

East Boston

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EBNHC is grateful for our supportive community

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Our community's strength is on full display despite the extraordinary challenges of the COVID-19 crisis. Public health agencies, elected officials, health care providers

and community leaders are collaborating in new ways to protect our neighborhoods. Most community members are taking social distancing seriously and continue to do their part to protect themselves and others. Local businesses and

individuals are stepping up to help however they can. The East Boston Neighborhood Health Center (EBNHC) is proud to see our community in action. We were grateful to receive donations of personal protective equipment (PPE) for

our providers from individuals as well as businesses, in addition to thoughtful pizza deliveries for our hard-working staff. The appreciation and encouragement expressed by community members goes a long way and we thank you.

Patients and providers at EBNHC are adapting well to our telehealth program, which enables medical care over the phone so patients can stay safe at home. Last week we provided 1,741 telemedicine visits with 455 occurring on our busi-

est day. Video conferencing will be available soon. Everyone is learning new ways to get their jobs done, stay connected and care for their patients. Across the board, people are being flexible,

See EBNHC Page 2

Walsh starts COVID-19 dashboards

By John Lynds

In order to keep the public abreast of the rapidly changing situation involving the COVID-19 pandemic in the state and nationwide, Mayor Martin Walsh announced the launch of two data analytic dashboards that allow Boston residents to easily track the number of cases in Boston and throughout the state.

Walsh said the dashboards are part of a suite of digital tools available to residents, which include a texting service available in six languages, online City services, and frequently updated resources and fact-sheets available on www.boston.gov/coronavirus.

According to the city's COVID webpage the first dashboard includes a day-by-day breakdown graph of the spread of COVID-19 in Massachusetts, and tracks daily updates from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health for the number of COVID-19 cases.

The second COVID-19

See DASHBOARD Page 5



On Saturday the City of Boston, the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center (EBNHC), local healthcare providers and HYM Investment Group teamed up to test the city's First Responders at Suffolk Downs for COVID-19. The drive-thru testing site at Suffolk Downs was only open to qualified EMTs, firefighters and police officers.

City, EBNHC, HYM team up for COVID-19 testing for First Responders at Suffolk Downs

By John Lynds

A coordinated effort between the City of Boston, the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center (EBNHC), local healthcare providers and the owner of Suffolk Downs to test as many of the city's First

Responders for COVID-19 occurred Saturday at Suffolk Downs.

The drive-thru testing site at the HYM Investment Group owned Suffolk Downs was only open to qualified EMTs, firefighters and police officers who were first screened to make

sure they met the state criteria for testing. If testing was required, then drive-thru visits were scheduled by appointment only.

As the COVID-19 pandemic grows the city's EMTs, police and firefight-

See TESTING Page 4

Madaro and EBNHC host virtual town hall

By John Lynds

On Monday afternoon Rep. Adrian Madaro along with East Boston Neighborhood Health Center's CEO Manny Lopes and CMO Dr. Jackie Fantes held a virtual town hall to discuss the clinical context of the COVID-19 outbreak, its impacts on the local population as well as the medical responses being implemented.

"We understand these are very scary times and we are all taking this hour by hour day by day," said Madaro before turning the meeting over to Dr. Fantes.

"Like you we are not sure what tomorrow holds so we did want to come together to provide an update with clinical context from EBNHC CEO Manny Lopes and CMO Dr. Jackie Fantes on the health and community impacts from."

Dr. Fantes said as of Monday there has been a little over 700,000 COVID-19 cases in the world with a little more than 35,000 deaths; in the US there little more than 148,000 cases with 2,600 deaths; in Massachusetts there has been 4,955 cases and 48 deaths out of

See MEETING Page 3



Rep. Adrian Madaro along with East Boston Neighborhood Health Center's CEO Manny Lopes and CMO Dr. Jackie Fantes held a virtual town hall to discuss the clinical context of the COVID-19 outbreak,

Davis Companies donate boxes of masks to EBNHC

By John Lynds

On Monday the medical teams at EBNHC got a little help from the Davis Companies who is developing The Mark—a 119 condo unit waterfront development project that also includes a connection to the Eastie Harborwalk.

On Monday Paul Scapicchio, represent-

ing the Davis Companies, dropped off boxes of protective masks for EBNHC staff. Scapicchio said this wasn't the first time the Davis Companies has stepped up to help the Health Center in this time of need and medical gear shortages.

"The Davis Companies want to thank the leader-

See MASKS Page 6

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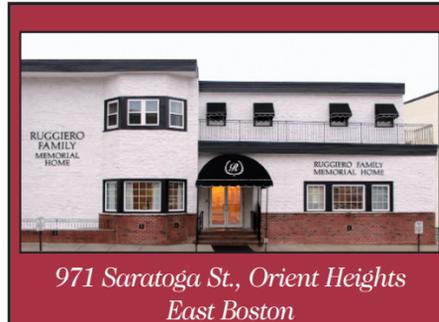
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Forum

Mayor says playing sports in parks during lockdown is putting others in harm's way

By John Lynds

Saturday in East Boston was a beautiful day. The temperatures were in the low 60s and the sun was shining—a signal from Mother Nature that spring had begun to sprout.

However, these are not normal times and most of Eastie's streets, that would normally be bustling with residents, were for the most part empty.

However, there's a growing problem at neighborhood parks and a drive around Eastie Saturday confirmed that some are not practicing social distancing.

At American Legion Playground, LoPresti Park and the East Boston Memorial Stadium adults and children were out in the warm weather playing pickup soccer and basketball games.

With the weather getting warmer and New England slowly crawling out from under the grips of winter, Mayor Martin Walsh fears more residents will be using city parks improperly at a crucial time we should all be practicing social distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic.

On Sunday during his daily COVID-19 press briefing, Mayor Walsh provided a stern warning to those that continue to use Eastie and city parks for sports activities.

"People are still gathering in groups and playing sports in our parks," Walsh said Sunday. "This is not social distancing/ Quite honestly, you're putting other people at risk by doing this."

Walsh reminded residents that parks should only be used as 'passive recreation' parks at this time and no one should be

playing sports or other organized activities.

If the practice continues here and throughout the city Walsh said he will be forced to shut the parks down.

Walsh and the Parks Department announced Sunday that sports like soccer, street hockey, basketball, and tennis are banned and city employees have already begun putting zip-ties on basketball hoops and we're temporarily removing street hockey and tennis nets.

