

Popovers proud of city's Memorial Park project

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Aug. 26 — To the Editor:

We would like to thank all the people of the community who came out to "stand in honor of those forgotten" by making coffee purchases on Aug. 10 at Popovers on the Square on our fifth anniversary. We saw a significant jump in coffee sales and traffic on that day and know that the outpouring of response was due to the community support of the African Burying Ground Memorial Park project.

It is such a tremendous project that will commemorate the history in Portsmouth by honoring those forgotten and connect it to our current city. The site, Chestnut Street, is actually a cemetery as marked on old 18th century maps, but it had been paved and built over as Portsmouth grew. It is fascinating to learn that the cemetery, authenticated and DNA-tested, is the only archaeologically verified African burying ground of its era in all of New England and is comparative to the only other U.S. site in lower Manhattan.

Portsmouth is such a welcoming city to newcomers, as we have learned firsthand through the success of Popovers on the Square over the past five years. We set out to be a local gathering place for the city, and the community has welcomed us as such. We can't thank our customers enough for all their support, and especially for their help in raising money and awareness of African Burying Ground Memorial Park project.

John Tinios and Stephen James

Owners, Popovers on the Square

Portsmouth