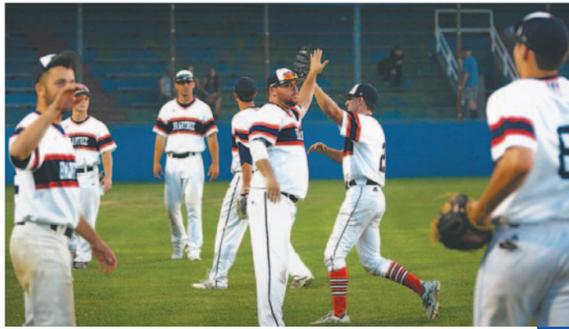


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WORLD

MISSIONARIES WHO HAD CONTACT WITH EBOLA TO BE QUARANTINED

Missionaries returning from Liberia who have been in direct contact with the Ebola virus but who are not sick are heading to Charlotte and will be quarantined once they arrive, health officials said Sunday.

"It's very important to hear and understand that ... none of the returning missionaries are ill, none of them have the Ebola virus disease," Dr. Stephen Keener, medical director of the Mecklenburg County Health Department said at a press conference. Those affected with Ebola are not infectious until they are symptomatic, health officials have said. **PAGE 13**

LOCAL

7 ESCAPE BOAT BEFORE IT SINKS IN SCITUATE

A 26-foot-long pleasure boat carrying seven passengers started taking on water and eventually sank while anchored at the mouth of the North and South rivers.

Scituate Assistant Harbormaster Michael Bearce said authorities were notified around 6 p.m. Saturday that the boat was taking on water at the Spit.

"It was too big of a boat to be anchored at the Spit," Bearce said. "It has a large keel, so when it went up on the beach, it listed over to the port side and it filled up with water. ... It was facing the river side so the water was just forcing in with the incoming tide." **PAGE 9**

REGIONAL

TRAINED AS A WEAPON, DOG'S FATE DEBATED

As Kaitlyn Grispi was being placed into an ambulance a week ago, she expressed concern about the whereabouts of her dog, Buddy. Shortly before, Buddy had been commanded by Kaitlyn's husband to attack and bite her.

Now, the bull terrier is in custody of animal control and may have to be euthanized, says an animal cruelty expert from PETA. **PAGE 3**

WEATHER



Tonight
Partly cloudy
Low: 63



Tomorrow
Mostly sunny, night showers
High: 79
Low: 65

DETAILS, INSIDE | PAGE 22

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ON THE FRONT LINES OF THE HEALTH CARE REVOLUTION



Family practitioner Dr. Martha Karchere works with Milton couple Edmond Falcione, 92, and his wife, Chiarina, 85, last week at the Manet health care facility in Quincy.

Reform laws speed growth of Manet Health Center

By Patrick Ronan
THE PATRIOT LEDGER

QUINCY

America could be embarking on the golden age of the community health center — and there's no better example of that than the Manet Community Health Center.

In the past year alone, Manet, the Quincy-based non-profit that caters to patients with limited access to health care, has opened a sixth medical facility in Taunton, opened new administrative offices in Milton, started a major expansion of its North Quincy branch and was given the highest-possible designation by a national health plan accreditor.

Manet's growth is largely a result of widespread health care reform, both in Massachusetts and nationally. The state's health care law in 2006 and the U.S. Affordable Care Act in 2010, both aimed at getting all residents health insurance, have increased funding for centers like Manet, which provide outreach to the uninsured.

Manet, which began in 1979, will open its doors to the public this week to celebrate National Health Center Week, showcasing its new-look North Quincy branch on Tuesday. By project's

MANET/PAGE 4



The newly renovated Manet health care facility in Quincy has added 27 exam rooms along with new specialty services.

Tenants want more from HUD in Quincy

Upset federal agency hasn't committed to inspections of all HUD-funded apartments

By Chris Burrell
THE PATRIOT LEDGER

QUINCY — Federal housing officials have not yet committed to inspecting all 650 Quincy Housing Authority apartments funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

But the inspectors are about to enter their second week of investigating the common areas and interior homes of at least some of the federal public housing in Quincy.

"It's a sampling," said Rhonda Siciliano, a spokeswoman for the Department of Housing and Urban Development's regional office in Boston.