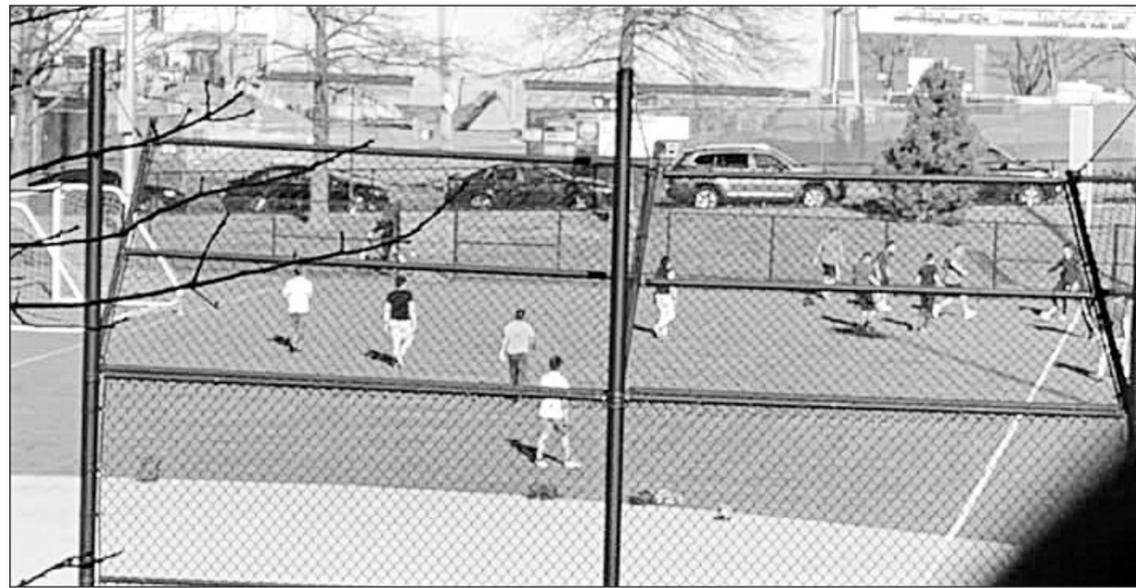
"The last effort is to lock the park down," he said. "We don't want to lock the park down."

In a statement the Parks Department said while city parks are open for solitary activities such as walks, they urge everyone to practice physical distancing of at least six feet.

"The tot lots are closed and there should be no gatherings or contact sports," said the statement. "We are asking for your

help communicating this to friends, families and neighbors. The City of Boston will be taking new measures to discourage anyone from engaging in activities in our parks that put themselves and others at risk. These activities include soccer, street hockey, basketball, and all group sports. To start, we've begun to temporarily put zip-ties on basketball hoops and we're temporarily removing street hockey and tennis nets. The Parks Dept will also have new signage up this week."

Walsh and the Parks Department also urged residents to wash hands, utilize hand sanitizer, and cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your inner elbow; limit time in public areas and avoid congregating in groups; and stay home if you feel sick.



A group of men play soccer at American Legion Playground on Saturday. Mayor Martin Walsh is reminding all residents that organized sports of any kind are banned from city parks and they should only be used for 'passive recreation' like walking, jogging, bike riding, etc. while practicing social distancing.

THERE ARE MANY HEROES IN THE BATTLE AGAINST COVID-19

The current crisis in which we find ourselves has been compared to a war.

But instead of an opposing army, our enemy is a novel virus that is 1/900th the width of a human hair and that can be transmitted in ways that are both stealthily insidious and ruthlessly efficient.

As with any battle, it is the soldiers on the front lines who are doing the hard fighting and bearing the heavy burden of loss.

In this case, the army responding to take on COVID-19 consists of our first and second-level responders -- the police officers, firefighters, EMTs, nurses, doctors, and other health care and emergency workers -- as well as the truckers, grocery store and pharmacy clerks, utility company employees, municipal employees, and the countless others whose jobs have been deemed "essential" in order that their fellow Americans can maintain some semblance of normalcy.

Although these heroes perform many disparate tasks, the one thing that they have in common is that they literally are putting their lives, as well as the safety of their loved ones, on the line by exposing themselves to possible infection when they deal with any member of the public.

For our first and second-level responders, the danger has been particularly acute. The tragic stories making the headlines about nurses and doctors who have died because of exposure to COVID-19 have cast into stark reality the very real, life-and-death battle that these heroic Americans are facing every minute of every day that they are on the job.

Thanks to a level of unpreparedness by our nation that is nothing less than shocking -- from the lack of available test kits that could have identified those first cases that ensnared so many unsuspecting victims, to the scarcity of necessary protective and life-saving equipment (masks, gowns, and ventilators) -- our first and second responders have been left defenseless in their battle against this onslaught.

As one emergency room nurse in New York aptly put it, "We are being asked to fight a war without any ammunition."

We know we join with our readers in thanking all of our heroes for their selfless service to our nation and upon whose continued devotion to duty our very survival is dependent.

THIS WILL BE A LONG HAUL

It has become evident to everyone that the effort to hold back COVID-19 is not conducive of either an easy or a quick fix.

This is going to be a long and difficult ordeal that will test the fabric of our nation, both collectively and individually.

No one among us is immune to the effects of this plague. It will reach into every corner and crevasse of society, regardless of age, gender, fame, or wealth.

The \$2 trillion relief bill that Congress approved last week is just the beginning of what promises to be the unlimited spending of vast sums in order to provide all Americans, from the biggest corporations to individual citizens, the means by which they can make it through to the other side of this pandemic, however long that may take.

With almost all of the country essentially quarantined in place, these additional, enormous government outlays will be the only available option to ensure that no American goes hungry and to save hundreds of thousands of businesses, both big and small, from disappearing forever.

Unlimited government spending to achieve these ends also will be necessary to prevent our society from descending into a state of total anarchy.

LETTER to the Editor

K-TRUST SCHOLARSHIPS 2020

Dear students, counselors and parents,

The deadline and dates for the East Boston K-Trust Scholarships have all be changed due to the special circumstances regarding the COVID-19 virus. We

are not sure exactly what the new dates will be yet, since the situation changes daily.

If you are planning to apply for a K-Trust scholarship, you should proceed with filling out the application and gather as much of the required documentation as possible. We assume you may not be able to get

some of the documentation required, such as transcripts from Guidance Counselors and letters of recommendation, until school resumes again. However, please do not let that stop you from completing the rest of the application.

You may still mail in your application and all accompanying documen-

tation, or scan and send everything by email if you wish -- to the same address and email on the cover sheet. Or call Marisa at 617-650-3442 to arrange a pick up or drop off of your packet.

Best of luck and please stay safe.

East Boston Kiwanis

EBNHC // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

patient and understanding. All of this makes our challenges easier to address.

EBNHC is also proud to partner with the City of Boston and Boston Public Health Commission to offer COVID-19 testing to first responders at Suffolk Downs. The drive-thru testing site, which opened this past Saturday, is open by appointment only to qualified EMTs, firefighters and police officers who have first been screened to ensure they meet the state cri-

teria for testing. The site is not open to the public.

"Working closely with Mayor Walsh and the Boston Public Health Commission, the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center is honored to come to the aid of the city and our first responders," said Manny Lopes, President and CEO, EBNHC. "We have been here for Boston for 50 years, and our staff continues to show their commitment to our city and local communities in the face of

this terrible crisis. Thank you to our partners at the City of Boston, the Boston Public Health Commission, HYM Investment Group and Suffolk Downs, Quest Diagnostics and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts for their support mobilizing around the testing center so rapidly."

Our community's unity, strength, grit and resources are assets for which we can all be grateful and proud. For as long as it takes, EBNHC will continue working

with local and national public health officials to ensure the safety of our staff, patients and members of the communities we serve. To help protect you, EBNHC has partnered with Independent Newspaper Group and other media to share important information regularly. This content and other health information also appears at ebnhc.org/COVID19 and on our social media channels.

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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

Your opinions, please

The Times welcomes letters to the editor. Our mailing address is 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151. Our fax number is 781-485-1403.

Letters may also be e-mailed to editor@eastietimes.com.

Letters must be signed.

We reserve the right to edit for length and content.

Meeting // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

39,000 folks tested in the state; and in Suffolk County there are 940 cases with three deaths confirmed as of Monday.

