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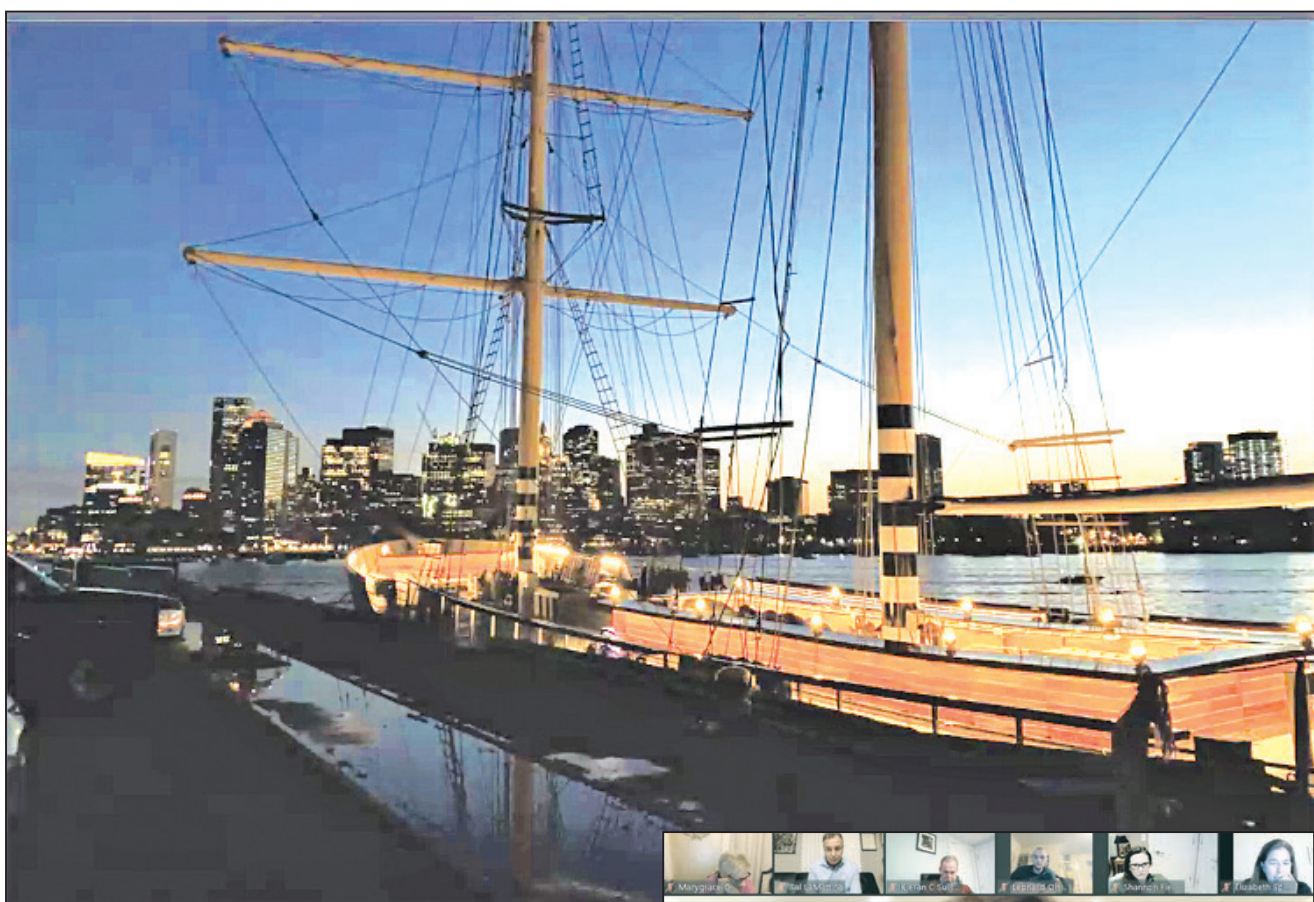


East Boston

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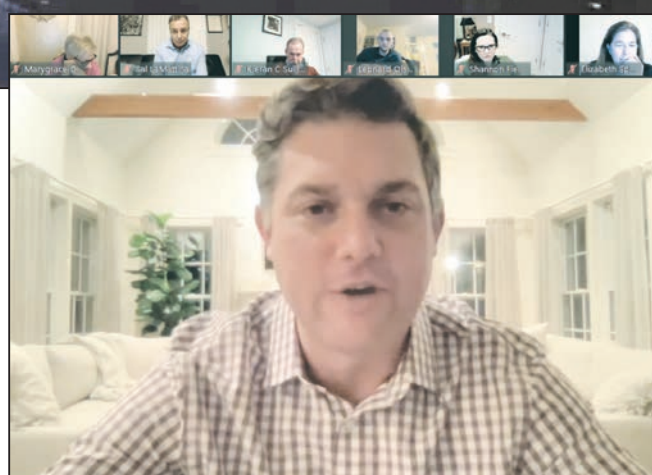
Wednesday, January 13, 2021

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Above, a photo of some of the modifications made on the Tall Ship currently docked at Pier I to accommodate 3 bars, function space and dining areas.

Right, Navy Yard Hospitality Group's Charlie Lerner. Lerner was at Monday night's JPNA seeking support for a liquor license at the new East Landing Tall Ship restaurant, bar, patio concept at Pier I.



Eastie Landing Tall Ship restaurant, bar and patio seeks liquor license

By John Lynds

Before the COVID-19 pandemic struck the Navy Yard Hospitality Group (NYHG) was working to bring an outdoor dining experience that would include a Tall Ship and large patio to East Boston's waterfront near Pier I.

Last year NYHG, which owns Reel House on New Street in Eastie and two other locations in Charlestown and the Seaport, approached Massport with the idea of docking a 242 ft. steel hull Tall Ship at Pier I to create a unique dining experience for Eastie residents. Over

the spring and summer NYHG docked a tall ship at the pier and began an extensive rehab of the ship to accommodate three bars and a dining area.

However, NYHG's Charlie Lerner said COVID put a damper on opening Eastie Landing last year but hopes to be

up and running once the warm weather returns to New England.

At Monday night's Jeffries Point Neighborhood Association (JPNA), Lerner updated the community on Eastie Landing's plans as well as their

See LICENSE Page 2

Promotions of longtime staffers and alumni at Zumix

By John Lynds

Zumix's Jenny Shulman's decision to leave Zumix in December after eight years as the popular

East Boston youth music nonprofit's Director of Programs has led to the promotions of three longtime Zumix alumni and staffers.

"We are so excited to finally get to share three announcements," said Zumix in a statement. "After eight years of service, Jenny Shulman will be passing the baton to Corey DePina, an alumnus of Zumix and a staff member since 2002."

Shulman announced in September that she would leave Zumix. She finished her tenure at the end of December and DePina

will now assume the role of Director of Programs.

DePina started with Zumix as a student in the program's second year of existence back in 1992. DePina came back as a staff member in 2002.

"Corey is a musician, community advocate, and award winning teaching artist," said Zumix. "In 2019, Corey received the

See ZUMIX Page 6



Corey DePina and Zumix's former Director of Programs Jenny Shulman. DePina will take over as Director of Programming.

The Independent Newspaper Group
Offices will be **closed** on
MONDAY, JANUARY 18
in observation of
**MARTIN LUTHER KING,
JR. DAY**

The office will reopen on Tuesday, Jan. 19
Deadlines for ads & copy is Friday, Jan. 15.

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The mayoral race in Boston is shaping up. City Councilor and mayoral candidate Michelle Wu received an endorsement from Sen. Elizabeth Warren last week.

See WU Page 2



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eastietimes.com

News in Brief

THE EAST BOSTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE COMMEMORATES MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY

The East Boston Chamber of Commerce will be placing a display of American flags to commemorate the upcoming Martin Luther King, Jr. Day on Monday, 1/18/21 at the Daniel H Solari Square outside the Chamber of Commerce office at 464 Bremen Street.

Martin Luther King Jr. exemplified organized protests to voice his concerns in a peaceful way, without violence. He will forever be remembered for advocating for meeting with violence in non-violent ways while voicing his concerns through protests.

Please note that the flags are for display purposes. If anyone wishes to obtain a flag, please feel free to contact the Chamber at eastbostonchamber.com. You can take a selfie of yourself or others with the flag display and post it on social media with the hashtag #eastbostonchamber to enter in a raffle for a free US flag like those found in the display.

We will announce the winner on the East Boston Chamber of Commerce Facebook Page.

OHNC JANUARY 19, MEETING AGENDA

The next meeting of the Orient Heights Neighborhood Council (OHNC) will be Tuesday, January 19, at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. For your information and so that you can post/share it, here is the agenda:

Orient Heights Neighborhood Council Meeting Agenda - Tuesday January 19th, 2020

Location: Zoom

Meeting starts at 6:30 pm, but the Zoom link

will open at 6:00pm to get acclimated. The meeting will automatically be recorded.

Zoom meeting information: <https://zoom.us/j/94631259107>

- Agenda
- Public Safety
- Station 7 Community Update: Officer Dan Simons

- Announcements & General Presentations
- COVID Testing Efforts in East Boston

East Boston Neighborhood Health Center’s has a walk-thru testing site at 79 Paris St. You do not need to have symptoms or be a patient at EBNHC. Call 617-569-5800 to pre-register.

Monday-Friday: 8am-11:30am and 1pm-4:30pm

Saturday: 10am-1:30pm

See <https://external.ebnhc.org/en/visitorpatient-info/covid-19/> for more information.

Orient Heights Design Review Committee

Formation of a new committee that will meet with developers/attorneys prior to their presentation at an OHNC meeting to review their proposal and provide feedback.

- Development Presentations
- INFO

6-8 Andrew Road - Renovation of existing rear deck. Scope includes extending deck to upper floor, addition of an egress stair, and extension of first floor portion of deck. Renovation of rear basement access stair/door also included.

90 Ashley Street - erect a two-family dwelling on a vacant lot.

VOTE

1209 Bennington Street - Raze existing building and erect a four (4) story seven (7) unit residential dwelling with parking for five (5) vehicles.

- Adjournment
- The next OHNC meeting will be held on Monday, February 15.

Is your dog a hero to you? Nominations open for the American Humane Hero Dog Awards

American Humane, the country’s first national humane organization, has announced the official start of the 2021 American Humane Hero Dog Awards campaign. The annual, year-long campaign seeks to identify and honor the best of our best friends and will culminate this fall with the premiere of the “American Humane Hero Dog Awards” on Hallmark Channel. The two-hour special, now in its 11th year, is broadcast in conjunction with the network’s pet adoption advocacy initiative, Hallmark Channel’s Adoption Ever After, which aims to empty the shelters and end this country’s epidemic of pet homelessness.

Dog owners across the country are invited to visit www.herodogawards.org and nominate their heroic hound in one of seven categories. This fall, the top dog in each category will appear at the nationally televised, star-studded, red-carpet awards gala and one of the seven will be named the American Hero Dog of the year – the most

prestigious honor a canine can receive.

