

Surviving COVID-19 also challenges SE businesses

BY MICHELE D. MANISCALCO

The global COVID-19 pandemic and its ensuing lifestyle changes and restrictions have made stark changes to our landscape and lifestyles: No crowds on Sunday at SoWa; most construction sites are quiet; take-out or delivery only at both casual and fine-dining restaurants; shuttered gift shops and



Boston Veterinary Clinic in the South End. Photo by Michele D. Maniscalco

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South Ender Taylor Appointed to AAMC's Group

SUBMITTED BY BUSM

(Boston)—South End resident Andrew W. Taylor, PhD, associate dean for research at Boston University School of Medicine (BUSM), has been named to the steering

committee of the Association of American Medical College's Group on Research Advancement and Development (GRAND). GRAND provides a national forum for the promotion, support, development

and conduct of biomedical research in medical schools and teaching hospitals.

Taylor joined the faculty of

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Advice on Pets, Life, Love

BY MONICA COLLINS

Dear Dog Lady,

My husband and I just adopted Bishop, a one year-old cocker spaniel, from a local animal shelter. This is my first pet, and I did a lot

of thinking before we made this commitment. He's a very good dog – housebroken, loving, and smart – and I have no reason to complain.

But I thought I'd bond immediately with this dog. Instead, I've been feeling depressed. It's not a constant thing. Sometimes I'm really happy about having him, and I always feel love and concern for him. But I have trouble sleeping and eating, and whenever we leave the house, all I can think about is how he's behaving while I'm away. Is this normal? Will I adjust the longer we have the dog?

—Holly

Dear Holly,

Any new relationship comes with the inevitable strain of adjustment.

Your dreams of a dog can clash with the reality of having a dependent creature under your roof. In the struggle to bond, resentment arises – and guilt because the dog is so innocent and, as you describe Bishop, loving and smart.

Dog Lady had great difficulty accepting a new dog into her life. Mr. Dog Lady was more gung-ho about adopting another dog after beloved Shorty passed away. Dog Lady dragged her feet for two years, mired in grief for Shorty and enjoying the new found freedom of dog-less-ness. Dog Lady could sleep as late as she wanted. She didn't need to worry

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Local news
for and about Boston's
best neighborhood

City Councilor Wu says she's an example



Michelle Wu gets swabbed for infection; was negative on that test. Photo courtesy universalhub.com

She tests positive for coronavirus antibodies, never had symptoms

COURTESY ADAM GAFFIN
WWW.UNIVERSALHUB.COM

At-large City Councilor Michelle Wu, who lives in Roslindale, reports she was one of the 1,000

people randomly selected for testing for both coronavirus infection and for antibodies, which would indicate she'd been exposed to the virus – and that while she tested negative for a current infection, she tested positive for antibodies.

Wu reports she never developed any symptoms and adds:

That's why physical distance

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South End Community Health Center Pilots Children's Vaccine Clinic

SUBMITTED BY SOUTH END
COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

Boston, MA (May 3, 2020) – The message to stay home and steer clear of healthcare facilities unless it's absolutely necessary because of COVID 19, is causing many parents to postpone their children's vaccinations.

In response to this dilemma,

South End Community Health Center (SECHC) piloted a vaccine clinic last Tuesday, May 5, at its satellite site, the Dr. Gerald Hass Center, 400 Shawmut Avenue, in the South End. For information on future clinics, please check the website at sechc.org or call 617-425-2000 and ask for Pediatrics.

The Hass Center, Boston's only

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Help Fight COVID-19

- Stay At Home
- Cover Your Face
- Wash Your Hands
- Don't Touch Your Face
- Practice Physical Distancing
- Boston Suggested Curfew 9pm-6am

Funeralizing a community, again

REV. IRENE MONROE

The coronavirus, the virus that causes the deadly illness called COVID-19, eerily reminds me of when I started as a young minister during the AIDS crisis. The enormity of the pain, grief and anxiety expressed by mourners and the volume of deaths reminds me of those early years.

During the height of the AIDS epidemic in the 1980s, my communities — African-American and LGBTQ+ — were dying faster than any of us ministers could funeralize them. News about these two communities did not become front and center until the death toll climbed to over 41,000 deaths and over 60,000 diagnoses of full-blown AIDS. Then President Ronald Reagan didn't speak up about it until April 1987.

