

HILL HAPPENINGS, SEE PAGE 4

Mission Hill

GAZETTE

Serving Mission Hill and the Longwood Medical and Academic Area

FREE 16 PAGES VOLUME 28 • NUMBER 8



BOOK YOUR POST IT Call Your Advertising Rep (617) 524-7662

617-524-2626 • www.MissionHillGazette.com OCTOBER 2, 2020 — NOVEMBER 12, 2020

CAMPAIGN KICK-OFF



Councilor Andrea Campbell announced her intention to run for mayor of Boston in the 2021 City Election next year during a rally in the South End on Thursday, Sept. 24.

Going the Wrong Way

District E-13 crime up one percent with homicides, domestic aggravated assault and car breaks all increasing

BY JOHN LYNDS

The Boston Police Department released the third quarter crime stats for District E-13 (Mission Hill/Roxbury) and although overall crime is down one percent, homicides, domestic aggravated assault and car breaks have all increased.

When comparing January 1, 2019 through September 13, 2019 with the same time period this year, Homicides increased

83 percent, Domestic Aggravated Assaults are up 12 percent and Larceny from Motor Vehicles are up 40 percent.

Part One Crimes are the more serious crimes the Boston Police track.

By the third quarter of 2019 there were only 6 Homicides but the number jumped to 11 by the third quarter of 2020. Citywide there's been a 50 percent in-

Continued on page 9

Construction has started on Parcel 25 Phase 2

STAFF REPORT

Mayor Martin J. Walsh, Mission Hill Neighborhood Housing Services (MHNHS), Boston Children's Hospital together announced that construction has started on the second of three phases in the redevelopment of Parcel 25, part of the Mission Hill Community's plan to revitalize the Roxbury Crossing gateway to the neighborhood.

"Today we celebrate a significant milestone as we break ground on the next round of a project that will bring 46 new housing units that are affordable to residents to the Mission Hill neighborhood," Mayor Walsh said on September 14.

Continued on page 2

CAMH September monthly meeting report

BY LAURA PLUMMER

The Community Alliance Mission Hill (CAMH) met remotely via Zoom on Sept. 16. On the agenda were a property on Calumet and fruit trees. Around 14 members of the public attended.

190 Calumet St. CAMH hosted a pre-vote review of the property at 190 Calumet St. Architect Tim Burke and property owner Brian Gormley, who lives in Brookline, are proposing the addition of two bedrooms and one bathroom to the

first floor unit at the basement level. The developers are seeking a variance for the Floor Area Ratio (FAR), which is a building's floor area in relation to the size of the lot/parcel that the building is

Continued on page 2

Reunión mensual de septiembre de CAMH

BY LAURA PLUMMER

La Alianza Comunitaria Mission Hill (CAMH) se reunió de forma remota a través de Zoom el 16 de septiembre. En la agenda había una propiedad en Calumet y árboles frutales.

190 Calumet St. CAMH organizó una revisión previa a la votación de la propiedad en 190 Calumet St. El arquitecto Tim Burke y el propietario Brian Gormley, que vive en Brookline, proponen la adición de dos dormitorios y un baño a la unidad del primer piso en el nivel del sótano. Los desarrolladores buscan una variación para la relación área-suelo (FAR), que es el área de piso de un edificio en relación con el tamaño del lote / parcela en el que se encuentra. El FAR máximo es ,7, mientras que

los desarrolladores buscan un

Continued on page 2

Visit MissionHillGazette.com Email stephen.quigley@reverejournal.com or patricia@jamaicaplaingazette.com or call 781-485-0588 for your Mission Hill information

Phase 2

Continued from page 1

strong and vibrant for generations to come.”

Phase one of the project included two buildings. The Maria Sanchez House, located on Gurney Street, was the first of the two buildings developed as part of the community’s vision to reclaim the area. It was completed in 2015 and offers 40 units of affordable housing for seniors. One Gurney Street, the second of the two buildings, opened in late 2017 and is a transit-oriented, mixed-use development that offers 40 units of affordable family housing, contains the new office headquarters for Metro Housing Boston, and four community-oriented retail storefronts including a new Eastern Bank branch. Phase two of the redevelopment represents the culmination of more than a decade of planning and hard work by Mission Hill Neighborhood Housing Services and the Mission Hill community to restore the land formerly owned by the MBTA.

“We are thrilled to announce the start of construction on the Parcel 25 Phase 2 Project,” said Patricia Flaherty, Executive Director of MHNHS, and longtime resident of Mission Hill. “We are grateful to all of our partners who continue to support this community’s desire for affordable housing in Roxbury Crossing, led by Mayor Walsh, and including the City’s Department of Neighborhood Development, the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development, Boston Children’s Hospital, as well as the strong commitment to the project by equity investor MHIC and the collaboration of Eastern Bank and Boston Private Bank & Trust,

who will be providing construction and permanent financing. We are amazed that despite the difficult times we are in, everyone came together and did what was necessary to move this project into construction.”

Parcel 25 Phase 2 involves new construction of 46 affordable rental units located across the street from the Roxbury Crossing MBTA station. When completed, the building will provide family housing to the neighborhood, including 15 one-bedroom units, 18 two-bedroom units (including 6 duplex units with private entrances and stoops along Halleck Street), and 13 three-bedroom units. Five of the two and three-bedroom units will be set aside for formerly homeless families at 30% of AMI (Area Median Income). An additional three one-bedroom fully-accessible units will be set aside for families with significant disabilities under the Community Based Housing program at 30% of AMI or below. Three 1-bedroom units will be affordable to individuals and or families at or below 30% of AMI. One 2-bedroom unit will be made affordable to families at between 31% and 50% of AMI. The remaining 34 units will be available for families making at or below 60% of AMI. All 46 units will be made affordable in perpetuity.

“I am so excited that One Halleck Street has closed and is in construction!”, added Mission Hill NHS Board Member Cindy Walling. “As a Mission Hill homeowner, I am pleased to see the development of more affordable housing in our neighborhood. As a professional in the affordable housing industry working with families, I know first hand the need for housing that is close to the City’s core. This location provides tremendous access to public transportation as well as bike paths. The importance

of easy access to employment opportunities for the residents of this development cannot be overstated.”

When completed the building will be LEED Silver certifiable and will include many green features for long-term operations and sustainability, as well as several public space improvements such as new sidewalks, handicap accessible ramps, benches, lighting, bike racks, and an extended pedestrian plaza and walkway that allows residents and visitors to move through the site to their points of destination. Designed by Goody Clancy Architects, the building will be constructed by NEI General Contracting and managed by Maloney Properties.

“Boston Children’s Hospital was proud to play a role in financing Phase 1 of Mission Hill NHS’s Roxbury Crossing project. We are very pleased to also be contributing to the financing for Phase 2 this year,” said Sandra L. Fenwick, Chief Executive Officer, Boston Children’s Hospital. “We know that homeless children and those living in unstable housing tend to have worse health, more behavioral health problems, and lower school performance. During the COVID-19 crisis, it’s even more essential that children have stable housing. We applaud Mission Hill NHS for making this much-needed housing available to children and families who will soon call Roxbury Crossing home.”

The Parcel 25 Phase 2 development has been made possible in part by more than \$2.55 million in funding from the City of Boston, including \$1.3 million from City HOME and \$1.25 million from the Neighborhood Housing Trust from Boston’s Children’s Hospital Housing Creation Linkage commitment. The development also received \$1.7 million in State and Federal Low Income Housing tax credits from the Commonwealth’s Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), \$550,000 from DHCD HOME, \$750,000 from DHCD HSF, \$660,667 from DHCD CATNP, \$722,850 from DHCD Community Based Housing, and \$1 million from Mass Affordable Housing Trust Fund.

CAMH

Continued from page 1

located on. The maximum FAR is .7, while the developers are seeking a FAR of .89. The basement unit is accessed from the inside of the building.

New tenants have already started moving into the property and do not include students. Mission Hill houses a lot of undergraduates from the area’s many local colleges, something that has caused grief to homeowners, who have complained of noisy parties and rowdy behavior.

CAMH member Rich Giordano criticized the project, saying that it offered no tangible benefits to the neighborhood, such as artist housing or home-ownership opportunities. Due to a surplus of rentable apartments in Mission

Reunión de CAMH

Continued from page 1

FAR de .89. Se accede al sótano desde el interior del edificio.

Los nuevos inquilinos ya han comenzado a mudarse a la propiedad y no incluyen estudiantes. Mission Hill alberga a muchos estudiantes de las muchas universidades locales de la zona, algo que ha causado dolor a los propietarios de viviendas, que se han quejado de fiestas ruidosas y comportamiento alborotador.

Un miembro de CAMH, Rich Giordano, criticó el proyecto y dijo que no ofrece beneficios tangibles al vecindario, como viviendas para artistas o oportunidades de comprar. Debido al excedente de apartamentos alquilables en Mission Hill, los residentes no tienen prisa por

Hill, residents aren’t in a hurry to approve the addition of more. Of the members present, seven opposed the project and three abstained. No one voted in support of the project.

Other business

One member was curious why neighborhood apple trees had not been bearing fruit. Unfortunately, a drought has impacted plants, including fruit trees. Because climate change has ensured that temperatures will continue to rise and droughts will be more common, scientists are discussing planting more drought-resistant species in the region.

CAMH meets virtually every month on the third Wednesday of the month at 7pm. Members of the public are invited to attend via the online conferencing platform Zoom.

aprobar la adición de más. De los miembros presentes, siete se opusieron al proyecto y tres se abstuvieron. Nadie votó a favor del proyecto.

Otros asuntos

Un miembro tenía curiosidad por saber por qué los manzanos del vecindario no habían dado frutos. Desafortunadamente, una sequía ha afectado a las plantas, incluidos los árboles frutales. Debido a que el cambio climático ha asegurado que las temperaturas continuarán aumentando y las sequías serán más comunes, los científicos están discutiendo plantar más especies resistentes a la sequía en la región.

CAMH se reúne virtualmente todos los meses el tercer miércoles del mes a las 7 pm. Los miembros del público están invitados a asistir a través de la plataforma de conferencias en línea Zoom.

CORRECTION

In the last issue of the Mission Hill Gazette, we published the winners of the Best of Mission Hill 2020 Readers’ Survey. The winner of Best Pub/Bar in Mission Hill was mistakenly listed as “Tavern of Tails,” as opposed to “Tavern of Tales.” We regret this error.

ADVERTISE IN THE
in the
Mission Hill
GAZETTE

Call 617-524-7662 for ad rate



RESERVE YOUR SEATS NOW
FOR PATIO & DINING ROOM



Thai • Sushi • Pick-up • Delivery
order.laughingmonkcafe.com
or call 617.232.8000

PLEASE
PATRONIZE
OUR
ADVERTISERS

Michelle Wu holds events following her mayoral campaign announcement

BY LAUREN BENNETT

Days after announcing her candidacy for mayor, City Councilor Michelle Wu held events in communities around Boston where she discussed issues with constituents.

If elected, Wu would be the first Boston mayor with small children in about 30 years.

“Being a mom shapes every second of my day,” she told the Gazette. “It is having a real stake in our school system, in the way that our transportation system works, in just how urgent it is for us to think about what city we’re leaving for the next generation...I am a daughter of immigrants; I grew up really seeing through my parents’ eyes the barriers that exist for various communities, and now as a mom myself just waking up and going to bed every day with the responsibility of how we are going to take the bold, urgent actions that we need so that my kids and all of our kids have the city that they deserve.”