“As we know COVID-19 is widespread in Massachusetts so one of the messages I like to give is that the goal remains the same around social distancing,” said Fantes. “The goal is to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and this is done by social distancing to decrease the transmission of the disease by droplets. We’ve done a lot here at the Health Center to ensure safety of East Boston, our patients and our staff.”

The Health Center has begun screening for fever and cough at the front door at each of its locations.

“If someone does screen positive we place a mask on them,” said Fantes. “The 10 Gove S. Emergency department is fully functional but we have developed a influenza-like illness clinic where we can separate patients that have flu-like symptoms. We have also developed a runner system

with our pharmacy and run prescriptions outside to patients so they don’t have to enter the building.”

Fantes said the EBNHC has also consolidated a lot of services to better care for patients and prepare for a rise in cases.

One major change has been using Telehealth to care for EBNHC patients that may need medical help that does not require a trip to the emergency room.

Telehealth is the remote delivery of health care services and clinical information using communications technology, including the internet, wireless, satellite and phone media.

“We have also promoted Telehealth and to date have done 1,700 visits so our patients can remain safe in their homes,” said Fantes.

With intensifying concerns surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, Telehealth has become of paramount importance to ensure the safety of patients and health care providers. It allows patients the opportunity to seamlessly continue

their care while practicing social distancing, remaining in their home, and minimizing their exposure to the virus.

Lopes added that he wants everyone in the community to understand that as a Community Health Center they will continue their mission of serving all in the community.

“Our team of medical professionals and support staff have stepped up at a time that we know is really challenging,” said Lopes. “There is quite a bit of fear and uncertainty in our community so our first job is to share the information we have with the public and also serve the community as a resource for health and mental health services. We are trying to encourage our community of patients to call us before coming in. If you call us first our staff can decide whether it is appropriate to have a TeleHealth visit or if there is an urgent need for you to come in we can direct you to the appropriate building..”



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Amid COVID-19 closures, Zumix been getting creative

By John Lynds

For many of Zumix students, the neighborhood's popular music and performing arts program is a sanctuary of education, joy and support. Deciding to close Zumix to help encourage social distancing amid the COVID-19 pandemic was extremely difficult for staff and music teachers. However, Zumix Executive Director Madeleine Steczynski said this has left Zumix with a new goal: "Banding Together While Staying Apart".

Since closing Zumix program staff and ensemble instructors have connected with their students, and have begun offering classes on-line through Zoom, Skype, and Google Hangouts. They're also using ear and rhythm training apps. "I am so proud of everyone who works at Zumix," said Steczynski. "During

an incredibly stressful time, we have all transitioned to working remotely, and our teaching staff didn't skip a beat. We are currently teaching 375 young people remotely each week, and these smiles only tell a fragment of the story. Much love to all my fellow ZUM-ers! You are doing beautiful work, and spreading much joy." Steczynski said Zumix's video students are working on a project-based activity using their smartphones to document their personal experiences of how the virus has affected their lives.

"Also, for our youngest students, where a group chat can be challenging, our teachers are running mini one-on-one classes for each student," said Steczynski. "Our Musical Theater teacher, along with many of our private Adventures in Music teachers are recording tracks for their students to sing and play along to at

home." Unfortunately, following public health recommendations, Zumix has been forced to cancel the final two shows of its BIG WORLDS concert series, and have postponed its annual Walk for Music fundraiser.

"While we may not be able to entertain you at one of our events, we're still committed to bringing joy to everyone, especially in this time of need," said Steczynski. "That is why we are excited to announce our new at-home campaign Sing a Song/ Send a Song. Participants are asked to sing a song dedicated to someone they're not able to see right now, and nominate three friends to do the same. We're hoping people will consider donating \$10 to Zumix through our First-Giving page with the post and asking your nominees to do the same."



Zumix, Eastie's popular music and performing arts program, been able to connect students with music teachers amid the COVID-19 closure through Zoom, Skype, and Google Hangouts

Testing // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ers are some of the front-line workers battling the The site was not open to the public.

"This is an important first step to keeping our first responders healthy," said Mayor Walsh. "Boston's first responders are on the front lines of this public health crisis, and we will continue to do everything we can as a City to keep all residents safe and healthy."

The operation of this testing facility was led by the Boston Public Health Commission and the EBNHC.

The Health Center's President and CEO, Manny Lopes, worked closely with Mayor Walsh and the Boston Public Health Commission, where he serves as Board Chair.

"Although this was not an easy lift the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center is proud to come to the aid of the City and to our first responders," said Lopes. "We have been here for Boston for 50 years, and our staff continues to show their commitment to our City and local communities even in the face of this terrible crisis."

Lopes went on to thank Mayor Walsh and the City of Boston, the BPHC, HYM Investment Group and Suffolk Downs, Quest Diagnostics, and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts for helping EBNHC get this testing site started.

"We are going to need lots of partners moving ahead," said Lopes.

For more information, please visit www.ebnhc.org and visit www.boston.gov/news/coronavirus-disease-covid-19-boston or www.ebnhc.org.



EBNHC Vice President of Operations Jeff Schuster and EBNHC Chief Medical Officer Dr. Jackie Fantes.



Leaving nothing to chance, EBNHC staff conducting the tests wore full protective gear.



EBNHC President and CEO Manny Lopes talks with staff during a trial run of the COVID-19 testing site at Suffolk Downs for First Responders Saturday.



A car pulls up to the drive-thru testing site as EBNHC staff prepares.



EBNHC's Steve Frazier and Brett Phillips talk with staff during a trial run of the COVID-19 testing site at Suffolk Downs for First Responders Saturday.

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Carol Truncale's story leaves us with two of the most contagious messages we know: don't give up, and remember to give back. If Carol's story inspires just one more person to make a difference, then its telling here has been well worth while.



aaos.org/75years



Dashboard // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

dashboard includes information specific to the City of Boston, including total daily cases, recovered cases, and total cases over time. The dashboard also tracks the levels of testing done throughout the United States.

Walsh said that together these dashboards reflect up-to-date information about the status of coronavirus in Boston, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and the United States as a whole.

