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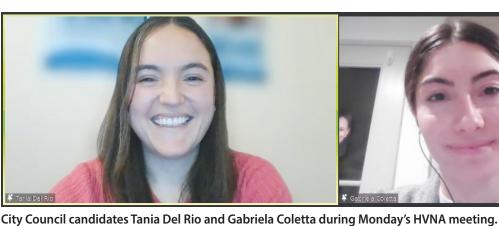
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## East Boston TIMES-FREE PRESS

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Wednesday, February 9, 2022





## District 1 City Council candidates stop by Monday's HVNA meeting

By John Lynds

The two candidates vying for the District 1 City Council seat stopped by Monday night's Harbor View Neighborhood Association meeting to introduce themselves to the community.

First up was candidate Tania Del Rio who recently served as the city's director of the Mayor's Office of Women's Ad-

"My name is Tania Del Rio, I'm a BPS mom, I'm Latina immigrant originally from Mexico City, and I'm a leader with proven results in this community and in city government," said Del Rio. "I'm running for city council, because I want to be our district's strong voice for keeping this community together by fighting for attainable and affordable housing. I

also want to be fighting for quality schools and environmental justice. We, as you all know, are dealing with an urgent crisis with many of our neighbors facing displacement and our neighbors are being pushed out as our workforce housing keeps turning into luxury condos."

Del Rio said another major issue is that families are also leaving the neighborhood and city because

they feel BPS is not delivering for their children.

"All of us have to find a way to stop all of this," she said.

Del Rio said she grew up in Mexico City and spent her childhood traveling between Mexico and different US cities as her father's job took the family to different cities. After attending school in New

See CANDIDATES Page 2

#### Wilmot appointed EBNHC's new President and CEO

By John Lynds

The East Boston Neighborhood Health Center's Board of Directors voted this week to appoint Greg Wilmot as the Health Center's new President and CEO. The board announced Tuesday that Wilmot, who has been serving as interim President and CEO since the Greg Wilmot was name departure of Manny Lopes in late October, will begin serving immediately.

"Greg assumed leader-



**EBNHC** new President and **CEO Tuesday.** 

ship of the health center seamlessly in his inter-

im role and has expertly guided our organization through a very challenging time that has included a major COVID surge," said EBNHC Board Chair Rita Sorrento. "He has led our Executive Team in managing our complicated day to day operations and has represented himself well as a leader with all staff. His work has made a lasting impact on our patients and our community. Furthermore, Greg has earned our trust and confidence

in his ability to lead this organization and continue the health center's mission in the months and years to come."

Wilmot was recruited by Lopes in 2017 to serve as the Health Center's Executive Director of Neighborhood PACE, which saw a 48 percent growth under his leadership. Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly, or PACE Program, has allowed

See EBNHC Page 2

## State Sen. Lydia Edwards endorses former Chief of Staff Gabriela Coletta for the District 1 City Council

By John Lynds

State Senator Lydia Edwards said her former Chief of Staff Gabriela Coletta is the best candidate to take over her District 1 City Council seat when she leaves in April.

Edwards, who sworn in as First Suffolk & Middlesex State Senator last month and will vacate her city council seat on April 30th, formally endorsed Colatta Tuesday.

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"Gabriela Coletta is the most prepared, competent, and capable person to be the next City

Councilor," said Edwards Tuesday. "She is uniquely qualified for the job. She came out of Boston Public Schools, worked in government, and has done incredible work fighting to ensure Boston's waterfront is truly a waterfront for all."

Edwards said as her first Chief of Staff, Coletta demonstrated unmatched commitment, compassion, and drive, and proved she is ready to do the work of

a city councilor.

Coletta was Edwards's Manager Camapign during her historic win for City Council back in 2017. After Edwards was sworn in as the first woman of color to the seat that includes representing the neighborhoods of East Boston. in the North End and Charlestown, As Campaign Manager for Coletta activated and mobilized a grassroots campaign consisting of a broad coalition of residents, unions, volunteers, and advocacy

See COLETTA Page 3

## **Elected officials of** color condemn hate directed at Mayor Wu

By John Lynds

There's a fine line between freedom of speech where one's opinion is expressed during a peaceful protest and using hateful and inflammatory language to express one's views.

Since implementing the city's vaccine mandate for all indoor venues in boston Mayor Michelle Wu has been exposed to some vile language from a group of anti-vaxxers that have camped outside her home as well as City Hall.

One can argue the language used against the City's first Asian-American female Mayor is not to express a point of view nor a disagreement with Wu's policies but language intended to intimidate.

"To have a chance at healing and building community, we can't keep normalizing hate," Wu recently tweeted. "They've shouted on megaphones

that my kids will grow up without a mom because I'll be in prison. Yesterday at dinner my son asked who else's birthday it was because the (morning) chant was "Happy Birthday, Hit-

Anti-vaxxers outside the Mayor's home have also been heard yelling "communist c---" and a "piece of s---," as she leaves for work in the morning and returns home at night.

At a recent press conference with Wu, City Councilor Ed Flynn, who was all too familiar with protesters outside his Southie home when his father, Ray, was Boston Mayor, said the attacks against Wu are different on many

"The level of intensity that's happening today wasn't there when my father was there, and I honestly believe some of it is

See HATE SPEECH Page 3



Superintendent Dr. Brenda Cassellius will leave her post at the end of the school year.

#### **BPS Superintendent Cassellius** to leave at end of the school year

By John Lynds

In May 2019 the Boston Public School Committee voted 5-2 to appoint Minnesoata's former Commissioner of Education Dr. Brenda Cassellius as BPS's new school superintendent. At the time Cassellius beat out two other finalists, Oscar Santos, Head of School for Cathedral 7-12 High School in Boston and Marie Izquierdo, Chief Academic Officer for Miami-Dade County Public Schools in Florida, for BPS's top

However, on Tuesday Dr. Cassellius sent her letter of resignation to Mayor Michelle Wu and Boston School Committee Chair

Jeri Robinson. Dr. Cassellius wrote she will transition out of her role as superintendent at the end of the 2021/2022 school year.

"Working alongside so many people - parents. educators, community and faith leaders, and philanthropic partners - all dedicated to helping our children achieve their dreams has given new meaning to my vision of all hands on deck," said Dr. Cassellius in a statement. "Together, we've laid a stronger foundation upon which BPS

See CASSELLIUS Page 2

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#### Candidates // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

York Del Rio eventually came from Massachusetts for graduate school.

"My husband and I chose Boston, specifically East Boston, as our home in 2016," she said. "We were facing this really uncertain future. I had actually just resigned from the job at the Consulate of Mexico here in Boston, due to a new rule that was requiring me to exchange my green card for a temporary visa. At the time my husband couldn't work as he was in the middle of a three year wait for his immigration paperwork, and was a student at Quincy College. So we were raising a one year old and we needed support and I'm very lucky to say that Boston provided that for us. We found a really supportive group of neighbors that helped both my husband and I find work".

Del Rio said the city

government always had her back and she thinks it's time that it has everyone's back in the same way.

"We're in a historic mo-

ment in our city where voters have been choosing change in recent years because I think we recognize the challenges that are in front of us require that we come together in a new way," said Del Rio. "I think that if we come together we can face these challenges head on. If I'm elected as your city councilor, I'm going to push the city to invest in housing and homeownership programs like the one that helped me. I want to see a housing information station and every high eviction area that provides people information about the right in their language. I also want us to fight for quality schools in each part of the district. I want

and push for increased investment in our school facilities. Lastly, I will push for an overhaul of our development process. I think the way we handle it is not transparent. It's forcing us to have a disjointed parcel by parcel one off conversations and it's disconnected from the people. So I want to advocate for a development process that's transparent and that brings neighbors in from the beginning and actually takes our voices into account"

Del Rio said she would also be a fighter on environmental justice issues in the District.

Coletta, who was Senator and District 1 Councilor Lydia Edwards Chief of Staff before leaving for a job with the New England Aquarium, was next up and outlined her reasons for running for the seat.

"I decided to run for this seat because I know

our best days are ahead of us and I want to protect, maintain and promote the vibrancy of these communities," said Coletta. "This district does face unique challenges and we need somebody who's going to be ready on day one andI believe I am that person. I think that's the defining difference in this race. Right now we're dealing with a compounding displacement crisis, both due to gentrification and development. We are also looking at, in the very near future, flooding that is going to impact over 11,000 people. It's going to be a priority of mine that the city is armed with millions of dollars of federal government resources for coastline infrastructure to fortify our coastline to meet the sea and become resilient to protect our communities."

Coletta, who worked to increase affordable housing in the district while working for Edwards said Boston is dealing with the housing affordability cri-

"I think that we can unlock every tool in our toolbox with zoning and various policies the way that we haven't tried with a former administration who was not friendly to us. We now have a mayor who sees the vision and wants planning to dictate development. We have so many opportunities to retry a lot of the things that we had started including this homeroom petition that I helped craft for the Zoning Board of Appeals. This petition helpinged to reform the Zoning Board of Appeals to be more responsive to residents and ensure that development isn't happening on a parcel

by parcel basis," Coletta said if elected she would be an "extremely responsive and accessible city councilor".

"It's really important that the next city councilor is also focused on the smaller nuts and bolts issues like trash, sidewalks and streets because auloit of life issues do add up and make a big impact on the lives of residents. I'm announcing here today that we're launching our "Walk and Roll" neighborhood sidewalk and street tour here in Harbor View. It's taking place on Sunday, February 20 at 10am. This is just an opportunity to review our streets, our sidewalks, trash, streetlights, and development projects to assess what's going on in our neighborhood. This is just an example of my commitment to constantly be present in this neighborhood and provide these opportunities for feedback and ideas from residents. So it would be an honor to represent you in the Boston City Council."

#### EBNHC // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

seniors in Eastie to live safely in their homes instead of in nursing homes. The Health Center has successfully implemented this national program to help seniors live with dignity and security at home by providing them the necessary support and services.

Before becoming interim CEO he served as Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of EBNHC.

"I think our board worked so hard to really work through a comprehensive process to identify the next leader," said Wilmot. "I'm really thrilled that they agreed that the leader would be me and I'm excited for this next chapter. I've had the opportunity to serve in these different capacities at the Health Center."

Wilmot said he has already hit the ground running due to close work over the years with Lopes. While he said he has some big shoes to fill he is bringing 'different shoes' to the leadership role at EBNHC.

"Manny (Lopes) has been a colleague, he's been a friend and served as a mentor on many things," said Wilmot. "Manny recruited me to the health center and we worked together in a variety of capacities. Before I came to the Health Center and when I worked for Boston Medical Center, and Mass General we had various touch points, and so I've known Manny in a few different contexts. So coming into the Health

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Center we shared many of the same decisions for healthcare. Because of my background in healthcare, where I worked with community health centers and my work in state government-working for the largest Medicaid health plan in the state, Manny felt those diverse experiences would bring a lot to this organization. I'd say I definitely have shoes to fill, but in many ways I'm bringing some different shoes as well."

to fight for universal Pre-K

After his promotion to COO in September 2020, Wilmot played a key role in helping to design and execute EBNHC's COVID-19 vaccination strategy, which resulted in over 100,000 doses administered in communities hit hardest by the pandemic. After being appointed to interim CEO in November, Wilmot has led the Health Center through the latest COVID surge.

"The pandemic story has been an evolving one," said Wilmot. "I will say our community should feel good about our response being done as part of a community effort. It took a village but our communities now have some of the highest vaccination rates as compared to any other kind of gateway community. So if you look at East Boston, Chelsea, Revere, the vaccination rates amongst Latinos in those communities were highest in the state. To date now it's over 150,000 doses of COVID vaccine administered. That work has really helped us to mitigate what

could have been a far more deadly period during the latest surge. We know that folks got sick but those who were vaccinated and boostered for sure help to mitigate the severity of illness. That work, while still not done because we are still in a surge, mattered for our communities and we were glad to be a part of it. I grew up here in Boston and worked in health care for the last two decades around issues involving health disparities. You can predictably identify how some of this could have gone so we really created a very proactive, intentional strategy to really address equitable access to the vaccines. We built out all of our plans with a strategic purpose to really support these communities, and particularly black and brown commu-

nities, ensuring equitable access to vaccines and that strategy worked." Wilmot added, "Now

we're in this next chapter but it continues and evolves and we're continuing to evolve with it in partnership with our community leaders and residents." Wilmot admits that

the ongoing pandemic has been taxing frontline healthcare workers that serve the Health Center and one of his first orders of business is to create an environment that supports their exhaustion and mental wellness.

"It's been two years now and it's definitely been an exhausting challenge for all of us," he said. "However, it has been particularly exhausting and challenging for our healthcare professionals that have had to work toward treating this disease while also working in a challenging environment. A lot because people are burnt out. We really want to prioritize their wellness. That's really the focus right now is making sure employees are supported, that they're continuing to have access to the resources they need to not just be great employees for the health center, but also can continue to just be well, both physically and mentally. So we're really focusing on employee wellness right now just keeping our staff as strong as possible so that we can be the strongest possible healthcare provider in our community for our patients."

