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CHELSEA RECORD

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER SINCE 1890

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35 CENTS

COVID-19

Protecting our community.
Keeping you informed.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS



EBNHC offers advice amid Coronavirus pandemic

Special to the Independent

Community health centers like the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center (EBNHC) are among America's first responders in public health crises like the COVID-19 pandemic. It is essential that we play

a role in educating the community and above all else, work together to ensure the safety of our staff, patients, and members of the communities we serve. It is with this in mind that EBNHC is partnering with Independent Newspaper Group and other media to regularly

communicate directly with residents about the ongoing efforts to provide care to our community and help stop the spread of the coronavirus.

As you know, the situation is changing every day. Like other health care organizations, we have enacted

Emergency Operations Planning and are prepared should there be a rise in cases. We will be there for all who need us, regardless of age, income, insurance status, language, culture, or social circumstances. Our mission has not changed in 50 years and will guide us

through this crisis.

EBNHC patients who believe they may be infected with COVID-19 should not come to the health center, but rather, should call us. We have implemented a thorough phone screening process for any patient exhibiting a fever and flu-like

symptoms or who has had a possible exposure. If testing is deemed necessary, arrangements will be made.

Of particular focus for us is making special provisions for the many elderly we care for in our community. Our Neighborhood

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Market Basket launches senior shopping hours to protect and serve older customers

Special to the Record

Beginning today, March 19, Market Basket will initiate senior shopping hours specifically geared to accommodate the needs of our customers 60 and older. Each Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 5:30 to 7 a.m. the stores will be open ONLY to serve customers 60 and older.

This is designed to enable these members of our community who are at greater risk with the coronavirus to shop in a less crowded environment, which enables social distancing.

"Our Associates really wanted to do this to serve many of our customers who are worried about their health," said Joe Schmidt, Supervisor of Operations. "We are proud of how hard the team is working to serve all of our customers and address their needs. This will mean longer hours for them but everyone is willing."

Market Basket stores are known for their cleanliness and high standard of hygiene. The team has increased this standard — with additional measures for the stores and for all Associates.



PHOTO BY SETH DANIEL

At the St. Rose Meals to Go food site on Monday, March 16, School Department workers and volunteers were ready to hand out meals to students in the public schools that were no longer able to attend school due to the COVID-19 response. Sites are open Monday through Friday, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Here Mirian Aguilar holds a sign to let people know what's going on. Behind her are Kimberly Geraci, Keyla Martinez, Enmy Dubon, Nasmarie Martinez, Lisa Santagate, and Sania Garmendia. See more photos on Page 6.

Schools close on COVID-19 concerns at Wright Middle School

By Seth Daniel

The Chelsea Public Schools (CPS) made a quick move last Friday, March 13, to close schools indefinitely in the face of a presumed positive school community member at the Wright Middle School.

Supt. Almi Abeyta announced the closure and the continued closure late last week and the closure is continuing through April 6. On Wednesday, she said she couldn't confirm the result of the testing done on the

person at the Wright Middle due to privacy restrictions. However, the City did announce they have two residents with positive tests for COVID-19.

Abeyta, who just took over fully in January, said

See SCHOOLS Page 2

City leaders answer coronavirus questions

By Adam Swift

From the current number of Coronavirus cases in Chelsea, to the mechanics of social distancing, to questions about high school graduation and parking tickets, City Manager Thomas Ambrosino and several city leaders held a public meeting Monday night unlike any in the City's history.

City business will continue, but in a much different form than during normal circumstances, Ambrosino said.

It was billed as a live community question and answer session on the coronavirus, with Ambrosino leading the event and Supt. Almi Abeyta, City Nurse Paula McHatten, Police Chief Brian Kyes, and Fire Chief Leon-

ard Albanese joining in on conference call. The event was broadcast live on local cable and on the School Department's Facebook page.

The highlight of Abeyta's remarks was her assurance that the Chelsea High School Class of 2020 will graduate this June, although it might be a later date in the month

See QUESTIONS Page 2

Closed Down

Chelsea confirms two cases of COVID-19 as City operations shut down

By Seth Daniel

The City of Chelsea reported late Tuesday that there were two confirmed cases of the COVID-19 virus in residents, and took extraordinary measures to close down most all City operations, including public parks with tot lots/playgrounds.

In addition, City Hall has closed to in-person visits, as well as the Senior Center and the Chelsea Public Library (though children's Librarian Katherine has been

doing wonderful story time videos online for kids).

City Manager Tom Ambrosino said the situation has been stressful, and he fears that it will be more challenging in the coming days.

"We're trying to keep doing everything we can to reinforce this social distancing effort and plugging along at this crisis," he said. "We are very worried about what's about to come with an escalation of cases, the

See CLOSED Page 3

Restaurants try to adjust to takeout, delivery guidelines

By Cary Shuman

Michael Matrisko's New Brown Jug would normally be packed at this time of year, with March Madness in full swing, the Celtics and Bruins heading to the playoffs, and the Red Sox getting ready to start their season.

But everything is different because of the global pandemic caused by the

COVID-19 virus.

The bar, where patrons would be watching the games and commiserating about Tom Brady leaving the Patriots, is empty. The dining area, where customers would be feasting on the Jug's incomparable pizza, is clear.

It's an unprecedented time for Michael Matrisko, his wife, Cheryl Viscon-

See DELIVERY Page 3



Ed McCarthy Jr., proprietor of New Bridge Café, and Boston sportscast Chris Collins, at the popular restaurant Monday.

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Neighbors, customers and friends,

With our lives being changed on a daily basis by the Covid-19 pandemic, we want to update you on some changes that we are making at the Independent Newspaper Group.

Our office will remain open during regular business hours, Monday thru Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and on Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Customers can contact us at 781-485-0588 or by the emails at editor@reverejournal.com, seth@reverejournal.com or deb@reverejournal.com.

The full print edition will be online on Thursday morning at chelsearecord.com.

Our web pages will be updated with the latest new regulations and news from our elected leaders as soon as the news is made public.

We urge everyone to adhere to the rules and recommendations of our elected officials and the CDC in fighting this pandemic.

Stay safe
Your friends at the Chelsea Record



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1014 Revere Beach Parkway, Chelsea, MA
(in the Home Depot Plaza)

Churches in Chelsea adjust to empty pews and online services

By Adam Swift

Chelsea religious leaders are keeping the faith as they deal with the new reality of providing spiritual services and guidance during the global pandemic of the coronavirus.

Many churches in the area have already started providing online services and prayers for their congregants, and others are moving in that direction. Church leaders are also making sure that their most vulnerable parishioners are being checked in on and taken care of.

“We began streaming this past Sunday and will continue to do so during this crisis,” said Father Edgar Gutierrez-Duarte at St. Luke’s-San Lucas Episcopal Church. “We’ve also begun to do some evening prayers through our webpage.”

St. Luke’s is providing its English services online on Sundays at 10 a.m. and Spanish services at noon at [HYPERLINK “http://lukelucas.org”](http://lukelucas.org) \t “_blank” lukelucas.org.

While there was not a large virtual crowd for the initial online services last weekend, Gutierrez-Duarte said he expects the numbers to increase as people hunker down and more people find out about the services.

At the People’s Chelsea A.M.E. Church, Rev. San-

dra Whitley said services were not streamed last Sunday, but added the church is exploring the best way to do that for the coming Sunday services.

“The services we had on Sunday will be our last,” said Whitley, as they make the move to some kind of online services.

The First Congregational Church on County Road announced last week that it will be closed for at least two weeks due to the coronavirus and offered a virtual church service on its Facebook page.

“We did this last Sunday and everyone thought it was so nice we are going to do it permanently until this is over,” said Janet Zarvas at First Congregational. The Sunday service takes place online at 10:45 a.m.

She said the church is definitely reaching out to all its members and neighbors to see who is in need and providing any help it can.

As some churches have gone online and others move in that direction, Whitley said there is more for the clergy and congregations to deal with than just Sunday services.

“I’ve really been thinking about my elderly parishioners who are homebound,” said Whitley. “Because of this pandemic, we are making sure that we check in on them and that they are in our prayers.”

At St. Luke’s, Gutierrez-Duarte said a phone tree has been organized to make sure the church community can stay in touch with one another. Most importantly, when dealing with the most vulnerable in the City, Gutierrez-Duarte said the church’s food pantry and soup kitchen will remain open, although there will be some changes when it comes to food delivery.

“We will not be having the hot meals in people’s living rooms, but we will be dropping off lunch bags,” he said.

Whitley and Gutierrez-Duarte said now more than ever it is important for people to keep the faith.

“What we are doing is offering prayer,” said Whitley. “We don’t want people to be fearful, the main thing is that when things are out of control, we can return back to God and pray and not be fearful. God loves us and does not want this to be happening and does not want us to be fearful, but to pray to Him.”

Gutierrez-Duarte said the situation is likely to get worse before it gets better, but he said it is important to remain righteous, take the situation seriously, and listen to the experts. He said that anyone who feels the need should feel free to reach out to their pastors and their church.

Schools /Continued from Page 1

it was a situation that few could have ever prepared for in the education world, but at the same time she praised her staff and everyone in the city.

“This is definitely not something you learn about in the Superintendent training programs,” she said. “I have to give a large thank you to the staff of CPS and the way they have just been able to put the website together and the staff that has put together the Meals Distribution program. It’s amazing how this community and this City have come together to serve the children in Chelsea. It’s been a phenomenal effort and I’m

so proud to be in Chelsea now.”

With schools closed, Abeyta said they are moving more and more to an online curriculum and already have a tremendous amount of resources available at Chelseaschools.com.

“There are resources there for Pre-K students to 12th grade and there is also suggestions for movement and mindfulness at home,” she said. “We will be updating that website constantly. We also have resources there for activities at home, things parents can do with students while at home.”

She said the first effort is just a beginning, as they do

not want students to fall behind while at home.

“This is Phase 1 and we’ll add more to this website as well,” she said. “Our goal is to keep our students up with their academics while they’re at home. We don’t want them to slide back.”

Additionally, in the near future, she said they will begin discussing getting student Chromebooks to them so they can work from home more easily with familiar devices.

Already, several Internet providers are offering free Wi-Fi service to help families with students at home during the extended school closure.

EMERGENCY SCHOOL FOOD PROGRAM

Chelsea, Massachusetts

Chelsea Public Schools will be closed until Monday, March 30th, 2020, if not longer. While the schools are closed, free lunch and breakfast will be provided on week days to youth at seven different locations.

Food will be "grab and go" which means that participants will pick up a bagged lunch and breakfast, and can take it home with them. The following procedures will be in place:

- Wait quietly and respectfully in line
- Maintain a separation of 3 to 6 feet between yourself and the next family group
- All children in Chelsea are eligible
- Meals will be available between 11:30 am and 1:00 pm

You should go to the site closest to your home. There is no need to go to your child's school site – the meals at all locations will be the same. We ask that participants walk or take alternative modes of transportation to the site nearest to your home. Parking at these sites is limited.

