



# THE NORTH END

## REGIONAL REVIEW

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D. Murphy photo

The outdoor patio on Mother Anna's on Hanover Street was bustling early Saturday evening.

## Al fresco dining returns to the North End

By Dan Murphy

When restaurants in the North End were able to begin resume offering outdoor dining again on Thursday, June 11, during the first step of Phase 2 of Gov. Charlie Baker's plan for reopening the Commonwealth's economy, it went off relatively without a hitch and led up to weekend that saw business booming once again in the neighborhood.

"It went as smooth as silk because we were all prepared and ready for it," Frank DePasquale, president of Depasquale Ventures, and whose North End establishments that began offering al fresco dining again include Mare Oyster Bar, Trattoria il Panino, Quattro and Bricco Ristorante & Enoteca, said Monday. "It was so great to see the smiles on all the faces, especially the patrons. The excitement

was over the top. I'm so happy that the elected officials allowed it to happen."

DePasquale, who is also chairman of the North End Chamber of Commerce, said many of around 70 restaurants in the neighborhood that have been allowed by the city to reopen invested in new outdoor furniture to help maintain state social-distancing guidelines, which require tables be set at least six feet apart from each other. Customers can now occupy these outdoor dining spaces until 10 p.m. on weeknights and 11 p.m. on weekends per the city, and restaurants can begin offering indoor dining again during the second step of the state's Phase 2, although when that will come to pass now remains unknown.

According to DePasquale, this latest initiative has created an unprecedented sense of camarade-

rie among North End restaurants.

"Every business owner is working hand in hand," he said. "It's unity like I've never seen before. Anything another restaurant needs, someone else is there to pitch in, whether it is helping to put out furniture, close up for the night or water their plants."

For DePasquale's North End restaurants, business was so good that some patrons were turned away over the weekend due to a lack of available seating.

"We had to refuse many people because of appropriate social distancing and told them to try back the following week," Depasquale said Monday. "We're booked solid the whole week. Reservations have just exploded."

DePasquale has also been able to rehire his entire of around 500,

(DINING Pg. 6)

## Future of North End's Columbus statue uncertain

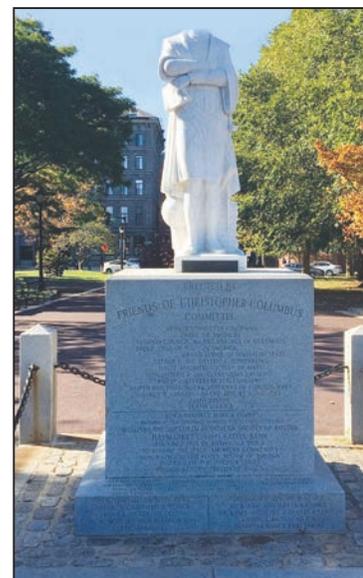
By John Lynds

When Christopher Columbus Park was dedicated by Mayor Kevin White in the 1970s as one of the earliest waterfront parks in Boston, the true history of Columbus's atrocities against indigenous people wasn't common knowledge.

In schools across the country and here in the North End Columbus, it was taught, was an important explorer that discovered the New World aboard his three ships, and hero of Italian Americans everywhere.

Columbus's legacy continues to be debated and while he was widely venerated in the centuries after his death, public perceptions have changed as scholars have given greater attention to negative aspects of his life.

(STATUE Pg. 7)



The Christopher Columbus statue in the North End was decapitated a few days after it was painted with graffiti. It was later removed by the City of Boston.

## District A-1 Commanding Officer Captain Fong retires

By Phil Orlandella

Commanding Officer, District A-1, Captain Kenneth Fong will retire this month after 33 years in law enforcement, many of them spent in the North End.

Since 2014, Captain Fong has been extremely active with his staff organizing monthly neighborhood meetings and participating in numerous community events and activities.

Many residents and the business community have credited the low-crime-rate in the community to the actions taken by the Captain who was committed to the neighborhood policing on a first-hand basis.

While serving in District A-1, the Captain and the Boston Police

Department have recognized and presented awards to people who have made a difference in the community and public safety.

North End/Waterfront Public Safety Committee Chair David Marx pointed out the Captain's dedicated public service.

"I have always greatly appreciated his transparency as well as his accessibility and responsiveness to my phone calls and text messages to him guarding crime and related quality of life issues, I will miss working with him," Marx said.

"After working for 33 years in law enforcement I will be retiring," Captain Fong said.

"Throughout my career, the

(FONG Pg. 3)

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# Forum

'Congress shall make no law ... abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press.'

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## A TREMENDOUS COURT DECISION

The decision this past Monday by the U.S. Supreme Court extending the rights of gay and transgender workers under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which bars employment discrimination on the basis of race, religion, national origin, and sex, is a wonderful affirmation of the shift in this country from one of outright homophobia just a generation ago to the acceptance by a large majority of Americans of persons regardless of their sexual preferences or gender identity.

This newspaper for more than 25 years has supported the efforts of the LGBTQ community to secure all of the rights that are enjoyed by every American and to be free from discrimination of all kinds.

We applauded the Goodridge decision in 2003 by our Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court that held that the Commonwealth must legally recognize same-sex marriage, something we had advocated for almost a decade previously.

In 2015, the U.S. Supreme Court in the Obergefell case affirmed same-sex marriage as a Constitutional right, thus making it applicable to all 50 states.

This week's decision by our country's highest court now extends Title VII protections for gay and transgender persons to all 50 states. Previously, about half of the states still allowed a person to be fired by their employer solely on the basis of their sexual status.

There still is more to be done in terms of bringing full legal and social equality for our LGBTQ fellow citizens, but Monday's 6-3 decision, which included two of the conservative justices, Roberts and Gorsuch, unquestionably represents a huge step forward for gay and transgender Americans.

## AND NOW, STINGING JELLYFISH....

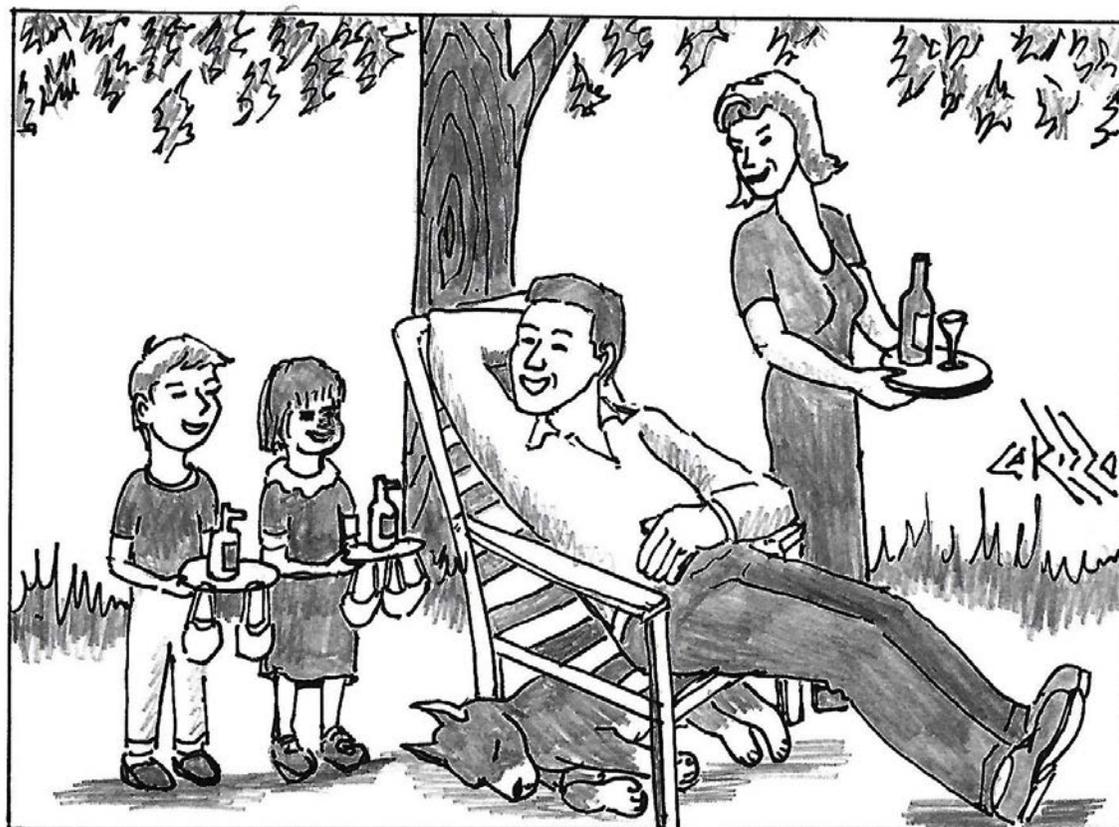
The ocean temperature barely has reached 60 degrees in Boston Harbor and vicinity, but the warnings on our beaches have confirmed what the beachcombers among us have known for a week or so -- the dreaded jellyfish have arrived.

According to the experts, these are the lion's mane jellyfish, whose flowing tentacles (hence their name), when they are fully-grown, can extend as long as 90 feet. (Reportedly, the largest recorded specimen ever measured occurred in 1865 off the coast of Massachusetts and had a bell with a diameter of seven feet and tentacles of about 120 feet.

They principally are found in the extreme northern oceans, but they come to our latitudes at this time of year, though fortunately not many are of the full-size stature that they attain in colder waters.

The jellyfish have been seen from Nahant to Hull in recent days. Although most are not fully-grown at this stage of their lives, they nonetheless have the ability to deliver quite a sting to anyone who comes into contact with them.

