



THE NORTH END

REGIONAL REVIEW

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BEAT THE SUMMER HEAT



PHOTO BY MATT CONTI

There are several fountains and other places, including the Mirabella Pool, in the area to cool off this summer, and enjoy the other activities taking place at the popular area.

Walsh comments on BPS's draft plan for fall reopening

By John Lynds

At his daily briefing last week Mayor Martin Walsh commented on the draft plan Boston Public School (BPS) Superintendent Brenda Cassellius submitted to the school committee.

According to the plan a return to school this fall would combine in-person and remote learning.

Mayor Walsh said the draft plan submitted by Cassellius and her team included a great deal of research, dialogue, thought, and care. He also reminded families

that the process of getting input and feedback from communities continues.

The next BPS reopening public community meeting is this Thursday, July 30 and Walsh said BPS wants to hear from community members as they continue planning for the fall.

To sign up for the meeting visit <https://www.bostonpublicschools.org>.

“Your feedback is critical and will guide many important decisions required to ensure a safe and healthy return to school buildings

in September,” said Walsh.

Walsh added that he understands that families are anxious to see a final plan. He reminded everyone that it is important to take our time and get it right. Public health data guides these decisions, and the City continues to monitor that data and prioritize the health and safety of children, teachers, and staff.

He also said equity is a central concern to the reopening process.

“By September, children will

(SCHOOLS, Pg. 5)

Latest COVID-19 update information for North End

By John Lynds

After reporting a seven percent increase in the COVID-19 infection rate in the North End two weeks ago the infection rate here has only risen 2.8 percent.

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 2.8 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 91.7 cases per 10,000 residents, up from 89.2 cases per 10,000 residents two week ago.

The number of confirmed cases

(UPDATE Pg. 5)

Being Safe and Feeling Safe

Capt. Ciccolo new leader of downtown police district

By Seth Daniel

Capt. Robert Ciccolo comes from a long line of police officers in his family, but that didn't mean he knew he wanted to be a police officer too.

In fact, the 37-year veteran said it took him awhile to decide his line of work, which was cemented after joining the Boston Police Cadet program in the 1980s. Now, he is the new leader of the Charlestown and Downtown Police Area (A-15 and A-1), coming from a supervisory role on the Night Command for the North of the City – which included Charlestown.

“Policing wasn't always my first choice,” he said. “I was a young man who wasn't sure where I wanted to go. It wasn't like all my life I wanted to be a cop like my dad. I wasn't sure as a teen. Then I graduated high school and decided to look at the cadet program. The Cadets are wonderful because it allowed me to work in the Police Department



Captain Robert Ciccolo.

before I actually became a police officer.”

Ciccolo's father was a Boston Police Officer, and so was his uncle. He also has a niece and a nephew who are Boston Police Officers as well. He joined the Cadets in 1983, and was officially sworn in as an officer in 1987.

Ciccolo has a very diverse career within BPD. He was a patrolman and sergeant in Mattapan and a lieutenant in Jamaica Plain and the Station Captain in Hyde Park for a time. He's been the com-

(CICCOLO Pg. 2)

New COVID-19 testing site now open in the North End

By Phil Orlandella

New Health has opened a COVID-19 testing site in the Nazzaro Community Center parking lot for North End residents.

The site is open, rain or shine on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.. No symptoms unnecessary to book an appointment at 617-643-8000.

After the opening, New Health recognized Representative Aaron Michlewitz for helping to establish the North End COVID-19 testing site in the neighborhood.

Entrance to the testing site is from North Bennet Street. No access from Prince Street.

According to New Health, “Testing is available without a referral. Residents who are not exhibiting symptoms can be tested. Proof of residency is required.”

Prior to testing, a telehealth test will be conducted which is apparently covered by major health insurance providers. Those who have no insurance will be tested free.

“I want to make sure our most vulnerable residents are kept safe during this pandemic,” said New Health CEO James Luisi.

He added, “We've opened this site close to encourage residents of the North End to come and get tested.”

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Email stephen.quigley@reverejournal.com or deb@bostonsun.com or call 781-485-0588 for your Regional Review information

Walsh appoints Alejandra St. Guillen to Boston Cannabis Board

Staff Report

Mayor Martin J. Walsh announced last week the appointment of Alejandra St. Guillen to Boston's Cannabis Board, which was created this spring to strengthen the City's focus on equity in the new marijuana industry.

St. Guillen lost by only a few votes last November in the City Council at-large vote to Councilor Julia Mejia. The election was decided only after a recount.

"I'm proud to appoint Alejandra to this Board as we work to strengthen Boston's commitment to equity, diversity and local ownership in the cannabis industry," said Mayor Walsh.

"Alejandra's career and life has been built on a commitment to serving others, and her voice will be a valuable addition to our work in Boston."

"I'm thrilled to be joining the Boston Cannabis Board," said St. Guillen. "I'm proud to live in a city that has acted on the need for increased equity in the cannabis industry. Particularly during this time of deep reflection into the systems that have negatively impacted Black communities and communities of color across the nation and in our city, it's so important that all decisions are made through a lens of equity and inclusion. The Boston Cannabis Board is a tool to do just that and I am excited to be a part of it."

St. Guillen began her career as a public school teacher in New York City and Boston and has served as the Director of *¿Oiste?*, Latino Civic & Political Organization where she promoted economic justice and electoral reform public policy initiatives directly impacting communities of color statewide. St. Guillen most recently served as the Director of the City of Boston's Office for Immigrant Advancement, where her work included initiatives like the Greater Boston Immigrant Defense Fund. St. Guillen holds a B.A. in Economics and African-American Studies from Wesleyan University and a M.Ed from City College. She currently resides in West Roxbury with her wife,

Josiane, and their 3 year old son, Jose Alejandro.

The additional members of the Board include: Kathleen Joyce, Darlene Lombos, Lisa Holmes, and John Smith. St. Guillen replaces Monica Valdes Lupi on the Board, who stepped down due to her public health commitments during the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency.

The Walsh Administration has prioritized equity since the beginning of this new industry, and has approved 14 host community agreements in 10 different neighborhoods with marijuana businesses seeking to open in the City of Boston, which includes three state-certified economic empowerment candidates.



Alejandra St. Guillen has been appointed to the new Boston Cannabis Board.

Old North Church board meets Monday, suspends on-site programming due to economic downturn

By John Lynds

When COVID hit Boston back in mid-March popular tourist sites along the Freedom Trail that millions of Americans visit every year were forced to close.

The Old North Church in the North End, famous for the 'one if by sea, two if by land' lantern code that launched Paul Revere's famous midnight ride to warn the colonists the British were coming,

was one widely popular tourist site that was forced to close.

"The Old North Foundation, made the proactive decision to suspend on-site programming on March 13 in response to the mounting COVID-19 pandemic," said Nikki Stewart, Executive Director, Old North Church & Historic Site. "At that time, we made the painful decision to lay off our frontline staff and directed our remaining permanent employ-

ees to focus on producing top quality digital content and planning for a safe reopening."

Then on July 16 the Old North Church reopened for limited operations Thursdays through Sundays.

"In the first two weeks, we welcomed, on average, 50-60 visitors per day," said Stewart. "The majority of our visitors are traveling to Boston from high risk areas. In contrast, a typical July day would see over 750 people visiting the church, gift shop, and historic chocolate program. We are supportive of the guidelines and travel ban set in place by Governor Baker and Mayor Walsh. Yet, these constraints will not allow us to sustain our current

operations."

