and giant corporations.

"Trump's shutdown of the JFK Library won't lower egg prices or make housing more affordable, but it's part of a retribution tour designed to distract from his agenda to enrich the wealthy and well-connected at the expense of everyone else," said Warren.

For updates on this developing story, see DotNews.com or follow the Reporter on BlueSky Social: @dotnews.bsky. social.

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Courtney Eldridge's odyssey: From Town Field player to a coach with Iowa's Hawkeyes

(Continued from page 1) name given to a UMass posure," he said. "At the mentality at a young age. I'm thankful for that.³

He also played at the Perkins Community Center, and travelled with a team that represented Boston, playing in national tournaments under coaches like Leo Papile and others and "broadening his horizons beyond the confines of Boston."

His first job was at the Dorchester YMCA where he worked and played ball as well. "That little node of Codman Square and Fields Corner has shaped me to be the basketball player I am and to be the person and basketball coach I am now," he said. "I wouldn't trade it for the world."

In the beginning, the game of basketball beckoned to him as he looked at old news clippings about his father, Alex Eldridge, who played at UMass Amherst in the 1970s. Alex died when Courtney was only 17 days old of cardiomyopathy similar to the cardiac arrest that later claimed the life of Celtics star Reggie Lewis. Eldridge noted that there is an award in his father's

player every year.

But instead of following his father to Amherst, he went south to UNC-Greensboro, where he stood out his freshman year. When a coaching change took place that year, he wasn't sure about staying, but the new coach, Coach Fran McCaffrey, and the synergy that developed between them changed the course of Eldridge's playing and coaching career.

"Coach McCaffrey instilled a confidence in me and challenged me to see the game in a different light," he said. "We developed a rapport and relationship that has

gone on to this day some 26 years later." He left Greensboro with a degree in business administration and as a top ten all-time scorer and leader in assists. But he wasn't yet ready to put his sneakers aside.

Ahead lay a fruitful 12-year career overseas, something that he said "isn't for everybody.

"Getting paid to play basketball was something I dreamed about and I took great pride in the international extime you don't think as much of it but reflecting on it now, it was a really great accomplishment. I'm proud of playing as long as I did and at that level. I was a 5-feet-10 guard and there were millions of others like me, and I had to be different. Every year was a job interview, and I had to distinguish myself."

Being different involved many things that now make him an effective coach, intangibles like always being aware of the time and score, or who has four fouls and needs to be pressed to foul them out of the game. With that kind of awareness, he started coaching at East Boston High School, and then at St. Joseph's High in Brighton.

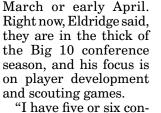
While Eldridge was at St. Joseph's, McCaffrey and his Iowa team were in New York playing in the NCAA Tournament, and he got an invite to come "watch film" with them. He drove down to New York twice that week, and though Iowa lost, he was invited to be McCaffrey's guest at the Final Four in Houston. Just a few months later,

he was offered the video coordinator job with the Hawkeyes.

Now one of three assistant coaches at Iowa, Eldridge is responsible for recruiting, scouting, player development and in-game assistance to McCaffrey.

"It's a lot of work but there's nothing else I'd rather be doing," he said. "The risk-reward is great...Seeing the growth and success of players coming through the program and going across the stage with their degree is a special experience."

The season is daunting, he said, with players reporting in June for summer workouts before school starts in August, with the first game of the season but eight weeks away. In the best of circumstances, the last game would be in late



Iowa Assistant Coach Courtney Eldridge holds onto the ball while running a

ference teams that when we play them, I am the lead scout, coaching the scout team as if they're the other team's players," he said. "Two days before a game I'm the scout team's head coach and meeting with Fran and the staff and letting them know what that team does in their game plan. I'm Coach McCaffrey's eyes and ears for that team."

Iowa's record was 14-11 as of Monday this week, with a recent road win over Rutgers and a loss to nationally ranked Maryland.

Looking ahead, Eldridge has been invited to Silver Waves Media Elite 75 Future Head Coach Power Lunch during the NCAA Final Four, where athletic directors and head coaches will meet with promising assistant coaches.

Stephen Mally/hawkeyesports.com photo

"Hopefully my next step is running my own program," he said. "It's a goal of mine to be a head coach when the time comes. I'm looking forward to that day and if that day does not come, I look forward to being the best assistant coach I can be.

"It all just shows that people from Dorchester, when you put your mind to something, you can achieve it," he added. "I'm from the same neighborhood and made it here seizing some great opportunities and so can they."

Celebrating Black History Month





Henry Louis Gates, Jr. Author, Professor, Historian, and Filmmaker



THE REPORTER

nowin

practice during a West Coast road trip last month.



Ayanna Pressley U.S. House of Representatives Massachusetts 7th District

Clayola Brown Labor Unionist, International President, APRI

The MCCA honors change-makers and those who inspire generational progress. We are proud to have hosted innovators, advocates, and leaders of color building equity by making history that shapes the future. Together, we continue the work.

MASSACHUSETTS CONVENTION CENTER AUTHORITY

Marcel Vernon, Sr. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

dotnews.com

Page 6 THE REPORTER Restaurant challenge offers flavorful way to celebrate Black History Month

By Sherri Cajuste SPECIAL TO THE REPORTER Black History Month takes on a tasty dimension in Greater Boston, thanks in large part to State Rep. Chynah Tyler of Roxbury, who started the Black Restaurant Challenge in 2018 as way to elevate Black businesses and cuisine in her neighborhood and beyond.

The challenge encourages evervone to check out at least one Black-owned restaurant during the month. Tyler and her staff have compiled a helpful list of eateries that has grown each year.

Tyler said she launched the campaign after hearing from many of her constituents when she first took office.

'One thing that rose to the top of all the concerns I have heard amongst all business owners was they had problems growing and accessing capital and sustaining as a whole," Tyler told The Reporter.

"The purpose of this movement is to be able to ensure that Black restaurants are able to sustain and to help these businesses grow economically so they are able to thrive. That was my inspiration behind this.

This year's month-long challenge launched with a Feb. 3 event at Grace by Nia, the popular Seaport eatery and club owned by Nia Grace. The evening event, which was open to the public, was held on a Monday to allow for more participation from other restaurateurs, many of whom close their businesses on Mondays.

Tyler called it "a great way to be able to show folks that they are welcome here [in the Seaport]...





Chynah Tyler

with free parking from WS Development just to make it easier for folks to show up."

Tyler's list of participating restaurants includes 25 Dorchester eateries and 10 in Mattapan, including Bon Appetit, Bred Gourmet, Down Home Delivery, M&M's BBQ, and Island Style Jamaican, among others.

Tyler is also using her social media platforms to highlight Blackowned businesses like Destiny's African Market, a grocery store located in Randolph that offers a diverse selection of authentic African and Caribbean food products, spices, and other ingredients.

"I got a chance to spend time with Adebukola and the family. They are truly an amazing family from Nigeria," said Tyler, who also posts videos of her visits to local restaurants.

"The struggle for a lot of them is trying to upscale from being a microbusiness to a small business and it takes a lot of capital to do this," Tyler said. "The community can help by simply doing what we always do, which is dine out and shop at your local market.

"That helps increase their revenue and something that easily can be done," she noted. "Go to your local mom and pop shop down the street. It's a great way to see people like us win.'

Tyler has made it her personal mission to visit all of the businesses on her list over the years and in doing so, she says she finds that "they're all amazing!"

"While I cannot choose a favorite, one restaurant I do want to highlight is Rhythm and Wraps located in Brighton, a vegan fast food joint that will also be opening a new spot in Nubian Square. The food is amazing, and I would recommend it to all. I think it's cool how a lot of the menu items emulate Black culture and hip hop.'

For more info about this campaign, visit @bostonblackrestaurantchallenge on Instagram. And use the hashtag #bostoneatsblack to find other posts.

Sherri Cajuste is the founder of the Haitians of Boston platform. The Reporter and Haitians of Boston share content through a media partnership. Follow her on Instagram @haitiansofboston.



Architect drawing of new apartment building at 2-8 Bowdoin St. Image courtesy Stack & Company

City board approves 7-story building in Four Corners

The owners of Down Home Delivery & Catering at 2-8 Bowdoin St. won approval last week for its plan to replace their current building with a 7-story apartment building, with 2,400 square feet of ground-floor space for their restaurant. The Boston Planning Department's board voted to approve the Webster family's 22-unit project on Thursday.

The new building will include 5 one-bedroom apartments, 10 one-bedroom apartments with dens, and 7 two-bedroom units. Four of the apartments will be rented as affordable. There will also be a roof deck for residents.

The building, which is near the 23 bus route on Washington Street and less than a half mile

from other routes and the Four Corners/Geneva Fairmount Line stop, will have no parking. The proposal had support from the United Neighborhood Association, the Mt. Bowdoin Betterment Association, Four Corners Main Streets, state representatives Chris Worrell and Russell Holmes and state Sen. Nick Collins.

In a statement, the Planning Dept. said the project "will improve the public realm by widen-ing the sidewalks in the vicinity and adding new lighting for pedestrians. As part of the community benefits, the project will contribute \$6,050 to the Boston Transportation Department in support of the bikeshare system, and \$22,000 to the City's Fund for Parks."

