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Last Boston TIMES-FREE PRESS

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Wednesday, November 18, 2020

APAC/ABCD kick off annual Fuel **Assistance** program

By John Lynds

With temperatures in East Boston expected to dip into the 20s at night this week, and not exceed 50 degrees for the next few days many residents will find it hard to pay their heating bill this winter.

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused even more uncertainty in the neighborhood as job loss, food insecurity and loss of income has become more prevalent in recent months.

However, there's relief from paying those high New England heating costs for hundreds of low-income residents in the neighborhood.

At the beginning of November, Action for Boston Community Development (ABCD) kicked off the annual Fuel Assistance Program at ABCD's Meridian Street APAC office and workers say that the program is in full swing and are encouraging residents to sign up.

See FUEL Page 2



Eastie native Robert "Junior" Lewis accepts the Eastern Bank Charitable Foundation's 2020

Eastie native Robert Lewis Jr. receives 2020 Social Justice Award

By John Lynds

Robert "Junior" Lewis, an East Boston High School and UMass Amherst graduate grew up in the Maverick Public Development Housing surrounded by mentors that shaped his life forev-

Growing up Eastie, Lewis had a big support network in Eastie. People like Debbie White, Marty Pino, Thomas Tassinari and Johnny Forbes all taught Lewis that if he would dream big, good things would happen.

Throughout his career, Robert has been an advocate for racial equity and breaking down barriers that prevent communities of color from reaching their full potential and a champion for urban youth.

Last week, Eastern Bank Charitable Foundation honored Lewis, the Founder and President of The BASE, with the 2020 Social Justice Award. Now in its 32nd year, the award recognizes community leaders who have made an outstanding impact in addressing critical social justice issues.

A social justice trailblazer who has overcome harrowing adversity, including his recovery from COVID-19 earlier this year, Lewis is a nationally and internationally recognized thought leader, social innovator and champion for urban youth.

In 2013, Lewis launched The BASE, a nonprofit organization that empowers urban youth to succeed by leveraging sports to open pathways to higher education and meaningful employment in today's

See LEWIS Page 2

City, state hold virtual ribbon-cutting on Phase II project

By John Lynds

Last Thursday, Mayor Martin Walsh joined Gov. Charlie Baker for a 'virtual' ribbon cutting to celebrate the completion of Phase II at the Orient Heights Public Housing redevelopment project.

Walsh and Baker were joined by members of the **Boston Housing Authority** (BHA), the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), and the development team of Trinity Financial and the East Boston Community Development Corporation.

The \$51.6 million Phase II portion of the project wrapped up over the summer on Vallar Road where crews demolished 87 old units in four buildings and constructed 88 replacement state-funded public housing units in two townhouse buildings and one mid rise building. Phase II also included improve-

971 Saratoga St., Orient Heights

East Boston

ments to the existing infrastructure and open spaces. Phase II leveraged \$10 million in proceeds from the sale of the Winthrop Square Garage, as well as \$1.83 million in Inclusionary Development Policy Funds, secured from the Davis Companies' 99 Sumner Street development in East Boston.

"The Orient Heights development is a great Boston story," said Walsh. "We brought lots of partners together, we got creative sourcing funding, and we harnessed the economic strength of our city to create powerful opportunities for working families. I congratulate everyone involved in the financing, design and construction. I thank the tenants for their patience and input, and the BHA for working with them on relocation and return."

Baker said he was pleased to celebrate the completion of Phase II



In his office at City Hall, Mayor Martin Walsh participated in last week's 'virtual' ribbon-cutting on Phase II of the Orient Heights Public Housing redevelopment project.

of the Orient Heights development because it will preserve hundreds of affordable units for Boston residents.

"Thank you to Mayor Walsh, the Boston Housing Authority and all the partners that worked together with our administration to make this project possible," said Baker last Thursday.

Last week the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) approved a Notice of Project Change for Phase III of the project.

Like Phases I and II,

See PHASE II Page2

NOTICE **Due to the Thursday**

Thanksgiving Holiday, Trash will be on schedule Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday Delayed by one day on **Thursday & Friday** Thank you. Capitol Waste Services, Inc

Positive COVID tests continue to skyrocket in Eastie

By John Lynds

Eastie experienced more than a 50 percent increase in COVID-19 positive test rates last week, and is now over 15 percent, according to the latest data released by the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC).

Last Friday the BPHC reported that of the 22,616 Eastie residents tested for COVID last week 16.8 percent were found to be positive for the virus, a 51 percent decrease from the 11.1 percent reported two Fridays ago. Eastie now has the highest positive test rate in Boston.

Overall since the pandemic began, 13.7 percent of Eastie residents here have been found to be positive. The citywide

positive test rate was up 11 percent and went from 7.1 percent of Boston residents testing positive for the virus to 7.9 percent last

At a press briefing last Thursday Mayor Martin Walsh said Eastie is again a concern, as its rate jumped up to over 16 percent. The Mayor said that the City's public health experts are developing new metrics that we will be able to share this week.

"This epidemic evolves and its impact on our neighborhoods evolves,"

"So we need to evolve the ways we monitor its activity, and how we understand all the complexities of COVID spread in

See COVID Page 5

Maverick Street Mothers Scholarship recipients named

By John Lynds

On Tuesday, November 10. City Councilor Lydia Edwards and the Edwards Empowerment Fund hosted a virtual East Boston Trivia and Comedy Night to honor this year's recipients of the Maverick Street Mothers Scholarship.

At the event Diana Cifuentes, Alejandra De La Cruz, Hanane Ihizan, Monica Sierra Ochoa and Maritza Marinique were all named recipients of the 2020 Maverick Mothers Scholarship.

"I started the Edwards Empowerment Fund because it's vital we provide opportunities for residents to achieve their fullest potential," said Councilor Edwards. "The Maverick Street Mothers Scholarship pays tribute

to the men and women who came before us and fought for our community. It honors parents who are doing the work today and allows us to invest in their leadership so that our community is stronger. I'm so proud of the five East Boston mothers who received a scholarship to continue college, go to trade school, or improve their English. I want to thank them for their commitment to their families and East Boston despite everything they juggle in their lives."

Edwards also thanked all of the sponsors and everyone who joined the Virtual Comedy and Trivia Night.

"It was amazing to have our community show up and support the recipients

See SCHOLARSHIPS Page 3



The Independent Newspaper Offices will be closed

Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 26th and Friday, Nov. 27th The deadline for

Thanksgiving week issues is Friday, Nov. 20

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Encore Boston Harbor invites non profits to reach out for gently used office furniture donations

Encore Boston Harbor is asking members on non-profits to reach out to them for donations of gently used office furniture to include desks, chairs, filing cabinets, tables and other items. Hundreds of pieces of furniture will be donated by Encore Boston Harbor to any charities who have a need for it. Beginning immediately, Encore Boston Harbor asks that interested non-profits and charities

reach out to Encore Boston Harbor at 857-770-7000 to request information on furniture and items available for pickup and please ask for Beth Gibbons. All equipment and furniture must be picked up by the organization.

A list of the donated items available include: single cubicles, double cubicles, office chairs, office stools, long meeting tables and filing cabinets. Interested organizations must be able to provide a 501C3 to receive the furniture, free of charge. The pickup will take place starting this week through the end of the

Encore Boston Harbor is located at 1 Broadway in Everett, MA. For additional questions, please email Beth Gibbons at Bethany. gibbons@encorebostonharbor.com.

the importance of its work in providing food security, educational focus and other stability in the daily lives of the young people it serves, The BASE decided to remain open during the pandemic.

workforce. Recognizing

Lewis // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"Growing up, I was taught to leave a legacy by investing and supporting others, and that when you are a part of a community, you are the community," said Lewis. "One of the most effective ways I give back is by supporting our urban talent and encouraging others to experience their lived experiences. Eastern Bank is a model for how the business community can drive change and better outcomes for future generations, and I am humbled to be chosen to receive its Social Justice Award."

In his adult life Lewis became a nationally recbridge-builder ognized and catalyst for collaboration between diverse business, civic and public sectors throughout the country. A 2015 Boston Magazine cover story listed Lewis among the city's 50 Most Powerful Leaders, calling him "a tireless advocate for inner-city kids."

"All that success can be traced back to my time at the Social Centers, at East Boston Camps, growing up in Eastie," he said. "Because there were people that saw something in me and made me believe in myself."

Prior to his work at The BASE, Lewis served as Executive Director of the Boston Centers for Youth and Families. President and Executive Director of the National Conference for Community and Justice (NCCJ), Senior Vice President of City Year's national operations and **Executive Director of City** Year Boston, and Vice President for Program at the Boston Foundation.

He was the chief architect of two important initiatives during his tenure at the Boston Foundation: StreetSafe Boston the

country's only privately-funded gang program with a mission to dramatically reduce gun violence in the city; and CHAMPS Boston – which promotes positive youth development through sports by training over 5,000 youth sports coaches in Greater

Boston.

In 2013, Robert left his high profile position at The Boston Foundation to pursue a lifelong dream to launch The BASE, a program that leverages the power and passion of baseball to help student athletes find pathways to success both on and off the field. Since 2013, the BASE has had 138 student athletes matriculate to college and has provided \$25 million in academic scholarships.

The BASE is a model and methodology that changes the paradigm for urban youth by providing student athletes with the opportunity, knowledge, skills and confidence needed to develop a winning game plan for success both on and off the field. The BASE embodies everything Lewis learned as founder of the Boston Astros, a youth baseball team he launched in 1978. Legendary baseball writer Peter Gammons has called The Astros, "Hands-down the best urban baseball program in the country," and Triple Crown Sports awarded the Astros the 2012 "Team of the Year" award from a field of 40,000.

Lewis is also a highly sought-after public speaker, facilitator and spokesperson on the topic of urban issues and opportunities, addressing attendees at major national conferences and inspiring students and faculty on college campuses across the country.

He has worked collaboratively with government and civic leaders in Los Angeles, New Orleans, Chicago, New York, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, and currently consults with a number of foundations and nonprofits.

the Minister of Defense in Bermuda to launch StreetStafe Bermuda, and advised Prime Minister David Cameron during the tumultuous riots in the United Kingdom in 2011. Among his

Lewis also worked with

awards and distinctions are the 2015 Sports Museum's Lifetime Achievement Award at the Boston Baseball Writer's Annual Dinner, and an honorary doctor of humane letters degree from Cambridge (MA) College.

The Eastie native has been profiled in four books: Developing Better Athletes, Better People, A Leader's Guide To Transforming High School and Youth Sports into a Development Zone, authored by Jim Thompson, Do More Than Give, the Six Practices of Donors Who Change the World, by Leslie Crutchfield, John Kania and Mark Kramer, 10 Who Mentor, by Denise Korn, Men Who Dare, authored by the late Katherine Martin.

In August, life came full circle for Lewis as Governor Charlie Baker appointed him to the Board of Trustees of his alma mater, UMass. "We each have the col-

lective responsibility to shift the paradigm created by policies that generate racial and gender inequities, and remove the barriers that prevent equity and justice for all," said President and CEO of the Eastern Bank Charitable Foundation Nancy Huntington Stager. "Robert Lewis, Jr.'s life's work reminds us we must listen to those closest to the issues, be willing to be uncomfortable, to work to understand, take time, and provide the sustained effort needed to address the systemic structures that perpetuate inequities in our communities. We are proud to honor Robert, for his inspiring and game-changing community leadership, with the 2020 Social Justice Award."

