

# East Boston

## TIMES - FREE PRESS

Wednesday, December 5, 2018

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### 15th Annual Eastie's Elves set for Friday

By John Lynds

The 15th Annual Eastie's Elves fundraiser, a yearly tradition that draws more than 500 people to the Christmas toy drive, will kick off Friday, Dec. 7, at the Hyatt Boston Harbor at 6 p.m. The price of admission is one unwrapped toy that will be donated to a local non-profit agency.

Rep. Adrian Madaro took over the reigns of the annual holiday event from former Sen. Anthony Petrucci after Petrucci left office.

"Keeping this tradition alive once Sen. Petrucci left office was a no brainer," said Madaro. "We formed the Madaro Family Community Fund and really didn't change anything to the overall event. The toys that are donated will still benefit the communities of East Boston, Revere, Winthrop and the North End. My family and I look forward to another successful Eastie's Elves on Friday and hope many from the community help support this important fundraiser again this year."

The annual fundraiser to raise toys for low-income families in Eastie and other neighborhoods was started by Petrucci when he served in the House and continued through his years in the Senate.

Over the years Eastie's

See ELVES Page 2

### EAST BOSTON CENTRAL CATHOLIC'S CHRISTMAS FAIR



PHOTO BY MARIANNE SALZA

Sabastian and Yalile Maldonado with Santa on Saturday, Dec. 1, during the East Boston Central Catholic's 27th Annual Christmas Fair. Hundreds attended the annual holiday event to enjoy fellowship and to do a little shopping. See Page 16 for more photos.

### Dedicated Leader

EBNHC President and CEO Manny Lopes tapped to chair Boston's Board of Health

By John Lynds

Anyone involved in the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center knows that Manny Lopes is a dedicated leader and one of the most recognizable figures in and around East Boston.

So it came as no surprise when Lopes took over the helm as President and CEO of EBNHC after his mentor Jack Cradock retired.

Lopes' ascension is a story that embodies EBNHC's mission and commitment to the community.

More than two decades ago, Lopes joined the health center as an 18-year-old researcher, working with Dr. Jim Taylor on a blood pressure study. In the ensuing years, Lopes went on to hold positions in the Human Resource and Operations Departments. Lopes later served as the Health Center's Vice President and Chief Information Officer, providing organizational vision and leadership with an eye for technology and collaborative innovation.

This week Lopes added an-



EBNHC President and CEO Manny Lopes was appointed Chair of Boston's Board of Health.

other career milestone to his resume when Mayor Martin Walsh announced the appointment of Lopes as the chair of Boston's Board of Health. The Board of Health is the seven-member governing body that oversees the work of the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC). Lopes succeeds Francis Doyle, who stepped down in October from the Board to assume a leadership role within the Massa-

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### Lendlease unveils vision for public art at Clippership Wharf

By John Lynds

During the planning phase for several of the neighborhood's high-profile waterfront development projects like Boston East and Clippership Wharf, residents have always advocated for local art, public art and outdoor art to somehow be incorporated into the design of these projects.

Because all of the community's waterfront developments are tied in with East Boston's Harborwalk, residents have long wanted to make public art part of the experience.

The developers of Boston East created a community art gallery that is open to the public along the Harborwalk when they opened last year, and now the developer of Clippership Wharf is getting in on the art action.

Lendlease announced this week that two public sculp-

tures and a new contemporary art gallery will be part of Clippership Wharf's public art program designed to promote Eastie's local art scene.

"East Boston has a proud history of being home to a thriving art community, and we are excited to continue that tradition at Clippership Wharf," said Nick Iselin, General Manager for Lendlease Development in Boston. "The sculptures and gallery will highlight unique parts of East Boston's history, and will be an attraction for both residents of Clippership Wharf and the public."

Lendlease has also made a call for art submissions from local artists to display work inside the gallery dubbed 'The ClipArt Gallery.'

Iselin said The ClipArt Gallery will be Eastie's newest contemporary art gallery

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### HVNA members come around to Saratoga Street project

By John Lynds

Over the past two years Saratoga Street resident Mike

McCormack emerged as the most vocal critic of plans to develop a large vacant lot on his street. McCormack



An artist rendering of the scaled-down proposal that received favorable reviews from HVNA members.

thought earlier blueprints of the planned development at 656 Saratoga St. were 'too big,' included 'too many units' and would be a monstrous eyesore in the middle of the block.

McCormack successfully led the charge to have Harbor View Neighborhood Association (HVNA) members vote against the proposal to build a 50 feet tall, 40 unit development and send developer MG2 back to the drawing board.

So at Monday night's HVNA meeting when McCormack gave his endorsement to

the proposed changes to the original project HVNA members were taken back.

"This proposal makes a lot more sense," said McCormack of the changes to the original plans. "This is something I can get on board with. They listened to us on height, on one for one parking, so they did some work and this is something I could live with."

Attorney for MG2 Richard Lynds, who has gone numerous rounds with McCormack at public meetings over the project, quipped that 'it is the

See HVNA Page 2

The East Boston Chamber of Commerce and Ruggiero Family Memorial Home present

### Orient Heights Annual Holiday Tree Lighting Celebration!

Saturday, Dec. 8, 2018 | Tree lights up at 5:00 p.m.

Santa's trolley will be going around East Boston starting at 4 p.m. and ending at Orient Heights to light the tree!

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## ENJOY THE HOLIDAY SEASON

This is a wonderful time of the year, to paraphrase the song, with holiday music playing in the malls and on our car radios, resurrecting our earliest childhood memories -- even for the younger set -- of Christmases-past.

We choose just the right tree, decorate it carefully with our family-heirloom ornaments, and when we first turn on the lights, it brings a smile even to the oldest among us.

Despite the hectic rushing to and fro', everybody it seems, is in a good mood. We endure the traffic, the long lines in stores, and more, because we know that what we are doing will bring joy and happiness to others.

For those of us with young children, we get to see Christmas through their eyes, giving us a second-chance to experience the wonder and joy that we felt when we were their age.

Although all of us celebrate Christmas in our own way, the common thread is one of peace, joy, and happiness, regardless of religious or secular beliefs. Whether it be Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, or a Seinfeldian Festivus, the spirit of the season imbues us with a sense of togetherness that (unfortunately) only comes once a year.

We urge all of our readers to make the most of this holiday season with our friends, family, and loved ones.



# Forum



## ENJOY THE HOLIDAYS -- SAFELY

With the Christmas season in full swing, there will be the usual office, family, and neighborhood parties for all of us to partake and enjoy.

By no means do we wish to cast negative thoughts or to be party-Scrooges, but we would be remiss if we did not remind all of our readers to enjoy the holiday season safely.

This especially means that we should be careful not to drink and drive, not only for ourselves, but also for those whom we know and love.

If someone appears to be under the influence, it is incumbent upon each of us not to let that person get behind the wheel of a car -- take their keys and call an Uber!

If it is within our ability to prevent a tragedy, we must be sure to do so.

## LETTERS to the Editor

### With much gratitude

To the Ruggiero family and staff

Thank you for your kindness and sympathy at a most difficult time. The respect and

thoughtfulness shown to our family will always be greatly appreciated.

**With much gratitude,  
The family of  
Jimmy Sartori**

## Lopes // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

chusetts Department of Public Health.

"I'm truly humbled by this appointment," said Lopes. "I hope to carry out Mayor Walsh's vision for a healthy city and healthy neighborhoods while addressing some of the challenges like the impacts of substance abuse, mental health and health equity. I am ready to serve and drive forward the public health priorities and goals outlined by the Mayor and being executed daily through the vast programming offered by the Commission and its public health and community partners."

Lopes added that he looks forward to working closely with BPHC Executive Director Valdes Lupi, the BPHC staff, and his fellow board

members to further advance an agenda that supports all Bostonians, so they can equally have every opportunity to thrive.

After a mid-career stint outside the health center, during which Lopes worked as a business consultant and project manager for Fortune 1,000 companies helping CEOs, CIOs, and CFOs redesign critical business processes, Lopes came back and served as EBNHC's Vice President and Chief Information Officer.

In that role Lopes provided organizational vision and leadership with an eye for technology and collaborative innovation.

Lopes attended Lesley University School of Management and has a master's degree in business administra-

tion from Northeastern University's Graduate School of Business.

In 2010, Lopes assumed the role of Deputy Chief Executive Officer and began working closely with former EBNHC President and CEO Jack Cradock as part of the Health Center's strategic succession plan.

He seamlessly adopted increasing responsibility and proved his readiness to take over the EBNHC helm.

He took over the reigns as CEO from Cradock in 2014.

"We are fortunate to have Manny Lopes as the new chair of the Board of Health and look forward to working with him in this new capacity," said Mayor Walsh. "Over the past several years, Manny has built a culture designed to

provide the best possible care for patients at the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center. Having served on the Board of Health since 2015, he is already aware of the current and emerging challenges and opportunities facing the Commission's work today and I'm confident that he'll do great job leading the Board."

Lupi added that she is excited to have Lopes as chair and to work closely with him and the board to implement strategies and initiatives to advance the health for all Bostonians.

"Given his leadership at the health center, he has a keen appreciation for the public health challenges that our clients face and brings great energy and experience in innovating to this role," she said.

## HVNA // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

season of giving' to which McCormack jokingly responded 'I hope no one took video of what I just said'.

Developer MG2 plans to develop the 16,500 square feet vacant lot at 656 Saratoga St. into market rate rental housing by combining six parcels on the lot into one developable parcel.

The original plan would have MG2 erect a five-story, 50 feet building. The building would have included 62 units with a mix of studio, one and two-bedroom units and retail opportunity on the ground floor. A later scaled down version then called for 43 units of market rate rentals that would be a mix of studio, one and two-bedroom units and 39 parking spaces and eliminated the retail component.

However, the community still felt at five stories and over 50 feet tall the building was uncharacteristic of the surrounding neighborhood and sent MG2 back to the drawing board. MG2 then lowered the building to four stories and 40 units with 30 parking

spaces. This was the plan that was rejected by members of the HVNA at a meeting a few months back.

At Monday night's HVNA meeting MG2's attorney, Richard Lynds, said his client has reduced the number of units to 30 and knocked an entire floor off the building, bringing the height down to just under 32 ft. at three stories.

"This is more in line with the triple deckers that one may see along Saratoga Street," said Lynds. "This addresses many of the comments and concerns over the height. At 31.8 feet in height the building would be below 35 feet zoning code."

The entrance to the building's parking has been moved around the block to Chaucer Street after resident objected to a curb cut and vehicles entering and exiting a garage on Saratoga Street. MG2 also added more landscaped buffers between the proposed building and abutting homes.

Variances MG2 would be seeking from the Zoning



MG2 Attorney Richard Lynds discusses changes to the project at 656 Saratoga St.

Board of Appeals will include Use, Floor Area Ratio or FAR, Open Space and Parking. The developer would also need a variance for Height. While up to 35 feet is allowed in the area and the building is under this threshold, zoning does not allow for buildings to be over two and half stories.

While most seemed to be pleased with the changes some still expressed some concern

over the building's massing and asked the development team if there was anyway to break up the building or incorporate architectural details to make it look less 'boxy'.

The public comment period for the project will end on Friday, Dec. 7. Comments can be sent to [www.bostonplans.org/projects/development-projects/656-saratoga-street#comment\\_Form](http://www.bostonplans.org/projects/development-projects/656-saratoga-street#comment_Form).

