

Dorchester Reporter

"The News and Values Around the Neighborhood"

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Staff from the Daily Table in Codman Square sporting face-coverings made for them through the Boston Area Mask Initiative: (l-r) Jason Carpenter, Charonda Williams, Derrick Williams, and Wanda Saldana Valverde.

Photo courtesy Daily Table

Dot-based program engages volunteer mask-makers who deliver the goods on request 50,000 calls in 7 weeks

By DANIEL SHEEHAN
REPORTER STAFF

In the wake of last week's executive order from Gov. Baker mandating the use of face masks in public, mask-making efforts have expanded across the commonwealth. The Boston Area Mask Initiative, a grassroots movement founded in March by Stephanie Cave, a Dorchester resident, is among the groups at the forefront of that call to action.

In the first two weeks after Cave began her effort on March 20, she received requests for more than 2,500 masks. Since then, demand has only increased, with total requests nearing 50,000 this

week. "Requests are still coming in every single day," she said.

The initiative is a collaboration among local leaders: Cave, a quilter with a background in non-profit management, enlisted the services of City Councillor Annisssa Essaibi-George's Stitch House on Dorchester Avenue, Virginia Johnson's Gather Here fabric store in Cambridge, and medical professionals in proximity to the front lines of the crisis to help the movement.

With a team of around 700 sewers and volunteers — residents from Greater Boston and both the North



Stephanie Cave
Founder of BAMI

(Continued on page 11)

Ballot set for 12th Suffolk primary contest

By KATIE TROJANO
REPORTER STAFF

Two women and two men, all Democrats, have been certified to appear on the ballot in the Sept. 1 primary election to choose a successor for state Rep. Dan Cullinane in the 12th Suffolk District.

The candidates who turned in the required number of voter signatures are Cameron Charbonnier, Stephanie Everett, Brandy Fluker-Oakley, and Jovan Lacet.

The Supreme Judicial Court last month cut the number of names candidates needed to qualify for the ballot in half, from 150 to 75, citing the extra

difficulties posed by social distancing measures.

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.

Charbonnier, a Dorchester resident and a longtime aide to Mayor Walsh, officially launched his campaign on Tuesday. He told the *Reporter* that his campaign had turned in more than 200 signatures just a few days before the SJC's decision was announced, receiving confirmation that he "would be certified on the ballot just a few hours before the decision came down."

"I am really happy to not only say I have turned

(Continued on page 5)

Walsh warns on pace of reopening, says if it's not done 'slowly,' risks would be great

By KATIE TROJANO
REPORTER STAFF

Mayor Martin Walsh told Dorchester civic leaders on Monday evening that re-opening businesses and other activities "too quickly" would be a "big mistake," even as statistics show a slight reduction in positive test cases citywide. The mayor participated in a video chat along with members from three community groups — Dorchester Unified Neighborhoods, Redefining our Community (ROC), and the West Selden St. & Vicinity Neighborhood Association.

Walsh's comments came a few hours after Gov. Baker had laid out a four-phase plan for gradually "re-opening" Massachusetts. The first phase — targeted to begin on May 18 — would apply to businesses that are best able to limit person-to-person contacts.

"I would rather open slowly and steady and I'm trying to encourage the state to do the same," Walsh said. "Once you open up, I don't think you can afford to shut back down. I'm resisting opening too quickly and I think that that would be a big mistake."

Construction would be one of the first industries to reopen, Walsh said. "We're looking at... opening up hospital, school, and road construction in the city on the 19th. And as of now, planning on opening all

(Continued on page 13)

New brand, same mission for SullyMac Multi-faceted firm says Dot community 'mirrors our values'

By KATIE TROJANO
REPORTER STAFF

One of Dorchester's largest private employers is a Port Norfolk-based company that was founded in 1969 by two men, Bill "Sully" Sullivan and John "Mac" McLaughlin, who gave it their names: Sullivan & McLaughlin, better known by their current business handle, "SullyMac."

After more than 50 years, the owners of the electrical construction and maintenance firm are rebranding their tagline from "The Power of Performance" to "Get there better. Together."

The firm is now owned by a second generation of McLaughlins. Led by president John McLaughlin and his brother-in-law, executive vice-president John Rudicus, it has grown into one of the region's premier contracting firms.

Rudicus said this year's rebranding came with "very interesting timing. With the pandemic that nobody expected, we are getting through it better

(Continued on page 16)



John O. Scannell
"A smile, a song"

John O. Scannell dies at 93; fought in WWII; helped organize Dot Day

By BILL FORRY
EDITOR

John O. Scannell, a longtime Dorchester resident and World War II veteran who was a key figure in ceremonies to

honor his fellow servicemen and women and his adopted neighborhood, died on Wed., May 6, at age 93. Mr. Scannell, who passed away at Carney Hospital, tested positive for

COVID-19 in the days before his death.

He had been slowed in recent years by respiratory illnesses caused by years of work fixing

(Continued on page 15)



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South Bay Wahlburgers closed ‘indefinitely’

By DANIEL SHEEHAN
REPORTER STAFF

Wahlburgers’ South Bay location has closed indefinitely, according to company representatives. A notice posted on the restaurant’s storefront informed customers that the company had made the “difficult decision” to close the restaurant there while keeping the chain’s Fenway, Lynnfield, and Hingham locations open.

Wahlburgers representatives confirmed the closure in an email soon afterward.

“We have been doing our best to keep all of our corporate Wahlburgers locations open and serving our communities as long as we possibly can while we navigate these challenging times,” wrote Katie Piepora, Director of Communica-

tions at Wahlburgers. “Being our hometown, the decision did not come lightly. We are committed to continue supporting the frontline & hospital workers in the area and our Hingham, Lynnfield and Fenway locations will remain open to serve our guests and the broader Boston-area community.”

In December 2018, the South Bay eatery became the latest branch of the national chain to open in Massachusetts. Until this week, the restaurant had been open for takeout and delivery service. Last month, Wahlburgers donated food to medical workers on the front lines of the COVID-19 crisis at Carney Hospital.

It remains unclear what “indefinitely” means with respect to the location.

South Bay’s 110 Grill re-opens

110 Grill in South Bay will reopen for takeout on Wed., May 13 at 4 p.m. The eatery had previously been closed since late March. Hours will be 11:30 a.m. - 8 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, and 11:30 a.m. - 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

Takeout options range from appetizers, salads, and sandwiches to pasta dishes, steak and seafood, and vegetarian entrees. Takeout orders can be placed online, over the phone, or through the 110 Grill app.

— DANIEL SHEEHAN



COVID-19 testing is now available in this tent outside the Daniel Driscoll – Neponset Health Center.

COVID-19 testing now available at Daniel Driscoll – Neponset Health Center

COVID-19 testing is now available at Daniel Driscoll – Neponset Health Center for current and new Harbor Health patients by appointment on weekdays, 8:30 a.m.- 5 p.m. Tests are conducted in a tent located outside the health center at 398 Neponset Ave. with the support of

funding from the City of Boston, Mayor Martin Walsh, and contributors to the Boston Resiliency Fund. Results are provided within 5 days and the testing team will also give you care and safety information so you know what to do while you wait for your results.

You may also need a test if you were exposed to COVID-19, tested positive for COVID-19 before, or have recovered from symptoms of COVID-19 and need to return to work. To make an appointment, call 617-282-3200 or visit hhsi.us/covid-19-testing.

New testing, food offered for free at Sportsmen’s site

Healthcare professionals from Brigham and Women’s Hospital opened a COVID-19 testing site at the Sportsmen’s Tennis and Enrichment Center in Dorchester this week. The site will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and will continue testing daily through Friday, May 15.

In addition to testing for the virus, workers will screen for food insecurity. Those who are eligible will receive boxes

of fresh fruits and vegetables and the potential to receive eight free weeks of food delivery. Testing will be provided on a walk-in, first-come, first-serve basis. Participants are not required to be Brigham and Women patients or have health insurance. No one will be asked about immigration status. Data collected at Brigham Health’s testing sites in Hyde Park,

Mission Hill and Roxbury has detected worsening food security for residents— up about 10 percent. At the Tobin Community Center in Roxbury, 50 percent of residents who visited the site between May 4 and 9 were screened as food insecure. Sportsmen’s Tennis and Enrichment Center is located at 950 Blue Hill Ave., Dorchester, 02124.

— KATIE TROJANO

May 14, 2020	
Boys & Girls Club News	17
Opinion/Editorial/Letters	8
Business Directory	18
Obituaries	14
Days Remaining Until	
Memorial Day	11
Dorchester Day	24
Father’s Day	31
Flag Day	38
Independence Day	58
Quadracentennial of Dot	3,779
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UPCOMING CIVIC MEETINGS AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

Upcoming ZBA hearings online – The May 19 hearing of the Zoning Board of Appeal will be held virtually, via video conferencing and/or telephone. Interested persons can participate by following a link at boston.gov/public-notices to the virtual hearing, or by calling into the virtual hearing via telephone. Local projects scheduled on May 19 starting at 9:30 a.m. include: 1080 Adams St., 511 Gallivan Blvd., 577 Freeport St., 820 Morrissey Blvd., 11 Greenmount St.; 67 Sanford St., Mattapan; 48 Hansborough St., Dorchester; 682 Blue Hill Ave., Dorchester; 707 Walk Hill St., Mattapan; 643 Morton St., Mattapan. A ZBA hearing on May 14 starting at 5 p.m. will include: 58 Rockne Ave., 37 Melville Ave., 28 Roslin St.

Where to go for food resources in Dot, Mattapan— 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 free breakfast and lunch sites for Boston students, meal sites for adults, and locations of food pantries and soup kitchens across the city.

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

Dorchester Youth Meal Sites: McCormack Middle School, 315 Mt. Vernon St.; Lilla G. Frederick Pilot Middle School, 270 Columbia Rd.; BCYF Holland, 85 Olney St.; BCYF Marshall, 35 Westville St.; VietAID, 42 Charles St.; Community Academy of Science and Health, 11 Charles St.; Faith Christian Church, 301 Harvard St.; Joseph Lee K-8 School, 155 Talbot Ave.; Dorchester YMCA, 776 Washington St.; **Dorchester Food Pantries:** USCCB/Blessed Mother Te-

resa Parish, 800 Columbia Rd.; Salvation Army/Kroc Center Emergency Food Pantry, 650 Dudley St.; St. Mary’s Food Pantry, 14 Cushing Ave.; Pilgrim Church Community Lunch, 540 Columbia Rd.; Holy Tabernacle Church, 70 Washington St.; CCAB/Yawkey Center, 185 Columbia Rd.; Dot House, 1353 Dorchester Ave.; Greater Anointing Church Pantry, 20 Charlotte St.; Bethel Tabernacle Pentecostal Church, 12 Bicknell St.; Codman Square Health Center, 378-A Washington St.; Eglise Baptiste Haitienne, 1 Dix St.; BCYF Leahy Holloran* (Adult Meal Site), 1 Worrell St.; CSNDC/Franklin Hill Food Pantry, 1 Shandon Rd.; Faith Pentecostal Church, 301 Harvard St.; Harvard Street Neighborhood Health Center, 895 Blue Hill Ave.; USCC/ St. Matthew’s Church Food Pantry, 33 Stanton St.; HHS/Neponset Health Center Food Pantry, 398 Neponset Ave.

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.

For more information regarding hours of operation, visit boston.gov.

Suspension of large events through Labor Day— On May 8th, Mayor Walsh announced that parades and festivals will not take place in the City of Boston this summer, up to and including Labor Day on Sept. 7, 2020. No permit will be issued “for events that bring crowds together in close contact, like a road race, concert, or flag raising,” he said. The Boston Symphony Orchestra

will not be holding a live performance of the Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular on July 4. Instead it will present, on television and online, A Boston Pops Salute to Our Heroes, in honor of front-line workers and all those who have lost their lives to the health crisis. City of Boston events that will move to a virtual option include the Donna Summer Disco and Gospelfest.

City Hall guidance on operations— All essential City of Boston services such as public safety, public health and maintenance operations including street cleaning, parks maintenance, trash and recycling pick up, etc will continue to be in operation. City Hall is open to the public only on Tuesdays and Fridays from 9 a.m.- 5 p.m. Public access to 1010 Massachusetts Avenue is limited to the Boston Public Health Commission on the 2nd Floor and residents must be accompanied when entering the building.

