

WHAT'S HAPPENING ON MAIN STREETS, SEE PAGE 12

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## CAMH revises its bylaws

By LAURA PLUMMER

Community Alliance of Mission Hill (CAMH) met on Oct. 21 to discuss revising its bylaws. The meeting was held virtually via Zoom with approximately 17 people in attendance.

Over the past year and a half, the Bylaws Committee of CAMH, which consists of five members, met to talk about proposed changes to the group's bylaws. Their recommendations were presented at the last board meeting and were approved. These were presented to CAMH membership for a vote at the October meeting, and include the following:

- Proof of residency is currently required to vote on CAMH matters, but a change to the bylaws

*Continued on page 2*

## CAMH revisa los estatutos

By LAURA PLUMMER

Community Alliance of Mission Hill (CAMH) se reunió el 21 de octubre para discutir la revisión de sus estatutos. La reunión se llevó a cabo virtualmente a través de Zoom con aproximadamente 17 personas presentes.

Durante el último año y medio, el Comité de Estatutos de CAMH, que consta de cinco miembros, se reunió para hablar sobre los cambios propuestos a los estatutos del grupo. Sus recomendaciones fueron presentadas en la última reunión de la junta y fueron aprobadas. Fueron presentadas a

*Continued on page 2*

## HALLOWEEN ON THE HILL



*FRIDAY THE 13TH – FOR REAL! It might be Friday the 13th today, but here Hector Galerza scared every at Halloween on the Hill in the BCYF Tobin Haunted Yard. Halloween brought out a lot of safe trick-or-treating on Tremont Street with businesses and organizations setting up for a scare and a treat.*



*Jeff, Katy, Violet and Emmett Genovese were all about Haunting the Hill on Halloween. See Pages 8 and 9 for more photos.*

## Mission Main gets state funds for renovation

By SETH DANIEL

The largest public housing development in Mission Hill is preparing to go through major physical and structural changes next year – with the state awarding tax credits last month to the ownership team for extensive renovations to every unit.

Mission Main is a Boston Housing Authority (BHA) property, but changed its ownership model 20 years ago when the HOPE VI grant refurbished the housing in the 1990s. Now, WinDevelopment and Mission Main

Tenant Task Force operate the development under a ground lease from the BHA. All three entities celebrated funding last month from the state, with Gov. Charlie Baker granting low-income tax credits to the property and other resources to allow for a major update.

“Mission Main is a BHA public housing community that went through a transformative redevelopment through the federal HOPE VI program 20 years ago,” read a statement from the BHA.

*Continued on page 6*

## Community process kicked off for Mission Hill Playground renovations

By LAUREN BENNETT

The City of Boston kicked off a community process for renovations to Mission Hill Playground with a virtual public meeting on November 5.

The Gazette spoke with Parks Commissioner Ryan Woods about the city's thoughts for the improvements, as well as what will come next.

The Mission Hill Playground, located at 60 Smith Street, currently features a playground, a water spray area, a mini basketball court, swings, a seating area along shaded pathways, and a turf field for various sports. The

consultant for the improvements project is Kyle Zick Landscape Architects.

Woods said that it has been “at least” 15 years since updates have been made to the playground, and the goal of the Parks Department is “to have a park that is well programmed and well-utilized.”

The budget for the new improvements is about \$2.6 million, but Woods said that the Parks Department also received a \$400,000 Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities grant last week, which

*Continued on page 3*

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# Walsh, elected officials speak out after election; look towards future

BY LAUREN BENNETT

Mayor Walsh, along with the Boston City Council, State Rep. Chynah Tyler, District Attorney Rachael Rollins, ad State Treasurer Deb Goldberg, held a press conference on Sunday following the announcement that Joe Biden and Kamala Harris had won the election.

"We're here to mark a historic moment for our country and our city," Walsh said. "I want to congratulate president-elect Biden and vice president-elect Harris."

Walsh continued, "I believe their election is good for Boston and is certainly good for America."

Boston voters "overwhelmingly" voted for Biden and Harris, Walsh said, adding that Biden and Harris "understand who we are and the challenges that we face here as a city. They are dedicated to meeting those challenges side by side with us as partners."

Walsh also said that Biden "understands what makes Boston strong," as he has visited the city on many occasions.

Walsh said that Biden's task force to beat COVID-19 will be beneficial, and praised Harris' efforts fighting for justice for working families.

"Like so many other Bostonians, she is a child of immigrant parents," Walsh said of Harris, which will help to "expand the dreams of many people here in the City."

Walsh said that there is still "so much work to do after this election," including beating COVID-19, continuing work on building and preserving afford-

able housing, investments in public transportation—including bus and bike lane infrastructure—and work on the climate change and the environment.

He also said that he looks forward to "working together to become the first city to write fair housing protections into our zoning code."

He said that all of this can only be done "by working together" and "supporting our vulnerable communities."

Walsh said he hopes to work with communities across the region and the country on tackling these issues.

"With a partner in Washington, we're going to be able to take bolder action," Walsh said. "We can do this if we continue to work together."

City Council president Kim Janey thanked the residents of Boston for voting in the election and "for making your voices heard..."

She said that closing the "enormous wealth gap" between white and black households, as well as working towards equity for all students in Boston Public Schools, creating safe and affordable housing, creating safe spaces for kids and families to walk and play, addressing the opioid crisis "humanely," addressing climate change, and criminal justice reform are all issues that Janey said are important to address moving forward.

"There is no going back to normal," she said, and moving forward, the goal should be working "toward true freedom and justice for all, including those who have historically been left out of the American Dream."

## CAMH

Continued from page 1

would allow the board to consider forms of proof of long-term residency other than the ones currently listed. This is to accommodate residents of Mission Hill that do not have drivers licenses or passports.

Previously, CAMH members were not asked to pay dues. New language will suggest that members contribute a donation to cover basic services and supplies.

The CAMH Board will consist of at least eight members. Previously it could have as few as four. Any Board member may schedule and facilitate a CAMH meeting if the CAMH President is absent.

The CAMH President will serve for a one-year term, and no more than four consecutive terms. In addition to creating the meeting agendas and act-

ing as official spokesperson, the President must also respond to correspondence and to pass along group decisions to appropriate agencies.

The CAMH Treasurer will be tasked with providing yearly, rather than quarterly, financial reports.

The position of CAMH Secretary was added. This individual will serve for one year and will coordinate sign-in at meetings, oversee proof of residency and maintain a member database.

Items on the agenda will not be put up for a vote until the following meeting.

The CAMH annual meeting was changed from April to May.

When the changes were brought to a vote, they passed unanimously.

Other Affairs

The Boston Planning & Development Agency (BPDA) is offering a property at 103-105

Fisher Avenue for development. The parcel has been put up for development every couple of years, with the local community attempting to stop it due to it being very steep and abutting the park.

The Mildred Hailey/Bromley Heath development plan meeting took place on Nov. 5.

A new street will connect Center Street to Heath Street, potentially impacting traffic flow in Mission Hill. Member Henry Santana mentioned working with the Boston Transportation Department (BTD) to mitigate the traffic issues.

CAMH meets on the third Wednesday of every month at 7pm. Since the start of the pandemic, meetings have been moved online. Members of the public are invited to attend via the online conferencing platform Zoom.

## CAMH Revisa

Continued from page 1

los miembros de CAMH para su votación en la reunión de octubre e incluyen lo siguiente:

Actualmente se requiere prueba de residencia para votar sobre asuntos de CAMH, pero un cambio en los estatutos permitiría formas de prueba además de las actuales. Esto es para acomodar a los residentes de Mission Hill que no tienen licencias de conducir ni pasaportes.

Anteriormente, a los miembros de CAMH no se les pedía que pagaran cuotas. El nuevo texto sugerirá que los miembros contribuyan una donación para cubrir

los servicios y suministros básicos.

La Junta de CAMH estará compuesta por al menos ocho miembros. Anteriormente, podía tener tan solo cuatro. Cualquier miembro de la Junta puede programar y facilitar una reunión de CAMH si el presidente está ausente.

El Presidente de CAMH servirá por un período de un año y no más de cuatro años/períodos consecutivos. Además de crear las agendas de las reuniones y actuar como portavoz oficial, el presidente también debe responder a la correspondencia y transmitir las decisiones del grupo a las agencias apropiadas.

El Tesorero de CAMH tendrá la tarea de proporcionar informes

financieros anuales, en lugar de trimestrales.