So swimmers beware. The ocean may provide a respite from the coronavirus, but the jellyfish will be waiting.



HAPPY FATHER'S DAY..... JUNE 21, 2020

GUEST OP-ED

## The Rental Relief Fund is helping to keep Bostonians in their homes during the pandemic

By Mayor Martin J. Walsh

From the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, we knew that many people would be challenged by housing costs while they were out of work. As a part of our comprehensive response, we wanted to include assistance for renters. That's why we created the Rental Relief Fund, a program to help cover residents' rent payments. We started this program in April, and we recently announced an additional round of funding.

The Rental Relief Fund was set up to help residents who have lost their income and are not eligible for employment benefits, and residents who, even with unemployment benefits, are still not able to make ends meet. We dedicated \$3 million for the first round of funding, which began in April. Earlier this month, we opened up a second round of applications, and dedicated an additional \$5 million to the program, bringing the total to \$8 million. We are currently accepting pre-screening applications in 10 languages for the second round until June 19 at

12:00 p.m.

Our goal is to ensure housing stability for Bostonians who are out of work due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We recognize how profoundly the public health emergency is impacting people, and our response is focused on equity and protections for our most vulnerable populations.

The reason we are adding this money is that we expect low-income renters to remain in financial distress for some time. The state eviction moratorium that we helped to get in place will be lifted August 18, or 45 days after the State of Emergency ends. We have worked hard in the last couple of years to reduce evictions, and we have one of the lowest eviction rates in the country. We want to keep it that way. We want to make sure people can stay in their homes.

It's important to know that it is safe to apply for this fund. You will not be asked about your immigration status during the Rental Relief Fund process, and it does not affect immigration applications as a "public charge." Also, none of your information will be

shared with anyone else that's not processing your application. Our goal is to help anyone in need of rental assistance without fear or barriers.

So far, we have granted \$818,000 to 257 households across 17 neighborhoods to cover rent for April and May. That means 257 individuals or families are no longer facing potentially losing their housing or being displaced thanks to this Fund. We are currently in the process of reviewing more applications with our partner agencies and will continue to distribute money until the fund is depleted.

I know that the COVID-19 pandemic is affecting people in many ways, especially in vulnerable populations. As we begin to gradually and safely reopen, we will continue to provide support for students, seniors, immigrants and renters. The Rental Relief Fund is one step. If you have any questions, you can call the Office of Housing Stability at 617-635-4200, or you can visit [boston.gov/RentalRelief](http://boston.gov/RentalRelief).

*Martin J. Walsh is the Mayor of Boston.*

## REGIONAL REVIEW

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# Baker announced 50 pop-up COVID-19 testing locations; urges at risk people to get tested

By Lauren Bennett

Governor Charlie Baker announced on June 15 that there would be 50 pop-up COVID-19 testing sites throughout the Commonwealth, and urged anyone who has recently participated in a large gathering, such as a protest, to get tested for the virus.

Baker said on Monday that the average positive test rate in Massachusetts is down “to about three percent,” and about 1000 people remain hospitalized with the virus, which is down over 70 percent.

He said the state continues to see “positive incremental prog-

ress.” He said that about a week into Phase Two of the reopening process, outdoor dining, lodging, and summer camps are starting to reopen to the public with restrictions.

“Our progress to date is encouraging, but it doesn’t mean the virus has left town,” Baker said. “It’s up to all of us to continue to do the things that we know can kill COVID.”

On June 17 and June 18, 50 pop-up COVID-19 testing sites will be open to test “individuals who have recently attended large gatherings,” Baker said. “Anyone who has attended a large gathering over the last two weeks should get tested.” Test results will be

provided confidentially, and people are urged to share the results with their doctors. Baker said that these large gatherings where thousands of people have been coming together in large groups are coinciding with the reopening process.

“Any time large groups of people come together, there’s a risk for transmission,” he said. He said that he “certainly supports” people’s rights to peacefully protest, but “some people who have the virus don’t show symptoms and can spread the virus to others.” He said that even if “you’re feeling fine,” you should get tested anyway.

“Everyone’s done amazing work to keep people safe,” Baker

said. “Getting tested this week on one of those two days is a way to play your part.”

According to the state, Massachusetts has tested over 700,000 people to date for COVID-19. “The state currently has capacity at 45 labs to perform up to 30,000 COVID-19 tests per day, and its nursing home testing strategies have been replicated by states across the country,” according to a recent press release. “The Administration continues to prioritize expanding access to testing, with a key focus of that strategy being ensuring access to testing in skilled nursing facilities, rest homes, and assisted living residences and other 24/7 staffed

congregate care settings.”

The Baker-Polito Administration filed a federal plan on May 30 to expand testing under the Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act of 2020, from which the state has received \$374 million in federal funding, which will be used for increasing testing capacity, increasing access to testing for vulnerable and high-risk population, having the testing capacity to support a possible second surge, and more, the state said.

A complete list of pop-up testing sites is available at <https://www.mass.gov/gettested>.

# Walsh declares racism a public health emergency; 20% of police overtime budget go to communities

By Lauren Bennett

Mayor Walsh announced at a press conference on June 12 that he has declared racism a public health crisis in the City of Boston, as well as that he will allocate 20 percent (\$12 million) of the Boston Police Department’s (BPD) overtime budget to community programs for youth, food security, immigrant advancement, and more.

“We know about the inequalities in our country and we’re working everyday in the City of Boston to eliminate them,” he

said. “Equity has been the center of our response to the COVID-19 pandemic.”

Walsh said that “the public conversation changed” when George Floyd was murdered on May 25.

“Young people refused and still refuse to accept that injustice,” he said. “I’ve been listening to that movement...how racism shapes lives and hurts communities as we’re seeing here right now.”

He said that this announcement is “the beginning, not the end,” and more announcements are to come.

An initial investment of \$3 million from the police overtime budget will go to the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC), Walsh said.

“Racism is a driving force that shapes the access to the social determinants of health, like housing, education, and employment” Chief of Health and Human Services Marty Martinez said at the press conference, “The executive order...is an important step in ensuring attention and focus on this work and resources that will allow us to do what’s necessary.”

He said an eight-step strategy led by the BPHC along with the Department of Health and Human Services, which includes “policy and practice solutions that work to dismantle systemic racism and create barriers to strong public health,” as well as an assessment of health inequity in all policies to see where there are gaps. He also said a Boston Inequity Health Now plan would be created that “gets to the root causes of these inequities, not simply just respond to them.”

Martinez said that seeing where the gaps in the health system are will allow for the use of that data to “analyze the real facts” and “join advocacy at the state and national level for these policies.”

Walsh said that “in addition” to declaring racism a public health crisis, he is also “taking steps in law

enforcement accountability,” such as strengthening the existing community oversight panel. “These steps call for a 10 point action plan put forward by the Black and Latino Legislative Caucus and other elected officials of color in Boston and the Commonwealth.”

The BPD has completed a review of its use of force policy, Walsh said, “outlined by the national ‘8 Can’t Wait’ movement.”

He said as a result, the BPD is “clarifying rules to meet the standards, and has immediately implemented several reforms,” such as use of force policies “proven to reduce the likelihood of violence,” as well as a training program known as Ethical Policing is Courageous (EPIC).

“This means that officers will not only be required to intervene when they witness unnecessary use of force, they’ll be trained with strategies to preventing abuses and intervening if they occur,” he said.

Walsh also said that BPD “will no longer use the hair test for evidence of drug use in officers or recruits.”

Walsh said that the reallocation of 20 percent of the BPD overtime budget and the other measures announced are “certainly not enough,” and the City will “continue to make and demand change.”

He also announced what he called a “process for community

input, review, and reform.” He said that through this process, “all police use of force policies,” will be reviewed, and communities will be engaged by including the voices of a “diverse range of input, experiences, and stories.” He said the findings of the review would be reported to the community for feedback, after which all use of force policies would be reformed based on that feedback.

“Our process is not designed to delay change,” Walsh said. A new task force, led by Bostonians from civil rights organizations and led by former US Attorney Wayne Budd, will “conduct an immediate review of all police force policies,” as well as “provide guidance about how we strengthen the co-op board,” Walsh said. He said that the City “will be accepting any changes that they recommend,” and the task force is effective immediately.

“I pledge to make Boston a national leader in this work, and we are following through on our pledge,” Walsh said.

“It’s this kind of leadership that takes our whole City working together. I’m calling on all of us, every Bostonian, every elected official to be a part of the solution.” He said that “we must continue to listen to the voices at the center of the conversation” and that “systemic change must go far beyond law enforcement.”

## OPINION BY PHIL ORLANDELLA

### OUTDOOR DINING SETS THE STAGE FOR RE-OPENING OF EATERIES

The message that restaurants can open for outdoor dining spread through the North End faster than the famous call, the British are coming... The British are coming.

While no horseback riders or lantern signals carried the long-awaited message that restaurant owners wanted to hear, it spread faster than a speeding bullet, or the shot heard around the North End.

Outdoor dining is a step closer to allowing eateries to open indoors, conditionally, once a trial is blazed for a safe and healthy situation for everyone involved.

Reopening indoor dining could be the key to preventing bankruptcy and closure for many restaurants.

Hopefully, a reopen smoking

signal is cooking that will fire up restaurants to open their doors.

### ROMANO THE RIGHT MAN FOR THE JOB

City Hall has hired a former North End resident, 25-year-old John Romano as the new community liaison.

John is already working to provide residents, neighborhood organizations with information and statistics relating to COVID-19 and how the city plans to deal with the pandemic.

