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Wednesday, August 19, 2020

BPDA to hold two more Suffolk Downs meetings

By John Lynds

The Boston Planning and Development Agency's (BPDA) Molly McGlynn is reminding East Boston residents there are still two more opportunities to participate in a virtual community meeting regarding the Suffolk Downs proposal.

McGlynn added that residents still have time to weigh in on the project through the Public Comment Period.

"The meetings will include Spanish and Arabic translation, and are posted to our website here: www.bostonplans.org/projects/development-projects/suffolk-downs," said McGlynn. "As part of these meetings, the agency will be seeking additional community input on the project through August 21."

The remaining virtual BPDA meetings are scheduled for Thursday, August 20 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. and Tuesday, August 25 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

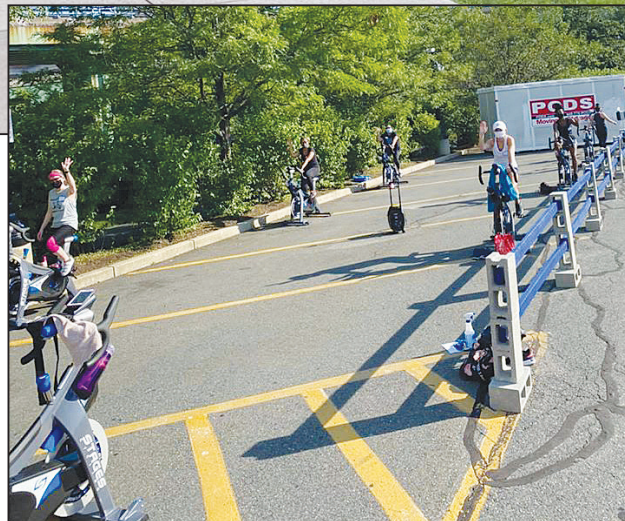
McGlynn added the virtual meetings are being held to facilitate additional outreach to Spanish- and Arabic-speaking residents, as part of the BPDA's review of the project. At each meeting, there will be a presentation by the proponent that will provide an overview of the project, anticipated impacts, and proposed mitigation.

Following the presentation, members of the public

See SUFFOLK Page 8



Above Eastie's Y's Outdoor Zumba Class.



Left, the Eastie Y's Outdoor stationary bicycle Class.

East Boston Y reopens Health and Wellness Center

By John Lynds

The East Boston YMCA on Bremen Street has been busy all through the COVID-19 pandemic as a neighborhood food distribution site for families and a free emergency day care provider for essential workers.

As the state's phased COVID reopening plan began earlier this summer things at the Eastie Y have been slowly returning back

to normal with some restrictions.

As summer programs began, the Eastie Y provided summer day care for youth with limited capacity and strictly enforced rules and regulations.

Recently another part of the Eastie Y's operations made a comeback.

The East Boston YMCA reopened its fitness portion of their operation to members at a reduced capacity.

"If this pandemic has

shown us anything, it is that East Boston is a strong community," said the Eastie Y's Executive Director Joe Gaeta. "It has been 5 months and the community continues to pull together in its time of need. To this date, the Y has served over 250,000 meals, 3,000 produce bags and 6,000 plus hours of emergency child-care for children. The last missing part was the health

See YMCA Page 6

First step

Madaro's Environmental Justice amendment a win for Eastie

By John Lynds

At the end of July, East Boston State Rep. Adrian Madaro rose in House Chambers and introduced an amendment to the state's bill, An Act Creating a 2050 Roadmap to a Clean and Thriving Commonwealth.

After Speaker Robert DeLeo accepted the amendment, Rep. Madaro gave a nearly eight minute impassioned speech about the need for environmental justice not only in his home community of Eastie but throughout the state.

"Our planet is now facing a reckoning for decades of burning fossil fuels, but the burden of these fumes has been borne



Rep. Adrian Madaro while introducing his environmental justice amendment on the House floor.

by Environmental Justice communities from the beginning," said Madaro. "For too long we have let low-income communities

See MADARO Page 2

Three Eastie residents having a unique summer working for Save the Harbor/Save the Bay

By John Lynds

Nothing so far in 2020 has gone according to plan and summer programs in Boston and across the country have been forced to change and adapt due to COVID-19 pandemic.

One such program's in Save the Harbor/Save the Bay's Youth Environmental Education Programs.

While in a normal summer Save the Harbor/Save the Bay's programs serve more than 30,000 youth, teens and families on Boston Harbor, the waterfront, the region's public beaches, and in the Boston Harbor Islands. However, COVID-19 pandemic has forced youth development and community organizations like Save the Harbor/Save the Bay have had to rethink their summer programs to prevent the social spread of the disease.

Save the Harbor summer staffers have rapidly adapted to a new way of learning and teaching. Youth Program Director Kristen Barry said three East Boston students are making the most of this unusual summer, working at Save the Harbor/Save the Bay's Youth Environmental Education.

Instead of helping Save the Harbor share Boston's harbor with busloads and boatloads of young people face-to-face Eastie's Albert Deblas, Claudia Hernandez and Madi Theriault are working to create virtual Boston Harbor programming through YouTube, Facebook, and Instagram, and on Save the Harbor's blog Sea, Sand & Sky.

In order to continue being the Boston Harbor connection for the region's

See HARBOR Page 2

Waterfront Ambassadors having a busy summer

By John Lynds

Four East Boston youths who are working as Waterfront Ambassadors, have been participating all summer in a nature-inspired

art project in the neighborhood.

The Waterfront Ambassadors, a summer youth employment program run by the Trustees Boston Waterfront is a summer team

that consists of 11 Ambassadors.

Among these 11 Ambassadors are the Eastie teens, Sergio, Emily C., Jessica, and Emily D., who have spent the summer docu-

menting some of their favorite places around Eastie.

The teens' photographs have been aimed at capturing some of Eastie's unique and beautiful spaces.

Running through mid-August, the four Eastie youth are collaborating with and learning from a variety of partner organizations doing work across Boston, exposing the teens to a variety of potential career paths.

"Our Waterfront Ambassadors are an engaged group of local high school students, who are finding unique ways to explore and learn about the power of open space planning and

See SUMMER Page 2



Among the 11 Waterfront Ambassadors for the summer of 2020 are the four Eastie teens, Sergio, Emily C., Jessica, and Emily D., who have spent the summer documenting some of their favorite places around Eastie.



Eastie's Albert Deblas, Claudia Hernandez and Madi Theriault are working to create virtual Boston Harbor programming through YouTube, Facebook, and Instagram, and on Save the Harbor's blog Sea, Sand & Sky.



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State announces funding round for Brownfields redevelopment

Staff Report

The Baker-Polito Administration and MassDevelopment have announced a new round of available funding from the Brownfields Redevelopment Fund to support the environmental assessment and cleanup of contaminated and challenging sites across the Commonwealth. Municipalities, municipal agencies or authorities, economic development and industrial corporations, and economic development authorities may apply for up to \$100,000 in site assessment funding or up to \$250,000 in remediation funding.

“Converting contaminated and challenging sites into new, constructive uses like affordable housing and commercial opportunities is critical to our goal of building vibrant communities across the Commonwealth,” said Housing and Economic Development Secretary Mike Kennealy. “Through the Brownfields Redevelopment Fund, we

can remove a major barrier that would otherwise inhibit our progress toward economic recovery.”

“MassDevelopment is pleased to administer the Brownfields Redevelopment Fund, a critical resource for revitalizing challenging properties into new housing units, commercial space, and other productive uses,” said MassDevelopment President and CEO Lauren Liss. “We thank the Baker-Polito Administration and the Legislature for their continued support for this program and encourage cities, towns, and their economic development partners to apply for funding.”

MassDevelopment oversees the Brownfields Redevelopment Fund, which helps to transform vacant, abandoned, or underused industrial or commercial properties by financing the environmental assessment and remediation of brownfield sites in “Economically Distressed Areas” of the Commonwealth. Since the Fund’s inception in 1998, it

has supported 747 projects for a total investment of more than \$108 million.

This competitive round seeks to advance the redevelopment of sites without a committed end-user where market potential has been identified. It will not replace the traditional process of accepting applications on a rolling basis for eligible proposals with an identified developer. The full Request for Proposals is available at massdevelopment.com/brownfields. Responses are due by 5 p.m. on Sept. 18.

MassDevelopment, the state’s finance and development agency, works with businesses, nonprofits, banks, and communities to stimulate economic growth. During FY2019, MassDevelopment financed or managed 316 projects generating investment of more than \$2 billion in the Massachusetts economy. These projects are estimated to create or support 9,743 jobs and build or preserve 1,992 housing units.

EOPSS launches web site to track crime and arrest data from police departments statewide

The Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS) launched a web site that will promote accountability and transparency by allowing users to analyze detailed crime and arrest data from across the Commonwealth.

The grant-funded Massachusetts Crime Statistics site, located at www.mass.gov/crime-statistics, fulfills a requirement under the criminal justice reform bill signed into law by Gov. Charlie Baker, providing options to view annual crime data statewide or by municipality; theme-based reports on hate crimes and other topics; and detailed quarterly arrestee information by city or town. EO-

PSS has pre-populated the site with data from Massachusetts law enforcement agencies that use the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS), which collectively provide policing services to more than 95 percent of the Commonwealth’s cities, towns, schools, and hospitals.

Additional data will become available as more agencies and municipal police departments throughout the Commonwealth adopt the NIBRS system and submit regular reports. Massachusetts State Police are currently in the process of transitioning to NIBRS reporting, and in the interim are making their data available to the public

through an external link on the crime statistics landing page. State Police expect to be fully NIBRS-compatible in December, at which time their data will be directly accessible through the EOPSS site.

“This site leverages information technology to promote transparency and accountability,” said Secretary of Public Safety and Security Thomas Turco. “It will serve as a valuable tool for researchers, municipal leaders, and residents alike.”

The site was funded through a grant from the Bureau of Justice Statistics, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice.

Zumix receives arts grant from city

By John Lynds

While its building might be closed, Zumix, East Boston’s popular music and arts program, continues to serve hundreds of students each week remotely.

However, places like Zumix rely on annual fundraisers, grants and donations but the COVID-19 pandemic has made these efforts more challenging than they ever have been.

Luckily, the Mayor’s Office of Arts and Culture recently announced a new round of Boston Cultural Council (BCC) grants and Zumix was named a recipient of one of the grants.

Zumix and 144 other arts and cultural organizations were awarded art grants offer programming in the City of Boston

“We are very grateful to the Boston Cultural Council (BCC) for continuing

to support our work, especially during this difficult time,” said Zumix Executive Director Madeleine Steczynski. “With their help, we continue to serve over 300 youth virtually, and to provide families with weekly food and grocery deliveries”

Mayor Martin Walsh said these funds support innovative arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences programming with the goal of enhancing the quality of life in the city.