Everyone entering City Hall, including employees and members of the public, will be required to complete a self-screening for COVID-19 symptoms, including elevated temperature. Residents are required to make appointments if they need to visit any of the essential services offered out of City Hall, and can learn more about the status of city departments and hours of operation at boston.gov. All COVID-19 questions should be directed to the Mayor’s Health Line at 617-534-5050 or 311.

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Rollins asks SJC to move on drug cases

By DEBORAH BECKER
WBUR REPORTER

Saying her office continues to deal with two state drug lab scandals that happened years ago, Suffolk County District Attorney Rachael Rollins has asked the state’s highest court to vacate the convictions of 64 people who pleaded guilty to drug charges before testing showed that the substances they had were not illegal drugs.

Rollins said her office reviewed cases that included testing from the Hinton drug lab, though they are not connected to two lab employees charged with falsifying drug tests used as evidence in criminal cases. Both chemists — Annie Dookhan and Sonja Farak — spent time in prison after they were convicted of falsifying the tests. Farak went on to work at the Amherst state drug lab before she was charged. The state dismissed tens of thousands of criminal drug cases based on Dookhan’s and Farak’s testing.

Rollins said she is demonstrating the effect of mandatory minimum sentences on plea deals.

“Defendants have no bargaining power in plea deals,” Rollins said in a press release from her office. “Faced with long sentences if they go to trial and lose, as well as the threat of additional charges if the deal is not accepted, defendants will very often accept a deal.” Rollins said her office is continuing to review policies to make sure that future pleas are not affected by the “logistics of drug testing.”

This story was published by WBUR 90.9FM on May 11. The Reporter and WBUR share content through a media partnership.

Tee times get the green light from state; limits put in place

By COLIN A. YOUNG
STATE HOUSE
NEWS SERVICE

Private and public golf courses in Massachusetts— including the two city of Boston municipal courses in Dorchester and Hyde Park— re-opened late last week with “strict social distancing guidelines in place” after Gov. Baker updated the state-wide policy on Thursday morning.

The new rules require that “appropriate social distancing of six feet between individuals is strictly followed” and groups be limited to four golfers, as is traditional.

There will be no 19th hole — clubhouses, pro shops, restaurants and other facilities must remain closed, under the new rules.

The updated guidance mandated that all courses must comply with a strict set of restrictions — including a ban on caddies and motorized golf carts — and added that courses have hand sanitizer readily available.

Golfers had become vocal about their desire to get back on the links, and their frustration that the governor consistently encouraged people to get outside and get exercise, but did not seem to give



A golfer is shown teeing off at the Franklin Park golf course in Dorchester in this file photo.

real credence to the idea that golf could be a safe, distant activity.

“We’re not a warm weather state. It’s been winter for the most part. I get the fact that there are golfers who like to golf in the winter,” said Baker early last week. “But if you were to say to me ‘Do I think that golfing in the winter would be considered an essential thing to be doing at a point in time when we were closing down thousands and thousands

and thousands of other non-essential businesses in Massachusetts?’ my answer to that would be no.”

The governor was responding to a question from online golf columnist Tom Gorman, who recently dubbed the governor “Golf’s Grim Reaper.”

Of the states that closed golf courses at the start of the pandemic, Massachusetts was the last to allow the sport to resume. “Things have

gotten testy at times in Massachusetts as eager golfers have clamored their state government for golf courses to re-open,” Golf Advisor, which tracks the status of courses around the country, wrote Thursday morning.

Under the new guidance, golf courses can identify staff to serve as security personnel while masked and enforce social distancing, but no other employees may work the “recreational component” of the golf operation. Groundskeeping has been allowed

throughout the pandemic. Golfers will have to pay either online or via a remote payment method.

Players must wait in their car until 15 minutes before their tee time, and courses are required to keep practice greens and driving ranges closed. Tee times must be at least 15 minutes apart, according to the guidance.

Everyone must use his or her own clubs. Flagsticks must remain in the hole at all times, there will be no rakes to tidy bunkers, and

courses must remove or cover ball washers. Once the round is over, players must immediately return to their cars.

Guidance from the City of Boston also noted that face coverings are required, that reservations and payment must be done online at www.cityofboston.com. In-person reservations or payments will not be permitted.

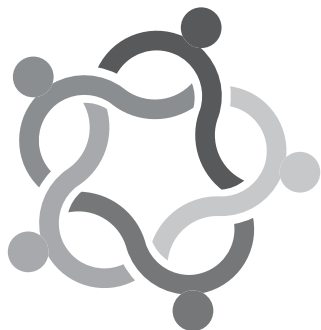
“Anyone who does not abide by the above regulations will not be allowed to access the City of Boston golf courses,” the guidance reads.

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Legislators press Baker to assign National Guard to mobile testing

**By KATIE TROJANO
REPORTER STAFF**
A group of nearly 60 state legislators last week urged Gov. Charlie Baker to activate the Massachusetts National Guard for mobile COVID-19 testing in public housing, low-income communities, and senior housing facilities.

State Sens. Nick Collins (South Boston) and Jamie Eldridge (Acton) and state Rep. Russell Holmes (Mattapan) organized the group with support from the Black and Latino Legislative Caucus, and the Massachusetts Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (MAHRO), a collection of public housing agencies from across the state.

“We know that low-income communities suffer from disproportionate rates of asthma, diabetes, hypertension, and other underlying illnesses that make them more vulnerable to COVID-19,” said Collins. “This is simply a question of prioritizing those vulnerable communities, placing equity at the center of our response to this crisis, and addressing these disparities head-on.”

Lawmakers are seeking to prioritize at-risk individuals, citing disproportionate levels of underlying health conditions in low-income communities that can

complicate the risks associated with COVID-19 and contribute to higher fatality rates.

“I am proud to stand with my colleagues in calling for this equitable response,” said Holmes. “Communities of color, low-income communities, and seniors deserve the same access to testing as anyone else, and this action would help level that playing field.”

The group is advocating for COVID-19 mobile testing as a way to break down barriers to access for communities that have historically been disadvantaged.

“Recognizing the urgency of COVID-19 hotspots being in working class communities, especially with large communities of color, many of whom live in affordable housing, including public housing, the letter that I co-authored with Sen. Collins and Rep. Holmes, signed by 23 state senators and 36 state representatives, urges Governor Baker and COVID-19 Command leader Secretary Mary Lou Sudders [to make] the next phase of mobile testing in senior, low-income and public housing developments across Massachusetts,” said Eldridge.

“I’m also urging that these efforts, often led by the Massachusetts National Guard, be coordinated with Governor Baker’s innovative contact tracing, to ask that community outreach efforts include asking people about their healthcare coverage, and signing residents up for health insurance coverage.”

Donna Brown, executive director of MAHRO said that prioritizing testing in at-risk communities, many of which are home to essential workers, is key to mitigating the spread of the virus.


“Two-thirds of the residents in public housing are seniors and people with disabilities who are at increased risk of contracting COVID-19. Many residents of public housing work in low-paid jobs providing essential services, such as nursing assistants, grocery store and restaurant employees, in contact with the public and at risk,” said Brown.

“Prioritizing testing of these populations is key to preventing and controlling COVID-19 outbreaks in public housing communities across the commonwealth.”

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State Senate seeks more data on virus impacts

**By SAM DORAN
STATE HOUSE
NEWS SERVICE**
The Senate on Monday approved a bill to step up daily COVID-19 reporting from the Department of Public Health after adding reporting requirements for state-licensed care facilities, gateway cities, and impacts inside state prisons and county jails.

Under the bill (S2695), a redraft of legislation (H4672) that passed the House three weeks ago, DPH would report daily data on resident and staff COVID-19 cases at facilities licensed by state agencies like DPH and the Executive Office of Elder Affairs, including long-term care facilities, skilled nursing facilities, and assisted living residences. The bill, if passed, would also require daily reports on the number of cases and fatalities among inmates and staff at all correctional facilities.

The data would be reported at a facility-specific level, while maintaining individuals’ privacy, according to a Senate official.

A task force would also be established to look at health disparities in underserved and underrepresented populations, Rodrigues said, including those based on culture, race, ethnicity, disability status, gender identity, sexual orientation, and age. The task force would face an Aug. 1 reporting deadline, with an interim report due by June 1.

Another amendment adopted Monday would establish a task force to look at impacts of the pandemic on gateway cities. Community hospitals in some gateway cities were converted by

the state to COVID-19 facilities, Rodrigues said, in some cases without consulting the surrounding communities.

During the pandemic, the DPH has released daily reports, usually around 4 p.m.

The number of new reported cases of COVID-19 detected in Massachusetts fell below 1,000 on Monday for the first time since April 5 with just 669 new cases reported. There have now been 78,462 confirmed coronavirus infections in Massachusetts, and the 129 new deaths reported Monday raised the total to date to 5,108.

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Regulators see surge in medical marijuana patients

**By COLIN A. YOUNG
STATE HOUSE
NEWS SERVICE**
While adult-use marijuana shops remain closed as non-essential businesses, the Cannabis Control Commission has seen a steady increase in the number of people registering as medical marijuana patients.

The CCC’s medical marijuana program had 72,502 certified and active patients in April, up almost 14 percent from the 63,720 patients active in the program in March, Executive Director Shawn Collins said Thursday during a CCC virtual meeting.

“That is something we are still seeing a surge in, but it is also something that we’ve been able to meet the demand of and process as well,” he said.

Since the pandemic began, the CCC has eased some of the requirements for becoming a medical marijuana patient, allowing new patients to become registered through a telehealth visit with a certifying physician rather than an in-person visit. That, combined with limited availability of legal marijuana, has contributed to a surge in patient registrations.

From March 23 through April 1, the CCC received more than 1,300 new patient registrations. In the 10 days prior, it received 500 patient registrations.

Before being allowed to renew their medical marijuana card, any patient who initially becomes registered via telehealth will have to visit their certifying clinician in person. To respond to the increased demand in the medical market, the CCC has told certain non-medical growers that they can now transfer their crops to the medical supply chain.

Though the product is largely identical, the medical program offers benefits not available in the recreational market. Medical marijuana is not taxed, patients can get marijuana delivered to their homes, and patients can buy edibles with higher THC levels than are allowed in the non-medical market.

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Self-knowledge, growth, progress form heart of Kadeem’s new work

By DANIEL SHEEHAN
ARTS & FEATURES EDITOR

“Passing Exchange,” a new audiovisual project released last week by Mattapan rapper Kadeem, begins with an audio recording ripped from a French documentary about Harlem in the 1960s. In the clip, the subject of the interview discusses black power in terms of self-identification: “Before you can cope with anything else, you gotta realize your self—your potential,” he advises.

That concept of “knowledge of self” dovetails with the themes of progression and growth at the core of the project, Kadeem told the Reporter in a recent interview.

“I was researching heavy trying to find something that resonated with me, and [the ‘60s] was kind of a perfect time because that was a really big awakening for a lot of black people; you had the civil rights movement, the Nation of Islam, the Black Panthers, all these conscious black movements rising together... When I was making the

project, I was thinking a lot about the theme of progression and moving forward, and that’s kind of what the video does.”

The video, which clocks in at just under ten minutes, pairs excerpts from each of the five tracks on the EP with a different visual accompaniment, creating distinct chapters and lending a sense of chronology to the project. The first sound we hear after the opening quote is the mechanical whir of bicycle wheels, cut together with shots of Kadeem traversing Mattapan on two wheels, a nod to his last album, *World Sport*, an ode in equal parts to his Schwinn bike and his hometown. But as Kadeem rides home and locks up the bicycle outside, the video hints at a transition from the old to the new — moving forward.

“I see this project as my stepping stone,” he explained. “Old parts don’t die off, they evolve into something else.”

The next chapter shows Kadeem at home going about his daily

routine: cooking breakfast, watering plants, doing dishes, penning rhymes at the kitchen table. While the footage was filmed in March, just days before stay-at-home orders went into place, the scene nevertheless conjures auras of lockdown and self-isolation.