-REPORTER STAFF





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February 20, 2025

Reporter's **People** in and around our Neighborhoods



The Boston Latin Academy girls' track team celebrate their first-place finish in the annual BPS track championship held on Monday, February 10 at the Reggie Lewis Track Center in Roxbury. Patrick O'Connor photo



From left, Edwidge Lafleur, Roxbury Community College's director of the new Business Innovation Center; Phil Carver of UMass Boston; Anthony Attride Jr, director of the Dorchester YMCA; and City Councillor John FitzGerald.

Ashmont Main Streets, UMass Boston, host breakfasts for community leaders

Breakfast seems to be the most important meal of the day for neighborhood business leaders, especially for networking. Given that, the Greater Ashmont Main Streets (GAMS) and UMass Boston have combined forces to sponsor a series of Business Breakfasts for them, most recent one being held last Monday in the Fields Corner Business Lab.

So far, the breakfasts have been filled with people looking to connect and talk about successes and challenges of doing business in Dorchester.

"It has been so easy to revive Greater Ashmont

Main Street's monthly Business Breakfasts because the appetite for networking, collaboration, and information sharing is insatiable right now," said Elle Marrone, executive director of GAMS.

"Each breakfast brings new faces into the room and with them, new resources, new ideas, new energy. And then there's always the core group of attendees like Codman Square Neighborhood Development Corporation's Small Business team and a handful of entrepreneurs who have found a home at these events."

Each breakfast is spon-

sored by a business or organization - with catering done by a local company, she said.

UMass Boston sponsored last week's event, and said it was happy to do so.

"UMass Boston is proud to support the Greater Ashmont Main Streets Business Breakfast, a monthly event that brings together local entrepreneurs, business leaders, and community advocates to strengthen our neighborhoods," said Phil Carver, director of city and community relations for UMass Boston.

"As Boston's public research university, we believe in fostering economic development and community partnerships that drive inclusive growth. The Business Breakfast is a great opportunity to connect, collaborate, and champion local initiatives that help shape the future of our city." Look for more upcom-

ing business breakfasts this spring. -SETH DANIEL



Naldo Cardoso, Small Business Specialist from CSNDC, and Emmy Romero, owner of Esther's Garden Family Childcare.



Jackey West Devine, executive director of Fields Corner Main Streets, and Valerie Abrigo Rivera, entrepreneur/LMHC. Courtesy photos

YESTERYEAR ARCHIVE **DORCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY** Frank Thayer Merrill 1848-1936

Frank Thayer Merrill was an artist and book illustrator. He lived at 16 Tremlett St. Today's illustration is an original pastel owned by the Dorchester Historical Society that was used as an illustration for a publication of "The Count of Monte Cristo," by Alexandre Dumas. Jessie S. Aldrich, Merrill's wife, bought the land on Tremlett Street on May 13, 1886, for "One dollar and other valuable considerations." The quitclaim deed specifies that "no dwelling house shall be erected on said land to cost less than Five Thousand Dollars and shall be set back in the line of the house recently built and occupied by said Mansfield" (number 18, destroyed by fire in the early 1970s). The third floor of the house contains a large studio lit by a Palladian windowed dormer. The house backed up to the Colonial Club on Washington Street (the former Walter Baker mansion now the site of a charter school on Regina Road). Merrill drew the illustrations for many books of fiction, including "Little Women" and "The Prince and the Pauper." The archive of these historical posts can be viewed on the blog at dorches-





The Boston Latin Academy swim team celebrated their 16th straight Boston City League championship on Jan. 30 at Madison Park High School in Roxbury. The Dragons won 8 out of 11 events for a first-place score of 142 points. MVP awards were presented to Jeremy Bradley and Mabel Gallagher.

Patrick O'Connor photo

16 from Dot cited on Dean's List at Tufts

A number of students from Dorchester were named to the Dean's List at Tufts University for their academic performances in the fall 2024 semester. From the class

of 2025: Stephanie Tranduc, Christina Nguyen, and Loc Mai; from 2026: Sahr Matturi, Husam Adam, Yutong Zou, Jose Flores, Sandy Nguyen, Devin Ho, Thy Nguy-

en, and Justin Tran-Le; From 2027: Elyssa Cabey; and from the class of 2028: Tina Nguyen, Andy Tran, Jillian Tran, and Michelle Le.

terhistoricalsociety.org, from which The Reporter derives, often through editing for space, this weekly feature. 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.

February 20, 2025

dotnews.com

Editorial

The Globe's must-read Cape Verdean series

"Blood on the Streets," a Boston Globe investigative series that dives deeply into the history of a decades-long feud in Boston's Cape Verdean community that left scores of people dead and many others with chronic pain and mental scars, was published in three installments last week. If you haven't read it— or have reservations because of the sensitive subject matter that hits so very close to home— you should reconsider.

Globe reporter Bob Hohler spent the last year reporting and writing this monumental work of journalism that reveals fascinating new details about the origins and trajectory of the tit-for-tat violence that decimated multiple generations of families in the tight radius of streets in Uphams Corner, the Dudley Triangle, and Bowdoin-Geneva.

Hohler and his editors estimate that between 1995 and 2021 more than 65 homicides were attributable to the internecine violence— much of it driven by gangs beefing over territory or more impulsive, retaliatory acts of vengeance. As Hohler points out, sometimes the victims were also victimizers or, at least, enablers of the vicious cycle. But there were also true innocents who were caught in the crossfire and, of course, whole sections of our community who were— and still are— traumatized by the epidemic's mayhem and grief.

Parts of the story have been reported before, but never with the breadth and masterful narrative and visual form that Hohler and the Globe team have brought to bear to this sad, frightening, but important subject. Critically, Hohler injects the voices of actual participants—mostly the young men who were thrust into the cauldron in the mid-to-late 1990s after the stabbing death of Bobby Mendes, a 23-year-old Dorchester man whose murder is widely seen as the singular event that unleashed the carnage.

Hohler interviews members of the DoSouto family, who lost two sons and brothers—Louis and Alex—to bullets in 2006 and 2015, respectively. All were affiliated with a crew based around their family home on Hamilton Street, which was frequently targeted by gang members associated with a cluster of streets around Uphams Corner. The series tracks their evolution from hunted to hunters and eventually to healers bent on bringing a halt to the bloodshed that cost them so dearly.

The series also pivots on the tragic loss experienced by Isaura Mendes, who lost Bobby in '95 and her other son Matthew in 2006. She also lost other family members, including a nephew, whose murder is also documented in the Globe series. Now 74, Isaura became a dogged crusader for survivors and has played a key role—along with former combatants like the DoSouto brothers—in bringing about a relative cessation to the killings.

The story also reveals the pivotal role played by men like Odair Fernandes, who is still serving a state prison sentence for a homicide connected to the feud, but who is portrayed as instrumental in engineering a truce among fellow inmates who hold sway on the city's streets to this day.

Today, Boston is safer than it has been in a half-century, according to crime statistics that track homicides and aggravated assaults. But, as this Globe series reminds us, the peace is fragile, the lives lost and diminished are real, and the "trick" to keeping violence from spiraling into blood-feuds isn't a trick at all— it requires an all-hands-on-deck approach and a lasting commitment.

Bob Hohler has once again done the city a service



Protesters against President Trump and his policies braved frigid temperatures in Boston on Monday, Feb. 17 to demonstrate at rallies corresponding with the Presidents Day holiday. Dubbed "No Kings on Presidents Day," the latest protests came less than two weeks after a similar nationwide event on Feb. 5 drew participants in dozens of cities. Both protests denounced Trump and billionaire adviser Elon Musk, the leader of Trump's new Department of Government Efficiency, an outside-government organization designed to slash federal spending. Nearly 1,000 people marched in the snow from the State House in Boston to City Hall, chanting "Elon Musk has got to go" and "No kings on Presidents Day!" The temperature was below freezing with wind chills in the teens. *Robin Lubbok/WBUR photo*

Remembering Rev. Bill Russell, S.J. – priest, administrator, and good guy

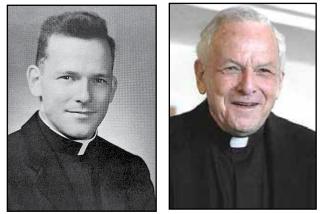
By Tom Mulvoy Associate Editor

In the last half of the 1950s, the halls of Boston College High School on Morrissey Blvd. in Dorchester were dominated by the black-robed presence of close to 50 members of the Society of Jesus serving as teachers and administrators, every one of them intent on instilling in their teenage students the values of the Jesuits' centuries-old approach to living and learning and serving others.

During academic hours, the classrooms featured earnestness and attentiveness, but as would be the case in any school at any level, there were occasions when personalities upended the stillness. In my memory, three of the most prominent on the faculty side were the Jesuit fathers Robert "Mon Pere" Sheridan, when he was exulting over a turn of phrase en francais, John W. Chapman, when he was edging into ecstasy over Odysseus's many wiles, and a Jesuit-in-training, William C. Russell, when he was just being good guy Bill Russell inside and outside the teaching rooms to his students in French and Latin and to his faculty colleagues.

This recollection of a time long past was provoked by a short (112 words) matter-of-fact report in agate type in last Saturday's Boston Globe's recording the death of "Russell, Rev. William Clark SJ" on Tues., Feb. 11, at age 92 and the time of his funeral, which was set for this past Monday at the Jesuits' Campion Center in Weston, Mass.

