



# THE NORTH END

## REGIONAL REVIEW

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### The Greenway makes day-to-day changes relating to Coronavirus

By Phil Orlandella

The Greenway is closely monitoring the evolving Coronavirus situation and has made changes to its day-to-day operations and care of the park.

Steps being taken include: increased frequency of cleaning and disinfecting of high use surfaces in the park, requiring staff to work remotely when possible and is canceling all volunteers in the park for the remainder of March.

“Maintaining a healthy Greenway is a central part of The Greenway Conservancy’s mission,” Executive Director Jesse Brackenbury noted in The Greenway newsletter.

“As we all practice social distancing during this challenging time, we hope access to the outdoors can be a comfort,” he added.

### Old North Church closed to visitors

By Phil Orlandella

The Old North Church and Historic Site has been closed to visitors until further notice.

This decision will be reevaluated and the church will be updating on changes on developments by March 31.

The church’s new exhibit, “The Vernacular and the Spectacular” has been canceled and the Speaker Series (March 31) event, 10 on 10: Women in the Workforce will be converted to an online webinar and conversation format.

Sunday services at Christ Church in the City of Boston has also been suspended until further notice.



Jed Fermo of Long Island, New York, is pictured with his girlfriend, Louinne at the Trellis in Christopher Columbus Park.

### New Yorker wins Tunnel of Love Instagram contest

By Phil Orlandella

Friends of Christopher Columbus Park (FOCCP) winner of the Trellis 2020 Love Instagram contest winner was Jed Fermo of Long Island, New York who was visiting the park during February, when the Trellis was transformed into an iconic Tunnel of Love complete with 12-foot-tall illuminated red hearts, lighted cupids and had romantic music playing.

Artist Robyn Reed, FOCCP Board member and art curator, created the Tunnel of Love to enliven the park during February, which is usually one of the coldest and dreariest months of the year, according to FOCCP.

Visitors to the park were invited to post their photos of the tunnel on [instagram@FOCCP](mailto:instagram@FOCCP) for the chance to win four tickets to the FOCCP annual Sunset Cruise slat-

ed for Tuesday, August 18, valued at \$160.

Apparently, Fermo visited Boston in 2017 said, “I remember how nice it was.”

When he and his girlfriend planned another trip to Boston, Columbus Park was one of their planned destinations, “I wanted to show it to Louinne,” he said.

When they saw the Tunnel of Love attraction in the poster that have the Instagram details they agreed “Why Not”.

“We seen another couple struggling to have their photo taken so we volunteered to take their photo and then they took our picture,” Fermo noted.

According to FOCCP, “The Tunnel of Love is one of the many events in attractions sponsored by the Friends of Christopher Columbus Park.”

(TUNNEL Pg. 3)

### Nomination papers for NEWNC 2020 election available

By Phil Orlandella

Nomination papers for six seats open on the North End/Waterfront Neighborhood Council (NEWNC), are available only at [newncboston@gmail.com](mailto:newncboston@gmail.com) and return by Monday, May 4. This change is due to the closure of the Nazzaro Community Center relating to the Coronavirus.

Candidates must reside in Ward III, Precincts 1, 2, 3, and 4 and must secure 40 signatures of residents, 18 years old or older from the same district.

All signatures will be reviewed and validated by this year’s Election Committee made up of six active NEWNC members not up for reelection. They will also count the ballots publicly and announced the winners on election day.

“Qualified candidates are expected to have read and become familiar with NEWNC by-laws and the monthly meeting schedule,” NEWNC President Brett Roman said.

Meetings are held the second Monday of each month at the Nazzaro Community Center at 7

p.m.

Once certified, candidates will be placed randomly on the ballot order. In addition, candidates will have the opportunity to introduce themselves at the Council’s Candidate’s Night scheduled for Monday, May 11, at the Center at 7 p.m.

The election, unless otherwise noted, will be held at the Nazzaro Community Center, 30 North Bennet Street on Saturday, May 16, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

It is important to report that unless there are more than six candidates seeking election, all certified nominees will automatically be placed on the Council for two-year terms.

For NEWNC members whose terms that coming to an end are: Brett Roman, John Pregmon, Marie Simboli, and Jody Faller. Most likely they will seek reelection.

Members with one-year still remaining on the Council are: Tina Natale, Damien DiPaola, Ashley Leo, Taria Green and Carmine Guarino.

NEWNC is a non-profit (NEWNC Pg. 3)

### The Feast of San Gennaro will be postponed this year

The Feast of San Gennaro will not take place this Year

Special to the Regional Review

One of the North End’s most popular feasts, the Feast of San Gennaro, has been canceled for this September. It will return in September 2021.

The feast generally takes place on the last block of Hanover Street during the third weekend of September. The feast has historically become one of the North End’s most popular festivals and in the past, has been emceed by Billy Costa of KISS 108 and NESN’s Dining Playbook and Colton Bradford of 101.7 The Bull and NBC Boston.

The feast, a creation of Frank DePasquale, Pasquale Trotta, and Nick Varano, has featured more

than thirty Italian food vendors; entertainment; live music and special appearances in the past years. “It is with heavy heart that we have to postpone our beloved Feast of San Gennaro this year. But, with the time it takes to ramp up and the pieces that need to begin being put in place right now, we realize that this just isn’t the right time,” said Frank DePasquale. “We look forward to coming back stronger than ever in September 2021 and we will see you all then.”

San Gennaro Boston is a dream come true and a way for the North End’s Pasquale Trotta, founder and president of the San Gennaro Foundation of Boston,

(FEAST Pg. 3)

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# Forum

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## THANK GOODNESS FOR DR. FAUCI

Watching the daily press briefings of the White House Task Force on the current corona virus crisis, we know we speak for all Americans in being thankful for the calming and professional presence of Dr. Anthony Fauci, who has served as the Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) since 1984.