On Monday the Old North Foundation board met and made the difficult decision to suspend on-site programming and reduce staffing to protect its limited resources and the sharp decline of tourism revenue.

"The Old North Foundation has an annual operating budget of \$1.3 million," said Stewart. "Over 90 percent of the budget is dependent on earned income through ticket sales, tours, school trips, and merchandise sales; we do not have an endowment to support our operations. Furthermore, the majority of this revenue is earned in April-October, the peak tourism season for Freedom Trail sites. As such, the loss of revenue over the

last four months has been devastating."

Stewart said the board agreed that over the next six months they will focus efforts on strategic planning, developing virtual content for the 2020-21 school year, and diversifying its revenue streams.

"Despite current challenges, we are optimistic for our future," she said. "As we prepare for the Old North Church's 300th anniversary in 2023, the lessons of our history and people are more relevant than ever. We aim to inspire our (virtual) visitors to consider the roles that active citizenship, hope, sacrifice, and patriotism can play in their lives and communities."

Street sweeping tickets – not towing – begins again on Aug. 10

Staff Report

The City of Boston and the Public Works Department today that ticketing enforcement during street sweeping operations will resume on Monday, August 10. As part of the announcement, the Boston Transportation Department (BTD) will not tow vehicles until further notice. However, tickets will be issued to those in violation of street sweeping rules starting August 10. Residents can sign up for street sweeping alerts at boston.gov. Parked cars will be given courtesy flyers in ten different languages reminding residents of street sweeping.

"As we continue to support a cautious and phased approach to reopening Boston, we are asking residents to move their vehicles during designated street sweeping hours to allow our Public Works crews to thoroughly clean our neighborhood streets," said Chief of Streets Chris Osgood. "We know this may be a change in

schedule for some of our residents, and we greatly appreciate everyone's cooperation to ensure our streets remain clean during these challenging times."

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the decision was made in March to stop towing and ticketing during street sweeping operations. This measure encouraged residents to travel less and comply with social distancing recommendations. While the street sweeping program has continued citywide, residents were not required to move their vehicles during designated street sweeping hours.

Failure to move a vehicle during posted street sweeping hours results in a \$40 fine, \$90 in Charlestown, and \$90 for overnight street sweeping.

The City is also waiving any parking ticket received by a healthcare worker upon appeal with the exception of public safety violations, such as parking in a handicapped spot or in front of a fire hydrant.

CICCOLO (from pg. 1)

mander of the dispatch operations and also led the Hackney Division. Most recently, he spent the last four and a half years as the Night Commander for the North Zone.

One of the things he likes is the changes one can make within the department.

"It's a wonderful job in you can have so many different jobs without leaving the same employer," he said. "There are such a wide variety of functions you can work at. I think a benefit of a large department is you can re-invigorate yourself periodically by making such changes."

And, of course, change is a key word these days in policing and Ciccolo said he is concentrating as a leader on listening to the community and making sure people are safe, and that they

also feel safe. He said he wants the community, the young people, to tell him things that the Police might do that make them uneasy so there is a better understanding.

"We took the job to make people feel safe and to make them physically safe," he said. "If there is a segment of the community that we're making to feel unsafe, we need to re-envision how we approach this work because we're not making them feel safe – and that's exactly what we're supposed to do...There is a lot of discussion going on now, but I think ultimately all of the discussion will lead us on a better path to making people feel safe."

Right now, Ciccolo said he is trying to get a feel for the community – all the way from Charlestown to Bay Village and everything in between. While

COVID-19 has made that awkward, he said he is still getting out to the public face-to-face (or mask-to-mask) as much as possible.

"The variety within the district is a little staggering," he said. "It's essentially everything from Bay Village to Charlestown – including Chinatown, Beacon Hill, the North End and the West End. It's invigorating just because of the sheer variety of places."

"We're very much looking forward to working with Captain Ciccolo," said NEWNC president Brett Roman.

NEWRA President Cheryl Delgreco said, "Captain Robert Ciccolo brings more than 35 years of BPD experience and a wealth of knowledge to his new position as the new head of District A-1."

West End Museum reopens after four and a half months

By Dan Murphy

The West End Museum was scheduled to reopen to the public yesterday, Wednesday July 29, following its four-and-a-half month closure due to the pandemic.

“We are excited to invite our members, friends, and the public back into the Museum and have worked hard to ensure a safe environment for all,” Sebastian Belfanti, museum director, said in a press release. “While we have connected digitally with our members and followers throughout our closure, that is no substitute for the in-person experience of the museum. We can’t wait to see your faces, even under masks.”

While it will keep its regular “pre-pandemic” hours, the museum at 150 Lomasney Way will adhere to its own phased reopen-



COURTESY OF THE WEST END MUSEUM
Sebastian Belfanti, director of the West End Museum.

ing plan, which Belfanti conceived and was approved by the board of directors in May before undergoing further revisions in accordance with the state’s safety require-



COURTESY OF BIMAL PHOTO/BIMAL NEPAL
The entrance of the West End Museum at 150 Lomasney Way.

ments. The museum’s two intercon-

nected rooms will be limited to 10 occupants (nine visitors and one staff member) at a time, while public restrooms will remain closed for the time being. New signage and tape markings on the floor will be visible to notify museumgoers of the changes, and visitors will no longer be able to roam the premises as freely as they could before in keeping with social-distancing guidelines. The museum will also be sanitized more frequently and thoroughly that it was before it closed in March.

“It’ll be interesting and it’s probably going to be slow-going at first,” Belfanti told this reporter last week in anticipation of the museum’s reopening. “We’re really going to have to be super careful to keep [conditions] safe for staff and visitors,” We hope people will come, but we want to make sure

that everyone is wearing masks and that our older members are safe.”

Another change from the pre-pandemic days is that Belfanti alone is on hand to greet guests and give museum tours, as opposed to before when two staff members handled the duties. The staff members are eager to return, but since they’re both seniors, Belfanti said they wouldn’t be back for two weeks to ensure their safety.

In the meantime, the West End Museum is also revamping its website, as well as redesigning its floor-plan, which will be unveiled to the public in the near future. But for now, the museum is pleased just to welcome guests back.

“We’re just happy to have people back,” Belfanti said.

Visit thewestendmuseum.org for more information.

RUFF CHAIRPERSON STEPS DOWN

North End resident Ashley Seybold has stepped down from her role of chairperson of Responsible Urbanites for Fido (RUFF).

Ashley joined the non-profit neighborhood organization two and a half years ago helping RUFF to continue to grow in many ways, including the creation of the Dog Park in DeFilippo Park and special events.

Her departure leaves two opening roles, chairperson and marketing lead.

Both openings are fun opportunities to get involved in RUFF and the North End, according to the Board.



Ashley Seybold.

NEWNC SUPPORTS OCCUPANCY CHANGE/ELEVATOR EXTENSION

Chairwoman, City of Boston Licensing Board, Kathleen Joyce was the North End/Waterfront

Neighborhood Council (NEWNC) guest speaker on the July 13 virtual meeting.

She provided an update regarding COVID-19 guidelines and additional general updates on behalf of the Board.

NEWNC voted to support (10-0) a request by Michael Dellorusso to extend the existing elevator at 210 Endicott Street to the top at the existing roof deck for ADA access.

