

# East Boston

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Wednesday, September 30, 2020

# Incredible Journey

Longtime Director of Operations,
Jenny Shulman,
to leave Zumix at the end of the year

By John

After eight years as one of the more familiar faces at Zumix, the popular music and arts program's Director of Operations Jenny Shulman announced last week she will leave the nonprofit at the end of December.

"I will be leaving my position as Director of Operations at Zumix at the end of December," said Shulman. "The last eight years have been an incredible journey filled with a lot of growth and inspiration and I want you all to know that this is not a decision I've made lightly. It has come with a lot of consideration, care, and a bit of trepidation."

Shulman joined Zumix in 2012 and after three years working as a Program Advisor for an international volunteering organization.

"It has been an honor and privilege to work alongside you all and an absolute pleasure to watch so many young people grow and thrive through the work we do," said Shulman. "I'm very proud of what we've achieved together and although I will be moving on in the new year, this is not 'goodbye'."

Shulman also worked n many developing





Zumix's longtime Director of Operations Jenny Shulman will be leaving at the end of the year.

The new outdoor art installation in Downtown Boston by Eastie artist Stephanie Martinez will be unveiled on Oct. 2.

# Eastie artist participates in city outdoor art installation

By John Lynds

On October 2, the Downtown Boston Business Improvement District (BID) will unveil "Tasteful Boston," an outdoor public art installation in which a dozen regional artists transform 12 BID-area utility boxes into striking works of art that celebrate iconic elements of the city's storied culinary history.

One of those artists is East Boston's Stephanie Martinez whose proposal was chosen by a panel of judges from nearly 50 applicants.

Martinez will paint the utility boxes over the next few weeks, serving up

slices of Boston food history.

Martinez's vividly colored rendering of Boston's Chinatown Gate depicts a diverse group of residents enjoying an equally diverse array of iconic Boston dishes.

The entire outdoor art project will focus on famous coffee and candy companies, the foods of diverse cultures, indelible food locations across the city, and some of Boston's best-known dishes.

"Tasteful Boston" locations are centered in and around Downtown Crossing, spanning from Chinatown to Government Center to the heart of the Financial District.

Artists participating in "Tasteful Boston" are diverse in discipline and background, drawing on personal and family food memories as well as historical subjects.

Other artists featured in "Tasteful Boston" include the South End's Carolyn Depot, Medford's Rebecca Rose Greene, Charlestown-based Jasmine Lee, Hyde Park-based Khyle Parke, Elliot Portman of Brighton, Ellie MacQueen of Quincy, and Allston-based Aisling Wilson.

"These beautiful, whimsical and surprising 'Tasteful Boston' instal-

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# Two Eastie organizations receive latest round of Boston Resiliency Fund grants

By John Lynds

Two more East Boston organizations helping to support residents most in need during the COVID-19 pandemic were named recipients of Boston Resiliency Fund grant money.

The Salesian Boys & Girls Club on Byron Street and the Central Assembly of God on Bennington Street will share in \$840,000 in new grants awarded to 19 local organizations and nonprofits across Boston.

Mayor Martin Walsh and the Boston Resiliency Fund Steering Committee announced the grant money to the two Eastie groups last week. The twentieth round of grants focus on funding to support culturally competent food access services through trusted community orga-

nizations in for neighborhoods throughout Boston, wraparound services for students.

"We created the Boston Resiliency Fund so that our nonprofit partners could more quickly and effectively provide outreach and support to our most vulnerable populations throughout the City of Boston," said Mayor Walsh. "I am so proud that we have reached this milestone of distributing grants to organizations providing vital services to Bostonians. Thank you to all of our partners who have helped showcase the importance of working together."

Salesian Boys & Girls Club will use the grant to support their Weekly Family Dinner Night Program. These funds will be used to increase the numbers of families served from 60 to

90 families this fall.

"We are happy to be able to utilize the resiliency funds resources to help address food insecurity in East Boston," said Salesian Boys & Girls Club Executive Director Michael Triant. "All kids from our full day remote learning program will receive a freshly cooked take home dinner every Wednesday night. Parents and families are all straight out right now adapting to work schedules and online learning schedules. We felt this would be a great way to simplify their lives provide a free home cooked meal and put a strong emphasis on the family dynamic"

Central Assembly of God Church in Eastie will use the grant to sustain efforts to provide a

See GRANTS Page 6

# A New Future

# Suffolk Downs Redevelopment approved by BPDA Board

By John Lynds

The largest single development in Boston's history was approved by the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) last Thursday.

After a seven hour long marathon BPDA board meeting with housing advocates calling for the BPDA to delay the vote, the board unanimously approved HYM Development's project to transform the historic 161-acre Suffolk Downs site in Eastie and Revere into a mixed-use development.

The project, which will be one of the largest developments in Boston history, will include 10,000 units of housing, almost three million square feet of office and retail space, and create an estimated 18,810 new construction jobs and 22,000 new permanent jobs.

According to HYM and the BPDA Suffolk Downs will deliver the largest amount of affordable units for a development through 930 on-site affordable units and 500 off-site units, totaling approximately 20 percent of its units. In addition, the project will be contributing \$400,000 to a rent stabilization fund to assist local residents with rent payments during this COVID-19 crisis.

"We are pleased to have the confidence and approval of the Board, and grateful to all the members of the East Boston and Revere communities who have participated in the public review process and helped shape the project over the last several years," said Thomas O'Brien, founding partner and managing director of The HYM Investment

See SUFFOLK DOWNS Page 6



A street view of the entrance near Suffolk Downs MBTA station that shows the vision for the mixed use development on the historic 161-acre Suffolk Downs site.

# Extensive building safety issues raised at Curtis Guild Elementary

By John Lynds

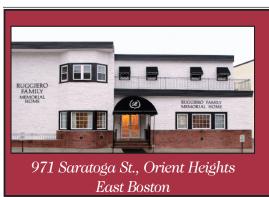
As high-needs students headed back to in-person learning last week across Boston, the Boston Teachers Union (BTU) and Massachusetts Coalition for Occupational Safety and Health (MassCOSH) released a report outlining safety concerns and recommendations for school buildings based on walkthroughs that the organizations took part in.

The report named East Boston's Curtis Guild Elementary School as one of seven schools that raised some concerns among BTU and MassCOSH members.

BTU and MassCOSH members participated in the walkthroughs of the Curtis Guild and five other schools to identify changes to the buildings needed to create a safe and healthy learning and teaching environment during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The organizations found major issues relating to windows and fans, ventilation and filtration, indoor air quality inspection data, and cleaning

At the Curtis Guild the report found that "Rooms

See SAFETY Page 2



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# A rose for a shoeshine boy

By Richard Umbro

It was another busy Saturday mornings as I weaved my way through the pushcart vendors in Haymarket Square area of Boston. My destination was downtown, in the hub of the retail district, a pre-mall environment of classic department stores; it was late September or early October, circa 1945. I will venture to say that some readers of this article had not entered this world yet. I will also guess that most are reading it from that "Great Reading Room" in the sky. An autumn chill was in the air, as I pulled the frayed collar of my too light jacket up and rumbled with the sometimes non-functioning zipper, toward off the cold. I had a full head of curly black hair in dire need of a haircut; that precluded the use of a hat, which I did not

have anyway. I had just "thumbed" my way through the Sumner Tunnel from the east side of Boston: a neighborhood two shades more blue than most "blue collar" sections, where row upon row of "three deckers" was the habitat of need, not of choice. Cold water flats that housed predominately large families, struggling to keep a precarious foothold on the lowest rung of the then socio-economic ladder; and that humble goal was met with dignity. A place where the term "tenement district" most assuredly had its beginning. A place where one became street smart at too early an age. I was eleven years old and I was what they called, back in the

day, a shoeshine boy.

My black shoeshine

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health records, answer health surveys, and

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weight, blood pressure, etc.), and give

blood and urine samples, if asked.

Many groups of people have been left out of

treatments that benefit all of us.

box felt heavy that day and I adjusted the strap to relieve the tension on my shoulder. I checked inside to see if I had all my equipment. Brown and black cans of shoe polish, cleaning dauber and fluid, brush and polishing cloths, and two extra la-Rosa coupons. Now you may be wondering, what on earth are La-Rosa coupons, and what are they doing in an 11-year-old boy's shoeshine box, in the middle of downtown Boston? Mysteries and enigmas of youth sometimes need explanation.

Now, during the Great Depression years of the thirties and forties, many matriarchs of large families (they were the true heroines of that era) cooked and served lots of pasta. The most preferred brand was the La-Rosa Macaroni Co., and on the back of this box was a colorful. Red rose on it. Those coupons were cut out, and when enough of them were saved, they were redeemed at the local Mom & Pop stores in the area, for a pot or pan or some other kitchenware. At times they were used as play cards for children, as my youngest sister, Elizabeth (Betty), will attest to. However, if a boy was inclined to be industrious, another use was found for them. Being from a large family of seven children, there were some things that had to be postponed. One of them was having the worn out soles of shoes replaced at the local cobbler shop. This was not a throw awaybuy new one generation. I had discovered that those coupons fit perfectly when

inserted into the worn out

sole of a shoe, to keep out the wet and dirt from the pavement. I had one in each shoe and extras in my shoeshine box. An ounce of prevention was always wroth the proverbial pound of cure.

For some unknown reason, I felt good about that particular day, especially when I found a quarter amidst the windblown refuse of an upswept sidewalk. A day with minus negativity. Everything was bound to be "Yes" to day. A feel good day, as in "Yes Dorothy," there is a land called Oz. "Yes Virginia," there is a Santa Claus. "Yes Marie," they ate your cake. Even without your royal frosting. I arrived at my favorite spot; it was at the corner of Washington and Bromfield Streets, between Filene's and Raymond's department stores. I had a good view from this corner, to keep a watchful eye out for a patrol officer, who may ask if you had your license. You had to be 12 years old to obtain one. The skills of an "artful dodger" came early those days. With due deference to a protagonist of another story, from a dif-

"Shine Sir?" I asked, as my first customer walked by. "Yes, I think I will," he replied. His shoes had not been cleaned for quite a while, and the heels were run down. His pants lacked a crease, and a button on his jacket was missing. He projected the image of the underpaid clerk in a second rate store. However, this was a kindly man, one that may give you a tip. I finished quickly and tapped the side of my shine box to indicate completion. "Thanks kid, good job, he said, and flipped me two quarters, the second as a tip. I was

right about the poor soul. My second customer was quite a different story. His shoes were newer and costly, his suit neatly pressed, and his tie was I a perfect Windsor knot. He was reading the stock market results from the previous day from a newspaper. He had nothing to say and he was the epitome of rampant hubris. There was not going to be a tip from this "dandy." I was right about the lack of a tip. The cognitive powers of class distinction and social habits were the tangible lessons attained prematurely by shoeshine boys, on the mean streets of a city awash in apathy.