“Ensuring residents have accurate, up to date information about the corona-

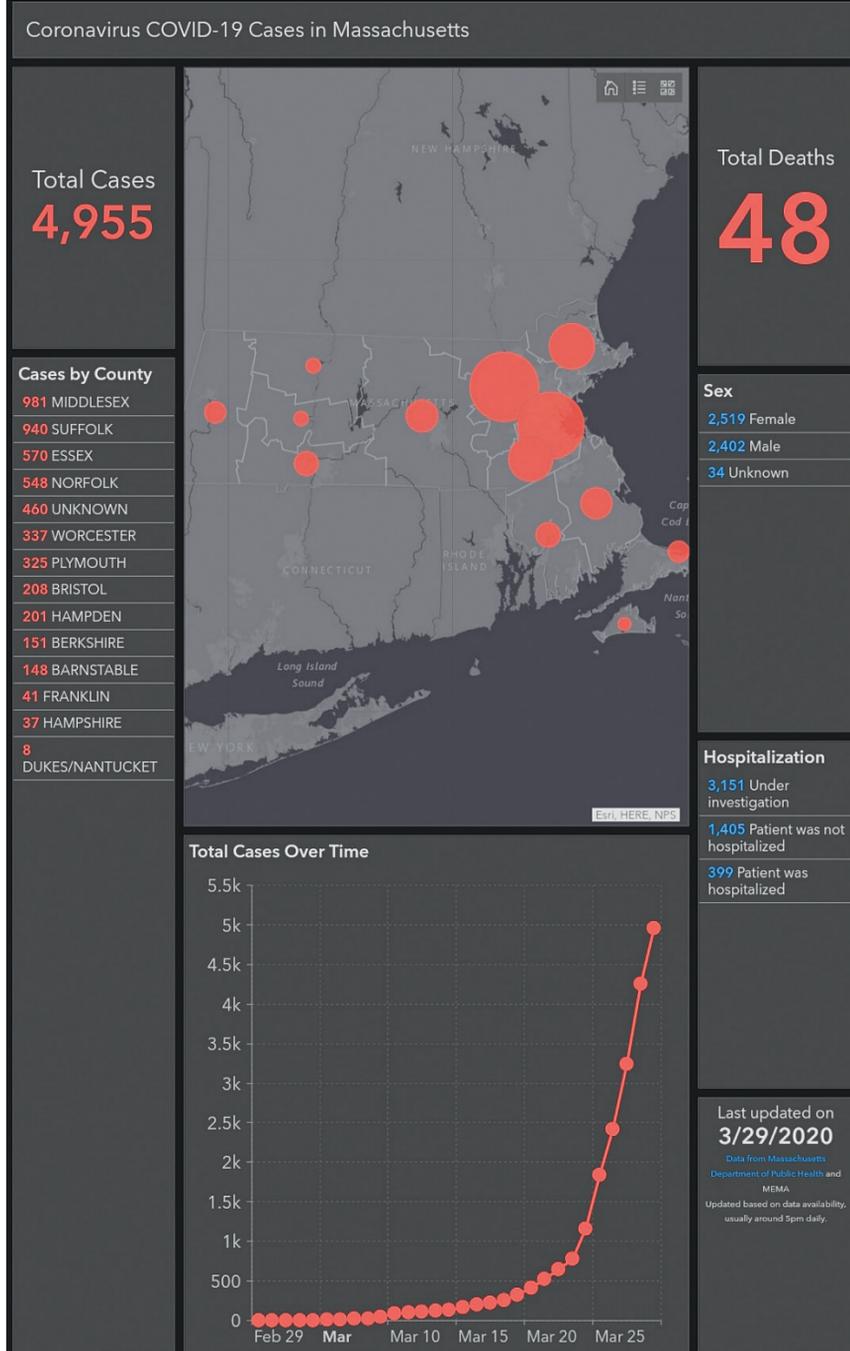
virus is critical during this challenging time,” said Walsh. “These dashboards are another resource for residents to gather information and stay informed as we follow public health guidelines to keep ourselves and each other safe.”

This data is updated when public data is released by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH). The CDC updates their numbers each afternoon, Monday-Friday, and the MDPH updates their numbers each afternoon. The

dashboards were created by the Department of Innovation and Technology’s City-wide Analytics Team.

Additional resources and information about COVID-19 is available at www.boston.gov/coronavirus.

For additional questions or programs, please visit boston.gov/coronavirus or call 3-1-1, Boston’s 24-hour constituent hotline. Text BOSCOVID to 99411 to receive text alerts on a regular basis, available in six languages.



A screenshot of the city's new COVID-19 dashboards that gives up to date info on the pandemic here, in the state and across the nation.

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Albrecht, David	70 Lexington Street LLC	70 Lexington St #3	\$487,000
Castillo, John	Falcucci Properties LLC	67 Lubec St #2	\$640,000
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 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.

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 Please reach out with any questions, deadline for Wednesday April 8 is Monday April 6 at noon
 Call 781-485-0588 or reply to this email for more information

Masks // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ship and staff of East Boston Neighborhood Health Center for the crucial and difficult work they are doing to keep East Boston Healthy," said Scapicchio. "As a community we are in this together and it will take all of us working together to come out of it."

EBNHC Vice President Steve Snyder, as well as the staff, doctors and nurses from the Health Center thanked the Davis Companies for their continued support.

"We really appreciate the support we've been getting from the community at large and this donation from the Davis Companies is much appreciated," said Snyder. "One of our biggest needs among many right now is personal protective equipment and our Pediatrics Department will put this to good use."

As the developer of The Mark, the Davis Companies has made several commitments to Eastie organizations last year.

In December Stephen Davis presented a check of \$10,000 to Zumix and Piers Park Sailing Center as mitigation for their project.

The Davis Companies also plans to spend another \$100,000 to The Fund for Parks and Recreation managed by the City's Parks Department for the support of LoPresti Park; and another \$1,000 to the BPDA, to be paid to the Maverick Association of Residents to support their annual community day event.



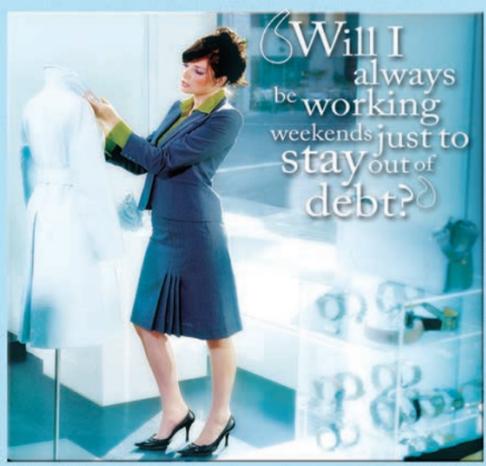
Paul Scapicchio is given a lesson in social distancing with a "Thank You" elbow-bump by Mikayla Wilson.



Representing the Davis Companies, Paul Scapicchio (right) donates masks to the health-care workers on the frontlines battling COVID-19 at EBNHC. Scapicchio is shown with Care Navigator Mikayla Wilson and Community Health Worker Wendy Olivres.



Paul Scapicchio presents a box of pediatric masks to Mikayla Wilson.



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HOP TO IT....

CORONAVIRUS CONTINUED IMPACT ON EAST BOSTON AND THE COMMONWEALTH

State announces Command Center Advisory Board of Medical Experts, Infectious Disease Specialists

On Weds., March 25, the state announced the COVID-19 Advisory Board, a group of medical experts that will support the Response Command Center as the Commonwealth continues to respond to COVID-19.

The Response Command Center, under the leadership of Secretary Marylou Sudders and reporting to Governor Charlie Baker and Lt. Governor Karyn Polito, is the Commonwealth's single point of strategic decision making and coordination for the Administration's comprehensive COVID-19 response.

