

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

- Food & Agriculture

- On Tuesday afternoon, Baker announced that the state is continuing to ramp up testing capabilities, including adding 10 additional labs in combination with the State Lab and other private labs that have been process-

As of Tuesday morning, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) has made 89 deliveries of personal protection supplies, including more than 750,000 masks, face shields, surgical masks, and pairs of gloves from the strategic national stockpile. He also said

When asked about relief for rent and mortgage payments, Baker said that it is hard for the state to know

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

- Suspending the cap on hours and compensation for retired employees collecting a pension for hours worked during the state of emergency, allowing municipalities to tap qualified workers when their workforces

- Providing that any permit that is currently valid will not lapse or expire during the state of emergency and suspends any time limitation on such permits

- Permitting Regional

- Extending a Student Opportunity Act deadline by permitting the Commission-

- Extending the dates by which the MBTA must approve a preliminary budget and submit a final budget to better align with the Commonwealth's budget process.

•Evening Meals at the
First Baptist Church, corner

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Mary Gerace - Chairman
Roberta Suppa - Clerk
March 18, 2020 & March 25, 2020

Mary Gerace
Chairman
Roberta Suppa
Clerk
Board of Appeals
March 18, 2020
March 25, 2020

CORONAVIRUS IMPACT ON EVERETT AND THE COMMONWEALTH

City leaders ask Internet, cable not to disconnect for non-payment

By Seth Daniel

City leaders have reached out to all cable and Internet providers this week to call on them for a promise not to disconnect any Everett residents for the inability to pay their current bills.

In an open letter from Mayor Carlo DeMaria, Council President Rosa DiFlorio, State Rep. Joe McGonagle and Sen. Sal DiDomenico, the group stressed the importance of phone, internet and cable service during this pandemic. Like other utilities, they are asking that providers of phone, internet and cable

also not shut off service.

“We are writing to all of you on behalf of the people of the City of Everett:

You are the providers of the basic infrastructure that society has become dependent on, its skeleton and blood,” read the letter. “During this crisis your roles have become even more crucial, vital to not only our citizens’ comfort and wellbeing, but to their health and the health of our city. All of us are going to need you to rise to this challenge.”

The action they asked for was to have all providers agree to discontinue all disconnections for non-pay-

ment – particularly since it provides a connection for children to schooling and for adults to work remotely.

“It only makes common sense that utility companies would consider its customers during these tying times and continue to provide the most basic services to all of us,” they wrote. “These basic services would include but are not limited internet capabilities for remote learning for our children or transacting business for individuals to remain employed.”

Utility providers did receive the letter and are in communication with City officials.

Massachusetts National Guard activated for COVID-19 response

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

The Massachusetts National Guard said in a release it is ready to assist local communities

and to react to requests for assistance through the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA). Some of these requests could include, but are not limited to: medical, transportation, and logistics.

“Throughout our 383 years of existence, the Massachusetts National Guard has been faced with many challenges, some of which

helped form our nation,” read a statement from the Guard. “The Massachusetts National Guard is prepared and committed to answer the requests of cities and towns in the Commonwealth.”

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

House passes legislation to support workers effected by the public health emergency

Staff Report

Last week House Speaker Robert A. DeLeo and Rep. Joseph McGonagle, along with their colleagues in the House of Representatives, passed legislation to waive the one-week waiting period for workers seeking unemployment insurance benefits related to, or resulting from, the COVID-19 pandemic or the effects of the State of Emergency declared by Governor Baker on March 10.

“Massachusetts workers drive our economy, and the action we took today will help thousands of individuals and families as we confront the economic effects of this public health crisis,” said Speaker DeLeo (D-Winthrop). “I am grateful to my colleagues in the

House for their work to addressing the urgent needs relating to the outbreak. I am proud of the work Chair Michlewitz did to move this legislation so quickly.”

“I am very proud to be a part of the Legislature for prioritizing such a profound piece of legislation,” said McGonagle. “In these uncertain times, we need all of our residents to be certain that we are doing our best to protect them, and waiving the unemployment waiting period is a huge step for that. Thank you to Speaker DeLeo and Chair Michlewitz for their leadership in passing this.”

“Ensuring that workers have immediate access to unemployment benefits is critical,” said Representative Aaron Michlewitz, Co-Chair of the Joint Com-

mittee on Ways & Means (D-Boston). “I want to thank my colleagues in the House and our partners in the Senate and the Baker administration for moving this legislation along so quickly so that people can receive expedited benefits.”

On March 18, the bill passed in the Senate, and the Governor signed it into law.

The following list is a summary of House action taken in response to the COVID-19 public health crisis since the State of Emergency declaration on March 10.

- On March 12, the House and Senate approved a \$15 million fund in response to the coronavirus outbreak. One March 13, the Governor signed it into law.

House Unanimously Passes Legislation to Improve Municipal Public Health Services

On Wednesday, Feb. 27, Rep. Joseph McGonagle, along with his colleagues in the House of Representatives unanimously passed legislation to strengthen local and regional public health services across Massachusetts.

The legislation, An Act Relative to Strengthening the Local and Regional Public Health System, supports collaboration between local boards of health and neighboring municipal public health departments to deliver high-quality and efficient public health services such as disease control, emergency preparedness, restaurant inspection, sanitary code enforcement, and suicide prevention and substance use disorder outreach.

“With the global virus outbreak on our doorstep, I’m proud that the House took action to help communities across the Common-

wealth protect the health and safety of their residents,” said House Speaker Robert A. DeLeo (D – Winthrop). “Thank you to Vice Chair Garlick and Representative Kane for their diligence and focus on this issue.”

“This legislation is truly beneficial to all individuals and families across the Commonwealth,” said McGonagle. “Our public health officials and agencies already do a fantastic job and I am excited to see them continue that work with the help of this bill. I’m grateful to the Speaker, Vice-Chair Garlick and Rep. Kane for their bipartisan work in getting this bill passed.”

Specifically, the legislation seeks to strengthen local public health in three ways:

- Establishes the State Action for Public Health Excellence (SAPHE) pro-

gram: A competitive grant program that provides funding to public health departments to increase sharing of services across municipalities, strengthen service delivery capabilities, and improve system accountability and data reporting.

- Ensures the local public health workforce has access to training: Provides boards of health officials and staff with free educational and training opportunities four times annually in regions across the state.

- Sets new statewide public health standards: Department of Public Health will develop a set of minimum standards for foundational public health services to improve the quality of and create uniformity within the public health services of the Commonwealth.

The bill is now in the Senate.

Banks will remain open: Consumers strongly encouraged to bank electronically

Staff Report

The Massachusetts Bankers Association announced on Monday that banks throughout the Commonwealth will remain open while keeping their customers and employees safe.

According to Gov. Charlie Baker’s order issued earlier today, financial institutions such as banks are considered essential services and will not be subject to the closure.

“While we strongly encourage all Massachu-

setts residents to heed the Governor’s stay at home advisory and use online or mobile banking, consumers will continue to have access to banking services during the mandatory non-essential business closure,” said Daniel J. Forte, MBA President & CEO. “The safest place for your money right now is in your local bank where it is insured up to \$250,000 by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC). Many Massachusetts banks also have excess insurance to protect your funds.”

Consumers needing access to banking services should check with their institution, as many banks have closed branch lobbies, reduced hours or shifted to drive-through only at some locations in an effort to protect their customers and employees. However, bank staff are available to serve customers and answer questions. In addition, access to funds through online and mobile banking, ATMs and at Point of Sale transactions remains available during this time.

U.S. Attorney Andrew E. Lelling issues stern warning regarding scams and other crimes related to the Covid-19 outbreak

The US Attorney for Boston said on March 19 the federal government would prosecute any and all scams related to the pandemic – including treatment scams and investment scams that have popped up recently.

“As our communities take extraordinary measures to confront the coronavirus outbreak, some may view this as an opportunity to prey on the public’s fears and anxieties. The Department of Justice is now focused on cyber-crime, sale of counterfeit

goods, treatment scams and other healthcare and investment scams arising from the pandemic. My office will aggressively prosecute anyone engaged in this kind of activity,” said U.S. Attorney Andrew Lelling.

“With the outbreak of COVID-19, scammers have found a platform that preys on people’s fears and could make them more likely to be victimized,” said Joseph R. Bonavolonta, Special Agent in Charge of the FBI Boston Division. “We want you to avoid falling prey to these scams and

help us stop them by reporting it at [ic3.gov](https://www.ic3.gov).”

Massachusetts residents who believe they are victims of fraud or other criminal activity related to the pandemic should contact the United States Attorney’s Office at USAMA. victimassistance@usdoj.gov or call 1-888-221-6023 and leave a message. Members of the public can also contact the FBI’s Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) by visiting www.ic3.gov. If you or someone you know are in immediate danger, please call 911.

