

WHAT'S HAPPENING ON MAIN STREETS, PAGES 2 & 3

FREE 20 PAGES VOLUME 29 • NUMBER 3

Mission Hill

GAZETTE

Serving Mission Hill and the Longwood Medical and Academic Area



617-524-2626 • www.MissionHillGazette.com

MAY 7, 2021 — JUNE 3, 2021

CAMH discusses future of former Flann O'Brien's property

By Laura Plummer

The Community Alliance of Mission Hill (CAMH) met virtually on April 21, where it viewed a presentation by the developer of 1619 Tremont St. Around 20 members of the public attended.

The property in question is the site of Flann O'Brien's, a popular neighborhood watering hole and recent COVID casualty. The bar was owned by Finbarr Murray until he was forced to close his doors in December.

MH Tremont LLC purchased the building, which includes four rental units, in March for just under \$3 million. The company's manager Adam Sarbaugh gave a presentation on his vision.

Sarbaugh is currently planning to convert the former bar

into a sit-down restaurant.

"I think it's good to have variety in the neighborhood with a sitdown place," he said. "A place somebody will go three to four times a week, not a place that's too expensive that you only go on a Friday."

The restaurant would accommodate outdoor seating in the rear. A liquor license was secured in April. A plan is in place for trash removal. Live entertainment is not being explored at this time. The business can open as soon as a partner is secured.

Sarbaugh guaranteed that the new tenant would not be a chain restaurant, unless it's a local chain. He added that he's seeking a partnership and not a landlord-tenant relationship

Continued on page 5

CAMH analiza el futuro de la antigua Flann O'Brien's

By Laura Plummer

La Alianza Comunitaria de Mission Hill (CAMH) se reunió virtualmente el 21 de abril, donde vio una presentación del desarrollador de 1619 Tremont St. Asistieron alrededor de 20 miembros del público.

La propiedad en cuestión es el sitio de Flann O'Brien's, un bar popular que cerró sus puertas en diciembre debido a COVID.

MH Tremont LLC compró el edificio, que incluye cuatro uni-

dades de alquiler, en marzo por casi \$3 millones. El gerente de la compañía, Adam Sarbaugh, hizo una presentación sobre su visión.

Sarbaugh actualmente planea convertir el antiguo bar en un restaurante.

"Creo que es bueno tener variedad en el vecindario con un lugar para sentarse", dijo. "Un lugar al que alguien irá tres o cuatro veces por semana, no un lugar que sea demasiado caro al

Continued on page 5



On Earth Day, Councilor and Mayoral Candidate Michelle Wu (shown above) called for the entire Boston Public School yellow bus fleet to be electrified by 2030. She said it is a way the City can lead, and it's something that right now has federal dollars that can help pay for it. Shown right, David Meshoulam, of Speak for the Trees, said diesel bus yards often cause issues with trees and the environment due to excessive idling and the pollution that causes.



Wu calls for end of dirty diesel polluting school bus fleet, full electrification by 2030

By Seth Daniel

On Earth Day, City Councilor At-Large and Candidate for Mayor Michelle Wu joined advocates, including David Meshoulam, Co-Founder and Executive Director of Speak for the Trees, to call for the City of Boston to electrify its school bus fleet by 2030.

The BPS transportation fleet consumes nearly 60 percent of all the diesel fuel consumed by the City government. The move is part of Wu's Green New Deal for Boston Public Schools, which is part of her larger education vision to upgrade facilities and

ensure every school is a modern, healthy and inspiring place to learn.

Roughly 24,000 Boston students are transported to and from school on 3,100 bus trips every day, and about half of these buses still run on diesel fuel. Pollution on diesel buses has been measured at 5-10 times higher than in other nearby areas, causing outside impacts on children's learning, development and health. Not only do pollutants from diesel fuel cause asthma and other respiratory diseases, heart disease, and cancer but there is also evidence to suggest the diesel directly im-

pacts children's English and math scores. Boston's Black, Latinx and AAPI residents are disproportionately exposed to particulate matter pollution from cars, trucks, and buses.

"We need to immediately move away from dirty diesel fuels that pollute our neighborhoods and move toward clean air for our children, our communities and our bus drivers," Wu said at a press conference at the Melnea Cass Bus Yard in the South End on April 22. "Boston needs to commit to a full electrification of our school bus fleet by 2030 as part of

Continued on page 6

What's Happening on Main Streets

BY ELLEN WALKER
SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

Mission Hill Little League is a much beloved tradition here in the neighborhood. Many residents have been asking if the league will be able to play this year, so I went right to the source for answers. Dan Weldon, who

was recognized as Mission Hill Main Streets 2020 Volunteer of the Year for his work with the league, said they are “definitely going to have little league this year though probably a smaller group than in the past. They have enough players and coaches to at least have tee ball and minors for the younger kids.

Dan said they would be social distancing and wearing masks.” The season opened on May 1st so please show your support and turn-out at Killea Field, McLaughlin Playground at Parker Hill and Calumet Street!

Patriot’s Day was Monday, April 19th and again, unfortunately due to COVID, the live Patriot Day Re-Enactments were cancelled. I can’t wait until next year, when “Paul Revere” and his horse stop by Mission Church for a blessing by Father Tizio and photos with those of us lucky enough to be out there when he rides up! It was a day for celebration over at 100 Terrace Street for Boston Building Resource (BBR), a thirty-year young organization in our community and one of MHMS’s Legacy businesses. The Reuse Center began a week-long event with live music by the Mighty Silverbacks and a ribbon-cutting ceremony. They are celebrating the completion and opening of the first Net Zero Carbon commercial building in Mission Hill. This is a big accomplishment for any organization. A quick note on the Re-Use Center -- you might find exactly what you need including tools and equipment at a sub-standard price/10% of its original costs. Check them out! At the event, the Mighty Silverbacks band played a lot of oldies and got the crowd tapping their toes and clapping. An extremely well attended event with many community folks including several MHMS board members. It was a lot of fun! The BBR provided beautiful floral bouquets for any guest that wanted one along with



Matthew St. Onge, Executive Director, BBR.

light refreshments. During the ribbon cutting ceremony, Rick Ames, architect and BBR Board Chair, praised the hard work by all the staff, their flexibility during this time that was coupled with COVID restrictions and the contractors who worked to ensure an on time opening for the Resource Center. Matthew St. Onge, Executive Director of BBR, acknowledged staff in the audience with special gifts – to much cheering and laughter – then went on to thank the many sponsors who helped them become the ground- breakers they are today. The final speaker and official “cutter of the ribbon” was Brooke Nash, Branch Chief, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection. Brooke talked about the many years of support from her both professionally and personally, as she watched the growth of this amazing organization and stated how important it was to her to be a part of this exciting day. I was



Brooke Nash, Branch Chief, Mass Department of Environmental Protection

especially impressed with the commitment and dedication of its board members and staff. The event was truly a showcase of community spirit at its best!

Last month I visited several restaurants and struck up conversations with the owners. We talked about some of their favorite menu items that I could share with the readers of Gazette. At Laughing Monk, Dome Nakaporn was pointing out his new menu in the window and mentioned his Down to Earth rolls made with brown rice were a bit hit! Check out the Spicy Roll made with jalapeno, cucumber, sprout, shiso (Asian mint), spicy mayo, tomago (Japanese omelet) and ebi, or breaded and fried,

Continued on page 3



Local residents and supporters of BBR.

ADVERTISEMENT

CITY OF BOSTON/County of Suffolk Boston Centers for Youth & Families (BCYF)

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Transportation services for Camp Joy.

EV00009146

Contact Information
Hazel McAfee, Grants Manager
617-635-4920 X2704

Camp Joy Transportation Service at the Ohrenberger Community Center, July 12, 2021 through August 06, 2021 Transport up to 70 campers to and from the program, with and without disabilities, between 3 years to 22 years of age.

The City of Boston (“the City”), acting by the Commissioner of the Boston Centers for Youth & Families, hereinafter referred to as the Official, invites sealed bids for the performance of the work generally describe above, and particularly set forth in the Invitation for Bids. The bid documents will be accessible on line from Monday May 03, 2021 through Friday May 14, 2021 by visiting the City of Boston Public Procurement website and Supplier Portal at the following link (<http://boston.gov/procurement> and accessing the event ID #EV00009146

All sealed bids shall be filed electronically no later than 4:00 pm on Friday May 14, 2021 by logging onto the City of Boston Procurement website as listed and accessing the above event number.

The attention of all bidders is directed to the provisions of the Invitation for Bids and contract documents, specifically to the requirements for bid deposits, insurance and performance bonds as may be applicable.

Sealed bids shall be opened electronically by the Official on Friday May 14, 2021 at 4:00 PM. The contract awarded pursuant to this invitation to bid will commence on or about July 12, 2021 and will end on August 06, 2021.

A performance bond in the amount of \$48,050.00 shall be required from the successful bidder. The services describe above for the 2 year term of this contract is an actual amount of the services to be procured. All bidders are hereby notified that they shall provide a unit price for each service to be procured in this contract, subject to the following terms that will govern price adjustments: Number of campers transported and number of vehicles needed.

The maximum time for bid acceptance by the City after the opening of bids shall be ninety days (90 days). The City/County and the Official reserve the right reject any or all bids, or any item or items thereof.

The City/ County and the Official reserve the rights to reject any or all bids, or any item or items thereof if found to be not in the best interest of the public.

William Morales, Commissioner
(May03, May 14)



Mary Ann Nelson, Mission Hill Health Movement, Councilor Kenzie Bok, Dawn Twomey, MH resident, Toni Komst and Ellen Walker of Mission Hill Main Streets.

Main Streets

Continued from page 2

choice of salmon, tuna, yellowtail or shrimp for only \$7.25. The Red Curry is also delicious, and you can add tofu, chicken or veggies for under \$13.00. Next time you are in Brigham Circle, try them yourself! If you are on Tremont Street, stop in to see Matt Postal at Lilly's Gourmet pasta and try their Italian Rice Balls of the Day! I had rice, green peas

and lamb in mine, and it was fabulous. Perfectly paired with the house salad topped with the house-made balsamic vinaigrette it makes a perfect meal for under \$12.00.

On May 2nd several friends of Janice Dungee gathered to honor this wonderful friend they lost prior to COVID. Janice worked at Star Laundry for years and she is spoken of with great respect and caring by everyone she befriended over the years. In her memory, her friends dedicated

a MHMS bench outside of the laundromat in her name. When Janice's friends stop and sit on the bench they will be reminded of this kind and gentle soul that was in their life.

Until next month, please be safe, practice social distancing, wear a mask and wash your hands.

"The true harbinger of Spring is not crocuses or swallows returning to Capistrano, but the sound of the bat on the ball." Bill Veeck



Boston District City Councilor Kenzie Bok, Boston Building Resources Executive Director Matthew St. Onge, and BBR Treasurer DeAnne Dupont. The Reuse Center building is Mission Hill's first net zero carbon building, reinforcing BBR's environmental mission of reducing needless waste by facilitating the reuse of building materials.



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

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

Protect Yourself. Protect Your Family.

GET VAXED

- The vaccine is safe and has been thoroughly tested.
- The vaccine doesn't contain the virus, so you can't get COVID from the vaccine.
- When it is your turn, get the COVID vaccine to protect yourself and your loved ones.

IT'S FREE

- The vaccine is free for everyone.
- No insurance necessary.
- No ID required.

DOSES

- Most vaccines require 2 doses to be fully protected.
- Ask the provider for details when you get the shot.



Even after you are vaccinated, wear your mask and continue to keep your distance. *This protects others waiting their turn.*

Join the millions
who've been
vaccinated.



SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT AT:
mass.gov/CovidVaccine



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Trust the **FACTS**
Get the **VAX**



Mass Art and Design announces Dr. Mary Grant as new President

STAFF REPORT

The Massachusetts Board of Higher Education voted to approve Dr. Mary K. Grant as the 13th President of Massachusetts College of Art and Design (MassArt), following a national search and a unanimous vote of the MassArt Board of Trustees.

Dr. Grant's career in public higher education spans nearly 30 years, including significant leadership positions as President of Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts (MCLA) and Chancellor of the University of North Carolina Asheville. Dr. Grant is currently with Bridgewater State University, where she serves as Senior Administrative Fellow for Civics and Social Justice, leading the Martin Richard Institute for Social Justice and serving as Co-Chair of the President's Special Task Force on Racial Justice. She will officially begin her role at MassArt this summer.

