

ASHMONT OUTLOOK



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Greetings, Neighbors!

Thanks to Mike Dawson and Matt Malloy for hosting the January meeting and to our guest speakers, Jack Pelletier and Julianne Baecker.

The next AHA meeting is on Thursday, February 24, 7:30 p.m., at 40 Brent Street*, hosted by Debbie Munson and Andy Schroeder. Continuing our introduction of new neighborhood businesses, Yomiris Rodriguez from the Sea Breeze Mexican Grill will tell us about his about-to-open restaurant; we'll also meet Tina Andrews from Fisher & Associates tax and accounting services. In addition, Joe Gildea will make a brief presentation about his plans to rebuild the exterior staircase on the four-family house at 15 Walton Street, for which a zoning variance is required.

Neighbors on Ashmont Street, Talbot Avenue, and Washington Street should be aware that these streets are Snow Emergency Arteries. If the City of Boston declares a Snow Emergency, cars parked on these streets must be removed by the time the emergency takes effect or they will be towed. During snowy weather, check the City of Boston's website (www.cityofboston.gov) or call the Mayor's 24-Hour Line (617-635-4500) for snow emergency and parking ban notices. The City also has a Storm Center line that is activated

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Ashmont Hill Association January Meeting Notes

Some 20 neighbors attended the January meeting hosted by Mike Dawson and Matt Malloy. C-11 Community Service Officer Mike Keaney reported 19 incidents including 14 domestic violence. Crime in C-11 (the largest police district in both land area and population) is down 8 percent overall for the year, with 65 fewer robberies but two more homicides and an increase in house breaks driven by drug abuse. In response to questions, he said that cameras located on some streetlights can assist in arrests by recording events and times; he also noted that shotspotters can distinguish between fireworks and gunshots. As always, report any concerns to the Community Service Office (617-343-4524...check) but call 911 (617-343-4911) for all emergencies.

Guest speaker Jack Pelletier, a 10-year resident of Dorchester and former attorney, talked about his plans to open his new bike shop, Ashmont Cycles, on March 1, at 551A Talbot Avenue, adjacent Micci Fuel and a couple doors up from the Ashmont Grill. He plans to carry the Linus and Fuji bike brands, and will have family, commuter and road bikes as well as gear and clothing. He also will provide bike repair and maintenance services. Look for a "grand opening" sometime in April.

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Ashmont Hill Association Monthly Meeting

Thursday, February 24
7:30 p.m.

40 Brent Street,
hosted by Debbie Munson
& Andy Schroeder
Supper at 7 p.m.,
desserts appreciated!

Guest Speakers: Yomiris Rodriguez,
Sea Breeze Mexican Grill
Tina Andrews, Fisher & Associates

Community Calendar

Music Night

Third Sunday of the month
7 p.m. at 92 Ashmont Street

Friends of the

Codman Square Library
Third Monday of the month
6:30 – 8 p.m. at the Library

Note: Due to holiday,
February meeting is the 28th

DHS Chocolate Extravaganza

Sunday, February 20, 2 p.m.
195 Boston Street

Boston City Singers "Global Voices" Gala

Saturday, February 26, 7 p.m.
Tirrell Room, Quincy

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The way city living should be

The Ashmont Hill Association

was established in 1970. A non-profit 501(c)3 organization, its mission is to provide a forum to enhance the quality of life in and around Dorchester's historic Ashmont Hill neighborhood by fostering a strong sense of community among all residents.

We welcome news items of neighborhood interest, space permitting. Submissions (no longer than 250 words and including a contact name and phone number) should be sent to P.O. Box 240217, Dorchester, MA 02124, or left on the Message Line. We reserve the right to edit submissions for clarity and length.

Advertising

Classified: \$10/insertion for heading and four lines of copy.

Business ads: \$30/insertion or \$250 for full year (10 issues).

Leave ad info request on Message Line.

News and advertising deadlines:

February 11, March 18, April 15

The *Outlook* is distributed approximately one week after each deadline.

The Ashmont Hill Association neither endorses nor warrants the products or services of Ashmont Outlook advertisers.

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Ashmont Hill Association

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Dorchester, MA 02124

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Email: info@ashmonthill.org

www.ashmonthill.org

AHA is grateful to the Codman Square Health Center for providing the Message Line.

To subscribe to the Ashmont Hill list-serve, send email request with your full name and street address to ashmonthillmoderator@yahoo.com

January Meeting Notes

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Julianne Baecker, who is on the admissions committee for Ashmont Nursery School, reported that the application deadline for Fall 2001 was approaching (February 1). ANS is a parent-run non-profit cooperative pre-school for children ages 2.9 to 5 years old, with 20 students and three teachers; it has a good scholarship program. (See page x for details about their upcoming fundraiser.)

