



# CHARLESTOWN

PATRIOT-BRIDGE

## Baker announces closure of schools for the remainder of the school year

By Lauren Bennett and Seth Daniel

Gov. Charlie Baker confirmed on Tuesday what many knew was probably coming – the closure of schools for the rest of the academic year.

In a press conference Tuesday afternoon, Baker announced that all Massachusetts public and private schools will remain closed for the remainder of the school year. He said that he understands that “school closures put a tremendous strain on parents,” and “we know it’s a lot to ask,” but the state will be helping to boost remote learning for the rest of the school year.

“It’s the right thing to do, con-

(SCHOOLS Pg. 8)

## June Downer: Battle of Bunker Hill Day Parade cancelled for 2020

By Seth Daniel

Though in the planning stages still, the Battle of Bunker Hill Day Parade on June 14 was to be one of the better ones in years, but all the planning is for naught as Parade Committee Chair Arthur Hurley made the difficult decision late last week to call off the 2020 Parade.

Hurley said it was the first time in recent memory that any Parade has been cancelled or even postponed – as the Sunday in June usually gets great weather and has even gone ahead during torrential

(PARADE Pg. 3)



*Marathon Daffodils during Marathon Week typically line the race route from Hopkinton to Copley Square – and in recent years they’ve expanded to neighborhoods all over Boston. The effort, started by Charlestown’s Diane Valle, still continued on this year despite not having a Marathon Monday on April 20. Instead, thousands of potted Marathon Daffodils popped up around Charlestown, including here at the Monument last Friday – a welcome sign of spring in unprecedented times.*

## MGH Chief Nurse sees cases at the hospital leveling off, perhaps at plateau

By Seth Daniel

Walking the front lines at Mass General Hospital (MGH) daily, Debbie Burke this week said she is encouraged somewhat that the numbers of new cases of COVID-19 patients there might have plateaued – no better, but also no worse – and she’s also proud of how her Charlestown community

has played its part to social distance and be cautious.

Burke, the senior vice president for Patient Care and Chief Nurse at MGH, has been outspoken for some time about the need to take precautions around the Town and to be serious about the threat of spreading the disease so Boston

(MGH Pg. 5)

## Missing Out Class of 2020 feels cheated

By Seth Daniel

For Max Joseph and Emmanuella Udeh, both seniors in the Class of 2020, they shared a common vision of what it would be like to walk across the stage at graduation in early June, to go to the prom and to participate in all of the fun activities that come as a reward at the end of one’s last year of high school.

On Tuesday, the idea of going back to school and finishing their senior years in traditional fashion was dashed as Gov. Charlie Baker announced the closure of all public and private schools for the current school term.

“Right off the bat I was kind of upset about it because I won’t get the opportunity to walk across the stage at graduation,” he said.

“It’s a once in a lifetime event. You work all those years from your freshman year to your senior year and you’re supposed to be able to celebrate now...I was looking forward to Senior Prom at my high school. I got to go last year, which was fortunate, but it was at another school...I was upset, but I guess I’m calm about it now.”

Joseph is a senior at Charlestown High and a resident of Charlestown – playing on the basketball team and tutoring students in his spare time while attending Bunker Hill Community College in the pathways program for business.

Udeh is a senior at Dexter Southfield, and she said she knew the writing was on the wall earlier

(CLASS OF 2020 Pg. 2)

## THANK YOU



Photo by Seaman Apprentice Alec Kramer “RSS feed for Seaman Apprentice Alec Kramer”

*USS Constitution is docked in Charlestown, behind a “thank you” message, written by the crew in wooden letters and signal flags, to health care and emergency service workers currently supporting the fight on the global pandemic of Coronavirus (COVID-19). (U.S. Navy Photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Alec Kramer/Released)*

For the latest news in Charlestown that you need to know, check [charlestownbridge.com](http://charlestownbridge.com)

# Navy Yard Gardens wind sculptures get approval through May 2021

By Seth Daniel

The Navy Yard Garden Association has been preparing an amazing exhibit of more than 30 kinetic sculptures since last summer – engaging with the artist and his representatives since August of last year.

It was supposed to be a grand follow-up to the giant dog sculpture show that was so popular in the Navy Yard two years ago. Then COVID-19 hit just two months before the show was to premiere – complete with a gathering and celebration in May.

Now, that has been a bit

derailed, but the show must go on.

Last Thursday, the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA), which controls the Navy Yard properties, authorized the Navy Yard Gardens and Leopold Galleries to install the wind sculptures in the Yard and keep the exhibit going until May 2021. It's a license agreement that extends the public art show from its original ending in September.

"In light of COVID-19 this is welcome news for the Charlestown community," said Gardens President Robin DiGiammarino. "As an update, we raised the necessary funds to bring

31 Lyman Whitaker sculptures to the Navy Yard. The wind sculptures will be installed at some point in the next several months and a community celebration will be held when public gatherings are once again possible."

This sculpture exhibit is to be spread out between Piers 4 and 11 along the HarborWalk. The eight groupings of sculptures will be a destination for families looking for local, outdoor attractions to uphold social distancing, added DiGiammarino.

More information will be forthcoming when the sculptures begin to be delivered for installation.

# The Cooperative Bank supports Boston food pantries during COVID -19 pandemic

In response to increased demand on local food pantries as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, The Cooperative Bank (TCB) will donate \$10,000 to Boston food pantries.

The funds will be distributed in \$2,500 increments to the food pantries in each of the Boston communities in which TCB serves. Those pantries include Harvest On Vine in Charlestown, Roses Bounty in West Roxbury, the Roslindale Food Pantry and the Jamaica Plain Food Pantry.

"We would like to commend all the community workers who are on the front lines protecting

citizens who are more vulnerable during this pandemic," said President and CEO John Battaglia. "This donation is in appreciation and support for all their hard work during this stressful time. We know that food pantries are in dire need of donations now in the wake of COVID -19's impact."

"The Cooperative Bank in Charlestown is a community leader, thanks to branch manager Tom Coots," said Tom MacDonald, Director of food pantry Harvest on Vine. "Tom always champions the Harvest on Vine. TCB even buys a table for our annual fundraiser and fills it with ten employ-

ees. This spring we couldn't have a fundraiser due to COVID-19, and TCB donated \$2,500 to us. The Charlestown branch also serves as a drop-off point for people donating food. We at Harvest on Vine are most grateful to branch manager Tom Coots and all at TCB," said MacDonald.

For many years The Cooperative Bank has supported local community groups in which it serves. In addition, TCB volunteers as a team at many charitable events held in the community throughout the year.

## CLASS OF 2020 (from pg. 1)

this year concerning the closure. It hasn't made it any easier though when she heard on Tuesday. Like Joseph, she said she had watched her brothers graduate from high school and always dreamed of the day everyone in the family would see her walk.

"I did get to watch my two older brothers graduate high school and I thought I would be the next one," she said. "But then this happens. I hope graduations aren't fully cancelled and they push them and have them later in the summer. It's a huge event...I feel cheated out. I feel like our class got cheated. You go to school for 12 years and work so hard and have it all taken away."

At Charlestown High, Principal Will Thomas said they are considering some options for seniors, including some kind of online graduation, but nothing is set in stone and they are taking any and all ideas.

"We were thinking of doing a Zoom ceremony to close out the year for the seniors who were supposed to graduate, but then have a live in-person graduation either during the summer or the fall," he said. "It depends on when the closure ends. We are still thinking and planning."

Joseph said he was up for something like that, coming back after school for prom, celebrations and graduation. However, he said he is quickly realizing how much he

misses going to a school building.

"I'm going to miss interacting with the students and teachers," he said. "I was building up strong relationships with my guidance counselors. They were supporting me and they motivated me to do my best in school. I'm just going to miss being in the school setting."

For Udeh, she said she will miss places where she and her friends congregated on the Dexter Southfield campus to talk about schoolwork, to socialize and to hang out. That said, the work for high school continues. Already, the Advanced Placement tests have indicated they will do online versions of that test in May, so she is studying hard for that.

"Academically it has maybe hurt me a little because my school is still grading by percentage," she said. "We're not doing pass or fail. It's also really hard to get up every day for class at 8:30 a.m. It was easier to get up earlier and to go to school for class."

Already heading to Tufts University, she said she will not be able to take her campus tour and to collect information from the school as was the plan.

"I was supposed to go there to get a lot of information from them and it was going to line up perfectly with my school schedule," she said. "It just would have been so much easier to go over to the school in person for that."

## DiDomenico announce new legal protections for health care workers

Senator Sal DiDomenico recently announced that the Massachusetts Legislature passed a bill providing additional legal protections for health care personnel and facilities to ensure that they can rapidly respond to the COVID-19 emergency.

"Our health care workers are on the front lines of this public health emergency, and it is critical we do everything we can to protect them as they confront the pandemic and provide treatment for our residents," said Senator DiDomenico. "As Massachusetts enters the midst of its COVID-19 surge, this legislation is key to ensuring our health care system can quickly respond to the crisis and our brave medical personnel can continue providing critical care for patients."

Under the legislation, health care professionals, facilities and volunteer organizations assisting in the state's efforts to respond and treat COVID-19 would be protected from suit and civil liability for alleged damages related to the virus. Health care facilities and professionals would still be subject to consumer complaints brought by the Attorney General and protections would not extend to acts of negligence, recklessness, or intent to harm or acts of discrimination. These protections would apply retroactively to March 10, 2020, and remain in effect for the duration of the State of Emergency.

The bill, which is the latest action by the Legislature to address the COVID-19 public health crisis and its effects on Massachusetts, has been signed by the Governor.

## Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
Kenny, Peter C	Alexa Jo Alpert	197 8th St #718	\$925,000
Towne, Paul	Saydah, Ann E	60 Elm St	\$1,720,000
Bodnar, Steven	Mantell, Emily	10 Prospect St #2	\$770,000
Abruzzo, Nicholas	Wilson, Andrew D	67 Tremont St	\$1,385,000

**Century 21 Elite**

253 Main St. • Charlestown • 617-241-5566  
www.c21elite.com

Sales • Rentals • Free Market Analysis  
Certified Buyer Agents

Visit [www.charlestownbridge.com](http://www.charlestownbridge.com)

## PARADE (from pg. 1)

rain over the years.

Never, though, has it been cancelled until COVID-19 hit the scene.

"The Parade is cancelled," he told the paper on Monday. "There are a million reasons. I keep coming up with what could possibly happen. We could keep going and work so hard and then have to call it off a few days before the Parade date. I also don't think a lot of participants are interested now. The bands want to get paid if we continue and it would get cancelled. If we had the Parade, we wonder if anyone would show up. Everyone I talked to said there was no choice in the matter. Next year, we'll be bigger and better. As soon as we can, we'll start planning for 2021."

Calling off the Parade in Charlestown is like shutting off the lights at the Lincoln Monument – it just doesn't happen. So, it speaks to the severity of the situation and the risk involved with having large gatherings in the summer when most believe the state will have recently opened back up from its shutdown. Already, the Bunker Hill Associates announced in early April they would be postponing the plethora of Charlestown Pride Week events, looking to perhaps have them in September while they now concentrate on helping to feed senior citizens shut in their homes.

"We'll probably have a beautiful day on June 14 and this emergency will be over and maybe the Parade could happen," he said. "It's just too risky right now."

Most everyone Hurley spoke with advised him that event prior to July 4 were likely best to be cancelled, no matter how important or historically significant.

State Rep. Dan Ryan agreed with the move, as did others.

"Thank you, Arthur Hurley and the rest of the Parade Committee for keeping such a wonderful tradition going for generations," he said. "Like this Country, Commonwealth and Town. We will be back better than ever in 2021."

The Parade dates back to 1786 at least and has been continuous in one form or another – with maybe a few years missed way back – since that time. However, in recent times, the Parade has always gone off no matter what.

Hurley said he can't recall a time when the Parade was cancelled and he's been coordinating it for decades.

"I can't say exactly when it was cancelled," he said. "I'm sure Parades a long time ago were cancelled. Eddie Callahan has said in the late 1800s it was cancelled a few years when the city had no money and no Parade. It looks like it might have been cancelled a few years before World War I, but we don't know why."

There was one near-cancellation in the near past that pulled through though.

In the late 1990s, when the late Jim Conway was still the chair of the Committee and Hurley an organizer, there were several days of torrential rain. Flooding was rampant, and former Mayor Tom Menino called up Conway and told him the City had pulled the Bunker Hill Day Parade permit. He told him it had been cancelled due to the rain.

That didn't go over well on Conway though, who pushed on permit or not.

"The night before or the morning of the Parade, Mayor Menino called Jim Conway up and said he pulled the permit," said Hurley. "Jim Conway told him there were no problems in Charlestown and there was no flooding or puddles and he thought it should continue. The cops started going around pulling down the 'No Parking' signs. They came down to Hays Square where I always am. They said, 'Who's Arthur Hurley?' They were looking for me by name, which isn't pleasant. A lot of participants didn't show up. But it went on."

And while this June will be a little emptier than hoped, the show will go on, but rather on June 13, 2021.

# Charlestown cases reported at 73, still low compared to City 'hot spots'

By Seth Daniel

The numbers of cases and the infection rates in Charlestown continue to be on the lower end of the spectrum when compared to the rest of Boston, and to the Town's neighbors to the north – Everett and Chelsea.

According to neighborhood data released on Friday, as of 2:43 p.m. on April 16, Charlestown had 73 cases for an infection rate of 37.6 per 10,000 residents. That was the third lowest rate in the city behind Downtown/Back Bay/Beacon Hill at 33.2 per 10,000 and Fenway at 16.6 per 10,000. Charlestown did have the fewest confirmed cases of any neighborhood in Boston.

There have been 337 people tested in Charlestown, and 22 percent of those have been positive for COVID-19. By far, Charlestown is the neighborhood with the fewest numbers of residents having been tested. The next closest is the Fenway with 556 tested and a positive rate of 17.3 percent.

The highest positive rates were in Mattapan, with 48.2 percent out of 645 testing positive, and East Boston, with 47.2 percent out of 907 testing positive. There were 687 tests on Boston residents that were not assigned to a neighborhood. The average positive testing rate citywide was 33.5 percent.

That was a welcome sign in the Town as people continued to social distance and wear masks in public. Many have been able

to transition to working from home, and fewer of those living in Charlestown are essential workers who have to report to a job or take public transit – two major factors in communities where cases tend to spike.

The hot spots in the City were Hyde Park, the South End, Mattapan and East Boston. The South End is explained through the testing of homeless and drug-dependent in that neighborhood, whose positive tests are attributed to Boston Medical Center or Pine Street Inn. However, those in Hyde Park (120.7 per 10,000), Mattapan (100.7 per 10,000) and East Boston (87.4 per 10,000) were attributed to the fact that many essential workers live in those neighborhoods, are low-income, communities of color and are required to report to work – largely taking public transit.

Citywide, as of April 21, there were 6,010 confirmed cases, with 1,142 having recovered and 196 resident having died.

The most recent neighborhood numbers were different in that it broke out confirmed cases and deaths by race, exposing a huge contrast between communities of color and white and Asian communities. The difference was particularly noticeable in confirmed cases amongst African Americans and blacks. The numbers were only citywide, not by neighborhood, for race, and were a bit flawed because 30 percent of the confirmed cases in Boston had an

unknown race.

That said the Black/African American confirmed case rate was 41 percent of the total cases, while Whites made up 27 percent and Latinos 17 percent. Asian residents accounted for just 3 percent, and Other was at 10 percent. The 41 percent for Black/African Americans far outpaced their actual percentage of the population.

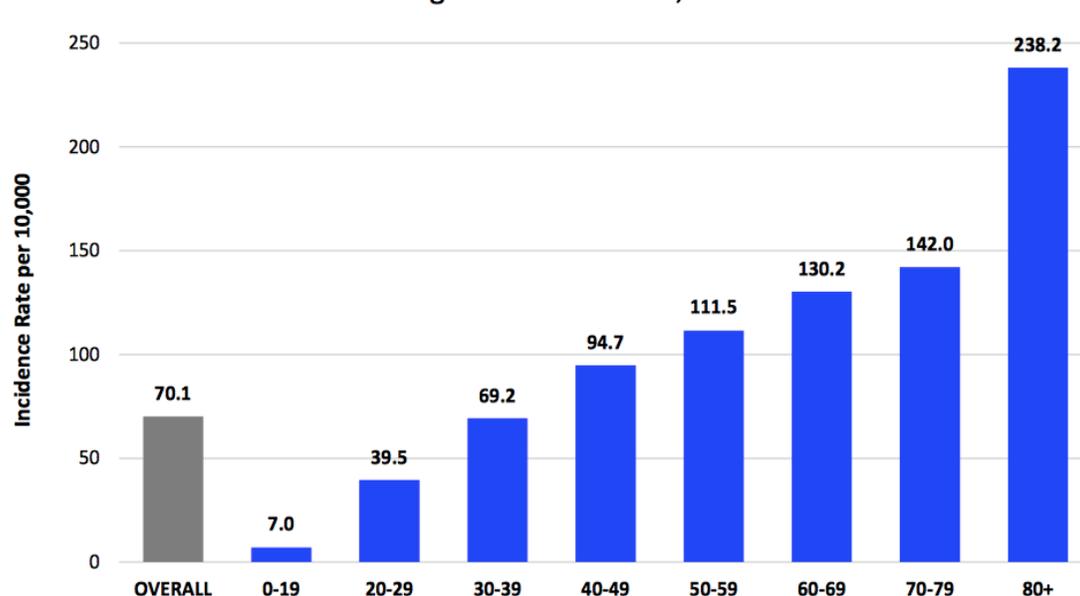
For deaths, though, the numbers were a little more balanced, though still 20 percent of deaths in Boston had no known race.

Whites made up 41 percent (65) of the deaths in Boston, while Black/African Americans made up 31 percent (49). Latino residents had 12 percent of the deaths (19) and Asian residents were at 13 percent (20). There were a total of 196 deaths and 159 of them had a known race or ethnicity.

Particularly concerning was the surging infection rate for those age 80 and over in Boston. That rate nearly doubled in one week and is now at 238.2 per 10,000 residents. The infection rate is above 111.5 per 10,000 for everyone over 50, and the virus seems to be particularly active in those 60 and above.

"There continues to be a low percentage of Boston resident COVID-19 cases under 20 years of age," read the report. "Nearly 35 percent of COVID-19 cases were in persons age 60 years and above. In general, COVID-19 rates increase with age."

Figure 5. Incidence Rates of Reported COVID-19 Cases by Age Among Boston Residents, 2020



DATA SOURCE: Boston Public Health Commission, Boston Surveillance System (Jan 3, 2020 to April 16, 2020, 2:43 pm); U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2018 5-yr estimates (2014-2018)



**EMERGENCY  
ALL BLOOD  
TYPES NEEDED.**

Give now.



