



SPORTS | B1

## A GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY GIFT FROM THE HEART

Former players, fellow coaches mark Fran Bosisis' 50 years along Franklin sidelines



NATION & WORLD | A2

## SMOKE EXPOSES MILLIONS TO HAZARDOUS POLLUTION

Major cities in Oregon, which has been especially hard hit, last month suffered the highest pollution levels they've ever recorded



# The METROWEST DAILY NEWS

Friday, October 16, 2020

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## Regulators urge yanking lab's certification

**Move comes after finding Orig3n's COVID-19 testing put patients in 'immediate jeopardy'**

By Jeannette Hinkle  
Daily News Staff

State and federal regulators are recommending that Orig3n, a Boston-based consumer genetics company, no longer be allowed to operate a clinical lab.

The company, launched in

2014, promised to tell customers how their DNA makeup could influence everything from cognitive abilities to sleep needs. This past spring, state and federal agencies allowed Orig3n to offer COVID-19 testing services in Massachusetts and nationally.

But in late August, public health investigators found serious deficiencies in the lab's coronavirus testing operation that put patients in "immediate jeopardy." The company

voluntarily halted its coronavirus testing services in early August when the state Department of Public Health noticed the lab was reporting an unusually high number of positive coronavirus tests.

On Oct. 2, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services sent a letter to Orig3n Lab Director Gordon Siek informing him of the agency's decision to revoke the company's certification under the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA).

The federal regulations, which apply to labs testing human samples, are intended to ensure labs' accuracy, effectiveness and reliability.

The news is a potentially devastating blow to Orig3n, which depends on the certification not only to perform coronavirus testing, but also to perform the direct-to-consumer genetics testing the company did before it pivoted to COVID-19 testing earlier this year.

Gannett New England obtained the letter, written by acting Manager of the Division of Clinical Laboratory Improvement and Quality Branch B Ronisha Blackstone, on Thursday morning after publishing an article detailing previous investigations into the company.

The letter states that the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and Centers for Medicare

See ORIG3n, A7

## There's no place like home



Bob Gifford, of the Davideo Company of Framingham, films "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" for the Advocates upcoming virtual gala, in front of one of the Advocates adult homes for mental health. The theme for the gala is "there's no place like home." Playing guitars and leading the song were Advocates peer specialists Ashley Sproul, left, and Courtney Dewey.

**RIGHT: Advocates peer specialist Ashley Sproul, left, elbow-bumps Cristiana Dearbin after singing "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" during filming for the agency's upcoming virtual gala, in front of one of the Advocates adult homes for mental health. All funds raised through the gala directly help more than 30,000 children and adults with autism, brain injuries, intellectual/developmental disabilities, or mental health challenges at Advocates, according to their website. Filming was by the Davideo Company of Framingham.**



[DAILY NEWS AND WICKED LOCAL STAFF PHOTOS / ART ILLMAN]

## #MeToo movement turns three

**On anniversary, leaders say focus is on inequality, marginalized voices**

By Kat Stafford  
The Associated Press

DETROIT — When #MeToo movement founder Tarana Burke thinks about the group's future as the world celebrates its anniversary, her vision is clear.

It predates the moment that most people know — when the #MeToo hashtag went viral



Burke

three years ago on Oct. 15, 2017, sparking a global conversation about sexual harassment and assault.

For her, that mission emerged years earlier — in 2006, when Burke, after a career of community service, began working directly with survivors, many of whom were young Black girls and children

See #METOO, A8

## Mullaney to lead Millis schools

**School Committee votes 4-1 to promote high school principal**

By Zane Razzaq  
Daily News Staff

MILLIS — The district's new superintendent will be a familiar face to students, faculty and families.

Millis High School Principal Robert Mullaney was named to the school district's top position, following a 4-1 School

Committee vote on Tuesday. He starts on Dec. 1, replacing the retiring Nancy Gustafson.

Mullaney has been the high school principal for 14 years. He previously spent 20 years as a history teacher and three years as an assistant principal in Hingham.

As Millis High principal, he expanded Advanced Placement opportunities and focused on social-emotional learning and

See MULLANEY, A9

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