

# Stay Home & Stay Healthy

Email [stephen.quigley@reverejournal.com](mailto:stephen.quigley@reverejournal.com) or [deb@bostonsun.com](mailto:deb@bostonsun.com) or call 781-485-0588 for your Beacon Hill Times information

APRIL 30, 2020



# THE BEACON HILL TIMES

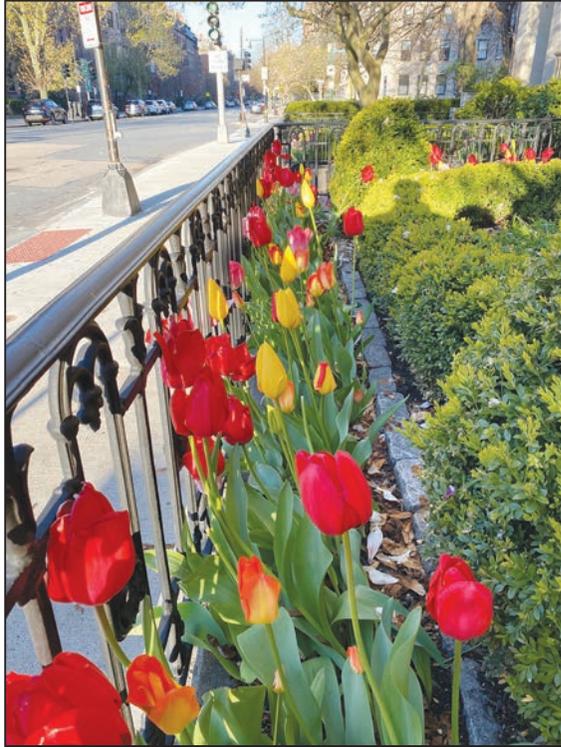
T H E R E A R E N O T I M E S L I K E T H E S E T I M E S



## WHILE WE STAY IN THE FLOWERS ARE COMING OUT



*Daffodils, Jonquils, crocuses, tulips, azaleas, and even the trees are blooming throughout the neighborhoods of Beacon Hill. Watch for the lilacs and peonies, they will join the flower show soon.*



## Civic Association distributes free face-masks to Hill seniors

By Dan Murphy

This week, the Beacon Hill Civic Association began distributing 120 protective face-masks free of charge to seniors.

Rob Whitney, president of the Civic Association board, tracked down the vendor, Custom Ink, a Fairfax-Va. Based online retail company that manufactures custom apparel ([www.customink.com](http://www.customink.com)), and ordered the face-masks while Patricia Tully, executive director of the Civic Association, facility of the masks to Beacon House, the Bowdoin

School Apartment Homes on Myrtle Street, the Peter Faneuil House and the Anderson Park apartments at 250 Cambridge St., through their respective building management.

"The idea is to get them to seniors who want to get out a little bit or have to go to an appointment," Whitney said.

Each mask comes in a baggie with instructions on how to use it, as well as contact information for emergency resources available to neighbors.

(MASKS Pg. 2)

## BEACON HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY CORNER

### A Bit of BHCA History

The shelves at the Beacon Hill Civic Association at 74 Joy Street are full of ledgers and meeting notes dating back to the founding of the organization in 1922.

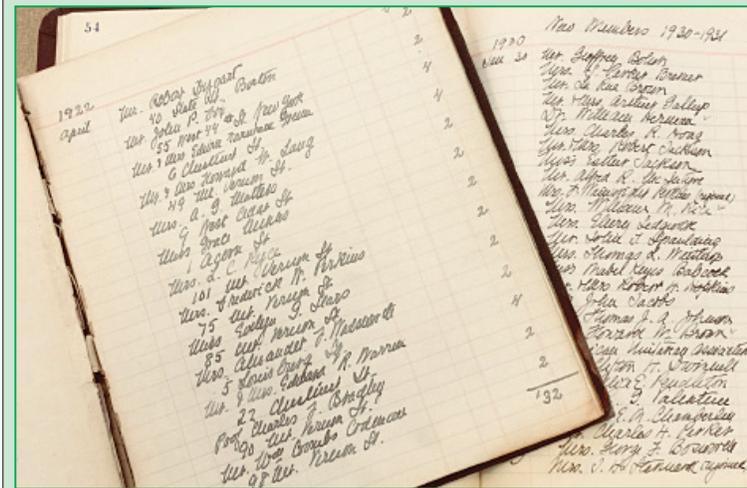
The first meeting of what was then called the Beacon Hill Association took place on December 5, 1922, at 4 o'clock

in the afternoon at 3 Joy Street. The By-Laws at that time show Annual Dues of "two dollars payable at the close of the annual meeting"!

These are the notes from that first meeting in 1922.

The meeting was called to order by the Vice President, Miss

(BHCA, Pg. 5)



Some Beacon Hill Civic Association membership ledgers

## Olmsted's legacy lives on despite cancellation of birthday party

By Dan Murphy

While a large gathering at English High School to celebrate Frederick Law Olmsted's 198th birthday on April 26 was cancelled due to concerns over COVID-19, the venerable landscape architect continues to be remembered in other ways.

Olmsted 2022 Massachusetts, a continuing project for con-

servation, public health and social justice that was formed in 2010 to lead up to its namesake's 200th birthday in 2022 - honored the Olmsted Legacy last Sunday by honoring Betsy Shure Gross. Credited as a leading force in the creation of the National Association for Olmsted Parks, Gross went onto serve as one of its first co-chairs before Gerry Wright tapped her to help

him launch Olmsted 2022. Gross served as co-chair for its first five years and continues on as an advisor for Olmsted 2022 Massachusetts, Wright wrote.

Olmsted 2022 Massachusetts, which has named Sarah Freeman, a public health research professional and a highly dedicated volunteer for parks, open spaces and a healthy environment, as

(OLMSTED Pg. 6)

For the latest news in Beacon Hill that you need to know, check [www.beaconhilltimes.com](http://www.beaconhilltimes.com)

# Charles St.'s Uwila Warrior featured on Good Morning America

By Lauren Bennett

Women-run underwear company Uwila Warrior may have had to close its Charles St. storefront due to COVID-19 regulations, but the company is still going strong.

The business, which focuses on creating functional, comfortable underwear for all women in sizes XXS to 3X, has been “trying to beef up our Amazon channel and sell online,” Uwila Warrior Founder and CEO Lisa Mullan told the Times. While there are still sales and support from the local neighborhood and regular online customers, sales were still a net negative, she said.

Mullan continues to pay her employees and rent on the Charles St. store, and are “still planning on reopening” when allowed to do so. She said thanks to a good start to the year with “tons of momentum” in January and February, the company is in a good place to come back.

Another opportunity also came

along early last week that really made a positive impact on the business, and was one that Mullan and her team never could have dreamt of.

Last year, Uwila Warrior was chosen as a Tory Burch fellow as part of the Tory Burch Foundation, which supports female-founded startups. “They’ve been a huge help,” Mullan said. Aside from providing help and guidance for these small businesses during this time, they posted an opportunity on the fellowship’s Facebook group to be on Good Morning America’s (GMA) “Deals and Steals” segment, which has been focusing on helping small businesses ramp up their sales throughout this pandemic.

So Mullan filled out the application and “literally three hours later they called us and interviewed us,” she said. “It came together in like three days—we were able to go live with them on Friday.”

While Uwila Warrior runs its own website, the Good Morning America deals run on a separate

website, so “we were hustling to get that done” in time so people watching the segment could take advantage of the sale, she said.

GMA Deals and Steals’ Tory Johnson provided information about the company live on GMA last Friday, and from about 10am to about midnight, Uwila Warrior offered a selection of its underwear and camisoles for 50 percent off through the Deals and Steals website. In less than 12 hours, more than 6,000 orders were placed.

“It’s been overwhelming,” Mullan said. “The challenge now is we’ve got a fulfillment warehouse running on a skeleton crew,” she added, and they don’t know how long it will take for them to fulfill all the orders. “It still hasn’t sunk in.”

Mullan said they received double the orders that Good Morning America teased them with before the segment aired. She said that getting underwear out to customers for them to try for themselves is imperative to building the busi-

ness.

“Once women wear our underwear,” she said, there is between a 30 and 40 percent repeat customer rate. She said that retaining even ten percent of the new customers the GMA sales brought in will be a huge win for the business.

Uwila Warrior’s existing customer base was also offered access to the sale the night before it went live so they could have first pick at the half-off styles.

Uwila Warrior Marketing & Retail Coordinator Madeleine Mulrone said that the GMA site drove traffic to the regular Uwila Warrior site as well.

“New customers are trying out our products, and we’re expanding our customer base,” she said. “It was like nothing we have ever seen.”

This influx of new sales has sent Mullan and her small team into overdrive answering emails and chats from customers about fit and sizing. “Our hard work before [the virus hit] made us ready to deal with the surge of

customer service,” Mulrone said.

“As a team, we’re working remotely,” Mullan added. She said they had a Zoom chat going all day last Friday to delegate certain tasks and responses to customers via various different methods.

“This deal is going to help us pay our staff, pay our rent, and pay our vendors,” she added. She said they were concerned that their fulfillment warehouse in Lawrence would shut down during this crisis, but it’s now very busy. “It’s a ripple effect within our chain,” she said.

She thanked everyone who has supported the business, especially during these tough times. “Even before GMA, we’re so touched by how many people are coming on to order from us,” she said, adding that underwear is a necessity and something people wear “no matter what’s going on.”

“Even though it’s quiet on the streets, there’s still an outpouring of support for local businesses on the street, so thank you,” she said.

# Walsh eases restrictions to allow Boston restaurants to sell groceries

By Dan Murphy

When Mayor Martin J. Walsh eased temporarily eased restrictions last Friday to allow Boston restaurants to sell groceries, Earls Kitchen + Bar at the Prudential Center already had a jump on things since the restaurant’s location in Somerville’s Assembly Square had begun providing the service about a week earlier.

