

CHARLESTOWN

PATRIOT-BRIDGE



Photo by Seth Daniel

Eliot Gomez swings away on a pitch from his father, Max Gomez, as Charlestown Little League kicked off their summer season on Monday, July 13, at Ryan Field with the Majors and the AAA levels. Little League was allowed to have summer ball on Monday for the first time in Boston since COVID-19 hit. The League put in numerous restrictions and protocols to allow the kids to be able to go outside, play sports and be safe. President Cathy Reese said the numbers exceeded their expectations.

Little League kicks off summer season with care

By Seth Daniel

Little League has been as predictably popular summer after summer in Charlestown that it can become like a summer job to those heavily involved in organizing the league or coaching the kids.

Numbers have increased significantly at all the ranks over the years, but this year is different, and with COVID-19 restrictions having been in place for months – and just lifted for Little Leagues in Boston on Monday – no one in Charlestown was exactly sure what to expect.

They tread cautiously on the subject, did several surveys, talked amongst the Board on safety procedures and finally felt like they could pull off a summer season. Starting on Monday night, the kids took the field for their first sports event since March – and it was a hit.

League President Cathy Reese said they didn't think they would have huge numbers, but they were pleasantly surprised with the sign-ups. There are 32 kids in the Majors division and 22 in the AAA Division. The younger ranks

are not being held this year, and typically the bulk of the season is in the spring and early summer – concluding around Independence Day.

"It's just really refreshing to see them all out there," said Reese on Monday at Ryan Field – after distributing uniforms and special Townie facemasks. "We've all been cooped up since mid-March. It's great to have them out there doing something we would normally do in the summer and getting fresh air...The numbers are higher than I expected and higher than our usual summer ball numbers for the Mayor's Cup and City League."

For some of the older kids, the abbreviated summer season is the end of the road for their Little League experiences. Many had high hopes for winning districts and maybe going all the way to the Little League World Series in Pennsylvania. All of that, however, has been cancelled this year – so it really is only about having fun outside with friends more than competing for trophies or cham-

(LITTLE LEAGUE Pg. 6)

Tatte Bakery opens its doors here

By Seth Daniel

In what used to be a first-floor parking lot for the Urban Renewal-era 40 Warren St. office building, Tatte, a sleek new bakery and restaurant, has opened to a very warm welcome in an area that is light on such amenities right now.

It isn't without some lingering controversy though, as the permit granted for the establishment is being challenged by neighbor Ken Flynn, and his day before the Zoning Board will be on July 21.

Tatte, a Boston-based chain of popular coffee cafes, is very popular across the city and Owner Tzurit Or has been expanding her locations quickly over the past two years, having an eye on expanding to Charlestown for some time.

The café went through a somewhat contentious community process last fall, but eventually gained approval and began construction on their shop in the fully-renovated building prior to COVID-19. After building out through the pandemic, they were able to open their doors on July 1 for take-out only.

The food and beverage sales have been brisk and customers seem to be enjoying the new offering, which is halfway between City Square and Thompson Square.

Or has said she has never had any opposition to opening a shop in the Boston area until she got to Charlestown. At a public meeting in the American Legion Hall last October, there was a mixed crowd of those in support and those in

opposition. At the City level, they gained more support and were able to get approvals.

They lease the space from DLJ Capital Partners, which is refurbishing the entire office building and hopes to have new leases for the space by this coming fall.

Meanwhile, Ken Flynn, who has had legal issues with the Urban Renewal parcels in that area for several years – and is an abutter as well – said he has filed legal papers to oppose the granting of the permit, saying Inspectional Services erred in granting the permit.

He is claiming the permit was issued as an 'allowed use,' when in fact it was not, he said. The ZBA will have an interpretation meeting on the matter at its July 21 meeting.

JUST LIKE THE BRUINS



Photo by Seth Daniel

It's been a long time since folks in Charlestown have played a good game of roller hockey, but recently at the Bryan McGonagle Rink a number gathered to shoot the puck around. Some regular players from the Kitchen Kup were on hand, and others – as shown here – from a bit higher level. It left everyone in the mood for a big "pasta" dinner after an active game on wheels. See more photos on page 7.

CNC CORNER

The 2020 Spaulding-CNC Community Partnership Fund grants have been awarded to 15 non-profit organizations serving Charlestown residents. Please see the CNC website, charlestownneighborhood-council.org, and the article in today's paper on page 4 for further information about this fund and the outstanding organizations receiving these awards.

Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital and the CNC thank the entire Charlestown community and our stellar non-profit organizations keeping our community safe, healthy and thriving.

EDITORIAL

WHEN DID THE U.S. GO FROM FIRST TO WORST?

For those of us of the Baby Boom generation, it was unquestionable that the United States was “the best” country in the world.

Despite the war in Vietnam, Watergate, recessions, 9/11, and other setbacks, America continued to be a global leader in just about every aspect of world affairs.

Basically, there was the U.S. -- and then there was everybody else.

American exceptionalism was taken for granted (even if in truth we often were not all that exceptional).

However, the coronavirus has pulled back the curtain and exposed us for what we have become -- a nation that ranks among the worst by many metrics. Compared to our supposed peers in Western Europe and Asia, our response to the pandemic has been pathetic. COVID-19 death rates per capita in Western Europe are only a 10th of the death rate in the U.S. And while theirs are falling, ours is rising.

Consider these additional facts:

How can it be that we have 4% of the world's population, but we have 25% of the deaths from COVID-19?

How can it be that four months into the pandemic, we still do not have enough PPE (personal protective equipment) for our hospital and other front line workers?

How can it be that some of our states have more new cases of COVID-19 than entire countries?

How can it be that not only is the amount of our testing still woefully inadequate, but that our labs are so backed up that it is taking 5-7 days to get results -- which all but makes the testing useless because results need to be made available within 24-48 hours?

COVID-19 has revealed us to be the equivalent of a so-called Third World country.

To put it simply, we have devolved from being a global leader to that of a global laggard with the result that thousands of Americans are getting sick and dying and our economy remains in tatters -- and with no end in sight.

NAME CHANGE WAS A LONG TIME COMING

The decision this week by the Washington Redskins to change its team name was long, long, LONG overdue.

The term “redskin” is -- and always has been -- a racist reference to Native Americans.

For anyone who doubts that notion, just think about all of the western movies that have permeated our culture for almost 100 years. When the hero would say something like, “Let’s kill all of those thievin’ redskins,” (or something similar), the use of the term “redskin” was meant to dehumanize Native Americans.

It certainly was not a complimentary term.

We should point out that the obnoxious and arrogant owner of the Washington football team for years has ridiculed any suggestion that he change the team’s name.