It's hard to believe that Dr. Fauci is 79, not only because of his energy, but also because of the spot-on answers he has for every question from the press, which often includes having to make sense of the typical off-base pronouncements from President Donald Trump.

It is fair to say that there are few in the entire world who has Dr. Fauci's breadth of experience and expertise in the realm of infectious diseases. If there is one person who is irreplaceable in our government at this critical time, that person is Dr. Fauci.

We know we join with all of our fellow citizens in thanking Dr. Fauci for his many years of service to our country and for all that he is doing today in order to help us through these difficult times.

## THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES, TOM

For the past 20 years, there has been no public figure in New England who has been more well-known, and more idolized, than Tom Brady. Regardless of whether you are a football fan, male or female, young or old, everyone knows who Tom Brady is.

Up until this season, the thought of Tom Brady not finishing his career as a Patriot was unimaginable.

But this past week, Brady's departure for Tampa Bay was the emotional equivalent of a bucket of ice water in the face. The young man who grew from a last-round draft pick into a legend, both on and off the field, has left us with an ache in our hearts, even for those of us who don't know a first down from first base.

Tom Brady never has been the most athletic person on the gridiron, nor did he possess the strongest arm. But what he demonstrated during his 20-year career is that hard work, dedication, and mental toughness matter far more than natural ability.

It is a lesson that transcends the game of football and that constitutes the essence of what made Tom Brady the GOAT.

In the vein of the maxim, " 'Tis better to have loved and lost, than never to have loved at all," even though it may take another 20 years for the Patriots to get to the Super Bowl, the six championships that Tom Brady brought our region will forever be inscribed in our collective memories.

Thanks for the memories, Tom.

## GUEST OP-ED

### Through every challenge, Boston stands together

By Mayor Martin J. Walsh

The coronavirus is a serious public health crisis that is affecting every aspect of life in our city. I know that the changes have been disruptive, and the cancellations have been disappointing. Some working people are losing paychecks, worried about bills, and struggling with childcare. And through it all, many of the people we want to wrap our arms around the most, are the very people we must keep at arm's length, for their own safety. I want you to know that the city is working around the clock to slow the spread of the virus, keep people healthy, and make sure that our city can return to normal as soon as possible.

The City of Boston is committed to keeping all residents informed and up-to-date. Here are the facts. The common symptoms of coronavirus are fever, coughing and shortness of breath. Most people recover by managing their symptoms at home. But for some, especially older people and those with medical conditions, it can be a severe illness. If you think you are getting sick, isolate yourself from others, and call your healthcare provider, or call 3-1-1 to talk to the Mayor's Health Line. You can learn more, including the latest updates, at [boston.gov/coronavirus](http://boston.gov/coronavirus).

Here are the preventative measures that public health officials and healthcare workers have been recommending: Wash your hands often for at least 20 seconds. Use hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available. Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Wipe

down surfaces that you frequently touch with disinfectant. Practice social distancing by avoiding crowded places, staying at least six feet away from others, and staying home as much as possible.

What I want people to remember is that these steps aren't just about keeping yourself healthy, they are also about protecting the most vulnerable in our community, including people who have weakened immune systems and our older residents. No one wants to be isolated, especially during these times of stress and uncertainty, but the steps we take now will slow the spread of the virus, and will help all Bostonians in the long run. A lot of people are asking what they can do to help at a time like this. Staying home, and minimizing contact with others, especially those who are most vulnerable, are the best things you can do. I also encourage people to check in on one another. Sometimes, a phone call, an email, or a smile across the hallway or the yard can go a long way. If you are able, I encourage you to donate to the Boston Resiliency Fund, a new resource we created for local families in need. You can donate or learn more at [BostonResiliencyFund.gov](http://BostonResiliencyFund.gov).

As a City government, we have taken bold and aggressive action to protect all residents. We closed the Boston Public Schools, with plans to re-open on April 27. If it is safe to re-open our schools sooner, we will do so. And we created a plan to keep all 53,000 students fed and engaged with learning activities for up to six weeks out of school. To protect our families, we closed all our City gyms, pools, and community centers. We closed

all Boston Public Library locations. The BPL offers thousands of ebooks, audio books, and movies that you can access for free online. Visit [BPL.org](http://BPL.org) to learn more. To protect workers, we've ordered a pause to construction, with the exception of essential safety related projects. Restaurants are closed for dining-in, but we are lifting regulations to allow all restaurants to offer take-out and delivery. And we're ready to help any establishment get set up with a delivery service. We have worked with the Boston Housing Authority and private property owners to stop eviction proceedings until the crisis is over.

At City Hall, we will only have employees on-site who are critical to the operations of the City. We're maintaining essential City services in order to keep our government running, including public health and public safety; trash and recycling; and more. We will also continue to provide essential and emergency support for seniors, children, veterans, immigrant communities, and people experiencing homelessness. Our first responders are working and on duty, because safety is always our top priority.

When we have been challenged in the past, the City of Boston always works together. We have proven that we are Boston Strong. With vigilance and patience, with empathy and love, we will get through this together. I want to thank all the people of Boston for their strength, their understanding, and their support at this critical time.

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

## REGIONAL REVIEW

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**OPINION** BY PHIL ORLANDELLA

**CONSIDER BEING A NEWNC ELECTION CANDIDATE**

Giving up one night a month to become a meaningful voice for the neighborhood is really not too much to ask for.

Becoming a member of the North End/Waterfront Neighborhood Council (NEWNC) affords the opportunity, especially when there are so many issues, developments and endeavors to deal with, and something new occurring frequently.

Serving on the Council affords residents a chance to represent the neighborhood on a first-hand-basis.