“At a time when statewide losses to arts and cultural institutions exceed \$58 million due to the coronavirus pandemic, it’s vital that we support Boston organizations in every way we can,” said Mayor Walsh. “These organizations are anchors in our neighborhoods and communities, teaching youth, supporting social resilience, and fos-

tering community connections.”

The BCC works with the Mayor’s Office of Arts and Culture to annually distribute funds allocated by the City of Boston and the Mass Cultural Council for local arts and culture programming. BCC members are Boston residents appointed by Mayor Walsh, and serve for up to two consecutive three-year terms. Council members are selected on the basis of their demonstrated commitment to Boston’s cultural community and their knowledge of various arts disciplines.

According to Walsh, this year the Mass Cultural Council contributed \$236,400 and the City contributed \$300,000 for grants.

“It’s important for us to continue to support the sustainability of arts and cultural organizations of all sizes in Boston, as they take the next steps in re-opening and adjusting their programming to allow for safe participation from all residents,” said Kara Elliott-Ortega, Chief of Arts and Culture.

Madaro // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and communities of color bear a disproportionate burden of pollutants and environmental hazards, while excluding them from the decision-making process affecting their neighborhoods. The provisions in this amendment are the first step in a long overdue process to ensure environmental equity and finally recognize environmental justice and Environmental Justice communities into state law.”

According to Madaro’s amendment, which passed the House and is now in conference committee, it once and for all sets criteria of what defines an environmental justice community based on race, income, and language-proficiency criteria. Madaro’s amendment would give community members a much more meaningful role in the decision-making process about

new projects that impact the environment and quality of life for thousands living here.

One key point of Rep. Madaro’s amendment is something called cumulative impact rule. The cumulative impact rule must take into consideration environmental impacts new projects may have when weighted cumulatively with past projects that bear environmental burdens on Eastie and other Environmental Justice Communities.

Madaro pointed to Logan Airport growth and expansion and how many environmental impact statements are weighed apart from past projects that are already causing a burden environmentally.

“The Massachusetts Constitution states that ‘the people shall have the right to clean air and water, freedom from excessive and

unnecessary noise, and the natural, scenic, historic, and esthetic qualities of their environment,’” said Madaro. “Adoption of this amendment brings us one step closer to fulfilling that promise. This amendment defines environmental justice in state law for the first time, strengthens the public process for the siting of environmental burdens, and provides additional protections to impacted communities. East Boston struggles daily with pollution and environmental hazards, and this amendment is an important step toward a cleaner and safer environment. I’m so grateful to be advocating for the First Suffolk district and I am committed to uplifting communities like ours that are disproportionately harmed by environmental burdens.”

Harbor // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

youth and families, Deblas, Hernandez, and Theriault are exploring Boston Harbor’s many beautiful views in small, socially-distant groups, including Charlestown Navy Yard, Castle Island, Malibu Beach, and the Harbor Islands. While there, they film videos, write lesson plans, and create other safe virtual activities for our community partners across the city.

While they’re still fishing, crabbing, and teaching local families about the marine environment like they would during any other summer—they are relying more on technology like video and drones. This is helping Save the Harbor/Save the Bay connect with local kids and families completely virtually while program capacities have been slashed for the summer.

“While this year may be completely different due to the ongoing pandemic, I am nonetheless excited to be part of this wonderful program once again,” says 19-year-old Deblas, who is working as a Junior Program Assistant this year. “Even though the program at Save the Harbor has shifted tremendously because of social distancing, the core values which we will implant this year have not changed.”

Deblas, a rising sophomore at the University of Massachusetts, Boston, is returning to Save the Harbor this summer for his second year.

“I’m a headstrong advocate for high biodiversity and protective practices of fishing, recreational, and economic use within the ocean,” said 28-year-old Hernandez, who is a gradu-

ate student at the University of Portsmouth in the United Kingdom. “I also concern myself with issues of environmental justice in water availability and quality of life.”

Deblas and Hernandez are joined by 17-year-old Theriault. Theriault is a rising senior at East Boston High School joining Save the Harbor for her second summer and is excited to continue to learn more about our Boston waters and the history of the harbor.

“This year’s staffers have exceeded expectations as enthusiastic educators and hard workers,” said Youth Program Director Kristen Barry. “Despite unusual and challenging circumstances, their dedication to share Boston Harbor with the public, this time virtually, has not wavered.”

Summer // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

development around the city,” says Managing Director of the Boston Waterfront Initiative Nick Black. “They are focused on what it means to design with access and equity front-of-mind, and are learning from landscape architects, artists, and community members from around the City.”

In early August teens had the opportunity to speak with East Boston Greenway Coordinator Michelle Moon and landscape architect María de la Luz Lobos Martínez to learn about the benefits—and challenges—of building open, green space in a developed area.

“We focused on the Winthrop extension,” explained Program Manager Sarah Plotkin. “The Ambassadors were then tasked with creating their own surveys for the Greenway and to share them with friends to see what feedback they might get, which they really enjoyed.”

Other guest speakers this week included Jason L. Burrell, a local Boston resident and associate at the law firm Mintz, who spoke with the teens about setting goals, and his career journey; Trustees Director of Coast Tom O’Shea who detailed the organization’s coastal strategy and resilience projects underway; and Trustees Boston Community Gardens Engagement Manager Michelle de Lima, who gave the group a virtual tour of the Nightingale Community Gardens in Dorchester.

“The Ambassadors enjoyed learning about the different plants that were being grown and how community gardens operate,” said Plotkin. “A high point

was getting to talk to one of the local gardeners who was working her plot at the time, and learning about her creative way of using shredded paper to help her plants grow instead of mulch.”

Of the summer Ambassador Emily C. said, “We had the opportunity to do different activities involving going outside and collecting rocks or planning an art project for the public. One of my favorites was the rock painting because it was able to open my mind and expand my creativity from a plain rock into an art piece that people could enjoy.”

Black explained that the program had to sort of reinvent itself as the COVID-19 pandemic continues across the country.

Black said in Summer 2019, the Waterfront Ambassadors worked with key Eastie grassroots and non-profit partners, lending a hand with local cleanups and stewardship projects.

However, the 2020 program, supported for a second summer by TD Bank’s Ready Commitment, has presented new challenges and necessitated converting to a virtual/remote work-learning structure to comply with social distancing measures.

Even with those restrictions, the four Eastie teens are still meeting with and learning from—virtually—a variety of partner organizations including representatives from the Mary Ellen Welch Greenway, Harborkeepers, the Boston Society of Landscape Architects, and other local artists, organizers, and educators.

“Getting outside and into

the community was still a big focus for this year and finding a way to safely step away from the computer screen while social distancing was a challenge, but our Ambassadors have certainly risen to the occasion,” added Black. “Their projects this summer include regular, independent exploration of nearby public gardens and parks, to assess and think about what makes these places welcoming, valued spaces for the communities that surround them. Documenting their findings with photos, the teens are creating a postcard series to share their observations called ‘Greetings from my Boston.’”

This year’s Eastie Ambassadors are also engaging with the Boston Waterfront Initiative team to learn about the Trustees-led project to create a series of resilient, equitable parks around the City’s vulnerable waterfront. To help inform this work as part of a robust community engagement process beginning in the fall, the Ambassadors will gather open space design ideas and input from the community, with a focus on Boston youth.

“The engagement projects are the Ambassadors’ main focus of the summer,” said Black. “The goal is for each of the Ambassadors to explore their own communities with fresh eyes and learn from the many organizations and partners actively engaged with open space planning and community engagement work around our waterfront city.”

The Ambassadors program will wrap up on August 18, after a presentation on their work and findings.

THE EAST BOSTON FOUNDATION



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DEADLINE ANNOUNCEMENT

Grant Application Deadline will be Sept. 14, 2020

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Colombian national pleaded guilty to cocaine trafficking in Eastie

By John Lynds

A Columbian national arrested in East Boston during a drug trafficking sting in 2019 pleaded guilty to drug charges and unlawful re-entry into the U.S. in federal court last week.

Ricardo Lopera-Arteaga, 58, of Columbia, pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to distribute and possession with intent to distribute 500 grams or

more of cocaine; one count of possession with intent to distribute 500 grams or more of cocaine; and one count of unlawful reentry of a deported alien.

U.S. District Court Judge F. Dennis Saylor IV scheduled sentencing for Dec. 10, 2020. Lopera-Arteaga has been in federal custody since his arrest on Oct. 9, 2019 with co-defendant Diego Sanchez, 34, who pleaded guilty to similar charges on May 15, 2020.

According to court documents Sanchez and Lopera-Arteaga conspired together to sell one kilogram of cocaine to a cooperating witness in Eastie in October 2019. Sanchez also engaged in two sales of cocaine to the same cooperating witness on Sept. 10 and 27, 2019 in Eastie.

On Oct. 9, 2019, law enforcement agents observed both men meet and walk together towards a spot arranged for the drug transac-

tion. Agents arrested both men a short time later and seized one kilogram of cocaine from Lopera-Arteaga.

The charges of conspiracy to distribute and possession with intent to distribute more than 500 grams of cocaine provide for a mandatory minimum sentence of five years and up to 40 years in prison, at least four years of supervised release and a fine of up to \$5 million.

The charge of unlawful

reentry of a deported alien carries a sentence of up to 20 years in prison, three years of supervised release and a fine of \$250,000.

Lopera-Arteaga will be subject to deportation upon completion of any sentence imposed. Sentences are imposed by a federal district court judge based upon the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and other statutory factors.

The operation was conducted by a multi-agency task force through the Orga-

nized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF), a partnership between federal, state and local law enforcement agencies. The principal mission of the OCDETF program is to identify, disrupt and dismantle the most serious drug trafficking, weapons trafficking and money laundering organizations, and those primarily responsible for the nation's illegal drug supply.

RMV announces 2020 low plate lottery

Staff Report

The Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) has announced that applications for the 2020 Low Number Plate Lottery are now being accepted online at Mass.Gov/RMV using the Online Service Center. Applicants must apply by September 6 and, if selected for a low number plate, will be notified after the drawing takes place later in September.

This year, there are 100 plates available through the low plate lottery. Some of this year's low plate characters are 751, 7660, 6P, 12K, K5, B35 and V35.

Applicants should note that there is no fee to apply. However, should the applicant be selected as a winner, there is a fee that will be required, as the fee is required of all new license plates, as well as a standard registration fee.

Customers are encouraged to visit the RMV's website or follow @Mass-RMV on Twitter for upcoming details on the drawing, including the date, time,

and location of the event. In addition, applicants will be sent a notification via email. The lottery results will be posted on the RMV website.

Lottery Rules and Eligibility Requirements:

- Only one entry per applicant will be accepted, regardless of the number of active registrations the applicant has.
- An applicant must be a Massachusetts resident with a currently active, registered, and insured passenger vehicle.
- Companies/corporations may not apply.
- MassDOT (Registry of Motor Vehicles, Highway, Mass Transit, and Aeronautics) employees, including contract employees, and their immediate family members are not eligible. ("Immediate family member" refers to one's parents, spouse, children, and brothers & sisters.)
- All information received, including names of all applicants and the list of winners, is subject to release in accordance with the Massachusetts Public Records law.