The seven categories for 2021 are: Law Enforcement Dogs, Military Dogs, Therapy Dogs, Service Dogs, Shelter Dogs, Search and Rescue Dogs and Guide/Hearing Dogs. Following the nomination period, which ends on March 2, 21 semifinalists (the top three in each category) will be chosen in a first round of voting by the public. The second round, featuring a combination of public and celebrity judge voting, will narrow the field to seven category finalists who will then vie, through a final round of public and celebrity judge voting, for the title of 2021 American Hero Dog.

During the past 10 years, Americans have cast millions of votes for thousands of dogs, all seeking the coveted title of American Hero Dog. The program reached more than four billion people last year and draws the support and participation of top celebrity dog lovers from all over the world.

Legislature closes out session by passing Boncore’s bills

In the final session of the 191st General Court last Tuesday evening, a number of bills and policies championed by Senator Boncore passed the Massachusetts State Senate and House of Representatives. Critical legislation, ranging from transportation and housing to economic development and environmental protection, passed in the final days of the legislative session.

“Throughout this session, and especially over the past few weeks, the policies passed by the Senate represent our collective commitment to improving the lives of residents across the Commonwealth,” said Senator Joe Boncore (D-Winthrop). “Our path to both health and economic recovery from the COVID-19 will be shaped by these policies; ranging from sealing eviction records and expanding health insurance coverage, to improving our public transit system and supporting local restaurants. As we begin this new legislative session, I will continue to support policies that guarantee equity and justice.”

Boncore, who serves as the Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Transportation, led efforts to pass the transportation bond bill; a \$16.5 billion investment to modernize the Commonwealth’s

transportation system. In addition to the wide variety of infrastructure projects, the bond bill addresses equity in public transit by requiring a low-income fare program, modernizes the transportation network fee structure, and decriminalizes fare evasion on MBTA service.

A number of bills to expand housing access and affordability, initially filed by Senator Boncore, passed the Legislature this week. Among these housing policies are:

- The HOMES Act; to create a process for sealing eviction records, protect minors from being named in eviction cases and expunge the names of minors from existing eviction records.
- Legislation to guarantee an elected tenant representative on local housing authority boards.
- Zoning reform to help cities and towns approve smart growth zoning and affordable housing by lowering the required vote threshold for a range of housing-related zoning changes from a two-thirds supermajority to a simple majority.
- Policy to expand housing access by creating new requirements for transit-oriented development and multi-family housing.
- A local option for a tenant’s right of first refusal, by which tenants occupying a residential

property may purchase said property prior to its sale or foreclosure.

On Tuesday, the Legislature also passed a \$627 million economic development bond bill to support housing, climate resiliency, student loan borrowers, minority and women-owned businesses, broadband infrastructure, and provides over \$102 million for local economic development initiatives across the Commonwealth.

The economic development bond bill also includes \$20 million in grants to restaurants impacted by COVID-19, and establishes a 15% cap on third-party delivery fees during the COVID-19 state of emergency and protects delivery drivers from facing rate cuts.

The craft brewers legislation, designed to protect the economic viability of local and emerging craft breweries filed by Senator Boncore, passed the Legislature on Tuesday. The bill supports economic development by allowing craft brewers greater flexibility in ending contracts with distributors.

Healthcare, focused on recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic and the health system broadly, has remained a priority for the Legislature this session. The healthcare legislation passed in De-

these remarkable animals show us every day by nominating their canine companion now at www.HeroDogAwards.org.”

Key dates for the 2021 American Humane Hero Dog Awards contest include:

Nominations through – March 2

1st Round Voting: March 25 – May 6

2nd Round Voting: May 27 – July 15

3rd Round Voting: July 29 – September 9

Hero Dog Awards gala: Coming this fall

All rounds open and close at 12 p.m. Pacific Time.

More information about the 2021 American Humane Hero Dog Awards, including complete contest rules and entry information, can be obtained by visiting www.herodogawards.org and be sure to follow us on Facebook and Twitter. More information on sponsorship opportunities can be had by emailing Jill Nizan at JillN@americanhumane.org or by calling 1-800-227-4645.

cember requires insurance parity between in-person and telehealth services, addresses out-of-network “surprise” billing, requires insurance coverage of PANS/PANDAS, and updates scope of practice for nurses, optometrists, and pharmacists.

To address climate change, the Legislature passed An Act Creating a Next-Generation Roadmap for Massachusetts Climate Policy. The omnibus bill includes measures to limit statewide greenhouse gas emissions, increase renewable energy sources including wind and solar, address natural gas safety, and create benchmarks for the adoption of electric vehicles and vehicle charging stations.

The climate change legislation also codifies environmental justice communities and includes unique plans to improve economic, environmental, and public health impacts in these communities.

Additionally, the Legislature supported environmental protection by passing legislation requiring public awareness for sewage pollution in public waters and creating a Massachusetts Healthy Soils Program and Fund to provide expertise in healthy soil practices.

These bills are now before the Governor.

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Visit eastietimes.com

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Pursuant to G. L. c. 30A, §18-20

The East Boston Project Advisory Committee, Incorporated

Notice is hereby given that on Tuesday, January 19, 2021, at 6:30 p.m. a public MEETING of the East Boston Project Advisory Committee, Inc., (aka PIERPAC) will be held via remote participation in light of the ongoing State of Emergency declared in connection with the COVID-19 Pandemic

A web link and Details on how to participate remotely shall be provided on the organization's website www.ebpierpac.org on or before January 15, 2021 at which time you may register to participate

It is the intention of the Committee to discuss in open meeting the following matter(s):

REGULAR MEETING

a. Attendance 6:30

b. Approval of Minutes December 12, 2020 6:35

New Business

a. Proposed Amendment to Legislation and Bylaws regarding the Terms of PAC Directors 6:40

b. Treasurer's Report - 7:00 pm

Old Business

a. Update - Amendment to Operations, Security and Maintenance (OSM) Agreement (continued discussion) 7:15 pm

b. Update - Massport annual financial commitment (continued discussion) 7:25 pm

c. Motion to adjourn

At the conclusion of its regular business meeting and prior to adjournment, the Board, upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board may hold an Executive Session pursuant to G. L. 30A.s.21 upon the conclusion of which, the Board will not resume its public meeting.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE INVITED AND WELCOMED TO ATTEND

A copy of this notice has also been posted on the organization's website at: www.EBPierPAC.org and has also been placed on file with the Regulations Division of the Secretary of the Commonwealth by mailing same via first class mail at least 5 days prior to the scheduled date of the meeting.

East Boston Project Advisory Committee, Inc. By: Louise Montanino, President

East Boston

Times-Free Press

PRESIDENT: Stephen Quigley

PUBLISHER: Debra DiGregorio

EDITOR:: Cary Shuman

PUBLISHER EMERITUS: John A. Torrone

WE MUST NEVER FORGET THE LEGACY OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

As we were watching on TV the dramatic events unfold in Washington last week when the Trump Mob stormed the Capitol, threatening the lives of the Vice President, members of Congress, and the police who tried to hold them back (and actually murdering one of the members of the Capitol Police), the image of a gathering 58 years earlier in August, 1963, illuminated our mind’s eye.

We are referring to the March on Washington, when more than 250,000 Americans from all across the country gathered at the Lincoln Memorial on a steamy summer day to demand “jobs and freedom,” an event that was climaxed by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s immortal “I Have a Dream” speech.

The March on Washington was famous not only for Dr. King’s iconic words, but also because the unprecedented mass gathering of Americans was completely peaceful. Pundits and others had predicted rioting, but there were no arrests, no incidents, no violence -- a stark contrast to the events of last Wednesday perpetrated by Trump’s Mob.

The March on Washington and Dr. King’s subsequent peaceful protests galvanized support for the goals of “jobs and freedom,” eventually resulting in laws such as the Voting Rights Act and the Civil Rights Act that ended segregation in the South and discrimination in the North.

We would note that even the best efforts of a revered figure such as Dr. King could not stem the tide of violent rioting that marked the 1960s, most notably Watts in 1965, Detroit in 1967, and Chicago in 1968.

Yet Dr. King’s legacy of peaceful protest is what endures today.

For those of us old enough to remember the 1960s, it’s hard to believe that it has been almost 53 years since Dr. King was assassinated while he was standing on a balcony in a motel room in Memphis. Dr. King was in Memphis to show his solidarity with striking city trash collection workers.

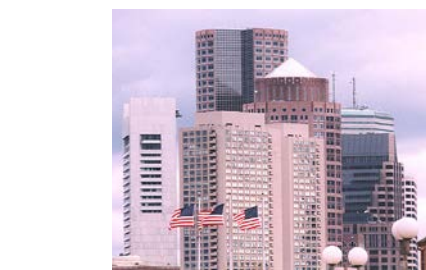
Every school child for the past generation knows well the story of Dr. Martin Luther King. But an elementary school textbook cannot truly convey the extent to which he brought about real change in our country. To anyone under the age of 50, Dr. King is just another historical figure.

But for those of us who can recall the 1960s, a time when racial segregation was lawful throughout half of our country and a stealthy racism prevailed throughout the other half, Martin Luther King stands out as one of the great leaders in American history, a man whose stirring words and perseverance to his cause changed forever the historical trajectory of race relations in America, a subject that some historians refer to as the Original Sin of the American experience.

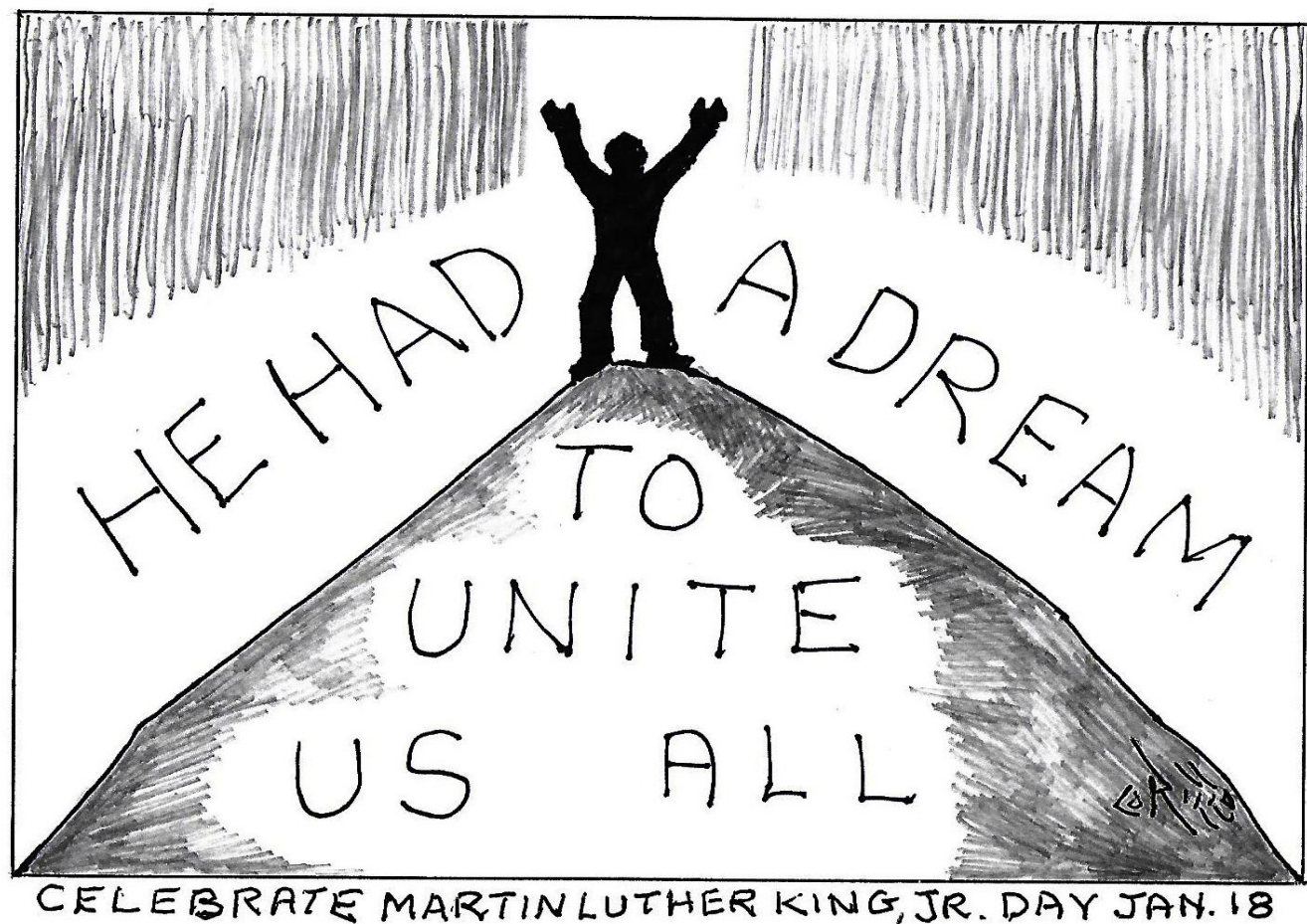
However, as much as things have changed for the better in the past 53 years in terms of racial equality in our society, the events of last Wednesday also made it clear that we still have a long way to go before it can be said, as Dr. King put it in his speech at the Lincoln Memorial in 1963: “I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character.”