Once the virus situation has diminished, the University of Massachusetts graduate, appears ready to head out into the neighborhood to officially introduce himself to local neighborhood organizations and the business community.

He is extremely anxious to carry the community’s concerns and suggestions to City Hall.

It certainly appears that the North End/Waterfront has a solid liaison.

### FONG (from pg. 1)

community has always been the forefront of my philosophy and efforts,” he said. “If I have learned anything in my career, policing efforts are enhanced, strengthened and nurtured through strong com-

munity relationships.”

Captain Fong expressed his “gratefulness to the people of the North End for their continued support of the Boston Police Department (BPD)”.

BPD is expected to announce a replacement. Until then Sergeant Steve Moi will be the primary community desk contact along with officer Teddy Boyle.

# Walsh resubmits budget that invests in housing, education, public health and COVID-19 impact

Staff Report

Mayor Martin J. Walsh on June 15 resubmitted his Administration's Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21) budget, which builds on the Walsh Administration's record of presenting a balanced, sustainable and proactive budget that invests in the needs of our growing city, while also taking into account the economic impact COVID-19 has had on City revenue. The \$3.61 billion recommended budget represents an increase of \$119 million, or 3.4 percent over the FY20 budget, and the resubmission follows over 30 City Council hearings that helped identify opportunities for further targeted investments and cost-savings.

In this budget resubmission, the City has accounted for a projected \$65 million in revenue loss as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, \$30 million of which was initially accounted for in the Mayor's original budget proposal in April. Despite this lost revenue, and as a result of six consecutive years of proactive fiscal management that has positioned the City of Boston to continue investing in core city services and resident needs at a time of global economic uncertainty, the budget resubmission affirms Mayor Walsh's historic commitment made in his State of the City address in education and housing.

Through those commitments, the City will allocate \$80 million in new funding for the Boston

Public Schools to both meet the challenges of COVID-19 and work towards closing achievement and opportunity gaps. This budget marks the first year of the Mayor's \$100 million commitment to new revenue for direct classroom funding, over and above cost increases. This funding will reach every school in the Boston Public Schools district, and will begin with intense support for underperforming schools.

The budget also protects Mayor Walsh's unprecedented commitment of \$500 million over five years to create thousands of homes all across our city that will be affordable to residents at a range of income levels.

The FY21 budget fulfills the first year of the Mayor's commitment of City resources with an \$18 million investment in new operating and capital fundings. In the first year of this new housing investment, the City is dedicating new funds to create affordable homeownership opportunities, preserve and generate affordable rental opportunities including Boston's first City-funded rental voucher program.

"With this budget, we have an opportunity to seize the moment that is before us to make investments that are grounded in equity, inclusion and that are intentional about directing funding to places where we know it will have the greatest impact in benefitting our residents," said Mayor Walsh. "I am proud that thanks to years of careful fiscal stewardship, we are able to continue making smart

and strategic investments at a time when many residents need it most. I believe that with responsible fiscal planning, with investments in the equity, health and wellbeing of our residents, and with our spirit of courage and collaboration, we will emerge together from these crises stronger and more resilient than before."

As part of his budget resubmission, Mayor Walsh will reallocate 20% or \$12 million of the Boston Police Department's overtime budget to make a significant investment in equity and inclusion across the City. These investments include:

- \$3 million for the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) to begin implementation of the eight strategies outlined in Boston's declaration of racism as a public health crisis,

- \$1 million to support trauma teams and counseling services at the Boston Public Health Commission

- \$2 million in new funding for community based programs and supports through City departments, such as violence intervention grants, youth programming, language and food access, Immigrant Advancement, the Age Strong Commission and the Human Rights Commission,

- \$2 million for additional public mental health services through a partnership between the Boston Police Department and Boston Medical Center Emergency Services Program or BEST,

- \$2 million to support economic development initiatives

to support minority and women owned businesses and;

- \$2 million to provide additional housing supports and youth homelessness programs.

While the City has a growing tax revenue base, the City also continues to find efficiencies and prioritizes investing in innovative solutions to provide world-class City services. The FY21 budget resubmission includes an additional \$35 million in cost-saving measures across City departments through the implementation of a hiring freeze on non-essential vacant positions for six months, revisions to fixed costs like debt service, non-personal reductions and a revised snow removal appropriations based on updated projections for average actual spending. All told, the City has identified and closed a \$65 million budget gap amidst the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic while prioritizing bold investments and maintaining vital city services for residents.

For the sixth consecutive year, the City of Boston has received a AAA bond rating, reflecting the city's strong fiscal management and stable financial position. The City of Boston recently was named by Moody's as one of the best prepared cities to handle a national recession.

As part of his budget resubmission, Mayor Walsh is recommending the adoption of a Boston Public Schools budget of \$1.26 billion, representing an \$80 million or 7% increase over last year's budget. While this budget marks the

largest proposed BPS budget in the city's history, it is one that makes targeted investments in underperforming schools and has a baseline of equity across all investments. Public education spending remains over 40% of the City budget; education spending is up over \$440 million on an annual basis since FY14; and per-pupil spending at BPS will approach \$22,000, more than a 30% increase over the past six years.

As Boston vigilantly manages COVID-19 in our community, resources are embedded in all City departments in FY21 to continue the robust response and to keep our residents healthy and safe. Ensuring a well-funded Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) is especially vital to maintain this response and the FY21 budget includes a \$13 million increase, and over \$106 million total for BPHC. This level of investment will ensure a fully funded BPHC, Emergency Medical Service and Office of Recovery Services for next year, continue to fight the effects of COVID-19 and fund the first costs associated with the Mayor's recent declaration of racism as a public health crisis.

Mayor Walsh's FY21 budget continues to invest in preserving and creating a strong middle class, and creating equitable opportunities for all those who live in Boston. The FY21 budget supports Boston's long-term plan, Imagine Boston 2030.

For more information about the budget, visit Boston's budget website at [budget.boston.gov](http://budget.boston.gov).

## Two North Enders appointed to Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy board of directors

By John Lynds

Two North Enders were recently nominated and appointed to the Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy, the non-profit responsible for the management and care of The Greenway.

Both Conor Finley and Kirsten Hoffman of the North End were

nominated by State Representative Aaron Michlewitz for a four and half year and two and half year term respectively to the Conservancy's board of directors.

"In these challenging times, we are glad to have new members join our volunteer Board," said Chair of the Greenway Conservancy Board and Director at Goulston

& Storrs Doug Husid, "Their diverse knowledge and experience, passion for The Greenway, and connections to our community will help the Conservancy's continue to set the standard for great public spaces."

At public Board meetings this spring, the Greenway Conservancy Board of Directors welcomed Finley and Hoffman.

Finley has held several roles at Liberty Mutual Insurance, most recently as a Customer Experience Consultant. He previously worked for the Massachusetts Department of Transportation in real estate and asset development, general services, and the capital budget office.

As a contributor to [NorthEndWaterfront.com](http://NorthEndWaterfront.com), he covered downtown development

projects and community events.

Finley holds an undergraduate degree from Suffolk University and is currently pursuing his MBA at Boston University's Questrom School of Business.

Residing in Boston's North End, Finley serves on the planning committee for the annual fundraiser the North End Cornhole Classic, and is an avid runner.

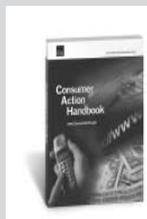
Hoffman is General Counsel for Beacon Capital Partners and a resident of the North End. Hoffman has a background in archaeology and real estate law.

Her interest in the City of Boston's history and architecture fuel her work as a member of the Boston Landmarks Commission and the Aberdeen Architectural Conservation District Commission. Hoffman

is a member of the Friends of Cuttillo Park. She holds a MA in Anthropology from the University of Arkansas and a JD from Harvard Law School.

"I am excited that the Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy has people like Conor and Kirsten as board members. With upstanding people like them as members of the Board, I know that the Greenway will continue to thrive", said Rep. Michlewitz.

While Executive Director of the Greenway Conservancy Jesse Brackenbury commented, "I'm delighted to be working with Conor and Kirsten. With their help, we will continue to make The Greenway a park that is welcoming to all."



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# Developer proposes reducing Winthrop Center's residential component

By Dan Murphy

As construction continues on what will be the fourth tallest building in the city and the tallest structure in Downtown Crossing, the developer of the \$1.35 billion, mixed-use Winthrop Center in the Financial District is seeking to reduce the skyscraper's proposed residential component in response to current economic uncertainty.

Millennium Partners Boston filed a notice of project change with the city's Boston Planning and Development Agency on June 10 requesting the elimination of the residential component in the east tower, which was approved by the city last year. This reduction in residential space would decrease its residential gross-square footage from approximately 662,825 to around 572,283. The number of residential units would also be reduced from 387, as was previously approved, to approximately 321 as a result of this change. In total, the project would be decreased from 1,545,021 to 1,447,000 gross square feet.

The building's height of 691 feet will remain the same, as would proposed parking provisions, office and retail space and the Great Hall/Connector, which will provide 2,400 square feet of public meeting space.

"In response to changing market conditions due to the global impact of COVID-19, Millennium Partners Boston is reducing the scale of the residential portion of the project by 14 percent while keeping its signature height intact and maintaining the building's

integration of core design principles developed in conjunction with MIT professors," a press release from the developer reads in part. "The COVID-19 pandemic has had a wide-reaching effect, from impacting the construction process to infiltrating the banking environment. Adjusting the building in response to new economic constraints, Millennium Partners Boston's priority is to move the building into the next phase of construction and ensure no compromise is made in the quality, safety, comfort, and well-being that Winthrop Center will deliver to occupants as Boston emerges from COVID-19."

