

Dorm

continued from page 5

ment,” and is instead an effort to get students out of the Fenway and Mission Hill neighborhoods, he said.

The dorm will cost between \$50 and \$60 million, and will be built by Suffolk Construction. The Massachusetts State College Building Authority will pay for the project with revenue bonds, and MassArt will repay the debt with the money students pay to live in the dorm.

Another project on campus includes renovations to the Kennedy Building, where the school's dining hall is located. A 2,000-square-foot addition to expand the dining facilities, which Steinberg said are

standing room only at peak times, will be finished in the fall of 2010. Another 100 seats will be added to the new dining hall, bringing total capacity to 400.

The renovated building will house an art store, where students, faculty and alumni can display and sell their art to the public, as well as a full-service coffee shop, which could be run by in-house staff or an outside company, but the school has not finalized those details, Steinberg said.

Three million of the \$11.2 million renovation will be paid in part by the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy, since it shares dining and bookstore space in the Kennedy Building, Steinberg said.

A community meeting about the project will be held on Wednesday, April 15, but a location has not been set.

Storrow Control

continued from page 9

the design and aesthetics of the park system.”

The Senate discussed shifting the authority to MassHighway last week. The House of Representatives is expected to take up the discussion this week.

On the Senate side, freshman Sen. Sonia Chang-Díaz proposed two amendments to eliminate the change or to mitigate its effect.

The first would strike the transfer from the transportation bill, leaving parkways and bridges under the jurisdiction of the DCR. The second would preserve the transfer to MassHighway, but insert an extensive public review process over bridge or parkway work.

Sen. Steven Baddour, who co-chairs the

Joint Committee on Transportation, did not respond to a request for comment.

On the House side, Rep. Marty Walz strongly opposes the transfer. A year ago, Walz helped organize a campaign, culminating in a letter to Gov. Deval Patrick, that argued against the move.

“Parkways are not highways, and they should not be treated as such,” read the letter, signed by numerous elected officials, including Walz. “The Highway Department follows different standards when it comes to the design, construction, maintenance, and reconstruction of highways compared to the standards that DCR uses for parkways.”

According to Walz, if the bill reaches the House with the transfer language intact, she will continue to work against its inclusion.

A spokesperson for Rep. Joseph Wagner, who co-chairs the Joint Committee on Transportation, referred questions on the bill to Baddour until it reaches the House.

more safety,” he added, highlighting the criminal activity, like shootings and stabbings that have brought Downtown Crossing into the media spotlight.

To bring students to the city, Marguerite Dennis, Suffolk's vice president of enrollment and international programs, was hired in 1989, a time when only commuters attended the university. Now, about 30 percent of the student body lives in student housing. Additionally, when Dennis started at Suffolk, the school had 123 international students. Now that number is more than 1,000.

“It all begins with students,” Dennis said. “We hope [Downtown Crossing] will become a home for our students and to help improve the landscape of that area of the city.”

TV Star

continued from page 7

show, “Dan Rather Reports,” the South Shore-based bank epitomizes small banks that are growing as frustrated customers leave larger financial institutions.

“It’s not about transactional business,” Tierno said of HIS. “It’s about knowing your customer. People need to trust their banks.”

For Tierno, “community focused” banking means attending neighborhood meetings, serving on the board of directors for the South End Business Alliance and providing coffee and pastries to the branch’s Friday customers.

A semi-regular at Ellis Neighborhood Association and Eight Streets Neighborhood Association meetings, Tierno is the one who brings the coffee, usually.

“You can’t know about what the challenges are in the neighborhood if you don’t know the neighborhood,” Tierno said.

An estimated 75 percent of the branch’s customers reside in the South End.

In the past, HIS has sponsored “Pridelights” and in the coming months, HIS will fund a tee ball team in the South End Baseball league and help sponsor the

South End Historical Society Annual Spring Ball.

While Rather titled his investigative story “Meltdown,” Tierno said that is the opposite of what HIS is doing. Overall, HIS has seen its net revenue increase 40 percent in the last two years.

“We’re lending at a pretty good clip,” Tierno added, plus deposits are only increasing. “We do something that other banks don’t do,” Tierno explained. “We say, ‘No.’”