The COVID-19 Advisory Board, which first met on Wednesday, March 19, will advise the COVID-19 Response Command Center on key decision points in the state's response, including expanding access to testing and planning for medical surge, and will formally meet weekly for updates. Advisory Board members include:

•Scott Gottlieb, MD, American Enterprise Institute – Scott Gottlieb, M.D., is a resident fellow at the American Enterprise Institute (AEI). He returned to AEI in 2019 after serving as the 23rd commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). At AEI, he continues his work on improving public health through entrepreneurship and medical innovation and on expanding regulatory approaches to maintain patient

and physician autonomy.
 •Rochelle Walensky, MD, MPH, Massachusetts General Hospital – Dr. Rochelle Walensky, MD, MPH, is Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School and a practicing Infectious Disease physician at Massachusetts General Hospital and Brigham and Women's Hospital. Dr. Walensky's research interests focus on model-based analyses of the cost-effectiveness of HIV testing, care, and prevention strategies to inform HIV/AIDS policy internationally and domestically.
 •Paul Biddinger, MD, Massachusetts General Hospital – Dr. Paul Biddinger holds the MGH Endowed Chair in Emergency Preparedness and is the Director of the Center for Disaster Medicine, and Vice Chairman for Emergency Preparedness in the Department of Emergency Medicine at Mass General. He is also the Director for Emergency Preparedness at Partners Healthcare. Dr. Biddinger additionally serves as the Director of the Emergency Preparedness Research, Evaluation and Practice (EPREP) Program at the Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health, and holds appointments at Harvard Medical School and at the Chan School. Dr. Biddinger serves as a special advisor to the Massachusetts Medical Society's Committee on Preparedness and serves as a medical officer for the

MA-1 Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT) in the National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) in the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).
 •Michael Wagner, MD, FACP, Wellforce – Dr. Michael Wagner is a physician leader who combines his unique experience as a primary care physician, hospitalist, entrepreneur and CEO to transform health care. Dr. Wagner has worked with caregivers in academic and community health care settings throughout the country. Today, he is the Interim CEO and Chief Physician Executive of Wellforce, a \$2B and growing health system in Eastern Massachusetts that has been recognized for its high quality, lower cost value position and its commitment to keeping care in the community.
 •Eric Lander, PhD, Broad Institute – Eric Lander is president and founding director of the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard. A geneticist, molecular biologist, and mathematician, he has played a pioneering role in all aspects of the reading, understanding, and biomedical application of the human genome. He was a principal leader of the Human Genome Project.

The Baker-Polito Administration announced the creation of a new COVID-19 Response Command Center on March 14, 2020.

Baker administration launches online portal for PPE, volunteers to support COVID-19 outbreak

The Baker administration on Sunday announced an online portal where individuals and companies can easily donate or sell personal protective equipment (PPE) and volunteer to support the COVID-19 outbreak in Massachusetts. This effort will ensure that front line responders get the protective equipment they need to stay and push for more trained volunteers to join the response.

"Massachusetts has already received generous donations from countless organizations, and by launching this portal we'll make it easier to streamline these offers and quickly distribute supplies to those in need," said Governor Charlie Baker. "We also need more volunteers to help support our response to this unprecedented public health emergency, and urge people to sign up to lend a hand. Our administration will continue making every effort to secure supplies from all possible resources to support our front line workers during these tough times."

The Commonwealth's COVID-19 PPE Procurement and Donation Program creates an easy portal allowing companies and organizations to sell or donate protective equipment that is in short supply given the global demands for such items.

By visiting the COVID-19 PPE Procurement and Donation website, businesses and organizations can offer for purchase or donation critically needed personal protective equipment, including:

- N95/N99 masks (respirators)

- Facemasks with integrated shields
- Goggles
- Protective suits/gowns
- Headcovers
- Sanitizing wipes
- Powered Air-Purifying Respirators (PARR)
- Gloves
- Booties/shoe covers
- Hand sanitizer

The initiative announced today bolsters current efforts to leverage traditional and emergency supply chain channels.

"We have a constant demand and need for personal protective equipment (PPE) available to our medical, first responder and essential service communities. Over the past week, hundreds of deliveries of PPE have been made to front line health care providers, and first responders, but we need so much more," said Secretary of Health and Human Services Marylou Sudders, the Commonwealth's COVID-19 Command Center Director. "Last week more than 28,000 masks, and 120,000 pairs of gloves were distributed, and we've placed more than \$50 million in orders for additional supplies. We are also waiting on our third delivery from the Strategic National Stockpile."

The program also provides an entry point for local manufacturers to get more information on adapting their businesses to produce more equipment here in Massachusetts, an effort being led by the administration's recently established Manufacturing Emergency Response Team, co-chaired by Housing and Economic Development Secretary Mike Kennealy,

and Mike Tamasi, President and CEO of AccuRounds, a precision components manufacturer located in Avon.

"It comes as no surprise that both manufacturers and university R&D partners across Massachusetts have stepped up during this challenging time to support those saving lives and provide logistical expertise toward stopping the spread of this virus," said Secretary of Housing and Economic Development Mike Kennealy, Co-Chair of the Advanced Manufacturing Collaborative. "This portal serves as a front door for companies that think their operations can be adapted to address manufacturing supply chain issues and produce the equipment needed by those on the front lines."

A call for volunteers: To support ongoing COVID-19 emergency response efforts, the Baker-Polito Administration has partnered with the Massachusetts Medical Society to match health and medical volunteers with our communities and health care providers based on skillsets and need. There is an immediate need for respiratory therapists and public health nurses, and the administration is asking health care professionals interested in volunteering to sign up by clicking here. Since launching the initiative, more than 1,000 people have already registered.

For more information on COVID-19, visit Mass.gov/covid19. Get notifications to your phone or other mobile device by texting COVID-MA to 888-777.

Consumers facing financial hardships due to COVID-19 urged to contact local bank

The Massachusetts Bankers Association urged consumers who are facing financial hardships due to the COVID-19 pandemic to contact their financial institution for assistance. Local banks throughout the Commonwealth have pledged to work with their customers – individuals and businesses – to mitigate the financial impact of the current health crisis.

"We strongly encourage anyone who is unable to make a payment on their loan, needs access to funds in a certificate of deposit or other relief to contact their financial institution for options to help them through this unprecedented situation," said Daniel J. Forte, MBA President & CEO. "Local banks are ready and willing to help during these challenging times, but it is important that you reach out as soon as possible."

Most local banks have already announced programs to assist consumers. For

example, Greenfield Cooperative Bank is offering a "payment holiday" for residential and commercial loan customers; Berkshire Bank has established special relief programs for the LGBTQ and minority-owned business communities while Rockland Trust Company, Eastern Bank, Bank of America and many others have announced significant initiatives to support local residents and small businesses. MBA has created a COVID-19 Resource page on our website with additional information. We encourage you to visit www.massbankers.org.

In addition to relief on mortgages and other loans, banks are working with customers who may need access to funds in Certificates of Deposit (CDs), waiving fees for certain products or transactions, and increasing daily debit or ATM limits where appropriate. We anticipate that additional programs will be developed

in the coming days and weeks to assist individuals and businesses as Congress considers a major economic stimulus package in Washington, D.C.

It is also important that consumers beware of scams and fraud, which tend to increase in uncertain times. MBA reminds consumers that the safest place for money is in their bank, where all accounts are insured up to \$250,000. Many Massachusetts banks also have excess insurance to protect your funds. Large cash withdrawals are uninsured and at risk for loss; 95% of all transactions can be done on mobile/online banking, debit/credit cards or at an ATM, without the health risks of in-lobby visits.

"These are challenging times for Massachusetts families and businesses and local banks are doing our part to help ease the financial burden," Forte said.

Massachusetts Bar Examination Postponed

The Supreme Judicial Court and the Board of Bar Examiners today announced that, due to the ongoing public health emergency arising from the COVID-19 pandemic, the Massachusetts bar examination will not be administered on July 28 and July 29, 2020 as previously scheduled. The bar exam has been postponed until fall, on dates to be determined.

The Board of Bar Examiners, in consultation with the Supreme Judicial Court, will continue to closely monitor public health and safety guidelines, including prohibitions against large gatherings, related to the COVID-19 pandemic. In the event that limitations on large gatherings continue to interfere with a fall administration of the Massachusetts bar examination, alternative

means for testing of applicants for Massachusetts bar admission will be devised and announced.

