Six weeks into Covid-only care, Carney healers see ‘ray of hope’

Sounds of music hail recoveries; numbers speak to stark reality

By Bill Forry

It happens several times each day: The sound system inside Carney Hospital crackles to life with a classic R&B song. First comes the hum of Stevie Wonder’s harmonica. Then, the tender vocals of Dionne Warwick: “And I, never thought I’d feel this way…”

The song is “That’s What Friends Are For.”

The Dionne and Stevie duet has played in the hospital for years, each time filled by the sounds of music and the voices of patients, families, and staff. It happens several times each day - the sounds of music hail recoveries as patients recover from COVID-19 at Carney, according to data released by the hospital’s Department of Public Health. And the numbers speak to the stark reality of the situation.

On Monday, there were 75 patients hospitalized with COVID-19 at Carney, according to data released by the state’s Department of Health and the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) was filled to capacity, according to Sands.

Tom Sands, the president of Carney, according to Sands.

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New law will pause evictions, foreclosures – for time being

By Katie Trojano

Governor Charlie Baker on Monday signed a bill into law that will temporarily halt evictions and some foreclosures in the state during the coronavirus pandemic.

The legislation, H.4815, prohibits all non-essential residential and small business evictions and foreclosures, provides mortgage forbearance options, and protects tenants from late fees.

The moratorium will remain in effect for 120 days, or for 45 days after the COVID-19 state of emergency is lifted.

Batter up, Bekah

Years of public service at a variety of nonprofits in Boston have prepared Bekah Salwasser, a Dorchester resident, to lead the Red Sox Foundation. Page 10.

Medical workers at Carney Hospital gathered to watch a parade of vehicles that drove by the hospital to salute them last Thursday. The effort, organized by City Councillor Frank Baker’s office, drew about 75 vehicles and also raised funds to pay for food deliveries to hospital workers through a fund at Pat’s Pizza of Lower Mills.

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Baker calls off school for year; says state can ‘deal’ with surge

Walsh: Stay vigilant

By Reporter Staff

 Amid budding optimism that the worst of the coronavirus surge may have crested, state and city leaders urged residents to remain vigilant this week and to brace for an extended period of restrictions on daily routines. On Tuesday, Gov. Baker simplified that message by ordering schools in the Commonwealth to remain closed for the rest of the 2019-2020 academic year.

Confirmed COVID-19 cases in Massachusetts since the start of the outbreak increased by 1,566 to 39,643, marking the fourth day in a row with fewer new cases than the previous day, while newly reported deaths grew by 103 to a total toll of 1,809, according to the Department of Public Health’s update on Monday.

“The data shows we are still very much in the grips of a pandemic here in Massachusetts,” Gov. Baker said on Tuesday. “The facts on the ground tell us we need to stay strong, stay socially distant and stay home.”

Baker extended his order to keep all public and private schools in Massachusetts closed through the end of the current academic year. “At this point in time there is no authoritative guidance or advisories with respect to how to operate schools safely and successfully,” Baker said on Tuesday.

It’s time to mandate masks, face covering in public spaces

By Bill Walczak

A clear picture is emerging on what will take to allow our state and country to emerge from the shutdowns currently in place and the self-quarantining of the vast majority of residents in states like Massachusetts.

Some of it requires the work of scientists and researchers to determine if exposure to COVID-19 creates antibodies that give long-lasting immunity to the disease, to develop drugs that will allow our state and country to emerge from the shutdowns currently in place and the self-quarantining of the vast majority of residents in states like Massachusetts.

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A large tent was erected last week in the parking lot at Codman Square Health Center to hold COVID-19 testing.

Codman increases testing capacity with city Resiliency grant

BY BILL FORRY

Codman Square Health Center on Washington Street in Dorchester has expanded coronavirus testing capacity thanks to a grant from Boston’s Resiliency Fund.

Sandra Cotterell, the CEO of the health center, said that support from the Boston Resiliency Fund has gone directly to pay for supplies and materials, including a large new tent that was set up in the parking lot of the health center last Thursday.

Tests are conducted inside the tent, Cotterell said.

“We are asking people to call us before they come in to schedule an appointment for testing,” she said. “And they can also help with the pre-registration process.”

Testing will only be offered to people who are feeling ill with symptoms consistent with the virus, she said.

“This is will allow us to test not only our patients, but our larger community,” said Cotterell.

Before the new funding, Cotterell said that the health center had already tested about 260 patients since March 16, she said. Of that number, 46 percent tested positive. Test results are typically back within 2-3 days.

Last Wednesday, the center tested an additional 125 tests, a marked increase.

“This improves access, because there are a lot of people who aren’t feeling well and don’t know where to go,” said Cotterell.

“Local health centers in the community have become a resource for people to get answers to those questions. And, of course, anyone who tests positive, that will be reported to DPH and answers to those questions. And, of course, anyone who tests positive that will be reported to DPH and answers to those questions.”

The Boston Public Health Commission has already rolled out a new map showing various locations around the city offering COVID-19 testing.

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

The mayor’s office said Hyde Park had 414 reported cases of COVID-19, Mattapan had 298, Dorchester had 1,724, East Boston had 410, Roxbury had 335, Roslindale had 302, and the South End had 372, citing BPHC data. Through the map, residents can find testing hours and the number to call for pre-screening and to set up an appointment.

A map shows locations of testing facilities in Boston.

The Department of Neighborhood Development (DND), the Mayor’s office of New Urban Mechanics, and the Boston Strong Community, which focuses on connecting seniors to resources and opportunities, collaborated on the platform and will oversee its service.

Anyone identifying as at-risk during the COVID-19 pandemic is eligible to receive “Good Neighbors” deliveries and check-ins. After a request is submitted, the team will match each individual with a volunteer in their community. The volunteers will follow up with the recipient via email or phone to set up deliveries and check-ins.

“An older adult or someone on their behalf, can submit a request over the phone or email to nederlygoodneighbors.com. Volunteers must complete a background check, and will receive personal protective equipment (PPE) guidelines and safety protocols.

“At a time like this, we are especially grateful for the responsive and innovative team at the City of Boston, in particular the DND, Age Strong, and MONUM, who partnered with us to build Good Neighbors, a timely and much-needed platform,” said Noelle Marcus, Founder and CEO of Nesterly. “We are proud to continue to connect generations and shine light on the incredible generosity and resiliency of our community.”

‘Good Neighbors’ home-share platform connects seniors with volunteer helpers

BY KATIE THOMAS

REPORTER STAFF

A free online platform dubbed “Good Neigh-

ors” is helping Bos-

ton seniors and at-risk residents connect with volunteers to help with basic needs, including grocery deliveries, prepared meals and well-

ness checks.

Mayor Walsh’s office teamed up with Nesterly, a home-share platform, to create the service.

“This new volunteer platform will help us organize and activate vol-

unteers looking to help seniors who need things like groceries, medica-

tion, or just a good old-fashioned phone call, check-in,” said Mayor Walsh.

