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Wednesday, February 17, 2021

Dolores LaMattina, longtime city employee, dead at 85

Mrs. LaMattina was the mother of former City Councilor Sal LaMattina

By John Lynds

Dolores LaMattina, a longtime former city employee of the Paris Street Gym and Pool known for her warmth and dry sense of humor, has died.

Mrs. LaMattina who, as a single mother, raised four successful boys including former City Councilor Sal LaMattina, died on Wednesday, February 10 surrounded by her family. She was 85 years old.

Mrs. LaMattina was born and raised in East



Friends and family held a candlelight vigil for East Boston High School graduates Isaiah Ortiz and Alexander Cabrera on Saturday. The two former EBHS students died last Tuesday following a car crash on Chelsea Street.

Car crash victims identified as two EBHS grads

By John Lynds

East Boston High School graduates Isaiah Ortiz and Alexander Cabrera have been identified as the two victims of last Tuesday’s horrific car crash on Chelsea Street.

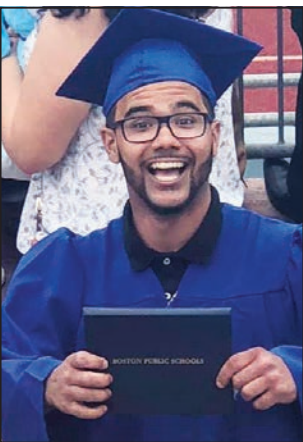
According to reports Ortiz died early Tuesday morning after the SUV he was riding in collided with a utility pole on Chelsea Street just before the bridge into Chelsea.

Cabrera and three others were rushed to area hospitals, but Cabrera died from his injuries later in the day. The other occupants of the vehicle are expected to recover.

The death of Ortiz, who graduated from EBHS two years ago, and Cabrera, who graduated in 2020, sent shock waves throughout the Eastie community where they were loved by many.

“I’m angry right now. I’m just angry,” said Ortiz and Cabrera’s EBHS teacher Lauren Owens.

On Saturday, outside the Most Holy Redeemer Church on Maverick



East Boston High School graduates Isaiah Ortiz and Alexander Cabrera were the victims of last Tuesday’s fatal car accident on Chelsea Street.

Councilor Edwards announces re-election campaign

Special to the Times

Boston City Councilor Lydia Edwards has announced she will be seeking re-election in the fall to the District One seat.

“I’m humbly re-submitting my application for employment as city councilor to the residents of District One,” said Councilor Edwards. “Representing them for the last three years has been the honor of a lifetime. I’m excited for the opportunity to continue serving in this role.”

Councilor Edwards pledged to continue bringing transparency, accountability, and efficiency to

Madaro appointed Chair of Board in House

By John Lynds

Last week House Speaker Ronald Mariano appointed Rep. Adrian Madaro as Chair of the Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery.

This is Rep. Madaro’s first chairmanship since

being elected to the House in 2015. Madaro previously vice-chaired the Joint Committee on Transportation.

The Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery considers all matters concerning behavioral health, mental illness and substance

use disorder, including prevention and early intervention, treatment and recovery services as well as homelessness.

The committee oversees the state’s Department of Mental Health and the Bureau of Substance Addiction Services.

“I’m very excited for the opportunity to work on issues that change people’s lives, that save lives, that really makes an impact on our communities in East Boston and the Commonwealth,” said Madaro. “If you think about it there’s no family that I know or can think of that hasn’t been touched on either

“I’m so sorry for all of their family members and everyone who loved them.”

On Saturday, outside the Most Holy Redeemer Church on Maverick

BPDA approves \$200K in community mitigation funds attached to HYM Project

By John Lynds

Last week, the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) voted to distribute \$200,000 in mitigation funds from the Suffolk Downs Redevelopment project to Greater Boston Legal Services (GBLS). The funding fulfills a portion of its community benefits commitment from when the project was approved in September 2020.

This money will be used to fund GBLS’ ongoing efforts to provide support for Eastie residents, including short-term rental assistance, and assistance for meeting basic needs such as food, utilities, childcare, or medical expenses.

In September of 2020,

the BPDA Board approved the Suffolk Downs Project, the Suffolk Downs Master Plan for Planned Development Area as well as five associated development plans attached to the project.

The BPDA approved project includes the construction of 11 million square feet of mixed use development Eastie. As part of the Suffolk Downs project, the developer, HYM Investments Group, agreed to contribute \$400,000 to assist Eastie-based nonprofits in their efforts to help residents here avoid eviction.

It was agreed that the funding would be paid in two installments. The first \$200,000 was due to the BPDA on December

Weekly COVID positive test rate decreases dramatically

By John Lynds

Last week, the cumulative COVID-19 positive test rate in Eastie increased slightly while the weekly positive test rate dropped for a fifth week in a row.

According to the latest data released by the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC), of the 34,536 Eastie residents tested for COVID since the pandemic began, 18.9 percent overall were found to be positive for the virus, a 0.53 percent increase from the 18.8 percent reported two Fridays ago.

However, 1,930 Eastie residents were tested for the virus last week and only 4.8 percent were positive--a 38.5 percent decrease from the 7.8 that tested positive two Fridays ago.

Citywide, 29,297 residents were tested and 4.8 percent were COVID positive--a 17 percent decrease from the 5.8 percent testing positive two weeks ago.

At his press briefing last week Mayor Martin Walsh reminded residents that Governor Charles Baker would increase the statewide capacity restrictions from 25 percent to 40 percent for the businesses that are allowed to be open in

Phase 3 Step 1. Walsh said that the City of Boston is aligning with the State on these capacity restrictions. The City and the State are now currently in Phase 3, Step 1 of reopening. The limit on gatherings remains at 25 people outdoors, and 10 people indoors. This applies to both public and private spaces.

Walsh encouraged residents and business owners to visit Mass.gov/reopening for a more detailed list, as well as industry-specific guidance.

Walsh said that the improvement the city has seen in its numbers is encouraging, and means the measures the city has taken are making a difference.

“It does not, however, mean that anyone should let their guards down,” said Walsh. “Instead, everyone must do their part to keep the numbers going down so that certain activities can stay open, safely.”

Walsh said that throughout this crisis, Boston has taken a cautious approach.

“We only move forward if the public health data says that it’s safe to do so, and the City has been enforcing safety protocols,” said Walsh. “Most

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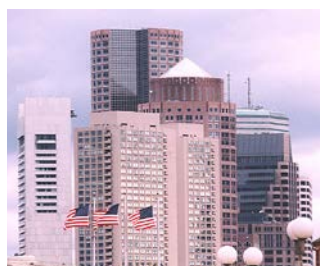
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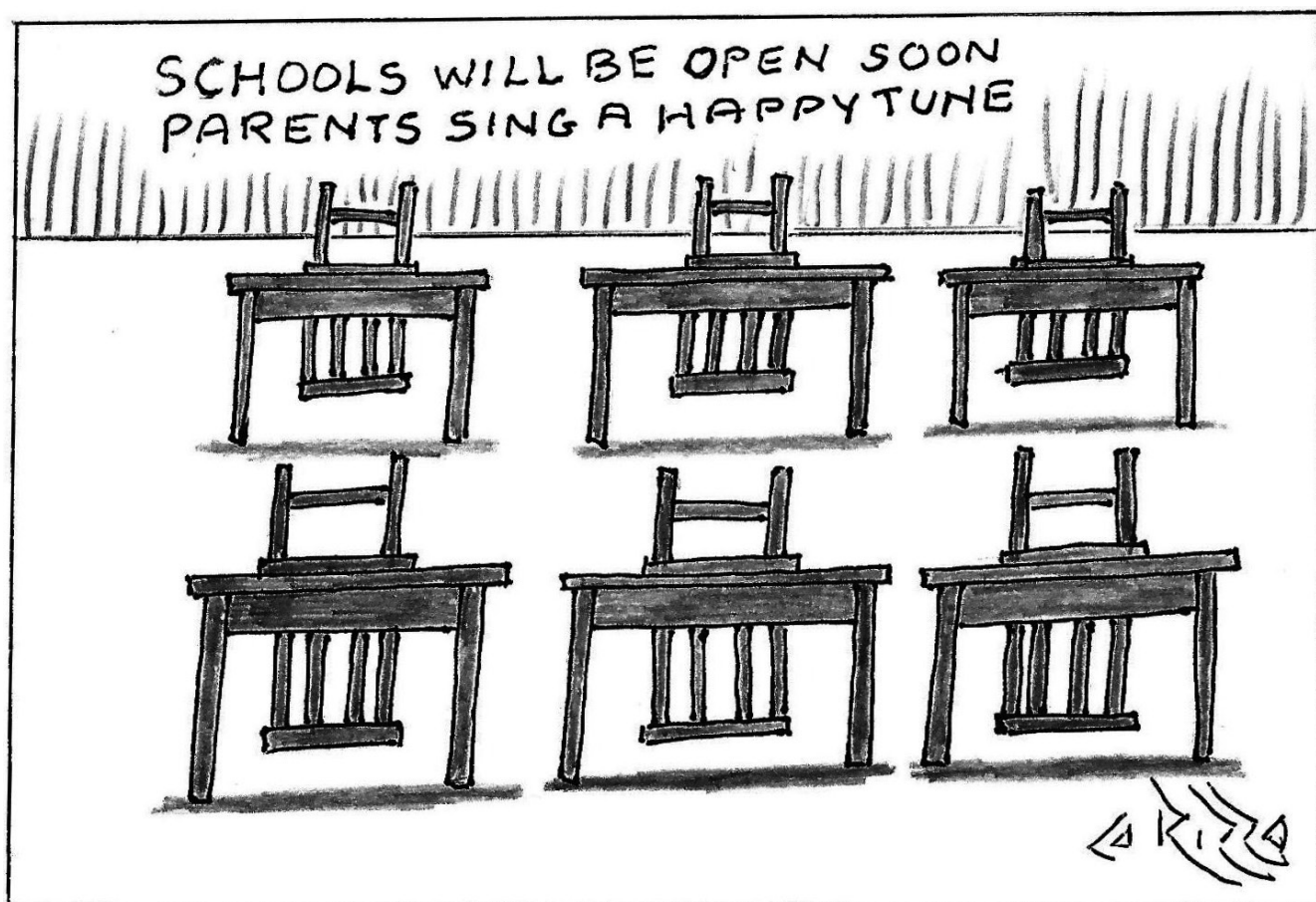
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Forum



Pressley's Provision to support families experiencing homelessness included in House American Rescue Plan

Special to the Times

Last week, the House Financial Services Committee included in the House American Rescue Plan Act a measure championed by Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley, in partnership with several colleagues, that would to invest nearly \$5 billion in

additional funding to support vulnerable families and individuals experiencing homelessness.