As has been The Globe's wont for decades now, this edition also featured lengthy obituaries of individuals of some renown in faraway places – a 93-year-old concert pianist from Florence, Italy; a governor of Arkansas who had been caught up in scandal in the 1990s; a fellow from Albuquerque, New Mexico, who



Bill Russell as a Jesuit scholastic at BC High c. 1960 and at Boston College 60 years later.

institutions – Boston College High School (1971-73); the Jesuit School of Theology in Berkeley, CA (1973-76); Cheverus High School in Portland, MA (1977-80); Loyola House, Boston (1986-88); and Patrick House, Kingston, Jamaica (2001-2007). Alongside these assignments, Bill worked in advancement and admissions. Early on, Bill's charm and shrewdness enabled him to provide wise counsel to other Jesuit leaders and befriend them in their sometime isolating work.

• Revered as a friend by many, universally admired as a priest and administrator, and welcomed wherever he went, he never entirely shook off yearnings for the monastic life, especially the most austere, the Trappists and the Carthusians. He even became a Trappist postulant and novice in 1969-70, only to be told by Abbott Thomas Keating, "You are a Jesuit!" Bill concluded the same, coming away with the mild irony and unruffled calm that marked his Jesuit ministry. ... Though Bill always maintained this quiet joy and calm, his ministry in the Jesuits was anything but monastic. He provided shrewd and wise counsel to others, with easy and unstrained relationships with those around him. Jesuit or not. He had a great love for France. In the early 1960s, he was assigned, much to his surprise, to the Jesuit school at Vals in the southwest of France. For his theology, he enrolled in the famous Jesuit School of Theology at Lyon (1962-66). Making good use of his mastery of French, he earned an M.A. in Romance Languages at Harvard in 1962. His enrollment a bit later in the Harvard doctoral program in French literature (1967-69) came to an end when the author who was to be the subject of his dissertation was unwilling to cooperate. • After his six-year leadership in Jamaica (2001-07), Bill's ministry was chiefly carried out at Boston College, mostly in the Jesuit community (2007-2016). In 2017, congestive heart problems began to slow him down, and he moved to Campion Health Center in Weston, MA. Though the Jesuit catalogs listed him "praying for the Church and the Society, Bill did much more - welcoming newcomers, brightening everyone's days, and remaining cordial and unruffled. In his last two weeks, Bill grew weaker and weaker until early in the morning of February 11, 2025, he quietly passed away.

Page 8

with his reporting and insightful approach to documenting the real story behind one of our neighborhood's most troubling chapters. We're grateful to him— and to the men and women who are his sources— for helping us understand it more fully. -Bill Forry

The Reporter

"The News & Values Around the Neighborhood" A publication of Boston Neighborhood News Inc.

150 Mt. Vernon St., Dorchester, MA 02125 Worldwide at dotnews.com Edward W. Forry, Co-Founder William P. Forry, Publisher/Executive Editor Linda Dorcena Forry, Co-Publisher Thomas F. Mulvoy, Jr., Associate Editor Seth Daniel, News Editor Barbara Langis, Production Manager Jack Conboy, Marketing Manager Maureen Forry-Sorrell, Advertising Sales Mary Casey Forry, Publisher (1983-2004) News Room Phone: 617-436-1222, ext. 17 Advertising: 617-436-1222 ext. 14 E-mail: newseditor@dotnews.com

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Next Issue: Thursday, February 27, 2025 Next week's Deadline: Monday, February 24, 2025, at 4 p.m. Published weekly on Thursday mornings All contents © Copyright 2025 Boston Neighborhood News, Inc. made posters for rock concerts in the '60s and '70s – that filled the next page over.

Father Bill Russell lived and taught and ministered and administered widely and successfully much closer to Boston. I am indebted to the author of an appreciation of him that was published last week by the Jesuits USA East Province that noted the following:

• He was born in Winthrop, MA on June 10, 1932, one of six children. During his freshman year at Holy Cross College, he applied to the Society of Jesus in 1951 and after a year brushing up his Latin and Greek at St. Philip Neri in Haverhill, MA, he spent his novitiate and juniorate years at Shadowbrook, Lenox, MA. He was ordained to the priesthood in Weston by Cardinal Richard Cushing in 1965 and pronounced his final vows at BC High in 1972.

He often told the story of his namesake father launched him beyond the family's orbit on his first day at Holy Cross College: "He was the one who helped me carry my footlocker up four flights of stairs, and who sat on the edge of my bed and told me how proud he was to have his son in college and how he knew that I would work hard at my studies because he would be spending 1/5 of his income on 1/8 of his family, but that I was worth every penny."

• He served as superior at many Jesuit communities and led a number of the Society's educational

From Roslindale, a cautionary tale about the city's zoning reform moves

To the Editor:

Thank you for the commentary from Mr. Euan Davis about the negative effects of rental and lease terms on small businesses in the Feb. 6 edition of The Reporter. His story struck a chord here in Roslindale.

The Planning Department has not made it easy for our diverse business owners. Specifically, the department has not recognized the important economic outcomes that small businesses provide. Moreover, the department is threatening conditions that help businesses thrive. Finally, no effective anti-displacement policies will be codified and fully funded before the Roslindale business area is re-zoned under Squares and Streets. Our experiences provide a cautionary tale for neighborhoods undergoing or anticipating this rezoning – Fields Corner and Codman Square/ Four Corners, specifically.

As Mr. Davis described, Roslindale's personal service establishments are resilient. Barber shops, manicure salons, spas, and the like survived the pandemic. Immigrants and people of color own many of these businesses. For all intents and purposes, they have been invisible in the Planning Department's data sets in that they have not been distinctively credited as economic drivers in terms of consumer spending or status as employers.

In addition, the department's key business information inventory – only 21 out of more than 200 businesses – does not seem to include these personal service businesses.

And beyond that, there is no data base that identifies owners of color and immigrant owners who may qualify for special programs or other considerations despite repeated requests to the Wu administration and to Roslindale Village Main Streets.

City policies limit parking, a key asset for our Roslindale businesses. Customers drive to Roslindale from around Boston and farther out, including places like Newton and Sharon. However, curbside street parking has been, and will be, lost due to projects from the Boston Transportation Department (BTD) and other agencies. In fact, a BTD director acknowledged that 26 of the 2-hour spaces in the core commercial district from projects were lost.

An analysis of curbside parking data reveals what appears to be racial and ethnic disparities. Specifically, compared with their white counterparts, nearly three times as many Latinx, Black, Asian, and immigrant small business owners lost curbside spaces fronting their businesses. One street, Poplar, where the businesses are all owned by immigrants and people of color, lost the highest percentage of spaces in the core commercial district. And now their parking spaces are marked as 5-minutes only. No other street has so severe a restriction on parking. Despite the owners' objections, a component of the Squares and Street plan will alter Poplar Street further.

Along with not being fully recognized in the Roslindale Squares and Streets materials, and with an apparent inequity in curbside parking, no protections against displacement are in effect for all of our business owners. The Planning Department claims that such protections will be introduced. However, residents citywide are not satisfied with claims of future protections. At a recent City Council hearing, these groups asked the city to delay any re-zoning until anti-displacement policies are formulated, codified, and funded.

In anticipation of Squares and Streets rezoning, we are already seeing businesses at risk. For example, a Honduran immigrant who owns an auto body shop that has been in Roslindale for 24 years will have to move so that the landlord can build condominiums. The owner's lawyer gave a displacement cautionary note – city antidisplacement provisions put into place will be very likely be challenged in court. This makes the Planning Department's assertions of protection feel even less certain.

The Planning and Transportation Departments could adjust the conditions to mitigate current and potential damage to small businesses. For example, the administration has been asked to generate a database of business owner demographics. With this information, the City of Boston could analyze the potential effects of its decisions – such as eliminating more parking – to determine whether the effects are fairly distributed. Another way to prevent harm would be for the BPDA Board and the Zoning Commission to defer zoning changes until true anti-displacement measures are present.

Just as Mr. Davis asserts, rental and leasing agreements can certainly harm neighborhood small businesses. However, small businesses can also be harmed by city actions and policies. Such negative effects are being perpetuated by the Planning Department's zoning initiatives, like Squares and Streets, and by parking changes from the Boston Transportation Department. -

Laurie Radwin is the coordinator of the Roslindale Coalition.

City must prioritize 'fiscal discipline'

By JAMES E. ROONEY

As the president and CEO of the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce, I see many opportunities and advantages for the people and businesses of our region. To bring these opportunities to reality, we need to align in a shared and bold economic growth agenda.

Whether it's transportation, housing, education, talent retention and attraction in 2025 and beyond, we need to shift our focus from inputs to outputs and outcomes, from policy concepts and philosophies to actions. Earning public confidence and trust in government and in business leaders is critical to our success, and we can only do that by delivering results together. I believe that no level of government moves forward alone when faced with tough problems. The business community is a willing partner in developing solutions.