Prior to joining EBNHC in 2017, Wilmot worked at AllWays Health Partners, a member of Mass Gener-

partner with Dr. Cassellius

this year and to build on

al Brigham, where he led the organization's Mass-Health Accountable Care Organization strategy and operations. Additionally, Wilmot previously served as Boston Medical Center's director of business development, where he partnered with clinical and administrative leaders at the hospital and across key partners to create new opportunities for growth and expand clinical services and quality goals. Wilmot also worked for former Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick's Executive Office of Health and Human Services as senior advisor and director of strategy and performance management and held various operational and management roles at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Mas-

## Cassellius // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

can continue to build."

In a letter released in tandem with her resignation Dr. Cassellius said while she loved Boston and her job it was time to move on. It is not uncommon for high level city officials to leave their post after the torch is passed to a new mayoral administra-

"When I arrived in Boston in July 2019, I couldn't have predicted that eight months later the world as we knew it would change," said Dr. Cassellius. "Since then we've confronted a global pandemic, reckoned with escalating racial division and civil unrest, and worked to redence in our city."

and grading policies," she

with Mayor Wu In the

BOSTON MEDICAL

coming months to ensure the incoming successor has a smooth and seamless

have work to do."

dergarten, tion rates in Minnesota.

violate the uniformity re-Dr. Cassellius said she quirement of the constitulooks forward to working

in the lawsuit.

"As I said when I arrived in Boston, this work requires all hands on deck," she said. "My hands - and my heart - will be fully committed to BPS until it is time to pass the baton. Until then, my sleeves are rolled up because we still

Before arriving in Boston Cassellius enacted comprehensive education reforms, including historic new funding for schools, enactment of all-day kinstate-funded preschool for 25,000 children, and has overseen historically high gradua-

the districts' boundaries

Cassellius was named

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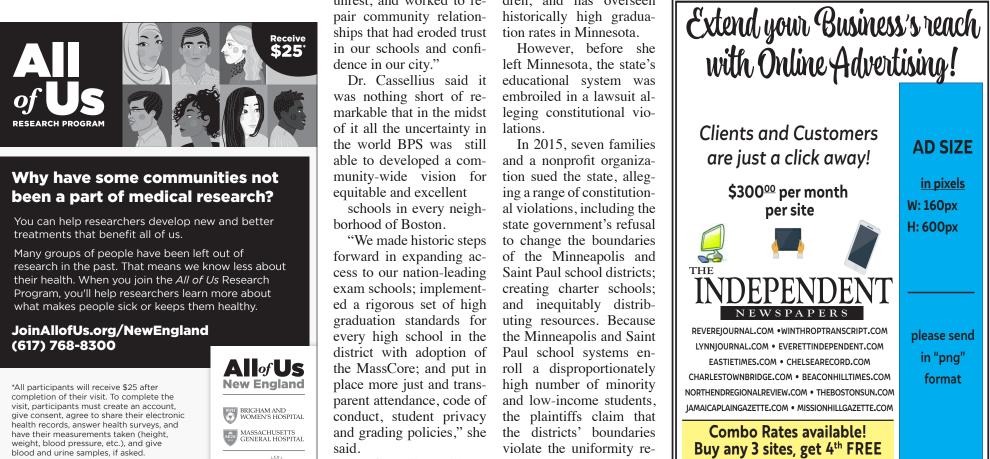
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and in life."

sachusetts.

this vision in the years to "Superintendent Brencome." da Cassellius has given School Committee Boston three years of Chair Robinson added, strong leadership and ser-"Boston owes Superintenvice, and we are a better dent Cassellius a tremencity for it," said Mayor dous debt of gratitude for Wu. "I am grateful for her transformational leadthe Superintendent's leadership and service on beership, especially while half of the city's children. navigating the COVID-19 Dr. Cassellius has been pandemic. Her vision and relentless in her focus on equity, never wavering in relentless focus as a chamher commitment to our pion for our young people and for equity has helped students and families. She BPS move forward on set an example for those of needed structural changes us who share her dreams within our district. I look that all BPS students have forward to continuing to equitable opportunities to



Staff Report

Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley (MA-07), alongside Congressman Mark DeSaulnier (CA-11) and Congresswoman Doris Matsui (CA-06), introduced legislation aimed at boosting and expanding mental health services for low-income children and families.

The Early Childhood Mental Health Support Act (H.R. 6509) would require the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to work with area experts to compile and make public evidence-based mental social-emotional, and behavioral health interventions for young children. The bill also provides grants to Head Start programs to implement these interventions in an effort to ensure every child has access to comprehensive health care.

"From poverty to housing, food, and health care insecurity, low-income children in my district are more vulnerable to trauma-inducing experiences that, when left unaddressed, can lead to health problems, relationship challenges, and

mental health and substance use disorders," said Congresswoman Pressley. "The Early Childhood Mental Health Support Act would provide critical resources to prevent and address childhood trauma for low-income children and families, using best practices and culturally-competent solutions. As we recover from this pandemic and the unprecedented emotional burden on young people, this bill would provide necessary early intervention to help children heal and thrive. I am proud to join Rep. DeSaulnier in introducing

this legislation and look forward to working with him to fight to pass this

"The importance of strong behavioral health support from an early age cannot be overstated," said Congressman DeSaulnier. "Like many families across the country, I have seen firsthand that the sooner children receive support, the better their outcomes. I am proud to work with Reps. Matsui and Pressley in ensuring these services are available at Head Start and other early education facilities, which will have a positive, lasting impact on the health and wellbeing of millions of children and families while helping to support teachers."

"Head Start programs have proven benefitsfrom academic achievement to improved social skills—that provide children with a strong foundation to grow and thrive in their earliest years," said Congresswoman Matsui. "Mental health is an important part of that foundation, and every Head Start location in the country should have access to the evidence-based tools and resources they need to best serve the behavioral health needs of children under five. I am proud to again join Congressman DeSaulnier in reintroducing the Early Childhood Mental Health Support Act, legislation that supports Head Start programs in carrying out this vision and expands access to mental and behavioral health care for young chil-

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that one in five children have a diagnosable mental disorder. Unfortunately, many of these children never receive a diagnosis and do not receive the behavioral health services they need. This lack of access to care can have serious consequences for children, contributing to learning challenges, difficulty forming meaningful relationships, and an increased likelihood of developing more serious mental illnesses later in life.

The Early Childhood Mental Health Support Act is supported by: National Alliance on Mental Illness, American Psychological Association, Massachusetts Head Start, Mental Health America, Trust for America's Health, Zero to Three, American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, First Five Years Fund, First Focus Campaign for Children, and Association of Maternal and Child Health

"Early intervention is

one of our best tools to

Programs.

help realize better outcomes for children at risk of developing mental health conditions. Increasing the availability of evidence-based interventions in school settings like Head Start programs is critical to helping children and families. NAMI is grateful to Congressman DeSaulnier for his leadership in bringing the Early Childhood Mental Health Support Act forward to increase the mental health services available to our nation's children," said Hannah Wesolowski, Chief Advocacy Officer of the National Alliance on

Mental Illness. "Early childhood is a critical period in development that sets the stage for long-term mental health. APA applauds Rep. DeSaulnier's leadership in promoting children's healthy social and emotional development by creating opportunities for Head Start centers to evidence-based interventions for parents and children through best practices, enhanced curricula and increased training," said Arthur C. Evans Jr., Ph.D., CEO of the American Psychological

Association. "These past two years have laid bare the immediate need for expanded evidence-based mental health supports for our Commonwealth's most vulnerable young children and families. Head Start and Early Head Start programs deserve access to all layers of interventions, resources, and funding to comprehensively wrap around children at this critical time," said Michelle Haimowitz, Executive Director of Massachusetts Head

Throughout her career, Congresswoman Pressley has been a tireless advocate for trauma-conscious policymaking. In June 2021, Rep. Pressley reintroduced the STRONG Support for Children Act, her landmark legislation that takes a holistic and community-based proach to addressing the growing crisis of child-

In December 2021, Rep. Pressley and Rep. Bonnie Watson Coleman (NJ-12) led their colleagues in urging President Biden and HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra to prioritize the needs of children who have lost parents and caregivers to COVID-19.

hood trauma.

In October 2021, Rep. Pressley, along with Reps Dina Titus (NV-01), David McKinley (WV-01) and Peter Meijer (MI-03). unveiled the Post-Disaster Mental Health Response Act, legislation to expand mental health supports for survivors of natural disasters and terrorist attacks that do not receive a "Major Disaster" declaration by the Federal Emergency Management Agency

(FEMA). In March 2021, Rep. Pressley sent a letter to President Biden calling on him to address the nation's growing trauma crisis and laying out a series of steps the administration should take to confront the far-reaching hurt plaguing our communities and our nation. In April, she published an op-ed where she reflected on the collective pain experienced by communities in her district

over the past year. In July 2019, Rep. Pressley worked Chairman Cummings to convene the first-ever Congressional hearings on childhood trauma. Watch Congresswoman Pressley's full question line and follow-up ques-

tions here and here. As a Boston City Councilor, she convened the Council's first-ever listening-only session to hear directly from those impacted by the trauma of community gun violence.

#### Weekly COVID positive test decreases for a straight month A month ago nearly 4 ed and 10.6 percent were

Citywide deaths decline

By John Lynds

The group of anti-vaxxers camped outside Mayor Michelle Wu's home are going to have to admit sooner rather than later that her vaccination mandate for indoor venues is working to combat the latest COVID surge in the

Less than a month after the mandate went into effect the infection numbers in both Eastie and across the city have been on a steady decline. The city's anti-vaxxers are going to have to come to the realization that the science is correct and being vaccinated against COVID is the best tool we have to end the pandemic. Those still unwilling to

get the vaccine should realize they are taking a big gamble with their lives by continuing to mix with the general public because the risk of severe disease among the unvaccinated is very real.

out of every 10 Eastie residents tested for the virus turned out to be positive but last week only 1.3 out of every 10 Eastie residents tested were positive.

Last week, 1,003 Eastie residents were tested for the virus last week and 12.8 percent were positive--this was a 38 percent decrease from the 20.6 percent that tested positive as reported by the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) on January 31. The weekly positive test rate has now decreased 56 percent in Eastie since January 24.

One hundred twenty eight additional Eastie residents contracted the virus between January 31 and February 7 and there are now 13,987 confirmed cases in the neighborhood since the start of the pandemic.

The citywide weekly positive test rate also decreased last week. According to the BPHC 18,703 residents were test**COVID** positive--this was a 38 percent decrease from the 17 percent that reportedly tested positive for the week ending on January 31. The weekly positive test rate has now decreased 56 percent in Boston since January 24.

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

Citywide positive cases of coronavirus increased 2.2 percent last week and went from 157,675 cases to 161,136 confirmed cases in a week.

There were 32 additional deaths in Boston from the virus in the past week and the total COVID deaths is now at 1,656. Deaths decreased 11 percent in Boston last week-four less than the 36 deaths reported by the BPHC two weeks ago.

#### Coletta // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1 groups numbering over

500 people.

Colette went on to serve as Edward's Chief of Staff before leaving for a job with the New England Aquarium last summer and serves as the Aquarium's External Relations Manager where she advocates for a more resilient, inclusive, and accessible

"She knows the district like the back of her hand," Edwards continued. "Whether by policy, project, or by pothole - she knows the work."

waterfront for all Bosto-

nians.

Edwards endorsement endorsements follows by Rep. Adrian Madaro, Councilor Kenzie Bok, former Councilor Felix Arroyo and current Councilor Ricardo Arroyo.

"The endorsement of my former boss and mentor, now State Senator Lydia Edwards, means a great deal to me," said Coletta. "I've had a front row seat to her advocacy and I've learned so much about how to effectively fight for this district. I intend to utilize the knowl- in Eastie this Saturday one residents, and advocate for what we deserve in City Hall."

Coletta will host a weekend of action with a door knocking event

edge I gained as chief of and in Charlestown on staff to uplift our commu- Sunday. The weekend of nities, to center the lived action will include help experiences of all district from Edwards and other elected officials that have endorsed Coletta's candidacy. Please visit gigi4district1.us/events to sign up and learn more.



former boss Senator Lydia Edwards. Edwards endorsed Coletta Tuesday for the seat she will vacate on April 30th.

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#### Hate speech // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

related to an anti-Asian sentiment that we have in this country," he said.

Since announcing the mandate Wu has been quoting as saying, "There's constant calls associating me with the same hateracist xenophobic language that the former president used in describing the virus and its origins and who was to blame." Senator/City Councilor

Lydia Edwards, who supported Wu for Mayor, was an early ally that jumped to the Mayor's defense. "Despite this recent rash of anger and hatred,

the majority of people voted for Michelle (Wu), who supported this vaccine passport mandated when she was a candidate. So I believe the majority of people in Boston support what is going on." However, the hateful

rhetoric hasn't seemed to slow prompting a coalition of Boston elected officials of color to condemn the hate directed at Wu.

