

Boston Cops Stop and Frisk Newspaper Editor in Roxbury

COURTESY ADAM GAFFIN
WWW.UNIVERSALHUB.COM

Yawu Miller, senior editor at the Bay State Banner, which covers Boston's black community, reports he was the subject of a field interrogation and observation (FIO), also known as "stop and frisk", by Boston Police officers at Roxbury District Court today:

Miller tweeted, "I was at Rox.

District Court, shooting photos. As I left, I was approached by about 7 BPD officers. They FIOed me! 1st time in more than 20 years! I thought the gray hair disqualified me. Apparently not!"

A report on this FIO now goes into a Boston Police Department database.

WGBH News reported in June that, according to data collected by the Boston Police Department, "seventy percent of people stopped

by Boston Police officers through the department's 'Field Interrogation and Observation' program throughout most of last year were black — even though black residents comprise less than one quarter of the city's population."

Miller adds:

"Now 70.0001 percent of BPD FIOs are black folk! All you young folk who get jacked by the Gang Unit: I feel you."

Cinquecento Won't Be Reopening

Was flooded by
burst water main

COURTESY ADAM GAFFIN
WWW.UNIVERSALHUB.COM

Cinquecento on Harrison Avenue announced it won't be reopening:

"Cinquecento was many of our

most beloved restaurants. We leave Cinquecento with the fondest of memories as we look back at the wedding celebrations, holiday parties, many a baby and wedding shower, a relaxing dinner on the patio and a refreshing drink at the Rosso Container Bar. We appreciate all of our loyal guests, hard working and dedicated staff, that made Cinquecento such a great restaurant. We are currently

keeping your favorite Cinquecento Classics alive at Gaslight Brasserie so if you need a Bolognese fix, it is there for you!"

On April 14, a BWSC water main under Harrison Avenue burst, filling the restaurant's basement with five feet of water and turning the street and a nearby parking lot into a temporary lake.

News from...

Friends of the South End Library

SUBMITTED BY
MARLEEN NIENHUI, FOSEL

The Friends of the South End Library (FOSEL). As a not-for-profit organization, we are committed to making the South End branch of the Boston Public Library (BPL) a vibrant civic space within our community with exciting programming created for you, based on our board's and library staff's suggestions, as well as yours. We make them available

with private funds FOSEL raises from you, our loyal supporters.

Events

Legal Analyst and former federal prosecutor, Lis Wiehl, will present her latest thriller in 'The Hunting Series, "Hunting the Unabomber," Tuesday, July 21 at 6:30 PM, via ZOOM

Continued on page 2



Liz Wiehl, courtesy photo

Pine Street Inn Secures New Temporary Housing to Continue Social Distancing

SUBMITTED BY PINE STREET INN

Pine Street Inn, New England's largest homeless services organization, will move 180 residents out of temporary housing at a Suffolk University dormitory and into a building at 891 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston, to conform with the CDC's social distance recommendations, helping ensure the continued safety and wellbeing of its guests.

In March, Pine Street worked with the Boston Public Health Commission and City of Boston to move men and women from its main shelter buildings into temporary housing at a Suffolk University dorm to reduce congestion and increase social distancing. The dorm was a short-term solution, and following an intensive search to secure longer-term accommodations, Pine

Street Inn will lease the space at 891 Massachusetts Avenue as a "bridge" to permanent housing, beginning July 2020. Each of the building's 90 rooms will house two guests, primarily frail and vulnerable men and women with underlying medical conditions.

"Pine Street's goal has been to move men and women off the streets, out of shelter and into permanent housing, and the COVID pandemic has made this even more urgent. We cannot go back to our pre-COVID conditions, with overcrowded shelters," said Lyndia Downie, president and executive director of Pine Street Inn. "Depopulating shelters along with other measures, including masks and handwashing, have made an overwhelming difference as we

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ASK DOG LADY



Advice on Pets, Life, Love

BY MONICA COLLINS

Dear Dog Lady,

Do you have any advice for dog step-parents like me? When I fell in love with Bob, I had no choice but love his dog, a shepherd-mix named Aynsley. Bob and I got married and

we all live together as man and man and dog. But Aynsley is much more Bob's dog. He immediately jumps to Bob's commands. On walks, he will always look around to see where Bob is. I often joke that even if I stood next to Bob shaking a slab of juicy meat, the dog would always go to Bob first. Why is this? Is there any way to teach an old dog to love me too? — Paul