Se agregó el cargo de Secretario de CAMH. Esta persona servirá durante un año y será responsable de coordinar el inicio de sesión en las reuniones, supervisar la prueba de residencia y mantener una base de datos de miembros.

Los puntos del orden del día no se someterán a votación hasta la siguiente reunión.

La reunión anual de CAMH se cambió de abril a mayo.

Cuando se sometieron a votación los cambios, se aprobaron por unanimidad.

Otros asuntos

La Agencia de Planificación y Desarrollo de Boston está ofreciendo una propiedad en 103-105 Fisher Avenue para el desarrollo. La parcela se ha puesto en desarrollo cada dos años, y la comunidad local ha intentado detenerlo debido a que linda con el parque y es muy empinada.

La reunión del plan de desarrollo de Mildred Hailey/Bromley Heath se llevó a cabo el 5 de noviembre.

Una nueva calle conectará Center Street con Heath Street, lo que podría afectar el flujo de tráfico en Mission Hill. El miembro Henry Santana mencionó trabajar con el Departamento de Transporte de Boston (BTD) para mitigar los problemas de tráfico.

CAMH se reúne el tercer miércoles de cada mes a las 7 pm. Desde el comienzo de la pandemia, las reuniones se han movido en línea. Los miembros del público están invitados a asistir a través de la plataforma Zoom.

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## Playground

Continued from page 1

is the maximum award amount for one project, according to the state. “That’s really going to help us finish off the baseball field,” Woods said, which would have otherwise not had enough funding to complete.

He said that the Mission Hill Playground is in a “very interesting location” due to its three tiers on a slope, so he said the Parks Department is excited to be “engaging with the community on what they want to see done.”

He said that 18 people attended the virtual community meeting to talk about what they think works in the park and what they think might need improvement.

He said the middle tier on Tremont St. is a large focus of the project, with the potential relocation of the spray feature. He said that at the meeting, discussion topics included things like whether the basketball area should be retained, and people were also asked what features of the playground they liked best.

Right now, the water feature sprays out from up above, but the project team wants to know if people would like to see a different water feature instead. Woods said that feedback so far has indicated that people are very interested in having some sort of water feature in the park.

“We want to make amenities in the park and have people feel welcomed in the park,” Woods said. “Mayor Walsh is a firm believer that having more positive activity in the park pushes away that negative behavior.”

Other people shared that they use the park as a cut through, so people would like to see the pathways renovated so the park can better connect to the community at large.

There were also some con-

cerns with kids climbing the retaining walls and parents are worried about their safety. Woods said that people “asked us to look at the walls—how can they be engaging and safe spaces instead of kids climbing on these walls?”

The park is heavily used by camps and school groups during non-COVID times, as well as the library and the Tobin Community Center, Woods said.

Right now, the project is still beginning, and there is plenty of time for people to give feedback. The playground survey, as well as more information about the park, can be found at <https://www.boston.gov/departments/parks-and-recreation/improvements-mission-hill-playground>.

More community meetings will be held in the future that will “tell the scope and the lay of the land” for the project, Woods said, as well as introduce some conceptual ideas to the public for feedback, and then eventually a final design will be agreed upon.

“I just think that we’re very excited about this \$3 million investment going in the middle of Mission Hill to bring a high quality park and playground to the residents of Mission Hill,” Woods said, “and that it is a safe and inviting place that everybody wants to go to.”

By MOSSY MARTIN

God bless our veterans.

At this writing, members of the Mission Hill Post 327 were planning a gathering at Brigham Circle on Veterans Day to honor our veterans. The holiday was originally called Armistice Day when an Armistice was reached with Germany and the allies on Nov. 11, 1918, ending World War I. The name was changed to Veterans Day in 1954.

Every Veterans Day I’m fondly reminded of my close friend, the late John Killion. John, who served with the Army in Vietnam, celebrated Veterans Day by buying rounds of drinks for strangers in random taverns. John was not adverse to “dive bars,” and we’d hit several of them throughout the city. He had such a personality that you had to love him. John Killion, my Mission High classmate and baseball teammate, who succumbed to cancer in 2004, was the best.

Belated condolences to the family of Billy Dooling, a great former Mission Hill man who passed away in July. Billy, who was a terrific football player at

Mission High, Class of ‘60, served in Vietnam, where he earned a Battlefield Commission. After graduating from Boston State College, Billy earned a master’s degree from Dublin University. Billy taught at Millis High School for many years of his well-lived life.

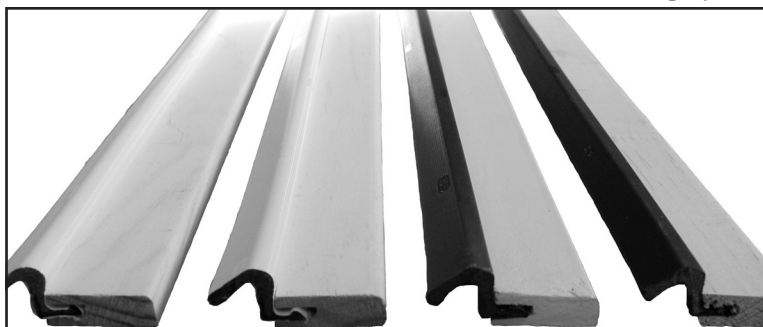
Beau Bevilacqua began his pro-boxing career in dramatic fashion, scoring a first round TKO in Sonora, Mexico, last month. Beau, the son of proud parents, Robert and Liz Bevilacqua (Thompson), is blessed with his Mission Hill lineage. Beau’s grandparents, Elizabeth Thompson (Mayer) and Phil Thompson, grew up on the Hill. Phil and I were childhood friends, going back to our M.H. Little League days in 1961. I miss Phil who passed away some years ago. Phil was a wonderful friend and a great athlete, excelling in three sports at Boston English, ‘68. Phil’s daughter, Liz tells me: “Beau has a lot of Phil in him.”

Phil adored his grandchildren and he’d be happy as a clam with Beau’s success. Beau trains at the Grealish Boxing Club in Dorchester, and his trainer-manager is Martin Grealish. Beau, lives in Roslindale, and he attends Framingham State College. Beau, who stays busier than a one-armed paperhanger, also works week-

ends with his father at his dad’s plumbing business

There have been several terrific boxers from Mission Hill, including Bill Mullin, who won the Intramural Boxing Championship (145 pounds) division at Harvard University in 1968. Perhaps his best bout was against 81-year-old Jim McGonagle from Tobin Court, who fought many times at the Boston Garden. Col. George Rollins, also from Tobin Court., boxed at West Point in Intramural competition and the Colonel was known for his stinging left jab. I also did some boxing as a teenager. In the mid-‘60s, I worked at the Elm Farm Supermarket at Brigham Circle, where I boxed the oranges and apples.

The Red Sox reinstated Alex Cora last week after the team’s poor showing on the field last season. Cora was part of the video-sign stealing, which aided his crooked the Houston Astros to their 2017 World Series championship. No problem here, as it is noble to give someone a second chance. However, Cora’s offense was more grievous than Pete Rose’s sin of betting on baseball. Rose has been banned from baseball for more than 30 years. It’s about time Rose, baseball’s all-time hit leader, is allowed into the Hall of Fame.



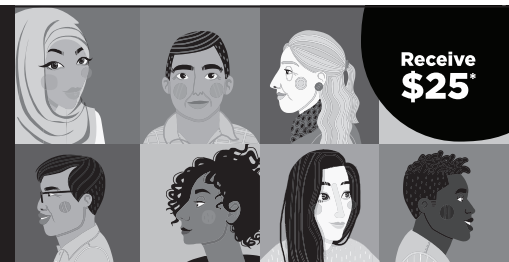
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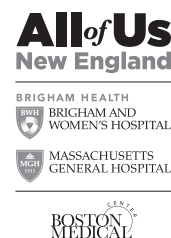
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# COVID-19 positive test rate explodes in Mission Hill/Roxbury

By JOHN LYNDIS

As COVID-19 cases spike across Boston, the positive test rate exploded since the end of September according to the latest data released by the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC).

Of the 26,039 Mission Hill/Roxbury residents were tested for COVID-19 the data shows that 11.4 percent of those tested in the area were COVID positive. This was a 225 percent increase from the 3.5 percent that were found to be positive on average at the end of September. The citywide positive test rate average was 7.2 percent—a 7 percent decrease from the 7.8 percent that tested positive a week ago.