I was a little hungry and was thinking about walking over to Joe & Nemo's for a ten-cent hot dog, and as I was on my knees ar-

ranging my equipment, I noticed a women's reflection through the store window in front of me. Her gaze was affixed directly at the exposed coupons in my shoes. Immune to embarrassment at this point, I pretending not to notice. "Young man, can you shine my shoes?" she asked. I turned in her direction and replied, "Yes Ma'am, I can." I had shined women's shoes before, I was not surprised. Her shoes were of high quality leather that came high to the ankle, and had a fashionable heel. Her skirt was long and draped to an appropriate length in relation to her shoe tops. Her waist-length jacket was trimmed in fur, something like on display in the window of I.J. Fox, a downtown Furrier. In her hand she was holding a round black satin box. with gold ribbon. Imprinted on the box in gold lettering was "French Shop." This indicated that it was purchased in an exclusive shop on the seventh floor of Filene's Department Store: where women of high fashion and financial

means sat in stuffed chairs

to watch models walk up

and down, wearing the

garment they were interested in buying. She asked all the questions a woman will ask: How old are you; where do you go to school; how many brothers and sisters in your family; do you give your mother money? Family-oriented questions in a pleasant manner. Unlike men, who rarely talked, save for an occasional grunt or incoherent mumble. "What is your name?" she asked. "Richard," I replied. "But they all call me Richie." A smile came to her face, a benevolent smile, one that captures the warmth and grace of a woman. "What is your name?" I asked. She laughed openly at the boyish innocence of my question, momentarily disarming her inherent composure. "Rose," she said, smiling once more. I finished her shoes; they had a lustrous sheen.

"They look beautiful," she said, and from her purse she pressed into my hand five one dollar bills. Mesmerized and wideeyed by her generosity, I stuttered, "Than you" several times. With a maternal like pat to my cheek, as she was leaving, she said, "Now be sure to get home before dark." I watched her for a long time as she walked down Washington Street, where women very discreetly turned their heads in admiration, some with jaundiced eyes of jealously. She disappeared into that huddled mass of the good, the bad, the perfect and imperfect; caught up in the exciting vibrance of Saturday morning shopping. I never saw her again.

Now, there is a special time in everyone's life when a rose fashions a memory. A school child creates a colorful rose with crayons and pride, to bring home to Mother on Mother's Day, to be proudly exhibited on the refrigerator door for days after. A young man brings a dozen roses, to the love of his life. An old man walks a lonely path, in the somber cadence of grief, to place a tear-stained rose at the resting place of his beloved. And of one very memorable day, those

many years gone by, there

was even a "rose" for a

shoeshine boy.

Safety // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

do not have at least one operable window and/ or fan to facilitate air exchange in the nurse's office, medical waiting room (isolation room), staff bathrooms and student bathrooms."

"Educators are eager to have students return in person for in-person instruction in safe school facilities and are taking the initiative to ensure that buildings and staff have what they need to keep everyone safe," read the report.

The need to prepare

The need to prepare Boston Public Schools (BPS) for in-building instruction is a monumental task that has become even more critical as Mayor Martin Walsh announced recently that the City of Boston is "very close" to the "red zone" in the Mass Department of Public Health's color-coded map which categorizes communities based on the average rate of COVID-19 "The red category rep-

resents the highest risk and rate of cases (at least eight per 100,000 people)," said BTU in a statement. " In addition to ensuring social distancing, masks, hygiene, and cleaning and disinfecting, schools must ensure that students and staff are protected from all forms of exposure to SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19), in particular airborne transmission of viral aerosols. Airborne aerosol transmission involves viral particles that can float in the air for long periods of time over distances well beyond six feet. It occurs when live virus is exhaled by infected individuals and then inhaled by another (uninfected) person."

The goal of these walkthroughs was to affirm that changes necessary in school buildings to create a safe and healthy learning and teaching environment during the COVID-19 pandemic were in place. This report details key concerns and recommendations of MassCOSH's health-technical expert committee after those six walkthroughs as well as a technical review of data collected by BTU building representatives' during their walkthrough inspections conducted with school leaders, nurses, custodians, parents, and high school students throughout 1055 schools in the District between

September 14-18. "Our highest-needs students are expected to go back to school a week from today, and while some of our buildings are ready, many of them are not verifiably safe," said Jessica Tang, president of the BTU. "We cannot send our students and educators into buildings that aren't properly ventilated and maintained, and we will continue to work with the district and city to ensure that they are."

At the Curtis Guild

MassCOSH made several recommendations for Nurses Offices and Isolation Rooms.

MassCOSH Recommendations included identifying and, when necessary, isolating potential cases of COVID-19 based on presence of symptoms.

"In order to safely isolate staff or students who may have COVID-19 while protecting school nurses and reducing the risk of further COVID-19 spread throughout the school every school building must have an isolation room; ventilation in the nurse's suite and isolation room must meet six air changes per hour (ACH). with air being completely ventilated out of the building, not recirculating to other parts of the building (negative air pressure); Portable air cleaners with HEPA filters are important for both the nurse's office and the isolation area to achieve proper filtration; and nurses and any staff working in the nurse's office or isolation room must be provided with sufficient PPE: N95 respirators, face shields or eye protection, gloves, gowns, and other PPE as needed," wrote MassCOSH in their report

on the Eastie school.

The BTU is advocating for another walkthrough for all facilities to assure that all required items are in place when staff and students are to be in the

"We are very concerned about the condition of some of the BPS buildings in terms of sending children and educators back so soon," said Jodi Sugerman-Brozan, Executive Director of MassCOSH. "We hope this report helps educators, students and families make informed decisions about returning to their buildings, and hopefully challenges the district to re-evaluate the conditions they are deem-

ing safe for their students."
BTU and MassCOSH thanked all of the custodians, facilities, engineering and maintenance staff for their incredible work over the spring, summer and

fall. "Due to the unprecedented crisis our communities have faced, these workers have been asked to do more to upgrade the schools' facilities in a few short months than-for many of our schools-over the last few decades," said BTU and MassCOSH in a joint statement. "This is in addition to substantial investment in our facilities by the City of Boston over the last few years and we acknowledge that effort. While we still have concerns about what work needs to be done to ensure health and safety, it is the incredible commitment and effort put forth by the building and facilities staff members that has enabled the school buildings to get to where they are and to where they will be."

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deb@reverejournal.com

# East Boston Savings Bank celebrates the opening of third Brookline branch

East Boston Savings Bank (EBSB) has opened its 3rd branch office in Brookline. The new branch is located at 473 Harvard Street and is the 43rd location in EBSB's branch network.

"The Bank has been part of the Brookline community since 2015 with our two other Brookline branches at 1050 and 1441 Beacon Street. We have developed a great relationship with our customers in Brookline as well as the surrounding communities," said President, Chairman and CEO, Richard J. Gavegnano. "We are looking forward to continuing to provide products and services that meet the needs of the ever-growing consumer and business community."

The Bank appointed Ruslan Kagramanov as Vice President, Branch Officer. Ruslan is responsible for the branch's business development initiatives as well as overseeing the daily operations of the branch and staff development. Assisting Ruslan will be Assistant Branch Manager, Diana K. Bell. About East Boston Sav-

ings Bank Founded in 1848, East Boston Savings Bank

operates 43 full-service branches throughout the

greater Boston metropolitan area. EBSB offers a variety of deposit and loan products to individuals and businesses located in its primary market, which consists of Essex, Middlesex, Norfolk and Suffolk counties. As a member of both the FDIC and Depositors Insurance Fund (DIF) all deposits are insured in full.

al growth. I am applying

for new opportunities

outside of Boston, ideally

on the philanthropic side

but also thinking about

returning to work. I also

might just follow my bliss

and become a professional



Assistant Branch Manager, Diana K. Bell and Vice President, Branch Officer, Ruslan Kagramanov outside EBSB's

#### Shulman // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

establishing community-based service learning programs for volunteer educators, health providers, and care workers. She also developed and implemented a cross-cultural training curriculum for volunteers, conducted capacity-building workshops, and was responsible for organiza-

For her Master's Degree, Shulman worked with the civil organization, Acortar Distancias in Guadalajara, Mexi-

lations remind us that our

art, our neighborhood, and

our city's rich culinary tra-

ditions are alive and ready

to bounce back," says

Downtown Boston BID

President and CEO Rose-

marie Sansone. "Public art

is one of the many ways

the BID activates Boston's

resilient business dis-

trict. As shoppers, diners,

workers, and art lovers

Artist // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tional growth and change.

co, teaching theatre and improvisation to at-risk youth. She previously worked as a casting director in New York City for seven years, casting independent films, music videos, commercials, and voice-overs.

She holds a Master of Arts in International Development from La Universidad Autonoma de Guadalajara and University of Sussex, Roehampton in London and a BFA in Drama with a concentration in Directing from

we'll be ready to welcome

The Downtown Boston

District (BID) was created

by property owners com-

mitted to achieving the

district's full potential as

a premier and vibrant des-

tination. Its mission is to

significantly improve the

experience of all who live,

work, visit, go to school

Improvement

them."

Business

NYU's Tisch School of the Arts.

Shulman has lived and worked in Thailand, Mexico, London, Ghana, Vietnam, India, Sri Lanka, Costa Rica, Mongolia, and Nepal.

We are currently hiring for a Director of Programs - a position similar to the one I currently hold," said Shulman. "I do not have a solid plan for my own future yet and I recognize that this is a challenging time to move on, but necessary for my own person-

Boston BID by: provid-

ing supplemental services

to keep the streets and

sidewalks clean, upgrade

the aesthetic appearance

of the district, and make

people feel welcomed

and safe; promoting and

fostering an energetic and

thriving business climate

in the area; and serving as

the voice and advocate for

the district.

SCUBA diver." Brookline branch.

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# Let's get it Together - Together! Save the Date for the **East Boston Resiliency Assembly**

Saturday, November 14 - 9:30 am -12:30 pm

Please save the date for the East Boston Resiliency Assembly, a virtual (ZOOM) meeting that will bring together City health and emergency management leaders, first responders, non-profits, civic associations, LatinX groups, and residents to think about "Blue Sky" actions we can take to prepare for emergencies and disasters before they occur and "Dark Sky" actions we can take once disasters strike.

The potential future effects of global climate change include more frequent wildfires, longer periods of drought in some regions and an increase in the number, duration and intensity of tropical storms. Credit: Left - Mel-

limage/Shutterstock.com, center - Montree Hanlue/Shutterstock.com. From the NASA Global Climate Change webpage (https://climate.nasa. gov/effects/), "change will continue this century and beyond, temperatures will continue to rise, More winter and spring precipitation is projected for the northern United States.....Projections of future climate over the U.S. suggest that the recent trend towards increased heavy precipitation events will continue. Droughts .....and heat waves (periods of abnormally hot weather lasting days to weeks) everywhere are projected to become

more intense, and cold waves less intense everywhere."

