

# East Boston

## TIMES - FREE PRESS

Wednesday, May 20, 2020

**Memorial Day Tribute**

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### All BPS families to receive P-EBT benefits

By John Lynds

The Boston Public Schools (BPS), in conjunction with East Boston-based Project Bread, announced last week that all BPS and charter school students will receive the Pandemic-EBT (P-EBT) food benefit that can be used to buy food from grocery stores while schools are closed.

According to BPS and Project Bread this will be added to SNAP cards for families who receive benefits, or a card will be mailed to others and there is no need to apply.

Under the new plan BPS and charter school households will receive \$5.70 per eligible student per day, or \$28.50 a week.

"If already receiving these benefits, your P-EBT benefits will be added to your existing EBT card," said Project Bread President Erin McAleer in a statement. "If not actively receiving these benefits, you

See BENEFITS Page 3

### Edwards to hold hearing substation

By John Lynds

Boston City Councilor Lydia Edwards announced this week she will hold a hearing on the proposed Eversource substation in an effort to bring transparency to East Boston residents and ensure the community's questions about the proposal are answered.

Last year Eversource filed a Notice of Project Change and sought approval to move the proposed substation 190 feet to the western side of the City Yards lot. Eversource said the two 115-kV transmission lines that would connect to the substation

See EDWARDS Page 5

**TRASH NOTICE**

Due to the Memorial Day Holiday, on Monday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, Trash will be delayed by one day.

Capitol Waste Services, Inc.



Salesian Boys & Girls Club members made signs to thank the club staff.

### Salesian Boys & Girls Club holds parade from 'Club Kids'

By John Lynds

The COVID-19 pandemic has been tough on all of us, but particularly tough on Eastie's youth. For Eastie children kept indoors or around immediate family with little or no contact with their close friends or social activities days have turned into weeks and weeks have turned into months.

While children tend to be resilient, the effects of the state and city's stay at home orders have taken its toll on hundreds of kids living in the neighborhood.

To help with these tough times and put a smile back on the faces of dozens of children the staff at the Salesian Boys & Girls Club held a special parade throughout the community last Friday.

Salesian Boys & Girls Club Executive Director Michael Triant said the event was by far the most special day for club members and staff since the club was forced to shut its doors on March 13 due to the COVID-19 outbreak here.

Armed with goodie bags for over 50 club kids and a police escort the staff drove through Eastie in vans beeping horns and delivering sports equipment and outdoor activity sets for the club members.

"We had been running the food distribution site since March but we wanted to do something more for a lot of the kids we haven't seen in weeks," said Triant. "We saw that some other Boys & Girls Clubs were doing these parades so I ran it up the flagpole with our staff and we decided to go for it."

Triant said that the Boys & Girls Club recently received funding from the Boston Resiliency Fund and decided to use the money to buy the sports equipment and outdoor activity sets for the goodie bags.

"All families received an Adidas backpack stuffed with socks, wiffle balls and bats, tennis balls, skip ropes, frisbees and sidewalk chalk," said Triant. "Supplies were donated by Adidas and purchased with funding from the Boston Resiliency fund."

For Triant and the Salesian staff the smiles on all the children's faces they visited on Friday was emotional.

"It was really great," said

### East Boston Neighborhood Health Center opens COVID-19 testing to all

By John Lynds

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic more than two months ago East Boston has emerged as one of Boston's 'hotspots'. The virus rapidly spread through the densely populated neighborhood infecting over 1,000 residents since mid-March. Other surrounding communities like Chelsea and Revere also had become a virus hot spot.

The team at East Boston Neighborhood Health Center (EBNHC) has been on



Drivers in their cars lined up in the queue to receive the COVID-19 test at the Suffolk Downs testing facility run by EBNHC.

See EBNHC Page 7

### Safer at Home

#### Gov. Baker announces Phase I of state's phased reopening plan

By John Lynds

At his daily press conference Monday, Governor Charlie Baker announced his administration's first phase of a four phase plan to start reopening some of the state's businesses and activities amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

As of Monday the state had 86,010 COVID-19 cases with 5,797 deaths from the virus. Gov. Baker said part of the state's Phase 1 strategy is a "Safer At Home" Advisory that instructs residents to stay at home unless engaging with newly opened activities, as a way to continue limiting the spread of COVID-19. He said the cautious reopening, and workplaces that are permitted to open are required to follow new

strict safety protocols and guidance.

In Eastie, under Phase I manufacturing facilities, like Eastie-based Sterlingwear of Boston, and construction sites at various halted development projects in the neighborhood were allowed to open Monday with applicable guidelines.

Hospitals and community health centers like the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center that attest to specific public health and safety standards can begin to provide high priority preventative care, pediatric care and treatment for high risk patients.

Eastie's churches and other places of worship will be able to open with guidance.

See BAKER Page 3

### COVID-19 updates Mayor Walsh, MGH announce results of community study

By John Lynds

More than 5,000 residents living in East Boston, Roslindale or within the boundaries of zip codes 02121 and 02125 in Dorchester were invited to voluntarily participate in a Mass General COVID-19 study, and the results of the study were released Friday.

Of the 5,000 residents that signed up from Eastie and the other three Boston neighborhoods only 750 qualified for the MGH and City of Boston study. A little over 25 percent participation in the study were from Eastie, a known COVID-19 'hotspot'. Eastie residents

with symptoms or a previously positive COVID-19 test were disqualified from the study.

The study found that of those tested 1.1 percent of Eastie residents tested positive for COVID-19 while 13.3 percent tested positive for antibodies. Overall the study found that 1 in 10 residents from the four Boston zip codes had or have COVID-19.

"We can draw two preliminary conclusions from the results of this study," said Mayor Martin Walsh. "First, that the actions we took early on in this pandemic

See UPDATE Page 2

### Local help

#### City's Small Business Relief Fund helps Eastie businesses forgotten by federal bailout

By John Lynds

By now it's common knowledge that the \$650 billion federal relief package intended to help small businesses during the COVID-19 crisis, like those that are located in Eastie and are the backbone of the community, ran out of money in 14 days back in April.

This left many of Eastie's shuttered mom and pop operations without a lifeline

while larger corporations and chain stores across the United States swallowed up the money.

After the federal money was gone, East Boston Main Streets conducted and found that among 105 Latino-owned businesses in the neighborhood, only five had been awarded a loan under the first round of the federal relief package.

See BUSINESS Page 3



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EAST BOSTON’S DISTRICT A-7 POLICE DISTRIBUTE FREE FACE MASKS

On Saturday, officers from East Boston’s District A-7 police station distribute free face masks to community members across the neighborhood in a concerted effort to emphasize education over enforcement.

In Eastie, Commissioner William Gross was joined by Captain Kelley McCormick and officers assigned to District A-7 and members of the Bureau of Community Engagement at LoPresti Park to hand out free masks to community members.

Gross said the mask distribution to community members was an effort to ensure residents are sufficiently equipped with the appropriate protection during the COVID 19 emergency.

“We here at the BPD want to emphasize that public health is a part of public safety and that we are here to protect the residents and community members in the City of Boston,” said Gross.



Commissioner William Gross was at LoPresti Park Saturday to help with the free face masks campaign in the neighborhood.



Officers worked with members of the Bureau of Community Engagement at LoPresti Park to hand out free masks to community members.



Officers from East Boston’s District A-7 police station distribute free face masks to community members Saturday in Maverick Square.



An officer hands out a mask to a motorist on Meridian Street Saturday in East Boston.



District A-7 Captain Kelley McCormick during the free face mask distribution efforts in East Boston Saturday.



Officer Danny Long hands out masks in Maverick Square.

Update //CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

demarc made a real difference in slowing the spread and, second, that the majority of our population still have not been exposed to the virus. This underscores what we already know, that we have to move cautiously and stay focused on what got us this far. This can be done by a gradual, phased-in approach to reopening that includes clear health criteria and safety guidelines for each industry and depends on testing and hospital metrics reaching certain benchmarks, and continuing to move in the right direction.”

As the state begins a phased reopening this week, President of Mass General Dr. Peter Slavin, MD said making sound decisions about safely reopening requires that we understand how extensively the virus has already spread in our community.

“The testing that the

teams from Boston and the MGH conducted shows that approximately 90 percent of the city’s residents have not yet been exposed to the virus,” he said. “We also know that COVID-19 will be with us for a while. It is vital therefore that we be thoughtful and careful about reopening, and that we continue to take actions - wearing masks, physical distancing, working from home when possible, limiting gatherings - that can prevent another surge of the disease.”

On Friday the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) released its weekly COVID-19 stats by neighborhood.

In one week Eastie’s COVID-19 infection rate rose slightly from 252.9 cases per 10,000 residents to an infection rate of 273 cases per 10,000 residents as of Friday.

As of Friday there

were 1,281 confirmed COVID-19 cases in Eastie, up from the 1,187 cases reported by the BPHC a week ago.