## Elves // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Elves has collected thousands of toys that are later dropped off to agencies like the East Boston Social Centers, the YMCA, Crossroads Family Shelter, and the Salesian Boys & Girls Club.

Madaro said this event has always had two major objectives. The first and most obvious is being able to gather as many toys as the event possibly can for families and chil-

dren that are in need during the holiday season. The second, said Madaro, is to bring together the Eastie community to celebrate the holiday season with one another.

"For me this event represents the true spirit of the holiday season," said Madaro. "It's a time for giving and a time to help one another. I'm so proud of this community year after year when it comes

together and supports a cause that has a tremendous impact on hundreds of local families and children."

Like years past there will be singing of carols by the East Boston Central Catholic Choir, a holiday meal of with all the trimmings and the satisfaction of knowing you are helping put a smile on the faces of local children.

Last year Eastie's Elves

collected nearly a thousand toys for families and more than \$2,500 that was used to buy gift certificates at Shaw's Supermarket so families wouldn't go hungry during the Holiday Season.

In years past, items like bicycles, toy trucks, remote control cars and plenty of clothing item shows the generosity of residents as the holidays begin.

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# East Boston High School is on the rise

By John Lynds

Sitting in his office on a sunny fall morning East Boston High School Headmaster Phil Brangiforte can't help but gloat about his school, his staff, his students and the entire EBHS community.

Over the summer the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) voted to award the school continued accreditation with MCAS scores on the rise and the four-year graduation rate has been increasing year after year--hovering at 75 percent.

"I want to congratulate all of the staff members, students, and community partners in the East Boston High School family: the custodians, cafeteria workers, support staff, teachers and administrators who all do their part in ensuring that our students are afforded the opportunity to learn in a safe, clean, and welcoming environment," said Brangiforte. "I have demanded a tremendous commitment from my colleagues over the past few years; they, in turn, elevated their expectations of student performance. While the road was sometimes difficult to navigate, everyone rose to the occasion, stayed the course, and put forth maximum effort each and every school day. The results? Higher student achievement, a welcoming educational environment, and a great atmosphere to work and learn."

An EBHS graduate himself, Brangiforte admits that at times in the school's recent past, EBHS has faced a bit of criticism for certain aspects of academic performance.

"I feel that it is critical to address this issue and offer some much-deserved praise to my staff and students," said Brangiforte. "Ninety-one percent of our students are currently categorized as either having moderate or severe special needs, or are English language learners (ELLs). Put another way, only 9 percent of our students are considered 'Regular Ed'. We also have one of the highest numbers of English language learners in the entire state."

Why is this important? Brangiforte says because EBHS not only embraces students from all ethnic, socio-



The East Boston High School.

economic, and academic backgrounds, but also motivates them to achieve at the highest possible levels.

According to the Massachusetts Department of Education, in one year, East Boston High School moved from the fifth percentile to the 21st percentile in the state. Also, 80 percent of the schools current sophomores are classified as meeting their expected academic targets on the MCAS test.

"Our sophomores surpassed all expected target scores," said Brangiforte. "What does this mean? Schools who do not reach their targets can face various levels of state intervention, but I am proud to say that East Boston High was one of only three high schools in the entire city of Boston -- including the exam schools -- to receive an overall classification of "not requiring" assistance or interventions."

Brangiforte said perhaps the number that he has been most proud of is the school's increasing four year graduation rate.

"While we are still awaiting results from the Class of 2018, our graduation rate has climbed from 56.1 percent when I began as Headmaster in 2014, to almost 75 percent in 2017," he said. "The growth is all the more significant when we reflect upon some of the tremendous obstacles and hardships that many of our students face on a daily basis. I believe

that several initiatives that we have implemented over the past five years have paved the way for measurable long-term success."

First, Brangiforte said the school adopted an 80-minute block schedule, which allowed for more time on task for MCAS-related subjects.

"We have also gradually shifted from a teacher-centered to student-centered approach," he said. "This basically means that if you enter our classrooms at any given time, you will see students working on a multitude of high-level tasks while the teachers act as facilitators, rather than lecturers. Also, our faculty has been instrumental in the successful implementation of Instructional Rounds, a collaborative approach that allows teachers to observe each other's practices, provide non-judgmental feedback, and engage in organic discussions to improve instruction."

EBHS has also made upgrades in technology include the addition of more than 800 Chromebook laptops, over \$250,000 in science-lab upgrades, and the regular utilization of several educational applications, including Chalk-Talk, Mathspace, and Achieve 3000.

"Aside from our recent MCAS success, last year, our school underwent a grueling accreditation process. Without going into great detail, after two years of preparation,

a 130-page self study, and an intensive four-day visit by twenty respected educators from various schools, East Boston was granted Continued Accreditation by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC)," said Brangiforte. "This is a remarkable accomplishment for such a large urban school, and our dedication to the students did not go unnoticed. In the final report, East Boston High School was given dozens of commendations."

Brangiforte said while he is proud of EBHS's progress he understands that the real journey has just begun.

"We will continue to work hard to nurture, educate, and inspire every student who walks through our doors," he said. "I am humbled and honored that the parents of my beloved city entrust me and my staff with their children's academic and social development, and we are committed to make East Boston High the best school in the city of Boston."

## Art // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and is slated to open in spring 2019. The gallery, which will be curated and managed by Eastie's Atlantic Works Gallery, will be located on the ground floor of the Slip65 Condominiums and will be open to the public on Saturday afternoons. The first show, "East Boston: Present Tense," will highlight current works from the East Boston arts community. The call for art is currently open, and artists will be selected in February. Artists interested in exhibiting at ClipArt Gallery can respond to the call for art published in ArtScope, as well as online at clipartboston.com.

The waterfront development will also be home to two public art installations, the result of both nationwide and local competitions.

"Islands," designed by Volkan Alkanoglu, occupies a preeminent location on a newly created stretch of the East Boston Harborwalk and represents an interpretation of the five former Boston Harbor islands that form today's Eastie. The brightly colored sculpture is fully interactive, inviting individuals to reorient and occupy the different shapes as

they desire.

The other outdoor sculpture, "Pillar", will reside in the courtyard at Clippership Wharf and was conceptualized by New American Public Art. According to Lendlease the installation will tell two very different stories, evoking both the massive Lepidodendron trees found in prehistoric Eastie and the great Eastern White Pine trees later used by the shipbuilding trades on Eastie's wharfs, including Clippership Wharf itself. Plaques describing each vision will be at the site, inviting visitors to see which story resonates most with them.

The sculptures at Clippership Wharf are slated to be unveiled in early 2019. Lendlease worked with Sunne Savage Gallery to curate the art program at Clippership Wharf.

"This local public art program is reflective of Lendlease's long-standing commitment to placemaking," said Iselin. "Clippership Wharf will combine public art and civic gathering spaces to create a dynamic community, all with stunning views of the Boston skyline."

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## Thank you

from the

### East Boston Community Thanksgiving Day Dinner Committee

On behalf of my family and the community of East Boston, I would like to thank all of our generous sponsors, donors and volunteers that helped make our annual dinner an overwhelming success. This year I am pleased to announce that we were able to feed nearly 500 East Boston residents.

My heartfelt thanks,

Adrian C. Madaro

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# EHCA rejects four projects last week

By John Lynds

Members of the Eagle Hill Civic Association voted down four development projects at the group's November meeting.

Perhaps the most controversial project was at 247 Saratoga St., where the plan was to raze the existing one-family home and erect a four-unit residential dwelling. The other development projects on the EHCA agenda seemed to fall victim to a rare anti-development wave that swept over the crowd.

EHCA has one of the highest rates of approving projects compared with other community group and prides themselves on working closely with developers to create a project that works for both the owners and residents.

The project at 247 Saratoga St. seemed to be that type of project. The developer had reached out to members of the EHCA's board, like Charlie

Lograsso, to get ideas on historical details and materials to create the four-unit Victorian-esque development.

However, at the meeting the crowd was made aware that the abutters who oppose the project could not be there to vote or voice opposition and urged EHCA members to reject the proposal. The abutters, who live in a one-family next door to the proposed building, had a letter read by EHCA member John Walkey and cited issues like 'size' as a major concern.

The attorney for the developer, Richard Lynds, also received some criticism from EHCA President Debra Cave for showing a slide that depicted an 'As of Right' project at the location. Lynds explained the abutters have made it clear to him and his client that any project that involves a demolition of the one-family home would be a 'non-starter' and they would oppose any project that included the razing of

the building.

While Cave said showing the 'As of Right' slide felt like a 'threat' Lynds shot back that it was simply aimed at demonstrating what could 'legally' be built there. Because the abutters are unwilling to budge on a project that involves anything more than a one-family home, Lynds said he was merely trying to educate EHCA members that current zoning allows for an even larger monstrosity without the same set backs, rear yard buffers and historic detail that Lynds's client is proposing to the neighborhood.

Cave said she was disappointed that Lynds's client could not consider holding off on a vote. Lynds explained that his client was constrained by the real estate deal and could not wait another two months for a EHCA vote before moving forward at the Zoning Board of Appeals.

In the end the group voted 29-7 against the project.

The crowd, riled up by the contentious back-and-forth during the Saratoga Street presentation, proceeded to vote down nearly every other project that night--some that many thought would be slam dunks.

Members voted 22-17 against the project at 303-305 Bennington St. That project plans to demolish the existing building and erect a four-story, mixed-use building with five residential units and one retail space.

The members then voted 27-14 against 343-345 Chelsea St. The project called for razing the existing building and erect a four-story building with retail at grade level and nine residential units on second, third and fourth floors.

Another proposal at 337 Chelsea St., which called for razing an existing dilapidated building and erecting a four-unit dwelling was also voted down 19-17.



Jeff Drago pitches one of his projects to EHCA members during last week's meeting.

The only proposal to come out of last week's meeting unscathed ended in a tied vote. Members voted 22-22 for the project at 79-81 White Street, which called for changing the occupancy from a one to two-family dwelling, add an addition and renovate the building's facade.

# MS-13 member sentenced to life in prison for Constitution Beach, Falcon Street murders

By John Lynds

Labor Day weekend in 2015 marked the end of the summer and teens all over East Boston spent their last days of freedom hanging out with friends before school started that Tuesday.

Tragically, 15-year-old Wilson Martinez would never make it to school to start his sophomore year at East Boston High School.

The morning before school was to start Martinez's body was found by dog walker along the shoreline near the skating rink. He had been beaten and stabbed numerous times.

However, Martinez's murder that year was only the tip of the iceberg, and the beginning of a string of murders of teens in the neighborhood that spanned over a year and shook the neighborhood to its core.

Two weeks after Martinez

was killed, Irvin Depazm, 15, was fatally stabbed on Trenton Street. Then on Jan. 10, Christofer Perez-De la Cruz became the third teenager to be murdered in Eastie after he was shot and stabbed to death near 144 Falcon St. Perez-De la Cruz was followed by the murder of Blanca Lainez in June 2016 and then Luis Fernando Orellana Ruano who was stabbed to death at East Boston Stadium on Christmas Eve 2016.

Last week a MS-13 member was sentenced in federal court in Boston to life in prison for racketeering conspiracy involving the murder of Martinez and Perez-De la Cruz.