“What would Dr. Martin Luther King do if he were alive today?” we often ask ourselves. We can’t say for sure, but we do know that although King accomplished much in his lifetime, he would be the first to understand that the work for which he gave his life still is far from done.

Dr. King advocated for non-violent protest and he practiced what he preached. That’s a lesson that must be re-learned by each succeeding generation. We can only hope that his spirit and courage can continue to inspire this and future generations to bring about a world in which all persons are treated with fairness, dignity, and respect.



Forum



GUEST OP-ED

Working hard to make victories a reality

By Lydia Edwards

With everything happening in the world I want to thank my statehouse colleagues for taking action on some amazing housing legislation last week that I introduced, led, and worked on. I was excited to work with them and a broad coalition of advocates on these laws that will protect residents and move us closer to housing justice.

I initially filed the HOMES Act with Senator Joe Boncore and Representative Mike Moran to seal eviction records in certain cases. I am thrilled to have partnered with them and the Massachusetts Law Reform Institute on this legislation. The version approved by the statehouse last week will give residents across the state a second chance at finding stable housing after the pandemic. Residents with “no-fault evic-

tions” will now be able to seal those records. No fault evictions are very common, but can have lasting impact on people’s ability to find housing.

Examples of no fault evictions include landlords evicting tenants to raise rent or to turn a building into condos. The law will also allow tenants who have satisfied their judgement or worked issues out with their landlord to petition the court to seal the record and “ban the box” on eviction records. This means that once sealed, prior eviction records don’t have to be disclosed on any future applications for housing.

The law will also prevent minors from being named as defendants on eviction cases and expunge any current records that people were named on as minors. This will clear the records of thousands of residents that are

having a hard time finding housing because of things that happened when they were children and had no control over. I want to thank the Chelsea Collaborative for their leadership in advocating for minors’ eviction records to be sealed.

In addition to eviction sealing, the legislature passed a home rule petition to update Boston’s linkage policy. I first filed a home rule petition to update the policy in March of 2019. With approval from the state house, Boston will now have much greater control over its development dollars. This update will generate millions of dollars that will go to the Neighborhood Housing Trust that I sit on and will help house Boston residents.

Finally, the statehouse approved Tenant Opportunity to Purchase. I’ve been advocating for this since

I worked in the Office of Housing Stability in the City of Boston. This new law will give tenants and nonprofits the opportunity to purchase apartments when buildings go on sale. This will help preserve long-term affordability and prevent massive displacement.

I’m very grateful to all of my statehouse colleagues for working hard to make these victories a reality. I’m also grateful for the partnership of Mayor Walsh, the Department of Neighborhood Development, and the BPDA in advocating for these causes. We know there is more to be done, but these new tools along with local victories like the new fair housing amendment I proposed will go a long way to providing everyone in Boston and Massachusetts with the right to housing.

Lydia Edwards is a Boston City Councilor.

GUEST OP-ED

Please, stop the violence

Dr. Glenn Mollette

Acts of violence against a marriage partner have never saved a marriage. Violent acts toward family members have never made a family happier. Typically, they create emotional and sometimes physical wounds that are never forgotten. Too many families have suffered because someone in the family became violent.

Violence in our communities and towns always results in pain, division and sometimes even loss of life. Violence typically brings the wrong people together to do bad things. No community, city or state needs this.

In times of war or enemy aggression against our United States, violence has been necessary. Acts of war have never been pleasant. They result in the loss of life and horrific debilitation of so many people physically and mentally. Most Americans do not want to be at war with anyone.

In years past, we have had to protect our country against those who sought

to harm us. The Second Amendment gives Americans the right to bear arms and protect ourselves. We are grateful for our military but we pray for peace. None of us want our family members actively involved in combat if it can be avoided.

Violence like we saw last week at the United States Capitol was criminal. It helped no one. It solved nothing. Everyone who traveled to hear President Trump speak should have bought a nice dinner in D.C. and then traveled back to their families. Unlawfully entering the Capitol was wrong and was carried out in a violent criminal way. People were killed. Offices were torn apart and doors broken down. Staffers were terrified for their lives. This should never have happened. Many of these criminals will eventually be arrested and spend time in jail.

This act of criminal stupidity did nothing to advance or help President Trump. If they had stopped in front of the Capitol and given speeches, yelled,

screamed, waved their signs throughout the day and then gone home the results would have been better. Terrorism never produces positive results. Destruction of the property of others and the terrorism of people are savage and criminal.

This same kind of unnecessary violence was seen in many of our cities last summer. I traveled to Cleveland, Ohio after a march had taken place and saw the results of acts of violence. I saw almost all of downtown Cleveland boarded up. Businesses were closed. Hotels were closed. Very few restaurants were open. For weeks my family was afraid to stop in downtown Louisville because of the protests and disruption occurring in the city.

In the United States of America, individuals, groups and organizations have the absolute right to march, protest and exercise their free speech. However, the destruction of buildings and businesses are acts of violence and are criminal. The people who shut down sections

of cities throughout our country should be arrested for their behavior. An acquaintance, who lived outside Seattle for many years, was terrified to travel back to that city last year.

Violence against Democrats or Republicans will not bring this country back together. Invasion and violence against the Capitol solved nothing but ruined some lives. Violence will not change the results of the election. Joe Biden will be the President of the United States for the next four years.

March, protest, yell, scream and financially support organizations who promote your point of view. But please, put your guns, pipe bombs and hatred away.

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

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Sewage notification bill passes legislature, now awaits Governor’s signature

During the final hours of the legislative session, the Massachusetts House and Senate enacted, An Act promoting awareness of sewage pollution in public waters.

The bill now sits on Gov. Charles Baker’s desk, where he has 10 days after the bill’s enactment to sign it.

This is an important step in protecting public health, our state’s water quality, and upgrading outdated water infrastructure. H.4921, sponsored by Rep. Linda Dean Campbell (D-Methuen), Sen. Pat Jehlen (D-Somerville), and Rep. Denise Provost (D-Somerville), will require water suppliers to establish a public notification system to let Massachusetts residents know when there’s been a sewage discharge in their area. Up until now, residents had no way to know when sewage was present in their local waterways, running the risk of unknowingly coming in contact with harmful bacteria and toxins that could

cause serious health impacts. Increasing awareness about archaic infrastructure is the first step in the long journey of updating and replacing aging combined sewer systems with modern systems that are cleaner and safer for our communities.

The Massachusetts Rivers Alliance led the advocacy effort, and is thrilled to see the Massachusetts legislature pass this common-sense bill. Mass Rivers credits the passage of this bill to hard work by a diverse and persistent coalition of legislative leaders, environmental advocates, and municipal leaders over several years.

“Massachusetts residents have a right to know if there is sewage in their rivers, especially this year when we’ve turned to nature for safe recreation and peace of mind,” said Julia Blatt, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Rivers Alliance. “Mass Rivers appreciates the leadership of the bill’s sponsors, Senator Jehlen, Representa-

tive Campbell, and Representative Provost on this issue, and we are thrilled to see it

approved by the legislature. Passage of this bill is an important step toward raising awareness of this problem, bringing our water infrastructure out of the nineteenth and into the twenty-first century.”

“With a COVID-19 connection to sewage, this legislation becomes more critical to preserve public health,” said Rep. Campbell. “Many citizens have fought for this for years – and they will now be able to receive individual notification of sewage spills. State government has a responsibility to ensure that our residents and local leaders are notified of public health concerns. This legislation also has a huge economic component. Our waterways in Massachusetts are treasured by all, and we all want to be able to enjoy and respect these treasures. Their viability is critical to local economies. Our next battle will be to upgrade our sewage

treatment facilities to prevent CSOs.”

“Combined Sewer Overflows may not be the first thing on many people’s minds when they head to one of the Commonwealth’s many beautiful waterways, but right now, public health is on all of our minds,” said Sen. Jehlen. “We need this notification system so everyone can make informed decisions, protect their health, and safely enjoy our natural resources.”

“Passage of this bill could not be more timely,” said Rep. Provost. “When people utilize our rivers and ponds, they deserve to be informed about the lurking health hazards from germ-laden sewer outfalls. Especially given the scientific uncertainty about the infectiousness of solid waste containing excreted coronavirus, we should be enabling the people of Massachusetts to make informed decisions about when it’s safe to go in the water.”

“It is a relief to know that the public health is

protected and residents in Massachusetts will finally have the awareness that municipalities are discharging sewage into their rivers,” said Patrick Heron, Executive Director of the Mystic River Watershed Association “and this would not have happened without the leadership of Senator Jehlen, Representative Campbell, and Representative Provost and the tireless advocacy of Mass Rivers Alliance.”

“In this day and age, most people probably assume that the public would have to be notified if there was a sewage spill at their favorite, beach, swimming hole or paddling spot, but that hasn’t been the case until now,” said Ian Cooke, Executive Director of the Neponset River Watershed Association. “We are very excited to see this common sense requirement to protect public health, wildlife and our waterways finally moving forward.”