Following is a list of designated food resource locations around the city that offer COVID-19 testing.

During the COVID-19 pandemic is

WHERE TO GO FOR FOOD RESOURCES IN DORCHESTER

In response to spikes in food insecurity coinciding with the COVID-19 crisis, the city of Boston has created a map of food resources compiled from information on food banks and lunch sites for Boston students, meal sites for adults, and locations of food pantries and soup kitchens across the city.

Followings is a list of designated food resource locations in Dorchester and Mattapan:

Dorchester Youth Meal Sites:

- McCormack Middle School
- Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel School
- Codman Square Health Center
- Dorchester School, 270 Columbus Rd.; BCYF Holland, 85 Olney St.;

- BCYF Marshall, 35 Westville St.; VietAID, 42 Charles St.;
- Blackstone Academy of Science and Health, 5 Charles St.;
- Faith Christian, 301 Harvard St.;
- Joseph Lee K-8 School, 155 Talbot Ave.;
- Dorchester YMCA, 776 Washington St.;
- Dorchester Food Pantries: USCBB/Blessed Mother Teresa Parish, 800 Columbus Rd.; Salvation Army/Kroc Center Emergency Food Pantry, 650 Dudley St.; St. Mary’s Food Pantry, 14 Cushion Ave.; Pilgrim Church Community Lunch, 540 Columbus Rd.;
- Greater Anointing Pentecostal Church, 23 Washington St.;
- CCAB/Trawley Center, 185 Columbia Rd.;
- Dot House, 1353 Dorchester Ave.;
- Greater Anointing Pentecostal Church, 23 Washington St.;
- Bethel Tabernacle Pentecostal Church, 12 Bicknell St; Codman Square Health Center, 378-A Washington St.;
- Eclipse Baptiste Hall, 1 Dorchester Ave.;
- Holy Holoram* (Adult Meal Site), 1 Worrell St.;
- CSBFC/ Franklin Hill Food Pantry, 1 Shandond Rd.,
- Faith Pentecostal Church, 301 Harvard St.
- St. edition; 185 Blue Hill Ave.;
- USCC/ St. Matthew’s Church Food Pantry, 33 Stanton St.;
- HHS/Neponset Health Center Food Pantry, 302 Harvard St.
- Mattapan Youth Meal Sites: BCYF Gallivan, 61 Woodruff Way;
- Mildred Ave. Community Center; 5 Mildred Ave.;
- Mattapan Food Pantries: BCYF Mattahunt* (Adult Meal Site), 100 Hebron St.;
- Glad Tidings Food Pantry, 573 Norfolk St.;
- BMC/Healthy Baby, Healthy Child, 213 River St.;
- Greater Boston Nazarene Compassion Center, 130 River St.
- Upham’s Corner Health Center and Harvard Street Neighborhood Health Center.
- COLIN A. YOUNG

SHNS
SJC cuts in half the number of signatures candidates need for a spot on primary ballot

By Katie Tromano
The Supreme Judicial Court last week halved the number of voter signatures candidates need to quality for a place on the ballot in the Sept. 1 primary election.

The high court’s decision also gave those running for district or county offices an extra eight days — from April 28 to May 5 — to gather and file their names.

The decision, handed down by Chief Justice Ralph Gants last Friday, was hailed by those who said that the constraints of physical distancing measures during the coronavirus crisis put an unfair burden on their efforts to get the signatures.

The court’s move evoked reaction from four likely candidates for the 12th Suffolk District seat being vacated by state Rep. Dan Cullinane. In order to qualify for a spot on the primary ballot, a candidate now has until May 5 — to gather and file their names.

Stephanie Everett, Cameron Charbonnier, Brandly Fluker-Oakley, and Jovan Lacet have all indicated that they will seek to run as Democrats.

Lacet, who has run unsuccessfully for the seat in the last two cycles, called the SJC decision unfair. He told the Reporter on Monday that he already collected well in excess of 150 signatures in February and March, before coronavirus restrictions began.

“I want to thank the 500 plus people who signed my nomination papers. I’ve been a certified candidate on the ballot since March 11,” Lacet said in a phone call.

He said the ruling is “not fair to the process. It creates the position where people don’t have to earn it. I can understand it for folks who need 1,000 or 2,000 signatures, but for 150? Cmon.”

He added: “If you truly represent the people this is the kind of work that should have been done in advance. Most people got the signatures in the first week of March.”

Everett, a Mattapan-based attorney who made her plans to run for the 12th Suffolk seat official last week, called the SJC decision “essential” to safely collecting signatures.

“I am pleased with the ruling,” Everett said. “The extra time is really essential to our strategy for safely collecting signatures — dropping off registration sheets so people can fill them out safely at home and send them back. We are exploring the use of electronic signatures as well.”

Charbonnier, a Dorchester resident and longtime aide to Mayor Walsh, said on Monday that he submitted his first round of signatures a few days before the ruling last week.

“The city does not formally certify what I’ve submitted until later this week, so I am still gathering signatures in adherence to all the physical distancing guidelines and will do so until the city and the Secretary of State’s office certifies my position on the ballot,” he said.

“Still, I support the goal of this ruling. I know many of our voters are still gathering signatures and I am working to turn the court’s ruling into equitable relief,” Everett said.

Fluker-Oakley, a Mattapan attorney, said the ruling is important. “During these unprecedented times, ballot access and voter participation are more critical than ever. The SJC’s ruling was important in ensuring that our political process can continue to work in a way that protects the health and safety of our residents.”

In order to meet their reduced requirements, the court said, candidates can scan and post their nomination papers online for voters to print or download the image and either apply an electronic signature with a computer mouse or stylus, or sign the printed version, and return the form electronically or by mail.

Gants noted the inaction by the full Legislature. “Here, where the filing deadline for nomination papers fast approaches, and the Legislature has yet to take decisive action, we have little choice but to provide equitable relief,” he wrote.

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Volunteer cleanups at parks held off; sports organizers plan for green light

By KATIE TROMANO REPORTER STAFF

The rites of spring in the city — from the marathon to Little League baseball — remain on pause this week with stay-at-home advisories in place through at least next month. Still, with Bostonians making heavy use of public spaces for outdoor quarantine breaks, staff from the Parks and Recreation Department are keeping busy cleaning up and maintaining parks across the city.

This year, though, city employees won’t be able to count on help from the thousands of volunteers who typically lend a hand in April for Boston Shines, an effort co-ordinated through the mayor’s office.

“Unfortunately, we won’t be doing [that] for now,” said Steve Bickerton, an assistant director in the Parks Department. “We aren’t confident that it’s feasible to do those group cleanups in a safe way, so we’re postponing until we can. In addition to the group nature of the work itself, there’s also a lot of sharing tools, etc., that would be hard to do in a safe way.”

Paul McCaffrey, director of permitting, athletics, and special events in the department, said the cleanups are usually an important jump-start in preparing parks and playgrounds for the spring season, noting that “our employees are still doing regular maintenance, things like cutting the grass, picking up trash, laying down lines, and mounds in fields.”