Emergency School Food Program Locations are:

- Early Learning Center Courtyard (Shurtleff Street side)
- Mary C. Burke Complex Parking Lot
- Williams Middle School Parking Lot
- Clark Avenue Middle School front entrance
- Chelsea High School front entrance
- Bossom Playground (Bellingham and Grove Streets)
- Voke Park (Washington Avenue)

These sites are subject to change, but signs will be posted directing people to other sites if this occurs.

PROGRAMA DE ALIMENTOS ESCOLARES DE EMERGENCIA

Chelsea, Massachusetts

Las Escuelas Públicas de Chelsea estarán cerradas hasta el lunes 30 de marzo, 2020, si no por más tiempo. Mientras las escuelas están cerradas, se ofrecerá almuerzo y desayuno gratis a los jóvenes en siete lugares diferentes en Chelsea.

La comida será "comida para llevar", lo que significa que los participantes recogerán un almuerzo y desayuno empacados, y podrán llevárselos a casa. Se implementarán los siguientes procedimientos:

- Espera tranquila y respetuosamente en la fila
- Mantenga una separación de 3 a 6 pies entre usted y el próximo grupo familiar
- Todos los niños en Chelsea son elegibles
- Las comidas estarán disponibles entre las 11:30 a.m. y la 1:00 p.m

Es preferido que irse al sitio más cercano a su hogar. No es necesario ir a la escuela de su hijo: las comidas en todos los lugares serán las mismas. Les pedimos a los participantes que caminen o tomen medios de transporte alternativo al sitio más cercano a su hogar. El estacionamiento en estos sitios es limitado.

Las ubicaciones del programa de alimentos escolares de emergencia son:

- Early Learning Center Courtyard (Shurtleff Street side)
- Mary C. Burke Complex Parking Lot
- Williams Middle School Parking Lot
- Clark Avenue Middle School front entrance
- Chelsea High School front entrance
- Bossom Playground (Bellingham and Grove Streets)
- Voke Park (Washington Avenue)

Estos sitios están sujetos a cambios, pero se publicarán letreros que dirijan a las personas a otros sitios si esto ocurre.

Boston Marathon to be run on Sept. 14 as part of a full weekend-long festival

By Seth Daniel

Boston Mayor Martin Walsh, Gov. Charlie Baker and Boston Marathon officials announced they would postpone the 2020 Boston Marathon until Sept. 14, proposing to have a complete weekend-long festival that would support runners, charities and local businesses all along the racecourse.

The move came on Friday, March 13, and was in response to the measures taken to curtail the spread of the COVID-19. It was also a measure that was seemingly out of the question just three weeks ago.

Last Friday, all had changed.

“We’re here today to announce the 2020 Boston Marathon will be postponed until Monday, Sept. 14, of this year,” said Mayor Martin Walsh on the portico outside City Hall. “Our expectation and our hope right now is this date will get us to a safer place in the spread of the Coronavirus. It’s a date the [Boston Athletic Association] can make work for its runners, and there’s been a lot of conversations about what date could work...Our priority right now is for the safety and the health of the runners and the fans, the medical personnel, residents of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and visitors from across the country and the world. We want to make sure we keep people safe.”

Mayor Walsh said they believe they can create a festival throughout the weekend, culminating in a new Marathon Monday holiday, Sept. 14. That effort is hoped to help businesses that are suffering through the measures taken to curb COVID-19, including the Marathon date change.

“The Marathon plays a major role for our local charities and our local economy,” he said. “Our plan is to make the weekend of September 14 a cornerstone campaign to help local businesses recover from this entire episode... You have the chance to run

in an historic, once-in-a-calendar, but it’s certainly

Mayor Martin Walsh announces the postponement of the Boston Marathon to Sept. 14 during a press conference on the City Hall portico last Friday, March 13. He said he hopes it can be a weekend-long festival to help businesses to rebound from the hurt caused by the COVID-19 situation.

lifetime race in September, and I hope all the runners and people will embrace it.”

Mayor Walsh said the regional economy could stand to lose \$211 million if the race were canceled, while local charities could lose nearly \$40 million through cancelation. That’s why it was decided a postponement would be idea.

“We hope the economic consequences are just pushed to September and not lost altogether,” said Newton Mayor Ruthanne Fuller.

Gov. Charlie Baker said he would be filing a bill with the State Legislature to officially make Sept. 14 the temporary Marathon Monday event. He said there is wide support in the Legislature for the change, and leadership there was unanimous in their support of moving the date instead of canceling it.

“While it may be hard to believe I’ll be filing a bill to make September 14 this year’s Marathon Monday, I think it’s important to point out that after conversations with House and Senate leadership, there was an immediate desire that we preserve this very special day,” he said. “I know this is a change and it probably won’t look right on the

the right thing to do. We have seen before this Boston Marathon does define resilience, and I think everybody once we get there will feel the same way we always feel on Marathon Day.”

The effort also included input from other racecourse communities such as Hopkinton, Ashland, Framingham, Natick, Wellesley, Newton and Brookline.

There are a lot of questions from runners, and Boston Athletic Association CEO Tom Griik said those would be answered in the coming weeks – things like whether or not runners need to re-register for the race.

“We’re here to support the decision of the City of Boston and the other seven cities and towns along the Marathon route and the Commonwealth to postpone the 2020 Marathon until Sept. 14,” he said. “We know that all these municipalities are doing this in support of all the constituencies served by the Marathon – runners, charities, volunteers, spectators and our local economy. The BAA will take every step possible to support this effort. We could not be more impressed by the immense amount of work by

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Questions /Continued from Page 1

than initially scheduled.

Throughout the hour-long program Ambrosino repeatedly underscored the seriousness of the worldwide pandemic, and noted that the fast-changing nature of the situation means that the information on the virus and efforts to contain it could change from one day to the next.

“Every public health expert in the United States and the world is advising us that the way to prevent this virus is by social distancing,” said Ambrosino. “I understand that we are in an unprecedented situation that I think few of us have ever experienced before. There is no standard procedure for cities and towns to deal with, and facts about this virus are fast changing and new information is arriving very rapidly.

“As the City and the City Manager, we are making decisions every day with the best information we have. Because the information is changing rapidly, sometimes our information can change from day to day, and that’s just the nature of the crisis and we ask for your patience.”

Across the state, all schools have been ordered closed until at least April 6.

“Until further notice, we have also closed the library, the Senior Center, and City Hall to the public,” said the City Manager. “We are still conducting City business, but we are doing it with a very limited staff in this building. The majority of our employees are working remotely from home.”

The closing will have some impact on city business, and Ambrosino highlighted some of those impacts.

•The appeal period for parking tickets in the City has been extended by 30 days, as long as residents still had time as of Monday to file an appeal on the tickets. Any ticket issued on or after Feb. 22 now has a 30 day extension of the appeal period, Ambrosino said.

•Residential parking sticker renewals have been extended until June 1. Ambrosino noted that while the renewal period has been extended, they can be renewed at any time online or by

mail.

•Also, during the period in which City Hall is closed, Ambrosino said enforcement of the residential parking sticker program has been suspended.

“Other parking violations will still be enforced by the police, but not the residential sticker parking,” he said.

•Excise tax bills, which were originally due on March 25, have an extended due date of April 28. The February water bills, which were originally due on March 23 are now due on April 21.

“Let me repeat the important part of this, while City Hall is closed to the public, you can continue to interact with us online or by mail,” said Ambrosino. “In fact, most business at City Hall these days can always be done online.”

Ambrosino answered several questions which were submitted prior to the live session by residents. He said that trash and recycling will continue on a regular schedule, and that the City’s street sweeping program will also continue.

For those with questions or concerns about City services, Ambrosino said the best tactic residents can take is calling the 311 information line, which has live operators on duty during normal City Hall business hours.

While much of life across the City and the country has been put on hold, Ambrosino pointed out that there is one important effort that is continuing with no delays.

“The U.S. Census effort continues, and it is critically important to the City that you fill out the Census,” he said. “Many have received the Census document in the mail, and this is the official Census document, this is not a scam. You can do it easily online while we are all stuck with a lot of time at home.”

•Abeyta answered several questions from the public, noting that family members are eligible to pick up students’ school lunches at pickup points without students being present at all distribution points and that the Pre-Kindergarten registration deadline will be extended.

She also answered a question about the graduation date.

“The high school graduating class of 2020 will graduate in June,” she said. “However, there may be a later date in June.”

•McHatton answered several questions about the health impacts of coronavirus and testing.

If anyone feels they may have coronavirus symptoms, McHatton said they should isolate themselves at home and monitor their symptoms, and if the symptoms get worse, contact their health provider. If someone doesn’t have a doctor, she said they should go to an urgent care clinic or the emergency room.

Dr. Dean Xerras, the medical director of Massachusetts General Hospital in Chelsea, stressed the importance of preventing the transmission of the virus from one person to another.

“The important thing to remember about the virus is that we need to prevent the transmission to other people, and some of the things you will hear us talking about now, like social distancing, like self-quarantine, these are strategies that will help prevent transmission and spread to other people,” Xerras said. “I want to stress, as a doctor in the medical community, we’re not afraid of the virus, we’re afraid of so many people getting sick at the same time. These strategies are critical in preventing a big surge in cases.”

•Ending up the meeting, Kyes and Albanese both stressed that police and fire personnel will be providing all emergency services the City expects. Albanese did encourage anyone who calls emergency services to let 9-1-1 operators know if anyone in their house has cold or flu symptoms so they can take proper precautions.

Kyes also noted that anyone who has a call that is not an emergency should call (617) 004-2064.

“The City will continue to update this information daily on our website and through social media with the most up-to-date information,” said Ambrosino. “Together, we will get through this crisis.”

Closed / Continued from Page 1

health care industry being overwhelmed and the City being overwhelmed and not having enough resources for the flood of displacement that is about to happen and overwhelm us. It’s people not being able to pay rent. It’s people losing their jobs. It’s the City and state revenues falling through the floor. It’s really exhausting honestly.”

He said the situation has reminded him of the days after 9/11, but in some ways this is much worse.

“It’s unprecedented,” he said. “In a lot of ways it reminded me of the days after 9/11, but really that was one event and one event to deal with. With this, you keep wondering how long it’s going to keep going. You keep waiting for the wave to hit you and you don’t know when or where that will be. We’re all trying very hard, but there is no playbook.”

The park closure is unique, with Everett going forward with that this week as well.

“All City tot lots and/or playground structures are now closed,” read the instruction from the City. “Please do not let your children play on these surfaces. The grass and fields will remain open, but please practice social distancing and do not engage in contact sports.”

Delivery / Continued from Page 1

ti, and their son, Michael Matrinko Jr., who like restaurant owners across the city, are complying with Gov. Charlie Baker’s declaration of takeout orders and deliveries only for all bars and restaurants in Massachusetts.

“I have zero people sitting at my sports bar and zero people sitting in my lovely dining room,” said Matrinko, echoing a theme among proprietors in Chelsea.

Matrinko said takeouts and deliveries are moving along smoothly at the Jug. “I’m hoping and praying that it increases big time because that’s only about 22 percent of my business,” said Matrinko.

The popular Chelsea High hoopster and 1971 graduate is reaching out to customers through Facebook, Instagram, the Jug website, and a Chelsea Record advertisement that he is open for pizza and deliveries.