Last year, I called attention to the concern of safety in our downtown commercial district and other neighborhoods in Boston. I am pleased to celebrate with Mayor Wu, Commissioner Michael Cox, and the men and women of BPD that Boston was recently named the safest city in the country¹. We applaud the work of Commissioner Cox and District Attorney Hayden who responded to our call for greater attention to shoplifting and retail theft in downtown crossing and at the South Bay Mall. Our partnership with retailers on a strategy resulted in 73 repeat offenders being banned from the mall. Now, let's turn to Boston Public Schools. The Chamber continues to partner with Mayor Wu and Superintendent Mary Skipper to ensure that employers have a meaningful and impactful relationship with our school system to deliver the best for students and their families. I am proud to announce the formation of a Boston Public Schools financial literacy pilot created by the business community and BPS administrators. With the new financial literacy learning units, our BPS students will learn to achieve more financial control and independence in their lives and careers with savings, investments, budgeting, and more. This is the first pilot of its type in the City of Boston, and it can demonstrate the power of employers and BPS partnering to prioritize the wellbeing of our students.

called on the Commonwealth to demonstrate fiscal responsibility, and they answered the call to action for the past two years with "belt tightening" within their budgets.

The upward trajectory of government spending in recent years is unsustainable, and the city can no longer rely on the same level of new commercial development that Boston experienced over the past 25 years to mitigate direct impacts on city residents. The city will need to reevaluate its approach to spending growth, understanding that its own decisions to increase spending directly impact residential and commercial taxpayers – decisions that are entirely under city control.

In 2024 and again this year, we are asking the City of Boston to prioritize fiscal discipline for the longterm stability of the city – build a FY26 City budget increase in line with inflation. This may involve tough decisions, but such decisions are an inevitable part of effective and responsible governance – just as they are



THE REPORTER

Advocacy with the National Women's Shelter Network

St. Mary's Center for Women and Children is a proud member of the National Women's Shelter Network (NWSN)—a growing network of shelters and safe havens across the country with the shared vision of advancing the status of women, children, and families experiencing homelessness and bringing an end to homelessness.

As Treasurer of the NWSN Board, St. Mary's Center President, Alexis Steel, is proud to be a part of this important coalition that is now over 300 member organizations strong and represent the women, children, and families that St. Mary's Center has the privilege of

serving. Women and children have the unfortunate distinction of representing 70% of those experiencing homelessness and deep poverty across this nation.

Recently, St. Mary's Center's leadership team and program directors were honored to gather for the NWSN's 2025 Annual Conference in Washington, D.C.



The conference included over 45 presentations and breakout sessions, during which members of our leadership team were invited to speak on panels to share the experience and needs of St. Mary's Center families. The conference also included Capitol Hill Day, an opportunity for the participating agencies to meet with key legislators at our nation's Capitol, educating them on the importance of safe, supportive shelter for women, children, and families experiencing homelessness and the resources needed by shelter programs to support their successful transitions to ending homelessness.

We are grateful for this opportunity to join with likeminded organizations from across the country to advocate for the care and services that our families deserve, and we look forward to continued advocacy opportunities on a local and national level.

Financial stability is the bedrock of a strong and prosperous city. The Boston Chamber previously

a part of running a business or a nousehold.

The Chamber and the business community are ready to roll up our sleeves in partnership to ensure that all people and all businesses can succeed. We should reprioritize attracting new commercial and residential development within the city, which contributes to the tax base with new revenue. We should collaborate on ways to keep our college students here to sustain our economy. We can make our region more appealing for young, innovative entrepreneurs who want to start their business. And we should work together on mobility to make sure that people who are trying to live their lives, get to work, or explore the city can do so more easily. Throughout my decade leading the Chamber, we have not looked away from difficult challenges. We consistently work together to craft meaningful, bold solutions. That means not waiting to bolster opportunity and growth that will fuel our entrepreneurs as well as businesses and job creators of all sizes from our Main Streets to our downtowns. We know how to push through the unknown together and create a future that is stronger for generations to come. Let's get to work.

James E. Rooney is the president and CEO of the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce. This article is an abbreviated version of his 2025 Business Outlook address. See DotNews.com for a link to his full remarks.



To learn more, visit www.stmaryscenterma.org

THE REPORTER **February 20, 2025** Page 10 City holds off on Squares + Streets in Codman, Four Corners

(Continued from page 1) corridor have formed the new head of the The efforts in Codman Square and Fields Corner were announced in early 2024 and kicked off late last spring-with meetings, workshops, pop-ups and other engagement going through the year. However, neighbors in the Square were hesitant from the get-go, and things only got spicier last summer when the Planning Department looped in Four Corners with little outreach.

Since that time, skeptical neighbors along the Washington Street the grass-roots Codman United and have run meetings that stress the need to consider affordability and anti-displacement measures.

The "pause" announcement came first at the Codman Square Neighborhood Council (CSNC) on Feb. 5 when Dorchester's Mike Prokosch surprised some in relaying that new Planning Director Kairos Shen had agreed to hold up the plan in Codman/Four Corners. "In a meeting with Planning Department,' said Prokosch, "we got a commitment to pause the process in Codman Square...and talk about an affordability plan and do a study about displacement and use a community-approved federal law - the Affirmatively Further Fair Housing Act. This is supposed to be a time to work things out with the community. It could hardly be more confusing but we hope for a process to figure it all out."

Justin-Jabari Gichu-

How to educate your kids now about creating long-lasting health money habits



As you solidify your New Year's resolutions, it's a great time to start having a conversation with your kids -- whether they're in elemen-tary school, high school, or college — about smart ways to navigate finances. Starting the conversation earlier on will help to create healthy money habits as they grow, ultimately benefiting their fi-nancial future.

To help you get started, here are tips that make it easier for kids of all ages to learn how to save, budget and begin managing their finances more independently:

1. Start the conversation

It's never too early to start talking about money in a realistic way so kids can understand how it's used to support your lifestyle and help you achieve your goals and dreams. Begin the conversation in an age-appropriate way that highlights ideas, such as knowing the difference between needs and wants, saving for something special, and tracking the money you earn, as well as the money you spend. For mple, young children can understand the idea of saving up money from their allowance or lemonade stand to buy something they want in the future.

count geared towards a high school or college student, there are multiple options that can help students of various ages with firsthand digital transactions and account balances, assisting with budgeting and saving.

4. Plan for the future

According to Bankrate, 59% of Americans are uncomfortable with the amount of emergency savings they have, and 27% have no emergency fund at all. It's important for kids of all ages to know that unexpected events in life can happen, so planning ahead may help reduce stress and better cope with whatever may occur. For this reason, building an emergency fund or saving for a rainy day is a crucial skill to learn.

Your kids can start learning and practicing vital money skills now that will stay with them for life, as well as how to use financial tools so they will be able to stay on top of their finances and achieve their goals.

Learn more about all the options available to get your kids started on the right financial footing at chase.com/studentbanking.

For informational/educational purposes only: Views and strategies described in this article or provided via links may not be appropriate for everyone and are not intended as specific advice/recommendation for any ru, a BOLD Teen member, said he has been working with neighbors and felt this was something that needed more thought.

'We don't want to be re-developed into another Seaport, which is a place that if you go to it, there aren't many people there that look like those of us in this community," he said. "We don't want that here. There is a blended community in Codman Square and Four Corners... [The planners] aren't from here, but they think they know what's best for the people and they want really drastic changes to the community without public input."

Prokosch noted that Codman United supports more building and the plan's frameworks, but "we want to also make sure we're around to enjoy it."

AddedCSNCPresident Cynthia Loesch-Johnson, "When we started, we were on our own trying to navigate this blindly. It seems like we're going to move in the right direction now."

But with the well-received news in Codman Square, some in Fields Corner are left confused, given that they worked with Codman United.

The Planning Department confirmed with The Reporter that there will

be no pause in Fields Corner's process. Officials are now moving toward planning for how to best use Dorchester Avenue. They have hosted pop-in meetings about how to best use the street the avenue this month and are using an online application called 'StreetMix' to gather input.

'Building on recent Main Street and civic association meetings, as well as the StreetMix pop-ups, the Planning team will soon be scheduling workshops and forums to refine ideas and finalize recommendations together with community members and other City departments this spring," a spokes-person noted, "followed by further engagement with the community and a future comment period on the draft plan."

Members of the Asian American Resource Workshop (AARW) and Dorchester Not for Sale said they would like to slow their process down so they can get protections in place from unfettered development caused by upzoning the neighborhood - focusing on affordability and anti-displacement regulations.

"We are wanting to make sure that the voices of neighborhood residents, working-class tenants/renters, our

immigrant and refugee community members, and others, are heard and valued in any planning process for development/ redevelopment that happens in the neighborhood," said Kevin Lam, co-director of AARW.

Lori Hurlebaus, of Dorchester Not for Sale, said they are not opposed to Squares + Streets in Fields Corner, but they won't consent to it without protections in place.

"Idefinitely don't think that we're in a different place than they are," she said, adding, "we've been organizing with Codman United. Fields Corner, Four Corners, and Codman Square all share the same concerns, which are putting protections in place before upzoning and having meaningful engagement...I'm concerned our process seems to be moving ahead and not really slowing down."

She said they aren't being "obstructionist," but notes they haven't gotten answers. She also said that Wu had said she would meet with them in the fall, but that didn't happen.

"It's now stop and pause and let's really address what we need to have in the community," she said.

See related letter on-Page 9.

Codman Square

BOSTON

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2. Take notes and use tools

As your kids get older, explain the budgeting basics - even as simple as listing what you earn and what you spend, so you can ensure you won't spend more than you have. Any leftover money is best put in savings first, then they can consider working toward items or experiences they might want to buy. There are many budgeting resources out there, so you can find the one that works for you, including budget worksheets to track spending.