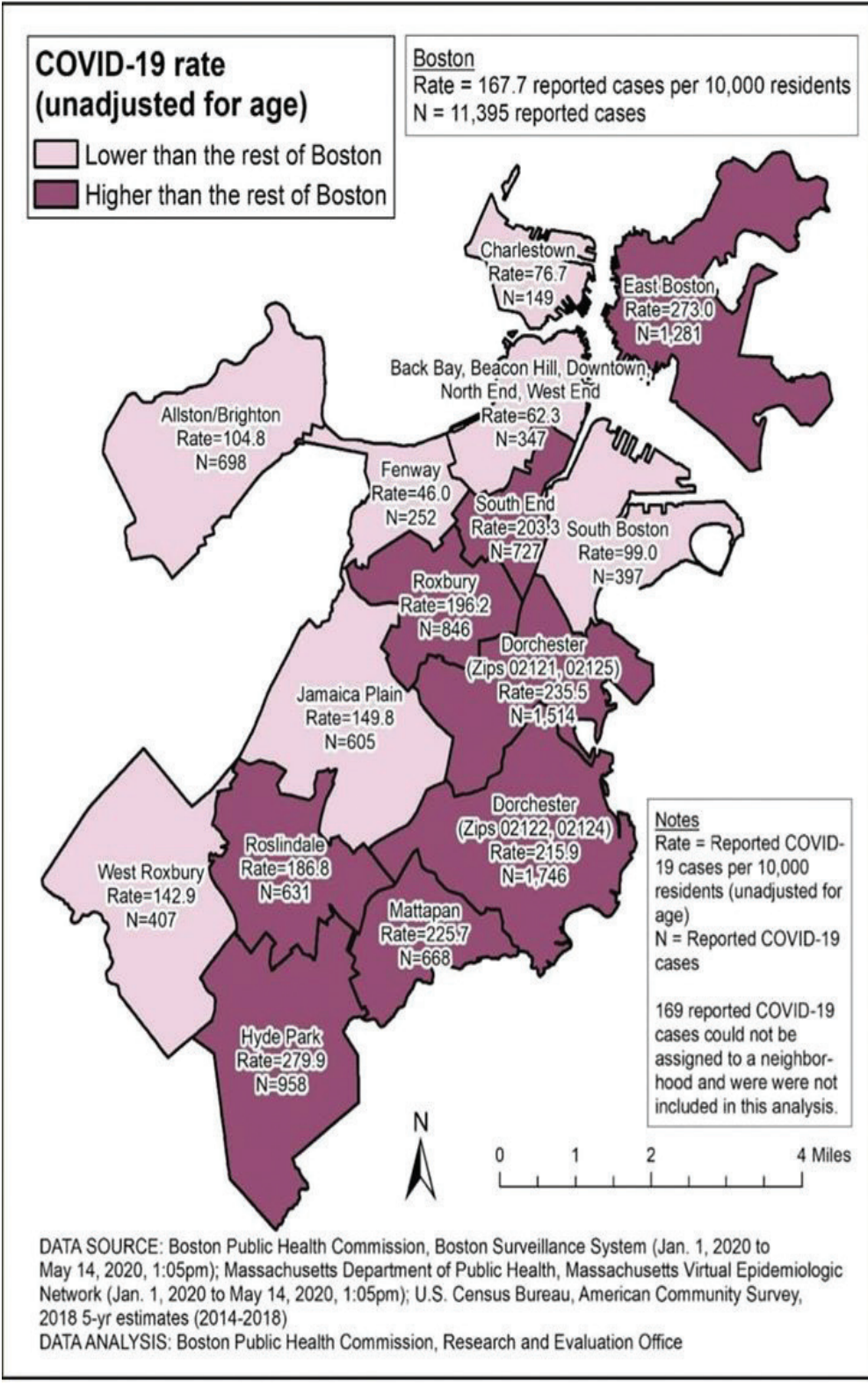
The statistics released by the BPHC as part of its weekly COVID-19 report breaks down the number of cases and infection rates in each neighborhood. It also breaks down the number of cases by age, gender and race.

Eastie was second only to Hyde Park as the neighborhood with the highest infection rate in the city.

Citywide there have been 11,958 positive cases of coronavirus, up from 11,106 last week.

So far, 4,914 of these 11,958 residents have fully recovered.

There have been 587 COVID-19 related deaths among Boston residents, up from 533.



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on keeping your  
baby safe right now.  
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www.ebnhc.org

The BPHC’s latest breakdown of COVID-19 cases and infection rates for Boston that was released Friday.

**Grace Church Food Drive**

Grace Church Food Drive is on Thursday, May 21, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Non perishables such as cereal, rice, tuna, soup and canned vegetables needed. Thank you!!



Baker // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

lines that require social distancing and encourage services to be held outdoors.

“The announcement by the Governor this morning that the Commonwealth was beginning the process of re-opening is welcome news,” said the Archdiocese of Boston in a statement Monday. “The Archdiocese has consistently stated we will work collaboratively with local and state officials during this crisis and we will continue to comply with their guidance and mandates devised to restart community activity while continuing to fight the virus and keep people safe.”

The Archdiocese added that shortly after the Governor’s announcement they communicated a series of steps to Eastie parishes that they must follow to adhere to both the state and Church requirements to re-open. The guidance, established by a working committee of priests, deacons and laity, gave the greenlight for parishes to resume Mass as of Saturday, May 23.

“No matter what option a parish chooses, the pastor must be able to ensure that the size of the congregation in the church is

not more than 40 percent of capacity and not more than the church can fit with social distancing maintained,” said the statement. “If a parish learns that a person who has come to Mass has tested positive for COVID-19, it must notify the Local Board of Health (LBOH) in the city or town in which the church is located and assist the LBOH as reasonably requested to trace likely contacts and advise contacts to isolate and self-quarantine.”

Baker added that under a staggered approach, additional Phase 1 sectors of the economy will be permitted to open effective May 25 in Eastie including: lab space; hair salons, pet grooming, car washes; and retail stores with remote order fulfillment and curbside pick-up.

However, office buildings within the City of Boston will remain closed until June 1.

Also permitted to open on May 25 with applicable guidelines are: beaches, like Constitution Beach; drive-in movie theaters; select athletic fields and courts; many outdoor adventure activities; most fishing, hunting, and boating; outdoor gardens, zoos,

reserves, and public installations.

However, the Governor warned that each phase of the state’s cautious reopening will last three weeks and will be guided by public health data and key indicators. The state will continually monitor health data for progress and that data will be used to determine advancement to future phases.

If there’s an increase in COVID-19 cases due to Phase 1 there’s a chance the state would have to revert back to the way life has been for the past two months. If the state successfully moves from Phase 1 to Phase 2 in three weeks but data shows COVID increases, the state would revert back to Phase 1 guidelines.

In order to reopen, businesses must develop a written COVID-19 Control Plan outlining how its workplace will prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Required materials are located on [mass.gov/reopening](https://mass.gov/reopening), and include detailed sector-specific circulars and checklists to facilitate compliance.

Business // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“It hurts me to say this,” EBMS Director Gladys Oliveros told WBUR. “All the hairdressers, all the barbershops, the photography studios, the clothing stores. None of them has been able to get bailout money, nor will they.”

Oliveros told WBUR that many of the small Eastie businesses did not have accounting in order, which put them at a big disadvantage against small businesses with as many as 500 employees — the maximum number allowed under the program.

Second, when one or more owners of an Eastie business are undocumented the government isn’t allowing them to receive bailout money.

“The shops here in East Boston are the heart of the neighborhood,” Oliveros said. “That is the source of life for all of us, where we buy our daily food.”

However, where the federal relief package failed, the City of Boston Small Business Relief Fund has succeeded.

In Eastie 40 small businesses received funding through the city’s Small Business Relief Fund, which kicked off with an initial funding dedication of \$2 million (see list).

The funding helped a wide range of Eastie businesses from restaurants to bars to nail and hair saloons to cafes to dance studios to yoga studios.

“The Small Business Relief Fund grants are critical to help struggling small businesses across

the city address challenges brought on by COVID-19,” said Mayor Martin Walsh. “These businesses are the backbone of our economy, and the lifeblood of our communities. I’m proud we are able to assist them during this time, and am grateful to our partners who have stepped up in a big way to support Boston’s neighborhood business community.”

Walsh said in the City of Boston 58 percent of the businesses receiving grants are owned by people of color, 48 percent are owned by women, 44 percent are owned by immigrants.

Unlike the federal relief program Mayor Walsh said 95 percent of the city funding went to businesses with 15 or fewer employees.

“The top 10 zip codes with the most recipients included East Boston, Jamaica Plain, Brighton, South End, Dorchester, Roslindale, and Roxbury,” he said.

An additional \$5.5 million in funding is being added to fully fund all eligible grant requests that were submitted during the application process, which combines newly available federal funds from the Department of Housing and Urban Development; as well as commitments from Citizens Bank and Eastern Bank.

The Eastie businesses that received Small Business Relief Funds are:

- 3D Painting Company
- All My World, INC
- Amazing Eyebrow Threading

- Americano Espresso Bar
- Beverly Richards Dance Center
- Biddy Hair Salon
- Bohemios Restaurant
- Boston Amici Group
- d/b/a Pazza On PORTer
- Boston Cleaning Cooperative
- Cactus Mexican Grill LLC
- Carlos Leon Studio Salon
- Chinese Dragon
- CrossFit Jeffries Point
- Didi’s Spa
- DJ Petro Entertainment
- East Boston Barre & Yoga
- Eastiewalks LLC
- Frankie’s Cleaners
- Gibney Travel Inc
- House of Nails
- Inner Harbor Jewelers
- La Cancun Restaurant
- La Chiva Restaurant
- La Esperanza Market
- Lily Beauty Enterprise, Inc.
- Little Asia Restaurant
- Little Steps
- Mariona Lloreta
- Mexicali Sushi Bar
- Naimah Allateef DBA Babbling Brook Family Tutoring Service
- Parlor Skis LLC
- Petalos Floristeria Corporation
- Pollos a la Brasa Betos
- Rincon Limeno Restaurant Inc
- Root and Sky Wellness
- Salon 321
- Taqueria Jalisco
- Teeson Reps LLC
- Walloons LLC Catering by Nelson Sanchez
- Wave n Pave

COVID Relief Coalition offers pro bono legal work to state’s small business and nonprofits

By Dan Murphy

One neighborhood lawyer has joined a number of fellow attorneys to provide pro bono work to the state’s small businesses and nonprofits in the age of COVID-19.