On September 18, Wu and her supporters gathered at Jamaica Pond for a socially distanced

event. Supporters held purple “Michelle for Mayor signs” and listened to Wu explain her platform for running.

“My name is Michelle Wu, and I’m running for mayor of Boston because Boston should be a city for everyone,” she announced at the beginning of her remarks.

Wu explained that as a daughter of immigrants, she never expected to run for office. “My parents actively kept me away from politics,” she said. “In my family’s multigenerational immigration history, politics meant fear.”

After finding out that her mother struggled with mental health issues, she became the caretaker for her younger sisters.

When she decided to go to Harvard Law School, Wu had a particular professor that helped to push her into a political career: Elizabeth Warren. When Warren announced her campaign for US Senate, Wu said she went to her office hours and asked to help out on the campaign in any way possible.

“She put me to work right here in our city, making phone calls, knocking on doors; my first political experience,” Wu said.



Michelle Wu stood with some of her supporters at an event at Jamaica Pond on September 18. Wu announced her candidacy for mayor on September 15.

“In that experience, I saw that you can have amazing people in government, you can have great ideas; but unless you are changing the politics, unless you are bringing people into the process of deciding what the vision is to begin with, we will not get to that systemic change that we need.”

She said that once Warren was elected in 2012, the next goal was to double the number of women from one to two on the Boston City Council when Wu ran in 2013.

“When I was able to join then councilor Ayanna Pressley...I saw that on the Boston City

Council, we could transform how people thought about city government,” Wu said.

Wu said that while it is important for the City Council to ensure that things like potholes are fixed and trash pickup runs

Continued on page 11

THANK YOU FOR THE WARM WELCOME TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD!

Voted 2020 ‘Best Bank’ in Mission Hill

By Mission Hill Gazette Readers

& Named Exceptional Friend of Mission Hill

By Mission Hill Main Streets

Visit Us!

We’d love to welcome you to our Mission Hill branch at **1457 Tremont Street**. You can also visit us online at needhambank.com.



NB Needham Bank
Build something.

Hill Happenings

By MOSSY MARTIN

George Salah, my fellow member of the Mission Hill Post 327, will celebrate his 97th birthday this month (Oct. 25). George is a World War II veteran who drove Navy landing craft in the Europe and Pacific theaters. He won numerous battle stars including those at Omaha Beach, Okinawa and Iwo Jima.

George, a Chestnut Hill resident, is blessed with good health, and he is a volunteer for several veteran organizations. Remarkably George still drives and does so better than your average Boston driver. George, a 1940 graduate of English High School, loves boating and is the captain of his

small yacht moored at Victory Point in Quincy. George tells me his guide to good health is: "I always eat a big breakfast, but more importantly, God has been good to me."

English High, incidentally, was founded in 1821, and its 200-year reunion is being planned for next fall.

Incumbent Ed Markey got strong support from Mission Hill voters in last month's U.S. Senate victory over Joe Kennedy to continue representing Massachusetts's 7th Congressional District.

Shortly after his win, Markey bashed the police in regard to the disorder that is now permeating the country. The Senator

shamelessly posted on Twitter: "Portland Police routinely attack peaceful protesters. Law enforcement officers shouldn't be using weapons of war against protesters."

Markey called for a nationwide ban on various forms of police protection, including tear gas. To Markey, who was first elected to Congress in 1976, I say it's time for you to retire. I'm supporting his Republican challenger, Kevin O'Connor, who is a first-time candidate from Dover and a strong advocate for our law enforcement officers, this November.

At the first-ever Marina Bay Fashion Show on Sept. 17 to raise money for first-responders, two Mission Hill Post 327 members were honored. There was a crowd of more than 300 seated across the boardwalk, and the emcee asked the nurses, policemen and firefighters to stand as they received an enthusiastic ovation.

The emcee then said: "We have two very special guests," first introducing Enoch "Woody" Woodhouse, a World War II fighter pilot of the famous Tuskegee Airmen, who received a standing ovation from the crowd. The emcee then introduced Col. George Rollins, an Afghanistan war veteran, and another standing ovation ensued.

Throughout the evening, many guests came up to thank our Post members. Our two Mission Hill Post members were invited by one of the event's sponsors, Betty Veneto.

Betty, who is an ardent supporter of veterans, did not in-



Randace Rauscher proudly displays some of her work.

form George or Woody they were to be the event's guests of honor. She is the proprietor of Ginger Betty's, a terrific bakery in Quincy. Some years ago, Ginger Betty was a dazzling second baseman for Mission Hill Liquors in the Mission Hill Softball League and among just a few women to compete in that league.

In other Post news, members were planning a meeting at Victory Point Restaurant in Quincy on Sept. 29 to welcome three new members, bringing our total to 33. For community activities, the Post is sponsoring a Mission Hill Main Streets and Mission Grammar School cleanup during October. Most importantly, the Post will hold a ceremony on Nov. 11 at Brigham Circle for

Veterans Day. Unless we are restricted by COVID-19, we will resume meetings on Oct. 22 and Nov. 19. For information, contact me, the Post's Community Liaison (mossymartin@gmail.com) or Adjutant Mike Gormley.

Randace Rauscher has been curating local art shows since she relocated here from New York 25 years ago. The talented Mission Hill artist has produced countless art shows and silent auctions to raise funds for nonprofits. Due to COVID-19, Randace turned to Facebook to promote her art when she was unable to do group art shows. She created a campaign called "52 in 52," profiling one artist each week for 52 weeks.

"With galleries forced to close, artists need new methods to display their work," said Randace, who studied Display and Design Exhibit at the Fashion Institute of Technology in Manhattan.

As a close friend and former roommate of hers, I've seen Randace's brilliant work, including the art she created from assorted paper and buttons. Randace displays the same dedication to her full-time job as Director of External Affairs at the Department of Veteran Services. Follow Randace on Facebook 52 in 52 and support your local artist.

CORRECTION: In last month's column, I mistakenly wrote that Tom Earley, the Major League hurler for the Braves, was the grandfather of the younger Tom Earley, but an avid reader reminded me that the pitcher was in fact the uncle of Tom Earley.



Do you dream of getting a tech job but don't know how to begin?

Build the skills you need to earn a certificate or college degree

If you are a Boston resident who is 18 years or older, you can receive free support services from Fenway CDC. We will provide education and career counseling, financial coaching, and job placement, English and Math tutoring, and a food access program. Let us help you overcome challenges to complete your education and find your dream job.

Cambridge College Certificate Programs:

1. Information Security and Risk Management
2. Network Security
3. Digital Marketing
4. Medical Administrative

Wentworth Institute of Technology Certificate Programs:

1. AutoCAD
2. Building Information Modeling
3. Fire Protection Technology
4. Facilities Management

Northeastern University Bachelor of Science Degrees:

1. Information Technology
2. Digital Media
3. Healthcare Administration

Fenway CDC will help you shape your future.

For more details, please contact Kris Anderson at kanderson@fenwaycdc.org or (617) 267-4637 x 29.



Fenway Community Development Corporation
Improving Lives and Building Community

70 Burbank St., Boston, MA 02115 fenwaycdc.org

MOUNT PLEASANT HOME Seniors 62+

- Private bedroom with private bath
- 3 home-style meals daily
- 24-hour personal care assistance
- Laundry & housekeeping
- Medication administration
- No income restriction

301 S. Huntington Ave, Jamaica Plain ~ 617-522-7600
www.MountPleasantHome.org

MIKE'S DONUTS

Try our soups and sandwiches along with the best coffee and donuts in town!

Now serving gourmet dark roast coffee

CHOOSE ANY TWO

- Homemade soup
- salad • Sandwich

\$5.75

FREE Honey Dip Donut with \$4.00 purchase

1524 Tremont St.
(across from Mission Church)



For Our Mission Hill and Fenway Neighbors:

The five Colleges of the Fenway (COF) have been your neighbors for almost 200 years. We have been through thick and thin – tough economies, wars and now, a pandemic. Despite these challenges, we have survived and thrived because we have worked together to create a healthy and vibrant Mission Hill and Fenway.

As college students return to our City, we understand the importance of protecting the health and safety of the communities that surround our campuses. In developing and implementing our campus reentry plans, the COF works with local and state public health officials, medical and public health experts, our Director of Environmental Health & Safety, and our Director of Emergency Management. Additionally, we are taking guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), as well as the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Public Health and the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC). Our main objectives are to ensure the health and safety of our communities and comply with local, state and federal guidelines for operating during the health crisis, while delivering a quality education to our students.

Our role as active partners in helping to contain the Commonwealth's COVID-19 caseload depends on cooperation by all, including in our local neighborhoods. To that end, we expect our campus communities to comply with COVID-safe behavior both on and off our campuses, and are promoting the importance of social distancing, limiting social gatherings, wearing of face coverings when in neighborhoods, practicing good hygiene (particularly frequent handwashing), and other best practices.

Here are details especially important to our Mission Hill and Fenway communities:

- Of our five member institutions (Emmanuel College, MassArt, MCPHS University, Simmons University, and Wentworth Institute of Technology) Simmons University and Emmanuel College are remote for the Fall 2020 semester, with limited or no students living on their campuses. The remaining universities have greatly reduced on-campus learning by nearly 60 percent with the majority of classes being offered remotely.
- Many students who returned to campus at MassArt, MCPHS and Wentworth are in single rooms
- We have received positive feedback from the Boston Public Health Commission on our reentry plans including:
 - o Reduced on-campus operations
 - o Significant investment in testing of students, faculty, staff and vendors that is providing more routine testing for people in the city
 - o Development of teams within and across the institutions who regularly share information and best practices
 - o Education and monitoring of students to ensure compliance with COVID-19 protection guidelines with consequences--up to and including suspension--for those who do not comply
- Ongoing commitment to work with community partners and advance community and City of Boston educational programs, including new and innovative ways to engage virtually

By working together, we can manage this crisis and continue to support our vibrant neighborhoods. We are investing significantly in testing to support the public health of the City and remain transparent in our efforts. We stand ready and together with you and with the City of Boston.

To review the Re-entry plans for each campus, visit www.colleges-fenway.org

Sister Janet Eisner, SND
President
Emmanuel College

Kymberly Pinder, Ph.D.
Acting President
MassArt

Richard Lessard
Interim President
MCPHS University

Lynn Perry Wooten
President
Simmons University

Mark A. Thompson
President
Wentworth Institute of Technology

What's Happening on Main Streets

BY ELLEN WALKER
SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

As New Englanders, we often hear comments “Summer went by so fast!” as we welcome the Fall weather and scenic foliage that surround us. The fall weather brought a pleasant surprise - Representative Nika Elugardo and Mayor Walsh met in Mission Hill and had coffee at Mike's Donuts where they were greeted by owner Maria Weinograd. Here at Mission Hill Main Streets, along with our favorite season, we have planned a week of fun and deals that you do not want to miss. More on that later in this article. A heartfelt thank you to all those who voted in last month's Best of Mission Hill Survey. Your support and vote help us press on with our work to promote vibrancy in Mission Hill and we are grateful to be nominated as Best Neighborhood Association of 2020!