Phase II // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Phase III will tear down the old post World War IIera brick housing on Vallar Road and portions of Faywood Avenue and be replaced with 81 units of new public housing.

As part of the upcoming FY22 Capital Plan, Walsh is committing another \$19 million for Phase III at Orient Heights.

Phase III will also include the construction of a centrally located park for residents, the demolition of the existing community center and the expansion of open space.

Phase II and III is part of the larger effort to transform the 331-unit of BHA owned public housing development that was originally built in 1951. Trinity completed Phase I of the project in 2018 where 90 units of public housing were replaced with 120 units of public housing both in townhouse and apartment-style buildings.

In January 2015, the BHA selected the development team of Trinity Financial and East Boston Community Development Corp. to work with BHA and DCHD and finalize a redevelopment strategy for the site. This development team secured financing to implement the redevelopment, and will own and manage the buildings post-redevelopment.

There were some concerns expressed at community meetings and on social media regarding the project. Some suggested the project had undergone drastic changes to the original design, and will soon run out of money.

In response to some of the disinformation circulating around the neighborhood, Vice President, Development with Trinity Financial Eva Erlich said while some minor tweaks were made to the project they were done in response to residents' concerns at previous meetings.

Trinity eliminated the 42 units of non-public market rate housing that was part of the original plan, but this was done after concerns were raised about increasing density after the planned second road connecting Vallar Road and Waldemar Avenue were dropped.

When the project started the cost of connecting Vallar Road with Waldemar Avenue below justified intersecting the two streets. With an original price tag of \$3 million the cost soared to nearly \$10 million after the road was studied and the soil tested. After meeting with engineers and looking at the cost so the road can meet city standards it became very expensive to make that connection from street

The community expressed concern that replacing 331 units of public housing and then adding an additional 42 units of market rate housing could lead to congestion without the two roads connecting. So in response to these concerns Trinity decided to focus on replacing the 331 units over the same land area and eliminate the market rate component.

Erlich said these changes allowed Trinity to add more housing units on Waldemar during Phase I as well as freeing up some space as part of Phase II to add new open space for the community as well as refurbishing the basketball courts and community

"This property is a critical part of the BHA's portfolio in meeting the City of Boston's affordable housing needs. It has been a privilege to be part of such a collaborative public-private partnership with our colleagues at the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the City of Boston, the Boston Housing Authority, East Boston CDC, the Orient Heights residents, and our colleagues in finance and development to see this second phase through to completion." said Erlich, Vice. "We're thrilled to be marking this milestone for Phase Two, and look forward to completing the full transformation with the third and final phase."

BHAAdministrator Kate Bennett said last week that Orient Heights has been a vital housing resource for low-income families in East Boston for almost 70 years and the newly completed units are building a future for our residents.

"The work we're doing today will secure a vibrant, stable home for hundreds of families at Orient Heights for decades to come," she said.

Fuel // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

APAC's parent company, ABCD administers the federal Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) for income-eligible residents in Boston, Brookline, Newton and seven communities north of Boston. Last year ABCD provided fuel assistance to more than 25,000 households.

According to ABCD President John Drew, this year the need for heating assistance is greater than ever as COVID-19 continues to take a huge toll on low-income neighborhoods like Eastie and communities of color where long-standing health disparities make residents highly vulnerable to the

Drew said escalating unemployment has led to mounting distress as many make the decision to either buy food, heat their home or pay for necessary medications.

Drew said on November 5, the federal Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) released

\$3.36 billion to fund LI-HEAP nationwide. Massachusetts received \$123 million – up about \$9 million from last year. Federal CARES Act funding designated for fuel assistance increases the Massachusetts allocation to \$150 million.

Right now the maxbenefit is \$600 for Eastie families, with benefits scheduled to be increased soon. Last year the maximum benefit was \$1,140.

"We thank our Congressional delegation for their tireless advocacy for fuel assistance and appreciate the work of HHS in getting the funds released as bitter cold descends on America's northern tier," said Drew. "With COVID-19 surging and no sign of Congress passing a second sweeping virus relief bill that would keep unemployed workers and small businesses afloat and make it possible for struggling families to survive, the elders and families served by ABCD face a desperate situation."

ABCD's Fuel Assistance Program opened for applications on November 1 and takes applications through April 30. There is a wide range of eligibility based on income and number of household members. The elgibility guidelines can be found at https://www.masscap. org/eligibility-requirements-heating-assistance/. For example, an Eastie

family living at or below the federal poverty level of \$26,200 for a family of four would receive the maximum fuel assistance benefit of \$600. A person living alone at or below the federal poverty level

of \$12,760 would receive

that same benefit. But those with incomes above poverty level are also eligible.

Drew said years ago the state expanded eligibility levels in order to keep those slightly above poverty from slipping through the cracks. For example, under the current benefit levels, a family of four earning 60 percent of the state's median income or \$75,200 can receive \$430 in fuel assistance. A single person earning \$39,105

also receives \$430.

"Home heating assistance is vital to keeping disadvantaged individuals, elders, and families healthy by preventing hypothermia and subsequent hospitalization,: Drew. "And it keeps them safe; too many would otherwise opt for dangerous alternatives such as space

ABCD also offers qualifying families a comprehensive range of energy services to keep families warm, safe and healthy including repair and replacement of inoperable or highly inefficient heating systems, utility discounts, weatherization, programs to improve energy conservation, and much more.

heaters or ovens."

ABCD is grateful for any private donations to home heating fuel assistance or the ABCD COVID RELIEF NOW campaign. Donations can stop a family from turning to dangerous heating substitutes, prevent illness, and dramatically improve the quality of life. To donate, please call 617-348-6559, email give@ bostonabcd.org or visit bostonabcd.org/donate.

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treatments that benefit all of us.

Scholarships // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

with a beautiful, diverse crowd that represented all of East Boston," she said. "We look forward to next year."

The Maverick Street Mothers organized community protests in the late 1960s against Logan Airport expansion construction. The protest was widely publicized as women, mostly mothers, formed a blockade using baby carriages to stop construction and delivery trucks on Maverick Street.

In honor of this movement, the Edwards Empowerment Fund, a registered 501(c)3 non-profit, was established by the District 1 Councilor to uplift, amplify, and empower residents by providing equitable access to educational and skill-building opportunities. The annual scholarship will be awarded to parents wanting to further their education or are attending Boston-area colleges. Cifuentes is an active member of the East Boston Community born in Medellin Colombia.

She's a mom to two children, Stephen and Valery. In her spare time, Cifuentes is busy fighting for safe and secure working conditions at Mass-Cosh, for tenants at City Life/ Viva Urbana and Cosecha, and environmental justice at GreenRoots. Cifuentes said she hopes to utilize the scholarship to attend English classes and propel her professional life forward.

De La Cruz, born in Lima, Peru, is a local mom to three-year-old Nathaniela and a resident of Maverick Square. In addition to attending Bunker Hill Community College for Early

Childhood education, she is a lead hotline advocate and serves on the Executive Committee for City Life / Viva Urbana. She is also a volunteer with the East Boston Soup Kitchen and mutual aid during the pandemic. She said she will use the scholarship to pay the tuition at Bunker Hill and become a teacher.

resident originally born in Casablanca, Morocco, and mom to her three children - Sohaib, Rayane, and Elaaf. Ihizan is currently

Ihizan is an Eagle Hill

pursuing her IT degree at the University of Massachusetts at Lowell. She has been involved in the East Boston community for six years organizing multicultural days, helping with the East Boston Soup Kitchen, peace Harborkeepers, and translating documents for Maverick Landing services. Ihizan mentioned in her application she worked extremely hard to pay for and receive her GED from Bunker Hill Community College while being a full time mom and working. This scholarship will help her fulfill her dream to receive a Bach-

Ochoa is a resident of Eagle Hill and mom to Juan Manuel and Daniel. She is heavily invested in the East Boston community and wishes to give back with this scholarship. She is currently a preparer of documents and will use this scholarship to attend English classes. It is her goal to build on the work she's already done in the community and get involved in more organizations once she learns and practices more English.

elor's Degree.

Finally, Marinique is a Maverick Central resident in East Boston, and mom to Valentina. Her work is rooted in child and day care, but her passion is to serve the community. She intends to

attend English classes to better her skills and use them to be engaged more in East Boston area organizations.

Last year the Edwards Empowerment Fund dispersed over \$10,000 worth of scholarship money to five deserving parents in East Boston at a gala that was attended by 100 community members at Spinelli's Banquet Hall.

Recipients of the inaugural Maverick Street Mothers Scholarship last year were Mary Luz Barrera, Dominique DiDomenicis, Lisa Melara, and Noemy Rodriguez.

Mothers protest was in response to the construction trucks bringing fill for a Logan expansion project. The trucks drove very fast down the densely populated Maverick Street, creating an unsafe situation for

The Maverick

children, the elderly and the mothers that took their children out for walks or to run errands.

THE EAST BOSTON TIMES-FREE PRESS

On September 28, 1968, led by local legend the late Anna DeFronzo, a group of mothers in what was to become a historic protest against the Port Authority and airport expansion.

The group became known as the 'Maverick Street Mothers' and their protest became the true beginning of environmental justice in Eastie and marked the opening salvo and first victory in the neighborhood's famed transportation justice struggles.

After a series of clandestine community meetings it was decided that only women and children would participate in the demonstration because many felt if men were involved it might lead to fights and violence. The group notified the media, put out a simple press release and the next day, September 28, the demonstration began.

As the dump trucks arrived the mothers, pushing their children in baby carriages, blocked the street.

The State Police arrived to restore order to the street and when the Maverick Mothers refused to back down. The State Police began to drag and push the mothers to the sidewalk so the trucks could continue. However, former Mayor Kevin White, who was being kept abreast of the situation, sent in the Boston Police to counter the State Police's use of force.

The Boston Police made the trucks stop and ordered the protest to continue.

That night the event was all over the evening news.

When Massport caught wind that the protests would not end, but continued the next day, Eastie's elected officials pointed out that there were several other viable truck routes on Massport property that could be used.

After negotiations, Massport agreed to use the alternative truck routes and the Maverick Mothers scored a major victory during the era of Logan expansion.

News in Brief

GSCA MONTHLY MEETING AGENDA

The GSCA monthly meeting will be held ON-LINE (and on phone) via ZOOM. The meeting will be held on Monday, November 23, at 6:30 PM. Registration is required. If you have not received an invitation to register or have difficulty registering or attending, please go to https://govestreet.org/zoom, send an email to secretary@govestreet.org or contact (781) 951-4111.

Though the agenda is subject to change, we plan to discuss the following items:

Attendance Roll Call
Welcome & Announcements

Boston Police Updates – Captain McCormick

Office of Neighborhood Services Updates – Lina Tramelli

Neighborhood Updates

– Nat Taylor

Neighborhood Fresh Food Resource - Stephen James

East Boston Transportation Justice Coalition Community Survey – Leo Olsen

Piers Park 3 - The Trustees The Davis Companies

Update – Lauren Moreschi Project Presentations: 167 – 169 Maverick St – Jeff Drago, Esq.

The proposal is for 28 residential units and 11 parking spaces.