“That was unintended, but it’s funny; it’s crazy that time tells all,” said Kadeem. “Now here we are, and that part really resonates.”

A series of close-up shots of the plants, meant to symbolize growth, suggest to the viewer that development is possible even in a contained environment — “even something as simple as a daily routine is moving forward,” noted the rapper.

The remainder of the video puts the neighborhood of Mattapan center stage, as Kadeem directs bars toward the camera from various spots on Morton Street, River Street, and Cummins Highway. Like “*World Sport*,” “*Passing Exchange*” derives much of its context from a

sense of place; the aid of a camera makes that geographic connection explicit, vividly showing the Mattapan MC in his element.

“A Cross to Bear,” the third track on the album, is set to images of religious iconography and exterior shots of the Church of the Holy Spirit. Kadeem explained that the song is about “the juxtaposition of good and bad” that he sees in his home neighborhood, an idea laid out in the song’s hook:

“Sunshine right all in my face, while another child met the cued horns/ I got caught up dodging the rain on the way to greet a newborn.”

That duality of “another kid getting shot down in the street” while others are “celebrating new life” struck Kadeem as poignant, he said. With the last bar of his second verse, he positions that juxtaposition in a hopeful light, reasoning, “I know there’s beauty in the swallows of our failed space.”

The final chapter is set to “Big Gains,” the fourth track on the project that begins with another quote from the subject interviewed in the documentary: “This community for so long has been made up in the



Mattapan rapper Kadeem has released a new audiovisual project titled “Passing Exchange,” filmed in March days before stay-at-home orders went into place.

news media that there’s a wild bunch of animals running around here and crime is rampant and nobody cares, and it’s not that way at all — a lot of people care.”

While earlier parts of the project deal with heavier themes, “Big Gains” is “just about fun,” said Kadeem. The video depicts a typical weekend night: hanging with a friend outside Morton Pizza, drinking, dancing, laughing, having a good time.

“It just shows that I can go through all this stuff, I can talk about all this stuff, I can be as wise as I may be perceived to be, but at the end of the day, I still like to kick it with the

homies,” he explained.

Toward the end, the fraternal, good-natured vibe of the video is punctuated by a surprise cameo from an MBTA bus driver who happened to stop as Kadeem was rapping his final bars. Without breaking his flow, Kadeem greets the grinning driver with a handshake before returning to his spot on the sidewalk.

“That was my favorite part, actually,” said Kadeem. “It happened so serendipitously.”

Noting the care his community members have for one another, he chalked the random occurrence up to a simple axiom: “You show love, you know love.”

Grant program seeks to aid artists of color in Dot, Mattapan

A new artist relief initiative intended to help artists of color living along the Fairmount Cultural Corridor (FCC) in Dorchester, Roxbury, Mattapan, and Hyde

Park is now accepting applications for grants.

The initiative will disburse grants of \$1,000 to qualifying artists of color engaged in a wide definition of traditional

and nontraditional arts including culinary arts, dance, street theater, performance art, music, photography, graphic design, fabrics, and more. Any artist of color who lives in Dorchester, Roxbury, Mattapan, or Hyde Park who has lost work or other income due to COVID-19 can qualify.

The application, available via DotNews.com, will remain open through May 15.

The FCC Initiative is a creative place making project that engages residents, artists, community organizations and small businesses to support vibrant, livable neighborhoods along the Fairmount Commuter Line. It is made up of a variety of partnering organizations including the Fairmount Innovation Lab, the Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative, the Design Studio for Social Intervention, Uphams Corner Main Street, and Art-morpheus, Inc.

This initiative is sponsored by The Kresge Foundation to support the sustainability and advancement of artists along the Fairmount Corridor during this time of crisis.

—DANIEL SHEEHAN



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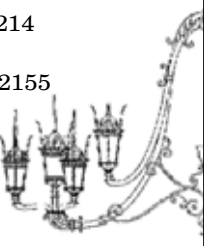
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Boston Public Library
COVID-19 UPDATE

The Boston Public Library issued this guidance on March 16, 2020.

At this point, there are few people who have not been impacted in some way by the COVID-19 virus. Here at the Boston Public Library, we are doing everything in our power to continue to bring you important services.

All locations closed

As of 6 p.m. Monday, March 16, all BPL locations are closed until further notice. All online services will remain available.

All events cancelled

As a preventative mea-

sure to minimize the spread of COVID-19, all Boston Public Library programs and events have been cancelled. This includes all events—classes, programs, and workshops—at all of our branches.

As always, we are closely following the directives of the City of Boston and the Boston Public Health Commission.

Don’t worry about due dates

The BPL has waived all library fines through May 1.

In addition, all books will be automatically renewed for an additional 15 weeks, and any

library cards that were to expire in March and April have had their expiration dates extended to October.

Online resources

We are also able to provide you with additional options from books to skill training online at bpl.org.

We invite you to explore our extensive offerings, including the ability to stream and download the diverse content available through applications like Kanopy and Hoopla, or to learn new skills with lynda.com. We can also help you with personalized reading recommendations through Shelf-Service.

If you don’t have a library card yet or your account has expired, learn how to get an eCard.

And if you have research questions, the team at ask@bpl.org is also here to help.

Keep each other safe


We all have a role to play in protecting our communities and mitigating the spread of coronavirus. Please also visit boston.gov and bphc.org for the latest updates.

NOTICE

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

We will announce when the houses will be once again open to the public.

For now our programs have been suspended.



William Clapp House, 195 Boston Street
Lemuel Clap House, 199 Boston Street
James Blake House, 735 Columbia Road

www.dorchesterhistoricalsociety.org

The Dorchester Reporter is proud to have the support of the Martin W. Richard Foundation, which works to advance the values of inclusion, kindness, justice, and peace by investing in community programs that broaden horizons for young people and encourage them to celebrate diversity and engage in positive civic action. The foundation’s support for community journalism at this challenging time will help make it possible to continue bringing to you stories like the ones on this page and throughout the Reporter. You can learn more about the work and mission of the foundation at MartinRichardFoundation.org



Twelfth Baptist Church partners with Uber

A new partnership between Twelfth Baptist Church in Roxbury and Uber will offer free meals and rides to parishioners during the COVID-19 crisis.

“We are working with so many parishioners who are unable to access the food they need during this horrific pandemic,” said Rev. Willie Bodrick, II, the associate pastor at the Twelfth Baptist Church. “This program will allow us to help hundreds of people in our community and we encourage parishioners to contact us immediately to participate. We want to thank Uber for their leadership and generous support during this difficult time.”

Uber’s donation will also allow Twelfth Baptist to distribute access codes to hundreds of

parishioners in need to provide \$25,000 in free food delivered from local restaurants. The donation includes 1,000 free rides for community members in need of safe transportation.

“Families are facing so many challenges right now, and one of the most significant is access to food,” said Josh Gold, Uber’s Policy Director. “We are thankful to be able to partner with Twelfth Baptist to support families in need and also to support local restaurants as part of that work. Twelfth Baptist is a source of spirituality, strength and support to so many, and we are grateful for their partnership.”

The partnership is

part of Uber’s larger commitment to provide 10 million rides and food deliveries to healthcare workers, seniors, and people in need.

– KATIE TROJANO

Dot’s Boyd performs in recital on May 17

Dorchester resident and double-bassist Ajani Boyd will perform live in a virtual string recital on Sunday, May 17 at 2 p.m. as part of the 2020 Project STEP Spring Recital and Parent Benefit.

Boyd, a high school senior at the Boston Latin School, has been a member of Project STEP (String Training Education Program), a non-profit classical string training program for students of color, since kindergarten. He will be attending New York University in the fall.

Sunday’s event will highlight Project STEP’s



Ajani Boyd

four graduating seniors who have spent years mastering their craft, and will feature live performances of works by Popper, Lalo, Bach, Kabalevsky, and more. The event will also coincide with an online auction, with all proceeds supporting Project STEP.

You can tune in to Sunday’s live performance at b.link/ProjectSTEP.

– DANIEL SHEEHAN

Running Club plans ‘loop run’ for Memorial Day weekend

**BY DANIEL SHEEHAN
REPORTER STAFF**

Dorchester Running Club is planning a three-day “Social Distanced Loop Run” over Memorial Day weekend – with an extra emphasis on boosting business in Adams Village.

The event will begin on Sat., May 23 at 6 a.m. and end Monday, May 25 at 9 p.m.

The three-mile loop will cover a stretch between Neponset and Gallivan Boulevard and will end in Adams Village, with runners asked to show support by ordering takeout from a local business at the conclusion of their run.

Runners can participate solo or with someone they are quarantining with, or run a mile and pass off the next to a relay partner in their team. Each runner will depart in time slots spaced out by half-an-hour to accommodate social distancing. Runners, families, walkers, and dogs are all welcome with proper masks and distancing.

Runners not located in Dorchester are also invited to join virtually.

Stefanie O’Shea, president of Dorchester Running Club, said the idea behind the event was to reestablish a sense of normalcy and community for the club’s runners, while supporting local establishments at the same time.

“There are normally a lot of road races that weekend, so we were just trying to think of a way we can still run... and at the same time we wanted to give some business to the restaurants down there,” explained O’Shea. “We want to let people know we’re still here as a running community, and it



Dorchester Running Club member Meghan Nee will virtually run the Brooklyn Half Marathon this weekend.

seems that a lot of people have picked up running and walking during this time, so we want to welcome them, as well.”

Registration is \$20, or \$30 with a DRC Under Armour shirt included. For details and to sign up, visit dotrunners.org.

YESTERYEAR ARCHIVE DORCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Preston Chocolate Factory

One of the buildings of the Baker Chocolate complex was named the Preston Building in honor of another Dorchester chocolate maker, a former competitor to Baker. The Preston Building is a three-story structure on the Dorchester side of the river east of the bridge tucked behind the larger building that fronts on Adams Street, approximating the original location of the Edward Preston’s early mill.

As early as 1770, Edward Preston owned a chocolate mill on the Dorchester side of the Neponset River east of the bridge at Lower Mills. By the 1850s, John Preston had acquired land for a factory and a wharf at Commercial Point. Today’s photograph shows the factory building. The detail from the 1874 atlas shows the John Preston Wharf at the very right, while John’s home is on Mill Street near the left edge of the map, shown as a house in a large rectangle in yellow. He owned much of the property in the area.

The following is from the Boston Athenaeum:



“In the 1860s, John A. Preston Jr. (1828-1919) patented a new method for extracting oils from the beans and enlisted the services of the pharmaceutical profession to claim medicinal virtues for his hot cocoa beverage. An 1870 advertisement advised the reader that “[m]edical men recommend cocoa to invalids and convalescents, as preferable to tea or coffee; for, while soothing to the nervous system, it is restorative, invigorating and sustaining.”

John Preston earned an entry in the book “The Rich Men of Massachusetts: Containing a Statement of the Reputed Wealth of about Fifteen Hundred Persons,

with Brief Sketches of More than One Thousand Characters,” by A. Forbes and J.W. Greene. (Boston: Published by W.V. Spencer, 1851).

John Preston: Worth: \$50,000 – “Chocolate manufacturer; by which business he made his money, and which undoubtedly he will save. Brother of Elisha, and seems to emulate many of his rare qualities, especially his benevolence. A rich man cannot avoid at some time or other being useful. He is inevitably a reservoir; and, if he has not a faucet through which charities are constantly flowing, still he is a cistern, out of which taxes, at least, can be pumped, to



give succor to alms-houses.”

•••

The 1850 US Non-Population Schedules of the Census show that:

John Preston’s chocolate factory produced 8,777 pounds of chocolate plus 27,400 packets of cocoa, plus other articles with a total value of \$18,000. The Walter Baker Co. produced 357,000 pounds of chocolate that year with a value of \$36,000, and other cocoa products with a total value of \$46,000.

The archive of these historical posts can be viewed on the blog at dorchesterhistorical-society.org. The Dorchester Historical Society’s historic houses are open on different dates. The Lemuel Clap House (1712 and remodeled 1765) at 199 Boston Street is open on the third Saturday of each month. The James Blake House, 735 Columbia Road (1661) and the William Clap House, 195 Boston Street (1806) are open on the third Sunday of each month. Open hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Editorial

Zoila Weddborn: Healer, peacemaker



Zoila Weddborn, who worked as a nurse at Boston Medical Center before her retirement, died last Thursday on the same Intensive Care Unit floor where she had lovingly cared for her neighbors for four decades. She was 79 years old and had been diagnosed with coronavirus.

