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## TIMES - FREE PRESS

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**COVID-19**

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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

See EBNHC Page 3

## CORONAVIRUS IMPACT IN EAST BOSTON



PHOTOS COURTESY AND BY KATY ROGERS

Left, A worker from CM General Services in a full hazmat suit sprays down the walls of the Salesian Boys & Girls on Byron Street over the weekend. The company sanitized over 30,000 square feet of the Boys & Girls Club building using the Clorox total 360 system amid fears of COVID-19. Meanwhile (above), grocery store shelves were emptied in a food shopping panic from Thursday to Sunday.



The staff at the East Boston YMCA sets up a neighborhood food distribution site for BPS students and their families during BPS's citywide school closure.

## BPS closure trickle down to Eastie non-profits

By John Lynds

The nationwide guidelines to help combat the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic sweeping the city, nation and the world has led to the closure of schools, businesses and churches across East Boston.

Many nonprofits here that serve thousands of school-age children when school is out or provide free services to the homeless have had to make the tough decision to close amid fears of spreading the virus.

In Eastie the Salesian

Boys & Girls Club, East Boston Social Centers, the East Boston YMCA (see exception below) and the neighborhood's BCYF Community Centers, as well as the East Boston Community Soup Kitchen, are all closed until further notice.

"Unfortunately, for the time being, this is the safest way to handle the situation," said Boys & Girls Club Executive Director Michael Triant. "We had a cleaning company in to disinfect the entire building. Our staff was in as

See BPS Page 2

## Eastie businesses close or switch to takeout, delivery-only during COVID-19 outbreak

By John Lynds

As the Mayor's Office released new guidelines for bars and restaurants during the COVID-19 outbreak East Boston businesses have been forced to either close or move to a take out/delivery operation.

Effective Tuesday, no restaurant with or without an alcoholic beverages license, bar, club, private club, social club, or entertainment venue may at any time allow more than 25 individuals in the licensed premise including staff.

The Walsh Administration in conjunction with the City of Boston's Licensing Board outlined the new rules this week, and no establishment may serve food or alcoholic beverages for on premise consumption. This effectively means a complete prohibition on the service of alcohol with the exception of retail package stores. Establishments may only serve patrons food via take-out and delivery. Any restriction or regulation prohibiting take-out is temporarily lifted. Establishments must remove or rope off all seating in the licensed premise. Establishments must abide by the CDC's social distancing policies. Establishments

See BUSINESSES Page 2

## BPS closes schools amid COVID-19 outbreak, food distribution sites established

By John Lynds

As the spread of COVID-19 (coronavirus) grips Boston, the nation and the world, Mayor Martin Walsh and Superintendent Brenda Cassellius made the tough decision to close Boston Public Schools (BPS) until April 27.

BPS has established several food distribution sites across East Boston for school-age children and their families to ensure students that rely on free meals can still get daily nutrition during the closure.

On Monday, BPS students in Eastie went to school to gather belongings as school staff distributed learning materials that are ready for use at home. Schools officially closed on Tuesday, March 17.

The decision to close schools is being made proactively to mitigate and contain the spread of COVID-19, and follows the declaration of a national emergency that was announced by President Donald Trump last week.

See FOOD Page 5

## 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, jflynds@gmail.com or deb@reverejournal.com.

The full print edition will be online on the on Wednesday morning at eastietimes.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.

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## BPS//CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Monday to continue to disinfect all equipment and supplies. On Tuesday we will work with our friends at the YMCA to serve as a host feeding site. Breakfast and lunch will be available for pick up from 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. on the front steps of the club. Please, everyone be smart and limit your contact with others during this time.”

Triant shared a photo of a worker from CM General Services in a full hazmat suit spraying down the walls of the club on Byron Street over the weekend. The company sanitized over 30,000 square feet of the Boys & Girls Club building using the Clorox total 360 system.

“However, our club will remain closed for members and parents,” said Traint. “We will have essential staff on site to answer any and all questions our parents may have.”

At Zumix, Executive Director Madeleine Steczynski said the decision to close was out of an abundance of caution to protect the health of students, staff, community members, and all of Zumix families.

Steczynski said Zumix will be closed through at least March 27 and then re-evaluate the situation as the pandemic unfolds.

“We will continue to monitor the quickly evolving situation and re-evaluate this decision every week,” said Steczynski. We have taken this proactive step to support Federal, State and local efforts to mitigate the spread of the coronavirus. We want to be overly cautious given the high level of uncertainty about the spread of the virus.”

While there is no known case of COVID-19 within the ZUMIX community, the closing will help the community’s response to the virus and support the “social distancing” that is necessary to slow the spread of the virus at this critical stage.

“All public and private events to be held at Zumix will not occur during the closure,” said Steczynski.

“It is important to distinguish that, while we are closing the building, Zumix staff will continue to work remotely on future program development, fundraising, project work, and ways to stay deeply connected to our students and communities and help them through this crisis. These steps will ensure that students, radio hosts and community members can return to Zumix knowing that our priority is that everyone has a joyful experience when they return.”

Steczynski said Zumix staff will update any changes on its website, along with social media channels.

Social Centers Executive Director Justin Pasquariello and East Boston YMCA Executive Director Joe Gaeta, whose agencies provide day care and after-school programs like the Boys & Girls Club and Zumix, also announced over the weekend they would close.

“All East Boston Social Centers locations will be closed and suspending all child care, teen and adult programs effective Tuesday, March 17 until further notice,” said Pasquariello in a statement. “We encourage all families who can do so to keep their children home and take the appropriate precautions to avoid the spread of the virus. We are committed to supporting our community in this challenging time.”

Pasquariello reminded the community in these uncertain times of the Social Centers’ motto, “When we all give, We all gain.”

However, the Eastie YMCA will remain open for food distribution and “essential childcare” services. These services are limited to parents who will be on the frontlines combating the virus.

YMCA President and CEO James Morton said the YMCA will encourage families to keep their children at home, but for those parents who are first-responders and “essential” employees who must work, the Y will provide a safe and nurturing place for their children.

“Thousands of parents depend upon us for early education and before and after-school care. For these families, the services we offer are essential,” he said.