In a recent survey we conducted of East Boston residents, over 80% reported that they expected to experience a major flooding event, snowstorm, or heat wave over the next five years, and yet fewer than 20% were sufficiently prepared. Similarly, over 80% of East Boston residents believe that climate change will hurt



their family or their community, but only about one-third think they have a role to play in any political process.

Preparedness for these major emergencies that range from natural hazards and extreme weather events to pandemics requires effort at the individual and household level as well as at the community and political level. The East Boston Resiliency Assembly will be the forum for us to think about the best opportunities for action to protect our community, and how to make them happen. Many local groups are already developing social networks to respond to COVID and emergency food relief efforts so we are already headed in the right direction.

Scheduled speakers at the Assembly include former FEMA Deputy Director Rich Serino, who began his emergency services career in East

Boston, as well as top officials from Boston's Office of Emergency Management and the Boston Public Health Commission, among others.

Please reach Phil Giffee at NOAH (pgiffee@noahcdc.org) for questions or more information about the Assembly and how you can participate.







# East Boston

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#### TRUMP'S TAXES: SHOCKING, BUT NOT SURPRISING

The recent disclosure by the New York Times of President Donald Trump's personal tax returns for nearly a 20-year period, up to and including his 2017 return (which Trump would have filed in April, 2018), presents evidence of the extent both of Trump's tax avoidance schemes and the precarious situation of his personal finances.

Trump always has stated his disdain for taxes. While it may be true that he has been able to avoid paying taxes because of loopholes that favor the wealthy, especially real estate developers, what really stands out is the bottom line figure of \$750 in taxes that he paid in BOTH 2016 and 2017.

Americans who make only the minimum wage pay far more in federal income taxes than Trump paid in 2016 and 2017.

In addition, anyone who has filed a tax return for more than one year knows that it is almost impossible to have the same bottom line figure in two consecutive years (which is especially true for someone like Trump, who has multiple business ventures), unless you go out of your way to manipulate the figures.

Another fact that is evident from the tax returns is that Trump is hardly the mogul billionaire he always has claimed to be. The tax returns demonstrate that Trump is a truly terrible businessman.

Just as Trump's casinos and other projects failed miserably in the late 1980s and early 90s, his high-end golf clubs around the world are a cash sinkhole for him today.

Most disturbing however, the tax returns demonstrate the extent to which Trump personally is deeply in debt. Trump has almost half a billion dollars in loans (that he personally guaranteed) coming due within the next four years, but few liquid assets available to cover this huge debt.

Given that we know Trump is the ultimate embodiment of a pay-to-play president, does anyone doubt that Trump's desperate need to curry favor either with a bank, an exceedingly-wealthy individual, or a corrupt foreign country in order to refinance his huge debt could compromise his sworn oath to protect and defend the Constitution of the United States?

Finally, the story in the Times makes it clear that for Trump, his re-election is highly personal. If he loses in November, he almost certainly will be facing heightened scrutiny by the IRS and federal authorities relating to his tax filings. He also will have no ability to leverage the office of President in order to obtain refinancing for his huge debt.

The danger lurking for our country is that we know that Trump will go to any extent to win the election -- and that does not bode well for our democracy.

#### SUFFOLK DA ROLLINS STEPS UP

The announcement this week by Suffolk County District Attorney Rachael Rollins that her office will be expanding the database (often referred to as LEAD) that is comprised of law enforcement personnel whose prior conduct could impact their credibility as witnesses in a court proceeding comes as welcome news to every citizen in the Commonwealth.

The LEAD (Law Enforcement Automatic Discovery) database includes officers who have had incidents of untruthfulness, criminal convictions, candor issues, or some other type of issue reflecting on their ability to perform their job impartially, including discriminatory or defamatory actions, language or conduct targeting any protected category or class, based on race; color; religious creed; national origin; immigration status; sex; gender identity; sexual orientation; pregnancy; ances-

try; or status as a veteran.

Although the LEAD database has been in existence for a while, Rollins has expanded it with the addition of 115 officers to a new total of 136 names of law enforcement officers who work, have worked, or could work in Suffolk County.

The list includes former police officers in the cities of Boston, Revere, and Chelsea, as well as MBTA police and Massachusetts State Troopers.

We hasten to point out that the expansion of the LEAD database should not be seen as a reflection that in any way casts doubt upon the basic honesty and integrity of those who work in our police departments. Even though a total of 136 officers (most of whom

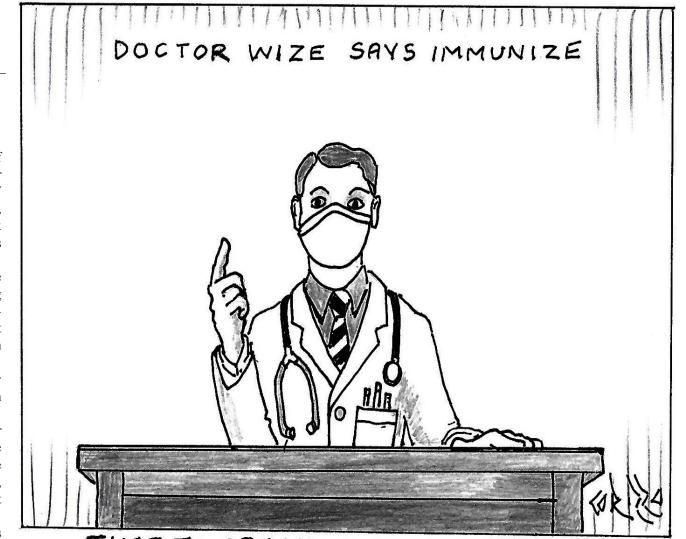
have resigned or retired) may seem like a large figure, it represents only a small fraction of the overwhelming majority of our men and women who wear a badge and who do their job, day-in and day-out, protecting our citizenry with honor, dignity, and compassion.

The criminal justice system is imperfect, even under the best of circumstances, for everybody involved, victims and defendants alike.

We applaud District Attorney Rollins for taking this step to ensure that every citizen of our state -- not merely Suffolk County residents -- receive a fair trial, which is an essential cornerstone of our democracy.



# Forum



## TIME TO GET YOUR FLU SHO

#### News in Brief

#### HARBOR VIEW NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEETING

The next meeting of the Harbor View Neighborhood Association will be on Monday, October 5, at 6:00 p.m. Just like the July, August and September meeting, they will be meeting in the Salesian Boys and Girls Club parking lot, practicing social distancing and wearing masks for safety. We are using a hybrid model: In Person and Online. Due to the COVID situation we will be offering members to participate in person or online.

In Person: they will be having our meeting in the Salesian Boys and Girls Club parking lot across from the Brooke Charter School on Byron Street. We are limiting our meeting to one and a half hours, practicing social distancing and wearing masks. Feel free to bring your own chair, but we will have chairs for anyone who wants one to sit down. In case of rain they will meet the following day, October 6, 2020, same time and place.

Online: they will also broadcasting meeting live to members of our Facebook group. (http://www.facebook. com/groups/harborviewna). At 6:00pm log onto Facebook, open up the HVNA group and look for the live broadcast by our Secretary, Chris Assanti. If you are attending via Facebook, please inform Chris that you are present for attendance purposes. You can do so via the video live chat or the direct message.

Agenda

Welcome/Introduction

Announcements (5min) 2 Swift Terrace/150 Swift Street. 2nd Presen-

tation and VOTE. Owner Joseph Steffano Jr., legalize storage shed, (rear yard set back), and change zoning to commercial for company trucks parking.

(10min).

97 Horace Street. 2nd Presentation. Attorney Richard Lynds for Joseph Trichilo. Subdivide existing 5000 SF parcel so that new parcel will contain 2,112 SF. Proposal to erect 4 Unit Condo building with 4 parking spaces. All Units to have 2 beds and 2 baths. (20min).

175 Wordsworth Street. First Presentation, Owner Manny Robles. Proposal is to finish demolition and refinishing of all three floors and basement. Extend living space into the basement area, to include takedown and reconstruction of rear porches.

(10min)

647-649 Bennington Street . 1st Presentation, Attorney Marc LaCasse for Owner Barry Caine. Proposal to convert a three family to a two family and subdivide the driveway to construct a new three family on the subdivided parcel. (30min)

85-87 Horace Street. 1st Presentation. Attorney Jeff Drago for Owner Deana Fetherson. Proposal to subdivide the existing parcel,(87 Horace) into two lots. The first, 87 Horace, will contain 3,817SF and the second, (85 Horace) will contain 2,433SF. Erect a single family house with multiple variances required for

both parcels. (30min) Next Meeting Novem-

ber 2, 2020.
Visit us at https://www.
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#### **LETTER** to the Editor

#### SUPPORT OF SUFFOLK DOWNS DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL

To the Editor:

The follwoing letter was sent to the BPDA Board Members.

I am a lifelong neighbor of the former Suffolk Downs racetrack, including residency in East Boston overlooking the site, and I currently reside in Winthrop which has a direct interest in the site due to its proximity. I have served the City of Boston as the Transportation Department Commissioner, as the Parks and Recreation Department Commissioner, as the Housing Inspection Department Commissioner and as the Manager of the East Boston Little City Hall. I enthusiastically endorse and support the HYM proposal before you regarding their innovative and comprehensive proposal for developing the disused

The HYM plan inge-

proposal.

former racetrack facility and urge the BPDA to The HYM proposal expeditiously approve the would optimize the public

niously connects both key public segments of the overall 161-acre site, East Boston with two thirds of the property and Revere with the other one third of the site. The HYM Suffolk Downs proposal is laudatory enough for its success in melding the various public policy requirements of these two diverse municipalities into a comprehensive and seamless design, a remarkable achievement.

The HYM commitment for providing some 1,500 affordable housing units in its mix of 10,000 total housing units is substantial and historic and would set a benchmark for other developers.

The HYM proposal to provide 40 acres of parks and open space would partially compensate East Boston for its decades of takings of community facilities such as Wood Island Park for public projects, such as Logan Airport, the Tunnels,

transit potential for serv-

ing the Suffolk Downs

rport, the Tunnels, bute 1A, et al.

The HYM proposal

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Ellen Bertino

site by the two MBTA Blue Line stations in East Boston and Revere, substantially reducing any dependence of the property for vehicular access. The HYM plan would also sig-

nificantly enhance much of the local roadway network to accommodate any moderate traffic increase that might occur.