Last week a letter signed by Edwards, Sen. Sonia Chang-Diaz; U.S. Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley; City Councilors

Julia Mejia, Ruthzee Loui-

jeune, Ricardo Arroyo,

Kendra Lara, Brian Wor-

rell and Tania Fernandes

Anderson; Suffolk County District Attorney Kevin Hayden; Suffolk County Sheriff Steven Tompkins; as well as State Representatives Russell Holmes, Brandy Fluker Oakley, Chynah Tyler, Liz Miranda, Jon Santiago, and Nika Elugardo condemning the ongoing threats of violence and hateful attacks directed Wu.

"From the halls of Congress, to the steps of the State House, to the chamber of Boston City Hall, we must be unapologetic in rooting out white supremacy, racism, misogyny and hate in all of its forms," read the letter. "Make no mistake, the relentless threats of violence and hateful attacks on Mayor Michelle Wu and her family have no place in our society and are a far cry from the political debate and peaceful dissent that is welcomed and necessary in a healthy democracy. Since beginning her term, Mayor Wu has met the moment and worked tirelessly to address many of the greatest challenges facing our communitiesincluding combatting the ongoing pandemic that

has robbed us of more

than 1,600 lives across the

City of Boston alone. It is

due to her brave and steadfast leadership, her commitment to science and the public health—including her common-sense and life-saving vaccine mandates—that the City of Boston is making necessary progress to combat this pandemic and protect our most vulnerable."

The group continued that to remain silent is to be complicit, and as elected officials of color across the City of Boston, they will not stand by and watch as openly racist, anti-Asian and sexist rhetoric is normalized in our community. "This type of vitriol,

toxicity and hate is far too common for women of color in politics, and we can't help but wonder if the same toxicity and vitriol would be directed at a mayor who wasn't a woman, a person of color, or an unapologetic history-maker like Mayor Wu is," they wrote. "We stand in solidarity with her and call for an immediate end to this dangerous and hateful behavior." Wu said she knows

the city is doing the right thing in order to curb the latest CVID surge. "I won't be intimidat-

ed out of doing the right thing," she said.

## East Boston

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#### THE 1887 ELECTORAL **COUNT ACT MUST BE AMENDED**

Americans always have taken for granted the sanctity and integrity of our electoral system. For decades, we routinely have sent observers to countries where democracy is a new thing to ensure that those nations conducted their elections on the up-and-up, using our electoral system as a model.

America's democratic process, we have assumed, is the gold standard for democracies around the world. We never considered that our own democracy, the world's oldest, was anything but rock-solid.

However, the 2020 Presidential election upended all of those assumptions. It turns out that what we had thought were firmly-embedded procedures are not so clear, and could be subject to a wide range of interpre-

This lack of clarity is thanks to an arcanely-worded statute, known as the 1887 Electoral Count Act.

The Act was enacted by Congress in 1887, 10 years after the disputed 1876 presidential election, in which several states submitted competing slates of electors and a divided Congress was unable to resolve the deadlock for weeks. Though it took Congress more than 10 years to finally pass the act, the effort to clarify some of the ambiguities contained in the Constitution concerning the Electoral College only served to create deeper ambiguities.

Up until 2020, there never had been a serious challenge to the results of a presidential election. However, as we all know by now, former President Donald Trump, aided and abetted by a large number of members of Congress, attempted to use the lack of clarity in the Electoral Count Act to overturn the Electoral College results of five states.

Fortunately, Trump's shenanigans -- as usual -were neither well-organized nor well-focused. Further, vice-president Mike Pence was not willing to be a participant in Trump's charade.

However, Trump's gambit brought to the attention of legal scholars and our elected officials the potential for unscrupulous -- and better-organized -- actors to wreak havoc with our democratic process. All of us have come to realize that the guard rails that we had thought existed to protect our democratic norms are nothing more than a chimera.

Amending the 1887 Electoral Count Act is a non-partisan issue. Future Democrats are equally as likely as future Republicans to try to exploit the weaknesses of the act to the detriment of our democracy.

We urge both of our U.S. Senators, Ed Markey and Elizabeth Warren, as well as our members of Congress, to join with Republican colleagues such as Maine Senator Susan Collins to amend the act expeditiously.

In view of the events that took place in the aftermath of the 2020 election, this is the most urgent business that Congress can undertake in order to preserve the viability of our democracy.

#### A SILVER LINING TO INFLATION

We saw a report on the news the other night about the effect that inflation is having on food prices thanks to supply chain issues that have arisen during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The report highlighted that inflation is taking a bite (no pun intended) out of Americans' wallets because of higher prices for items such as bacon, snack foods, and soft drinks.

"That's a bad thing?" we thought to ourselves.

Americans are among the most obese and unhealthiest people in the world principally because we eat bad food -- and lots of it. The average American male today weighs 30 pounds more than the average male did 50 years ago and the average American woman today weighs as much as the average man did 50 years ago. The single-biggest risk factor -- after old age -- for a poor prognosis for a COVID-19 patient is being overweight.

In our view, if the direct and indirect effects of COVID-19 have the result of forcing Americans to cut back on our consumption of highly-processed and junk foods, then that would be at least one good thing to come out of the otherwise ongoing tragedy of the pandemic.

## Your opinions, please

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

> Our fax number is **781-485-1403**. Letters may also be e-mailed to

editor@eastietimes.com. Letters must be signed. We reserve the right to edit for length and content.



# Forum



#### GUEST OP-ED

#### You can at least say howdy

By Dr. Glenn Mollette

"Howdy," was a common everyday word where I grew up. Raised on old Stidham, now known as Milo road in rural Appalachia, I spent a lot of time at my Grandpa and Grandma Hinkle's store. People came and went buying gasoline, sandwich meat, snacks or groceries for the week. There were cane bottom chairs in the store. Often people would sit and chat for a while.

Regardless of how many times during the week I walked down the road to that store, the opening salutation was typically, "howdy."

People were in and out of the Hinkle store doing business. A family member was often coming or going because my grandparents had raised ten children and there were many grandchildren who frequented the Hinkle business. Often, family members were buying a

We grew up on Milo speaking to most everyone who came and went. When a car drove by, we usually waved even though we didn't always know them. At family or church gatherings we typically talked to everyone for a minute or two and shook hands or hugged a few people.

The only time I can remember our family being speechless was when fifteen or twenty of us were sitting on the porch and a man from New York City pulled up in an older car. My grandpa had received an advertisement in the mail about a great used car he could buy for \$500. He ordered the car to surprise my grandma and we were all really surprised when this man pulled in front of the store in an old beat up looking car. He had driven the car from New York City, which was a long drive on those roads back then. After being drop jaw stunned silent for a few

soda pop or just stopping minutes, everyone loosin to say "howdy." ened up and eventually started talking to the man who was just doing a job but now had to get back to New York. By this time, some of us were chuckling just a little. A couple of the family members took the guy over to Kermit, West Virginia to catch a Greyhound bus to begin his long journey back home.

> A part of American culture has been hand shaking and embracing those we know. A part of most American religious gatherings has been shaking hands. One church I attended insisted on everybody hugging each other.

Covid-19 has impacted our world with death, sickness and business failures. The distancing for many of us continues to be tough. We wear our masks and seldom know who else is in the grocery store. We're fearful of going to the funeral home to honor and respect the deceased. Shaking hands or embracing anyone anywhere is

typically totally unwelcome. Many holiday parties of large gatherings were fewer over the past holidays. People don't want to be sick and so the distancing continues.

We do have the telephone, social media and email which helps us at least stay connected.

However, please keep in mind, when you do recognize someone at the grocery or any public place you may not feel comfortable embracing or shaking hands, but you can still convey a greeting and kindness by at least saying "howdy."

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.

#### **LETTER** to the Editor

#### GABRIELA COLETTA IS THE FIGHTER WE NEED FOR EAST BOSTON, CHARLESTOWN, & THE NORTH END

Dear Editor,

I have written many political endorsements, including for a U.S. Senator and several state representatives. But this is the hardest endorsement I have ever written, not because I lack words of praise or examples of her work ethic, but because I have never been so deeply connected to the person I am endorsing or the office that person is seeking. I currently hold this office. I know the job and know what it takes.

I am proudly endorsing my former Chief of Staff, Gabriela Coletta, to be our next District 1 City Councilor.

Gabriela Coletta is the most prepared, competent, and capable person to be the next City Councilor. She is uniquely qualified for the job. She came out

of Boston Public Schools,

worked in government,

and has done incredible work fighting to ensure Boston's waterfront is truly a waterfront for all. Prior to being my Chief of staff she attended community meetings for two years listening and learning the concerns of our community and also focused on bringing more women into politics by running the Massachusetts Women's Political Cau-

As my first Chief of staff, she demonstrated unmatched commitment, compassion, and drive, and proved she is ready to do the work of a city councilor.

The Chief of Staff is everywhere the councilor goes and everywhere the councilor cannot go. She is up before and goes to bed after the councilor. She hires, coaches, and guides the staff. The Chief has set each table for easy and hard conversations; she knows the district like the back of her hand. Whether by project or by pothole she knows the

work. Coletta has been

able to learn from my mis-

takes and she has been key

to my successes. She was there for the toughest moments of this district and the biggest fights.

In the last four years, our city saw a national racial awakening and a pandemic. I can't say what will come up in the next several years but I can assure you there is one person who is ready to deal with whatever comes our way and that is Gabriela

See LETTERS Page 5

#### Times-Free Press DIRECTORY

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#### **OBITUARIES**

#### Winifred McDonald

Of Saugus, formerly of East Boston

Winifred M. (Forster) McDonald, 95, of Saugus, formerly of East Boston, died February 5 at the Nevins Nursing Center in Methuen.

Born and raised in East Boston, she was born June 18, 1926 to the late Charles D. Winifred L. (Doherty) Forster.

Mrs. McDonald raised her family in Saugus and most recently lived in Lynnfield and Dracut. She had a 40-year working career in various administrative positions at the Suffolk County Private Court, the Saugus General Hospital, Fisher Scientific and Melrose-Wakefield Hospital. She had also been a soloist at St. Joseph Church in East Boston and St. Margaret's in Saugus. Mrs. McDonald enjoyed lifetime pleasures of arts and crafts, especially ceramics, attending theater, traveling and most of all, spending time with family and friends.

She was the beloved wife of the late Robert J. McDonald, Sr., the loving mother of Barbara A. Green and her husband, Michael of Barrington, RI, Mary C. Berninger and her husband, Thomas of East Boston, Ellen L. Faiella and her Husband, William of Dunstable, and Robert J. McDonald, Jr. and his wife,

Mary Ellen of Lynnfield; the sister of the late

Frederick J. Cornetta of

The devoted husband of

East Boston passed away

the late Clementina (Le-

one) Cornetta, he was the

beloved father of Lisa Mc-

Carthy and her husband,

Paul Sr. of Winthrop and

Karen Bernabei and her

husband, Dennis of New

Hampshire; dear brother

of the late Rose Cornetta,

Raffaela Basile and Hilda

Faulkner and cherished

grandfather of Paul Mc-

Carthy Jr., Dennis Bern-

abei Jr., Vanessa Bernabei

thy. He is also survived by

many loving nieces and

honor Frederick's life by

gathering at the Ruggiero

Family Memorial Home,

971 Saratoga Street, Bos-

ton on Friday, February

11 from 8:30 to 10:30

a.m. before leaving in pro-

cession to Sacred Heart

Church, East Boston, for

Family and friends will

nephews.

Michaela McCar-

on February 5.

Frederick Cornetta Often seen at Eddie C's in East Boston



Charles D. Forster, Jr. and Charles J. Reagan. She is also survived by 11 grandchildren and five great grandchildren as well as several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Her Funeral Mass will be celebrated in Bless-Sacrament Church, 14 Summer St, Saugus, on Friday at 11 a.m. Visitation for relatives and friends will be at the Mc-Donald Funeral Home, 19 Yale Ave., Wakefield, MA on Thursday from 4 to 7 p.m. Interment, Holy Cross Cemetery, Malden.

Covid restrictions: In accordance with town and church guidelines as well as the wishes of the family, masks are required at the funeral home and church.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to National MS Society, PO Box #91891, Washington, D.C. 20090 or to PKU Awareness National PKU Alliance, Inc., 2809 E. Hamilton Ave., #311, Eau Claire, WI 54701.

a 11 a.m. mass. Services

will conclude with Fred-

erick being laid to rest at

Holy Cross Cemetery in

Malden with his loving

seen at Eddie C's in East

Boston. He will be missed

by all. To leave an online

condolence, please vis-

be made in Frederick's

name to Care Dimen-

sions, 75 Sylvan Street,

Suite B-102, Danvers MA

In lieu of flowers me-

donations

it www.ruggieromh.com

Frederick was often

#### Jean Cogliano

Graduate of East Boston High School,

Class of 1972

Jean M. Cogliano, 67, Oceanside Avenue East, York Beach, Maine, passed away on Tuesday, February 1 in York Hos-

She was born January 1, 1955 in Boston, daughter of Mary Lou (Goglia) Cogliano and the late Frank J. Cogliano Sr. Jean graduated from

East Boston High School, class of 1972 where she studied Business Education. By 1976, Jean moved to her permanent location in York Beach, Maine. She had started as a Sales Associate working at the Timberland Outlet in Kittery and then to a Senior Customer Service Specialist for Timberland LLC. in Stratham, NH for many years.