“As far as permitting certain activities, I have obviously had to shave off the dates because of the state of emergency,” he added. “People are thinking ahead and waiting for guidance from the governor and the mayor, but I know that various youth league organizers are working on plans for when things might start to open back up, although no one is sure of timing.”

Organizations like All Dorchester Sports and Leadership (ADSL), which coordinates educational and athletic programming for youth ages 5-18, are focusing on communication with coaches and parents.

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“Academics-wise and athletics-wise, everything is at a standstill, but we’ve been in contact with a lot of softball coaches to see what we can do to gauge how parents are feeling about gathering kids if and when this situation slowly resolves,” said Dewayne Clachar, ADSL’s athletic director. “We’ve been thinking about ways to condense the regular season into a playoff or a tournament when the time comes.”

Clachar added that ADSL is looking to the Red Sox RBI program for ideas.

More formally known as the Red Sox Foundation’s Reviving Baseball in Inner-Cities (RBI) Program, the effort is aimed at boys and girls aged 9-18 in Boston and its neighborhoods, providing team equipment, uniforms, field access, and umpires at no cost to players and their families, according to its charter. It also supports a cohort of dedicated coaches who use baseball and softball as a platform to teach core values of teamwork, respect and leadership.

“Unfortunately, we aren’t doing what they’re doing and thinking about how we could apply some of these resources,” Clachar said.

Some of this could include virtual resource training and developing virtual participation content outlining athletic skills and drills for youth.

“A lot of the work right now is just being in frequent communication on what we can do and what the parents are going to feel comfortable with,” he said. “It’s been a mixed bag, and we’re seeing that some parents are optimistic about getting their daughters back on the softball field and some are very skeptical and cautious given what’s going on.”

Clachar expects that kids might be able to get back on the fields in July or August. “Once we get a better sense of timing, we’ll have a better idea of what we can do. It’s all just very tough to say right now,” he said.

“The best thing for us to do is to keep in conversation with coaches and families and let the kids know that we haven’t forgotten about them. We’re hummed out as much as they are that we have to postpone.”

Charlie Maneikis and Mike Manning, co-presidents of Dorchester Baseball, remain hopeful that the Little League might be able to take the field sometime this spring pending approval by public officials. In a letter sent to parents and guardians recently, they wrote: “If spring baseball becomes a reality, we expect that our season will look differently. As we put together different contingency plans, we are focused on keeping the kids and volunteers safe.”

In the meantime, the league is developing methods for their players and coaches to participate in “spring training at home,” which they will share virtually on their social media. “At this point, we don’t know what the season will look like, or even if we can hold games, but we want you to know that we are preparing. We should know more in the next few weeks and will work to finalize plans at that time,” they wrote.

Everything from dugout seating to post-game sportsmanship will change as the team implements new safety procedures, Maneikis and Manning said. “Masks will be as common as ball caps, and that in addition to bubble gum and sunflower seeds, disinfectant wipes and sanitizer will be fixtures on the benches and in the stands.”

Frank Loconte from the Mayor’s Office of Tourism, Sports and Entertainment mounted speakers on trucks for neighborhood coronavirus announcements last weekend.

Mayor’s Office Photo by John Wileas

Dorchester’s Christian Merfeld captured this image of the “wicked” high tide on April 8 along the HarborWalk near Tenean Beach. The tide reached 12 ft. above normal level that evening in a cycle that continued through Saturday.

By ARTHUR (Artie) DALY

April 24, 1945

From your loving wife!

Arthur (Artie) Daly

4/24/45!

Happy 75th Birthday!
Thank You TO ALL THE LOCAL HEROES

In our 50-plus years in Dorchester, nothing quite compares to what we’re facing today.

We’re all adapting to the new realities of COVID-19.

But, while most of us have been asked to stay home. Others have been asked to step up.

Medical professionals, first responders, transit and food-service workers, and many others. They are our friends and family on the front lines.

Sully Mac joins in thanking these everyday heroes of Dorchester.

We’ve never been prouder to be your neighbor.
The annual three-day summit hosted by Arts Connect International convenes creative from across the region for live performances, workshops, and conversations centered on the organization’s core goal: to address the cultural equity gap by boosting the representation of artists of color in spaces such as arts management and academia.

This year’s event, scheduled for the week end of April 24-26, will now take place in an interactive online virtual format, featuring streamed live performances, web seminars, and a Zoom open mic segment.

Allegra Fletcher, executive director of Arts Connect International, told the Reporter that the decision to go virtual rather than cancel was made with artists in mind. “We made the decision in March, so we had about a month of leeway to turn this around,” she said. “We saw that this [containment effort] is taking months, and looking at that trajectory, we knew there was no way we’d be able to have a 250-plus gathering at the end of April.”

“When you look at people living in precarity, artists and gig workers, they tend to be people whose income is the least stable. Something like a canceled event can mean you don’t make rent. So we were trying to figure out, just can we, as an organization committed to supporting the arts sector and knowing we are a source of funding, respond to this?” In the end, we decided that we can be one event that doesn’t cancel, one paycheck that doesn’t get lost. That was a huge motivating force behind why we decided to restructure instead of cancel the summit.”

The event is slated to kick off Friday evening the 24th with a round of music performances that will feature Dorchester rapper Red Shaydez as well as a collective of students from the Boston Arts Academy in Fields Corner. The pre-recorded performances will be available to livestream via a link on the Arts Equity Summit website. A litany of local visual artists will also display their work via Prezi throughout the day. Following the musical performances, Boston-based multifaceted creative Amanda Shea will host a community talk on mental health and art share.

The summit will conclude Saturday with a series of panels and artist-led conversations that will present examples of organizations engaging in arts equity work, examine the experiences of arts managers, and explore the importance of youth empowerment in the arts, among other subjects.

On Sunday, the event will conclude with a panel of reflection and virtual drop-in sessions focused on mental health and well-being that will continue throughout the day.

Fletcher said she hopes people will see the summit as a welcome respite from the monotony of quarantine. “When people are in isolation, there are less opportunities for real interaction with others, not to mention artists putting on live performances. So I think people are excited because they’re looking for opportunities to gather together and build community. This is an opportunity to go deep and have conversations about things that people thought were important before this all happened, and are still important now.”

The pandemic has forced organizers to restructure parts of the summit, first by adding the open mic session “to create another touch point for interaction,” Sunday’s programming, which was originally intended to highlight the indigenous perspective on the 400th anniversary of the Mayflower landing at Plymouth Rock, will now instead focus on health and economic resilience in the wake of the ongoing crisis.

“There will be one person leading meditation,” said Fletcher. “there will be an open conversation about how to access relief funds and the current state of relief funds, and also an Asian American student will host conversations about what that identity means, and how to navigate that as an Asian American body right now, and making choices about what an artist in doing so.”

Noting how the COVID-19 pandemic has reframed many of the conversations that will be held during the summit, Fletcher noted that the theme of the AESS2020—“Creating Culture Shifts”—remains pertinent.