RIZE Massachusetts awards nearly \$200,000 in rapid response grants for COVID-19

Massachusetts Foundation, an independent nonprofit foundation working to end the opioid epidemic in Massachusetts, announced Monday that it has awarded nearly \$200,000 in rapid response grants to support nonprofit organizations strained by the Covid-19 pandemic.

The discretionary grants will be given to 25 existing RIZE community partners, including Everett.

Experts believe that the Covid-19 pandemic may have a greater impact among people with opioid use disorder (OUD), jeopardizing their access to health care, secure housing and a stable income. As hospitals and clinics shift staff and resources to address the pandemic and as social distancing guidelines are implemented, many of the organizations that serve

people with OUD are adversely affected as well.

RIZE community partners are incurring unforeseen costs as they modify operations to continue providing critical services. For example, several partners have been forced to move operations to outside tents in accordance with CDC guidelines for social distancing.

“Our community partners are going through extraordinary lengths to support people with OUD during this unprecedented crisis,” said Julie Burns, President and CEO, RIZE Massachusetts Foundation. “The grants will allow these organizations, some of which are small operations without access to reserves, to adapt their operations to better serve individuals as the Covid-19 pandemic unfolds.”

RIZE is distributing grants ranging from \$2,500 to \$15,000 to the following community partners from the area:

- Statewide
- Massachusetts Organization for Addiction Recovery
- NECAT Culinary Arts Training
- Prisoners Legal Services
- Local
- City of Everett

To support RIZE’s efforts to fund rapid response as well as the community partners providing care, services and resources to people with OUD under extremely challenging circumstances like the Covid-19 pandemic or natural disasters, contributions can be made at www.rize-ma.org/donate.

Everett

Independent

President: Stephen Quigley

Editor in Chief: Cary Shuman

THANK GOODNESS FOR DR. FAUCI

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

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

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

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

THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES, TOM

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

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

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

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

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

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

Thanks for the memories, Tom.

Your opinions, please

The Everett Independent welcomes letters to the editor. Our mailing address is 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151. Our fax number is 781-485-1403. Letters may also be e-mailed to editor@everettindependent.com. Letters must be signed.

We reserve the right to edit for length and content.

SEND US YOUR NEWS

The Everett Independent encourages residents to submit birth and engagement announcements, news releases, business briefs, honor rolls, social news, sports stories, and photographs for publication. Items should be forwarded to our offices at 385 Broadway, Citizens Bank Building, Revere, MA 02151. Items can also be faxed to 781-485-1403. The Independent also encourages readers to e-mail news releases to editor@everettindependent.com.

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Independent Forum

LETTERS to the Editor

of losing the connection to essential utilities like internet, cable, and phone services.

It only makes common sense that utility companies would consider its customers during these tying times and continue to provide the most basic services to all of us. These basic services would include but are not limited internet capabilities for remote learning for our children or transacting business for individuals to remain employed.

All of our citizens in Everett, residents and business owners alike, deserve a quality of life afforded to them absent a public health crisis.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Mayor Carlo DeMaria
Sen. Sal DiDomenico

State Rep.

Joseph McGonagle

Council President

Rosa DiFlorio

JOIN IN THIS FIGHT AS ONE

Dear Editor,

Last Wednesday afternoon, after a positive conference call with members including Mayor DeMaria and his administration, I received a copy of a local newsletter. To my abso-

lute surprise, there was a rather powerful misquote. It is no secret that the administration and I have found ourselves at great odds in recent memory. However, this past two weeks is absolutely not one of them. I have worked closely with the administration and the Mayor during this great time of uncertainty for our City, state and country. It is not a time for insults, egos or pointing fingers.

In my eyes, leadership is finding a way to step forward and work outside your comfort zone and across all lines towards a common goal. As we have seen in many other unthinkable moments in our history, when one community comes together there's no breaking down the walls of protection for its people. This time we are living in, will be written about in history books, and egos, insults and finger pointing is not a way we should be remembered. This being said, I have been proud to work with the DeMaria Administration during this time and look forward to continuing in the weeks and months ahead. If we leave egos and feelings behind us, we will absolutely stand stronger and more positively for all who call Everett home. Businesses, residents, news media and community Leaders should expect no

less. I plan on being a part of the solution, not creating more of an issue. My sleeves are rolled up and I am in this fight 100 percent as a team player.

I particularly believe the School Administrators, as well as the leadership from City Hall, has been strong positive and direct to all who call Everett home. This is not a time to put the past forward but rather a time to write the future. I won't allow negative comments from anyone, especially with my name, to stand in the way of the unthinkable task in front of our community. No matter if it's a friend or enemy, we have no time for politics in these days. If you seek the position of harming our city or causing division during one of the greatest uncertainties we have ever faced, I can't stand by and keep silent. I ask all news outlets, residents, business leaders, spiritual leaders and community leaders from every corner of our community to join in this fight as one. Together we can and will flatten the curve of the Coronavirus and come out of this time stronger then we went in as a community.

The time is now to write the future not the past!

Michael J. McLaughlin
Ward Six City Councilor

Encore Boston Harbor donates food to local pantries

By Seth Daniel

With Encore Boston Harbor's many restaurants and snack bars closed down for at least 30 days, the resort donated 40 pallets of food to local food pantries last weekend.

Encore was ordered to shut down all operations by the Massachusetts Gaming Commission on March 14 for at least two weeks, and that left a lot of supplies

on the stockpile that likely would not be used.

Turing to partners like Grace Food Pantry and Bread of Life, Encore donated all of that food for people who are struggling in the midst of the COVID-19 response.

"In the past few days, we have donated 40 pallets of food to local food pantries, including Bread of Life, Everett Grace Food Pantry, and the Greater Boston Food Bank," said Spokes-

Councilor McLaughlin calls for waiving of meals taxes for restaurants

By Seth Daniel

Last Wednesday, Gov. Charlie Baker postponed the payment of all meal's taxes, sales taxes and room occupancy taxes until June 20, but Councilor Michael McLaughlin has joined a regional group of elected officials calling for the meals taxes, at least, to be waived during that period.

"I have been calling for more than a week now for our City Council to hold a special meeting so that we as a body can take a vote on waiving the meals tax starting in February," he said. "I know Governor Baker sus-

pended the payment until June 20, but that only prolongs an unnecessary bill that these restaurants cannot hold on to currently in these times."

As part of a small business relief package last week, Gov. Baker announced administrative tax relief measures for small businesses impacted by the COVID-19 response.

This tax relief includes postponing the collection of regular sales tax, meals tax, and room occupancy taxes that would be due in March, April and May so that they will instead be due on June 20. Additional-

ly, all penalties and interest that would otherwise apply will be waived.

The Baker package requires that:

- Businesses that paid less than \$150,000 in regular sales plus meals taxes in the year ending February 29, 2020 will be eligible for relief for sales and meals taxes, and business that paid less than \$150,000 in room occupancy taxes in the year ending February 29, 2020 will be eligible for relief with respect to room occupancy taxes.

- The Department of Revenue is currently drafting emergency regulations

"A big thing for us that a lot of companies aren't doing is we're paying all full-time, part-time and tipped employees for 30 days," said Kraus. "Then we'll reassess. CEO Matt Maddox was bent on continuing to pay employees. He wanted them to stay home with their families, and stay healthy. Then, when we reopen it gives us a chance to have another grand opening here."

to implement these administrative relief measures, and they were expected to be finalized before Friday, March 20.

For McLaughlin, he said the local portion of those taxes should be waived by the Everett elected officials as it will help small restaurants even after the pandemic has eased.

"I think we as a community, we can waive and not suspend the .75 percent of this tax and give these small businesses just a little bit of relief and call on the governor to do the same," he said.

Nurse// CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

also makes sure they and those around them know not to go out and be in contact with the general public.

"We just ask them to stay at home and only go out if it's medically necessary," she said. "We can only tell them to stay and we don't have an enforcement arm. We can't stay outside their home to make sure they don't go out. Most don't feel well enough to go out anyway. It's understood now and they all want to get better and stay better. Everyone now understands the severity and they don't want to expose anyone

else...I think now a lot of people understand the severity. Maybe a couple weeks ago everything was open and it was business as usual."

Firicano has been part of the City's team on the pandemic, including giving input on health issues to the Mayor's Office and Public Works – among others. She said she is on daily calls with the DPH and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to learn of any new cases in Everett and to understand the newest ways to fight the virus.

Last Friday, she was

part of the City's team that ordered the closure of all non-essential services, which included nail salons, spas and hair salons. Those businesses had to close to the public by 6 p.m. on Friday, March 20.

"We've been taking a lot of calls on what businesses should do and who should close," she said. "We tell them that non-essential businesses can work remotely if they have that capacity."

Above all, most everywhere she goes and with everyone she speaks with, Firicano hammers home

the idea of washing hands frequently, keeping the six-foot social distancing with others and staying at home as much as possible.