Over at the East Boston Community Soup Kitchen (EBCSK) the volunteer staff there said they made the difficult decision to suspend their weekly soup kitchen operations that help feed the homeless and low-income families in Eastie.

“The EBCSK Leadership Team, in consultation with public officials and fellow service providers, made the difficult decision to suspend weekly soup kitchen operations due to the COVID-19 outbreak,” said EBCSK in a statement. “We believe everyone deserves a warm meal, safe shelter, and supportive community. But the health and safety of our guests and volunteers is our first priority. This decision was not made lightly. As you may know, this is the first time we have closed in more than [three] years of service to the community. Given that COVID-19 is spread through close person-to-person contact, we recognize the potential risk to vulnerable guests and volunteers who convene in our close-knit space over shared meals, and we are exercising an abundance of caution in closing to protect the well-being of our community.”

The volunteer staff are working diligently to identify alternatives for EBCSK guests who have come to rely on the soup kitchen’s services.

“In lieu of typical donations, we ask that our community members donate gift cards (valued at \$10 each) to local restaurants for our soup kitchen guests who are in need of a hot meal,” they said.

Donations can be sent to East Boston Community Soup Kitchen, P.O. BOX 497 East Boston, MA 02128, or East Boston Community Soup Kitchen, 32 Paris St., East Boston, MA 02128.

## Businesses//CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

offering take-out and delivery may stay open until the closing hour currently listed on their license.

Eastie businesses staples like Little Asia, Carlo’s Catering and newer establishments like the Quiet Few decided to close as the COVID-19 pandemic gained steam across the city, state and nation.

“To our loyal customers and friends, we have made the tough decision due to the recent news to close the restaurant starting on Tuesday, [March 17], until further notice,” said the owners of Little Asia in a statement. “Needless to say this is hard on all of us right now, but we are thinking of the health and safety of you, our customers, and our staff at this time. Be safe and take care of yourselves. When we come out on the other end of this crazy time in the world, there will be a strong Mai Tai waiting for you.”

Steve Scire, owner of Carlo’s Catering, said Carlo’s will be closed for the week to do its part in keeping its staff and customers well.

“This was a very hard decision,” said Scire. “We will reevaluate after this week.”

This could mean Carlo’s could switch to a take out/delivery option as more information becomes available.

Over at the Quiet Few, a relatively new bar/restaurant on Sumner Street that opened with great fanfare, owner Josh Weinstein had made the equally difficult decision to close.

“It is with a heavy heart that in the midst of all that’s going on we have decided to close our doors for the time being,” said Weinstein. “While we always wanted to offer an open door, cold beverage, a hot comforting meal and a warm smile we feel we’re at the point that everyone’s safety takes precedence. We hope this lends a small hand towards the end of this all, and that we get the chance to welcome you back to the Quiet Few sooner rather than later.”

However, other Eastie mainstays like Spinelli’s, Santarpio’s, Kelley Square Pub, Angela’s Cafe, Italian Express, the Cunard Tavern have switched to a takeout/delivery only operation.

“OK, folks, here is the story with Kelley Square Pub in East Boston. Starting



The Quiet Few was one of several bars/restaurants in Eastie that decided to close amid the COVID-19 outbreak. Other establishments have opted for a takeout/delivery-only operation.

Tuesday we will be open for takeout and delivery only,” said Kelley Square Pub owner John Masterangelo. “We will also be open day and night and if you decide you want to pick up but not come into the restaurant, we will bring the food out to your car. As always you can count on Kelley Square Pub and we have a great staff.”

“So, we’ve gone from being on the Food Network on Friday night to this being our last day open for dining inside the restaurant for a while,” said Italian Express owners Jim Iannuzzi and Jonathan Harker in statement. “Starting on Tuesday, we will be open for take-out and delivery only until the dine-in ban has been lifted. We offer our own delivery service to East Boston customers, that is directly from the restaurant. Also, we are currently partnered with UberEats and will soon be active with DoorDash and GrubHub to extend our delivery service to surrounding areas.”

The owners said they will continue to maintain strict sanitary practices and follow advice from law-makers and the CDC.

“Please bear with us as we figure out how to best deal with these constantly changing circumstances,” they said. “We strongly value the health and safety of our employees, customers, friends and families.”

Over at Rino’s, Chef Tony Dicenso and his wife, Anna, said they have decided to shift to take out and delivery service. “Starting on Tuesday, March 17, we will be open from 3 to 9 p.m., and we will run this delivery service on a week-to-week basis,” said Anna Dicenso. “We will deliver to our neighboring towns of

Chelsea, Revere, Winthrop, Saugus and, of course, East Boston. If we feel it is not working, we will stop and ride it out with all of you. Our regular dinner menu will be available, but at times it could change.”

Spinelli’s Celeste Myers said Spinelli’s will switch to pick up and delivery only, but will continue its operation and contracts that deliver food to over 350 elderly residents in Eastie, Charlestown and the North End. The staff is also making themselves available to emergency response staff that will be on the frontlines combating the pandemic and in need of hot meals.

One way to support local businesses during this hard time was recently posted on social media.

“Fear of the coronavirus is keeping people away from restaurants, [which] usually operate on small margins,” read the post. “So here’s something you can do: go to your favorite restaurant and buy a gift certificate (or get it online if possible). Buy it directly from the restaurant, so they get the use of your money for a month or two. Then when things have settled down, treat your sweetie to an evening out and use your certificate.”

Also, the city is spreading word of the Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL) that will be made available for small businesses experiencing hardships during this virus outbreak.

The form can be found at [www.mass.gov/doc/sba-eidl-worksheet-and-instructions/download?fbclid=IwAR1ZYy0Y6oyA\\_i1x-Cm0K0x-U1Q5S4AMLVuqx90Lb-VB2eb0P9HoWc6xSZj-o](http://www.mass.gov/doc/sba-eidl-worksheet-and-instructions/download?fbclid=IwAR1ZYy0Y6oyA_i1x-Cm0K0x-U1Q5S4AMLVuqx90Lb-VB2eb0P9HoWc6xSZj-o).

## Madaro sets up Coronavirus information web site

Special to the Independent

As you now know, Massachusetts recently declared a state of emergency over the ongoing pandemic of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). It is of the utmost importance that we take strong, proactive measures in order to slow the rate of infection and protect those most vulnerable in our

community.