Christian Westra, an attorney with the Ropes & Gray and a Charles River Square resident, helped establish the COVID Relief Coalition – an alliance of Massachusetts law firms, nonprofits and government agencies established in late March to help small businesses and nonprofits statewide access emergency loans and other sources of relief during the pandemic. As of May 16, the Coalition had already received 200 requests for pro bono legal work, he said.

“We’re eager to help as many people as we can,” he said. “Small businesses and nonprofits can go fill out an intake form on our website (at [covidreliefcoalition.com](https://covidreliefcoalition.com)), and that will go out to the law firms. Then we’ll contact you and set up an appointment, assuming you qualify and most people qualify.”

Westra added, “We’re a pretty broad-based group,

so we try to be as inclusive as possible and get the word out to as many people as we can.”

Through the Coalition, referrals are shared between participating law firms, and they communicate on how to help guide clients through the process with the Small Business Administration, among other entities.

“We also help people how to deal with challenges of not being able to pay rent or utilities, and help with situations that are specific to their businesses,” Westra said.

But, as Westra concedes, even the Coalition members are trying to grasp how the constantly changing and seemingly ambiguous process works.

“Our guidance is continuing to evolve,” he said. “People don’t have a clear understanding of how loan forgiveness works so we help people assess the risks and figure out what makes the most sense for their business and organizations.”

Of particular interest to many of the Coalition’s clients are the terms of the Small Business Administration’s Payment Protection Program (PPP), which

provides forgivable loans to small businesses to help pay employees during the pandemic. “We expect to get more questions as people start to think about loan forgiveness for the PPP,” Westra said.

To help small businesses and nonprofits navigate this terrain, the Coalition has “tried to capture some key documents,” as well as providing contact information for other sources of relief specific to their circumstances. The Coalition also provides information on how to access unemployment benefits and other resources to help individuals.

Westra said his commitment to the Coalition was spurred by his desire to help the neighborhood he loves recover from the ongoing pandemic.

“As a neighbor and someone who lives right next to Charles Street, it was heartbreaking to see all the closed shops and how it impacted people in such a significant way,” he said. “But one of the things I can do as a lawyer is help marshal my colleagues to give free legal advice through the coalition.”

To learn more, visit [covidreliefcoalition.com](https://covidreliefcoalition.com).

Benefits // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

will receive a P-EBT card in the mail for each eligible student in your household.”

From the onset of the Covid-19 crisis Project Bread advocated at the state and federal level for Massachusetts to receive a waiver to operate a P-EBT program, a crisis response nutrition program that helps feed children in low-income households.

“The father who called our FoodSource Hotline last week was representative of thousands of households across the Commonwealth,” said McAleer. “Even as he has been able to continue working part-time, something for which he’s grateful, the money is not enough to cover the needs of his spouse and two children. This is especially so since the kids

are no longer receiving the free school meals they had come to rely on even pre-coronavirus. As he told us, “It’s been tough these past weeks trying to make sure there’s enough to eat with everyone home.”

McAleer said while there are many ways the impact of COVID-19 has increased food insecurity in Massachusetts by a whopping 300 percent, school closures have significantly affected households that rely on free or reduced price meals to help feed children and make ends meet. Providing two nutritious meals every weekday not only helps these kids thrive, it allows money that would have been spent on food to go toward other necessities like rent or utilities.

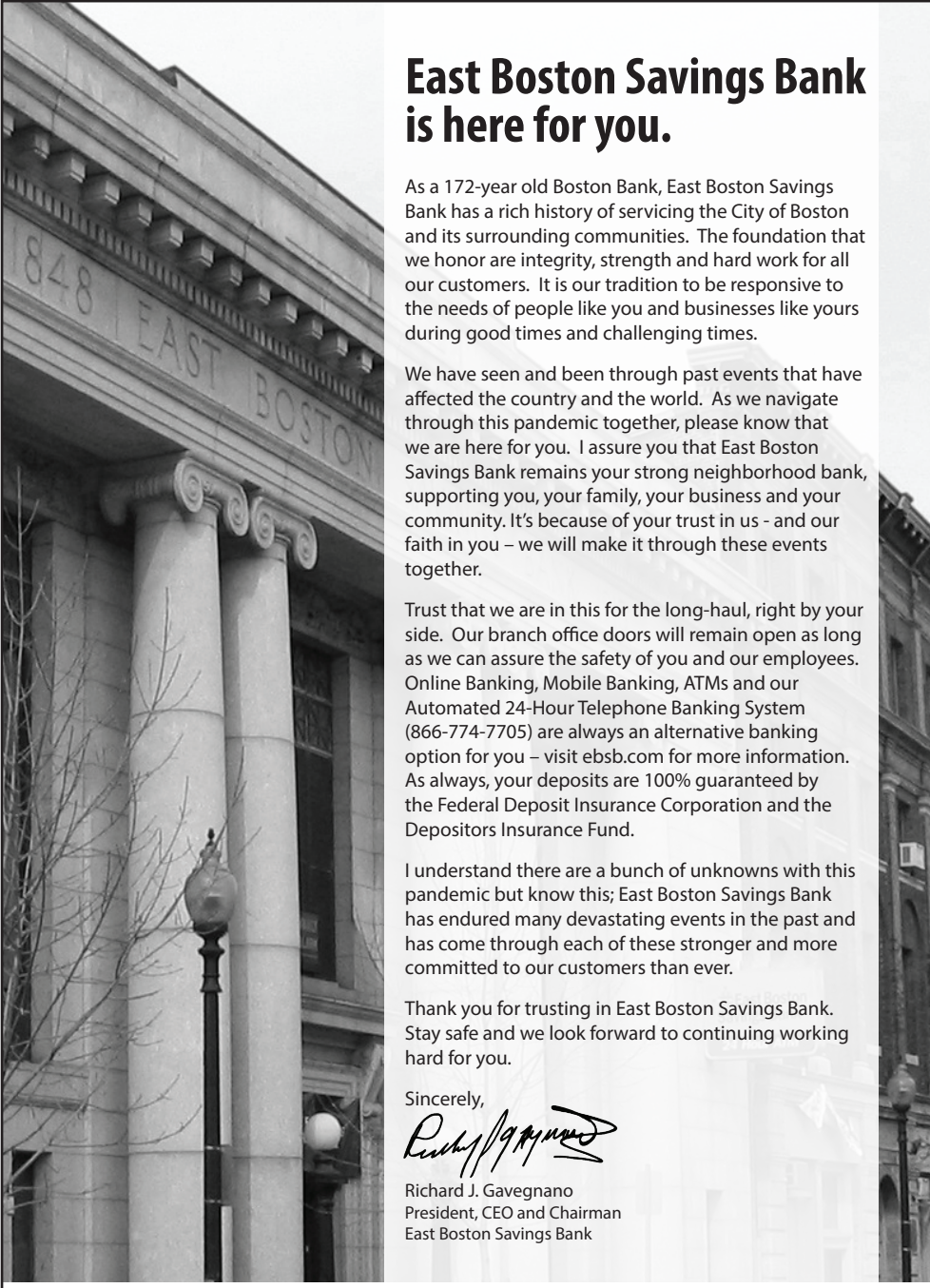
Some other good news

about P-EBT is that it is available to households regardless of immigration status so undocumented residents are able to receive the funds as long as they meet the general conditions for eligibility.

“We know we need big solutions to solve a crisis of this size, and P-EBT is a great example,” said McAleer. “We applaud our leaders here in Massachusetts and the Department of Transitional Assistance for taking action so more than 500,000 kids can buy food that will help keep them healthy during the crisis.”

If you have questions about P-EBT or other food resources, call Project Bread’s Hotline at 1-800-645-8333 or contact at [food@boston.gov](mailto:food@boston.gov).

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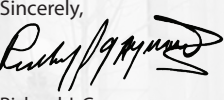
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# East Boston

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# Forum

## MEMORIAL DAY, 2020

This will be a Memorial Day unlike any that Americans have known.

Ever since the official inception of the holiday on May 30, 1868, when the practice of decorating the graves of the fallen Union soldiers with flowers, wreaths, and flags officially became recognized by the order of General Logan at Arlington National Cemetery, Memorial Day (originally known as Decoration Day) has been a time for all Americans to come together to commemorate and honor those who made the Supreme Sacrifice to preserve our freedom. When Memorial Day was moved to the fourth Monday of May starting in 1971, the three-day weekend also came to mark the official start of the summer season for Americans of all ages, who gathered for cookouts and other outdoor activities with friends and family.

But in this year of the coronavirus pandemic, all of the usual parades and festivities have been cancelled. With much of the nation still sheltering in place, gatherings of families and friends have been limited to the faux-reality of Zoom.