It all starts by taking out nomination papers and securing 40 signatures from Ward III, Precincts 1, 2, 3+4. Candidates must be 18 years or older. Deadline is Monday, May 4.

Believe it or not, the community is still growing in more ways than one. It is extremely important to have a publicly elected Council to help pave the way with the betterment of the community in mind.

Think about becoming a candidate to serve on the neighborhood group that cares.

**PUBLIC HEALTH IS PARAMOUNT**

How long can cities, towns and states in the country withstand the negative effect of the Coronavirus that is having a crippling effect on the economy.

Necessary closures being imposed appears to be a major part of resolving the problem.

Professional health advice is also apparently another way to help with this medical situation.

A cure for the virus would be

the ultimate resolution, however, until then, it is extremely important that people continue to heed the advice being put forth at this time.

Public Health is Paramount!

**POLICY TO PROTECT STUDENT INFORMATION NEEDS TO BE APPROVED**

A proposal by Mayor Martin Walsh and Boston Public Schools (BPS) Superintendent have filed a measure to protect the rights of student information is paramount.

Policy will be established to deal with requests for student records will be abided by the entire public-school system.

Guidelines will be set to only provide records deemed necessary under the new policy that needs approval by the Boston School Committee which is expected to put the policy in place. They may have already done so.

**WILL VIRUS HAMPER SPRING ACTIVITIES?**

Spring is here and soon the flowers will be blooming and leaves will fill in the tree branches on The Greenway, Columbus Park, Sliding Park, Cutillo Park, North Square, Paul Revere Mall (Prado) and other sites throughout the neighborhood.

It's a special time of the year to enjoy the outdoors with family and friends, especially during daylight savings time. However, it appears that this Coronavirus situation will probably keep these terrific public sites empty more often than not.

Hopefully, this dangerous virus is over by then but don't count on it.

Looks like spring will be a

household adventure.

**TOP-NOTCH SMALL FRY BASKETBALL PROGRAM**

The Nazzaro Community Center finished other terrific Small Fry Basketball league just in time before the Coronavirus situation created all the shutdowns.

Players enjoyed themselves throughout the season as the coaches, league staff and other volunteers put forth a fantastic and educational program.

This is only one of the many programs, activities and events provided by the Center on a regular basis.

**BRADY VYING FOR 7TH SUPER BOWL CHAMPIONSHIP**

Patriot Quarterback Tom Brady (the GOAT) has found greener pastures in Florida with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers following more than twenty years with the New England Patriots.

Brady has one 6 Super Bowls, 17 divisional championships and 13 conference championships.

Brady was a class act on and off the field. His actions and performance while with the Pats were impeccable. His involvement in the community was always positive and fruitful.

His legacy in football has been top-shelf and will continue to grow. Brady makes football exciting to say the least.

The addition of Brady makes Tampa Bay a true contender for divisional and conference championship and one of the favorites to win the Super Bowl, and a seventh ring for the GOAT.

Let's Go!

**FEAST (from pg. 1)**

to pay it forward and give back to the community through food, fun, and fundraising. Trotta was born and raised in Naples, a few blocks away from the San Gennaro church, and has always been fascinated by San Gennaro and his miracles towards helping the community and keeping the community on Naples, safe. As one of the largest festivals in Italy and New York City, Trotta is delighted to bring the Feast of San Gennaro to Boston.

Supporting Trotta's vision and

mission to raise funds for charity, Frank De Pasquale and Nick Varano have joined the planning and organizing effort as cofounders of the San Gennaro Foundation of Boston as a means to pay tribute to their land and give back to their community.

After over 10 years of endless work bringing this project to Boston, it is time for San Gennaro to grace the North End. An authentic statue of San Genaro has been reproduced in the Vatican Foundries of Agnone

by the famous sculptor Ettore Marinelli and was blessed by Pope Francis in August at the Cathedral of Saint Pietro, at the Vatican City. It has since been transported on a private flight from Naples to Boston, where the religious feast of San Gennaro will take place.

For additional information, please visit [www.sangennaroboston.org](http://www.sangennaroboston.org) or follow San Gennaro Boston on Facebook at @SanGennaroBOS, Twitter at @BosGennaro, and Instagram at @SanGennaroBOS.

**Rep. Michlewitz supports annual transportation funding**

By Phil Orlandella

A bill to invest \$600 million annually in transportation funding to provide much-needed revenue that will begin to address the ongoing needs of the State's Transportation System has been passed by the House of Representatives.

Projected congestion increases, unreliability and safety concerns prompted by legislature to act on the transportation woes, while cities and towns across the state reported increased transportation infrastructure needs.

"Throughout this process it has

become clearer by the day that the need for more transportation revenue is real and it is immediate," Rep. Aaron Michlewitz, Co-Chair of the Joint Committee of Ways and Means said.

"The balance approach that the House took in adopting this legislation ensures that we can make a greater investment in our transportation infrastructure without doing unnecessary harm to our constituents and businesses alike," Michlewitz added.

Rep. Michlewitz pointed out, "These investments are vitally important because the longer we wait, the worse our transportation will get."