“We are extremely grateful for Mayor Walsh’s decision to allow restaurants to sell groceries,” said Lynn MacDonald, regional director for Earls Boston and Virginia locations. “For Earls, the main purpose of the grocery program is to make life easier for the community.”

Earls Grocery at Earls Prudential Center now offers a selection of grocery staples including cooking kits, produce and home essentials available for pickup through online ordering or delivery through DoorDash and Uber Eats, as well as meal kits selected by the restaurant’s chefs. Brunch Kits include do-it-yourself packages designed to be cooked at home with a selection of restaurant favorites like the Eggs Benedict Kit for-two and Chorizo Hash Kit for-two, and a Protein Freezer Pack offers a selection of frozen meat, along with salmon filets. Produce Packs, Pantry Packs and a Dairy and Egg Pack also are available while the Grocery List and Home

Essentials menus include everyday household items like eggs, bacon, coffee and even toilet paper.

“We are aware that with grocery stores forming lines and some products being out of stock, and in past couple of weeks, the community really trying to stay in and abide by social distancing guidelines that we have a really great access to a supply chain,” MacDonald said. “So if we can use this supply chain with the highest quality and freshest ingredients, we can get the community the resources it wants in the safest way possible without having to be in a grocery store or in crowds. Why it’s so attractive is [customers] can order online and pay from home, and when they come to pick up their order, it’s all ready and waiting for them.”

Earls has also launched Earls Liquor Store at the Prudential Center, offering a handpicked selection of wine, beers, ciders, and hard seltzers at competitive retail prices for takeout and delivery.

And if the Assemble Row is any indication MacDonald expects business for Earls at the Prudential Center to be brisk as well.

“The phones have been ringing nonstop in Assembly Row, so we anticipate it’ll be similar at our Prudential location,” she said. “The feedback has been incredible, and guests are saying thank you for offering one-stop shopping

where they can pick up groceries, alcohol, and household items, including toilet paper and soap.”

Both Earls Grocery and Earls Liquor are currently available daily from 11:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. for pickup orders by calling the Prudential Center location at 857-957-0949. To view the complete offerings and for online ordering, visit <https://earls.ca/locations/prudential-center>.

Harvard Gardens, which has already been offering delivery via Grub Hub and takeout, is expanding its services by providing essential grocery and household items for pickup only at 316 Cambridge St.

“We’re going to start offering groceries and household items, like paper towels, toilet paper, milk, eggs and butter for pickup, but the plan is not to open a grocery store,” said Leo Fonseca, senior vice president of operations for The Lyons Group, which among other establishments, owns and operates Harvard Gardens “We don’t want to be in the grocery-store business, but we’re doing this as a convenience to the neighborhood. We’ll offer basic items that if you our out of, it’s a pain in the neck to go to the grocery store and potentially put themselves and others at risk for.”

Customers can call Harvard Gardens at 617-523-2727 to place their order and pay by the phone. Their groceries and other items

will then be bagged and waiting for them to pick up at the restaurant. “Therefore, there’s no transaction because essentially you just walk through the door and pick it up,” Fonseca added.

According to a statement from the city, its new temporary policy and guidance that allow Boston restaurants to sell grocery items was drafted by the Mayor’s Office of Economic Development, the Inspectional Services Department and the city’s Licensing Board to not only provide residents with greater access to food and essential items, but also to help ensure that social-distancing guidelines con-

tinue to be upheld.

“This is an unprecedented time for all of us in the City of Boston, and our administration is prioritizing how best to keep our residents safe and healthy, while also supporting our businesses and some of our City’s most vulnerable residents,” Mayor Walsh said in a press release. “By allowing restaurants to also sell grocery and other essential items, we can help address social distancing concerns in grocery stores while supporting restaurants and food businesses during these unprecedented times.”

## MASKS (from pg. 1)

Tully said she realized the need to provide seniors with critical information after a resident of one of the buildings came to her with concerns over food insecurity soon after the city’s stay-at-home order went into effect.

“People depend so much on the Internet and on their phones, we forget that not everyone is connected, and now with the West End library closed, some don’t

have any access at all to that information,” Tully said, prompting the Civic Association to expand its outreach efforts to seniors in the neighborhood.

Meanwhile, if demand is sufficient demand, the Civic Association will order and distribute more free face-masks around the neighborhood.

“If more people want them, we’ll order more,” Whitney said.

ADVERTISE IN THE BEACON HILL TIMES  
PLEASE CALL 781-485-0588

# Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
<b>BACK BAY</b>			
Shinde, Manali C	Suite Home LLC	84 Berkeley St #3	\$880,000
Sparks, Aaron	Wu, Di	280 Commonwealth Ave #G3	\$455,000
5 New Lane LLC	D Santangelo RT	86 Marlborough St #9	\$1,805,000
Corcoran, Ann M	Mcbride, Shelley	492 Beacon St #43	\$960,000
Hinshaw, William R	451 Marlborough Res	451 Marlborough St #RE	\$3,662,500
<b>BEACON HILL</b>			
Andrews, Stephanie C	Marcia E Izant RET	15 River St #506	\$675,000
<b>BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE</b>			
Wambach, Valaya L	Yanulis, Peter	285 Columbus Ave #604	\$800,000
Boucher, Peter B	Beck, Christopher M	26 Montgomery St #5	\$680,000
Fusi, John	Altamura, Philip	600 Massachusetts Ave #6	\$1,075,000
Flynn, Ashley M	Jethwani, Kamal	668 Massachusetts Ave #G	\$776,000
Patrick, Michael	Desprez, J David	6 Milford St #1	\$1,750,000
Nallapareddy, Ravi	Mohs, David	121-127 Portland St #203	\$800,000
Dynan, William J	Rodolico, Sarah	32 Traveler St #213	\$226,512
Desprez, John D	Highline Union LLC	48 Union Park #1	\$3,150,000
Yanulis, Peter	Norman, Jay D	77 W Brookline St #3	\$1,189,000
Chong, Paul	JP Property 1 LLC	3531 Washington St #227	\$327,900
Morales, Carlos D	JP Property 1 LLC	3531 Washington St #306	\$186,400
<b>WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN</b>			
Haghayeghi, Abdol	90-92 Endicott Street	1 Avery St #20A	\$2,150,000
Bohn, Ariel M	Dufton, Mark T	40 Battery St #401	\$1,595,000
Reardon, Keri	Mcguinness, Michael E	120 Commercial St #1-2	\$845,000

# Attention to Detail

BY PENNY CHERUBINO

## THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The bow window in the last clue is on 10 Louisburg Square circa 1835. It was once owned by Louisa May Alcott. The Boston Women's Heritage Trail writes, "In the last decade of her life, Alcott purchased a home for her family at 10 Louisburg Square, but was too ill to enjoy it for herself."

Do you have a favorite building or detail you would like featured? Send an email to Penny@BostonZest.com with your suggestion

## THIS WEEK'S CLUE



**WE ARE RENTING APARTMENTS. OPERATING 100% VIRTUALLY**  
[www.YourBostonApartments.com](http://www.YourBostonApartments.com)

**PRESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES**  
[www.YourBostonApartments.com](http://www.YourBostonApartments.com)

**Now You can be UPFRONT & CENTER**

With our **STICKY NOTE** on the Front Page  
 Perfect for: Community Reminders, Schedules, Coupons, Sales, Announcements, Programs and more!

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

Example Page  
 Sticky Note represented by Black box

**Four Options to Choose From**

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

**Call or Email Your Rep Today!**  
 781-485-0588 ext. 103:Maureen 106:Peter 101:Deb 110:Kathy 125:Sioux  
 Reading on a Screen?? Click on Your Rep's name to start sending them an email!

# EDITORIAL

## ALLOWING THE STATES TO GO BANKRUPT IS A REALLY BAD IDEA

One of the most glaring shortcomings thus far of the stimulus and disaster packages that have been passed by Congress in response to the COVID-19 pandemic has been the failure to provide assistance to the states.

Every state in the nation is seeing its revenues plummet to never-before-experienced depths. However, of the trillions of dollars thus far appropriated by Congress, there is barely a penny for state government operations -- and by extension, municipalities -- which are carrying the battle against the pandemic on the front lines.

The states thus are caught in an ever-tightening vise of plunging tax revenues on the one hand and skyrocketing costs on the other.

Despite the obvious squeeze on state budgets, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell last week commented, in response to a question about whether the Congress soon would be aiding the states, that he believed it would be preferable for states and municipalities to declare bankruptcy than for the federal government to provide needed funding to close their budget gaps.

It is hard to fathom why somebody of McConnell's stature would make such a statement, other than to give voice to the general Republican creed that disdains government operations at all levels. In particular, the GOP has immense dislike for what it considers to be overly-generous pension plans for state and municipal union employees.

However, the reason why states are in such desperate fiscal trouble these days has nothing to do with their pension or budget policies, but specifically is linked to the coronavirus, which has had a devastating financial impact on every facet of commerce, including state budgets.

Questions regarding the pension plans of the states as a contributor to their overall fiscal soundness certainly can be debated, but this is not the time to do so amidst this unprecedented crisis.

State and municipal governments across the country provide the first line of response for every American in protecting our health and welfare, so it makes no sense to allow states and municipalities to fail in this mission at this critical juncture amidst a pandemic that threatens to extend for many months.

In addition, without funding from the federal government, state and local governments will be forced to make layoffs of police, firefighters, teachers, and others in order to balance their budgets, a situation that will exacerbate even further the national unemployment rate.

Finally, the effect on the bond market from a plethora of state and municipal bankruptcies could have far-reaching and long-lasting negative effects for the country and the economy.

In short, there is nothing good that can come out of state and municipal bankruptcies at this time; but there is a lot that is bad.