"Housing is a critical determinant of health, economic opportunity and social mobility," said Congresswoman Pressley. "With this pandemic continuing to rage and the threat of homelessness

looming large for families across the Massachusetts 7th and nationwide, our relief efforts must continue to prioritize keeping families safely housed."

Experts estimate that \$5 billion in additional resources is critical to help communities across the country provide safe and secure shelter for those

experiencing homelessness. This provision is responsive to the needs of community and advocates and will provide cities and states the flexibility needed to make long term investments to combat the homelessness crisis like the conversion of hotels and motels into non-congregate shelters.

Funds // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

28, 2020 and the second \$200,000 installment is due to the BPDA 30 days after the appeal period ends for a building permit for the construction of the first building outlined in Suffolk Downs' Master Plan.

Initially it was agreed that the funds would come to the Department of Neighborhood Development (DND).

Since then, DND has re-

quested that the BPDA grant the first \$200,000 directly to a non-profit.

Working with the BPDA, DND has agreed that the GBLS should receive these funds and begin assisting the residents in Eastie immediately.

GBLS has agreed to assist low-income Eastie residents with rental relief and basic living expenses and other needs like

medical costs. According to the BPDA low-income is defined as a household making less than 200 percent of the 2020 Federal Poverty Guidelines.

GBLS will provide program reports on this initiative over six months and is responsible for program administrative functions including final eligibility determination, execution of program contracts if

any and delivery of funds to recipients.

Every six months GBLS will provide a chart of the names and the amount of money issued to each Eastie resident who applied, along with whether the check was cashed. GBLS will not take any part of the fund for administration and will notify DND when the \$200,000 fund is spent.

Edwards // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

local government.

"Now more than ever people need to trust local government," added Councilor Edwards. "But they can't trust us if they don't see us working or they don't know what services are available. My goal is to make city government transparent and accessible for everyone regardless of what language they speak or how much money they make."

Councilor Edwards also plans to continue leading on the issue of housing.

"I'm working to help families stay where they are," said Councilor Edwards. "Housing has to be available for all Bostonians. I'm proud to have written a first-in-the-nation zoning amendment that will bring in more family sized units to new developments and make sure affordable housing is actually affordable for

more people."

Edwards is working to improve local government by reforming the city's budget process and the Zoning Board of Appeals.

"I filed a proposal that will allow Boston voters to decide how the city's budget process should play out," said Councilor Edwards. "Right now it happens behind closed doors. I want to change things so residents can see me and the rest of the council working on the budget. The proposal will also give people more of a voice over how their tax dollars are spent."

"Residents across the district have reached out to me about development projects in their neighborhood. The process isn't working for everyone," added Councilor Edwards. "I filed reforms that now allow residents to track projects near them. Soon

they'll be able to see the actual plans online. We still need to improve language access, strengthen conflict of interest protections, and make it easier for people to speak during the hearings."

In East Boston, Edwards pointed to the Suffolk Downs project as a top priority over the past few years and highlighted major wins for the community during her negotiations with the developers.

"Suffolk Downs is the largest private development in Boston's history. We need to make sure that it's an inclusive and welcoming part of the neighborhood," said Councilor Edwards. "I'm proud to have fought for an increase in the amount of affordable housing and family sized units. I'm also excited about the creation of a housing stabilization fund that will help create

and preserve affordable housing in East Boston that will be controlled by Eastie residents."

Edwards also highlighted her support of local activists fighting against a proposal to build a substation in the heart of Eagle Hill.

"I'm proud to be standing shoulder to shoulder with activists against the proposed substation," said Councilor Edwards. "I am proud of the activists and organizers who are continuing the legacy of the Maverick Street Mothers by fighting against environmental injustices in their neighborhood."

Edwards' re-election campaign will officially launch during a virtual campaign event on February 26. Residents can register for the event by visiting bit.ly/Edwards-Kickoff2021.

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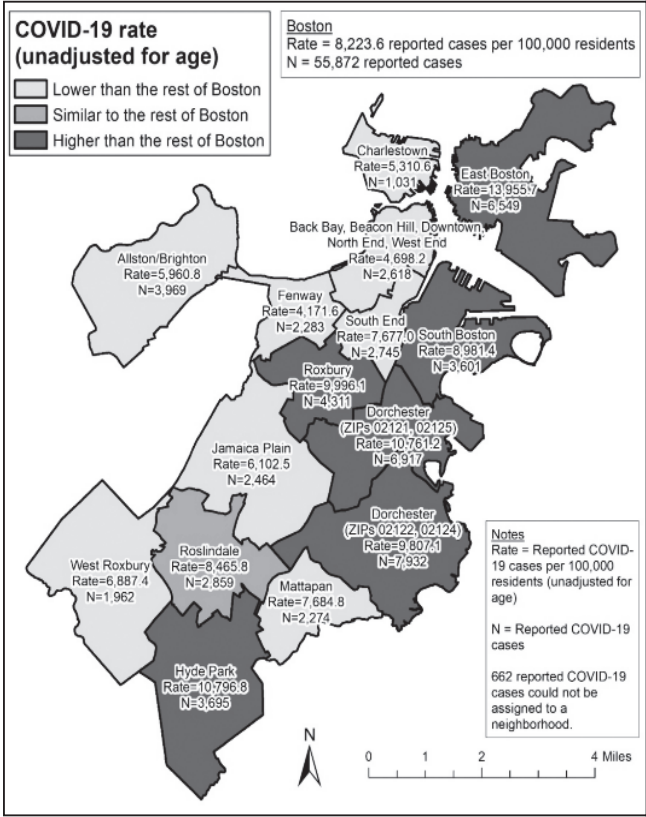
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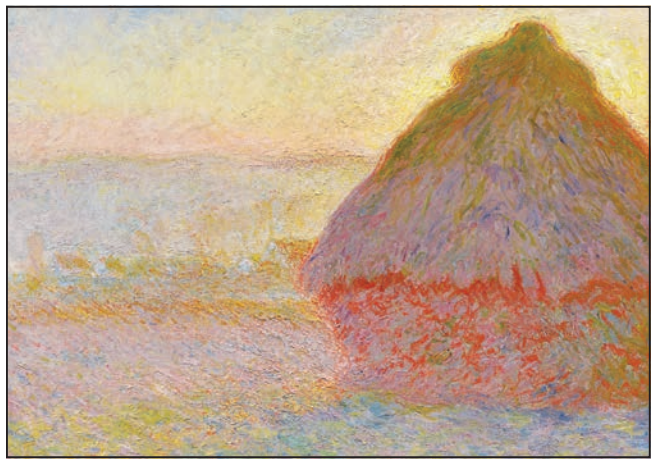
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Grainstack (Sunset), 1891, Claude Monet. Oil on canvas.

MFA Boston extends ‘Monet and Boston: Lasting Impression’

Special to the Times

The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (MFA), has announced that “*Monet and Boston: Lasting Impression*” has been extended through March 28. The popular exhibition, which offers a once-in-a-generation chance to see all 35 of the Museum’s oil paintings by Claude Monet (1840–1926), has sold out its entire run to date. March tickets went on sale Feb. 16 at noon for MFA members, and February 17 at 10 a.m. for nonmembers.

Monet found extraordinary beauty in settings, both mundane and majestic, and he shared that vision—that enthusiasm for the here and now—in paintings that changed the course of art. Perhaps no other artist has captured Boston’s imagination as enduringly as the beloved Impressionist master. On view together for the first time in a generation, the MFA’s 35 Monet paintings are joined by select loans from private collections and works from the MFA’s broader holdings, including 19th-century Japanese woodblock prints and European paintings that Monet admired and emulated. The exhibition charts the development of Monet’s incomparable vision and revolutionary technique, while also reflecting on Boston’s enduring commitment to the painter and his art.

Local businesses helping hospitality locations become vaccine/testing sites

Staff report

The hospitality industry is getting special attention from two local businesses in the fight to provide Covid-19 vaccine and testing locations, by putting them at restaurants.

“BP Concepts is proud to be working with Brewster Ambulance Service to help heal our hospitality industry that has been devastated by Covid-19,” said Donald S. McCarthy II, owner of BP Concepts and an event optimization and logistics specialist.

McCarthy continued, “Please be advised that we can only schedule the vaccinations as they become available to us by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, but we plan to get them out quickly and efficiently. We look forward to offering this service and layer of protection for your employees, guests, business, and local communities.”

While organized though the business owners, Brewster Ambulance Service will provide all the necessary equipment needed for testing and vaccinations. This service from Brewster Ambulance in most cases has no cost to the employer. In some instances, a small one-time mobilization fee may be required by the company depending on the number of employees may be required.

This service typically has no cost to the employees as they will be billing their health insurance and will not be responsible for a co-pay or any payment towards their deductible either.