"We already work a lot with prevention so we put out as much information as we can in regards to keeping the disease from spreading," she said. "People need to stay home and that's the most important thing. We need to get the message to people that staying home will help to stop the spread and allow us to get back to normal social interactions."

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

The 3-1-1: Taking phone calls has kept a lifeline to residents during crisis

By Seth Daniel

When the City established its 3-1-1 constituent call center a few years ago, no one could have predicted that it would become a life-line for many in the City struggling to get the correct information, to be comforted and even to get advice.

It is exactly what has transpired over the past two weeks though, said Director Chad Luongo.

“We’ve had everything,” Luongo said on Monday. “People are calling about symptoms they have, wanting to know if they might be sick. Last week I got a call at the Center from

someone who wanted advice on whether or not they should cancel their vacation plans. That was before all of the precautions were announced, but I told them I didn’t think they should go. I hope that was helpful. It’s been steady at about 100 to 125 calls per day. Sunday was a little quieter, but that’s really the numbers of calls we’ve taken about every day.”

The 3-1-1 Call Center is located typically at the front desk in City Hall, and serves calls and walk-in questions too. With the walk-in questions gone due to the closure of City Hall for the time being, the calls have been lighting up the switchboard.

The City has expanded the 3-1-1 service, putting six people on per shift Monday through Thursday. On Friday, Saturday and Sunday, they have two people per shift from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Most of the questions so far have been related to bills and payments that are due during the shutdown of City operations.

“Last week, a lot of the questions were bill questions – how to pay bill when we’re closed,” he said. “We’re telling people to send a check by mail, or put it in the drop box here at City Hall, or especially, to pay online. However, a lot of people pay by cash and right now we’re not open.”

Beyond those kinds of questions, there are usually a flood of calls after most of the daily press conferences, particularly on Monday when Gov. Charlie Baker announced a stay-at-home advisory.

“As soon as something happens like that, we get flooded with calls because people are nervous and worried,” he said. “We relay the information we have and we tell everyone to be calm and reassure them.”

The 3-1-1 has also acted as the central location to get food to people who need it – particularly the senior citizens that are more vulnerable and cannot go out for supplies.

In those cases, they have

quickly opened the right channels for Senior Center Director Dale Palma to be able to get the information so his team can deliver fresh, hot meals to the seniors in need.

Other issues tend to be about remotely taking care of things that used to be simple, such as a sticker for items to be put out for the rubbish.

“We have a lot of calls about what people should do to stay health, Coronavirus issues, but other things that are more regular issues,” he said. “Some people call to ask what they need to do to get a sticker to put items out in the trash, as you can only get a sticker at City Hall. We try to get in

touch with Capitol Waste if a person needs a sticker. There are just a lot of things that are easy to do when we’re open, but are a little more difficult and involved now.”

Finally, a big part of what 3-1-1 has been doing is getting correct information to people. There is so much misinformation going around on the Internet, the news, in the immigrant communities and through word of mouth. Having a place where reliable information can be shared is important.

“We’re all dealing with a lot of moving parts and we’re trying to make sure everyone is on the same page,” he concluded.

Grace // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Richard DelRossi founded Grace Food Pantry in Saugus a decade ago, before the Pantry moved to its current location in Everett five years ago. The Pantry is an agency of the Greater Boston Food Bank.

Cardillo said people have been expressing their gratitude to the Pantry and acting in a very respectful and orderly manner while they wait in line. “We don’t see any panic and everyone is respecting their distances because they know we’re going to give them the best of the best and as much as we can give and they can carry – we want to make sure our families are fed.”

The City of Everett has stepped up in a big way during the crisis, according to Cardillo.

“I want to thank the City of Everett because without

the Mayor, the Councillors, the School Committee, the Superintendent of Schools, and the Everett Police – we really have a lot of support from the city.”

Matt Misci, whose girlfriend, DeDe Forgione, is one of the volunteer leaders, credited Everett restaurants and major businesses such as Encore Boston Harbor, for making sizable donations to the Pantry.

“It’s been amazing, a revolving cycle of donations,” said Misci. “The lines have been long, but we’ve been able to answer the need. It’s a time of crisis but this organization has been going on well before the coronavirus.”

DelRossi was profuse in his praise of Cardillo. “God bless this woman – she has done so much, lauded Del-Rossi.

He elaborated on Grace Food Pantry’s decision to move from Saugus to Everett. “The building that housed Grace Ministries Church was sold and we immediately connected with Everett and brought the Pantry here and it’s grown tenfold,” said DelRossi, recalling that his wife, the late Cheryl DelRossi, used to work as the kitchen manager at My Brother’s Table, a soup kitchen in Lynn.

“My daughter Annmarie said to me, ‘Let’s start a food pantry in honor of mom,’ “and this is it.”

And Irene Cardillo and her incredible group of volunteers at the Everett Grace Food Pantry are carrying on that tradition today – their efforts so much appreciated by all during this unprecedented global crisis.



The volunteers at the Everett Grace Food Pantry are pictured Monday during their daily food distributions efforts that has seen a larger turnout of residents during the coronavirus crisis.

East Boston Savings Bank is here for you.

As a 172-year old Boston Bank, East Boston Savings Bank has a rich history of servicing the City of Boston and its surrounding communities. The foundation that we honor are integrity, strength and hard work for all our customers. It is our tradition to be responsive to the needs of people like you and businesses like yours during good times and challenging times.

We have seen and been through past events that have affected the country and the world. As we navigate through this pandemic together, please know that we are here for you. I assure you that East Boston Savings Bank remains your strong neighborhood bank, supporting you, your family, your business and your community. It's because of your trust in us - and our faith in you – we will make it through these events together.

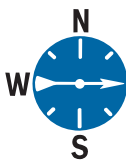
Trust that we are in this for the long-haul, right by your side. Our branch office doors will remain open as long as we can assure the safety of you and our employees. Online Banking, Mobile Banking, ATMs and our Automated 24-Hour Telephone Banking System (866-774-7705) are always an alternative banking option for you – visit ebsb.com for more information. As always, your deposits are 100% guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and the Depositors Insurance Fund.

I understand there are a bunch of unknowns with this pandemic but know this; East Boston Savings Bank has endured many devastating events in the past and has come through each of these stronger and more committed to our customers than ever.

Thank you for trusting in East Boston Savings Bank. Stay safe and we look forward to continuing working hard for you.

Sincerely,

Richard J. Gavegnano
President, CEO and Chairman
East Boston Savings Bank



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Researchers at the South End’s NEIDL have started working to find COVID-19 treatments

By Seth Daniel

One researcher at Boston University’s National Emerging Infectious Disease Laboratory (NEIDL) in the South End of Boston has received samples of the COVID-19 virus late last week, and has permission to begin working to find a treatment for those with the virus – with the NEIDL being one of only about 10 places rushing for a breakthrough therapy.

Professor Robert Davey, PhD., said the NEIDL started on Thursday, March 19, growing the virus in the Level 5 biolab with samples of the COVID-19 collected from the first patient that died in the United States, a man from a nursing home in Washington state.

With the virus samples in their possession, Davey said the entire scientific community in Boston and at the NEIDL is invigorated to begin working in combination on a successful treatment for a sickness that has rocked the entire globe off its normal axis.

“That’s why it’s great working in Boston because you have all this great stuff going on here,” he said, noting that he worked in Texas for about 20 years before being recruited by the NEIDL in 2018. “That’s how great science is done and how you find great

treatment...All the schools and universities here have come together to try to nail this. That is very invigorating and exciting.

“Otherwise, scientists tend to be stuck to their own thing,” he continued. “I have my niche and exist in that niche. I might practice my science and do great work, but usually there isn’t everyone coming together at once like this. I’m looking forward to doing our work and seeing if we can make an impact on this outbreak.”

Those helping Davey in the testing will be Harvard University, MIT, the Broad Institute and other industry partners.

Samples came in just in the last few days, and Davey said they are growing the virus right now in the lab to be used in testing over the next month. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) had taken samples from the first man in the U.S. that died in Washington state on Feb. 29. Those specimens were sent to the University of Texas where they have a repository for infectious disease samples. From there, they were sent to the NEIDL this week, along with about 10 other places.

Having all those places working at the same time is a strategy similar to taking as many shots at goal as possible, with the idea be-

ing that one will eventually get through for success. He said that having 10 places is not a lot of places nationwide, so they do consider it an honor to be part of the group looking for a successful treatment.

“Finding an effective treatment is much like finding a needle in a haystack,” he said. “To swing the odds in our favor, you need to throw a lot of needles into that haystack and you’ll find one that works. With our testing, it’s like taking as many shots on goal as you can and by doing that you’ll have a greater chance of success.”

