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# East Boston

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Wednesday, June 3, 2020

# **Eastie** COVID-19 updates

By John Lynds

East Boston now officially has the highest COVID-19 infection rate in the City of Boston according to new data released by the Boston Public Health Commission on Friday.

While the number of hospitalizations and deaths from COVID-19 continue to decline in the city and state, East Boston still remains a virus hotspot within the city limits and cases of the virus rose five percent in one week.

On Friday the BPHC released its weekly COVID-19 stats by neighborhood that tracks infection rates and COVID testing results in Boston neighborhoods.

In one week Eastie's COVID-19 infection rate rose five percent from 295.6 cases per 10,000 residents to an infection rate of 310.5 cases per 10,000 residents as of Friday.

As of Friday 1,457 confirmed COVID-19 cases in Eastie, up from the 1,387 cases reported by the BPHC the previous week.

Last week, 4,601 Eastie residents were tested for COVID-19 and the data shows that 32.5 percent of those tested were COVID positive. Eastie still leads the city in the percentage of those testing positive for COVID-19 followed by parts of Dorchester, Mattapan and Hyde Park.

See UPDATE Page 2



ICA Watershed scraps seasonal art installation in favor of continuing to be a community food distribution site.

# ICA cancels usual summer programming, extends community food distribution through September

By John Lynds

Since opening in July 2018, the Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA) Watershed on East Boston's waterfront has hosted a resident artists and their work for the summer season.

While the ICA named artist and sculptor Firelei Baez as its resident artist for the Watershed's 2020 season back in October those plans have been scrapped.

Instead the ICA's Watershed will remain a food distribution site through September 3, 2020 in response to the ingoing COVID-19 pandemic..

Jill Medvedow, the Ellen Matilda Poss Director of the Boston (ICA), made the announcement last week and said the ICA will continue to use the Watershed as a In partnership with community organizations in Eastie. With help from the ICA's

caterer, The Catered Affair, over 2,000 boxes of much-needed fresh produce and dairy will be delivered to East Boston families by the end of the summer.

Báez's art installation, which was to feature the artist's largest sculpture to date, will be postponed until 2021.

"With the cooperation of Firelei Báez, our East Boston partners, ICA staff and generous donors, we are redirecting resources of the ICA and the Watershed in particular to address a direct need within the community," said Medvedow. "Art projects are included in each box of food to provide families with new and creative activities to do at home during this challenging time. While disappoint-

ing that we will not open the Watershed this summer as planned, this is the safest way for the museum to stay connected and serve our audiences at this time.'

According to Medvedow the food donation initiative is a collaboration between the ICA and several East Boston organizations: East Boston Neighborhood Health Center (EBNHC); East Boston Social Centers; Maverick Landing Community Services; Eastie Farm; Orient Heights Housing Development; and Crossroads Family Center.

The original intent of the food distribution site, which was launched in mid-March, was to feed Eastie residents for one month.

However, because Eastie has experienced one of the

See ICA Page 2

# Telehealth a lifesaver for EBNHC patients

When the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center (EBNHC) received the greenlight from the state to reopen some in-person doctor visits at a limited capacity, EBNHC CMO Dr. Jackie Fantes and President and CEO Manny Lopes said that the Health Center will look much different to patients during a recent Zoom town hall meeting.

EBNHC has already ramped up in-person visits but limited its capacity to 25 percent of what it was before the COVID-19 pandemic hit. To ensure safety and proper hygiene protocols outlined by the state the Health Center will



hat a typical Telehealth vid eo visit looks like. EBNHC is encouraging patients to continue to use the Telehealth technology as the **Health Center reopened** some in-person visits at a limited capacity.

not be performing general checkups like physical ex-

However, while EBNHC will be putting the safety of

See EBNHC Page 2

# Walsh makes big push for accurate Boston census count

By John Lynds

Last week, Mayor Martin Walsh chose the East Boston Library on Bremen Street to kick off the yearlong outreach campaign to ensure a fair and complete count in the 2020 U.S. Cen-

At the time Walsh was joined by a group of non-profit leaders and advocates at the library to start the decennial count that determines everything from representation in Congress, to federal funds for schools, affordable housing, infrastructure and health care programs.

Last week, Walsh re-

minded Boston residents to take the 2020 Census during this time of physical distancing.

"To date, only 49.8 percent of households have responded, which is lower than the statewide average response rate of 64.4 percent," said Walsh. "We need to increase the rate of response."

Walsh said much of the funding that comes from the Census count helps the most vulnerable among us.

"It can provides health care, Medicare and Medicaid, public education grants for special education and Boston Public Schools,

See CENSUS Page 2

# Gov. Baker recently tours MBTA Blue Line completed work

By John Lynds

week Governor Last Charlie Baker used the Maverick MBTA station as the backdrop to his daily Covid-19 press briefing and to highlight the accelerated infrastructure work on the Blue Line that wrapped up Sunday.

Baker was joined by Secretary Transportation and CEO Stephanie Pollack, General Manager Steve Poftak, and other officials and toured the Blue Line work.

The project began on May 18 and the MBTA fully closed down the Blue Line from Airport to Bowdoin stations for 14 days and ran shuttle busses instead of train service until Sunday.

The goal was to allow for accelerated track and infrastructure work to take place while ridership and traffic is at an all time low due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The work was originally going to be spread out over a longer period of time and only on weekends.

"This Blue Line work is part of our administration's plan to invest \$8 billion in a safer and more reliable MBTA by replacing over 400 cars across the Red and Orange Lines, modernizing stations, and upgrad-

ing track, signal, and other key infrastructure across the system," said Governor Baker. "These infrastructure upgrades on the Blue Line, including important flood resilience work within the harbor tunnel, will provide faster, more reliable service for travelers and commuters."

This Blue Line work was previously scheduled to be accomplished through a series of weekend diversions later this year, and doing the work now allows its completion at a time when both transit ridership and traffic on the roadways that

See MBTA Page6



Gov. Charlie Baker, joined by Sen. Joseph Boncore, City Councilor Lydia Edwards and Speaker Robert DeLeo, talks with MBTA workers.



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Baker-Polito administration announces guidelines for

and "contactless payment,

mobile ordering, or text on

arrival for seating will also

provide training in these

health and safety protocols

to all employees, she added,

and establishments will be

temporarily closed if a there

HOTELS, MOTELS,

AND OTHER LODGING

**BUSINESSES** 

leased for hotels, motels,

and other lodging business-

es, which will be allowed to

resume operations in Phase

to all forms of lodging: ho-

tels, motels, inns, bed and

breakfasts, and short term

residential rentals, includ-

ing those arranged through

online hosting platforms

such as Airbnb and Vrbo,"

Polito said. She added that

spaces like ballrooms and

meeting rooms will still re-

pools, gyms, spas, golf

courses and other amenities

at lodging sites may oper-

ate only as these categories

are authorized to operate

in accordance with our

phased reopening plan,"

Polito said. She also said

that lodging operators must

tell guests traveling to Mas-

sachusetts from out of state

about the policy urging

them to self-quarantine for

ing includes protocols for

social distancing, hygiene,

and keeping staff spread

out during their shifts,

Polito said. It also includes

enhanced sanitization pro-

tocols in between guests,

including cleaning and san-

itizing surfaces, washing

linens and bedspreads, and

considering leaving rooms

vacant for 24 hours be-

itive case of COVID-19,

the room used by that guest

may onnly be returned to

service after undergoing an

enhanced sanitization pro-

tocol in accordance with

CDC guidelines," Polito

reopening our economy, we

understand the importance

of balancing public health

and economic health and

we need to do everything

we can to support both,'

she said. "Together with

state and local governments

we balance the shared goals

of maintaining both public

safety as well as getting

our economy back up and

running and as we navigate

these next phases in our

fight against COVID-19,

we will continue to work

with our industry partners

to do what's best for local

"As we move forward in

"In the event of a pos-

tween guests.

The guidance for lodg-

14 days.

restaurants,

main closed.

"Onsite

'Safety standards apply

Guidance was also re-

is a case of COVID-19.

Restaurants should also

be encouraged."

restaurants, lodging businesses ahead of Phase Two

By Lauren Bennett

Governor Karyn Polito an-

nounced on May 29 guid-

ance for restaurants and

lodging, ahead of Phase

Two of the reopening plan.

Baker is expected to "make

an announcement and deci-

sion with respect to Phase

ing positive momentum in

a number of areas," Baker

said. "People are starting to

get back to work. Outdoor

and recreation activities are coming back. We're mak-

ing progress, thanks to ev-

eryone doing their jobs now

more than ever and we need

to keep doing what works

Lt. Governor Karyn

to kill and slow the virus."

Polito announced the new guidance for restaurants

and lodging, adding that

the workplace safety stan-

dards that will be required

for these businesses are

"organized around four dis-

tinct categories covering

social distancing, hygiene

protocols, staffing and op-

erations, and cleaning and

Polito said these guide-

lines are being released

ahead of Phase Two "to

give lodging facilities and

restaurants time to pre-

pare their operations, to

get ready, and to do that in

adherence to the general

workplace safety standards that we had previously is-

Outdoor dining at restau-

rants will be allowed at the

beginning of Phase Two,

Polito said, and the State is

working with legislators on

accelerating the permitting

process for outdoor dining.

allowed later on in Phase

Two, "subject to the public

rants and lodging which is

posted on the Reopening

Massachusetts website at

mass.gov, includes proto-

cols for social distancing

and physical space, Polito

some of the highlights of

the guidance for restaurants

are: "tables must be posi-

tioned six feet apart, the

maximum party size will be

six people, use of outdoor

space is encouraged even

when indoor seating is al-

lowed, and seating at bars is

not allowed, "but bar areas

may be reconstituted for ta-

and leaning protocols will

be required, like having sin-

gle use utensils or menus,

or "strict sanitization guide-

Polito also said that

"reservations or call ahead

seating is recommended,"

ble seating," she said.

lines" for these items.

Additionally,

announced that

The guidance for restau-

health data," she said.

Indoor dining will be

disinfecting."

sued."

said.

She

"We are certainly see-

Two" on June 6, he said.

Governor Baker and Lt.

# Update //continued from Page 1

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

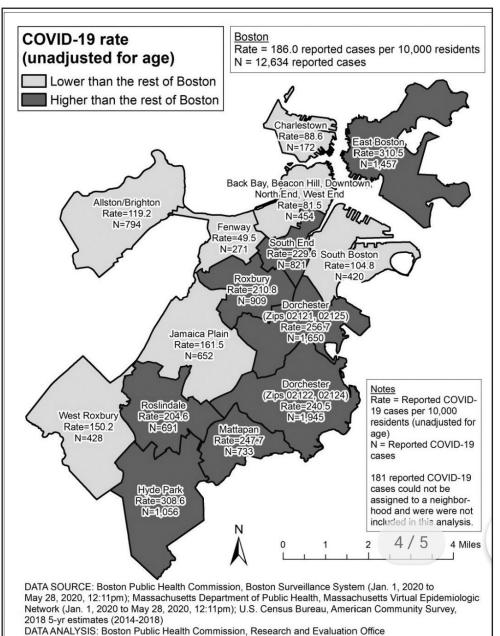
Eastie now leads Hyde Park as the neighborhood with the highest infection rate in the city. Hyde Park's infection rate rose only three percent and was 308.6 cases per 10,000 residents.