A request to change the occupancy of 441 Hanover Street, Table Mercato, to include take-out use to operate in the same building and in connection with existing restaurant, was supported by NEWNC (10-0).

Work will include the installation of two deli cases, countertops, new lighting, replacing sinks and finishing the floors.

There is an existing CV License with malt, wine and beer that covers the take out market.

Next meeting TBA.

MIRABELLA POOL OPEN WITH RESTRICTIONS

North End residents have been waiting patiently to hear from the Boston Youth and Families Center and the Mayor that the Mirabella Pool on Commercial Street would be open.

The pool was officially opened on July 22, for seven days a week until Labor Day with several policies and restrictions in place.

“As we experience hotter days, it’s important residents can access cooling options in neigh-

IN BRIEF By Phil Orlandella

borhoods,” Mayor Martin Walsh said.

Visitors must register for a swim slot at Boston.gov/BCYFSummer. Walk-ins will not be accepted.

Pool capacity has been reduced to 40%. Sessions will be 90 minutes, one per day.

Visitors must come dressed to swim as a locker rooms and changing areas will be closed.

Facemasks must be worn when not swimming and social distancing is required.

No swimming lessons will be offered.

Children under eight, require an adult to be in the water with them. Three children under 12 are allowed per adult.

Steven Siciliano, Administrative Coordinator for BCYF Nazzaro Center and staff will manage the pool operation.

NEWNC/NEWRA HOLD VIRTUAL MEETING WITH ELECTED OFFICIALS

Sixty residents and elected officials recently participated in a successful virtual neighborhood meeting coordinated by the North End/Waterfront Neighborhood Council (NEWNC) and the North End/Waterfront Residents’ Association (NEWRA).

Joining in on the meeting were: Mayor Martin Walsh, Senator Joe Boncore and City Councilors Lydia Edwards and Annessa Essaibi-George.

“They discussed state and city budgets, legislative initiatives, COVID-19, reopening plans

and issues and concerns for the community,” said Brett Roman President of NEWNC.

He said, “It was great working with NEWRA President Cheryl Delgreco to put the virtual meeting together.”

Cheryl said, “We appreciate Mayor Walsh, Senator Boncore

and Counselors Edwards and George taking the time to speak with North End/Waterfront residents about budgets, legislative initiatives and local issues.”

She added, “Our community looks forward to future meetings with our elected officials in the coming months.”

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EDITORIAL

MORE THAN \$1 TRILLION IS NEEDED

We're all familiar with the phrase, "A day late and a dollar short."

What brought that to mind this week was the announcement by the Republicans in Washington of their \$1 trillion economic pandemic plan that would supplement the \$3 trillion bill that Congress passed last spring.

The original bill did a number of things, most notably increasing unemployment benefits by \$600 per week for the millions of Americans who have lost their jobs because of the pandemic.

That original plan also was notable for what it did NOT include, namely, funding for state and local governments whose tax revenues have all but evaporated thanks to the pandemic.

The new GOP plan reduces the unemployment benefit from \$600 per week to \$200 per week and provides little funding for cash-strapped state and local governments that already have been laying off their employees, with more to come.

By contrast, the Democratic plan -- which was passed by the House of Representatives fully two months ago -- calls for another \$3 trillion that would continue the \$600 weekly payments for the unemployed and provide much-needed funding to state and local governments.

There are two things that are undeniably clear as the pandemic rages in the months ahead: First, the national unemployment rate will remain in the range of Great Depression levels for the foreseeable future and second, state and local governments will be required to implement massive cutbacks in the months ahead without substantial financial assistance from the federal government.

The Republican plan significantly fails to address both of these looming crises. By contrast, the Democratic plan, which the Republicans have failed to discuss for two months, will alleviate the worst of the pandemic's effects on the everyday lives of every American.

Or to put it another way, the Republicans are, "A month late and at least a trillion short," and their inaction of the past two months is threatening both the economic and social stability of the country.

SCHOOLS MUST BE SAFE TO REOPEN

We will be the first to concede that we do not know what exactly must be done in order to reopen our state's public schools safely in the face of the pandemic.

However, what we do know is that a large study in South Korea (which, by the way, has been a world model for suppressing the pandemic) has shown that children ages 10-19 are highly-efficient at transmitting the coronavirus to others, particularly the adults with whom they have contact.

As much as we would like to see our schools reopen for many reasons, it just does not seem possible to do so in a manner that safeguards not only the children, but also school personnel and the family members of the children.

Kids bring home plenty of germs and bugs from school even in the best of circumstances. It is inconceivable that we will be able to stop them from transmitting this highly-contagious virus if they return to school as usual in the fall. Maybe the experts have it all figured out -- we can only pray that they do.

SEND US YOUR NEWS

The North End Regional Review encourages residents to submit birth and engagement announcements, news releases, business briefs, honor rolls, social news, sports stories, and photographs for publication. Items should be forwarded to our offices at 385 Broadway, Citizens Bank Building, Revere, MA 02151. Items can also be faxed to 781-485-1403. The Independent also encourages readers to e-mail news releases to editor@reverejournal.com.

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CELEBRATE THE 230TH BIRTHDAY ON AUGUST 4TH

OPINION BY PHIL ORLANDELLA

NEW PASTOR WELCOMED WITH OPEN ARMS

Saint Leonard Church's new Pastor Michael Della Penna was born and raised in the North End.

Before he took his vows, he was active in the community and was a participant in sports and social events.

He was always competitive and reliable, but most of all he had the personality to make friends easily.

Father Della Penna was and still is a respectful and dedicated person to his family and friends and during his priestly duties where ever he was stationed.

Father Della Penna is a soft-spoken person, you might say he's a "Church Mouse".

He was warmly welcomed by the neighborhood with open arms to have him as their pastor.

Father Della Penna is just what the neighborhood needed, a person who genuinely cares.

TASTE OF NORTH END BENEFITS COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Taste of the North End has become a major benefit event, supporting many community organizations that provide educational,

health, social, sports and other programs for residents of all ages.

For years, this special event has provided much-needed revenue making it possible for local groups to continue to serve the community in many ways.

Donations and sponsors are needed to help make this event successful.

A virtual taste of the North End is scheduled for September 9.

NEW CITY HALL PLAZA-GOOD NEWS

Rehabilitation is the answer to

make City Hall Plaza into a more positive public place is a great move by Mayor Martin Walsh and staff.

Opening up the Plaza for public entertainment, a good place to visit and a site for public forums is a solid move for the residents of Boston and visitors.

Once completed, the new Plaza will provide a meaningful public space for everyone to enjoy, especially during spring, summer and fall.

A new Plaza is a great development that makes sense for everyone.

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Walsh announces youth resource guide and college learning opportunities

Bolstered by increased funding support, Mayor's Summer Youth Jobs program will add two new features this year to support long-term workforce preparedness: a Learn & Earn Career Development Internship that pays participants for college-level coursework, and an online resource guide that includes a primer on workers' rights compiled by the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office (AGO). Both projects are collaborations of the Mayor's Office of Workforce Development and the Department of Youth Engagement & Employment.

"The disruptions of COVID-19 have made this summer a critical one for Boston's youth, who need our support now more than ever," said Mayor Walsh. "But the

Summer Youth Jobs program is never just about one summer. We want young people to come away with a lasting impact - whether that's coursework that unlocks new career paths, or the ability to protect themselves long-term from potential abuses in the workplace."