Dear Paul,

Your question strikes a chord with anyone who falls in love with someone who loved a dog first. The simple answer is "no." Nothing personal, though. Bob's bond with

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PUBLIC EDUCATION & CHILDCARE

*The Census impacts funding for
programs like Head Start and grants
for special education and public schools*

2020census.gov | 844-330-2020



South Boston NDC Income-restricted Rental Opportunity
O'CONNOR WAY SENIOR HOUSING
 5 Major Michael J. O'Connor Way, South Boston, MA 02127

46 Income-Restricted Units for seniors 62+

# of Units	# of bedrooms	Price	Income Limit
5	one-bedroom	30% of Household Income	up to 30% AMI
* 17	one-bedroom	30% of Household Income	30% - 50% AMI
** 24	one-bedroom	\$1,111 - \$1,333 (based on your household size income)	over 50% and up to 60% AMI

*Three units are built-out for persons with mobility impairments.

**One unit is built-out for people who are deaf/hard of hearing and/or have vision impairment.

The 22 units affordable to households earning up to 30% AMI and between 30% and 50% AMI
 Filled directly through the Boston Housing Authority (BHA)

Applications are available by visiting BHA's website and printing an application to be mailed in, by completing an application through CHAMP online, or by calling 617-988-3400 and requesting BHA mail you a paper application. Applications are available at <https://www.bostonhousing.org/en/For-Applicants/How-To-Apply-for-BHA-Housing.aspx>. To apply online please visit CHAMP at <https://publichousingapplication.occ.state.ma.us/>

Minimum incomes (set by owner + based on # of bedrooms + AMI)
 Maximum incomes (set by DND + based on the household size + AMI)

# of bedrooms	Household size	Min-Max Yearly Income 30% AMI	Min-Max Yearly Income 50% AMI	Min-Max Yearly Income 60% AMI
1	1	0 — \$24,900	\$24,901 — \$41,500	\$41,501 — \$53,760
1	2	0 — \$28,440	\$28,441 — \$47,400	\$47,401 — \$61,440

for the 24 units affordable to households earning between 50% and 60% AMI, income minimums do not apply to households with housing assistance such as Section 8, MRVP, or VASH.

Applications are available during the application period for 22 days, from Monday, June 29 – Tuesday, July 28, 2020 from 10 AM - 4 PM and on Thursday, July 9 and Thursday, July 23 evenings until 7 PM and Saturday, July 11, 10:00am – 2:00pm

60% AMI units - To request an application online, please visit <https://bha.bostonhousing.org/en/For-Applicants/How-To-Apply-for-BHA-Housing.aspx>. After careful consideration and an abundance of caution, the City of Boston has decided to cancel the in-person application distribution period. If you cannot complete the application online or from your smartphone, please call us at 617-464-2483 to request that we mail you one and to ask for any guidance you might need to complete the application. When you call, you will be asked for your full name, complete mailing address, and phone number. This is a City and HUD requirement.

DEADLINE: Applications must be submitted online or postmarked no later than Tuesday, August 4, 2020
 Mailed to: 273 D Street, South Boston, MA 02127

- Selection by Lottery for the units affordable to households earning between 50% and 60% AMI
- Age Restricted; must be 62 years or older by the move-in date.
- Asset & Use Restrictions apply.
- Preferences for Boston Residents.



Where will you live until you can call this 'Home' again? Your association policy won't cover your additional living expenses. Condo owners NEED Personal Condominium Insurance for that. Aside from replacing your personal property, it will help you with rent, while you're still paying your mortgage. Contact us.

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Dog Lady

Continued from page 1

Aynsley was sealed before you entered their lives and the link is unassailable — at least in Aynsley's dogged brain.

But consider this: You can enjoy all the benefits of being friends with a dog without bearing all the responsibility for the dog. Surely, you can see the goodness of this.

Dear Dog Lady,

My landlord has been watching somebody's dog for a couple of weeks. He ties the dog right outside my window during the day and leaves it there. The dog barks at everyone who walks by. I feel so badly about this. At least I get to go to work every day but the poor dog doesn't seem to go anywhere. How would you suggest I approach the landlord about this situation?

—Chaya

Dear Chaya,

Geez, Dog Lady became incensed while reading this. How anyone can just tie up a dog and expect the animal to be cool about the confinement is crazy. Step up and say something to your landlord. What? Start from the humane point of view: "I don't think it is kind treatment to keep an animal tied up all day . . ."