“The people that come here for takeout are very happy that we’re open,” said Matrinko. “Some people have said to me, ‘What do you mean I can’t sit down?’ “And I tell them, ‘folks, the Governor said all bars and restaurants are closed. All I can is takeout and delivery.’ Those are the people that are shocked.”

Matrinko said the closure is particularly hard hitting economically because March is perennially the busiest month of the year at the Jug.

“You have the NCAA

Other measures include:

- Due to rapidly changing circumstances, the City Manager has made the difficult decision to close to the public City Hall, the Library and the Senior Center for an indefinite period, but at least until Mon. Mar. 30.

Despite this situation, the City is still committed to delivering certain core services. But, only critical staff will remain on site. Most employees will be working from home. Build-ings will be closed to the public effective immediately. Residents are encouraged to interact with the City by mail or on-line. We also encourage the use of our 3-1-1 phone line during previous business hours.

- The State Department of Public Utilities has extended the winter moratorium on residential gas and electric shut-offs until the state of emergency is lifted or the order is rescinded. This will reduce the pressure on low-income families to make decisions between paying for healthcare or paying for utilities.

- All renewals periods for parking permits and parking stickers are extended until June 1, 2020. Renewals for all current dog tags expiring on March 31 and April 30 have been extended until June 1.

All parking ticket appeals must be submitted in

writing by mail, online, or dropped off in the green mailbox outside of City Hall on Washington Avenue. To accommodate this change, the appeal period for all tickets issued on or after March 1st will be extended by thirty (30) days. No appeals will be accepted in person at City Hall for any reason.

The City will extend the date for payment of excise tax bills due on March 25, 2020. Those bills will now be due no later than April 28, 2020. No interest shall accrue during this extension period.

Ambrosino said employees are being paid and most are working from home on projects that are important to City business. He said while City Hall is not open, the work of the City continues to go on by computer, phone and other means.

“People have been working really hard here,” he said. “I have to say the staff have been tremendous to try to address all the problems we’ve identified. People are nervous at the same time and worried that they’ll get sick or their families will get sick.”

For more updates as they happen, stay tuned to the Record’s website (www.chelsearecord.com) or the Record’s Twitter feed at handle @ChelseaRecord.

razor-thin margins at the best of times, so this is an especially difficult time for Chelsea’s eateries. And I can think of at least three places right now that have just recently opened. We want to encourage everyone to support our restaurants, cafes, and bakeries as much as they are able within the confines of the Federal and State governments’ guidance.”

“As part of the Financial Impacts sub-group of Chelsea’s COVID-19 Community Response Team, we’re putting together a list of all the restaurants in Chelsea and whether they’re offering take-out and/or delivery. We’re getting that list out through every channel as soon as possible. Another way to help, especially our small, independent restaurants, is to purchase a gift card or gift certificate for restaurants. That will give them some funds now when they’re most needed.”

“I’ve been working hard to get information out to businesses and employers, whether or not they are Chamber members, about the Commonwealth’s Small Business Recovery Loan Fund, the Federal government’s Disaster Loan Assistance program through the Small Business Administration, and the welcome changes to unemployment insurance claims as a result of the health emergency. Please visit www.chelseachamber.org for daily updates.”

Cuthie encourages residents to support local restaurants

Chelsea Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Rich Cuthie released the following statement about restaurants this week: “Restaurants operate on

Marathon/ Continued from Page 2

the City of Boston and the Commonwealth to not just cancel the Marathon, but instead take the less drastic step of postponing it even amidst a crisis of incredible proportions.”

Mayor Walsh and Gov. Baker said there were many discussions about the date, and Walsh said the new day jumped around “like a pin-ball.”

In August, it would have been too hot. Meanwhile, Labor Day weekend is also

Student Move-in weekend in Boston and Newton, which ended that proposition. Columbus Day weekend in October also features college celebrations like Family Weekend. In the end, Sept. 14 proved to be the best option for everyone.

Mayor Walsh concluded by invoking the Boston Strong moniker – hearken-ing back to another city-wide crisis with the Marathon Bombing.

“The Marathon is Boston...The Marathon connects us, it reflects us and it strengthens our community spirit and resiliency,” he said. “We’ve shown before no matter what the challenge is to our Marathon and our city, we are Boston Strong. That’s what we will be again this year in the face of this crisis. On Marathon Monday, we are going to continue to lead the country.”

MGH Charlestown and NEW Health Charlestown message to the community

To Our Patients and Community Members:

MGH Charlestown and NEW Health Charlestown want you to know that we are working hard with Massachusetts General Hospital to confront the COVID-19 epidemic, and we are here for you. We have two important messages for the community at this time:

- If you have a cough, fever, or other flu-like symptoms, please contact your primary care physician by phone so that we can advise and triage you appropriately. We ask you NOT to come directly to clinic without calling to be triaged, because many patients with respiratory infections (including COVID-19) can be managed safely at home, which is often the safest

option, and MGH is creating alternative sites for the management of respiratory infections. We will remain at work and at the other end of the line to take your calls, and we will make sure you get the treatment you need.

- If you have a scheduled doctor’s visit that is non-essential and can be postponed, please contact your physician’s office to reschedule—this will allow us to keep up our capacity to help the main hospital by seeing urgent visits.

In addition, in your own lives, please follow state and national guidelines around “social distancing” and person to person infection control, which are all-important in reducing the impact of COVID-19 on our communities. For more

guidance on those strategies and for other information about COVID-19 we offer this web resource from MGH, which is updated frequently and offers information and advice in multiple languages: <https://www.massgeneral.org/news/coronavirus/coronavirus-latest-update>.

Thank you, and please do not hesitate to reach out to our health centers with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,
Jim Morrill, MD, PhD,
Medical Director, MGH Charlestown HealthCare Center
Anne Murray-Chiraboga, MD, Medical Director NEW Health Charlestown

EBNHC / Continued from Page 1

PACE program cares for hundreds of seniors and the health center sees thousands of others who depend on us for their care. Given that the elderly population is at the highest risk, we are focused on taking every step possible to continue giving high-quality care at our PACE Centers, in homes, and within the primary care setting without exacerbating risk.

To minimize potential exposure to otherwise healthy patients, we are asking all EBNHC patients to postpone any routine or preventive healthcare. However,

for patients in need of appointments, we can help you with telephone visits or if absolutely needed, we can see you in person. The goal is to minimize transmission of coronavirus by social distancing.

At EBNHC, we are fortunate to have a deeply committed team that always rises to the occasion and we will be here for our community during and long after this public health crisis. We will continue to work closely with Department of Public Health, the Boston Department of Public Health, and both

state and federal government as every day brings forth new information and recommended guidelines. Throughout the duration of this public health emergency, we will maintain open lines of communication and will continue to educate the public through this regular column as well as in social media and our website. We wish the best for you and your family at this very difficult time.

East Boston Neighborhood Health Center

Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1

Duffy, Andrew J
Tulio-Martinez, Brian
Perlack, Amy
DeBarrios, Meda L
Demir, Halil
Leiker, Benjamin V

SELLER 1

New England Prop
Garcia, Ismael
Rust, Marc B
Buckley Legacy T
Lovely Ronald B Est
Sheehan, Daniel F

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\$325,000
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Chelsea

RECORD

PRESIDENT: Stephen Quigley
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THE COVID-19 EPIDEMIC: A WAKE-UP CALL FOR THE U.S. HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

In the aftermath of the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001, Americans forever were forced to change the manner in which we traveled. The strikes on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon made clear that the screening system we had in place at airports at that time was inadequate for meeting the threat posed by a determined international terrorist organization.

Long security lines at every airport in this country, as well as around the world, soon became the norm, as new protocols were put into place for our protection against future attacks. Americans didn't -- and still don't -- like them, but all of us understand that the inconvenience and expense of the enhanced security measures are essential for our safety.

Similar to the issue of inadequate airport security before 9/11, the onset of the world-wide, COVID-19 pandemic has exposed the gross shortcomings of the American health care system's ability to confront a major health emergency of the magnitude we are facing today.

The U.S. is far less capable of dealing with an influx of patients afflicted with coronavirus than every other industrialized nation in the world (as well as many poorer nations). Relative to our population, we have far fewer doctors, nurses, hospital beds, and acute care capabilities than countries all across the globe that already are struggling with the onslaught of COVID-19.

With our emergency rooms already at 75-90 percent of capacity at any given time, it will not take much to overwhelm every hospital in every city in every state if this pandemic comes even close to a worst-case scenario.

In addition, a huge percentage of our population has no direct access to quality health care that could identify early exposure to the virus. For example, federal emergency officials have urged every citizen to call their doctor first, rather than just reflexively coming into the doctor's office, if they suspect they are becoming ill. However, about 25 percent of our fellow Americans -- about 75 million of us -- do not have a primary care physician either because they do not have health insurance or are underinsured. So what are those people supposed to do -- other than flood into emergency rooms?

The bottom line is this: America's healthcare system is under stress even in the best of circumstances. It is neither designed nor capable of ensuring the optimum health outcomes for most of our citizenry and excludes a large percentage of our population altogether even in ordinary circumstances. And ironically, we spend more on our healthcare by far -- and get less for it -- than any other nation on earth.

Hopefully, the current crisis will serve as the equivalent of a 9/11 wake-up call so that we can make significant changes to our healthcare system in order to ensure that every American has access to quality healthcare for the protection of our people, both individually and collectively.

SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

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THE BEST FOR CHELSEA

Dear Editor:
Many will be aware that Chelsea Council President Roy Avellaneda recently announced the appointments to the Charter Review Committee.
As long-term residents and homeowners actively involved in our community, it is our honor to have been selected as two of the five community members to serve our fellow residents and neighbors in this capacity. We do so fully aware of the great responsibility placed upon us and the other community members, Councilors, and School Committee members, to diligently review the Charter and to make well-considered recommendations for changes that will benefit the City of Chelsea, its residents, and businesses for the next 10 years.
It is dismayingly to us that there are those who have al-

ready judged the Committee and decided that, in their view, it isn't representative of Chelsea and is therefore incapable of fulfilling its responsibilities -- a judgement formed before the appointments were publicly announced, and before the Committee has had an opportunity to hold a single meeting to begin its work. It would seem that they are profiling the Committee and presupposing its effectiveness based on what they claim is missing from its composition: renters, single mothers, and immigrant advocates. These self-appointed judges ignore the ethnic, gender, and political diversity of the appointees, as well as their individual and combined strengths.
The Committee Chairperson, for example, is a lifelong Chelsea resident, a successful graduate of Chelsea Public Schools, and the first Honduran-American to serve on

Chelsea's City Council. Other appointees include: a former school superintendent; long-serving School Committee members; City Councilors; community organizers and environmental justice advocates; parents; and businessowners -- every one of whom cares deeply about the City, all of its residents, and its future.
It is our expectation that the Charter Review Committee will prove this premature judgement to be as baseless as it is toxic and divisive. It would be foolish to expect that everyone will agree with every single recommended change to the Charter that might be made by the Committee, but we can expect that everyone will agree that the process for developing any recommendation is transparent, deliberate, and fair. And we hope that any resident of Chelsea who is interested will attend the meetings and make suggestions as

the process gets underway.
Sharlene McLean
Ms. McLean has lived in Chelsea since April 2001. She served six years as a Member and Chair of the Chelsea Cultural Council, and was recently appointed to the Planning Board. She has also been active as a member and volunteer with GreenRoots Chelsea. Ms. McLean is employed as a Patent Assistant at a law firm in downtown Boston.
Mimi Rancatore
Ms. Rancatore has lived in Chelsea for 19 years. She served three years as a Member of the Chelsea Cultural Council, and has been a Member of the Planning Board since 2019. Ms. Rancatore is a co-founder and co-owner of Toscanini's Ice Cream, a successful family-owned business in operation since 1981.