“We already knew there were structural inequities, and what Covid has done is put that right in your face, and who are the most vulnerable communities, and who is disproportionately affected when things happen,” she said. “It also shows what institutions are failing because when things are not sustainable, they cannot withstand disaster. So all of those conversations will still be relevant, not more so since the virus has hit. Now it’s even more clear what needs to be addressed.”

To register for the Arts Equity Summit, visit the full schedule of events, and access live stream links, visit arts equity summit.org. Aired sessions will be archived to the AESS YouTube following the summit.

We're open and we're ready to help you!
Richard Foundation funds meals program for front-line workers

By DANIEL SHEEHAN
Reporter Staff

The Richard Foundation and Salem-based nonprofit Sailing Heals have announced the launch of Sailing Heals Meals, a program that will feed frontline medical workers on the North Shore.

"First and foremost, we want to show support and gratitude for our caregivers. These are the people developing new skills every day to take care of us and our loved ones — putting their own health at risk, with families at home and a tremendous amount of uncertainty and instability at their jobs," said Bill Richard, co-founder of the Martin Richard Foundation and Board Member and provider of the meals. "At the same time, we hope this program will be a lifeline to local businesses who have been deeply impacted by this pandemic, as well as support our restaurant partners at Sailing Heals as they repurpose their space to serve our caregivers with meals rather than a healing day at sea. We can do our part but we're asking others to join the effort."

Initial funding for the program is being provided by the Martin Richard Foundation and others who step up to the plate to join our effort," said Tremayne Webster, Executive Director of Sailing Heals. "We are proud to support our caregivers; whoever on the water or through this effort, the work continues."

The partnership plans to continue the initiative through the COVID-19 crisis.

For more information and to support Sailing Heals Meals, visit SailingHeals.org or call 978-914-6609.

At left: An image from a video posted by Newton native and actor John Kraus shows nurses from Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center's Covid-19 unit riding in a Duck Boat last week.
Two pages from Sunday’s Boston Globe death notices

90-99: 51 of people aged 80-89; 20 of people aged 70-79; and 10 of people under age 65.
• There were 91 notices from residents of Boston and its neighboring communities. There were 33 from the city of Newton.
• Of the 179 photos that ran with notices, 174 were of white people, 1 were of black people, including the Rev. Russell Winston, former pastor of St. John’s-St. Hugh’s parish in Grove Hall, who was one of a man of Indian descent, and one was of a man of Filipino ancestry.

There’s lots to extrapolate from all that. To each readers his own.

With respect to that last notice, The Globe doesn’t pursue death notices; they come in from funeral directors and other outlets that know the direction of families. Over the decades, minority communities, including the Irish in the late 19th and early 20th century and continuing to today have the diversity that defines community composes, relays stories of people under age 65.

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With respect to that last notice, The Globe doesn’t pursue death notices; they come in from funeral directors and other outlets that know the direction of families. Over the decades, minority communities, including the Irish in the late 19th and early 20th century and continuing to today have the diversity that defines community composes, relays stories of people under age 65.

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It’s time to mandate masks, face covering in public spaces

April 23, 2020

THE REPORTER

Page 9

(Continued from page 1)

such as social distancing, the regular washing of hands, and the use of masks/face coverings.

After conflicting messages just weeks ago on whether or not people should wear masks in public, including one from our national Surgeon General who tweeted that masks “are NOT effective in preventing general public from catching Coronavirus,” scientists and health officials now universally recommend that people wear face coverings in public to slow the spread of the virus.

As a result, wearing masks or face coverings is becoming a requirement in many areas of the world. In California, which seems to have avoided the case and death toll of the Northeast thanks to an earlier shutdown of the state and a higher degree of wearing masks and practicing social distancing, Gov. Gavin Newsom has stated that face coverings will likely remain a feature of public life. Many communities in California have made it mandatory to wear a mask in any public setting; other communities have made it mandatory to wear a mask if going into any business setting; and some businesses are now requiring patrons to wear a mask in order to shop.

On April 15, Gov. Andrew Cuomo of New York sent out the following tweet: “I am issuing an executive order today that all people MUST wear a mask or face covering in public in situations where social distancing is not possible.” On the same day, Gov. Tom Wolf of Pennsylvania issued an order that masks must be worn by workers and customers in Pennsylvania businesses, and requires that businesses deny entry to customers who are not wearing masks “unless the business is providing medication, medical supplies, or food, in which case the business must provide alternative methods of pick-up or delivery of goods.”

Across the world, Singapore has a mandatory face mask requirement, and the Czech Republic requires everyone to wear a mask covering the nose and mouth at all times outside the home. Austria has recently allowed thousands of hardware and home improvement stores to reopen, but both workers and customers must wear masks. These countries have successfully “bent the curve” of the virus and are in the process of re-opening.

The Dorchester Historical Society’s historic houses are closed at this time due to the COVID-19 corona virus.

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For now our programs have been suspended.

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www.dotnews.com
By Gordon Edes

Bekah Salwasser’s empathy was seeded in a chaotic, crowded household in North Cambridge, the one with the coal stove in the kitchen and the wood stove in the living room, where there was hardly enough room for all the kids (5) and the cats (2), never mind the hundreds of thousands of bees raised by her mother in the backyard. Her competitive zeal was forged on the playing fields of private schools and universities, where she learned that talent could triumph over privilege.

Baseball and the Red Sox? That came later, an unexpected twist for a woman who grew up with a soccer ball at her feet, a lacrosse stick in her hands, and a basketball as a trusted companion. She first glimpsed the lights of Fenway Park from the roof of a neighborhood high school where her father, John Splaine, served as guidance counselor. Back then, it was a landmark to be discovered, not a destination to hang a dream on.

Now, she is two years into her job as executive director of the Red Sox Foundation, the largest charitable arm in baseball and one of the biggest in professional sports, and touches all the bases that enormous privilege.

"So when I was on a field, it felt – I just forget everything else that’s happening. All of my life’s pressures go away. All of the anxieties fade away." Her talent assured that it would become more than that, especially as she was learning to navigate the rarefied halls of NESN. John and Esther, so committed to their kids’ education, enrolled her into the exclusive private school while she was still in kindergarten. “All of us on scholarships,” she said. “My mom and dad constantly were working two, sometimes three jobs trying to make it work.”

But as Bekah excelled in soccer and lacrosse and basketball, the yawning gap between the affluence she witnessed and her more modest upbringing shrank every time she took the field or court. “I think, for me, having the craziness of my life at home, and then the juxtaposition of almost having to, you know, channel my way through school because I was very, very different from everybody I went to school with – being a minority ethnically and racially, but then also socioeconomically – sports was the thing that kind of neutralized everything for me,” she said.

“And that’s why I think I invested so heavily into sports. It allowed me to feel – and this is no kind of judgment on myself but it allowed me to feel equal to my peers who I looked at as having so much more than me. I can look back now and say that they didn’t, but what do you know when you’re 17? So sports was a thing that kind of neutralized and equalized the playing field, on and off the field. That skill set – to be able to “chameleon” herself – has served her well.

