

East Boston

TIMES - FREE PRESS

Wednesday, June 17, 2020



Father's Day
Thoughts
See Pages xx

East Boston organizations get some Resiliency Fund dollars

By John Lynds

East Boston organizations that have shifted focus to helping residents during the COVID-19 pandemic have received additional grant money from the Boston Resiliency Fund last week.

Mayor Martin Walsh announced the fund's Steering Committee distributed \$826,000 in funding for three Eastie-based community organizations as well as 18 others across Boston during the 10th round of the Boston Resiliency Fund.

The three Eastie organizations have been providing food, basic necessities, and additional support for Boston's most vulnerable residents.

"The Boston Resiliency Fund has been a lifeline for many organizations that are helping residents with their basic needs during this public health crisis," said Walsh. "By distributing over \$20 million to organizations, the Fund has had an extraordinary impact in our community, supporting over 225,000 families in need."

Money will be going to Eastie Farm and will allow the nonprofit to continue their work serving families

See FUND Page 2



Protesters calling for justice, reform and change during Saturday's Black Lives Matter rally in East Boston. The rally included speeches at the Bremen Street Park followed by a March to Maverick Square.

Hundreds participate in Black Lives Matter rally

By John Lynds

On Saturday, hundreds of East Boston residents came together to peacefully protest the murder of George Floyd and support the national Black Lives Matter movement.

Organized by a group of Eastie residents with the support of the neighborhood's elected officials the rally began at Bremen Street Park with speeches and a reflection of George Floyd's death at the hands of a Minneapolis police officer.

"We wanted to hold space for our Black families in East Boston who are usually invisible and demand justice for all the innocent Black boys, girls, men and women who were killed by the police," said organizer Abdi Mohamed Warsame Dirie. "Our aim was to urge everyone to start thinking about how to be anti-racist and confront the anti-Blackness deeply rooted into our society's fabric. We also wanted to highlight the intersectionality of our neighborhood and demand a systemic change in education, environmental, housing, healthcare, hiring discrimination, and immigration reform. We believe that Black Lives Matter movement is beyond holding the police and this racist system accountable. It is about demanding an economic investment in our communities so that we aren't only surviving but also thriving."

Before starting a march through Eastie's streets City Councilor Lydia Edwards addressed the crowd.

"Today I'm looking at the most beautiful view, the view of all of you willing to sit and listen and heal and move," said Edwards. "Protests are amazing. They are points of gathering, points of reflection but they are limited to what they can do."

See RALLY Page 5

Neighborhood celebrates 7th annual pride flag raising

By John Lynds

Last Saturday, East Boston residents along with local officials celebrated the 7th annual LGBTQ Pride Flag raising at Piers Park in a unique way.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the inability to gather in groups larger than 10 people, the organizers of the annual event decided to hold a virtual flag raising.

While organizers like Celeste Hewitt and Josue Espinoza joined Rep. Adrian Madaro, City Councilor Lydia Edwards and Massport's Kenn Turner at Piers Park to hoist the flag, the entire event was broadcast through ZOOM.

The broadcast included not only the ceremonial flag



The LGBTQ Pride Flag was raised Saturday at Piers Park through a virtual ZOOM celebration.

raising but prerecorded video tributes by Mayor Walsh and Sen. Joseph Boncore to Eastie's LGBTQ community.

See FLAG Page 14

Police begin cracking down on illegal fireworks in Eastie

By John Lynds

Fireworks being set off at public parks throughout East Boston and especially Constitution Beach have been disturbing the peace and quiet most nights of the week.

Residents have been complaining since the weather started to warm up that fireworks are being set off all hours of the night during the week. The loud booms from these fireworks wake children, scare pets and are generally annoying when it is 2 a.m. at night.

While Boston Police usually turn a blind eye to illegal fireworks one day out of the year during 4th of July weekend, police have begun cracking down and reminding residents that fireworks remain illegal in Massachusetts.

Last Monday, officers from District A-7 in Eastie responded to LoPresti Park to disperse a large group lighting illegal fireworks.

When police arrived their vehicle was struck by two fireworks which then exploded. Then when the officers exited their vehicle to approach the group, the officers were nearly struck by an additional firework that was thrown by a male suspect, later identified as Felix Martinez, 19, of Saugus.

The suspect fled the

See FIREWORKS Page 3



Despite being illegal in Massachusetts billboards like this one on Bennington Street in Eastie advertise fireworks for sale across the border in New Hampshire. Boston Police have begun cracking down on illegal fireworks in Eastie.

Shooting Star

Multi-sport sensation Stephanie Faiella will play soccer at Plymouth State

By Cary Shuman

History was on the line when Stephanie Faiella lined up for her final attempt in the long jump at the Boston City League City Championships in February at the Reggie Lewis Center.

Faiella was seeking to become a four-time City Champion, an exclusive club in East Boston High School girls track history.

EBHS indoor track coach Garcia Dalzon picks up the story from there.

"Stephanie had won this event every year since she was a freshman," said Dalzon. "At the City Championships this year, each competitor had three jumps. She was losing to a competitor from New Mission after the first two jumps. Now comes



East Boston High School senior Stephanie Faiella graduates as one of the most highly decorated athletes in school history.

Stephanie's third jump, and if she doesn't hit this jump,

then she would not be a four-time champion.

"We talked about it and I told her, 'you have to go all out, put it all on the line.' And on her very last jump, she overtook the New Mission competitor and boom, she was a four-time city champion. It showed her resiliency and how she's able to battle," said Dalzon.

Looking back on Stephanie's track career that also included two appearances in the 300 and long jump at the State Meet, Dalzon paid the four-year performer the highest compliment he could, stating, "Stephanie is the best overall female athlete that I ever coached. She was very talented from the beginning. You can see she has natural ability. She can run like the wind and jump

See FAIELLA Page 3



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Lendlease using future Piers Park II site for temporary construction parking

By John Lynds

At last week’s Jeffries Point Neighborhood Association (JPNA), Massport’s Anthony Guerriero announced that Lendlease had entered into an agreement with the Port Authority several months ago to use the future “Piers Park Phase II” site as a temporary parking area for construction workers.

For months Eastie’s elected officials such as Rep. Adrian Madaro has been fielding phone calls from angry residents in and around Maverick complaining that too many construction workers who are building the development at Clippership Apartments are parking in the neighborhood.

Over the past two years,

Lendlease has struggled to find parking to accommodate its tradesmen from Cranshaw Construction.

“We also understand this has caused an inconvenience to the local East Boston community,” said Lendlease in a statement.

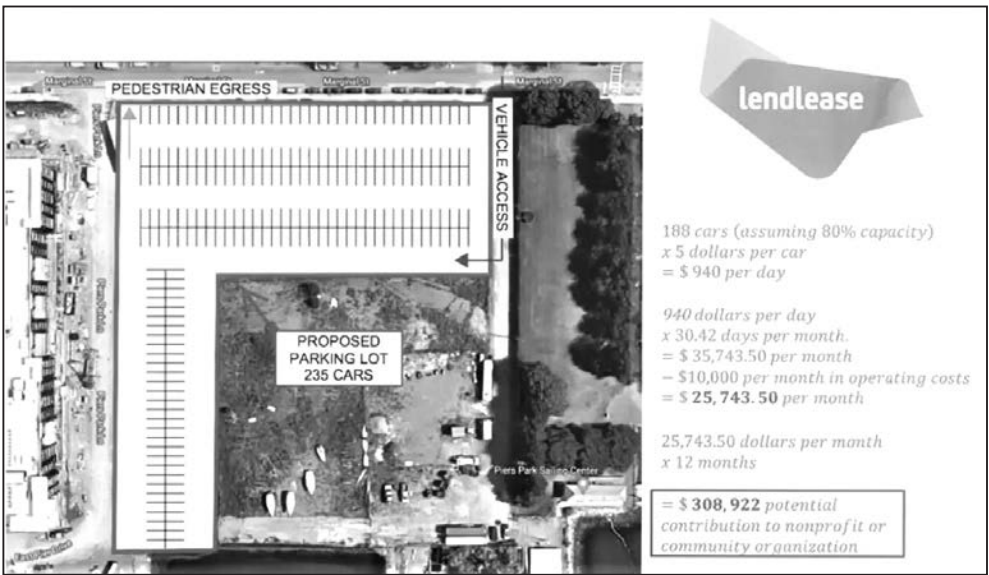
Last year Leandlease put forth a proposal that would dramatically cut down on-street parking by construction crews working on the waterfront development project near Maverick Square. Lendlease proposed the use of the waterfront parcel on Marginal Street that will be the future site of Piers Park Phase II for temporary parking for construction workers. The Massport-owned parcel is currently in the design phase and will be empty until construction on the

waterfront park begins sometime next year with a finish date of 2023.

Massport is now allowing Lendlease to utilize the parcel as a short-term parking alternative for 100 vehicles. Originally Lendlease wanted parking for 235 vehicles, then it sought parking for 188 vehicles. After negotiations with Massport and the Piers Park Advisory Committee (PierPAC) the three groups settled on parking for 100 vehicles, said Guerriero.

As part of the agreement Lendlease will charge a fee for workers parking at the site that will be donated to local nonprofits.

Guerriero said allowing Lendlease to use the site will in no way impact the timeline for the Piers Park Phase II construction.



Massport’s Anthony Guerriero gives JPNA members an update on the use of the future “Piers Park Phase II” site as a temporary parking area for construction workers working in Maverick.

JPNA resumes monthly meeting via Zoom

By John Lynds

Last Monday, the Jeffries Point Neighborhood Association’s (JPNA) board held its first community meeting since early March, albeit in a way that will become the new normal for the time being.

JPNA became the first community group in Eastie to host a meeting via ZOOM since the entire city and state was shut down due to the COVID-19 pandemic in March. Already other community groups said they will follow suit.

Eagle Hill Civic Association President Debra Cave said her board plans to hold an hour long ZOOM community meeting at the end of the month.

“We are moving the JPNA to a virtual meeting format,” said JPNA’s board member Mary Cole. “This will allow us to continue to meet and have an impact on issues while restrictions on gatherings remain in effect. We have chosen ZOOM as the meeting platform because it has features that will help us manage voting and run better meetings.”

In her presentation during the online meeting Cole said all meetings will be recorded, and the recordings will be posted online on the JPNA website.

“When we can once again meet in person, we may experiment with a “blended” meeting format where folks have the option of attending in person, or online,” she said.

Cole said JPNA will be using ZOOM to capture attendance information.

“You will be asked to pre-register for each meeting with your name, your email address, and your residence address,” said Cole. “This information will only be used by the JPNA to allow us to record your attendance and check your voting eligibility.”

After the meeting, only those who pre-registered and attended the online meeting will receive an email acknowledging their attendance.

“We are not changing our rules for voting eligibility,” said Cole. “Voting Members shall be defined by residency within the Corporation’s Boundaries and attendance at no fewer than two of the last four regularly scheduled meetings. Direct abutters within the radius to any matter voted upon shall be exempt from the minimum number of required meetings and afforded the right to vote on that matter.”

Cole said after a meeting where voting issues are presented, eligible attendees will receive a one-time code that will allow them to enter their votes via a website 48 hours after the meeting.

“Results of the vote will be published with the meeting minutes one week after the meeting,” said Cole.

JPNA members will be asked to register for the scheduled monthly meetings in advance.

“We require that all attendees register in ad-

vance,” she said. “Once you register you will receive an email with a link to access the ZOOM meeting. You may need to install the Zoom client software on your computer, or install the Zoom app if you are using a phone or tablet.

Questions can be submitted in advance of the meeting on a given agenda item by emailing questions to board@jeffriespoint.org before the meeting.

“Members can also ask questions during the meeting by using ZOOM’s chat feature,” said Cole. “To access the chat feature, click on the chat button at the bottom of your screen. This will open a panel into which you can type your questions during the meeting. At this time, we will only accept questions via the chat function. We may change that policy as we all get more experienced with attending and managing virtual meetings.”

Cole addec the JPNA Board has put a lot of work into this plan so the neighborhood can continue to have an impact on issues that affect our community.

“We realize that not everyone has internet access from home,” said Cole. “We are working with individuals who do not have internet access to allow them to attend via phone. This is a big change for all of us so please be patient. There will be hiccups, and we will try to address them.

Please let us know where we can improve.”

By John Lynds

Two Chelsea men were arrested in East Boston with drugs and a gun after police witnessed an alleged drug transaction last Friday near Orient Heights Square.

Officers arrested Joseph Piasecki, 23, of Chelsea and Christopher Capone, 23, of Chelsea and both were arraigned in East Boston District Court.

Piasecki is charged with Trafficking Fentanyl more than 10 Grams and Possession with Intent to Distribute Class D Drugs.

Capone is charged with Carrying a Loaded Firearm without a License, Carrying a Firearm without a License, Unlawful Possession of Ammunition, Possession of a Large Capacity Firearm, Improper Storage of a Large Capacity Fire-

arm, Firearm Violation with Two Prior Violent/Drug Crimes, and Unlicensed Sale of an Assault Weapon.

Just before 4 p.m. last Friday officers from District A-7’s Drug Control Unit were conducting an investigation for drug activity near Orient Heights Square.