McCarthy added, “Once we have this initial information, we will follow up on when scheduling of vaccines for your group or company may take place. If you have any questions, please let me know.”

Brewster Ambulance Service is a locally owned family company since 1906, wants to be at the forefront to help get employees and the community back to work through a testing and vaccination program.

Car Crash //

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Street, the community gathered for a solemn vigil for Ortiz and Cabrera. Prayers for families of the deceased and those injured were offered by Pastor David Searles of the Central Assembly of God Church on Bennington Street and it was announced support services will be offered through the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center for those struggling with the loss of the two young men.

“All the kids involved in the crash were former East Boston High students,” said EBHS Headmaster Phil Brangiforte. “Isaiah and Alexander were good kids...really good kids. It’s a really sad situation and has really affected us all at the High School even though they were not current students. We are not too far removed from when they both graduated and everyone up at the high school remembers them well. My heart goes



Friends and family hold up a photo of East Boston High School graduate Alexander Cabrera at Saturday’s vigil outside the Most Holy Redeemer Church.

out to their families. They were two young men with their whole lives ahead of them. As a father of five kids I’d be devastated so I can only imagine what their parents are going through.”

A GoFund me account has been established for Ortiz at [https://www.gofundme.com/f/funeral-expenses-for-isaiah-ortiz?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=to_raise_money_and_help_his_family_defer_some_of_the](https://www.gofundme.com/f/funeral-expenses-for-isaiah-ortiz?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=to_raise_money_and_help_his_family_defer_some_of_the_funeral_costs)

A Facebook fundraiser campaign was also launched for Cabrera at <https://www.facebook.com/donate/264701035071957/2184005308397634/>.

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 Celebrating 50 Years



Madaro //

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

mental health issues and or substance use issues so this is an incredible opportunity to really do some good.”

Madaro was instrumental in the past to secure state funding for the development and administration of a program to prevent and treat addiction to opioid and related substances through the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center. The program closed services gap and ensured treatment counselors were able to cover the critical hours of night and weekend shifts with the hopes that this coverage could be the difference needed in preventing overdoses and encouraging treatment for addicts. He also secured state funding to focus efforts on mental health through the Health Center and how it pertains to substance abuse disorders.

“Most recently we worked on that issue for Telehealth to make sure those types of services are covered under Telehealth during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic,” said Madaro. “As a former board member of the Health Center and later as a state representative we’ve worked very hard trying to bolster those types of services for our community. That’s another reason why I’m really excited to have been named chair of the com-



Rep. Adrian Madaro (seen here testifying at a state hearing) has been appointed Chair of the Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery.

mittee because it allows us to amplify and enhance the work that began right here in our own backyard statewide.”

With the recent opening of a recovery support center in Eastie, Madaro said there needs to be more focus on long-term support services.

“That is something I’ve heard a lot of folks in the recovery community talk about,” said Madaro. “The one thing about substance abuse and recovery is that it’s almost never ending. This is an issue that touches young people, whether it’s mental health or substance use, old people, veterans, there’s public safety implications, there’s public health implications and then it goes into the judiciary system when you think about drug court or mental health court. So the breadth of policy that we can work on is really incredible and it just presents such an amazing opportunity to make a positive impact in our community and, more broadly, throughout the state.”

Out of the gate Madaro said he plans to meet with key stakeholders in the mental health and recovery communities.

“We’re starting to line those meetings up now,” he said. “Not only with statewide players but also the players and stakeholders right in our own backyard. That would certainly include places like the East Boston Community Soup Kitchen volunteers, which are frontline service providers for people dealing with these challeng-

es. It would also include North Suffolk Mental Health, the Health Center and anyone else who does that type of social service where people are dealing with those types of challenges. I really want to roll up my sleeves and help—whether it’s the issues that my Senate Co-Chair is facing down the Cape or whether it’s the issues we’re dealing with here in East Boston. I really wanted the opportunity to dive into substantive policy that impacts people’s lives and that’s exactly what I’m going to get to do on this committee. I’m just thrilled and grateful to Speaker Mariano for the appointment and excited to work with my colleagues on the committee to do some impactful work here in the state.”

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Dolores LaMattina with her son, former City Councilor Sal LaMattina.

LaMattina // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Boston and attended East Boston. Mrs. LaMattina spent her entire life living at Drake Place just off Chelsea Street around the block from the Paris Street Gym and Pool. There Mrs. LaMattina raised her four boys--Sal, Robert, David, and John.

Sal would become City Councilor while David and Robert opened up a successful karate studio in New Hampshire. John would go on to have a successful career in Boston's restaurant industry and worked at high end restaurants like Morton's and Strega.

"She made sure we kept in line," said Sal LaMattina. "At an early age she got us involved in the Social Centers, the Salesians Boys & Girls Club and Paris Street. We grew up poor. I'm so amazed that she raised four boys in a little house with four on Drake Place. She gave us all a really happy childhood. We never knew we were poor because she was always so generous. I find comfort that my brothers and I had a beautiful mother who loved us so much. She taught us love and respect not only to our family but with others."

Mrs. LaMattina worked at Macy's for many years before making a career change in 1990.

From 1990 to her retirement in 2013 at the age of 77 Mrs. LaMattina worked the front desk at the Paris Street Gym and later at the Paris Street

Pool's front desk.

When her son, Sal, was elected to the City Council Mrs. LaMattina became the de facto Mayor of East Boston and the Paris Street Pool her City Hall.

"Everyone would come to her," said Sal LaMattina. "They go down to the pool and see my mom if they needed help, if they needed a job, if they needed some other assistance and she'd call me with a list of names of people I needed to help."

Sal LaMattina said his mother was always very generous and always wanted to help people.

Her granddaughter, Liana LaMattina, a former Chief of Staff for Rep. Adrian Madaro and current Assistant District Attorney prosecutor said her grandmother always had the biggest heart she's ever known.

"Every Sunday she would cook Sunday Dinner, make a gravy and it was pretty much an open house," said Liana LaMattina. "Anyone could come in and get some food... friends, neighbors...that's just the type of person she was. She was always so caring and compassionate. I remember at the (Paris Street) Gym there was this stray dog that was always outside and every day when she went to work she would bring him left-over food, kitchen scraps, bones, hotdogs..anything she had. She was a beautiful person."

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT DEPARTMENT Suffolk Probate And Family Court 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING Docket No. SU20D1133DR Rafael Leandro Silva Plaintiff vs Raquel Silva Diniz

Defendant To the Defendant: The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for irretrievable breakdown. The Complaint is on file at the Court. An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411. You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon: Rafael Leandro Silva, 292 Ferry

St., Everett, MA 02149 your answer, if any, on or before 04/15/2021. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: February 10, 2021 Felix D. Arroyo Register of Probate 2/17/21 EB

State directs \$8 million to ‘stuck’ buildings

Staff report

The Baker-Polito Administration and Mass-Development recently announced the availability of up to \$8 million in funding through the Underutilized Properties Program.

The new grant program aims to eliminate blight, expand housing production, increase accessibility, and support economic development by funding improvements to underutilized buildings located in Massachusetts downtowns or town centers. Through the first round of the program, municipalities and their economic development partners, non-profits, and private-sector businesses can apply for grants ranging from approximately \$50,000 to \$2 million to design and fund capital improvements and code compliance projects for blighted, abandoned, vacant, or otherwise underutilized properties to support increased occupancy.

"During the Baker-Polito Administration's extensive regional engagement sessions, residents and businesses told us loudly and clearly about the need for assistance to improve blighted or underused buildings, and the Underutilized Properties Program is a direct result of that engagement," said Housing and Economic Development Secretary Mike Kennealy. "We were pleased to incorporate the idea into our recently signed economic development legislation, Partnerships for Growth, and now look forward to putting these resources to work in cities and towns across the Commonwealth."

Funding will be awarded in two categories:

- Buildings: Grants for capital improvements that are essential to the occupancy or increased occupancy of existing structures. These funds may address building stabilization, roof repair, HVAC

system improvements (provided that they are fully integrated elements of a building structure or site), tenant improvements and fit-out expenses, and other similar purposes. Funds may also be used to facilitate compliance with building code(s), fire/life safety system regulations, accessibility requirements, seismic code, and other similar regulations.

- Predevelopment: Grants to engage the services of architects, engineers, landscape architects, and other related professionals to assess building conditions and to develop design and construction documents for capital improvement and code compliance projects in the Buildings category.

The Underutilized Properties Program was created as part of the 2021 economic development legislation, An Act Enabling Partnerships for Growth, which was signed into law by Gov. Baker on

Jan. 14. Earlier today, the Governor was joined by Lt. Gov. Polito, Secretary Kennealy, elected officials, municipal leaders, and a coalition of advocates for a ceremonial bill signing.

The new grant program is part of the Community One Stop for Growth, a single application portal and collaborative review process for community and economic development grant programs that make targeted investment based on a development continuum. Applicants are encouraged to submit expressions of interest, which will be accepted from Feb. 8 to April 2; full applications will be accepted from May 3 to June 4.

MassDevelopment will host an informational webinar about the Underutilized Properties Program on Feb. 19 at 9 a.m. Those interested can register at massdevelopment.com/upp-webinar.

Electronic filing for Income Tax Returns began Friday, Feb. 12

Staff report

The Massachusetts Department of Revenue (DOR) is reminding members of the public that the state began accepting electronically filed state income tax returns on Friday, Feb. 12, consistent with the IRS opening date for federal income tax.

Massachusetts taxpayers can file both their state and federal personal income taxes through Thursday, April 15.

"As always, we encourage Massachusetts taxpayers to file their returns early and electronically in order to ensure the quickest refund processing times," said DOR Commissioner Geoffrey E. Snyder. "During the 2019 tax year, approximately 90 percent of Massachusetts taxpayers filed their

income taxes electronically. Electronic filing is also a responsible option given social distancing requirements and choosing direct deposit for a refund will help minimize potential paper delays."