JPNA members vote on three projects at August meeting

By John Lynds

Members of the Jeffries Point Neighborhood Association (JPNA) voted on three development projects last week during the group's August virtual meeting.

JPNA members voted in favor of the project at 324 Sumner St. but opposed the other two projects at 223 Everett St. and 16-18 Cottage St.

Regarding the proposal at 324 Sumner St., JPNA members voted 26 to 7 in favor of changing the occupancy to a three-unit residential dwelling and adding a vertical addition.

Attorney Richard Lynds said that his client would add one more floor to the existing two-story building and the final height would be slightly lower than the Vine & Barley Building next door.

Lynds added that architect Derek Rubinoff is trying to mimic what was done across the street to the 303 Sumner St. building a few years ago, i.e., contempor-



Architect Derek Rubinoff discusses the project on Sumner Street at JPNA's August meeting.

rary materials over a brick storefront.

The next project at 223 Everett St. the group voted 21 to 13 in opposition to add a new rear addition to existing 3-family along with a new rear deck.

Property Owner/Developer Paul Hardiman was told by several abutters that they oppose the extension and modifications to the building because it would obstruct views from 221

Everett St.

The final project at 16-18 Cottage St. was voted down by members by a vote of 29 to 7.

There, owner Norberto Perez, represented by Attorney Jeff Drago, pitched a proposed addition to the rear of both properties as well as adding a fourth story and roof decks to both addresses for a total of six units.

JPNA members expressed objections to the

proposed height and the JPNA Board received a letter stating that the proposed project is out of character with the neighborhood with respect to height and floor area ratio.

While one of the units would be occupied by Perez, a former Boston police Officer, some asked why it was necessary to increase the size of the current footprint of the buildings.

Perez said he wants to increase his living space.

MassDOT develops new mobility dashboard

Staff Report

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) is announcing the release of the new MassDOT Mobility Dashboard. This dashboard is another resource for members of the public to visualize, analyze, and monitor data collected by MassDOT to better understand the effects of COVID-19 on the Commonwealth's transportation network.

MassDOT is continually monitoring the impacts of COVID-19 on roadways, transit services, and Registry transactions. The dashboard is an interactive roundup of key indicators that primarily reflect how much people are traveling, how they are getting around, and where they are going throughout the Commonwealth. This data is updated weekly, with the date of the last update displayed prominently at the top of

the page.

"This dashboard is just one of the ways that MassDOT is compiling and monitoring transportation data," said MassDOT Secretary and CEO Stephanie Pollack. "Having one central location to access and analyze the impacts of COVID-19 increases public accessibility."

While MassDOT is not the only state transportation agency in the U.S. that has developed COVID-19 re-

lated mobility dashboards (see Vermont, Utah, Washington State), the MassDOT Mobility Dashboard succinctly organizes a variety of multimodal data about movement in the Commonwealth that covers a wide range of topics all in one place. Topics include traffic volumes, transit revenue, safety and more. The dashboard is a valuable resource for all stakeholders and enthusiasts of Massachusetts' transportation network.

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Time: 6:00-7:30pm

Location: Peace Park (the park across from the Holy Redeemer Church)
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Virtual Public Meetings

Suffolk Downs

How to Participate

Each meeting will be hosted online, using Zoom. You must register for each meeting through the links provided below, then you will receive a confirmation email with instructions for joining the meeting. You will also receive an email before the meeting regarding technical assistance. The meeting will open about 20 minutes before the start time for each meeting for you to join and troubleshoot any technical issues, including respecting simultaneous translation services. If you're calling in by phone, you'll need to download the Zoom application to see the presentation and access language interpretation.

Thursday, August 20
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
<https://bit.ly/2WXzD1R>

Call-in Options:
US: +1 669-254-5252 or +1 646-828-7666 or 833-568-8864 (Toll Free)

Webinar ID: 161 409 0862

Tuesday, August 25
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
<https://bit.ly/3eYCBtm>

Call-in Options:
US: +1 669 254 5252 or +1 646-828-7666 or 833 568 8864 (Toll Free)

Webinar ID: 160 286 0002

Project Description:

The BPDA will hold two (2) additional virtual meetings on Thursday, August 20, 2020, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm, and Tuesday, August 25, 2020, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm on the Suffolk Downs development project consisting of the Boston portion of the planned redevelopment of the Suffolk Downs horse racing facility located at 525 McClellan Highway in East Boston. Project proponent The McClellan Highway Development Company, LLC, an affiliate of The HYM Investment Group, proposes approximately 10.5 million square feet of development on the approximately 109 acres of the Suffolk Downs site in the City of Boston. The multi-phased proposal for the Boston portion of the site will include the development of a new mixed-use neighborhood, an approximately 27-acre publicly accessible open space system in Boston (with approximately 13 additional acres planned for the Revere portion of the site), and a new retail square at the Suffolk Downs MBTA station (an additional retail square is planned in Revere, at the Beachmont station).

The virtual meetings are being held to facilitate additional outreach to Spanish- and Arabic-speaking residents, as part of the BPDA's review of the project. At each meeting, there will be a presentation by the proponent that will provide an overview of the project, anticipated impacts, and proposed mitigation. Following the presentation, members of the public will be given an opportunity to ask questions and provide comments and feedback. Simultaneous translation services will be provided through the Zoom platform. Suffolk Downs project documents have been translated into Spanish and Arabic, and these are available to the public on the BPDA's and project proponent's websites. The BPDA's project-specific website is at <http://www.bostonplans.org/projects/development-projects/suffolk-downs>

Printed information about the Suffolk Downs project is available by mail upon request.

mail to: **Raul Duverge**
Boston Planning & Development Agency
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201

phone: 617.918.4492
email: raul.duverge@boston.gov

Public Comments:

Public comments may be submitted, including in Spanish and Arabic, via the BPDA's project website located here: <http://www.bostonplans.org/projects/development-projects/suffolk-downs> via email to Raul.Duverge@Boston.gov, or through the mail to Raul Duverge, Senior Project Manager, BPDA, One City Hall Square, Boston, MA 02201

Teresa Polhemus,
Executive Director/Secretary

BostonPlans.org | [@BostonPlans](https://twitter.com/BostonPlans)

East Boston

Times-Free Press

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Forum

GUEST OP-ED

DA Rachael Rollins statement on bail and the bail fund

By DA Rachael Rollins

(The following statement is in regard to the release of a convicted sex offender and rapist in Dorchester through the efforts of the Massachusetts Bail Fund in July. The DA's office has brought charges against the man for allegedly raping and kidnapping another woman shortly after being bailed by the Massachusetts Bail Fund.)

To the Editor,

Each one of the over 25,000 cases we handle a year is unique and the Office examines many factors in determining how best to proceed in each case. The decision to request bail or move for dangerousness is one of many that requires a careful consideration of what best serves the victim.

And to be clear, the alleged rapist isn't the victim in the case. The person raped is.

Dangerousness under s. 58A requires an evidentiary hearing. There are important victim-centered reasons for not requesting such a hearing and instead requesting bail. Further, the dangerousness statute only allows defendants to be held without bail for a limited period of time, after which they are eligible for release on bail, and only permits prosecutors to request a dangerousness hearing during an arraignment.

What I find interesting about the Bail Fund's recent behavior of posting higher bails for violent serious crimes - like the alleged rape recently committed by a convicted sex offender and rapist - is that any incentive

for good behavior by the alleged offender is removed. When a family member or friend posts bail, there is an added pressure on the defendant. Any violation, whether a new offense or not showing up in court, could result in that family member or friend losing their money that was posted for bail. That's how the bail statute works. The Bail Fund isn't a friend or family member of the accused. There is no discussion on the ride home of 'what the hell are you doing?' or 'what in the world have you done?' There is no pressure applied to the accused by the Bail Fund. Rather, their mantra is 'Free Them All.'

If this office made a decision to request bail and not a dangerousness hearing to spare the victim of a

rape any additional trauma, I can absolutely live with that decision. But bailing out a convicted sex offender and rapist, and then going home, is the act of a coward. So is not making a statement after you make a decision like that. The Bail Fund bailed out Shawn McClinton and he is now accused of raping someone else, in Boston. I would have so much more respect for the Bail Fund if they had bailed him out and then let him stay in one of their homes. Because that's what family members and friends usually do when they bail a loved one out. Not bail them out, set them loose on a community they don't live in, and drive back to the safety of their homes.

Rachael Rollins is the Suffolk County District Attorney.

GUEST OP-ED

School reopening plans

By Thomas Scott and Robert N. Baldwin, Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents (MASS)

Across the Commonwealth, school districts are beginning to announce their plans for the start of the 2020-2021 school year. Some communities are choosing not to reopen school buildings, opting instead for full distance learning for all students. Other communities are moving forward with a "hybrid" model, in which some groups of students alternate between in-person learning and distance learning, in order to ensure physical distancing in schools.

Neither of these approaches is being met with universal acclaim. Superintendents and School Committees find themselves caught between the impassioned viewpoints of two opposing camps. They are hearing from parents who advocate for at least some return to in-person schooling, in part because of fears about the long-term effects of students being out of school, without the supports and interactions they need to thrive. They're also hearing from constituents, including many teachers' union leaders, who insist that school buildings should remain closed altogether to protect students and staff and to prevent the spread of the virus.

Many of the 275 members of the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents (MASS) were

eager and hopeful to have their School Committee approve a hybrid model. Especially in communities where the COVID-19 infection rate is low, many superintendents are confident that schools can make the necessary adjustments to resume in-person instruction while protecting the health and safety of students and staff. These district leaders have worked diligently with local task forces throughout the spring and summer to craft reopening plans that adhere to state guidelines and "follow the science." While so many other states across the country cannot even consider reopening schools as the infection rate continues to soar, Massachusetts is in a very different position. Many Superintendents believe that the health and safety measures they will put in place - especially the redesign of schools to ensure physical distancing, along with requirements for face covering, hand-washing, symptom screening, and rigorous cleaning and sanitizing protocols - create the conditions to begin reopening schools incrementally and responsibly.

Despite these precautions, some communities ultimately will decide, as some already have, that even a partial reopening is not worth the risk, and begin the year with all students learning from home. In those communities, Superintendents will work with teachers' unions to design

and implement distance learning plans that reflect lessons learned last spring about what worked well and what needs improvement. Districts will have to find creative ways for students and families to "meet" their new teachers, even if not in person, to establish relationships at the start of the school year. Districts operating fully remote models also will have to devise strategies to serve students with the greatest needs, particularly students with disabilities, English learners, children living in poverty, and others who were not fully engaged in distance learning from March to June. Challenging questions remain about how schools can provide additional services remotely to address students' social-emotional needs, especially their mental and physical health.