We’ve put together the most up-to-date information about the current outbreak in our area, public health measures being taken, and resources for those most affected by these changes.

My office has begun working remotely until further notice, following guidelines from public

health officials. During this time, we will continue to be available to all East Boston residents who require assistance or have questions. Please do not hesitate to call our office on any and all issues. We can be reached at (617) 722-2400 or (857) 293-1465, or by emailing Adrian.Madaro@mahouse.gov, Steven.Gingras@mahouse.gov, or Gloribel.Rivas@mahouse.gov.

**What Are The Signs & What Should I Do?**

If you are sick with fever and flu-like symptoms or believe you were exposed to coronavirus, please do not visit a hospital, health center, or clinic in person. Call the Boston Public Health Commission at 617-534-5050 for instructions. If you are experiencing a medical emergency, call 911.

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# MBTA reduces service on all lines

By John Lynds

In an effort to stem the spread of COVID-19 the MBTA announced it will be reducing frequency in service to help facilitate social distancing.

“All subway and bus service will run on Saturday schedules,” the MBTA announced in a statement. “The Blue Line will operate trains every [nine-13] minutes. Service for the RIDE will remain unaffected during this period, and will operate as normal.”

The MBTA’s Blue Line runs through the heart of Eastie to connections in Downtown Boston.

The MBTA also said it continues to ramp up its cleaning and sanitation work in stations and across

vehicles.

“We are continuing to take necessary steps to protect the health and safety of riders and MBTA employees with increased cleaning and sanitation at stations and on vehicles,” the statement continued. “This includes cleaning and disinfecting vehicles. All MBTA fleet vehicles (buses, trolleys, subway cars, commuter rail coaches, ferries, and RIDE vehicles) are being disinfected on a daily basis.”

The MBTA is also cleaning and disinfecting MBTA property.

“All business locations, including the RIDE Eligibility Center and Charlie-Card store, are being disinfected every 24 hours,” said the statement. “All high-contact areas at sub-

way stations (handrails, fare gates, and fare vending machines) are being cleaned every [four] hours.”

The MBTA is also adding more sanitation equipment like hand-sanitizing dispensers, disinfectant wipes and cleaning sprays. These will be deployed at MBTA facilities and stations throughout the system.

The MBTA is also encouraging all riders to:

- Wash hands often with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds.
- Cover coughs and sneezes in elbows.
- Stay home if sick.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth.
- Clean areas that are frequently touched with sanitizing spray or wipes.



A MBTA Blue Line train in Eastie. The MBTA will be reducing frequency in service on all lines.

# COVID-19 outbreak cancels all community group’s March meetings

By John Lynds

When it became apparent that the COVID-19 virus had quickly turned into a pandemic and cases began popping up all over the nation, East Boston’s local community groups that keep their eyes and ears on the neighborhood’s development projects and quality-of-life issues began cancelling scheduled meetings.

It started last week when Orient Heights Neighborhood Council (OHNC) decided to cancel this past Monday’s meeting.

“The OHNC meeting previously scheduled for Monday, March 16, has been cancelled,” wrote the group on their website. “We are cancelling due to the COVID-19 response, in alignment with guidance regarding large gatherings as put forth by the YMCA (our host site) the City of Boston, and the Commonwealth.”

The group planned on

discussing development projects at 61 Boardman St., 1188 Bennington St., 1045 Saratoga St. and 917 Bennington St. No votes were to be taken at the cancelled meeting.

The Jeffries Point Neighborhood Association then cancelled its monthly Planning & Zoning Subcommittee meeting scheduled for Wed., March 18 (tonight).

“Due to the ongoing public health emergency, we are canceling Wednesday’s JPNA Planning & Zoning (P&Z) meeting,” the group said in a statement. “Please check in on each other, particularly elderly neighbors or those with chronic health conditions. We’ll be in touch with more information as we know more. In the meanwhile, stay safe, wash your hands frequently and feel free to email us at board@jeffriespoint.org. We are fortunate to live in such a wonderful neighborhood.”

Both the Gove Street Cit-

izens Association (GSCA) and Eagle Hill Civic Association (EHCA) also canceled their meetings scheduled for the end of the month.

GSCA planned to meet Monday, March 23, and vote on a proposed development project to change the occupancy of a three-family dwelling to a four-family dwelling and add a fourth story addition at 303 Maverick St.

EHCA members will also not meet on Wednesday, March 25, due to the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak. The group had yet to finalize their agenda for the monthly meeting.

“The March 25 Eagle Hill Civic Association meeting has been cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic,” said EHCA President Debra Cave. “Our primary concern is the well being of our community and all those who would be attending. We wish you and your loved ones good health.”

## EBNHC //CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

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 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 poten-

tial 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

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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.

SEND US YOUR NEWS

The Times encourages residents to submit engagement, wedding and birth announcements, news releases, business and education briefs, sports stories and photos for publication. Items should be forwarded to our offices at 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151. Items can also be faxed to 781-485-1403. We also encourage readers to e-mail news releases and photos to deb@reverejournal.com

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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 every 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.

Car crashes into home on Falcon Street

By John Lynds

Eagle Hill residents living at 41 Falcon Street were shocked when a SUV trying to maneuver out of the parking area from the street above came crashing down through their fence and landed in their yard.

Surveillance video shows the SUV attempting to navigate out of the parking lot at 44 W. Eagle Street Sunday before driving through the fence and flipping over. The SUV came to rest vertically against the multifamily home on Falcon Street.

Pictures of the scene show perplexed firefighters trying to figure out what had occurred. The incident is still under investigation.

Falcon Street runs parallel to W. Eagle Street but is several feet below situated on the backside of Eagle Hill.

Police said one person was injured in the wreck.



The SUV that came crashing down on a home on Falcon Street from W. Eagle Street above. Photo courtesy of Mike Goodwin.







# Daily and Sunday Masses suspended

By John Lynds

East Boston’s Catholic Churches have long been the center of faith, social gathering and interaction as parishioners join in prayer. Each Sunday at churches like St. Joseph-St. Lazarus, Most Holy Redeemer, Our Lady of the Assumption and Sacred Heart Church hundreds come to gather, say Mass and then catch up with fellow parishioners, friends and family.