DOR is committed to providing Massachusetts taxpayers with safe and efficient filing options, as well as addressing filing questions and concerns. The Department's website offers many taxpayer and preparer resources, including FAQs, free e-file options, and information on locating free tax help. Taxpayers who qualify for free tax preparation programs are encouraged to check directly with local VITA and TCE sites for remote working restrictions during the COVID-19 pandemic.

DOR's Where's My Refund? application is available 24/7 and is the best resource to find out the status of your refund. Additionally, Massachusetts taxpayers can find more information, including forms, instructions, and tips, on DOR's web-

site. To avoid penalties, returns for Massachusetts taxpayers must be filed electronically or postmarked by midnight April 15.

Taxpayers needing assistance can contact DOR by phone at 617-887-6367 or 800-392-6089.

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WINTHROP MARKETPLACE

Your Independent Grocer, Where Old Friends Meet And New Ones Are Made
SALE DAYS THURSDAY FEBRUARY 18TH, 2021 THROUGH WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 24TH, 2021

Grocery

Great grocery specials

Hunts Snack Pack Puddings.....	10/¢10.00
Hunts Pasta Sauce 24 oz.....	10/¢10.00
Chobani Greek Yogurt & Flips.....	10/¢10.00
Bumble Bee Solid White Canned Tuna.....	2/¢3.00
General Mills Cheerios	2/¢5.00
Hellman's Mayonnaise.....	¢3.99
Xtra Laundry Detergent 75 oz.....	2/¢5.00
Best Yet Single Box Macaroni & Cheese	2/¢1.00
Best Yet Cranberry Juice 64 oz	2/¢4.00
Campbell's Chunky Soup	2/¢3.00
Madam Crabmeat 6 oz.....	2/¢5.00
Pepperidge Farm Layer Cakes	2/¢6.00
Green Giant Boil-In -Bag Steamers	4/¢5.00
Rosetto Raviolis.....	2/¢8.00
Turkey Hill Iced Tea 64 oz	2/¢3.00
Daisy Sour Cream 14 oz.....	2/¢4.00

Bakery

Our Own Corn Muffins 4pk	¢3.49
Our Own Chocolate Chip Cookies 10pk.....	¢2.99
Brownie Bites.....	¢3.99

Deli

Belgioioso Slicing Provolone Cheese.....	¢4.99/lb
Butterball Oven Roasted Turkey Breast.....	¢5.99/lb
Kretschmar Black Forest Ham.....	¢6.99/lb
Kretschmar Rotisserie Chicken Breast	¢6.99/lb
Great Lakes Swiss Cheese	¢6.99/lb

Produce

California Sweet & Seedless Navel Oranges	¢1.09/lb
Tropical Sweet Mangoes	4/¢5.00
Fresh & Crisp Red Peppers	¢2.29/lb
Fresh Black Beauty Eggplant	¢1.49/lb
Green Giant Baby Carrots 1 lb pkg.....	¢1.09

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"Meat Cut Fresh Every Day"

Family Pack Specials

Assorted Bone In Pork Loin Chops	¢1.59/lb
New York Shell Sirloin Steaks.....	¢4.99/lb
Grade A Chicken Tenders.....	¢2.49/lb

Grade A Roasting Chickens	¢1.49/lb
Simply Mashed Potatoes 21-24 oz.....	2/¢5.00
Kayem Polska Kielbasa	2/¢8.00
Best Yet Bacon 16 oz.....	2/¢10.00

Weekend Specials

Friday, February 19th to Sunday February 21st

BAKERY	
New York Style Crumb Cake	¢6.99
DELI	
Hans Kissle Seafood Salad	¢5.99/lb
Our Own In Store Antipasto Salad.....	¢6.99/lb
PRODUCE	
California Iceberg Lettuce.....	4/¢5.00
Green Giant Idaho Russet Potatoes	¢2.99
5lb bag	
MEAT	
Family Pack Boneless Chicken Breast ..	¢1.89/lb
Boneless Chuck Pot Roast.....	¢4.99/lb
Best Yet Raw Shrimp 26-30ct	¢5.99
GROCERY	
Pepsi 2 Liter.....	4/¢5.00 plus deposit
Starbucks Bagged Coffee.....	2/¢10.00 limit 2
ground & whole bean only	
Tropicana Orange Juice 52oz. ..	2/¢5.00 limit 4

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New Store Hours starting June 22: Mon-Sat 7:30 am-8pm; Sun: 7:30am-7pm; Senior Hours: Mon-Sat: 7:30am-8:30am Sun: 8am-9am
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SEND US YOUR NEWS

The Times encourages residents to submit engagement, wedding and birth announcements, news releases, business and education briefs, sports stories and photos for publication. Items should be forwarded to our offices at 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151. Items can also be faxed to 781-485-1403. We also encourage readers to e-mail news releases and photos to deb@reverejournal.com

NEED TO RUN A LEGAL NOTICE?

Be sure to check with the Courts to see if you qualify for a FEE WAVIER

OBITUARIES

Charlette Hudson

She made friends wherever she went and people gravitated to her

Family and friends are invited to attend a Memorial Funeral Mass on Thursday, February 18, at 10:30 a.m. in the Immaculate Conception Church (Corner of Beach St. and Winthrop Avenue) Revere, for Charlette S. Hudson, 60, formerly of East Boston and West Palm Beach, Florida, who was stricken at her home in Revere and later passed at the CHA-Everett Hospital on Tuesday, February 9.

Due to the ongoing Covid-19 Pandemic. The church hac a capacity of 40%, temperatures will be checked, contact tracing lists, face coverings and social distancing will be in effect.

Charlette was born in Ludwigsburg, Germany while her father was serving his country. She and her family returned to Massachusetts and settled in Jeffries Point in East Boston. Charlette was educated in Boston Schools and was a graduate of East Boston High School, Class of 1978.

Charlette always had a wit, a take-charge attitude and always spoke her mind, but Charlette was always a kind and loving person.

She later moved to West Palm Beach, FL where she married, began her family, started her own cleaning company and was immediately being referred due to her



fanatical cleaning obsession. Charlette, became very popular with many of the wealthier homeowners.

She later returned to the Boston area where she met her best friend and love, Louie P. Abric, IV. Charlette immediately made friends in her new neighborhood and brought a level of energy there as well. She made friends everywhere she went and people gravitated towards her. She will be remembered in many ways for her unique and genuine ways.

The beloved daughter of the late Charles and Elizabeth L. “Betty” (Loberg), she was the loving mother of Victoria T. Dalton of Revere, Phillip C. Dalton and Michelle C. Hudson, both of Florida; the adored grandmother of Theo and Alexandria and cherished companion of Louie P. Abric, IV of Revere with whom she made her home; dear sister of Elaine Hudson of Ft. Lauderdale, FL, Debra Hunter of Lakeworth, FL, Shelia Hudson – Parks and her husband, Robert of Wilmington and the late Charles R. Hudson and Beverly Grady. She is also lovingly survived by her former husband, Phillip K. Dalton of Palm Beach, FL and by many loving nieces, nephews, grandnieces, grandnephews and many lifelong friends. She was predeceased by her faithful feline companion “Nico.”

Interment will be private. In lieu of flowers, remembrances may be made to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105-9959.

The staff at Vertuccio & Smith Home for Funerals, 773 Broadway Revere was most honored to have assisted the family completing arrangements. For online condolences, visit www.vertuccioandsmith.com.

Dolores LaMattina

Worked at front desk of the Paris Street Gym and Pool for many years

Dolores (DeRuosi) LaMattina, a life long resident of East Boston, passed away peacefully surrounded by her loving family on February 10 at the age of 85.

Dolores was a long-time employee of the City of Boston, working the front desks of the Paris Street Gym and Pool for many years. She was adored by members and staff for her warmth, humor, and generosity. She enjoyed spending time with her family, and brought them together for Sunday dinner at her home every week. She was so proud of “her boys,” and she shared that same pride with her grandchildren. She will be missed by all.

The beloved wife of the late Salvatore LaMattina, she was the devoted mother of Salvatore LaMattina and his wife, Lisa of East Boston, Robert LaMattina and David LaMattina, both of New Hampshire and John LaMattina of East Boston; dear sister of Mary Roach and the late Sue DiRosa and Joseph, Angelo, Richard, David, Salvatore, Anthony, Peter and Sylvester DeRuosi; cherished grandmother of Robert, Lauren, Liana, Domenic, Bella and Maximo and adored great-grandmother of Reggen.

Family and friends will honor Dolores’ life by



gathering at Sacred Heart Church, 45 Brooks St., East Boston on Thursday February 18 at 10 a.m. for a Funeral Mass in celebration of her life. Services will conclude with Dolores being laid to rest with her husband at the Massachusetts National Cemetery in Bourne.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Salesian Boys and Girls Club, 150 Byron Street. East Boston, MA 02128. <https://secure.donationpay.org/salesianclub/index.php> or the East Boston Social Center, 68 Central Square, East Boston, MA 02128. All services will be held in accordance with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts phased reopening plan due to COVID-19. Capacity will be limited. Face coverings are required to be worn and social distancing measures are encouraged.

For more information or to share an online condolence, visit: www.ruggierofuneralhome.com.

Peter Cardinale

Lifelong resident and advocate of Jeffries Point



Peter D. Cardinale, a lifelong resident and advocate for

Jeffries Point, East Boston, passed away peacefully surrounded by his loving family on Tuesday, February 9.

Peter was a member of Jeffries Point Neighborhood Association. He was a Navy Veteran who served in World War II. Peter and Joann liked to visit Piers Park and participated in the many activities held there.