VOTE (tentative)

168 Gove Street – Richard Lynds, Esq.

Change occupancy from 4 to 8 units, add vertical addition and roof deck – complete renovation of existing building.

Please note that we will

not host a monthly meeting in December.

JPNA MEETING AGENDA

The Jeffries Point Neighborhood Association (JPNA) Planning & Zoning (P&Z) Agenda Meeting will be held online via ZOOM. The registration link is provided in the meeting notice below. If

you have any difficulty registering or attending, please contact us at board@jeffriespoint.org.

The JPNA will be recording these meetings and may post the recordings online.

Wednesday, November 18, 2020; 7 – 8:30 pm

Zoom Video Conference Registration Required! Please Click Here To Register For This Meeting.

AGENDA (subject to change)

• 156 Webster Street - 2nd Presentation:

Certify occupancy as a 4-unit dwelling, "present existing conditions". Owner/Developer: Aaron M. Daigneault • 44 Cottage Street - 2nd

Presentation: Raze Existing structures and erect a four-unit residential dwelling with roof-deck and parking for four vehicles. Developer: Richard Crespo; Represented By: Richard C. Lynds

• 42 Everett Street - 1st Presentation: Gut rehab of the existing structure, proposed addition, an extension of living space into the basement, and change occupancy to multi-family dwelling (7) units. Developer: Sunrise Bay, LLC; Represented By: Richard C. Lynds.

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Ice skating rinks are now open. Bay State Skating School is one of Greater Boston's most established and popular skating programs. We have taught Learn-To-Skate classes to children ages 4-18 in the Greater Boston area for over 50 YEARS.

Bay State Skating School is compliant with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Covid-19 guidelines. The number of students allowed on the ice will be limited. Masks and social distancing are required. Safety is our #1 priority.

Professional Instructors teach Recreational, Figure

and Hockey Skating Skills to the beginner, intermediate and advanced skaters. Students can wear either figure, recreational or hockey skates.

New lessons are held at 10 Greater Boston Rink locations including: Brookline-Cleveland Circle, Larz Anderson, Cambridge, Medford, Newton-Brighton, Quincy, Somerville, Waltham, West Roxbury, and Weymouth.

Our emphasis is on having fun while learning to skate. We have taught over 90,000 students to ice skate. Come skate and feel great!

For more information and to registration, visit www.BayStateSkating-School.org or call Bay State Skating School (781) 890-8480.

GREENWAY MEETING AGENDA

The next Greenway Meeting is on Thursday, November 19th at 6:30 PM. (This is one week earlier since Thanksgiving is next week)

Below is the agenda. Please register at https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0kcuqoqzgqHNVH-B_8V6Fkhi-lvJGsDz5EV. Once you have registered you will receive the call-in information.

Also, we will not have a Council meeting in December, but there will a community meeting about the Greenway Extension to Winthrop on Monday, December 7th in the evening. (More details coming soon...)

Greenway Council
Agenda

Welcome + Intros

Police report

Greenway Extensions -Open House recap and upcoming community meeting Monday, December 7th meeting

Trustees Update on Piers Park (Trustees)

EBHC Parking Lots Presentation (around 7 PM)

Other?

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VACCINES ARE COMING, **BUT WE STILL HAVE A DUTY** TO STOP THE SPREAD

The announcements in the past week that two vaccines have been shown to be remarkably effective in providing immunization against the coronavirus have given our nation hope that the pandemic might be brought under control.

Finally, there is a light at the end of the tunnel.

However, with 250,000 Americans already dead from the virus and the holiday season approaching, this is no time for any of us to let our guard down. The virus does not take a holiday and is spreading like wildfire across the country, leading even Republican governors to issue mask mandates and resulting in additional shutdowns of businesses that already were on the edge of permanent closure.

It is estimated that if we do not wear masks and maintain physical separation, at least 250,000 more Americans will be dead in the coming months.

Hospitals and healthcare workers already are stretched to the limit in many states. If the pandemic is allowed to spread further, there will be a total breakdown in the American healthcare system, endangering the lives not only of healthcare employees and coronavirus patients, but anybody else who needs hospitalization from accidents, heart attacks, strokes, and cancer.

In addition, we would note that even for those who recover from the coronavirus, there can be lasting damage to the heart, lungs, and other organs.

We urge all of our readers to listen to the warnings and directives of our public health officials and to consider how we can spend the holiday season with our loved ones in a safe setting, if at all.

A small wedding in Maine in August was linked to 178 COVID cases and eight deaths -- and none of those who died attended the wedding.

Our government leaders can urge us to protect ourselves and others, but COVID-19 safety this holiday season ultimately comes down to each and every American assuming personal responsibility to observe and obey the rules.

Your opinions, please

The Times welcomes letters to the editor. Our mailing address is 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151.

Our fax number is **781-485-1403**. Letters may also be e-mailed to editor@eastie**times.com**. Letters must be signed. We reserve the right to edit for length and con-

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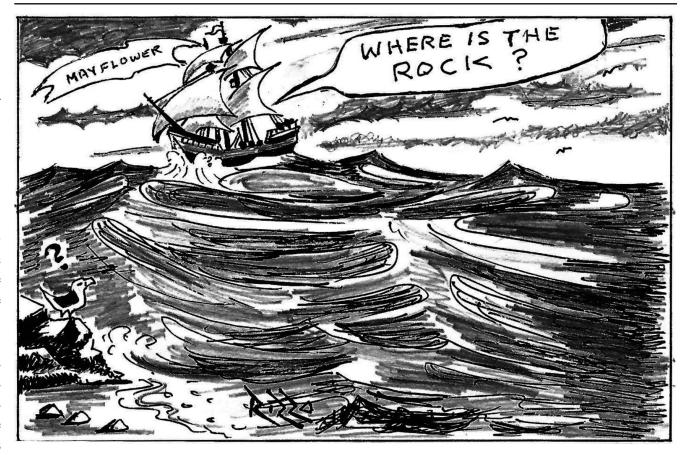
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Ward 1 Democratic Committee takes offense to Gov. Baker's COVID statements

By John Lynds

Gov. Charlie Baker's tour of public schools in the affluent suburb of Carlisle and subsequent comment that "the best defense against this insidious disease (COVID) comes down to personal responsibility" was met with contempt and deemed extremely tone deaf by members of East Boston's Ward 1 Democratic Committee.

Baker was in Carlisle last week to push for the reopening of more in-person learning at schools across the state.

However, his choice of Carlisle was curious as the town has only had 34 confirmed cases as of Nov. 11 and a positive test rate of 1.12 percent.

As a comparison Eastie, only one neighborhood in all of Boston, has reported 3,151 confirmed cases and a positive test rate of 16.8 "Governor Baker said

about COVID that "the best defense against this insidious disease comes down to personal responsibility," said the Ward 1 Committee in a statement this week. "Wrong. It comes down to addressing inequities that our Governor continues to ignore. The lowest "risk" communities for COVID in

Greater Boston are also the wealthiest ones: Lexington, Needham, Newton-Welles-Concord-Carlisle, Cambridge, and Brookline. That's not a coincidence. East Boston doesn't have high COVID rates because we lack personal responsibility. We have high COVID rates because we lack equitable public policy and serious leadership from our governor, who should be voted out of office in 2022.

Over the summer Rep. Adrian Madaro blasted the same notion when some implied that Eastie residents, and residents in other low-income communities, were to blame for COVID spikes because they are not following health guidelines closely enough.

"This is wrong," said Madaro. "Our community isn't worse at wearing masks/social distancing, or taking fewer public health precautions than any other. That's not why our rates are higher than the suburbs. Our COVID infection rates are higher because our communities are systematically more vulnerable to the spread of this disease. This was true at the beginning of the shutdown, and it has become truer as MA has progressed through the phases of reopening.

Madaro argued

many working-class Eastie residents don't have the privilege of working from home like many who live in more affluent areas of the state. "Their jobs require them

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

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

"People share rooms," he said. "When everyone's living together in a small space, there aren't many opportunities for social distance. This means that when a worker gets sick, they have nowhere to quarantine. This puts the rest of their household at higher risk of contracting COVID. Reports indicate that this

kind of "family spread" is one of the top ways that COVID is spreading in East Boston.

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

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

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

According to the Boston Public Health Commission the Latino community makes up 33 percent of all known COVID cases in the city and the Black/African-American community accounts for 28 percent of all cases in Boston.

hardest-hit now.

MBTA Joins the EBNHC, The Boston Foundation and The Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers to make using the T easier for residents

The MBTA today announced it's partnering with the Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers, the Boston Foundation and the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center to provide CharlieCards to more residents of East Boston. CharlieCards are reusable plastic fare cards that can be loaded with cash value or 1-day, 7-day, or monthly passes. 'Too many of our cus-

tomers have difficulty get-ting CharlieCards," said MBTA General Manager Steve Poftak. "This is especially true in transit-dependent communities where bus service is often the predominant mode of transportation. With today's partnership announcement, we are addressing this issue by making CharlieCards more widely available and making taking the T more acces-

The T will provide 5,000 CharlieCards preloaded with five dollars each to the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center, Mattapan Community Health Center, South End Community Health Center, Upham's Corner Health Center and Whittier Street Community

Health Center. Each Health

Center will receive 1,000 CharlieCards to distribute to their clients.

"Access to convenient, affordable public transportation services is critical to our community," said Manny Lopes, President and CEO of East Boston Neighborhood Health Center. "The T connects our residents to life's essentials, including school, work, and medical care. We are excited about this important initiative and the positive impact this will have on how our community experiences the T.'

By providing easier access, the T hopes to incentivize riders to utilize CharlieCards and fare vending machines throughout their travels, thus saving time and improving customer convenience.

"We are extremely grateful to the MBTA and the Boston Foundation for making the convenience of CharlieCards more accessible to health center patients, many of whom rely on public transportation to get to work and to see their healthcare providers," said James

W. Hunt, Jr., president and

CEO of the Massachusetts

League of Community

more, this is a generous and

"What's

Health Centers.

inclusive approach to preparing city residents for the T's forthcoming transformation of its fare system."

Funds for this program are provided by a grant from the Boston Foundation's Permanent Fund for Boston, Greater Boston's only endowed fund focusing on the pressing needs of Greater Boston. The Permanent Fund has been made possible by more than a century of gifts from those who seek to support innovative solutions to the region's most pressing problems since "We are pleased to pro-

vide support for this innovative way to improve transit access and affordability for thousands of Boston residents," said Paul S. Grogan, President and CEO of the Boston Foundation. "Making these preloaded Charlie-Cards available at community health centers improves access to health care and is a small but important way to level the field of access to critical transit throughout the city.'

Transitioning customers away from the paper CharlieTicket to the CharlieCard has taken on additional importance as the MBTA

moves ahead with efforts to

transform the existing fare collection system to a next generation system. In the next three years, customers will find it easier to locate fare vending machines in their neighborhoods as the T undertakes an aggressive effort to bring new fare vending machines to the neighborhoods where customers live, work and play. The new fare system will include a new CharlieCard with tap technology as well as the ability for customers to use their smartphone to pay their fare. In 2019, the MBTA first

launched the CharlieCard Access Program working with non-profit organizations, cities, and towns to distribute more than 20,000 CharlieCards. Free no-balance CharlieCards were made available at Boston City Hall, Boston Public Library, and neighborhood library branches. Other locations included the Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston, city halls, libraries, and other organizations in Ashmont, Chelsea, Fairmont, Lower Roxbury, Lynn, Revere, Salem, Somerville, Watertown, and Winthrop.