The pandemic also has brought another set of challenges to our nation, however. The stress we all are feeling, both from the threat of the virus itself and from the economic anxiety it has created, has brought into full view the many, deep fissures in our society which have been lurking beneath the surface for decades.

It is fair to say that America is as disunited as we ever have been since the end of the Civil War itself 155 years ago. This pandemic, rather than bringing us together to face and fight the common challenge of the coronavirus, is threatening to tear us apart and bring to an end the great American experiment.

In searching for appropriate words to capture this moment in which we find ourselves, the Gettysburg address that was delivered by President Abraham Lincoln on the site of the battlefield on November 19, 1863, rings most true, both in terms of honoring those who gave their lives in our nation's wars and for healing the wounds created by the current pandemic crisis.

We hope our readers take a moment to absorb Lincoln's words and reflect upon the meaning of Memorial Day in light of our current situation:

Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battle-field of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate -- we can not consecrate -- we can not hallow -- this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us -- that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion -- that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain -- that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom -- and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

## Your opinions, please

The Times welcomes letters to the editor. Our mailing address is 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151. Our fax number is **781-485-1403**.

Letters may also be e-mailed to [editor@easttimes.com](mailto:editor@easttimes.com).

Letters must be signed.

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MEMORIAL DAY MAY 25, 2020

## John D. O'Bryant School youth group wins award at virtual Kick Butts Day: Take Down Tobacco Ceremony

This year, the annual Kick Butts Day event at the Massachusetts State House could not take place. However youth from The 84 Movement still wanted an event to celebrate their efforts to reduce the influence of the tobacco and vaping industries in their communities. So the young leaders created and participated in a virtual training and awards ceremony via Zoom on April 29. The 245 participating youth and adults from around the Commonwealth all work to educate and mobilize young people in their communities about tobacco and vaping industry targeting.

The 84 Movement virtual event celebrated the groundbreaking legislation in Massachusetts that restricts the sale of flavored tobacco products, including mint and menthol products. The importance of the new law and other efforts to protect youth is heightened during the time of the coronavirus as evidence grows that smoking and vaping can harm the body's ability to fight COVID-19.

Opening remarks at the virtual Kick Butts Day: Take Down Tobacco awards ceremony were delivered by Senator John Keenan and Representative Danielle Gregoire, co-authors of An Act to Modernize Tobacco Control. They emphasized that youth activism played a pivotal role in the development and passage of what Senator Keenan called "the nation-leading law." Senator Keenan explained that the strong bill became a law because "quite simply we had an incredible group of young people standing up for their generation."

During the awards ceremony, awards were presented to individuals and chapters of The 84 Movement for their dedication to reducing the impact of tobacco in their communities and across Massachusetts. The 2020 Community Change Award went to PUSH-Up Peer Leaders from the John D. O'Bryant School in Boston. The Community



Pictured from left to right: Seteven Wu, Adult Advisor John Daley, Shali Holiday, Ciarra Frederick, Paula Villarruel, Saniya Antoine, Congresswoman Ayanna Presley, Gabriel Dell'Isola, Nashari Rogers, Armani Rivas, Alexis Walls, and Yerimar Bethancourt.

Change Award is presented to a chapter for demonstrating exceptional efforts in advancing local policies that reduce youth exposure to tobacco industry tactics.

Students from the PUSH-Up Peer Leaders attended bi-weekly chapter meetings, went to rallies and visited the State House to make their voices heard. They promoted health and wellness in their community and partnered with other organizations to host peer-to-peer trainings. Especially noteworthy, the PUSH-Up Peer Leaders attended a hearing of the Boston Public Health Commission as it considered restricting where flavored tobacco products, including mint and menthol products, are sold. Giving testimony in a room that included fifty tobacco store owners and workers, the young leaders spoke about why the flavor restriction is important and why public health should be a priority. They consistently stand up for racial justice and health equity, addressing how people of color, particularly black people, are targeted by the tobacco and vaping industries.

John Daley, the adult advisor and founder of the PUSH-Up Peer Leaders program expressed his gratitude for the award and his pride for what the youth have accomplished. "It feels amazing the youth are

being recognized for their hard work. They have a passion and strength when they speak, and it really makes a difference. Youth voices are the spark for change, and it feels amazing to see the effect the youth have had on local policy change."

The youth of the program were also very happy to be winning the award. Paula Villarruel, a member of the PUSH-Up program, stated "I was not expecting it but it really shows all the work we have been doing and it feels nice to be recognized. I am proud of how much we have done in the PUSH-Up Peer Leadership Program and I am really excited about the things we will do in the future. I really enjoy being part of the PUSH-Up program because we are trying to make our community a better and safer place for teens."

At previous Kick Butts Day events at the State House, hundreds of youth from The 84 Movement visited their legislators telling stories of tobacco industry influences that concern them and explaining their work to pass protective local policies in their communities. Following this year's online event, The 84 Movement chapters are virtually thanking their legislators for hearing their voices, listening to their local stories over the years, and doing their part to protect youth

from a lifetime of nicotine addiction.

The 84 Movement is a program of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health Tobacco Cessation and Prevention Program, developed and managed in partnership with Health Resources in Action. Created in 2007, The 84 represents the 84% of Massachusetts youth who did not smoke cigarettes (in 2017 that number was 93%). For more information on The 84 Movement and the work being done throughout the Commonwealth to reduce tobacco and vaping industry influence on youth, visit [www.The84.org](http://www.The84.org), [mass.gov/vaping](http://mass.gov/vaping) and [www.make-smokinghistory.org](http://www.make-smokinghistory.org)

The Metro Boston Tobacco-Free Community Partnership supports communities' efforts to lower smoking prevalence and exposure to secondhand smoke; enhance state and local tobacco control efforts by exposing tobacco industry tactics; mobilizing the community to support and adopt evidence-based policies; and changing social norms. Funded by the Massachusetts Tobacco Cessation and Prevention Program, Community Partnerships serve as a resource for local coalitions, health and human service agencies, municipalities, and workplaces on tobacco intervention efforts.

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The Times encourages residents to submit engagement, wedding and birth announcements, news releases, business and education briefs, sports stories and photos for publication. Items should be forwarded to our offices at 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151. Items can also be faxed to 781-485-1403. We also encourage readers to e-mail news releases and photos to

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# EBNHC //CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the frontlines fighting the pandemic in East Boston and rapidly changing and adapting their approach as each week passes.

One of the biggest tools to combat the virus has been to increase testing for as many residents as possible.

According to EBNHC Vice President Michael Mancusi testing leads to quick identification of cases, quick treatment for those people and immediate isolation to prevent spread. Early testing also helps to identify anyone who came into contact with infected people so they too can be quickly treated.

Mancusi said EBNHC is now able to test anyone who wants to be tested for COVID-19 in the communities of East Boston, Winthrop, Revere, Chelsea and Everett—even if you do not have symptoms, or if you are not an EBNHC patient.

“We started testing back on March 28 by testing first responders,” said Mancusi. “Then we opened the testing to EBNHC patients and now we are opening up testing to non-patients of the Health Center. We are really hoping to increase broad testing in our service areas of East Boston, Chelsea, Winthrop, Revere and Everett.”

Mancusi said the steps to get a free COVID-19 test at one of three EBNHC testing sites is easy and hassle free.

“All someone has to do is call 617-569-5800 to pre-register whether they are symptomatic or asymptomatic,” said Mancusi. “And the testing sites are open 7 days a week.”

The easiest way to get testing is arguably at EB-

NHC’s Suffolk Downs ‘drive-thru’ testing site at 525 William F. McClellan Highway after pre-registering.

“This site is open daily from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.,” said Mancusi. “Once you are registered you simply drive up to check in. The staff will print a label that we put on your windshield. Then you drive up to the testing tent and get tested. It is a very streamlined and quick process that takes only a few minutes by our experienced staff.”

Mancusi said the Health Center had a day last week where they tested 149 people at Suffolk Downs.

“We are averaging 80 to 100 people per day with the numbers being a little lower on the weekends,” said Mancusi.

However, Mancusi said the Health Center wants to give residents as many opportunities as possible to get tested.

“For those who do not have a car we have set up a ‘walk-through’ testing site 79 Paris Street,” said Mancusi.

This site is open daily from 8 a.m. to noon and residents can pre-register through the same phone number (617-569-5800).

“Paris Street is the same as Suffolk Downs with the only difference being it is a walk-through testing site,” said Mancusi. “This process also moves quickly and we’ve been testing over 100 people a day at Paris Street.”

All together EBNHC is approaching 8,500 or so individuals tested for COVID-19 in the area with a goal of reaching 10,000 people tested over the next week or two.

“East Boston was identified as a ‘hotspot’ so we really wanted to do our part during this public health crisis,” said Mancusi. “We absolutely wanted to increase the testing across the communities we serve because the more testing that gets down the more we can do to manage community suppression.”

Mancusi said the third testing site is for residents with COVID-19-like symptoms at EBNHC’s Emergency Department Influenza Like Illness Clinic at 10 Gove Street.

Once tested Mancusi said patients should receive test results in 4 to 5 days or less but should quarantine in their home pending the results. Results will automatically be reported to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and the Boston Public Health Commission.