The beloved husband of the late Joann (DiStasio) Cardinale, he was the devoted father of Joseph Gaeta of East Boston, Peter D. Cardinale and his wife, Stella, of East Boston, Craig Cardinale and his wife, Michelle, of Saugus, Peter Cardinale and his wife, Patty, of California, and the late Louis Cardinale; dear brother of Orazio Cardinale of East Boston, and the late Cosmo, Bennedetto, Frank, Joseph, Anna and Mary; cherished grandfather of Louis, Nicholas, Ava, Kellsie, Megan and Christopher and great grandfather of Vincent, Gianni, Brody, Alessandra and Brock. He is also survived by many loving nieces and



nephews.

Family and friends will honor Peter’s life by gathering at the Ruggiero Family Memorial Home, 971 Saratoga Street, (Orient Heights) East Boston today, Wednesday, February 17 at 9 a.m. before leaving in procession to Sacred Heart Church, East Boston for a Funeral Mass celebrating his life at 10:30 a.m. Services will conclude with Peter being laid to rest with his beloved wife, Joann, at Holy Cross Cemetery Mausoleum, Malden. May they rest in peace.

All services will be held in accordance with phased Covid-19 reopening precautions. Face coverings are required and social distancing practices encouraged. For more information or to send an online condolence please visit www.ruggieromh.com.

Amelia Falanga

Nynex retiree and member of the Red Hat Club of East Boston

Amelia A. Falanga of East Boston, 82, passed away on February 4.

She worked many positions for years at the New England Telephone Co. and retired from Nynex in October of 1991.

She was a member of the Red Hat Club of East Boston and enjoyed traveling and reading.

Amelia was passionate about spending time with friends, family and her many nieces and nephews, especially dinning out with them and enjoying a perfect espresso martini.

Amelia was born in East Boston on October 25, 1938 to the late Andrew and Mary (Picardi) Falanga. She was the sister of Anita Buckley of Wakefield and the late Marie Gayhart, Joseph Falanga and Andrew “Rusty” Falanga.

Amelia is survived by her sister-in-law, Anne Falanga of Wilmington; her nieces and nephews: Mary Lou Cicalese of Everett, Ronald and the late Eileen Buckley of Florida, Kevin and Diane Buckley



of Peabody, Robert Buckley of Maine, Andrew and Cassie Falanga and Tina and Damiano DiCenso, all of Wilmington; 12 great nieces and nephews and four great-great nieces as well as her dear friends: Sabina Taylor of East Boston, Camille Gilar-di of North Reading and Therese McNamara of Winthrop.

The family received visitors on Tuesday, February 9 in J.S. Waterman-Langone Chapel, 580 Commercial St., Boston. Following a Prayer Service, interment was held in Woodlawn Cemetery, Everett. For online condolences, please visit: www.watermanboston.com.

Anthony Buonopane

Of Saugus, formerly of East Boston

Anthony “Tony” Buonopane, 50, of Saugus, formerly of East Boston, passed away unexpectedly on February 3.

The cherished son of the late Robert and Frances (Gallo) Buonopane, he was the former husband of Maria (Patti) Buonopane, loving father of Massimo Buonopane and Anthony Ferullo, dear brother of Aileen Buonopane and her fiancé, Michael Lazarz of Michigan, Michele Buonopane of Lynn and his twin brother, Robert Buonopane of Peabody, son in law of Elena Patti and her longtime friend, Mario DeVenezia. He is also survived by many



nieces and nephews.

Funeral arrangements were entrusted to Vazza’s “Beechwood” Funeral Home, 262 Beach St., Revere. Interment was in Woodlawn Cemetery in Everett.

For additional information, visit: www.vazzafunerals.com.

Second Year Remembrance
In Loving Memory
Salvatore “Sonny” Fantasia
12/7/1932 - 2/18/2019



Those we love don't go away,
they walk beside us everyday.
Unseen, unheard but always near,
still loved, still missed and very dear.

To place a
memoriam in the
Times Free Press,
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781-485-0588

1st Year Memoriam



**Edward S.
“Crystal”
Cheffro Sr.**

February 14, 2020 - February 14, 2021

You toiled so hard for those you loved,
You said goodbye to none.
Your spirit flew before we knew,
Your work on earth was done.
We miss you now, our hearts are sore,
As time goes by we miss you more.
Your loving smile, your gentle face:
No one can fill your vacant place.
Your life was love and labor,
Your love for your family true.
You did the best for all of us,
We will always remember you.

Love Wife Barbara &
Children Edward, David,
Dianne & Charlie Cheffro,
Family & Friends

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OBITUARIES

Effective Jan. 1, 2021

All obituaries and death notices

will be at a cost of
\$150.00 per paper.

Includes photo.No word Limit.

Please send to

obits@reverejournal.com

or call 781-485-0588

OBITUARIES

James DeSantis

Sports and music enthusiast

James R. DeSantis, a lifelong resident of Revere, passed away on February 13, surrounded by his loving family at the age of 58.

Born in Revere on November 13, 1962 to Joseph DeSantis and the late Frances (DePaolo), he was the cherished father of Rachael DeSantis and longtime friend of her mother, Valerie DiSalvo Green; dear brother of Joseph DeSantis Sr. of Revere and Janice DeSantis and her longtime companion, Rob McPherson of Chelsea; adored uncle of Joseph DeSantis Jr. and his wife, Erin, John DeSantis and Jenae DeSantis and great uncle to Lola Bartlett and beloved nephew of Richie DeSantis and the late Bobby DeSantis. He is also survived by cousins and countless friends.

James played hockey his entire life and more recently picked up tennis and racquetball. He coached all of Rachael's sports growing up and loved all the New England teams especially the Boston Bruins. James had a great knowledge of music going to every concert he possibly could



and Rock and Roll being his favorite. He never missed a Revere High School football game on Thanksgiving.

A visitation will be held at the Paul Buonfiglio & Sons-Bruno Funeral Home, 128 Revere St, Revere on Friday, February 19 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (capacity limits are in effect, please make visits brief so others may enter the funeral home). Funeral Mass to follow at St. Anthony's Church in Revere at 12 noon (names and temperatures will be taken upon entrance). Masks and social distancing are required at church and funeral home. Relatives and friends are kindly invited. Interment in Holy Cross Cemetery.

You can send flowers or donate to www.jimmyfund.org/gift.

Wendy Lu Reed

Advocate for those in need

Wendy Lu Reed, 57, died unexpectedly on Friday morning at Melrose-Wakefield Hospital, Melrose.

Born and raised in East Boston, she was the daughter of Lucille Reed and the late Charles Reed. A constant advocate for those in need, Wendy was the director of the Saugus United Parish Food Pantry and worked tirelessly to combat homelessness with Healing Abuse Working for Change (HAWC). She was a former CCD teacher at Blessed Sacrament Church, was actively involved with the Saugus PTOs, she served on the Saugus School Committee for several years, many as Chairman and was the longtime Board of Selectman Clerk.

In addition to her mother, Wendy is survived by her three proudest achievements, her sons: Stephen and Kristin Reed of East Boston, James



Reed of Saugus and Scott Reed of East Boston. She was the sister of Joh Reed and her husband, Joe of Saugus, Edward Reed and his wife, Jennifer of Florida and the aunt of Emily and Anna.

In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory are encouraged to be made to the Saugus United Parish Food Pantry, 50 Essex Street, Saugus, MA 01906.

Arrangements were by the Bisbee-Porcella Funeral Home, 549 Lincoln Ave., Saugus. For condolences: www.BisbeePorcella.com.

Gail Ducey

Longtime employee of the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center

Gail K. Ducey of Revere, formerly of East Boston, passed away surrounded by her loving family on Sunday, February 7 at the age of 67.

Gail was a long-time employee of East Boston Neighborhood Health Center.

The loving daughter of the late Nicholas and Irene (Terrio) Ducey, she was the dear sister of Joan Guidaboni of New Hampshire, Loretta Long and her husband, Robert of New Hampshire and the late Mary Davis and Barbara Haywood and is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

Family and friends will honor Gail's life by gathering on February 20 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Ruggiero Family Memorial Home, 971 Saratoga St., East Boston followed by a Funeral Mass in St. An-



thony's Church, Revere St., Revere at 12 NOON. Services will conclude with Gail being laid to rest at Woodlawn Cemetery. All services will be held in accordance with Phase-2 of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts phased reopening plan due to COVID-19. Capacity will be limited. Face coverings are required to be worn and social distancing measures are encouraged. To leave an online condolence please visit www.ruggieromh.com.

Gov. Baker among Governors honored by Mental Health America for commitment to mental health

Special to the Times

During the challenging times of a global pandemic, where screening data from Mental Health America(MHA) consistently shows extreme rates of depression, anxiety, isolation, and loneliness, the organization is recognizing three leaders for stepping up with critical resources to support their communities' mental health needs.

New Jersey's Gov. Phil Murphy, Pennsylvania's Gov. Tom Wolf, and Massachusetts' Gov. Charlie Baker were recently honored with MHA's national B4Stage4 Leadership Award, which recognizes excellence in mental health. This prestigious award signifies a commitment to treating behavioral health conditions before they've hit Stage 4 – a crisis. The award also recognizes ongoing support of the behavioral health community.



"We are honored to recognize leaders making a difference on the front lines of mental health. Half of Americans are struggling with mental health this year, and the need for leaders who will advocate for mental health resources has never been greater," said Paul Gionfriddo, president and CEO of MHA. "Governors Baker, Murphy, and Wolf have shown a deep commitment to raising awareness about mental health needs and they are prioritizing policy changes to create systemic reforms."

Gov. Charles Baker has been a supporter of MHA affiliate Massachusetts Association for Mental Health during his six years

in office.