American  
Red Cross

# EDITORIAL

## ONCE AGAIN, MASS. IS SHOWING THE WAY

With the launch this past week of the COVID-19 Community Tracing Collaborative (CTC) to mitigate the spread of the coronavirus in Massachusetts, our state once again is taking a leading role at this critical time for our nation.

Massachusetts is the first state to invest in an ambitious contact-tracing program, budgeting \$44 million to hire 1,000 people. Gov. Charlie Baker said the goal of the program is to enable state health officials to identify pockets of infection as they emerge and thereby prevent infected people from spreading the virus further.

If successful, the program will provide government leaders in the coming weeks with the data they need to make meaningful decisions about relaxing our current strict social-distancing measures in order to reopen our economy.

The collaborative effort with Partners In Health will focus on tracing the contacts of confirmed positive COVID-19 patients and supporting individuals who are in quarantine. It will augment the efforts already underway from the state's COVID-19 Response Command Center to assist the contact tracing being done by local boards of health.

Partners In Health will provide staff and contribute technical expertise in community tracing. The Commonwealth Health Insurance Connector Authority will provide a virtual support center and maintain connectivity, while the Massachusetts Department of Health will manage data. Accenture, a professional services company, and Salesforce, a global leader in customer relationship management, are implementing support center capabilities.

We applaud this extraordinary joint effort between state government and private entities. In addition, we urge all of our residents who receive a call from CTC workers to cooperate fully with the program so that our communities can begin to take the offensive against this terrible pandemic.

*The Independent Newspaper Group reserves the right to edit letters for space and clarity. We regret that we cannot publish unsigned letters. Please include your street and telephone number with your submission. The Independent Newspaper Group publishes columns, viewpoints and letters to the editor as a forum for readers to express their opinions and to encourage debate. Please note that the opinions expressed are not necessarily those of The Independent Newspaper Group. Text or attachments emailed to editor@reverejournal.com are preferred.*



# CHARLESTOWN

PATRIOT-BRIDGE

THE CHARLESTOWN PATRIOT-BRIDGE,

PHONE: 617.241.8500 © 2008 INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER GROUP.

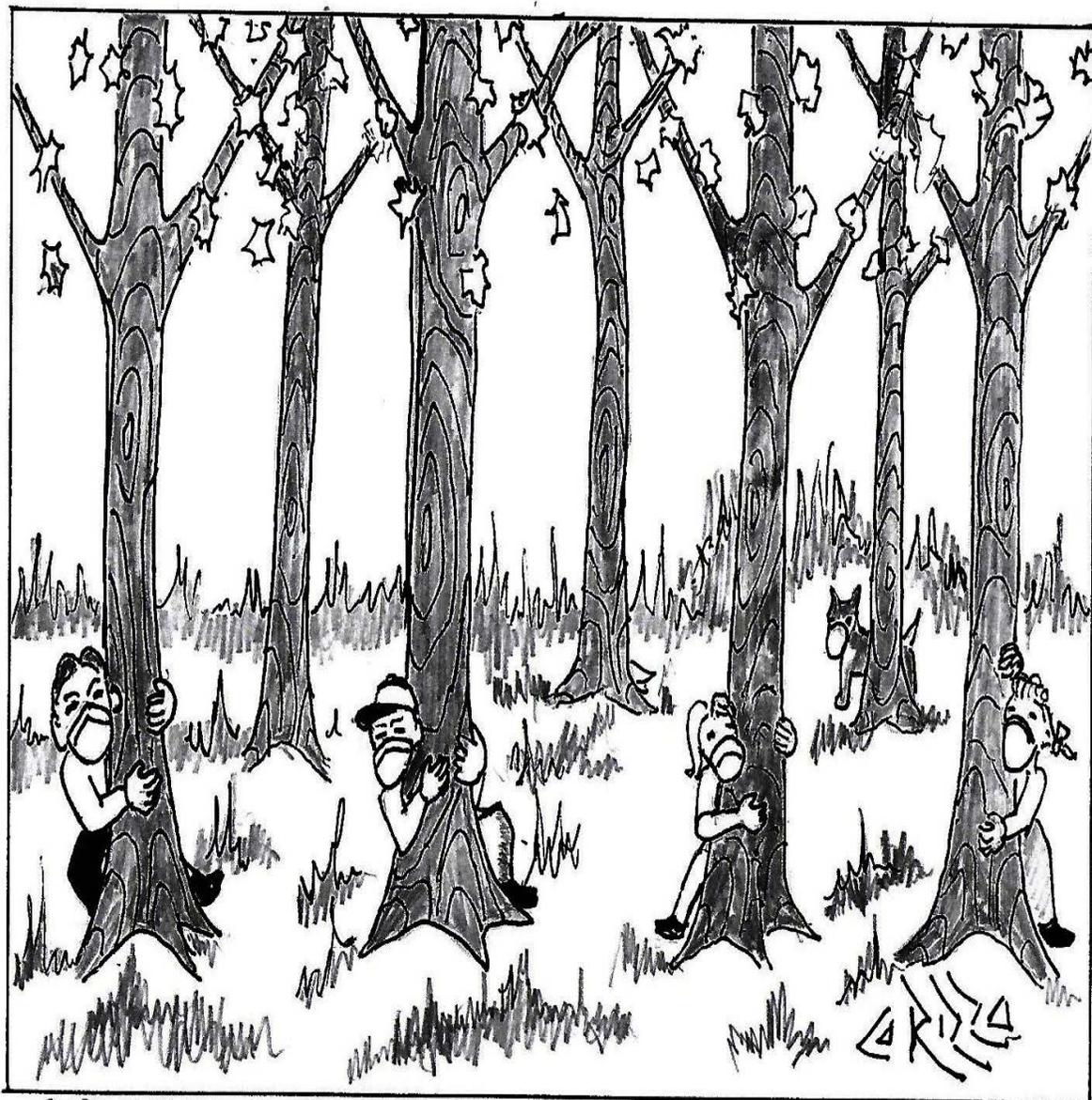
EMAIL: editor@charlestownbridge.com • WEB SITE: www.charlestownbridge.com

NEWSSTAND PRICE: FREE / SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$75 ANNUALLY

PRESIDENT - STEPHEN QUIGLEY - EDITOR@CHARLESTOWNBRIDGE.COM

MARKETING DIRECTOR - DEBRA DIGREGORIO - DEB@REVEREJOURNAL.COM

REPORTER - SETH DANIEL - SETH@REVEREJOURNAL.COM



CELEBRATE ARBOR DAY APR. 24TH AT A DISTANCE

## LETTERS to the Editor

### WE CAN'T DO ALL THIS ALONE

Dear Donor,  
Your local Salvation Army is reaching out to ask for your help, as we provide essential services to more of our neighbors in Chelsea, East Boston, Revere, Charlestown and Winthrop. Your generous donation will help to feed and support families who are struggling now more than ever, given the COVID-19 pandemic. Have you heard about the services the Salvation Army is bringing to the community? allowing CDC Following COVID-19 social distancing and meal preparation guidelines: • Our food pantry and feeding program is now serving

more than 2,000 people per week;  
• Our kitchen is providing more than 700 hot meals per week, and is the only such community program open five days a week; and  
• We are providing more than 900 breakfasts and lunches to children per week.

**But we can't do all this alone!**  
With children home from school and without supplemental school feeding programs, and parents not being able to work, families in our communities are finding it even more challenging to afford food and other necessities. In order to meet the increased demand for our services on an ongoing and uninterrupted basis, our goal is to raise \$20,000 by June 1. To help organizations like ours and our

donors, Congress' recent CARES Act stimulus bill includes a more generous tax deduction for charitable contributions – even for taxpayers not itemizing deductions. Thank you for giving what you can. Stay healthy and safe, and God bless.

Sincerely yours,

Corps Commanding Officers  
Captains Brenda  
and Isael Gonzalez

P.S. Donations can be made online at [www.SalvationArmyMA.org/Chelsea](http://www.SalvationArmyMA.org/Chelsea), or by check made payable to The Salvation Army, 258 Chestnut Street, Chelsea, MA 02150 (Please include "The Salvation Army Chelsea COVID-19 Relief fund" in the memo).

For Advertising Rates, Call 781-485-0588

# RCN Boston partners with iHeartMedia Boston to honor community heroes

RCN Boston, an award-winning and leading provider of fiber and broadband services, announced a partnership with iHeartMedia Boston to honor local community heroes of the coronavirus pandemic.

The partnership was developed to show appreciation during these uncertain times to the people who are working tirelessly to keep the community safe and comfortable. These heroes include medical pro-

fessionals, first responders, delivery service workers, cleaning staff, cooks, teachers, stock clerks and others.

"We are all in this together," said Jeff Carlson, VP and General Manager of RCN Boston. "Highlighting these heroes in the communities in which we live and work is our way of showing our support and appreciation."

iHeartMedia Boston Region President, Alan Chartrand adds,

"There are so many selfless people doing amazing things to help their neighbors. Our hope is to spotlight as many of them as possible. We're thankful that RCN has partnered with iHeartMedia Boston to honor our Community Heroes."

RCN and iHeartMedia Boston are asking for nominations of individuals or organizations who are going above and beyond during these unprecedented times.

Nominations will be accepted through Friday, April 24.

Ten heroes will be selected to receive a \$250 gift card to continue their amazing work for which they are being recognized. The 10 heroes will also be acknowledged on-air on iHeartMedia Boston's eight radio stations and will be highlighted on social media platforms of iHeartMedia Boston and RCN Boston. In addition, four winners who are located in

the RCN Boston service area will be gifted with a six months free Internet, Digital TV and Phone package and accompanying equipment of their choice with a value of up to \$300 per month.