Eastie also still leads the

city in the number of positive infections with 400 more cases than Hyde Park. Citywide there have

been 12,784 positive cases of coronavirus, up only two percent from the 12,511 cases reported last week. So far 7,009 of these 12,784 residents have fully

Deaths from COVID-19 rose only 3.8 percent from 618 deaths to the 642 deaths reported last week.



On Friday the BPHC released its weekly COVID-19 stats by neighborhood that tracks infection rates and COVID testing results in Boston neighborhoods.

# ICA //CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

highest rates of COVID-19 in the city of Boston, the ICA decided to extend the program--seeing an continued urgent need for fresh

"The ICA was alerted to the need for fresh produce and healthy food through conversations with its community partners in East Boston," said Medvedow. "The museum reached out to its caterer. The Catered Affair, who offered to donate their labor in creating fresh food boxes for distri-

bution." As of the cancelled art

Medvedow installation. said Baez's work, which re-imagines ancient ruins as though the sea had receded from the Watershed floor to reveal the archeology of human history in the Caribbean, is planned for the

2021 season. The Watershed opened to the public on July 4, 2018 inside a former copper pipe factory at Boston Shipyard and Marina on Marginal Street The 15,000-squarefoot, raw, industrial space is unlike anything in Boston and has expanded the ICA's artistic and educational programming on both sides of the Boston Harbor.

The ICA's Seaport location and the new Watershed in Eastie has connected the two historically isolated neighborhoods through ferry services provided by Boston Harbor Cruises.The ferry service has allowed visitors to the both the ICA and Watershed travel six minutes via water between both museums during the summer. The ferry is free to ICA members, included with regular museum admission, and free to visitors ages 17 and under.

# EBNHC //CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

its patients and staff first, the Health Center will rely more heavily on Telehealth technology to keep quality healthcare going in this new virtual world.

Dr. Fantes said that EB-NHC introduced Telehealth over a year ago in limiti capacities, but the COVID-19 pandemic has moved the relatively new healthcare

technology to the forefront. "We got 'Zoomed' quickly into Telehealth during this pandemic," said Dr. Fantes. "It is something we've had on a radar for a while and now we are

up and running with both

voice and video Telehealth

calls. We are still trying to figure out the bits and pieces of technology but we are getting better as each day goes by. It is a really good way to get in touch with your provider."

Dr, Fantes said there's a lot of pent up demand for healthcare out there during the pandemic and Telehealth is a good way to check in with EBNHC providers while still practicing social distancing.

"I know folks are getting really good care through this technology and I encourage folks to continue to do that," she said.

Telehealth is the remote

delivery of health care services and clinical information using communications technology, including the internet, wireless, satellite and phone media.

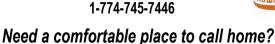
So far the Health Center has had thousands of Telehealth visits while patients remain safe in their homes.

Telehealth has become of paramount importance to ensure the safety of patients and health care providers. It allows patients the opportunity to seamlessly continue their care while practicing social distancing, remaining in their home, and minimizing their exposure to the

# Affordable Senior Housing





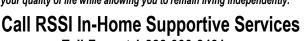


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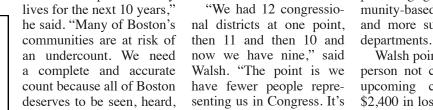
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and invested in." Walsh said the Census has never been more ac-

ent languages.

617,000 people in the City of Boston. Since that time it is estimated the city is currently at 700,000 or over 700,000 residents. During the last three censuses the city has lost a Congressper-

so important to be counted. We need to make sure we are all counted because it determines our representation in Congress and I can't underscore that enough. We need accurate census counts to protect our voicmain streets and downtowns.

I'm confident that the restaurant and lodging owners, managers, servers, bartenders and staff, and the many others who make up these industries will get back to work, will reopen their doors and their places to the residents across our Commonwealth and be able to offer the things from our places that people know and love so much in their communities and will do so as safely and as quickly as

#### possible." OTHER UPDATES

Baker also announced on May 29 that the state is having "positive conversations" with sports teams, which will be allowed to begin practicing at their respective facilities on June 6 "with health and safety rules that all of the leagues are developing."

Baker said that these facilities will continue to remain closed to the public, and that "the leagues are obviously working hard to

host games again." He said that "pro sports would be a great thing to see again," and would be a "significant milestone for all of us as fans," however, "the opening will be gradual and will require a lot of patience from everyone."

On June 1, Baker issued an Executive Order that lists specific types of businesses and activities that fall into the remaining phases of the reopening plan.

"Effective immediately, the Executive Order permits Phase II businesses to reopen their physical workplaces to workers only to conduct necessary preparations prior to the start of Phase II. Preparations include but are not limited to completing a COVID-19 Control Plan, implementing sector-specific protocols, and complying with Mandatory Workplace Safety Standards," according to

the State. "This lead time is important for preparations,"

Baker said on June 1. Retail stores will be allowed to have "browsing and in-store transactions with restrictions" at the beginning of Phase Two as well. Guidance for childcare, recreational summer camps, and organized sports programs was also released and is available in

detail at mass.gov. He also said that over the weekend, the COVID-19 Response Command Center also submitted details for an expanded COVID-19 testing proposal to the federal government, which includes increasing testing capacity and access to test-

### Census // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

hygiene

food and nutrition programs like SNAP and free school breakfast/lunch programs, affordable housing and Section 8 vouchers, and child care Head Start for low-income families."

Walsh said the 2020 Census is a way to directly increase community power in Eastie.

"It will impact our daily

cessible and residents can

respond to the 2020 Census

online at my2020census.

gov, over the phone, or by

mail. You can respond to

the 2020 Census online or over the phone in 13 differ-

The 2010 census counted son all three times.

es in Congress." In Eastie the investments that were made from the 2010 census were free lunches at public schools, funds for affordable housing, senior services, and job training for residents for the future.

The city has contributed \$100,000 to support Boston's outreach efforts by providing grants to community-based organizations and more support to City

Walsh pointed out every person not counted in the upcoming census equals \$2,400 in lost federal money every year for the next "Think of it? If 100,000

people are not counted that translates into \$2.4 billion that we will lose in federal aid over the next decade," said Walsh.

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# Donald McKay House to officially get CPA Funding

By John Lynds

Back in February Mayor Martin Walsh and the City's Community Preservation Committee (CPC) recommended one project for inclusion in the next round for the Community Preservation Act (CPA) funding.

The Eastie project was one of 40 across the city totalling more than \$24 million that received unanimous approval from the Boston City Council.

In Eastie \$400,000 of CPA funding could be heading this way for the city to purchase the historic White Street home of the neighborhood's premier 19th Century shipbuilder, Donald McKay.

"Projects that receive

funding from the Community Preservation Act directly reflect our neighborhoods' needs and priorities," said Mayor Walsh. "With money going to projects specifically for open space, preserving historic sites, and creating affordable housing, the residents of the City of Boston will benefit directly. Thank you to everyone who submitted project proposals, and I look forward to seeing how the new CPA projects will help our city."

The Donald McKay House is a privately owned historic house at 78-80 White Street in East Boston. It was the residence of Donald McKay, a master builder of some of the world's fastest clipper ships.

The CPA funds would be

used to purchase the home for \$400,000 and preserve it as a community asset

The house was built in 1844 in the Greek Revival architectural style, which is distinguished by its pitched roof and front-facing gable resembling a Greek pediment. McKay moved into the house in 1845, and during his residence there he designed and built some of the most successful clipper ships in history. These ships include the Flying Cloud (1851), which made two 89-day passages from New York to San Francisco; the Sovereign of the Seas (1852), which posted the fastest speed ever by a sailing ship (22 knots) in 1854; the Lightning (1854), which set multiple records, including sailing 436 miles in a 24-hour period and sailing from Melbourne, Australia, to Liverpool, England, in 64 days; and the James Baines (1854), which logged a speed of 21 knots on June 18, 1856.

The home was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1982.

After Boston adopted the CPA in 2016, the City created a Community Preservation Fund to fund affordable housing, historic preservation, and open space and public recreation projects. The Community Preservation Fund is capitalized primarily by a one percent property tax-based surcharge on residential and business property tax bills that began in July 2017.



The interior of the comfortable historic home that was the residence of famed East Boston shipbuilder Donald McKay.



The Donald McKay House on White Street during the early 1900s.

# Councilor Edwards holds online Eversource substation hearing

By John Lynds

On the heels of a successful online Boston City Council hearing called by City Councilor Lydia Edwards regarding Eversource's plans to place a substation at the City Yards in West Eagle Square, local activists have filed a civil rights complaint against state energy agencies.

Edward's hearing was an effort to bring transparency for Eastie residents about the project, many of whom feel their voices have not been heard due to a lack of language translation at numerous community meetings and hearings.

Edwards said Eversource has excluded our Spanish speaking neighbors from this process and hasn't treated the Eastie community with respect.

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 would no longer be routed along Condor and East Eagle Streets if the substation is placed in the western portion of the parcel.

However, a little over a week after Edwards's hearing, the Conservation Law Foundation (CLF), Green-Roots and Lawyers for Civil Rights (LCR) officially filed a Title VI civil rights complaint against Massachusetts energy agencies.

The complaint says state agencies like Energy Facilities Siting Board (EFSB), who in 2018 ruled in favor of placing the substation at the City Yards, failed to provide proper translation and interpretation services in proceedings regarding a proposed substation.

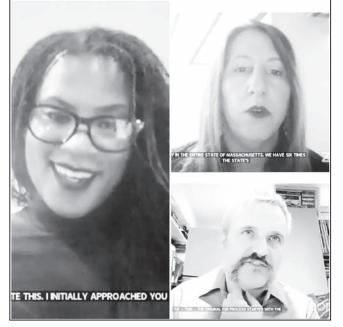
The group argues the electrical project would have catastrophic implications for low-income communities of color in Eastie and Chelsea. State officials treated demands for interpretation as disruptive, effectively shutting out participation from the area's Spanish-speaking many

residents. "For me and my neighbors this project will impact where we live and where our children play, and yet none of us had any idea that this project was going on," stated Noemy Rodriguez, a Community Organizer with local Environmental Justice organization GreenRoots. Continuing in her native Spanish the eight-year resident of East Boston added, "Even when we did get engaged in the process, interpretation to a language we could understand was

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either poorly done or not

done at all. It all seemed so



City Councilor Lydia Edwards along with Green Roots's Roseann Bongiovani and John Walkey during the online City Council hearing regarding the Eversource substation. After the hearing the Conservation Law Foundation (CLF), GreenRoots and Lawyers for Civil Rights (LCR) officially filed a Title VI civil rights complaint against Massachusetts energy agencies.

unimportant to them; they did not take us into consid-

Last year, local environmentalists from Eastie and Chelsea gathered at Boston City Hall to deliver 700 postcards to Boston Mayor Martin Walsh asking for the mayor to meet with residents on both sides of the Chelsea Creek to discuss alternatives to placing Eversource's proposed substation along the creek.

For three years, local environmentalists on the Eastie and Chelsea sides of the Chelsea Creek have launched a visual, media and talking campaign against Eversource's plans to place the substation at the City Yards in Eagle

However, the EFSB approval came with some provisos. According to the state energy board the EFSB directed Eversource to enter into discussions with the City of Boston regarding the possible relocation of the new substation

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on the Chelsea Creek site.