"I'm delighted to congratulate President Grant and welcome her back to our public higher

education system," said Carlos E. Santiago, Massachusetts Commissioner of Higher Education. "Her past experience as a president in the state university system and in particular, her knowledge of the arts and cultural sector as an economic driver, will be valuable as the state rebounds from the pandemic."

As President of Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts from 2002 to 2014, Dr. Grant led the effort to rebrand MCLA as the premier public liberal arts college in New England, secured state and private funding to renovate and build new academic buildings, and led the first comprehensive capital campaign of the MCLA Foundation. While serving as Chancellor of the University of North Carolina Asheville for three years, she led a period of strategic and institutional growth, including a new five-year strategic plan focused on equity and inclusion, academic rigor, student success, community engagement, and organizational capacity.

Dr. Grant joins MassArt as



The Massachusetts Board of Higher Education voted to approve Dr. Mary K. Grant as the 13th President of Massachusetts College of Art and Design (MassArt).

the College undertakes a number of initiatives to advance its MassArt At 150 Strategic Plan and works to further its mission of preparing artists, designers, and educators from diverse backgrounds to shape communities, economies, and cultures for the common good.

"Dr. Grant's depth of experience in public higher education and her belief in the importance of art and design education make her the ideal candidate to lead MassArt into its next phase of growth," said Janice Saragoni, Chair of MassArt's Board of Trustees. "We are eager to welcome her to MassArt, and look forward to an era of dynamic leadership."

"It is an honor to be chosen as MassArt's next President," said Grant. "MassArt has a well-deserved reputation for excellence, and I am exhilarated by its potential to lead even more strategically and energetically in Boston, the Commonwealth, and beyond. I embrace this challenge and look forward to serving the community of MassArt students, alumni, faculty, staff and supporters at this important moment in the College's history."

Earlier in her career, Grant served in leadership roles at University of Massachusetts Boston from 1992 to 2002, including as Chief Academic Officer and Deputy CEO of UMass Online, and

Director of the Center for Social Policy with the McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies.

Dr. Grant earned a Ph.D. in Philosophy from the Heller School for Social Welfare Policy at Brandeis University, an M.S. in Public Affairs from University of Massachusetts Boston, a B.A. in Sociology from MCLA/North Adams State University, and holds an honorary doctorate from Williams College.

Massachusetts College of Art and Design (MassArt) is a public, independent institution that prepares artists, designers, and educators to shape communities, economies, and cultures for the common good. Since 1873, MassArt has built a legacy of leadership as the first freestanding public college of art and design in the country, and the nation's first art school to grant a degree. MassArt offers a comprehensive range of undergraduate and graduate degrees in art, design, and art education, taught by world-class faculty.

**With me
Through diagnosis
Through care
To wellness**

Some people still whisper the word cancer, but we should speak up. Today, you can survive, even thrive, after cancer.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute can help.

They offer mammography screening, right in the community. And should you need it, they provide world-class cancer treatment.

They were with me through a diagnosis, through cancer care, and helped me stay well. And they can help you, too. Visit dana-farber.org/community to see how.

Every step of the way.



Dana-Farber
Cancer Institute

Flann O'Brien's

Continued from page 1

with a standard commercial lease.

"I would love to keep the history of Mission Hill," he said. "I need to partner with the right person to go in that place."

MH Tremont LLC will also convert the four rental units above the restaurant into six smaller units, which it will manage itself.

Sarbaugh showed various exterior design concepts for the renovated building, adding that he was open to input from the community. There are currently no plans to build on the roof.

A major concern for residents was the iconic Flann O'Brien statue that currently graces the sidewalk in front of the entrance.

"I think Flann adds character," stated one resident. "It's a deal breaker if he's not coming back."

"No Flann, no dice," said another.

Sarbaugh explained that the statue "has to come down" in order to provide an unobstructed view from the restaurant's win-



Flann O'Brien's at 1619 Tremont St. currently sits empty.

dows, which will remain the same size, or possibly be enlarged.

"There will be a bit of sadness when Flann is no longer standing," acknowledged CAMH President Gary Walling.

The developer will be seeking zoning relief for the following violations: insufficient rear yard, excessive floor area ratio, insufficient off-street parking, and use of a Multifamily Residence in a



One possible design concept for the exterior remodel.

Community Commercial Subdis-

trict. A vote on the project will be held at the next CAMH meeting in May and all interested members of the public are invited to

participate.

CAMH meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 7pm. Due to the coronavirus restrictions, all meetings will be held on Zoom for the foreseeable future.

Flann O'Brien's

Continued from page 1

que solo vas los viernes".

El restaurante acomodará asientos al aire libre en la parte trasera. En abril se obtuvo una licencia de licor. Existe un plan para la eliminación de basura. El entretenimiento en vivo no se está explorando en este momento. El negocio puede abrirse tan pronto como se encuentre un socio.

Sarbaugh garantizó que el nuevo inquilino no sería una cadena de restaurantes, a menos que sea una cadena local. Añadió que busca una sociedad y no una relación entre propietario e inquilino con un contrato de arrendamiento comercial estándar.

"Me encantaría conservar la historia de Mission Hill", dijo. "Necesito asociarme con la persona adecuada para habitar ese lugar".

MH Tremont LLC también convertirá las cuatro unidades de alquiler en seis unidades más pequeñas, que administrará por sí mismo.

Sarbaugh mostró varios conceptos de diseño exterior para el edificio renovado, y agregó que estaba abierto a recibir comentarios de la comunidad. Actualmente no hay planes para construir en el techo.

Una de las principales preocupaciones de los residentes fue la icónica estatua de Flann O'Brien que actualmente adorna la acera frente a la entrada.

"Creo que Flann agrega carácter", dijo un residente. "Es un factor decisivo si no regresa".

Sarbaugh explicó que la estatua "tiene que bajar" para ofrecer una vista sin obstáculos desde las ventanas del restaurante, que seguirán siendo del mismo tamaño,

o posiblemente se ampliarán.

"Habrà un poco de tristeza cuando Flann ya no esté", reconoció el presidente de CAMH, Gary Walling.

El desarrollador buscará alivio de zonificación para las siguientes violaciones: patio trasero insuficiente, relación área-suelo excesiva, estacionamiento fuera de la vía insuficiente, y uso de una residencia multifamiliar en un subdistrito comercial comunitario.

Se realizará una votación sobre el proyecto en la próxima reunión de CAMH en mayo y todos los miembros interesados del público están invitados a participar.

CAMH se reúne el tercer miércoles del mes a las 7 pm. Debido a las restricciones del coronavirus, todas las reuniones se llevarán a cabo en Zoom en el futuro previsible.

Gift Certificates Available

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!!!

4CornersYogaWellness.com
617-506-0519

YOGA + WELLNESS
4 CORNERS
DORCHESTER

VIRTUAL & IN STUDIO CLASSES,
MASSAGES AND GIFT CERTIFICATES

LIZS HAIR CARE

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!!!

Gift Certificates Available

1605 Tremont St.
Boston, MA 02120

617-232-2705
www.lizshaircare.com

Erin Murphy for Boston City Council At-Large



Happy Mother's Day!

Here's to all the moms who guided their families through a very tough year. This is YOUR day!

I am a mom, a public school teacher, and a community advocate. I will work hard every day for academic success in our schools, safer neighborhoods, and a healthier Boston for ALL.

I ask for one of your four votes in September.

ERINFORBOSTON.COM

Boston Mayoral candidate and former high school teacher Annissa Essaibi-George releases education plan

BY JOHN LYNDS

Last month, At-Large City Councilor, former high school teacher and current Boston Mayoral Candidate Annissa Essaibi-George released her education plan.

Before entering the political arena, Essaibi-George taught Economics, Business Management and Health and Human Services to juniors and seniors at East Boston High School (EBHS) and served as the school's assistant softball coach for 14 years before being elected to the Council in 2015.

"As a former Boston Public Schools teacher, a mother of four BPS students, and Chair of the Boston City Council's Education Committee, I know that we have to make changes to our public schools in order to provide every one of our students the quality education they deserve," said Essaibi-George. "Today, I released my Education and Child Care

plan that focuses on providing high quality schools for every student in each of our neighborhoods. The inconsistency in the quality of our schools is directly linked to declining enrollment, a widening opportunity and achievement gap, and a lack of trust in BPS to provide our kids with a great education."

Throughout her tenure on the Council Essaibi-George has emerged as a champion for students, educators, and families.

Informed by her time in the classrooms at EBHS and by the ideas and lived experiences of advocates, experts, families, educators, students and Boston residents Essaibi-George said the plan includes short- and long-term solutions to rebuild an equitable school system, increase trust within our school communities, and prioritize and invest in child care infrastructure.

"As a former Boston Public Schools teacher, a BPS graduate,

a mother to four BPS students, and the current Chair of Boston City Council's Committee on Education, I've held a front row seat to the challenges facing Boston families—both in and out of our public school system," said Essaibi-George. "I've seen firsthand the school to prison pipeline. I've seen the heartbreaking repercussions of not having food access or housing, a stable income and affordable health and mental health care. These are all issues that I can and will take on as Mayor of Boston."

Essaibi-George said the greatest challenge facing BPS is that not every student is receiving a high quality education.

"The variations in the quality of schools are directly linked to declining enrollment, a widening opportunity and achievement gap, and a lack of trust in BPS to provide our kids with the education they deserve," she said. "The inequities among our schools and

across learning opportunities, facilities, and student support services, continue to exacerbate existing racial and economic disparities for students. That needs to end."

She said her education priorities if elected mayor would be to close the opportunity and achievement gap.

"In order to accomplish this we must begin with establishing equitable baseline standards and resources in every school," said Essaibi-George. "We also need to implement consistent, district-wide curriculum standards to reduce disparities between schools and ensure that every BPS school is providing high quality academics. This also starts by establishing a structured literacy program for every child from pre K-3. And then also, I've said this before, we need to be investing in vocational and technical education here in Boston to ensure our students are prepared to take advantage



At-Large City Councilor, former high school teacher and current Boston Mayoral Candidate Annissa Essaibi-George released her education plan.

of the opportunities in our labor market. I will prioritize improvements to Madison Park Technical Vocational High School and vocational programs in BPS to provide our students with a strong foundation for lifelong success and career readiness after graduation."

You can read the full plan at <https://www.annissaforboston.com/education-child-care/>.

School Buses

Continued from page 1

a comprehensive plan to ensure our kids come to school happy,

healthy and ready to learn, and as part of the fight for environmental justice. As Mayor, I will take every possible step to protect the health of our residents

and seize on opportunities in the green economy. That starts with our children, from clean, sustainable school transportation to rebuilding Boston Public Schools

facilities into healthy, energy-efficient, inspiring places to learn for our students and educators." In Massachusetts, the Town of Beverly has already begun

the process of transitioning to an electric fleet. Wu added that the Biden infrastructure plan includes incentives and grants for municipalities like Boston to electrify school buses and build a network of EV chargers with strong labor and installation standards.

Wu said making the change was something the City government could do – getting federal help – and be the leader of change for other transportation networks, including the MBTA – which transports all school children in Boston in 6th grade and above. "We have the power and ability to make these changes," she said. Meshoulam said it is especially important for the environment and for the trees around bus depots all over the City because many times diesel buses at such yard idle extensive, which is illegal. At the Melnea Cass Yard, he said, Conservation Law Foundation not long ago reached a settlement with the bus company for excessive idling. With an electrified fleet, he said, that will not be an issue.

"People around the City understand the important role trees play in the environment, the economy and social habitats," he said.

76111604

ADVERTISEMENT

CITY OF BOSTON/COUNTY OF SUFFOLK
BOSTON CENTERS FOR YOUTH & FAMILIES (BCYF)

INVITATION FOR BIDS

MAINTENANCE OF MATS, DRY MOPS, AND WET MOPS for the free-standing swimming pools and the Community Center sites of the Boston Centers for Youth & Families (BCYF).