"A young worker's first job is critical in teaching them about workplace rules, responsibility, and safety," said Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey. "This online resource guide that we developed with Mayor Walsh's Office will help our young people understand their rights to earned wages and a safe, healthy workplace. We are pleased to provide these resources to support young workers in Massachusetts."

The online guide, Resources

for youth employees, connects Summer Youth Jobs participants with valuable resources for young people who are new to the workforce. The guide covers immediate needs, such as technology access and COVID-19 safety protocols, as well as vital information for the years ahead, such as financial empowerment services and job training and education opportunities.

The guide also includes a Know your rights page devoted to familiarizing young people with their rights and responsibilities as workers. The Massachusetts AGO's office compiled the information for the City to ensure that Boston's young workers have easy access to these legal guidelines, which range from workplace safety to wage payment to anti-discrimina-

tion laws.

The Learn & Earn internship, which has enrolled over 500 participants, pays young people for their engagement in college-level courses that lay the foundation for a career pathway. The 26 available classes are offered by four local colleges: Benjamin Franklin Institute of Technology, Bunker Hill Community College, Roxbury Community College, and Urban College of Boston. These classes span the following subjects: business, communications, early childhood education, human services, social sciences, and technology.

Most of the classes confer 3-6 college credits, which provide a head start to a college education for the program's high school juniors and seniors. For the program's older participants who are

high school graduates or HiSET/GED completers up to age 24, the classes can serve as a gateway to college or a continuation of their classwork toward a degree.

Like other tracks of the Summer Youth Jobs Program, the Learn & Earn internship pays participants an hourly wage of \$12.75 for 25 hours per week. This time is divided among class time and homework, group study sessions, and a job readiness and financial education curriculum led by a career coach, who also works with young people on their career plans. These components will be held virtually for participant safety. The internship runs from July 13 to August 21 for most participants.

Amidst great economic uncertainty, hundreds of Boston teens get financial literacy training at home this summer

As Boston's young people continue to overcome personal challenges and experience ongoing programming disruptions caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, the City of Boston Credit Union has partnered with Boston Centers for Youth and Families (BCYF) to bring virtual financial literacy training into the homes of 400 teens across the city. A six-week program for 13- and 14-year-olds, BCYF "SuperTeens" provides high-quality service learning and leadership experiences throughout July and August.

The Credit Union is providing the resources for 400 students, led by 50 counselors, to participate in bi-weekly lessons to prepare them to build a strong foundation for their personal finances. An interactive game, Money Experience, allows users to create "them-

selves" within the game and make various life choices that apply to different stages of their lives. Each choice (e.g., Do you want to go to college? What kind of job are you looking for? Will you rent or buy a home?) affects the user's finances, budget, and quality of life in real-time and gives a more in-depth representation of how personal finance works.

"The full economic impacts of this pandemic still remain to be seen, but we know our young people are going to be making critical decisions about their futures in a time of unprecedented challenges," said City of Boston Credit Union President and CEO Daniel Waltz. "Now more than ever, it's critical that we are helping youth build a foundation of sound financial management principles, and we're thrilled to partner with

BCYF to make it happen virtually this summer."

Throughout the course of the summer, the youth in the SuperTeens program are mentored by BCYF staff as they participate in online webinars and professional development workshops. They also have several weekly social and recreational activities including virtual tours of museums around the world, virtual escape rooms, and online challenges that include lessons in design and journalism. Along with engaging in activities that promote civic engagement and physical/financial health and wellness, the teens develop new skills to prepare for success in schools and future jobs. Each of the students receives a stipend if they successfully complete all of the required activities and meet attendance goals.

UPDATE (from pg. 1)

in the area increased from 497 two weeks ago to 511 cases.

However, 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.

The North End is also still well below the city's average infection rate of 204.9 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.

Last week the BPHC reported that 8,060 residents were tested for COVID-19 and the data shows that less people tested positive than two weeks ago. Two weeks ago only 2.1 percent of those tested in the area were COVID positive but last week only 0.9 percent tested positive, a 57 percent decrease.

Overall since the pandemic began 6.5 percent of North End, West End, Beacon Hill, Back Bay and Downtown residents were

found to be COVID positive.

The statistics 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 percent last week from 13,856 cases to 13,995 cases. So far 10,063 Boston residents have fully recovered from the virus and three additional residents died last week bringing the total of fatalities in the city to 727.

SCHOOLS (from pg. 1)

have been out of school for nearly six months," said Walsh. "The City has worked to get food, technology, and mental health support to every family and child who needs it. The disruption brought on by this crisis increases existing gaps and inequities, and the City must consider what remote learning means for low-income stu-

dents and students of color, who have fewer resources at home."

Walsh said the City also has to consider the support that students with disabilities and students learning English need. The Mayor said the City is weighing all these needs and is committed to meeting them.

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CITY PAWS

Beyond belly rubs

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

A sign that a person is a dog lover is when their hands unconsciously begin to stroke, pat, and gently scratch a dog sitting beside them. Did you know that petting a dog can lower heart rate and blood pressure, release happy hormones, and generally relax both the canine and human partners?

When we think about ways we can help our dogs when they are frightened, injured, or showing the effects of aging, we may not think of massage. Today the professionals at major animal hospitals, like the MSPCA's Angell Animal Medical Center, are including massage therapy as part of their rehabilitation services.

While there are times when you will need a professionally trained massage therapist to treat your animal or to teach you to do a specific massage, you can also learn some everyday massage therapy on your own.

Massage Therapy Benefits

Angell Animal Medical Center explains how and why they use massage therapy saying, "It reduces stress, increases blood flow, relieves muscle tension and maintains the overall health of a dog. It enhances the immune system by flushing out toxins, increases circulation in the lymph and vascular systems, stimulates portions of the nervous system which affect behavior, allows oxygen to flow freely, and relieves muscle tension, adhesions, and soreness which

benefit range of motion, joint, and spinal flexibility. Massage can also promote faster healing after an injury or surgery."

It was at Angell that we were given proof of how well massage can work on a dog. Our current Westie Poppy is not a bit nervous when she visits her veterinarian. However, she follows in the paw-prints of two Westies who would tremble at the scent of an animal hospital.