The Drug Control Unit officers observed an alleged drug transaction amongst a couple of males in the area of 967 Saratoga St.

Officers observed Capone exit his vehicle and enter the vehicle of Piasecki several times before fleeing the area.

Officers followed Piasecki’s vehicle to the area of Bennington Street and Neptune Road where they conducted a traffic stop.

During the traffic stop, officers recovered approxi-

mately 13.48 grams of Fentanyl inside of a plastic bag tucked into the rear of Piasecki’s pants. Officers also recovered several plastic bags containing marijuana as well as an undisclosed amount of US Currency.

As Piasecki was being arrested, additional officers followed Capone’s vehicle where they conducted a second traffic stop. While speaking to the Capone, officers received a radio transmission notifying them of the narcotics recovery during Piasecki’s arrest.

Capone was removed from the vehicle and officers located a torn plastic bag consistent with the ones recovered at the other traffic stop that contained Fentanyl. Inside the glove compartment, officers recovered a gray and black firearm loaded with eight rounds of live ammunition.

Fund // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

with meals prepared by local restaurants. Since the start of the pandemic Eastie Farm has partnered with Bon Me and Tawakal Halal Cafe to prepare fresh food for Eastie families.

The group has also been providing groceries and produce through local distributors to over 600 community households who are homebound.

Eastie Farm’s Kannan Thiruvengadam has been responding in two ways to help during the pandemic—by increasing its food rescue and distribution as well as serving as an integral part of Mutual Aid Eastie.

“In our pursuit of zero-waste, we have been, even before the coronavirus outbreak, locating excess food (in restaurants and commercial kitchens) and bringing it to hungry families in East Boston via the East Boston Community Soup Kitchen or Crossroads Family Shelter or directly to families’ doorsteps,” said Thiruvengadam. “We have now increased that effort. In one day alone, we distributed more than 1,000 pounds of protein in East Boston, by rescuing excess food from Bon Me Restaurant.”

Grant money will also go to Maverick Landing Community Services. This grant will provide food and

supplies for one month of running the food program including expansion to a second drive by site to the Umana parking lot with local partners.

Maverick Landing Community Services has been partnering with the Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA) Watershed on East Boston’s waterfront to distribute food across the community.

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.

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

Finally Boston Resiliency funding will go to St. Mary’s Center for Women and Children. The grant will support additional costs such as food, sanitation and supplies in response to the COVID-19 pandemic across three of

St. Mary’s programs, like Crossroads Family Shelter in Eastie. Crossroads has been a transitional homeless shelter for women and children in Eastie since the 1980s.

Crossroads Director Lauren Antonelli said Crossroads also serves more than 500 families annually via its community food pantry.

“Now, more than ever, our services are critical in supporting families during the COVID-19 pandemic,” she said.

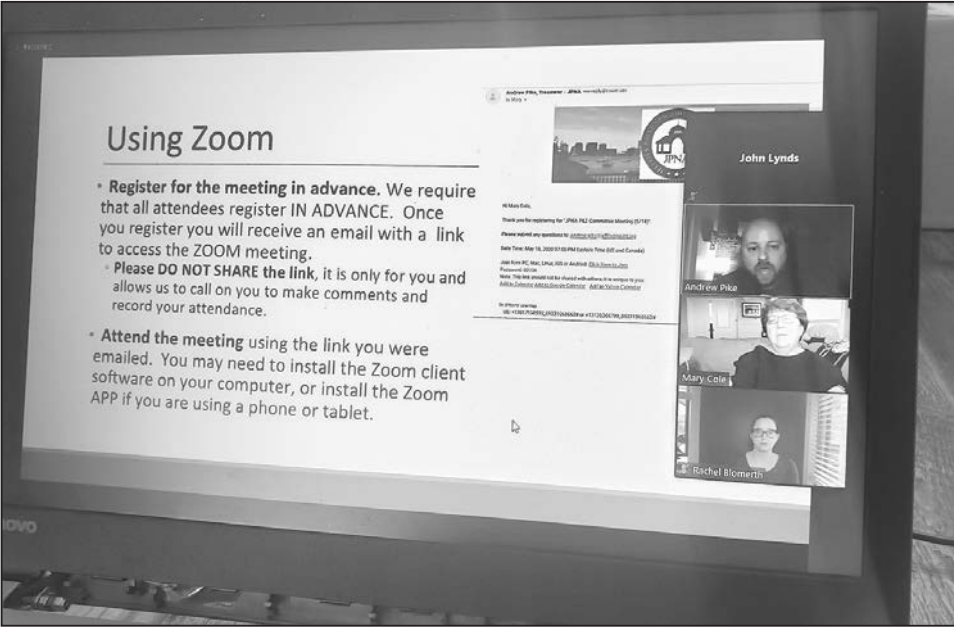
Antonelli said funding from the City will help to supplement some of the immediate costs the shelter’s families are facing, as well as provide some relief for the shelter, which is seeing increased operational expenses.

Funding will go directly to Crossroads clients in the form of gift cards to purchase food and essential hygiene supplies.

Since the first round of fund distribution, the fund has raised over \$31 million from over 6,300 donors and distributed more than \$20M to date to 249 organizations.

Jack Connors, Jr., member of the Boston Resiliency Fund Steering Committee, said the Fund is still accepting donations from individuals, organizations and philanthropic partners who wish to contribute and offer their support. All of the donations will be awarded to local organizations.

“It is both encouraging and inspiring to know that the citizens of Boston, corporate and individual, have responded in such a way as to allow for an impressive outreach effort to folks in neighborhoods that have been hardest hit by COVID,” said Connors. “The Boston Resiliency Fund’s insistence on using an equity lens is appropriate and a part of the healing process to which we all must contribute.”



Last week’s JPNA online ZOOM community meeting. JPNA became the first community group to hold a virtual community meeting since the COVID-19 outbreak.

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Chia, Keng Q	66 Falcon Street LLC	66 Falcon St #3	\$625,000
Trichilo Development LLC	Trichilo, Joseph A	41 Horace St	\$10,000
Trichilo Development LLC	Trichilo, Joseph A	45 Horace St	\$10,000
Mansouri, Sohrab	Francis, Brian K	250 Meridian St #401	\$685,000

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Faiella //CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tinuing her soccer career at Plymouth State University in New Hampshire.

Soccer finale was also magical

As sensational as her track career was, Stephanie Faiella also provided exceptional leadership and offensive firepower for the Lady Jets soccer team in 2019.

She ended her career in spectacular fashion, scoring two goals to lead her team to a 3-2 victory in the Boston City League All-Star Game. It was a fitting conclusion for the prolific scorer who had netted 22 goals and distributed 23 assists for the Jets during the regular season.

EBHS girls soccer coach Rich LaCara oversaw Faiella’s development from a tenacious, roving defender as a freshman into a speedy, quick-striking, offensive force as a senior.

“She was tenacious – I didn’t know what I had with her but she was an all-effort player right off the bat as a freshman, so I started her on the back line of our defense,” recalled LaCara. “When the other team had a dominating player, Stephanie had the ability to shadow that player and contain her. She reminded me of Brad Marchand in the way she could get under an opponent’s skin and take them out of their game. That’s a great quality to have as a freshman – she wasn’t afraid to go up against girls three or four years older than she was. Opposing forwards were often frustrated by her tenacious defense.”

When LaCara later moved Faiella to an offensive position in the Jets’ attack, the skilled, 5-foot-3-inch soccer captain delivered goals and assists at a frenetic pace.

“She had 22 goals and 23 assists as a senior. She did what she had to do even when other teams were focused on stopping her and disrupting our offense,” said LaCara.

Faiella earned the respect of her teammates with her competitiveness and year-round dedication to soccer and the program. She was selected a multi-year captain.

“She’s just a great kid – she got along with everyone and the team gravitated to her,” said LaCara. “We qualified for the State Tournament every year. Stephanie’s leadership was instrumental in our success as a team. She showed great leadership and maturity.”

LaCara, who is in 21st year as a coach and history teacher at the school, considers Faiella one of the best players in the program’s history. He expects Faiella to make a big impact in the Plymouth State program.

“I think she can definitely play at the next level,” said LaCara. “She’s super-fast and super-competitive and she has all the intangibles to face the challenges of collegiate soccer and just work harder to achieve her

goals.”

A proud product of Eastie schools

Stephanie is the daughter of Milena Gil. Her stepfather is former Eastie and Yawkey Baseball League standout Steven Walsh. Both were constant sources of support and encouragement through their attendance at Stephanie’s soccer games and track meets.

Stephanie attended the Donald McKay School and played middle school soccer, basketball and volleyball. She competed in the East Boston Little League and East Boston Girls Softball League.

Upon entering East Boston High School, she earned a spot on the varsity soccer team. After briefly considering the swim team, she made her way to the track program and became one of the school’s most highly decorated track athletes. She dominated in the BCL long jump event in her four seasons.

“Long jump was not an event that I thought I would be doing,” said Faiella. “Our coach (Garcia Dalzon) needed spots to be filled in for the field events. He tested our jumping skills from the floor to the staircase and I jumped to the fifth stair.”

Her track career took off from there. All told, Faiella earned 12 medals (seven gold) and numerous ribbons in recognition of her consistently high finishes.

She was disappointed that she did not get the opportunity to compete in spring track due to the global pandemic.

“I was hoping for a big season for the team and myself,” said Faiella. “As a junior I got first place for the long jump for the first time in outdoor track, and I was ready to bring that to outdoor again. We were all upset by the cancellation of our spring season.”

A member of the National Honor Society

Stephanie Faiella was among the highest ranked students academically in the EBHS Class of 2020, attaining a 4.3 grade point average and earning membership in the National Honor Society.

She credits EBHS Principal Phil Brangiforte for creating an enriching school environment that inspires each student to advance toward their post-graduate destination such as college, military service, or the workforce.

“Mr. Brangiforte was always accessible to his students,” lauded Stephanie. “You would see him regularly stopping in at your classes. He would be at games, at meets, and be rooting for all the teams. He tried to be there for all of us. Whether you were a student or a student-athlete, he was there to support and help everybody.”

Stephanie commended her tenth grade English Language Arts teacher Patrick Morris and eleventh grade AP English Language Arts

Elizabeth Novak for being superb in their profession and being excellent motivators during her academic journey.

“And I had never been a fan of mathematics, but the two teachers who really helped me through it were Mr. (Jeff) Arinella for Algebra II and Mr. (Matthew) Glavin for Geometry,” said Stephanie.

Accepted to many colleges, Stephanie chose Plymouth State over Curry College and Franklin Pierce. She will be pursuing a degree in Sports Management.

Looking ahead to entering Plymouth State, Stephanie is confident about her future in the women’s soccer program.

“I feel I’ll be capable of having a role on the team and being around players that will have skills like mine and better so I can learn from them and become a better player as well,” said Stephanie.

Praise for her coaches

Stephanie said she wouldn’t have achieved the success she did without the instruction and guidance of her coaches, Rich LaCara (soccer), Garcia Dalzon (indoor track), and John Parziale (outdoor track).

“They helped me so much,” said Stephanie. “They inspired me to be better. They told me to keep pushing toward my goals. Coach Dalzon was a mentor to me. He was there for not just track or school, but for everything. He was always finding opportunities for me. Mr. LaCara and Mr. Parziale were great coaches whose leadership and support went beyond the practices, games, and meets. All my coaches made sure you were keeping up on your grades.”

The Ultimate Honors

The MIAA honored Stephanie Faiella at its Celebration of National Women and Girls in Sports Day as “an outstanding female athlete who exemplifies the qualities of commitment, perseverance, and achievement who serves as a role model for girls and women striving for excellence through participation in sports.

Among the most prestigious awards in East Boston for graduating seniors are the high school Athlete of the Year Awards presented by the East Boston Athletic Board.

The annual star-studded banquet and major awards ceremony is held in June, but it was canceled this year due to COVID-19. According to David Arinella of the EBAB, Stephanie Faiella was the leading candidate for Female Athlete of the Year recognition.

“She is an outstanding student athlete, great in the classroom and great on the athletic field,” said Arinella. “She would have absolutely been a prime candidate for Athlete of the Year.”

Walsh resubmits fiscally responsible budget address housing, education, and public health

Staff Report

Mayor Martin J. Walsh on June 15 resubmitted his Administration’s Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21) budget, which builds on the Walsh Administration’s record of presenting a balanced, sustainable and proactive budget that invests in the needs of our growing city, while also taking into into account the economic impact COVID-19 has had on City revenue. The \$3.61 billion recommended budget represents an increase of \$119 million, or 3.4 percent over the FY20 budget, and the resubmission follows over 30 City Council hearings that helped identify opportunities for further targeted investments and cost-savings.

In this budget resubmission, the City has accounted for a projected \$65 million in revenue loss as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, \$30 million of which was initially accounted for in the Mayor’s original budget proposal in April. Despite this lost revenue, and as a result of six consecutive years of proactive fiscal management that has positioned the City of Boston to continue investing in core city services and resident needs at a time of global economic uncertainty, the budget resubmission affirms Mayor Walsh’s historic commitment made in his State of the City address in education and housing.