EV00009167

Contact Information
Varnie Jules, Finance Unit Manager
617-635-4920 x 2149

The City of Boston (the City), acting by the Commissioner of the Boston Centers for Youth & Families, hereinafter referred to as the Official, invites sealed bids for the performance of the work generally described above, and particularly set forth in the Invitation for Bids. **The bid documents will be accessible online from Monday, May 03, 2021, through Friday, May 14, 2021** by visiting the City of Boston Public Procurement website at [boston.gov/procurement/](https://www.boston.gov/procurement/) and clicking on the supplier portal button to access event ID # **EV00009167**

The term of the contract shall be for **three (3) years starting July 1, 2021 ending June 30, 2024**

The attention of all bidders is directed to the provisions of the Invitation for Bids and contract documents, specifically to the requirements for bid deposits, insurance, and performance bonds as may be applicable. All bids for this project are subject to **M.G.L. c.30, s. 5** and in accordance with the terms and provisions of the contract documents.

Sealed bids shall be filed electronically no later than **4:30 pm on Friday, May 14, 2021** by login onto the City of Boston Procurement website as listed and accessing the above listed event number. The contract awarded pursuant to this invitation for bid will **commence on or about Thursday, July 1, 2021.**

William Morales, Commissioner
(May 03, 2021 – May 10, 2021)

76111501

ADVERTISEMENT

CITY OF BOSTON/COUNTY OF SUFFOLK
BOSTON CENTERS FOR YOUTH & FAMILIES (BCYF)

INVITATION FOR BIDS

NIGHTLY CLEANING OF THE MAIN OFFICE of the Boston Centers for Youth & Families (BCYF).

EV00009170

Contact Information
Varnie Jules, Finance Unit Manager
617-635-4920 x 2149

The City of Boston (the City), acting by the Commissioner of the Boston Centers for Youth & Families, hereinafter referred to as the Official, invites sealed bids for the performance of the work generally described above, and particularly set forth in the Invitation for Bids. **The bid documents will be accessible online from Monday, May 03, 2021, through Friday, May 14, 2021** by visiting the City of Boston Public Procurement website at [boston.gov/procurement/](https://www.boston.gov/procurement/) and clicking on the supplier portal button to access event ID # **EV00009170**

The term of the contract shall be for **two (2) years starting July 1, 2021 ending June 30, 2023**

The attention of all bidders is directed to the provisions of the Invitation for Bids and contract documents, specifically to the requirements for bid deposits, insurance, and performance bonds as may be applicable. All bids for this project are subject to **M.G.L. c.30, s. 5** and in accordance with the terms and provisions of the contract documents.

Sealed bids shall be filed electronically no later than **4:30 pm on Friday, May 14, 2021** by login onto the City of Boston Procurement website as listed and accessing the above listed event number. The contract awarded pursuant to this invitation for bid will **commence on or about Thursday, July 1, 2021.**

William Morales, Commissioner
(May 03, 2021 – May 10, 2021)

Hill Happenings

By MOSSY MARTIN

Tom McManus strolled by the Elm Farm Market at Brigham Circle about 60 years ago when he crossed paths with his former Mission High School teacher, Father McDonough. The wonderful priest, who would later become famously known as "The Healing Priest", asked Tom about his future plans. Tom had been accepted to Suffolk Law School and proudly informed Fr. McDonough of his law school aspirations, who replied; "Right now we need you at the high school." Years later Tom said to me; "How could I say no to Fr. McDonough" and thus began Tom's career as a History teacher at Mission High. Tom passed away March 23 after a richly lived life. He eventually went to Suffolk Law School and he had a long career as a lawyer. Tom graduated from Mission High in 1953 and he played on the school's famous basketball team that year. The "53" Mission High hoop team won the Class A Eastern Ma. Basketball Cham-

pionship, beating Somerville, English and Durfee at the Boston Garden. Tom also served in the U.S. Marines during the Cuban Missile Crisis. A great guy, Tom was also a terrific story teller. Years ago the "53" team was honored with a banquet and ceremony at Xaverian High School in Westwood. That evening I was fortunate to be seated next to Tom and I heard a lifetime of stories. Last month life long Mission Hill resident, 97 year old John Kreckler, who attended the 12:10 Mass every day at Mission Church, passed away. John, a retired B.P.D. Superintendent, served in World War 11. On June 6, 1944 John helped secure Omaha Beach, where the bloodiest of battles among the 5 beaches at Normandy took place. This great man also fought in the Battle of the Bulge. About 60 years ago John was a Boston Police detective working around Fenway Park during Red Sox games and he told me to scam because I was "scalping" tickets. John had a wonderful sense of

humor and we talked about this as we often reminisced at Mike's Donuts while John had his coffee and pistachio muffin. For the more serious offenses outside the ballpark (of which I won't elaborate) John would have the subject empty his pockets and drop the ill gotten money into the Jimmy Fund box at Gate A. Detective Kreckler would never arrest any of us. However, one time he lugged my 11 year old Tobin Court buddy and called his parents from the police station. "Do you give your son an allowance?" John inquired. "Yes, 2 dollars a week"; said my friend's mother. "Then why does he have a hundred and five dollars on him?". John replied.. Condolence to the family of Joe Geary, a retired Ma. State Policeman from Mission Hill who passed away last month. It's sad that Joe died at 73 but he had a wonderful life, blessed with a terrific wife, Deirdre (Bernard) and 3 successful children, Ryan Geary, Joe Geary jr. and his pretty daughter, Regan Gorman. Joe was an Army veteran who served in VietNam and he was a past member of the Mission Hill American Legion Post. Joe was a loyal friend and I cling to the good times we shared togeth-

er, especially in the old days at Ed Burke's Tavern.. Mission Hill also mourned the death of Phil Keiley, who passed away on April 19. Phil, a Mission High "66" graduate, served in the U.S. Navy and he worked as a Chief Inspector for the M.B.T.A. on the Red Line. Phil was an easy going guy with a warm heart. Phil's high school classmate and childhood friend, Bernie Fitzgerald succinctly characterized Phil. "Phil Keiley was one of the kindest and most genuine people I ever met." R.I.P., Phil.. It was great to see the Square at Parker St. and Fisher Ave. named in honor of John Moreau. John, a "67" Mission High graduate, served in the U.S. Army. In Feb., 1970 he was fatally wounded 17 days after being sent to Binh, South Viet-Nam. I'm proud to say that John was my friend and we were baseball and basketball teammates

at Mission. John loved baseball and kids and he coached in the Mission Hill Little League, as did his father. .Congrats to Bill Mullin who was the recipient of the prestigious Kevin Fitzgerald Alumni of the Year Award for his dedication in supporting Mission Grammar School. Bill will be honored May 20 in a virtual ceremony for the school's annual Road to College Gala.. The Mission Hill Post 327 will hold a meeting May 19 at Victory Point Restaurant in Quincy. Our Mission Hill Commander, Col. George Rollins was commended by the National American Legion Post Commander for increasing our membership from 15 to 37 members. Post members will gather May 30 at Brigham Circle for a Memorial Day service. I hope to see you there to honor the veterans who lost their lives in the line of duty.

BWSC offers property owners up to \$4,000 to replace lead pipes

STAFF REPORT

Boston Water and Sewer Commission announced this week it is doubling to \$4,000 the credit for replacing lead pipes through its Lead Replacement Incentive Program.

A recent review conducted by the Commission estimates that as many as 4,800 property owners may be eligible for the program. For most customers, this credit will cover the total cost of the lead pipe replacement.

Lead water pipes can significantly increase a person's exposure to lead, a toxic metal that can be harmful to human health. The water provided by BWSC and Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) is lead-free when it leaves the reservoirs because distribution pipes are made mostly of iron and steel. However, lead can leach into tap water through home service lines and internal plumbing, especially if water sits for long periods of time before use. People in homes and businesses built before 1950 should run their drinking water for two to three

minutes if it has been stagnant for several hours, before drinking or cooking, to flush out any lead that might have leached into the system.

Under the Lead Replacement Incentive Program, properties owners who may have lead pipes will receive a letter outlining the program and urging them to reach out to the Commission to schedule an evaluation and estimate. Owners are responsible for all pipes on their property. The Commission is giving property owners 60 months interest-free to pay for replacement costs beyond the amount of the incentive. To be eligible for the program, property owners must be current in their payments and agree to have the work performed by the Commission. Lead pipe replacement is subject to availability and is offered on a first-come, first-served basis.




For additional information regarding the program and other lead resources, property owners are encouraged to visit the Commission's website at: www.bwsc.org, or call the LEAD HOTLINE at (617) 989-7888.

Seniors 62+

MOUNT PLEASANT HOME


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

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

found it at the Reuse Center

At our newly renovated, solar-powered store, you will find thousands of one-of-a-kind bargains to fix and improve your home. These items change every day and can save you hundreds or even thousands of dollars off of what you could pay somewhere else. Start your treasure hunt today!



Boston Building Resources
Reuse Center

88 Terrace Street, Boston, 02120
(near Roxbury Community College)
Monday-Friday 8:30-4:30 ■ Thursday til 7 ■ Saturday 9:30-3
617-442-2262
bostonbuildingresources.com

Councilor Bok running for re-election; will focus on recovery and moving forward

BY LAUREN BENNETT

District 8 City Councilor Kenzie Bok has announced that she will be running for a second term, after winning the seat formerly held by Josh Zakim in the 2019 election. So far, Bok is running uncontested.

With a background in affordable housing, Bok has worked over her first term to try and bring more equitable affordable housing to the district and the entire city, and the past year has brought many challenges to people and neighborhoods city-wide as the pandemic recovery continues.

Bok told the Sun that her campaign has a “dual purpose” of hopefully being able to see people in person again—which she has started to do to gather some signatures—and then also figuring out “where do we go from here” when it comes to moving forward.

She said it’s critically import-

ant to her to continue working on issues like affordable housing and “combating the climate crisis,” as well as continuing to assist small businesses in their recovery.

Bok also said that with a huge push for lab space in the city and particularly in the Fenway area, “thinking about the workforce development path” is also on her agenda and ensuring that the lab space provides quality jobs for Boston’s youth.

She also talked about the food insecurity that was not only brought to light by the pandemic, but exacerbated in many cases. “That’s been something I’ve been focused on,” she said as she helped organized the distribution of fresh food boxes to residents in the district and across the city last summer, a program that has continued to serve residents.

“Another big question mark,” Bok said, is “fighting to save pieces of the MBTA service.” Service on the 55 bus was suspended, and following protests by community activists, it was saved a few weeks ago and will now run on a summer schedule. The proposed suspension of the E Line at Brigham Circle was also prevented.

She said that it was “great” that those services were saved, but now “what we really want is better, more reliable service,” as the MBTA service is “critical to

our climate goals.” Bok said she is “worried that there might be a little bit of a step back in that from the state,” but “we really have to push back against that.”

Bok said that one thing she learned during her first term is that “what COVID really underlined was our potential collectively in Boston to construct new things together.” She said that as a councilor, thinking quickly and pulling together private, government, and nonprofit funds to coordinate efforts like the food box distribution was proof that Boston is able to solve problems that come its way.

“The City of Boston has delivered an unbelievable number of weekly grocery bags,” Bok said, as well as millions of breakfasts and lunches for BPS students.

“If we have big problems that need new systems and coordinating to solve them,” Bok said, “we have found the wherewithal to do that. Seeing the potential for that was one major silver lining,” of the pandemic, and something she said she would take into a second term.

Reflecting on her first term as the District 8 councilor, Bok said that she is “really proud” of the fair housing zoning amendment, which she worked on with Councilor Lydia Edwards and was approved by the Boston Zoning Commission and the mayor earlier this year.

The new change, according to the City, “will require developers in Boston to take substantial steps to stem displacement and provide further access to housing to those historically discriminated against.”

Because of this regulation, she said Boston is the first city in the country to bring something like this into law at the local level “with actual implementation

consequences.”

Bok said that “affirmative responsibility as a city to develop inclusive communities...means a lot to me.”

Bok said she also has many things in the works in the coming months and hopefully into a second term as city councilor, such as “pushing for a conservation corps” in the city, which she said there is money for in the proposed Fiscal Year 2022 budget.

Historic preservation is also something that’s important to Bok, as well as to many of her constituents in the district. She said with Boston’s 400th anniversary coming up in 2030, “it’s the right time for us to look again at our preservation tools” and host things like “inclusive” historical events, as well as explore curriculum for Boston Public Schools and exhibits at the Boston Public Library branches.

“I think there’s a lot of opportunity for that,” Bok said of keeping the city’s residents, especially its youth, “connected” to Boston’s history.

For Mission Hill specifically, Bok said she is “grateful” for funding in the proposed budget for the redesign of Terrace St. as it transitions from a “light industrial” use to a residential/commercial mixed use from a zoning perspective. “It needs a lot of attention,” she said of the street, adding that she’s “really excited that that’s going to be a priority.”