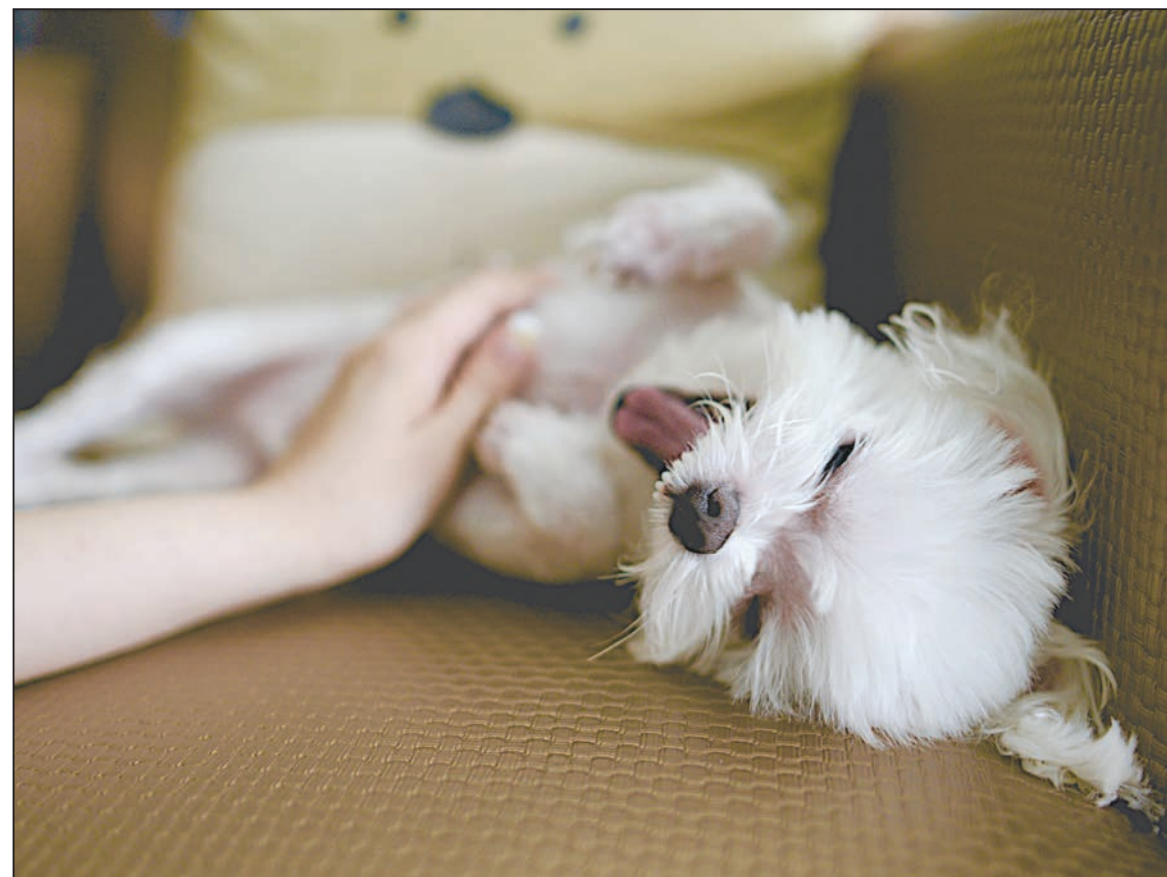
Penny learned Tellington T-Touch massage to help our Sassy, Maggie Mae, and the foster dogs we have had over the years. It was automatic to put Poppy on her lap and begin the slow circular massage that would calm a frightened animal anytime we were waiting for our turn for the dog doctor.

On one visit her vet began the exam by checking Poppy's heart and looked up with concern on her face. "Her heart rate is really low," she said. We quickly explained that Poppy had just had a good 30 minutes of T-Touch therapy. Naturally, after the exam and a trip to the lab for routine blood work, Poppy's heart rate had returned to normal.

Massage Tips

Set up your own little doggie spa scene! Begin by choosing a quiet spot where your dog is comfortable and consider adding some soothing music in the background. We favor the sound of soft classical guitar as our calming music.

Begin by gently patting in your



Petting a dog can lower heart rate and blood pressure, release happy hormones, and generally relax both the canine and human partners. (Photo by Nomao Saeki)

usual manner and then slowly begin slightly stronger long strokes and observe the dog's reaction. You can then start at the head and work your way along the body. Include the legs and paws if your dog is comfortable with that.

Two massage points on a dog's body that stimulate relaxation are the back of the neck from under

the ears and the base of the tail. You may already know that from the "slitty-eyed" "do-that-some-more" response you get when you gently scratch those places.

Above all make sure your dog is comfortable with you massaging him. If your dog is stiffening, growling, showing any sign of pain, or trying to get away from

you, stop. The point of massage is to relax your dog and ease the ache. You can always try again another day with gentler strokes for a shorter time if it's okay with your furry pal.

Do you have a question or topic for City Paws? Send an email to Penny@BostonZest.com with your request.

USDA declares August 'Tree Check Month'

Staff Report

August is the peak time of year to spot the Asian long-horned beetle (ALB) as adults emerge from trees. That's why the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is declaring August as "Tree Check Month." Checking trees for the beetle and the damage it causes is one way residents can protect their own trees and help USDA's efforts to eliminate this beetle from the United States.

Signs of this invasive pest continue to be found in Massachusetts, so residents need to be on watch. A portion of Worcester County remains under a federal quarantine for the ALB, and the movement of wood out of the area is not allowed. The most recent infested tree was removed in March in the town of Auburn.

"Just this past June, we confirmed a new infestation in South Carolina after a homeowner reported that they found a dead Asian long-horned beetle on their property," said Josie Ryan, USDA APHIS' National Operations Manager for the ALB Eradication Program. "We need the public's

help to find new areas where the beetle has spread, because finding it sooner means fewer trees will become infested."

ALB is an invasive wood-boring beetle that attacks 12 types of hardwood trees in North America, such as maples, elms, horse chestnuts, birches and willows. In its larval stage, the insect feeds inside tree trunks and branches during the colder months. The beetle creates tunnels as it feeds, then chews its way out as an adult in the warmer months. Infested trees do not recover and eventually die. Infested trees can become safety hazards since branches can drop and trees can fall over, especially during storms.

The beetle has distinctive markings that are easy to recognize:

- Black and white antennae that are longer than the insect's body.
- A shiny black body with white spots that is about 1 inch to 1½ inches long.
- Six legs and feet that can appear bluish-colored.

Signs that a tree might be infested include:

- Round exit holes in tree trunks and branches about the size of a dime or smaller.

- Shallow oval or round scars in the bark where the adult beetle chewed an egg site.

- Sawdust-like material called frass, laying on the ground around the tree or in the branches.

- Dead branches or limbs falling from an otherwise healthy-looking tree.

ALB is not harmful to people or pets. If possible, residents should take pictures and capture suspicious insects in a durable container and freeze them, which helps preserve the insect for identification. Residents can report the insect or tree damage by calling the ALB hotline at 1-866-702-9938 or reporting online at www.AsianLonghornedBeetle.com.

"As people use firewood this summer, we are also asking them to buy heat-treated and certified wood rather than move untreated firewood long distances, which can potentially spread ALB," warned Ryan. "You can also responsibly gather firewood where you will burn it or buy it in the area where you will use it."

Firewood cannot move out of areas that are quarantined for ALB without a permit. It is important that people follow state and federal laws, which restrict the movement of

woody material, to keep the tree-killing pest from spreading outside of known infested areas.

It is possible to eradicate the pest. In May 2014, an infestation area in Boston was declared ALB-free. The insect has also been eradicated from areas in Illinois, New Jersey, Ohio and New York.

For more information about the Asian long-horned beetle, other ways to keep it from spreading and eradication program activities, visit www.AsianLonghornedBeetle.com. For local inquiries or to speak to your State Plant Health Director, call 1-866-702-9938.

The United Nations General Assembly has declared 2020 the International Year of Plant Health (IYPH). Please join USDA APHIS to help protect the world's crops, forests, gardens and landscapes against invasive pests. Learn more by visiting www.aphis.usda.gov/planthealth/2020.



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ADA's 30th anniversary: MBTA highlights progress and upcoming accessibility projects

On the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the nation's most significant legislation regarding the civil rights of people with disabilities, the MBTA reaffirms its commitment to being a leader in accessible public transportation.