"It's an honor to be a recipient of MHA's B4Stage4 Governor's Award this year," said Gov. Baker. "Our administration is proud to treat behavioral health with the urgency it requires, increasing state spending by more than \$400 million and expanding access to care through innovations like telehealth. We remain committed to doing all we can to prioritize behavioral health, reduce stigma and get people the help they need."

From 2015-2019, his administration invested \$1.9 billion in behavioral health across the spectrum of care. In 2019, Gov. Baker introduced compre-

hensive health care legislation, which included promoting access to behavioral health and reducing its costs to consumers. During the pandemic, he launched a new crisis counseling assistance program, MassSupport, in English and Spanish. This month, Gov. Baker also signed comprehensive health care legislation that requires coverage of telehealth services for behavioral health care.

The honored governors accepted their awards as part of MHA's virtual Regional Policy Council Meeting. The council, launched in 2009, meets regularly to form a nationwide movement for a robust mental health system that promotes prevention and early intervention initiatives, access to integrated community-based treatments and supports that are recovery-focused and that encompass community inclusion.

Exit renumbering operations completed on nine statewide corridors

Staff report

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) has announced that construction and sign replacement operations to convert former sequential exit numbers to new milepost-based numbers is continuing across the Commonwealth.

The renumbering operations, which are required per a Federal Highway Administration mandate, began in the fall 2020 and are anticipated to be completed by summer 2021.

The Federal Highway Administration's 2009 Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices mandated that all states establish a mile-based exit numbering system. The conversion to a mile-based exit numbering system is being implemented on a route-by-route basis, and started in Western Massachusetts and moving eastward. For individual routes, exit numbering conversion has taken place from east to west or

north to south.

Exit renumbering conversion operations have been completed on Interstate 90, and some northeast and southeast corridors as follows:

- Interstate 90 between Boston and West Stockbridge.
- Interstate 295 between North Attleboro and Attleboro.
- State Route 24 between Randolph and Fall River.
- Route 140 between Taunton and New Bedford.
- Interstate 195 between Wareham and Seekonk.
- State Route 25 between Wareham and Bourne.
- State Route 3 between Braintree and Bourne.
- US Route 6 between Orleans and Bourne.
- US Route 3 between Tyngsborough and Burlington.

The anticipated start dates and locations for statewide renumbering on the remaining corridors are as follows:

•State Route 128 renumbering operations began on Wednesday, Feb. 10, and take place from Gloucester to Peabody.

•Interstate 95 renumbering operations will begin on Sunday, Feb. 21. The work will be broken up into the four segments that follow: between the New Hampshire border and Route 120; Between the Route 1 Interchange and Route 20; Between the I-90 Interchange and Westwood/Canton; Between Neponset Street and the Rhode Island border.

•Interstate 84 renumbering operations will begin on Sunday, Feb. 28, and will take place from the I-90 interchange in Sturbridge to the Connecticut border.

•Interstate 93 renumbering operations will begin after the I-95 corridor is completed, and based on their locations along the existing mile markers, existing exits 1 (Canton) through exit 12 (Boston/Neponset) will not be renumbered. Exit renumber-

ing will begin at existing exit 13 (Boston/Dorchester) and continue to existing exit 48 (Methuen).

Construction start dates and locations on the following remaining corridors will be announced as they are finalized: State Route 146, Interstate 190, State Route 2, Interstate 495, Interstate 395 and Interstate 295.

During a transition period for motorists, "Old Exit" signs are being installed at each converted exit for a minimum of two years.

Work typically is completed during the overnight off-peak hours, with minimal impacts to traffic. In addition, the contractors conducting the sign replacement operations are required to complete the full interchange before moving along to the next exit.

All work is weather dependent and construction dates may be adjusted accordingly.

As disasters continue during pandemic - Red Cross needs volunteers

Staff report

Home fires continue to keep Red Cross volunteers responding to disaster across Massachusetts, including three fires in the past 48 hours that displaced nearly 100 people.

Fires in Boxborough, Mattapan, Revere and Lowell each displaced more than 30 people in multi-unit buildings. Red Cross volunteers are responding to these fires virtually; with contact information from local fire departments, they assist residents through phone calls and video conferencing to help them on the road to recovery after life altering home fires.

The need for volunteers is constant. Red Cross volunteers help people recover from disasters, assist at local blood drives, provide mental health counselling to people recovering from disasters, assist members of the military along with their families, and provide training to people learning first aid and basic life support.


"Volunteers represent more than 90 percent of the Red Cross workforce and make our humanitari-

an mission possible," said Ryan Avery, senior disaster program manager for Massachusetts. "During the coronavirus pandemic, families continue to depend on local Red Cross volunteers every day. This year please consid-

er volunteering with the Red Cross to support your neighbors in need and help us ensure no one faces life's emergencies alone."

Those interested in becoming a volunteer can visit redcross.org/volunteer. There they can find

local opportunities to help people in need right here in Massachusetts. A Red Cross volunteer recruiter will speak with people over the phone to find something not only interesting but fulfilling.

Virtual Public Meeting

7-11 Curtis Street

Tuesday, March 2
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM


Zoom Link: bit.ly/7-11CurtisPublicMeeting
Toll Free: (833) 568 - 8864
Meeting ID: 161 765 9120

Project Proponent:
SAWJNG LLC

Project Description:
The Proposed Project consists of the demolition of a one story commercial building and the construction of an approximately 34,451 gross square foot residential development comprised of two, four story residential buildings with a total of 29 residential units and 16 off-street vehicle parking spaces.

mail to: **Raul Duverge**
Boston Planning & Development Agency
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201
phone: 617.918.4492
email: raul.duverge@boston.gov

Close of Comment Period:
3/12/2021

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Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

CHELSEA KIWANIS CLUB GROWING

CHELSEA - Anybody who watched Sylvia Ramirez build Chelsea Pop Warner into one of the premier youth football organizations in eastern Massachusetts knew the Chelsea Kiwanis Club would be in good hands.

Ramirez, the high-energy president of the Kiwanis Club, revealed that the club has enjoyed an increase in membership to a total of 25 members overall. The new members of the Chelsea Kiwanis Club are Carolyn Boumila-Vega, Mirna Diaz, Alexandria Christmas, Veronica Dyer Medina, Sharlene McLean, Elizabeth Novak, Cassandra Thompson, and Noel Velez.

“We have welcomed eight new members to our club,” Ramirez said humbly. “I’m extremely happy and excited and so proud of our members for doing membership outreach. We started talking about membership early in the fall. We’re a small club and some of our long-standing members are starting to retire and we need new leadership in our club, which is one of the reasons we did this membership drive.”

Ramirez said the club hosted a virtual wine tasting and trivia night and the response among members was that the event was “very enjoyable and fun.”

Seventy-one people – a sizable turnout during the COVID-19 pandemic that has impacted work and social schedules - participated in the wine tasting and trivia night. “It was unbelievable – we even had people from other clubs outside of Massachusetts,” said Ramirez.

But the best response came in the form of prospective members reaching out to Sylvia Ramirez to join the club.

“Right after that event, we had eight new members join us, which is absolutely a huge accomplishment for our club,” added Ramirez.

Ramirez said the club is participating in Black History Month with a reading event in coordination with the Chelsea public schools. On March 2, the members will take part in Dr. Seuss National Red Across America Day.

Ramirez, who is the operations and evaluations manager at La Colaborativa, said the new members were installed by the Kiwanis Lieutenant Governor and Chelsea Kiwanis Club meetings are held remotely on Thursdays.

The biographies of the new members of the Chelsea Kiwanis Club follow below:

Carolyn Boumila Vega: She is a lifelong Chelsea resident, 49 years to be exact. Carolyn is a Licensed Social Worker with South Bay Community Services. She enjoys watching reality TV, cooking, volunteering, and staying on top of Social Media. I have been involved in so many community events and organizations, too many to mention. I want to be as useful as I possibly can and one of my most proud achievements is receiving a Social Work master’s degree at age 45. I am bilingual even though people may not think so, proudly Latinx.

Mirna Diaz: She has worked in Chelsea for 10 years. Mirna has a private law practice in Chelsea. I enjoy riding my bike, volunteering with my daughter, and reading fiction and thriller books. My goal is to be more involved in the community, I know being part of the Kiwanis club of Chelsea will allow me to do that. I want to have an opportunity to create new ideas and opportunities to help the club expand.

Alexandria Christmas: Alexandria has been a Chelsea resident for over 20 years. She works as the payroll manager for Zerto, a tech company in Boston. Alex is extremely involved in the community, in groups such as: St. Luke’s Food Pantry, First Congregational Church produce packaging, Community Garden, Transit justice, Youth group mentorship, she is part of the Library Board of Trustees, Chelsea Bike and Ped Committee and hosts the Chel-Yea Woman who wine Facebook group. Her hobbies are cycling, running, camping, gardening, skiing and motorcycles. Alex hopes to bring her organizational and event planning skills for fundraising events and/or service projects.

Veronica Dyer Medina: Veronica has lived in

Chelsea her whole life, 40 years this May. She is part of the Chelsea Public Schools Administration office, as the Superintendent Administrative Assistant and the Clerk for the Chelsea School Committee. She loves cooking and feeding people. Loves a good mystery/drama movie or book, enjoys dancing and listening to much and arts and crafts with her two children. Her Kiwanis goal is to raise awareness of the great work Kiwanis does. Bringing community organizing and advocating skills to help engage children in our community who need to be directed to the righteous path.

Sharlene McLean: Chelsea resident for 20 years. She works for WilmerHale LLP as a Patent Assistant/Legal Secretary. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, crochet and baking. Sharlene brings to our club her passion for the community and is not afraid to say what she thinks and believes in.