The NEIDL will be testing small molecules on the virus. Small molecules are drug treatments that have been made by chemists as potential treatments to a virus of this kind. They will test these small molecules on tissue samples infected with the virus with the goal of finding something that stops the virus from replicating. Once they find a “hit,” they would begin testing it on lung cells that are in the possession of the lab – as lung cells are most relevant to what the virus attacks.

To get to that point, they’ll be using 20,000 small molecules produced by their partners.

“We are expecting to test 20,000 small molecules,”



The Boston University National Emerging Infectious Disease Laboratory, known as the NEIDL, is one of only a few sites in the country moving fast to find a treatment for the COVID-19 virus. Researchers received samples of the virus late last week, and began growing samples of it in their lab on Thursday, March 19, for testing.

he said. “A (typical) pharmaceutical company (trial) would test one million, but this is a very directed session.”

Finding one of those small molecules that work is the first step, Davey said, to identifying a treatment.

The testing, he said, would likely last for about a month. However, any success they have would then have to be run through testing with mice, then to Phase 1 clinical trials and finally to licensing with the U.S. Food and Drug Ad-

ministration (FDA). There is no sense of how long that might take, but the FDA has said it is focusing all its resources on approving anything that is successfully produced at the NEIDL or any of the other approximately nine sites across the country.

Davey clarified they are only working on a treatment for those who already have the COVID-19 virus, but there are others within the NEIDL preparing to work on a vaccine for COVID-19, which would

be given to those who are not yet sick in order to prevent them from getting sick.

“There are other groups here doing vaccination development, and in the near future you will hear about them,” he said.

As he and his team began to prepare for the work of finding a therapy, he said he did feel a sense of extreme purpose.

“It’s important to be part of a team effort contributing to trying to find a cure,” he said.

Meeting// CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

live stream on Zoom and Facebook, and it will be re-broadcasted immediately following the live stream on ECTV. For instructions on how to join the meeting, please visit the City of Ev-

erett website, City of Everett Facebook and Mayor DeMaria’s Facebook page. Participants are asked to email their questions in advance to townhall@ci.everett.ma.us. Additionally,

emails will also be accepted during the meeting.

For any questions or assistance in viewing this broadcast, please contact 311.

Distillery// CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“We’ve had to lay off our entire workforce at the Distillery,” said Matt Kurtzman, co-founder of Short Path. “We certainly are, now, making hand sanitizer here. We’re also still open to the public now to sell bottles to go and hand sanitizer. We also want to do our part and donate some of the sanitizer to first responders and public officials. We’re trying to keep the right balance to keep the business afloat and do our part to donate some of the product as well.”

Short Path has been distilling its custom liquors in a converted warehouse off of Norman Street in what has become known as the Fermentation District. The distillery made all sorts of liquors for sale, had a tasting room/bar on site, and carried an impressive list of purveyors that either used their product in a restaurant or sold it in a store. That business, unfortunately, has taken a big hit. After the layoffs, Kurtzman said, they began thinking of what they could make that would be marketable and useful. Many distilleries were re-tooling to making sanitizer, and Short Path was ready, but government rules blocked them from making it.

“Our current facility allows us to be able to make sanitizer, but we were hampered by legal constraints that technically prevented us from manufacturing and selling it,” he said. “After last week, though, the federal government announced that other businesses, especially alcohol businesses, could manufacture hand sanitizer. As soon as the legal hurdles were removed, we said, ‘Let’s get started.’”

The first test run was very successful, and they sold out of all the product they made within 30 minutes. Now, they are ready to make even more.

Kurtzman said the three main ingredients are Glycol/Glycerin, Hydrogen Peroxide, and Ethanol. They have plenty of ethanol on hand as it is a distillery, but they are now just waiting to get more Glycol and Hydrogen Peroxide so they can make more sanitizer.

“We are currently waiting for more raw ingredients to come Tuesday or Wednesday,” Kurtzman said on Monday. “Right now, we’re able to make about 1,000 gallons and the goal is to ramp that up as we go so we can make even more with each batch.”

He said there wasn’t a lot of conversion necessary at their distillery. Really, they only needed to secure the other two ingredients and make sure they mixed it up correctly. One of the bigger

challenges was finding the best containers to put it in once it was made.

“It’s really making sure we’re blending all the raw materials in the right proportions,” he said. “We’re already accustomed to that type of manufacturing, so there wasn’t a lot of reconfiguration that needed to happen...This kind of thing certainly hasn’t happened in my lifetime – the whole war-time effort mindset of making sure everything people need is available and to serve the greater good.”


Kurtzman said to stay tuned to their website shortpathdistillery.com or their Facebook page or Twitter handle (@SPDistillery) for information on when their next batch of sanitizer is ready.

A SHORT STORY ABOUT A MOTORCYCLE. AND A SUDDEN TURN.

When she was a young college student, Elisabeth Marra had a serious motorcycle accident that ultimately changed her life. Two years after the crash, her painful open fractures had failed to heal. Then she heard about a new and complex surgery pioneered by a surgeon who used a patient’s own stem cells to concentrate the healing process. This time, her surgery and subsequent therapy were successful.

Elisabeth’s experience caused her to re-direct her own career aspirations. Inspired by the medical professionals who helped her reclaim her active lifestyle, she changed her major to study physical therapy—a profession where her own experience could help other patients prevail through difficult recoveries.


We tell Elisabeth Marra’s story here to illustrate two of the most profound messages we know. Don’t give up, and remember to give back. If reading it inspires just one more person to achieve something special, then its telling here has been well worth while.



aaos.org/75years



CELEBRATING HUMAN HEALING
orthoinfo.org



CHA// CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

early outpouring from residents of the area to support them.

“CHA Everett, like all of the CHA, is taking lots of precautions like moving toward a tent for triage and taking care of our current patients as well as preparing for the surge that is expected,” she said on Monday. “In the last week, we saw a decrease in the volume of patients coming to the hospital, which is exactly what should be happening as people stay home. The community has done a really good job of realizing that if they’re looking for testing, the Emergency Department is not a place to come. For the most part, every time a test is done, we use up our Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).”

To that end, patients who now have symptoms are directed to their primary care doctor to triage how they’re feeling. Those existing patients of CHA are then directed to a drive-thru testing site at the Somerville CHA Hospital – a move that is able to test more patients who show signs and also preserves PPE equipment for the CHA Everett Emergency Department. Those who cannot drive to be tested are being sent with an appointment to the CHA Somerville clinic on Broadway.

Dr. Lai-Becker also said community members have reached out to donate surgical masks, N95 respirators and even some who have volunteered to make masks.

“We can’t thank the community enough because they are understanding that as we run low on supplies, we need to do everything possible to preserve the supply chain,” she said. “We have received many offers from people who are looking to contribute or donate PPE (which includes gloves, surgical goggles, gowns, surgical masks and N95 respirators)...Every offer is so appreciated. The community has done a great job of trying to pull together things on our behalf while they also stay at home.”

Already some of the donations have included dinner from Spinelli’s one evening last weekend, and a science teacher from KIPP Academy in Lynn donating 150 pairs of goggles and four packages of gloves that were unused at his shuttered Science classrooms.

At the CHA Everett, the facility has changed its layout, and has barred visitors from coming to the hospital this week. There are only two entrances open now, including the main entrance and the Emergen-

cy Department entrance. There are no visitors allowed, and anyone coming to an entrance has to go through a screening test. If they show any respiratory symptoms, they are given a mask and checked out more thoroughly. The hospital has also canceled all elective surgery and the endoscopy department.

“All the precautions certainly probably creates some anxiety, but at the same time it’s good to have the support of the community,” she said. “So many of the patients that have come to the ER have told us how much they appreciate us and when they tell us to stay safe, it means a lot.”

Her final message to everyone was to keep the social distancing rule in place, and to stay home. She said doing that in large numbers and with discipline will make a tremendous difference in the next 10 days to two weeks in how drastically the hospitals like CHA Everett are faced with patient surges.

“Please listen to the government,” she said. “Absolutely stay at home. It’s going to be a really hard thing over the next 10 days to two weeks. We’re at war with this, but doing these things will make a huge difference. If we never see a huge surge of patients, that’s all the better.”

CITIZENSHIP CEREMONY



State Rep. Joe McGonagle is pictured here last month (before the COVID-19 panic) at the citizenship ceremony in which Glauca Amaral of Everett was naturalized as a U.S. citizen. Originally from Brazil, she will be graduating this spring with a Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene from Mass. College of Pharmacy and Health Science. She is a leader in her program and spoke about the importance and legislation concerning dental hygienists at the State House with Rep. McGonagle. She was naturalized at Faneuil Hall along with 323 others. Also pictured is Amaral’s sponsor and Everett native, Maureen Pompeo.

TO PLACE YOUR AD CALL 781-485-0588

Market Basket launches senior shopping hours to protect and serve older customers

Beginning last week on March 19, Market Basket initiated senior shopping hours specifically geared to accommodate the needs of customers 60 and older.

