

ASHMONT OUTLOOK



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Greetings, Neighbors!

Many thanks to Nancy and Joe Gildea for hosting the September meeting. It was wonderful to see so many neighbors!

The next Ashmont Hill Association meeting is on Thursday, October 25, 7:30 p.m., at 60 Alban Street, hosted by Andrea and Gary Barsomian-Dietrich. On the agenda: Stephanie Acquario, from the Environment Department, to talk about the upcoming plastic bag ban; Mary Beth Alger, artistic director for Ashmont Hill Chamber Music, with an overview of AHCM's 2018-19 season; and representatives from the Massachusetts Nurses Association regarding their support for Question 1 on the November ballot.

As this is AHA's Annual Meeting, we also will elect board members for the coming year. See nominees in the September Meeting Notes (page 2); nominations are open until the meeting. And for interested gardeners, daffodil bulbs will be available for planting in the neighborhood within view of a public way, as part of the City's Boston Blooms program; planting instructions provided.

We hope to see you at the meeting!

David H. Mooney

for the AHA Board

Peabody Square Revitalization Starting Soon

Construction is expected to begin soon on the Peabody Square Revitalization project, which includes landscape improvements to create more usable, appealing, and sustainable community spaces. The culmination of several years of visioning, fundraising, design, and public approvals, under the direction of Greater Ashmont Main Street, the work is expected to take about four weeks.

On the west side, by the Ashmont Grill, game tables, new plantings including a London Plane tree, and a Soofa Sign electronic display for community notices will be introduced, with picnic tables added in the Spring. On the east side, by the Peabody Square Clock, new benches will be installed within a small green space with perennial and annual plantings. Several new bike racks and a repair station will make cycling more convenient. Other features include new trash and recycling receptacles, repairs to the granite walkways, and new paving designs to enhance safety and provide sustainable green space around the plaza.

Go to <http://greaterashmont.org/breaking-ground/> for the detailed plans and other information. Watch for an announcement of the ribbon-cutting once the work is completed.

Ashmont Hill Association Annual Meeting

Thursday, October 25
7:30 p.m.

60 Alban Street
hosted by Andrea & Gary
Barsomian-Dietrich

Supper at 7, desserts appreciated

Agenda:

Info re: plastic bag ban
Ashmont Hill Chamber Music
Mass. Nurses Association/Question 1
C-11 Community Service Report
AHA Board Election
Daffodils!

Community Calendar

Last Ashmont Farmers Market

Friday, October 19, 3–7 p.m.
Ashmont Station Plaza

MRF Day of Service

Sunday, October 21, 11 a.m.–2 p.m.
IBEW Local 103, 256 Freeport St.

"All Corners" Free Concert

Sunday, October 21, 3 p.m.
St. Mary's Church, 14 Cushing Ave.

Greater Ashmont MS Friendraiser

Sunday, October 21, 7–10 p.m.
50 Monsignor Lydon Way

AANA Pumpkin Carving

Sunday, October 28, 3–5 p.m.
Ashmont Street Field

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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

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Leave ad info request on Message Line.

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November 9

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Ashmont Hill Association


P.O. Box 240217

Dorchester, MA 02124

Message Line: 617-822-8178

Email: info@ashmonthill.org

www.ashmonthill.org

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

September Meeting Notes

Laurie Fisher of 28 Roslin Street requested support for the variances she needs to add a dormer window on her third floor as part of a bathroom renovation, which would make the floor area ratio excessive. It was moved, seconded, and passed with a unanimous vote, that AHA should write a letter of support to the Zoning Board of Appeal in advance of her hearing on October 18.

Mike Ahearn described his proposal for a 56-unit rental apartment building with two commercial spaces on the property he owns at 1970 Dorchester Avenue, adjacent to Ashmont Station. As the project is a transit-oriented development, the only parking would be five spaces for commercial tenants and maintenance. Questions were asked about parking (what would keep residents from getting resident parking stickers), size of the building, affordable units, anticipated rents, and retail uses. The project is still in preliminary stages with the BPDA, so many details remain to be worked out.