We have welcomed the students back to Mission Hill and though there were a few hiccups, through the extraordinary efforts of the local colleges, more is working well than not. It is great to have more foot traffic in the neighborhood and in the small businesses. After all, students are a vital part of the Mission Hill community.

Here are a couple of messages sent by neighboring institutions in our community that echo our sentiment. The Five Colleges sent out a moving piece to their “Mission Hill and Fenway Neighbors” about their efforts for the communities during this pandemic. The Five Colleges of the Fenway have been our neighbors for almost 200 years and, as they stated so well, “We have been through thick and thin – tough economies, wars and now, a pandemic. Despite these challenges, we have survived and thrived because we have worked together

to create a healthy and vibrant Mission Hill and Fenway.”

Then from the heart of Mission Hill, Mission Grammar School's President Aliece Dutson. “Our families rely on the care they receive at Mission Grammar and need us now more than ever. Quite a few of our families are first responders or are already physically back to work and returning to school has been a great source of support. Many of our other families are still working from home and reopening has been equally as supportive; we know it is difficult to work a full-time job from home while also caring for children. By reopening, families can successfully work and know their children are safely engaging in academic, social and emotional learning.”

Remember to reach out to the elderly or those who cannot get out. Watch over and help each other as we work together to be stronger and better.

Now for the Fun and Deals! All 29 restaurants in Mission Hill will be offering specials during the week from October 20th to October 27th. This is MHMS' first restaurant week and we are combining it with our annual community appreciation fundraiser. Visit any Mission Hill, order take-out or delivery in during restaurant week and we all benefit!

Hold the dates – Tuesday, October 20th through Tuesday, October 27th for MH Restaurant and Community Appreciation Week with “GO-GIVE! specials.

- GO out to eat at a Mission Hill restaurant
- GIVE to support both your local restaurants and MHMS programs
- Order from the “GO-GIVE” menus, when possible, as we fight



Rep. Nika Elugardo (left) with Maria Weinograd, owner of Mike's Donuts, and Mayor Martin Walsh.

the impact of COVID-19

Watch for more details via Facebook, FB Live and Instagram and be a part of the fun and excitement!

In November, we look forward to featuring some of the wonderful artwork by students at Mission

Grammar for the MHMS anti-littering campaign. The theme is “Please, Pick It Up!” Always fun to have young people put their spin on things.

Mission Hill Main Streets logo reads: Eat. Play. Live. This

is the best neighborhood to enjoy it all so eat locally, play in our parks, and live by “shopping small, shopping local!” Visit us on our webpage – www.mission-hillmainstreet.com, “like” us on Facebook and download our free mobile app at Distrx.com to find the latest on our Farmer's Markets, restaurants and coffee shops in the neighborhood!

“Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow.”

Albert Einstein

NEW CUSTOMERS SPECIAL!

LIZS
HAIR CARE

\$5 OFF
on \$30 and up services
(new customers only, exp. 9-30-20)

1605 Tremont St. Boston, MA
617-232-2705 • www.lizshaircare.com

Angell is Open!
Providing Essential
Veterinary Services



EMERGENCY SERVICES & URGENT CARE Boston & Waltham are open 24/7. Our primary care & specialty services are available for patients with non-life threatening but urgent issues. **617-522-7282**

ON-SITE SPECIALTY CONSULTS & TELEMEDICINE Most of Angell's specialists are available to consult on your pet's case while your pet is at Angell or to facilitate phone or video appointments. Visit angell.org.

PHARMACY Prescriptions for Angell patients are available by curbside pick-up or mail (shipping fees apply). Submit prescription requests at angell.org/pharmacy or call **617-524-5700**.

REFERRAL SERVICES We are now welcoming a limited number of referral cases in Boston & Waltham.

For more information, please visit angell.org/COVID or call **617-522-7282**.

angell
animal medical center

angell.org

Angell Animal Medical Center | 350 S. Huntington Ave, Boston | 617-522-7282
MSPCA-Angell West | 293 Second Ave, Waltham | 781-902-8400

**Thank you
Mission Hill**
for voting milkweed
“best breakfast”



1508 Tremont St
Mission Hill

**PLEASE
WRITE...**

The Gazette welcomes letters to the editor. Word limit: 500. Deadline: Friday at 5 p.m. one week before publication. Letters may be emailed to letters@JamaicaPlainGazette.com. Please include address and telephone number for verification purposes. Anonymous letters will not be published. More information: 617-524-2626

Wu

Continued from page 3

smoothly, “cities can lead on policy too.” She spoke about pieces of legislation that the Council has passed during her seven years as a member, including the Airbnb ordinance and a local wetlands ordinance.

Wu has been an ardent supporter of free public transportation, and when the MBTA announced that fares would be raised, “we changed the conversation,” she said. “We mobilized, protested; we were at every single MBTA station,” and “rolled back some of those fare hikes. She said that the result was no fare hikes for bus riders, seniors, or youth.

“Transportation should be fare free, accessible to all, reliable, safe, convenient, and now, more than every, when our systems are broken down to the very core of it, we need Boston to recognize that our true legacy as a city, our history, is one of investing in that common good,” Wu said.

Wu also mentioned other issues that are important to her, such as making sure every single student in Boston has a “great school” to attend, ensuring a strong public health system, and closing the racial wealth gap in Boston by investing in Black and Latinx communities.

She also believes that the conversation around housing needs to change. “Housing is a fundamental human right and in a city of tremendous wealth, where, over the last seven, eight years

we have seen a building boom unlike any other,” Wu said. “The fact that people are still being displaced across every neighborhood of our city and struggling to find a safe, healthy place to lay their head at night is unconscionable. We can do better, and we are going to do that for this city.”

Wu said that “these are big ideas,” and “we can only get this done when there is partnership with community.” She said that her announcement is earlier than typical campaign announcements “because we need this time to organize.” She also stressed the importance of talking about the issues over and over again over a period of time.

After her remarks, Wu took questions from the audience. One resident wanted to know what Wu’s plans for public restrooms are, as this has become more of an issue during the COVID-19 pandemic as many places are closed to the public.

“That issue has come up again and again,” Wu said, especially in the downtown area that drew many tourists in pre-COVID times, as well as homeless folks who need restrooms to use.

She said that “absolutely” needs to be a focus, and welcomed suggestions on how and where would be best to implement restrooms.

Another resident asked Wu about how she would tackle homelessness in the City.

“We’ve been talking about homelessness mostly in terms of secondary impacts: how do we clean up the streets, what do we do about needles, how do

we push people away?” she said. “It is unacceptable that we have been using a law enforcement response as the first way that we are handling this.”

She said that she believes that this issue cannot be solved until the “underlying public health issue” and housing issue is solved first.

She added that she believes services should not all be concentrated in one area, and should be easily accessible to people across the entire city. More supportive housing is also needed, she said.

“We think about public safety and public health as two different things,” Wu said, “when in that it should be one and the same.”

She also addressed a topic of conversation that is at the forefront in many cities right now: discussions on limiting law enforcement. She said that she has received many emails from constituents saying that they would like to see their taxpayer dollars “reflect safety for everyone, health for everyone.”

Wu did not support the budget proposed by Mayor Walsh, as she felt it “did not go far enough” in reallocating in actuality \$10 million of the police overtime budget to other departments. She also called this “not quite real,” as overtime must be paid no matter what the budget line says, according to collective bargaining contracts. She also said that there were “no specific commitments on what those dollars would go to,” so the “scale of it was far below what was demanded,” she said.

Violence and public safety have also been hot topics in the City recently, with an increase in shootings and other violence throughout the City.

“I am for completely rethinking and reimagining our system of public safety and public health,” Wu said. She said the first step would be to restructure systems like 911 to divert some calls away from law enforcement and direct them towards trained unarmed people who could help with certain issues.

“We put a proposal on the table for how to start restructuring government by diverting emergency crisis response calls away from law enforcement to an unarmed community response force that would be trained and have a background in social work and mental health counseling and substance use counseling to ensure that we are meeting the needs of residents in the community and doing so in a way that keeps everyone safe,” Wu told the Gazette. “This is a moment, more important than ever, to rethink all of our systems and for our public safety system, to be grounded in public health.”

Wu has also fervently supports green energy and a sustainable future for the City. She recently released a municipal Green New Deal vision for Boston, which includes housing justice, transportation goals, green jobs, and faster decarbonization of buildings.

Wu told the Gazette that “the burden shouldn’t live on individuals or organizations to be the only ones carrying this burden.

City government needs to step up and be a leader as well.”

She said that right now, most of Boston’s carbon emissions come from buildings, and 29 percent comes from transportation. She said that it is important to ensure that new buildings are decarbonized from the beginning, as they shouldn’t have to be retrofitted years later to comply.

Additionally, new subsidized housing should either meet passive house standards or be “extremely energy efficient,” Wu said, to help keep costs down for families so they will not have to worry about not being able to pay their utility bills.

“I’m so grateful for this moment that we have,” Wu said. “This is truly a once in a generation moment; a moment where everybody’s awareness is together and everybody realizes what those who have always been left out and left behind have always known: that we are strongest when we are together, and that we have the resources to make sure that we can delivery opportunity for every single one of our families.”



BUSINESS BULLETIN BOARD

THERAPY GROUP
BOSTON SOCIAL THERAPY GROUP
 Evelyn Dougherty, LICSW
Experience the power of group!
Short-term Individual and Couples Therapy
 617-983-8800 • www.bostonstg.com
 Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

PLUMBING
Karem Plumbing
 Plumbing, heating & gas work
 No job too small
(617) 361-6532
 Member Better Business Bureau
 Free estimates
 Licensed & Insured
 Mass lic # 9290

Advertise Your Business Here!
 For More Information Call:
617-524-7662
 or email:
ads@JamaicaPlainGazette.com

HANDYMAN
ACE HANDYMAN
 Gutter cleaning, fences, sheetrock, roof leaks, brick pointing, carpet inst. & removal, masonry, carpentry, painting, & odd jobs.
 Small moving jobs available. Fast & reasonable.
 Call Phil at 617-868-1578 • 857-312-0543 (cell)

ROOF REPAIR
ROOF LEAKING?
 • Emergency Leak Repair 24/7 • Ice & Snow Removal
 Asphalt Shingles • Rubber Roof Systems • Flat Roof of all kinds
 • Gutters - Downspouts • Chimney - Dormers - Skylights
(617) 888-8058
 Free Estimates
 Licenced Senior & Vets 20% Discount Family owned & operated • 28 years in business Insured

Councilor Andrea Campbell announces run for mayor's office

By SETH DANIEL

Though she now represents Dorchester and Mattapan on the Council, City Councilor Andrea Campbell chose to kick off her mayoral campaign in the South End on Sept. 24, becoming the second confirmed, and likely third, candidate that will run for mayor of Boston in the 2021 City Election.

Campbell had long been rumored to be running for mayor, and she was pegged almost immediately in 2015 after first being elected for District 4 as a potential candidate someday.

That day was Thursday, as she kicked off her campaign with a video very early in the morning on Thursday, and then had her in-person event later that morning. She joins Councilor Michelle Wu, who announced earlier this month her intentions to run for mayor and has been canvassing the City in-person and online ever since. Mayor Martin Walsh is also expected to run for re-election, and has said he would likely make his campaign intentions known in January.