Overall since the pandemic began 6.6 percent of Mission Hill/Roxbury residents were found to

be COVID positive—an 8 percent increase from the end of September.

The Mission Hill/Roxbury COVID-19 infection since the beginning of October rose 31.5 percent. This was up from the 12.3 percent increase that occurred in the neighborhood between September and October.

According to data released last Friday by the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) the COVID-19 infection rate here jumped from 292.8 cases per 10,000 residents to an infection rate of 385.1 cases per 10,000 residents in one month. The citywide average is 317.8 cases per 10,000 residents.

There are now 1,661 confirmed COVID-19 cases in Mission Hill/Roxbury as of last Friday, an increase of 398 cases from the

1,263 cases reported at the end of September.

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

Citywide positive cases of coronavirus increased 6.8 percent last week and went from 21,206 cases to 22,646 cases.

Thirteen more Boston residents died from the virus over the week and there are now 884 total deaths in the city from COVID.

At his daily press briefing last week Mayor Martin Walsh reiterated that the citywide positive test rate fell to 7.1 percent for the week ending October 31, with both more tests taken and fewer positive results. He said that's a good sign, but the city and residents still have a lot of work to do.

"We are still averaging more than 120 new cases per day and, in neighborhood data, East Boston, Dorchester, and Mattapan remain at or above 10 [percent] positivity."

Since launching the city's "Get the Test Boston" campaign Walsh said the city saw an 8 percent

increase in the number of people being tested last week. He said that continuing to increase the number of people getting tested will make a big difference, moving forward, in the city's ability to track and contain the virus. He thanked everyone who got tested for COVID-19 recently and encouraged others to do so.

"Our mobile testing sites are free and open to all, regardless of symptoms," said Walsh. "Since we launched them in May, our mobile testing teams have administered nearly 14,000 tests across Roxbury, Allston, South Boston, Mattapan, East Boston, and Dorchester. This week and next week, they are in East Boston at Central Square Park and

in Mattapan at Jubilee Christian Church."

The Mayor asked everyone to keep wearing a face covering whenever they are outside the house; keep washing hands frequently with soap and warm water and wiping down frequently used objects and surfaces; and keep maintaining six feet of distance from others while avoiding parties and other gatherings.

He also asked all Bostonians to familiarize themselves with the new state advisories that went into effect Friday. They include wearing a face covering at all times in public places; a Stay At Home Advisory for 10pm to 5am; and a closing time for in-person businesses of 9:30pm.



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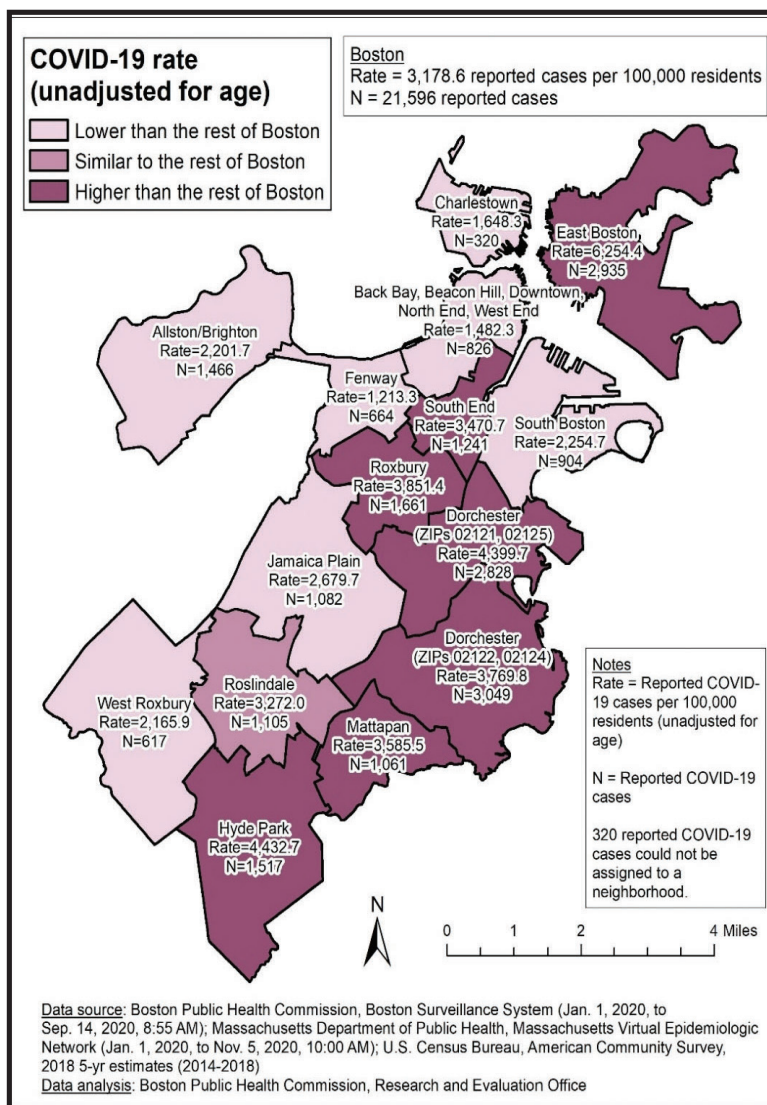


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Stats released by the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) as part of its weekly COVID-19 report breaks down the number of cases and infection rates in each neighborhood.



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# Nonprofit Fresh Truck in Mission Hill on Wednesdays

By JOHN LYNDIS

Fresh Truck Program Coordinator Stephen James was motivated to help families take on personal challenges with the philosophy of starting each day with proper food access to live a healthy lifestyle.

In Mission Hill and across Boston James helps the Fresh Truck, which is in Mission Hill on Wednesdays, connect with volunteers, customers, and many partners in the community.

James was at a community meeting recently to discuss Fresh Truck and promote it as another option for those facing food insecurity.

"We are a mobile market that is currently stocked with over 30 fruits and vegetables," said James. "We are another resource for families like local farmers markets and grocery stores and my goal here tonight is to share this information and even if you are not food insecure you may



*Fresh Truck Program Coordinator Stephen James.*

know someone in the community that may be in need."

James pointed out that food insecurity in Massachusetts has doubled from 8 percent to 16 percent due to the COVID-19 pandemic so the more food access options out there for families the better.

One program Fresh Truck participates in is the state's Healthy Incentives Program (HIP) for EBT/SNAP clients.

James explained that the HIP program helps families or in-

dividuals buy more fruits and vegetables for their household through an incentive program.

Residents can use their SNAP benefits to buy fruits and vegetables from a HIP authorized farm or vendor like Fresh Truck and they will receive \$1 for each dollar spent on eligible fruits and vegetables, up to a monthly limit.

"Any family or individual that has an EBT/SNAP card is already enrolled in the program," said James.

The Fresh Truck is at the Mission Park Apartments located at 2 New Whitney St. from 2:30 pm-5:30 pm on Wednesdays.

Fresh Truck was started by Josh Trautwein while he was working as a health educator at the MGH Charlestown Healthcare Center. He kept hearing from his families that it was difficult to shop for healthy food — at that time, the only grocery store in the neighborhood was shutting down for a year-long



*Fresh Truck is in Mission Hill on Wednesdays at the Mission Park Apartments.*

renovation. The health center had no way of solving for the fact that patients didn't have access to the food they needed to stay healthy. It was this experience that inspired Fresh Truck to rethink the traditional grocery store model, make it mobile and

bring food closer to the people that need it the most.

In 2018, Fresh Truck expanded its efforts to address health disparities by developing Fresh Connect, a platform that makes it possible for health care providers to prescribe food as medicine.

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# City Health officials say cases surging due to small gatherings

By SETH DANIEL

City officials are warning residents that part of the uptick in COVID-19 cases seems to be clusters in households that seem to be coming not from blockbuster parties, but rather small gatherings that most feel are safe – but end up being COVID spreading events.

Ahead of Gov. Charlie Baker's new 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. curfew on Monday, City Health Chief Marty Martinez and other health officials said they are looking to help people understand how the virus is now spreading.

"It's about multi-generational households in units where people live with two or three different people and have frequent contact

with them every day," he said. "It's not just households, but also the really informal small, get-togethers. You have two or three people get together to watch the game. They all know each other and feel they are fine, but one person has COVID-19 and it spreads to the other two people and they take it home to a household. That's part of what we're seeing in the 39 and under age group. Not doing these things is difficult to do as it gets cold and we get into the holidays.