Mr. Allahverdi, owner of 80-88 Welles Avenue, and his architect Bill Paquette presented plans to replace the vacant and fire-damaged one-story building on the site with a three-story building with nine residential units, three commercial spaces, and eight parking spaces accessed off Wainwright Street. Questions were asked about the tightness of the parking, dumpster location, lack of green space, possibility of solar, exterior materials and design, affordable units (too few units for any to be required), and current maintenance issues. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to send a letter of support from AHA to the ZBA, with a request that neighbors be shown a more developed and refined design for the building, perhaps at the time when the BPDA does its review.

C-11 Officer Mike Keaney reported that the summer was generally very quiet, but there were some robberies:

Alex's Market was robbed of \$250; the bicycle used to flee was located and being checked for prints. A woman on Talbot Avenue fought off two young people trying to rob her who were later positively identified and charged. A young man leaving school was confronted at Ashmont and Washington by a group of young men who demanded money and his phone; he was able to provide the name of one of the perpetrators. There was a brief discussion about the failure of expected detail officers to show up at the Bike & Brew event.

The following neighbors were nominated for the 2018-19 AHA Board (*new): Lianne Ames, Leo Bray, Sarah Coates,* Christina Metcalfe, David Mooney, Carlos Romay, Vicki Rugo, Winston Vaughan.*

— Leo Bray, note taker

Celebrating Liora Beer

A celebration of the life and work of visual artist and Ashmont Hill neighbor Liora Beer, who died this past March, takes place on Wednesday, November 14, 12:30–1:30 p.m., at the Massachusetts State House. Liora and her husband, David Weingarten, rented an apartment here in 1979 and, realizing that this was where they wanted to raise their family, bought their home on Mellen Street, where their two daughters grew up.

Liora studied fashion design in New York City, earned her BA in Fine Arts from Boston University, was a painter and sculptor, traveled to Germany on a Fulbright Fellowship, and for 12 years worked for Jewish Vocational Services and the City's Office of Business Development.

In 2009 she put her considerable talent, skills, and experience together to found the nonprofit Artmorpheus, which provides artists with business support and resources. She went on to found the Fairmount Innovation Lab in Uphams Corner, to better serve local

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About the Neighborhood

Ashmont Farmers Market Finale

The final Farmers Market of 2018 is on Friday, October 19, 3–7 p.m., on Ashmont Station Plaza. Along with the usual vendors, Bobby Mack the Knife will be there to sharpen your knives and blades. Thanks to everyone for their support of the Market this year!

Day of Service

Join the Martin Richard Foundation for a family-friendly day of service on Sunday, October 21, 11 a.m.–2 p.m., at IBEW Local 103, 256 Freeport Street. Participate in a number of hands-on service activities, while serving our community. Live music, food available for purchase. Go to www.teammr8.org/event/autumn-service-day for more info and to sign up.

Free For All Concert

Convergence Ensemble presents “All Corners: Free For All Concert in Uphams Corner” on Sunday, October 21, 3 p.m., at St. Mary’s Episcopal Church, 14 Cushing Avenue. The program features the Brahms String Quintet in G; *Cypresses* by Dvořák; and two duets, *Lament* by Frank Bridge and *Duos* by Bartók. The concert is free and open to the public. Info: convergenceensemble.org.

Main Street Friendraiser Party

Greater Ashmont Main Street holds its annual Friendraiser House Party on Sunday, October 21, 7–10 p.m., at 50 Monsignor Lydon Way, hosted by Greater Ashmont MS board member Bryan Bryson. Enjoy the company of friends and neighbors, delicious food, and warming beverages, while supporting our Boston Main Street program.

\$30 in advance (greaterashmont.org/donate/), \$35 at the door.

Pumpkin Carving

Neighbors of all ages are invited to join the Ashmont Adams Neighborhood Association for their annual Pumpkin Carving on Sunday, October 28, 3–5 p.m., in the field across from the All Saints parking lot on Ashmont Street. (There’s an indoor location in case of inclement weather.) Pumpkins are provided; bring your own carving tools. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Games and prizes, costumes encouraged!