I believe this bill is critically important for all communities adja-

cent to waterways who are subjected to sewage discharges,” said Newburyport Mayor Donna Holaday. “As an end user on the Merrimack River, Newburyport experiences combined sewage and stormwater discharges from upriver communities nearly every time it rains. We have been working with the Merrimack River District Commission on developing a pilot notification system to alert our residents, boaters, fishermen, swimmers and others from using the river and beaches when there are high bacteria levels. In order to fully implement this system we need to know when CSOs are occurring upriver. I am very grateful to our legislators and the many advocates who have worked on this initiative for several years.”

Baker must sign H.4921 into law within 10 days of its enactment, after which time the Department of Environmental Protection will work with sewage operators on establishing a public notification system.

Baker-Polito administration announced the launch of programs to boost internet connectivity

The Baker-Polito Administration announced three new programs to boost internet connectivity statewide, including a subsidy program to assist job seekers in the MassHire system that are facing a technology barrier.

In addition, the Massachusetts Broadband Institute (MBI) at the Mass-Tech Collaborative will expand a WiFi hotspot program statewide, delivering free high-speed access points to Gateway Cities, helping expand internet accessibility in areas hard-hit economically by the COVID-19 pandemic. The programs are part of the \$774 million economic recovery plan announced by the Administration in October, which designated \$9.2 million for an expansion of internet access programs. Gov. Charlie Baker, Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito, administration officials, and private partners made the announcement during an event held in Springfield.

The new subsidy program, called “Mass. Internet Connect,” is being launched this month by the MBI in partnership with the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development (EOLWD), working with 29 MassHire

one-stop career centers on the rollout of the program. The MBI is collaborating with internet service providers across the state, including Comcast, Charter, and Verizon, to offer subsidies and devices to job seekers. The internet subsidies and technology support will help keep job seekers connected to critical online resources and job search tools.

“The internet is critical to those seeking a new job, and these new programs recognize and aim to help solve connectivity challenges for people looking for work,” said Governor Charlie Baker. “These investments will help to get and keep people connected, so they can continue to engage with prospective employers, access the trainings and services offered by MassHire and their partners, and ultimately get back into the workforce.”

MassHire will work with job seekers within their system to identify technology barriers and determine the best solution or combination of solutions, including:

- Online resources for digital literacy;
- An internet subsidy for those residing in a municipality with Charter or Comcast access;

- A personal cellular hotspot from Verizon, for those in areas not served by Charter or Comcast; or
- A referral to a partner vendor, HiQ, which is distributing Chromebooks to persons that do not have access to a device at home to conduct a job search.

“For those job seekers interested in getting assistance with their technology barriers, the first step is to get into the MassHire system,” said Secretary of Labor and Workforce Development Rosalin Acosta. “Being in that system allows us to provide the personalized services and unemployment support that each job seeker needs. These new programs will allow us to bridge the

unique technology gaps that individual job seekers face, whether an affordability or access issue.”

The program will run through June 30, with the state covering the cost of subsidies for internet service and devices on behalf of the job seekers. Job seekers must be in the MassHire system to take advantage of the Mass. Internet Connect program. MassHire resources are available at <https://www.mass.gov/topics/masshire>. The MBI has participated in trainings for the 29 MassHire one-stop career centers located across the state, preparing them to identify and support those clients facing technology barriers.

The Commonwealth’s programs will supplement the existing programs launched by providers in response to COVID-19 earlier this year.

“For Massachusetts residents who are looking for a job, having Internet access is not a luxury, it’s essential to their search,” said Michael Caralis, Director, Verizon Public Sector. “Verizon is committed to helping bridge the digital divide. Working with the commonwealth and MassHire to obtain hotspots and unlimited data for job seekers without Internet access is one way Verizon can help with economic recovery efforts.”

Another new program

being launched to address the economic impact of COVID-19 is an expansion of free community WiFi hotspots across the state, targeting Gateway Cities and outer Cape Cod towns that will not be served through private provider initiatives. The new sites will offer communities the opportunity to establish both outdoor and socially-distanced indoor access to high-speed internet, helping boost free internet connection points for residents. These new public hotspots will supplement the efforts of private providers, targeting municipalities where additional free options are needed.

New report focuses on landfill long-term management issues

The Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) Applied Research Foundation (ARF) recently conducted important research on the long-term management (LTM) that will be needed for closed landfills following the 30-year post-closure care period required under current regulations.

The resulting report addresses key issues such as the expected service life of the landfill’s final cover system and the tasks that will need to be performed to ensure the long-term protection of public health and the environment. The report also addresses the issue of how long-term

management activities can be financed.

“SWANA continues to be at the forefront of identifying solutions to challenging solid waste issues, and this important new report provides useful information and data for solid waste managers and their communities,” stated David Biderman, SWANA Executive Director and CEO. “We need to assure the public that today’s landfills will not only provide communities with needed solid waste disposal services but that they will continue to protect public health and the environmental for hundreds of years following

their closure,” he added.

The report provides reassuring evidence regarding the efficacy of the federal design standards that have been established for these facilities. For example, the research study concluded that it is unlikely that the geomembrane in the landfill’s final cover system would need to be replaced for 2,000 years following its installation.

“We appreciate the support and involvement of our Disposal Group subscribers who submitted and voted for this important research topic and provided funding support for the research effort,” said Jeremy O’Brien, SWANA’s Director of Applied Research.

It is SWANA’s intention that this report will serve as a useful reference for solid waste managers who are responsible for the provision of landfill disposal services for their communities.

The full report, The Long-Term Management of Closed MSW Landfills Following the Post-Closure Care Period, is currently available only to SWANA ARF subscribers. SWANA members receive free access to ARF industry reports one year after publication.

Postal employees will celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Post Offices across the commonwealth will be closed on Monday, Jan. 18, as our employees pause to celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Street delivery on Monday will be limited to guaranteed overnight parcels and there will be no collection of mail.

Full retail and delivery operations will resume on Tuesday, Jan. 19.


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Walsh // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

always puts working people first--fighting for a \$15 minimum wage and paid family leave and providing frontline workers with emergency child care and the protective equipment they need. Marty (Walsh) understands like I do that the middle class built this country and unions built the middle class."

Biden said Walsh has seen how union workers have been holding the country together during COVID crisis.

"Health care workers keeping our hospitals safe, clean, and effective. Public service workers fighting against budget shortfalls to keep communities afloat. Port workers, car haulers, warehouse workers, and folks keeping our air and rail systems running. They are literally what's keeping us going," said Biden. "And they deserve a Secretary of Labor who knows how to build their power as workers. Who knows that when I say our future will be made in America, it will be a future built by American workers. A future with historic investments in infrastructure, clean energy, manufacturing, and so much more that will create millions of good-paying union jobs."

Biden said Walsh knows what "worker power" means not just protecting

the right to unionize but encouraging unionization and collective bargaining.

"It means protecting pensions. Ensuring worker safety. Increasing the minimum wage. Ensuring workers are paid for the overtime they earned, like we fought to do in the Obama-Biden Administration, but this Administration weakened. And making sure that we have a trade policy where for every decision we make, unions are at the table, focused on winning good jobs for American workers," said Biden. "This is one of the most important departments to me. I trust Mayor Walsh, and I'm honored he accepted."

At the press conference Walsh thanked Biden and Vice President-Elect Kamala Harris for the opportunity to serve the American people

"My mother and father came to this country as immigrants from Galway," said Walsh. "They brought with them their willing hands, their honest hearts and hopes of the American dream. But all they needed, because my father joined the Laborers Union in Boston, was that opportunity. That's why my parents were able to raise my brother John and myself with dignity and security. In the multi-ethnic, multiracial work-

ing class neighborhood of Dorchester I followed my father into that union. I learned what it took to turn an honest day's work into an honest day's pay. I saw what fighting for good jobs, good benefits, and a safe workplace does for the lives of hard working men and women and their families. I have fought for working people every single day of my life since then."

Walsh said that we're at a crossroads in America and it is a period of great hardship.

"Working people are holding this country together right now," said Walsh. "I've seen it up close as Mayor of Boston. Health care workers, first responders, grocery store workers, delivery drivers, postal workers, sanitation workers, custodians are all coming through for us under impossible conditions. But this isn't just because of the COVID crisis or the economic crisis that threatens their well being. Working people have been struggling for a long time. Under the erosion of their rights and the deep inequalities of race, gender and class for the last four years they've been under assault. The unions that built the middle class are facing hard times but nobody's taller than the American worker. Now we have the opportunity to put power back in the hands of working people all across this country. We can defend workers rights, we can strengthen collective bargaining. We can



Mayor Martin Walsh accepted President-Elect Joe Biden's nomination of him to serve as Secretary of Labor at a press conference last week.

grow union membership. We can create millions of good paying jobs with investments in infrastructure, clean energy, and in high tech manufacturing, along with the workforce training to help get those people into those good jobs."

Walsh said the Biden-Harris Administration will ensure an investment in the working people of America.

"I look forward to working with you (Biden) to deliver good jobs with dignity, security, prosperity and purpose to all American families," said Walsh. "And I look forward to working with this entire administration shoulder to shoulder with American workers to build back our country."

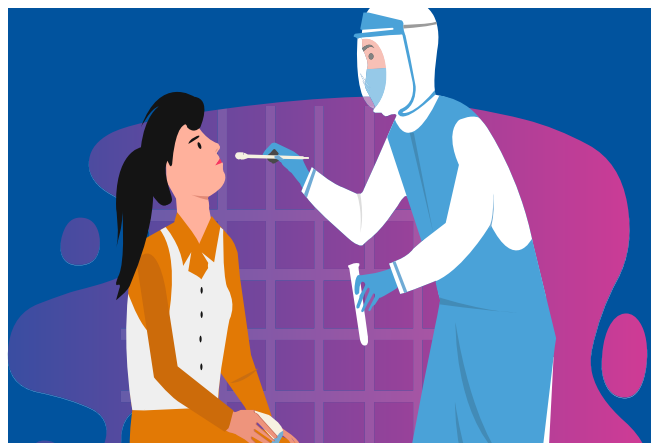
In a statement, the Greater Boston Building Trades Unions applauded the choice of Walsh as Secretary of Labor.

"We have seen firsthand the incredible work that incoming U.S. Secretary of Labor Walsh has done to build the middle class and to improve the lives of workers across industries in his time as the President of Laborers Local Union 223, as a legislator, as leader of our Boston Building Trades Unions, as Mayor, and as someone who has dedicated his life to combatting inequities and to building a more just future and a more just economy for all," they union said.

Darlene Lombos, Chief Officer and Executive Secretary/Treasurer of the Greater Boston Labor Council released said, "Walsh is an exceptional choice for Labor Secretary in the Biden administration. Mayor Walsh will take his union card to Washington and lead with the pro-worker values that he has so steadfastly

demonstrated during his tenure as Mayor of Boston. Marty Walsh will continue to protect and expand workers' rights, improve health and safety, and be a champion for all workers."

Massachusetts AFL-CIO President Steven A. Tolman added, "Marty Walsh is a champion of working people and is a perfect pick to lead the Department of Labor. From my time working side by side with Marty Walsh both in the legislature and as the President of the Massachusetts AFL-CIO, I have seen the unmatched level of care and passion he brings to fighting for working people every day. His service and record as a dedicated labor leader, legislator, and Mayor of Boston provides overwhelming evidence that he will be a terrific Secretary of Labor."