**NEWNC (from pg. 1)**

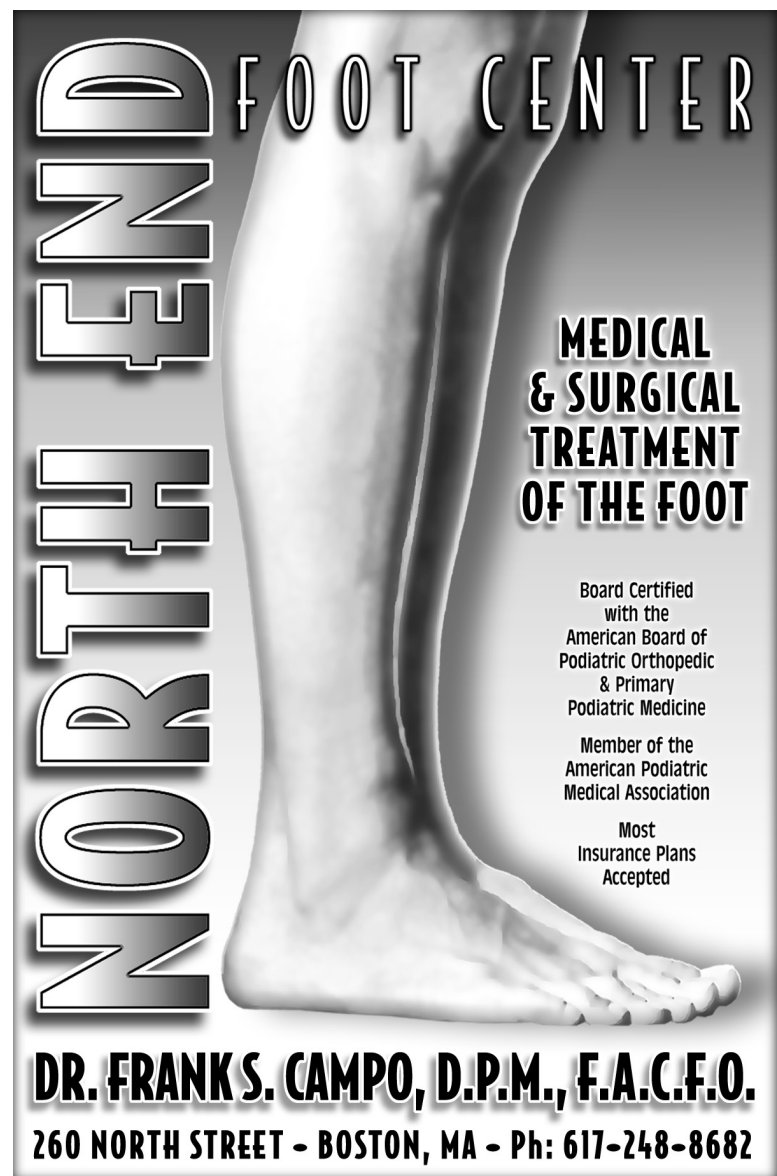
twelve-member board with six-to-year terms available each year. For information about the Council and

the election email [newncboston@gmail.com](mailto:newncboston@gmail.com).

**TUNNEL (from pg. 1)**

The organization host events for children, Sunday outdoor movies, Saturday lawn games, bathes the Trellis and blue lights

every winter. FOCCP reminds those interested in the August cruise tickets are currently available at [foccp.org](http://foccp.org).



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# Baker, Walsh continue to update residents as stay at home advisory is in effect

By Lauren Bennett

On Monday, both Governor Charlie Baker and Mayor Marty Walsh provided updates to the public regarding the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

After several states have issued what they call “shelter in place” or “stay at home” orders, Governor Baker directed the Department of Public Health to issue a stay at home advisory that began Tuesday, March 24th at noon and will last until Tuesday, April 7th at noon. Residents are advised to stay at home and avoid unnecessary travel and other unnecessary activities during the advisory. He also said that those over the age of 70 or who have underlying health conditions should especially limit social interactions.

The order also limits gatherings to 10 people during the state of emergency, a change from the previous 25 that were allowed.

“This includes community, civic, public, leisure, faith-based events, and any similar event or activity that brings together more than 10 persons in any confined indoor or outdoor space,” accord-

ing to a release from the state. Gatherings of 10 or more people in an outdoor space such as a park or athletic field are not prohibited by the order.

“The Baker-Polito Administration does not believe Massachusetts residents can be confined to their homes and does not support home confinement for public health reasons,” the release states, though some people have written to the governor asking him to put a stricter order in place.

Governor Baker also issued an emergency order “requiring all businesses and organizations that do not provide ‘COVID-19 Essential Services’ to close their physical workplaces and facilities to workers, customers and the public as of Tuesday, March 24th at noon until Tuesday, April 7th at noon,” the release states. A list of designated businesses that are allowed to remain open can be found at [mass.gov](http://mass.gov).

Businesses that are not on this list are encouraged to continue their work remotely, the governor said. Restaurants are permitted to continue offering food for takeout and delivery as long as social dis-

tancing protocols are followed.

“People will not lose access to food or medicine,” Baker assured residents. Additionally, he said a goal for the state is to be testing people for the virus “at a significantly higher level.”

As of press time, nine people have died in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, including two Boston residents.

Mayor Walsh spoke to Boston residents on Monday afternoon as well, announcing that one Boston Police officer and one EMT have tested positive.

The pause on nonessential construction began on Monday, Walsh said, as did daycare closures statewide with the exception of some that remain open for the children of healthcare professionals and first responders.

Walsh once again thanked the healthcare workers for being on the frontlines and helping those who are sick, and reiterated that practicing physical and social distancing is of the utmost importance to stop the spread of the virus and not overwhelm hospitals.

“There is no reason to panic buy or hoard items,” he also told residents, adding that Boston water is safe to drink and people should not be hoarding plastic bottles of water from the store.

As the governor said, restaurants can continue to offer takeout and delivery, and the City is offering a guidebook on how to set it up for those who do not currently offer it. A directory for residents of which restaurants are open and offering takeout and delivery will also be available, the Mayor said.

Walsh reminded those waiting for takeout to practice social distancing and to not gather in large groups.

Walsh said that the city will continue to be in touch with seniors, the homeless population, students who need free lunch, and other vulnerable residents. He also said that there is now a team of experts reviewing emergency management plans for the city.