When it comes to the Mission Hill Main Streets, she said that so far, most of the businesses have been able to stay open, but “I’m holding my breath.” Bok said that through the American Rescue Plan, there are programs for business owners to help pay back rent and other expenses. She also said that she’s hopeful that when students return to the neighborhood in the fall, it will also be a boon to businesses.

Additionally, Bok said that many Mission Hill businesses are currently hiring.

In other parts of the district, such as the Back Bay, Beacon Hill, and the West End, those neighborhoods are dependent on tourism, as well as places like the Hynes Convention Center and the



District 8 Boston City Councilor Kenzie Bok.

many businesses on Newbury and Charles Streets, to stay afloat.

“I think that’s going to be a real concern of mine,” Bok said.

Bok said that there is “so much more to do on housing,” including making it easier for more deeply affordable units to be built in Boston with solutions like building affordable housing on top of libraries, which is being discussed for the West End and Egleston Square branches of the Boston Public Library.

As she heads into her second campaign, Bok said that her favorite thing about being a Boston city councilor is “the window you get into the huge variety of people who are doing their bit every day to make it the great place that it is. As a councilor, you find out about all of these efforts,” like “the people who are watering the tree in front of their house,” or the “folks during the pandemic who are checking on their neighbors,” she said, adding that there are “so many overlapping but independent active efforts to make the city a real community and make it thrive, and I have so appreciated that.”

Bok also said she hopes everyone will get out and become civically engaged as the City Council and mayoral races move forward.

“I think it’s really important for everybody to pay attention and get involved in the local election,” Bok said. It’s a “really exciting moment to talk about what Boston needs to do and look like coming out of the pandemic.”

She said that District 8 has not historically been one of the neighborhoods with a high voter turnout, but she said she “would love to turn that around this year.”

The city’s primary election will be held on September 14, and the general election is on November 2.

For more information about Councilor Bok and her platform, visit kenziebok.com.



Brendan Behan Pub
378A Centre Street
Jamaica Plain

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)



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!

Positive test rate remains steady in Mission Hill during April

By JOHN LYNDS

The weekly COVID-19 positive test rate in Mission Hill/Roxbury stays the same throughout April.

According to the latest data released by the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) 1,270 residents were tested last week and 4.6 percent were positive. This was the same percentage that had tested positive during the last week of March.

Of the 44,447 Mission Hill/Roxbury residents tested for COVID-19 since the start of the pandemic, 12.1 percent are

COVID positive. This was a 4.3 percent increase from the 11.6 percent that were found to be positive overall at the end of March.

Citywide, the weekly positive test rate decreased once again. According to the BPHC 19,498 residents were tested and 3.5 percent were COVID positive--this was a 2.8 percent decrease from the 4.6 percent positive test rate reported by the BPHC two weeks ago.

The Mission Hill/Roxbury COVID-19 infection rate increased 10 percent throughout the month of April.

According to data released last Friday by the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) the COVID-19 infection rate went from 1,122 cases per 10,000 residents to an infection rate of 1235.6 cases per 10,000 residents during the month.

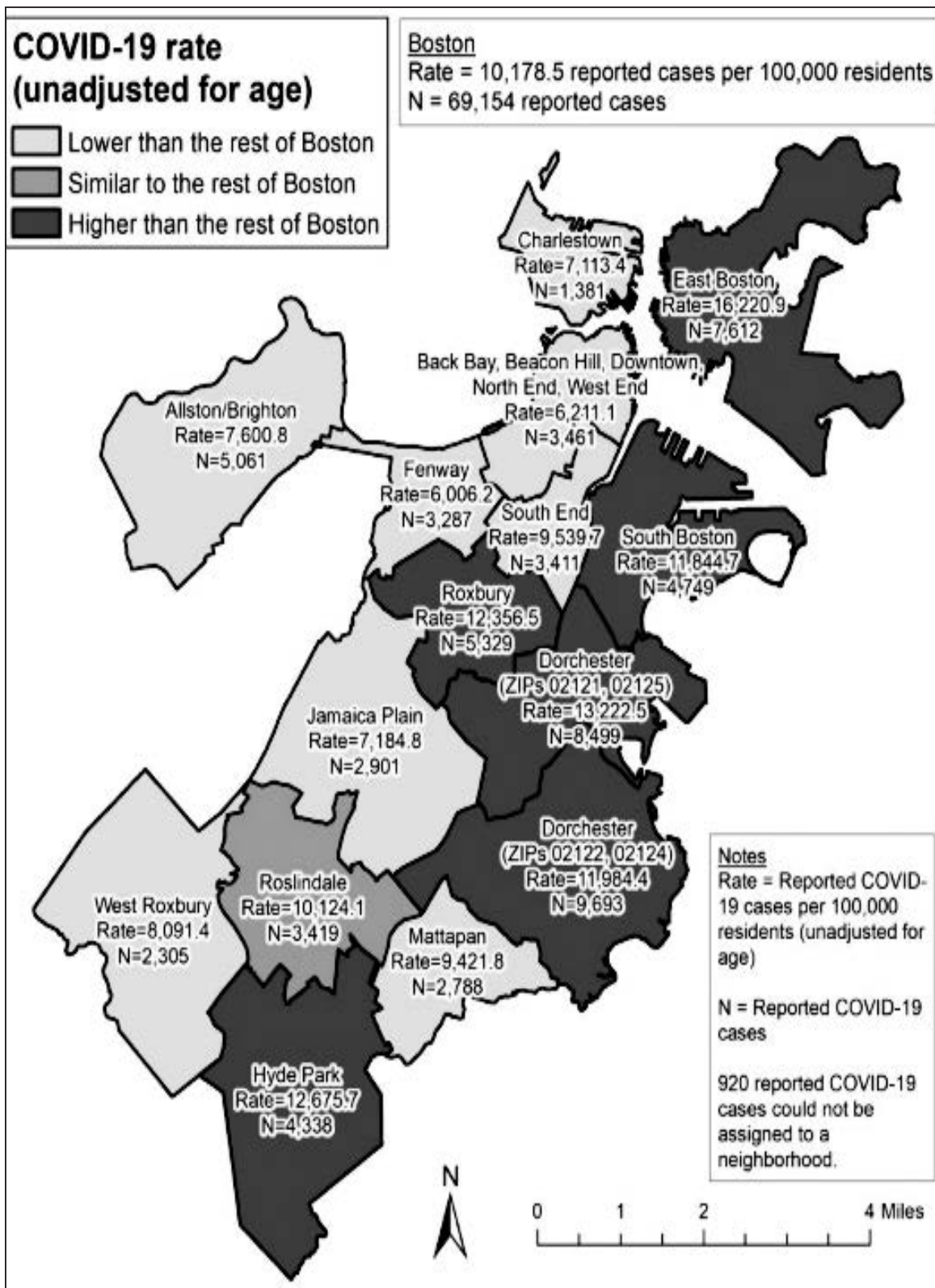
An additional 490 Mission Hill/Roxbury residents became infected with the virus throughout March and the number of cases increased from 4,839 to 5,329.

The statistics released by the BPHC as part of its weekly COVID19 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 1 percent last week and went from 68,795

cases to 69,501 confirmed cases in a week. Six additional Boston residents died from the virus last week and there are now 1,370 total deaths in the city from COVID.



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

72102104

ADVERTISEMENT

CITY OF BOSTON/COUNTY OF SUFFOLK
BOSTON CENTERS FOR YOUTH & FAMILIES (BCYF)

INVITATION FOR BIDS
EXTERMINATION OF VERMIN for the Boston Centers for Youth & Families (BCYF) and its Community Center Sites and Pool Sites.

EV00009168
Contact Information
Varnie Jules, Finance Unit Manager
617-635-4920 x 2149

The City of Boston (the City), acting by the Commissioner of the Boston Centers for Youth & Families, hereinafter referred to as the Official, invites sealed bids for the performance of the work generally described above, and particularly set forth in the Invitation for Bids. **The bid documents will be accessible online from Monday, May 03, 2021, through Friday, May 14, 2021** by visiting the City of Boston Public Procurement website at boston.gov/procurement/ and clicking on the supplier portal button to access event ID # **EV00009168**

The term of the contract shall be for **two (2) years starting July 1, 2021 ending June 30, 2023**

The attention of all bidders is directed to the provisions of the Invitation for Bids and contract documents, specifically to the requirements for bid deposits, insurance, and performance bonds as may be applicable. All bids for this project are subject to M.G.L. c.30, s. 5 and in accordance with the terms and provisions of the contract documents.

Sealed bids shall be filed electronically no later than 4:30 pm on Friday, May 14, 2021 by login onto the City of Boston Procurement website as listed and accessing the above listed event number. The contract awarded pursuant to this invitation for bid will **commence on or about Thursday, July 1, 2021.**

William Morales, Commissioner
(May 03, 2021 – May 10, 2021)

76121500
76121801

ADVERTISEMENT

CITY OF BOSTON/COUNTY OF SUFFOLK
BOSTON CENTERS FOR YOUTH & FAMILIES (BCYF)

INVITATION FOR BIDS
WASTE REMOVAL & DISPOSAL, AND RECYCLING SERVICES for the Boston Centers for Youth & Families (BCYF) and its Community Center Sites and Pool Sites.

EV00009166
Contact Information
Varnie Jules, Finance Unit Manager
617-635-4920 x 2149

The City of Boston (the City), acting by the Commissioner of the Boston Centers for Youth & Families, hereinafter referred to as the Official, invites sealed bids for the performance of the work generally described above, and particularly set forth in the Invitation for Bids. **The bid documents will be accessible online from Monday, May 03, 2021, through Friday, May 14, 2021** by visiting the City of Boston Public Procurement website at boston.gov/procurement/ and clicking on the supplier portal button to access event ID # **EV00009166**.

The term of the contract shall be for **three (3) years starting July 1, 2021 ending June 30, 2024**

The attention of all bidders is directed to the provisions of the Invitation for Bids and contract documents, specifically to the requirements for bid deposits, insurance, and performance bonds as may be applicable. All bids for this project are subject to M.G.L. c.30, s. 5 and in accordance with the terms and provisions of the contract documents.

Sealed bids shall be filed electronically no later than 4:30 pm on Friday, May 14, 2021 by login onto the City of Boston Procurement website as listed and accessing the above listed event number. The contract awarded pursuant to this invitation for bid will **commence on or about Thursday, July 1, 2021.**

William Morales, Commissioner
(May 03, 2021 – May 10, 2021)



DA Rollins unveils mural commemorating homicide survivors

STAFF REPORT

Suffolk County District Attorney Rachael Rollins unveiled a mural at the DA's Offices at One Bulfinch Place.

"We announced the commissioning of this work at the 10th Annual Survivors of Homicide Breakfast and we are amazed by its power, beauty and hope it

will be a source of reflection for everyone," DA Rollins said. "This mural represents and reminds us that the lives lost were members of Boston, Chelsea, Revere and Winthrop, who lived, worked, played, and were important parts of our community. It highlights mothers, fathers, sons, daughters, and everyday people who are deeply loved, valued, missed,

and never forgotten," said DA Rollins. "They are individuals who are so much more than the label of homicide victim."

The work was created by some 20 teenage artists working with Artists for Humanity's 3d Design Studio. The mural is portable and will be taken to the annual Survivor of Homicide Breakfast held each December. The mural, which

features landmarks from around the county representative of the communities in which victims, survivors, and their loved ones live, will be housed in the homicide unit.

"After meeting with families, I often reflect on the damage and impact of homicide," said DA Rollins. "It tends to take over the narrative of who a person was and the people that loved them. A homicide is not just a life cut short, it is a life stolen. It's an act that has a ripple effect far beyond the act itself. It is trauma, it is pain, it is grief, and it is devastation felt by loved ones and communities."

Assistant District Attorneys, victim witness advocates, detectives, and families will be reminded of the commitment, and

dedication to families of homicide victims by SCDAO. They will also remember that behind every name is a person that is loved and a part of the community we serve.

"What I can say and promise is that we will try our best to show up – not just in that horrific moment; not just at the Mother's Day Walk for Peace, not just during National Crime Victims' Rights Month, or the annual Survivors of Homicide Breakfast," DA Rollins said. "We will show up every night and every day. We will honor the legacies of those lost by attempting to ensure accountability. This mural will remind us, focus us to continue to do everything in our power to help on the journey towards healing."