If he pushes back, you have all sorts of methods at your disposal: Shame him on social media (TikTok, although haters will label you

a "Karen"). Call your town's Animal Control office and anonymously report him; or withhold rent because the dog disturbs your right to quiet and peaceful enjoyment of the premises.

Dear Dog Lady,

I have been so good to my dog. I never hit her, shout at her, or make her go hungry. But I swear she plots revenge on me all the time. She chews my shoes and goes to the bathroom in my closet. She looks at me like she's terribly guilty. Without sticking her nose in her messes and swatting her, how do I let her know she's done wrong? She's almost seven-years-old and she should know better.

—Melissa

Dear Chaya,

Are you talking about your dog or a bad roommate? You have fallen into that trap of anthropomorphizing your dog. Anthropomorphize is a big word for a simple concept. Anthropomorphizing occurs when someone ascribes human qualities to living creatures of another species; in this case, canines.

Dogs do not have emotions like humans. You cannot expect a dog to feel guilt, love, remorse or any feeling on a human scale. You are good to your dog, which is excellent. However, do not expect the dog to feel grateful or to consider your feelings when she goes potty in your closet.

Write: askdoglady@gmail.com.

Pine Street Inn

Continued from page 1

have tested guests over the past few months. We appreciate the ongoing support from the City of Boston and the Boston community as we move forward with these measures."

As part of the move, Pine Street will provide specially trained housing placement

teams, also located at the space, to work with each individual to develop a housing plan and work towards a permanent housing placement, aiming to house all residents within 12 months. In addition, Pine Street will provide around-the-clock staffing and security at the new location.

For more information on Pine Street Inn, please visit pinestreetinn.org.

FOSEL

Continued from page 1

Wiehl was a Fox News legal analyst for 15 years and a reporter/legal analyst for NBC News and NPR's All Things Considered, before that. She has come out with her second historical thriller in The Hunting Series, titled "Hunting the Unabomber: The FBI, Ted Kaczynski, and the Capture of America's Most Notorious Domestic Terrorist".

The first in the series, "Hunting Charles Manson", co-written with Caitlin Rother, was based on a re-examination of the 50-year-old case with new interviews, reviews of original source materials and dozens of parole hearing transcripts.

Wiehl, a former Federal prosecutor,

relied on those same research methods to take a fresh look at the search for Theodore Kaczynski, an effort rife with inter-agency law enforcement conflicts that was almost shut down by the 150-member FBI team on the case before a stroke of luck led to the arrest of the criminally insane math prodigy. By that time, Kaczynski had killed three people and maimed more than a dozen others with bombs sent in the mail to random individuals.

ZOOM info will be emailed to our subscribers.

To subscribe, email us at info@friendsofsouthendlibrary.org.

To join us on Tuesday, July 21, at 6:30 PM, please click on the Facebook link below: <https://www.facebook.com/FriendsoftheSouthEndLibrary/>

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Take the BPS Family Survey On Remote Learning, Reopening

SUBMITTED BY BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

As Boston Public Schools (BPS) plan for reopening school, we want to hear from you! Your feedback is critical and will guide the many important decisions required to ensure a safe and healthy return to school buildings in September. Please provide your honest thoughts to help us better understand your family's needs and preferences as we approach the upcoming school year so we can best support you and your family.

Take the survey here: <https://www.bostonpublicschools.org/survey>

Frequently-asked questions

Do I have to participate? No, your participation is completely voluntary. However, we hope you will take the time to fill out the survey.

What do I do if I have more than one student? If you have more than one child attending the Boston Public Schools, please fill out a separate survey for each child. This allows us to get information about each school

and the teachers who work with your children.

How long will this take? This survey only takes about 10 minutes to complete.

Who will see my answers? Only staff from the Office of Data and Accountability will see individual results. Your answers will be anonymous; we don't ask for your name or your student's name.

What do I need to do? Fill out the survey as soon as you can by clicking the appropriate link above.

If I fill out the survey online, do I also need to fill out the paper survey? No; please only complete the online survey.

Where can I see the results of last year's survey? The results of last year's survey for each school are posted on the school's webpage, which you can find here, <https://www.bostonpublicschools.org/Page/628>

What if I have questions or concerns about the survey? Please contact Data and Accountability at 617-635-9450 or rc069@bostonpublicschools.org.