To nominate a community hero visit <https://kiss108.iheart.com/contests/help-us-honor-our-community-heroes-816880/>.

## MGH (from pg. 1)

doesn't become the next New York City. This week, she said there is reason for optimism.

"What we're seeing is interesting," she said on Wednesday morning. "We're calling it a flattening of the cases. What I see is for a number of days we've had the same number of patients in the hospital with COVID-19. We still have a lot of people here with COVID-19, but we have a lot of people with COVID risk or are COVID suspected. There's always a lot of those patients. About half of our patients are in the ICU. It hasn't gone higher lately, but it's still a lot of people. Mass General is clearly the highest in the city."

She said while things are encouraging at the hospital, they are still experiencing heartbreaking circumstances every day with the death of patients, yet are also finding silver linings as some patients successfully come off ventilators.

"What I can say is we've seen some success when people were on a ventilator in the ICU and come off and can go home. One was very public on TV, but we're also seeing death every day."

All of that translates to behaviors in the neighborhood and making sure people follow the social distancing suggestions – the calls to stay home and not go out.

Burke said wearing a mask is a very good idea to prevent the spread of the disease, particularly for those who have COVID-19 or may be asymptomatic carriers who don't know they have it.

Last month, Burke was very concerned about the lack of caution in the Town, but said things have improved in terms of people being serious and careful.

"I think it's been a good idea to have people wear a mask because when you go to CVS or Whole Foods you bump into people," she said. "People have to walk their dogs and do those things. That makes it a good idea to wear a mask. I think what some might forget is by wearing a mask, it's something that's more about protecting others...When I think about Charlestown, I would say a lot of people are great at wearing a mask. One area where Charlestown isn't doing as well is wearing a mask when they're running."

Burke said she has seen people running around the Town and many aren't wearing masks because it is difficult to breathe through the mask – particularly during a run. But, she said, that's exactly when a mask is important because people are breathing more heavily and can't always stay six feet from those they pass by.

"I did see someone running over by BHCC and she had a bandana around her neck and as she approached me, she pulled it up over her face and mouth," said Burke. "That was good...I do understand it's hard to run with a mask. It's a different feeling even if you're used to wearing a mask."

At this stage in the response, Burke said many are waiting for widespread testing of some sort.

There are so many options and it can be confusing, but before everyone can resume social activity, testing will need to be at the forefront.

"There's blood testing now, and we just heard about a test at home that came out," she said. "We have to make sure the reliability and specifications of testing is right. It's probably like the old days of pregnancy testing. Nowadays, you can rely on those tests, but back then you had to really be careful what you were buying."

That is why Burke is warning residents that getting back to our lives might not be as smooth or quick as expected. She said people need to realize that the summer will be about figuring out a new normal, sacrificing a lot of things that people are used to like Little League and restaurants and large celebrations.

"Everyone is worried about going back to normal activities and what it might mean," she said. "Everyone worries we're just going to go back into the summer activities and see another spike in cases. Depending on where you are, it's all about how you do it carefully, continuing to still do social distancing and avoiding large gatherings. People need to keep that piece up and it will be a challenge."

She said she has concerns about Little League and other gatherings that people might want to resume as the summer comes on.

"Little League won't be without parents and coaches," she

said. "We know not many kids get sick with this and those that do have underlying illnesses, but we don't know if they can be carriers and spread it to adults...There's no way to do Little League with social distancing. People will be gathering and hanging out and will they keep physical distance? I doubt it. That's the bigger question. As we go back, how much are we willing to give up this summer?...For myself, there's no way I'm going to be part of large gatherings."

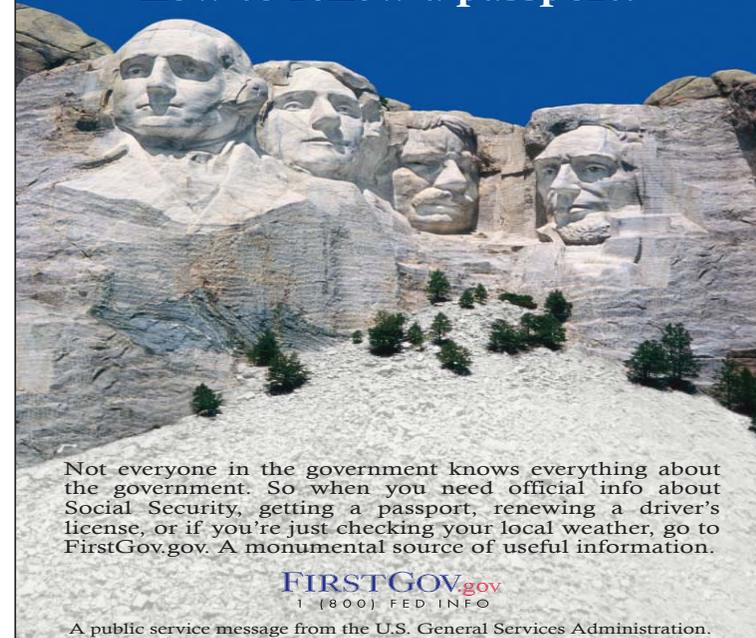
As far as those decisions go – how to open and the current course of decision-making within government, Burke said she was

proud of the governor and the mayor in taking great measures.

She also said the medical community at Mass General has been incredibly encouraged by the support from the public.

"The public has been amazing," she said. "We have restaurants sending us lunch and dinner every day and that's been lovely... We've had nurses come back from retirement to help us out. It's been invaluable. Even when people are afraid, they're coming into work and doing a phenomenal job. To be honest, it's great to be a part of it and it's the most important thing we could be doing right now."

**You'd think at least one of them could tell you how to renew a passport.**



Not everyone in the government knows everything about the government. So when you need official info about Social Security, getting a passport, renewing a driver's license, or if you're just checking your local weather, go to FirstGov.gov. A monumental source of useful information.

**FIRSTGOV.gov**  
1 (800) FED INFO

A public service message from the U.S. General Services Administration.

## Wash Your Hands • Social Distance • Stay Home (if you can)

### We are still here to provide care to the community

including virtual (telephone and soon, video) adult medicine, pediatric, and behavioral health visits. You can also still call our adult and pediatric practices for same-day urgent in-person visits when necessary.

Hours: Mon – Fri 8:30 – 5pm



**MGH Charlestown HealthCare Center**

73 High Street

617 -724-8135

[www.massgeneral.org/charlestown](http://www.massgeneral.org/charlestown)

# Gardens for Charlestown celebrates baby bunnies on Main Street

By Seth Daniel

Nothing is worse for lettuce than baby bunnies, but few things are as adorable and charming as seeing the little scoundrels being born and nesting.

Gardeners have a love/hate relationship with rabbits, but for a family of newborn rabbits in the Gardens for Charlestown plots on Main Street, it's been all love.

"We get a fair amount of furry friends in the garden, but this is the first time we've really had rabbits nesting in the plots," said Heather Repicky, communications coordinator for the Gardens. "One of gardeners came out to prepare the plot for the summer and came across what turned out to be a big nest. He discovered it about two weeks ago and we just tried to leave them be...They're

adorable. They're very, very cute menaces."

Repicky said the rabbits seemed to have grown up quickly, which is common for them. As soon as they opened their eyes and had their full fur, they were out of the nest and on their own. She said they have been around too.

"They're still in the Garden and we have seen them around," she said. "We have plenty of furry friends in the Gardens and we'll have three more now."

As the rabbits have become comfortable in the Gardens, so too have gardeners, who have been practicing social distancing as they prepare their plots and get fresh air.

"It's very nice to have a little green space in the fresh air," she said. "We have some guidelines on how to garden during COVID-19.

We're using protocols in line with the governor's and mayor's directives in terms of social distancing. Our garden is open and gardeners are tending to their plots. We're starting to get into the season when planting happens and we'll probably have more activity coming up.

"We've actually been encouraging people to come to the Garden to enjoy fresh air and the spring flowers that are at the garden as long as they practice social distancing," she continued.

Already some gardeners have planted lettuce and peas, as they grow in colder months. Some have prepared their summer tomatoes and other vegetables from seedlings at home, and once the weather warms, Repicky said they would be likely be planting.



The Gardens for Charlestown is one place where outdoor activity can be done with social distancing, and many are already starting to work their plots. This month, one lucky gardener got to witness the birth and nesting of three bunnies.

BOSTON BANKING SINCE 1898

# We're still here for you.

As COVID-19 continues to change the way we live, our commitment to our customers and communities remains unchanged. While business is anything but usual, we will continue to provide unmatched, personalized service.

CHARLESTOWN | JAMAICA PLAIN | ROSLINDALE | WEST ROXBURY  
Coming Soon

thecooperativebank.com

EQUAL HOUSING MEMBER MEMBER  
LENDER DIF FDIC



## Kennedy officially on September ballot for U.S. Senate

Massachusetts Secretary of State William Galvin's office confirmed April 15 that Congressman Joe Kennedy III will appear on the ballot for U.S. Senate in September.

After months of collecting signatures across the Commonwealth, the Kennedy for MA campaign received final confirmation that

they had reached the 10,000 signature requirement to get on the ballot. The campaign had submitted more than 15,000 signatures to local town and city clerks.

Kennedy signed the final nomination sheet from his home in Newton on Wednesday.



Congressman Joe Kennedy III signing the final nomination paper sheet on the porch of his home last week. He was notified he will appear on the September Primary Election ballot for U.S. Senate.