Standing in front of Grant Manor just one block from the corner of Mass Avenue and Washington Street, Campbell said she chose the location as it was her beginning in Boston – a nod to her powerful personal story of overcoming poverty that has

been a key part of her political career since 2015.

"I came here today because my earliest memories start here behind 1850 Washington St. where I lived with my grandmother after my mother passed away in a car accident when I was only eight months old," she said. "She died in a car accident going to see my father, who was incarcerated at the time.

"My father was incarcerated for the first eight years of my life," she recalled. "For those first eight years my brothers and I lived here with my grandmother, and at times with other relatives or in foster care when my grandmother struggled with alcoholism...Growing up we were poor and I remember walking with my grandmother to Rosie's Place to get a hot meal...My entire life has been molded and shaped by the City of Boston. Boston is where I was born and raised. Boston is where I went to school and where I started my legal career...Boston is where I started my public service working under Gov. Deval Patrick. Boston is where I fell in love, got married and had two beautiful boys while starting my family in Mattapan. Boston is also where I have proudly served the best district in Boston – District 4.

Campbell's announcement was also bolstered by her personal story of rising up from

public housing and the foster care system as a child to attend Princeton and become a lawyer and Council President. However, that story was also countered by the loss she said she has experienced in losing her mother to a car accident, having her father in prison for a lot of her life, and seeing her twin brother, Andre, in and out of jail frequently – dying while in custody awaiting trial eight years ago due to what Campbell said was "inadequate health care."

She said she would be the leader who understands Boston from all angles and would fight to make it a more equitable city.

"I know the pride and the pain of being from the City of Boston," she said. "But I also know what's possible in Boston because by the Grace of God and the opportunities given to me, today I stand before you as a girl that grew up in public housing in the South End with a family torn apart by incarceration and loss – as the first black woman to be elected president of the City Council of Boston. Today I kick off my campaign to be the first black mayor and the first woman mayor of the City of Boston."

She said she has the life experience and understanding to tackle issues of inequity, over-policing in some neighborhoods, inequality in the public schools and the lack of health care access the brought COVID-19 to bear more harshly in some parts of Boston and not others. She said she would be the leader that all residents are looking for to tackle those issues.

"Leadership that understand what equity truly means and looks like," she said. "I am running for mayor to be that leader. I know a reputation of a world-class city with a growing economy and emerging industries and thriving neighborhoods means absolutely nothing if a child growing up in public housing in the South End or Roxbury or Franklin Field will never be able to access that opportunity."

She also added that while many think Boston is different than other places, it may not be so different for certain residents – particularly in her district that encompasses Dorchester and Mattapan.

"I often hear in Boston we're different; that in Boston we're better than those places when it comes to police violence and blatant racism – and that our



City Councilor Andrea Campbell arrived with her husband, Matt Scheier and her children, Alexander and Aiden.

response to the pandemic has been an example for the rest of the country," she said. "But while many Bostonians, we and I, take pride in the history of this city, Boston has not delivered on the promise of being the best. If you talk to the people in my district – largely a community of color –...they'll tell you the fear of being stopped and being shot while black by police is just as real here as anywhere else... Plain and simple Boston does not work for everybody."

Additionally, she touched on one of her pet issues for many years, and that is public education and the inequities from neighborhood to neighborhood. She said downtown schools are far better than those in her district, and that's something that has existed far too long.

"Even today, the disparity in access to good public schools is shocking," she said. "Families that live in downtown neighborhoods are 80 percent better chance of getting into a high-quality school. If you live in Mattapan where my husband and I are raising our children, you have a 5 percent chance."

In questioning from the media, Campbell said she works

well with Mayor Walsh – and has especially done so during COVID-19. However, she said she is running because there needs to be more action on inequities.

"For me, the mayor's race is about eliminating inequity in the City," she said. "It's not just rhetoric, but it's done with action. I'll certainly be someone who takes action."

Campbell also received heavy questioning from the media – in light of the Brianna Taylor Grand Jury decision in Kentucky last week – about policing issues. Campbell has been very active since being elected on policing issues, and provided the biggest push from the Council to get officers to wear body cameras.

She said she is not interested in abolishing the police, but she said the funding of the police needs to be questioned – that with the backdrop that she was one of the councilors that voted against the City Budget earlier this year.

"I don't think defund means abolish our Police Department," she said. "Defunding means to me taking away portions of the overtime budget that is over \$70

Continued on page 9

Gazette Pet of the Week

by Sarah Carroll



TEDDY

Teddy is one half of a bonded pair of degu brothers looking for a home where they can be together! Teddy and his bro Bernard are about 4 months old and they're both super sweet. Degus are fun, social, energetic little rodents and would do well in enclosures that allow them room to climb, burrow, and otherwise thrive. They would love to add a little excitement to your home!

We are doing adoptions by appointment, so if you are interested in adopting, call the shelter!

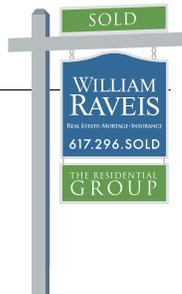
Email adoption@mspca.com for more information on Teddy and Bernard!

(617) 522-5055
www.mspca.org

Sponsored by:

Sarah Carroll, REALTOR®

The Residential Group
at William Raveis Real Estate
16 Clarendon St., Boston MA 02116
781-820-0280 or
sarah@residentialgroup.com



For more information about Teddy and other animals in need of adoption, please contact:



Kindness and Care for Animals®
350 South Huntington Avenue

Campbell

Continued from page 8

million and investing it in people..."

Campbell also answered a question about the City's Mass/Cass 2.0 plan. She said the plan has a lot of good solutions for the long-term, but lacks any short term solutions. Those solutions, she said, are coming from residents and residents should be listened to more often.

"I applaud the Task Force the mayor put together and the people who have been working on this issue," she said. "The plan has long-term goals. Talking with residents, we need short term plans too... Those solutions are coming from residents. We need to take those suggestions and act on them."

She finished by saying Boston is at a "crucial moment," and she is running because she feels she is the home-grown leader that can attest to the past, and lead into the future.

"Boston is at a crucial moment this year," she said. "We can and must confront our own history of exclusion, segregation and marginalization if we are to transform the city to truly serve all of our residents equally. To

that we need new leadership. People are looking for a leadership that's fearless for those that need it the most – people overlooked and undervalued by their government. They are looking for leadership that is intentional about eradicated systemic inequities and systemic racism."

Southender Edna Smallwood said she lives in Grant Manor and has known Campbell and her family since "she was a little girl."

"It is very exciting and historic, beyond historic," she said. "I am going to say it publicly, I will vote for her 100 percent. I will do anything she asks me to do because she's family. Her grandmother was on the board here when I served as president. Andrea is quiet, but vocal at the same time. She's quiet, but believe me she carries a big stick."

The City Election is still more than one year away, but several of the more talked-about candidates are beginning things early to get a jump on fundraising and to be ahead of any changes in the power structure if Joe Biden is elected U.S. President this fall.

Early this week, Campbell's campaign reported raising \$50,000 in the 24 hours after making her announcement.

Crime

Continued from page 1

crease in homicides.

Also a major concern since the COVID-19 pandemic hit in March was an inevitable increase in domestic violence.

Domestic Aggravated Assault in Mission Hill/Roxbury increased from 128 to 143 when comparing the third quarter of 2019 with the third quarter of 2020. Citywide domestic violence has increased 8 percent.

"There is no excuse for domestic violence," said the BPD in a statement. "With community members encouraged to stay home to mitigate the spread of the coronavirus, the Boston Police Department recognizes the impact that COVID-19 is having on families in our community and the fact that some may find themselves confined with an abuser. This isolation can mean danger for some members of our City. Make no mistake, you are not alone and no one deserves to be abused. To those in need of help, there are resources available to you. Please reach out if you, or someone you know, is in need of help or safety planning. In the case of an emergency, CALL

9-1-1."

Police said residents can also contact Domersitc Violence organizations like the Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence; Association of Haitian Women in Boston/ Asosiyasyon Fanm Ayisyen nan Boston (AFAB); Boston Area Rape Crisis Center (BARCC); Casa Myrna Vasquez; or the Massachusetts Alliance of Portuguese Speakers (MAPS).

By the third quarter of 2019 there were only 247 motor vehicle larcenies but that number has increased to 345 so far this year, a 40 percent increase. It seems the number of motor vehicle larcenies, an opportunistic crime that only takes seconds to pull off, is up all over Boston.

Citywide the number has gone from 1,891 in the third quarter of 2019 to 2,377 so far in 2020, a 25 percent increase.

"The Department obviously takes great pride in the fact that arrests were made in all three incidents, we would, nevertheless, like to take this opportunity to remind community members to employ common sense preventative measures to protect items of value when exiting their vehicles," said the statement. "As simple as it may sound, protecting your motor vehicle from a

break-in starts with locking the doors and closing windows. Simple? Yes. But, highly effective."

In fact, simple steps can often spell the difference between your car being broken into and the would-be thief moving on to another, more desirable target.

"More than anything else, thieves look for the easy score," said the police. "So, don't make it easy. If you have items of value, be it a cell phone, charger, money or iPad, take them with you when you exit your car. Because if a thief can see it, you can be sure he or she will do everything they can to steal it."

As for other Part One Crimes in District B-2 there have been one 25 Rape or Attempted Rape down from the 30 reported during the same period last year; Robbery or Attempted Robbery is down from 109 to 106; Non-Domestic Aggravated Assault is down from 292 to 281; Commercial Burglaries are up 22 to 44; Residential Burglaries are down from 131 to 120; other Larcenies are down from 534 to 387; and Auto Theft is up from 104 to 168.

So far this year there has been a total of 1,614 Part One Crimes, down from the 1,630 reported by the third quarter of 2019.

CRISPY DOUGH

617-445-7799

or 617-445-7790

www.crispydoughpizzeria.com

We Deliver

Open 7 days

1514 Tremont St. Mission Hill

For special discounts, order online



PIZZERIA

Thank You MH

For Voting Us Best Pizza This Year!

Thank you neighbors, friends & students for all your support! We really do appreciate it. You don't know what it means to us, You all keep us going! Without you guys, we would never exist. Thank You!!



DID YOU KNOW?

Recycled newspapers can be made into cereal boxes, egg cartons, pencil barrels, grocery bags, tissue paper and many other products, including new newspapers!

OR RECYCLE THEM YOURSELF!

Use them to clean glass! Save your counter from crafts! In Place of Packing Peanuts, and much more!

GO-GIVE!

October 20-27, 2020

Mission Hill Main Streets is proud to present the 2020 MH Restaurant and Community Appreciation Week. This is a celebration you do not want to miss! Our theme this year is "Community Growth: Yesterday. Today. Tomorrow." as we look at all we have been through "yesterday" and now focus our energy and support "today" on local restaurants and hope "tomorrow" brings success to all! Please join us in celebrating our community and supporting our local businesses. Be safe and practice healthy guidelines as promoted by our City and State and enjoy the fun and deals!

KICK-OFF: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2020

THE MISSION BAR & GRILL - 6:00-6:20PM | MILKWEED CAFE'S THE LOT - 6:35-6:50PM

Join MHMS outside at The Mission Bar & Grill, 724 Huntington Avenue, with our Corporate Buddy, Brigham and Women's Hospital (BWH) to officially kick off MH Restaurant and Community Appreciation Week. We will then move to Milkweed Cafe's The Lot, 1508 Tremont Street, to hold a second, official kick-off.