The Massachusetts Board of Bar Examiners (BBE) is established by G.L. c. 221 §§35 & 36 to evaluate the qualifications of persons seeking admission to the bar of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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OBITUARIES

Leopold Buono

Of Winthrop, formerly of East Boston

Leopold A. "Leo" "Butchie" Buono of Winthrop, formerly of East Boston, passed away on March 28.

He was the beloved husband of Claire (Gillis) Buono, loving father of Tara Buono (Stackhouse) and Jillian Emma Buono and Nicholas Leo Buono, all of Winthrop; dear brother of Francine Billet of New York, James Buono and his wife, Rita of East Boston and Rosalind Faretra and her husband, Joseph of Winthrop. He is also survived by three loving grandchildren: Nicolette Stackhouse, Jaden - Helen Stackhouse and Michael Stackhouse and by many loving nieces and nephews.

Butchie will be laid to rest on Friday April 3, 2020.

In accordance with the CDC, Mass. Department of



Public Health, Archdiocese of Boston guidelines and local restrictions on gatherings and congregations due to COVID-19, all services will be held for the immediate family privately. If you have any questions or would like to express your condolences please contact the Ruggiero Funeral Home during normal business hours or leave a message for the family on the tribute wall at www.ruggieromh.com.

Steven Mandolese

Long time mechanic

Steven "Steve" Mandolese of Barnstead, NH, formerly of Everett, died on March 28, 2020 at the age of 64.

Steve was a mechanic for many years and enjoyed countless hours working on his own cars. When he wasn't working on cars, you could find him on the lake or pond with a line in the water. He would do anything for his family and relished the time he spent with his granddaughter.

Born in Revere on January 24, 1956 to Juliette (Dotolo) and the late Robert Mandolese Sr., he was the beloved husband of Deborah "Debbie" (Dimeo), devoted father of Ignazio Falcone and his significant other Angela of Manchester NH, Cassandra Lopez of New Windsor, NY, Kevin Mandolese of Saugus and Jen Mandolese of Rochester, NH; cherished grandfather of Izabela Falcone; dear brother of Robert "Bob" Mandolese, Jr. and his wife, Cathy of



North Andover, Deborah "Debbie" Mandolese of Everett, and the late Diane Mandolese. He is also survived by his loving, extended family and his adored cats, Raja and Jasmine.

In accordance with the CDC, Mass. Department of Public Health, Archdiocese of Boston guidelines and local restrictions on gatherings and congregations due to COVID-19, all services will be privately held. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the ASP-CA, 424 East 92nd St, New York, NY 10128 or to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude PL, Memphis, TN 38105. For guest book please visit www.Buonfiglio.com.

Barbara Ceconi

Her legacy will inspire all who knew her

The extraordinary life of Barbara Ceconi ended with her passing on March 26, 2020.

Barbara was born October 23, 1958 to Lucille (DeCarlo) and Arthur Ceconi in North Tarrytown, New York. She graduated from Pocantico Hills Central School, Sleepy Hollow High School, and earned a B.A. from Amherst College and MSW from Boston College.

Barbara lived her adult life in the Boston area, mostly in Brookline, a community she loved and embraced and it genuinely embraced her.

Barbara is survived by her brothers Arthur Ceconi Jr. of Montville, NJ and Tom Ceconi of Fairfield, CT, an aunt, Joan (DeCarlo) Sypher of Mahopac, NY, her sisters-in-law, Eileen (Martyn) Ceconi and Connie (Fiengo) Ceconi, nieces, Lisa, Moira, Anne, Eileen, Christa, Sophia, nephew Sam, and numerous cousins and friends.

The Ceconi/DeCarlo family is quite large and is filled with many accomplished people in virtually every profession and walk of life. That said, the line for the most accomplished in the family starts behind



Barbara. She was able to overcome many obstacles to live independently, create a meaningful business, and develop a group of close friends that lasted a lifetime.

She loved the Brookline community, walking with her guide dogs, working at the Museum of Science, educating school children on accessibility issues, the bookstore, meeting friends for coffee and just enjoying life. Her legacy will continue to inspire all those who knew her, especially her nieces and nephew.

A memorial service will be held at a later time. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be sent to The Guiding Eyes for the Blind, 611 Granite Springs Road, Yorktown, N.Y. 10598. Arrangements were entrusted to the Paul Buonfiglio & Sons-Bruno Funeral Home, Revere. For guest book please visit www.buonfiglio.com.

Walter William McDonough

Retired Boston Firefighter, loved by family and friends

Walter William McDonough, 76, of East Boston, passed away peacefully surrounded by his loving family on March 26.

Walter was a retired Boston Fire Fighter, United States Marine Corps. veteran, and longtime member of the East Boston ITAM. In retirement, Walter was a bee keeper and many of us enjoyed his East Boston honey.

He was the cherished son of the late Walter A. and Alice (Coilty) McDonough, beloved husband of the late Jane (Tiernan) McDonough, dear brother of Alice Ann and her husband, Robert Phillips of Braintree and Rita Ingersoll of Saugus and the late Steven McDonough of Lawrence, formerly of East Boston. He is also survived by his devoted nephew, Chuck Ingersoll and by many loving nieces and nephews.

A Memorial Mass will



be held at a later date. In accordance with the CDC, Mass. Department of Public Health, Archdiocese of Boston guidelines and local restrictions on gatherings and congregations due to COVID-19, all services will be held for the immediate family privately. Arrangements are with the personal care of the Ruggiero Funeral Home, East Boston.

Arrangements are with the personal care of Ruggiero Family Memorial Home 617 569 0990. For more information or to sign an online condolence, please visit: www.ruggieromh.com.

Angela Camarro

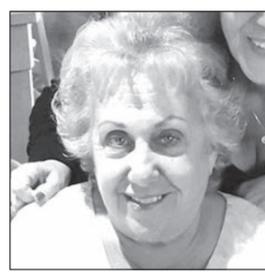
East Boston Golden Age member

Angela C. (Schipellite) Camarro of Revere, formerly East Boston, passed away on Sunday, March 29, 2020.

Angela was a part of the East Boston Golden Age.

The beloved wife of the late Reno Camarro, she was the devoted mother of Gina F. Camarro and Paul Camarro Sr., both of Stoneham, cherished sister of Gaetano Schipellite of Quincy and adored grandmother of Paul Jr. and Giovanni. 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 gatherings and congregations due to COVID-19, all services will be held for the immediate family privately. Services will conclude with



Angela being laid to rest with her beloved husband, Reno.

If you have any questions or would like to express your condolences please contact the funeral home 617-569-0990 during normal business hours or leave a message for the family on the tribute wall on www.ruggieromh.com. You may also send a spiritual or card of sympathy to the family in care of the Ruggiero Family Memorial Home.