Like so many other great Bostonians of her generation, Zoila was born outside the United States. She emigrated from Honduras as a young woman and raised her family here in Dorchester. Short in stature, she radiated warmth and was blessed with a sweet smile.

Zoila absorbed more than her share of tragedy. The fact that she is best known in our community not as a healer but as the grandmother of the late Louis D. Brown and the mother of Tina Chéry, founder of the Peace Institute named for her son, says a lot. When she wasn't helping her fellow Bostonians battle illness, she was helping neighbors wounded badly by the trauma of violence to find healing. That has been the life's work of Zoila, Tina, and Louis's sister Alexandra, who also works with survivors.

On Friday, an emotional Mayor Walsh paid tribute to Zoila in his press briefing. He recalled that up until March, she had been a daily fixture in the lobby of City Hall, where she took on work as a greeter after retiring from BMC.

"A couple of days before City Hall shut down, she gave me a big hug and told me she loved me," recalled the mayor. "She never stopped caring for our community. She was a healer in our city and her passing is a tremendous loss. Tina and her family need us to wrap our arms around them right now."

Last Sunday, Tina carried on with the annual Mother's Day Walk for Peace, which her mother never missed in 23 years. The event was held online this year, but still managed to raise a very strong \$350,000 in donations for the work of the Peace Institute. A good portion of those funds were dedicated to Zoila.

In sharing the news about her mom's death, Tina wrote that working on the ICU for 40 years had "taught our mother to plan and prepare."

"She always said, 'Anyone who loves their family will write down their wishes before they die so their family does not have the burden of disagreeing while making final decisions.' Our mother was always clear with us and her grandchildren that if she ever gets sick, she does not want to live on a machine."

Zoila, she said, died just minutes after her children honored her wishes. "We want to offer our heartfelt gratitude, respect, and admiration for all healthcare workers, especially our dear friend Odessa Boykins and the SICU team at BMC for their exceptional love and care. They are more than a healthcare team, they are our family. We thank them for their compassion while caring for our Mom and their compassion while preparing our family to say our final goodbyes to her flesh. Zoila's spirit lives on through us and through each of you in your love and prayers."

-Bill Forry

Commentary

Things to ponder during Asthma Awareness Month

BY ETHAN EVANS AND VEENA DHARMARAJ

The COVID-19 pandemic is causing global suffering, pain, and loss of life. It is changing how we live, work, and get around, and having a growing impact on our economy. This public health crisis has forced us to physically distance from one another at a time when social connection is particularly important. World Asthma Awareness Month is a stark reminder that high air pollution levels result in worse health outcomes, especially for those without access to quality healthcare. The need to fix our long-neglected transportation system, a leading source of harmful air pollution and carbon emissions, is more apparent than ever.

With the nation sheltering in place, there were very few cars on the road. Cities, including Boston, Los Angeles, Chicago, and New York City are seeing a significant drop in transportation pollution and emissions since the COVID-19 health crisis began. Although satellite images of clear skies are being momentarily highlighted, pollution levels are likely to return now that stay-at-home orders are being eased.

The pandemic has exposed the flaws and disparities in our public health and transportation systems. A recent nationwide Harvard study found that COVID-19 patients with historically long-term exposure to air pollution are 15 percent more likely to die than those who live in less polluted areas. Communities of color have consistently borne a disproportionate burden from air pollution and new data shows that these communities—particularly Black and Latino populations—face a higher risk when it comes to the novel coronavirus, as well as other respiratory illnesses.

We are seeing this play out in neighborhoods like Chelsea, Brockton, Everett, Lynn, Lawrence, Hyde Park, Mattapan, and Dorchester that have some of the highest rates of COVID-19 infection

in Massachusetts. These are the same communities where many essential workers live, that experience higher air pollution levels, and rely on public transit.

Vehicle electrification should be a key component of our clean transportation and public health strategy and a part of any federal COVID recovery plan. Our bus networks are the perfect starting point for accelerating our electrification efforts. They transport the highest number of low-income riders dependent on transit, and when they run on diesel, they emit pollutants that have been linked to respiratory and cardiovascular illnesses. Electric buses, on the other hand, have no tailpipe emissions. Further, electric buses produce significantly fewer global warming emissions than their fossil fuel counterparts.

Not only that, once lifetime fuel and maintenance savings are factored in, each electric bus ends up paying dividends that can be reinvested into expanding the bus fleet. According to a report from MASSPIRG, the lifetime savings of an electric bus add up to \$140,000. And to cover the initial cost, city governments can and should use municipal bonds, supplemented by gas tax and toll revenue. Prioritizing electrification should go hand in hand with expanding dedicated bus lanes along key routes, increasing frequency of service, and strengthening sanitation protocols to keep transit workers and riders safe.

Clean air should not be just a temporary outcome of a global health crisis. By electrifying our cars, buses, and trucks, we can make way for the long-term public health and climate benefits that come from phasing out fossil fuel emissions in our transportation sector.

Ethan Evans is a national campaign associate with the US Public Interest Research Group and Veena Dharmaraj is the director of transportation for the Massachusetts Sierra Club.

It's good to see push back against Trump's assault on clean water

BY JACK CLARKE

There are almost one hundred lawsuits pending against the Trump Administration as it does its best to recklessly dismantle America's common-sense public health and environmental protections.

In addition to taking advantage of the coronavirus pandemic by providing an enforcement holiday for industrial polluters, among the most blatant rollbacks is one taking place under the Clean Water Act of 1972.

A proposed rule coming out of the White House would gut defenses against pollution for about half the country's wetlands and millions of miles of streams that are primarily fed by rainfall. It is an unprecedented and dramatic setback of decades of environmental security for our nation's waters.

And it won't be going unchallenged, as Mass Audubon, the Conservation Law Foundation, and the National Resources Defense Council, along with five watershed groups from around the country, have filed a legal action in the federal district court in Boston to stop the repeal.

Although America's overall water quality has improved significantly since passage of the Clean Water Act, a recent federal assessment showed that nearly half of the nation's rivers and streams, a third of our wetlands, and a fifth of our coastal waters and Great Lakes waters are still in "poor biological condition."

Rather than reverse an almost five-decade legacy of clean water protection, we need to step up our efforts in the fight against pollution along with the negative impacts of climate change.

The Clean Water Act is one of the nation's most important environmental laws. It safeguards permanent and temporary rivers, lakes, channels, creeks and streams that millions of Americans rely on for drinking water and for activities such as swimming, fishing, and hunting.

The law also protects millions of acres of associated wetlands that keep those water bodies healthy by filtering out pollutants and reducing flood damage—these are public health and safety benefits that should not be lessened in this time of climate change-induced weather disruption.

In New England, the rule changes would also affect isolated wetlands and thousands of vernal pools—seasonal bodies of water in forests that provide habitat to many wildlife species includ-

ing resident and migratory birds.

Of the Bay State's 143 breeding bird species recently evaluated by Mass Audubon, 43 percent are "highly vulnerable" to the effects of climate change alone. Reducing the protections for critical waters used by avian life to breed, nest and raise their young will only add to their levels of stress and vulnerability.

Nationally, we've already lost 3 billion birds in the past half-century due to pollution and loss of wetlands habitat, and we know that two-thirds of North American bird species are now at further risk of extinction from climate change. This rule change piles on the threats.

The decisions to reform environmental laws should be based on sound science—science that informs and drives public policy, not the other way around. In this case, and as it has in the past, the White House has dismissed all scientific evidence.

Just this past winter, an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) advisory panel of 41 scientists responsible for evaluating the scientific integrity of the agency's regulations, including the proposed clean water standards, concluded that the new rule ignores science by "failing to acknowledge watershed systems." They found "no scientific justification" for excluding certain bodies of water from protection under the new regulations, noting that pollutants from smaller and seasonal bodies of water can have a significant impact on the health of larger water systems.

It is no surprise, as *The New York Times* pointed out several weeks ago, that "...a disregard for scientific advice has been a defining characteristic of Trump's administration."

EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler, a former coal lobbyist, is re-writing the law at the behest of industry groups including the American Farm Bureau, American Gas Association, National Cattlemen's Beef Association, the American Petroleum Institute, the National Mining Association, US Chamber of Commerce, the National Association of Manufacturers, the American Farm Bureau, and the Heritage Foundation.

So, in response, some of the country's leading conservation advocates are fighting the rollback in the courts—at the behest of the nations' waters and public health.

Jack Clarke is the director of public policy and government relations at Mass Audubon.

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Commentary

Boomers being left out? Readers offer their views

By Bill Walczak
Reporter Contributor

Writers sometimes wonder if their opinions are even read, let alone provoke reactions. My column last week on Baby Boomers potentially being left out of the plans to re-start the economy seemed to strike a nerve, especially with the Boomers themselves. I got 86 responses, with many of the readers offering their own opinions. They came from public officials, media members, heads of schools, nonprofit leaders, a Catholic nun, a well-known artist, a political consultant, medical people, business leaders and some people I don't know.

The responders fit into a number of categories: 63 mainly said that they liked my column and/or that it expressed their views; 7 were upset at the term



Maria Colon

Mattapan nurse jumps in to help vets battle virus

Maria Colon, a registered nurse and Mattapan resident, is working on the frontlines of the fight against COVID-19 at the Brockton campus of the VA Boston. Colon, who has worked at the VA in Jamaica Plain as an implant coordinator most recently, transferred to Brockton to help COVID-positive veterans in their fights. She is one of dozens of other dedicated clinical and non-clinical staff who have been temporarily reassigned in order to support the VA's response. "I'm proud of being part of the frontline serving our heroes," said Colon, who has worked at the VA Boston since 2006. A native of Milwaukee Wisconsin, Colon says that now "the VA is my second family."

"I feel deeply valued and appreciated for the work I do," she said.

"boomer remover"; 9 mentioned the importance of the presidential election (including one who defended Trump); 5 talked about my friend who had died and offered condolences; and 2 asked about how I planned to get a haircut.

One reaction that I thought was particularly important was that people in risk categories may be called back to work, but they feel that they are endangering themselves if there is not adequate testing and other safety measures. If so, they could be seen as abandoning their jobs and be dismissed for not showing up to work. These issues need to be taken seriously by our elected officials as reopening of the Massachusetts economy in four phases starts on May 18. The first part of the plan will be issued soon from the governor's office.

Following is a sampling of reader comments:

"You raise a very real likelihood being pushed closer to reality by Trump and his goons: Seniors should stay closed up for a year, but everyone else open up. I wonder if in the push to reopening, the country will just accept growing death counts as the cost of doing business. It is really sad that we are at this point in our country."

...

"As we open up with a phased-in approach, we have to take into account people over 60. As you point out, they are in a higher risk category."

...

"Good piece, and of course we feel the same way, as do our boomer friends. But what exactly can we do that won't be too late?"

...

"Without testing and a vaccine, we are home to stay!"

...

"This is a terrific piece. It confirms my impression that Trump will lose the senior vote which dooms his chances in Florida (and elsewhere)."

...

"We are lucky to have had 8 weeks on Zoom because that will force the other generations to continue to include us that way."

...

"You're making such a powerful point. I've read op-eds by African Americans expressing fear that the virus eventually will be seen as a 'black disease,'

because of the disproportionate death toll in their communities, and thus won't get the attention it deserves. But I haven't read anything that so convincingly defines the issue for us "old folks," especially those of us who until now didn't see ourselves in that category."

...

"Boomer remover? That's cold."

...

"You are on your own! I am a Gen Xer!"

...

"I think another aspect of the boomers being left out is the impact it will have in the workplace. For example, if the boomers who are most at risk lag in their return relative to their co-workers, will those "shut-ins" experience implicit or explicit age discrimination because of their lack of presence?"

...

"I'm feeling that despair you mention, and rage at the unmasked individuals I encounter on my daily walk (generally at a safe distance b/c I leave myself room to escape.) I'm quite afraid that those in power will succeed in disenfranchising the voters that might oust them - by preventing mail-in votes, for example."