"Thanks to the ADA and our riders who have advocated and partnered with us, the MBTA is more reliable and accessible than ever before," said MBTA General Manager Steve Poftak. "We're proud of the accessibility accomplishments we've made so far, but we're committed to continuing to make improvements, which are fundamental to allowing our neighbors, friends, colleagues, and family members with disabilities to use the MBTA safely and confidently. With that in mind, we celebrate this important anniversary and look forward to continuing our path forward."

This week's GM Video Update features additional discussion regarding the history of accessibility at the MBTA and the progress toward a fully accessible T.

By the 1970s, the MBTA had already begun projects and programs with a focus on accessibility, including the T's first elevator going into service at Quincy Center Station in 1971 and

offering door-to-door paratransit service through the use of two lift-equipped vans in and around Brookline in 1977. Early Federal laws and state oversight through the Massachusetts Architectural Board helped to expand a focus on accessibility at the T and, by 1990 when the ADA was signed, around twenty-five MBTA stations were accessible. At that time, some buses were also accessible, though customers were required to call ahead to request these lift-equipped buses be assigned to a particular route.

The signing of the ADA in 1990 aimed to eliminate discrimination against people with disabilities, including in public transportation. Expectations for public transit providers like the MBTA were clarified and called for all parts of service to be accessible, including reliable stop announcements, improved employee trainings, and accessible key stations and vehicles.

The existence of the ADA has also given riders a mechanism for holding organizations accountable for providing accessible service. While the T had made some progress since the signing of the ADA in 1990, a group of riders with disabilities along with the Boston Center for Independent Living filed a class-action lawsuit against

the T in 2002 that cited many ADA violations, including broken elevators, inaccessible buses, and employees not equipped to assist customers as needed.

Following a comprehensive settlement agreement of this lawsuit in 2006, the MBTA has fundamentally shifted its approach, initiating accessibility projects and programs with the goal of becoming a global leader in accessible transit. In the fifteen years since the settlement agreement, tremendous progress has been made – to name a few:

- The MBTA now has over 232 accessible stations – including 200 elevators system-wide with elevator "up time" averaging 99.4 percent or better consistently over the last decade through new elevator maintenance contracts.

- The T's bus fleet is 100 percent accessible with the newest fleet designed with feedback from riders with disabilities that has resulted in a layout that will provide more space and options for all customers, including wheelchair users and families with strollers.

- All front-line employees receive improved training in providing accessible and inclusive service to all customers, including one-of-a-kind training in assisting customers with disabilities during emergency situations.

- Recognizing that first-hand experiences help shape a more usable system, the MBTA continues to reinforce its efforts to include riders with disabilities in its decision-making processes by hiring talented staff who also have disabilities and improving rider engagement through groups like the T's Riders' Transportation Access Group (R-TAG).

The RIDE is also a leader in service quality, efficiency, and innovation among peer paratransit operations. Since the launch of this service on a smaller scale in 1977, the MBTA's ADA door-to-door paratransit RIDE program currently provides service for eligible customers in fifty-eight surrounding towns and communities, including Boston. Of the 1.6 million trips provided last year on the traditional RIDE service, over 245,000 trips were taken as part of the innovative pilot partnership with Uber and Lyft, which provides customers with flexible options that best meet their needs and additional similar pilot service offerings to come soon. The upcoming software and technology transition to Routematch will also continue to improve the customer experience, enhance reliability, and increase efficiencies by providing customers with a new web-based

trip booking platform, a compatible smart phone app, and interactive voice response prompts to assist customers in managing their own trips. The MBTA continues to explore better, more integrated ways to offer trips to its RIDE customers using both paratransit and fixed route service.

While the MBTA is proud of this progress so far, the T is committed to continuous improvement with more projects focused on accessibility in the pipeline. As part of the MBTA's Plan for Accessible Transportation Infrastructure (PATI) that aims to make the system entirely accessible, major upgrades within the next five years include:

- The renovation of Symphony and Hynes Stations on the Green Line to improve accessibility;

- Improvements to nine street-level Green Line stops that make these stations fully accessible;

- Over 50 new elevators in design; and

- Many innovative technology pilot programs, including indoor navigation for blind/low vision customers.

Baker-Polito administration issues new travel order effective Aug. 1

Staff Report

Gov. Charlie Baker announced that effective Aug. 1, all travelers entering the Commonwealth, including both out of state residents and Massachusetts residents returning home, will be required to comply with a new travel order.

Travel Order: Starting August 1, all visitors and Massachusetts residents returning home, including students returning to campuses for the fall semester, must fill out a "Massachusetts Travel Form" and quarantine for 14 days unless they are coming from a COVID-19 lower risk state or they can produce a negative COVID-19 test result administered no more than 72 hours prior to arriving in Massachusetts, or they are included in one of the other, limited exemptions.

Individuals who get a test must remain in quarantine until they receive their negative test results. Failure to comply may result in a \$500 fine per day.

Travelers are exempt from this requirement if they are coming from a state that has been designated by the Department of Public Health as a lower risk COVID-19 state or fall into another narrow exemption category.

Based on current public health data, those lower risk states will include: New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Maine, Rhode Island, Vermont, New Hampshire and Hawaii.

Traveler exemptions include people passing through the state, people commuting across state lines for work, people traveling to Massachusetts for medical treatment, people complying with military orders, or people traveling to work in federally designated critical infrastructure sectors (essential services).

Prior to travel, people should visit www.mass.gov/MATraveler to fill out the "Massachusetts Travel Form" or text "MATraveler" to 888-777.

The list of lower risk states is subject to change based on public health data, and states may be added or taken off the list at any time.

The Administration also announced updates to the Commonwealth's COVID-19 Mandatory Safety Standards for Workplaces to incorporate the requirements of the travel order. This included sector-specific updates for lodging, higher education, office spaces and other industry sectors.

Updated guidance: The Administration today updated guidance for lodging, offices, manufacturing, construction, labs, performance venues and indoor and outdoor events relative to the travel order. In addition, lodging operators are required to notify guests about this new travel order.

Employers are strongly discouraged from allowing business-related travel to destinations other than those appearing on the list of COVID-19 lower risk

states. Employers that permit employer-paid or -reimbursed travel to those states should take measures to ensure employees comply with this order. Employers are also urged to strongly discourage their employees from taking leisure travel to destinations not included on the list of COVID-19 lower-risk states.

All travelers and residents are required to continue to follow the Administration's order that requires face coverings, and practice good hygiene, social distancing and regular hand washing. People should not travel to Massachusetts if they have symptoms of COVID-19. Travelers will be informed of this order and new travel guidance by airlines, passenger rail corporations, bus companies and some major travel agents when booking trips and before arrival in Massachusetts.

For more information, please visit mass.gov/MATraveler or text "MATraveler" to 888-777.

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DOR's June revenue collections interim report

Staff Report

Massachusetts Department of Revenue (DOR) Commissioner Geoffrey Snyder today announced in an interim report that June revenue collections total \$2.493 billion as of July 24, 2020, which is \$761 million or 23.4 percent less than benchmark, and \$691 million or 21.7 percent less than the actual collections in June 2019. Fiscal Year 2020 (FY2020) revenue is still being collected and will be revised.