“In any environment, you do have to know how to fit in in many ways,” she said. “That doesn’t mean you’re lessening who you are. It just means that you know how to talk the talk and...”
walk the walk in a way that is going to position yourself to advance and be successful. And I learned that skill at BB&N. Because either it was a choice to be, unfortunately, ostracized, or to fit in and excel. And so sports really allowed me to do that. Because I excelled on the playing field, I was immediately accepted socially into the fabric of the school."

Bekah was a star, an All-American in both soccer and lacrosse, and when you are a star, especially at a place like BB&N, doors are opened. There would be a scholarship to play soccer at Brown, which the Ivy League school honored even though Bekah suffered a devastating knee injury at a club tournament in Florida that eventually required two surgeries to repair her anterior cruciate ligament.

She recovered to play at Brown, and when a women’s professional soccer league was formed after her senior season, she fully expected her playing days to continue. But she went undrafted, a keen disappointment that she translated into two years of playing for, and serving as captain of, the Boston Renegades in the second-tier US women’s soccer league. She eventually signed with the Boston Breakers, in 2003, but after one season, the league folded. Bekah was 24, and contemplating her next move now that her playing days were over.

Her sports connections offered an answer. A friend who had played men’s soccer at Brown offered her a job at a Boston nonprofit called America Scores, which used soccer to promote literacy among middle school students. Bekah jumped at the chance and loved it. Her next job also had a sports connection: Teagan Leonard, who had played lacrosse with Bekah at BB&N, said her dad had just opened a nonprofit in Charlestown called the Charlestown Lacrosse and Learning Center and wanted to hire Bekah as executive director. It was a small operation but a great learning experience, and gave her sufficient props to impress the Celtics when they hired her to become their community relations director. That led to Scholar Athletes and ultimately, lunch with Sox Chairman Tom Werner and CEO Sam Kennedy, who were looking for a successor to Gena Borson to run the Red Sox Foundation.

"It feels limitless," she says of her current incarnation. "And I can say that as a huge positive, not in an overwhelming way. You won’t believe this, but I’m telling you sincerely that one of the greatest highlights of my day is looking at my inbox. Because I just feel like I never know the opportunities and correspondence that I’m going to get. Every day there’s a different idea. There’s a different road, there’s a different journey. And I feel so supported by Tom Werner and Sam Kennedy in chasing those opportunities. I feel like we have the resources and the inventory and the assets and the means and capacity to potentially pursue them. Part of my life’s goal is just to bring opportunity to under-resourced, under-serviced, under-appreciated, overlooked populations and areas and communities and people. And we have the means to do that."

"I feel like I’m the connector. I see this opportunity. So every day I just feel empowered and feel immense gratitude to feel like I make a difference every day. Not many people get to say that, and I recognize that.”

Gordon Edes is the Red Sox Team Historian.

**Editor’s Note:**

This article has been re-published from the April 2020 edition of Red Sox Magazine with permission of the Boston Red Sox and the Red Sox Foundation, which has sponsored these pages in this week’s Dorchester Reporter. The Reporter is pleased to partner with the Red Sox Foundation, which has stepped to the plate to help support local journalism in Dorchester. Bekah Salwasser, the subject of this article by Gordon Edes, is a resident of Dorchester.
Tailor re-tools to make protective masks for neighbors

BY DANIEL SHEEHAN
REPORTER STAFF

Dorchester resident Julia de los Santos is yet another small business owner who has seen her business model transformed by COVID-19. After moving to Boston from the Dominican Republic at a young age, the fashion designer and tailor worked for years at retailers like Nordstrom, Saks, and David’s Bridal before starting her own business, JDLS Couture, out of her Washington Street home studio in 2017.

Normally, de los Santos gets a lot of orders for dress alterations and custom costume designs, meaning that the upcoming summer months — prom and wedding season — tend to be the busiest. Now, with many of those events canceled and all in-person tailoring work deemed untenable, de los Santos has channeled her sewing abilities toward a new initiative: making custom, high-end protective face masks.

The switch to mask-making was about “trying to survive,” said de los Santos. “It’s another ability to learn at the last minute. Because COVID changed everything, I had to transform everything…we have to be open-minded to accept and implement the change in our lives, our business, our everything.”

The 100 percent cotton masks and bonnets are made from patterned fabric and include a protective filter sewn into the inside of the mask. De los Santos said she designed the masks to be “breathable, protective, good quality, and very comfortable.” But, crucially, the masks are also functional in a time of crisis.

A couple weeks ago, de los Santos donated hundreds of masks to local hospitals through an initiative led by Compass Working Capital, a nonprofit with a goal of helping low-income families improve their economic security.

That action caught the attention of City Councillor Andrea Campbell, who knew de los Santos from when Compass helped start up her business. She rallied a team of donors to enlist de los Santos to make 1,000 masks to be distributed to folks in Campbell’s District 4.

On Monday, Campbell picked up the first shipment of masks, which will go to public housing authorities in the district. The rest will go to civic leaders and seniors, who will then distribute them to those in need in the community.

Campbell called delivering the masks “the highlight of my last couple weeks.”

“Obviously, we see COVID having a disproportionate effect on not only the health of people but also on businesses in my district, threatening their survival. In order to ensure that these businesses thrive and stay afloat after this is over, we need to rally around them. Sometimes government can take too long—this was one way to think outside the box.”

Campbell added that the win-win nature of the partnership offered a welcome respite from the sad reality of learning about new cases and deaths each day.

“To have an opportunity to support a business, and to ensure that Julia can continue to be successful and meet the needs of our community, it’s a feel-good story, and definitely one we need right now.”

The first round of 500 masks took de los Santos and three others a week to make, she said, working for twelve hours each day. Elsewhere, the masks are beginning to gain traction on Instagram, where de los Santos said her niece is active in spreading the word.

Orders are now flooding in from New York, New Jersey, and as far as Florida—meaning de los Santos is looking to hire more workers. Thanks to her niece, some of those orders are coming via Cashapp, another novel concept for de los Santos, who described herself as “not a technology woman.”

“I never used Cashapp, but I have to learn. My niece showed me how to do it,” she explained. “Now everything is possible by phone, by computer, so you don’t have to do [in-person] contact… it’s different, but I’m staying open-minded.”

To learn more about Julia’s face masks, visit jdlscouture.com.
New law will pause evictions, foreclosures — for now

(Continued from page 1)
said she can’t afford a $300 rent hike that the management company at Fairlawn Apartments has demanded. “A lot of people don’t have money, we’re just getting by,” said Lewis. “We’re real humans, real people, we deserve to have a place to stay.” She was elated by news of the bill’s passage. The action by Baker and the Legislature followed weeks of negotiations and debate by Beacon Hill. They were under intense pressure from community groups, labor unions, public health organizations, and legal advocates to take action. “In just over one day, more than 200 community groups, congregations, and unions signed on to a letter in support of a moratorium,” says Lew Finfer, a Dorchester resident who organizes with MA Community Action Network. “The action by Baker and the Legislature followed weeks of negotiations and debate by Beacon Hill. They were under intense pressure from community groups, labor unions, public health organizations, and legal advocates to take action.”