Forum



— MARCH 19, 2020 —

GUEST OP-ED

We need to take care of each other

By Cardinal Seán P. O'Malley

As a people, community, and as a nation we are being forced into a stance of social distancing to ward off a potential health disaster. Even as we embrace a methodology of physical isolation, we must reject any stance of alienation and individualism. Our motivation cannot be fear and self-preservation, but a sense of solidarity and connectedness. What is being asked of us is for the common good, to protect the most defenseless among us.
In some ways the present, surrealistic atmosphere is similar to what we experienced after the attack of Sept. 11. We were shaken from our complacency and confronted with the reality that changed our lives overnight. Likewise, today we see the real risk to countless numbers of elderly and infirm persons, to healthcare workers, indeed to our hospital system, and even the economic well-being of millions of people whose lives have been upended by the necessary closings and precautions.
Just as after 9/11 we need

to come together as a people with a profound sense of solidarity and community, realizing that so many people are suffering and fearful. We need to take care of each other, especially by reaching out to the elderly and the most vulnerable.
Although we cannot celebrate public Masses at this time because we wish to follow the directives of the government, I want to assure all of you that we, your priests, are offering Mass each day for all of you. You are all spiritually united in these masses where we pray for the living and the dead. Our priests in the parishes are there and can be contacted. We are trying to use social media and Internet streaming as a means of sharing communications.
I am grateful to all of our priests and parish staffs and the 3,000 Catholic school teachers and administrators who are all working diligently to be able to serve our people in these challenging circumstances. Please remember that your parish communities depend on the offertory collections and will need your support going forward to carry on

their crucial work.
Let me share with you an account I read many years ago that made quite an impression on me. A group of rowdy university students on the train in France spotted an old man sitting alone praying his Rosary. The students who prided themselves on their sophistication and scientific outlook began to mock the old man who seemed unperturbed by their hazing. Suddenly a passenger jumped to his feet and rebuked the students: "Stop bothering Dr. Pasteur." The students were shocked and embarrassed. That old man praying the Rosary was Louis Pasteur, a national hero, a rock star, whose research and inventions have saved millions of lives. Pasteur discovered the principles of vaccination and pasteurization. Arguably, he did more than any other person in the history of medicine by his remarkable breakthroughs in understanding the causes and prevention of diseases.
I share this story to preface my request to pray the Rosary each day. Many of us remember growing up praying the Rosary ev-

ery evening as a family. In the history of our people, during the wars, famines, plagues, and persecution, the Rosary has been the powerful prayer of the Catholic people as we see in the example of the eminent scientist Louis Pasteur. Even if we cannot go to Mass, the Rosary is always accessible to us. It is a prayer that puts us in touch with God as we reflect on the mysteries of the life of Christ and the Blessed Virgin. It is a prayer that can be prayed by the simplest present and the smartest scientist.
St. Ignatius of Loyola once said that we must work as if everything depended upon us, and pray as if everything depended upon God.
It is indeed encouraging to see how many people are visiting our churches for personal prayer and adoration during this time of enforced social distancing. May this strange Lent that we are living, help us to overcome the physical distance by growing closer to God and by strengthening our sense of solidarity and community with each other.

LETTER to the Editor

State announces \$10 million in small business assistance for COVID-19 damages

By Seth Daniel

State Rep. Dan Ryan is joining the Baker Administration in championing an immediate effort to provide \$10 million in assistance to small businesses across the state – an effort announced earlier this week in co-operation with the U.S. Small Business Association (SBA).

The money was announced for businesses that have fewer than 50 employees, and Rep. Ryan said it was the right move in unprecedented times. He also urged those who can to support small businesses as much as possible in Chelsea.

He joined the Chelsea Chamber in championing and bringing attention to the help for small business.

“I thoroughly support the actions being taken by our state government over the past week,” Ryan said. “These are unprecedented times we are in. I would much rather look back and say ‘maybe we did too much’ than say ‘if only we had done more’. With that said, many of our small businesses cannot sustain themselves without money coming through the door. This loan program will help businesses bridge the gap

between today’s uncertainty and what is hopefully a prosperous future. I thank the Governor, Speaker Bob DeLeo, Chair Aaron Michlewitz and our Senate partners for working together on this loan program and other issues that are before us. Be well. Support our local shops when and if you can.”

The \$10 million Small Business Recovery Loan Fund will provide emergency capital up to \$75,000 to Massachusetts-based businesses impacted by COVID-19 with under 50 full- and part-time employees, including nonprofits. Loans are immediately available to eligible businesses with no payments due for the first six months. [HYPERLINK “https://www.empoweringsmallbusiness.org/”](https://www.empoweringsmallbusiness.org/) \t “_blank” Massachusetts Growth Capital Corporation (MGCC) has capitalized the fund and will administer it.

“As our administration continues to take steps to protect the health and safety of residents, we recognize the hardships facing the small businesses that create the foundation of the state’s economy,” said Governor Baker. “This recovery loan fund is a new resource to help small businesses ad-

dress emergency needs due to the disruption caused by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.”

•How to Apply:
*Please complete the application found on MGCC’s website, [HYPERLINK “http://www.empoweringsmallbusiness.org/”](http://www.empoweringsmallbusiness.org/) \t “_blank” EmpoweringSmallBusiness.org.

*Completed applications can be sent via email to [HYPERLINK “mailto:mgcc@massgcc.com”](mailto:mgcc@massgcc.com) \t “_blank” mgcc@massgcc.com with the subject line “2020 Small Business Recovery Loan Fund.”

*MGCC can be reached by email: [HYPERLINK “mailto:mgcc@massgcc.com”](mailto:mgcc@massgcc.com) \t “_blank” mgcc@massgcc.com

•Loan Fund Details:
*Who Qualifies: Open to Massachusetts-based businesses impacted by COVID-19 with under 50 full- and part-time employees, including nonprofits (negative impact must be verifiable).

*Terms and Conditions: This fund is being offered with no payments due for the first six months, then 30-months of principal and interest payments and no prepayment penalties.

*Businesses can apply for loans up to \$75,000.

SOWA ARTISTS GUILD OPEN STUDIOS



Arnie Casavant with his untitled oil painting of the view from the Top Of The Hub. Casavant is part of the SoWa Artists Guild at 450 Harrison Ave. in Boston’s South End. The Guild started their season of First Fridays Open Studios on March 6. Visitors came to see the artists in their workspace and to witness first-hand the creative processes involved in the art produced there.

Trial court departments issue new standing orders to address emergency matters

In accordance with the Order issued Tuesday by the Supreme Judicial Court (SJC) providing that, from March 18 until at least April 6, Massachusetts courts will be closed to the public, except to conduct emergency hearings that cannot be resolved through a videoconference or telephonic hearing. Individual clerks’ offices will be open to accept emergency pleadings, to address questions and to assist with videoconference or telephonic hearings.

“We are in uncharted territory for state judicial systems, and we are working to continue to deliver justice to all individuals while striving to keep the public, court users and our employees safe,” said Trial

Court Chief Justice Paula Carey. “In these unprecedented times, we intend to listen, learn and adjust as necessary to accomplish our objective to deliver justice and to keep all safe. I am extraordinarily proud of those who work in the Trial Court who have tirelessly done their jobs in the face of this pandemic. I know that they will continue to do so.”

As directed in that Order, each of the Trial Court departments has issued a new standing order to specify what constitutes an emergency matter. The new standing orders are available on the court’s website: <https://www.mass.gov/guides/court-system-response-to-covid-19> In-

dividual standing orders should be consulted for the specific types of emergency matters that will be heard in each court department.

In addition, persons who have a previously scheduled hearing, whether emergency or non-emergency in nature, during the time of the court closure as ordered by the SJC, should contact the appropriate Clerk’s, Clerk Magistrate’s, Register’s or Recorder’s office for instruction. Those courts include Boston Municipal Court, District Courts, Housing Court, Land Court and Superior Court. Each have versions of the standing order and those can be found online.

Money tips to stay safe from Coronavirus

By Jill Gonzalez, WalletHub analyst

•Ask Your Bank for Help
“Many banks and credit unions have stated they are willing to offer assistance to people who face temporary financial hardship due to the coronavirus,” said Jill Gonzalez, WalletHub analyst. “These might include measures like being able to skip a payment, having temporarily lower rates, getting fees waived or having a credit line increase. If you find yourself struggling financially, call customer service to make your case. Make sure to clearly and politely articulate the reasons for your hardship.”

•Focus on Maximizing Savings
“Most people’s jobs aren’t immune to the coronavirus. So, it’s a good idea to set aside as much money as you can from each paycheck in case coronavirus impacts your ability

to work or causes you to have additional medical expenses,” said Jill Gonzalez, WalletHub analyst. “Even beyond the current situation, it’s always good to have an emergency fund. Avoid panicking about stocks, too, and just remember that it’s only a matter of time until the virus runs its course.”

•Take Advantage of Travel Insurance but Know the Limits

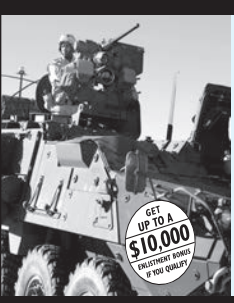
“If your travel provider cancels a trip because of the coronavirus, a ‘trip cancellation or interruption’ policy might help you get your money back,” said Jill Gonzalez, WalletHub analyst. “Some credit cards offer this benefit for free, though issuers have been cutting back in recent years. Keep in mind that if you cancel your own trip out of fear of the virus, your insurance policy probably won’t cover you unless you have coverage for canceling ‘for any reason’ or doctor’s orders to

quarantine yourself.”

•Use Credit Cards, Not Cash

“Though there’s not much evidence to show that touching cash spreads coronavirus, it’s theoretically possible, and the Federal Reserve has been quarantining bank notes from Asia. China also burned some of its currency that had been circulated through the Wuhan area,” said Jill Gonzalez, WalletHub analyst. “Using a credit card’s contactless capability may help give consumers more peace of mind. Plus, credit cards can be used for online purchases, allowing consumers to avoid shopping at crowded stores. In addition, consumers that decide to stock up on essential items and spend more than usual in the coming months can recoup some of that expense, and get some extra time to pay, by using a rewards credit card.”