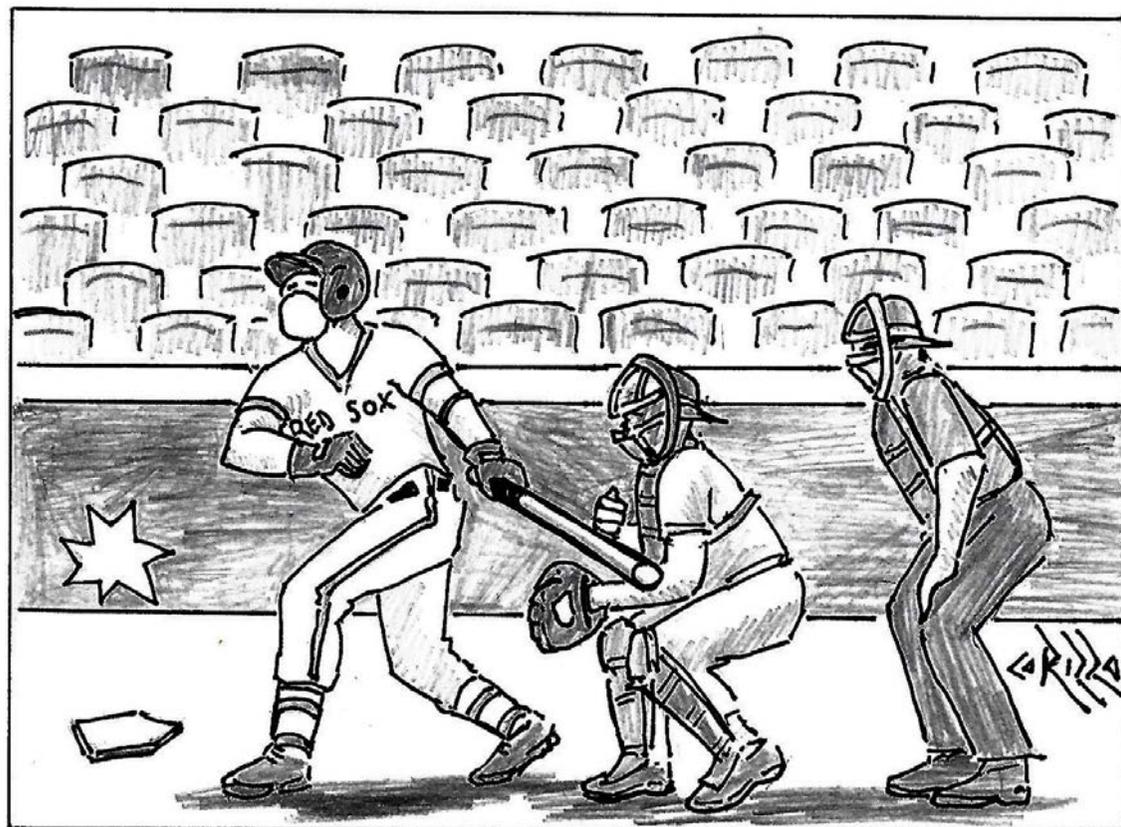
It finally was the force of economics, not a sudden surge of altruism, that prompted the team’s about-face. When various team sponsors -- who themselves became motivated to do so only in light of recent events -- threatened to remove their millions of dollars of revenue, that finally is what got the team ownership’s attention.

So we’re happy to see that yet another vestige of America’s racist past is falling. There still is a lot more to do, but changing the name of Washington’s football team is yet another step in the right direction as we acknowledge and renounce our racist and genocidal past.

To quote the Sam Cooke song:

It’s been a long, a long time coming

But I know a change’s gonna come, oh, yes, it will



LOOKING FORWARD TO GETTING BACK

LETTERS to the Editor

THANK YOU

Dear Editor

I would like to thank the Ryan “Duce” Morrissey Scholarship Committee for awarding me one of the high school scholarships this year. It means so much to be a part of remembering Duce. It will help with the cost of my sophomore year at Malden Catholic School for Girls. Thank you again.

Nora Reilly

THANK YOU

Dear Editor

I would like to take this opportunity to thank so many people of the Charlestown community for their heartfelt response to my late husband, Bill’s, illness and eventual passing. So many people contributed in so many different ways that I know if I made an effort to list all of the names, I would run the risk of forgetting to mention somebody.

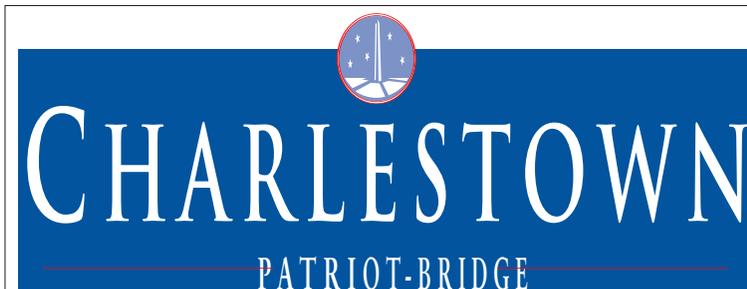
The motorcade that was organized, and in only a day just days

prior to his passing, was one of my life’s most precious and emotional moments. My family and I will never, ever forget it. Life without Bill has not been easy for us, his family, but knowing that his presence here in Charlestown was appreciated and will long be remembered is the source of great solace to us.

There has never been any doubt in my mind that the people of Charlestown town are among the finest anywhere. I need no further proof.

Dodie Boyle and Family

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Encore re-opens doors with no issues

By Seth Daniel

The sounds of Frank Sinatra music or sultry Peggy Lee tunes in the Encore Boston Harbor resort had been off since March until this past week – as employees began to return for training in the run up to last Sunday's reopening.

It was music to everyone's ears. There had been only a handful of people in the casino for months, no restaurants, no vibe, and no fun, said President Eric Gullbrants during a tour of the resort last Thursday, prior to Sunday's opening.

"There were no flowers in here at all," said Gullbrants. "It was very quiet and lifeless and it's coming back to life. There was no music here. We just put that back on. It was definitely quiet because there was no music and no employees and the most important thing – no people. It was just a few of us really. The resort is being brought back to life now. I feel the heart and soul of our company coming back to life."

Encore had been shuttered since late March when they voluntarily closed just ahead of the Massachusetts Gaming Commission (MGC) vote to close casinos, which was only lifted this month. Some 5,000 employees at Encore were not able to return to work in that time, though the company did continue to pay them into June. Two weeks ago, the company announced they would likely have to furlough 3,000 employees, but that has already been dialed back.

By opening on Sunday, 2,700 employees had been called back, and more could be brought back if things continue to go well.

"Our team members were elated and so happy to be back,"

Gullbrants said. "I would say we're more appreciative of them than they are of us. I know we paid everyone in the interim, but I'm just grateful they are coming back. They didn't have to stay around, but they did. We have a really tremendous staff. Very few people have left...If demand is high and we can open additional areas, we will. That will only be when it's safe. I have to say the week has been like a homecoming for us."

On Sunday, there were a steady flow of guests and everyone was ready to get out and enjoy the resort again – yet another homecoming for guests who had not been able to visit the resort.

A spokesman confirmed they had a great opening without any issues.

"Other than telling a handful of people to push their mask up to cover their nose, there really weren't any issues," said Spokesman Eric Kraus. "People enjoyed the experience. Some guests actually enjoyed the Plexiglas barrier being up better than the way it used to be. People were great and they enjoyed themselves."

That was the object of the preparations for the opening all last week, with Encore taking several pages from their sister resorts in Macau and Las Vegas – which have already re-opened. They submitted a very detailed opening plan with the help of consultants from Johns Hopkins and Georgetown in May, but it has been refined over and over again in the weeks since.

Things are certainly different, and it's not the Encore of last summer, but it's slowly returning.