Betty Lewis, a tenant at Fairlawn Apartments in Mattapan, has been battling rent increases and evictions alongside fellow residents. CityLife/Vida Urbana photo

Ali DeLeo (D-Winthrop) said members heard from constituents that the moratorium was an urgent need. “Many homeowners and renters need relief from the economic strains building as a result of this public health emergency,” he said. “We acted to safeguard tenants and homeowners from economic insecurity during and for a period after the state of emergency ends.”

“This legislation is crucial for public health,” added Andrea Park, an attorney at Massachusetts Law Reform Institute. “If we are going to stay home to prevent the spread of the coronavirus, we must all have a home to stay in. The strong moratorium passed by the Legislature and signed by the governor will help ensure that evictions and foreclosure do not force people into unsafe situations.”

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Sen Collins: National Guard needed to increase COVID-19 testing

The Boston Public Health Commission’s ‘Health of Boston’ 2016-2017 report shows that black and brown communities in Boston are more likely to suffer higher rates of chronic illness such as asthma, heart disease, hypertension and diabetes. The prevalence of these pre-existing health disparities in communities of color put them at even greater risk of becoming seriously ill or facing deadly circumstances from infectious disease.

This is what we knew before the outbreak of COVID-19. Recently, the State’s Department of Public Health released geographical and racial data which confirms that to be true. The state’s data shows that cities like Boston, Brockton, Chelsea and Randolph are among the top five cities with the highest rates of COVID-19 infections in the Commonwealth. Within the City of Boston, which has the largest number of reported cases of COVID-19, the communities of Dorchester, Mattapan, Hyde Park, and Roxbury account for 41% of all cases reported in Boston.

The correlation between contraction rates of COVID-19 and chronic disease, particularly in communities of color, is staggering. Recently, Boston Medical Center - the state’s largest safety net hospital, reported that COVID-19 positive patients have much higher rates of underlying conditions including 34% with diabetes, 49% with hypertension and 52% with a BMI above 30. This confirms a CDC report released earlier in April, which conducted a national study, which showed the 78% of people requiring admission to hospital intensive care units had at least one underlying health condition (diabetes, hypertension, heart disease and/or asthma).

This is a crisis within a crisis.

While we commend the Department of Public Health for recently updating the Crisis Standards of Care recommendations that were initially challenged due to the disproportionate impact those recommendations could have on chronically ill, black and brown COVID-19 patients’ survival rates, we must now focus on the front end of treatment testing.

Currently, the State is prioritizing support for COVID-19 testing by the Massachusetts National Guard’s mobile testing unit at nursing homes and long term facilities. There’s good reason for that. Patients at long term care and nursing facilities are the most vulnerable to the worst outcomes of COVID-19. But low income seniors and families, who have higher rates of chronic illness, aren’t far behind. That is why the National Guard’s mobile testing unit should be authorized to perform mobile testing in senior and low income housing communities and drive through testing in communities with high rates of chronic illness.

These policy actions would immediately remove barriers to critical COVID-19 screening, prioritizing the most vulnerable communities across the Commonwealth during the most significant public health crisis of our time.

Our first in the nation Massachusetts National Guard is an outstanding humanitarian force. Their involvement will be key in bringing access to testing in our most vulnerable communities as we fight this public health crisis statewide.
On Tuesday, the governor said that 58 percent of hospital rooms in the state remain unfilled—evidencing earlier comments that the state’s health care system was poised to meet demand. “We have a health care system that is not going to be overwhelmed by this thing,” he said, “and the reason it’s not going to be overwhelmed is because we’ve planned effectively, worked hard with our colleagues in the health community, and the people of Massachusetts, for the most part, did exactly the right thing about social distancing and hand washing and all of the issues we raised about disinfecting surfaces. ‘People have done a great job on that and it’s part of the reason why here in Massachusetts we will be able to deal with the surge and at the same time make sure we can take care of all the other issues.’

The governor said the state’s strategy to limit the spread of coronavirus and prepare for the surge “has worked.” In his part, Mayor Walsh cautioned that there will still be many painful days ahead, including the continued loss of lives. “I think that the worst is yet to come for a lot of people,” he said on Monday. “Even when we are beyond the surge, we’re still going to have cases of coronavirus. We’re still going to have loss of life. In theory, we might be on the other side of the curve, but for families that devastation of losing a loved one is still going to happen for the foreseeable future. It’s extremely important for us to continue to take precautions.”

Efforts made now to slow the spread of COVID-19, Walsh said, could prevent another surge of the virus in a few months, which Walsh said is “a fear that we all have.”

The mayor chastised Bostonsians who, he said, failed to adhere to his recommendations to stay inside, wear masks outdoors and avoid congested parks and on walkways. In particular, he railed against groups of golfers that, he said, went out and played rounds at Franklin Park and George Wright courses—despite the fact that both municipal courses are officially closed. “Yesterday I was watching a young person being interviewed by one of the TV stations while golfing and he was smiling,” the mayor said. “There’s nothing to smile about, nothing to be proud about. Not impressive on the golf course. That was a completely irresponsible move and he was completely irresponsible to his family and anyone around him.”

On Sunday, amid a slowdown in cases in New York City, the co-ordinator of the White House coronavirus response singled out Boston as a center of renewed concern. “We’re still very much focused on Boston and across Massachusetts where the epidemic continues to spread … and we’re watching very closely Chicago,” co-ordinator Dr. Deborah Birx said on CBS’s Face the Nation. “And then we watch every single outbreak that occurs in different states around the United States, including the most recent one in Ohio.”

Birx called the pandemic “a series of small epidemics across the United States,” but Boston was the first place she mentioned when asked where her concerns lie. At 528 cases per 100,000 people, Massachusetts has the third most cases per capita of any state in the country, according to data compiled by The New York Times. Only New York and New Jersey outpace the Bay State. At 23 deaths per 100,000 residents, Massachusetts has the sixth most deaths per capita.

“The surge is in different places, in different states, at different times. We’re in a very different place here in Massachusetts than other states are,” he said during his own segment on Face the Nation. “We’re right in the middle of the surge now.”
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Six weeks into Covid-only care, Carney healers see ‘ray of hope’

Continued from page 1)

Yet the hospital’s remaining medical units, which have been converted over the last few weeks to focus on specialized care for COVID-positive patients, have actually seen a slight decrease in patient volume in recent days.

“The peak that was supposed to be here is here, but it was [forecasted] to be even higher,” Sands told the Reporter. “We have a little more capacity on the COVID floors and that tells me that we are moving through the storm effectively. It gives me a ray of hope that we’re moving in a positive direction.”