Winthrop Center is being built on the site of a former city-owned garage in Winthrop Square, which Millennium Partners purchased from the city up front nearly two years ago for \$102 million. The developer still owes the city more than \$50 million from the transaction, however.

BPDA Director Brian Golden said in a statement: "The sale of the Winthrop Square garage was, and still remains, the most lucrative sale of City-owned property in the City's history for City of Boston residents. By selling a dilapidated, vacant garage in downtown Boston that was generating no revenue, the City of Boston will be able to make unprecedented investments in public housing and open space. The project will transform the garage into a unique, mixed-use tower that will bring public realm improvements to the surrounding neighborhood and more afford-

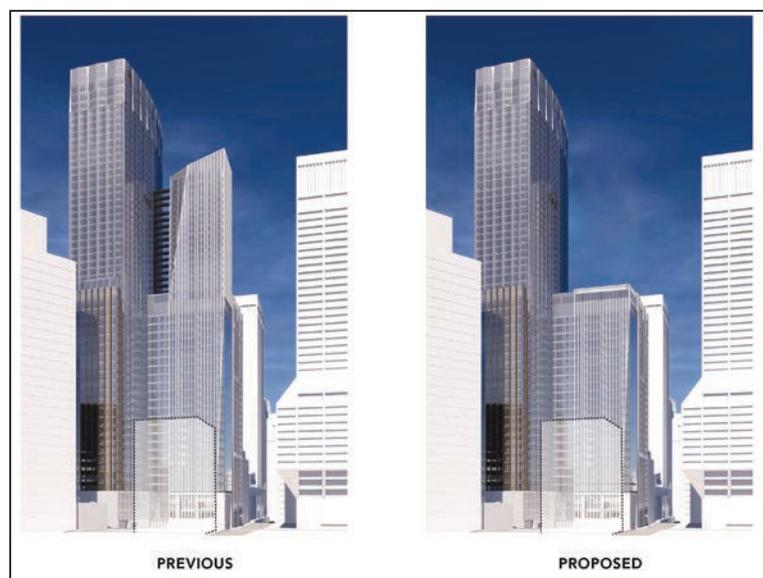
able housing to downtown. The BPDA is reviewing the Notice of Project Change filed and commissioning a third party independent evaluation of the current market for high-rise condominium financing and their request to modify the approved project due to financing challenges during the ongoing global pandemic. The approval of Millennium's proposed changes will not go forward until that review and a public process alongside the community is complete."

Millennium Partners has also requested that the BPDA allow changes to the developer's affordable housing agreement with the city because the residential units would initially be positioned as rentals.

State Rep. Jay Livingstone said he is eager to find out what the proposed project change would ultimately mean regarding the developer's affordable housing obligation.

"I have been assured by the BPDA that it will not change the mitigation due to the Friends of the Public Garden and the Boston Common," Rep Livingstone added.

Liz Vizza, executive director of the Friends of the Public Garden, a nonprofit that along with the Boston Parks Department maintains the Public Garden, the Common and the Commonwealth Avenue Mall, said, "We are pleased to see that Millennium's changes to their Winthrop Square project will not result in further shadow impacts to the parks, and that they will continue to honor their commitments, including \$28



Courtesy of Millennium Partners Boston

Renderings show Winthrop Center before and after the proposed elimination of the residential component of the east tower.

million for Boston Common Foundation to benefit the care of and funding through the Fund all three parks." for Historic Parks at The Boston

## Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy announces return of seasonal favorites

In line with guidance from the City and Commonwealth, the Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy is excited to announce the return of seasonal favorites on The Greenway.

The Greenway Conservancy is turning on the Greenway Fountains for the 2020 season, with daily hours of 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. The Chinatown Stream, Harbor Fog Sculpture, Rings Fountain, Labyrinth Fountain, Split Dodecahedron Sculpture, and South Canal Fountain are all operating as of Tuesday. The Conservancy will turn on the North Canal Fountain in the next week when current repair work is completed.

The Greenway PlayCubes in Chin Park have been closed since March 18 and have reopened

Tuesday for children with a supervising adult.

The Greenway Open Market, operated by New England Open Markets, will be returning for the season this upcoming Saturday, June 20 and Sunday, June 21. The Open Market will take place every Saturday and first and third Sundays of the month from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on The Greenway.

The Greenway Carousel at the Tiffany & Co. Foundation Grove will be opening for the season in the next several weeks with a limited Friday to Sunday schedule. Our beer and wine gardens are in the process of reviewing guidelines and planning.

The Greenway Food Truck Program is running on a limited schedule and the Boston Public Market at Dewey Square has

returned for the season, once again bringing locally-sourced food to those who live or work downtown from local farmers and small businesses. Farmers market vendors are proud to accept SNAP/EBT and HIP for all eligible products.

All Greenway programming features enhanced cleaning and physical distancing procedures to promote safety for our park visitors. You can learn more about changes to Conservancy programming in the park and response to COVID-19 in our blog post, COVID-19 - Updates from the Greenway Conservancy. This information will continue to be regularly updated; you can also sign up for regular email updates from the Conservancy on our webpage.

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## DINING (from pg. 1)

and customers are now more generous than ever when it comes to tipping their servers.

"People really were so generous that [servers] received double what they've ever received in the past," he said. "[Some former employees] who haven't worked for me in a long time also now want to return."

Building on this success, DePasquale plans to reopen another of his neighborhood eateries, AquaPazza, on Friday, June 19, for dinner service only, as well as Assaggio, also located in the North End, the following week. His Fratelli Restaurant at the Boston Harbor Casino is set to reopen for outdoor dining June 29 as well.

In fact, business has been so good DePasquale plans to open a valet station at Cross Street for the benefit of diners from the suburbs.

Antico Forno, another North

End restaurant allowed to reopen Thursday, chose to hold off until the following evening out of deference to the weatherman.

"We didn't open Thursday because there was rain in the forecast so we kind of dodged a bullet, but we're just happy to get going again," said Bobby Agrippino, one of the managers of the Salem Street restaurant.

In keeping with social-distancing guidelines, Antico Forno was only allowed to set up seven tables outside, which resulted in a steady influx of customers Saturday night to the point where they too had to turn business away. But Agrippino attributes some occupied tables in part to customers wanting to stay a little longer and savor the experience of dining out again.

"We usually turn over tables fairly quickly outside, but since the weather was nice and people were so happy to be back to dine, they

stayed a little longer than usual," he said. "Compared to a regular Saturday night, we were at about 25 percent occupancy, but we're encouraged that we got the ball rolling, got back to work and got some momentum. We're just glad we're open, so we're elated right now."

But despite his apparent enthusiasm, Agrippino said Antico Forno wouldn't be sustainable in the long term at this rate, especially considering the exorbitant rent it now pays to occupy its current location, as well as for its sister establishment across the street, Terramia Ristorante.

"Outside seating only isn't going to cut it," he said, "and once we do open and go back to full capacity, we're going to be stuck between a rock and hard place, so we're taking it one day at a time."

As DePasquale sees it, though, this marks the beginning of a

promising new chapter for the North End and its dining scene, albeit one that is arriving long overdue.

"Everyone was coming from all areas of the city to visit the North End - it was like a Feast... and it brought back the feeling of

being in Italy," he said. "Everyone said it should've happened 30 years ago. It's one big family in the North End. It's always been the greatest neighborhood in the country, and this takes it one step further."



Modern Pastry Shop on Hanover Street.

D. Murphy photos



Outdoor diners at Bricco Ristorante & Enoteca on Hanover Street.



Trattoria il Panino on Parmenter Street.



Benevento's restaurant on Salem Street.

# North Washington Street Bridge

## (Charlestown Bridge) Construction Look-Ahead:

This is a brief overview of construction operations and impacts for the North Washington Street Bridge Replacement Project. MassDOT will provide additional notices as needed for high-impact work and changes to traffic configurations beyond those described below.

### TRAVEL IMPACTS

**•N. WASHINGTON STREET INBOUND:** Off-peak daytime lane reductions across the bridge and additional lane reductions at Keany Square will continue. One lane across the bridge and all turn movements will be available from 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. on weekdays.

**•N. WASHINGTON STREET OUTBOUND:** Off-peak daytime lane reductions will continue across the bridge to City Square. One lane across the bridge and all turn movements will be available from 7:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. on weekdays.

### DESCRIPTION OF SCHEDULED WORK

•Construction of the temporary pedestrian/vehicle bridge including installation of the temporary fender system, assembling, drainage work, building of and welding of bridge spans, supports, and columns.

### WORK HOURS

•Daytime (6:00 a.m.– 3:00 p.m.) for general work.

•During the daytime In continuous two shifts (6:00 a.m. – 1:00 a.m) crews will work to install the temporary bridge fender system in the Charles River. The two shifts will continue for about a month.

### WORK THAT HAS BEEN

### COMPLETED

•Further construction of the temporary pedestrian/vehicle bridge, drainage work, and building fender installation.

### TRAVEL TIPS

**PEDESTRIANS AND CYCLISTS:** The bridge's eastern sidewalk is open and available to all pedestrians and cyclists with crossings at both Keany and City Squares. Please be advised that the DCR-controlled Charlestown locks can provide another alternate route but may close without warning and beyond control of this project. During Tudor Wharf walkway closures, pedestrian access will be provided via the Water Street underpass and guidance signage will be provided.