Edwin Gonzalez, a Salvadoran national, was sentenced by U.S. District Court Judge F. Dennis Saylor IV. In June 2018, after a multi-week trial, Gonzalez was convicted by a federal jury of conspiracy to conduct enterprise affairs through a pattern of racketeer-

ing activity, more commonly referred to as RICO or racketeering conspiracy. In addition, the jury found that Gonzalez's racketeering activity on behalf of MS-13 included his participation in the Sept. 7, 2015 murder of Martinez and the Jan. 10, 2016 murder of Perez-De la Cruz.

According to prosecutors, Gonzalez and three others lured Martinez in "catfishing" scheme and then brutally killed him at the beach.

The defendants targeted the victim in the catfishing scheme in which they used a fake Facebook account to trick the victim into thinking he was talking to a girl. In reality, the Facebook account was being controlled by Gonzalez and other MS-13 members to lure suspected rivals so that the gang could murder them.

On the day of the murder one of the other MS-13 members picked up Martinez on

a scooter pretending to be a friend of the girl that Martinez was planning to meet for a date. Martinez was driven to Constitution Beach where Gonzalez and the other MS-13 members were waiting to kill him.

Gonzalez and the three other MS-13 members took turns attacking and stabbing the victim. Gonzalez and the others left the victim bleeding to death with approximately 33 sharp force injuries and numerous blunt force injuries where the assailants had punched, kicked, and struck the victim with rocks.

Following the murder Gonzalez and two others were promoted to "homeboy," or full members of MS-13, as a reward for their participation in the murder.

Then on Jan. 10, 2016 Gonzalez and three other MS-13 members lured Perez-De la Cruz using the same ruse they did to kill Martinez. Gonzalez

and the others contacted the victim through social media and asked to meet on Falcon Street. Again, convinced that the victim was a gang rival, Gonzalez and others targeted him by pretending to be a girl on Facebook. Gonzalez then went to pick up the victim, pretending to be a relative of the girl that the victim was supposed to meet for a date. When Gonzalez arrived with the victim in Eastie, the MS-13 members attacked the victim. Three of the MS-13 members, including Gonzalez, were armed with large knives and stabbed the victim repeatedly, while the fourth MS-13 member fired multiple gunshots into the victim. Gonzalez and the other MS-13 members then ran away, leaving the teenager bleeding to death on a public street. The victim had approximately 48 sharp force injuries, multiple gunshot wounds, and multiple blunt force injuries.

One of the murderers was captured on tape stating that the "the dude [victim] was left completely destroyed" and "Sangriento [Gonzalez] whacked the guy's hands with a machete." The day after the murder, Gonzalez himself was captured on tape admitting to the murder and discussing further violence against potential rivals, stating, "we're going to leave all of them chopped in pieces."

The other three MS-13 members who committed the January 2016 murder with Gonzalez—Edwin Diaz, Jairo Perez, and Rigoberto Mejia were also charged in connection with this investigation and pleaded guilty before trial. Diaz and Perez were each sentenced to 35 years in prison, while Mejia received 27.5 years in prison.



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## City Councilor Michelle Wu releases report on youth transportation challenges

Special to the Times

Boston City Councilor At-Large Michelle Wu announced the results of a grassroots research initiative conducted by her office this past summer to survey hundreds of Boston students about their transportation needs and preferences. The Boston Youth Transportation Project research was led by a policy fellow in Councilor Wu's office, Lily Ko of Tufts University's Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning program. The project analyzed how transportation options are affecting Boston high school students, and assessed youth attitudes regarding various



Boston City Councilor At-Large Michelle Wu.

modes of transportation in light of the City of Boston's climate change goals.

"We often talk about trans-

portation challenges from the perspective of employees and the economy, but it's important to highlight just how significantly transportation challenges are shaping the lives of Boston youth," said Councilor Wu. "Transportation costs, unreliability, and safety concerns are major barriers for our students as they seek educational, social and economic opportunities across the city. We must take policy action, because the health and prosperity of our society and economy depend on this next generation of leaders having opportunities to thrive."

The research explored factors related to youth transpor-

tation experiences, such as the Boston Public School policy for students to be eligible for a subsidized transit pass, called an "M7 pass," MBTA fares and service reliability, Transportation Network Company services like Uber and Lyft, preferences between various transportation modes and links to opportunities for jobs, household income, education and social interactions.

"The findings revealed that there are young people who cannot access opportunities available to them, and worse, that their transportation experiences put them at risk for discipline with educational and transit authorities, limit

their learning and earning potential, produce social apprehension, affect relationships with their parents, and reduce their ability to meet basic needs," the report concludes. "These issues were not only exacerbated by the city's M7 walkzone policy, but also by the lack of reliable public transit service."

Transportation accounts for between 25-33% of the City of Boston's greenhouse gas emissions. Boston's climate plans include a goal to reduce emissions from transportation by 50% from

2005 levels by 2030. "Their strong preference for car use and increasing familiarity with TNCs indicate

that much work still has to be done before future generations will shift away from the "car is king" mindset," said author Lily Ko. "This suggests that progress on improving this biking environment should be made more aggressively than in the 15 year plan proposed by Go Boston 2030. Otherwise, there is indication from our youth that Boston's congestion issues will become exponentially worse. At the same time, public transit must become a more competitive option." The full report is available at: <http://bit.ly/BostonYouthTransportation2018>.

## State Fire Marshal issues holiday decorating safety tips

"The best way to prevent a Christmas tree fire is to water it every day, place it well away from heat sources, and dispose of it soon after the holiday," said State Fire Marshal Peter J. Ostroskey. "Although Christmas tree fires are rare these days, they are very serious when they do occur." According to the U.S. Fire Administration, one-quarter of home Christmas tree fires are caused by electrical problems and one-quarter start when the tree is placed too close to a heat source such as a fireplace, woodstove, radiator or space heater. "It's important to place your tree away from heating sources like fireplaces, woodstoves, radiators or portable heaters and make sure you don't block your second way out of a room in case of emergency," said State Fire Mar-

shal Ostroskey. "You may not expect to need to that second way out or to use the balcony in winter, but always have two clear ways out of each room," he added.

"Turn off the tree when leaving the house or going to sleep," said Ostroskey, "Consider using a timer so you won't forget."

- Selecting a Tree: Give natural trees a fresh cut at the base and place them in water immediately. When purchasing a tree, buy one that is as fresh as possible. Tap the butt on the ground and grab a branch near the top and pull your hand along it slowly. Needles should not fall off. If you bend a needle and it breaks before bending in half, it's too dry! If you use an artificial tree, select one with a flame retardant label.

- Caring for the Tree: Make

a fresh cut an inch or two off the bottom before placing it in the stand. This will help with absorption. Water a live tree every day. When the tree becomes dry, discard it promptly.

- Placing the Tree: Place your tree in a non-tip style stand with wide feet, using extra wires if needed to keep it steady. Keep doorways and exits clear. Place your tree and decorations away from heaters, fireplaces, candles, and other sources of heat.

- Decorating the Tree: Purchase electric holiday lights that are listed by an approved testing agency and follow the manufacturer's directions. Consider switching to newer LED lights that are cooler and use less electricity. Inspect older lights for frayed wires or other defects. Make sure the bulbs themselves are not touching the tree, curtains,

wrapped gifts, or tree skirts. Never use lighted candles as decorations. Turn off the lights when leaving the house or going to bed for the night.

- Disposing of the Tree: Remove your tree soon after the holidays and take advantage of the curbside pick-up day, if available, or recycling programs.

The U.S. Fire Administration website has a stunning video from the National Institute of Standards and Training (NIST) illustrating how a dry Christmas tree can act like a blowtorch in your living room and the National Fire Protection Association has side-by-side video showing a dry Christmas tree on fire and a well-watered Christmas tree on fire. The fire in a well-watered tree takes much longer to progress.

**Outdoor Decorations**  
The State Fire Marshal offers these tips for safe use of outdoor lights:

- Be sure to use only lights rated for outdoor use.

- Consider replacing older outdoor lights with newer LED lights that are 'greener' and cooler.

- Securely anchor outdoor lights and decorations against the wind and storms with insulated holders or hooks.

- Use electrical connection protectors to keep water out.

- All outdoor electrical decorations should be plugged into a ground-fault circuit interrupter (GFCI). You can buy portable units for outdoor use, or you can have them permanently installed by an electrician.

- Don't overload circuits. 15-amp circuits support 1,800 watts and 20-amp circuits

support 2,400 watts.

- Do not drive nails, staples or tacks through wiring insulation; this can cause a fire.

- Bring outdoor electrical lights inside after the holidays to prevent hazards and extend their life.

**Smoke and CO Alarms**

Ostroskey said, "No one thinks they will experience a fire, but sadly so many do over the holidays. Be sure that your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms are in good working order and review your home escape plan with family and guests."

For more information on fire safety, contact your local fire department or the Office of the State Fire Marshal at 1-877-9 NO FIRE or on-line at [www.state.ma.us/dfs](http://www.state.ma.us/dfs) and search for Winter Holiday Safety.



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MEMORIAL SOUNDS OF CHRISTMAS CONCERT

SOUNDS AND SPIRIT



In holiday attire or the concert, Danielle Day and Jessica Woodman.



Revere High School student Rebecca Villatoro with a Christmas Message.



Soloist Susie Pepper.

Each year the Christmas season is welcomed in with style: a wonderful Christmas concert featuring the NSPO under the direction of Music Director Robert Lehmann.

This concert is free for all to attend, with the request of some nonperishable food for the Revere Food Pantry. This one concert feeds many Revere residents over the holiday and through the winter, because of the communities generosity of supplying cases upon cases of food for this event in the true meaning of Christmas. This concert is in memory of one of Revere's own, Robert A Marra.

Marra a parishioner of St. Anthony's Church and a life long member of the Holy Name Society, sat as first violin for the NSPO for many years for this concert and many others, he also and taught music at RHS for 40 years. Robert A Marra passed away in 2002, but his memory and love for his church and community and his music will live on forever through the Sounds of Christmas.



Revere Police Chief jim Guido with Lil Guido and President of the Revere Beach Partnership Rosette Cataldo (right).



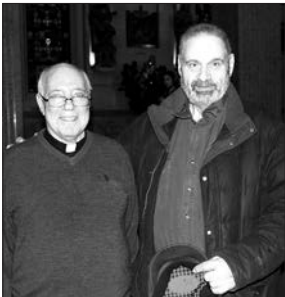
One of the sponsors of the event is Action Emergency Services, owned by Michael Zaccaria, his wife Danielle, and children Natalia and Michael.



Concertmaster, and 1st Violin Ann Irza takes the stage with her son, David as a celloist for the concert Sunday night.



Diane Sponholtz, Gloria Trentini, Teresa Santacruce and Eleanor Gallo.



Paster of St Anthony's Father George Butera and Revere's Director of Finance George Anzuone.



Master of Ceremonies Robert A Marra Jr.

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Music Director Robert Lehmann talks about the program with Master of Ceremonies and President of the BoD of the NSPO Robert A Marra Jr.

Mayor Brian Arrigo, Daveen Arrigo, and their sons, Joseph and Jack.

TO PLACE YOUR AD 781-485-0588

bpda

Public Meeting

Suffolk Downs

Tuesday, December 11

7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

525 McClellan Highway

Clubhouse, 3rd Floor, Topsider Room  
East Boston, MA 02128

Project Proponent:

HYM Investment Group, Inc.