There is no shortage of opinions about what is the "right" way to approach the new school year. A quick scroll through any social media feed highlights the vast divide on this issue, with proponents from both sides growing increasingly fervent every day. While superintendents have urged State officials to provide more clear direction for school opening, unless State officials change their position in the days ahead, these decisions are left solely in the hands of the superintendents and school committees. Therefore, each Superintendent has a weighty

responsibility to cut through the noise, examine the facts, weigh the pros and cons, and recommend a plan that best protects and educates the students in their community. Ultimately, each proposal must be approved by the School Committee, but even their decision is not final unless the terms are negotiated with the local teachers' union. All of this occurs while the public health situation - and the response to it - remains a moving target.

Whatever the outcome in each community, the new school year can begin successfully only if everyone involved commits to working together for the benefit of students. In the remaining weeks before students resume learning, we have a critical opportunity for parents, educators, union leaders, and community partners - regardless of the model they each wanted to see adopted - to move forward with a shared sense of purpose. We are living in imperfect times, to say the least, so while no plan can achieve a "perfect" result, let's all strive to be creative, open-minded, resilient, and unequivocally determined to get our students back to learning.

Thomas Scott, Ed.D. is Executive Director of the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents (MASS). Robert N. Baldwin, Ed.D. is President of MASS and Superintendent of the Fairhaven Public Schools.

NEW STIMULUS BILL IS DESPERATELY NEEDED

As we all have learned by now, the so-called Executive Order (if any of it is even legal) recently issued by President Donald Trump two weeks ago amounts to all talk and no action.

It does not stop any evictions of tenants anywhere in the country.

The extra \$400 per week of unemployment benefits (on top of whatever an unemployed person may be receiving from the usual unemployment stipend) is subject to each state kicking in \$100 of the \$400. Given that every state already is facing huge budget deficits because of the pandemic, the Executive Order amounts to what in the private sector is referred-to as a poison pill.

As for the temporary elimination of the Social Security tax -- which is only paid by employed persons -- that sum will have to be repaid in the future by each taxpayer and business. So what good is that?

The moratorium on interest on student loans may be able to go into effect, but the Executive Order extends that benefit only to September 30.

The House passed an extended relief bill in May that included funds for states and municipalities, as well as maintaining the additional unemployment benefits of \$600 that were included in the first pandemic legislation.

The Senate refused to take up the House bill until the deadline approached -- and then asserted that the House was unwilling to compromise.

With an average of 1000 Americans dying daily from the coronavirus and the economy still in a shambles, the country cannot afford political gamesmanship. Action is needed -- and fast.

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LETTER to the Editor

End. Every part of my district is vulnerable to climate change. East Boston, where I live, is especially in need of a fighter in the Senate.

East Boston's history is one of new beginnings, environmental activism, and working class families.

We were only second to Ellis Island in the amount of immigrants we received. We have taught our children that the only way to fight against corporate greed and environmental injustice is through organizing and we have always been a community for

families and hard working people. Ed Markey understands that history and shares those values.

Today, we face one of the biggest battles against corporate greed that is trying to expand fossil fuel infrastructure. Ed Markey not only opposes the substation but knows that opposition isn't enough. He has a plan to build a better infrastructure, one that creates jobs, is supported by science and meets our needs as a community. We need him in the Senate to fight for the Green New Deal!

The pandemic has

brought to light another long-standing inequity facing my district: internet access. With BPS families needing the most flexible, accessible, and equitable infrastructure I find Ed Markey's leadership to ensure low income families have access to the internet to be another demonstration of his vision, heart, and dedication to building a more equitable world.

I am proud to support Ed Markey and hope you'll join me in voting for him!

**Boston City Councilor
Lydia Edwards**



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BHCC receives grant

Staff Report

With a generous \$250,000 investment from JPMorgan Chase, Bunker Hill Community College (BHCC) launched the Career Pathways Impact Project (CPIP) this past year.

CPIP seeks to equip traditionally underserved students with the tangible skills required to navigate the labor market, workplace culture, and develop a better understanding of career pathways.

“JPMorgan Chase recognizes that too many people are left out of the opportunities to understand how the world of work is structured, or unsure for how maximize their potential in it,” said Abby Marquand, Program Officer, JPMorgan Chase. “Bunker Hill Community College is helping to solve this problem by driving equity in opportunity, and positioning students, through the CPIP, to become more agile and opportunistic for how to approach specific jobs and future careers. We excited to be joined by the team from Harvard in supporting this important work.”

The newly developed Ethnographies of Work (EoW) curriculum is being integrated into a pilot of courses at BHCC with a goal of offering an ethnographic and sociological approach to career development. These skills will be even more important to prepare BHCC students to

be competitive during the pandemic-induced downturn.

“We are so grateful to JPMorgan Chase for their support,” said BHCC President Pam Eddinger. “The Ethnographies of Work framework advances the social mobility and equity for our students.”

With support from the Harvard Project on Workforce, three graduate fellows from Harvard’s business and policy programs worked at BHCC this summer to accelerate the career pathways agenda. The Harvard team focused on the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on students’ career planning and post-graduation job opportunities, and how this might shift the college’s career preparedness strategies. Working with BHCC’s CPIP Career Navigator, Denise Mytko, the fellows collated findings from interviews with students, faculty, staff and employers to help guide BHCC’s future career offerings, including tools that facilitate career planning in a remote service delivery model. This work will guide the CPIP program to provide integrated career guidance to more BHCC students and additional BHCC programs.

Ethnographies of Work originated at Guttman Community College (CUNY) as a year-long social science course and adapted for community colleges and high schools.



Member Nelson Ortez works out on one of the Eastie Y’s pull machines.



Eastie Y member Crystal Hines works out with weights.

YMCA // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and wellness portion of the Y’s mission.”

Under Governor Baker’s phased plan, gyms were allowed to reopen in Phase 3 starting July 13.

Gaeta said the Eastie Y took its time to make sure all areas of safety were met before opening their doors.

“Our gym is very safe,” said Gaeta. “The Y has taken measures that either meet or exceed the guidelines issued by the State. Each machine is spaced 14 feet apart and all group exercise classes are held outside. We have a brand new reservation system where members secure space for 45 minutes and are in their own areas while working

out, this allows for targeted cleaning of the equipment after each usage every hour on the hour.”

Extra sanitation stations, advanced chemicals and shields are part of the Eastie Y’s plan to keep members safe while on their fitness journey.

Gaeta said members who have returned have been very receptive to the new guidelines and excited about the new levels or precautions that the Y has labeled “Safe for you, Safe for us.” For each entry, members must take a virtual pre-screen before arrival and temperature check to enter the facility, and masks are to be worn throughout

their visit.

“Just because the gym side is open does not mean the Y has stopped its other areas of focus,” said Gaeta. “The gym side opens at 1pm for members so that the Y can still be a beacon of food service for the community. We are still giving out grab and go meals and pantry bags at our Bremen Street and Ashley Street locations.”

Gaeta said grab and go service is Monday through Friday 8 a.m.-12 p.m. at Bremen Street and 10am-2pm at Ashley Street. The Y is also still running its childcare center and summer camp at reduced capacities in line with the Depart-

ment of Public Health.

“We have been very, very busy here at the Y, but we can see the difference we are making in East Boston,” said Gaeta. “All of this work cannot be done without the generous support of members who opted to keep their memberships drafting while our gym and programs were on hold, their continued support is what keeps us serving the community.”

Donations can still be made to the YMCA to help with their community efforts. Please contact Joe Gaeta at 617-418-8320 or jgaeta@ymcaboston.org for more information.



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Popular East Boston dentist Dr. Robert Gilbride has been a mainstay in the East Boston Little League organization for several years. Dr. Gilbride, a coach of the Senior Division Blue Jays and EBLL treasurer, is pictured with his son, Robert, a key player for the Blue Jays, and his daughter, Serena Gilbride, an outstanding softball pitcher who led Austin Prep to the 2019 state championship. Serena is beginning her sophomore year at Boston University.



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The East Boston Athletic Board generously donated 25 new batting helmets to the East Boston Little League. Pictured at the presentation ceremony at Noyes Park, are from left, Joe Weddleton, Matt Crystal, Dr. Robert Gilbride, EBLL President Chuckie Cassaro, Lenny Cambria, Ralph Dinicolantonio, EBAB President Damien Magardo, and Jim Kearney.

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Sports

East Boston Expos continue winning streak with 8-1 victory over Brighton Black Sox



Philip Gaines celebrates with his teammates after clouting a grand slam home run to blow open the game and power East Boston's 8-1 win over Brighton in the opening game of the semi-final round of Yawkey Baseball League play.



Pitcher David Kerns held the Black Sox scoreless as only an unearned run prevented the shutout.

The unbeaten East Boston Expos began their quest for a Yawkey Baseball League title Tuesday night with a convincing 8-1 win over the Brighton Black Sox at East Boston Stadium. The Expos were powered by a five-run fourth inning that featured a grand slam homerun by center-fielder Philip Gaines and a solo homer by catcher Derek Adamson.

Mike Oliveira also walloped a two-run homer for the Expos. David Kerns held the Black Sox scoreless after surrendering an unearned run in the second-inning.

The Expos raced through the YBL's shortened 14-game season unscathed and drew a bye in the first round of the tournament. Brighton had advanced to the semi finals with after taking the best-of-three series from The BASE team over the weekend. The series continues with games Wednesday in East Bos-

ton, Thursday and Friday at Rogers Park, and Saturday at Alumni Field if necessary. Meanwhile, the

second-place Charlestown Townies (10-3-1) are facing the Stoneham Sabers in the other semi-final round.



Second baseman Michael Oliveira makes a throw as the Expos turn a double play.



Third baseman Matt Costanza chases down a Brighton runner after fielding a ground ball.

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Suffolk // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

will be given an opportunity to ask questions and provide comments and feedback. Simultaneous translation services will be provided through the Zoom platform. Suffolk Downs project documents have been translated into Spanish and Arabic, and these are available to the public on the BPDA’s and project proponent’s websites.

With the BPDA poised to approve the 161-acre Suffolk Downs mixed-use project the community process came under some criticism that resulted in a civil rights complaint by the Lawyers for Civil Rights (LCR). LCR filed the civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) back in February.

The complaint charges that the BPDA has violated federal civil rights law by failing to make the Suffolk Downs review process accessible to non-English speakers.

According to the complaint filed on behalf of GreenRoots, Inc. and City Life/Vida Urbana, LCR is asking HUD to halt the project until the BPDA comes into full compliance with federal laws, and urge the City of Boston to voluntarily conduct an independent language access audit of all city agencies.

“We are not anti-development. We are pro-growth—smart and equitable growth,” said Iván Espinoza-Madrigal, Executive Director of Lawyers for Civil Rights. “The BPDA

was well aware that a significant percentage of East Boston residents speak primarily Spanish or Arabic. By failing to hire interpreters versed in the language of planning or zoning, or to translate key documents, the BPDA is effectively excluding immigrant residents of East Boston from the development process. Under well-settled federal law, this exclusion constitutes national origin discrimination.”