Thank you,

Thank you,

John Vitagliano

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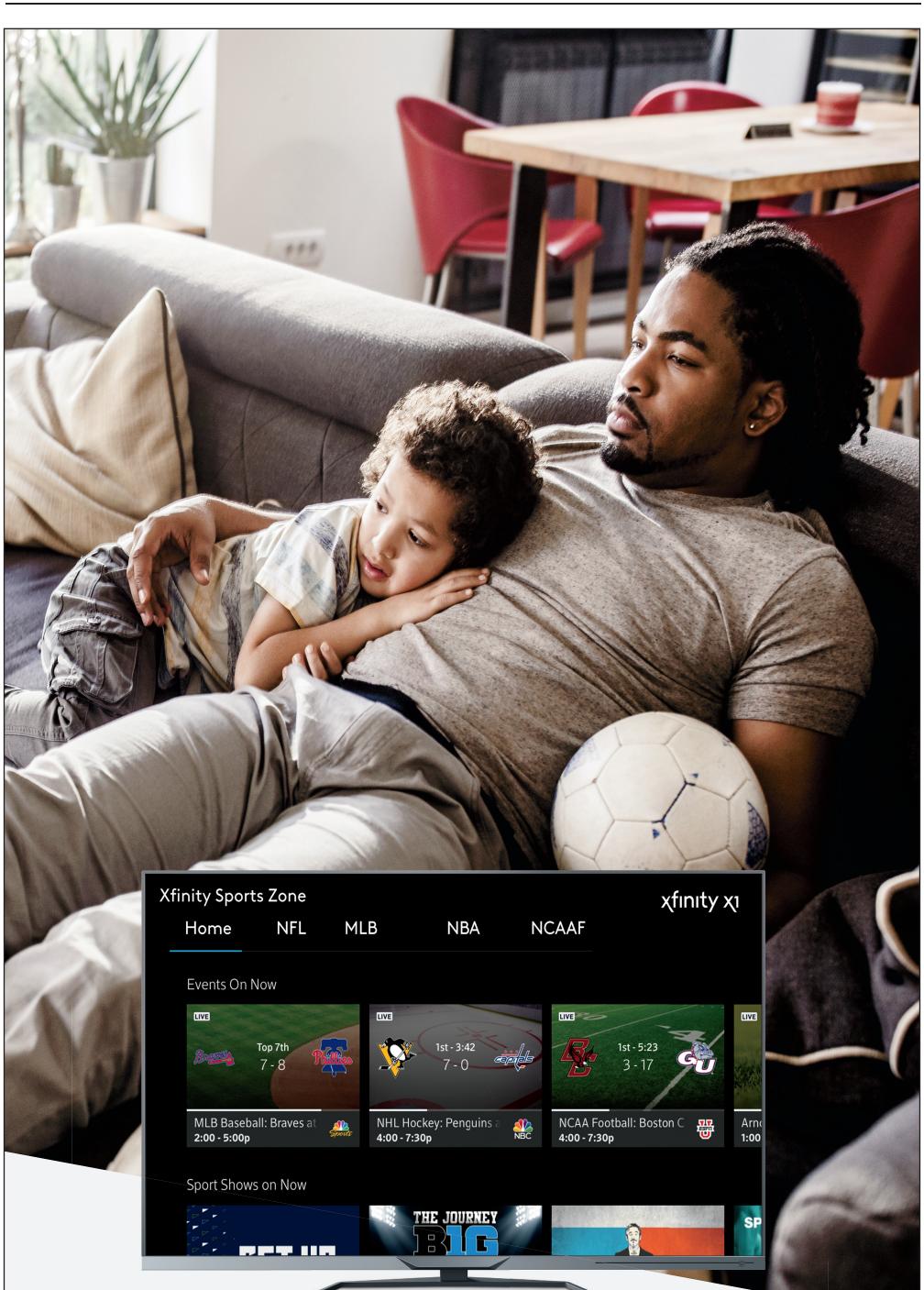
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## Suffolk Downs // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Group. "We have a tremendous opportunity to create this new neighborhood from the ground up, and for Suffolk Downs to serve as a model of how to thoughtfully design a modern development with climate resiliency, transit access, housing and public space in mind. We look forward to moving ahead towards building a new future at Suffolk Downs, creating housing, improved transit, and jobs for residents and the Greater Boston communi-

Thursday's vote marks the end of a three-year community review process, during which HYM has held over 450 meetings with community group members, elected officials and staff, and neighbors to hear and incorporate community feedback.

"East Boston has a long, rich history of community advocacy,' said City Councilor Lydia Edwards. "The last few years of community meetings, workshops, information sessions, emails, phone calls, and negotiation around the Suffolk Downs development is the latest chapter in that history. The BPDA approval and if the project is subsequently approved by the Boston Zoning Commission, it will mark the end of one fight and the beginning of another."

Edwards said she will now shift focus to ensuring that commitments are met and expanded upon.

"The commitments are floors, not ceilings," said Edwards. "I have faith that the community will continue to be engaged on Suffolk Downs for the next 20 years and beyond. I am proud of what we've been able to accomplish together over the past few years."

After the vote, Edwards highlighted some of the wins for the neighborhood throughout the community process. They include:

- An increase from 13% to 20% in the total affordable housing
- A \$5 million housing

stabilization fund independently controlled by East Boston with continued funding over the course of the project

- A wider range of incomes and more family sized units
- Immediate rent relief for East Boston families up to \$800,000, with \$400,000 coming immediately after the vote
- The site will be held to the standards of the upcoming fair housing amendment to the zoning code which will ensure housing for seniors, working families, and people with disabilities at the site for generations
- Publicly owned streets and sidewalks. Park space deeded to the city. First amendment protections on privately owned publicly accessible space.
- A Carbon Net Zero feasibility study with a commitment to pursue funding to implement the results of the study
- Updates to city zoning regarding environmental standards will apply to the site
  A Belle Isle Marsh
- visitor impact study and funding for an additional ranger at the marsh

   A Project Labor
- Agreement to guarantee union jobs for the construction
   \$1 million for work-
- force development and ESL classes for East Boston families
   \$1 million for appren-
- ticeship programs to get
  East Boston residents into
  the trades
   Expanded vocational
- education for East Boston residents and priority in the hiring process
- Daycare facilities onsite to support our families
- \$200,000 for a learnto-swim program for East Boston children

deby onthe



An Implementation
IAG to ensure compliance
with agreements
Continuous review

to ensure commitments

are being met before new buildings can be built "None of the above would have been possible without the continued engagement, and advocacy

without the continued engagement and advocacy of East Boston residents," said Edwards. "Again, let's remember that these are only minimums and with every building we can fight for and ask for more. I am proud to represent this community and look forward to continuing the fight over the coming years."

In addition to planning an infrastructure that en-

In addition to planning courages walking and biking as viable transit options, HYM has committed \$20 million in funding for public transit improvements in East Boston and Revere that will go towards Blue Line enhancements, Beachmont Station upgrades, Suffolk Downs Station reconstruction, and Better Bus improvements, and \$41 million in funding for Route 1A upgrades and intersection improvements.

In addition, HYM has

committed to funding the annual operating costs of an additional Blue Line train for 15 years and will include the design and construction of a new major extension of the Mary Ellen Welch Greenway.

"I am deeply grateful to everyone who participated in meetings, made calls, wrote their elected officials, and shared their concerns throughout the last three years of community feedback and negotiations," said Rep. Adrian Madaro. "As your State Representative, I have worked hard to amplify your voices and make sure that Suffolk Downs benefits our community, not just out-of-state investors. I am thankful to my colleagues, Councilor Edwards and Senator Boncore, for their steadfast partnership in these negotiations. As a result, East Boston achieved some important wins in this agreement, including additional investments in affordable housing, public transportation, and the environment. Like you, I am also concerned about what Suffolk Downs will mean for our community. While this project was approved, our work is not over. Now we must ensure that the commitments made to the community are fulfilled and expanded upon.

As we continue in this process, I am committed to stand by Eastie residents, to hear your concerns, and advocate for your priorities. We are building a new neighborhood, and together we must ensure that the future of Suffolk Downs is the future that we want for East Boston."

Senator Joseph Boncore, who represents Eastie and Revere, added, "HYM's development at Suffolk Downs has the potential to transform the face of East Boston over the next 20 years," said Boncore, who represents Eastie and Revere. "Recognizing this potential, our delegation has worked to ensure this project meets the affordable housing and transportation needs of our community. Still, given the long term nature of the development, it is critical that we continue to work together as a community in partnership with the City of Boston to continue to hold HYM accountable to these needs."



An aerial view of the proposed Suffolk Downs project that was approved by the BPDA Thursday.

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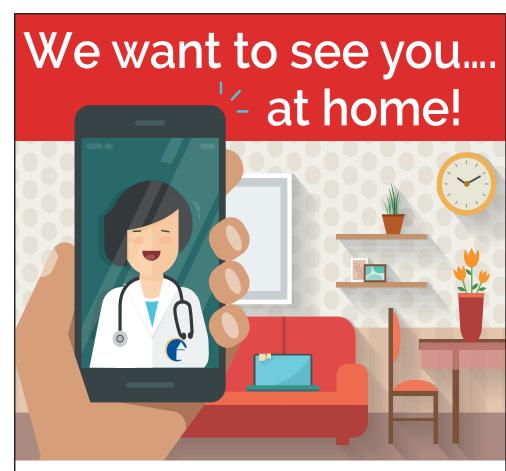
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#### Grants //

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

twice-weekly distribution

of food that gives community members access to essential and nutritious foods by combining fresh produce from a local vendor and food staple items from local sources. This grant will also help sustain the local business economy by purchasing fresh produce items from a local community grocer.

"Thanks Mayor to Walsh, the Boston Resiliency Fund, and the donors that made it possible for this grant to help us with our food pantry distribution," said Pastor Dave Searles. "We are distributing 130-150 bags of food every Monday and Thursday at 9:00 a.m. to individuals and families affected by the economic slowdown due to the pandemic. Restaurants, hotels, and airport services are struggling which impacts a large number of people in East Boston so this grant helps us meet this critical, ongoing need. Karen Food Market at 41 Bennington Street has been a key supplier of fresh produce as well as other local food sources." Since launching in

March to help Boston residents most affected by COVID-19, the Boston Resiliency Fund has distributed over \$26.3 million to 348 local organizations and nonprofits. Fifty five percent of grantee organizations are led by a person of color, 58 percent of grantee organizations are led by a woman, and 27 percent of grantees are immigrant-serving organizations.

East Boston Athletic Board during the annual golf fundrais-

Paul Travaglini (right) and his team.

The team from Gill Oil.