Project Description:

The HYM Investment Group proposes approximately 10.5 million square feet of development on the approximately 109 acres of the Suffolk Downs site in the City of Boston. The multi-phased proposal will include development of a new mixed-use neighborhood, a 40-acre publicly accessible open space system, and two retail squares at Suffolk Downs and Beachmont stations. The initial project phase will include approximately 1.39 million square feet of development consisting of the Phase 1 Project (520,000 square feet of corporate use and amenity space), three residential buildings, a portion of the townhomes proposed along Waldemar Avenue totaling over 800 housing units and construction of the Horseshoe Pond landscaped wetland enhancements and Belle Isle Square public plaza with over 100,000 square feet of ground floor retail.

The topic of this meeting will be next steps for the review process.

mail to:

Tim Czerwienski  
Boston Planning & Development Agency  
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor  
Boston, MA 02201  
617.918.5303  
tim.czerwienski@boston.gov

Close of Comment Period:

12/17/2018

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COMMUNITY NEWS

EASTIE MAYOR'S ENCHANTED TROLLEY

Mayor Martin J. Walsh recently announced the schedule for the 2018 Enchanted Trolley Tour, a Boston holiday tradition of lighting holiday trees throughout the City. This year, the Mayor's Enchanted Trolley Tour will start on Friday, November 30 and end in Sunday, December 2, in neighborhoods throughout Boston.

The East Boston Trolley Tour will be Sunday, Dec. 9 from 5:15 p.m. – 6:45 p.m. in Central Square.

"I'm excited to kick off this holiday season by visiting neighborhoods throughout Boston with our trolley tour and tree lightings," said Mayor Walsh. "This is a great time for us to come together and celebrate our neighbors, our city, and our communities. I encourage all to attend this weekend of family-friendly celebrations."

For the 23rd year, the Mayor's Enchanted Trolley Tour will continue the festive tradition of lighting holiday trees while bringing holiday spirit to children across Boston. The event is sponsored by Bank of America, and includes visits with Santa, holiday performances, tree lightings, and more.

"Bank of America is proud to continue our support of Mayor Walsh's Enchanted Trolley Tour, a long standing tradition that brings joy and excitement to neighborhoods and families across the City," said Miceal Chamberlain, Bank of America Massachusetts President. "We thank the City of Boston for all they do to provide our customers, teammates, and communities the power to give back and make a difference during the holiday season."

NOAH'S 2018 ANNUAL DINNER

Dear Friends and Colleagues, please save the date!

NOAH's 2018 Annual Dinner is being held on Thursday, December 13, at 6 p.m., at Spinelli's in East Boston.

Many thanks to our event sponsors, including Bank of America-Merrill Lynch, Boston Private Bank, Klein Horning LLP, NeighborWorks America, United Way of Mass. Bay & Merrimack Valley, and others.

Everyone always compliments us on Spinelli's wonderful buffet. Enjoy roast beef, chicken or a penne pasta vegetarian option, with "Death by Chocolate" cake. Children's meals include pizza and cookies; please email us to let us know how many children will be attending and their ages. Childcare is located in an adjacent room.

Our fundraising raffle prizes

include restaurant gift certificates, museum passes, and more.

We hope that you can join us to celebrate this holiday season! We will be announcing the program soon.

Sincerely,  
Phil Giffey  
Executive Director  
Thursday, December 13th, 6 p.m.

Spinelli's, East Boston  
When  
Thursday, December 13, 2018

6:00 p.m. EST  
Add to Calendar  
Where  
Spinelli's  
282 Bennington Street  
East Boston, MA 02128  
Driving Directions  
Register Now!  
Sponsorships: Event sponsorships are available on the registration page.

Pricing: Tickets are only \$50. Children's tickets are \$5 each. Community, senior and client discounts are also available; please email Linda Miller-Foster or Phil Giffey for more information.

Tables: Tables of ten are available at a discounted rate of \$450.

THE GOVE STREET CITIZENS ASSOCIATION SPECIAL DECEMBER MEETING

The Gove Street Citizens Association is having a special meeting on December 10 to discuss the Frankfort Gove Street Project (aka Mt. Carmel Project). The meeting begins at 6:30 p.m. and will be held at the MacLean Community Room which is located on the lower level of the Rental Car Center Facility at Logan Airport. This project calls for 112 units to be built along Frankfort and Gove Streets and within the former Mt Carmel church. .

The Gove Street Citizens Association will not have a monthly meeting for December since it falls on Christmas Eve, December 24.

JOIN US FOR THE JEFFRIES POINT NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION'S HOLIDAY POTLUCK!

The Jeffries Point Neighborhood Association's Holiday Potluck will be Monday, December 10, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. at the Jeffries Yacht Club, 565 Sumner Street

All are welcome!  
Bring a dish to share, and enjoy a fun evening with neighbors.

BONUS: This potluck counts as a "monthly" meeting for the purposes of voting in January, February, and March.

At this year's holiday potluck, we will be collecting

items for the clients of the East Boston Community Soup Kitchen.

At this time of year they are especially in need of:

Clothing items  
Gloves, hats, and scarves (clean and serviceable)  
Socks, and men's and women's undergarments (new and unworn)  
Personal hygiene items  
Toothbrushes and travel size toothpaste  
Travel sizes of soap, shampoo, and deodorant  
Combs and brushes  
Feminine hygiene products  
See you there! Happy Holidays!

Jeffries Point Neighborhood Association Board of Directors:

Renee Scalfani | Dan Bailey | Cindy Baxter | Mary Cole | Andrew Gelling

EAST BOSTON LIBRARY HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

Please Join the Friends of the East Boston Library on December 6, 2018 @ 6:00 p.m. for a Holiday Celebration.

Delicious refreshments available and music provided by A Touch of Class.

Poetry Reading by Kathleen Monteleone of The New Colossus and Emma Lazarus' Silent Auction.

The Unveiling of a newly restored King painting The Viking Ship.  
And book Sale will be going on.

Come celebrate the holiday season with friends and neighbors.

FRIENDS OF THE EAST BOSTON GREENWAY DECEMBER MEETING

The Friends of the East Boston Greenway will meet on Thursday, December 6, 2018, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. at the Anna DeFronzo Center - 395 Maverick Street, East Boston.

The Agenda is as follows;  
Police Report  
Greenway Updates  
Short Street update - Harborside Neighborhood Association-East Boston  
Update & discussion of Barr Foundation Waterfront Initiative grant.

• "Future Waters / Agua Futura" art installation: up and running  
• #FutureWATERS closing ceremony is on Dec 9. 12-3 p.m.  
• Placemaking (Formerly Innovation Market): Moving to the Caboose  
• Lighting Installation: Saturday, December 8th from 1 to 5 p.m.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Community Meetings

Harbor View Neighborhood Association  
First Monday of every month  
6:30 p.m. at the Edward Brooke Charter School, 145 Byron St.

Jeffries Point Neighborhood Association  
Second Monday of every month.  
6:30 p.m. at the Jeffries Point Yacht Club, 565 Sumner St.

Orient Heights Neighborhood Association  
Third Monday of every month.  
6:30 p.m. at Ashley Street YMCA, 54 Ashley St.

Friend of the East Boston Greenway  
Fourth Thursday of every month.  
6:30 p.m. at the Anna DeFronzo Center, 395 Maverick St.

Central Square Flats Civic Association  
Third Wednesday of every month  
7 p.m. at Paris Street Community Center, 112 Paris St.

Gove Street Citizens Association  
Fourth Monday of every month  
6:30 p.m. at the Noddle Island Community Room, Logan Rental Car Center

Eagle Hill Civic Association  
Last Wednesday of every month  
7 p.m. at East Boston High School Cafeteria, 86 White St.

- Community Event: TBD
  - BSLA Design Challenge: Challenge is out, will wrap up by mid-January
  - Priority Plan: 25% complete, Draft plan under review, will circulate later one
  - Greenway Galleries: develop over the winter for spring
  - Umass Salem state survey: Link: [https://umassamherst.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_43dStfVC5n0IvLz](https://umassamherst.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_43dStfVC5n0IvLz)
- Maintenance Committee Report

Discussion: Suffolk Downs to join the Council?

- Project link + Meetings <http://www.bostonplans.org/projects/development-projects/suffolk-downs>
- New Business
- Greenway Dog Group! Upcoming 2019 meeting dates:
  - January 2019

EAST BOSTON SENIOR LUNCH PROGRAM

If you are 60+ years of age, the East Boston Social Centers at 68 Central Square in East Boston has a table and a meal waiting for you!

The Senior Lunch Program sponsored by ETHOS Congregate Meal Program provides a hot, nutritious lunch, along with wonderful socialization, Monday through Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. A suggested donation of \$2 is asked.

We welcome seniors from our East Boston Community and surrounding areas.

GRACE CHURCH NEWS POSTED

Grace Church Federated is a United Church of Christ and Episcopal church located at 760 Saratoga Street, East Boston. All are welcome. Please join us for our Sunday morning service at 9:30 a.m., followed by a coffee hour. We also have a Food Pantry open to all East Boston residents, every Saturday from 10:00 –

Noon. For additional information regarding our church services or food pantry, please visit our website: [gracechurch-eastie.org](http://gracechurch-eastie.org)

SOCIAL CENTERS SENIOR LUNCH

If you are age 65+, The East Boston Social Centers at 68 Central Square in East Boston has a table and a meal waiting for you. The Senior Lunch Program Sponsored by Kit Clark Senior Services provides a hot, nutritious lunch along with wonderful socialization Monday through Friday, 11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. A suggested donation of \$2.00 is asked.

EAST BOSTON TECH MEETUP

The purpose of the East Boston Tech Meetup is to build a community of people currently working in tech or those aspiring to move into a tech career who live or work in East Boston. These meetings will be held in the heart of Maverick Landing conveniently located steps from the Maverick T station, in the Maverick Landing Meeting House at 31 Liverpool Street.

LEARN ITALIAN FREE

The class will be held at Robert DeLeo Senior Center, 35 Harvard Street Winthrop for residents age 55 and above.

Whether you have Italian ancestry, or just want to learn one of the world's most beautiful languages, join us at informal and friendly Italian language and culture classes. Wednesday afternoons

from 1 15 to 2 45 p.m.  
For info call 617-846-8538.

EAST BOSTON SOCIAL CENTER'S SENIOR PROGRAM NOW OFFERING SPANISH LANGUAGE CLASSES

The Senior Program at the East Boston Social Centers is now offering Spanish Language Classes for adults over 60 years old. Classes are held every Wednesday at 10am in Room 209. All are welcome to attend. Class is taught by Mr. Montaro. No need to register, just come by on Wednesday at 10am for this fun class. The East Boston Social Centers is located at 68 Central Square.

HARBOR VIEW NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

The Harbor View Neighborhood Association will be having their annual Holiday Party on Tuesday, December 11, 2018 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the East Boston Yacht Club on Rice Street. Come join your neighbors for a relaxing and fun night with food and drink.

You are welcome to bring a favorite food item if you wish but most importantly join us for music and raffles to celebrate the holiday season. For further information call 617-877-0232.