If approved, the project will create an entirely new neighborhood in the heart of Eastie, a historically working-class community with a significant non-English speaking population.

McGlynn said each meeting will be hosted online, using Zoom.

“You must register for each meeting through the links provided below, then you will receive a confirmation email with instructions for joining the meeting,” she said. “You will also receive an email before the meeting regarding technical assistance. The meeting will open about 20 minutes before the start time for each meeting for you to join and troubleshoot any technical issues, including respecting simultaneous translation services. If you’re calling in by phone, you’ll need to download the Zoom application to see the presentation and access language interpretation.”

The registration links to the remaining meetings are:

- Thursday, August 20 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Virtual Public Meeting Register at:

www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN___naaekh-TpSUJKEKsYu5Dg

Call-in Options (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 669-254-5252 or +1 646-828-7666 or 833-568-8864 (Toll Free)

Webinar ID: 161 409 0862

International numbers available: www.zoomgov.com/u/acd1SnBXZk

- Tuesday, August 25 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Virtual Public Meeting Register at:

www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_f8aIx-ORdQCaW3WmOWvMRIQ

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er quality, dial a number based on your current location):

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International numbers available: www.zoomgov.com/u/adXVG3tGDX

Public comments may be submitted, including in Spanish and Arabic, via the BPDA’s project website located at www.bostonplans.org/projects/development-projects/suffolk-downs, via email to Raul.Duverge@Boston.gov, or through the mail to Raul Duverge, Senior Project Manager, BPDA, One City Hall Square, Boston, MA 02201.

Francine D’Andrea

Past President Women’s Lodge Sons of Italy, longtime member of Bay State Freedoms Foundation and Italian Business Women’s Club

Francine M. (Ruggiero) D’Andrea of Orient Heights, East Boston passed away peacefully surrounded by her loving family.

Francine was a Past President of the Women’s Lodge of the Sons of Italy, long-time member of the Bay State Freedoms Foundation and Italian Business Women’s Club. She was a Paralegal for over 33 years.

The loving daughter of the late Carmine and Josephine (DeSantis) Ruggiero, she was the devoted and beloved mother of Carmine “Chuck” D’Andrea and his wife, Jeanne of Reading, adored grandmother of Nicole D’Andrea of Reading, sister of Lois Bartolomeau of East Boston and Virginia Skoczylas of Winthrop and is also survived by her nephews.

Family and friends honored Francine’s life by gathering on Tuesday, Au-



gust 18 at St. Joseph - St. Lazarus Church, East Boston for an 11 a.m. Funeral Mass. Services concluded with Francine being laid to rest privately at Holy Cross Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, 262 Danny Thomas Place, Memphis, TN 38105. For more information, please visit www.ruggieromh.com or call 617-569-0990.

Marjorie Domenica Magrath

Matriarch of a large, geographically divided yet emotionally connected Magrath family

Marjorie Domenica “Dama” (DiMento) Magrath, formerly of Brighton and Everett, passed away at her East Boston home of 65 years on August 13. She was in her 96th year.

The beloved wife of the late Frederick J. Magrath Jr., she was born in Brighton in 1925. She graduated from Mount St. Joseph Academy in 1943 and Regis College in 1947 and was a magna cum laude from the New England Institute of Applied Arts and Sciences in 1988 with a degree in funeral directing after the death of her husband.

She was the mother of Dayle Magrath Vecchione of East Boston and her husband, Richard, Dayna Magrath Cummings of Barrington, NH and her late husband, Herbert, Mark F. Magrath of Sanford, ME and his wife, Susan and the late Frederick J. Magrath III and Brian F. Magrath and his surviving, wife Theresa; grandmother of Jacquelyn Renzulli and her husband, Frank, Marisa Cummings and her husband, Rosh Dhingra, Lauren Cummings Studenmund and her husband, Kyle, Erica Magrath, Patty and Kenna Magrath; great-grandmother of Vincenzo, Nico, Francesca and Gino Renzulli, Jake Dhingra, Ethan, Logan and Declan Studenmund; daughter of the late Annette (Roccia) and Frank S. DiMento. She is also survived by her brother Ronald DiMento and his wife, Rosalie of Florida.

The matriarch of a large, geographically divided yet emotionally connected family, she lived life’s greatest struggles, managing to strive past them and lead her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren with strength, confidence, and unfiltered opinions.

She split her time between her East Boston home and her granddaughter’s home in Los Angeles,



California allowing her to enjoy the summer and fall in the east while avoiding the wretched winter, blissfully taking in the west coast sun alongside many friends, her granddaughter, great-grandchildren and her beloved dogs. She structured her life this way to not only escape the cold but to be a part of the lives of her most treasured creations, not her children, but her grand and great-grandchildren. Each of her grandchildren and great-grandchildren share distinct and lasting memories of her thanks to her uniquely “Dama” qualities. The bond created between her and the younger generations was forged after she overcame some of the worst things a mother could go through and, instead of becoming a wrinkled, angry recluse, she instead traveled the world, made friends across the globe and lived her years always surrounded by her family. She was a long-time fan of the Boston Bruins and enjoyed watching football, golf and figure skating. However, we all know that her favorite channel was the Game Show network.

Funeral Services were held on Monday, August 17. She was buried in the family lot in Holy Cross Cemetery, Malden. In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory to the Italian Home for Children would be appreciated. Please send messages of condolence to the family on the funeral home’s Tribute Page, MagrathFuneral-Home.com.

Gerald Alviti Sr.

Of Revere, formerly of Orient Heights East Boston

Gerald “Gerry” Alviti Sr., 62, of Revere, formerly of Orient Heights East Boston, passed away on July 28.

He was the cherished son of Marceline (Zizza) Alviti and the late Americo John “Tootsie” Alviti; loving father of Anissa Fusco and her husband, Paul and Gerald Alviti Jr., all of Revere and Vincent Alviti and his wife, Nicole of Cambridge; brother of Steven Alviti and his wife, Susan of Chelmsford and Gina Maggio and her husband, Paul of Revere and the adored grandfather of Gianna Alviti, Adrianna Fusco and the late Vincent Alviti Jr.



A Memorial Mass will be celebrated in Gerry’s honor at St. Joseph- St. Lazarus Church, 59 Ashley St., East Boston on Saturday, August 22 at 11 a.m.

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Michael Francis Giarla

His family was his greatest accomplishment



Michael Francis Giarla of Revere, formerly of Boston’s North End,

passed away surrounded by his loving family on August 13 at the age of 96.

Michael proudly served his country in the US Navy as a motor machinist II in WWII and received the World War II Victory Medal, American Area Ribbon, Asiatic Pacific Ribbon 2 Stars, and the Good Conduct Medal. He survived an explosion in the South Pacific on PT boat 110. Mike was a life member of the Plumbers Local 12 and has been a member since October 27, 1952.

He was an avid gardener who enjoyed searching for wild mushrooms and canning his own tomatoes every summer. A proud moment for Mike was when he appeared in the movie “they were expendable” and personally drove General MacArthur as well as John Wayne and his date on the PT boat during filming. His greatest accomplishments were his family. He especially loved them and was proud to be called papa.

Born in Boston on December 2, 1923 to the late Michael and Consiglia (Melillo), he was married for 49 years to his late wife Columbina (DiMaina) and was the devoted father of Celia Diakogeorgiou and her fiancé, Robert Stegmair of Peabody, Michael J. Giarla and his wife, Joanne, Christopher Giarla and his wife, Denise, John Giarla and Robert Giarla and his wife, Karen, all of Revere and the late Richard Giarla; dear brother of Adeline Ameno and her husband, Gennaro of Boston’s North



End and the late Fannie Giarle, Lucy Giarle, Mary Totorici, and Louis Giarla. He was the cherished grandfather of Sevi Mulcahy and her husband, Steve, Julianne Erazo and her husband, Hugo, Jennifer Giarla and her husband, Michael Salsgiver, Selina Giaquinto and her husband, Chris, Christopher Giarla, Joseph Giarla and his fiancé, Nicole Lauro, Michael Giarla, Robert Giarla Jr. and his wife, Jill, Tiffany Bohlen and her husband, Brad, Tina Marie Baptista and her husband, Gabe, Janine Giarla and her wife, Katelyn and Richard Giarla Jr. and the adored great grandfather of Brian, Mila, Michael, Jordyn, JoJo, Jayden, Brianna, Vincent, Richie, Charla, Dominic, Madison, Isabella, Aria, and Olivia. He is also survived by many loving nieces, nephews and his best friend, Kei Ikeda who visited him daily and now lives in Japan.

Due to the current spike in Covid-19, the guidelines issued by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Archdiocese of Boston and local officials, funeral services will be privately held for the immediate family. Interment in Holy Cross Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to D.A.V. Room 546 State House, Boston, MA 02133. For guest book please visit www.buonfiglio.com



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Boston Ward 1 Democratic Committee endorses Markey for United States Senate

Boston Ward 1 Democratic Committee, covering East Boston, voted to endorse Senator Ed Markey for re-election to the United States Senate. The endorsement comes in the final three weeks of voting in the U.S. Senate Primary.

“East Boston is a working-class community on the front lines of multiple crises, particularly environmental and immigrant justice, where Ed Markey has been a champion for decades. I think that was reflected in the votes of our members, who were elected by overwhelming majorities of East Boston voters earlier this year,” said representatives from the Ward 1 Democratic Committee.

“I am energized and honored by this endorsement from Boston’s Ward 1 Democratic Committee,”

said Senator Ed Markey. “Together we can pass big, bold, progressive legislation that addresses the challenges front line communities are facing, here in East Boston and across the Commonwealth. Whether that’s free and improved transportation access, increased investment in affordable housing, or passing a Green New Deal, the working people of Massachusetts deserve a senator who understands their struggles and will fight to end them.”

The announcement adds to several recent local endorsements, including Boston Ward 4 and 5 Democratic Committees. With fewer than three weeks until primary voting ends, Markey’s momentum continues to grow.

Ed 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, racial justice, and consumer protection issues. He founded the Congressional Alzheimer’s Task Force and authored the National Alzheimer’s Project Act, which mandates that the federal government put in place a plan to address Alzheimer’s disease by 2025. Raised in Malden, Ed Markey has always stood up for the priorities of Massachusetts.

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NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

SCHOOLS TO GO ONLINE

CHELSEA - The Chelsea Public Schools switched gears from its initial school re-opening plan, and presented a fully remote online plan to start the school year in September – a plan the School Committee adopted enthusiastically with an 8-0 vote.

Supt. Almi Abeyta told the Committee in a Special Meeting on Tuesday night that the plan that had been previously presented – which included the option of the fully remote Online Learning Academy (OLA) or a hybrid, in-person and remote learning option – was now going to be changed. That was because the COVID-19 numbers for the city have inched up, with her particularly watching the percent positive metric.