“If your results are positive, a health care provider from EBNHC will call you to discuss your results and give further guidance,” said Mancusi. “Being positive brings up all kinds of issues and questions for



Medical staff are shown at the Suffolk Downs drive thru testing facility.

people. We provide a hand out at all the testing sites. If someone is positive we have an entire support network to help with housing, food insecurities or other issues people may face. So there’s a solid plan in place to help people navigate the most proper care for their condition.”

Mancusi said the Health Center is also exploring

more testing options like ‘mobile-testing’.

“Through mobile testing we can target areas that haven’t had a level of robust testing yet,” said Mancusi. “There may be certain areas, for whatever reason, where the number of residents tested is very low. Using geo mapping tools we can look at the data and pinpoint places or a population in these ‘cold-zones’

that should have barrier-free testing.”

Mancusi reminds residents that all are welcome at EBNHC’s testing sites regardless of immigration status, insurance status, or ability to pay. You will not receive a bill for COVID-19 testing or treatment.

Visit [www.ebnhc.org](http://www.ebnhc.org) for COVID-19 information and community resources.



Medical Staff hold up a sample inside EBNHC's COVID-19 testing site at Paris Street.



EBNHC's medical staff prepare to test a resident at the Health Center's drive-thru testing site at Suffolk Downs.



EBNHC's medical staff have been testing over 100 people a day at Paris Street.

# EBNHC ofrece pruebas de COVID-19

By John Lynds

East Boston se ha convertido en uno de los lugares más vulnerables al coronavirus. El virus ha infectado a más de mil residentes desde mediados de marzo.

El equipo del East Boston Neighborhood Health Center (EBNHC) ha estado en primera línea de la pandemia. Una de las herramientas más grandes para combatir el virus es aumentar las pruebas.

El centro es ahora capaz de probar cualquier persona en East Boston que quiera una prueba, aunque no tenga síntomas. No tiene que ser un paciente de EBNHC.

“Llamen al 617-569-5800 para preinscribirse”, dijo el vicepresidente de EBNHC Michael Mancusi. “Los sitios de prueba están abiertos los siete días de la semana”.

Los sitios incluyen Suffolk Downs en 525 William F McClellan Highway, abierto de 1pm a 5pm. Para aquellos que no tienen vehículo, hay un sitio para peatones en 79 Paris Street, abierto todos los días de 8am a mediodía. Un tercer sitio de pruebas es la Clínica de Enfermedades en 10 Gove Street.

Los residentes están in-



Maria Maldonado is on hand to administer tests.

vitados a los sitios de prueba sin importar el estatus de inmigración, la falta de seguro médico o la falta de dinero. No recibirán una factura por las pruebas o el tratamiento de COVID-19.

Los pacientes recibirán los resultados en cinco días, pero deben ponerse en cuarentena en su hogar mientras esperan los resultados.

EBNHC tiene el objetivo de evaluar a 10.000 residentes en total dentro de dos semanas. El centro también está explorando más opciones de prueba como sitios de prueba móviles.

Visita <https://ebnhc.org/es/> para COVID-19 información y recursos de la comunidad en Spanish.



EBNHC medical staff work with a patient getting tested inside the Paris Street facility.



EBNHC's medical staff bag a COVID-19 test.

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# The Harborkeepers launches Vision Chelsea Creek; A collective vision for the abandoned MBTA / MassDOT Railway site in East Boston

Special to the Times

This month, The Harborkeepers launched Vision Chelsea Creek: a six month-long visioning, planning, and stakeholder engagement process to re-imagine the abandoned MBTA / MassDOT-owned railway site along the industrial shoreline of lower Chelsea Creek in East Boston.

Aiming to solve for multiple coastal and urban challenges, this project is driven by a public-private partnership between The Harborkeepers (a local, grassroots coastal and resilience-building non-profit based in East Boston) and Cargo Ventures (a long-time East Boston land owner, abutter, and primary funder), in collaboration with SCAPE (a landscape architecture and urban design firm bringing expertise in resilient waterfront planning and design). The team is further supported by Utile, the Boston Society of Architecture and the Boston Society of Landscape Architecture.

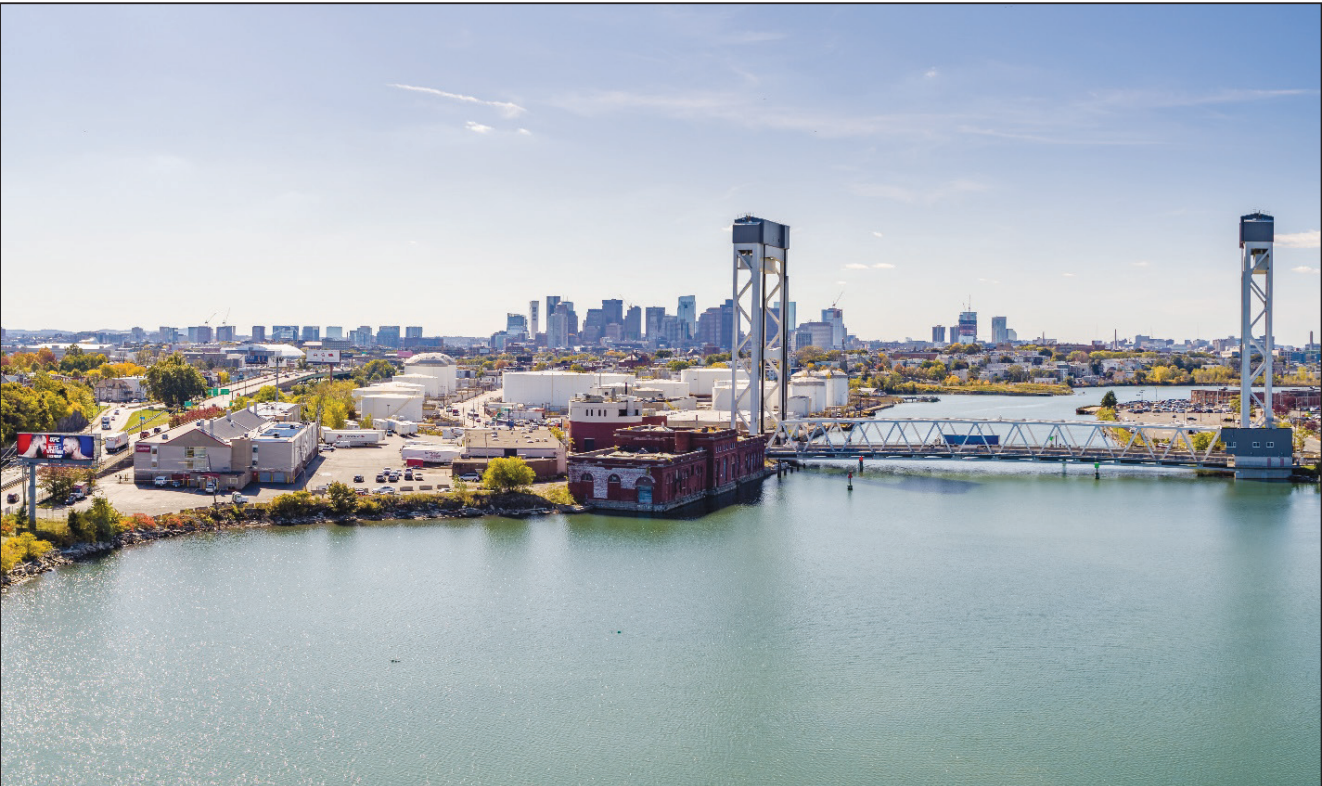
Through a transparent, open community and stakeholder engagement process, the Vision Chelsea Creek team will work together to design and develop a comprehensive vision for the site, inclusive of various needs and priorities, and building on waterfront and open space advocacy; community aspirations; industry and maritime uses; and the needs of municipal stakeholders.

Overall, Vision Chelsea Creek will assess opportu-

nities for ecological shoreline restoration and stabilization; equitable access; transportation mitigation; historic preservation; and industrial re-use. This six-month-long process will culminate in a pilot ‘catalyst’ project proposal that will provide insight into the future implementation of the comprehensive vision.

At a larger scale, Vision Chelsea Creek aims to enhance public understanding of land use opportunities for Boston’s vulnerable waterways. The team will work to address these social and environmental challenges through detailed analysis of previous studies, community advocacy, and site conditions – outlining strategies to mitigate negative environmental impacts and create a more resilient, accessible, and restorative waterfront edge. To better inform a set of resilience and climate adaptation strategies for the site, the team will study precedent visions for the area, building on engagement conducted by local groups while leveraging and contributing to the implementation of the City of Boston’s overarching climate resilience goals.

To inform this detailed technical analysis with the lived experience, aspirations, and needs of community members and stakeholders, the Vision Chelsea Creek team will explore virtual stakeholder engagement tools that adhere to social distancing and public health guidelines during the COVID-19



Aerial view of the MBTA / MassDOT-owned site along Chelsea Creek / Handel Architects.

crisis – especially given the acute status of the virus in East Boston communities. These sessions may include a series of design charrettes; virtual site tours; and digital stakeholder workshops with community groups and organizations.

Communities in East Boston and Chelsea have historically been underserved by waterfront and open space access, and deferred transportation projects that could increase safety and connectivity along Route 1A and across the Creek. A crucial part of Vision Chelsea Creek will be setting the stage for more inclusive community engagement practices that address these concerns while strictly adhering to the public health requirements advised by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the City of Boston.