Through those commitments, the City will allocate \$80 million in new funding for the Boston Public Schools to both meet the challenges of COVID-19 and work towards closing achievement and opportunity gaps. This budget marks the first year of the Mayor’s \$100 million commitment to new revenue for direct classroom funding, over and above cost increases. This funding will reach every school in the Boston Public Schools district, and will begin with intense support for underperforming schools.

The budget also protects Mayor Walsh’s unprecedented commitment of \$500 million over five years to create thousands of homes all across our city that will be affordable to residents at a range of income levels.

The FY21 budget fulfills the first year of the Mayor’s commitment of City resources with an \$18 million investment in new operating and capital fundings. In the first year of this new housing investment, the City is dedicating new funds to create affordable homeownership opportunities, preserve and generate affordable rental opportunities including Boston’s first City-funded rental voucher program.

“With this budget, we have an opportunity to seize the moment that is before us to make investments that are grounded in equity, inclusion and that

are intentional about directing funding to places where we know it will have the greatest impact in benefiting our residents,” said Mayor Walsh. “I am proud that thanks to years of careful fiscal stewardship, we are able to continue making smart and strategic investments at a time when many residents need it most. I believe that with responsible fiscal planning, with investments in the equity, health and wellbeing of our residents, and with our spirit of courage and collaboration, we will emerge together from these crises stronger and more resilient than before.”

As part of his budget resubmission, Mayor Walsh will reallocate 20% or \$12 million of the Boston Police Department’s overtime budget to make a significant investment in equity and inclusion across the City. These investments include:

- \$3 million for the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) to begin implementation of the eight strategies outlined in Boston’s declaration of racism as a public health crisis,
- \$1 million to support trauma teams and counseling services at the Boston Public Health Commission
- \$2 million in new funding for community based programs and supports through City departments, such as violence intervention grants, youth programming, language and food access, Immigrant Advancement, the Age Strong Commission and the Human Rights Commission,
- \$2 million for additional public mental health services through a partnership between the Boston Police Department and Boston Medical Center Emergency Services Program or BEST,
- \$2 million to support economic development initiatives to support minority and women owned businesses and;
- \$2 million to provide additional housing supports and youth homelessness programs.

While the City has a growing tax revenue base, the City also continues to find efficiencies and prioritizes investing in innovative solutions to provide world-class City services. The FY21 budget resubmission includes an additional \$35 million in cost-saving measures across City departments through the implementation of a hiring freeze on non-essential vacant positions for six months, revisions to fixed costs like debt service, non-personal reductions and a revised

snow removal appropriations based on updated projections for average actual spending. All told, the City has identified and closed a \$65 million budget gap amidst the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic while prioritizing bold investments and maintaining vital city services for residents.

For the sixth consecutive year, the City of Boston has received a AAA bond rating, reflecting the city’s strong fiscal management and stable financial position. The City of Boston recently was named by Moody’s as one of the best prepared cities to handle a national recession.

As part of his budget resubmission, Mayor Walsh is recommending the adoption of a Boston Public Schools budget of \$1.26 billion, representing an \$80 million or 7% increase over last year’s budget. While this budget marks the largest proposed BPS budget in the city’s history, it is one that makes targeted investments in underperforming schools and has a baseline of equity across all investments. Public education spending remains over 40% of the City budget; education spending is up over \$440 million on an annual basis since FY14; and per-pupil spending at BPS will approach \$22,000, more than a 30% increase over the past six years. As Boston vigilantly manages COVID-19 in our community, resources are embedded in all City departments in FY21 to continue the robust response and to keep our residents healthy and safe. Ensuring a well-funded Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) is especially vital to maintain this response and the FY21 budget includes a \$13 million increase, and over \$106 million total for BPHC. This level of investment will ensure a fully funded BPHC, Emergency Medical Service and Office of Recovery Services for next year, continue to fight the effects of COVID-19 and fund the first costs associated with the Mayor’s recent declaration of racism as a public health crisis.

Mayor Walsh’s FY21 budget continues to invest in preserving and creating a strong middle class, and creating equitable opportunities for all those who live in Boston. The FY21 budget supports Boston’s long-term plan, Imagine Boston 2030.

For more information about the budget, visit Boston’s budget website at budget.boston.gov.

Fireworks //CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

scene on foot before the officers could place him in custody. The officers then dispersed the remaining parties on scene and seized the unused fireworks as evidence.

The next day police again responded to LoPres-ti Park at 12:15 a.m. after numerous complaints of fireworks being set off.

When police arrived Martinez was observed throwing a lit firework towards the responding officers as they walked across the basketball courts in the park.

Martinez once again fled the area on foot but was located and placed in custody without incident a


short time later in Maverick Square. While performing a pat frisk, officers recovered eight-inch ‘Jumbo Silver Salute’ firecrackers from the suspect’s back pants pocket.

Martinez was arraigned at East Boston District Court on charges of Assault and Battery of a Police Officer by Means of a Dangerous Weapon (2 Counts) and Possession of Fireworks.

“The Boston Police Department would like to remind the public that illegal fireworks pose significant dangers to the safety of our residents and their property and do not belong in our communities,” said Boston Police in a statement last

week. “Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 148, Section 39 clearly states that it is illegal for private citizens to use, possess or sell fireworks in Massachusetts. It is also illegal to purchase them legally elsewhere and then transport them into the state. If you hear or see fireworks being displayed in your neighborhood, please call 911 immediately for a police response. If you wish to report the illegal purchasing or selling of fireworks, you can do so anonymously by contacting the CrimeStoppers Tip Line at 1 (800) 494-TIPS or by texting the word ‘TIP’ to CRIME (27463).”

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East Boston

Times-Free Press

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JUST UNBELIEVABLE....

The tragic shooting death this past Friday night of 27 year-old Rayshard Brooks outside of a Wendy's restaurant by an Atlanta police officer has confirmed even further (as if there needed to be any more proof) the degree of racial bias that exists in many police departments across our country and the need to move swiftly to institute major reforms in those police departments in order to avoid further tragedies.

How it can be that a fleeing person, who apparently was under the influence of alcohol, can be shot in the back at close range while running away barefoot in a parking lot is mind-boggling. The officer fired three shots, of which two struck Mr. Brooks. In addition, neither of the two officers involved with the incident provided medical attention to Mr. Brooks until two minutes later when one of them unrolled a bandage.

If officers either are unable to control their racial animosity or are so lacking in training that they cannot act without shooting someone dead in the back when there already is heightened scrutiny of their actions, then the time truly has come to completely revamp the method of policing in this country.

And the sooner, the better.

A TREMENDOUS COURT DECISION

The decision this past Monday by the U.S. Supreme Court extending the rights of gay and transgender workers under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which bars employment discrimination on the basis of race, religion, national origin, and sex, is a wonderful affirmation of the shift in this country from one of outright homophobia just a generation ago to the acceptance by a large majority of Americans of persons regardless of their sexual preferences or gender identity.

This newspaper for more than 25 years has supported the efforts of the LGBTQ community to secure all of the rights that are enjoyed by every American and to be free from discrimination of all kinds.

We applauded the Goodridge decision in 2003 by our Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court that held that the Commonwealth must legally recognize same-sex marriage, something we had advocated for almost a decade previously.

In 2015, the U.S. Supreme Court in the Obergefell case affirmed same-sex marriage as a Constitutional right, thus making it applicable to all 50 states.

This week's decision by our country's highest court now extends Title VII protections for gay and transgender persons to all 50 states. Previously, about half of the states still allowed a person to be fired by their employer solely on the basis of their sexual status.

There still is more to be done in terms of bringing full legal and social equality for our LGBTQ fellow citizens, but Monday's 6-3 decision, which included two of the conservative justices, Roberts and Gorsuch, unquestionably represents a huge step forward for gay and transgender Americans.

AND NOW, STINGING JELLYFISH....

The ocean temperature barely has reached 60 degrees in Boston Harbor and vicinity, but the warnings on our beaches have confirmed what the beachcombers among us have known for a week or so -- the dreaded jellyfish have arrived.

According to the experts, these are the lion's mane jellyfish, whose flowing tentacles (hence their name), when they are fully-grown, can extend as long as 90 feet. (Reportedly, the largest recorded specimen ever measured occurred in 1865 off the coast of Massachusetts and had a bell with a diameter of seven feet and tentacles of about 120 feet.

They principally are found in the extreme northern oceans, but they come to our latitudes at this time of year, though fortunately not many are of the full-size stature that they attain in colder waters.

The jellyfish have been seen from Nahant to Hull in recent days. Although most are not fully-grown at this stage of their lives, they nonetheless have the ability to deliver quite a sting to anyone who comes into contact with them.

So swimmers beware. The ocean may provide a respite from the coronavirus, but the jellyfish will be waiting.

Times-Free Press

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GUEST OP-ED

The Rental Relief Fund is helping to keep Bostonians in their homes during the pandemic

By Mayor Martin J. Walsh

From the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, we knew that many people would be challenged by housing costs while they were out of work. As a part of our comprehensive response, we wanted to include assistance for renters. That's why we created the Rental Relief Fund, a program to help cover residents' rent payments. We started this program in April, and we recently announced an additional round of funding.

The Rental Relief Fund was set up to help residents who have lost their income and are not eligible for employment benefits, and residents who, even with unemployment benefits, are still not able to make ends meet. We dedicated \$3 million for the first round of funding, which

began in April. Earlier this month, we opened up a second round of applications, and dedicated an additional \$5 million to the program, bringing the total to \$8 million. We are currently accepting pre-screening applications in 10 languages for the second round until June 19 at 12:00 p.m.

Our goal is to ensure housing stability for Bostonians who are out of work due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We recognize how profoundly the public health emergency is impacting people, and our response is focused on equity and protections for our most vulnerable populations.

The reason we are adding this money is that we expect low-income renters to remain in financial distress for some time. The state eviction moratorium that we helped to get in place will be lifted August 18, or

45 days after the State of Emergency ends. We have worked hard in the last couple of years to reduce evictions, and we have one of the lowest eviction rates in the country. We want to keep it that way. We want to make sure people can stay in their homes.

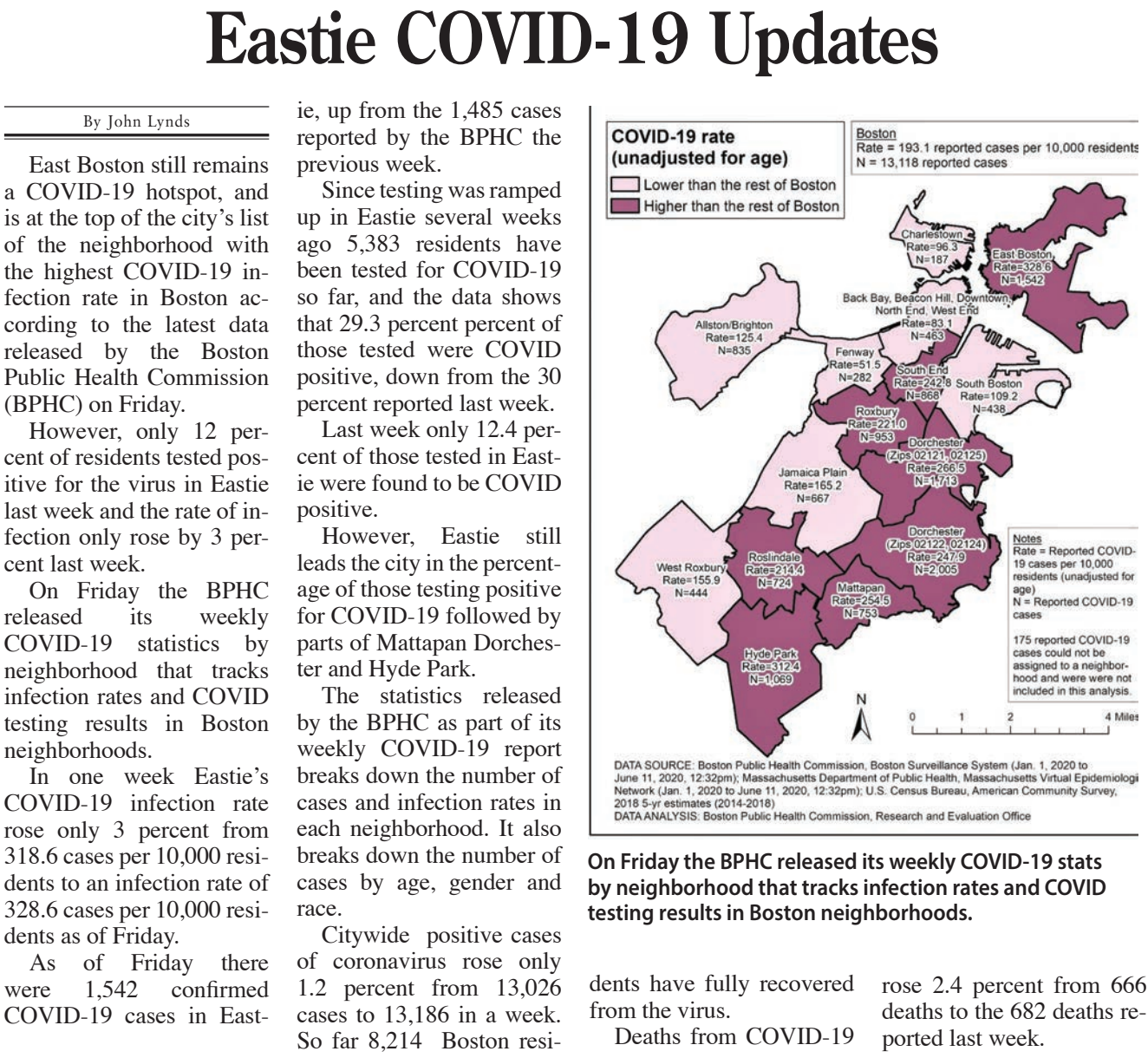
It's important to know that it is safe to apply for this fund. You will not be asked about your immigration status during the Rental Relief Fund process, and it does not affect immigration applications as a "public charge." Also, none of your information will be shared with anyone else that's not processing your application. Our goal is to help anyone in need of rental assistance without fear or barriers.