They have lost nearly 50 percent of their gaming stations,

going from 4,540 stations to 2,449 at opening. There are no Craps, Roulette or poker games, and of the lost gaming stations, that includes 1,000 slot machines closed due to social distancing. All of the card game tables have extensive Plexiglas barriers between the dealer and the players, and players are no longer allowed to touch the cards.

"We flip the cards for them now and that's for the safety of the guest and our employees," said Gullbrants. "We followed the regulations to a 'T' with the barriers. It wasn't hard, but it was expensive. We did it in house, but it cost hundreds of thousands of dollars and some blood, sweat and tears."

Gullbrants said the cards are disposed of immediately if a guest touches them, and they are disposed of every night as part of their plan anyhow.

The Poker Room has been repurposed to have more Blackjack, Video Poker and Dynasty Games. Additionally, Gullbrants said they are working on a prototype with a plastics maker to help them be able to maybe get Poker safely up and running, if the MGC approves of it.

"We hope they will approve it in the next couple of weeks as we prove we can safely deal the current games," he said.

There is now only one entrance – at the waterfront side of the building, and only one exit as well. Anyone walking in the entrance will be scanned with a thermal imaging camera, which detects an elevated body temperature – or fever. Anyone showing an elevated temperature will be further screened. Masks are required at all times, and the hotel is actually only being used minimally.

The hotel tower is only open to guests Thursday to Sunday, and closed Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. That is simply because demand isn't yet back.

"That type of demand is gone in the short term," he said. "When it returns, we'll introduce the 24/7 operations. However, there isn't enough demand to fill the hotel Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday here."

Restaurants are perhaps the trickiest situation as they strive to institute greater and greater protections, while still giving everyone a top-notch experience. At this point, those open include Rare Steakhouse, Red 8, Fratelli, Mystique, On Deck Burger Bar, Encore Cantina, Lucky Dogs (new hot dog cart), Garden Cocktail Lounge, Bru, and Dunkin' Donuts.



Ready to open the resort were Doormen Rafik Chaib of East Boston, and Robert Traynham of Boston. The resort opened at 9 a.m. on Sunday, July 12.



Michelle McMahon, a table dealer, demonstrates how they will deal Blackjack under the new regulations.

Gullbrants said a great deal of thought has been put into the dining experience, and detailed the protocols. Diners who prefer not to have a menu can call up the offerings with their cell phone using a QR Code. Then, when they enter the restaurant, they will sanitize, and everything will be cleaned and disinfected before they sit down. The silverware is rolled up and the glass is brought straight from the kitchen to ensure it's sanitized. There is even a "mask coaster" that people can place their masks on while dining – a tweak developed in Macau after they opened in March.

There is also no bar seating, but they are taking advantage of the ample outdoor patio spaces.

"We spread out every restaurant, but we're probably a little over 50 percent of capacity," he said. "That varies, but every restaurant has eliminated seats for safety. If it's busy, this will be as busy as it will ever be ... We feel the long-term implications of health and safety are paramount and supersede everything. If we're not safe, we have no business." Gullbrants said after spending

months at home with his family – like most everyone else – he believes people are ready to come out and have fun in a safe environment.

"The last thing I want to do is open a casino with no amenities," he said. "It might be fun to play at the casino a little bit, but you want to have drinks and a Chinese Restaurant, Rare and a great dining experience...I think the customers are starving for that experience. I can tell you sitting in my home with my family for weeks and months on end; it was time to get back. We developed a plan that allows us to deliver that experience in a safe manner. I think we've achieved that."

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President Brian Gullbrants demonstrates the protection of the barriers at the gaming stations. The casino floor is down about 50 percent of its stations, with 1,000 of those being at slot machines.

CNC distributes final \$100,000 Spaulding grant money in year five

By Seth Daniel

It wasn't exactly how the Charlestown Neighborhood Council (CNC) hoped the final year of their Spaulding Rehabilitation mitigation grant distribution would go, as they had always hoped to have a big celebration at the Knights of Columbus to celebrate a successful five-year partnership with the hospital and the community.

In the end, they had to do it remotely and online, but nonetheless the community still received \$100,000 in help this week. The CNC announced the 15 recipients of their final round of grant distributions, and noted that they were able to distribute \$100,000.

The 2020 Spaulding-CNC Partnership Fund awarded \$100,000 in grants to 15 non-profit organizations for programs serving Charlestown residents. This concludes five years of \$100,000/year from the Spaulding new hospital construction Determination of Need (DON) funding.

"The Spaulding-CNC Community Partnership Fund was an annual community-based process between Spaulding and members of the CNC to distribute \$100,000 in targeted "mini-grants" yearly from 2016-2020 for Charlestown community-based non-profit organizations and programs that enhance the quality of life in Charlestown, strengthen the capacity of Charlestown residents to meet health and human service needs, and is aligned with one of the goals identified through the

Community Health Needs Assessment," read a statement from the awards committee.

The Committee did recognize that many of the plans submitted for grants may have necessary changes due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The committee agreed to still proceed with the original applications and programs as submitted. The options are that the organization may use the funds as originally intended in 2020, the organization may use the funds for a modified program in 2020, or the organization may use the funds for the originally intended program to be postponed for use in 2021.

The 15 organizations receiving grants for 2020 are:

- BHA Charlestown Adult Education, \$10,000 - BHA Charlestown Adult Education/CharlestownWorks is a comprehensive adult education program and career center comprised of job training and education for adults. The grant funding will provide support for adult students fees to take the HiSET (High School Equivalency Test), once completing the education courses provided at the Center and to provide transportation assistance for students to attend classes and take the exams.

- Charlestown Boys and Girls Club, \$4,295 - The Inclusion Initiative and the Outdoor Adventures at the Charlestown Boys and Girls Club is focused on positioning staff and programs to effectively support individual members, whether they face physical,

developmental, or behavioral challenges such as autism spectrum disorders, sensory impairments, Down Syndrome, physical mobility issues, among others. The goal is to maximize successful participation in our programs through an approach that accommodates the needs of members while maintaining the fundamental nature of Club activities.

- Charlestown Girls' Softball, \$2,500 - Charlestown Girls' Softball will replace the team's uniforms, which last on average 5 seasons. The program provides girls ages 5-18 with a team experience that fosters positive achievement, self-esteem and individual growth.

- Charlestown Little League, \$5,000 - Charlestown Little League will continue the teen employment program by employing and training 10-12 teens as teen umpires and concessions stand staff, ages 13-18, providing them with a safe alternative after-school activity, as well as a source of income and community pride. Additionally, this grant funding will provide the annual insurance coverage for the program.

- Charlestown Working Theater, \$9,000 - The Charlestown Working Theater will support the youth productions, classes, and community/artistic partnerships, which includes core educational programs for children and young adults including our two annual productions, and off-site classes in instructional chess and animation. Expenses include administrative and education salary supports, as well as expendables such as class supplies, costumes and sets. Funding will also include support for a summer camp program that CWT provides in partnership with Charlestown Boys & Girls Club.

- Charlestown Youth Football & Cheerleading, \$5,000 - Charlestown Youth Football and Cheerleading provides fundamental teaching, instruction, and coaching for boys and girls ages 6-15. The grant will pay the required insurance, referee and EMT fees, safety courses for coaches and staff, and new equipment. The program teaches discipline and respect, with a mission to keep at-risk youth off the street and off drugs.