RECYCLE YOUR YARD WASTE!

Check the Trash day app for your collection schedule, upcoming holiday delays or cancellations, and to search for items you can and can't recycle. Learn more at boston.gov/yard-waste

- Leaf and yard waste curbside collection
- Household hazardous waste drop-off
- Yard Waste drop off | 500 American Legion Hwy, Boston, MA 02131

APRIL							MAY							JUNE									
SU	M	TU	W	TH	FR	SA	SU	M	TU	W	TH	FR	SA	SU	M	TU	W	TH	FR	SA			
													1			1	2	3	4	5			
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12			
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19			
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26			
25	26	27	28	29	30		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30						
							30	31															
JULY							AUGUST							SEPTEMBER									
SU	M	TU	W	TH	FR	SA	SU	M	TU	W	TH	FR	SA	SU	M	TU	W	TH	FR	SA			
							1	2	3	4	5	6	7										
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11			
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18			
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25			
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30					
OCTOBER							NOVEMBER							DECEMBER									
SU	M	TU	W	TH	FR	SA	SU	M	TU	W	TH	FR	SA	SU	M	TU	W	TH	FR	SA			
							1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4							
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18			
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25			
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30					
31																							

Inspiring
lifelong learning in craftsmanship

CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

Wood Fashion Art

eliotschool.org

Please Recycle this Newspaper



Distribution of the new recycle bins is through a partnership between the City of Boston and the Rehrig Pacific Company.



The Ocean Core cart is made from a groundbreaking 40 percent post-consumer recycled material, 10 percent of which is recycled ocean-bound plastic found near lakes, beaches, and waterways leading to the ocean.

New city recycle bins made from ocean waste delight local environmentalists

By JOHN LYND

Boston resident Magdalena Ayed founded The Harborkeepers with the goal of working to improve environmental justice, harbor stewardship and access to the neighborhood's 15 miles of coastline.

"Our mission is building coastal community resiliency and environmental advocacy through engagement, education and stewardship," said Ayed. "This is a very grassroots effort. We have been out there cleaning the harbor. It's a uniting community activity. We want a vision of the waterfront to be the vision of the community."

So when Acting Mayor Kim Janey announced on Earth Day last month that the city will begin distributing new recycle bins made partly from ocean-bound plastic, Ayed was elated.

"As leader of a local Boston organization that does everyday ocean conservation and sees how plastic pollution impacts the environment, I am extremely excited and inspired to see these containers in our streets," said Ayed. "To see the City is finding alternate ways to purchase plastic recycling products sends a strong message to the rest of the nation that indeed we can make better choices, choices that will help reduce plastic use and pollution and thus help reduce carbon emissions."

The Ocean Core cart is made from 40 percent post-consumer recycled material, 10 percent of which is recycled ocean-bound plastic found near lakes, beaches, and waterways leading to the ocean.

Distribution of the new re-

cycle bins will be through a partnership between the City of Boston and the Rehrig Pacific Company who makes the bins. This partnership will supply over 10,000 residents with the new Ocean Core recycling carts over the next two years.

"As Mayor of a coastal city that cherishes its surrounding waterways, Boston is proud to be at the forefront of this technology," said Janey. "By distributing recycling carts composed of reusable ocean bound plastics, we're taking another step in our pursuit to become a zero waste city, and to ensure Boston is healthy and sustainable for future generations."

Recent studies have shown that there is far more plastic waste in the Atlantic Ocean than previously thought. With Ocean Core carts, Boston will reuse the equivalent of 61 miles of 2-liter bottles stretched end-to-end. That's the equivalent of running the Boston Marathon nearly two and a half times over.

The Public Works Department will begin distributing the new Ocean Core carts to residents who have a broken or damaged recycling cart in need of replacement. Requests for a new cart should be submitted through 311, the City's 24-hour constituent hotline.

"As the first City in the nation

using this new innovative technology, Boston is leading the way for other municipalities across the country to acknowledge the importance of addressing environmental issues today that will impact us tomorrow," said Public

Works Superintendent of Waste Reduction Brian Coughlin. "This Earth Day symbolizes the dedication that we as a City have towards achieving our zero waste goals."

Gazette Pet of the Week

by Sarah Carroll



HENRY

Henry might look a little grumpy, but he is the nicest boy. He is very outgoing and loves affection. At ten years old, Henry still loves to bat around toys, but he won't be hanging from your curtains anytime soon. He may do ok living with kids, another cat, or a calm dog. Henry came in with pretty severe dental disease and a loud heart murmur. He recently got a dental cleaning and is feeling much better now! We also did an echocardiogram (an ultrasound of his heart), and found that this sweet boy has hypertrophic obstructive cardiomyopathy. He does not need medication at this time, but we're recommending that he get echocardiograms every 4-6 months in order to ensure that he stays in tip-top shape. Because he is at an increased risk of blood clots forming in his heart, it'll be very important that his adopter has a close relationship with a vet and is ready to provide whatever care becomes necessary. He promises to pay you back tenfold with his amazing personality, soft fur, and adorable antics. Visit www.mspca.org/bostonadopt today to inquire about Henry!



(617) 522-5055
www.mspca.org

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



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





RESERVE YOUR SEATING NOW FOR THE DINING ROOM



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

24/7 Emergency Vet Care
Weekend Appointments | Free On-Site Parking



**WORMS?
INFECTIONS?
DISEASE?**

BYE FELICIA!

Angell is Here to Help!

With services ranging from 24/7 emergency & critical care to cardiology; from behavior services to surgery, Angell has everything you need to keep them healthy and happy.

- 24/7 Emergency & Critical Care
- Anesthesiology
- Avian & Exotic Medicine
- Behavior
- Cardiology
- Dentistry
- Dermatology
- Diagnostic Imaging (with on-site CT)
- General Medicine
- Internal Medicine
- Neurology
- Oncology
- Ophthalmology
- Pathology
- Physical Rehabilitation
- Surgery



angell
animal medical center

angell.org
Angell Animal Medical Center | 350 S. Huntington Ave, Boston | 617-522-7282

Money in Boston budget earmarked for local projects

By JOHN LYNDS

Last month acting Boston Mayor Kim Janey proposed her administration's recommended \$3.75 billion Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22) operating budget and \$3.2 billion Fiscal Year 2022-2026 (FY22-FY26) Capital Plan. Janey said the budget focuses on providing the resources for the city's continued robust public health response to COVID-19, making strategic investments in Boston's neighborhoods and residents, and setting the stage for Boston's equitable reopening, recovery and long-term renewal. The city Capital Budget includes money to get the Mission Hill Playground improvement project over the goal line. There has been a little over \$3 million in the city's Five Year Capital Plan for design and construction for the park. The city said construction will begin on the renovation of Mission Hill Playground this fiscal

year after a lengthy community process with residents on the design.

Renovations to the the 2.7-acre Mission Hill Playground will include a shaded seating area along pathways near the Tremont Street entrance; a playground with play equipment for ages 2-5 and 5-12; basketball mini-court; swings; a water spray area; and a large multipurpose natural turf field for soccer, baseball, softball and cricket, along Smith Street. Other budget highlights for the area include \$6.5 million to design and rebuild Ruggles Street, between Washington Street and Ruggles MBTA station, adhering to the city's "Complete Street" guidelines.

Janey also wants to eliminate BCYF membership fees at all sites for Mission Hill and Boston residents, thus lifting financial barriers for entry and opening all sites to all residents, regardless of residential neighborhood. There will be \$500,000 spread across Boston neighborhoods to



The Mission Hill Playground is one project that should get across the goal line as part of the FY22 city budget.

support Open Streets, a new program to encourage safe outdoor activity on public streets until the pandemic cools.

Finally Janey earmarked \$3.5 million supports housing and homelessness efforts to prevent displacement and expand housing opportunities for families of every income in all neighborhoods

"During the past year, Boston has

come together like never before, and we must take that spirit of inclusiveness and compassion and translate it into real investments for the City of Boston and our residents. COVID-19 has brought on unprecedented economic and social change for our city, and this budget proposal meets the moment and makes targeted investments to ensure that as we emerge from this

public health crisis we are not going back to normal, but going forward better than before," said Janey. "I am proud of this budget and the enormous work that goes into running our City government and providing the services Bostonians need and rely on. No one can be left behind as Boston recovers from COVID-19, and looks forward to the future."

N Northeastern
City and Community Engagement



Interested in learning more
about your community or taking
a data-informed approach to
tackling local issues in Boston?

Register today!

**BOSTON DATA
PORTAL TRAINING**

with the Boston Area Research Initiative (BARI)
and City and Community Engagement at
Northeastern

**TUESDAY, MAY 11, 2021
1:00PM - 3:00PM EST**

**FOR MORE INFO VISIT [TINYURL.COM/BDP-TRAINING](https://tinyurl.com/BDP-TRAINING)
& SCAN THE QR CODE TO REGISTER**

FOR QUESTIONS CONTACT BARI@NORTHEASTERN.EDU



Appeals Court denies appeal in Exam School case

STAFF REPORT

A federal appeals court has denied a request by a group of parents to halt the implementation of the Boston Exam Schools admissions plan for the 2021-22 school year. As a result, admissions decisions were released to prospective students on April 28, indicated law firm Brown Rudnick.

The School Committee developed an admissions plan for the 2021-22 school year in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, which prevented the administration of the entrance test that had been used in previous years. The School Committee landed on a plan that allocates seats based on a combination of GPA and the number of school-age children living in each of Boston's 29 ZIP codes. One of the School Committee's objectives in approving

the one-year plan was to improve racial, socioeconomic, and geographic diversity in the schools and to raise the quality of education for students throughout the city of Boston.

The Boston Parent Coalition for Academic Excellence Corporation, which consists of a group of parents of students from high-income ZIP codes expected to lose seats under the plan, first challenged the plan in the federal District Court for the District of Massachusetts, arguing that it improperly favored Black and Latinx students to the detriment of white and Asian-American students, violating the 14th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. U.S. District Judge William Young ruled in favor of the School Committee, finding that the plan "does not have the effect of subjecting students to discrimination because

of their race. Geographic and socioeconomic diversity are appropriate educational goals in their own right, regardless of race." The ruling sided with an amicus brief filed in support of the School Committee by international law firm Brown Rudnick LLP, Massachusetts Law Reform Institute (MLRI), LatinoJustice PRLDEF (LatinoJustice), and the Children's Law Center of Massachusetts (CLCM).

The parent group immediately appealed that decision to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit and requested an emergency injunction to prevent the School Committee from issuing admissions decisions pursuant to the plan until the conclusion of the appeal. The appellate court denied the parent group's emergency request. The panel of three judges that issued the opinion found that the parent group was

unlikely to succeed on the merits of their appeal and that delaying the School Committee's release of decisions "would unsettle . . . the plans of thousands of families awaiting those decisions." The panel further stated, "[t]he public interest is best served by permitting defendants to finalize and communicate admissions decisions based on the plan, not by entering plaintiff's proposed injunction and throwing the Exam School admissions process into chaos."

"The First Circuit's opinion is another strong rebuke of the Boston Parent Coalition's challenge and affirms the legitimacy of the School Committee's desire to provide equal access to high quality education for Boston students from all backgrounds and parts of the city," said [Brian Alosco](#), Brown Rudnick Associate in the Litigation & Arbitration

Practice Group, who led the team of attorneys on a pro bono basis serving as co-counsel on the amicus brief. "This ruling will also finally allow Boston families to have some clarity as to where their children will be attending school in the fall," Alosco said.

The amicus brief filed by Brown Rudnick, MLRI, LatinoJustice, and CLCM at the district court, and joined by 23 prominent national and local organizations (listed as amici curiae below), noted that while the School Committee properly considered the past and present racial and socioeconomic discrimination that historically has created racially segregated neighborhoods across the City, today Boston is very diverse within and across its ZIP codes, and the admissions plan did not use ZIP codes as a proxy for race.

Councilor Bok files ordinance to track vacant commercial properties

STAFF REPORT

The economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has increased the number of vacant commercial units in the City of Boston, adding to the units that have been vacant years. Councilors Mejia and Bok, in partnership with community advocates Derrel Weathers and Jacob Leidolf, have filed an ordinance to start tracking vacant commercial units and give hopeful new business owners a more representative view of what the city has to offer for commercial property.