“Why are we suggesting this new approach?” she asked. “On Aug. 5 our date from the (state) was released. The City at that time had 4.93 percent positive rate. This is an increase in what we had in previous weeks...The 5 percent rate was a metric we use internally because we did look at that metric. At that point, when we looked at that positive rate, we decided it was too high to return to school. I said it over and over, if we get to 5 percent I will not open up schools... Therefore, our new recommendation is to return in the fall fully remote and return in-person when conditions allow.”

That decision was promulgated on Friday after the numbers came out, but the announcement on Tuesday by Gov. Charlie Baker that Chelsea was a “high-risk” community – one of only four statewide – only bolstered that decision.

School would start on Sept. 16 in the all-remote format, but there would be a pre-opening professional development period for teachers to learn more about remote instruction.

The fully remote section

would last through roughly Oct. 4, and there would be a full, in-person option for eligible students such as those in special education separate programs. There would also be Centers for Online Learning open that provide internet and would potentially have a monitor. On Oct. 5, there could be a potential “easing in” period would with more in-person learning opportunities. There wouldn’t be a fully hybrid, in-person for all grades until potentially Nov. 2 and any hybrid, in-person options would start at the lower grades and work up to the higher grades. Through it all, the OLA would be available and cohesive for parents that do not want their students to return at all. All of the potential dates for in-person school, however, could change and would be dictated by the rates of the virus in Chelsea.

A great concern, Abeyta said, with the remote learning is students in Special Education, English Learners and those with Individual Education Plans (IEPs).

Another challenge is to improve the remote learning program from what it was during the emergency learning situation in the spring.

“The challenge for us is we have to improve remote learning and we know this,” she said. “What we heard and what we know is we need more structure and organization and accountability for families, students and teachers.”

The decision was bolstered by scores of teachers, and Chelsea Teacher’s Union officers, who spoke live about the issue and who submitted written testimony. All of the teachers and Union officers supported a fully remote option for the sake of safety.

Many of them referred to what has been a successful summer, online learning program where many of the hiccups in remote learning from the spring were worked out quite well.

One student, George W.



Laura Diosa (right) celebrated with the Class of 2020 and showed off her diploma on Thursday afternoon at the first-ever – and likely last ever – walk-in graduation to celebrate this year’s graduates, who officially ended their high school career in early June but had to wait until COVID-19 restrictions were eased to walk across the stage. Meanwhile, (above) the best artistic signs award went to Graduate Carlos Pasante (middle) with his ‘Straight Outta Quarantine’ signs, among others. He is pictured here with Yaritza Montanez, Louis, Carmen Ortega, Sol Acevedo, and Felipe Lugo – a CHS alum who created all of the signs.



McKinnon, wrote in on behalf of the student council in one of the middle schools. He and other students advocated for a return to school in person, noting that parents needed to go to work and couldn’t leave kids unsupervised. Meanwhile, he also said many sports camps and summer programs in Chelsea and beyond have operated very safely this summer. If they can, he reasoned, why can’t the schools?

Parent Michelle Nadeau said it is important that kids get to go back in person.

“The isolation from being at school and having

peer interactions has been nothing short of devastating,” she said.

School Committeewoman Rosemarie Carlisle said her vote in favor of remote was for the children’s safety, but she indicated that she wanted teachers to work out the issues and concerns they have before there is an in-person model deployed.

That was echoed by members Jeannette Velez and Henry Wilson.

“School is our community and we need to bring that community back to our community as quickly as possible,” said Wilson.

Member Marisol Santiago, however, said she would push to keep remote learning in place as long as possible – and she said that was coming from someone who has a child with an IEP. She said safety has to be paramount.

“Schools are equipped to rush kids back to school,” she said. “I’m going to be an advocate for remote learning as long as possible.”

Chair Kelly Garcia commented that she is a teacher as well, and going back to the classroom in person scares her personally.

There was little hesitancy in the vote, and it was a quick 8-0 vote for a Committee that has been divided this year on some key issues. There was a great amount of pressure from teachers and parents on both sides of the matter.

Abeyta clarified that families will still be asked to choose whether they want a full remote plan all year, or if they are up for going hybrid when the time comes. Having that decision will allow the schedules for remote and in-person to mesh seamlessly later when it is safe for students to return.

DOWNTOWN NEEDS MORE HOUSING UNITS

CHELSEA - City Manager Tom Ambrosino said he believes that if Chelsea’s downtown is going to survive COVID-19, it has to become a more dense area with more living units and businesses to serve those new residents.

To accommodate that, he

is asking for a new parking program for residents of the downtown area, a plan detailed in a Council Committee on Conference late last month.

“I’m trying to get relief for developers in the downtown from parking,” he said. “I guess my philosophy is the downtown has been impacted by COVID-19 and I feel strong we have to build density in the downtown if we’re going to survive the COVID-19 era. I’m in favor of creating more density and making it easier for developers to develop in the downtown. Our barrier to that is this parking ordinance.”

That ordinance was one that was voted in and ordained in 2019, and took effect in January. It calls for any new development that needs a variance for parking to not be eligible for the City parking sticker program. Now, that is becoming a potential hurdle for developing in the tight downtown area.

Ambrosino said he is proposing a special downtown parking sticker that would allow residents to park in a special downtown lot from midnight to 5 a.m., perhaps in the new lots being constructed by the state under the Mystic/Tobin Bridge. That sticker would be different and would not allow those residents to park in the neighborhoods, but only in the designated downtown parking areas.

“I’m trying to create pedestrian activity downtown and I need to create residential parking downtown to get that,” he said. “One of these developments will be our own Salvation Army building.”

The petition will likely go before the Council in the fall.

FACE MASKS NOW REQUIRED

EVERETT - With cases of COVID-19 moving up, and Gov. Charlie Baker declaring Everett a high-risk community, Mayor Carlo DeMaria issued an Executive Order taking effect last week requiring masks to be worn in all public places for anyone over age 2.

The order went into effect on Monday, Aug. 10, and indicated a facial

coverings was mandatory for all public places until further notice. He said the reason was that cases were on the rise, and they were traced back to large gatherings held recently.

“The health, safety, and wellbeing of those who reside in the City of Everett has always been and will remain to be paramount under my Administration,” he said. “While the mask order will not be in effect forever, we have seen a recent uptick in our cases that have been traced back to large gatherings of people in outdoor spaces. I’m hopeful that the implementation of this order will drive our numbers back down to where they were a month ago. We can only be successful in this endeavor if we work as a community and all make the effort. The intent is not to give out fines, but rather have those gathering in large groups wear face coverings to stop the spread.”

The order indicated that the mayor had instructed the Everett Police, the Health Department and Inspectional Services (ISD) to “strictly enforce” the guidelines and issue violations to those that are not adhering to the order. Those violations can carry fines of up to \$300 per day per violation.

“I know these measure may seem extreme, however, this virus is extreme,” he said. “As we continue to grapple with the spread of the coronavirus, the response to mitigate the current pandemic and flatten the curve has to be more vigorous. We must all understand the seriousness of the virus and work with one another as we get through this period of time together.”

Locations where masks are required include:

- Parks.
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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

COMMUNITY

MOURNS PASSING

OF DOTTIE

MARTIN-LONG

EVERETT - If one could achieve legendary status in Everett simply by being kind, straight-forward, and graceful, then life-long resident Dorothy ‘Dottie’ Martin-Long achieved celebrity status for the cause.

Martin-Long, 80, passed away after a short illness on Aug. 5 in Mass General Hospital. Her services will take place online via the Emmanuel Baptist Church (Malden) Facebook page this Saturday, Aug. 15, at 10:45 a.m.

“The first thing that comes to mind when I think of Dottie Long is strength,” said her pastor, Wayne Gadie, of Emmanuel Baptist Church in Malden – where she was a charter member for her entire life. “She was a strong woman in every sense – physically, spiritually, intellectually, socially and politically...I guess she was kind of like a rock star and celebrity in Everett for doing good and making a difference in people’s lives.”

She was born in Everett to Jerry and Lucy Martin and was one of nine children, graduating Everett High and spending her whole life in Everett. She also graduated the Malden School of Business. She was accredited in American Sign Language by Boston University, and worked at H&R Block for 30 years, retiring as District Manager.

At Emmanuel Baptist Church, she served on the Finance Board, Building Council, taught Sunday School and was a food pantry volunteer. Martin-Long also served as an original member of the North Shore Black Women’s Association.

She was passionate about volunteer work and contributing to her community. In the past, she served on the Board of Directors for the Devens School, the Malden YMCA and the Mystic Valley Elder Services. She was also an Election Warden for the City of Everett. She was also a member of the Everett School Committee and, in 2009, she was elected Commissioner to the Everett Charter Commission, where she and her fellow members modernized and rewrote the City’s constitution. In 2018 she was honored at Gillette Stadium as a “Patriots Difference Maker” for her volunteer commitment to Housing Families, Inc. where she dedicated 16 years tutoring homeless children. Helping

children and their families brought her such joy. At the time of her death, she was serving on the City’s recently formed Diversity and Equity Task Force.

Mayor Carlo DeMaria said Martin-Long was a trailblazer in the community and a fantastic activist for whatever cause she championed.

“Dorothy was part of Everett’s makeup,” said Mayor DeMaria. “She was a member of the Everett School Committee, a member of the City’s Diversity and Equity Task Force, and a board member at the YMCA to just name a few. Dorothy was a friend, and someone that would provide advice and guidance with no hesitation of honesty and compassion. She was a mother, a grandmother, and a mentor to so many. On behalf of Stacy and I, we send our deepest condolences to her family. May God Bless you during this difficult time.”

School Committee Chair Tom Abruzzese said he had known Martin-Long for most of his life, but last year had the pleasure of picking her to serve on the Superintendent Search Committee – which met through the summer and fall of 2019. Martin-Long was crucial in that early process for picking the superintendent, he said, just as she was in most of her other endeavors.

“She was just a fabulous lady in all she did,” he said. “Other than the people on the Search Committee and the interviewees, most didn’t get the opportunity to see her in action. She was terrific, classy and ahead of her time in being outspoken. The thing I remember about Dottie is – and I’ll not say this about a lot of people – is she was a true original and a very real person.”

He said that while she was a serious person, she knew how to have a sense of humor as well. For instance, when Abruzzese called her to serve on the Search Committee, she told him she wouldn’t do it for him, but would do it for his wife since she liked her so much.

“That’s what she told me – not for me but for my wife,” she said. “We had a laugh at that.”

City Clerk Sergio Cornelio said he has known Martin-Long since he got involved in politics at the age of 18, and most recently serving with her as an Election Commissioner.

“She’s always been fair to me and I got to know her better the last five years working on the Election Commission and working hand-in-hand,” she said. “She was fair, but tough.

She didn’t hold her punches. If she thought you were wrong, she would say it. That’s refreshing in government...She took her job very seriously and loved working with the kids at the high school for the voter registration drive.”

Her work with kids and teens was something Pastor Gadie said she had a talent for, reaching out to kids and making her words stick. She was involved in the youth ministry at Emmanuel Baptist, and frequently taught teens for Sunday School.