“This is uncharted territory,” Walsh said, adding that he is “grateful” for the support of this team.

Boston Public Schools remain closed, and Walsh said that around 15,000 Chromebooks have been distributed to students across the city so they can continue their learning from home. Additionally, free meals for students are being distributed at 70 locations across the city.

Walsh also said that homeless shelters remain open, and the city is erecting facilities for screening,

testing, and isolating patients, including the first tent that opened on Saturday afternoon with room for 18 individuals.

“To date, no one has the coronavirus in the homeless population,” Walsh said. The city is also hiring candidates for homeless councilors, public safety officers, and more.

For seniors, Walsh said that the Age Strong Commission “is here for you,” and is conducting phone calls in multiple languages to keep seniors up to date.

Walsh encouraged families experiencing financial hardship to reach out to their banks, as many are putting products and information out there about reworking mortgages and working out payment plans for credit cards.

He is also looking for donations of gloves and masks from nail salons, construction workers, and other businesses who use that equipment, as hospitals are in dire need of these supplies.

“These are extraordinarily difficult times,” Walsh said. “We’re going to see numbers increase because of testing made available.”

Walsh said that there is no “safe date” where everything will return to normal, as no one can predict what will happen. He said that he hopes that cancelling the St. Patrick’s Day parade as well as postponing the marathon will make an impact and help prevent the spread of the virus, and reiterated the importance of staying inside and away from others so life can return to normal as soon as possible.

## Baker Update March 24

On Tuesday afternoon, Baker announced that the state is continuing to ramp up testing capabilities, including adding 10 additional labs in addition to the state lab and other private labs that have been processing COVID-19 tests. As of press time, nine people in the Commonwealth have died from the virus.

As of press time, Baker said that almost 9000 tests have been completed in Massachusetts, up from 6,000 on Sunday.

Baker advised people who are showing flu-like symptoms to first contact their healthcare provider before going anywhere. “We need to keep people who don’t need to be in our hospitals and medical facilities out,” he said. The state has expanded telehealth services to make it easier for people to call and video chat with healthcare providers, as well as made it easier for nurses who are licensed in other states to work in Massachusetts.

As of Tuesday morning, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health has made 89 deliveries of personal protection supplies, including over 750,000 masks, face shields, masks, and pairs of gloves from the strategic national stockpile. He also said that the dental community has donated masks, gloves, and hand sanitizer as well, and similar outreach to other communities like the construction community have gone out too.

Baker said that the only things people should be going out for are groceries, medications, and for some fresh air, but physical distancing should be maintained.

The state has also announced its own text alert system. Baker said that while the state is not looking to inundate people with even more information, they felt it was important that people are getting information from trusted sources, and only one or two notifications would be sent out per day.

The service would provide latest news and updates, public health tips, information on social and physical distancing, personal hygiene, and more. To sign up for the service, text COVIDMA to 888-777.

“It’s a great way to stay in touch with the Commonwealth,” Baker said.

When asked about relief for rent and mortgage payments, Baker said that it is hard for the state to know what to do without clarity from the federal government. He said that it is not possible to foreclose or evict without going to court, and courts are currently closed. He said they are talking about what the state could do on this matter, but he said in MA under existing state law, it takes 90 days to cure on mortgages and 60 days on rent, and this law will be enforced.

The Baker administration also announced new legislation that would cut down on some of the “bureaucratic processes for local governments,” Baker said.

Lt. Governor Karyn Polito said that the package includes things like giving local governments more flexibility on collecting taxes from taxpayers, working with project proponents on local projects and permitting processes, and giving local businesses who are offering takeout and delivery services permission to include beer or wine in a sealed container with meals. For more information on the legislation, visit [mass.gov](http://mass.gov).

“We know that we will all do better when we work together,” Polito said.

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## NEWS AND NOTES By Phil Orlandella

### STUDENT PRIVATE POLICY FILED

A policy that further clarifies the protocols that must be followed when the school system receives requests for student educational records have been adopted by the Boston School Committee.

The proposals submitted by Mayor Martin Walsh and Boston Public Schools (BPS) Superintendent Brenda Cassellius clarifies the protocols that will need to be followed when receiving student information requests.

Boston School employees will be trained annually on relevant laws regarding the privacy of student information.

### MBTA MAKES SERVICE LEVEL CHANGES

Service level changes to the MBTA are currently in effect to help slow down the spread of the COVID-19 to protect its workforce, ensure continuity of services and health issue to riders.

Changes were made based on guidelines from public health professionals as well as recent reductions in ridership.

Full details are available by visiting [www.mbta.com/coronavirus](http://www.mbta.com/coronavirus).

### REGISTRY OPENS 7 SERVICE LOCATIONS

Seven of its 30 Customer Service Centers locations have been reopened until further notice including Boston/Haymarket where hearings will be held, according to the Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV).

Earlier in the month, the RMV began helping residents with social distancing by reducing the need for some customers to physically visit a Service Center for certain transactions.

RMV has now implemented a 60-day extension for residents with Class D and Class DM drivers



*Boston Public Library's historic McKim Building in Copley Square recently celebrated its 125th anniversary of "Palace for the People", considered an architectural masterpiece. "Library's reflect the identity, culture and history of our City," Mayor Martin Walsh said. Citywide, the largest investment is being made in libraries in decades.*

licenses, ID Cards, and Learners Permits that have an expiration date through April 30 applied to that customer's credentials.

This deadline extension does not apply to customers with Commercial Driver's Licenses (CDLs) or those whose end of stay in the United States is the same as the expiration date on their driver's license, ID Card, or Learner's Permit.

Customers eligible for this extension should wait to visit and RM the Service Center or AAA Office (if a member of AAA) to renew until after the State of Emergency is over.