- Charlestown Youth Hockey Association, \$5,000 - Through targeted, specific efforts of Micro Hockey and Friday Night Ice, Charlestown Youth Hockey aims to support and develop highly influential groups of youth at the youngest and critical teen ages. Funding from this grant supports these continued efforts for specific age-appropriate skill and alternate activity programs will continue

to provide an environment for safe, healthy and fun activities to educate and build the mental and physical well-being for the youth of Charlestown.

- Courageous Sailing, \$4,850 - Courageous Sailing will provide families, whose members participate in Adaptive Sailing Days or in our Swim, Sail, Science Program, the opportunity to sail together with an instructor. Charlestown Family Sailing will give Charlestown residents who might not usually have access to our harbor the opportunity to enjoy the fun, peace, family time, and/or learning possibilities of sailing.

- Gardens of Charlestown, \$3,295 - Charlestown Gardens will continue and expand its program "Tend and Tell: Watch us Grow!" to teach children from K-2 at Harvard Kent School about earth sciences, nutrition and reading. Using the community garden as the laboratory for learning, the children acquire knowledge and hands-on experience pertaining to: how and why plants grow, where their food comes from, the relationship of weather, birds and insects to successful growing and healthy nutritional options through a nine-week in-class curriculum.

- Harvard Kent Parents' Association, \$10,000 - The Harvard-Kent Parents Association received funding to promote greater active parent engagement at Harvard-Kent School and more educational after-school programming for 2020-2021. Funding will support a back to school kick-off event, translators for parent meetings, food and custodial services, and programming support for after-school activities.

- Harvest on Vine Food Pantry, \$9,800 - Expanding on the successful and widely popular Thanksgiving turkey distribution, Harvest on Vine will provide Easter ham dinners again to 500 families in 2020 and 2021. These funds will provide about half of the needed funding for this project, with the rest coming from additional community support and fundraising. Additionally, Harvest on Vine received funding for a new power pallet jack to facilitate moving food that needs to be distributed.

- John F. Kennedy Family Service Center, Inc., \$10,000 - The Kennedy Center will continue to use the grant funding for a Parent Partner staff position, hiring a local resident to provide a bridge between the staff and community they serve. The funding will be paired with other grant sources to help fund the position that provide the educational parenting

skills training and support services offered through the Community Services Center. The Parent Partner assists parents with Ages & Stages screenings, Book-Nook lending library, weekly parenting support group and facilitated playgroups. The grant will also fund a Community/Senior Service Coordinator assisting elders with access to community resources related to food, housing, employment, transportation, etc.

- North End Music & Arts Program for Charlestown Seniors, \$3,900 - This grant supports the North End Music & Performing Arts Center (NEMPAC) to begin a Charlestown Seniors Choir, located and in partnership with the Robert A. Georgine Towers. Consisting of 100% Charlestown residents, this program will provide social engagement, light physical activities and emotional health benefits for an elder population in our community.

- Special Townies, \$10,000 - Special Townies is a recreational program for children with special needs and their families, with a mission to foster respect, awareness, acceptance, and inclusion within our community of children with Autism and other developmental disorders. We operate out of our clubhouse in Charlestown, where we organize social events and outings, provide resources and guidance to parents, hold meetings, and provide the environment needed for the socialization of special needs children. This funding will go toward keeping our space running so that we may continue to provide these services to our 40+ families. Additional funding will go toward programming, specifically the costs associated with our weekly swim days, Social Saturdays and Sundays, and monthly trips to Sky Zone.

- Warren-Prescott Foundation, \$7,360 - The Warren Prescott Foundation will use the grant funding to support the City Connects programming, which targets students with moderate risk in one or more of the following areas: Academic, Social/Emotional/Behavioral, Health, and or Family. This funding will allow expansion of the programming to include 50-60 students through 10 new small groups of 5-6 students each, to teach skills such as self-esteem building, anger management, how to make and keep friends, and tools for calming themselves/self-regulation. The groups would meet on a regular basis throughout the school year to support these students develop a growth mindset.

CHARLESTOWN BEAT

POLICE/COMMUNITY MEETING: Meet the police & discuss public safety issues on the last Wednesday of every month at the police station, 20 Vine Street, at 6:00 p.m., 2nd floor, community room.

POLICE RELATED INFO: Contact the District A-1 Community Service Office at 617-343-4627.

Larceny – Bicycle
07/06/20 – A victim on First Avenue reported unknown person(s) stole his blue Trek Madone mountain bike from the garage in his building.

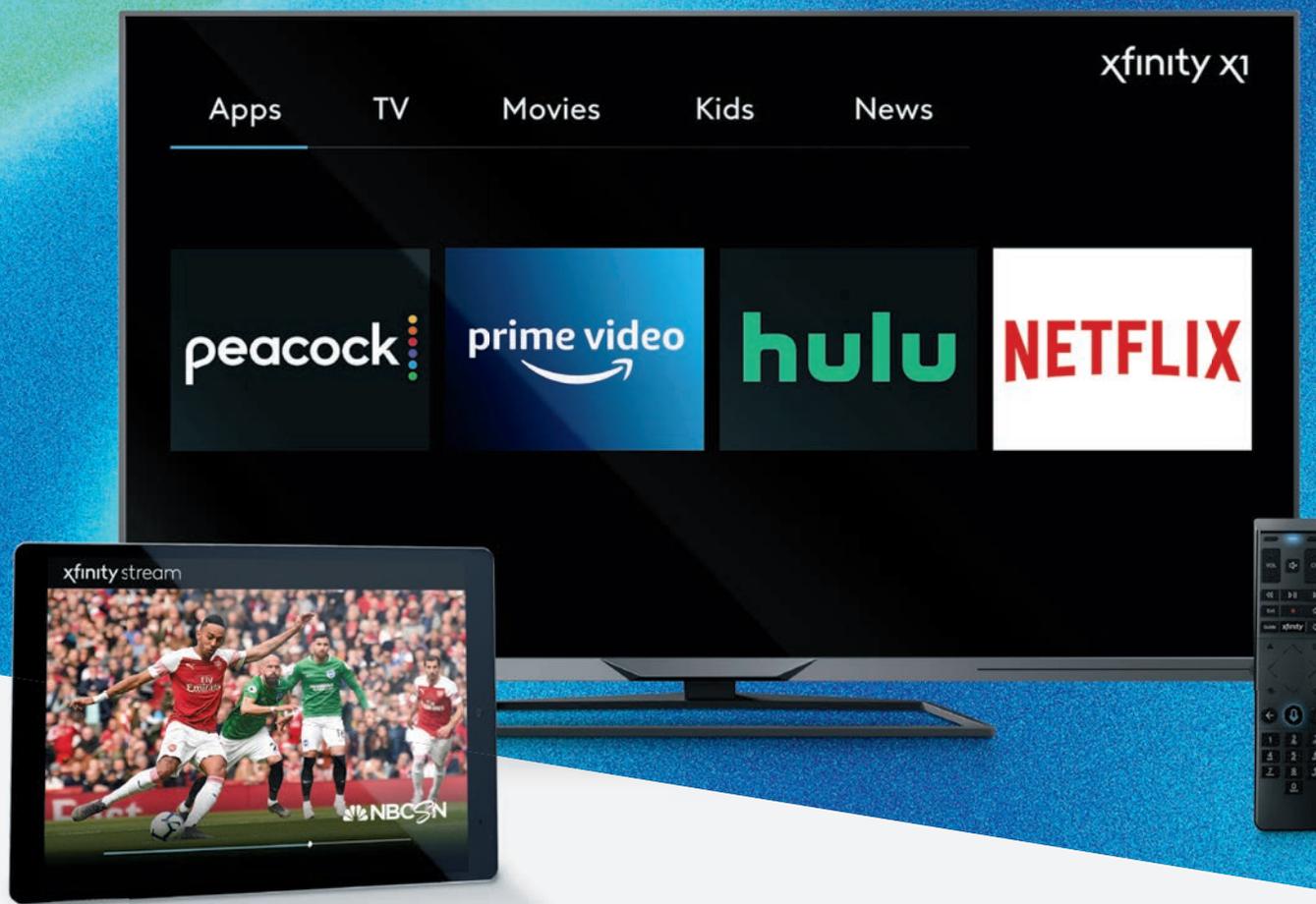
Larceny – Bicycle
07/06/20 – A victim on Eighth Street reported unknown person(s) stole his black 27.5 mountain bike from the building's garage.