CLOSING: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2020

PENGUIN PIZZA AND LAUGHING MONK - 6:00-6:20PM

MHMS will be outside Penguin Pizza and Laughing Monk Cafe, 737 / 735 Huntington Avenue, with our Corporate Buddy, BWH to thank everyone for their support during the week and to acknowledge the 2020 MHMS Award Recipients.

JOIN US AND GO-GIVE! SUPPORT TO OUR LOCAL RESTAURANTS...



Corporate Buddy

Visit MissionHillGazette.com

Baker allows 'lower risk communities' to enter Step II of Phase III of reopening plan

By LAUREN BENNETT

Governor Charlie Baker on Tuesday signed an Executive Order that allows lower risk communities in the state to advance to Phase III, Step II.

Baker reported that the seven day average test rate remains at about .9 percent, and has been below one percent for 35 days in a row. He said that Massachusetts is number one in the country for testing per capita, and while there are several communities where COVID is spreading at a higher rate, the state's public health data overall has demonstrated that some communities are ready to advance in the re-

opening plan.

According to the state, "lower risk communities are defined as cities and towns that have not been a "red" community in any of the last three weekly Department of Public Health (DPH) weekly reports."

Beginning on October 5, the following sectors will be permitted to open with restrictions for lower risk communities only: indoor performance venues at 50 percent capacity with a maximum of 250 people, outdoor performance venue capacity will increase to 50 percent with a maximum of 250 people, arcades and outdoor recreation business-

es will be able to expand to include things like trampolines, obstacle courses, roller rinks, and laser tag, with a capacity increase to 50 percent, fitting rooms will be allowed in all retail stores, and places like gyms, museums, libraries, and driving and flight schools may increase their capacity to 50 percent, according to the state.

Baker also announced that he has revised the order on gatherings to include a limit of 100 people in lower risk communities in Step II. Outdoor gatherings at event venues and in public settings will have a limit of 50 people in Step 1 communities,

and the limit on people at outdoor gatherings at private residences and in private backyards remains at 50 for the entire state. Additionally, the limit for indoor gatherings will also remain the same, at a maximum of 25 people for the whole state.

Lt. Governor Karyn Polito said that "if a community becomes red again for three consecutive reports, they will have to move back to Phase III Step I" until the public health data improves.

Baker said that he has "learned a lot from what's been going on in other states," and decided to move forward with sectors in Massachusetts that "have not

let to significant transmissions in other states," he said.

"...the fight is far from over," Baker said. "It doesn't take much for [the virus] to spread quickly when people let down their guard."

He said he is grateful for the local boards of health who have helped to ensure the safety and health of their communities.

He said that heading into fall, the state may see an increase in cases as the weather gets colder and the state continues to increase testing.

"People need to stay vigilant so we can continue to move forward," Baker said.

Walsh addresses increase in COVID-19 cases, BPS hybrid model begins Thursday for high needs students

By LAUREN BENNETT

Mayor Walsh held a press conference late Wednesday morning where he addressed the rising COVID case numbers in the City, as well as how Boston Public Schools (BPS) are faring as they get closer to including more kids in the hybrid model.

Walsh said that in the city, non-college testing has increased, while there has been a decrease

in college testing as many moving in testing plans are "winding down," he said.

The city's positive test rate is 3.5 percent, which is an increase from recent weeks. He said while this number is still below the threshold for serious concern, he said he is "concerned" with the increase in COVID activity and is encouraging everyone to get tested.

He said that some neighbor-

hoods are on the rise, but Back Bay, the Fenway, and the South End remain below three percent.

He also said that the city is seeing an increase in positive cases among younger people under the age of 29.

"This is an issue that we need to be very clear about," he said. "In that age group, you can still get very sick."

He urged residents to not hold house parties or gather in large groups. "Find a safer way to socialize," he said. "We need everyone to remain vigilant."

Walsh said it was "likely" that the City will enter the red zone on the state's COVID map, which

means there are more than eight new cases per day per 100,000 people.

Governor Baker announced this week that lower risk communities would be permitted to enter Step II of Phase III of the state's reopening plan.

But Walsh "we will not be moving forward into Step II, Phase III." He said indoor performance venues in the city will remain closed, there will not be an increase in capacity for outdoor performance venues, activities like trampoline parks, obstacle courses, and laser tag will remain closed, fitting rooms in all retail stores will remain closed, and

gyms, libraries, and similar facilities will remain at a capacity limit of 40 percent.

He asked residents to stop and think about their choices and how they may affect the rest of the community.

"We want to make sure that we stop that increase before it comes to a point where we're having the entire city shut down again," Walsh said.

However, there are a couple of changes to Step III, Phase proposed by the governor that Boston will be accepting, Walsh said, including that food courts are permitted to open with appropriate distancing measures in place, and movie theaters will be permitted to have an increase in capacity to 50 percent with a maximum of 250 people. These changes will go into effect on October 5.

"We have made incredible progress in the last few months," Walsh said. He said the city will continue to listen to science and monitor public health data daily.

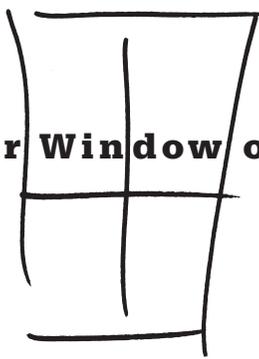
BPS

In-person learning began on October 1, in-person learning begins "for the highest needs students" in a hybrid model, Walsh said. He said that there are more than 3700 kids in Group B that will attend in person on Thursdays and Fridays, then starting Monday, an additional 3600 students as part of Group A will attend on Mondays and Tuesdays. Students will continue to learn remotely on their off days, and Wednesdays will be the days when school buildings are thoroughly cleaned.

October Window Sale

we also install!

Your Window of Opportunity



Stay warm this winter with energy efficient windows—now at sale prices!

- > Save 5% on wood and vinyl windows
- > Learn about the different options and choose what's right for you
- > Support a locally owned business

At Boston Building Resources, you won't get a hard sell—just reliable information and quality products from our consumer co-op.



100 Terrace Street, Boston
(near Roxbury Community College)

Weekdays 8:30-4:30 ■ Saturday 9:30-3
617-442-2262, x1

bostonbuildingresources.com
a member-owned co-op

Thank you,
Mission Hill, for
naming us Best
Home Service
for 2020!



Why have some communities not been a part of medical research?

You can help researchers develop new and better treatments that benefit all of us.

Many groups of people have been left out of research in the past. That means we know less about their health. When you join the *All of Us* Research Program, you'll help researchers learn more about what makes people sick or keeps them healthy.

JoinAllOfUs.org/NewEngland
(617) 768-8300

*All participants will receive \$25 after completion of their visit. To complete the visit, participants must create an account, give consent, agree to share their electronic health records, answer health surveys, and have their measurements taken (height, weight, blood pressure, etc.), and give blood and urine samples, if asked.

All of Us and the All of Us logo are service marks of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.



Red Sox partner with the City of Boston and Boston Public Health Commission on COVID-19 testing program for Boston Teachers Union

STAFF REPORT

To help with the return to in-person learning this fall, the Red Sox, with support from Major League Baseball (MLB), have partnered with the City of Boston and the Boston Public Health Commission to facilitate COVID-19 testing for Boston Teachers Union (BTU) members.

Starting last week, five percent of Teachers Union members will be invited to be randomly tested weekly for COVID-19 through the end of 2020. The testing program will begin at a location near Fenway Park and will move to a different location at a later date. A randomized sample of teachers will be tested from across the city with an oversampling of teachers working in neighborhoods with COVID-19 rates higher than 8 percent, which is double the city-wide threshold of concern. The testing program will run through December.

According to City officials, testing this week will occur inside Fenway Park on the con-

course in a "well-ventilated area near gate C" from 4pm-7pm.

"Our first priority is the health and safety of our students, teachers, and everyone in our Boston Public Schools community," said Boston Mayor Martin J. Walsh. "This testing program is one way we can support our teachers as they get ready to head back to their classrooms for in-person learning. We thank the Red Sox and Major League Baseball for partnering with us on this program, and the Boston Public Health Commission for organizing and implementing this weekly testing plan."

"As part of Major League Baseball's COVID-19 testing program, the league wanted to ensure there was opportunity to extend their testing benefits beyond the clubs and players, and into the communities where teams operate," said Red Sox President Sam Kennedy. "We are grateful to MLB for giving us this opportunity to partner with the City of Boston and help with their back-to-school rollout."

"As we plan to welcome students back into our school buildings, BPS understands that our schools are the hubs of our community and we are taking every precaution to keep Bostonians safe and healthy," said BPS Superintendent Brenda Cassellius. "I am so thankful to Major League Baseball and the Boston Red Sox organization for this profound commitment to the health of our educators, our students and of the entire community. In the City of Boston we truly are all in this together."

"We are grateful to the Red Sox and their commitment to helping us ensure safety and health in our schools during this pandemic," said Boston Teachers Union President Jessica Tang. "We hope that the early success of this initiative will enable us to explore further expansion of such efforts as we continue to keep health and safety a priority for our students and educators in order to head back into buildings for critical in-person services and learning."

Teachers Union members will be administered an FDA-authorized COVID-19 test through the Spectrum Solutions SDNA-100 saliva collection kit. The tests are being provided to the City free of cost through MLB's COVID-19 community testing program. Testing will be conducted by the Sports Medicine Research & Testing Laboratory in Salt Lake City, Utah, which was established to ensure that the testing of players and staff throughout the 2020 MLB season does not compete with public

health testing needs.

"We know that access to data is one of the most useful ways to help keep our city residents safe during this pandemic," said City of Boston Chief of Health and Human Services Marty Martinez. "This partnership between MLB, the Red Sox, the Boston Public Health Commission, and the City allows us to create another access point of testing for our teachers as we all work to get our youngest Bostonians back into the classroom in a safe manner this fall."

FREE Delivery to Mission Hill, LMA, & Surrounding Major Universities



THANK YOU MISSION HILL

FOR VOTING US BEST DINNER IN 2020 READERS SURVEY

1528 Tremont St. MH • 617.427.8080 • www.lillysgourmetpasta.com

What are you building?



START WITH THE BEST-BUILT CHECKING ACCOUNT ON THE MARKET.

Managing your money shouldn't include a bunch of rules and extra fees. At Needham Bank, we built the best checking account in the neighborhood with great features to make your life simple. Free checking. Free ATMs. Hassle free. Come for the free checking. Stay for our exceptional service.

- Free Checking
- Free ATMs Worldwide*
- Only \$10 to Open
- Top-Rated Mobile App

Open an account at our new branch in Mission Hill at 1457 Tremont St. or online at NeedhamBank.com/checking in less than 5 minutes.

NB Needham BankSM
Build something.

*Free ATMs through full ATM reimbursement.

Boston Police Reform Task Force releases initial recommendations

By LAUREN BENNETT

The Boston Police Reform Task Force, which was convened by Mayor Walsh in mid June, told reporters about their process following the end of community listening sessions, as well as discussed the initial recommendations they came up with.