Mitch McConnell's opinions are a grotesque perversion of responsible government. Hopefully, the rest of the Congress will not go along with his extreme and destructive ideas.

## GUEST OP-ED

## Emergency care has not been put on hold If you need medical assistance, seek help

By Mayor Martin J. Walsh

During this public health emergency, many of us are feeling stressed and anxious. Days are uncertain and our routines have shifted. Many people are working remotely, or have lost their jobs. Students are learning online. Many of our favorite events have been canceled. For some time now, I have urged you to follow many precautions like staying home, covering your face when outside, and not visiting friends and family. But, one thing has not changed and should not change: if you are experiencing an emergency, please call 9-1-1 for help. Boston EMS and our emergency rooms are ready to help you.

In anticipation of Boston's surge in COVID-19 cases, we have been doing our part to not overwhelm our emergency departments. We are asking individuals to call their primary care provider or 3-1-1 if you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms or have any health-related questions. You can also visit [buoyhealth.com/mass](http://buoyhealth.com/mass) for an online screening of COVID-19 symptoms. But, life-threatening emergencies like difficulty breathing or pain or pressure in the chest should be addressed immediately by calling 9-1-1.

Boston EMS will provide you

the necessary pre-hospital care and transport you to the nearest emergency department if needed. Hospitals have seen dramatic decreases in health emergencies, like heart attacks, strokes and appendicitis. Even though coronavirus is a new challenge, that does not mean other health challenges are less present. Please do not delay getting life-saving care because of fear of getting coronavirus. Go to the emergency room if you think you are in need of emergency care. Our hospitals in Boston have been taking many steps to ensure safety and cleanliness, and they have space for you.

Every day we are planning and responding to reduce the further spread of coronavirus. One piece of this has been increasing hospital capacity. We know it is important to be ready to treat as many people as possible, and not just for COVID-19. We must also help front line workers, like our medical professionals, first responders, grocery store employees, public servants and sanitation workers, stay healthy by practicing our guidelines: staying home as much as possible, covering your face when outside your home, keeping at least 6 feet of distance from other people, washing your hands frequently, and disinfecting frequently-touched surfaces.

I know it's a hard adjustment,

and it seems like this has been going on for much longer than it has. But this virus will not stop spreading if everyone follows our guidelines. I want to thank everyone who has been avoiding gatherings and wearing a face covering when they go outside. I know it's not always comfortable or easy to do, especially as we move into warmer weather. Your actions will directly help save lives. To those of you ignoring these guidelines, I urge you to reflect on the consequences of your actions. Is ignoring these guidelines worth risking the lives of your friends, family and neighbors? We can overcome this, but we have to work together.

The City of Boston will continue to take the proper steps to respond to this crisis in a comprehensive way. This is a difficult time for everyone around the world. It's okay to feel stressed. We will get through this together by following the public health guidelines, working together and supporting each other, one day at a time.

For more information on Boston's COVID-19 response, please visit [boston.gov/coronavirus](http://boston.gov/coronavirus) or text BOSCOVID to 888-777 to receive text alerts on a regular basis, available in 11 languages. For non-emergency questions, please call 3-1-1.

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

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### DECISION BY THE BEACON HILL ARCHITECTURAL COMMISSION OF RATIFICATION OF SIGNAGE

To the Editor:

The Acorn Street Association (Association) is gratified that the Beacon Hill Architectural Commission ratified the placement of "no trespassing" signs at the top and bottom of Acorn Street as reported by the Beacon Hill Civic Association (BHCA) in its Community Corner. [Story from 4/23 Beacon Hill Times at pages 1 and 5.] The Association does, however, take issue with some of the comments by the BHCA.

For years, the Association has been trying to manage the amount and behavior of visitors to Acorn Street, a private way that the owners have allowed the neighbors to use freely for decades. Since the advent of Instagram, the number of visitors has become overwhelming and their use intolerable. We have people peeking in the windows of our houses and taking interior photos with selfie sticks. They camp out on the door steps for extended periods and leave their trash behind. Wedding photographers set up their tripods (and sometimes changing tents) in the middle of the street. We have had a sorority party on the street which concluded with the tossing of confetti everywhere. A month ago someone lit off fireworks in

front of a house that has three children in it, smudging the newly painted window frames. Similar parties have occurred on the street at all hours, creating a carnival atmosphere that is noisy, dirty, and unsafe. The worst insult to date was last week when 6-7 Harley riders roared down the street.

The Association met with the BHCA prior to the hearing before the Architectural Commission. The BHCA suggested that we install a tasteful bronze sign at one end of the street explaining to visitors the historical import of the street and that the street is residential. Their other suggestion was that we erect a sandwich board in the street also explaining that

(LETTER Pg. 5)

### THE BEACON HILL TIMES

PRESIDENT/EDITOR: STEPHEN QUIGLEY

MARKETING DIRECTOR: DEBRA DIGREGORIO  
([DEB@REVEREJOURNAL.COM](mailto:DEB@REVEREJOURNAL.COM))

ART DIRECTOR: SCOTT YATES

FOUNDING PUBLISHER: KAREN CORD TAYLOR

© 2007 INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER GROUP

PHONE: 617-523-9490 • FAX: 781-485-1403

EMAIL: [EDITOR@BEACONHILLTIMES.COM](mailto:EDITOR@BEACONHILLTIMES.COM)

WEB SITE: [www.beaconhilltimes.com](http://www.beaconhilltimes.com)

## Rep. Livingstone and Councilor Bok join together on volunteer effort to connect with seniors

By Dan Murphy

The offices of State Rep. Jay Livingstone and City Councilor Kenzie Bok are working together to recruit volunteers to check in on seniors in their districts over the phone to see if they are in need of food, medication or just friendly conversation.

More than 100 volunteers have reached out to 1,000 seniors as of Saturday – just one week after the initiative was launched – and their offices are working together using a single phone bank for Beacon Hill, the West End and the Back Bay, which are neighborhoods that both elected officials represent. Volunteers for Rep. Livingstone are also reaching out to Cambridge

seniors and Councilor Bok's volunteers are connecting with seniors in other neighborhoods in her district, including Mission Hill, Longwood, Audubon Circle, the Fenway and Kenmore.

"Most seem to appreciate just receiving the call, and some have asked for regular check-ins," Rep. Livingstone said. "Some have specific needs where they required additional help, and our offices have been connecting them with that help, but people getting the calls really just appreciate that someone cared enough to check in with them and see how they're doing."

And the experience has proven to be as gratifying for volunteers as it is for the seniors receiving their calls.

"The callers have really enjoyed connecting with their neighbors, and it's really heartening to see how many people want to connect with neighbors and provide help at this time," Rep. Livingstone said. "It doesn't look like the situation is going away quickly so we're going to continue this for the foreseeable future."

Like Rep. Livingstone, Councilor Bok has also heard this outreach has meant just as much to the volunteers as the call recipients.

"What's amazing is seeing the urge people have to help now, and it's a chance for neighbors to check in with neighbors and see about what they might need as far as food, social contact and medication go," Councilor Bok

said. "Concretely it can also help identify specific needs we can help people with, which is really important at this time because so many people are finding themselves in a situation they've never been in before."

Councilor Bok also credited the Beacon Hill Civic Association for getting the word out about this effort via its daily e-blast and in the organization's weekly Community Corner column in this publication.

"We've been happy to be able to assist Rep. Livingstone's and Councilor Bok's offices to send those requests around and people really want to help and pitch in any way they can," said Patricia Tully, executive director of the Beacon Hill Civic Association.

Councilor Bok said, "We have

some amazing volunteers from Beacon Hill, and not to stoke some friendly competition, but Beacon Hill has had far and away the most calls so far."

Meanwhile, Councilor Bok said during the COVID-19 pandemic, the telephone has come back into vogue.

"It's funny in some ways that in this situation the telephone has come back as real lifeline for people," Councilor Bok said. "For a lot of people in the community, the phone is best way to contact them."

To volunteer for this effort, contact Rep. Livingstone via email at [Jay.Livingstone@mahouse.gov](mailto:Jay.Livingstone@mahouse.gov) or Councilor Bok at [kenzie.bok@boston.gov](mailto:kenzie.bok@boston.gov).

## Walsh appoints John Dempsey as Commissioner of the Boston FD

Mayor Martin J. Walsh last week announced the appointment of longtime Boston firefighter John (Jack) Dempsey as Commissioner of the Boston Fire Department. Commissioner Dempsey has served in the interim role of Commissioner since the retirement of former Commissioner Joe Finn last month.

"I am proud to name Firefighter Jack Dempsey as the Commissioner of the Boston Fire Department," said Mayor Walsh. "He has dedicated his life in his professional career and personal capacity to promoting safety and wellness for firefighters, and I look forward to his continued leadership in this critically important department."

Since taking leadership of the Boston Fire Department in March, Commissioner Dempsey has proactively prioritized the health and safety of firefighters during the COVID-19 pandemic by supplying firefighters with personal protective equipment, ensuring the frequent sanitation of firehouses, adjusting staffing levels to ensure social distancing, implementing mandatory training for infectious disease response, and more.

Commissioner Dempsey has been a member of the Boston Fire Department for 35 years, having served in multiple leadership capacities including most recently as Chief of Operations for the department, where he oversaw all division of the Boston Fire Department, including the engine company, fire prevention, ladder company, rescue company, safety

and special operations, emergency planning and preparedness, training and personnel. In this role, he was the highest ranking uniformed firefighter in the force.

He also previously served for four years as the Boston Fire Marshal, where he managed the Fire Prevention Division which is responsible for all fire code and regulation enforcement. In that role, he also oversaw the operation of the fire investigation unit, construction safety unit and all inspections required by Massachusetts General Laws.

