

**Columbia/Savin Hill
Civic Association**

**A Community
Organization Striving to
Serve Community People**
www.columbiasavinhillcivic.org

February 2, 2009 Volume 8, Edition 6

CSHCA – The Neighbors

President's Letter

Dear Neighbors,

Since we last met, the executive board had a productive meeting with the representatives from the Boston Collegiate Charter School, which has purchased the building at 215 Sydney Street. I am very happy to see that a resident owner with a positive mission is moving into this long-neglected building. After speaking with them, I am confident that the school's administration is committed to addressing any negative impacts that may arise from their location there (traffic, parking, and buses), and am certain that they will be a positive addition to the neighborhood.

We are expecting a number of dignified guests that the February meeting. In addition to our regularly attending elected officials, Mayor Thomas M. Menino will be joining us, and as I announced at the January meeting, City Councilor John Connolly has also requested to be on our agenda.

People who do not live in cities often ask me why I live in Dorchester (of all places!). I know that I am preaching to the choir here, but I am extremely proud of the community in which I live. Neighbors in Savin Hill and across the city look out for each other. That is what makes our communities so strong. We watch each other's kids, walk each other's dogs, help shovel snow, take in each other's mail, alert others when its street cleaning, or when trash day has been moved, and in extreme cases rescue each other from burning buildings. That is exactly what happened on Tuttle Street, when John Beleheen and William Vaillancourt rescued neighbors who were trapped on the third floor of 56 Tuttle Street. Thanks to the heroic actions of these two neighborhood guys, no one was seriously injured in the blaze that ruined the entire building. I am very proud to say that these two men, and many men and women who would do the same thing, live in my neighborhood. I hope that you will join us on February 2nd as we, with elected officials, offer them much deserved recognition and thanks.

-Deirdre.

Monthly General Meeting:	February 2, 2009 @ 7:00 PM Little House, 275 East Cottage Street
Executive Board Meeting:	February 10, 2009 @ 6:30 PM McLaughlin Center
Planning Committee Meeting:	February 10, 2009 (following E-Board) McLaughlin Center
Beautification Committee Meeting:	February 12, 2009 @7:00 PM Joe & Carol Chaisson's House 77 Auckland St.

Contacts:

President: Deirdre Habershaw
617-872-5572
president@columbiasavinhillcivic.org

Vice President: Bob O'Sullivan

Treasurer: Daniel Brennan
617-435-6290
danielwbrennan@mac.com

Secretary: Maureen McQuillen
781-622-0723
maureen_mc_q@hotmail.com

Newsletter Staff: Dianna Wilson &
John Anderson 617-282-1277
janderson@uusc.org

Webmaster: George Jenkins
cshca_newsletter@yahoo.com

Meeting Agenda
February 2, 2009

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Treasurer's Report
3. Public Safety Reports
4. Mayor Thomas Menino
5. Heroes' Recognition
6. Councilor John Connolly
7. Committee Reports
8. Old Business
9. New Business
10. 50/50 Raffle

Editor's Note:

Thanks to Joe Chaisson & Seniors @ 130, Dan Brennan, Anne Riley, Maureen Mc Quillen, Corcoran Jennison and UMass for the newsletter help!

MERCHANT MEMBERS

A Hohmann Oil Co., Inc.
1146 Dorchester Avenue

Alliance Auto Glass
902 Dorchester Avenue

At Home Real Estate
109 Savin Hill Avenue

A.R. Shuris & Sons, Inc.
1245 Dorchester Avenue

Avenue Auto Wholesalers
1121 Dorchester Avenue

Avenue Barber Shop
929 Dorchester Avenue

The Banshee Pub
934 Dorchester Avenue

Coleen's Flower Shop
912 Dorchester Avenue

Dorchester Market
951 Dorchester Avenue

Dorchester Tire Service
1160 Dorchester Avenue

Gatley Insurance Co.
983A Dorchester Avenue

Kennedy Cleaners
117 Savin Hill Avenue

Lee's Store & Bakery
982 Dorchester Avenue

McKenna's Café
113 Savin Hill Avenue

MTV Hair & Nail Salon
107-B Savin Hill Avenue

Murphy Funeral Home
1020 Dorchester Avenue

Nealco Environmental
5 Caspian Way

Beautification Committee Update

Holiday Wreaths

An extraordinary amount of work was done to coordinate the holiday wreaths on Dorchester & Savin Hill Avenues. The wreaths were removed this past week by Sullivan & McLaughlin Electric Company; special thanks to their crew for all their help and support. Additionally, thanks to Mary Ungerman, Joe Costa and Joe Chaisson who organized the removal of the wreaths.

HOLD THE DATE! 2009 Plant Sale

Mark your calendar for Saturday, May 30th for the Annual Plant & Bake Sale.

Leo Lydon Clock – Update

The clock is stored temporarily at the B&A; special thanks to the B&A for their support. We are finalizing the plans to install the clock in front of the SH MBTA station. We are determined to get the clock installed by early spring. A committee meeting will be scheduled shortly. Topics include coordinating arrangements for the installation and preliminary discussions on a dedication ceremony.