Chairman Wayne Budd explained that the Task Force was “charged with reviewing the Boston Police Department’s (BPD) policies,” and “provide a wide range of perspectives” on several areas of reform, such as the body camera program, reviewing the department’s use of force policies, diversity and inclusion practices within the department, and data collection and transparency, among other things.

“Over the last three months, the Task Force explored additional topics including civil service and the like,” Budd said, and held two phases of listening sessions to get feedback from the community. He said that the final listening session last week garnered more than 120 participants, including stakeholders,

residents, advocates, and others, with an additional 73 submitting written comment.

Budd explained that the Task Force members “came from a wide variety of backgrounds” where everyone took the work seriously and “worked countless hours without monetary compensation.”

Budd provided an overview of initial recommendations of the Task Force, including the creation of an independent Office of Police Accountability and Transparency (OPAT) that would have subpoena power and include a Civilian Review Board as well as an Internal Affairs Oversight Panel. Other recommendations include the formalization and expansion of the BPD’s commitment to diversity and inclusion, the expansion of the use of body cameras to increase transparency and accountability and “maintain the ban on biometrics and facial recognition software,” according to a slide.

Additionally, the Task Force recommends the enhancement of the BPD’s use of force policies “so that they articulate clear and

enforceable disciplinary consequences for violations and hold BPD publicly accountable to minimize the risk of use of force violation,” and the adoption of data and record practices “that maximize accountability, transparency and public access to BPD records and data.”

The OPAT will consist of three commissioners that hold subpoena power and would make a final determination should there be dissension from the Internal Affairs Oversight Panel or the Civilian Review Board.

Under the commissioners will be an Executive Director with admin staff underneath them, the Internal Affairs Oversight Panel consisting of five members, and the Civilian Review Board, consisting of seven to 11 members.

Tanisha Sullivan, President of the NAACP Boston Branch, said that “this office is no different from how appointments are currently made by the city,” as the mayor is the only person with the appropriate power to make these kinds of appointments, referring to the OPAT.

She said the City Council will

be given an opportunity to make recommendations to the mayor, but the ultimate decision is made by the mayor.

“From a nomination standpoint, what we are recommending is that the seats are filled from a pool of nominations that come from” places like civil rights organizations and neighborhood organizations, Sullivan said.

Budd and other members said that there were no direct discussions or meetings with the Boston Police Patrolmen’s Association, though some members of the union spoke at listening sessions, Budd said.

Joseph Feaster, Jr., Task Force member and the Chairman of the Board at the Urban League of Eastern Massachusetts, said that the mayor will be involved in the bargaining process with members of the association.

“We’re not talking about addressing the good police officers, because we know there are many,” Feaster said. “We are talking about the police officers that are breaking the rules.”

Rev. Jeffrey Brown, Task Force member and and Associate Pastor at the Historic Twelfth Baptist Church in Roxbury, said that “we are asking that all uniformed officers wear body cameras,” and there are also currently issues with access to footage.

He said that currently not all officers wear the cameras right now, and this expansion is recommended to ensure that the cameras are “widely worn.”

He said that “we feel this recommendation is probably most widely embraced by our group,” as there was much discussion around the “value of body cameras,” he said.

The group was asked about the recent LEAD Database list released by District Attorney Rachael Rollins’ office, in which the names of officers with “questionable” credibility were made publicly available.

Task Force member and Boston Police Sergeant Eddy Chrispin said he “welcomes” this list “as a form of transparency,” but he said that many of the officers listed are retired, and some have been for more than a decade.

Sullivan added that this list did not impact or influence the Task Force’s deliberations, since the list was not released until last Friday evening.

“The list is only the tip of the iceberg,” said attorney and

Task Force member Allison Cartwright. “We would certainly hope that in time and in a short amount of time that it get expanded...so the public has the information on which officers and personnel are violating policies and even civil rights,” she said adding that she “applauds” DA Rollins for getting the ball rolling with a transparent list.

Task Force member and Partner at Dinsmore & Shohl LLP Javier Flores said that the Task Force was “given access to significant amounts of data,” and examined models being implemented by police forces across the country. He also said that a goal of the Task Force is to encourage “community trust within the operation of the police department.”

Superintendent Dennis White, Task Force member and Chief of Staff for the BPD, said that “overall, I believe that most of the officers believe that change is coming,” though “there are going to be some that are going to resist change,” he said.

“There was rigorous debate among the Task Force members,” Sullivan said. “I want to be clear that this was not an easy process. When it came time to really drill down on these recommendations, they really do reflect weeks long of diligent review of documents, analysis, and again, debate.”

Brown said that there was a “refreshing openness on the part of the mayor,” adding that he “didn’t interfere on our deliberations.” He continued, “at the end, we truly have a document that is representative of this diversity.”

Task Force member and former MA State Rep. Marie St. Fleur said that “...we have a duty to make certain that we move this issue forward in a way that builds equity and changes the culture of police departments across the country,” citing the deaths of Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, George Floyd, and many others whose lives were taken.

“We understand that we are not indicting all police officers in this city,” she said. “We did not leave anything on the table—we took it all seriously.”

The initial recommendations report from the Task Force is published in six languages at boston.gov/policereform, and the final report is expected to be released soon, Budd said.

Now You can be UPFRONT & CENTER

With our **STICKY NOTE** on the Front Page

Perfect for: Community Reminders, Schedules, Coupons, Sales, Announcements, Programs and more!

3-inch-by-3-inch Sticky Note
Req. 3-week advance placement



Example Page
Sticky Note represented
by Black box

Four Options to Choose From

7,000 COPIES 2-COLOR	\$600	7,000 COPIES 4-COLOR	\$700	12,000 COPIES 2-COLOR	\$800
12,000 COPIES 4-COLOR	\$900	4-COLOR STICKIES CAN BE A COMBINATION OF COLORS. 2-COLOR STICKIES CAN BE MADE WITH ANY 2 COLORS.			

Call or Email Your Rep Today!

781-485-0588 ext. 103:Maureen 106:Peter 101:Deb 110:Kathy 125:Sioux

Reading on a Screen?? Click on Your Rep's name to start sending them an email!

Suffolk DA Rollins announces expansion of LEAD database

STAFF REPORT

Suffolk County District Attorney Rachael Rollins announced this week the expansion and revision of a database comprised of law enforcement personnel whose prior conduct could impact their credibility as witnesses in a court proceeding. The database is called LEAD – Law Enforcement Automatic Discovery.

“The database will be one pillar of my office’s Integrity Review Bureau,” said Rollins. “As members of law enforcement, we are held to a higher standard. We in law enforcement cannot adequately perform our duties if the community does not trust us or believes that we lack integrity. That does nothing to keep our communities safe; to solve crimes; and to foster, cultivate, and build mutual trust and respect between the police and the people and communities they serve. The LEAD database will help us ensure that the legal process works and people charged with crimes by our office receive all of the information they are entitled to in order to properly defend themselves. The Constitution requires as much.”

“If testimony provided by

prosecution witnesses is suspect, then the criminal legal system itself is suspect,” Rollins continued. “All of us in law enforcement must be beyond reproach because what we do impacts matters of life, death, and freedom for the general public.

“The overwhelming majority of law enforcement officers and employees in Suffolk County are dedicated and compassionate professionals who provide exemplary service to the communities they serve,” Rollins added. “The database is not voluminous, but the actions of the officers within LEAD are harmful, or potentially harmful to the community and the criminal legal system. When the credibility of law enforcement is in question, all participants in the system – and the public – should be aware of that. The people of Suffolk County deserve to know that the public officials they rely on for their safety are truly invested in it. Anything less is a betrayal of their trust and our obligation to serve.”

The LEAD database currently has some 136 names of law enforcement officers who work, have worked, or could work in Suffolk County, including State

Troopers, MBTA police, and police officers from Boston, Chelsea and Revere.

More than 115 names have been added by the Suffolk DA’s office in the last year.

There are several ways in which an individual can be added to the database, including: an investigation or prosecution into criminal conduct in any jurisdiction; an investigation in any jurisdiction based on discriminatory or defamatory actions, language or conduct targeting any protected category or class (including but not limited to: race; color; religious creed; national origin; immigration status; sex; gender identity; sexual orientation; pregnancy; ancestry; or status as a veteran); an investigation, including a law enforcement agency’s internal affairs or anti-corruption units/divisions in any jurisdiction casting doubt upon truthfulness or integrity; or a finding in any jurisdiction by a judge, an administrative agency, review board, or any oversight entity created by the legislature, federal, state, county, local or municipal elected official(s), or the like, that the individual employed by a law enforcement agency is not credible.

Rollins said her office is committed to a policy to ensure both that law enforcement agencies are kept apprised of their officers’ activities that come under scrutiny by the office, and that defendants have access to information concerning alleged misconduct of prosecution witnesses, regardless of its admissibility in court.

“In these uncertain times that we as a nation find ourselves in, with so much tension and mistrust between law enforcement and the communities we are sworn to protect, we must maintain credibility in everything we do,” Rollins said.

As part of District Attorney Rollins’ review and administration of the database, inclusion in the LEAD Database and removal from the database will mirror statutory time guidelines concerning the admissibility of prior convictions that is set forth in state law. This disclosure protocol exceeds any current statutory and common law obligation and does not concede admissibility in any court proceeding.

“The clock starts running from disclosure. So to be clear, when we learn of Internal Affairs or Anti-Corruption investigations

through the Boston Globe, the Dorchester Reporter, Commonwealth Magazine, or any other media outlet or publication and not our law enforcement partners, the clock starts running from the article date, not the infraction or investigation date. This should hopefully encourage disclosure and cooperation,” said Rollins.

Officers can appeal in writing to the DA’s office when they believe that they should be excluded from the list and those appeals will be reviewed initially by the First Assistant District Attorney and General Counsel, and then ultimately by the District Attorney.

“This is a living document,” Rollins concluded. “Names will be added to it, when, for example we are made aware of an investigation or any of the other entry criteria, and names can come off if an investigation exonerates someone, or an appeal is sustained. The Suffolk County District Attorney’s Office discovery policy will meet or exceed constitutional and ethical obligations and reflect a culture of integrity, transparency and honesty.”

Two Mission Hill organizations part of latest rounds of Boston Resiliency Fund grants

BY JOHN LYNDS

This month Mayor Martin J. Walsh and the Boston Resiliency Fund Steering Committee announced two Mission Hill organizations helping to support residents most in need during the COVID-19 pandemic were part of the latest rounds of Boston Resiliency Fund grants.

Boston Sociedad Latina and New England Baptist Hospital (NEBH) were two of several organizations across Boston to receive grant money from the fund in September.

“The Boston Resiliency Fund has been vital to our response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Working in partnership with our nonprofit organizations has been fundamental to bringing resources and support directly to Bostonians in need,” said Mayor Walsh. “Thank you to all of the community organizations who continue to work together with

the City of Boston and help our most vulnerable residents.”

Sociedad Latina will use the grant to fund essential care packages of PPE for families and at-home kits with supplies and materials that enable our youth to participate in programming at home about the Boston Resiliency Fund award. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Sociedad Latina Executive Director Alexandra Oliver-Davila said COVID-19 pandemic has shed light on the inequities that surround Latinos and people of color in the United States.