#### SALESIAN BOYS & GIRLS CLUB HOLDS SWING FOR KIDS GOLF TOURNAMENT FUNDRAISER

Last Monday, the Salesian Boys & Girls Club held its annual Swing for Kids Golf Tournament Fundraiser at Winthrop Golf Course. The annual event helps raise money for the Boys & Girls Club programs as well as some of their new special programs that have been helping families during the pandemic.

The winning team for this year's event were Steve Previte, Shawn Sorrentino, Richie Sorrentino, and Michael Sorrentino.



Winning Foursome Steve Previte, Shawn Sorrentino, Richie Sorrentino, and Michael Sorrentino.



Golfers from EJ Callahan & Assoc.



The team from First Priority Credit Union.



Kevin Kotyluk's team.



The team from Trichilo Development.



Michael Palma's team.



The team from the Winthrop Arms.



Doug Cesero team.



Board President Joe Steffano, Fr. Jack Janko, Mike Triant, Fr. Bill Keane, and Jim Geraci.



Phil Boncore (center) and his team.



The team from EJ Callahan & Assoc. on the course.



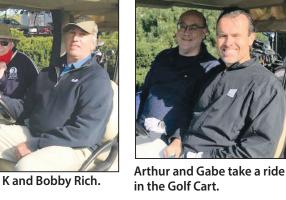
The Gavin Group during the fundraiser.



Willie and Gail Triant.



Fr. Bill K and Bobby Rich.





Fr. Jack Janko cooks some hotdogs.

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Russer Honey Maple Cooked Ham	÷5.99	/lb
Hans Kissle Cheese Tortellini Salad		

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Hot House Slicing Tomatoes	1.79/lb
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#### **NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION**

#### REP. RYAN READY TO HELP

CHELSEA - This year's Primary Election was one to remember, and with State Rep. Dan Ryan prevailing in the vote – and no challenger on the ballot in November – he said he is thinking about his next term and noted it will be all about getting Charlestown and Chelsea back on their feet after COVID-19.

Ryan prevailed over Chelsea Councillor Damali Vidot in the Sept. 1 Primary vote, winning Charlestown handily but losing the Chelsea vote and winning overall by about 1,100 votes. However, unlike previous re-election campaigns, the new term will be anything but typical. In fact, he said, many of the goals he might have typically had will need to be put aside for the next term.

"It's really going to be about just getting my two communities that I represent back up on their feet," he said. "That's my goal. We all know the story of how hard Chelsea was hit and we need to achieve the same structure we had in Charlestown and bring some normalcy back to where it was before COVID-19. Chelsea was headed in a good direction before COVID-19, but I think COVID-19 also showed us the structural issues that exist in our urban areas and that we have to address. Both communities have pretty large public housing re-developments going on. We have to do a lot of work making sure those are done right. We're re-inventing public housing in Charlestown and Chelsea. Regardless of COVID-19, I think we need to move forward on those projects."

Most of the work to be done, he said, will be making sure basic needs are met for residents in Charlestown and Chelsea – such as housing foreclosure/eviction prevention and making sure essential workers can safely get to their jobs. Those aren't grand plans for a newly elected representative, but Ryan said that's the work that is going to be required for his district.

"The biggest thing we need to do is to make sure we are being safe to get our numbers down so we can get people back to work when it's safe to do so and then keep people in their homes," he said. "There is a lot of work to do on that. The primary issues I've been working on for the

last six years are really going to have to be put on the back burner."

One of the major concerns he said he has is with downtown areas in Boston and Chelsea – and how the changes in work dynamics are going to affect businesses there and workers who go there for jobs. He said the delegation in the State House has already been informally talking about these issues since COVID-19 hit, and he expects them to be more prominent moving for-

"It looks like this is going to bring a huge societal shift," he said. "I don't think downtowns will be completely empty, but I think businesses and workers that go there will be affected...What I think eventually we'll be dealing with is downtown businesses that are the dayto-day services - the sandwich shops, the stores and the bars – they're going to take a big hit if the economy doesn't come back."

Ryan, reflecting on the election process, said it was a very hard campaign to define and to carry out. With COVID-19 hitting just after he had announced his re-election campaign, there was a lot of uncertainty about how to proceed. First, he said he took a pause, and then the work of the State Legislature picked up and he described it as being one of the busiest and hardest few months of his career.

"I didn't really start campaigning until June," he said. "We were so busy unemployment cases and getting PPE to places that needed it and getting food to the elderly, there wasn't time for it. When we started, it was by telephone and Zoom meetings. When I saw people walking around more and going to the coffee shops and supermarket and getting out, I started on my own street in Charlestown where people know me. Gradually I worked my way out in Charlestown and Chelsea. For the most part, I got a good reception. Nobody told me they didn't want me at the door...The majority thanked me for com-

ing out and doing it."

He said he found that there was a much higher turnout than expected, largely driven by mail-in voting, early voting and other unique aspects of this election process. He said he believes that the turnout was balanced on mail-in voting, and it is likely here to stay in some form.

"Going forward post-COVID, we'll have a good process in place and much more efficiencies like everything else," he said.

Now, back in the legislature, Ryan said it will be his job this coming term to make sure places like Chelsea and Charlestown get their fair share of funding to put things back in order. That will be particularly critical in Chelsea and parts of Charlestown hit harder by the virus and the downturn in the econ-

"We have to make sure that Gateway Cities and urban areas get a weighted share of the monies," he said. "Do we have a better argument now? Yes. But I think we were moving that way already. The Student Opportunity Act was a good step to help these urban cities and towns. I don't think COVID exposed to us anything we didn't know, but it gives us more of an immediacy to move where we were going."

State Rep. Ryan will be inaugurated into his fourth term in January.

#### DLR UPHOLDS CARLI'S APPOINTMENT

EVERETT - The City is trumpeting a decision this week from a Department of Labor Relations (DLR) hearing officer that sided with them in the battle over how Fire Chief Tony Carli was picked as chief some years ago – and confirmed as a permanent pick this past January.

Meanwhile, the Fire Union said the decision by the hearing officer doesn't clear up the matter, and they are pondering an appeal to straighten out all of the issues – including collective bargaining issues.

Chief Carli, the City of Everett's Fire Chief was named permanent on January 27, 2020 and confirmed by the Everett City Council. His appointment to permanent was not without controversy. Carli, a 20-year veteran of the Everett Fire Department, climbed the ranks and was named the City of Everett's acting Fire Chief on June of 2016.

Everett Firefighters Local 143, the Union that represents Everett's Fire Department with the exception of the Chief, contended that the appointment of Carli was done without merit. Specifically, they stated that the "impacts of promotional procedures to a managerial position should be de-

# COLORFUL MURALS TO DELIGHT THE CITY-SCAPE THIS MONTH



A number of painted murals and Wheat Paste murals will be going up all over Chelsea's downtown area this month to help bring people out and celebrate a new story of the community. The effort by Chelsea Prospers started on Sept. 19 and will continue through early October. All in all, 14 artists will be working, and more than 40 residents will have contributed in some fashion as well. Here, Chelsea teacher and muralist Demetrius Fuller's music-themed piece has taken shape on the back of Apollinaire Theatre.

clared a mandatory subject of bargaining, especially where, as here, the incumbent was involved in the promotional process and because the City did not bargain".

However, in a recent opinion issued by Attorney James Sunkenberg, the hearing officer presiding over the complaint for the Department of Labor Relations, he determined that

"The union has not established that the City's decision impacted a mandatory subject of bargaining," read his decision. "Accordingly, it has not established that the City violated the law.

"The Union's position collapses the distinction between decisional and impact bargaining and that does not persuade me," he continued. "Here, the Union does not identify any impacts on a mandatory subject of bargaining that result from the City's decision". Ultimately, the City's decision to use an assessment center to select the Chief's position was well within their rights."

Mayor Carlo DeMaria maintained the selection of chief a under his jurisdiction and doesn't require collective bargaining, even if using an Assessment Center.

"The role of Fire Chief is a managerial role under the jurisdiction of the Executive Office," he said. "While the union's input will always be welcome and taken into consideration, I applaud the decision of the Department of Labor Relations in being able to differentiate the roles between a union employee and that of executive level management."

Said Chief Carli, "I can understand that new processes may seem difficult to grasp in the fire service with so much longstanding tradition. However, the fire service is changing along with the management of it. The City and other communities across the state have moved towards assessment center testing, rather than written. I appreciate the Department of Labor Relations understanding of management's rights to select a Department Head."

Union President Craig Hardy said they strongly disagree with the decision, and also said they will contemplate an appeal – noting that the hearing officer's decision is not a final ruling.

"This hearing officers decision only decided the City didn't violate any collective bargaining laws," he said. "It did not decide that the process was fair or objective. We still believe it's inappropriate for the Fire Chief position to be selected in this manner regardless of the ruling of the hearing officer, which we strongly disagree with and are pondering an Appeal with the DLR."

He said the Union still believes having Carli participate in crafting the Assessment Center when he was knowingly a candidate was not fair to other members that wanted to try for the position.

"We believe the city conducted an unfair and biased process to benefit an ally of the Mayor," he said. "The hearing established that the Mayor promised to promote the Acting Chief regardless of his performance in the process. The Acting Chief was involved in the critical decision-making of the process the City chose for the seat he occupied and wanted to fill permanently. Ultimately the City chose the process that advantaged the Acting Chief's chances for the promotion. The City did not bargain with the union despite effectively

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promising to bargain this new process that benefitted the Acting Chief."

Hardy said they would decide within 10 days whether they will appeal the decision by the DLR.

#### CITY MARKS BRAZILIAN FLAG RAISING

EVERETT - The familiar blue, yellow and green Brazilian flag might hang in two out of three storefront businesses in Everett, but the flag had never flown over City Hall before

Mayor Carlo DeMaria, School Committeeman Marcony Almeida Barros and Councilor Stephanie Martins joined a host of friends, City officials and well-wishers to celebrate the 198th anniversary of Brazilian independence by flying the flag over Everett City Hall for the first time

Brazilians have made up more and more of the population of the United States over the last several years, and in 2018, 10,538 Brazilians were naturalized as American Citizens. Massachusetts is a hotbed for Brazilian immigrants, second only behind Florida in numbers. Of that Middlesex County has the second most concentrated population of Brazilians in the United States – which includes Everett

Framingham.

In the Everett Public Schools, the numbers of Brazilian students has skyrocketed and Portuguese speakers in the schools are second only to Spanish

School Committeeman Almeida Barros said that isn't lost on him, and he noted that six of the new Family Liaisons hired recently to assist school

speakers.

See REGION Page 9

#### COVID-19 has changed everything.

Connect with our readers of **The Revere Journal**, **The Winthrop Sun Transcript**, **The East Boston Times Free Press**, **Chelsea Record, Everett Independent**, and **Lynn Journal** who are looking



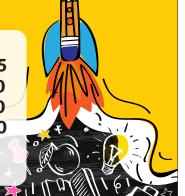
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#### Region // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

community families are Brazilian. He said when he could have never imagined when he came to Everett many years ago that he would be the first Brazilian American elected to the Everett School Com-

"I am proud of that, not for myself, but for the community that I represent," he said.