Similar measures have also been implemented at the Stop & Shop on the Parkway.

Each Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 5:30 to 7 a.m. Market Basket stores will be open only to serve customers 60 and

older.

This is designed to enable these members of the community who are at greater risk with the coronavirus to shop in a less crowded environment, which enables social distancing.

“Our Associates really wanted to do this to serve many of our customers who are worried about their health,” said Joe Schmidt, Supervisor of Operations. “We are proud of how hard

the team is working to serve all of our customers and address their needs. This will mean longer hours for them but everyone is willing.”

Market Basket stores are known for their cleanliness and high standard of hygiene. The team has increased this standard – with additional measures for the stores and for all Associates.

EBNHC // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Patients who do not have a primary care provider should call the Mayor’s health line at 617-534-5050.

To ensure safety, EBNHC has asked all patients to reschedule routine visits. If you need an appointment for regular prenatal care, a chronic condition such as diabetes or behavioral health services, contact your provider directly. A telehealth program, which enables medical care over the phone while patients stay safe at home, has been implemented and is working well for patients and providers.

Additionally, we have made other proactive changes that impact patient care. Patients who must come to the Health Center for necessary appointments are now limited to one adult and one child per exam room. The EBNHC buildings at 79 Paris Street and Winthrop Neighborhood Health are both closed until further notice. These services have been temporarily moved to new treatment areas designed to reduce potential exposure. If you

have questions about upcoming appointments and their locations, call 617-569-5800.

Many of EBNHC’s patients are at high risk for COVID-19. This includes adults ages 60 and above, medically fragile children in the CATCH program, asthma sufferers, pregnant women and other patients with chronic conditions and vulnerable groups. Our focus is on protecting these high-risk patients and providing them with high-quality, critical care.

Help us protect yourself, your loved ones, and our whole community by:

- Staying six feet away from other people
 - Avoiding large crowds and gatherings
 - Practicing good hygiene such as washing your hands, using hand sanitizer, covering coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your inner elbow, and staying home if you are sick.
- If your COVID-19 risks are higher due to age, underlying health conditions, a weakened immune system, or pregnancy:
- Stay home and avoid

situations of potential exposure

- Do not travel
- Do not attend large gatherings
- Limit time spent in public areas
- Do not congregate in groups of more than 10 people

The EBNHC team is working tirelessly to protect our community. We care for all who need us, regardless of age, income, insurance status, language, culture or social circumstances. Our mission has not changed in 50 years and will guide us through this crisis.

Many of our team members are serving on the frontlines of patient care, risking their own health to treat those who need it. We have never been prouder of our team. But we cannot do it alone.

We all have a personal responsibility to protect ourselves and others. Practice social distancing and limit interactions with people who are at higher risk for COVID-19. We are a strong and responsive community. We will get through this crisis together.

Decision // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

This week, while continuing to navigate the crisis in Everett and beyond, he said he believes it was a decision that has helped the City to cope with what has materialized in the weeks since then.

“It wasn’t an easy decision,” he said “I had an Italian epidemiologist sending me graphs of the COVID-19 response in Italy compared to our response in America,” he said. “Our responses to it weren’t even as much as Italy and their response was obviously terrible. I saw that graph and we were on a phone call talking about it.

“At the time we knew from Italy how grave the situation was going to be and how we had to act quickly,” he added. “I was looking at how there were two weeks to April vacation and we had no snow days either. I also saw what was happening to my cousins in Italy. My wife Stacy was my sounding board and was with me on it. It was a decision we all made – my staff, my wife, and (Supt.) Priya (Tahiliani) and (Asst. Supt.) Charlie (Obremski). I realized that is a decision that affected a lot of people, but I said, ‘We have to do it.’”

Everett was the first school district to call classes off completely, and to do so through April 27. It was also the first municipality to pull the plug on City operations, including City Hall, the libraries and the Connolly Senior Center – to name but a few.

“One kid at school could be around another kid sneezing or coughing and that kid could take it home to an entire family and make them sick,” he said. “Flattening the curve is real. I knew people might still get sick, but I also thought if we could spread that time out, it would help so many people, including our health system. I kept hearing from that epidemiologist to flatten the curve. I kept hearing from family in Italy about more and more deaths. I really used that as my information. I made the call. You hope others have your back, but I figured if I went too far out on the limb, I could walk it back a little. It was more important to protect the safety and health of everyone.”

He said he was also considering that a lot of kids in Everett are taken care of by their grandparents, and he didn’t want those residents getting sick as a result of kids bringing it home from

school.

DeMaria said he and his team took a lot of criticism initially from people who were shocked to see the schools close for so long before anyone else did so, and also for City operations coming to a halt that early in the response.

There were a lot of critics, but now DeMaria said he is glad his team made the call despite no one else joining right away.

“Now we know it’s getting worse and worse every day,” he said. “I hope everyone continues to treat it very, very seriously and understand it’s important to follow what is said. It’s not like everyone who gets it will die, but if our families all get it, there won’t be enough hospital services available. Lives are what’s important now and making sure everyone gets through this and stays healthy.”

•Mayor calls on federal delegation to move fast

Mayor DeMaria said he is happy to see the good work being done at the State House in Massachusetts, but called on the state’s Members of Congress and U.S. Senators to get a COVID-19 stimulus bill passed quickly.

“I think the state and our state delegation with Rep. Joe McGonagle and Sen. Sal DiDomenico are doing good things,” he said. “Hopefully our congressional delegation will put politics aside so there is a relief package to help our residents...We really need our U.S. Senators and Members of Congress to step up and get a bill passed and get money in the people’s pockets... They should be supporting it. This bill should only be aid for people, for small businesses, and for companies. It shouldn’t be about anything else than helping people now. That will relieve a lot of the people’s fears. Get money in their pockets and they will go food shopping, order out from restaurants and that will help them stay home from work.”

By press time, the U.S. Senate was still stalling on a bill that would provide more than \$1 Trillion in stimulus aid for the country.

•Stay inside if you can

Mayor DeMaria also pushed for people to really stay inside, other than going out for safe exercise and for food shopping and medicine.

“People should only really go out to get the necessities like groceries,” he

said. “When you do that, I know it’s hard not to say ‘hi’ or shake hands or hug someone you know, but you have to remember they could be asymptomatic or a carrier and that interaction could make people sick... You can still go for a walk and get exercise. You can’t have playdates with friends if you’re a young person. Young people can’t go down to the park and play basketball like they always did. We’re all in this together and we will be okay if we all think of each other.”

•City Hall bills – go online

Mayor DeMaria also said for any bills at City Hall, there is flexibility.

He said calling 3-1-1 for guidance is the best thing to do, but also try paying online.

“I want everyone to try to go online first,” he said. “If you’re out of work and unable to pay, I wouldn’t worry about late fees. We’ll be working with the Department of Revenue and state and federal authorities to waive those types of fees.”

•School lunches still ongoing Monday-Friday

The Everett Public Schools (EPS) announced an additional lunch distribution site this week, adding the Whittier School as a location with Everett High School. Lunches are served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday until further notice. The sites are located outside so that no one has to go inside to retrieve their meal. In most cases, it is a drive-thru situation.

Supt. Priya Tahiliani said EPS is working with other school districts this week to coordinate a distance learning plan that would help students to be able to have classes via computer with their teachers. That is still in the works, but she said they hope to have a plan presented to parents by the end of this week.

Meanwhile, paper homework packets are available daily at the lunch distribution for grades kindergarten through 8th grade. They are available online as well, and high school students already have all their lessons posted to the EPS website.

“We will continue to provide updates and to keep you informed about enrichment opportunities and access to meals,” said Tahiliani. “We hope that you and your family stay safe and healthy.”

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Photos will be published on April 8th and April 9th

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NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

COVID-19 HITS CHELSEA

CHELSEA - The City of Chelsea reported last week that there were two confirmed cases of the COVID-19 virus in residents, and took extraordinary measures to close down most all City operations, including public parks with tot lots/playgrounds.

In addition, City Hall has closed to in-person visits, as well as the Senior Center and the Chelsea Public Library (though children's Librarian Katherine has been doing wonderful story time videos online for kids).

City Manager Tom Ambrosino said the situation has been stressful, and he fears that it will be more challenging in the coming days.

"We're trying to keep doing everything we can to reinforce this social distancing effort and plugging along at this crisis," he said. "We are very worried about what's about to come with an escalation of cases, the health care industry being overwhelmed and the City being overwhelmed and not having enough resources for the flood of displacement that is about to happen and overwhelm us. It's people not being able to pay rent. It's people losing their jobs. It's the City and state revenues falling through the floor. It's really exhausting honestly."

He said the situation has reminded him of the days after 9/11, but in some ways this is much worse.

"It's unprecedented," he said. "In a lot of ways it reminded me of the days after 9/11, but really that was one event and one event to deal with. With this, you keep wondering how long it's going to keep going. You keep waiting for the wave to hit you and you don't know when or where that will be. We're all trying very hard, but there is no playbook."