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Zumix // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Black Excellence on the Hill award from the State of Massachusetts Black and Latino Caucus for both his role at ZUMIX, and as the founder of the Fogo Project, which is working to build a music school and recording studio on the island of Fogo in Cabo Verde where his family is from."

Zumix's Kadahj Bennett will be stepping into DePina's former role of Songwriting and Performance Manager.

Bennett joined the staff in 2019 as the Instrumental Music Manager, and studied under DePina to craft his teaching artistry.

"Kadahj is an alumnus of Zumix and Boston Arts Academy, graduating in 2008," said Zumix. "Kadahj went on to receive a Posse scholarship to Hamilton College, where



Now that Corey DePina has been elevated to Director of Programs, Kadahj Bennett will serve as Songwriting and Performance Manager.

he graduated from in 2012. Kadahj received the Elliot Norton Award for Best Actor in 2020, and has performed with the New Repertory Theatre, Huntington Theatre Company, and Company



Omar Sosa and his wife Dani. Sosa will be stepping into Kadahj Bennett's role of Instrumental Music Manager at Zumix.

One. Kadahj continues to be an Artist in Residence at Harvard University, and Neighborhood Salon Luminary at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum."

Finally, Omar Sosa, an-

other Zumix alumnus, will be stepping into Bennett's role of Instrumental Music Manager. Sosa has served as Zumix's Administrative Assistant and Teaching Artist since 2016,

"We are also excited to announce that Kadahj will be passing the baton of Instrumental Music Manager to Omar Sosa," said Zumix. "Omar is an alumnus of Zumix, starting at the age of 6, and has been working as an Administrative Assistant and Teaching Artist for Zumix since 2016. He is a gifted teaching artist, musician, and leader of Boston based band Pangea."

Sosa graduated from Berklee College of Music with a degree in Jazz Composition after receiving a full-tuition scholarship.

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Mayor Martin J. Walsh

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Weekly COVID positive test rate at 11.3 percent in East Boston

By John Lynds

Last week the cumulative COVID-19 positive test rate in Eastie as well as the weekly positive test rate increased slightly.

According to the latest data released by the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC), Eastie residents testing positive for COVID last week increased 4.1 percent and the weekly positive test rate increased 9.7 percent.

Of the 29,855 Eastie residents tested for COVID, 17.4 percent overall were found to be positive for the virus, a 4.1 percent increase from the 16.7 percent reported two Fridays ago.

Last week, 2,591 Eastie residents were tested and 11.3 percent were positive--a 9.7 percent decrease from the 10.3 that tested positive two Fridays ago.

Citywide 33,903 residents were tested and 8.9 percent were COVID positive--a 27 percent increase from the 7 percent testing positive two weeks ago.

“The average number of positive tests each day for Boston residents was 413,” said Mayor Martin Walsh at a press briefing Tuesday. “That’s up slightly compared to the week before. Our current community positivity rate was 8.8 percent. That is up from the week before. Our case numbers are concerning, and our hospital numbers are higher than we’d

like.”

The Mayor said that 93% of adult Non-Surge ICU Beds are occupied, the highest Boston has seen in a long time. The Mayor said that he and his team are in constant contact with local hospitals, and that he needs everyone to do their part.

“This is one of the most serious points of the pandemic so far and if numbers don’t improve, we’ll have to look at more restrictions. So everyone needs to wear a mask, avoid crowds, and stay six feet apart,” said Walsh. “Every time you do these things, you could be saving a life. We will beat this thing, if everyone buckles down.”

The Mayor also discussed the need for personal safety while indoor dining. He said that the City of Boston continues to monitor the data closely and limit indoor dining capacity to levels the public health experts say are safe.

He thanked local restaurants for following safety protocols, saying that they have been very cooperative. The City continues to support them with small business relief funds, technical support, and outdoor dining programs, and making it easier for them to offer safe pickup and delivery.

But, the Mayor said, he needs patrons to do their part, too.

The Mayor said local contact tracing efforts

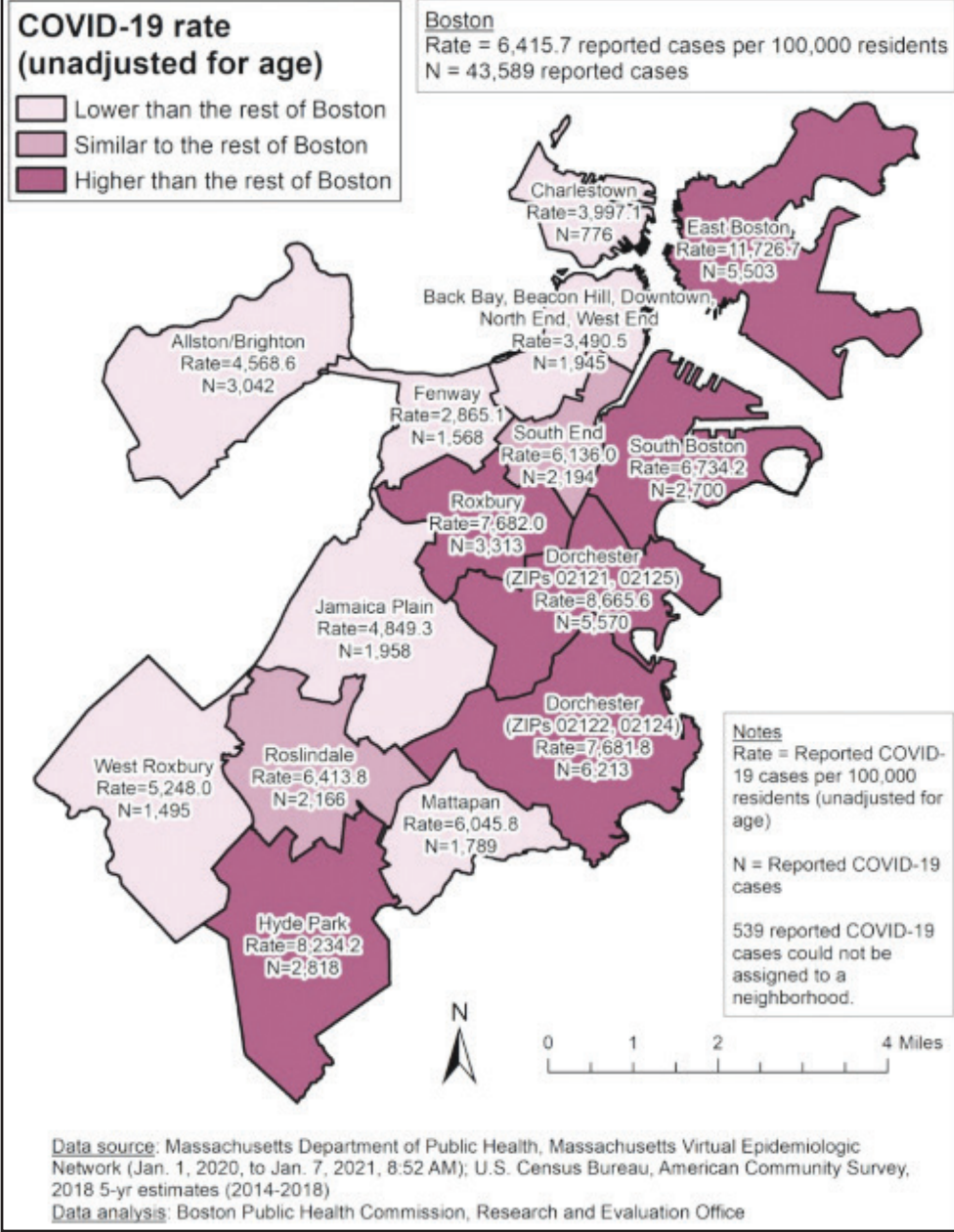
make it clear that even though indoor dining itself isn’t a high risk factor, too many people are going out to dinner with people outside their bubbles, increasing the risk for COVID-19 transmission. He said that sometimes they see other people they know and “table hop,” which has to stop.

“We can keep local restaurants open... but only if people follow the public health guidance,” said Walsh. “So, if you’re indoor dining: only go with people in your bubble; keep your mask on when you’re not eating; and don’t mingle with other tables. It’s not just about your safety... It’s about our hardworking waiters and waitresses, hosts, and busboys who are working hard so that you can have a good time. Be respectful and help us spread the word about this.”

Eastie’s infection rate rose by 6.1 percent according to the data released by the BPHC last Friday. Eastie’s COVID infection rate went from 1,104.9 cases per 10,000 residents to 1,172.6 cases per 10,000 residents. The citywide average is 641.5 cases per 10,000 residents.

An additional 318 Eastie residents contracted the virus and there are now 5,503 confirmed cases, up from the 5,185 reported two weeks ago.

The statistics released by the BPHC as part of its weekly COVID19 report breaks down the num-



OBITUARIES

Theresa Rose Camarro

Longtime Saint Joseph – Saint Lazarus Parishioner

Theresa Rose (Distasio) Camarro of East Boston, formerly of Avellino, Italy, passed away peacefully surrounded by her loving family on Friday, January 8.

Theresa was a longtime parishioner and devoted member of Saint Joseph - Saint Lazarus Church and was involved in many activities for her beloved parish.

The beloved wife for over 59 years to Geraldo Camarro, she was the devoted mother of Stephen B. and his wife, Pamela of North Reading and Michael A. of Danvers; dear sister of Michael Distasio of Quincy, Annette Baccari of Newton and the late Victoria Sarno and Eugene Distasio; cherished grandmother of Stephen, Gabrielle, Nicole, Trevor and Michael Jr. She is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

Family and friends honored Theresa's life by gathering at Saint Joseph - Saint Lazarus Church, Ashley Street, East Boston on Tuesday, January 12



for an 11 a.m. Funeral Mass. Services concluded with Theresa being laid to rest at Woodlawn Cemetery, Everett.

Due to COVID-19 regulations, the Camaro Family decided to have a private visitation. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in Theresa's name to the Massachusetts General Hospital, 125 Nashua Street, Suite 540, Boston, MA 02114. You can also create an online tribute page and make a donation in memory of Theresa on MGH's website. Please visit <https://giving.massgeneral.org/crowdfunding-community-fundraising/>. For more information, please visit: www.ruggieromh.com.

MassDOT issues final report for East-West Passenger Rail Study

Officials from the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) last week issued the final report for the East-West Passenger Rail Study, which examines the potential benefits, costs, and investments necessary to connect people in Western Massachusetts communities with Central and Eastern Massachusetts using a passenger rail service that provides fast, frequent, and attractive service in a cost-effective and achievable manner. Community leaders, stakeholders, and residents expressed a desire for such a passenger rail link to enhance multi-modal transportation options available for communities in the Commonwealth located west of Worcester. MassDOT subsequently paid for and launched this study which entailed a comprehensive civic engagement process involving members of the East-West Passenger Rail Study Advisory Committee, residents, businesses, state and local elected officials, and other stakeholders in a series of informational meetings, outreach, and public comment processes, and through online interaction.

