



# ECG Update 7.20.20

Dear Readers,

We hope everyone is staying healthy and practicing safe COVID-19 practices now that we are entering Stage 3 of the reopening. We at the *ECG Update* will continue to inform and hopefully entertain. In this issue, we introduce you to neighbor **Judi Hampton** whose company Blackside, Inc., produced the award-winning documentary *Eyes on the Prize*, and to neighbor **Larry Tye**'s new biography of Joe McCarthy. You can also read about happenings in the neighborhood like the **Green Line Extension** and the **Floating Island** on the Charles River. Tired of cooking? We have some **restaurant and takeout tips** from our readers. For a bit of humor check-out the link on Letters to the Editor. Have tickets you can't use? Need a dog sitter? Something to sell? Let us know and we'll list your items in the new **Beg, Borrow, Barter or Buy** column. As you can see, we continue to add features that our readers are requesting as well as keeping up to date with news inside and outside the

Esplanade. We welcome news, suggestions, and feedback. Send to [Mary Jo](#).

## The Neighborhood



### The Floating Wetland

Read about this [pilot project](#) of the Charles River Conservancy, which is testing the impact of this small wetland on cyanobacteria blooms.

We asked the Charles River Conservancy some questions about the wetland. Read Laura Jasinski's answers [here](#).

### Lechmere Viaduct Renovation and the Green Line Extension

The Lechmere Viaduct has carried Green Line trains from Lechmere across the Charles River to downtown Boston since June 1912.



Construction began on an ambitious Green Line Extension project in January 2020. This project entails the rehabilitation and replacement of track on the concrete arched structure across from the Science Museum to accommodate heavier loads and increased train frequency, while preserving the viaduct's historic façade. Read more [here](#)

## Meet Your Esplanade Neighbors



### **Judi Hampton and *Eyes on the Prize***

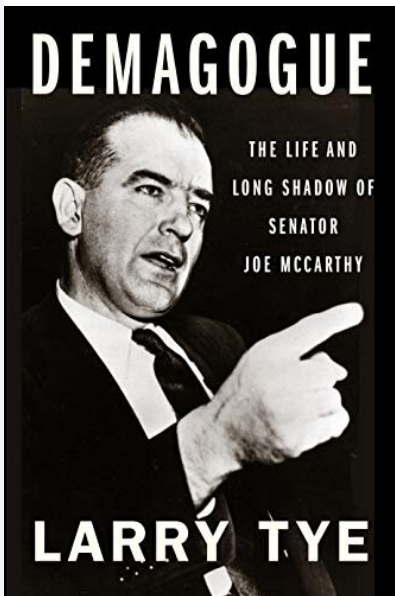
Judi Hampton has lived in the Esplanade since 1998. For many of those years, you would see her walking with Louie, her faithful and spirited French poodle.

Judi moved into the Esplanade from New York in 1998 to help her brother, Henry Hampton, who was dealing with cancer while managing Blackside, Inc., his award-winning company. Henry created and produced *Eyes on the Prize* that tells the definitive story of the civil rights era. [Read more](#)

## Aging in Place

The Esplanade Aging in Place Group gathered together via Zoom on Friday, June 19, at 4 pm. In this virtual meeting we shared a wide range of thoughts and information about decisions we have already faced in the Covid-19 crisis and how we coped with the stay-at-home city and state orders and Esplanade Board decisions about protective measures in our building. Read the full [meeting summary](#).

## Reading



Esplanade neighbor **Larry Tye** has just published a new biography of Joe McCarthy, called *Demagogue*.

ECG Update asked Larry three questions:

What inspired you to write about Joe McCarthy and why does this story matter today?

You say ground-breaking, did you actually have new materials and break new ground?