The park closure is unique, with Everett going forward with that this week as well.

"All City tot lots and/or playground structures are now closed," read the instruction from the City. "Please do not let your children play on these surfaces. The grass and fields will remain open, but please practice social distancing and do not engage in contact sports."

Other measures include:

- Due to rapidly changing circumstances, the City Manager has made the difficult decision to close to the public City Hall, the Library and the Senior Center for an indefinite period, but at least until Mon. Mar. 30.

Despite this situation, the City is still committed to delivering certain core services. But, only critical staff will remain on site. Most employees will be working from home. Buildings will be closed to the public effective immediately. Residents are encouraged to interact with the City by mail or on-line. We also encourage the use of our 3-1-1 phone line during previous business hours.

- The State Department of Public Utilities has extended the winter moratorium on residential gas and electric shut-offs until the state of emergency is lifted or the order is rescinded. This will reduce the pressure on low-income families to make decisions between paying for healthcare or paying for utilities.

- All renewals periods for parking permits and parking stickers are extended until June 1, 2020. Renewals for all current dog tags expiring on March 31 and April 30 have been extended until June 1.

All parking ticket ap-

peals must be submitted in writing by mail, online, or dropped off in the green mailbox outside of City Hall on Washington Avenue. To accommodate this change, the appeal period for all tickets issued on or after March 1st will be extended by thirty (30) days. No appeals will be accepted in person at City Hall for any reason.

The City will extend the date for payment of excise tax bills due on March 25, 2020. Those bills will now be due no later than April 28, 2020. No interest shall accrue during this extension period.

Ambrosino said employees are being paid and most are working from home on projects that are important to City business. He said while City Hall is not open, the work of the City continues to go on by computer, phone and other means.

"People have been working really hard here," he said. "I have to say the staff have been tremendous to try to address all the problems we've identified. People are nervous at the same time and worried that they'll get sick or their families will get sick."

For more updates as they happen, stay tuned to the Record's website (www.chelsearecord.com) or the Record's Twitter feed at handle @ChelseaRecord.

NON-PROFITS DEALING WITH CLOSURES

EAST BOSTON - The nationwide guidelines to help combat the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic sweeping the city, nation and the world has led to the closure of schools, businesses and churches across East Boston.

Many nonprofits here that serve thousands of school-age children when school is out or provide free services to the homeless have had to make the tough decision to close amid fears of spreading the virus.

In Eastie the Salesian Boys & Girls Club, East Boston Social Centers, the East Boston YMCA (see exception below) and the neighborhood's BCYF Community Centers, as well as the East Boston Community Soup Kitchen, are all closed until further notice.

"Unfortunately, for the time being, this is the safest way to handle the situation," said Boys & Girls Club Executive Director Michael Triant. "We had a cleaning company in to disinfect the entire building. Our staff was in as Monday to continue to disinfect all equipment and supplies. On Tuesday we will work with our friends at the YMCA to serve as a host feeding site. Breakfast and lunch will be available for pick up from 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. on the front steps of the club. Please, everyone be smart and limit your contact with others during this time."

Triant shared a photo of a worker from CM General Services in a full hazmat suit spraying down the walls of the club on Byron Street over the weekend. The company sanitized over 30,000 square feet of the Boys & Girls Club building using the Clorox total 360 system.

"However, our club will remain closed for members and parents," said Triant. "We will have essential staff on site to answer any and all questions our parents may have."

At Zumix, Executive Director Madeleine Steczynski said the decision to close was out of an abundance of caution to protect the health of students, staff, community members, and all of Zumix families.

Steczynski said Zumix will be closed through at least March 27 and then re-evaluate the situation as the pandemic unfolds.

"We will continue to monitor the quickly evolving situation and re-evaluate this decision every week," said Steczynski. We have taken this proactive step to support Federal, State and local efforts to mitigate the spread of the coronavirus. We want to be overly cautious given the high level of uncertainty about the spread of the virus."

While there is no known case of COVID-19 within the ZUMIX community, the closing will help the community's response to the virus and support the "social distancing" that is necessary to slow the spread of the virus at this critical stage.

"All public and private events to be held at Zumix will not occur during the closure," said Steczynski. "It is important to distinguish that, while we are closing the building, Zumix staff will continue to work remotely on future program development, fundraising, project work, and ways to stay deeply connected to our students and communities and help them through this crisis. These steps will ensure that students, radio hosts and community members can return to Zumix knowing that our priority is that everyone has a joyful experience when they return."

Steczynski said Zumix staff will update any changes on its website, along with social media channels.

Social Centers Executive Director Justin Pasquariello and East Boston YMCA Executive Director Joe Gaeta, whose agencies provide day care and after-school programs like the Boys & Girls Club and Zumix, also announced over the weekend they would close.

"All East Boston Social Centers locations will be closed and suspending all child care, teen and adult programs effective Tuesday, March 17 until further notice," said Pasquariello in a statement. "We encourage all families who can do so to keep their children home and take the appropriate precautions to avoid the spread of the virus. We are committed to supporting our community in this challenging time."

Pasquariello reminded the community in these uncertain times of the Social Centers' motto, "When we all give, We all gain."

However, the Eastie YMCA will remain open for food distribution and "essential childcare" services. These services are limited to parents who will be on the frontlines combating the virus.

YMCA President and CEO James Morton said the YMCA will encourage families to keep their children at home, but for those parents who are first-responders and "essential" employees who must work, the Y will provide a safe and nurturing place for their children.

"Thousands of parents depend upon us for early education and before and after-school care. For these families, the services we offer are essential," he said.

Over at the East Boston Community Soup Kitchen (EBCSK) the volunteer staff there said they made the difficult decision to suspend their weekly soup kitchen operations that help feed the homeless and low-income families in Eastie.

"The EBCSK Leadership Team, in consultation with public officials and fellow service providers, made the difficult decision to suspend weekly soup kitchen opera-



PHOTO BY SETH DANIEL

At the St. Rose Meals to Go food site on Monday, March 16, School Department workers and volunteers were ready to hand out meals to students in the public schools that were no longer able to attend school due to the COVID-19 response. Sites are open Monday through Friday, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Here Mirian Aguilar holds a sign to let people know what's going on. Behind her are Kimberly Geraci, Keyla Martinez, Enmy Dubon, Nasmarie Martinez, Lisa Santagate, and Sania Garmendia.

tions due to the COVID-19 outbreak," said EBCSK in a statement. "We believe everyone deserves a warm meal, safe shelter, and supportive community. But the health and safety of our guests and volunteers is our first priority. This decision was not made lightly. As you may know, this is the first time we have closed in more than [three] years of service to the community. Given that COVID-19 is spread through close person-to-person contact, we recognize the potential risk to vulnerable guests and volunteers who convene in our close-knit space over shared meals, and we are exercising an abundance of caution in closing to protect the well-being of our community."

The volunteer staff are working diligently to identify alternatives for EBCSK guests who have come to rely on the soup kitchen's services.

"In lieu of typical donations, we ask that our community members donate gift cards (valued at \$10 each) to local restaurants for our soup kitchen guests who are in need of a hot meal," they said.

Donations can be sent to East Boston Community Soup Kitchen, P.O. BOX 497 East Boston, MA 02128, or East Boston Community Soup Kitchen, 32 Paris St., East Boston, MA 02128.

LUNCHES STILL AVAILABLE FOR LYNN RESIDENTS

LYNN - As COVID-19 updates evolve worldwide, Lynn residents will be faced with varying degrees of hardship. Families who are in arduous economic situations are grappling with the joint need for childcare and maintaining an income. In addition to the need for care and wages, are concerns regarding the gap in education and students who rely on Lynn Public Schools for lunchtime meals.

In a statement released by Mayor Thomas McGee, Grab and Go lunches will be available for all students daily between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. pm at Marshall Middle School, English High School, Classical High School, and Lynn Technical and Vocational High School. Since decision-makers have urged parents to have childcare in place until April 17, the lunches are expected to help out in the time of need. School resources will be made available to students by grades on the Lynn Public School's website (<http://www.lynnschools.org/>), and students are encouraged to access it daily.

FEEDING THE STUDENTS

The City of Lynn including the Mayor's Office, Public Health Department, Office of Emergency Management and first responders are in communication and working with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health concerning COVID-19. The city has been preparing extensively to prepare for scenarios that can play out with the evolving COVID-19 situation and will continue updating the public on the City of Lynn website and Facebook page, as well as the City of Lynn Health Department "Coronavirus Resources" page at <http://www.lynnma.gov/coronavirus>.

In the meantime, residents are encouraged to conduct their business with City Hall by phone or online as much as possible. All non-essential in-person governmental meetings and large group gatherings will be postponed suspended canceled or held virtually. All residents and private entities are advised to refrain from holding any unnecessary large gatherings to reduce community spread of COVID-19.