So far, we have granted \$818,000 to 257 households across 17 neighborhoods to cover rent for April and May. That means

257 individuals or families are no longer facing potentially losing their housing or being displaced thanks to this Fund. We are currently in the process of reviewing more applications with our partner agencies and will continue to distribute money until the fund is depleted.

I know that the COVID-19 pandemic is affecting people in many ways, especially in vulnerable populations. As we begin to gradually and safely reopen, we will continue to provide support for students, seniors, immigrants and renters. The Rental Relief Fund is one step. If you have any questions, you can call the Office of Housing Stability at 617-635-4200, or you can visit boston.gov/RentalRelief.

Martin J. Walsh is the Mayor of Boston.



Rally //CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

You have to do more. We all have to do more. I'm here today to talk about healing reflection and history. You need to call on us (elected officials) to push the policy to the table and don't stop calling us until it gets done. There will be a day that comes when you;ll be asked where you were when George Floyd was murdered. You will be asked by future generations about how you responded, I pray to God you say I was on the side of justice, I took to the street, and I pushed for new laws. I love this country and I'm blessed to represent East Boston but we have a long way to go.

Indeed the arch of the moral universe is long but bent towards justice and together we can get there.” After the rally Edwards added, “I’m proud of East Boston for stepping up and affirming that Black lives matter on Saturday. It was wonderful to see so many people come out and peacefully protest. It’s time for action and accountability beyond protests.” Rep. Adrian Madaro who marched in the rally alongside Edwards commented after the event that it was a beautiful day to see Eastie affirm that Black Lives Matter.



Rep. Adrian Madaro and his wife, Ariel, during Saturday's Black Lives Matter rally in East Boston.



Residents participating in Saturday's rally made signs calling for justice, reform and to affirm Black lives matter.



City Councilor Lydia Edwards addresses the crowd.

ISD kicks off the 2020 rodent control initiative

The Boston Inspectional Services Department (ISD) conducted a code survey of several properties in East Boston. Inspectors canvased Eagle Hill, Jeffries Point, Saratoga, Bennington St. and Maverick Sq. During the walkthrough inspectors assessed rodent activity, trash disposal, receptacles and vegetation all of and followed with a series of baiting and trapping on problem areas. This campaign provided increased measures to address the rodent issues exacerbated by COVID-19 stay at home order which decreased garbage, trash and debris rodents tend to feed on. Inspectors set out in teams consisting of environmental sanitation, housing, health and building inspectors to conduct a joint compliance inspection. Locations found to be a hot spot for rodents inspectors placed bait and set traps with the property and restaurant owners

permission. In addition, inspectors also educated merchants, residents, and property owners on the proper way to dispose of their garbage and all necessary measures needed to take to mitigate rodent infestation. As a Nationally Recognized Leader in rodent control, ISD provides tough enforcement and educational campaigns to address the situation. As summer is fast approaching, rodents tend to become more active and visible. Property owners must have proper trash receptacles with tight fitting lids and try not to put the garbage out for pick up too early. Business owners have the responsibility to maintain their storefronts, sweep once a day and make sure their dumpsters do not have holes, and that they close properly. Pedestrians can also do their share by throwing all debris in trash receptacles.



The Boston Inspectional Services Department members conducted a code survey of several properties in East Boston.



The Black Lives Matter rally marches from the Bremen Street Park down Chelsea Street towards Maverick Square.

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Best Yet Butter Quarters	2/¢6.00

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Cluster Tomatoes.....	¢1.99/lb
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Our Own In Store Antipasto Salad	¢5.99/lb
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Sweet Strawberries 1lb pkg	2/¢5.00 limit 4

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Happy Father's Day

Fun, cute and silly

Always asking "How's my princess?"

Taking me on a stroll and fun places

Hugging me the first day, when I was born

Experiences

Remembering beach times together

Special days with you on Father's Day

Dancing with me

Active daddy to play with me

You will be my dad forever!



HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

Mariana Rodriguez Tabares
June 21, 2020

Funny

Always thinking of me

Taking care of me

Helping others

Excellent

Responsible

Smart

Doesn't give up on life

A loving person

You're special to me

Happy Father's Day

Gisel Diprima
June 21, 2020

Fun and energetic

An awesome dad

Thinking of me

Helping me to grow up

Excited when I talk with him

Reacting to my feelings

Sacrificing himself for me

Doing the best he could

Always loving me

Yells at me that he "loves me!"

Feliz Día del Padre
Maximiliano Gomes Madrid
June 21, 2020

Happy Father's Day

Funny person to play with

Attractive dad

Teaching me about the world

Happy to see me after a hard day of work

Excited about new places to visit


Responsible and reliable

Surrounding his family with love

Dad, you are the best

Always hugs me

You love me and I love you



Happy Father's Day

Vitoria Silva Pedrete
June 21, 2020

Fantastic, friendly, and helpful

Always by my side

The best father ever

He is my best hero

Every time he is happy I'm happy too

Ready for anything

Supporting me with hard stuff to do

Dad cares for me

Always the awesome father

You love me

Make Today Amazing

Happy Father's Day
Eyad Yagoubi
June 21, 2020

Father works to pay the bills

Always works to pay the rent

The best dad I ever had

He works hard to get money for food to eat

Energetic dad

Runs so fast

Special guy

Does his work

Always protects me

You are the best



Brain Hernandez Lopez
June 21, 2020

Funny and laughs at me

Awesome father for me

The guy

He is the best!

Every day he cares for me when he is working

Really helpful to his son


So fun to play with

Dad likes to play soccer

Always by my side

Yes, he's the cool father!

Happy Father's Day
Andy Cartegena
June 21, 2020



Fun dad

Always helping me with my homework

Tries to make me happy

He is an amazing father

Enjoys taking me to different places


Responsible dad

Special person in my heart

Dad takes good care of me

An awesome father

You're the best Dad!



Joshua Erazo
June 21, 2020

My humble father, John Carter a hospital security guard, was a man of few words. Yet, he communicated his silent skepticism about my new journey through the rearview mirror as he drove. I sat behind him in the car as he took me halfway across the United States to begin my post-secondary studies at Hesston College in Kansas.

Yet our two-day journey past America's lush farmlands brings back a wonderful memory of how he shaped my life. I knew what he was saying with all those looks directed at me. They said, "What are you doing going to this no-man's land so far from your roots? Are you sure about this?" "Are you going to be alright here as probably the only African-American in a Mennonite School?" When we arrived and he took a look at Hesston, he didn't need to give me any more looks. His whole body said how much he didn't want me there.

"Dad I am going to be ok," I said, wanting him to feel ok with leaving me there. This was my opportunity to get a degree and I wanted to make it work, even if the environment was nothing like what I was used to. After we unloaded the car and got the suitcases into my dorm room, he sat me down for his version of a heart to heart.

"Girl, I'm not coming back here to visit you until you are walking across the stage for graduation."

"Ok Dad", I said. We hugged each other tightly while tears dripped down both our faces. He turned to go, said, "I'll see you at Christmas", and was gone. I am so grateful that in that moment, my loving father gave me both my wings and my education. Trusting me and my dream would take me straight to that graduation stage. And it did, with him cheering in the audience. A Memorable Moment!

Happy Father's Day
Your,
Daughter, Cynthia Ellen Grant Carter

Father

Quiet gentle spirit

Father Father

Working hard to support his family

Father

In love with his girls

Telling us to stand tall and proud

Father Father

Challenging us to face our fears

Father

When he speaks you better listen

Father Father

Enjoys riding around the city in his car

Father

Sacrificing his needs for the family

Father Father

You are truly missed!

Happy Father's Day
Ms. Grant- Carter
June 21, 2020

Funny and doing construction

Always loving

Teaching me many things

Helpful to me

Every day he is here for his family

Reads to me

Delighted to do stuff for us

Adorable father

Yummy, yummy food



HAPPY FATHER'S DAY
Glenda Nunez
June 21, 2020

Dad

Funny, handsome

Helping, watching, playing

You are my hero

Daddy



Happy Father's Day!

Kimberly Anaya
June 21, 2020

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BUT ALWAYS.**

I am truly blessed and grateful this Father's Day



**HAPPY FATHER'S DAY
TO ALL THE DADS,
GRANDFATHERS &
GUARDIANS**

STATE SEN. JOE BONCORE



Happy Father's Day to all the Eastie Dads.

While many father's will be enjoying a BBQ this weekend, please practice social distancing and keep BBQs to under 10 people.

**State Representative
Adrian Madaro**



**HAPPY
FATHER'S DAY!**

*From City Councilor
Lydia Edwards*

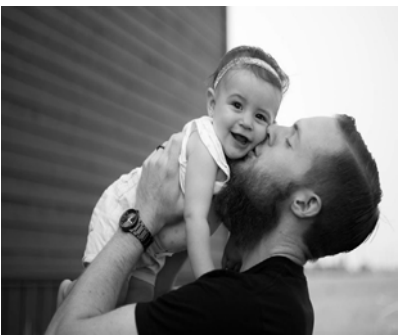
Happy Father's Day

My special moment with my dad was when I gave him a T-shirt that said, "King." It was Father's Day. I had one that said, "princess." It was a sunny day, so we went to the park. My mom brought water, and I brought a soccer ball. My dad and I bought ice cream. When it got dark, we went home and watched a movie. That was my special moment with my dad.



Happy Father's Day
Kimberly Anaya Santos
June 21, 2020

My dad is the BEST. I remember when he saw my mom giving birth to me in the hospital. My dear father was the first person to hold me in his strong hands. He learned how to change my diapers. Now he is watching me grow up to be an intelligent, beautiful young lady. Yes, my dad will always be here for me! I love you, dad.



Happy Father's Day
Salome Marin Medina
June 21, 2020

One special moment was when my dad taught me how to ride a bike. It was hard, but I learned. I kept falling on the ground. My dad's hands held tight on the back of the bike, and he pushed me down the road. The last time I fell, it was awful that I got a scratch on my knees. My dad said, "Are you okay?" I said, "Not really!" It hurts terrible. Ouch!!!!!!!!!!!!!! It hurts." My dad said, "Oh, no!" We went home right away. But I said, "No, I'm fine. Just let me sit on the ground, please." "Okay," my dad said. "Are you okay now? Do you want to go home?" "No, I'm fine. I think I know how to ride a bike now," I mentioned to my dad. "Okay, so now let's go home, but you're going to ride the bike. Okay. Let see if you know how to ride the bike." "Look at my skills, daddy", with a bright smile on my face, I said. "WOW, you learned how to ride a bike so quickly. Well, I think now you don't need any more help. Okay", I rode the bike home smiling with joy. That was one of my special moments with my padre.



Happy Father's Day
Ashly Dubon Reye
June 21, 2020

I have a lot of special moments with my dad, but I will share one. When I was four years old, my dad and I went to the park to teach me to ride a bike with practice wheels. He held on to my bike and told me to look forward and keep going. I was very confident. It was a very fun day, and my dad was making a video, and then I fell onto the ground. I told him, "I don't want to ride a bike anymore." But it was not true. I laughed with him. I still love to ride my bike with my dad every summer. I love staying with my dad, and I love him!



Happy Father's Day
Vitoria Silva Pedrete
June 21, 2020

My special moment with my dad was when we went to the lake. Before arriving at the lake we stopped at a shop to purchase donuts and coffee. Next, we ate by the lake and played in the water. I went to the deep side of the lake and played in the water. I hopped out quickly of the deep water because it was too dangerous and I might drown. In the water, my dad could see tadpoles. I loved when we cooked steak. It was so delicious that I stuffed my belly. After I stuff my belly, I went back to play in the lake water or on the sand. That's my special moment with dad!



HAPPY FATHER'S DAY
GLENDA NUNEZ
JUNE 21, 2020

I love my dad because he is helpful, friendly, and adorable. When I was five years old, I was crying. My dad helped me to calm down by hugging me and giving me a glass of water. Then he took me to a store named Target and bought me a Thomas and Friend's toy. I returned home happy to play with the toy with my father. We had so much fun. After we had dinner, he read a story to me and slept with me. My dad is also helping me with my homework by explaining the tricky problems. And he encourages me not to be scared of the soccer ball. He always cheers for playing soccer. My dad is always by my side, and that's why I love him so much.