I know this has been a very slow process and I am sincerely sorry for that. Unfortunately, the coordination of placing the clock in front of the T has proven to be slow and very frustrating. Please stay tuned. If you have any questions please call Anne Riley at (617) 543-5392. Thank you for your patience.

Columbia Point Master Plan Task Force

The Columbia Point Master Plan Task Force continues to meet to discuss the long-term vision of Columbia Point and Morrissey Boulevard (between The Globe and JFK/Columbia Station). It is expected that specific zoning changes will be recommended that could dramatically change the area. A brief report will be made at the next CSHCA meeting. -- *Don Walsh, Task Force Chair*

Dorchester Day Parade Committee Update....Mayorial Candidates

Seeking Mayor of Dorchester Candidates! The Dot Day Parade Committee will meet Monday, February 23rd, 7 PM at the Comfort Inn, 944 Morrissey Boulevard. Discussion Topic: Mayor of Dorchester Contest. For more information please call 617-696-3216. Help support Dot Day Parade by running for Mayor of Dorchester.

Upham's Corner Branch Library Update

Crafty Thursday Afternoons – 5 PM Great fun for the youngsters!
Computer Training/help – call or stop by to make an appointment for one- on-one assistance. Call: 617-265-0139 or stop by the library @ 500 Columbia Road

Going Digital TV? New Computer?

“Gotta” new computer or TV over the holidays? *Ditching* the oldies?
To recycle your outdated equipment call: *Boston Recycling*
@ 617-635-4959 to arrange for pickup on your regular trash day.

Shanti Restaurant
1111 Dorchester Avenue

Tom's Barber Shop
1000 Dorchester Avenue

Venice Pizza
39 Savin Hill Avenue

Vina Realty/MSA Travel
988 Dorchester Avenue

Bay Cove Human Services
105 Victory Road

Just-in-Boston
5 Savin Hill Avenue

Lee Myles Transmission
1110 Dorchester Avenue

This column is dedicated to listing CSHCA Merchant Members who support our efforts. Please remember to support them by shopping in their stores, utilizing their services and eating in their restaurants!

MERCHANT MEMBERSHIP:

Consider a CSHCA Merchant Membership Annual fee is \$25. Funds go to support local initiatives of the Beautification Committee. By enrolling, merchants get monthly exposure to over 350 membership households, community groups and friends of our association.

IN ORDER FOR US TO BE SUCCESSFUL WE NEED YOUR HELP AND SUPPORT!

Linking the HarborWalk to the Neponset Trail

I have been working with the DotBike group and the Neponset River Greenway Council to advocate for the completion of a trail link between Morrissey Blvd and Tenean Beach across the National Grid gas tank property. There are two segments of the trail. The first would traverse the tank property along its periphery beginning at the sidewalk at the base of the Exit 14 ramp on Morrissey, then running along the highway to Victory Road. The second segment would begin on the west side of the highway at Victory Road and run along MassHighway property behind the Commercial Point brick pump station, then behind the Phillips Properties and the Sunbeam Bread building to emerge on Conley Street at Tenean Beach. This would effectively take bicycle and pedestrian traffic off of dangerous regional and local streets and put them onto a relatively safe off road trail. We recently spoke at a Boston Conservation Commission hearing where National Grid representatives explained why they could not reopen the public boat ramp at the end of Victory Road. Their argument against reopening the boat ramp was essentially about security and the potential dangers of vehicular access so close to the tank. We are offering the trail easement as an alternative that allows public access; while at the same time it does not involve vehicles.

We are now seeking the support of local civic associations and elected officials and look forward to giving a short presentation to the CSHCA in the near future.

Paul Nutting

Savin Hill Baseball League Needs Volunteers

Savin Hill Baseball is in full motion and looking for people that want to get involved coaching or running the league. The season runs April through June and generally involves a 3-day per week commitment. Savin Hill Baseball is arguably one of the oldest sports organizations in Dorchester and plays a vital role in our neighborhood, particularly the Savin Hill-Columbia area. For more information please visit their website at www.savinhillbaseball.org. Interested parties should contact shbl@live.com or call (617)822-1087. Thank you!

Ladies Mark Your Calendar.....It May Save Your Life

FREE Heart Disease Factors Screenings: Cholesterol, Diabetes, BMI, Blood Pressure
Free screenings & health resource tables from 10am-5pm at:

Tuesday, 2/10/09, Geiger Gibson Community Health Ctr, 250 Mt. Vernon St.

Thursday, 2/12/09, Neponset Health Center, 398 Neponset Ave.

All participants will receive a red dress pin, heart shaped stress ball & heart healthy recipes book. RSVP by 2/6/09 to 617-282-5091 x107 or <mailto:marketing@hhsi.us>.

50/50 Raffle

A 50/50 Raffle is held at each and every monthly general meeting. You may purchase raffle tickets at the check-in table. One ticket for a dollar and three tickets for two dollars. *Good Luck!*

CSHCA Membership

The membership drive is on! Please renew or apply for membership today by mail or at our general membership meeting. A membership form can be found within this newsletter. See Daniel Brennan at the check-in desk of our general monthly meeting with any questions pertaining to your membership status and or to make payment.