While residing Maine, her popular phrase became her vanity license plate "HYAHUN". She made plenty of friends wherever she went including her love to laugh and never ending tan on Long Sands. Besides her plethora of friends, she was very close to her family and dedicated any time available to her four grandnieces which were her enduring world, from sleep overs, attending musicals, playing cards to the little things like picking up assorted rocks. Leaving this last quote to them "I'll always remember my girls not only my nieces, but my best friends who made



Besides her mother, Mary Lou Cogliano of East Boston, she leaves two brothers, Frank J. Cogliano Jr. and his wife, Eileen of York, ME and Jerry J. Cogliano of East Boston; a nephew Steven Cogliano and his wife, Ashley and their children, Jasmine and Arianna of Wells, Maine and a niece, Jennifer Vieu and her husband, Jeremy and their children, Gianna and Kayleigh of York, Maine.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to one of her two her top organizations: American Cancer Society or Autism Speaks.

A Funeral Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. on Saturday, February 19 in St. Christopher Church, 4 Barrell Lane, York, Maine.

Interment will be private in Woodlawn Cemetery, Everett.

Lucas & Eaton Funeral Home, York, Maine is directing arrangements. Visit www.lucaseatonfuneralhome.com for online condolences.

#### **Mary Roach**

Known for her strength, will and compassion

Mary (DeRuosi) Roach, a lifelong resident of East Boston, passed away peacefully on February 4 at the age of 91.

Fondly referred to as "Auntie Mary" by many, Mary devoted her time to her family and friends. She was known for her strength, will and compassion. She enjoyed playing cards with her sister, Dolores, taking walks to Central Square for errands, and gathering with friends. She will be missed by all. The beloved wife of the late Allan Roach, she was the devoted mother of the late Allan and Joseph Roach, adored aunt and second mother to Salvatore LaMattina and his wife, Lisa, of East Boston, Robert LaMattina of New Hampshire, David LaMattina of New Hampshire, John LaMattina of East Boston, Toni Guaetta of Peabody and Richard DeRuosi of Revere; dear sister of the late Dolores LaMattina, Sue DeRosa and Joseph, Angelo, Richard, David, Salvatore, Anthony, Peter and Sylvester DeRuosi. She leaves behind her granddaughgreat-grandchildren, and many great-nieces and nephews. Family and friends will honor Mary's life by gathering at Sacred Heart Church, 45 Brooks

St., East Boston on Sat-

urday, February 12 at 10

a.m. for a Funeral Mass in

celebration of Mary's life.

Services will conclude

with Mary being laid to

rest with her husband and

her son at Holy Cross

Cemetery in Malden. In

lieu of flowers, memorial

donations may be made

to HarborCOV, P.O. Box

org in support of survivors

Chelsea,

www.harborcov.

505754

02150,



of domestic violence and their families. For more information or to send online condolence, visit www.ruggieromh. com or call 617-569-0990.

7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Alfred V. Siciliano Jr.

February 10, 2015 - February 10, 2022 Today's the anniversary

of the day that I lost you. And for a time, it felt, as though My life had ended too.

And now I face each day with hope and happy memories to help me on the way.

But loss has taught me many

And though I'm full of sadness, that you're no longer here, Your influence still guides me, And I still feel you near.

What we shared will never die, it lives within my heart. Bringing strength and comfort While we are apart.

Love You Always, Wife Karen, Sons Al, John, Jason,& their families Anniversary Mass celebrated on Sunday, Feb. 13, 2022 at 12 noon at Saint Anthony's

Church in Revere

Letter // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

On May 3, 2022, I ask

that Charlestown, the North End, and East Boston show up and vote for Gabriela so that she can get back to working for us. This district is my home and I have loved to represent it. It is a uniquely strong district, with three distinct neighborhoods united by a waterfront. It has been my greatest honor to serve these neighborhoods, to fight for them, and to learn from them for over four years. But I didn't do it alone. Gabriela Coletta was always there. Together we fought to serve and then served Charlestown, East Boston and the North End. We

love these communities. To my friend and former Chief, I am so very proud of you, who you are and your incredible growth. It's time to step out in front and lead the district you have served so much. It's your time to help others shine and be

listen, follow your heart, trust your gut and don't let the highs get too high or the lows get too low because at the end of the day, it is a privilege to serve. Signed, your friend,

Always remember to

former boss, current Senator and future constituent, Lydia



#### 8th Anniversary Rich Ford 2-9-2014 2-9-2022

The day you left it broke our hearts. Not just a crack it broke in two... Filled with love just for you. That love's not gone Is kept safe inside... But when you left part of us died. We want to remember The bonds we share... But the pain in our hearts is so hard to bear. We miss you so much and more, everyday... And love you much more than words, can ever say.

1st Year Anniversary

We love you and miss you so much,

Dad, Mom, and Jennifer

#### **Dolores** (DeRuosi)LaMattina Oct. 20, 1935 ~ Feb.10, 2021



Always Loved and Sadly Missed.. The LaMattina family



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## **OBITUARIES**

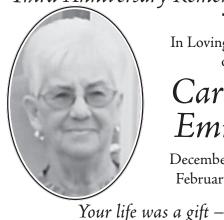
All obituaries and death notices will be at a cost of \$150.00 per paper. Includes photo. No word Limit.

Please send to obits@reverejournal.com

or call 781-485-0588

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01923.



In Loving Memory

Carol E. Emmett

December 25 1936 February 1, 2019

A growing and loving gift You left with us. You still live in our hearts -In the happiness we all knew, &

in the dreams we all shared... She will always be remembered...forever in our hearts, thoughts, and prayers

Love,

Your Husband & Sons

o • e+&e+ e+&e+ e+&e+ e+&e+ e+&e+ e+&e+ e+&e+ e+&e+ e+&e



Happy Valentines Way Grandma Lousie Love Charlotte



Happy Valentine's Way Wadda & Mana! Love, Kinsley Jae xoxo



Happy Valentine's Pay Sophia & Ava Mauro



Happy Valentine's Way Isabella Walsh

Mana, Happy Valentie's Way We love you Love Lawren, Joe, Frank, Paul Steph, Jenn Sam & Katie,



Happy Valentine's Way Birthday Auntie Karen Love Roman



Happy Valentine's Way, Auntie Woreen Auntie Loreen, Uncle John Love Roman



Pay! Love You Mom — Abigail



Happy Valentine's May Papa — Alianora, Emmalia and Noah Wurbano



Life is filled with lots of things that make it all worthwhile, but none is better than your little smile! Thank you for filling my life with love! Happy Valentine's day Mikayla!



Happy Heavenly Valentine's Way, Ma & Johnny, Love Woreen

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#### EBHS HOCKEY FALLS TO MATIGNON



GO GET IT: East Boston's Robert Kubinec (9) and Matignon's Michael Loguidice go after a loose puck.



against a shot by Matignon's Paul Magalhaes.



Photos by Bob Marra

urday at Stoneham Arena.

Matignon rolled to an 11-0 win over East Boston Sat-

HARD HIT: East Boston's Vinny Almeida takes a hit along the boards as he pursues a loose puck



KICK SAVE: East Boston goalie Jacob Thomas kicks a shot





ON THE MARK: Michael Noonan (20) follows through on a shot on net.



STICK SCRAMBLE: East Boston's Vinny Almeida (7) tries to steal the puck from Matignon's Alex Fucile.



MAKING AN ADVANCE: East Boston's Matt Griffin (6) eyes a

path through center ice.

EYES ON IT: East Boston's Seamus Sullivan (16) and a Matignon skater watch a puck slide out of their reach.

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#### 

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Not responsible for typographical errors. We have the right to limit quantities.

#### No slowdown on theft of Prius catalytic converters in Eastie neighborhoods

At Monday night's Harbor View Neighborhood Association meeting, Boston Police Community Officer Tommy Dominico reported that catalytic converters are still being stolen at a record clip from Toyota Prius owners living in East Boston

The issue came to light last year when two catalytic converters were stolen on the same night in the Orient Heights section of the neighborhood with thieves making off with the expensive part in less than a minute.

"The issue of theft of catalytic converter converters from these vehicles is still ongoing," said Dominico at Monday night's meeting. "Before I left the station for this meeting there was a gentleman at the front desk reporting yet another

theft so it is happening on a regular basis (in the neighborhood."

A car's catalytic converter acts to decrease the harmful chemicals in car emissions and the theft of these parts from Toyota Priuses are on the rise here and nationally.

Apparently thieves target these devices on the underside of cars because they contain valuable metals that act as oxidation catalysts that are mandated to reduce pollution.

The Prius catalytic converters contain platinum, palladium and rhodium and thieves can pocket up to \$200 per converter and it takes only minutes for a skilled thief to cut it from underneath the car. All the thief needs is a reciprocal saw and a steady hand. Experts believe it takes 2 to 3

minutes to pull off the heist. This type of crime has

gotten so bad that online manufacturers sell metal plates to cover the catalytic converters, which make them more difficult to steal. Those parts are rarely covered by insurance and retail at around \$440 installed. While they're pricey they are cheaper than the cost to replace a stolen one. Even with insurance a replacement cost around \$500. Without insurance, it could cost a Prius owner \$3.000 or more to replace.

It has gotten so bad that many Prius owners have asked Toyota to recall Priuses and install the metal plates that should have been there to begin with to protect converters.

Police urge residents to call 911 if they see someone at two or three o'clock in the morning underneath a vehicle as the crimes usually occur in the early morning hours.

#### **LOCAL STUDENT** EARNS ACADEMIC HONORS

#### PERKINS ON **DEAN'S LIST AT SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE**

Springfield College has named Josiah Perkins from East Boston to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2021 fall semester. Perkins has a primary major of Sport Management.

The criteria for selection to the Dean's List are as follows: The student must have completed a minimum of 12 credit hours of graded coursework for the term, exclusive of "P" grades. The student must not have any incompletes or missing grades in the designated term. The student must have a minimum semester grade average of 3.500 for the term.

Springfield College is an independent, nonprofit,

coeducational founded in 1885. Approximately 4,100 students. including 2,500 full-time undergraduate students study at its main campus in Springfield, Mass., and at its regional campuses across the country. Springfield College inspires students through the guiding principles of its Humanics philosophy - educating in spirit mind, and body for leadership in service to others.

#### **EBCCS** participating in the National School Lunch Program

Special to the Times

East Boston Central Catholic School currently participates in the National School Lunch Program. As part of this program, EBCCS offers healthy meals every school day to our students at NO COST due to the Nationwide Waiver to Allow the Seamless Summer Option through School Year 2021-2022. Students will be able to participate in these programs without having to pay a fee or submit a household application. You may contact the school at 617-567-7456 or visit us at www.ebccs.org to enroll now.

Non-Discrimination Statement:

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conduct-

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guages other than English. To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Pro-

Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: https://www.usda.gov/ oascr/how-to-file-a-program-discrimination-complaint, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: 1. mail: U.S. De-

partment of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Av-

enue, SW Washington,

20250-9410; fax: (202) 690-

7442; or email: program.

intake@usda.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provid-

#### Lewis joins Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston as new Nicholas President and CEO vironments, quality expe-

Staff Report

Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston (BGCB) has named seasoned non-profit and community leader Robert Lewis Jr. as its new Nicholas President and CEO. Lewis will become the 16th leader of the organization in its 129-year history of youth development in the Boston area. He begins his term Mon-

day, March 14, 2022. Across its nine clubs in Boston, BGCB provides young people with affordable access to physically and emotionally safe en-

riences, ongoing relationships with caring adults, and enriching opportunities. In 2021, 99 percent of high school seniors in BGCB's programming graduated, with 98 percent being accepted to college or trade school and 2 percent securing jobs or internships.