COVID // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the community."

Walsh again urged residents, regardless of symptoms, to get tested as part of the city's "Get the Test Boston" campaign. Walsh said getting tested helps strengthen the city's data and protect the hardest hit communities.

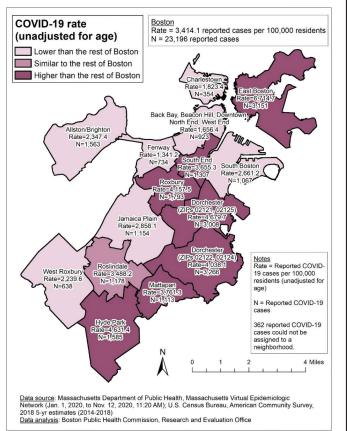
"We have over 30 testing sites in the City of Boston, and we operate two mobile testing sites that are free and open to anyone, whether they have symptoms or not," he said.

The city, in conjunction with the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center, ran a free testing site in Central Square through last Saturday.

Walsh added that the large gatherings, which occurred last week around the presidential election were peaceful, and that the vast majority of attendees wore masks, for which he thanked them. He added that anyone who attended such a gathering should nevertheless make it a priority to get tested for COVID-19.

"As winter approaches and our numbers go up, we are in a critical moment in the course of the pandemic, and I urge everyone to follow the state and city guidelines and take all the precautions necessary to slow the spread of the virus," he said.

Eastie's infection rate rose by 7.3 percent according to the data re-



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

leased by the BPHC last weekly COVID19 report Friday. Eastie's COVID infection rate went from 625.4 cases per 10,000 residents to 671.4 cases per 10,000 residents. The citywide average is 341.4 cases per 10,000 residents and Eastie still has one of the highest infection rates in all of Boston.

So far 3,151 Eastie residents have contracted the virus and the neighborhood accounts for 13 percent of all cases in Boston.

The statistics released by the BPHC as part of its

SEND US YOUR NEWS

The Times encourages residents to submit engagement, wedding

breaks down the number of cases and infection rates in each neighborhood. It also breaks down the number of cases by age, gender and race. Citywide positive cases

of coronavirus increased 7.8 percent last week and went from 22,407 cases to 24,159 cases.

Four more Boston residents died from the virus and there are now 884 total deaths in the city from COVID.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS **ENERGY FACILITIES SITING BOARD**

NOTICE OF SITING BOARD MEETING REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

EFSB 14-04A/D.P.U. 14-153A/14-154A NSTAR Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy

The Energy Facilities Siting Board ("Siting Board") will hold a Siting Board meeting using Zoom videoconferencing on Wednesday, December 16, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. and Thursday, December 17, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. The purpose of the Siting Board meeting is to listen to comments and vote on whether to approve, approve with conditions or amendments, or reject a Tentative Decision issued by the Siting Board on February 28, 2020 that recommends approval of a Project Change that NSTAR Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy ("Eversource" or "Company") submitted to the Siting Board on November 15, 2018 in connection with the Mystic-East Eaqle-Chelsea Reliability Project ("Project"). The Siting Board previously approved the Project in its December 1, 2017 Final Decision in EFSB 14-04/D.P.U. 14-153/14-154 ("Final Decision"). The Project includes two new 115-kilovolt ("kV") underground electric transmission lines in Everett, Chelsea, and East Boston, Massachusetts, as well as a new 115/14-kV substation ("Substation") in East Boston.

As approved in the Final Decision, the Substation would have been located on the eastern side of a larger parcel of land owned by the City of Boston ("City Parcel") in the Eagle Hill neighborhood of East Boston. The Project Change would relocate the proposed Substation approximately 190 feet, from the east side of the City Parcel ("Original Site" at 338 East Eagle Street) to the northwest corner of the City Parcel, adjacent to Condor Street ("New Substation Site" at 0 Condor Street). The two 115-kV transmission lines would connect to the Substation at the New Substation Site and would no longer be routed under Condor and East Eagle Streets. A map below shows the relative locations of the approved Original Site, the proposed New Substation Site, and the City Parcel.

Opportunity for Public Comment

Pursuant to Massachusetts Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §\$18-25, 980 CMR 2.04(1), Governor Baker's March 10, 2020 Declaration $of\ Emergency,\ and\ the\ related\ March\ 12,\ 2020\ Order\ Suspending\ Certain\ Provisions\ of\ the\ Open\ Meeting\ Law,\ the\ Siting\ Board\ will$ conduct a Siting Board meeting using Zoom videoconferencing to hear public comments, deliberate, and vote on the Tentative Decision. The Tentative Decision is available at: https://fileservice.eea.comacloud.net/FileService.Api/file/FileRoom/11869244. Additional information is available at https://www.mass.gov/service-details/mystic-east-eagle-chelsea-reliability-project

On December 16, 2020, the Siting Board will listen to presentations from its staff and parties, as well as comments from the public. On December 17, 2020, the Siting Board will continue listening to comments from the public, then deliberate and vote on the Tentative

Due to the Covid-19 State of Emergency, the Siting Board meeting will be conducted using Zoom videoconferencing. Simultaneous English-to-Spanish and Spanish-to-English interpretation will be provided (see instructions below). Attendees can participate by clicking (or entering) the following link: https://zoom.us/j/92533141983 from a computer, smartphone, or tablet. No prior software download is required. For audio-only participation, attendees can dial in at 1 646 558 8656 and enter Meeting ID 925 3314 1983. Please note that dial-in participants will only hear live audio of the actual speaker without interpretation

If you anticipate providing comments via Zoom during the Board meeting, please send an email to Geneen.Bartley@mass.gov with your full name, email address and mailing address by Monday, December 14, 2020. If you anticipate commenting by telephone, please leave a voicemail message at 617-305-3529 with your full name, telephone number (the one you will use to dial in) and mailing address by Monday, December 14, 2020. Additional commenters may be allowed during the meeting, at the discretion of the Siting Board Chair. Written comments regarding the Tentative Decision may be submitted through Thursday, December 3, 2020. Any comments submitted must be filed electronically with the Presiding Officer and with the Siting Board's electronic docket: Joan. Evans@mass.gov and dpu.efiling@mass.gov. Comments will be posted online at https://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/DPU/Fileroom/dockets/bynumber/ EFSB14-4A, where all other materials in the Project Change docket can be accessed.

Public Accommodation and Language Access

Upon request, materials in this proceeding may be available in a format accessible by people with disabilities (such as Braille, large print, electronic files, or audio format). Reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities are available upon request. Include a description of the accommodation you will need, including as much detail as you can. Contact the Department's ADA coordinator with your request, at DPUADACoordinator@mass.gov or (617) 305-3642.

As noted above, interpretation services in English-to-Spanish and Spanish-to-English will be provided via Zoom videoconferencing at https://zoom.us/j/92533141983. After joining the meeting on Zoom, ALL attendees should select a preferred language (English or Spanish) to hear the Interpreter translate into that language (as needed). Press the globe icon 😝 and then choose the desired lanquage. If you do not select a language, you will hear the speaker without interpretation. For audio-only participation, attendees can dial in at 1 646 558 8656 and enter Meeting ID 925 3314 1983. Please note that dial-in participants will only hear live audio of the actual speaker without interpretation.



Approved Original Substation Site and Proposed New

Interpretation in additional languages may be available upon request. Include in your request the language(s) requested, and how many persons will require interpretation services. Provide a way to contact you if we need more information. Please provide as much advance notice as possible, no later than Thursday, December 3, 2020. Contact the Presiding Officer with your request (see contact information below).

Any person desiring further information regarding this Notice, may contact the Presiding Officer at the telephone number, or email below:

Joan Foster Evans, Presiding Officer (617) 305-3525 or Joan.Evans@mass.gov

欧洲食物安全委员会会议的中文通知可在https://www.mass.go eagle-chelsea-reliability-project的下拉菜单中找到。[Chinese]

Thông báo về Cuộc họp EFSB bằng tiếng Việt có tại https://

and birth announcements, news releases, business and education briefs, sports stories and photos for publication. Items should be forwarded to our offices at 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151. Items can also be faxed to 781-485-1403.

We also encourage readers to e-mail news releases and photos to deb@reverejournal.com









































Councilor Edwards, Mayor Walsh partner to help save restaurant industry

By John Lynds

It's no secret that the COVID-19 pandemic has claimed many casualties in the area's restaurant industry.

Just last week, Eastie's famed Jeveli's Restaurant, a neighborhood institution for nearly a century, announced it was shutting its doors for the winter because the pandemic has cut deep into Jeveli's profit margins. The pandemic, owner Eric Jeveli said, has kept seniors who frequent the restaurant during the lunch and dinner rush at bay while the state's mandatory closing of 9:30 pm imposed on restaurants has ended the late night bar crowd Jeveli's has come to depend on.

However, there may be some relief for struggling local restaurants through a new program developed by Councilor Lydia Edwards, the Mayor's Office of Economic Development, One Fair Wage, and High Road Kitchens.

The city's High Road Kitchens program will provide direct relief to restaurants that commit to paying their employees at least \$12.75/hour now and commit to a \$20 minimum wage by 2026.

Last week Councilor Lydia Edwards and Mayor Martin Walsh said Eastie is one of the neighborhoods eligible for the program and applications are open until 9 a.m. Monday, Nov. 23.

Edwards said this fund will provide \$15,000 in direct grants to restaurants for COVID-19 relief if qualified restaurant owners agree to the commitments highlighted in the

program. The Fund will directly provide wage reimbursements to restaurants to retain or rehire their employees or other food service employees who have lost employment or been underemployed due to COVID-19. Use of funds may include both rent and payroll and priority will be given to independently owned small and local restaurants, as well as restaurants owned by immigrants, women and people of color.

"It's important that we don't forget about restaurant workers when we talk about the struggles of the industry. Without restaurant workers there would be no restaurant industry," said Councilor Edwards. "I'm proud to have partnered with the administration, One Fair Wage, and High Road Kitchens

on the development of this program that will provide relief to restaurants that commit to good labor practices."

Applications for the fund can be found at https://www.boston.gov/departments/small-business-development/covid-19-high-road-kitchensrestaurant-relief-fund.

The program was part

of the launch of three new funds totaling \$6.3 million that will support small businesses within the City of Boston that have been affected by COVID-19, focusing on commercial rent relief, supporting certified women, minority, and veteran owned small businesses, and restaurant payroll and rental relief. Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, the City of Boston has allocated more than \$15 million toward direct grants to small businesses.

"Throughout COVID-19 pandemic, we have been listening closely to the needs of our small community." business said Mayor Martin Walsh. "These conversations are crucial to ensuring a safe and equitable recovery for our City. The new funds we are announcing today will address those needs to better support the small businesses who have been hardest hit by the pandem-

Previous recipients of the Small Business Relief Fund and Reopen Boston Fund, including restaurant fall and winter relief, may apply to any one of these funds:

The other funds include:

• Commercial Rent Relief Fund: Provides up to

\$15,000 in commercial rent relief for the period between April 1 - December 31, 2020. Priority is given to small businesses in industry sectors in Phase 3, Step 2 and Phase 4 of the state's Reopening Massachusetts plan, and those industries and neighborhood commercial areas hardest hit by COVID-19. Both a commercial landlord and small business tenant must participate in order to apply.