But he also said raising the Brazilian flag does not mean he isn't proud to be an American also.

"We are here as one - as one community," he said. "Being here and raising the Brazilian flag doesn't make me less American. I am Brazilian by birth and proudly American by choice."

Mayor Carlo DeMaria said he was honored to be there with his wife, Stacy, to raise the flag over City Hall for the first time showing the City is a welcoming place to everyone.

"When people see this flag in our city, it is my hope they will know Everett is welcoming for everyone and will remain that way indefinitely," he said.

"I hope this is the first of what will be many, many celebrations of Brazilian independence and raising this flag," he added.

Councilor Martins is the first Brazilian American to be elected to the Council, and she said it was something she took great pride in knowing that those who came before her worked hard so that the younger generation could be at the decision-making table.

"The City of Everett is the home of one of the largest Brazilian populations," she said. "We are thankful to be able to call Everett our Home where the people who built the foundation of this city extended Everett's mission of pride, progress, and possibilities to the Brazilian community, so today we can also be a part of the building of this city. The many businesses that brought life to our storefronts, our entrepreneurs, renters, homeowners. The Brazilian community is now also part of the making of this city.

"Our parents who scrubbed toilets, cleaned houses, washed dishes, worked in construction and performed manual labor that they never imagined doing before, can now contemplate the first generation of college graduates, elected officials, army veterans, and police officers...This country gave so much to us and now we are giving back," she continued.

State Sen. Sal DiDomenico said Brazilians have led the way in being 'One Everett.'

"When I look around our city, state and country, there's a lot happening now," he said. "We can combat all that's going on by sticking together with every ethnic group and everyone who wants to be a part of our community -One Everett – and Brazilians have led the way on that."

Following the presentation, City officials gathered as the Brazilian Anthem was played, and the flag was raised on the ceremonial flag pole. Then, Brazilian music and dancing was provided outdoors by Grooversity.

#### **CROWLEY STILL HELPING**

LYNN - With a storied career in public service, Paul Crowley is moving on to his next chapter by providing financial and management services to small businesses and for individuals approaching retirement.

Paul Crowley opened a new office in the Clock Tower Business Center at 330 Lynnway.

The former Lynn city councillor and chief executive officer of Greater Lynn Senior Services (GLSS), Crowley has jumped right in by helping 35 businesses secure loans in the Paycheck Protection Program [established by the CARES Act].

"Those businesses received about \$3 million and put 300 people back to work," said Crowley. "As a result of this work, my clients have looked to me to provide further help in other areas."

Three terms on the City Council

A 1977 graduate of Lynn Tech, and 1987 graduate of Northeastern University's business program, Crowley served three terms on the Lynn City Council from 2005 to 2011.

Prior to his first election, he had become a board member on the Lynn Council on Aging, having been appointed by then-Mayor Patrick McManus. He became very active in the Lynn Chamber of Commerce and the Lynn Lions Club.

"Around the year 2000, I just started helping everywhere I could and I was enjoying it," said Crowley, whose family owned the Lynnway Bowling Center at that time. "I also realized how important it was to give back to the community."

In 2005, he was elected as a councillor-at-large in his first bid for public office. "I finished second as a dark-horse candidate," he recalled. "Tim Phelan topped the ticket."

Crowley said he has no current plans to run for public office.

"It's in my blood but as it stands right now, I feel like I've given my service in government," said Crowley. For the past 20 years, I have been a passionate advocate for the City of Lynn through my work on the council, in non-profit organizations and other endeavors." In recognition of his public service and contributions to the community, he received the Lynn Journal 'Man of the Year" Award in 2007.

He is currently a board member of the Lynn Shelter Association and a member of the board at the Riverworks Credit Union. His years

at GLSS

Crowley became the chief executive officer for GLSS in 2009, serving for 10 years. In that role, he also oversaw the MBTA's "The Ride" public transportation program for seniors on the North Shore.

"The Ride is a good service and a needed service," said Crowley. "At our peak, we were doing 2,500-3,000 rides per day."

He is proud of his achievements at GLSS.

"I worked with some extraordinary people at GLSS and it is an outstanding organization," said Crowley. "I was blessed to be a part of that and I'm very proud of the accomplishments we had

"We set the standard for elder care during the ten years I worked there," said Crowley. "People were looking to us for guidance across the state. We were a \$75 million agency when I left. When I took over, it was a \$50 million agency, so we grew by 50 percent. We were the largest non-profit doing elder care in the state."

Crowley praised GLSS Chief Executive Officer Kathryn Burns.

"Kathy Burns, the new CEO, is an extraordinary talent and has a warm sport in her heart for the elderly ," said Crowley. "She has been taking care of seniors for many years. She is a natural fit for that position and I think GLSS will be on good hands for many years to come."

Paul Crowley and his wife, Kathy, a native of Augusta, Maine, have been married for 33 years. They have a daughter, Emmy, 24. Kathy is the owner of Payroll Express Services, a full-service payroll and financial company in Lynn.

#### SHARING THEIR **COVID STORY**

REVERE - Four Revere residents are telling their first-hand experiences with the coronavirus as part of an initiative launched by the City of Revere and Revere TV.

Marvin Pena, Elayna O'Neil, Brittany Sao, and Sara Restrepo talk about their recoveries from COVID-19 and stress the importance of wearing face coverings and maintaining social distance during the vignettes that can be viewed on Revere TV's Youtube Channel.

Pena is a 35-year-old war veteran who served in Iraq. He emigrated from El Salvador when he was 8 years old. Pena and several members of his family were diagnosed with COVID-19 in March.

"My cousin lives with my parents and I went to my parents," recalled Pena. "A few days later I found out that my cousin's co-worker had COVID. I took it serious enough where I started quarantining myself.

"I went to the VA and they didn't have enough tests yet," he continued. "The VA sent me home and they told me, 'if you get worse, come back,' and I came back and I was way worse. A few days later I found out that I had COVID."

Pena said in addition to having a 104-degree temperature, chills, and a headache, he also lost his sense of tasting and smelling his food.

and my brother had im-

THE

"My wife, my mother,

mediate contact with each other and my cousin, so we all ended up getting sick," he said.

Pena said when he walked from the kitchen to the living room "I was completely out of breath and needed to a nap. That's when knew I needed to get professional help from somewhere else other than the avenues I was already exploring."

Pena said he was immediately admitted to Mass General Hospital "and I spent five weeks in the ICU. And 23 of those days were in a coma where I was on a ventilator. I lost 50 pounds. I had muscle atrophy."

Pena praised MGH personnel for its outstanding treatment and care during his recovery process. An avid long-distance runner, he is hoping to return to the Boston Marathon as a participant.

He said that "people should take the coronavirus seriously." "The moment they're

affected directly, that's going to change their mind. If I can reach at least one person by taking time out of my day to say, "Put a mask on, clean your hands – it's worth it."

O'Neil, 66, said "after being home sick for a week," she spent 45 days in the hospital, including 20 days on a ventilator.

"I was dropped off at the hospital by my son alone and I could not see anybody in my family because there were no visitors at that time, between the Beth Israel Hospital and Spaulding Rehabilita-

"Now it's months later and I've gone back to work. I'm a hair salon owner and a hairdresser and the lasting effects I have right now are really severe joint pain in my knees. I did have bad knees, but they got worse. It's an ongoing disease and it's still affecting me. I also have no sense of taste or smell."

O'Neil said there were many people walking around that had no symp-

"You cannot take a chance that you're not going to catch it because you don't know who's walking around with it," said O'Neil. "It's a silent disease. Some people do get really sick and you know they have it, and there are other people walking around that just pass it on

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you without you being aware of it.

"You have to be so careful with wearing a mask socially distancing, and washing your hands, trying not to go anywhere where there are crowds."

Sao, 19, said the virus spread quickly among members of her family.

She said her father had gone to get tested on March 22 "and he wasn't able to get tested because at the time testing was very limited."

"My mother (who is a medical assistant) sensed something was definitely wrong with him," said Sao. "My father was tested at MGH Boston and a week later, he got his results back and he was positive. His condition got a lot worse. He ended up having pneumonia and a bad fever. He spent 45 days in the ICU. He was put on a ventilator to help him breathe.

"My mother ended up catching it, too, just as bad as my dad. Right after my mom caught it, I caught it, too," said Sao. "My mother, my sister, and I were stuck in our house for a good month because my mother just kept re-testing positive. Thankfully we had a lot of family that was able to help us and bring us food and everything. But April was a really rough time for me and my family. We called the doctor every single day to receive an up-

date on my father." Sao, who was completing her first year of college at that time, said the family has gradually returned to good health and is partaking in its daily routines.

"We're always wearing our masks everywhere,' said Sao. "We have hand sanitizers immediately ready. We're making sure that we're taking all precautions."

Restrepo, a professional singer who delivered her remarks in Spanish on her Revere TV segment, spoke of her three visits to the hospital and being put on oxygen to help in her recovery. She noted the isolation from her family during her illness and stressed the importance of wearing a mask and main-

(Information from the City of Revere press release and the actual remarks of the residents on Revere TV were used in the compilation of this sto-

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**OBITUARIES** 

**Arthur Rizzo** 

the old Boston Garden

Longtime proprietor of Pinball Arcade in

#### Francis Michael Mahoney

Decorated veteran and United Airlines retiree



Francis Michael "Fran" Mahoney, a lifelong resident of Re-

vere, passed away on Sept. 25 at the age of 88.

Fran proudly served in the United States Navy during the Korean War and received numerous medals for his service to his country. After returning home from the war, Francis worked for United Airlines, retiring after 30 years. He was an avid sports fan with all of the Boston teams being his favorite. He will truly be missed by all who knew

Born in Revere on Sept. 6, 1932 to the late Michael and Ethelyn (Mallison) Mahoney, he was the beloved husband of the late Jeanne (Roy), devoted father of Karen Ruggieri and her partner, Bastiano Mancuso of Wayland and Philip Mahoney and his late wife, Kathleen

of Weymouth; cherished grandfather of Tyler Ruggieri and Olivia Mahoney; dear brother of Ethelyn Mitchell and her husband, Jim of Revere and the late Helen Vorhees and Philip Mahoney. He is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews. Due to the current

spike in Covid-19, the guidelines issued by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and local officials, funeral services will be privately held for the immediate family under the direction of the Paul Buonfiglio & Sons-Bruno Funeral Home 128 Revere St, Revere, Ma 02151. Interment Woodlawn Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the VFW, Processing Center, P.O. Box 8958, Topeka, KS 66608-8958 or at www.heroes. vfw.org. For guest book, please visit www.buonfiglio.com.