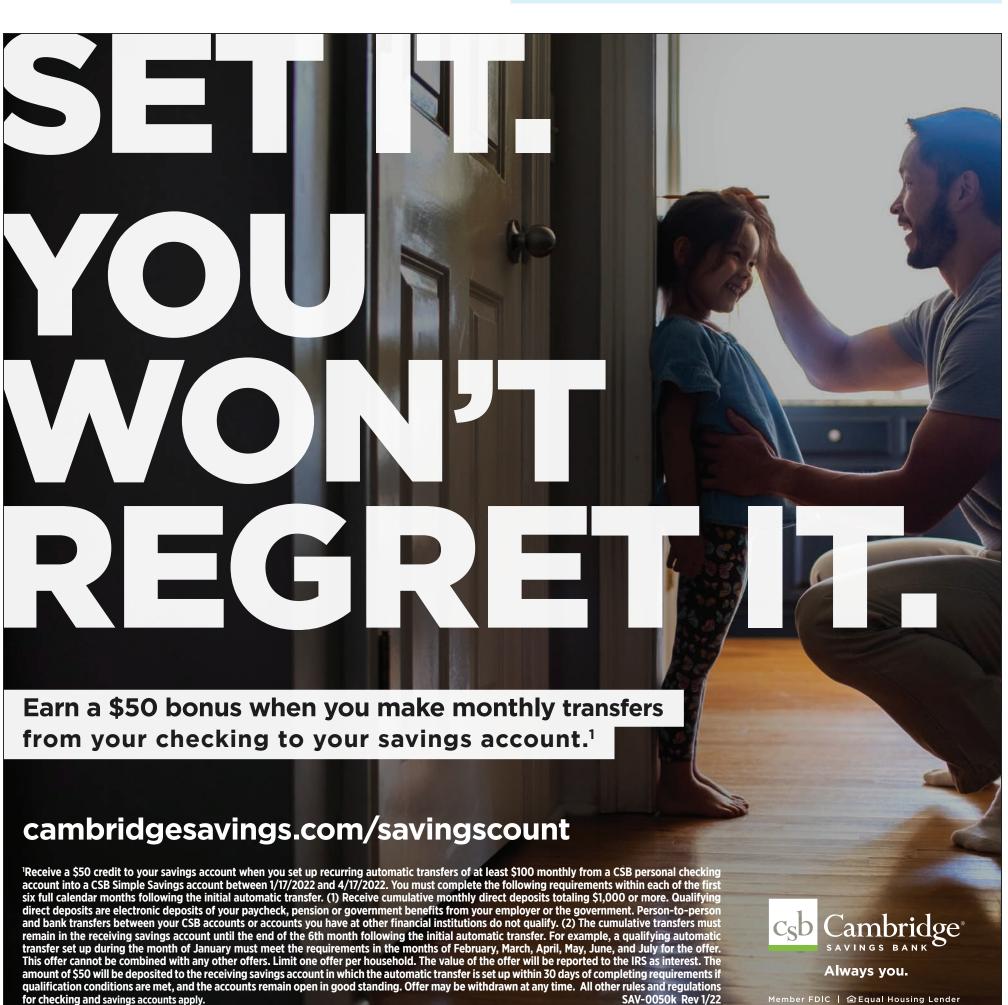
Lewis joins BGCB from The BASE, an organization he founded in 2013 to harness the untapped potential of urban talent and build pathways to success through a passion for sports. Over the

past nine years as Founder and President, Lewis has driven the organization's expansion to include boys and girls, multiple sports including eSports – and college prep and career counseling, as well as to address barriers its participants face, including inequities, mental health, food insecurity and access to education. The BASE's successful model has inspired the development of similar programs across the country.

"It truly takes a village

See BGCB Page 11

For Advertising Rates, Call the office at 781-485-0588



#### EBHS TRACK TEAM COMPETES AT ANNUAL CITY LEAGUE TRACK CHAMPIONSHIP



Members of the EB High track team get together for a team photo after participating in the city league track championship on Tuesday, Feb. 2 at the Reggie Lewis Track Center in Roxbury.



Sophomore Adem Ayed took Third Place in both the 1-mile and 2-mile runs, as well as Second Place in the 1,000.



junior Arisai Cordova took Third Place in both the 1-mile and 2-mile runs, as well as Second Place in the 4x4, running as anchor leg.



Jaye Kinecade, Shot put - Second Place, Michael Portillo Senior Captain Shot put - First Place, qualified for state meet and Jeremy Nunez Pina - senior shot put in Fifth

### Resilient Mystic Collaborative releases **Equity-based Climate Assessment**

The Resilient Mystic Collaborative (RMC) has released the results of a two-year groundbreaking research project involving six cities and 13 infrastructure managers to identify and manage risks to Greater Boston's critical infrastructure from a potential major coastal storm. The Lower Mystic Regional Climate Assessment involved over 400 residents and workers most at risk of harm from infrastructure failure and identified how a hypothetical coastal storm, termed "Big Papi", would impact Lower Mystic Watershed communities.

In 2020, six Lower Mystic Watershed communities—Charlestown, East Boston, Chelsea, Everett, Revere, Somerville and Winthrop—secured a \$390,000 regional Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness grant to understand the critical investments needed to fortify storm harden regional infrastructure from a major coastal hurricane or Nor'easter. This grant and a second grant from the Barr Foundation, allowed Arup, All Aces, the Mystic River Watershed Association, CH Consulting and six community-based organizations to produce the assessment. The six community based organizations – La Comunidad, GreenRoots, Harborkeepers, Community Action Agency of Somerville, Somerville Community Development Corporation, and TCGT entertainment, were intentionally place-based within the six

municipalities to ensure

trusted community en-

gagement.

"With climate change causing more frequent extreme weather, we have to plan for how to best protect our communities, especially our residents who are most vulnerable to the effects of extreme weather," said Somerville Mayor Katjana Ballantyne. "Information from this climate assessment has already helped us update our own Hazard Mitigation Plan and will be valuable in our continued work to center equity in our climate change mitigation planning." By completing the dual

climate assessment, one focused on infrastructure and the other on social vulnerability, municipalities gained valuable insight from key infrastructure managers and Greater Boston's vulnerable residents and workers - including: • The most substantial

- infrastructure damage (i.e., cost and time to repair) would be to the Amelia Earhart Dam, Harbor Tunnels, Blue and Orange MBTA Lines and several community health centers. • Underlying social risk
- factors included speaking limited English and being a person of color, Latinx or low-income. These residents tended to be concentrated in East Boston, Chelsea, Revere and Everett, the same locations where the majority of the critical infrastructure is located. • Vulnerable communi-
- ties had fragile mutual aid networks and an overly optimistic expectation of government readiness and response. Residents were unclear where to go to get the information needed to stay safe and worried

about their cell networks

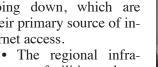
- going down, which are their primary source of internet access.
- structure facilities vulnerable residents and workers most relied on were public transit and safe walking routes, cell phone/electricity to access the internet and community health centers.

When Superstorm Sandy hit New York and New Jersey, it caused lasting physical damage to the region's and economic and personal damage to possibly millions of residents and workers. The Boston metropolitan region was lucky to escape such detrimental impacts from Sandy, though the storm still left thousands without power. The Lower Mystic is home to the most concentrated of critical infrastructure north of New York. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) recognizes 16 critical infrastructure as lifeline sectors "whose assets, systems, and networks, whether physical or virtual, are considered so vital to the United States that their incapacitation or destruction would have a debilitating effect on security, national economic security, national public health or safety, or any combination thereof."

Of these 16 lifeline sectors, the Lower Mystic is host to at least five: • Transportation: Lo-

- and Callahan tunnels
- New England Produce Center • Energy: Over 100 fuel

storage tanks, the Lower



infrastructure, assembly

- gan Airport, three MBTA rail lines, the Ted Williams • Food distribution: the



PHOTO BY MIKE PETERSO

Orange line yard in the Lower Mystic River Watershed. Mystic Generating Station cading health and econom-

 Wastewater management: Deer Island Wastewater Treatment Plant • Dam: Amelia Earhart

The Lower Mystic is also one of the North-

east's densest residential areas, with tremendous socioeconomic diversity, wealth disparities, and environmental justice concerns. For example, Everett and Chelsea are two of only six areas in the state where 100% of residents live in an environmental justice block group, as defined by the state. "The pandemic made

clear to the public how low-income residents and workers of color are often the first and worst to be affected by major public health emergencies. Unfortunately they are also among the most at risk from extreme weather such as big coastal storms. I'm glad to see this assessment focus on their needs first and foremost," said Antonio Amaya, Executive Director of La Comunidad in Everett.

One of the RMC's highest priority is to storm-harden critical re-

gional infrastructure so

that extreme weather

events don't lead to cas-

ic losses for our residents and workers who can least afford them. By centering social vulnerability and listening to the lived experience of residents and workers expected to be most negatively affected by damage to critical regional infrastructure, this assessment shifts the central question from "How much real estate value is at risk?" to "Who among us stands to lose the most?"

"The Big Papi exercise was extremely helpful to our thinking about what we need to do to prepare for Boston's own Superstorm Sandy or Hurricane Maria. We have looked at our own vulnerabilities, but had to make assumptions about those of other systems," said Ste-Estes-Smargiassi, Director of Planning and Sustainability at Massachusetts Water Resources Authority. "Going through a simulated big storm with the other infrastructure managers helped us all identify cascading effects and how the loss of electricity, fuel, transportation, or communications would

affect our staff, our cus-

tomers, and our ability to

Now, the RMC munic-

stay on line."

ards we face."

findings,

summary, is available https://resilient.mysticriver.org/lower-mystic-learn-more/#lowermysticassessment.

projects to address key findings and recommendations, ensuring to focus on the primary needs of vulnerable people in the Lower Mystic. "The Lower Mystic

Regional Climate Assess-

ment reveals opportunities

for Massachusetts' envi-

ronmental justice com-

munities most impacted

by climate change to be

engaged in informing ac-

tions to reduce the impact

of climate emergencies,"

said Dr. Atyia Martin,

CEO & Founder of All

Aces, Inc. "All Aces was

proud to partner with the

RMC on this critical proj-

ect. We urge policymakers

and community leaders to

carefully consider these

results and take the nec-

essary steps to ensure that

efforts to strengthen resil-

ience center those dispro-

portionately bearing the

burden of threats and haz-

More detail on key

tions and analysis, in-

cluding an executive

recommenda-

ipalities are developing

#### **NEWS FROM AROUND** THE REGION

#### MORE LIQUOR LICENSES TO BE ADDED

CHELSEA - With up to six new on-site liquor licenses expected to come the city's way, the Chelsea Licensing Commission is looking at ways to make sure a diverse array of businesses have a fair shot at those potential licenses.

The additional liquor licenses would be the result of Chelsea's population growth in the 2020 US Census.

"We're looking at how to get variety, diversity, and to different areas of Chelsea," said City Solicitor Cheryl Watson Fisher. "So we've proposed to do this as an RFP (request for proposals), meaning everybody brings in applications as opposed to a first-come, first-serve basis where some people would hear about it sooner than others."

Fisher presented a draft of the RFP process to the Licensing Commission last month. The commission is expected to take a closer look at it before taking a potential vote on the process at its February meeting.

Night clubs are not allowed in Chelsea, so Fisher said the on-site licenses would be for restaurants or bars.

By going through an RFP process, Fisher said the city can help bring a greater diversity of restaurant types and ownership to the city.

"We want to be able to ... let everybody know that anyone thinking of a brick and mortar restaurant or bar that this is out there and available to them and it's not \$50,000,

which is what some people are selling them for," said Fisher. "We want everyone to be able to come purchase liquor licenses from the city."

Fisher said the census numbers have to be finalized before Chelsea officially knows how many additional liquor licenses it will be getting.

Once the liquor licenses do become available, Fisher said it would likely be a month or two process to allow applications to come in and be reviewed by the Licensing Commission.

Licensing Commissioner Marnie MacAlpine said she wanted to make sure there is enough time given to spread the word about the application process.

"If the whole point of this is to diversify and make sure we are getting a good mix of businesses in the city, we want to make sure there is enough time for people to put together a good proposal to get to us for review, and it's not just people who are catching wind of this early," said MacAlpine.

Fisher said the final application process will also include questions about job creation, location, description of the business, and noise control measures.

"We're just thinking of some new ideas to better our quality of life around these restaurants and bars," said Fisher.

Chelsea Police Captain Keith Houghton said the new RFP process will be an effective measure to help prevent phantom transfers, where a liquor license is basically transferred to a new company that still has the same

ownership as the previous license holder.

"I think this can transform the city greatly," said Houghton.

Licensing Commission Chair Emily Cherniack asked if the RFP process would be used for current licenses that become available.

"If we get a new one, it could be up to you to have an RFP if it is not transferred to someone," said Fisher. "Nine times out of 10 in Chelsea, they find a buyer."

In other business, the commission approved the request of GreenStar Herbals on Beacham Street to do away with the appointment requirement for its retail marijuana business.

Houghton noted that there is ample parking on site and there have not been issues with traffic related to the business.

#### **COUNCIL LOOKS** AT LONGEVITY FOR **MAYOR**

EVERETT - The Everett City Council's Committee on the Whole met last week and voted by a 6-4 margin to implement a new longevity payment schedule that would pay Mayor Carlo DeMaria \$1,700 per year.

The matter now proceeds to a vote of the entire City Council at its Feb. 14 meeting.

Acting on a motion by Councilor-at-Large Stephanie Smith, and another proposal by Councillor Michael Marchese to eliminate the current mayoral longevity payment arrangement, the Council decided to group Mayor DeMaria in the "depart-

#### STORM DROPS 24+ INCHES



PHOTOS BY KATY ROGERS

A pedestrian makes their way down a Revere Beach white with snow following the storm that dropped more than 2-feet of snow on the City.