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or email: sales@southendnews.com.

A MODERN WONDER!

This sprawling home is filled to the brim with modern flair, fine finishes and is located in a coveted neighborhood, abutting conservation land! The private approach sets the tone, this home will be sure to please! The entry foyer leads to the family room with soaring ceilings, focal fireplace and access to the serene screened porch. Two home office/study spaces are conveniently located on either side of the beautiful formal dining room. The chef's kitchen was completely remodeled in 2016 and features a center island and breakfast area. The large deck is an entertainer's dream and overlooks the fenced yard. There is a large mudroom and half bath on the main living level. 4 large bedrooms, including the luxe master suite and full spa bath, additional ensuite and loft, as well as second floor laundry. The walk-out lower level has been finished to provide a bonus room or playroom-endless possibilities. Significant updates and features make this home the one to call yours!

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Food Pantries

Information from the City of Boston

Haley House Food Pantry, 23 Dartmouth Street, Thursday, 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., 617-236-8132

Rosie's Place/Pantry, 889 Harrison Ave., Mondays: 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Tuesdays and Fridays: 8:30 - 11:30 a.m.
Tuesdays and Thursdays: 4:30 - 6:30 p.m., 617-442-9322

Salvation Army/South End Food Pantry, 1500 Washington Street, Mondays,

Tuesdays, and Thursdays: 9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., 617-536-5260.

Catholic Charities/El Centro del Cardena, Monsignor Reynolds Way, Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays: 9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m., 617-522-4040

Boston Medical Center Food Pantry, 1 Boston Medical Center Yawkey B, Monday through Friday: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., 617-414-3834

Grant A.M.E./Self-Help, 1906 Washington St., First and third Thursday of the month: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., 617-427-0670

American Red Cross/Mobile Market, 1033 Massachusetts Ave., Times vary, call

ahead: 617-375-0735.

Islamic Multi Service Organization, 722 Shawmut Avenue, Second Sunday of the month: 1:30 - 4 p.m., 617-442-2805

Union United Methodist Church Food Pantry, 485 Columbus Ave., Second Tuesday of the month: 8 a.m. - 1 p.m., 617-287-1020

Locations and times are subject to change. Please check back to confirm information before you head to a meal pickup site or food pantry.

Visit <https://www.boston.gov/departments/food-access/map-covid19-food-resources> for a full list of pantries.

Guest Opinion

How Sprawl May Kill Us

BY MICHAEL GROVE

The export of American culture is still one of the most influential forces in our interconnected world. Our pop music, movies, and artery-clogging cuisine is ubiquitous. From Dakar to Delhi, you can eat your Auntie Anne's pretzel while grooving along to Arianna Grande on your way to see the latest release of the Avengers. One of our most damaging exports, however, is our adoration of the American suburb. When our 20th century model for housing the swelling populations of Long Island and suburban Los Angeles translates to 21st century Kinshasa and Kuala Lumpur, our esteemed American way of life may very well be our own downfall. In our pre-pandemic ignorance, most urbanists pointed to climate change as the most dangerous impact of our cherished suburban lifestyle. To be sure, the higher carbon emissions and the rise in chronic health problems associated with living in subdivisions aren't going away, but COVID-19 has exposed another threat we've chosen to ignore. The next pandemic may very well result from our addiction to - and exportation of - sprawl.

The increasing traction of the anti-density movement in the wake of the current outbreak is alarming. Headlines proclaiming that residents of tall buildings are more likely to contract COVID-19, and that the initial risk of exposure in cities is greater is true, but density isn't the root of the problem. Cities aren't at fault. Global sprawl into sensitive habitats is the problem. Cities, in fact, are the answer. The more densely we build, the more land we can conserve for nature to thrive and the more space we leave untouched where viruses can naturally exist while remaining separated

from humanity. Habitat destruction and biodiversity loss doesn't only occur only when we cut down tropical rainforests. Degraded habitats of any kind can create conditions for many different types of viruses to occur, whether in Accra or Austin. COVID-19 is not the first disease to crossover from animal to human populations, but it is likely a harbinger of more mass pandemics and further disruptions to the global economy.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) notes that approximately 75% of emerging infectious diseases in humans are zoonotic, meaning that they are transmitted to us through contact with animals. The initial emergence of many of these zoonotic diseases have been tracked to the parts of the world with the greatest biodiversity, both in the traditional and man-made sense. Traditional locations include tropical rainforests where biodiversity naturally occurs. Human-influenced conditions include places like bushmeat markets in Africa or the wet markets of Asia, where we are unnaturally mixing trapped exotic animals with humans, often in astonishingly unsanitary conditions. When we assault the wild places that harbor so much biodiversity in the relentless pursuit of development, we are disregarding a significant aspect of this biodiversity—the unseen domain of undocumented viruses and pathogens. Natural ecosystems are not what pose the threat—the human activity that disrupts these systems, like suburban development, is the real culprit.