#### Arthur was a member of the Orient Heights Yacht

Club, Fitton K.C. Buddies Club and Holy Name St. Joseph- St. Lazarus Parish. Arthur was the proprietor of Pinball Arcade in the old Boston Garden for many years. He is loved and will be remem-

Arthur E. Rizzo passed

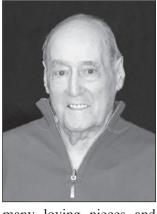
away peacefully at home

surrounded by his loving

family on Sept. 24.

bered by many. He was the beloved husband for 70 years of Josephine "Tootsie" (Giuffre), devoted father of Deborah LiConti and her husband, Charles of New York, Arthur J. Rizzo of East Boston and Joseph J. Rizzo and his late wife, Marie of Reading; dear brother of Sophie Galardi of Revere and the late Salvatore Rizzo, Carmella Lombardi, Florence Rizzo, Samuel Rizzo and Edith Mercurio; loving grandfather of eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

He is also survived by



many loving nieces and nephews.

Family and friends honored Arthur's life by gathering at the Ruggiero Family Memorial Home, 971 Saratoga Street, East Boston on Monday, Sept. 28 and again Tuesday morning before leaving in procession to St. Joseph-St. Lazarus Church, 59 Ashley Street East Boston MA 02128, for a Mass celebrating Arthur's life. All other services were private.

For more information or to leave an online condolence, please visit www. ruggieromh.com.

#### Lillian Melchionda

Passed in her 103rd year

Lillian (Falanga) Melchionda AKA Letteria Frances Melchionda, 102, passed away in her 103rd year on Sept. 24 following a brief illness. The beloved wife of the

late Alfred S. Melchionda, she was the cherished mother of Ralph J. Melchionda and his wife, Janet R. of Chelmsford, Florence Grieco of Dracut, Mary-Frances LaBrecque and her husband, Dennis of Salem, NH and Alfred J. Melchionda and his wife, Nancy of Amesbury; dear sister of the late Leo, Charles, Frank, Andrew, Rudolph and Joseph Falanga and Frances Alberti. She is also lovingly survived by eight grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren, six great great-grandchildren and many nieces, nephgrandnieces and



grandnephews. A Graveside Service was held in Woodlawn Cemetery in Everett followed by interment. Remembrances may be made to your favorite charity. To send online condolences, please visit www.vertuccioandsmith.com. Funeral Arrangements werenentrusted to the care and direction of the Vertuccio & Smith, Home for Funer-

#### **Madeline McComiskey**

Of New Hampshire, formerly of East Boston

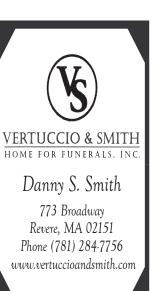
Madeline R. (Frederico) McComiskey of Salem, NH, formerly of East Boston, passed away peacefully on Sept. 23.

Madeline, who volunteered for several East Boston organizations, was the loving daughter of the late Josephine and Roger Federico, beloved wife of the late Robert B. McComiskey, mother of Robert M. and the late Richard B. McComiskey and dear sister of Loretta Pardi. She is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

All services will be private. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations



may be made to a charity of your choice. For condolences, additional information or to leave an online condolence, visit www.ruggieromh.com. 617-569-0990.



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# **OBITUARIES**

All obituaries and death notices will be at a cost of \$100.00 per paper. That includes photo. Please send to obits@reverejournal.com or call 781-485-0588

## Ann Felzani

Traffic supervisor for the Boston Police Department for 40 years

Ann B. Felzani (Cacchiotti) Felzani passed away peacefully at home on Sept. 18.

Ann was raised in Our Lady of the Assumption parish in East Boston and then spent over forty years as an active member of the St. Anthony of Padua parish in Revere. Ann's faith and family were always at the center of her life. She wanted her children and grandchildren to be surrounded by the loving presence of family and to have the privilege of the best education. She taught these values to her family through her example and through the stories she told. She loved to socialize in the communities of East Boston and Revere. She always worked hard, loved to be busy, and had high expectations for herself. She was very proud of her baking. She was famous for her biscotti, apple cakes and custom birthday or special occasion cakes for grandchil-

She was a traffic supervisor for the Boston Police Department for 40 years. She not only safeguarded children crossing the street, but also questioned anyone she did not recognize before letting them pick up a child after school. Her winning smile lit up Day Square, but she had a fierce instinct when something did not look

She was the daughter of the late Francesco and Antonetta (Cardinale) Cacchiotti, beloved wife of the late Joseph Felzani, Sr., beloved and devoted

ST. JUDE

My prayers have been answered.

L.P.

promised.



mother of Jane and her late husband, William D. Manning Jr. of East Boston, Joseph Jr. and his wife, Donna, of Revere, and Annette and her husband, Terence Dwyer of Summit, NJ; sister of Rita Sorrento and her late husband, James, of Revere and the deceased Carmella, Costanzo (Chris) and Vincent (Jimmy). Ann also leaves her grandchildren: Matthew Manning and the late Christopher Manning of East Boston, Kathryn (Felzani) Tocci of Wilmington, Lauren Felzani of Manhattan, NY, Liam Dwyer and Adam Dwyer of Summit, NJ; her great-grandson, Nicholas of Wilmington as well as many nieces and nephews.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 health crisis, services will be private. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Ann's memory to St. Anthony of Padua Church, 250 Revere St. Revere, MA 02151; Amedisys Foundation, 3864 American Way, Suite A, Baton Rouge, LA 70816; or Mass General Hospital at giving.massgeneral.org/mgh-fund/ donate. A Memorial Mass celebrating Ann's life will be held at a later date.

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## **Thomas Santiano**

True Patriot, veteran of two wars and member of the North Shore Rock & Mineral Club



Family and friends are invited to attend a Graveside Service on

Thursday, Oct. 1 at 12:45 p.m. at the Massachusetts National Cemetery in Bourne for Thomas William Santiano, 96, who passed on Tuesday, Sept. 22 at his residence in Orient Heights, East Boston.

Born and raised in East Boston, he was a 1942 graduate of the High School of Commerce in Boston. "Tommy" entered the U.S. Navy in October of 1942 and served through January of 1946. At that time, he began working for the Boston Housing Authority.

A true patriot and a defender of all things U.S.A., he re-entered the U.S. Navy at the time of the Korean Conflict and served for another three years. Throughout his working career, he worked in the field of construction and industrial arts. He worked for over 25 years with the Perini Corp. of Framingham as a lead laborer and foreman.

He was an avid rock and precious metals collector and a longtime member of the North Shore Rock & Mineral Club. His collection is vast and bares proof of many hours and years of avid searches throughout National Parks, local parks and forests. He enjoyed family outings and gatherings and the conversation they provoked.

He was the beloved husband of the late Ruth A. (Kelly) Santiano who passed in January of 2010; the devoted son of the late Michael J. and Madeline G. (Nealon) Santiano and the dear brother to the late Louis R. Santiano, the late Michael J. Santiano, Jr. and the late Lawrence F. Santiano; the cherished father to Mary F. McIntosh of Madison, NH and the proud grandfather to Paul



W. Dunn and his wife, Dolores of Sutton, MA and Brian D. Dunn and his wife, Linda of Marshfield, MA. He is also lovingly survived by his sister-inlaw Phyllis E. Santiano of Saugus, his three great grandchildren, Tristan E. Dunn of Sutton, MA and Tyler W. Dunn and Rachael C. Dunn, both of Marshfield. He is also lovingly survived by his niece, Michelle Santiano, with whom he made his home, her son, Antonio Santiano, his daughter, Adriana Santiano, all of Orient Heights, East Boston and the special uncle to Maureen D. Santiano, Rose Sarro, Robert J. Santiano and his wife, Anne, all of Saugus and the late Richard L. Santiano and the late Michael J. Santiano, III. His extended family includes Montana S. Santiano of Saugus, Michael A. Santiano of Haverhill, Maryanne Santiano of East Boson and Julie E. Santiano of Revere. Many caring cousins also survive "Tommy."

In lieu of flowers, remembrances may be made to the MPSPCA - Angell, 350 Huntington Ave, Boston, MA 02130-9923. To send online condolences, please visit www.vertuccioandsmith.com

The staff at Vertuccio & Smith, Home for Funerals of Revere is honored to have assisted the family with the completion of funeral arrangements.



Give now.



## Mayor holds Boston EMS graduation ceremony at LoPresti Park

By John Lynds

Last week Mayor Martin Walsh joined Boston EMS to celebrate the graduation of 10 Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) recruits in a socially distanced, outdoor ceremony at LoPresti Park in East Boston.

This graduating class will be assigned to 911 ambulances here and across the city, strengthening the City of Boston's Emergency Medical Services (EMS).

"In our lifetime, we've never seen a crisis quite like the COVID-19 pandemic. And through it all, the men and women at Boston EMS have been on the front lines, leading the City's response with incredible courage and passion," said Mayor Walsh. "I'm proud to be here to congratulate the men and women graduating today as they join the best emergency medical services department in the country.

Today's ceremony formally acknowledges 10

pletion of a rigorous posthire training program for EMTs at Boston EMS. Already state-certified EMTs prior to hire, this graduating class, completed an additional seven months of classroom and field training. Known as "Recruit Class 2020-1," the recruits were trained in a variety of life-threatening emergency situations, including active shooter incidents, hazardous materials exposure, transportation accidents, recovery

services, human traffick-

ing and mass casualty in-

cidents. The training pro-

gram also included a

month-long reassignment

to assist with the City

of Boston's COVID-19

pandemic response, sup-

recruits' successful com-

porting field operations, dispatch operations and enhanced disinfectant procedures.

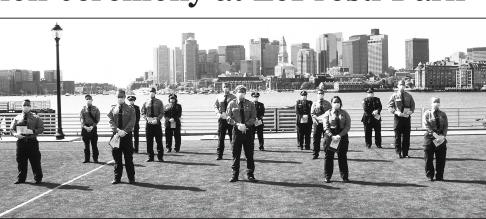
The recruits graduating at LoPresti Park last week were Edir Abid, Keelan Berg, Jocelyn Brandao, Hannah Furgang, Zachary Keay, Jesse Lee, Andrei

Vazhenin, Daniel Bohling,

Ryan Hufnagel and Mark Ingram.

"Their rigorous training academy began when the City only had one confirmed case of COVID-19 and it continued through the surge of the pandemic in Boston. This recruit class has seen firsthand the courage, passion and heart it takes to do this job," said Boston EMS Chief James Hooley. "Welcome to Boston EMS. You are serving in historic times and you are ready."