"Preventing residents from commenting on a project that will have enormous impacts on their community is not only shameful but a form of discrimination," said Director of CLF's Healthy Communities and Environmental Justice program Amy Laura Cahn. "East Boston and Chelsea already experience some of the worst air quality and pollution in the state and adding yet another industrial facility will only compound these injustices. State leaders need to be held accountable for silencing community concerns to

push this project through." The complaint requests that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) investigate the state's EFSB and its parent agencies, the Department of Public Utilities and the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, for their failure to comply with federal laws ensuring equal access for limited English proficient speakers.

The complaint urges the EPA to halt the review of the proposed substation, pending this investigation into the Board's language access policies and practices and until the present state of emergency has been lifted.

"The very state agencies responsible for environmental and community protection have for years ignored residents' demands to be included in the planning process, neglecting to translate vital documents or extend comment periods to allow non-English speaking residents to contribute," said Lauren Sampson, attorney and coordinator of LCR's Race & Climate Justice Project. "We cannot exclude these communities from environmental decision-making processes while asking them to bear these environmental and health burdens."

The substation was initially slated to be built on an Eversource-owned parcel on Bremen Street. However, under the former late Mayor Thomas Menino, Boston executed a land swap with Eversource. Eversource handed over the Bremen Street parcel so the city could build the new East Boston Branch Library in return for the cityowned parcel in East Eagle

# JPNA Zoom Video Conference monthly meeting set for June 8

The next Jeffries Point Neighborhood Association Zoom video conference is Monday, June 8, from 7-8:30 p.m.

Below please find the agenda for the Jeffries Point Neighborhood Association scheduled monthly meeting for June, 2020. The meeting will be held via Zoom Video Conference due to the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic.

AGENDA (subject to change):

Greetings & Announce-

Boston Police Update New Meeting Setup

Mary Cole & Andrew Pike explain how Zoom will be used in presentations and future voting meetings

Mayor Marty Walsh -Tentative

Massport Update - Anthony Guerrero will update us on the Tall Ship and Piers Park Phase 2 parking Tree Eastie - Cindy

Questions will be handled via the Zoom chat feature. Looking forward to

Registration required. Please visit jeffriespoint. org to register for this meeting and for other 2020 meeting dates.

"seeing" you all there!



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# East Boston

Times-Free Press

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#### MOST OF THE PROTESTERS ARE NOT LOOTERS

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances. -- The First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States.

The vast majority of Americans have been sickened by the horrific video of a white Minneapolis police officer slowly and agonizingly choking to death a 26 year-old African-American man, George Floyd.

Mr. Floyd had not committed any act of violence prior to being arrested and was lying prone on his stomach, with his hands handcuffed behind his back, as the officer applied pressure with his knee and the full force of his body weight to Mr. Floyd's neck for eight minutes and 53

The murder of Mr. Floyd while in police custody was the culmination of a series of high-profile, race-related incidents in recent weeks that have highlighted the racism that is inherent in our society and that have spurred the protests for the past week in major cities across the country.

What has been striking about the protest movement is that the protesters in every city have been representative of all races and nationalities, similar to the peaceful protest marches and the Freedom Rider movement in the 1960s that were led by Dr. Martin Luther King and other leaders of the Civil Rights movement at that time.

Unfortunately, there always are a few people who will seek to profit from any situation. Those who have been vandalizing property and who have been ransacking highend retailers, as occurred Sunday night along Newbury St. and in downtown Boston, are professional criminals with lengthy records who have jumped on the protest bandwagon, so to speak, solely in order to take advantage of the diversion of the police created by the peaceful and legitimate protesters.

However, the criminal behavior by a small minority of professional criminals amidst the protesters should not be a basis, either for average Americans or for our political leaders, to fail to acknowledge two important aspects of the current protest movement:

First, that every American has a right of free assembly and second, that our nation must address the rampant racism that exists at every level of society.

Our government leaders who negatively are politicizing the current situation are no different than the criminals who are ransacking the high-end stores. Both are seeking to hijack the legitimate methods and goals of the protest movement for their own ends.

However, we must not allow either the criminal element or unscrupulous politicians to distract us from attaining the goal so eloquently expressed

by Dr. King in his "I Have a Dream" speech before 250,000 persons at the Lincoln Memorial in 1963: "I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character."

Fifty seven years later, America still is a long way from realizing Dr. King's dream of racial equality. Hopefully, the sad and tragic events of the past few weeks will rekindle in every American the need to achieve the goal of a just society for all Americans.

#### 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@eastietimes.com.

Letters must be signed.

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# Forum



NATIONAL GARDENING WEEK ... IST WEEK OF JUNE

GUEST OP-ED

# George Floyd, protestor violence - how to solve all this

By Dr. Glenn Mollette

The death of George Floyd at the hands of police should never have happened. It was murder and a dark moment in America. The looting, terrorism and burning of American cities by so called protestors is criminal and a dark moment in America.

The Minneapolis police officers involved in Floyd's death must be held accountable. The criminals involved in wrecking American cities, robbing and burning businesses must be

held accountable. Americans have the right to free speech. Free speech does not mean destroying property, hurting police officers and criminal

activities. The question many Americans are asking today is who is funding these criminal, terroristic riots that have happened across

America? People are showing up from other cities and states to wreak havoc and chaos in American cities. Who is paying their travel? Who is providing their lodging? Who is paying them money? Are there really this many evil, bad people in America? Obviously, there are because the acts of violence displayed on national television are not coming from peaceful protestors. We have seen and heard about many peaceful protestors. Thousands of people have made their protests in a peaceful, honorable way.

No one blames anyone for being upset and angry about what happened to George Floyd. It made me angry. I would be willing to march with anyone to cry out against such an act and event. Actually, I cried out against Floyd's murder in last week's column stating my feelings about his murder by the hands of the Minneapolis police officers. This column goes to thousands of media outlets. It was horrific and wrong and the officers must be punished. The looters and criminals who have vandalized and saw Floyd's death as an opportunity to pursue criminal activity also must be put in jail and punished.

America is in deep trouble. We are still in the middle of Covid-19 with the prospects of a Fall resurgence. Unemployment soars. Businesses have closed and many are struggling to hold on. Economically our nation is buried. The future of our older generation is at great risk and the younger generation has not grasped yet what is really in store for them financially. The economic plight of this nation has put the realization of the American Dream at great risk for

America's children. We desperately need a revival of "rightness" in

America. There was a day when people believed in strong morals, decency, respect and the Golden Rule. This "rightness or rule" must happen from all the politicians, to the police officers, to the protestors and to every person in America. The preachers in America must get this message out. The politicians must get this message out. We must put this message into our daily living. Or, it's over for

America. Here's the rule again, "Treat others the way you

want to be treated." Glenn Mollette is the publisher of Newburgh Press, Liberty Torch and various other publishing imprints; a national columnist – American Issues and Common Sense opinions, analysis, stories and features appear each week In over 500 newspapers, websites and blogs across the

United States.

# GUEST OP-ED

# May 31 protests in the City of Boston

By Councilor Michael Flaherty

On Monday morning Bostonians woke up to a City destroyed by the actions of those who took over and desecrated an otherwise peaceful and meaningful protest with acts of violence and destruction. Their actions are unacceptable, disgraceful, and served as a disservice to those who showed up to protest peacefully. I want to thank the Boston Police Department, Boston Fire

Department, Boston Emergency Medical Services, and other first responders who worked hard all night to protect our City and it's residents. I pray for anyone injured last night protecting our City.

To the thousands who participated in the initial peaceful march honoring the legacy of Mr. George Floyd and calling for change that returned home after its completion, I thank you. I am sorry that those with ill-intentions usurped

the narrative of your event and put your lives and

cause in danger. As a City, as a community and as neighbors, we must choose how we move forward. The path forward may not be clear yet, but I do know that we need to walk it together. As an elected official, I am committed to bringing government, community, law enforcement, and activists together to sit at the table and ensure these protests result in deeper understanding and positive, measurable results. I want to both ensure the thousands who participated in this event have their voices heard and their goals achieved, while also ensuring that those who perpetuated violence and destruction are held fully accountable and that their actions are not repeated, glorified, or seen as acceptable in the City of

Michael Flaherty is a City Councilor at-Large in Boston.

#### SEND US YOUR NEWS

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

deb@reverejournal.com

# Boston parks score high again in trust for public land rankings

Boston has landed near the top of the 2020 ParkScore list compiled by The Trust for Public Land ranking how much access citizens have to parks and park amenities. The annual report uses mapping technology and demographic data to determine how well the largest cities in the United States are meeting the need for parks.

Boston's ninth place score was higher than Chicago, New York City, St. Louis, Seattle, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, and San Diego on a list of 100 cities and moved up from 13th place in 2019. With the majority of Boston residents living within close proximity to a park, the city's highest score was in the category of access where Boston earned 100 out of 100. The city's high percentage of city area dedicated to parks (17%) and strong playground access score also boosted the city's ParkScore rating.

ParkScore ratings are based equally on three factors: park access, which measures the percentage of residents living within a 10-minute walk of a park (approximately ½-mile); park size, which is based on a city's median park size and the percentage of total city area dedicated to parks; and services and investment, which combines the number of playgrounds per 10,000 city residents and per capita park spending.

ParkScore uses advanced GIS (geographic information system) computer mapping technology to create digital maps evaluating park accessibility, making it the most realistic assessment system available. Instead of simply measuring distance to a local park, ParkScore's GIS technology takes into account the location of park entrances and physical obstacles to access. In addition to the at-a-glance park bench summary rating, ParkScore features an in-depth website, parkscore.tpl.org, that local leaders can use as a roadmap to guide park improvement efforts.

# Mayor's Garden Contest deadline July 10

Mayor Martin J. Walsh has announced that the 24th annual Mayor's Garden Contest will take place this year keeping within current social distancing guidelines. Boston's green thumbs have until 11:59 p.m. on Friday, July 10, to register. The contest provides the perfect opportunity to recognize those who have taken advantage of the "safer at home" guidelines to hone their gardening

The contest recognizes gardeners who have landscaped, planted flowers, trees, shrubs, and, in the process, helped beautify Boston's neighborhoods. The safety of gardeners and contest judges is the top priority of the Boston Parks and Recreation Department. Gardeners should follow all current advisories from the Boston Public Health Commission and the City of Boston. Visit the City's coronavirus website for the latest information and guidance.

Gardeners or those nominating their favorite gardeners may find printable and online nomination forms at www.boston.gov/mayors-garden-contest. First place winners will receive the coveted "Golden Trowel" award from Mayor Walsh while second and third place winners will be awarded certificates. The traditional awards ceremony will be dependent on the

rules on public gatherings that apply in August.

Gardeners who have won three or more times in the last ten years will be automatically entered into the Hall of Fame. These distinguished Hall-of-Famers are not eligible to enter as contestants but are welcome to return as judges.

The preferred method of entry for residents is to submit photos through the online application at www. boston.gov/mayors-garden-contest. Alternatively, they may request an application by emailing their name and address to gardencontest@cityofboston. gov. For more information please call (617) 635-4505.

# MVES awarded more than \$82k to support senior volunteer service

Mystic Valley Elder Services (MVES) recently received a Senior Corps RSVP grant of \$82,397.00 from the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), the federal agency for and service.

The funds were awarded as part of a Senior Corps RSVP grant competition to increase the impact of national service in the Mystic Valley region. Established in 1971, RSVP programs engage older Americans in volunteer opportunities across the country. These volunteers have been a critical resource for nationwide response efforts—in everything from hunger prevention to natural disasters.