#### **BPDA Income-Restricted Rental Opportunity Addison East** 144 Addison Street, East Boston, MA 02128

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6	Compact 1-Bedroom	570-606	\$1,269	70%	-	-
12	1-Bedroom	1,073	\$1,410	70%	2	1
9	2-Bedroom	916-1,094	\$1,597	70%	1	-

(set by owner + b	nimum Incomes based on # of bedrooms + Area ian Income (AMI))	(set by BPDA + b	(set by BPDA + based on household size + Area Median Income (AMI))		
# of bedrooms	Minimum Income 70% AMI	Household size	Maximum Income 70% AMI		
Studio	\$36,090	1	\$59,200		
Compact 1-Bedroom		2	\$67,650		
	\$38,050	3	\$76,100		
l-Bedroom	\$42,300	4	\$84,550		
I-DCGIOOITI	ψπ2,000	5	\$91,350		
2-Bedroom	\$47,910	6	\$98,100		

Minimum incomes do not apply to households receiving housing assistance such as Section 8, MRVP, or VASH.

For more information please visit: www.144AddisonAffordables.com or contact us via email at 144Addison@maloneyproperties.com or phone at (617) 531-7123 Ext 717.

Applications are available during the application period, from February 14, 2022, through March 2, To request an online application or to have one sent by email visit www.144AddisonAffordables.com

or call (617) 531-7123 Ext 717. After careful consideration and an abundance of caution, the City of Boston has decided to cancel the in-person application distribution period. If you cannot complete the application online, please call us at

(617) 531-7123 Ext 717, to request that we mail you one and to ask us for any support or guidance you might need to complete the application. DEADLINE: Applications must be submitted online or postmarked no later than Wednesday, March 2,

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**Equal Housing Opportunity** 



ment head" category of the longevity schedule. In that payment arrangement, department heads receive an annual payment of \$800 for 10 years of service, \$1,300 for 15 years of service, and \$1,700 for 20 years of service. Mayor DeMaria has served for more than 20 years in city government and would thus receive \$1,700 per year during his current mayoral term.

Under Everett's exisiting longevity pay agreement, Mayor DeMaria receives \$10,000 for each completed term as mayor. He has served five terms which means the longevity payment to DeMaria is \$40,000.

The Council took a circuitous route to the final vote of the evening as various measures were considered and voted upon by the 10 councilors present at the meeting. But in the end, Smith and Councillor-at-Large Michael Marchese stayed the course and ultimately obtained the result that they were clearly seeking from the outset of the meeting.

Councilors Stephanie Smith, Michael Marchese, John Hanlon, Jimmy Tri Le, Stephanie Martins, and Vivian Nguyen voted for the new longevity pay arrangement. The four councilors voting against the new arrangement (and instead wanting to retain the annual \$40,000 longevity payment to Mayor DeMaria) were Councilors Alfred Lattanzi, Anthony DiPierro, Irene Cardillo, and Richard Dell Isola. Councilor-at-Large Wayne Matewsky did not attend the meeting.

ed would "eliminate the

Mayor's longevity (pay-

Marchese opened the discussion by stating that the ordinance (Section 7-167) he wanted deletcording to Smith, those

ment) which only four other people in Massachusetts receive."

"It's been abused - I don't know when the agreements came on or when it changed. I saw a 13-second thing, Peter Napolitano explaining this piece, which was agreed upon, which was \$2,500," said Marchese. "I don't know where it morphed into \$40,000-\$50,000 per year. I don't think it's in good taste for someone to get a bonus of \$50,000 or \$40,000 a year when you're being compensated very well by the City of Everett to the tune of \$190,000."

During the discussion, Councillor DiPerro spoke in favor of the current longevity payment of \$40,000. "I will repeat what I've said in meetings past: longevity should take the politics out of pay increases for the position of mayor or anyone serving in that office," said DiPierro. "It increases as tenure does and scales back when a new person takes office. It is my opinion that without longevity, you'll have a base salary that will exponentially rise over time, every time an increase is sought. It rewards someone that sticks around and sees a vision through. Good government requires stability and good ideas require time." In an ensuing discus-

sion about Councilor Cardillo's "cap and keep" motion to keep the payment arrangement as is, Smith voiced her opposition.

Smith brought with her to the meeting a four-page summary that showed that only five other mayors (of the 47 mayors in Massachusetts) had longevity payment agreements (Ac-

cities are Brockton, New-

ton, Agawam, Chicopee,

and Holyoke). The longevity payments fell far short of Everett's \$40,000

figure. "I think the base salary of the mayor should be set to attract the most capable candidate, yet mindful of the taxpayers' money," said Smith. "So, I think we should look at the salary and then the longevity to me – an elected official should not get longevity. You're elected by the people, so that is your longevity. Being mindful of the taxpayers' money, setting a cap and keep of \$40,000 a year is not mindful of the taxpayers' money, I'm

Lattanzi said he didn't agree with Smith's summation. "I was thinking about some things that have happened in this city and one of them was the casino [Encore]," said Lattanzi, adding that Mayor DeMaria spoke to Steve Wynn "and decided to clean up the acreage below the Rotary that had been polluted for decades."

"Not only did he [De-

sorry."

Maria] do that, but he put a \$2.6 billion casino down there, which is probably the biggest, private project that's ever been done in Massachusetts," said Lattanzi. "And after that, the casino has been giving [Everett] somewhere in the area of \$40 million a year in taxes. Having said, the longevity payment that we're going to give him is a drop in the bucket. I think the Mayor deserves what we give him. It's a drop in the bucket compared to what we pull in. I don't think the longevity payment of \$40,000 is much at all, compared to

However, the Council eventually decided by

what this guy has been do-

ing."

See REGION Page 11

#### Region // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

a 6-4 margin they may put an end to Mayor De-Maria's annual \$40,000 longevity payment, setting the stage for the final vote at the next meeting on Feb. 14.

Smith talked about the vote following the meeting. "I think the mavor does an excellent job for the city," said Smith. "He's compensated fairly, and I think the longevity pay should be the same as every other city employee in the department head position if we're going to keep longevity."

While noting the different motions that were voted upon by the councillor before the final vote, Smith offered, "I'm just happy it got resolved."

"I'm grateful to the residents of the City of Everett for giving me a historic and unprecedented sixth term as Mayor. I fully anticipated that the Everett City Council would take action on the longevity ordinance that they originally passed. I will follow the final language the Council adopts as I have complied with the original ordinance since 2016," said Mayor Carlo DeMaria.

#### BOARD OF HEALTH WANTS MASK MANDATE

REVERE - The Revere Board of Health held its regular monthly meeting on January 27, in the City Council Chambers.

In attendance at the meeting were the board's new chairperson, Dr. Drew Bunker, and fellow members Dr. Craig Costanza and Nezha Louaddi.

The principal action tak-

en by the Board was the approval of an advisory recommendation urging businesses to implement a mask requirement for customers and employees in all indoor settings in the city. The advisory also urges all citizens to wear N-95 or KN-95 masks.

Revere presently has a mask requirement for municipal and school buildings and either a vaccine or testing requirement for city and school employees.

Michael Wells, the city's Health Agent/Director of Inspectional Services, presented the proposed advisory recommendation to the board members.

Lauren Buck, the city's Director of Public Health, informed the board members of the masking and vaccine requirements for nearby communities. Boston for example, has a mask requirement and a vaccination requirement for indoor spaces. Other communities have masking requirements only for public indoor spaces.

However, said Buck, "This order is only an advisory recommendation, not a mandate." Buck pointed out that masking is the best means for preventing the spread of COVID-19 in a business setting, but emphasized, "We have to start living with this and normalizing it a little bit more. A mask mandate does not seem like the right move for Revere businesses to-

"We don't have the resources to enforce a mask mandate," added Wells. "A mask mandate would put businesses in a bind with regard to uncooperative customers. A mandate really is not enforceable. We can't be out there in the role of the mask police."

Wells noted however, that any business on its own may require that masks be worn by its employees and patrons.

"This is a good measure and other communities have mask mandates. We wear them in our clinical setting," said Bunker, who is a doctor with a local practice. "The data and evidence prove that masks prevent the spread of the disease in enclosed settings."

The board members then unanimously approved the advisory recommendation. Earlier in the meeting,

Buck presented the monthly report from the health department. Buck presented some relatively good news on

the COVID front. She said the city is coming down from its peak of Omicron infection rates, though the rate still is extremely high. She said that the current

seven-day case average for COVID-19 presently is 103, the highest-ever in Revere, and is attributable to Omicron. Although the positivity rate still is high, "We're on the downward slope," Buck said.

She presented chart showing that the COVID-19 surge of last winter (which dropped significantly at the start of the summer, though rose again mid-summer) has been dwarfed by the recent Omicron wave that began to spike at Thanksgiving.

"We think we've reached the peak of the Omicron surge and it is coming down rapidly,"

said Buck. "However, our daily case counts still are high compared to last summer and even last winter."

Buck then presented a chart that showed the vaccination rate in the city as of January 18. She highlighted the vaccination rate for ages 5-11 which showed a vaccination rate of 38 percent with one dose and 23 percent with two doses, a big jump over the previous month.

The percent of the overall Revere population who have received a booster is only 26 percent.

"The city needs to get that rate higher," said Buck, who presented another slide that showed that persons who have received a booster are at a greatly-reduced risk both of catching COVID and suffering from severe symptoms, as compared with those who are unvaccinated or who only are double-dosed.

Buck presented the grim statistics since the start of the pandemic: The total number of confirmed cases in the city stands at 20,135. There have been 180 deaths of Revere residents attributable to COVID-19 over the past two years.

In other health news, Buck said there has been a sharp increase recently in the number of influenza cases in the city. Buck said the ages of the patients, who totaled 54 in the past month, ranged from three months to 91 years old.

Buck also summarized a report from the CDC that warned about the danger of rabies in bats and noted that three Americans have died in the past few months from the disease. All had

come into contact with bats in their homes and none had received post-contact treatment for rabies.

Buck also discussed a report issued by the CDC relative to a state-mapping survey for adult physical activity prevalence outside of work hours. She said that overall, 23.3 percent of adults in Massachusetts said they do not engage in any physical activity outside of work.

#### DPW PRAISED FOR STORM CLEANUP

WINTHROP terim Town Manager Terence Delehanty and Presi-Town Council dent James Letterie both praised the Department of Public Works for their snow-clearing and snow-removal efforts following the blizzard that dumped close to two feet of snow on Winthrop last Friday and Saturday.

"Considering this was the second-largest January snowstorm in our town's history, I thought our DPW did a great job clearing the snow," said Delehanty. "This is a clean-up process that is continuing all week."

Letterie also lauded the DPW for its work during the historic snow event.

"I am extremely proud of Steve Calla for their remarkable effort during an historic snowfall in Winthrop," said Letterie. "Our crews worked 26 straight hours before we gave them a break, which gave residents time to shovel and plow themselves out. In a town like Winthrop, a snowstorm of this significance needs all our help, the residents along with our DPW, Police, Fire - we can't do it alone."

Letterie said residents putting snow that they had removed from their properties onto the streets "was a significant hindrance for us in some circumstances."

"But overall, I'm extremely proud and happy of everyone who put an inordinate amount time and effort into the operations,' said Letterie.

Delehanty said three private contractors with plows were hired to supplement the efforts by the Winthrop DPW.

Delehanty and Letterie agreed with Supt. of Schools Lisa Howard's decision to close schools Monday. He said that decision allowed DPW workers to focus on clearing the sidewalks, paths and school parking lots and provide safe access for teachers and students.

"We needed that extra day to clean up Kennedy Drive (the road leading to the Gorman Fort Banks School)," said Delehanty.

"I know there was concern about there being no school on Monday, buy I stand behind the superintendent's decision,' said Letterie. "As much as it's her decision, it is a group effort and it doesn't just involve the fact that the schools' grounds are cleared, we have to be cognizant of all the sidewalks throughout the town, the extremely high mounds of snow that might be a visual impediment at intersections. We need to look at the safety of getting our children back and forth from school. I think Supt. Howard's decision was spot on. It was nice to have the schools back in session Tuesday morn-

#### $\operatorname{\mathbf{BGCB}}$ // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

to create equal opportunity for urban youth and I am honored to join the Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston to empower even more kids, teens and their families in our city," said Lewis. "My life's work has been dedicated to building relationships and partnerships that level the playing field and provide access and opportunities for of our city's talented young people. The Nicholas President and CEO role is a natural next step in that journey as I look to build on the storied legacy of BGCB and its work that touches nearly 8,000 lives annually in Boston. Through innovation and collaboration, we will build a brighter future for our young people for generations to come. I can't wait to get started."