Happy Father's Day
Eyad Yagoubi
June 21, 2020

One special time that my dad and I went to play soccer at Airport Field. The field was long and wide. We played five rounds, each round was one hour, and I lost all the rounds. I learned some soccer tricks from my dad. I learned that you need to get the ball, put in under your foot, slowly control it to your left, and take it away from my father. I got four goals, and my dad got five goals. I got less because I was tired of trying to steal the ball from my father, but I enjoy myself. After we finished playing, we left the park to journey to the ice cream store to purchase my favorite ice-cream. I ordered vanilla, chocolate with oreo on a sugar cone. Dad ordered chocolate and vanilla in a cup. Together we walk back home to have a delicious dinner. We ate spaghetti and chicken at the kitchen table, talking about soccer. Finally, it was bedtime. I said, "Goodnight, daddy." He said "Goodnight my son" This was one of my favorite moments with my father.



Happy Father's Day
Joel Vasquez
June 20, 2020

One special moment I spent with my dad was when we went to watch Motocross, and we also watched cars riding on mud. We sat down and watched the people on the motorcycles. They were racing and were going so fast! When the race was over, we went to see the cars in the mud. They were not running. They were showing which car was better driving on the mud. When all the cars were past the mud, we were hungry, so my dad, his girlfriend, and I went to eat something. I ate beans and rice and meat. After eating, my dad paid for the food. My dad checked his phone, and it was kind of late. My dad said, "Now we are going home." When we arrived home, I put on my PJs and went to sleep. That was the best day ever with my dad!



Happy Father's Day
Maximiliano Gomes Madrid
June 21, 2020

One summer day, my dad and I went to Water Country. My dad and I went to a big pool to have a race in the water. The race was kind of hard so my dad helped me. I was on a chair in the water and I had to keep my balance as I moved. I got off balance and my dad yelled to me and said, "Hang on!" and "Get back on the chair!" So I did. I came in second place in the race. We had so much fun stuff at Water Country. It was a special day.



Happy Father's Day
Brain Hernandez Lopez
June 21, 2020

Happy Father's Day! I hope you're doing well? Do you remember when we went to Thomas Land, an amusement park? We drove 2 hours on a beautiful hot day, and it seems like a long time. It was our family and us. A person from the park parked our car as we walked inside the park. Dad went to the ticket booth to purchase tickets for the rides that we wanted to ride on. I saw a river of fake bears and a bunch of tall and small trees. My dad and I waited in a long line before we rode on the rollercoaster. Upon sitting down, my dad shows me how to lock the bar so that we won't fall out of our sit. My hands were up in the air waving back and forth, yelling in a loud voice. Dad was holding my hands in the air too. Thank you for sharing this special moment with me. I love you so much. Kisses. HAPPY FATHER'S Day!



Happy Father's Day
Brandon Lima
June 21, 2020

These were special days with my dad. A special moment was when we went to an arcade, and it was fun. Inside the arcade, it had a VR for two people. Another special moment is when we bought my bike at Walmart when I was eight years old. I was thrilled! I still have my bike inside my house. It is shiny blue. When the sun shines on it, it has a colorful rainbow on it. He takes me to different places and buys me stuff. These are the special days with my father. I love my dad!



Feliz Día del Padre
Andy Cartegena
June 21, 2020

My dad and I drove to Revere Beach. We walked up and down the boardwalk, looking at different types of people on the beach. We stopped at the pizza shop to order two slices of cheese pizza. After eating pizza, I wanted to play in the sand to dig a big hole to put water in it. I was very happy because that day was so warm outside. I want to go back since my dad and I had so much fun at the beach.



Happy Father's Day
Mariana Rodriguez Tabares
June 21, 2020

Dear Dad,

On this special, I want to wish you a Happy Father's Day! You're my favorite travel buddy. I really enjoy it when we go out together to look for all kinds of insects and discover new places together. I love you, Dad. Thank you for being a part of my life.

Sincerely,

Joshua Erazo



Happy Father's Day
Joshua Erazo
June 21, 2020

My special moment with my father is when we played together. My father and I went to our backyard to play soccer. My dad was the goalie, and I tried to kick the ball into the net. Sometimes we would switch places. My dad brought two chairs, so whenever we got tired, we would take a break and sit down. We played until dinner was ready. That is a special moment with my father.



Happy Father's Day
Gisel DiPrima
June 21, 2020

My dad and I went to the Red Sox game at Fenway Park. It was amazing! Lots of people were acting silly, and the Red Sox team was winning the baseball game. Fenway Park was so crowded with people that we left the game early. We ate delicious popcorn and much more. After the game, we went to a fantastic place called Dave & Buster's! It had lots of games! Then we sold our tickets for prizes, and we were happy about our rewards. We still have most of the rewards in our house. That's all for now for my awesome dad!



Happy Father's Day
Randy Hillegass
June 21, 2020

You are so full of compassion,
love, and strength. When we
need a strong hand of support in
our family, you are always there.
I love you for being who you are
and for all that you do.
Happy Father's Day to a
wonderful husband and father!



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Happy Father's Day

ENZO



HAPPY FATHERS DAY ENZO!
from Emily,
Fabiana, & Silvana

STEPHEN MAURO



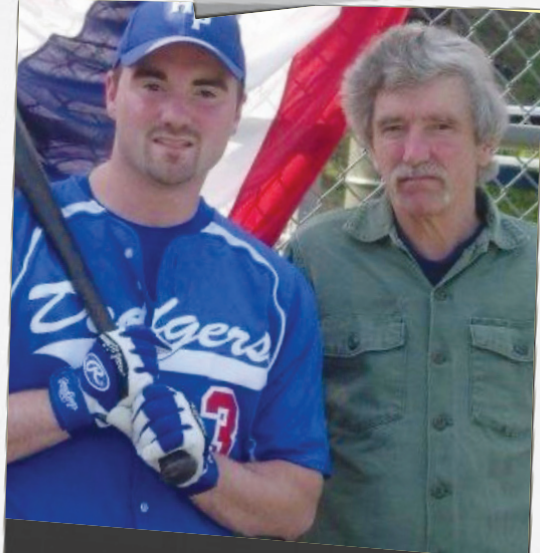
HAPPY FATHER'S DAY
to the Best Dad
in the world!
Love Ava, Sophia & Lola

DENNIS HANTON



I'm celebrating our
SECOND FATHER'S DAY
together and it's just
gets better and better..
I love you and I love the food
you cook..
Your Charlie girl

PAUL WALSH



HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!
We Love You!
Steven, Mark,
Mom & the Girls

ANTHONY DELVECCHIO



HAPPY FATHER'S DAY
to The best Dad,
Dad-in-law and husband!
We Love You!

JOHN CAMMARATA



HAPPY FATHER'S DAY TO THE BEST!
Thank You for everything
you do!! Love you
so much!
~ Ella

JOHN CAMMARATA



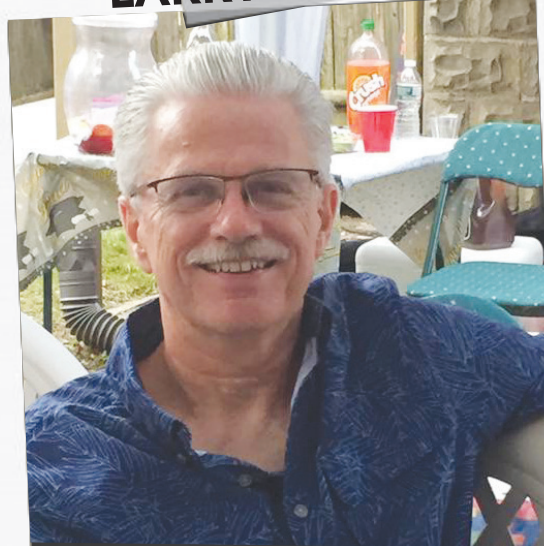
HAPPY FATHER'S DAY TO MY DAD
I Love You More!!
Eva XOXO

MIKE HINOJOSA



Happy Fathers Day to
one of the best. We ap-
preciate everything you
do for us! Enjoy upper
day~ Love Marie,
Elena, Chris, Ally and
Phoebe

LARRY SMITH



HAPPY FATHER'S DAY TO LARRY SMITH!
ONE OF THE BEST! THEY
BROKE THE MOLD AFTER
YOU ~ LOVE YOU,
CAROLE, DANIELLE &
NICK XO

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Father's Day
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FMCB approves four-year extension of Commuter Rail contract with Keolis through June 2026

With the goal of incentivizing better service now and providing cost certainty in a challenging market among other objectives, today the MBTA’s Fiscal and Management Control Board approved of a four-year extension of the Commuter Rail Operating contract between the MBTA and Keolis Commuter Services, LLC, through June 30, 2026.

“Our main goals are to provide continuity and the best possible service for our Commuter Rail customers, as well as provide adequate time to plan for a future transformational procurement. With this extension in place, we look forward to continuing this partnership with Keolis,” said MBTA General Manager Steve Poftak. “This extension includes a number of additional benefits for riders, including further incentives for on-time performance, measures to address fare evasion, and flexibility and cost certainty in a challenging market.”

“We’re pleased the MBTA recommended and the board voted to extend Keolis’ contract for four years, exercising the full term of the contract options,” said CEO and General Manager of Keolis Commuter Services David Scorey. “This extension balances taxpayer and passenger needs as it keeps costs low while also enhancing the passenger experience, including a focus on providing more capacity, further increasing on-time performance and accelerating capital deliv-

ery. On behalf of our Keolis Boston team, we look forward to continuing our collaborative work with the MBTA and building upon the successful initiatives we’ve delivered together for the Commonwealth and our Commuter Rail passengers.”

Keolis Commuter Services is the MBTA’s contracted Commuter Rail operating partner with Keolis currently providing all mechanical, transportation, and engineering services. The eight-year contract that began July 1, 2014, and is set to expire June 30, 2022, included options for two two-year extensions through 2024 and 2026. The MBTA’s contract with Keolis is performance-based with the contract including a fixed price for a certain level of service and penalties related to on-time performance and passenger comfort. In collaboration with the MBTA during the current contract period, Keolis has added 10,000 more trains per year compared to 2014, including new weekend train service, piloted routes, and other services; deployed customer improvements that include technology that allows passengers to pay for tickets onboard with credit and debit cards; and reinforced safety management protocols that include an expanded and updated Safety Department.

This four-year extension now also includes a number of additional benefits that include:

- Incentives for improved Commuter Rail service

- Measures to address fare evasion/non-collection through the continuation of the Revenue Share Agreement for fiscal years 2023-2026, including the installation of automated fare gates that will significantly reduce ticketless travel. Train crew staffing incentives will also result in additional conductors onboard trains to check tickets.
- Investments in MBTA railroad infrastructure and assets, including incentives to accelerate capital investments that include early phases of Rail Transformation.
- Increased fleet availability and reliability through improved management of Mechanical Parts in fiscal years 2022-2026;
- Flexibility and time to develop transformational successor contract, with the possibility of re-procurement as early as 2025;
- Cost certainty in a challenging market with the MBTA paying less than the current market price for this contract;
- Extending this contract also avoids a potentially disruptive transition that might come with a re-procurement and followed by

an uncertain multi-year transition to a new operator.

The four-year extension of commuter rail operating agreement with Keolis has been approved for contract years 9 through 12 (FYs 2023-2026) with the MBTA given the ability to opt out after option year 3 (FY 2025). The agreement accounts for contractual cost growth with inflation rates reflecting current railroad industry relevant cost increases.

The projected net total new cost per contract year, which assumes a minimum of \$100 million in capital work per contract year or a minimum general and administrative ex-

pense fee of \$6 million, is an estimated \$16,273,987 for CY7 / FY21; an estimated \$34,704,927 for CY8 / FY22; an estimated \$35,063,511 for CY9 / FY23; an estimated \$43,398,524 for CY10 / FY24; an estimated \$46,833,816 for CY11 / FY25; and an estimated \$48,144,883 for CY12 / FY26.

During this four-year extension, the MBTA will continue to plan for the future of the Commuter Rail with a new contract developed upon the completion of contract study and the development of additional contract objectives. The Rail Transformation capi-

tal plan will continue to be developed based on objectives for future Commuter Rail service with critical investments beginning to be made in infrastructure and rolling stock to better position the MBTA for a more competitive procurement. A new contract model will be identified based on information gained from the contract study, market sounding, and the commuter rail capital plan. Following the release of an RFI and a six-month public procurement, a new contract will be awarded by January 2026 that allows for at least six months of transition between contractors.

Massachusetts RMV announces new initiatives to provide additional flexibility to customers

The Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) is announcing new initiatives to provide additional flexibility to its customers during the COVID-19 pandemic, including expanded appointment hours at open Service Centers, additional Service Center re-openings, an online Learners’ Permit test and exclusive permit appointment hours, online license renewal incentives, new road test and in-car observation protocols for students, and limited supervised driving privileges for eligible teenagers who have turned or are turning 16 between March and June.

“The RMV appreciates the public’s continued patience and understanding throughout this pandemic as we have expanded many credential deadlines and worked to provide essential in-person services in accordance with all public health and safety guidelines,” said Acting RMV Registrar Jamey Tesler. “Today we are announcing additional steps to help customers, including more appointment hours, flexible guidance for supervised driving, an online learner’s permit test, and an incentive to renew their licenses online now instead of waiting to obtain a REAL ID.”