"This funding provides much-needed support to our RSVP program, in which our volunteers share their time and expertise with a wide variety of community members, from elementary school children to those enrolling in Medicare," said Leah Mulrenan, Mystic Valley Elder Services' RSVP Director and Volunteer Program Manager. Mulrenan oversees and supports over 400 volunteers in the Mystic Valley region, many of whom are serving critical community functions, such as serving food at senior dining sites, assisting elders with bill paying tasks, or distributing goods at food pantries.

Established in 1971, RSVP programs engage Americans age 55 and older in citizen service that addresses the nation's most-pressing challenges everything from fighting the opioid epidemic, reducing crime and reviving cities, connecting veterans to jobs and benefits, preparing today's students for tomorrow's jobs, and ensuring

seniors age independently

and with dignity. While serving, Senior Corps volunteers also improve their own lives, staying active and healthy through service. A growing body of research points to mental and physical health benefits associated with volunteering, including lower mortality rates, increased strength energy, decreased rates of depression, and fewer physical limitations. Mystic Valley Elder Services offers a variety of volunteer opportunities, which range from commitments of just a few hours each month, to multiple days each week.

For more information about volunteer opportunities at Mystic Valley Elder Services, and to find the one that's best for you, please call 781-388-2375 or visit mves.org/volunteer.

# Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
Mcnally, Lauren K	106 School Street LLC	527 Bennington St #1	\$485,000
Shea, Victoria	154 Lexington Street LLC	154 Lexington St #3	\$450,000
Mangini, Tyler	Severino, Jorge A	265 Lexington St #3	\$380,000
Ang, Joel Y	Kantaria, Divyesh D	39 Leyden St #39	\$655,000
Purohit, Devanshi A	Awezec, Peter E	412 Meridian St #2	\$595,000
Swayne, Bradley M	Velkor 14 NT	14 Murray Ct #1	\$719,000
Lund, Sean R	138 Trenton Street RT	138 Trenton St #2	\$472,000
Granbery, Andrea K	Mockler, Brendan T	46 W Eagle St #3	\$570,000







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#### LOCAL STUDENTS EARN ACADEMIC HONORS

#### **MARTINEZ** GRADUATES FROM WENTWORTH **INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY**

Alonso Martinez of East Boston has graduated from Wentworth Institute of Technology in Boston,

Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, the University celebrated its Spring 2020 Commencement on April 25 with a special virtual toast in honor of the graduating students.

Founded in 1904, Wentworth Institute of Technology stresses project-based, hands-on learning, with an emphasis on cooperative education and careers, community enrichment, and contributing to the economic vitality of the Greater Boston region. The nationally ranked school is recognized as a leader in engineering, technology, design and science.

Wentworth has some 19 bachelor's degree programs in areas such as architecture; construction management; mechanical, biomedical and civil engineering; and computer science. It offers master's degrees in in applied

#### **MUNG GRADUATES** FROM BECKER COLLEGE

Becker College pleased to announce that Fong Mung, of East Boston, has graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Veterinary Science, Pre-Veterinary Concentration. Mung was one of more than 430 students recognized at a virtual commencement celebration.

To see Becker College's Commencement page, including details on graduates, awards and

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a video message from President Crimmin, go to https://www.becker.edu/ student-life/commencement-2020/

Founded in 1784, Becker

College is an undergraduate and graduate, career-focused private college, providing a supportive and inclusive learning community that prepares graduates for their first to last careers. Nearly 1,700 students from the United States and around the world attend Becker College, which has campuses both in Worcester and Leicester, Massachusetts. With nationally recognized programs in nursing, game design and animal studies, Becker has been consistently ranked as a "Best College" for undergraduate education by The Princeton Review.

#### LANDAVERDE RECEIVES DEGREE FROM **GEORGIA TECH**

Stephanie Landaverde of East Boston has earned a Master of Business Administration from the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta.

Landaverde was among approximately 4,050 undergraduate and graduate students who earned degrees during the Spring 2020 semester. Students were celebrated during a virtual celebration held on May 1. They will also be honored during in-person commencement ceremonies to be held on campus later this

One of the nation's leading research universities, the Georgia Institute of Technology is in the business of Creating the Next--the next idea, the next technology, and the next legion of agile minds well equipped to imagine and engineer our future. More than 36,000 undergraduate and graduate students are enrolled, and Georgia Tech is ranked in the nation's top five public universities by U.S. News & World Report. For more information visit www.gatech.edu.

#### O'GORMAN EARNS DEGREE FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT

Austin O'Gorman of Eat Boston graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration during commencement ceremonies on May 17. The university conferred

degrees this year on some

3,183 graduates, including 2,415 bachelor's, 533 master's, 114 doctoral and 121 medical degree recipients. The Class of 2020 includes graduates from 39 states and 30 countries. The class's academic achievement was saluted

online with remarks from UVM President Suresh Garimella, Vermont Governor Phil Scott, and university and state leaders.

About UVM Since 1791, the University of Vermont has worked to move humankind forward. Committed to both research and teaching UVM professors -- worldclass researchers, scholars and artists -- bring their discoveries into the classroom and their students into the field. Located in Burlington, Vermont, one of the nation's most vibrant small cities and top college towns, UVM is a Public Ivy and top 100 national research university educating 10,700 undergraduate students, 1,627 graduate students, 776 certificate and non-degree students, and 478 M.D. students in the Larner College of Medi-

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# MBTA //CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

shuttle buses will use is much lower than it is likely to be by the fall due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"This core infrastructure Blue Line work is part of the Baker-Polito Administration's \$8 billion plan to repair, upgrade, and modernize the MBTA system, to ensure safe and reliable service," said Secretary Pollack. "While we continue to urge the public to only make essential trips during the pandemic, the T is moving ahead with capital projects and continuing to plan for more opportunities to get work done faster in 2020."

In compliance with the Commonwealth's Reopening Massachusetts Report, riders are also reminded that face coverings are required while onboard shuttle buses. Additionally, in an effort to promote social distancing and protect the

health and safety of MBTA riders and bus operators, ridership on shuttle buses is limited to twenty passen-

"The suspension of Blue Line service has allowed us to make incredible progress as workers maximize the benefits of having unencumbered access to stations, track, and tunnel areas," said MBTA General Manager Poftak. "Our primary focus, as always, is on safety, especially during the pandemic and the start of Phase 1 of the Commonwealth's Reopening Plan. We continue to promote social distancing and require face coverings. This expedited critical track and tunnel infrastructure work leads to the upgrades our riders deserve - faster trains, shorter travel times, and more reliable service."

Work included the installation of a new truck pad near Airport Station; replacing 2,200 feet of track along the Blue Line that will remove a long-standing speed restriction between Maverick and Aquarium--effectively reducing trip times by up to fifty-one seconds between Airport and Maverick); crews worked to fix the harbor tunnel leak with drainage work between Maverick and Aquarium that will reduce water-/ leak-related service delays, improving reliability; as well as fire standpipe relocation between Maverick and Aquarium.

"I had the unique opportunity to tour the Blue Line tunnel in East Boston and see the work being done," said Rep. Adrian Madaro. "From repairing a tunnel first built in the early 1900's to replacing over 2200 feet of track, this critical infrastructure project will allow

for increased train speeds, shorter travel times, and a more reliable schedule. I

thank the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority for organizing this tour and all the workers for their incredible efforts."



Last week at Maverick MBTA station Gov. Charlie Baker highlighted the accelerated infrastructure work on the Blue Line that wrapped up Sunday.



Gov. Charlie Baker during the tour of the Blue Line project at Maverick Station.

# Eastie's Jesse Purvis named to serve as Councilor Edwards's new Director of Policy

By John Lynds

Last week District 1 City Councilor Lydia Edwards announced she has hired Jeffries Point resident Jesse Purvis as her new Director of Policy and Communica-

Purvis joins Edwards's office after successfully graduating from UMass Law where he served as a Public Interest Law Fellow and founder of the school's local chapter of the National Lawyers Guild.

"I'm thrilled to have Jesse join the team as our new

Director of Policy," said Councilor Edwards. "His legal aid background and commitment to bettering the community will help me better serve the residents of District One."

Purvis also received the Thurgood Marshall Award for Social Justice for his work on and off campus.

"I'm excited to give back to the community that has given me so much," said Purvis. "Public service under Lydia Edwards, as her Director of Policy, is a

dream job come true." Purvis added that he is



Jesse Purvis, Councilor Edwards's new Director of

thankful for his Eastie community who have helped him put down roots as he navigates life as a new par-

Purvis grew up in southern California after immigrating to the United States from Australia at a young age. After attending Lesley University in Cambridge, Massachusetts, he decided not to leave and has since

made Eastie his home. Purvis has worked in primary schools as a paraprofessional teacher in math and science, and in out-ofschool time as a program director for pre-teen youth services. His interests include environmental justice, table tennis, hiking,

technology and bicycles. He currently lives in East Boston with his partner, Tanya Hahnel, their young daughter Ida Jean, and senior greyhound, Cary

Purvis can be reached by calling Councilor Edwards' office at 617-635-3200 or by email at jesse.purvis@ boston.gov.



Rep. Adrian Madaro during the tour of the accelerated infrastructure work on the Blue





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# Pazza on Porter gives back to EBNHC with help from Tenure England Vodka

By John Lynds

Pazza on Porter, which opened last fall, to rave reviews from Eastie residents has been doing its share to help out frontline healthcare workers during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Pazza owners Mivan Spencer and Raffaele Scalzi of the Boston Amici Group recently teamed up with Tenure England Vodka to feed exhausted and hungry staff at East Boston Neighborhood Health Center (EBNHC).

Tenure England Vodka, which is served at Pazza and a key ingredient in the restaurant's signature mixed drinks, sponsored a Pazza lunch at the Health Center.

EBNHC nurses were also presented with T-shirts

that said "Essential Nurse" during the lunch.

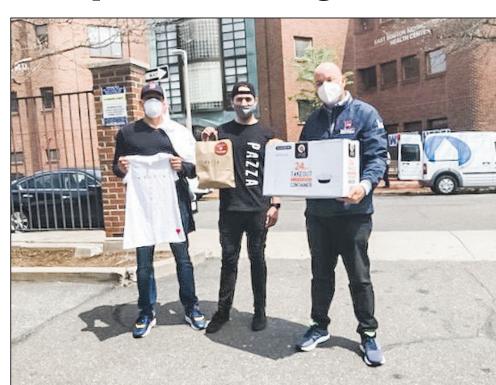
Located in the same spot as Sablone's, and later Ecco, Pazza on Porter commemorates old Eastie with their private dining room that features the Sablone's signature wall--something Ecco owners preserved when they took over the restaurant. Notable signatures on the wall range from Ted Williams and Bobby Orr to Diana Ross and Steven Tyler.

As for the food, Pazza's menu was created by Executive Chef Stephen Ennamorati, previously of Citizens Public House & Oyster Bar. Ennamorati said he takes Italian-American style cuisine to another level in a creative and delicious way. Pazza's menu includes classic dishes such



Preparing the meals inside Pazza on Porter's kitchen.

as meatballs, calamari, burrata and more. A variety of homemade pastas is also incorporated into dishes like the Amatrciana, Carbonara, and Alla Pazza.



The team from Pazza on Porter and Tenure England Vodka delivered food recently to the staff at EBNHC.

# Councilor Lydia Edwards reacts to George Floyd's murder and protests

By John Lynds

When City Councilor Lydia Edwards first viewed the cellphone footage of a Minneapolis police officer kneeling on George Floyd's neck until he died she had to stop the video several times.