TO PLACE YOUR AD 781-485-0588

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING Pursuant to G. L. c. 30A, §18-20

The East Boston Project Advisory Committee, Incorporated

Notice is hereby given that on TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. a public meeting of the East Boston Project Advisory Committee, Inc., (aka PIERPAC) will be held at:

Kelly Square Pub  
84 Bennington Street  
East Boston, MA 02128

AGENDA:

- A. Approve Minutes from November 20, 2018
- B. Election of Officers
- C. Old Business
- D. New business
- E. Adjournment

At the conclusion of its regular business meeting and prior to adjournment, it is the intent of the Board to hold an Executive Session pursuant to G. L. 30A. s. 21 and specifically:  
a. To comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements including the enabling legislation (specifically Chapter 33 of the Acts of 1991 as amended):

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[www.underagedrinking.samhsa.gov](http://www.underagedrinking.samhsa.gov)











EAST BOSTON JETS POP WARNER AWARDS NIGHT

A FIRST-CLASS CELEBRATION



EBPW Cheering Coaches, from left; D Team Coach Michaela Jacques, A Team Coach Sabrina Ciulla, D Team Coach Anne Marie Perez, and A Team coaches, Nicole Parziale and Debbie Raso.

The board of directors of the East Boston Pop Warner Organization hosted their annual awards night at Spinelli's in Day Square last Wednesday evening. State Representative Adrian Madaro was on hand to congratulate the players and cheerleaders for a great season.



Isabella Perez at the beautiful Christmas Tree in the Spinelli Function Hall.

PHOTOS BY A.J. TERMINIELLO JR.



State Rep. Adrian Madaro (center- rear) was welcomed by EBPW Board members, Nicole Parziale, Anne Marie Perez, Sabrina Ciulla, Shaun Dodge. Back row; Aimee Pelosi, Madaro and Derek Taft.



The D Team coaches and players with President Derek Gilmore..



The A Squad coaches and cheerleaders.



D Team members Jason Taft, Caden Pelosi and Angel Figueroa.



Olivea Perez D Team Cheerleader and A Team captain Alex Raso.



State Rep. Adrian Madaro talks with East Boston student athlete, Julianna Troville.



EB Jets D team players Juan Torres and Anthony Torres.



The D Squad coaches and cheerleaders.



D Squad cheerleader Suguey Gondaled-Pleit looks at the trophies.



Leilani Torres with her cheering award.



Cheerleaders and players admiring the awards that are to be given out after the delicious dinner at Spinelli's in East Boston.



Waiting for the dinner to start, Jordan Cope-lani, Sophya Suazo and Olivea Perez.



President of the East Boston Pop Warner Organization, Derek Gilmore (rear center) with the East Boston Jets Board of Directors Nicole Parziale, Anne Marie Perez, Sabrina Ciulla, Shaun Dodge. Back row; Aimee Pelosi, Gilmore and Derek Taft.



# Getting Out

## It's A Wonderful Life

By Sheila Barth

Sometimes, when a theater presents a beloved, classic holiday story such as Frank Capra's "It's A Wonderful Life," it's wisest to leave it alone, and let the beauty of its timeless message resonate.

In 2008, audiences cheered when Stoneham Theatre (now re-named Greater Boston Stage Company) presented Producing Artistic Director Weylin Symes' adaptation of the play as alternative Christmas fare.

They cheered again in 2012, when the theater revised the production, with director Caitlin Lowans focusing on realism, but kept the charming story's message in tact.

The play is based on Hollywood producer-director Frank Capra's 1946 hit movie, starring James Stewart and Donna Reed, which Capra adapted from Philip Van Doren Stern's touching short story, "The Greatest Gift".

This year, co-directors Tonia Jones and Tyler Rosati decided to shake things up further, by modernizing the production, assembling a "diverse and versatile ensemble of actors to help us tell this beloved story of community, perseverance, and the human connection with you all,"



PHOTO BY MAGGIE HALL PHOTOGRAPHY.

Stewart Evan Smith and Marge Dunn portray George and Mary Bailey in Greater Boston Stage Company's 'It's A Wonderful Life,' appearing through Dec. 23.

Jones wrote in her director's welcome address. "I really wanted to work on the piece to help modernize this story. It has been a fun ride thinking about how we can include different races, ethnicities and genders."

In this version, George Bailey is an African-American in an all-white family, and his excitable cousin Tilly, (Jenna Lea Scott), is Asian-American.

Older folks enjoy the story's nostalgic flashbacks, while younger folks appreciate the sad tale of George Bailey, a kindhearted, small-town building and loans association manager-owner, tottering on the brink of financial ruin and suicide. George - and Christmas - are saved through reciprocating people's generosity and kindness, and a cherubic fellow named Clarence Odbody, AS-2, George's

guardian angel, who's earning his wings by restoring George's hope. William Gardiner, who also portrays George's dad and Carter, provides humor as Clarence. And Bob Mussett delivers a heart-felt performance as George's bumbling Uncle Billy.

### BOX OFFICE

Two-act, two hour classic holiday play, presented by Greater Boston Stage Company through Dec. 23; Wednesday, Dec. 5, 12, at 2 p.m.; Thursday, 7:30 p.m.; Dec. 6, at 2, 7:30 p.m.; Friday, 8 p.m., Dec. 21, 10 a.m. and 8 p.m.; Saturday, 3, 8 p.m., Dec. 15, 8 p.m. only; Sunday, 2 p.m. 395 Main St., Stoneham. \$45-\$55; seniors, \$40-\$50, students with valid ID, \$20; student rush tickets one hour pre-performance. 781-279-2200, greaterbostonstage.org.

Through the years, George's determination to keep his deceased dad's business afloat is challenged by despicable, grasping, greedy Mrs. Potter, who owns and controls most of their hometown of Bedford Falls, NY, but wants all of it. Ensnared in a wheelchair, the grasping, greedy, cantankerous old woman schemes to get George's business, too.

However, actress Margaret Ann Brady lacks the villainess' cruel edge. (She also portrays George's mother and ensemble roles).

In the opening scene, the cast is a bustling Greek chorus, rushing about, highlighting blubs of introductory information, similar to scenes in Thornton Wilder's "Our Town". It rapidly shifts to a

violent flashback scene, where little George Bailey (Jackson Hughes-Page) is beaten by his pharmacist boss, who then falls remorsefully to his knees when he realizes the child saved him from making a fatal error in filling a prescription.

Several other points are glossed over, and tangential, ever-present characters are undeveloped or unexplained.

But scenes of George's courtship and marriage to Mary Hatch, "the prettiest girl in town," are sweetly tender. Portraying Mary, Marge Dunn delivers a touching portrayal, from teen-ager to devoted wife and mother. Portraying adult George, Boston-based actor Stewart Evan Smith waxes from hopeful to hopeless, happy to suicidal, bluster to beaten down then restored.

Sarah Rozene's elaborate set, with its prominent, large bridge and occasional falling snow, uses simple props such as chairs, a door and picture frames, piano and Christmas tree to simulate indoor scenes.

## Diane Paulus' 'Extraordinary' lives up to its name

By Sheila Barth

Like everything the incomparable Diane Paulus does, her production of "Extraordinary," the two-act, two-hour, interactive, cabaret-style celebration of the past decade's musical theater, is just that - extraordinarily entertaining, in every way.

Jason Sherwood's audience-friendly set, bathed in Jeanette Oi-Suk Yew's dramatic, exciting lighting, provided an intimate setting for the two-act show, written by Dick Scanlan, and directed by Paulus. The show is based on interviews with the production company, and was performed on a limited run, Nov. 16-30, at the Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge.

If you saw it, you rejoiced with audiences, who delivered enthusiastic standing ovations. One fan from Chelsea, seated nearby, eagerly applauded after every number. "I'm blown away!," she cried.

The cast, composed of seven marvelous performers who starred in Paulus-led, American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.) musicals, were accompanied on stage by Music Director Lance Horne on piano and his four fabulous musicians.

Melody A. Betts ("Witness

Uganda,") Kathryn Gallagher (Jagged Little Pill"), Terrence Mann ("Pippin," and "Finding Neverland"), Brandon Michael Nase ("The Black Clown"), Bryonha Marie Parham ("The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess"), MJ Rodriguez ("Burn All Night"), and Matthew James Thomas ("Pippin"), along with last Wednesday afternoon's stupendous special guest, Gavin Creel, ("Prometheus Bound"), each brought the house down with his/her soaring voices and individual artistic flair.

This potpourri of songs from Paulus' shows that went straight from A.R.T. to Broadway or provided topnotch

entertainment, include: "Pippin," "Finding Neverland," "The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess," "Cabaret," "Natasha, Pierre and the Great Comet of 1812," "Waitress," "Prometheus Bound," "Witness Uganda," "The Blue Flower," "Once," "Jagged Little Pill," "Woody Sez: The Life and Music Woody Guthrie," and "Burn All Night".

Declaring he's from Ohio - not the Cleveland, Cincinnati-type Ohio, but OHIO - Creel delighted theatergoers with his rousing rendition of "Don't Tell Mama," and many more.

Besides telling what musical theater meant to them personally, the performers engaged in lighthearted banter, anecdotes, and interacted with theatergoers in this upbeat, energetic show, sitting among them, walking, singing, playing instruments nearby, and engaging their attention every minute.

Melody A. Betts explained how she grew up singing in church, and unleashed her powerful voice in every song. Versatile, seemingly ubiquitous Broadway star Terrence Mann "aarghed" away in his Captain Hook costume, and

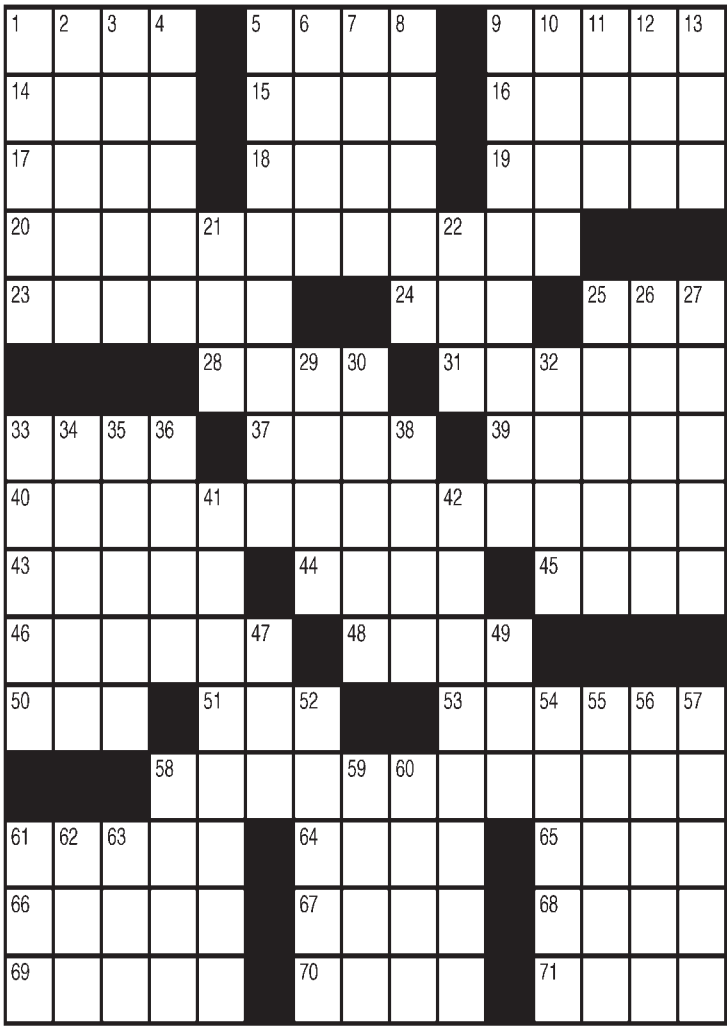
the ensemble enlightened theatergoers with an "I-bet-you-didn't-know" Woody Guthrie wrote patriotic tune, "This Land is Your Land," which Gallagher performed in a low-key, guitar-strumming solo and upbeat sing-along.