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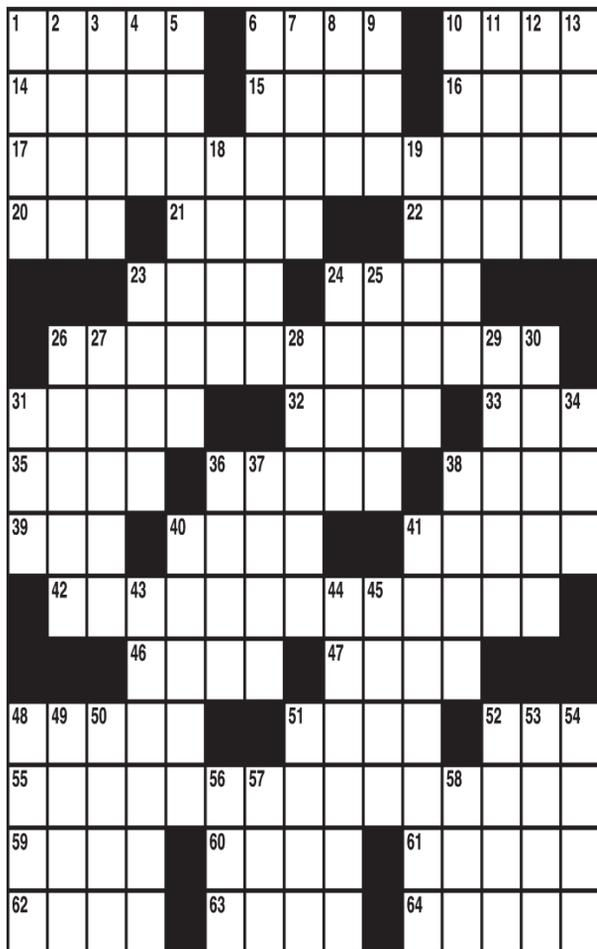
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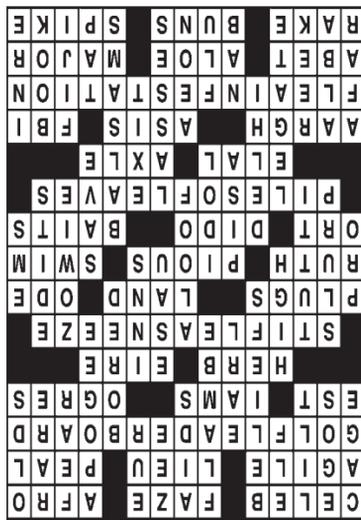
ACROSS
 1 People person
 6 Throw for a loop
 10 Crew cut's opposite
 14 Good on one's feet
 15 In __ of: as a substitute for
 16 Ring out
 17 Woods has often been atop it
 20 Mass. hours
 21 Food with a Veterinary Formula
 22 Ungentle giants
 23 Cilantro, e.g.
 24 Word on some euros
 26 Hold one's nose, perhaps
 31 Power strip inserts
 32 It may be promised
 33 Dedicated work
 35 Justice appointed after Clarence
 36 Religiously devoted
 38 Go up the creek without a paddle?
 39 Doggy bag item
 40 She had a big hit with "Thank You" in 2001
 41 Prepares, as a hook
 42 They're fun to jump in
 46 Ben-Gurion airline
 47 Toll-road toll unit
 48 Talk Like a Pirate Day cry
 51 Thrift store stipulation
 52 Counterterrorism org.
 55 Pet owner's bane, and a hint to what's hidden in 17-, 26- and 42-Across
 59 Case the joint, say
 60 Plant used for first aid
 61 Blair's predecessor
 62 Tool used to create 42-Across
 63 "___ of Steel": '80s workout video
 64 Sudden increase

DOWN
 1 Hamster's home
 2 Prima donnas have big ones
 3 Happy tune
 4 Will Ferrell holiday comedy
 5 Personal theology elements
 6 Burn a dessert on purpose?
 7 Helps out
 8 End of a common list
 9 It's W of the Urals
 10 Orbital high point
 11 More than just butterflies
 12 "Still mooing," at a steakhouse
 13 Bygone automaker
 18 Banjoist Scruggs
 19 Watching the clock, perhaps

Crossword Puzzle



23 Above the strike zone
 24 Biblical birthright seller
 25 Getaway spots
 26 Suck down
 27 ___-frutti
 28 Hard to get close to
 29 "Yikes!"
 30 Puts in a good word?
 31 Debate side
 34 Miami couple?
 36 City on the Arno
 37 1-Across, usually
 38 Word processing command
 40 Indian metropolis
 41 Aromatic firs
 43 Emissary
 44 Misses
 45 Escape hatch, e.g.
 48 Way, way off
 49 Jessica of "Fantastic Four"
 50 Stink to high heaven
 51 Long, long time
 52 Pacific archipelago
 53 Volume
 54 Memo header
 56 Catch red-handed
 57 Fever cause
 58 Suds source



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Local food distribution business donates to Boys & Girls Club, YMCA

By John Lynds

East Boston based Sparrow Enterprises, a family owned food distribution business, made a generous donation last week to two neighborhood-based nonprofits that are running daily free breakfast and lunch sites.

Heading a call from Rep. Adrian Madaro for local businesses to try to help nonprofits during these difficult times, Sparrow's Henry Baybutt stepped up and answered the call.

Baybutt said Sparrow donated thousands of snacks to the East Boston YMCA and the Salesian Boys & Girls Club, two organizations that are food distribution sites in the neighborhood.

"Sparrow has been a family business for over 50 years," said Baybutt. "We consider all of our employees as family as well as the community where we operate. We have been fortunate to have our business in East Boston for about 20 years and we are happy to help

our friends and family in need. At these unprecedented times we welcome the opportunity to help our local community. It's simply put, the right thing to do!!"

East Boston YMCA Executive Director Joe Gaeta said the donation will help the Y's efforts and add to the variety of free meals being offered.

"This donation will go a long way to make sure that we are providing healthy snacks to our families during this event," said Gaeta. "The need for food right now in East Boston is in very high demand, so any donations we get we will get out to the community"

Salesian Boys & Girls Club Executive Director Michael Triant added that, "Eighty percent of our members are from below the poverty level. These families rely on community based organizations to provide for them. Donations from companies like Sparrow Foods provide comfort to these families during extremely difficult times. On

behalf of all the families this donation will impact, we are extremely grateful."

Sparrow is an Importer and distributor of bulk commodity ingredients, fine chocolates, and food service products including Cocoa powder, coconut, seeds, milk powders and more.

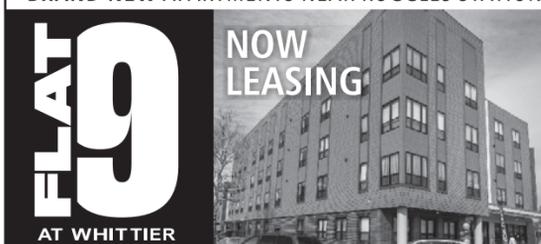
Located in Eastie, Sparrow was founded in 1924 as a regional distributor of cocoa powder and chocolate to the confectionary trade. Today, Sparrow offers over 10 specialty chocolate lines, and carries over 2,000 products for use throughout the food industry. Sparrow specializes in chocolate and other commodity items for use in baking, confectionary, and ice cream/dairy industries.

"I was pleased to facilitate a donation from East Boston-based Sparrow of thousands of raisin packets to be distributed to families in our community through the East Boston YMCA and the Salesian Boys & Girls Club of East Boston," said Rep. Madaro. "Thank you to the Salesian Boys and Girls Club for assisting with transportation and thank you to Henry Baybutt and Sparrow for your amazing generosity during these challenging times."