The RMV is announcing the following additional service offerings:

8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. strictly for Learner’s Permit appointment transactions.

- New Protocols for Resuming RMV Road Tests: effective this week, the RMV resumed public road tests, with preference initially for individuals who had their road test appointment in March, April, and May cancelled due to the pandemic. Road tests for new applicants will not be available until customers who had road tests postponed have been given appointments. Customers who have a road test rescheduled are being contacted directly by the RMV with a new appointment. Due to the pandemic, the RMV is implementing new road test protocols, including the exclusive use of only specific state or driving school vehicles. Vehicles will be cleaned after each test and only the customer and the testing official will be inside the vehicle during the test; road test sponsors will be required to wait outside or in their personal vehicles.

will need to renew a driver’s license this summer, and will not need a REAL ID -- which requires an in-person visit to verify lawful presence --for at least another year due to the federal government’s delay of the compliance deadline to October 1, 2021. The RMV is not currently accepting appointments for REAL ID renewal upgrades or amendments. Customers who renew for a ‘standard’ Massachusetts driver’s license or ID card online between today and August 12, 2020, will be able to upgrade to a REAL ID if they need it in 2021 at no additional charge. The cost of a license or ID renewal is \$50 for a ‘standard’ or REAL ID, while the amendment or upgrade fee waived by this Executive Order is \$25.

- In-Car Observation Hours for Junior Operators: statute currently requires junior operators with a learner’s permit to complete 6 hours observing another student driver, and 40 supervised driving hours with a parent, guardian or other adult over 21 with a valid license for over one year. The Executive Order will instead allow for 46 hours of supervised driving hours to be completed with a parent, guardian or other adult over 21 with a valid license for over a year, minimizing the need to spend additional time in a vehicle with individuals from different households which is discouraged under the Massachusetts’ Reopening Advisory Board’s Phase 2 guidance for driving schools.

Travel and vacation problems top list of COVID-19-related complaints from consumers

Reports about travel and vacation problems topped the list of COVID-19-related complaints from consumers in Massachusetts, while nationally reports about online shopping top the list of consumer complaints, according to new data released by the Federal Trade Commission.

Most of the COVID-19-related travel and vacation complaints from consumers are about problems with cancellations and refunds. COVID-19-related consumer complaints

the pandemic, with a median loss of \$321. In addition to vacation and travel-related complaints, other top COVID-19-related fraud complaints from consumers in Massachusetts include issues with fitness club memberships and other health-related services and online shopping problems.

You can find additional complaint data about Massachusetts and other states on the FTC’s new interactive COVID-19 complaint data dashboards.

National leading grassroots organization, Indivisible, endorses Ed Markey for U.S. Senate

Indivisible, a national, progressive grassroots organization with over a million members across the country, today announced its endorsement of Ed Markey for re-election to the United States Senate.

“Senator Markey is a model progressive legislator: consistent, accountable to his constituents, and ready to fight for a more just and equitable future. He is a leader in the climate movement and a champion for a more just, sustainable, and livable future,” said Lucy Solomon, IE Director for Indivisible. “Senator Markey consistently demonstrates progressive leadership and vision by prioritizing working people and marginalized communities, and we’re excited to continue this work with him.”

“It’s an honor to receive this endorsement from such a grassroots powerhouse as Indivisible,” said Senator Markey. “Progressive action starts at the grassroots level, and in order to defeat Donald Trump, take back the Senate from Mitch McConnell, and keep our

House majority, we need groups like Indivisible. I stand with Indivisible on the need to stop the dangerous effects of climate change, to increase access to health care, and racial and economic justice. I am grateful to them for their support.”

Indivisible’s mission is to educate and activate voters and hold elected officials accountable to the values of equality, justice, compassion, and inclusion and to elect progressive leaders.

The endorsement follows the recent announcements of support for Ed Markey from several major groups across the state, including American Federation of Teachers, Massachusetts Indivisible Northampton, Our Revolution Massachusetts, Planned Parenthood Action Fund, NARAL Pro-Choice, Progressive Democrats of America, the NRDC Action Fund, the Jamacia Plain Progressives, American Postal Workers Local #4553, and UNITE Here Local 26 labor union workers.

Indivisible is a grassroots movement of thousands of local groups with a mission to elect progressive leaders, rebuild our democracy, and defeat the Trump agenda. The organization is composed of thousands of group leaders and more than a million members taking action to resist the GOP’S extreme agenda, elect local champions, and fight for progressive policies.

Senator Markey has served in the United States Senate since winning the special election in 2013 and has amassed a deep record on environmental, climate, gun safety, and consumer protection issues. He co-authored the Green New Deal, and his leadership has led to legislation to address the humanitarian crisis on the southern border, protect LGBTQ+ rights, and ensure that Donald Trump cannot launch a nuclear first strike without Congressional approval. Raised in Malden, Ed Markey has always stood up for the priorities of Massachusetts.

- Supervised Driving Privileges Prior to Learner’s Permit: eligible teenagers turning 16 between March 1 and June 30, 2020, may be able to apply for a new “Supervised Driving Receipt” (or SDR) prior to their ability to obtain an appointment for their Learner’s Permit. Eligible teenagers will be required to have parental / guardian consent to apply and take their learner’s permit test online. Printed at home following successfully passing the learner’s permit test, an SDR will carry strict requirements, allowing eligible students to practice driving only in Massachusetts, with a Massachusetts driver who is at least 21 years old and has held a valid license for one year. The SDR will also allow an eligible teenager to enroll in a certified driving education and training course and begin their required observation hours but will not count towards a junior operator’s required 6-month clean driving record. SDRs will be valid 90 days from the date of issuance and will only be issued through August 12, 2020. Eligible customers that are interested in applying for an SDR should continue to check Mass.Gov/RMV as the RMV anticipates that this application will be available sometime next week. Learner’s Permit applications will continue to be processed by appointment only at a Service Center when identity, lawful presence, residency and vision have been verified.
- \$25 REAL ID Upgrade Fee Waiver: over 500,000 Massachusetts residents

Please visit eastietimes.com

OBITUARIES

Kimiko Amato

Believed to be one of the first few Post WWII Japanese War Brides

Kimiko “Kay” “Kimi” (Yamaguchi) Amato died in East Boston on June 11. She was in her 95th year.

The beloved wife of the late Angelo A. Amato, she was the devoted mother of Joseph and his wife, Josephine of East Boston, John and his wife, Lorraine and Charles and his wife, Ginny, all of Wilmington.

Kimiko was born in Osaka, Japan on March 15, 1926. She met her future husband in Japan in 1946 while he was serving in the US Army as part of the American Forces occupying Japan after World War II. Angelo returned home in 1948 and joined the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Engineering services.

Missing the provisions of the War Brides Act passed by President Harry S. Truman, Angelo petitioned then Congressman John F. Kennedy to introduce a special bill on her behalf to allow her to enter the United States in 1949. Kimiko is believed to be one of the first few Japanese war brides to come to the U.S. to marry.

Kimiko is also survived by six grandchil-



dren: Robert, Angelina, Michael and Christina, all of Wilmington, Jason and Daniel of Quincy and two great-grandchildren, Lucy and Logan. She is also survived by her brother, Kazumi Yamaguchi of Osaka, Japan and his children.

Funeral Services for the family were held on Tuesday, June 16. We encourage you to send messages of condolence to the family on our Tribute Page: Magrath-FuneralHome.com

Interment was in Woodlawn Cemetery, Everett. Because of her love of animals and in lieu of flowers, donations in Kimiko’s memory to the MSPCA would be appreciated.

Pietroangelo “Peter” Spera

Of East Boston

Pietroangelo “Peter” Spera of East Boston passed away on Tuesday, June 9.

The beloved husband of the late Serafina Spera, he was the devoted father of Teresa and Rita Spera and the late Henry; dear brother of the late Emily and Henry and cherished grandfather of Adriana, Marc and Ashley.

Family and friends will honor Peter’s life by gathering at the Ruggiero Family Memorial Home, 971 Saratoga Street, (Orient Heights) East Boston, today, Wednesday, June 17 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. before proceeding to Ridgellawn Cemetery, Watertown where Peter will be laid to rest with his beloved



wife, Serafina. May they both rest in peace.

Services will be held in accordance with Phase 2 of the MA re-opening plan. All attendees will be asked to wear face coverings during any services and maintain social distancing practices. For more information, please visit www.ruggieromh.com.

Janice Capozzi

Of Brockton, formerly of East Boston

Janice E. (McKenna) Capozzi, 67, of Brockton, formerly of East Boston, died June 10 at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center.

Janice was the loving wife of Kenneth C. Capozzi, daughter of the late Thomas and Isabel (Costello) McKenna, mother of Ken Capozzi of Brockton, Peter Capozzi and his wife, Gina of N. Attleboro, Naureen Moya and her husband, Henny of East Bridgewater and Marlene Marsden and her husband, Michael of Tewksbury; grandmother of Avery Capozzi, Isabella, Julianna and Francesca Moya, Emily, Michael and Abigail Marsden and Petra, Peter and Kaylee Capozzi. She was the sister of Wil-



liam McKenna of East Boston, Kenneth McKenna of Milton and the late Thomas McKenna, Marlene Diflumeri and Ann Buckley.

A Celebration of her life will be held at a later date. For online condolences visit www.conleyfuneralhome.com or on Facebook at Conley Funeral & Cremation Service.

Grace LoGrasso

A gentle, understanding woman who always gave solid advice

Grace (Pace) LoGrasso of East Boston, formerly of Revere, California and Florida, passed away on June 7 at the age of 95 surrounded by her caring family.

Grace was a homemaker and a loving, giving mother and grandmother.

Grace was a gentle, understanding woman who always gave solid advice. She enjoyed traveling, reading, singing along to classic movies, and vividly retelling moments from her life. Jeopardy and Wheel of Fortune were some of her favorite shows. She will truly be missed by all who knew her.

She was the beloved wife of the late Frank LoGrasso, devoted mother of Rosemary “Rory” Pretti and her husband, Alfred “Butchie” of Derry, NH, Suzanne LoGrasso of East Boston, David LoGrasso of Palm City, FL and the late Stephen LoGrasso; cherished grandmother of Brian LoGrasso, Vanessa Middleton, Derek Pretti, Ashley LoGrasso, Frankie LoGras-



so, Krystal Almonte and the late Douglas “Dougie” Pretti; adored great grandmother of Dallas Gilbreath, Steven LoGrasso, Devin Michaud, Andrew Middleton, Avery Middleton and Dario Pretti; dear sister of the late Frank Pace, Tina Adreani, and Joseph, Joseph, Salvatore, Michael and Rosie Pace. She is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

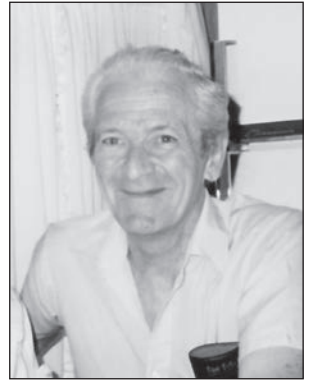
A Funeral Mass was celebrated the Immaculate Conception Church, Revere on Thursday, June 11. Interment was at Woodlawn Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Heart Association, 300 5th Ave, Waltham, Ma 02451. For guest book please visit www.buonfiglio.com.

Vernon Stone

Longtime employee of Bethlehem Steel and Boston Ship

Vernon A. Stone died in East Boston on June 8.

A longtime employee of Bethlehem Steel and Boston Ship, he was the beloved husband of Regina (Lenarduzzi) Stone, loving father of Joseph Stone and his wife, Joanne of Chelsea, Paula Melchionno and her husband, Paul Tempesta and Gail Ricci and her husband, John, all of Peabody, Robert Stone of Lynn and the late Donna Stone. He is also survived by five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.



At his request, all services are private. Please leave messages of condolence to the family on our Tribute Page MagrathFuneralHome.com.

John Burns, Esq.

Prominent criminal defense attorney

John T. Burns, Esq., passed away on June 10, due to complications from COVID-19 after a long and agonizing battle with Alzheimer’s Disease.

John was born on July 14, 1940, the son of the late Kathleen (Coleman) and George V. Burns, Sr, formerly of West Roxbury and East Dennis.

He was the beloved husband of the late Roberta (Abrams). John and Roberta were married for 40 plus years, until 2008, when Roberta lost her battle to lung cancer.

John and Roberta settled in Revere (Roberta’s hometown) where they raised their family. He was the caring brother of George V. Burns Jr. of West Roxbury, Kathleen and her husband, Vincent Ryan of West Roxbury, Mary Guiney of Canton and her late husband, Ken Walsh, the late Helen Doyle and her husband, the late Joseph Doyle of Scituate and James of Pompano Beach, FL and his ex-wives, the late Janet and the late Diana. He was the loving father of George and his wife, Marifrances Morrison, of Raleigh, NC and John Jr. of Revere and is also survived by three adoring grandchildren, Madison, Michael and John of Raleigh, NC and many loving nieces and nephews.