The idea to find better ways to track and monitor vacant commercial properties came from advocates Weathers and Leidolf, who hope to see this measure as a means to create avenues for smaller entrepreneurs to set up shop in brick-and-mortar storefronts. "A lot of the places that were for rent in Boston in 2011 are still for rent today! In that time period those landlords still haven't found a single tenant because...they'll let that place sit empty and won't lower their rent," said Weathers. There is currently no clear way of tracking these vacancies in order to create economic opportunities within them. Establishing a database by using readily available data, such as POS machines and 311 calls, is the first step in the

plan for small business development in the neighborhoods that have been most devastated by the pandemic.

"As a lifelong Bostonian, a small business owner and above all, someone who loves my community, I think it is essential for the city to invest in our local entrepreneurs and incubate and support homegrown businesses. One way we can do this is by filling empty storefronts with local businesses," said Leidolf. "In Boston, the city does not currently track commercial vacancies. With this ordinance we will collect the data we need to make strategic investments and partnerships in our community, turning those vacant storefronts into accessible, affordable and thriving centers of local commerce."

"By identifying vacant commercial units, we can begin matching property owners with vacancies with local small businesses," added Councilor Bok. "I'm hopeful we can help a diverse set of local entrepreneurs have a place in our city's economy."

Vacant storefronts are an opportunity to create space for start-up entrepreneurs who have historically lacked access to physical spaces. Entrepreneurs who may grow out of their Retail Residential Kitchen that Mejia's

office recently made possible, pop-up businesses and small business owners will all benefit

from a database of this kind. "By knowing the scope of the problem, we are better able to direct

attention, funding, and programming to help small businesses thrive," said Councilor Mejia.



Virtual Public Meeting

Boston Medical Center Institutional Master Plan

Wednesday, May 12
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Zoom Link: bit.ly/2R79620
Toll Free: (833) 568 - 8864
Meeting ID: 160 346 4501

Project Proponent:
Boston Medical Center (BMC)

Project Description:

This is a Community Task Force & Public Meeting to discuss the proposed Boston Medical Center (BMC) Institutional Master Plan. While no development is proposed at this time, we will discuss the proposed future development projects for the campus over the next ten years.

mail to: **Edward Carmody**
Boston Planning & Development Agency
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201
phone: 617.918.4422
email: edward.carmody@boston.gov

Close of Comment Period:
7/6/2021

BostonPlans.org | @BostonPlans
Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary



Please Recycle this Newspaper



Applications open to apply for 2021-2022 Mayor's Youth Council

STAFF REPORT

Mayor Kim Janey and the Department of Youth Engagement and Employment last Friday announced that applications are now open for Boston teens to apply for the 2021-2022 Mayor's Youth Council.

The Mayor's Youth Council (MYC) is a model of youth inclusion in government and civic engagement that has inspired cities across the nation, and even internationally, to examine how they include youth in local government. Applications are being accepted until Sunday, July 18, 2021.

"Creating opportunities for Boston's youth is an important part of our efforts in engaging young people in the work of city government," said Mayor Janey. "I look forward to working with the incoming 2021-2022 Mayor's Youth Council to learn from their experiences and understand their priorities for the City of Boston."

The Mayor's Youth Council is a group of 85 high school-aged youth who are committed to improving their communities and empowering young people in the City of Boston. The number of youth representing neighborhoods is based on census data that indicates where young people live. MYC provides a platform for youth voice to be represented in the city with the goals of:

- Connecting youth to city government
- Building a network with youth

- Educating youth about the civic process
- Encouraging youth to prioritize social change and justice in their own communities.

To apply to be a neighborhood representative on the Mayor's Youth Council, students must be Boston residents and entering grades 9-12 (or of comparable age). All applicants will participate in a group interview.

MYC representatives form issue-centric subcommittees based on Mayor Janey's cabinet structure. In the past year, members of the MYC have worked on a variety of issues, including public peace, civic engagement, education, arts and culture, climate justice, economic and workforce development, public health, as well as continued to oversee the implementation of the Youth Lead the Change capital projects voted on by youth last year. In addition, students on the Council can serve as MYC Liaisons, positions appointed by their peers. Liaisons serve as neighborhood and community ambassadors, helping to ensure that youth around the city have access to resources, programs and services.

Due to COVID-19, the 2020-2021 Mayor's Youth Council was fully remote for the entire program. The MYC Youth Ambassadors connected with each other through virtual meetings, learned about critical initiatives across the city from department leaders, and focused on ways to

engage their peers through the planning of impact projects.

In the past year, members of the MYC have met with numerous city departments such as the Mayor's Office Immigration Advancement, Civic Engagement, Financial Empowerment, Recovery Services, Arts & Culture, Food Access, Emergency Management, as well as elected officials, to serve as a voice for youth in government. Members commit to creating impact projects through their committees, such as partnering with the Office of Financial Empowerment to host virtual financial literacy workshops for youth all over Boston. The workshops this spring focused on college affordability, building credit, and helping educate young people on how they can start to plan for their financial futures. All engagement opportunities allow MYC members to gain a deeper understanding of Boston residents and communities.

The MYC is overseen by the Department of Youth Engagement and Employment and partners with longtime sponsor, Northeastern University, to support the Mayor's Youth Council. To learn more and to apply online, visit youth.boston.gov.

Mayor Janey announces awardees of vaccine equity grant initiative

STAFF REPORT

Mayor Kim Janey, the Boston Public Health Commission and the Office of Health and Human Services today announced the awardees of the Vaccine Equity Grant Initiative, which was launched in March to ensure equitable availability to the COVID-19 vaccine. A total of \$1.5 million has been distributed to 11 organizations working to increase vaccine access and awareness in communities disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

"As we continue to recover from COVID-19, it's critical that we are intentional about our efforts to support Bostonians disproportionately impacted by the pan-

demic," said Mayor Janey. "I am proud to award this funding to community-based organizations committed to expanding access to and awareness about the COVID-19 vaccine. Thank you for your partnership in helping our most vulnerable communities." Applicants were charged with developing strategies to enhance and ensure equitable vaccine access for specific communities, neighborhoods and groups experiencing higher rates of COVID-19 positivity or to target outreach for communities facing barriers in obtaining the vaccine. These include Black/African American, Latinx, Asian, Indigenous, and immigrant communities; persons with disabilities; individu-

Continued on page 15

Entity Name	Purpose
Tufts Medical Center	To increase vaccine awareness and access for Chinatown Asian immigrants and Asian Americans, in partnerships with Chinese Progressive Association, Asian Community Development Corp and Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center.
Harvard Street Neighborhood Health Center	To support Vaccine Equity for Haitian and East African Communities, in partnership with Somali Development Center, Entreen Community Center and Haitian American Public Health Initiatives.
East Boston Neighborhood Health Center	To support the Community Health Center and Community-Based Organization Collaboration vaccine administration in underserved populations, including Black, Latinx, and people 65 years and under in East Boston and Roxbury, via South End Community Health Center.
GOTVax	To expand public awareness and help vaccinate Black, Latinx, Asian and low income Boston residents in East Boston, Chinatown, Roxbury, Dorchester, Mattapan, Hyde Park, and Roslindale.
Islamic Society of Boston	To support culturally competent public education, direct outreach and wraparound support to increase vaccine access for immigrants, and Black/African Americans in Roxbury and Dorchester.
Refugee and Immigrant Assistance Center	To increase vaccination confidence and uptake among immigrant and refugee residents in Roxbury, Dorchester, Mattapan, Hyde Park and Roslindale.
Four Corners Main Streets	To organize "Safety Goes A Long Way Campaign," a community mobilization campaign to educate, register and vaccinate Four Corners residents.
Greater Boston Latino Network	To launch a community-based multilingual campaign, "Vaccination Sin Barreras/ Vaccines Without Barriers," support Latinx families experiencing pandemic hardship, and coordinate outreach for mobile vaccination efforts with the City.
Boston Medical Center	To support Vaccine Equity Initiative in partnership with YMCA for Mattapan, Dorchester, Hyde Park, Roslindale, and Roxbury
Black Boston COVID-19 Coalition	For mobilization efforts in Dorchester and Mattapan to educate, pre-schedule and do on-site registration vaccination of Boston residents of color.
Greater Boston Nazarene Compassionate Center	To register Mattapan residents to get vaccinated and host clinics in partnership with the Mattapan Community Health Center.

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 Free estimates
(617) 361-6532 Licensed & Insured
 Member Better Business Bureau 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
 Licensed Senior & Vets 20% Discount Family owned & operated • 28 years in business Insured

Vaccine equity

Continued from page 14

als over the age of 65; and the neighborhoods of East Boston, Roxbury, Dorchester, Mattapan, Hyde Park, Roslindale and Chinatown, where positivity rates have consistently been higher and vaccination rates have been lower than the citywide average. As of April 13, 2021, 168,145 individuals who are 16 years of age or older have been fully vaccinated in the City of Boston. 47 percent of fully vaccinated Bostonians are people of color. 16,498 Asian/Pacific Islander residents are fully vaccinated; 31,243 Black residents are fully vaccinated; 19,073 Latinx residents are fully vaccinated; and 214 American Indian/Alaskan Native residents are fully vaccinated. In comparison, 81,844 White residents are fully vaccinated.

Grantees awarded have created strategies to engage the community in four ways. Access and awareness strategies include:

- Direct, in-person outreach: This will target populations and scheduling individuals for vaccine appointments.
- Public awareness efforts: This will target specific populations or neighborhoods to build con-

fidence in vaccines and their effectiveness.

•Wrap around supports: This will help to create equitable access to vaccines appointments through methods including transportation support, interpretation services, companion programs, dedicated staff to get residents into vaccine appointments.

•Direct clinic support: This will include expanded staffing, outreach or on-site services to support access to vaccines people, including access during non-traditional hours or located at non-traditional locations.

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, the City of Boston has prioritized access to COVID-19 testing and vaccination for communities most impacted. The current community positivity rate is 4.0 percent for the week of April 9-15, 2021, with the neighborhoods of East Boston, Dorchester, South Boston, and Roslindale experiencing the highest rates. Since the beginning of the pandemic, 24 percent of known cases have been among Black/African American residents, 30 percent of known cases have been among Hispanic/Latinx residents, and 6 percent of known cases have been among Asian/Pacific Islander residents.



Songs for the Open Road set for May 13

STAFF REPORT

Before heading out on that summer road trip – maybe visiting long missed family and friends – take a moment to laugh about, sing about, and appreciate our ability to travel on Massachusetts roadways. Did you know that in Massachusetts driving is restricted not only by age and ability to drive, but by immigration status as well? Not so in 16 states, Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia, which have all removed immigration status as a barrier to driver’s licenses.

The Work and Family Mobility Act, currently before the state legislature, would make Massachusetts #17 while making the roads here safer for us all.

Join us, on May 13 from 7:30-9 PM, for a free, online concert with hummable, humorous songs about driving performed by award-winning musicians: Cosy Sheridan, Greg Greenway, and Rosi and Brian Amador (of Sol y Canto). Hear a brief update on the bill from Natalicia Tracy, co-chair of Driving Families Forward.

This past year, especially, many of us have depended heavily on health care workers, food deliverers, and other essential workers who need to drive – many of whom are immigrants. While registering for this free concert, you can express your appreciation with a donation to the Massachusetts Immigrant Collaborative’s Emergency Immigrant Relief Fund.

Every passenger, driver, cyclist, and pedestrian is safer when those behind the wheel are licensed and insured. For immigrants without licenses, a broken taillight, another driver’s mistake, or racial profiling can be a disaster that often leads to family separation, detention, and even deportation. Yes, a fender-bender can get you deported in Massachusetts! And so, the Jamaica Plain Progressives Immigrant Rights Action Group invites you to this event to show your support for a law that makes sense for us all. We hope you will be inspired to help us drive passage of the Work and Family Mobility Act forward.

You can register here: <https://tinyurl.com/3zm6h7d2>

Advertise in the Gazette.
Call 617-524-7662

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: 617-524-262

MISSION HILL MAIN STREETS
eat. play. live.

Please join MHMS as we celebrate and honor all mothers' by wishing them a wonderful, Happy Mothers Day on Sunday, May 10th!

Check Mission Hill's local restaurants for Mother's Day Specials! Dine in or have it delivered to make their day memorable. Shop Small! Shop Local!