...

"Boomer Remover" might really be the destruction of deep knowledge and skills, and not to mention emotional intelligence and maturity, that anchor our society."

...

"The answer isn't in universal testing. Sadly, the only answer is herd immunity like every other epidemic. Sweden addressed this by having herd early and we will have it late with many hospitalizations and deaths. Vaccines won't be ready in time."

...

My response: Waiting to see which boomers will volunteer to be in the herd.

Editor's Note: A consensus listing of generation categories: **Baby Boomers:** Born between 1946 and 1964. **Gen X:** Born between 1965 and 1980. **Gen Y,** or Millennials: Born between 1981 and 1994. **Gen Z:** Born between 1995 and 2015.



Bill Walczak

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Harvard Street Neighborhood Health Center

This campaign is sponsored in part by the Boston Resiliency Fund



Cedar Grove Cemetery greenhouse opened on Sunday

The greenhouse at Cedar Grove Cemetery opened Sunday afternoon, just in time for Mother's Day. The greenhouse— which sells plants and flowers— will remain open daily from 8:30 a.m. - 3:30p.m. The plantings are among just a few traditional activities still planned at Cedar Grove this spring, said

Interim Supt. Tony Paciulli. "The annual Memorial Day parade, hosted by the McKeon Post, and the ceremonies in the cemetery have been cancelled," Paciulli explained. "The office and the chapel are closed indefinitely, and we are observing very strict COVID-19 restrictions at the greenhouse."

Among the restrictions: A mask must be worn at all times, the greenhouse will only be accessed and exited by specifically marked locations; customers must remain at least six feet apart; payments may be made by cash and credit card. The greenhouse is the only building on cemetery grounds open to the public.

With the arrival of warmer weather, and less than two weeks remaining before Memorial Day, the cemetery staff is bracing for increased levels of visits by persons decorating family graves. "For the safety of our customers and employees we ask that you shop safely following the listed guidelines," the

cemetery officials posted on social media. The flowers— grown from seeds in the greenhouse - are ready for planting. If you'd like to have your spring flowers planted, call the office, 617-825-1360 and provide them with your contact information. — ED FORRY

The Team at **Mattapan Community Health Center** is committed to keeping our patients, community and staff safe and healthy during these most challenging times.

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It is during these challenging times that we come together.



MATTAPAN COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER
1575 Blue Hill Avenue, Mattapan, MA 02126

Dot-based initiative’s volunteers make masks available on request

(Continued from page 1) and South shores— the initiative has steadily chugged toward fulfilling every request over the last several weeks, having made and distributed around 20,000 masks so far. Cave said the short-term goal is handing out 3,000 masks per week, with a long-term goal of 100,000 in all.

“At this point, we think we’ll just keep making them until there’s no longer a need,” she said.

The cotton masks, sewn largely by volunteers in their own homes, have been distributed to 125 organizations in the Greater Boston area,

with 35 percent going to shelters and group homes, 23 percent to hospitals and health centers, and the rest to a mix of essential workers, food pantries, and nursing homes.

Dorchester-based organizations that have received masks from the initiative program include women’s shelters, Carney Hospital, and the Daily Table on Washington Street, among others.

Cave noted that volunteers come from a “wide range” of sewing experience, with veteran sewers and beginners alike contributing to the cause.

“A lot of them have

sewing experience, but a lot dusted off their old sewing machines or got new ones just to pitch in,” she said. “That’s the wonderful thing about it – we have taught people to sew over Zoom. For beginners, mask-making is a great way to learn how to sew and fine tune your skills. So, while we have some people with extensive experience, others use it as practice; the repetition is a great opportunity to get better.”

Beyond performing a vital public service, the group has succeeded in building a caring virtual community. At a Zoom “town hall” meeting last Friday, nearly 150 members tuned in with ques-

tions and suggestions for the direction of the initiative going forward. Cave said she’s “looking forward to the day when we can all come together and meet in person.”

“It’s been incredible. I still can’t believe the project is as big as it is,” she added. “The longer it goes on, the more I realize how much of an impact we’re making, and how important what we’re doing is.”

With federal authorities failing to meet PPE needs in many parts of the country, that duty has fallen on the shoulders of local officials, volunteers, and groups like the Mask Initiative. Cave said she’s been



A sampling of the nearly 20,000 masks made so far by a team of around 700 sewers and volunteers.
Image courtesy Boston Area Mask Initiative

blown away by the generosity of sewers in the group, many of whom are donating masks at clips of hundreds at a time.

“It’s unfortunate it has become our responsibility. We wish we didn’t have to do it, but since we are able, I think we have this responsibility and calling to do it, and to advocate for people

who can’t,” she said. “At a time when a lot of us feel like there’s not a lot we can do, this is a way to know we’re making an impact.”

To participate in the Boston Area Mask Initiative, fill out a mask request form, or access a volunteer registration form, visit bostonareamaskinitiative.com.

Gaby hasn’t stopped doing her thing

By KATIE TROJANO
REPORTER STAFF

Gaby Araica, the 10-year-old girl who has received national attention for her making of masks for frontline workers, is still busy on her mission, with some help from her mom, Tracy.



Gaby Araica

“She is still making masks and has recruited me to help,” Tracy Araica told the *Reporter* this week. “We have distributed over 450 masks,” she noted.

The Araicas have sent batches to workers at the City of Boston Credit Union, various doctor’s offices, and assisted living facilities. More than 100 masks have been given to Boston Police Officer Manny Damberville, District 11’s community service officer, for employees, community workers and

other essential workers, family, friends, neighbors. On short, to anyone in need locally.

“Mayor Walsh even called her one day to tell her she was doing a great job and to keep up the good work. We sent him a couple of masks that we have seen him wearing,” said Tracy Araica.”

She added that the family has received a great deal of community and national support in response to Gaby’s efforts that were first publicized by the *Reporter*.

“Her story that you wrote also led to an interview on The Last Word show with Lawrence O’Donnell and has led to people reaching out to me on social media and mail from around the country looking to donate to and support her efforts,” said the proud mother. “It’s amazing the attention an article in a local paper has produced. The story about her has been featured across social media. She was even nominated for an American Legion Auxiliary Youth Good Deed Award by a local member.”



State Senator Nick Collins

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Trainer helps seniors with ‘move it or lose it’ exercises

By DANIEL SHEEHAN
REPORTER STAFF

Julio Salado, a first generation Dominican-American born and raised in Fields Corner, specializes in training older adults, helping them regain mobility, restore balance, and reap the various mental health benefits associated with exercise. At a time when the majority of seniors are stuck at home and generally immobile, he's worried about "collateral damage" the COVID-19 pandemic could cause by disrupting exercise routines.

"There's an indirect negative effect of the stay-at-home order, and it's hitting harder for older adults," said Salado. "Even if they don't have the virus, for most older adults living alone, their only activity was walking. Now that they're not out walking and getting regular activity, it could lead to muscle atrophy as well as psychological issues like depression. For everyone, there's a decompensation process when you stop physical activity, and that often accelerates in older adults."

Earlier this month, Salado published a book detailing SPARTA Seniors, his new fitness program aimed at changing



Julio Salado, a Dorchester native, leads online training sessions for older adults online. Julio Salado's fitness program is aimed at changing perceptions older adults might have about their limitations and eliminating fear of common movements or activities.

perceptions older adults might have about their limitations and eliminating fear of common movements or activities. The program involves a series of non-traditional exercises meant to develop movement patterns in all anatomical planes of motion within a client's physical limita-



tions while incorporating clients' fears. Fear of falling is common for many of our older neighbors. Through hand eye coordination

drills and others that develop balance, change of direction, ankle mobility, power, grip strength, and memory recall, the system targets deterioration of both the body and mind. Salado describes the regimen as "steps to empowerment."

"In my experience in the fitness industry, I think there's a missing bridge between training older adults and knowing how to assess their fears or limitations," explained Salado. "Trainers gauging their fears is an important step in the process. A lot of people have a fear of things you don't normally consider, like walking down stairs or closing their eyes... sometimes it's just a matter of asking simple questions like that, and a lot of trainers are surprised by what answers they can get."

With the help of regu-

lar motion exercises such as arm raises, leg extensions, and basic lateral walking drills, Salado's clients have reported regaining confidence in daily scenarios: closing their eyes in the shower, putting their pants on, bending over to pick something up. Those small victories go a long way in improving one's quality of life, said Salado.

"I never give them something they can't do, as a way to build confidence," he explained. "Then as you gradually add more steps, they're always very content to have something else that they know they can do. I always ask, 'Are you ready for the next level?' I have yet to meet an older adult who does not like a challenge."

With in-person training no longer an option, Salado has kept up ses-

sions with a number of his clients by transitioning to online training. 89-year-old Nick Tranquillo, who suffers from arthritis in his knee, said he looks forward to his training sessions with Salado, which take place about three times a week.

"He's incredible," said Tranquillo. "He's the easiest and nicest person to work with, and he really is able to do things most people can't do... it's good that I have to move a little bit, because otherwise I'm not doing much: I sit, and read, and eat. With Julio, we do exercises for the arms, for the legs--every part of the body is taken care of."

In addition to his online sessions, Salado regularly posts free, live workout videos on his YouTube channel and social media feeds. The short clips often offer examples of basic exercises you can do in your living room; a video posted last week shows Salado demonstrating a leg extension while seated on a kitchen chair, while another shows him performing arm raises with soup cans. Through online engagement teaching his SPARTA system, he hopes to remind his "mature exercisers" and others like them that exercise can have a huge positive impact on cognition as well as confidence in their physical capabilities.

"Everyone needs lateral training, even if you're 99," he said.

Many older adults shy away from exercise due to worries they won't be able to do it and are held back by perceptions of their limitations as a result.

Salado's advice?

"Move it or lose it. Just keep moving, it doesn't have to be fancy."

To learn more about Salado's personal training work and his SPARTA Seniors program, visit fitnessfoundry.net or follow @fitnessfoundry on Twitter and YouTube.



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Mass virus reporting includes big gap: The Recovered

By COLIN A. YOUNG
STATE HOUSE
NEWS SERVICE

The numbers that state health officials report each day keep going up and up and up. The number of people tested for the coronavirus, the number of people who have been diagnosed with COVID-19, the number of people who have been killed by the virus. There's another number that does not get reported but also keeps rising — the number of people in Massachusetts who have recovered from COVID-19.

"People can and do recover, and we need to remember that," Public Health Commissioner Monica Bharel said late last month after she recovered from her own COVID-19 diagnosis and returned to work.

There have been 73,721 cases of COVID-19 confirmed in Massachusetts since Feb. 1. As of Thursday, 4,552 people have died of the disease and another 3,436 people are currently hospitalized with the virus. That leaves 65,733 people who could be sick with the virus but not badly enough to need hospital care, could have been treated at a hospital and released, or could have made a full recovery like Bharel.

A COVID-19 simulator built by Massachusetts General Hospital estimates that

the number of active cases of COVID-19 in Massachusetts — meaning "anyone who is in the infectious period" — is roughly 6,200. But there is no real way to know for sure yet.

Clinicians in Massachusetts are required to report positive cases of COVID-19, but are not required to report when a patient recovers and the Mass. Department of Public Health does not track the number of recoveries in the state, a DPH spokeswoman said.

Many local boards of health do track the number of COVID-19 recoveries in their own communities. Boston said Thursday that 2,882 of the 10,589 residents who have been diagnosed with COVID-19 have recovered. Somerville reported 291 recoveries among 665 positive tests in its city. Framingham reports the total number of cases (1,146 as of Wednesday) and then breaks it down into fatalities (42), recoveries (290) and active cases (814). Pittsfield does the same. Brockton reports the cumulative number of confirmed cases, the number of deaths and the number of active cases, making it easy to determine the number of people who have recovered.

A number of states around the country report statewide recovery numbers daily or weekly,

too. But things get murky in the fine print of each state's report.

"Currently, there are multiple ways for recovered cases to be recorded and several methods are used by different countries and states. Some states and countries measure a case as recovered when a person has had COVID-19 for more than 14 days, while others upon hospital discharge data — neither of which completely capture recovery of the full COVID positive population," the Florida Department of Health, which like Massachusetts does not report statewide recoveries, said in a statement.

