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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:

March 13, April 17

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

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AHA Board of Directors 2013 - 2014

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Ashmont Hill Association P.O. Box 240217 Dorchester, MA 02124

Message Line: 617-822-8178

www.ashmonthill.org

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



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

January Meeting Notes

C-11 CSO Mike Keaney noted that this New Year's Eve was the quietest in 27 years. A rash of delivery driver robberies included one on Walton Street in late December. Two women were robbed at night on Alban Street in early January; their cell phone was tracked along the Mattapan trolley route and the attackers were arrested at Mattapan Square.

Student behavior on Ashmont Street was discussed with Corey Allen (chair of the Community Engagement Board) and Jessica Descartes (Discipline & Student Support) from Tech Boston Academy. Corey noted that a student who smashed a pumpkin last fall was disciplined. Students are released at 11 a.m. on Wednesdays, on other days at 2:30. Some 100-150 students come through neighborhood to the T. A neighbor was concerned that kids are unsupervised and sometimes destructive; is there a way to get them more connected with the neighborhood? They do talk to the kids about being in a community; they can explore whether students need community service hours. Officer Keaney noted that Captain Sexton assigns an officer to Ashmont Station during busy times and a street worker interacts regularly with the kids. BPD also monitors social media for potential fights and trouble spots. Neighbors should call 911 immediately to report fights or other serious matters. For other student issues, call Co-Headmaster Keith Love at TechBoston, 617-635-1615, x3118, or speak to the secretary. Provide a description if possible; they will speak to the student and discipline as appropriate.

Trash is an ongoing problem. Could TechBoston provide trash barrels? Not likely with budget cuts looming. It was noted that barrels need people to be responsible for emptying them. David Mooney will follow up with a further conversation with those who are inter-

ested. Codman Academy and the Henderson Inclusion School are also in this area. Representatives from both schools will be invited to future AHA meetings.

500 Talbot Avenue, the former Our Savior's Lutheran Church, is for sale, with development proposals due February 14. Several entities are known to be submitting proposals. Two parties asked to meet informally with the AHA board: VietAID, a neighborhood development corporation, which proposes to demolish the building and build multifamily housing, and neighbor Matt Malloy, who proposes to preserve the building to accommodate business incubator/artist space, with rental units built on the open land. A neighbor has observed drug activity and solicitation at the property. The church's selection committee said they would probably have a community meeting to review short-listed proposals.

St. Mark's Area Main Street executive director Meaghan Overton gave an overview of the organization, which works to strengthen the Dorchester Avenue business district from Melville to Mercier avenues. Oscar Night on February 22 is their biggest fundraiser. SMAMS committees include: Beautification: Working with landscape architects through COGDesign to identify opportunities for public art, temporary movable seating, and other improvements; Development: Will weigh in on 500 Talbot, also focusing on vacant properties and how their development will affect the neighborhood; Local Business Development: teaching a social media in business class for 12 business owners, helping to reach out to new customers; Community Events and Public Space: working with Beautification and also on rebranding for SMAMS itself; Fundraising and Promotion: currently working on the Oscars event. Volunteers and feedback are always welcome: www.smams.org.

— Lianne Ames, notetaker



Convergence Ensemble Inaugural Concert

The Convergence Ensemble will give an inaugural Gala Benefit performance on Saturday, February 28, at 5:30 p.m., at the home of artistic director and pianist Rachel Goodwin, 67 Ocean Street, with a reception to follow at 69 Ocean Street, the home of Gretchen and Miguel Suarez. D'Anna Fortunato and Robert Honeysucker will perform Brahms Duets, Op. 28 and American folk songs; violist Michelle LaCourse, violinist Klaudia Szlachta, and cellist Hyun-Ji Kwon will perform works by Mozart, Schubert, and Bach. Also on the program is 3 Songs by Frank Bridge, for voice, viola, and piano. To RSVP with a tax-deductible donation of \$70, go to www.convergenceensemble.org. Checks, payable to Arts & Business Council of Greater Boston, Inc. with "Convergence Ensemble" in the memo line, may be mailed to Convergence Ensemble, 67 Ocean Street, Dorchester, MA 02124. Tickets will also be available at the door, space permitting. Questions? info@convergenceensemble org or 857-271-8234.