Fourth Anniversary

### Brian P. Hingston

"Our Hero"

4-17-16

4-17-20



The Gentleman Brian

Many good things happening in your family.  
You would be so proud of their accomplishments,  
Just what you wanted for them, with their Mom's guidance.  
In our hearts we believe you walk with us.

You are our "Special Angel"

Love

Your Family - The Hingstons

Visit [www.charlestownbridge.com](http://www.charlestownbridge.com)

ADVERTISE IN  
COLOR!  
More than 10 MILLION to  
choose from!!

# City uses mobile loud-speaker messages in multiple languages to get COVID-19 message out

Staff Report

On Saturday at noon, the City deployed seven Boston Public Works trucks with sound equipment to broadcast a message about COVID-19: stay home as much as you can, wash your hands often, cover your face when out, and keep your distance from others.

The message was broadcast in seven languages, depending on the community, including: English, Spanish, Haitian Creole, Vietnamese, Arabic, Somali, and Cabo Verdean Creole.

“This weekend we are launching new tactics to get the message out in the places that we know are hardest hit,” said Mayor Walsh on Saturday morning. “We need everyone to know that we are in

a public health emergency and we need everyone to do their part. We also continue to work on expanding access to testing for our residents, because every community deserves full access to the level of testing and communication that meets the needs they have.”

The trucks will be deployed to the neighborhoods that have COVID-19 rates higher than the rest of Boston, including Hyde Park, Mattapan, Dorchester, East Boston, Roxbury and Roslindale. According to the latest data from the Boston Public Health Commission, Hyde Park had 413 reported cases of COVID-19, Mattapan had 298, Dorchester had 1,274, East Boston had 410, Roxbury had 335, and Roslindale had 302.

The City is phone banking essential small businesses and will be providing posters in multiple languages that ask customers to cover their faces and practice distancing. The City is also putting up on street signs and other infrastructure.

During the weekend of March 21, a thousand City of Boston employees and volunteers delivered printed information on COVID-19 to all homes in Boston. The pamphlet outlined details about the virus, a list of preventative measures to mitigate the spread, and a compilation of city resources, including food access sites, in: English, Spanish, Haitian Creole, Chinese, Vietnamese, Cabo Verdean Creole and Russian. The City has been delivering literature



City workers outfitting Public Works trucks with sound speakers. The trucks began driving through neighborhoods considered ‘hot spots’ over the weekend and will continue this week.

in multiple languages to essential businesses.

Residents who have questions are encouraged to call 311 to be connected with a telephonic interpreter, or through the Mayor’s

Health Line at (617) 534-5050. Updates in 10 languages can additionally be accessed through [boston.gov/coronavirus#multilingual-help](http://boston.gov/coronavirus#multilingual-help).

**PAUL W. MARKS CO., INC.**  
 QUALITY **M** SERVICE  
 CHEESE • BUTTER • EGGS • FINE FOODS  
**Now available for curbside contactless pick up**  
 see our website for details:  
[www.paulwmarks.com](http://www.paulwmarks.com)  
 8 Commercial St. Everett MA



**YOU ARE NOT ALONE!**  
 For assistance with a government agency or other questions during the COVID-19 shutdown please contact my office 617-722-2370, and press #2  
 Or email: [Dan.Ryan@MAhouse.gov](mailto:Dan.Ryan@MAhouse.gov)



**Mammograms Save Lives.**

All women over 40 should have a mammogram once a year. Breast cancer found early offers the best chance to be cured. Free or low cost mammograms are available.

For more information and answers to any of your cancer questions, contact us any time, day or night.

[www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org)  
 1.800.ACS.2345



**STAY IN AND TAKE OUT**  
**HELP LOCAL BUSINESSES WHILE STAYING IN**

**Deliveries ★ Takeouts ★ Home Services**  
 During this crisis, here are some Charlestown resources.

Consider taking out an ad to and to promote your business at this time, there are many people in Charlestown who do not go online and use the newspaper for most of their neighborhood information.

**WE'RE OFFERING THIS SPECIAL PAGE AS A RESOURCE FOR ALL SERVICES IN TOWN THAT PEOPLE MIGHT NEED WHILE STAYING IN. FULL-PRINT EDITION WILL BE AVAILABLE ONLINE THURSDAY**

**THE SPECIAL IS A 2-COLUMN-BY-3-INCH AD FOR 2 WEEKS FOR \$80**  
 Please reach out with any questions, deadline for *Thursday April 30* is *Tuesday April 28 at noon*  
 Call 781-485-0588 or reply to this email

**Angell is Open!**  
 Providing Essential Veterinary Services



**EMERGENCY SERVICES & URGENT CARE** Boston & Waltham are open 24/7. Our primary care & specialty services are available for patients with non-life threatening but urgent issues. 617-522-7282

**ON-SITE SPECIALTY CONSULTS & TELEMEDICINE** Most of Angell’s specialists are available to consult on your pet’s case while your pet is at Angell or to facilitate phone or video appointments. Visit [angell.org](http://angell.org).

**PHARMACY** Prescriptions for Angell patients are available by curbside pick-up or mail (shipping fees apply). Submit prescription requests at [angell.org/pharmacy](http://angell.org/pharmacy) or call 617-524-5700.

**REFERRAL SERVICES** We are now welcoming a limited number of referral cases in Boston & Waltham.

  
[angell.org](http://angell.org)  
 Angell Animal Medical Center | 350 S. Huntington Ave, Boston | 617-522-7282  
 MSPCA-Angell West | 293 Second Ave, Waltham | 781-902-8400

For more information, please visit [angell.org/COVID](http://angell.org/COVID) or call 617-522-7282.

# City publishes mapping tool, chart for testing sites in Boston

Staff Report

Mayor Martin J. Walsh and the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) on Monday launched a new mapping tool to help Boston residents find locations offering COVID-19 testing. The City of Boston is partnering with community health centers to increase access to testing, particularly in neighborhoods experiencing higher rates of COVID-19.

“Every community deserves full access to COVID-19 testing. We will continue to work to expand access to testing for all residents across Boston, particularly our hardest hit communities,” said Mayor Walsh. “Access to neighborhood-based testing will help us quickly identify cases, and get people the care and support needed to recover and prevent the further spread of COVID-19.”

According to the latest data from the Boston Public Health Commission, Hyde Park had 413

reported cases of COVID-19, Mattapan had 298, Dorchester had 1,274, East Boston had 410, Roxbury had 335, Roslindale had 302, and the South End had 372.

The map is available on [boston.gov/coronavirus](http://boston.gov/coronavirus) and [bphc.org/coronavirus](http://bphc.org/coronavirus). Residents are asked to call ahead for pre-screening and to schedule an appointment. Residents can click on the interactive map to find the testing center with hours, address and contact information. It will be updated as new sites become available for testing.

Testing is free regardless of insurance or immigration status. Residents are encouraged to call the Mayor’s Health Line at (617) 534-5050 to help with health insurance applications, navigating Boston’s health care system, and with COVID-19 questions.

Last week, Mayor Walsh and the Resiliency Fund Steering Committee announced additional funds for organizations that pro-

vide critical services and support to residents, vulnerable populations and Boston families whose wellbeing is most immediately impacted by the COVID-19 public health emergency.

The East Boston Community Health Center received funding in the first round of fund distribution and will be expanding their testing to East Boston clients, in addition to first responders. Six community health centers in neighborhoods seeing higher incidences of COVID-19 to expand their testing capabilities for residents, including:

- Bowdoin Street Community Health Center
- Codman Square Community Health Center
- DotHouse Health
- Mattapan Community Health Center
- Uphams Corner Community Health Center
- Whittier Street Community Health Center

TESTING FACILITY	ADDRESS	CONTACT
Codman Square Health Center	637 Washington Street Dorchester, MA 02124	(617) 822-8271
The Dimock Center	55 Dimock Street Roxbury, MA 02119	(617) 442-8800
DotHouse Health	1353 Dorchester Avenue Dorchester, MA 02122	(617) 740-2292
Harvard Street Neighborhood Health Center	632 Blue Hill Avenue Dorchester, MA 02121	(617) 825-3400
Mattapan Community Health Center	1575 Blue Hill Avenue Mattapan, MA 02126	(617) 296-0061
Whittier Street Health Center	1290 Tremont Street Roxbury, MA 02120	(617) 427-1000
East Boston Neighborhood Health Center	10 Gove Street East Boston, MA 02128	(617) 569-5800
Upham's Corner Health Center	415 Columbia Road Dorchester, MA 02125	(617) 388-5007
Bowdoin Street Health Center	230 Bowdoin Street Dorchester, MA 02122	(617) 754-0100
Brigham and Women's Faulkner Community Physicians at Hyde Park	1337 Hyde Park Avenue Hyde Park, MA 02136	(617) 364-9880
Brigham and Women's Hospital (Boston main campus)	75 Francis Street Boston, MA 02115	(617) 732-5500
Carney Hospital	2100 Dorchester Avenue Dorchester, MA 02124	(617) 296-4000
Massachusetts General Hospital	55 Fruit Street Boston, MA 02114	(617) 726-2000
St. Elizabeth Medical Center	736 Cambridge Street Brighton, MA 02135	(617) 789-3000
Tufts Medical Center	800 Washington Street Boston, MA 02111	(617) 636-7216

## SCHOOLS (from pg. 1)

considering the facts on the ground associated with the COVID-19 pandemic,” Baker said. He said that due to the lack of “authoritative guidance” about how to safely get kids to and from school and safely operate schools, “we believe students therefore cannot safely return to school and avoid the risk of transmitting the virus to others.”