John, a native Bostonian, lived with his family in Hyde Park, then moved to West Roxbury. From an early age, John was always active in sports, but as a child he particularly loved basketball. It was as a result of John’s basketball exploits for his CYO basketball team at St. Thomas More in Braintree that John’s older sister Kathleen was introduced to her future husband, Vincent Ryan, John’s CYO basketball coach. (Rumor has it that the only reason Coach Vincent Ryan kept John on his team was to get a date with Kathleen).

John attended Roslindale High School, graduating in 1959. While at Rozzie High, John played football, basketball and baseball, being named as the school’s “Most Athletic” student. (It has been reported, although not confirmed, from a (mostly) reliable source that while at Rozzie High, John was a member of the military cadets, attaining the rank of captain, the key club, as well as being involved with student government.)

After graduating from Rozzie High, John traveled across the country to attend New Mexico State University-Las Cruces on a football scholarship. However, being far from home and missing his friends and family, John returned to Boston, eventually graduating from Calvin Coolidge College, located in the Beacon Hill section of Boston. After graduating from college, John attended Portia Law School (now New England Law), also located on Beacon Hill. It was while at law school that John met his future wife, and the love of his life, Roberta, who was working as a secretary at the school. Upon John’s gradu-



ation from law school, he passed the Bar Examination and in 1969 was admitted to the practice of law in Massachusetts. John went on to have a 40+ year career as a prominent criminal defense attorney, zealously (and often colorfully) representing his clients in courtrooms throughout Greater Boston.

During his many years of practice, John was not held to be in contempt of court in the great majority of his many cases. When his advocacy was needed to defend juveniles accused of committing a crime, John could be heard in the hallways of the various Suffolk County Courthouses lecturing the various juveniles to, “Remain in school,” “Stay away from drugs,” and to “Not speak to anyone.”

In his spare time, John was an avid sports fan, with a love of all Boston’s sports teams, especially the Celtics. In fact, as a younger man, John would frequently sneak into the old Boston Garden to watch the Celtics’ games for free. John also was a fan of high school and college sports. Over the years he attended many St. Dominic Savio’s High School football games and John always looked forward to their annual Thanksgiving Day game played at East Boston Stadium. During the 20+ years he attended Savio’s Thanksgiving Day’s games, John tirelessly worked at perfecting his Bloody Mary recipe, which he unveiled every year at the pre-game tailgate. His tailgates were always lively affairs, attended by many friends, supporters and alumni of Savio Football.

John was also a regular at Stonehill College’s football games, traveling all over New England and New York to cheer on the Chiefs (now Skyhawks.) In fact, during a 4-year stretch in the mid-to-late 1980’s, John only missed two games, and that was because he attended weddings for two of his beloved nieces.

Other than competitive sports, John loved to go fishing off Cape Cod with his father and other family members. John also loved spending time on Cape Cod and long days with his family at Corporation Beach followed by a dip in Scargo Lake. John was the long-time Grand Poobah of Camp Dingaling, which was an annual family gathering held on Jericho Lane, East Dennis. Funeral arrangements were by the Paul Buonfiglio & Sons-Bruno Funeral Home, Revere. Interment was in Woodlawn Cemetery. Donations may be made in John’s name to the Alzheimer’s Association, 309 Waverley Oaks Rd, Waltham, MA 02452. For guest book please visit www.buonfiglio.com.

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Rich Ford

June 19, 1980 - June 19, 2020

Each year on this special day
We celebrate your birth
And treasure each moment
That you were here on earth.
We took those days for granted
And never dreamt or thought,
That all our lives would change
so much
And yours would be short.
Now we must remember
That although the tears still fall
The son/brother we'll miss forever
Brought sunshine to us all.

We Love and Miss You Very Much
Dad, Mom and Jennifer

OBITUARIES

Rose Woodside

To know her was to love her

Rose F. (Chiodi) Woodside of East Boston passed away peacefully at home surrounded by her family on June 10 at the age of 83.

She was the beloved wife of 50 years to the late Donald Woodside and companion of nine years to Lou Palmieri; devoted and loving mother of Edward Woodside and his wife, Denise of Saugus, Kevin Woodside and his wife, Julie of Winthrop and Donna Woodside of East Boston; adored and proud grandmother “Nina” of Joseph Woodside of East Boston, Michael Woodside of Saugus, Kevin Woodside and his wife, Kori of Lynn, Lauren Doucette and her husband, Paul of Lynn and Nicole Bennett and her husband, Thomas of North Carolina and great-grandmother of Kayden Woodside; cherished daughter of the late Antonio and Rosa (Cardinale) Chiodi and sister to 10 siblings: Elena LaMonica, Catherine Spagnola, Salvatore Chiodi and the late Larry Chiodi, Pauline-Paolini-Anastasio, Andrew Chiodi, Frances Imbrescia, Antoniette Smith, Anthony Chiodi and Anne Magner. She is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

In the early 70’s, Rosie began working at the Ninety-Nine restaurant in Boston which eventually became The Nines (a name she suggested) when new management took over. She was loved by all of her customers for her bigger than life personality and her ability to tell the best jokes. When the restaurant closed in the mid-90’s, she wasn’t quite ready to call it quits and moved on to work



at several establishments in East Boston including Barney’s and the Pony Lounge. Anyone who ever knew her, couldn’t help but love her. She was everyone’s favorite. Nothing meant more to her than her family. Rosie was the most generous and loving mother and grandmother. She enjoyed spending summer vacations in Cape Cod and New Hampshire and countless Sunday dinners and holidays together.

Services will be held in accordance to Phase 2 of the MA re-opening plan. All attendees will be asked to wear face coverings during any services and maintain social distancing practices.

Family and friends honored Rose’s life by gathering at the Ruggiero Family Memorial Home 971 Saratoga St. East Boston on Tuesday June 16. A Funeral Mass in celebration of Rose’s life will be held today, Wednesday, June 17 at Sacred Heart Church, Brooks St., East Boston at 10 a.m. Services will conclude with Rose being laid to rest with her beloved husband, Donald at VA National Cemetery in Bourne. For more information or to send an online condolence, visit ruggieromh.com.

MVES, Action Ambulance partner to streamline communication with Meals on Wheels

(Nearly 2,000 consumers in 11 cities and towns rely on Mystic Valley Elder Services (MVES) for Meals on Wheels home delivery, with close to 3,000 meals provided each day. Especially for frail, home-bound elders, the nutrition services provided by MVES can be a lifeline. However, what happens when a new pandemic or inclement winter weather interferes with Meals on Wheels delivery?

To address these challenges, MVES has partnered with Action Ambulance to unroll a revolutionary phone communication system to ensure consumers are alerted in a timely fashion to changes, cancellations or delays in their Meals on Wheels service. As soon as MVES becomes aware of a situation that will interfere with the Meals on Wheels delivery, they alert Action Ambulance and in turn Action Ambulance sends out automated calls through a state-of-the-art phone system that enables the agency to reach up to 2,500 consumers in less than one hour. The pre-recorded calls come from a MVES nutrition program phone number, ensuring that consumers know the calls are legitimate and not from telemarketers. The messages feature the voice of a Nutrition Services team member.

According to Angie Fitzgerald, MVES Nutrition Director, the partnership with Action Ambulance—which has been in place for six years—has ensured seamless communication between the MVES nutrition program and its many

consumers. She points out that Action Ambulance provides the phone alert system free of charge to MVES. “They are always just a call away when we need their assistance,” she stresses. “I simply send our list of active consumers to Action Ambulance and they ensure the calls are made.

“Working with Action Ambulance has streamlined our communication process and made it more instantaneous,” continues Fitzgerald. “It truly is such a great partnership and has helped us send out reassuring messages to our consumers during the COVID-19 pandemic.”

Michael Woronka, CEO of Action Ambulance, shares, “Action Ambulance recognizes the critical need Mystic Valley fills by providing a range of support services to the disadvantaged and frail within the community. These services allow for as many people as possible to remain in their homes or group setting while keeping their independence. We are proud to support an organization such as Mystic Valley Elder Services especially during these uncertain times.”

“Our Meals on Wheels program offers much more than just a meal. It’s a friendly face at the door, a warm exchange. I am very proud of what we do. Seeing firsthand why the service is essential and who is being served is such a privilege,” concludes Fitzgerald.

To learn more about Meals on Wheels, visit www.mves.org or call 781-324-7705.

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NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

KING ARTHUR'S SITE RAZED

CHELSEA - When some long-time businesses or buildings get torn down, it comes with some nostalgia or longing – such as with the Chelsea Clock building or the Soldiers’ Home water tower.

There was no such sentiment for the demolition of King Arthur’s Lounge, which finally came down late last week on Beacham Street – taken down by owner Greg Antonelli to make way for a new marijuana business.

Antonelli purchases the building a few years back and evicted the men who were planning to revive the strip club. After holding on to it for awhile, he pivoted and made a deal with Greenstar Herbs, a recreational marijuana dispensary.

Antonelli has permitted the project fully, and is the developer of the sleek new building. Greenstar will be the operator of the business, with Tom Morey as the president of that company.

It is being viewed in most every circle as a very positive end to a past most in Chelsea did not want to be associated with, including the shady strip club, many criminal assaults and even a murder.

City Manager Tom Ambrosino said it’s a positive step.

“I think it is a step in the right direction for the City,” he said. “The plan for that site is a good one and we look forward to it.”

The development at King Arthur’s comes at the same time that the City begins to go out to bid for its \$12.5 million project to create a new roadway, pedestrian paths and bicycle tracks. That is primarily a safety precaution because it hasn’t been very safe to walk or bike on Beacham Street – and it is the only way for bicyclists to get into Boston from Chelsea, Eastie or Revere. That project goes out to bid this summer, and could start in the early fall.

Ambrosino said he doesn’t expect the uses

there to change, but new development and infrastructure could improve the looks of the district.

“It’s still going to be a food distribution area,” he said. “That an important aspect of the City, state and regional economy. There are a lot of good paying jobs there. We don’t want to transform it into anything different. Hopefully, this will all result in improved aesthetics.”

MARCH FOR BLACK LIVES MATTER HELD

CHELSEA - The turnout was enormous, far exceeding the numbers that main organizers Kyle Umemba and Jayde Umemba had expected. The speeches were extraordinary, delivered with high energy and intense emotion.

More than 800 residents attended the Black Lives Matter Protest last week at Chelsea City Hall. There was a peaceful march on Broadway followed by a speaking program outside City Hall.

Long-time city official Leo Robinson felt the rally met its mission of bringing unity and awareness to the issue of racism and the national events of the past two weeks. Several participants wore attire and carried signs honoring the memory of George Floyd, who was killed by police in Minneapolis on May 25.

“I thought it was great for the City of Chelsea that so many people came out,” said Robinson. “I was very impressed by the speakers and their message. I also want to say the Chelsea Police did an excellent job.”

Joan Cromwell, president of the Chelsea Black Community, was the master of ceremonies. As it turned out, it was her son, Kyle Umemba, who delivered one of the most dynamic and inspiring speeches of the day.

“Amen, that’s my son,” said Joan Cromwell following Kyle’s message of hope.

Jayde Umemba, District Attorney Rachael Rollins (who was introduced by

Leo Robinson), Councilor-at-Large Damal Vidot, and City Manager Thomas Ambrosino also delivered inspiring messages, all eliciting cheers of approval from the crowd.

Kyle Umemba spoke last and his remarks stood as tall as the 6-foot-3-inch graduate of two elite institutions of learning, Buckingham Browne and Nichols prep school and George Washington University, himself. He works in finance for Pricewaterhouse Coopers.

Kyle began his speech by thanking the Chelsea Interfaith Alliance, Chelsea Collaborative, City Manager Thomas Ambrosino, the Chelsea Police and Fire Departments, Rep. Dan Ryan, and the city councilors.

“Look around, it’s peaceful, it’s beautiful, we respect this community and we love each other,” said Kyle, drawing applause from the assemblage. “This is a great event. We’ve all come together for different walks of life.”

Kyle related how he was told by his parents, Kenneth Umemba and Joan Cromwell, “to speak properly, look in to people’s eyes, be respectful, and treat people with a level of respect and a sense of self no matter who you are, no matter where you come from.”

He recounted an incident that he experienced with law enforcement officers when he was driving home for work attired in a business suit and his vehicle ran out of gas.

As the interaction with the officers on the scene developed, Kyle recalled thinking, ‘Whatever’s going to be is going to be. What I mean by that is, whatever it is going to be is going to be – whether I’m here or not, it is going to be and I had no control over my life and that is what it means for a Black life to matter.’

Kyle, who with Cesar Castro directs Let it Fly, the area’s most well-attended summer basketball tournament, concluded, saying, “I want to thank you all for coming out here today. I appreciate you. I love you. We hope to turn this momen-

HUNDREDS OF CHELSEA RESIDENTS ATTEND BLACK LIVES MATTER MARCH



PHOTOS BY DARLENE DEVITA

The Chelsea Black Community and other members of the community hosted a Black Lives Matter rally at City Hall on Sunday afternoon, followed by a march through the streets demanding change in policing strategies and systemic racism in Chelsea and across the nation. On City Hall Lawn, marchers staged a “die-in” to commemorate the black lives lost to police brutality. Celeste Williams raised her fist high and powerful, and a little boy stopped on a scooter as the marchers went by with a homemade sign stating, ‘I am Black – I Matter.’

tum into actionable steps and really implement some change in this community. Across this state, across the country – they are protesting peacefully, respectfully. We are here. We did it. We’re lovely. The police force can tell we’re good.”