"There is a lot that individuals can do right now," he continued. "We've just got to double down on it and people need to be careful and avoid these get-togethers. There are super-spreader events, but these are small scenarios

that are happening and they increase the spread."

To that end, the City and the Boston Police Department (BPD) were out in force over the Halloween weekend to clamp down on house parties, whether inside or outside and fine the owners if things got out of hand.

"Prevention is one piece but it's also the messaging," he said. "A party, even a small one, that puts you at risk and everyone else around you at risk. It's very important we keep that in mind and we encourage people to think about that. Enforcement is part of it too, and we're tying that together with the BPD."

That was followed up by a more stringent regulation from Gov. Baker on Monday about

gatherings, even at private homes.

The new gatherings order also requires that organizers of gatherings report known positive COVID-19 cases to the local health department in that community and requires organizers to cooperate with contact tracing. The gatherings order authorizes continued enforcement by local health and police departments and specifies that fines for violating the gathering order will be \$500 for each person above the limit at a particular gathering.

## •CASES SOAR FOR LATINO RESIDENTS

The COVID-19 case data is no doubt on the rise in Boston, but is still far from the surge in April, Martinez assured.

As of Oct. 24, the daily rate in Boston was 121.3, as compared to April's rate of 331. However, the summer low for cases was 20.6. The positivity rate for testing was at 7.8 percent citywide on Oct. 24.

One of the caveats of the most recent surge is that rates for LatinX populations have gone much higher than in the initial surge, while the rates for Black/African American populations have gone down compared to April. In essence, they've switched places.

However, he said it's a much younger group of people being affected now, particularly those under 39 and LatinX across every neighborhood in Boston.

## Mission Main

Continued from page 1

"Today there are 535 apartments at the site, 445 of which are public housing units... The Commonwealth of Massachusetts recently awarded Mission Main an allocation of state low-income housing tax credits and other resources, which will allow the renovations to go forward next year."

Gov. Charlie Baker said investing in affordable housing and preserving existing affordable housing has been a priority that will continue despite COVID-19.

"Our administration has made housing a priority, including injecting \$1.1 billion into the affordable housing ecosystem, filing zoning reform legislation,

and signing the largest Housing Bond Bill in our state's history," said Governor Charlie Baker. "Keeping families stable and increasing the supply of affordable housing in Massachusetts is vital for our future and I am pleased to celebrate this most recent round of housing development awards and the new homes they will provide for residents."

The Mission Main proposal is a large-scale preservation/rehabilitation project. The project consists of multiple buildings with over 500 rental units. The construction work now proposed will result in extensive and necessary rehabilitation to most of the buildings and units in the project – all of which were rebuilt under the HOPE VI grant years ago. DHCD will support the rehabilitation with federal

and state low-income housing tax credits. When work is complete, Mission Main will feature 535 total units. Approximately 445 units will be affordable to households earning less than 60% of AMI, with 81 units further restricted for households earning less than 30% of AMI.

At the same time, BHA has successfully received permission to change the format of the public housing units in Mission Main. BHA officials said they are planning a refinancing transaction in order to carry out the renovations and that will keep the property modern and up-to-date. However, to make this process easier in the future, they are looking to convert Mission Main away from traditional public housing and into the new federal Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD)

program.

BHA officials said RAD is similar to the project-based Section 8 voucher program that is used in mixed-income rehabilitation projects right now. BHA said RAD would preserve all the benefits and tenant protections of public housing, while also providing increased funding stability and predictability – making updates easier to finance.

RAD would operate on 20-year subsidy contracts tied to the properties that would automatically renew.

"BHA has secured approval to convert Mission Main from conventional public housing to the new federal Rental Assistance Demonstration—or RAD—program," confirmed a statement from BHA.



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# GBLN commission's report on status of Latinx-led nonprofits

By JOHN LYNDIS

The Greater Boston Latino Network (GBLN), which includes the Hyde Square Task Force, recently commissioned one of two studies to assess the status of Latinx-led nonprofits in Boston and to better understand the challenges facing this sector.

GBLN, along with Amplify Latinx—a non-partisan convener building Latinx economic and political power in Massachusetts, jointly released two studies earlier this month that also highlighted the critical role that Latino Community Based Organizations (CBO) play in supporting the city's growing Latino community, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"These organizations and their leaders have taken a first-responder role during the COVID-19 health and economic crisis, requiring many Latino nonprofits to pivot and provide basic human services and a critical safety net within their communities," said the report.

According to the reports, there are 80 Latino nonprofits in the Commonwealth that focus on serving Latino residents, a demographic projected to reach 15.3 percent of the state's population by 2035. These 80 Latino organizations constitute less than 1 percent of the state's 9,223 non-profit organizations identified in a 2014 inventory of all nonprofits in Massachusetts. The City of Boston has the largest number of Latino organizations at 37 but the organizations' average of net resources is less than \$4 million.

"One out of every five Bostonians identifies as Latinx, and 43 percent of public school students in Boston are Latinx. But many people still think of Boston demographically along a Black/white binary," said Karen Chacon, Co-Chair of GBLN. "Our report addresses this social reality and confirms the need to recognize Latinx-led and Latinx-serving nonprofits as vital anchor organizations."

While Latinx-led nonprofits and their central contributions to Latinx communities and overall civic life are impressive the reports found that many Latinx organizations remain invisible to many power brokers and philanthropy in Boston and the state.

The reports found that existing Latino organizations are struggling with financial stability as funding remains sparse with less than 2 percent of philanthropic dollars being directly invested in Latino-based organizations. Ninety-seven of the total net assets of Latino organiza-

tions are concentrated in just six cities in Massachusetts--Boston, Chelsea, West Springfield, Lawrence, Holyoke, and Worcester--while the population that Latino nonprofits serve is swelling and requires more services.

"In spite of contributions critical for the well-being and economic mobility of the Latinx community and Boston as a whole, the sector of Latinx-led community-based organizations is facing enormous challenges that, if not resolved, can threaten the very existence of many of its organizations," read the report. "Such challenges include a reality that organizations must provide a range of services and serve as political and civic advocates in the Latinx community. Further, Latinx-led nonprofits are being forced to do more with less. As the Latinx community grows amid persistent inequality, resources are dwindling or not keeping pace with increasing demands."

In a time of public health and racial justice crises disproportionately affecting socially and economically marginalized communities of color, community-based Latinx organizations are first responders supporting and working directly with families, youth, and elders.

"Many frontline workers are from the Latinx community," read the report. "They are providing essential services across Greater Boston. Far too many are living in overcrowded conditions and experiencing housing and food insecurity. Immigration issues continue to present complex challenges for Latinx individuals and families living under the threat of detention and deportation. In this climate, the Latinx community is heavily dependent on the community-based organizations."

According to the report these organizations support and empower the Latinx community with culturally relevant and linguistically appropriate services and programming.

"Individually and collectively, Latinx-led and Latinxserving organizations are creating and providing a critical safety net anchoring and buoying the Latinx community," read the reports. "It is time to acknowledge that Latinx community-based organizations play an essential role in Greater Boston."

The two studies are not about the role and work of individual organizations but rather how, as a collectivity of organizations, this sector is implementing services and resources to enhance Latinx community-building and overall well-being.



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# HALLOWEEN ON THE HILL

Photos by Seth Daniel

Halloween on the Hill took place on Halloween evening, Oct. 31, along Tremont Street, coordinated expertly by BCYF Tobin Director John Jackson and with businesses and organizations in Mission Hill contributing.

Children gathered up candy from several stops along Tremont Street, and there was even a scary Haunted Yard for the older kids. In all, it was a great and successful night on the Hill – despite the COVID restrictions.



*Angel with a Pumpkin: Seven Cosgrove was happy to show off her pumpkin on Halloween.*



*Julissa Garcia was ready to give a fright at the Haunted Yard.*



*Stephania and Anais Crispin were quite a sight on Tremont Street.*



*Mary Ann Nelson of Mission Hill Health Movement passed out mini-pumpkins to trick-or-treaters.*



*MissionSAFE members Jumaane Kendrick, Makaila Cerrone, and B.J. Henry handed out trick-or-treat bags.*

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*Maria Weinograd from Mike's Donuts handed out candy, hot chocolate, coffee and plenty of smiles (at least behind the mask) to local kids and adults.*



## HALLOWEEN ON THE HILL



Candy wasn't out of the question for Jamire and Malachai Dykes.