"MassDOT is pleased to present the final report for the East-West Passenger Rail Study which outlines the three alternatives that could be most favorable for East-West service, the pros and cons of each, what those options would cost, and what ridership is projected for each alternative," said Transportation Secretary and CEO Stephanie Pollack. "Most importantly, the study recommends a series of next steps to further advance planning for East-West rail, including further discussions with CSX about its policies for

use of its tracks between Springfield and Worcester, a follow-up study detailing the potential economic and community benefits and impacts, development of a new approach to governance for passenger rail service in Western Massachusetts and efforts to identify possible funding sources."

The study acknowledges that "fast and frequent passenger rail service in the East-West Rail Corridor could enhance mobility and connectivity for Corridor communities, provide residents and stakeholders with additional travel options, and catalyze new economic opportunities, such as development around stations. Improved connectivity among job centers and better mobility for potential workers could increase employment opportunities for workers and expand the talent pool available to employers by better linking the western, central, and eastern regions of the Commonwealth with each other and with a broader travel market."

The final report for the East-West Passenger Rail Study recommends further consideration of the following three Alternatives, which have been selected from a group of six:

- "Alternative 3" could provide direct passenger rail service between Pittsfield and Boston along a shared track / shared CSX and MBTA corridor.

- "Alternative 4" could provide direct passenger rail service between Pittsfield and Springfield along a shared track / shared CSX corridor, along an independent passenger track between Springfield and Worcester, and along a shared track/shared MBTA corridor between Worcester and Boston.

- "Hybrid Alternative 4/5" could provide direct passenger rail service between Pittsfield and Springfield along a shared track / shared CSX corridor, along an independent passenger track with high-speed shortcuts between Springfield and Worcester, and along a shared track/shared MBTA corridor between Worcester and Boston.

Key findings from the final alternatives' analysis include:

- A substantial reduction in travel times by as much as one hour over current times could be possible with significant new investment in rail corridor infrastructure.

- Passenger rail and CSX operations between Worcester and Pittsfield within an enhanced shared-track environment would require careful coordination of services and clear operational criteria.

- Passenger rail service operated between Worcester and Springfield over an independent alignment adjacent to CSX track(s) eliminates most of the interference between the two operations in this segment.

- Total forecasted ridership for the Final Alternatives indicates commuter, business and recreational travel markets are present to varying degrees along the East-West Corridor, including a pattern of very strong ridership between Springfield and Boston: roughly two-thirds of boardings for each alternative were attributable to Boston-bound trips from Springfield, or the corresponding return trip. Long term impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on commuting patterns were not examined as part of this study.

The study recommends four next steps to gath-

er additional information that could inform the development of an East-West Passenger Rail Corridor beyond the analysis contained in the study.

- The first recommendation calls for further discussion of the requirements established by CSX, the owner of the tracks between Springfield and Worcester, about accommodating passenger rail on its right-of-way, noting that the CSX requirements add as much as \$1.5 billion to the cost of the project because CSX policy favors the complete separation of the passenger operations from CSX tracks whenever possible.

- The second recommendation is a study of the potentially transformative economic and demographic impacts/benefits of East-West passenger rail and how an East-West rail corridor could be one of several focused policies to promote affordable living and economic development in Western Massachusetts, which is not captured by a standard transportation analysis.

- The third recommendation includes working with elected stakeholders to develop a white paper to identify options for a governance structure for passenger rail outside the MBTA service district.

- The fourth recommendation involves evaluating funding sources and strategies, an effort that will depend in part on the findings from the governance white paper with respect to what entity could be the recipient of such funding. These analyses may also be useful in determining whether phasing development of the corridor could provide a more viable path forward.

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Pressley announces plans to reintroduce bill to end federal death penalty

Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley and colleagues have announced that they will lead more than 70 of their colleagues in soon reintroducing the Federal Death Penalty Prohibition Act of 2021, bicameral legislation to prohibit the use of the death penalty at the federal level, and require re-sentencing of those currently on death row.

The announcement comes with three more people scheduled to be executed in the final days of the Trump administration.

"State-sanctioned murder is not justice, and the death penalty, which kills Black and brown people disproportionately, has absolutely no place in our society," said Congresswoman Pressley. "Ending

the federal death penalty—which is as cruel as it is ineffective in deterring crime—is a racial justice issue and must come to an end. We must finally abolish this inhumane form of punishment and put an end to Donald Trump's unprecedented killing spree. I am grateful for the partnership of incoming Chairman Durbin and my colleagues in this effort."

Despite overwhelming evidence against the death penalty, the Trump administration has executed 10 Americans since resuming federal executions for the first time in 17 years on July 14, 2020. The United States stands alone among its peers in executing its own citizens, a punishment that denies the dignity and humanity of all

people and is disproportionately applied to people who are Black, Latinx, and poor. For example, Black people make up less than 13 percent of the nation's population while accounting for more than 42 percent of those on death row. A nationwide study found that at least one in 25 people sentenced to death are innocent, while research has shown that capital punishment does not deter crime.

Polling in 2019 demonstrated that the majority of Americans no longer support the death penalty. Many conservative leaders have called for an end to its use because it is costly, ineffective, and inaccurate. Carrying out these executions during the pandemic has been

particularly expensive, with an estimated cost of more than \$900,000 per execution.

The Federal Death Penalty Prohibition Act of 2021 would end the use of the death penalty by the federal government. Specifically, the bill would prohibit the imposition of the death penalty as punishment for any violation of federal law and would require the re-sentencing of those previously sentenced to death row. The legislation was originally introduced by Rep. Pressley and Sen. Dick Durbin in July 2019 following the U.S. Department of Justice's announcement that it would resume the use of the death penalty.

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Docket No. SU20P2004EA
Estate of: Rose Woodside
Date of Death: June 10, 2020
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side of Saugus, M A and Petitioner Kevin Woodside of Winthrop, MA. A Will has been admitted to informal probate. The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative

and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

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Boston Ballet presents ‘BB@yourhome: Look Back, Focus Forward’

Boston Ballet presents “BB@yourhome: Look Back, Focus Forward,” an approximately one-hour long virtual program featuring historic Boston Ballet moments and artistic achievements, including the intimate ballets from Leonid Yakobson, international tours, and a preview of Ken Ossola’s new work. Look Back, Focus Forward will premiere on Thursday, Jan. 21, and will be available until Jan. 31. Subscribers will receive a streaming link prior to the premiere.

“This program is a visual representation of Boston Ballet’s journey and essence,” said Artistic Director Mikko Nissinen. “It will take a look at some groundbreaking moments, from historic tours to performing rarely seen works, as we enter a new year and look forward to the exciting future.”

“Look Back, Focus Forward” showcases a

series of works by transformative Russian choreographer Leonid Yakobson: “Vestris, Pas de Quatre”, and excerpts from “Rodin.” Specifically created by Yakobson for a young Mikhail Baryshnikov, “Vestris” is a seven-minute solo based on Auguste Vestris, the most famous of the Vestris dynasty of dancers in the 18th century. “Pas de Quatre” features intricate choreography for four women, representing a special sisterhood. “Rodin” is inspired by the works of French sculptor Auguste Rodin and features a suite of duets or “ballet miniatures” (short choreographic studies on a given subject). Boston Ballet performed these works as part of the Rhapsody program in 2019, which “exemplifies all of the ballet’s ever-expanding skill and character” (GBH). Boston Ballet is one of the few companies in the United States trusted to

perform Yakobson’s work today and is committed to carrying on his legacy. The program also contains commentary from dance historian Janice Ross, author of “Like a Bomb Going Off: Leonid Yakobson and Ballet as Resistance in Soviet Russia,” and shares how he used his works as a kind of “stealth weapon” to challenge a repressive totalitarian regime.

Born in St. Petersburg in 1904, Leonid Yakobson (1904–1975) has been deemed a revolutionary choreographic voice of the 20th century. He trained at the Kirov Academy and was associated with the Kirov Company between 1926 and 1975. He choreographed for the Bolshoi Ballet until his death in 1975. By employing techniques that required unprecedented levels of athleticism, Yakobson’s work was often censored by Soviet authority for challenging classical ballet. In his lifetime, he cre-

ated 178 ballets—including dozens for individual dancers and for his own company, Choreographic Miniatures, which he formed in 1970. Yakobson inspired a generation of dancers from Russia including Galina Ulanova, Maya Plisetskaya, Alla Osipenko, Mikhail Baryshnikov, and Natalia Makarova. While Yakobson’s work is rarely performed today, his influence is still regarded as an important symbol of political resistance in the 20th century.

“Look Back, Focus Forward” also explores the importance of global outreach through touring by Boston Ballet, with a conversation between Nissinen and Principal Dancer Lia Cirio. Audiences will see highlights from tours to Spain, Paris, London, and New York, plus excerpts from Jiří Kylián’s deeply moving Bella Figura. The program concludes with an inside look

at the making of Ken Ossola’s new work, as he choreographs from Europe through Zoom, which will premiere in the final BB@yourhome, Process and Progress. Ossola engages in conversation with dancers Paul Craig and María Álvarez, featured in his new piece.

In 1989, under the leadership of Gerald Tibbs and the artistic direction of Jiří Kylián, Ken Ossola joined Nederlands Dans Theater 2. For the next three years he developed himself as an artist working and creating with leading choreographers such as Hans Van Manen, Ohad Naharin, William Forsythe, Martino Muller, Paul Lightfoot, Nacho Duato, Johan Inger, and Jiří Kylián. He then joined Nederlands Dans Theater 1. He collaborated with Jiří Kylián on many creations including “One of a Kind,” “Blackbird,” “Tiger Lily,” “Wings of Wax” and “Bella Figura.” In 1999, he left to pursue his career as a choreographer. In 2009, using Faure’s “Requiem,” he created “Lux” for Le Ballet du Grand Théâtre de Genève. In 2014, the company’s director

Philippe Cohen commissioned him to make a full evening tribute to Gustav Mahler and created Shadows Memories. In 2016, Gradimir Pankov, then artistic director of Les Grand Ballet Canadien, gave Ossola the opportunity to create a tribute to Sergei Rachmaninov. In 2019, he created for the Shanghai Ballet in collaboration with Yen Han Ballet for the Shanghai Art Festival. Currently, he is the resident choreographer at Yen Han Ballet. Ossola’s connection with Boston Ballet began in 2010, when he staged “Bella Figura,” which made its North American premiere in 2011.

Boston Ballet’s virtual season features new creations, signature works, and classical ballet favorites captured live in-studio. Dancers have been back in the studios rehearsing under a new health and safety plan, which was developed in partnership with a team of medical professionals and infectious disease specialists.

For more information on BB@yourhome, visit bostonballet.org.

December State revenue collections total \$2.842 billion

Massachusetts Department of Revenue (DOR) Commissioner Geoffrey Snyder announced that December revenue collections totaled \$2.842 billion, which was \$230 million or 8.8 percent more than the actual collections in December 2019.

FY2021 year-to-date collections totaled approximately \$14.306 billion, which is \$372 million or 2.7% more than collections in the same period of FY2020.

“December revenue included increases in corporate and business taxes, withholding, and regular sales tax, as well as decreases in meals tax and ‘all other’ tax,” said Snyder. “The increase in withholding reflects increases in unemployment insurance benefits and the increase in corporate and business taxes is partly attributable to one-time business restructuring events and timing factors such as changes to corporate estimated payment

installment patterns. DOR will continue to monitor revenue collections closely in the coming months.”