Leaders of tenants' associations — already fuming over the management and maintenance blunders at Quincy Housing Authority uncovered by state housing inspections since last spring — were critical of the federal agency for not widening its investigation.

"We expected that everyone would be inspected, and I would have like that after this fiasco," said Virginia McGee, who is an officer

HUD/PAGE 4

Hingham police warn of online scams

By Jessica Trufant
THE PATRIOT LEDGER

HINGHAM — Despite increased outreach regarding scams in the area, Hingham police say a senior resident provided personal information and remote access to her computer to someone posing as a technology specialist.

Hingham Police Sgt. Steven Dearth said the 78-year-old Hingham woman told police Friday she received an email informing her that her computer had a virus and she needed to call a toll-free number to have it fixed. Dearth said the phone number was 800-230-5093.

The woman called the number and a man who answered explained that he would need to access to her computer to fix the virus,

SCAM/PAGE 7

Tasers quietly defusing threat of violence

Local police say that often just showing the weapon can end potential conflict

By Adam Roberts
ENTERPRISE STAFF WRITER

When a 32-year-old man accused of beating up a teenager, raised his fists to a Middleboro police officer and declared they were going to fight, the officer had some options.

In the past, officer Kevin A. Nardi would have had access to a baton, a pepper spray canister or



Stoughton police Sgt. Paul McCallum shows a Taser.

movies, TV and the news has served to educate the public on the power of the shock. Just displaying a Taser often prompts criminals stand down.

In 2012-2013, Stoughton officers pulled out their Tasers 32 times. The weapon was deployed in 12 of those incidents.

"What we see with those numbers is exactly what we want to see," said Stoughton Deputy Police Chief Robert Devine, pointing out that the presence of a Taser is often enough of a deterrent.

When Tasers are deployed they are used in cases that could

a firearm, but during this July incident, he reached for his yellow Taser.

The man gave up, deciding his fists were no match for a Taser, which can shoot electrified prongs 15 to 35 feet and send 600 volts through a person's body.

Middleboro police started carrying Tasers in 2011. They are now one of 182 police departments in Massachusetts that have equipped officers with the less-than-lethal weapon.

The prevalence of Tasers in **TASER/PAGE 7**

Plainridge moves ahead with slots parlor project

Construction proceeding despite referendum that could repeal permission

By Philip Marcelo
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PLAINVILLE — Plans to open the state's first slot parlor are moving forward at a harness racing track near the Rhode Island state line despite a vote in three months on whether to repeal Massachusetts' 2011 casino law, which made the project possible.

Penn National Gaming won the state's first gambling license for a proposed slot parlor at the Plainridge Racecourse in February and officially broke ground on the \$225 million project in March. A construction crew of about 200 is work-

ing on the 100-acre property.

The parlor is being built beside the racetrack's current clubhouse and simulcast betting facility. It will feature about 1,250 slot machines as well as video poker and video blackjack terminals.

Jay Snowden, Penn National's chief operating officer, said the company is moving forward with its plans despite the November vote.

"It's a risk, but it's a calculated risk," he said on a recent site visit with company officials, local politicians and labor union leaders. "We're confident we'll prevail in November."

In the coming weeks, the Wyomissing, Pennsylvania-based company will begin taking applications for about 500 permanent jobs at the casino. By November, it expects to have spent more than \$100 million on the project and to have the exterior construction

finished. The facility, which will be called Plainridge Park Casino, is set to open next June.

Darek Barcikowski, campaign manager for the anti-casino "Repeal the Casino Deal" group, said Penn National is overconfident. He noted that other gambling operators — notably MGM Resorts International, which was granted a casino license for its \$800 million Springfield development — have chosen to wait out the November vote before breaking ground.

Casino supporters, however, see the construction activity at Plainridge as a critical piece in the run-up to November, providing voters a tangible example of the casino law's economic potential.

"As we head toward November, people will be able to see a symbolic representation of exactly what this particular industry can bring to Massachusetts,"

said Senate Minority Whip Richard Ross, a Wrentham Republican. "People should get excited. The economic development here is real."