AIDS was thought to be the province of gay males. However, for clergy working or living in black and LGBTQ+ communities, we knew long before the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention revealed in their October 1986 special edition of "Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report" on "AIDS Among Blacks and Hispanics," that the face of the epidemic would be that of an African-American heterosexual sister.

The report stated that 51% of women with AIDS were African-American, and that black women contracted AIDS 13.3 times more frequently than white women. African-

American adults had an overall AIDS rate three times higher than white adults.

An old African-American aphorism states that "When white America catches a cold, black America gets pneumonia." Now the community has tagged on to this statement that "When white America catches COVID-19, black America dies."

The COVID-19 data on race has revealed that black and brown communities are the hardest here in Boston and across the country. Clergy in these communities have been performing non-stop homegoings (an African-American Christian funeral tradition), helping families, loved ones and communities of the deceased through this valley of anxiety, fear and death.

Citing Boston's newest COVID-19 data on race and neighborhoods released on Saturday, NBC10 Boston reports that of the 7,910 known cases in the city, 2,249 African-American residents were among those who tested positive, comprising 42% of total cases. Stark racial and health care disparities existed before COVID-19, and they exist now — despite Madonna announcing in a tweet that COVID-19 is "the great equalizer." An earlier myth circulated stating that "Black people are immune to the coronavirus," suggesting we are of different biology.

Sadly, in 2020, the same racist tropes and health care disparities impeding access to adequate care to African-Americans during this

pandemic played out during the 1918 Spanish flu pandemic, too. Jim Crow ordinances of the era institutionalized "separate" and "equal" hospitals and health care facilities, which deliberately put African-Americans at a disadvantage. African-American doctors, nurses and other health care workers overwhelmed by the volume of sick and dying patients had to fend for themselves. The falsity that blacks are immune to COVID-19 also circulated nationwide in 1918. The Nov. 2, 1918 front page edition of the Cleveland Advocate falsely claimed that black people were not getting the flu with the headline "Flu Shuns Us, Says Health Doctor." In truth, African-Americans died at staggeringly higher numbers. The comorbidities that plagued us then, like today, were simply the tip of the iceberg contributing to our death rate.

"Do you know why African-Americans align with so many COVID-19 comorbidities? Structural racism. Food deserts=unequal access to healthy & fresh foods= diabetes, heart disease. Enviro injustices mean dirty air, water. Greed & neglect, subpar housing=asthma," Rep. Ayanna Pressley (D-Mass.) wrote in a tweet earlier this month.

While the gendered impact of COVID-19 presently suggests that men fare worse than women, the news doesn't give black women a

better survival rate. Poor cis-gendered African-American women are the majority of frontline health care workers, an essential yet undervalued class. At the same time, they're trying to hold their family unit together. Data show that this demographic group of women constitute about 40% of those evicted from their homes. These sisters weigh the risk of going to work to avoid homelessness, another factor putting them at higher risk for contracting the deadly virus. Cis-gendered black women are the largest group of people I've been funeralizing.

The next largest group is my trans sisters — youth and adults. They are the most invisible in this pandemic. Their survival and death rates in this crisis will be worse than any subgroup within the African-American community, once the data surface. Black trans women face high levels of homelessness, poverty, unemployment and incarceration. They are the majority killed of transgender people. Sadly, we're likely to lose more with COVID-19.

I've been doing funerals since March 25, sometimes two in a day remotely on Zoom. It's a surrealism difficult to depict. I funeralized many in my community during the AIDS pandemic. I honestly never thought I'd have to do it again.

AAMC

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the Department of Ophthalmology and the Immunology Training program of BUSM in April 2010. As associate dean for research since 2015, Taylor has led the research enterprise of the School of Medicine, which is ranked 29th in the country. Prior to this appointment he was on the faculty of the Schepens Eye Research Institute and the Department of Ophthalmology at Harvard Medical School.

Taylor is an internationally known National Institutes of Health (NIH)/National Eye Institute-funded researcher in ocular immune privilege, ocular neuroimmune biology and ocular autoimmune disease. He received his PhD in 1990 from the department of microbiology at the Ohio State University and completed a postdoctoral fellowship in 1993 with Scott W. Cousins, MD and J. Wayne Streilein, MD, at the University of Miami

Miller School of Medicine.