These figures are preliminary and FY2020 revenue is still being collected due to section 12 of chapter 53 of the Acts of 2020, which extended the April 15 personal income tax filing and payment deadline to July 15. In addition, DOR invoked its administrative authority to move the April and June quarterly estimated income tax payment deadlines to July 15. Section 3 of chapter 78 of the Acts of 2020, requires the Comptroller to record as FY2020 revenue income tax payments originally due in FY2020 but received between July 1 and Aug. 31, 2020. Such payments include those made with final income tax returns, extension payments and estimated payments originally due in FY2020.

[1] The original consensus tax revenue estimate benchmark for fiscal year 2020 is \$30.099 billion, excluding tax-related settlements exceeding \$10 million each. On January 13, 2020, the

Secretary of Administration and Finance certified a revised fiscal 2020 tax revenue estimate of \$30.289 billion, including an estimated \$132.5 million from marijuana sales and excise taxes. The revision is reflected beginning with the January report.

Because DOR will be receiving revenue in July and August that will be treated as FY2020 revenue, DOR will be unable to complete the full processing of FY2020 tax revenues until after Aug. 31. Therefore, DOR anticipates submitting the final FY2020 revenue report after that date.

DOR is not required by statute to publish revenue collections for June on the third business day following the end of the month, as is required for all other months. DOR historically releases preliminary revenue collection figures for June at the end of July.

For the fiscal year-to-date through today's interim report, partial revenue collections totaled \$27.276 billion, \$2.417 billion or 8.1 percent less than the same fiscal year-to-date period in 2019, and \$3.014 billion or 9.9 percent less than the year-to-date benchmark. This figure is expected to be updated.

"Approximately 81 percent of the year-to-date shortfall is in non-withheld income tax, which is due in large part to the deferral of the deadlines for personal income tax returns and payments and the

first two estimated payment installments to July 15, 2020," said Commissioner Snyder. "DOR will be releasing a full FY2020 revenue report in September because recently enacted legislation requires the Comptroller to record income tax payments received between July 1 and August 31 as FY20 revenue. We will continue to closely monitor these delayed FY20 revenue collections."

Historically, June is a significant month for revenues, because both individual and business taxpayers make estimated payments during the month. In most years, the month of June has ranked #2 (behind only April) in the proportion of annual revenue received during the month.

As was the case with the prior two months (April and May), tax collections in June 2020 have so far differed from historical June collections due to measures enacted to mitigate the impact and breadth of COVID-19, including, without limitation, the extension of the income tax filing and payment deadline to July 15, 2020, the extension of the first and second estimated payment installments for 2020 to July 15, 2020, penalty waivers, safer-at-home advisories and gradual reopening of Massachusetts, as well as the impact COVID-19 has had on consumer and corporate behavior, the economy and the stock market.

U.S. House approves Great American Outdoors Act

Staff Report

On Wednesday, July 22, the U.S. House of Representatives voted 310-107 to approve the Great American Outdoors Act, which would fully fund the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) and make critical investments in our national park system and other public lands. The bill, which passed the U.S. Senate last month, now goes to the president for his promised signature.

"During this tumultuous time, many of us have turned to outdoor spaces and local parks for our physical and mental wellbeing. I am grateful that the U.S. House of Representatives expressed their thanks by supporting this historic investment in the future of our outdoor spaces," said Deb Markowitz, state director for The Nature Conservancy in Massachusetts.

Fully and permanently funding the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) will bring critical funding for conservation

and recreation across the Commonwealth. Important lands and waters, like Barrett's Farm at Minute Man National Historical Park, climate resilient wildlife habitat at the Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge, the forests around the Quabbin Reservoir that filter water for 2.5 million people, and countless local parks and playgrounds, have already been funded through LWCF.

"These places also form the foundation of our strong outdoor recreation economy. Fully funding this program is a game-changer for nature and for those of us who love and depend on it," says Markowitz.

The Great American Outdoors Act combines two conservation proposals that each have strong, bipartisan support. The first would provide full and permanent funding of \$900 million each year for LWCF, an amount derived from offshore oil and gas revenues—not tax dollars. A recent economic analysis shows that every \$1

million invested in LWCF could support up to 30 jobs. Additionally, research on the impact of the LWCF shows that \$1 spent generates \$4 in economic value from natural resource goods and services alone.

The second part of the bill would invest \$1.9 billion annually for the next five years toward maintenance in national parks, other public lands and at the Bureau of Indian Education. In Massachusetts, this backlog has been estimated at over \$244 million at National Park Service (NPS) sites, alone. For example, Minute Man National Historical Park sees a million annual visitors and generates \$87 million in economic output; however, it has over \$12 million in deferred maintenance needs related to buildings, trails, wastewater systems and roads. Across the country, maintenance investments at NPS sites could generate nearly 110,000 additional infrastructure-related jobs.

FRESH AND LOCAL

Use it up!



By Penny & Ed Cherubino

Chicken leftover from one meal became tacos with a few items from the vegetable bin.

"Use it up, wear it out, make it do, or do without" was the motto for many of our ancestors. This way of thinking has had relevance during the pandemic and may lead to a healthier, thriftier, and less materialistic way of life for many of us in the years ahead.

We've always been sensitive to wasted food, but never more than over the past few months. We regrew scallions from stubs; made chicken stock from bones, skin, and limp vegetables; froze ripe bananas, and created interesting meals from whatever we had on hand.

Good Resources

The food media paid a good deal of attention to recipes that use leftovers and how to substitute one item for another during the days of shortages. People who couldn't find yeast learned to make flatbreads from flour and yogurt.

Every chef with a vlog created videos of recipes for fried rice, tacos, frittata, grain bowls, mac & cheese, casseroles, and curries that used up what they had on hand. Jamie Oliver, Kenji Alt Lopes, Food with Chetna, Food 52, the Washington Post and New York Times YouTube channels showed us how to make do and feed ourselves from our pantries.

Time of Learning

In a great article for the website The Kitchn, Julianne Bell described what she learned about cooking while living with a chef during the quarantine. While she did learn the way to make specific recipes like a classic French omelet and risotto, it was learning the way a trained chef improvises and uses the pantry and leftovers that changed the way she cooks.

"Like a magician," she wrote of her girlfriend, the chef, "she has conjured cookies out of white chocolate, dried cherries, coconut,

apples, and oats I'd forgotten I had, and summoned a comforting diner-style breakfast out of diced hot dogs, green peppers, sharp cheddar, and frozen hash browns."

"My girlfriend never cooks from recipes — she's much more likely to throw something together, using her instincts and whatever is on hand. I'm not there quite yet, but I'm learning to view recipes as templates, rather than rigid demands you have to follow." This is something many home cooks, new and old, can benefit from learning.

"Give, Take, Trade, and Share"

One more concept we might add to this philosophy is "Give, Take, Trade, and Share." If you know you are not going to be able to "use up" some of the shelf-stable foods you stockpiled during the days when shopping was difficult, donate those items to a food pantry. There are many families who need your bounty.

If you have an item you no longer use and will not wear out, find a home for it with someone who can then spend the money they might have used to buy it on something else. If you need something or just want to try a new gadget or product, see if you can trade with someone for it. Finally, if you only need something occasionally, see if you can rent it, borrow it from a friend or neighbor, or if you can share the one you purchase with one or more friends.