Labor unions representing some construction workers on the site promise to hammer home that economic development message to voters in the weeks and months ahead. "When you bring organized labor into a political fight, it's about troops on the ground," said David Fenton, business manager for the Local 223 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

Penn National, meanwhile, has joined with MGM and Mohegan Sun, which is seeking a casino license to open a \$1.3 billion resort outside Boston, to finance a recently formed political organization to defeat the ballot question. It's called the Committee to Preserve Jobs Associated with Casino Gaming Law.

Plainville Town Administrator Joseph Fernandes applauds the company for moving forward with the project despite the uncertainty.

The town, which has just over 8,000 residents, stands to earn at least \$1.5 million in annual property taxes from the slot parlor project, as well as roughly \$2 million to \$3 million a year in gambling profits through an agreement with Penn National that local voters overwhelmingly approved. That revenue, Fernandes said, will help pay for capital projects, such as a new town hall and public safety complex without burdening taxpayers.

"There's an awful lot at stake. I'm about as nervous as a cat in a roomful of rocking chairs on this thing," he said. "We're looking at getting a huge chunk of change for very little impact on (public) services."

Ledger UPDATE

Quincy tenants want more HUD inspections done

HUD/FROM PAGE 1

on the tenants' association board at O'Brien Towers in Germantown.

McGee said that before federal officials arrived, Quincy Housing Authority workers were busy sprucing up the grounds.

"They did the bushes and made everything superficially acceptable, but inside, there's still a lot of work to be done," added McGee, a retired trainer for a Boston school bus company.

She said many tenants have problems with water-damaged ceilings and loose floor tiles.

"The rugs throughout the whole building are despicable, all stained," McGee said.

Siciliano said she didn't know how many units federal inspectors will investigate and when they will conclude visits to O'Brien and other federally-funded housing in the Quincy.

A report will be issued to the Quincy Housing Authority, she said.

"If inspectors find any serious health or safety issues, those items will have to be corrected immediately by the housing authority," Siciliano said.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development decided to use its own inspectors to look at the Quincy properties. Typically, the agency contracts with an outside firm to do inspections.

The inspections were prompted by the widening crisis at Quincy Housing Authority, whose maintenance and financial oversight practices have both come under fire by auditors and state housing inspectors.

Since May, state inspectors have documented dozens of health and safety violations they uncovered in public housing apartments in Quincy, including heavy mold, exposed electrical wires and, in one case, a toilet from an upstairs unit leaking onto a stove top in a downstairs apartment.

State officials faulted the maintenance department at Quincy Housing Authority for signing off on repairs that were never done.

Inspectors from the State Department of Housing and Community Development promised a top-to-bottom probe of all 938 state-funded public housing apartments in Quincy and have found the worst problems in the Snug Harbor section of Germantown.

State housing officials — including engineers, construction supervisors and project managers — took over operations of the maintenance department at the Quincy Housing Authority last month.

James Lydon, the executive director of the Quincy Housing Authority, last month placed the housing authority's maintenance director, David Ferris, on paid administrative leave and announced plans to fire Ferris. He said Ferris mismanaged his department and improperly shredded housing authority documents.

An audit of Quincy Housing Authority finances found that lax accounting practices by the maintenance department led to nearly \$500,000 in operating losses during the last fiscal year.

Auditors found that the maintenance department violated federal housing regulations by not reporting information about its labor force and hours to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in order to be eligible for reimbursement by HUD for work done.

"This failure resulted in a loss on maintenance billings of approximately \$300,000 and contributed to ... overall net operating loss of approximately \$490,000," the audit by Quincy accountants Hurley, O'Neill & Company stated.

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GARY HIGGINS/THE PATRIOT LEDGER

■ Certified medical assistants Fadoua Errichi and Kerry DeSimone confer at the Manet Community Health Center in Quincy last week.

Manet on the front lines of the health care revolution

MANET/FROM PAGE 1

end, the facility at 110 West Squantum St. will have 27 new exam rooms and Manet's first-ever vision center and pharmacy.

Manet's other five locations — in Quincy in Houghs Neck, Snug Harbor and Quincy Medical Center, and in Hull and Taunton — will also offer tours throughout the week.

"We seek to be a good neighbor," Cynthia Sierra, Manet's interim CEO, said. "We want folks to be very pleased by what they see here. And we want them to come in and take a tour."

Sierra became interim CEO in June after Henry Tuttle resigned to take a new job in California. Sierra said Manet's board of directors will hire a permanent CEO soon.