To cut through some of that static, Massachusetts is among a group of states talking with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and each other about coming up with a standardized definition of what it means to have recovered from COVID-19, DPH confirmed to the News Service.

Alaska's Department of Health and Social Services publishes a chart that visually displays the number of cumulative cases along with how many of those are active, how many patients have died and how many people have recovered. The chart shows that while the cumulative number of cases increases, so too does the number of recoveries.

As of Wednesday, Alaska reported that about 78 percent of people who have tested positive in that state have recovered. The state defines a recovered patient as someone "whose symptoms have improved enough to meet the CDC criteria to be released from home isolation, and are no longer considered to be infectious."

Michigan reports a cumulative number of people who have recovered from COVID-19 infection each Saturday. Last weekend, the state said 15,659 of the 44,397 people who had been diagnosed with the virus had recovered, about 35 percent of all cases.

There, public health officials count as recovered any COVID-19 patient who is still alive 30 days after testing positive for the virus.

On Sunday, Texas Gov. Greg Abbott tweeted that more people in his state had recovered from COVID-19 than had been newly diagnosed with it over the last two days.

"That's exactly what we want to see," the governor wrote. "Texas ranks 3rd highest among states for number of people who have recovered from #coronavirus."

In Abbott's state, the Department of State Health Services reports daily on the number of cumulative COVID-19 cases in the state, and estimated numbers of ac-

tive cases and of patients who have recovered from the virus.

But the fine print on the state's COVID-19 dashboard reveals that the estimates are "based on several assumptions related to hospitalization rates and recovery times, which were informed by data available to date" and that the estimates "are subject to change as we learn more about COVID-19." The estimates also do not include any cases reported before March 24.

Tennessee, which got its first COVID-19 case from Massachusetts, reports recoveries and counts in that category "people who (1) have been confirmed to be asymptomatic by their local or regional health department and have completed their required isolation period or (2) are at least 21 days beyond the first test confirming their illness."

As of Tuesday, Tennessee reported that 6,783 people had recovered from COVID-19, representing about 48 percent of the state's cumulative cases.

Mississippi public health officials put out a number for "presumed recovered cases," which is a count of all living COVID-19 patients who were not hospitalized and are 14 days beyond their initial positive test, plus the number of patients who were hospitalized

but are 21 days beyond their initial positive test.

In Wyoming, a patient is considered recovered "when there is resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and there is improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g. cough, shortness of breath) for 72 hours AND at least 7 days have passed since symptoms first appeared."

Having a uniform definition of what it means to have recovered from this new virus could play a major role as states reopen their economies and send people back to work. Some have suggested that people who have recovered could return to work sooner or could be asked to take frontline jobs in medicine or retail, if studies show that recovery from COVID-19 comes with some level of immunity from re-infection. But that all hinges on knowing what recovered actually means.

"We've asked the CDC this question so we don't all define it in different ways just based on the state," North Carolina Health and Human Services Secretary Mandy Cohen said in an April 16 news conference. "We're trying to figure out how we as a country can all define recovery so we have that sort of standardization and not apples to oranges if we define it in different ways."

Walsh tells civic leaders: 'I would rather open slowly'

(Continued from page 1) construction in the city on the 27th with really strong safety protocols in place, including temperature checks, testing, and contact tracing."

The mayor said that some of Boston's neighborhoods have seen some reductions in positive testing in the last week. "The two neighborhoods where we saw the biggest reductions are East Boston, which had a 19 percent reduction, and Mattapan, down by 15 percent. We currently have 20 testing sites in the city, several of those in Mattapan and Dorchester. We have more tests coming and want to get them out as quickly as we can," he added.

Walsh said that a Health Inequities Task Force he has charged with reviewing available racial and ethnic data among Boston residents and best practices related to the COVID-19 response for black, Latino, Asian, and immigrant populations continues to review information.

Walsh urged residents on the chat to take advantage of the healthcare system, which he said has not been overwhelmed by an influx of COVID-19 patients. About five percent of the city's residents had



Mayor Martin Walsh joined a Zoom meeting on Monday evening with three Dorchester-based civic organizations.

been tested as of Monday, according to officials. In recent days, the city's positive test rate has gone down slightly, an encouraging sign. In Boston: 11,106 cases, 533 deaths, and 3,327 recoveries.

"In Boston our emergency room capacity is not overflowing, so they're managing the situation well," the mayor said. "If you're not feeling well or have any coronavirus symptoms like shortness of breath, you should... go to an emergency room or testing site."

Several residents on the Zoom call expressed concerns about the situation with summer camps.

"We don't have specific guidance yet," said Walsh. "With summer camps, there's generally one session in July and one in August. I'd be willing to expect that July sessions won't happen.

But we are looking at different ways to address that."

As to schools, he said, "We're going to operate under the assumption that we'll open in September, but also knowing that we could see another surge."

Walsh said the city won't cancel its summer job program for BPS students, which annually employs around 11,000 youth, but added, "We may not be able to employ our usual amount of kids, but we'll try our best. We've seen an upswing in shootings recently among our youth in the city. A 17-year-old girl was shot recently in Dorchester. It's vitally important that we do our best to keep summer camps and jobs open in some form."

The mayor reinforced his position on re-opening the city, saying, "The

problem with COVID is that it changes week to week. We're now ten weeks in, and we've been shut down for eight. Some messages you've been

seeing on TV have been inconsistent and that's not fair," he said. "I am not in a rush to open up our economy, restaurants, and businesses. I

don't think we're ready for it as a city, state, or country, quite honestly. We have to do something, but I think it has to be slow."

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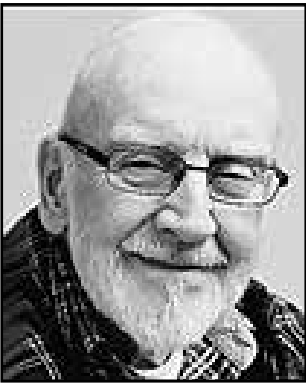
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RECENT OBITUARIES



BOUCHER, John William of South Easton, formerly of Norwood, Quincy, Dorchester, and South Boston. Wife of Alicia (Manrique) Boucher. Father of Steven K. Boucher of South Easton. Son of the late John A. Bouchea and Helen L. (Purtell) Bouchea. Brother of Edward J. Bouchea of Hampden, ME, and Gerard F. Bouchea of Dorchester. Survived by 13 nephews and nieces, 13 grandnephews and nieces, and many cousins. Brother-in-law of Alvaro Palau, Mercedes Manrique, Ivan and Ivette Manrique, Gabriel and Carmen Manrique, Ines Manrique, and Dora Ohilda Manrique. John was a retired employee of the Commonwealth of MA for many years.

BUCKLEY, Margaret Elizabeth of Medford, formerly of Dorchester. Margaret was the daughter of the late John J. And Alice (Heywood) Buckley. She is survived by her cousin Joan (Buckley) Yaeger of Medford, as well as other cousins on both the Buckley and Heywood sides of her family. Margaret worked for years for Verizon and will be remembered for the loving care she gave to

many cats throughout her lifetime. To honor Margaret's memory, please be kind to animals and each other.



BURNIEIKA, Maureen L. (Carey) of Cohasset, formerly of Dorchester and Sandwich. Wife of Joseph J. Burnieika, Jr. for 51 years. Mother of Timothy J. and his wife Mary Burnieika of Cohasset, Thomas J. and his wife Kim Burnieika of Centerville, Robert F. Burnieika of Cambridge, and Jeff Burnieika of South Boston. "Gram" of 5. Daughter of the late Thomas I. Carey, Margaret F. (Murray), and Joseph P. Dole. Sister of Margaret Carey of Quincy, Joseph Dole of Texas, Christopher Dole of Abington, Paul Dole of Norwell, and the late Diane Bellamy, Kathleen Lannigan, and Thomas I. Carey. Survived by many nieces and nephews. Donations in Maureen's memory may be made to The Paraclete Center, 207 E. Street, South Boston, MA 02127. Funeral Services will be private.

DONOVAN, Sister Ann Virginia, SNDdeN, 96. Sister Ann Virginia was born in Boston, a daughter of the late Peter James and Annie Veronica (Nich-



olson) Donovan. Sister Ann (Mary, Aunt Mary as her family called her) was a graduate of Saint Gregory's High School in Dorchester. Sister Ann in her work as an educator, and her decades of service to Notre Dame affiliated schools, spent her years in the role of Teacher, Principal, Religious Ed Coordinator at both elementary and high school levels, Librarian/Computer Coordinator. Sister Ann Virginia was also the sister of her siblings, John, Peter, Thomas, Francis Donovan and Isabelle (Donovan) Hayes and Eleanor (Donovan) Leonard, where she grew up in the family home on Idaho Street, Mattapan before taking her vows as a Sister of Notre Dame. A Memorial Mass and Celebration of her Life will be offered at a later time when gathering restrictions can be lifted. Donations in Sister Ann's memory can be made to Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, 351 Broadway, Everett, MA 02149.



JONES, Anita Louise, 50, Anita was the fourth child born to the

late John D. Jones and the late Doris M. Jones. She graduated high school from the Jeremiah E. Burke. Anita continued her education at Roxbury Community College (RCC) and graduated with an Associate's degree. Anita attended Boston City Hospital's School of Practical Nursing. She worked at the VA Hospital in Boston. Anita leaves her son, Ramon L. Jones; three sisters, Pamela M. Jones (Willie) of Cornelius, NC; Patricia A. Jones of Dorchester, and Doreen Godare of New York, NY; three grandchildren; two aunts; one uncle; four nieces; four nephews; one great-niece; two great-nephews; and many cousins. She also leaves her church family and many friends, including special friends Rita Becton, Cindy Cabral, Vernice Gordon and Evangelist Anarecko Johnson. She is predeceased by her parents and only brother, John D. Jones, Jr.



KENNEDY, Joan T. of Quincy, formerly of Dorchester. Daughter of the late James S. and Marie J. (Gross) Kennedy. Sister of the late Marie R. Kennedy and Francis X. Kennedy. Godmother of Theresa D. Riley of Brooklyn, NY. Retired Boston School Nurse and former Nursing Supervisor at Carney Hospital. Donations may be made to The Literacy Connection. Funeral Mass at St. Agatha Church,

Milton, at some point in the future



KING, Mary Theresa (Boggan), one month shy of her ninety-fifth birthday. Born in County Wexford, Ireland, Mary was raised there by her forever grandmother Grace (Bracken). Mary later moved to London where she and her husband Tom resided for many years, until finally immigrating to the United States with their two children, settling in Dorchester. Mary lived in Dorchester, in several different parishes, for over five decades. In her later years, she was an active member on various City of Boston Senior Task Force Committees. She was the wife of the late Thomas Michael King, originally of Carraroe, County Galway, Ireland. She was the mother of three children who tragically all predeceased her: Anthony Thomas King of Hingham, Maureen Bridget King of Princeton, NJ, and her always remembered precious infant daughter. Mary was the grandmother of Catherine B. Martin of Edgware, England, and Thomas N. Martin, Ph.D. of New York City. She was the mother-in-law of Jane L. Kreinsen-King. Mary was the daughter of the late Nicholas Joseph and Bridget (Hackett) Boggan and the older sister of the late Patrick J. Boggan of England. Mary is survived by many relatives in the United States, Ireland, England, and Scotland. A Memorial Mass will be celebrated at a later date. If desired, donations in Mary's honor may be made to the Irish Pastoral Centre, 512 Gallivan Boulevard,

Suite 201, Dorchester, Massachusetts 02124 or to St. Ann Church, 243 Neponset Avenue, Dorchester, MA 02122.



KOSAKOWSKI, Sophie Estella (Kolomicki) of Dorchester, one day after celebrating her 100th birthday. Sophie was predeceased by her husband, Theodore in 1989, also predeceased by sisters, Helen, Josephine, and Anna and brother, Charles; godsons Joseph and James; Sophie is survived by sister-in-law, Maryann Kolomicki of Watertown, MA; as well as nieces and nephews, Sophie was born in Montague, MA, and later in life moved to Chelsea where she and her family lived for many years. She was dedicated to Our Lady of Czestochowa, where she married Theodore, and made a home together in the Polish Triangle. Sophie was a member of St. Ann's Society Rosary Club and St. Mary's Senior Citizens Club.