Wednesday, November 18, 2020

• Certified Business Relief Fund: Provides up to \$15,000 in direct grants for small businesses currently certified with the City of Boston as women, minority, or veteran owned small businesses. The City's Certified Businesses Directory can be

found here.

Brazilian National faces federal charges for Lanzilli's Gas Station robbery

By John Lynds

The Brazilian National that terrorized store clerks across East Boston for months prior to his arrest in April will face serious federal charges for one of his numerous heists.

Diego Evangelista DaSilva, 33, was charged on Friday, Nov. 13 with one count of armed robbery for the April 21 robbery of Lanzilli's Gas Station and Grocery Store on Bennington Street in Orient Heights.

DaSilva is being charged under the Federal Hobbs Act, which provides a stiffer sentence of up to 20 years in prison, three years of supervised release and a fine of up to \$250,000 if convicted.

According charging documents, on April 21 just before 8:30 p.m., an armed robbery occurred at Lanzilli's. The robber, later identified as DaSilva, was observed wearing a gray knit cap, a flesh colored mask, and a gray hooded sweatshirt with a red garment/jacket underneath. During the robbery, the DaSilva allegedly passed a demand note to the clerk, made verbal demands for money and displayed what appeared to be a firearm tucked into the waistline of his pants. Following the robbery, law enforcement obtained surveillance photographs of the robber approaching Lanzillis, exiting the area, and at one point going between two

buildings and later emerging wearing a red jacket and bulky clothing underneath. The robber then walked across Bennington Street and ordered a sub from Subway and used the store's Wi-Fi to order a cab, which dropped off the robber near Washington Park in Chelsea.

ton Park in Chelsea.

On April 26, 2020, law enforcement surveilled the area of Washington Park and observed an individual, who fit the physical description of the robber getting into and then driving away in a car. Law enforcement conducted a vehicle stop, determined that the driver, Da Silva, did not possess a driver's license and detained him. During a later search of the car, a black semi-auto-

matic BB gun was recovered under the vehicle's seat, along with a gray knit cap.

A search of DaSilva's home led to the seizure of a red jacket and other items consistent with the clothing worn by the robber.

DaSilva was later interviewed and admitted to robbing Lanzilli's.

DaSilva also confessed to his involvement in 11 other armed robberies in Eastie and the surrounding communities.

Dasilva said on Tuesday, April 14 he was involved in an armed robbery of a store at 210 Border Street. According to police the victim said an unknown male had entered the store and handed

the victim a note demanding the victim give the suspect the money inside of the register. The victim told police the suspect displayed a firearm inside of his waistband. The victim said she notified her manager who complied to the suspects demands and handed over the cash from the register. The victims said the suspect took the money and fled in an unknown direction.

On Tuesday, March 10 officers responded to a radio call for a robbery in progress at the store at 1 Central Square. The victim told police an unknown Hispanic male, later identified as DaSilva, had handed her a note demanding the victim open the cash register and give

him the money. The victim said the suspect displayed a firearm. The victim said she opened the cash register and handed over the money to the suspect who fled the store.

fled the store. According to police Dasilva first struck Eastie back on Monday, Jan. 13. On that day police responded to a radio call for a robbery in progress at a store located at 396 Chelsea Street. Officers spoke to the victim who said he had been robbed by an unknown male with a firearm. The victim removed the money from the cash register, handed it over to the suspect who took it and fled the store on Saratoga Street toward Merid-

ian Street.



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By John Lynds

East Boston's own Veronica Robles, a celebrated Mariachi singer and founder of the Veronica Robles Cultural Center on Meridian Street, will be performing virtually as part of the Global Roots Series hosted by Club Pas-

Robles, and her All Female Mariachi Band, will stream live for Club Passim on Monday, November 23 at 7:00 pm. Robles's Global Roots Series performance celebrates Boston's diverse international community. The performance will be streamed on Passim.org as well as Passim's Facebook and YouTube pages. The concert is free, but viewers are asked to make a contribution to Club Passim, an interactive live musical non-profit in Har-



Veronica Robles with her Female Mariachi Band.

Robles is a Mariachi singer by trade, but has become a cultural icon for Latinos in Boston. She has effectively utilized the power of arts and culture to bring the community together by raising awareness on the importance of diversity and she has empowered youth by employing them and teaching them about their roots and

Robles, well known by her fans as La Mera, Mera or 'The Real One,' has been performing since she was very young and is recognized as the most authentic representative of Mexican music and culture in the New England region.

Last summer Robles, through her East Boston based Veronica Robles Cultural Center, began a

new project that is breaking down cultural barriers and empowering women through music.

"I made a big investment bringing five female mariachi musicians from Mexico to kick off my project 'Veronica Robles All Women Mariachi,"" said Robles. "It is an honor to have all these amazing ladies playing with me as part of my project presenting the first ever all woman mariachi band in New England."

It was in Mexico City's Plaza Garibaldi, the cradle of Mariachi music, where Robles was introduced to Mariachi music as a teen. So it was here she tapped five Mexican nationals to be part of her project.

Through a cultural grant from the City of Boston and raising money through a GoFundMe page Robles invested roughly \$13,000 in legal fees, flight tickets, food, lodging and a stipend for the musicians to bring her dream of an all-female mariachi band to the region.

Robles has been giving back to her community since arriving from Mexico in the 1990s and founded the Veronica Robles Cultural Center in Eastie. Parts of the cultural center are innovative and educational after-school programs where students ultimately perform in schools and community events that expose other youths and adults to new cultures and traditions.

"Culture empowers youth and makes our communities stronger has been my mantra," she said.

In the long term, Robles hopes the all-female mariachi group will inspire more young girls to get involved in what has been



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and her All Female Mariachi Band will perform this month as part of the Global Roots Series.

historically a male-dominated musical scene.

"I hope someday I can open a mariachi music school and give youth the opportunity to learn the music and instruments within the mariachi genre like they would in other music schools," she said.

East Boston Social Centers receives \$1 million from state to create new early learning facility

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By John Lynds

vard Square.

Gov. Charlie Baker announced last week that the East Boston Social Cen-

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ters (EBSC) will share in \$6.5 million in Early Education and Out-of-School Time (EEOST) grant funding awarded to seven

renovate childcare facilities that serve low-income children.

organizations to help them

The EBSC will use the



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\$1 million grant to create a new early learning program within the former Barnes School. The new center will encompass the ground floor of a multiuse building that contains affordable senior housing on the upper floors. Once complete, the center will have the capacity for 41 new infants and toddler-age children, a majority of whom come from low-income families.

Managed by the Children's Investment Fund, CEDAC, and the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care, EEOST capital improvement grants help non-profit center-based child care programs renovate or build high-quality childcare facilities which serve mostly low-income families.

"We are grateful to the educators and childcare providers statewide who have worked tirelessly to adapt over the last several months as we continue to combat the COVID-19 public health crisis," said Baker. "Through these grants, we are able to make improvements to child care programs that boost the quality of early education and care and provide families in communities throughout the Commonwealth with the resources necessary for success in the classroom and beyond."

EBSC Executive Director Justin Pasquariello said the EBSC is excited to have this opportunity to open a beautiful new infant and toddler center in the historic Barnes School

"We are particularly excited to be adding space This has only worsened--

Agenda report released just today showed East Boston has suffered the greatest loss in early learning spaces among all Boston neighborhoods during the COVID-19 pandemic. We are grateful to be able

to work to meet this need." Pasquariello said the EBSC is also grateful to be able to build a multigenerational partnership with the residents of the Barnes School building, many of whom actively participate in the EBSC's

Active Adults program. "Our Active Adult Program Director, Dawn Panos, and Marisa DiPietro have been working to help support Barnes School residents during this pandemic," he said. "We have heard enthusiasm from residents about opportunities to volunteer with our infants and toddlers when our center opens--and a body of research demonstrates the benefits of multigenerational programming. The safety and wellbeing of residents and the children and families we serve will always be our top priority and the top priority of our partners at the East Boston CDC. We are closely collaborating with partners to prevent any risk of COVID-19 exposure for residents as we prepare for construction and for when the facility opens--just as we have worked closely to prevent onsite spread of COVID-19 in our pro-



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for 8 additional infants as part of this," said Pasquariello. "In 2019, a Boston Opportunity Agenda report indicated East Boston was among the neighborhoods with the greatest gap between supply of infant early learning spaces, and potential demand. grams which have been See CENTER Page 13 as a Boston Opportunity Order A...Fully Cooked Whole Turkey Available in 2 sizes 12-14 lb. Whole Turkey \$179.95 plus tax 20-22 lb. Whole Turkey \$309.95 plus tax Complete with Homemade Stuffing, Mashed Potatoes, Squash, Gravy & Cranberry Sauce OR

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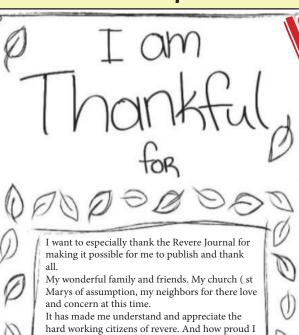
CORTANA for 3rd Grade teacher Ms. Cooper



for family



MIKAYLA FLAMMIA



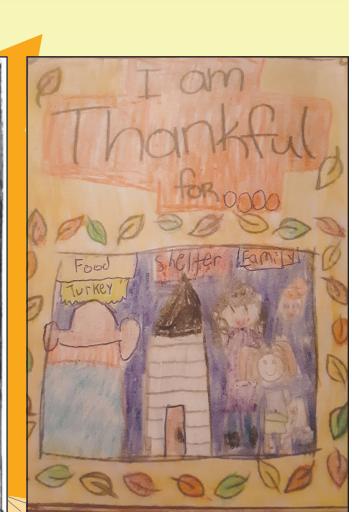
hard working citizens of revere. And how proud I am to be part of this wonderful community, I write this not to win any prize but to have an opportunity to publicly state my appreciation to all who surround my life. I am truly blessed and thankful

God Bless and Happy thanksgiving.

Vincent (Sonny) Cammarata

My six children and their mates who presented me with 23 grandchildren who

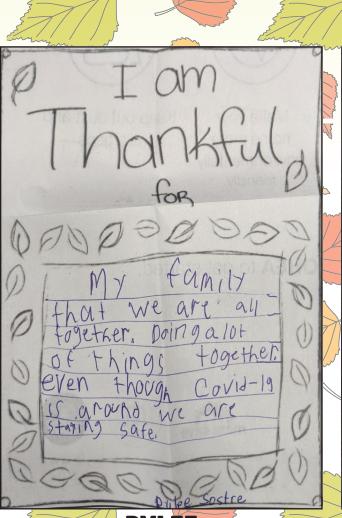
My six children and their mates who presented me with 23 grandchildren who procured six more greats....
The memories I have and the future they will bring.



INCENT CAMMARATA









I am thankfu for my family because some people Don't have a family. I am also thankful for hockey, people can't afford things like this so that have this staff. We should have this staff. We should what you have.

BYAVa Mackenzie

KYLE

ELLEN UAINON

AVA MACKENZIE

NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

PUBLIC FORUM HELD

CHELSEA - Alexander Train, director of Chelsea Housing and Community Development, and Sayou Cooper, project manager, hosted a public forum on the Route 1 Housing Enhancements Program Monday.