### CITY EMPLOYEES/VOLUNTEERS DISTRIBUTING VIRUS INFORMATION

A thousand City of Boston employees and volunteers are delivering printed information on COVID-19 to all homes in Boston outlining details regarding the virus, a list of preventive measures to mitigate the spread and a compilation of city resources, including food access sites.

The pamphlet is published in eight different languages; however, residents can access information

in additional languages through [www.boston.gov/coronavirus](http://www.boston.gov/coronavirus), by calling 311 to be connected with the telephone interpreter, or through the Mayor's Health Line at 617-534-5050.

Distributors will adhere to physical distancing, hygiene and will not interact with residents, by leaving the information on doorsteps, residents do not have to come out of their houses making contact with any people.

Residents are still being encouraged to continue practicing physical distancing when possible.

### MBTA BOARDING RESTRICTIONS

Additional MBTA service restrictions are currently in effect calling for boarding all buses and trolleys through rear doors, with front dual boarding still available to customers with accessibility needs.

Restrictions will be in effect on the street-level stops on the Green Line and Mattapan Line.

Apparently, the MBTA is undertaking these measures to protect front-line employees while maintaining regional mobility for essential trips by healthcare workers and emergency responders.

## RUFF NEWS AND NOTES

Responsible Urbanites for Fido (RUFF) has made it clear that the dog park in DeFilippo Park will remain open for passive use during the pandemic. RUFF asks that pet owners follow the guidelines for social distancing while in the park.

Due to the current pandemic RUFF has canceled the year licensing event. All dogs must be licensed to use any and all

dog parks in the City and current licenses expire March 31. Renewal or registration can be done by filling out an online application.

Now that most of the neighborhood is working from home and are on conference calls, barking dogs and not a welcome background noise. Be mindful of extensive barking that is constant and uncontrolled barking.

### Body Language of Fear in Dogs



Slight Cowering



Major Cowering

### More Subtle Signs of Fear & Anxiety



Licking Lips  
when no food nearby



Panting  
when not hot or thirsty



Brows Furrowed, Ears to Side



Moving in Slow Motion  
walking slow on floor



Acting Sleepy or Yawning  
when they shouldn't be tired



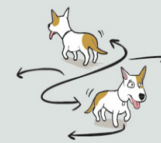
Hypervigilant  
looking in many directions



Suddenly Won't Eat  
but was hungry earlier



Moving Away



Pacing

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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](http://FirstGov.gov). A monumental source of useful information.

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# City Council hold first virtual meeting regarding coronavirus

By Lauren Bennett

The Boston City Council held its first ever virtual hearing regarding COVID-19 on Monday, March 23 using the video conferencing program Zoom.

The hearing, which was held by the City Council Committee on Public Health and chaired by new District 5 Councilor Ricardo Arroyo, invited a gamut of people from professors to nurses to speak and answer questions related to the coronavirus.

Zoom's platform allowed panelists to use PowerPoints for their presentations if need be, as well as for people to ask questions. The purpose of this hearing was to disseminate as much information as possible to the public as well as get some answers to questions that

many people have.

The hearing's first guest, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health's Dr. Marc Lipsitch, provided a presentation. An epidemiologist, Lipsitch said that a large fraction of the transmission from the virus is from close contact—when droplets from the cough or sneeze of an infected person land on someone else. He said that there is probably some airborne transmission as well, though it is less likely if you are outdoors.

"There is not zero risk from a doorknob," he warned, telling listeners that they should wash frequently touched surfaces and hands often.

"When will we have a better idea of how long we might be looking at?" City Councilor Michelle Wu asked.

Lipsitch said there are a lot of

factors, "probably some we haven't even realized yet." He said that China took measures earlier as far as social distancing goes, and "hospitalization is a lagging indicator of new cases."

City Councilor Kim Janey asked that if testing is part of the strategy for flattening the curve, if enough is being done.

Lipsitch said that the country is "not there yet," in terms of the amount of testing that needs to be done. He said that per capita, the United States has done 30 times less testing than South Korea per capita. "We do not have the capacity to do what people are strongly advocating for," he said.

City Councilor Julia Mejia said that it seems as though the age group for who is at risk for the virus has changed, but Lipsitch said that there is "no evidence"

that the virus has changed. What has changed, he said, is the way that researchers understand the virus.

While children are much less symptomatic on average, they are still capable of catching and transmitting the virus.

Margaret Conlon of Carney Hospital in Dorchester said that a floor of the hospital will turn into a negative pressure area, which will pull infected droplets away from healthcare professionals. The hospital. The hospital is the first in the nation to offer a dedicated care center for COVID-19 patients.

Phil Landrigan, Director of the Global Public Health Program and Global Pollution Observatory at Boston College, spoke strongly about the importance of a stay at home order, though he thinks the governor's stay at home advisory

is "clearly a step in the right direction," he said. "My concern is that it doesn't go far enough."

Many others also spoke at the hearing, including a representative from the Suffolk County Sheriff's Office and nurses who are providing care to those infected with COVID-19.

"Things are changing daily," said City Councilor Matt O'Malley. "We want to get as much information as we can out."

As of press time, the full video for this hearing was not yet posted on the City Council's YouTube channel for playback.

The City Council will continue to hold virtual meetings and hearings; the links to follow along and participate at home can be accessed via the City of Boston website's Public Notices section.

## Kode with Klossy coming to Boston

By Phil Orlandella

Kode with Klossy, a free-two-week camp that teaches young women ages 13-18 to code in a fun supportive environment, will be hosting camps in Boston this summer.

The program is a path changing opportunity for young women.

No prior computer science

experience is required and by the end of two weeks, participants will be able to code their own website or mobile application, according to Hallie Smith, Head of Program Development at Kode with Klossy.