"I had to stop it several times," said Edwards, who was elected as District 1's first African American City Councilor. "I couldn't watch it to completion. I cried and then got so angry. I just remember thinking the policeman looks so calm. There was no real concern, no sense of urgency. Usually, when I think of police brutality I think it happens in the heat of the moment. There is a sense of urgency and quick thoughts and faster movements. But this officer wasn't scared, wasn't moving fast. He just didn't care."

After the anger, Edwards said she remembers feeling immense depression and sorrow.

"I even wished my 5 ½ month old nephew wasn't a boy," she said. "I feel so guilty and I question having children and I certainly don't want to have a boy. I feel immense pressure to do all that I can to make sure something like that doesn't happen here. I have lost sleep and my appetite over the stress. I feel so much is

expected of me as a politician who is black. I wonder how "black" I can be? I wonder what will be the straw that breaks my purple district's back. Maybe I am not giving my district a fair chance."

But while cities burn and racial tension is at an all time high, how do we move forward with a positive dialogue among citizens, police and politicians to gain not only understanding of Floyd's death but to spark real change.

"The pain that people are feeling has to be acknowledged first," said Edwards. "We need to know our history. We can't make policy in a vacuum. We need to confront our own biases and know that if we each have a part to play. We need to stop confusing police accountability with being anti police. It's literally my job to ask tough questions but too many people think that means I don't trust or like the police."

Edwards has always maintained a great working relationship with the Boston Police, especially the men and women serving at Eastie District A-7. With the majority of officers here just as sad, angry and frustrated by not only the actions of Officer Chauvin but the actions of other officers in other cases, Edwards has the tough job of

balancing her relationship with the police with calls for real reform locally and nationally.

"I encourage any of the police officers to stand with advocates and denounce police brutality," said Edwards. "If we're trying to really solve systemic racism and police brutality, reform needs to happen at an institutional level. We also need to hold bad actors within them accountable. I have great respect for the community police officers in East Boston. They've been shoulder to shoulder with residents on a multitude of issues. These moments of pain and grief allow us to take a step back and assess how we can do better as a society. We have an opportunity to restructure an entire system. We can work with the police to help define what equitable, compassionate policing looks like. We just ask for full recognition that what we have now isn't working and listen to our calls for true reform. . There are calls for several reforms including a citizens review board for police officers that are bad actors. I think

With the majority of protesters participating in peaceful demonstrations throughout Boston in memory of George Floyd, Sunday night's rioting, looting and violence was sparked

that is worth exploring."

by a small element within a protest that had remained peaceful for several hours.

Watching the news coverage Sunday night, Edwards said she could not speak about the intentions of individuals who decided to turn their actions on the police or if they were even a part of the peaceful demonstration earlier in the day.

However, she said, "I

However, she said, "I can tell you that the crowd that assembled from Nubian Square to Downtown was beautifully diverse and represented the best parts of Boston. These were residents who took to the streets to call out what happened against George Floyd and other people of color for what it is: acts of police brutality and racism. They assembled to call for action and tangible change against systems of oppression and they did so peacefully. . There were many people from other cities that came to cause havoc and I resent them for co-opting the moment."

It's been 52 years since Martin Luther King was assassinated fighting for racial justice. Announcing his death to a crowd in Indianapolis Robert F. Kennedy said, "the vast majority of white people and the vast majority of black people in this country want to live together, want to improve the quality of our life, and want

justice for all human beings who abide in our land."

However, in those 52 years some are still not sure we have had an honest conversation with ourselves as a nation when it comes to race relations.

"There are still people

that believe the Civil War was about state's rights and not slavery," said Edwards. "We have people that won't acknowledge the pain of people like my colleague City Council President Kim Janey who was bussed into We don't Charlestown. need to look that far back to know we haven't had an honest conversation in Boston about our school system, our housing and neighborhood segregation. Not talking about race and racism to our children, to our co-workers and to our politicians. After 52 years we are still dealing with this. What can we do? Listen to the pain of the African American community and other marginalized groups. Instead, too many people will call me and others a "snowflake" to dismiss my pain. Legitimize the trauma and pain felt by the African American community in particular after each death at the hands of the police. Acknowledge that we got here through a system of laws and intentional systemic racism. Therefore, we must be intentional and use our laws to heal

our community. Personally, everyone should identify structural inequities and analyze how to restructure one's own behaviors to fix it. Learn the full history and perpetuation of racism in this country and how it has set us up for inequality. Most importantly, put words into action. I joined the Black and Latino Caucus of Legislators on Tuesday to release a 10-point plan of federal, state, and municipal actions. I'm over the hashtags - we need prescriptive policies to heal

this country."

Edwards said she will continue to help her constituents who need to voice their frustrations over this senseless death.

"In times like these everyone is going to process things differently," she said. "I will support my constituents' right to protest and demand change from me and other elected officials. I promise to listen to their frustrations and pain as I think about my role in implementing policy that will lead to change. I don't deny or question their pain. I ask how I can help them heal. This is an opportunity to reassess how we do business. We have been handed a baton and the question is what we are going to do to make this a better world for our children. What are we going to pass onto them?"



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#### **NEWS FROM AROUND** THE REGION

#### **CHS GRADUATION** ON JULY 12

CHELSEA - After hearing from senior students and their families, Chelsea Public Schools announced that they will offer a virtual graduation, and also a walk-in graduation where students will get to cross the stage individually at the Stadium and families will be able to take photos of the moment – even if a bit solitary.

Two weeks ago, Principal Mark Martineau and Supt. Almi Abeyta went ahead with scheduling a virtual graduation that will take place on July 12 and will be a full-scale produc-

That upset a lot of seniors and their families, and sparked several online Town Halls to talk about alternatives. It also allowed for the state Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) to come out with graduation regulations late last week. Now, administrators announced there will be a walk-in graduation in early August.

"After having listened to you via the town halls and student surveys and learning of the latest recommendations from DESE, we have made the decision to have an Individual Walk-In Graduation," wrote Abeyta in a letter to seniors. "We recognize the importance of crossing the stage, and our desire is to honor this special moment; we have worked on a way to do this safely for all involved. Please hold August 4 -7, 2020 on your calendar because you will be given a time and date to meet at the Chelsea High School Field to cross the stage (inclement weather date to be determined) and be handed your diploma."

More details will follow and they will be working out many of the details so the event will be safe.

Abeyta and Martineau have said they understand that students were upset about the decision to schedule a virtual graduation without consulting students. Time, however, was of the essence and a quick decision had to be made to secure GradCasters to perform the ceremony.

"This decision was made with the information and knowledge that we had at the time and based solely on the safety and well-being for each of you, your families, and our staff," wrote Abeyta. "The virtual graduation will still proceed as planned on July 12, 2020. Our goal with the virtual graduation was to ensure that you were celebrated despite the health risk of the current pandemic."

The virtual graduation will feature each student who will be called in to give an interview individually in their cap and gown. She said all of that will be collected and organized into a cohesive and professional production that will be shown and distributed on July 12.

Overall, Abeyta said the idea is to celebrate the class in the best way possible, and she and the staff are looking forward to planning the walk-in ceremony as well as the virtual one.

'We are also cognizant that this has been a difficult time with many mixed emotions, and we want to honor you," she wrote. "Our goal is to celebrate the Class of 2020 and to ensure that you are recognized for your perseverance and hard work as you end one chapter in your life to begin a new one."

•SENIOR LAWN SIGNS, ETC.

Already, the celebration for seniors has started with the placement of lawn and window signs at the homes

of each student on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Staff and School Committee members places signs over both days that celebrated the students and their upcoming graduation.

There will be video messages through May and June, a virtual Senior Awards and Scholarship Night on July 9, and the virtual graduation on July 12.

#### ONE STEP CLOSER TO BAN ON NIPS

CHELSEA - The state Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission (ABCC) finally ruled on the appeal by several liquor stores in Chelsea regarding the 2018 ban on nip liquor bottles with the ABCC saying it has no jurisdiction to hear or rule on the case and, thus, sending it to state Superior Court if the matter is appealed further.

Officially, in the ruling on May 26, the ABCC allowed the City of Chelsea's motion to dismiss the appeal by eight liquor stores in the city – all of which said they were harmed by the decision to outlaw the 100mL bottles that City leaders argued contributed to litter issues and public

"The appropriate forum for the licensees to challenge the local licensing authority's ban on 100 ml bottles is with the Superior Court, likely in a declaratory judgment action pursuant to (state law)," read the decision. "In any event, the Commission is not the appropriate forum for this challenge."

City officials had hoped that the ABCC would rule to dismiss the appeal, and believe they have a better chance to survive the challenge in court – as the rules are more strict and judgments aren't as arbitrary as at the quasi-judicial ABCC.

Many communities in Greater Boston have been waiting and watching for this decision, and will continue to watch the Superi-

or Court proceedings. Most municipalities had hoped they could follow Chelsea's lead in banning the nip bottles, as they are widely considered a nuisance in urban areas.

Councilor Roy Avellaneda, a former License Board member, said he was glad to hear the decision went the City's way. He had championed the idea for several years, noting that he has lived with seeing public drinking since he was a kid growing up in Chelsea and seeing people drink the nip bottles in Bellingham Square.

"I'm very happy that the ABCC decided in favor of Chelsea's License Board and City's position that the ABCC had no jurisdiction on deciding if NIPS can be sold in the city," he said. "I'm sure the Plaintiffs will consider and file an appeal to the Massachusetts Superior Court to overturn the ban. My position has not changed since I have advocated for the ban and more so I now have actual data to support my reason for the ban. In the two years we have had the NIP ban in place. Chelsea is a cleaner place without the litter of NIP bottles all over and more importantly and primary reason for my advocacy is that our streets are

safer and healthier." Avellaneda said the volume of responses for alcohol-related calls by police, fire and ambulance is down almost 75 percent. He argues the decision might come down to a public health argument, and said eliminating the nip bottles has taken pressure off of first responders, and also made the downtown more family-friendly.

In the argument against accepting the appeal, the ABCC said the license hadn't been modified, but a regulation had been established for every licensee.

"Here, none of the licensees' licenses were 'modified," read the decision. "Instead, the local licensing authority, pursuant to its authority to promulgate 'reasonable requirements' for the way all licensees con-

#### DISPLAY OF PATRIOTISM



PHOTOS BY SETH DANIEL

Volunteers and City officials gathered late on Friday afternoon, May 22, to decorate Chelsea Square with hundreds of individual flags to commemorate Memorial Day. The effort has been ongoing for about four years, said Councilor Roy Avellaneda – who put together Friday's volunteer effort. By the end of the day, Chelsea Square was adorned with hundreds of flags in a great display of patriotism despite the pandemic situation most find themselves in. Here Fidel Maltez of the DPW places one of the small flags into the ground.



duct their business, banned the sale of 100 ml bottles of alcohol, not as a sanction for violating a law, but on

considerations of public health and safety.

See REGION Page 9

# QUARANTINE GRADUATES!! SHARE YOUR GRADUATE WITH US



a small message here written by the parents, Ro prio, dem o venius escenderibem imanum stellerum

interit?

# E AND WE WILL SHARE THEM WITH THEIR HOMETOWN!

Send us a photo of your special graduate with a short message and we will publish it in the paper. If you have a yard-sign congratulating your grad, take a photo and send it in and we will print it in our publication during the first week of June.

a small message here written by theparents.