To get involved and stay informed on Vision Chelsea Creek as it develops, sign up for updates and submit inquiries on the project website: [www.harborkeepers.org/vision-chelsea-creek](http://www.harborkeepers.org/vision-chelsea-creek) For more information, contact contact Magdalena Ayed (Founder and Director, The Harborkeepers) at [magdalena@harborkeepers.org](mailto:magdalena@harborkeepers.org).

Founded in 2016, The Harborkeepers is a non-profit, grassroots-based organization that works to build equitable and sustainable coastal resilience by fostering environmental stewardship of the waterfront through coastal education, community engagement and cross-sector partnership-building.

Learn more: [www.harborkeepers.org](http://www.harborkeepers.org) / Follow us on Twitter and Instagram at @Harborkeepers.

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# YMCA Emergency Childcare center for essential workers gets help from Boston Resiliency Fund

By John Lynds

Last week, Mayor Martin Walsh and the Boston Resiliency Fund Steering Committee announced the seventh round of Boston Resiliency Fund grants. Included among the recipients will be the East Boston YMCA is slated to receive financial help to continue its Emergency Childcare Center for essential workers.

The money is part of \$1.3 million from the fund with a focus on emergency childcare, expanded COVID-19 testing and telehealth services, safety training and emotional support for essential and frontline workers, and support food delivery systems.

“The generosity of thousands of individuals and organizations is allowing the Boston Resiliency Fund to provide food for children and seniors in need, technology for students, and support to first responders and healthcare workers,” said Walsh. “The work of the fund will continue to be informed by the COVID-19

Health Inequities Task Force to get resources into communities that have the deepest needs. We’ve used it to expand COVID testing access and outreach in our hardest hit communities and in every neighborhood across the city.”

As schools and daycares closed across the state in the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic some childcare facilities were allowed to remain open to help essential workers in Eastie and the Commonwealth continue to battle the virus outbreak on the

frontlines.

The East Boston YMCA is the only Emergency Childcare Center open in the neighborhood.

“With previous support from the Boston Resiliency Fund, the YMCA has provided thousands of “grab & go” meals for children and thousands of meals for adults,” said YMCA Executive Director Joe Gaeta. “While doing this we’ve kept child care slots open for essential workers in Boston. This additional support will enable the YMCA to keep emergency child care centers open through the end of June.”

Gaeta said the East Boston YMCA currently has the capacity for 40 children at Bremen Street site and 40 children at the Y’s Ashley Street site. The ages are infant to 13 year olds.

Gaeta said the Eastie Y is operating at 50 percent capacity right now so the two sites do have space if essential workers who qualify need it.

Those who qualify are front line workers including doctors, nurses, health care workers, EMTs, front

line grocery workers, USPS and other delivery services.

Also, those in DCYF custody could qualify. This service is provided free of charge.

If you are an essential worker in need of childcare, Gaeta said residents should email [emergencycare@ymcaboston.org](mailto:emergencycare@ymcaboston.org) to sign up or to see if they qualify. More info can be found at <https://ymcaboston.org/emergency-child-care>.

## Weekly unemployment claimant data

From May 3 to May 9, Massachusetts had 44,274 individuals file an initial claim for standard Unemployment Insurance (UI), a decrease of 10,949 over the previous week, and the sixth consecutive week of fewer initial claims filing over the previous week.

Since March 15, a total of 821,506 initial claims have been filed for UI. For the week of May 3 to May 9, there were a total of 576,172 continued UI claims, an increase of 3.6% over the previous week.

Since April 20, over 255,000 claimants have

filed for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA).

Between both the UI and PUA programs more than 1 million unemployment claims have been filed in the Commonwealth.

Over the last month, the customer service staff at the Department of Unemployment Assistance (DUA) has grown from around 50 employees to over 1800. The remote customer service operation is now making over 32,000 individual contacts per day and DUA continues to host daily unemployment town halls

– which have been held in English, Spanish, and Portuguese - and have been attended by over 240,000 constituents. Massachusetts was one of the first states to successfully launch the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance program. Due to DUA’s previous efforts to migrate their systems to the cloud, the first unemployment agency in the country to do so, the unemployment online platforms for both regular UI and PUA has maintained functionality throughout the surge in demand.

## SBA and Treasury release paycheck protection program loan forgiveness application

This week, the U.S. Small Business Administration, in consultation with the U.S Department of the Treasury, released the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) Loan Forgiveness Application and detailed instructions for the application.

The form and instructions inform borrowers how to apply for forgiveness of their PPP loans, consistent with the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act). SBA will also soon issue regulations and guidance to further assist borrowers as they complete their applications, and to provide lenders with guidance on their responsibilities.

The form and instructions include several measures to reduce compliance burdens and simplify the process for borrowers, including:


- Options for borrowers to calculate payroll costs using an “alternative payroll covered period” that aligns with borrowers’ regular payroll cycles.
- Flexibility to include eligible payroll and non-payroll expenses paid or incurred during the eight-week period after receiving their PPP loan.
- Step-by-step instructions on how to perform the calculations required by the CARES Act to confirm eligibility for loan forgiveness.
- Borrower-friendly implementation of statutory

exemptions from loan forgiveness reduction based on rehiring by June 30.

- Addition of a new exemption from the loan forgiveness reduction for borrowers who have made a good-faith, written offer to rehire workers that was declined.

The PPP was created by the CARES Act to provide forgivable loans to eligible small businesses to keep American workers on the payroll during the COVID-19 pandemic. The documents released today will help small businesses seek forgiveness at the conclusion of the eight-week covered period, which begins with the disbursement of their loans.


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LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH  
OF MASSACHUSETTS  
SUPERIOR COURT  
CIVIL ACTION NO.  
1928CV01293  
NORFOLK, SS.  
JAY CASHMAN,  
INC.,  
Plaintiff  
v.  
ADIL DHOUI,  
Defendant  
ORDER FOR  
SERVICE BY  
PUBLICATION

WHEREAS, a civil action has been brought against Adil Dhoui seeking judgment on counts of Money Had and Received, Unjust Enrichment, Breach of Fiduciary Duty and Breach of Loyalty, Conversion, Fraud, and Breach of the Covenant of Good Faith and Fair Dealing. WHEREAS it appears to the Court from the Affidavit of

Tom E. Zoller filed in this action that after the exercise of reasonable due diligence that on one can find Adil Dhoui and that no personal service of the Complaint may be made upon Adil Dhoui, it is ORDERED, pursuant to Mass.R.Civ.P. 4(d)(1), that notice of this suit be given to Adil Dhoui by publishing this Order, once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks, the last publication to be at least twenty (20) days before said return day, in the Boston Globe and each of three newspapers of general circulation distributed within three miles of 15 Murray Court, East Boston, MA 02128; 16 Franklin Street, Apt. 1, Somerville, MA 02145; and 7 Lowman Circle, Peabody, MA 01960. WE COMMAND YOU, ADIL DHOUI, if you intend to make any defense, that on or by June 30, 2020, or

within such further time as the law allows you, do cause your written responsive pleading (or other response as appropriate) to be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court, Norfolk Superior Court, 650 High Street, Dedham, MA 02026 in said Commonwealth, with a copy to be served upon the Plaintiff's attorney, James G. Grillo, Esq., Davagian Grillo & Semple LLP, 365 Boston Post Road, Ste. 200, Sudbury, MA 01776, and further that you defend against said suit according to law if you intent any defense, and that you do and receive what the Court shall order and adjudge therein. If you fail to meet the above requirements, judgment by default may be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint. Unless otherwise provided

by Rule 13(e), your answer must state as a counterclaim any claim which you may have against the Plaintiff which arises out of the transaction or occurrence that is the subject matter of the Plaintiff's claim or you will be barred from making any such claim in any other action.

SO ORDERED  
Dated This 13th day of April 2020.

Robert C. Cosgrove  
JUSTICE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

WITNESS, Judith Fabricant, at Dedham, Massachusetts the 13th day of April in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty.

Walter F. Timilty,  
Clerk

5/20/20, 5/27/20,  
6/3/20  
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# OBITUARIES

## Robert Mellace

Avid musician, animal lover and owner/  
operator of Pet Express

Robert Mellace of Pea-body, formerly of Revere, passed suddenly from a tragic car accident on May 15 at the age of 50.

Robert owned and operated Pet Express, which he started 25 years ago with his two siblings. Robert was known as an avid musician and for his love of animals. He will truly be missed by all who knew him.

He was the loving son of Vincenzo and Maria Mel-lace of Revere, beloved husband of Holly (Hoep-pner) Mellace, devoted fa-ther to Mariella Mellace, dear brother of Lucia Mel-lace-Castle and her hus-band, Blaine of Saugus and John Mellace and his wife, Sveta of Peabody and cher-ished uncle to Jack, Ella, John and Brielle. He is also survived by many lov-ing extended family mem-bers and friends.



Donations can be made in his name to MARE, Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange, 19 Needham St, Suite 206, Newton, MA 02461. In accordance with the CDC’s current restrictions on gath-erings due to Covid-19, all services will be held pri-vately. Entombment Wood-lawn Mausoleum. Please visit the online guestbook to leave your condolences or share a memory and for any updated changes in ar-rangement plans at [www. Buonfiglio.com](http://www.Buonfiglio.com).

## Dorothy Marotta

American Biltrite retiree,  
will be remembered for her kind  
and generous spirit

Dorothy Marotta of Re-vere died on May 7 at the age 79.