All users should take care to pay attention to all signage and police details and move carefully through the work zone. Police details, lane markings, temporary barriers, traffic cones, signage, and other tools will be used to control traffic and create safe work zones.

The contractor is coordinating with the TD Garden and local police to provide awareness and manage traffic impacts during events. For your awareness, there will be no events at the TD Garden during this look ahead schedule.

MassDOT is also working on the Tobin Bridge/Chelsea Curves Rehabilitation Project, which requires significant traffic impacts including 24/7 lane closures. For information or to sign up for project-specific construction look-aheads like this one, visit the project website.

# COVID-19 update for North End

By John Lynds

After a 31 percent spike in two weeks last month the COVID-19 infection rate in the North End has leveled out with very few new cases. .

According to the latest data released by the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) on Friday the North End, as well as West End, Beacon Hill, Back Bay and Downtown the infection rate rose only 2 percent in the past two weeks.

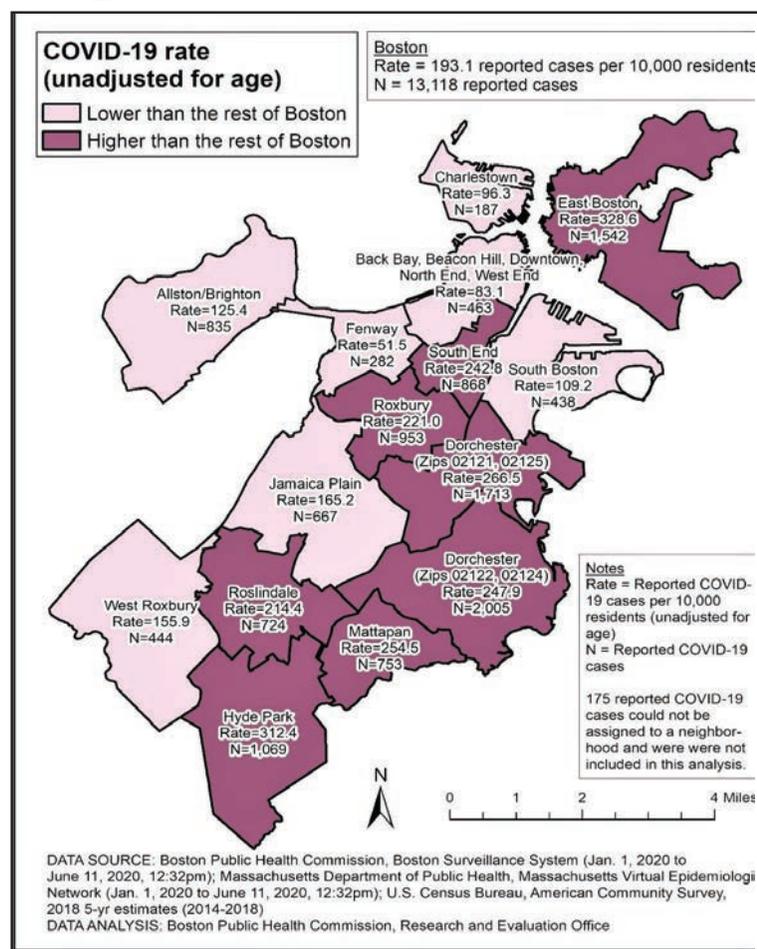
On Friday the BPHC released its weekly COVID-19 stats by neighborhood that tracks infection rates and COVID testing results in Boston neighborhoods.

The BPHC data released last Friday showed the North End, West End, Beacon Hill, Back Bay and Downtown had an infection rate of 83.2 cases per 10,000 residents, up from 81.5 cases per 10,000 residents two week ago.

The last time the North End Regional Review reported on COVID data by neighborhood, the North End, West End, Beacon Hill, Back Bay and Downtown saw a 31 percent jump over the course of two weeks with the infection rate climbing from 62.3 cases per 10,000 residents to 81.5 cases per 10,000 residents.

The number of confirmed cases in the area increased from 454 two weeks ago to 463 cases.

When compared to other neighborhoods the North End, West End, Beacon Hill, Back Bay and Downtown has the second lowest infection rates among residents second to only Fenway.



On Friday the BPHC released its weekly COVID-19 stats by neighborhood that tracks infection rates and COVID testing results in Boston neighborhoods.

The North End is also well below the city's average infection rate of 193.1 cases per 10,000 residents.

The stats released by the BPHC as part of its weekly COVID-19 report breaks down the number of cases and infection rates in each neighborhood. It also breaks down the number of cases by age,

gender and race.

Citywide positive cases of coronavirus rose only 1.2 percent from 13,026 cases to 13,186 in a week. So far 8,214 Boston residents have fully recovered from the virus.

Deaths from COVID-19 rose 2.4 percent from 666 deaths to the 682 deaths reported last week.

## STATUE (from pg. 1)

Historians now widely agree with his enslavement of the indigenous population in his quest for gold and his brutal subjugation of the Taíno people of Hispaniola, leading to their near-extinction.

In recent years the Christopher Columbus statue in the park has been the subject of vandalism, beheadings and graffiti with some calling for its removal due to his alleged hand in indigenous genocide in the Americas.

Last week, during the racial unrest that has swept across the nation, the Columbus statue was again vandalized.

First, red paint was thrown at the statue and Black Lives Matter spray painted at the base. Then a few days later the statue was decapitated.

The statue has since been removed by the City of Boston and is being stored in a warehouse by the city.

“We cannot condone vandalism, and it needs to stop,” said Mayor Martin Walsh of the statue’s removal. “This particular statue has been subject to repeated vandalism in Boston, and given the conversations that we’re having right now in our City and throughout the country, we’re also going to take the time to assess the historic meaning of the statue.”

Walsh added no formal decision has been made regarding the future of the Christopher Columbus statue.

Rep. Aaron Michlewitz, who represents and lives in the North End, said vandalism to private or public property is a completely wrong way to go about making a case for change, and that holds true on the vandalism that took place at Columbus Park.

“While Christopher Columbus has a complex history and symbolizes many different things to

different people, there is a lot more to the history of the park than just the naming of it,” said Michlewitz. “That park was built in the late 1960s/early 1970s under Mayor Kevin White and designed by his Parks Director Tony Forgione. It was fought for by the North End people, who were at risk of watching their entire waterfront turn into development. The statue was placed later on as a celebration of Italian heritage and was paid for by the families that surround the base of the statue. Some of those families were original North End immigrant families and their memory to this community will not be removed.”

Already, many local Italian groups are calling for the statue to be put back in place at the public park and will be meeting with the Mayor.

Groups that will meet with the Mayor are the Sons and Daughters

of Italy, UNICO, Foundation of Italian Organizations, St. Joseph’s Society, Pirandello Lyceum and the Italian American Alliance.

Michlewitz added that if the city wants to have a dialogue about the future of the statue and the park North Enders should be part of those discussions.

“I ask that the North End Community and the Friends of Christopher Columbus Park are the ones that lead the process on how to move forward,” he said. “I ask that the celebration of Italian Heritage, which built this community to its strength of today, be the focus of any discussion.”

“I will be working to make sure we have a dedication to Italian heritage that is protected and honored for generations to come,” said City Councilor Lydia Edwards.



Last week red paint was thrown at the Christopher Columbus statue in the North End and Black Lives Matter spray painted at the base.

# NEWNC approves beer, wine and cordials license transfer

By Phil Orlandella

COVID-19 distancing measure forced the North End/Waterfront Neighborhood Council (NEWNC) to conduct a virtual via Zoom monthly meeting on June 8.

Members that participated voted to support a request by Dolce, Inc. d/b/a Dolce to transfer ownership of a beer, wine and cordials license formally exercised by the Pushcart Café, 115 Salem Street (12am closure) to Dolce at 272 Hanover Street.

Sherri Snow, Executive Director, North End Music and Performing Arts Center (NEMPAC) provided the community organization with an update regarding virtual programming status of performances this season and information regarding the organization's facilities located in the Prado, Paul Revere Mall.

Rick Musial, Jr., Vice-President,

External Relations for the New England Aquarium, discussed congressional assistance for non-profit organization-institutions such as aquariums, museums and zoos.

He also presented an update on current activities at the Aquarium.

NEWNC recently selected officers, committee chairs and lie liaisons.

2020-2021 Officers:

President: Brett Roman

Vice President: Joel Faller

Secretary: Ashley Leo

Sargeant at Arms: Tania Green

2020-2021 Committee

Liaisons:

Public Safety: Tania Green

Resident Parking/Traffic: Joel Faller

Greenway: Carmine Guarino

Harborfront Neighborhood

Alliance: Kevin Fleming

RUFF: Ashley Leo

Marie Simboli: A lifelong resident of the North End and being on the

NEWNC for over 20 years will be serving 2 more years. Her primary interest on NEWNC has been about the concerns of the North End Residents and our elderly residents.

Joel (Jody) Faller: A 16-year North End resident, who lives with his wife and 2 children. He is an attorney specializing in litigation, focused on business and real estate disputes at the Boston law firm, The McLaughlin Brothers, P.C. Jody is a graduate of the University of Virginia and the University of Michigan Law School. He has been a member of NEWNC since 2018.

Kevin Fleming: Has lived in the North End since 2000, originally on Fleet Street and now at the corner of Commercial and Richmond with his wife, Kate. I am on the Condo Board of my current building and was also on the board when I lived on Fleet Street. The North End/Waterfront faces many

challenges now: preparing for rising sea levels, recovering businesses from the current pandemic, revitalizing and re-purposing vacant storefronts, maintaining the unique character of the neighborhood, increasing green space and tree cover, and ensuring that the North End/Waterfront continues to be a vibrant neighborhood that people live in, as opposed to merely an investment opportunity.