3. Get organized and go digital

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Wu assessing risks from Trump executive orders

BY MICHAEL P. NORTON **STATE HOUSE News Service**

The dizzying array of executive orders that President Donald Trump is handing down has put state and local government officials in Massachusetts in steady monitoring mode, and the mayor of Boston savs her team has been busy assessing risks and trying to understand "what is real and what is not real."

Trump moved immediately after his Jan. 20 inauguration to deliver on promises to shrink government and tailor federal policies to suit his political agenda. Opponents have successfully tied up some orders in court, and the president has continued to identify and eliminate spending he sees as fraudulent or wasteful.

In Democrat-heavy Massachusetts, where voters preferred Kamala Harris over Trump, elected officials charged with balancing budgets and delivering on their own agendas have elevated levels of concern about the federal revenues they have long

counted on, as well as trepidation about impacts of policy-related executive orders.

"The things that we are changing are shoring up and protecting against risks that are coming from the federal government," Mayor Wu said during an interview Wednesday on GBH Radio. "We have had to look at all the funding that we've been allocated and really ensure that the legal language is there in contracts to protect them and to work with Attorney General [Andrea] Campbell and other colleagues to push back in places where those executive orders have already crossed the line.'

Wu mentioned discussions about education and public health spending and executive orders on transportation and research and medical funding, a longstanding cornerstone of the state's identity and economy.

"We are looking to do what we can do and to identify the places where we can continue expanding our work through partnerships," Wu said. "We've had just a very, very strong relationship with state government and the Healey administration and our partners on how we will stand as a united front. We've had a very strong partnership with local philanthropic and private sector institutions who also understand their obligation and their opportunity to stand in the gap now."

Trump's executive order pace and volume has also caught the attention of Massachusetts House Speaker Ron Mariano, who declared earlier this month that "we've lost our federal partner. The speed with which these changes keep firing out of Washington, it's at a speed that is far faster than my simple brain can comprehend."

Wu said Boston plans to "lean on our resources here, locally, the authority that we have within the city level and within city government" to pursue the city's climate resilience, housing and public education goals.

The city has "so far" not encountered situations that it is most worried about, the mayor said.

Kraft and Wu clash on plans for housing and rent control approaches

(Continued from page 1) of housing already approved and permitted in the city are not subject to increased IDP regulations because they were approved before the formula was changed.

Kraft's plan shows "a total misunderstanding of the reality of the city's work," she said. "This would take us backwards."

The Kraft campaign said that his plan would change the current "inclusionary development policy" (IDP) formula, which is used to mandate the number of affordable units created in large building projects in the



Mayor Wu

city. The Wu administration has gradually increased the required number of affordable



Josh Kraft

units needed per project to 20 percent, up from 13 percent in the Walsh administration.

Kraft claims that the IDP change has slowed the number of housing starts and that "opt-in" is a better way to go. "My plan is completely voluntary, would benefit both tenants and building owners, and would not require approval from the state legislature," he said in a statement. "Renters deserve to be protected from massive year-over-year increases, and my plan will do that." The Kraft program

would target new developers and buildings under six units, including three-story homes. Specifically, he plans to ask landlords to cap their rents at the Consumer Price Index (CPI) plus 5 percent, not to exceed 10 percent per year, over ten years. Property owners who participate, he says, will be offered a 20 percent "return" on real estate taxes.

The plan, the campaign said, will target relief for "workforce" tenants by only allowing renters who earn below 200 percent of AMI to participate.

In the announcement, the campaign claims that more than 26,000 units that have already been approved and are ready to build "are not financially viable." It blames

"Wu Administration's mandates," but does not note that other factorsincluding higher interest rates and mounting costs for construction materials and labor, may also be contributing factors.

Kraft announced his intention to challenge Mayor Wu during a rally and press conference in Grove Hall last week. People seeking to run for office in the city of Boston this year are not formally candidates until they collect nomination signatures and get certified by city election officials and the Secretary of State's office in a process that starts in April.

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As White Stadium demo begins, some residents still feel the city won't listen Dozens speak of concerns at Lena Park Center session

By KARYNA CHEUNG SPECIAL TO THE REPORTER

Residents of neighborhoods surrounding Franklin Park packed a meeting last week to denounce the city's plan to demolish and rebuild White Stadium, a move many said will disenfranchise youths and the Black community in favor of corporate interests.

The Emerald Necklace Conservancy, a nonprofit focused on preserving Frederick Law Olmsted's system of city parks, organized the meeting to propose an alternative to the city's plan and provide a forum for resident concerns. Demolition began last week as trucks carried felled trees from the site. Construction is expected to be completed by December 2026.

Mayor Wu's adminis-

tration and the Boston alternate solutions. Public Schools have partnered with BOS Nation FC, the city's new pro $fessional \, women's \, soccer$ team, to renovate the White Stadium campus. The stadium, named after Boston philanthropist George Robert White, was built in 1949 and meant to be used as a facility used for city high school and community sports. City leaders and residents have long called for its renovation.

Most of the dozens of residents who gathered last Thursday in Lena Park Community Center oppose the public-private partnership that will allow the soccer team to use the new stadium for practices and 20 games a year. Some attendees said that Wu has been unwilling to consider

"If you listen to what the mayor has said, there's no other alternative. It's this way or no way. There's no other design," Roxbury native Renee Stacey Welch said in an interview with The Reporter. "As people who've been in the city for decades, we should have options.'

Most in attendance said they don't believe the redevelopment is a true investment for the Black community. Welch said Boston Unity Soccer Partners, the group that owns the team, is investing in White Stadium "to make money off the backs of the Black and brown community."

She added: "Look at the things that they're doing to the one true green space that the Black and



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brown community has. We're in these meetings, and they're talking at us, not to us."

Welch is a member of the Franklin Park Defenders, a group opposing the project that has more than 250 members and is supported by 14 community organizations. Last year, 15 Defenders and the Emerald Necklace Conservancy sued the city, claiming the project violates the state's Public Land Protections Act. A trial is scheduled to begin March 18.

"We believe that this public project is not following the public land protections," said Kar-en Mauney-Brodek, the Conservancy's president. "There are special protections that are afforded to public park land."

The Conservancy has worked with the architecture firm Landing Studio to present an alternative proposal that would renovate the stadium, install a new track and grass field, and redesign the seating. Dan Adams, a Landing Studio founder, said these designs would cost \$29.8 million compared to the \$100 million the city has committed to demolition and reconstruction.

The city's plan would in the end remove 145 trees to create more space for businesses and parking. Landing Studio's plan would protect those trees.

"[We have] more public school-aged children than any other neighborhood in the city, the highest asthma and respiratory issues. And the answer is to take away the trees," said Dianne Wilkerson, a Roxbury resident and former state senator. "We have to call it nuts. We have to challenge them."

Children make up over 20 percent of the popula-



Former State Sen. Dianne Wilkerson, right, spoke during a public meeting organized by the Franklin Park Defenders at Lena Park Community Center last Thursday (Feb. 13). Karyna Cheung photo

tion in Mattapan, Roxbury, and Dorchester, the largest proportions in the city of Boston, according to US Census data.

The city, which is expected to pay half of the project's cost, originally committed \$50 million to the project. That number has grown to close to \$100million, a city official said at a city council meeting last month. Wu has said in interviews that costs increased to accommodate community input, but Jamaica Plain resident Sarah Freeman sees the cost hike as another concession to the soccer team.

"At some point my question to the city would be, when is the price too high?" Freeman said. "How much should we have to pay and compromise to get this partnership? And is the partnership even a good idea?"

Josh Kraft, a candidate for mayor, attended the meeting and said in an interview with The Reporter that the city should pause the project to reconsider community feedback.

"It's \$100 million of public money for a project that's going to primarily benefit a private entity," he said. "The unequivocal, consistent response of those most impacted has been concern, and that needs to be not just listened to but heard."

Many residents argued that the plan is not designed to support youth and that deals had been brokered in the past with similarly affluent, white partners. Hyde Park resident Domingos DaRosa compared the White Stadium redevelopment to the Carter Playground redesign, a public-private partnership supported by Northeastern University. He claimed the space that once belonged to the community was redesigned to favor the private university's activities, despite the benefits for youth included in the project's language. "Stop using our students as pawns," he said. A page devoted to the White Stadium project on

the city's website states that public use of it will be protected and that "90% of programmable hours will be reserved for use by BPS and the community."

Bermina Chery, who grew up in Mattapan, called the city's reasoning a "smokescreen," adding, "I hear proponents for the mayor's project saying that we should have this project and it's because it's for the kids," Chery said. "This project's not only for the kids. It's for corporate interests."

Wilkerson questioned whether the mayor's administration was listening to BOS Nation over its constituents and charged that the community was deliberately left out of decision-making.

"This is a political battle not supported by fact, wisdom or reason,' she said. "Someone made a promise to someone that they could have our park.'

Dorchester resident Grace Richardson was the only speaker who spoke up in support of the city's plan. She said the renovations would improve the neighborhood and benefit youths, praising Wu "for investing in the Black community after 66 years of neglect."