Jeff, Katy, Violet and Emmett Genovese were all about Haunting the Hill on Halloween.



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# MBTA proposes service changes following decreased ridership due to COVID-19

By LAUREN BENNETT

As part of its “Forging Ahead” program in response to ridership changes, the MBTA announced on November 9 several proposed changes to service, and is looking for feedback from riders.

MBTA General Manager Steve Poftak said at the MBTA Fiscal & Management Control Board meeting on Monday that for next year, there is nearly a \$580 million budget gap. He said the T is “in this position because of a tremendous loss in fare revenue as ridership has decreased,” and there is “very low ridership on certain services.” He added that “the service reductions are not intended to be a permanent shrinkage of MBTA services.”

Changes are proposed across the range of services offered by the MBTA, from rapid transit to ferry to the commuter rail to bus service. Starting this week, the MBTA will be engaging the public through virtual community meetings and a public hearing to gather feedback about the proposed changes to service. There is also an online comment form for riders to provide questions and comments.

“The MBTA’s fare revenue, while above the lowest levels seen at the beginning of the pandemic, has remained at unprecedentedly low levels and the ongoing impact of COVID-19 in Massachusetts is likely to limit our path to recovery,” Poftak said

in a video posted on the MBTA’s Forging Ahead webpage.

He said that the T is currently still only running about 330,000 trips during an average weekday, but is running about the same level of service as it did to have 1.26 million trips before the pandemic hit.

“This level of service delivery, along with the loss in revenue, is not sustainable,” Poftak said.

He said that since August, ridership, along with fare revenue trends, have been monitored by the MBTA, and he said that the MBTA is “taking steps to control costs,” which includes “implementing a head count freeze, pausing executive pay increases,” and “updating our savings projection” from the RIDE service because of lower ridership.

## COMMUTER RAIL

Poftak reported that commuter rail ridership is currently around 12 percent of what it was prior to the pandemic, and the MBTA is proposing to end all weekday service by 9pm and eliminate all weekend service. Additionally, there would be a reduction in service levels to reduce the amount of service at peak hours as well as eliminate some midday service that would “result in a reduction of trains from 505 daily trips to 430,” Poftak said.

“This is a significant drop, but we are not ceasing service on any lines and we will still be running multiple trains in the peak,” he

added.

## FERRY

Ferry service also remains at about 12 percent, which is about seven passengers per trip, Poftak said. The MBTA is proposing to eliminate all ferry service “until ridership returns,” Poftak said. For commuters who rely on the Charlestown ferry, alternative service will be provided by the 93 bus.

## RAPID TRANSIT

Poftak said that a 20 percent reduction in frequency of rapid transit trains is proposed, and would be achieved by extending headways by about a minute.

“These changes are well within the service delivery policy that was passed in 2017,” he said, though he added that it is “obviously a reduction in service.”

Another large change proposed for rapid transit trains would stop service at midnight instead of 1am, and for the E Line to end at Brigham Circle, where passengers can transfer to the 39 bus for continued service to Heath Street.

## BUS

Poftak said that bus service “remains among our most durable services in terms of ridership,” but changes are still being proposed including reducing the number of routes run as well as “consolidating and restructuring certain routes,” Poftak said. Some routes will also be eliminated. He said that 80 routes have been deemed “essential,” and 60 have

been deemed “non-essential,” which could face a drop in frequency by 20 percent. Essential routes could see an aggregate drop in frequency by five percent, “but it will not be an across the board cut,” Poftak said, as crowding will continue to be monitored on bus routes and service can be adjusted accordingly.

Many riders are concerned about these proposed changes, and have spoken out in opposition. A coalition of “business, labor, transportation, and environmental justice organizations” has banded together to form a campaign called Transit is Essential. The campaign “will underscore the importance of keeping the T accessible and affordable to all,” according to a press release.

“A reliable public transportation system is essential to keeping businesses operating safely, efficiently, and profitably during and after the pandemic,” Chenelle Brown of the Alliance for Business Leadership’s Board of Directors and CMBG3 Law said in a statement. “We cannot allow public transportation, the lifeline of Greater Boston, to become a casualty of COVID-19. Pulling the rug out from under the MBTA now will put us further behind in meeting the long-term infrastructure and service improvement goals that are key to making Massachusetts a desirable and affordable place to do business.”

City Councilor and mayoral candidate Michelle Wu has advocated for accessible and free public transportation throughout her tenure as a councilor. She tweeted on Monday, “How many more times do we need to say it?? It’s unacceptable & dangerous to cut public transit service—aka crowd people into more limited spaces—during a pandemic. @BOSCityCouncil voted to stand w 500+ people who sent in testimony opposing this at today’s @MBTA board mtg.”

City Councilor Kenzie Bok also spoke out against the cuts, tweeting “This is wildly unacceptable—#TransitIsEssential! The ppl who build their whole lives around @MBTA dependability are our essential workers, our elders, our communities of color...everyone hit hardest! As we need more PPE & food during COVID-19, we need more T, not less! #mapoli”

A “Save Our Trolley” rally was also held by local elected officials on Wednesday at the Heath St. T stop to protest the proposed cuts.

The cuts are not yet set in stone, and the public is encouraged to provide feedback about the changes. A vote on the changes is expected by the MBTA Fiscal and Management Control on December 7. For more information on the proposals and to submit comments, visit <https://www.mbt.com/forging-ahead>.

# Mission Hill’s Edward M. Kennedy Academy falls short for prestigious EdVestors prize

By JOHN LYND

Earlier last month Mission Hill’s Edward M. Kennedy Academy for Health Careers was announced as a finalist for the prestigious EdVestors Prize. The other two schools were the F. Lyman Winship Elementary School in Brighton and Charles Sumner

Elementary School, Roslindale.

However, at the virtual ceremony on Wednesday, October 28 that was streamed live the Kennedy Academy fell short and it was announced that the Winship School in Brighton would receive the coveted \$100,000 prize.

The Kennedy Academy, as well

as the Sumner School, will still get \$20,000 for being one of the three finalists this year.

For the past 14 years EdVestors, a school improvement organization in Boston, has awarded its \$100,000 Thomas W. Payzant School on the Move Prize to recognize rapidly improving schools that have made exemplary progress in advancing the academic achievement of all students.

“The COVID-19 pandemic has required our teachers and school leaders to think creatively to ensure our students are engaged and learning to their fullest potential,” said Mayor Martin Walsh at the ceremony. “I want to congratulate the F. Lyman Winship and the other finalists for their hard work and dedication to Boston’s students always, but especially throughout the chal-

lenges of this pandemic.”

The \$20,000 the Kennedy will receive is double the usual runner-up prize thanks to a generous donation.

“The three finalist schools represent the critical work schools across the city are doing to improve educational opportunities for Boston’s young people during what continues to be a challenging year for schools, teachers, students and their families,” said Marinell Rousmaniere, President and CEO of EdVestors. “We are excited to shine a spotlight on the Winship as this year’s Prize winner and share the effective strategies they are using to meet the diverse needs of their students. As we look forward, their lessons should light the way for other schools to chart their improvement path.”

Of this year’s winner and the two other finalists, Boston Public School Superintendent Brenda Cassellius said, “All three schools prove that talented teams of teachers, staff and administrators working together to support students and families – and each other – is a winning combination. As we navigate this new reality in public education, BPS is fortunate to have such exemplary leadership and collaboration to look to within our own community.”

The Kennedy Academy is a college preparatory and vocational high school for Boston students exploring careers in health and health-related professions. The Academy provides a supportive learning environment that promotes respect and embraces diversity.



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# District B-2 crime up four percent; homicides, domestic aggravated assault, car breaks continue to be a problem

By JOHN LYNDIS

In what will be the last Boston Police Department's last crime stat report before the end of the year, the report released last week shows homicide, domestic aggravated assault and larceny from motor vehicles, or car breaks, in Mission Hill/Roxbury continue to be a problem.

Part One Crimes, the more serious crimes the Boston Police track, are up four percent overall in Mission Hill/Roxbury when comparing Jan. 1 2020 through Nov. 8 2020 with the same time period last year.