“There has been a disproportionate number of COVID-19 cases among Latinos, people of color, and people living in economically-disadvantaged communities in Boston and on a national level,” said Oliver-Davila. “There is also little federal support for undocumented individuals and families who are amongst the

largest demographic to be gravely affected by this pandemic. We see the consequences that this pandemic has had on the youth and families that we partner with, including little or no access to healthcare, rising medical costs, ineligibility or lack of information for unemployment, losing employment, and more.”

She added that Sociedad Latina has recognized how crucial it is that they address these inequities and provide healthcare, safety, and financial assistance to everyone despite race, ethnicity, socio-economic status, and immigration status.

“With the generous support of the City of Boston’s Boston Resiliency Fund, we are providing essential care packages of PPE for families and at-home kits with supplies and materials that enable our youth to participate in programming at home,” said Oliver-Davila.

NEBH will use BRF funds

to mitigate food insecurity by distributing prepared meals, grocery gift cards, and clothing to low-income families in Mission Hill and Roxbury, working with the Roxbury Tenants of Harvard, Maria Sanchez House and the Tobin Community Center. For elderly neighbors who are homebound, NEBH is coordinating fresh food/meal delivery weekly. Funds will also be used to purchase basic necessities such as cleaning supplies.

Since launching the Boston

Resiliency Fund in March, \$33.2 million has been raised, and Mayor Walsh and the Boston Resiliency Fund Steering Committee has distributed \$27.4 million to 351 organizations. Of the nonprofits to have received a grant, 54 percent are led by a person of color, 57 percent are women-led and 27 percent are immigrant-serving. A map and list of every organization that has received funding from the Boston Resiliency Fund can be found here.



**THINK OF IT AS
AN OWNER’S MANUAL
FOR YOUR MONEY.**

The free *Consumer Action Handbook*. In print and online at ConsumerAction.gov, it’s the everyday guide to protecting your hard-earned money. For your free copy, order online at ConsumerAction.gov; send your name and address to Handbook, Pueblo, CO 81009; or call toll-free 1 (888) 8 PUEBLO.

Being a smart shopper just got easier.

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

Visit MissionHillGazette.com

EDITORIAL

Trump's taxes: Shocking, but not surprising

The recent disclosure by the New York Times of President Donald Trump's personal tax returns for nearly a 20-year period, up to and including his 2017 return (which Trump would have filed in April, 2018), presents evidence of the extent both of Trump's tax avoidance schemes and the precarious situation of his personal finances.

Trump always has stated his disdain for taxes. While it may be true that he has been able to avoid paying taxes because of loopholes that favor the wealthy, especially real estate developers, what really stands out is the bottom line figure of \$750 in taxes that he paid in BOTH 2016 and 2017.

Americans who make only the minimum wage pay far more in federal income taxes than Trump paid in 2016 and 2017.

In addition, anyone who has filed a tax return for more than one year knows that it is almost impossible to have the same bottom line figure in two consecutive years (which is especially true for someone like Trump, who has multiple business ventures), unless you go out of your way to manipulate the figures.

Another fact that is evident from the tax returns is that Trump is hardly the mogul billionaire he always has claimed to be. The tax returns demonstrate that Trump is a truly terrible businessman.

Just as Trump's casinos and other projects failed miserably in the late 1980s and early 90s, his high-end golf clubs around the world are a cash sinkhole for him today.

Most disturbing however, the tax returns demonstrate the extent to which Trump personally is deeply in debt. Trump has almost half a billion dollars in loans (that he personally guaranteed) coming due within the next four years, but few liquid assets available to cover this huge debt.

Given that we know Trump is the ultimate embodiment of a pay-to-play president, does anyone doubt that Trump's desperate need to curry favor either with a bank, an exceedingly-wealthy individual, or a corrupt foreign country in order to refinance his huge debt could compromise his sworn oath to protect and defend the Constitution of the United States?

Finally, the story in the Times makes it clear that for Trump, his re-election is highly personal. If he loses in November, he almost certainly will be facing heightened scrutiny by the IRS and federal authorities relating to his tax filings. He also will have no ability to leverage the office of President in order to obtain refinancing for his huge debt.

The danger lurking for our country is that we know that Trump will go to any extent to win the election -- and that does not bode well for our democracy.

Suffolk DA Rollins steps up

The announcement this week by Suffolk County District Attorney Rachael Rollins that her office will be expanding the database (often referred to as LEAD) that is comprised of law enforcement personnel whose prior conduct could impact their credibility as witnesses in a court proceeding comes as welcome news to every citizen in the Commonwealth.

The LEAD (Law Enforcement Automatic Discovery) database includes officers who have had incidents of untruthfulness, criminal convictions, candor issues, or some other type of issue reflecting on their ability to perform their job impartially, including discriminatory or defamatory actions, language or conduct targeting any protected category or class, based on race; color; religious creed; national origin; immigration status; sex; gender identity; sexual orientation; pregnancy; ancestry; or status as a veteran.

Although the LEAD database has been in existence for a while, Rollins has expanded it with the addition of 115 officers to a new total of 136 names of law enforcement officers who work, have worked, or could work in Suffolk County.

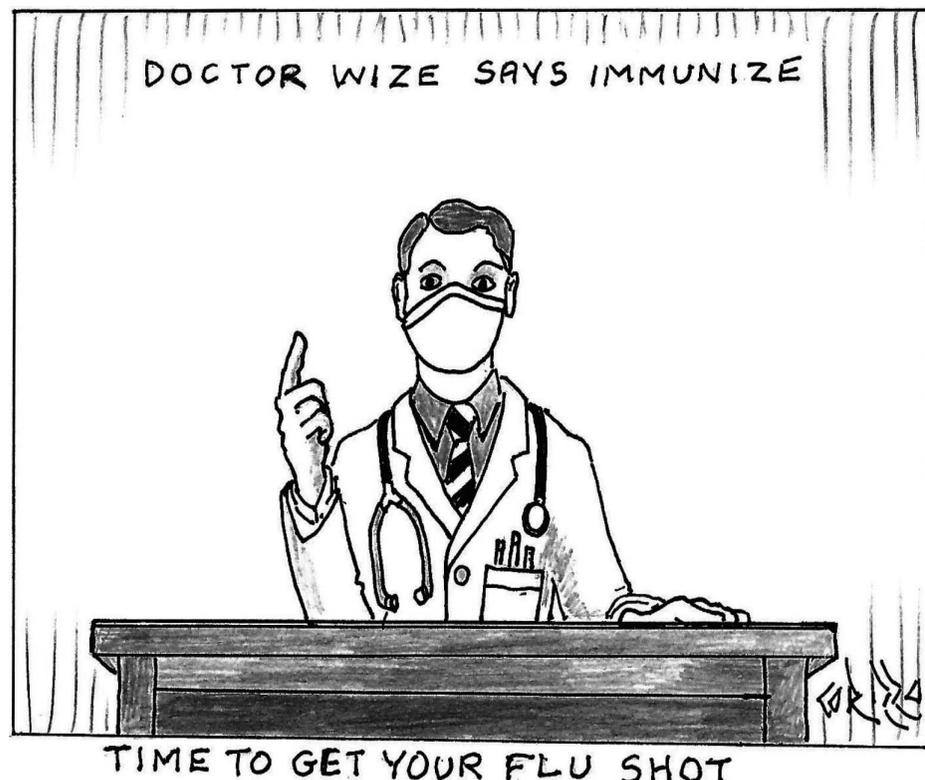
The list includes former police officers in the cities of Boston, Revere, and Chelsea, as well as MBTA police and Massachusetts State Troopers.

We hasten to point out that the expansion of the LEAD database should not be seen as a reflection that in any way casts doubt upon the basic honesty and integrity of those who work in our police departments.

Even though a total of 136 officers (most of whom have resigned or retired) may seem like a large figure, it represents only a small fraction of the overwhelming majority of our men and women who wear a badge and who do their job, day-in and day-out, protecting our citizenry with honor, dignity, and compassion.

The criminal justice system is imperfect, even under the best of circumstances, for everybody involved, victims and defendants alike.

We applaud District Attorney Rollins for taking this step to ensure that every citizen of our state -- not merely Suffolk County residents -- receive a fair trial, which is an essential cornerstone of our democracy.



OP-ED

Turn the page

DR. GLENN MOLLETTE

Fall season officially began September 22 this year. For every season there is a change. Most of us like the seasons especially if we can have four of them.

I like the fall as the weather seems more stable in our part of the country. For our neighbors in California they are desperate for anything that will bring rain and an end to the devastating fires. This has been a cruel, harsh time that we pray passes by and ends very quickly for California.

On the east and gulf coast there is always another looming hurricane this time of year. Flooding and devastation have already occurred in Louisiana with the potential of more to come.

Every season brings the possibilities of pleasant weather but also severe weather. Very much like our lives every season brings change because we have no choice but to deal with the change. When snow comes, we adapt and enjoy the change.

Our lives are like seasons - change comes. If we are fortunate, aging occurs. Children grow up. Our vocational lives and dreams change, mature, flourish or become a distant memory. Our lives are like an interesting book. Your life is probably very interesting if you were able to write out the whole story. Maybe you should write about your life? Write it out for someone later to read about. If you decide to do so write about the hard times as well as what you want everyone else to know.

Whenever you read or write a book it requires turning the page or writing

a new page. You can't finish the book if you stay on the same page. When our parents die, we have to turn the page. When we bury a spouse or loved one, we have to turn the page. When we change jobs or careers that require transition it's tough but we have to turn the page. When children grow up and move away or no longer have time to be with us then we must turn the page.

A good friend is selling his lovely home. I can see that's it a tough time emotionally as he has invested so many years into where he lives. He and his wife are moving into a smaller condominium. He loves his beautiful yard but he knows it's time to turn the page as their age and health have changed.

The one difference between reading a book and life is that you may not finish reading the book but we all finish life. You either turn the pages of life or in time they are turned for you. The worst decisions we make are no decisions. We procrastinate. We delay paying into retirement. We delay a health test. We put off what we dread and it doesn't make it better.

Live a good life. Make decisions. Turn the page and keep going. Don't get stuck on the same page in the same chapter. Run your race. Finish your course. Turn the page.

Glenn Mollette is the publisher of Newburgh Press, Liberty Torch and various other publishing imprints; a national columnist - American Issues and Common Sense opinions, analysis, stories and features appear each week in over 500 newspapers, websites and blogs across the United States.

CITY PAWS

Pet photo pointers

By PENNY & ED CHERUBINO

With smartphone cameras always at the ready, most of us take hundreds of photos of our pets. We can snap away and choose the best of what we shoot to keep and share. It's easier if your dog or cat either ignores the camera or is a ham who loves to be the center of attention. With camera-shy critters, you have to use a full bag of tricks to capture a great photo.

Planning the Photo

If you hope to take a special photo, say for your pet's birthday or a holiday card, plan ahead. A second person might help. They can distract the animal with a toy or treat or keep it safe while you sit or lie on the ground to get an eye level view.

Background is important. Find a light colored background for a dark dog. Our little white dog shows up best on a dark background. Look at the photos you already have of your pets to see what background works best for them.

Have treats, toys, and some-

thing that makes a funny noise on hand to capture your pet's attention when you are ready to shoot. We've used squeakers, giggle toys, and made funny sounds the dog doesn't usually hear, or say a favorite word like treat or cheese. Be sure to have that cheese or treat on hand to reward your model. This will help train your dog or cat to look forward to and cooperate with photos.