In general, December is a significant month for revenues because many corporate and business taxpayers are required to make quarterly estimated payments. In addition, quarterly income estimated payments could also begin to come in (income estimated payments are due by Jan. 15). December generally produces about 9.5 percent of annual revenue, making December the fifth largest revenue month of the year.

Similar to prior months, collections in December reflected the impact of filing and payment due date extensions for regular sales, meals, and room occupancy taxes. The due date for these tax types has been extended several times this year for certain businesses. The most recent extension was announced on Sept. 15, 2020. With this extension,

returns and payments of these taxes for certain small businesses originally due during the period beginning March 2020 through April 2021 will instead be due in May 2021.

Officials noted that December revenues continued to reflect the impact of COVID-19 on the tax base. Also noted was that DOR has finalized the monthly benchmarks for the January to June 2021 period based on the revised FY21 tax revenue estimate of \$28.390 billion, not including \$50 million in settlements and judgments estimated to be certified in FY21. The benchmarks will be posted on the DOR website.

Details:

Preliminary December Revenue Collections

- Income tax collections for December were \$1.477 billion, \$44 million or 3.1 percent more than December 2019.
- Withholding tax collections for December to-

taled \$1.306 billion, \$44 million more than December 2019.

- Income tax estimated payments totaled \$138 million for December, \$4 million less than December 2019.
- Income tax returns and bills totaled \$41 million for December, \$6 million more than December 2019.
- Income tax cash refunds in December totaled \$8 million in outflows, \$1 million more outflow than December 2019.
- Sales and use tax collections for December totaled \$581 million, \$9 million less than December 2019.
- Corporate and business tax collections, including corporate estimated payments, for December totaled \$589 million, \$201 million more than December 2019.
- “Other tax” collections for December totaled \$195 million, \$6 million less than December 2019.

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NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

ANTHONY SIMBOLI DEAD AT 91

CHELSEA - On Tuesday morning, December 29, 2020, the American flag flying atop the Massachusetts General Hospital Building at 151 Everett Avenue was lowered to half-mast. The first developer to take an outsized risk on the City after the great fire in 1973, Anthony C. Simboli, died early that morning. He was 91.

He is known far and wide in city circles dating back to the 1980's as being driven, focused, fair, intelligent and a risk taker. Thankfully, for the city of Chelsea he chose to take a risk on the city, when almost no one would. To underscore this point, It took almost ten more years before another major risk on the City was taken by the Wyndham Hotel in 1991, now the Hilton Hotel.

He and his children, Anthony and Patricia, developed more than 14 parcels in the city from 1983-2016. The family held company, ACS Development Corporation, may be best known for relocating the Federal Bureau of Investigation from downtown Boston to the corner of Everett Avenue and Maple Street, an architectural gem of more than 275,000 sf, which lights up Route 1 every evening and brings hundreds to the city by day to eat, shop and stay in hotels.

ACS Development Corporation's history of development started at 151 Everett Avenue in 1983, jumped to 160-180 Second Street in 1986, landed for some time, beginning from 1992 2000, at 80, 90 and what later was developed into 70 Everett Avenue, and known as Harbour Pointe Park. Its projects also included the refurbishment of the 105 Everett Avenue, the Fire Station, now known as Chelsea Station, 99

Fourth Street, the strip along the north side of Second Street, where Chelsea Clock was relocated and where Mass Truck and Tire once stood and 215 William Street, an abandoned poultry processing factory.

They bought properties from banks, the city, quasi-government agencies and other property owners. They did what they had to do to protect investments previously made. It was important in the early days of Chelsea's emergence to control the surrounding properties in order to create an atmosphere of safety, beauty and opportunity. One project was not enough. There were no other developers or projects to create the momentum. They had to create it themselves, taking bigger and bigger risks. It took enormous effort to lure businesses to the city. The environment and the properties had to start to look and feel like other suburban and downtown properties. The City was the envy of other communities. In Anthony C. Simboli and ACS Development Corporation, it had a developer willing to invest and offer high quality, well designed buildings, provide conscientious management and long-term stable ownership.

Beyond its contribution to the built environment, the family has invested in the community in a number of different ways supporting ROCA in negotiating the acquisition of its current home, serving on the School Buildings Committee, creating the Simboli Family College Award for graduating Chelsea High School seniors which has reached more than 150 students, and contributing to the Chamber of Commerce, as well as numerous other non-profits.

But most of all, it cannot be too boldly stated how valuable it was to have a respected advocate, promotor, believer, loyal, disciplined, and patient investor in our small community of 1.8 square miles. The commercial tax base was built up; an example for what was possible was proven; and the way was paved the way for the hotels, retail modernization, and residential projects. Without a fight, the firm gave up land to make the Silver Line possible for the residents and businesses of Chelsea.

Always willing to participate in the community, ever promoting and bringing Chelsea to the attention of major corporations, and quietly continuing to support the young people and other needs of the residents, the founder of ACS Development Corporation, Anthony C. Simboli, is a true hero and favored son of the city of Chelsea. He will be missed at Chelsea Zoning Board meetings. His passion and drive for the city and for himself to do the right thing always led to positive outcomes for his proposed projects. We look to his children, Patricia and Anthony, to continue to carry on in his standards of excellence. There has not been as bold a champion, who patiently waited and committed to the City for as long and as deeply, as Tony Simboli. An eternal optimist, a lover of people and a believer in location, he turned out to be right over and over again. We are grateful to him for his love of Chelsea, trust in its Government, and respect for the good people who loved the City and encouraged him to take a risk such as Val Kowalski, Leo Robinson and others. A piece of Chelsea's history is lost but his properties are a lasting legacy.

FIGHTING COVID ONE VACCINE AT A TIME



Revere's Michaela Maguire, RN at Brigham and Women's Hospital, receives the first round of her COVID-19 vaccination.

RESIDENTS RECEIVE VACCINE

CHELSEA - Last week, the first veteran residents at the Soldiers' Home in Chelsea received the COVID-19 vaccination. Vaccination was done onsite through a federal Long Term Care pharmacy partnership program with CVS and Walgreens. The onsite vaccinations also began for staff at the Soldiers' Home.

In Chelsea, Dominic Pitella, 94, was the first resident vaccinated at the Soldiers' Home. Pitella has been a resident of the Soldiers' Home in Chelsea since April 2018. Pitella, a U.S. Army Air Corps Corporal, was a cook with the 559th Air Service Group and served in the Pacific Theater during World War II 1945-1946. His awards include the Army of Occupation Medal, World War II Victory Medal, and the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal.

"I'm hopeful this will help everybody," said Pitella.

"Administering vaccines to our frontline health care workers and now some of our most vulnerable residents in the Soldiers' Home provides relief and hope that there are brighter days ahead for all," said Governor Charlie Baker. "We are pleased to start providing the first dose to the incredible men and women living in the Chelsea facilities to offer more protection from COVID-19, and remain grateful to the dedicated staff who are working tirelessly to keep our veterans safe and healthy during the pandemic."

Said Veterans Services Secretary, and former Chelsea Soldiers' Home superintendent, Cheryl Lussier Poppe, "The

Department of Veterans' Services and the Soldiers' Home in Chelsea move forward with hope and perseverance to a bright future for our veteran residents and staff. We look forward to continuing our work to ensure our veterans are cared for, and today's vaccination is another vital step in our mission as we continue this commitment. The ongoing support of the surrounding community is impactful, and deeply appreciated, as we navigate this public health emergency together."

As a Long Term Care facility, the Soldiers' Homes in Chelsea is prioritized in Phase One of the COVID vaccine distribution plan. The Soldiers' Home is enrolled in the CDC's Long-Term Care Pharmacy Partnership program for the COVID-19 vaccination administration.

In the coming weeks, there will be additional onsite vaccination clinics at the Home to vaccinate veteran residents and staff. The Home is encouraging the vaccine for all Veteran residents and staff, and are working to obtain consent for those interested. COVID vaccination is voluntary for everyone - however all people are encouraged to get vaccinated.

In addition to the COVID-19 vaccination at the Soldiers' Home, the facility will continue weekly testing and daily symptom checking of all residents and staff.

MATEWSKY TO LEAD COUNCIL

EVERETT - The Everett City Council elected Councilor-at-Large Wayne Matewsky as the 2021 City Council President during their annual

Organizational Meeting on Monday, January 4 - with some attending in person and some attending via Zoom.

"Honesty, respect, and fairness has always been what I strive to do in this chamber and in my life," said Matewsky. "I want to thank my colleagues who spoke and sponsored me tonight. I'm very grateful, [and] I appreciate your faith in me."

The motion to nominate Matewsky as President was accompanied by words of praise from many of his fellow Council members, each of whom recognized his dedication to serving the people of Everett. His election to the position of Council President was unanimously affirmed by the body, with no opposition from fellow Councilors.

"I have known Wayne for many years and have always admired his work ethic and his deep connection that he has fostered with his constituents throughout the years," said Mayor Carlo DeMaria. "I look forward to working closely with Council President Matewsky and want to congratulate him for his election to the position of Council President."

President Matewsky has proudly served 40 years in public office, advocating for the Everett community. He has held numerous elected positions, including Common Councilor, Alderman-at-Large, and Massachusetts State Representative. Matewsky has been on the City Council as a Councilor-at-Large since 2015, but in all his years, he has never been the Council President until now.

See REGION Page 11

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As the cold winter months bear down and the COVID-19 pandemic rages on, let us get your message out to our thousands of readers of **The Revere Journal, The Winthrop Sun Transcript, The East Boston Times Free Press, Chelsea Record, Everett Independent, and Lynn Journal** in our January editions.

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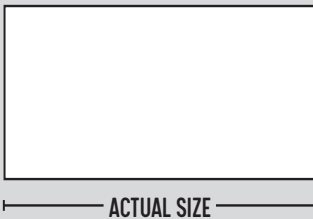
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Region

// CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

DEVELOPER TO
START MORE
PROJECTS

EVERETT - A Boston developer who already has a transformative, 320-unit apartment building on Second and Vine Streets under review by the City has purchased additional land on the street.

According to Bldup.com, Block Properties purchased two other development parcels along Second and Vine this month for \$7.3 million. Last fall, they purchased the property with the apartment building proposal for \$5 million.

The current proposal on 2nd and Vine replaces and older warehouse building and is part of a complete transformation that has happened before and during COVID-19 on the Commercial Triangle area of the city. That comes only about one year after the City changed the zoning.

The company, owned by Jon Block of Block Properties, had a hearing on Dec. 7 at the Planning Board, but it was continued due to an advertising error until this month – when the Board will continue the review.

Last October 12, the Planning Board heard an initial review of the project from the development team where they reported a 320-unit, six-story apartment building with 450 parking spaces and 4,000 sq. ft. of ground floor retail. The project was reported to be an as-of-right project that would need no Zoning Board relief, a new trend in that district. They only need Site Plan Review from the Planning Board and an Inclusionary Zoning (Affordable Housing) certification.