Ashmont Hill Book Group

Book Group meets on Wednesday, November 7, 7:15 p.m., at 42 Ocean Street, hosted by Vicki Rugo, to discuss *Clementine: The Life of Mrs. Winston Churchill*, by Sonia Purnell. The book for December is *Waking Up White, and Finding Myself in the Story of Race*, by Debby Irving. Book Group generally meets the first Wednesday of the month; all are welcome. Info: klil@yahoo.com.

DotJazz Series Continues

Vocalist Semanya McCord, a vital member of the Boston jazz scene for decades, returns from her base in Illinois to perform as part of the DotJazz Series on Thursday, November 8, in Peabody Hall at All Saints Church. Doors open at 7 p.m. with a pre-show reception with dessert and non-alcoholic beverages; wine also available. The program begins at 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$15 at the door or at www.brownpapertickets.com/event/3594637.

Hidden Heroes & Sheroes

The Codman Square Neighborhood Council and Greater Four Corners Action Coalition recognize their 2018 “Heroes & Sheroes” on Friday, November 16, 6–8:30 p.m., in the Great Hall, 6 Norfolk Street. Honorees including Andrea Campbell (Millenni-

um Award), Daryl Goldston and Vanessa Thorne (Civic Leadership), Janice Galloway and Caltor McClean (Neighborhood Leadership), and Shiylin Williams and Amani Boston (Youth). Tickets, \$30, include dinner, with proceeds going to a scholarship fund for youth leaders in memory of the late Rev. Dr. Bill Loesch. Info: csncouncil@gmail.com.

DHS November Program

The 26th “Yankee” Division, composed of National Guard units from all the New England states, was the first full US Army division to arrive in France in 1917. On Sunday, November 18, at 2 p.m., the Dorchester Historical Society presents Brigadier General Leonid Kondratiuk, Director of Historical Services in the Adjutant General’s Office and an expert in Massachusetts military history, who will talk about the 26th’s role in the First World War. At DHS headquarters, 195 Boston Street. Free and open to the public.

Bach is Back

The second season of The Bach Project at Ashmont Hill Chamber Music begins on Sunday, November 25, 4 p.m., in the sanctuary at All Saints Church. Under the direction of Andrew Sheranian, an ensemble of professional singers and instrumentalists from the Boston area, along with the All Saints’ Boy Choir, will present a program of Bach’s choral, orchestral and organ works. Tickets: adult: \$25; student: \$18; EBT Card Holder: \$3, children under 13 free. Info: ahchambermusic.org

Codman Square Library
690 Washington Street
617-436-8214

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



The way city living should be

Community Calendar

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Ashmont Hill Book Group
 Wednesday, November 7, 7:15 p.m.
 42 Ocean Street

DotJazz: Semenya McCord
 Thursday, November 8, 7 p.m.
 Peabody Hall, All Saints Church

Celebration of Liora Beer's Life
 Wednesday, November 14,
 12-30-1:30 p.m.
 Massachusetts State House

Hidden Heroes & Sheroes
 Friday, November 16, 6-8:30 p.m.
 Great Hall, 6 Norfolk Street

WWI 26th "Yankee" Division Talk
 Sunday, November 18, 2 p.m.
 Dorchester Historical Society,
 195 Boston St.

Peabody Square Tree Lighting & Pop-up Market
 Saturday, November 24
 Details next month

The Bach Project
 Sunday, November 25, 4 p.m.
 All Saints Church

Standout for Black Lives
 Fourth Thursday of the month
 5:30-6:30 p.m.
 Ashmont T Plaza

Liora Beer
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entrepreneurs and artists, particularly women and minorities, who are under-represented in the creative community.

The November 14 celebration is part of "Artists Under the Dome," a free public event that recognizes the role of artists in the state's economy and quality of life. Please register at www.mass.gov/register-for-the-artists-under-the-dome-event-0 if you plan to attend the celebration.



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