Though Richardson and other speakers disagreed on what solutions are best for White Sta dium, they agreed that things must change. DaRosa, who played football at Madison Park Technical High School and played games in White Stadium, referred to Franklin Park as the "jewel of our city" and urged attendees to continue fighting for their interests. "If we don't bring this to the table [...] we're just wasting our time because they're going to do exactly what they want to do," he said. "Their agenda is not our agenda.' This story is the product of a partnership between The Dorchester Reporter and the Boston University Department of Journalism.

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Council okays new version of mayor's tax cut measure

By Amanda Beland **WBUR**

After hours of debate, the Boston City Council has once again sent Mayor Wu's tax relief proposal to Beacon Hill. It was a nearly unanimous vote at 12-1, with Councillor Ed Flynn the lone "no" vote for the measure, which would temporarily raise real estate taxes on commercial property to keep residential taxes lower.

The matter must go next to the State House, where the Senate killed a similar bill last year. It's unclear when lawmakers will take it up for a vote.

Said Flynn: "We have to address spending in the city. We just can't continue spending money non-stop on every single program. At some point, the money runs out. We have to be fiscally responsible and fiscally disciplined."

The new measure mirrors the proposal Wu reached with business groups and lawmakers last fall. The proposal also includes more relief and grant support for small businesses, as well as a tax rebate program for residents if the petition isn't adopted on Beacon Hill by the end of March.

"This home rule petition is not perfect as it stands," Councillor John FitzGerald said. "There

I fundamentally disagree with, in terms of the longterm health of the city ... but there's some good pork barrel legislation in here that I believe addresses important issues and provides appropriate relief to the residents and small businesses of Boston."

This vote marked the third time that the full City Council approved a tax relief plan from the Wu administration. Last year's proposal was amended with business group input to get approval from state lawmakers in the House. But that amended version vote in the Senate.

Since then, city residents received their Fiscal Year 2025 third-quarter tax bills. According to the Mayor's office, the tax bill for an average single-family home receiving a residential exemption increased 10.4 percent, or \$575 for the average single-family home.

Wu on Feb. 12 told WBUR she was "grateful" for the council vote and pressed for Beacon Hill to pass the legislation, saying, "I continue to urge state legislators to move forward our balanced, compromise

are some parts of it that never received a formal tax proposal that protects our residents and helps families afford to stay in their homes."

Councillor Gabriela Coletta Zapata, who introduced the home-rule petition to the Council last Wednesday, said some residents need tax relief.

"These are folks that we have been hearing from, my office has been hearing from, saying, 'I'm a senior on fixed income, I am struggling right now to make ends meet,'" she said.

Despite the petition passing handily, the session was laden with tension. It started during

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a floor debate on two amendments brought by Flynn, which had some members of the Council arguing about parliamentary procedure. That back and forth sparked some tense exchanges that continued throughout the multi-hour debate on the tax petition.

Ultimately, Flynn's amendments failed, as did amendments introduced by Councillors Julia Mejia and Erin Murphy.

"I'm just going to recommend that, you know, this tit-for-tat is just not going to help us," Mejia said. "Let's just all just stop, let's leave all of these things at the door and let's focus on doing the people's business.'

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This article was first published by WBUR on Feb. 12. WBUR and The Reporter share content through a media partnership.

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT Suffolk Probate & Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114 (617) 788-8300 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION Docket No. SU25P0280EA ESTATE OF: MARY-JO ARN DATE OF DEATH: 12/17/2024 pall interested persons:

To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestad A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Nancy S. Lee of Boston, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Becca Cragin of Maumee, OH be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration

or said estate to serve without surely on thin bond in unsupervised administration. IMPORTANT NOTICE You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court You have a right to object to this proceeding to do not use or work therman wet file To do so, vou or vour attornev must file written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day

Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of **03/19/2025**. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you. nay be taken without further notice to you UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION

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Witness, Iron _ _ Justice of this Court. Date: February 10, 2025 Stephanie L. Everett, Esq.

Register of Probat

Published: February 20, 2025

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

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nto, Sandra M		Dot Holdings LLC		80-84 Shepton St #84-3	Dorchester	01/31/25	440
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Campbell advises private companies that DEI policies are lawful in Mass.

By Michael P. Norton State House News Service

Private sector efforts to seek and support diverse, equitable, inclusive and accessible workplaces are not illegal, a coalition of state attorneys general said last week, and the federal government can't prohibit such efforts in the private sector through executive order.

Massachusetts Attorney General Andrea Campbell and 15 of her counterparts issued guidance on Feb. 13 to help businesses, nonprofits, and other organizations understand the "viability and importance" of DEI and accessibility policies in "creating and maintaining legally compliant and thriving workplaces."

The guidance was a direct response to concerns from employers over a President Trump executive order on the topic.

"The President's order is an attempt to bully employers into eliminating lawful policies that we know reduce complaints of illegal discrimination, increase a company's bottom line, and improve workforce culture and consumer experience," Campbell said in a statement. "I am proud to partner with my AG colleagues to empower businesses and encourage them to be courageous in maintaining their lawful diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility programs."

The White House said Thursday that the Federal Communications Commission opened an investigation into "discriminatory DEI policies" at Comcast following Trump's executive order "ending such policies."

On X, FCC Chairman Brendan Carr said the agency had ended its promotion of DEI following Trump's executive actions and "will be taking steps to ensure that every company the FCC regulates complies with the civil rights protections enshrined in the Communications Act and agency rules."

In a statement posted to the agency's website, FCC Commissioner Geoffrey Starks reacted to Carr's probe.

"Then-Commissioner Carr blasted the prior administration for acting in a way that 'gives the FCC a nearly limitless power to veto private sector decisions," "Starks said. "From what I know, this enforcement action is out of our lane and out of our reach. I have asked for a briefing to understand the Enforcement Bureau's theory of the case, the authority relied upon, and any prior precedent. This action gives me grave concern."

In a Jan. 20 executive order, the White House instructed the Office of Management and Budget to "coordinate the termination of all discriminatory programs, including illegal DEI and 'diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility' (DEIA) mandates, policies, programs, preferences, and activities in the Federal Government."

The White House in January said the order terminates DEI preference in federal contracting, directs federal agencies to "relentlessly combat private sector discrimination," and "enforces long-standing federal statutes and faithfully advances the Constitution's promise of colorblind equality before the law."

Campbell's office said the president's order "conflates valid and legal programs and practices supporting diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility with unlawful preferences in hiring and promotion." The guidance issued on Feb. 13 "reminds organizations that these initiatives are not the same as illegal hiring or promotional preferences to individuals based on protected characteristics," the attorney general's office said.

"For decades, state

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THE REPORTER

and federal courts have consistently recognized that diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility policies do not amount to impermissible discrimination," Campbell's office said in a press release. "In fact, employment discrimination laws generally require employers to pay attention to the impact their policies and practices have on different groups in order to avoid and limit liability for unlawful conduct.3

With its release, the AG's guidance was accompanied by statements of support from the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce, Associated Industries of Massachusetts, Urban League of Eastern Massachusetts, Mass. Business Roundtable, the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Massachusetts, Charles River Regional Chamber, Mass. Nonprofit Network and the Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce.

"DEI is America's superpower when competing in a global economy," MIT Sloan School of Management lecturer Malia Lazu said. "It's important that CEOs understand what they can continue to do moving forward. Attorney General Campbell releasing these guidelines should build the confidence of business leaders who want to continue to build a healthy and thriving economy."

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE & FAMILY COURT SUFFOLK DIVISION 24 NEW CHARDON STREET BOSTON, MA 02114 Docket No. SU25D0171DR DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION and MAILING PHUONG T. NGUYEN vs. MINH HIEN PHAM

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

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon: Dan Tran, Esq., Law Office of Dan N. Tran, 1377 Dorchester Ave., 2nd Floor, Dorchester, MA 02122 your answer, if any, on or before 03/31/2025. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court. Witness HON BRIAN. I DLINN First

Witness, HON. BRIAN J. DUNN, First Justice of this Court. Date: February 5, 2025

Stephanie L. Everett, Esq. Register of Probate Published: February 20, 2025

BOSTON STATE COMMUNITY TRUST, INC. REQUEST FOR GRANT PROPOSALS

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

The Request for Proposals (RFP) will only be available for distribution to interested parties via electronic mail on Monday, March 3, 2025 between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. On March 3rd, interested parties must submit an electronic mail request for a copy of the RFP. All RFP requests must identify the organization that is requesting the RFP. If the organization is not identified, the RFP will not be distributed. <u>NO REQUESTS WILL BE PROCESSED AFTER 6:00p.m. NO REQUESTS WILL BE HONORED "PRIOR" TO MARCH 3rd.</u> Upon submission of the request, an electronic version of the RFP will be forwarded to each respondent. The electronic mail request must be submitted to <u>bjohnson@bevcoassociates.</u> <u>comcastbiz.net.</u>

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

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THE REPORTER

February 20, 2025

dotnews.com

Dot, Mattapan restaurants get new permits

(Continued from page 1) can Restaurant in a new building at 1301 Blue Hill Avenue, have been busy since getting the news of their licenses. They even hosted Mayor Wu at their establishment on Tuesday evening.

More than anything

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else, it will enhance a in more revenue, more successful business that just two years ago was evicted from their Morton Street home to make way for a cannabis shop.