"I am proud to be named the Commissioner of the Boston Fire Department, and want to thank Mayor Walsh for the opportunity to serve the residents of Boston in this role," said Commissioner Jack Dempsey. "As a lifelong member of the department, this is a tremendous honor for me, and I look forward to building on the strong foundations set to ensure the safety and well-being of our firefighters and our community."

Commissioner Dempsey has previously served in several other capacities including on the Board of Fire Prevention Regulations for four years, the Automatic Sprinkler Appeals Board for four years, the Walsh-Kennedy Commission on Hot Work, and the Construction Fire Safety Partnership. He is a current member of the Fire Service Advisory Council, and was instrumental in the development and implementation of the National Fire Protection Association's Hot Work Safety Certification Program.

## BHCA (from pg. 1)

Grace W. Minns. The Secretary, Miss Marion C. Nichols, described the circumstances which led to the formation of the Association and outlined its purpose and plans.

Mr. William C. Codman spoke of the proposed Beacon Hill Club Trust and showed plans of the Club House which was to be located at the corner of Mount Vernon and West Cedar Streets.

Mr. Arthur C. Comey, Zoning Director for the Boston City Planning Board, spoke on "The Zoning Situation in Boston".

Discussion followed.

The meeting was well attended with about seventy members and guests present. Copies of the By-Laws and membership slips were distributed.

By the next meeting on February 2nd, 1923, the membership had grown to 85.

Today, as we look forward to our 100th Anniversary in 2022, the BHCA is an ever-growing

group of neighbors whose support, time and energy continue with the purpose established in 1922 - to preserve Beacon Hill as the special place we all want to call home. Times may have changed as we as we respond to current situations with new ways of working, connecting and fulfilling our "Neighbors Helping Neighbors" motto but our ongoing efforts in community building, civic engagement, and historic preservation will continue to connect and support Beacon Hill residents and those who care for this unique neighborhood.

### Upcoming BHCA Meetings and Events

Monday, May 4: Beacon Hill Meet & Greet (virtual) at 6pm.

Wednesday, May 6: Zoning & Licensing Meeting (virtual) at 7pm.

Monday, May 18: Annual Meeting (virtual) at 6pm.

Write to the BHCA at [info@bhcvic.org](mailto:info@bhcvic.org)

[bhcvic.org](http://bhcvic.org) or call the office at 617-227-1922 for more information about any of these meetings or events.

### Join us!

If you haven't yet become a member of the BHCA, we invite you to join online at [www.bhcvic.org/become-a-member](http://www.bhcvic.org/become-a-member).

Your input in quality of life issues on the Hill is important to us, and we rely on you our neighbors to bring your comments and concerns to our attention. By joining our membership, you strengthen our numbers and add credibility to our purpose as advocates for Beacon Hill. Please call our office at 617-227-1922 or email the BHCA Executive Director at [patricia.tully@bhcvic.org](mailto:patricia.tully@bhcvic.org) with any questions, comments or concerns, or to learn more about how you can get involved in your community.

## LETTER (from pg. 4)

the street is residential and asking people to be considerate. From the years of fighting the tourists and photographers, the members of the Association (not "certain Acorn Street residents") decided that these efforts would be an exercise in futility.

Acorn Street is a private way. The abutters are legally and financially responsible for the man-

agement, maintenance and repair of the street. Moreover, it is our home. We would like to care properly for it and enjoy it -- and we would like for the neighborhood to enjoy it also. Neither of these can happen if we cannot control the use of the street. For as long as anyone can remember, the abutters on Acorn Street have allowed the neighbors to walk on

the street and we hope to continue to be able to do so, so long as we can limit other use of the street. We hope that the "no trespassing" signs will help but if they don't we will work on other solutions and hope to accommodate the neighborhood.

Sincerely,

The Acorn Street Association

ADVERTISE IN THE BEACON HILL TIMES  
PLEASE CALL 781-485-0588

# Walsh says more COVID-19 testing and tracing needed for return to normalcy

By Dan Murphy

Mayor Marty Walsh said during a virtual forum last week he expects a greater capacity for testing for and contact tracing COVID-19 would need to be in place and more data collected before Boston can return to “some sense of normalcy,” and that he expects the city’s stay-at-home order set to expire on May 4 would likely be extended by an additional five or six weeks.

“Going back will be a whole different situation than it was two months ago because the coronavirus could be very much alive and front and center,” Mayor Walsh said during the online discussion on Thursday, April 23, that also featured Dr. Peter Slavin, president of Mass General Hospital and was moderated by Janelle Nanos, The Boston Globe’s business reporter. “We need data to decide what to open and see what populations of people are vulnerable.”

The city quickly set up, and is now operating 10 centers to test for the coronavirus, which is now reaching its peak, he said.

“For the last two weeks, we’ve been seeing 200 new cases every single day and for the foreseeable future, it’ll probably stay there or even go up a little,” the mayor said. “Last week was the largest increase in the city, and for the next week or two, we’re going to see the numbers bump up.”

Mayor Walsh added, “It’s about keeping not getting the virus, and keeping people alive. As of right now, we literally have to take it one day at a time.”

In response to whether antibody screening and temperature checks will become routine once “new normal” comes to pass, Mayor Walsh said, “The answers we have today could be very much different than the answers we have tomorrow.”

City Hall is now only open two days each week, and temperature checks are administered to everyone who enters the building.

The city is also providing support available for those suffering emotionally from social isolation and other effects of the coronavirus by calling 3-1-1, the mayor said.

Mayor Walsh said more-frequent MBTA service would be necessary as more return to work and when students resume classes, but more data needs to be collected before that happens.

“How do we bring the workforce back in shifts, and will there still be opportunities to work from people for people over 65 or with preexisting health conditions?” the mayor asked. “Having that information is very important to how we get back to work,”

Unlike New York City, Boston has no plans to cancel its youth employment program this summer, Mayor Walsh said, but it likely won’t be as “comprehensive” as years past.

And Mayor Walsh was also optimistic regarding the likelihood of the city sponsoring a summer camp again this year.

“By the summer, kids will have physically been out of school buildings for six months,” the mayor said. “It’s too early to tell, but we hope to have some sort of a summer camp this year.”

Mayor Walsh said minorities have accounted for 60 percent of the recorded cases of COVID-19 in Boston, which prompted the city to form the Health Inequities Task Force.

The coronavirus has put the “spotlight” on the inequity between the city’s haves and have-nots not just in regard to health-care, but also housing, access to food and other essential needs, he said.

But even though inequity has been pervasive in the healthcare system for a long time, Mayor Walsh said when it comes to handling patients with COVID-19, “hospitals have treated everyone the same in this case.”

Dr. Slevin said lower-income areas like Chelsea and Revere,



Mayor Marty Walsh discussing what is necessary for Boston to return to normalcy during a virtual forum.

which MGH has relationships with, have been hit hard by COVID-19, adding that of 200 people tested for the antibody against the coronavirus in Chelsea’s Bellingham Square earlier this month, 32 percent tested positive.

As for the cause of these alarming findings, Dr. Slevin cited a recent study of cellphone activity that showed the wealthy generally stay at home and abide by social distancing while the poor, who often have essential jobs, go to work and put themselves at risk.

“The good news is that it appears that we’re reaching the peak of the curve, but we don’t know whether it will be a shallow or a steep curve,” he said.

While it typically takes between 12 and 18 months to develop a vaccine, Dr. Slevin said other treatment options are now being explored.

“We have our fingers crossed that these drugs will be effective, and local hospitals are working on solutions,” he said. “We’re hopeful that a treatment is on the horizon.”

Dr. Slevin added, “There is

a range of antibody testing out there now, and the FDA needs to identify which ones are the highest quality.”

In response to the threshold for nonessential businesses to reopen, Dr. Slevin said, “I don’t know at this point how long it will take to get there. We have to wait for the transmission rate to get close to 0.

“We need herd immunity where 60 or 70 percent of the population has been exposed to the virus or vaccinated,” he added. “We can’t fool around with this despite our wish to go summer camp or my desire to play golf.”

While Dr. Slevin said the White House has suggested it would make sense for young, healthy people to increase activities first before older people, he cautioned that reopening society too soon could have dire consequences.

“When will we have the volume of tests to do mass testing, that will determine what can and can’t be open this summer,” Dr. Slevin said. “We do need to reopen at some point, but we have to be careful as to not precipitate a second wave that would dwarf the one now.”

Mayor Walsh also pointed to the very real possibility that Boston could experience a resurgence of COVID-19.

“We have to anticipate a second surge and can’t afford to shut down society like we have for the past couple of months,” the mayor said.

In looking at ways to mollify the economic impact of the coronavirus on the city, Mayor Walsh said a business person suggested to him that the economy should stop for three months and, during this time, “put things on pause like loans, mortgages and rent.”

“Short of doing that, it’s up to the federal government to keep businesses alive,” the mayor said, adding that the city can’t afford to bail out every one of its small businesses without help from the banking industry, as well as the White House.

“It’s time for us to come together as a country, and let’s leave partisan politics behind,” Mayor Walsh said. “And it’s time to be a leader because that’s what this country needs.”

## OLMSTED (from pg. 1)

co-chair, is currently participating in and supporting various projects, including the Franklin Park Master Plan and Shattuck Campus Planning, the Arborway Parkways Improvement Project, and the Back Bay Fens, while continuing to work together with the

nonprofit Charlesgate Alliance, with support from the Emerald Necklace Conservancy, to develop plans and raise funds.

Moreover, Olmsted 2022 Massachusetts will share park experiences virtually and via social media, including a collec-

tion of images from every day of the year, as well as he Olmsted Birthday awards, which will be presented throughout the year at different programs across the Commonwealth in anticipation of a statewide conference to be held in 2021, Wright said.

Please Recycle

Want Neighborhood News delivered right to your hands?



Subscribe to The Beacon Hill Time’s Newsletter and never miss a thing!