Kevin Drew: Originally from Andover, MA. He attended Umass Amherst and work in Boston for the Mass State Supplement Program as well as bartending part time. He has always been passionate about helping others and saw this opportunity as a chance to connect further with his neighbors. I has resided on Salem Street for the last 6 years.

During this time he has built relationships with several neighbors, restaurant owners, and other community members and is happy

to call the North End his home.

Rory Harrington: Raised in Wakefield, MA and has been a resident of the North End for the past five years. He is active in the Boston community serving as the North End representative for Mayor Walsh's SPARK Council. He is a skilled non-profit fundraiser and is currently Senior Leadership Giving Officer at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Brett Roman: After moving to the North End in 2012, he started off as an intern for NEWNC in 2013 and is beginning his 3rd term on the Council. He is actively engaged with coaching in the North End Youth Hockey Program and the North End Little League Programs. Additionally he is the active President of the North End Clean Streets Initiative and is also involved with the Harborfront Neighborhood Alliance and the Friends of Cuttillo Park.

## NEWRA approves beer, wine and cordials license transfer

By Phil Orlandella

A virtual meeting via Zoom was held by the North End/Waterfront Residents' Association (NEWRA) on Thursday, June 11.

Some elected officials including Mayor Martin Walsh and State

Representative Aaron Michlewitz, Chair of the House Ways and Means Committee attended the meeting.

Many NEWRA members participated in the virtual meeting that has been labeled a success.

The community organization

voted 15-3 to support an application to transfer a beer and wine with cordials license to Dolce Inc., 272 Hanover Street from the Pushcart on Salem Street. Closing hours of 12 AM. No other operational changes were proposed.

## National leading grassroots organization, Indivisible, endorses Markey for U.S. Senate

Indivisible, a national, progressive grassroots organization with over a million members across the country, today announced its endorsement of Ed Markey for re-election to the United States Senate.

"Senator Markey is a model progressive legislator: consistent, accountable to his constituents, and ready to fight for a more just and equitable future. He is a leader in the climate movement and a champion for a more just, sustainable, and livable future," said Lucy Solomon, IE Director for Indivisible. "Senator Markey consistently demonstrates progressive leadership and vision by prioritizing working people and marginalized communities, and we're excited to continue this work with him."

"It's an honor to receive this endorsement from such a grassroots powerhouse as Indivisible," said Senator Markey. "Progressive action starts at the grassroots level, and in order to defeat Donald Trump, take back the

Senate from Mitch McConnell, and keep our House majority, we need groups like Indivisible. I stand with Indivisible on the need to stop the dangerous effects of climate change, to increase access to health care, and racial and economic justice. I am grateful to them for their support."

Indivisible's mission is to educate and activate voters and hold elected officials accountable to the values of equality, justice, compassion, and inclusion and to elect progressive leaders.

The endorsement follows the recent announcements of support for Ed Markey from several major groups across the state, including American Federation of Teachers, Massachusetts Indivisible Northampton, Our Revolution Massachusetts, Planned Parenthood Action Fund, NARAL Pro-Choice, Progressive Democrats of America, the NRDC Action Fund, the Jamacia Plain Progressives, American Postal Workers Local #4553, and UNITE Here Local 26 labor union work-

ers.

Indivisible is a grassroots movement of thousands of local groups with a mission to elect progressive leaders, rebuild our democracy, and defeat the Trump agenda. The organization is composed of thousands of group leaders and more than a million members taking action to resist the GOP's extreme agenda, elect local champions, and fight for progressive policies.

Senator Markey has served in the United States Senate since winning the special election in 2013 and has amassed a deep record on environmental, climate, gun safety, and consumer protection issues. He co-authored the Green New Deal, and his leadership has led to legislation to address the humanitarian crisis on the southern border, protect LGBTQ+ rights, and ensure that Donald Trump cannot launch a nuclear first strike without Congressional approval. Raised in Malden, Ed Markey has always stood up for the priorities of Massachusetts.

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# T's FMCB approves four-year extension of contract

With the goal of incentivizing better service now and providing cost certainty in a challenging market among other objectives, today the MBTA's Fiscal and Management Control Board (FMCB) approved of a four-year extension of the Commuter Rail Operating contract between the MBTA and Keolis Commuter Services, LLC, through June 30, 2026.

"Our main goals are to provide continuity and the best possible service for our Commuter Rail customers, as well as provide adequate time to plan for a future transformational procurement. With this extension in place, we look forward to continuing this partnership with Keolis," said MBTA General Manager Steve Poflak. "This extension includes a number of additional benefits for riders, including further incentives for on-time performance, measures to address fare evasion, and flexibility and cost certainty in a challenging market."

"We're pleased the MBTA recommended and the board voted to extend Keolis' contract for four years, exercising the full term of the contract options," said CEO and General Manager of Keolis Commuter Services David Scorey. "This extension balances taxpayer and passenger needs as it keeps costs low while also enhancing the passenger experience, including a focus on providing more capacity, further increasing on-time performance and accelerating capital delivery. On behalf of our Keolis

Boston team, we look forward to continuing our collaborative work with the MBTA and building upon the successful initiatives we've delivered together for the Commonwealth and our Commuter Rail passengers."

Keolis Commuter Services is the MBTA's contracted Commuter Rail operating partner with Keolis currently providing all mechanical, transportation, and engineering services. The eight-year contract that began July 1, 2014, and is set to expire June 30, 2022, included options for two two-year extensions through 2024 and 2026. The MBTA's contract with Keolis is performance-based with the contract including a fixed price for a certain level of service and penalties related to on-time performance and passenger comfort. In collaboration with the MBTA during the current contract period, Keolis has added 10,000 more trains per year compared to 2014, including new weekend train service, piloted routes, and other services; deployed customer improvements that include technology that allows passengers to pay for tickets onboard with credit and debit cards; and reinforced safety management protocols that include an expanded and updated Safety Department.

This four-year extension now also includes a number of additional benefits that include:

- Incentives for improved Commuter Rail service immediately through performance payments for on-time performance, train crew staffing, and seating capacity, which are designed to achieve service outcomes and promote continuous improvement. These incentives related to performance are worth a potential total of \$5 million per year in fiscal years 2021-2026.

- Measures to address fare evasion/non-collection through the continuation of the Revenue Share Agreement for fiscal years 2023-2026, including the installation of automated fare gates that will significantly reduce ticketless travel. Train crew staffing incentives will also result in additional conductors onboard trains to check tickets.

- Investments in MBTA railroad infrastructure and assets, including incentives to accelerate capital investments that include early phases of Rail Transformation.

- Increased fleet availability and reliability through improved management of Mechanical Parts in

# OBITUARIES

## William Faria

Beloved teacher of electronics and life lessons; if you met him, he was your friend



William G. Faria, 87, of Lynnfield, formerly from the North End of Boston and Revere, died at his home on Friday,

May 22.

Born in Boston on August 14, 1932, he was the son of the late Carlos P. and Rose (DeBellis) Faria. He was a graduate of Boston English High School, Fitchburg State College and received his Master of Education from Salem State College. Bill was a U.S. Air Force Korean War Veteran, a Staff Sargent serving from 1952 to 1956.

He worked for the Raytheon Corporation and taught at Lynnfield High School, Shawsheen Tech High School, Revere High School, Malden High School and Mass Bay Community College. He was a beloved teacher of electronics and life lessons!

He adored being a drama coach, serving for more than 25 years on the board of the Mass High School Drama Guild. He loved performing as the Singing Godfather in local nursing homes and family weddings. He was also a member of St. Maria Goretti Choir for more than 20 years.

If you met him, he was your friend. Bill made everyone feel loved in his presence and you felt happy. He cherished the amazing number of friendships that he made over the years, along with his large extended families. Bill traveled the world, loved cruising and meeting new people.

He was a resident of Lynnfield for the past 43 years and was Lynnfield High School and North Reading High School number one sports fan. He was also a member



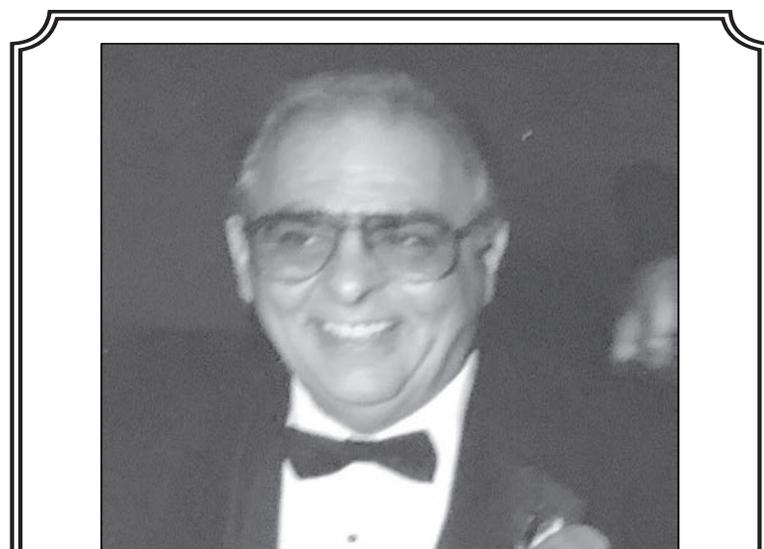
of the Friends of the North End and the Sons of Italy.