Applications are currently available and will close on Sunday, April 5 at 11:59 PST.

An easy and creative online application can be found at [kode-withklossy.com/apply](http://kode-withklossy.com/apply).

## Massachusetts National Guard activated for COVID-19 response

On Thursday, March 19, Gov. Charlie Baker activated up to 2,000 Massachusetts National Guard members to assist with the State of Emergency declared on March 10, 2020 as the region continues to respond to the spread of the coronavirus.

The Massachusetts National Guard said in a release it is ready to assist local communities and to react to requests for assistance through the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA). Some of these requests could include, but are not limited to: medical, transportation, and

logistics.

"Throughout our 383 years of existence, the Massachusetts National Guard has been faced with many challenges, some of which helped form our nation," read a statement from the Guard. "The Massachusetts National Guard is prepared and committed to answer the requests of cities and towns in the Commonwealth."

More information on the scope and nature of the Massachusetts National Guard's response support missions will be released as the situation develops.

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

**CITY PAWSL**

**Welcome home!**

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

One of the best things about having a companion animal is their big, "I'm so glad you're home. I love you to pieces," greeting. That can be in the form of a happy dog racing to you or a purring cat winding itself around your legs.

We're always slightly dismayed when we unlock the door and miss a big welcome because our Poppy is at the groomer or out for a walk. Anyone who has lost a furry family member can recall how empty home feels when that special greeter is no longer around. Being the focus of all that unconditional love each day is a bit addictive.

A friend who had three cats told us, "One cat, our old queen Maddie, would just talk to you when you walked in. The other two, not so much as a whisker quiver!" Talking to you, butting heads, or rolling on the ground in front of you are cat talk for "Happy to see you!" Sometimes they may even bring you a present



One of the best things about having a companion animal is their big, "I'm so glad you're home. I love you to pieces," greeting. (Photo by Dusbyant Kumar on Unsplash)

like a favorite toy.

**Greetings with Issues**

Some dogs also bring presents. We taught our first Westie Sassy to arrive at the door with a favorite ball. This was not for us so much as for a family member who

always asked, "Is it going to bite me?"

Ms. Sassy was a bold and brassy girl. Normally, she gave us big happy greetings. One day we walked in after meeting some Westie puppies. She sniffed our pants, walked over to the center

of the oriental runner in the living room, looked up at us, squatted and peed. She was not going to allow people with puppy smell in her house!

That was defiance urination. It is more common for dogs to suffer from excitement or submissive urination. Once past puppyhood, Poppy has been fine with most people visiting us. However, she has a few special friends who require us to prepare for their arrival by making sure that her tank is on empty and that one of us is holding her as they enter.

The common advice for dealing with a leaky greeter is to reduce the excitement of your arrival. Enter calmly and quietly and take the dog to relieve herself right away. Next, teach your dog to sit while greeting you by going in and out a few times a day and having him sit each time you return.

**Coming Home to a Mess**

Some dogs with separation anxiety will behave badly anytime you are away. You may find trash cans tipped over, or evidence of chew-

ing, salivating, breaks in house training or neighbors complaining of barking. Here the solutions include confining the dog to a safe, small area or a crate. You can add some music or comforting sound to the home and tone down the excitement surrounding your leaving. We give Poppy a Kong filled with a bit of goat cheese to keep her busy as we exit.

We began talking about this topic when a recent Rover.com study reported, "The majority of both dog (69%) and cat (67%) owners admit they say hello to their pet before their family when they get home." Perhaps those of us who live with other humans should make a point of coming through the door with a hearty, "Hello everyone!" before bending to pat the dog or cat who came to the door to greet us.

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

**INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER GROUP CLASSIFIED SECTION**

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

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

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- PART TIME DRIVING INSTRUCTORS** - Weekday afternoons to early evenings & Saturdays. Certified and experience preferred will train. Call Pleasant Auto School (781)284-4388 4/1
- DELIVERY DRIVER** - Part Time For a dry cleaners in Winthrop Part time. 10-14 Hours per week. Early afternoons Approx. Between 12pm-2pm. Valid driver's license required & must provide a copy of driving record from RMV. 617-834-2404
- CUSTOMER SERVICE REP.** wanted for Dry Cleaners in Winthrop. Wed-Friday afternoons. Please contact Marco 2404-834-617
- Sociedad Latina** seeks a Steam Team Coordinator for their Umana - East Boston site. If interested, Send Resume & Cover Letter to [juan@sociedadlatina.org](mailto:juan@sociedadlatina.org) or apply through [www.sociedadlatina.org/careers](http://www.sociedadlatina.org/careers). 3/26
- GENERAL HELP:** Full time or Part time available -Mon-Fri 8 to 4. Laborer needed for Marina Service Dept. Winthrop. We are willing to train right candidate, mechanical experience helpful but not necessary. Please call 617-846-1100 ask for Lloyd. 3/25



**FHAP AGENCIES & OTHER STATE/ LOCAL REFERRAL AGENCIES**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**TO PLACE YOUR AD CALL 781-485-0588**

## COMMUNITY NEWS

*Please check to confirm if any upcoming events have been canceled or not before attending.*

### NEAD TO RESCHEDULE FAMILY DINNER

North End Against Drugs (NEAD) plans to reschedule the Monday, March 23 Family Dinner/Family Talk which was canceled due to the Coronavirus situation. NEAD will make notifications of the new date.

### NEWNC NOMINATION PAPERS AVAILABLE

Nomination papers for the 2020 North End/Waterfront Neighborhood Council (NEWNC) elections are available at newnc-boston@gmail.com. Signatures of 40 local residents must be secured to be placed on the ballot.

### STILL TIME TO REGISTER FOR BASEBALL

Registration for the 2020 baseball season is still underway.