This academy class responded to nearly 1,400 9-1-1 calls during their training. Those emergency incidents included baby deliveries, cardiac arrests, motor vehicle accidents, shootings, stabbings, strokes, overdoses and more. With guidance from seasoned EMT field training officers, recruits are not only prepared to care for patients, regardless of the circumstances, they also now understand the level of care, clinical excellence and professionalism expected of Boston



Ten recruits graduated from the rigorous Boston EMS training program and will be stationed here and across Boston.

Last year, Mayor Walsh said he had heard enough of long wait times that some Eastie residents, especially the sick and elderly, were reporting when it came to Boston EMS response times.

The Mayor ordered a

second dedicated ambulance to be stationed in the neighborhood. Walsh used overtime funds to pay for the second ambulance in Eastie for the remainder of this Fiscal Year.

Walsh then earmarked funds to have the second ambulance permanently stationed in the neighborhood through a deal with Massport.
In May

In May 2019 Mayor Walsh, Boston EMS and Massport joined together for a ribbon cutting ceremony to open a new EMS station on Logan Airport property.

In 2018 Walsh an-

nounced a new initiative that uses data to change the way EMTs are deployed to areas including the Boston Common and Recovery Road area to improve patient outcomes and ambulance utilization. As part of this effort, funding was set aside for a Community Assistance Team to respond to calls

that do not require a patient transport, resulting in more efficient use of ambulance utilization. Under Walsh, citywide

response times for Priority 1 calls were 6.3 minutes in 2018, down from 6.4 minutes in 2017. Boston EMS responds to more than 125,000 calls all across the city each year, 7,700 of those incidents are in East Boston

Boston EMS is one of the busiest municipal EMS providers in New England, responding to more than 125,000 emergency medical incidents per year.

## Faiella wins Donna Rauseo Scholarship; Catano awarded the Davis Memorial Internship

By John Lynds

#### Donna Rauseo Scholarship

Massport announced the recipient of the annual scholarship honoring the memory of Donna Rauseo, a lifelong resident of East Boston and long-time employee of the Port Authority.

Eastie's resident Stephanie Faiella was awarded the \$5,000 scholarship. The Scholarship is awarded annually to a female student who resides in Eastie.

To be considered for the Donna Rauseo Memorial Scholarship, female students are required to have a minimum 3.0 grade point average and submit an essay of 1,000 words describing their career interests or how their community service has affected their outlook on life.

"Stephanie has been deeply committed to helping those in the East Boston community and has followed Donna's example through her service," said Massport CEO Lisa Wieland. "We are excited





Eastie's Stephanie Faiella wins Massport's Donna Rauseo Scholarship, while Eastie's Mateo Catano awarded the Annual Davis Memorial Internship.

to award her this scholarship and wish her the best in her future endeavors."

Faiella graduated from East Boston High School and is attending Plymouth State University. She has volunteered her time at the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center and the Red Cross. Faiella is also a member of the National Honor Society.

In her essay, Faiella wrote, "Community service, to me, means assisting others and doing good deeds without expecting anything in return."

Applications are judged

by a committee made up

**CLEANING SERVICES** 

of Massport employees and a representative of the Rauseo family. Students interested in applying for the 2021 scholarship should visit www.massport.com/scholarships for eligibility requirements. Donna Rauseo, a long-

time East Boston resident known for her personality and sparkling sense of humor, died in 2009. Born Donna Morash,

Rauseo was part of an Eastie family known for their political, social and environmental activism. At a very young age Rauseo's social conscience was fully formed by her

by her mother, longtime community activist Evelyn Morash. Rauseo was a gradu-

family, most especially

ate of East Boston High School and began her working career helping the neighborhood's poorer residents through the East Boston APAC social service programs. After working at APAC

for over two decades, Rauseo went on to work for Massport as Tom Kinton's executive assistant, when Kinton served as Aviation Director at Logan Airport and later CEO and Executive Director for Massport.

Annual Davis Mamo-

# Annual Davis Memorial Internship Massport also an-

nounced the recipient of this year's Annual David W. Davis Memorial Internship is Eastie's Mateo Catano. The internship honors

the memory of Dave Davis, the longest-serving Executive Director in the history of the Massachusetts Port Authority, leading Massport from 1975 until 1990.

The David W. Davis Memorial Internship is awarded annually to an exceptional junior or senior in college. The David W. Davis Memorial Internship allows students to develop a professional network that will aid them in their pursuit of a career in government and/or the public sector.

To be considered for the

David W. Davis Memorial Internship, students are required to have a minimum 3.0 grade point average and submit an essay of 1,000 words describing why they believe a career in public service is essential to their career interests "We are very pleased

to award Mateo with the Annual David W. Davis Memorial Internship," said Wieland. "He has a strong interest in the aviation field and has made community service a priority throughout his academic career. We hope this internship will be an important stepping stone and wish him the best in his future endeavors."

Saint Louis University

where he studies aviation management and is double minoring in air traffic control and international business.

In his essay, Catano wrote "The reason I chose Saint Louis University was because our university gets us ready to serve our community by transforming us into effective leaders and advocates of social justice."

During his tenure, Davis demonstrated a commitment to Massport's neighbors as well as to its customers and developed one of the very first residential soundproofing programs in the country. "Kidport" was another airport industry first that Davis unveiled at Boston Logan International Airport in 1987 as the nation's first airport-based children's play area. Under his leadership, Massport established its own employee retirement system, which Davis later joined when Massport's employees elected him to be their representative on the retirement board in 1996.

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## Eastie COVID-19 positive test rate increases slightly

By John Lynds

The city continues to combat the uptick in East Boston's COVID-19 positive test rates that began in

While the efforts brought the positive test rate down from a high of 11.8 percent to 5.1 percent in the last two weeks, the number of residents testing positive for COVID here rose again to 6.1 percent.

Last Friday, the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) reported that Eastie's COVID-19 positive test rate, after reaching an all-time high of 11.8 percent last month, but fell to 6.2 percent two weeks later and then fell again to 5.1

For nearly a month the city has been working with healthcare professionals and agencies like the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center to curb the COVID spike in the neighborhood. The City launched an elevated outreach plan for Eastie to address the increase in case

According to the latest data released by the BPHC last Friday, Eastie's COVID infection rate rose 2.6 percent and went from 487.7 cases per 10,000 residents to 500.8 cases per 10,000 residents. The last increase two weeks ago was 1.2 percent. The citywide average is 247.8 cases per 10,000 residents and Eastie still has the highest infection rate in all of Boston.

As of Friday, 59 more residents became infected with the virus in Eastie and there were 2.348 confirmed COVID-19 cases, up from the 2,289 reported by the BPHC two weeks ago.

In Eastie, the BPHC has been working with several City departments to distribute 2,000 COVID-19 kits with cleaning supplies and information to residents and businesses in multiple languages, across the neighborhood. The City is also partnering with local churches, and is focused on helping people in households with multiple generations learn strategies for preventing the spread of the virus. In addition, business

outreach began last week in multiple languages, to make sure management and staff know the regulations; have access to PPE, signage, and prevention efforts like social distancing and hygiene; and know that they need to report to BPHC when they have an employee test positive.

Of the 16,667 Eastie residents tested for COVID last week, 6.4 percent were found to be positive for the virus, an increase of 25 percent.

Overall since the pandemic began 14.6 percent of Eastie residents have been found to be positive. The citywide positive test rate is 2.7 percent.

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

Citywide positive cases of coronavirus rose by 2.8 percent last week from 16,676 cases to 17,140 confirmed cases. So far 14,046 Boston residents have fully recovered from the virus and two additional residents died last week bringing the total of fatalities in the city to 763.

During his daily press briefing on the virus Friday, Mayor Martin Walsh said Boston's positive test rate is at 2.7%, roughly level with the week before.

"Our daily average for new positive tests is 49, down slightly from the week before," he said. "We have seen a slight increase in our hospitalization numbers, but it has not crossed our threshold for major concern. We are monitoring it carefully, and the City will continue to bring resources to where they are needed."

The Mayor said we need everyone to remain vigilant with face coverings, hand washing, and social distancing to help keep the numbers under control.

"On Monday of this Boston Public Schools kicked off the new school year with online learning for all students," said Walsh. "I want to re-

COVID-19 rate Boston Rate = 2,478.0 reported cases per 100,000 reside N = 16,836 reported cases (unadjusted for age) Lower than the rest of Bostor Similar to the rest of Boston Higher than the rest of Boston

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

mind everyone that the plan is to gradually introduce in-person learning starting with the highest need students, and the youngest students."

The Mayor said the city will only move forward with in-person learning if the COVID-19 data stays

within a certain threshold, and will only hold in-person learning if Boston's positive test rate is below four percent.

"We will continue to monitor all data closely, and make adjustments if needed," he said.

# YMCA to kick off 'safe' indoor sports program on Saturday, October 3

By John Lynds

This weekend, the East Boston YMCA at Ashley Street will kick off safe youth indoor sports programs.

According to YMCA Executive Director Joe Gaeta said that the programs range from Preschool Soccer to Junior

"We're happy to restart our fall sports programs with an emphasis on safety during the COVID--19

pandemic," said Gaeta. 'We are keeping real tight protocols as we move forward so there will be a capacity on class sizes, the number of parents that can be in the gym as well as screening processes

with temperature checks." Gaeta said the Y is testing the waters with Preschool Soccer, which will kick off Saturday Oct. 3 at 9 a.m. for ages 2-3. There will then be a 10 a.m. soc-

cer session for ages 4-5. "Then we will be bring-

ing back our Junior Celtics program on Saturday at 11 a.m. for ages 2-5 and then at 12 p.m. for ages 6-10. The program is filling up very quickly due to the limited capacity.'

Parents can register for a session at www.ymcaboston.org/wp-content/ uploads/2020/09/East-BostonFallSportsSession. as long as space is still available.

"The Y has been super safe throughout this whole pandemic and have not had any incidents as we served as an emergency childcare center for essential employees and successfully completed our summer programs with limited capacity," said Gaeta. "We are super excited to offer kids something to do on the weekends while they are stuck in the house all day with remote learning for school."

Gaeta said the programs will adhere to strict state and CDC guidelines.

"This will all be skills and drills with no contact scrimmages," he said. "We are running with a super high standard and the gym will be completely disinfected after each session before another group comes in. We look forward to welcoming back these programs that allow kids to do stuff that is fun and healthy and bring some normalcy back into their lives."

If all goes well, Gaeta hopes to expand the pro-

gram to Sundays after the new year.

Gaeta added that at this time the Y does not have an update on when the YMCA-run Umana Pool will open but in the meantime members can take lessons at the Y's sister branch in Charlestown.

If you have any questions please feel free to email Gaeta at Jgaeta@ ymcaboston.org.



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