By this point in 2019 there were only 6 Homicides but the number jumped to 13 during the same time period in 2020--representing a 116 percent increase. Citywide there's been a 53 percent increase 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 149 to 173 when comparing 2019 with 2020--an increase of 16 percent. Citywide domestic violence has increased 5 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 this point in 2019 there were only 291 motor vehicle larcenies but that number has jumped to 419 so far this year, a 44 percent increase.

It seems the number of motor vehicle largencies, an opportunistic crime that only takes seconds to pull off, is up all over Boston. Citywide the number has gone from 2,332 in 2019 to 2,932 so far in 2020, a 26 percent in-

crease.

"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 Rape or Attempted Rape is down from 37 to 28; Robbery or Attempted Robbery is down from 128 to 132; Non-Domestic Aggravated Assault is up slightly from 336 to 339; Commercial Burglaries are up from 27 to 52; Residential Burglaries are down from 170 to 141; other Larcenies are down from 639 to 483; and Auto Theft is up from 122 to 206.

So far this year there has been a total of 1,986 Part One Crimes, up from the 1,916 reported during the same time period as 2019.

## Man held without bail in JP homicide; had several open cases

By SETH DANIEL AND STAFF REPORTS

When Uhmari Buford allegedly stood over Augusta Carter in the courtyard of the Mildred Hailley Apartments on Parker Street and coldly fired a handgun several times at the victim, who lay wounded on the ground, he was also the suspect in several other open cases alleging violent acts such as robbing a livery driver in Mission Hill at gunpoint last fall.

Buford is charged in the October 21, 2020 fatal shooting of Augusta Carter and he faced arraignment last week, Suffolk County District Attorney Rachael Rollins said.

Buford, 26, was arraigned in the Roxbury Division of the Boston Municipal Court on charges of murder, carrying a loaded firearm without a license, unlawful possession of ammunition and discharging a firearm within 500 feet of a building.

It wasn't the first time, however, he had been arraigned this year for alleged acts of violence. Sources indicated he had been bailed in cases that included the Mission Hill robbery, as well as a firearms case earlier this year -- among other things too like intimidation of a witness. When he allegedly murdered Carter last month, he had multiple open cases that had been brought to charges within the last 12 months.

At the request of Assistant District Attorney Elizabeth Riley-Cunniffe last week, Judge David Weingarten ordered Buford held without bail for the pendency of the case, something that wasn't done in his previous cases alleging violence.

Judge Weingarten additionally revoked Buford's bail for a period of 60 days in three pending criminal cases. According to prosecutors, Buford has a 2020 case pending in the Roxbury Division of the BMC charging witness intimidation and disturbing the peace and two open cases in Suffolk Superior Court, one charging firearm offenses for which he was arraigned in July and the other a 2019 case charging two counts of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon and one count of assault and battery.

The victim, Carter, 45, was among a group of individuals standing in a courtyard in the area of 950 Parker Street shortly before 7 p.m. on Wednesday, October 21, when a gunman approached on foot. The assailant shot Carter multiple times, then stood over the victim's body and fired twice more before fleeing, ADA Riley told the court at arraignment.

Boston Police arrived at the location to find Mr. Carter suffering from multiple gunshot wounds. He was rushed to Boston Medical Center, where he was

pronounced deceased.

Buford was identified as the shooter through security camera footage and witness interviews. He was taken into custody at a residence in Brockton on Friday afternoon, Oct. 23.

"This individual is alleged to have committed an execution in the middle of a neighborhood, near a playground, without regard for the lives of anyone in the area. The residents of our community deserve better, and Mr. Carter's family and loved ones deserved better. My staff and I are here to provide this family and every homicide survivor with resources and assistance to begin the long and grueling process of healing. We're also here to help the community that has been shaken by yet another act of violence," District Attorney Rollins said. "I have made a commitment to the people of Suffolk County to dedicate my Office's efforts and resources to combating serious and violent crimes that cause the greatest harm in our communities. Violence will not be tolerated, and anyone who would take a life and inflict this immeasurable harm will be found and held accountable for their actions. The Boston Police did an exceptional job in this case and their work should be commended."

Buford returns to court November 24.



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Studio	\$33,750	1	\$58,350
		2	\$66,650
1-Bedroom	\$39,540	3	\$75,000
		4	\$83,300
2-Bedroom	\$44,760	5	\$90,000
		6	\$96,650

\*\*\* Minimum incomes do not apply to households receiving housing assistance such as Section 8, VASH, or MRVP.

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# What's Happening on Main Streets

BY ELLEN WALKER  
SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

Mission Hill celebrated another great month by finding ways to engage our community – businesses, institutions, and residents. For younger people, the annual Halloween on the Hill celebration took on a new format this year as families gathered at Sheehy Park and the “Haunted Yard” at Tobin Community Center. On Saturday, October 31st, John Jackson, and his team from BCYF (Boston Youth and Families) brought cheer and fun to all the kids and families that joined the limited, safe festivities this year. Many Mission Hill businesses on Tremont Street participated again this year, displaying pumpkins out in front letting the young people know there was candy inside!

With the help of 4th-6th grade students at Mission Grammar, Mission Hill Main Streets will be launching an anti-littering campaign in the Spring thanks to the support from these young, aspiring artists and this meaningful project. We thanked the students with pizzas from Penguin Pizza in Brigham Circle which was greatly enjoyed by all! MHMS thanks the American Legion Post 327 of Mission Hill for their support of the effort.

The end of October saw the



One of the many anti-litter original poster designs made by Mission Grammar School students. This one is by Trey.

first annual MH Restaurant and Community Appreciation Week. From October 20 through the 27th, many residents, visitors and students came out to participate and support our local, independent restaurants while enjoying the special deals that were offered. Almost 30 restaurants participated as we promoted the outdoor seating opportunities, takeout, delivery, and dine-in options the businesses offered. It was a busier week than usual and most importantly

seeing folks having a good time is what it was all about! MHMS Board members and City Councilor Kenzie Bok were spotted at different restaurants throughout the week. I also learned that several high-rise buildings in our neighborhood reported a record high number of food deliveries for the week. Giving the enthusiastic support, MHMS plans to make this an annual event in our community!

As we were not able to gather this year in an annual celebration of the MHMS award recipients, we put a different spin on recognizing all the awardees. It started with asking everyone to take a fun photo of themselves with their “award poster” and send them to us. Next, we moved outdoors to be safe and scheduled photos with each of our recipients, sometimes a friend or co-worker along with members of MHMS Board of Directors. As a result, there was a stronger, more personal connection with each individual as they were presented with a framed poster. It was heartwarming to hear the passion and commitment each of these individuals have for their community. You can see pictures and their stories on Instagram (@missionhillmainstreets) and on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/MissionHillMainStreets/>.



The Kevin W. Fitzgerald Friend of Mission Hill Award being presented to Patricia Flaherty, MH Neighborhood Housing Services. Pictured are: Christine Dwyer, New England Baptist Hospital, Patricia Flaherty, award recipient and David Passafaro, President of New England Baptist Hospital.

## Gazette Pet of the Week

by Sarah Carroll

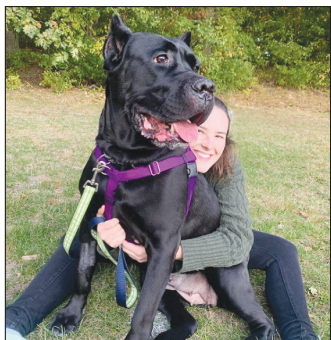


### SARABI

Did someone say giant lap dog? At almost 120 pounds, Sarabi is the biggest, smushiest, most cuddly Cane Corso you'll meet! This elegant, 9-year-old lady is a staff favorite, but she's very politely asking to get the heck OUTTA here! Sweet Sarabi is looking for a relatively calm home with few to no stairs. She would prefer a home without other dogs, but could live with older kids and cats! This perfect senior girl loves to romp around the yard, go for short walks, roll over for belly rubs, and shake her goofy nub of a tail. If you're looking for the sweetest new best friend, Sarabi is your gal!

Email [adoption@mspca.com](mailto:adoption@mspca.com) today for more information on Sarabi!

