

ASHMONT OUTLOOK

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Winter Greetings!

Warm and hearty thanks to Lex Stevens and David Stitt for hosting the Ashmont Hill Association's well-attended and very merry Holiday Party in December. A good time was had by all.

January's monthly meeting will be on Thursday, January 29, at the home of Mike Dawson and Matt Malloy, 57 Ocean Street. A year ago, St. Mark's Area Main Street implemented a new committee structure to focus on a variety of needs and improvements in the Dorchester Avenue business district. SMAMS executive director Meaghan Overton and members of the SMAMS board will tell us about the plans these committees are undertaking for 2015. There also will be a report on the process being followed by the owner of 500 Talbot Avenue (formerly Our Saviour's Lutheran Church) to find a purchaser for the property. Light supper at 7 p.m., meeting at 7:30 as always. We hope you will attend!

Do you have a suggestion for a topic to discuss at a meeting? Or do you know someone who could speak on a subject of potential interest to the neighborhood? Please let me know, at the meeting, at ddhmm@mac.com, or on the Message Line. We welcome your ideas.

David Mooney

President, Board of Directors
Ashmont Hill Association



Winter Farmers' Market Open Every Friday

Back for its fourth season, the Dorchester Winter Farmers' Market operates every Friday (note new day), from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m., through March 27, in the Great Hall, 6 Norfolk Street in Codman Square. Vendors include Silverbrook Farm, Oakdale Farm, and the Neighborhood Farm (produce); Foxboro Farm (cheese and meat); and Red's Best Seafood. Specialty vendors include Lyndigo Spice (spices, chutneys, and condiments), The Ancient Bakers (plant-based, vegan), Boobee Bread, and Big A Farm (prepared Indonesian food), plus occasional guest vendors; local non-profits also have information tables. Boston Bounty Bucks provides up to \$10 in free produce for SNAP EBT cardholders. Special events and kids' activities make this a festive gathering for everyone. Why not plan to stop by every Friday

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Ashmont Hill Association Monthly Meeting

Thursday, January 29

7:30 p.m.

57 Ocean Street, hosted by
Mike Dawson & Matt Malloy
Supper at 7; desserts appreciated

Agenda:

SMAMS Committee Presentation
500 Talbot Avenue Report

Community Calendar

Dorchester Winter Farmers' Market

Fridays, 3 - 7 p.m. through March 27
Great Hall, Codman Square

Free Hatha Yoga

Saturdays, 12:30 - 2 p.m. through
February 7
Fields Corner Library

Ashmont Hill Chamber Music Concert

Sunday, January 25, 3 p.m.
Peabody Hall, All Saints Church

Ashmont Hill Book Group

Wednesday, February 4, 7:15 p.m.
42 Ocean Street

Writing Workshop for Teens

Saturday/Sunday, February 14/15
Erick Jean Center for the Arts,
157 Washington Street

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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.

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Leave ad info request on Message Line.

News and advertising deadlines:

February 13, March 13

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



The Ashmont Hill Holiday Party

Neighbors enjoyed a wonderful party.

Winter Farmer's Market

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to stock up with farm-fresh food for the weekend. The Winter Farmers Market is a project of the Dorchester Community Food Co-op.

Ashmont Nursery School Summer Program

General registration opens on February 16 for Ashmont Nursery School's summer program, for children ages 2.9 to 6 years old, which runs from July 13 to August 21. Children will enjoy arts and crafts, field trips, science projects, storytelling, swimming at the Dorchester YMCA, healthy snacks and more, in comfortable, air-conditioned space. For details and the application form, go to ashmontnurseryschool.com/pages/camp.

BCS Auditions

Boston City Singers is accepting new singers ages 4-18 for their twentieth anniversary season. Programs conveniently located in Dorchester, Jamaica Plain, Cambridge, and Weymouth. Sing, dance, drum...the world! Email audition@bostoncitysingers.org or go to www.bostoncitysingers.org for more information.

Writing Workshop for Teens

The Dorchester Arts Collaborative and "Write on the Dot" have teamed up to offer a writing workshop for teens, on February 14 and 15, at the Erick Jean Center for the Arts, 157 Washington Street. The free program will be led by graduate students from UMass Boston's MFA Creative Writing program. For more information or to apply, email dorchesterartscollaborative@gmail.com.

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 @ 11 a.m.

Baby storytime: Fridays @ 2 p.m.

All activities free and drop-in.



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About the Neighborhood

Ashmont Hill Book Group

Book Group's next meeting is on Wednesday, February 4, at 7:15 p.m. (note the time), at 42 Ocean Street, hosted by Vicki Rugo. February's book is *The Boys in the Boat: Nine Americans and Their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics*, by Daniel James Brown. The book chosen for March is *1776* by David McCullough. All are welcome; info: klil@hotmail.com or call the Message Line.

AHCM Concert January 25

Ashmont Hill Chamber Music opens its 2015 season with the Borromeo String Quartet on Sunday, January 25, 3 p.m., in newly-renovated Peabody Hall at All Saints Church, 209 Ashmont Street. The program features Franz Schubert, String Quartet in G major, D. 887; Ludwig van Beethoven, String Quartet, Op. 130; and Beethoven, *Grosse Fuge*, Op. 133.