Ro prio. dem o venius

Photos and messages of graduates may be submitted by email to promo@reverejournal.com or mailed to:

385 Broadway, Suite 105, Revere MA, 02151

If you plan to mail in a graduate photo please include your name and number in addition to a message for your Graduate, in case we need to contact you for clarification.

# Region //continued from page 8

"While the local licensing authority has the statutory authority to pass reasonable requirements regarding the conduct of a licensed business, even if the Commission believed a local licensing authority's requirement to be unreasonable on a statutorily appropriate appeal, it only has the power to not enforce the requirement on any appeal before it," continued the de-

It was not readily apparent if the eight plaintiffs would appeal by filing suit in the Superior Court.

#### REVERE SCHOOLS NOT TO PARTICIPATE IN STATE'S SCHOOL **CHOICE**

REVERE - At the last Revere Public School Committee meeting, committee member Stacey Rizzo made a motion to have Revere Public Schools not participate in the state's School Choice program.

The school choice program allows parents to send their children to schools in communities other than the city or town in which they reside.

Each year the Revere School Committee must vote on whether or not they want to enter the program. "I move that we the Re-

vere School Committee vote to not accept non-Revere students into the revere public school system," Rizzo said while making the motion.

The motion was seconded and unanimously rejected by the School Committee, which also includes Mayor Brian Arrigo.

Prior to the motion, Revere Public School Superintendent Dr. Dianne Kelly, advocating for the district, said she did not support the

"I am asking not to vote in favor of School Choice for Revere Public School, which allows other students from cities and towns into our public schools," said Kelly. "You are all aware of the state we are in right now. All of our schools are overcrowded. We need to hold a yearly lottery lottery for our middle schools to ensure even distribution of students. There are over 2,000 students at Revere High School and the school is nearly bursting at the seams and our elementary schools are not in much better shape.'

The Inter-District School Choice law was passed into law by the Massachusetts Legislature in 1991.

The laws two main goals were to provide education options to Massachusetts parents and children, and to spur competition among districts.

School choice allows school districts to enroll non-resident pupils from other districts at a tuition (chapter 70 funding) cost that starts at \$5,000 but averages more than \$6,000 when special education expenses are added in. The tuition is paid entirely by the students' home districts, at no cost to the parents.

More than 16,000 of the Commonwealth's 950,000 students were enrolled as choice pupils. Nearly 60 percent of the state's 322 school districts accepted students through the program.

School committees vote each year whether to accept new non-resident choice pupils. Their motivation to do so is usually to fill empty seats and bring in additional

However, as Dr. Kelly pointed out, Revere Public School don't seem to need any help in filling seats for

the foreseeable future.

#### **FIREWORKS CANCELLED** IN LYNN

LYNN - In light of the unprecedented times we are experiencing with the COVID-19 pandemic, Lynn Mayor Thomas Mc-Gee and Swampscott Town Manager Sean Fitzgerald have jointly made the difficult decision to cancel the traditional 3rd of July Fireworks and parade. "Given the unparalleled times we are living in and the uncertainty we face, our only option was to cancel the 3rd of July fireworks to ensure our residents remain healthy," said Mayor Thomas Mc-Gee. "The safety of our residents has been and will continue to be my top concern during this public health emergency." "We all will be a bit disappointed that we will not be able to celebrate with our friends, neighbors, and the community at large this year. Yet, we all know that the safety and well-being of our communities and loved ones is the most important treasure we have," said Swampscott Town Administrator Sean Fitzgerald. The decision is tough for everyone as this event has become one of the most notable celebrations in the Commonwealth but is critical to help prevent the spread of this deadly virus. We would like to thank the Fireworks Vendor Atlas Pyrovision Entertainment Group for their understanding and cooperation with the cancellation of this year's show. We are all

"Our communities are deeply rooted in history and patriotism and we will continue to celebrate this in years to come. I would like to thank the Fireworks Committee for their tireless

Opportunity.

Revere Journal (6400)

Chelsea Record(2900)

Lynn Journal (5000)

Everett Independent(7500)

Beacon Hill Times (8700)

The Boston Sun(14000)

Regional Review(3500)

Charlestown Patriot Bridge(7300)

Winthrop Sun Transcript(4000)

East Boston Times Free Press(7000

looking forward to another

great event in 2021.

work and our residents for their understanding as we work to limit the spread of the COVID-19 outbreak." said Mayor Thomas Mc-

"There is no doubt that the citizens of Lynn and Swampscott love our country and our communities and our traditions so this great event will not go away," Fitzgerald said. "As a Nation, as a Commonwealth, as a City, and as a Town— just know we are looking forward to a time we can all celebrate together as a community."

#### **LOOKING AT CREATING** PLANNING DEPT.

WINTHROP-At its most recent meeting on May 19, the Winthrop Town Council heard a presentation by Tufts University students on the benefits of creating a planning department for the Town of Winthrop.

Patrick Higgins, Alisha Patel, Ethan Pepin and Adrian Tanner presented a slideshow entitled Four Centuries Young: The Case for a Planning Department in Winthrop.

Planning was defined by the team as "the process of working with residents and elected officials to accomplish community goals." The team conducted a literature review, interviewed planning professionals and analyzed budget statements to discover what benefits a professional planning department could bring to Winthrop.

The students explained that a town planner's key role is to establish communication with foundations and to secure grant funding. They cited two projects— Win2030 and the \$1.3 million sewer upgrade—that could be budgeted more

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effectively with the help of a planner.

The presentation also showed how a planning department could increase the Town's professionalism giving support to planning boards, provide consistency around the development process, and tailoring new developments to community values.

The report claimed that a town planner could help fight climate change by engaging in coastal partnerships, seeking out climate-specific grants, and altering the Master Plan to be more environmentally conscious.

The Tufts team identified potential obstacles for a newly hired town planner, especially if he or she is from out of town. It emphasized that a planner should get to know residents and to patronize small businesses in an effort to learn the community's values and earn its trust.

The mission of the Winthrop Planning and Economic Management Department, as it would be called, would be to serve the town "by providing technical and professional support to the community as it determines and pursues its short- and long-term goals for community preservation, economic growth, and environmental protection."

In order to determine the budget for the department, the researchers studied 16 municipal budgets and consulted online resources. They found that towns similar in size to Winthrop spent between \$165,000 and \$170,000 annually to fund the department. Department heads are paid approximately \$80,000 per year, and a town planner is paid approximately \$61,000.

When asked if it was

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8 week

minimum

per calendar

year

necessary to have more than one planner, Higgins said "the more the better, so you can spread the work out." He recommended one full-time planner and one part-time planner at a min-

Pepin highlighted the importance of hiring individuals with experience with both the Massachusetts and federal grant-writing processes, especially as the community reels from the economic fallout of COVID-19.

Councilors thanked the students for their hard work in assembling the presenta-

"I'm looking forward to acting on your recommendations," said Councilor Tracy Honan.

"I think that adding a planner would bring much benefit to the town," said Councilor Barbara Flock-

"We're looking forward to finally having a planner in town to move us forward and do some things we've long wanted to have done, said Councilor Rich Ferrino. "We'll be looking for a planner soon so spruce up

your résumé." One caller, Karen Chavis, said she was unsure how a planning department would be funded given the

current budget restrictions. "These people at Tufts did a wonderful job," she said, "but I caution the council to think about other things before we [consider] a planner."

Town Manager Austin Faison said that his recent budget presentation already accounted for the planning department by dissolving existing positions.



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# **LEGAL NOTICES**

by publishing this Order,

consecutive weeks, the

last publication to be at

least twenty (20) days

before said return day,

in the Boston Globe and

of general circulation

each of three newspapers

once a week for three (3)

**LEGAL NOTICE** COMMONWEALTH

OF MASSACHUSETTS SUPERIOR COURT CIVIL ACTION NO 1928CV01293 NORFOLK, SS. JAY CASHMAN, Plaintiff

ADIL DHOUHI, Defendant ORDER FOR SERVICE BY **PUBLICATION** WHEREAS, a civil action has been brought against Adil Dhouhi 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 Dhouhi and that no personal service of the Complaint may be made upon Adil Dhouhi, it is ORDERED, pursuant to

Mass.R.Civ.P. 4(d)(1),

that notice of this suit

be given to Adil Dhouhi

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 DHOUHI, if you intend pleading (or other of the Clerk of the

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 response as appropriate) to be filed in the office 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

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,

defense, and that you

5/20/20, 5/27/20 6/3/20



'Bomb Cyclone' floods parts of Eastie

# **Kimberly Fisher**

Former proprietor of Golden Images in East Boston and Seaside Salon in Winthrop

outs. She liked to travel and

visit new places. Anyone

who knew Kim would al-

ways see her looking stun-

ning and in a new outfit.

She loved fashion and was

a very savvy shopper. Last-

ly, Kim was a fond lover of

all sorts of animals, but es-

Kim will always be re-

membered as a person with

a gentle face, a beautiful

smile and a loving heart.

She is now safely home in

heaven, she will be missed,

her memory will be shared

and she will always be

daughter of Edith (Petrillo)

Fisher and the late Rob-

ert L. Fisher; the loving

mother of Nicholas J. Bitto

of Revere; cherished sis-

ter of Robert L. Fisher and

his late wife, Audrey M. of

Winthrop, David A. Fisher

of Revere and Danny Smith

and his wife, Patricia K. of

Melrose; dear aunt of Rob-

ert L. Fisher, Alexandria

Fisher and Zachary S. Fish-

er, all of Winthrop, David

A. Fisher of Revere, Jus-

tin S. Smith and Matthew

J. Smith of Melrose. She

is also lovingly survived

by her two Maltese com-

panions, Sissy and MoJo

and by many other loving

friends, family and extend-

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Home for Funerals, Revere.

ed family.

She was the beloved

pecially dogs.

Funeral Services were held privately for Kimberly L. Fisher, who died unexpectedly in her home in East Boston on May 22. She was 53 years old.

Kim was born and raised in the Jeffries Point section of East Boston and was a graduate of Boston Preparatory School, Class of 1984. Immediately following graduation, she enrolled in beauty school and became a licensed hairdresser and makeup artist.

Kim was an extremely hard-working woman and her talent and drive led her to become a top tier hair-dresser. She immediately had a large following due to her craft and purely her personality. She was witty, feisty, warm and kind and that allowed her to have many successes in business. People simply loved her and she loved them.

She also worked for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in the Auditor's Division as an administrative assistant. She left her position in the Auditor's division to broaden her horizons by purchasing "Golden Images" in East Boston, a Tanning and Nail Salon and Clothing Boutique. Her vision brought the salon to a new level and always had the latest women's swimwear, women's clothing line and accessories. She enjoyed what she was doing and had a natural knack for business. While operating her business, she still was working as a hairdresser next door on Bennington St. at Hair 2001. She would later sell Golden Images and open another hair and nail salon in Winthrop, Seaside Salon.

The birth of her son, Nicholas, was without a doubt the happiest day of her life. She loved being a mother and it meant so much to her. She eventually worked several days a week as a hairdresser at various salons, but due to her declining health, she was forced to stop working completely.

Kim had many talents and passions in life. She was a phenomenal cook and everything she made was delicious. She was also a gracious host for the holidays, birthdays and cook-





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# **OBITUARIES**

North Shore Attorney

Atty. Michael A. Laurano, III
Well known Boston and

Attorney Michael A. Laurano, III, 77, was born on January 30, 1943 at

Norfolk, Virginia where his Dad was assigned to the U.S. Navy Base.