Even if you are one of the fortunate people who continues to have employment and resources as an advocate of "use it up, wear it out, make it do, or do without" and "give, take, trade, and share," you'll be helping other people and our environment.

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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-



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

ing over 400 cars across the Red and Orange Lines, modernizing stations, and upgrading track, signal, and other key infrastructure across the system," said Governor Baker. "These infrastructure upgrades on the Blue Line, including important flood resilience work within the harbor tunnel, will provide faster, more reliable service for travelers and commuters."

This Blue Line work was previously scheduled to be accomplished through a series of week-

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



Photo courtesy of Depasquale Ventures

Frank Depasquale, president of Depasquale Ventures.

staffers, Walsh is still ironing out how to safely implement any restaurant reopenings in places like the North End and further guidelines should arrive by Friday.

Walsh is trying to strike a balance between the need for restaurateurs to start earning a living again while avoiding a resurgence or 'second wave' of COVID-19 in

(RESTAURANTS Pg. 8)

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



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.

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.

Visit www.northendregional.com

Email stephen.quigley@reverejournal.com or deb@bostonsun.com or call 781-485-0588 for your Regional Review information

FOR ALL THE LATEST NEWS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

COMMUNITY NEWS

NORTH END TESTING SITE

COVID-19 testing is now available at the Nazzaro Center parking lot on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. by appointment only. Call 617-643-8000.

SUMMER PROGRAMS FOR YOUTH

Free Boston Center for Youth and Families is providing summer programs for youth ages seven and above.

Programs include: arts and computer activities, recreational programs, virtual field trips, workshops and other things to do.

Register at Boston.GOV/BCYF.

OUTDOOR WINERY ON THE GREENWAY

Boston's first outdoor wine garden, City Winery on The Greenway has opened for another season.

The regular hours of operation are Wednesdays and Fridays from 4-9 p.m., Saturdays from 1-9 p.m. and Sundays from 12-8 p.m. into the fall at Dewey Square.

PLASTIC BAG EXTENSION

The City of Boston executive order to exempt all establishments from the plastic bag ordinance will stay in place until September 30.

FREE VIRTUAL EXERCISE CLASSES

Boston Parks and Recreation Department is hosting virtual dance party classes on Monday and Thursday evenings. Contact Jennifer.Widener@boston.gov.

BCYF SUMMER PROGRAMS

The Boston Center for Youth and Families (BCYF) including the Nazzaro Center is offering teens some virtual programming.

Registration has opened for a variety of programs, designed and operated in accordance with the

current public health guidelines. Apply at Boston.Gov/BCYF.

DOGS NEED TO GET OUT

A reminder from Responsible Urbanites for Fido (RUFF).

Dogs just like humans need to get out the house, get some exercise and fresh you.

Keeping canines active during the stay at home advisory is important to their health.

There are many walking areas in the North End on nearby that owners can venture to with their pets.

NEW ARTWORK ON THE GREENWAY

New artwork has been recently installed on The Greenway by the Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy, featuring works by Mexican American Master Folk Artist Calalina Delgrade-Trurk and British Artist Yirka Shonihare.

Artwork will be on display for one-year and will join 3 others already on display.

THE GREENWAY OPEN MARKET OPERATING

The Greenway Open Market, operated by New England Open Markets, is currently in operation taking place every Saturday of the month and the third Sunday of the month from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Market is a vibrant open-air artisan market.

PUBLIC MARKET OPEN ON THE GREENWAY

Boston Public Market at Dewey Square on The Greenway is open every Tuesday and Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. throughout mid-November as a resource for fresh and local foods.

ACCESSIBLE RAMPS AVAILABLE FOR OUTDOOR DINING

Restaurants that have been granted a temporary license to seating in a parking space or on the street are eligible to request a portable ramp to increase accessi-

bility to outdoor dining.

The Boston Commission for Persons with Disability working with the Licensing Board and the Boston Transportation Department and other city departments worked together to ensure that new dining spaces are accessible and that the path of travel on sidewalks and not obstructed.

"It's important that as we reimagine our streets to accommodate outdoor dining during our reopening process, we do so in a way that is equitable to everyone who uses our roads and sidewalks, including those with disabilities," Mayor Martin Walsh said.

FOCCP CANCELS EVENTS FOR SUMMER

Friends of Christopher Columbus Park have canceled several events: July 18-September 12 lawn games, July 19-August 23 Sunday Night Movies and August 18 Sunset Harbor Cruise.

LEGAL

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 NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME Docket No. SU19CO658CA In the matter of: Edward Coutinho Silva

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed Edward Coutinho Silva of Boston, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: Edward Coutinho Skeffington-Silva Any person may appear

for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Suffolk Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 08/12/2020. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written

appearance if you object to this proceeding. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: July 09, 2020 Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate 7/30/20 RR

PARENTS!
This Resource is
FOR YOU!

SAFELY BACK TO SCHOOL

Before you know it, the new school year will begin. In this climate of crisis there are so many new factors to consider before classes resume. Parents are anxious to learn about new protocols and options for their children. We have created Safely Back to School as a way for schools to reach out to parents to help them learn about all of the new safe education options that are available for the year ahead

Beacon Hill Nursery School
bhns.net

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LOGO

SCHOOL NAME
web address

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INFORMATIONAL LISTINGS
Wide 4" x 2" or Tall - 2" x 4"
Are \$75 each. Publish 4 or more and it will be only \$50 each.
All you have to do is send us your text [about 300 characters], logo and contact information and we'll make your listing. SAFELY Back To School listings pages will be available through August 20, 2020

THE INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER GROUP - "In town newspapers"
The Beacon Hill Times - The Boston Sun - The Charlestown Patriot Bridge
North End Regional Review - The Mission Hill Gazette - The Jamaica Plain Gazette
To Place a listing Sioux: charlestownads@hotmail.com
or call Deb at the office: 781-485-0588

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

SAVE THE DATE!

Taste of the North End 2020



We're very excited to announce the

2020 Taste of the North End

will take place virtually on Wednesday, September 9th, 7 p.m. - 8 p.m.!

We're taking the annual festival virtual this year, but it will certainly remain a celebration of North End culture, food and restaurants, all while benefiting neighborhood organizations and charities, including NEW Health, Eliot School, St. John School, Harvard-Kent School, North End Against Drugs, North End Athletic Association, and North End Music and Performing Arts Center.

Due to the immense challenges our longstanding restaurant partners have faced during the COVID-19 pandemic, a portion of this year's ticket, raffle and auction proceeds will support our local restaurateurs as they safely reopen, covering critical costs including bringing staff back to work, PPE and cleaning supplies.

Stay tuned as we share details and ticket information on the new event. In the meantime, we hope you're enjoying the indoor and outdoor dining experience with our partnering restaurants throughout the North End.

Aqua Pizza

Artu

Arya Trattoria

Bencotto

Bricco Ristorante

Carmelina's

Caffe Paradiso

Domenic's

Forcella

La Summa Cucina

Italiana

Lucca Restaurant

& Bar

Massimino's Cucina

Italiana

Mamma Maria

Mike's Pastry

Modern Pastry

Neptune Oyster

Pagliuca's

Pauli's (takeout)

Prezza

Ristorante Limoncello

Rocco's Cucina

Restaurant & Bar

Strega North End

Tony & Elaine's

Taranta

The Sail Loft

If you're interested in sponsorship opportunities for the event, please email us at info@totne.org.