Every song, every story, in "Extraordinary," is uplifting, permeating a feel-good, happy atmosphere, that, for two hours, enabled theatergoers to forget today's political turmoil, sit back, relax, enjoy superlative entertainment and, like the performers, happily reflect on live musical theater's effect on their lives.

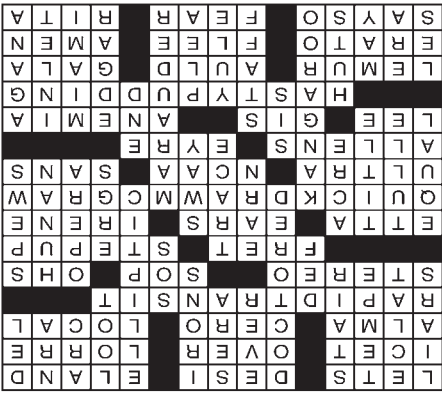
## Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- 1 Forest denizen
  - 5 Scheme
  - 9 Spry
  - 14 podrida
  - 15 Italian beach
  - 16 "\_\_\_ Sanctum"
  - 17 Musical twosome
  - 20 Dreamer
  - 21 Take to court
  - 22 NYSE competition
  - 23 Fate
  - 24 Blue pencil
  - 26 Act dejected
  - 29 Spoke wildly
  - 33 Gulp down
  - 36 Vanity
  - 37 Gospels' source material
  - 38 Della of song
  - 39 Musical threesome
  - 42 Assessed
  - 43 Gossip column bits
  - 44 Terminate
  - 45 Arabian sultanate
  - 46 Acquire knowledge
  - 47 Rim
  - 48 Soft drink
  - 50 NYC subway line
  - 52 Food scrap
  - 54 Literary snippets
  - 56 Long-legged shorebirds
  - 60 Musical foursome
  - 63 Haute, IN
  - 64 Gardener, at times
  - 65 Part of Q.E.D.
  - 66 Tobacco ovens
  - 67 Facility
  - 68 Bribes

- DOWN**
- 1 Tip one's hat
  - 2 First lady of scat
  - 3 Verve
  - 4 Baby's toy
  - 5 Metal breastplate
  - 6 Dryer residue
  - 7 Strange
  - 8 Throw
  - 9 Broadcast
  - 10 Wildebeest
  - 11 Collected
  - 12 Stool parts
  - 13 Scottish Gaelic
  - 18 Lao Tzu's religion
  - 19 Signaled
  - 25 "New Jack City" co-star
  - 26 Paris subway
  - 27 Old Irish alphabet
  - 28 Mediocre versifiers
  - 30 Texas A&M student
  - 31 Distant view
  - 32 Food consumer
  - 34 Employing
  - 35 Rock full of crystals
  - 37 Cover
  - 38 Hosp. workers



- 40 Vegas gambling game
- 41 Indiscriminate consumer
- 46 Bowling alley
- 47 Engraves
- 49 Titled ladies
- 51 Decay
- 52 Director Preminger
- 53 Satellite of Saturn
- 55 Tennis great
- 56 War god
- 57 Architect Saarinen
- 58 Snare
- 59 Fast fliers: abbr.
- 61 Gallery draw
- 62 Scarf like a snake



### HANUKKAH CELEBRATION

Boston's annual festival of lights celebration starts at 4:30 p.m. at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, with a free night of music, art, crafts, storytelling, and dancing to Jim Guttman's big band, free of charge. Doors open 4 p.m. Registration, jarts-boston.org. the MFA - commissioned menorah is lit at 6:30 p.m. in the Shapiro Courtyard.

### HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS

Broadway star Gavin Lee turns green and mean in "How the

### AROUND THE CITY

Grinch Stole Christmas "musical appearing through Dec. 9 at the Boch Center Wang Theatre, Boston.

### CIRQUE DREAMS HOLIDAZE

The Both Center, Steve Litman Presents and Larry Magid Entertainment present the spectacular holiday family show, Dec. 4-9, at the Boch Center Shubert Theatre, Boston. Tickets start at \$35. bochcenter.org, 866-348-9738..

### CHRISTMAS WITH THE CELTS

The favorite PBS station celebra-

tion, Christmas with the Celts, makes its only Massachusetts appearance Friday, Dec. 7, 8 p.m., at the Cabot, 286 Cabot St., Downtown Beverly. \$28.50-\$48.50. Ticketmaster. 800-745-3000, TheCabot.org.

### THE IRISH TENORS

The melodic trio -Ronan Tynan, Finbar Wright and Anthony Kearns- make Christmas harmonious and happy, Sunday, Dec. 9, 7 p.m., at Lynn Auditorium, 3 City Hall Square, Lynn. Doors open at 6 p.m. 781-599-7469, lynnauditorium.com.

## Real Estate Transfers

### BUYER 1

Magnolia Boardman LLC  
Mcnaair, Keith  
Pardue, Tyrone  
Hyde, Phoebe  
Haurihan, Gavin  
Schulberger, Jamie A  
98-100 Bennington St LLC  
229 East Eagle LLC  
Johnson, Erica A  
Quinn, Colin G  
47 Morris St LLC  
Snyder, Jeffrey M

### SELLER 1

Cerullo Yolanda Est  
70 Bremen Dev Partners  
48 Chelsea LLC  
48 Chelsea LLC  
Driscoll-Bahloul, G  
Condron, Carly  
Trichilo, Joseph A  
Trichilo, Joseph A  
Morse, Jeffrey B  
SJ Lexington LLC  
Assour, Mohamed  
Lorraine Ciliberto T

### ADDRESS

33 Boardman St  
70 Bremen St #504  
48 Chelsea St #1  
48 Chelsea St #3  
41 Condor St  
155 Cottage St #4  
225 E Eagle St  
229 E Eagle St  
142 Horace St #3  
241 Lexington St #2  
47 Morris St  
324 Summer St

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\$277,100  
\$555,000  
\$643,898  
\$995,000  
\$430,000  
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\$810,000  
\$485,000  
\$599,000  
\$455,000  
\$350,000



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NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

PLANNING BOARD RECOMMENDS ZONING CHANGES

CHELSEA - The Planning Board recommended approval to two changes to the City's zoning ordinances.

The first change affects the Naval Hospital Residential and Commercial Districts, also known as the Admiral's Hill area of the city.

In the 1980s, the city slackened many building and zoning regulations for the district in an effort to encourage development, according to Lad Dell, the city's planning and land use administrator.

"People were able to develop without much regulation at all," said Dell.

A moratorium on building in the district was recently extended to the end of the year by City Manager Thomas Ambrosino as the City worked on new regulations for the district.

The new ordinance recommended by the Planning Board for approval by the City Council allows for four- to six-unit buildings to be constructed by right, with a special permit re-quired for any construction above six units.

The ordinance brought before the Planning Board allowed for building heights of two and one-half stories and 35 feet. The board amended the ordinance to allow for a building height of 40 feet.

"I would suggest that we add the half a story and a little height to allow for garages," said John DePriest, the City's planning director.

City Councillor Roy Avelaneda said the amendment was in line with Council sub-committee discussions on the ordinance to increase building height to make it easier to build garages.

The residents who spoke

during the public hearing on the zoning amendment were supportive.

"It looks like this is an effort to protect the character of the neighborhood and not overload our streets," said Christine Shields.

The second zoning amendment would allow for residential units on the first floor of build-ings in the Retail Business District by special permit, as long as those units are not on Broad-way.

Two years ago, a zoning amendment banned residential units on the first floor in the Broadway corridor. If the new amendment is approved by the City Council, residential units will still be banned on the first floor on Broadway itself, but could be allowed under special permit on other streets near Broadway in the zoning district.

•In other Planning Board business, the developers of the massive 1 Forbes St. project withdrew their plans for the project.

But rather than a massive blow to development in the City, it was a procedural move that gives developers more time to fully present the project to a full Planning Board, according to Paul Feldman, who is representing the developer for the 630-unit residential and office building project.

"The public hearing on this was opened on Sept. 22, and at that time, there were a couple of vacancies on the board and a member who was not present," said Feldman. "With a nine-member board, to get site approval, we need six votes."

Feldman said developers are withdrawing the site plan, but immediately refiling it to start the clock over on the hearing process. He said he expects the project to be back

before the Planning Board at its Dec. 18 meeting.

"We would like the participation of all nine members, or all that can attend," said Feldman.

•Tuesday night, the board also approved a special permit for a 16-seat Peruvian bistro-type restaurant at the site of a former liquor store on 22 Adams St.

COUNCIL AGREES TO WORK ON INSPECTATIONAL ORDINANCE

EVERETT – Despite pleas from City officials to reinstate the former apartment inspection ordinance, the Council agreed to keep the matter on the table and work on some changes.

That came after the matter went through several twists and turns over the past few weeks, with Councilor Rosa DiFlorio calling for reconsideration of the revised ordinance after it was defeated last week.

"I live here with the people in Everett and there are people who live here who don't like this," said Councilor Michael Marchese, who initiated the change several weeks ago. "I get the calls and I hear the complaints. We just want to give the landlords a little protection so they don't get hit with multiple \$1,500 fines and then they lose the property. This can be worked on."

Marchese began the issue several weeks ago when he won support of the Council to change the long-standing Habitability Ordinance so that inspections were voluntary, and not mandatory. The mandatory inspections had been in place since 2006, and City officials have said many times in the last few weeks that they

WINTHROP RESIDENT FINDS JOY IN BOAT BUILDING



Richard Honan, of Winthrop, has a hobby most peculiar. Whereas most would enjoy gardening, or landscaping, Honan finds himself in a workshop, building ships. Pictured above, he holds what will become part of the stern of a sailboat he is currently building. Honan has been working on this particular boat since September. When finished, this will be his 11th built boat.

have headed off many tragedies.

Marchese's support of the ordinance change, however, eroded between meetings, and the second vote to enact it lost. However, Councilor DiFlorio filed for reconsideration and the matter was back on Monday's agenda.

"There are two sides to every story," she said. "I don't want to tie the City's enforcement hands, but I brought it back to us because there are parts of this that are good. I hope we can work on this to make some changes."

Councilor Michael McLaughlin said that after some thought over the past week, he also believes there could be some improvements made.

All of that came after four City officials testified as to how important the habitability

inspections of apartments are for the City.

Building Inspector Jim Soper said he believes inspections have saved lives, including at the major fire last summer on Morris Street – where inspectors uncovered major violations just days before the fire.

"I think it's important we don't take this ordinance change lightly," he said. "When some-thing is voluntary, if there is time or money involved, people will be deterred from doing it."

"This is very important to this community," he continued. "People who come into this community and rent these apartments may have no idea what is safe and what isn't in regards to building codes. We're here to help them. Please let us do it."

Fire Chief Tony Carli said they have never received a complaint about the inspection system, and he also said it has streamlined the process.

"I don't think landlords will call us for inspections if not compelled to do so," he said.

Police Chief Steve Mazzie also testified in favor of the ordinance to remain unchanged.

The matter will go before the Council at its next meeting in two weeks.

direction our city is heading."

Mazzie will begin his 16th year as chief in January, having taken the reins in January 2003.

Mazzie's father is a retired patrolman from the EPD, and his late grandfather was also a patrolman.

He also has two brothers and a sister that are part of the Everett Police Department as well.