However, the COVID-19 pandemic kept Eastie’s churches eerily quiet this past Sunday as the Boston Archdiocese decided to suspend daily and Sunday Masses to control the spread of the virus.

At a time when many are praying for a quick end to the virus outbreak and a speedy recovery for those affected by the illness, Masses will be suspended until further notice.

Following the decision to temporarily suspend daily and Sunday Masses Cardinal Sean O’Malley has asked that all parishes be open daily during reasonable hours in order that Catholics and other members of the community can have the opportunity to visit the church for times of prayer in small groups. The Cardinal has also asked that when possible there be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the churches.

On Tuesday morning,

Cardinal O’Malley held a special St. Patrick’s Day Mass on Boston’s Catholic TV so those who can no longer attend Mass could still pray together.

“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,” said Cardinal O’Malley during the live broadcast. “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.”

Cardinal O’Malley said in some ways the present, surrealistic atmosphere is similar to what we experienced after the attack of September 11.

“We were shaken from our complacency and confronted with the reality that changed our lives overnight,” Cardinal O’Malley continued. “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.”

Cardinal O’Malley said 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,” he said. “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.”

Cardinal O’Malley said he was grateful to all priests and parish staff and the 3000 Catholic school teachers and administrators who are all working diligently to be able to serve people in these challenging circumstances.

“Let me share with you an account I read many years ago that made quite an impression on me,” said Cardinal O’Malley. “A group of rowdy university students on the train in France spotted an old man sitting alone praying his



An empty St. Joseph-St. Lazarus Church.

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

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and prevention of diseases.”

Cardinal O’Malley ended by saying, “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.”

## DISTRICT SEVEN POLICE REPORT

**Monday,  
March 2, 2020**

No Arrests

**Tuesday,  
March 3, 2020**

Around 7:05 a.m. in the area of 99 Border St., a 31 year old male with a Chelsea, MA address was arrested for Probation/Parole Violation

**Wednesday,  
March 4, 2020**

No Arrests

**Thursday,  
March 5, 2020**

Around 9:20 a.m. in the area of 64 Horace St., a 25 year old male with an East

**Friday,  
March 6, 2020**

Around 7:10 a.m. in the area of 312 Border St. a 38 year old male with an East Boston address was arrested for Assault and Battery and Threats.

Around 1:25 p.m. in the area of 312 Border St., a 38 year old male with an East Boston address was arrested for Assault and Battery.

**Saturday,  
March 7, 2020**

Around 12:00 a.m. in

the area of 315 Meridian St., a 29 year old male with a Malden, MA address was arrested for Assault by Means of a Dangerous Weapon.

**Sunday,  
March 8, 2020**

Around 1:15 p.m. in the area of 514 Border St., a 25 year old male with an East Boston address was arrested for Assault and Battery.

Around 2:45 p.m. in the area of Gove St. and Chelsea St. a 38 year old male with a Boston, MA address was arrested for Distribution of Class B, Drugs.

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# Ward 1 Dem. Committee holds caucus for convention delegates

By John Lynds

On Saturday, March 7 the newly elected Ward 1 Democratic Committee held a caucus to elect delegates to the 2020 Massachusetts State Democratic Convention to be held on May 30 at the Tsongas Center at UMass Lowell. However, that date could change as the COVID-19 pandemic increases in scale.

During the Massachusetts Presidential Primary the ‘Fresh Slate’ group won 20 seats to effectively take over the Ward I Democratic Committee. Liana LaMattina, a candidate from the ‘Unity Slate’ was the only member of the opposing group to win a seat on Eastie’s local ward committee.

The Saturday following the primary, the group held its first caucus and elected Heather O’Brien; Liana LaMattina; Victoria Dzindzichashvili (DiLorenzo); Gloribel Rivas; Jo Ann Fitzgerald; Teresa Polhemus; Claudia Correa; Nicole DaSilva; Katie Boyd; Gladys Oliveros; Brian Gannon; Zachary Holloper; Joe Ruggiero; Jay Ruggiero; Ricardo Patron; Fernando Ortiz; Steven Gingras; Andrew Therriault; Michael Sulprizio;

and Kannan Thiruvengada as 2020 Delegates.

While the predominantly progressive slate won control of the Ward Committee during the primary the caucus voting seemed to favor a more balanced mix of neighborhood Democrats.

For example Jay and Joe Ruggiero, Polhemus, Boyd, LaMattina, Oliveros, Correa, DaSilva, Ortiz and Sulprizio were all part of the Unity Slate that lost out to the Fresh Slate but now represent half of the delegates heading to the Convention in late May.

In a statement the Ward Committee said, “If you were not elected at the caucus, you can still apply until March 25 to be an add-on delegate if you identify as being youth, LGBTQ+, disabled, or underrepresented minority. Add-on delegates can cast votes at the convention, and are an important way to build diversity and inclusion in the party. Additionally, you can apply for a fee waiver if the delegate fee would be a financial hardship.”

You can read more about the process, and apply to be an add-on delegate, here: <https://massdems.org/2020-convention-caucus-information/>

# Sports

## PARIS ST LAP SWIMMERS ON THEIR LAST DAY



Paris St Pool closes for renovations and some of the lap swimmers share a photo with Eastie Swim Coach Dave Arinella.