"It's going to enhance the business with a liquor license by bringing

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foot traffic and give us a competitive edge over other restaurants out there," Satchell said. "It will attract the community to come in and dine in and relax with a drink or cocktail."

Added Perry, "We want to create a good time here in all aspects, from the food to the music being played and now the drinks.²

Already they have attended consultant Nick Korn's Bar Management Bootcamp and have a unique drink menu penciled in to fit with their food menu. They will certainly have Red Stripe Jamaican beer, but they have also created Blue Mountain espresso coffee martini – and are considering enhancing their gelato selections with some liquor-infused flavors.

'We're not going into this blindly; we are training and getting involved with local distributors and putting together a drink menu that works with our food," she said. The law limits most of

the licenses to the specific Zip Codes in which they are awarded. Unlike traditional licenses, which now sell for around \$600,000 on the open market, the new licenses cannot be resold but have to be given back to the city for re-use should the restaurants close. Most of those first wave of licenses did not come in Dorchester or Mattapan, despite having the strongest voice and political support for adding new licenses last year. East Boston had the most awarded, with 11, while Jamaica Plain/Roslindale logged 10. Dorchester had seven, and Mattapan one. With the first grouping,

the board also awarded 4 of its 15 "community spaces" liquor licenses, one of which went to the Franklin Park Zoo.

"We are really excited that our liquor license



Boston Renaissance is a Pre-K through Grade 6 charter public school open to all students in Boston. Enrollment is open to students entering K1-Grade 4, and is determined by lottery, which will be held on March 6th, 2025. To enter the lottery, please visit

BostonRenaissance.org/Enroll

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Blue Mountain Jamaican Restaurant opened at 1301 Blue Hill Ave. last fall in a brand-new space. Seth Daniel photo

was approved and are very appreciative of the support we have received throughout this process," said John Linehan, CEO and president of Zoo New England. "We host events year-round at Franklin Park Zoo – from the popular Boston Lights lantern event to private parties, corporate events, and evening beer and wine tasting events. This license improves operational efficiency as we will no longer have to apply for one-day licenses.

As announced in January, the board took no action on the 15 "golden ticket" unrestricted licenses – which can be resold, used as loan collateral, and set up anywhere in the city - in an attempt to broaden a pool that now consists of 14 applications, most from neighborhoods that already have significant numbers of liquor licenses like the North End.

Said Mayor Wu: "Each of these 37 local businesses brings vitality, jobs, and community to our neighborhoods. I look forward to celebrating each of these restaurants and community spaces as we build opportunity in our neighborhoods.

State and local leaders who were dedicated champions of the legislation to expand the numbers of licenses included Council President Ruthzee Louijeune, Councillor Brian Worrell, state Rep. Chris Worrell, and state Sen. Liz Miranda.

beer and wine; just-Book-ish, 1463 Dorchester Ave., beer and wine (awarded earlier).

•02124 – Murl's Kitchen, 10-18 Bowdoin St., all alcohol; Fresh Food Generation, 191 Talbot Ave., all alcohol.

•02125 - Mofongo Factory, 299 Hancock St. (awarded earlier), beer and wine.

•02126 – Blue Mountain Jamaican Restaurant, 1301 Blue Hill Ave., all alcohol.

The board had little trouble awarding most of the new Zip Code licenses because it received fewer applicants than it had licenses to award. The remaining permits will go into a pool from which the board can now grant new licenses.

A new, second round of liquor license awards will have an application deadline of Fri., May 23, at 11:59 p.m., but hopefuls are encouraged to start the process as soon as possible. When reviewing the second round of applications, the Board will continue to factor in evolving neighborhood needs, market realities, and the strength of an establishment's business plan.

"By phasing the process, we aim to give applicants the time they need to present strong proposals, ensuring those granted licenses are set up for long-term success," said License Board Chair Kathleen Joyce. "We look forward to reviewing the next round of applications and encourage all applicants to engage with the Licensing Board as a valuable resource throughout the process.' Staff from the Mayor's Office of Licensing and Consumer Affairs, the Office of Neighborhood Services, and Office of Small Business will continue to support potential applicants through bi-weekly office hours, info sessions, and drop-in appointments with the Boston Licensing Board at City Hall, Room 809. An information session will take place in Dorchester on Thursday of this week from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Codman Square Health Center, 637 Washington St.

Boston Renaissance integrates high-quality academic instruction with excellent visual and performing arts programs, including music, dance, theater, chorus, visual arts, physical education, and technology classes. BRCPS proudly welcomes and serves all students, including those with special education and English language needs. With high academic standards and a well-rounded curriculum, we help our Scholars develop the confidence, character and skills to succeed.

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"They are making these licenses and new small businesses come to life in our communities,' said Miranda. "Although many barriers remain, enabling our current and prospective small business owners to secure neighborhood-restricted liquor licenses will help us tackle the racial wealth gap and support generational wealth building in our neighborhoods.'

Local winners by Zip Code:

•02121– The only applicant was the Franklin Park Zoo, which got the citywide "community spaces" license.

•02122 – One Family Diner, 260 Bowdoin St., beer and wine; Minina Cafe, 432 Geneva Ave.,

February 20, 2025

f 😏 (?) in You 💷

BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF DORCHESTER



BGCD Partners with Elevate Youth for Family Engagement Ski Trips with MOOR Grant: See details below.

CONNECT THE DOT: **BGCD Partners with Elevate Youth** for Cross-Country Ski Trip at Weston Ski Track: BGCD teamed up with our long-time program partner Elevate Youth to take a group to the Weston Ski Track to try Cross-Country Skiing for the first time. The day was filled with energy as the participants received all necessary equipment and professional lessons, guiding them through the fundamentals of the sport, from skiing techniques to safety tips. Thanks to our friends at Elevate Youth for partnering with us on a monthly basis, allowing our members to enjoy these special outdoor activities. Elevate Youth's mission is to empower youth to explore the outdoors alongside mentors, sharing awe and the richness of our natural world. Looking ahead, we're excited for a trip to Drumlin Farm in March. To learn more about partnering with BGCD, contact Mike Joyce at mjoyce@bgcdorchester.org.

FIND OUT WHAT'S INSIDE: Sponsorships Now Available -**BGCD to Host Highly Anticipated New England Women's Leadership** Awards on May 13th: NEWLA is a celebration of remarkable achievements and contributions of women in our region. We use this platform to foster collaboration, mentorship, and the advancement of women as well as provide role models for our youth at BGCD. This year's theme is "Together We Can", symbolizing the power of coming together and the strength it creates in our community. The event is a wonderful networking opportunity and a powerful way that you can support the young women and girls at BGCD. To become a sponsor or any questions, contact Patty Lamb at plamb@ bgcdorchester.org. Sponsorship info can also be found at bgcdorchester. org/newla. Make sure to look for our 2025 honoree announcement soon!



Sponsorships Now Available - BGCD to Host Highly Anticipated New England Women's Leadership Awards on May 13th: See details below.

DID YOU KNOW: BGCD Hosts Communication Workshop for Power Forward Teens: This past week, Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester's Power Forward program hosted a powerful and collaborative workshop for 40 of our teens that focused on the topics of positive communication. The workshop took a deep dive into the 10 signs of a healthy relationship. A special thanks to all the Teens who participated and engaged in this very important and impactful discussion. The Power Forward program is dedicated to work with teens and help them explore education and career opportunities after High School while developing the skills needed to become successful within their chosen path.

For more information on BGCD's Power Forward program, please contact Tricia Chapple at pchapple@bgcdorchester. org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

February School Vacation February 18 - 21 *Pre-registration required

Project BIND Family Skate Night February 19

Inclusion Rugby Begins February 26

Power Forward Career Cafe February 26 @ McLaughlin

Black History Living Museum February 28 @ WDYC

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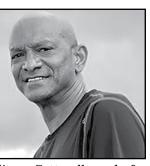
February 20, 2025

RECENT OBITUARIES



CAREY, Brian J., of Dorchester, formerly of West Roxbury. Son of the late John J. and Catherine (Cronin) Carey. Brother of Marilyn Carey of West Roxbury and Janet Carey of Roslindale. Also survived by several cousins. Donations may be made in his memory to the charity of your choice.

COTTERELL, Noel Dwight, 67, originally of Jamaica. Son of the late Rose H. Powell and Fernando W. Cotterell. Husband to Cynthia Wil-



liams-Cotterell and fatherof Ebony Cotterell, Shaneece Cotterell, Se-quoia Williams-Monquoia tiero, Camryn Williams Cotterell, and Jaydin Grandfather Cotterell. of 3. Former Senior Director of Finance and interim lead for the Marketing and Engagement division at UMass Boston. For nearly 18 years, he served as the head coach of the UMass Boston men's soccer team. Noel was the first coach in UMass Boston history to reach the 100-career

win mark and remains the winningest coach in UMass Boston men's soccer history. He also served as a State Referee, NISOA National Referee, and former President of NEISOA. Noel is predeceased by his brothers Frederick Cotterell, Winston Cotterell, Donovan Cotterell, and Ian Cotterell. He is survived by his siblings Keith Powell, Cheddi Cotterell, Col-lin A. Cotterell, Andrea Cotterell-Osuji, Joan Cotterell, Orville Cot-terell, Melinda Russell, Joy Cotterell, Rohan Cotterell, Stephen Cotterell, Maurice Cotterell, Lystra Cotterell, Michael Cotterell, and Charmaine Cotterell, his brothers-in-law Chika Osuji and Donald Russell, and sisters-in-law Willie Powell, Yvonne Cotterell, Jo Anne Cotterell, Sandra Cotterell, Keisha Cot-

LEGAL NOTICE

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 APPOINTMENT OF CONSERVATOR OR OTHER PROTECTIVE ORDER PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 1908, §5-304 & §5-405 Docket No. SU25P0264PM IN THE MATTER OF: ELVIN HENDRICKS of DORCHESTER, MA RESPONDENT

To the named Respondent and all othe To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Bostonian Nursing Care & Rehab Center of Dorchester, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Elvin Hendricks is in need of a Conservator or other protective order and requesting that Jonathan J. Davey, Esq. of Quincy, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve With Personal Surpt on the bond

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is disabled, that a protective order or appointment of a Con-servator is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court. You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so you or

proceeding. If you wish to do so, you o your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 03/13/2025. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without uther petite to you In addition to filing the further notice to you. In addition to filing the

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 of this Court.