Breaking and Entering – Residence

07/08/20 – A victim on Decatur Street reports while she was home watching television, she heard glass breaking in the front room

of her residence, and when she went to investigate, she observed a female suspect in her home who entered through the now-broken window. The victim also saw a man standing outside the same window. Upon seeing the victim, the female suspect fled out the same window through which she had entered. Officers searched the area to no avail, and the matter is under investigation.

Larceny – Bicycle
07/08/20 - A victim on Shipway Place reported unknown person(s) stole two bicycles - a blue Cannondale mountain bike and a white Trek mountain bike - from the building's garage.



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CHARLESTOWN LITTLE LEAGUE KICKS OFF SUMMER SEASON

Photos by Seth Daniel

LITTLE LEAGUE (from pg. 8)

pionships. “The 12 year olds age out of Little League this year and they did lose out,” she said. “There is no district and no tournaments. This is their last chance for Little League, so it is kind of sad they lost out on that experience.”

Majors Coach Greg Poole said there was a lot of planning and execution required just to feel safe about having the kids go out and take fielding practice – which took up the bulk of the evening on Monday.

For many, it was their first journey out into public for a youth sport or a congregate activity, so Poole said they left no stone unturned. Safety was paramount, and they discussed how to sanitize the ball, how to run the bases safely, how to handle equipment and everything in between.

“It’s great to get them out there again,” Poole said. “Everybody needed to get out and enjoy this. At the same time, safety is paramount and we’ll take all of the precautions and try to teach the kids what they can and can’t do now. That’s difficult. We didn’t think this year we’d the numbers to have this, but it’s great we did. If they can do it safely, have fun, and not having anyone get sick, then that’s great.”

Poole said kids on the teams have to stay six feet apart, so that means the dugout camaraderie this year is out. They must wear masks when not playing, though they can put their face coverings down when in the field. At bat, though, they must wear a face covering and also while running the bases.

Hand sanitizer is stationed everywhere, and kids must use their own equipment that is assigned to them. There is no sharing bats, gloves or batting helmets.

It all sounds like a tremendous amount of rules and regulations that could get in the way of having fun.

It wasn’t the case Monday night, as kids were jazzed up, smiling and happy to have what little season they could get.

“It’s a different world and there’s no game plan for us to follow,” said Poole. “It’s a risk, but we see the data and I think we’re doing something right. We all met and believed we could do this safely.”

Added Reese, “The kids feel safe. They want to play, and they want to be out. Even with school, my son wanted to go to school, which is very interesting. They’re tired of being inside and sitting around with their parents.”



Jake McGrath winds up and throws from shortstop.



League President Cathy Reese with her son, Joe Neilon, ready for a night on the diamond.



Seamus Sullivan fields the throw at first base.



Cook Ryan puts on his batting helmet and gets ready to hit.



Charlestown Little League kicked off Monday night with drills and practice during what will be a shortened, informal season this year.

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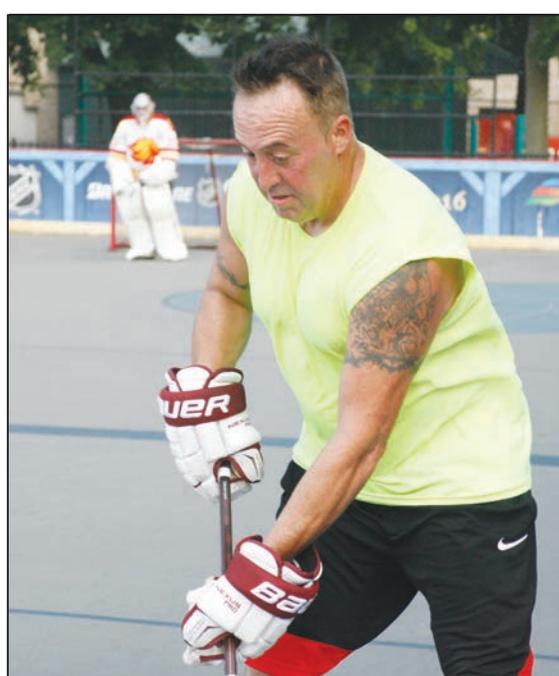


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TOWNIES HAVE A GOOD TIME AT MCGONAGLE RINK



Keeping things fun at mid-rink, one of the heavy hitters skates past defenders.



The action on the boards was fast, but distant, during the play at McGonagle Rink.



This player makes a Kase for creative passing on the rink.



The long reach for the ball that got away.



Shooting from the left, this player skates past the middle line.



Having fun at McGonagle Rink recently with Kitchen Kup legends and other legends.



Shown left: Looking for room to pass to a teammate.



The Playground Legend gets one past the heavy hitters on the defense.

North Washington Street Bridge Construction Look-Ahead: July 12 – July 25

The following is a summary of work being done and travel impacts due to construction on the North Washington Street Bridge.

TRAFFIC SHIFTING ONTO TEMPORARY BRIDGE (July 17 – 19)

Starting July 17, traffic will be shifted onto the new temporary North Washington Street Bridge. We will shift one travel direction at a time, in three stages over the weekend:

- Inbound traffic to Keany

Square will shift to the temporary bridge and inbound lanes on the existing bridge are closed.

•Outbound traffic to City Square shifts to temporary bridge and outbound lanes on existing bridge closed

•Sidewalk on temporary bridge opens and sidewalk on existing bridge closes. The Freedom Trail will be temporarily relocated to the temporary bridge along with its respective signage. Pedestrians will shift from the harbor-side side-

walk to the locks-side sidewalk.

On Monday morning, after Stage 3 is complete, we will begin demolition of the old bridge.

TRAVEL IMPACTS

•N. WASHINGTON STREET INBOUND: Off-peak daytime lane reductions across the bridge and additional lane reductions at Keany Square will continue. One lane across the bridge and all turn movements will be available from 10 a.m.–2 p.m. on weekdays.