O'CONNOR, Ann E. Born in Boston in 1933, Ann was the daughter of George and Anna (Lydon) O'Brien. She grew up in Saint Mark's Parish and graduated as class valedictorian from the former Jeanne d'Arc Academy in Milton. She earned her Bachelor's degree from Regis College in 1954.

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That summer, she met Belmont native Francis P. O'Connor on Cape Cod, and they married on September 10, 1955. Frank, who became a longtime Justice of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court after serving on the Superior Court, was Ann's husband and best friend. In addition to Frank, her parents, and his parents, Ann has joined her brothers John L. and George E. O'Brien and sisters-in-law Joan and Mary Frances O'Connor in heaven. Ann leaves ten children: Kathleen A. O'Connor (Thomas Kelly) of Brunswick, Maine, F. Patrick O'Connor, Jr. (Elisa) of East Falmouth, Brien T. O'Connor (Susan) of West Newton, and Maureen T. Chamberlain (Richard), Ellen M. O'Connor (Michael Haire), Ann E. O'Connor, Jane O'Connor Lizotte (David), Joyce O'Connor Davidson (Andrew), Thomas J. O'Connor (Leigh) of Shrewsbury and Matthew P. O'Connor (Susan), of Pacific Palisades, California, 31 grandchildren and one great-grandchild, and two close friends, Jennifer Granquist and Sue Chaput Bauer, her sister-in-law, Carlotta O'Brien of Winchester, three nieces and a nephew. Memorials may be made to the Home for Little Wanderers, 10 Guest Street, Boston, MA 02135.

PLACIDE, Cilienne Cilienne was born in Haiti in 1926. She leaves her two daughters, Genevieve Auguste and Anna Saintpharte, both of Mattapan, two grandchildren Ed Firmin and his wife Daniella of Randolph and



Lilian Antenor and her husband Vanes of Hyde Park, and eight great-grandchildren and one great great grandson.



POWERS, Sister Mary Damian, OSM, 88, of the Servants of Mary, Ladysmith, Wis. Born Teresa Ann Powers in Chicago, Illinois, on November 13, 1931, to Patrick and Helen (Skrupky) Powers. Her family moved to Bruce, Wis., when she was a child. She entered the Servants of Mary in 1947 and received the name Sister Mary Damian at her reception as a novice the following year. In 1987, she moved to Boston to study Urban Clinical Pastoral Education at Emmanuel College. Her worksite for the CPE program was St. Matthew's Parish. The parish later hired her as a pastoral associate and coordinator of the food pantry. She also ministered at the neighboring St. Ambrose Parish, where she visited the sick and elderly in hospitals and nursing homes and led a weekly

Bible study. She was a recipient of the 2009 Hidden Hero Award of the Codman Square Neighborhood Council. She was still actively serving the needy of Dorchester at age 82 when she suffered a debilitating brain aneurysm and moved to Addolorata Villa to be closer to her family and religious community in the Midwest. She is survived by many nieces, nephews, and friends, and the Servite Sisters, with whom she shared life for 73 years. She was preceded in death by her parents, brothers Edward Powers, Patrick (Ellen) Powers, and James (Virginia) Powers, and sister Rita (Fred) Stoll. A public memorial service will be held at a later date.

QUINN, Ann M., 53, of Dorchester, from complications of Covid-19. Daughter of the late Charles W. and Marguerite E. Quinn. Mother of Seamus Cooke of Norwood, Patrick Cooke of Dorchester, and Billy and Ryan Donovan of Taunton. Sister of Janet Quinn, and Billy Quinn, both of Florida. Ann is also survived by her aunt Millie Beaton of Maryland, as well as her niece, nephews, and many cousins. Due to the current health crisis, visitation and funeral services will remain private. A Memorial Service will be held at a later date.

RILEY, Lillian C. (Higgins) in Milford, formerly of Dorchester and Framingham. Mother of William, Riles, Robert, Debra and Kathleen. Grandmother of 3. Daughter of the late Leo and Mae (McCormack) Higgins. Lillian is survived by two of her nine siblings, Roberta (Adams) Anglin and John Adams,



and by many nieces and nephews. Donations in memory of Lillian may be made to St. Patrick Manor, 863 Central Street, Framingham, MA 01701.

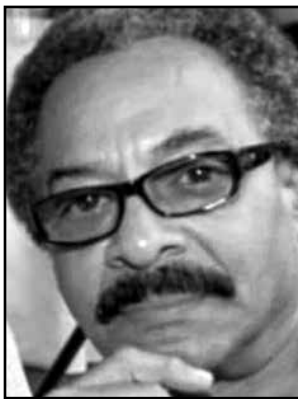


SALEMME, William C. "Billy," retired 20 year Revere Police officer, lifelong resident of the Beachmont section of Revere, 70. Son of the late William E. and Norma M. (Young) Salemme. Father of William B. Salemme and wife Carriann of Revere and Lauri Salemme of Dorchester. Brother of Victor W. Salemme and wife Rhoda of Standish, ME and Michael J. Salemme and his wife Betty of Winthrop. Grandfather of 2. Also survived by several nieces, nephews, grandnieces, grandnephews and many friends. Late member of Revere Lodge Elks #1171. Remembrances may be made to Camp Sunshine, 35 Ardcadia Rd., Casco, ME 04015.

SMITH, Caroline A. "Carol" (Gorman) of Dorchester. Wife of the late Paul R. Smith. Mother of Paul



R. Smith and his wife Carolyn of Braintree, Deborah Holleran and her husband William of Braintree, Thomas G. Smith of Dorchester, and the late Donna M. Smith. "Nana" of Delaney Smith. Sister of Mary Rau of Brockton, and the late John Gorman, Barbara Gorman, Charlotte Boti, and Charles Gorman. Also survived by many nieces, nephews, and friends. Due to the current health crisis, visitation and services will remain private. A Celebration of Life service to honor Carol will be held at a later date. Donations may be made in Carol and Donna's memory to the American Cancer Society or to The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.



SMITH, Charles R., Sr. (Chuckie) was born in 1947 in Boston to the late Paul and Beatrice Smith. Chuckie along with his twin sister Charlene was the youngest of nine children. In 1962, Chuckie

met his wife Miriam, and they married in 1966; from that union three children were born Charles Jr., Kevin Sr., and Shawna. He served in the Marine Corps, completing two tours in Vietnam, as a radio dispatcher and sharpshooter, rising to the rank of Sergeant. In 1970, Chuckie returned home, securing a position at the Boston Veterans hospital. In the mid-eighties Chuckie joined S&S Construction Co., where he was employed as an asbestos supervisor. He later went on to continue his career in the construction industry working as a project supervisor at SMI Construction. He is preceded in death by his parents Paul and Beatrice Smith, his daughter Shawna, his brothers Alfred, Paul, and Gene. His sisters Maydora, Paula and Faith. He leaves to mourn his wife Miriam, sons Charles Sr. (Deirdre) and Kevin Sr. Smith, Parris, Sr. and Colin Phillips. Laura Smith and Nancy Augustine whom he lovingly embraced as his daughters. His sisters Marilyn Adams, Charlene Smith, his five sisters-in-law Brenda Smith, Doris Bordley, Leah Christie, Enid Williams and Jean Haynes, and two brothers-in-law Lewis Christie, and Raymond Christie. His grandchildren, Shante, Kevin Jr., Brittney, Brianna, Kevauhna, Chakiela, Parris, Aaliyah, Kanyai, Mitchyia, Tyler, Bryce, Mitchell, Kailani, Amara, Halla, Amen-Charles, Amanagy, Colin, Parris, Carmela and six great-grandchildren, and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

John O. Scannell dies at 93; fought in WWII; helped organize Dot Day

(Continued from page 1)

brakes on trucks as an employee for the state's highway department, his son, Bill Scannell, said. Despite his chronic condition, Mr. Scannell remained very active, including weekly bowling games, until age 91.

A former grand marshal of the Dorchester Day Parade, he served in the Pacific Theatre with the US Army, 26th Yankee Division, 114th Medical Battalion during the Second World War. He was mainly stationed in the Philippines, according to his son.

A native of South Boston, Mr. Scannell raised his family in Dorchester's Columbia-Savin Hill section, where he settled in 1961 with his wife, the late Julia M. (Guerriero). He leaves 4 adult children, 11 grand-children, and 8 great-grandchildren and his brother, Roger V. Scannell, the last surviv-



John O. Scannell, a veteran of World War II, is shown singing during a Memorial Day ceremony at Cedar Grove Cemetery in 2016. Reporter file photo

ing sibling of a family of ten brothers and sisters.

"Dad was a military man and a family man. He loved his God and his family and his country," recalled his son. "He just loved people; he always just put a smile on someone's face, especially with a song."

In recent years, John

was frequently called upon to sing at ceremonies in the neighborhood. He possessed a beautiful, tenor voice and performed at the Memorial Day exercises each year at Cedar Grove Cemetery, where he was a former member of the board of trustees. Each year, he and son Bill or-

ganized volunteer efforts to decorate the graves of veterans interred in the cemetery. It was a role he assumed as a "life member" of the William G. Walsh American Legion Post #369. Mr. Scannell was also a past member of the James J. Rice Amvets Post #28. He was past commander of

the Amvets Post #285 and the Army & Navy Union Garrison #24.

According to an obituary posted at the Murphy Funeral Home website, Mr. Scannell "was a longtime parishioner of St. Brendan's Church and a former head usher. He was a retired member of the Cedar Grove Cemetery Board of Trustees. He was a member of the Castle Island Association, as well as their Choral Group which included volunteering at the Haunted Castle, a tour guide at the Fort, and singing for many local nursing homes."

According to the notice: "John was the loving father of Julia M. Anderson and her late husband Stephen of Saugus, Diane M. Hanson and her late husband Ray of Hollis, NH, William J. and his wife Diane Scannell of Quincy, and Kathleen J. O'Brien and her late husband Patrick of Abington. He

was a devoted "Grandpa" of Eric, Tamara, Jill, Nathan, Erin, Patrick, Michael, Jaclyn, Sean, Casey, and Kelly. He was great-grandfather "Grampy" of Olivia, Haylee, Leif, Raven, Imogen, Cheyenne, Charlotte, and Stella. John is also survived by many nieces, nephews, and friends, especially his devoted friends Joe Collis and Paul Suplee."

Mr. Scannell was buried in Cedar Grove Cemetery alongside his wife, who died seven years ago. "He just loved the grounds at Cedar Grove," his son said. "He would talk about the inner peace that he found there— just such a beautiful, relaxing place."

A celebration of John's life will be held at a later date. Donations in John's memory may be made to the Castle Island Association, P.O. Box 342, South Boston, MA, 02127.

New brand, same mission for SullyMac

(Continued from page 1) together. We've been so fortunate to have generations of families and people working for and with us. We felt like we had gotten to a point in the history of the organization when we had just had so much collaboration going on. This tagline felt better."

Added McLaughlin: "In addition to conversations that we were having around rebranding, we were doing a lot of collaboration within the construction community to uphold a vision of not just finishing a job but continuing to build relationships for the long term."

During the pandemic, much of SullyMac's work has been helping the state's hospitals with quick buildouts and renovations. "We did a buildout and renovation of 10 rooms for COVID-19 patients at Mass General Hospital over the course of 48 hours," said Rudicus.

McLaughlin said that this type of "design assist" work is a relatively new development for SullyMac. Design assist, he explained, is when electrical contractors collaborate with project architects and engineers to complete documents or drawings in real time, often while



Workers from SullyMac are shown on a construction site in Boston last year.

construction is under way.

"It's a highly collaborative dynamic for building some world-class facilities," said McLaughlin. "We've done this on a lot of different jobs— more often than not while building some of the most sophisticated hospitals in the country."

SullyMac has been engaged in emergency COVID-19-related work at several Boston hospitals and universities, but the pandemic has definitely disrupted some company operations with most construction sites in the city and state offline. As work eventually begins to open up, the team at SullyMac is hopeful they will be able to hire back the majority of employees they had to furlough.