(617) 522-5055  
[www.mspca.org](http://www.mspca.org)



For more information about Sarabi and/or other animals in need of adoption, please contact:

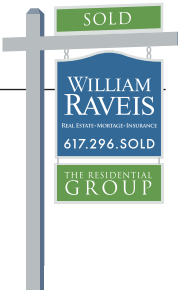


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Streets/). The MH Restaurant and Community Appreciation Week began outside of The Mission Bar and finished outdoors at the Laughing Monk and Penguin Pizza. MHMS thanks to Harry, Dome and Pamela for their generosity in hosting our kick-off and closing!

Please join us on Thursday, November 11th in Brigham Circle as we recognize our veterans in a small, outdoor ceremony with the Mission Hill Post 327 at 10:30am. Refreshments will be served after the ceremony.

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](http://www.mission-hillmainstreet.com), “like” us on Facebook, follow us at @mission-hillmainstreets and download our free mobile app at Distrx.com where you can find the latest on our Farmer's Markets, restaurants, coffee shops and small businesses in the neighborhood!

As we move slowly into winter, remember –

“Don't Count the Days, Make the Days Count.” Muhammad Ali

Visit [MissionHillGazette.com](http://MissionHillGazette.com)



# Mission Hill, Boston overwhelmingly support Biden in General Election

BY DAN MURPHY AND SETH DANIEL

Were the entirety of Mission Hill to completely melt off its core and cause both hills to roll down to Columbus Avenue, it would be the same kind of massive landslide that the neighborhood delivered to President-elect Joe Biden over President Donald Trump in the General Election on Nov. 2.

Mission Hill voters delivered a 91 percent vote for Biden/Harris to a 9 percent vote for Trump/Pence in the election – a tremendously lopsided victory that wasn't unexpected. Biden received 7,355 votes in Mission Hill and Trump received 735 votes in the neighborhood.

Citywide, Boston voters overwhelmingly supported Biden over Trump on the road to the White House. Nearly 83 percent of voters citywide cast a total of 225,368 ballots for the Democrat ticket of Biden and Kamala Harris while President Trump and Vice President Mike Pence trailed with almost 16 percent of the ballot, or 42,707 votes cast.

Statewide, Biden garnered the

support of nearly 66 percent of voters to best Trump, who trailed with around 33 percent.

In Mission Hill, Trump failed to get more than 100 votes in all but two of the neighborhoods nine precincts. Trump got 101 votes in the Back of the Hill Apartments precinct and 193 votes at the Parks Community Room. Other than that, it was slim pickins' for the sitting president. Meanwhile, Biden collected more than 1,000 votes at the Back of the Hill precinct, and also at the Curley K-8 in JP – which hosts only part of Mission Hill's voters and is mostly a JP precinct.

On Question 1, which allows car owners to access and share vehicle data with independent repair shops, nearly 75 percent of Boston voters cast a total 190,429 ballots to support it in contrast to the approximately 25 percent of the city's voters cast who cast 63,872 ballots in opposition.

Similarly, 75 percent of voters statewide voted "yes" on Question 1 while 25 percent opposed it.

Ballot Question 2 – a binding referendum that enacts ranked-

choice voting in primary and general elections – was supported by nearly 62 percent of the city's voters (155,123 ballots cast) while around 38 percent (96,264 ballots cast) rejected it.

Ultimately, around 55 percent of voters statewide rejected Question 2 as opposed to the approximately 45 percent of voters

who supported it.

One of the bigger stories in the General Election for Boston voters was the large turnout, with 63.5 percent turnout and 274,344 votes cast. That was a number buoyed by the possibility of mail-in voting and ample early-voting opportunities as well. The numbers of mail-in ballots

as opposed to in-person voting was not immediately available.

Mayor Martin Walsh said the historic voter turnout in Boston was expected in this election – and he also attributed that milestone to enhanced early and mail-in voting options in this election.

## How Mission Hill Voted

### Mission Hill Ward and Precinct Results:

Mission Hill Result:  
Donald Trump/Mike Pence (R) – 735 (9 percent)  
Joe Biden/Kamala Harris (D) – 7,355 (90.9 percent)

10-1 (Mission Main Community Center, Smith Street)  
Trump – 57  
Biden – 581

10-2 (Mission Main Community Center, Smith Street)  
Trump – 57  
Biden – 497

10-3 (Tobin Municipal building, Tremont Street)

Trump – 57  
Biden – 478

10-4 (Robert & Theresa Parks Community Room, 2 New Whitney)

Trump – 193  
Biden – 924

10-5 (Tobin Municipal building, Tremont Street)

Trump – 59  
Biden – 630

10-6 (JFK Elementary School, Bolster Street)

Trump – 73  
Biden – 719

10-7 (Julia Martin House, Bickford Street)

Trump – 68  
Biden – 944

10-8 (Back of the Hill Apts., South Huntington Avenue)

Trump – 101  
Biden – 1,171

10-9 (Curley K-8, Centre Street, Jamaica Plain)

Trump – 70  
Biden – 1,411

# English High holds first ever Alumni 'Assembly' webinar

STAFF REPORT

More than 100 English High alumni and supporters last week joined the English High School Association's first in a series of webinars in preparation for the school's 200th anniversary in 2021.

"It was a great time for the first ever English High School Association Assembly webinar," said Michael Thomas, President of the English High School Association. (EHSA) "If you're in one of the photos, let us know what you thought of the event."

Presenters included EHS staff and faculty and distinguished EHS alumni representing classes from 1944 to 2019. Alumni learned what's happening at today's English High School and to know that the school's original educational mission is being carried forward to new generations.

Speakers included Master of Ceremonies, Mike Thomas; EHS Headmaster Caitlin Murphy, Alumni speakers: Lisa Martinez, Carmen Corbie-Cohen, John Talbot, Robert Prince, Cedric Turn-

er, Allan Kiser, Naby Diallo and Joe Carter. Lt. Colonel Enoch "Woody" Woodhouse II, Class of '44 and one of the famed Tuskegee Airmen closed the remarks with an inspirational call to volunteerism for the school.

"All English High grads are invited to connect with English High School Association by visiting our website ([englishhighalumni.org](http://englishhighalumni.org)) and joining our mailing list. This will keep you in the loop on upcoming English High Alumni events including our fantastic 200th Anniversary Celebration scheduled for October 2, 2021 at the JFK Library in Boston.

"This was a great complementary event to our momentum towards our 200th Anniversary celebration in Oct. 2021. Stayed tuned for several more webinars, on topical subjects like: CDC and COVID19, Fundraising and Alumni Profiles," Thomas concluded.

The English High School Association (EHSA) was formed in 1953 to honor the history, pride and traditions of the English



More than 100 alums logged on for the first webinar to begin hyping up the 200th anniversary of English High School, located in Jamaica Plain for the last several decades.

High School by continuing a legacy that supports and inspires students in their educational pursuits and celebrates distinguished alumni. Then as in now the EHSA is committed to providing the English High students of

today with quality academic instruction and college scholarship aid. The English High School, America's first public high school was founded January 15, 1821 by the School Committee at a town meeting held in Boston's histor-

ic Faneuil Hall. To get involved in the Association, go to <https://www.englishhighalumni.org/> or call Mike Thomas EHSA President 857-547-1391.



## EDITORIAL

### Remembering our veterans

It was 102 years ago on November 11, 1918, that World War I formally came to a conclusion on the "11th hour, of the 11th day, of the 11th month."

Americans observed the first anniversary of the end of the war the following year when the holiday we now know as Veterans Day originated as Armistice Day in 1919.

The first world war was referred to at the time as "the war to end all wars." It was thought that never again would mankind engage in the sort of madness that resulted in the near-total destruction of Western Civilization and the loss of millions of lives for reasons that never have been entirely clear to anybody either before, during, or since.

Needless to say, history has shown us that such thinking was idealistically foolhardy. Just 21 years later, the world again became enmeshed in a global conflagration that made the first war seem like a mere practice run for the mass annihilation that took place from 1939-45.

Even after that epic second world war, America has been involved in countless bloody conflicts in the 75 years since General Douglas MacArthur accepted the Japanese surrender on the Battleship USS Missouri. Today, we still have troops fighting -- and dying -- at various places around the world.

"Peace is at hand" has been nothing but a meaningless slogan for most of the past 102 years.

Armistice Day officially became known as Veterans Day in 1954 so as to include those who served in WWII and the Korean War. All of our many veterans since then also have become part of the annual observance to express our nation's appreciation to the men and women who bravely have answered the call of duty to ensure that the freedoms we enjoy as Americans have been preserved against the many challenges we have overcome.