Moving out of dense cities into the open space and social distancing afforded by the suburbs is exactly the type of knee-jerk reaction that we must avoid. The disruption of pristine forests due to logging, mining, urbanization,

and population growth is bringing us closer to species with which we have rarely had contact. By infringing on their habitats, we are reducing the natural barriers between humans and host species, creating ideal conditions for diseases to spread. This unsettling idea is already evident in the fragmented forests of many American suburbs, where development patterns have altered the natural cycle of the pathogen that causes Lyme disease. When humans live in close proximity to these disrupted ecosystems, they are more likely to get bitten by a tick carrying the Lyme bacteria. When biodiversity is reduced, these diluted systems allow for species like rodents and bats—some of the most likely to promote the transmission of pathogens—to thrive. This essentially means that the more habitats we disturb, the more danger we are in by tapping into various virus reservoirs.

When it comes to where the next virus might emerge, Wuhan isn't really that different from Washington DC. When the American model of over-indulgent suburban sprawl is the benchmark for success, we all will eventually lose. Now is the moment to put the health of the planet before our American values of heaven on a half-acre. Our land use policies in this country have just as profound an impact on the rest of the world as any movie out of Hollywood. If we shift American values toward embracing denser, cleaner, more efficient and well-planned cities that drive ecological conservation, instead of promoting sprawl as a panacea for our current predicament, that may very well be our greatest export to humanity.

Michael Grove is the Chair of Landscape Architecture, Civil Engineering, and Ecology at Sasaki, a global design firm with offices in Boston and Shanghai.

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Letters policy

To be considered for publication, letters must be no longer than 500 words; refrain from extreme personal attacks; be signed and include an address and daytime telephone number. Writers should refrain from making incorrect statements since they may be barred from future issues. Deadline is noon Tuesday for Thursday's paper. To send us letters: Mail to PO BOX E14, Boston, MA 02127; FAX to 617.464.7286; E-mail: letters@southendnews.com

Service Guide Ads Get Results.

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COVID-19

Greater Boston Basic Needs Supports

Catholic Charities Greater Boston Basic Needs Department

Serving Suffolk and Middlesex County. Services include: food pantry assistance (Dorchester, South End, Somerville); emergency financial assistance; emergency essential assistance; SNAP outreach; HIV support services; resource & referral assistance

More Info: Please call (617) 506-6628 or email Basic_Needs@ccab.org

Resources for Immigrant Communities: What's available?

Protecting Immigrant Families Campaign (NILC & CLASP)

The PIF Campaign has developed a quick reference guide on immigrant eligibility that provides a general overview of some of the federal public programs available to support individuals and families during the COVID-19 crisis. In light of implementation of public charge regulations, we have also included clarification about whether certain public programs are taken into account for public charge purposes. The guide includes links to deeper dive resources on eligibility from our partners. <https://protectingimmigrantfamilies.org/>

Suffolk County Resource Guide

Suffolk County District Attorney, Rachel Rollins

This is a collection of resources currently available in Suffolk County, Ma, compiled by the staff of the Juvenile Alternative Resolution Program of the Juvenile Unit at the Office of Suffolk County District Attorney Rachael Rollins. It is not a complete list, and you should continue to consult relevant experts and your care providers when appropriate. This guide is intended to be a starting point for residents and service providers for finding resources to assist during the COVID-19 National Emergency. Our current circumstances are fluid and evolving; information, services, and recommendations may change over time. We advise you to contact any of the included services outlined here ahead of time to ensure up-to-date accuracy. <https://www.suffolkdistrictattorney.com/>

DTA SNAP and Cash Benefits During COVID-19

Massachusetts Legal Services

To view a general overview of DTA policies and

how to ensure folks can access benefits, please visit MLRI's COVID-19 page: <https://www.masslegalservices.org/DTA-COVID-19>