Courtesy WalletHub




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SCHOOL DEPARTMENT WORKERS AND VOLUNTEERS HAND OUT MEALS TO STUDENTS

The Chelsea School Department moved quickly on Monday to begin offering meals to go for students in the district who were no longer in school because of the response to the COVID-19 outbreak. School was called off on Friday, March 13, for at least the next two weeks, and healthy lunches with fresh fruit will be of-

fered at numerous locations throughout the city.
Locations include:
•Mary C. Burke Complex Parking Lot
•Williams Middle School Parking Lot
•Clark Avenue Middle School front entrance
•Chelsea High School front entrance
•St. Rose Courtyard



A man walks home with lunches for his children Monday.



At the Burke Complex Monday, Josefa Barahona, Elizabeth Martinez, Diane Brousseau, Becca Perrin, Maria Powers, and Donna Arsenault.



Griselda Velasquez and Alicia Castillo were ready to hand out lunches on Monday at the Clark Avenue Middle.



Officer Sammy Mojica, Bruce Harrison of Chelsea Public Schools, and Officer Ari Rodriguez at the Clark Avenue Middle School Monday.

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The logo for Commonwealth Care Alliance, featuring the letters "cca" in a red circle followed by the text "commonwealth care alliance®".

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Uncrowned Champion

Cancellation of nationals denies track star Simon a chance to defend

By Cary Shuman

Chelsea High senior Stephanie Simon would have been one of the clear-cut favorites in this past weekend's new Balance National Championships in New York City.

As a defending national long jump champion, reigning state triple jump champion and a Division 1 scholarship-athlete, Simon has become somewhat of a celebrity at regional and national competitions.

But officials made the decision last Thursday to cancel the event due to the Coronavirus.

"I'm disappointed but I saw the decision coming and I feel they did the right thing," said Simon. "When it got closer to the date, I got my hopes up, so I guess that kind of made it more

disappointing."

Simon was looking forward to competing against other elite seniors, who like her, have made commitments to Division 1 women's track programs.

Always confident about contending in every meet, Simon felt she was in a good position to reclaim her national title.

"I usually peak around the nationals," said Simons. "I wanted to do 19 feet this year (she won last year's nationals at 18 feet, 10 inches).

The 5-foot-4-inch athlete has been unbeaten inside the Commonwealth Athletic Conference in multiple events for the past three years. She excelled in the 55-meter dash, long jump, and high jump this winter.

Simon was asked whether the dash affects her

readiness for the other two events, where she has been most successful.

"Running the dash has become a good warm-up for the long jump because you run up the runway before you jump and you want to make sure you're fast and consistent," said Simon.

Simon's official practice schedule has been put on hold as Gov. Charlie Baker has ordered the closure of all schools until April 7. Pre-season workouts for the spring track season were scheduled to begin Monday (March 16).

"Right now, I'm not sure whether there will be a season or whether the stadium will be open for individual workouts," said Simon.

Simon said is very grateful to her track coach, Cesar Hernandez, who was scheduled to accompany her to

the Nationals, and CHS director of athletics Amanda Alpert, who has been in contact with her about the status of the outdoor track season.

Alpert hosted a March 9 winter sports awards program during which Simon and her indoor track teammates were recognized with jackets and awards. It could be the last athletic event of the school year.

But Simon said she's anxious to get back on the track, help her team win a final CAC title (before Chelsea returns to the GBL next year), and contend for another state title.

"I'm just looking to get out and compete," said Simon, adding that she was hoping that the Summer Olympic Games go on held as scheduled.



CHS track star Stephanie Simon wasn't able to defend her national long jump title following the cancellation of the New Balance Nationals this past weekend.

ZBA approves Salvation Army redevelopment unanimously

By Adam Swift

The City has cleared a hurdle in its efforts to redevelop the former Salvation Army building at 440 Broadway.

Tuesday night, March 10, the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) approved a series of special permits and variances allowing the City to put out a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the mixed-used development of the site.

The RFP will call for the construction of a five-story, 16 residential unit building with 2,400 square feet of commercial space on the first floor and eight parking spaces.

The residential units will be two-bedroom units of 600 to 800 square feet, with an emphasis on an affordable housing component, according to Assistant City Planner Alex Train.

"Following this meeting, we will proceed with community engagement and outreach," said Train. After that, the City will finalize the RFP and evaluation criteria before putting the project out for bid.

City Manager Thomas Ambrosino will then choose a recommendation committee, which will make a final recommendation on the proposals to the City Council.

"The existing building, given its condition,

is not able to be reused," said Train. "Thus, the City chose to redevelop it."

The parking will be on the Cherry Street side of the site, with no access on Broadway as a way to minimize the traffic impact on Broadway, Train said.

With the commercial component, Train said the City is attempting to find a proposal that encourages a use that is beneficial to the community. With housing, he said the City is encouraging affordable and mixed-use housing.

From a design perspective, plans that show architecture consistent with the surrounding historical buildings.

"Ultimately, we hope to solicit a number of viable proposals and start scoring them on the evaluation criteria," said Train.

More weight will be given to proposals that include home ownership opportunities, he said.

"Ultimately, the City envisions this as a catalyst for additional housing development in the City," Train said.

ZBA members did raise several questions about parking and the height of the building. Member Hugh Perdomo asked what the protocol would be for allocating the eight parking spots.

Train said the spots would likely be allocated

on a first-come, first-serve basis, adding that the development would follow the City's restriction on projects seeking parking relief being eligible for on-street parking stickers.

ZBA member Marilyn Vega-Torres asked if there was any way the project could be made smaller than the proposed five floors, adding it would be taller than surrounding buildings.

Planning Director John DePriest said squeezing 16 units and commercial space into four floors would mean the building would have to expand to the rear toward Cherry Street. Train added it would be hard for the project to be economically feasible with fewer than 16 units.

DePriest also said that any significant changes to the shape of the development would have to come back before the ZBA for approvals.

The ZBA unanimously approved the project.

"It's great to be including the community with an opportunity to weigh in," said ZBA Chair Janice Tatarka.

•In other business, the ZBA heard from Steven Piazza, who is seeking to construct a 12,000-square-foot wholesale food warehouse on an empty lot at 45 Market St.

The ZBA and DePriest raised questions about parking and traffic associated with the project, as well as the future development of a nearly 18 acre site connected to the parcel over the City line in Everett.

The project will be before the Planning Board later this month and back before the ZBA in April.

We are Here
and We Count!

The 2020 Census will count every
person living in the United States,
regardless of citizenship,
immigration status, language, or age.

The number of people
counted in Chelsea helps
determine how much
funding we get for schools,
healthcare, housing,
seniors, parks and more.

Look for your census invitation in the mail in March

2020 CENSUS

www.ChelseaCensus2020.com

STAY IN AND TAKE OUT
HELP LOCAL BUSINESSES WHILE STAYING IN

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

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

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

THE SPECIAL IS A BUSINESS CARD AD FOR 2 WEEKS FOR \$80
Please reach out with any questions, deadline for Thursday Mar 26 is Tuesday the 24 at noon
Call 781-485-0588 or email deb@reverejournal.com

Have an Eggstra
Special Easter Season

Send us Your
Eggstra Special
Person or Pet this
Easter season

Photos will be published on April 8th and April 9th

Revere Journal | East Boston Times
Chelsea Record | Everett Independent
Winthrop Transcript | Lynn Journal

Please send your photo to
PROMO@REVEREJOURNAL.COM
with the following information:
Name (first only), phone number and Publication(s) of choice

HOP TO IT....

DiDomenico updates community on COVID-19 actions at the State House

COVID-19 Update from Sen. Sal DiDomenico: As you all know, the COVID-19 situation is evolving quickly, so I want to take the opportunity to ensure that everyone is up to date on some of the recent steps that the State Legislature and Gov. Charlie Baker have taken to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

- On Thursday, March 12, my colleagues and I in the Legislature allocated \$15 million dollars in a supplemental budget to support the Commonwealth’s monitoring, treatment, containment, public awareness, and prevention efforts in response to COVID-19. This was an important first step to allow the Administration and DPH to use these funds in the areas of greatest need, according to public health experts.
- The Legislature has also

provided initial funding of \$95,000 at the request of DPH for State Lab supplies and equipment for time sensitive COVID-19 testing.

- Last week, Gov. Baker announced an emergency order temporarily suspending the requirement for public access to the physical location where a public meeting is taking place, allowing state and local governments to carry out essential functions and operations safely for members of the public, government officials, and employees. This will allow for the use of a phone conference line for members of the public, social media, and/or other internet streaming services, on-line meeting services, or methods of access.
- On Friday, March 13, the Department of Public Utilities issued a moratorium to

suspend all shut-offs of gas and electric utilities, including Municipal Light and Gas Plants, for residential customers during the State of Emergency.

- This past weekend, the Baker Administration announced a slate of changes to the state’s clinical and health care infrastructure that will accelerate COVID-19 testing:
- Clinicians will no longer need to receive approval from the state public health laboratory before submitting samples for patients within a broad range of criteria to allow for greater/more rapid testing.
- Clinicians can also submit a single nasal swab rather than both a nasal and throat swab, which will allow us to test more people throughout the day.

*New state guidance calls for MassHealth to cover the costs of both video- and telephone-based telehealth conferences between patients and doctors.

- Additionally, everyone on MassHealth will be able to acquire 90-day prescriptions and early refills, and the state will also expand hospital presumptive eligibility to any low-income patient that a provider suspects may have COVID-19.
- The Baker Administration has also set up a command center in Boston, where Health and Human Services Secretary Marylou Sudders will focus solely on leading planning and response to COVID-19. The center will have authority and discretion to tap whatever state funds are necessary. Priorities will include expanding the capac-


ity and distribution of testing, the allocation of personal protective equipment, surge hospital crisis capacity, scenario modeling and contingency planning and supply chain vulnerabilities.

Of course, this all comes in addition to the announcement on Friday that the Trump Administration has declared a national state of emergency, freeing up \$50 billion to help fight the pandemic. This declaration will allow FEMA to tap into these funds to mobilize personnel more quickly to help state and local agencies and leaders respond.

The Secretary of Health and Human Services has also been empowered to waive certain laws and regulations to ensure the virus can be contained and patients treated. This is funding and change is much needed in order to increase testing and mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

- Finally, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health has announced that Massachusetts 2-1-1 will now provide real-time COVID-19 information, resources, and referrals in multiple languages. This expansion is the result of an increased investment in resources directed towards this 24-hour state-supported telephone hotline. This new service is in addition to a dedicated site mass.gov/covid19, which is updated daily with information and resources. Moving forward, please know that you can use this as a resource of up to date information from our public health officials.

LEGAL NOTICES



Request for Bids
Community Action Programs, Inter-City, Inc. (CAPIC) is seeking proposals from contractors to perform residential insulation, general heat waste, blower door testing and air sealing, as well as, electric and roofing measures for low-income residents of the following communities; Arlington, Belmont, Cambridge, Chelsea, Everett, Lexington, Malden, Medford, Melrose, Revere, Somerville, Stoneham, Wakefield, Watertown, Waltham, Winchester, Winthrop and Woburn. Bid Packages may be picked up at the CAPIC office or will be sent upon request. Bids must be received at the CAPIC Office, 100 Everett Ave, Unit 14, Chelsea, MA 02150, no later than March 30th, 2020. For further information, please contact Giancarlo DeSario at CAPIC at (617) 884-6130 ext. 1125. All Proposals are subject to price negotiation. CAPIC's Board of Directors reserves the right to accept or reject any and all proposals deemed best for the agency. The submission of proposal constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the

request for proposals. Small and minority firms are encouraged to apply. The advertisement is subject in all respects to the terms and conditions of the request for proposals. CAPIC, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer / Affirmative Action agency.