Health centers are federally-supported organizations that provide primary care and a range of specialized services to the underserved and vulnerable, such as the unemployed and elderly. Among Manet's offerings, for example, are prenatal care, immunizations, HIV testing, chronic disease management and diabetes treatment. Manet is privately operated.

Education and helping people navigate the health care system are also pillars of a community health center's mission. Manet's staff of doctors, nurses and counselors educate patients on a variety of issues such as sexual health, nutrition, financial planning and drug abuse. The group distributes Narcan, which is a substance that prevents an overdose from heroin and opiates.

Manet's navigators help the uninsured get health plans that meet the needs of the individual or family. Sierra said Manet's percentage of uninsured patients fell from

Community health centers nationwide

- Community health centers serve 22 million people, or one in every 15 Americans, in 9,000 sites across the U.S.
- In Massachusetts, 49 community health centers serve 875,000 residents.
- Community health centers are funded, in part, by the federal Health Resources and Services Administration.
- Community health centers are governed by a community-led board and are positioned in high-need communities that have been designated as medically underserved areas and populations.

33 percent to 18 percent after Massachusetts adopted its health care law in 2006.

Sierra said that figure has dropped to 13 percent since the passage of the Affordable Care Act.

Though community health centers are viewed by some as the safety net for the government-insured or uninsured, Sierra said 35 percent of Manet's patients are privately insured by their employers.

"We're very pleased to have that heterogeneous mix, that hybrid-payer mix in our patient population," she said. "That says to us that patients choose us and it's an environment of inclusion, no matter what walk of life you come from, what socioeconomic

group, what environmental factors (or) barriers you may face.

"We certainly have an emphasis on the marginalized, the disenfranchised, but the doors of the health center are open to all."

Last month, the National Committee for Quality Assurance, a nonprofit accrediting agency endorsed by the federal Department of Health and Human Services, designated Manet as a Level 3 Patient-Centered Medical Home, the highest level achievable.

By the accreditator's standards, a "medical home" is a program that provides patient care across the health care system with a team-like approach. Sierra equated it to a "one-stop shop" for medical care.

Manet puts a lot of focus on preventative care, which officials see as a key to reducing long-term health care costs.

Earlier this year, the state's Department of Public Health selected Manet as one of nine recipients of the agency's Prevention and Wellness Trust Fund, created in 2012.

"Over the next three years, they will be leaders in providing services to the community that have been proven effective in addressing tobacco use, and reducing high blood pressure, falls in older adults and substance abuse," David Kibbe, a spokesman for the state's Department of Public Health, said.

Sierra said Manet has assembled a multilingual staff that can translate Chinese, Vietnamese, Arabic, Portuguese and Hindi, among other languages, for patients. She said immigrants and refugees, regardless of their citizenship status, can receive treatment at Manet.

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Some key facts and figures on the Manet Health Center

- 57% of patients live at or below 200% of the federal poverty level.
- 35% of patients have private insurance through their employers
- 13% of patients are uninsured
- 183 employees
- Served 14,478 patients and had a budget of \$12.7 million in 2012, the latest figures provided. Manet hopes to double the number of patients with recent expansion projects.
- Has a primary clinical affiliation with Quincy Medical Center and a secondary clinical affiliation with Boston Medical Center.

Key milestones for Manet

- Now has six practice locations, with Taunton added in March 2014.
- Secured \$5.5 million via the Affordable Care Act for multi-site capital renovation projects in Quincy and Hull, and \$500,000 annually for an expanded Taunton site.
- Capital projects, once completed in Quincy and Hull, will accommodate 9,037 new patients, and Taunton by the end of start-up will serve 5,081 new patients.

Manet's National Health Center Week Tours

- Today — Houghs Neck, 1193 Sea St.

and Snug Harbor/Germantown, 9 Bicknell St.

■ **Tuesday** — North Quincy site-renovation showcase, 110 West Squantum St. Program starts at 8:30 a.m., followed by tours.

■ **Wednesday** — Quincy Medical Center, 114 Whitwell St.

■ **Thursday** — Taunton, Manet's newest practice site, 1 Washington Street, Suite 900, Mill River Professional Center.

■ **Friday** — Hull, 180 Washington Boulevard and Nantasket Beach.

SOURCES: Manet Community Health Center, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers.

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