Dorothy was an em-ployee for over 40 years of American Biltrite and re-tired as payroll supervisor. Dottie’s faith was extreme-ly important to her. She was a devoted parishioner at St. Anthony’s Church in Revere and a past mem-ber of the Lady’s Sodal-ity. She enjoyed bingo and an occasional trip to Las Vegas. Dottie will be re-membered for her kind and generous spirit, always one to pick up the tab for both family and friends.

Born in Malden on Feb-ruary 18, 1941 to the late Pasquale and Theresa (Sar-ni), she was the beloved sister of Virginia Mullen and her late husband, Bill of Revere, adored aunt of Michael Mullen and his wife, Kim Chin of Saugus, Therese Mullen and her partner, Gino Marino of Saugus and Steven Mullen



of Revere and cherished great-aunt of Adelina and Anthony. Dorothy also leaves behind her cat, Gyp-sy.

In lieu of flowers, do-nations may be made in Dorothy’s memory to St. Anthony’s Church, 250 Revere Street, Revere, MA 02151. In accordance with the CDC’s current restric-tions on gatherings due to Covid-19, all services will be held privately. Inter-ment Woodlawn Cemetery. For guestbook, please visit [www.buonfiglio.com](http://www.buonfiglio.com).

## Joseph F. Mazur

September 8, 1949 - May 18, 2020

Joseph Frank Mazur of East Boston passed away at Beth Israel Hospital in Boston after a brief illness on May 18, 2020.

Joseph retired from the Commonwealth of Massa-chusetts. He enjoyed cook-ing and was an avid watch collector.

He leaves behind his son, Joseph H. Mazur and his brother, Stanley J. Ma-zur. Joseph was the son of the late Stanley Mazure and Concetta Castigloioni Ma-zure of Boston’s West End.

He will be missed by his friends and family. Ser-vices are private.

## John Gioioso Sr.

On his 90th Birthday, May 13, 2018, the  
Mayor of Revere proclaimed  
“John Gioso Day”

Funeral Services and Interment in Woodlawn Cemetery will be held pri-vately for John J. Gioioso, 91, and his wife Palmina A. “Pam” Gioioso due to the current restrictions on gatherings as a result of the COVID-19 (Coronavi-rus) pandemic. John passed away on Monday, May 11 following a brief illness at the Lawrence General Hos-pital, Lawrence, only two days before his 92nd birth-day on, May 13. His dear wife, Palmina A. “Pam” (DiPlacido), passed away on May 15.



Bishop Cheverus, Knights of Columbus, Fourth De-gree of Massachusetts. He was also a member of the Saugus Lodge, Order of the Moose. John shared a keen interest in local politics and enjoyed a special friend-ship with many of our local politicians.

A proud son of East Bos-ton and an adopted son of Revere, he was schooled at Our Lady of the Assump-tion Catholic School. The move to Revere was in 1967 to Eustis St., where he earned the title and hon-or of “Mayor of Eustis St.”. Until 2019, John could be seen taking his daily fre-quent walks up and down Eustis St. and Broadway and greeting, by name, his neighbors and soon to be dear friends.

The beloved husband of almost 65 years to the late Palmina A. “Pam” (DiPlacido) Gioioso, he was the cherished father to John J. Gioioso, Jr. and his wife, Colleen of Lynnfield, Don-na M. Lapointe and her husband, Gerard of North Berwick, Maine and Laura J. Belmonte and her hus-band, Frank A. Belmonte, Jr. of Londonderry, New Hampshire. He is the devot-ed grandfather of Ashley L. Burbank and her husband, Adam of Berwick, Maine, Gregory A. Lapointe and his wife, Moriah of Wells, Maine, Frank A. Belmonte, III of Londonderry, New Hampshire and Genna R.

The son of the late Do-menic and Mary (DiOrio) Gioioso, he is the last of their eight children.

Gioioso of Lynnfield. He is also lovingly survived by two great-grandsons, Zachary and Jackson. John was the brother of the late Pasquale “Pat” Gioioso, Joseph, James A.K.A. Vin-cent, Edward and Anthony Gioioso and Mary Morse and Rose DiCiccio. Many nieces, nephews, cousins, grandnieces and grand-nephews also survive him.

All forty plus years of his career was spent in men’s dress and casual clothing. He began his career at Robert Hall Fine Clothing which later became the An-derson-Little Company.

In lieu of flowers, re-membrances may be made to St. Jude Children’s Re-search Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105-9959.

John would regale his family with proud sto-ries of his success and the joy of being sought after when customers entered the store. The people of John’s generation created and maintained the fine art of merchandising and trust-worthy reputation and he was a master at that aspect of his life.

To send online condo-lences, please visit [www. vertuccioandsmith.com](http://www.vertuccioandsmith.com). Funeral Arrangements are entrusted to the care and di-rection of the Vertuccio & Smith, Home for Funerals.

John was a jazz enthu-siast and served as the first president of the Stan Ken-ton Big Band Fan Club of East Boston.

On his 90th birthday, Re-vere’s Mayor proclaimed May 13th, “John J. Gioioso Day” in the City of Revere.

He was a Past Member of the former St. Francis Council, Knights of Co-lumbus of Orient Heights, East Boston and a Fourth Degree Member of the

## Palmina Gioioso

Succumbed to Covid-19 on May 17,  
six days after her husband

Palmina “Pam” A. Gio-ioso, 89, East Boston na-tive and Revere resident for 53 years, succumbed to COVID-19 on May 17, six days following the death of her husband, John J. Gio-ioso “... thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven ... “and so, from the Prayer of the “Our Father,” comes the events of the life that the Gioioso family has ex-perienced especially from May 11, 2020 thru May 17, 2020.



Palmina “Pam” passed as a result of complications arising from the Coronavi-rus at the Lawrence Gen-eral Hospital, Lawrence only six days following the passing of her faithful loving husband of 65 years from the same insidious vi-rus.

Palmina A. (DiPlaci-do) Gioioso was born on March 29, 1931 in East Boston to Bernardino and Maria (Tecce) DiPlacido. She attended Our Lady of the Assumption Grammar School and was a gradu-ate of East Boston High School, Class of 1949.

She began her work-ing career following high school graduation at Filene’s Basement Store of Downtown Boston in the gift-wrapping department, a position made for “Pam” -- a woman made for the po-sition. To say that she loved her work is an understatement. She gave Filene’s six years of service. However, from that time on, she was the Matriarch of Giftwrap-ping for her entire family. Whatever the occasion, a Birthday, Wedding, Grad-uation, Christmas, Easter or whatever, “Pam” had the gift of artistry in her hands.

She married John in 1954, continue to live in East Boston and in 1967, moved to Eustis Street, Re-vere. They had three devot-ed children: John J. Gioio-so, Jr. and his wife, Colleen of Lynnfield, Donna M. Lapointe and her husband, Gerard of North Berwick, Maine and Laura J. Bel-monte and her husband, Frank A. Belmonte of Lon-donderry, New Hampshire.

She returned to the working world in the early seventies at Bradlees De-partment Store of Chelsea as a salesclerk and cashier. She retired in 1993 after twenty (20) years of ser-vice.

When her children were in school, “Pam” was mo-stactive in the Revere Par-ents Club. Nothing gave her more joy or pleasure

than to be with her chil-dren; whether at home or elsewhere, teaching them, playing with them or thor-oughly reading to them. Pam had a voracious appe-tite for reading and contin-ued to the end to thrive on that appetite.

When grandchildren began happening, she was renewed in the art of “mothering.” Her grand-children loved and thrived on spending time with their “Nonnie”. She did all the activities plus, as when she raised her own children. The grandchildren were taken to movies, museum trips, picnics etc. The com-bined time with her chil-dren and grandchildren re-main to be the hallmark of her life---caring and giving. Her cherished grandchil-dren are Ashley L. Burbank and her husband, Adam of Berwick, Maine, Gregory A. Lapoint and his wife, Moriah of Wells, Maine, Frank A. Belmonte, III of Londonderry, NH and Gen-na R. Gioioso of Lynnfield. She is also the dear sister to John DiPlacido and his late wife, Frances (Coroz-za) DiPlacido of West Palm Beach, FL and the late Clara Kennedy and her late husband, Joseph. She is also lovingly survived by her two great-grandsons, Zachary and Jackson and by many nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grand-nephews. Pam was also the faithful cousin to the late Mario DiBacco.

For many years of Sat-urday nights, both Pam and John, who were long-time members of the Malden Moose Lodge, would take thorough advantage of the celebrations on Saturday nights and holiday specials, dressed to the nines, side-by-side.

To send online condo-lences, please visit [www. vertuccioandsmith.com](http://www.vertuccioandsmith.com)

Funeral Arrangements are entrusted to the care and direction of the Ver-tuccio & Smith, Home for Funerals.

## Leila Celona

Retired seamstress

Leila (Marabello) Ce-lona, a lifelong resident of East Boston, died on May 15 at the age of 100.

Leila was employed as a seamstress in the clothing industry for Philips Sports-wear in East Boston before her retirement in 1982.



The devoted wife of the late Stephen “Steve” Ce-lona Sr. with whom she shared 64 years of marriage, she was the loving mother of Nunzio “Nunny” Celona and his wife, Geraldine of Wakefield, Josephine Pul-lo and her husband, Dave of Tewksbury and Stephen Celona Jr. of Winthrop. She was the cherished grand-mother of four and the great grandmother of six.