The Borromeo String Quartet, which includes Nicholas Kitchen and Kristopher Tong (violins), Mai Motobuchi (viola), and Yeesun Kim (cello), is celebrating its twenty-fifth anniversary; considered one of the most important string quartets of our time, the musicians have been the faculty ensemble-in-residence at the New England Conservatory of Music for 22 years. They have worked with the Library of Congress, the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, and the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, and have performed an extensive repertoire throughout the world.

Concert tickets are \$25/adult, \$18/student, and 12&under/free. For tickets, call 617-680-7542 or visit ahchambermusic.org; tickets are also available at the door. A series subscription for AHCM's four 2015 concerts is also available on the website at a

10 percent discount off the individual ticket prices.

"Chocolate, Culture, and the Politics of Food"

On Sunday, February 15, 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, this event 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, with an emphasis on the eating and appreciation of the so-called "food of the gods." Guided chocolate tasting will be woven throughout the program. Martin confesses to a fixation on chocolate and has done extensive tasting. (See her blog, bittersweetnotes.com, where, among other topics, she presents a long list of supermarket candy and offers suggestions for even more satisfying treats.) The event is open to the public and free of charge, although donations are always welcome, and takes place at DHS Headquarters, 195 Boston Street.

Oscars on the Avenue 2015: Roll Out the Red Carpet!

Oscars on the Avenue, St. Mark's Area Main Street's biggest fundraiser of the year, holds a repeat performance on Sunday, February 22, at 7 p.m., at Tavolo Ristorante, 1918 Dorchester Avenue in the Carruth Building. This Academy Awards-themed community celebration features Tavolo's delicious hors d'oeuvres, red carpet interviews by a celebrity emcee, awards for elegant and/or creative attire, an auction, and more!

Tickets are \$75 in advance (until Friday, February 20, at 5 p.m.) and \$90 at the door. All proceeds support SMAMS' efforts to strengthen the Dorchester Avenue business district. Visit www.smams.org to RSVP and to purchase advance tickets with credit card or Pay-

Pal. (RSVPs appreciated even if you'll pay at the door.) Contact the SMAMS office at office@smams.org or 617-825-3846 re: ticket information or sponsorships. A limited number of reduced-rate tickets may be available, thanks to event sponsors.

Convergence Ensemble Inaugural Concert

Rachel Goodwin, founder and former artistic director of Ashmont Hill Chamber Music, has joined forces with a core group of longtime musical collaborators to create the newly established "Convergence Ensemble," whose mission is "to present unusual chamber music programming by supporting a diverse group of musicians that engage local audiences, inspire local pride, and strengthen the connections between our various Boston neighborhoods."

The ensemble will give an inaugural Gala Benefit performance on Saturday, February 28, at 5:30 p.m., at Rachel's home, 67 Ocean Street, with a reception to follow. Well-known singers D'Anna Fortunato and Robert Honey-sucker will perform American folk songs and duos by Brahms and Schumann, accompanied by Rachel on the piano; violist Michelle LaCourse and Polish violinist Klaudia Szlachta, both members of the faculty at Boston University, will perform a Mozart duo and a Schubert string trio. Also on the program is *3 Songs* by Frank Bridge, for voice, viola, and piano.

To RSVP for the concert with a tax-deductible donation of \$70, go to www.ConvergenceEnsemble.org; click Attend Events. 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. Questions? info@convergenceensemble.org or 617-288-3697.



The way city living should be

Community Calendar

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“Chocolate, Culture, and the Politics of Food”

Sunday, February 15, 2 p.m.
Dorchester Historical Society,
195 Boston Street

SMAMS’ Oscars on the Avenue

Sunday, February 22, 7 p.m.
Tavolo Ristorante,
1918 Dorchester Avenue

AHA Monthly Meeting

Thursday, February 26, 7:30 p.m.
Location TBA

Convergence Ensemble Concert

Saturday, February 28, 5:30 p.m.
67 Ocean Street

ADSL “Cold Night, Hot Stove”

Friday, March 27
Details next month

Standish Village Events

Neighbors are invited to join the residents of Standish Village in Lower Mills for their monthly programs: February 3, 10:30 a.m.: Animal World Experience, with live animals to touch and learn about; February 17, 2 p.m.: Destination: Haiti, a Haitian-style celebration of Mardi Gras; February 21, 9 a.m.: Men’s Breakfast, with pancakes and more; February 23, 6 p.m.: An Evening with crooner Mark Stanzler.

ADSL News

Save the date—Friday, March 27—for the All Dorchester Sports League’s second annual fundraiser, “Cold Night, Hot Stove.” This year’s event is a disco party, so come prepared to dance! The night will be full of food, drinks, dancing, and community fun...plus a raffle with some significant prizes. Watch for details in the next Outlook. ADSL’s “Our Fit Kitchen” nutrition program is so popular that the January/February session is fully booked, but it will be repeated starting in April. For information about all ADSL programs, visit www.alldorchester.org, call 617-287-1601, or stop by the ADSL Field House, 1565 Dorchester Avenue at Town Field in Fields Corner.

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