He has served as a member of the NIH, Diseases and Pathology of the Visual System review panel and for several international funding agencies and the Department of Defense. Taylor has been a regular reviewer and section editor for several immunology and vision science journals and serves on the editorial boards of Ocular Immunology and Inflammation and Translational Vision Science & Technology. He is a member of the board of directors of the Streilein Foundation for Ocular Immunology, a nonprofit promoting research, training and mentorship in immunology.

In addition, Taylor is a Gold Fellow of the Association for Research in Ophthalmology and Vision (ARVO) and an elected trustee of ARVO. He administers the Cora Verhagen Award for the best immunology student presentation at the annual meeting of ARVO.



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Checking in: Theater

BY JULES BECKER

Is "The Merchant of Venice" anti-Semitic? Scholars, directors, actors and theatergoers continue to debate that question and diverge greatly in their interpretations of the late 16th century play. The late Shakespeare expert Harold Bloom called the portrayal of Shylock "savagery."

By contrast, many performers Edmund Kean have often looked to the moneylender's famous "Hath not a Jew eyes" speech in making the role sympathetic. Now Igor Golyak is taking his cues from the Elizabethan era itself when audiences would have seen Shylock as a 'villain' and the play was termed a comedy. Pre-Covid-19, the Needham Jewish director had planned to stage his present day-set Actors Shakespeare Project revival at the Boston Center for the Arts—a production he hopes to return to late summer or early fall.

"For me," the Arlekin Players artistic director asserts, "it's absolutely clear that this play was anti-Semitic. The (Elizabethan) public

would have laughed. I think Shakespeare's genius gave birth to something that changed over time." Sympathetic interpretations aside, Golyak observes in a director's note that "The Merchant of Venice" was a prescription by Goebbels (the Nazis' propaganda director) as part of the Final Solution and proof of why the Jewish people deserved to be exterminated."

In fact the Nazis made the play a significant part of their radio broadcasts after Kristallnacht (1938) and presented productions in Nazi territory. "In Nazi Germany," Golyak submitted, "people were booing Shylock."

In the ASP staging, Golyak has audience members reacting in a variety of ways to reflect their changing reactions. "For me," he admitted, "the journey the audience is going through is even more interesting than what's going on." Here there are applause signs. Golyak recalled the theatergoers both applauding and crying after the previews and at a talkback.

Golyak means to challenge audiences. Alluding to Sasha Baron Cohen's unusual look at anti-Semitism in his in-your-face film

"Borat," he explains, "We took the clichés and stereotypes that people use. The first time Shylock (played by Nael Nacer) comes out, he is wearing a mask and a big nose. This is the way Nazis would see him."

In the ASP revival, the perception of Shylock is essential. For example, when ship merchant Antonio and his financially strapped best friend Bassanio step offstage, Shylock takes off his mask and becomes a real person. "It (the perception of him)'s a shock to the audience," Golyak alerted. As for Shakespeare's audiences, he contended, they would have seen the play as "a comedy that ends with a happy ending." That 'happy ending' would have meant the respective marriages of Bassanio (Alejandro Simoes) and Portia (Gigi Watson) and Lorenzo (Peter Walsh) and Jessica (Anna Bortnik) and the downfall of Shylock for trying to obtain a pound of Antonio (Dennis Trainor)'s flesh without a drop of blood. (Golyak does not give added attention to the relationship between Antonio and Bassanio, though he does allow that the former is probably gay

and the latter arguably bi-sexual). "For them (Elizabethan audiences), it (the play and its meaning) was very simple."

No such simplicity applies today according to Golyak. "I think that after the Holocaust there's no way to look at the play that way." In his view "There is absolutely no evidence that Shylock converted (to Christianity). (Spoiler alert) Golyak sees the play moving "from a Venetian Carnivale-cabaret into the Holocaust."

Here he greatly credits scenic and costume designer Nastya Bugaeva, a Moscow Art Theatre professor who also worked on Arlekin's "The Stone" and "The Seagull." Working with an eight-member cast—the others Mara Sidmore as Portia's maid Nerissa and Jordan Palmer as Shylock's servant Launcelot Gobbo, Golyak has also relied on the efforts of Washington, D.C. puppet designer Ksenya Litvak. Here secondary characters Gratiano, Salerio and Solanio become puppets. In the revival, he explains, "We do that (their dialogue) as a radio

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SE Businesses

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gyms; and sidewalks are eerily empty. Since Governor Baker ordered the shutdown of all non-essential businesses on March 23 and issued a stay-at-home advisory for all Bay State residents except for urgent needs, business owners have scrambled to adjust their operations to continue serving customers and staunch the loss of revenue. Some local shops, though stressed themselves, are reaching out to help those in need.