Elizabeth Novak: Chelsea resident for 12 years, works as a Marketing Executive recruiting and retention for the Army National Guard. She enjoys reading, cross stitch, camping, canoeing, travel and playing all sorts of games. Interesting fact is that, when younger, she was an award-winning classical pianist and avid horseback rider. She is the Chair of the Chelsea Library Board of Trustees and an organizer of Chelsea Hill Community’s Safety and Clean up walks. She enjoys being active in the community. Joining Kiwanis, she wants to give back to the community and her main goal is by far to be an active volunteer in service projects.

Cassandra Thompson: Cassandra grew up in Chelsea and has lived her for 34 years. She works in HealthCare for Mass General Brigham as an Administrative Coordinator/Project Coordinator. She enjoys baking, hiking, fitness and traveling. Her main goal by joining Kiwanis is to get more involved in community events and volunteer her time. She is most proud of being a mommy of two girls, 9 & 4. She brings to the club her organization skills, event

EBNHC, LA COLABORATIVA WORK TOGETHER TO VACCINATE CHELSEA



With La Colaborativa Director Gladys Vega and City Manager Tom Ambrosino in the background, EBNHC Director Manny Lopes (above) announces the rollout of a vaccine clinic inside La Colaborativa on Broadway. The clinic is a three-pronged partnership between the organizations and will be able to ramp up to as many as 500 vaccines a day if demand is there. Meanwhile, after being vaccinated, Ramelo Frometa (right) raised his arm to the sky and said, “Hallelujah!”



planning, creative design, and people person.

Noel Velez: He was born and raised in Chelsea. He works as the Financial Analyst for Chelsea Public Schools. His hobbies are collecting memorabilia from sporting events, wrestling and coming books. I also enjoy making music and playing video games with my boys. My goal with Kiwanis is to assist our community of Chelsea any way possible. I have been extremely committed to our community, especially children and youth. One of my most proud accomplishments is my marriage and children. I bring to Kiwanis public speaking skills, great writing capacity to request funding and support with fundraising ideas.

NATIONAL GUARD TO HELP WITH VACCINATIONS

CHELSEA - After spending significant time with food relief efforts in Chelsea last spring, the National Guard has announced it will be returning with a medical mission to help support

vaccination sites here.

As part of the Commonwealth’s COVID-19 Vaccination Plan, the Massachusetts National Guard has begun providing support of vaccination initiatives. Beginning last week, 10 medically qualified Guard members are partnering with the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center (EBNHC) to administer vaccines in East Boston.

Medically qualified soldiers and airmen began assisting with vaccine administration. Their assistance at EBNHC is expected to continue for at least three weeks to support four vaccination sites throughout EBNHC’s service area including East Boston, Chelsea, Revere and the South End. The mission is federally funded. The Guard will continue to make qualified personnel available to the Executive Office of Health and Human Services for deployment to facilities requesting assistance.

The National Guard has personnel with a range of applicable expertise within its ranks, including physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, nurses, emergency medical technicians, and medics. These individuals have already administered the vaccine to 1,000 eligible Massachusetts soldiers and airmen, and now shift their focus to assisting in clinical settings for eligible members of the public.

The Massachusetts National Guard’s first priorities are to save lives and protect property, and Guard personnel have assisted the Commonwealth since the earliest days of the crisis, providing a wide range of services to state agencies and local authorities. As a diverse and highly trained force whose members live and work in communities across the Commonwealth, the Guard has a proven track record of success supporting civilian authorities during and after state

emergencies, and its units frequently train side-by-side with state and local first responders, making them well-suited for domestic operations.

DeMARIA DELIVERS STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

EVERETT - One year ago, the Council Chambers were packed to an overflow level to welcome in the new City Council and hear Mayor Carlo DeMaria give his annual State of the City Address.

It seems like a time and place from another world – a world without masks, distancing requirements or fear of sickness, job loss and hunger.

It was, though, just one short year ago, and on Thursday, Feb. 4, Mayor DeMaria hearkened back to those fine days as he delivered an online State of the City that detailed what was done to help COVID-19 in 2020 and looking forward to what 2021 could bring.

“There were over 200 people gathered in the Chambers - hugging, smiling, laughing,” he said. “We celebrated and I had the privilege of informing our residents about the City’s bold and innovative plans for 2020. Little did we know, two months later, that our City, our State, and our Country would be facing challenges unlike any others in our lifetime. The COVID-19 pandemic was unexpected, and unwelcomed.”

In an online address that lasted 33 minutes, the mayor first detailed all that had been done by the City and by the community to help out with COVID-19 and the effects that followed the sickness – such as job loss, food insecurity and housing insecurity.

“The people of Everett have displayed their strength and resiliency,” he said. “On behalf of Stacy and myself, from

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Region

// CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

the bottom of our hearts, we would like to personally thank each and every one of you for every sacrifice you have made for the betterment of our City. I have never been more proud to be your Mayor.”

That was followed with a moment of silence for the 67 lives that were officially lost to COVID-19 in the City of Everett.

He highlighted the decision to close schools on March 12, long before any other community. He lifted up the first responders, such as the police, fire, EMS and 9-1-1 dispatchers. He also noted medical workers, front-line workers, educators and volunteers that staffed the food pantries such as the Connolly Center and Grace Food Pantry.

Providing food and services was also a major part of 2020, and the mayor said the City and local organizations distributed more than 1.2 million pounds of food in 2020. As well, those that were homebound received approximately 120,000 meals delivered to their doors.

Then, after talking about all the ways that Zoom filled in the gaps for regular, in-person meetings, he said it was time to move forward in 2021.

“Needless to say – most of us are ready to ZOOM into 2021,” he said.

The first and longest part of his platform for 2021 revolved around equity and the new Diversity and Equity Advisory Board – which has been in place since the mayor declared racism a public health crisis last summer.

Right now, he said the Board is in the process of reviewing the Everett Police Department’s use-of-force policy – and listening candidly and confidentially to the experiences of people of

color with the Everett Police.

“Once they share their findings and recommendations with the Administration, I promise to work diligently to address any issue that that will help our residents feel safe and included,” he said.

He added that members of his Administration have been meeting every other week with the Everett Safe and Welcoming Coalition, and the City has also expanded its language access at City Hall with a contracted interpretation service called Lionbridge – which is also being used in the Everett Public Schools.

“As Mayor, I will continue to embrace the diversity that exists in our great community,” he said. “There is no tolerance for racism in our City, and you have my word that my Administration will constantly strive toward ensuring equity and equality for people of all backgrounds, heritages, sexual orientations, genders, creeds and economic statuses. Our City must be one in which every resident is able to peacefully share and exchange ideas, one where we can respect and celebrate our differences, and one where we are united in making sure that Everett is a place that we are all proud to call our home.”

Finance was also a big subject in the address, and while many municipalities suffered financially during the pandemic, the mayor said Everett has done well. New construction projects continue to roll in, and revenues aren’t down as much as many feared. He said Everett continues to be a community that many in the region and nation look to for innovative ideas.

He touched on the affordable housing project now emerging at the former St. Therese’s Church site on upper Broadway.

He said one of the things that will need to be considered moving forward is looking at familiar places differently than in the past – such as the Commercial Triangle and other areas that are attractive to developers right now but historically have been considered inferior properties by residents.

“Moving forward in Everett means looking differently at areas of the City and having the ability to see the places we all know in a new way - in a different way,” he said. “We have made significant progress in the revitalization of the Commercial Triangle Area, the area encompassing Revere Beach Parkway and Second Street in Everett.”

That led to the unveiling of a new initiative to increase the footprint of the Urban Renewal Plan in Everett. He said the current plan will add the Lower Broadway Master Plan, the Commercial Triangle, the GE Parcel and Everett Stadium. That was a new and interesting initiative.

“We have big goals, aggressive goals, but I’m confident they can be accomplished,” he said – calling on the City Council to work together with him to move forward in 2021 on such things.

Development talk quickly morphed into amenities and protecting the environment, and he said developing the City can also mean improving the environment.

He highlighted the new kayak ramp at RiverGreen, the restoration of North/South Creek, and the expansion of the Northern Strand Community Path. He highlighted 20 new BlueBike Stations, and the advancement of the Mystic River Pedestrian Bridge that would unlock an uninterrupted path from Nahant to downtown Boston and Cambridge. At the same time, he highlighted the

continued progress on public transportation, including the new Silver Line expansion study that kicked off this week.

He said strong public transit is a must to grow the city.

“Mobility remains the key to sustained economic development and enhanced quality of life for our residents,” he said.

Finally, he said that 2021 will be about – more than anything – making sure the vaccine for COVID-19 arrives in Everett and is distributed to anyone that wants it.

“I am proud that the vaccine has arrived in Everett and that our first responders have been vaccinated,” he said.

“Over the next year, I will work to ensure that our entire community has the opportunity to be vaccinated.”

Winding down his Address, he referred to some silver linings that have come out of COVID-19. For his family, that has meant being under the same roof again and spending more quality time together. For the mayor’s family, he said that has meant gathering nightly around the dining room table to play the Uno card game.

Now, however, he said it’s time to move into 2021 and continue the progress that the City left off with in March 2020 when all things normal

came to a halt.

“It’s now time to focus on 2021,” he said. “We will continue to make strides towards bettering our community in all aspects – with transportation, capital improvements, and our infrastructure. The pandemic required the City to shift gears and adapt to a global crisis however, we are ready to pick up where we left off and continue to move Everett forward.”

The full online State of the City Address is available on the City’s Facebook page and on its website.

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MBTA announces names of new stations for Green Line B Branch Station project

Staff report

The MBTA announced last week that the new stations constructed during the upcoming B Branch Station Consolidation project would be called Babcock Street Station and Amory Street Station.

This station modernization project will consolidate four B Branch stops (BU West with St. Paul Street and Pleasant Street with Babcock Street) into two fully accessible, brand new stations. With longer platforms and protection from the roadway, the consolidated stations will improve safety and save time for riders traveling on Commonwealth Ave.