Vicki Rugo reported on the monthly meeting that is held with Ashmont Stationmaster Tom Crowley to raise issues and concerns relating to service and

activity in and around the station. Issues currently under discussion include trolley noise, construction progress, student bus dropoffs, crime, future vendors in the station, abandoned newspaper boxes, litter, and skateboarders.

Information about other events that were announced at the meeting is found elsewhere in this issue. Hosts are needed for future monthly meetings; upcoming meeting dates are March 31, April 28, May 26, and June 23. Please call the Message Line (617-822-8178) or email info@ashmonthill.org if you would like to be a host.

— Patricia Burson, *clerk*

Some Useful Phone Numbers

Boston 911 for cellphones:
617-343-4911

C-11 Community Service Officers:
617-343- 4524 Non-emergency only;
call 911 for ALL emergencies

Mayor's 24-Hour Constituent Line:
617-635-4500 Call for all concerns; also
visit www.cityofboston.gov and click
"Citizens Connect."

Snow Emergency Hotline: 617-635-3050

Public Works main: 617-635-4900

Recycling: 617-635-4959

TV/computer monitor pickup:
617-635-7574

Red Line/Ashmont Station
Reconstruction Hot Line: 617-222-6757

MBTA Police Emergency: 617-222-1212

MBTA Police Non-emergency:
617-222-1100



Gordene Everett

Ashmont Hill neighbor Gordene Everett moved to Welles Avenue with her parents in 1930, at the age of 7, and lived there until her death on January 25 at the age of 88. Always well

informed and fiercely independent, Gordene earned a Bachelor's degree from Northeastern and a Master's from NYU and, after a stint as a legal secretary, taught English at North Quincy High School for several decades. As a member of the Appalachian Mountain Club, she hiked and climbed throughout the US; she traveled extensively throughout her life, even studying for a time in Japan. She owned and showed a number of West Highland White terriers over the years and was devoted to her canine companions; her last Westie predeceased her just last year. Gordene loved her Ashmont Hill neighborhood and always took a keen interest in her neighbors. In her later years she often watched the passing scene from her front porch and enjoyed wide-ranging conversations with neighbors who stopped by to chat. She was one of a kind.

The way city living should be



About the Neighborhood

DHS Chocolate Extravaganza February 20

Experts from Dorchester's own Phillips Candy House will "talk chocolate" at the Dorchester Historical Society on Sunday, February 20, at 2 p.m. The same day, Dorchester cooks will engage in a virtual food fight to determine the best chocolate creation in the second annual DHS Great Chocolate Cook-off. Contestants should deliver their best chocolate creations to DHS Headquarters, 195 Boston Street, by 11 o'clock that morning. A panel of judges will perform a blind tasting to determine the winners, who will be announced during the program. All entries will be served that afternoon. \$5 suggested donation for non-cooks. Contact Earl Taylor at 617-293-3052 or ermmwwt@aol.com if you will be entering the contest.

Global Voices Gala February 26

Tickets are still available for Boston City Singers' fund-raising gala event on Saturday, February 26, at 7 p.m., at the Tirrell Room, 254 Quarry Street in Quincy. Enjoy hors d'oeuvres, exciting entertainment, dancing, auction and raffle, plus a BCS Chorus appearance. Cash bar. Tickets are \$75 per person. For tickets, email globalvoices@bostoncitysingers.org or call 617-825-0674.

Ashmont Book Group

The next Book Group meeting is Wednesday, March 2, 7:30 p.m., at 31 Walton Street, hosted by Meg Stone. Our book for March is Kurt Vonnegut's *Slaughterhouse-Five*. In April we will discuss *True Grit* by Charles Portis (the book, not the movie). Like to read and talk about what you've read? Please join us! Info: Lil Konowitz, klil@hotmail.com or leave a message on the AHA Message Line.

"Warm Soup and Cool Music" Saturday, March 5

Ashmont Hill Chamber Music presents a special concert at the home of Gary and Andrea Barsomian-Dietrich, 60 Alban Street, on Saturday evening, March 5. Co-hosted by Dorchester neighbor and Boston City Councilor-at-Large Ayanna Pressley, the concert features violist Michelle LaCourse and violinist Klaudia Szlachta performing Mozart's masterpiece for violin & viola, Duo in B-flat. A light supper at 6:30 p.m. will precede the 7:30 concert; dessert will follow. Suggested donation of \$40 will benefit the Ashmont Hill Chamber Music series. Info/reservations: Christina Keefe, 617-680-7542, or ashmonthillchambermusic@hotmail.com.