As a nationally recognized thought leader, public speaker, and social innovator, Lewis brings a long history of non-profit and community leadership to BGCB. His previous roles include serving as Senior Vice President of City Year's National Operations, Executive Director of City Year Boston, President of the National Conference for Community and Justice (NCCJ), and Executive Director of the Boston Centers for Youth and Families (BCYF). As Vice President for Program at The Boston Foundation, he directed the distribution of more than \$18 million in discretionary grants annually and was the chief architect of two ground-breaking tives: StreetSafe Boston, the country's only privately funded anti-gang violence prevention program, and CHAMPS Boston, which provided professional-level training for over 5,000 youth-sports volunteer coaches in New

England. "Robert is a proven builder and convenor, vital qualities for BGCB's leader as we continue tackling new challenges that require creative, cross-functional solutions," said Dave Johnson, Chair of the Board. "His values and passions mirror those of BGCB, which has served the Boston community for nearly 130 years with the mission to be there for our members and families, no matter what. Robert is steeped in the communities that we serve. He knows the challenges, but most importantly he knows the opportunities.

What he has achieved at The BASE is incredible and I'm thrilled that he's chosen BGCB as his next platform for transforming how we propel urban youth to success. His presence will inspire our current staff, our future staff, our donors, and our mem-

"Robert Lewis Jr. plays in a space where there are no limits and endless potential for our urban youth to achieve success-- and he will stop at nothing to help each and every kid follow their dreams," said Governor Charlie Baker. "The Commonwealth has been blessed to have him as a fearless leader at the BASE, where he built and maintained a powerful organization, and I am certain his leadership will open new doors at the Boys and Girls Clubs to help more young people realize their full potential in ways they never thought were possible." "Robert has broken

the mold of youth development," said Sandra M. Edgerley, community leader and board member of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston. "Ever since our work together at The Boston Foundation, I've watched Robert constantly iterate on his success, building stronger, more creative programs each step of the way. He is truly a visionary and I'm confident BGCB's already impressive impact will grow even further under leadership."

A nationwide search was led by Spencer Stuart under the aegis of the BGCB CEO Search Committee which included Johnson and fellow Board members, Trustees, and Club staff. The committee was further supported by the Boys & Girls Clubs of America and prioritized finding a candidate with a passion for BGCB's mission and a clear commitment to the well-being and development of its members, along with the strategic leadership skills needed to foster partnerships and cement BGCB's position as a leading force in the city. Since its founding in

1893, Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston (BGCB) has been helping young people, especially those who need us most, build strong character and realize their full potential as responsible citizens and leaders. BGCB does this by pro-

viding a safe haven filled with hope and opportunity, ongoing relationships with caring adults, and life-enhancing programs in six core program areas. The organization serves more than 8,000 individuals in 9 Clubs and through its YouthConnect program in partnership with the Boston Police Department. BGCB is an affiliate of Boys & Girls Clubs of America and the United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley. For more information, visit BGCB on the web at

#### LEGAL NOTICE Register of Historic Places. discrimination. Awarding

#### Public Notice:

**LEGAL NOTICE** U.S. Lightship Museum NANTUCKET LIGHTSHIP LV-112 HISTORIC RESTORATION Bid number MPPF #4271: REQUEST FOR BIDS The Board of Directors of the U.S. Lightship Museum (USLM), East Boston, Massachusetts, the Awarding Authority, request bids for restoration project work to be completed on Nantucket Lightship LV-112, a National

Historic Landmark and listed

in the state and National

berthed on the East Boston waterfront. Nantucket LV-112 is a steel hull vessel built in 1936.

This project is being partially funded with a grant from the Massachusetts Historical Commission. All work being performed is in accordance with the documents prepared by the U.S. Lightship Museum (617.797.0135) and Marine Systems Corp., Engineers., South Boston, Massachusetts, 02210 and meet the Secretary of the

Interior's Standards for the

Treatment of Historic Prop-

erties. State law prohibits

of this contract is subject to Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity guidelines. A copy of the bidding

documents may be obtained by writing or telephoning the U.S. Lightship Museum at the above contact information. Bid documents can also be obtained at the pre-bid meeting on Nantucket Lightship A pre-bid meeting will be

held on board Nantucket

Lightship LV-112, berthed at

the Boston Harbor Shipyard

& Marina, 256 Marginal St.,

East Boston, Massachusetts

02128 on February 18, 2022

Bids shall be evaluated on the basis of price, previous experience with similar types of projects, ability to perform the work in a timely manner, and references. All bids must be delivered to: U.S. Lightship Museum, Nantucket Lightship LV-112, 256 Marginal St., East Boston, MA 02128 and post marked by March 2, 2022 to be eligible for consideration and all of the grant-funded work must be completed, no later than

June 6, 2022.

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#### News in Brief

#### **PUBLIC HEARING** FOR MBTA FARE TARIFF CHANGES

The MBTA will host a

virtual public hearing on Thursday, February 17, at 6 p.m. to discuss fare change proposals that aim to improve equity by closing gaps in existing fare structures for Reduced Fare Riders, to minimize pandemic-related revenue implications and budget uncertainties while increasing ridership where possible, and to simplify fare tariff rules as the MB-TA's Fare Transformation Program moves forward. These changes include:

- Making the 5-Day FlexPass on mTicket for Commuter Rail perma-
- Reducing the price of the 1-Day LinkPass;
- Expanding second transfers on Local Buses, Express Buses, and/or Subway; and • Proposed changes for
- Reduced Fare Riders that include: • Introducing the 7-Day
- LinkPass for Reduced Fare Riders: • Introducing Monthly
- Passes for Reduced Fare Riders on Commuter Rail, Ferry, and Express Bus; • Expanding the va-
- lidity of the LinkPass for Reduced Fare Riders to Commuter Rail Zone 1A and Inner Harbor Ferry. The MBTA welcomes

public comment on these proposals. During the meeting, attendees will have the opportunity to

ask questions and provide

The meeting will be held via Zoom. Members of the public can register for the meeting online. The meeting will be recorded and posted online for those who cannot at-

A virtual public meeting will also be held next Thursday, February 10, at If approved by the full

MBTA Board in March, these fare changes would go into effect on July 1, 2022. The public is welcome to submit comments online through Thursday, March 3, 2022, at mbta. com/2022FareChanges or by email to publicengagement@mbta.com. The Title VI analysis will be shared with the MBTA's Board and posted to mbta. com prior to the scheduled March 24, 2022, Board meeting.

#### **CREDIT UNION INTRODUCES NEW MORTGAGE** Metro Credit Union,

**METRO** 

Massachusetts' largest state-chartered credit union, today announced it will begin offering a 40-year mortgage to its members, which includes options for jumbo loans and bi-weekly payments. "Metro is very excited

to add the 40-year mortgage to our existing lineup of mortgage offerings" said Robert Cashman, CEO and President of Metro Credit Union. "The 40-year mortgage will be attractive not only to firsttime homebuyers, but also to anyone having difficulty meeting loan qualifications, as well as for existing homebuyers who want to trade up to a bigger home."

This new program will make becoming a homeowner a reality for more individuals, including first-time homebuyers who are having difficulty getting into the market. Extending the mortgage term to 40 years results in a lower monthly mortgage payment, offering housing affordability for many who are currently priced out of the market, or those having difficulty refinancing an existing loan.

For more information about Metro Credit Union, please visit MetroCU.org or follow Metro on Linke-

#### NATIONAL BURN AWARENESS WEEK **2022 IS NOW** State Fire Marshal Peter

J. Ostroskey announced that National Burn Awareness Week started on Sunday, providing an opportunity to promote awareness of burn safety strategies – especially in homes with children. "Scalds from hot liq-

uids have been the leading form of serious burn injuries in Massachusetts for as long as we've been tracking burn data, and young children are injured most often," State Fire Marshal Ostroskey said. "Kids under 5 suffered half of all reported scald injuries statewide in 2021." "A home fire is a devas-

tating event," said Acting Public Health Commissioner Margret Cooke. "To prevent burn injuries in the kitchen and throughout the home, it's important for families to talk about fire safety with children and have access to safety equipment like smoke alarms throughout the home." This year's Burn

Awareness Week theme is "Burning Issues in the Kitchen." According to data from the Massachusetts Burn Injury Reporting System (M-BIRS), hot cooking liquids such as boiling water, grease, and oil caused more scald burns than all other sources combined, and they represent the leading cause of all burn injuries. Children under 5 last year suffered nearly five times more of these scalds than the next leading age group.

Young children are also at disproportionate risk of injury from hot food and drinks. Although children under 5 represent about 6% of Massachusetts' population, they suffered 82% of hot beverage scalds and 53% of hot food scalds in 2021.

#### **Kitchen Burn Safety Tips** • Very young children

love to explore their environment. They can be kept away from hot stoves, pots, and pans with a safety gate, highchair, or playpen. Older children should be taught that the stove is a "No Kid Zone" and to stay three giant steps away

 Wear short or close-fitting sleeves when cooking. Loose-fitting sleeves can catch fire if they come into contact with burners. There were five reported clothing ignitions while cooking in 2021.

- Keep hot food and drinks away from the edges of counters and tabletops. Using placemats instead of a tablecloth can reduce the risk of hot food and drinks being pulled over the edge. Never hold or carry
- a child while you have a hot drink in your hand. A wiggling baby can cause a spill that burns you or your precious cargo. If you're on the move with hot coffee or tea, consider a travel mug if there are children underfoot. Keep matches and

lighters out of reach from

your child. Help children

understand that matches and lighters are tools, not Make sure the hot water from your tap is at 120°F or lower. At 150°F, third-degree burns can occur in less than 2 seconds. To test your tap, run your

hot water for a minute

and then check the tem-

perature with a kitchen

thermometer; if it's above

120°F, lower the setting

on your water heater un-

til the temperature is low

enough. When replacing your water heater, consider installing a thermostatic mixing valve that will limit the output temperature to 120°F.

#### **Treating Burns** and Scalds

- Remove victims from danger and call 911.
- Run burns under cool water. Do not put butter, grease, or ointment on a Flush chemical burns
- continuously. Remove watches or
- jewelry from a burned • If possible, remove
- clothing from a burned area. If the clothing sticks to the skin, leave it in place and cut away the rest of the fabric.
- Cover a burn with a clean sheet or towel.

Massachusetts law requires hospitals and health care providers to report any burn injury that extends over 5% or more of the victim's body to the State Fire Marshal's office. For 36 years, this data has been compiled through the Massachusetts Burn Injury Reporting System (M-BIRS), which was launched as a tool to identify arsonists who injured themselves while setting fires. Today, M-BIRS is also used to help fire and health officials understand burn hazards that can be mitigated through public education, regulation, or intervention strategies.

## \$13 Million earmarked for electric vehicle fast-charging stations

In an effort to create additional infrastruc-Comture across the monwealth, the Baker-Polito Administration announced that \$13.1 million in grants have been awarded to 54 government and private entities including East Boston under the Massachusetts Electric Vehicle Incentive Program (MassEVIP) to install 306 Direct Current Fast Charging (DCFC) electric vehicle charging ports at 150 locations. The MassEVIP DCFC program, administered by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP), provides grants covering 100 percent of the eligible cost to acquire and install publicly accessible DCFC electric vehicle (EV) charging stations at government-owned properties and 80 percent at all other locations, up to \$50,000 per charging port. "Our administration understands the impor-

tance of reliable infrastructure supporting the Commonwealths energy future," said Governor Charlie Baker. "Today's announcement is a step towards the increased deployment of these clean vehicles, which will reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve air quality and public health, enhance energy diversity and promote economic growth." "This Direct Current

Fast Charging incentive program is another example of our administration's commitment to improving air quality for all," said Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito. "This program will support our efforts to grow the clean energy economy, transform the transportation system, and help Massachusetts

attain our emissions re-

the Global Warming Solutions Act." The \$13.1 million

duction goals set under

awarded today includes \$1.5 million from Massachusetts' \$75 million share of the \$2.925 billion Environmental Mitigation Trust established nationally under the 2016 settlement between Volkswagen (VW) and the U.S. Department of Justice, and \$11.6 million from the Massachusetts Climate Mitigation Trust. The Massachusetts VW Settlement Beneficiary Mitigation Plan (BMP) committed the Commonwealth to devoting the allowed 15 percent of VW funds to EV charging infrastructure, approximately \$11.25 million. Mass-DEP also offers funding for Level 1 and Level 2 EV charging stations through the Public Access, Workplace and Fleet, and Multi-Unit Dwelling and Educational Campus charging programs. "The transportation sec-

tor accounts for more than 40 percent of the greenhouse gases emitted in Massachusetts, so the deployment of more electric vehicles is an important step towards helping the Commonwealth's efforts to achieving our ambitious climate change mitigation goals," said Energy and Environmental **Affairs** Secretary Kathleen Theoharides. "Significantly, this program will also support environmental justice communities with the placement of 94 of the EV charging ports in EJ areas."