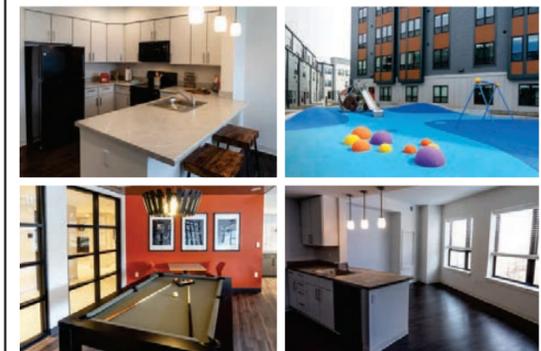
East Boston YMCA Executive Director Joe Gaeta delivers the snack donation from East Boston-based Sparrow Enterprises to the Y.

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	6	\$151,250

Minimum Incomes do not apply to households receiving housing assistance, for example, Section 8 Voucher, MRVP, VASH. Selection by Lottery preference given to right-to-return lease-compliant Whittier Street Apts tenants relocated due to the redevelopment activities associated with the Whittier Choice Neighborhood Implementation Grant. Preference for households of at least one person per bedroom.

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Salesian Boys & Girls Club Executive Director Michael Triant picks up the snack donation from Sparrow Enterprises.

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MassDOT Advisory: Rt. 1 Chelsea

Temporary Closures and Lane Reductions

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) is announcing that beginning the first weekend of April 2020, Route 1 northbound and southbound in Chelsea will be reduced to one (1) travel lane during five (5) weekends in the spring for necessary bridge repairs and safety improvements. This project to, in part, replace the Route 1 Chelsea Viaduct, is using accelerated bridge construction methods to ensure that the vital section of Route 1 through Chelsea can continue to safely and efficiently process passenger and freight traffic.

Lane Reductions: Route 1 will be reduced to one (1) lane in each direction during the following weekends: **April 3 to April 6**, April 24 to April 27, May 1 to May 4, May 15 to May 18, and May 29 to June 1. **Lane reductions will begin at 10 p.m. on Fridays with two lanes available again by 5 a.m. on the following Monday.** During the lane reduction weekends, work continues around the clock.

In addition, during the spring, the Carter Street off-ramp from

Route 1 southbound in Chelsea will be closed on four weekday weeknights and also during three full weekends. Each closure will begin at 10 p.m. and conclude no later than 5 a.m. on the scheduled end date.

Closures: An overnight closure will occur on An overnight closure will occur on **Thursday, April 2nd at 10 PM and conclude on Friday, April 3rd at 5 AM.** The first weekend closure will occur on Friday, April 24, beginning at 10 p.m. and conclude on Monday, April 27, at 5 a.m. The following weekend closure will occur on Friday, May 1, at 10 p.m. and conclude on Monday, May 4, at 5 a.m. The final weekend closure for the Spring will occur on Friday, June 5, at 10 p.m. and conclude on Monday, June 8, at 5 a.m.

Drivers are urged to utilize public transit options such as the Newbury/Rockport Commuter Rail Line and seek alternate routes. Drivers looking to exit Route 1 southbound in Chelsea should use the Route 16 westbound exit towards Everett and take Revere

Beach Parkway to Everett Ave.

Drivers are urged to reduce speed, exercise caution, and allow extra time for their trip, and pay close attention to signage and directions by police while traveling through work zones.

All work is subject to weather conditions.

Please share this information with your friends, neighbors, family members, co-workers, or anyone else you think will benefit from it.

For more information about the project, please visit the project website at mass.gov/tobin-bridgechelsea-curves-rehabilitation-project.

You can also view public transit options at mbta.com/Tobin-Bridge and view live and personalized traffic reports at mass511.com.

For MBTA parking lot capacity updates, check @MBTA_Parking on Twitter.

You can also contact Donny Dailey, MassDOT Government Affairs Liaison, at 855-201-2614 or Tobin-Chelsea@dot.state.ma.us.

Proyecto de Rehabilitación del Puente Tobin/ Curvas de Chelsea

Cierres Temporarios y Reducciones de Carriles

El Departamento de Transporte de Massachusetts (MassDOT) anuncia que a partir del primer fin de semana de abril de 2020, la Ruta 1 en dirección norte y sur se reducirá a un (1) carril de viaje durante cinco (5) fines de semana en la primavera para reparaciones de puentes y mejoras de seguridad necesarias.

Este proyecto, en parte, para reemplazar el Viaducto de Chelsea de la Ruta 1, está utilizando métodos de construcción de puentes acelerados para garantizar que la sección vital de la Ruta 1 a través de Chelsea pueda continuar procesando al tráfico de pasajeros y carga de manera segura y eficiente por dentro y en las afueras de Boston.

Reducciones de Carriles: La Ruta 1 se reducirá a un (1) carril en cada dirección durante los siguientes fines de semana: **del 3 al 6 de abril**, del 24 al 27 de abril, del 1 al 4 de mayo, del 15 al 18 de mayo, y del 29 de mayo al 1 de junio. **Las reducciones de carriles comenzarán a las 10 p.m. los viernes, con dos carriles disponibles de nuevo a las 5 de la mañana del siguiente lunes.** Durante los fines de semana de reducción de carriles, el trabajo continúa las 24 horas.

Además, durante la primavera,

la rampa de salida de la calle Carter desde la Ruta 1 hacia el sur en Chelsea, estará cerrada durante cuatro (4) días laborales entre semana y también durante tres (3) fines de semana completos. Cada cierre comenzará a las 10 p.m. y concluirá a más tardar a las 5 de la mañana en la fecha de finalización programada.

Cierres: Un cierre de noche se llevará a cabo el **miércoles 2 de abril a las 10 p.m. y concluirá el jueves 3 de abril a las 5 a.m.** El primer cierre de fin de semana tomará lugar el viernes 24 de abril, comenzando a las 10 pm y concluyendo el lunes 27 de abril a las 5 a.m. El próximo cierre de fin de semana tendrá lugar el viernes 1 de mayo a las 10 p.m. y concluirá el lunes 4 de mayo a las 5 de la mañana. El último cierre de fin de semana de la primavera tendrá lugar el viernes 5 de junio a las 10 p.m. y concluirá el lunes, 8 de junio a las 5 a.m.

Se les urge a los conductores a utilizar opciones de transporte público, como la línea morada del tren Newbury/Rockport y buscar rutas alternativas. Los conductores que busquen salir de la Ruta 1 Sur

en Chelsea deben usar la salida de la Ruta 16 Oeste hacia Everett y tomar Revere Beach Parkway a Everett Ave. **A los conductores se les urge a reducir la velocidad, tener cuidado, permitir tiempo adicional para su viaje, y prestar mucha atención a señalización y direcciones de la policía mientras viajan a través de zonas de trabajo.**

Todo trabajo está sujeto a condiciones climáticas.

Por favor, comparta esta información con amigos, vecinos, familiares, compañeros de trabajo o cualquier otra persona que cree que beneficiará de ella. Para obtener más información sobre el proyecto, visite el sitio web del proyecto en mass.gov/tobin-bridgechelsea-curves-rehabilitation-project. También puede ver las opciones de transporte público en mbta.com/TobinBridge y ver informes de tráfico en vivo y personalizados en mass511.com. Para actualizaciones de la capacidad del estacionamiento MBTA, consulta @MBTA_Parking en Twitter. También puede comunicarse con Donny Dailey, MassDOT Enlace de Asuntos Gubernamentales, al 855-201-2614 o Tobin-Chelsea@dot.state.ma.us.