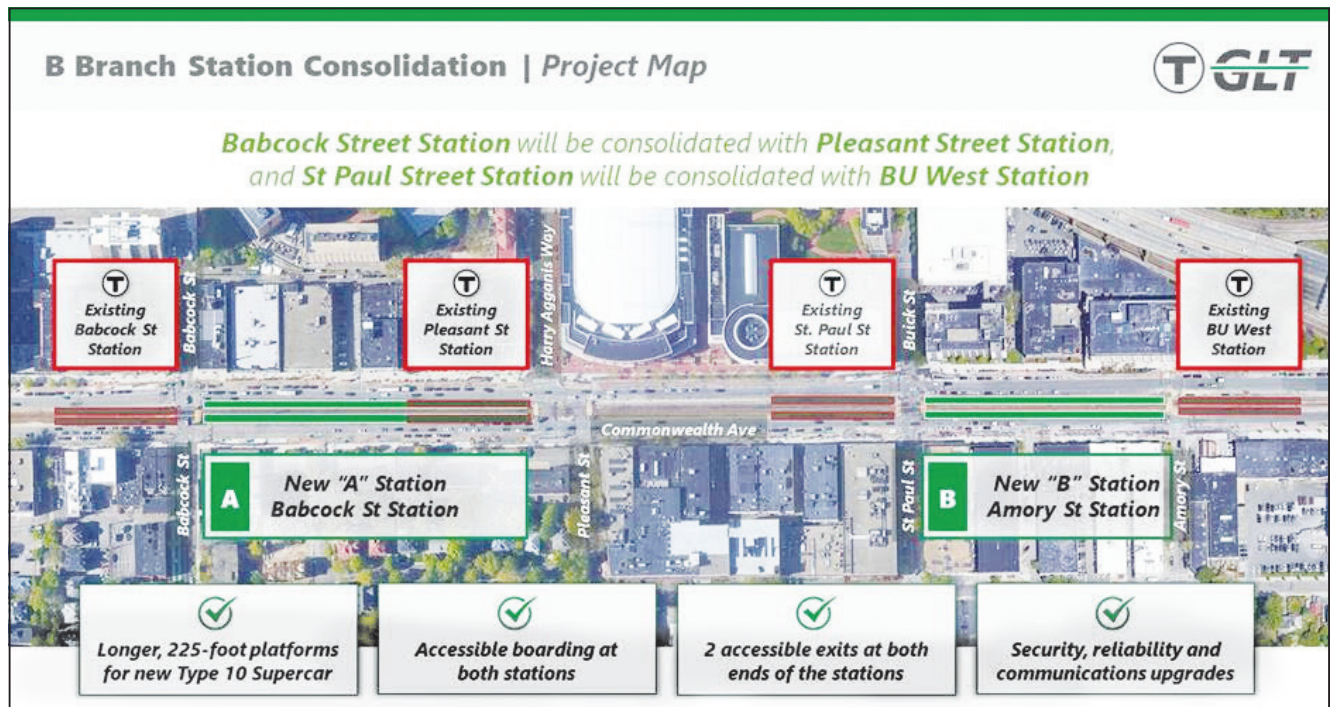
“This station consolidation project will streamline trips for riders and provide safer, fully accessible platforms,” said

MBTA General Manager Steve Poftak. “With safety as our first priority, the new stations will include fencing between the platform and the roadway. We designed these new stations to align with other recent investments in the Commonwealth Ave. corridor to improve safety for riders, pedestrians, bicyclists, and vehicles.”

Project work will also occur overnight between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m. on weekdays and 24/7 over the weekends during 12 months of construction.

To accomplish this work, service will be shut down between Babcock Street and Kenmore Stations on most weeknights and weekends as of Feb. 15. Shuttle buses will replace train service with shuttle stops located at Bus Route 57 stops.

The current Pleasant



Street Station will be decommissioned as of the end of service on Feb. 26. The new Babcock Street Station will ultimately serve riders in this location when the new station opens at the end of

construction. During construction of the new, consolidated station, riders will be directed to either St. Paul Street or Babcock Street on weekdays when Green Line trolleys are operating. Pedestri-

an paths of travel will be clearly marked through the work zone.

Occasional overnight and weekend lane closures will be required to safely carry out construction activities. Minor detours for

vehicles may occasionally be needed overnight. However, local access will be maintained and advance warning signs will be posted.

State awards \$64 Million in Grants to 1,312 additional businesses for COVID-19 relief

Staff report

The Baker-Polito Administration announced nearly \$64 million in awards to 1,312 additional businesses in the seventh round of COVID relief grants administered by the Massachusetts Growth Capital Corporation (MGCC). Each business meets sector and demographic priorities set for the two grant programs.

With the addition of this round of grant awards, the Administration has awarded approximately \$514 million in direct financial

support to 11,212 businesses across the Commonwealth.

“As part of our ongoing commitment to supporting the Massachusetts business community, I’m pleased we are able to provide relief to another 1,312 hard hit businesses,” said Gov. Charlie Baker. “With this round of awards, our efforts to deliver vital assistance to foster our economic recovery have now reached more than 11,000 businesses across the Commonwealth for a total of over a half billion dollars

in direct financial support.”

Among the sectors that received the highest total number of grants this round are: restaurants, bars, caterers, or food trucks (426); personal services businesses (173); and independent retailers (114).

In addition, grants for this round were awarded to 596 minority-owned, and 489 women-owned, businesses; 356 recipients are located in Gateway Cities, and 352 businesses have not received any prior aid.

Acknowledging the importance of restaurants and independent retailers to communities across Massachusetts, business owners of multiple locations that met demographic and sector priorities are receiving awards to support up to two additional locations.

“Thanks to the team

at MGCC, these grants create a key opportunity to sustain our small businesses by the thousands in every corner of Massachusetts,” said Housing and Economic Development Secretary Mike Kennealy. “Recognizing how critical a component our small businesses are to the

Commonwealth’s economy, providing direct support has proven to be essential to our strategy for economic recovery.”

Following the previous announcement of grant awards on Feb. 4, MGCC began a process of engaging directly with applicants that met sector and

demographic priorities but were missing documents necessary to be considered for an award. MGCC is continuing to work with business owners in targeted sectors and demographic groups over a two-week period to allow for applicants to submit necessary documents.

U.S. Attorney Lelling announces departure

Special to the Times

United States Attorney Andrew E. Lelling announced last week that, effective Feb. 28, he will step down as United States Attorney for the District of Massachusetts.

Lelling tendered his resignation to the President of the United States earlier this week.

The announcement marks the end of Lelling’s 20-year career in the Department of Justice, starting in 2001 as a senior official in the Civil Rights Division, followed by positions as a federal prosecutor in the U.S. Attorney’s Offices for the Eastern District of Virginia and, since 2005, for the District of Massachusetts. In September 2017, with the support of Sens. Elizabeth Warren and Edward Markey, President Donald J. Trump nominated Lelling for the position of United States Attorney. In December 2017, the United States Senate voted unanimously to confirm him.

were charged in the college admissions case, 42 of whom have been convicted to date.

•In the first federal racketeering case targeting senior corporate executives for their role in exacerbating the opioid epidemic, in 2019, seven senior executives of Insys Therapeutics, Inc., including its CEO, John Kapoor, were convicted at trial.

•Lelling spearheaded a nationally recognized anti-opioid media campaign focused on preventing first time use, especially among teens. The campaign used social media and nontraditional platforms with targeted messaging developed using focus groups of teens and others. It was first of its kind in the country and reached millions of people in the Commonwealth and beyond.

•In a push to tackle public corruption in the Commonwealth, since late 2017, under Lelling’s leadership the office has charged: 11 current and former members of the Massachusetts State Police and 10 current and former members of the Boston Police Department for fraudulent overtime practices and other corruption; State Representative David Nangle for alleged fraud; and a state district court judge for alleged obstruction of justice.

•Continuing the office’s longstanding role as a leader in national healthcare enforcement, since late 2017 the office’s civil prosecutors have recovered nearly \$1 billion from major pharmaceutical companies for violations of civil anti-kickback laws.

•Leading a coordinated group of federal, state and local law enforcement agencies, the U.S. Attorney’s Office prioritized rooting out drug trafficking and violent offenders in Lawrence, Mass., a city in which crime has dropped 46 percent in the last two years.

•Since late 2017, Lelling’s gang and organized crime prosecutors have convicted dozens of

members of the violent transnational gang MS-13, and indicted more than 70 members of the Latin Kings gang, substantially dismantling both gangs in Massachusetts.

Under Lelling’s leadership, the U.S. Attorney’s Office was also a national leader in federal civil rights enforcement:

•The Office’s “pattern and practice” investigation of the Springfield Police Department was the only such investigation opened in the country under the Trump administration.

•During Lelling’s tenure, the Boston U.S. Attorney’s Office was the only one to use the Americans with Disabilities Act to require nursing facilities and county jails to provide medically assisted treatment to recovering addicts.

•Lelling’s office continues to pursue a federal civil rights investigation of allegations of mismanagement and neglect at the Holyoke Soldiers’ Home during the pandemic, a situation that resulted in the deaths of over 75 elderly veterans.

•Lelling’s office continues to negotiate with the Massachusetts Department of Correction to improve treatment of inmates requiring mental health treatment and reduce the use of restrictive housing.

Lelling added, “This is a unique and powerful job – there is no flesh-and-blood client, but only an unshakable obligation to be fair and to work in the public interest. I know that my colleagues, in the U.S. Attorney’s Office and in the law enforcement agencies we work with, share my belief that this is a calling. I look forward to new challenges in the years ahead, but I will miss the sense of mission that comes with working for the U.S. Department of Justice.”

Following Lelling’s departure, First Assistant U.S. Attorney Nathaniel R. Mendell will assume the role of Acting U.S. Attorney.



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