The news is not all rosy. About ten people have died at Carney while hospitalized with COVID-19-related illnesses, Sands said. Three times as many, he added, have improved enough to go home.

All of this has happened while Carney staff and contractors have been scrambling to add more capacity, converting surgical suites and patient rooms into “negative pressure” units that can protect other parts of the facility from the contagion.

“When people ask me what these last six weeks have been like here, I tell them: Imagine trying to add seats in an airplane while it’s in the air – during a hurricane,” said Sands. “I’m so proud of what this team has been able to accomplish.”

That team has grown to include Steward-affiliated specialists who’ve flown to Boston from across the country to help Massachusetts confront the COVID-19 surge. Respiratory therapists have been in particular demand, Sands said.

“Prior to the pandemic outbreak, during a day shift we would have three respiratory therapists on. That would go down to two on the second shift, and one for the third [overnight] shift. Right now, we have six therapists on for all three shifts. That’s just one example.”

Carney has been tweaking its deployment in other ways. The bright red tent that was set up just outside the emergency department last month to triage patients and test for coronavirus has been dismantled. The testing is now done in a space insulated adjacent to the emergency department.

“We brought it inside the building because we had that space available and it offered better control and a better experience for patients and staff members,” said Sands. “Testing is now available to anyone who has an order from their physician to get it done. It is typically done by appointment, Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. But, Sands said, the hospital is also testing people who “present to the emergency department (ED) and are symptomatic.”

There has been an overall decrease in the number of people coming to the ED, Sands said. Conservatively, he estimates that the emergency patient load is down about 15 percent since March 17. Most people are choosing to avoid emergency rooms unless it can’t be avoided.

Another specialty at Carney is adolescent and adult psychiatric care. Sands said that the hospital “continues to provide care to that population, including a couple of patients in that space who’ve tested positive for COVID.”

The hospital is also using technology to alleviate the stress that sets in for so many patients who are isolated while hospitalized from their loved ones. “We’ve been using FaceTime and Skype so people can be in a position to be in some level of contact,” he said. “It can take a toll on the patient and the staff members to have to see this distancing.”

Having Carney designated as a ‘dedicated’ COVID-19 facility for the Steward system has been a positive experience for the hospital and the community, Sands said.

“The way I look at it, every hospital is going to become a COVID-19 facility along the way, but by us being the first designated one for Steward, it meant we were first in line for a lot of things,” he said.

“We had to get the facility ready and our people ready, to educate them with appropriate training, and to get them refitted for N95 masks. He added, “It helped us to get ready faster with more resources and so, it was a positive for us. Overall, Carney and the community benefited from being the first. Once we get past the storm, the question will be: then what? We need to be supporting the community the right way and that means to be a comprehensive community hospital.”

Sands said that the signs of support from the Dorchester community – including constant deliveries of food and supply donations and even a rolling rally in support of workers held last week – has been a big boost for morale.

“It’s been overwhelmingly positive and powerful. The nail shops donating supplies, the pizzerias sending in food, the school kids sending in messages. It uplifts the team,” he said. “That support has been the elixir that helps us all navigate through these challenging times.”

Wahlburgers is the latest restaurant chain to rally around Carney healthcare workers. Actor and Dorchester native Mark Wahlberg last Friday tweeted that his brother Paul delivered @Wahlburgers to the staff at Carney Hospital in his hometown of Dorchester, MA today! Grateful to be able to pay Photo courtesy Mark Wahlberg/Twitter

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At left, Dorchester artist Elizabeth Rouse painted a message to medical workers and first responders on the front windows of the Banshee last week.
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BARRY, Elaine (Sulivan) Elaino grew up and lived her entire life in Dorchester, spending her time as an active member of Saint Gregory's Parish (ector and bingo volunteer) and as a teacher for over 20 years at Saint Gregory's elementary school. She grew up attending Saint Gregory's through High School making lifelong friends who are too numerous to name individually. Elaine is survived by her husband Joseph of 58 years, her two sons Joseph (Suzanne) and Richard, her grand- daughters, Kathyn and Abigail, her first cousin Joseph (Ann) Deonnell (and family) and her sister-in- law Marjorie Foster (and family). A Mass will be scheduled at later date. Contributions can be made to Saint Gregory's Parish, 2215 Dorchester Ave., Boston, MA 02124.

COLLINS, Timothy J.F. of Walpole, formerly of Dorchester and Canton, passed away at the age of 84. A Mass will be scheduled at later date.

DOHERTY, Cath- erine Veronica “Dolly” of Dorchester, originally from Malin Head, Co. Donegal, Ireland. Sister-in-law of the late Louise (nee Tobin), Patrick John, Denis, Neal, Michael Joseph, Mary Brogdon Doherty, all of Ireland, and Anna McNaul, of England. Sister-in-law of the late Peggy, Julia, ca, Elizabeth, and Pauline. A Memorial Mass will be celebrated at a later date. Donations can be made to St. John’s Catholic Church, 1725 Dorchester Ave., Dorchester, MA 02124.

DUFFY, Joseph Emmet, was born in Westwood, Dorchester, Ft. Lauderdale, FL, and Chelmsford, MA. Son of the late Josephine M. (MacVarish). Father of the late Marion and the late A. Duffy of Mass. Brother of the late Joseph W. and the late W. of Norwell. "Grandpa" of 7 great-grand-children, 6 of whom are named Eugene. Survived by his wife, Kathleen of South Boston, one brother, John of Easton, and one sister, Margaret of Hingham. A Celebration of Life Mass will take place at a later date.

DUFFY, Anthony John of Dorchester, formerly of Brighton, son of the late Joseph J. and Margaret (nee McCarthy) Molle, Sr. and Richard (nee Reardon) Molle and her late husband, Donnie. Also survived by many cran great-nieces and nephews. Memos, MaryAnn Duffy, Anne Duffy, and Reginald Duffy. Survived by several nieces and nephews. Memorial donations in Eugene’s memory may be made to The Disabled American Veterans.

GRZYBINSKI, Mary Ann of Norwell. "Grampy" of 10 grandchildren, as well as her 7 great-grand- children. Cherished grand- daughter of Maryann Grzybinski of Holbrook, Paula Campbell, of Marshfield (O’Donnell), and Mark and Terry Grzybinski of Harwich, Fred and Mary Grzybinski of Easton. A Mass will be scheduled at later date. Contributions can be made to the Alzheimer’s Association, 309 Waverley Ave., Boston, MA 02124.

HUSKINS, Walter E., 90, of East Orange, NJ. He was born in Dorchester to Walter E. and Ann (nee Higgins) Huskins. He was a teacher for over 30 years at the Boston University Law School. He also served as an officer in the US Navy and Naval Reserve. Mr. Huskins is survived by his wife, Mary (nee Galvin) of North Attleborough. In Mr. Huskins’ memory to the Alzheimer’s Association, 309 Waverley Ave., Boston, MA 02124.