Unfortunately, widespread coronavirus testing is still not widely available. All testing still needs to be approved by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health which is causing a lag in both the testing and diagnosing.

VISCAY NAMED NEW FINANCE DIRECTOR

REVERE - The City Council unanimously approved the appointment of Richard Viscay as the new finance director for the city of Revere.

Viscay will also remain in his position of city auditor and budget director, and has been appointed to the Revere Housing Authority Board. In his new position, Viscay will coordinate and oversee all the financial departments of the city.

The 47-year-old Revere resident said he was happy to receive what local officials are calling a well-deserved promotion. He has served as city auditor for two years, but has many years of experience in municipal government. He was the chief financial officer for Everett for three years and director of finance in Salem for seven years.

"Being a resident of Revere and working with Mayor [Brian] Arrigo, I feel like this is the most rewarding position in my career that I've held because I'm working for the city in which I live - my daughters both went to school here, and I've been living here for 25 years," said Viscay.

One of his daughters works as a registered nurse and the other is a senior at Revere High School.

Viscay, 48, holds a Master's of Business Administration from Salem State University and an undergraduate degree in Accounting from UMass Amherst. He attended Boston Latin Academy, the same school that produced Dr. Dianne Kelly, superintendent of Revere schools.

Viscay said he excited to begin in his new role.

"I'm looking forward to working with the Mayor and the Council and all the residents and the stakeholders and I really appreciate the opportunity."

Mayor Arrigo, who made the appointment, was pleased to officially welcome Viscay to his new position.

"Mr. Viscay has been an invaluable member of the administration from the day he came on board a couple of years ago, and I think this is a natural progression," said Arrigo. "I know this is a position in which he will excel. A lot of the great financial management that we've had over the last four years will continue over the next four years and a lot of the great policies have been attributed to Richard Viscay."

"So I'm excited. It's a new role for him and there'll be a little bit of a learning curve, but not much. So the residents can be assured that their taxpayer dollars are in tremendous hands, and we're excited to start a new chapter in the city of Revere," concluded the mayor.

RESIDENTS' QUESTIONS ANSWERED ON CENTER PROJECT

WINTHROP - The long-overdue work to replace an aging and decaying infrastructure in the Winthrop Center Business District will cause disruptions for the next year and half for both businesses and residents. That was the message that both town officials and the contractors told more than 30 residents who attended a public hearing last Thursday night at the Robert DeLeo Senior Center.

"We are here tonight to go through the timeline and to get the impacts out there. We are listening to you and we want to know when issues come up," Town Manager Austin Faison told the crowd.

The project will replace the failing sewer and water mains, as well as the sidewalks, roadways, and streetscapes. The sidewalks

Region

// CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

will be worked on one side at a time so that pedestrians will always be able to access a finished sidewalk. The scope of the project will require streets in the Center at different times to be closed during certain times of the day in order for the contractor to put down new sewer pipes and paving.

However, at the end of each workday, all the streets will be open to traffic.

The project will be accomplished in nine phases with a starting date of April 6 and a final completion date in November, 2021.

Arthur Leventis, Project Manager from Woodard and Curran, an engineering firm outlined the work to be done in each phase by the contracting firm of P. Gioioso and Sons.

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The first part of the multi-million dollar project will be the removal of French Square. Under the plan, the trees and grass will be removed and paved over for 24 temporary parking spaces. The work will take place from April 6 to 8.

Phase 2
Sewer, water, and drain improvements will be constructed on Pauline Street between Walden Street and Woodside Avenue and on Woodside Avenue between Pauline Street and Bart-

lett Road. Contaminated soil and groundwater are expected during construction of the infrastructure improvements on Pauline Street and Woodside Avenue. The staging area at the Larsen Rink will be utilized during this construction phase to manage soil. The work will take place from April 20 to June 16.

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Storm drain improvements on Pauline Street (Woodside Avenue to Hagman Road), Hagman Road, French Square, and Jefferson Street (French Square to Putnam Street) will be constructed. Contaminated soil and groundwater are expected during construction on Pauline Street and Hagman Road. The staging area at the Larsen Rink will be utilized during this construction to manage soils.

Hagman Road is also an area of environmental concern. An archaeologist will be on site monitoring construction as a precautionary measure. The work will take place from June 27 to July 14.

Phase 4
Sewer, water, and drain improvements will be constructed on Woodside Avenue (French Square to Pleasant Street), Adams Street, Williams Street and Bartlett Road (French Square to Pleasant Street).

The work will take place July 15 to Sept. 10.

Phase 5
Sewer, water, and drain improvements will be constructed on Somerset Avenue (Woodside Avenue to Pleasant Street) and Cottage Park Road (Somerset Avenue to Pleasant Street). The work will take place Sept. 11 to Nov. 13.

Phase 6
Sidewalk, landscaping, and electrical improvements will be constructed on Pauline Street (Walden Street to Woodside Avenue) and Woodside Avenue (Pauline Street to French Square). The work will take place from April 1 to May 10, 2021.

Phase 7
Sidewalk, landscaping, and electrical improvements will be constructed on Hagman Road, Putnam Street (Pauline Street to Jefferson Street), Jefferson Street (Putnam Street to French Square), and French Square. This phase does not include the reconstruction of French Square. The work will take place from May 11 to June 28, 2021.

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and Bartlett Road (French Square to Pleasant Street). The work will take place June 29 to Aug. 3, 2021.

Phase 9
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Leventis mentioned that there will be noise and dust during the time period that the dirt is being removed by heavy trucks. The work will be performed Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. There will be no work on weekends or holidays. He also mentioned that there will be temporary water hoses going into buildings during the construction. These hoses will be covered to avoid people tripping over them.

A staging area is planned for both behind Larsen Rink for materials and an area to the side of the parking lot for management of what might be termed “contaminated soil.” Leventis said the soil probably contains very small traces of fuels that have accumulated over the decades.

The lot will be used only during the construction season that lasts from April

to no later than December. There will also be police details on the job site to make sure that traffic problems are minimized.

The question of using the parking lot at Larsen Rink as a staging area was questioned by Councilor Jim Letterie. “Why not use the parking lot at E.B. Newton School. Wouldn’t that be a better site?” he asked.

Superintendent of Public Works Steve Calla said that they had looked into using the E.B. Newton parking lot on Walden St., but noted that the town had spent more than \$90,000 only a few years ago to redo that lot, and that using the site as a staging and storage area could damage the surface and would mean the lot would have to redone. “The rink will only be affected for two months,” Calla said.

Jeanne Maggio questioned the paving-over of French Square and the destruction of the trees. “I moved to Winthrop more than 55 years ago and to me, French Square is the heart of Winthrop. There has not been a lot of conversation about the new design of French Square. We should at least find a way to save the area where trees are located,” she said.

Calla said that he understood her concerns and noted that the project was start-

ed in 2013 and has evolved over the last seven years. The design of the Square was approved by the Council a few years back. As far as the trees, he noted that the birch tree is about 10 years old and to transplant the tree would cost more than \$60,000, with no guarantee of it being successful, as it is in poor health condition.

Donna Segreti Reilly queried about the the possibility of rodents, who generally scurry to find a new home during an excavation project of this magnitude.

Marco Gioioso from Gioioso Constarctors agreed that they are expecting rodent migration, as is the case in any construction site. He said that before they excavate, they will check for rodent activity and bait the area. If any residents or business owners see an increase in rodents, he said they should let him know.

Faison closed the meeting saying, “Don’t stop asking questions, we want to know as much as possible. The time to answer is now.”

A timeline of the project is available at <https://tinyurl.com/CBDProject-timeline>.

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sociedadlatina.org or apply through www.sociedadlatina.org/careers. 3/26

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Huang, Jingyu	141 Cjesea Street RT	141 Chelsea St	\$650,000
Vaudo, Joseph D	Sree FT LLC	38 Montrose St	\$600,000
Zucker, Alex G	Yi, Che	114 Waverly St #1	\$400,000



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Mystic Valley Elder Services continues to provide services to consumers during the Coronavirus pandemic

Mystic Valley Elder Services (MVES) knows that the evolving and ever changing news about Coronavirus COVID-19 is causing growing concerns for many. MVES is proud to be a highly respected resource in your community and we want you to know that keeping our community – consumers, families, staff, volunteers and community members – safe is our highest priority. Practicing caution has become best practice and learning not to panic is essential.

MVES is open for business and is working to be sure that our consumers continue to receive needed services, and to protect not only their health but also the health of our staff and volunteers as well as other agency workers who provide services to our consumers. If our staff or consumers are not feeling well, there may be a temporary interruption or reduction in services. Be assured, MVES will always let consumers know if services will be interrupted, reduced or cannot be delivered. The wellbeing of our staff and consumers is our #1 goal.