"We've seen huge disruptions that have forced us to lay off probably more than 50 percent of our workforce as job sites were closed," said Rudicus.

"Slowly but surely we've started to rehire folks as job sites have been deemed essential or start to staff back up. As soon as it's healthy and safe to go back to work, we're going to welcome them back with open arms."

Community leaders say that SullyMac is a company they can always count on for support.

Carla Tankle, manager of constituent relations and social media for the city of Boston Transportation Department, said SullyMac is "the epitome of what community and business partnership should look like and what it should be about."

Over the years, the company has partnered with the city in support of various city-held events like Christmas tree lightings, hanging wreaths on telephone poles, providing meals at Thanksgiving, and providing electrical support and maintenance at various sites.

"The new tagline really amplifies what they are all about," said Tankle. "They're always willing to give back to the neighborhood, no matter what the ask is, or how big or small it is."

The company also supports the Port Norfolk Civic Association's annual Tenean Beach Day as well as the association's scholarship fund and provides maintenance for the Pork Norfolk Association Triangle. The company also donated funds to close the gap for the Trooper Mark Charbonnier and Sgt. Richard Dever Memorial at Pope John Paul II Park in Dorchester.

Rosemary Powers, president of Cristo Rey

Boston High School on Savin Hill Avenue, said SullyMac has been a long-term supporter of and participant in the Catholic work-study program.

"Sully Mac has been one of our corporate work-study partners since 2014. Before the pandemic, we had four students working in their offices," said Powers. "Our financial model depends on this program. Every student goes out to work one day a week and the company they work at pays the school \$9,000 per year for those services. So that helps us by paying about half of a student's yearly tuition."

Added Powers: "We want to give a shout-out to Mary Sheehan, the executive administrator at SullyMac. She's been a fabulous cheerleader and supporter to our kids."

Bob Scannell, president and CEO at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester, called SullyMac a "longtime friend. They are a major sponsor of our annual Women's Leadership awards in the spring and our Grand Drawing event in the fall," he said. "Scannell. 'Whenever we call them, they're always responsive.'"

"They have a luxury box at Fenway with 15 seats, and they call us often and offer those seats for our kids," Scannell said. "The whole team is made up of very nice people and they're very complimentary to the work we do."

The BGCD continues to support families with grab-and-go meals, virtual services, and resources during the pandemic— something that Scannell says is contingent on support from

donors like SullyMac.

"As we speak, we're giving out meals, and we're very fortunate that we have a lot of people supporting us so we can do this kind of work," said Scannell. "We couldn't do it without SullyMac and others. They'll look at us and say, 'What do you need?'"

Lou Antonellis, business manager at IBEW Local 103, said that SullyMac employs more Local 103 electricians, technicians and apprentice members than any other contractor.

"We're really proud of the relationship that we have with SullyMac, and we wouldn't be as successful as we are without them," said Antonellis. "They've never lost touch with where they come from and they have always stepped up to the plate when it comes to giving back in Dorchester."

Added Rudicus: "We've been part of the Boston and Dorchester community for decades, employing so many residents that have worked hard to make us collectively successful. We're a generational business and with the third generation coming, our roots are important to us."

While many of their competitors have opted to move outside of the city to save on rents, McLaughlin has no plans to leave Dorchester.

"Port Norfolk has been a fantastic community for us and so has all of Dorchester," he said, "Most of our competitors have moved out of Boston. We prefer not to. We have a great collaboration with businesses and residents here. This community mirrors our values."

City seen likely to amend near-ban on construction

**By CALLUM BORCHERS
WBUR REPORTER**

Boston Mayor Marty Walsh told an industry group last Friday that the city's construction restrictions may be loosened further in the near future, saying he is concerned that projects are falling behind schedule.

After weeks of a near-total ban meant to blunt the spread of the coronavirus, Boston this week began phasing in developments that the state considers essential. On a video call with Associated Subcontractors of Massachusetts, Walsh said he planned to speak with Gov. Charlie Baker and suggested the governor may expand the definition of essential.

"I think that he'll have to make an amendment to his non-essential/essential construction list," Walsh said. "Hopefully, by next week, that will be made."

Baker, however, was non-committal during a press briefing several hours after Walsh's remarks. "There's been a lot of back and forth between us and the city — and us and other communities — around construction, generally," Baker said. "I think they also came and met with the [state's reopening] advisory board. This is one of those issues that's pretty top of mind and will certainly be dealt with when they issue their report."

Boston's chief of operations, Patrick Brophy, advised developers in a letter this week that "at no time will the city of Boston permit any construction beyond what is allowed by the commonwealth of Massachusetts as an essential construction project."

Thus, Boston's construction restrictions are tied to what the state deems essential.

Walsh said he's worried about construction delays, including on a public school the city hoped to open in the fall of 2021. "Now, we have to prepare for a mid-year move-in" at Boston Arts Academy, he said.

To help make up for lost time, "a lot of jobs are going to go to six days a week in Boston," Walsh added. "We're going to be allowing six-day shifts."

The mayor also warned developers not to penalize workers who aren't comfortable returning to job sites.

This article was first published by WBUR 90.9FM on May 8. The Reporter and WBUR share content through a media partnership.

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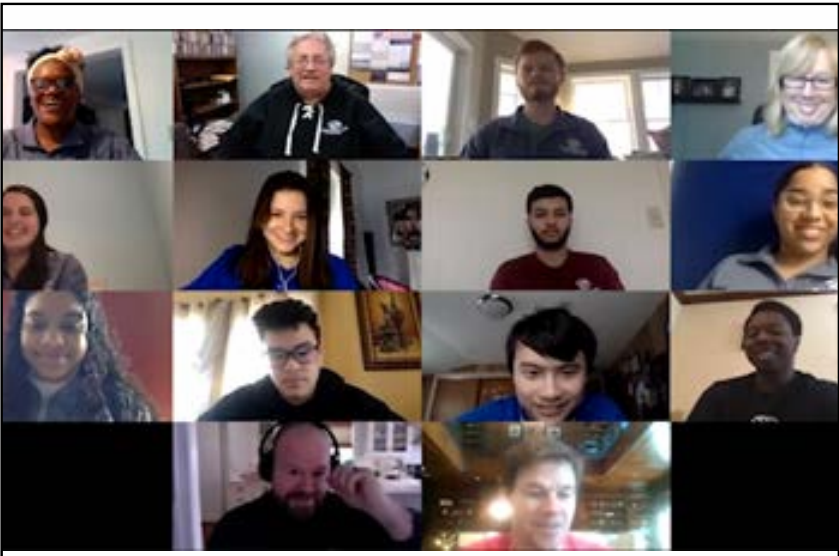
BGCD Starts Honoring Class of 2020 with Friday Night Senior Surprise: See details below.

CONNECT THE DOT:
BGCD Starts Honoring Class of 2020 with Friday Night Senior Surprise: The class of 2020 may be missing prom, graduation and other rites of passage, but at BGCD we are finding creative ways to give them the recognition they deserve and celebrate their achievements.

During the month of May, BGCD will give special attention to our High School Seniors. We kicked off the fun this past Friday with a Senior Surprise as our amazing staff stepped up, and stepped out, to safely deliver pizzas and ice cream gift cards to the seniors. Thank you to our friends at Coppersmith's in South Boston for providing the pizzas. This surprise truly made their day and we can't wait for more surprises to come during the month of May for our seniors.

FIND OUT WHAT'S INSIDE:
BGCD Continues BGCD At Home with Season 2 of our own "The Masked Singer": BGCD At Home's Season 1 of "The Masked Singer" was a massive success. We are excited to announce that Season 2 has officially premiered with all new BGCD staff performers. The staff will be wearing Snapchat and Instagram filters to conceal their identities while performing. Viewers have 24 hours to vote on who they think should be eliminated. Once votes are calculated, the loser of that round will reveal themselves the next day. Episodes are posted on BGCD's Facebook and YouTube pages on Fridays, Sundays and Tuesdays at 7pm. Please follow and like our pages to join in the fun!

For more information on virtual programming, please contact Brendan McDonald at bmcdonald@bgcdorchester.org.



Mark Wahlberg and brothers Bob, Jim and Paul join our BGCD "DotTalks" Speaker Series: See details below.

DID YOU KNOW:
Mark Wahlberg and brothers Bob, Jim and Paul join our BGCD "DotTalks" Speaker Series: BGCD continues to engage teens with our "DotTalks," speaker series. Members are so fortunate to participate on a Zoom panel to ask questions with prominent people in our community. We were honored to welcome Dorchester's own Wahlberg brothers Bob, Jim, Paul and Mark. The Wahlberg Family always remembers their families roots here in Dorchester and at BGCD. The Q & A session is now available to watch online, so please tune in to hear about their affection for BGCD, connection with longtime staff members, how quarantine is going and much more. New episodes will air on Thursday evenings at 7 pm. Our next guest is Tacko Fall from the Boston Celtics! Please check out our previous episodes on our Facebook and YouTube pages.

UPDATES

Due to the COVID-19 Crisis, all 3 of our Clubhouses will remain closed. For the most up to date information on Club activities and resources or to make a donation to our Clubs, please go to our website at bgcdorchester.org.

For those in need of assistance, please call our Club Community Hotline @ 617-288-7120 ext. (4444) or email us at info@bgcdorchester.org.

Thank you to our community and friends, we will get through this together!

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Moment of Paws

About your pets and the pandemic

By Dr. Edward Schettino

Over the last several months, we have all been inundated with ever-evolving information, statistics, and restrictions to keep ourselves, family, friends, and community safe and healthy. But from the point of view of a veterinarian and newly appointed president & CEO of the Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL), I believe one important segment within our community has largely been ignored – our pet population.

So, when the CDC and USDA recently announced that two pet cats in New York tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19) and a dog in North Carolina also tested positive, I was not surprised when ARL received a number of phone calls from nervous pet owners wanting to know if they could contract COVID-19 from their pet.

When it comes to the COVID-19 pandemic, it is important to focus on scientific facts, not opinions or speculations, which is why I feel compelled to share important information about pets and COVID-19.

First and foremost, public health officials are still learning about COVID-19 and while cats and dogs are susceptible to coronavirus, there is *no evidence* that pets can pass the virus



Sydney (above) is a Chihuahua, the smallest breed of dog, named after the Mexican state of Chihuahua.

onto another animal or humans. There are still many unknowns about this virus, but ARL concurs with, and recommends that pet owners adhere to the following CDC recommendations to keep animals safe:

- Do not let pets interact with people or other animals outside the home;
- Keep cats indoors, when possible, to prevent them from encountering other animals and people;
- Walk dogs on a leash, maintaining at least 6 feet from other animals or people;
- Avoid dog parks or public spaces where people and animals may gather.

For pet owners who are presumed to carry the illness or who have already tested positive for the virus, the CDC recommends that you:

- Have another member of your household care for your pets while you are sick, when possible;
- Avoid contact with your pet, including petting, snuggling, being kissed or licked, and sharing food or bedding; and
- If you must care for your pet or be around animals while you are sick, wear a cloth face mask and wash your hands before and after you interact with them.

By practicing good hygiene, social distancing, and other precautions, you, along with your pets, will have a lower risk of infection.

LEGAL NOTICE

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
Suffolk Probate & Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300**

**CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Docket No. SU20P0344EA
ESTATE OF:
SONIA DIAZ
DATE OF DEATH: 09/24/2019**

To all interested persons:
A petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Rudy Diaz of Dorchester, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Rudy Diaz of Dorchester, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in an unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 05/29/2020.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

**Unsupervised Administration
Under The Massachusetts Uniform
Probate Code (MUPC)**
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

Witness, HON. BRIAN J. DUNN, First Justice of this Court.
Date: April 17, 2020

Felix D. Arroyo
Register of Probate
Published: May 14, 2020

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We support each other through challenging times.
When life is hard, we work harder.

Life is a little different lately.
We're choosing to shine light on our strengths.
Overcoming challenges by staying focused on
our goals and dreams.
We're doubling down on our future.
Helping to guide our neighbors and inspire each other.
Bringing our communities to safe harbor.

We are Beacons.