COUNCIL GIVES GO AHEAD TO SUFFOLK DOWNS PROJECT

REVERE – The Revere City Council voted by a 10-1 margin to give the go-ahead to the pro-posed 161-acre development project at Suffolk Downs, with 40 percent to be developed on the Revere portion and 60 percent on the East Boston portion of the land.

Councillor-at-Large Dan Rizzo cast the lone 'no' vote at Council meeting.

The vote follows a professional, 18-month process during which Tom O'Brien, founding partner and managing director for The HYM Investment Group, and HYM representatives held numerous public meetings with Revere officials and community groups.

O'Brien said he was pleased with the Council's positive vote for the redevelopment project that includes condominiums and apartments, retail and office spaces, a hotel, an Innovation Center, bicycle trails, and recreational areas.

"We're pleased that the vast majority of the City Council approved this project," said O'Brien. "We've worked very closely with Mayor [Brian] Arrigo's Office and with all the city councillors to create something that we think is really special for the site. The City Council has been a great partner with us. It's a great milestone and we're really excited. The next step is to move forward with the design and break ground as quickly as we can."

O'Brien said the project will cost "multiple billions of dollars" across the entire site. He said an official groundbreaking for the first phase of the project [that will be built all in Revere] could take place in the latter half of 2019.

"The first phase consists of a 200-room, high-end brand hotel, a 35,000 square-foot Innovation Center, approximately 80,000 square feet of retail – restaurants and small shops and things like that, and approximately 1,000 units of housing," said O'Brien.

The project, upon its completion of all phases, will generate \$47 million in total tax revenue for the city of Revere.

Council President Jessica Giannino said she was looking forward to seeing the project come to fruition.

"The City of Revere needs mixed-use projects like this

# Holiday Gift GUIDE

*It's time to get ready for Holiday sales. Reach more than 85,000 readers of the Revere Journal, the East Boston Times, the Everett Independent, the Winthrop Sun Transcript, the Chelsea Record, the Lynn Journal, the Charlestown Patriot Bridge, the Boston Sun, the Beacon Hill Times, Jamaica Plain Gazette, Mission Hill Gazette and the Regional Review newspapers.*

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News // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

to boost our commercial development,” said Giannino. “HYM had listened to our thoughts and needs and developed a project that will be a foundation for future commercial development. I am looking forward to seeing the transformation in the Beachmont area over the phases of the project.”

Bob O’Brien, director of strategic planning and economic development for the City of Revere, called the favorable vote “a major step forward in the transformation of the Suffolk Downs property and indeed for the benefit of the city of Revere as a whole.”

“It brings tremendous commercial development, job opportunities, as well as aesthetic and other improvements which otherwise wouldn’t be possible,” said O’Brien. “It’s been a lengthy process, as appropriate, of planning and development to get us to that stage. It’s been a systematic, deliberate process that has come to a good outcome and it reflects the wishes of the city and the community – and it’s a win for all concerned.”

Rizzo spoke after the meeting about the reasons for his vote against the project. He said upon its completion, “in the aggregate, the project will have 10,000 apartments there.”

“I think it’s way too much and we’re giving them way too much rope, and even though they have a signed document, we all know that signed documents don’t all come to fruition for one reason or another,” said Rizzo. “I think the city is biting off too much at one time. I would have preferred to see this process voted and phased in piece by piece, as opposed to in the aggregate. And the city is not getting anything in the way of mitigation. Getting tax revenue, to me, is not mitigation.”

TAX RATE DROPS

REVERE- Revere Board of Assessor Chairman Dana Brangiforte and Assessors Mathew McGrath and John Verrengia appeared at a City Council hearing Monday night for the purpose of submitting the city’s proposed Fiscal Year 2019 tax rate.

The assessors announced the residential tax rate at \$12.11 per \$1,000 of value and the commercial rate at \$23.68 per \$1,000. Last year’s rates were \$12.96 for residential and \$25.36 for commercial so the new rates represent an approximate decrease of 6.5 percent. The rate has been dropping in recent years while Revere property values have been going up.

“There are substantial increases in assessed values this year, so even though the tax rate itself is going down about 6.5 percent, the assessed values are up, so we’re probably going to see some increases in individual tax bills depending upon your properties,” Brangiforte told the Council.

“The Revere market as a whole has been increasing due to the [home] sales,” said Brangiforte. “So for the Fiscal Year 2019, we analyzed the sales market of the calendar year 2017, and those sales were substantially higher than the previous year, so that’s why we’ll see an increase in assessments.”

Revere Director of Finance Director George Anzuoni appeared at the hearing, stating that he was a proponent while affirming that all laws and regulations were followed in establishing the tax rate.

The new rates will go into effect pending the approval of the state Department of Revenue.

CODNER TAKES LEAD AT LYNN CHAMBER

LYNN - The Lynn Area Chamber of Commerce has been supporting businesses in its area for well over 100

years. With a 23-member Board of Directors, the LACC has a new executive director to usher in the new year.

Executive Director Colin Codner may only have been on the job for a few days, but he is more than eager to support the local businesses through his work at the LACC.

“I’m extremely excited about this opportunity,” Codner said.

Codner, a resident of Swampscott with his wife and two children, comes to the LACC from MIT, where he was the assistant director of student activities and finance. Prior to that he was the director of finance and operations at Cohen Hillel Academy in Marblehead.

“As you can imagine from MIT the entrepreneurial student feelings trickled down into the well,” Codner said, from the LACC office on Chestnut Street.

“We’re very excited about having Colin as our new executive director. He’s crafting a creative strategic approach to sustaining members and attracting new ones. He’s got great enthusiasm for the job,” said Rick Wood, president of the Board of Directors.

The mission of the Lynn Area Chamber of Commerce is to be a member-driven organization, providing businesses the opportunity to increase and strengthen their business relationships in the greater Lynn area. The LACC seeks to enhance the economic vitality of the Greater Lynn area by developing and providing educational and marketing initiatives, networking, legislative advocacy, collaborative leadership and business resources to our membership. The LACC, which represents over 1,000 businesses, reaches out to all businesses in the Greater Lynn Area.

FOUNDATION NEEDS TO BE ESTABLISHED

WINTHROP - Last week the town got a couple of surprises, one that the mitigation money from MassPort has increased, and two that the foundation needed to spend \$2.5 million given to the town was never set up.

In June 2016, the Speaker of the House Robert DeLeo worked with Massport to obtain a \$2.5 million from the Terminal E expansion project mitigation fund. In order to spend the money a non-profit foundation had to be set up.

The foundation was never set up and never formally voted on by the council.

But there’s a silver lining. The Winthrop Foundation will get \$2.5 million in mitigation money from the Terminal E expansion, as well as an increase in the payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT) program the town has with Massport.

For FY19 the town will receive a total PILOT payment from MassPort of \$1.2 million; FY20, \$1,350,000; FY21, \$1.5 million; FY22, \$1,650,000; FY23 \$1.8 million; FY24\$1.9 million and FY25, \$2 million. Prior to this package the regularly expected annual mitigation payment to the town was \$900,000.

Besides putting up with the noise and pollution, Winthrop owns several acres of land that helps makes up Logan Airport and the town has always sought mitigation.

In the meeting of the Town Council, before the Fall Forum last Tuesday, Town Council President Ron Vecchia said he was unsure of why the foundation wasn’t set up. Since that time there have been three town managers, three accountants, three council presidents and new blood on the town council.

“I requested the Town Manager have it reviewed by our legal counsel and move to have our council approve,” Vecchia said. “I’m excited to get the much-needed PILOT program.”

Town Manager Austin

Faison said the foundation to be filled will include seven members from the community, two appointed by the town manager, one by the Town Council president, one by the superintendent of schools, one from Boncore’s office, one from Speaker DeLeo’s office and one from Massport. The positions will be filled by next month when the foundation board meets.

State Sen. Joe Boncore said the town had renegotiated with Massport in what he called a rare opportunity in the mitigation contract. By looking into the monies Boncore said the situation with the Winthrop Foundation came up.

“MassPort is not going anywhere, there will always be negotiation,” Boncore said. “We set this friendship on the right track.”

“I think this is a step in the right direction,” said Pre. 3 Councilor Nick LoConte. “But this agreement doesn’t do anything to address the noise issues, especially in Point Shirley and other areas particularly impacted by the airport. It’s not a matter of money it’s what woke me up at 6 a.m. this morning. I’m glad to see the extra financial component to this mitigation, I’m more upset this doesn’t address the reduction of noise.”

“This is twice as much money as in 2025,” Faison said.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE TO PURCHASE SOLAR PANELS

WINTHROP - The School Committee agreed to move

forward with the power purchase agreement between the Town of Winthrop and Solect Energy last Monday, allowing for the installation of solar panels on the high school/middle school roof.

After the original proposal was made last year, members of the town council and school committee had several questions regarding the impact that the work would have on both the building and the students, and after much deliberation, both parties agreed it would be best to go forward with the project.

“I’m concerned about the fact that we have a pristine roof here. However, I like the idea of getting energy from the sun, and I’m voting in favor of it,” said School Com-

mittee member Gus Martucci.

The project, which is expected to start in 2019, will consist of two weeks mechanical work and two weeks electrical work, following a pre-inspection conducted by the roof company.

The work will be implemented on a schedule that will have the least amount of disruptions to the students, and there will be a constant flow of communication between the maintenance staff at the school and the project manager at Solect Energy. In the coming months, the company will meet with all stakeholders in the project and solidify a timeline that includes construction planning, permitting, and safety precautions.

In other news:

An additional kindergarten teacher was hired and attended a meet and greet with the parents and students who will be transitioned into the seventh kindergarten classroom.

Blackstrap BBQ and For Kids Only will host a coat drive on Dec. 6, from 7-9 p.m.

The Zonta International Club of Chelsea is looking for members to join their mission to support the following communities: Winthrop, Chelsea, Saugus, and Everett. If you are interested in learning more, please contact, Joan Lanzillo-Hahesy at 781-820-3411 or Chel-seazonta@zontadistrict1.org.