To all high school seniors who were looking forward to end of year activities like trips and the prom, Baker said: “Keep your heads up...we’ll get through this pandemic together.”

Lt. Governor Karyn Polito also had a message for high school seniors.

“You lived a lot, you’ve had great times, you’ve learned a lot and you’re ready to that the next step in your life,” she said, “and there’s no doubt in my mind that the creativity of your superintendent, your principal, and your parents will make sure that the milestone that you’ve achieved will be celebrated and will be honored.”

Boston Supt. Brenda Cassellius said it was about the health and well-being of families first, and also that online learning will continue vigorously after the April Vacation this week.

“The health and well-being of Boston Public Schools students,

families, and staff will always be our first priority,” she said. “I appreciate Governor Baker’s decision to keep schools closed through the remainder of the school year, even as he acknowledged the challenges an extended closure creates for students and families across the Commonwealth. BPS remains committed to providing equitable and meaningful learning opportunities for our students and has been developing plans to expand and improve upon our ongoing remote learning efforts. Nothing is more important to us than our students, and we will remain unwavering in our efforts to ensure they get what they need for their health, safety, and continued learning.”

In Charlestown, it might have been the first time that school was cancelled and young students were tremendously disappointed. While most knew the decision was coming, many had hopes they might be able to go back and enjoy seeing their friends for a short time before getting out.

“We know that this additional time out of the building will allow BPS the time needed to determine how to operate schools safely and keep our community safe,” said Becky Adamonis, president of the Harvard Kent Parents Association. “The Harvard-Kent building may be closed, but the HK community

is still together and available to help any family who has a need or is struggling. The efforts of the teachers and staff to provide the strongest distance learning opportunities for all Harvard-Kent students has been impressive and I know that will continue through the end of the school year. With the addition of 6th grade for next year, all students will be coming back for the 2020-21 school year and it will be the best one yet.”

That was echoed by Harvard Kent Principal Jason Gallagher, who said it was a bummer, but the right decision.

“I am definitely bummed out that we will not be back in school the remainder of the 2019-20 school year, but I understand why the Governor made this decision,” he said. “We miss seeing all our kids and families in person. I am lucky to be working with an incredible, dedicated Harvard-Kent staff who I know will continue to do everything they can to make distance learning a positive experience for all our students. I am already looking forward to making the 2020-21 school year the best school year ever for our students. They deserve it.”

The Warren Prescott Parents Association also agreed it was the right thing to do, and though it can be difficult trying to coordi-

nate online learning, it was not safe to try to go back.

“It’s the right decision,” said Marne Esselman. “Governor Baker, Mayor Walsh, Dan Ryan, and Sal DiDomenico - have been appropriately measured in all their decisions regarding COVID-19 and I trust them. Obviously no one wants to be in this situation, but children don’t fully grasp social distancing and expecting one teacher to police 25 some odd students to adhere to it, and teach at the same time, would be impossible. I have faith in BPS, especially the Warren Prescott and Harvard Kent, to pick up in the fall and make sure that everyone is on the right track.”

At the Eliot K-8 in the North End, Principal Traci Griffiths said they understand the closure can be a challenge, but it was to protect the city’s most vulnerable from an outbreak.

“We are truly grateful for the unwavering commitment of our Eliot community over the past five weeks,” she said. “We all recognize that the extended school closure is challenging and unprecedented, especially to our city’s most vulnerable populations. Access and equity is always at the forefront of the work we do at The Eliot. It is mission critical that our plan is flexible to accommodate the

different needs our students and families without creating additional undue stress. Given all these unique circumstances, our staff is working tirelessly to support and educate all of our students. We will continue to collaborate with families and students to provide continuity, coherence and connection in our virtual learning journey. At The Eliot and in Boston we know we are always stronger together.”

Lt. Gov. Polito thanked the superintendents, parents, principals, educators, and students for helping the administration “arrive at what we know is the right decision at this point in time.”

Polito urged students to continue learning using the remote tools provided to them by their teachers, and to not take this announcement as meaning that “school’s out for summer.” She also encouraged them to stay in touch with their friends via technology, and continue to exercise and participate in hobbies from home.

She also said that “now is the time” to “lean in, embrace it, and do the best you can, not only for yourself, but to encourage your peers, and, to when the last day of the school year arrives, feel like you’ve accomplished something...”

# BPDA authorizes rent deferral for qualified commercial tenants

The Boston Planning & Development Agency (BPDA) Board on April 16 authorized the agency to enter into rent deferral agreements to support the small and large businesses that occupy BPDA-owned properties and have been impacted by the COVID-19 public health emergency.

“BPDA’s tenants are many of the small, local businesses that fuel Boston’s economy and employ hundreds of Boston’s residents,” said BPDA Director Brian Golden. “It is critical that we support these tenants during this incredibly challenging period while also working to maintain the agency’s financial solvency that funds our planning and economic development func-

tions.”

Following conversations with BPDA tenants beginning in mid-March, on April 3 the BPDA provided tenants with an application for needs-based rent deferral. The BPDA is currently reviewing applications for rent deferral. The BPDA will review deferral requests for payments due in April 2020 through June 2020, and will seek authorization for an extension if necessary.

The BPDA Real Estate Department oversees 13 million square feet of real estate assets spanning Boston’s neighborhoods. The BPDA manages its properties with the intent to guide inclusive economic growth for the City of Boston. The two largest hold-

ings are the Charlestown Navy Yard and the Raymond L. Flynn Marine Park (RLFMP) in South Boston. The BPDA leases commercial and industrial space at 12 Channel Street in the RLFMP and the China Trade Building at 2 Boylston St.

The BPDA April Board meeting was held virtually in response to guidance to protect members of the public, staff, and BPDA Board members in light of the COVID-19 public health emergency. The Board did not vote on any Article 80 development projects or hold any public hearings. In addition to the rent deferral vote, the Board voted to:

- Utilize the BPDA’s Urban Renewal powers to allow the

renovation of City Hall Plaza, located within an Urban Renewal area on BPDA-owned land, to move forward. Led by the City of Boston’s Public Facilities Department, the renovation will create a Plaza that is welcoming and accessible for all residents and visitors. To learn more about the renovation of City Hall Plaza.

- Install a permanent marker on Long Wharf to commemorate the slaves who came through Boston during the Middle Passage stage of the Triangular Trade. The marker will be installed by the National Park Service (NPS), and is funded jointly between NPS and the Edward Ingersoll Browne fund. The marker has been publicly endorsed by com-

munity partners, including the Middle Passage Ceremonies and Port Markers Project, former State Representative Byron Rushing, the Museum of African American History and the Boston Art Commission.

In response to COVID-19, the BPDA has postponed all BPDA-hosted public meetings for Article 80 development projects and planning initiatives until further notice. While projects will continue to be reviewed internally by BPDA staff, the public review process is on hold until public meetings can be resumed. Additionally, open comment periods will be extended until the public review process resumes.

## State announces distribution of PPE to all emergency responders in Massachusetts

Gov. Charlie Baker on April 17 announced the distribution of approximately 200,000 respirator masks for all local law enforcement officers and firefighters to ensure they have the protective equipment during the COVID-19 crisis.

These FDA-approved respirator masks will be distributed to all local law enforcement officers, including sheriffs and college and university police, and firefighters starting today through a coordinated effort by the COVID-19 Response Command Center and the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA). Emergency Medical Service (EMS) providers are continuing to receive these types of masks and other PPE.

To facilitate quick distribution of these masks, MEMA is employing a regional point of distribution (POD) model where communities can pick up their supply of masks at their designated MEMA POD. These POD sites are open and have already distributed tens of thousands of masks to first responders.

This new distribution will ensure that local law enforcement and firefighters will have five respirator masks each, equivalent to a one month’s supply. Including

conservation methods currently being used by some organizations, this will provide each individual a mask per week and a spare, allowing the mask to dry overnight and reuse for up to one week.

The Baker-Polito Administration and its COVID-19 Response Command Center continue to prioritize the procurement and distribution of personal protective equipment for front-line workers during the COVID-19 pandemic. As of yesterday, the Commonwealth has delivered over four million pieces of PPE statewide. This includes over 2.3 million gloves, over 370,000 masks from the “AirKraft” shipment, almost 190,000 gowns and 380 ventilators.

The following PPE distributions as of April 17 went to municipalities of facilities in the area, including:

### MUNICIPALITIES

- March 24 – Revere: 200 Masks, 100 Gowns.
- March 27 – Chelsea: 500 Masks, 3,600 Gloves, 4 Shields.
- April 1 – Boston: 5,600 Gloves.
- April 5 – Chelsea: 600 Masks, 200 Gowns.
- April 5 – Boston: 4,500 Masks (Kraft), 10,000 Masks, 35,500 Gloves, 200 Goggles.

- April 6 – Chelsea Board of Health: 1,500 Masks.

- April 7 – Winthrop: 5,000 Gloves, 300 Gowns.

- April 11 – Chelsea Welsh Funeral Home: 10 Masks, 10 Shields.

- April 11 – Boston: 4,000 Masks, 16,600 Gloves, 2,950 Gowns, 2,946 Shields.

- April 13 – Chelsea: 200 Shields.

- April 13 – Winthrop: 300 Masks, 300 Shields.

- April 14 – Chelsea: 200 Shields.

- April 16 – Chelsea/Revere Quality Inn Shelter: 200 Masks, 500 Gloves, 200 Gowns.