3/12/20, 3/19/20, 3/26/20

LEGAL NOTICE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
Suffolk Probate And Family Court
24 New Chardon St.
Boston, MA 02114
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF CONSERVATOR'S ACCOUNT
Docket No: SU17P0703PM
In the matter of: Henry J. Tintoni
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, you are hereby notified pursuant to Rule 72 of the Superintendent Rules of the Probate & Family Court, that the 1st Annual account(s) of Joseph Sommer, Esq. of Boston, MA as Conservator of the property of said Respondent has or have been presented to the Court for allowance. You have the right to

object to the account(s) If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this court or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 04/16/2020. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to object to the account(s). If you fail to file the written appearance and objection by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you, including the allowance of the account(s). Additionally within thirty days after said return day (or within such other time as the Court upon motion may order), you must file a written affidavit of objections stating the specific facts and grounds upon which each objection is based and a copy shall be served upon the Conservator pursuant to Rule 3 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court. You have the right to send to the Conservator, by registered or certified mail a written request to receive a copy of the Petition and account(s) at no cost to you. IMPORTANT NOTICE The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial or

both. The above-named person has the right to ask a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

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

Date: March 11, 2020
Felix D. Arroyo

3/19/20

LEGAL NOTICE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS TRIAL COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH BOSTON MUNICIPAL COURT DEPARTMENT CENTRAL DIVISION
Civil Docket No.: 1901CV241
NOTICE OF SUIT
Upon Order by the Court dated January 21, 2020, Notice is given to the Defendant KC Air and Heat, Inc.. You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon Gregory V. Sullivan. Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 59 Water Street, Hingham, MA 02043, an answer to the Plaintiff's Complaint against you and bearing Civil Docket No. 1901 CV241 filed in the Boston Municipal Court - Central Division within 20 days of service of this notice, exclusive of the day of service. You are also required to file your answer to the Plaintiff's Complaint with the Clerk-Magistrate's Office of the Boston Municipal Court - Central Division, 24 New Chardon Street, 6th Floor, Boston, MA 02114 in a manner pursuant to the Massachusetts Rules of Civil Procedure. If you fail to do so, judgment by default may be entered against you. Unless otherwise provided by law, your answer must state as a counterclaim any claim which you may have against the Plaintiff which arises out of the transaction or occurrence that is the subject matter of the Plaintiff's claim or you will be barred from making such claim in any other action. You need not appear in court to answer the Complaint, but if you claim to have a defense either you or your attorney must serve a copy of your written answer within 20 days as specified herein and also file the original in the Clerk-Magistrate's office.

3/19/20

Suffolk Division
24 New Chardon St.
Boston, MA 02114
(617)788-8300
CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT
Docket No. SU17P0703PM
Estate of: Henry J. Tintoni
A Petition for Order of Complete Settlement has been filed by Joseph Sommer of Boston, MA requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account, on the 1st and Final on the Temporary Conservator and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.

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 04/16/2020. 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 written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you.

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

Date: March 11, 2020
Felix D. Arroyo,
Register of Probate

3/19/20


LEGAL NOTICE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT CITATION
G.L. c. 210, § 6
Suffolk Probate And Family Court
24 New Chardon St.
Boston, MA 02114
Docket No. SU20A0015AD
In the matter of: Kimberly Nicolle Mendoza
Any unnamed or persons interested in a petition for the adoption of said child and to the Department of Children and Families of said Commonwealth. A petition has been presented to said court by: Edie Esquivel Contreras of Chelsea, MA and Vilma Medoza Esquivel of Chelsea, MA requesting for leave to adopt said child and that the name of the child be changed to Kimberly Nicolle Esquivel Mendoza
If you object to this adoption you are entitled to the appointment of an attorney if you are an indigent person. An indigent person is defined by SJR Rule 3:10. The definition includes but is not limited to persons receiving TAFDC, EACDC, poverty related veteran's benefits, Medicaid, and SSI. The Court will determine if you are indigent. Contact an Assistant Judicial Case Manager or Adoption Clerk of the Court on or before the date listed below to obtain the necessary forms.

IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT: Boston ON OR BEFORE TEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING (10:00 AM) ON: 04/16/2020.

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

Date: February 18, 2020
Felix D. Arroyo,
Register of Probate

3/5/20, 3/12/20, 3/19/20



CITY OF CHELSEA INVITATION FOR BIDS
Mary C. Burke Community Entrance - Playground Project
Sealed bids to furnish all labor and materials for "Mary C. Burke Community Entrance - Playground Project". Invitation for Bids will be available on or after March 18, 2020 by contacting Dylan Cook, Chief Procurement Officer at dcCook@chelseama.gov or by visiting the City's website at <http://www.chelseama.gov/purchasing/pages/current-bids-solicitations>. Bids must be sealed and clearly marked "Mary C. Burke Community Entrance - Playground Project" and submitted to the Office of the Chief Procurement Officer, City Hall, Room 204, Chelsea, Massachusetts no later than 2:00PM, Thursday, April 2, 2020. Each bid must be accompanied by a certified check, issued by a responsible bank or trust company. Or a bid bond duly executed by the bidder as principal and having as surety thereon a surety company approved by the City, all in the amount of 5% of the bid payable to the "City of Chelsea." The City of Chelsea reserves the right to accept any proposal, to reject any or all proposals and to waive minor irregularities and/or formalities as it deems to be in the best interest of the City. In accordance with our Minority Business Enterprise Plan, we are inviting all qualified women and minority business firms to respond.

The City of Chelsea is an Equal Opportunity Employer. This Invitation for Bids is in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 30, 39M. Dylan Cook Chief Procurement Officer

3/19/20


Invitation for Bids will be available on or after March 18, 2020 by contacting Dylan Cook, Chief Procurement Officer at dcCook@chelseama.gov or by visiting the City's website at <http://www.chelseama.gov/purchasing/pages/current-bids-solicitations>. Bids must be sealed and clearly marked "Chelsea High School Veterans Stadium Site Work for the Public Restroom Area" and submitted to the Office of the Chief Procurement Officer no later than 11:00AM on Thursday, April 2, 2020. Each bid must be accompanied by a certified check, issued by a responsible bank or trust company. Or a bid bond duly executed by the bidder as principal and having as surety thereon a surety company approved by the City, all in the amount of 5% of the bid payable to the "City of Chelsea." The City of Chelsea reserves the right to accept any proposal, to reject any or all proposals and to waive minor irregularities and/or formalities as it deems to be in the best interest of the City. In accordance with our Minority Business Enterprise Plan, we are inviting all qualified women and minority business firms to respond.

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3/19/20

LEGAL NOTICE
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court Suffolk Division Probate and Family Court Department
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA. 022114
(617)-788-8300
SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION
Docket No. 20W0251
Fatima E. Mendoza V
Walter R. Robles Coronado
To the above named defendant:
A Complaint has been presented to this Court by the Plaintiff, FATIMA E. MENDOZA seeking a Complaint for Custody Support & Parenting Time filed on 2/12/2020. You are required to serve your answer upon Plaintiff whose Address is: 154 Shurtleff Street #4, Chelsea, MA. 02150. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer in the office of the Register of this Court at Boston (24 New Chardon Street, Boston, MA. 02114) Witness, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this 2nd day of March of the year 2020
Felix Arroyo Register

3/19/20



All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

FHAP AGENCIES & OTHER STATE/ LOCAL REFERRAL AGENCIES

BOSTON FAIR HOUSING COMMISSION
One City Hall Plaza, Suite 966
Boston, MA 02201-1054
617-635-4408

CAMBRIDGE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
51 Inman Street
Cambridge, MA 02139-1732
617-349-4396

CONNECTICUT COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS & OPPORTUNITIES
21 Grand Street, 4th Floor
Hartford, CT 06106-1561
860-541-3400

MAINE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
51 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
207-624-6050

MASSACHUSETTS COMMISSION AGAINST DISCRIMINATION
One Ashburton Place, Room 601
Boston, MA 02108-1599
617-994-6000

RHODE ISLAND COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
180 Westminster Street, 3rd floor
Providence, RI 02903-3768
401-222-2661/62

VERMONT HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
135 State Street, Drawer 33
Montpelier, VT 05633-6301
802-828-2480

NEW HAMPSHIRE COMMISSION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
2 Chenell Drive
Concord, NH 03301-9053
603-271-2767

NEW HAVEN COMMISSION ON EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES
200 Orange Street, Room 402
New Haven, CT 06510
203-946-8160/8165

LEGAL NOTICE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT WORCESTER Division DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING
Docket No. SU20D0153DR
Barbara Torres Plaintiff
vs.
Amador Torres Defendant
To the Defendant: The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown. The Complaint is on file at the Court. An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411. You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon Barbara Tor-

3/19/20

LEGAL NOTICE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
Suffolk Division
24 New Chardon St.
Boston, MA 02114
(617)788-8300
CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT
Docket No. SU17P0703PM
Estate of: Henry J. Tintoni
A Petition for Order of Complete Settlement has been filed by Joseph Sommer of Boston, MA requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account, on the 1st and Final on the Temporary Conservator and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.

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 04/16/2020. 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 written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you.

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

Date: March 11, 2020
Felix D. Arroyo,
Register of Probate

3/19/20

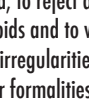
LEGAL NOTICE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT CITATION
G.L. c. 210, § 6
Suffolk Probate And Family Court
24 New Chardon St.
Boston, MA 02114
Docket No. SU20A0015AD
In the matter of: Kimberly Nicolle Mendoza
Any unnamed or persons interested in a petition for the adoption of said child and to the Department of Children and Families of said Commonwealth. A petition has been presented to said court by: Edie Esquivel Contreras of Chelsea, MA and Vilma Medoza Esquivel of Chelsea, MA requesting for leave to adopt said child and that the name of the child be changed to Kimberly Nicolle Esquivel Mendoza
If you object to this adoption you are entitled to the appointment of an attorney if you are an indigent person. An indigent person is defined by SJR Rule 3:10. The definition includes but is not limited to persons receiving TAFDC, EACDC, poverty related veteran's benefits, Medicaid, and SSI. The Court will determine if you are indigent. Contact an Assistant Judicial Case Manager or Adoption Clerk of the Court on or before the date listed below to obtain the necessary forms.

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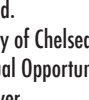
WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.