He spent the early years of his life as a resident of Orient Heights, East Boston until making the move to Newbury, Massachusetts in 1993.

He attended St. Mary, Star of the Sea, Grammar School, East Boston graduating in 1957. He was a graduate of Sacred Heart High School, East Boston, Class of 1961 and an alumnus of Boston College, Class of 1965 and then went on to graduate from Boston University School of Law in 1968.

As a young man, he developed a keen interest in politics, which drove him into a successful campaign for the Democratic Ward Committee.

He began his law career with the late Attorney Joseph Oteri in Downtown Boston. However, soon he set his shingle out at 71-73 Meridian St., East Boston, the home of the Michael A. Laurano Insurance Agency. The agency was founded by his paternal grandfather in 1923, maintained and carried on by Michael A. Laurano, Jr. (Attorney Laurano's father) and subsequently carried on by Attorney Laurano until 2011. Michael continued his practice of law until his failing health made it impossible to fulfill his duties in 2018.

Michael's interests were vast and most interesting. He was a student of everything and anything and would have the ability to teach the subject with thorough knowledge and deliverance. He held an uncanny appreciation for his Italian heritage, particularly for the history and language of his forefathers.

Michael was fluent in English, Italian and Spanish. He was an excellent chef, baker, gardener and teacher. From a very early age, his love for antiques and antiquities was unmatched. However, above and beyond, was his dedication and love of family and extended family.

He carried a wealth of precise information regarding art and the sciences. As an avid reader, he would begin and complete reading a book in the same evening. He was a remarkable self-taught musician, mostly and especially in piano, organ and the mandolin.

Michael played organ for the 4 p.m., Saturday, Weekly Mass at St. Pius Chapel in the Don Orione Nursing Center in East Boston for 10 years. He was fascinated with the old "roller pianos" of which one was always in the finished playroom at 719 Bennington St. The Laurano home was

always the go-to place for a party, gathering, fun and music. Yes, always music, and of course, after all, Michael's mother was the founder and Senior Teacher of the Lillian Arden Chi-



ampa Laurano School of Dance & Performing Arts, which made its home over the family insurance agency for over 65 years.

Attorney Michael A. Laurano, III was a frequent traveler to Europe and especially to Italy and the small real to life villages in Avellino, from whence his ancestors came. Aside from the sights that most travel to, Michael made it mandatory to locate and visit with the Chiampa and Laurano cousins.

Michael's memberships included The Boston Athenaeum, The Justinian Society, the Dante Aligheri Society. He was a Founder and member of the East Boston Historical Society from the late 1960s until the time of his passing. He was also a member of Riverfront Marina of Newbury, MA and a member of Fitton Council, K of C 84 of East Boston.

The precious son of the late Boston Deputy Fire Chief Michael A. Laurano, Jr. and Lillian Arden Chiampa Laurano, he was the treasured brother of Jeannine A. Lesburt and her husband, Henry of Pompano Beach, FL and Karyn A. Laurano of Peabody; cherished uncle of Eric M. and Erin E. Trigilio, Attorneys Marc E. and Leigh R. Trigilio, Peter M. Vadala, David L. and Erin Vadala. "Uncle Michael" will be unforgettable to his grandnieces: Liliana, Carlina, Amalia, Aria and Mia. He was the beloved friend and companion of Ellen C. Hynes. He deeply loved his faithful Welsh Terrier, Reggie Barney, III. He was also the valued cousin of the late George E. McGee, Jr. and many other loving Laurano and Chiampa cousins.

A Private Funeral Mass was celebrated on Tuesday, June 2 at St. Adelaide Church of Peabody, followed by a Private Committal Service at Holy Cross Cemetery, Malden in accordance with the mandates and regulations issued by the Comm. of MA and the Boston Archdiocese regarding the ongoing pandemic. In lieu of flowers, remembrances may be made in support of the Mass General Center for Lymphoma in honor of Dr. Ronald Takvorian. Checks may be mailed to Massachusetts General Development Office, Attn: Tyrone Latin, 125 Nashua St., Ste. 540, Boston, MA 02114. Checks should be made payable to "MGH Center for Lymphoma."

To send online condolences, please visit www. vertucciosndsmith.com. Funeral Arrangements under the care and direction of the Vertuccio & Smith, Home for Funerals, Revere.

To place a memoriam in the Times Free Press, please call 781-485-0588

#### **Aaron Souza**

Of East Boston

Aaron M. "Sway" Souza, 42, of East Boston, passed away unexpectedly on Saturday, May 30.

He was the cherished son of Dorothy Kelly and the late Michael Souza, beloved husband of Kristen Connelly, loving father of Aaron Souza Jr., Trenton Souza and Gianna Souza, caring brother of Rene Souza and adored uncle of Tyler Therrien and Isabella Hammond. Aaron was predeceased by his grand-parents, Diana and Joseph Souza.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, services are private. At the family's request, please OMIT flowers. Donations may be made in Aaron's memory to the Alzheimer's Association by visiting www.alz.org

## Albina Indorato

Of Stoughton, formerly of East Boston

Albina (Ferullo) Indorato of Stoughton, formerly of East Boston, passed away peacefully on Sunday, May 31.

The beloved wife of the late Joseph Indorato, she was the loving mother of Anne Cuzzi and her husband, Richard of Revere, Salvatore and his late wife, Marilyn of Florida, Joseph and his wife, Sherrill of Winthrop and Donna and her husband, Richard of Stoughton. Albina was one of eleven children and is survived by her only living sibling, Eleanor Bitto of Saugus. She was the cherished nana of six grandchildren, eight great grandchildren and the late Stephen Cuzzi, two great great grandchildren and by many nieces and nephews.

Due to the Covid -19



Pandemic, services will be private. In lieu of flowers, donations in Albina's memory can be made to the Alzheimer's Association 309 Waverly Oak Rd., Waltham, MA 02452. Messages of condolence to the family can be placed on our memory wall. Interment will be in Woodlawn Cemetery in Everett. www.vazzafunerals.com

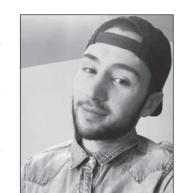
## Stephen Cuzzi

Server at Tavern in the Square, Boston

Stephen Cuzzi, born and raised in East Boston, passed away suddenly on May 10. at the age of 27.

Stephen worked as a Server at Tavern in the Square in Boston.

He leaves behind his loving mother, Lynn Cuzzi, his father, Joseph Laurenza, grandparents, Anne and Richard Cuzzi of Revere, uncle, Stephen Cuzzi of Rhode Island, great grandmother, Albina Indorato and Godmother ,Jennifer Noftle. He was the great grandson of Isabella and Luigi Cuzzi of East Boston and Joe Indorato. He is also survived by many loving great aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.



Stephen's service was held at Boston Cremation in Malden on Tuesday, May 26. Due to COVID-19, viewing was held by immediate family and close friends in a private service. A celebration of Stephen's life will be held at a later date.

#### **Eleanor Mancini**

Loved spending time with family and friends

Eleanor D. (Andreottola) Mancini, 96, a lifelong resident of Revere died on May 17.

Born on December 3, 1923 to Francesco and Mary (Tempesta), she was the beloved wife of the late Victor J., devoted mother of Victor F. and his wife, Carol of Salem, Mary Buonfiglio and her husband, Paul of Revere, Corrine Hadden and her husband, Gregory of Maine; cherished grandmother of Monique Sullivan and her husband, Kevin, Christopher Mancini and his wife, Stacie, Paul Buonfiglio and his wife, Stacey, Jennifer Buonfiglio-Purrington, Victor Buonfiglio and his wife, Carrie, Gregory Hadden and his wife, Rachel, David Hadden and Jessica Stokes and her husband, Colin. She was the dear sister of the late Nicholas Andreottola and his wife, Frances,

Frances Murphy and her

husband, Fran and Antho-

and his wife, Claire. She is

also survived by 15 loving

great-grandchildren, three

great-grandchildren

and by many nieces and

nephews whom she cher-

"Strum" Andreottola



ished, including her sister Frances' daughters, Patricia Kyle, Maureen Tuttavilla and the late Mary Lyn Colannino and their children who were like daughters and grandchildren.

Eleanor truly enjoyed

spending time with family and friends, especially during Sunday dinners, Christmas Eve and the annual family 4th of July celebration, which was the highlight of her summer.

In accordance with the

CDC's current restrictions on social gatherings due to Covid – 19 all services will be private. In lieu of flowers donations, may be made to the Jimmy Fund at danafarber.jimmyfund. org . Family and friends are encouraged to leave a message or share a memory in the online guestbook at www.Buonfiglio.com.

### **OBITUARIES**

# **Corey Ford Abrams**

Tireless worker and creative entrepreneur

Corey Ford Abrams passed away unexpectedly on May 31.

Corey was son to Kim (Canniff) and Hal Ford Abrams, both of Revere and was born on February 27, 1976.

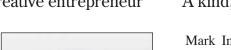
He was a proud Beachmont native and a graduate of St. Dominic Savio High School, Class of 1994. Corey married his high school sweetheart, Kristin (Parillo) Abrams in 1996. The couple began their family in Revere, later residing in

Corey worked as a landscaper and real estate agent with Century 21 Mario Real Estate. He started his landscaping business at the age of 12 and successfully grew the business for over 30 years. Corey also worked as a property manager of a forty-unit residential development. A tireless worker and creative entrepreneur, Corey invested in real estate and maintained a seasonal Christmas Tree business in Winthrop.

He was dedicated to his work and providing for his family. He was also very active in both his hometown of Revere and then in Reading. Corey coached softball, baseball, hockey and traveled the country with his girls' cheering teams. He was an avid commu-

nity volunteer, always being the first to help. More than anything, Corey enjoyed spending time with his family. On any given Sunday he would be with his wife, Kristin and their children, enjoying a meal and watching the Red Sox or Patriots. Corey was an avid Boston sports fan. Taking his kids to Fenway was what he loved most.

Corey took pride in his home. He spent many weekends in the yard with





the kids, growing vegetables in his prized garden. Corey loved music and will be remembered for his famous dance moves to his favorite singers. Corey had a great sense

of humor. He could light up

a room and always knew just what to say to make you smile. He had an infectious laugh like no other. Corey was an amazing husband, father, son, brother, uncle and friend to so many lucky people. He was

kind and compassionate.

He was so full of life and

love. To know him was to

love him Corey leaves a legacy of his most loving family: his beloved wife, Kristin (Parillo) Abrams of Reading and their five children: Kailynn and her fiancé, Brendan Alford, Brianne, Madyson, Aiden and Logan. Corey is also survived by his parents, Kim (Canniff) Abrams and Hal Abrams of Revere, his sister, Kerri (Abrams) Perullo and Francis Perullo of Lexington. Corey also leaves behind adoring nieces and nephews: Zachary Mic-

CDC's current restrictions on gatherings due to Covid-19, all services will be held privately. Interment will be at Puritan Lawn Memorial Park. For guest book please vis-

it www.buonfiglio.com

ciche, Arya Parillo, Paige

Rampelberg, Olivia and

In accordance with the

Jack Perullo.

### Mark Ingersoll

A kind, loving, generous and decent man

Mark Ingersoll of Lynn formerly of East Boston, passed away suddenly on May 21at the age of 46.