Don't forget the lighting. Outside, try for the golden hour. That's the time shortly after sunrise or before sunset, when daylight is redder, softer, and more flattering to man or beast. Days with clouds and flat light create fewer shadows and are better for photography than bright sunny days.

Inside, try to dim or raise room lights and use shades or a piece of cloth to adjust the daylight coming through windows. We never use a flash because it can scare the animal and seldom results in a good photo.

Portrait or Action

Great portraits of dogs and cats are often those taken at eye

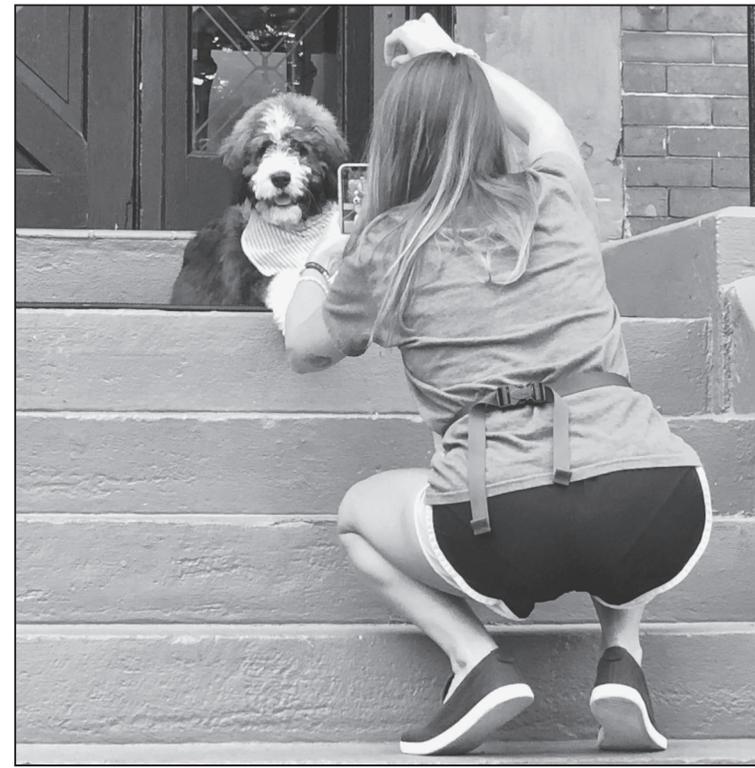
level. This means that either the photographer has to get down or the animal has to get up. We've used comfy chairs, park benches, stairs and stone walls to raise up small subjects.

For action photos practice taking high speed bursts on your camera or phone. These will give you more choices as you edit photos of your cat at play or your dog running on the beach.

Safety and Comfort First

Any time you are photographing an animal, try to be aware of both their comfort level and safety. Back when most of our photos were taken with big Nikon DSLR cameras with three inch lenses focused on a pup's face, we had many dogs afraid of our camera. With research we learned that some dogs see the lens as a big, threatening eye staring at them. Phones are less scary.

You won't see photos of our dog Poppy without a leash attached to us or a solid object unless she is inside. She's a terrier and can never be trusted off leash in the open. While you are concentrating on taking a photo, your dog



Stairs are one way to take a photo at a dog's eye level. This pup is named Farmer and his attention was captured by the photographer behind his photographer.

may spot a squirrel, another dog, or a favorite person and be gone in a flash.

If you think through the photo you hope to capture and have all the treats, toys, and camera set-

tings ready, you'll be able to take a great photo quickly and safely.

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

Walsh

Continued from page 10

Walsh said that BPS will only move forward with the hybrid learning model if the positive test rate remains below four percent, and families still have the option to have their kids learn fully remotely.

He reminded residents that all school buildings have been prepared to receive students, faculty, and staff, with proper spacing, ventilation, and cleanliness protocols in place.

Walsh said that remote learning is going well so far, with about 90 percent of students signing in and participating each day, which he said is similar to a normal in person school day in the city. Meals will continue to be

provided for students, even for remote learning days.

Walsh also announced a partnership with Staples that will provide every BPS student a \$50 gift card to purchase school supplies at Staples, which can be used in any Staples store any time before November 30. He said it has to be used in person and cannot be used online.

Additionally, the ban on plastic bags has been reintroduced, Walsh said, and retailers must charge at least 5 cents for each bag used. The ban had been lifted to help residents and businesses during the surge, but Walsh said it is "important to maintain this policy as part of our climate leadership," and "public health experts are clear that reusable bags are safe," he said.

CLASSIFIEDS

classifieds@JamaicaPlainGazette.com

617-524-2626

SERVICES

David at kNurd on Kall : com can help with PC computers, networks, audio/video/multimedia, phone solutions. \$Reasonable\$. House calls. 617-676-5676 or 617-522-6090

CLASSIFIED INFO

Rate: \$14 buys 10 words, including a bold heading; 25 cents for each additional word. **Deadline:** 3 PM on the Monday before publication date. Fax your ad to 617-524-3921 or mail it to Gazette Publications, Inc., PO. Box 301119, JP, MA 02130. Or e-mail it to classifieds@JamaicaPlainGazette.com. For more info. call 617-524-2626.

Press 5, then press 3.

The Gazette accepts all major credit cards.

The opinions expressed on these pages are not necessarily those of this newspaper.

Mission Hill
GAZETTE

Circulation 7,000

Published 12 times a year in Jamaica Plain by Independent Newspaper Group

Patricia DeOliveira
Advertising ManagerSandra Storey
Founder/Publisher Emerita 1993-2011Seth Daniel, Reporter
seth@reverejournal.comLauren Bennett, Reporter
lauren@thebostonjournal.com

©INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER GROUP

Stephen Quigley, *President* stephen.quigley@reverejournal.com
Debra DiGregorio, *Director of Marketing* ads@jamaicaplaingazette.com

The Mission Hill Gazette is delivered free businesses and organizations in the neighborhood 12 times a year on Friday and Saturday. It is free in stores.

Independent Newspaper Group will not assume financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertisements. Questions or complaints regarding advertising must be sent in writing to the billing department within seven days of publication in order for adjustments to be made to the account. We reserve the right to use our discretion in accepting or rejecting advertising copy.

Telephone: (617) 524-2626 • Fax: (617) 524-3921
7 Harris Avenue, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130
JamaicaPlainGazette.com

Advertise in the Gazette.
Call 617-524-7662

COVID-19 updates for Mission Hill

By JOHN LYNDS

The Mission Hill/Roxbury COVID-19 infection since the beginning of September rose 12.3 percent. This was up from the 8.5 percent increase that occurred in the neighborhood between August and September.

According to data released last Friday by the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) the COVID-19 infection rate here jumped from 260.6 cases per 10,000 residents to an infection rate of 292.8 cases per 10,000 residents in one month.

There were 1,263 COVID-19 cases in Mission Hill/ Roxbury as of last Friday, an increase of 139 cases from the 1,124 cases reported by the end of August.

The stats released by the Boston Public Health Commission (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. Updated results are released on

the BPHC's website on Friday afternoons.

Last week the BPHC reported that 21,449 Mission Hill/Roxbury residents were tested for COVID-19 and the data shows that only 2.5 percent of those tested in the area were COVID positive. The citywide average last Friday was 3.5 percent. Overall since the pandemic began 6.1 percent of Mission Hill/Roxbury residents were found to be COVID positive.

Citywide positive cases of coronavirus rose nearly 3 percent last week from 16,703 cases to 17,186 cases. So far 14,174 Boston residents have fully recovered from the virus and one additional resident died last week bringing the total of fatalities in the city to 762.

During his daily press briefing on the virus Friday, Mayor Martin Walsh said Boston's positive test rate is at 2.7%, roughly level with the week before.

"Our daily average for new positive tests is 49, down slightly from the week before," he said.

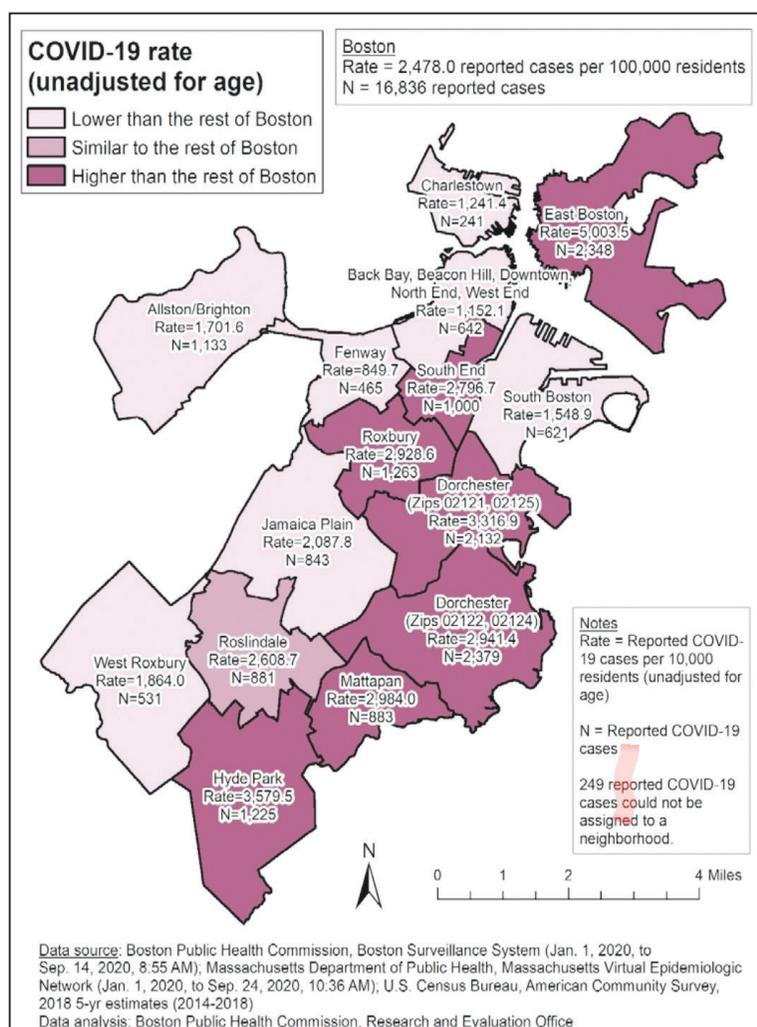
"We have seen a slight increase in our hospitalization numbers, but it has not crossed our threshold for major concern. We are monitoring it carefully, and the City will continue to bring resources to where they are needed."

The Mayor said we need everyone to remain vigilant with face coverings, hand washing, and social distancing to help keep the numbers under control.

"Last Monday, Boston Public Schools kicked off the new school year with online learning for all students," said Walsh. "I want to remind everyone that the plan is to gradually introduce in-person learning starting with the highest need students, and the youngest students."

The Mayor said the city will only move forward with in-person learning if the COVID-19 data stays within a certain threshold, and will only hold in-person learning if Boston's positive test rate is below 4 percent.

"We will continue to monitor all data closely, and make adjustments if needed," he said.



Stats released by the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) as part of its weekly COVID-19 report breaks down the number of cases and infection rates in each neighborhood



We're in this together, Boston.

Northeastern University

NORTHEASTERN.EDU/PROTECTTHEPACK