"This is the first time that these Direct Current Fast Charging grants have been offered, which will complement our local and regional efforts to deploy electric vehicles and the charging infrastructure necessary to support

a cleaner transportation

Commissioner Martin Suuberg. "Through this program, the Commonwealth and these awardees are continuing to show a commitment to reducing greenhouse gas emissions for the benefit of our communities and the environment." To further expand the

system," said MassDEP

Commonwealth's EV readiness, Massachusetts is working on a regional level with the Northeast States for Coordinated Air Use Management (NESCAUM) to support the placement of EVs and charging stations throughout the region and to enhance the economic benefits associated with these Additionally, vehicles. some of the grantees plan to combine or leverage MassEVIP funding with make-ready infrastructure funding offered by National Grid and Eversource. Under the DCFC program, all awardees must

allow access to, and use of, the parking spaces and the EV charging station 24 hours per day, seven days a week. For each station installed, one parking space must be designated for plug-in EV use only and marked clearly through permanent, visible signage. Active enforcement is required. Furthermore, of the 54 entities selected for grants, publicaccessible charging ports will be installed on government-owned properties, including in Acton, Amherst, Belmont, Beverly, Boston, Brookline, Chelmsford, Chelsea, Chilmark, Concord, Falmouth, Hamilton, Hingham, Ipswich, Lexington, Littleton, Methuen, Middlebor-

ough, Millbury, Norwood,

Peabody, Quincy, Read-

ing, Sharon, Sherborn,

Taunton, Wakefield, West

Boylston, Westwood, and

Winchester. Private entities will also be installing ports in Attleboro, Barre, Belchertown, Bellingham, Billerica, Boston, Boylston, Brewster, Bridgewater, Brockton, Brookline, Burlington, Cambridge, Canton, Centerville, Chatham, Chelmsford, Chelsea, Cheshire, Chicopee, Danvers, Dorchester, East Boston, East Falmouth, Eastham, Fall River, Framingham, Gardner, Great Barrington, Greenfield, Hanover, Holyoke, Hudson, Hyannis, Ipswich, Lakeville, Lenox, Leominster, Littleton, Lynn, Marlborough, Methuen, Milford, Millbury, Nantucket, Natick, North Easton, Northampton, Norwell, Orange, Oxford, Pembroke, Pittsfield, Raynham, Rochester, Sagamore Beach, Salem, Scituate, Somerset, Somerville, South Deerfield, South Dennis, Springfield, Sturbridge, Tewksbury, Wakefield, Uxbridge, Waltham, Wareham, West Boylston, West Roxbury, West Springfield, Westfield, Westwood, Whately, Williamsburg, Wilmington, Winchester, Woburn,

and Worcester. Sturbridge's incoming delegation member, State Senator Ryan Fattman (R-Sutton) offered the following statement: "This investment by the Baker-Polito Administration is crucial to enhancing the accessibility of fast, reliable charging ports for electric vehicles. The funding for six new ports provided to Noble Energy Real Estate, LLC. in Sturbridge will ensure that electric vehicle charging is accessible in a town where two major interstates intersect. Noble Energy and

all of the other recipients

are deserving of this grant

competitive program."

for putting in the work to work of chargers so that become recipients of this electric vehicles continue to become more viable in "I am pleased to see our state," said State Rep-

this investment from the Administration, in Central Massachusetts," said State Senator Anne Gobi (D-Spencer). "Funds made available to Apple Green New England Inc., in Barre, and Noble Energy Real Estate, LLC., in Sturbridge, will help to create a path forward to a sustainable and environmentally healthier future. As more fast charging ports become available, I look forward to a time when electric vehicles become a more feasible option for families in Central Mass." "This technology is

readily available, and it is important that Massachusetts take steps like this so residents can feel secure in their decision to move towards electric vehicles," said State Senator Patrick O'Connor (R-Weymouth). "I appreciate the efforts made by the Baker-Polito Administration and Mass-DEP to expand charging options throughout the South Shore." "I am thrilled that Chicopee, Holyoke, and

Westfield will be receiving these MassEVIP Fast Charging grants to expand access to electric vehicle charging ports in our communities," said State Senator John Velis (D-Westfield). "Electric vehicles are one of our best tools to lower our Commonwealth's emissions and an increasing number of folks in Massachusetts are switching over to these types of cars. These 24 hour, 7 days a week, charging ports will only aid in that growth and I am grateful to the Baker-Polito Administration for their continued investments in this area."

"I think it's great that we are increasing the netcommunities served by

the agency.

resentative Kelley Pease (R-Westfield). "As we actively take steps to become leaders in clean energy, I think many of these programs will pay off well in the future."

On a national level, the Governors from nine states, including Massachusetts, announced a groundbreaking initiative in 2013 to put 3.3 million light-duty zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs) on the road within a dozen years. As a first step in this plan, the governors in California, Connecticut, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, and Vermont - later joined by New Jersey signed a cooperative agreement that identifies specific actions these states will undertake, such as including ZEVs in their public fleets and developing common signage standards, to help build a robust national market for battery- and hydrogen-power electric cars. For more information on the EV charging in-

frastructure programs administered by MassDEP, please visit the agency's Volkswagen Diesel Settlements and Environmental Mitigation webpage here. MassDEP's mission is to protect and enhance the Commonwealth's natural

resources - air, water and land - to provide for the health, safety and welfare of all people, and a clean and safe environment for future generations. In carrying out this mission, MassDEP commits to address and advance environmental justice and equity for all people of the Commonwealth, provide meaningful, inclusive opportunities for people to participate in agency decisions that affect their lives and ensure a diverse workforce that reflects the

## Justice Department announces strategy to combat human trafficking

U.S. Attorney General Merrick B. Garland and U.S. Attorney for the District of Massachusetts Rachael S. Rollins have announced the Justice Department's new National Strategy to Combat Human Trafficking pursuant to the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act, which aims to enhance the Department's capacity to prevent human trafficking; prosecute human trafficking cases; and support and protect human trafficking victims and survivors.

Among other things, the Justice Department's multi-year strategy combat all forms of human trafficking will:

- Strengthen engagement, coordination, and joint efforts to combat human trafficking by prosecutors in all 94 U.S. Attorneys' Offices and by federal law enforcement agents nationwide.
- Establish federally funded, locally led trafficking anti-human task forces that support sustained state law enforcement leadership and comprehensive victim assistance.
- Step up departmental efforts to end forced labor by increasing attention, resources and coordination in labor trafficking investigations and prose-Enhance initiatives
- to reduce vulnerability of American Indians and Alaska Natives to violent crime, including human trafficking, and to locate missing children.
- Develop and implement new victim screen-

ing protocols to identify potential human trafficking victims during law enforcement operations and encourage victims to share important information.

- Increase capacity to provide victim-centered assistance to trafficking survivors, including by supporting efforts to deliver financial restoration to victims.
- Expand dissemination of federal human trafficking training, guidance and expertise.
- Advance innovative demand-reduction strate-"The fight against sex

and labor trafficking, and supporting these victims, is one of my highest priorities for this office. Coordination among local, state and federal partners to provide a victim-centered approach to prevent human trafficking in the District will be further enhanced by the Justice Department's newly released strategy," said U.S. Attorney Rachael S. Rollins. "Human trafficking has a devastating and sustained impact on victims and their loved ones. My office will spare no resource in identifying, prosecuting and holding traffickers accountable to the fullest extent of the law."

is an insidious crime," said U.S. Attorney General Merrick B. Garland. "Traffickers exploit and endanger some of the most vulnerable members of our society and cause their victims unimaginable harm. The Justice Department's new National Strategy to Combat

Human Trafficking will

trafficking

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"Human

bring the full force of the Department to this fight."

The District of Massachusetts has established itself as a leader in the fight to address human traffick-

Since 2017, the Department of Justice has committed approximately \$235 million in federal grants throughout the District of Massachusetts to aid in the fight against sex and labor trafficking and support victims of crime, including survivors of human trafficking. These funding streams have supported health and human service organizations providing direct services to survivors, state and local human trafficking prevention programs, law enforcement trainings and other support to victims and minor victims of human trafficking.

In FY2021, the following federal grants were awarded in Massachusetts to support local and state anti-trafficking programs, and provide direct services to victims of crime, including survivors of human trafficking: • Baystate Medical

- Center, Inc., \$600,000
- Ascentria Community Services, Inc., \$800,000
- Attorney General's Office, \$1,558,000
- Commonwealth of Massachusetts: \$21,488,509

In 2019, the U.S. Department of Justice awarded the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office \$799,744 to develop a Massachusetts Task Force to Combat Human Trafficking. The Commonwealth's Anti-Trafficking (CAT) Task Force is a federally funded, multi-

disciplinary approach that is the first of its kind and a national model for locally led anti-human trafficking task forces. This effort is a collaboration between the U.S. Attorney's Office, the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office, direct service providers, and state, local and federal law enforcement to proactively investigate and effectively prosecute human trafficking in Massachusetts while also providing trauma informed comprehensive services for vic-

tims of human trafficking.

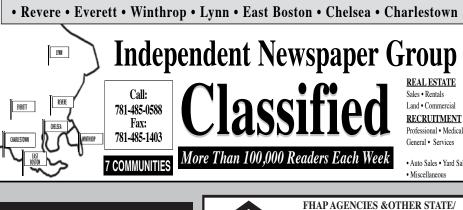
The Massachusetts CAT Task Force receives referrals for all types of human trafficking cases. Referrals or questions should be communicated to the CAT Task Force through the Attorney General's Office or via email to CATTask-Force@mass.gov. If you are in immediate danger, call 911.

If you believe that you or someone you know may be a victim of human trafficking, please contact the National Human Trafficking Resource Center Hotline at 1-888-373-7888, or Text 233733.

To receive more information related to applying for federal grant programs to support anti-trafficking work, please visit www.

grants.gov.

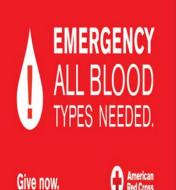
The Department's strategy will be implemented under the direction of the National Human Trafficking Coordinator designated by the Attorney General in accordance with the Abolish Human Trafficking Act of 2017.



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## **Harbor House Collective** up and running in Chelsea

Grand opening events scheduled for Friday through Sunday

By John Lynds

Harbor House Collective, Chelsea's new adultuse cannabis dispensary and cultivation facility, is up and running and will hold a series of special grand opening events this weekend.

Owned by the Londono family, who ran a successful wholesale flower business from the spot for years, Harbor House Collective began selling a wide array of cannabis products produced from the dispensary's onsite grown facility at 80 Eastern Ave. While the Londono family will continue



Buoys and lobster traps make up some of the nautical-themed interior decor.

to operate the flower business at a new location they converted their Eastern Avenue warehouse into a 20,000-square-foot verti-

cally integrated marijuana facility. The dispensary was approved by the Chelsea Zoning Board in 2019. Harbor House Collec-

tive's General Manager Mike Kerwin said on Friday, Feb. 11 the dispensary will join community partners in cutting the ribbon on the new facility at 1 p.m. The event will feature a food truck, music as well as the unveiling of some new cannabis products not yet on the menu.

"So we opened our doors on December 27 so it has been all word of mouth as we worked out some of the kinks," said Kerwin. "We will cut the ribbon on the new facility at 1 p.m. Friday and we will have a food truck.



The facade of Harbor House Collective complimented by the recent snowfall throughout the City.

Across the Border, for customers on both Friday and Saturday. We will also be offering a bunch of new products that haven't made it to the menu yet with some new pricing on products."

Kerwin, who holds a medical marijuana license and has used cannabis to control his epilepsy since his youth, said the final product produced from Harbor House Collective's onsite grow facility is some of the best cannabis products in the state.

"Specifically our flower, which is grown with care under the right conditions, so when you put good stuff in you get good stuff out," said Kerwin. "People are coming from all around to come and get our product because it's really hard to find good stuff, especially cannabis concentrates, in Massachusetts. A lot of folks with medical cards, including myself, would travel to Maine or Rhode Island to get better prod-

Kerwin said Harbor House Collective aims to end the cross border hunt for superior cannabis by offering a top quality product. "When it comes to

Cannabis flowers and products, we only want the best, and we want the same for our customers," he said. "At Harbor House Collective we strive for the highest quality cannabis by starting with a focus on a premium selection of cannabis genetics. Our cultivation team is always improving by handpicking our genetics in-house ensuring each strain has been hunted, grown, and manicured following our strict attention to details in terpenes, potency, and overall appeal to the consumer. We grow our plants locally, adhering to industry best practices.' With a statewide focus

on getting more equitable licenses to minority owned dispensaries, Harbor House Collective is a true family-run, minority-owned marijuana establishment. "We've hired over 65%

of local people with 45 % from Chelsea and Revere," said Kerwin. "Thirty two percent of employ-

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A deep sea mural greets guests as they walk through the front door into reception.

ees are female and 59% are minorities so we really have been trying to focus on creating a business that is representative of the community."

Kerwin said the Londono family has had strong roots in Chelsea for a longtime. Father Miguel Londono is the principal owner while his son, Gabriel, will serve as CEO.

Harbor House Collective's hours are Monday -Saturday 10 am- 8 pm.





As Seen In...

Forbes, National Geographic, The New York Times, CBS, Fast Company, Bloomberg, USA Today

**QUESTIONS? Contact Erin:** 

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