

in the early 1970s. Architect Ben Thompson and developer James Rouse of the Rouse Co. got the support of then-Mayor Kevin White to revive the marketplace.

At the marketplace's ribbon-cutting ceremony in August 1976, Rouse predicted "a new kind of retailing with small merchants and small shops selling food and other items -- a new approach to merchandising."

By 1983, the thriving district

that are willing to lose money to be in that must-be-place, unfortunately small retailers end up getting squeezed out."

Bill Blumenreich, owner of Boston's landmark Comedy Connection on the second floor of Quincy Market, said he's considering a move to the Theater District because of soaring rents and slumping sales. "Twenty-five years ago, people were dying to get into Faneuil Hall," he said. "Today, peo-

public information officer for the Wellesley police, said the women were informed by police why their actions were illegal. They were charged with "defacement and tagging public property."

"I'm not sure which of the young women disagreed and began to debate the issue," said Cleary. "But at that point, the officer determined that he would place them in custody."

against the law. She says she now understands that chalking is illegal.

Parker said college administrators suggested that students start up a dialogue with local police, but she has not followed up on the idea and has encouraged angry students to put their energies toward peace activism instead.

"Our encounter with them demonstrated that st-

# Multicultural candidates gather for East Boston event

By Maria Cramer

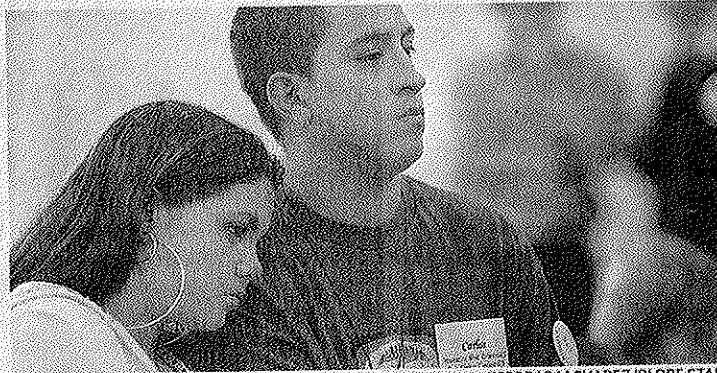
GLOBE STAFF

Some spoke in halting Spanish. Others bemoaned the troubles that their immigrant parents had faced as newcomers.

Seven candidates angling for a seat on the City Council that covers one of Boston's most racially diverse districts all searched for ways yesterday to endear themselves to the immigrant community. They appeared at a 2½-hour forum in the East Boston Social Centers.

About 80 teenagers, senior citizens, and parents gathered in the center's gym to ask about election topics such as job opportunities for teenagers and affordable housing. But they also peppered candidates with questions about funding for English as a Second Language programs and whether noncitizens should be allowed to vote in municipal elections.

"Sergio, the answer to your question is 'Si,'" said one of the candidates, Peter Borre 67, of Charlestown, to one young man's question about whether he would support hiring bilingual workers to help non-English-speaking voters at the polls.



ESSDRAS M SUAREZ/GLOBE STAFF

Jenna Keegan, 16, and Carlos Pemberthy, 18, heard City Council candidates yesterday. Some spoke of jobs for youth.

Another candidate, Anthony L. Dantona Sr., 78, of East Boston, balked at the idea.

"If a [voter] goes in there, they should know what they're going to do," he said.

Candidates also expressed varying views on the issue of offering the right to vote to legal immigrants who are not US citizens.

"If you love America, then you should become a citizen," said John Toby Knudsen, 35, a North End computer consultant.

City Councilor Paul J. Scapicchio has decided to leave for the private sector.

Scapicchio is leaving after eight years representing the district, creating an opening for only the third time in 22 years. On May 16, residents of Charlestown, East Boston, and the North End will go to the polls for a preliminary election to whittle down the number of candidates to two. The top vote-getters then will run in the June 13 special election.

Christine Amisano of Charlestown, another candidate, sought to distinguish herself from the rest of the candidates by touting her passion for improving the city's schools.

But it was her gender that impressed Jenna Keegan, 15, an East Boston High school freshman, who attended the forum. "I like her because she's the only girl," she said.

Eliezer Gonzalez, 44, another candidate, and a native of Puerto Rico, impressed teens in the audience when he suggested that the city offer summer job programs to young people who would help them find a career path.

"We need to get small and big businesses and luxury condo developers to give them jobs and not just picking up garbage," Gonzalez said during the forum.

Salvatore LaMattina, 46, of East Boston, said a Latino coordinator was helping his campaign.

Daniel Ryan, 37 of Charlestown, told the audience he would support more funding for English as a Second Language programs "But we have to make sure we don't put certain resources... that would cause segregation," he said. "We don't want East Boston to be the only neighborhood where Latinos feel comfortable."

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