As of March 19, MVES is adhering to the following:

- We continue to serve home delivered meals. We are delivering extra shelf-stable meals to our consumers and are exploring options in the event that there may be a shortage of meal delivery personnel or if a consumer with active COVID-19 is in need of nutrition supports.
- We have adapted some

program protocols to keep consumers, volunteers and staff safe.

- We are in regular communication with our consumers. Our care managers are calling them on a regular basis to assess their well-being and need for services.
- Under Governor Baker’s recommendations to protect the staff and public’s health and safety, we are not conducting home visits but are assessing our consumers’ needs through telephonic means.
- We continue to accept calls and referrals via our online referral form and/or by calling our Information and Referral Dept. at 781-324-7705, x100.
- We are operating with limited staff in the office environment as many can work remotely, and practicing social distancing of 6 feet apart from each other.
- MVES is in constant contact with the MA Executive Office of Elder Affairs and the Department of Public Health, and we are following their guidance as well as the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommended best practices.
- We are in close communication with our extensive network of in-home service provider agencies and our community partners to deliver services in a safe and

effective manner.

Here are a few things you can do to help keep yourself from getting sick:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for 20 seconds.
- Practice social distancing putting 6 feet between yourself and other people.
- Avoid crowds of 10 or more and do not travel unless you must.
- Avoid contact with people who are sick with a cold or flu symptoms.
- If you feel sick or have a cough or fever, call your doctor.

The Coronavirus COVID-19 outbreak is a rapidly changing situation from a public health perspective and we are committed to keeping our consumers informed. MVES is working to ensure the wellbeing of all those who depend on us.

Mystic Valley Elder Services provides essential services to older adults, adults living with disabilities, and caregivers who reside in Chelsea, Everett, Malden, Medford, Melrose, North Reading, Reading, Revere, Stoneham, Wakefield and Winthrop.

Please visit our website for the latest updates concerning MVES and COVID-19 at www.mves.org.

OBITUARIES

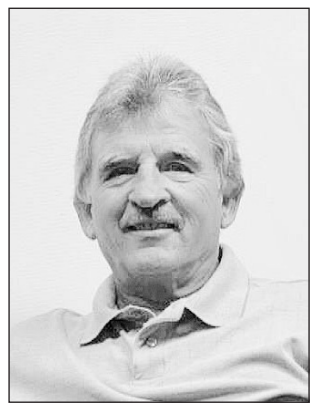
George Reardon

Certified drug and alcohol counselor who contributed to the Everett community for many years

George E. Reardon of Seabrook, NH passed away on March 12 after a long battle with Cancer.

George was born on June 6, 1959 and raised in Chelsea. He attended Chelsea High School and furthered his education by graduating from college. George then went on to be a certified alcohol and drug counselor, an ongoing passion of his. George had also contributed in serving the community of Everett for many years. He helped many individuals throughout his life. George’s passion for helping others was shown not only in his career as a counselor but in the constant selfless acts he did for others. He also had a talent for making anyone laugh.

George is survived by his beloved wife of 43 years, Ida M. Reardon; his two daughters, Lisa Higgins and Katrina Reardon and grandchild Gregory Higgins Jr. He was a devoted



husband to his wife Ida, a devoted father to his two beautiful daughters and devoted grandfather to his grandson, Gregory Jr. All were the light of his life. He cherished his family, especially his grandson, Gregory Jr. George will live on in memory through his family which also includes his extended family of brothers, cousins, etc.

Unfortunately due to current circumstances of the corona virus pandemic, services are being postponed until further notice.

Our Parish Staff: Father Joseph Chacha Marwa, S.M.A. Administrator; Father Ernest Egbedike, S.M.A. Parochial Vicar; Secretary Barbara Cannon

Weekly Mass Schedule at Immaculate Conception is as follows:

Saturday (Sunday Vigil) 4:00 p.m., Sunday 7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m. (Family Mass), 11:00 a.m., and 5:30 p.m.

12:15 p.m. Spanish Community

4:00 p.m. Haitian Community

Masses are being held in the Chapel.

Eucharistic Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is held every Thursday from 7:45 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel. Each Thursdays’ adoration

Glendale United Methodist Church

News and Notes

Glendale United Methodist Church is open to all and we welcome people of all faiths, race, nationalities and sexual preference. No one is ever turned away. If you are looking for a new home church, we would like you to check us out and let us know what we can do to make church a better fit in your life.

Bible Study: Consider joining us for Bible study on Sunday. We meet in the Church Parlor off the Chapel from 9:30 to 10:00 a.m.

Sponsor the bulletin! For a \$5 donation, you can dedicate the Sunday bulletin to recognize family, friends, or special occasions. There is a sign-up sheet in the Pastor’s study. Feel free to choose your particular week and leave a copy of your dedication in the mail in that is on the Pastor’s door. Please contact the Pastor if you have any questions.

Boy Scout Troop 814: Meet in Cooper Hall on Tuesday evenings from 6-9 p.m. Cub Pack 11 meets on Saturday mornings.

NA Meetings – Mon. Bring Your Own Book 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.; Thurs. I Can’t But We Can, 8:00 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.

AA Meeting – Saturday evenings from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Pastor’s Office Hours: Saturdays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Other times by appointment.

Bread of Life Donations – This outreach is being done to honor the United Methodist Women’s Group, who for

Glendale Christian Lighthouse Church

News and Notes

Adult Sunday School at 9:30 AM. Teaching about Holiness .

Sunday 10:30 AM Worship service.

Wednesday hour of Power, worship, prayer and Bible Study. We are studying about God, come join us.

Come join us in prayer every Friday at 6 am.

Saturday, 12-3, Women’s Fellowship. Join our sisters in worship, fellowship and prayer.

“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters,” Colossians 3:23

“In Pursuit of Spiritual Excellence”

Righteousness, Godliness, Faith, Love, Truth

- Domingo 9:30 am Escuela Dominical de Adultos. (en inglés)
- Servicio de Alabanza y Adoracion a las 10 am (en inglés)
- Miercoles Hora de Poder, Oración, alabanza y Estudio de la Palabra de Dios a las 7 pm (en inglés)
- Ven unete a nosotros para orar todos los viernes

CHURCH News

Immaculate Conception Parish

News and Notes

will conclude the Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament at 6:30 p.m. All are invited to spend a few moments with Our Blessed Lord

Bring a Book-Buy a Book - We have a new Fundraiser Program in the back of the Church. It’s called Bring a Book-Buy a Book. All books are a dollar and any money collected will go towards our Stain

Mystic Side Congregational Church

News and Notes

Mystic Side Congregational Church is located in Everett, on Malden-Everett border, at 422 Main Street. We offer a warm, inviting atmosphere, and all are welcome. Our Sunday Church service starts at 10:30 a.m. and Communion is offered on the first Sunday of each month. A very pleasant coffee hour and socializing follow our services. Parking is available in our lot next to the church on Wyllis Ave. (one way off Main Street). We look forward to welcoming you this Sunday.

Grace Episcopal Church

News and Notes

Grace Anglican Episcopal Church is open & welcoming to all.

There are 3 services on Sundays: 10am English, 1pm South Sudanese (Dinka) and 3pm Haitian Creole. We have Sunday school during the 1pm service in the Children’s Room. Coffee Hour starts after the 10am service in the Parish Hall (entrance on 11 Liberty St.)

Come all and let us walk together in this season of hope, renewal and new beginnings.

Grace Anglican Episcopal Church
67 Norwood Street,
Everett, MA
Phone 617-387-7526
or 508-243-8487

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ABOUT A MOTORCYCLE.
AND A SUDDEN TURN.**

When she was a young college student, Elisabeth Marra had a serious motorcycle accident that ultimately changed her life. Two years after the crash, her painful open fractures had failed to heal. Then she heard about a new and complex surgery pioneered by a surgeon who used a patient's own stem cells to concentrate the healing process. This time, her surgery and subsequent therapy were successful.

Elisabeth's experience caused her to re-direct her own career aspirations. Inspired by the medical professionals who helped her reclaim her active lifestyle, she changed her major to study physical therapy—a profession where her own experience could help other patients prevail through difficult recoveries.

We tell Elisabeth Marra's story here to illustrate two of the most profound messages we know. Don't give up, and remember to give back. If reading it inspires just one more person to achieve something special, then its telling here has been well worth while.

American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons
CELEBRATING HUMAN HEALING
orthoinfo.org

a las 6 am

- Domingo Servicio de alabanza y adoracion a las 4pm (Servicio en español)

Mayores informes de los servicios en español (617) 306-3518

“No temas, porque yo estoy contigo; no desmayes, porque yo soy tu Dios que te esfuerzo; siempre te ayudaré, siempre te sustentaré con la diestra de mi justicia.”

Isaias 41:10

“En busca de la excelencia espiritual

Rectitud, Divinidad, Fe, Amor, Verdad”

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Pastor
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