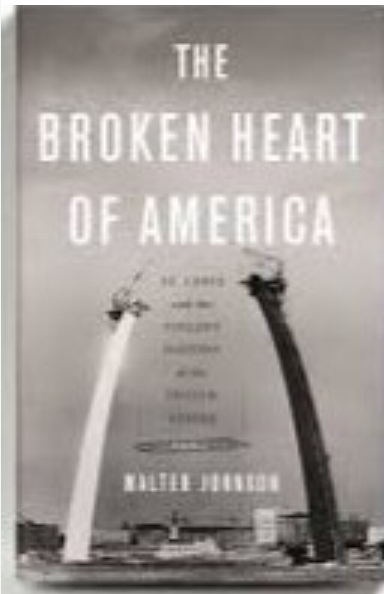
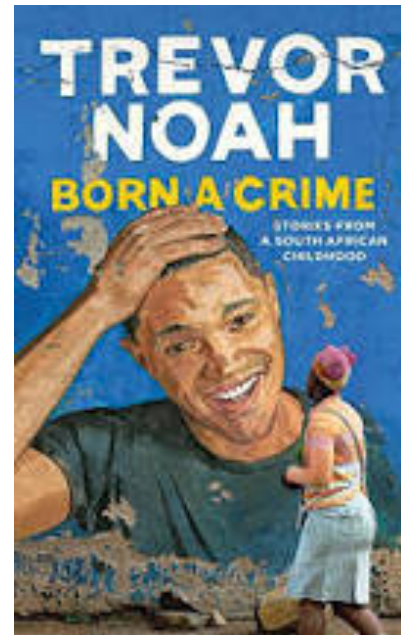
Why should every Esplanade resident buy multiple copies of your book?

Read Larry's answers, and see some reviews of the book [here](#).

***Born a Crime*** by Trevor Noah

*Born a Crime* is Trevor Noah's informative, moving account of growing up in apartheid South Africa. The "crime," being the son of a Swiss father and an Xhosa mother, was punishable by five years in prison.

[Read more](#) (reviewed by Susan Barron)



In June our book club tackled Walter Johnson's ***The Broken Heart of America: St. Louis and the Violent History of the United States***. Johnson shows how social injustice and discrimination interweave with capitalism. He pulls those threads painfully tight. [Read more](#) (reviewed by Janis Gogan)

# Letters to the Editor

Dear ECG Update

Do you and your readers know what 'body Zoom-morphia' is? For this and other definitions and a smile, check out "[Lexicon for a Pandemic](#)" in the *New Yorker*.

Jane Hilburt-Davis

## Beg, Borrow, Barter or Buy

From **Fran Putnoi**

I am working with Reclaim our Vote, Swing Left and Postcard for Voters doing phone banking and postcard writing. If you are interested in getting on board with political organizing be in touch with me at [Fran Putnoi](#). I would love to have your help and can point you to non partisan and partisan campaigns for the 2020 elections.

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From [Jessie von Hippel](#)

The Aging in Place Group was surveyed on favorite spots for **Takeout Food**. Bon appetit on these hot summer days! Check websites for hours, online ordering, and pickup directions:

-Artu, 6 Prince Street, North End, traditional Italian, salad, soup, antipasti, pasta

- Asta, modern European, just across Mass. Ave. Bridge
- Cheesecake Factory (don't laugh), 100 CambridgeSide Place, 250 selections, but try the Skinnylicious Chopped Salad and Cobb Salad
- Desfina, 202 Third Street, classic Greek cuisine, including Greek and Horiatiki salads
- Dumpling House, 950 Mass. Ave., modern interpretation of classic Chinese dishes
- Fishmonger, 252 Huron Avenue, some prepared fish dishes as well as fresh fish
- Formaggio Kitchen, 49 Hampshire Street, cheese, breads, soups, limited lunch offerings
- Iggy's Bakery, 130 Fawcett Street, free delivery on orders over \$20, free delivery for those over 65
- Mt. Vernon Restaurant, 14 Broadway, Somerville (near Assembly Square), classic American food and pub fare
- Mu Lan, 228 Broadway, Taiwanese cuisine, best Chinese food in Boston (Trip Advisor), wide variety of fish, bean curd, chicken, pork, beef, hard-to-find dishes

-Oleana, 137 Hampshire Street, takeout window and walkup service, French and Turkish fusion

-Sarma, 249 Pearl Street, Somerville, Turkish and Mediterranean small plates

-Similans, 145 First Street, classic Thai and Asian specialties

-Sofra, 1 Belmont Street (near Mt. Auburn cemetery), Mediterranean and Turkish

-Sumiao, 270 Third Street, traditional Hunan Chinese cuisine updated

-Tatte, 318 Third Street, sandwiches, salads, soups, pastry

-Terra Mia, 98 Salem Street, North End, upscale Italian

-Toscanini's Ice Cream, 159 First Street

-Za (pizza), 350 Third Street, can order pizzas half-cooked and uncut, reheat well

Other suggestions? Keep them coming! Our group members have been pleased with the food, protective measures, and socially distancing practices of these places.



# Real Dinos Wear Masks



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Have ideas for these newsletters and updates? Send them to [Jessie](#), [Mary Jo](#) or [Jane](#).

Esplanade Community Group , 75-83 Cambridge Pkwy, Cambridge MA 02142, United States

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