Family members include his loving wife of 57 years, Carolyn (Addesa) Faria; his son, William Carlos and his wife, Ellen; his daughters, Marlene Connelly and her husband, David, Nancy Meaney and her husband, John, and Janice Gagne and her husband, Darrell; his grandchildren, Matthew, Jack, Joseph, Aidan and Lauren. He was the brother of the late Carlos, the late Emily Carten, and Marie Scapicchio and the brother in law of Frances Addesa, Domenic Sarcia. Irving Byer, the late John Addesa and the late Rosemary Sarcia.

Funeral services will be private due to the current COVID-19 situation. A Memorial Mass will be celebrated at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in his memory to the Bill Faria Memorial Scholarship

Fund, c/o Wakefield Cooperative Bank, 596 Main St. Lynnfield, MA 01940. Arrangements are by the Croswell Funeral Home, 19 Bow St. North Reading, MA

[www.croswellfuneralhome.com](http://www.croswellfuneralhome.com)



### 1<sup>ST</sup> Year Memoriam

## Joseph 'Joe D' DiFronzo

Sept. 20, 1938 — June 22, 2019

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*Always*

*Love Joanne*

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# THE NORTH END

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### Baker recently tours MBTA Blue Line work

By John Lynds

Last week Governor Charlie Baker used the Maverick MBTA station as the backdrop to his daily Covid-19 press briefing and to highlight the accelerated infrastructure work on the Blue Line that wrapped up Sunday.

Baker was joined by Transportation Secretary and CEO Stephanie Pollack, General Manager Steve Poflak, and other officials and toured the Blue Line work.

The project began on May 18 and the MBTA fully closed down the Blue Line from Airport to Bowdoin stations for 14 days and ran shuttle busses instead of train service until Sunday.

The goal was to allow for accelerated track and infrastructure work to take place while ridership and traffic is at an all time low due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The work was originally going to be spread out over a longer period of time and only on weekends.

"This Blue Line work is part of our administration's plan to invest \$8 billion in a safer and more reliable MBTA by replac-

### North End restaurant owners await city guidance for reopening

By John Lynds

Dozens of restaurants line the North End's Hanover Street and many are tucked down the neighborhood's side streets and survive on the bustling foot traffic as tourists descend on Boston in the summer months.

As the state released its Phase II guidelines for restaurants to start reopening on May 29, owners of restaurants here are anxiously awaiting further instructions from the City of Boston on how they can safely reopen.

Because Boston has been a COVID-19 hotspot, Mayor Martin Walsh has been cautious in applying the state's phased reopening plans to the city. For example, during Phase I Walsh waited until June 1 to start allowing some offices and businesses to reopen at limited capacities.

According to administration



Gov. Charlie Baker, joined by Sen. Joseph Boncore, City Councilor Lydia Edwards and Speaker Robert DeLeo, talks with MBTA workers.

### North End/West End City Liaison hired

By Phil Orlandella

Former North End resident John Romano appears to have all the tools and energy to become an asset to the 3 neighborhoods he will represent as the new liaison for Boston Mayor Martin Walsh.

John's turf will cover the North End, Waterfront and West End replacing Maria Lanza.

If the name sounds for me year, it should, he is the son of community activist John and Patricia Romano who are very active and NEAD, NEAA, Nazzaro Community Center and other organization.

The new liaison has been extremely active in the community

### Lack of candidates cancel NEWNC election

By Phil Orlandella

It didn't come as a surprise that there wouldn't be enough (7) candidates to make a competitive contest for the yearly North End/Waterfront Neighborhood Council (NEWNC) election.

For the past three years the same situation has occurred and every candidate that filed nomination papers with 40 signatures from Ward III, Precincts 1, 2, 3 and 4 were automatically placed on the Council for two-year terms.

One reason for the lack of candidates was attempting to get the signatures during the stay home suggestions and the closure of many neighborhood organizations, making it a real challenge to secure the proper signatures.

"NEWNC waited as long as possible before canceling the election," President Brett Roman stated.

NEWNC apparently did everything possible to conduct a public community election to no avail.

Another obstacle was the availability of the Nazzaro Community Center, NEWNC's usual polling site, is closed and there was no word from the city when and if it would be open in time for a September 19 election.

The candidates that did take the time to secure the necessary signatures to become Council members by default are: Marie Simboli, Joel Faller, Rory Harrington, Kevin Drew and Kevin Fleming.

NEWNC has elected officers and committee chair.



John Romano.

when he was younger, volunteering with North End Against Drugs (NEAD) of which his father is President.

He is a graduate of the University of Massachusetts Lowell with a Bachelor's Degree (BA) and Mathematics and Higher Education Administration graduate and in 2016 and 2018.

The 25-year-old told the Review he is, "Passionate about community engagement and can't wait to attend neighborhood meetings to introduce himself and work with residents, organizations and the business community once things begin to reopen."

Currently, John is sending out emails on the status of the virus as it affects the neighborhood in general, as well as general community news.

John can be reached at 617-635-4987.

Visit [www.northendregional.com](http://www.northendregional.com)

Email [stephen.quigley@reverejournal.com](mailto:stephen.quigley@reverejournal.com) or [deb@bostonsun.com](mailto:deb@bostonsun.com) or call 781-485-0588 for your Regional Review information

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# LEGAL NOTICE

## LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT

Suffolk Division  
24 New Chardon St.  
Boston, MA 02114  
(617)788-8300  
TRUST CITATION  
Docket No. SU20PO550PO  
Irrevocable Agreement of Arthur J. Dube  
In the matter Of:  
To all interested persons: A Petition has been filed by: PNC Bank National Association of Pittsburgh, PA requesting PNC Bank, National Association.

First Justice of this Court.  
Date: May 20, 2020  
Felix D. Arroyo  
Register of Probate  
6/18/20 RR

## LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT

Suffolk Probate And Family Court  
24 New Chardon St.  
Boston, MA 02114  
(617)788-8300  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION  
Docket No. SU20PO873EA  
Estate of: Lee H. Kozol  
Date of Death: 04/24/2020

To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Gail M. Kozol of Boston, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Gail M. Kozol of Boston, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in an unsupervised administration.  
IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 07/22/2020.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you. UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: June 10, 2020  
Felix D. Arroyo  
Register of Probate

6/18/20 RR

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## CONSERVANCY ELECTS TWO NEW BOARD MEMBERS

The Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy has elected two new members to its volunteer Board of Directors.

Conor Finley, Customer Experience Consultant at Liberty Mutual Insurance and Kirsten Hoffman, General Council, Beacon Capital Partners.

## CITY SUMMER JOBS

The Mayor's Summer Jobs Program will continue this year for ages 14-21. All participants must meet anticipated public health guidelines. Students work a minimum of 25 hours per week for six- weeks and are paid \$12.75 per hour.

For more information or to apply call 617-635-4202.

## FOCCP VIRTUAL MEETING

Friends of Christopher Columbus Park (FOCCP) held its first virtual monthly meeting on Tuesday, June 9 for one hour.

One of the topics was membership or no membership for 2020.

## NORTH END DOG PARK OPEN

Responsible Urbanites for Fido (RUFF) wants canines to return to the North End Dog Park in DeFilippo Park.

They would also like to have dog owners send in interesting photos of their pets for a project being worked on.

The hours of operation for the North End Park on Richmond Street is 6 AM to 9 PM, 24/7.

## EVENTS IN COLUMBUS PARK

- Everyday-2 Hopscotch Grids.
- October 3-Fall Festival.
- November 23-Trellis Lighting Ceremony.

All usual events have been canceled.

## ANNUAL MAYOR'S GARDEN CONTEST

The 24th annual Mayor's Garden Contest will take place this year keeping within current social distancing guidelines.

Participants will have until 11:59 PM on Friday, July 10 to register.

Details and a list of eligible Gardens visit the contest website.

## SAVE THE HARBOR/ SAVE THE BAY VIDEO

In anticipation of beaches opening, Save the Harbor/Save the Bay has provided a short video guideline to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and keep the beaches safe and open this summer.

The video has been placed on the group's Facebook, [www.facebook.com/savetheharbor](http://www.facebook.com/savetheharbor).

## NEW PARK RULES

New state rules and regulations for the usage of the North End Dog Park located in DeFilippo Park, adjacent to Snow Hill and Prince Streets, are hung on the entry gates and within the park, according to Responsible Urbanites for Fido (RUFF).

## NEAD SCHOLARSHIPS

North End Against Drugs (NEAD) has announced that they

are accepting applications for this year's scholarship program. For more information email John Romano at [jromano45@gmail.com](mailto:jromano45@gmail.com).

## FILE CENSUS FORMS

The 2020 Federal Census is being conducted online and residents are encouraged to participate in the movement, which has an impact on the State and City.

## MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Friends of Christopher Columbus Park (FOCCP) is currently conducting its annual membership drive. For more info visit [www.foccp.org](http://www.foccp.org).

## RMV DEALS WITH COVID-19

Since Governor Charlie Baker declared a State of Emergency the week of March 19, the Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) has implemented measures to reduce the number of people gathering on a daily basis at their sites.