The meeting was conducted via a remote Zoom broadcast.

Cooper said at the outset that the meeting would focus on the scope of the Enhancement Program itself, the MassDOT project, and the application

process for funding. "Through his program we strive to improve housing conditions and public health for Chelsea residents," said Train. "We're extremely pleased to be launching this program. The Program seeks to improve properties that are adjacent to the Route 1 Corridor.

Chelsea residents who live adjacent or parallel to Route 1 North and Route 1 South, from Beacon Street to Carter Street (10 streets total including Walnut, Arlington, and Chestnut Streets), are eligible for funding through the Enhancement Program.

The Program will be focused on noise installation, air quality, and interior and exterior renova-

Train said the application process will be launched on Monday, Nov. 16. The funds (\$200,000 has been allocated for the program) will be available on a first-come, first-serve

"We see this as one of the first housing programs that targets noise and air pollution," said Train. "So we are confident that this

will be a model that we will be able to build off of in the future."

Tran expects that the city will be able to assist 10-15 housing units in the

"This program is only open to owner-occupied properties," noted Train. "The applicant has to live in the property as the principal resident."

During the meeting, residents raised concerns about the ongoing state construction project (the replacement of the actual Tobin Bridge structure between Fourth Street and Carter Street) on Route 1.

"We've relayed those concerns to the state and we're working on the issues that they identified," said Train.

REP. RYAN INDUCTED INTO HALL OF FAME

CHELSEA - For State Rep. Dan Ryan and his family, the Boys & Girls Club is a multi-generational way of life, and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston (BGCB) recognized that commitment in a ceremony last month that saw him inducted into one of the rare spots in their Hall of Fame.

Ryan's parents attended what was then the Boy's Club and the Girl's Club in Charlestown, and he also attended as a kid, along with his sisters. Now, his kids also are growing up at the Club. Add that to the exposure he got to local government while a youngster at the Club - an experience he credits with getting him into politics and it equals a Hall of

Fame tradition. "It is truly a great honor to be recognized by the Boys and Girls Club Community and join to the ranks of former 'Club Kids' who attained this title mostly by never forgetting the ideals and values taught inside our Clubhouses for generations," he said.

Josh Kraft, Nicholas President and CEO, Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston, said Rep. Ryan exemplified the value they seek to teach young people in their Clubs in Boston and Chelsea.

"Danny Ryan exemplifies all the values that make Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston such an important part of Boston and Chelsea for the past 130 years: commitment to community, respect and love for all, and thoughtful leadership," said Kraft.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston Hall of Fame celebrates a tradition of positive influence impact across the communities of Boston and Chelsea. Inductees individuals who attended Club and have gone on to make important contributions in their field, are role models of exemplary service to their community, and continue to have a positive impact on their Club. Their stories are very different, but all start out the same: with the life-changing programs, caring and attentive staff, and fun and safe environments provided at Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston.

Ryan is currently serving his third term as State Representative for Charlestown and Chelsea from the Second Suffolk District in the Massachusetts Legislature. serves as Vice-Chair of the House Post-Audit and

Oversight Committee.

A Charlestown resident, he and his wife Kara are raising a third generation of "Club Kids." Their daughters Ella and Audrey are both members of the Charlestown Club Swim Team. Their son, Myer, is a Club alumnus currently attending graduate school at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, CT. Myer was also a swim team member and played basketball at the Club. Ryan and his two sisters, Carla and Marnie, grew-up at the Club. Carla currently serves on the Charlestown Club's Local Advisory Board. Ryan's mom, Maryanne, swam for the Girl's Club as a youngster and his dad, Carlo, a World War II veteran, also attended the Boy's Club as a kid in the

1930s. Ryan's introduction to public service was a direct result of his involvement in the Charlestown Boys & Girls Club. As a kid, Ryan said he enjoyed summer camp, playing basketball and attending the Friendship Club. These experiences led him to become a staff member at the Club as an adult. As Teen Center Director in the 1990s, he chaperoned the annual Rocket Club trip to Washington, D.C., with then Club Director Jerry Steimel. A seed was planted. The following year, Ryan was living in Washington, D.C. while working as a legislative aide for Congressman Mike Capuano when the Rocket Club returned for a tour of the Capitol building. After a 14-year career in the Congressman's office, Ryan won his seat at the Massachusetts State House in 2014.

ZOOM VIOLIN CLASSES BEGIN END OF NOVEMBER



Last Monday and Wednesday, violinist from our Elementary and Middle Schools Strings Program stopped by the MCB Complex to pick up music and have their instruments tuned up. After eight months of not playing, Zoom violin after school class will be starting at the end of November.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT CALLS

FOR UNITY EVERETT - The Everett City Council returned to an all-online format for its meeting on last week, and Council President Rosa DiFlorio started out the meeting by expressing regrets for what happened and what was said at the Oct. 26 meeting – a meeting that descended into chaos and had to be adjourned early.

That Oct. 26 meeting was fraught with frustration, and ended with some councilors calling for Adrien to make some tough decisions about resigning from the Council if she could not attend meetings in person. She was the only councilor not attending meetings in person and had chosen to attend online due to health

Monday's meeting had a decidedly different tone from beginning to end, and the end came beyond midnight, with a cordial respect being practices from everyone in attendance. However, it started with Council President DiFlorio making a statement that the frustrations with technology the Council has struggled with got the best of them. She said they shouldn't have taken out those frustrations on

See REGION Page 11





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Region // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

Councilor Adrien.

"I want to address what happened at the Council meeting on Oct. 26," she said. "Frustrations grew throughout the meeting due to an antiquated technology infrastructure that has thrown up many obstacles in the way to us providing remote access to our meetings during the pandemic. We allowed these frustrations to get the better of us, and we took them out on one of our colleagues. During this global public health crisis, no member of this body should be made to feel they are derelict in their duties by choosing remote participation as currently allowed by the open meeting law. The health of our members, their families and all Everett residents must be our priority and paramount concern at this

Adrien was on the meeting and heard the statement from DiFlorio. She said she was expecting an apology from everyone, and that the statement fell a bit short of her expecta-

"I still have not received an apology from the City Council President or other City Council members,' she said. "It shows to me that peoples' pride is still in the way. I hope that we will be able to move forward to work on real issues for our community instead of this back and forth. I am frankly tired of

Council President Di-Florio said the Council intends to address the technology problems immediately, and she said it's time for everyone to work cooperatively and end the tension that has been present for nearly a year.

"As a body, we will respond to this in two-fold," she said. "We must commit to doing whatever is necessary to upgrade the technology that is currently required to conduct the business of this Council during a pandemic. We must also begin anew to work together to serve the people of Everett."

CELEBRATING 130 YEARS

EVERETT - Getting beyond the Century mark in serving God and the community is no small thing, but at the Glendale Christian Lighthouse Church on Broadway, COVID-19 has taken the winds out of their celebration this fall – but it hasn't stopped the church from remembering the milestone and holding out for a bigger celebration later.

Pastor Larry Russi and his wife, Judy, said the church celebrated 130 years on Oct. 31 - with its articles of organization as the Glendale Baptist Church on Oct. 31, 1891 (It was changed to the Lighthouse name in 1991). Dinners, celebrations and a lengthy program of praise had been in the consideration as the leaders of Lighthouse had wanted to let everyone know about their anniversary and the needs they have also to keep their old building going.

"We were actually incorporated as a church one year ahead of the City," said Russi, with a smile. "There' a handful of people that have been here 30 years or more and they like to say that. We've gotten knocked down by COVID-19 and that's prevented a lot of what we wanted to do. We had

banners we were going to

put up and we were going

to have dinners and a celebration on Nov. 1 with everyone invited."

Naturally, that had to be toned down, and on Nov. 1 they had a small service and invited members to come up and share their memories of the time they have spent in the church. For a lot of people, the church is a place that they grew up in and have continued coming to their whole lives. Others have discovered the church more recently and hail from countries all over the world, while others have been coming for some time and credit the church with turning their lives away from drugs, alcohol or other negative

"We feel God wants us to continue doing this work another 130 years or more," said Russi. "When I got here in 2017, I really had to solidify a vision for what we wanted to do. The main thing we came up against is a lack of youth. Many churches are up against that too. Before COVID-19, we had some kids coming to Sunday School...But COVID-19 has knocked us for a loop. We can't do Sunday School. We used to meet once a month for coffee and dinner and fellowship. So many looked forward to that, but we can't do that now."

Russi points to a string of national flags from around the world that hang behind the pulpit in the

"We are really an international church, and like Everett has changed, so has this church," he said. "Each flag represents a person who hails from that country. That's something we're really proud of at the church.'

What they have been concentrating on in a very difficult year to celebrate a milestone is what they can control. The church has been allowed to meet in person since May, and they have carried out many services and are in close contact with the City about regulations and best practices. It is a victory, but it's not exactly how they envisioned celebrating 130 years.

"We're back at church, but it's not the same," said Russi. "The City doesn't want people lingering here after church. You can't greet them and they have to leave right after church...We're happy to be open, but it's not quite the same yet."

What they can concentrate on is reaching out to the community around them, and helping to revive their historic build-

The church was part of the City's Operation Backpack this fall at the start of the remote school year, and saw an outpouring of generosity from the membership – which Russi said isn't uncommon. It is, he said, a very giving church for its size. Those efforts will continue throughout the holidays as well, with many plans to support the community near and far.

As for their building, like a lot of old structures in the city, time had taken a toll on the Lighthouse Church. The building has just undergone some emergency electrical work that brings it up to code and allows the building to be insured. However, there was a much bigger capital campaign planned to coincide with the anni-

versary that would help to

refurbish the church and

There is a lot of hope

bring it up to date.

that they will be able to raise some of the money they need to fix things like windows, doors and handicap access. Russi said they have a GoFundMe page that is up, and they also are taking donations by mail. Those can be sent to Glendale Christian Lighthouse Church; Attn: Cammy Consalvi, Treasurer; 701 Broadway; Everett, MA.

YMCA RECEIVES **FUNDS FOR FOOD** PROGRAM

LYNN - As part of the fourth round of the new \$36 million Food Security Infrastructure Grant Program from Governor Baker, the Lynn YMCA of Metro North has been awarded \$130,000 to ensure that individuals and families have equitable access to healthy, local food. This round of the grant includes 47 awards totaling nearly \$6 million to fund critical investments in technology, equipment, capacity, and other assistance that will help local food producers, especially with distribution in food insecure communities.

The funding will enable the YMCA of Metro North to purchase a refrigerated van to deliver meals, distribute food donations and service supplies, obtain equipment to increase capacity at several Y locations, and create cafeteria space to serve food at the Lynn YMCA.

"Food insecurity was on the rise before the pandemic hit. More partnership and funding for nutrition programs are vital as families continue to struggle in the long road to recovery ahead," says Andrea Baez, Senior Branch Executive of the Lynn YMCA. "The Lynn Delegation has been a crucial ally in helping us expand our food distribution efforts, especially to children who need a safe place to find a meal when they are not in school."

"These funds will ensure that the Lynn YMCA has the necessary infrastructure to distribute food and help keep the community healthy throughout the pandemic," said Senator Brendan Crighton. "Right now it is more important than ever to work together to ensure that individuals and families across the Commonwealth have equitable access to nutritious meals."