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# CHRISTMAS KIDS

## Christmas Photos to be included in our CHRISTMAS KIDS PAGES

**DEADLINE FOR PHOTOS WILL BE FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14TH, 2018**

**EMAIL TO: PROMO@REVEREJOURNAL.COM**  
AS JPG ATTACHMENT. MUST INCLUDE CHILD'S NAME AND PUBLICATION OF CHOICE.

**Or Drop off at The Independent Newspaper Group**  
385 Broadway • Suite 105, Revere, MA 02151

**Photos will be published in the week of December 19th & 20th issues of**  
**The Revere Journal, Chelsea Record, East Boston Times, Winthrop Sun Transcript,**  
**Everett Independent & Lynn Journal**

NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR LOST OR UNPUBLISHED PHOTOS



DISTRICT SEVEN POLICE REPORT

Monday, November 5, 2018

Around 10:45 AM in the area of 226 Saratoga St., a 39 year old Hispanic Male with a Chelsea, MA address was arrested for Breaking & Entering Day; Dwelling House, Trespassing

Tuesday, November 6, 2018

Around 2:00 AM in the area of 196 London St., a 43 year old Hispanic Male with an East Boston address was arrested for Operating Under the Influence of Alcohol, Operating M/V Without a License, and Leaving the Scene Personal Injury

Around 11:00 AM in the area of 10 Meridian St., a 33 year old Black Female with an East Boston address was arrested for Forgery of Records,

Certificate & Other Writings, Use of Fraudulent Checks

Wednesday, November 7, 2018

Around 12:05 AM in the area of 15 Moore St., a 35 year old Hispanic Male with a Chelsea, MA address was arrested for Operating Under the Influence of Alcohol, Leaving the Scene Property Damage

Thursday, November 8, 2018

No Arrests

Friday, November 9, 2018

No Arrests

Saturday, November 10, 2018

No Arrests

Sunday, November 11, 2018

Around 1:20 PM in the area of Maverick St., a Hispanic Male Juvenile with an East Boston address was arrested for Assault & Battery

Monday, November 12, 2018

No Arrests

Monday, November 19, 2018

No Arrests

Tuesday, November 20, 2018

Around 7:45 PM in the area of Brooks & West Eagle Sts., a 55 year old Hispanic Male with a Chelsea, MA address was arrested for Possession With Intent to Distribute Class B Drugs

Wednesday, November 21, 2018

Around 1:11 AM in the area

of 10 Gove St., a 28 year old White Male with an East Boston address was arrested for Assault & Battery (Injuries)

Thursday, November 22, 2018

No Arrests

Friday, November 23, 2018

No Arrests

Saturday, November 24, 2018

No Arrests

Sunday, November 25, 2018

No Arrests

Monday, November 26, 2018

Around 3:25 AM in the area of 728 Bennington St., a 25 year old White Female with an East Boston address

was arrested for Assault & Battery and Destruction or Injury of Personal Property

Tuesday, November 27, 2018

No Arrests

Wednesday, November 28, 2018

No Arrests

Thursday, November 29, 2018

Around 12:25 PM in the area of 115 Trenton St., a 30 year old Black Male with an East Boston address was arrested for Assault & Battery and Operating Unregistered Motor Vehicle.

Around 7:39 PM in the area

of Crestway Ave & Waldemar Ave., an 18 year old Black Male with a Braintree, MA address was arrested for Unlawful Possession of Firearm and Unlawful Possession of Ammunition

Friday, November 30, 2018

No Arrests

Saturday, December 1, 2018

Around 9:30 AM in the area of 27 Moore St., a 24 year old White Male with an East Boston address was arrested for Assault & Battery

Sunday, December 2, 2018

No Arrests

New luxury apartments open in East Boston

Special to the Times

As East Boston continues to see a flurry of new development, one of the area’s newest luxury apartment communities, Portside at East Pier, has recently rolled out ButterflyMX’s smart intercom platform, which creates an enhanced resident experience that starts at the front door. Located at 50 Lewis Street, the luxury community is part of a 26-acre, master-planned development that’s bringing 550 luxury residences and 70,000 square feet of retail space to East Boston’s Jeffries Point.

The property is owned, developed managed by Roseland Residential Trust, a subsidiary of Mack-Cali Realty Corporation (NYSE: CLI). Through its integration of ButterflyMX, Roseland is providing Portside at East Pier residents with an enhanced experience, which features a host of state-of-the-art amenities.

Benefits of the ButterflyMX technology include the ability to open and manage your doors from your smartphone, simplified package delivery and seamless visitor entry. Built upon touchscreen hardware and cloud-based software, the platform is secure, easy to install and use, and provides a complete building entry solution in today’s keyless world.

In addition to seamless building entry, ButterflyMX integrates with a wide variety of smart technologies that permeate throughout the buildings, including door locks, elevator controls, service providers such as dog walkers or house cleaners, and food and package delivery companies. And the platform’s open API allows for easy integration with any new technologies

which may become available in the future.

The platform’s video call, audit trail reporting and virtual key functionalities provide an added level of security unavailable with traditional systems. Building residents benefit from convenient entry for trusted visitors and deliveries, including the ability to grant managed access, via personalized PINs and virtual keys.

“We are thrilled to partner with Roseland Residential Trust to offer ButterflyMX as a game changing amenity at Portside at East Pier,” said Cyrus Claffey, CEO and co-founder of ButterflyMX. “Smart, cloud-enabled buildings offer powerful benefits for both building occupants and landlords, in the form of convenience, security and cost-savings. Since ButterflyMX has an open API platform, it’s a great first step to making a building fully cloud-connected and smart.”

A leader in smart building entry, ButterflyMX was founded by Cyrus Claffey, Matthew Knoff and Kunal Shah, who shared a vision to create a solution that directly addresses the coordination challenges that building entry creates. Since launching in 2015, ButterflyMX has facilitated 4 million door releases and averages approximately 7,000 door release transactions per day.

ButterflyMX, maker of the smart intercom, designs cloud-based software and touch screen hardware to provide secure, convenient, and affordable property access from a smartphone. Since launching in 2015, our system has been installed in more than 2,000 multifamily, commercial, and student housing properties across the country.

OBITUARIES

Louis Vazza  
Owner of Vazza Funeral Homes

Louis R. Vazza of East Boston and Naples, FL passed away surrounded by his loving family on Thursday, Nov. 29. He was in his 86th year.

A US Coast Guard veteran of the Korean War, he was a Licensed Funeral Director for over 60 years and owner of the Vazza Funeral Homes. Mr. Vazza was a member of the Orient Heights Yacht Club and the East Boston Kiwanis Club.

The beloved son of the late Amerigo and Clara (DiPietro) Vazza, he was the loving father of Louis A. Vazza and his wife, Nancy of Revere, adored grandfather of Jessica Vazza, loving companion and best friend of Evelyn (Rodriguez) Cassiani of Florida with whom he made his home these past 10 years; dear brother of Barbara (Vazza) Gulino and her husband, Charles of Winchester; caring uncle of Dr. Marissa Lazor and her husband, Dr. John Lazor, Carla Conigliaro and her husband, Dr. Douglas Conigliaro, Erica Fiore and her husband, Dr. John Fiore, Andrea Macky and her husband, Dr. John Macky and many more grand nieces and nephews. He was the special father to Lorraine Sullivan and her sister, Frances Velona; Papa of Troy “TJ” and Tyler Maloney and his special boy, Cashmere (his dog) and the dear friend for many years of Linda Cintron.

Family and friends will



honor Louie’s life by gathering in Vazza’s “Beechwood” Funeral Home, 262 Beach St., Revere today, Wednesday, Dec. 5 from 4 to 8 p.m. and again at 9 a.m. Thursday morning before leaving in procession to St. Anthony Church in Revere for a Funeral Mass to be celebrated in his honor at 10 a.m. Interment with Military Honors will follow at the Vazza family plot at Holy Cross Cemetery in Malden.

The Vazza family would like to thank the entire staff at the Kaplan Family Hospice House for their attentive care and compassion during such a difficult time. At the family’s request, please OMIT flowers. Donations may be made to the National Kidney Foundation by visiting [www.kidney.org](http://www.kidney.org) or by mail to National Kidney Foundation Finance Department 30 East 33rd St. New York, NY 10016. For guestbook and directions please visit [www.vazzafunerals.com](http://www.vazzafunerals.com)

Vazza Funeral Home  
REVERE 1-800-252-1127.

Dorothy ‘Dotty’ Roper

Recent retiree of Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center



Dorothy E. “Dotty” Roper of Revere, a former lifelong resident of East Boston, died on Nov. 17. Dottie fought a long, hard battle with diabetes until ultimately succumbing to her disease.

Born in East Boston, Dottie was a lifelong resident of her beloved city before recently moving to Revere. She was a 1973 graduate of East Boston High School and worked in the insurance industry for several years following high school. She recently retired from the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center after being employed with the BIDMC for the past 22 years.

She is survived by her precious cat, Taffy, her mother, Theresa Roper, her sisters: Cathy Russo and her husband, Johnny, Joany Caponigro and her husband, Doug, Loretta DeMarco and her husband, Rob, Patty Rickards and her husband, Lynn and her brother Larry Roper and his wife, Laura, 10 loving nephews, a great nephew, two great nieces and her devoted friend, Jo Ann Rubino.

Dottie’s friends and family will miss her talents in the kitchen, as well as her sense of humor. Music brought such

great joy and peace to Dottie, especially anything Elvis. Hopefully, she will finally get to meet The King! Dottie will rest in peace with her late sister, Jeanne Thompson.

Funeral arrangements were by the Ruggiero Family Memorial Home, East Boston. Services concluded with committal prayers at Puritan Lawn Memorial Park in West Peabody. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to the Joslin Diabetes Center One Joslin Place Suite 745, Boston, MA 02215 or online at [www.joslin.org/donate](http://www.joslin.org/donate) are appreciated. Tel: 1-617-309-2400.

Web: [https://secure2.convio.net/jodc/site/Donation2?jsessionid=00000000.app212a?df\\_id=2120&2120.donation=](https://secure2.convio.net/jodc/site/Donation2?jsessionid=00000000.app212a?df_id=2120&2120.donation=)

Gerard Ciampolillo

Worked for Mass State Lottery Security Department, DAV member

Gerard M. Ciampolillo of Pond St., Winthrop passed away at the Chelsea Soldier’s Home on Dec. 3. He was 88 years old.

Born in Boston, the beloved son of the late Mary (Capodilupo) and Giovanni Ciampolillo, he grew up in East Boston before moving to Winthrop more than 50 years ago.

He enlisted in the United States Air Force during the Korean War and was honorably discharged as an Airman 2nd class. After his discharge, he went on to work for Consolidated Cigar and then went on to work in the security department for the Massachusetts State Lottery. He was also a member of the DAV.

He was the devoted husband of Mary (Vaccaro) and the loving father of Gina Ma-

rie Acone and her husband, Ralph of Middleboro and Carole Ann Brown of Winthrop, dear brother of the late Nancy Flammini, cherished grandfather of Courtney, Natalie, Briana, Alexa and Michelina.

Family and friends are cordially invited to attend the visitation from the Caggiano-O’Maley-Frazier Funeral Home, Winthrop on Thursday, Dec. 6 from 4 to 8 p.m. The funeral will be conducted from the funeral home on Friday, Dec. 7 at 9 a.m. followed by a Funeral Mass in St. John the Evangelist Church, 320 Winthrop St., Winthrop at 10 a.m. Committal will be private.

Memorial donations may be made to the Alzheimer’s Association at [www.alz.org](http://www.alz.org).

For directions or to sign the online guestbook go to [www.caggianofuneralhome.com](http://www.caggianofuneralhome.com).

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"Stuffed animal ninjas," Rafael, Anthony, and Jacob.

Three self-proclaimed "stuffed animal ninjas," one with a backpack filled with Beanie Baby prizes, played cornhole toss, throwing bean bags in one hand, and balancing sugar cookies smothered in green frosting and sprinkles in the other.

At East Boston Central Catholic School's (EBCCS) 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Fair on Dec. 1, parishioners shopped for holiday gifts and decorations, took chances on raffles, ate homemade Italian food, and took pictures with Santa.

"I'm playing with my truck that I won from the Toy Punch Game," said 7-year-old Gianni Vigliotta, second-grade. "I'm going to get an American flag painted on my face. I'm going to ask Santa for a doctor set. I love getting presents."

PHOTOS BY MARIANNE SALZA



Sarah and Clara Pennell, Beth Nowak, and Lauren Owens.



The DelMuto family.



Ariana Page, 5, decorating a cookie.



Anayah Marie Augustane, 8.



Fifth graders Peyton "Froggie" McLaughlin, Thalyta Andrade, and Ava McLaughlin.



The Avelar family with Santa.



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