Local youth can participate in Little League, Minor League, Clinics and a traveling team. In addition, a Girls' Softball team is being formed.

### 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.

### NEXT REVIEW

The next Regional Review will be published on Thursday, April 9.

### SEALED BIDS FOR MIRABELLA POOL AND BATHHOUSE WORK

City of Boston, Centers for Youth and Families (BCYF) is seeking sealed bids for repairs, maintenance and painting work at the Marabella Pool and Bathhouse on Commercial Street. Deadline

Friday, April 10. Work will commence on or about Monday, April 20.

### OLD NORTH LANTERN CEREMONY

The 2020 Lantern Ceremony will be held at the Old North Church and Historic Site will be held on Sunday, April 19. For details email mmurray@oldnorth.com.

### FOCCP MEMBERSHIP SOCIAL APRIL 7

The 10th annual Friends of Christopher Columbus Park (FOCCP) will hold a membership social at Tia's, 100 Atlantic Ave. on Tuesday, April 7, from 6 to 8 p.m. No RSVP needed. Free for 2019 members, nonmembers \$10 at the door.

### TONY "C" STORY AT LIBRARY

With baseball season about to begin the North End Library will highlight the amazing story and tragic career of Red Sox player Tony "Tony C" Conigliaro on Wednesday, April 29.

### NEAD EASTER PARTY

North End Against Drugs (NEAD) will hold its annual Easter Party on Saturday, April 11, from 10 a.m. to noon at the Nazzaro Center. Easter related activities and a goodie basket.

### NAZZARO CENTER FAMILY FEUD APRIL 25

BCYF Nazzaro Center will hold a Family Feud Night for ages 55 and up on Saturday, April 25 at 7 p.m. at the Fisherman's Club on the corner of Lewis and Fulton Streets.

The Center is seeking 32-40 people to played the popular TV game with a cash prize awarded to the winning team. Refreshments

will be provided.

Cost is \$20 per person paid upfront in order to secure a spot in the game. Contact Laurie to register at 617-635-5166 or email Laurie.delia@boston.gov.

### MAYOR'S STREET HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

The Mayor's Top Street Hockey Tournament will be held on Thursday, April 23, at 10 a.m. at Joseph Moakley Park, South Boston. For registration or more details visit Damien.margardo@boston.gov or call the Nazzaro Center at 617-635-5166.

### GALA ON THE GREENWAY

The Gala on The Greenway is the Conservancy's signature fundraising event. Mingle with the Greenway Conservancy's top supporters, including elected officials, business and other community leaders, and Greenway neighbors while enjoying cocktails and hors d'oeuvres under a festive tent on The Greenway, June 4, 6 to 9 p.m.

### FREE HEALTH SCREENING

The Nazzaro Community Center will hold a free health screening on Saturday, March 28, from noon to 4 p.m. Must sign up by March 18. For more information call 617-635-5611.

### LIBRARY PRESENTS BOOKS IN BLOOM

Books in Bloom is coming to the North End Library from April 1 to April 4.

Friends of the Library are seeking local groups or individuals to make a flower arrangement to be exhibited at the library during Books in Bloom.

Email Teresa for more information at TeresaOConnell@me.com.

### NEW COFFEE HOUR

The North End/West End

Neighborhood Service Center (NSC) has a new daily drop-in coffee hour from 9 to 11 a.m. and discussion. Drop in for a cup of coffee.

### FLEA MARKET BAKE SALE

Saint Francis House Flea Market/Bake Sale will be held on April 17 and April 18, at the Nazzaro Community Center. For more information call John Romano at 617-750-9749.

### BASEBALL REGISTRATION

Registration for the 2020 NEAA Baseball season is taking place. For details visit www.neabaseball.org.

### FOCCP MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE

Friends of Christopher Columbus Park (FOCCP) holds monthly meetings the second Tuesday of every month at the Mariners House, 11 North Square at 6:30 p.m. Meetings are as follows: April 14, May 12, June 9, July 14, August 11, September 8, October 13, November 10, there will be no meeting in December.

### NAZZARO CENTER SUMMER CAMP

Nazzaro Center Summer Camp applications are now available. All information is listed online and must be turned in at the Nazzaro Center. Contact lauriedelia@boston.gov.

### NEWRA MONTHLY MEETINGS

The North End/Waterfront Residents' Association (NEWRA) conducts meetings the second Thursday of each month at the Nazzaro Community Center, 30 North Bennet Street at 7 p.m. No meetings on holidays. Meetings are as follows: April 9, May 14, June

11, July 9, August 13, September 10, October 8, November 13, and December 10.

### NEWNC MONTHLY MEETINGS

The North End/Waterfront Neighborhood Council (NEWNC) meets the second Monday of each month at the Nazzaro Community Center, 30 North Bennet Street at 7 p.m. No meetings on holidays. Meetings are as follows: April 13, May 10, June 7, July 12, August 9, September 13, October 11, November 8, and December 13.

### TEEN CREATIVE WRITING

Each Friday from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. the North End Library, 25 Parmenter Street hosts a Team Creative Writing Group. Use writing prompts provided or work on a project. Get feedback from other teen writers. For more information call 617-227-8135.

### HOMEWORK ASSISTANCE

Homework help is available at the North End Library, 25 Parmenter Street on Wednesdays from 4 to 6 p.m. For more information call 617-227-8135.

### STAR MARKET SHUTTLE

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

### COMPUTER ASSISTANCE

One-On-One computer assistance for adults is being held at the North End Library, by appointment only. Call 617-227-8135 to reserve a spot.

### NSC ARTS AND CRAFTS

Every other Thursday from 10 to 11 a.m. the North End/West End Neighborhood Service Center (NSC), 1 Michelangelo Street conducts arts and crafts.