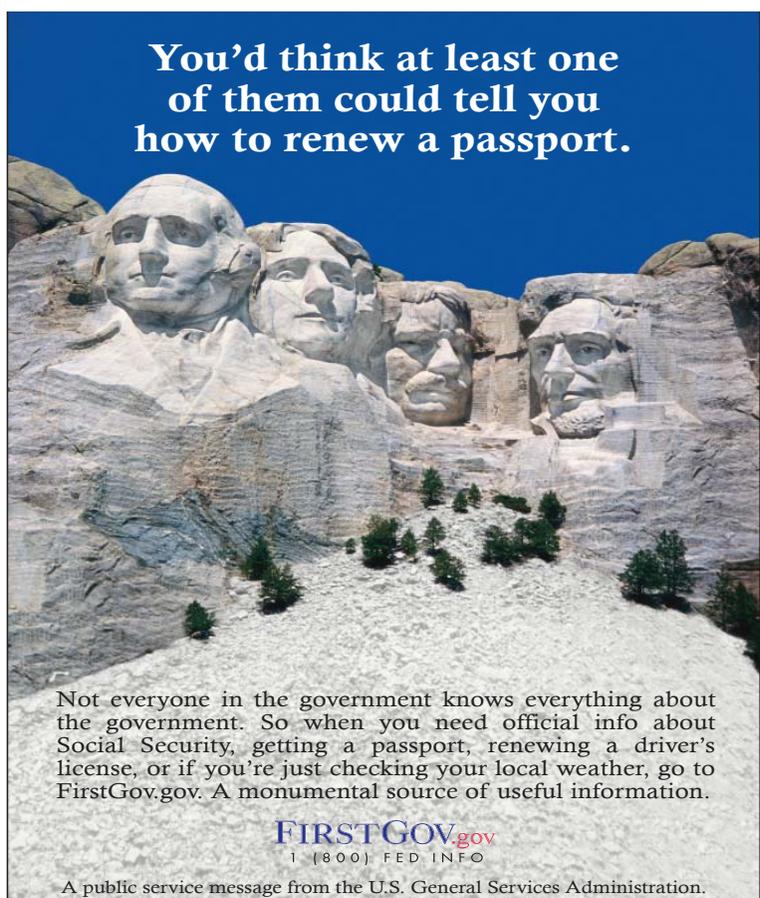
For more information call the Registry go online at [www.Mass.Gov/RMV](http://www.Mass.Gov/RMV).

## STAR MARKET SHUTTLE

For a Star Market Shuttle schedule call Crystal Transportation at 1-800-879-7433.

## CENTER ONLY OPEN FOR FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Nazzaro Community Center, 30 North Bennet Street will only be open as a food distribution site. All other program suspended until further notice.



**You'd think at least one of them could tell you how to renew a passport.**

Not everyone in the government knows everything about the government. So when you need official info about Social Security, getting a passport, renewing a driver's license, or if you're just checking your local weather, go to FirstGov.gov. A monumental source of useful information.

**FIRSTGOV.gov**  
1 (800) FED.INFO

A public service message from the U.S. General Services Administration.

# Travel, vacation problems top list of COVID-19-related complaints

Reports about travel and vacation problems topped the list of COVID-19-related complaints from consumers in Massachusetts, while nationally reports about online shopping top the list of consumer complaints, according to new data released by the Federal Trade Commission.

Most of the COVID-19-related travel and vacation complaints from consumers are about problems with cancellations and refunds. COVID-19-related consumer complaints about online

shopping include reports about items not arriving or not arriving when promised and items that are different than advertised. The FTC began releasing COVID-19-related complaint data in late March 2020 and is now releasing more detail about the types of complaints it has received from consumers in each state.

From January 1 through June 8, 2020, Massachusetts consumers reported losing a total of about \$696,000 to fraud related to the pandemic, with a median

loss of \$321. In addition to vacation and travel-related complaints, other top COVID-19-related fraud complaints from consumers in Massachusetts include issues with fitness club memberships and other health-related services and online shopping problems.

You can find additional complaint data about Massachusetts and other states on the FTC's new interactive COVID-19 complaint data dashboards.

# West End Museum perseveres despite mandated closure; readies for reopening

This period of closure under COVID-19 restrictions has been challenging for The West End Museum, as it has for many nonprofit institutions, particularly smaller ones that depend on visitor donations. Even so, the future looks bright for “Boston’s Neighborhood Museum.” It has a number of vital projects in the works and has maintained continuity of leadership, upheld community engagement, and continued to fulfill its mission.

“It is an exciting period even though we’re not open to the public,” said Duane Lucia, former director and newly elected board president. “We are working on changes that will ensure a better experience for our visitors once we reopen and will solidify support that will sustain the Museum for many years to come.”

Lucia has lived in the West End since 1989 and has been on the board of directors since 2011. He has twice been Museum director and served as board president once previously. In 2019, he took on the role of interim director with the goal of increasing the Museum’s endowment, reinvigorating exhibits and programming, and hiring a permanent director. The latter transpired in February of this year, and Lucia subsequently was elected president of the board.

Sebastian Belfanti is the Museum’s new director, but he is not new to the organization. He first joined the Museum as pro-

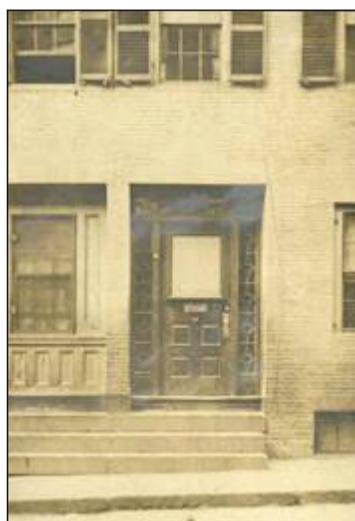


Courtesy Bimal Nepal/Bimal Photo

*The West End Museum exterior.*

gram director in October 2019. In that role, his collaboration with Lucia combined with his dedication and accomplishments made him the ideal fit for the directorship. To ensure a smooth and successful transition, Belfanti and Lucia worked together closely as each moved into his new role.

“From Jim Campano founding and being first to serve at the Museum’s helm, to Duane leading us out of some recent struggles, each director has filled a unique need. My mission is to modernize in order to reach scores of new people, from current West Enders to travelers looking to learn more about our unique urban paradise,” said Belfanti. “As so many old West Enders have told me, it’s my job to set the Museum on the path to carry their stories into the future. I consider it a great honor to be entrusted with such a special place and I plan to live up to the



Courtesy Simmons University Archives

*Elizabeth Peabody House, 87 Poplar St., West End, Boston, ca. 1901-1913,*

challenge.”

In the month following Belfanti becoming director and Lucia transitioning to board president, the Museum premiered a new exhibit, intensified programming, and broke records for visitor numbers and media coverage. While COVID-19 threw a wrench into the works, Belfanti expects the upswing to resume when operations return to a more normal state. To help offset revenue lost under the mandated closure, Belfanti launched a COVID-19 Relief Fund in April, and that campaign remains active. Donations of any amount are welcome and appreciated at [www.gofundme.com/f/campaign-for-west-end-museum](http://www.gofundme.com/f/campaign-for-west-end-museum).

The Museum does not have a

reopening date yet, but Belfanti, Lucia, and the board have written a plan that establishes stages and corresponding requirements for cleaning and disinfecting, PPE for volunteers, social distancing demarcation, access to offices, and more. Meanwhile, virtual operations are robust, including weekly emails with historical spotlights and relevant news, vigorous social media, and a brand new virtual exhibit.

This week, the Museum will launch “Learned from Our Neighbors: Stories from the Elizabeth Peabody House” via its website and social media. Created by students at Simmons University in partnership with the Boston City Archives, the digital exhibit celebrates the Elizabeth Peabody House (EPH), social worker and EPH Director Eva Whiting White, and life in Boston’s West End. It will serve as a preview of the larger onsite exhibit originally scheduled to premiere in June and now projected for September. A Zoom opening in the next few weeks will feature Belfanti hosting guests from Simmons: Laura Prieto, professor of history and women’s and gender studies; Jason Wood, archivist and head of discovery services; and a few of the students involved in the project.

Other current operational activities include a website overhaul; plans for facility renovations and grant writing to support them; upgrades to the Museum’s permanent exhibit,



Courtesy Simmons University Archives

*Eva Whiting White, undated.*

“The Last Tenement,” and deepening ties with the hundreds of community groups and businesses in today’s West End.

About The West End Museum:

The West End Museum is dedicated to the collection, preservation, and interpretation of the history and culture of Boston’s West End. The Museum’s permanent exhibit, “The Last Tenement,” highlights the immigrant history of the neighborhood through its decimation under Urban Renewal in the late 1950s. The main gallery features rotating exhibits. The Museum is located near North Station. Its entrance is on Lomasney Way. Hours: Tuesday-Friday 12:00pm-5:00pm; Saturday 11:00am-4:00pm. Admission is free.

## North End COVID-19 testing available in Charlestown

By Phil Orlandella

North End residents can travel to Charlestown for COVID-19 testing according to North End Waterfront Health (New Health) CEO James Luisi.

“I am proud of our staff in the community coming together during these trying times,” he said. “We also plan to establish an additional testing site in the North End in the coming weeks.”

Testing can be done without a referral even if participants are not

showing any symptoms according to New Health.

Residents can be tested Monday-Friday from 11 AM to 2 PM, appointments are required to reduce crowds in waiting times by calling 857-238-1100.

A telehealth visit is conducted prior to on-site testing visit. Both are covered by major health insurance providers.

Patients with no insurance or insurance does not cover this, tests will still be provided.



Expansion of COVID-19 testing for North End residents will take place at the New Health testing site at 15 Tufts Street in the Bunker Hill Housing Development. New Health, a federal qualified health center and an affiliate of Massachusetts General Hospital and Boston Medical Center has opened the site pictured above. Testing is open Monday-Friday from 11 AM to 2 PM by appointment. For details or to make an appointment call 857-238-1100.

**Fire regulations in the City of Boston prohibit open fires and charcoal and gas grills on roofs, fire balconies and fire escapes.**