“Our approach is to make our front door on Second Street,” said Tamara Ray, an architect on the team with Stantec. “We know that in the fu-

ture that is going to be the main street in the area. The T will probably go down the middle of the street so that’s our front door. We’re still in a gritty district now...We know we’re in a transformative district and we see our project as part of the transformation of the neighborhood.”

One unique part of the project is it is not a podium style development with parking on the first floors. Instead, they’ll have a hidden parking garage.

“Our project is not a podium project,” she said.

The design of the building includes the Planning Board’s preferred red brick on part of it, but also fibre cement and a lot of unique colors.

It was uncertain how the new property acquisition would fit into the existing development.

MC GEE LAUDS
DELEO ON WORK

LYNN - Lynn Mayor Thomas M. McGee had an up-close look at the prestige and honor associated with being the Speaker of the Mass. House of Representatives.

McGee’s father, the late Thomas W. McGee, served as Speaker of the House from 1975 to 1984, rising from his seat on the Lynn City Council to be elected state representative and then elected by his House colleagues to one of the most powerful positions in state government.

“My dad was elected Speaker when I was 19 so I visited him in the Speaker’s Office a lot,” said the mayor. “It was an exciting time. I was thinking of the day my dad was elected speaker, how excited he was and how proud we were of him. It was a culmination of the hard work he did over the years. I’m very proud of what he did when he was Speaker of the House. It’s a position that only a small number

of people over 200-plus years have served in. I was thinking of my dad and how important it was for him to be able to be in that position and make a difference in people’s lives.”

McGee thus had a unique perspective as Speaker of the House Robert DeLeo retired from the position last week. DeLeo is seeking a teaching position at Northeastern University, his alma mater.

McGee served eight years in the House of Representatives with Robert DeLeo. As state senator and chair of the Mass. Democratic Party, McGee continued a good working relationship with DeLeo, who represented Revere and Winthrop in the House.

“I got a chance to know him really well and I really enjoyed serving with him,” said McGee. “I also had the opportunity to work with him as senator over the years and also as mayor of Lynn. He’s always been a great supporter of the city on issues of importance that we’ve needed help on. He topped off a great 30-year career by serving as Speaker of the House and he had a lot of major accomplishments. He was always available by phone on things of importance to Lynn and he’ll definitely be missed. I wish him the best.”

Interestingly, five candidates are running in the special election on March 2 for the state representative seat held by DeLeo. The Democratic candidates are Marc Silvestri and Juan Pablo Jaramillo of Revere and Jeffrey Turco, Valentino Capobianco, and Alicia DelVento of Winthrop. As of Wednesday, there was no Republican candidate running for the seat.

“It’s been 30 years so when there’s an open seat, there is an opportunity and it’s good to see a lot of candidates coming out and

putting their names out to run,” said McGee. “Public service is tough during these pretty challenging times and it’s important that good people continue to be involved and serve in the Legislature. So that should be an interesting race with a good field of candidates.”

KEEFE REFLECTS
ON TERM AS
PRESIDENT

REVERE - Ward 4 Councilor Patrick Keefe completed a successful year as City Council President. The Council elected its new leader at its first meeting of 2021 on Monday, Jan. 11.

Keefe led the 11-member Council through an unprecedented year that was dominated by the COVID-19 pandemic which had a major impact on all areas of life in Revere. Due to the coronavirus, the Council began holding its meetings on Zoom, giving councilors the opportunity to participate remotely from their respective homes. To their credit, Keefe and virtually all of his colleagues had perfect attendance records in 2020.

Keefe drew praise from his colleagues for his leadership and accessibility throughout the year. He was held in high esteem by the longer-serving councilors and the newer members such as Councilor-at-Large Gerry Visconti and Ward 6 Councilor Richard Serino.

As a newly elected member of the Council, I felt President Keefe was very welcoming and cordial,” said Serino. “In the

early days of the pandemic, we got to know each other and bond a bit while we put together food packages at the Senior Center for the City’s COVID food delivery program. I always found Pat to be receptive to my ideas, and I thank him for his service as our Council President during a very challenging year.”

The Revere Journal asked President Keefe to talk about his and the Council’s achievements during the past year and the challenge of leading the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Keefe issued the following statement reflecting on his year as the president of the Revere City Council:

“The last year serving as Council President has been a pleasure. It was my honor to represent my colleagues and I feel like I represented them well.

The year 2020 was nothing that we expected and since early March it has certainly reshaped our focus on how council business is handled and what our priorities should be.

I don’t like to personally list my accomplishments as I feel they should speak for themselves and the residents of Revere certainly acknowledge me when they are happy, and I hear when they are not happy with the decisions we make. This is how I always do my job. It’s not about me, it’s about the residents we serve.

One of the most significant achievements we as a Council made this year was an enormous sense of

inclusion and communication within the council membership.

Even though we may not have met in person as much as we would have liked, I can honestly say that the entire team chatted almost every day - more often it was all throughout the day. Technology has certainly brought us closer together, even for my senior colleagues!

Whether it was about how we can better serve our residents in need during these tumultuous times or just checking in on each other, everyone at some point came across a personal or family struggle.

If I can look back, I will say my most important accomplishment was this: creating a better bond among the group. And we had a few tough meetings -communicating through Zoom can at times be misinterpreted and give the wrong impression or you might miss what a fellow councilor meant to say. But in the end, we had a productive year and we are all stronger because of it.

As I said before, maybe I’ll go down as the first Zoom President in Revere’s history, but I hope at some point I’ll get another chance to yield the gavel in front of a live audience.

Let’s all hope we can go back to normalcy soon, but in the meantime I want to wish our residents, my fellow councilors and the next President of the Revere City Council (Tony Zambuto perhaps) a happy and healthy new year!

And thank you.”

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FROM THE GOVERNOR'S DESK



Gov. Charles Baker and Lt. Governor Karyn Polito joined legislators and public safety officials to participate in a ceremonial signing the Patient First Health Care and Police Reform bills.

GOV. BAKER HOLDS BILL SIGNING FOR PATIENT FIRST HEALTH CARE BILL

Gov. Charles Baker and Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito joined Secretary of Health and Human Services Marylou Sudders to participate in a ceremonial signing of S.2984, An Act Promoting a Resilient Health Care System That Puts Patients First.

Baker and Polito were also joined by Sen. Cindy Friedman, Sen. Julian Cyr, and Senate Minority Leader Bruce Tarr to participate in the ceremonial signing. Baker also acknowledged the work of Speaker of the House Ronald Mariano, Senate President Karen Spilka, and other legislators for their work in advancing this comprehensive health care legislation.

The new law increases insurance coverage for telehealth services, expands the scope of practice for nurse practitioners, other specialized

nurses, and optometrists, and takes steps to protect consumers from surprise medical bills. Recognizing the continuing impacts of COVID-19, the law also extends requirements for all insurance carriers in Massachusetts to cover COVID-19 testing and treatment. In addition, the legislation takes several steps to increase MassHealth member access to urgent care sites, including eliminating referral requirements before urgent care visits and requirements for care coordination with the member's primary care physician.

GOV. BAKER SIGNS POLICE REFORM BILL

Gov. Charles Baker and Lt. Governor Karyn Polito joined legislators and public safety officials to participate in a ceremonial signing of S.2963, An Act Relative to Justice, Equity and Accountability in Law Enforcement in the Commonwealth.

Baker and Polito were also joined by Senate

President Karen Spilka, Speaker of the House Ronald Mariano, Sen. William Brownsberger, Sen. Sonia Chang-Díaz, Rep. Claire Cronin, Rep. Russell Holmes, Rep. Chynah Tyler, MA Chiefs of Police Association President Ed Dunne, and former MA Association of Minority Law Enforcement Officers President Larry Ellison to participate in the ceremonial signing.

The legislation will create a mandatory certification process for police officers, increases accountability and transparency in law enforcement and gives police departments a greater ability to hire or promote only qualified applicants. The new law also identifies the general circumstances under which police officers can use physical force, and places strict limits on the use of so-called 'no-knock warrants.' In addition, the legislation requires law enforcement to seek a court order when conducting a facial recognition search except in emergency situations.

USPS will issue new 2021 stamps for price change

The U.S. Postal Service will release three new stamps as part of 2021 price change:

Barns, a 36-cent postcard stamp; Brush Rabbit, a 20-cent additional ounce stamp; and Castillo de San Marcos, a \$7.95 Priority Mail stamp. The stamps will be available beginning Sunday, Jan. 24. There will be no national first-day-of-issue ceremony for these stamps.

•Barns

The U.S. Postal Service has four new postcard stamps that celebrate the beauty and history of American barns. The artist created digital paintings of four types of iconic barns found in the rural American landscape. With differing qualities of light and color, each piece reflects one of the four seasons: a round barn surrounded by the hazy light and warm colors of fall; a gambrel-roofed barn in summer; a forebay barn in early spring; and a Western barn on a winter's night. Ashley Walton designed the stamps with original artwork by Kim Johnson. Greg Breeding was the art director.

Along the bottom of each stamp is the word "postcard," to indicate their usage. These stamps will always be valid for the rate printed on them.

•Brush Rabbits

The U.S. Postal Service features a brush rabbit (*Sylvilagus bachmani*) on this additional ounce stamp, available in a pane of 20 or a coil of 100. The brush rabbit is a small brownish cottontail rabbit of the U.S. West Coast and Baja California, Mexico. It lives mostly west of the Sierra Nevada range



One of the focuses of the new stamps will be barns.

and south of the Columbia River, which defines the coastal Oregon-Washington border. The adult is about a foot long and generally weighs between one and two pounds.

The pencil-and-watercolor illustration is from preexisting artwork by designer and illustrator Dugald Stermer (1936-2011). Art director Ethel Kessler designed the stamp.

The words "additional ounce" on this stamp indicate its usage value. This stamp will always be valid for the rate printed on it.

•Castillo de San Marcos

The latest Priority Mail stamp, which bears the new price, celebrates the oldest masonry fortification in the United States, the Castillo de San Marcos in St. Augustine, Fla.

The stamp art features a digital illustration of the fortress based on a contemporary photograph. With a view toward the northeast corner of the fortress, the artwork captures it in the golden glow of sunrise over Matanzas Bay. Art director Greg Breeding designed the stamp with art created by

Chicago-based graphic illustrator Dan Cosgrove.


This stamp provides a convenient way for customers to pay for Priority Mail Flat Rate shipping with a single stamp. Priority Mail is the Postal Service's bestselling mail service. Domestic deliveries arrive in one-three business days depending on where a package starts and where it's going. Tracking and insurance are included, and shipping boxes and envelopes are free.

•Postal Products

Customers may purchase stamps and other philatelic products through the Postal Store at usps.com/shopstamps, by calling 800-STAMP24 (800-782-6724), by mail through USA Philatelic, or at Post Office locations nationwide.

Information for ordering first-day-of-issue postmarks and covers is at usps.com/shop.

The Postal Service receives no tax dollars for operating expenses and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to fund its operations.



Celebrate Catholic Schools Week 2021

January 31 -February 6

#CSW21

Catholic Schools
Faith. Excellence. Service.

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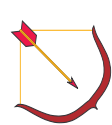


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Published Feb. 10 & 11

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