Visit [thebeaconhilltimes.com](http://thebeaconhilltimes.com) or scan the QR Code

# Neighborhood kids reach out to Beacon House seniors

By Dan Murphy

Neighborhood children connected with seniors living at Beacon House by sending them cards through an effort coordinated by the Beacon Hill Civic Association earlier this month.

Patricia Tully, executive director of the Civic Association, got the word out through daily e-blasts and in the organization's weekly Community Corner column in this publication. All together, kids left around 30 cards outside the Civic Association's Joy Street office, which sat for several days to decontaminate before they were delivered to Beacon House. The cards were then placed in a common area at Beacon House for all residents and visitors to see and enjoy.

"We are grateful for the work of the Beacon Hill Civic Association for reaching out to our elder residents at Beacon House during this time of social distancing and isolation," Walter J. Ramos, president and CEO of Roslindale-based Rogerson Communities, which

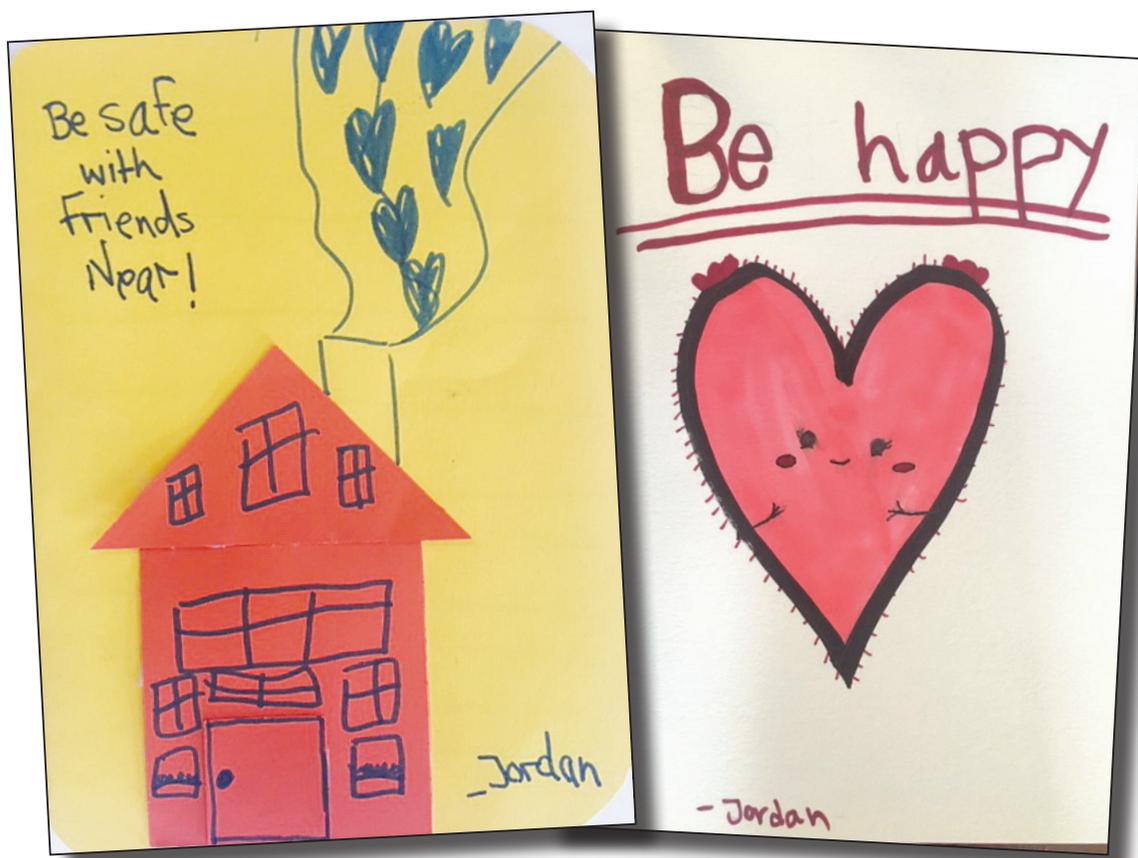
manages Beacon House, among other senior living facilities, said in a statement. "The cards from the neighborhood children have been on display and distributed to the residents and are providing a great morale boost."

Courtney Barth, a Rogerson Communities spokesperson, added, "It's a hard time for everyone, and this type of community bonding was meaningful. The Beacon Hill Civic Association and the neighborhood have always been there for us."

Jordan Whitney, the 10-year-old daughter of Rob Whitney, president of the Civic Association's board of directors, was among the children who made cards for Beacon House residents.

"It is important that our senior neighbors feel safe and loved - and not to get sad," Jordan said.

Along with the cards, the Civic Association also delivered around 40 protective face-masks to Beacon House residents that were made by volunteers through the efforts of board member Renee Walsh, Tully said.



Cards that 10-year-old Beacon Hill resident Jordan Whitney made for Beacon House residents.

## SERVICE DIRECTORY

**BEACON HILL PLUMBING AND HEATING**  
Meeting all your mechanical needs

**24/7 emergency service**

617-723-3296

## JOHN J. RECCA PAINTING

Interior/Exterior Commercial/Residential

Fully Insured Quality Work

Reasonable Rates Free Estimates

reccapainting@hotmail.com  
781-241-2454

**DO:**

- Place leaves and yard debris in large paper bags or open barrels labeled "yard waste."
- Tie branches with string 3 feet max length and 1 inch max diameter
- Place barrels, bags, and branches curbside by 6 a.m.

**DON'T:**

- No plastic bags
- Don't put branches in barrels
- No dirt

**NOTE:**

- If you have two recycling days per week, **collection is on your first recycling day of the week**
- We don't collect leaf and yard waste curbside on non-scheduled weeks
- We collect Christmas trees from January 4 - 15, 2021

**COMPOST AT HOME:**

You can buy backyard compost bins and kitchen-scrap buckets at:  
Boston Building Resources  
100 Terrance St. Mission Hill, Roxbury

For more information, go to: [boston.gov/trash](http://boston.gov/trash)

Leaf and yard waste curbside collection    Household hazardous waste drop-off    2021 Tree collection    Yard Waste drop off  
500 American Legion Hwy, Boston, MA 02131

APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST
SU M TU W TH FR SA 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	SU M TU W TH FR SA 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	SU M TU W TH FR SA 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	SU M TU W TH FR SA 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	SU M TU W TH FR SA 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	JANUARY 2021
SU M TU W TH FR SA 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	SU M TU W TH FR SA 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	SU M TU W TH FR SA 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	SU M TU W TH FR SA 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	SU M TU W TH FR SA 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

**HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP-OFF LOCATIONS**

**JUNE 20 | SOUTH BOSTON**  
Central DPW facility  
400 Frontage Rd.

**JULY 25 | WEST ROXBURY**  
West Roxbury DPW  
315 Gardner St.

**AUGUST 1 | DORCHESTER**  
John W. McCormick middle school  
315 Mt. Vernon St.

**AUGUST 22 | SOUTH BOSTON**  
Central DPW facility  
400 Frontage Rd.

**OCTOBER 31 | SOUTH BOSTON**  
Central DPW facility  
400 Frontage Rd.

ADVERTISE IN THE BEACON HILL TIMES PLEASE CALL 781-485-0588

# Weekly initial unemployment claims down for the second week

Special to the Times

Massachusetts had 80,153 individuals file an initial claim for unemployment insurance from April 12 to April 18. This represented a decrease of 22% over the previous week as most of the workers who have been laid off as a result of work closures related to COVID-19 have already filed claims in the previous weeks.

In the previous work, from April 5 to April 11, Massachusetts had 102,828 individuals file an initial claim for unemployment insurance. This also represented a decrease, at that time 26% over the previous week.

Since March 15, a total of 651,457 initial claims were filed.

As in last week, Retail Trade with 12,669, Food and Accommodation at 9,564, and Health and Social Assistance with 9,249 continued to show the largest number of initial claims filed this week. Since March 15, Food and Accommodation, Retail Trade, and Health and Social Assistance accounted for over 41% of all initial claims filed at 16.8%, 12.8% and 11.8%, respectively.

Currently, the Department of Unemployment Assistance (DUA) is paying unemployment benefits