Government response to the pandemic-related economic crisis includes the federal Payroll Protection Program, which provides loans to small businesses that will be forgiven provided recipient businesses retain their staff on payroll, while Boston's Department of Economic Development offers grants to small businesses through the Small Business Relief Fund. Local business groups Washington Gateway Main Street and South End Business Alliance (SEBA) have attempted to address the business slowdown with webinars and other communications offering expert advice and support.

The South End News asked various local businesses about their approaches and concerns in adapting to COVID-19 related limitations.

Café Quattro's pizzas, sandwiches and entrees have been favorites among hungry neighbors, Boston Medical Center staff, and police officers since 2015. Café Quattro chef/owner Evan Butland said that after the shutdown and stay-at-home advisory were announced, his catering business disappeared overnight, resulting in a 25 per cent drop in revenue. Café Quattro responded with a shift to take-out and delivery via Grubhub and retail, selling pantry staples such as coffee, olive oil, cookies, pasta imported from Italy as well as sought-after pandemic staples such as paper towels, toilet paper and vinyl gloves.

Retail items can be ordered at www.cafe-quattroboston.com for pick-up or delivery. In terms of pandemic-related aid to businesses, Butland has been "applying for everything," and received word that he will receive a grant from the city's Small Business Relief Fund and a loan from the federal Payroll Protection Program. "That's a Godsend, it's really good news. It's going to keep us going."

A sign in front of the Wine Emporium at 607 Tremont Street boasts, "WE ARE ESSENTIAL! + we are here for you!" According to general manager and buyer Jenn Shimer, the store's hours are reduced to 11:00 AM-9:00 PM, and it is encouraging on-line orders through drizly.com and phone orders as well as delivery and curbside pickup. For added safety, the Wine Emporium is accepting credit and debit cards and Apple Pay only, no cash. "It has been a challenge to deal with customers that are angry because they do not carry a debit or credit card," Shimer said. Shimer reported no drop in business and has not laid off any staff; in fact, she has the opposite dilemma.

"I wish I could get my staff to work more hours! Most of my staff will not come in because they are too scared of the virus," she observed. Shimer expressed appreciation for her staff's efforts to continue serving the public when keeping apart for safety is being

stressed. "I would like for my employees to feel valued and supported for working during this time and risking their health to serve the community," she said.

Since it opened in 2012 at 363 Tremont Street, Boston Veterinary Clinic (BVC) has become a trusted and popular provider, expanding to Brookline with a future addition in the Seaport once the city's COVID-19 related construction stoppage is lifted. Founding veterinarian Dr. Brian Bourquin's practice blends timeless compassion with modern technology to deliver efficient and convenient patient care. BVC has scaled back some of its services, prioritizing emergencies, chronic medical conditions, puppy and kitten visits and deferring routine wellness and some surgeries to May.

Bourquin said that some staff members who are higher-risk for COVID-19 or who have children are doing telemedicine and telephone triage at home, while on-site staff work in two teams, three days each, with a deep cleaning between the teams and on weekends. While Bourquin and his team decided early on against layoffs or furloughs, BVC has reduced hours temporarily for some hourly staff. Bourquin said, "I took an oath as a vet to take care of animals, but I have to weigh that with my team, my family, and my clients. It's easier to see pets right now, but I go home exhausted every night from weighing pros and cons." BVC applied for and received a loan through the PPP program, which has been helpful as BVC has had two brief closures due to COVID-19. "[The loan] really helps. It takes the stress off from having to close."

While challenged themselves by the business downturn, some local businesses have been giving back to the community. On March 31, PICCO chef-owner Rick Katz announced the 1,000 Meals in a Week program, which offered free meals on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays from 12:00 noon-3:00 PM targeted at children and families in need.