•N. WASHINGTON STREET

OUTBOUND: Off-peak daytime lane reductions will continue across the bridge to City Square. One lane across the bridge and all turn movements will be available from 7 a.m.–2 p.m. on weekdays.

Once the temporary bridge is opened, two inbound and one outbound travel lanes will always be available.

SCHEDULED WORK

•In the week of July 19, demolition of the old bridge including prep work, equipment staging,

and barrier installments.

WORK HOURS

Daytime (6 a.m.–3 p.m.) for general work.

Starting on July 20, during the daytime in continuous two shifts (6 a.m. – 1 a.m.) crews will work to demolish the current bridge.

WORK THAT HAS BEEN COMPLETED

Installation of the temporary pedestrian/vehicle bridge, drainage work, and installation of the fender system.

Chelsea Councilor Damali Vidot endorsed for state representative by multiple local and regional leaders

Staff report

At-Large Chelsea City Councilor and Candidate for State Representative of the Second Suffolk District, Damali Vidot, announced a wave of support from local and regional leaders in the past week as she continues to build campaign momentum towards the primary election on Tuesday, September 1.

Councilor Vidot has spent her career building relationships within her community and throughout the Commonwealth to get the job done. Within the Second Suffolk District, Councilor Vidot received endorsements from Chelsea Councilors Enio Lopez and Yamir Rodriguez, Chelsea School Com-

mittee Members Marisol Santiago and Roberto Jiménez-Rivera, and Chelsea community leaders Joan Cromwell, Roseann Bongiovanni, Maria Belen Power, Fidel Maltez, Tito Meza, Zaida Ismatul Oliva, Daniel Occena, Christian and Danille Calvo, Minnie Cruz, and Mswati Hanks. From neighboring Somerville, Damali earned the endorsements of School Committee Member Andre Green, as well as from City Councilors Ben Ewen-Campen, JT Scott, Jesse Clingan, and Council President Matt McLaughlin. Gerly Adrien, Jonathan Paz and Quinton Zondervan, City Councilors from Everett, Waltham, and Cambridge, respectively, also endorsed Damali Vidot in the race for the

Second Suffolk seat.

In addition to local and regional support from elected officials and community endorsers, Councilor Vidot has been endorsed by a network of progressive organizations committed to building a more equitable Commonwealth, including: The Massachusetts Chapter of the Sierra Club, Mass Alliance, Sunrise Boston, Environmental League of Massachusetts Action Fund, Progressive Massachusetts, Run En Masse, and Mass Peace Action.

The praise from regional leaders poured in last week. Somerville City Councilor Ewen-Campen noted that Councilor Vidot is “the rare combination of a dedicated community activist and an expe-

rienced elected official who knows how to get things done.”

Fellow Somerville Councilor Clingan added that Councilor Vidot’s “progressive values and policy work are right in line with residents who are fighting for housing, racial, economic, and environmental justice” while Waltham City Councilor Paz stated that Damali “has the vision and passion to affect change at the systemic level.”

Vidot noted that “In order to serve residents and uplift my community, my work requires building where there is alignment on shared values with local leaders. That’s how I was able to create coalitions with community leaders, City Councilors, and state

officials throughout Greater Boston to address housing insecurity, environmental injustice, and other key issues affecting the residents of Charlestown and Chelsea. It’s important for us to work collaboratively in the region so that we can continue to amplify community voices to affect change.”

Reflecting on these endorsements, Vidot was energized to action: “We are in uncertain times that have highlighted inequities that we can no longer ignore. The support and the momentum that my campaign is building with our collaborators in the region is a testament to the change we all seek and need for the 2nd Suffolk District. I’m ready to continue this critical work together.”

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP-OFF

Millennium Park | 315 Gardner Street | Saturday, July 25 | 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

If you come to our event, please keep in mind:

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- we don't take latex paint, and
- you must place your waste in your trunk or the bed of your truck.

For safety reasons, we won't remove materials from back seats.

This event is weather permitting. For the latest updates, visit our twitter feed @BostonPWD

To check a list of acceptable items, visit: boston.gov/hazardous-waste



Rep. Ryan bolsters commitment to children and families

Staff report

State Rep. Dan Ryan joined Speaker Bob DeLeo and colleagues in the Massachusetts House of Representatives in passing *An Act relative to accountability for vulnerable children and families*, which strengthens the laws ensuring the safety and well-being of the Commonwealth's youngest and most at-risk residents.

Building on the House of Representative's commitment to those served by the Department of Children and Families (DCF), this legislation addresses the needs of vulnerable children and families that have been amplified by the COVID-19 public health crisis and further illuminated through the lens of racial equity. Specifically, this legislation strengthens DCF policies and operations, develops a tool to retain and recruit foster families, holds DCF accountable

for timely, accurate and relevant reports, and clarifies communication by the Child Advocate to the Legislature and state officeholders. The legislation compels data to analyze the impacts of remote learning on all children during the COVID-19 crisis with a focus on understanding the disparate educational impacts on children served by DCF. Additionally, the bill calls for a public service campaign to increase awareness of child abuse and neglect.

"This legislation further reforms the Department of Children & Families. The House has prioritized the needs of our most at-risk children, some of whom may be more at-risk as programming and other safety nets have been impacted by COVID," said Ryan, who represents Chelsea and Charlestown. "These reforms will allow the Department to better handle the effects that the COVID-

19 pandemic has had on these vulnerable populations. I commend our COVID leadership team on recognizing a need and addressing it."

Said State Rep. Paul Donato, "As the Chair of the Foster Care Caucus and as a former foster care child, issues regarding the protection of children and the services provided by state agencies including DCF have always been central to me as a state representative."

The legislation addresses the needs of at-risk children and families through five major initiatives:

- *Measuring the Impact of COVID-19.*

In order to best understand the effects of the state of emergency related to COVID-19, this legislation requires DCF to report on various aspects of the child welfare and education system during the state of emergency. Specifically, the bill requires: DCF to report

monthly to the Legislature on changes in child abuse and neglect cases; DCF to implement a public information campaign to improve awareness of child abuse and neglect during the public health crisis; DCF to report on efforts to support the foster care system; DCF to analyze the effect on virtual and video technology on services during COVID-19; Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) to work with DCF to provide an analysis of active remote learning participation rates during the COVID-19 crisis, including participation rates of children with open DCF cases; and DESE to coordinate with DCF to develop a statewide plan to ensure effective and ongoing engagement relative to remote learning, including guidance and best practices for engaging the most vulnerable and at-risk students and families.

- *Quality Improvement.*

- *Foster Parents' Bill of Rights.*
- *Strengthening the Integrity of the Office of the Child Advocate.*
- *Data Reporting Initiative.*

In response to serious events and concerns about children in DCF care, the Legislature has historically directed DCF to complete various reporting requirements; however, the agency has been unable to fulfill its statutory requirements to complete all reports. This bill updates and streamlines DCF reporting requirements to ensure the delivery of timely and relevant data in both a comprehensive annual report and robust quarterly reports. In addition, DCF is required to detail actions it has taken to provide culturally competent services to children and families and report on transition planning, fair hearings, reports made to the Ombudsman, and a detailed accounting of services provided through contracted agencies.

The bill now moves to the Senate.