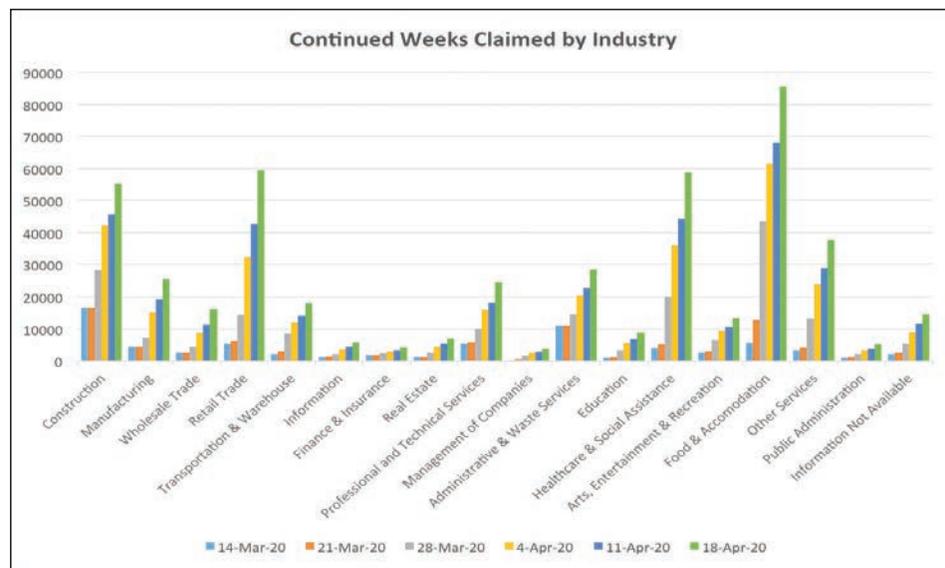
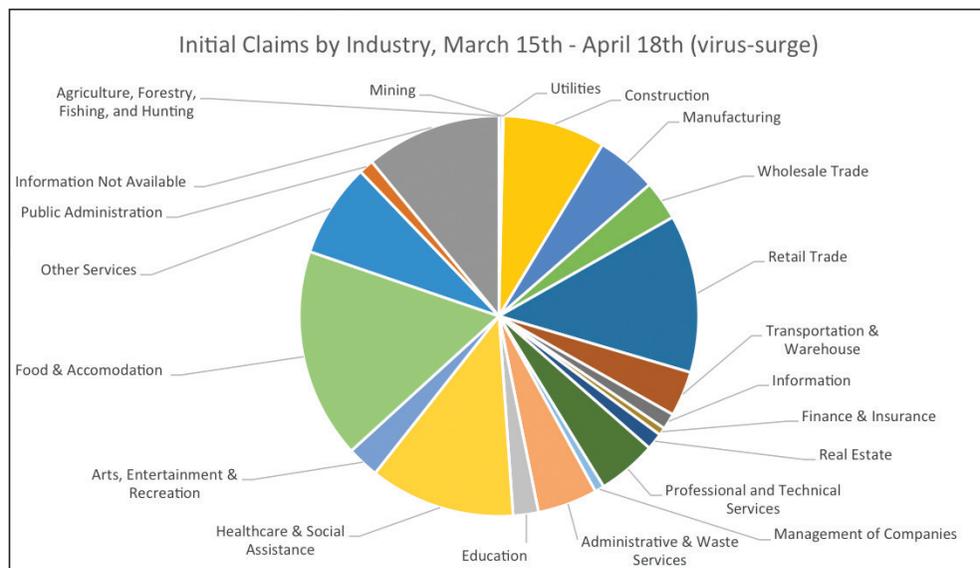
Industry	Week Ending 4/11	Week Ending 4/18	Change	% Change
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	393	281	-112	-28.5%
Mining	25	13	-12	-48.0%
Utilities	85	82	-3	-3.5%
Construction	7,881	4,754	-3,127	-39.7%
Manufacturing	5,896	5,065	-831	-14.1%
Wholesale Trade	4,618	3,709	-909	-19.7%
Retail Trade	15,534	12,669	-2,865	-18.4%
Transportation & Warehouse	3,362	3,292	-70	-2.1%
Information	1,480	1,336	-144	-9.7%
Finance & Insurance	735	536	-199	-27.1%
Real Estate	1,370	1,040	-330	-24.1%
Professional and Technical Services	5,567	4,359	-1,208	-21.7%
Management of Companies	715	486	-229	-32.0%
Administrative & Waste Services	5,863	4,956	-907	-15.5%
Education	2,283	1,653	-630	-27.6%
Health & Social Assistance	12,597	9,249	-3,348	-26.6%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	2,206	1,777	-429	-19.4%
Food & Accommodation	12,634	9,564	-3,070	-24.3%
Other Services	6,971	5,383	-1,588	-22.8%
Public Administration	1,425	1,244	-181	-12.7%
Information Not Available	11,188	8,705	-2,483	-22.2%

to nearly 400,000 people. Over the last month, the customer service staff at DUA has grown from around 50 employees to nearly 1000. The remote customer service operation is now making over 20,000 individual contacts per day and DUA continues to host daily unemployment town halls, held in

both English and Spanish, which have been attended by nearly 200,000 constituents. This week, Massachusetts launched Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) for groups like the self-employed, becoming one of the first states in the country to begin providing financial assistance to those not

traditionally eligible for unemployment compensation. In just the first few days of the program launch, DUA has already received over 200,000 PUA applications (going forward, total PUA related claims data for the previous week will be released on Thursday mornings at mass.gov/lwd.)

Due to DUA's previous efforts to migrate their systems to the cloud, the first unemployment agency in the country to do so, the unemployment online platforms have maintained functionality throughout the surge in demand.



## SJC issues updated order regarding state court operations during the pandemic

The Supreme Judicial Court (SJC) on Monday issued an updated order, which will be effective May 4, 2020, regarding the operation of Massachusetts state courts and courthouses during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Under the new order, until at least June 1, 2020, all courts of the Commonwealth will continue to be open to conduct court business, but courthouses will continue to be closed to the general public, except where entry is required to

address emergency matters that cannot be addressed virtually (by telephone, videoconference, email, or comparable means, or through the electronic filing system).

Jury trials in both criminal and civil cases in state courts are postponed to a date no earlier than July 1, 2020. All bench trials, in both criminal and civil cases are postponed to a date no earlier than June 1, unless they may be conducted virtually by agreement of the parties and of the

court. The new order also extends various deadlines.

Monday's SJC order also directs Trial Court departments to identify categories of non-emergency matters that they will attempt to address virtually, where it is practicable to do so, and to provide clear guidance to the public and members of the bar regarding what those categories will be by posting periodic notices to the judiciary's COVID-19 webpage. The SJC and Appeals Court will continue to

conduct oral arguments virtually in non-emergency matters.

All court clerks', registers', and recorder's offices shall continue to conduct court business -- to accept the filing of pleadings and other documents in emergency and identified non-emergency matters, to schedule and facilitate hearings, to issue orders, to answer questions from attorneys, litigants, and the general public, and to conduct other necessary business of the respective court. All such business

will be conducted virtually, except when the filing of pleadings and other documents in emergency matters cannot be accomplished virtually.

All orders, standing orders, guidelines, and notices issued by any court department or appellate court in response to the pandemic, as well as all amendments, modifications, and supplements are posted upon issuance on the judiciary's COVID-19 webpage.

# NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDUP

## Hill House running free virtual family events

Hill House, Inc. located at 127 Mount Vernon St., has launched a series of free family events at 5 p.m. on Wednesdays and Fridays.

On Wednesday, Family Fun events will include how to make your own Playdough, a Kitchen Fridge Art show and more. On Fridays, get your athletic juices flowing with live dance parties, camp sing-alongs and more.

These events are free, and registration links available at [www.hillhouseboston.org](http://www.hillhouseboston.org). To register or to learn more about Hill House virtual events, contact Meredith at [madamczyk@hillhouseboston.org](mailto:madamczyk@hillhouseboston.org).

## Hill House Kiddie Kamp open for enrollment

Hill House, Inc. located at 127 Mount Vernon St., is currently enrolling for its Kiddie Kamp, which is specifically for kids aged 3-5 and the perfect combination of new and exciting experiences in a safe, familiar environment. Join a staff of counselors for a summer full of games, crafts, stories, songs, age-appropriate athletics and outdoor fun. Your child will build confidence, independence and friendships.

For more information on Kiddie Kamp, or how to register - some weeks are at 80-percent capacity, so don't wait - contact Chelsea Evered at 617-227-5838 or [cevered@hillhouseboston.org](mailto:cevered@hillhouseboston.org), or visit [hillhouseboston.org](http://hillhouseboston.org).

## Face-Mask Drive for Rosie's Place

Hill House, located at 127 Mount Vernon St., is running a Face-Mask Drive for Rosie's Place on Harrison Avenue.

Participants can either make their own masks or purchase through a local shop, 4Good Vibes, based in Somerville. They have offered to sell their handmade masks to Hill House and then donate 50 more masks if the nonprofit can reach 100 masks donated. You can purchase masks on their special Rosie's Place site <https://4goodvibes.bigcartel.com/product/rosies-place-face-mask>.

After payment is received, 4 Good Vibes will send the masks directly to Rosie's, but if you plan to make your own, you can send them to: Rosie's Place, Attn: Sandy Mariano, 889 Harrison Ave., Boston, MA 02118.

Contact Meredith Adamczyk at [madamczyk@hillhouseboston.org](mailto:madamczyk@hillhouseboston.org) with any other questions.

# Charlestown company offers online ordering of produce and specialty foods for next-day pickup

Staff report

Consumers can now order a self-described "chef's selection" of fresh fruit, vegetables and specialty food online for next-day pickup from a Charlestown-based company.

Located at 18 Bunker Hill Industrial Park, Costa Fruit & Produce is offering its selection of the highest quality produce, artisan cheese, meats and ingredients for online ordering at <https://costafarmersmarket.com/> Monday through Thursday from noon to 4 p.m.

Selections include the 8.5-pound Savor's Market Meat Box for \$50, with one pound of Savor's ground sirloin, two Choice 8-ounce New York strip steaks, a 3.5-pound whole Giannone chicken, one pound of bacon, one pound of boneless skinless chicken breast and one pound of boneless skinless chicken thighs; the Fresh Fruit Box for \$25, with one pineapple or melon, six pieces of stone fruit, six apples, six oranges, one container of berries, two pieces of topical fruit and one bag of grapes; the Fresh Veggie Box for \$25, with lettuce or greens, tomatoes, cucumbers, broccoli, two onions, one pound of carrots, two avocados, four squash or zucchini, two peppers and five pounds of potatoes; and the Fresh Produce Box for \$40, with one order of lettuce or baby greens, two onions, tomatoes, broccoli, two peppers, two cucumbers, one pineapple or melon, six pieces of stone fruit, six apples, six oranges, one container of berries



Costa Fruit & Produce's Fresh Nutra-Snack kits, which the Charlestown company distributed to local hospital workers in the Boston area.

and one bag of grapes, among other options.

"We hope that by providing an alternative to shopping at a traditional market, we will make it easier for communities to maintain social distancing and still obtain delicious fresh foods," Manny Costa, the company's CEO and president said in a press release.