### WINTHROP MARKETPLACE

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Ronzoni Healthy Pasta Garden Delight or Healthy Harvest	10/	\$10.00
Tide Liquid Laundry Detergent		\$5.99
Classico Pasta Sauce	2/	\$4.00
Duncan Hines Frosting	2/	\$4.00
Chicken of the Sea Chunk White Canned Tuna	4/	\$5.00
Eight O' Clock Coffee K-Cups		\$3.99
Kraft Salad Dressing 16 oz	2/	\$4.00
Best Yet Apple Juice 64 oz	2/	\$3.00
Eggo Waffles (ex thick & fluffy)	2/	\$4.00
Ellios Pizza	2/	\$6.00
Weaver Chicken 24 oz bags		\$3.99
Tropicana Orange Juice 52 oz	2/	\$6.00
Yoplait Yogurt	10/	\$5.00
Best Yet Sour Cream 16 oz	2/	\$3.00

#### Deli

Best Yet Cooked Imported Ham		\$3.99/lb
Kretschmar Rotisserie Chicken Breast		\$6.99/lb
Margherita Genoa Salami		\$5.99/lb
Mother Goose Liverwurst		\$4.99/lb
Best Yet Honey Roasted Turkey Breast		\$5.99/lb

#### Bakery

Apple or Raspberry Turnovers 2 pk		\$2.49
Rustic Rosemary Bread		\$3.29
Apple Crumb Pie		\$3.99

#### Produce

Green Giant Baby Carrots 1 lb pkg	10/	\$10.00
Sweet & Juicy Large Cantaloupe	2/	\$3.00
Hot House Yellow or Orange Peppers		\$2.99/lb
Hydro Cucumbers	2/	\$3.00
Fresh Cluster on the Vine Tomatoes		\$2.99/lb