Although Veterans Day, as with all of our other national holidays, unfortunately has become commercialized, we urge our readers to take a moment, even if just quietly by ourselves, to contemplate the debt we owe to the veterans of all of our wars and to be grateful to them for allowing us to live freely in the greatest nation on earth.

If nothing else, Veterans Day, that was celebrated this week, should remind us that freedom isn't free and that maintaining our freedom since our nation's founding has required the sacrifice of tens of millions of our fellow Americans who have placed their lives on the line to preserve our ideals and our way of life.



SHOP LOCALLY

## Op-Ed

### Help your city by getting tested for COVID-19

By Mayor Martin J. Walsh

The COVID-19 pandemic has challenged us in profound ways, and has impacted nearly every aspect of city life. Although we have made great progress since the spring in controlling the spread of the virus, Boston has been facing an increase in COVID-19 positive rates for the last few weeks. Currently, 7.1 percent of people who get tested are testing positive. Since anyone can be infected and spread the virus even if they don't show symptoms, testing is a key part of stopping the spread.

I recently announced a new campaign called "Get The Test, Boston," a pledge that encourages every Boston resident to make testing a regular part of their routine. It also encourages employers to let their employees know about testing resources available to them. The City of Boston is offering benefit-eligible City employees one paid hour every 14 days to get tested during their normal work hours. Several local businesses have also committed to signing the pledge,

to ensure their employees know how and when to get tested for COVID-19.

I encourage everyone in our city to look at the testing resources we have worked so hard to make available, and seriously consider getting tested to protect themselves and their communities as we work to stop this increase in COVID-19 cases. Here are some reasons why you should get tested:

If you are experiencing COVID-like symptoms, like fever, cough, or shortness of breath

If you are at high risk for complications from COVID-19

If you have been in contact with someone who was infected with COVID-19

If you have traveled or have been in large gatherings

The City offers free testing for residents with or without COVID-like symptoms through our mobile testing teams currently in East Boston's Central Square and at Jubilee Christian Church in Mattapan through Saturday, November 14. The teams change locations every couple of weeks to increase test-

ing accessibility and availability, prioritizing neighborhoods that need dedicated testing efforts. For locations and hours of the more than 30 COVID-19 testing sites we have in the City, including these mobile sites, please visit [boston.gov/covid19-testing](https://boston.gov/covid19-testing).

We are entering a critical time in this pandemic, and everyone who does their part will help save lives, and make a real difference. By following the safety guidelines, everyone can minimize the spread. In addition to getting tested, residents should continue to wear a face covering or mask, stay six feet apart from others, wash your hands often with soap and warm water, and avoid crowds and gatherings.

Together, we will continue to keep our city and our communities safe.

Individuals and businesses that would like more information or to sign the pledge can visit [boston.gov/testing-pledge](https://boston.gov/testing-pledge). You can also share #GetTheTestBoston on social media to encourage your network to get tested.

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

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

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## OP-ED

# Democratic process must be protected by not succumbing to resentments based on differences in political views

By CARDINAL SEAN O'MALLEY

Today our country, one of the oldest democracies and most diverse societies in the world, should take pride in the success of the electoral process. We thank all the candidates who have participated in the elections and commend the historic voter turnout, a tribute to the citizens who voted in such striking numbers, in stark contrast to earlier elections. That encouraging sign has opened the way to begin a process of participation among all citizens however they voted. As Catholics we are committed to the common good, social justice and the Gospel of Life. Participation in the political process is a sacred duty. In a country facing the threefold challenge of addressing a global pandemic, repairing a fractured economy and renewing a national commitment to the goals of racial justice and equality, the broad participation of citizens in the election should be a foundation for rebuilding our unity as a people.

The President and those who will serve with him have both the opportunity and the challenge of rebuilding civic trust, of providing a sense of hope in a time of social crisis, and of calling us all to share our best talents and

energies in a common task. Our prayers should be with all those called to lead the country.

The task we face is not fully captured in the data; the numbers, charts and graphs, the task is also a spiritual challenge. As Pope Francis shared in the recent Encyclical Letter, *Fratelli Tutti*, we are called to promote 'friendship and an acknowledgement of the worth of every human person, always and everywhere'. Each citizen, each person, across lines of color, ethnicity, of faith and philosophy, can and should be asked to place solidarity over inequality, compassion over revenge, generosity over self-interest.

An election is never only about who wins and who loses. It is always about a moment in time when a new beginning is possible. Such a beginning relies upon our best traditions and aspirations: belief in our common humanity and the unique dignity of each person in the land; beliefs which can bind us together, rich and poor, black and white, citizens and dreamers, women and men. We are now at a moment when a new beginning is not only possible but urgently necessary. The work at hand calls us to respect the opinions of others, to dialogue about differing perspectives,

to seek reconciliation where there has been estrangement, to work for healing among the people of our country. I confidently believe that as a nation we can achieve these goals, to rise above our differences, to embrace our unity as brothers and sisters who lives are a gift from God and who share a mission to build a just society.

We must not succumb to resentments based in divergent political views and divisions that have emerged from the stress of recent months. The challenge is always to transform a crowd into a community, a people who share a commitment to building a civilization of love and a culture that can sustain democracy, freedom and respect for human rights. Let us remember the unity and charity we are called to at the celebration of the Eucharist and in the proclamation of the Scriptures. Let us witness to the ideals of the Gospel, striving to have a positive impact on our families, communities and the nation in these crucial days. Let us follow Jesus' call to love one another as He has loved us.

Sean O'Malley is the American cardinal of the Catholic Church serving as the Archbishop of Boston.

# Baker talks about elevated hospitalizations due to COVID

By LAUREN BENNETT

Governor Charlie Baker held a press conference on Tuesday to talk about the increases in hospitalizations due to COVID-19.

He said that as of Monday, there were 1184 new cases in the state, and the seven day average positive test rate is about 2.35 percent. He said that about 588 people are currently in the hospital for COVID-related reasons, and there are 143 people in the ICU.

"Since Labor Day, cases have increased by over 300 percent," Baker said, and hospitalizations have increased by nearly 200 percent.

He said that hospitals are prepared to create an additional 400 ICU beds, and the state is working on a plan to stand up field hospitals again if need be. Baker said that the state is working with the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) on finding "suitable locations" for the field hospitals.

"Where and when these facilities are stood up will depend in part on available space and where the needs are," he said, adding that more details about where the facilities are planned for will be announced later this week.

He said that everybody's personal actions play a huge role in controlling the spread of the virus.

"COVID is merciless," he said, adding that it "will continue to spread wherever it is given the opportunity. He asked residents to abide by the new stay at home advisory that was put into place last week, and to "observe the new gathering limits." He also

warned against hosting get-togethers at private residences, and to get tested.

Hew said he does not want to have to revert back to the shutdowns that were implemented in the spring, so he said that it's important that everyone follow the guidelines.

Baker also said that he hopes "that a new administration can help remove the partisanship from fighting this virus," and that the news of the results of the Pfizer clinical trial for a vaccine is "welcome news..." and "when the time comes, Massachusetts will be ready to distribute a vaccine."

But, he continued, "until then, everybody needs to remember that we are still living with the virus for at least the next few months."

Baker also addressed the election and expressed his disappointment with the Trump administration's response to the results.

Baker said he was "dismayed" to "hear baseless claims" from President Trump and other elected officials who back him up.

He said that "I am aware of no legitimate claims of wrongdoing," and said that throughout his 40 years, he has raised money and answered calls for many Republican candidates, but "this latest move to employ the Department of Justice in all of this is so wildly inappropriate and stalling an orderly transition process, especially at a time like this, is equally unacceptable. I can't think of a worse time to stall a transition than amid a deadly pandemic that the federal government continues to own primary responsibility for responding to."

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## MH RESTAURANT AND COMMUNITY APPRECIATION WEEK

Thank you Mission Hill for your support during our first annual MH Restaurant and Community Appreciation Week.

Almost 30 restaurants participated and so many residents, students and visitors. City Councilor Kenzie Bok participated too! A special thank you to Harry Walsh, owner of The Mission and host of our first night, Dome Nakapakorn, owner of Laughing Monk and Pamela Carthy, co-owner of Penguin Pizza for hosting our last evening."

Pictured are restaurant owners, employees and patrons, around Mission Hill, enjoying the first annual MH Restaurant and Community Appreciation Week.



**We're in this together, Boston.**

**Northeastern University**

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