And Costa is also showing its appreciation for the healthcare profession by donating Fresh Nutra-Snack kits to local hospital workers in the Boston area. The kits are produced at Costa's onsite,

SQF certified processing facility and contain fresh fruit, juice and yogurt - all washed, sealed and ready to eat for workers on the go.

"Healthcare workers are putting themselves at risk every day fighting the COVID-19 virus. In appreciation of their heroic selfless effort we are happy to help where we can," Costa said in a press release.

Costa is also providing their drivers with the snack kits as they service essential workers throughout New England.

## LEGALS

### LEGAL NOTICE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION TO EXPAND THE POWERS OF A GUARDIAN

The petition asks the court to make a determination that the powers of the Guardian and/or Conservator should be expanded, modified, or limited since the time of the appointment. The original petition is on file with the court.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 05/18/2020. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written

affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer.

Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: April 16, 2020  
Felix Arroyo,  
Register of Probate

4/30/20  
BH

Docket No. SU15P1051GD  
In the interests of: Betty Jean Johnson  
of: Boston, MA  
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by DMH c/o Office of General Counsel of Westborough, MA in the above captioned matter requesting that the court: Expand the powers of a Guardian.

## BEACON HILL BEAT

### From Boston Police Area A-1

COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICE: 617-343-4627  
DRUG UNIT: 617-343-4879 • EMERGENCIES: 911

#### Larceny - Shoplifting

04/19/20 - A Charles Street liquor store reported two unknown male suspects entered the store at about 1:12 p.m., and one of them concealed a bottle of champagne under his jacket. The store clerk asked the suspects to leave before confronting them in an attempt to retrieve the item. The victim and the suspect wrestled to the floor over control of the

bottle. Both suspects then fled on foot with the merchandise.

#### Armed Robbery

04/21/20 - Three suspects were arrested on the MBTA for armed robbery at around 9:42 p.m., after fleeing a Cambridge Street convenience store, which they had just robbed. One of the suspects, armed with a hammer, threatened the clerk and struck him on the

knee with the tool. All three suspects stole food items and miscellaneous store items and a charity donation box before fleeing the store. The suspects were charged with armed robbery and assault and battery with a dangerous weapon (a hammer). The store provided police with video footage of the incident.

IF YOU MISSED US AT YOUR FRONT DOOR  
 EVERY THURSDAY  
 PLEASE GO TO  
 WWW.BEACONHILLTIMES.COM

Happy Easter & Passover - Stay Home & Stay Healthy  
 Email [stephen.quigley@reverejournal.com](mailto:stephen.quigley@reverejournal.com) or [deb@bostonsun.com](mailto:deb@bostonsun.com) or call 781-485-0588 for your Beacon Hill Times information

APRIL 9, 2020

**THE BEACON HILL TIMES**  
 THERE ARE NO TIMES LIKE THESE TIMES

You are not stuck at home...  
 You are SAFE at home

**Neighborhood retail businesses weathering unprecedented losses**  
 By Dan Murphy

As retail businesses in the neighborhood scramble to adjust their business models in the face of COVID-19, they are weathering unprecedented - and unexpected - revenue losses.

"As a small business that has relied heavily on foot traffic up until now, we have seen our sales dwindle down to about 10 percent of what a typical March or April period would be, and we're now relying on online sales only," said Jennifer Hill, owner of Blackstone's of Beacon Hill and its sister establishment, KitchenWares by Blackstones, at 46 Charles St. A lot of stores didn't already have websites - we did - and everyone was enhancing and getting their products up online."

Both businesses have seen "considerable" spikes in online sales within the last two weeks, Hill said, but neither is profitable at the moment, so she was faced with the difficult decision of furloughing the store manager.

"We realize how important our store manager is to our success so we have furloughed her so she has been able to access to the unemployment benefits until life returns to a new normal in the coming months," Hill said.

Now, like many other business owners, Hill is applying for federal government assistance via the \$2.2 trillion CARES Act (H.R. 748) -

(Losses Pg. 5)



Photos courtesy of Harvard Gardens

Mass General workers help themselves to "grab-and-go" bagged lunches, courtesy of Harvard Gardens.

**Harvard Gardens provides MGH staff with free bagged lunches**  
 By Dan Murphy

The Harvard Gardens distributed hundreds of free bagged lunches to Mass General Hospital doctors and staff on Wednesday, April 1, in a display of gratitude to healthcare professionals working in the age of COVID-19.

Patrick Lyons, CEO of the Lyons Group, which has operated Harvard Gardens since 1999, and a Beacon Hill resident, credits the idea to treat the hospital's workers to a "grab-and-go" bagged lunch consisting of a sandwich, an apple and a bottled water from a table outside the Cambridge Street restaurant to his wife, Kristina, who is currently finishing up at the Harvard School of Public Health.

"She's really in a quagmire trying to get Personal Protective Equipment for the hospital - it's very complicated and most efforts lead to dead ends," Lyons said. "So out of frustration we thought, 'What can we do? We have a restaurant - let's mobilize it.'"

(LUNCHES Pg. 2)

**'Virtual Vilna' brings Vilna Shul online**  
 By Dan Murphy

Since the Vilna Shul closed the doors to its 18 Phillips St. headquarters last month due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Boston's Center for Jewish Culture has launched "Virtual Vilna," bringing its programming online to more than 1,200 visitors in just the first two weeks.

"When everyone became homebound, we decided it was time to launch a virtual initiative, and it's been met with immense success," said Lynne Krasker Schultz, director of communications. "It provides the opportunity to reach people who wouldn't have the physical ability to walk through our doors. People from Costa Rica, Spain and Israel have attended programs, and from the U.S., we've had people from Cincinnati, Chicago, San Francisco, San Antonio and all up and down the East Coast, including, of course, all over the Boston area."

"Virtual Vilna" offerings to date have included "Meditation through a Jewish Lens," Jewish genealogy, challah baking and adult education classes, among other programming made available through the Zoom and Facebook platforms, and new content is being added to The Vilna Shul website on a daily basis, such as a live site on a daily basis, such as a live reading by author Susan Solomon from her children's book "Stella the Ambassador" on Tuesday, April 14, at 9:30 a.m.

The Vilna Shul is also soliciting suggestions for new classes and programming from the public via email at [info@vilynashul.org](mailto:info@vilynashul.org), and in response to one suggestion, has enlisted the Yiddish Bookstore in Amherst to design the curriculum

(ONLINE Pg. 5)

For the latest news in Beacon Hill that you need to know, check [www.beaconhilltimes.com](http://www.beaconhilltimes.com)

FOR ALL THE LATEST NEWS IN THE  
 NEIGHBORHOOD

# Universal COVID-19 testing announced for homeless in Boston

Staff Report

With the numbers of positive cases among the homeless in shelters heading towards 500, Mayor Martin J. Walsh announced the City of Boston will move forward with universal testing for COVID-19 (coronavirus) for all unhoused individuals in Boston. The City of Boston has secured an additional 1,000 tests, which will allow public health officials to test all clients in Boston's shelter system over the next two weeks. The efforts will be led by Boston's partners at Boston Health Care

for the Homeless, in coordination with the Boston Public Health Commission, St. Francis House, and the Pine Street Inn.

The tests are being donated by the Boston company Orig3n.

"We continue to work every day to support our homeless population and the staff who serve them—with shelter, with care, with testing," said Mayor Walsh. "This is a big step forward in protecting our most vulnerable populations. Universal testing in Boston's homeless community is critical to allow us to provide individuals the targeted care they need. We will continue to work with our

partners in government and the nonprofit community about the resources we need moving forward."

As of Thursday, April 23, 1,340 individuals have been tested, and 453 homeless individuals who have been tested are positive, or 34 percent. All Boston Public Health Commission shelters remain open, and the City of Boston has been conducting widespread testing in this population. As testing is completed, individuals who are positive will go to get the care and support they need to recover. Individuals who are negative will be placed in designated areas to

allow for better social distancing and help slow the spread of the virus.

Since the start of the public health emergency caused by COVID-19, Boston has worked to protect its most at-risk populations, including homeless individuals. The City of Boston has added over 900 new beds all across the city to reduce the density in the city's shelters, and to treat homeless individuals who are impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Boston Hope at the BCEC has 500 beds dedicated to the care of homeless individuals, and the City of Boston has built quarantine

and treatment centers next to its largest shelters.

The City of Boston has also worked with its partners to create 172 beds at Suffolk University dorms to improve shelter spacing, and 70 beds at a former hospital on Commonwealth Avenue in Brighton. The City has also helped add 250 beds at Newton Pavilion, in partnership with the Boston Medical Center. In addition, there are 50 beds for veterans at a facility in Brighton, and Boston University has provided 75 rooms for Pine Street Inn staff.

## MBTA fare transformation program advances with approval of amendment

Staff Report

On Monday, the MBTA's Fiscal and Management Control Board approved a contract amendment regarding the Public Private Partnership agreement involving the T and the consortium Cubic | John Liang – rolling out the new fare collection system that has been anticipated since 2018.

This action marks a significant step toward implementing the revised transformative initiative approved by the Fiscal and Management Control Board (FMCB) in December 2019, locking in an achievable and enforceable schedule while procuring new technology that will allow the system to adapt to future changes in ridership and to implement new kinds of fare options.

The amended contract totals \$935.4 million, including both the full capital cost of the system and a 10-year stream of operations and maintenance payments. Although this represents an increase of \$212.1 million in project costs compared to the

contract approved in 2018, the new fare collection system remains cost-effective and is projected to collect over \$8 billion in fare revenue during its first ten years of operation.

This amendment, which strengthens the original 2018 AFC 2.0 contract, enables the MBTA to achieve all the original goals of the project under a new approach. Based on feedback from customers, advocates, and policy makers, the new approach will result in customer-focused upgrades to the existing and future systems. In addition, this board action reestablishes key milestones, includes new provisions that reduce the T's construction risks, and allows the system to account for future changes within the payment industry.