Mission Hill Main Streets
1542 Tremont Street
Boston, MA 02115
mainstreetsellenwalker@gmail.com
(617) 232-0182

Circle Members
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, City of Boston Credit Union, Dana Farber Cancer Center, Needham Bank, New England Baptist Hospital, Northeastern University and Wentworth Institute of Technology.

SUMMER DANCE CAMP

TONY WILLIAMS DANCE CENTER

AGES 5-14
JUNE 28 • JULY 19 • AUGUST 23
BALLET INTENSIVE AUG. 16 - 20 • WEEKLY BALLET

FALL 2021 REGISTRATION BEGINS JULY 1
WWW.TWDANCE.COM
TWDCINFO@GMAIL.COM

Needham Bank breaks ground on new Dedham branch

Needham Bank recently held a groundbreaking at the site of its new Dedham branch location. After spending 14 years in the same building, the Dedham branch is scheduled to move down the road from its current location to 326 Washington Street in the fall of 2021.

“Our top priority is expanding the ways Dedham customers can bank with us – whether it’s through our new drive up window, night depository, drive up and walk up ATMs, or our state of the art branch office with a conference room for community

meetings and events,” remarked Joe Campanelli, President and CEO of Needham Bank. “We look forward to welcoming everyone into our new branch that will allow us to serve customers in a more comfortable and inviting space.”

Needham Bank has partnered with Supreme Development for the Dedham branch construction. Supreme Development President Giorgio Petruzzello is a lifelong resident of Dedham and was instrumental in the revitalization of Dedham Square.

About Needham Bank: Needham Bank offers an array

of tech forward products and services that businesses and consumers use to manage their financial needs. We have the financial expertise typically found at much larger institutions, and the local knowledge and commitment you can only find at a community bank. Known as the “Builder’s Bank”, Needham Bank has been helping individuals, businesses and non-profits build for their futures since 1892. For more information please visit <https://NeedhamBank.com>. Needham Bank is a member of FDIC and DIF.



Pictured (L-R): Supreme Development President Giorgio Petruzzello, Needham Bank Executive Vice President - Senior Commercial Lender Stephanie Maiona and Needham Bank President and CEO Joe Campanelli breaking ground on the future site of the new Dedham branch.

BPS exploring the idea of offering virtual school next year

BY SETH DANIEL

The Boston Public Schools (BPS) has sent out a survey to parents this week to gauge whether there is interest in creating a Virtual School program that would continue remote learning options through next school year.

The letter went out in the last few days and contained a survey for those that might be interested, an exploratory approach that

would be undertaken if there is sufficient interest, the letter said. Boston Public Schools is exploring the possibility of launching a fully virtual school for SY21-22,” read the letter. “A virtual school is a school that exists fully online...This survey asks families to share their interest in a fully virtual school option to understand demand for planning purposes. Any virtual school option would need to be

approved by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. This survey does not guarantee the option of a virtual school...”

If there was enough interest in a Virtual School at BPS for all grades, the district would seemingly embark on creating the frameworks and getting it approved by the state in time for next year.

The letter indicates there would

be ample opportunities for online learning, and even some opportunities to interact with other students via extracurricular activities.

“Attending a virtual school is similar to attending a school in a physical building in many ways: students have a homeroom, classmates, BPS teachers, a principal, and rigorous instruction,” read the letter. “Instead of going to a school building, students

at the virtual school learn remotely, from their homes, using a computer and the internet... There may be some opportunities for in-person engagement with classmates, either for special occasions, specific projects, or extracurricular activities.”

The results of the survey are expected within a month or so.



Sen. Sonia Chang-Díaz endorses David Halbert for Council at-Large

STAFF REPORT

This week, David Halbert’s campaign for Boston City Council At-Large is honored to announce that Halbert has been endorsed by State Senator Sonia Chang-Díaz. In a crowded field still taking shape, this key early endorsement assures Halbert will be a formidable candidate and serves as a testament to the strength of Halbert’s operation this cycle.

“David is the kind of progressive leader we need in City Hall to bring transformative and lasting change to Boston,” said Senator Chang-Díaz. “I know David will be a strong advocate and committed ally in his pursuit of educational equity, housing justice, and economic opportunity for all. In his years of service to our city and Commonwealth, he’s shown himself to be a dedicated, innovative, and values-led public servant time and time again. I’m excited to endorse him for City Councilor At-Large.”

“I am humbled to have the

support of Senator Chang-Díaz,” said Halbert. “She is a progressive force in the State House, who centers equity and community in everything she does. I am honored to receive her endorsement, and I look forward to partnering with her in our shared mission of improving the lives of Bostonians.”

Senator Sonia Chang-Díaz is the first Latina elected to the Massachusetts State Senate, and is currently serving her fifth term on behalf of the Second Suffolk District, which is comprised of all or part of the Boston neighborhoods of Dorchester, Jamaica Plain, Hyde Park, Mattapan, Mission Hill, Roslindale, Roxbury, and the South End. Senator Chang-Díaz is the first member of Boston’s State House delegation to endorse Halbert. She joins a steadily-growing list of formal endorsers, including 2013 mayoral candidate and former State Representative Charlotte Golar Richie, and 2019 Boston City Council At-Large candidate Alejandra St. Guillen.

Empowering Caregivers with Information and Support

CAREGIVER SOLUTIONS

Caregiver Solutions is a free program designed to have a positive impact on your caregiving journey, empowering you with the information you need to provide exceptional care. Our specially trained professionals will work with you on a care plan based on your needs and connect you with helpful services and supports.

With Caregiver Solutions, you can be confident in your caregiving role.

You can depend on us. Visit bshcinfo.org or call 617-292-6211.



BOSTON SENIOR HOME CARE

Your home. Your choice. Your care. | [f](#) [t](#) [i](#) [l](#) [g](#)

Supt. Cassellius announces Commission for Deployment of Federal Relief Funds

By SETH DANIEL

Advocates for public education approved of the Boston Public Schools (BPS) announcement this week to create a Commission that will advise Supt. Brenda Cassellius on the timeline and distribution of more than \$400 million in federal dollars coming to the district.

Boston Public Schools Superintendent Brenda Cassellius announced on Monday a new commission and timeline on how BPS will proceed with investing the nearly \$400 million in Federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funding the district is expected to receive.

The Commission will advise the Superintendent and BPS on the key focus areas for these new investments, with a commitment to allocating the funding in an equitable and sustainable manner. BPS will leverage the new funding over three years and ensure the new opportunities can be supported for years to come. The Commission will have five meetings, twice monthly over the next two months, with the final meeting to be held on July 1, during which the plan will be presented and posted for a

formal 30-day public review and comment period. BPS is working towards a filing deadline in July with the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Will Austin, director of the Boston Schools Fund, had urged caution and planning over the past few weeks in regards to the money – as it was an historic influx of resources that had not been well-publicized up until now. He said the Commission is a good first step.

“I am glad that Boston Public Schools responded to calls for transparency and careful planning,” he said. “This commission is an important first step in ensuring that Boston Public Schools uses the federal funds in a way that best addresses the educational inequities exacerbated during the pandemic. It’s important for members of the public to be fully informed about how the money will be spent and have a voice in the process.”

The core approach of all aspects of current work in BPS align to our Return, Recover, and Reimagine framework, operational budget, and the five-year strategic plan approved in 2020.

•Return = Ensure a healthy and safe return of students and staff to in-person learning this

summer and fall.

•Recover = Reconnect and re-establish our school communities so students have the teaching and support needed to accelerate their learning.

•Reimagine = Seize the opportunity to learn from this past year and apply innovative practices to advance 21st century learning and a more equitable school district.

“I am grateful to President Biden and Congress for this strong investment in ensuring our schools have the resources needed to support students, families, and staff,” said Cassellius. “With the additional investments from the City in our operating budget and capital investments, these new funds will bring critical resources directly into classrooms. We know we cannot return to the pre-pandemic model of learning because it was not working for all students. We have learned a lot since the closure of school buildings in 2020 and are excited for this opportunity to remove the barrier of lack of funding, so we can focus on transforming the educational experience for all our students.”

BPS also announced a new webpage where all information on the funding will be posted so the public can track how funds

are being spent, keep up on the strategies the district is employing and stay informed of the measures being used to gauge student outcomes. This new website is designed to ensure BPS is a good steward of the public trust and to serve as an easy-to-access place for transparency and information sharing.

Commission members represent a wide range of community members who engage with BPS on a regular basis, and were selected based on their work with BPS students and school, their relationships with key BPS stakeholders, and their knowl-

edge of the district’s strategic priorities. Members are listed on the Return, Recover, Reimagine Commission webpage.

Meetings will take place from 5 - 6:30 p.m. on the following dates:

- Thursday, May 13
- Thursday, May 27
- Thursday, June 10
- Thursday, June 24
- Thursday, July 1

Meetings will be hosted virtually, simulcast to the public, and feature a public comment period at the end of each meeting. There will also be a formal 30-day public review and comment period.



Caregiver Solutions

with Meg Hogan, CEO of Boston Senior Home Care

I am pleased to introduce you to Caregiver Solutions, a **free** program of Boston Senior Home Care.

When it comes to caregiving, one size does not fit all. Caregivers come in all ages, genders, income levels, and ethnicities. And the people they care for are just as diverse. They are their parents, grandparents, siblings, aunts, uncles, spouses, and children. Caregiver Solutions is designed to have a positive impact on your unique caregiving journey, empowering you with the information you need to provide exceptional care.

Most caregivers provide care out of love and a sense of responsibility. But taking on the responsibility of someone else’s affairs, providing household and personal care tasks, administering medications, and coordinating medical appointments and other services – all of these are time-consuming, challenging tasks.

Caregiver Solutions can help. Our specially trained professionals will work with you on a care plan based on your needs and connect you with services and supports. We can also offer you occasional relief from caregiving with respite and companion services. And our online support groups will help you gain information and learn about resources from others in similar situations.

Caregiving has both joys and challenges. With Caregiver Solutions, you can be confident in your caregiving role.

You can depend on us. For more information please visit bshcinfo.org or call 617-292-6211.



BOSTON SENIOR
HOME CARE

bshcinfo.org | (617) 451-6400

Your home. Your choice. Your care.

Public Garden Swan Boats open for season May 8

STAFF REPORT

Mayor Kim Janey is pleased to announce that the popular Boston Swan Boats will open for the 2021 season at the Boston Public Garden lagoon on Saturday, May 8, at 10 a.m.

For the first time in its history, this annual rite of spring did not take place last year due to

COVID-19 and the Paget family is pleased to bring this tradition back to the Public Garden. In keeping with current health guidelines masks are required and passengers will be safely spaced both in line and on the Swan Boats.

Launched in 1877 by Irish immigrant and shipbuilder Robert Paget, the Swan Boats continue to be owned and operated by the Paget family. Mr. Paget designed the Swan Boats after attending the opera Lohengrin in New York City. At the end of the opera, the hero crosses a river in a boat drawn by a swan.

2021 marks the 144th season for the Swan Boats. The oldest and smallest boat in the fleet just celebrated its 111th season, while the newest was launched

in 1993. The swan on today’s boats is made from either copper or fiberglass, depending on the age of the boat, and encloses a paddle mechanism that is used to foot propel the boat through the water.

Fully loaded, each Swan Boat weighs three tons and is powered by the driver using a foot-propelled paddle wheel. The Swan Boats are built on oak framed pontoons sheathed in copper just as they were initially constructed in 1877. After being stored in a safe place for the winter, the boats are returned to the Public Garden Lagoon in the spring.

For more information, please visit the Swan Boats of Boston online at www.swanboats.com, call (617) 522-1966, or email info@swanboats.com.



COMPLETE LANDSCAPE SERVICES
— Serving New England Since 1998 —

- Weekly Mowing
- Spring & Fall Cleanups
- Shrub Trimming
- Lawn Care & Fertilization
- Plant Health Care
- Tree Spraying
- Licensed & Insured

781-551-8733 • 617-242-8733

Advertise in the Gazette.
Call 617-524-7662

EDITORIAL

The Biden Deal is long overdue

The ambitious proposal set forth by President Joe Biden last week in his speech to a joint session of Congress has elicited the usual negative response from the usual suspects.

However, those who oppose Biden's \$2 trillion plan to invest in America and its people display a total ignorance of history, specifically, the New Deal.

Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal policies raised the wrath of Republicans who, similar to Republicans today, claimed that the New Deal would cost too much and that it was tantamount to socialism. But the reality of what the New Deal achieved dramatically transformed American life in countless ways and launched America onto its trajectory to becoming the greatest nation on earth. Among the highlights of the New Deal were:

-- The New Deal lifted millions of Americans out of poverty, especially older Americans via Social Security;

-- The New Deal gave power to labor unions, thereby leveling the playing field with corporate America and creating the great American Middle Class;

-- The New Deal enacted necessary government regulation that reined-in the excesses of Wall St. and the banks that had brought the Great Depression; and

-- The New Deal included much-needed investment in our infrastructure, including countless projects that still stand today in communities across the country.

The obvious benefits to the nation of the New Deal encouraged policy-makers to enact other programs of investment in America over the next to 40 more years under Democrats and Republicans alike, including the GI Bill (Truman), the national highway system (Eisenhower), Medicare (Johnson), and the Environmental Protection Agency (Nixon).

During this time frame, corporations paid their fair share of taxes, individual tax rates were much higher, and income-inequality was non-existent (by today's standards). America was the unquestioned leader of the world.

Today however, thanks to the shortsighted policies of the past 40 years (beginning with Reagan and abetted by Democrats) that have been highlighted by corporate welfare, excessive military spending, ever-increasing wealth and income inequality, and underinvestment in our people and our infrastructure, America has become the equivalent of a Third World country in many respects.

In short, America has gone from first to worst.

President Joe Biden's speech laid out a path to restore America to our former greatness.

To those who say that we cannot afford the Biden Deal, our response is simple: We can't afford not to.

LETTERS

Red Flag laws can help lower suicide risk

Dear Editor,

May is Mental Health Awareness Month. While there's so much one can talk about during this time, from the accessibility of mental health services to stigma, it's important to not forget about gun violence.

When a mass shooting happens, it often renews talk of keeping guns out of the hands of people with mental illness. Though many people think that those with mental illness are more likely to carry out such shootings, research has shown that people with severe mental illness commit an extremely small percentage of violent crimes. In fact, this population is much more likely to be victims of violent crime than perpetrators.

But while mental illness doesn't make someone more like-

ly to shoot someone else, it does increase the risk of attempting suicide. Nearly 2/3 of all gun deaths in the U.S. are suicides, and using a gun to attempt suicide makes death much more likely. Guns account for 90% of suicide deaths, not because they're used more but because of how deadly they are.

These deaths are preventable. If someone you know is showing signs of being a danger to themselves due to mental illness, and they have access to guns, consider Massachusetts' Extreme Risk Protection Order (ERPO, or red flag law, www.mass.gov/extreme-risk-protection-orders). This law gives family members, household members, and law enforcement the ability to petition the court to temporarily remove guns from dangerous situations

and restrict access, which can give your loved one a chance to get the help they need, and can greatly reduce their risk of dying by suicide. Such ERPO orders are civil court orders and do not go on a person's criminal record.

No official mental illness diagnosis is necessary to ask for guns to be temporarily removed from someone under a red flag law – a crucial component, since many people who experience a mental health crisis have no diagnosed mental illness.

Red flag laws aren't about "taking away guns." They're about preventing harm. So this Mental Health Awareness Month, please remember this important tool to help loved ones who may be at risk of harming themselves.

ERICA HERSH

OP-ED

Regarding the Chauvin trial

BY ACTING MAYOR KIM JANEY

My fellow Bostonians, On April 20, a jury in Minneapolis found Derek Chauvin guilty on all counts in the murder of George Floyd. While this decision brings some relief, we also know it will not bring back George Floyd.

George Floyd's murder has fueled a movement for racial justice and a national conversation on policing. This movement for equity and justice started long before his murder and must continue. I know all of us come to this conversation -- and to this work -- with a common goal of ending racism.

Each of us, importantly, brings our own perspective and experience to this work. For me, it is as the grandmother of two teenage boys in a world that often criminalizes their Blackness; and, it is as your Mayor, leading the great City of Boston.

I know that the verdict and its aftermath can trigger an array of strong feelings and emotions for many of us. As your Mayor, know that the Boston Public Health Commission's Neighborhood Trauma Team Network is always here to provide you with free, confidential support, and you can visit neighborhood-healing.com to learn more.

In the days ahead, let us honor

the legacy of George Floyd with the shared work of dismantling structural racism. Let us honor all those who have fought to build a stronger nation, a better city, a more beloved community. Let's come together in our neighborhoods, in our faith communities, and in our institutions to reform systems and policies that hurt, rather than heal. Let's continue to unite to improve our city and our community. And, let's continue to stand together united against racism.

Kim Janey is the current Acting Mayor of Boston, as well as a candidate for Mayor in the upcoming election

OP-ED

Work on your Mother's Day Memories

DR. GLENN MOLLETTE

Plan your telephone call to say hello to mom this Sunday. Better yet, if possible, make a visit with a card or even some flowers or maybe some brownies or a special treat. Moms deserve to be treated special. Take her out to lunch or dinner if possible. It doesn't have to be Sunday, maybe Saturday would work better. Tell mom what she means to you. Let her know that you love her and that you give thanks for all she has done for you. Let her

know she was a good mother and that you are grateful for everything. Moms need to hear it and you'll be glad for everything you do for your mother.

However, you may not be so fortunate. My mother Eula Hinkle Mollette, passed away many years ago. My son's mother Karen Mollette passed away in 2002. The years go by quickly. For too many, Mother's Day can be a sad day because mom is no longer here. All you have is your many memories and too often memories are filled with mixed

emotions. You remember what was wonderful but you may start thinking about all you wish you had done or could do if you had her today. If you have your mother today then celebrate in every way you can.

Sadly over 200,000 women are in prison or jail in the United States today. Eighty percent of these women have minor children. Mother's Day is a painful day for these women and their families.

Continued on page 19

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 Manager

Sandra Storey
Founder/Publisher Emerita 1993-2011

Seth Daniel, Reporter
seth@reverejournal.com

Lauren Bennett, Reporter
lauren@thebostonian.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

Baker announces 'targeted approach' to vaccine distribution

BY LAUREN BENNETT

Governor Charlie Baker on Monday morning announced that the Commonwealth is on track to meeting its goal of vaccinating 4.1 million people by the end of June, as well as discussed some upcoming changes to the vaccine distribution plan.

Baker said that since January 1, the number of positive cases statewide have gone down 82 percent.

He also said that vaccinations are not as hard to come by now as they have been over the past few months. With everyone age 16 and older eligible, there are now 900 locations offering the vaccine, so people should not have that tough of a time finding one

near them.

"This is obviously a welcome change from a few months ago," Baker said.

He also announced that the vaccine distribution will now become more targeted to reach specific populations of people who have not yet received a vaccine. He said that 22 regional collaboratives will be given an increased number of doses, and mobile vaccination clinics will also be expanded statewide. Additionally, doses distributed to primary care providers will also be increased.

The vaccine allocation will also be doubled for the state's "20 most disproportionately impacted communities," according to the state.

Baker said that more than 60

percent of those vaccinated at a mobile clinic were people of color.

As a result of ramping up vaccines at these types of locations, Baker said that the state's seven mass vaccination sites will not be as robust as they have been, and four of the seven are planned to be closed by the end of June: Gillette Stadium, Hynes Convention Center, Double Tree in Danvers, and the Natick Mall.

"With millions of people vaccinated, the demand for high throughput mass vaccination sites will gradually decline, and more vaccines will be dispersed more widely across communities," according to a release from the state.

He said that 1.2 million doses have been distributed at this site, and the sites have allowed

for nearly half a million people to be fully vaccinated. He said that "hundreds of thousands of appointments" remain at these locations and those people will continue to be served at these locations.

"We can't stress this particular point enough," Baker said, reiterating that everyone over the age of 16 is eligible for the vaccine.

"There are openings everywhere across Massachusetts," he said. "There's no more waiting or hassle. You don't have to get up in the middle of the night to schedule an appointment."

Additionally, the state said that shortly, the CDC "may authorize vaccines for children ages 12-15, and we will keep pre-regis-

tration available for parents who may want to bring kids to a mass vaccination site."

Baker added that he and his administration is "grateful" to all of the healthcare providers, municipalities, and vendors who have helped make the vaccine distribution happen in the state.

"We look forward to getting back to normal and putting the darkness of the pandemic behind us," he said.

On Wednesday, Baker announced that vaccines will be available without an appointment at several mass vaccination sites beginning on May 10. For more information on the vaccine and where to get one, visit <https://www.mass.gov/covid-19-vaccine>.

CITY PAWS

OOPS! Bath Time for Fido

BY PENNY & ED CHERUBINO

Late spring is still mud season when those who walk dogs have to clean paws and sometimes bellies after each outing. Next, we head into outdoor adventure season, when you may find yourself bathing a dog who went for a saltwater swim, rolled in goose poop, or had a misadventure with a skunk.

Saltwater or Pond Water

We learned the hard way that saltwater in quantity can make a small dog sick when our Maggie ingested enough of the stuff to have a GI upset. If your dog has been in saltwater, they might be sickened by salt. A quick rinse

will remove the salt from the fur and the sand that clings to a wet coat. Some dogs may need a full bath, especially if they have a history of skin problems.

If your dog's swim was in freshwater, you should be alert for the potential symptoms of Giardia or Leptospirosis. Check with a local veterinarian to find out if these are widespread in your area.

The greatest danger in fresh or brackish water comes from blue-green algae. The AKC warns, "... If you see suspicious-looking algae in the water, keep your dog out ..." This substance is a bacteria known as cyanobacteria and can be fatal to dogs. If you suspect your dog has made

contact with it, go straight to a veterinarian.

Skunked!

The Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife points out that April to June is the season when a female skunk will dig out a den and give birth. It also warns evening dog walkers that, "Skunks are not true hibernators. When nighttime temperatures are above 30°F, skunks become active for periods of time." These experts also write, "Skunks, like many other wild animals, can thrive in suburban and urban areas."

Preparation is the key to dealing with a skunked dog and treatments may need to be repeated.

The AKC outlines the traditional method of mixing up ¼ cup of baking soda, 1-2 teaspoons of mild dishwashing detergent, and a fresh, unopened quart of 3% hydrogen peroxide solution. You should use this mixture immediately by applying it to a dry coat. The AKC says, "Work the foaming mixture well into the coat. Leave on for five minutes. Rinse with warm water. Follow with dog shampoo if desired."

They also recommend using a commercial product like Nature's Miracle Skunk Odor Remover. In either case, you need to have the products on hand ready for use, whether you are at home or on vacation, so add what you need to your shopping list!

Bathing Tips

e've addressed the topic of routine bathing before. Here are a few of the key reminders that we covered:

- Choose a safe bath location, be

it a sink, tub, or shower.

- In an enclosed outside space, an oversized tub or a kiddie pool might work.
- Have more towels ready than you think you'll need.
- Expect to get very wet yourself.
- Only use shampoo designed for dogs.
- Begin by gently saturating the dog's coat completely.
- Rub gently with the pads of your fingers.
- Work on one section at a time in a sensible sequence.
- Start with the dirtiest parts and work toward the head.
- When you think you've rinsed the dog thoroughly, do it one more time.
- Dry your dog's coat, rubbing it with towel-after-towel. Wet spots near the skin can lead to hot spots, dermatitis, and itchy skin.

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

Op-Ed

Continued from page 18

Millions of children live with parents who are addicted to alcohol or drugs or both. These children are raised in sad environments where they have had to emotionally and often even financially help their parents. Often, these daily struggles make it difficult to celebrate the "picture perfect" day that is touted by the flower and card companies. They may go to buy a Mother's Day card but just cannot find one that really expresses how they feel. Many children have been raised in painful, abusive environments

and Mother's Day is depressing because they can't conjure up that many good memories of mom. Many of these children want mom to be well and healthy. They want to know that they are loved by mom. Unfortunately, there are so many adults who have mothers who could never turn their lives around. They are often exhausted from trying to make "Mom and family" work.

Mother's Day is our opportunity to try to do the right things again. Using words like, "I care, love, appreciate, thank you and any that express your heart's desire to be connected are worthwhile expressions. When you do the best you can do, you can at

least look back and know that you tried.

When Mom and our loved ones are no longer with us then all we have are our memories. If you have any time left to work on your Mother's Day memories you won't regret it in the years to come.

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.

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.

**ALL
INCLUSIVE
ALL**

Boston Harbor
Fort Point



Boston
Ready
for More

SEE BOSTON WITH NEW EYES AT ALLINCLUSIVEBOS.COM