"Chocolate, Culture, and the Politics of Food"

RESCHEDULED: On Sunday, March 1, at 2 p.m., the Dorchester Historical Society welcomes Carla D. Martin, PhD., Harvard University lecturer, for a sensory exploration of the world of chocolate. Inspired by her popular undergraduate course, her talk will introduce the socio-historical legacy of chocolate and the global and ethical issues connected to the production of one of America's favorite sweets. Guided chocolate tasting will be woven throughout the program. The program is open to the public and free of charge, although donations are always

welcome, and takes place at DHS Headquarters, 195 Boston Street.

Ashmont Hill Book Group

Book Group's next meeting is on Wednesday, March 4, at 7:15 p.m., at 52 Alban Street, left side, hosted by Deb Rodman. We will be discussing 1776 by David McCullough. The book selected for April is Heart of Palm by Laura Lee Smith. Book Group meets the first Wednesday of the month. All are welcome; info: klil@hotmail.com or call the Message Line.

ANS Auction

Ashmont Nursery School's 2015 fundraiser, "Rocketing to Success," takes place on Saturday, March 7, 7-10 p.m., at First Parish Church, 10 Parish Street. Enjoy live music and hors d'oeuvres, and bid on items including Red Sox/Yankees tickets, a lunch cruise for four on the Spirit of Boston, and a stay at an eco-cabin with outdoor sauna. Info: fundraising@ashmont nurseryschool.com.

Save the Date for the Chili Cook-Off

The 9th annual Dorchester Chili Cook-off, in support of the Dorchester Day Parade, takes place on Sunday, March 22, 4-7 p.m. at IBEW Local 103 Hall, 256 Freeport Street. Watch for details next month. Interested in participating or sponsoring? Contact Pat O'Neill, 617-265-5397 or pattiashmont @gmail.com.

ADSL News

Have Fun! The All Dorchester Sports League holds its second annual fundraiser, "Cold Night, Hot Stove," on Friday, March 27, 7 - 11 p.m., at the International Union of Elevator Constructors Local 4, 50 Park Street. It's a disco party, so come prepared to dance, plus enjoy great food and drink and a spectacular raffle. A \$20 ticket to the event includes a raffle ticket for the major prizes: a flat-screen TV, iPad,

and two Red Sox tickets. Buy tickets for other raffle items at the party. Tickets are available at www.alldorchester sports.org.

Play Ball! Registration is now open for ADSL baseball and softball for this summer. Register online at www.all dorchestersports.org or call 617-287-1601.

Ashmont Tire Update

Trinity Financial's development project for the Ashmont Tire property, with market-rate condos, affordable rentals, and neighborhood retail, is scheduled to go before the BRA board on Thursday, February 26, 2 p.m., in the BRA Board Room, 9th floor of City Hall. It is also scheduled to go before the Zoning Board of Appeals on Tuesday, March 10, 11:30 a.m., in the 8th floor hearing room in City Hall. A community meeting will be scheduled for late March to discuss the types of neighborhood retail people would like to see. Contact project manager Matt Zahler, 617-720-8400 x1543 or mzahler@trinityfinancial.com, with questions or to be added to Trinity's email list to receive detailed information and updates for the project.

Codman Square Library 690 Washington Street 617-436-8214

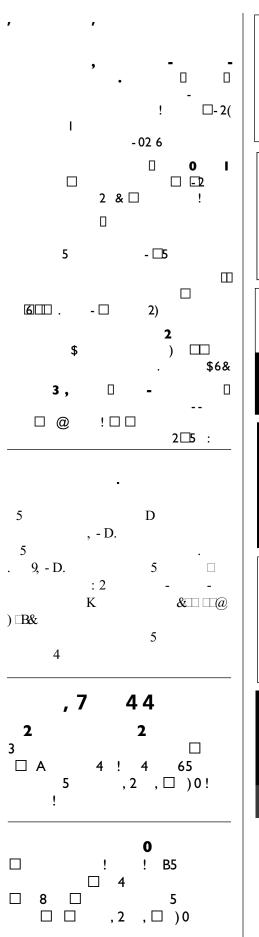
Janice Knight, head librarian Chris Strunk, children's librarian

Monday & Thursday 12-8 Tuesday & Wednesday 10-6 Friday & Saturday 9-5

Preschool storytime: Tuesdays @ 11 a.m., Fridays @ 10:30 a.m.

Preschool films: Fridays @ 11a.m. **Baby storytime:** Fridays @ 2 p.m. *All activities free and drop-in.*





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