- April 16 – Everett: 4,400 Masks, 100 Gowns, 125 Goggles. FACILITIES, NURSING HOMES, HOSPITALS

- March 29 – Chelsea Jewish Life Care (CJLC): 120 Masks (Kraft), 90 Gowns.

- March 30 – Chelsea Leonard Florence: 30 Gowns, 90 Shields.

- March 30 – Chelsea Katzman Family Center: 60 Gowns, 192 Shields.

- April 3 – CHA Everett Hospital: 300 Gowns.

- April 4 – East Boston Neighborhood Health Center: 120 KN95 Masks, 1,500 Masks, 2,000 Gloves, 120 Gowns, 314 Shields.

- April 4 – Rehab and Nursing of Everett: 1,000 Masks, 120 Gowns.

- April 4 – Chelsea Jewish Life Care: 1,000 Masks (Kraft).

- April 4 – CHA Everett Hospital: 1,000 Masks (Kraft).

- April 4 – East Boston Neighborhood Health: 1,000 Masks (Kraft).

- April 5 – Boston EMS: 5,000 Masks (Kraft).

- April 5 – Chelsea Katzman Family Center: 1,000 Masks (Kraft).

- April 5 – Chelsea Leonard Florence: 1,000 Masks (Kraft).

- April 7 – Chelsea Katzman

Family Center: 120 Gowns.

- April 9 – South Boston Convention Center Hospital: 420 KN95 Masks, 4,500 Masks, 25,000 Gloves, 10,002 Gowns.

- April 13 – CHA Everett Hospital: 1,000 Coveralls, 300 Gowns.

- April 15 – Chelsea Katzman Family Center: 480 KN95 Masks, 1,000 Masks, 12 Coveralls, 60 Gowns.

- April 17 – Chelsea Eastpointe Home: 2,000 Masks, 100 Coveralls, 420 Shields.

### VENTILATORS

- Boston Medical Center, 28
- Beth Israel Medical Center, 23
- Cambridge Health Alliance, 19

- Lahey Hospital & Medical Center, 18

- Tufts Medical Center, 15
- Brigham & Women’s Hospital, 15

- Melrose Wakefield Hospital, 13

- Mass General Hospital, 5

## 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

04/14/20 – A victim on Starr King Court reported he received a notification that a package had been delivered to his home, but when he went to get it, the package was gone.

### Larceny- Building

04/15/20 – A victim on First Avenue reported she left her iPhone in the ladies’ room, but

when she returned to retrieve it, the phone was gone.

### Breaking and Entering – Motor Vehicle

04/16/20 – A victim on Bunker Hill Street reported when she went to her car, she observed a male suspect inside the vehicle holding her sunglasses. Upon noticing the victim, the suspect dropped the glasses and fled down Bunker

Hill Street towards Monument Square.

### Larceny- Building

04/20/20 – A victim on Park Street reported unknown person(s) entered her apartment and stole \$185 U.S. currency, as well as her identification. Building management was notified and said they would investigate the matter.



**FIX IT**  
Keep the nation in peak condition. Learn to be a mechanic in the Army National Guard and receive money for college.

GET UP TO A \$10,000 ENLISTMENT BONUS IF YOU QUALIFY

**NATIONAL GUARD**  
ARMY YOU CAN

**I-800-GO-GUARD • www.I-800-GO-GUARD.com**

# NEIGHBORHOOD ROUND UP

## FREE WELLNESS FOR HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

ASANA Charlestown is now offering free live-streamed Yoga, Meditation, and Barre classes to Health Care Providers. The virtual studio's aim is to offer a new way for people to sustain their wellness practices from home. If you or someone you know would like more information on this initiative, please visit [www.asanacharlestown.com/health-care](http://www.asanacharlestown.com/health-care).

## HARVEST ON VINE FOOD PANTRY APPEAL

The Food Pantry has had a great need for cereal to include in its distribution. At this time donations of all non-perishable foods are also greatly appreciated. Donations drops are: Food Pantry, 49 Vine St. (Hayes Square), The Cooperative Bank - 201 Main St. or the Parish Center - 46 Winthrop St. (by the Training Field). Or donate by sending checks to: Harvest on Vine, Parish Center, 46

Winthrop St., Charlestown, MA 02129. They are also looking for volunteers to assist with distribution. For more information, call Tom MacDonald 617-990-7314.

## THE CHARLESTOWN BOYS & GIRLS CLUB CLOSED

The Charlestown Boys & Girls Club will be closed until further notice.

## APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE FOR CMA SCHOLARSHIPS

The Charlestown Mothers Association is pleased to offer up to \$15,000 in college scholarships, to men and women who have been residents of Charlestown for at least five years, and will be attending college full-time this fall. The amount of each scholarship awarded will be determined by the CMA Scholarship Committee. Last year, the CMA awarded 10 scholarships. Copies of the application are available at the "Scholarship" tab on the CMA website, [www.charlestownmothersassociation.org](http://www.charlestownmothersassociation.org), and also at the Charlestown Branch Library at the circulation desk. The completed application is due by April 24.

## VIRTUAL TOURS OF USS CONSTITUTION CHANGED TO 10 A.M.

USS Constitution is hosting daily live tours via Facebook Live at 10 a.m. At this time, no Sailors assigned to USS Constitution have tested positive for COVID-19, and USS Constitution is following all preventative guidance from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Department of the Defense and Navy leadership. At this time, USS Constitution's crew has hosted 20 virtual tours, and they have been viewed by more

than 500,000 people. The virtual tours are available at [www.facebook.com/ussconstitutionofficial](http://www.facebook.com/ussconstitutionofficial). During the virtual tours, the ship's active-duty Sailors take viewers through the ship, to include several areas normally closed to the public, and provide an opportunity to ask live questions. The USS Constitution Museum serves as the memory and educational voice of USS Constitution by collecting, preserving, and interpreting the stories of "Old Ironsides" and those associated with her. The Museum has temporarily closed in response to the coronavirus public health emergency and will reassess the situation at the end of March 2020. To serve students and the public who are working remotely, the Museum is providing complimentary access to additional content on its digital platforms. For more information, visit [www.usscm.org](http://www.usscm.org).

## CHARLESTOWN GIRLS SOFTBALL UPDATE!

Charlestown Girls softball is looking for Spring season players in divisions 8u, 10u and 12u. Also, Summer season is planned to start at the end of June, seeking players for 10u, 12u, 14u and 18u. If you have questions or concerns, contact Jack Schievink at 617-201-4507 or Billy Nugent at 617-447-3106 or via email at [charlestown-girlssoftball@gmail.com](mailto:charlestown-girlssoftball@gmail.com).

## For the Record

•Warren-Prescott School Dates: School has been canceled until May 4.

•Harvard-Kent School Dates: School has been canceled until May 4.

### BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS:

The City of Boston, in partnership with Project Bread, YMCA of Greater Boston, Boston Centers for Youth and Families, and other community organizations, has served over 100,000 meals since schools have closed, averaging 13,000 meals per day.

Free breakfast and lunch will be provided throughout the school closure including April 21-24 (April vacation).

Meal Distribution sites in Charlestown and the North End:

•Charlestown High School -240 Medford St, 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

•Kennedy Center - 55 Bunker Hill St, 8 a.m. - noon

•BCYF Nazarro - 30 N Bennet St. (North End), 9 a.m. - noon

### •CONSTRUCTION

Due to the public health emergency caused by the spread of COVID-19, Mayor Walsh announced that he is extending the City of Boston's order to pause non-essential construction for City of Boston permitted sites. The initial order announced on March 16 was set for 14 days and will now continue until further notice.

### HELP COVID19 EFFORTS

•Stay home. If you must go outside, practice physical distancing from others (6 feet apart); avoid crowded places.

•Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds; use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol; avoid shaking hands

•Cover your coughs and sneezes; clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces; and avoid close contact with people who are sick.

•If you think you might be sick, please call your doctor or 311 to be connected to the Mayor's Health Line 617-534-5050. Buoy Health has created a free online diagnostic tool which screens for COVID19 at [buoy.com/mass](http://buoy.com/mass).

•Donate supplies to first responders.

•Donate to the City of Boston Resiliency Fund.

•Volunteer with the City of Boston.

•Fill out the 2020 Census. The Census informs how billions of dollars in federal funds will be

allocated by state, local and federal lawmakers annually for the next 10 years. It's more critical than ever to ensure that all Bostonians are counted.

From the April 22, 10 a.m., Council Committee on Government Operations meeting, virtual meeting via Zoom:

The Committee on Government Operations will hold a working session on Docket #0232, order regarding a text amendment for the Boston Zoning Code Relative to Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing. The Chair of the Committee and Sponsor of the docket is Councilor Lydia Edwards.

From the April 23 Council Ways and Means Committee Budget Working Session:

•10 a.m. Public Facilities Department.

•1 p.m. Law Department, the Mayor's Office of Tourism, Sports & Entertainment, and the Mayor's Office of Arts & Culture.

From the April 28 Council Ways and Means Committee Budget Working Session (via Zoom online meeting):

•11a.m. The focus of this working session is the Public Works Department (PWD), the Transportation Department (BTD), the Library Department (BPL), Boston Centers for Youth & Families (BCYF), Youth Engagement & Employment, and the BCYF revolving fund.

From the April 30 Council Ways and Means Committee Budget Working Session (via Zoom online meeting):

•11 a.m. The focus of this working session is the Office of Economic Development (OED) and the Boston Equity Fund.