ANS Annual Benefit Auction March 12

Ashmont Nursery School's annual benefit auction takes place on Saturday, March 12, 7 -11 p.m., at Citizen Schools, 308 Congress Street, 5th floor, next to the Children's Museum in South Boston. Admission is free. Enjoy an evening of live entertainment, food and drink, and raffles at this silent and live auction! The auction proceeds fund scholarships, arts programs, field trips, teacher training, and other costs not covered by tuition. Located at One Ashmont Street, Ashmont Nursery School is celebrating its 25th anniversary as a parent-run cooperative pre-school. Info: www.ashmontnurseryschool.com.

The Restaurant Scene

Ashmont Hill neighbor Mike Horne and his colleagues from Stonehill College, who now call themselves the Ashmont Jazz Group, will play at **Tavolo Ristorante** from 6 to 8 p.m. on a number of upcoming Sundays: February 27, March 6 and 27, and April 3, 10 and 17.

Check out **Dot2Dot Café's** website for an ongoing services of events and exhibits that range from music and art exhibits to poetry and knitting; not to

mention their breakfast, lunch and dinner menus: www.dot2dotcafe.com.

Sea Breeze Mexican Grill, 1782 Dorchester Avenue at the corner of Shepton Street (one block south of the Dot Ave/Welles Ave intersection) is opening soon. Learn more from the owner at the February AHA meeting!

Throughout 2011, the **Ashmont Grill** will donate 10% of the price of each meal served at its Monday Night Wine Club to a Dorchester-based organization. In February, the Grill's charitable partner is the Leahy-Holloran Community Center (formerly known as the Murphy Community Center), which since 1973 has provided an accredited pre-school program, an aquatics program, human services, assistance and information to neighborhood residents. In March, the Grill teams up with Boston Partners in Education, which supports K-12 students in five public schools in Dorchester by providing academic mentors who tutor kids in reading, writing and math. Dorchester groups wishing to "own" a month of Monday Night Wine Clubs should contact Ashmont Grill General Manager Tara O'Riordan at 617-825-4300.

2011 CSA Opportunity

Become a shareholder in the Many Hands Organic Farm and you'll be able to pick up organic veggies (fruits, flowers and meats are available, too) weekly from June 13 through October 28 right here in the neighborhood. Alban Street neighbor Cheri Robartes has been working at this Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) farm, located in Barre, MA, for years. Every week during the season she brings back bags of greens, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, potatoes, squash, peas, garlic—you get the idea—for folks in this area. \$575 for a large share and \$325 for a medium share get you 20 weeks of excellent food grown by former Dorchesterites Jack Kittredge and Julie Rawson, who work hard to make their soil rich and nutrient-dense. Info: call Cheri at 617-288-8298 or check out www.mhof.net.

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Community Calendar

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Ashmont Book Group
 Wednesday, March 2, 7:30 p.m.
 31 Walton Street

**AHCM Concert:
 "Warm Soup, Cool Music"**
 Saturday, March 5, 6:30 p.m.
 60 Alban Street

**Ashmont Nursery School
 Benefit Auction**
 Saturday, March 12, 7 p.m.
 Citizen Schools, South Boston

AHA Monthly Meeting
 Thursday, March 31

Greetings Neighbors

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during Snow Emergencies: 617-635-3050.

*Brent Street is one block north of Welles Avenue. Walking, turn left on Talbot Avenue from Welles Avenue, go a short block, and turn left onto Brent; #40 is a few houses up on the right. By car, Brent Street is one way: enter from Washington.

Vivian Harrison-Tang

President, Board of Directors
 Ashmont Hill Association

Codman Square Library
 690 Washington Street
 617-436-8214

Janice Knight, head librarian
Chris Strunk, children's librarian

Library hours:
 Monday & Thursday 12-8
 Tuesday & Wednesday 10-6
 Friday 9-5

Programs:
 Storytime: every Tuesday, 11 a.m.; every Friday, 10:30 a.m.
 Pre-School Films: every Friday, 11 a.m.
 Homework Assistance Program (ages 6-12): 3:30--5:30p.m. Monday-Thursday, Saturday 11 a.m.--1 p.m.
 Game Day (all ages): Play all kinds of board games, Friday 3--4 p.m.

Call library to be sure events have not been cancelled



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