At the opposite end of the neighborhood, Blunch, 59 E. Springfield Street, has been giving back to BMC staff and first responders first by offering them free coffee with orders and launching a GoFundMe page to provide meals for responders and hospital staff. The GoFundMe, organized by Blunch's Nikki Christo Leo and Erin Russ, raised \$13,496 between its March 26 launch and April 16, when it ended. In an April 18 donor update, Leo and Russ announced that they had donated over \$10,000 in food to health care workers at BMC and will give the remainder when Blunch reopens. Since early April, Anoush'ella Kitchen has been providing up to 70 free meals per day to South End hospitality workers out of work due to COVID-19. Anoush'ella publicist Christopher B. Haynes reports that while the campaign was originally intended for neighborhood denizens, the restaurant is not verifying addresses to qualify.

"No one is being turned away," he said. As a matter of loyalty, largesse and self-preservation, Haynes himself has continued to promote his clients even after Governor Baker's March 15 order banning gatherings over 25 people and dining in at restaurants. In a telephone interview, Haynes said he had four openings scheduled at the time, all of which were canceled, and he received a flurry of phone calls from clients wanting

to discontinue services due to the closures. Haynes contacted clients and offered to continue services, with payment to be arranged down the road. He also contacted print and broadcast media editors, offering a conduit of information to them as well. Haynes said the last three years have been his best ever in his 21 years at the helm of CBH Communications, and he is grateful for his success.

"There have been a lot of ups and downs over the years. The good news is, [the downturn] makes me work really hard. I really love my neighborhood...I reached out in solidarity and said, Let me help." Haynes hopes to shepherd his clients and his own company through the pandemic.

SEBA has been helping businesses learn about useful resources and topics related to COVID-19 business restrictions with a series of webinars with panelists including Hadley Douglas of The Urban Grape, Randi Lathrop of RG Lathrop Consulting, Barbara Clarke of The Impact Seat and Eve Ward of Bond and Des Voeux. Topics included COVID-19 with South End state representatives Aaron Michlewitz and Jon Santiago; COVID and Employment Law with attorneys Jeff Rosin, Jill Havens and Matthew Fogelman; and small business relief aid with representatives of the accounting firm Waldron H. Rand & Company. WGMS has also been sending daily email updates on COVID-19 related information and resources.

The Mayor's Department of Economic Development's Small Business Relief Fund offered grants of \$2,500, \$5,000 and \$10,000 to businesses with up to 35 employees to cover payroll, accounts payable, debt, and losses resulting from the COVID-19 emergency. Locally, the Blackstone/Franklin Square Neighborhood Association (B/FSNA) sent 30 lunches from Code 10 to the D4 police Station at 650 Harrison Avenue, and Code 10 added snacks to the order on April 14. According to treasurer Matthew Mues, B/FSNA also used proceeds of its successful Christmas tree and wreath sale to donate \$2,500 to South End Feeds, a SEBA partnership with Off Their Plates.org to provide restaurant meals to front-line workers during the COVID-19 emergency.

Bill Lagorio, owner/manager of Maison de Mer, which sells imported French-country style household furnishings and accessories at 23 Dartmouth Street, was sanguine in a recent phone interview despite having to close during the shutdown, after having endured a closure last year due to a serious illness.

Lagorio's sister runs the larger sister store of the same name in Marblehead, which carries furniture as well as French country gifts and housewares.

Lagorio said, "My store is French silk, candles and things. We love the store down there. It's a nice spot. We have a lot of regular clientele that come in and we get people who come in from the hotels. I stayed until it was really forced to close. We're still paying the rent here, so it's not easy."

Complicating matters further, the store was hit with a brick through the glass door shortly after the shutdown. The door is boarded temporarily, and Lagorio says the glass will be replaced when the shutdown ends. "We love that location, so we are going to reopen there. It's such a great neighborhood, I can't wait to get back there when the time is right."

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Theater

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show. They're there to tell what's happening."

Describing his approach, Golyak confesses, "I didn't try to be provocative but I think it (the revival) came out to be."

Very positive about the revival's future, Golyak speaks of ASP artistic director Chris Edwards "looking for space to remount it. He's talking to the BCA and to other venues."

"Merchant" may be on hold, but strong work on Arlekin Players Theatre's "The Stone" and "The Seagull" has now garnered him Elliot Norton Awards small or Fringe Theater directing nominations for each. All together, the nominated productions have earned a total of 10 nominations among them Anne Gottlieb's fine work in "The Seagull."