KIRK, John R. Collins and his wife, Maureen, of North Attleborough. Son of the late Alfred S. and Anna (nee towering) Kirk. Father of twenty-one grandchildren, as well as her 7 great-grand-children. Memorial donations in Eugene’s memory may be made to Ethos, 555 Amory Street, Boston, MA 02124.

McNEELY, Sally Ann of Dorchester. Daughter of Joseph and Mary O’Donnell of Connamara, Ireland. Mother to Maureen O’Donnell and her husband Robert of Woburn, MA. A Mass will be scheduled at later date. Memorial donations in Sally’s memory may be made to the Animal Resiliency Fund, 1 City Hall Square, Room 4F, Bos- ton, MA 02108.

PALINGO, James Tucker, formerly of Dorchester. Son of the late Alfred and Marie (nee Whelan) Palingo. A Mass will be scheduled at later date. Memorial donations in James’s memory may be made to the American Parkinson Disease Association, 1501 Sansom St. Philadelphia, PA 19102.

PETRINA, Salvago, 90, of West Roxbury, formerly of Dorchester, formerly of Milton, Mass., and son of the late Alphonse and Helen (nee Pagan) Petrino. Mr. Petrino was a lifelong resident of Dorchester. Memorial donations in Joe’s memory may be made to the Alzheimer’s Association, 309 Waverley Ave., Boston, MA 02124.

PERRY, Frederick J., Jr. of Woburn. Husband and father of the late Mary Anna Perry, father of Father Frederick J. Perry, III and his wife, Dorothy Perry, Daniel Perry of Woburn and his wife, Maureen. He is also survived by his brother, Mr. Perry and his wife Corinne Dupee of Medford, his nephews and nieces, including Paul Galvin and his husband, the Honorable Mayor of Woburn, and Mary Okan, and his nieces, Pamela A. Connolly and her husband Thomas, David Petrino of the late Mr. Petrino’s memory to the American Parkinson Disease Association. Memorial donations may be made to 1 East Concord Street, Rum, MA 02129.

PETRINA, Maria McLaughlin of Quincy, formerly of Dorchester to Walter E. and Ethel (nee Tranquillo) Huskins, Sr. and Catharine (nee Palingo) Molle and her late husband, Donnie. Also survived by many cran great-nieces and nephews. Memorial donations in Eugene’s memory may be made to Ethos, 555 Amory Street, Boston, MA 02124.

PERRY, Kathlene Patricia, 77, of 1071 W. 9th St., Watertown, Ms. Perry was a lifelong resident of Dorchester. Memorial donations in Kathlene’s memory may be made to The Disabled American Veterans.

PERRY, Mrs. Thomas F. of Milton, formerly of Dorchester, formerly of Dorchester, formerly of Dorchester. Memorial donations in Sally’s memory may be made to the Animal Resiliency Fund, 1 City Hall Square, Room 4F, Boston, MA 02124.

PETRINA, Maria McLaughlin of Quincy, formerly of Dorchester to Walter E. and Ethel (nee Tranquillo) Huskins, Sr. and Catharine (nee Palingo) Molle and her late husband, Donnie. Also survived by many cran great-nieces and nephews. Memorial donations in Eugene’s memory may be made to Ethos, 555 Amory Street, Boston, MA 02124.

PERRY, Mrs. Thomas F. of Milton, formerly of Dorchester, formerly of Dorchester, formerly of Dorchester. Memorial donations in Sally’s memory may be made to the Animal Resiliency Fund, 1 City Hall Square, Room 4F, Boston, MA 02124.
SAMESKI, Eileen P. (Fleming) of West Roxbury, OFD. Wife of the late Michael J. Sameski, III. Mother of Mary Mariano and her husband Paul; Robert and his wife Terri; Richard ("Sammy"); and Michael and his wife Laurie. Grandmother of 12. Sister of Paul Fleming and the late Leo Fleming, Sr. Mary Fleming, OSF; and Sr. Anne Fleming, SC. Eileen had one of the longest prayer lines known to date - always praying and thinking of others. Due to guidelines put in place by Gov. Charles Baker and the Archdiocese of Boston, Funeral Services will be private. Donations in Eileen’s memory may be made to The Franciscan Center, 310 N. Perry Ave., Tampa, FL 33603 franciscancentertampa.org or Sisters of Charity Ministry Fund, Sisters of Charity Centre, 215 Seton Road, Halifax, Neva Scotia B3M 0C9 Canada schalifax.ca

WALSH, James C. "Gaucho" of Braintree, formerly of Dorchester, suddenly. Husband of Nancy M. (McKenna) Walsh. Father of James C. Walsh, Jr. and his wife Jane of Weymouth. Son of the late Honorable Joseph B. and Catherine (Manning) Walsh. Brother of Brian C. (Maureen) of Whitman, Joseph and Christopher of Dorchester, Robert (Rose) of Norfolk, and Stephen (Heidi) of Pembroke. Brother-in-law of George and Brian McKenna of Dorchester, Thomas (Betty-Ann), James, and John of Weymouth, Elaine O’Connor (Charles), Carol Sullivan (John), and Patricia Hanlon (Michael) of Marshfield, Marianne Kelley (Francis) of Milton, and Stephen McKenna (Debbie) of Randolph. Son-in-law of Anne McKenna. Also survived by many nieces, nephews, and friends. Member of Local #589. Longtime employee of the MBTA & MCCA. Donations may be made in James’ memory to the American Heart Association.

ST. PAUL, Andre, 95 of Mattapan. Husband of Marie Vesta St. Paul. Father of Michel, Jean Vilaire, Gardy, Pierre, Jamie, Daniel, Michelle, and Nadège St. Paul. He also leaves behind 10 grandchildren and other relatives that will miss him dearly.

WALSH, Thomas A. of West Roxbury, formerly of Dorchester, passed away from complications of COVID-19. Husband of 55 years to Patricia (Sweeney) Walsh. Father of Patricia Huska and her husband Stephen of West Roxbury and Marybeth Chang and her husband David of Wellesley. "Pops" of 4. Brother of his twin Stephen Walsh of Roslindale, Joseph Walsh of Boca Raton, FL and Sr. Barbara Joseph Walsh of Wellesley, and the late Mary Machaby, Michael Walsh, and Ann Walsh. Brother-in-law of William Sweeney of Milton. Tom is also survived by many nieces, nephews, cousins and loyal friends. Late 46-year employee of Boston Gas and U.S. Army Veteran. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. Donations in Tom’s memory may be made to St. Theresa of Avila Church, 2076 Centre Street, West Roxbury, MA 02132.

WILLIAMS, Jerry of Dorchester. Husband of Bobbie J. Williams. Father of Sharoll, Antoinette, Michael, and Taunya. Grandfather of 9, and great-grandfather of 2. Son of the late Honorables, Mrs. Voncile Thomas-Allen and Mrs. Dorothy Thomas-Spencer of Birmingham, AL. He leaves nieces, nephews, extended family and friends. Jerry is predeceased by his daughters, Debra and Sandra. A private service is planned.

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