"I would like to commend the Lynn YMCA and staff for their commitment to the people of the

greater Lynn area," said Representative Dan Cahill. "Their efforts of helping those who need it the most in this difficult time will keep children and seniors from going hungry."

"This grant will go a long way in helping address food insecurity among our communities most vulnerable," Representative Pete Ca-"Too many people in

Massachusetts are struggling to make ends meet, and the pandemic has made those challenges much worse. I'm grateful to see the Lynn YMCA receive these critical funds to fight hunger locally as we continue to fight the pandemic into the winter. Too many children and families are going hungry, and that is unacceptable in a state like ours. These funds will go a long way to help people in Greater Lynn feed themselves and their families," said Representative Lori Ehrlich.

"This grant of \$130,000 couldn't have gone to a better organized then the Lynn YMCA," said Representative Wong. "The grant will help the Lynn YMCA to distribute more food to more people in our community. COVID-19 and the winter coming, our community welcomes this grant. This is just one example of the State working hand in hand with local communities."

Applicants were evaluated based on equity, economic impact and need, sustainability and scalability of efforts, and ability to support producer readiness to accept SNAP and HIP benefits. Groups that were eligible included organizations that were part of the Massachusetts local food system, including production, processing and distribution, emergency food distribution networks, Buy Local, community and food organizations, school meal programming, urban farms and community gardens, non-profits, and organizations that provide business planning, technical assistance and information technology services.

The Request for Responses for applications closed on September 15, 2020 but applications that were submitted before the proposal deadline will be considered for future rounds of funding.

COUNCIL HONORS VINCENT

REVERE - It would be an all-time testimonial

dinner, a capacity-crowd tribute to her many years of service to Revere residents on Beacon Hill, the last six-and-half years as state representative for Revere, Chelsea, and Sau-RoseLee Vincent is re-

tiring from her elected position in the House of Representatives after working as the chief of staff for the late former Mayor and State Rep. William Reinstein and his daughter, Kathi Ann Reinstein, who succeeded her father in the position. Councillor-at-Large Jessica Giannino, whom Vincent endorsed, was elected to the seat on Nov. 3.

With coronavirus cases surging, Revere's citizenry will not be able to salute Vincent at a largescale public gathering at

Last week, the City Council voted unanimously to present a Certificate of Commendation to Vincent on the occasion of her retirement. Councillors praised Vincent, one of the city's most well-known and admired residents, while others said they will save their farewell remarks for the popular legislator when the presentation is officially made to her.

We can count on a prolonged standing ovation for Rep. RoseLee Vincent when that historic moment arrives inside the Council Chambers and broadcast live on Revere TV.

SCHOOL **OFFICIALS REVIEW** FINANCIALS

REVERE - At the last Revere Public School Committees Ways Means subcommittee meeting members cussed the first quarter financial report that includes the first three months of the current fiscal year.

According to the report presented by RPS Chief Financial Officer Matthew Kruse, Revere has an operating budget of over \$94 million with \$25 million expended so far for the current fiscal year.

With an available balance of \$68.8 million Kruse said things are looking pretty good for FY2021.

"The most useful part of this report is to look and see if anything has already entered into a deficit or are they all tracking with surplus balances," said Kruse. "When you look through the detailed pages and line items there is only one red line item that stands out."

Kruse said the sole red line item was due to early retirement incentives RPS gave to staff that were nearing retirement. RPS offered early retirement due to the COVID-19 pandemic and a number of staff took advantage of the

"This resulted in a \$37,000 deficit but it is not a big one," said Kruse.

Going forward, Kruse said, RPS will look at any surplus in other areas that can flow to help cover the deficit in the retirement

In other areas RPS has spent \$697,666 for administrative costs out of a \$2.6 million budget.

totaled \$6.75 million in

services

Instructional

the first quarter of FY2021 out of a budget of \$57.4 million and other student services have cost \$3.94 million so far from a budget of around \$10 million. Operation of plant and maintenance has cost RPS \$3.68 million in the first

million. Employee benefits and insurance has totaled \$168,441 so far out of a budget of \$751,500 for the fiscal year.

three months of FY2021

out of a budget of \$9.2

Civic activities and community service have cost the schools \$15,692 out of a budget of \$39,783 over the first three months of the fiscal year. There's a \$832,294

budget for school improvements but none of that money has been spent thus far for FY2021. Revere has spent \$10

million through programs with other schools out of a budget of \$13.1 million.

RPS is also expected to receive two grants due to the COVID-19 pandemic that can be used to help any foreseeable deficits as Revere moves into the second quarter of FY2021. One grant will be \$1.6 million and the other will be for \$2 million. The \$2 million grant would need to be spent by the end of December according to RPS Superintendent Dianne Kelly.

Kruse said there will also be a "Carry Forward" allocation of roughly \$7.92 million left over from FY2020. This money will be added to the budget during the second quarter of FY2021. Kruse said RPS is on target to release a report on where the money will be allocated at a School Committee meeting in November.

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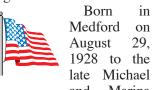
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Charles DeMattia Sr.

Well-known musician

Charles DeMattia Sr. of Revere passed away at the age of 92 on November 4.



late Michael and Marina (Potito), he was the beloved husband of the late Rita (Insani), devoted father of Charlene Mc-Donald of Salem, Judith Melanson, David DeMattia, and Robert DeMattia, all of Revere and the late Charles DeMattia Jr.; cherished grandfather of Courtney McDonald, Krystal Vacketta, Lauren Melanson and Amanda, Stacey, Rachel, Jonathan and Jennifer DeMattia; dear brother of Jody Caruso of Maine and the late Michael DeMattia, Helen Carvotta, George DeMattia, Clara DiCarlo, Arthur DeMattia and John DeMattia. He is also survived by his former sonin-law Vincent "Jimmy' Melanson and many loving nieces and nephews. Charlie, as he was known, proudly served his country in the United States Navy during WWII. He studied electronics, and during the



owned a TV repair shop in Everett. He later worked at the Charlestown Navy Yard. Then, at Raytheon, for the Department of Defense in Quality Control. Charlie came from a family of musicians and played the clarinet and saxophone. He performed at many weddings and social gatherings with his brother, Mike. Charlie was a devoted Catholic and member of the St. Mary's Holy Name Society.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all services were privately held for the immediate family. Interment Woodlawn Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the National Kidney Foundation, 30 East 33 rd St, New York, NY 10016 or at kidney.org. For guest book, please visit www. buonfiglio.com.

OBITUARIES

Charles DiPerri, Jr.

Member of MBTA Local 589

Charles J. DiPerri, Jr. of East Boston passed away peacefully at home, surrounded by his loving family on Saturday morning, November 14 at the age of 76.

Charles was a member of the MBTA Local 589. The beloved husband

of more than 58 years to Angela (Chianca) DiPerri, he was the devoted father of Cheryl DiPerri of Winthrop, Deanna Cutlip and her husband, Richie of Everett and Lori Lockhead and her husband, Kevin of East Boston; dear brother of the late Sandra Lewis Roberto, the late Paula Desimone and her surviving husband, Anthony of Revere; cherished grandfather of Kevin, Michael, Kenneth and John Lockhead, Randi, Richie and Jessica Cutlip, Joseph and Matthew Powers and Danielle DiPerri and adored great-grandfather of Angelina Powers. He is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews. Family and friends will honor Charles' life by gathering in the Ruggiero Family Memorial Home, 971 Saratoga Street, (Ori-

ent Heights) East Boston



today, Wednesday, November 18 from 5 to 8 p.m. and again on Thursday morning at 8:30 before leaving in procession to Sacred Heart Church, Brooks Street, East Boston for a Funeral Mass in celebration of his life at 10 a.m. Committal services will be private. In honoring Mr. DiPerri's life, memorial donations may be made to Shriners Hospital for Children, 51 Blossom

Street, Boston, MA 02114. All services will be held in accordance with Phase-3 of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts phased reopening plan due to COVID-19. Face coverings are required to be worn and social distancing measures are encouraged. For more information, visit: www. ruggieromh.com.

Marie Recchia

Member of Winthrop Daughters of Italy, Winthrop Ladies Bowling League and The Red Hats

A Graveside Funeral Service was held on Tuesday, November 10 for Marie (Mastrangelo) Recchia who was stricken unexpectedly at home on Tuesday, November 3 after being taken to Boston's Massachusetts General Hospital. Born and raised in Bos-

ton, she attended East Boston schools and was a 1950 graduate of Fitton Catholic Girl's High of East Boston and a graduate of the Katherine Gibbs Junior Secretarial College. All of her working career was spent as an ex-

ecutive medical assistant. she was proficient as a Medical Secretary and managed the office completely and perfectly. She also served as a clerk and counter person in her inlaw's long-time family business, "Day Square Tailors" in Day Square of East Boston. And as time happened, following the deaths of her in-laws, the business was sold. However, as a wife, mother, sister and grandmother her reputation is

legendary. She thoroughly beamed with her family's roles.

She had a busy social life as well, enjoying the theatre and the Boston Symphony performances. She was a long-time member of the Winthrop Ladies' Bowling League and was their Treasurer for many years. She was also an

active member of the Winthrop Ladies' Lodge-Daughters of Italy and especially enjoyed the sponsored trips they offered. "The Red Hats Society" was another of her interests, lending an excellent venue to meet new and exciting personalities as well as an opportunity to dress to the "nines".

The beloved wife for 46 funeral arrangements.



years of the late Richard A. Recchia, she was the devoted mother of Maria Lucia Recchia and her husband, Todd Watts of New Brunswick, Canada and Vincent M. Recchia and his wife, Stephanie and adoring grandmother to Lorenzo M. Recchia, all of Winthrop; dear sister of Joanne M. Fuller and her husband, Brad of Reading and the late Caroline T. Burge, Frances Mauro, Thomas J. Mastrangelo, Albert V. Mastrangelo, Angelo Mastrangelo, Peter Mastrangelo, Jerry Mastrangelo, Rocco and Alfred Scorzello, Michael Scorzello and Joseph Scorzello. She is also

survived by her brother-in-law, George Burge of Danvers and by many nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews.

Although, her death was most unexpected, her family is somewhat consoled with the peace and Ease with which God called her home. She was laid to rest in Winthrop Cemetery - Belle Isle Section, Winthrop.

Remembrances be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St.

Jude Pl., Memphis, TN

38105-9959. To send online condolences, please visit www. vertuccioandsmith.com

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

Happy Holidays

42nd Anniversary

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November 21, 1978 - November 21, 2020

We love and miss you so much, Daughter Rose Marie, Son Rico & Grandchildren Dad, Junie, Bobby & Frankie are with you now.

Happy 31st Birthday

Robert Celona

11/24/89 - 10/29/18

Birthday Remembrance November 18th OHN FAY

early days of television,



First guy to ever love me. First to ever sweep me off my feet or plant those scratchy whisker kisses gently on my cheek. First man to take me seriously. First pal I ever had. First guy I ever gave my heart to... Happy Birthday, Dad. I'll Love You Forever! Michele



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S.D. M.D.



16th Anniversary November 20, 2004 - November 20, 2020

Jerry Nastari

March 19, 1957 - November 19, 2010

We miss your smile,your joking ways,

We miss the things you used to say.