Date: February 18, 2020
Felix D. Arroyo,
Register of Probate


3/5/20, 3/12/20, 3/19/20



CITY OF CHELSEA INVITATION FOR BIDS
ORDINARY AND EMERGENCY REPAIRS ON THE CITY'S WATER, SEWER, AND DRAIN SYSTEMS
The City of Chelsea, Massachusetts, through its Chief Procurement Officer, is seeking sealed bids for all labor and materials for "Ordinary and Emergency Repairs on the City's Water, Sewer, and Drain Systems". Invitation for Bids will be available on or after March 18, 2020 by contacting Dylan Cook, Chief Procurement Officer at dcCook@chelseama.gov or by visiting the City's website at <http://www.chelseama.gov/purchasing/pages/current-bids-solicitations>. Bids must be sealed and clearly marked "Ordinary and Emergency Repairs on the City's Water, Sewer, and Drain Systems" and submitted



CITY OF CHELSEA INVITATION FOR BIDS
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CITY OF CHELSEA INVITATION FOR BIDS
CHELSEA HIGH SCHOOL VETERANS STADIUM SITE WORK FOR THE PUBLIC RESTROOM AREA
The City of Chelsea, Massachusetts, through its Chief Procurement Officer, is seeking sealed bids for all labor and materials for "Chelsea High School Veterans Stadium Site Work for the Public Restroom Area".

• Revere • Everett • Winthrop • Lynn • East Boston • Chelsea • Charlestown

Independent Newspaper Group

Classified

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Fax: 781-485-1403

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LYNN - 2 bedroom, 1 bath, kitchen, living room \$1800 month includes heat & hot water. Call Vipul 781-218-9706 4/1

REVERE Beachmont - Available now. 3BR, 2BA, LR, Kit, Laundry in bldg., Sec 8 approved. \$2500 incl. heat 339-224-3839 3/25

WINTHROP - Ft. Heath Apts. - Ocean View 1 & 2 BR apts. in mod. shoreline bldg. Non-smoking/no pets. Steps to beach, minutes to Boston. Pool, billiards, exercise facility, lounge, pkg. Heat & HW incl. 617-846-7300 Debra. 3/19

WINTHROP - 1BR, open concept KIT/LR, lg. Deck w/views. Walk to T, close to beach. Cat OK. \$1500 includes util. Dep. Req'd. Must see! 617-682-6498 3/26

CHELSEA - Shurtleff St. - 3&4 BR Apt., gas heat, lead cert. Sec 8 OK, No smoking, no pets 781-844-1133 4/1

• 272 GEN'L HELP
WANTED

PART TIME DRIVING INSTRUCTORS - Weekday afternoons to early evenings & Saturdays. Certified and experience preferred will train. Call Pleasant Auto School (781)284-4388 4/1

DELIVERY DRIVER - Part Time For a dry cleaners in Winthrop Part time. 10-14 Hours per week. Early afternoons Approx. Between 12pm-2pm Valid driver's license required & must provide a copy of driving record from RMV. 617-834-2404

SOBER
HOUSING

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

CUSTOMER SERVICE REP. wanted for Dry Cleaners in Winthrop. Wed-Friday afternoons. Please contact Mar-co 617-834-2404

Sociedad Latina seeks a Steam Team Coordinator for their Umana - East Boston site. If interested, Send Resume & Cover Letter to juan@sociedadlatina.org or apply through www.sociedadlatina.org/careers. 3/26

GENERAL HELP: Full time or Part time available -Mon-Fri 8 to 4. Laborer needed for Marina Service Dept. Winthrop. We are willing to train right candidate, mechanical experience helpful but not necessary. Please call 617-846-1100 ask for Lloyd. 3/25

BUILDING
FOR SALE

REVERE Great Location 2 Store Fronts 1 4BR Apt. 5 open Pkg. spots \$950.000 617 785 7027

State RMV re-opened seven locations March 18

The Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) is announced on Wednesday, March 18, it would reopen seven of its 30 customer service center locations, while asking that customers who do not have immediate needs for required in-person services delay their visits.

The RMV facilities that are being reopened prioritize regional availability, accessibility and facility size and capacity. To assist with “social-distancing” and reducing facility volume, customers are asked to not bring multiple individuals with them. Meanwhile, AAA locations will continue to offer select RMV services to AAA members and road tests will be suspended

indefinitely.

These steps are being taken following Gov. Charlie Baker’s declaration of a State of Emergency the week of March 9th to complement the work that has been underway for weeks across state government to keep residents safe and healthy.

Only the following seven RMV centers will be open effective March 18 until further notice: Boston/Haymarket, Brockton, Fall River, Lawrence, Pittsfield, Plymouth, and Worcester. Hearings will be conducted at Boston/Haymarket, Brockton, Fall River, Lawrence, and Worcester.

Road tests for permit holders are postponed at all locations through at

least Friday, March 20. Road testing will resume only after cleaning, personal protective equipment and social distancing protocols have been put in place to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 transmission for permit holders, road test examiners and others who accompany permit holders for their tests. Because the Governor’s Executive Order provides that Learner’s Permits dated between March 1 and April 30 will continue to have an active status until 60 days after the printed expiration date.

“While we are re-opening seven Registry of Motor Vehicles Service Centers to address the needs of residents and business customers, we strongly

encourage those who can, to conduct their business online, by phone, by mail or to postpone a visit to the RMV and take advantage of the extension of expiration dates for licenses,” said Transportation Secretary and CEO Stephanie Pollack. “Customers should expect longer waits as we will need to limit any crowding in the centers to comply with social distancing protocols. We will be limiting the number of people allowed inside Service Centers and once those limits are reached, customers will have to either leave and come back or wait outside until it is possible to let them in while still maintaining social distancing.”

DiDomenico receives National Breakfast Hero award

The national anti-hunger campaign No Kid Hungry announced Senator Sal DiDomenico as a recipient of its 2020 Breakfast Hero contest. DiDomenico was one of only six recipients throughout the United States.

DiDomenico was awarded alongside his House colleagues and Representatives Aaron Vega and Andy Vargas for their sponsorship of Breakfast After the Bell legislation that recently passed unanimously in both chambers of the Massachusetts Legislature. Once enacted, this legislation will increase access to school breakfast to over 150,000 low-income students across the Commonwealth by making it a part of the school day.

Accessing traditional cafeteria breakfast service can be challenging for many kids. Breakfast after the bell provides breakfast in a way that is more convenient and accessible to students, resulting in more kids starting the day ready to learn.

“Thank you to No Kid Hungry for honoring me as a recipient of their 2020 Breakfast Hero contest,” said Senator DiDomenico. “We can have the best teachers, facilities, and technology in our classrooms, but if our kids are showing up for school hungry, they simply are not ready to learn. Breakfast After the Bell is smart policy that will help thousands of children across our Com-

monwealth access the nutrition they need to start their days. I am very grateful to the No Kid Hungry campaign and Rise and Shine Coalition for their advocacy and partnership on this critical issue for our children and families.”

“Smart legislation is one of the most effective ways to increase participation in school breakfast programs,” said Bernadette Downey, Share Our Strength’s associate director, government relations and advocacy. “Once this legislation is enacted, thousands more kids in Massachusetts will get the nutrition they need to reach their full potential – thanks to the strong leadership of these three breakfast heroes.”

According to No Kid Hungry, “this year’s inspiring line up of champions come from all walks of life, proof that ending childhood hunger takes all of us. Breakfast powers kids to reach their full potential, but millions of kids in need start each school day on an empty stomach. No Kid Hungry’s breakfast hero award celebrates individuals who are changing that. By using their voices to build awareness, enacting smart policy, raising critical funds and implementing breakfast after the bell programs in schools, they have gone above and beyond to ensure all kids in America are Powered By Breakfast.”

No Kid Hungry is an active member of Rise and Shine Massachusetts, a

statewide coalition of over fifty hunger-relief and education organizations advocating for state legislation that increases equitable access and participation in school breakfast.

School breakfast is an energy source for kids across the nation. Research shows that hunger has long-

term ramifications on children, including lower test scores, weaker attendance rates, and a higher risk of hospitalizations and chronic diseases. No Kid Hungry and its partners focus on school breakfast as a critical way to end childhood hunger.

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What you need to know about coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)

What is coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)?

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a respiratory illness that can spread from person to person. The virus that causes COVID-19 is a novel coronavirus that was first identified during an investigation into an outbreak in Wuhan, China.

Can people in the U.S. get COVID-19?

Yes. COVID-19 is spreading from person to person in parts of the United States. Risk of infection with COVID-19 is higher for people who are close contacts of someone known to have COVID-19, for example healthcare workers, or household members. Other people at higher risk for infection are those who live in or have recently been in an area with ongoing spread of COVID-19. Learn more about places with ongoing spread at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/transmission.html#geographic>.

Have there been cases of COVID-19 in the U.S.?

Yes. The first case of COVID-19 in the United States was reported on January 21, 2020. The current count of cases of COVID-19 in the United States is available on CDC’s webpage at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-in-us.html>.

How does COVID-19 spread?

The virus that causes COVID-19 probably emerged from an animal source, but is now spreading from person to person. The virus is thought to spread mainly between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet) through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes. It also may be possible that a person can get COVID-19 by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching their own mouth, nose, or possibly their eyes, but this is not thought to be the main way the virus spreads. Learn what is known about the spread of newly emerged coronaviruses at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/transmission.html>.

What are the symptoms of COVID-19?

Patients with COVID-19 have had mild to severe respiratory illness with symptoms of

- fever
- cough
- shortness of breath

What are severe complications from this virus?

Some patients have pneumonia in both lungs, multi-organ failure and in some cases death.

How can I help protect myself?

People can help protect themselves from respiratory illness with everyday preventive actions.

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.

If you are sick, to keep from spreading respiratory illness to others, you should

- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

What should I do if I recently traveled from an area with ongoing spread of COVID-19?

If you have traveled from an affected area, there may be restrictions on your movements for up to 2 weeks. If you develop symptoms during that period (fever, cough, trouble breathing), seek medical advice. Call the office of your health care provider before you go, and tell them about your travel and your symptoms. They will give you instructions on how to get care without exposing other people to your illness. While sick, avoid contact with people, don’t go out and delay any travel to reduce the possibility of spreading illness to others.

Is there a vaccine?

There is currently no vaccine to protect against COVID-19. The best way to prevent infection is to take everyday preventive actions, like avoiding close contact with people who are sick and washing your hands often.

Is there a treatment?

There is no specific antiviral treatment for COVID-19. People with COVID-19 can seek medical care to help relieve symptoms.

Stop the Spread of Germs

Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like the flu and COVID-19:

Wash your hands often with soap and warm water, or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.

Clean things that are frequently touched (like doorknobs and countertops) with household cleaning spray or wipes.

Cover your mouth when you cough or sneeze. Use a tissue or your inner elbow, not your hands.

Stay home if you are sick and avoid close contact with others.

Think ahead about how to take care of yourself and your loved ones. Visit mass.gov/KnowPlanPrepare for preparedness tips.

For more, visit: www.mass.gov/2019coronavirus

Massachusetts Department of Public Health

3/9/2020

Detenga la Propagación de Gérmenes

Ayude a evitar la propagación de enfermedades respiratorias como la gripe y el COVID-19:

Lave sus manos frecuentemente con jabón y agua tibia, o use un desinfectante de manos a base de alcohol.

Evite tocarse los ojos, la nariz y la boca.

Limpie las superficies que se tocan con frecuencia (como los picaportes y mesadas o encimeras) con rociadores o toallitas húmedas para la limpieza del hogar.