Major BCA -staged nominees include

Moonbox Productions' powerful revival of the Leo Frank Trial-centered musical "Parade" -with eight. Moonbox (with 12 nods) also received best musical attention for its sharp revival of "Caroline, Or Change." Another small or fringe production nominee is Israeli Stage's provocative "The Return"-with four, including a direction nod for Guy Ben-Aharon. SpeakEasy Stage is a midsize stage major contender with 13 nods ranging from "Pass Over" and "The Children" to "Admissions" and "Choir Boy." Large stage leader Huntington Theatre is the most nominated company with 16 -including recognition for "The Purists" and director Billy Porter (a Tony winner as drag queen Lola in "Kinky Boots.")

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, the 38th annual awards ceremony will be held virtually Monday May 11 (at 7 p.m.) For a full list of nominees, go to the Elliot Norton Awards website.

Dog Lady

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about a creature sucking all the air out of her life. Finally, Mr. Dog Lady prevailed and Dexter, a dog who needed a safe haven, came home. Now, there is no imagining life without Dexter. The memory of Shorty remains strong but Dexter owns hearts.

Bonding with another person is difficult; bonding with another species can be impossible at first. Stick it out. When you finally feel that joyful tie to your pet, you will never go back to the pet-less life.

Dear Dog Lady,

After our dog, a four-year-old English bulldog, jumped and knocked down Grama, my husband wants to get a shock collar thinking we could train him not to jump on people. I do not like shocking a dog for training. Please give me your opinion.

- Verna

Dear Verna,

Shock collars are hurtful and punitive. The device, which sends an electric shock through the dog to stop unwanted behavior, is not a humane way to correct bad behavior in your dog. Training should be accomplished in a positive way so you can live better with your pet. If your bulldog is afraid of you and your shock control, the purpose of having a companion animal seems somehow defeated.

What's positive training? Giving treats for sitting and staying when Grandma pops in. Use her arrival as a teachable moment and command the bulldog to sit and stay. Stay focused on the dog until he behaves. Offer a food treat if the dog performs. You are the key to your dog's good behavior and you must stay on top of your pet when visitors come over. If you don't want to train, at least keep the dog on a leash or in another room. People come first and you don't want a jumping dog and a broken hip to ruin family relations.

Write: askdoglady@gmail.com.

Wu

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ing & testing are so important: anyone can get this virus & spread it without even showing symptoms! We all need to keep wearing masks

outside & we need WIDESPREAD testing, especially in hardest hit communities like Mattapan, Hyde Park & Roxbury.

Experts have said that even people who remain asymptomatic can spread the virus until their bodies' immune systems adapt to the virus and begin killing it off.

Vaccine Clinic

Continued from page 1

full time, full service elementary school-based health center, closed on March 13th when the state closed all schools. SECHC will re-open the facility to Health Center families to meet the health care needs of their children, particularly 4 year olds, in a safe environment. That is the age that children are due a panel of critical booster vaccines including tetanus, pertussis, measles, and polio.

While traveling vaccine vans deployed in some areas are able to vaccinate a handful of children a day, the clinic will allow up to 40 children to receive their boosters.

According to SECHC Pediatric Director Dr. Robyn Riseberg, "The health of our children is a major priority as we fight COVID. They need all of their required vaccinations in

order to stay healthy. We're doing everything we can. This will also give us an opportunity to check in with Mom or Dad (as only one adult and a child are allowed per visit) to see how they're managing in the face of this crisis. We will be distributing food, clothing, diapers, wipes, and formula in addition to gift cards, games, books and educational toys to help families who are struggling financially." SECHC serves a predominantly lower-income Latinx population.

"We are doing everything in our power to serve the entire Boston community during this pandemic," said Interim President and CEO Dr. David Belton. "We are figuring out ways, like telehealth and scheduling well visits separate from urgent care appointments, to help residents to stay healthy during this public health crisis."

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304		Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court	
		Docket No. SU20P0643GD	
In the matter of: Fernando Rocha Of: Boston, MA		RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitated Person	
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Boston Medical Center of Boston, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Fernando Rocha is in need of a Guardian and requesting that		Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street PO Box 9667 Boston, MA 02114	
(or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve on the bond.			
The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.			
You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 05/21/2020. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days of the return date.			
IMPORTANT NOTICE			
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.			
WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.			
Date: April 29, 2020		Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate	

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Sincerely,

Richard J. Gavegnano
President, CEO and Chairman
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