And when old times we do recall,

It's then we miss you most of all.

God saw you getting tired and a cure was not to be. So, He put his arms around you and whispered "Come to me" God broke our hearts to prove, He only takes the best. We love and Miss you very much.

10th Anniversary Remembrance
In Loving Memory

Your wife Lucille, sons Eddie, Michael, Jerry

and all your grandchildren!

Lovingly remembered by Wife Fran, Children Michele and Joe, John Jr & Rose, Grandsons Joseph & John

In Loving Memory



9th Year Remembrance

JOSEPH HURLEY

If roses grow in heaven Lord please pick a bunch for me.

they're from me, Tell him that I love and miss him and when he turns to smile, place a kiss upon his cheek and

hold him for awhile. Because remembering him is easy, I do it every single day, but there is an ache within my heart

Missed & Loved Always Love, Susan, Sharon, Chris, Gianna,

To place a memoriam in the

I was never... prepared to live the rest of my life without you.

Love, Dad, Stella & Baby Robert

Francis

7/17/1935 - 11/20/2011

Place them in my father's arms and tell them

that will never go away.

Mia, Stephen & Lori xoxoxo

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OBITUARIES All obituaries and death notices

will be at a cost of \$100.00 per paper.

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City Council to hold hearing on community healing and trust building after sexual abuse

The Boston City Council's Committee on Strong Women, Families, and Communities will hold a hearing on community healing and trust building after sexual abuse. Sexual violence can occur to anyone at any age, including young children and is an act that can be perpetrated by strangers as well as caregivers, family members, friends, coaches, acquaintances, and intimate partners. These types of crimes perpetrated against individuals, especially children, are a serious public health problem with profound short and long-term impacts on physical and mental health for both the survivor and their families.

"In addition to the injury to the survivor and their families, there is a communal injury that results in loss of trust, faith, and generational trauma," said Boston City Councilor Lydia Edwards. "We need to find ways to come together and heal from these tragic events as a commu-

"This hearing is an op-

portunity to lift up the voices of survivors of sexual assault and the services that currently exist for the victims and their families, loved ones and communities at large," said Councilor At-Large Flaherty. "It is also an opportunity to emphasize the need for more continuous support services for our victims and communities to allow for their healing." Commonwealth The

of Massachusetts and the City of Boston currently provide services for survivors that are crucial to the healing journey of those impacted by sexual violence. This hearing order is a first-step conversation to assess what services are currently available as well as how best to address individual, family, and community trauma. The hearing will be

streaming live at boston. gov/city-council-tv on Friday, Nov. 20 at 1 p.m. https://www.

boston.gov/public-notices/13670831 for more information.



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Center // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

open since July."

Pasquariello added that the Social Centers cannot overstate how critically important this EEOST grant is due to EBSC's multiple facility needs in recent times.

"We have been serving approximately half the children we serve at our infant and toddler facility at Central Avenue Public Housing in Chelsea and at a pre-school and school age facility in Orient Heights Public Housing," he explained. "All of those public housing facilities are being demolished and rebuilt, to provide improved housing for residents, within the coming year--and so we at the Social Centers have had to identify facilities into which to relocate all those children, without disruption. This is meeting a critical community need, as ~90% of the children we serve come to us with vouchers or subsidies based on family income or other family needs."

In the end Pasquariello said it took many people to make a grant of this magnitude possible.

"I want to thank the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Governor Baker, the Department of Early Education and Care, Commissioner Samantha Aigner-Treworgy, the Children's Investment Fund and CEDAC. Theresa Jordan, Bree Horwitz and Kira Taj, for their work to make these critically needed funds available for the early education and school age field," said Pasquariello. "East Boston's own Tanya Hahnel has led us in this work, bringing a variety of expertise that we needed and leading the grant writing. Many members of our team at the Social Centers

worked on the plans, budget, grant writing, attachments, site visit and more to make this possible; they include Cerlyn Cantave, Marisa DiPietro, David Cali, Gloria DeVine, Lisa Melara, Michele D'Ambrosio, Krysten Buccella, and others. Our elected officials have been instrumental in supporting this project and making this work possible--and have written letters of support. We couldn't have done this without the support of Rep. Katherine Clark, Mayor Walsh, Sen. Boncore, Rep. Madaro, and Councilor Edwards. The East Boston CDC is making this beautiful space available and wrote a letter of support, as did the Boston Opportunity Agenda, East Boston Neighborhood Health Center, Neighborhood Villages, and the Franklin Square

House Foundation. "

The EEOST grants financed through the state's capital budget and provide matching funds that leverage private investment. The \$6.5 million awarded by the Baker-Polito Administration for the FY20 EEOST grants will leverage more than \$36 million in additional financing to improve learning environments for nearly 900 children.

"The current public health crisis underscores the need for safe learning environments that support the healthy growth and development of all children," said Samantha Aigner-Treworgy, Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care. "We are thrilled to be able to support these seven programs across the Commonwealth as they turn their projects into reality."

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LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon St Boston, MA 02114 (617)788-8300 CITATION ON PETITION FOR **FORMAL** ADJUDICATION Docket No. SU20P2073EA

John A. Burton Date of Death 10/26/2019 To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has of Milford, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that:

Estate of:

Kathleen Arnold of Milford. MA be appointed as Personal

Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in an unsupervised administration. IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 12/18/2020.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must

objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day. action may be taken without further notice to you UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRA-

file a written appearance and

TION UNDER THE MASSACHU-SETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE À Personal Representative ap-

pointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including expenses of administration. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn. First Justice of this Court. Date: November 06, 2020 Felix D. Arroyo Register of Probate 11/18/20

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Wednesday, November 18, 2020

Kelley Tuthill named Chief Operating Officer for Catholic Charities of Boston

Catholic Charities of Boston has named Kelley Tuthill as Chief Operating Officer, a newly created position. The former WCVB-TV journalist most recently served as the Vice President of Marketing and Communications at Regis College.

Kelley join our leadership team," said Kevin MacKenzie, Board Chair and CEO. "As we respond to the current environment and shape our vision for the future, Kelley's breadth of experience, enthusiasm and heartfelt

"We are thrilled to have passion for our mission will be a tremendous asset to Catholic Charities. As a Board member, Kelley has already demonstrated her strong commitment to supporting those most vulnerable in our communities, and she will now share that empathy every

day as COO."

"Catholic Charities has met the needs of our neighbors in so many crucial ways during this challenging year and every year since 1903," said Tuthill. "I am humbled and honored by the opportunity to help expand its



Kelley Tuthil.

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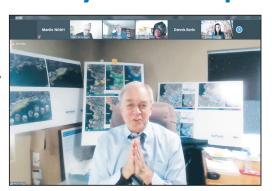
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East Boston Resiliency Assembly: Follow up

We thank the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center, the City's Office of Emergency Management, the Boston Public Health Commission and the 80 diverse, bi-lingual people who attended the first neighborhood Resiliency Assembly on Saturday the 14th. Resiliency, or the fastest way to regeneration, is key to both personal and community wellbeing and recovery. EBNHC presented how they have dealt with COVID, which remains a scourge in our communities. (We ALL have to work continue together to beat back this pandemic). In brief, OEM and BPHC shared with us how they collaborate and how they interact with agencies such as EBNHC and other First Responders when an impending climate or natural disaster such as damaging



hurricanes, floods, fires or emergencies strike. BPHC showed us what is essential for 'Go-Kits' which are what families

need to assemble prior to any emergency.



Dr Paul Kirshen presented a dramatic animation of how a storm surge would overwhelm Liberty Plaza, flood Central Sq, cascade into the tunnels and how it isolates parts of the neighborhood. Maverick Sq would be threatened in this model - and could be overwhelmed if the storm were to be a few inches higher. (Note: We used the January 2018 Bombogenesis storm and projected what it would do in 2030 if no green or gray infrastructure is added by then). NOAH's youth team prepared a short video which reminded us that the climate and the community we are building now is what they will soon inherit. They said they want to work to solve problems as they grow, but they are fearful of what is being passed to them for their future. Participants then gathered in

Breakout Rooms to discuss how they would respond in such an event.

NOAH's goal in organizing this event is to alert the community to what will happen to the people and property in East Boston if we don't respond in an organized manner to climate challenges – or other natural catastrophes, including COVID. Storm surges, flooding our streets and tunnels, damage to critical infrastructure, plus extreme temperature which threatens young and old rise is coming. We all **NEED TO BE PREPARED**. One lesson learned from our keynote speaker, Rich Serino, who used to run Boston's EMS and later was national Deputy Director for FEMA, is that in his experience, people and communities recover faster if they are prepared beforehand and if they operate collaboratively together - The Whole Community approach. There is no secret sauce to Resiliency. It is simply solid preparation for the execution of critical plans, active collaboration among First Responders and community agencies/small businesses/ churches/elected officials, and personally caring for one another's well-being, particularly the most vulnerable among

As a result of the Assembly, NOAH will follow up in two areas: a) work with local leadership to promote more inter-agency Resiliency Planning, and b) continue to work on and promote Green/Gray infrastructure possibilities, especially focusing on Liberty Plaza, Border St and the Maverick Sq area. At a later time, we will share our dramatic animation among those mostly interested in Climate matters.

We are happy to receive comments, suggestions, critiques, thoughts at pgiffee@noahcdc.org . We also thank our partners at New York University for their nationally renown Resiliency Preparedness workshop assistance and, Robbin Peach for organizing many programmatic details, and our funder, The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Thank you. (For those who attended, we offered a free sandwich at Meridian Market, Hacienda or coffee at Americano. We should not forget our small business community at this challenging time. Tell them NOAH sent you.).

Phil Giffee ~ pgiffee@noahcdc.org • 617.418.8240

capacity to transform lives by providing core services through basic needs, workforce development, family and youth services, and refugee and immigration assistance."

During her time on the senior leadership team at Regis College, Tuthill helped lead the launch of a successful \$1 million-dollar annual scholarship fundraiser, overhauled the university's website, spearheaded the development of an annual university-wide community service day, and created an award-winning marketing and communications de-

partment. Prior to her position at Regis, Tuthill worked for nearly two decades as an anchor and reporter, writing and producing content for all WCVB platforms. She won the Massachusetts Broadcasters Association's Best Use of Digital Media award for multiplatform coverage of the Whitey Bulger trial. She was also part of a team that covered the Boston Marathon bombing, its aftermath and ensuing trial, which won three National Headliner Awards and several Emmys.

Tuthill has been honored for publicly sharing her experience with breast cancer in support of others fighting the disease. She received an Emmy for "Kelley's Story," a 10-part series documenting her personal struggle that was featured on "Good Morning America" and CNN. She also co-authored a nationally reviewed guidebook for newly diagnosed women and their families. Her accolades also include recognition as a Hero Among Us by the Boston Celtics, the Jimmy Award for her commitment to the mission of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, and she was named to Boston Business Journal's "40

under 40" list. Tuthill received her doctorate in higher education leadership from Regis College, master's degree from the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, and her bachelor of arts from the University of Notre Dame. She serves on the Notre Dame College of Arts and Letters Advisory Council and the Gallivan Journalism Board. She also is an advisory board member at the Breast Can-

Tuthill begins her new position at the end of the calendar year, and will step down from her role on the Board at that time.

cer Research Foundation.



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