#### Meat

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*Family Pack Specials*

Pork Spare Ribs		\$2.49/lb
Grade A Chicken Wings		\$2.99/lb
Grade A Boneless Skinless Chicken Breast		\$1.99/lb

~~~~~

|                        |    |           |
|------------------------|----|-----------|
| Chuck Pot Roast        |    | \$3.99/lb |
| Boca Burgers 10 oz     | 2/ | \$6.00/lb |
| Oscar Meyer Lunchables | 2/ | \$5.00    |
| Claussen Pickles       | 2/ | \$7.00    |

*Weekend Specials*

Friday, March 20th through March 22nd

"while supplies last"

#### BAKERY

|                        |  |        |
|------------------------|--|--------|
| 4" Pies                |  | 99¢    |
| New York Cheesecake    |  | \$5.99 |
| Pizza Dough white only |  | \$1.29 |

#### DELI

|                                  |  |           |
|----------------------------------|--|-----------|
| Hans Kissle Seafood Salad        |  | \$5.99/lb |
| Great Lakes American Cheese      |  | \$3.99/lb |
| Our Own in Store Antipasto Salad |  | \$5.99/lb |

#### PRODUCE

|                                            |    |        |
|--------------------------------------------|----|--------|
| Green Giant Idaho Potatoes 5lb Bag         | 2/ | \$5.00 |
| Florida Fresh Butter & Sugar Bi-color corn | 2/ | \$1.00 |
| Fresh Black Beauty Eggplant                |    | 99¢/lb |

#### MEAT

|                                            |  |           |
|--------------------------------------------|--|-----------|
| Family Pack Bone in Chicken Thighs         |  | \$1.09/lb |
| Family Pack Boneless New York Strip Steaks |  | \$7.99/lb |
| Best Yet Cooked Shrimp 31-40ct 1lb bag     |  | \$6.99    |

#### GROCERY

|                          |    |                  |
|--------------------------|----|------------------|
| Best Yet Bagged Coffee   |    | \$2.99           |
| Best Yet Butter Quarters | 2/ | \$6.00           |
| Pepsi 2 Liter            | 4/ | \$5.00 + deposit |

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Chelsea Record | Everett Independent  
Winthrop Transcript | Lynn Journal

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with the following information:

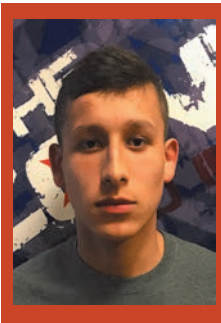
Name (first only), phone number and Publication(s) of choice

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WE ARE 5,000 YOUNG PEOPLE  
WE ARE SCHOLAR ATHLETES

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ATHLETES



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East Boston High School  
Track & Field

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COVID19

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE

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:



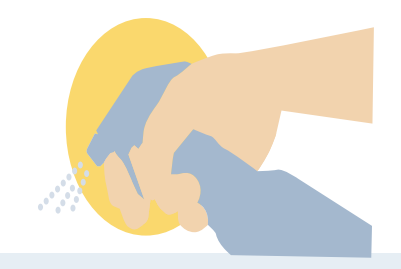
Wash your hands often

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.



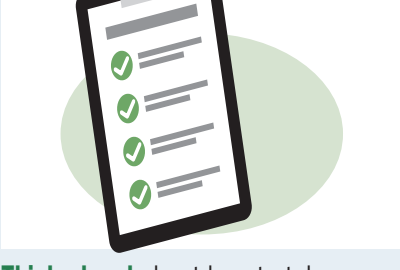
Cover your mouth

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](https://mass.gov/KnowPlanPrepare) for preparedness tips.

For more, visit: [www.mass.gov/2019coronavirus](https://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.



Quédese 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](https://mass.gov/KnowPlanPrepare) para ver la lista de preparación.

Para más información visite: [www.mass.gov/2019coronavirus](https://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](http://www.cdc.gov/COVID19)



CS 314937-D 02/29/2020

Statistics for Massachusetts

COVID-19 cases in Massachusetts as of March 16

|                             |     |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| Confirmed cases of COVID-19 | 197 |
|-----------------------------|-----|

Massachusetts residents subject to COVID-19 quarantine by current status as of March 10

|                                                                              |      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| Total of individuals subject to quarantine                                   | 1083 |
| Total of individuals who have completed monitoring (no longer in quarantine) | 638  |
| Total of individuals currently undergoing monitoring/under quarantine        | 445  |

Total Number of Cases by County

|            |    |
|------------|----|
| Barnstable | 1  |
| Berkshire  | 11 |
| Bristol    | 2  |
| Essex      | 8  |
| Hampden    | 1  |
| Middlesex  | 83 |
| Norfolk    | 36 |
| Plymouth   | 3  |
| Suffolk    | 36 |
| Worcester  | 6  |
| Unknown    | 10 |

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## OBITUARIES

### Margaret Benitez

Lifelong East Boston resident

Margaret (Panto) Benitez, a life-long resident of East Boston, passed away peacefully surrounded by her loving family on March 14 at the age of 90.

The beloved wife of the late Joseph Benitez Sr., she was the devoted mother of Joseph Benitez Jr. of East Boston and the late Mercedes Benitez, dear sister of the late Joseph Panto, Charles Panto, Isabella Greco, Frank Panto, Sally Joslin, Josephine Cardinale, Frances Barbarisi, Mary DeSimone, Gloria Stornio and Rosalie Milano and adored grandmother of Brittany Forlizzi and Christina Kjersgard. She is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

In accordance with the CDC, Mass. Department of Public Health, Archdiocese of Boston guidelines and local restrictions on gather-



ings and congregations due to COVID-19, all services will be held for the immediate family privately. If you have any questions, please contact the funeral home during normal business hours.

Mrs. Benitez will be laid to rest with her beloved husband Joseph at Woodlawn Cemetery. For more information or to send an online condolence, visit [ruggieromh.com](http://ruggieromh.com).

### Frances DiPlatzi

Will be missed by all who knew her

Frances (Ferrera) DiPlatzi of Revere died on March 13 at the age of 68.

Frances was born in Cambridge on Sept. 13, 1951, to the late Antonio Ferrera and Theresa Ferrera-Osoling. She is survived by her longtime companion of 42 years, William Botelho. She was the cherished mother of Michael DiPlatzi and his fiancé, Justine Drinkwater, adored grandmother of Mikayla and Justin DiPlatzi, dear sister of Millie Lodin of Franklin and Patricia Buontempo and her husband, Albert of Revere and beloved aunt of Anthony Buontempo. Frances truly will be missed by all who knew her.

In light of the recent developments with the Coronavirus (Covid-19), all funeral services were privately held with arrange-



ments by the Paul Buonfiglio & Sons, Bruno Funeral Home, Revere. Interment was in Holy Cross Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, Donor Services, P.O. Box 4072, Pittsfield, MA 02102. For guest book, please visit [www.Buonfiglio.com](http://www.Buonfiglio.com).

### Dante Memmolo, Jr.

Retired Dental Industry Sales Rep.



A Funeral Mass was celebrated in Sacred Heart Church, East Boston on March 16 for Dante M. Memmolo Jr., who passed away at St. Anne's Hospital in Fall River on March 11. He was 75 years old.

Dante had a lifelong career in the dental industry as a sales representative and covered territory in New England, upstate New York and the South. His companies included SS White, Rower (Healthco) Dental, Henry J. Bosworth and Dux Dental.

In his retirement, Dante enjoyed a part-time job as a sales associate for Brooks Brothers at the Premium Outlets in Merrimack, N.H., while continuing as an independent representative of dental products.

Dante loved meeting people. His sense of humor and ability to engage others allowed him to easily turn strangers into friends. Photography became his passion upon retirement. He sought opportunities to learn and practice new skills, excelling in night photography and cityscapes. Dante was a daily walker, enjoyed folk music, travel, and spending time with family and friends.

Dante was proud to serve his country in the Massachusetts Air National Guard with his father and brothers. He was keenly interested in aviation history and served as Vice President of the Massachusetts Air National Guard Historical Association.

The devoted son of the late Lt. Col. Dante M. Memmolo and Mary R. (Laurano) Memmolo, he was the cherished brother of Mary Jane Marcucci of Newburyport and Marga-



ret A. Shand (Michael) of Barrington, R.I. Dante was predeceased by his brother, Michael and his twin, Anthony. He was the beloved nephew of Stanley Buongurio and Gloria Laurano, both of East Boston, dear brother-in-law of Patricia Memmolo of Bradenton, Fla., and adored uncle of Michael Memmolo (Tricia) of Tigard, Ore., Andrea Currier (Michael) of Bradenton, Fla., David Memmolo (Jessica) of Oceanside, Calif., Mary Canelas (Paul) of Hudson, N.H., Annemarie Butler (Bret) of Newburyport, Jayne Millerick of Bow, N.H., Elizabeth Marcucci of Epping, N.H., Benjamin Shand of New York City and Grace Shand of Providence, R.I. He is also lovingly survived by many grandnieces, grandnephews, treasured cousins, friends and colleagues.