Cubra su boca al toser o estornudar. Use un pañuelo descartable o la parte interna de su codo, no sus manos.

Quédense en su casa si está enfermo/a y evite el contacto cercano con otras personas

Planifique como cuidarse usted y a sus seres queridos. Visite mass.gov/KnowPlanPrepare para ver la lista de preparación.

Para más información visite: www.mass.gov/2019coronavirus

Departamento de Salud Pública de Massachusetts

2/3/2020

COVID19

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE

What to do if you are sick with coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)

If you are sick with COVID-19 or suspect you are infected with the virus that causes COVID-19, follow the steps below to help prevent the disease from spreading to people in your home and community.

Stay home except to get medical care

You should restrict activities outside your home, except for getting medical care. Do not go to work, school, or public areas. Avoid using public transportation, ride-sharing, or taxis.

Separate yourself from other people and animals in your home

People: As much as possible, you should stay in a specific room and away from other people in your home. Also, you should use a separate bathroom, if available.

Animals: Do not handle pets or other animals while sick. See [COVID-19 and Animals](#) for more information.

Call ahead before visiting your doctor

If you have a medical appointment, call the healthcare provider and tell them that you have or may have COVID-19. This will help the healthcare provider’s office take steps to keep other people from getting infected or exposed.

Wear a facemask

You should wear a facemask when you are around other people (e.g., sharing a room or vehicle) or pets and before you enter a healthcare provider’s office. If you are not able to wear a facemask (for example, because it causes trouble breathing), then people who live with you should not stay in the same room with you, or they should wear a facemask if they enter your room.

Cover your coughs and sneezes

Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw used tissues in a lined trash can; immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol covering all surfaces of your hands and rubbing them together until they feel dry. Soap and water should be used preferentially if hands are visibly dirty.

Avoid sharing personal household items

You should not share dishes, drinking glasses, cups, eating utensils, towels, or bedding with other people or pets in your home. After using these items, they should be washed thoroughly with soap and water.

Clean your hands often

Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol, covering all surfaces of your hands and rubbing them together until they feel dry. Soap and water should be used preferentially if hands are visibly dirty. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

Clean all “high-touch” surfaces every day

High touch surfaces include counters, tabletops, doorknobs, bathroom fixtures, toilets, phones, keyboards, tablets, and bedside tables. Also, clean any surfaces that may have blood, stool, or body fluids on them. Use a household cleaning spray or wipe, according to the label instructions. Labels contain instructions for safe and effective use of the cleaning product including precautions you should take when applying the product, such as wearing gloves and making sure you have good ventilation during use of the product.

Monitor your symptoms

Seek prompt medical attention if your illness is worsening (e.g., difficulty breathing). **Before** seeking care, call your healthcare provider and tell them that you have, or are being evaluated for, COVID-19. Put on a facemask before you enter the facility. These steps will help the healthcare provider’s office to keep other people in the office or waiting room from getting infected or exposed.

Ask your healthcare provider to call the local or state health department. Persons who are placed under active monitoring or facilitated self-monitoring should follow instructions provided by their local health department or occupational health professionals, as appropriate. When working with your local health department check their available hours.

If you have a medical emergency and need to call 911, notify the dispatch personnel that you have, or are being evaluated for COVID-19. If possible, put on a facemask before emergency medical services arrive.

Discontinuing home isolation

Patients with confirmed COVID-19 should remain under home isolation precautions until the risk of secondary transmission to others is thought to be low. The decision to discontinue home isolation precautions should be made on a case-by-case basis, in consultation with healthcare providers and state and local health departments.

For more information: www.cdc.gov/COVID19



CS 314937-D 02/29/2020

Statistics for Massachusetts

COVID-19 cases in Massachusetts as of March 18

Confirmed cases of COVID-19	251
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Massachusetts residents subject to COVID-19 quarantine by current status as of March 17

Total of individuals subject to quarantine	2054
Total of individuals who have completed monitoring (no longer in quarantine)	886
Total of individuals currently undergoing monitoring/under quarantine	1168

Total Number of Cases by County

Barnstable	2
Berkshire	17
Bristol	5
Essex	14
Franklin	1
Hampden	2
Middlesex	100
Norfolk	45
Plymouth	5
Suffolk	51
Worcester	10
Unknown	4

For the most up to date information scan this with your smartphone at any time to visit the State’s website for all information related to the virus.



ER Docs, major hospitals preparing for potential surge of patients

By Seth Daniel

Numerous public gatherings, meetings and conferences were abruptly cancelled over the last 10 days, and at the same time, major hospitals in the area were preparing for a potential surge of Coronavirus (COVID-19) cases – all this while financial markets in the United States and abroad show instability and unprecedented travel restrictions took effect last weekend.

At Boston Medical Center (BMC), numerous precautions were implemented in the past week to prepare for a surge of patients from Greater Boston neighborhoods and elsewhere – it being one of the few Trauma 1 medical facilities in New England.

Outside the emergency room at BMC on Albany Street, a temporary medical tent was been set up in preparation for triage – if need be.

“BMC is planning for a surge in patients, as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to evolve rapidly,” said David Kibbe, a spokesman for BMC. “BMC has set up a tent outside the hospital to prepare for potential scenarios related to COVID-19. While the tent is currently only being used for drills, it could be used as a testing location or additional Emergency Department space should we get a large number of patients requiring screening and testing for COVID-19.”

While those preparations are playing out, there is also concern in the medical community for adequate supplies at hospitals like BMC.

“We have adequate personal protective equipment supplies on hand for our staff,” said Kibbe. “Given the worldwide impact of this outbreak, we share the concern across health care about potential shortages of medical supplies, including N95 respirators. To ensure that we are able to protect our staff and provide safe care for patients, BMC has taken steps to conserve personal protective equipment, including N95 respirators, surgical masks and precaution gowns.”

Already, two weeks ago, the hospital had restricted employee travel.

Patients at BMC or its health centers, under federal guidelines, are being asked if they have had a fever or cough or having traveled in the last 30 days. They are also asked if they have had any close contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case. These questions are asked during a phone call or during an appointment.

“For any patient considered at risk for COVID-19, clinicians will undertake actions to protect the patient, hospital staff, and other hospital patients,” read their website. “This includes putting the patient in a private room and providing masks for both the patient and care team. Staff has undergone training for possible cases of COVID-19, and BMC regularly conducts staff drills and training for infectious diseases.”

State Rep. (and doctor) Jon Santiago works in the BMC emergency room (ER) and also serves in the legislature representing the South End and Lower Rox-



Major hospitals like Boston Medical Center (BMC), are preparing this week for a potential surge in patients with coronavirus. Here, outside the emergency room, they have set up a triage and testing tent to aid in any potential surge. Right now, it is being used for drills, but is being prepared for real use.

bury.

He worked in the ER last weekend, and will continue to work shifts every weekend in March. Uniquely, he will be treating patients on the frontlines in the ER, and also thinking about legislation to address the emerging, multiple challenges associated with what is now a medical pandemic.

“As an ER doctor and an elected official, my oaths to protect the public is no more important than now,” he said.

“I do know it’s going to get significantly worse before it gets better,” he said. “We’ve had a sluggish federal response. Medically, right now we really have to summon out the best in each of us and empower our neighbors and communities and let them know there are things you can do to protect yourself. It can be things like washing your hands. If you’re sick, please stay home. If you’re an older person with chronic diseases like diabetes or lung problems, you

should be particularly cautious. Likewise, if you are a young, healthy person and have especially mild symptoms or no symptoms, it would behoove you to take precautions also because it will be those folks who will be transmitting the disease, maybe in a careless fashion.”

From a public policy perspective, Santiago said he and others are working on several measures. One is how to legislate in a safe fashion so that the virus isn’t transmitted during lawmaking sessions.

“I am sitting on an internal working group right now,” he said. “We are looking at our approach to legislating in these trying times.”

He noted the State Legislature approved a \$15 million bill to provide more emergency funding for coronavirus responses statewide late last week.

The federal government announced a second round of emergency funding by the Centers for Disease

Control (CDC) on March 11. While Massachusetts already received \$500,000 in federal funding, the state will also receive an additional \$11.46 million in federal funds from the CDC. The CDC has instructed state health officers to move forward with distributing that money immediately to those on the frontlines.

“Our state, local, tribal and territorial public health partners are on the front lines of the COVID-19 response. The action we are taking today will continue to support their efforts to increase public health capacity where it’s needed most,” said CDC Director Robert R. Redfield, M.D. “These funds will allow public health leaders to implement critical steps necessary to contain and mitigate spread of the virus in communities across the country.”

Like that, seemingly, everything was on hold or in a holding pattern.

For those looking to stay healthy, BMC indicated a few simple things everyone can do:

- Cover your sneezes and coughs with your sleeve, not your hand.
- Wash your hands frequently to reduce the spread of germs. Wash with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, you can use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- If you feel sick, stay home, and avoid travel.
- Avoid close contact with people with flu-like symptoms whenever possible.

Vulnerable

populations need to be considered as outbreak spreads

While many are thinking about schools, public gathers and civic meetings when it comes to the spread of the coronavirus, some medical professionals are beginning to be concerned about precautions in the homeless community, the jails and homeless shelters.

Emergency Room doctor and State Rep. Jon Santiago said he is concerned about how hospitals like Boston Medical Center (BMC) might be able to help those populations if there is an outbreak.

“BMC Emergency Room is the largest ER in town,” he said. “We see a number of disproportionately impacted communities and homeless folks. As a physician, we need to be extremely cognizant of how we educate these patients and making sure they have safe places to go. I would like to know what our homeless shelters are doing. What about the jails? I wonder if undocumented immigrants feel safe enough to seek care, or if they might be scared ICE will pick them up.”

Right now, the response is very new, and what is happening with vulnerable populations is not necessarily being discussed yet.

“These are people that live in close quarters,” said Santiago. “They are also people who are already suffering from a whole host of diseases. It’s going to be challenging for sure. I do have faith in our doctors and nurses and public health officials.”

Liz McBride celebrates her 99th birthday at the 99

Former Chelsea School Committee member Elizabeth “Liz” McBride was the guest of honor at a 99th birthday celebration hosted by her proud family at the 99 Restaurant, Revere.

McBride served on the School Committee for many years and gave distinguished service to the Kiwanis Club of Chelsea, the Laura Lee Club, and other local organizations.

Mrs. McBride was a graduate Chelsea High School, Class of 1939, a close-knit group led by Bill and Edith Sartorelli that became known as the 39ers.

State Rep. RoseLee Vincent presented a citation from the state recognizing Mrs. McBride’s contributions to Chelsea and her legacy of public service.



Elizabeth “Liz” McBride and her daughter, Anne Tolley, at the 99th birthday celebration.



Elizabeth McBride, celebrating her 99th birthday with Ellen McBride, Marilyn Olivera, baby girl Emilia Lugo, Carmen Olivera, and baby boy Emmanuel Lugo.



State Rep. RoseLee Vincent presents a citation to Elizabeth McBride as her proud family looks on at her 99th birthday party held at the 99 Restaurant, Revere.



Elizabeth McBride, with her family celebrating her 99th birthday.

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