“She was involved with the ministry on every level at EBC, but she loved working with young people,” he said. “She had a way of getting their attention and being able to connect with them and saying things that struck a chord. She had a talent for being patient with young people and saying things that stuck with them.”

Pastor Gadie said he thought that Martin-Long was such a strong woman, that there was no way her illness could get the best of her. When she passed, he said, it came as quite a shock.

“I really thought she would survive this illness and hoped she could come out of it and stand up with a strong testimony and a faith-building testimony,” he said. “I kind of couldn’t believe it because she’s such a strong person.”

Martin-Long’s greatest pride and joy was her family and friends. She was a devoted and loving mother to her two sons, Walter Jr. and Jonathan, and a caring mother-in-law to April and she adored her three grandsons, Christopher, Andre’ and Devin. She was a loving sister, aunt and friend to so many. She is survived by her two brothers, Robert Martin Sr. and Richard Martin of Everett.

POP WARNER

CANCELS SEASON

LYNN - West Lynn Pop Warner Rams President Amy Robinson and East Lynn Pop Warner Bulldogs President Duke Wilson had been working on contingency plans for the 2020 season since March when the coronavirus became a major health crisis in the United States.

The two presidents, who have each led their respective organizations to great heights for the past decade, hoped that by August their teams could begin practices for the start of their season in September.

Robinson and Wilson waited as long as possible

to make a very difficult season: the cancellation of the 2020 Pop Warner season in the City of Lynn. It was a decision that affected hundreds of football players and cheerleaders, coaches, and Lynn families.

As it turned out, Eastern Mass Pop Warner – the conference in which the West Lynn and East Lynn teams compete – affirmed Robinson and Wilson’s decisions with an official announcement Monday that the season is canceled. In fact, there will be no Pop Warner football in the entire New England region this fall.

We asked Pop Warner Presidents Amy Robinson and Duke Wilson for their thoughts about the cancellation of their seasons.

AMY ROBINSON

As a managed career coordinator at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center where she works, Amy Robinson has been on the front lines during the COVID-19 global pandemic for several months. She saw the statistics, noted the recent uptick in COVID-19 cases, and brought a professional medical perspective into discussions with her WLPW board members at monthly meetings.

“It was a sad decision, but it’s the right move and I felt that it was right to cancel our season before Pop Warner officially canceled theirs,” said Robinson. “We’re just in uncharted waters here and I rather have my families, my kids, and my staff be safe versus somebody getting sick and it runs through the program and potentially hits a family or staff member and you have the worst-case scenario.”

Amy, with her husband Andre Robinson by her side as a huge supporter and a Rams’ football coach, has guided a resurgence of the West Lynn organization that has sent teams to the National Pop Championships in Florida in cheerleading and football. Former coach Maurice Cordy led a string of highly successful West Lynn teams into the Nationals that take place in ESPN’s Wide World of Sports Complex (which is the same complex where the NBA season is taking place).

“We’ve been consistently going to Disney for the Nationals since 2009 in cheering and football and we’re proud of that accom-

plishment,” said Amy. “We have a good core of people in the program. We have great families.”

Amy Robinson said she expected between 100-130 football players and cheerleaders to participate in the program this season.

“We generally hold our registrations in March, but everything changed when COVID-19 hit,” said Robinson. “We never got to the field for a single practice. The risk was too high.”

The WLPW president has heard some interesting news that Pop Warner may move the season to the spring of 2021. “It is something that Pop Warner is considering, something they’re looking at for the spring,” said Robinson. “It all depends on the numbers and where COVID-19 is at in the spring. And as people know, Lynn is considered a ‘hot spot’ again, so realistically I hope we can have some type of spring season, but I don’t even know if that would take place.”

In addition to her husband Andre’s contribution to the program, their daughter, LhyEshia, has been a cheerleading coach.

Robinson also credited her board of directors, Vice President Orlando Concepcion, Treasurer Robert Merryman, Secretary Melanie Lopresti, Cheer Director Kassandra Jackson, Registration Coordinators Stephanie Castillo and Karina Saldano, Board Member Brittany Legault (coach of the 2019 national champion Might Mite cheerleading squad), and Board Members James Hunt, Paul Beath, and Julie Rodriguez for their outstanding volunteer efforts in the organization.

Robinson said the board will continue to meet monthly in preparation for the 2021 season.

DUKE WILSON

Duke Wilson has been involved in East Lynn Pop Warner for 26 years. The decision to cancel the season for the first time in the organization’s history was difficult.

“It’s sad because I’ve been doing this for 26 years and for something like to happen – to stop the season was tough for everybody,” said Wilson.

Wilson said he and his officers and board held out as long as possible before making the decision.

“We were all just prolonging the inevitable,”

said Wilson. “We were supposed to start on Aug. 1 and then we pushed it back to Sept. 1.”

Wilson points to a youth football clinic in Weymouth “as the straw that broke the camel’s back.”

“The players were working out and they ended up getting the virus,” said Wilson. “There were people that were not following the guidelines and word gets around.”

Wilson wrote a beautiful letter to the East Lynn Pop Warner community informing everyone about the cancellation of the 2020 season.

Even with the “inevitable” approaching, the East Lynn president had held out hope. “We said we would go all the way down to the wire of there were a glimmer of hope of having a season for the kids, but it just didn’t happen.

“Some of the kids don’t understand the severity of the COVID-19 and what’s going on. They could have it and not be symptomatic yet bring it home to their grandparents, some with underlying conditions and we just don’t want to be responsible for something like that,” said Wilson.

Wilson said more than 150 athletes would have been competing in the East Lynn football and cheerleading programs during the 2020 season.

“Year in and year out, we have great teams, great kids, great coaching staffs, and a lot of people involved – we have a good program,” said Wilson proudly. “It was sad to cancel the season, but we were in all agreement that it was the right thing to do. And all the other organizations in Eastern Mass. were on the same page, too.”

Wilson thanked board members such as Lisa Bellamar, Victor Bellamar, Spiro Lamberis, John Raye, Pete Dow, and others for their excellent work on behalf of the organization.

Wilson, a 1989 graduate of Lynn Classical where he played football for the Rams, has been East Lynn president since 2010 and a coach since 1994.


“I just turned 50 this year – the big 5-0,” said Duke, who has delivered so much to the youth of the community through his exceptional work in the East Lynn Pop Warner organization. “I’m just trying to give back to Lynn because it gave a lot to me.”

Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
EB MHRC Holdings LLC	Diambrosia, Kenneth	490 Bennington St	\$650,000
Leicester-Carr, Joseph	Pagnani, John E	47 Boardman St	\$560,000
Zhu, Yijie	Martinez, Kely Y	106 Byron St	\$682,000
Stinson, Brandon	Ruggiero, Matthew	156-160 Chelsea St #101	\$500,000
Valerina Condor LLC	197-199 Condor LLC	197 Condor St	\$1,575,000
Valerina Condor LLC	197-199 Condor LLC	199 Condor St	\$1,575,000
Frenette, Julia	Colazo, Monica	156 Falcon St #2	\$570,000
Debaun, Andrew	Shelton, Eamon P	82 Gladstone St #2	\$446,000
Shelton, Eamon	Massicotte, Rahsaan	82 Gladstone St #3	\$485,000
Costello, Michelle	Higgins, William F	78 Horace St	\$745,000
Johnson, Christopher	Curtis, Jeffrey A	3 Lamson St #4	\$910,000
Tong, Betty	Chen, Chikuo	65 Lewis St #210	\$940,000
Berk, Baris	Mccarthy, Christopher J	204 Leyden St #204	\$441,000
WPG Realty Investments	Urban Renewal 10 LLC	186 Marion St	\$749,900
Aguilar, Shannon M	Kendall, Daniel R	402 Meridian St #4	\$685,000
Cohen, Dennis	173 Princeton St LLC	173 Princeton St #3	\$560,000
Hadley, Daniel J	DCD Group LLC	288 Princeton St #2	\$475,000
Mccafferty, Meghan E	Carr, Joseph L	336 Saratoga St #7	\$531,000
Diaz, Carlos E	Tacocat Inc	364 Sumner St #1	\$500,000
Macdonald, Raymond	5 Thurston Street LLC	5 Thurston St #2	\$605,000

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Council calls for action to city school problem

CITY PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Five proposals

FREE CLASS

Eastie once again becomes COVID-19 hotspot

By John Lynds

Last week, the COVID-19 infection rate in East Boston shot up by four percent and once again the neighborhood has emerged as a virus transmission ‘hotspot’ in the city.

The infection rate has been steadily climbing since late July. The week over week infection rate rose by only 1.7 percent in early August but then jumped by 3.6 percent two weeks ago.

According to the latest data released by the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) on Friday Eastie’s COVID infection rate went from 381.2 cases per 10,000 residents to 397.2 cases per 10,000 residents. The city-wide average is 216.3 cases per 10,000 residents.

As of Friday 75 more people became infected with the virus in Eastie, and there were 1,864 confirmed COVID-19 cases. This was a 20 percent increase from the 1,789 cases reported by the BPHC two weeks ago.

As of Last week the BPHC reported that 10,372 residents were tested for COVID-19 and the data shows that 7.9 percent of those tested were COVID positive. Overall since the pandemic began 18.6 percent of Eastie residents tested were found to be positive.

The week over week increase has Rep. Adrian Madaro was concerned and sounded off this week on the neighborhood’s spike.

“East Boston has the highest COVID infection rate in Boston,” said Madaro. “On Friday 7.9 percent of those tested were positive for COVID. This was over four times the state average. It was almost 50 percent higher than the second-highest neighborhood. Many cities around us are seeing the same or higher.”

Madaro said some people might imply that residents are to blame for not following guidelines closely enough.

“This is wrong,” said Madaro. “Our community isn’t worse at wearing masks/

social distancing, or taking fewer public health precautions than any other. That’s not why our rates are higher than the suburbs. Our COVID infection rates are higher because our communities are systematically more vulnerable to the spread of this disease. This was true at the beginning of the shutdown, and it has become truer as MA has progressed through the phases of reopening.”

Madaro argues that many working-class Eastie residents don’t have the privilege of working from home.

“Their jobs require them to go out to work, and in most cases they’re interacting with coworkers or members of the public through jobs in the service industry - construction, cleaning, restaurants, etc.,” said Madaro. “While the shutdown meant some (but not all) of these service workers were staying home, our state’s reopening means that even more are back to work out in the public now. This means Eastie residents and surrounding communities have an increased risk of COVID exposure and infection.”

As housing in Eastie becomes more expensive and hard to find, Madaro said most Eastie workers live in apartments that are full of family or roommates, and short on space.

“People share rooms,” he said. “When everyone’s living together in a small space, there aren’t many opportunities for social distance. This means that when a worker gets sick, they have nowhere to quarantine. This puts the rest of their household at higher risk of contracting COVID. Reports indicate that this kind of “family spread” is one of the top ways that COVID is spreading in East Boston.”