Councilor Edwards to begin hearings on ZBA reforms

By Seth Daniel

City Councilor Lydia Edwards will hold a working session on Thursday at City Hall to discuss major reforms to the Zoning Board of Appeal (ZBA), just as the Board begins to meet again and tackle a backlog of hundreds of cases that have built up since late March.

The Working Session will focus on the heart of the ZBA, one of the busiest Boards in the entire city with meetings that grind on for hours and hours. Edwards is

proposing to expand the number of seats on the ZBA and include representatives from groups like tenant advocates and environmental protection advocates.

The ZBA is currently required by law to reserve seats for members of the real estate and construction industries, organized labor and certain other parties while holding no representation for renters, environmental protection or advocates for fair housing and civil rights, said Edwards.

Another focus of the Working Session will be changing the

requirements for a variance – a change that could have major impacts in any number of directions. Variances to the zoning code can be granted for height, density, setbacks, conditions of use, and other land use exceptions.

Edwards first called for ZBA reforms last fall, and a hearing at the Council took place this February. Shortly after, Mayor Martin Walsh introduced an executive order in response to Edwards's proposal to implement some reforms. Then COVID-19 hit, and things have been on hold.

Some of the reforms in the executive order included financial disclosure for board members to prevent conflicts of interest, adding interpretation services and modernizing the Board's communication/application procedures so documents are available electronically.

The Working Session begins at 10 a.m. and will be in the Council Committee on Government Operations, which Edwards chairs.

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Beacon Hill Nursery School
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web address

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Maeve Fittz traded pandemic Italy for front-line nursing in Boston

By Seth Daniel

This past spring semester was supposed to be a life-changing experience in Italy for Charlestown's Maeve Fittz, and in many ways it was, but in no way that she or her family could have ever predicted.

Fittz left Charlestown in late January as a junior at Endicott College to study abroad in Florence, Italy, for a semester at the University of the Arts in Florence. For the nursing student, it was a great break and an experience she thought she would never get again.

In short, it was.

About 30 days into the venture, things in Italy started to get a little out of control as COVID-19 began to spread in the Milan and Venice areas. She tried to stick it out, she said, but eventually the school closed down and it was a total rush to get back to America.

Once here, after a quarantine period where things in Boston began to also spiral, she traded her paint brush for her nursing internship at Spaulding Rehab in the Navy Yard – where she worked though part of the pandemic and is currently on a summer internship there as well.

"I was in Florence and it was only China that was affected," she said. "We heard about it a little and then heard that it had hit Milan. It wasn't that close to us, but close enough for concern. Our headmaster gave us the option to go home. We decided we wanted to stay to the very last second... Finally, they made it mandatory for us to come home because they shut down all the schools in Italy. We had two days to pack and leave. It was amazing to see Florence empty. That hadn't happened in years."

Fittz returned home on March 7, about a week before everyone in Boston began to realize the pandemic was about to get serious here too. She said she thought she had been sick in Italy earlier during the semester, but wasn't sure so she quarantined at home with her mother, Julie, who works at RSM in City Square.

"My mom was very happy I came home, but was worried she could get sick because I could have been sick over there," said Fittz. "I actually went to Venice at one point and two days later they said Venice was a hot spot. Quite honestly, we were all really sick for a week, but we had no idea it was COVID-19."

She said they did a lot of housework, monitored symptoms and took it easy as she continued to try



Charlestown's Maeve Fittz

to do her studies online – though said it was kind of hard to do watercolor remotely online.

It was about that time that things in Boston began to shut down and people began to realize the seriousness of COVID that Fittz had already witnessed in Italy.

"When I got back, everyone was still operating as normal for about a week or so," she said. "Then everything shut down here too. I knew it as serious, but I didn't think it would be as serious here as it turned out to be. We were supposed to go to a wedding in May and I didn't think that would be cancelled, but of course, it was."

After being cleared of her quarantine, and with a great need for medical help in Boston at that point, Fittz said she reported to work at Spaulding.

"I went straight to work as fast as I could," she said. "I love my job as a nursing assistant and love that I can work in my neighborhood."

She continued working there through the pandemic, and said she plans to work a summer internship at Portsmouth Hospital in the Emergency Department also. In the fall, she hopes to be able to return to Endicott for her final year of nursing school. That is still up in the air, but most schools are now considering a return to campus.

Fittz, 20, has spent her entire life in Charlestown and is well-known in all of the organizations here. She attended the Warren Prescott, played Charlestown Soccer, Charlestown Hockey, Charlestown Lacrosse, Girls Softball, and even swam at the Boys & Girls Club. After attending the John D. O'Bryant School for Math and Science – an exam school in Mission Hill – she decided to pursue her nursing degree at Endicott.

Even with the disruption in her study abroad, and the hasty exit from Europe in a very unprecedented time, Fittz said she does recommend in the future that students consider going abroad for a new and different experience.

Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
Page, Kathryn E	Gottlieb, Britt E	42 8th St #2205	\$529,000
Morash, Lyndsey	Santorella, Patricia L	256-258 Bunker Hill St #1	\$867,000
Rodriguez, Robb	Aubert, Yvonne M	4 Cook St #1	\$665,000
Gonzalez, Caitlin	Shyjan, Michael W	17 Cordis Street Ave #1	\$575,000
Long, James	Scheier, Alexander W	77 Green St #2	\$929,000
Friedman, Jacob D	Matuza, Sarah M	21 Main St #C	\$587,800
Evans, Nicholas W	12 Mount Vernon Street	12 Mount Vernon St #1	\$700,000
Schiller, Jacqueline	12 Mount Vernon Street	12 Mount Vernon St #3	\$920,000
Mount Vernon Group LLC	Shahnasarian, Edward	2 Mount Vernon St	\$1,670,000
Forsa, Brian	Hayes, James	46 Rutherford Ave	\$1,442,000
Deiulis, Joanna	Coxe, Martha M	4 Salem St #4	\$775,000
Mullard, Eleanor	Gram, Hilary	64 Sullivan St #4	\$723,800
Thistle, Matthew	Forsa, Brian	3 Winthrop St #2	\$640,000

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For the Record

From the July 16, 10 a.m., CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS WORKING SESSION: The Committee will hold a working session on a petition for a special law re: An Act Relative to the Zoning Board of Appeal. The Chair of the Committee and sponsor of the docket is Councilor Lydia Edwards.

License Board outdoor restaurant dining extension approvals:

- 99 Restaurant, Bunker Hill Mall, Limited Hours.
- Brewer's Fork, Hays Square, Limited Hours.
- Monument Restaurant, Main Street, Regular Hours.
- Pier 6 Restaurant, Navy Yard, Regular Hours.
- Warren Tavern, Pleasant Street, Limited Hours.

From the July 21 Zoning Board of Appeals meeting, 10 a.m., via Webex:

INTERPRETATION

•34-42 Warren St. (Tatte Bakery). Applicant: Kenneth Flynn Purpose: The petitioner's seeks a determination that the Inspectional Services Department erred in issuing the permit. The permit was issued as an allowed use.

From the July 28 Zoning Board of Appeals meeting, 10 a.m., via Webex:

• 229-231 Bunker Hill St. Applicant: Patrick Mahoney. Purpose: Demolish existing one story restaurant (Grasshopper Café) and erect a new 4 story 3 unit residential building with enclosed garage and roof deck.

BOSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT UPDATE ON PERMITS

Due to the harsh economic impact of the

COVID-19 pandemic on businesses, the Boston Fire Department is extending the expiration date on all existing Place of Assembly and Annual Permits from June 30, 2020 to September 30, 2020. Any issued Place of Assembly Permit or Annual Permit stating an expiration date of June 30, 2020 will now automatically be valid in the City of Boston until September 30, 2020. The invoices for renewal will be mailed out in mid-August, and the permitting cycle for both Place of Assembly and Annual Permits will become October 1 to September 30 of the following year from this point forward.

REPORTING WORKPLACE SAFETY CONCERNS

•Workers in any size organization have options if they feel they are being pressured into an unsafe situation. Attorney General Maura Healey has created resources for workers to report safety concerns during reopening. They include an online form at the [Attorney General's website](#) and a dedicated Fair Labor hotline at 617-727-3465. People can also find those resources by calling 311.

HOW TO REPORT A PROBLEM PROPERTY

• Since taking office in 2014, Mayor Walsh has made fixing quality of life issues a priority in his administration. From investing in Public Works to making sure community policing is a staple in every neighborhood, we are making sure every neighborhood is clean, safe and a great place to live and work in. Unfortunately some properties in Boston need more help than others, and that's why we are here. If you know of a property that fits one of the following criteria: multiple calls to 911, one that's blighted or just a general concern, we encourage you to reach out to your neighborhood liaison.

BPDA to look at two licensing agreements after the fact

By Seth Daniel

The Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) will hold its monthly Board meeting on July 16 in an online format, and will consider two license agreements based in Charlestown.

Aside from that, the agenda is rather light for the entire city.

One of the agreements has, in fact, already started and ended before getting approval from the BPDA – a program in partnership with the Newmarket Business Association (NMBA) to train applicants for a CDL license to drive heavy trucks on the Bunker Hill parking lots. The BPDA Board will analyze the agreement and the use, but in actuality, the program began on June 22 and ended July 2 over a total of 10 days.

“Due to Covid-19 restrictions, the New Market Business Association and Bill’s Taxi service were unable to secure a privately-owned location for the practical portion of the instruction,” read the memo. “Time being of the essence, NMBA and reached out to BPDA requesting the short-term use of the lot at Bunker Hill Community College. The BPDA granted a two-week license agreement to Bill’s Taxi on or about June 22, 2020, and now seeks ratification and confirmation of the same.”

The program seeks to train workers how to drive heavy trucks by funding a training with the City’s Office of Workforce Development (OWD). Such training puts them on a pathway to a better occupation and financial stability.

NMBA teamed up with OW D’s

Job Development Initiative to fund scholarships to, and facilitate locations for, Commercial Driver’s License Courses. NMBA has partnered with Bill’s Taxi Service, Inc. to fulfill the education requirements of the CDL program.

Certainly any opposition would be fruitless, since it’s already happened.

There was no charge for the use of the property.

•SPAULDING TO USE PIER FOR SOCIAL DISTANCING PROGRAM

Spaulding Rehab is petitioning the BPDA Board to approve a license to use 15,000 sq. ft. of land on Pier 11 adjacent to Menino Park for a long-standing program to support those transitioning from rehabilitation to an active lifestyle. The program is known

as the Spaulding Adaptive Sport Center’s Weingarten Program.

The program has run since 2001 and serves 1,000 people with physical and cognitive challenges each year. They have operated at the pier behind Spaulding for some time offering land and

water based activities. Because of social distancing this summer, they need more space to spread the program out.

It will be separate and fenced off from Menino Park. The agreement, if approved, would run through Oct. 31.

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LEGAL NOTICE

Estate of: Lawrence Tecci Date of Death 02/07/2020

To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Eastpointe Rehab Center Llc of Norwood, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from

the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 08/31/2020.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections

within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice

directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.

Date: July 02, 2020 Felix D. Arroyo Register of Probate

7/16/20 Charlestown

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 (617)788-8300 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION Docket No. SU20P0884EA

Revere Journal | East Boston Times | Chelsea Record
Everett Independent | Charlestown Patriot Bridge
Lynn Journal | Winthrop Sun Transcript
The Boston Sun | The Beacon Hill Times
North End Regional Review

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The Anchor venue in Navy Yard is now open

By Seth Daniel

Last year it was torrential rains, and this year it was a pandemic, but The Anchor venue has persevered through both to find success in the Charlestown Navy Yard – finally getting approval to open its outdoor venue and beer garden for the season on July 4. He did note that the City and its departments moved very quickly and efficiently to help them get open.

From atop the Shipyard Park fountain, owner Chris Sinclair said on a pleasant night this Tuesday that they were seeing great support since opening on Independence Day, and had about 80 percent of their tables filled on a regular basis.

“It was an appropriate day to re-open on Independence Day,” said Sinclair, noting that they had planned to open on April 14. “I am happy to have literally anything at this point. We have a significant hole to climb out of. We were ready to open in April. We missed a great few months of outdoor weather. Where we are now, I’m happy with it and people are happy we’re open. We have been integrated into the community and the community has come out to support us. I’m hoping that continues and I’m hoping people outside the immediate area find their way to Charlestown as well.”

The Anchor has added some new drinks to their beer and wine offerings this year, including fro-

zen drinks. They also hope to expand their hours shortly into the mornings to offer a full outdoor coffee bar – with everything from good hot coffee to lattes and cappuccino.

Being an outdoor venue, Sinclair said they already have a lot of sanitizing and cleaning protocols in place that other restaurants and bars have had to learn. It has made them uniquely prepared to re-open and serve the public safely.

“We are already, if not the most, prepared for this kind of environment,” Sinclair said. “It’s been a pretty easy transition from pre-COVID to post-COVID protocols. We have been doing thorough sanitizing already, but it has been really stepped up now. From a social distancing standpoint, patrons have been very understanding. They have done well. I was nervous how people would be, but people wear the mask and know how to act. We also didn’t lose a lot of occupancy because we’re outside and have space to expand and keep proper distances.”

Sinclair said they hope to have some guidance on music and performances soon, but for now that isn’t happening yet.

“It is a good question we’re all wondering about, and one they will probably address sooner than later,” he said. Right now, the hours for The Anchor are 4-10:30 p.m. Monday to Thursday, and 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.



Patrons this week enjoyed the re-opening of The Anchor in the Navy Yard. The outdoor beer garden and venue was allowed to open on July 4.

WE'RE BACK



- Fully outdoors
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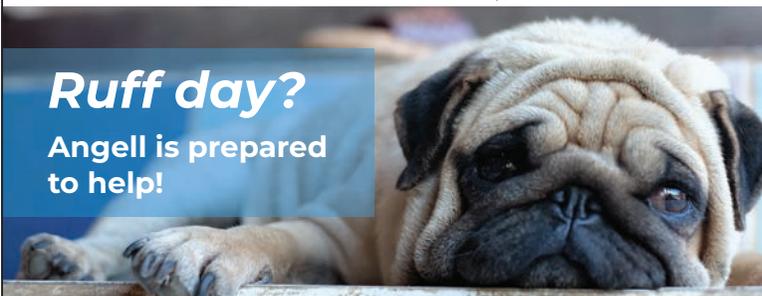
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