### •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.

## SERVICE DIRECTORY

**JOHN J. RECCA PAINTING**  
Interior/Exterior  
Commercial/Residential  
Fully Insured  
Quality Work  
Reasonable Rates  
Free Estimates  
[reccapainting@hotmail.com](mailto:reccapainting@hotmail.com)  
781-241-2454

**JOHN P. McHugh Electric**  
Licensed & insured  
Complete electrical services  
[www.johnpmchughelectric.com](http://www.johnpmchughelectric.com)  
[Jmchugh447@gmail.com](mailto:Jmchugh447@gmail.com)  
617-320-7703

**Geek For Hire**  
Computer consultant available for home or business.  
SERVICES INCLUDE:  
• PC support & networking of all types with focus on secure Internet access (wired & wireless),  
• broadband router & firewall technology,  
• virus detection/prevention,  
• spam control & data security/recovery.  
 617-241-9664  
617-515-2933

**Ryan Masonry**  
Chimneys • Fireplaces  
Cellar Floors • Restoration  
French Drains • Repointing  
Free Estimates, Lic. & Ins.  
Local References  
Phil • 617-230-3490

# U.S. Attorney Urges Health Care Sector to Report Fraud Related to the COVID-19 Pandemic

As part of the comprehensive federal response to the COVID-19 outbreak, United States Attorney Andrew E. Lelling is urging leadership at Massachusetts hospitals to report individuals and companies that may be engaged in wrongdoing related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In a letter to leadership at Massachusetts hospitals, U.S. Attorney Lelling encouraged health care facilities to report to federal authorities individuals and companies that may have acquired vital medical supplies in excess of what they would reasonably use, or for the purpose of charging exorbitant prices. This includes 15 categories of health and medical supplies designated by the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) as "scarce,"

thus triggering civil and criminal enforcement remedies that the U.S. Attorney's Office will pursue. In addition, the U.S. Attorney's Office will investigate any other fraudulent conduct designed to benefit from the pandemic (e.g., false treatments, tests, and/or vaccinations for COVID-19).

"In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, my office is prioritizing the investigation and prosecution of wrongdoing related to the COVID-19 pandemic, including those engaged in hoarding and/or price-gouging with regard to critical medical supplies," said United States Attorney Lelling. "These practices are not only morally repugnant in light of the pandemic but also, if left unchecked, will inhibit hospitals, physicians, other health care professionals, and gov-

ernment agencies from fully implementing measures designed to save lives and mitigate the spread of the novel coronavirus."

U.S. Attorney Lelling named Amanda Strachan, Chief of the Health Care Fraud Unit, as the COVID-19 Fraud Coordinator for the District of Massachusetts.

Massachusetts residents who believe they are victims of fraud or other criminal activity related to the pandemic should contact the United States Attorney's Office at USAMA.victimassistance@usdoj.gov or call 1-888-221-6023 and leave a message. Members of the public can also contact the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) by visiting www.IC3.gov. If you or someone you know are in immediate danger, please call 911.

## OBITUARIES

### William "Owen" Olenik

US Navy veteran of WWII

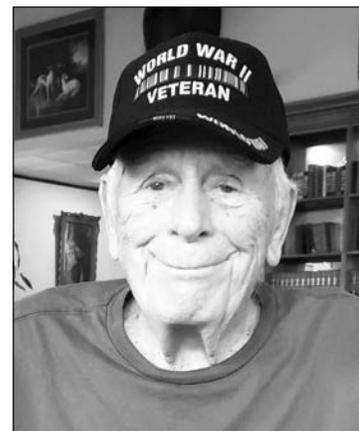


William "Owen" Olenik of Revere, 93, died on April 18 at Boston VA Medical Center due to complications caused by Covid-19.

William was born in Charlestown to William Olenik and Hazel (Webb) Olenik and raised in Charlestown. He was a U.S. Navy Veteran serving on both the USS Edgemont and the USS Barnwell during WWII.

William worked at Schrafft's Candy factory for many years. In his free time, he enjoyed playing cards with family and friends, was an avid Boston sports fan and, on occasion, would visit Foxwoods Casino.

He was the beloved husband of the late Bernice "Bunny" (Pisano), devoted father of Kim Mancini and her late husband, Thomas Kulakowski of Revere, Shane of Revere, Cory and his wife, Monica of Everett, Colleen Fisher and her husband, Michael of Connecticut, Tracy Gacicia and her husband, Philip of Hanson, Stacy Olenik and partner, Maggie Buchan of Saugus and the late Troy Olenik; dear brother of Pauline Mc Laughlin of Charlestown, Ronald



Reeves of Lancaster and Laurie Reeves of Tyngsboro, and the late Ada Tibbetts. He is also survived by nine loving grandchildren, four great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

In accordance with the CDC's current restrictions on gatherings due to Covid-19, all services will be held privately. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Patient activities fund at Chelsea Soldiers Home, 91 Crest Ave, Chelsea, MA 02150. Interment will be in Holy Cross Cemetery. For guest book please visit www.Buonfiglio.com

Paul Buonfiglio & Sons-Bruno Funeral Home

### William Cushman

Retired Boston Transportation Dept. Supervisor

William J. Cushman passed away unexpectedly on April 7.

He was born in Boston on June 22, 1945. He spent most of his life in the Boston area before retiring as a supervisor in the Transportation Department for the City of Boston.

In his younger days, he was a member of a motorcycle club and had a passion for riding. He initially moved to Lake Winnepesaukee in Gilford, NH before moving to Naples, FL. He spent 20 happy years in Naples with his beloved wife and very best friend, Joyce. Bill and Joyce enjoyed many gambling junkets together. He was a member of Cool Cruisers and loved his 1928 Essex.

Bill was predeceased by his parents, Francis A. Cushman, Sr. and Mary L. (Carr) Cushman and four older brothers: Francis A. Jr., George A., James J., and Daniel A. Cushman. In addition to his loving wife, he is survived by his sis-



ter, Ellen L. Burke, his daughters who he adored, Jean Cushman, Mary Cushman, Lisa Morgan, April Spelta, Deanna Cushman, and Kim Luiso, 15 grandchildren and three great grandchildren. He will be greatly missed by his loving wife, his family and his many friends.

At this time, no other services are planned. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Bill's name to a charity of one's choice. Cremation is being handled by the National Cremation Society.

## LEGALS

### LEGAL NOTICE

**INVITATION TO BID**  
**NATIONAL CENTER OF AFRO-AMERICAN ARTISTS MUSEUM EXTERIOR RESTORATION**  
 The National Center of Afro-American Artists, the Awarding Authority, requests bids for exterior masonry repairs at their museum at Abbotsford Mansion, 300 Walnut Avenue, Roxbury, Massachusetts, which is listed in the State & National Registers of Historic Places. The project is being partially funded with a grant from the

Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund through the Massachusetts Historical Commission. All work must be performed in accordance with the documents prepared by and available from Spencer, Sullivan & Vogt, 1 Thompson Square, Suite 504, Charlestown, Massachusetts 02129 (617-861-4291) and meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties. State law prohibits discrimination. Awarding of this contract is subject to

Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity guidelines. Bids shall be evaluated on the basis of price, previous experience with similar types of construction projects, ability to perform the work in a timely manner, and references. All bids must be delivered to the architect's office at the above address no later than 12:00 noon, Friday, May 8, 2020 to be eligible for consideration.

4/23/20  
 Charlestown

## CLASSIFIED SECTION

• 123  
**APTS. FOR RENT**

Revere, 3 bdrm 1st fl apt. Large kitchen, liv rm & master bdrm, charming woodwork & high ceilings. \$2,400. Sect. 8 welcome. 857-312-2121

**SELLING YOUR AUTO?**  
 Call for our 4 week special! Call 781-485-0588.

**BUILDING FOR SALE**

**REVERE**  
 Great Location  
 2 Store Fronts 1 4BR Apt.  
 5 open Pkg. spots  
 \$950,000  
 617 785 7027

**NEED TO SELL Your House?** Call to reach over 50,000 readers. Call 781-485-0588 or fax the ad to 781-485-1403

**SOBER HOUSING**

Sober Housing Accommodations  
 Safe and sober housing accommodations for men and women available now in Revere, East Boston and Lynn. Call today 617-610-0053 or visit www.americasober.com

**DEADLINES:** For classified line ads, deadlines are Monday by 4 p.m. Call 781-485-0588 or fax the ad to 781-485-1403

Visit [www.charlestownbridge.com](http://www.charlestownbridge.com)

### A SHORT STORY ABOUT A MOTORCYCLE AND A SUDDEN TURN.

When she was a young college student, Elisabeth Marra had a serious motorcycle accident that ultimately changed her life. Two years after the crash, her painful open fractures had failed to heal. Then she heard about a new and complex surgery pioneered by a surgeon who used a patient's own stem cells to concentrate the healing process. This time, her surgery and subsequent therapy were successful.

Elisabeth's experience caused her to redirect her own career aspirations. Inspired by the medical professionals who helped her reclaim her active lifestyle, she changed her major to study physical therapy—a profession where her own experience could help other patients prevail through difficult recoveries.

We tell Elisabeth Marra's story here to illustrate two of the most profound messages we know. Don't give up, and remember to give back. If reading it inspires just one more person to achieve something special, then its telling here has been well worth while.



American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons  
 AAOS 75 Years  
[aaos.org/75years](http://aaos.org/75years)

**AAOS**  
 CELEBRATING HUMAN HEALING  
[orthoinfo.org](http://orthoinfo.org)

# OUR COMMUNITY IS OUR STRENGTH.

*We're better together and stronger than ever.*



Always you.



Cambridge<sup>®</sup>  
SAVINGS BANK

Member FDIC | Member DIF | Equal Housing Lender