Remembrances may be made to Massachusetts Air National Guard Historical Association (MANGHA), Inc., P.O. Box 38, 158 Reilly St., Otis ANGB, MA 02542. To online condolences, please visit [www.vertuccioandsmith.com](http://www.vertuccioandsmith.com). Funeral Arrangements were under the care and direction of the Vertuccio & Smith, Home for Funerals, Revere.

### Marie Mottola

Longtime Revere hairdresser and Rosetti Senior Center volunteer

Marie "Palmie" (Belmonte) Mottola, a lifelong resident of Revere, passed away at home surrounded by her loving family on March 13 at the age of 91.

Marie was a local hairdresser on Beach Street, Revere, for many years. She enjoyed her volunteer work with the Rosetti Senior Center, where many friendships were formed. Marie had a strong faith, and would recite the rosary daily. Her famous line was "You Other One." Palmie will be sorely missed by all who knew her.

Born in Revere on Sept. 8, 1928, to the late Joseph and Anna (Caruso) Belmonte, she was the beloved wife of the late Angelo "Sonny," devoted mother of Jean Mottola of Lynn, formerly of Revere, Ernest "Ernie" Mottola and his wife, Donna of Seabrook, N.H., and Joseph Mottola and his wife, Andrea of Revere; cherished grandmother of eight and adoring great-grandmother of five; the dear sister of Deacon Joseph Belmonte and his wife, Barbara of Peabody



and the late Angela Carnavale. She is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

In light of the recent developments with the Coronavirus (Covid-19), all funeral services were privately held. Interment was in Holy Cross Cemetery. Arrangements were entrusted to the

Paul Buonfiglio & Sons-Bruno Funeral Home, Revere. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Alzheimer's Association, 309 Waverley Oaks Road, Waltham, MA 02452. For guest book, please visit [www.buonfiglio.com](http://www.buonfiglio.com).

### Amy Hanton

Of Revere, formerly of East Boston

Amy Hanton of Revere, formerly of East Boston, passed away peacefully at the Salem Hospital surrounded by her loving family on March 16.

She was the loving daughter of the late George and Maria (Spada) Hanton, wife of Orlando Solis, loving mother of Alec Gonzalez, dear sister of Michelle Varano and her husband, Nick, adored granddaughter of the late Louis and Margaret Spada and fond aunt of Nico and Marina Varano.

Family and friends will honor Amy's life by gathering at the Ruggiero Family Memorial Home, 971 Saratoga St., East Boston



today, Wednesday, March 18 from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. followed by a Funeral Mass in celebration of Amy's life at 11 a.m. at Sacred Heart Church Brooks St., East Boston. Services will conclude with Amy being laid to rest at Holy Cross Cemetery.

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I.T.

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### Robert Kyle

Of New Hampshire, formerly of Revere

Robert C. Kyle, of Bartlett, N.H., formerly of Revere, passed away on March 4.

He was the beloved husband of the late Wanda (Skovinski) Kyle, devoted father of Robert S. Kyle and his wife, Keri of Tewksbury, Danielle Day and her husband, Bill of Revere and Rachelle Marasca and her husband, Mark of Epping, N.H.; dear brother of Kenneth Kyle and his wife, Patricia of Georgetown, formerly of Revere and cherished grandfather of Christian, Mark, Megan, Dillan and Ethan. Robert is also lovingly survived by many nieces and nephews.

A Visitation will be held from the Paul Buonfiglio & Sons ~ Bruno Funeral, Home 128 Revere



Street, Revere, on Sunday, March 22, from 2 to 5 p.m., followed by Prayer Service in the Funeral Home at 5 p.m. Relatives and friends are kindly invited. At the family's request and in lieu of flowers, remembrances may be made in Robert's memory to the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 22478, Oklahoma City, OK 73123 or at <https://donate3.cancer.org/>. For guest book, please visit [www.Buonfiglio.com](http://www.Buonfiglio.com).

## OBITUARIES

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LEGALS

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TO G.L. C. 190B, §5-304  
Docket No. SU20P0477GD  
Suffolk Probate and Family Court  
24 New Chardon Street  
PO Box 9667

Boston, MA 02114 (617) 788-8300  
In the matter of: Alanna L. Treanor Of: East Boston, MA  
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Daniel Treanor of East Boston, MA, in the above captioned matter alleging that Alanna L. Treanor is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Daniel Treanor of East Boston, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve Without Surety on the bond.  
The petition asks the

court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority. You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 04/02/2020. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file

the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.  
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The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's

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NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

RESIDENTS  
ATTEND MBTA  
MEETING

CHELSEA - The MBTA held a public meeting at City Hall seeking input on its public engagement plan that at times became an opportunity for T customers to speak up on the variety of issues they see with transit service.

The meeting on Thursday, March 5, was part of the public input period for the MBTA Public Engagement Plan.

“The Public Engagement Plan is an opportunity for riders to influence what happens at the MBTA by delivering better services to customers,” said MBTA Assistant General Manager for Policy Laurel Paget-Seekins.

Paget-Seekins said the engagement plan will help the MBTA make better decisions and strengthen projects by getting input from the public earlier in the process.

Public input for the draft of the public engagement plan is still being accepted through March 20. Those who were unable to attend one of the five public meetings (including the one in Chelsea) can provide feedback online at [HYPERLINK “http://mbta.com/public-engagement”](http://mbta.com/public-engagement) at “\_blank” [mbta.com/public-engagement](http://mbta.com/public-engagement) or email [HYPERLINK “mailto:engagement@mbta.com”](mailto:engagement@mbta.com) at “\_blank” [engagement@mbta.com](mailto:engagement@mbta.com). Paget-Seekins said the online comments will be cataloged and carry just as much weight as any input from the public meetings.

Paget-Seekins pointed to several recent examples of public outreach to highlight what the MBTA is trying to accomplish, including the Green Line extension from Lechmere to Union Square in Somerville and the Better Bus network redesign project.

Outreach efforts for both projects have included community meetings, website and email updates, door-to-door canvassing, and automated phone calls.

“Our public engagement

plan is meant to guide future engagements,” Paget-Seekins said.

She said there are five suggested principles that will help guide that process, including developing strong community partners; strategic outreach to voices that have not always been traditionally heard; building inclusive, diverse, and accessible environments; having respectful and solutions-based dialogue; and being transparent with the process.

During the question and answer session, Paget-Seekins was asked why only one of the five public hearings on the plan were held in Boston. A number of those who attended the Chelsea meeting last week traveled to Chelsea after being unable to make it to the Boston hearing.

“We serve 175 towns, but the most ridership is in Boston,” said Paget-Seekins. “The question is how we reach as many people outside of meetings, as well.”

Several members of the Boston-based Alternatives for Community and Environment (ACE), a transportation justice community organization, raised their concerns about how the MBTA has handled past engagement efforts.

Some of those concerns included a lack of using existing MBTA resources, such as advertising and video messaging, to spread the word about upcoming projects. Several riders also said that the messaging of the Better Bus project did not clearly state that the project would include the rerouting of bus stops, and that there has sometimes been less community engagement for projects that impact more minority-based communities.

Paget-Seekins said the MBTA is taking into consideration ways it can reach out to people and neighborhoods that are impacted by MBTA projects, including going directly to housing complexes or community centers. She was also asked about the possibility of the MBTA holding affinity-group based meetings for