Due to the Covid-19

Pandemic, services will be private for the imidiate family. Messages of condo-lence can be placed on our memory wall.

Interment will be in Woodlawn Cemetery, Everett, MA. For on-line guestbook, visit: [www.vazzafunerals.com](http://www.vazzafunerals.com) Vazza Funeral Home.

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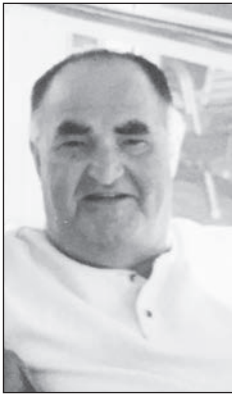
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In the sunshine of perfect peace,  
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But realize God knew best,  
He let us have you for many  
years  
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your wife, sons, daughter-in  
laws & grandchildren.**

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OBITUARIES

Gerry Federico Giugliano  
Heavy Equipment Operator

Funeral Services and Interment will be held privately due to the current COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Pandemic for Gerry Federico Giugliano who died on Saturday, May 9 at the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston following a long illness. He was 71 years old.

Gerry was born in Grot-taminarda, Avellino, Italy and came to the United States in 1965. The family settled in East Boston and Jerry remained here for the rest of his life.

He was married for 47 years to Claudia (DiGirolamo) Giugliano. They had five children and raised them in the family home on Saratoga Street.

Gerry worked as a heavy equipment operator for all of his working career. He had an innate work ethic and worked very hard to support his family. He was forced to retire early due to declining health issues.

The devoted husband of Claudia (DiGirolamo) Giugliano of East Boston, he was the loving father of Freddy Giugliano, Anthony A. Giugliano, Jerry Giugliano, Joseph Giugliano and Antonetta Giugliano, all



of East Boston; cherished papa of Bryan, Mevayla, Danny, Anthony, Alissa, Joe, Joann and Joselyn; the beloved son of the late Andrea and Antonetta (Falcucci) Giugliano; dear brother of Giuseppe Giugliano and his late wife, Alfonsina of Boxford, Salvatore Giugliano and his wife, Gilfroia “Jill” of Lynnfield and the late Dora Ragucci. He is also lovingly survived by many loving nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews.

At the family’s request, please omit flowers. To send online condolences, please visit: [www.vertuccioandsmith.com](http://www.vertuccioandsmith.com). Funeral Arrangements are entrusted to the care and direction of the Vertuccio & Smith, Home for Funerals.

Private Funeral Services and Interment at Woodlawn Cemetery, Everett, were held for Paul S. “Salvi” Caponigro, who passed on Wednesday, May 13 following a brief illness at the Jeanne Jugan Residence of Somerville.

Mr. Caponigro observed his 107th birthday on March 24th with the presence and love of the nuns at the facility in an attempt to help ease the absence of his most devoted family due to the ongoing pandemic mandates.

Born and raised in East Boston, Mr. Caponigro was a graduate of East Boston High School, Class of 1931 and was a 1935 graduate of Boston University.

Early in his working career, he was with Special Services and the Peace Corps in Japan. After leaving Special Services, he began 25 years of service as a Boston School Teacher of the Arts and Ceramics. He was proud to be the only “Ceramics” Teacher registered to the City of Boston.

A man of deep and devout faith, his goal was to serve the Roman Catholic Church as an ordained priest. However, being a victim and survivor of Polio, he was

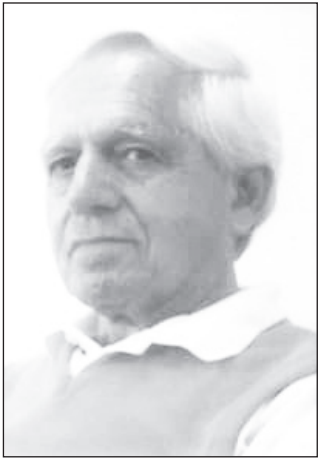
Paul Caponigro  
Retired Boston School Teacher, died at the age of 107

denied admission to the seminary. Although, the good and Excelsior mode of his life served his students, family and friends with a hallmark to follow in their own lives. His knowledge of art and the many, many vistas that the study of art allows us to partake was genuine and complete. His humility and integrity were life-long attributes that saw him to the completion of his 107 years.

He was a member of several art associations, the Winthrop Art Association, being one and a long-standing member of the Boston Retired Teachers’ Association.

He was the beloved son of the late Angelo and Carmella (Luongo) Caponigro who together parented seven children and Paul was the youngest. His late siblings were: Aida I. Caponigro, Eugene Caponigro, Joseph, Americo and Liberto Caponigro and Robert Cappy. He was the cherished uncle

to Philip A. Caponigro, Joseph S. Caponigro and his wife, Kelly and Carlo E. Caponigro and his wife, Francesca and Janice Marcinkowski and her late husband, Joseph. Many grandnieces and grandnephews



also survive him. He is also lovingly survived by his faithful caring sister-in-law, Margaret “Margie” (Bagley) Caponigro-Chiaraluze.

A Celebration of Life/Memorial Funeral Mass will be announced at a later date on social media and our website ( [www.vertuccioandsmith.com](http://www.vertuccioandsmith.com)).

In grateful recognition of the extraordinary care rendered Paul, his family asks that, in lieu of flowers, remembrances be made to the “Little Sisters of the Poor,” 186 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA 02143. To send online condolences, please visit [www.vertuccioandsmith.com](http://www.vertuccioandsmith.com). Funeral Arrangements are entrusted to the care and direction of the Vertuccio & Smith, Home for Funerals.

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Carol Truncale’s story leaves us with two of the most contagious messages we know: don’t give up, and remember to give back. If Carol’s story inspires just one more person to make a difference, then its telling here has been well worth while.



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# William C. Kelly, a remembrance for Memorial Day, and a call to replace his plaque in Central Square

By John Lynds

Locally, East Boston's William C. Kelly Square has been referred to as Central Square since the turn of the last century and very few call it by its dedicated name.

Sure, some establishments use William Kelly Square as a return address and even Kelly's Square Pub offers a nod to the man Central Square was renamed after in the 1920s.

What many don't know is that William Kelly is buried some 3,500 miles away in the prestigious Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery in France--located east of the village of Romagne-sous-Montfaucon in Meuse.

The cemetery contains the largest number of American military dead in Europe, most of whom, like Kelly, lost their lives during the Meuse-Argonne Offensive during World War I.

Willie, as he was known while growing up in East Boston, was a personable, friendly, happy and good-looking guy.

Kelly was born in 1890, the second of six children on London St. to Michael J. Kelly from Portland, Maine and Mary Cathcart of East Boston.

"I got almost all of my information about Willie from my father's (Kelly's older brother) two older deceased brothers while spending a lot of time with

them during summers in the late sixties and seventies," said Kelly's great nephew, Dennis Kelly.

Kelly attended East Boston High School and played basketball, and his father owned a funeral home at 11 Meridian St. His father had become successful enough that he bought a house in Winthrop where the Winthrop Machine Gun Company was located, part of the Massachusetts Volunteer Militia (MVM).

As World War I raged across Europe, Kelly ended up in the MVM. However, before leaving for military service he became engaged to Florence Ballem, of Winthrop.

"He did join the MVM, which led to him spending some time in Mexico on the Pancho Villa Expedition," said Dennis Kelly. "When the MVM was mobilized for service in the European Theater during WWI it was renamed the 101st Regiment as part of the 26 ID Yankee Division."

Kelly was part of Meuse-Argonne offensive--a major part of the final Allied offensive of the war that stretched along the entire Western Front. It was fought from September 26, 1918, until the Armistice of November 11, 1918.

The battle became the second deadliest battle in American history, resulting in over 350,000 casualties including 26,277 American lives, 28,000 German lives

and an unknown number of French lives.

It was here, on Oct. 25, 1918 that Kelly was killed in action when an artillery shell hit his machine gun emplacement.

"The family wasn't notified until after the Armistice was announced," said Dennis Kelly. "His family decided to have him buried in France because they didn't have confidence that the Army was correctly identifying the bodies so being interred in France was satisfactory."

His fiancée, Florence Ballem, never married and dedicated her life to keeping Kelly's memory alive, lobbying for Central Square to be named in his honor and helped organize a Memorial Military Ball in 1929.

"When she died her brother called my Uncle Joe and told him to come to Winthrop to pick up some of Willie's things that were there," said Dennis Kelly. "My uncle Joe said that Willie's 1917 picture in his Army uniform was on her bedroom dresser with her engagement ring hanging on the picture frame."

However, Dennis Kelly is upset by one thing that he hopes the city rectifies in the near future.

"I am disappointed that after the construction around the oval in Kelly Square, or Central Square, the old metal name plaque honoring William Kelly



The grave of William C. Kelly of Kelly Square in East Boston in the prestigious Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery in France. Kelly was killed in the final American offensive during World War I. While Central Square was named in his honor in the 1920s, the plaque has gone missing since the renovation of Central Square.

wasn't reinstalled," said Dennis Kelly. "Where is it? Why wasn't it put back up? I always try to visit the memorial plaque when I

am back in Boston and was shocked to realize it wasn't mounted on the pole at the entrance of the nice green space. I want people to

know he was real and had much in common with the people of East Boston today."


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