In the last seven years, Tierno noted, HIS has foreclosed on two homes, a notably small figure compared to the masses of foreclosed properties many financial institutions are holding.

This success is a direct result of investing time in the community, said Tierno. When HIS was looking to expand to Boston, it considered locations in Post Office Square and the Financial District, but ultimately, Tierno said, “It fits in the model of the [South End] neighborhood.”

HIS President and CEO Robert Gaughan, who lives on Shawmut Avenue and has been known to hold court mornings at Flour Bakery, stressed this same sentiment to Rather.

“I think people are proud of their local bank,” Gaughan told Rather. “I think people ... look to us for some leadership in the community.”

Youth Program

continued from page 6

“There’s such a need for after-school programming in the neighborhood,” Crellin said. “There’s nothing going on [for these kids] from two-thirty to six o’clock.”

Crellin pointed to a recent Harvard University study that determined youths were most likely to experiment with drugs or sex, or join a gang in the three hours after school when many are unsupervised.

“Those are really important hours,” Crellin said.

St. Stephen’s, with its small corps of paid staff and many volunteers, tries to be a “year-round presence in kids’ lives,” he said.

During the school year, children begin filing in at 2:30 pm. Lunch is served. On Tuesday, students ate English muffin pizzas donated from an Episcopal congregation in the suburbs, and answered questions on what “community service” meant.

The 75 elementary students stay for three hours, supervised by a handful of staff members and approximately 20 high school volunteers.

Children rotate between reading, writing and arithmetic stations, interspersed with art, music, computers and recreation. Some read books, others play computer

games; some receive help with homework, others receive one-on-one literacy training. Then they switch places.

Every other Friday the group takes a field trip, Crellin said.

According to Crellin, participating families pay a nominal fee close to \$1 per day. Scholarships are available.

Around 30 middle school students show up around the same time as the elementary students, but do not participate in academic enrichment programs until later. Middle and high school programming runs from around 4:30 to 6:30 pm. Then dinner is served.

For Crellin, it can be difficult to know for certain that he is doing good work.

“As I say, it’s hard to know how many teen pregnancies you’ve prevented,” Crellin said. “But seeing kids come up through the program ... we think it makes a difference.”

Summer is different. In addition to St. Stephen’s and St. Augustine & St. Martin’s in Roxbury offering after-school programs, in the summer four other churches, in Mattapan, Charlestown and Dorchester, open their doors for the Bishop’s Summer Academic & Fun Enrichment Program, or B-SAFE.

More than 90 high school teens work paid summer jobs, and 440 elementary and middle school students participate in the programs.

Police Report

continued from page 4

En route to the scene other officers spotted three men matching some of the suspects’ descriptions. The officers stopped the trio as they were about to enter the Boston Common, and the victim identified them.

The officers arrested the men for unarmed robbery.

\$3 Stooges

On Sunday, March 22 at 5:13 pm, District 4 officers responded to an assault and battery at Dartmouth and Boylston

Streets. The victim said he was standing at the corner when two teenagers punched him in the head several times and took about \$3 from him.

The pair fled on foot toward the Common. Officers searched unsuccessfully for the teens.

On Demand

On Monday, March 16 at 10:06 pm, District 4 officers responded to an armed robbery on West Newton Street. The victim explained that as he walked into his building three men had cornered him. One man held a knife and demanded money while his cohorts stood by. The victim handed over \$50, and the suspects fled on foot.

Officers’ search for the trio was fruitless.

Suffolk

continued from page 11

want to integrate ourselves into the neighborhood.”

Although the timeframe is unclear, the expansion could include a new dormitory or a student center with athletic facilities, a club and meeting space or student services.

When stalled projects get back on track, like the hotel and retail development that was to replace Filene’s on Washington Street but had insufficient funding, Downtown Crossing will be an exciting place to live, work and be a student, Nucci said.

“Students bring spending power and

Perfect for all occasions.

Birthdays.

Business meetings.

Inaugurations.



For reservations at Boston's most impressive steakhouse, call 617-267-5300.

Oak Room Impeccably Decadent.

At The Fairmont Copley Plaza, 138 St. James Avenue, Boston www.theoakroom.com