Stephanie L. Everett, Esg. Register of Probate

terell, and Blondell Cotterell, as well as a host of relatives and friends. Please consider making a donation to Noel's children's college fund.



HENNESSEY, Ann M., 75, of Weymouth, formerly of Dorchester. Daughter of the late John and Elizabeth Hennessey. Sister of Kath-leen Lally of Quincy, and Marilyn Silva and her husband John of Middleborough. Ann is also survived by many nieces, nephews, and dear

friends. JEAN-PIERRE, David J., 89, of Dorchester. Husband of Ilanne Jean-Pierre. Father of Josue, Daniel, Noe, Joel, Maelle Jean-Pierre and the late Enine Jean-Pierre Vernely. Grandfather of 15 grandchildren.



McCOLGAN, Ann

76, (Fournier), of Dorchester, passed away peacefully on February 8, 2025. Beloved wife of the late Donald J. McColgan. Loving mother of Michael J. McColgan of Dorchester and his former spouse Tanya of Quincy, and Donald M. McColgan and his wife Patricia of Braintree. Cherished grandmother of Samantha K. and Maggie G. McColgan of Braintree, and Liam McColgan of Dorchester. Dear sister of Vera Greenan, Hank Fourni-

> LEGAL NOTICE COMMONWEALTH OF

er, Donna Fournier, and the late Jeanne Fournier. Ann is also survived by many loving cousins, inlaws, nieces, nephews, and dear friends.



POWELL, Clarence Jr., "CP", of Boston, originally of Birming-ham, Alabama. He was the son of the late Clarence Powell Sr and the late Beatrice Fulgham. Husband of the late Emma Jean Israel. Clarence is preceded in death by his father, Clarence Powell Sr., mother Be-atrice Myers, stepfather Johnnie Myers, fatherin-law Batie Israel, mother-in-law Queenie Israel, and sister Maxalee Cole. Clarence leaves his children: Lady Sandra Hamby (Bishop Anthony) Taunton; Angela Powell Marlborough; Charles Powell (Tina) Brockton; Bishop Clarence Powell III (Lady Pattie) Mattapan; Edwin Pow-ell Dorchester; Shawa-nnika Powell Taunton; Nakesha Fernandez (Shaunna) Providence, RI. Latisha Kenner, Roxbury; Carlos Ramos (Stanley) New Hampshire, Paris Boston; An-toine Gerald, California, 27 grandchildren, and 35 great-grands, 8 greatgreat grands. His special friend Muriel Laliberte, and his siblings Jean Mc-Caa Buffalo, NY; Daisy Jones (Nathaniel) Birmingham, AL; Jaque-line Harris Birmingham, AL; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.



burn. Memorials in Catherine's name can be made to: New England Wildlife Center 500 Columbian Street, Weymouth, MA 02190 or the Quincy An-imal Shelter 440R East Squantum Street Quincy, MA. 02171.



SULLIVAN, Bartholomew **R.**, of Dedham, formerly of Dorchester. Husband of the late Eileen (Raymond) Sullivan. Father of Bartholomew P. Sullivan of Dedham. Stepfather of Eileen Sweeney of PA, Edward Sweeney of Dedham, Daniel Sweeney of Newburyport, Margaret Sweeney of Dedham. Brother of Mary Leach of Braintree and the late Michael. Sean, Robert and Joseph Sullivan. Also survived by 7 grandchildren and several nieces and nephews. Son of the late Bartholomew and Agnes (Flaherty) Sullivan. Bart was a Staff Sergeant in the Massachusetts Army National Guard. Member of Office and Professional **Employees International** Union Local 453. Retired inspector for the MBTA. Member of the Dedham American Legion Post 18, John McKeon Post 146 AmVets. Expressions of sympathy may be made to Cystic Fibrosis Foundation at Cystic Fibrosis Foundation (CFF).org/ donate" target="_new" rel="nofollow"> . Cys-tic_Fibrosis Foundation (CFF).org/donate



THI. John N., 69, of

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RESPONDENT (Person to be Protected/Minor)

Personal Surety on the bond. The petition asks the Court to determine

turner notice to you. In addition to tilling the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date. IMPORTANT NOTICE The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's induct to make decisions about

Date: February 11, 2025 Published: February 20, 2025

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MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE and FAMILY COURT Suffolk Probate & Family Court 24 NEW CHARDON STREET 24 NEW CHARDON STREET BOSTON, MA 02114 (617) 788-8300 CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT Docket No. SU22P2601EA ESTATE OF: JOHN WILLIAM KING, JR. a/k/a: JOHN W. KING, JR. DATE OF DEATH: 04/23/2022 A Petition for Order of Complete Settle-ment has been filed by Maria Walsh of Newton, MA requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition. IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a

To do so, you or your attorney must hile a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 03/13/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you. Witness, HON. BRIAN J. DUNN, First Justice of this Court. Date: February 12, 2025 Stephanie L. Everett, Esq. Register of Probate Published: February 20, 2025

SMOLINSKI, Catherine M., 92, of Dorchester, originally of South Boston. She was the daughter of the late Florindo "Barney" and Catherine (Anderson) Dellascio. Before her retirement, she was a longtime employee in the Accounting Department at the Stop & Shop Corporate Offices. She was the wife of the late Henry J. Smolinski. Mother of Rosemary C. Sullivan and her husband James F. Sullivan of Dorchester; and John H. Smolinski and his wife Kathleen M. Smolinski of Mansfield. Grandmother of 1. Catherine was also the sister of the late John Dellascio and Peter Dellascio who is survived by his wife Joan Dellascio of Wo-

Dorchester, formerly of Vietnam. Husband of Maria of Dorchester, father of: Joseph of Milton, Paul of Peabody, and Katherine of Dorchester. Grandfather of 2. Father-in-law of Thu. John is survived by his siblings Maria Ly of Dorchester, Mary Thomas Ngo of Quincy, Monica Nguyen of Dorchester, and Jacqueline Nguyen of Bridgewater, and Paul Hung Nguyen of Dedham. He also leaves his extended family including nieces, nephews, cousins, and many friends. In 1988, John founded ABC Maintenance of Boston, where he provided employment opportunities for newly emigrated Vietnamese refugees, helping them find work as they built their own careers.

Danielle Legros Georges, at 59; served as Boston's poet laureate

Danielle Legros Georges, a writer and teacher who was born in Haiti and served as the city's poet laureate under Mayor Martin J. Walsh, died on Feb. 11 at her home in Dorchester. She was 59.

"Her partner Tom Laughlin and her brothers Gerard, Bernard, and Stephan were with her," according to a statement made on her Instagram page. Her family asked that donations in her name be made to the Mass General Cancer Center.

Georges, who lived in both Mattapan and Dorchester, was named Boston's official poet laureate in January 2014 by Walsh. At the time, she was teaching creative arts at Lesley University, and was a published poet and translator.

She moved to the United States from Haiti at age 6 with her parents. "Mattapan had a small Haitian population when we first arrived, but it has since expanded dramatically," Georges said in an interview with The Reporter in 2014.

She focused much of her work on the Haitian diaspora. She wrote "A Poem for the Poorest Country in the Western Hemisphere" in the aftermath of the cata-



Danielle Legros Georges strophic January 2010 earthquake in Haiti.

"I was listening to news and so often I would hear about Haiti always referred to as the poorest country in the western hemisphere. I found it troublesome, so I wanted to add to the voices as a person in the diaspora and a person who cares about Haiti."

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She received a bachelor of science degree in Communication Studies from Emerson College, and earned a masters of fine arts degree in English and Creative Writing from New York University.

Legros Georges was published in a wide variety of publications, including Agni, Transition, World Literature Today, SpoKe, The Caribbean Writer, Black Renaissance Noire, The American Poetry Review, and Boston Haitian Reporter.

In 2001, she published a collection of poems, entitled "Maroon." Her latest book, "Three Leaves, Three Roots," was published last month. She recently spoke at the Dorchester bookstore Just Book-ish on Jan. 29 alongside her friend and fellow author, Charlot Lucien.

A funeral service is planned for 10 a.m. this Saturday (Feb. 22) at the Boston Basilica: Our Lady of Perpetual Health, 1545 Tremont St. in Boston.



THE REPORTER

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February 20, 2025

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