"Under this program reset, we'll be able to deliver one system that can be used across all modes that meets the needs of our customers today, and has the ability to adapt to future needs," said MBTA General Manager Steve Poftak. "Especially in light of recent changes to daily life caused

by COVID-19, it's more important than ever to move toward a dynamic system with contactless options that can withstand major changes to conditions that would otherwise undermine a legacy system of fare collection."

The amended contract is only one part of a comprehensive Fare Transformation initiative that will ensure that customers begin to see improvements in fare collection over the next year, including the ability to obtain CharlieCards more easily and the elimination of the cash/ticket surcharge in 2021, so that CharlieTicket and cash fares will be the same as CharlieCard fares.

Under the phased approach and in the short term, Fare Transformation will result in improvements that include:

- The ability to pay for a trip on all Zone 1A stations on the Fairmount Commuter Rail Line with a CharlieCard;
- Deploying fare vending machines that dispense CharlieCards;
- All-door boarding on MBTA buses and surface stops along the

Green Line;

•Integrating ferries and the entire Commuter Rail network into the CharlieCard system.

This amendment also allots more time for both testing and installation of the new system and customer migration. Working with stakeholders, the program reset establishes a more robust, thoughtful network of retail sales outlets and fare vending machines centered on the needs of T customers. In conjunction with that process, the MBTA has committed to a significant increase in the total number of vending machines to ensure adequate access.

"Critical to this project's success is outreach, and the level of engagement we've received indicates just how important the future of MBTA fare collection is to our customers," said Ron Renaud, Chief Transformation Officer. "Thanks to the feedback, we are now on a course to provide improvements to our existing system, and ultimately, deliver a project that is even more focused on the needs of our customers."

While the MBTA's existing

fare collection system collected approximately \$671.7 million in FY19, the aging system requires substantial maintenance and upgrades and cannot support the kinds of fare options that customers have requested.

The new technology provided by the Public Private Partnership offers reliability of equipment, readily accessible payment technology, and flexibility in fares and programs to further enhance access and equity for the MBTA ridership of the future.

In 2018, the FMCB authorized the original contract to include \$356.8 million in payments for the capital cost of the new system and a ten-year stream of operations and maintenance payments totaling \$366.5 million for a total cost of \$723.3 million. The revised contract approved today includes \$723.3 million for the capital cost and a reduced ten-year stream of \$212.1 million in operations and maintenance payments, for a total of \$935.4 million.

## MBTA's RIDE now offering transit services to all personal care attendants

The MBTA announced that the RIDE paratransit service will temporarily allow customers to book trips for their personal care attendants (PCAs) in an effort to best support their ADA-eligible customers during the COVID-19 situation.

"This change will allow the MBTA to maintain a vital link between RIDE customers and their PCAs," said MBTA General Manager Steve Poftak. "As we actively monitor the COVID-19 situation, we will continue to make necessary service changes that meet the travel needs of

both those who are essential to combating this virus, and, where we can, the needs of those who are the most vulnerable among us."

A PCA is defined as an individual that provides assistance in performing Activities of Daily Living (ADLs). ADLs include, but are not limited to, mobility, bathing/grooming, dressing/undressing, passive range-of-motion exercises, taking medications, eating, and toileting. Allowing these bookings ensures that RIDE customers continue to receive the same level of daily

support they need to live independent and safe lives.

This update is in addition to other temporary RIDE measures already in effect meant to protect the health and safety of T workers and customers, and preserve services for those who must travel for essential purposes. Other temporary RIDE updates include the elimination of shared RIDE trips, temporarily extending RIDE eligibility and postponing eligibility appointments, adjustments to booking windows, updates to subscriptions, and a reduction in transfer

trips. More information on these temporary updates can be found at [mbta.com/theride](http://mbta.com/theride).

In order to book travel for their PCA, RIDE customers should call the RIDE Access Center (TRAC) at 844-427-7433 and inform the agent that the trip is for their PCA. RIDE customers will need to provide the PCA's name, address, and service needs. PCA trips may only be to or from the RIDE customer's home address. RIDE customers can pay for the PCA trip out of the RIDE customer's account with PCAs also able to

deposit funds into a RIDE customer's account by calling 888-844-0355. The cost of the PCA trip is equal to traditional RIDE fares. Customers will receive their night-prior call back from the RIDE and customers should let their PCAs know of their pick-up time. Arrival notifications will also go to the customer's phone number.

RIDE service for customer trips will remain the priority. As such, trips for PCAs will be fulfilled only as capacity allows.

# Baker extends stay at home advisory, closure of non-essential businesses until May 18

By Lauren Bennett

Governor Charlie Baker on Tuesday afternoon extended the stay at home advisory and closure of non-essential businesses until May 18. The original order was set to expire on May 4.

Additionally, Baker extended the ban on gatherings of 10 or more people until May 18.

"I know pushing these dates back a couple of weeks is probably not what many people want to hear," Baker said at Tuesday's press conference, but he said that there are "risks associated with going back too soon."

He said that the measures the state has taken so far with the stay

at home advisory and increased testing, among other things, have helped to flatten the curve in the Commonwealth. He added that while hospitalization rates have begun to plateau, they have not yet started to fall with the intensity that would suggest a serious decrease in cases.

"We're moving in the right direction with respect to the virus, but we are not where we need to be," Baker said. "These mechanisms all need to remain in place."

He thanked the people of Massachusetts for "playing their part" in limiting the spread of the virus. He said he recognizes how difficult the state's decisions have been on people and fami-

lies. "People have lost jobs, their careers, and in some cases businesses they have worked on for years," he said.

But "since we've acted, we've avoided the humanitarian crisis we've seen...elsewhere around the world," he said.

The Baker-Polito administration also announced the creation a 17-member reopening advisory board that will work together on a plan to reopen the state.

Lt. Governor Karyn Polito said that government officials, industry employees, and customers "will need to work together for this to be successful." She said that Massachusetts is "recognized as a leader in people taking personal responsibility" for social distancing.

"The board will bring a range of perspectives, including an understanding of workplaces and workforces, including insights" into things like education, local governance, manufacturing, and transportation.

She said it will be "a lot of listening" to main streets businesses and other small businesses, as well as metro mayors and local government officials statewide, and the 17 member board will be com-

prised of three public health officials, 11 leaders from businesses, including transportation secretary Stephanie Pollock.

"Their insight is key," Polito said. "A lot of the decisions we will make need to be enforced and implemented at the local level."

She said the first meeting of the advisory board took place on April 28.

## Testing Increases And Regular Hospital Capacity

As of April 27, Massachusetts had 56,462 confirmed cases of COVID-19, and 3,003 people had died.

Governor Baker also made several announcements late last week and early this week regarding increases in testing across the state. He said he was "ramping up" a program for testing with Quest Diagnostics in a number of community health centers across the state.

He also said that important factors when analyzing test results are how many people are tested, how many come up positive, and what the ratio between those two numbers looks like.

Baker also talked about the importance of seeking medical care if people are experiencing

serious symptoms like chest pain or difficulty breathing. He said that hospitals across the state are equipped to deal with illnesses and conditions not related to COVID-19, such as stroke, cancer, and injuries, and people should not be afraid to go to the hospital if it is necessary to do so.

"If you're not feeling well, if you have an ongoing medical condition, stay in touch with your clinicians," Baker said on April 24. "If you need to go to the hospital go."

On April 24, Department of Public Health Commissioner Monica Bharel returned to Baker's daily press conference to speak about her personal experience with COVID-19. Now recovered, she described her battle with the virus as including fever and muscle aches, but she still worked from home when she felt up to it.

## Unemployment Assistance Update

He said that the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance Program, which can help people who are self-employed, "gig workers," contractors, or consultants, is up and running.

He said that this system has processed "well over 100,000 claims" as of April 24.

"The platform for traditional unemployment continues to process claims," he added, and checks include the extra \$600 a week from the federal CARES Act. Baker said there were over 650,000 new claims filed since March 15, and the state is paying around 400,000 people so far and is "working through the rest of the claims."

## \$130 Million For Nursing Homes

On April 27, Baker announced a second round of funding of \$130 million for the state's nursing homes, as they continue to face challenges when it comes to battling COVID-19.

Baker said that as of April 27, 10,031 residents and staff at the state's nursing homes, rest homes and assisted living facilities had tested positive for the virus, and people in these facilities represent 56 percent of the state's total deaths.

"To date, the mobile testing unit has conducted testing at over 400 facilities," he said. He said the National Guard "has done a tremendous job so far."

He also said there are new requirements for nursing homes including testing of all staff and residents and meeting PPE requirements, among other things. He said that facilities will be audited to make sure they are complying with the requirements.



Lets face it: Social distancing a measure put in place to stop the spread of the coronavirus has made celebrating major holidays with family and friends hard.

Mothers Day is coming up fast. And Since Moms can't go out, we thought now's the or anyone really... time to show them we deliver!

Help your neighbors and customers show their Mothers they care with an ad telling them

We will deliver her favorites!

Running the week of 5/7

2 column-by-4-inch ad for \$55

Call 781-485-0588 or email [deb@theboston.com](mailto:deb@theboston.com) for more info. Be a part of this Mother's Day thats sure to be remembered

**PAUL W. MARKS CO., INC.**  
QUALITY **M** SERVICE  
CHEESE • BUTTER • EGGS • FINE FOODS  
Now available for curbside contactless pick up  
see our website for details:  
[www.paulwmarks.com](http://www.paulwmarks.com)  
8 Commercial St. Everett MA

**BREWSTER & BERKOWITZ**  
REAL ESTATE  
Charles Street Meeting House  
121 Mt. Vernon Street Boston, MA 02108  
617-367-0505 [www.brewberk.com](http://www.brewberk.com)

Sally Brewster      Betsey Barrett  
Ron Berkowitz      Toni Doggett