people of different backgrounds, pointing out that there is one group already for people with disabilities.

Chelsea resident Susan Backstrom said the disability group meetings are effective, but could go further.

“The only issue is that it is in English,” said Backstrom. “Chelsea has more than 50 percent of its population that is Spanish speaking, that is a difference.”

While there was a focus on ways to improve the engagement of the MBTA, there were also several questions raised about other service issues and fare increases during the meeting.

While not directly related to the goal of the meeting, Paget-Seekins and several other MBTA officials did take time to answer as many questions as they could.

Paget-Seekins also said it was a great point raised by several residents that the MBTA could increase its transparency by more effectively communicating its financial data to the public.

CHARTER  
COMMISSION  
RAISES SOME  
ISSUES

CHELSEA - The City’s new Charter Review Committee is in place, although some questioned the representative makeup of that committee at Monday night’s City Council meeting.

Once every 10 years, the City Council establishes a special committee to review the charter and to make a report, with recommendations, to the City Council concerning any proposed amendments which the committee may deem necessary. The review committee, appointed by City Council President Roy Avellaneda, includes five City Councillors, three School Committee members, and five members from the community at large.

Tensions were high before the committee’s names were even read into the record on Monday night, and things got no better afterward either.

During the public speaking portion of the Council meeting, School Committeewoman Marisol Santiago questioned how representative the review committee is of the community. She also took exception to District 1 Councillor Todd Taylor’s appointment to the review committee. Taylor is the lone Republican on the 11-member Council, and was recently elected Chelsea’s Republican State Committeeman.

“This is a once in a decade opportunity where the city is able to look at what is called our City’s constitution,” said Santiago.

On diversity of the commission, Santiago said she found that the appointments willfully excluded the diverse living experiences of people living in the city, specifically pointing out a dearth of single mothers, tenants, and people who work in immigrant services.

“Upon looking at the Council members selected, diversity is not just race and ethnicity, diversity is voice and representation,” said Santiago.

In addition to Taylor, the Council members appointed to the review committee were Judith Garcia, who will be the chairperson; Leo Robinson, Calvin Brown, and Melinda-Vega Maldonado. The School Committee members are Rosemarie Carlisle, Yesenia Alfaro, and Henry Wilson; and the Chelsea residents are Alex Balcarcel, Jason Stocker, Mary Bourque, Mimi Rancatore, and Sharlene McLean. The School Committee representatives were selected by School Committee Chair Kelly Garcia.

“Per the charter, the City Council President is responsible for the decision for what the process was,” said Santiago. “It was in your authority and your discretion, but it is the responsibility of the City Council to make sure (the committee) is inclusive and representative of the City population.”

Taylor was singled out by Santiago for his inclusion on the review committee as she cited his recent Republican State Committee campaign literature

which she said advocated against illegal immigration and sanctuary city status.

She said these views were not in line with the City’s ideals and asked Avellaneda to consider either replacing Taylor on the review committee, or looking at its overall composition.

“I’m concerned about that rhetoric and concerned about someone trying to represent the City in a charter review that will determine what the city is going to look like for the next 10 years,” said Santiago.

Avellaneda gave Taylor the opportunity to respond to Santiago, since she brought him up by name during the public speaking portion of the Council meeting.

“I have never brought national politics to this body, but they are being brought here tonight, but that is being brought here tonight where it seems I am being asked to step down for my views,” said Taylor.

Taylor said there is a diversity of not just race, but also opinion in Chelsea, and he said he supported people’s right to be critical. He added that immigration and sanctuary city status are complicated issues he would be happy to discuss with anyone who wants to.

“If someone called me to discuss it, I’d be happy to do it, rather than coming to give public speeches to condemn me,” said Taylor. “It is a dialogue that I am happy to have, but I don’t appreciate people coming up and attacking me for something I had not brought to the Council. I have never brought national problems to this board; I was elected to solve the problems of Chelsea and that is what I am going to do.”

Later in the meeting, Councillor-At-Large Damali Vidot also criticized the representative makeup of the Charter Review Commission. Both Santiago and Vidot had applied to be on the Committee, but were not chosen.

“I’m extremely disappointed with this Charter Review Committee,” said Vidot, adding she felt the

commission was one-sided in terms of the Council members selected, and that it lacked adequate representation of the City’s Latino population, tenants, single mothers, and mothers of school-aged children.

“We have the opportunity to reflect the charter as being more reflective of our new community,” said Vidot. “It needs to be more multi-dimensional, and not just perpetuating the same crap that always happens.”

District 4 Councillor Enio Lopez also said that he did not believe he saw enough Latino representation on the Charter Review Committee.

Robinson said he took offense at Vidot’s characterization of the committee, stating that all those named would be fair and above reproach.

Avellaneda also defended the process of appointing the committee, pointing out that it is both a majority-minority committee and a majority female committee.

“There was a question about the diversity and the makeup, if someone was to look at this and see there are seven women on this committee, six men; seven (of the committee) are majority minority,” said Avellaneda. “On the resident side we have a business background, health and service, and as we just saw, a range of ideology and opinions and parties on the issue.”

The Council President said he did his best to make the committee as diverse as possible.

“Of course, any time you have a committee like this, of course there is going to be some public comments and criticism, but I did my best based on the submissions that were from the residents themselves,” said Avellaneda. “I hope the people will be a little more satisfied once they see the process.”

Avellaneda also stated that any member of the Council, School Committee, or the public can attend meetings and make suggestions to the Charter Review Committee as the process gets underway.

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SIGNMENT BONUS  
IF YOU QUALIFY



I-800-GO-GUARD • [www.1-800-GO-GUARD.com](http://www.1-800-GO-GUARD.com)

STAY IN AND TAKE OUT

HELP LOCAL BUSINESSES WHILE STAYING IN

Deliveries ★ Takeouts ★ Home Services

During this crisis, here are some East Boston resources.

Consider taking out an ad to and to promote your business at this time, there are many people in East Boston 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 WEDNESDAY

THE SPECIAL IS A BUSINESS CARD AD FOR 2 WEEKS FOR \$80

Please reach out with any questions, deadline for Wednesday Mar 25 is Monday the 23 at noon

Call 781-485-0588

Have *Spinelli's* East Boston  
Cook your *Easter Dinner*  
Complete Holiday Dinner Includes  
*10lb. Spiral Ham*  
Serves approximately 8 - 10 people  
**\$149.95 plus tax**



Complete with  
Mashed Potatoes, Corn or  
Green Beans w/carrots,  
Apple Raisin and Rolls  
Choice of  
Ricotta, Custard or Apple Pie

OR Order an  
*Individual Ham Dinner*  
**Spiral Ham with Apple Raisin Sauce**  
*Dinner Includes*  
Mashed Potatoes, Choice of Corn or String Beans w/Carrots  
Choice of Slice of Ricotta, Custard or Apple Pie  
**\$14.75 per person plus tax**

Payment in Full required at time of placing your order.  
Please place Your Orders By Thursday, April 9, 2020

by phone or drop by *Spinelli's - East Boston*  
282 Bennington Street, East Boston, MA 02128  
Telephone 617-567-1992 ~ Fax 617-567-5150  
**Open Easter Day 8:00am - 1:00pm**  
*Spinelli's is looking forward to having Easter with you!*