Residents in high-risk communities like Eastie are also more prone to COVID due to health issues that are the result of longstanding environmental burdens.

“We are Environmental Justice communities with

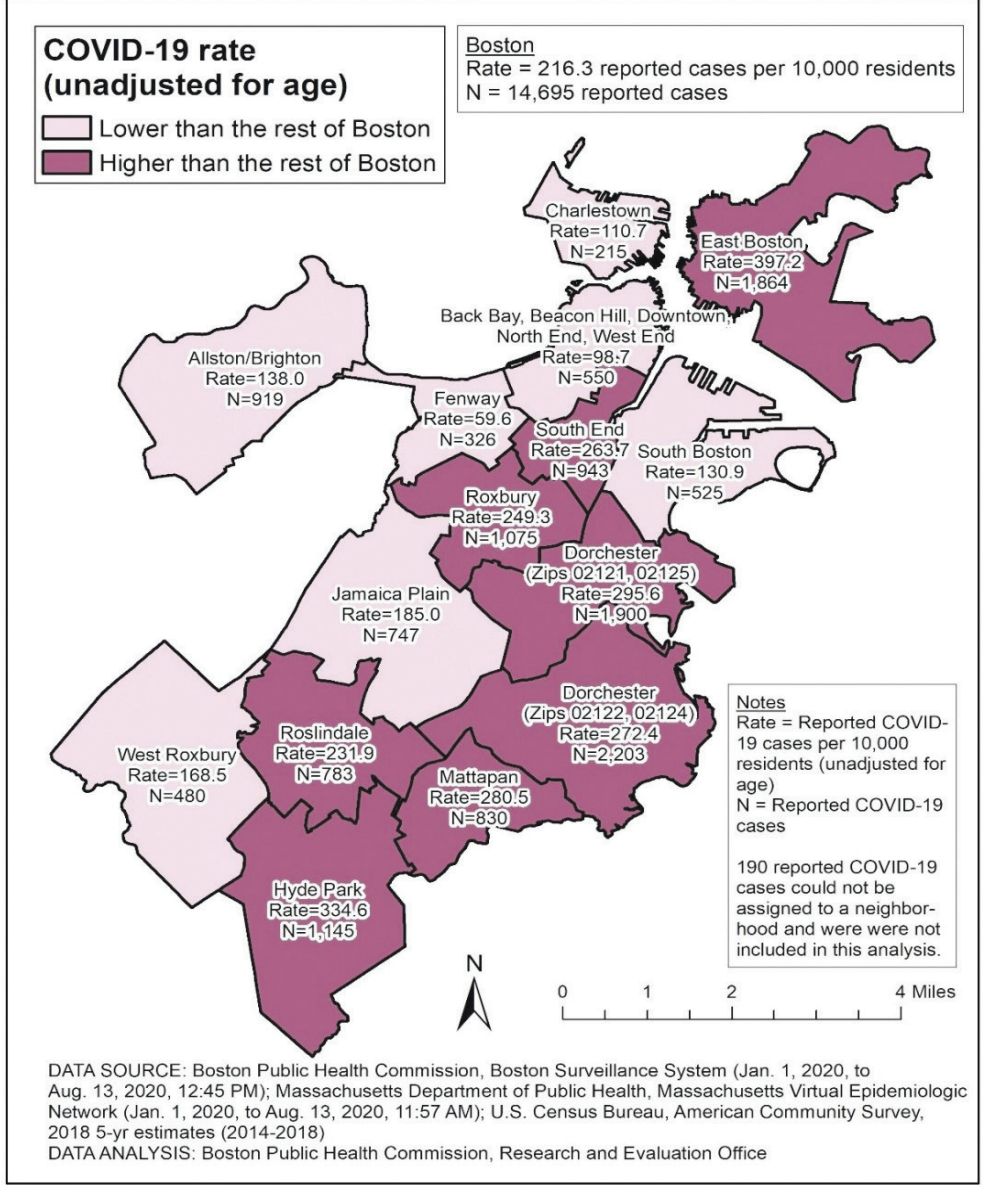
a long history of air pollution,” said Madaro. “Eastie residents have long suffered from elevated rates of respiratory illnesses, such as asthma and COPD, a legacy of living next to an international airport and a major highway. COVID is a respiratory illness. It’s no surprise our residents are at an increased risk.”

Earlier this year, Attorney General Maura Healey released a report on the role of environmental pollution in higher rates of COVID infection in low-income communities of color. It’s no coincidence that these communities remain the hardest-hit now.

“So what do we need to do?” asked Madaro. “First, we need increased resources and assistance from the state. Gov. Baker has recently set the stage for this by designating high-risk communities, and pledging additional aid. It is also critical that the state expand access to isolation sites in at-risk communities for workers who cannot quarantine at home without putting their families at risk-Isolation sites will help reduce family spread - a major component of COVID infection rates in East Boston.”

Finally, Madaro said we need Emergency Paid Sick Leave in the state.

“Our sick leave system was not designed for a global pandemic,” he said. “Workers should not have to choose between their health and economic security. Many are



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

forced to continue working even if exposed to COVID because they need to pay the bills. We have an obligation to help our most vulnerable residents who have been systematically more exposed to COVID infection.”

The statistics released by

the BPHC as part of its weekly COVID19 report breaks down the number of cases and infection rates in each neighborhood. It also breaks down the number of cases by age, gender and race.

Citywide positive cases of coronavirus rose 2.3 per-

cent last week from 14,571 cases to 14,916 cases. So far 10,983 Boston residents have fully recovered from the virus and five additional residents died last week bringing the total of fatalities in the city to 746.

Martin Luther King III endorses Joe Kennedy III for U.S. Senate

“Joe has fought for the silenced and ignored, the oppressed and left behind. He legislates and leads from our streets and communities — for and with the people most in need,” said Martin Luther King III.

On Thursday, Aug. 13, human-rights activist Martin Luther King III endorsed Congressman Joe Kennedy III for U.S. Senate in a video released by the Kennedy for Massachusetts campaign. The fourth President of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and oldest

living child of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Coretta Scott King, King cites Kennedy’s record on Civil Rights and a need for new leadership in the Senate as his reasons for endorsing Kennedy.

“I’m proud to endorse Joe Kennedy because this country needs a new generation of civil rights leaders to tackle the injustice and inequity of our past,” said Martin Luther King III. “Throughout his career, Joe has fought for the silenced and ignored, the oppressed and left behind. He legislates and leads from

our streets and communities — for and with the people most in need. Joe is the kind of powerful new voice our country desperately needs in this moment to help bring us to higher, moral ground. We must elect him to the U.S. Senate.”

Martin Luther King III is the latest civil rights activist to endorse Kennedy following the late Congressman John Lewis and Dolores Huerta.

Kennedy is a committed ally to the Black community, understanding that genera-

tions of discrimination and disenfranchisement have led to structural barriers for Black and Brown families across the country. Over the course of his career to date, he has fought to proactively and deliberately address these barriers in everything from housing to health care to education, and criminal justice to voting rights. As he continues his campaign across the Commonwealth, he has promised to listen, learn, and relentlessly prioritize equity in both his policy and political choices.

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT

Suffolk Probate And Family Court 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 (617)788-8300 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION Docket No. SU20P1264EA Estate of: Frank Tassone Date of Death: 04/27/2020 To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Robert F. Carley of Center Tuftonbo, NH requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Robert F. Carley of Center Tuftonbo, NH be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in an unsupervised administration. IMPORTANT NOTICE You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 09/03/2020. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If

you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you. UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC) A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: July 30, 2020 Felix D. Arroyo Register of Probate 8/19/20 EB

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT Suffolk Division INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

Docket No. SU20P0885EA Estate of: Gennaro Licciardi Date of Death: April 5, 2020 To all persons interested in the above captioned estate by Petition of Petitioner Cheryl Licciardi of Wilmington, MA. A Will has been admitted to informal probate. Cheryl Licciardi of Wilmington, MA and Michele Ciano of Tewksbury, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond. The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner. 8/19/20 EB

of Wilmington, MA. A Will has been admitted to informal probate. Cheryl Licciardi of Wilmington, MA and Michele Ciano of Tewksbury, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond. The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner. 8/19/20 EB

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT NOTICE AND ORDER: Appointment of Guardian of a Minor Docket No. SU20P1324GD

Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 In the interests Of: Jaylen Lorenzo Gravely Minor NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed on 08/04/2020 by Debora Novas will be held 08/31/2020 8:30 AM Guardianship of Minor Hearing. Located EDWARD BROOKE COURTHOUSE: 24 NEW CHARDON STREET: BOSTON, MA. You may respond by filing a written response to the Petition or by appearing in person at the hearing. If you choose to file a written response, you need to: File the original with the Court; and Mail a copy to all interested parties at least five (5) business days before the hearing. The minor (or an adult on behalf of the minor) has the right to request that counsel be appointed for the minor. If you are a parent of the minor child who is the subject of this proceeding you have a right to be represented by an attorney. If you want an attorney and cannot afford to pay for one and if you give proof that you are indigent, an attorney will be assigned to you. Your request for an attorney should be made immediately by filling out the Application of Appointment of Counsel form. Submit the application form in person or by mail at the court location where your case is going to be heard. A minor over age 14 has

Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 In the interests Of: Jaylen Lorenzo Gravely Minor NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed on 08/04/2020 by Debora Novas will be held 08/31/2020 8:30 AM Guardianship of Minor Hearing. Located EDWARD BROOKE COURTHOUSE: 24 NEW CHARDON STREET: BOSTON, MA. You may respond by filing a written response to the Petition or by appearing in person at the hearing. If you choose to file a written response, you need to: File the original with the Court; and Mail a copy to all interested parties at least five (5) business days before the hearing. The minor (or an adult on behalf of the minor) has the right to request that counsel be appointed for the minor. If you are a parent of the minor child who is the subject of this proceeding you have a right to be represented by an attorney. If you want an attorney and cannot afford to pay for one and if you give proof that you are indigent, an attorney will be assigned to you. Your request for an attorney should be made immediately by filling out the Application of Appointment of Counsel form. Submit the application form in person or by mail at the court location where your case is going to be heard. A minor over age 14 has

the right to be present at any hearing, unless the Court finds that it is not in the minor’s best interests. THIS IS A LEGAL NOTICE: An important court proceeding that may affect your rights has been scheduled. If you do not understand this notice or other court papers, please contact an attorney for legal advice. Date: August 12, 2020 Felix D. Arroyo Register of Probate 8/19/20 EB

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT

Suffolk Probate And Family Court 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 (617)788-8300 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION Docket No. SU20P1323EA Estate of: Maria Grazia Pignato Date of Death: 01/25/2020 To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Rosemary Gordon of East Boston, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Rosemary Gordon of East Boston, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without

Surety on the bond in an unsupervised administration. IMPORTANT NOTICE You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 09/15/2020. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you. UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC) A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: August 04, 2020 Felix D. Arroyo Register of Probate 8/19/20 EB



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