Mark was a kind, loving, generous and decent man. I have not known anyone who gave so much of himself. He truly cared, maybe too much for our society. He gave to his friends, family and his job even though he was constantly battling with his own life challenges. He never seemed to find the right path even though he tried so many things to find peace. Mark truly loved his beautiful daughter, Molli, she was the light of his life and he would do anything to make her life good. Molli came to stay with her dad on Tuesdays and some weekends, they lived in an apartment in my house. Bob and I got to have a wonderful bonus having Mark and Molli around us. It was hard for Mark to make and stick to rules with Molli. So he created many interesting ways to make things happen. One of my favorites was when Molli told me she and her Dad where having a folding party and did I want to see it, so I went downstairs and she had made a sign to go into her room to a party. In her room was a blanket laid out on the floor with all the laundry for her and Dad to fold. I wish I had taken a picture to save - the party it

was priceless. Although Mark became a practicing Buddhist and believed in the afterlife and that we choose who we become after death, he respected my faith. He told me a few weeks ago when he began to suffer from depression that he went to the Catholic Church which was closed and put the church music on loud in front of the church and just sat in the car. He said people passing by just smiled and



That was Mark when he could be himself.

When the pandemic, began Mark went out and bought a ton of food not for himself but to share with neighbors and people in need. He mostly ordered takeout food for himself and Molli.

I loved him so very much and I am not sure how I will survive without Mark. But a great friend once told me when I had a crisis - to take one day at a time and just put one foot in front of the other and I will find my way. I could go on forever but I want to end by saying thank you to all of you who wish Mark a safe journey in his afterlife.

He was the loving father of Molli Bijou Ingersoll and her mother, Susan Hickey; cherished son of Rita (McDonough) and the late Charles Ingersoll Jr.; dear brother of Church Ingersoll II and his partner, Tish Smith, David Ingersoll and his wife, Selina; adored uncle of Courtney and Keagan and is also survived by many loving aunts, uncles, family and friends. In accordance with the rules and regulations on congregations and gatherings due to COVID-19, all services will be held for the immediate family privately. A celebration of Mark's life will be held at a later date.

### Plan to resume retailer bottle and can redemption enforcement announced

As part of the Baker-Polito Administration's comprehensive reopening plan, the required acceptance of bottle bill containers for redemption will resume in a two-stage process, beginning on June 5, 2020. The plan includes protocols and requirements to ensure the safety of employees and the public. The Massachusetts De-

partment of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) and the Attorney General's Office on March 18, 2020, temporarily suspended enforcement of beverage container redemption requirements for retailers across the Commonwealth. Mass-DEP and the Attorney General's Office will resume enforcement of beverage container redemption requirements in two phases:

• Enforcement of redemption requirements will resume at retailers using reverse vending machines (RVMs) on June 5, 2020. • Enforcement of re-

demption requirements will resume at retailers accepting containers over-thecounter on June 19, 2020.

Bottle redemption services will need to adhere to the protocols set forth in the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development's Guidance Regarding the Operation of Essential Services, includ-

ployees wear a mask or face-covering; Post signage to remind

• Customers and em-

customers to practice social distancing;

 Clearly mark 6-foot spacing in lines on the floor; Limit bot-

tle room occupancy; and

• Disinfect machines before proceeding to empty Customers are encour-

aged to check the operating status of redemption locations before bringing empty beverage containers for redemption and should follow store guidelines related to redemption services and standard safety precautions to help prevent the spread of COVID-19, such as wearing a mask and social distancing.

Customers visiting retailer redemption locations may be limited to redeeming no more than 120 deposit containers at a time. Customers seeking to redeem more than 120 containers are encouraged to utilize a redemption center with the capacity to manage large volumes efficiently and effectively. Customers must also ensure that all beverage containers are free of product, rinsed and not commingled with other materials. Redemption locations may not accept containers with contaminants.

MassDEP's Bottle Bill Hotline is available at 617-556-1054 for questions and information requests.

MassDEP is responsible for ensuring clean air and water, safe management and recycling of solid and hazardous wastes, timely cleanup of hazardous waste sites and spills and the preservation of wetlands and coastal resources.

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The U.S. Small Business Administration, in consultation with the U.S. Treasury Department, announced that it is setting aside \$10 billion of Round 2 funding for the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) to be lent exclusively by Community Development Financial Institutions (CD-

CDFIs work to expand economic opportunity in low-income communities

by providing access to financial products and services for local residents and businesses. These dedicated funds will further ensure that the PPP reaches all communities in need of relief during the COVID-19 pandemic - a key priority for President Trump.

"The forgivable loan program, PPP, is dedicated to providing emergency capital to sustain our nation's small businesses, the drivers of our economy, and retain their employees," said SBA Administrator Jovita Carranza. "CDFIs provide critically important capital and technical assistance to small businesses from rural, minority and other underserved communities, especially during this economically challenging time."

"The PPP has helped over 50 million American workers stay connected to their jobs and over 4 million small businesses get much-needed relief," said Treasury Secretary Steven T. Mnuchin. "We have received bipartisan support for dedicating these funds for CDFIs to ensure that traditionally underserved communities have every opportunity to emerge from the pandemic stronger than before."

As of May 23, 2020, CDFIs have approved more than \$7 billion (\$3.2 billion

in Round 2) in PPP loans. The additional \$6.8 billion will ensure that entrepreneurs and small business owners in all communities have easy access to the financial system, and that they receive much-needed capital to maintain their workforces.

The Paycheck Protection Program was created by the Coronavirus, Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) and provides

forgivable loans to small businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic to keep their employees on the payroll. To date, more than 4.4 million loans have been approved for over \$510 billion for small businesses

Wednesday, June 3, 2020

across America. The SBA and the Treasury Department remain committed to ensuring eligible small businesses have the resources they need to get through this time.

# Mass. Health Committee makes history by approves end of life options bill for first time since 2011 introduction

Massachusetts supporters of legislation that would authorize medical aid in dying as an end-of-life care option urged state lawmakers to pass the bill after the Joint Committee on Public Health approved it late Friday afternoon for the first time since it was originally introduced by Rep. Louis L. Kafka in 2011. The committee approved the legislation by a vote of 11 to 6. More than seven out of 10 Massachusetts voters (71%) support medical aid in dying, according to the most recent poll on the

The bill, the Massachusetts End of Life Options (H.1926/S.1208), would give mentally capable, terminally ill individuals with a prognosis of six months or less to live the option to request, obtain and self-ingest medication to die peacefully in their sleep if their suffering becomes unbearable. The legislation is sponsored by Rep. Louis L. Kafka and Senator William N. Brownsberger and has 69 total sponsors, including Joint Committee on Public Health co-chair, Senator Joanne M. Comer-

ford. "COVID-19 has shined a spotlight on the importance of a compassionate death, and we thank the public health committee for prioritizing this legislation at a time when only a handful of bills are advancing through the legislature," said Compassion & Choices president and CEO Kim Callinan, who testified before the Joint Committee on Public Health in support of the bill at a hearing last June. "We urge legislative leaders to hold floor votes on the bill ASAP so that more Massachusetts resi-

dents will have the option of a peaceful end should their suffering become intolerable."

The Massachusetts Medical Society (MMS) also testified at the hearing last June before the Joint Committee of Public Health on the bill, detailing its policy of "neutral engagement" on the practice of medical aid in dying: "The MMS will support its members regarding clinical, ethical, and legal considerations of medical aid-in-dying, through education, advocacy, and/or the provision of other resources..."

A 2017 internal survey of Massachusetts Medical Society members showed they backed the End of Life Options Act by a 2-1 margin, 62% support vs. 28% opposed (see page 9 chart at www.massmed.org/ Advocacy/State-Advocacy/MAID-Survey-2017/). Other bill supporters include the ACLU of Massachusetts, Amherst Town Meeting, Boston Ethical Society, Cambridge City Council, Falmouth Board of Selectmen, Fenway Health/ AIDS Action, Greater Boston Humanists, Lexington Board of Selectmen, Na-

tional Association of Social Workers (NASW) Massachusetts, and Northampton City Council, and Provincetown Board of Selectmen.

Medical aid in dying is authorized in 10 U.S. jurisdictions representing more than one-fifth (22%) of the nation's population, including nine states: Oregon, Washington, Montana (via a state Supreme Court ruling), Vermont, California, Colorado, Hawaii, New Jersey, Maine, as well as Washington, D.C. (2017).

### CITY Paws

# Retraining for the new normal

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

issue in 2013 by Purple In-

All of us, including our dogs, will make some readjustments as we ease into the new normal - whatever that turns out to be. For our Westie Poppy, it will mean relearning to stay at home alone, and facing outside

noises from delivery trucks and construction projects as they return to our neighbor-

# tion Anxiety

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2	\$112,640
3	\$126,720
4	\$140,690
5	\$152,020
6	\$163,240
to-return lease	, for example, Section 8 Voucher -compliant Whittier Street Apts te

Minimum Incomes do not apply to households receiving housing assistance, for example, Section 8 Vouche MRVP, VASH. Selection by Lottery preference given to right-to-return lease-compliant Whittier Street Apts to relocated due to the redevelopment activities associated with the Whittier Choice Neighborhood Implementa Grant. Preference for households of at least one person per bedroom.

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back to Poppy's once familiar routine for staying alone. We turn on a playlist of calming classical music and present her with a goat-cheese-filled kong. (She knows that she only gets this when she's in her

Poppy settles down with her special treat. We tell her to wait for us and then both leave quietly and calmly. Back then it was only for a quick walk or to a nearby restaurant for takeout. We'll extend the time we are gone as there are places we can safely visit for longer times.

If you adopted a new dog during the pandemic and that dog has no experience staying behind when you leave, you can start by merely going outside your door for a few minutes. Extend that by going out for your mail or to pick up a delivery. Next, go get some takeout, or to a grocery store. A new dog needs to learn to trust that you'll come back. Take your time and build that trust.

#### **Reactive Dogs**

If your dog reacts badly to off-leash and out-of-control dogs running up to you, the pandemic has meant more peaceful walks. In April and May, we did see a few dogs off-leash and more dogs practicing social distancing 8-10 feet from their guardians on retractable leashes.

However, we saw far fewer people with reactive dogs trying to keep uncontrolled dogs away. Your dog may be friendly. She may only want to say hello. However, you can practice some of the goodwill and kindness displayed in the past months by remembering that not all dogs are friendly and some may not tolerate another dog in their face or coming towards them.

Those with reactive dogs are entering a dual retraining program. You have to work on your own dog's training. You and your dog can work on commands like "Pay attention to me." "Leave it!" and a firm, "Heel!" with a shortened leash to keep your dog safely close to your side. You have to go back to scanning the area around you for careless dog people and loose dogs. You have to be ready to make a quick u-turn to stay away from a canine that could be a danger to your dog.

Little Spike is reactive to some big dogs. During the era of social distancing, there were

fewer times when his guardian had to ask others to give him a bit more space.

At the same time, you have to work on gently reminding people that your dog is safer if left alone. You have to practice your hand-up stop sign when someone releases control of their dog to let it come to meet yours. And, you have to remember how to say, "Please control your dog! Mine is not as friendly."

Walk with Care Finally, as pedestrians, we all have to go back to expecting the unexpected from vehicles in motion, bikes, and parked cars. Months of living in a mostly car-free zone may make us careless. Remember to always keep your dog beside you when crossing the street. Drivers may see you but not see the dog ahead or

Do you have a question or topic for City Paws? Send an email to Penny@ BostonZest.com with your request.

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com