Hunger and Food Resources for Households

Project Bread's Hunger and Food Resources page offers information for families and households on school meal sites and locations; the Food Resource Hotline (to get connected to food, and for SNAP application assistance); and policy updates (state and federal level). <http://www.projectbread.org/>

Greater Boston Food Bank (GBFB)

GBFB partners with 500+ hunger-relief agencies, including food pantries, community meal programs and other food assistance providers throughout the nine counties and 190 towns and cities across Eastern Massachusetts. These efforts have doubled in the wake of COVID and increased food needs. This page offers information on food pantries across the state, as well as additional resources for food assistance, including school meal sites. <https://www.gbfb.org/>

Massachusetts State Updates & Resources

State of Massachusetts (Governor's Office) and MA DPH is working closely with the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to provide updated information about the novel coronavirus outbreak. <https://www.mass.gov/> offers:

Prevention and treatment
Cases, quarantine and monitoring
State of emergency
Printable fact sheets and FAQ
Emotional health and well-being resources
Press release
MA 2-1-1

SIREN COVID-19 Resource Page

Social Interventions Research & Evaluation Network (SIREN)

sirennetwork.ucsf.edu/covid-19-resources includes resources on a national level such as:

Social needs surveillance
Recent news articles about COVID and health equity
Resources for clinicians and patients
Insurance coverage and codes for COVID-related healthcare services

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The South End News welcomes letters to the editor. All letters must be signed and accompanied by a mailing address and phone number. Because of space limitations, letter should not be more than 200 words.

e-mail:
letters@southendnews.com

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION		Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Docket No. SU20P0889EA
Estate of: Joan Mary Jack Also known As: Joan Mary (Weathers) Jack, Joan M. Jack Date of Death: 2/04/2020	Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street PO Box 9667 Boston, MA 02114 (617)788-8300	
To all interested persons: A petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by: Brian W. Jack of Boston, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that Brian W. Jack of Boston, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve <u>Without Surety</u> on the bond in an <u>unsupervised</u> administration.		
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on 08/13/2020.		
This is NOT a hearing date but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you.		
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A Personal Representative appointed under MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration		
WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: July 08, 2020 Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate		

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MySouthEnd.com

Resources

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Pharmacy delivery services
Vaccination scams/exploitation
Housing
Employment/income concerns
Utility concerns
Social isolation
Advocacy opportunities

The City of Boston

The City of Boston has a free texting service to provide daily updates and information about the coronavirus. Text BOSCOVID to 99411 to opt-in for English. Language and communications access remains a priority for Mayor Walsh, so this text service is also available in Spanish, Haitian Creole, French, Cabo

Verdean Creole, and Portuguese.

Text BOSEspanol for Spanish

Text BOSKreyol for Haitian Kreyol

Text BOSFrancais for French

Text BOSKriolu for Cabo Verdean Creole

Text BOSPortugues for Portuguese

Updates in 10 total languages can additionally be accessed through boston.gov/coronavirus/multilingual-help. Each language has its own page and hosts multilingual print materials distributed citywide.

HOMELESS SERVICES AND HOSPITAL CAPACITY

On April 2nd, Mayor Walsh announced that construction begins at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center to add 500 beds for treating homeless adults who have tested positive for COVID-19 and need care, but do not require full hospitalization.

The City has released a Request for Proposals to secure a partner organization to operate the facility. If necessary, the Convention Center beds will be opened up for hospitals to use for sub-acute COVID patients in the general population.

These 500 beds will bring Boston's total number of new beds for homeless individuals to over 1,000. This includes Boston Medical Center's Newton Pavilion facility, which the City and State are working to re-purpose as a medical facility for homeless residents affected by the coronavirus.

SMALL BUSINESS SUPPORT

On April 2nd, Mayor Walsh announced two new resources that will help small businesses during the public health crisis.

The City of Boston has created a Small

Business Relief Fund. Drawing on a combination of City, federal, and private industry contributions, it establishes \$2 million in grant funding—capable of providing a lifeline to hundreds of local businesses at risk of shutting down permanently due to the crisis. It will be administered as a streamlined version of the City's Small Business Financing program. Small businesses can begin applying on Monday, April 6.

The City of Boston has also created a Financial Relief Handbook and FAQ document for small businesses. It's a resource for navigating both public and private capital programs. It puts information and guidance about all the different programs together in one place.

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