Jayde Umemba, a 24-year-old graduate of Boston University, said public speaking wasn’t her forte, but those who attended the rally would dispute that notion.

“There’s a conversation that needs to be heard,” said. “Thank you all or coming here today and standing in solidarity with us. We heard about George Floyd’s murderers, Ahmaud Arbery’s murderers, they’ve all been taken into custody, but that’s not enough. We want more. Too many times have we been here. Too many times have we gotten the charge, but no conviction. Too many times have we had to lock things up and let things go, lock up our anger and pain and sadness and disappointment after they refuse to lock up a racist murderer. Too many times we’re no longer locking those feelings up because we want more, we need more, we deserve more and we should have had more.

“So now you’re going to hear it until we get it – you’re going to feel it until we get it,” said Jayde. “We want charges. We want convictions. We want to stop being murdered, disrespected, racially profiled.”

Joan Cromwell introduced Damali Vidot as “an influential member of our community.”

“She walks the walk, she talks the talk, in solidarity and truth and she’s real, 24/7,” said Cromwell.

“No justice, no peace,” Vidot said in unison with her constituents. “We’re a community and a world in mourning right now. The murder of George Floyd was a complete disregard for Black life, in the middle of the street in broad daylight.”

Vidot said she was “inspired by the unity throughout the world to adjust these unjust systems. I’m

also inspired because of the young people that are leading these efforts, like Kyle and Jayde, and saying ‘no more’ to systemic injustice and allowing older people like me to follow their lead and honoring my voice.”

Vidot said the death of George Floyd “sparked something in all of us.”

“We are at a pivotal point, my friends, to be having tough conversations about reimagining what serving and protecting looks like,” said Vidot, who related some of her experiences with police brutality. “It’s up to us to foster a world where the knee is off our neck.”

“I just wanted to come and support you in this really powerful showing,” said DA Rollins. “I can hear the anger and the hurt in your voices but this is how protests happen. I’m proud to see that people are compliant and I’m really proud to see members of law enforcement here in a helpful way.”

City Manager Thomas Ambrosino said, “I watched with horror those events in Minnesota. As a human, it just appalled me that that can still take place in this country that I love. But the fact that kind of brutality can still exist – it’s just horrific in my mind. But as a city official who has spent 30-plus years of my life in local government trying just to help people, and to feel that I’m part of a system that still has that kind of pervasive racism in it, that can allow such a thing to happen – it leads me to recognize that I still have so much more work to do as a local official.

“I don’t have the answers and I don’t know exactly what’s the next step to take, but I’m going to tell you I’m here to listen and try my best to understand to take the right steps forward,” said Ambrosino. “We can come together to find solutions in a way that is tolerant, that is civil, and that is peaceful, but most important is hopeful for the future.”

The Chelsea Police had a large contingent on hand and Joan Cromwell gave

“a shutout to Chelsea PD Chief Brian Kyes – who worked with us. We were in grade school together so he’s one of us, for real.”

The Rev. Dr. Sandra Whitley closed the program with a prayer of hope and an expression of gratitude for the Chelsea Black Community and “the leadership that we have in this community.”

DEMARIA, POLICE LOOK AT POLICIES

EVERETT - As traditional policing strategies and policies have come under the microscope in the wake of several black people around the country being killed by police in the last few months, Everett officials last week took time to understand policing policies in Everett and how they need to change.

From the top down, it was clear this week that the status quo isn’t acceptable.

Mayor Carlo DeMaria released a statement last weekend saying that the response to events locally and nationally when it comes to policing and systemic racism has to be with action – not words.

“The senseless killing of George Floyd is a result of a failure in policy and oversight by a system that needs review and reform,” he said. “Inherent racism against persons of color resulting in violence and death are unacceptable. We reject and condemn police brutality and racism in the strongest terms. This is a time to act. How we act will be a reflection on the lessons we choose to see, what we choose to listen to, and how we can better understand the issues we face.”

He said the City will change the way it polices the community – noting that the way things have been done in the Police Department for so long do not work now. In addition to that, he will also begin looking at City reforms in government as well.

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Over a dozen Eastie restaurants get outdoor dining permits

By John Lynds

Last week Mayor Martin Walsh and the Boston Licensing Board announced a list of East Boston restaurants, as well as restaurants, that received special permits to allow for outdoor dining during Phase II of the state’s COVID-19 reopening plan.

While indoor dining is still not allowed in restaurants, the news that the city approved applications to allow for expanded use of public spaces for outdoor dining was a welcome relief to Eastie restaurant owners.

“We are now open for patio dining, so come and enjoy a nice cold beer or margaritas outside,” said Mi Pueblito in a statement. Mi Pueblito received an outdoor dining permit for the restaurant’s two locations on Border Street and Orient Heights Square.

Mi Pueblito was one of 13 Eastie restaurants to receive one of the special permits as the city and state moved closer to some normalcy after weeks of a statewide “stay at home” order during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Other restaurants included Mi Rancho Restaurant; the Cunard Tavern; La Cancun; Casa Colombia; Tutti Frutti; Maverick’s; Santarpio’s Pizza; Naples Restaurant; Bohemios Restaurant Bar; Rincon Limeno Restaurant; Barney’s Grill; Tawakal Halal Cafe; Pazza On Porter; Mi

Pueblito; Luna’s; and Renegade’s Pub.

“We’re ready for lunch and dinner reservations,” said Pazza on Porter in a statement. “Go to our website to book and we’ll see you outside.”

Pazza on Porter already had an outdoor patio but received a permit to expand its outdoor dining area into the restaurant’s parking lot.

Santarpio’s also got a special permit and has placed outdoor seating across Porter Street under the Route 1A viaduct.

“Boston is committed to a safe, phased reopening process,” said Walsh. “That includes helping our small businesses open safely and successfully, and we’ve been working wherever we can to remove barriers and provide new opportunities. The restaurant industry has been incredibly impacted by this global pandemic, and we’ve made helping the small businesses that make our neighborhoods and city so special a priority during this time.”

Walsh said the City has received close to 500 requests for temporary extension onto outdoor space citywide, and already more than 200 businesses have received full or conditional approval to expand their outdoor space to serve patrons.

The Licensing Board is actively issuing approvals for temporary extensions on private and public property, and applications will continue to be reviewed and approved on a roll-



Mi Pueblito’s outdoor dining area in Orient Heights Square that opened last week as part of the city’s special program that allows for expansion of outdoor dining for some restaurants.

ing basis. Applications and guidance are available on boston.gov, the Licensing Board has been conducting outreach throughout Boston’s neighborhoods to encourage restaurants to apply for this program.

Restaurants that applied and received approval could begin outdoor service on their property, or in the public parking spaces outside their establishment, immediately. Those outdoor spaces can remain open until 10 p.m. on weeknights and 11 p.m. on weekends.

Outdoor restaurant tables must be minimum 6 feet away, and tables can’t seat more than 6 people. Workers must wear masks, and patrons must wear masks until they are seated at their tables.

Because bar areas still remain closed at neighborhood restaurants, the Licensing Board also voted last month to lift citywide the preexisting condition of “alcohol with food only” on outdoor space or any other similar condition that prohibits the sale and service



Santarpio’s Pizza on Chelsea street got creative and used its Porter Street lot under the Route 1A viaduct for outdoor seating.



The Cunard Tavern’s outdoor seating area on Orleans Street.

of alcohol on outdoor space without the service of a food item.

“We are thrilled to announce that we are reopening,” said the Cunard in a statement. “Reservations can be made now and we are seating in 90 minute blocks only. Social distancing and masks must be worn, bare with us as we work out our flow with the new rules in place.”

Eastie Landing proposal includes a Tall Ship and outdoor dining on the waterfront

By John Lynds

There’s a plan afoot to create an outdoor dining experience that would include a Tall Ship and large patio along East Boston’s waterfront.

Massport’s Anthony Guerriero said that the proposal, dubbed “Eastie Landing,” came about last year between Massport, Roseland and the Navy Yard Hospitality Group(NYHG), which owns the Reel House in Eastie on New Street.

“Roseland and Massport have been trying to activate the southwest corridor area around Pier I,” said Guerriero.

Massport and Roseland

were approached by the NYHG with the idea of docking a 242 ft. steel hull Tall Ship at Pier I to create a unique dining experience for Eastie residents.

“The NYHG would operate a restaurant and bar on the Tall Ship as well as create and manage a large patio area on the pier,” said Guerriero. “The hope to operate between 11 a.m. and 11 p.m. and while the ship would include food and drinks the patio would include pop-up shops that sell goods like souvenirs.”

The patio on the dock could also include food trucks, activity spaces, special event spaces, and seasonal activities.

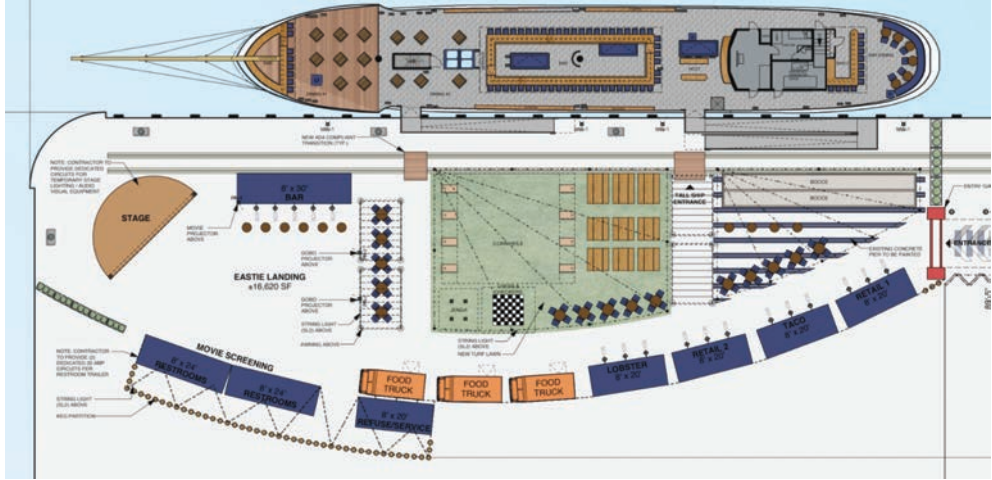
“They are looking for a

license to dock there for two years with the hopes that if everything goes well they can remain as Roseland finishes the Portside at Pier I project,” said Guerriero. “NYHG wants to not only gear this proposal to adults but to children and families as well with seasonal activities like a pumpkin patch in the fall or movie nights in the summer.”

Like the Reel House, the NYHG would provide free water shuttle services between the proposed restaurant and the other two NYHG restaurants in Eastie and Charlestown.

“They started the permitting process already and hope to be up and running by July 1,” said Guerriero.

This is not the first time someone has proposed a floating restaurant in Eastie. Eight years ago Boston Harbor Cruises’ Principal Owner Rick Nolan wanted to anchor a floating restaurant off Eastie’s shores. However, after community support Nolan delayed the idea before finally abandoning it all together.



An architectural drawing of the proposed Eastie Landing floating restaurant concept by the Navy Yard Hospitality Group.

Flag // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“We identified the need for this seven years ago as a way to say to the world what we stand for in East Boston,” said Hewitt. “Our goal and mission is to be here and offer comfort and support for our friends and family in the LGBTQ community.”

Councilor Edwards said she was honored to again take part in the celebration, especially with a nationwide movement calling for more racial justice in the country.

“We have built upon each other and built each other up,” said Edwards of the cross collaboration between LGBTQ and African American activism over the years. “In this time of healing we have for racial issues so much of dignity and so much of our rights are interconnected.”

Espinoza said this time of year is something that he and the LGBT community looks forward to but he wasn’t in a mood to celebrate.

Espinoza mentioned several African-American gay or transgender people that have been murdered in the U.S. this year.

“I don’t feel like celebrating because we have work to do in this community,” said Espinoza. “We can’t simply exist in this community and not want to fight for every single person in this LGBTQ community. I charge you all watching to fight, to speak out, to act and to influence change. If we don’t do it together it

won’t happen.”

The event included a video montage where Madaro, Boncore and Walsh also wished Eastie’s gay community a happy Pride Month.

The flag raising and display in Piers Park, aligned with Boston’s Pride Week, provides an opportunity for East Boston’s LGBTQ community, family friends and allies to celebrate LGBTQ Pride in their hometown.

“During these difficult times we felt it was espe-

cially important to pause, recognize and celebrate the Authority’s LGBTQ employees,” said Turner. “Throughout the month of June the rainbow flag will fly at Piers Park, Logan International Airport, Worcester Regional Airport, Hanscom Field, our other maritime assets and the Logan Office Center as our way of expressing our support for our LGBTQ colleagues, partners, and customers as we collectively continue our journey towards dignity and respect.”



Event organizers Celeste Hewitt and Josue Espinoza (crouching) joined by Massport’s Kenn Turner, Rep. Adrian Madaro, City Councilor Lydia Edwards at Piers Park after hoisting the LGBTQ Pride Flag at Piers Park. The entire event was broadcast through ZOOM.

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